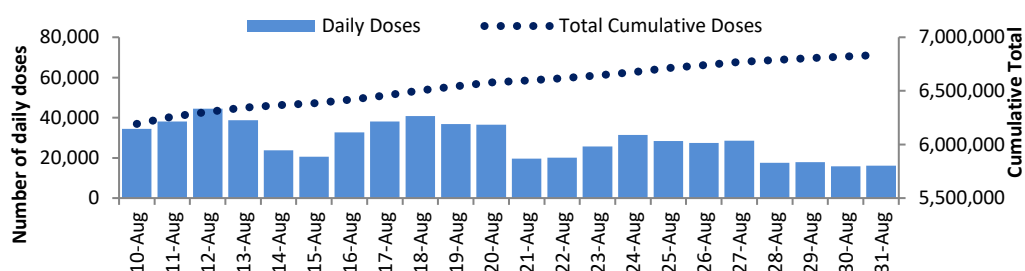


COVID-19 Data Summary, Wednesday 1st September 2021

Introduction:

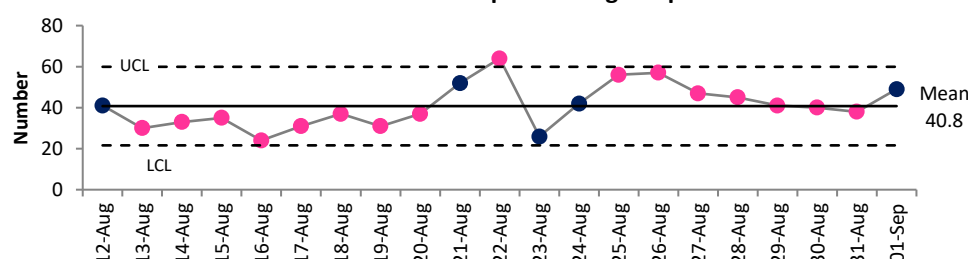
As restrictions continue to ease and numbers of cases currently stabilise we will continue to monitor the situation closely to predict future pressures on the hospital system and to assess effectiveness of control measures.

Daily & cumulative doses of COVID-19 vaccinations



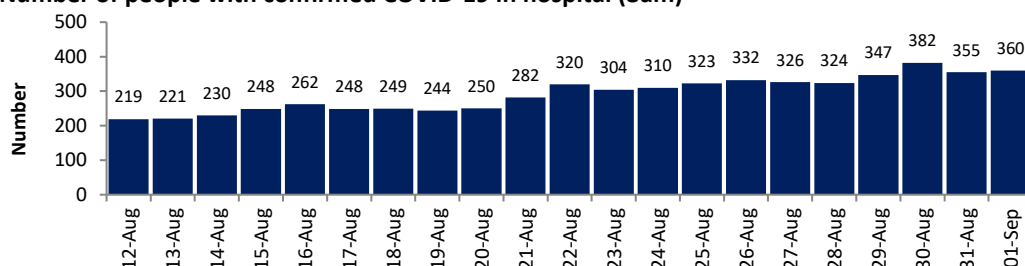
Up to 1st Sept, **6,936,122** COVID vaccine doses have been administered (3,455,838 first doses, 3,147,684 second doses and 232,600 single doses). In the 7 days up to 1st Sept a total of **151,596** doses were administered (average of **21,657** per day).

Number of new confirmed COVID cases in hospital during the previous 24 hours



The SPC chart shows that the number of new confirmed COVID cases admitted has shown signals of **instability**. There is a downward trend 26th Aug – 31st Aug from a higher mean (40.8 three weeks to 1st Sept compared to 35 three weeks to 25th Aug,). 49 today, with a **rolling 7 day increase of 3% (317 in week to 1st Sept, 308 in week to 25th Aug.)**

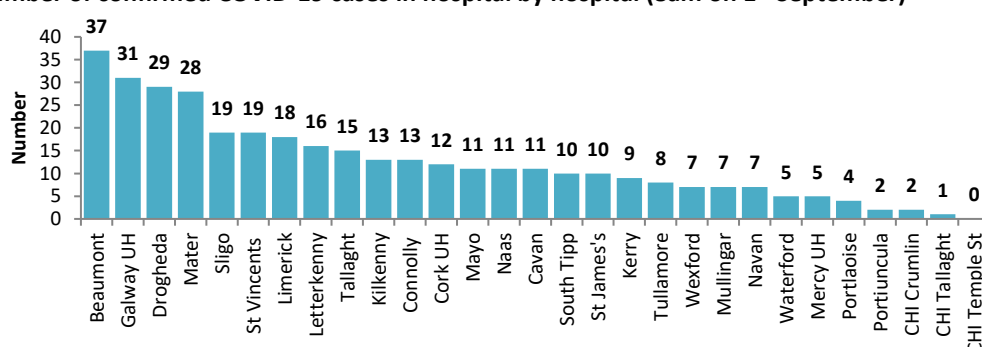
Number of people with confirmed COVID-19 in hospital (8am)



The number of people with COVID in hospital fluctuates by day (usually higher at weekends) but **overall is trending upwards**.

360 in hospital at 8am today, **up 11% on the same day last week**.

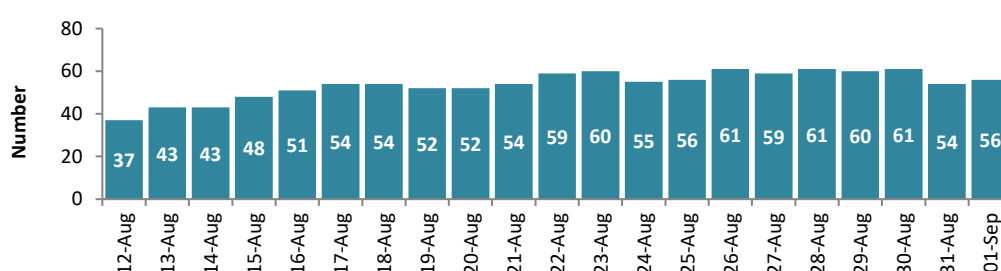
Number of confirmed COVID-19 cases in hospital by hospital (8am on 1st September)



Of the 360 people in hospital with confirmed COVID, 37 are in Beaumont, 31 in Galway University Hospital, 29 in Drogheda and 28 in the Mater.

1 hospital (CHI Temple St.) currently has no patients with confirmed COVID (compared to 1 last week).

Number of people with COVID-19 in critical care

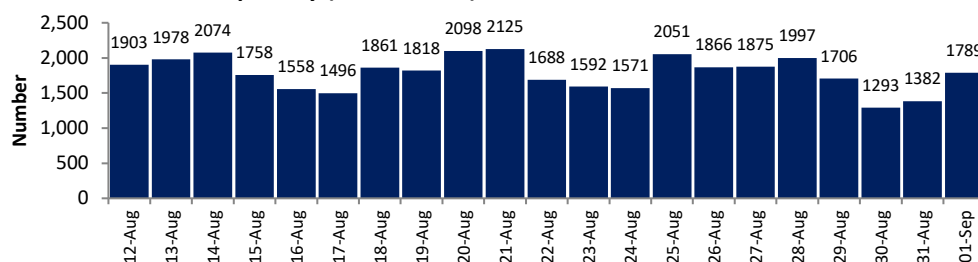


The number with COVID-19 in **critical care has been slowly increasing over the past 3 weeks**.

Currently 56 in ICU (the same as this day last week).

7 new admissions today.

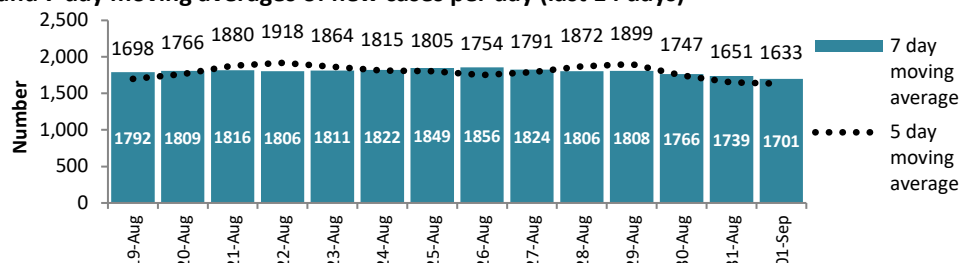
Number of new cases per day (last 3 weeks)



The number of new cases **fluctuates** by day. While there had been an overall upward trend, that has **stabilised over the last two weeks**

New cases this week are down 8% on the previous week (compared to a 2% increase last week).

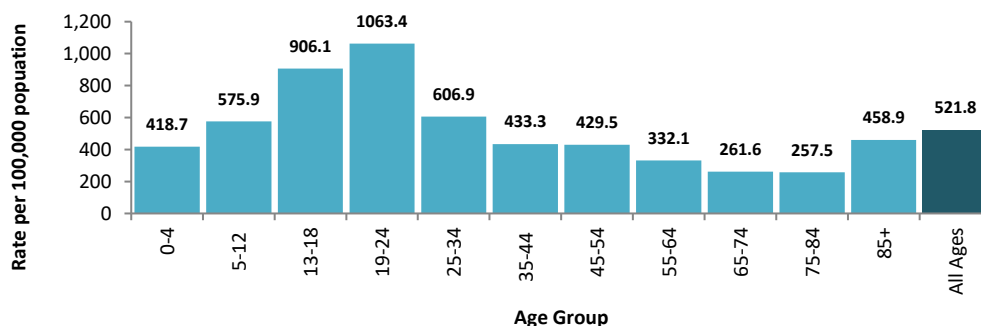
5 and 7 day moving averages of new cases per day (last 14 days)



Compared to last week, the **5 day average is down 10%**, (up 3% last week) and the **7 day average is down 8% (Up 2% last week)**.

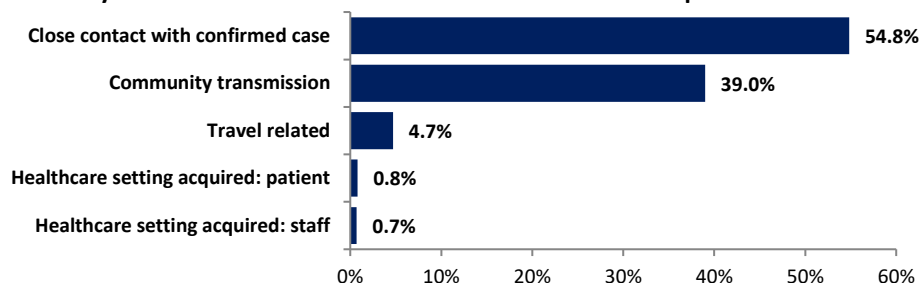
Compared to 2 weeks ago, the **5 day average is down 7%** and the **7 day average is down 6%**.

Rate of new cases per 100,000 population by age group notified over the past 2 weeks



Compared to last week **the overall 14 day incidence rate is down 2%**. The 14 day incidence rate is **highest among 19-24 year olds (but down 12% on last week)**. **The rate for 13-18 year olds decreased by 18%** and rate for 25-34 year olds decreased by 5%. **The rates for all other age groups increased compared to last week.**

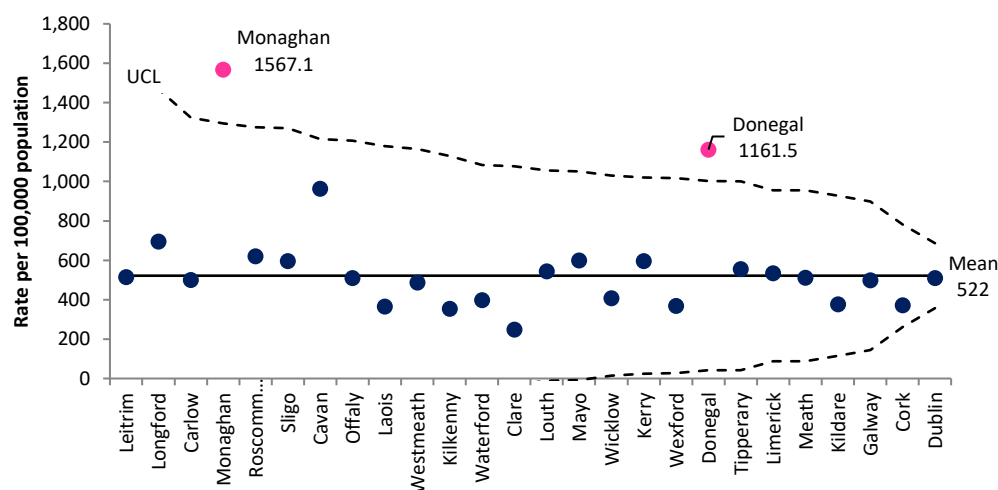
Most likely transmission source of new cases notified over the past 2 weeks



Note: Transmission source remains under investigation for 20.6% of cases. The percentages above are based on those with known transmission source. Transmission source should be interpreted with caution as data may not be updated based on additional investigations undertaken by Departments of Public Health.

Of 19,732 new cases with known most likely transmission source notified within the past 2 weeks, 10,818 (54.8%) were close contacts. 926 (4.7%) were travel related. 295 (1.5%) were acquired in healthcare settings (155 patients & 140 staff), and 7,693 (39%) were community transmission (no other identified source).

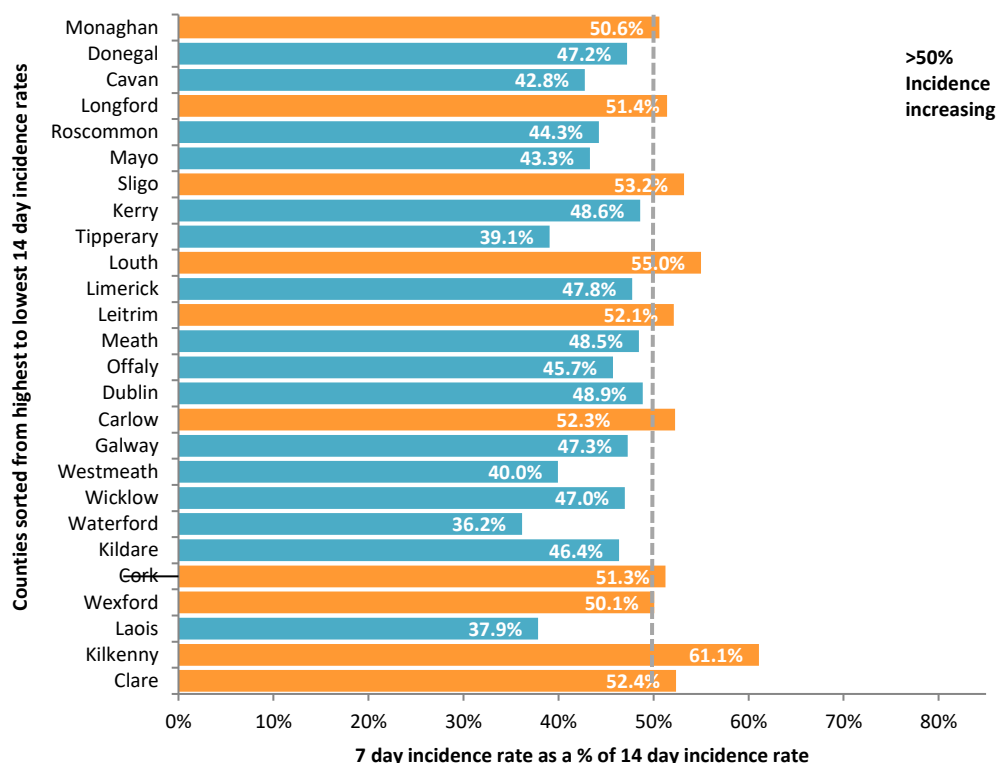
14-day incidence rate per 100,000 population by county notified from 18 – 31 August



The SPC funnel plot shows that the rates of new cases in all counties are within the expected range of variation when compared to the national average, **with the exception of Monaghan and Donegal which are above the upper control limit.**

This is a signal that the current 14 day rate in Monaghan and Donegal are higher than expected relative to the national rate.

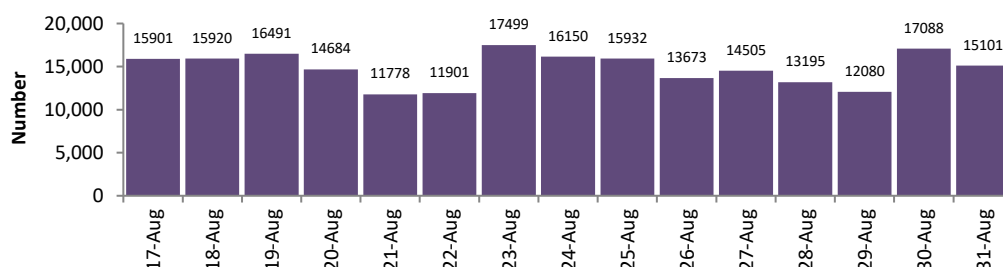
7 day incidence rate as a percentage of 14 day rate, 18 – 31 August



The latest 14 day incidence rate is 521.8 per 100,000 population, while the 7 day incidence rate is 272. **The 7 day rate is less than half (47.9%) of the 14 day rate;** this means that there were **less new cases in the most recent 7 days than in the previous 7 days.**

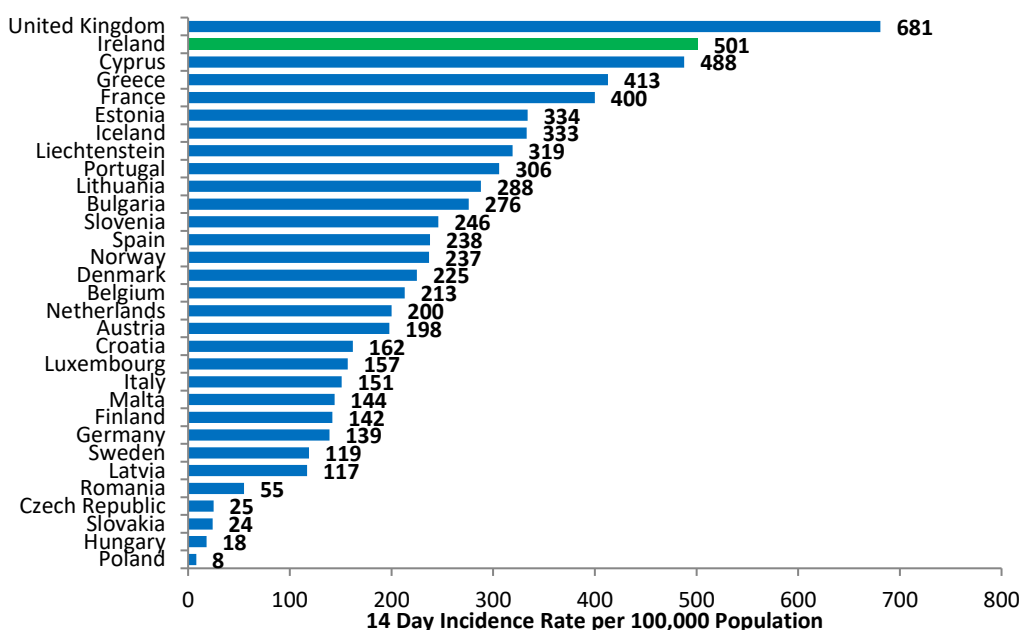
At county level, the 7 day rates for **10 counties are greater** than half of the 14 day rates. This is an improvement on the same day last week when 18 counties had a 7 day rate greater than 50% of their 14 day rate.

Number of community referrals for COVID-19 testing



Community referrals for COVID testing had been slowing increasing, however that increase stabilised in the last two weeks. Referrals for the most recent 7 days were down 2.7% on the previous 7 days, with an average of 14,510 referrals per day over the past week.

14-day COVID-19 rates per 100,000 population EU/EEA & UK (WHO Data, 31st September)



Data from the WHO on COVID incidence rates within Europe shows that **the 14 day incidence rate in Ireland has increased by 9% compared to 2 weeks ago and is 2nd highest out of the 31 countries (3th highest last week).** Ireland has the highest 14 day incidence rate in the EU.

The 14 day incidence rates in **21 of the 31 countries have increased** compared to 2 weeks ago. Rates have decreased in 10 countries.

Compared to 2 weeks ago, 5 countries have had increases of over 100%, indicating that their rates have more than doubled in 2 weeks.

Key trends & recent changes:

- In the **7 days up 1st September** there were 11,908 new cases reported; **down 8% on the previous week** (12,943 new cases in the 7 days up to 25th August) and down 6% on two weeks ago. Compared to last week, the **5 day average is down 10% and compared to two week ago, down 7%**
- **43.3% of new cases over the past 2 weeks were among people ages 19-44 years.** 31.9% of new cases over the past 2 weeks were among children aged 0-18 years. 17.6% of new cases were among people aged 45-64 years and 7.2% were among people aged 65 and over.
- The 14 day incidence rate is currently 522 per 100,000. This varies significantly by age group, and for 0-34 year olds is 688 per 100,000, compared to 405 per 100,000 among 35-64 year olds and 281 per 100,000 among people aged 65 and over. **For 85+ only the 14 day incidence rate is 459. The 7 day rate is more than less (47.9%) of the 14 day rate;** this means that there were **less new cases in the most recent 7 days than in the previous 7 days.**

Hospital activity:

- The number of patients with confirmed COVID currently **in hospital is up 11% compared to last week** (360 at 8am on 1st September, 360z at 8am on 25th August).
- Over the past 7 days there have been **317 new confirmed cases in hospital** (an average of 45 per day), **up 3% on the previous week** (308 new cases in the 7 days up to 25th August).
- Data from the NOCA ICU Bed Information System shows that the number of **confirmed COVID cases in ICU is static compared to last** (56 COVID-19 patients in ICU 1st September, 56 August 25th).

Outbreaks:

- For the most recent week (ending 28th August), there were **9 new outbreaks in acute hospitals** reported, with **53 linked cases.**
- There were **5 new outbreaks in nursing homes with 66 linked cases.**
- There were no new outbreaks in community hospitals / long-stay.
- There were 11 new outbreaks in residential institutions with 54 linked cases reported.
- There were **7 new outbreaks among members of the Irish traveller community**, with 22 linked cases.
- There were **11 new outbreaks associated with childcare facilities with 34 linked cases.**
- **There were 27 new outbreaks in workplaces with 117 linked cases. These include 2 in the meat/poultry processing sector, 3 in other food production and processing, 5 in the construction sector, and 17 in 'other' workplaces**
- Note data on outbreaks are provisional and subject to ongoing review, validations and updating.

Conclusion:

Case numbers have stabilised. An overall **8% decrease** over the last 7 days, compared to a 2% increase over 7 days this day last week. The SPC chart (see next page) for cases indicates that we have entered a plateau of cases around an average of 1741 a day.

Ireland now has the **highest 14 day incidence rate in the EU.** The 14 day incidence rate in the UK remains higher than in Ireland. However, **The 7 day incidence rate is now less than half (47.9%) of the 14 day rate;** this means that there were **less new cases in the most recent 7 days than in the previous 7 days.**

Incidence in the over 85s is increasing. Currently the 14 day incidence is 459 which is an increase of 17% among 85+ compared to the previous 14 days. Incidence among the over 85s exceeds that of those in the 35-44, 45-54, 55-64, 65-74 and 75-84 cohorts. This is likely driven by **recent nursing home outbreaks** (5 outbreaks in the week to 28th August with 66 linked cases).

Numbers of COVID-19 patients in critical care has been slowly increasing. There were 56 COVID-19 patients in critical care at 8am today, the same as this day last week. The SPC chart for daily admissions to ICU (see next page) indicates that ICU admissions are stable around a higher mean of 4.6 daily admissions.

The number of people with confirmed COVID-19 in hospital is increasing. There was an 11% increase in total confirmed cases admitted in the seven days to 1st September compared to the previous week.

The vaccination programme continues strongly with **close to 7 million total doses** administered.