



**Oifig an Stiúrthóra Náisiúnta, Acmhainní Daonna**

Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhísí Sláinte

Ospidéal Dr. Steevens'

Baile Átha Cliath 8

**Office of the National Director of Human Resources**

Health Service Executive

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Neale Redmond T.D.

2<sup>nd</sup> February, 2022

**PQ 63495/21 To ask the Minister for Health the geographic breakdown of the assaults that were recorded on nurses in each of the years 2015 to 2021; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Neale Richmond**

**PQ 63496/21 To ask the Minister for Health the geographic breakdown of the assaults that were recorded on doctors in each of the years 2015 to 2021; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Neale Richmond**

Dear Deputy,

I refer to your recent parliamentary question above which was sent to the HSE for reply.

To assist with understanding the report/data more fully, I feel it appropriate to firstly give a brief background to the National Incident Management System (NIMS) and to the data in the report. In 2015 the NIMS system was introduced by the SCA. This requires all incidents to be reported through a national centralised system and will ultimately improve the quality of the data. However, the HSE has long been proactive in encouraging staff to report all incidents and this is enshrined in the Corporate Safety Statement, Violence and Aggression policy and Incident Management Framework and Guidance.

Please note that the following conditions apply to the data:

- All assaults on staff that have been reported on NIMS are included
- Assaults include a problem/cause of: physical, verbal or sexual assault on staff in the HSE that occurred between 01/01/2015 and 31/12/2021
- The report was run by "Date of Incident", which is the date on which the incident occurred
- An incident can be a harmful Incident (Adverse Event), no harm incident, near miss, dangerous occurrence (reportable circumstance) or complaint

When considering the figures in the report it should be noted that staff are encouraged to report all "near misses" and incidents – even those that **do not** result in harm. Hence, the number of incident reports should not be considered as indicative of a level of harm. There may also be multiple reports relating to the same incident.

**PQ 63496/21**

*To ask the Minister for Health the geographic breakdown of the assaults that were recorded on doctors in each of the years 2015 to 2021; and if he will make a statement on the matter*

**Table 1 Category of Person Affected – Doctors**

Category of Person, Affected	Medical
Row Labels	Count of Record Number
2015	108
2016	88
2017	86
2018	129
2019	118
2020	125
2021	94
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>748</b>

**Table 2 Geographic breakdown of assaults – Doctors**

Category of Person, Affected	Medical								
Location	Year								
Row Labels	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	Grand Total	
CHO Area 1 - Donegal/Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan/Cavan/Monaghan	2	3	4	4	4	2	6	25	
CHO Area 2 - Galway/Roscommon/Mayo	11	9	7	11	11	1	2	52	
CHO Area 3 - Clare/Limerick/North Tipperary	9	2	3	2	3	7	6	32	
CHO Area 4 - Cork/Kerry	2	3	9	6	16	7	4	47	
CHO Area 5 - South Tipperary/Carlow/Kilkenny/Waterford/Wexford			2		4			6	
CHO Area 6 - Wicklow/Dun Laoghaire/Dublin South East	2	1	4	4	1			12	
CHO Area 7 - Kildare/West Wicklow/Dublin West/South City/South West	11	3	1	8	10		5	38	
CHO Area 8 - Laois/Offaly/Longford/Westmeath/Louth/Meath	17	9	8	12	3	5	3	57	
CHO Area 9 - Dublin North/Dublin North City/Dublin North West	4	5	3	5	3	3	1	24	
Group 1 - RCSI Hospitals Group (Academic Partner: RCSI)	10	9	6	12	17	19	7	80	
Group 2 - Dublin Midlands Hospital Group (Academic Partner: TCD)	16	16	7	9	6	11	17	82	
Group 3 - Ireland East Hospital Group (Academic Partner: UCD)	5	6	8	31	12	36	18	116	
Group 4 - South/South West Hospital Group (Academic Partner: UCC)	9	9	12	14	7	13	15	79	
Group 5 - Saolta University Health Care Group (Academic Partner: NUIG)	6	2	5	1	13	11	2	40	
Group 6 - University of Limerick Hospital Group (Academic Partner: UL)	1	3	3	3	4	6	6	26	
Group 7 - Children's Health Ireland (Academic Partner: All)		2	2	5	3	3	2	17	
National Services			1		1	1		3	
National Social Care	3	6	1	2				12	
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>748</b>	

**PQ 63495/21**

*To ask the Minister for Health the geographic breakdown of the assaults that were recorded on nurses in each of the years 2015 to 2021; and if he will make a statement on the matter*

**Table 1 Category of Person Affected – Nurses**

Category of Person, Affected	Nursing
Row Labels	Count of Record Number
2015	5049
2016	5026
2017	4991
2018	5185
2019	5358
2020	4511
2021	3734
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>33854</b>

**Table 2 Geographic breakdown of assaults - Nurses**

Category of Person, Affected		Nursing							
Location		Year							
Row Labels	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	Grand Total	
CHO Area 1 - Donegal/Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan/Cavan/Monaghan	335	420	354	483	555	498	435	3080	
CHO Area 2 - Galway/Roscommon/Mayo	759	602	529	464	450	303	250	3357	
CHO Area 3 - Clare/Limerick/North Tipperary	211	358	166	169	359	225	161	1649	
CHO Area 4 - Cork/Kerry	193	356	410	390	462	409	338	2558	
CHO Area 5 - South Tipperary/Carlow/Kilkenny/Waterford/Wexford	194	309	443	438	366	336	250	2336	
CHO Area 6 - Wicklow/Dun Laoghaire/Dublin South East	63	107	87	92	112	104	58	623	
CHO Area 7 - Kildare/West Wicklow/Dublin West/South City/South West	299	321	421	395	479	335	227	2477	
CHO Area 8 - Laois/Offaly/Longford/Westmeath/Louth/Meath	497	446	372	341	336	296	274	2562	
CHO Area 9 - Dublin North/Dublin North City/Dublin North West	588	501	382	424	332	226	187	2640	
Group 1 - RCSI Hospitals Group (Academic Partner: RCSI)	172	184	144	126	156	144	137	1063	
Group 2 - Dublin Midlands Hospital Group (Academic Partner: TCD)	505	462	395	251	276	213	187	2289	
Group 3 - Ireland East Hospital Group (Academic Partner: UCD)	448	310	458	573	559	596	524	3468	
Group 4 - South/South West Hospital Group (Academic Partner: UCC)	200	184	210	322	217	288	266	1687	
Group 5 - Saolta University Health Care Group (Academic Partner: NUIG)	72	107	123	157	173	111	79	822	
Group 6 - University of Limerick Hospital Group (Academic Partner: UL)	44	44	86	117	124	78	116	609	
Group 7 - Children's Health Ireland (Academic Partner: All)	5	5	9	33	37	34	22	145	
HSE HQ	1		2	1				4	
National Services	21	8	27	38	20	5	4	123	
National Social Care	442	302	373	371	345	310	219	2362	
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>5049</b>	<b>5026</b>	<b>4991</b>	<b>5185</b>	<b>5358</b>	<b>4511</b>	<b>3734</b>	<b>33854</b>	

## Comment

The figures show that there is a level of annual fluctuation in the reported incidents, however the organisation continues to encourage the reporting of all incidents (regardless of the level of harm, if any).

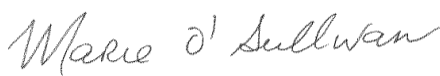
Ensuring the safety of employees and service users is a priority concern for the HSE. The HSE is committed to creating a safe environment within which to work or to be treated.

There is an emphasis on training and equipping the workforce effectively with skills on risk identification and the management of violence and aggression.

Training in relation to the Management of Violence and Aggression may be accessed in all services.

The organisation will continue to place an emphasis on the management of work related aggression and violence in 2022 to support the organisation strategy and recently updated policy.

Yours sincerely,



**Marie O'Sullivan**  
National HR