



Oifig an Phríomhoifigigh Oibrioichtaí
Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhísí Sláinte
Ospidéal Dr. Steevens', Baile Átha Cliath 8
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7th June 2024

Mr. James Browne, TD
Dáil Eireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

By email to: James.Browne@oireachtas.ie

Ref: PQ 19921/24 & REPDR/23/07716

To ask the Minister for Health the position regarding a specific query related to a personal matter (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. (Details: The ratio of acute hospital beds per head of population was in 2003 and now in 2024 he ratio of GPs per head of population was in 2003 and now in 2024.)

Dear Deputy Browne,

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. I apologise for the delay in responding and any inconvenience caused.

The data sources which provide detailed information are set out in Appendix 1. In summary however, the number of Hospital Beds in 2021 (the latest data available) is 2.9 per 1,000 population. The figure in 2002 was 3.0 per 1,000 population.

The number of doctors per 1,000 population has increased in the 10 years from 2011. According to the most recent data available, in 2021 the number of all doctors, not just General Practitioners, per 1,000 population was 4. The number of General Practitioners in Ireland is about 2,500.

I trust that this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

Damien McCallion
Chief Operations Officer



Appendix 1 - Data Sources

Beds per head of population - <https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/sites/7a7afb35-en/1/3/5/7/index.html?itemId=/content/publication/7a7afb35-en&csp=6cf33e24b6584414b81774026d82a571&itemIGO=oecd&itemContentType=book#figure-d1e23944-c94d709ff0>

Doctors per head of population - <https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/sites/7a7afb35-en/1/3/8/2/index.html?itemId=/content/publication/7a7afb35-en&csp=6cf33e24b6584414b81774026d82a571&itemIGO=oecd&itemContentType=book#figure-d1e31163-f5d024543f>

Categories of Doctors - <https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/sites/7a7afb35-en/1/3/8/3/index.html?itemId=/content/publication/7a7afb35-en&csp=6cf33e24b6584414b81774026d82a571&itemIGO=oecd&itemContentType=book#figure-d1e31417-60c8ddc0f8>

2003 Data (2005 OECD Health at a Glance Report)
<https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/docserver/9789264012639-en.pdf?expires=1715270158&id=id&accname=guest&checksum=7D8C2B70308EB7E83670455B96ED0CB9>

2018 Capacity Review
<https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/26df2d-health-service-capacity-review-2018/>