



30th May 2023

Deputy Noel Grealish,
Dáil Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

PQ 24226/23 -To ask the Minister for Health the number of HSE health care support assistants nationally, by LHO and CHO; the number of such vacant posts, by LHO and CHO; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Grealish,

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.

Please see the number of Health Care Support Assistants employed by Community Healthcare Organisations as of April 2023:

CHO Area	Number
CHO 1	1,809
CHO 2	918
CHO 3	508
CHO 4	1,245
CHO 5	734
CHO 6	324
CHO 7	462
CHO 8	1,025
CHO 9	583

A true vacancy is defined as an approved position that is not occupied either on a temporary or permanent basis. The position is active for recruitment with the intention of filling within the next 12 months. Data in relation to vacancies that are approved for replacement include New Development posts, retirements and resignations. However there can be other reasons posts are not filled (for example where there is long term sick leave, maternity leave, blocks of parental leave etc.), which may not be possible to gain budgetary approval to replace, although there may be a person assigned to such 'vacancies'/posts that are crucial to service delivery. However they are not an approved vacancy.

Because of the complexity of it, it is not possible to hold accurate data at a national level or give a definitive figure for vacancies as this information is not routinely collected in the manner sought.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

Jacqueline Nix

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Assistant National Director, HR Community Operations