



Oifig an Chomhairleora Chliniciúil
Náisiúnta agus Ceannaire Grúpa do
Mheabhairshláinte

HSE, Ospidéal an Dr Stevens, Baile Átha
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Deputy Sorca Clarke,
Dail Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

8th September 2025

PQ Number: 45376/25

PQ Question: To ask the Minister for Health the number of children hospitalised for eating disorders in 2023, 2024 and to date in 2025.-Sorca Clarke

Dear Deputy Clarke,

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.

Information in relation to admissions to Irish Psychiatric Units and Hospitals is monitored and reported by the [Health Research Board](#) (HRB). The HRB is responsible for managing four national information systems. These systems ensure that valid and reliable data are available for analysis, dissemination and service planning. Data from these systems are used to inform policy and practice in the areas of alcohol and drug use, disability and mental health.

The National Psychiatric Inpatient Reporting System (NPIRS) gathers data on patient admissions to, and discharges from, psychiatric hospitals and units throughout Ireland. The data collected have been reported in the Activities of Irish Psychiatric Services since 1965 and continue to play a central role in the planning of service delivery. These findings inform national policy, health service management, clinical practice and international academic research in the area of mental health. Below is the data that we currently have.

HRB data 2018-2023 for psychiatric admissions for primary diagnosis with an eating disorder

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
< 18 years	33	54	87	116	80	77

The [Hospital In-Patient Enquiry](#) (HIPE) is the principal source of national data on discharges from acute hospitals in Ireland. The annual report for 2024 has not yet been published. Below is the data from 2018-2023.

HIPE data 2018 -2023 for acute hospital admissions for eating disorder diagnosis (inpatient discharges with any listed diagnosis of eating disorder)

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
<18 years	171	168	290	547	416	415

A recently published article which was a collaboration between the HRB and the National Clinical Programme for Eating Disorders reviewed both psychiatric and medical admissions for under 18’s with eating disorders in Ireland over a 5 year period 2018 – 2022. [Trends and description of inpatient admissions for eating disorders among children and adolescents in Ireland: 2018–2022 | Journal of Eating Disorders | Full Text](#)

Further information on the HSE National Clinical Programme for Eating Disorders can be found here: <https://www.hse.ie/eng/about/who/cspd/ncps/mental-health/eating-disorders/>

I trust this information is of assistance to you. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any further queries.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Amir Niazi
National Clinical Advisor & Group Lead for Mental Health
Clinical Design and Innovation
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