



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte  
Health Service Executive

Oifig an Phríomhoifigigh Airgeadais  
Feidhmeannacht na  
Seirbhíse Sláinte  
Seomra 125, Ospidéal  
Dr. Steevens  
BÁC 8

Office of the Chief Financial Officer  
Health Service Executive  
Room 125, Dr Steevens  
Hospital  
Dublin 8

18<sup>th</sup> November 2021

Deputy Peadar Tóibín TD,  
Dáil Éireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2.

**Re PQ 54780 21:** *To ask the Minister for Health the number of agency staff and workers working for the HSE at present.*

Dear Deputy Tóibín,

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. Your PQ above has been referred to me for response.

The total number of staff employed directly by the HSE as of September 2021 is WTE 84,396. The data was sourced from HSE HR Strategic Workforce Planning & Intelligence Unit from their Health Service Employment Report for September 2021 which is the most recent data available. All HSE workforce employment data is available to view on the HSE website at the following link <https://www.hse.ie/eng/staff/resources/our-workforce/workforce-reporting/>

I regret to inform you that the number of agency staff employed is not centrally recorded by the HSE.

The HSE is committed to minimizing the use of Agency staff but recruitment and retention of Clinical, Nursing and other key staff is a constant challenge and impacts adversely on our ability to maintain safe and effective services. Agency staffing is also used to allow for flexible services designed to meet specific Service User needs, variation in activity and as required where there is a short term critical service need.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me at [sarah.anderson1@hse.ie](mailto:sarah.anderson1@hse.ie) or tel: 087 9423319.

Yours sincerely

*Sarah Anderson*

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