



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte, Seirbhís Aisíocaíochta Cúraim Phríomhúil  
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Marie Sherlock, T.D.  
Dáil Éireann,  
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27<sup>th</sup> March 2025

PQ: 11319/25

**To ask the Minister for Health the number of GP practices that took on new general medical services scheme patients, per county, in each of the years 2019 to 2024. -Marie Sherlock**

Dear Deputy Sherlock,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question (Reference 11319/25), which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

Further to our response on 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2025, please find additional information below.

The question is not possible to answer from the data available as in any one year some Medical Card and GP Visit Card Holders will move and change from GP one panel to another, others will unfortunately pass away and GPs as per their contractual right may request that an individual is removed from their panel and in addition individuals who receive new cards (e.g. automatic eligibility under the various grounds approved or through means testing) will join panels.

The HSE PCRS has produced its best proxy for what is asked i.e. the number of GP panels which increased in size in the years requested. This could underestimate the number of panels taking on new patients in any year as it is possible that a panel could marginally reduce in size even if it had taken on new patients (as other patients pass away or leave).

|             | Number Doctor Panels that increased in size in a particular year |      |       |      |       |       |       |
|-------------|--|------|-------|------|-------|-------|-------|
| County      | 2018   | 2019 | 2020  | 2021 | 2022  | 2023  | 2024  |
| CARLOW      | 11   | 15   | 22    | 10   | 19    | 30    | 18    |
| CAVAN       | 9  | 16   | 21    | 8    | 17    | 30    | 21    |
| CLARE       | 12   | 22   | 29    | 15   | 26    | 43    | 29    |
| CORK        | 129  | 143  | 188   | 125  | 155   | 263   | 196   |
| DONEGAL     | 31   | 35   | 57    | 23   | 44    | 66    | 48    |
| DUBLIN      | 194  | 237  | 329   | 229  | 313   | 499   | 412   |
| GALWAY      | 59   | 76   | 95    | 56   | 86    | 137   | 101   |
| KERRY       | 34   | 43   | 54    | 33   | 47    | 72    | 50    |
| KILDARE     | 29   | 38   | 48    | 27   | 36    | 86    | 66    |
| KILKENNY    | 19   | 16   | 26    | 14   | 21    | 38    | 33    |
| LAOIS       | 13   | 13   | 23    | 12   | 18    | 29    | 28    |
| LEITRIM     | 8  | 11   | 9     | 4    | 10    | 14    | 9     |
| LIMERICK    | 35   | 39   | 71    | 40   | 55    | 106   | 75    |
| LONGFORD    | 4  | 5    | 12    | 5    | 8     | 17    | 12    |
| LOUTH       | 23   | 26   | 37    | 14   | 30    | 62    | 51    |
| MAYO        | 21   | 26   | 51    | 27   | 37    | 59    | 44    |
| MEATH       | 25   | 30   | 43    | 28   | 34    | 63    | 49    |
| MONAGHAN    | 10   | 12   | 17    | 5    | 10    | 26    | 19    |
| OFFALY      | 9  | 13   | 23    | 6    | 12    | 24    | 17    |
| ROSCOMMON   | 9  | 15   | 21    | 10   | 14    | 24    | 13    |
| SLIGO       | 15   | 17   | 26    | 11   | 23    | 36    | 24    |
| TIPPERARY   | 27   | 31   | 53    | 28   | 37    | 74    | 56    |
| WATERFORD   | 18   | 22   | 33    | 30   | 36    | 52    | 42    |
| WESTMEATH   | 15   | 21   | 29    | 14   | 24    | 36    | 26    |
| WEXFORD     | 17   | 27   | 36    | 30   | 25    | 56    | 48    |
| WICKLOW     | 24   | 28   | 43    | 23   | 38    | 63    | 50    |
| Grand Total | 800  | 977  | 1,396 | 827  | 1,175 | 2,006 | 1,537 |

Yours sincerely,

Suzanne Doyle  
Primary Care Reimbursement Service

The Health Service Executive operates the General Medical Services Scheme, which includes Medical Cards and GP Visit Cards, under the Health Act 1970, as amended. It has established a dedicated contact service for members of the Oireachtas specifically for queries relating to the status of Medical Cards and GP Visit Cards applications, which the Deputy / Senator may wish to use for an earlier response. Tel: 01-8647180 / email: [Oireachtas.pcrs@hse.ie](mailto:Oireachtas.pcrs@hse.ie)