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19<sup>th</sup> April 2021

Deputy Mick Barry  
Dáil Éireann,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2

**Re: PQ17550/21: To ask the Minister for Health the number of deaths in nursing homes and other residential care settings run by the HSE in the past year; the main causes of deaths; and if he will make a statement on the matter.**

Dear Deputy Barry

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

*Data described only relate to confirmed, probable and possible COVID-19 cases notified to the Health Protection Surveillance Centre (HPSC) from 01/03/2020 up to midnight on 05/04/2021. Please see the HPSC website for definitions of COVID-19 case classifications: <https://www.hpsc.ie/a-z/respiratory/coronavirus/novelcoronavirus/casedefinitions/covid-19interimcasedefinitionforireland/>*

*Data source: Computerised Infectious Diseases Reporting System (CIDR) at the HPSC on 06/04/2021 at 8:15am. Please note that CIDR is a dynamic database and data are updated on an ongoing basis. For this reason, data presented here may not match previously reported data.*

Inclusion criteria:

- COVID-19 cases who died and were linked to outbreaks in nursing homes and other residential care settings (n=2,262).
- COVID-19 cases who died and were not linked to outbreaks in these settings but who were reported to be residents in nursing homes and other residential care settings (n=140).

Please note that it is not always possible to identify all residents of nursing homes or residential care facilities unless they were linked to outbreaks in these settings and so this number may be an underestimate. These cases may not be linked to any outbreak or may be linked to an outbreak in another setting, for example, an acute hospital.

*Other residential care settings included the following: community hospital/long-stay units, sheltered accommodation for the elderly, hospices, residential mental health facilities and centres for those with disabilities.*

Of these 2,402 COVID-19 deaths reported, a total of 363 deaths were associated with nursing homes and other residential care settings where the Health Service Executive (HSE) was listed as the registered provider in the Health Identifiers Service (HIDs) Health and Social Care Services Directory.

This number does not include deaths associated with private or religious facilities where the HSE provide partial funding or facilities where registered provider information was not available.

Of these 363 deaths, COVID-19 was deemed to be a cause of death in 354 cases and cause of death is pending for 9 cases.

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

Yours sincerely,



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**Interim Director of HPSC,**  
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