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News

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# Latest updates on COVID-19 (Coronavirus)

Published: 18 March 2020  
From: [Department of Health](#)

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## March 18

74 new cases of COVID-19 confirmed

The Health Protection Surveillance Centre has been informed of 74 new confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Ireland.

The cases are made up of 29 females and 45 males.

There have been 2 deaths associated with COVID-19 in Ireland.

There are now 366 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Ireland.

[Read more](#)

[See an analysis of the 271 cases of COVID-19 in Ireland as of 16 March 2020.](#)

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Government announces major new financial measures to help people cope with COVID-19

The Minister for Finance, Paschal Dohohue, today announced measures to help people deal with the financial strain of COVID-19.

These measures include:

- flexible arrangements for business and personal customers with their banks - including 3 month payment breaks where necessary (customers are advised to contact their bank)

- contactless payments to increase to €50 in the interests of public health policy
- making sure that people can continue to access banking services

[Read more](#)

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## March 1- 17

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### March 17

69 new cases of COVID-19 confirmed

The Health Protection Surveillance Centre has been informed of 69 new confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Ireland - 29 males and 40 females.

- 48 associated with the east of the country
- 13 associated with the south
- 5 associated with the north/west
- 3 associated with the west

There have been 2 deaths associated with COVID-19 in Ireland.

There are now 292 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Ireland.

[Read more](#)

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### March 16

54 new cases of COVID-19 confirmed

The HPSC has been informed of 54 new confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Ireland.

The new cases are made up of 30 males and 24 females:

- 41 are associated with the east of the country
- 11 are associated with the south
- 2 are associated with the north/west of the country.

There have been 2 deaths associated with COVID-19 in Ireland. There are now 223 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Ireland.

[Read more](#)

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## March 15

40 new COVID-19 cases confirmed

The Health Protection Surveillance Centre has today been informed of 40 new confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Ireland:

- 23 males, 17 females
- 25 are associated with the east of the country
- 9 are associated with the west
- 6 are associated with the south

There are now 169 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Ireland.

[Read more](#)

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All pubs advised to close until 29 March

The government has advised that all pubs should close until 29 March. It is also advised that people avoid having house parties in the interest of social distancing.

[Read more](#)

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## March 14

Second COVID-19 death and 39 new cases confirmed

The Health Protection Surveillance Centre has today been informed that a patient diagnosed with COVID-19 in Ireland has died. There have now been 2 deaths associated with COVID-19 in Ireland.

The HPSC has also been informed of 39 new confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Ireland. 29 males and 10 females are confirmed.

Of today's cases:

- 21 are associated with the east of the country
- 13 associated with the south
- 3 associated with the north-west
- 2 cases associated with the west of Ireland

There are now 129 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Ireland.

[Read more](#)

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## March 13

20 new cases confirmed bringing total to 90

The Health Protection Surveillance Centre has been informed of 20 new confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Ireland:

- 6 cases are associated with travel
- 12 are associated with contacts of confirmed case; 4 of which are healthcare workers
- 2 cases are associated with community transmission

There are now 90 cases of COVID-19 in Ireland.

[Read more](#)

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## March 12

27 new cases confirmed bringing total to 70

27 new cases of COVID-19 have been confirmed.

The new cases are made up of:

- 22 cases associated with contact with already confirmed cases
- 2 cases associated with community transmission
- 3 cases associated with travel

The total number of cases in Ireland is 70.

[Read more](#)

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### Statement from the National Public Health Emergency Team

The National Public Health Emergency Team met last night (Wednesday 11 March) to review latest evidence of the spread of COVID-19.

NPHET has made a recommendation that Ireland move to Delay Phase.

[Read more](#)

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Statement by the Taoiseach

The following measures will come into effect from tomorrow until 29 March:

- schools, colleges and childcare facilities will close from tomorrow (Friday)
- indoor mass gatherings of 100 people or more and outdoor mass gatherings of more than 500 people should be cancelled
- all State-run cultural institutions will close

Where it is possible to work remotely people should do so. Public transport will continue and shops will continue to remain open.

Mr Varadkar said we need the public and businesses to take a sensible approach.

[Read more](#)

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## March 11

Statement from the National Public Health Emergency Team

The Health Protection Surveillance Centre has today been informed that a patient diagnosed with COVID-19 in Ireland has passed away.

This is the first recorded death relating to COVID-19 reported in Ireland.

The HPSC has also been informed of 9 new confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Ireland:

- 4 males, from the south of the country, associated with travel
- 1 female, from the south of the country, contact with a confirmed case
- 1 male, south of the country, contact with a confirmed case
- 3 males, from the east of the country, two associated with travel, one associated with contact of a confirmed case

There are now 43 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Ireland.

[Read more](#)

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## March 10

Statement from the National Public Health Emergency Team

The Health Protection Surveillance Centre has today been informed of 10 new confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Ireland:

- 1 male, a healthcare worker, in the south of the country, associated with hospital transmission
- 1 female, a healthcare worker, in the east of the country, possible hospital transmission
- 3 males, in the south of the country, associated with travel from an affected area
- 1 male, in the west of the country, associated with close contact with a confirmed case
- 1 female, in the west of the country, associated with close contact with a confirmed case
- 1 female, in the south of the country, associated with close contact with a confirmed case
- 1 male, in the east of the country, associated with travel from an affected area
- 1 female, in the east of the country, associated with travel from an affected area

There are now 34 confirmed cases of Covid-19 in Ireland.

[Read more](#)

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## March 9

Statement from the National Public Health Emergency Team

The Health Protection Surveillance Centre has today been informed of 3 new confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Ireland:

- 1 case, a female, in the south of the country, associated with close contact with a confirmed case
- 1 case, a female, in the West of the country, associated with close contact with a confirmed case
- 1 case, a female, in the south of Ireland, a healthcare worker is associated with close contact with a confirmed case

There are now 24 confirmed cases of Covid-19 in Ireland.

[Read more](#)

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St Patrick's Festival cancelled as government announces new measures

Today saw the launch of major national actions agreed across government.

As well as announcing a range of new supports for health service, workers and business, it was also announced that the national St Patrick's Festival will be cancelled.

[Read more](#)

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## March 8

Statement from the National Public Health Emergency Team

The Health Protection Surveillance Centre has this evening been informed of two new confirmed cases of COVID-19 (Coronavirus) in Ireland:

- 1 case of community transmission, a female in the east of the country
- 1 case of community transmission, a male in the south of the country, is associated with the Bon Secours Hospital, Cork, and a risk assessment is underway

There are now 21 confirmed cases of Covid-19 in Ireland.

[Read more](#)

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## March 7

Statement from the National Public Health Emergency Team

The Health Protection Surveillance Centre has been informed of 1 new confirmed case of COVID-19 (Coronavirus) in Ireland.

The case is a male in the east of Ireland associated with travel from northern Italy.

This brings the total number of COVID-19 (Coronavirus) cases to 19.

[Read more](#)

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## March 6

Statement from the National Public Health Emergency Team

5 new cases of COVID-19 (Coronavirus) have been confirmed. All 5 cases are linked to contact with patients who were diagnosed already or to travel.

This brings the total number of COVID-19 (Coronavirus) cases to 18.

[Read more](#)

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## March 5

Statement from the National Public Health Emergency Team

The Health Protection Surveillance Centre has this evening been informed of 7 new confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Ireland:

- 4 are travel related from Northern Italy, 4 males from the east country
- 2 are associated with close contact with a confirmed case, 2 females in the west of the country
- 1 case of community transmission, a male from the south of the country, is associated with Cork University Hospital and a risk assessment is underway

There are now 13 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Ireland.

[Read more](#)

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## March 4

Statement from the National Public Health Emergency Team

The Health Protection Surveillance Centre has this evening been informed of four new confirmed cases of COVID-19 (Coronavirus) in Ireland.

The patients are all associated with travel from the same affected area in Northern Italy.

There are two male and two female patients, from the western part of the country.

[Read more](#)

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Statement from the National Public Health Emergency Team

The Health Protection Surveillance Centre has today been informed of two confirmed cases of Covid-19 (Coronavirus) in Northern Ireland. Both patients are in isolation in Northern Ireland and are receiving treatment. One patient is associated with travel from an affected area in Northern Italy. The other patient is associated with close contact with a confirmed case in the UK.

[Read more](#)



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## March 3

Statement from the National Public Health Emergency Team

There has been a second confirmed case of COVID-19 (Coronavirus) in Ireland. The patient, a female in the eastern part of the country, travelled to Ireland from Northern Italy and is currently receiving appropriate medical care.

The patient was identified and tested in line with established protocols for the investigation of suspect cases of COVID-19 (Coronavirus).

[Read more](#)

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## March 2

Statement from the National Public Health Emergency Team

The European Centre for Disease Control (ECDC) has today confirmed the risk of widespread sustained transmission of COVID-19 in the EU and UK in the coming weeks is moderate to high.

Ireland remains in a containment phase, with one confirmed case currently in isolation and contact tracing is underway.

[Read more](#)

## March 1

Statement from the National Public Health Emergency Team

Contact Tracing of the confirmed COVID-19 case, in the East of Ireland, has identified and made contact with a secondary school. The principal, staff and parents of pupils of this school have been notified. Following risk assessment, all pupils and teachers are being treated as close contacts of the confirmed case. The school will close for the duration of the incubation period, which is 14 days.

[Read more](#)

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## February

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### February 29

## Statement from the National Public Health Emergency Team

The Health Protection Surveillance Centre has today been informed of a confirmed case of COVID-19 (Coronavirus) in Ireland. The patient, a male in the eastern part of the country, is currently receiving appropriate medical care. The patient was identified and tested in line with established protocols for the investigation of suspect cases of COVID-19.

[Read more](#)

## Minister for Health Statement on confirmed case of COVID-19 (Coronavirus) in Ireland

The Minister for Health, Simon Harris, issued a statement which confirmed a case of COVID-19 (Coronavirus) in Ireland. The statement urges people to follow the [advice of the HSE and the Health Protection Surveillance Centre](#).

[Read more](#)

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## February 27

### Statement from the National Public Health Emergency Team

The Health Protection Surveillance Centre has today been informed of a presumptive case of COVID-19 (Coronavirus) in Northern Ireland. The patient is in isolation in Northern Ireland and is receiving treatment.

Public Health authorities have activated contact tracing protocols.

[Read more](#)

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## February 25

### Statement from the National Public Health Emergency Team

The National Public Health Emergency Team has today recommended that:

Algorithms be updated to reflect an expanded list of affected regions to include Japan, Singapore, Hong Kong, South Korea, Iran, four regions in northern Italy (Lombardy, Veneto, Emilia-Romagna and Piedmont) alongside mainland China.

[Read more](#)





## NPHET COVID-19 Meeting 25th February 2020

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### February 23

Statement from the National Public Health Emergency Team

Following on from the increased number of COVID-19 cases in Italy, the National Public Health Emergency Team has noted that the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control now rates the risk of the occurrence of similar clusters of cases in other EU countries as moderate to high.

[Read more](#)

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### February 20

Minister for Health signs regulations to make COVID-19 a Notifiable Disease

This will oblige doctors to routinely notify the HSE if a case of COVID-19 (Coronavirus) is diagnosed. This is common practice when dealing with an emerging infectious disease.

[Read more](#)

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### February 18

Statement from the National Public Health Emergency Team

78 suspected cases of COVID-19 (Coronavirus) have been tested in Ireland. To date, there are no confirmed cases.



## NPHET COVID-19 Meeting 18th February 2020

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## February 11

Statement from the National Public Health Emergency Team

65 suspected cases of COVID-19 (Coronavirus) have been tested in Ireland. To date, there are no confirmed cases.



NPHET Covid-19 Meeting 11th February 2020 Minutes

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NPHET Covid-19 Meeting 11th February 2020 Agenda

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## February 7

Statement from the National Public Health Emergency Team

As of Monday 3 February, 15 suspected cases of COVID-19 (Coronavirus) have been tested in the National Virus Reference Laboratory (NVRL). To date, there are no confirmed cases.

[Read more](#)

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## February 5

Statement from the National Public Health Emergency Team - First meeting of the Expert Advisory Group takes place

The first meeting of the Coronavirus Expert Advisory Group took place on Wednesday 5 February at the Health Protection Surveillance Centre (HSPC) in Dublin 1.

To date, there are no confirmed cases of COVID-19 (Coronavirus) in Ireland.

[Read more](#)

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## February 4

Statement from the National Public Health Emergency Team

The National Public Health Emergency Team met on Tuesday 4 February in the Department of Health.

As yet, there are no confirmed cases of COVID-19 (Coronavirus) in Ireland.



NPHET COVID-19 Meeting 4th February 2020 Minutes

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## February 2

Statement from the National Public Health Emergency Team

Ireland has advanced plans in place as part of its comprehensive preparedness to deal with public health emergencies such as COVID-19 (Coronavirus). These plans have helped us to respond to previous incidents such as pandemic influenza, SARS and MERS.

To date, there are no confirmed cases of COVID-19 (Coronavirus) in Ireland.

[Read more](#)

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## February 1

Statement from the National Public Health Emergency Team

As of 1 February 2020, there are no confirmed cases of COVID-19 (Coronavirus) in Ireland.

[Read more](#)

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# January

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## January 30

Statement from the National Public Health Emergency Team

Ireland is well positioned to detect and respond to a case of COVID-19 (Coronavirus) that might arise here. As yet, there have been no confirmed cases in Ireland.



NPHET COVID-19 Meeting 30th January 2020 Minutes

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## January 27



NPHET COVID-19 Meeting 27th January 2020 Minutes

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National Public Health Emergency Team on Covid-19  
(coronavirus) Terms Of Reference

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