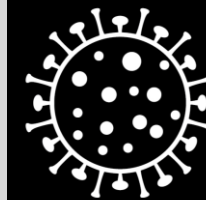


IEMAG briefing

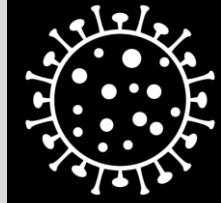
21 December 2020



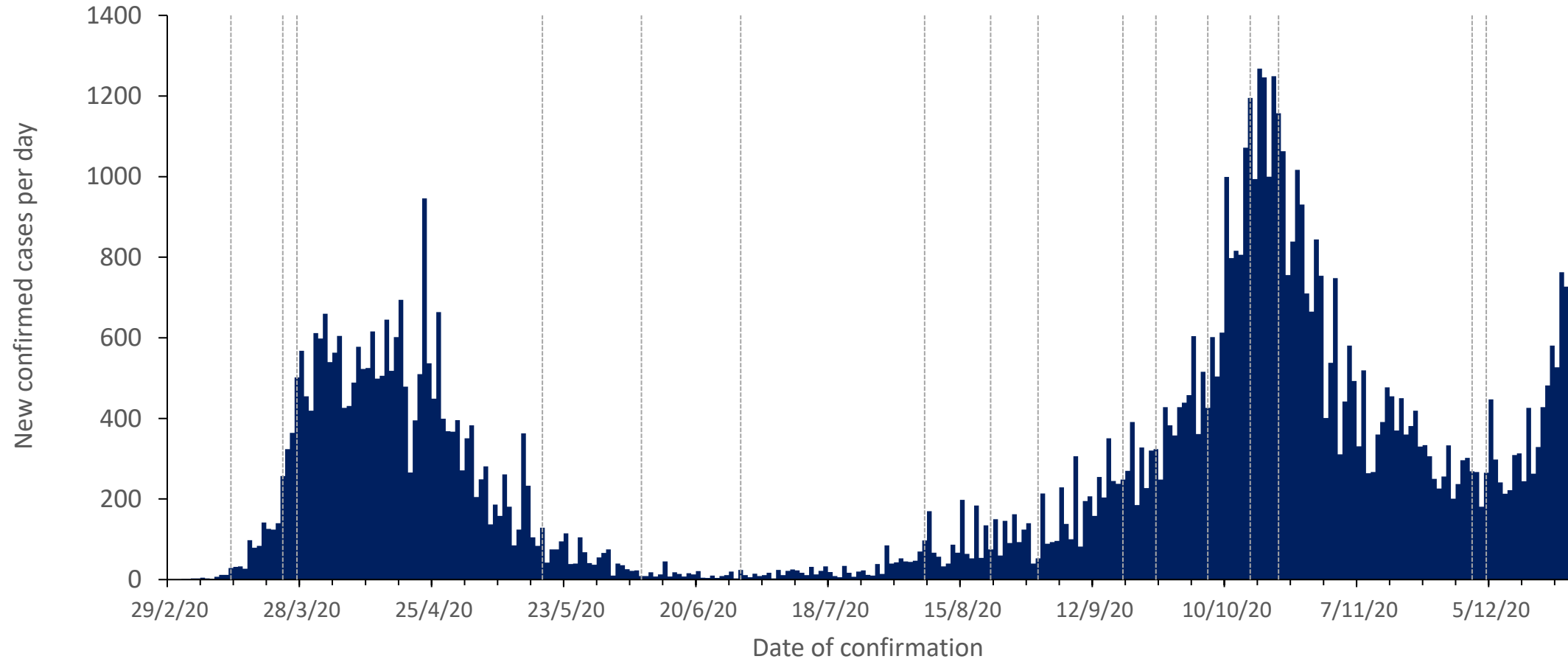
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Confirmed cases each day

Daily case count since the beginning of the epidemic



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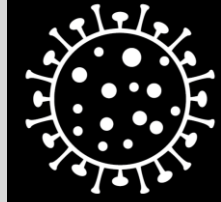
Daily count of the number of laboratory confirmed new cases by date on which they were confirmed by HPSC. Tests outsourced to German laboratory in April backdated, using the specimen collection date, to the date they would have been confirmed if tested in a timely manner. The vertical dashed lines indicate the dates of escalation and de-escalation of public health restrictions



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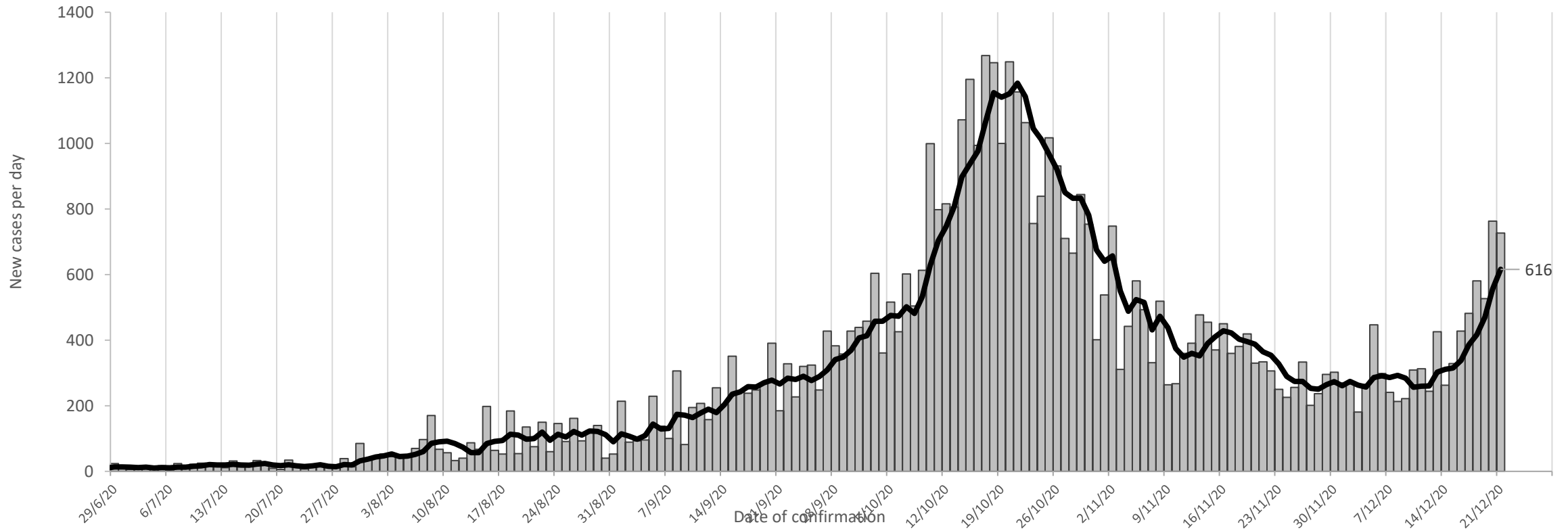
Confirmed cases each day

Daily and weekly count and 5-day rolling average. Case counts are much lower than in late October. The 5-day average peaked at 1186 on 21 October, reached a low of 251 on 28 November, and is now **616**



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Cases per week: 93, 125, 139, 119, 284, 540, 546, 711, 796, 912, 1303, 1947, 2060, 3031, 4458, 7398, 7081, 4843, 3425, 2584, 2580, 1799, 2029, 1968, 3373



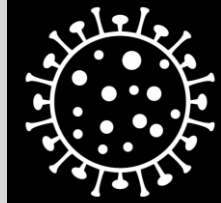
Daily count (bars) 5-day average (line) and weekly counts of the number of laboratory confirmed new cases by date on which they were confirmed by HPSC. Case counts may change due to denotification of cases.



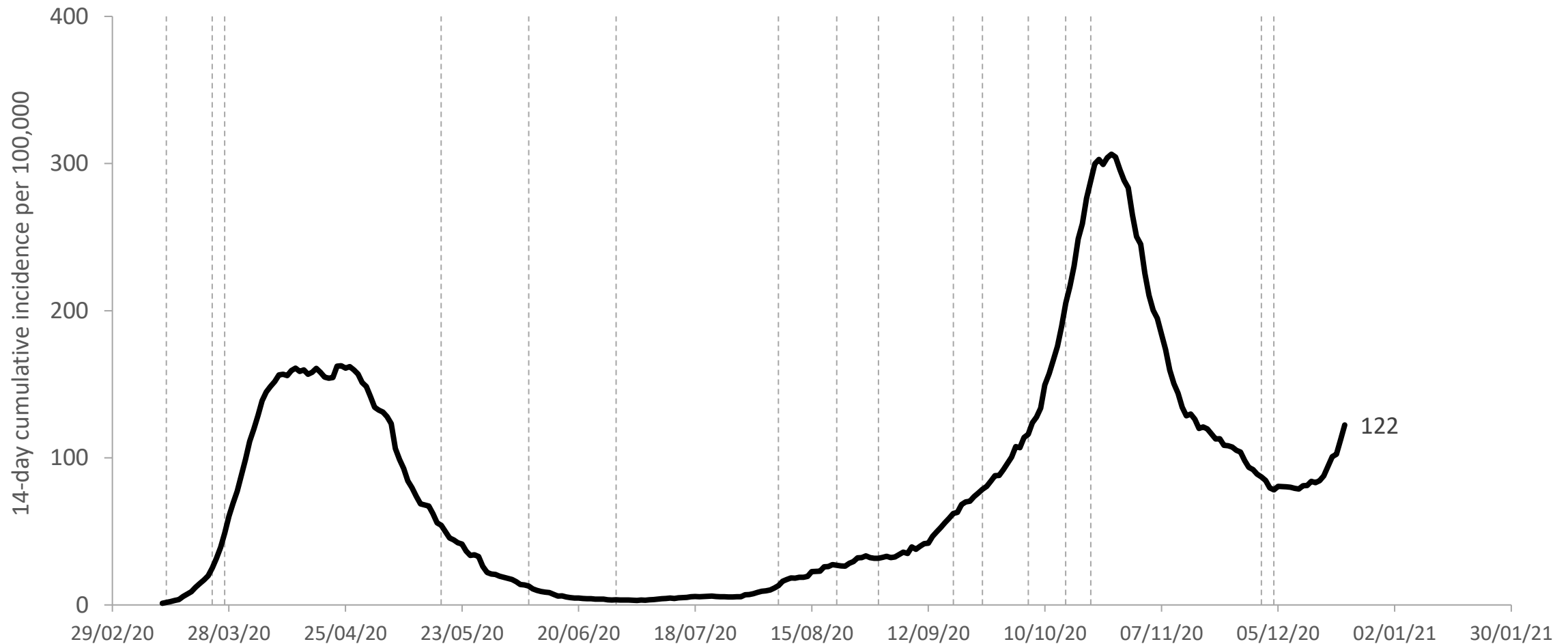
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14-day cumulative incidence

14-day cumulative incidence peaked at 170 per 100,000 in late April, declined to 3 per 100,000 in late June, peaked again on 26 October at 307 per 100,000, reached a low of 78 per 100,000 on 4 December, and is now **122 per 100,000**



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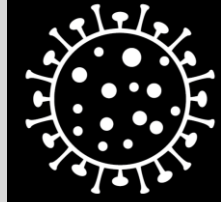
14-day cumulative incidence by date of confirmation. Tests outsourced to German laboratory in April backdated, using the specimen collection date, to the date they would have been confirmed if tested in a timely manner. The vertical dashed lines indicate the dates of escalation and de-escalation of public health restrictions



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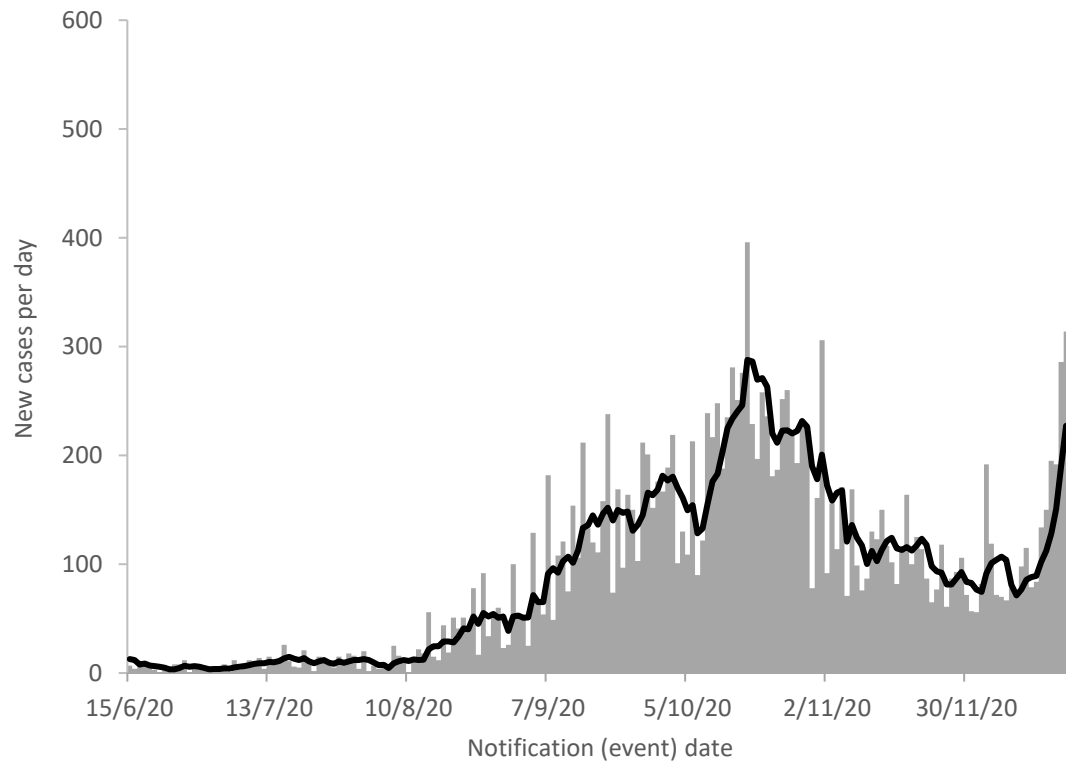
Confirmed cases each day

Daily case count and 5-day rolling average for Dublin alone and for the other 25 counties. Case counts are rising rapidly in Dublin and across the entire country

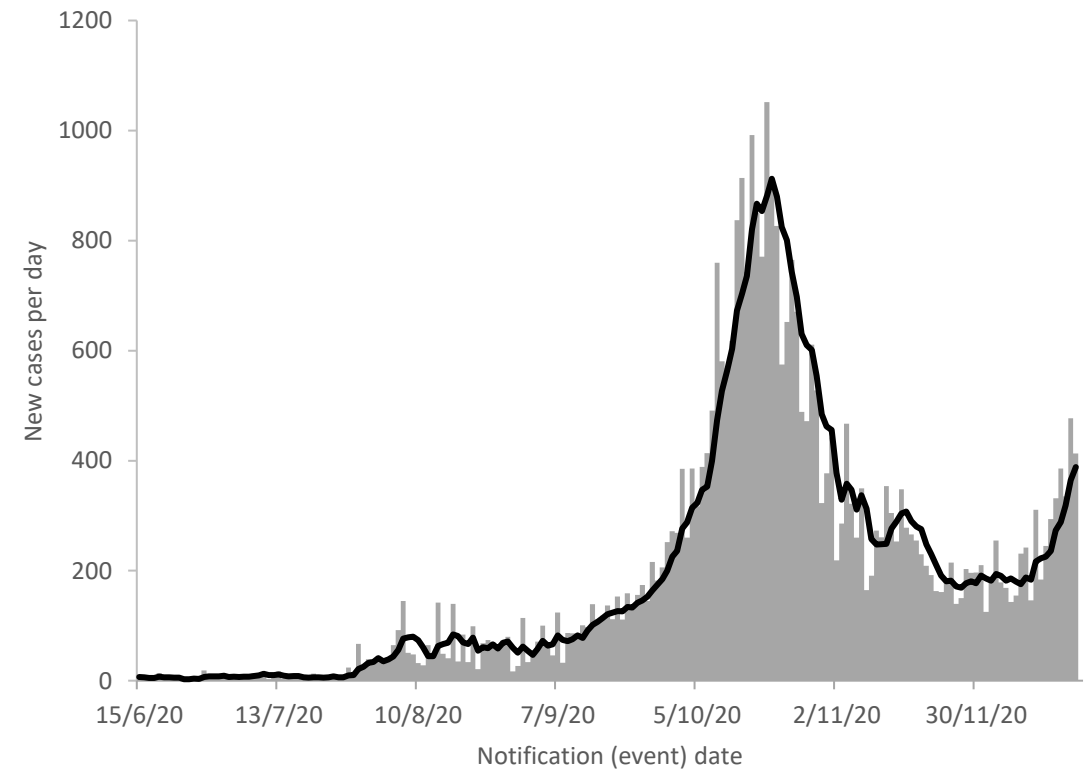


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Dublin



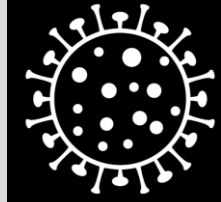
25 counties



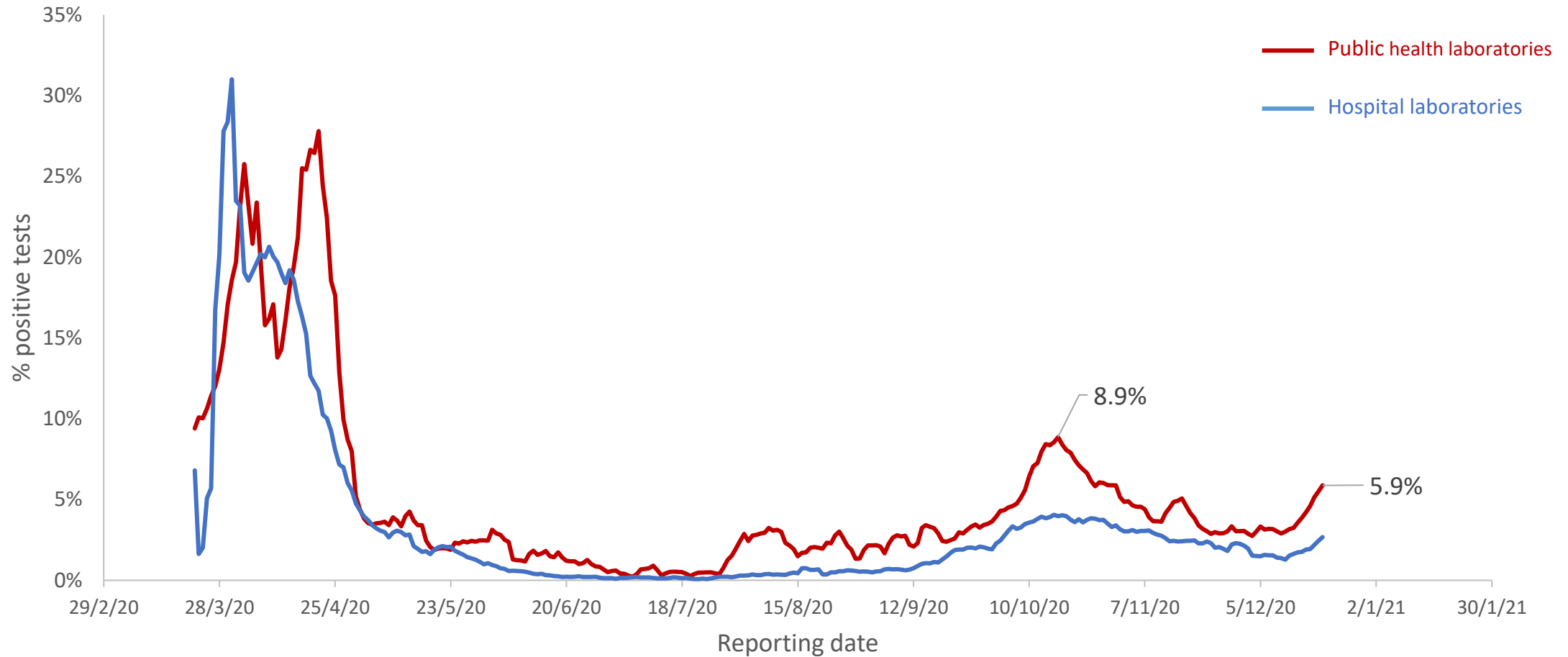
Daily count (bars) 5-day average (line) new cases by date on which they were notified to HPSC and created as an event on the CIDR database

Test positivity: public health laboratories

The positivity rate is higher for tests conducted in public health laboratories (NVRL, associated laboratories and Cherry Orchard) compared with tests conducted in hospitals. Positivity rates in public health laboratories are increasing rapidly (from 3% to 5% in one week)



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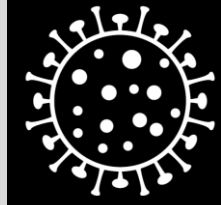
Data 5-day rolling averages of percentage of tests reported positive per day. NVRL+ is NVRL and associated laboratories, plus Cherry Orchard. Backlog tests outsourced to German laboratory in April are not backdated and are assigned to date reported.



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Incidence across different age groups (excluding HCW and LTRC)

When incidence started to rise again in July, cases increased first in younger age groups, especially in the 19-24 age group, with a delayed increase in incidence in older (65+) adults. The current increase in levels of infection is different, with rising incidence across all age groups, and a concerning increase in those aged 65 and older



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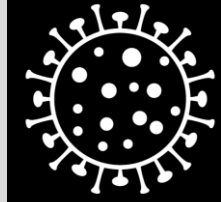
Heat map of 7-day incidence by age									
Week	Age band								
	0-4	5-12	13-18	19-24	25-39	40-64	65-74	75-84	85+
26	0.6	0.2	0.3	1.8	1.5	0.7	0.8	1.5	3.0
27	1.5	0.4	0.3	1.8	1.9	0.9	0.0	1.0	0.0
28	0.9	1.1	1.1	10.9	2.0	1.1	1.9	1.0	3.0
29	1.2	0.4	0.8	3.0	3.3	1.9	2.4	1.5	3.0
30	1.8	0.5	1.6	3.6	4.3	0.9	1.9	0.0	1.5
31	4.8	2.6	7.3	11.2	8.6	4.6	2.1	2.5	1.5
32	4.5	3.8	6.7	19.9	16.7	10.9	4.8	2.5	3.0
33	6.6	10.4	12.9	28.7	20.5	12.5	8.6	2.5	5.9
34	6.6	6.9	16.7	34.4	15.3	10.5	5.6	5.1	1.5
35	6.0	9.5	13.2	36.2	17.9	10.7	4.8	8.7	5.9
36	13.3	13.7	17.8	48.6	22.6	13.9	11.0	12.2	14.8
37	17.5	17.5	29.9	64.3	28.3	24.5	22.5	8.7	7.4
38	21.4	26.2	44.1	90.3	44.3	34.8	32.9	19.8	14.8
39	12.4	22.8	42.8	148.2	50.1	42.0	33.2	31.0	17.8
40	29.9	28.6	63.2	167.3	67.9	57.8	34.3	26.0	19.2
41	44.0	47.4	134.8	322.2	116.6	91.6	62.1	51.9	53.3
42	78.1	90.9	196.7	430.8	155.2	142.9	91.8	67.7	57.7
43	82.7	93.5	176.0	305.5	122.9	121.7	84.9	82.9	69.6
44	54.0	67.1	93.9	153.4	74.3	76.3	54.3	54.5	45.9
45	34.4	39.7	58.1	83.9	58.0	46.1	42.8	44.3	41.4
46	41.9	37.2	65.9	90.0	45.5	45.2	32.7	43.3	57.7
47	22.0	34.1	59.5	79.7	34.8	33.2	28.6	39.7	54.8
48	23.2	31.5	45.5	66.7	33.9	29.9	22.2	36.1	31.1
49	28.4	36.6	37.7	40.5	33.2	30.1	25.4	30.0	34.0
50	21.1	39.7	44.4	57.1	40.0	35.2	22.2	31.6	19.2
51	43.4	51.8	61.6	110.2	77.2	72.2	47.7	56.0	68.1

Heat map shows age-specific incidence (cases per week per 100,000 population) Healthcare workers and cases associated with outbreaks in long-term residential care are excluded, so that the analysis reflects the pattern of cases in the community. Cases dated by date of specimen collection.



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Situation analysis 21 December 2020



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- The level of infection now **increasing rapidly**
 - Cases (5-day average) **616 cases per day**; 14-day incidence **122 per 100,000**
 - 3373 cases in last 7 days, compared with 1968 in the preceding 7 days (71% increase)
 - Incidence rising across **all age groups**
 - **Growth rate** estimated to be **at least 5% per day**, and **doubling time 10-14 days or less**
 - note that 5-day average case count has doubled from 311 cases per day to 616 cases per day **in 7 days**, suggesting growth rate is increasing
 - R clearly higher than last week's estimate of 1.1 – 1.3
 - Growth rates similar to or greater than those seen approaching the peak of the second wave
- Numbers in hospital may now be increasing, numbers in intensive care and deaths per day are not yet decreasing
- We are now **in a surge** with older and vulnerable adults a key concern
 - Growth rate of 5% per day: average 900 cases per day by 30 Dec, 1300 per day by 6 Jan
 - Growth rate of 7% per day: average 1100 cases per day by 30 Dec, 1800 per day by 6 Jan
- Stay home if possible
 - revise Christmas plans to limit numbers and duration, hand hygiene, distance, masks, ventilation
 - self-isolate and seek referral for test immediately if symptomatic