Deputy David Cullinane
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

31st March 2025

PQ 10926/25 - To ask the Minister for Health the number of patients who left an emergency department without being seen, by hospital, in each of the years 2019 to 2024 and to date in 2025, in tabular form. -David Cullinane

Clarification received: Data for January and February each year

Dear Deputy Cullinane,

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.

The HSE currently reports the number of patients who registered yet decided not to wait within its Emergency Departments (EDs). Patients may choose to leave before triage, after triage or prior to a decision to admit or discharge home. The data does not distinguish or categorise patients that may require admission but left ED before admission or treatment.

The purpose of EDs is to deal with serious and unexpected illness and injury. EDs and their associated hospitals must clinically prioritise people who must be treated first, and those who may need to wait, or those who may need to attend a more appropriate care setting. To ensure this process is clinically safe for patients, Irish hospitals use the internationally tested Manchester Triage Tool which prioritises patients into a number of categories based on their clinical needs. Where a patient is seriously ill or injured, their needs will be prioritised above those with less serious conditions.

However, as demand inevitably overtakes capacity, prioritisation and consequential waiting may occur. In this regard, patients with less serious needs may choose to avail of alternative options. Many people, whose clinical needs could be more appropriately addressed by self-care, pharmacists, GPs, GP Out of Hours Services and Injury Units, continue to attend EDs. In Ireland, approximately 27% of those attending are actually admitted to hospital.

The information requested has been provided in the attached Excel file supplied by the Acute BIU.

I trust this is of assistance to you.

Yours Sincerely,

Nessa Lynch
General Manager
Access and Integration

Information Request Number:
PQ Number: 10926/25
Date report created: 21/02/2025
Data Source: Data provided from the MDR for 2019 to 2023 and PET data only for 2024 and 2025

Subject: PQ10926/25 To ask the Minister for Health the number of patients who left an emergency department without being seen, by hospital, in each of the years 2019 to 2024 and to date in 2025, in tabular form. -David Cullinane. For January and February for each year - Confirmed by Geraldine Connell Laffan on 12/03/2025

	2019		2020		2021		2022		2023		2024		2025	
	January	February	January	February	January	February	January	February	January	February	January	February	January	February
National Total	**7,107**	**6,733**	**6,104**	**6,306**	**2,611**	**2,654**	**6,937**	**8,320**	**6,653**	**7,777**	**8,099**	**8,678**	**8,059**	**7,854**
HSE Dublin and Midlands	**2,371**	**2,360**	**1,821**	**1,707**	**915**	**889**	**2,143**	**2,759**	**2,046**	**2,429**	**2,310**	**2,483**	**2,279**	**2,298**
CHI at Crumlin	143	135	61	57	13	24	116	202	112	114	163	233	201	146
CHI at Tallaght	118	61	16	36	1	0	39	43	69	87	61	107	57	39
CHI at Temple Street	145	228	101	45	8	12	85	136	182	264	217	241	98	57
MRH Mullingar	114	133	108	103	41	68	133	142	155	197	186	153	184	187
MRH Portlaoise	186	133	110	117	61	55	116	162	143	147	158	154	132	116
MRH Tullamore	126	217	140	169	24	30	172	224	146	189	111	120	105	113
Naas General Hospital	153	224	157	204	164	170	177	254	214	223	245	197	303	240
St. James's Hospital	765	711	542	444	289	252	469	512	447	467	474	657	489	585
Tallaght University Hospital	621	518	586	532	314	278	836	1,084	578	741	695	621	710	815
HSE Dublin and North East	**2,300**	**2,110**	**2,006**	**2,147**	**773**	**812**	**1,907**	**2,365**	**2,217**	**2,404**	**2,765**	**2,910**	**2,538**	**2,591**
Beaumont Hospital	317	277	223	261	103	97	323	304	360	308	289	262	313	321
Cavan General Hospital	152	150	145	119	73	57	186	202	108	145	190	199	212	235
Connolly Hospital	349	323	308	320	81	82	273	318	239	192	350	389	211	259
Mater Misericordiae University Hospital	995	862	882	901	283	287	563	807	907	1,089	1,031	1,166	1,034	1,062
Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital	397	444	345	459	184	246	494	669	534	595	738	735	640	577
Our Lady's Hospital Navan	90	54	103	87	49	43	68	65	69	75	167	159	128	137
HSE Dublin and South East	**653**	**546**	**634**	**633**	**320**	**301**	**993**	**1,205**	**836**	**952**	**1,072**	**1,193**	**1,044**	**988**
St. Luke's General Hospital Kilkenny	53	42	42	48	30	41	72	72	92	106	95	167	112	88
St. Michael's Hospital	54	34	28	37	11	8	21	33	40	35	56	46	97	62
St. Vincent's University Hospital	202	194	265	229	129	93	510	640	269	311	419	488	393	424
Tipperary University Hospital	85	48	76	55	35	26	89	91	89	99	105	110	75	78
UH Waterford	157	147	142	161	68	64	204	259	99	143	205	217	185	174
Wexford General Hospital	102	81	81	103	47	69	97	110	247	258	192	165	182	162
HSE Midwest	**476**	**502**	**470**	**559**	**176**	**257**	**534**	**596**	**372**	**509**	**400**	**451**	**510**	**586**
UH Limerick	476	502	470	559	176	257	534	596	372	509	400	451	510	586
HSE South West	**632**	**517**	**554**	**606**	**232**	**187**	**656**	**647**	**542**	**640**	**720**	**706**	**710**	**615**
Cork University Hospital	194	197	153	167	80	73	327	322	243	328	343	300	352	360
Mercy University Hospital	290	208	277	270	75	76	211	187	132	119	188	190	196	127
UH Kerry	148	112	124	169	77	38	118	138	167	193	189	216	162	128
HSE West and North West	**675**	**698**	**619**	**654**	**195**	**208**	**704**	**748**	**640**	**843**	**832**	**935**	**978**	**776**
Galway University Hospitals	295	354	269	312	84	73	259	250	222	307	264	307	287	241
Letterkenny University Hospital	121	102	82	97	30	62	121	146	133	197	234	258	345	234
Mayo University Hospital	66	96	67	104	10	8	128	147	100	90	98	72	89	66
Portiuncula University Hospital	83	58	120	69	27	24	65	70	107	122	103	107	106	82
Sligo University Hospital	110	88	81	72	44	41	131	135	78	127	133	191	151	153