



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

Ceannasaí Náisiúnta Oibríochtaí Meabhairshláinte
Ospidéal Naomh Lómáin Baile Phámar Baile Átha Cliath 20.
T 01 6207304 R: jim.ryan1@hse.ie

Head of Operations, Mental Health Service
St Loman's Hospital, Palmerstown Dublin 20
Tel: 01-6207304 Email: jim.ryan1@hse.ie

**Deputy Pat Buckley,
Dail Eireann
Dublin 2.**

PQ:20582/20

To ask the Minister for Health the number of children presenting at emergency departments here with self-harm injuries, suicide attempts and or overdoses in each of the years 2018 to 2019 and to date in 2020; the location of same in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Buckley,

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

The National Self-Harm Registry Ireland, operated by the National Suicide Research Foundation (NSRF), collects data related to self-harm presentations to all hospital emergency departments in the Republic of Ireland.

In 2018, the total number of self-harm presentations to hospital emergency departments by children under 18 years was 1,733. Based on provisional data, the number of self-harm presentations by children was 1,754 in 2019.

As a result of restrictions related to COVID-19, data collection for the Registry was suspended in most hospitals during the period 27 March – 29 June 2020.

To date, provisional data has been collected on self-harm presentations to eight hospital emergency departments to the end of April 2020. These hospitals provide nationally-representative findings given their spread across the country and that they account for 35-40% of all self-harm presentations to hospitals each year.

In the first four months of 2020, there were 190 self-harm presentations made to these eight hospitals by children under 18 years of age compared to 230 self-harm presentation made in the same four months of 2019, which represents a 17% reduction.



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

Ceannasaí Náisiúnta Oibríochtaí Meabhairshláinte
Ospidéal Naomh Lómáin Baile Phámar Baile Átha Cliath 20.
T 01 6207304 R: jim.ryan1@hse.ie

Head of Operations, Mental Health Service
St Loman's Hospital, Palmerstown Dublin 20
Tel: 01-6207304 Email: jim.ryan1@hse.ie

Provisional number of self-harm presentations by children under 18 years of age in 2018, 2019 and to date in 2020 by presenting hospital

Time period	Cork University Hospital	Kerry General Hospital	Mater Misericordiae University Hospital	Mercy University Hospital, Cork	Sligo General Hospital	South Tipperary General Hospital	Tallaght University Hospital	University Hospital, Limerick	Total
2018 All	114	58	34	70	36	49	179	123	663
2019 All	102	52	26	64	55	51	192	109	651
2019 Jan-Apr	36	18	12	19	25	23	66	31	230
2020 Jan-Apr	24	17	15	17	3	18	57	39	190

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

Yours Sincerely

Dr Sinead Reynolds
General Manager Mental Health Services