



Health Protection Surveillance Centre

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13th December 2022

Deputy Peadar Tóibín
Dáil Éireann,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2

Re: PQ Number: 58987/22 To ask the Minister for Health the total number of persons who died from suspected or confirmed Covid-19 in nursing homes in the State since the start of the pandemic.

Dear Deputy Tóibín

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

The Health Protection Surveillance Centre (HPSC) undertakes the surveillance of all notifiable infectious diseases in Ireland as outlined in the list of notifiable infectious diseases on the HPSC website at www.hpsc.ie. COVID-19 is a notifiable infectious disease in Ireland.

Under the 1981, infectious diseases regulations and subsequent amendments, it is mandatory for clinicians and clinical laboratories to notify any cases of COVID-19 to the regional Director of Public Health and then onwards to HPSC for the collation of surveillance and epidemiological data on COVID-19. Subsequently, outcomes for these COVID-19 cases (including deaths) are also reported to HPSC by coroners, the general register office (GRO) and clinicians in healthcare settings. The COVID-19 related deaths reported to HPSC include information from all of these sources and are reflected in COVID-19 death totals.

The total number of COVID-19 deaths notified to HPSC on the computerised infectious diseases reporting system (CIDR) from 1st March 2020 up to midnight on the 4th December 2022 is 8,231. The number of COVID-19 deaths notified to HPSC with place of death as being in a nursing home from 1st March 2020 up to midnight on the 4th December 2022 is 2,279 (27.7% of total deaths). This includes deaths in confirmed, probable and possible COVID-19 cases (see case definition in technical notes below). Table 1 provides the number of notified COVID-19 deaths reported with place of death in a nursing home between 1st March 2020 and 4th December 2022.

HPSC also publishes a monthly COVID-19 deaths report on the HPSC website which includes information on the number of deaths in residential institutions:

<https://www.hpsc.ie/a-z/respiratory/coronavirus/novelcoronavirus/surveillance/covid-19deathsreportedinireland/>

Table 1: Number of total COVID-19 deaths and COVID-19 deaths in nursing homes as reported to HPSC from 1st March 2020 to 12th November 2022

Place of death	Number of deaths	Percentage
Nursing home	2,279	27.7%
All deaths	8, 231	100%

Technical Notes

COVID-19 Case definition:

- The COVID-19 case definitions used in Ireland are defined on the HPSC website: <https://www.hpsc.ie/a-z/respiratory/coronavirus/novelcoronavirus/casedefinitions/>

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

Yours sincerely,



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