



7th October 2021

Deputy David Cullinane
Dáil Eireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

Ref: PQ 46348/21

To ask the Minister for Health the number of CAAC-approved consultant posts across each specialty; the basis on which they are filled as per DIME; and the number of each type of contract, that is, A, B and C across specialties filled and or allocated for all 3,613 posts.

Dear Deputy Cullinane

The data contained in this response is extracted from DIME (Doctors Integrated Management E-system) as at 04 May 2021. The cyber-attack in May 2021 has resulted in a significant data backlog and it is not yet possible to provide data after May 2021, until this backlog is cleared.

DIME is dependent on clinical sites inputting details on their Consultant workforce and therefore there may be variances and gaps in the data supplied to that held within clinical sites. As DIME is a live system it must be noted that there can be variances in the figures published dependent on the run date of the report as entries can be made with a retrospective date.

Table 1: Status of Consultant Applications Advisory Committee (CAAC) approved consultant posts as of 04 May 2021

	Permanent	Temporary	Agency	Total
Number of Filled Consultant posts	2886	295	77	3258
Number of Consultant posts with an unknown status				24
Number of Consultant posts with a vacant status				331
Total number of CAAC approved consultant posts				3613

Definition of Status

- **Filled** - The clinical site has verified that a Consultant currently occupies this post
- **Vacant** - The clinical site has verified on DIME that this is a vacant post, however, it should be noted that recruitment for the post may be underway and in some cases appointments may have already been made with a prospective start date
- **Unknown** - The clinical site has not yet assigned a Consultant to the post or marked the post as vacant

It should be noted that 2021 has seen a surge in the number of posts being approved by the CAAC, and this has resulted in a higher number of vacancies. There is often a significant period of time between approval of a consultant post to an appointee commencing employment.


Table 2: Status of CAAC-approved consultant posts across each specialty; the basis on which they are filled by Discipline, Tenure and Contract Type A, B or C as of 04 May 2021

Discipline	Contract Type	Agency	Permanent	Temporary/Locum	Total
Anaesthesiology	Other	1	89	1	91
	Type A		8	3	11
	Type B	1	249	26	276
	Type C		15		15
Anaesthesiology Total		2	361	30	393
Emergency Medicine	Other	1	13		14
	Type A		61	8	69
	Type B	1	12	10	23
Emergency Medicine Total		2	86	18	106
Intensive Care Medicine	Other		3		3
	Type A		1		1
	Type B		24	2	26
	Type C		1		1
Intensive Care Medicine Total			29	2	31
Medicine	Other	12	123	2	137
	Type A		46	4	50
	Type B	2	506	62	570
	Type C		22		22
Medicine Total		14	697	68	779
Obstetrics & Gynaecology	Other	4	34		38
	Type A		2		2
	Type B	1	120	10	131
	Type C		4		4
Obstetrics & Gynaecology Total		5	160	10	175
Paediatrics	Other	1	7	1	9
	Type A		6		6
	Type B	1	180	16	197
Paediatrics Total		2	193	17	212
Pathology	Other	1	41	1	43
	Type A		4	1	5
	Type B		205	26	231
	Type C		1		1
Pathology Total		1	251	28	280
Psychiatry	Other	30	33	6	69
	Type A	13	311	51	375
	Type B		13	1	14
	Type C		1		1
Psychiatry Total		43	358	58	459
Radiology	Other	4	78		82
	Type A		2	1	3
	Type B		177	13	190
	Type C		17		17
Radiology Total		4	274	14	292
Surgery	Other	3	164	4	171
	Type A		5		5
	Type B	1	255	41	297
	Type C		53	5	58
Surgery Total		4	477	50	531
Total		77	2886	295	3258



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A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Leah O'Toole".

Leah O'Toole
Assistant National Director