



18 October 2024

Deputy David Cullinane
Dáil Eireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

PQ 39675/24:

To ask the Minister for Health the number of dentists on the dental treatment services scheme at the end of each quarter for each year 2019-2024, by LHO; the number of dentists who submitted claims and the total number of claims in quarter 1 of each year and each full year, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter

Dear Deputy Cullinane,

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.

Adult medical card holders have access to dental services under the Dental Treatment Services Scheme (DTSS) through care provided by private dentists that hold DTSS contracts with the HSE. The DTSS is a “choice of dentist” scheme which does not require the patient to register with a particular dentist and enables medical card holders to attend any DTSS contractor directly without recourse to the HSE.

The number of dentists on the dental treatment services scheme at the end of each quarter for each year 2019-2024 is detailed in the attached Excel Sheet.

The number of dentists who submitted DTSS claims and the total number of treatments claimed for in each quarter of 2022 to 2024 is detailed in the table below. Data on the number of private contractors who submitted claims is only available from October 2020.

	Quarter 1 (March data)			Quarter 4 (Dec data)	
	No. of Dentists who submitted claims	Total number of treatments		No. of Dentists who submitted claims	Total number of treatments
2019	n/a	283,698		n/a	1,049,293
2020	n/a	266,987		815	790,727
2021	766	205,802		689	760,047
2022	675	180,839		634	815,346



Oifig Náisiúnta Sláinte BÉil,
Áras Phlásóg na Rós Coimpléasc Gnó na hOllscoile,
An Pháirc Náisiúnta Teicneolaíochta, Caladh an Treoigh, Luimneach
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2023	628	241,992		630	970,210
2024	626	266,918		n/a	n/a

A process to update the contract numbers was undertaken in June 2023. The HSE corresponded with contract holders requesting they review their availability for provision of care for medical card holders. Several contractors contacted the service to advise that while they remain active on the scheme, they have no availability within the practice for new patients- either private or DTSS.

The number of dentists claiming per month has remained relatively stable. Availability of appointments fluctuates according to the daily capacity of the practices- it is not possible to indicate which may have available appointments on any given day.

I trust this information is of assistance to you, but if you require further clarification please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours Sincerely,

Anne O'Neill

Assistant National Director, Oral Health

2024 -

HSE Area	LHO 1 Dunlaoghaire	LHO 2 Dublin South East	LHO 3 Dublin South City	LHO 4 Dublin South West	LHO 5 Dublin West	LHO 6 Kildare/West Wicklow	LHO 7 Wicklow	LHO 8 Laois/Of faly	LHO 9 Longfor d/ Westmeath	LHO 10 North West Dublin	LHO 11 Dublin North Central	LHO 12 North Dublin	LHO 13 Cavan/Monaghan	LHO 14 Louth	LHO 15 Meath	LHO 16 Galway	LHO 17 Mayo	LHO 18 Roscom mon	LHO 19 Donegal	LHO 20 Sligo/ Leitrim	LHO 21 Clare	LHO 22 North Tipp/Ea st Limerick	LHO 23 Limerick	LHO 24 Cork-South Lee	LHO 25 Cork North Lee	LHO 26 West Cork	LHO 27 Kerry	LHO 28 North Cork	LHO 29 Carlow/ Kilkenny	LHO 30 Waterfor d	LHO 31 South Tipperar y	LHO 32 Wexford	National Total
Q1 2024	12	5	26	29	10	27	18	10	32	25	27	23	54	18	14	56	25	8	41	10	12	19	47	56	78	18	18	27	18	20	21	13	817
Q2 2024	10	5	28	27	10	28	15	11	32	26	30	17	52	17	15	57	22	6	41	10	12	19	47	56	80	19	18	27	19	18	22	13	809

2023 -

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Q1 2023	11	6	23	38	13	37	16	11	31	35	34	59	61	22	13	111	30	17	48	12	15	23	53	79	101	25	18	29	22	24	20	15	1,052
Q2 2023	11	6	25	32	13	34	18	11	30	34	35	59	61	22	13	111	30	17	48	12	15	25	59	79	100	25	18	29	24	24	21	16	1,057
Q3 2023	10	5	24	26	12	28	17	10	31	25	27	22	52	17	13	55	24	8	42	10	14	18	44	57	77	18	18	26	20	21	20	15	806
Q4 2023	10	5	25	28	12	27	16	10	32	25	28	22	52	18	14	57	23	8	42	10	12	18	44	57	79	17	18	28	19	21	21	14	812

2022 -

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Q1 2022	11	7	29	36	15	40	19	12	33	34	35	63	55	21	9	113	30	17	45	12	17	23	53	88	108	27	17	30	32	31	20	21	1,103
Q2 2022	11	7	28	36	16	38	16	11	32	35	35	61	56	21	10	112	30	17	45	12	16	24	52	84	107	25	18	29	24	24	19	17	1,068
Q3 2022	11	7	28	39	14	38	16	11	32	34	34	59	58	21	11	111	30	17	45	12	15	23	52	83	106	25	17	29	24	24	19	17	1,062
Q4 2022	11	6	22	38	12	38	16	11	31	35	34	59	59	23	11	111	30	17	45	12	15	23	52	83	101	25	18	29	22	23	19	15	1,046

2021 -

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Q1 2021	16	13	33	43	17	47	20	24	45	36	36	67	62	20	28	117	31	15	46	14	20	26	52	94	108	26	26	35	43	32	23	32	1,247
Q2 2021	14	9	32	43	16	44	19	22	40	33	35	65	60	22	27	118	30	17	48	15	20	25	54	95	109	26	25	35	40	32	23	28	1,221
Q3 2021	14	8	33	42	15	44	18	19	40	33	35	66	59	21	23	117	29	17	46	12	19	25	54	90	110	26	25	34	39	32	24	25	1,194
Q4 2021	12	8	31	36	15	41	18	17	39	34	35	66	59	20	10	115	29	17	46	12	17	24	53	90	111	27	24	30	37	31	21	26	1,151

2020 -

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Q1 2020	23	24	48	49	30	57	40	30	45	45	43	77	67	34	35	129	53	15	53	17	19	26	53	103	106	26	33	35	48	48	24	49	1,484
Q2 2020	22	25	48	50	28	57	37	30	47	45	43	77	67	33	34	129	53	15	53	17	19	26	55	103	106	26	31	35	48	48	24	48	1,479
Q3 2020	21	25	48	50	28	57	35	27	45	43	43	76	66	29	29	127	54	15	53	17	20	26	55	103	109	26	30	35	49	42	23	48	1,454
Q4 2020	20	24	46	45	25	49	29	24	44	37	38	65	62	21	30	121	53	15	55	14	20	26	54	99	105	26	29	34	46	38	23	37	1,354

2019 -

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Q1 2019	21	30	44	53	35	58	40	38	48	45	54	64	67	31	34	118	50	16	51	22	26	54	99	105	26	39	37	44	45	23	44	1,478	
Q2 2019	23	30	47	49	34	57	40	39	47	44	55	63	68	29	34	122	50	16	52	17	22	26	54	102	105	27	38	35	46	45	24	48	1,488
Q3 2019	24	28	47	51	31	58	38	39	48	45	54	68	68	30	34	125	52	15	52	17	21	26	54	101	104	27	34	35	46	47	24	50	1,493
Q4 2019	24	27	46	46	30	58	40	33	47	47	50	71	68	34	36	128	52	15	52	17	21	26	54	100	106	26	32	35	48	48	24	49	1,490