



8th October 2021

Deputy David Cullinane
Dáil Eireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

Ref: PQ 46354/21

To ask the Minister for Health the number of CAAC-approved consultant posts across each discipline and specialty; the basis on which they are filled, that is, permanent, temporary and agency, as per DIME; and the number of each type of contract, that is, A, B and C across disciplines filled and or allocated for all approved posts including the number on post-2012 pay rates.

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 as per DIME by Discipline, Tenure , including the number on post Oct 2012 pay rates as of 04 May 2021

| Medical Discipline | Pre or Post October 2012 | Permanent | Temp/Locum | Agency | Total |
|---|--------------------------|-------------|------------|-----------|-------------|
| Anaesthesiology | Post Oct 2012 | 60 | 10 | 1 | 71 |
| | Pre Oct 2012 | 301 | 20 | 1 | 322 |
| Anaesthesiology Total | | 361 | 30 | 2 | 393 |
| Emergency Medicine | Post Oct 2012 | 21 | 10 | | 31 |
| | Pre Oct 2012 | 65 | 8 | 2 | 75 |
| Emergency Medicine Total | | 86 | 18 | 2 | 106 |
| Intensive Care Medicine | Post Oct 2012 | 19 | 1 | | 20 |
| | Pre Oct 2012 | 10 | 1 | | 11 |
| Intensive Care Medicine Total | | 29 | 2 | | 31 |
| Medicine | Post Oct 2012 | 179 | 38 | 4 | 221 |
| | Pre Oct 2012 | 518 | 30 | 10 | 558 |
| Medicine Total | | 697 | 68 | 14 | 779 |
| Obstetrics & Gynaecology | Post Oct 2012 | 46 | 4 | 2 | 52 |
| | Pre Oct 2012 | 114 | 6 | 3 | 123 |
| Obstetrics & Gynaecology Total | | 160 | 10 | 5 | 175 |
| Paediatrics | Post Oct 2012 | 62 | 10 | 1 | 73 |
| | Pre Oct 2012 | 131 | 7 | 1 | 139 |
| Paediatrics Total | | 193 | 17 | 2 | 212 |
| Pathology | Post Oct 2012 | 56 | 16 | 1 | 73 |
| | Pre Oct 2012 | 195 | 12 | | 207 |
| Pathology Total | | 251 | 28 | 1 | 280 |
| Psychiatry | Post Oct 2012 | 73 | 25 | 10 | 108 |
| | Pre Oct 2012 | 285 | 33 | 33 | 351 |
| Psychiatry Total | | 358 | 58 | 43 | 459 |
| Radiology | Post Oct 2012 | 48 | 6 | | 54 |
| | Pre Oct 2012 | 226 | 8 | 4 | 238 |
| Radiology Total | | 274 | 14 | 4 | 292 |
| Surgery | Post Oct 2012 | 90 | 21 | 3 | 114 |
| | Pre Oct 2012 | 387 | 29 | 1 | 417 |
| Surgery Total | | 477 | 50 | 4 | 531 |
| Total | | 2886 | 295 | 77 | 3258 |

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