

eDeposit Ireland

Statement from the National Public Health Emergency Team - Monday 21 December 2021

Item Type	other
Citation	National Public Health Emergency Team, 'Statement from the National Public Health Emergency Team - Monday 21 December 2021', [other], Department of Health, 2020-12-21
Publisher	Department of Health
Rights	Y
Download date	2026-03-14 19:49:03
Link to Item	https://hdl.handle.net/20.500.14765/104192

Statement from the National Public Health Emergency Team - Monday 21 December

From [Department of Health](#)

Published on 21 December 2020

Last updated on 22 December 2020

- [1. Hospital statistics](#)
- [2. Gender of patients](#)
- [3. Age range affected](#)
- [4. How COVID-19 is spreading](#)
- [5. Hospitalised cases by age group](#)
- [6. Cases by county](#)
- [7. Slides from press conference](#)

There have been no new deaths reported to the Health Protection Surveillance Centre today.

There has been a total of 2,158 COVID-19 related deaths in Ireland.

As of midnight Sunday 20 December, the HPSC has been notified of 727 confirmed cases of COVID-19. There has now been a total of 80,267* confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Ireland.

(*Validation of data at the HPSC has resulted in the denotification of 2 confirmed cases. The figure of 80,267 confirmed cases reflects this.)

Of the cases notified today:

- 359 are men and 366 are women
- 62% are under 45 years of age
- the median age is 36 years old
- 311 in Dublin, 51 in Kilkenny, 48 in Wexford, 44 in Donegal, 44 in Cork and the remaining 229 cases are spread across 19 other counties

As of 2pm today, 241 COVID-19 patients are hospitalised, of which 29 are in ICU. There have been 18 additional hospitalisations in the past 24 hours.

Dr. Tony Holohan, Chief Medical Officer, Department of Health, said:

"Our current disease trends are gravely concerning. The situation has deteriorated rapidly in recent days. A total of 3,837 cases have been notified in the past 7 days. The five day rolling average has increased from 339 on 17 December to 616 on 21 December, an 82% increase. It is now as important as it was back in March to limit your contacts and protect your loved ones."

Dr Lorraine Nolan, Chief Executive, Health Products Regulatory Authority, said:

"Today we welcome a highly significant announcement from the European Medicines Agency in their recommendation to approve a first vaccine for COVID-19 in Europe. It is a key development in our continued efforts to tackling this pandemic. This will become one additional defence in our suite of public health actions to protect us from COVID-19."

Professor Philip Nolan, Chair of the NPHEP Irish Epidemiological Modelling Advisory Group, said:

"The virus is transmitting very rapidly, faster than we have seen at any point since March. The case numbers are growing at least 5-7% per day and, of particular concern, across all age groups."

Dr. Cillian De Gascun, Medical Virologist and Director of the National Virus Reference Laboratory, said:

"To date, the novel SARS-CoV-2 UK variant has not been detected in Ireland. However, as we know the variant has been circulating in the UK since September, therefore we cannot exclude the possibility that the variant is already in Ireland. We are prioritising the sequencing of cases with confirmed or suspected links to the UK."

The [COVID-19 Dashboard](#) provides up-to-date information on the key indicators of COVID-19 in the community.

ENDS

Today's cases, 14-day incidence rate per 100,000 population and new cases in last 14 days (as of midnight 20 December 2020) (incidence rate based on Census 2016 county population)

County	Today's Cases (to 14-Day incidence rate per midnight 20/12/20)	100,000 population (14 days to midnight 20/12/20)	New Cases during last 14 days (14 days to midnight 20/12/20)
Ireland	727	122.4	5,827
Donegal	44	273.9	436
Louth	21	240.5	310
Kilkenny	51	266.7	225
Wexford	48	199.7	299
Carlow	<5	191.5	109
Cavan	6	177.2	135
Laois	<5	173.6	147
Limerick	35	164.7	321
Monaghan	15	148.2	91
Dublin	311	142.6	1,921
Longford	0	141.9	58

Kerry	24	124.6	184
Meath	24	118.9	232
Mayo	<5	111.1	145
Waterford	16	107.6	125
Sligo	8	103.8	68
Kildare	21	89.4	199
Wicklow	11	72.3	103
Tipperary	5	65.8	105
Cork	44	57.8	314
Offaly	0	57.7	45
Galway	15	51.5	133
Roscommon	6	51.1	33
Westmeath	5	47.3	42
Clare	9	32	38
Leitrim	<5	28.1	9

Note:

The 7 day incidence rate is 122.4.

The 5 day moving average is 616.

Hospital statistics

Total number of cases	79,540
Total number hospitalised	5,615
Total number admitted to ICU	654
Total number of deaths	1,898
Total number of healthcare workers	12,862
Number clusters notified	10,397
Cases associated with clusters	43,501
Median age	39

*All statistics measured at midnight on Saturday 19 December.

Gender of patients

Gender	Number of cases
Male	37,609
Female	41,884
Unknown	47
Total	79,540

*All statistics measured at midnight on Saturday 19 December.

Age range affected

Age range	Number of cases
0 - 4	2,157
5 - 14	5,410
15 - 24	13,782
25 - 34	13,373
35 - 44	12,508
45 - 54	11,968
55 - 64	8,483
65 - 74	4,519
75 - 84	3,931
85+	3,380
Unknown	29

*All statistics measured at midnight on Saturday 19 December.

How COVID-19 is spreading

Transmission classification	%
Community transmission	30
Close contact with confirmed case	67.1
Travel abroad	1.4
Unknown	1.5

*All statistics measured at midnight on Saturday 19 December.

Note:

When a person tests positive for COVID-19 but hasn't been abroad or had a known contact with another confirmed case in Ireland, that's known as community transmission.

In the event that a person who tests positive for COVID-19 can be linked to another confirmed case in Ireland, that's known as close contact.

Hospitalised cases by age group

Age range	Number of cases
0 - 4	58
5 - 14	56
15 - 24	188

25 - 34	350
35 - 44	440
45 - 54	699
55 - 64	803
65 - 74	1,014
75 - 84	1,249
85+	756
Unknown	2

*All statistics measured at midnight on Saturday 19 December.

Cases by county

County	Number of cases	Change since the day before
Carlow	782	+11
Cavan	2,345	+14
Clare	1,546	+4
Cork	6,730	+44
Donegal	3,543	+50
Dublin	29,343	+284
Galway	2,859	+16
Kerry	1,508	+29
Kildare	4,333	+28
Kilkenny	1,297	+8
Laois	1,155	+19
Leitrim	277	+1
Limerick	3,195	+66
Longford	727	+4
Louth	2,533	+36
Mayo	1,643	+9
Meath	3,653	+31
Monaghan	1,372	+8
Offaly	1,242	No change
Roscommon	989	+1
Sligo	814	+14
Tipperary	1,682	+12
Waterford	1,184	+17
Westmeath	1,587	+8
Wexford	1,469	+37
Wicklow	1,732	+10

*All statistics measured at midnight on Saturday 19 December.

