

Oifig Náisiúnta Sláinte Béil,

Áras Phlásóg na Rós Coimpléasc Gnó na hOllscoile, An Pháirc Náisiúnta Teicneolaíochta, Caladh an Treoigh, Luimneach Teil: 061 492068

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09 August 2024

Deputy Jim O'Callaghan Dáil Eireann Leinster House Kildare Street Dublin 2

PQ 32355/24: To ask the Minister for Health the number of children in second and sixth classes waiting to be targeted under the school dental programme for the 2021-2022, 2022-2023 and 2023-2024 academic years, per LHO and per CHO, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy O'Callaghan,

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.

The Health Services Executive delivers dental services to children under the age of 16, provided through 17 Dental Areas, all of which continue to provide routine services. These services are delivered with a strong preventive ethos in order to minimise the incidence of dental disease in vulnerable populations. In particular this preventive approach involves the delivery of personalised oral health promotion for children and people with special care needs.

Children are seen at ages that correspond with dental developmental milestones to identify opportunities for timely preventive interventions such as fissure sealants and the need for restorative treatment, as well as monitoring the eruption of the permanent dentition including possible orthodontic anomalies requiring referral for HSE orthodontic assessment.

The school dental service provides examination and any necessary preventive and restorative treatment noted at examination. The programme commences with 6th class and follows with 2nd and 4th- depending on available resources.

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.

I wish to advise the Deputy that the data is not available as requested. The table below provides the total number of dental examinations undertaken within the Community Dental Service in 2021, 2022, 2023 for those who are participating in a targeted programme.

KPI Metric	СНО	Dental Area	Q4 2021	Q4 2022	Q4 2023
No. of new oral health patients in target group 6-8 years of age /1st or 2nd class attending for scheduled assessment	National Total		15,038.0	14,906.0	12384
No. of new oral health patients in target group 6-8 years of age /1st or 2nd class attending for scheduled assessment	CHO 1	Total	2,540.0	1,329.0	1218
No. of new oral health patients in target group 6-8 years of age /1st or 2nd class attending for scheduled assessment	CHO 1	Cavan Monaghan	333.0	0.0	0
No. of new oral health patients in target group 6-8 years of age /1st or 2nd class attending for scheduled assessment	CHO 1	Donegal	1,009.0	1,052.0	1089
No. of new oral health patients in target group 6-8 years of age /1st or 2nd class attending for scheduled assessment	СНО 1	Sligo Leitrim	1,198.0	277.0	129
No. of new oral health patients in target group 6-8 years of age /1st or 2nd class attending for scheduled assessment	СНО 2	Total	1,148.0	1,066.0	1719
No. of new oral health patients in target group 6-8 years of age /1st or 2nd class attending for scheduled assessment	СНО 2	Galway	293.0	142.0	753
No. of new oral health patients in target group 6-8 years of age /1st or 2nd class attending for scheduled assessment	СНО 2	Мауо	279.0	174.0	65
No. of new oral health patients in target group 6-8 years of age /1st or 2nd class attending for scheduled assessment	СНО 2	Roscommon	576.0	750.0	901
No. of new oral health patients in target group 6-8 years of age /1st or 2nd class attending for scheduled assessment	СНО 3	Total	1,666.0	2,894.0	2272
No. of new oral health patients in target group 6-8 years of age /1st or 2nd class attending for scheduled assessment	СНО 3	Clare	590.0	804.0	936
No. of new oral health patients in target group 6-8 years of age /1st or 2nd class attending for scheduled assessment	СНО 3	Limerick	268.0	643.0	707

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No. of new oral health patients in					
target group 6-8 years of age /1st	СНО 3	North Tipperary			
or 2nd class attending for	0.100	East Limerick			
scheduled assessment			808.0	1,447.0	629
No. of new oral health patients in					
target group 6-8 years of age /1st	CHO 4	Total			
or 2nd class attending for	C110 4	Total			
scheduled assessment			138.0	188.0	220
No. of new oral health patients in					
target group 6-8 years of age /1st	CHO 4	V a www.			
or 2nd class attending for	CHO 4	Kerry			
scheduled assessment			138.0	188.0	220
No. of new oral health patients in					
target group 6-8 years of age /1st					
or 2nd class attending for	CHO 4	North Cork			
scheduled assessment			0.0	0.0	0
No. of new oral health patients in					
target group 6-8 years of age /1st					
or 2nd class attending for	CHO 4	North Lee			
scheduled assessment			0.0	0.0	0
No. of new oral health patients in			0.0	0.0	0
target group 6-8 years of age /1st					
	CHO 4	South Lee			
or 2nd class attending for scheduled assessment			0.0	0.0	0
			0.0	0.0	0
No. of new oral health patients in					
target group 6-8 years of age /1st	CHO 4	West Cork			
or 2nd class attending for					_
scheduled assessment			0.0	0.0	0
No. of new oral health patients in					
target group 6-8 years of age /1st	CHO 5	Total			
or 2nd class attending for	0.100	1000			
scheduled assessment			2,895.0	3,301.0	2513
No. of new oral health patients in					
target group 6-8 years of age /1st	CHO 5	Carlow Kilkenny			
or 2nd class attending for	CITO 3	curiow kinkeriny			
scheduled assessment			1,212.0	914.0	504
No. of new oral health patients in					
target group 6-8 years of age /1st	CHO 5	South Tipperary			
or 2nd class attending for	CHOS	South Tipperary			
scheduled assessment			686.0	1,038.0	1032
No. of new oral health patients in				·	
target group 6-8 years of age /1st	CHOE	Motorford			
or 2nd class attending for	CHO 5	Waterford			
scheduled assessment			557.0	639.0	440
No. of new oral health patients in					
target group 6-8 years of age /1st					
or 2nd class attending for	CHO 5	Wexford			
scheduled assessment			440.0	710.0	537
No. of new oral health patients in					
target group 6-8 years of age /1st					
or 2nd class attending for	CHO 6	Total			
scheduled assessment			42.0	8.0	1
No. of new oral health patients in					
target group 6-8 years of age /1st					
or 2nd class attending for	CHO 6	Dun Laoghaire			
scheduled assessment			42.0	8.0	1
No. of new oral health patients in			42.0	8.0	<u> </u>
target group 6-8 years of age /1st					
or 2nd class attending for	CHO 7	Total			
scheduled assessment			2 401 0	2 572 0	662
Jericaaica assessiiieiit			3,401.0	2,572.0	002

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No. of new oral health patients in					
target group 6-8 years of age /1st	CHO 7	Dublin South			
or 2nd class attending for		City			
scheduled assessment			596.0	960.0	548
No. of new oral health patients in					
target group 6-8 years of age /1st	CHO 7	Dublin South			
or 2nd class attending for	CHO 7	West			
scheduled assessment			907.0	719.0	0
No. of new oral health patients in					
target group 6-8 years of age /1st	6110.7	Destablica Maria			
or 2nd class attending for	CHO 7	Dublin West			
scheduled assessment			1,340.0	794.0	113
No. of new oral health patients in			,		
target group 6-8 years of age /1st		Kildare West			
or 2nd class attending for	CHO 7	Wicklow			
scheduled assessment			558.0	99.0	1
No. of new oral health patients in			330.0	33.0	
target group 6-8 years of age /1st					
or 2nd class attending for	CHO 8	Total			
scheduled assessment			1,335.0	245.0	203
			1,335.0	245.0	203
No. of new oral health patients in					
target group 6-8 years of age /1st	CHO 8	Laois Offaly			
or 2nd class attending for		,			_
scheduled assessment			9.0	10.0	7
No. of new oral health patients in					
target group 6-8 years of age /1st	CHO 8	Longford			
or 2nd class attending for		Westmeath			
scheduled assessment			1,326.0	214.0	74
No. of new oral health patients in					
target group 6-8 years of age /1st	CHO 8	Louth			
or 2nd class attending for	CHOS	Loutii			
scheduled assessment			0.0	4.0	122
No. of new oral health patients in					
target group 6-8 years of age /1st	CHO 8	Meath			
or 2nd class attending for	CHOS	ivicatii			
scheduled assessment			0.0	17.0	0
No. of new oral health patients in					
target group 6-8 years of age /1st	CHOO	Total			
or 2nd class attending for	CHO 9	Total			
scheduled assessment			1,873.0	3,303.0	3576
No. of new oral health patients in					
target group 6-8 years of age /1st		- III			
or 2nd class attending for	CHO 9	Dublin North			
scheduled assessment			17.0	19.0	493
No. of new oral health patients in					
target group 6-8 years of age /1st		Dublin North			
or 2nd class attending for	CHO 9	Central			
scheduled assessment			354.0	887.0	1015
No. of new oral health patients in			334.0	557.0	1013
target group 6-8 years of age /1st		Dublin North			
or 2nd class attending for	CHO 9	West			
scheduled assessment		VV C3L	1 502 0	2 207 0	2068
			1,502.0	2,397.0	2008
No. of new oral health patients in target group 11-13 years of age /					
	National Total				
5th or 6th class attending for scheduled assessment			26.092.0	46 500 0	40000
			26,082.0	46,580.0	49988
No. of new oral health patients in					
target group 11-13 years of age /	CHO 1	Total			
5th or 6th class attending for			4 000 0	F 20F 0	4363
scheduled assessment			4,902.0	5,205.0	4262

No. of new oral health patients in					
target group 11-13 years of age /	CHO 1	Cavan			
5th or 6th class attending for	CHOI	Monaghan			
scheduled assessment			718.0	1,371.0	1509
No. of new oral health patients in					
target group 11-13 years of age /					
5th or 6th class attending for	CHO 1	Donegal			
scheduled assessment			1,860.0	2,950.0	2071
	<u> </u>		1,000.0	2,930.0	20/1
No. of new oral health patients in					
target group 11-13 years of age /	CHO 1	Sligo Leitrim			
5th or 6th class attending for	55	585 25			
scheduled assessment			2,324.0	884.0	682
No. of new oral health patients in					
target group 11-13 years of age /	6110.3				
5th or 6th class attending for	CHO 2	Total			
scheduled assessment			3,255.0	3,641.0	4325
No. of new oral health patients in			0,200.0	0,0 12.0	1020
target group 11-13 years of age /					
	CHO 2	Galway			
5th or 6th class attending for					
scheduled assessment			665.0	479.0	1334
No. of new oral health patients in					
target group 11-13 years of age /	CHO 2	Mayo			
5th or 6th class attending for	CHO 2	Mayo			
scheduled assessment			1,282.0	1,361.0	1529
No. of new oral health patients in			,	,	
target group 11-13 years of age /					
5th or 6th class attending for	CHO 2	Roscommon			
scheduled assessment			1 200 0	1 001 0	1462
	<u> </u>		1,308.0	1,801.0	1462
No. of new oral health patients in					
target group 11-13 years of age /	CHO 3	Total			
5th or 6th class attending for	0.10 3	10141			
scheduled assessment			1,364.0	3,087.0	2706
No. of new oral health patients in					
target group 11-13 years of age /	6110.3				
5th or 6th class attending for	CHO 3	Clare			
scheduled assessment			532.0	926.0	1107
No. of new oral health patients in			332.0	320.0	
target group 11-13 years of age /					
	CHO 3	Limerick			
5th or 6th class attending for			420.0	025.0	0.40
scheduled assessment	<u> </u>		429.0	835.0	949
No. of new oral health patients in					
target group 11-13 years of age /	CHO 3	North Tipperary			
5th or 6th class attending for	CITO 3	East Limerick			
scheduled assessment			403.0	1,326.0	650
No. of new oral health patients in					
target group 11-13 years of age /					
5th or 6th class attending for	CHO 4	Total			
scheduled assessment			933.0	14,980.0	16318
No. of new oral health patients in	+		333.0	± 1 ,550.0	10310
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target group 11-13 years of age /	CHO 4	Kerry			
5th or 6th class attending for		'		_	
scheduled assessment			933.0	1,974.0	2035
		1			
No. of new oral health patients in					I.
No. of new oral health patients in target group 11-13 years of age /	CHO 4	North Carl			
	CHO 4	North Cork			
target group 11-13 years of age /	CHO 4	North Cork	0	3.252.0	3950
target group 11-13 years of age / 5th or 6th class attending for scheduled assessment	CHO 4	North Cork	0	3,252.0	3950
target group 11-13 years of age / 5th or 6th class attending for scheduled assessment No. of new oral health patients in	CHO 4	North Cork	0	3,252.0	3950
target group 11-13 years of age / 5th or 6th class attending for scheduled assessment No. of new oral health patients in target group 11-13 years of age /	CHO 4	North Cork North Lee	0	3,252.0	3950
target group 11-13 years of age / 5th or 6th class attending for scheduled assessment No. of new oral health patients in			0	3,252.0 4,725.0	3950 4664

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No. of new oral health patients in target group 11-13 years of age / 5th or 6th class attending for	CHO 4	South Lee			
scheduled assessment			0	3,763.0	3919
No. of new oral health patients in target group 11-13 years of age / 5th or 6th class attending for scheduled assessment	CHO 4	West Cork	0	1,266.0	1750
No. of new oral health patients in target group 11-13 years of age / 5th or 6th class attending for scheduled assessment	CHO 5	Total	2,861.0	2,964.0	2728
No. of new oral health patients in target group 11-13 years of age / 5th or 6th class attending for scheduled assessment	CHO 5	Carlow Kilkenny	1,203.0	815.0	498
No. of new oral health patients in target group 11-13 years of age / 5th or 6th class attending for scheduled assessment	CHO 5	South Tipperary	675.0	1,107.0	872
No. of new oral health patients in target group 11-13 years of age / 5th or 6th class attending for scheduled assessment	CHO 5	Waterford	535.0	616.0	846
No. of new oral health patients in target group 11-13 years of age / 5th or 6th class attending for scheduled assessment	CHO 5	Wexford	448.0	426.0	512
No. of new oral health patients in target group 11-13 years of age / 5th or 6th class attending for scheduled assessment	СНО 6	Total	3,538.0	3,268.0	3219
No. of new oral health patients in target group 11-13 years of age / 5th or 6th class attending for scheduled assessment	СНО 6	Dun Laoghaire	3,538.0	3,268.0	3219
No. of new oral health patients in target group 11-13 years of age / 5th or 6th class attending for scheduled assessment	CHO 7	Total	2,492.0	3,792.0	5522
No. of new oral health patients in target group 11-13 years of age / 5th or 6th class attending for scheduled assessment	CHO 7	Dublin South City	734.0	1,203.0	1646
No. of new oral health patients in target group 11-13 years of age / 5th or 6th class attending for scheduled assessment	CHO 7	Dublin South West	559.0	490.0	759
No. of new oral health patients in target group 11-13 years of age / 5th or 6th class attending for scheduled assessment	CHO 7	Dublin West	620.0	1,693.0	2613
No. of new oral health patients in target group 11-13 years of age / 5th or 6th class attending for scheduled assessment	CHO 7	Kildare West Wicklow	579.0	406.0	504
No. of new oral health patients in target group 11-13 years of age / 5th or 6th class attending for scheduled assessment	CHO 8	Total	1,593.0	3,193.0	2506

CHO 8	Laois Offaly	252.0	076.0	504
		863.0	9/6.0	681
CHO 8	Longford Westmeath	730.0	1,488.0	1595
СНО 8	Louth	0.0	525.0	152
СНО 8	Meath	0.0	204.0	78
CHO 9	Total	5 144 0	6.450.0	8402
CHO 9	Dublin North		,	3425
СНО 9	Dublin North Central	1,178.0	899.0	2355
СНО 9	Dublin North West	2.811.0	2.775.0	2622
National Total		,,,	,	
		41,439.0	37,881.0	42116
CHO 1	Total	6,358.0	7,103.0	6658
CHO 1	Cavan Monaghan	2,084.0	2,879.0	3452
СНО 1	Donegal	2,417.0	3,185.0	2552
CHO 1	Sligo Leitrim	1,857.0	1,039.0	654
СНО 2	Total	1,753.0	2,366.0	3487
СНО 2	Galway	528.0	274.0	631
	CHO 8 CHO 8 CHO 9 CHO 9 CHO 9 National Total CHO 1 CHO 1 CHO 1 CHO 1 CHO 2	CHO 8 Louth CHO 8 Louth CHO 8 Meath CHO 9 Total CHO 9 Dublin North Central CHO 9 Dublin North Central CHO 9 CHO 1 Total CHO 1 Cho 2 Total	CHO 8 Longford Westmeath CHO 8 Louth CHO 8 Meath CHO 9 Total CHO 9 Dublin North Central CHO 9 Dublin North West CHO 9 Dublin North West CHO 9 Dublin North West CHO 1 Total CHO 1 Cavan Monaghan CHO 1 Donegal CHO 1 Sligo Leitrim CHO 2 Total CHO 2 Galway	CHO 8 Longford Westmeath 730.0 1,488.0 CHO 8 Louth 0.0 525.0 CHO 8 Meath 0.0 204.0 CHO 9 Total 5,144.0 6,450.0 CHO 9 Dublin North Central 1,155.0 2,776.0 CHO 9 Dublin North West 2,811.0 2,775.0 National Total 41,439.0 37,881.0 CHO 1 Total 6,358.0 7,103.0 CHO 1 Cavan Monaghan 2,084.0 2,879.0 CHO 1 Donegal 2,417.0 3,185.0 CHO 1 Sligo Leitrim 1,857.0 1,039.0 CHO 2 Galway 1,753.0 2,366.0

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No. of new oral health patients in other target groups accessed in a planned manner for scheduled	CHO 2	Mayo			
assessment			496.0	492.0	1278
No. of new oral health patients in other target groups accessed in a planned manner for scheduled assessment	CHO 2	Roscommon	729.0	1,600.0	1578
No. of new oral health patients in other target groups accessed in a planned manner for scheduled assessment	СНО 3	Total	1,123.0	144.0	82
No. of new oral health patients in other target groups accessed in a planned manner for scheduled assessment	СНО 3	Clare	185.0	54.0	72
No. of new oral health patients in other target groups accessed in a planned manner for scheduled assessment	СНО 3	Limerick	586.0	50.0	6
No. of new oral health patients in other target groups accessed in a planned manner for scheduled assessment	СНО 3	North Tipperary East Limerick	352.0	40.0	4
No. of new oral health patients in other target groups accessed in a planned manner for scheduled assessment	CHO 4	Total	7,481.0	182.0	268
No. of new oral health patients in other target groups accessed in a planned manner for scheduled assessment	CHO 4	Kerry	117.0	182.0	268
No. of new oral health patients in other target groups accessed in a planned manner for scheduled assessment	CHO 4	North Cork	1,494.0	0.0	0
No. of new oral health patients in other target groups accessed in a planned manner for scheduled assessment	CHO 4	North Lee	2,791.0	0.0	0
No. of new oral health patients in other target groups accessed in a planned manner for scheduled assessment	CHO 4	South Lee	2,233.0	0.0	0
No. of new oral health patients in other target groups accessed in a planned manner for scheduled assessment	CHO 4	West Cork	846.0	0.0	0
No. of new oral health patients in other target groups accessed in a planned manner for scheduled assessment	CHO 5	Total	6,217.0	6,219.0	6385
No. of new oral health patients in other target groups accessed in a planned manner for scheduled assessment	CHO 5	Carlow Kilkenny	1,003.0	1,346.0	1160
No. of new oral health patients in other target groups accessed in a planned manner for scheduled assessment	CHO 5	South Tipperary	2,376.0	2,114.0	2669

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No. of new oral health patients in other target groups accessed in a planned manner for scheduled	CHO 5	Waterford	4 000 0	4.554.0	4542
assessment			1,880.0	1,654.0	1513
No. of new oral health patients in other target groups accessed in a planned manner for scheduled assessment	CHO 5	Wexford	958.0	1,105.0	1043
No. of new oral health patients in other target groups accessed in a planned manner for scheduled assessment	СНО 6	Total	3,163.0	2,402.0	2680
No. of new oral health patients in other target groups accessed in a planned manner for scheduled assessment	СНО 6	Dun Laoghaire	3,163.0	2,402.0	2680
No. of new oral health patients in other target groups accessed in a planned manner for scheduled assessment	CHO 7	Total	6,166.0	8,787.0	10486
No. of new oral health patients in other target groups accessed in a planned manner for scheduled assessment	CHO 7	Dublin South City	1,033.0	1,293.0	1140
No. of new oral health patients in other target groups accessed in a planned manner for scheduled assessment	CHO 7	Dublin South West	1,394.0	1,603.0	2298
No. of new oral health patients in other target groups accessed in a planned manner for scheduled assessment	CHO 7	Dublin West	1,601.0	1,959.0	2010
No. of new oral health patients in other target groups accessed in a planned manner for scheduled assessment	CHO 7	Kildare West Wicklow	2,138.0	3,932.0	5038
No. of new oral health patients in other target groups accessed in a planned manner for scheduled assessment	CHO 8	Total	3,196.0	5,143.0	5307
No. of new oral health patients in other target groups accessed in a planned manner for scheduled assessment	CHO 8	Laois Offaly	1,316.0	916.0	919
No. of new oral health patients in other target groups accessed in a planned manner for scheduled assessment	CHO 8	Longford Westmeath	577.0	510.0	527
No. of new oral health patients in other target groups accessed in a planned manner for scheduled assessment	CHO 8	Louth	709.0	1,283.0	1561
No. of new oral health patients in other target groups accessed in a planned manner for scheduled assessment	CHO 8	Meath	594.0	2,434.0	2300
No. of new oral health patients in other target groups accessed in a planned manner for scheduled assessment	CHO 9	Total	5,982.0	5,535.0	6763

No. of new oral health patients in other target groups accessed in a planned manner for scheduled assessment	CHO 9	Dublin North	1,656.0	1,767.0	1945
No. of new oral health patients in other target groups accessed in a planned manner for scheduled assessment	CHO 9	Dublin North Central	1,029.0	1,059.0	1405
No. of new oral health patients in other target groups accessed in a planned manner for scheduled assessment	CHO 9	Dublin North West	3,297.0	2,709.0	3413

Summary Table	2021	2022	2023
New patients (6-8yrs/1st or 2nd class) targeted assessment	15,038	14,906	12,384
New patients (11-13yrs/5th or 6th class) targeted assessment	26,082	46,580	49,988
New patients (all other ages) targeted assessment	41,439	37,881	42,116
Total new patients targeted assessments all ages (school and special care programmes)	82,559	99,367	104,488

The HSE's 2024 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,

Dr. Annella Seil

Anne O'Neill

Assistant National Director, Oral Health