



19<sup>th</sup> November, 2019

Deputy John Curran, TD  
Dáil Eireann  
Kildare Street  
Dublin 2.

**PQ: 45395/19**

To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons that engaged with needle exchange services in each of the years 2014 to 2018 and to date in 2019; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Curran,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to your above Parliamentary Question which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position:

Data is not currently collated nationally for Needle Exchange Services - however data from our Pharmacy Needle Exchange which operates in all Community Health Organisation Areas except the Dublin CHO Areas ie Community Healthcare East – Dublin South-East, Dun-Laoghaire & Wicklow (CHO 6); Community Healthcare Dublin South, Kildare and West Wicklow (CHO 7); Community Health Organisation Dublin North City & County (CHO 9) is outlined in the following table:

Year	No. of UIs attending each month (average)	Comment
2014	1341	
2015	1608	
2016	1608	
2017	1761	
2018	1808	Q4 stats only
2019	1979	Q1 & Q2 only

I trust this information is of assistance to you but should you have any further queries please contact me.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joseph Doyle', written in a cursive style.

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Joseph Doyle  
National Planning Specialist