



Oifig anStiúrthóir
An tSeirbhís Náisiúnta,

Foirgneamh Aibhneacha, Crosbhóthar
Thamhlachta, Tamhlacht,
Baile Átha Cliath D24 XNP2

Office of the Director
National Ambulance Service

Rivers Building, Tallaght Cross
Tallaght, Dublin, D24 XNP2

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Deputy Ivana Bacik TD
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

PQ 11166/25

To ask the Minister for Health the number of paramedics recruited by the National Ambulance Service in 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024 and to date in 2025, in tabular form; the number of paramedics who have left the National Ambulance Service in the corresponding timeframe; her plans to improve recruitment and retention in the service more generally; and if she will make a statement on the matter. -Ivana Bacik

The Health Service Executive (HSE) National Ambulance Service (NAS) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above parliamentary question which you submitted to the Minister for response.

Year	Number of new hire's - Paramedics	Leavers – Paramedics	Number of new hire's – Student Paramedics	Leavers – Students Paramedics
2019	12 Paramedics	29	62 Student Paramedics	10
2020	6 Paramedics	32	63 Student Paramedics	15
2021	6 Paramedics	33	135 Student Paramedics	12
2022	5 Paramedics	65	161 Student Paramedics	8
2023	33 Paramedics	48	94 Student Paramedics	25
2024	5 Paramedics	44	160 Student Paramedics	21
2025 (YTD)	0 Paramedics	21	89 Student Paramedics	7

In recent years NAS have progressed a number of promotional campaigns which has led to many of our paramedics getting promotional opportunities in other operational roles (e.g. Paramedic Supervisor and Community Paramedic) which is reflected in the high levels of leaver numbers in the paramedic grade. The leavers in the paramedic grade code have been off set against very high levels of intakes across the student paramedic recruitment streams which have been retained upon qualification as a paramedics.

Regarding NAS Turnover, based on the latest data available NAS had a turnover rate in 2023 of 6.3% below the national HSE average of 8.9%. Since the reorganisation of regional structures NAS are now operating under the National Service and Schemes and the latest data available for this service area (which includes NAS) is 5.7% for Q3 in 2024 which is in line with National HSE average for the same period. NAS operate in a competitive recruitment environment within healthcare and we continue to work on increasing recruitment and staffing levels within the current employment controls for operational posts in order to alleviate





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turnover issues associated with burnout etc. NAS are also providing more opportunities for career progression for operational staff and have a number of staff development programmes are ongoing.

I hope this information is helpful.

Yours sincerely

Colette Walsh
Director of Human Resources
National Ambulance Service

