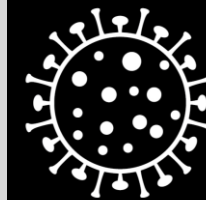


# IEMAG briefing

15 March 2021



Coronavirus  
**COVID-19**  
Public Health  
Advice

# Cases, numbers in hospital and intensive care

There is progress against all indicators of disease, though cases and number of people requiring hospital care remain high. The number of people in hospital and ICU continues to decrease. The number of deaths per day remains high but is decreasing

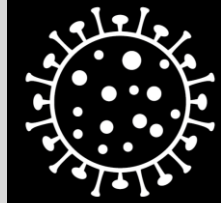


	Apr 2020	Summer 2020	Oct 2020	Dec 2020	Jan 2021	17 Feb	24 Feb	3 Mar	10 Mar	15 Mar	Daily count 15 Mar
Cases confirmed per day	<b>859</b> <small>18-04</small>	<b>8.7</b> <small>25-06</small>	<b>1158</b> <small>21-10</small>	<b>262</b> <small>12-12</small>	<b>6520</b> <small>10-01</small>	816	737	620	487	547	575
14-day incidence <i>per 100,000 population</i>	<b>212</b> <small>19-04</small>	<b>3.0</b> <small>04-07</small>	<b>306</b> <small>26-10</small>	<b>79</b> <small>09-12</small>	<b>1532</b> <small>15-01</small>	261	231	199	163	148	
Hospital in-patients	<b>862</b> <small>17-04</small>	<b>9</b> <small>02-08</small>	<b>333</b> <small>01-11</small>	<b>198</b> <small>16-12</small>	<b>1949</b> <small>24-01</small>	907	723	542	415	360	360
<i>Hospital admissions per day</i>	<b>85</b> <small>04-04</small>	<b>&lt;1</b> <small>10-07</small>	<b>27</b> <small>26-10</small>	<b>11</b> <small>13-12</small>	<b>158</b> <small>15-01</small>	45	40	23	24	23	25
ICU confirmed cases	<b>150</b> <small>14-04</small>	<b>4</b> <small>04-08</small>	<b>43</b> <small>04-11</small>	<b>26</b> <small>27-12</small>	<b>217</b> <small>28-01</small>	163	149	127	100	88	85
<i>ICU admissions per day</i>	<b>14</b> <small>31-03</small>	<b>&lt;1</b> <small>03-06</small>	<b>4</b> <small>03-11</small>	<b>1</b> <small>16-12</small>	<b>20</b> <small>17-01</small>	8	6	4	4	2	1
Deaths confirmed per day	<b>46</b> <small>22-04</small>	<b>&lt;1</b> <small>30-07</small>	<b>7</b> <small>01-12</small>	<b>4</b> <small>17-12</small>	<b>57</b> <small>03-02</small>	35	29	18	20	16	0

Data are 7-day averages (the indicated day and the preceding 6 days, rounded to the nearest whole number) with the exception of 14 day cumulative incidence, which is the total number of cases in the preceding 14 days per 100,000 population. The highest and lowest values of each indicator are given for each wave of the pandemic, along with the date on which that value was recorded, as well as the data for recent weeks. The historic incidence data may change due to denotification of cases.

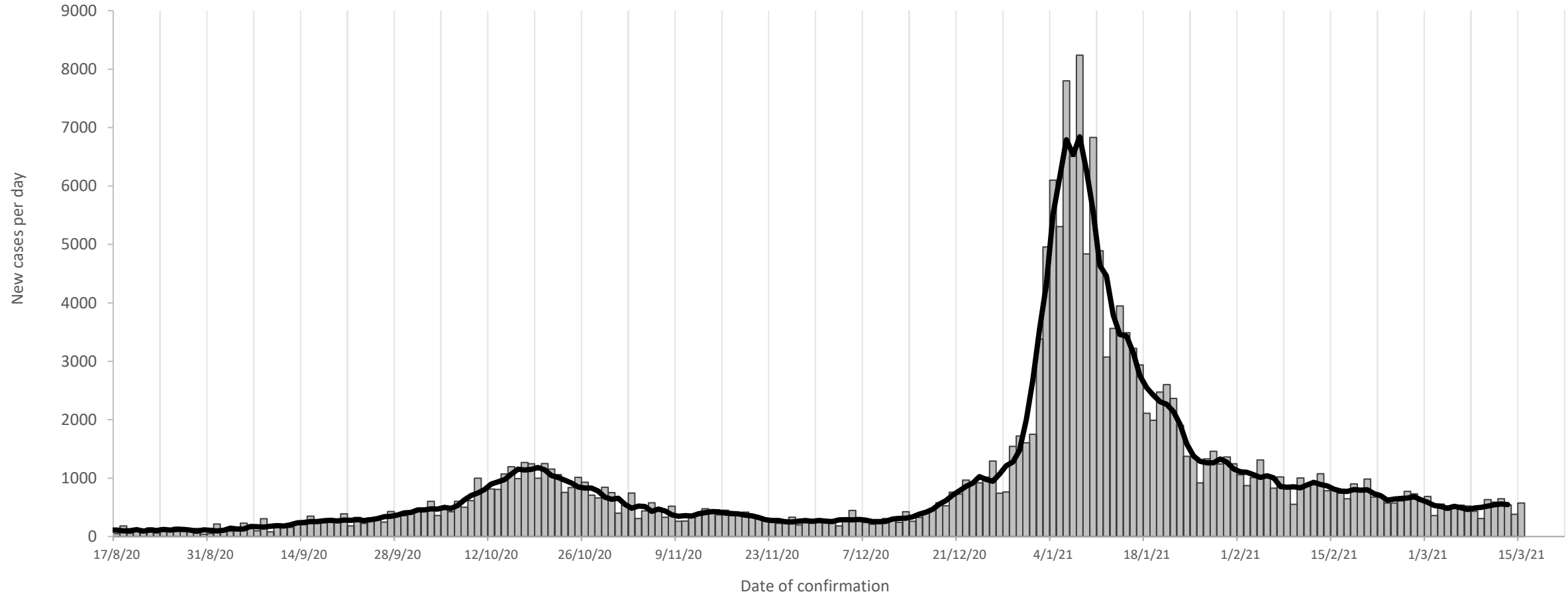
# Confirmed cases each day

Daily and weekly count and 5-day rolling average. The 5-day average peaked at 1186 on 21 October, reached a low of 251 on 28 November, peaked again at 6847 on 8 January and is now **548**



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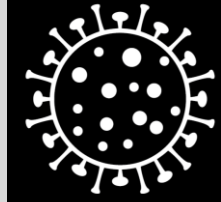
Cases per week	711	796	912	1303	1947	2059	3031	4457	7398	7073	4838	3424	2583	2580	1798	2028	1964	3368	6597	15729	45621	25123	14815	8931	7147	6031	5530	4554	3634	3541
----------------	-----	-----	-----	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	-------	-------	-------	-------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------



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. Weekly case counts are by notification (event) date and standard epidemiological week.

# Week-on-week decline in cases

While the rate of decline decreased in weeks 6 and 7 the data are compatible with a constant rate of decline in rates of infection of between 10 and 20% per week, progress has stalled in the last week, with a 3% reduction in cases



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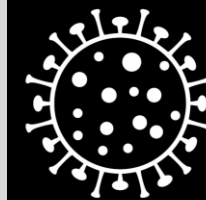
Week	Cases	Week-on week change
2021 - 1	45,621	
2	25,123	-45 %
3	14,815	-41 %
4	8,931	-40 %
5	7,147	-20 %
6	6,031	-16 %
7	5,530	-8 %
8	4,554	-18 %
9	3,634	-20%
10	3,541	-3%



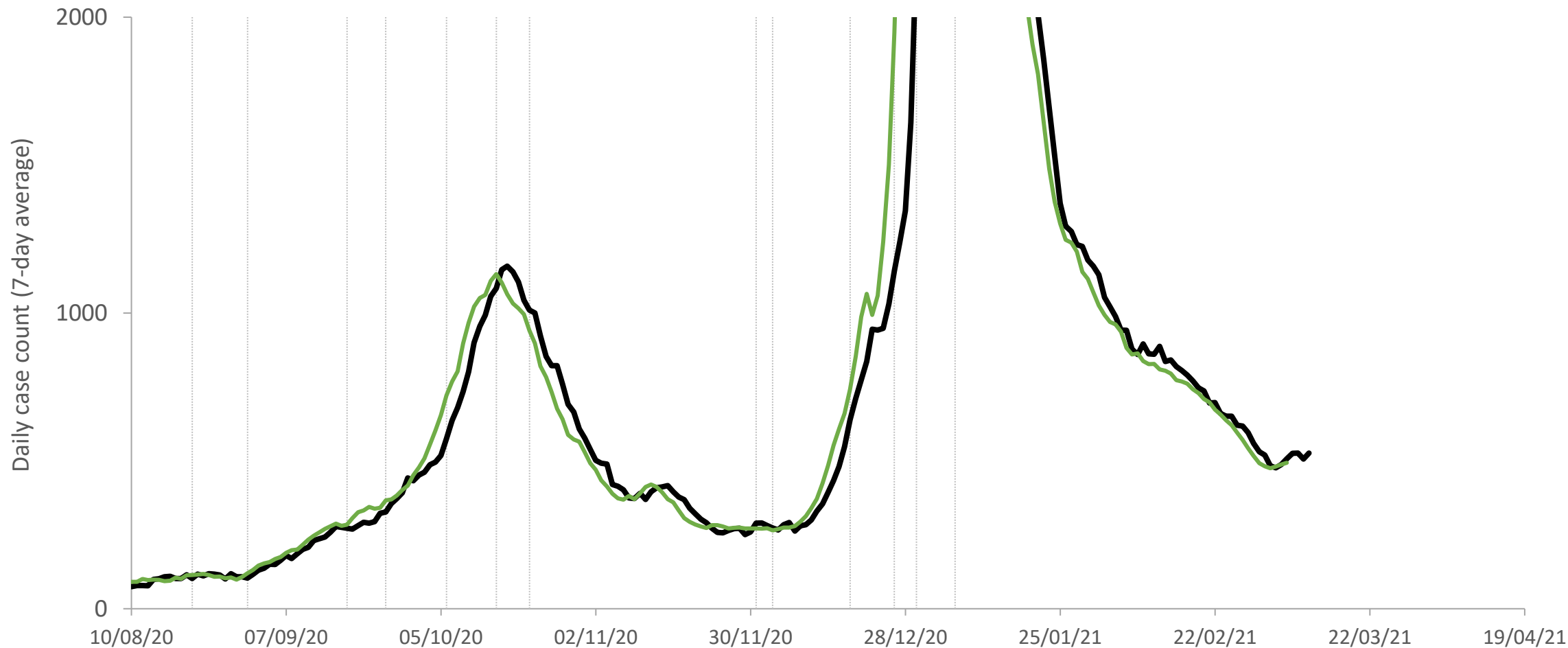
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# Daily incidence

Daily incidence is currently twice what it was in early December, and approximately 50 times what it was in late June 2020. There has been an increase in incidence over the last 10 days



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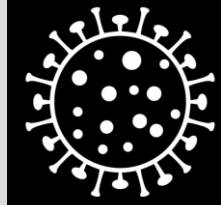
Daily cases by notification (event) date (black, the date the case was entered on the CIDR database) and specimen collection date (green). The vertical dashed lines indicate the dates of escalation and de-escalation of public health restrictions. Data are 7-day moving averages.



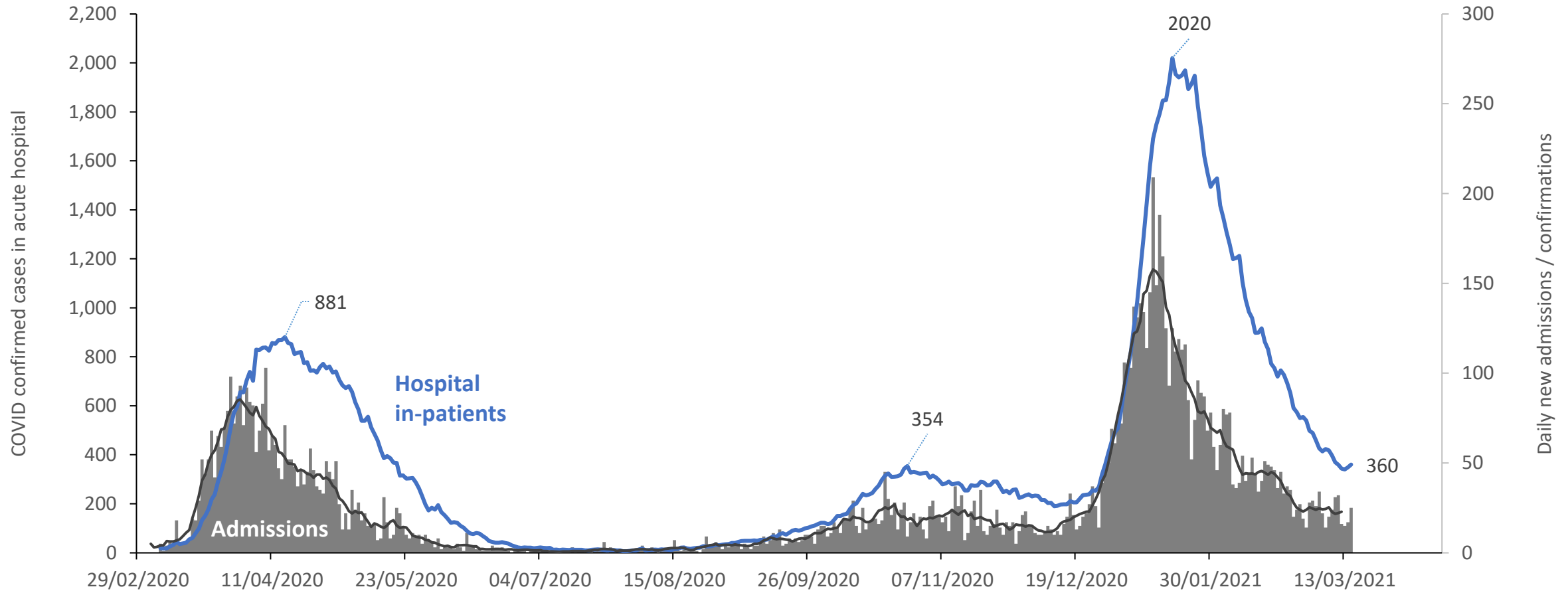
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# Confirmed cases in acute hospitals

The number of people in hospital with confirmed SARS-CoV-2 infection. The number of people in hospital and the number of admissions and newly confirmed cases in hospital per day is decreasing.



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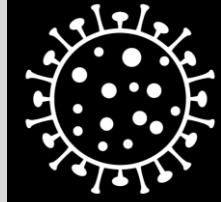
Hospital in-patients: Daily count of number of COVID-19 confirmed cases in acute hospitals. Admissions: New COVID-19 confirmed admissions and new laboratory confirmations of suspected cases in preceding 24 hours (7-day moving average also shown). Data from HSE PMIU-SDU, 8am census.



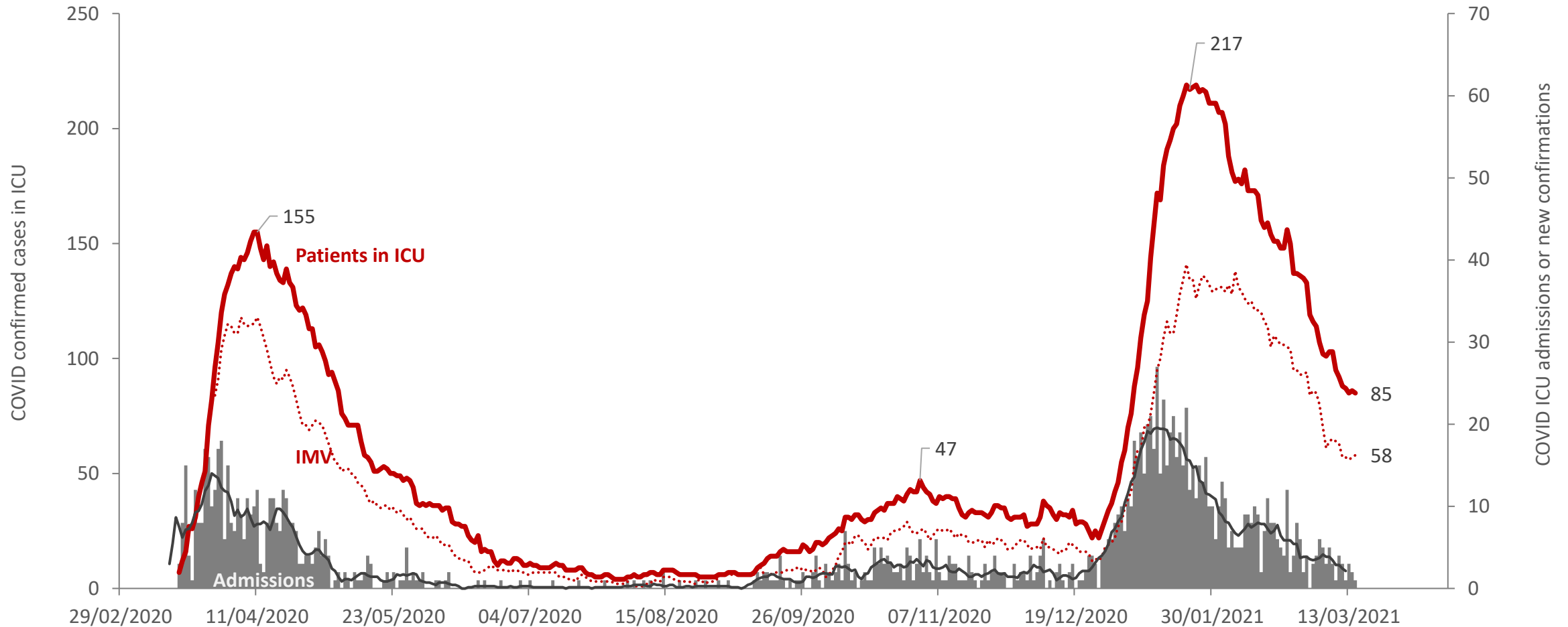
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# Confirmed cases in intensive care

The number of people in ICU with confirmed SARS-CoV-2 infection remains high but is decreasing.



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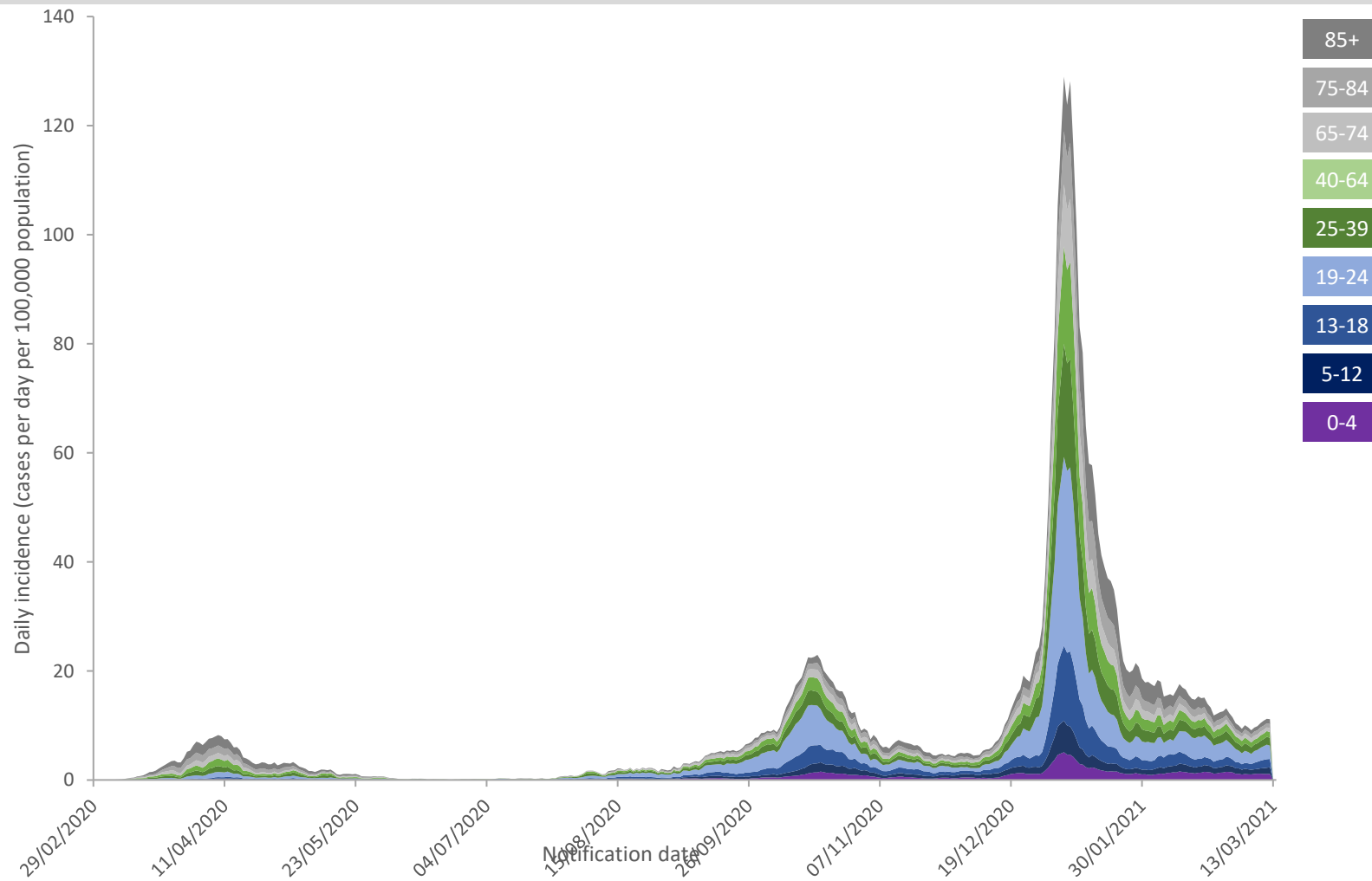
Patients in ICU: Daily count of number of COVID-19 confirmed cases in ICU. IMV: Daily count of number of COVID-19 patients requiring invasive mechanical ventilation. Admissions: daily new COVID-19 confirmed admissions to ICU and new laboratory confirmations of suspected cases in ICU (7-day average also shown). Data from morning census from NOCA



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# Incidence across different age groups (excluding HCW and LTRC)

Incidence has increased



Week	Age band								
	0-4	5-12	13-18	19-24	25-39	40-64	65-74	75-84	85+
9	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
10	0.0	0.2	0.3	0.0	0.2	0.7	0.5	1.0	0.0
11	0.6	0.2	0.5	5.4	5.0	4.4	4.6	6.6	7.4
12	4.5	2.4	7.5	22.9	27.7	31.1	25.2	24.9	37.0
13	6.9	4.2	14.5	58.3	73.3	86.5	72.6	88.5	94.7
14	4.5	4.4	6.7	28.1	40.1	50.9	50.9	91.1	125.8
15	5.7	5.6	9.1	31.4	29.3	47.4	46.9	71.8	118.4
16	3.0	5.3	10.8	19.3	20.8	32.1	29.2	50.4	75.5
17	3.3	4.2	7.8	21.1	23.6	26.5	21.2	50.4	77.0
18	4.5	6.4	9.4	20.2	26.0	21.0	18.7	37.7	53.3
19	2.1	2.7	4.6	13.3	15.2	14.3	10.2	18.8	37.0
20	3.6	1.6	5.1	12.1	16.4	12.1	6.7	9.2	13.3
21	3.3	2.7	4.6	8.5	6.3	8.2	7.5	15.3	22.2
22	2.1	2.4	2.2	4.2	5.1	6.8	4.0	4.6	5.9
23	1.2	0.5	1.3	3.0	0.8	1.9	1.6	5.6	3.0
24	2.7	0.7	1.3	1.5	1.3	1.4	1.6	2.0	1.5
25	0.0	0.4	0.5	1.8	1.4	1.0	0.8	0.5	1.5
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	10.3	2.0	1.0	1.3	1.0	3.0
29	1.2	0.4	0.8	3.6	3.3	2.0	2.9	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	8.5	4.6	2.1	2.5	3.0
32	4.5	3.6	6.7	18.4	16.4	10.5	4.6	2.5	3.0
33	6.0	10.0	12.1	27.2	19.5	12.1	8.3	2.5	7.4
34	7.2	7.5	17.5	37.4	16.6	11.4	5.9	5.1	4.4
35	6.3	9.7	13.5	37.1	18.5	11.1	4.8	9.2	5.9
36	13.0	13.1	17.2	47.7	21.6	13.3	11.0	11.7	14.8
37	17.2	17.9	30.1	63.4	28.7	24.4	22.2	8.7	10.4
38	21.7	26.2	43.9	90.6	44.0	34.9	33.2	19.8	19.2
39	12.1	22.6	42.8	146.7	49.9	41.8	32.9	31.0	20.7
40	29.6	28.8	63.2	167.6	68.0	57.8	34.5	26.0	20.7
41	42.8	46.8	132.9	316.7	115.3	89.7	61.6	51.9	60.7
42	78.1	90.4	197.5	434.2	154.4	142.7	90.2	67.2	69.6
43	81.7	93.9	174.7	302.2	123.3	121.7	85.4	82.4	84.4
44	55.8	67.3	96.1	155.8	75.5	77.7	55.2	55.5	59.2
45	34.7	40.1	57.9	83.9	57.9	46.0	42.8	44.3	47.4
46	41.9	37.2	65.4	89.4	45.5	45.0	32.4	42.7	69.6
47	22.0	34.1	60.0	79.7	34.6	33.0	29.2	39.7	62.2
48	23.2	31.3	45.5	66.4	33.8	29.7	22.2	36.1	40.0
49	28.4	37.0	37.7	40.5	33.2	30.1	25.4	29.0	42.9
50	21.4	39.9	44.1	57.4	39.9	35.0	22.2	31.0	22.2
51	51.9	58.5	74.5	128.3	87.9	80.8	54.6	54.5	51.8
52	77.5	77.1	120.3	325.5	175.6	134.9	96.1	95.2	119.9
53	218.1	236.6	513.7	1402.1	761.4	636.2	424.4	350.1	361.2
1	183.7	208.9	569.2	1330.0	791.5	722.2	498.0	446.3	556.6
2	130.6	126.5	302.2	582.7	415.4	420.4	302.3	410.7	578.8
3	93.5	81.3	169.3	329.1	255.0	245.4	170.8	253.4	413.0
4	73.9	60.7	127.6	228.6	154.6	147.1	119.4	161.3	269.4
5	78.1	72.9	126.8	208.9	127.3	123.8	86.2	116.0	213.2
6	91.7	85.1	124.6	224.0	117.7	101.5	68.8	90.6	127.3
7	87.5	76.7	95.8	253.0	106.4	88.4	59.2	79.9	119.9
8	87.8	69.6	89.9	186.6	94.5	77.1	43.4	56.5	91.8
9	66.1	55.4	65.4	125.0	75.4	58.9	45.2	45.3	40.0
10	67.9	67.4	89.1	144.6	79.6	59.3	37.5	42.7	47.4

Chart shows 5-day rolling average of total incidence (cases per day per 100,000 population) with coloured bands showing the contribution of each age cohort to the total incidence, having adjusted for the number of people in that age cohort (CSO 2016 census data). 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 notification date. A number of cases in those aged 65 and older will be linked in the coming days to outbreaks in LTRC.



# Incidence across different age groups (excluding HCW and LTRC)

The increase in incidence last week is seen most prominently in those aged in the 19-24 years, 13-18 years, 5-12 years and 25-39 years

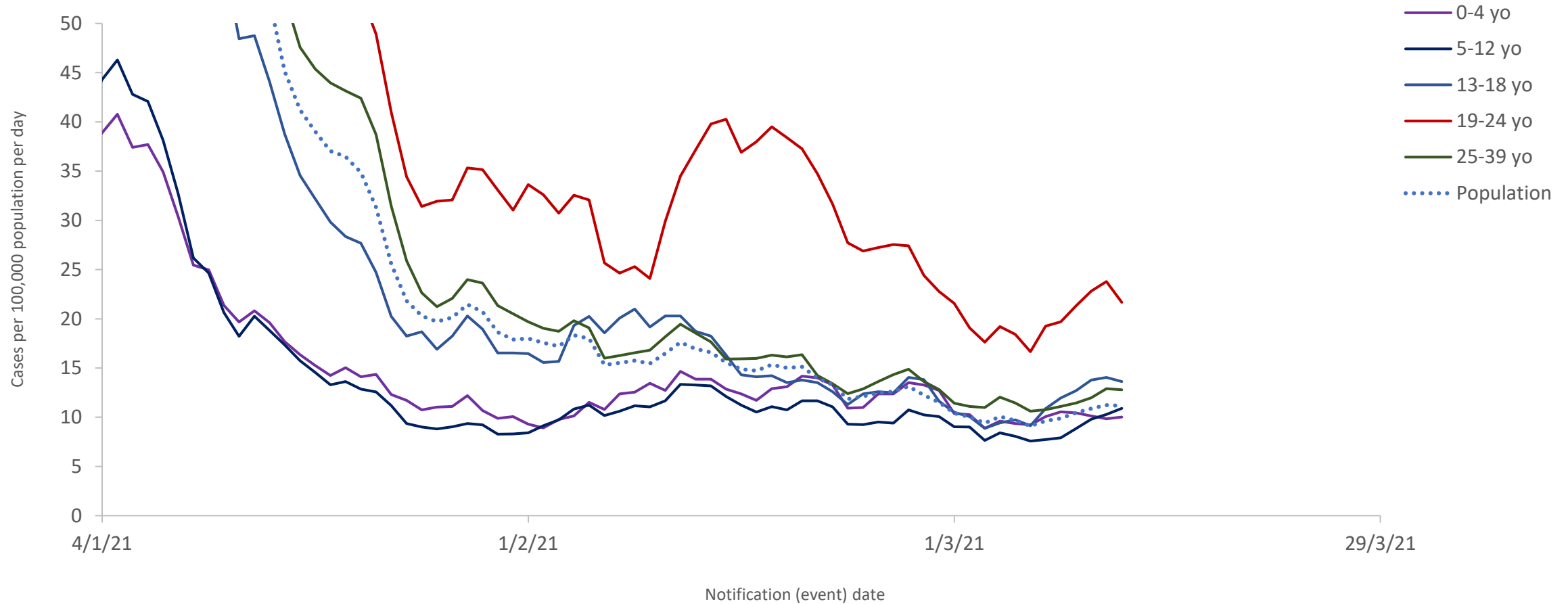


Week	Age band								
	0-4	5-12	13-18	19-24	25-39	40-64	65-74	75-84	85+
47	22.0	34.1	60.0	79.7	34.6	33.0	29.2	39.7	62.2
48	23.2	31.3	45.5	66.4	33.8	29.7	22.2	36.1	40.0
49	28.4	37.0	37.7	40.5	33.2	30.1	25.4	29.0	42.9
50	21.4	39.9	44.1	57.4	39.9	35.0	22.2	31.0	22.2
51	51.9	58.5	74.5	128.3	87.9	80.8	54.6	54.5	51.8
52	77.5	77.1	120.3	325.5	175.6	134.9	96.1	95.2	119.9
53	218.1	236.6	513.7	1402.1	761.4	636.2	424.4	350.1	361.2
1	183.7	208.9	569.2	1330.0	791.5	722.2	498.0	446.3	556.6
2	130.6	126.5	302.2	582.7	415.4	420.4	302.3	410.7	578.8
3	93.5	81.3	169.3	329.1	255.0	245.4	170.8	253.4	413.0
4	73.9	60.7	127.6	228.6	154.6	147.1	119.4	161.3	269.4
5	78.1	72.9	126.8	208.9	127.3	123.8	86.2	116.0	213.2
6	91.7	85.1	124.6	224.0	117.7	101.5	68.8	90.6	127.3
7	87.5	76.7	95.8	253.0	106.4	88.4	59.2	79.9	119.9
8	87.8	69.6	89.9	186.6	94.5	77.1	43.4	56.5	91.8
9	66.1	55.4	65.4	125.0	75.4	58.9	45.2	45.3	40.0
10	67.9	67.4	89.1	144.6	79.6	59.3	37.5	42.7	47.4

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 specimen collection date.

# Age-specific incidence in recent weeks

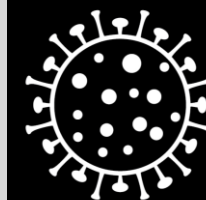
The increase in incidence over the last 10 days is seen most prominently in those aged in the 19-24 years, 13-18 years, 5-12 years and 25-39 years.



Age-specific incidence (cases per day per 100,000 population within each age cohort, population from CSO 2016 census data). 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 notification (event) date. 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.

# Cases in childcare facilities and schools

The number of cases in school outbreaks is a small fraction of the total number of cases in children of school-going age, whereas outbreaks are a greater contributor to the number of cases detected in children under 5 years of age



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Week	0-4 years		5-12 years		13-18 years	
	Total cases	Cases in childcare facility outbreaks	Total cases	Cases in school outbreaks	Total cases	Cases in school outbreaks
6	251	29	534	< 5	494	< 10
7	230	43	507	< 5	374	0
8	225	49	436	0	321	< 5
9	177	41	390	< 5	274	0
10	165	23	403	< 10	312	< 10

Cases per week in those aged 18 and under, giving total cases, and cases linked to outbreaks in childcare facilities and schools. Cases dated by notification (event) date. The numbers for recent weeks may change slightly in future reports, due to delayed linkage of cases to outbreaks .



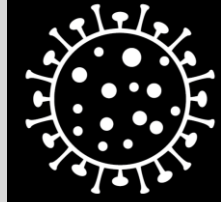
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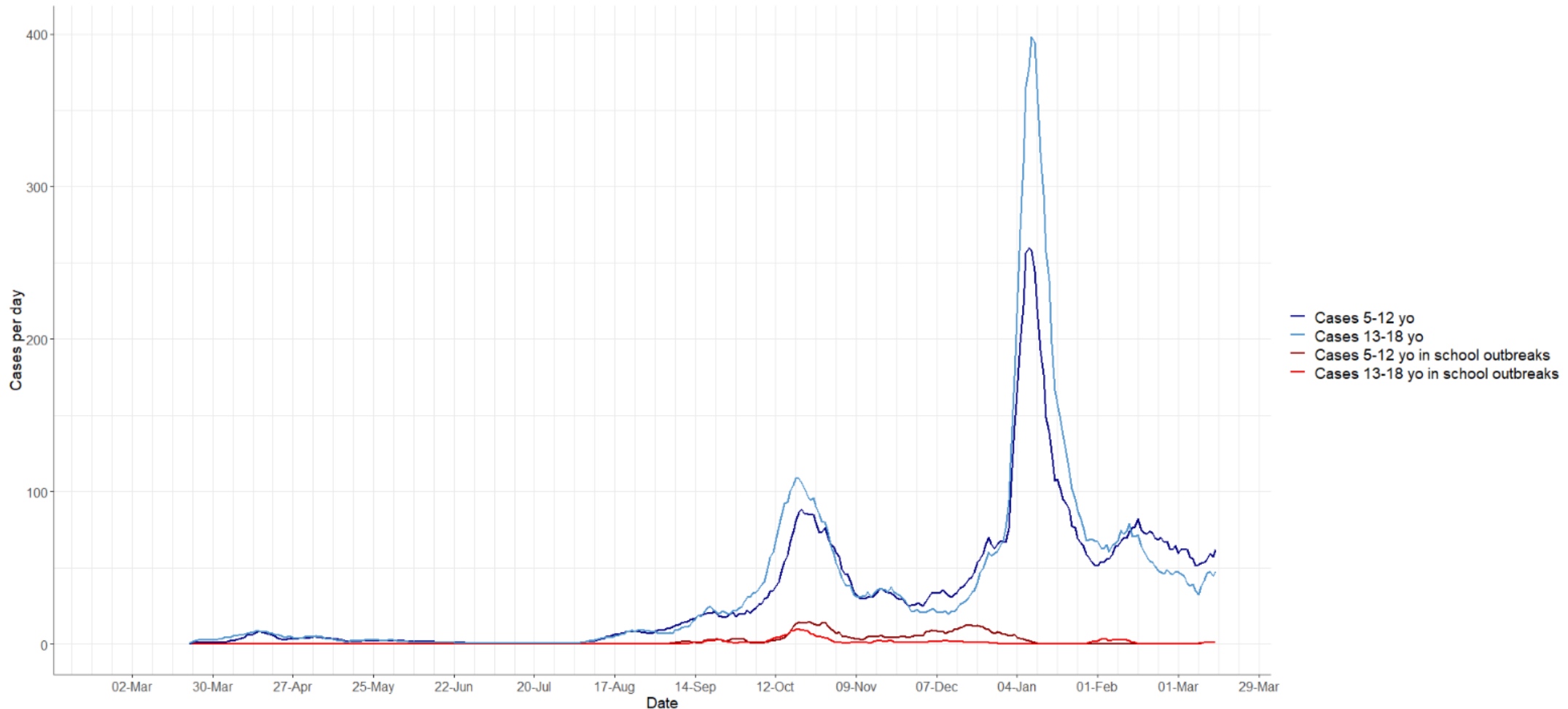
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# Cases in outbreaks in schools

The number of cases in school outbreaks is a small fraction of the total number of cases in children of school-going age, and occur later in a surge when there is a high level of disease in the community



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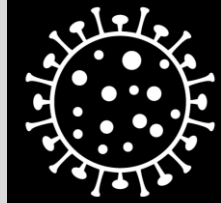
Total cases per day in those aged 5-12 years, and 13-18 years, and those cases in those age bands associated with outbreaks in schools. Data are averaged using a window that is 7 days or 1000 cases in duration, whichever is longer. Cases dated by notification (event) date.



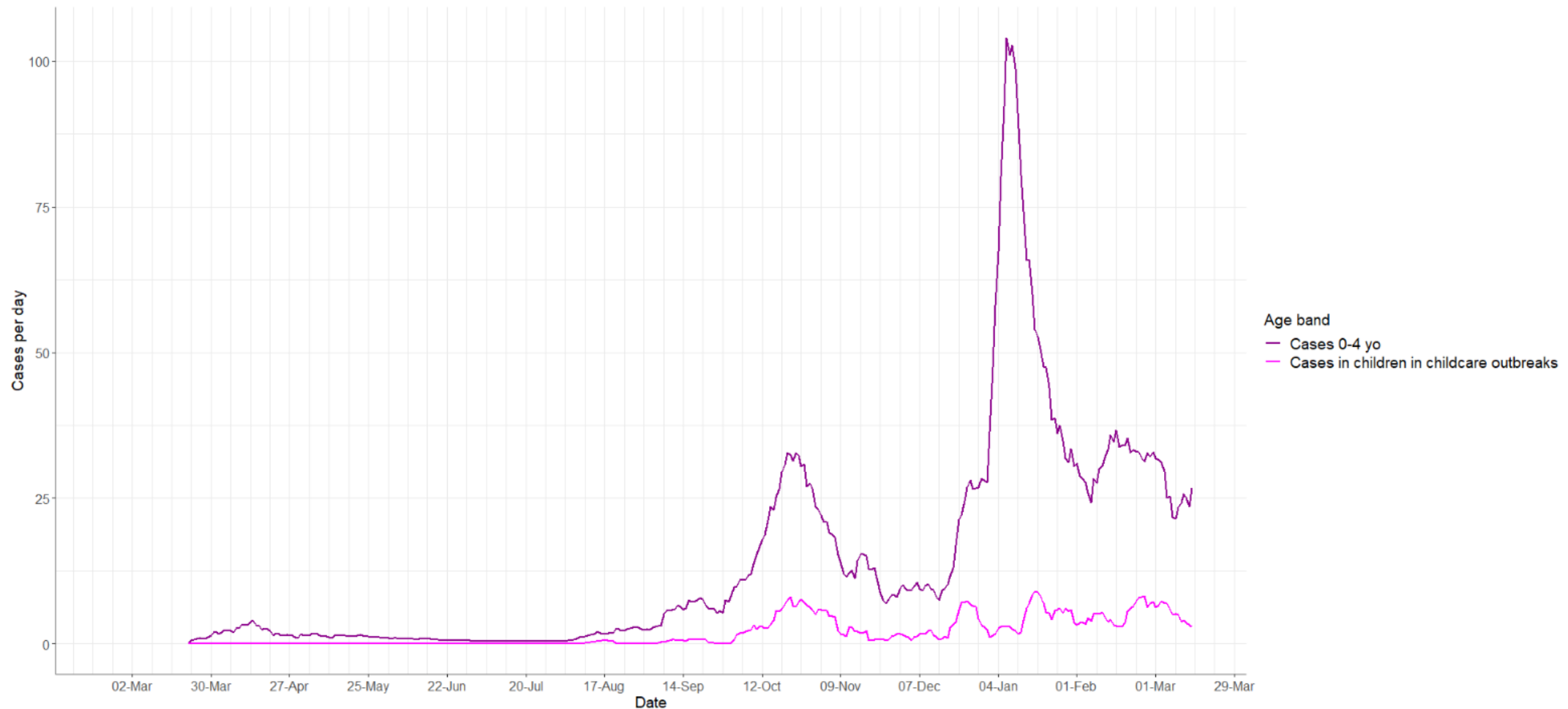
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# Cases in outbreaks in schools

The number of cases in outbreaks in childcare is a small fraction of the total number of cases in children aged 0-4 years, and occur later in a surge when there is a high level of disease in the community.



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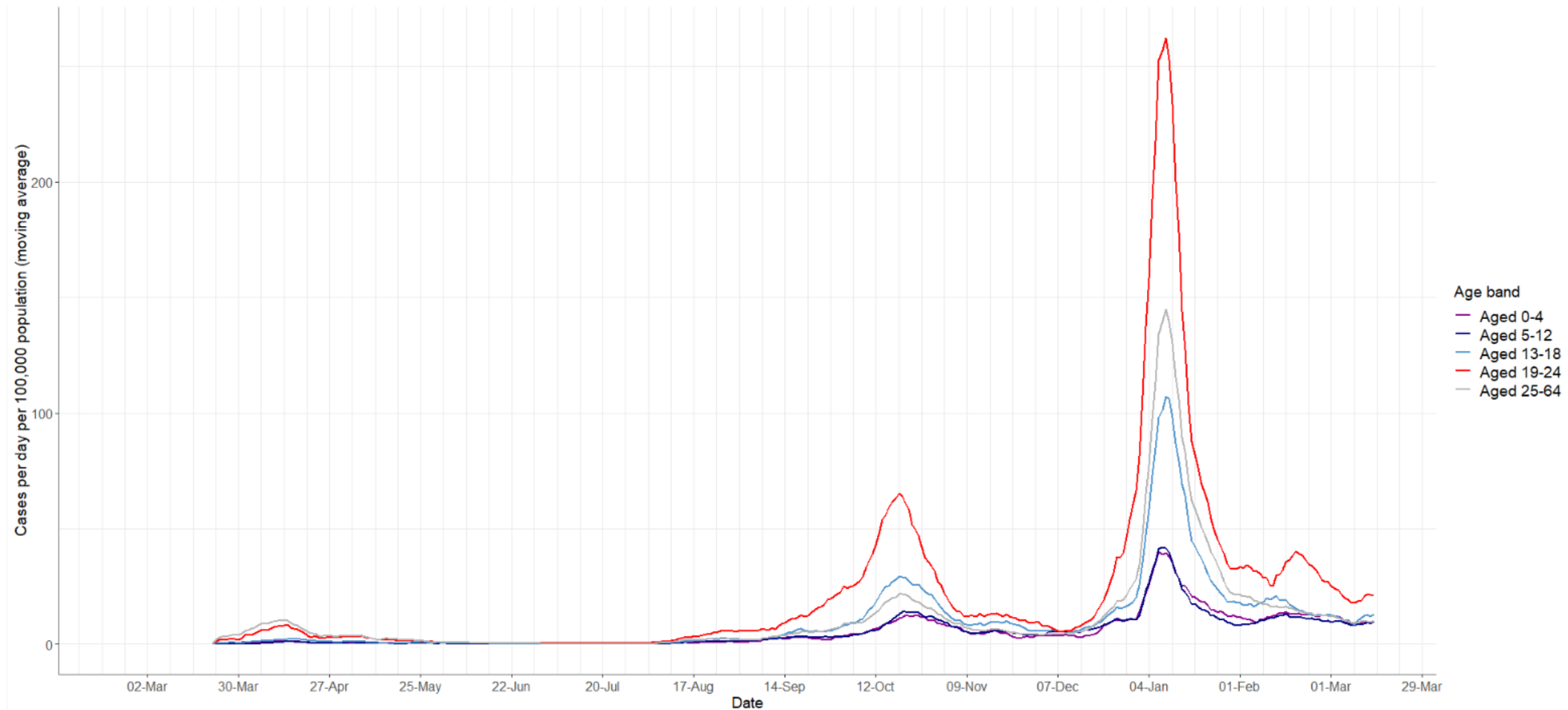
Total cases per day in those aged 0-4 years years, and cases aged 0-4 years associated with outbreaks in childcare facilities.  
Data are averaged using a window that is 7 days or 1000 cases in duration, whichever is longer. Cases dated by notification (event) date.



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# Age-specific incidence

Increases in incidence in older age groups precede increases in incidence in children; there is no evidence that the opening of schools in September 2020 altered the growth rate or pattern of the pandemic in Ireland



Age-specific incidence (cases per day per 100,000 population) for those aged 19-24 years (red), 25-64 years (grey), 13-18 years (blue), 5-12 years (navy) and 0-4 years (magenta). Data are averaged using a window that is 7 days or 1000 cases in duration, whichever is longer. Cases dated by notification (event) date.

