



Office of the Assistant National Director
Access and Integration

HSE Mental Health Services,
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Oifig an Stiúrthóir Náisiúnta Cúnta
Rochtain agus Comhtháthú: Seirbhísí
Meabhairshláinte FSS
Ospidéal Naomh Loman
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Deputy Marie Sherlock,
Dail Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

20 March 2025

PQ Number: 13264/25

PQ Question: To ask the Minister for Health the number of admissions to mental health facilities by Gardaí in the years 2018-2024; and if she will make a statement on the matter. -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, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

Description of the process of involuntary admission:

- Application
- Medical assessment
- Psychiatric assessment

Application

A concerned person applies to a medical professional (usually a GP) to have you assessed. The concerned person must have seen you in the last 48 hours.

This concerned person must be over 18 and one of the following:

- a relative or spouse
- an authorised officer who is an employee of the HSE
- a member of the Gardaí
- a concerned member of the public — any other concerned person

Medical assessment

The medical professional must examine you within 24 hours of getting the application. They may recommend that you are admitted to hospital.

Psychiatric assessment

A consultant psychiatrist in the hospital will examine you within 24 hours. If they decide you need to be admitted and you're not willing to stay, you will be admitted against your will.



2018 to Quarter 3, 2024 (latest available data)

Data is not collected nationally as requested. Gardaí cannot admit to an Approved Centre.

However between the years 2018 and latest data Q3, 2024 the following number of involuntary admissions were recorded.

These admissions would not necessarily involved a member of the Gardaí seeking a medical professional (usually a GP) to have a person assessed.

2018 – 1,962

2019 – 2,103

2020 – 2,221

2021 – 2,520

2022 – 2,450

2023 – 2,249

Q3, 2024 – 1,721

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours Sincerely,

Paul Braham
Senior Operations Manager (Area DON)
Access and Integration; HSE Mental Health Services