



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

Oifig an Cheannaire Oibríochtaí,
Na Seirbhísí Míchumais/An Rannán Cúram Sóisialta,
31-33 Sráid Chaitríona, Luimneach.

Office of the Head of Operations,
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26th September 2019

Deputy Margaret Murphy O'Mahony,
Dail Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.
e-mail: margaret.murphyomahony@oireachtas.ie

Dear Deputy Murphy O'Mahony,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the following parliamentary questions, which were submitted to this department for response.

PQ 37680/19

To ask the Minister for Health the number of overnights with or without day respite accessed by persons with a disability in each of the years 2014 to 2018 and to date in 2019, for each local health office area in tabular form.

PQ 37681/19

To ask the Minister for Health the number of day only respite sessions accessed by persons with a disability in each of the years 2014 to 2018 and to date in 2019, for each local health office area in tabular form.

HSE Response

The HSE and its funded Agencies provide respite care to children and adults with disabilities. Respite can occur in a variety of settings for various lengths of time, depending on the needs of the individual service user, the family and according to available resources. Respite is not always centre-based and can be provided in a number of ways, e.g. Centre based; In-Home; Home-to-Home; Family Support, etc. As a vital part of the continuum of services for families, respite potentially helps prevent out-of-home full-time residential placements, preserves the family unit, and supports family stability with the service users at the centre.

The HSE is very much aware of the importance of respite service provision for the families of both children and adults with disabilities, including the impact the absence of respite service provision can have on other services.

Table 1 below shows the number of overnights with or without day respite accessed by persons with a disability in each of the years 2014 to 2018 and to date in 2019, for each local health office area.

Table 2 below shows the number of day only respite sessions accessed by persons with a disability in each of the years 2015 to 2018 and to date in 2019, for each local health office area. This KPI only commenced in 2015.

Please note that the figures for respite services include both adults and children. There is no distinction made in the gathered data between children and adults.

Table 1: No. of overnights (with or without day respite) accessed by people with a disability (ID/Autism and Physical and Sensory Disability)

		2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019 to end June
National Total		180,901	184,891	175,555	158,296	158,368	79,912
CHO 1	Total	11,571	11,701	11,065	10,215	9,368	3,055
CHO 1	Cavan Monaghan	2,885	2,740	2,978	2,964	2,847	906
CHO 1	Donegal	6,469	5,848	5,578	4,806	3,906	1,560
CHO 1	Sligo Leitrim	2,217	3,113	2,509	2,445	2615	589
CHO 2	Total	32,248	38,537	39,536	38,548	37,143	19,154
CHO 2	Galway	17,384	23,182	24,897	24,859	24,182	12,564
CHO 2	Mayo	9,127	9,963	8,830	8,291	7,936	3,991
CHO 2	Roscommon	5,737	5,392	5,809	5,398	5,025	2,599
CHO 3	Total	12,803	13,542	14,585	13,873	14,507	7,565
CHO 3	Clare	2,166	3,415	3,612	3,545	3862	1,997
CHO 3	Limerick	4,758	4,352	5,068	4,266	2669	1224
CHO 3	North Tipperary East Limerick	5,879	5,775	5,905	6,062	7,976	4,344
CHO 4	Total	26,590	28,486	24,666	19,697	22,217	10,041
CHO 4	Kerry	5,368	6,475	5,493	4,964	3659	1773
CHO 4	North Cork	2,503	3,407	3,604	2,811	3412	1493
CHO 4	North Lee	10,540	9,940	7,614	5,900	8,577	3,675
CHO 4	South Lee	3,906	4,084	3,487	2,748	2552	1178
CHO 4	West Cork	4,273	4,580	4,468	3,274	4,017	1,922
CHO 5	Total	15,299	16,084	13,155	10,386	11,414	6,051
CHO 5	Carlow Kilkenny	3,612	4,521	3,219	2,251	1721	812
CHO 5	South Tipperary	3,699	3,613	3,244	2,864	2667	1234
CHO 5	Waterford	4,117	4,305	4,193	3,947	3999	2,246
CHO 5	Wexford	3,871	3,645	2,499	1,324	3027	1759
CHO 6	Total	16,806	14,453	12,873	10,797	10,306	5,932
CHO 6	Dublin South East	24	27	0	0	0	0
CHO 6	Dun Laoghaire	6,179	4,007	3,890	3,408	2952	1957
CHO 6	Wicklow	10,603	10,419	8,983	7,389	7,354	3,975
CHO 7	Total	26,082	24,832	25,696	22,878	18,934	10,638

CHO 7	Dublin South City	3,424	2,032	2,822	2,472	2743	2,139
CHO 7	Dublin South West	2,908	2,760	6,606	3,411	2057	1823
CHO 7	Dublin West	12,878	12,976	9,724	10,423	8,326	4,300
CHO 7	Kildare West Wicklow	6,872	7,064	6,544	6,572	5,808	2,376
CHO 8	Total	17,637	14,830	17,965	16,312	17,810	9,550
CHO 8	Laois Offaly	4,017	2,568	3,058	3,464	3423	1870
CHO 8	Longford Westmeath	4,384	4,238	4,185	3,925	3894	1,852
CHO 8	Louth	4,054	3,455	4,832	3,455	5,130	3,151
CHO 8	Meath	5,182	4,569	5,890	5,468	5,363	2,677
CHO 9	Total	21,865	22,426	16,014	15,590	16,669	7,926
CHO 9	Dublin North	7,224	7,940	6,140	5,615	6,408	3,729
CHO 9	Dublin North Central	10,723	9,582	5,103	5,023	6,143	1,857
CHO 9	Dublin North West	3,918	4,904	4,771	4,952	4118	2,340

Table 2: No of day only respite sessions accessed by people with a disability (ID/Autism and Physical and Sensory Disability)

		2015	2016	2017	2018	2019 to end June
National Total		32,519	32,314	32,688	35,876	16,856
CHO 1	Total	5,526	5,371	4,073	4,682	3,513
CHO 1	Cavan Monaghan	5	22	69	52	1,012
CHO 1	Donegal	1,474	991	910	747	322
CHO 1	Sligo Leitrim	4,047	4,358	3,094	3,883	2,179
CHO 2	Total	6,824	5,969	6,898	5,963	2,919
CHO 2	Galway	4,411	3,451	3,524	3,786	1,933
CHO 2	Mayo	1,638	1,530	2,021	1,511	825
CHO 2	Roscommon	775	988	1,353	666	161
CHO 3	Total	4,672	5,532	5,755	5,411	3,324
CHO 3	Clare	1,738	2,678	3,517	3,223	1518
CHO 3	Limerick	894	1,386	894	1,081	1061
CHO 3	North Tipperary East Limerick	2,040	1,468	1,344	1,107	745
CHO 4	Total	2,058	2,590	2,449	2,883	1,213

CHO 4	Kerry	789	632	727	687	331
CHO 4	North Cork	6	7	11	4	3
CHO 4	North Lee	277	680	440	856	272
CHO 4	South Lee	139	245	343	549	339
CHO 4	West Cork	847	1,026	928	787	268
CHO 5	Total	1,201	1,926	2,227	1,565	1,276
CHO 5	Carlow Kilkenny	71	479	414	233	604
CHO 5	South Tipperary	565	755	1,469	636	287
CHO 5	Waterford	168	224	223	418	249
CHO 5	Wexford	397	468	121	278	136
CHO 6	Total	2,715	2,083	1,402	2,925	1,738
CHO 6	Dublin South East	0	0	0	0	0
CHO 6	Dun Laoghaire	2,104	1,368	774	2,282	1354
CHO 6	Wicklow	611	715	628	643	384
CHO 7	Total	5,017	5,469	5,250	6,444	1,374
CHO 7	Dublin South City	96	0	0	0	227
CHO 7	Dublin South West	57	508	299	710	453
CHO 7	Dublin West	4,275	4,322	4,253	4,293	10
CHO 7	Kildare West Wicklow	589	639	698	1,441	684
CHO 8	Total	916	1,076	1,334	1,007	596
CHO 8	Laois Offaly	108	147	234	160	50
CHO 8	Longford Westmeath	664	707	791	648	231
CHO 8	Louth	59	44	31	50	66
CHO 8	Meath	85	178	278	149	249
CHO 9	Total	3,590	2,298	3,300	4,996	903
CHO 9	Dublin North	52	189	656	369	52
CHO 9	Dublin North Central	2,414	1,565	1,914	4,003	601
CHO 9	Dublin North West	1,124	544	730	624	250

Unmet Need and growing demand

The provision of residential respite services has come under increasing pressure in the past couple of years due to a number of impacting factors such as,

- an increase in the number of children and adults who are seeking access to respite as a reflection of general population increase;
- increasing levels of complexity across the sector due to better and improved health care;
- an increase in the age of people with a disability resulting in people presenting with “changing needs”.

In addition, a significant number of respite beds have been utilised for long term residential placements due to the presenting complexity of the individual with a disability and also due to home circumstances, therefore, the numbers of people with disabilities in receipt of residential respite services and the corresponding number of respite nights has reduced when compared to previous activity.

A further impact to the delivery of respite has been in response to the regulation of service provision as set by the Health Information and Quality Authority regulatory and policy context. HIQA has established and set the way in which residential/respite services is provided requiring the Agencies comply with regulatory standards in order to meet regulation. Standards specify a requirement for personal and appropriate space impacting on the capacity and Statement of Purpose for a Designated Centre. This has had a direct impact on capacity where respite beds are no longer allowed within a residential setting e.g. vacated by residents who go home at weekends or for holidays, can no longer be used for respite. Implementation of the national policy on congregated settings (Time to Move on from Congregated Settings Policy) is also affecting capacity.

Targeted actions to improve supply

In 2018, the Minister for Health announced an additional €10 million for the HSE, specifically to enhance respite care in the disability sector. In accordance with the National Service Plan for 2018, the HSE committed to providing:

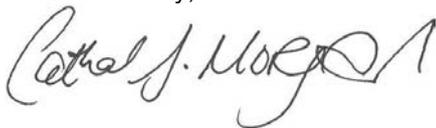
- An additional respite house in each of the nine CHO areas which will support 450 individuals in a full year and 251 in 2018 (€5m).
- Three additional respite houses in the greater Dublin areas (CHOs 7, 8 and 9) to support a further 225 individuals in a full year and 143 in 2018 (€3m).
- Alternative models of respite to support 250 individuals with disability (€2m)

The funding provided for the equivalent of 12 new houses, 1 in each CHO, and 3 in the Greater Dublin area. Twelve new or additional centre-based respite centres have opened to date, resulting in an additional 6,455 bed nights delivered to 763 people.

Community-Based, alternative respite projects, including Summer Camps, evening and Saturday clubs, also took place in 2018, delivering 15,144 ‘in home’ Respite Hours, to 400 users and 1,296 Saturday/Evening/Holiday Club ‘sessions’ to 1,500 people.

The HSE is fully committed to maintaining the same level of service this year as in 2018. The programme to deliver on the €10 million additional funding will continue in 2019 and remains a high priority for the HSE.

Yours sincerely,



**Dr. Cathal Morgan,
Head of Operations - Disability Services,
Community Operations**