26th November 2024

Deputy Mark Ward,
Dáil Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

PQ 44940/24 - To ask the Minister for Health the public health nurse staffing levels in each area of Dublin; the vacancy rates for each area; if P1, P2 or P3 services are offered in these areas, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Ward,

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.

Please see the number of Public Health Nurses by CHO's 6, 7 and 9 up to 31st October 2024 outlined in the table below:

CHO Area	No of Public Health Nurses
CHO 6	116
CHO 7	181
CHO 9	203

There is no accepted definition of what a vacancy actually is. Data in relation to vacancies that are approved for replacement include New Development posts, retirements and resignations. However there can be other reasons posts are not filled (for example where there is long term sick leave, maternity leave, blocks of parental leave etc.), which may not be possible to gain budgetary approval to replace, although there may be a person assigned to such 'vacancies'/posts that are crucial to service delivery. However they are not an approved vacancy. Because of the complexity of it, it is not possible to hold accurate data at a national level or give a definitive figure for vacancies as this information is not routinely collected in the manner sought.

This office does not hold the requisite data on P1, P2 and P3 services.

All our employment data is available on the HSE Personnel Census, here.

I trust this clarifies.

Yours sincerely,

Jacqueline Nix

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Jacqueline Nix, Assistant National Director of HR, Access and Integration