



Pleanáil agus Faisnéis Straitéiseach d'Fhórsa
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Deputy Niamh Smyth
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

PQ 43623/24: To ask the Minister for Health the number of consultant doctors working in the health service in June each year from 2016 to 2024, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Smyth,

I refer to your recent parliamentary questions in relation to staffing which was forwarded to the Health Services Executive (HSE) by the Department of Health for direct reply.

The Deputy will be interested to note that at the end of June 2024, employment levels show there were 148,256 WTE (equating to 166,675 personnel) directly employed in the provision of Health & Social Care Services by the HSE and Section 38 hospitals & agencies and of which 4,411 WTE (4,868 personnel) were consultants. The Deputy will be interested to note that this figure represents a 59% increase in consultant staffing levels over the period covered by this enquiry.

Details as requested, in tabular form for June 2016 to June 2024 for each consultant specialty are as set out in the following table:

Health Services Consultant Staffing by Grade Group (June 2016-June 2024):

Consultant Specialty	Jun 2016	Jun 2017	Jun 2018	Jun 2019	Jun 2020	Jun 2021	Jun 2022	Jun 2023	Jun 2024
Consultants	2,768	2,883	3,001	3,131	3,382	3,495	3,670	3,988	4,411
Consultant Anaesthesia	358	378	380	394	418	439	449	466	506
Consultant Dentistry	15	15	17	17	16	17	19	22	24
Consultant Emergency Medicine	88	94	98	101	120	122	140	167	196
Consultant Intensive Care Medicine	3	4	13	15	17	18	21	21	26
Consultant Medicine	693	726	764	789	880	922	1,007	1,136	1,294
Consultant Obstetrics & Gynaecology	132	142	153	158	167	173	177	188	202
Consultant Paediatrics	156	163	175	195	210	214	221	237	272
Consultant Pathology	215	233	242	253	267	276	286	302	329
Consultant Psychiatry	362	358	375	383	413	435	433	462	497
Consultant Radiology	253	264	268	282	295	296	309	323	366
Consultant Surgery	491	505	517	543	580	582	609	661	699
Consultant, Other	1	1						2	

Source: Health Service Personnel Census

Note 1: Health Sector staffing figures relate to direct employment levels as returned through the Health Service Personnel Census (HSPC) for the public health sector (HSE & Section agencies)

Note 2: Figures relating to service levels are expressed as whole-time equivalents (WTE) and calculated to 2 decimals in order to take account of part-time working

Workforce reports are available through the Health Services Personnel Census (HSPC), which is the official employment count for the public health service. The latest available employment information is routinely published [here](#).

I trust that this information is sufficient to meet the Deputy's needs.

Yours sincerely,



Des Williams

General Manager