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Deputy Emer Higgins  
Dáil Éireann,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2

**Re: PQ 15861 To ask the Minister for Health if he will request the HSE to publish the mode age in relation to Covid-19 cases as part of the daily figures to enable further insights into Covid-19 transmission trends here.**

Dear Deputy Higgins

I refer to the above Parliamentary Question which has been referred by the Minister for Health to the Health Service Executive for direct response.

Mode age would provide the most commonly reported age value of COVID-19 cases reported that day. This statistic is generally not reported for epidemiological measures. It does not take all cases into account and does not reflect distribution. This means it will not reflect the data and thus, the epidemiological situation, accurately. Furthermore, there may be no mode, or more than one mode value in a dataset.

HPSC will continue to report the mean age (which takes into account all ages), the median age (middle value, not affected by outliers), and age range (youngest to oldest case) in the 14 day report, published daily.

If you require any further information or clarification please do contact us.

Yours sincerely,

**Dr John Cuddihy,**  
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