



Clár Sláinte Náisiúnta do Mhná & do Naíonáin
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23rd May 2023

Deputy Nolan
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House
Dublin 2

PQ 21932/23: To ask the Minister for Health to provide the total number of surgical abortions carried out in the State, in tabular form, in the respective years 2019, 2020, and 2021; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Nolan,

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. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

The HSE does not routinely collect data on the number of surgical terminations performed. Data on termination of pregnancy is collated by the Department of Health via the notification process. In accordance with Section 20 of the Health (Regulation of Termination of Pregnancy) Act 2018, the total number of pregnancy terminations performed annually is described in the Ministers Annual Report. The following information is contained in the annual report:

- The number of terminations of pregnancy carried out under each relevant section of the legislation;
- The number of terminations of pregnancy by month in which the termination of pregnancy was carried out;
- The number of terminations of pregnancy by the woman's county of residence, or place of residence (where the woman resides outside of the State).

Notifications are recorded on the form entitled "Health (Regulation of Termination of Pregnancy) Act 2018 (Notifications) Regulations 2018" (Statutory Instrument No. 597 of 2018). Neither the Statutory Instrument (S.I. 597) nor the associated Annual Notification Report include information on termination of pregnancy method.

Please see below the links to the 2019, 2020 and 2021 reports.

<https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/b410b-health-regulation-of-termination-of-pregnancy-act-2018-annual-report-on-notifications-2019/>

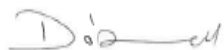
<https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/ef674-health-regulation-of-termination-of-pregnancy-act-2018-annual-report-on-notifications-2020/>

<https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/ce61b-notifications-in-accordance-with-section-20-of-the-health-regulation-of-termination-of-pregnancy-act-2018-annual-report-2021/>

The 2022 Annual Report will be published by the Minister as soon as practicable, once it has been laid before the Houses of the Oireachtas in June 2023.

I trust this clarifies the matter.

Yours sincerely,



Davinia O'Donnell, General Manager, National Women and Infants Health Programme