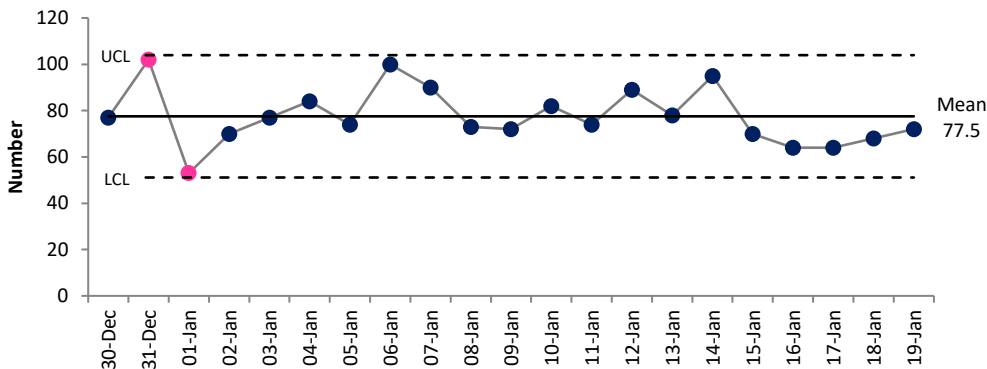


COVID-19 Data Summary, Wednesday 19th January 2022

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.

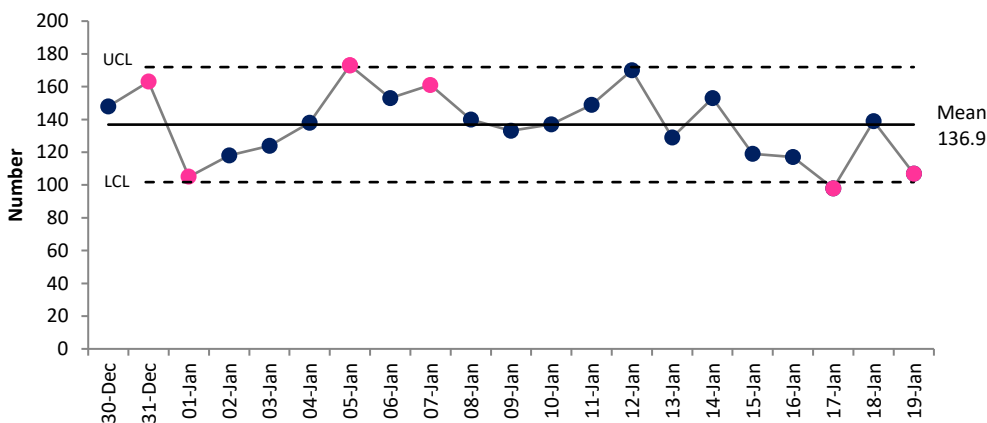
Number of hospital admissions of COVID positive patients during the previous 24 hours



The SPC chart shows an **average of 77.5 admissions per day of COVID positive patients since 30th December**. The number of admissions has stabilised since 2nd January (although at a higher level than in December).

72 admissions today. A total of 511 admissions over the past 7 days (average of 73 per day), **down 12% on the previous week**.

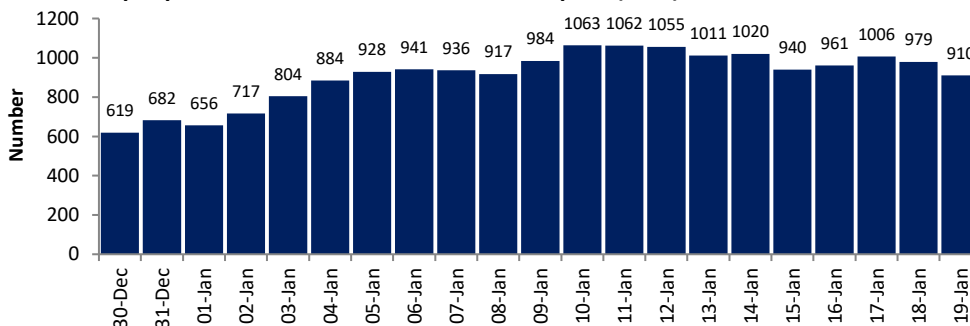
Number of new confirmed COVID cases in hospital, previous 24 hours



The SPC chart shows that the number of new confirmed COVID cases in hospital (includes admissions with known COVID & cases with COVID diagnosed after admission) for 2 of the past 3 days has been lower than expected; this is a signal of improvement.

107 new cases in hospital today. A total of 862 new cases over the past 7 days (average of 123 per day), **down 17% on the previous week**.

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

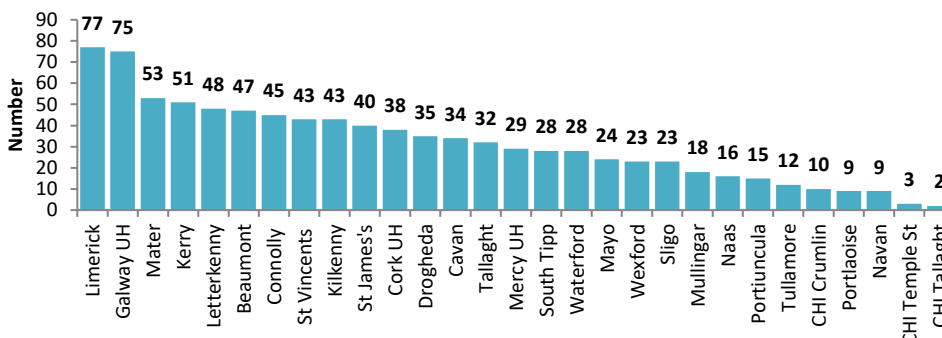


The number of people with COVID in hospital fluctuates by day but has decreased compared to last week.

Down 14% on the same day last week and down 2% on the same day two weeks ago.

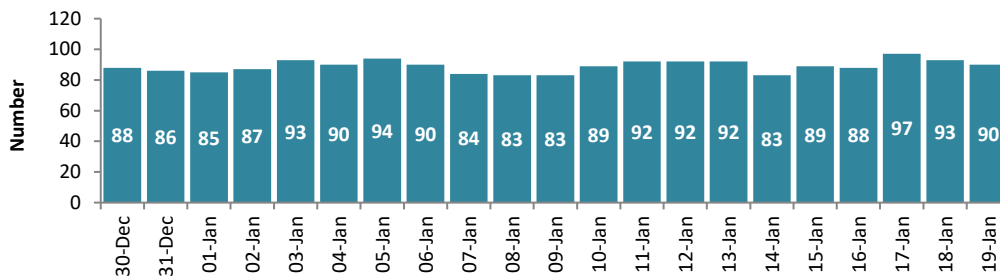
910 in hospital at 8am today.

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



Of the 910 people with confirmed COVID-19 in hospital, **UH Limerick has the highest number (77 people)**, followed by Galway UH (75), Mater (53), Kerry (51) and Letterkenny (48).

Number of people with COVID-19 in critical care

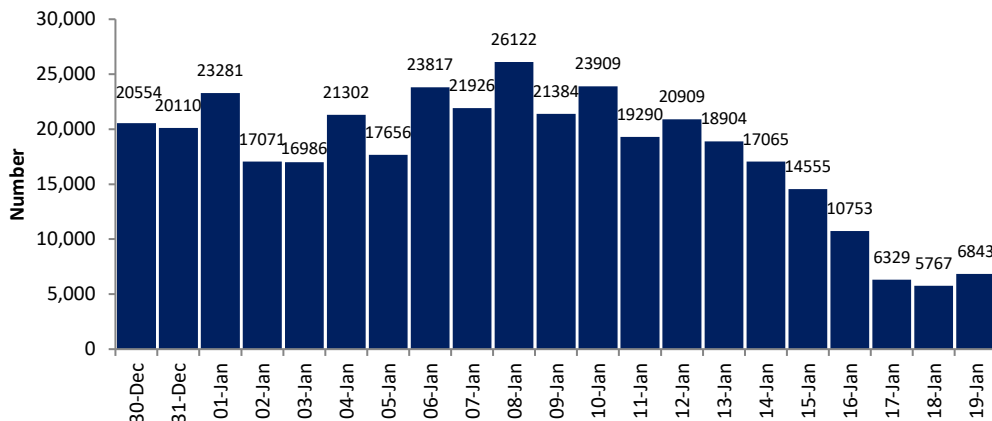


The number with COVID-19 in critical care remains stable.

Down 2% on this day last week and down 4% on two weeks ago.

Currently 90 in ICU (**down 2 on the same day last week**). **7 new admissions today.**

Number of new cases per day (last 3 weeks to 19th Jan), based on PCRs only

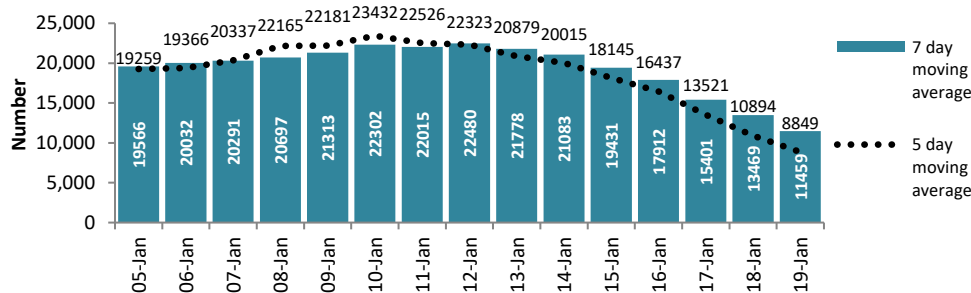


The number of new cases (based on positive PCR results uploaded to the COVID Care Tracker) has decreased considerably over the past week.

The number of new PCR positive cases in the 7 days to 19th Jan is down 49% on the previous week and down 41% on two weeks ago.

6,843 new PCR positive cases on 19th Jan (see below for positive antigen tests).

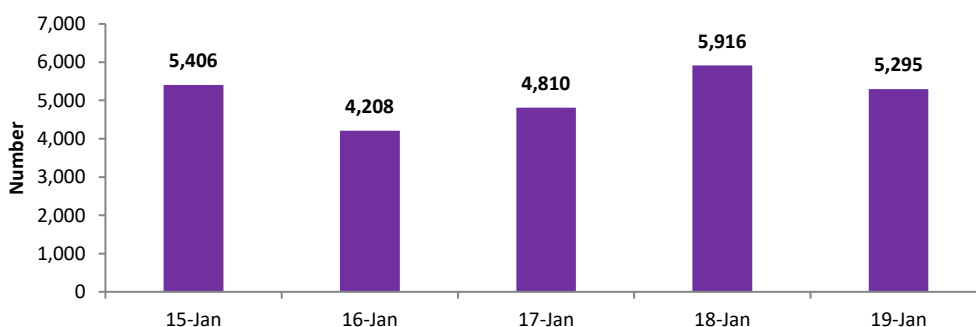
5 and 7 day moving averages of new cases per day (14 days to 19th January), PCRs only



Compared to last week the 5 day moving average is down 60% and the 7 day moving average is down 49%.

Compared to previous 2 weeks, the 5 day average is down 54% and the 7 day average is down 41%.

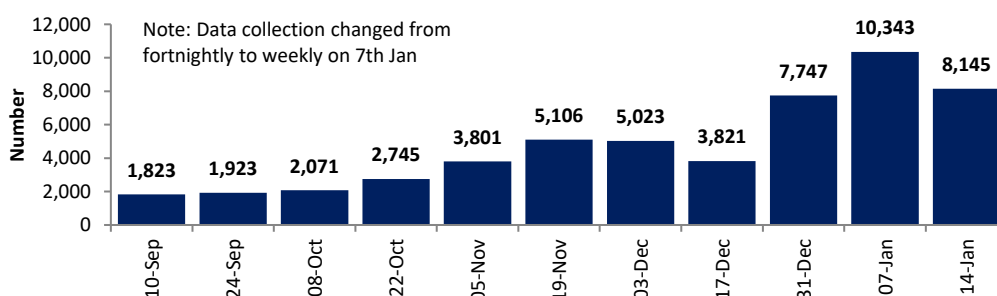
Number of people who registered positive antigen tests through the HSE portal



In addition to positive PCR results, 25,635 people have registered a positive antigen test result on the HSE portal over the past 5 days (average of 5,127 per day).

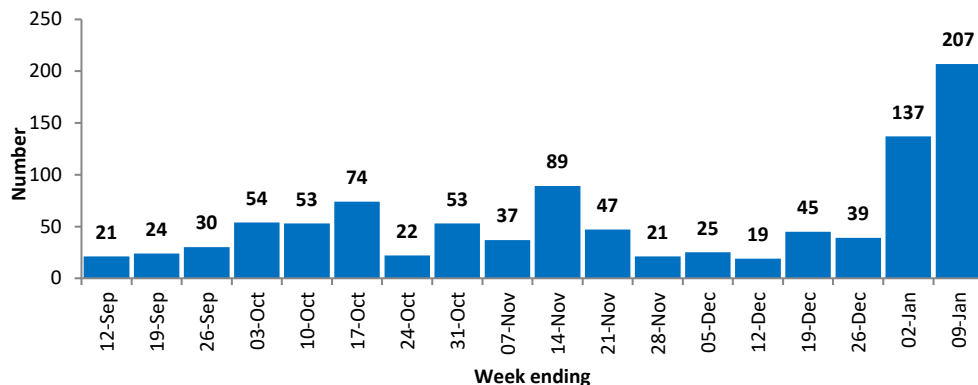
Note that the portal opened on 14th January. The figures reported refer to the number of people who registered a positive test on the portal during the previous day (i.e. data for 15-Jan refers to positive results reported on 14-Jan).

Number of health service staff absent due to COVID-19



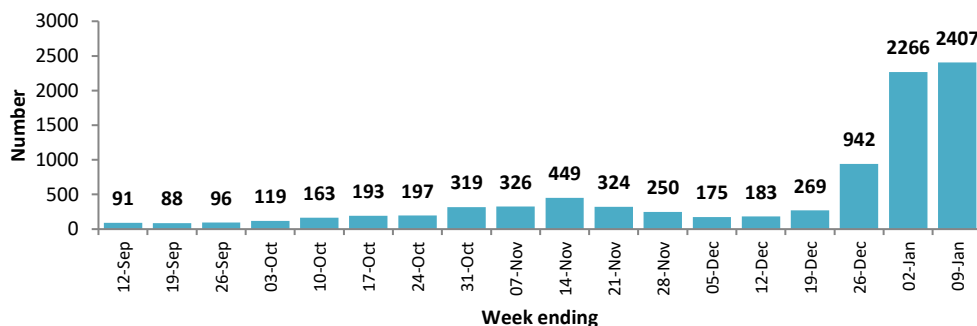
The number of health service staff absent due to a diagnosis of COVID or self-isolation remains very high but has decreased compared to last week. **For the week ending 14th January 8,145 staff were absent (down 21% on the previous week).** This is an overall COVID health service absenteeism rate of 5.4%.

Number of hospital acquired cases of COVID-19 by week



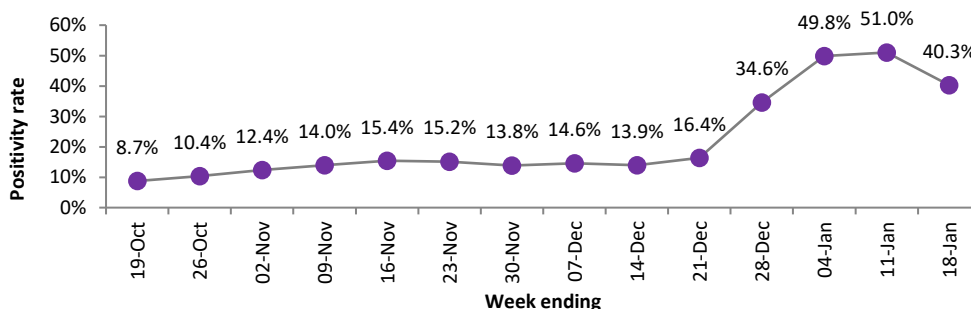
The number of hospital acquired cases of COVID has increased significantly during the past 2 weeks (207 cases for week ending 9th Jan, up 51% on the previous week). While this is the highest weekly number of hospital acquired cases since February 2021, it is lower than the peak of 495 hospital acquired cases during the week ending 17th Jan last year.

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



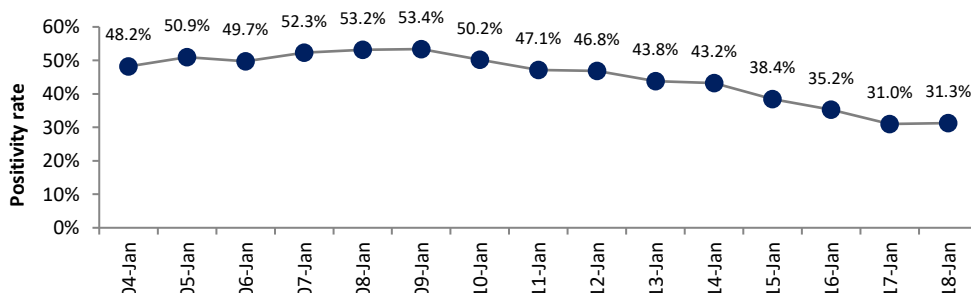
The number of new laboratory confirmed cases of COVID in hospital staff increased significantly over the past 3 weeks. 2,407 new cases for the week ending 9th Jan, up 6% on the previous week. The numbers reported for the past 2 weeks are both more than double the previous peak (1,022 new cases for the week ending 17th Jan 2021).

Positivity rate for COVID-19 PCR tests by week



The positivity rate remains very high but has decreased to 40.3% this week compared to 51% last week, after increasing sharply (more than tripling) during the previous 3 weeks. The positivity rate may be impacted by presentations post positive antigen test.

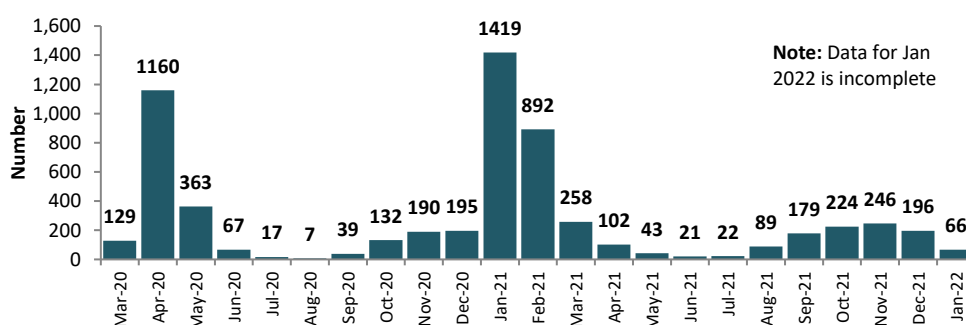
Positivity rate for COVID-19 PCR tests by day



The daily positivity rate decreased for 8 consecutive days from 53.4% on 9th January to 31.0% on 17th January.

The positivity rate on 18th January was 31.3% (6,738 positives from 21,560 PCR tests).

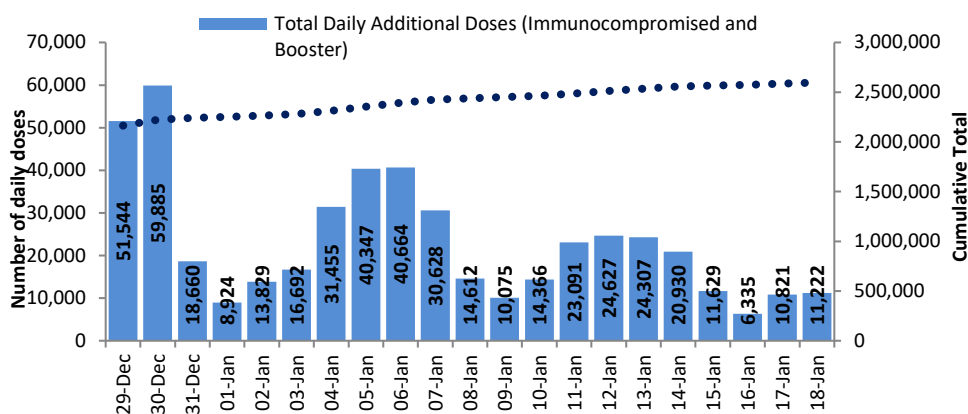
COVID-19 related deaths by month of death



The deaths of 6,087 people with confirmed, probable or possible COVID-19 have been reported to date (up to 18th January). Two main peaks were recorded in April 2020 (1,160 deaths) and January 2021 (1,419 deaths).

The deaths of 66 people during the month of January 2022 have been reported to date.

Daily doses of COVID-19 Additional vaccinations, 29th December-18th January

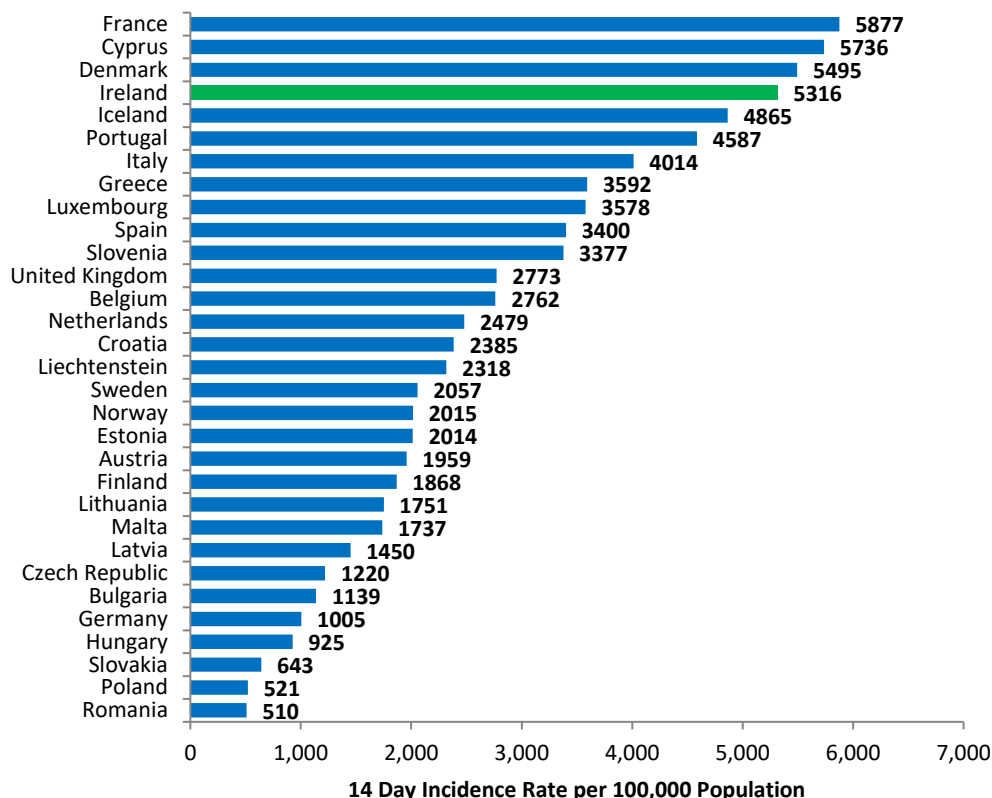


Up to 18th January **2,596,672 additional dose vaccinations** have been administered, 106,922 (4.1%) of which were administered to the immunocompromised.

In the latest week (12th-18th Jan) 161,709 total doses were administered (including first, second & additional doses).

To date, **46,894 children aged 5-9 years and 30,822 children aged 10-11 years** have received their 1st dose.

14-day COVID-19 rates per 100,000 population EU/EEA & UK (WHO Data, 18th January)



Data from the WHO on COVID incidence rates within Europe shows that **the 14 day incidence rate in Ireland is the 4th highest out of the 31 countries (2nd highest last week).**

The 14 day incidence rates in **28 of the 31 countries have increased compared to 2 weeks ago, including Ireland (up 43%).**

Rates have decreased in 3 countries.

Key trends & recent changes:

- In the **7 days up to 19th January** there were **80,216 new cases** reported (**based on positive PCR results uploaded to the COVID Care Tracker**); **down 49% on the previous week** (157,357 new cases in the 7 days up to 12th January). Compared to the previous week, the **5 day moving average is down 60% and compared to two weeks ago, down 54%.**
- In addition, over the past 5 days 25,635 people reported a positive antigen test to the HSE portal (average of 5,127 per day).

Hospital activity:

- The number of patients with confirmed COVID currently **in hospital is down 14% compared to last week** (1055 at 8am on 12th January, 910 at 8am on 19th January).
- Over the past 7 days there have been **511 admissions of COVID positive patients to hospital** (an average of 73 per day), **down 12% on the previous week** (580 new admissions in the 7 days up to 12th 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** (92 on 12th January, 90 on 19th January). Of the 90 patients in ICU, 63 (70%) are invasively ventilated.
- **In addition to patients in ICU, on 18th January 189 patients were receiving non-invasive ventilation outside ICU (66 patients with COVID and 123 non-COVID patients), down from 216 on the same day last week.**

Outbreaks:

- For the most recent week (ending 15th January), there were 33 new outbreaks in acute hospitals reported (22 last week).
- There were 57 new outbreaks in nursing homes (56 last week).
- There were 4 new outbreaks in community hospitals / long-term care facilities (8 last week).
- There were 12 outbreaks in other healthcare services (3 last week).
- There were 70 new outbreaks in residential institutions (48 last week).
- There were 3 new outbreaks reported in schools (3 last week).
- There were no new outbreaks associated with childcare facilities (2 last week).
- There was 1 new outbreak in a workplace (5 last week).
- There were 28 outbreaks in vulnerable populations (10 last week); 15 associated with the Irish Traveller community, 5 related to direct provision centres, 3 associated with persons with addictions, 2 outbreaks associated with the Roma community, 2 associated with the homeless and 1 outbreak associated with prisons.

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

Conclusion:

There are a number of positive trends. However, we continue to see high numbers of daily hospital admissions, numbers of outbreaks in nursing homes and hospitals, high positivity rates for PCR testing (down this week) and high levels of staff absenteeism due to covid (down this week also). In this wave the number of deaths are significantly lower than previous waves and the number of people in ICU remains stable despite the rapid increase in cases in the last month.