



**Príomhoifigeach Daoine**

Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhísí  
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Liam Quaide, TD

13 August 2025

**PQ 42244/25 (Health): To ask the Minister for Health the staffing provision by grade staff, senior or principal grade and contract type fixed term or permanent for child and adolescent primary care services in occupational therapy, speech and language therapy, psychology and physiotherapy across each Integrated health area in each health region as of 1 July 2025, and the staffing provision she is aiming to achieve for these disciplines in child and adolescent primary care services by January 2026, in tabular form. - Liam Quaide**

Dear Deputy,

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.

The Deputy will be interested to note that, employment levels at the end of June 2025, show there were 149,199 WTE (equating to 167,6356 personnel) directly employed in the provision of Health & Social Care Services by the HSE and the various Section 38 hospitals & agencies. This figure represents a net growth in our health service employment levels of +29,386 WTE/24.5% over December 2019 reported levels.

Of this Therapy Professions have increased by **+1,604 WTE / 31%** alongside a **28% increase** in Psychologists (+280 WTE). Over this period within Primary Care specifically, Therapy Professions have increased by **+457 WTE (+26.5%)** alongside Psychologist at **+22%/ +67 WTE**.

At present our data systems do not report specifically on children's and adolescent services across Primary Care. Therefore, the below data has been provided based on the data currently available.

Table 1.0 below provides the detail on the current WTE, reporting at June 2025 (latest available data), for the relevant therapy professions and psychologists across Primary Care Services. It includes a breakdown by current profession, WTE, Contract Type and Headcount by Health Region and IHA. It is important to note, that the data on temporary contracts across Psychologists, includes Psychology trainees, on a temporary contract owing to the temporary nature of their training status of employment, until such time as they complete their training.

The agreement on the HSE's Pay and Numbers Strategy in 2024, following unprecedented growth in the period since 2019, provided for the retention of 4,000 WTE unfunded posts across the health system. The agreement also provided confirmation on the funded workforce levels across our services, inclusive of new service developments in 2024 and updated for 2025. The confirmation on the funded workforce levels, is at staff category, by Health Region and IHA and confirms the maximum WTE level at the end of 2025 at this time, pending any further new service development posts further agreed to issue to services. This detail is provided in Table 2.0.

Table 1.0

Current Reported WTE in June 2025 in Primary Care Services for selected Professions (by contract type, Region and IHA)

| Primary Care Employment by Region & IHA: JUN 2025    | WTE Perm     | No. Perm     | WTE Temp   | No. Temp   | WTE Jun 2025 Overall | No. Jun 2025 Overall |
|--|--------------|--------------|------------|------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Total Health Service</b>                          | <b>2,008</b> | <b>2,364</b> | <b>216</b> | <b>226</b> | <b>2,224</b>         | <b>2,590</b>         |
| <b>Total Dublin South City and West IHA</b>          | <b>93</b>    | <b>107</b>   | <b>0</b>   | <b>1</b>   | <b>94</b>            | <b>108</b>           |
| Occupational Therapists                              | 31           | 36           | 0          | 1          | 31                   | 37                   |
| Physiotherapists                                     | 42           | 48           |            |            | 42                   | 48                   |
| Speech & Language Therapists                         | 15           | 17           |            |            | 15                   | 17                   |
| Psychologists  | 6            | 6            |            |            | 6                    | 6                    |
| <b>Total Midlands IHA</b>                            | <b>130</b>   | <b>152</b>   | <b>17</b>  | <b>17</b>  | <b>147</b>           | <b>169</b>           |
| Occupational Therapists                              | 35           | 39           |            |            | 35                   | 39                   |
| Physiotherapists                                     | 44           | 55           |            |            | 44                   | 55                   |
| Speech & Language Therapists                         | 34           | 39           |            |            | 34                   | 39                   |
| Psychologists  | 17           | 19           | 17         | 17         | 34                   | 36                   |
| <b>Total Kildare West Wicklow IHA</b>                | <b>80</b>    | <b>93</b>    | <b>11</b>  | <b>11</b>  | <b>91</b>            | <b>104</b>           |
| Occupational Therapists                              | 22           | 26           |            |            | 22                   | 26                   |
| Physiotherapists                                     | 25           | 29           | 1          | 1          | 26                   | 30                   |
| Speech & Language Therapists                         | 19           | 22           |            |            | 19                   | 22                   |
| Psychologists  | 13           | 16           | 10         | 10         | 23                   | 26                   |
| <b>Total Dublin South West IHA</b>                   | <b>46</b>    | <b>52</b>    |            |            | <b>46</b>            | <b>52</b>            |
| Occupational Therapists                              | 17           | 19           |            |            | 17                   | 19                   |
| Physiotherapists                                     | 15           | 17           |            |            | 15                   | 17                   |
| Speech & Language Therapists                         | 6            | 9            |            |            | 8                    | 9                    |
| Psychologists  | 6            | 7            |            |            | 6                    | 7                    |
| <b>Total HSE Dublin &amp; Midlands Region</b>        | <b>349</b>   | <b>404</b>   | <b>28</b>  | <b>29</b>  | <b>377</b>           | <b>433</b>           |
| <b>Total Dublin North City and West IHA</b>          | <b>127</b>   | <b>149</b>   | <b>50</b>  | <b>50</b>  | <b>171</b>           | <b>199</b>           |
| Occupational Therapists                              | 41           | 47           |            |            | 41                   | 47                   |
| Physiotherapists                                     | 30           | 39           |            |            | 30                   | 39                   |
| Speech & Language Therapists                         | 34           | 40           | 1          | 1          | 34                   | 41                   |
| Psychologists  | 21           | 23           | 49         | 49         | 70                   | 72                   |
| <b>Total Louth Meath IHA</b>                         | <b>102</b>   | <b>126</b>   | <b>13</b>  | <b>13</b>  | <b>115</b>           | <b>139</b>           |
| Occupational Therapists                              | 27           | 34           |            |            | 27                   | 34                   |
| Physiotherapists                                     | 34           | 43           | 1          | 1          | 35                   | 44                   |
| Speech & Language Therapists                         | 29           | 34           |            |            | 29                   | 34                   |
| Psychologists  | 12           | 15           | 12         | 12         | 24                   | 27                   |
| <b>Total Dublin North County IHA</b>                 | <b>93</b>    | <b>115</b>   |            |            | <b>93</b>            | <b>115</b>           |
| Occupational Therapists                              | 31           | 38           |            |            | 31                   | 38                   |
| Physiotherapists                                     | 33           | 42           |            |            | 33                   | 42                   |
| Speech & Language Therapists                         | 21           | 24           |            |            | 21                   | 24                   |
| Psychologists  | 8            | 11           |            |            | 8                    | 11                   |
| <b>Total Cavan Monaghan IHA</b>                      | <b>74</b>    | <b>92</b>    | <b>7</b>   | <b>8</b>   | <b>81</b>            | <b>100</b>           |
| Occupational Therapists                              | 24           | 31           | 1          | 2          | 26                   | 33                   |
| Physiotherapists                                     | 28           | 37           |            |            | 28                   | 37                   |
| Speech & Language Therapists                         | 16           | 18           | 1          | 1          | 17                   | 19                   |
| Psychologists  | 5            | 6            | 5          | 5          | 10                   | 11                   |
| <b>Total HSE Dublin &amp; North East Region</b>      | <b>395</b>   | <b>482</b>   | <b>70</b>  | <b>71</b>  | <b>465</b>           | <b>553</b>           |
| <b>Total Dublin South and Wicklow IHA</b>            | <b>146</b>   | <b>180</b>   | <b>14</b>  | <b>16</b>  | <b>161</b>           | <b>196</b>           |
| Occupational Therapists                              | 45           | 53           |            |            | 45                   | 53                   |
| Physiotherapists                                     | 48           | 61           | 1          | 2          | 49                   | 63                   |
| Speech & Language Therapists                         | 37           | 46           | 2          | 3          | 39                   | 49                   |
| Psychologists  | 17           | 20           | 11         | 11         | 28                   | 31                   |
| <b>Total Carlow Kilkenny and Tipperary South IHA</b> | <b>193</b>   | <b>225</b>   | <b>2</b>   | <b>2</b>   | <b>195</b>           | <b>227</b>           |
| Occupational Therapists                              | 62           | 72           |            |            | 62                   | 72                   |
| Physiotherapists                                     | 62           | 76           |            |            | 62                   | 76                   |
| Speech & Language Therapists                         | 50           | 57           | 2          | 2          | 52                   | 59                   |
| Psychologists  | 18           | 20           |            |            | 18                   | 20                   |
| <b>Total Waterford Wexford IHA</b>                   | <b>65</b>    | <b>73</b>    | <b>17</b>  | <b>17</b>  | <b>82</b>            | <b>90</b>            |
| Occupational Therapists                              | 16           | 18           |            |            | 16                   | 18                   |
| Physiotherapists                                     | 14           | 15           |            |            | 14                   | 15                   |
| Speech & Language Therapists                         | 19           | 22           |            |            | 19                   | 22                   |
| Psychologists  | 16           | 18           | 17         | 17         | 33                   | 35                   |
| <b>Total HSE Dublin &amp; South East</b>             | <b>404</b>   | <b>478</b>   | <b>33</b>  | <b>35</b>  | <b>437</b>           | <b>513</b>           |
| <b>Total Galway Roscommon IHA</b>                    | <b>161</b>   | <b>186</b>   | <b>6</b>   | <b>6</b>   | <b>167</b>           | <b>192</b>           |
| Occupational Therapists                              | 41           | 50           |            |            | 41                   | 50                   |
| Physiotherapists                                     | 55           | 65           |            |            | 55                   | 65                   |
| Speech & Language Therapists                         | 48           | 52           | 4          | 4          | 52                   | 56                   |
| Psychologists  | 17           | 19           | 2          | 2          | 19                   | 21                   |
| <b>Total Donegal IHA</b>                             | <b>101</b>   | <b>111</b>   | <b>3</b>   | <b>3</b>   | <b>104</b>           | <b>114</b>           |
| Occupational Therapists                              | 27           | 30           |            |            | 27                   | 30                   |
| Physiotherapists                                     | 43           | 47           | 2          | 2          | 45                   | 49                   |
| Speech & Language Therapists                         | 21           | 23           |            |            | 21                   | 23                   |
| Psychologists  | 10           | 11           | 1          | 1          | 11                   | 12                   |
| <b>Total Mayo IHA</b>                                | <b>80</b>    | <b>94</b>    | <b>3</b>   | <b>3</b>   | <b>83</b>            | <b>97</b>            |
| Occupational Therapists                              | 24           | 26           | 1          | 1          | 25                   | 27                   |
| Physiotherapists                                     | 25           | 31           | 2          | 2          | 27                   | 33                   |
| Speech & Language Therapists                         | 23           | 27           |            |            | 23                   | 27                   |
| Psychologists  | 8            | 10           |            |            | 8                    | 10                   |
| <b>Total Sligo Leitrim IHA</b>                       | <b>61</b>    | <b>72</b>    | <b>1</b>   | <b>1</b>   | <b>62</b>            | <b>73</b>            |
| Occupational Therapists                              | 17           | 19           |            |            | 17                   | 19                   |
| Physiotherapists                                     | 26           | 32           | 1          | 1          | 27                   | 33                   |
| Speech & Language Therapists                         | 11           | 13           |            |            | 11                   | 13                   |
| Psychologists  | 7            | 8            |            |            | 7                    | 8                    |
| <b>Total HSE West &amp; North West</b>               | <b>404</b>   | <b>463</b>   | <b>13</b>  | <b>13</b>  | <b>417</b>           | <b>476</b>           |
| <b>Total Cork South and West IHA</b>                 | <b>112</b>   | <b>136</b>   | <b>20</b>  | <b>23</b>  | <b>132</b>           | <b>159</b>           |
| Occupational Therapists                              | 32           | 39           | 6          | 7          | 38                   | 46                   |
| Physiotherapists                                     | 40           | 51           | 6          | 7          | 46                   | 58                   |
| Speech & Language Therapists                         | 32           | 38           | 3          | 3          | 35                   | 41                   |
| Psychologists  | 7            | 8            | 5          | 6          | 12                   | 14                   |
| <b>Total Cork North and East IHA</b>                 | <b>90</b>    | <b>104</b>   | <b>14</b>  | <b>15</b>  | <b>104</b>           | <b>119</b>           |
| Occupational Therapists                              | 32           | 36           | 5          | 6          | 37                   | 42                   |
| Physiotherapists                                     | 29           | 32           | 3          | 4          | 32                   | 36                   |
| Speech & Language Therapists                         | 25           | 30           | 4          | 4          | 29                   | 34                   |
| Psychologists  | 5            | 6            | 1          | 1          | 6                    | 7                    |
| <b>Total Kerry IHA</b>                               | <b>62</b>    | <b>70</b>    | <b>5</b>   | <b>6</b>   | <b>68</b>            | <b>76</b>            |
| Occupational Therapists                              | 20           | 23           |            |            | 20                   | 23                   |
| Physiotherapists                                     | 24           | 27           | 2          | 2          | 26                   | 29                   |
| Speech & Language Therapists                         | 17           | 18           | 3          | 4          | 20                   | 22                   |
| Psychologists  | 2            | 2            |            |            | 2                    | 2                    |
| <b>Total HSE South West</b>                          | <b>264</b>   | <b>310</b>   | <b>39</b>  | <b>44</b>  | <b>303</b>           | <b>354</b>           |
| <b>Total Clare and Limerick County IHA</b>           | <b>150</b>   | <b>177</b>   | <b>32</b>  | <b>33</b>  | <b>183</b>           | <b>210</b>           |
| Occupational Therapists                              | 50           | 58           | 1          | 1          | 51                   | 59                   |
| Physiotherapists                                     | 53           | 62           | 2          | 2          | 55                   | 64                   |
| Speech & Language Therapists                         | 35           | 43           | 2          | 2          | 37                   | 45                   |
| Psychologists  | 13           | 14           | 28         | 28         | 41                   | 42                   |
| <b>Total Limerick City and Tipperary North IHA</b>   | <b>40</b>    | <b>49</b>    | <b>1</b>   | <b>1</b>   | <b>41</b>            | <b>50</b>            |
| Occupational Therapists                              | 13           | 16           | 1          | 1          | 14                   | 17                   |
| Physiotherapists                                     | 11           | 15           |            |            | 11                   | 15                   |
| Speech & Language Therapists                         | 12           | 15           |            |            | 12                   | 15                   |
| Psychologists  | 3            | 3            |            |            | 3                    | 3                    |
| <b>Total HSE Midwest</b>                             | <b>190</b>   | <b>226</b>   | <b>33</b>  | <b>34</b>  | <b>223</b>           | <b>260</b>           |
| <b>Total Centre IHA</b>                              | <b>1</b>     | <b>1</b>     |            |            | <b>1</b>             | <b>1</b>             |
| Psychologists  | 1            | 1            |            |            | 1                    | 1                    |
| <b>Total HSE Centre</b>                              | <b>1</b>     | <b>1</b>     |            |            | <b>1</b>             | <b>1</b>             |

**Table 2.0 Current December 2025 WTE Limit in Primary Care Services for selected Professions by Health Region and IHA**

| December 2025 DOH WTE Limit by Region & IHA:<br>Primary Care HSCP's | Dec 25<br>Limit |
|---|-----------------|
| <b>Overall</b>  | <b>3,203</b>    |
| Dublin South City and West  | 200             |
| Dublin South West   | 91              |
| Kildare West Wicklow  | 121             |
| Midlands  | 212             |
| <b>HSE Dublin &amp; Midlands</b>                                    | <b>624</b>      |
| Cavan Monaghan  | 112             |
| Dublin North City and West  | 289             |
| Dublin North County   | 155             |
| Louth Meath   | 203             |
| <b>HSE Dublin &amp; North East</b>                                  | <b>758</b>      |
| Carlow Kilkenny and Tipperary South                                 | 207             |
| Dublin South and Wicklow  | 227             |
| Waterford Wexford   | 152             |
| <b>HSE Dublin &amp; South East</b>                                  | <b>586</b>      |
| Clare and Limerick County   | 234             |
| Limerick City and Tipperary North                                   | 82              |
| <b>HSE Midwest</b>  | <b>316</b>      |
| Cork North and East   | 65              |
| Cork South and West   | 120             |
| Kerry   | 36              |
| <b>HSE South West</b>   | <b>221</b>      |
| Donegal   | 161             |
| Galway Roscommon  | 267             |
| Mayo  | 133             |
| Sligo Leitrim   | 104             |
| <b>HSE West &amp; North West</b>                                    | <b>665</b>      |
| Centre  | 33              |
| <b>HSE Centre</b>   | <b>33</b>       |

I trust this is of some assistance.

Yours sincerely,

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Mairéad Ryan  
National HR