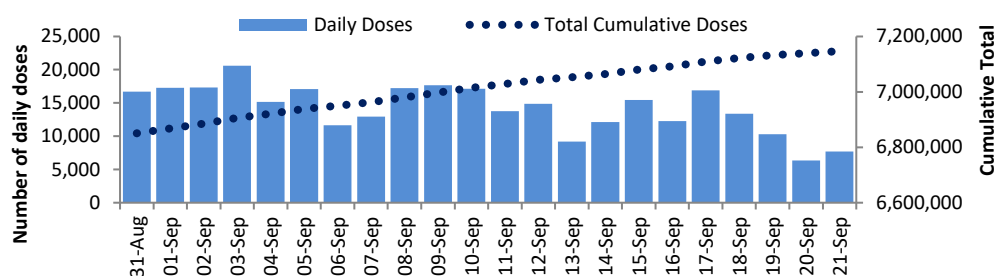


COVID-19 Data Summary, Wednesday 22nd September 2021

Introduction:

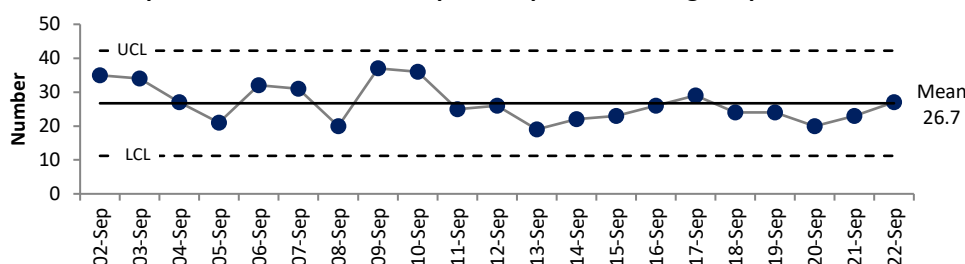
As restrictions continue to ease and numbers of cases currently stabilise we will continue to monitor the situation closely to predict future pressures on the hospital system and to assess effectiveness of control measures.

Daily & cumulative doses of COVID-19 vaccinations



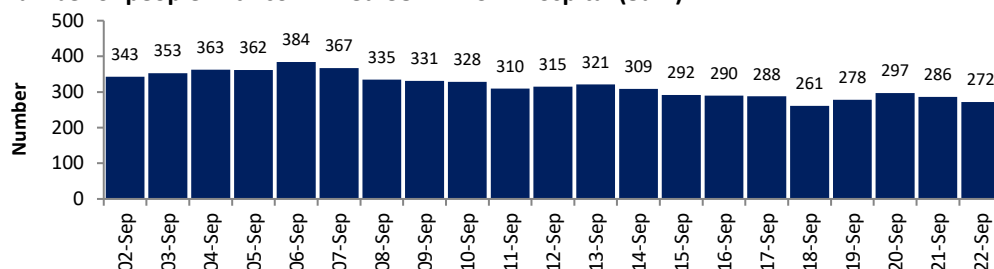
Up to 21st Sept, **7,146,949 COVID vaccine doses have been administered (3,521,096 first doses, 3,390,842 second doses and 235,011 single doses)**. In the 7 days up to 21st Sept a total of 82,341 doses were administered (average of 11,763 per day).

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



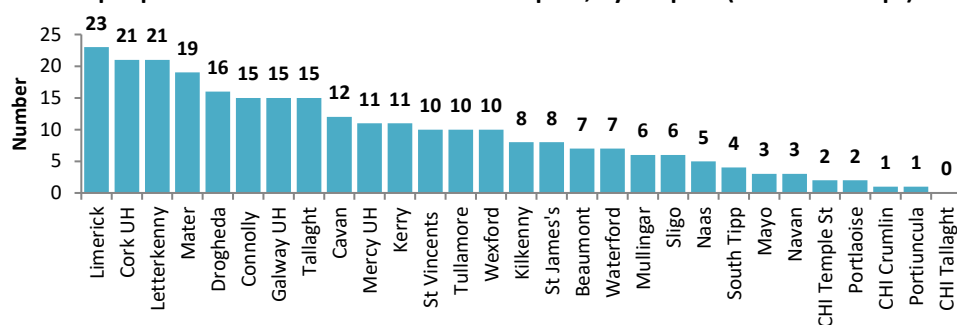
The SPC chart shows that the number of new admissions of COVID positive patients is **stable**. 27 admissions today, with a total of 173 admissions over the past 7 days (down 8% on the previous week).

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



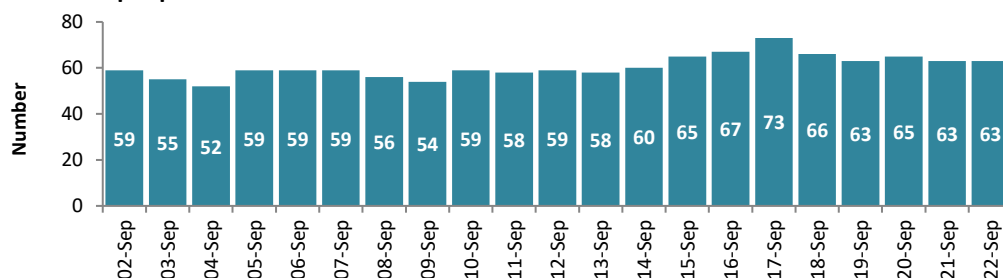
The number of people with COVID in hospital fluctuates by day (usually higher at weekends) but is **now trending downwards slowly**. 272 in hospital at 8am today, **down 7% on the same day last week**.

Number of people with confirmed COVID-19 in hospital, by hospital (8am on 22 Sept)



Of the 272 people with confirmed COVID-19 in hospital, University Hospital Limerick has the highest number (23 people), followed by Cork UH (21), Letterkenny (21), Mater (19) & OLOL Drogheda (16).

Number of people with COVID-19 in critical care

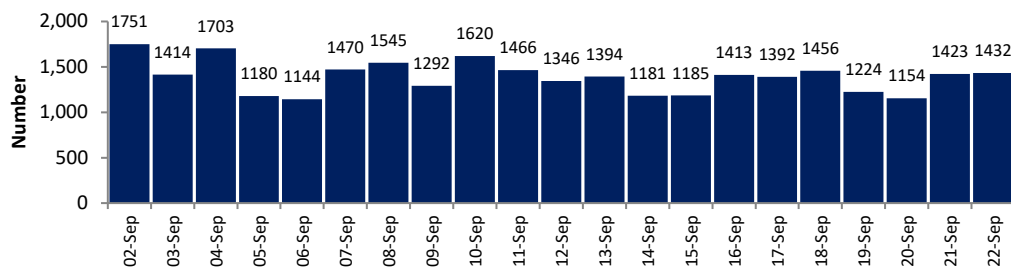


The number with COVID-19 in **critical care had been slowly increasing in recent weeks but now appears to be relatively stable**.

Currently 63 in ICU (down 2 on the same day last week).

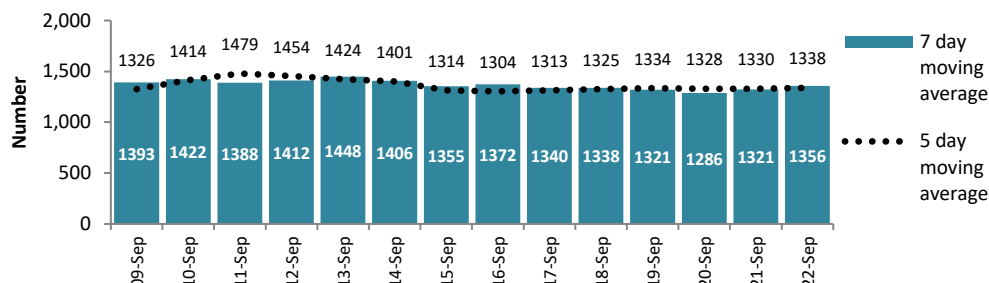
4 new admissions today.

Number of new cases per day (last 3 weeks)



The number of new cases fluctuates by day. While there had been a slow decrease in new cases recently, the number of cases in the past 7 days is almost unchanged compared to the previous week (up 0.1%).

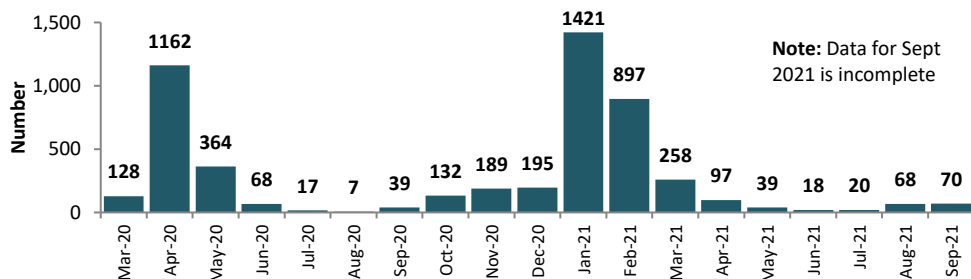
5 and 7 day moving averages of new cases per day (last 14 days)



Compared to last week, the **5 day average is up 2%** and the **7 day average is almost unchanged** (up 0.1%).

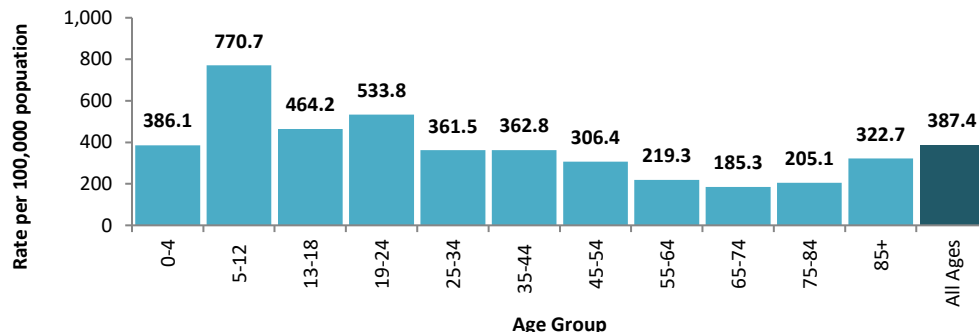
Compared to 2 weeks ago, the **5 day average is down 5%** and the **7 day average is down 7%**.

Number of deaths among people with COVID-19 by month



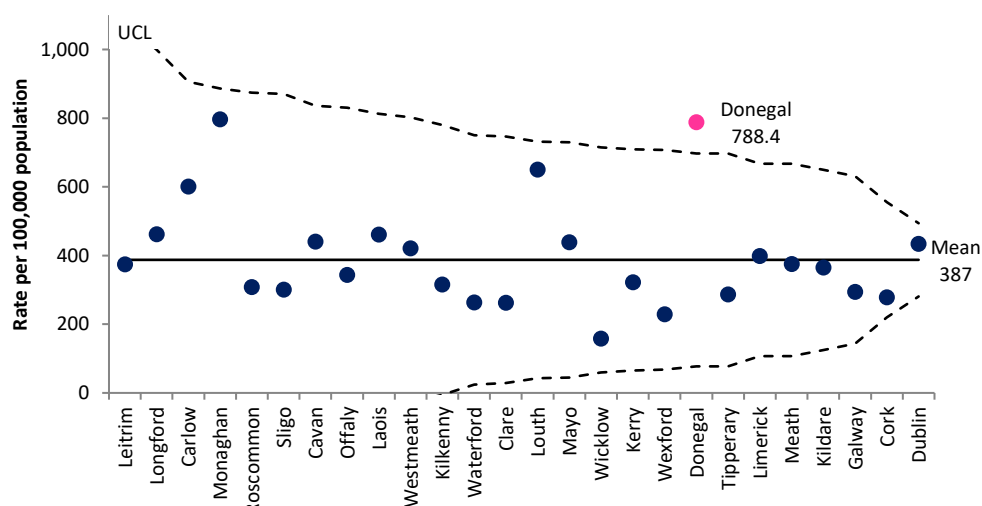
To date, the deaths of 5,209 people with confirmed, probable or possible COVID-19 have been reported. Deaths peaked during Jan-21 with 1,421 deaths during that month. There have been 70 deaths reported in the first 3 weeks of September 2021.

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 4%**. The 14 day incidence rate is **highest among 5-12 year olds (up 16% on last week)**. The rates for all other age groups decreased, with the exception of 85+ (up 0.5% compared to last week).

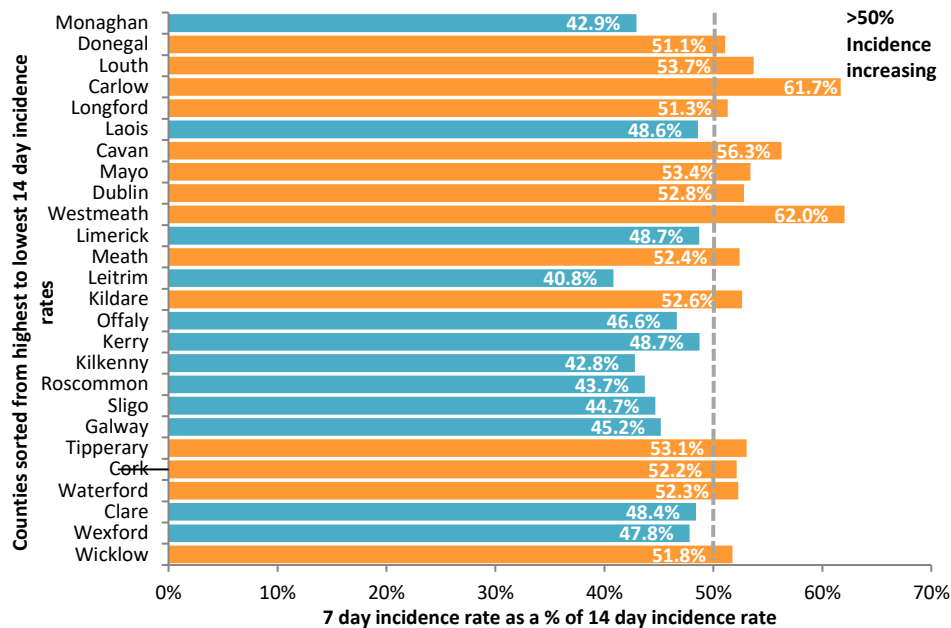
14-day incidence rate per 100,000 population by county notified from 8-21 September



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 which is above the upper control limit.**

This is a signal that the current 14 day rate in Donegal is higher than expected relative to the national rate. Monaghan has the highest 14 day rate but it is within the expected range based on the population in that county.

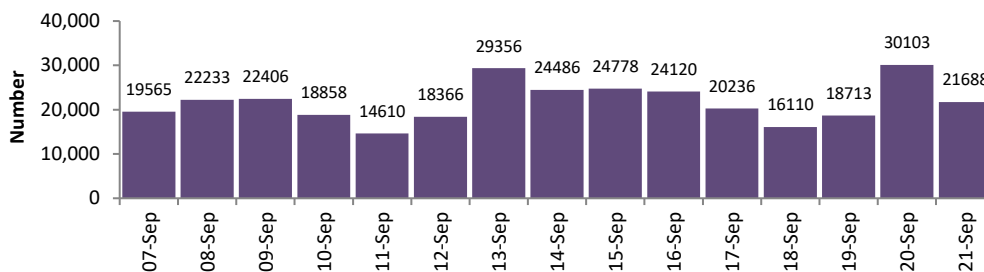
7 day incidence rate as a percentage of 14 day rate, 8-21 September



The latest 14 day incidence rate is 387.4 per 100,000 population, while the 7 day incidence rate is 199.2. **The 7 day rate is slightly more than half (51.4%) 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.**

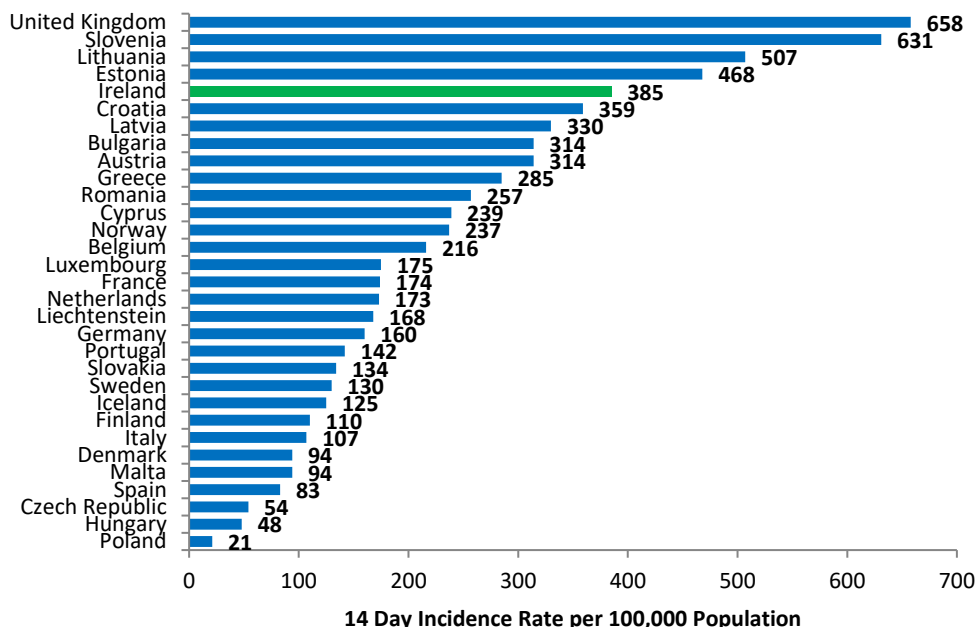
At county level, the 7 day rates for **14 counties are greater** than half of the 14 day rates. This is a disimprovement on the same day last week when 8 counties had a 7 day rate greater than 50% of their 14 day rate.

Number of community referrals for COVID-19 testing



Community referrals for COVID testing fluctuate by day and are typically higher early in the week. Referrals for the most recent 7 days were up 4% on the previous 7 days, with 30,103 referrals on Monday 20th September.

14-day COVID-19 rates per 100,000 population EU/EEA & UK (WHO Data, 21st September)



Data from the WHO on COVID incidence rates within Europe shows that **the 14 day incidence rate is now the 5th highest out of the 31 countries (2nd highest two weeks ago).**

The 14 day incidence rates in **12 of the 31 countries have increased compared to 2 weeks ago. Rates have decreased in 19 countries, including Ireland (down 16%).**

Compared to 2 weeks ago, the rate in Slovakia increased by 220%, Romania increased by 194%, Poland increased by 97%, Slovenia increased by 92% and Hungary increased by 80%.

Key trends & recent changes:

- In the **7 days up to 22nd September** there were 9,494 new cases reported; **almost unchanged (up 0.1%) on the previous week** (9,484 new cases in the 7 days up to 15th September). Compared to last week, the **5 day average is up 2% and compared to two weeks ago, down 5%.**
- 39.2% of new cases over the past 2 weeks were among children aged 0-18 years.** 37.2% of new cases over the past 2 weeks were among people ages 19-44 years. 16.4% of new cases were among people aged 45-64 years and 7.1% were among people aged 65 and over.

- The 14 day incidence rate is currently 387.4 per 100,000. This varies significantly by age group, and for 0-34 year olds is 508 per 100,000, compared to 305 per 100,000 among 35-64 year olds and 206 per 100,000 among people aged 65 and over. For 85+ the 14 day incidence rate is 323 per 100,000 population.
- **The 7 day rate is slightly more than half (51.4%) 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.**

Hospital activity:

- The number of patients with confirmed COVID currently **in hospital is down 7% compared to last week** (292 at 8am on 15th September, 272 at 8am on 22nd September).
- Over the past 7 days there have been **173 admissions of COVID positive patients to hospital** (an average of 24.7 per day), **down 8% on the previous week** (188 new admissions in the 7 days up to 15th September).
- Data from the NOCA ICU Bed Information System shows that the number of **confirmed COVID cases in ICU is down 2 compared to last week** (65 COVID-19 patients in ICU on 15th September, 63 on 22nd September).
- **The last 14 days:** Of 18,447 new cases notified between **8th -21st September, 281 (1.5%) have been hospitalised** to date and **26 (0.1%) have been admitted to ICU.** Of these 281 hospitalised cases:
 - **28 (10.0%) were aged 0-18 years**, with 1 ICU admission in this age group
 - 42 (14.9%) were aged 19-34 years, with 3 ICU admissions in this age group
 - 86 (30.6%) were aged 35-64 years, with 10 ICU admissions in this age group
 - 125 (44.5%) were aged 65 and over, with 12 ICU admissions in this age group.

Outbreaks:

- For the most recent week (ending 18th September), there were **4 new outbreaks in acute hospitals** reported, with **17 linked cases.**
- There were **4 new outbreaks in nursing homes with 49 linked cases.**
- There were 2 new outbreaks in community hospitals / long-term care facilities with 25 linked cases.
- There were 7 new outbreaks in residential institutions with 33 linked cases reported.
- There were **90 new outbreaks reported in schools (78 in primary schools, 11 in post-primary schools and 1 in a special education school),** with 412 confirmed linked cases.
- There were **9 new outbreaks associated with childcare facilities with 33 linked cases.**
- There were **10 outbreaks in vulnerable populations;** 4 among members of the Irish traveller community with 13 confirmed cases, 2 outbreaks among members of the Roma community with 10 confirmed cases, 2 outbreaks associated with mental health facilities with 5 linked cases, 1 outbreak in a homeless facility with 6 linked cases, and 1 outbreak among asylum seekers / refugees with 20 linked cases.
- There were 13 new outbreaks in workplaces with 37 linked cases.
- Note data on outbreaks are provisional and subject to ongoing review, validations and updating.

Vaccination status of COVID-19 cases admitted to ICU, 1st April 2021 – 18th Sept 2021:

- 335 people aged 15 and over were admitted to ICU with confirmed COVID-19 between 1st April & 18th September 2021. Of these 335 people:
 - **71% (238 people) were unvaccinated** (reported as not having received a COVID vaccine or not registered on the COVAX system)
 - 29% (97 people) were reported as having at least 1 dose prior to ICU admission
- **62 people (19% of the 335 admissions to ICU) were fully vaccinated** (i.e. had an epidemiological date 14 days or more after receiving all doses), and so were vaccine breakthrough infections. Of these 62 people:
 - 12 people (19%) were reported to have died.
 - **60 people (97%) were reported to have an underlying condition.**
 - The 62 people were aged from 30 to 88 years, with an average age of 65 years.

Conclusion:

The number of cases appears to be stable despite significant relaxation of population level control measures. Numbers in hospital are decreasing slowly and numbers in ICU are stable. We are seeing large numbers of outbreaks in primary schools, and an increase in cases among primary school aged children.