



1 June 2020

Deputy Eoin Ó Broin TD
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

PQ /20/5795

“To ask the Minister for Health the number of patients discharged from hospitals to emergency homeless accommodation in the past two years by month in tabular form”

Dear Deputy Ó Broin

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 Hospital Inpatient Enquiry (HIPE) system records in patient discharges only and does not record attendances at Emergency Departments.

In relation to the potential data available, HIPE does not record homelessness/no fixed abode as a Discharge Destination. The only information recorded on HIPE relating to homelessness/no fixed abode is within the code set for the Area of Residence provided by the patient at the time of admission, i.e. the place where the person states they normally reside (their home address).

Therefore, I regret to advise that the information you have requested is unavailable.

In terms of what is available, the table below outlines the numbers of patients discharged in 2017/2018 whom provided “No Fixed Abode” as their area of residence. The latest validated data available is for 2019.

Discharge Year	2017	2018	2019
Discharge Count	343	377	429

I hope this response is helpful.

Robert Morton
Assistant National Director
Acute Operations