Excess Deaths in the UK since the start of the Pandemic

Four Nations Methodology Briefing

Excess Deaths at Home

England and Wales

*Data Source: Office for National Statistics, Deaths registered weekly in England and Wales, provisional (all datasets available **here**)*

2020 (weeks 12-52) and 2021 (weeks 1-52)

- Excess deaths at home from all causes: **83,152**

***Based on 2021 edition of this dataset up to week ending 31 December 2021 – 'Weekly Excess Deaths' tab, sum F7 onwards.*

2022 (weeks 1-5)

- Excess deaths at home from all causes: **2,530**

***Based on 2022 edition of this dataset weeks 1-5 – tab 10, sum E1:E5.*

*Total Excess Deaths at Home in England and Wales since week 12, 2020 – week 5, 2022; **85,682***

Scotland

*Data Source; National Records of Scotland, Excess Deaths by Cause and Location (taken from spreadsheet on line 7 of the table on p6 of Deaths involving Coronavirus (Covid-19) in Scotland Report published 07/01/22 **here**)*

2020 (weeks 12-52)

- Excess deaths at home from all causes: **5,106**

***Based on Table 3 (2020) Excess Deaths by underlying cause of death and location 2020; sum of line 77 (from N77 onwards, in order to discount weeks 1-11 of 2020)*

2021 (weeks 1-52)

- Excess deaths at home from all causes: **5,772**

***Based on Table 3 (2021), Excess Deaths by underlying cause of death and location 2021; sum of line 77*

2022 (weeks 1-5) (correct as of 18.02.2022)

- Excess deaths at home from all causes**: 260**

Based on reports of weeks 1-5 under Key Findings Section; Deaths from all causes, weekly registrations on page 2; sum of excess deaths at home from each report. All reports available **here

Total Excess Deaths at Home in Scotland since week 12, 2020 – week 5, 2022; ***11,138***

Excess Deaths Methodology for Scotland in 2022

Given the unusual nature of the 2020 data and the decision previously taken for 2021, the excess deaths calculation in Scotland will compare 2022 mortality data with the average of 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019 and 2021, and continue to exclude 2020[1]. Full methodology paper for excess deaths in 2022 by National Records of Scotland **here**.

Northern Ireland

2020 (weeks 12-52)

- Number of deaths at home from all causes: **4,678** [1]
- Difference vs 2014-2018 average: **516*** [2]

NISRA's publishing methodologies mean an exact comparison is not possible. NISRA only began publishing weekly place of death figures when the COVID-19 pandemic began, so week-by-week data for the pre-COVID period is not available. The above compares the number of deaths at home in Northern Ireland during weeks 12-52 2020 with the full, 12-month-per-year average for the period 2014-2018, the latest years for which data has been published. It **does not compare weeks 12-52 2020 with the average for weeks 12-52 2014-2018 as that data is not available.*

2021 (weeks 1-52)

- Number of deaths at home from all causes: **5,863** [1]
- Difference vs 2014-2018 average: **1,701*** [2]

**This represents a much more robust analysis of excess deaths at home than the section above, as the data compares full year data for 2021 to the average full year data for 2014-2018.*

2022 (weeks 1-6) – latest available at the time of writing (21.02.22)

- Number of deaths at home from all causes: **698** [1]

Due to the lack of available data, no reasonable comparison can be made between the number of deaths at home during weeks 1-6 2022 and previous years.

Sources:
[1] Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency, weekly deaths bulletins. Available here.
[2] Calculated using place of home deaths data 2014-2018 in: McKeaveney, C et al (2021). Population based projects of place of death for Northern Ireland by 2040. *Palliative Medicine and Hospice Care*, 6 (2).

Total UK figure for excess deaths at home from week 12, 2020 – week 5, 2022; 99,037

**This figure is an estimate because exact comparisons between UK nations are not possible due to different methodologies and data collection.
**This figure excludes excess deaths for weeks 1-6 in 2022 in Northern Ireland as this data is not available

[1] National Records of Scotland; Methodology for Excess Deaths in 2022 Briefing Paper