



Mr David Cullinane TD
Sinn Féin
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street, Dublin 2
e. david.cullinane@oireachtas.ie

4th of June, 2024

Re: **PQ ref 7274/24**

To ask the Minister for Health the number of assaults recorded against patients at HSE facilities for each quarter for each year 2019-2023, inclusive, in tabular form.

Dear Deputy Cullinane

I refer to your parliamentary question above which has been referred to HSE Quality and Patient Safety Incident Management for response. I can provide incident data recorded on the National Incident Management System. Incident reporting generally is impacted by a number of factors and is not intended as a data collection point but primarily aids as a system that helps incident management and learning from such events. Please be advised that there are data limitations which include potential duplication of incidents, variance in reporting and data validation, etc. The data below was extracted on 13/02/2024. It includes only statutory services (including hospitals) and it does not include near miss incidents. The majority of incidents had no harm or low level harm reported. Please be advised that in some instances the reported event has been recorded as an 'allegation' and we cannot confirm at this time if the event occurred. The definition of Incidents in the HSE are described in the **Incident Management Framework 2020** (page 41), which can be accessed on our website [here](#)

Years	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
2019	989	1176	1116	926
2020	1129	788	807	721
2021	672	773	749	636
2022	606	737	603	674
2023	756	783	862	670

I trust this clarifies the matter but please do contact me if you require any further information.

Yours sincerely

Lorraine Schwanberg
Assistant National Director
Quality and Patient Safety Incident Management