



Oifig Ceannasaí Oibríochtaí,  
Oibríochtaí Pobail, Cúram Priomhúil

Seomra 243, Ospidéal Dr Steevens,  
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09<sup>th</sup> August 2022

Deputy Róisín Shortall,  
Dáil Éireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2.

**PQ 41252/22 – To ask the Minister for Health the number of public health nursing posts dedicated to developmental assessments for babies and children from three months to 48 months, by CHO and LHO, in tabular form; the ratio to population in each case; and if he will make a statement on the matter.**

**- Róisín Shortall**

Dear Deputy,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question (PQ 41252/22) which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

Public Health Nurses are healthcare professionals who provide a range of nursing services in the community including child development assessments in line with the National Healthy Childhood Programme. The Public Health Nursing service is one of a number of multidisciplinary health services provided through Primary Care within the community setting.

The HSE does not collect data nationally on the number of Public Health Nursing posts dedicated to development assessment for babies and children from 3 to 48 months. Please see the below table, which illustrates the total number (WTE) of Public Health Nurses as of the latest Health Service Personnel Census data (June 2022). Please note that this data is not available at an LHO level, and the ratio of PHNs to population in each CHO is not captured at a national level.

**Total Public Health Nurse June  
2022**

Staff Category /Group/ Grade	WTE Jun 2022
Public Health Nurse	1,472

HG & CHO	WTE Jun 2022
<b>Total Public Health Nurses</b>	<b>1,472</b>
<b>Acute Services</b>	<b>0</b>
CHO 1	149
CHO 2	181
CHO 3	123



CHO 4	215
CHO 5	165
CHO 6	95
CHO 7	166
CHO 8	202
CHO 9	174
<b>Community Services</b>	<b>1,470</b>
Health & Wellbeing	2
Corporate	0
<b>HWB Corporate &amp; National</b>	<b>2</b>

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Seán McArt'.

**Seán McArt**  
General Manager Primary Care  
National Community Operations