

Office of the Assistant National Director, www.hse.ie Primary Care Access and Integration @hselive

Rm 243, Dr Steevens Hospital, Steevens Lane, Dublin 8. D08 W2A8. T: 01 6352209/2682 E: Primarycare.Al@hse.ie

30<sup>th</sup> April 2025

Deputy Whitmore, Dáil Éireann, Leinster House, Kildare Street, Dublin 2.

PQ 19845/25 To ask the Minister for Health the number of children that received an appointment for occupational therapy, speech and Language therapy and psychology, in each quarter of each year from 2023 to March 2025 by length of wait and by age, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

## - Jennifer Whitmore

Dear Deputy Whitmore,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question (PQ 19845/25) which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

The HSE is committed to delivering efficient high-quality services to all eligible service users. In 2024, there were over 1.3 million patients seen by HSE Primary Care Therapy Services. Each Health Region is focused on improving access to care in order to reduce waiting times for patients in the context of resources available.

The available data that most closely aligns to the data you requested is the total number of children seen by therapy service.

Please find the attached appendix, which contains, in tabular form, details of the total number of children seen in Occupational Therapy, Speech and Language Therapy and Psychology services in each quarter of 2023, 2024 and Qtr. 1 2025 which is the latest data available.

Appendix 1 – Total Number of Children seen in Occupational Therapy, Speech and Language Therapy and Psychology services in each quarter 2023, 2024 and Qtr. 1 2025.

I trust this is of assistance.

## **Occupational Therapy**

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Number of children seen in each quarter - 2023			
	Age 0-4 years	Age 5-17 years	Total children seen
Jan-Mar	2,445	16,676	19,121
Apr-Jun	2,467	15,803	18,270
Jul-Sep	2,459	15,082	17,541
Oct-Dec	2,359	15,414	17,773
Full Year	9,730	62,975	72,705

Number of children seen in each quarter - 2024			
	Age 0-4 years	Age 5-17 years	Total children seen
Jan-Mar	3,009	17,152	20,161
Apr-Jun	3,499	15,825	19,324
Jul-Sep	2,364	14,792	17,156
Oct-Dec	2,055	14,399	16,454
Full Year	10,927	62,168	73,095

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Number of children seen in each quarter - 2025				
	Age 0-4 years	Age 5-17 years	Total children seen	
Jan-Mar	2,459	14,270	16,729	

## Speech and Language Therapy

Number of children seen in each quarter - 2023			
	Age 0-4 years	Age 5-17 years	Total children seen
Jan-Mar	13,996	24,751	38,747
Apr-Jun	14,189	23,908	38,097
Jul-Sep	12,389	20,162	32,551
Oct-Dec	11,304	20,621	31,925
Full Year	51,878	89,442	141,320

Number of children seen in each quarter - 2024				
	Age 0-4 years	Age 5-17 years	Total children seen	
Jan-Mar	11,595	22,901	34,496	
Apr-Jun	11,511	21,767	33,278	
Jul-Sep	10,386	19,305	29,691	
Oct-Dec	9,818	20,406	30,224	
Full Year	43,310	84,379	127,689	

Number of children seen in each quarter - 2025			
	Age 0-4 years	Age 5-17 years	Total children seen
Jan-Mar	9,775	19,650	29,425

## Psychology

Number of children seen in each quarter - 2023				
	Age 0-4 years	Age 5-17 years	Total children seen	
Jan-Mar	883	7,946	8,829	
Apr-Jun	804	8,839	9,643	
Jul-Sep	609	6,546	7,155	
Oct-Dec	724	8,024	8,748	
Full Year	3,020	31,355	34,375	

Number of children seen in each quarter - 2024				
	Age 0-4 years	Age 5-17 years	Total children seen	
Jan-Mar	896	8,636	9,532	
Apr-Jun	744	8,385	9,129	
Jul-Sep	608	6,927	7,535	
Oct-Dec	634	8,404	9,038	
Full Year	2,882	32,352	35,234	

Number of children seen in each quarter - 2025				
	Age 0-4 years	Age 5-17 years	Total children seen	
Jan-Mar	910	7,057	7,967	