

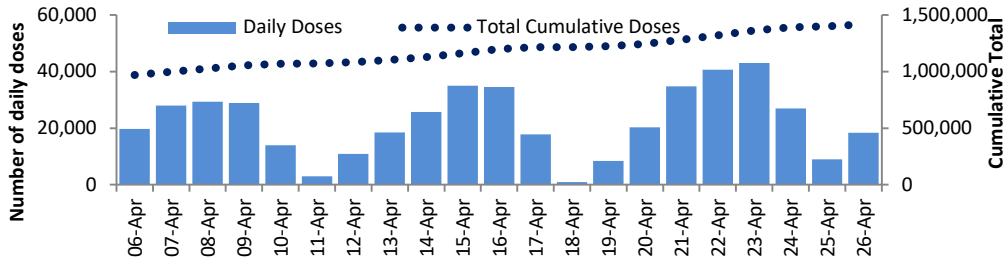
COVID-19 Data Summary 29/04/2021

Based on data as of Wednesday evening 28/04/2021

Introduction:

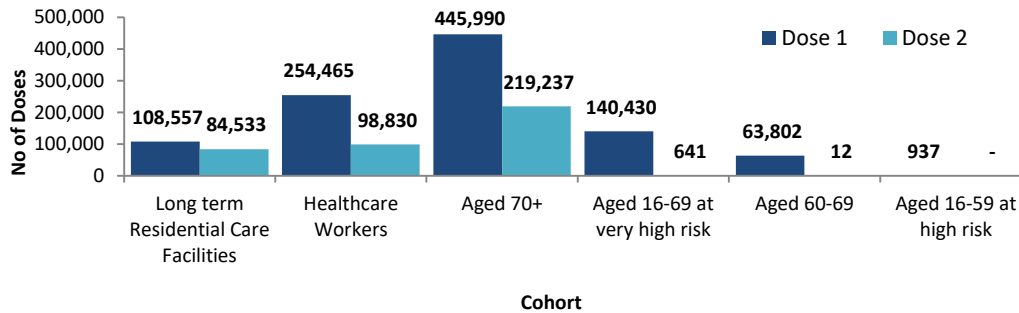
As restrictions start to ease we will continue to monitor the situation closely to predict future pressures on the hospital system and to assess effectiveness of control measures.

Daily & cumulative doses of COVID-19 vaccinations



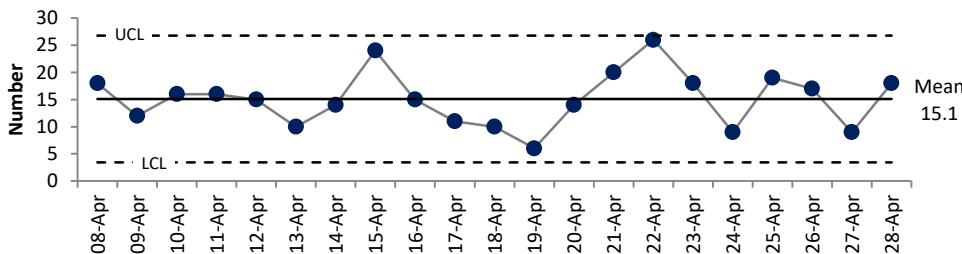
Up to 26th April, **1,417,942 COVID vaccine doses have been administered (1,014,640 first doses & 403,302 second doses)**. In the **7 days up to 26th April a total of 193,003 doses were administered (average of 27,572 per day), up 36.8% on the previous 7 days.**

Vaccinations by Cohort



Of the 1,417,942 vaccine doses administered to date: 14% were administered to people in Long-term Residential Care Facilities; 25% were frontline HCWs; **47% were people aged over 70**, 10% were people aged 16-69 at very high risk; and 4.5% were people aged 60-69.

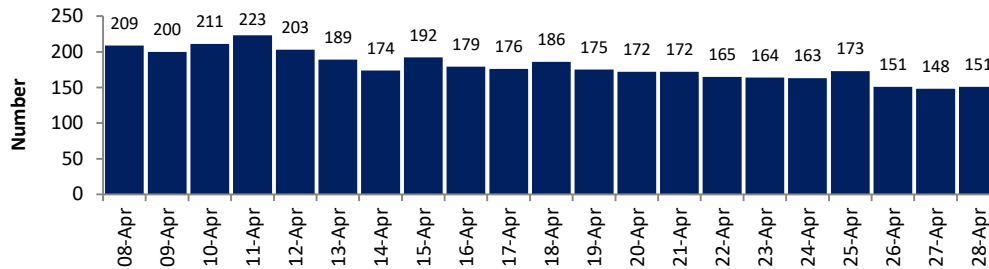
Number of hospital admissions during the previous 24 hours of COVID positive patients



The SPC chart shows that the number of admissions has been stable over the past 3 weeks.

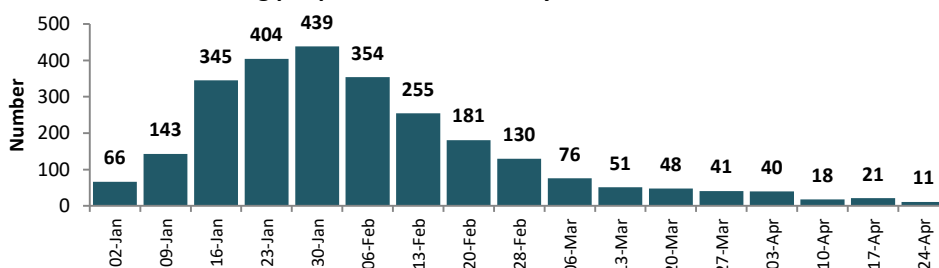
Admissions this week are **up 16% compared to last week. 18 new admissions today, with 23 discharges.**

Number of people with confirmed COVID-19 in hospital (8pm each day)



The number of people with COVID in hospital fluctuates by day (usually higher at weekends) but overall is trending downwards slowly. 151 in hospital at 8pm today, **down 12% on the same day last week**, and down 92% on the 8pm peak of 1982 on 17th Jan.

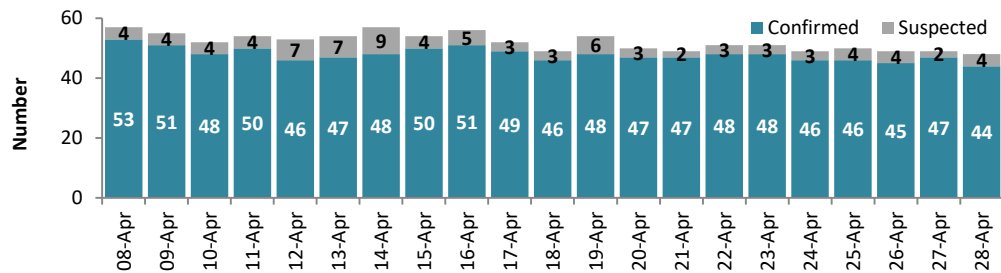
Number of deaths among people with COVID-19 by week of death



To date, the deaths of 4,896 people with confirmed, probable or possible COVID have been notified.

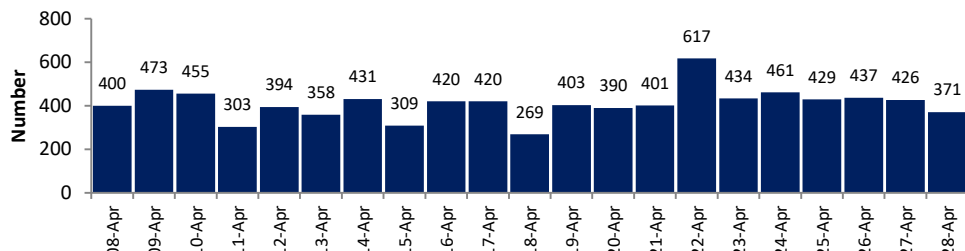
The number of deaths per week is **trending downwards significantly** now after increasing significantly in January.

Number of people with COVID-19 in critical care (as of 18:30 each day)



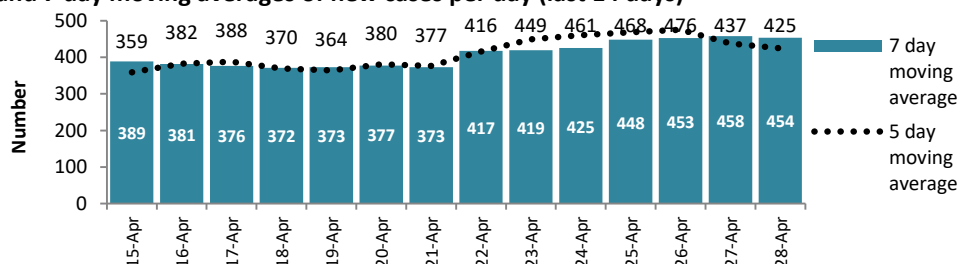
The number with COVID-19 in critical care fluctuate by day by is trending downwards slowly. Currently 44 confirmed (down 6% on last week) with 2 new admissions today. There are 32 adult public critical care beds available & 251 occupied.

Number of new cases per day (last 3 weeks)



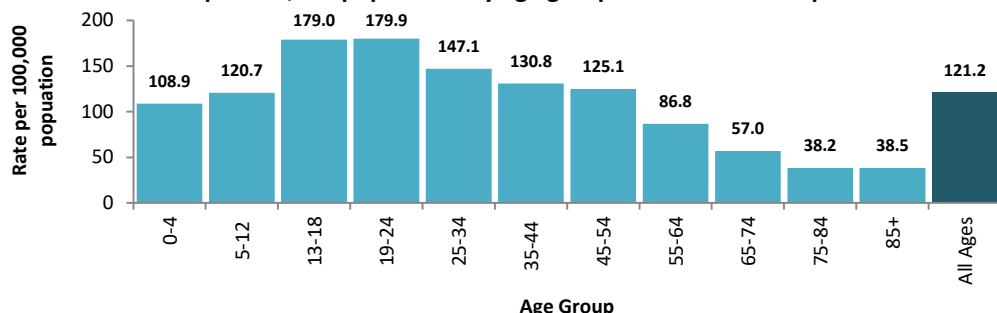
The number of new cases fluctuates by day but the slow downward trend of recent weeks appears to have stalled. New cases this week are up 22% on the previous week.

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



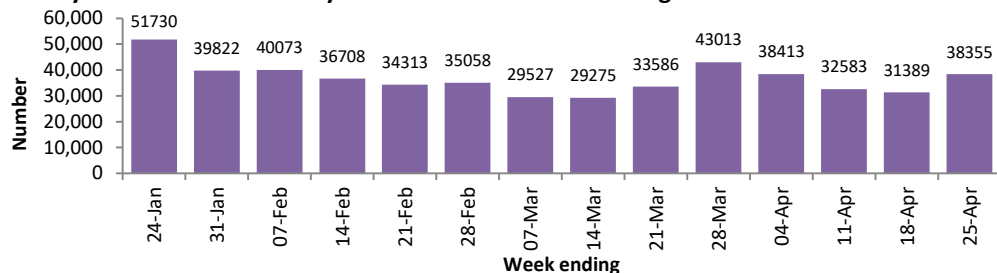
The 5 and 7 day moving averages of new cases per day fluctuate by day with a trend upwards this week. Compared to last week, the 5 day average is up 13% and the 7 day average is up 22%.

Rate of new cases per 100,000 population by age group notified over the past 2 weeks



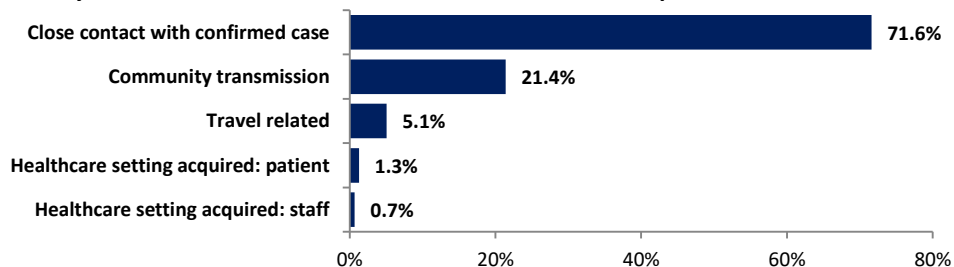
Compared to last week the overall 14 day incidence rate is up 7%. The 14 day incidence rate is highest among 19-24 and 13-18 yr. olds (up 3% and 37% on last week respectively). The rates increased for every age group with the exception of 35-44 (-1%), 55-64 (-2%), 75-84 (-3%) and 85+ year olds (-4%).

Weekly number of community referrals for COVID-19 testing



Community referrals for the past week (up to Sunday 25th April) were up 22.2% on the previous week. Average of 5,479 referrals per day over the past week.

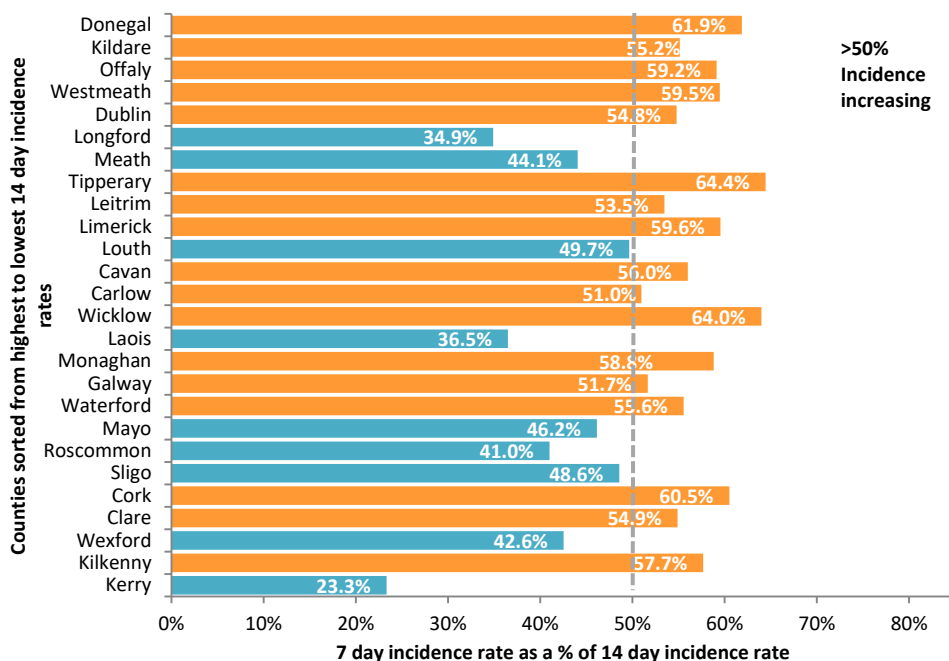
Most likely transmission source of new cases notified over the past 2 weeks



Note: Transmission source remains under investigation for 23% of cases. The percentages above are based on those with known transmission source.

Of 4,703 new cases with known most likely transmission source notified within the past 2 weeks, 3,367 (71.6%) were close contacts. **238 (5.1%) were travel related**, and 92 (2.0%) were acquired in healthcare settings (60 patients & 32 staff). 1,006 (21.4%) were community transmission (no other identified source).

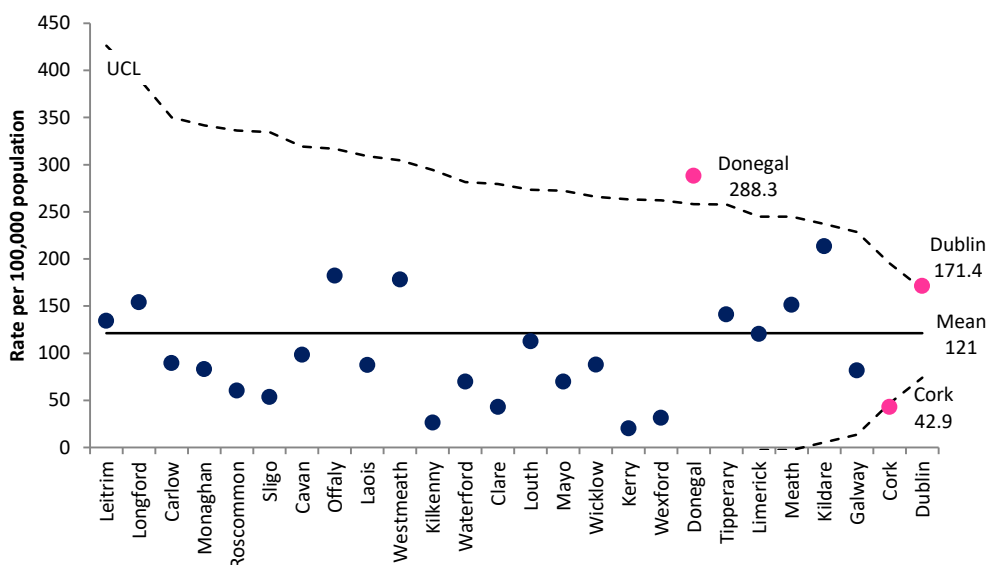
7 day incidence rate as a percentage of 14 day rate, 14 April – 27 April



The latest 14 day incidence rate is 121.2 per 100,000 population, while the 7 day incidence rate is 66.5. **The 7 day rate is more than half (54.9%) 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 indicating more cases in these counties in the most recent 7 days. This is a disimprovement on the same day last week when 12 counties had a 7 day incidence rate higher than half their 14 day rate.

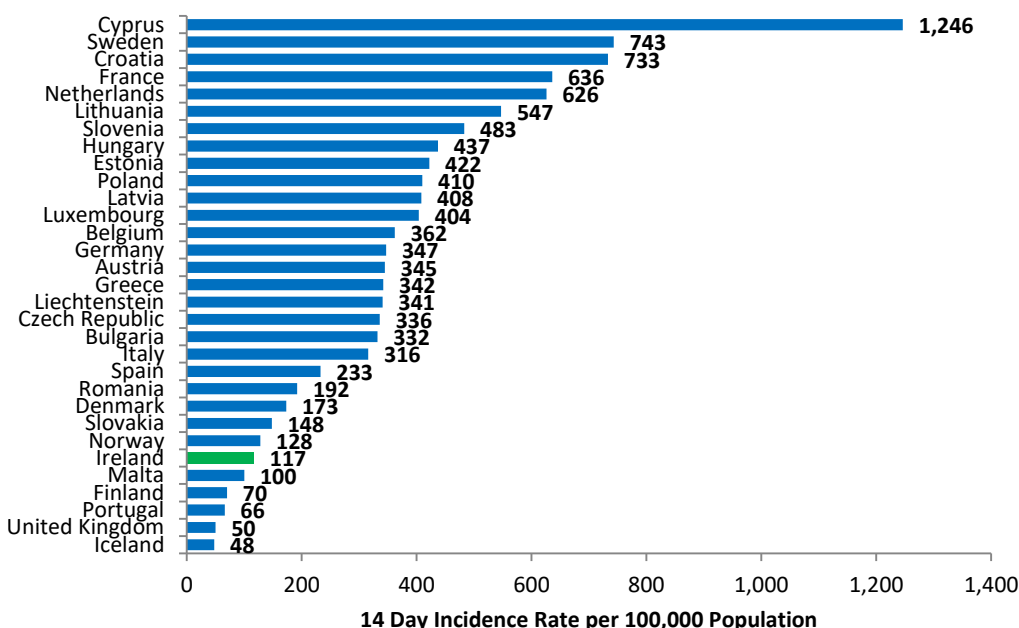
14-day incidence rate per 100,000 population by county notified from 14 April – 27 April



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 Dublin and Donegal which are above the upper control limit and Cork which is below the control limit**.

This is a signal that the current 14 day rates in Dublin and Donegal are higher than expected relative to the national rate and Cork is lower.

14-day COVID-19 rates per 100,000 population EU/EEA & UK (WHO Data, 28th April)



Data from the WHO on COVID incidence rates within Europe shows that **the 14 day incidence rate in Ireland has increased and is now 6th lowest out of the 31 countries (5th lowest last week)**.

The 14 day incidence rates in **21 of the 31 countries have decreased compared to 2 weeks ago**. Rates have increased in 10 countries. **116% increase in Iceland (still the lowest at 48 per 100,000) and 48% decrease in Poland**.

Key trends & recent changes:

- In the **7 days up 28th April** there were 3,175 new cases notified; **up 22% on the previous week** (2,612 new cases in the 7 days up to 21st April).

Hospital activity:

- The number currently **in hospital is down 12% in one week** (172 at 8pm on 21st April, 151 at 8pm on 28th April). **We have 239 vacant hospital beds.**
- Data from the NOCA ICU Bed Information System shows that the number of confirmed COVID cases **in ICU is down 6% compared to last week** (47 on 21st April, 44 on 28th April). **Of the 44 patients with COVID in ICU, 28 are ventilated.**
- Patients with confirmed or suspected COVID account for 19% of occupied adult ICU beds, down slightly from 20% on the same day last week, and down from a peak of 70% on 2nd February.
- Over the **past week** there were **116 new admissions of COVID positive patients to hospital (an average of 16.6 per day), up 16% on the previous week** (100 new admissions during the previous 7 days).
- **The last 14 days:** Of 5,770 new cases notified between **14th April & 27th April, 218 (4%) have been hospitalised to date and 18 (0.3%) have been admitted to ICU.** Of these 218 hospitalised cases:
 - **22 (10.1%) were aged 0-18 years**, with no ICU admissions in this age group
 - 38 (17.4%) were aged 19-34 years, with 1 ICU admission in this age group
 - 99 (45.4%) were aged 35-64 years, with 11 ICU admissions in this age group
 - 59 (27.1%) were aged 65 and over, with 6 ICU admissions in this age group.

Outbreaks:

- For the most recent week (ending 24th April), there were **3 new outbreaks in hospitals** notified (5 for the previous week).
- There were **no new outbreaks in nursing homes** notified during the most recent week (1 for the previous week).
- There were 5 new outbreaks in residential institutions notified (3 for the previous week).
- There were **10 new outbreaks among vulnerable populations** notified; **8 among members of the Irish traveller community** and 2 in direct provision centres.
- There were **31 new outbreaks among associated with schools* (school children and / or school staff), up from 5 last week. There were 22 new outbreaks in Childcare facilities (11 for the previous week).** * These outbreaks are outbreaks associated with school children +/- school staff. Transmission of COVID-19 within the school has not necessarily been established in these outbreaks.

Update on walk-in testing (25th March to 27th April):

- Between 25th March & 27th April there were **46,229 walk-ins** for testing with **1,520 positive cases** detected. The overall positivity rate to date is 3.4%. It is **higher for the past 7 days at 5.14%.**
- Of the centres open as of 27th April positivity rates were **highest** in the walk-in test centres in **Coolock (7.0%), Letterkenny (6.5%)** and Dublin **Mulhuddart (5.5%).**

Amárach Public Opinion Survey for Department of Health (26th April):

- The Amárach survey on 26th April showed that **33% of people reported experiencing anxiety a lot of the day** during the previous day; 30% reported experiencing worry; 28% of people reported experiencing boredom; 29% reported experiencing stress; **22% reported experiencing sadness; and 20% reported experiencing loneliness.**
- When asked **will you get the COVID-19 vaccine** when it's offered to you, **69% of respondents** (who have not yet received the vaccine) **answered definitely** on 26th April; **17% answered probably**; 6% answered don't know; **4% answered probably not; and 4% answered definitely not.** The proportion of people who answered definitely was highest among people aged 55+ (76% answered definitely).
- **45% of people reported having concerns about getting the vaccine**; this has increased in recent weeks (up from 37% on 15th February).
- When asked if you were told you could get the vaccine next week would you get it, 75% of people (who have not yet received the vaccine) reported yes they would get it. The proportion answering yes was highest among people aged 55+ (82%) and lowest among people aged 35-44 years (70%).

Conclusion:

While the number of people with COVID in hospital is now at the lowest level since early October, there are some concerning trends recently in some of the key indicators. The downward trend in numbers of new cases appears to have stalled. Referrals for COVID testing and admissions of COVID positive patients to hospital have increased compared to last week. There are however a number of positive signs of the impact of the vaccination programme, including no new outbreaks in nursing homes notified last week, and the significantly lower incidence of COVID among people aged 75 and over compared to younger age groups.