



Oifig Náisiúnta Sláinte Béal,
Áras Phlásóg na Rós Coimpléasc Gnó na hOllscoile,
An Pháirc Náisiúnta Teicneolaíochta, Caladh an Treoigh, Luimneach
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**Deputy Holly Cairns
Dáil Eireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2**

PQ 1968/25: To ask the Minister for Health to provide the current number of public dentists and the current waiting lists for public dentistry, by local area, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Cairns,

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.

The current number of public dentists employed by the HSE at end December 2024 is detailed in the table below.

Dentist Grades	WTE Dec 2024
Total	244.6
Dental Surgeon, General	153.5
Dental Surgeon, Principal	22.3
Dental Surgeon, Senior	40.3
Dental Surgeon, Senior Administrative	28.5

**Source: Health Service Personnel Census
Data relates to HSE only**

I wish to advise the Deputy that the data is not available as requested. The table below provides KPI data on the total number of dental examinations undertaken within the Community Dental Service in years 2023 - 2024 for those who are participating in a targeted programme.

		2023	2024
National Total		104,488.0	106,964.0
HSE Health Region	HSE Dental Area		
HSE Dublin & Midlands	Total	20,473.0	19,270.0
HSE Dublin & Midlands	Dublin South City	3,334.0	3,168.0
HSE Dublin & Midlands	Dublin South West	3,057.0	3,233.0
HSE Dublin & Midlands	Dublin West	4,736.0	4,638.0
HSE Dublin & Midlands	Kildare West Wicklow	5,543.0	4,295.0
HSE Dublin & Midlands	Laois Offaly	1,607.0	1,597.0
HSE Dublin & Midlands	Longford Westmeath	2,196.0	2,339.0
HSE Dublin & North East	Total	27,915.0	27,942.0
HSE Dublin & North East	Cavan Monaghan	4,961.0	3,046.0
HSE Dublin & North East	Dublin North	5,863.0	6,962.0
HSE Dublin & North East	Dublin North Central	4,775.0	3,662.0
HSE Dublin & North East	Dublin North West	8,103.0	6,289.0

HSE Dublin & North East	Louth	1,835.0	4,100.0
HSE Dublin & North East	Meath	2,378.0	3,883.0
HSE Dublin & South East	Total	17,526.0	18,935.0
HSE Dublin & South East	Carlow Kilkenny	2,162.0	2,746.0
HSE Dublin & South East	Dun Laoghaire	5,900.0	5,996.0
HSE Dublin & South East	South Tipperary	4,573.0	5,078.0
HSE Dublin & South East	Waterford	2,799.0	2,886.0
HSE Dublin & South East	Wexford	2,092.0	2,229.0
HSE Mid West	Total	5,060.0	6,258.0
HSE Mid West	Clare	2,115.0	2,447.0
HSE Mid West	Limerick	1,662.0	2,198.0
HSE Mid West	North Tipperary East Limerick	1,283.0	1,613.0
HSE South West	Total	16,806.0	17,027.0
HSE South West	Kerry	2,523.0	3,237.0
HSE South West	North Cork	3,950.0	3,675.0


HSE South West	North Lee	4,664.0	4,938.0
HSE South West	South Lee	3,919.0	4,144.0
HSE South West	West Cork	1,750.0	1,033.0
HSE West & North West	Total	16,708.0	17,532.0
HSE West & North West	Donegal	5,712.0	5,369.0
HSE West & North West	Galway	2,718.0	1,870.0
HSE West & North West	Mayo	2,872.0	2,617.0
HSE West & North West	Roscommon	3,941.0	3,580.0
HSE West & North West	Sligo Leitrim	1,465.0	4,096.0

The HSE's 2025 National Service Plan aims to continue to develop services and implement waiting list initiatives across a range of dental and orthodontic services and maximise activity across these services to manage waiting lists and waiting times.

The service plan supports the implementation of the Government's National Oral Health Policy, Smile Agus Sláinte, including the development of comprehensive oral healthcare packages for roll-out to children aged from birth to seven years of age.

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