



Oifig an Stiúrtóra Oibríochtaí
An tSeirbhís Náisiúnta
Bloc 4, Lárionad Gnó,
Tulach Mhór,
Co. Uíbh Fhailí, R35 FH59

Office of the Director of Operations
National Ambulance Service
Block 4, Central Business Park,
Tullamore,
Co. Offaly R35 FH59

www.hse.ie
@hselive

t 057 9357696
e william.merriman@hse.ie

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24 March 2023

Deputy Marian Harkin
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

PQ 12055/23

To ask the Minister for Health the number of emergency call outs to all ambulance stations in counties Sligo, Leitrim, Donegal and Roscommon in 2021 and 2022 on a monthly basis, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -

Marian Harkin

Dear Deputy Harkin,

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

The NAS operates a dynamic model of ambulance deployment. This is in line with international best practice and allows the NAS to prioritise resource allocation to the highest acuity calls that require an immediate emergency response. Dynamic deployment also allows the NAS to categorise non-serious or non-life-threatening calls, and to provide a resource appropriate to the patients' clinical need. This does mean that at particularly busy periods lower acuity calls will be liable to experience a longer wait for an ambulance. This has become more of a challenge in recent years with the continuous growth in activity volume. The NAS also operates under the HSE's 'Performance Accountability Framework', which sets out the means by which the service is held to account for its' performance in relation to access to services and the quality and safety of those services.

The NAS report monthly on Echo and Delta call activity category 1 (life threatening – cardiac or respiratory arrest or life threatening other than cardiac or respiratory arrest) calls. Response times per county are not deemed a Key Performance Indicator (KPI) for the Health Information Quality Authority (HIQA), the Department of Health (DoH) or the NAS. Therefore, reporting and publishing of response times on a county-by-county basis is not a requirement.

The table below details the number of emergency calls activated for the North West Region (including Sligo, Leitrim, Donegal and Roscommon) for the period January 2021 – December 2022.





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Month/Year	Total Emergency Calls Activated - North West Region
Jan-21	2029
Feb-21	1365
Mar-21	1477
Apr-21	1522
May-21	1664
Jun-21	1713
Jul-21	1998
Aug-21	1964
Sep-21	1812
Oct-21	1922
Nov-21	1793
Dec-21	2079
Jan-22	1842
Feb-22	1692
Mar-22	2106
Apr-22	1941
May-22	1905
Jun-22	1982
Jul-22	2153
Aug-22	2066
Sep-22	1972
Oct-22	2136
Nov-22	1906
Dec-22	2254

I trust that this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

William Merriman
Director of Operations
National Ambulance Service

