



Oifig an Stiúrthóra Náisiúnta  
Géaroibríochtaí

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Deputy Richard Bruton  
Dáil Éireann  
Leinster House  
Dublin 2

24<sup>th</sup> November 2023

***PQ 48359/23 - To ask the Minister for Health if he will provide an update on the throughput of patients being treated in key categories and the trends in patient numbers compared to the corresponding period in 2022 and to the equivalent period in 2019, before Covid struck. -Richard Bruton***

Dear Deputy Bruton,

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 been advised that the Department of Health has replied to you previously as follows:

Since March 2023 the Health Service Executive has published rolling 12 month activity reports including comparisons with January to December 2019, which is the last full year before the COVID-19 pandemic started in 2020 and the cyberattack on the HSE in 2021. The latest hospital activity figures (collected by the HSE Business Intelligence Unit (BIU)) published by the HSE shows that the health service is treating significantly more patients than previously.

The most recent 12 months activity report for the period August 2022 to July 2023 published on the HSE website in November shows:

- Total New and Return Outpatient Activity of 3,563,580, which is an increase of 208,661 (6%).
- Total Day Case Activity of 1,170,483 which is an increase of 62,265 (6%).
- Total Inpatient Activity of 638,216 which is an increase of 1,486 (<1%).
- Total Emergency Care activity of 1,688,402 which is an increase of 181,966 (12%).

Please see below the outstanding response for the comparison between August 2021 to July 2022 data and 2019 figures, provided by the Acute BIU.

Looking at the most recent 12 months activity report for the period August 2021 to July 2022 published on the HSE website in November, compared with 2019 data shows:

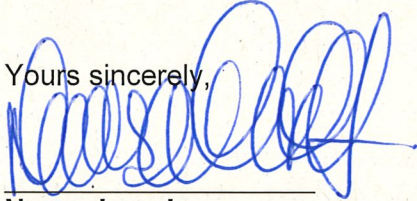
- Total New and Return Outpatient Activity of 3,349,255, which is a decrease of 5,664 (<1%).
- Total Day Case Activity of 1,078,468 which is a decrease of 29,750 (-2.7%).
- Total Inpatient Activity of 604,278 which is a decrease of 32,452 (-5.1%).
- Total Emergency Care activity of 1,611,531 which is an increase of 105,095 (7.0%).

Please see the below link to the latest hospital activity update for November 2023:

<https://www.hse.ie/eng/about/who/acute-hospitals-division/hospital-activity/hospital-activity-update-november-2023.html>

I trust this is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,



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**Nessa Lynch**  
**General Manager**  
**Acute Operations**