

FOI DoF/2021-0482

Request

Could please give me an update to our previous correspondence.

From the NIPSA weekly death bulletin - Date published: 05 November 2021

Statistics:

[Cause of Death](#), [Covid-19 related deaths](#), [Deaths](#), [Death Statistics](#), [Weekly death registrations in Northern Ireland](#)

3,666 deaths mentioning Covid-19 on the death certificate have occurred in total from 18 March 2020 to 29 October 2021 (including those registered up to and including 3 November).

I believe the total number of Covid deaths stand at the above figure of 3666 but, can you tell me please of the above deaths how many individuals who died with Covid 19 had underlying health issues, and;

Of the above deaths how many individuals died simply from Covid 19 alone, with no underlying health issues?

Response

I can confirm the Department holds the information requested.

Of the 3,666 Covid-19 related deaths that had occurred up to 29 October 2021 (accounting for registrations up to and including 3 November), **3,446** had another condition mentioned on the death certificate.

Of the 3,666 Covid-19 related deaths that had occurred up to 29 October 2021 (accounting for registrations up to and including 3 November), **220** had Covid-19 as the **only** cause of death mentioned on the death certificate.

To select relevant cases for those without other causes of death recorded, NISRA included deaths which mentioned only Covid-19, with or without pneumonia, in Part 1 of the death certificate. Pneumonia was included, as early discussions with the Department of Health indicated that certifying doctors may have made no distinction between Covid-19 and Covid-19 pneumonia. Also *excluded* are deaths where Covid-19 led to another condition, which in turn led to death.

Please note that this breakdown is based on the 3,666 Covid-related deaths that occurred up to 29 October, as per the request. The data provided previously was based on deaths registered, as is usual practice.

For additional information on how cause of death is identified and the definitional differences between single or sole cause of death and underlying cause of death, please refer to our [user guide](#).

For more detailed information on people who had underlying health conditions, there is a report available on the NISRA website on [Covid-19 related deaths and pre-existing conditions in Northern Ireland](#).

An update to this report is due for release on 9 December 2021.