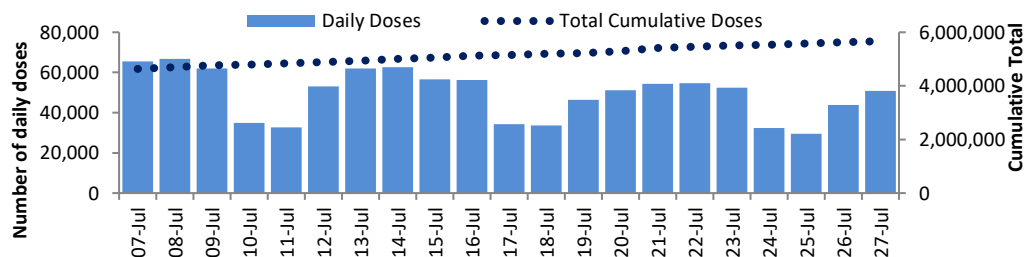


COVID-19 Data Summary, Wednesday 28th July 2021

Introduction:

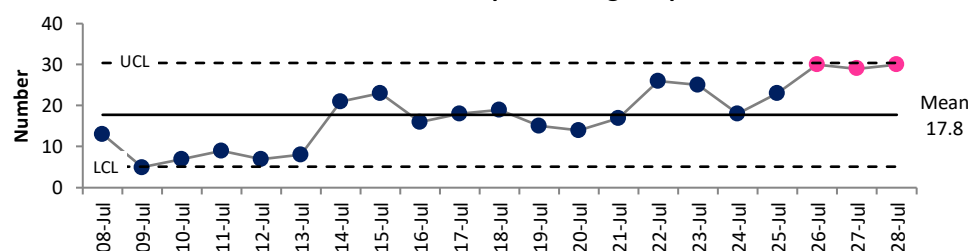
As restrictions continue to ease and numbers of cases rise we will continue to monitor the situation closely to predict future pressures on the hospital system and to assess effectiveness of control measures.

Daily & cumulative doses of COVID-19 vaccinations



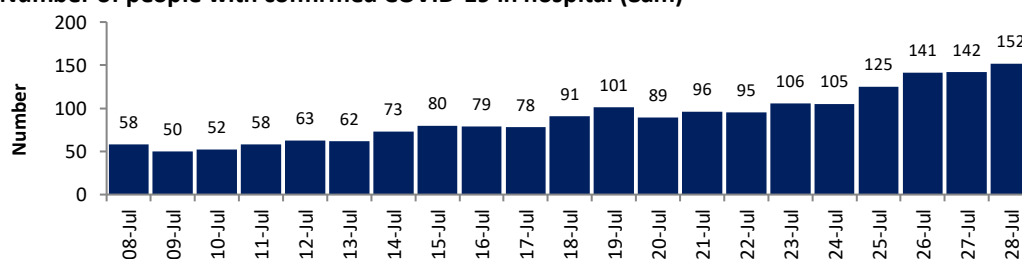
Up to 27th July, **5,668,124 COVID vaccine doses have been administered (2,936,136 first doses, 2,377,108 second doses and 183,176 single doses)**. In the **7 days up to 27th July a total of 317,480 doses were administered (average of 45,354 per day)**.

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 in hospital is **increasing**. For the last three days new confirmed COVID cases in hospital has been close to the upper control limit with a high of 30 on the 26th and 28th July.

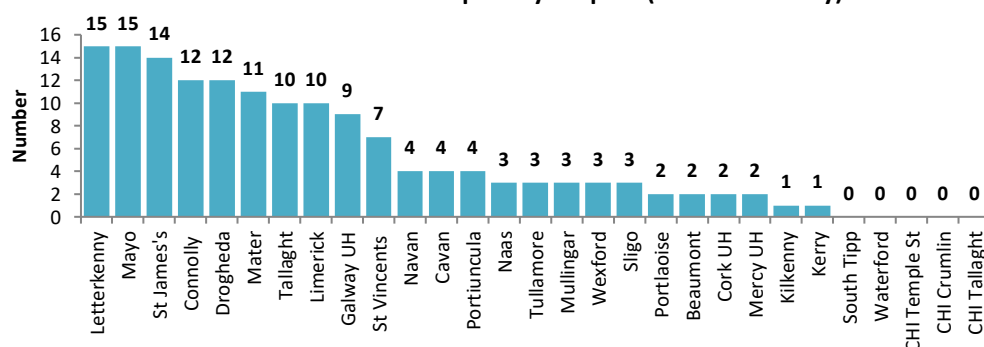
Number of people with confirmed COVID-19 in hospital (8am)



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

152 in hospital at 8am today, **up 58% on the same day last week**.

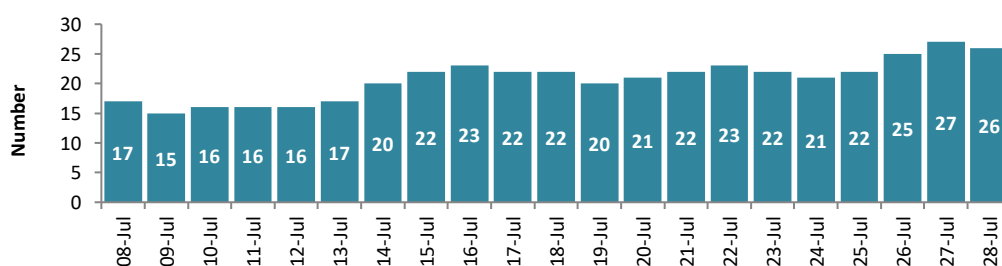
Number of confirmed COVID-19 cases in hospital by hospital (8am on 28th July)



Of the 152 people in hospital with confirmed COVID, 15 are in Letterkenny, 15 in Mayo Hospital, 14 in St. James's and 12 in each of Connolly and Drogheda.

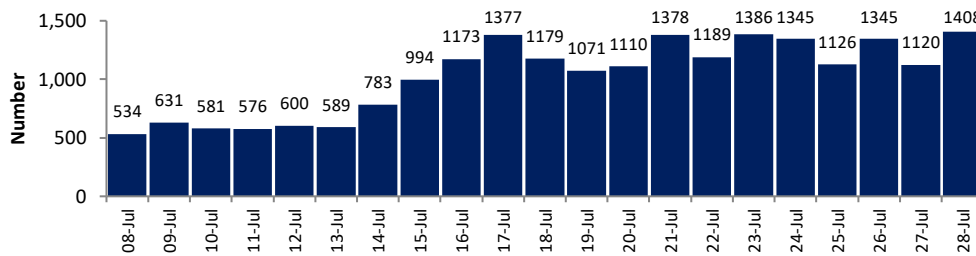
5 hospitals currently have no patients with confirmed COVID (compared to 9 last week).

Number of people with COVID-19 in critical care



The number with COVID-19 in **critical care has been relatively stable over the past 3 weeks, although there are signs of a slow increase**. Currently 26 in ICU (up from 22 on the same day last week) with **1 new admission today**.

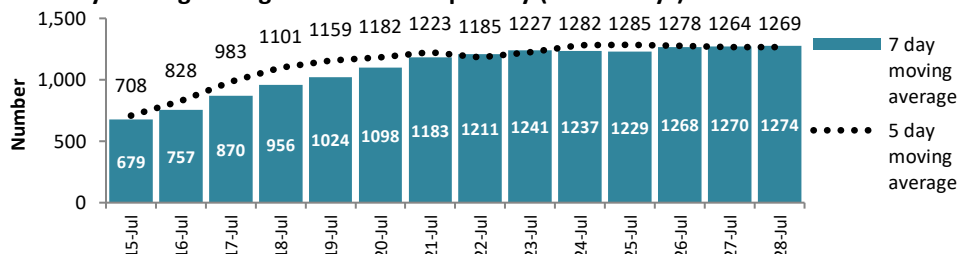
Number of new cases per day (last 3 weeks)



The number of new cases fluctuates by day but the overall upward trend is **beginning to show signs of stabilisation**.

New cases this week are up 8% on the previous week (compared to a 93% increase last week).

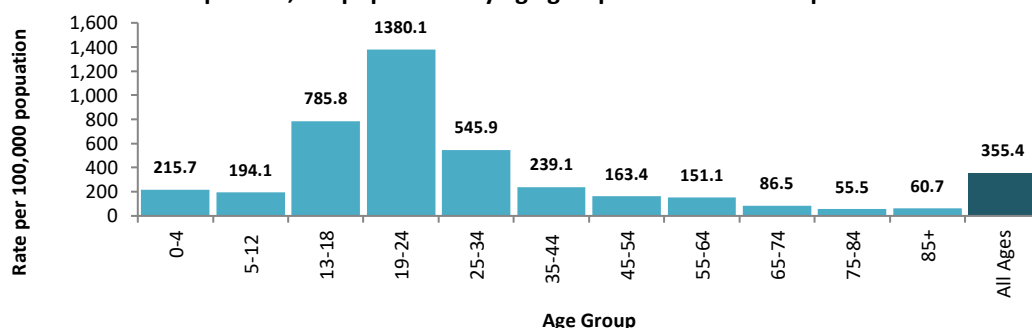
5 and 7 day moving averages of new cases per day (last 14 days)



Compared to last week, the **5 day average is up 4%**, (95% last week) and the **7 day average is up 8% (93% last week)**.

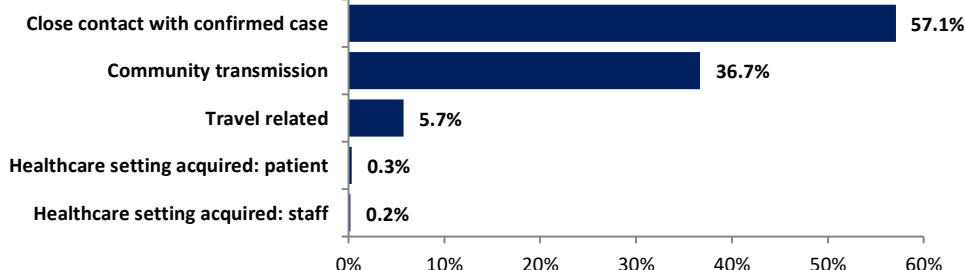
Compared to 2 weeks ago, the **5 day average is up 103%** and the **7 day average is up 108%**.

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 36%**. The 14 day incidence rate is **highest among 19-24 year olds (up 38% on last week)**. Compared to last week the rates for all age groups increased. The rate among 55-64 year olds increased 43% and the rate among 25-34 year olds increased by 41%.

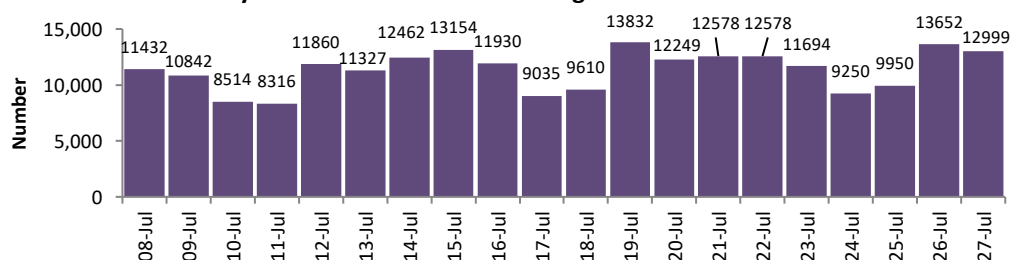
Most likely transmission source of new cases notified over the past 2 weeks



Note: Transmission source remains under investigation for 13% 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.

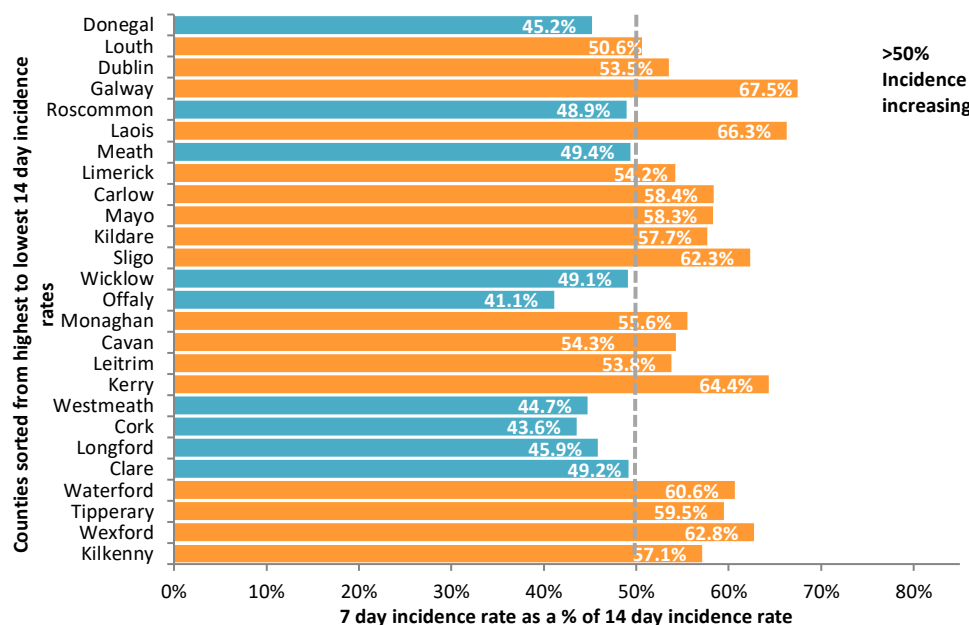
Of 14,726 new cases with known most likely transmission source notified within the past 2 weeks, 8,409 (57.1%) were close contacts. 841 (5.7%) were travel related. 71 (0.5%) were acquired in healthcare settings (48 patients & 30 staff), and 5,398 (36.7%) were community transmission (no other identified source).

Number of community referrals for COVID-19 testing



Community referrals for COVID testing have been slowing increasing over the past 3 weeks but moving towards stabilisation. Referrals for the most recent 7 days were up 1% on the previous 7 days, with an average of 11,814 referrals per day over the past week.

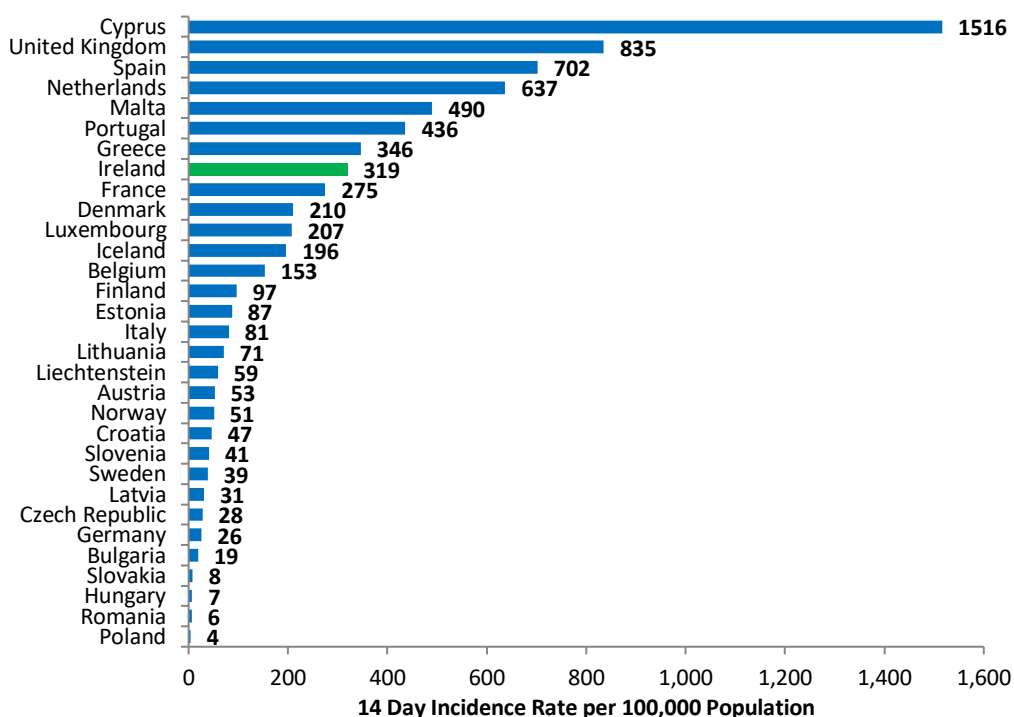
7 day incidence rate as a percentage of 14 day rate, 14-27 July



The latest 14 day incidence rate is 355.4 per 100,000 population, while the 7 day incidence rate is 184.3. **The 7 day rate is more than half (52%) 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 **17 counties are greater** than half of the 14 day rates. This is an improvement on the same day last week when all counties had a 7 day rate greater than 50% of their 14 day rate.

14-day COVID-19 rates per 100,000 population EU/EEA & UK (WHO Data, 27th July)



Data from the WHO on COVID incidence rates within Europe shows that **the 14 day incidence rate in Ireland has increased by 125% compared to 2 weeks ago and is now 8th highest out of the 31 countries (9th highest last week).**

The 14 day incidence rates in **28 of the 31 countries have increased** compared to 2 weeks ago. Rates have decreased in 3 countries.

Compared to 2 weeks ago, 11 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 28th July** there were 8,919 new cases reported; **up 8% on the previous week** (8,282 new cases in the 7 days up to 21st July).
- 58.8% of new cases over the past 2 weeks were among people ages 19-44 years.** 27.8% of new cases over the past 2 weeks were among children aged 0-18 years. 10.6% of new cases were among people aged 45-64 years and 2.8% were among people aged 65 and over.
- The 14 day incidence rate is currently 355.4 per 100,000. This varies significantly by age group, and for 0-34 year olds is 574 per 100,000, compared to 190 per 100,000 among 35-64 year olds and 74 per 100,000 among people aged 65 and over.

Hospital activity:

- The number of patients with confirmed COVID currently **in hospital is up 58% compared to last week** (152 at 8am on 28th July, 96 at 8am on 21st July).
- Over the past 7 days there have been 181 new confirmed cases in hospital (an average of 25.9 per day), up 48% on the previous week (122 new cases in the 7 days up to 21st July).
- Data from the NOCA ICU Bed Information System shows that the number of **confirmed COVID cases in ICU is up 18% compared to last week, although absolute numbers remain low** (26 on 28th July, 22 on 21st July).

Outbreaks:

- For the most recent week (ending 27th July), there were **5 new outbreaks in acute hospitals** reported, with 14 linked cases.
- There were **no new outbreak in a nursing homes or community hospitals / long-stay**.
- There were 2 new outbreaks in residential institutions with 6 linked cases reported.
- There was 1 **new outbreak among members of the Irish traveller community**, with 12 linked cases.
- There were **13 new outbreaks associated with childcare facilities with 54 linked cases**.
- **There were 37 new outbreaks in workplaces with 84 linked cases. These include 3 in the meat/poultry processing sector, 3 in the construction sector, 2 in the commercial sector, 5 in offices and 24 in 'other' workplaces**
- Note data on outbreaks are provisional and subject to ongoing review, validations and updating.

Conclusion:

While cases continue to rise there is evidence that the rate of increase has reduced and therefore some signals that the case numbers may plateau (7 day average only up by 8%). Data over the next week will provide more clarity. Numbers in hospital continue to rise while numbers in ICU have risen but are relatively stable at this point. The vaccination programme continues to expand coverage rapidly.