



Deputy David Cullinane  
Dáil Éireann  
Leinster House  
Dublin 2

9<sup>th</sup> October 2025

***PQ 52519/25 - To ask the Minister for Health the number of bed days lost due to delayed transfer of care, for each location, to end of September for each of the years 2023 to 2025, in tabular form - David Cullinane***

Dear Deputy Cullinane,

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.

The HSE Business Information Unit (BIU) is a central repository for activity information for Acute and Non Acute Services. The BIU collects, collates and validates extensive amounts of data which is used in performance monitoring and measurement to support the HSE in operational and strategic decisions.

Delayed Transfer of Care occurs when a patient is ready to leave inpatient care but is still occupying a HSE funded bed. A patient is ready to leave inpatient care when all of the following three conditions are met:

- A clinical decision has been made that the patient is medically ready for discharge to their home or for transfer to a non-acute setting (MFFD)
- A multidisciplinary team (MDT) have reviewed the patient and a decision has been made that the patient is ready for transfer home or to an alternate care setting
- The patient is considered to be safe to discharge to their home /transfer to a non-acute setting.

There are a number of possible reasons why a patient may not leave an acute setting despite being clinically discharged. These can include patients who are awaiting arrangement of suitable home support or residential care and patients with complex clinical needs or legally complex circumstances.

The HSE publish a weekly urgent and emergency care analysis report every Monday; <https://www2.hse.ie/services/urgent-emergency-care-weekly-update/>

The report looks back at the week previous and shows:

- the number of people who went to an emergency department (ED) and who were admitted for care.
- year-on-year comparisons of the weekly ED numbers.
- average wait times for admission or discharge through the ED.
- average weekly number of people on trolleys.
- year-on-year comparisons of the weekly trolley numbers.
- how many beds were used as part of a hospital's surge capacity.



- analysis of the number of patients experiencing a delay in discharge.

The report is a weekly analysis and comparison of the figures we publish in our daily urgent and emergency care report:

<https://www2.hse.ie/services/urgent-emergency-care-report/>

The Bed Days Lost is a cumulative number of bed days lost to delayed transfers of care for that time period.

**Data notes:**

- Children's Health Ireland includes CHI Tallaght, CHI Crumlin and CHI Temple Street.
- Bed Days Lost refers to no. of acute bed days lost through delayed transfers of care.
- September 2025 data is not available until end of October.

Yours Sincerely,

**Nessa Lynch**  
**General Manager**  
**Access and Integration**

