



27th January 2023

Deputy Mark Ward,
Dáil Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

PQ 63865/22 -To ask the Minister for Health if he will provide a breakdown of the 237 whole-time equivalent public health nurse vacancies by CHO; the number of these that were filled by CHO; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Ward,

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

The number of approved vacancies for Public Health Nurses is gathered once a year for the Student PHN Sponsorship Scheme and in April 2022 the total number of vacancies to be filled via the Sponsorship scheme were 237. The 237 includes new development posts and routine replacement posts. This is at a point in time in April 2022 will continue to change as staff make personal decisions to either retire or move on from the organisation.

The table below shows the increase in Public Health Nurses (WTE's) May – December 2022:

	No May 2022	No Dec 2022
Public Health Nurse CHO 1	172	177
Public Health Nurse CHO 2	208	215
Public Health Nurse CHO 3	154	157
Public Health Nurse CHO 4	265	276
Public Health Nurse CHO 5	204	205
Public Health Nurse CHO 6	115	118
Public Health Nurse CHO 7	203	203
Public Health Nurse CHO 8	242	258
Public Health Nurse CHO 9	208	205

In addition, the HSE is currently sponsoring 115 Public Health Nurses, who are in training and undertaking clinical experience in Services.

All our employment data is available on the HSE website:

<https://www.hse.ie/eng/staff/resources/our-workforce/workforce-reporting/community-services.html> .

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

Jacqueline Nix

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Assistant National Director, HR Community Operations