



1 March 2019

Deputy Louise O'Reilly TD  
Dáil Éireann  
Leinster House  
Dublin 2

**PQ /19/7805**

*"To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 359 of 29 January 2019, the number of patient discharges from hospitals in which patients were discharged to no fixed address including bed and breakfasts, hostels, hotels and so on in each of the years 2011 to 2018, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter."*

Dear Deputy O'Reilly

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. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

The Hospital Inpatient Enquiry (HIPE) system records in patient discharges only and does not record attendances at Emergency Departments.

In relation to the potential data available, HIPE does not record homelessness/no fixed abode as a Discharge Destination. The only information recorded on HIPE relating to homelessness/no fixed abode is within the code set for the Area of Residence provided by the patient at the time of admission, i.e. the place where the person states they normally reside (their home address). The code for "no fixed abode" does not capture the information you have requested.

Therefore, I regret to advise that the information you have requested is unavailable.

In terms of what is available, the table below outlines the numbers of patients discharged each year for the years from 2011 to 2017 whom provided "No Fixed Abode" as their area of residence. Data for 2018 is not yet validated and is therefore unavailable.

Age Status	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	All
Total	226	247	232	448	435	335	343	2266

**Source :** HIPE, Healthcare Pricing Office

**Date:** 30/01/2019

I hope this response is helpful.

Robert Morton  
Assistant National Director  
Acute Operations