



13<sup>th</sup> November 2020

Deputy Cathal Crowe,  
Dáil Eireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2.

**PQ 34258/20 - To ask the Minister for Health the number of children under 18 years of age waiting for a psychology appointment in primary care at the end of October 2020 or the latest date available; the number waiting less than 4, 4 to 12 and more than 12 months for each local health office area in tabular form**

**-Cathal Crowe**

Dear Deputy Crowe,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which you submitted to the Minister for response.

The spread of COVID-19 is posing significant challenges for many service areas, including all Therapy Services. In light of these unprecedented challenges together with the Government's guidance on social distancing and on 'Cocooning' for those aged over 70, the HSE has had to reassess its operation of Community Therapy Services nationally, to ensure that the assessed needs of those clients with the highest priority are met.

As a result of the national effort across all Community Healthcare Organisations throughout the country, some aspects of normal monthly reporting have been delayed. Please find attached Appendix 1 which contains, in tabular form, details of the waiting lists for a Psychology appointment for patients aged 0 – 17 years as of September 2020, which is the latest available data at this time.

Please note the list of LHO areas at the bottom of the Appendix which did not return data, as some areas were not in a position to return data due to staff being redeployed to Covid-19 related duties. Please also note that because of this the overall accuracy of the waiting list data is impacted.

The HSE is working to ensure timely access to children and adults requiring therapy services, and to reduce long waiting times for these important services.

As this is an evolving and unprecedented situation, the HSE will keep matters in review and will advise clients and/or family members accordingly.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Siobhán McArdle', written in a cursive style.

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Siobhán McArdle,  
Head of Operations Primary Care,  
Community Operations

**Appendix 1: Psychology - Number of Patients aged 0 -17 years waiting for treatment  
September 2020**

CHO	Former LHO	0 -4 Years					5 -17 Years					TOTAL
		0 - ≤12 weeks	>12 weeks - ≤26 weeks	>26 weeks but ≤39 weeks	>39 weeks but ≤52 weeks	>52 weeks	0 - ≤12 weeks	>12 weeks - ≤26 weeks	>26 weeks but ≤39 weeks	>39 weeks but ≤52 weeks	>52 weeks	
CHO 1	Cavan Monaghan	7	3	6	3	0	56	38	37	8	0	158
	Donegal	1	1	0	0	0	34	44	65	54	153	352
	Sligo Leitrim	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	6	4	12
	<b>CHO1 Total</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>522</b>
CHO 2	Galway	15	9	17	18	15	45	30	61	46	431	687
	Mayo	13	4	14	15	23	38	29	44	35	118	333
	Roscommon	3	5	5	3	4	10	12	12	11	59	124
	<b>CHO2 Total</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>608</b>	<b>1,144</b>
CHO 3	Clare	4	2	6	5	3	7	18	30	18	73	166
	Limerick	0	7	13	9	10	3	22	43	31	112	250
	North Tipperary East Limerick	0	0	3	0	3	13	1	12	10	43	85
	<b>CHO3 Total</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>228</b>	<b>501</b>
CHO 4	Kerry	4	3	1	3	4	23	19	23	26	103	209
	North Cork	2	1	4	2	2	22	9	22	22	16	102
	North Lee	16	5	6	2	5	33	43	55	41	212	418
	South Lee	8	8	11	6	4	33	23	61	52	323	529
	West Cork	0	1	2	0	1	17	7	19	19	49	115
	<b>CHO4 Total</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>703</b>	<b>1,373</b>
CHO 5	Carlow Kilkenny	1	0	0	0	0	12	2	0	0	0	15
	South Tipperary	3	2	13	3	8	21	15	38	29	63	195
	Waterford	9	5	11	6	6	45	44	63	51	137	377
	Wexford	6	6	3	3	5	51	26	51	25	147	323
	<b>CHO5 Total</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>347</b>	<b>910</b>
CHO 6	Dublin South East	11	3	4	0	0	6	2	5	0	0	31
	Dun Laoghaire	1	5	4	3	3	20	14	31	20	18	119
	Wicklow	9	5	7	4	0	30	13	45	24	6	143
	<b>CHO6 Total</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>293</b>
CHO 7	Dublin South City	2	2	10	5	16	7	8	19	13	91	173
	Dublin South West	2	6	14	19	111	13	10	35	13	171	394
	Dublin West	6	4	9	11	17	23	20	49	53	289	481
	Kildare West Wicklow	8	7	16	15	23	32	27	56	54	328	566
	<b>CHO7 Total</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>167</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>159</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>879</b>	<b>1,614</b>
CHO 8	Laois Offaly	1	0	0	0	2	62	63	0	0	3	131
	Longford Westmeath	2	0	1	0	0	16	26	11	12	1	69
	Louth	8	0	3	1	0	28	4	9	9	0	62
	Meath	12	6	4	5	1	61	55	63	52	25	284
	<b>CHO8 Total</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>167</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>546</b>
CHO 9	Dublin North	4	2	8	11	83	28	38	42	94	406	716
	Dublin Nth Central	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Dublin North West	1	3	7	13	24	19	21	61	57	623	829
	<b>CHO9 Total</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>1,029</b>	<b>1,545</b>
<b>National Total</b>		<b>159</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>202</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>373</b>	<b>808</b>	<b>683</b>	<b>1,063</b>	<b>885</b>	<b>4,004</b>	<b>8,448</b>

Note: September data not returned for Dublin North Central