



23 July 2025

Email:

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

Request No: 40760-25
Subject: Ambulance/Paramedic injuries on duty last three years
Date Received: 28/05/2025

Thank you for your request for information received on 28th May 2025 which was dealt with under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Northern Ireland Ambulance Service (NIAS) Health and Social Care Trust has now completed its search for the information you requested and that is detailed below.

FOI QUESTION(S)	ANSWER(S)																																
1. The number of ambulance staff / paramedics who have been injured while on duty in the last three years. (Broken down by financial years 2022/23, 2023/24, 2024/25)	<p>The number of reported incidents whereby NIAS staff have been injured when at work is as follows:</p> <p>2022-23: 459 2023-24: 428 2024-25: 374</p>																																
1a) Broken down by injury causes (e.g. slip/trip/fall, road traffic incident, assault) (Broken down by same years as above).	<p>The table below shows the number of reported injuries by cause:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>2022/23</th> <th>2023/24</th> <th>2024/25</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Inappropriate/Aggressive Behaviour towards Staff by a Patient</td> <td>182</td> <td>200</td> <td>169</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lifting/Manual handling</td> <td>146</td> <td>130</td> <td>108</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Slip/Trip or Fall</td> <td>55</td> <td>35</td> <td>27</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Contact/Collision with Objects/Animals (not sharps)</td> <td>40</td> <td>31</td> <td>38</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Contact with Sharps</td> <td>20</td> <td>20</td> <td>11</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Inappropriate/Aggressive Behaviour towards Staff by a Visitor</td> <td>5</td> <td><5</td> <td>8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Other</td> <td><5</td> <td>5</td> <td>6</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	Inappropriate/Aggressive Behaviour towards Staff by a Patient	182	200	169	Lifting/Manual handling	146	130	108	Slip/Trip or Fall	55	35	27	Contact/Collision with Objects/Animals (not sharps)	40	31	38	Contact with Sharps	20	20	11	Inappropriate/Aggressive Behaviour towards Staff by a Visitor	5	<5	8	Other	<5	5	6
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1b) Broken down by injury severity (slight, serious, fatal) (Broken down by same years as above).	<p>The table below shows the number of injuries by reported severity:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>2022/23</th> <th>2023/24</th> <th>2024/25</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>MINOR: Short term injury/ minor harm, first aid</td> <td>420</td> <td>375</td> <td>32</td> </tr> <tr> <td>MODERATE: Semi-permanent harm, extended hospital stay</td> <td>7</td> <td>26</td> <td>2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>INSIGNIFICANT: Near miss, no injury or harm</td> <td>32</td> <td>27</td> <td>2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>MAJOR: Long term/ permanent harm, loss of service</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>CATASTROPHIC: Permanent harm/ disability, collapse of service, death</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	MINOR: Short term injury/ minor harm, first aid	420	375	32	MODERATE: Semi-permanent harm, extended hospital stay	7	26	2	INSIGNIFICANT: Near miss, no injury or harm	32	27	2	MAJOR: Long term/ permanent harm, loss of service	0	0		CATASTROPHIC: Permanent harm/ disability, collapse of service, death	0	0													
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The Trust has a duty to protect patient and staff confidentiality, in line with this duty the figure <5 has been provided where the figures are very low. This is because of the potential risk of identification of an individual. In reaching this decision the Trust has taken into account the specifics of the questions being asked and the small geographical area covered in this request. In addition the Trust has taken into account the fact that all information disclosed in response to an FOI is disclosed to the 'world at large' and will be published on the Trust website.

I hope the above fully assists you.

Please note that, under the Re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations, if you wish to publish or otherwise use this information besides for your own means, you will need to seek our permission to do so.

If you are dissatisfied in any way with the handling of your request, you have the right to request a review. You should do this as soon as possible, or in any case within two months of the date of issue of this letter.

In the event that you require a review to be undertaken, you can do so by writing to the Director of Planning, Performance and Corporate Services, Northern Ireland Ambulance Service (NIAS) HSC Trust, Site 30, Knockbracken Healthcare Park, Saintfield Road, Belfast, BT8 8SG.

If following an internal review, carried out by an independent decision maker, you remain dissatisfied in any way with the handling of the request, you may make a complaint under Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act, to the Information Commissioner's Office and ask that they investigate whether the Trust has complied with the terms of the Freedom of Information Act.

You can write to the Information Commissioner at:

Email: ni@ico.org.uk
Website: [ICO Website](http://ico.org.uk)
Post: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, CHESHIRE SK9 5AF
Telephone: 028 9027 8757 or 0303 123 1114 (Belfast based Office)

In most circumstances the Information Commissioner will not investigate a complaint unless an internal review procedure has been carried out. However the Commissioner has the option to investigate the matter at his discretion.

Please be advised that NIAS replies under Freedom of Information may be released into the public domain via our website @ <https://nias.hscni.net> Personal details in respect of your request will have, where applicable, been removed to protect confidentiality.

Yours sincerely

(not signed – issued by email)

Information Governance Team

This response has been prepared for disclosure log publication. Only minor editorial or redaction amendments have been made for clarity and compliance with data protection legislation. The substantive content is identical to that provided to the requestor and the original issued version remains the authoritative record.