



Pleanáil agus Faisnéis Straitéiseach d'Fhórsa

Ionad Gnó Shoird
Bóthar Bhaile Anraí, Sord.
Co. Átha Cliath, K67D8H0

Strategic Workforce Planning & Intelligence

Health Service Executive
Swords Business Campus, Balheary Road
Swords,
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27 May 2019

Deputy Bernard J. Durkan
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

PQ 21160/19: To ask the Minister for Health the number of new staff recruited to the public health sector in general over the past five years; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Durkan,

I refer to your recent parliamentary question in relation to numbers of personnel employed in the public health service which was forwarded to the HSE by the Department of Health for direct reply.

Firstly, I should point out that staffing figures provided generally relate to direct employment levels as returned through the Health Service Personnel Census (HSPC), which is the official employment count for the public health sector (HSE and Section 38 Voluntary Hospitals & Agencies). Numbers equating to service levels are expressed as whole-time equivalents (WTE) taking account of part-time working, whereas headcount figures give the number of individual employees.

In relation to the Deputy's central question, at 30th April 2019 there were 137,993 personnel (equating to 119,379 WTE) directly employed in the provision of Health and Social Care Services. The Deputy will be interested to note that the number of personnel increased by 16,483 (17,729 WTE) over the period covered by this request.

Details of additional WTE and headcount over each of the past five years as requested by the Deputy are set out in the following table:

Staff Category (whole-time equivalent)	Total (WTE)	WTE change 12 months	Total (HC)	Headcount change 12 months
30/04/2015	104,463	+2,813	123,619	+2,109
30/04/2016	109,016	+4,553	127,925	+4,306
30/04/2017	111,979	+2,962	130,215	+2,290
30/04/2018	115,745	+3,766	134,043	+3,828
30/04/2019	119,379	+3,634	137,993	+3,950

Note 1: Health Sector staffing figures relate to direct employment levels as returned through the Health Service Personnel Census (HSPC) for the public health sector (HSE & Section 38 Voluntary Hospitals & Agencies).

Note 2: Figures relating to service levels are expressed as whole-time equivalents (WTE) & calculated to 2 decimals in order to take account of part-time working, whereas headcount figures give the number of individuals.

Note 3: Pre-registration Student Nurses on clinical placement are recorded @ 50% actual WTE in line with WRC agreement.

Workforce levels are updated monthly and are available at:

<https://hse.ie/eng/staff/resources/our-workforce/>

I trust that this information is sufficient to meet the Deputy's needs.

Yours sincerely,



Des Williams
General Manager