



Deputy Richard Boyd Barrett
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

24th July 2025

PQ 39450/25 - To ask the Minister for Health the number of patients occupying a hospital bed who cannot be discharged due to the fact they do not have a home to go to; the breakdown of this number, by the number of patients and the name of the hospital and county with patients in this category, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter. -Richard Boyd Barrett

Dear Deputy Boyd Barrett,

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.

Delayed Transfer of Care occurs when a patient is ready to leave inpatient care but is still occupying a HSE funded bed. A patient is ready to leave inpatient care when all of the following three conditions are met:

- A clinical decision has been made that the patient is medically ready for discharge to their home or for transfer to a non-acute setting (MFFD)
- A multidisciplinary team (MDT) have reviewed the patient and a decision has been made that the patient is ready for transfer home or to an alternate care setting
- The patient is considered to be safe to discharge to their home /transfer to a non-acute setting.

There are a number of possible reasons why a patient may not leave an acute setting despite being clinically discharged. These can include patients who are awaiting arrangement of suitable home support or residential care and patients with complex clinical needs or legally complex circumstances.

The HSE publish a weekly urgent and emergency care analysis report every Monday;
<https://www2.hse.ie/services/urgent-emergency-care-weekly-update/>

The report looks back at the week previous and shows:

- the number of people who went to an emergency department (ED) and who were admitted for care.
- year-on-year comparisons of the weekly ED numbers.
- average wait times for admission or discharge through the ED.
- average weekly number of people on trolleys.



- year-on-year comparisons of the weekly trolley numbers.
- how many beds were used as part of a hospital's surge capacity.
- analysis of the number of patients experiencing a delay in discharge.

The report is a weekly analysis and comparison of the figures we publish in our daily urgent and emergency care report:

<https://www2.hse.ie/services/urgent-emergency-care-report/>

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 39450/25

Date report created: 23/07/2025

Data Source: BIU acute

Subject: Number of delayed transfer of care patients, reason, as per 21st July 2025 point in time

PQ: To ask the Minister for Health the number of patients occupying a hospital bed who cannot be discharged due to the fact they do not have a home to go to;

the breakdown of this number,

by the number of patients and the name of the hospital and county with patients in this category, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

Richard Boyd Barrett

Provider	MFDD - Homeless patient - Entitled to accommodation from local authority - awaiting suitable accommodation (special needs awaiting access to specialist emergency accommodation/shelter (e.g. wheelchair accessible)	MFDD - Homeless patient - Foreign National (Not entitled to accommodation within Republic of Ireland)	MFDD - Homeless patient awaiting discharge to emergency accommodation/shelter	MFDD - Homeless patients whose needs escalated to the Local Authority or Voluntary Agency	MFDD - Patient awaiting access to specific community services discharge e.g. provision of equipment or minor home adaptations	MFDD - Patient awaiting financial approval for access Supported Living / housing with care	MFDD - Patient awaiting placement for access Supported Living / housing with care	MFDD - Patient needs significant (involving some form of construction) adjustment to housing needs (major works needed to existing home or re-housing needed)	Grand Total
HSE Dublin and Midlands									
CHI at Cumlin									3
MRH Portlaoise									1
MRH Tullamore	1								1
Naas General Hospital					1				1
Tallaght University Hospital									1
HSE Dublin and Midlands Total	1								1
HSE Dublin and North East					1				1
Beaumont Hospital									2
Mater Misericordiae University Hospital			1						1
HSE Dublin and North East Total			1						1
HSE Dublin and South East									1
National Rehabilitation Hospital	1								1
St. Luke's General Hospital Kilkenny				2					2
St. Michael's Hospital					1				1
Tipperary University Hospital									1
UH Waterford				2					2
Wexford General Hospital									2
HSE Dublin and South East Total	1			4					5
HSE Midwest									3
Exnis Hospital									1
UH Limerick					2				2
HSE Midwest Total									1
HSE South West									1
Cork University Hospital	3								3
Mallow General Hospital									2
Mercy University Hospital									1
UH Kerry					1				1
HSE South West Total	3								3
HSE West and North West									4
Galway University Hospitals									2
Letterkenny University Hospital		1							1
HSE West and North West Total		1							1
Grand Total	5	1	2	10	6				18

