



Mr David Cullinane TD  
Sinn Féin  
Dáil Éireann  
Leinster House  
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05/06/2025

Re: **PQ ref 21558/25**

**To ask the Minister for Health the number of assaults recorded against patients at HSE facilities for quarter 1 for each year 2019-2024, 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 29/04/2025. 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 is described in the **Incident Management Framework 2020** (page 41), which can be accessed on our website [here](#)

Count of Record Number	
Row Labels	Qtr1
2019	913
2020	1063
2021	663
2022	575
2023	748
2024	687
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>4619</b>



Cáilíocht Náisiúnta agus Sábháilteacht Othar

Oifig an Phríomhoifigigh Cliniciúil

National Quality and Patient Safety

Office of the Chief Clinical Officer

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