



18 February 2025

Denise Mitchell T.D
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

PQ 3217/25 : To ask the Minister for Health if her Department or anybody under its aegis currently directly employs cleaners and/or service officers; if so, the number of staff employed in each role; the value and length of any related contract, by body, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Mitchell,

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 herein on the basis of staff category, staff group and grade group. Currently the HSE does not employ individuals under the grade of 'service officer', and therefore there is no data pertaining to this grade. HSPC details at the end of December 2024, show that there were 2,595 WTE (equating to 3,126 personnel) directly employed in the provision of our services under the grade group of Household Services however.

Household Services grade group: December 2024

Total Staffing by Care Group: WTE DEC 2024	Household Services
Overall	2,595
Acute Hospital Services	1,618
Acute Services	1,618
Mental Health	278
Primary Care	128
Disabilities	331
Older People	232
CHO Operations	
Community Services	970
National Services & Central Functions	7

Source: Health Service Personnel Census

Note¹: Health Sector staffing figures relate to direct employment levels as returned through the Health Service Personnel Census (HSPC) for the public health sector (HSE & Section 38 agencies)

Note²: Figures relating to service levels are expressed as whole-time equivalents (WTE) in order to take account of part-time working



The Deputy will be interested to note that Household Services grade group includes grades such as Cleaners together with similar roles such as Domestic, Housekeeper, Domestic Supervisor etc

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](#).

Regarding the value and length of any related contract, this information is not collected centrally for all services, and therefore can be sourced by contacting regional HR offices as they are employed directly by services, and their contracts are managed locally.

It may however be useful for the Deputy to know that the HSE offers a range of employment opportunities inclusive of flexible working patterns, of which 85.5% of Household Service employees contracts are on a permanent basis and 14.5% on a temporary (Fixed Term, Specified Purpose) basis. This is in line with the overall Health Service breakdown of 86.5% of contracts are on a permanent basis and 13.5% on a temporary basis.

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

Yours sincerely,

Dean Grennan

Interim General Manager