

Stiúrthóir Rochtana Oifig an Stiúthóra Náisiúnta um Rochtain agus Imeascadh

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20th August 2025

Deputy Peadar Tóibín Dáil Éireann Leinster House Dublin 2.

PQ 41119/25 - To ask the Minister for Health the number of hospital appointments cancelled by each hospital in the State, in each of the past ten years

Dear Deputy Tóibín,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Questions, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

Response:

The HSE collects and reports information relating to appointments and procedures which did not go ahead at the original planned date. The attached information provided includes details relating to:

 Appointment type for each of the years 2022 to 2025 to date, by hospital group and hospital, in tabular form, this includes adults and children.

Hospitals commenced reporting this data in February 2022 and as a result there are data gaps for the earlier part of this year which means that data from 2022 is not comparable with other years.

It is important to emphasise that the term cancellation in this context does not mean that the appointment did not go ahead, rather it did not go ahead on the original planned date and these appointments and procedures are rescheduled often within a short period of the original appointment.



Additional context:

In 2024 the HSE delivered more than:

- 686,000 inpatient cases
- 1,246,000 day cases
- 3,981,000 outpatient appointments

For further information on the guidelines that hospitals follow to schedule and reschedule patient appointments, please see links below:

Outpatient waiting list protocol

https://www.hse.ie/eng/services/list/3/acutehospitals/patientcare/protocol-for-the-management-of-outpatient-services-and-guidance-documents/national-outpatient-waiting-list-management-protocol-2022.pdf

Inpatient, day case and planned procedure waiting list protocol

www.ntpf.ie/home/pdf/National%20Waiting%20List%20Management%20Protocol.pdf

I trust that this answers your question.

Yours sincerely,

Sheila McGuinness, Access & Integration