



24th March 2022

Deputy David Cullinane
Dáil Eireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

Ref: PQ 12721/22

To ask the Minister for Health the number of approved consultant posts and the basis on which they are filled by speciality and tenure as per the doctors integrated management E-system; the number of vacancies which arose, posts advertised and positions filled in January and February 2022; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Cullinane,

The data contained in this response is extracted from DIME (Doctors Integrated Management E-system) as at 01 March 2022. DIME is dependent on clinical sites inputting details on their consultant workforce and therefore there may be variances and gaps in the data supplied to that held within clinical sites. As DIME is a live system it must be noted that there can be variances in the figures published dependent on the run date of the report as entries can be made with a retrospective date.

Table 1: Number of Consultant Applications Advisory Committee (CAAC) approved Consultant Posts as at 01 March 2022				
	Permanent	Agency	Temp / Locum	Total
Number of Filled Consultant Posts	3036	66	353	3455
Number of Consultant Posts with an unknown status				6
Number of Consultant Posts with a vacant status				111
Number of vacant newly created Consultant Posts (posts never filled)				308
Total number of CAAC Approved Consultant Posts				3880
Total number of consultant posts filled not approved by CAAC				133

Definition of Status	
Filled	The clinical site has verified that a Consultant currently occupies this post.
Vacant	Recruitment for the post may be underway but the clinical site has verified on DIME that this is currently a vacant post. An appointment may have been made to a number of these vacancies with a prospective start date. It should be noted that there is often a significant period of time between approval of a consultant post through CAAC to the commencement of the recruitment process and ultimately the recruitment of a Consultant to a post. The vacancy figure includes a combination of posts that have previously been filled but have become vacant and posts that have never been filled.
Unknown	The clinical site has not yet assigned a Consultant to the post or marked the post as vacant.
Posts filled but not approved by CAAC	There are a number of posts which have not been regulated by CAAC. This can be for a number reasons which include short-term service demands or the site has not yet submitted an application to CAAC.

Table 2: Number of CAAC approved Consultant Posts by: status, specialty and tenure as at 1 March 2022

Specialty	Tenure	Filled	Unknown	Vacant	Vacant – Newly created and never filled	Total
Anaesthesiology	Agency	3				3
	Permanent	366				366
	Temp / Locum	35				35
	Vacant/Unknown		1	12	23	36
Anaesthesiology Total		404	1	12	23	440
Biochemistry	Permanent	6				6
Biochemistry Total		6				6
Cardiology	Agency	1				1
	Permanent	58				58
	Temp / Locum	5				5
	Vacant/Unknown			2	12	14
Cardiology Total		64		2	12	78
Cardiothoracic Surgery	Permanent	19				19
	Temp / Locum	3				3
	Vacant/Unknown				1	1
Cardiothoracic Surgery Total		22			1	23
Chemical Pathology	Permanent	8				8
	Vacant/Unknown				1	1
Chemical Pathology Total		8			1	9
Child & Adolescent Psychiatry	Agency	10				10
	Permanent	81				81
	Temp / Locum	16				16
	Vacant/Unknown			4	3	7
Child & Adolescent Psychiatry Total		107		4	3	114
Clinical Genetics	Permanent	5				5
	Vacant/Unknown			1	1	2
Clinical Genetics Total		5		1	1	7
Clinical Pharmacology	Permanent	4				4
Clinical Pharmacology Total		4				4

Dermatology	Permanent	46				46
	Temp / Locum	3				3
	Vacant/Unknown			4	3	7
Dermatology Total		49		4	3	56
Emergency Medicine	Agency	1				1
	Permanent	101				101
	Temp / Locum	21				21
	Vacant/Unknown			3	13	16
Emergency Medicine Total		123		3	13	139
General Medicine	Agency	6				6
	Permanent	349				349
	Temp / Locum	48				48
	Vacant/Unknown			9	57	66
General Medicine Total		403		9	57	469
General Surgery	Agency	1				1
	Permanent	169				169
	Temp / Locum	15				15
	Vacant/Unknown		2	2	5	9
General Surgery Total		185	2	2	5	194
Genito-Urinary Medicine	Permanent	5				5
	Vacant/Unknown				1	1
Genito-Urinary Medicine Total		5			1	6
Geriatric Medicine	Agency	4				4
	Permanent	110				110
	Temp / Locum	23				23
	Vacant/Unknown			4	23	27
Geriatric Medicine Total		137		4	23	164
Haematology	Permanent	74				74
	Temp / Locum	6				6
	Vacant/Unknown			1	9	10
Haematology Total		80		1	9	90
Histopathology	Agency	2				2
	Permanent	119				119
	Temp / Locum	9				9
	Vacant/Unknown			6	8	14
Histopathology Total		130		6	8	144
Immunology	Permanent	5				5
	Temp / Locum	1				1
	Vacant/Unknown				2	2
Immunology Total		6			2	8
Infectious Diseases	Permanent	23				23
	Temp / Locum	4				4
	Vacant/Unknown			2	9	11
Infectious Diseases Total		27		2	9	38
Intensive Care Medicine	Permanent	36				36
	Temp / Locum	1				1
	Vacant/Unknown			2	5	7
Intensive Care Medicine Total		37		2	5	44
Medical Oncology	Permanent	45				45

	Temp / Locum	4				4
	Vacant/Unknown			2	5	7
Medical Oncology Total		49		2	5	56
Medical Ophthalmology	Permanent	3				3
	Temp / Locum	2				2
	Vacant/Unknown				7	7
Medical Ophthalmology Total		5			7	12
Metabolic Diseases	Permanent	2				2
Metabolic Diseases Total		2				2
Microbiology	Permanent	57				57
	Temp / Locum	6				6
	Vacant/Unknown			3	15	18
Microbiology Total		63		3	15	81
Neurology	Permanent	45				45
	Temp / Locum	3				3
	Vacant/Unknown			1	7	8
Neurology Total		48		1	7	56
Neuropathology	Permanent	4				4
	Vacant/Unknown				1	1
Neuropathology Total		4			1	5
Neurophysiology	Permanent	12				12
	Vacant/Unknown				3	3
Neurophysiology Total		12			3	15
Neurosurgery	Permanent	18				18
Neurosurgery Total		18				18
Obstetrics & Gynaecology	Agency	3				3
	Permanent	165				165
	Temp / Locum	11				11
	Vacant/Unknown			8	7	15
Obstetrics & Gynaecology Total		179		8	7	194
Ophthalmic Surgery	Permanent	42				42
	Temp / Locum	6				6
	Vacant/Unknown				1	1
Ophthalmic Surgery Total		48			1	49
Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery	Permanent	11				11
	Temp / Locum	1				1
Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery Total		12				12
Orthopaedic Surgery	Agency	1				1
	Permanent	100				100
	Temp / Locum	17				17
	Vacant/Unknown			3	7	10
Orthopaedic Surgery Total		118		3	7	128
Otolaryngology	Agency	1				1
	Permanent	52				52
	Temp / Locum	7				7
	Vacant/Unknown			3	3	6
Otolaryngology Total		60		3	3	66
Paediatric Surgery	Permanent	7				7
Paediatric Surgery Total		7				7

Paediatrics	Agency	5				5
	Permanent	202				202
	Temp / Locum	16				16
	Vacant/Unknown			8	15	23
Paediatrics Total		223		8	15	246
Palliative Medicine	Permanent	37				37
	Temp / Locum	7				7
	Vacant/Unknown				1	1
Palliative Medicine Total		44			1	45
Plastic Surgery	Permanent	28				28
	Temp / Locum	5				5
	Vacant/Unknown				1	1
Plastic Surgery Total		33			1	34
Psychiatry	Agency	18				18
	Permanent	212				212
	Temp / Locum	38				38
	Vacant/Unknown		3	9	14	26
Psychiatry Total		268	3	9	14	294
Psychiatry of Learning Disability	Agency	1				1
	Permanent	25				25
	Temp / Locum	7				7
	Vacant/Unknown			4	6	10
Psychiatry of Learning Disability Total		33		4	6	43
Psychiatry of Old Age	Agency	3				3
	Permanent	44				44
	Temp / Locum	4				4
	Vacant/Unknown			3		3
Psychiatry of Old Age Total		51		3		54
Radiation Oncology	Permanent	22				22
	Temp / Locum	4				4
	Vacant/Unknown				4	4
Radiation Oncology Total		26			4	30
Radiology	Agency	5				5
	Permanent	260				260
	Temp / Locum	18				18
	Vacant/Unknown			10	27	37
Radiology Total		283		10	27	320
Rehabilitation Medicine	Permanent	12				12
	Temp / Locum	1				1
	Vacant/Unknown			3	1	4
Rehabilitation Medicine Total		13		3	1	17
Rheumatology	Permanent	2				2
	Temp / Locum	1				1
	Vacant/Unknown				1	1
Rheumatology Total		3			1	4
Unspecified	Vacant/Unknown			1	1	2
Unspecified Total				1	1	2
Urology	Agency	1				1
	Permanent	45				45

	Temp / Locum	5				5
	Vacant/Unknown			1	5	6
Urology Total		51		1	5	57
Total number CAAC approved posts		3455	6	111	308	3880

Tenures:	
Permanent:	Tenure includes Contracts of Indefinite Duration and Permanent.
Non-Permanent:	Tenure includes holders of Fixed Term, Specified Purpose contracts and Locums.
Agency:	relates to Agency staff.
Vacant/Unknown:	relates to unknown, vacant and vacant – newly created posts never filled

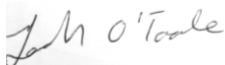
The Public Appointments Service have provided the following details;

The PAS recruits approved permanent consultant posts on behalf of the HSE for some of the statutory hospitals and community settings. Many of the larger hospitals recruit directly.

The data below reflects the information for this cohort.

	January	February
Number of Letters of Approval	23	17
Posts Advertised	12	17
Positions Filled	13	8

Yours sincerely,



Leah O'Toole
Assistant National Director