



29<sup>th</sup> April 2021

Deputy David Cullinane, TD  
Dáil Éireann  
Leinster House  
Kildare Street  
Dublin 2

**RE: PQ 20255/21**

**To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons with type 1 diabetes; and if he will make a statement on the matter**

Dear Deputy Cullinane,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in relation to the above parliamentary question, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. I have consulted with the National Clinical Programme for Diabetes and I have been informed that the following outlines the position.

This information is not available, as Ireland does not have a National Diabetes Registry. Therefore, there is no accurate figure available for the number of people living with diabetes in Ireland. In contrast to the situation in Ireland, our nearest neighbour, Scotland, maintains a National Diabetes Registry and can track the prevalence of diabetes year on year. The most recent data from Scotland (taken from the Scotland Diabetes Survey 2018) are highlighted in the Table below.

The figures for Ireland detailed in the table below are estimated based on (i) the Scottish prevalence of diabetes (5.6% of the total census population) and (ii) the Scottish prevalence of type 2 diabetes (87.9% of the total diabetes population) and type 1 diabetes (10.8% of the total diabetes population). Other (rare) forms of diabetes have not been included in the Table.

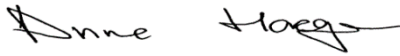
Country	Total (census) population	Total Diabetes Prevalence	Type 2 Diabetes Prevalence	Type 1 Diabetes Prevalence
Scotland	5,424,800	304,375	267,615	32,828
Ireland (estimate)	4,761,865 (CSO, 2016)	266,664	234,398	28,800

The lack of a National Diabetes Registry represents a significant problem for our health service as we attempt to tackle diabetes, an increasingly common and costly chronic disease. Establishment of a

registry would help with tracking the prevalence of the condition, measuring outcomes and cost of care and planning for future services.

I trust this information is of assistance to you, but should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely



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**Anne Horgan**  
**General Manager**