**JQ17 – Beds in residential long-term care facilities**

Long-term care nursing beds data is compiled by the Department of Health as part of the Non-Monetary Health Care Statistics, administered jointly by Eurostat, OECD and WHO in fulfilment of the European regulation (EU) 2022/2294. These statistics are compiled and published on an annual basis and refer to the number of nursing beds available in residential long-term care facilities.

*Source:*

Data is compiled from Health Information and Quality Authority (HIQA) (https://www.hiqa.ie/) administrative records.

*Definitions*:

**Beds in residential long-term care facilities** comprise of available nursing beds in establishments primarily engaged in providing residential long-term care that combines nursing, supervisory or other types of care as required by the residents. In these establishments, a significant part of the production process and the care provided is a mix of health and social services, with the health services being largely at the level of nursing care, in combination with personal care services.

This data includes beds from:

i. Long-term nursing care facilities (HP.2.1); and
ii. Other residential long-term care facilities (HP.2.9).

While excluding:

i. Beds in hospitals (HP.1) dedicated to long-term care; and
ii. Beds in residential settings such as adapted housing that can be considered as people's home.

**Year** (also referred to as data reference year) is taken as at the end of the calendar year of reference. (31st December).

**Bed type** refers to the type of bed being used for nursing care in long-term care residential facilities.

**Unit** refers to the unit of measure applied, which in this case refers to a numerical count of the beds in residential long-term care facilities.

**Value** refers to the count of beds in residential long-term care facilities for the respective data reference year.

**Flag** indicates any particular caution or issues with the data worth of note for further data use. The following flags may be applied, along with their definition:

- **Flag M** indicates that the value is missing as it was not collected for that particular instance. This may be due to legal requirements, unavailability of data or data quality issues, among many reasons.
- **Flag B** indicates that the values from that data reference point onwards are not directly comparable with previous data points due to methodological issues which are explained in the coverage section below.
- **Flag E** indicates that the particular data point is based on an estimate and should be compares with other non-estimate data points with caution. Estimation methods applies are explained in the coverage section below.

- **Flag S** indicates that the particular data point has been supressed for confidentiality and/or quality purposes, such as; very small counts or very high variation. This should not be treated as a true zero. Whenever a value is a true zero, this has been indicated and not supressed.

*Coverage:*

Data refer to number of beds in facilities providing residential care for older people (HP.2), which are registered as "designated centres" as defined by the Health Act 2007 with the Health Information and Quality Authority (HIQA). All residential settings for older people in the Republic of Ireland are required by law to register with HIQA. Data refers to the registered capacity of a centre.

*Estimation:*

Not applicable.

*Breaks in series:*

Prior to data reference year 2009, figures include long-stay beds in long-stay geriatric homes, welfare homes and private nursing homes. From data reference year 2009 onwards, data also includes beds in district and community hospitals. Beds for limited stay (rehabilitation, convalescence, palliative and respite) were also included from 2009 onwards.

A break in series in data reference year 2010 occurred due to a change in source.

A break in series occurred from the data reference year 2014 onwards, due to the basis for counting capacity being changed in the Registration Regulations.

*Suppression:*

Not applicable.

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| **Period of time** | As at end of calendar year from 1987-2021. |