



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte  
Health Service Executive

Ceannasaí Náisiúnta Oibríochtaí Meabhairshláinte  
Ospidéal Naomh Lómáin Baile Phámar Baile Átha Cliath20.  
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](mailto:jim.ryan1@hse.ie)

**18<sup>th</sup> February 2021**  
**Deputy Paul Donnelly**  
**Dail Eireann,**  
**Dublin 2.**

**PQ 5478/21**

**To ask the Minister for Health the way in which staffing figures for CAMHS and AMHS in January 2021 compare to January 2020.**

Dear Deputy Donnelly,

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.

	Dec-20	Dec-19	Data gap in Dec data
<b>CAMHS</b>	725.2	698.2	4.2%
<b>GAMHT</b>	1562.0	1752.7	6.8%
<b>POLL</b>	322.5	362.1	12.5%

\*data subject to validation

The availability of skilled staff is a significant issue in Mental Health services where demand outstrips supply in both the national and international contexts and our potential workforce are availing of employment opportunities outside of Ireland. This is symptomatic of the overall recruitment problem that Mental Health services have been experiencing for the past number of years. It is recognised that there is a current shortage of trained Mental Health staff nationally and this trend is not unique to Ireland. It is often the case that staff shortages are filled on an intermittent basis by locum, agency and overtime. Ongoing efforts, both locally, nationally and internationally, are continuing in order to ensure that all available avenues are explored in providing a staffing supply for Mental Health services, including CAMHS and AMHS services.

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