



Vaccination Status of COVID-19 Deaths between 1st April 2021 and 11th September 2021

Key points

Between April 1st and September 11th 2021

- 251 persons with a laboratory confirmed COVID-19 infection, were notified to the Health Protection Surveillance Centre (HPSC) as died due to COVID-19.
- 149/251 (59.4%) deaths were notified in persons who were not vaccinated or not registered as vaccinated on Ireland's national COVID-19 immunisation system (COVAX).
- 102/251 (40.6%) deaths were notified in persons who had received at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine prior to death.
- 61/251 (24.3%) of the notified deaths had an epidemiological date¹ 14 days or more after receiving all recommended doses of vaccine and are considered as vaccine breakthrough infections – see technical note.

Two hundred and fifty-one deaths in laboratory confirmed COVID-19 cases, reported with COVID-19 as the cause of death, have been notified to HPSC with a date of death between 1st April 2021 and 11th September 2021, as of 13th September 2021. In total, 102 persons had been vaccinated with at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine prior to death.

Sixty-one of those who died had an epidemiological date of COVID-19 infection 14 days or more after receiving all recommended doses of COVID-19 vaccine, therefore there are 61 breakthrough infections¹ between April 1st and September 11th, 2021.

Of these sixty-one individuals:

- 34 were male and 27 were female
- Median age was 82 years (range: 54 to 97 years); Mean age was 81 years
- 44 persons (72%) were reported on CIDR to have an underlying medical condition²

Report prepared by HPSC Epidemiology Team, 14.09.2021, CIDR data extracted at 12.30pm on 13.09.2021

¹ See technical notes for a definition of epidemiological date and vaccine breakthrough

² Information on underlying medical conditions is incomplete for this cohort and validation of these data is ongoing. Further information may be available in the future.

Acknowledgements

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Technical notes

1. Data Source

Data were extracted from CIDR on 13.09.2021 at 12:30pm and were correct at that time. Data may change in future reports as further review and validation are carried out.

2. Definition of COVID-19 vaccine breakthrough infection for surveillance purposes

In Ireland, the Health Protection Surveillance Centre (HPSC), for the purposes of surveillance of COVID-19 vaccine breakthrough infections, has defined a COVID-19 infection in a fully vaccinated individual as a laboratory confirmed SARS-CoV-2 infection in a person ≥ 14 days after they have completed all recommended doses of a COVID-19 vaccine. Epidemiological date (epi date) is used to determine timing of SARS-CoV-2 infection. Epi date is based on the earliest of dates available on the case and taken from date of onset of symptoms, date of diagnosis, laboratory specimen collection date, laboratory received date, laboratory reported date or event creation date/notification date reported on Ireland's Computerised Infectious Disease Reporting System (CIDR). This definition is in line with those used internationally for COVID-19 vaccine breakthrough infection.

3. Vaccine brand

This report does not include information on vaccine brand. Ireland has received and administered more of some vaccine brands than others and additionally, each vaccine has a different dosing schedule so some people reach their 14th day after vaccination more quickly than others. These factors make it difficult to directly compare by vaccine brand.