



Pleanáil agus Faisnéis Straitéiseach d'Fhórsa
Ionad Gnó Shoird
Bóthar Bhaile Anraí, Sord.
Co. Átha Cliath, K67D8H0
Strategic Workforce Planning & Intelligence
Health Service Executive
Swords Business Campus, Balheary Road
Swords,
Co. Dublin, K67D8H0

20 May 2022

Deputy David Cullinane
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

PQ 30177/22: To ask the Minister for Health the number of net additional social worker whole-time equivalent positions funded by the HSE in each of the years 2017 to 2022; the areas the additional social workers were assigned to; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Cullinane,

I refer to your recent parliamentary question in relation to staffing which was forwarded to the Health Services Executive (HSE) by the Department of Health for direct reply.

Employment levels at the end of May 2022, show there were 134,711 WTE (equating to 153,578 personnel), directly employed in the provision of Health and Social Care Services by the HSE and the various Section 38 hospitals and agencies and of which 1,338 WTE (1,504 personnel) were Social Workers.

Details, as requested, by Care Group and by Hospital Group & Community Healthcare Organisation are as set out in the following tables:

Table 1: Social Workers by Care Group: May 2022

Care Group	WTE Dec 2016	WTE Dec 2017	WTE Dec 2018	WTE Dec 2019	WTE Dec 2020	WTE Dec 2021	WTE May 2022	No. May 2022	Change 2017	Change 2018	Change 2019	Change 2020	Change 2021	Change YTD 2022
Social Workers	1,130	1,148	1,172	1,165	1,238	1,296	1,338	1,504	+18	+24	-7	+74	+58	+42
Acute Services	319	325	342	355	384	419	430	477	+6	+17	+14	+29	+35	+11
Mental Health	350	357	358	350	373	379	396	447	+7	+1	-9	+23	+6	+17
Primary Care	150	153	152	139	151	167	180	199	+3	-1	-13	+12	+16	+13
Disabilities	216	221	219	219	228	235	228	267	+5	-1	-1	+9	+7	-7
Older People	87	84	95	98	100	90	78	86	-3	+11	+3	+1	-10	-12
CHO Operations (Quality & Patient Safety)							23	25	+0	+0	+0	+0	+0	+23
Community Services	803	815	825	806	852	871	905	1,024	+12	+10	-19	+46	+19	+34
H&WB Corporate & National Services	8	8	6	4	3	6	3	3	-0	-3	-2	-1	+3	-3

Table 2: Social Workers by Service Delivery area: May 2022

Service Delivery Area	WTE Dec 2016	WTE Dec 2017	WTE Dec 2018	WTE Dec 2019	WTE Dec 2020	WTE Dec 2021	WTE May 2022	No. May 2022	Change 2017	Change 2018	Change 2019	Change 2020	Change 2021	Change YTD 2022
Social Workers	1,130	1,148	1,172	1,165	1,238	1,296	1,338	1,504	+18	+24	-7	+74	+58	+42
Children's Health Ireland	49	50	58	57	60	65	67	78	+0	+8	-1	+3	+5	+2
Dublin Midlands Hospital Group	77	82	84	79	87	90	95	101	+4	+2	-4	+8	+3	+4
Ireland East Hospital Group	70	70	69	82	91	103	108	116	-0	-1	+13	+9	+12	+5
RCSI Hospitals Group	61	61	63	66	66	72	71	78	+1	+2	+3	+0	+6	-1
Saolta University Hospital Care	27	23	25	26	31	37	37	43	-4	+2	+1	+4	+6	+1
South/South West Hospital Group	27	30	33	33	37	38	41	48	+3	+3	-1	+4	+2	+3
University of Limerick Hospital Group	6	8	8	11	11	14	12	13	+2	-0	+3	-0	+3	-2
other Acute Services	1		1	1	1				-1	+1	+0	+0	-1	+0
Acute Services	319	325	342	355	384	419	430	477	+6	+17	+14	+29	+35	+11
CHO 1	80	80	78	85	92	96	103	112	-1	-2	+7	+8	+3	+7
CHO 2	75	76	82	84	84	90	90	103	+1	+5	+2	-0	+7	-0
CHO 3	58	57	63	59	58	62	62	70	-2	+6	-3	-2	+4	+0
CHO 4	111	118	121	115	132	135	138	159	+7	+4	-7	+17	+3	+3
CHO 5	67	69	64	60	63	62	62	71	+2	-6	-4	+3	-2	-0
CHO 6	62	56	57	57	54	60	60	68	-6	+1	+0	-3	+6	+1
CHO 7	110	112	111	105	108	111	117	130	+2	-1	-6	+3	+3	+7
CHO 8	88	91	91	88	89	93	99	113	+3	-1	-3	+1	+4	+6
CHO 9	122	130	130	125	139	133	144	163	+9	-0	-5	+13	-6	+11
other Community Services	30	25	29	29	33	30	30	35	-5	+4	-0	+5	-3	-1
Community Services	803	815	825	806	852	871	905	1,024	+12	+10	-19	+46	+19	+34
H&WB Corporate & National Services	8	8	6	4	3	6	3	3	-0	-3	-2	-1	+3	-3

Source: Health Service Personnel Census

Note 1: Health Sector staffing figures relate to direct employment levels as returned through the Health Service Personnel Census (HSPC) for the public health sector (HSE & Section agencies)


Note 2: Figures relating to service levels are expressed as whole-time equivalents (WTE) in order to take account of part-time working

Finally, these details are available through the Health Services Personnel Census (HSPC), which is the official employment count for the public health sector *and routinely published* [here](#).

I trust that this information is sufficient to meet the Deputy's needs.

Yours sincerely,

Yours sincerely,



Des Williams

General Manager