



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

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24 May 2023

Deputy Patricia Ryan
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

PQ 22124.23

To ask the Minister for Health the number and percentage of incidents responded to by the National Ambulance Service by clinical status and sub-status in January and February for each year 2019 to 2023, inclusive. –Patricia Ryan

Dear Deputy Ryan,

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.

Context

The HSE National Service Plan 2023 sets out the Key Performance Indicator (KPI) targets for emergency calls which apply to the following call categories:

- PURPLE (life-threatening cardiac or respiratory arrest) (75% in 18 minutes, 59 seconds)
- RED (life-threatening illness or injury, other than cardiac or respiratory arrest) (45% in 18 minutes, 59 seconds)

These targets are national annual aggregate targets rather than locally or seasonally based. Hence all public reporting is on this basis only.

Performance across the winter months of January and February in each year requested are affected by surges in influenza, Covid, RSV as well as severe weather events. Furthermore, the annual increases in demand are in general terms, more profound across these periods.

The data provided relates to PURPLE and RED calls originating from a 999 call received by NAS. The data provided excludes emergency calls between hospitals or 999 emergency calls received by Dublin Fire Brigade, which does not operate under the governance of the HSE.

The following table sets out both the percentage and average of PURPLE and RED calls originating from a 999 call received by NAS responded to by a patient-carrying vehicle in 18 minutes and 59 seconds or less in January and February in each of the years 2019 to 2023.





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Month	999 Responses	Cat 1 (Purple/Red) Responses	% within 19 min
Jan-19	27653	12822	46%
Feb-19	24485	11639	48%
Jan-20	27581	12722	46%
Feb-20	25939	11396	44%
Jan-21	30850	12746	41%
Feb-21	23503	10138	43%
Jan-22	30307	14148	47%
Feb-22	28229	13097	46%
Jan-23	30988	14997	48%
Feb-23	27837	13094	47%

Please note that there are no targets or standards applying to any other category of 999 call and consequently, NAS does not publish such data.

I trust that this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

William Merriman
Director of Operations
National Ambulance Service

