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Deputy Roisin Shortall
Dáil Éireann,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2

Re: PQ 51977/21 To ask the Minister for Health if his attention has been drawn to a media report that states that the number of vaccines administered to persons over 60 exceeds the reported population size (details supplied); the steps his Department will take to address this issue; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Shortall

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 on vaccines administered is obtained from COVAX and there is ongoing data validation. Census data is estimated and may underrepresent this age group.

The most recent data on the vaccines administered to the age group 60 years and older (data obtained 24/10/2021) reports that 1,004,327 individuals in this age group are fully vaccinated. The number of persons estimated to be in this age group is 1,009,843. In the table below the proportion of the population estimated to be fully vaccinated is 99.5%. However, of the partially vaccinated, all those who received one dose regardless of brand, it is notable that the number exceeds the estimated population figure, giving a reported uptake of 100.1%. This most likely occurs because the denominator is not 100% accurate. Estimating a population between censuses is difficult and requires data modelling that is not always accurate. The last census was in 2016 so the next census, when done, will provide more accurate information on the actual number of people in this age group.

**Vaccination status of those aged 60 years and older, based on data at end of day,
24/10/2021 at midnight**

Vaccination status	Vaccines administered to age group 60 years and older (no.)	Population estimate (April 2021/H1 estimates from CSO/HIU)	% of eligible by vaccination status
Fully Vaccinated Only	1004327	1009843	99.5
Partially Vaccinated **	1011204	1009843	100.1
Partially Vaccinated Only (1st dose of two-dose vaccine plan)	6877	1009843	0.7

*Fully vaccinated only (two-doses of a mRNA vaccine or 1 dose of the Janssen Vaccine)

** Partially vaccinated (1st doses regardless of brand including Janssen)

***Partially Vaccinated Only (1st dose of two-dose vaccine plan)

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

Yours sincerely,



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