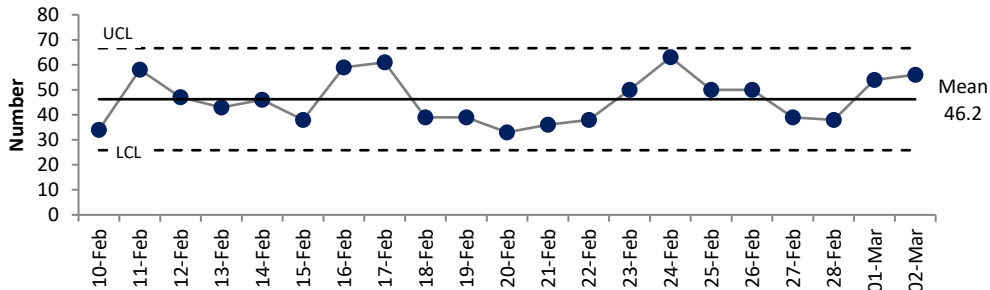


## COVID-19 Data Summary, Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2022

### Introduction:

As the COVID restrictions are eased, we will continue to monitor the situation closely to predict future pressures on the hospital system and to assess effectiveness of control measures.

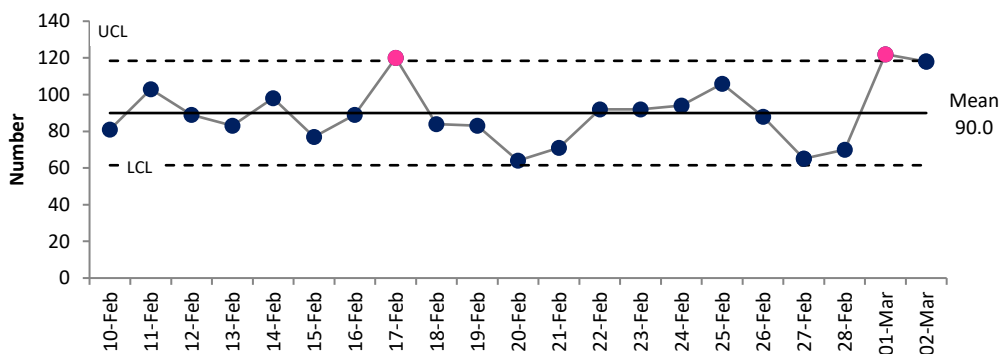
#### Number of hospital admissions of COVID positive patients during the previous 24 hours



The SPC chart shows an average of 46.2 admissions per day of COVID positive patients since 10<sup>th</sup> February.

A total of 350 admissions over the past 7 days, **up 18% on the previous week** (296 this day last week). **50 admissions today**

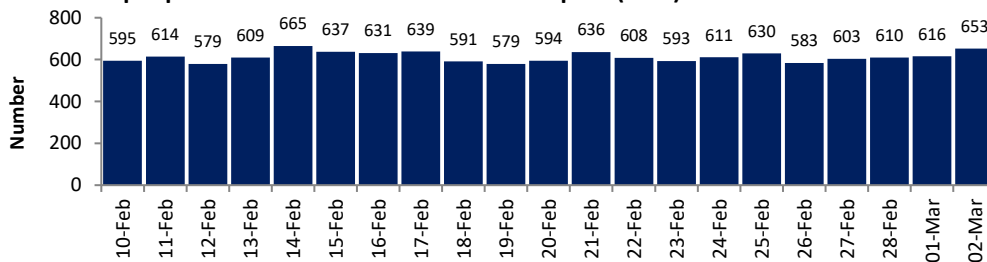
#### Number of new confirmed COVID cases in hospital, previous 24 hours



The SPC chart shows an average of 90 new confirmed COVID cases in hospital (includes admissions with known COVID & cases with COVID diagnosed after admission). New confirmed cases in hospital were higher than expected on 17<sup>th</sup> Feb and 1<sup>st</sup> March.

**118 new cases in hospital today.** A total of 663 new cases over the past 7 days (an average of 90 per day), **up 9% on the previous week.**

#### Number of people with confirmed COVID-19 in hospital (8am)

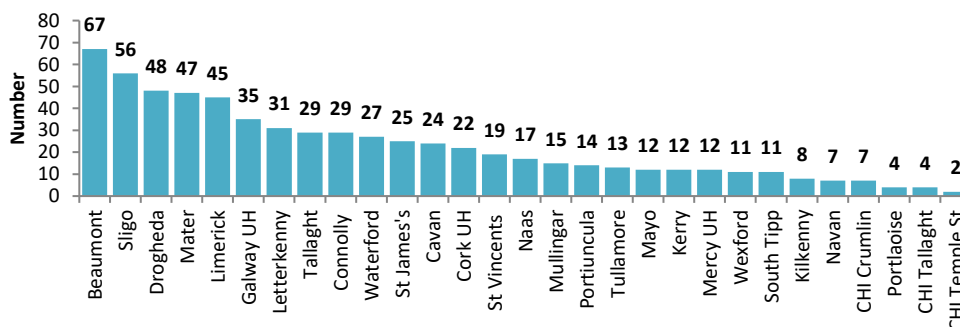


The number of people with COVID in hospital has increased over the last week.

653 in hospital at 8am today.

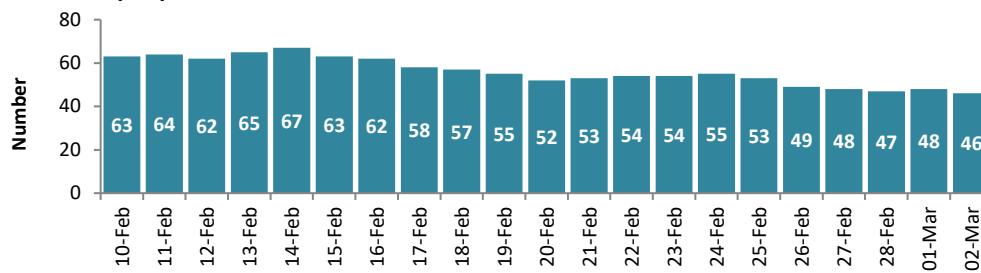
**Up 10.1% on the same day last week and up 3.5% on the same day two weeks ago.**

#### Number of people with confirmed COVID-19 in hospital, by hospital (8am on 2<sup>nd</sup> Mar)



Of the 653 people with confirmed COVID-19 in hospital, **Beaumont has the highest number (67 people)**, followed by Sligo (56), Drogheda (48), The Mater (47), and Limerick (45).

### Number of people with COVID-19 in critical care

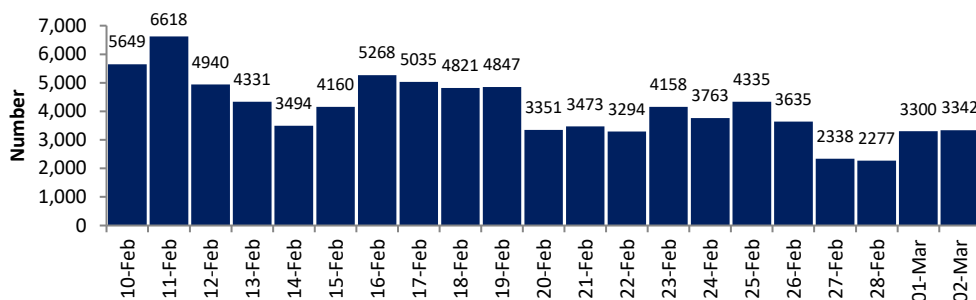


The number with COVID-19 in critical care is **trending downwards overall over last 3 weeks.**

**Down 14.8%** on this day last week and **down 25.6%** on two weeks ago.

Currently 46 in ICU (**down 8 on the same day last week**).  
**1 new admissions today.**

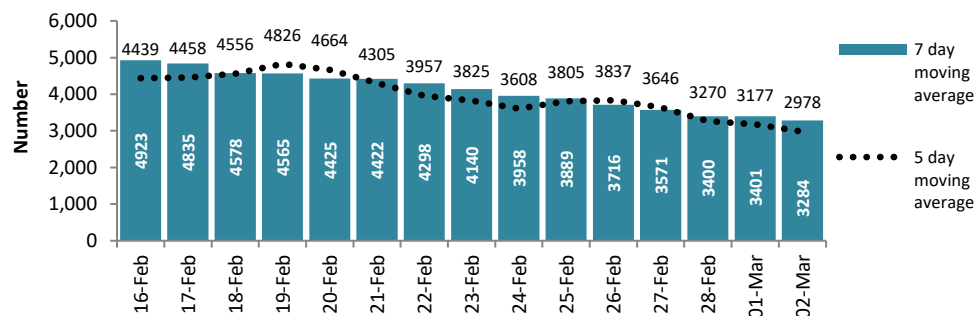
### Number of new cases per day (last 3 weeks to 2<sup>nd</sup> Mar), based on PCRs only



The number of new cases **over the past 3 weeks is trending downward, despite daily variation. Down 21% on total cases in last 7 days compared to week before.**

It is important to note the change in testing policy from 14<sup>th</sup> January with confirmatory PCR tests no longer required for people aged 4-39 years with positive antigen tests.

### 5 and 7 day moving averages of new cases per day (14 days to 2<sup>nd</sup> February), PCRs only

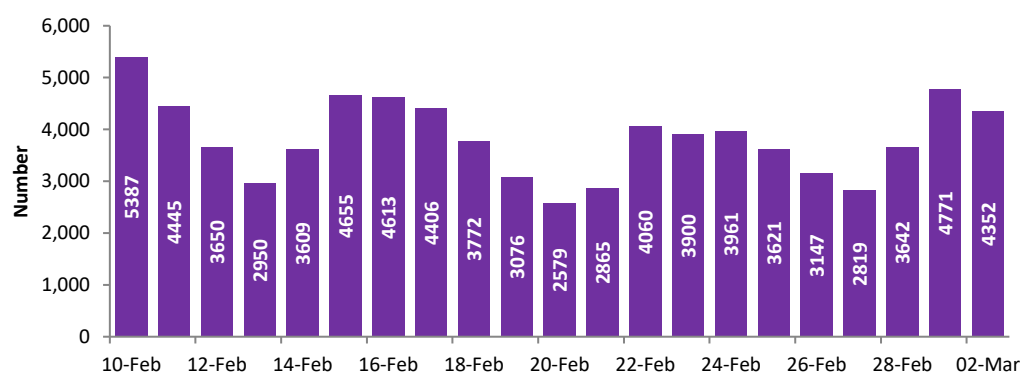


**Compared to last week the 5 day moving average is down 22% and the 7 day moving average is down 21%.**

Compared to previous 2 weeks, the 5 day average is down 33% and the 7 day average is down 33%.

Note change in testing policy from 14<sup>th</sup> January.

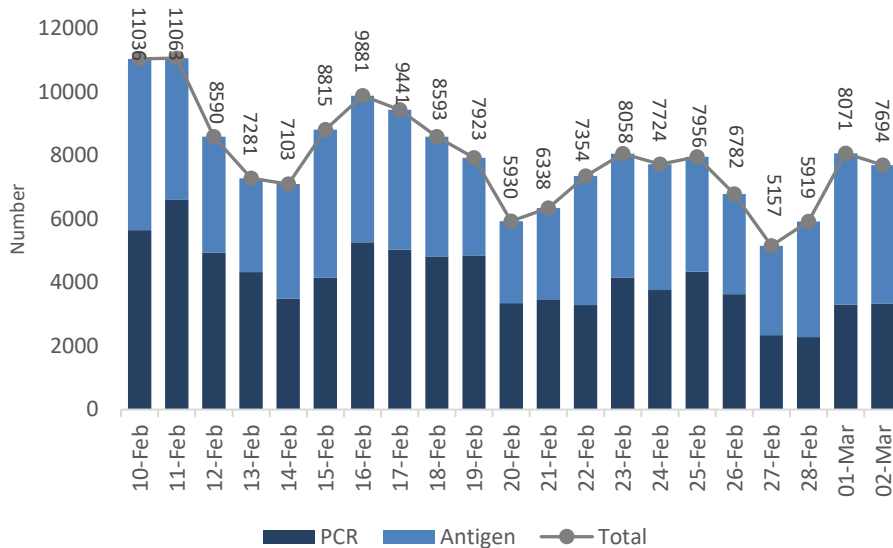
### Number of people who registered positive antigen tests through the HSE portal



In addition to positive PCR results, 26,313 people have registered a positive antigen test result on the HSE portal over the past 7 days (an average of 3,759 per day). Compared to one week ago this up 6.7% and compared to two weeks ago down 10.2%.

Note that the portal opened on 14<sup>th</sup> January. The figures reported refer to the number of people who registered a positive test on the portal during the previous day (i.e. data for 15-Jan refers to positive results reported on 14-Jan).

### Total Estimated daily case number: PCR results and self-reported antigen test results

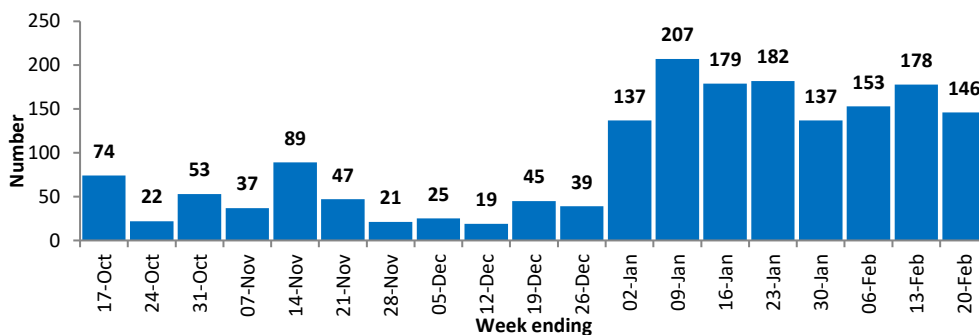


A daily case number can be estimated by combining total PCR results and Antigen test results.

**7,694 estimated daily cases today, 3,342 PCR and 4,352 Antigen.** This represents a decrease in estimated daily cases of 5% compared to this day last week (8,058 estimated cases on 23<sup>rd</sup> February).

\* These data are provisional, are subject to validation and do not represent notified cases. There may be some duplication due to people with positive antigens also getting positive PCRs as confirmation

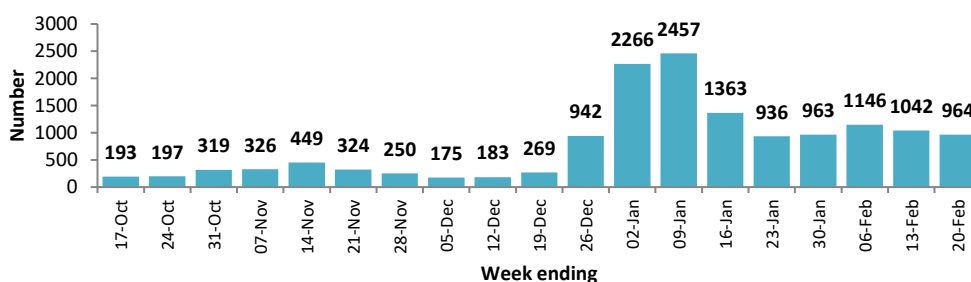
### Number of hospital acquired cases of COVID-19 by week



**The number of hospital acquired cases of COVID remains high relative to the end of 2021.** It has decreased by 18% compared to week ending 13<sup>th</sup> Feb and decreased by 5% compared to week ending 6<sup>th</sup> Feb.

The number of hospital acquired cases during this wave has remained lower than the peak of 495 hospital acquired cases during the week ending 17<sup>th</sup> Jan 2021.

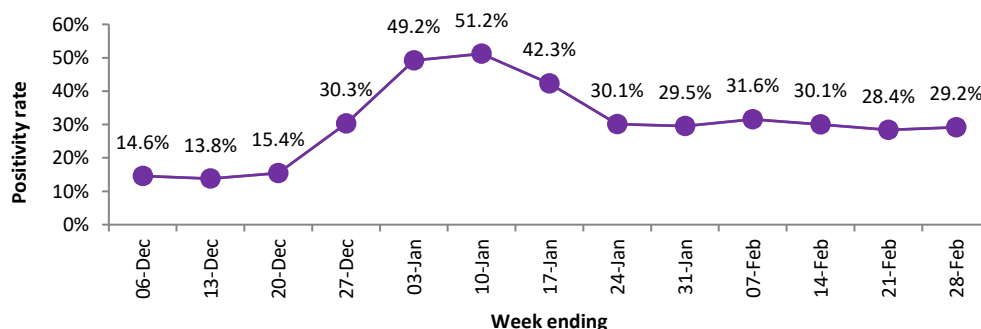
### Number of new lab confirmed cases of COVID in hospital staff, by week



The number of new laboratory confirmed cases of COVID in hospital staff is significantly higher over the past 9 weeks than in previous months but has decreased from this wave's peak of 2,457 (week ending 9<sup>th</sup> Jan). The latest reported week (ending 20<sup>th</sup> Feb) is down 7% on the previous seven days and down 8% on week ending 6<sup>th</sup> Feb.

\*Based on available unvalidated information from hospitals on confirmed cases among staff.

### Positivity rate for COVID-19 PCR tests by week

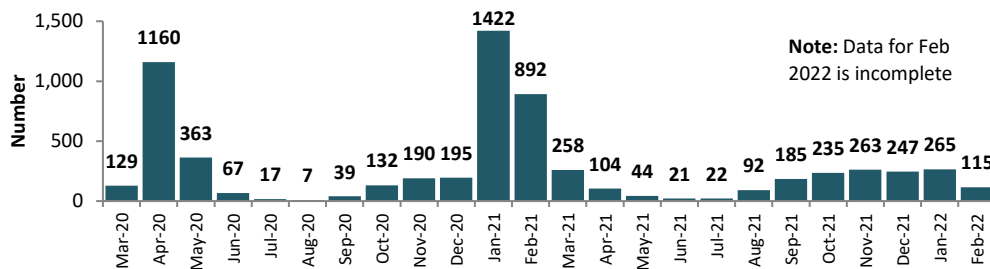


**The positivity rate remains high but has stabilised around 30% over the last six weeks** after a recent peak of 51.2% week ending 10<sup>th</sup> Jan.

Positivity rate for week ending 28<sup>th</sup> Feb (29.2%) is an increase on week ending 21<sup>st</sup> Feb (28.4%).

The positivity rate may be impacted by presentations post positive antigen test.

### COVID-19 related deaths by month of death

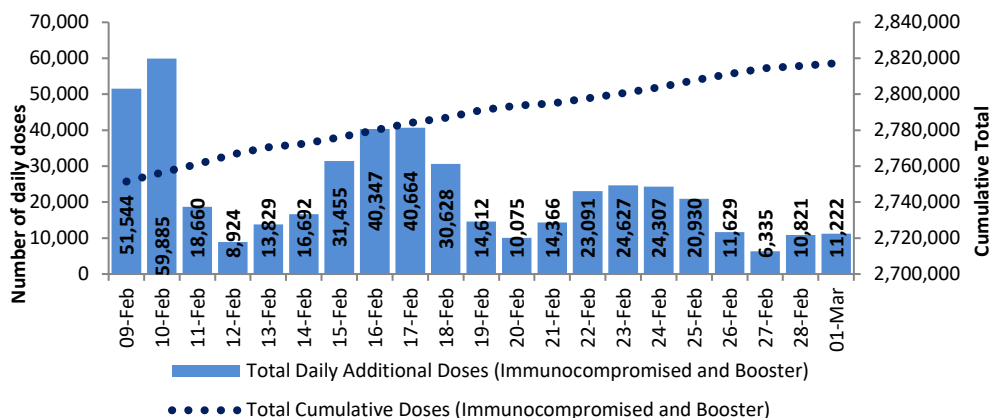


The deaths of 6,496 people with confirmed, probable or possible COVID-19 have been reported to date (up to 26<sup>th</sup> February).

The deaths of 115 people during the month of February 2022 have been reported to 26<sup>th</sup> February.

\*Date of death reported for 6,464

### Daily doses of COVID-19 Additional vaccinations, 9<sup>th</sup> Feb – 1<sup>st</sup> Mar



Up to 22<sup>nd</sup> February **2,817,146 additional dose vaccinations** have been administered, 137,125 (4.9%) of which were administered to the immunocompromised.

In the latest week (22<sup>rd</sup> Feb-1<sup>st</sup> Mar) 32,169 total doses were administered (including first, second & additional doses).

To date, **71,115 children aged 5-9 years and 45,807 children aged 10-11 years** have received their 1<sup>st</sup> dose.

### Key trends & recent changes:

- In the **7 days up to 2<sup>nd</sup> March** there were **22,990 new cases** reported (**based on positive PCR results**); **down 21% on the previous week** (28,979 new cases in the 7 days up to 23<sup>rd</sup> February). Compared to the previous week, the **5 day moving average is down 22% and compared to two weeks ago, down 33%**
- In addition, over the past 7 days 26,313 people reported a positive antigen test to the HSE portal (average of 3,759 per day). Compared to the previous week, the **reported positive antigens tests are up 6.7% but compared to two weeks ago, down 10.2%**
- It is important to note the change in testing policy with people aged 4-39 referred for antigen self-testing rather than PCR testing, and no longer needing a confirmatory PCR following a positive antigen test since 14<sup>th</sup> January.

### Hospital activity:

- The number of patients with confirmed COVID currently **in hospital is up 10% compared to last week** (653 at 8am on 2<sup>nd</sup> March, 593 at 8am on 23<sup>rd</sup> February).
- Over the past 7 days there have been **350 admissions of COVID positive patients to hospital** (an average of 50 per day), **up 18% on the previous week** (296 new admissions in the 7 days up to 23<sup>rd</sup> February).
- Data from the NOCA ICU Bed Information System shows that the number of **confirmed COVID cases in ICU is down 15% compared to last week** (54 on 23<sup>rd</sup> February, 46 on 2<sup>nd</sup> March).
- In addition to patients in ICU, on 1<sup>st</sup> March 168 patients were receiving non-invasive ventilation outside ICU** (39 patients with COVID and 129 non-COVID patients), down from 178 on the same day last week.

### Outbreaks (HSPC Epidemiology of COVID-19 Outbreaks/Clusters Report, 1<sup>st</sup> March):

- For the most recent week (up to 26<sup>th</sup> February), there were **12 new outbreaks in acute hospitals notified (22 last week)**.
- There were 32 outbreaks in nursing homes notified (43 last week)**
- There were 3 new outbreak in community hospitals / long-term care facilities (1 last week)
- There were 30 outbreaks in residential institutions notified (37 last week)**
- There were 2 outbreaks associated with schools (12 last week)
- There was 1 outbreak associated with childcare facilities (1 last week)
- Note data on outbreaks are provisional and subject to ongoing review, validations and updating.

### Deaths (HPSC weekly report on COVID-19 deaths, 28/02/3033):

- **6,496** deaths with confirmed (6,216), probable (98) and possible cases (182) of COVID-19 were recorded from 01/03/2020 to 26/02/2022
  - **The median age was 82**
  - 3,011 (46.4%) were female and 3,485 (53.6%) Male
  - **5,323 (81.9%) had one or more underlying condition**, 652 (10%) did not and it is unknown for a further 512 (8%)
- **3,799 (58.5%)** were linked to outbreaks
  - **2,339 in nursing homes**
  - 917 in Hospital
  - 155 in Community Hospitals/Long stay units
  - 114 in Residential institution
  - 274 in other locations

\* A death linked to an outbreak in a particular setting does not of itself indicate that transmission occurred within that setting. A case may be detected as part of an outbreak investigation, and associated with an outbreak, despite exposure and transmission having occurred elsewhere.

### Conclusion:

Cases and ICU admissions have trended downward over the last three weeks. The positivity rate remains high but stable. Admission of COVID-19 positive patients to hospital may be entering a growth phase (see next page). Hospital acquired COVID-19 cases also remain high.