



27th May 2022

Deputy David Cullinane

Dáil Éireann

Leinster House

Dublin 2.

PQ 22491/22 - To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 192 of 6 April 2022, if a breakdown of the number of assaults recorded against medical, nursing, midwifery and other health and social care professionals in each of the hospital and hospital groups in 2021 and to date in 2022 will be provided; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -David Cullinane

Dear Deputy Cullinane,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary question, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

The National Incident Management System (NIMS) which is the principal source of national data on incident activity for the HSE was accessed using the following criteria.

NIMS Extract Criteria:

Date of Incident: 1st January 2021 – 20th May 2022

Who was involved: Staff Member

Problem/Cause: Direct Physical Assault; Sexual Assault and Verbal Assault

Division: Acute Hospitals

Excludes Voluntary Hospitals

Date of Extract: 20th May 2022

Values between 1-5 have been redacted and are denoted by ~

The data sourced from NIMS is provided in the Appendix attached and the following should be noted in interpreting the data provided:-

- All assaults on staff that have been reported by statutory hospitals on NIMS are included
- An incident can be a harmful Incident (Adverse Event), no harm incident, or near miss.

When considering the figures in the report it should be noted that staff are encouraged to report “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.

I am advised that 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 HSE is placing a renewed emphasis on the management of work related aggression and violence to support the organisation strategy and is working on updating the existing policy.

For 2022-2023 there is a focus on the following three initiatives at national level:

1. Review of the national HSE Policy on Work Related Aggression and Violence
2. Integrated national approach to Aggression and Violence training
3. Role out of an actuarial Risk Assessment process

I trust this is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read 'Carol Ivory', is positioned above a horizontal line.

Carol Ivory

General Manager,

Acute Operations



Date of Incident - 2021

	Allied Health Professional	Medical	Nursing	Grand Total
RCSI Hospitals Group	11	11	122	144
Cavan General Hospital	~	6	27	34
Connolly Hospital Blanchardstown	6	~	52	62
Louth County Hospital	~		~	~
Monaghan Hospital	~		~	6
Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital, Drogheda		~	37	38
Dublin Midlands Hospital Group	~	21	118	143
Midland Regional Hospital, Portlaoise	~	16	29	47
Midland Regional Hospital, Tullamore	~	~	44	50
Naas General Hospital		~	45	46
Ireland East Hospital Group	~	18	242	263
Midland Regional Hospital, Mullingar		5	77	82
Our Lady's Hospital, Navan		8	20	28
St. Columcille's Hospital	~		35	37
St. Luke's General Hospital, Kilkenny	~	~	96	100
Wexford General Hospital		~	14	16
South/South West Hospital Group	7	14	359	380
Bantry General Hospital	~	~	19	22
Cork University Hospital	~	~	77	81
Cork University Maternity Hospital			~	~
Mallow General Hospital	~		12	13
Tipperary University Hospital		6	21	27
University Hospital Kerry		~	95	97
University Hospital Waterford	~	~	134	139
Saolta University Health Care Group	7	10	179	196
Letterkenny University Hospital	~	~	58	64
Mayo University Hospital	~		28	29
Merlin Park University Hospital			~	~
Portiuncula University Hospital	~	~	27	31
Roscommon University Hospital			~	~
Sligo University Hospital	~	~	34	37
University Hospital Galway	~	~	29	32
University of Limerick Hospital Group	~	10	151	162
Croom Orthopaedic Hospital			~	~
Ennis Hospital		~	8	9
Nenagh Hospital			7	7
University Hospital Limerick	~	8	128	137
University Maternity Hospital Limerick		~	6	7
Grand Total	33	84	1171	1288

Table 1 2021 data



Date of Incident - 2022

	Allied Health Professional	Medical	Nursing	Grand Total
RCSI Hospitals Group	~	~	66	74
Cavan General Hospital	~	~	19	21
Connolly Hospital Blanchardstown		~	25	26
Louth County Hospital			~	~
Monaghan Hospital	~		6	7
Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital, Drogheda	~	~	15	19
Dublin Midlands Hospital Group	6	~	17	24
Midland Regional Hospital, Portlaoise	~	~	~	7
Midland Regional Hospital, Tullamore	~		8	9
Naas General Hospital	~		7	8
Ireland East Hospital Group	~	~	136	143
Midland Regional Hospital, Mullingar		~	30	31
Our Lady's Hospital, Navan	~	~	25	29
St. Columcille's Hospital		~	26	27
St. Luke's General Hospital, Kilkenny		~	51	52
Wexford General Hospital			~	~
South/South West Hospital Group	~	~	69	76
Cork University Hospital	~	~	25	27
Mallow General Hospital			~	~
Tipperary University Hospital		~	~	6
University Hospital Kerry	~		31	34
University Hospital Waterford			6	6
Saolta University Health Care Group	~	~	44	47
Letterkenny University Hospital		~	18	19
Mayo University Hospital	~		~	6
Portiuncula University Hospital		~	~	6
Sligo University Hospital			~	~
University Hospital Galway			11	11
University of Limerick Hospital Group	~	~	61	67
Croom Orthopaedic Hospital			~	~
Ennis Hospital			8	8
Nenagh Hospital	~		~	6
University Hospital Limerick		~	46	49
University Maternity Hospital Limerick	~		~	~
Grand Total	21	17	393	431

Table 2 2022 data

Please note that this NIMS data may contain anomalies and is subject to further change following ongoing data analysis by the hospitals.