

COVID-19 Data Summary, Wednesday 12th January 2022

Introduction:

As the Omicron Variant of Concern spreads, 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

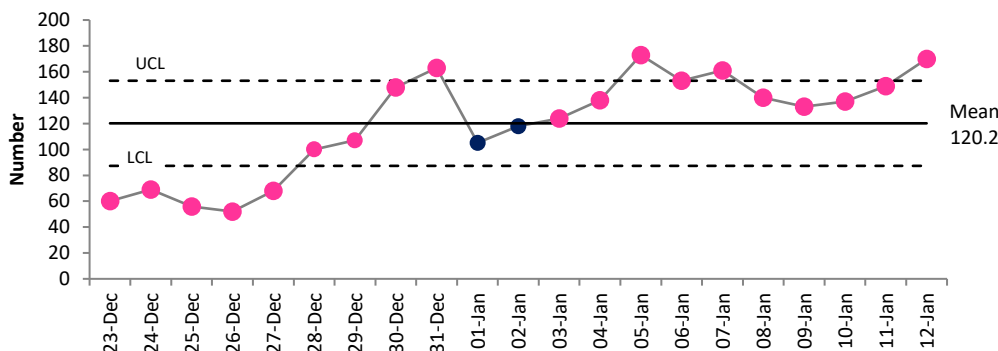


The SPC chart shows an average of 66.6 admissions per day of COVID positive patients since 23rd December.

All points but one exhibit special cause variation (prior to Dec 30th below the mean and after Dec 30th above the mean), highlighting the **rapid increase in admissions**. This may be stabilising

89 admissions today. A total of 580 admissions over the past 7 days (average of 83 per day), **up only 8% on the previous week**

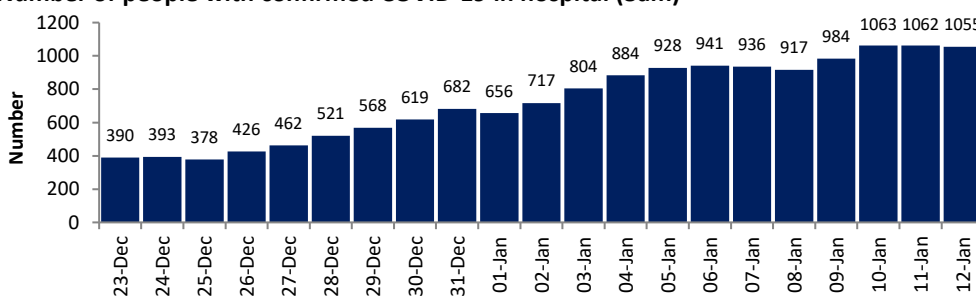
Number of new confirmed COVID cases in hospital, previous 24 hours



The average number of new confirmed COVID cases in hospital **per day since 23rd Dec is 120** (includes admissions with known COVID, and cases with COVID diagnosed after admission).

170 new cases in hospital today. A total of 1,043 new cases over the past 7 days (average of 149 per day), **up 8% on the previous week.**

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

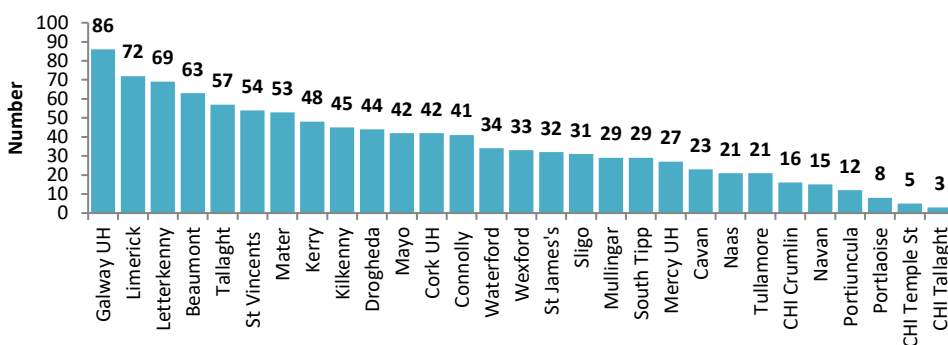


The number of people with COVID in hospital continues to increase, although **the pace of increase appears to have slowed compared to last week.**

Up 14% on the same day last week and up 70% on the same day two weeks ago.

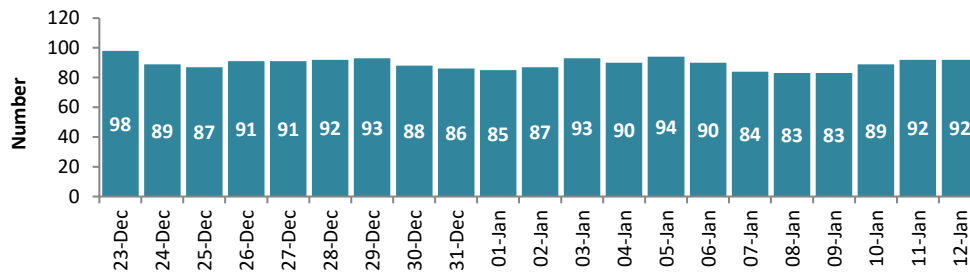
1055 in hospital at 8am today.

Number of people with confirmed COVID-19 in hospital, by hospital (8am on 12th Jan)



Of the 1055 people with confirmed COVID-19 in hospital, **Galway UH has the highest number (86 people)**, followed by Limerick (72), Letterkenny (69), Beaumont (63) and Tallaght (57).

Number of people with COVID-19 in critical care

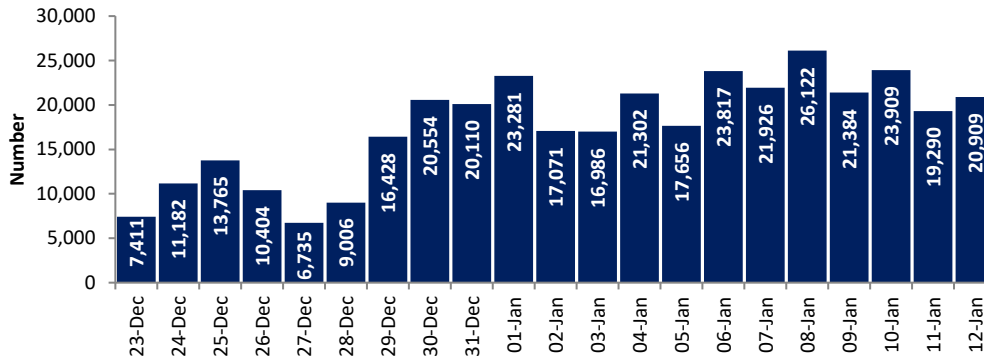


The number with COVID-19 in critical care is stable.

Down 2% on this day last week and **down 1%** on two weeks ago.

Currently 92 in ICU (**down 2 on the same day last week**). **8 new admissions today.**

Number of new cases per day (last 3 weeks to 12th Jan)

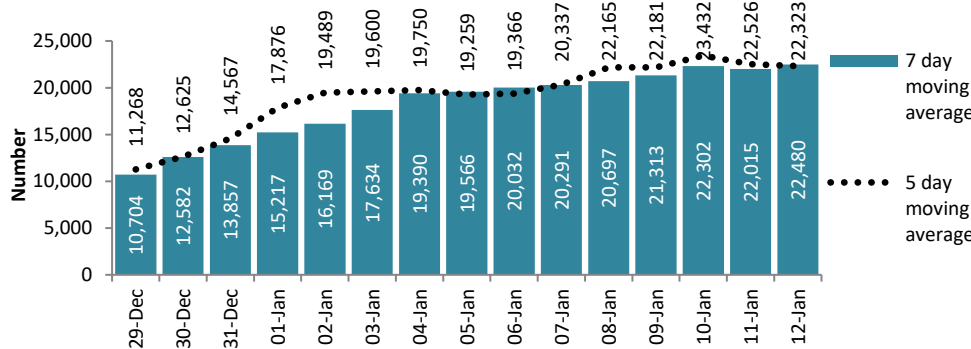


Number of new cases (based on positive PCR results uploaded to the COVID Care Tracker) has increased markedly over the past two weeks.

The number of new cases in the 7 days to 12th Jan is up **15%** on the previous week and up **110%** on two weeks ago.

20,909 new cases on 12th Jan.

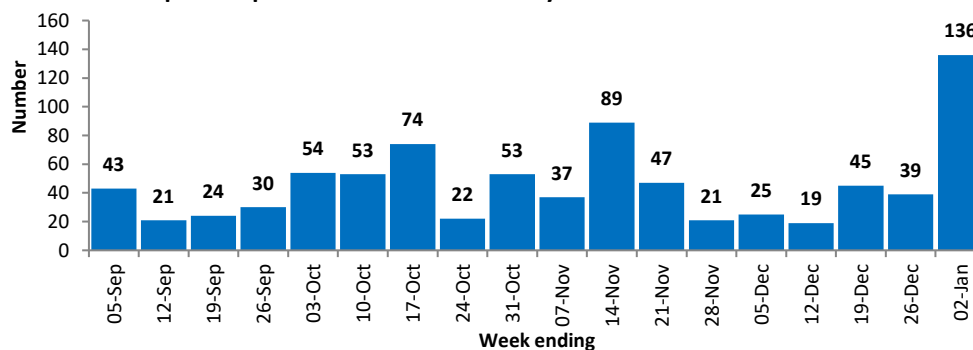
5 and 7 day moving averages of new cases per day (14 days to 12th January)



Compared to last week the **5 day moving average** is up **16%** and the **7 day moving average** is up **15%**.

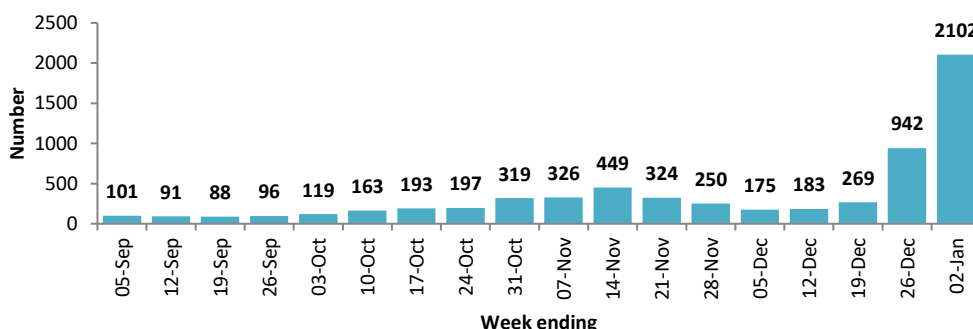
Compared to previous 2 weeks, the **5 day average** is up **98%** and the **7 day average** is up **110%**.

Number of hospital acquired cases of COVID-19 by week



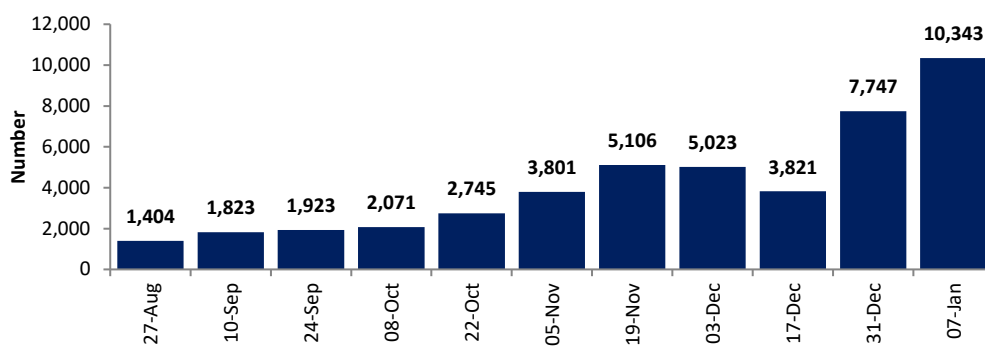
The number of hospital acquired cases of COVID has increased significantly during the week ending 2nd January (136 cases). While this is the highest weekly number of hospital acquired cases since February 2021, it is lower than the peak of 495 hospital acquired cases during the week ending 17th Jan last year.

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 increased significantly over the past 2 weeks. 2,102 new cases for the week ending 2nd January, up **123%** on the previous week. This is the highest number of new cases among hospital staff reported since the week ending 17th Jan 2021 (1,022 new cases).

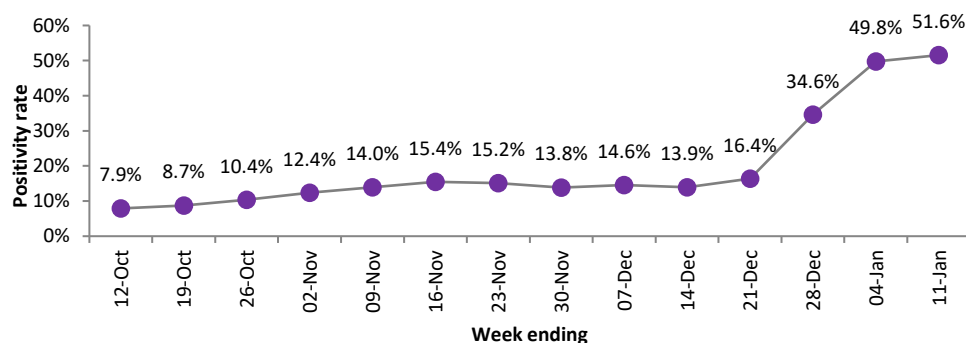
Number of health service staff absent due to COVID-19



Note: Data collection changed from fortnightly to weekly on 7th Jan

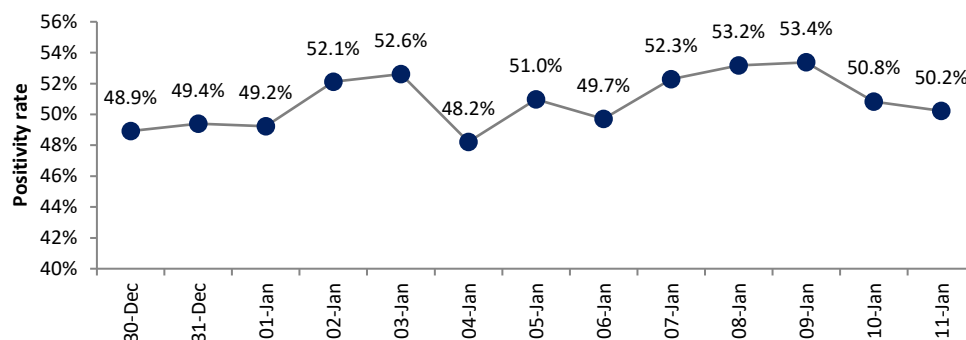
The number of health service staff absent due to a diagnosis of COVID or self-isolation has increased considerably in recent weeks. **For the week ending 7th January 10,343 staff were absent.** This is an overall COVID health service **absenteeism rate of 6.9%.** This is the highest rate of COVID absenteeism since the week ending 19th January last year when 6,763 staff were absent.

Positivity rate for COVID-19 PCR tests by week



The positivity rate has **increased sharply (more than tripling) over the last three weeks**, up from 16.4% for the week ending 21-Dec to 51.6% for the week ending 11th January. This is the highest weekly positivity rate we have experienced. This may be impacted by presentations post positive antigen test.

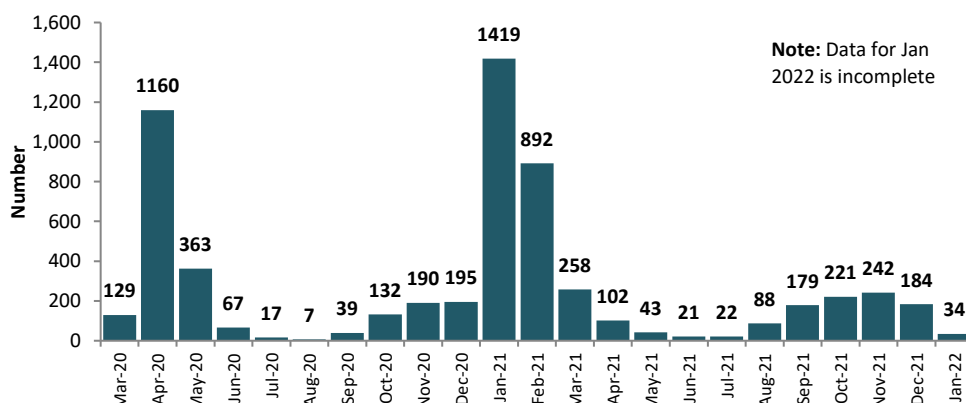
Positivity rate for COVID-19 PCR tests by day



The **daily positivity rate remained above 48%** for the last 2 weeks.

The rate of growth of the daily positivity rate has slowed over the week ending 11th Jan and remained between the very high levels of 48% -53%. While the positivity rate has decreased for the past 2 days it is too soon to determine if this is a trend.

COVID-19 related deaths by month of death

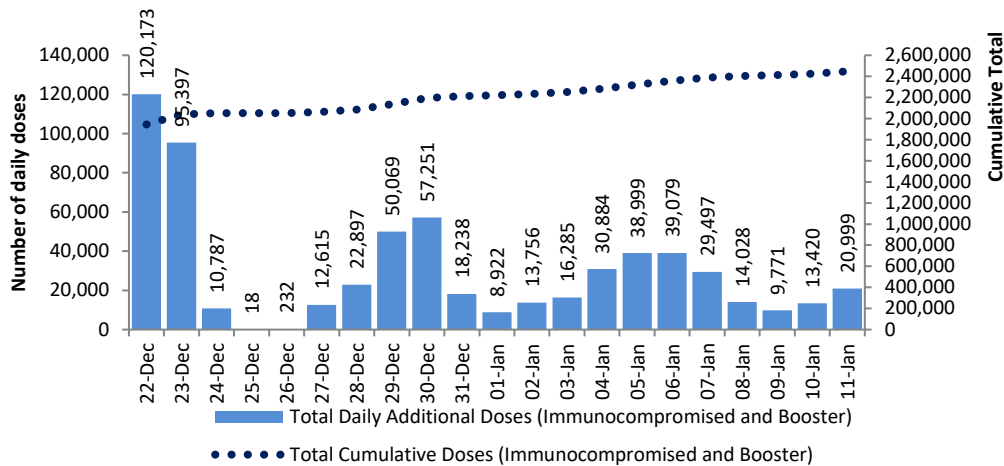


The deaths of 6,035 people with confirmed, probable or possible COVID-19 have been reported to date (up to 11th January). Two main peaks were recorded in April 2020 and Jan 2021.

Median age of death was 82, range 5-105.

2,252 (37.3%) of deaths were linked to nursing home outbreaks and 880 (14.6%) to hospital outbreaks.

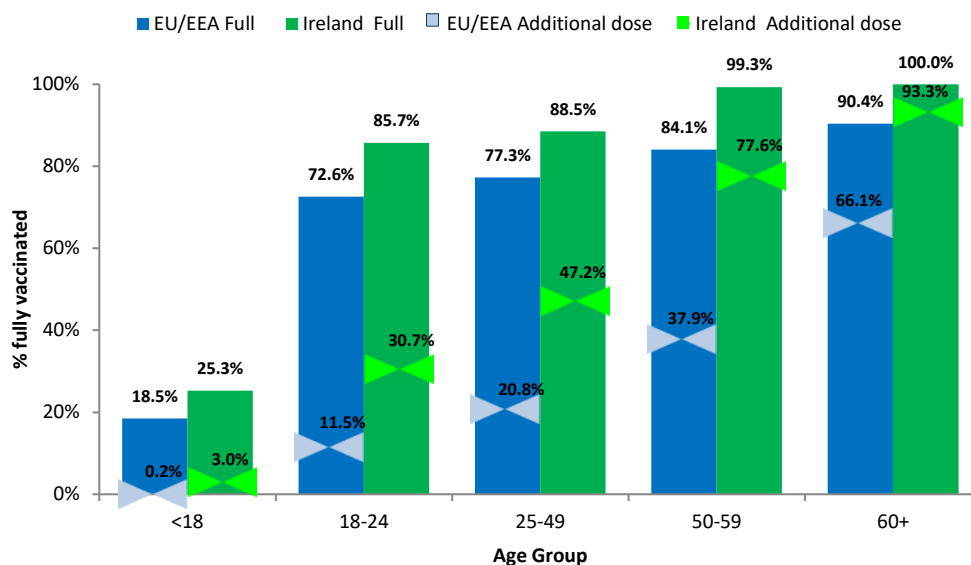
Daily doses of COVID-19 Additional vaccinations, 22nd December-11th January



Up to 11th January **2,447,190 additional dose vaccinations** have been administered, 104,244 (4.3%) of which were administered to the immunocompromised.

In the latest week (5th-11th Jan) 208,983 total doses were administered. 164,778 (78.8%) were additional doses (excl. Immunocompromised), 1,015 (0.5%) were administered to the immunocompromised and 43,190 (20.7%) were first, second or single doses.

Cumulative uptake of full vaccination by age group, Ireland & EU/EEA (12th January)

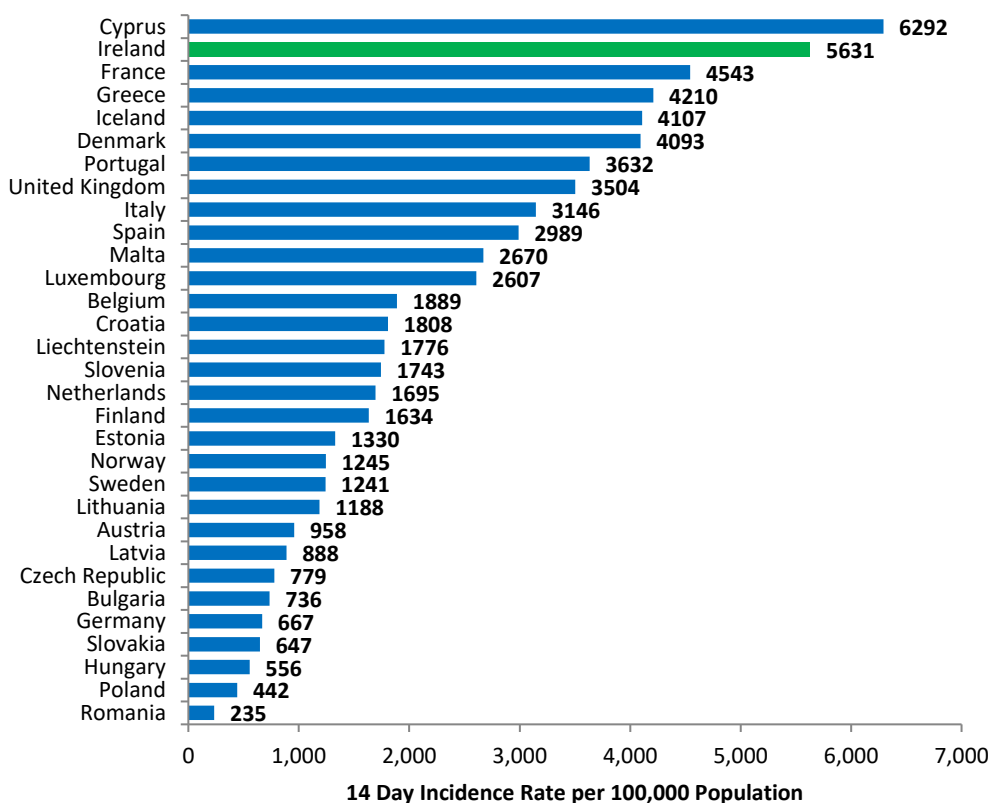


Data from ECDC shows that 80.5% of adults age 18+ in the EU/EEA have been fully vaccinated, with 69% of the total population (including children) fully vaccinated.

Additional dose uptake is 62.2% of adults age 18+ for Ireland and 39.1% for the EU/EEA. 47.8% of the total population of Ireland has had an additional dose compared to 32.1% in the EU/EEA.

Uptake rates vary significantly by age group, with Ireland having higher uptake rates across all age groups compared to the EU/EEA.

14-day COVID-19 rates per 100,000 population EU/EEA & UK (WHO Data, 11th January)



Data from the WHO on COVID incidence rates within Europe shows that **the 14 day incidence rate in Ireland is the 2nd highest out of the 31 countries (1st highest last week).**

The 14 day incidence rates in **28 of the 31 countries have increased compared to 2 weeks ago, including Ireland (up 197%).**

Rates have decreased in 3 countries.

Key trends & recent changes:

- In the **7 days up to 12th January** there were **157,357 new cases** reported (based on positive PCR results uploaded to the COVID Care Tracker); **up 15% on the previous week** (136,960 new cases in the 7 days up to 5th January). Compared to the previous week, the **5 day moving average is up 16% and compared to two weeks ago, up 98%.**

Hospital activity:

- The number of patients with confirmed COVID currently **in hospital is up 14% compared to last week** (928 at 8am 5th January, 1065 at 8am on 12th January).
- Over the past 7 days there have been **580 admissions of COVID positive patients to hospital** (an average of 83 per day), **up 8% on the previous week** (537 new admissions in the 7 days up to 5th January).
- Data from the NOCA ICU Bed Information System shows that the number of **confirmed COVID cases in ICU is almost unchanged compared to last week** (94 on 5th January, 92 on 12th January). Of the 92 patients in ICU, 55 (60%) are invasively ventilated.
- **In addition to patients in ICU, on 11th January 216 patients were receiving non-invasive ventilation outside ICU (93 patients with COVID and 123 non-COVID patients).**

Outbreaks:

- For the most recent week (ending 9th January), there were 22 new outbreaks in acute hospitals reported (8 last week).
- There were 56 new outbreaks in nursing homes (7 last week).
- There were 8 new outbreaks in community hospitals / long-term care facilities (1 last week).
- There were 3 outbreaks in other healthcare services (1 last week).
- There were 48 new outbreaks in residential institutions (22 last week).
- There were 3 new outbreaks reported in schools (2 last week).
- There were 2 new outbreaks associated with childcare facilities (1 last week).
- There were 10 outbreaks in vulnerable populations; 1 among members of the Irish traveller community, 2 outbreaks in the Roma community, 3 in direct provision centres, 3 in prisons and 1 associated with homelessness (4 last week).
- There were 5 new outbreaks in workplaces (3 last week)

Note data on outbreaks are provisional and subject to ongoing review, validations and updating.

Conclusion:

Overall 14 day incidence rate is now 6,181 per 100,000 population. This means that approximately 1 in 16 people have had a positive PCR over the past 14 days. The rate of increase in new cases has slowed (possibly due to the limits of PCR capacity, and the requirement for positive antigen for 4-39 year olds). The rate of increase in new hospitalisations has also slowed (up 8% this week compared to up 90% for the previous week). **Of new confirmed covid cases in hospital over the past week 44% did not have a covid positive diagnosis prior to admission.** Large numbers of staff absent and new cases among hospital staff, much worse than the previous peak last January. Low numbers of deaths so far in comparison to previous waves. There is a worsening of incidence across Europe, rates in 28 of the 31 countries have increased compared to 2 weeks ago.