

**Oifig an Stiúrthóir Cúnta Náisiúnta, Foireann Míchumais Náisiúnta, An Chéad** Urlár - Oifigí 13, 14, 15, Àras Phlásóg na Rós, Coimpléasc Gnó na hOllscoile, Páirc Náisiúnta Teicneolaíochta,Caladh an Treoigh,Luimneach Office of the Assistant National Director, National Disability Team, First Floor- Offices 13, 14, 15, Roselawn House, University Business Complex,National Technology Park, Castletroy,Limerick.

24th June 2025

Deputy Alan Kelly Dáil Éireann, Leinster House, Kildare Street, Dublin 2. E-mail: <u>alan.kelly @oireachtas.ie</u>

## PQ: 26938/25

To ask the Minister for Children; Disability and Equality the number of children waiting for a service statement following completion of their assessment of needs more than 3, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18, 21 and 24 months, by county, in tabular form.

## **HSE Response**

Dear Deputy Kelly,

Thank you for your Parliamentary Question referenced above, which has been forwarded to me for direct reply.

The Assessment of Need process is set out in the Disability Act, 2005. The aim of an Assessment of Need under the Disability Act is to identify whether a person has a disability, the nature and extent of the disability, any health and education needs arising from that disability, as well as what services are required to meet those needs. It is important that service users are aware that an AON is not required to access Primary Care, Children's Disability Services or Mental Health Services providing services including assessment, goals setting, intervention and follow up services. This direct access ensures more efficient and timely access for many families.

The Disability Act outlines the statutory timelines under which Assessments of Need under the Act must be completed. In summary, the assessment report must be completed within 6 months of the date the application was received. The Service Statement, which outlines the services which will be delivered within available resources, should be issued to the applicant within a month of the completion of the Assessment Report.

In 2025, Quarter 1 data indicates that there were 1,412 Assessment of Need reports completed in this period. There were 487 Service Statements issued to the applicant during this quarter; 45% were dispatched within the 1-month timeline. These numbers do not include reviewed or modified service statements.

RHA	LHO	Total	Within Timeline	% within timeline
HSE Dublin & North East		136	37	27%
	Cavan/Monaghan	8	1	13%
	Louth	57	24	42%
	Meath	1	0	0%
	North Dublin	35	9	26%
	Dublin North Centre	3	1	33%
	North West Dublin	32	2	6%
HSE Dublin & Midlands		14	7	50%
	Dublin South City	4	2	50%
	Dublin South West	0	0	-
	Dublin West	9	5	56%

Table 1 Service Statements Completed

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Kildare/West Wicklow	0	0	-
Laois/Offaly	0	0	-
Longford/Westmeath	1	0	0%
HSE Dublin & South East	188	126	67%
Carlow/Kilkenny	21	14	67%
Tipperary S.R	24	17	71%
Waterford	23	16	70%
Wexford	28	10	36%
Dublin South East	16	13	81%
Dublin South	25	15	60%
Wicklow	51	41	80%
HSE South West	90	4	4%
Kerry	0	0	-
Cork North	21	3	14%
Cork North Lee	35	0	0%
Cork South Lee	29	0	0%
Cork West	5	1	20%
HSE Mid West	21	14	67%
Clare	3	2	67%
Limerick	10	8	80%
Tipperary N.R	8	4	50%
HSE West & North West	38	29	76%
Donegal	4	3	75%
Sligo/Leitrim	26	26	100%
Galway	0	0	-
Mayo	0	0	-
Roscommon	8	0	0%

Please note that the Assessment Officer System database cannot provide the breakdown requested in this question. The Database is limited in the range of information we can generate, and work is underway to upgrade this system.

Yours Sincerely,

Dr. Aoife O'Donohue, Stiúrthóir Náisiúnta Cúntóir, Seirbhísí Mhíchumas, Rochtain agus Imeascadh, Assistant National Director, Disability Services, Transformation & Programme Coordination, Access & Integration