

# National Psychiatric In-Patient Reporting System (NPIRS) National Bulletin Ireland 2014

November 2015

*The Health Research Board (HRB) provides statistical reports and related database research on mental health service activity. Later this year, the Main Findings (Summary) report on in-patient activity from the National Psychiatric In-Patient Reporting System (NPIRS) for 2014 will be published. This bulletin presents a summary of national data for 2014. The NPIRS Team would like to thank services for providing quarterly returns – your cooperation has resulted in timelier reporting. We look forward to your continued support in the future.*

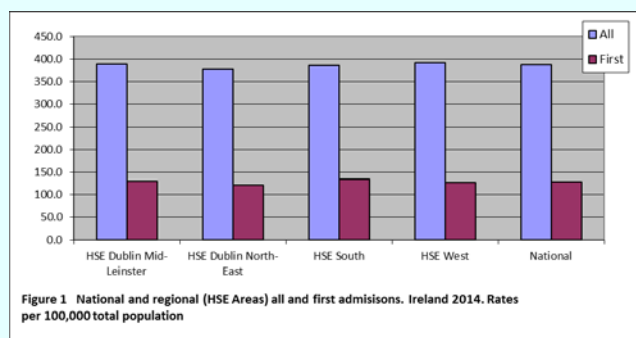
### Introduction

This bulletin is a synopsis of data from the National Psychiatric In-Patient Reporting System (NPIRS) for 2014. The rates reported below were calculated using the Census of Population 2011 (Central Statistics Office 2012) and all rates are per 100,000 total population.

### All and first admissions 2014 – national statistics

There were 17,797 admissions to Irish psychiatric units and hospitals in 2013, a rate of 387.9 per 100,000 population (Figure 1), a decrease of 660 admissions from 2013 (18,457) and a decrease in the rate of admissions from 2013 (402.3). First admissions decreased from 6,055 in 2013 to 5,942 in 2014. The rate of first admissions similarly decreased from 132.0 in 2013 to 129.5 per 100,000 in 2014.

Re-admissions declined from 12,402 in 2013 to 11,855 in 2014 and the proportion of admissions that were re-admissions remained the same at 67%. The rate of re-admissions decreased from 270.3 in 2013 to 258.4 per 100,000 in 2014.



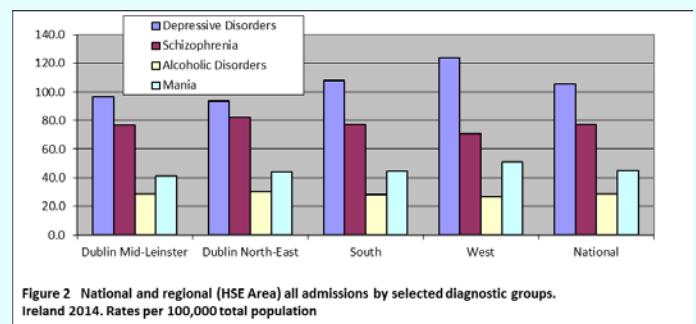
There was an equal proportion of male and female admissions with rates also being similar, at 388.7 for males and 387.1 for females. The 45–54 year age group had the highest rate of all admissions, at 570.4 per 100,000, followed by the 55–64 year age group, at 548.0, and the 20–24 year age group, at 544.0. The 18–19 year age group had the highest rate of first admissions, at 262.5 per 100,000.

Single persons accounted for over half of all (57%) and first (53%) admissions. Divorced persons had the highest rate of all (744.0) and first (206.2) admissions, while married persons had the lowest, at 267.3 for all admissions and 99.6 per 100,000 for first admissions.

The unskilled occupational group had the highest rate of all (670.0) and first (181.6) admissions. However, as 50% of occupations were returned as unknown or unspecified in 2014, making assignment to a socio-economic group impossible, caution should be exercised when interpreting data on socio-economic group.

Depressive disorders accounted for 27% of all and 29% of first admissions; schizophrenia accounted for 20% of all and 15% of first admissions; mania accounted for 12% of all and 7% of first admissions; and alcoholic disorders accounted for 7% of all and 8% of first admissions. Admissions for depressive disorders, schizophrenia, alcoholic disorders and mania accounted for 66% of all admissions.

Depressive disorders had the highest rate of all admissions, at 105.3 per 100,000, followed by schizophrenia, at 77.2, and mania, at 45.3 (Figure 2). Similarly, depressive disorders had the highest rate of first admissions, at 37.4 per 100,000, followed by schizophrenia, at 18.9, neuroses, at 15.0 and alcoholic disorders, at 10.4.



Twelve per cent of all and 13% of first admissions were involuntary. There was a marginal increase in the rate of involuntary all admissions, from 44.4 in 2013 to 45.0 per 100,000 in 2014.

There were 55 admissions of non-residents in 2014, and 253 admissions for persons with no fixed abode.

### National discharges and deaths

There were 17,643 discharges from, and 142 deaths in, Irish psychiatric units and hospitals in 2014. Males accounted for 62% of all deaths in 2014, and 80% of those who died were aged 65 years and over. Ninety-two per cent of all and 93% of first admissions in 2014 were discharged in 2014.

Almost one-third (30%) of all discharges in 2014 occurred within one week of admission, 18% occurred within two weeks of admission, 19% occurred within two to four weeks and 27% occurred within one to three months. Overall, 94% of all discharges in 2014 occurred within three months of admission and less than two per cent (239) of discharges occurred after one year or more in hospital.

Fifty-one per cent of discharges with a primary diagnosis of other drug disorders, 49.5% of discharges with personality disorders, and 41% with intellectual disability were discharged within one week of admission. Over 90% of all discharges for most disorders occurred within three months of admission, with the exception of organic mental disorder (76%) and intellectual disability (80.5%) and

development disorders (80.8%). The average length of stay for all discharges was 67.1 days (median 15 days). Discharges with a primary discharge diagnosis of intellectual disability had the longest average length of stay, at 1,162.6 days (median 10 days). When discharges with a length of stay of one year or more were excluded, the average length of stay was 26.3 days (median 14 days). Discharges with a diagnosis of organic mental disorders (excluding those with a length of stay of one year or more) had the longest average length of stay of all diagnoses, at 48.5 days (median 24 days).

### Health Service Executive (HSE) areas admissions and discharges

HSE West had the highest rate of all admissions, at 392.6 per 100,000, while HSE South had the highest rate of first admissions, at 134.0 (Figure 1). HSE West had the highest rate of re-admissions, at 265.1 per 100,000.

Females had higher rates of all admissions than males in Dublin Mid-Leinster, at 405.8, Dublin North-East, at 385.3, and HSE West, at 397.4, compared with 370.6 for males in Dublin Mid-Leinster, 371.8 in Dublin North-East and 387.8 in HSE West. In contrast, males had higher rates in HSE South, at 419.4 compared with 353.0 for females. Males had higher rates of first admissions in all HSE areas, with rates ranging from 161.5 in HSE South to 130.2 in Dublin North-East.

Age groups were condensed into two distinct groups, under 45 years and 45 years and over. The 45 years and over group had the highest rate of admissions in all HSE Areas, with rates ranging from 585.7 in Dublin Mid-Leinster to 489.4 in HSE South.

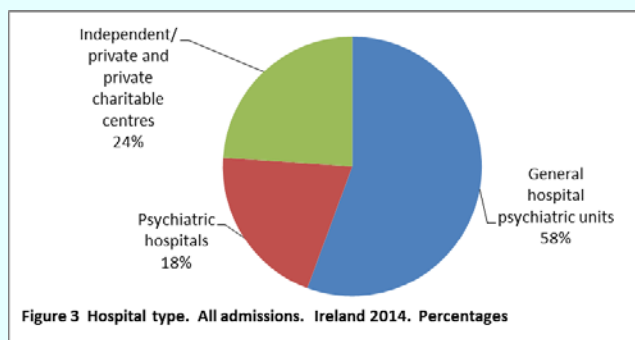
Depressive disorders had the highest rate of all and first admissions in all HSE areas, with rates for all admissions ranging from 124.0 in HSE West to 93.6 in Dublin North-East.

HSE West had the highest rate of involuntary all admissions, at 46.9 per 100,000, followed by HSE South, at 45.9, Dublin North-East, at 44.6, and Dublin Mid-Leinster, at 41.7 per 100,000.

Discharges for Dublin North-East had the longest average length of stay, at 85.8 days (median 15), followed by HSE South, at 82.1 days (median 15), Dublin Mid-Leinster, at 54.7 (median 17), and HSE West, at 50.3 (median 13). When discharges with a length of stay of one year or more were excluded, average length of stay was longest in Dublin Mid-Leinster, at 28.8 days (median 16), followed by Dublin North-East, at 26.3 (median 14 days), HSE South, at 26.2 (median 14), and HSE West, at 23.5 (median 13).

### Hospital type

Fifty-eight per cent of all and first admissions were to general hospital psychiatric units; 18% of all admissions were to public psychiatric hospitals/continuing care units and 24% were to independent/private and private charitable centres (Figure 3).



Involuntary admissions accounted for 19% of all admissions to psychiatric hospitals/continuing care units, 13% of admissions to

general hospital psychiatric units and 2% of admissions to independent/private and private charitable centres. When discharges of one year or more were excluded, independent/private and private charitable centres had the longest average length of stay, at 34.9 days (median 31 days), followed by psychiatric hospitals/continuing care units, at 27.5 days (median 11) and general hospital psychiatric units, at 22.4 days (median 11).

### Children and adolescents

There were 436 admissions for children and adolescents (under 18s) in 2014, an increase of 21 since 2013 (415). These include admissions to psychiatric units and hospitals who were under 18 years of age and also those who were admitted to specialised child and adolescent units. There were 332 first admissions, accounting for 76% of all admissions. Of the 436 admissions, 343 were to specialised child and adolescent services.

Females accounted for almost 67% of all and 65% of first admissions. Thirty-six per cent of all admissions for under 18s were aged 17 years on admission, 27% were aged 16 years, 19% were aged 15 years, 12% were aged 14 years, 4% were aged 13 years and 1% were aged 12 years or younger.

Depressive disorders accounted for 34% of all and 36% of first admissions for children and adolescents. Almost 14% of all admissions had a diagnosis of eating disorders, 12% had a diagnosis of neurosis and 8% had a diagnosis of schizophrenia.

Seventy-nine per cent of all admissions for under 18s to child and adolescent services were to specialised child and adolescent in-patient units, 19% were to general hospital psychiatric units, almost 3% were to psychiatric hospitals/continuing care units and there were no admissions to independent/private and private charitable centres.

Almost 84% of those admitted in 2014 were discharged in 2014. The average length of stay for under 18s who were admitted and discharged in 2014 was 48.7 days (median 37 days). The average length of stay was longest for child and adolescent units, at 61.0 days (median 49.5), followed by psychiatric hospitals/continuing care units, at 41.9 days (median 6 days) and by general hospital psychiatric units, at 8.7 (median 5 days).

### In-patient census 2014

There were 2,228 patients resident on 31 December 2014, a rate of 48.6 per 100,000. Fifty-five per cent of patients were male, 45% female. Thirty-five per cent were aged 65 years and over, 33% were aged 45–64 years, 26% were aged 25–44 years and 6% were aged 24 years or younger. Thirty-one per cent had a diagnosis of schizophrenia, 16% depressive disorders and 12% organic mental disorders.

### References

- Central Statistics Office (2012) Census of Population 2011, [www.cso.ie](http://www.cso.ie).
- Daly A and Walsh D (2015) *Activities of Irish Psychiatric Units and Hospitals 2014*. HRB Statistics Series 26. Dublin: Health Research Board.

### Contact details for queries regarding this bulletin or the NPIRS:

**Antoinette Daly**  
 t +353 1 2345 142  
 e [adaly@hrb.ie](mailto:adaly@hrb.ie)  
 w [www.hrb.ie](http://www.hrb.ie)

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