



Epidemiology of COVID-19 Outbreaks/Clusters in Ireland

Weekly Report Highlights

Prepared by HPSC on 10th November 2020

Week 45 2020 (week ending 7th November 2020)

Note: Data are provisional

This report includes data extracted from CIDR on 9th November 2020 at 09:15am and includes COVID-19 outbreaks notified on CIDR up to midnight 07/11/2020.

Table 1: Number of COVID-19 outbreaks notified in Ireland by outbreak setting and by closure status, up to midnight on Saturday 07/11/2020, N=7,266.

Outbreak Location	Closed	Open	Total	Total Week 45
Hospital	121	37	158	11
Nursing home	290	49	339	3
Community Hospital/Long-stay unit	31	1	32	0
Residential institution	214	51	265	7
Other healthcare service	2	18	20	7
Private house	1857	3428	5285	443
Workplace	155	98	253	15
Travel related	49	7	56	3
Transport	2	3	5	0
Extended family	88	64	152	9
Childcare facility	18	56	74	11
Community outbreak	65	92	157	21
Hotel	2	8	10	1
Guest house/ B&B	0	1	1	0
Public house	8	14	22	0
Restaurant / Cafe	20	18	38	3
Social gathering	18	29	47	0
Retail outlet	14	12	26	2
School*	46	133	179	24
University/college	5	16	21	5
Religious/Other ceremony	5	8	13	1
Sporting activity/fitness	9	15	24	2
Other recreation activity	1	0	1	0
Personal grooming service	0	4	4	0
Other	44	32	76	4
Unknown	0	0	0	0
Not specified	0	8	8	0
Total	3064	4202	7266	572

*These outbreaks are outbreaks associated with school children +/- school staff. Transmission of COVID-19 within the school has not necessarily been established in these outbreaks.

COVID-19 Outbreaks in Workplaces

In total, **253** COVID-19 outbreaks in workplaces¹ have been notified up to midnight on 07/11/2020

- Workplace outbreaks involved a variety of workplaces and facilities
- **86** COVID-19 notified outbreaks involved various food/beverage related industries, of which **52** were in meat/poultry/fish processing plants in all HSE Areas (Table 2)

In **week 45**, one outbreak occurred in a meat/poultry/fish processing plant and two further outbreaks occurred in businesses associated with other food processing. Four outbreaks occurred in businesses associated with the construction sector.

Table 2. Number of COVID-19 workplace outbreaks notified up to midnight on 07/11/2020 and laboratory confirmed cases linked to workplace outbreaks*.

Data source: CIDR

Workplace outbreaks	Number of outbreaks notified			Laboratory confirmed cases linked to outbreaks				
	Week 45 2020	Week 10-45 2020	Number open	Cases notified in week 45	Total cases	Total hospitalised cases	Total ICU cases	Total number of deaths**
Workplace - Meat/poultry/fish processing plant	1	52	9	5	1768	38	11	<5
Workplace - Construction industry***	4	39	16	6	149	<5	<5	<5
Workplace - other	10	162	73	21	712	20	5	<5
Total	15	253	98	32	2629	59	16	<5

* Case 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.

***Cases linked to some construction site outbreaks may reside in Northern Ireland and consequently will be notified in that jurisdiction. These cases will not be included in the case numbers for Ireland.

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 07/11/2020 (Table 3). COVID-19 outbreaks and cases are continuously validated/updated on Ireland's National Computerised Infectious Disease Reporting System (CIDR).

There were 7 new outbreaks reported in vulnerable populations during week 45:

- Two outbreaks were among members of the Roma community
- Three outbreaks were among members of the Irish Traveller community
- Two outbreaks were in Direct Provision Centres

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 07/11/2020 and laboratory confirmed cases linked to these outbreaks*. *Data source: CIDR*

Vulnerable populations	Number of outbreaks notified			Laboratory confirmed cases linked to outbreaks				
	Week 45	Week 10-45	Number open	Cases notified in week 45	Total cases	Total hospitalised cases	Total ICU cases	Total number of deaths**
Roma community	2	8	3	20	130	17	7	5
Irish Traveller community	3	67	54	<5	941	43	6	<5
Direct provision centres	2	34	3	<5	351	15	<5	<5
Homeless^ / those with addiction issues	0	13	3	<5	63	5	<5	<5
Prisons	0	7	1	11	40	<5	<5	<5
Total	7	129	64	35	1525	83	15	7

* Case 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.