



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

Ceannasaí Náisiúnta Oibríochtaí Meabhairshláinte
Ospidéal Naomh Lómáin Baile Phámar Baile Átha Cliath 20.
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8th October 2020,
Deputy Richard Boyd Barrett,
Dail Eireann,
Dublin 2.

PQ Number 25722/20

To ask the Minister for Health the number of mental health beds available in each CHO; and the number of persons waiting for beds.

Dear Deputy Boyd Barrett,

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.

Public Mental Health beds include both Approved Centre beds and Community Residences. Each approved centre is registered for a particular number of beds (see table below). Occupancy rates vary according to a number of different factors including the acuity of clinical presentations, the availability of appropriate staffing including nurse specials as required.

HSE Mental Health services manage bed capacity in local areas according to clinical need. The bed capacity is described below. Service users are seen by consultants in community services where necessary and consultants then make decisions on inpatient admission.

The table below provides information on the number of beds in CAMHS Inpatient, General Adult Approved Centres and Community 24 hour residences. There are also additional Medium and Low Support Community Residences at CHO level either directly provided by the HSE or through Housing Agencies.

	CAMHS IP Units		Adult Approved Centres		Community 24 hour residences	
	Units	Beds	Units	Beds	Units	Beds
CHO 1			4	107	14	145
CHO 2	1	20	8	175	12	101
CHO 3			4	128	8	110
CHO 4	1	16	9	342	17	235
CHO 5			8	220	19	244
CHO 6			3	137	3	53



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CHO 7	1	24	3	128	8	101
CHO 8			6	226	12	138
CHO 9	1	12	7	226	17	211
	4	72	52	1689	110	1338

<https://www.mhcirl.ie/Registration/ACRegister/>

In addition to the information previously provided above I note:

It is recommended that approved centres operate at 85%, however there are times when they operate above this. Capacity increases or decreases based on the needs of the population and it is important that units maintain capacity to respond to urgent cases.

The national in-patient census of 2018 showed overall acute mental health bed occupancy levels to be 89.25%. This paper shows that only nine of the 28 acute units operated at less than 85% level of occupancy . One quarter of the 28 units had true bed occupancy levels equal to or over 100%.

Please refer to Report, ACCESS TO ACUTE MENTAL HEALTH BEDS IN IRELAND

https://www.mhcirl.ie/File/Acutebeds_report_Feb2020.pdf

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