



**Stiúrtóra Náisiúnta
Acmhainní Daonna**
Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhísí,
Sláinte Ospidéal Dr. Steevens',
Baile Átha Cliath 8, D08 W2A8.

**National Director
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Róisín Shortall T.D.

28th June, 2022

PQ 30645/22: To ask the Minister for Health the number of whole-time equivalent staff who have been recruited into the HSE since the beginning of 2022; the number of staff who have retired or left the HSE in the same period; the expected number of staff who will retire or leave the HSE in 2022; and if he will make a statement on the matter. - Róisín Shortall

Dear Deputy,

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

The Deputy will be interested to note that, 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 & Social Care Services by the HSE and the various Section 38 hospitals & agencies. This figure represents an increase of 2,387 WTE (+1.8%) when the effect of turnover (including retirements) is considered. See attached table.

There are multiple options regarding departures on the Superannuation Scheme that employees are included in. Employees can retire at age 60 years, 65 years, 70 years or as there is no minimum retirement age in the Public Service. The decision to resign or retire, is often determined by personal decisions and is recorded via the turnover rate. Retirements and leavers are recorded in the turnover rate in the HSE. Turnover data is calculated based on the numbers of leavers across our services, with resignations, retirements end of contracts and other reasons including moves to other health sector employers captured as a leaver from our service. The staff turnover rate is running at 6-7% overall.

The HSE cannot accurately predict how many people retired or will retire in a given period but we can provide information relating to pensioner set up which I think will be useful in this case. In 2021, National Pensions Management set up 2,433 new pensioners and in 2022 up to and including May 2022, 949 pensioners. Based on these figures it is suggested that that National Pensions Management can expect to set up to 2,277 new pensioners by year end.

Please be advised that these numbers relate to the setup of new Pensioners and not the total number of retirees for that period. There is a lead time associated with when an employee retires and when they actually get set up as a pensioner and have their application finalised / processed.

Yours sincerely,

Marie O'Sullivan
National HR