An Roinn Sláinte
Department of Health

Open Beds Report

March 2021

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Contents

1. Introduction

The Open Beds Report provides an outline of the average numbers of open inpatient beds and day beds/places in the acute hospital system on a monthly basis.

As set out in the Sláintecare Action Plan 2019, the Department of Health is committed to fostering the support of citizens and stakeholders in the Sláintecare reform process, consulting them about its delivery, and informing them about progress through engagement and open reporting. In line with this commitment to open reporting, the purpose of the Open Beds Report is to make information on capacity in the health care system available in a transparent and accessible manner.

1.1 Data source and validation

The Health Service Executive (HSE) Acute Business Information Unit (Acute BIU) provide the bed data for this report, and the figures show the average number of beds or places open in each hospital for the month or year specified.

Data for 2020 and 2021 are provisional and remain subject to validation by Acute BIU. The 2018 and 2019 figures for Galway University Hospital are also awaiting validation. Tables are included in the Appendix.

1.2 Definitions and clarifications

1.2.1 Inpatient beds
Average inpatient beds available is the number of funded beds occupied or ready and available for occupation each night of the reporting period. The cumulated figure is then divided by the number of days in the reporting period to provide a daily average.

1.2.2 Day beds/places
Day beds/places provide areas for day cases: patients admitted for a medical procedure or surgery in the morning and released before the evening. Average available day beds/places are beds/places which are currently occupied or ready for occupation.

1.2.3 Closed beds
The numbers provided in this report are average numbers of beds or places available daily in the specified period. Beds are not available when they are temporarily closed for reasons such as infection control, maintenance/refurbishment, or staffing shortages.

1.2.4   Hospital Groups

The current Hospital Group structure was established in 2013, with the Children's Hospital Group becoming Children's Health Ireland at the start of 2019. For the purposes of comparison and simplicity in navigating this report, hospitals are grouped as per the current Hospital Groups for all years. It should be noted that in the years from 2009–2013 these groupings did not have their current formal governance structures.

The seven Hospital Groups are Ireland East Hospital Group, Dublin Midlands Hospital Group, RCSI Hospitals Groups, Saolta University Healthcare Group, South/South West Hospital Group, University of Limerick Hospitals Group, and Children's Health Ireland.

1.2.5   Inclusion of the National Rehabilitation Hospital in 2021

The National Rehabilitation Hospital (NRH) is included in the figures for 2021 and reported under National and Regional Services. This reflects a change in the governance of NRH beds from community to acute hospitals rather than an increase in overall beds in the health system.

2. Inpatient beds by year 2009 – 2021

There was an average of 11,171 inpatient beds open during 2021 from January to March.
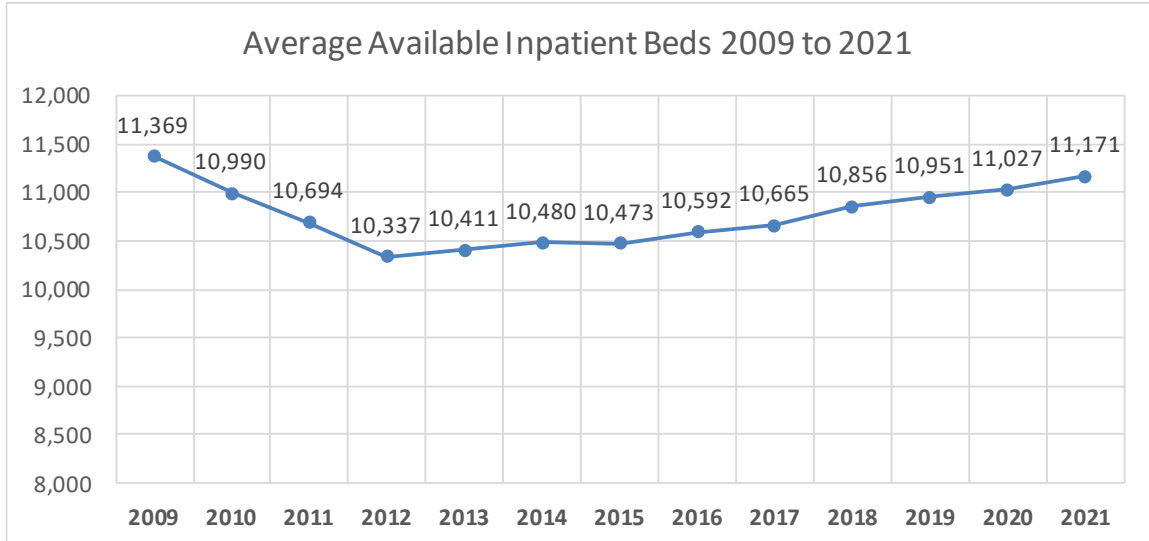
*Year to date from January to March 2021

A breakdown of the average available inpatient beds by Hospital Group for the years 2009-2021 is shown below.
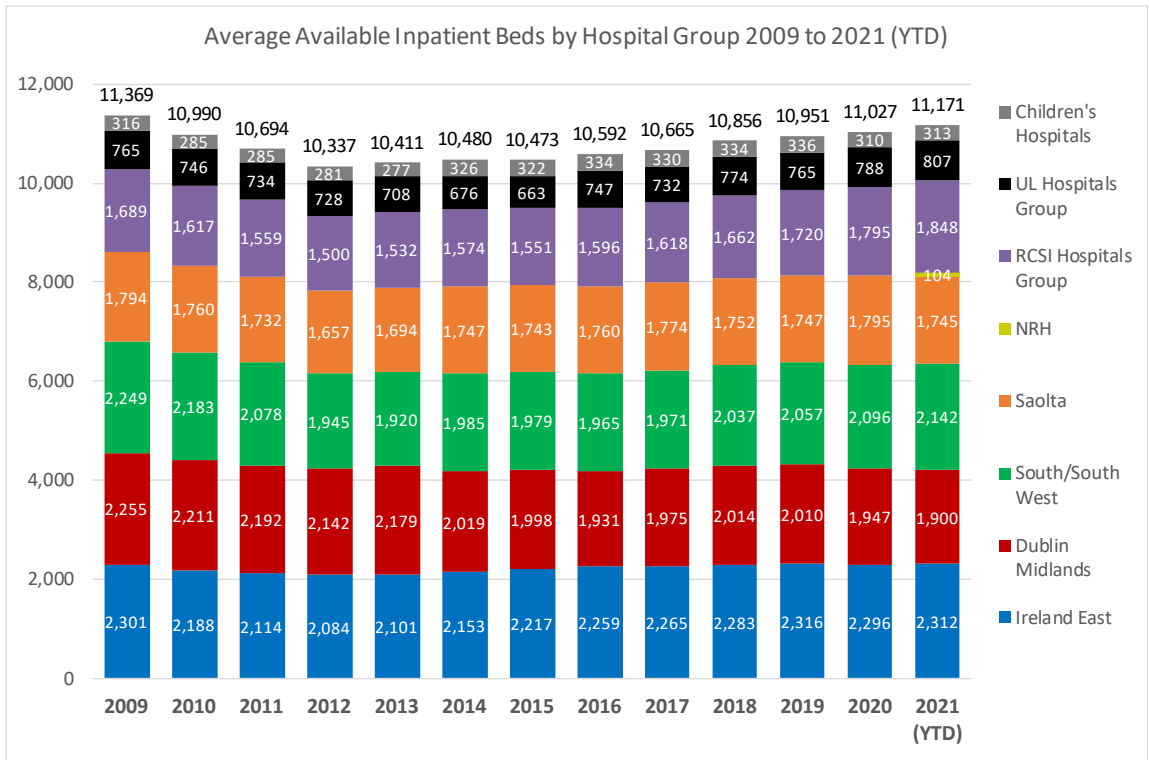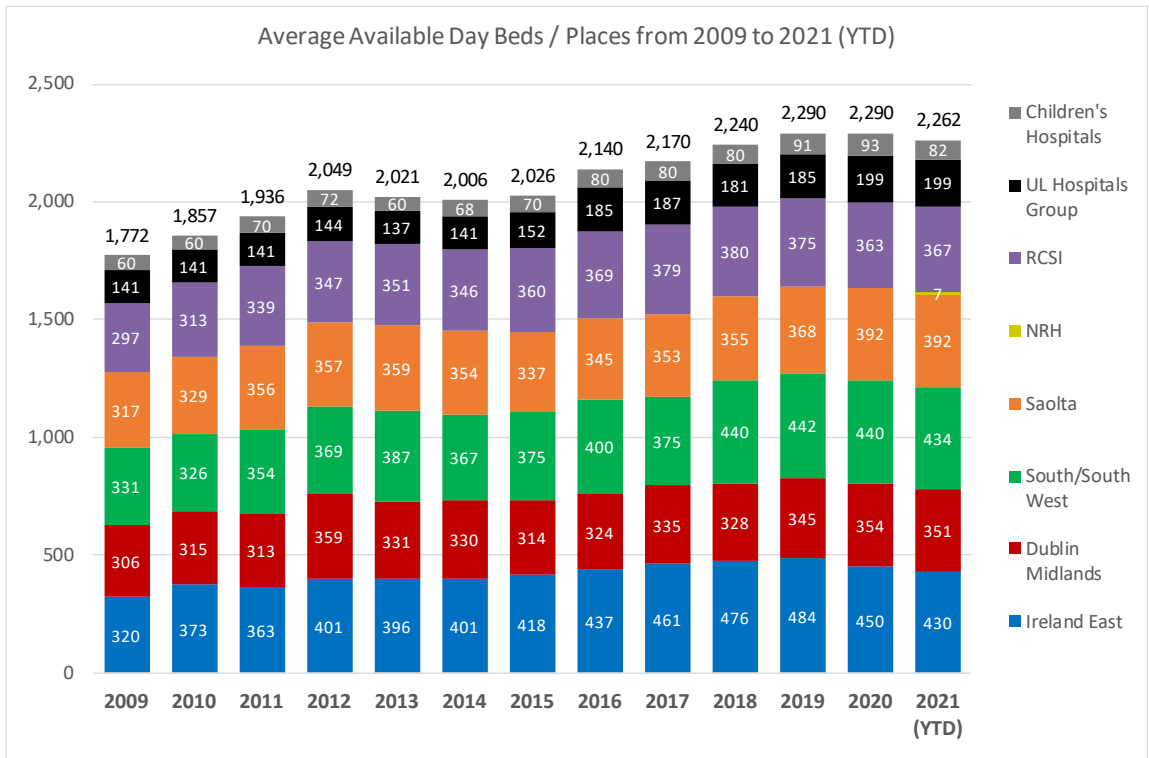

*Year to date from January to March 2021

3. Day beds/places by year 2009 – 2021

There was an average of 2,262 day beds/places open during 2021 from January to March.
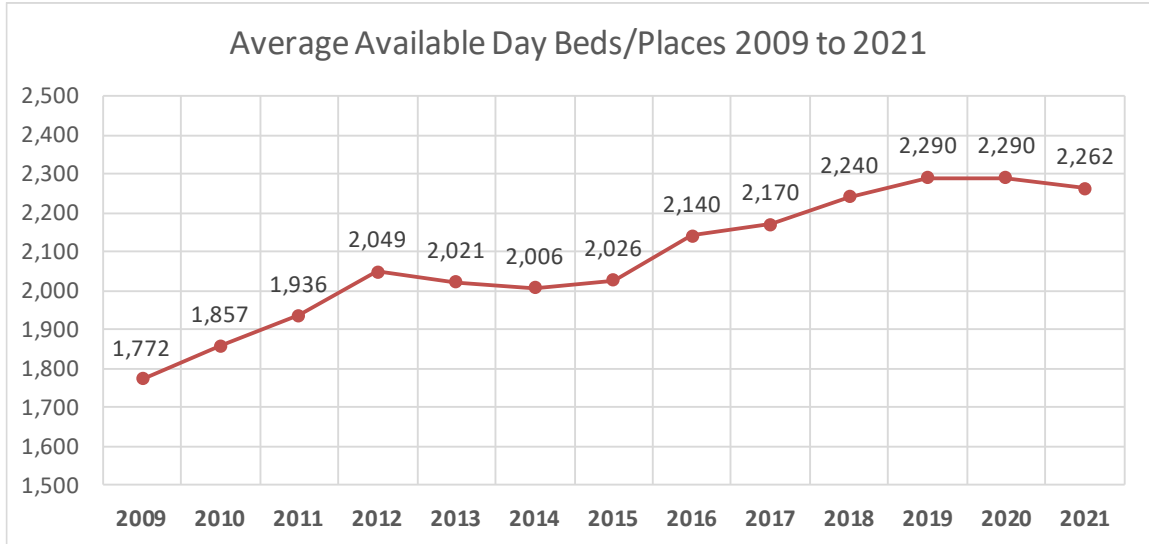
*Year to date from January to March 2021

A breakdown of the average available day beds/places by Hospital Group for the years 2009-2021 is shown below.

*Year to date from January to March 2021

4. Available beds by month for 2021

There were 11,285 inpatient beds and 2,279 day beds/places open in March 2021. The breakdown by month and Hospital Group is shown in the figures below.

Monthly Average Available Inpatient Beds for 2021

Monthly Average Available Day Beds / Places for 2021
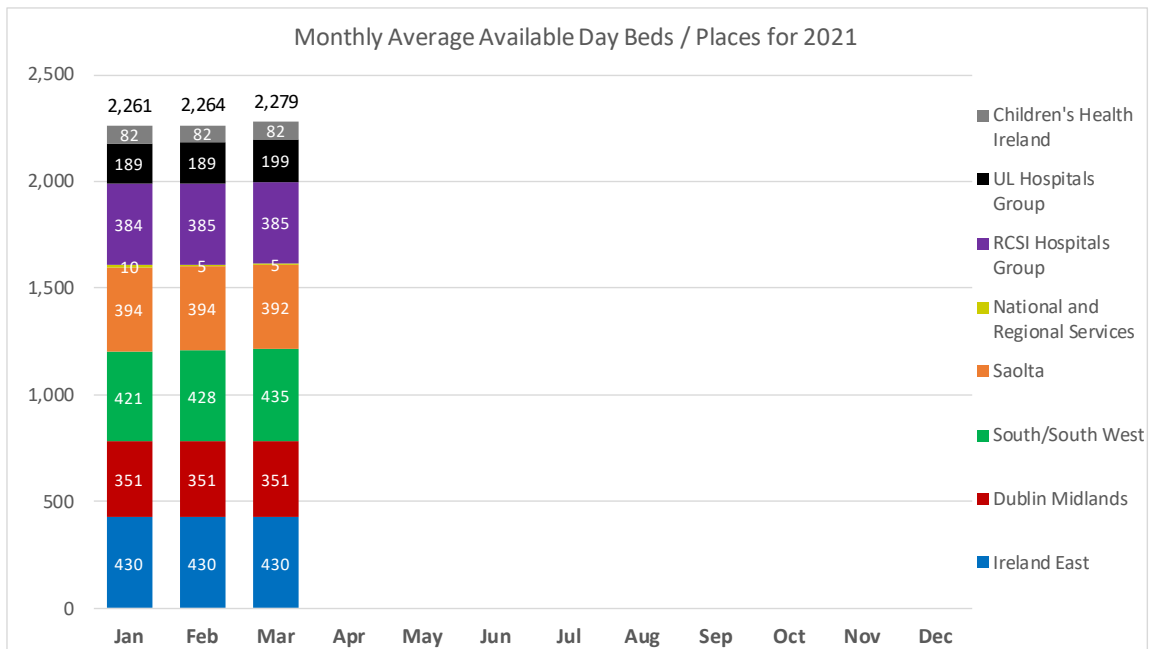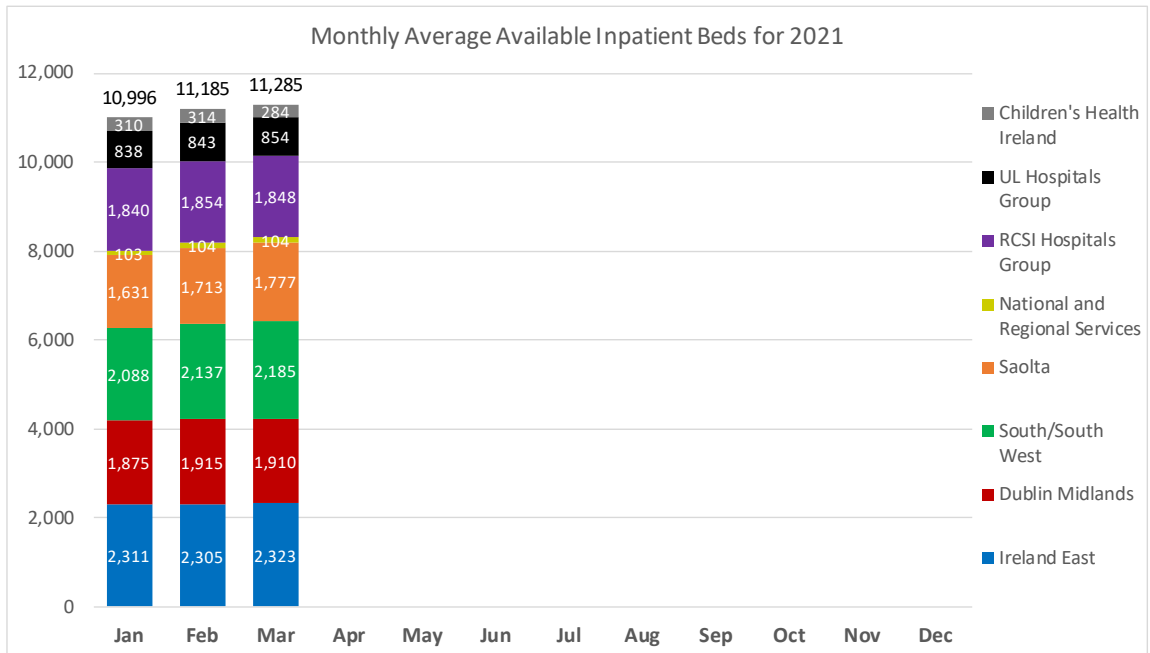
Appendix. Available Beds Tables

Table 1. Available inpatient beds by year for 2009 – 2021 (as of March)

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020*	2021*
Children's Hospital Group	**316**	**285**	**285**	**281**	**277**	**326**	**322**	**334**	**330**	**334**	**336**	**310**	**313**
National Children's Hospital, Tallaght**	-	-	-	-	-	46	46	51	53	53	53	47	29
Our Lady's Children's Hospital, Crumlin	210	185	185	187	182	182	183	182	180	182	181	180	185
Temple Street Children's University Hospital	106	100	100	94	95	98	93	101	97	99	102	103	99
Dublin Midlands Hospital Group	**2,255**	**2,211**	**2,192**	**2,142**	**2,179**	**2,019**	**1,998**	**1,931**	**1,975**	**2,014**	**2,010**	**1,947**	**1,900**
Coombe Women and Infants University Hospital	187	184	187	186	187	187	189	189	189	201	201	201	201
Midlands Regional Hospital Portlaoise	140	140	138	137	138	137	136	135	135	135	135	134	133
Midlands Regional Hospital Tullamore	192	176	176	180	182	185	196	183	194	195	199	192	187
Naas General Hospital	211	203	194	184	191	208	186	185	185	188	184	164	166
St. James's Hospital	835	821	824	821	826	678	666	662	684	703	708	693	680
St. Luke's Radiation Oncology Network	156	155	142	132	151	160	160	160	160	160	160	148	136
Tallaght University Hospital	534	532	531	502	504	464	465	417	428	432	423	415	397
Ireland East Hospital Group	**2,301**	**2,188**	**2,114**	**2,084**	**2,101**	**2,153**	**2,217**	**2,259**	**2,265**	**2,283**	**2,316**	**2,296**	**2,312**
Cappagh National Orthopaedic Hospital	61	59	46	46	78	81	83	84	94	96	96	79	61
Mater Misericordiae University Hospital	572	567	539	525	526	544	564	605	592	594	602	633	679
Regional Hospital Mullingar	185	166	172	179	184	184	184	184	187	184	192	188	184
National Maternity Hospital	151	155	154	159	150	154	154	154	154	154	154	154	152
Our Lady's Hospital Navan	131	115	99	96	85	87	87	86	87	87	87	87	87
Royal Victoria Eye and Ear Hospital	35	45	30	25	22	21	21	21	23	25	24	25	23
St. Columcille's Hospital	114	107	106	103	105	103	102	100	106	108	114	105	103
St. Luke's General Hospital Kilkenny	259	220	217	227	230	243	243	210	205	211	216	197	186
St. Michael's Hospital	101	80	87	83	75	80	79	77	77	79	85	81	87
St. Vincent's University Hospital	482	482	483	460	461	461	491	521	521	521	521	521	523
Wexford General Hospital	210	192	181	181	185	195	209	217	219	224	225	226	227
RCSI Hospitals Group	**1,689**	**1,617**	**1,559**	**1,500**	**1,532**	**1,574**	**1,551**	**1,596**	**1,618**	**1,662**	**1,720**	**1,795**	**1,848**
Beaumont Hospital	635	630	601	590	604	631	623	620	653	669	669	711	716
St. Joseph's Hospital	34	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cavan General Hospital	203	228	228	239	254	247	240	240	241	242	242	230	231
Connolly Hospital	218	228	234	181	181	202	199	229	215	215	243	261	303
Louth County Hospital	110	57	7	6	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1
Monaghan Hospital	31	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital	288	304	319	314	316	317	318	336	338	365	395	422	427
Rotunda Hospital	170	170	170	170	175	175	169	169	169	169	169	169	169
National and Regional Services													**104**
National Rehabilitation Hospital***	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	104
Saolta University Health Care Group	**1,794**	**1,760**	**1,732**	**1,657**	**1,694**	**1,747**	**1,743**	**1,760**	**1,774**	**1,752**	**1,747**	**1,795**	**1,745**
Galway University Hospitals	674	617	614	608	631	644	644	640	649	635	627	668	605
Letterkenny University Hospital	306	308	302	301	312	314	310	321	330	330	334	347	340
Mayo University Hospital	271	264	265	266	269	281	281	277	277	269	269	269	259
Portiuncula University Hospital	185	172	155	168	168	169	169	168	168	168	167	166	163
Roscommon University Hospital	88	81	78	59	63	63	61	63	63	62	62	57	63
Sligo University Hospital	270	318	318	255	251	276	278	291	287	288	288	290	277
South/South West Hospital Group	**2,249**	**2,183**	**2,078**	**1,945**	**1,920**	**1,985**	**1,979**	**1,965**	**1,971**	**2,037**	**2,057**	**2,096**	**2,142**
Bantry General Hospital	69	62	50	50	50	50	49	50	50	50	46	46	46
Cork University Hospital	500	497	502	507	525	526	523	731	748	796	813	618	645
Cork University Maternity Hospital****	185	185	184	182	183	185	185				0	185	185
Lourdes Orthopaedic Hospital Kilcreene	38	31	23	23	23	28	28	30	29	29	19	23	19
Mallow General Hospital	76	76	67	66	54	54	54	54	54	54	54	32	37
Mercy University Hospital	204	197	194	176	181	204	199	198	194	198	199	196	198
South Infirmary Victoria University Hospital	170	164	149	137	116	116	117	116	107	105	101	144	135
South Tipperary General Hospital	215	216	207	173	163	166	167	167	169	178	176	195	200
St. Mary's Hospital - Gurranebraher	90	88	61	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
University Hospital Kerry	261	248	227	225	225	225	225	228	228	233	244	252	267
University Hospital Waterford	441	419	414	406	400	431	432	391	392	404	405	405	405
UL Hospitals Group	**765**	**746**	**734**	**728**	**708**	**676**	**663**	**747**	**732**	**774**	**765**	**788**	**807**
Croom Orthopaedic Hospital	67	64	59	54	53	35	27	41	42	42	42	43	43
Ennis Hospital	54	54	54	55	56	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50
Nenagh Hospital	52	52	52	49	50	48	48	48	47	48	49	51	52
St. John's Hospital Limerick	73	73	69	68	83	87	79	80	70	88	88	83	82
University Hospital Limerick	420	404	401	403	367	354	357	426	421	444	434	460	516
University Maternity Hospital Limerick	99	99	99	99	99	102	102	102	102	102	102	102	102
National Total	**11,369**	**10,990**	**10,694**	**10,337**	**10,411**	**10,480**	**10,473**	**10,592**	**10,665**	**10,856**	**10,951**	**11,027**	**11,171**

*Data for 2020 and 2021 are provisional and remain subject to validation by the HSE

**Beds in National Children's Hospital at Tallaght University Hospital counted as part of the Tallaght University Hospital total until 2014

***NRH included in acute bed numbers from 2021 only

****Beds in Cork University Maternity Hospital counted as part of Cork University Hospital from 2016-2018

Table 2. Available day beds/places by year for 2009 – 2021 (as of March)

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020*	2021*
Children's Hospital Group	**60**	**60**	**70**	**72**	**60**	**68**	**70**	**80**	**80**	**80**	**91**	**93**	**82**
National Children's Hospital, Tallaght**	-	-	-	-	-	6	6	10	10	10	10	9	0
Our Lady's Children's Hospital, Crumlin	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	44	44	44	44	44	38
Temple Street Children's University Hospital	22	22	32	34	22	24	26	26	26	26	37	44	44
Dublin Midlands Hospital Group	**306**	**315**	**313**	**359**	**331**	**330**	**314**	**324**	**335**	**328**	**345**	**354**	**351**
Coombe Women and Infants University Hospital	26	26	26	26	26	26	26	26	26	18	18	18	18
Midlands Regional Hospital Portlaoise	9	10	10	12	14	14	15	17	17	17	17	17	4
Midlands Regional Hospital Tullamore	47	60	59	66	67	67	67	67	71	74	74	74	74
Naas General Hospital	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18
St. James's Hospital	117	108	109	109	109	109	103	106	112	112	112	117	120
St. Luke's Radiation Oncology Network	20	20	20	20	20	20	12	20	19	18	18	18	18
Tallaght University Hospital	69	73	71	108	77	76	73	70	72	71	88	92	99
Ireland East Hospital Group	**320**	**373**	**363**	**401**	**396**	**401**	**418**	**437**	**461**	**476**	**484**	**450**	**430**
Cappagh National Orthopaedic Hospital	26	25	26	35	35	32	39	54	54	62	59	49	49
Mater Misericordiae University Hospital	65	66	65	73	69	69	85	85	85	85	85	85	85
Regional Hospital Mullingar	13	26	13	13	13	16	16	16	16	17	17	17	17
National Maternity Hospital	6	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	13
Our Lady's Hospital Navan	16	16	20	17	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16
Royal Victoria Eye and Ear Hospital	18	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	24	27	27	27	27
St. Columcille's Hospital	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	7	7	7	7
St. Luke's General Hospital Kilkenny	14	18	13	21	21	25	25	28	28	35	46	19	5
St. Michael's Hospital	13	23	24	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	25	20
St. Vincent's University Hospital	111	118	121	141	141	142	141	141	141	138	138	138	138
Wexford General Hospital	30	39	39	39	39	39	34	35	55	55	55	54	53
RCSI Hospitals Group	**297**	**313**	**339**	**347**	**351**	**346**	**360**	**369**	**379**	**380**	**375**	**363**	**367**
Beaumont Hospital	112	135	149	149	149	146	146	147	155	159	159	159	175
St. Joseph's Hospital	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-
Cavan General Hospital	46	46	56	61	61	61	61	70	71	71	70	69	70
Connolly Hospital	48	48	45	45	45	45	53	53	53	53	49	35	38
Louth County Hospital	13	22	27	27	28	28	28	28	28	25	25	25	25
Monaghan Hospital	23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23
Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital	31	29	29	32	36	34	34	33	34	34	34	36	39
Rotunda Hospital	10	10	10	10	9	9	15	15	15	15	15	15	15
National and Regional Services													**7**
National Rehabilitation Hospital***	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7
Saolta University Health Care Group	**317**	**329**	**356**	**357**	**359**	**354**	**337**	**345**	**353**	**355**	**368**	**392**	**392**
Galway University Hospitals	139	139	149	150	142	142	144	128	124	119	125	170	169
Letterkenny University Hospital	69	68	68	67	69	69	69	69	69	72	72	68	72
Mayo University Hospital	32	34	30	29	30	22	22	35	35	35	35	35	35
Portiuncula University Hospital	25	35	30	30	30	29	30	30	30	30	30	22	18
Roscommon University Hospital	12	13	12	14	21	23	23	31	37	36	40	31	33
Sligo University Hospital	40	40	67	67	67	69	49	52	58	63	66	66	66
South/South West Hospital Group	**331**	**326**	**354**	**369**	**387**	**367**	**375**	**400**	**375**	**440**	**442**	**440**	**434**
Bantry General Hospital	6	6	14	10	10	10	10	9	9	9	13	13	13
Cork University Hospital	58	59	58	65	101	98	97	94	82	108	108	105	101
Mallow General Hospital	5	5	5	5	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	9	6
Mercy University Hospital	59	56	58	59	59	51	55	55	51	51	51	56	57
South Infirmary Victoria University Hospital	51	51	51	59	37	37	37	37	37	59	59	59	58
South Tipperary General Hospital	27	25	25	25	24	25	25	24	24	21	24	24	23
University Hospital Kerry	37	37	42	43	43	43	43	56	56	64	58	55	51
University Hospital Waterford	88	87	101	103	103	93	98	115	106	118	119	119	119
UL Hospitals Group	**141**	**141**	**141**	**144**	**137**	**141**	**152**	**185**	**187**	**181**	**185**	**199**	**199**
Croom Orthopaedic Hospital	10	10	10	10	10	16	17	16	15	15	15	15	15
Ennis Hospital	13	13	13	16	17	17	19	19	19	19	19	19	19
Nenagh Hospital	11	11	11	11	18	25	26	26	26	20	20	20	20
St. John's Hospital Limerick	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	5
University Hospital Limerick	97	97	97	97	82	73	80	114	117	117	121	135	135
National Total	**1,772**	**1,857**	**1,936**	**2,049**	**2,021**	**2,006**	**2,026**	**2,140**	**2,170**	**2,240**	**2,290**	**2,290**	**2,262**

*Data for 2020 is provisional and remains subject to validation by the HSE

**Beds in National Children's Hospital at Tallaght University Hospital counted as part of the Tallaght University Hospital total until 2014

***NRH included in acute bed numbers from 2021 only

Table 3. Available inpatient beds by month in 2021

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Children's Health Ireland	**310**	**314**	**284**									
CHI at Our Lady's Children's Hospital, Crumlin	185	185	184									
CHI at Tallaght University Hospital	29	29										
CHI at Temple Street Children's University Hospital	96	100	100									
Dublin Midlands Hospital Group	**1,875**	**1,915**	**1,910**									
Coombe Women and Infants University Hospital	201	201	201									
Midlands Regional Hospital Portlaoise	132	135	133									
Midlands Regional Hospital Tullamore	183	185	194									
Naas General Hospital	150	170	178									
St. James's Hospital	679	680	680									
St. Luke's Radiation Oncology Network	129	151	127									
Tallaght University Hospital	401	393	397									
Ireland East Hospital Group	**2,311**	**2,305**	**2,323**									
Mater Misericordiae University Hospital	687	671	678									
Regional Hospital Mullingar	184	184	184									
National Maternity Hospital	152	152	152									
Cappagh National Orthopaedic Hospital	57	63	64									
Our Lady's Hospital Navan	87	87	87									
Royal Victoria Eye and Ear Hospital	25	23	22									
St. Columcille's Hospital	101	100	108									
St. Luke's General Hospital Kilkenny	183	188	188									
St. Michael's Hospital	85	87	90									
St. Vincent's University Hospital	523	523	523									
Wexford General Hospital	227	227	227									
RCSI Hospitals Group	**1,840**	**1,854**	**1,848**									
Beaumont Hospital	712	718	718									
Cavan General Hospital	231	231	231									
Connolly Hospital	303	303	303									
Louth County Hospital	1	1	1									
Monaghan Hospital												
Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital	424	432	426									
Rotunda Hospital	169	169	169									
National and Regional Services	**103**	**104**	**104**									
National Rehabilitation Hospital	103	104	104									
Saolta University Health Care Group	**1,631**	**1,713**	**1,777**									
Galway University Hospitals	550	602	663									
Letterkenny University Hospital	334	336	350									
Mayo University Hospital	254	269	255									
Portiuncula University Hospital	161	164	163									
Roscommon University Hospital	60	63	65									
Sligo University Hospital	272	279	281									
South/South West Hospital Group	**2,088**	**2,137**	**2,185**									
Bantry General Hospital	46	46	46									
Cork University Hospital	617	654	664									
Cork University Maternity Hospital	185	185	185									
Lourdes Orthopaedic Hospital Kilcreene	18	20	20									
Mallow General Hospital	37	37	37									
Mercy University Hospital	198	198	198									
South Infirmary Victoria University Hospital	117	134	153									
South Tipperary General Hospital	200	195	205									
University Hospital Kerry	265	263	272									
University Hospital Waterford	405	405	405									
UL Hospitals Group	**838**	**843**	**854**									
Croom Orthopaedic Hospital	42	39	48									
Ennis Hospital	50	50	50									
Nenagh Hospital	52	52	52									
St. John's Hospital Limerick	79	83	83									
University Hospital Limerick	513	517	519									
University Maternity Hospital Limerick	102	102	102									
National Total	**10,996**	**11,185**	**11,285**									

Table 4. Available day beds/places by month in 2021

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Children's Health Ireland	**82**	**82**	**82**									
CHI at Our Lady's Children's Hospital, Crumlin	38	38	38									
CHI at Tallaght University Hospital												
CHI at Temple Street Children's University Hospital	44	44	44									
Dublin Midlands Hospital Group	**351**	**351**	**351**									
Coombe Women and Infants University Hospital	18	18	18									
Midlands Regional Hospital Portlaoise	4	4	4									
Midlands Regional Hospital Tullamore	74	74	74									
Naas General Hospital	18	18	18									
St. James's Hospital	120	120	120									
St. Luke's Radiation Oncology Network	18	18	18									
Tallaght University Hospital	99	99	99									
Ireland East Hospital Group	**430**	**430**	**430**									
Mater Misericordiae University Hospital	85	85	85									
Regional Hospital Mullingar	17	17	17									
National Maternity Hospital	13	13	13									
Cappagh National Orthopaedic Hospital	49	49	49									
Our Lady's Hospital Navan	16	16	16									
Royal Victoria Eye and Ear Hospital	27	27	27									
St. Columcille's Hospital	7	7	7									
St. Luke's General Hospital Kilkenny	5	5	5									
St. Michael's Hospital	20	20	20									
St. Vincent's University Hospital	138	138	138									
Wexford General Hospital	53	53	53									
RCSI Hospitals Group	**384**	**385**	**385**									
Beaumont Hospital	175	175	175									
Cavan General Hospital	69	70	70									
Connolly Hospital	38	38	38									
Louth County Hospital	25	25	25									
Monaghan Hospital	23	23	23									
Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital	39	39	39									
Rotunda Hospital	15	15	15									
National and Regional Services	**10**	**5**	**5**									
National Rehabilitation Hospital	10	5	5									
Saolta University Health Care Group	**394**	**394**	**392**									
Galway University Hospitals	169	169	169									
Letterkenny University Hospital	72	72	72									
Mayo University Hospital	35	35	35									
Portiuncula University Hospital	18	18	18									
Roscommon University Hospital	34	34	32									
Sligo University Hospital	66	66	66									
South/South West Hospital Group	**421**	**428**	**435**									
Bantry General Hospital	13	13	13									
Cork University Hospital	101	101	101									
Cork University Maternity Hospital												
Lourdes Orthopaedic Hospital Kilcreene												
Mallow General Hospital	5	3	10									
Mercy University Hospital	57	57	57									
South Infirmary Victoria University Hospital	56	59	59									
South Tipperary General Hospital	19	25	25									
University Hospital Kerry	51	51	51									
University Hospital Waterford	119	119	119									
UL Hospitals Group	**189**	**189**	**199**									
Croom Orthopaedic Hospital	15	15	15									
Ennis Hospital	19	19	19									
Nenagh Hospital	20	20	20									
St. John's Hospital Limerick			10									
University Hospital Limerick	135	135	135									
University Maternity Hospital Limerick												
National Total	**2,261**	**2,264**	**2,279**									