

STATISTICS PRESS NOTICE – WEEKLY DEATH STATISTICS (Week ending 20 May 2022)



9.30am Friday 27 May 2022

Covid-19 related deaths: week ending 20 May 2022

Latest figures published today by NISRA show that 14 deaths involving Covid-19 occurred in Week 20 ending 20 May 2022. The total number of Covid-19 related deaths that occurred up to 20 May 2022 has now reached 4,618. Of these, 3,212 (69.6%) took place in hospital, 981 (21.2%) in care homes and 425 (9.2%) at residential addresses, hospices or other locations.

Further analysis, which includes deaths of care home residents by place of death, shows that there was a total of 1,284 deaths of care home residents involving Covid-19 (including deaths that took place in a hospice, hospital, care home or elsewhere) occurring between 18 March 2020 and 20 May 2022. This accounts for 27.8% of all Covid-19 related deaths. However, no assumptions can be made in relation to where the deceased contracted the disease.

Separate analysis, based on the date of death registration, shows that the provisional number of total deaths from all causes registered in Northern Ireland in the week ending 20 May 2022 (week 20, 2022) was 312, 10 less than in week 19 of 2022 and five more than the 5-year average (2017-2021) of 307.

Covid-19 was mentioned on the death certificate of 15 (4.8%) of the 312 deaths registered in week 20, one less than the previous week (16). The total number of Covid-19 related deaths registered since the start of the pandemic is 4,611 up to 20 May 2022.

Persons aged 75 and over accounted for 73.8% of the 4,611 Covid-19 related deaths registered between 19 March 2020 and 20 May 2022.

Over the period of the pandemic, Armagh City, Banbridge & Craigavon and Mid-Ulster Local Government Districts have had higher proportions of registered Covid-19 related deaths (12.4% and 8.0% respectively) compared with their share of all deaths in Northern Ireland (10.4% and 6.7% respectively). Conversely, Ards & North Down and Fermanagh & Omagh both have relatively low shares of registered Covid-19 related deaths (1.9 and 1.8 percentage points lower than their respective share of all deaths).

NISRA

May 2022

NOTES TO EDITORS

1. Statistics on weekly deaths registered in Northern Ireland can be found at: [weekly death registration in Northern Ireland](#).
2. All media queries to Department of Finance Press Office at dof.pressoffice@finance-ni.gov.uk or on Tel: 028 90816724. The Executive Information Service operates an out of hours service **For Media Enquiries Only** between 1800hrs and 0800hrs Monday to Friday and at weekends and public holidays. The duty press officer can be contacted on 028 9037 8110.
3. Differences between NISRA's death registration statistics and the daily totals reported via the Department of Health are as follows:
 - The **daily updates** provided by the Department of Health (DoH) counted the number of deaths reported by Trusts, where the deceased had a positive test for Covid-19 and died within 28 days, whether or not Covid-19 was the cause of death. DoH figures will not capture all deaths that do not meet this definition. DoH announced on 18 May 2022 the cessation of the COVID-19 Daily Dashboard of Statistics and changes to the frequency of other COVID-19 related statistical outputs after Friday 20 May 2022. More details are available from the [DoH website](#).
 - NISRA weekly, provisional death statistics, which are based on death registration information collected by the General Register Office, count all deaths where Covid-19 was mentioned on the death certificate by the doctor who certified the death, whether or not Covid-19 was the primary underlying cause of death. The figures include cases where the doctor noted that there was suspected or probable coronavirus infection involved in the death. As a result the weekly totals will usually be higher than the relevant daily figures - because the DoH daily updates only include those who have tested positive for the virus.
4. To allow for delays in death registrations, quoted figures based on occurrence take into account registrations up to 25 May 2022. Please note that the number of occurrences can be subject to change depending on when the deaths are registered.
5. Analysis of care home residents refers to deaths where either (a) the death occurred in a care home, or (b) the death occurred elsewhere but the place of usual residence of the deceased was recorded as a care home. It should be noted that the statistics will not capture those cases where a care home resident

died in hospital or another location and the usual address recorded on their death certificate is not a care home; however no assumptions can be made about where or when the deceased contracted Covid-19 (and all figures include probable or suspect cases).

6. There will be no release on 3 June 2022 due to the Jubilee holidays, but reporting on weekly deaths will recommence on 10 June. Reporting from 10 June will consist of tables only, a bulletin will be produced where necessary depending on trends in deaths, and Covid-related deaths specifically, however it will cease to be produced on a weekly basis.
7. Further information on the statistics provided in this publication can be obtained from NISRA Customer Services at:
Telephone: +44 (0)300 200 7836
E-mail: demography@nisra.gov.uk
Responsible Statistician: Deborah Lyness