



An Roinn Sláinte
Department of Health

NPHET COVID Update 4th March 2021

Current situation



	01-Oct	26-Oct (2 nd wave peak 14 day inc.)	01-Dec	01-Jan	14-Jan (3 rd wave peak 14 day inc.)	19-Feb	23-Feb	27-Feb	03-Mar
14-day incidence	96.08	306.20	86.92	320.67	1494.81	246.75	240.24	215.69	199.44
5-day average cases	407.0	919.4	261.0	1477.2	4460.4	773.8	736.4	654.2	590.6
Total weekly cases	2607	7000	1893	9420	35379	5731	5228	4631	4341

	01-Oct	26-Oct (2 nd wave peak 14 day inc.)	01-Dec	01-Jan	14-Jan (3 rd wave peak 14 day inc.)	19-Feb	23-Feb	27-Feb	03-Mar
No. Hospital (8.A.M)	122	344	224	508	1792	754	693	550	488
No. in ICU (6.30 P.M)	22	40	30	42	176	150	156	136	115

	01-Oct	26-Oct (2 nd wave peak 14 day inc.)	01-Dec	01-Jan	14-Jan (3 rd wave peak 14 day inc.)	19-Feb	23-Feb	27-Feb	03-Mar
Positivity rate (7 day average)	3.0%	6.1%	2.7%	12.5%	17.0%	5.5%	5.3%	4.7%	4.2%

	November	December	January	February	March
Total Deaths	182	196	1314	715	8
Deaths associated with Nursing Home outbreaks	55	66	511	273	2
Deaths associated with Hospital outbreaks	66	68	175	95	1

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 is decreasing. The number of deaths per day remains high.



	Apr 2020	Summer 2020	Oct 2020	Dec 2020	Jan 2021	3 Feb	10 Feb	17 Feb	24 Feb	3 Mar	Daily count 3 Mar
Cases confirmed per day	859 18-04	8.7 25-06	1158 21-10	262 12-12	6520 10-01	1188	943	816	737	620	566
14-day incidence <i>per 100,000 population</i>	212 19-04	3.0 04-07	306 26-10	79 09-12	1532 15-01	424	312	261	231	199	
Hospital in-patients	862 17-04	9 02-08	333 01-11	198 16-12	1949 24-01	1499	1188	907	723	524	498
<i>Hospital admissions per day</i>	85 04-04	<1 10-07	27 26-10	11 13-12	158 15-01	68	52	45	40	23	29
ICU confirmed cases	150 14-04	4 04-08	43 04-11	26 27-12	217 28-01	209	179	163	149	127	114
<i>ICU admissions per day</i>	14 31-03	<1 03-06	4 03-11	1 16-12	20 17-01	11	6	8	6	4	4
Deaths confirmed per day	46 22-04	<1 30-07	7 01-12	4 17-12	57 03-02	57	41	35	29	18	25

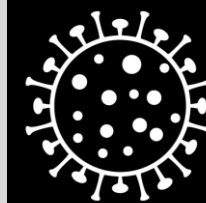
Data are 7-day averages (the indicated day and the preceding 6 days, rounded to the nearest whole number) with the exception of 14 day cumulative incidence, which is the total number of cases in the preceding 14 days per 100,000 population. The highest and lowest values of each indicator are given for 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.



Cases, Incidence Rates & Testing

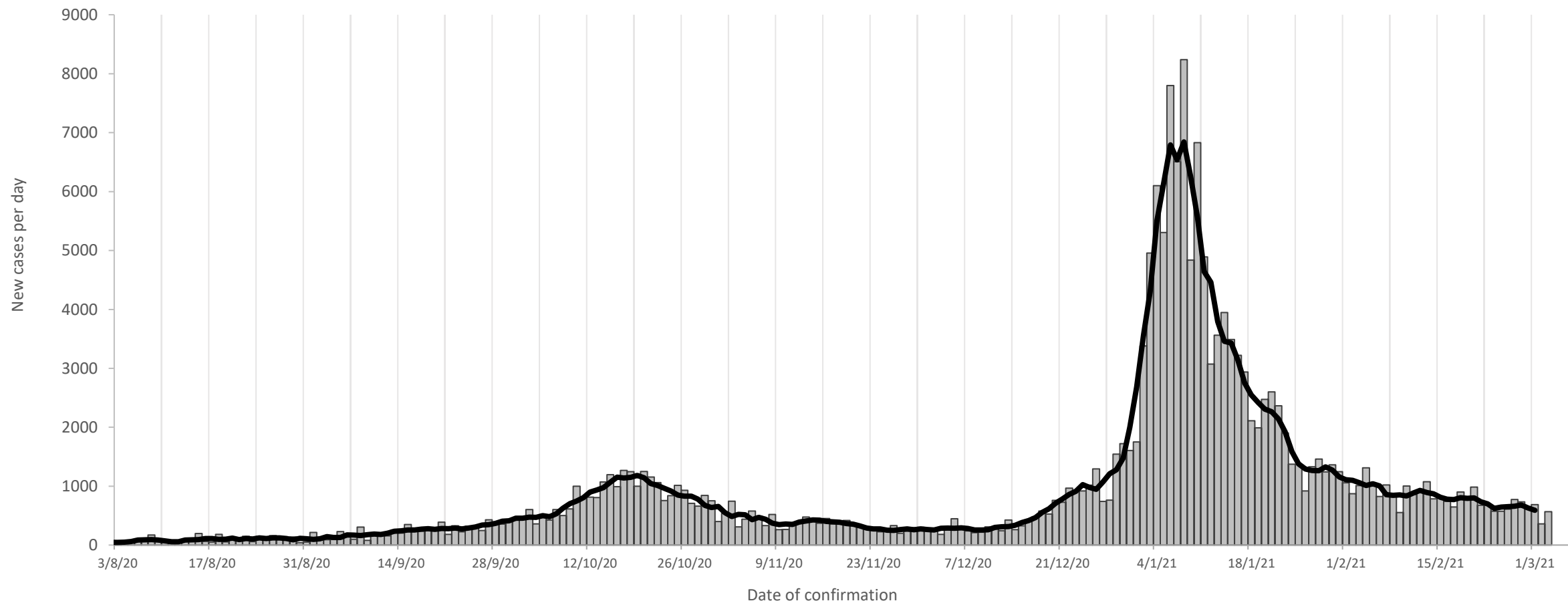
Confirmed cases each day

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 **591**



Coronavirus
COVID-19
Public Health
Advice

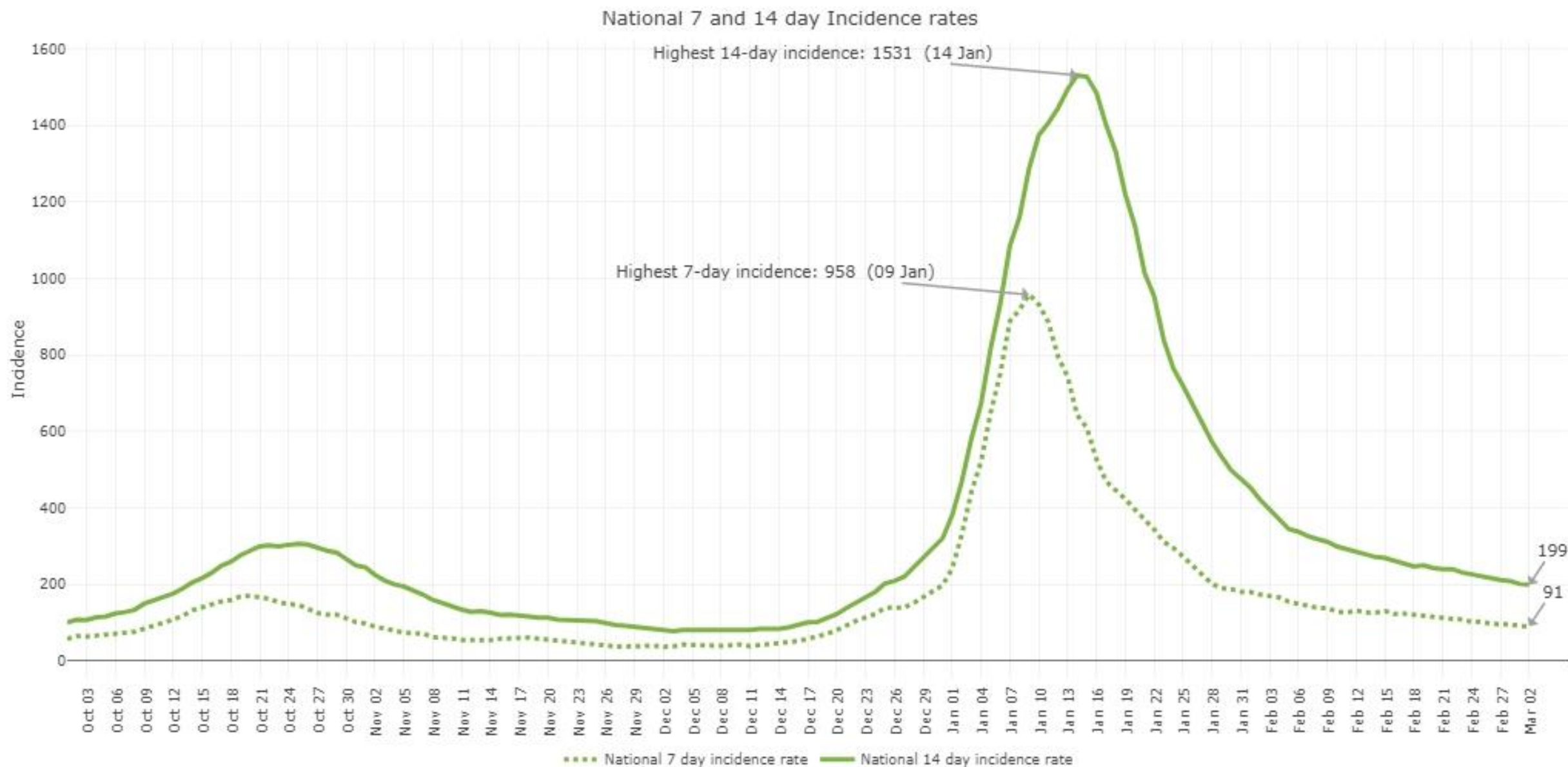
Cases per week	540	546	711	796	912	1303	1947	2059	3031	4457	7398	7073	4838	3424	2583	2580	1798	2028	1964	3368	6597	15729	45621	25123	14815	89313	7146	6031	5531	4561
----------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	------	------	------	------



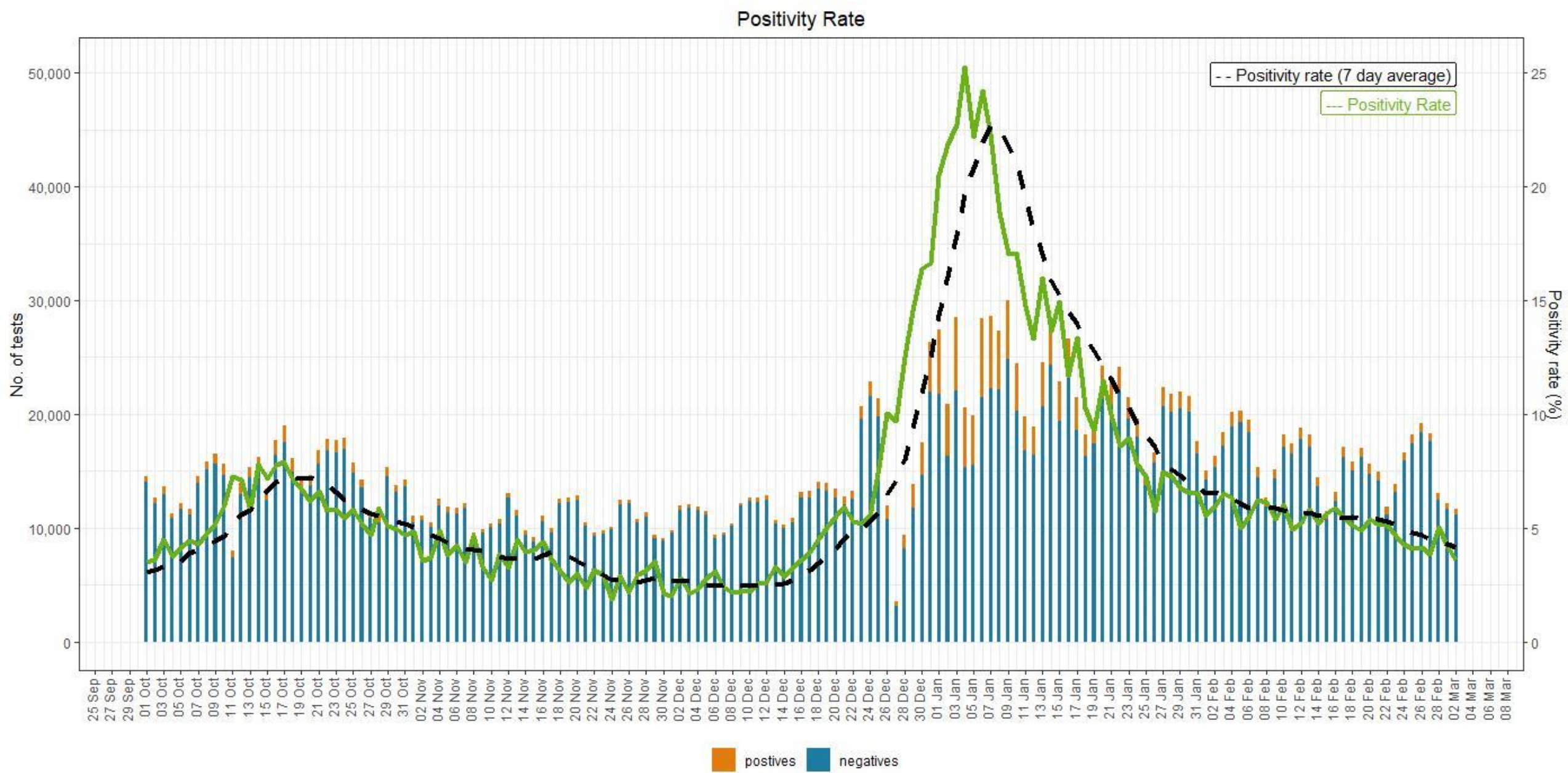
Daily count (bars) 5-day average (line) and weekly counts of the number of laboratory confirmed new cases by date on which they were confirmed by HPSC. Case counts may change due to denotification of cases. Weekly case counts are by notification (event) date and standard epidemiological week.



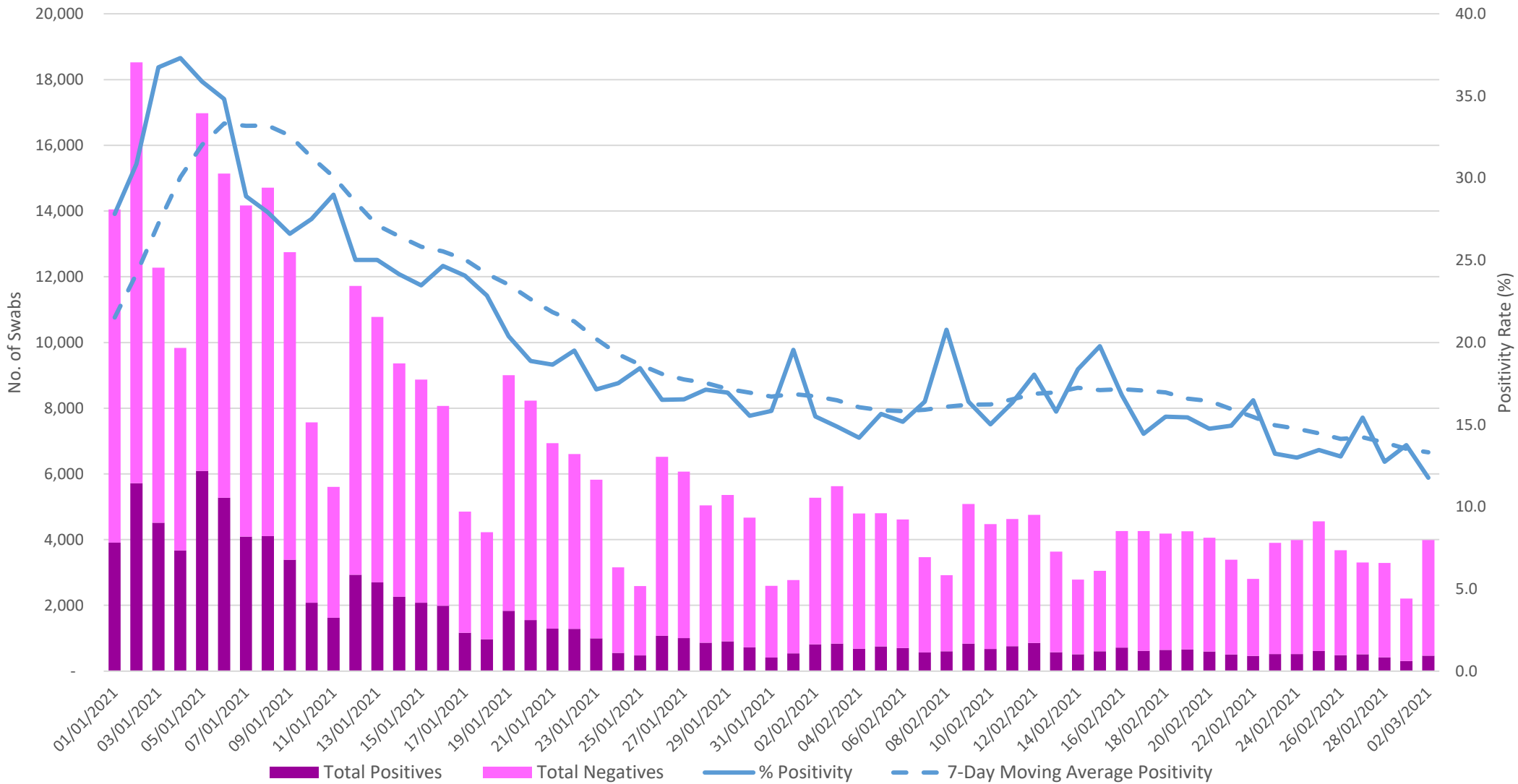
Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland



Recent trend in positivity rate



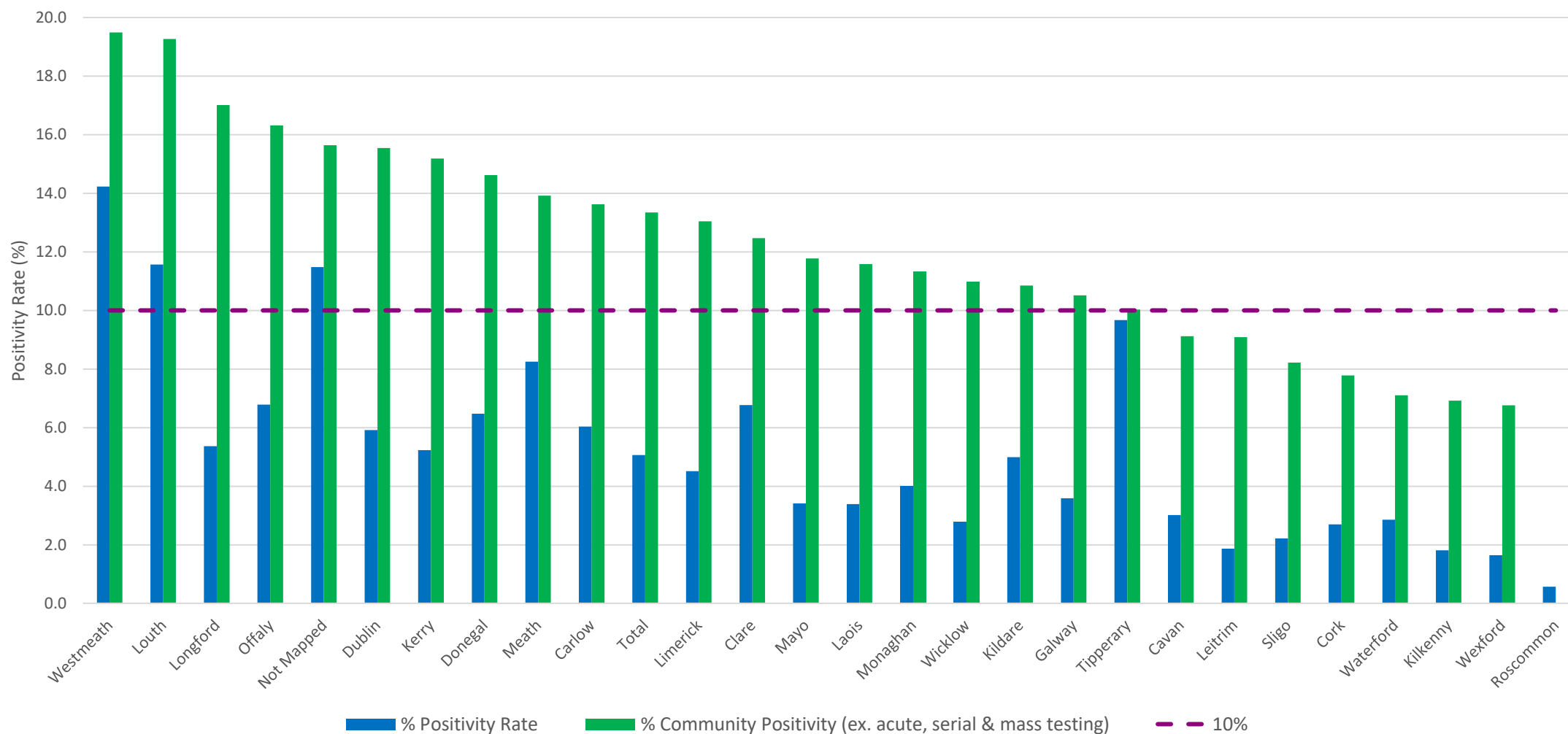
Community Testing (ex. acute, serial & mass): Total tests and % Positivity



Updated 03/03/2021. Source: CRM data, HSE Contact and Tracing Team. Refers to positive lab results excluding private testing. Community=Swabs tested in Community labs for GP referrals (symptomatic, close contact etc), excluding acute, serial and mass testing.

% Positivity Rate Past 7 Days: Total and in Community (ex. acute, serial & mass testing) by County as at 03/03/21

(Data provided by HSE Contact Tracing Team and may differ from daily positivity rate data from Cumulative Labs Report)



Updated 03/03/2021. Source: CRM data, HSE Contact and Tracing Team. Refers to positive lab results excluding private testing.

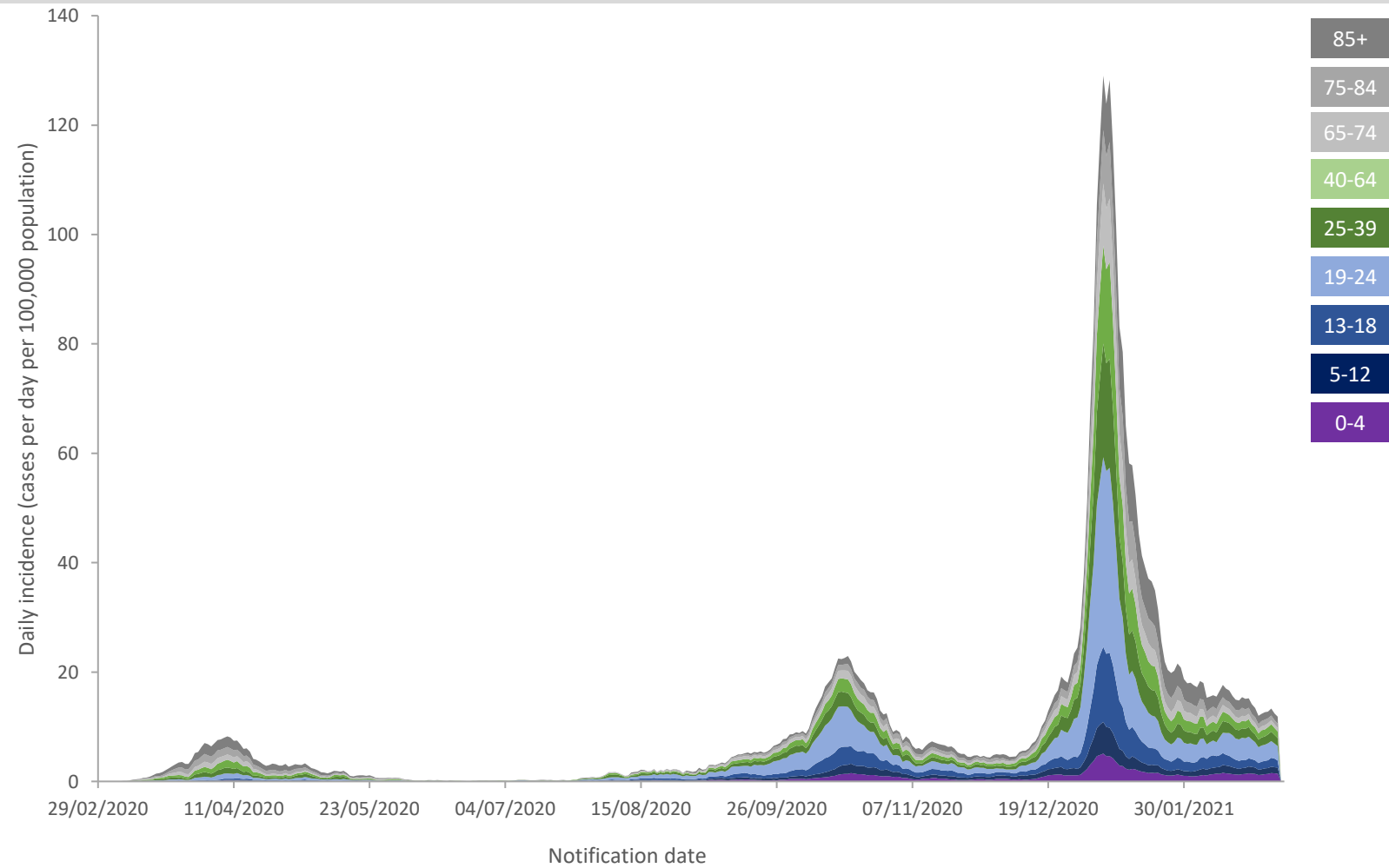
% Positivity Rate refers to total swabs – acute, community, serial and other mass testing

% Community Positivity = Swabs tested in Community labs for GP referrals (symptomatic, close contact etc), excluding acute, serial and mass testing.

Location is based on location of Community Test Centre or Acute Hospital and not on patient's address

Incidence across different age groups (excluding HCW and LTRC)

Incidence has decreased across all age groups (except 0-4y), and is relatively evenly spread across age groups



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	27.8	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	29.2	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	10.4	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	147.0	49.9	41.8	32.9	31.0	20.7
40	29.6	28.8	63.2	167.9	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	197.3	434.2	154.4	142.8	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	45.4	45.1	32.4	42.7	69.6
47	22.0	34.1	60.0	79.4	34.6	33.0	29.2	39.7	62.2
48	23.2	31.3	45.5	66.7	33.8	29.6	22.2	36.1	38.5
49	28.4	37.0	37.7	40.5	33.2	30.1	25.4	29.0	44.4
50	21.4	39.9	44.1	57.4	39.9	35.1	22.5	31.0	22.2
51	51.9	58.5	74.5	128.3	87.9	81.0	54.3	54.5	51.8
52	77.5	76.9	120.0	325.8	176.1	135.1	96.7	95.2	121.4
53	217.8	236.7	514.0	1403.0	762.6	637.0	424.1	350.1	361.2
1	183.7	208.7	568.9	1331.2	792.4	722.6	499.3	446.8	559.5
2	130.3	127.0	301.7	583.9	416.7	421.4	301.5	409.7	578.8
3	93.8	80.9	169.8	327.9	255.7	245.5	170.8	253.9	418.9
4	73.6	60.7	127.8	229.8	154.1	146.5	120.5	163.4	273.9
5	77.8	72.9	126.5	208.6	127.1	123.6	85.1	118.6	216.1
6	91.7	85.3	124.6	224.0	118.2	101.9	68.5	89.6	125.8
7	87.5	76.4	95.5	254.5	107.6	90.0	59.2	80.4	121.4
8	87.5	70.0	90.4	186.3	96.5	78.9	43.4	57.5	93.3

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)

Incidence has decreased across all age groups except those aged 0-4, and is relatively evenly spread across age groups with highest incidence in those aged 19-24 years and lowest in those aged 65-74 years



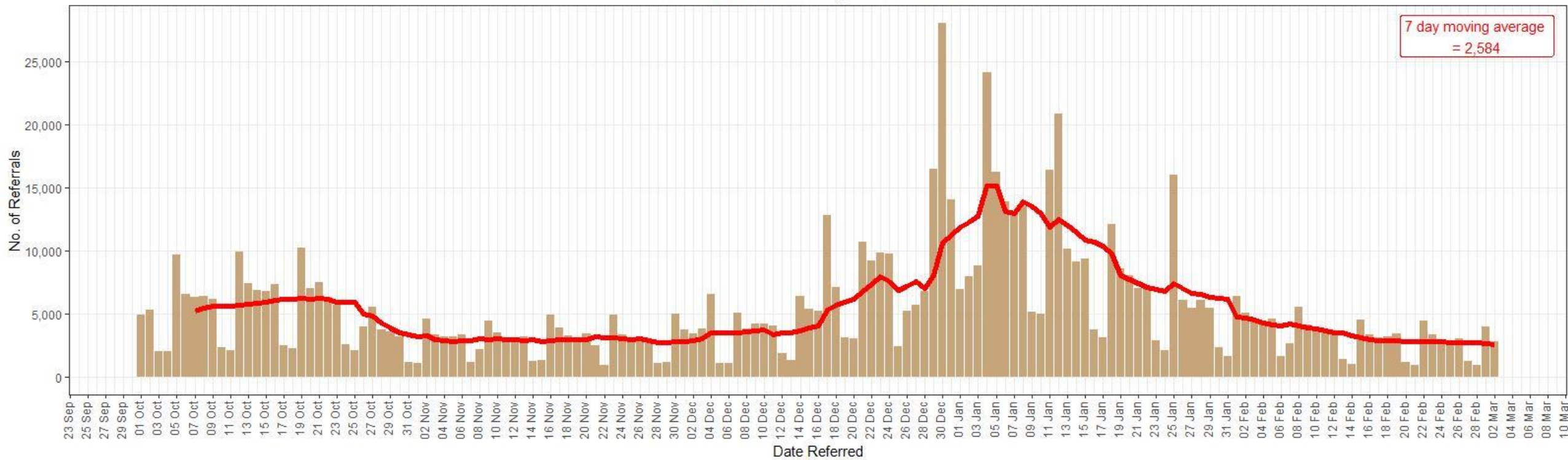
Week	Age band								
	0-4	5-12	13-18	19-24	25-39	40-64	65-74	75-84	85+
47	22.0	34.1	60.0	79.4	34.6	33.0	29.2	39.7	62.2
48	23.2	31.3	45.5	66.7	33.8	29.6	22.2	36.1	38.5
49	28.4	37.0	37.7	40.5	33.2	30.1	25.4	29.0	44.4
50	21.4	39.9	44.1	57.4	39.9	35.1	22.5	31.0	22.2
51	51.9	58.5	74.5	128.3	87.9	81.0	54.3	54.5	51.8
52	77.5	76.9	120.0	325.8	176.1	135.1	96.7	95.2	121.4
53	217.8	236.7	514.0	1403.0	762.6	637.0	424.1	350.1	361.2
1	183.7	208.7	568.9	1331.2	792.4	722.6	499.3	446.8	559.5
2	130.3	127.0	301.7	583.9	416.7	421.4	301.5	409.7	578.8
3	93.8	80.9	169.8	327.9	255.7	245.5	170.8	253.9	418.9
4	73.6	60.7	127.8	229.8	154.1	146.5	120.5	163.4	273.9
5	77.8	72.9	126.5	208.6	127.1	123.6	85.1	118.6	216.1
6	91.7	85.3	124.6	224.0	118.2	101.9	68.5	89.6	125.8
7	87.5	76.4	95.5	254.5	107.6	90.0	59.2	80.4	121.4
8	87.5	70.0	90.4	186.3	96.5	78.9	43.4	57.5	93.3

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.



GP referrals

GP Referrals excluding Close Contacts



Feb

	1 6,437 referrals (-60%)	2 5,094 referrals (-17%)	3 4,563 referrals (-17%)	4 4,408 referrals (-28%)	5 4,648 referrals (-16%)	6 1,680 referrals (-30%)
7 2,647 referrals (+60%)	8 5,543 referrals (-14%)	9 4,134 referrals (-19%)	10 3,740 referrals (-18%)	11 3,685 referrals (-16%)	12 3,402 referrals (-27%)	13 1,415 referrals (-16%)
14 1,048 referrals (-60%)	15 4,543 referrals (-18%)	16 3,385 referrals (-18%)	17 3,163 referrals (-15%)	18 3,268 referrals (-11%)	19 3,452 referrals (+1%)	20 1,231 referrals (-13%)
21 990 referrals (-6%)	22 4,460 referrals (-2%)	23 3,424 referrals (+1%)	24 3,011 referrals (-5%)	25 2,937 referrals (-10%)	26 3,080 referrals (-11%)	27 1,256 referrals (+2%)
28 968 referrals (-2%)						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat

Mar

	1 4,005 referrals (-10%)	2 2,834 referrals (-17%)	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat

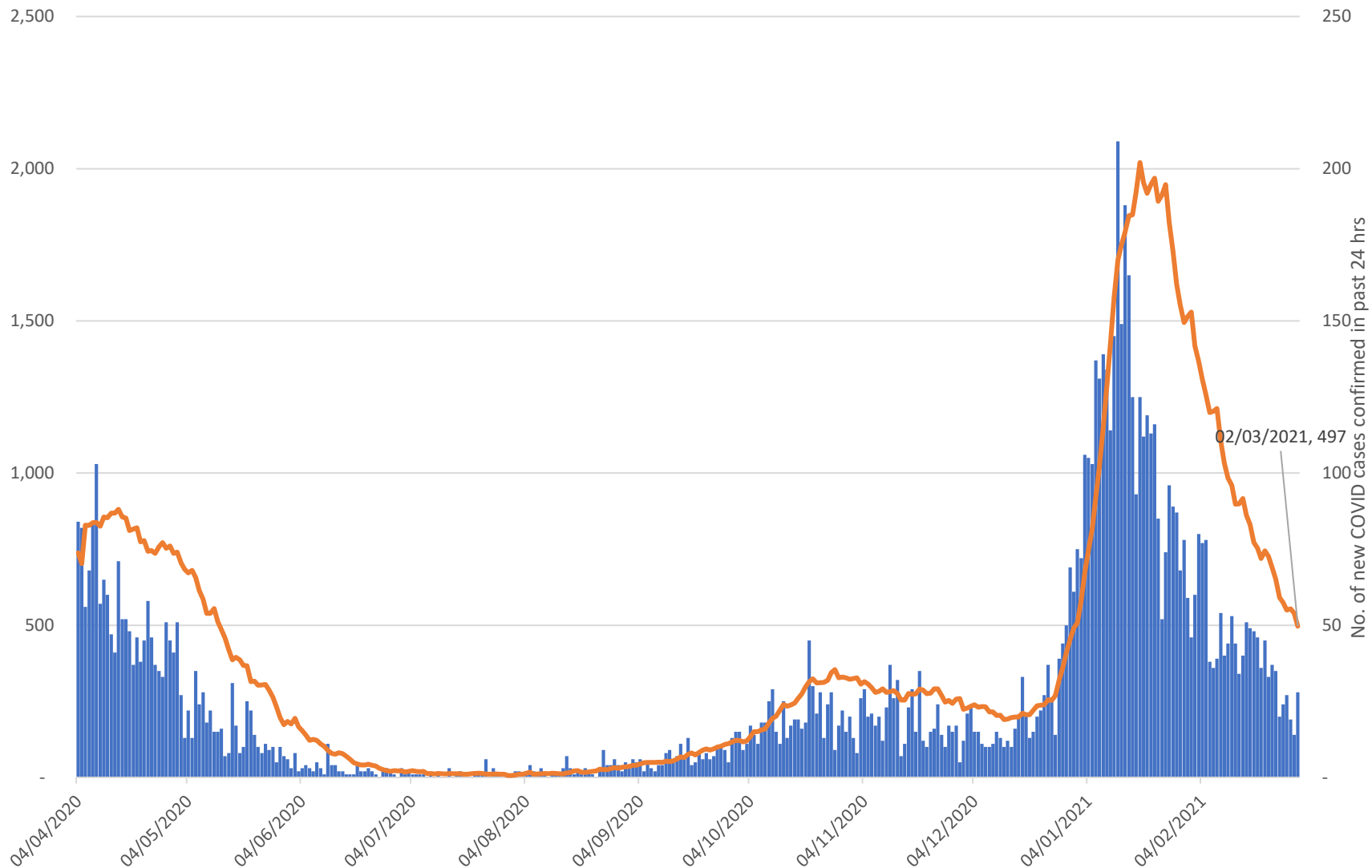
No. of GP Referrals (excl. C.C.)

Percentages refer to week on week % change, i.e. this Monday vs last Monday, etc.

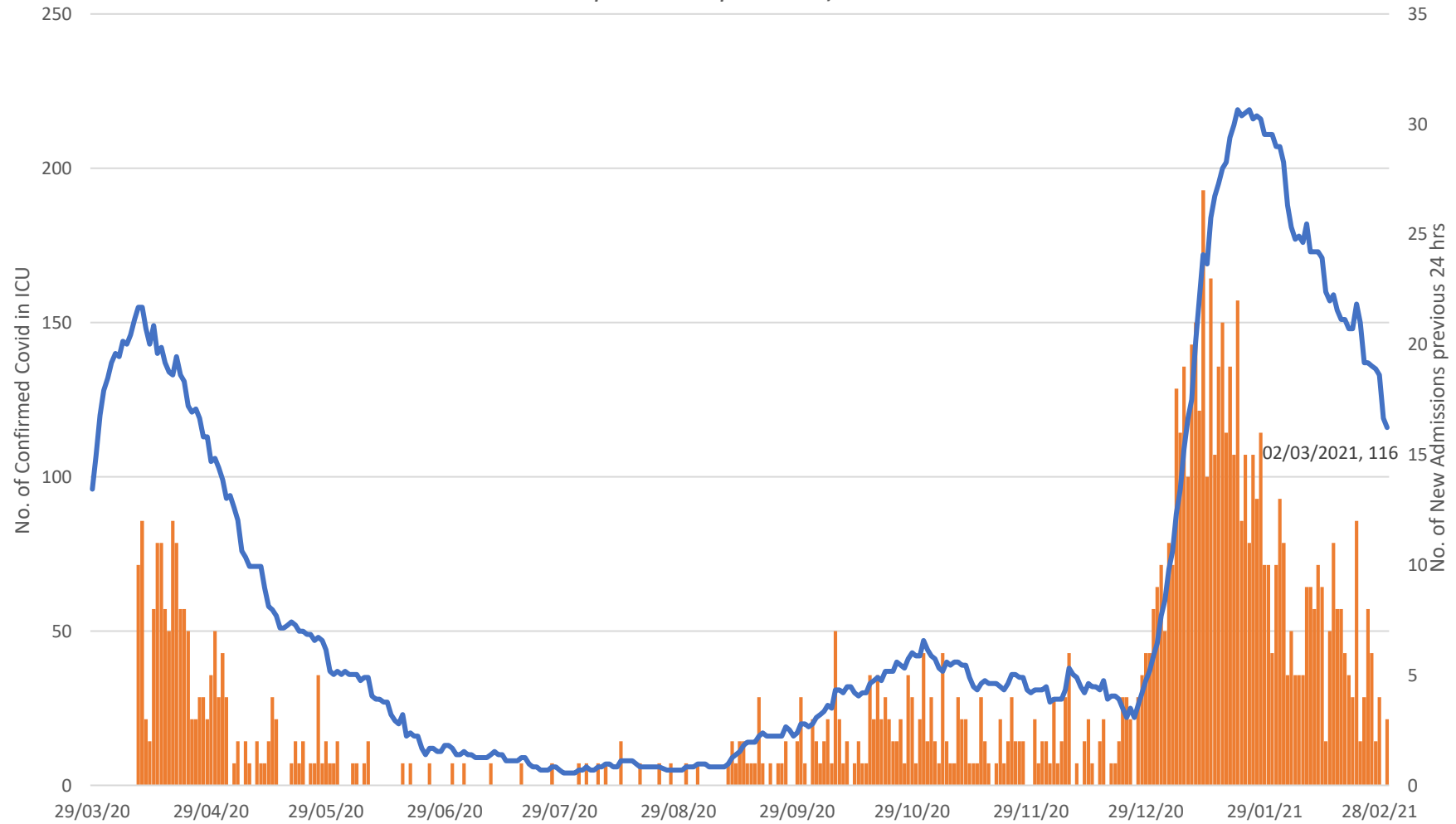


Hospital & ICU Data

Total No. of Confirmed Covid Cases in Hospital at 8AM &
No. of New Confirmed Covid Cases in Past 24 hrs



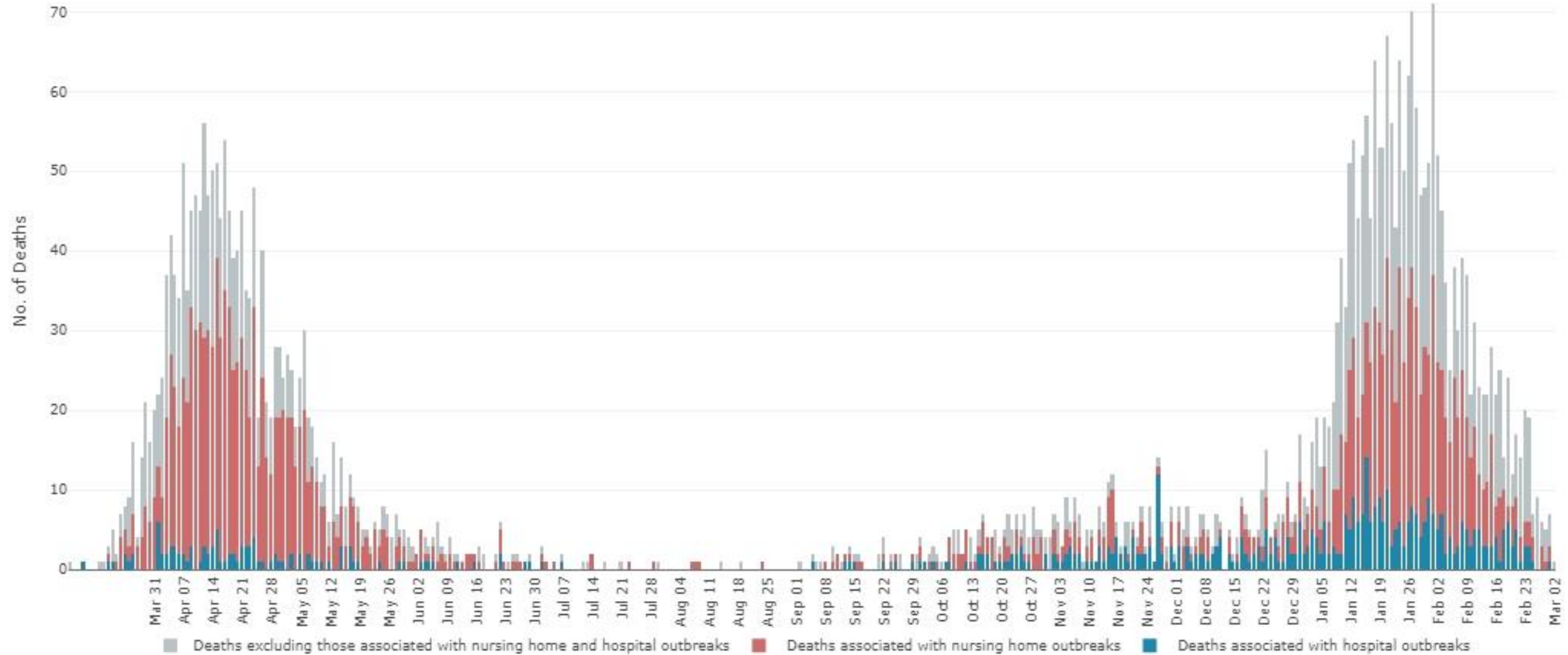
Total No. of Confirmed Covid Cases in ICU at 11.30AM & No. of New Confirmed Covid Admissions to ICU in past 24 hrs (includes all reporting public & private hospitals and may differ from no. reported by HSE in public hospital ICU)





Deaths

Deaths by Date of Death since March





Outbreaks & Clusters

COVID-19 outbreaks by key outbreak locations, week 8 2021 and overall, 2020-2021 Ireland



- Since March 1st 2020, 12,662 outbreaks have been notified to CIDR
- In week 8, 2021 372 outbreaks were notified. 99 of which were late notifications of outbreaks that occurred in November (n=2), December (n=34) and January (n=63)

Key outbreak locations	Week 8	Weeks 10-47	Weeks 48-8
Workplace	37	292	291
Direct Provision Centre	4	37	33
Vulnerable groups*	26	101	1
Prisons	0	9	4
Nursing Home/Community Hospital	6	380	247
Acute hospitals	21	178	196
Schools^	3	78	119
Childcare facility	15	200	132

*Includes Irish Travellers, Roma, homeless and addiction service population

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

Data source: CIDR March 2nd 2021 – data to midnight February 27th 2021

Weekly Summary



- **Total** number of outbreaks week 8, 2021 n=372 (99 late notifications) compared with week 7, 2021 n=193
- **Vulnerable groups**
 - Irish Traveller outbreaks
 - Week 8 – 23 new outbreaks, 186 linked cases
 - In past 4 weeks Traveller cases > 3.6% all cases
 - 4 new outbreaks in DPCs – 11 linked cases
 - 1 new outbreak in homeless population – 2 linked cases
 - 2 new outbreaks in Roma population – 19 linked cases
- **Workplace outbreaks**
 - 34 open outbreaks in food industry with 723 linked cases
 - 7 new food industry outbreaks since last week's report – 20 linked cases
 - 59 cases linked to 10 previously notified food industry outbreaks
 - Largest open outbreak – 131 linked cases
- **Residential institution outbreaks**
 - 121 outbreaks are 'open' with 923 linked cases (range 0-46)
 - 12 new outbreak since last week's report with 91 linked cases
- **Home care Teams**
 - 33 open outbreaks – 117 linked cases
 - 9 deaths associated with these outbreaks
 - Four new outbreaks with 10 linked cases notified since last report
- **Nursing Homes & Community Hospitals**
 - 176/627 outbreaks remain open with 6295 linked cases
 - 6 new outbreaks with 57 linked cases since last week's report
 - 3 open outbreaks with new cases in the past week have >100 linked cases each
 - Since November 22nd 2020, 895 deaths
- **Acute hospitals**
 - 123/374 outbreaks remain open involving 42 hospitals, 1897 linked cases (range 1-138)
 - 21 new outbreaks since last week's report with 169 linked cases (1-27).
 - Since November 22nd 2020, 363 deaths have occurred in cases linked to acute hospitals outbreaks
- **Schools**
 - 3 new outbreaks since last week's report with 6 linked cases
- **Childcare facilities**
 - 15 new outbreaks since last week's report with 66 linked cases (range 1-12)
- **Third-level students/University/college**
 - 94 open outbreaks with 957 confirmed linked cases
 - 62 new outbreaks (54 from HSE W) since last report with 347 linked cases

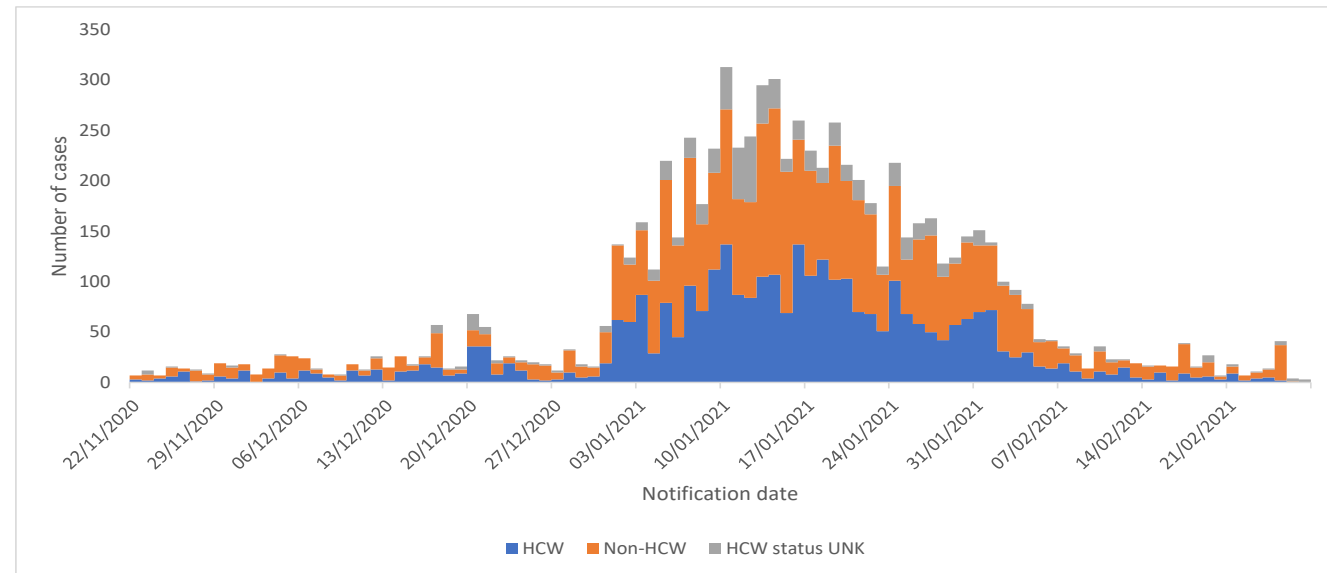
Focus on 176 'OPEN' Nursing Homes and Community Hospital/Long Stay Units as of midnight February 27th 2021



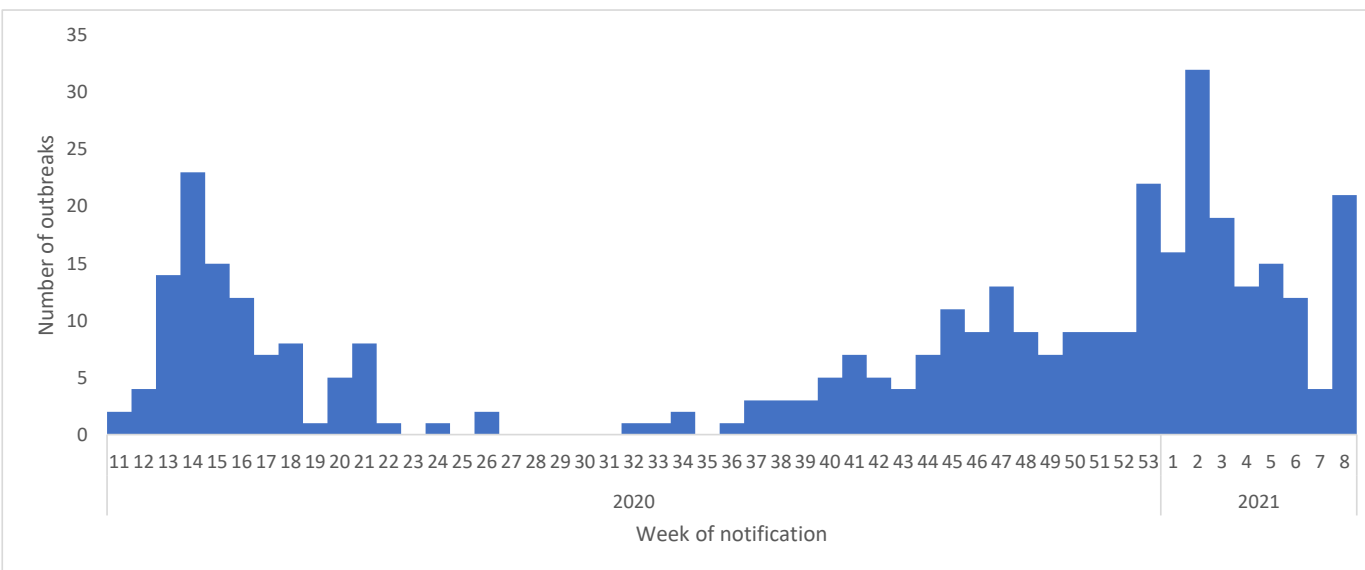
- 6,295 associated cases (2,534 HCW/staff cases, 3,187 client cases, 594 cases HCW status unknown)
- 6 outbreaks include only HCW/staff cases, 162 include both HCW/staff cases and client cases, 3 outbreaks includes client cases only, for 5 outbreaks the mix of cases is unclear
- 6 new outbreaks since last week's report – 57 linked cases
- 35 previously notified 'open' outbreaks – 194 additional cases since last week's report
- 134 previously notified 'open' outbreaks and one reclassified outbreak – no additional cases since last week's report

Data source: CIDR March 1st 2021 – data to midnight February 27th 2021

Nursing Homes and Community Hospital/Long Stay Units: November 22nd 2020 to midnight February 27th 2021



Acute Hospital outbreaks to midnight February 27th 2021 (n=374)



Overview

- 374 outbreaks in acute hospitals
- 123 ‘open’ acute hospital outbreaks
- 1897 confirmed cases linked to the open outbreaks (range 1-138)
- The 123 open outbreaks correspond to outbreaks in 42 Acute Hospitals

Update

- Twenty-one new outbreaks in week 8 2021
- 169 confirmed cases linked to these outbreaks (range 1-27).
- A total of 63 additional cases were linked to 9 previously reported open hospital outbreaks
- 22 outbreaks were closed since last week

*

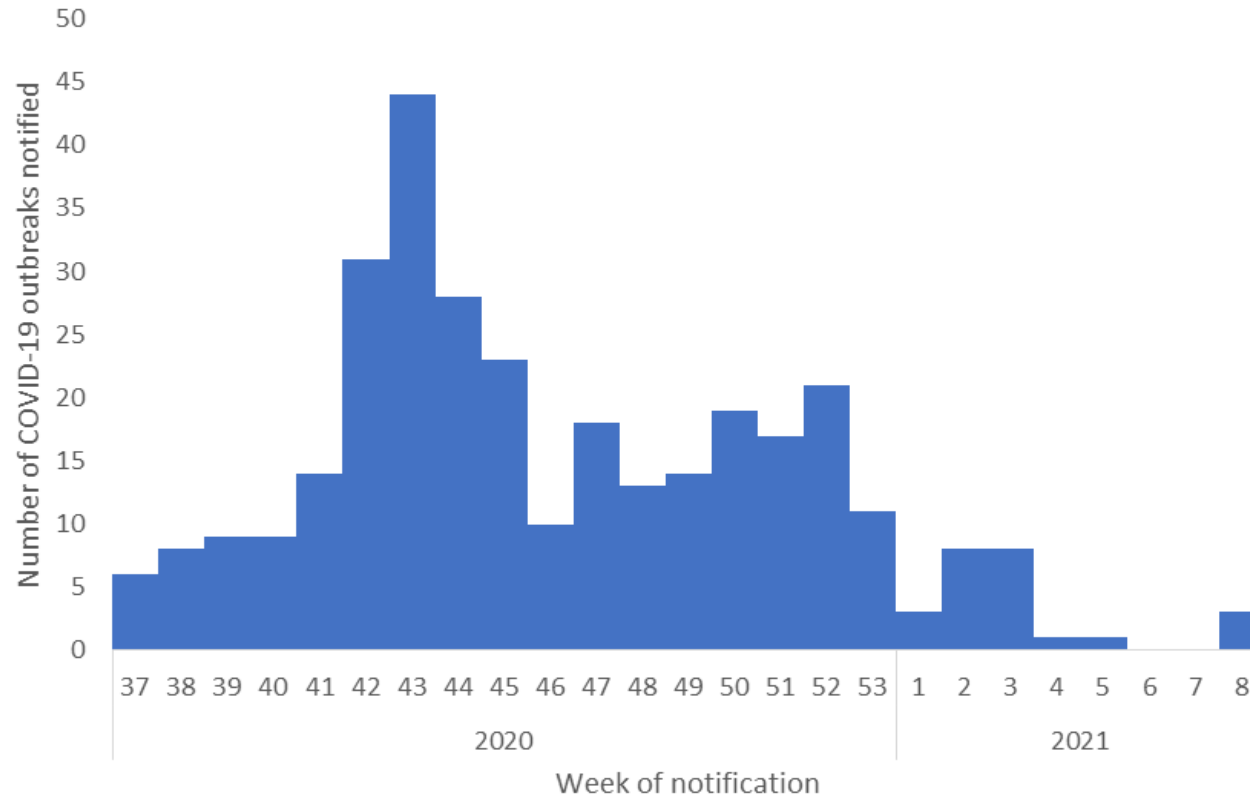
Outbreak status	Number of outbreaks	Confirmed linked cases	Number admitted to ICU	Number Died	Number HCWs
All	374	4721	108	537	2143
Open	123	1897	42	234	736

Data source: CIDR March 1st 2021 – data to midnight February 27th 2021

Outbreaks associated with school children and staff to midnight 27th February 2021 (n=319)



Number of COVID-19 Outbreaks associated with school children and staff (n=319)



Overview

- 319 outbreaks associated with school children and staff notified
- 1,397 linked confirmed cases in total
- 288 outbreaks have ≥ 2 linked cases (range 2-54 cases)
- 278 outbreaks have been closed; 41 remain open

Update

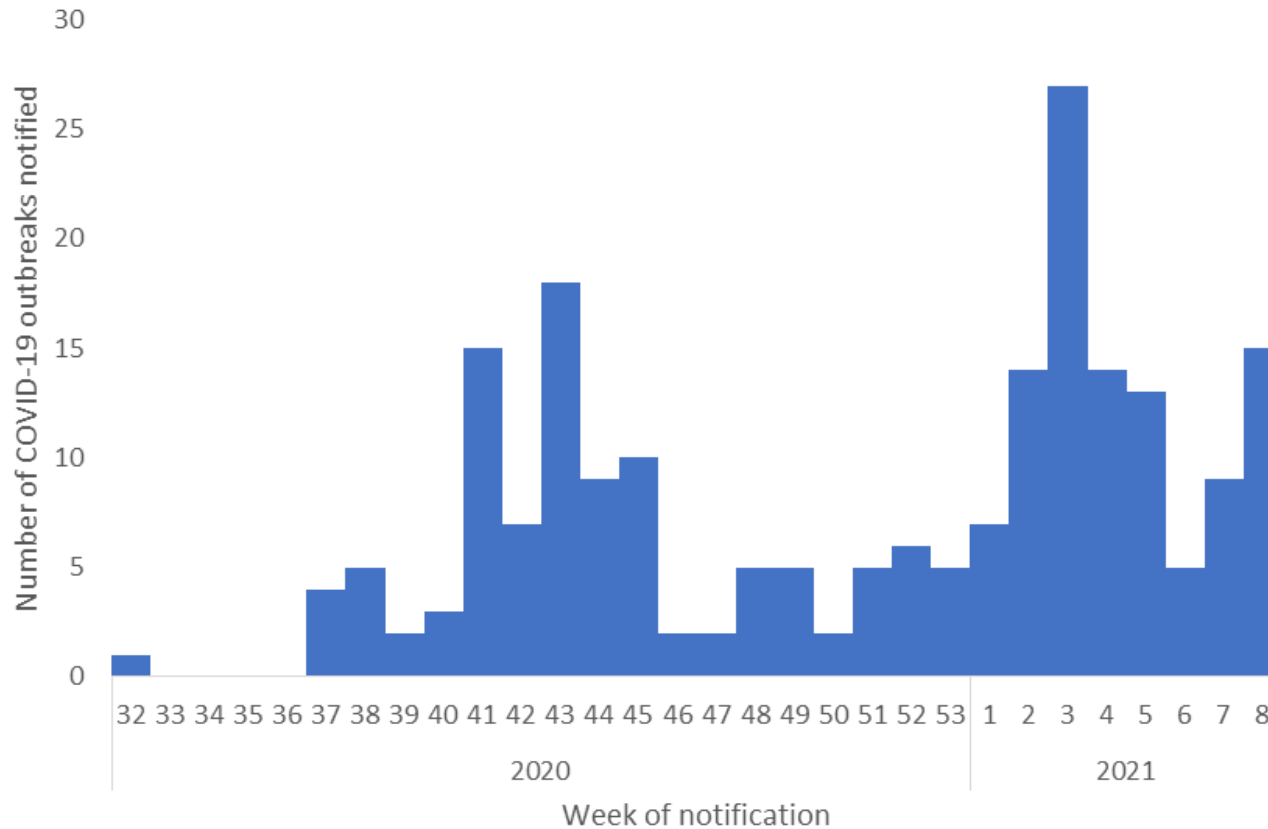
- Three new school outbreaks were reported since last week
 - 6 confirmed cases linked to these three outbreaks (range: 2-2)
 - One new outbreak was a late notification from December 2020
- Three additional cases were linked to three previously reported outbreaks

Data source: CIDR March 2nd 2021
Data to midnight 27/02/2021

Outbreaks associated with childcare facilities to midnight 27th February 2021 (n=210)



Number of COVID-19 outbreaks associated with childcare facilities
(n=210)



Overview

- 210 outbreaks associated with children and staff in childcare facilities notified
- 1,094 linked events in total
- 197 outbreaks have ≥ 2 linked confirmed cases (range 2-39)
- 135 outbreaks have been closed; 75 remain open

Update

- 15 new outbreaks reported since last week
- 66 confirmed cases linked to these outbreaks (range 1-12)
- 23 additional cases were linked to 4 previously reported childcare facility outbreaks
- 7 outbreaks were closed since last week

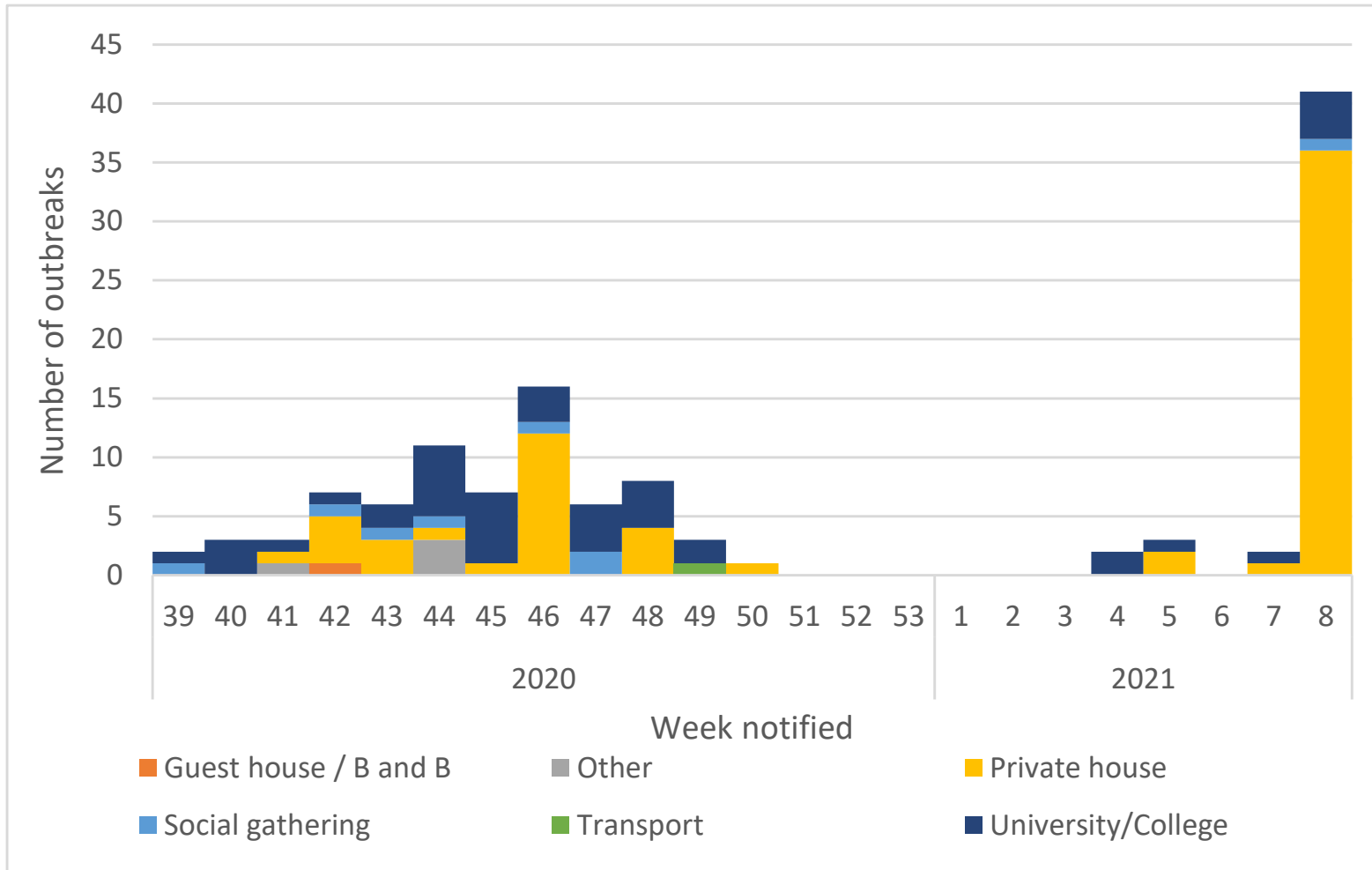
Data source: CIDR March 2nd 2021
Data to midnight 27/02/2021

Outbreaks associated with third-level institutions/students to March 2020 midnight 27th February 2021 (n=159)



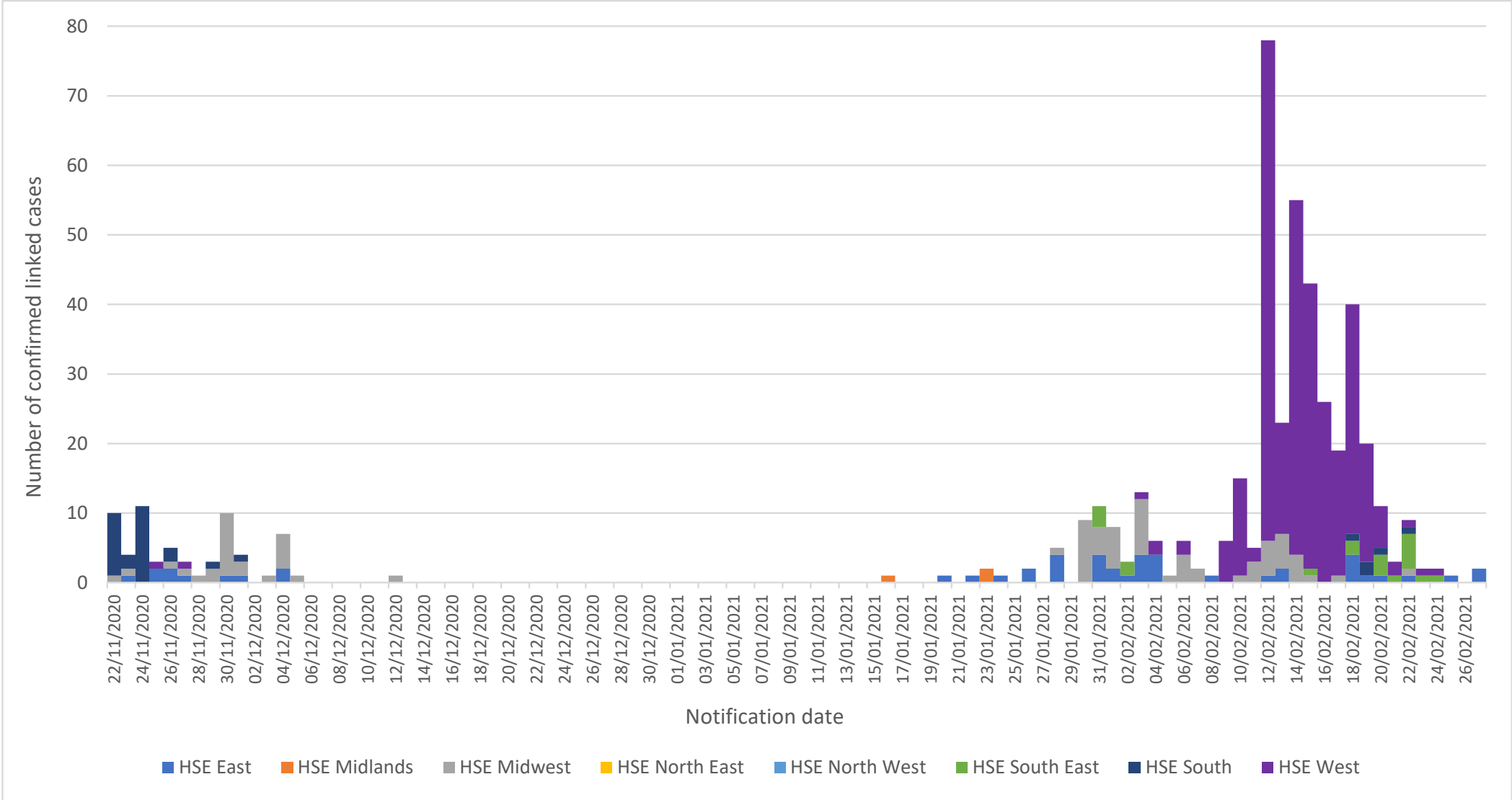
Overview

- To date there have been 159 confirmed notified outbreaks
- 1,439 confirmed linked cases to these outbreaks
- Outbreaks occurred in all 8 HSE areas with 70 in HSE W, 27 in HSE E and 25 in HSE S
- 94 outbreaks remain 'open'
 - 957 linked cases (range 1 to 190)
- 62 new outbreaks since last report with 347 linked cases
 - 54 from HSE W

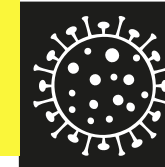


Data source: CIDR March 2nd 2021 – data to midnight February 27th 2021

Cases linked to University/College/third-level student outbreaks 22nd November to midnight 27th February 2021



Data source: CIDR March 2nd 2021 – data to midnight February 27th 2021



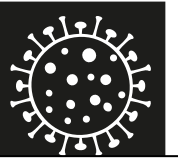
ACUTE OPERATIONS KEY POINTS

The overall situation for the week ending February 21st reflects continued improvement

Number of new confirmed cases in healthcare workers (49 compares with 95 the week ending February 14^h).

Number of patients with hospital acquired COVID-19 (77 compared with 109 the week ending February 7th).

Number of outbreaks decreased 87 compared 135



- **COMMUNITY OPERATIONS KEY POINTS**

Over 18 417 tests were performed in the serial testing programme

Overall positivity rate

0.4% in residential facilities for older people (compares with 0.4% week ending 14/02/2021) [range across the CHOs of 0.1% to 0.7%]

1.1% in disabilities (compares with 0.0% week ending 14/02/2021)

0.3% in Mental Health (compares with 0.4% week ending 14/02/2021)

91 new laboratory confirmed cases in residents in older person RCF (compares with 91 week ending 14/02/2021)

5 in Disability services (compares with 8 week ending 14/02/2021)

8 in Mental Health (compares with 0 week ending 14/02/2021).

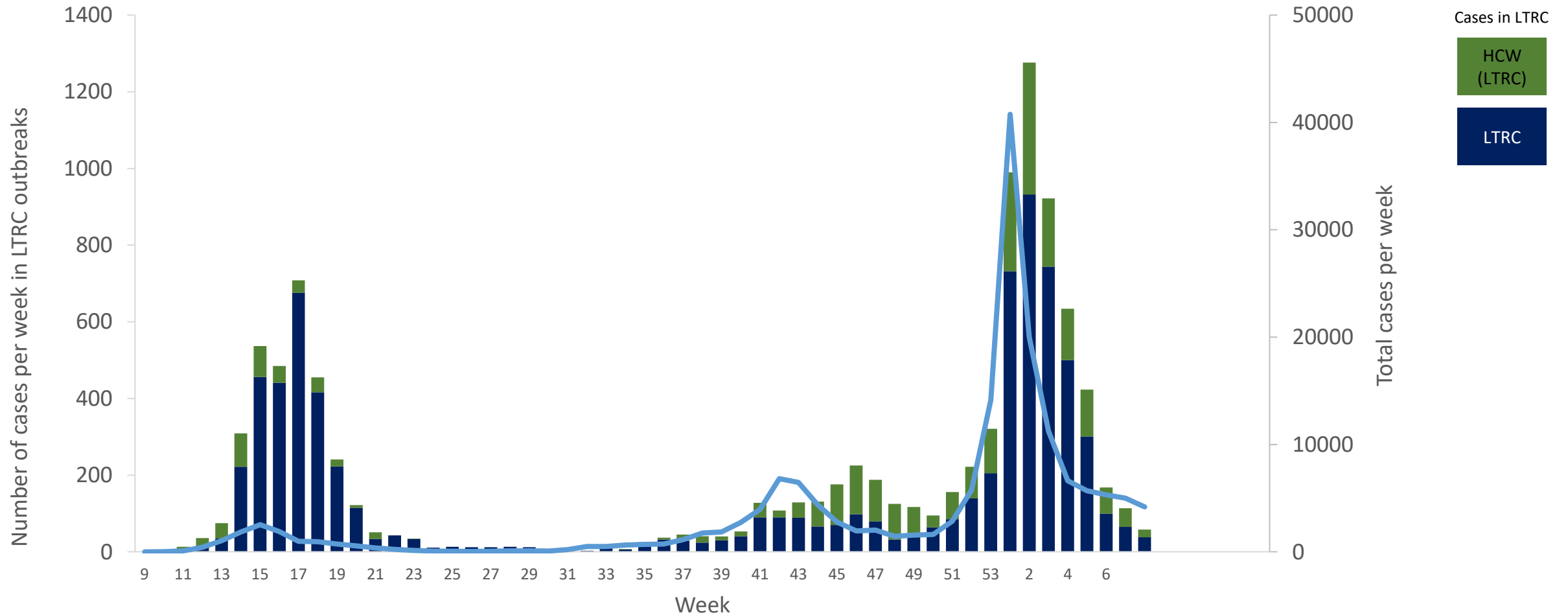
209 open outbreaks in older person RCFs (compares with 207 week ending 14/02/2021)

105 in Disability (compares with 117 week ending 14/02/2021)

8 in Mental Health (compares with 17 week ending 14/02/2021)

Cases in long-term residential settings

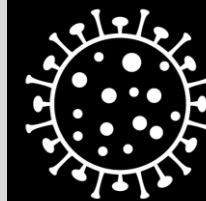
The number of cases linked to outbreaks in LTRC, following the unprecedented levels of infection in the community in January 2021, was very high, similar to the numbers seen in April and May 2020. Nonetheless, when compared to the total burden of disease in the community (total cases per week) the level of infection in LTRC is significantly less than in April-May 2020. Cases in LTRC have decreased rapidly, and more so than would be expected given the level of disease in the wider community



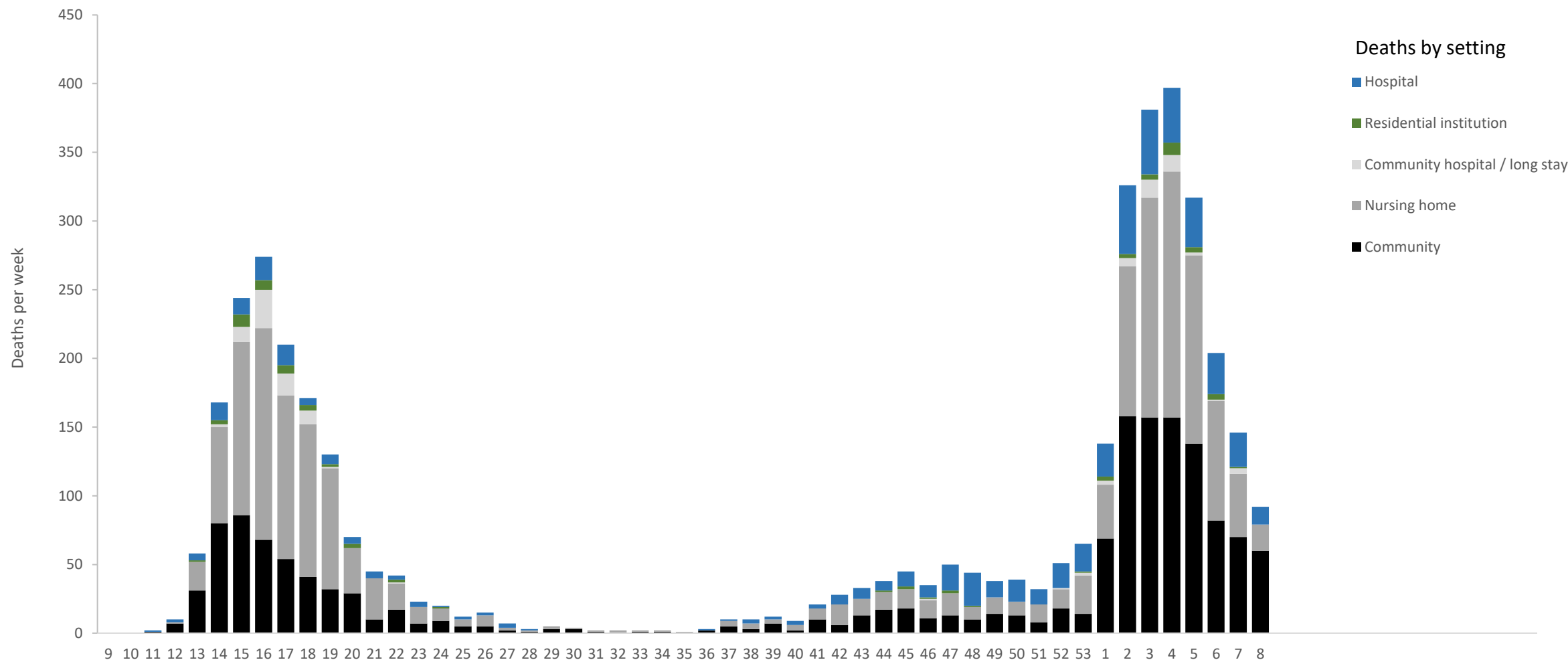
Number of cases per week linked to outbreaks in long-term residential care (bars) compared to the total number of cases per week (dotted line, referred to the secondary y-axis). LTRC: cases amongst residents in outbreaks in long-term residential settings.
HCW (LTRC): Cases in healthcare workers associated with outbreaks in LTRC.

Deaths by setting

There were over 100 deaths per week in recent weeks in long-term residential facilities, although deaths in LTRC constituted a smaller proportion of all deaths. Deaths in hospital outbreaks were significant in the period after the October surge. Deaths associated with outbreaks in LTRC appear to be decreasing, which may be due to the protective effect of vaccination



Coronavirus
COVID-19
Public Health
Advice



Deaths per week by week of death and the setting in which the death occurred. Deaths with laboratory confirmed SARS-CoV-2 only. Deaths in hospital outbreaks refers to deaths within a cluster of linked cases where the infection has been transmitted in the hospital setting, other deaths in hospitals are recorded as 'community' as the infection occurred in the community.



Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland



Test & Trace Update

Testing/sampling and contact tracing NPHET update



Sampling

Over the past seven days, 24th Feb-2nd March, there has been approximately 108,600 swabs taken for COVID-19 testing.

Of these:

- 40,631 (37%) of these were taken in the community
- 47,252 (44%) swabs were taken in acute and private acute settings.
- 20,717 (19%) swabs taken were taken as part of the Serial Testing programmes of staff in residential care facilities including mental health facilities and disability facilities meeting the agreed criteria, as well as staff in food production facilities.

Turnaround Times (24th Feb-2nd March)



End-to-end turnaround time

- The median end-to-end turnaround time, from referral to SMS, for **not detected** tests in the community setting was **1.5 days**.
- The median turnaround time for time, from referral to communication of a **detected result** by SMS, in community settings was **1.7 days**.
- The median end-to-end turnaround time, from referral to the end of contact tracing SMS sent, for **detected cases** in the community setting was **2 days**.

Overall Swab to laboratory result communicated – Medians: 25 hours in Acute, 26 hours in Serial Testing, 29 hours in Community

Referral to appointment

In the community, the median time from referral to appointment was 0.2 days.

92% of community referrals are provided with a COVID-19 test appointment within 24 hours.

Contact Tracing:

The mean time and median time to complete all calls are 6.2 hours and 4.1 hours, respectively.

Education and Childcare Facility turnaround times

The median turnaround time from swab taken to result communicated in education and childcare settings was **1.2 days**.

CMP close contact update (22nd-28th February)



- The number of close contacts reported during the week ending 28th February was 9,322, a 15% decrease from the previous week
- In total, 8,728 (94%) of the contacts created between in the week ending 28th Feb have been informed of their close contact status at the time of CMP report preparation.
- The mean number of close contacts per case (incl. cases with no close contacts) was 2.2, an increase from 2.1 the previous week
- The number of complex contact episodes decreased by 14% to 1,614

**Source: HSE – COVID-19 Contact Management
Programme Weekly report**



Close Contact Attendance and Positivity Rates at Test 1 – 15th-21st Feb

- Of the close contacts created between 15th-21st Feb, 6,747 (84%) of those who were referred for a Test 1 appointment attended for testing.
- Results were available at the time of report preparation for 6,692 close contacts, 24.9% (1,668) of which were positive.
- Household close contact positivity rate at 32.6%

SARS-CoV2 Test 1* Results by Circumstances – Contacts Created 15/02/2021 to 21/02/2021

<i>Circumstances of Contact</i>	Number of Results Reported	Positive Results	Positivity Rate
Household	3237	1054	32.6%
Social	1106	189	17.1%
Workplace	433	36	8.3%
Childcare Facilities	213	34	16.0%
Third Level Education	5	<5	**
Healthcare Setting: Patient***	51	<5	**
Healthcare Setting: Staff***	28	<5	**
Sport	15	<5	**
Transport	44	7	15.9%
Other	116	15	12.9%
Not Recorded	1444	325	22.5%
Total	6692	1668	24.9%

Table 1.5 –Test 1 Results by Circumstances of Contact –15/02/2021 to 21/02/2021*

Source: HSE – COVID-19 Contact Management Programme Weekly report



Close Contact Attendance and Positivity Rates at Test 2 – 8th-14th Feb

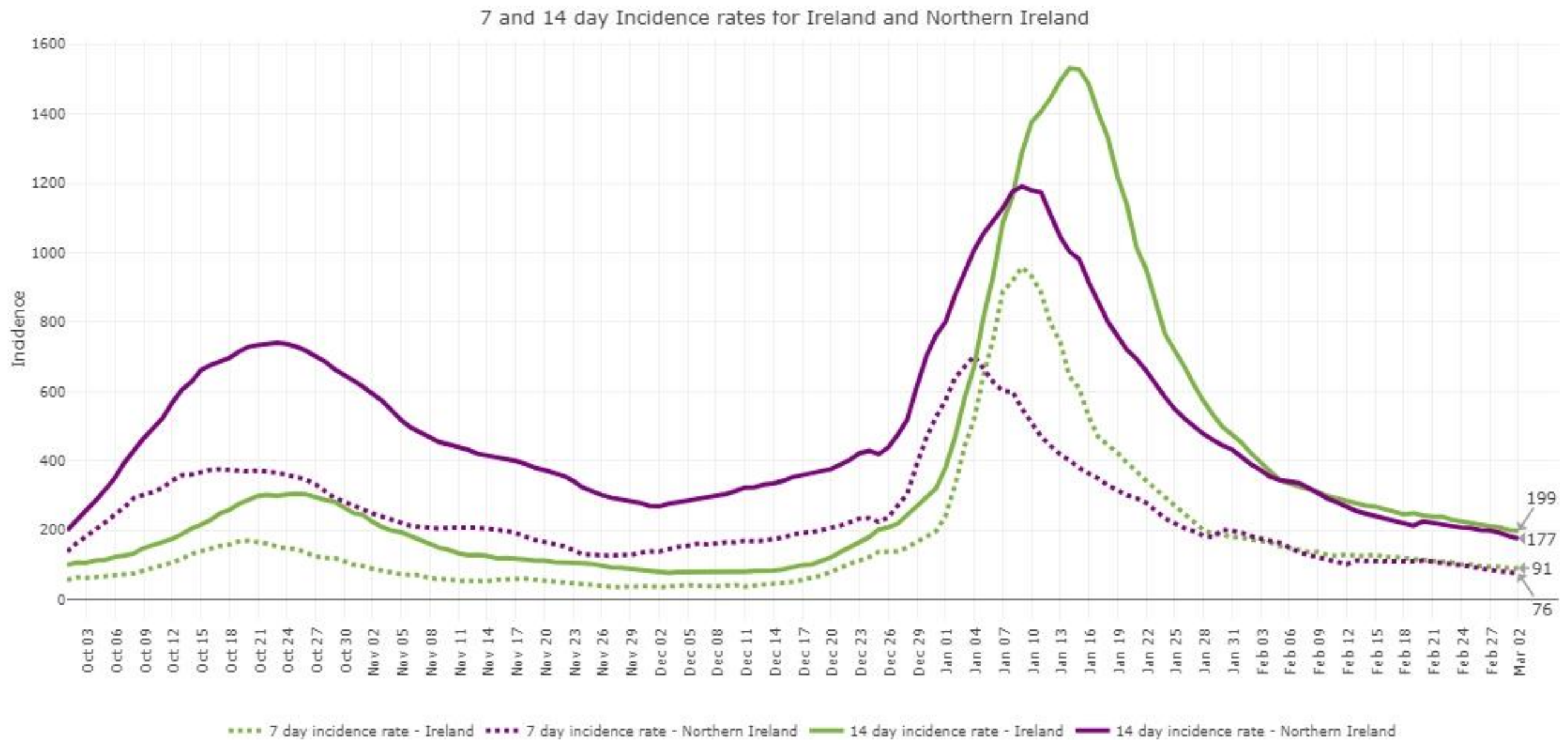
- Of the close contacts created between 15th-21st Feb, 2,182 (74%) of those who were referred for a Test 2 appointment attended for testing.
- Results were available at the time of report preparation for 1,999 close contacts, 9.4% (187) of which were positive.
- Household close contact positivity rate at 13.9%

SARS-CoV2 Test 2* Results by Circumstances – Contacts Created 08/02/2021 to 14/02/2021

<i>Circumstances of Contact</i>	Number of Results Reported	Positive Results	Positivity Rate
Household	921	128	13.9%
Social	404	24	5.9%
Workplace	147	<5	**
Childcare Facilities	84	7	8.3%
Secondary School	<5	<5	**
Special School	<5	<5	**
Third Level Education	<5	<5	**
Healthcare Setting: Patient***	7	<5	**
Healthcare Setting: Staff***	11	<5	**
Sport	12	<5	**
Transport	11	<5	**
Other	37	<5	**
Not Recorded	359	21	5.8%
Total	1999	187	9.4%

Table 1.8 –Test 2 Results by Circumstances of Contact –08/02/2021 to 14/02/2021*

Source: HSE – COVID-19 Contact Management Programme Weekly report



Note – calculated using the 2016 population estimates for both ROI and NI.

Source: HPSC CIDR Extract 030321 and health-ni.gov.uk daily data 03/03/21.

Variants update



Variants of Concern

Confirmed B.1.351 cases (new in the last week): 15 (3)

Confirmed P.1 case (new in the last week): 3 (0)

Variants Under Investigation

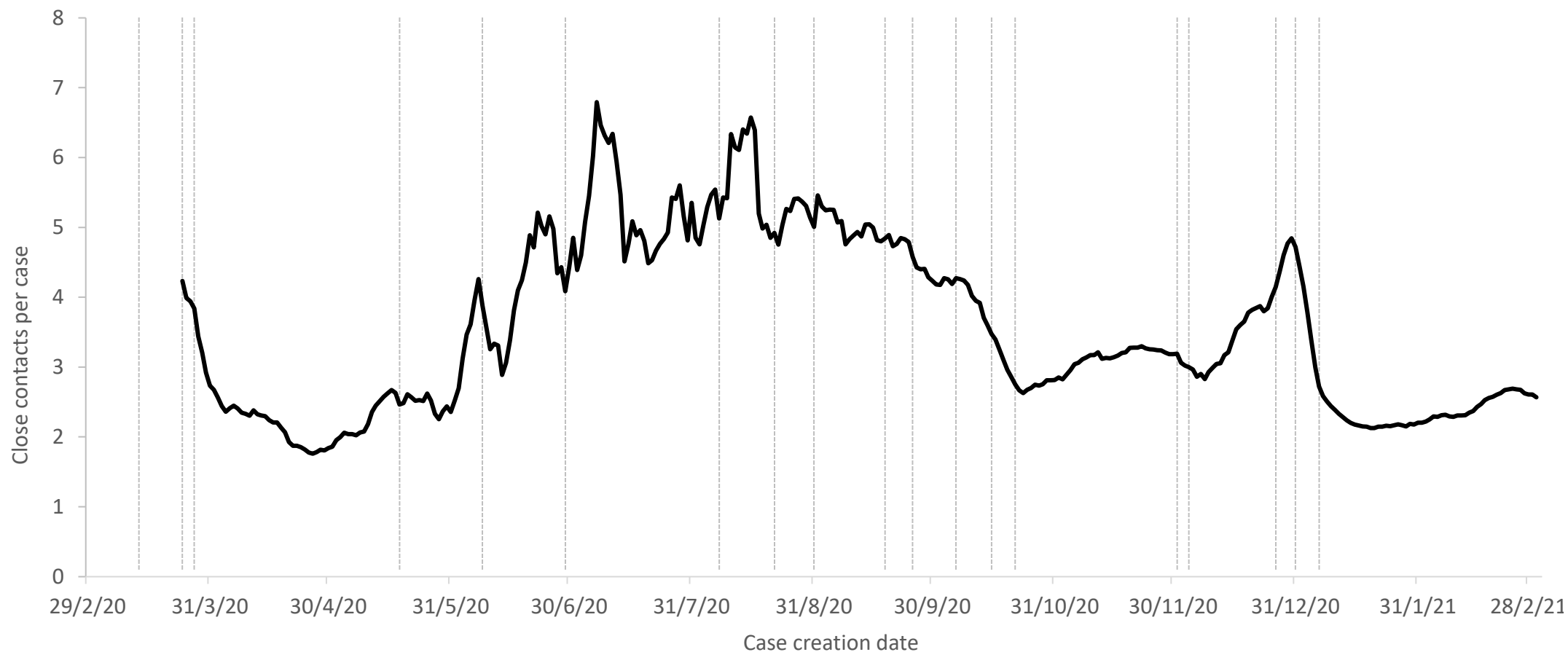
One case of the B.1.525 variant has been reported



Growth in Cases & R number

Close contacts of adult confirmed cases

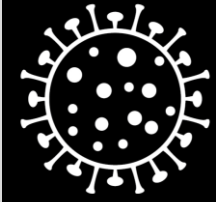
The mean number of close contacts per confirmed case. The number of contacts was very low (2 or less) during April, but increased to 5-6 per case during the summer. The public health measures during October was associated with a progressive reduction in close contacts, to below 3. The number of close contacts remained below 3.3 on average until early December, rose to almost 5 on average by 28 December, fell to 2.1 in January, and while there has been some recent increase, remains stable at ≈ 2.6



The average number of close contacts per confirmed case. Data from COVID-19 Care Tracker (CCT). Cases dated by case creation date. Cases (but not contacts) aged 18 and younger are excluded. Data are 7-day trailing averages except for the months of June – August where a 21-day trailing average is used due to very low case counts.

Week-on-week decline in cases

The effect of resumed testing of close contacts is seen 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



Coronavirus
COVID-19
Public Health
Advice

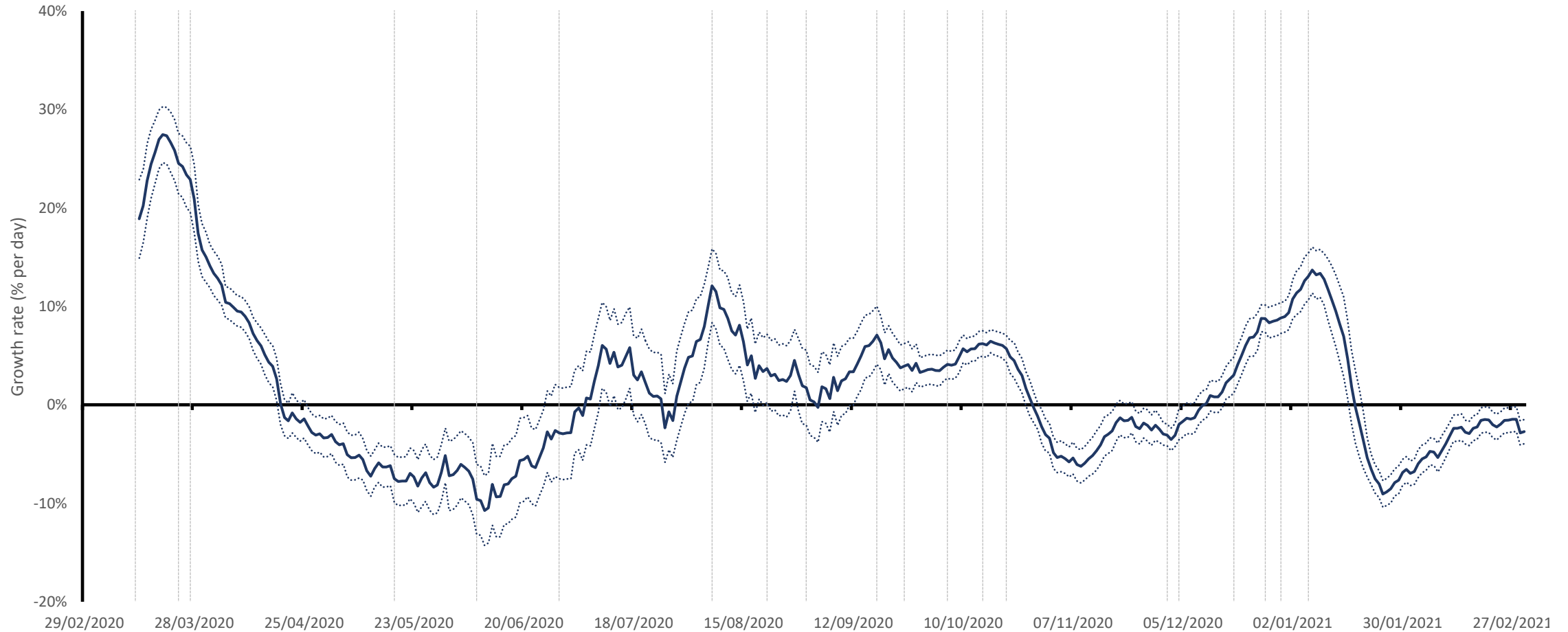
Week	Cases	Week-on week change
2021 - 1	45,621	
2	25,123	-45%
3	14,815	-41%
4	8,931	-40%
5	7,146	-20%
6	6,031	-16%
7	5,531	-8%
8	4,561	-18%



Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

Growth rate for case numbers

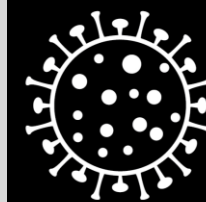
Growth rate peaked at 13% per day over the 21-day period up to 10 January 2021. While case numbers decreased very rapidly in January (-6 to -10% per day) case numbers are now decreasing more slowly at -2% to -4% per day; this rate of decline has been stable for two weeks



Growth rate calculated as the average growth rate over a 21-day trailing window, with 95% credible interval; cases dated by notification (event) date.

Estimates of effective reproduction number (R)

Reproduction number is below 1.0 with increased uncertainty in its estimation; R is stable or decreasing
it is currently estimated at 0.6 – 0.9



Coronavirus
COVID-19
Public Health
Advice

Method	Estimate	95% confidence interval
SEIR model-inferred	0.91	0.63 – 1.29
Bayesian model	0.76	0.40 – 1.16
Time-dependent R	0.73	0.66 – 0.81
GAM estimate 23 Feb 2021	0.83	0.69 – 0.98
GAM estimate 2 Mar 2021	0.83	0.63 – 1.02

Estimates generated 3 March 2021, refer to IEMAG technical notes for methodology. Estimates are unreliable when case numbers are low or variable. SEIR-inferred estimate is slow to respond to changes in R. The time-dependent R estimate lags behind other estimates. These R estimates relate to viral transmissions and infections that occurred approximately 7-14 days ago. The estimate of R is influenced by different patterns of transmission in large outbreaks, smaller clusters, and individual transmission.



Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

Situation analysis 3 March 2021



- We are seeing **continued, slower, but constant progress** against **all indicators of disease**
- **Incidence remains high**
- Cases (5-day average) **591 cases per day**; 14-day incidence **199 per 100,000**
 - Incidence decreasing across most age groups
 - Recent increase in young adults aged 19-24 has reversed
 - Numbers on hospital and ICU decreasing
 - Test positivity remains high, but may be starting to decrease
- We are **maintaining suppression** of transmission **stable rate of decline**
 - Rate of decline now at -2 to -4%, halving time 18 - 36 days
 - **R estimated as stable or decreasing at 0.6 – 0.9**
- Indicators of **mobility and contact** remain low
- Emerging **evidence of protective effect of vaccination**



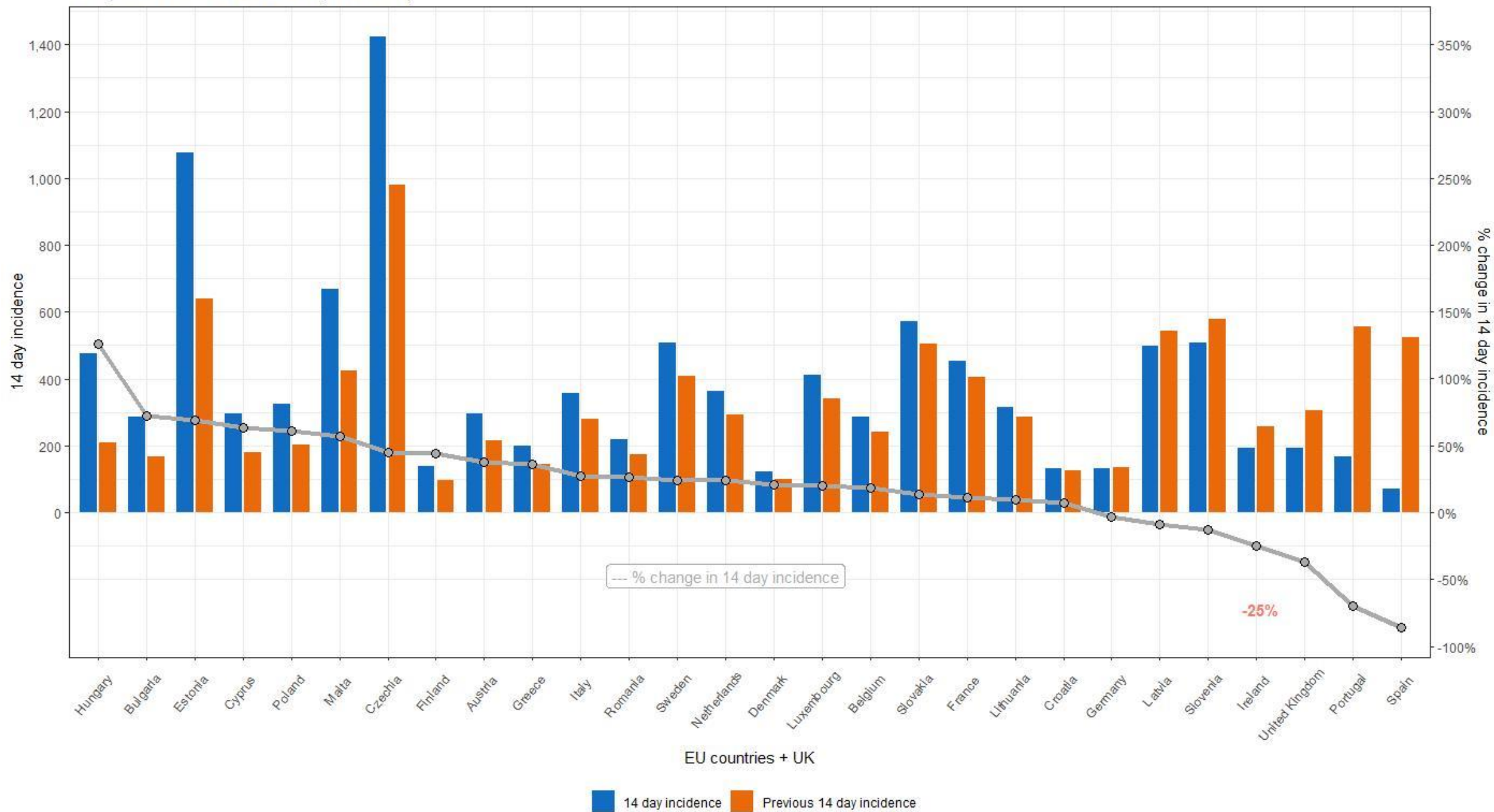
European Data

EU/UK ranked by 14 day incidence (2nd March)

EU and the UK	14 day incidence	Previous 14 day incidence	% change in 14 day incidence
Czechia	1424.9	981.8	45%
Estonia	1077.6	638.2	69%
Malta	667.2	425.6	57%
Slovakia	573.4	505.6	13%
Sweden	507.4	408.6	24%
Slovenia	506.8	578.9	-12%
Latvia	498.7	544.5	-8%
Hungary	476.9	210.5	127%
France	451.6	405.7	11%
Luxembourg	410.6	341.7	20%
Netherlands	363.3	293.0	24%
Italy	357.0	279.5	28%
Poland	325.1	202.0	61%
Lithuania	314.5	287.3	9%
Cyprus	295.7	180.7	64%
Austria	295.7	215.1	37%
Bulgaria	286.9	166.2	73%
Belgium	285.9	241.0	19%
Romania	218.7	172.8	27%
Greece	198.4	145.7	36%
Ireland	192.7	257.0	-25%
United Kingdom	192.0	304.3	-37%
Portugal	167.6	556.1	-70%
Finland	137.1	95.0	44%
Croatia	133.0	124.0	7%
Germany	130.5	134.6	-3%
Denmark	121.6	100.7	21%
Spain	72.4	522.9	-86%

- As of 16th Dec, this daily data is now sourced from Our World In Data (OWID) instead of ECDC as they have switched to weekly reporting (Thursday evenings).
- OWID source their confirmed cases and deaths data from the COVID-19 Data Repository by the Center for Systems Science and Engineering (CSSE) at Johns Hopkins University (JHU). <https://github.com/owid/covid-19-data/tree/master/public/data>

European 14 incidence rates (02 March)

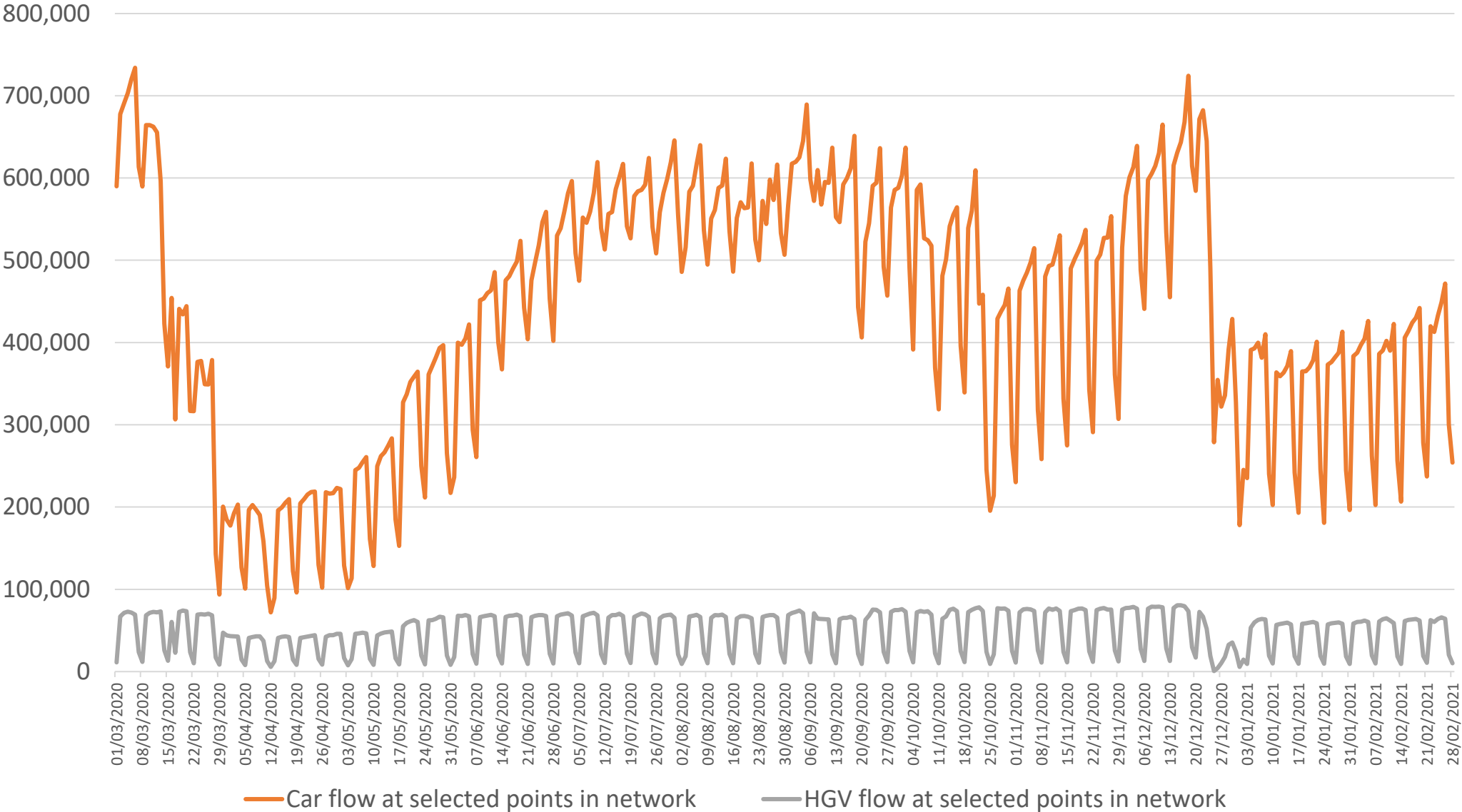


- As of 16th Dec, this daily data is now sourced from Our World In Data (OWID) instead of ECDC as they have switched to weekly reporting (Thursday evenings).
- OWID source their confirmed cases and deaths data from the COVID-19 Data Repository by the Center for Systems Science and Engineering (CSSE) at Johns Hopkins University (JHU). <https://github.com/owid/covid-19-data/tree/master/public/data>

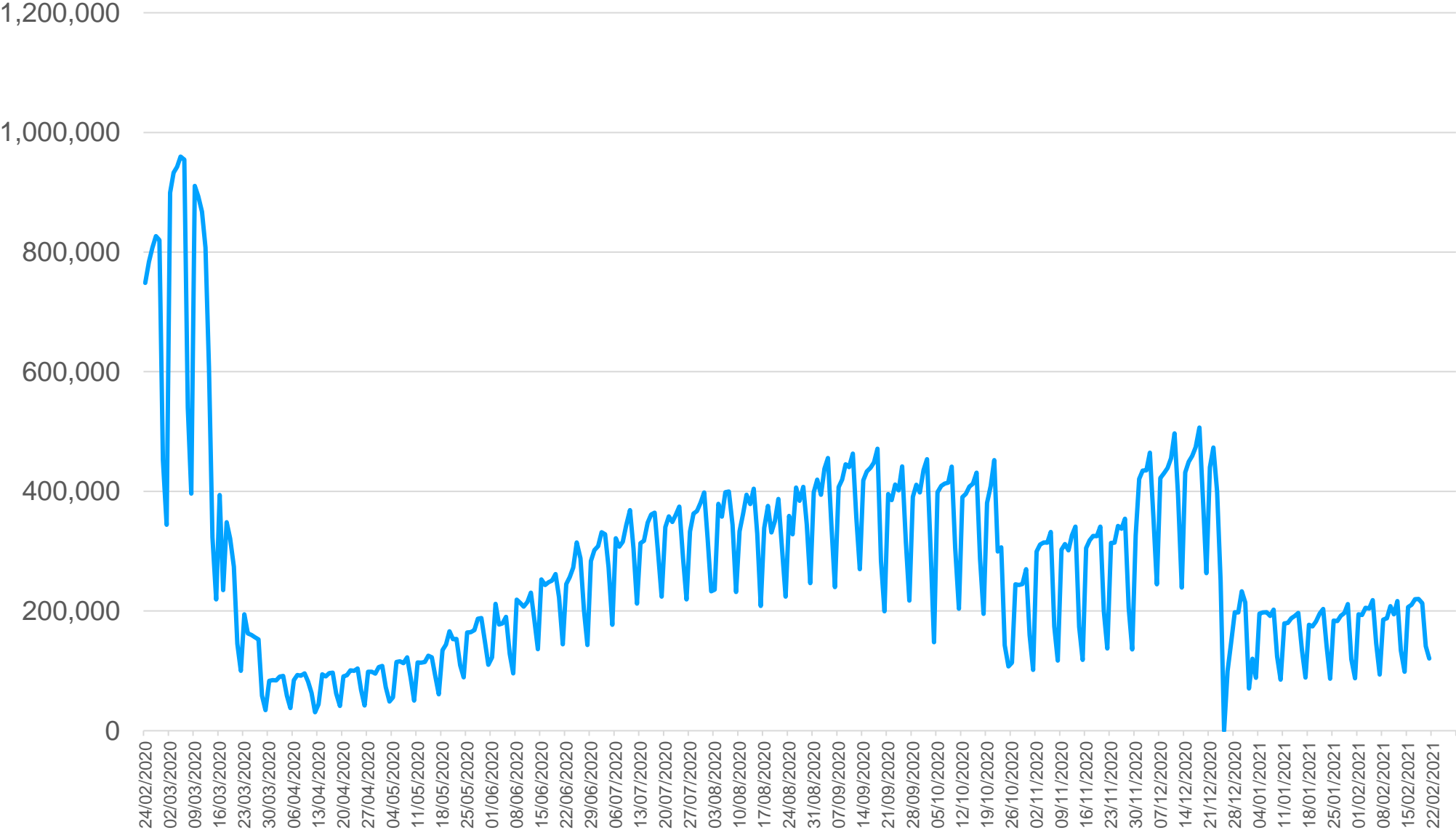


Compliance Data

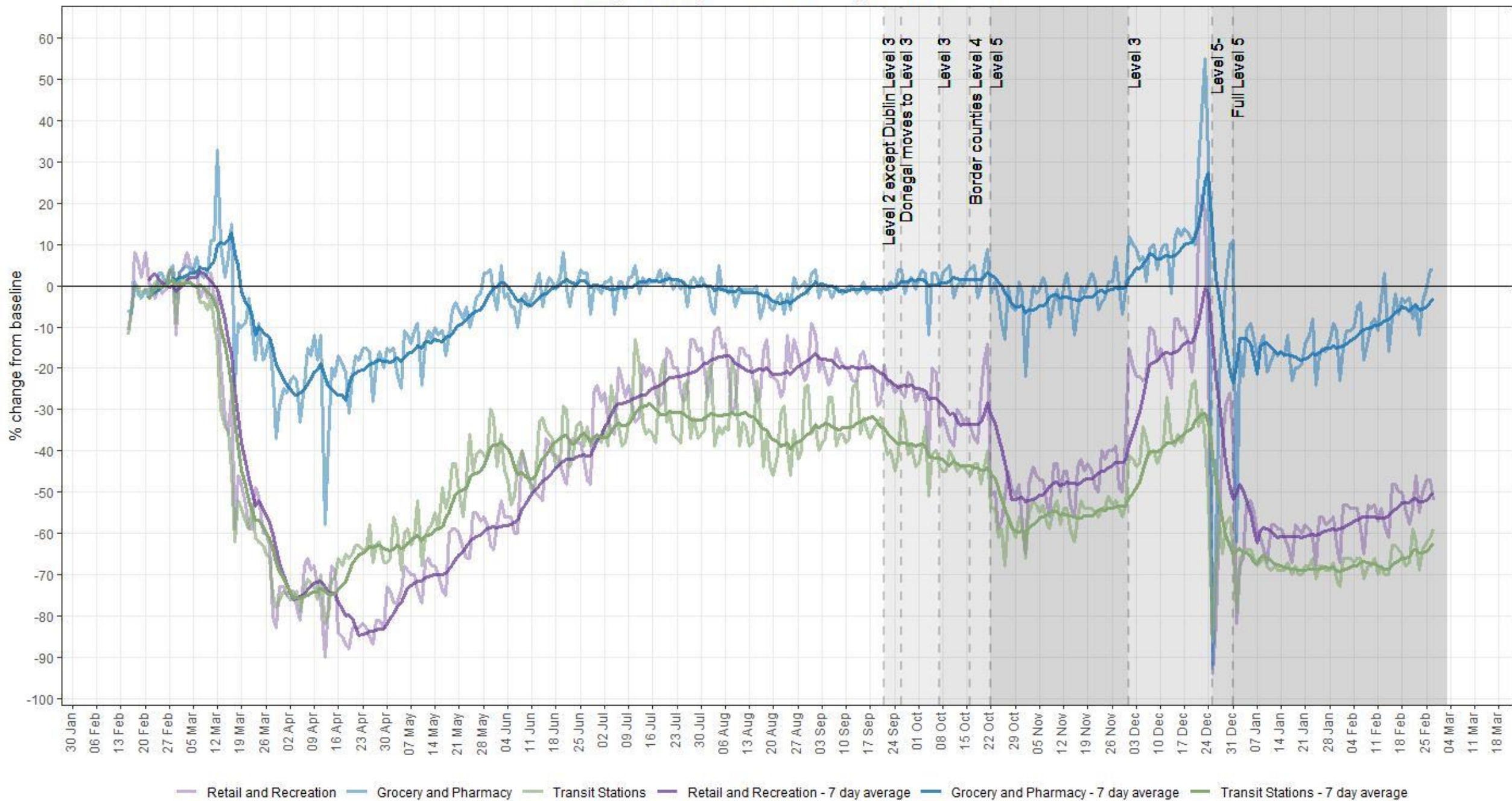
Daily Traffic Flow



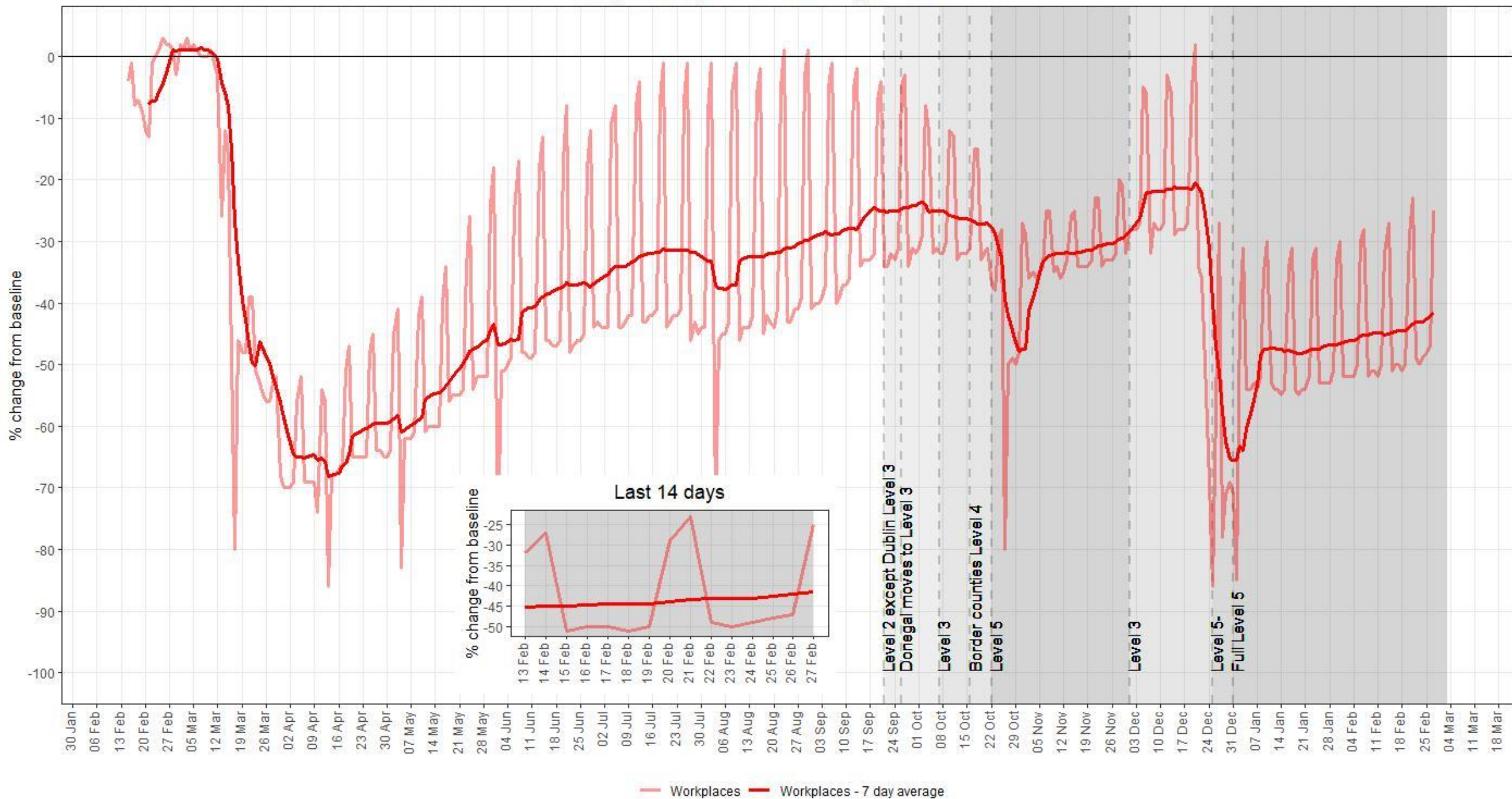
Overall Public Transport daily passengers



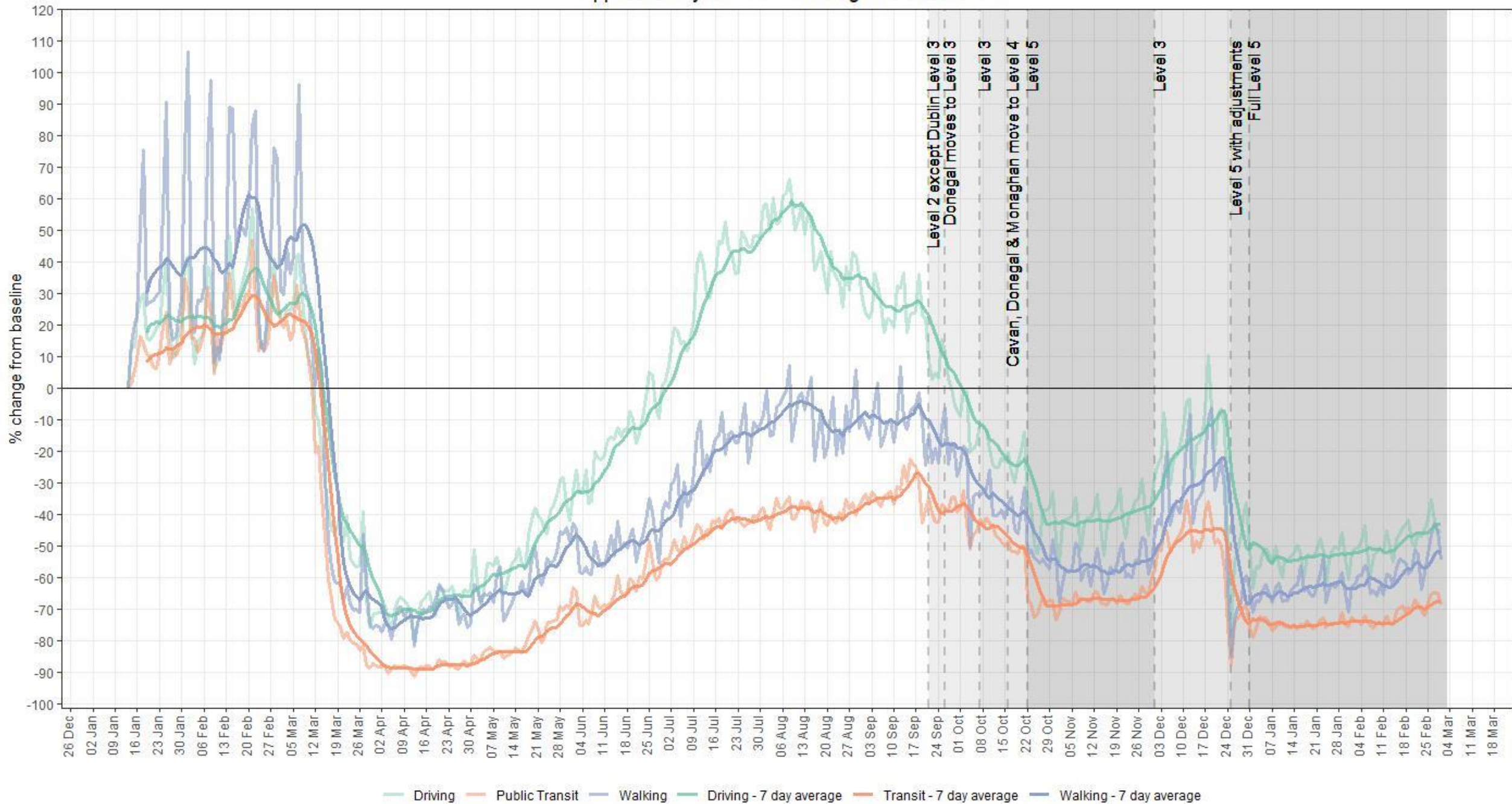
Google Mobility Ireland - % change from baseline



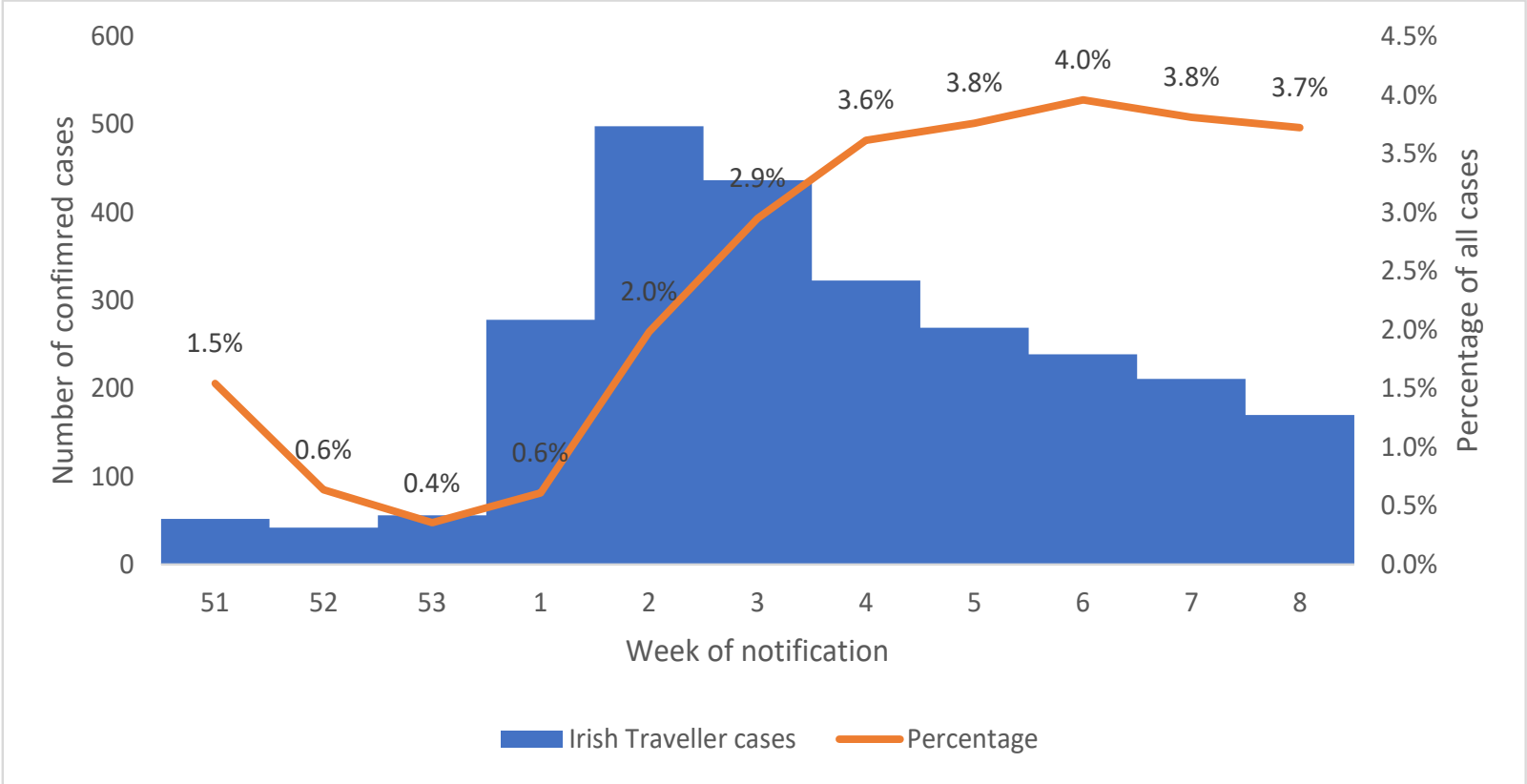
Google Mobility Ireland - % change from baseline



Apple Mobility Ireland - % change from baseline



COVID-19 infections among Irish Travellers – December 13th 2020 – February 27th 2021



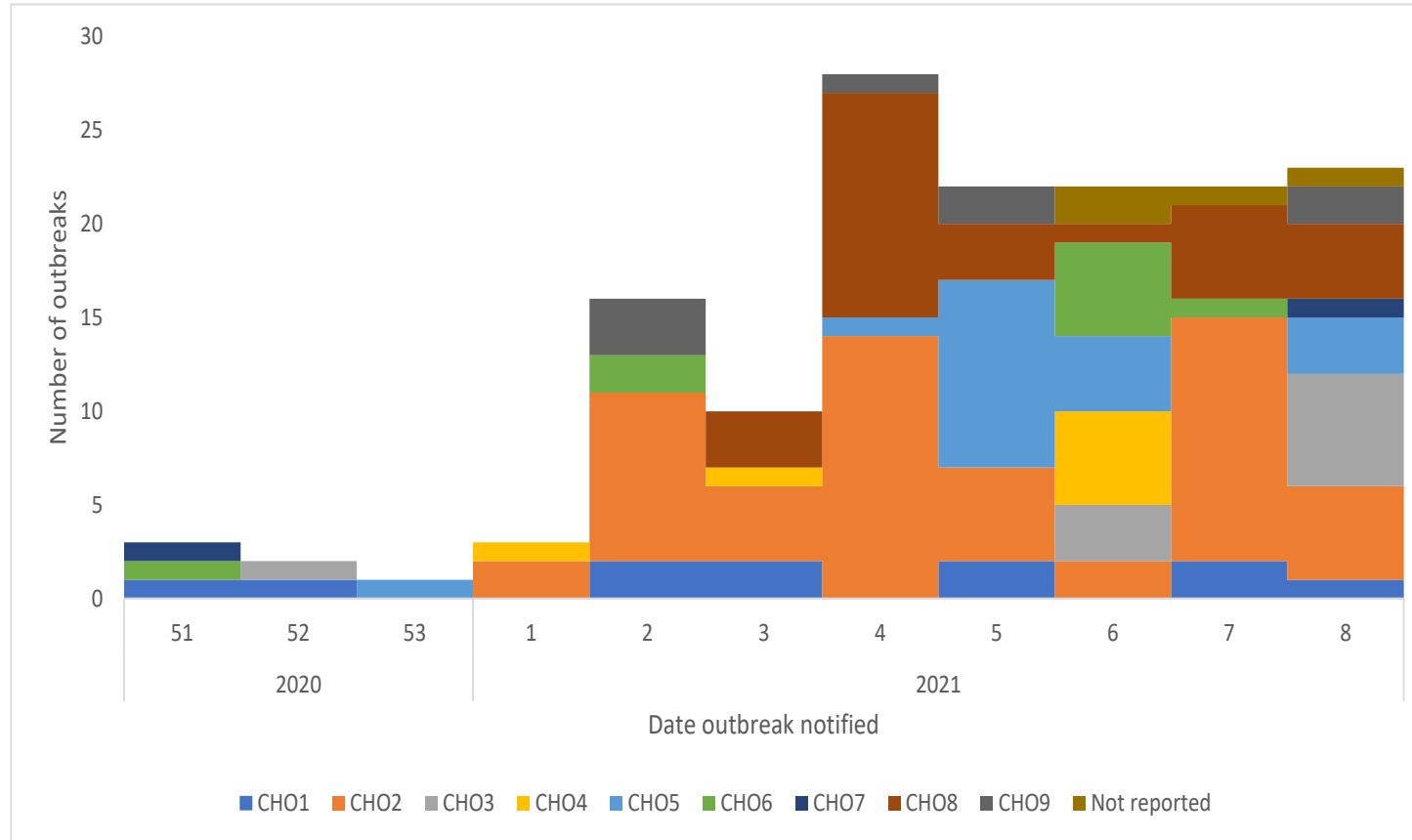
- 2575 confirmed cases
- 49% (1063/2219) male
- Median age 24 years
- 4.9% hospitalised, 12 ICU admissions and five deaths
- In each of the last four weeks, confirmed cases among Irish Travellers made up >3.6% of all confirmed cases

Inclusion criteria

Cases linked to outbreaks reported as affecting Irish Travellers OR whose ethnicity is reported as Irish Traveller, December 13th 2020 to midnight February 27th 2021

Data source: CIDR March 1st 2021 – data to midnight February 27th 2021

COVID-19 outbreaks among Irish Travellers – December 13th 2020 – February 27th 2021



December 13th to February 27th (weeks 51 2020 to 8 2021)

- 152 outbreaks linked to Irish Travellers, two thirds of all outbreaks among Irish Travellers since March 2020
- The number of outbreaks peaked in week 4 2021 (n=28), but has remained above 20 since then
- Four of these outbreaks had >60 linked confirmed cases

Week 8 2021

- Twenty-three new outbreaks were notified, with 186 notified cases

Data source: CIDR March 1st 2021 – data to midnight February 27th 2021