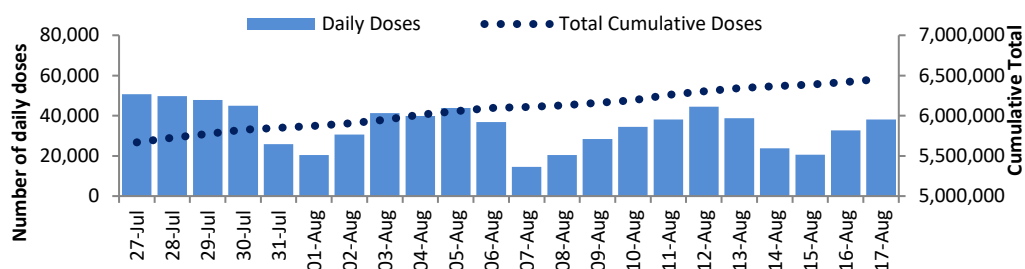


COVID-19 Data Summary, Wednesday 18th August 2021

Introduction:

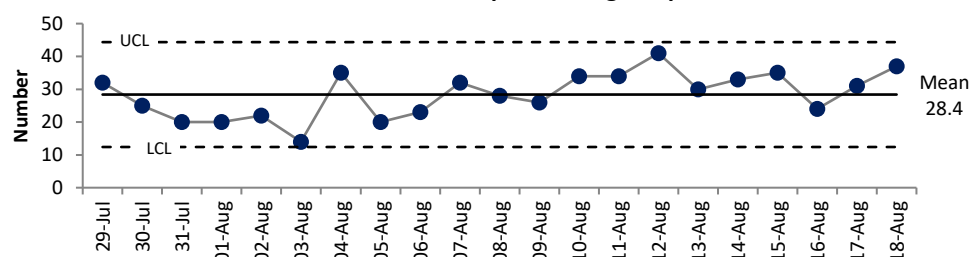
As restrictions continue to ease and numbers of cases rise we will continue to monitor the situation closely to predict future pressures on the hospital system and to assess effectiveness of control measures.

Daily & cumulative doses of COVID-19 vaccinations



Up to 17th August, **6,456,918 COVID vaccine doses have been administered (3,315,602 first doses, 2,913,284 second doses and 228,032 single doses)**. In the **7 days up to 17th August a total of 236,418 doses were administered (average of 33,774 per day)**.

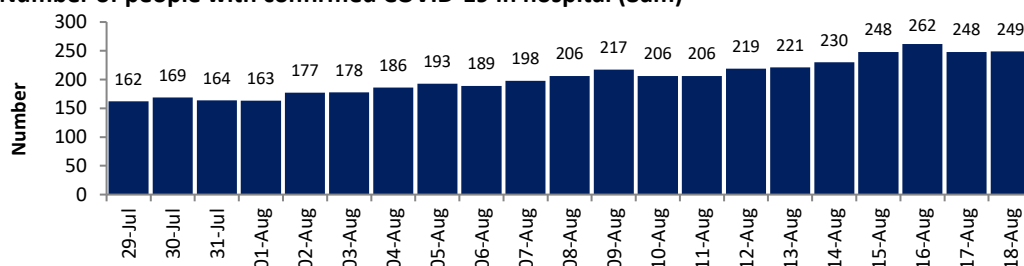
Number of new confirmed COVID cases in hospital during the previous 24 hours



The SPC chart shows that the number of new confirmed COVID cases admitted has been **stable over the last 3 weeks but has increased from last month**.

37 today, with a **rolling 7 day increase of 17% (231 week to 18th Aug, 197 week to 11th August)**

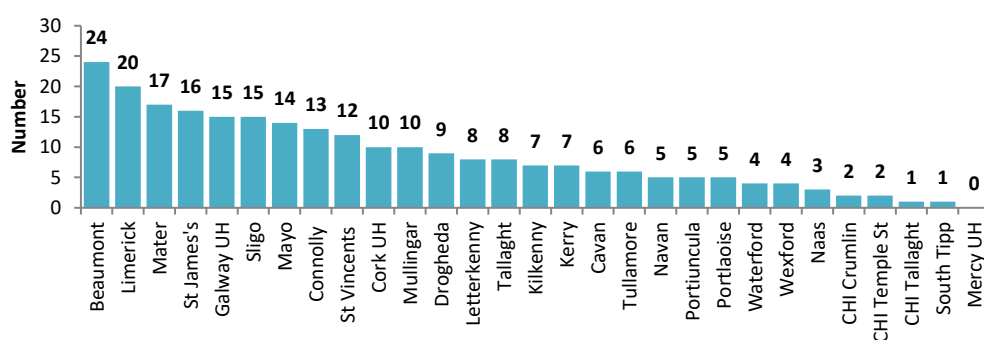
Number of people with confirmed COVID-19 in hospital (8am)



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

249 in hospital at 8am today, **up 21% on the same day last week**.

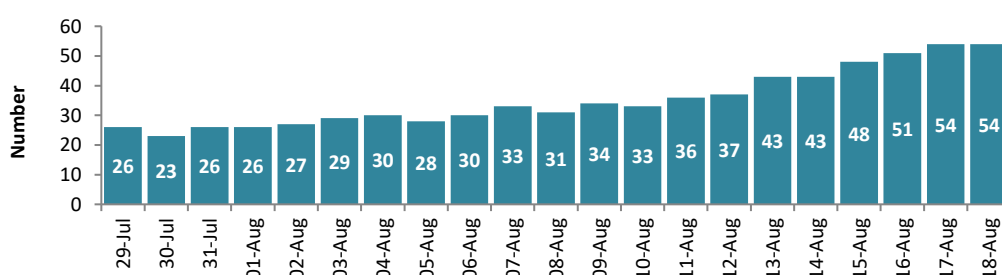
Number of confirmed COVID-19 cases in hospital by hospital (8am on 11th August)



Of the 249 people in hospital with confirmed COVID, 24 are in Beaumont, 20 in Limerick, 17 in the Mater and 16 in St James's. There are 5 cases in the three Dublin children's hospital.

1 hospital (Mercy UH) currently has no patients with confirmed COVID (compared to 1 last week).

Number of people with COVID-19 in critical care

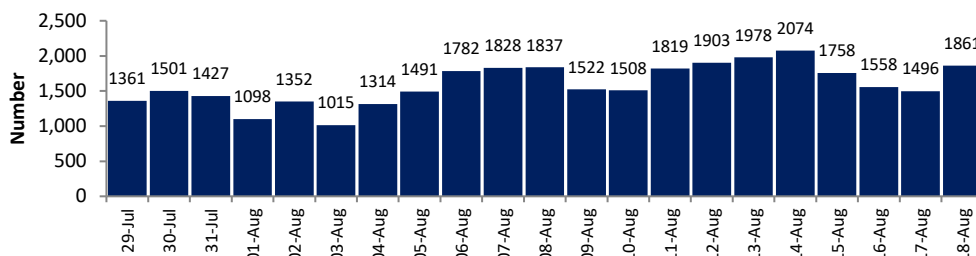


The number with COVID-19 in **critical care has been slowly increasing over the past 3 weeks**.

Currently **54 in ICU (up from 36 on the same day last week, a 50% increase)**.

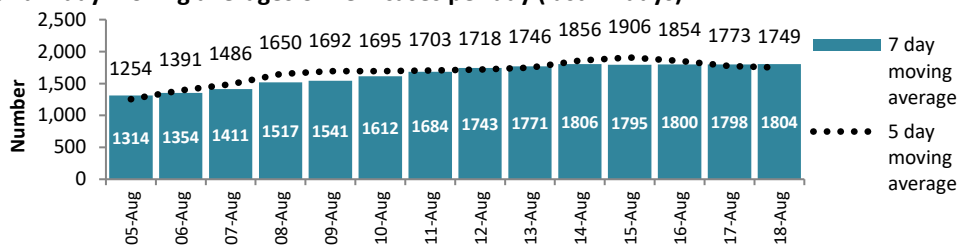
7 new admissions today.

Number of new cases per day (last 3 weeks)



New cases this week are up **7% on the previous week (compared to a 30% increase last week).**

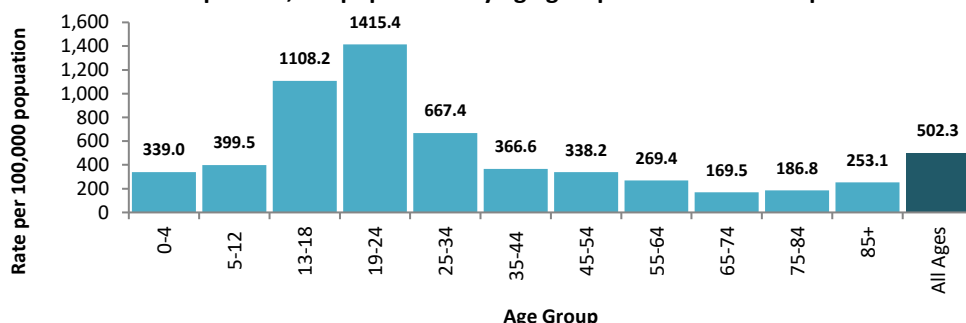
5 and 7 day moving averages of new cases per day (last 14 days)



Compared to last week, the **5 day average is up 3%**, (up 7% last week) and the **7 day average is up 7% (Up 30% last week).**

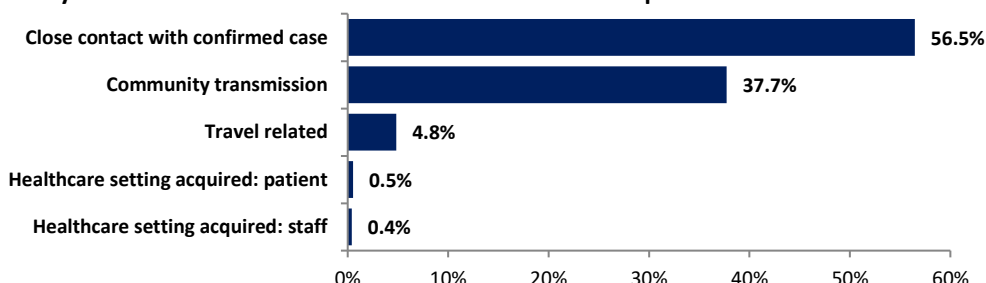
Compared to 2 weeks ago, the **5 day average is up 41%** and the **7 day average is up 39%**.

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 up 16%**. The 14 day incidence rate is **highest among 19-24 year olds (but down 2% on last week)**. Compared to last week the rates for all other age groups increased. **The rate among 75-84 year olds increased 56%** and the rate **among 85+ year olds increased by 92%** from a low base.

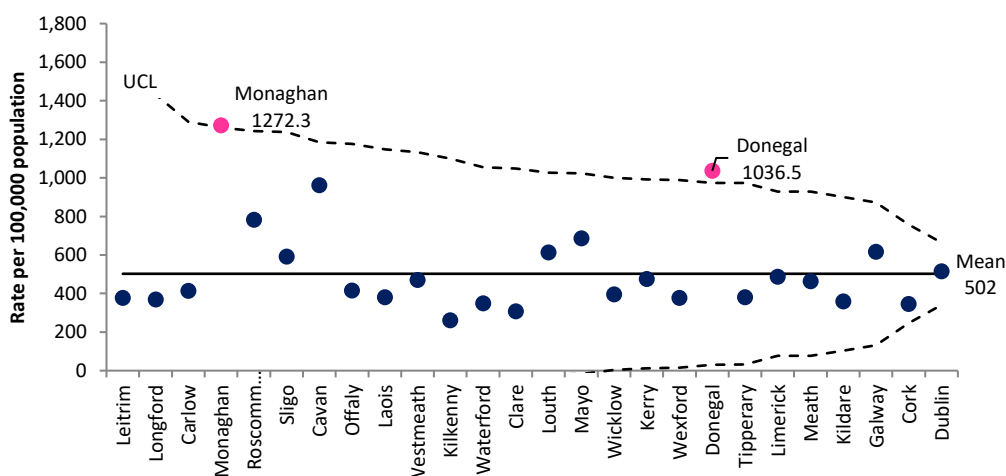
Most likely transmission source of new cases notified over the past 2 weeks



Note: Transmission source remains under investigation for 17% 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 19,857 new cases with known most likely transmission source notified within the past 2 weeks, 11,212 (56.5%) were close contacts. 963 (4.8%) were travel related. 189 (0.9%) were acquired in healthcare settings (107 patients & 82 staff), and 7,493 (37.7%) were community transmission (no other identified source).

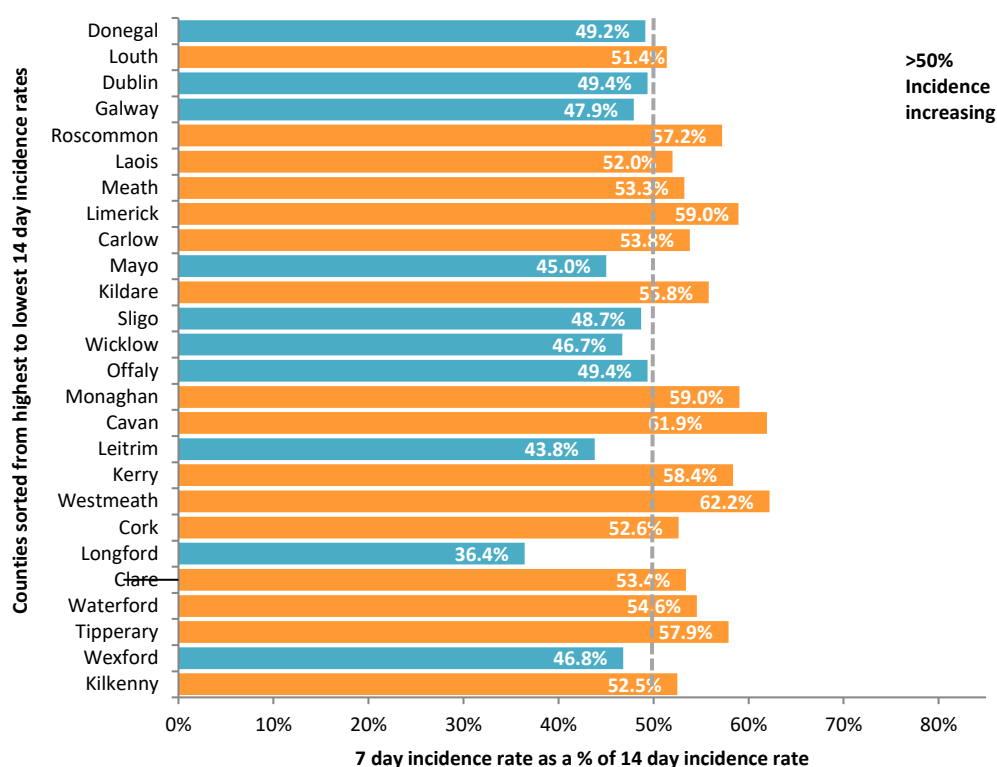
14-day incidence rate per 100,000 population by county notified from 4 – 17 August



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 Donegal and Monaghan which are above the upper control limit.**

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

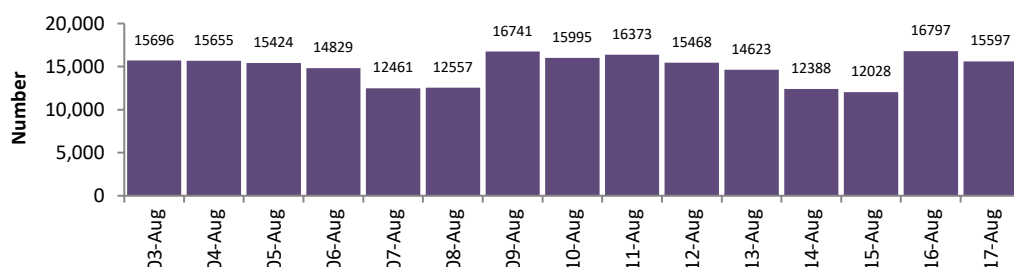
7 day incidence rate as a percentage of 14 day rate, 4 – 17 August



The latest 14 day incidence rate is 502 per 100,000 population, while the 7 day incidence rate is 260. **The 7 day rate is more than half (51.8%) of the 14 day rate**; this means that there were **more new cases in the most recent 7 days than in the previous 7 days**.

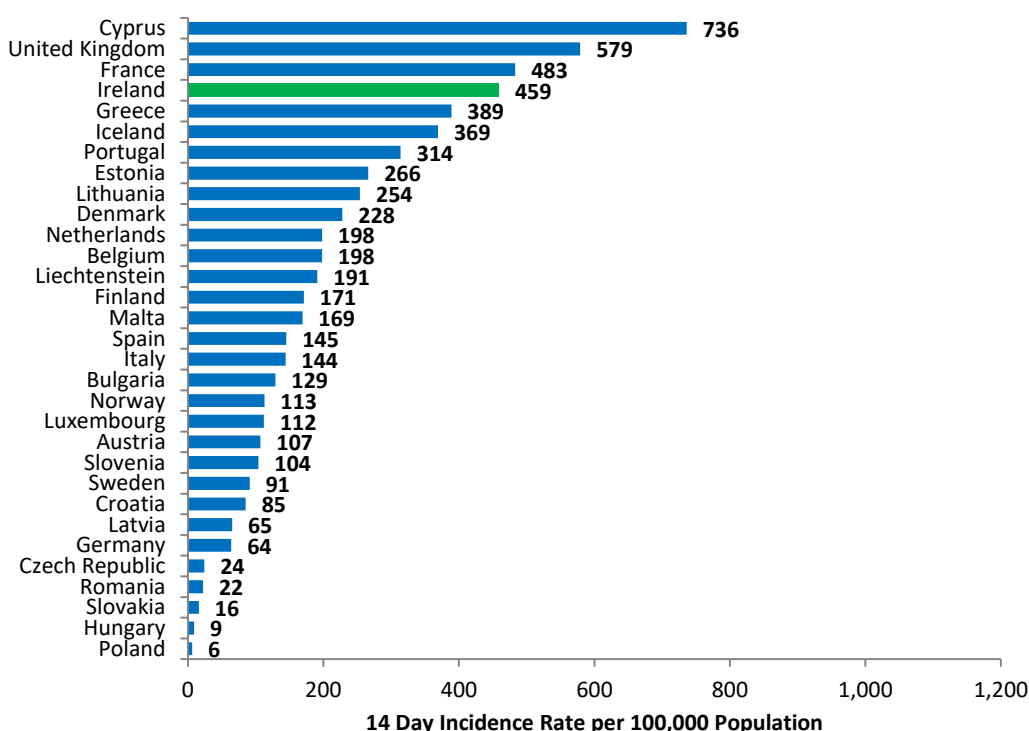
At county level, the 7 day rates for **16 counties are greater** than half of the 14 day rates. This is an improvement on the same day last week when 25 counties had a 7 day rate greater than 50% of their 14 day rate.

Number of community referrals for COVID-19 testing



Community referrals for COVID testing had been slowing increasing, however that increase stabilised in the last week. Referrals for the most recent 7 days were down 0.4% on the previous 7 days, with an average of 14,753 referrals per day over the past week.

14-day COVID-19 rates per 100,000 population EU/EEA & UK (WHO Data, 17th August)



Data from the WHO on COVID incidence rates within Europe shows that **the 14 day incidence rate in Ireland has increased by 28% compared to 2 weeks ago and is 4th highest out of the 31 countries (8th highest last week)**.

The 14 day incidence rates in **23 of the 31 countries have increased** compared to 2 weeks ago. Rates have decreased in 8 countries.

Compared to 2 weeks ago, **3 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 18th August** there were 12,628 new cases reported; **up 7% on the previous week** (11,787 new cases in the 7 days up to 11th August).
- **49.4% of new cases over the past 2 weeks were among people ages 19-44 years. 31.1% of new cases over the past 2 weeks were among children aged 0-18 years.** 14.6% of new cases were among people aged 45-64 years and 4.9% were among people aged 65 and over.
- The 14 day incidence rate is currently 502 per 100,000. This varies significantly by age group, and for 0-34 year olds is 736 per 100,000, compared to 331 per 100,000 among 35-64 year olds and 184 per 100,000 among people aged 65 and over.

Hospital activity:

- The number of patients with confirmed COVID currently **in hospital is up 21% compared to last week** (249 at 8am on 18th August, 206 at 8am on 11th August).
- Over the past 7 days there have been **231 new confirmed cases in hospital** (an average of 33 per day), **up 17% on the previous week** (197 new cases in the 7 days up to 5th August).
- Data from the NOCA ICU Bed Information System shows that the number of **confirmed COVID cases in ICU is up 50% compared to last week** (54 COVID-19 patients in ICU 18th August, 36 August 11th).

Outbreaks:

- For the most recent week (ending 14th August), there were **5 new outbreaks in acute hospitals** reported, with **12** linked cases.
- There were **12 new outbreaks in nursing homes with 121 linked cases.**
- There was 1 new outbreaks in community hospitals / long-stay with 3 linked cases.
- There were six new outbreaks in residential institutions with 21 linked cases reported.
- There were **5 new outbreaks among members of the Irish traveller community**, with 48 linked cases.
- There were **14 new outbreaks associated with childcare facilities with 62 linked cases.**
- **There were 29 new outbreaks in workplaces with 111 linked cases. These include 3 in the meat/poultry processing sector, 4 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 are rising. An overall **7% increase** over the last 7 days, compared to a 3% increase over 7 days this day last week. There were **more new cases in the most recent 7 days than in the previous 7 days** in 16 counties.

Incidence in the over 85s is increasing (14 day incidence increase of 92% among 85+ compared to the previous 14 days). This is likely driven by **recent nursing home outbreaks** (12 outbreaks in the week to 14 August with 112 linked cases).

Numbers of COVID-19 patients in critical care are increasing. A 50% increase compared to this day last week.

The **number of people with confirmed COVID-19 in hospital is increasing.** There was a 21% increase in total confirmed cases admitted in the seven days to 18th August compared to the previous week.

The vaccination programme continues strongly with **close to 6.5 million total doses** administered and 12-15 year olds now receiving first doses.