

# Hospital onset COVID-19 cases in Scotland

Week ending 01 March 2020 to week ending 24 April 2022

A management information publication for Scotland

Publication date: 18 May 2022

## About this release

This release provides data for COVID-19 hospital onset cases in Scotland from week ending 1 March 2020 to week ending 24 April 2022. A system for monitoring COVID-19 is critical to tracking hospital transmission. This helps to inform infection prevention and control measures. The transmission of COVID-19 is thought to occur mainly through respiratory droplets generated by coughing and through contact with contaminated surfaces. Infections have been widely reported in the community. [Further information on the epidemiology of COVID-19 in healthcare settings can be found on the Public Health Scotland website.](#)

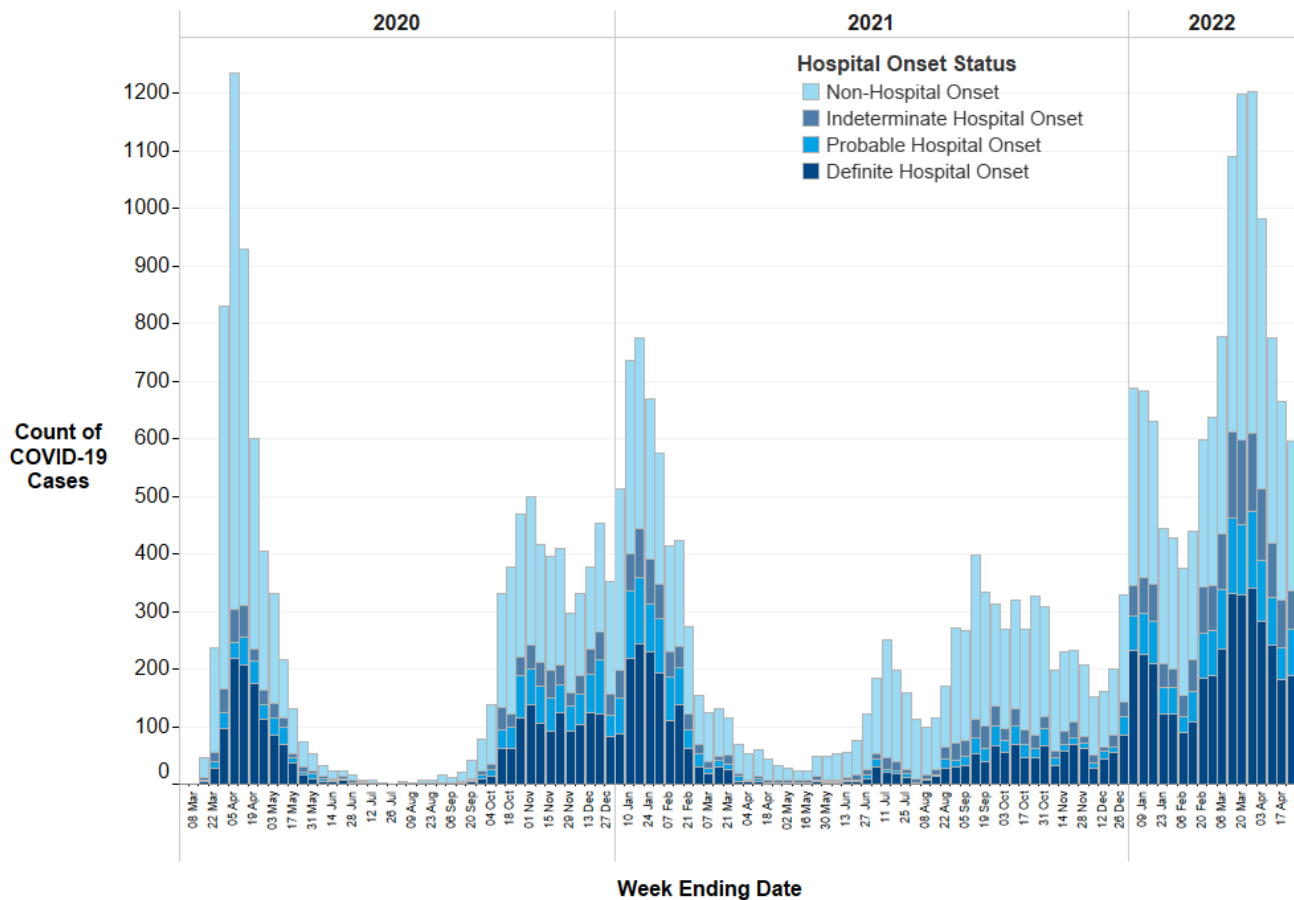
## Main points

### Breakdown of COVID-19 cases by hospital onset status – weekly data

The total number of COVID-19 cases reported to ARHAI Scotland this week (week ending 24 April 2022) was 21,801. Of these:

- 21,206 (97.3% of all COVID-19 cases) were reported as community onset (first positive specimen of COVID-19 episode taken in the community), of which 2,696 (12.7% of community onset cases) were reinfections. In the previous week (week ending 17 April 2022) there were 29,599 (97.8% of all COVID-19 cases) of which 3,239 (10.9% of community onset cases) were reinfections.
- 259 (1.2% of all COVID-19 cases) were reported as non-hospital onset (first positive specimen of COVID-19 episode on day 1 or 2 of admission to NHS board), of which 23 (8.9% of non-hospital onset cases) were reinfections. In the previous week (week ending 17 April 2022) there were 346 (1.1% of all COVID-19 cases), of which 16 (4.6% of non-hospital onset cases) were reinfections.
- 67 (0.3% of all COVID-19 cases) were reported as indeterminate hospital onset (first positive specimen of COVID-19 episode on days 3 to 7 of admission to NHS board), of which 1 (1.5% of indeterminate hospital onset cases) were reinfections. In the previous week (week ending 17 April 2022) there were 82 (0.3% of all COVID-19 cases), of which 4 (4.9% of indeterminate hospital onset cases) were reinfections.
- 81 (0.4% of all COVID-19 cases) were reported as probable hospital onset (first positive specimen of COVID-19 episode on days 8 to 14 of admission to NHS board), of which 4 (4.9% of probable hospital onset cases) were reinfections. In the previous week (week ending 17 April 2022) there were 55 (0.2% of all COVID-19 cases), of which 2 (3.6% of probable hospital onset cases) were reinfections.
- 188 (0.9% of all COVID-19 cases) were reported as definite hospital onset (first positive specimen of COVID-19 episode 15 or more days after admission to NHS board), of which 11 (5.9% of definite hospital onset cases) were reinfections. In the previous week (week ending 17 April 2022) there were 182 (0.6% of all COVID-19 cases), of which 12 (6.6% of definite hospital onset cases) were reinfections.

**Figure 1: Epidemic curve of COVID-19 cases with first positive specimen of COVID-19 episode taken during an inpatient stay, by onset status: week-ending 01 March 2020 to week-ending 24 April 2022 (n=34,149).<sup>1,2,3</sup>**



1. Source of data are Corporate Data Warehouse (CDW) that contains test results from Electronic Communication of Surveillance in Scotland (ECOSS) and Rapid Admission Preliminary Inpatient Data (RAPID) or local admission data.
2. The community cases are not represented in this chart as first sample was not taken in hospital setting.
3. Data include any reinfection episodes taken in hospital settings.

## Background

Antimicrobial Resistance and Healthcare Associated Infection (ARHAI) Scotland, part of National Services Scotland, works closely with Public Health Scotland to deliver the COVID-19 response. Local and national monitoring in hospital settings is required to reduce COVID-19 infections.

## Contact

**Laura Imrie**  
Clinical Lead

**Shona Cairns**  
Consultant Healthcare Scientist

Antimicrobial Resistance and Healthcare Associated Infections (ARHAI) Scotland  
NHS National Services Scotland  
0141 300 1922

[NSS.ARHAIdatateam@nhs.scot](mailto:NSS.ARHAIdatateam@nhs.scot)

## Further Information

Find out more in the [full report](#) and on the [COVID-19](#) pages on the PHS website. The next release of this publication will be 25 May 2022.