Statement from the National Public Health Emergency Team - Thursday 28 January

From Department of Health

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Today's cases

The Health Protection Surveillance Centre has today been notified of 47 additional deaths related to COVID-19. 46 deaths occurred in January.

The median age of those who died is 85 years and the age range is 55-99 years.

There has been a total of 3,167 COVID-19 related deaths in Ireland.

As of midnight Wednesday 27 January, the HPSC has been notified of 1,466 confirmed cases of COVID-19. There has now been a total of 192,645* confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Ireland.

(*Validation of data at the HPSC has resulted in the denotification of 3 confirmed cases. The figure of 192,645 confirmed cases reflects this.)

Of the cases notified today:

- 697 are men and 764 are women
- 55% are under 45 years of age
- the median age is 41 years old
- 472 in Dublin, 106 in Galway, 103 in Cork, 77 in Waterford, 70 in Limerick and the remaining 638 cases are spread across all other counties

As of 2pm today, 1,567 COVID-19 patients are hospitalised, of which 216 are in ICU. There have been 69 additional hospitalisations in the past 24 hours.

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

"Incidence is falling but remains high. It is positive to see numbers of people hospitalised reducing and a stabilisation of numbers in ICU.

"However, we are continuing to experience high mortality with 878 deaths so far in January. I am concerned about the high incidence we are seeing in long-term care settings and vulnerable groups. Our efforts to stay home and break transmission of the disease will save lives. Please continue to follow the public health advice and support each other to keep going."

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

"Incidence is falling and by working collectively to reduce contacts, we have achieved suppression of transmission with the R number estimated at 0.4-0.7. We are maintaining an extraordinary effort but still we have a long way to go. We must maintain full suppression for several weeks if we are to achieve strategic options for the future. If we keep this up, we would be down to 200-400 cases per day by the end of February."

Dr Lorraine Doherty, National Clinical Director Health Protection HSE - Health Protection Surveillance Centre (HPSC), said:

"It only takes one event to spark a chain of transmission of COVID-19 that can spread through a community. We have seen examples of outbreaks in a workplace that has led to multiple outbreaks in families and other work settings, and these ultimately lead to a higher incidence in the community and threatens the most vulnerable to COVID-19. Every action an individual takes matters."

The <u>COVID-19 Dashboard</u> provides up-to-date information on the key indicators of COVID-19 in the community.

County-by-county cases and incidence rates

- the 7-day incidence is 225.8
- the 5-day moving average is 1,294

County data should be considered provisional as the national Computerised Infectious Disease Reporting System (CIDR) is a dynamic system and case details are continually being validated and updated.

County	Today's cases (to midnight 27/1/21)	5-day moving average of new cases (to 27/1/21)	14-day incidence rate per 100,000 population (to 27/1/21)	New cases during last 14 days (to 27/1/21)
Ireland	1,466	1,294	621.9	29,614
Monaghan	50	49	1,373.3	843
Louth	59	63	908.6	1,171
Carlow	33	25	874.7	498
Waterford	77	51	866.8	1,007
Dublin	472	409	733.4	9,882
Mayo	68	43	730.2	953

Wexford	52	54	709.3	1,062
Limerick	70	51	668.6	1,303
Offaly	17	25	623.4	486
Meath	36	50	607.0	1,184
Cavan	11	16	599.9	457
Donegal	63	40	599.9	955
Cork	103	128	569.2	3,090
Kildare	57	45	567.2	1,262
Galway	106	68	538.6	1,390
Laois	15	16	504.2	427
Tipperary	31	33	497.0	793
Clare	24	22	415.8	494
Wicklow	28	26	389.7	555
Sligo	15	12	384.5	252
Longford	13	10	362.1	148
Westmeath	18	18	350.3	311
Kilkenny	16	15	348.7	346
Kerry	18	17	322.3	476
Roscommon	11	5	294.4	190
Leitrim	<5	<5	246.5	79