



Oifig Náisiúnta Sláinte Béal,
Áras Phlásóg na Rós Coimpléasc Gnó na hOllscoile,
An Pháirc Náisiúnta Teicneolaíochta, Caladh an Treoigh, Luimneach
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5th June 2025

**Deputy Paul Lawless
Dáil Eireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2**

PQ 25445/25: To ask the Minister for Health the number of children seen by a public dentist in each of the past five years, by county, in tabular form.

Dear Deputy Lawless,

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

Appendix 1 details KPI data for the Dental Service (2020 to 2024). The reported metric for the Dental Service is the number of new oral health patients in target groups attending for scheduled assessment.

The ability to offer services to each of the school years has been limited due to availability of dental staff. As part of targeting of resources, each dental service maintains a commitment to urgent/emergency treatment for the relief of pain, infection, and the sequelae of trauma.

The HSE's 2025 National Service Plan aims to continue to develop services and implement waiting list initiatives across a range of dental and orthodontic services and maximise activity across these services to manage waiting lists and waiting times.

The service plan supports the implementation of the Government's National Oral Health Policy, Smile Agus Sláinte, including the development of comprehensive oral healthcare packages for roll-out to children aged from birth to seven years of age.

I trust this information is of assistance to you, but if you require further clarification please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours Sincerely,

**Anne O'Neill
Assistant National Director, Oral Health**

Appendix 1: Number of new oral health patients in target groups attending for scheduled assessment.

CHO	LHO	Q4 2020	Q4 2021	Q4 2022	Q4 2023	Q4 2024
National Total		55324	82559	99367	104488	106703
CHO 1	Total	9129	13800	13637	12138	12511
CHO 1	Cavan Monaghan	3571	3135	4250	4961	3046
CHO 1	Donegal	2659	5286	7187	5712	5369
CHO 1	Sligo Leitrim	2899	5379	2200	1465	4096
CHO 2	Total	2904	6156	7073	9531	7806
CHO 2	Galway	531	1486	895	2718	1609
CHO 2	Mayo	1264	2057	2027	2872	2617
CHO 2	Roscommon	1109	2613	4151	3941	3580
CHO 3	Total	3385	4153	6125	5060	6258
CHO 3	Clare	1481	1307	1784	2115	2447
CHO 3	Limerick	963	1283	1528	1662	2198
CHO 3	North Tipperary East Limerick	941	1563	2813	1283	1613
CHO 4	Total	8086	8552	15350	16806	17027
CHO 4	Kerry	1277	1188	2344	2523	3237
CHO 4	North Cork	1710	1494	3252	3950	3675
CHO 4	North Lee	2027	2791	4725	4664	4938
CHO 4	South Lee	2415	2233	3763	3919	4144
CHO 4	West Cork	657	846	1266	1750	1033
CHO 5	Total	6621	11973	12484	11626	12939
CHO 5	Carlow Kilkenny	1690	3418	3075	2162	2746
CHO 5	South Tipperary	2485	3737	4259	4573	5078
CHO 5	Waterford	1608	2972	2909	2799	2886
CHO 5	Wexford	838	1846	2241	2092	2229
CHO 6	Total	4054	6743	5678	5900	5996
CHO 6	Dun Laoghaire/ Dublin South East/Wicklow	4054	6743	5678	5900	5996
CHO 7	Total	9534	12059	15151	16670	15334
CHO 7	Dublin South City	1627	2363	3456	3334	3168
CHO 7	Dublin South West	2136	2860	2812	3057	3233
CHO 7	Dublin West	2014	3561	4446	4736	4638
CHO 7	Kildare West Wicklow	3757	3275	4437	5543	4295
CHO 8	Total	3829	6124	8581	8016	11919
CHO 8	Laois Offaly	720	2188	1902	1607	1597
CHO 8	Longford Westmeath	875	2633	2212	2196	2339
CHO 8	Louth	1100	709	1812	1835	4100
CHO 8	Meath	1134	594	2655	2378	3883

CHO 9	Total	7782	12999	15288	18741	16913
CHO 9	Dublin North	2456	2828	4562	5863	6962
CHO 9	Dublin North Central	2003	2561	2845	4775	3662
CHO 9	Dublin North West	3323	7610	7881	8103	6289