



Epidemiology of COVID-19 Outbreaks/Clusters in Ireland

Weekly Report Highlights

Prepared by HPSC on 31st August 2020

Week 35 2020 (week ending 29th August 2020)

Note: Data are provisional

This report includes data extracted from CIDR on 31st August 2020 at 09:15am and includes COVID-19 outbreaks notified on CIDR up to midnight 29/08/2020.

Table 1: Number of COVID-19 outbreaks notified in Ireland by outbreak setting and by closure status, up to midnight on Saturday 29/08/2020, N=2,741.

	Closed	Open	Total
Hospital	91	16	107
Nursing home	239	38	277
Community Hospital/Long-stay unit	28	2	30
Residential institution	162	29	191
Private house	1527	377	1904
Workplace	44	35	79
Travel related	28	14	42
Extended family	39	11	50
Childcare facility	0	1	1
Community outbreak	14	8	22
Hotel	2	0	2
Public house	5	0	5
Restaurant / Cafe	0	5	5
Retail outlet	5	2	7
Other	11	8	19
Unknown	0	0	0
Not specified	0	0	0
Total	2195	546	2741

COVID-19 Outbreaks in Workplaces

There were ten new COVID-19 workplace outbreaks notified during week 35:

These outbreaks occurred across four HSE areas and involved a variety of workplaces.

In total, **79** COVID-19 outbreaks in workplaces¹ have been notified up to midnight on 29/08/2020

- Workplace outbreaks involved a variety of workplaces and facilities, including food wholesalers/distribution centres, pizza delivery premises, factories, primary care centres and garda stations.
- **43** COVID-19 notified outbreaks involved various food/beverage related industries, of which **30** were in meat/poultry processing plants in all HSE Areas (Table 2), and **five** were in mushroom farms/facilities).

Table 2. Number of COVID-19 workplace outbreaks notified up to midnight on 29/08/2020 and laboratory confirmed cases linked to workplace outbreaks**.

Workplace outbreaks	Number of outbreaks notified			Laboratory confirmed cases linked to outbreaks				
	Week 35 2020	Week 10-35 2020	Number open	Cases notified in week 35	Total cases	Total hospitalised cases	Total ICU cases	Total number of deaths*
Workplace - Meat/poultry plant	1	31	10	59	1536	34	11	<5
Workplace - other	9	48	25	24	319	15	5	<5
Total	10	79	35	83	1855	49	16	<5

** Cases numbers <5 are not presented here

*All COVID-19 cases that died and were linked to outbreaks in these settings have been laboratory confirmed. No deaths in probable/possible cases linked to outbreaks in these settings have been notified.

¹ Workplace outbreaks exclude the following workplaces hospitals, residential facilities, hotels, public houses, retail outlets, and other settings (outbreaks in GP practices and outbreaks associated with home carers). These are reported under those headings in the full weekly outbreak report.

COVID-19 Outbreaks Vulnerable Populations

This brief overview of COVID-19 outbreaks in vulnerable populations/settings only includes outbreaks involving the Roma community, Irish Traveller community, outbreaks in Direct Provision Centres, facilities for the homeless/those with addiction issues and prisons notified up to midnight on 29/08/2020 (Table 3). COVID-19 outbreaks and cases are continuously validated/updated on Ireland's National Computerised Infectious Disease Reporting System (CIDR).

- There were four new outbreaks reported in vulnerable populations during week 35:
 - two in direct provision centres
 - one in a homeless facility
 - one in a Roma community
- For outbreaks involving prisons, available data reported on CIDR indicate that all cases were in staff.

Table 3. Number of COVID-19 outbreaks in settings involving vulnerable populations, including the Roma community, Irish Traveller community, outbreaks in Direct Provision Centres, facilities for the homeless/those with addiction issues and prisons notified up to midnight on 29/08/2020 and laboratory confirmed cases linked to these outbreaks**. *Data source: CIDR*

Vulnerable populations	Number of outbreaks notified			Laboratory confirmed cases linked to outbreaks				
	Week 35	Week10-35	Number open	Cases notified in week 35	Total cases	Total hospitalised cases	Total ICU cases	Total number of deaths*
Roma community	1	5	2	22	64	13	6	<5
Irish Traveller community	0	11	4	<5	92	5	<5	<5
Direct provision centres	2	26	9	5	290	15	<5	<5
Homeless^ / those with addiction issues	1	5	1	<5	17	<5	<5	<5
Prisons	0	6	0	<5	24	<5	<5	<5
Total	4	53	16	29	487	39	9	6

** Cases numbers <5 are not presented here

^ this includes some facilities that provide long term supported accommodation. Also includes staff of homeless facilities.

*All COVID-19 cases that died and were linked to outbreaks in these settings have been laboratory confirmed. No deaths in probable/possible cases linked to outbreaks in these settings have been notified.