



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

**National Director  
Human Resources**  
Health Service Executive,  
Dr Steevens' Hospital,  
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David Cullinane T.D.

14<sup>th</sup> September, 2022

**PQ 41941/22 To ask the Minister for Health the number of assaults recorded against medical, nursing, midwifery and other health and social care professionals across HSE hospitals and community healthcare facilities to date for each month in 2021 and to date in 2022, by hospital in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -David Cullinane**

Dear Deputy,

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

#### **Background**

With regard to the above request for information, please see below the report on Assaults on HSE Staff.

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 physical, verbal and sexual 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 01/01/2021 and 26/08/2022.
- 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.
- Values between 1-5 have been redacted and are denoted by ~
- This report is correct as of 26/08/2022.

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.



Table 1. Incidents by category of person affected in each HSE CHO Area and HG from 01/01/2021 – 26/08/2022

Count of Record Number	Date																								Grand Total
	2021												2022												
Row Labels	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug					
Allied Health Professional	~	~	18	9	11	6	~	6	14	13	21	12	22	15	11	15	20	29	33	9	274				
Ambulance/Service User Transport													~								~				
Catering/Housekeeping	~	~	~	~	6	7	~	6	6	~	6		6	~	~	~		~		~	61				
Dental	~									~									~		~				
Locum															~						~				
Medical	~	~	~	~	7	~	6	~	9	12	8	10	~	6	6	~	~	6	~	~	105				
Nursing	206	253	275	243	267	263	246	227	253	227	200	239	222	257	271	213	267	313	229	70	4741				
Other Staff	129	117	122	134	134	133	127	121	168	165	139	153	144	129	140	140	130	117	92	27	2561				
Professional Grades		~		~								~	~	~	~	~					9				
Professional Volunteer														~							~				
Tech/Maintenance		~	~		~			~	~	~	~		~	~	9	~	~	~	~		40				
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>343</b>	<b>382</b>	<b>421</b>	<b>393</b>	<b>427</b>	<b>410</b>	<b>386</b>	<b>370</b>	<b>451</b>	<b>422</b>	<b>377</b>	<b>415</b>	<b>404</b>	<b>415</b>	<b>442</b>	<b>380</b>	<b>424</b>	<b>470</b>	<b>356</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>7797</b>				



Table 2. Incidents by each HSE Hospital from 01/01/2021 – 26/08/2022

Count of Record Number	Date																								Grand Total
	2021												2022												
Row Labels	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug					
Bantry General Hospital	~	~	~	~	6	~	6	6											~				29		
Cavan General Hospital	~	~	~	~	~		9	~	9	~		~		~	~	~		~	~				46		
Connolly Hospital Blanchardstown			~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~							~	~	~			25		
Cork University Hospital	~	8	16	~	~	6	~	13	~	~	6	8	8	9	8	7	~	6	~				121		
Croom Orthopaedic Hospital												~		~	~			~	~				7		
Ennis Hospital				~	~			~		~			~	~	~		~	~	~				15		
Letterkenny University Hospital	~	~	~	~	12	~	9	~	~	~	~	~	~	11	~	8	~	~	~	~			93		
Louth County Hospital			~	~		~	~				~						~						6		
Mallow General Hospital	~					~					~	~		~	~								14		
Mayo University Hospital	~		~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	8	~		~	~		~	~				43		
Merlin Park University Hospital					~																		~		
Midland Regional Hospital, Mullingar	13	10	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	6	9	6	10	~	7	7	7				115		
Midland Regional Hospital, Portlaoise	~	~	~			~	~		~	~	~	~	~			~	~	~	~				31		
Midland Regional Hospital, Tullamore	~	~	6	~	~	~		7	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~				43		
Monaghan Hospital								~	~				~	~				~	~				12		
Naas General Hospital	7	~	~		6	~	10	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	9	~	~		75			
Nenagh Hospital	~				~	~					~	~	~	~		~							9		
Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital, Drogheda	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	10	~	~	~	~	8	8	~				80		
Our Lady's Hospital, Navan		~	~	~		~	~	~	~	6	6	7	6	~	~	9	~	~	~				62		
Portiuncula University Hospital	~	~	8	~		~	~	~	~	~	~	12	~		~		~	~	~				51		
Roscommon University Hospital						~						~											~		
Sligo University Hospital	~	~	~	~			~	~	~	~		~		~			~	~	~				27		
St. Columille's Hospital		~	~	~	~	6			~	~	~	~	~	~	~	9	7	~	~	~			68		
St. Luke's General Hospital, Kilkenny	~	~	~	~	~	14	17	13	14	11	9	~	17	17	14	12	15	14	~	~			194		
Tipperary University Hospital	~		~	~	~	6		~	~	~	6	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~				39		
University Hospital Galway	~	~	6		6	~	~		~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~				42		
University Hospital Kerry	~	~	17	~	8	11	~	~	9	~	7	6	~	14	14	11	9	~	~	~			135		
University Hospital Limerick	8	13	14	8	7	8	~	10	12	8	11	16	8	7	9	8	11	6	10	6			181		
University Hospital Waterford	12	10	~	9	~	~	~	~	13	6	6	~	~	~	~	~	~	9	~				95		
University Maternity Hospital Limerick			~		~							~	~					~					8		
Wexford General Hospital	~	~	~	6	~	~	~						~		~								20		
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>17</b>		<b>1689</b>			

\*Please note that this NIMS data may contain anomalies and is subject to further change following ongoing data analysis.



**Comment**

Due to delays in reporting numbers are likely to change over time, however the organisation continues to encourage the reporting of all incidents (regardless of the level of harm, if any).

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

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Marie O'Sullivan". The ink is a light grey or blue color.

**Marie O'Sullivan**  
**National HR**