



9 May 2025

John Connolly T.D
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

PQ 18703/25 : To ask the Minister for Health the cumulative number of newly employed nurses by the HSE in 2024.

Dear Deputy Connolly,

I refer to your recent parliamentary question in relation to staffing which was forwarded to the Health Services Executive (HSE) by the Department of Health for direct reply.

Health Services Personnel Census (HSPC) reports on direct employment in the provision of Health & Social Care Services by the HSE and the various Section 38 hospitals & agencies. Staff are reported on the basis of staff category and for the purposes of this PQ the relevant staff category is Nursing & Midwifery. HSPC details at the end of December 2024, show that there were 148,268 WTE (equating to 166,104 personnel) directly employed in the provision of our services and of which 47,689 WTE (equating to 52,935 personnel) were Nurses & Midwives.

In the timeframe specified by the Deputy, this figure represents a 1,442 WTE (equating to 1,451 personnel) increase in employment levels between December 2023 and December 2024. This growth is the net effect of newly appointed employees, alongside changing work profile (part time to full time) etc on one hand (including replacements) and leavers (including retirements and resignations) alongside changing work profile (full time to part time) on the other.

Details of Nursing & Midwifery WTE and headcount at year end of 2023 and 2024 as requested by the Deputy are set out in the attached table. In the period specified by the Deputy, there is no central data collection of joiners. However we use our turnover data as an indicator of staff movement both internal and external to our services. To note, health service turnover can be distorted by the multiplicity of employers and HSE payrolls where staff leaving one employer but remaining within the service are included in the statistic and the data was only centrally collated in a new reporting system since 2019.

Workforce reports are available through the Health Services Personnel Census (HSPC), which is the official employment count for the public health service. The latest published information is routinely published [here](#).

I trust that this information is sufficient to meet the Deputy's needs.

Yours sincerely,

Dean Grennan

General Manager (Interim)



Table 1

Nursing & Midwifery WTE Dec 23 to Dec 24

Staff Category / Group	WTE DEC 2023	WTE DEC 2024	WTE Change 2024	No. DEC 2023	No. DEC 2024	HC Change 2024
Nurse/ Midwife Manager	9,910	9,955	+46	10,708	10,777	+69
Nurse/ Midwife Specialist & AN/MP	3,580	3,882	+302	3,901	4,246	+345
Staff Nurse/ Staff Midwife	30,355	31,535	+1,180	34,016	35,130	+1,114
Public Health Nurse	1,492	1,511	+19	1,775	1,803	+28
<i>Nursing/ Midwifery awaiting registration</i>	220	120	-100	230	125	-105
<i>Post-registration Nurse/ Midwife Student</i>	232	231	-1	241	236	-5
<i>Pre-registration Nurse/ Midwife Intern</i>	112	107	-5	223	223	0
Nursing/ Midwifery Student	564	459	-106	694	584	-110
Nursing/ Midwifery other	345	347	+2	390	395	+5
Nursing & Midwifery	46,247	47,689	+1,442	51,484	52,935	+1,451