



Oifig an Stiúrthóra Cúnta Náisiúnta  
Clár Cúraim Pobail Feabhsaithe &  
Conarthaí Príomhchúraim  
Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte  
Urlár 2, Páirc Ghnó Bhóthar na Modhfheirme,  
Bóthar na Modhfheirme, Corcaigh, T12 HT02

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Deputy Violet-Anne Wynn,  
Dáil Eireann,  
Leinster House,  
Dublin 2.

5<sup>th</sup> April, 2022

**PQ 8080/22 - To ask the Minister for Health the number of practising general practitioners per 100,000 population by county in each of the years 2016 to 2021, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. - Violet-Anne Wynn**

Dear Deputy Wynn,

I refer to the above parliamentary question received in our office for response. Please find attached number of General Practitioners (GMS GPs and GPs registered to provide other services<sup>\*\*\*</sup>) that are in practice in each county broken down into CHO and LHO area. Population by 100,000 population are provided by CHO.

Under the GMS scheme, the HSE contracts GPs to provide medical services without charge to medical card and GP visit card holders. Where a vacancy arises in a practice with a GMS contract, the HSE becomes actively involved in the selection process to find a replacement GP. Set out in the attached table is the number of General Practitioners.

The HSE is aware of the workforce issues currently facing general practice. In this context several efforts to increase the number of practising GPs have been undertaken in recent years. Changes have been made to the entry provisions to the GMS scheme to facilitate more flexible/shared GMS contracts, and to the retirement provisions for GPs under the GMS scheme. An enhanced supports package for rural GP practices was also introduced.

Under the 2019 GP Agreement, the Government will increase annual expenditure in general practice by €210 million over the Agreement's lifetime from 2019 to 2023. It provides for increases in capitation fees, improved maternity and paternity arrangements, as well as enhanced supports for rural practices and the introduction of a €2 million support for practices in deprived urban areas.

The number of entrants to GP training has increased from 120 in 2009 to 259 this year.

*\*\*\*Please note that the attached data includes GPs not contracted to the GMS Scheme but who are registered to provide services under the Primary Childhood Immunisation Scheme, the Health (Amendment) Act 1996, Heartwatch, Methadone Treatment Scheme and National Cancer Screening Service.*

Yours sincerely,

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Geraldine Crowley,  
Assistant National Director,  
Enhanced Community Care Programme &  
Primary Care Contracts



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| PQ8080                                |                 | GPs with a GMS Contract |      |      |      |      |      | GPs with a GMS contract per 1000 total population (2016) |      |      |      |      |      |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|--|------|------|------|------|------|
| Community Healthcare Organisation     | Population 2016 | 2016                    | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2016   | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 |
| National                              | 4,761,865       | 2914                    | 2935 | 2926 | 2971 | 3034 | 3083 | 61   | 62   | 61   | 62   | 64   | 65   |
| CHO Area 1                            | 391,281         | 227                     | 229  | 234  | 234  | 230  | 234  | 58   | 59   | 60   | 60   | 59   | 60   |
| LHO 13 - Cavan / Monaghan             |                 | 70                      | 71   | 72   | 71   | 70   | 69   |  |      |      |      |      |      |
| LHO 19 - Donegal                      |                 | 93                      | 95   | 99   | 98   | 96   | 99   |  |      |      |      |      |      |
| LHO 20 - Sligo / Leitrim / West Cavan |                 | 64                      | 63   | 63   | 65   | 64   | 66   |  |      |      |      |      |      |
| CHO Area 2                            | 453,109         | 310                     | 312  | 317  | 317  | 321  | 316  | 68   | 69   | 70   | 70   | 71   | 70   |
| LHO 16 - Galway                       |                 | 187                     | 190  | 193  | 196  | 200  | 197  |  |      |      |      |      |      |
| LHO 17 - Mayo                         |                 | 90                      | 90   | 91   | 88   | 87   | 87   |  |      |      |      |      |      |
| LHO 18 - Roscommon                    |                 | 33                      | 32   | 33   | 33   | 34   | 32   |  |      |      |      |      |      |
| CHO Area 3                            | 384,998         | 246                     | 250  | 244  | 249  | 250  | 256  | 64   | 65   | 63   | 65   | 65   | 66   |
| LHO 21 - Clare                        |                 | 54                      | 54   | 53   | 54   | 56   | 55   |  |      |      |      |      |      |
| LHO 22 - North Tipp./East Limerick    |                 | 51                      | 56   | 54   | 52   | 51   | 53   |  |      |      |      |      |      |
| LHO 23 - Limerick                     |                 | 141                     | 140  | 137  | 143  | 143  | 148  |  |      |      |      |      |      |
| CHO Area 4                            | 690,575         | 488                     | 481  | 475  | 472  | 475  | 477  | 71   | 70   | 69   | 68   | 69   | 69   |
| LHO 24 - South Lee                    |                 | 149                     | 149  | 145  | 144  | 150  | 150  |  |      |      |      |      |      |
| LHO 25 - North Lee                    |                 | 129                     | 130  | 127  | 127  | 124  | 121  |  |      |      |      |      |      |
| LHO 26 - West Cork                    |                 | 46                      | 43   | 44   | 43   | 44   | 44   |  |      |      |      |      |      |
| LHO 27 - Kerry                        |                 | 103                     | 101  | 103  | 100  | 99   | 101  |  |      |      |      |      |      |
| LHO 28 - North Cork                   |                 | 61                      | 58   | 56   | 58   | 58   | 61   |  |      |      |      |      |      |
| CHO Area 5                            | 510,333         | 280                     | 277  | 287  | 295  | 302  | 311  | 55   | 54   | 56   | 58   | 59   | 61   |
| LHO 29 - Carlow/Kilkenny              |                 | 79                      | 79   | 84   | 84   | 86   | 85   |  |      |      |      |      |      |
| LHO 30 - Waterford                    |                 | 72                      | 71   | 73   | 75   | 80   | 84   |  |      |      |      |      |      |
| LHO 31 - South Tipperary              |                 | 55                      | 53   | 57   | 60   | 58   | 63   |  |      |      |      |      |      |
| LHO 32 - Wexford                      |                 | 74                      | 74   | 73   | 76   | 78   | 79   |  |      |      |      |      |      |
| CHO Area 6                            | 393,239         | 281                     | 292  | 284  | 288  | 310  | 319  | 71   | 74   | 72   | 73   | 79   | 81   |
| LHO 1 - Dun Laoghaire                 |                 | 113                     | 118  | 113  | 114  | 118  | 126  |  |      |      |      |      |      |
| LHO 2 - Dublin South East             |                 | 91                      | 94   | 94   | 95   | 106  | 108  |  |      |      |      |      |      |
| LHO 7 - Wicklow                       |                 | 77                      | 80   | 77   | 79   | 86   | 85   |  |      |      |      |      |      |
| CHO Area 7                            | 697,644         | 388                     | 383  | 374  | 397  | 415  | 424  | 56   | 55   | 54   | 57   | 59   | 61   |
| LHO 3 - Dublin South City             |                 | 116                     | 105  | 107  | 112  | 122  | 118  |  |      |      |      |      |      |
| LHO 4 - Dublin South West             |                 | 102                     | 105  | 99   | 106  | 109  | 115  |  |      |      |      |      |      |
| LHO 5 - Dublin West                   |                 | 64                      | 67   | 65   | 69   | 73   | 77   |  |      |      |      |      |      |
| LHO 6 - Kildare / West Wicklow        |                 | 106                     | 106  | 103  | 110  | 111  | 114  |  |      |      |      |      |      |
| CHO Area 8                            | 619,281         | 331                     | 336  | 339  | 333  | 338  | 338  | 53   | 54   | 55   | 54   | 55   | 55   |
| LHO 14 - Louth                        |                 | 82                      | 84   | 81   | 82   | 83   | 81   |  |      |      |      |      |      |
| LHO 15 - Meath                        |                 | 81                      | 82   | 84   | 84   | 88   | 83   |  |      |      |      |      |      |
| LHO 8 - Laois / Offaly                |                 | 78                      | 80   | 80   | 80   | 79   | 81   |  |      |      |      |      |      |
| LHO 9 - Longford / Westmeath          |                 | 90                      | 90   | 94   | 87   | 88   | 93   |  |      |      |      |      |      |
| CHO Area 9                            | 621,405         | 363                     | 375  | 372  | 386  | 393  | 408  | 58   | 60   | 60   | 62   | 63   | 66   |
| LHO 10 - Dublin North West            |                 | 108                     | 110  | 98   | 103  | 102  | 107  |  |      |      |      |      |      |
| LHO 11 - Dublin North Central         |                 | 117                     | 117  | 123  | 128  | 134  | 137  |  |      |      |      |      |      |
| LHO 12 - Dublin North                 |                 | 138                     | 148  | 151  | 155  | 157  | 164  |  |      |      |      |      |      |