



FSS Lárionad Faire  
um Chosaint Sláinte

25 - 27 Sráid  
Ghairdinéir, Baile Átha  
Cliath, D01A4A3, Éire

HSE Health Protection  
Surveillance Centre

25-27 Middle Gardiner  
Street, Dublin 1, D01  
A4A3

[www.hse.ie](http://www.hse.ie)

[www.hpsc.ie](http://www.hpsc.ie)

t 01 8765 300

e [info@hpsc.ie](mailto:info@hpsc.ie)



16<sup>th</sup> February 2023

Deputy Dessie Ellis,  
Dáil Éireann,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2

**Re: To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons who died from Covid and the flu, respectively in each of the years 2014 to 2019, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter.**

Dear Deputy Ellis,

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

COVID-19 (SARS-CoV-2) emerged as a new infection (virus) in 2020 and was made notifiable in 2020. In this context, the HPSC will only be able to provide data on influenza deaths for the purpose of this query as there are no data on COVID-19 (SARS-CoV-2) prior to 2020.

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](http://www.hpsc.ie). COVID-19 (only notifiable since 2020) and influenza are both notifiable infectious diseases 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 and influenza to the Area Director of Public Health and then onwards to the HPSC for the collation of surveillance and epidemiological data. Subsequently, outcomes for these COVID-19 and influenza cases (including deaths) are also reported to HPSC by coroners, the General Register Office (GRO) and clinicians in healthcare settings. The COVID-19 and influenza deaths reported to HPSC include information from all of these sources and are reflected in the death totals.

As of 31<sup>st</sup> January 2023, the total number of laboratory confirmed influenza deaths from all causes notified to HPSC on CIDR from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2014 to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019 is 676.

Table 1 provides the number of laboratory confirmed influenza deaths notified to HPSC between 1<sup>st</sup> January 2014 and 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019.



FSS Lárionad Faire  
um Chosaint Sláinte

25 - 27 Sráid  
Ghairdinéir, Baile Átha  
Cliath, D01A4A3, Éire

HSE Health Protection  
Surveillance Centre

25-27 Middle Gardiner  
Street, Dublin 1, D01  
A4A3

[www.hse.ie](http://www.hse.ie)

[www.hpsc.ie](http://www.hpsc.ie)

t 01 8765 300

e [info@hpsc.ie](mailto:info@hpsc.ie)



**Table 1: Number of laboratory confirmed influenza deaths notified to the HPSC from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2014 to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019. Source: HPSC: Computerised infectious Disease Reporting System.**

Year	Influenza deaths
2014	57
2015	65
2016	96
2017	86
2018	239
2019	133

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

Yours sincerely,

**Dr. Gregory Martin**

**Director of HPSC**

**25-27 Middle Gardiner Street**

**Dublin 1.**

**MRN: 409474**