



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

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Deputy Carol Nolan Dáil Eireann Leinster House Kildare Street Dublin 2

PQ 10291/24: To ask the Minister for Health the number of WTE dentists contracted to the school dental screening service for the years 2012 to date inclusive, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter

Dear Deputy Nolan,

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 number of whole time equivalent (WTE) dental surgeons who are employed by the HSE (2012-2024) is detailed in the attached Excel WorkSheet.

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

Employment 2012-Jan 2024	WTE Dec 2012	WTE Dec 2013	WTE Dec 2014	WTE Dec 2015	WTE Dec 2016	WTE Dec 2017	WTE Dec 2018	WTE Dec 2019	WTE Dec 2020	WTE Dec 2021	WTE Dec 2022	WTE Dec 2023	WTE Jan 2024
Total	283.7	274.1	261.1	263.6	262.5	256.7	258.7	253.2	256.0	252.2	254.0	251.2	253.0
Dental Surgeon, General	185.5	180.6	166.7	173.6	177.7	174.3	171.1	165.7	167.2	158.4	163.0	156	157.0
Dental Surgeon, Principal	21.9	21.8	24.9	22.9	21.5	23.0	22.0	24.9	24.9	24.2	26.0	24	25.0
Dental Surgeon, Senior	60.3	54.0	51.5	50.2	47.9	46.8	46.4	42.4	40.8	45.6	39.0	39	40.0
Dental Surgeon, Senior Administrative	16.0	17.6	18.1	16.9	15.4	12.6	19.3	20.2	23.2	23.9	26.0	32.0	31.0
Source: Health Service Personnel Census													
Data relates to HSE only													