

# Statement from the National Public Health Emergency Team - Wednesday 16 December

From [Department of Health](#)

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The Health Protection Surveillance Centre has today been notified of 6 additional deaths related to COVID-19.

There has been a total of 2,140 COVID-19 related deaths in Ireland.

As of midnight Tuesday 15 December, the HPSC has been notified of 431 confirmed cases of COVID-19. There has now been a total of 77,197 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Ireland.

Of the cases notified today:

- 185 are men and 244 are women
- 67% are under 45 years of age
- the median age is 35 years old
- 134 in Dublin, 53 in Donegal, 25 in Cavan, 24 in Louth, 22 in Mayo, and the remaining 173 cases are spread across all other remaining counties

As of 2pm today, 207 COVID-19 patients are hospitalised, of which 30 are in ICU. There have been 22 additional hospitalisations in the past 24 hours.

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

"We are seeing significant and concerning indicators that this disease is moving in the wrong direction, including an increase in positivity rates, and 7 day and 14 day incidence, and our 5 day average has now increased to 339 cases. Recent international experience has demonstrated just how quickly this disease can get out of control.

"These trends are all the more troubling because of the delicate and precarious situation we are in - as a country, we are heading into a period of potential widespread inter-household

and inter-generational mixing. This is an ideal opportunity for the virus to spread and impact on those most vulnerable to its severest effects. Don't give COVID-19 this chance: limit your contacts, prioritise who you meet, and let's remain vigilant so we can get through this together. NPHEt will meet tomorrow to review the epidemiological situation."

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 15 December 2020) (incidence rate based on Census 2016 county population)**

<b>County</b>	<b>Today's Cases (to 14-Day incidence rate per midnight 15/12/20)</b>	<b>100,000 population (14 days to midnight 15/12/20)</b>	<b>New Cases during last 14 days (14 days to midnight 15/12/20)</b>
<b>Ireland</b>	<b>431</b>	<b>87.9</b>	<b>4,185</b>
Donegal	53	245.6	391
Louth	24	201.7	260
Kilkenny	15	197.5	196
Carlow	<5	156.3	89
Cavan	25	147	112
Longford	<5	137	56
Monaghan	7	136.8	84
Limerick	13	122.6	239
Laois	13	113.3	96
Mayo	22	105	137
Dublin	134	97.7	1,316
Wicklow	<5	82.1	117
Waterford	<5	79.2	92
Offaly	8	78.2	61
Kildare	17	67.9	151
Tipperary	<5	67.7	108
Meath	12	65.6	128
Wexford	15	56.8	85
Sligo	<5	50.4	33
Galway	9	50	129
Kerry	17	42	62
Roscommon	<5	38.7	25
Westmeath	<5	34.9	31
Leitrim	<5	28.1	9
Cork	18	27.6	150

Clare <5 23.6 28

**Note:**

The 5 day moving average of cases is 339.

The 7 day incidence rate is 48.7 per 100,000 of population.

## Hospital statistics

Total number of cases	76,766
Total number hospitalised	5,489
Total number admitted to ICU	649
Total number of deaths	1,880
Total number of healthcare workers	12,590
Number clusters notified	10,207
Cases associated with clusters	42,692
Median age	39

\*All statistics measured at midnight on Monday 14 December.

## Gender of patients

Gender	Number of cases
Male	36,202
Female	40,527
Unknown	37
Total	76,766

\*All statistics measured at midnight on Monday 14 December.

## Age range affected

Age range	Number of cases
0 - 4	2,046
5 - 14	5,138
15 - 24	13,347
25 - 34	12,878
35 - 44	12,048
45 - 54	11,566
55 - 64	8,159
65 - 74	4,381
75 - 84	3,840

85+ 3,335  
Unknown 28

\*All statistics measured at midnight on Monday 14 December.

## How COVID-19 is spreading

Transmission classification	%
Community transmission	29.9
Close contact with confirmed case	67.7
Travel abroad	1.4
Unknown	1

\*All statistics measured at midnight on Monday 14 December.

### Note:

When a person tests positive for COVID-19 but hasn't been abroad or had 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	52
15 - 24	182
25 - 34	343
35 - 44	430
45 - 54	685
55 - 64	788
65 - 74	996
75 - 84	1,213
85+	740
Unknown	2

\*All statistics measured at midnight on Monday 14 December.

## Cases by county

County	Number of cases	Change since the day before
Carlow	735	+6

Cavan	2,279	+11
Clare	1,530	+1
Cork	6,538	+9
Donegal	3,353	+33
Dublin	28,394	+75
Galway	2,808	+4
Kerry	1,387	+8
Kildare	4,244	+17
Kilkenny	1,235	+12
Laois	1,078	+5
Leitrim	273	No change
Limerick	3,044	+23
Longford	710	+1
Louth	2,400	+41
Mayo	1,595	+9
Meath	3,527	+10
Monaghan	1,332	+12
Offaly	1,222	+6
Roscommon	976	+2
Sligo	778	+2
Tipperary	1,648	+4
Waterford	1,134	+5
Westmeath	1,572	+8
Wexford	1,279	+12
Wicklow	1,695	+3

\*All statistics measured at midnight on Monday 14 December.