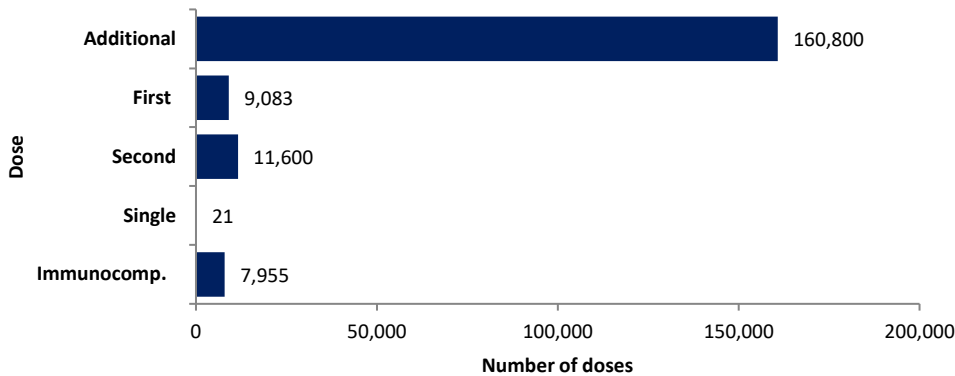


COVID-19 Data Summary, Wednesday 24th November 2021

Introduction:

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

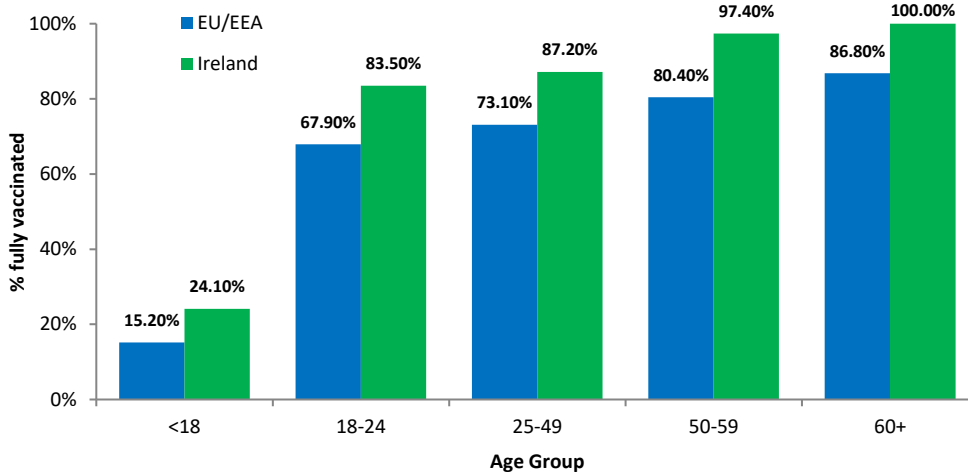
Weekly doses of COVID-19 vaccinations, 17th– 23rd November



Up to 23rd Nov, 7,468,246 COVID vaccine doses have been administered including 72,136 doses for the immunocompromised. **Additionally, 558,745 additional or booster doses have been administered.**

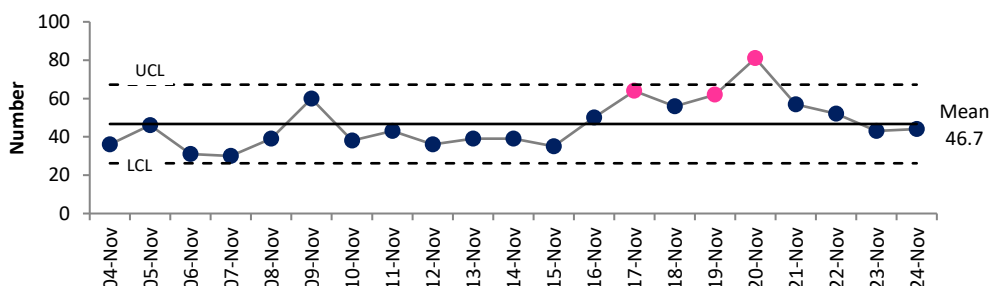
In the 7 days up to 23rd Oct a total of 195,643 doses were administered, of which 83.7% were booster doses, 5% were doses for the immunocompromised and 11.3% were first, second or single doses.

Cumulative uptake of full vaccination by age group, Ireland & EU/EEA (24th November)



Data from ECDC shows that 76.9% of adults age 18+ in the EU/EEA have been fully vaccinated, with 65.8% of the total population (including children) fully vaccinated. Uptake rates vary significantly by age group, with Ireland having higher uptake rates across all age groups compared to the EU/EEA.

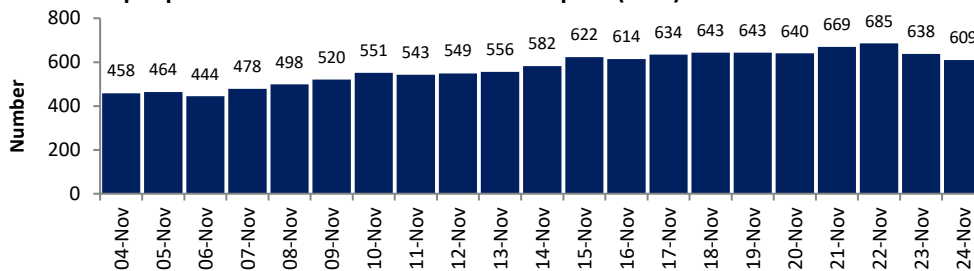
Number of hospital admissions of COVID positive patients during the previous 24 hours



The SPC chart shows **signals of increase** in the number of new admissions of COVID positive patients over the past 3 weeks. **81** admissions on 20th Nov, 62 and 64 admission on 17th & 19th Nov. **44** admissions today.

A total of 395 admissions over the past 7 days (**up 29% on the previous week**).

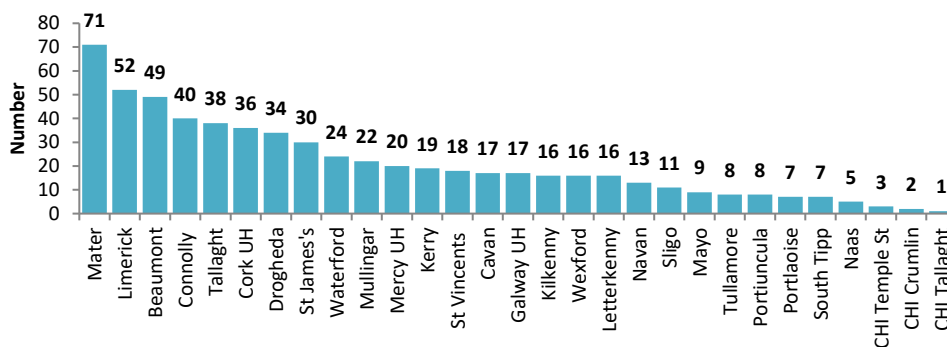
Number of people with confirmed COVID-19 in hospital (8am)



The number of people with COVID in hospital fluctuates by day (usually higher at weekends), and is **trending upwards over the last three weeks. However it is down 4% on the same day last week**, and up 11% on two weeks ago.

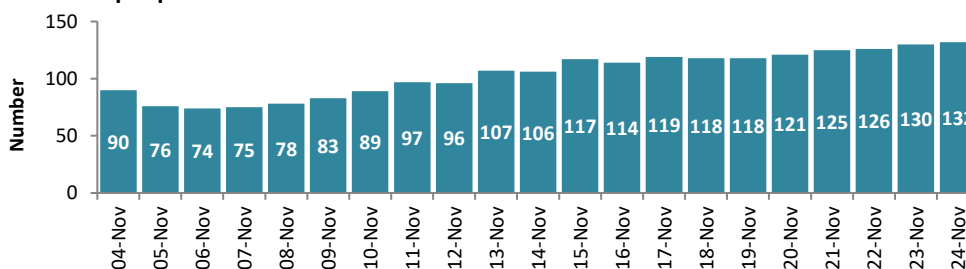
609 in hospital at 8am today.

Number of people with confirmed COVID-19 in hospital, by hospital (8am on 24th Nov)



Of the 609 people with confirmed COVID-19 in hospital, **The Mater has the highest number (71 people)**, followed by the Limerick (52), Beaumont (49), Connolly (40) Tallaght (38), and Cork UH (36).

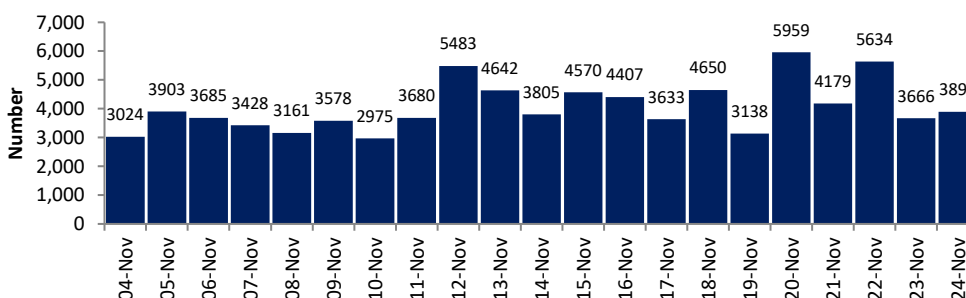
Number of people with COVID-19 in critical care



The number with COVID-19 in **critical care is trending upwards. Up 11% on this day last week and up 48% on two weeks ago.**

Currently 132 in ICU (**up 13 on the same day last week**). **12 new admissions today.**

Number of new cases per day (last 3 weeks to Nov 24th)

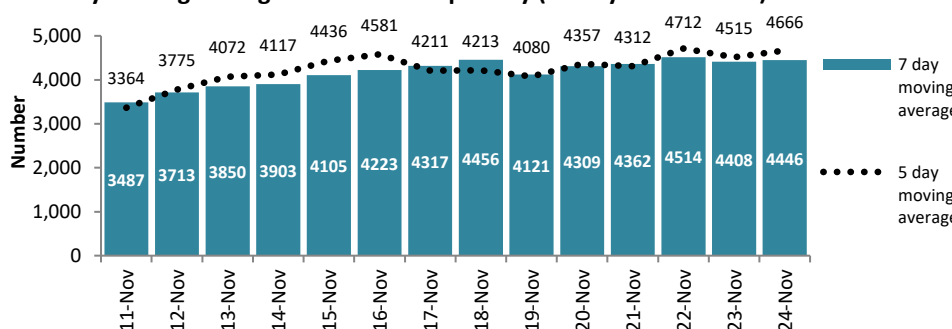


The number of cases fluctuates by day but has increased over the past week.

The number of new cases in the 7 days to Nov 23rd up 3% on the previous week.

3,893 new cases on Nov 24th.

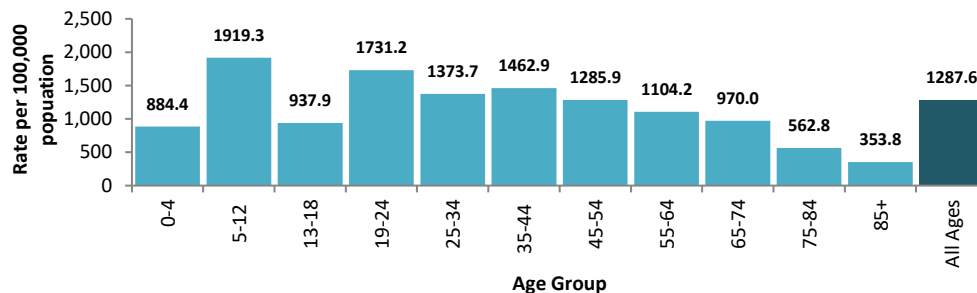
5 and 7 day moving averages of new cases per day (14 days to Nov 24th)



Compared to **last week the 5 day average is up 11% and the 7 day average is up 3%.**

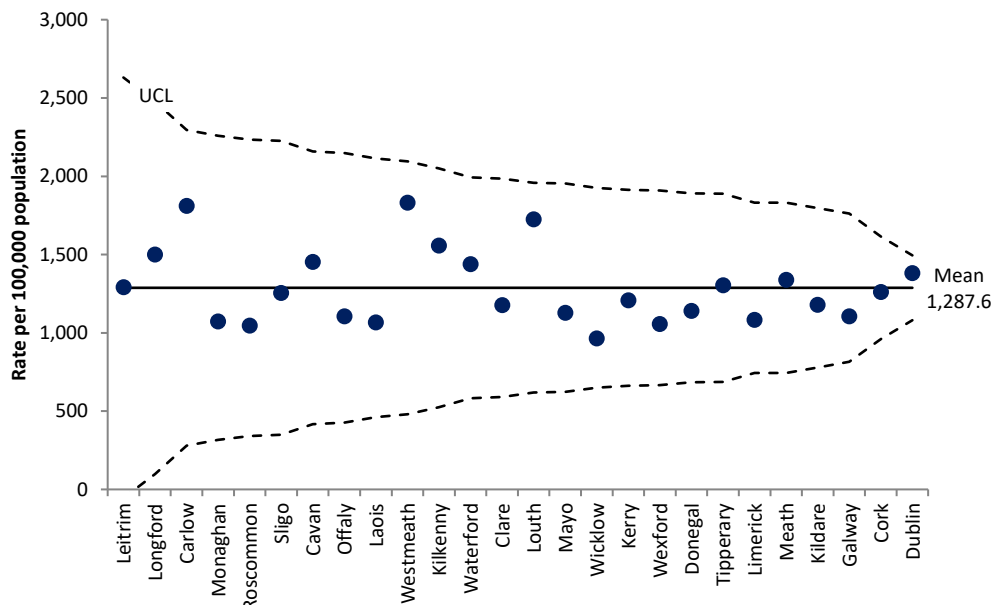
Compared to previous 2 weeks, **the 5 day average is up 39% and the 7 day average is up 31%.**

Rate of new cases per 100,000 population by age group notified over the 2 weeks to 23rd Nov



Compared to the previous week the **overall 14 day incidence rate is up 6%**. The 14 day incidence rate is **highest among 5-12 year olds (up 22% on previous week)** and 19-24 year olds (down 6% on last week). **Rates in 75-84 year olds (down 7%) and 13-18 year olds (down 1%) also decreased.** The rates for all other ages groups increased compared to last week.

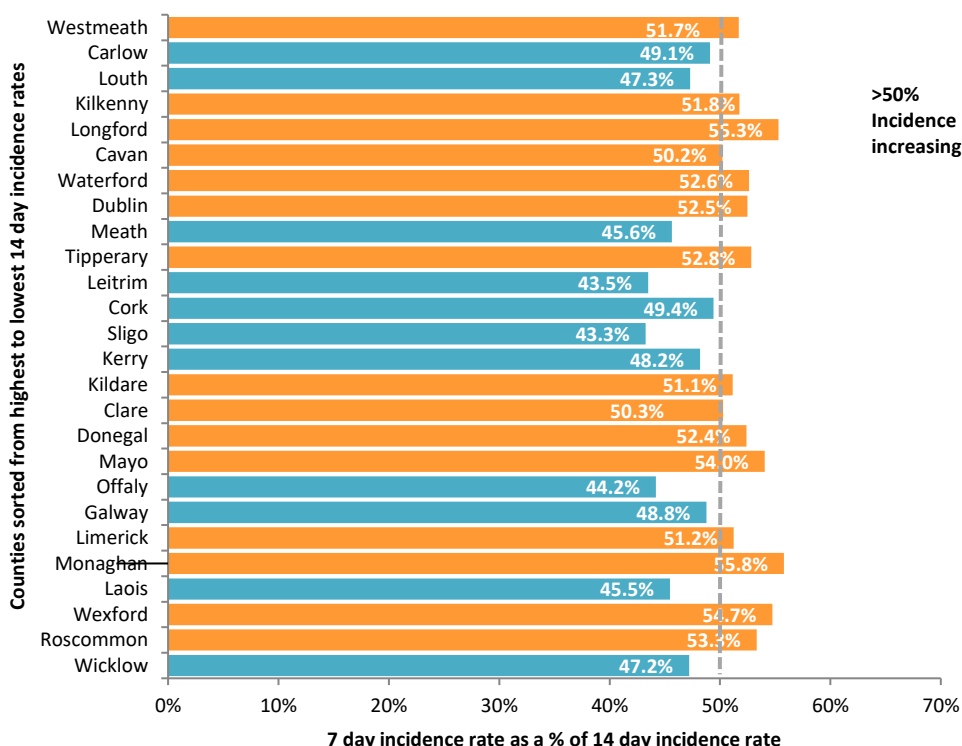
14-day incidence rate per 100,000 population by county notified from 11 – 24 Nov



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 (1,287.6)

Westmeath (1830.6), Louth (1724.8), and Carlow (1810.9) have a high incidence rate but are within the expected range of variation.

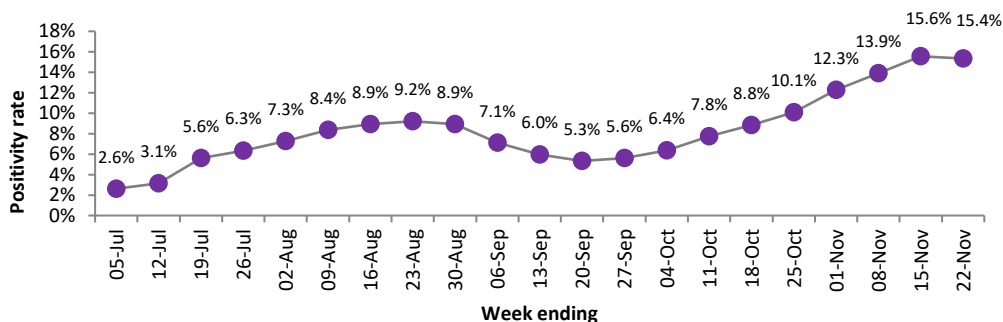
7 day incidence rate as a percentage of 14 day rate, 11– 24 Nov



The 14 day incidence rate to 24th Nov is 1287.6 per 100,000 population, while the 7 day incidence rate is 653.6. **The 7 day rate is more than half (50.74%) 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 **15 of the 26 counties are greater** than half of the 14 day rates. This is an improvement on the same as this day last week when all 20 counties were greater than the half of the 14 day rates.

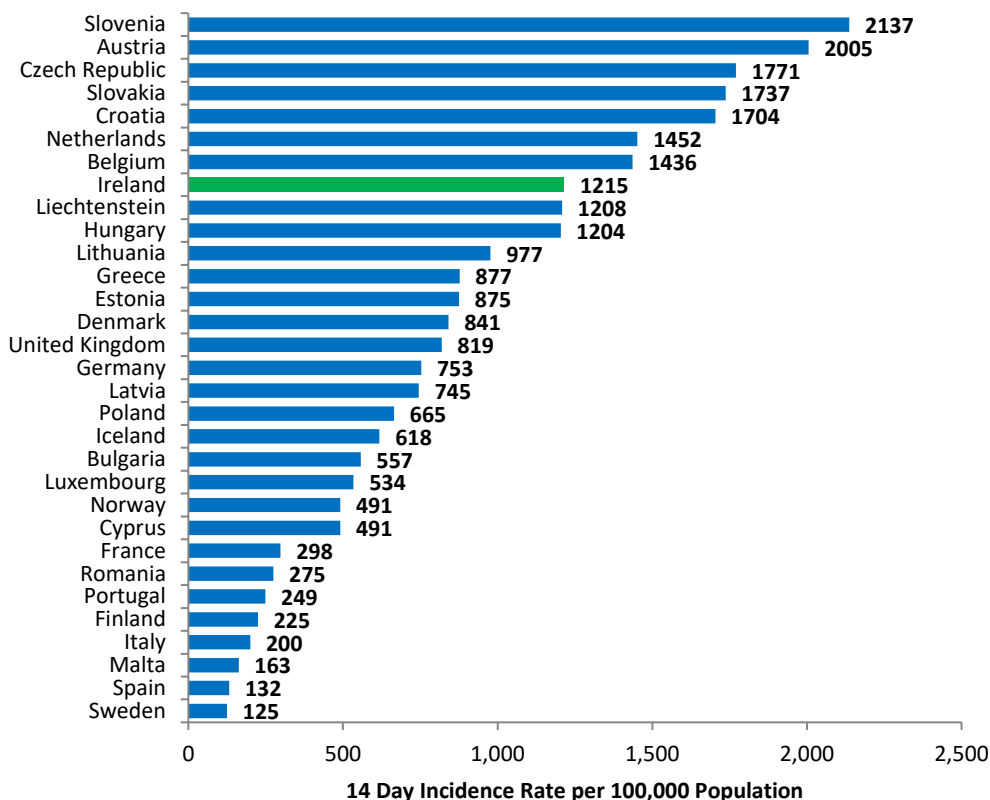
Positivity rate for COVID-19 tests by week



Positivity rates have **trended upwards** since week ending 20th Sept.

This week (ending 22nd Nov) sees a small decrease in positivity rate from 15.6% last week to 15.4% this week.

14-day COVID-19 rates per 100,000 population EU/EEA & UK (WHO Data, 23rd November)



Data from the WHO on COVID incidence rates within Europe shows that **the 14 day incidence rate is the 8th highest out of the 31 countries (11th highest last week).**

The 14 day incidence rates in **26 of the 31 countries have increased compared to 2 weeks ago, including Ireland (up 48%).**

Rates have decreased in 5 countries.

Key trends & recent changes:

- In the **7 days up to 24th November** there were **31,119 new cases** reported; **up 3% on the previous week** (30,220 new cases in the 7 days up to 17th November). Compared to the previous week, the **5 day average is up 11% and compared to two weeks ago, up 39%).**
- 27.6% of new cases over the past 2 weeks were among children aged 0-18 years.** 41.9% of new cases over the past 2 weeks were among people aged 19-44 years. 22.3% of new cases were among people aged 45-64 years and 8.1% were among people aged 65 and over.

Hospital activity:

- The number of patients with confirmed COVID currently **in hospital is down 4% compared to last week** (609 at 8am on 24th November, 634 at 8am on 17th November).
- Over the past 7 days there have been **395 admissions of COVID positive patients to hospital** (an average of 56 per day), **up 29% on the previous week** (306 new admissions in the 7 days up to 17th November).
- Data from the NOCA ICU Bed Information System shows that the number of **confirmed COVID cases in ICU has increased by 11% compared to last week** (132 on 24th November, 119 on 17th November).
- The 14 days to 24th November:** Of 61,315 new cases notified in the 14 days to 24th Nov, **640 (1%) have been hospitalised to date and 34 (0.1%) have been admitted to ICU.** Of these 640 hospitalised cases:
 - 48 (7.5%) were aged 0-18 years**, with 4 ICU admissions in this age group

- 742 (11.4%) were aged 19-34 years, with 2 ICU admissions in this age group
- 268 (38.9%) were aged 35-64 years, with 13 ICU admissions in this age group
- 323 (42.2%) were aged 65 and over, with 16 ICU admissions in this age group.

Outbreaks:

- For the most recent week (ending 20th of November), there were **29 new outbreaks in acute hospitals** reported (29 last week).
- There were **5 new outbreaks in nursing homes (8 last week)**.
- There were 3 new outbreaks in community hospitals / long-term care facilities (3 last week).
- There were 16 outbreaks in other healthcare services
- There were 24 new outbreaks in residential institutions (22 last week).
- There were 24 new outbreaks reported in schools (16 last week)
- There were **6 new outbreaks associated with childcare facilities** (6 last week).
- There were **12 outbreaks in vulnerable populations** (18 last week); 7 among members of the Irish traveller community, 1 outbreaks in the Roma community, 1 in the homeless population, 2 in prisons, and 1 in direct provision centres.
- There were **10 new outbreaks in workplaces** (6 last week).
- Note data on outbreaks are provisional and subject to ongoing review, validations and updating.

Conclusion:

There are a number signals of disimprovement. There is an increasing trend in the number of new cases, which meets the threshold for rapid growth. Incidence is rising and there is a signal of increase in the number of hospital admissions of COVID positive patients over three weeks. There are also an increasing number of COVID-19 positive patients in ICU.

However, 14 day incidence rates among 13-18 year olds, 19-24 year olds, and 75-84 year olds have decreased compared to last week. Number of COVID-19 positive patients in hospital has reduced compared to last week and while admissions to hospital of COVID-19 patients per day continues to increase, the SPC analysis (see next page) indicate that **the admissions are now stable after experiencing rapid growth**.

The high uptake of vaccinations among all ages and the continued roll-out of the booster vaccination programme, including **over 160,000 booster doses this week** remain positive signals.