



Deputy John Cummins
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

3rd March 2025

PQ 1976/25 - To ask the Minister for Health the number of inpatient residential beds available in each county, for the years 2020 to 2024 inclusive, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -John Cummins

Clarification: It does not relate to inpatient acute beds, rather all other categories of residential beds within the community

Dear Deputy Cummins,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

Access and Integration (A&I) contacted colleagues in A&I Services for Older People and A&I Disability Services for information in response to your question.

Response from HSE, Access and Integration – Disability Services.

Specialist Disability Services provide residential housing for people with disability who require residential support services in their place of residence, the person's home.

Residential services make up the largest part of the Disability funding disbursed by the HSE – over 60% of the total budget – and approximately 90 service providers provide residential services to individuals with disabilities throughout the country. There were 8,660 residential places for people with a disability in December 2024. The bulk of these are provided by the 50 highest funded agencies (comprising both Section 38 & Section 39 organisations) – some 6,359 places, or 74%. The HSE itself provides 1,066 or 12% of the places. While 1,211 places or 14% are provided by Private-for-Profit agencies.

The HSE developed a Residential Capacity Database to capture the number of residential placements / contract capacity per the service arrangement between the nine CHO areas and the service provider agencies.

Please see [Appendix 1](#) which gives a breakdown, per CHO area, of Residential places available to the end of December 2024.

Please see [Appendix 2](#) below which gives the number of Residential places available from end of December 2020 to the end of December 2024.

A number of new emergency residential places have been added to the residential base, which results in a capacity increase. However, it should also be noted that Residential Capacity will also reduce during the year as a result of the loss of places in congregated settings due to deaths, which cannot be re-utilised. This is in keeping with Government policy, which is to move away from institutionalised settings (i.e. Time to Move On from Congregate Settings)



where the State is actively implementing a policy that will have a bed reduction impact. In addition, “in-year” capacity (bed) levels will also be impacted negatively as a result of regulatory requirements; that is, where an inspection outcome leads to capacity being reduced.

Disability Residential Services provide the person with a disability the necessary supports to facilitate full inclusion and participation at home and in the community. People’s place of residence, provided under the Specialist Disability Residential Services, are subject to HIQA Registration and are monitored and inspected against national standards.

For more information, please see the HIQA website:
<https://www.hiqa.ie/areas-we-work/disability-services>

This provides information regarding the residential centres providing services for people with disabilities currently registered with HIQA. Information is provided regarding the name of the Centre, the Registered Provider, the County within which the centres are located and the maximum occupancy/ places/ beds at each centre.

The website does not provide historical information, however we know that there were 1321 disability residential centres registered with HIQA in 2020 and 1648 disability residential centres registered with HIQA currently.

Response from HSE, Access and Integration – Services for Older People.

Please see the figures provided in [Appendix 3](#).

It is important to note that these figures relate to publicly managed older persons residential units only and do not take into account respite beds sourced through contractual arrangement with voluntary and private providers.

The source of information on private nursing home beds is the HIQA register, and this is where you will find the information you request in relation to privately provided beds. Their report 15 Years of Regulating Nursing Homes (<https://www.hiqa.ie/sites/default/files/2024-10/15-Years-of-Regulating-Nursing-Homes-2009-2024.pdf>) includes figures for registered beds in private nursing homes for the period you require.

I trust this is of assistance to you.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Walsh', written over a horizontal line.

David Walsh
National Director
Access and Integration



Appendices

Appendix 1

Table 1: Disability Services -Residential Places Available per CHO area to end December 2024

CHO Area	Residential Places Available to end December 2024
CHO 1	719
CHO 2	896
CHO 3	835
CHO 4	1,160
CHO 5	941
CHO 6	563
CHO 7	1,275
CHO 8	991
CHO 9	1,280
Grand Total	8,660

Appendix 2

Table 2: Disability Services -Residential Places at year end 2020 to End December 2024

Year	December 2020	December 2021	December 2022	December 2023	December 2024
Residential places	8,139	8,146	8,282	8,400	8,660



Appendix 3

Table 3: Total Bed Stock (Long and Short Stay Beds) in publicly managed and Section 38 Residential Care Facilities for each LHO as per National Older Persons Bed Register Report 2020 to 2024

LHO	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Carlow / Kilkenny	195	195	158	153	153
Cavan / Monaghan	197	197	199	196	196
Clare	194	193	180	180	178
Donegal	381	356	332	328	351
Dublin North	150	150	149	147	147
Dublin North Central	99	63	62	47	47
Dublin North West	448	448	474	452	436
Dublin South City	474	462	413	318	327
Dublin South East / Wicklow	408	408	372	366	362
Dublin South West	55	55	48	48	47
Dun Laoghaire	46	46	46	34	34
Galway	322	337	308	308	310
Kerry	344	375	348	348	348
Kildare West Wicklow	320	319	267	272	266
Laois / Offaly	264	253	231	227	227
Limerick	183	248	200	200	269
Longford / Westmeath	156	148	149	148	148
Louth	141	146	130	128	137
Mayo	379	379	349	351	351
Meath	94	92	94	94	94
North Cork	159	159	148	148	134
North Lee	182	159	138	138	138
Roscommon	164	164	119	119	119
Sligo / Leitrim	272	272	273	263	251
South Lee	467	487	394	399	471
South Tipperary	146	146	127	127	127
Tipperary / East Limerick	114	54	112	112	112
Waterford	221	221	210	225	225
West Cork	261	230	206	206	216
Wexford	211	215	195	195	195
Wicklow	92	110	110	110	110
Grand Total	7139	7087	6541	6387	6526