

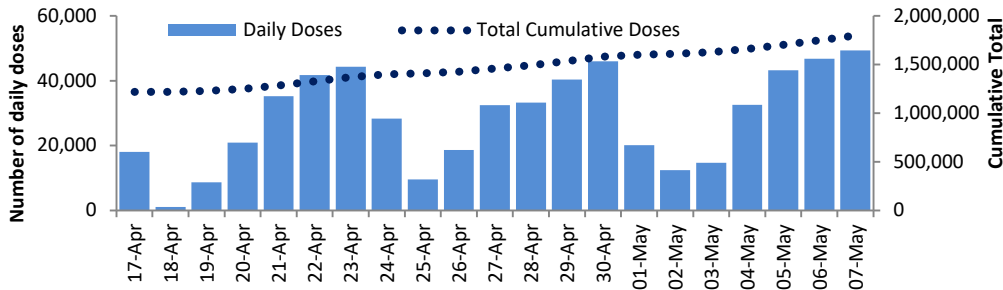
COVID-19 Data Summary 10/05/2021

Based on data as of Sunday evening 09/05/2021

Introduction:

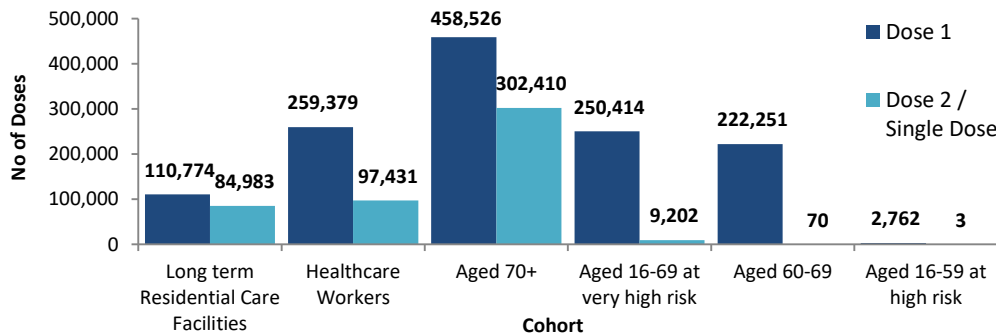
As restrictions start to ease we will continue to monitor the situation closely to predict future pressures on the hospital system and to assess effectiveness of control measures.

Daily & cumulative doses of COVID-19 vaccinations



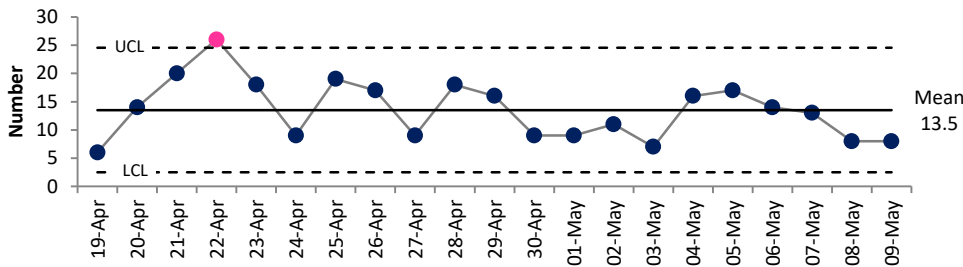
Up to 07th May, **1,799,190 COVID vaccine doses have been administered (1,305,041 first doses, 494,012 second doses and 137 single doses). In the 7 days up to 07th May a total of 219,321 doses were administered (average of 31,332 per day), up 5.1% on the previous 7 days.**

Vaccinations by Cohort



Of the 1,799,190 vaccine doses administered to date: 10.9% were administered to people in Long-term Residential Care Facilities; 19.8% were frontline HCWs; **42.3% were people aged over 70**, 14.4% were people aged 16-69 at very high risk; 12.4% were people aged 60-69; 0.2% were people aged 16-59 at high risk.

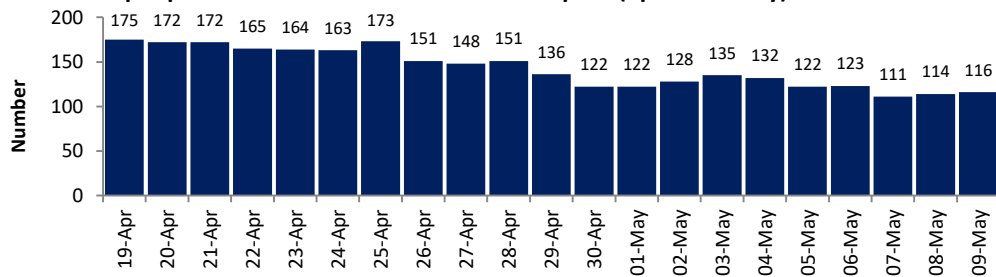
Number of hospital admissions during the previous 24 hours of COVID positive patients



The SPC chart shows that the number of admissions has been stable over the past 3 weeks, with the exception of 22nd April (26 admissions).

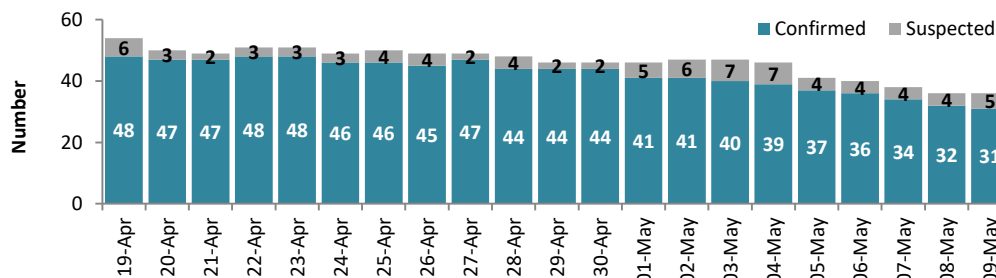
Admissions this week are **down 7% compared to last week. 8 new admissions today, with 3 discharges.**

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



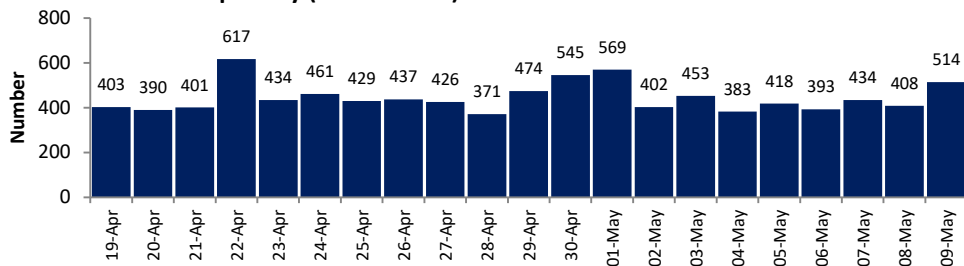
The number of people with COVID in hospital fluctuates by day (usually higher at weekends) but overall is trending downwards. 116 in hospital at 8pm today, **down 9% on the same day last week**, and down 94% on the 8pm peak of 1982 on 17th Jan.

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



The number with COVID-19 in critical care fluctuates by day but is trending downwards. Currently 31 confirmed (**down 24% on last week**) with **no new admissions today**. There are **47 adult public critical care beds available & 241 occupied.**

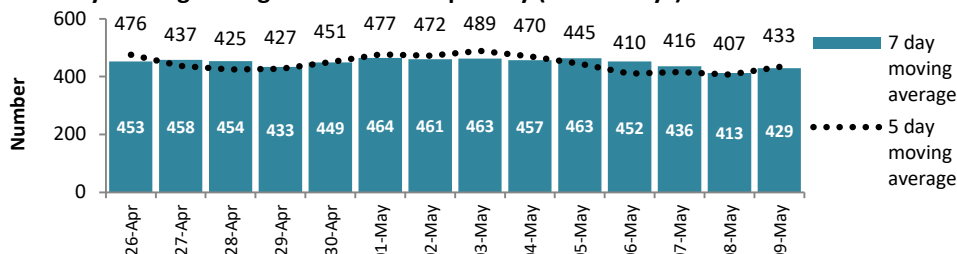
Number of new cases per day (last 3 weeks)



The number of new cases fluctuates by day but appears to be stabilising again after increasing in the previous 2 weeks.

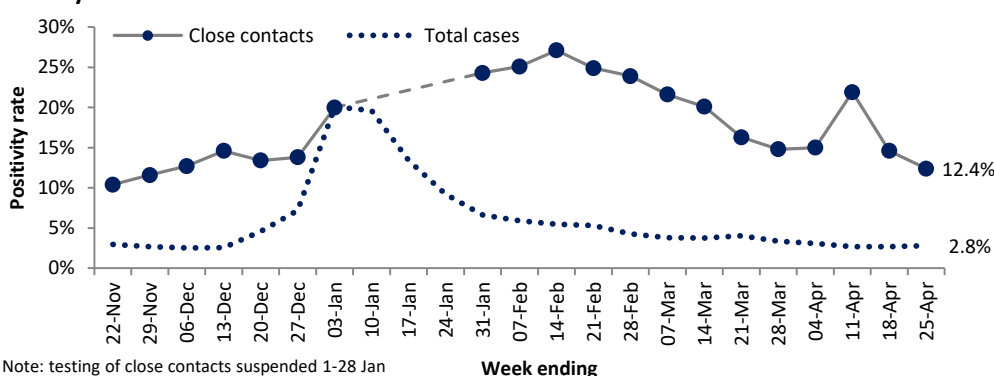
New cases this week are **down 7% on the previous week.**

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



Compared to last week, the **5 day average is down 8%** and the **7 day average is down 7%.**

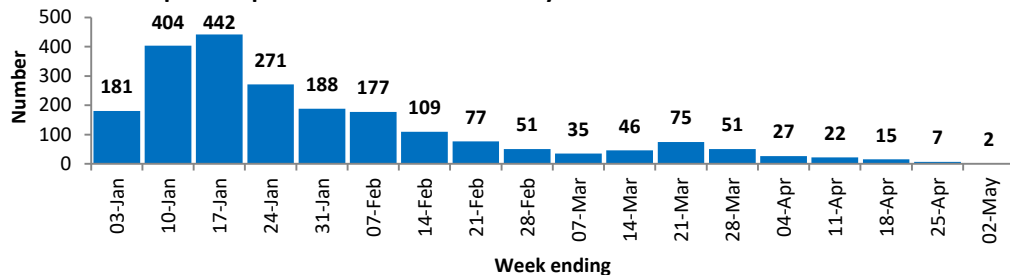
Positivity rate of close contacts of confirmed COVID-19 cases



The positivity rate for close contacts (based on Test 1) for the week ending 25th April was **12.4%, down from 14.6% for the previous week.** The overall positivity rate was 2.8% for the week ending 25th April. The positivity rate for close contacts has been trending downwards since a peak of 27.1% in mid February, with the exception of the week ending 11th April.

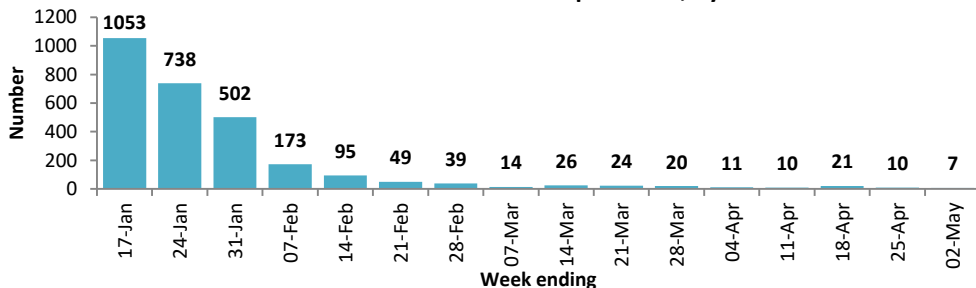
Note: testing of close contacts suspended 1-28 Jan

Number of hospital acquired cases of COVID-19 by week



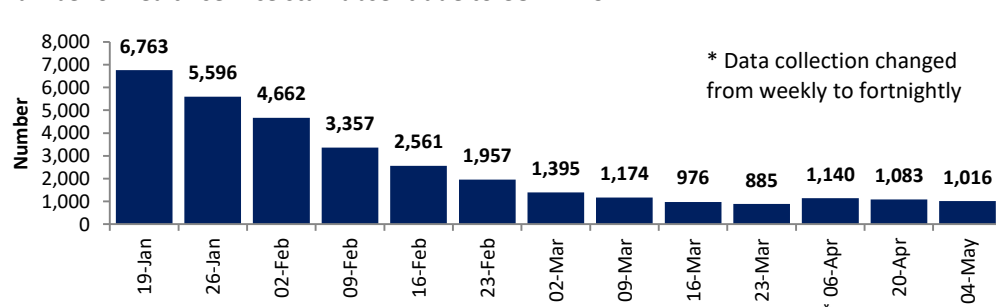
The number of hospital acquired cases of COVID has decreased significantly in recent weeks. There were **2 hospital acquired cases of COVID-19 in the past week, down from 7 for the previous week** and down 99.5% on the peak (week ending 17th Jan).

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 has decreased significantly in recent weeks. There were 7 new cases last week, down from 10 for the previous week and **down 99.3% on the week ending 17th January.**

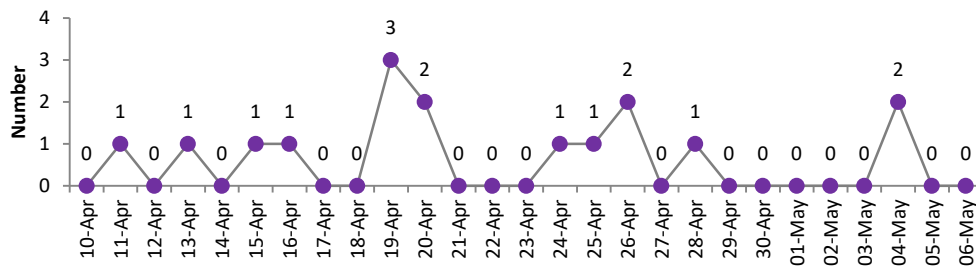
Number of health service staff absent due to COVID-19



The number of health service staff absent due to a diagnosis of COVID or self-isolation for the fortnight from 21st April–04th May was **1,016, down 6% on the previous fortnight.** This is an **overall COVID health service absenteeism rate of 0.7%.**

Note: the last 3 figures refer to the total absent over a 2 week period; previous figures were weekly numbers.

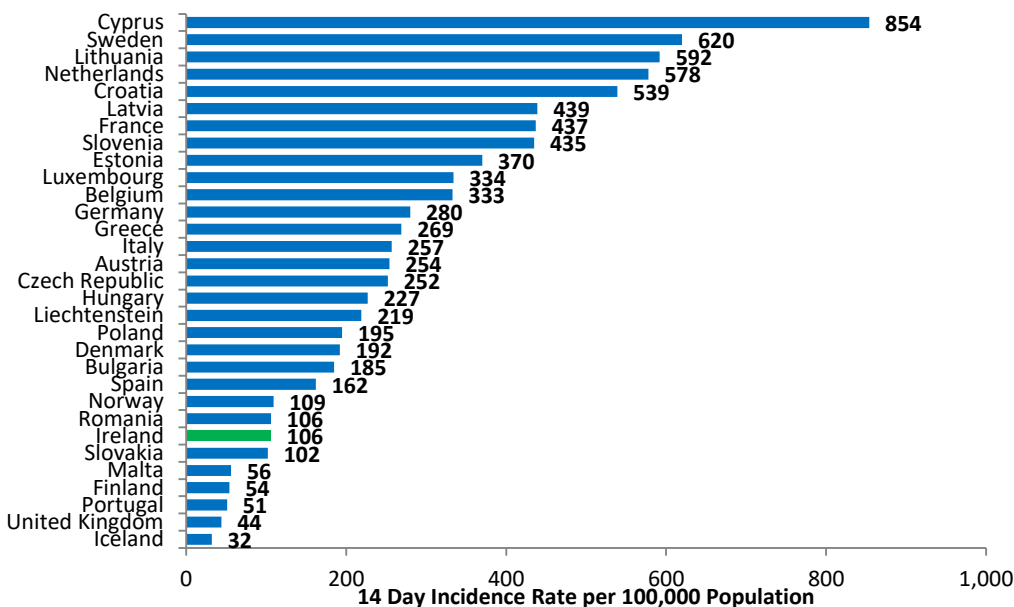
Number of COVID-19 outbreaks in Long Term Residential Facilities (LTRFs)



The number of outbreaks in LTRFs notified varies significantly by day, but overall appears to be trending downwards.

2 outbreaks in the past 7 days, 5 during the previous week.

14-day COVID-19 rates per 100,000 population EU/EEA & UK (WHO Data, 09th May)



Data from the WHO on COVID incidence rates within Europe shows that the **14 day incidence rate in Ireland is the 7th lowest out of the 31 countries. (5th lowest 2 weeks ago)**

The 14 day incidence rates in 28 of the 31 countries have decreased compared to 2 weeks ago. **Rates have increased in 3 countries. 13% increase in Denmark and 60% decrease in Poland.**

Key trends & recent changes:

- In the **7 days up 09th May** there were 3,003 new cases notified; **down 7% on the previous week** (3,224 new cases in the 7 days up to 02nd May).
- Over the past week (up to 07th May) 128,085 COVID-19 tests were carried out, of which 3,087 were positive. This is a positivity rate of 2.4%, down from 2.7% last week.

Hospital activity:

- The number currently **in hospital is down 9% in one week** (128 at 8pm on 2nd May; 116 at 8pm on 9th May). **We have 379 vacant hospital beds.**
- Data from the NOCA ICU Bed Information System shows that the number of confirmed COVID cases **in ICU is down 24% on the same day last week** (41 on 2nd May; 31 on 9th May). **Of the 31 patients with COVID in ICU, 26 are ventilated.**
- Patients with confirmed or suspected COVID account for 15% of occupied adult ICU beds, down from 19% on the same day last week, and down from a peak of 70% on 2nd February.
- Over the **past week** there were **83 new admissions of COVID positive patients to hospital (an average of 11.9 per day), down 7% on the previous week** (89 new admissions during the previous 7 days).

Variants of concern:

- Cases of **three variants of concern** have been identified in Ireland to date; **B.1.1.7 (UK), B.1.351 (South African) and P.1 (Brazilian)**. Six variants of interest have been identified in Ireland; **P.2 (Brazil), B.1.525 (Nigeria), B.1.526 (New York), A.27 (France), B.1.429 (California) and B.1.1.318 (UK)**.
- Transmission of the **B.1.1.7 (UK) variant** is now widespread in Ireland. **94% of cases** sequenced since the week ending 27th February 2021 were found to be infected with the B.1.1.7 variant.
- Up to 1st May, **73 cases had been confirmed of the South African variant** and **28 cases had been confirmed of the Brazilian (P.1) variant**. In addition, **20 cases of B.1.617 (India) have also been identified**.

Update on walk-in testing (25th March to 6th May):

- Between 25th March & 6th May there were **62,312 walk-ins** for testing with **2,048 positive cases** detected; this is a **positivity rate of 3.4%**. The positivity rate for the most recent 7 days was slightly higher at 3.5%.
- Of the centres open as of 6th May positivity rates were **highest** in the walk-in test centres in **Ballymun (5.3%), Castlerea (4.9%), Letterkenny (4.9%), Mullingar (4.2%)** and **Blanchardstown (4.1%)**.

Update from Contact Management Programme (CMP) on close contacts of confirmed cases:

- The Test 1 positivity rate among **close contacts for the most recent week** (based on close contacts created from 19th to 25th April) was **12.4%**, down from 14.6% for the previous week. This has **decreased from a peak of 27.1% during the week ending 14th February, but remains slightly higher than average positivity rates (based on Test 1) for close contacts per month of less than 12% up to November 2020.**
- The Test 1 positivity rate among household contacts in the most recent week was 24.1%, down from 31.0% for the previous week. Positivity rates were lower among social contacts (14.5%), workplace contacts (7.7%), childcare facilities (4.8%), secondary schools (4.1%) and primary schools (3.7%).
- The **average number of close contacts per confirmed case** (including cases with no close contacts) in the most recent week (up to 02nd May) was **2.6 per case (same as the previous week, but up from 2.3 two weeks previously).**

Update on serial testing:

- **Cycle 11 of serial testing in nursing homes** is currently underway, and to date there have been **31 positive cases detected from 27,828 tests**. This is a **positivity rate of 0.11%**, i.e. **one positive case detected per 898 tests**. Since serial testing in nursing homes commenced a total of 4,663 positive cases have been detected from 766,308 tests; this is a positivity rate of 0.61%.
- **Cycle 9 of serial testing in food production plants** is currently underway, and to date there have been **18 positive cases detected from 3,730 tests**. This is a **positivity rate of 0.48%**, i.e. one positive case detected per 207 tests. Since serial testing in food production plants commenced a total of 1,369 positive cases have been detected from 183,805 tests; this is a positivity rate of 0.74%.

Quarantine testing:

- A total of **5,124 tests have been carried out to date as part of quarantine testing**, of which there have been **116 positive cases detected**. This is a **positivity rate of 2.26%**.

Conclusion:

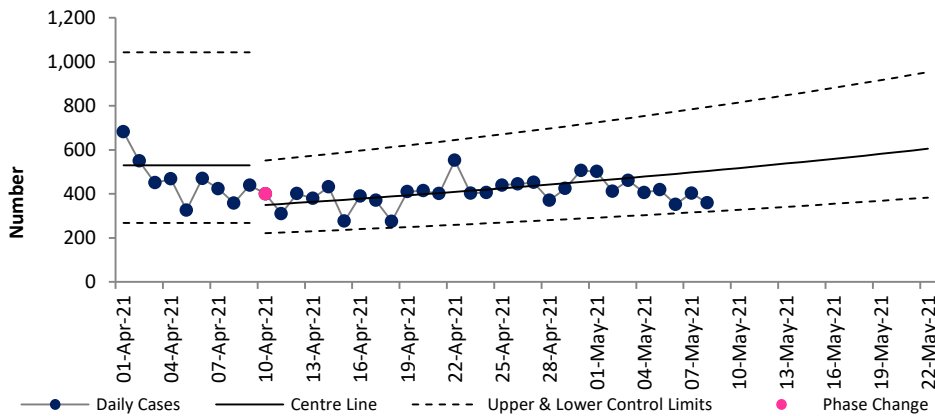
Although the number of new cases remains relatively high, the apparent upward trend over the past couple of weeks appears to now have stabilised, and new cases this week are down 7% on last week. We continue to see on-going signs of improvement in many of our key measures, including very low numbers of hospital acquired COVID, low numbers of COVID cases among hospital staff and very low numbers of cases in nursing homes detected through serial testing. The effects of the vaccination programme are clear. In addition, deaths, numbers in hospital and ICU, and admissions of COVID positive patients continue to trend downwards. Positivity rates of close contacts are now close to the rates prior to the UK variant. Quarantine is picking up positive cases but new variants are getting into the country.

[See weekly report on COVID-19 Statistical Process Control Charts on page 5.](#)

Weekly Report on COVID-19 Statistical Process Control Charts

09 May 2021

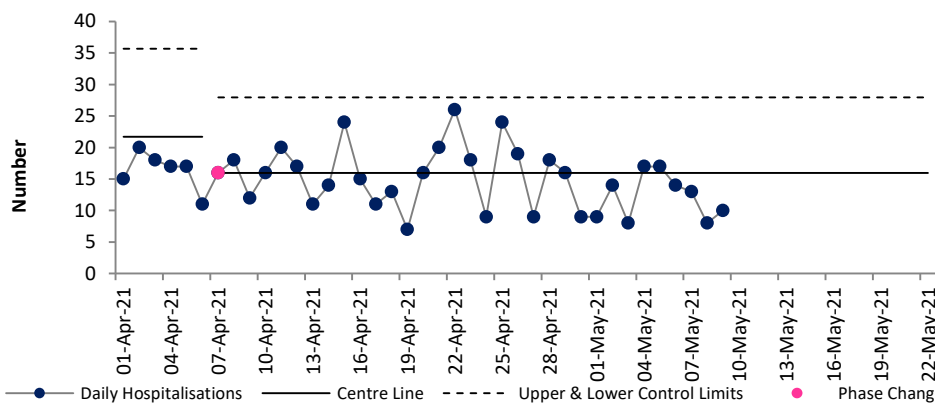
Daily COVID-19 Reported Cases



Epoch 2: Growth in daily reported cases

The latest data indicates that the number of new cases reported per day has been increasing (i.e. in the growth phase / Epoch 2) since 10th April after being in Epoch 3 (plateau or descent in daily cases) since 31st December. Since 10th April the average number of cases per day has increased from 350 to 504 per day on 8th May. If this trend continues we can expect to see an average of 605 cases per day by 22nd May.

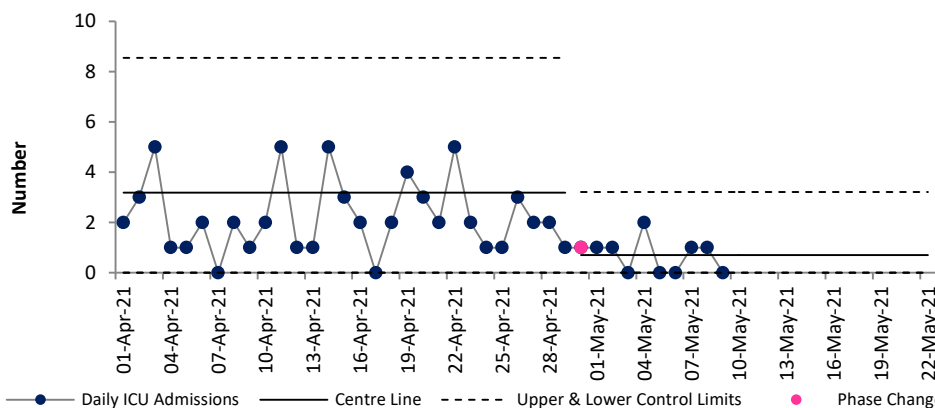
Daily new hospital admissions of COVID-19 positive patients



Epoch 3: Plateau or descent in daily reported hospital admissions

The number of new hospitalisations per day of COVID positive patients has been trending downwards since January. There was a signal of a reduction in the average number of new hospital admissions of COVID positive patients per day from 22 since 9th March to 16 since 7th April. The number is stable since then and based on the current data we can expect to continue to see an average of 16 hospital admissions per day.

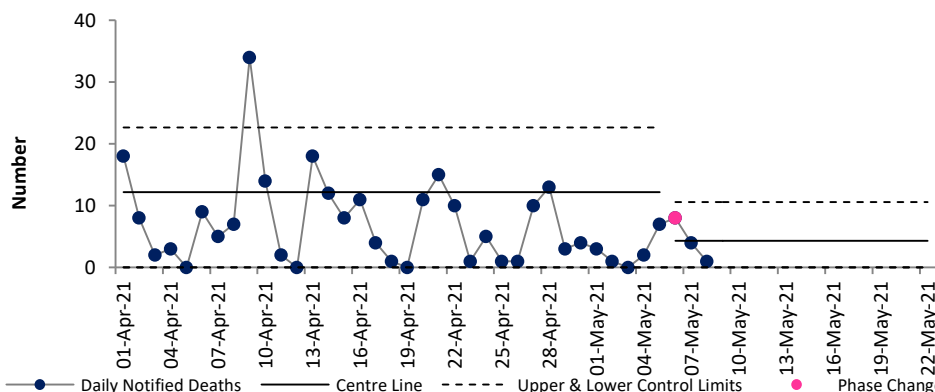
Daily admissions to ICU of COVID-19 positive patients



Epoch 4: Stability after descent in daily reported ICU admissions

The number of new ICU admissions per day of COVID positive patients has been trending downwards since January. There was a signal of a reduction in the average number of new ICU admissions of COVID positive patients per day from 3.19 since 15th March to 0.7 per day since 30th April. The number is stable since then and based on the current data we can expect to continue to see an average of 0.7 ICU admissions per day, i.e. 5 ICU admissions per week.

Daily notified deaths of people with confirmed, probable or possible COVID-19



Epoch 4: Stability after descent in daily reported deaths

The latest data shows that the number of deaths notified per day moved from Epoch 3 (plateau or descent) to Epoch 4 (stability after descent) on 6th May. Between 4th March & 5th May the average has been 12 deaths per day. Since 6th May this has reduced to 4.3 per day, and while it remains stable we can expect to continue to see an average of 4.3 deaths notified per day.

For more information on the methodology used above and the team behind the development of this SPC approach see <https://www.hse.ie/eng/about/who/qid/covid-19-qi-learning/resources-developed-to-support-the-national-covid19-response/understanding-variation-in-key-covid-19-indicators-in-ireland-using-statistical-process-control-shewhart-charts.pdf>