



Oifig an Stiúrthóra Náisiúnta  
um Rochtain agus Imeascadh

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Deputy David Cullinane  
Dáil Éireann  
Leinster House  
Dublin 2

14<sup>th</sup> May 2025

***PQ 21515/25 - To ask the Minister for Health the number of patients who left an emergency department without being seen for Quarter 1 of each year 2019-2024, inclusive, by hospital, in tabular form. -David Cullinane***

Dear Deputy Cullinane,

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.

The HSE Business Information Unit (BIU) is a central repository for activity information for Acute and Non Acute Services. The BIU collects, collates and validates extensive amounts of data which is used in performance monitoring and measurement to support the HSE in operational and strategic decisions.

The HSE currently reports the number of patients who registered yet decided not to wait within it's Emergency Departments (EDs). Patients may choose to leave before triage, after triage or prior to a decision to admit or discharge home. The data does not distinguish or categorise patients that may require admission but left ED before admission or treatment.

The purpose of EDs is to deal with serious and unexpected illness and injury. EDs and their associated hospitals must clinically prioritise people who must be treated first, and those who may need to wait, or those who may need to attend a more appropriate care setting. To ensure this process is clinically safe for patients, Irish hospitals use the internationally tested Manchester Triage Tool which prioritises patients into a number of categories based on their clinical needs. Where a patient is seriously ill or injured, their needs will be prioritised above those with less serious conditions.

However, as demand inevitably overtakes capacity, prioritisation and consequential waiting may occur. In this regard, patients with less serious needs may choose to avail of alternative options. Many people, whose clinical needs could be more appropriately addressed by self-care, pharmacists, GPs, GP Out of Hours Services and Injury Units, continue to attend EDs. In Ireland, approximately 27% of those attending are actually admitted to hospital.



The information requested has been provided in the attached Excel file supplied by the Acute BIU. Please note the data is presented by Hospital Group, which was the HSE structure in place at the time to which the data relates.

Please see the data notes on the Excel file, and outlined below:

**Data notes:**

- CHI at Crumlin, CHI at Tallaght and CHI at Temple Street all contained under the Children's Health Ireland Group.
- The Mater Misericordiae University hospital have resubmitted Emergency Department data which has impacted their ED Did Not Wait figures from 2019-2023. This resubmission occurred in May 2025.

I trust this is of assistance to you.

Yours Sincerely,

**Nessa Lynch**  
**General Manager**  
**Access and Integration**

Please note data contained in this report is preliminary and may be subject to change

If information contained within this file is used in other reports then as a minimum requirement BIU must be referenced.



Information Request Number:

PQ Number: PQ 21515/25

Date report created: 14/05/2025

Data Source: 2019-2023 run using MDR ED data. BIU Acute - Patient Experience Time data only for 2024

Subject: The number of Emergency Department patients who did not wait to be seen and left emergency departments for Q1 (January 1st to March 31st) for the period of 2019-2024

PQ: To ask the Minister for Health the number of patients who left an emergency department without being seen for Quarter 1 of each year 2019-2024, inclusive, by hospital, in tabular form. - David Cullinane

**Note:** CHI at Crumlin, CHI at Tallaght and CHI at Temple Street all contained under the Children's Health Ireland Group

**Note:** Mater Misericordiae University hospital have resubmitted Emergency Department data which has impacted their ED Did Not Wait figures from 2019-2023. This resubmission occurred in May 2025

		Quarter 1 (Jan-Mar)					
		2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Children's Health Ireland	Children's Health Ireland	1,165	427	136	1,331	1,691	1,631
Dublin Midlands Hospital Group	MRH Portlaoise	460	288	222	450	497	474
	MRH Tullamore	492	368	123	745	546	346
	Naas General Hospital	640	450	566	720	698	757
	St. James's Hospital	2,304	1,212	936	1,695	1,572	1,752
	Tallaght University Hospital	1,878	1,347	1,180	3,017	2,142	2,001
Ireland East Hospital Group	Mater Misericordiae University Hospital	2,908	2,246	892	2,295	3,204	3,439
	MRH Mullingar	387	286	185	473	558	607
	Our Lady's Hospital Navan	249	238	156	234	269	456
	St. Luke's General Hospital Kilkenny	137	156	116	229	334	414
	St. Michael's Hospital	141	77	34	90	116	177
	St. Vincent's University Hospital	676	602	391	1,906	1,195	1,382
RCSI Hospitals Group	Wexford General Hospital	278	266	211	377	517	497
	Beaumont Hospital	986	601	372	1,019	961	855
	Cavan General Hospital	441	323	248	582	374	563
	Connolly Hospital	944	784	310	1,005	782	1,081
	Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital	1,376	1,062	798	1,927	1,811	2,228
Saolta University Health Care Group	Galway University Hospitals	1,137	740	268	837	973	878
	Letterkenny University Hospital	331	228	220	462	638	690
	Mayo University Hospital	266	198	54	455	273	239
	Portiuncula University Hospital	242	244	105	230	330	346
	Sligo University Hospital	363	189	139	453	487	454
South / South West Hospital Group	Cork University Hospital	689	389	277	1,004	970	915
	Mercy University Hospital	719	686	242	653	487	575
	Tipperary University Hospital	194	159	94	313	286	325
	UH Kerry	396	394	210	473	571	625
	UH Waterford	445	384	235	757	591	607
UL Hospitals Group	UH Limerick	1,502	1,266	711	1,908	1,527	1,406
National Totals:		21,746	15,610	9,431	25,640	24,400	25,720