

28 May 2025

Emergency Department Imaging Figures

I am writing under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to request information relating to the number of patients referred for X-Ray and/or MRI scans from your Accident and Emergency (A&E) department, broken down by year, for the past four calendar years (2021, 2022, 2023, 2024) up to and including 03 May 2025:

The number of patients who presented at A&E and were:

- **Referred for X-Ray only**
- **Referred for MRI scan**

Please find attached response from Belfast Health and Social Care Trust in relation to the above Freedom of Information request.

28 May 2025

Number of patients referred for X-Ray and/or MRI scans from BHSCT Emergency Departments to BHSCT Imaging Service, calendar years 2021,2022,2023 & 2024, up to and including 03 May 2025.

	TOTAL (Patients)	MRI & X-Ray (Patients)	MRI only (Patients)	X-Ray only (Patients)	Causes/Reason for Referral
2021	50840	405	479	49956	It is unfortunatly not possible to run an electronic query to identify the reason as to why patients were referred, this information is contained within the clinical information provided on the request form by the referring clinician at the time of making the Imaging Request. It would take a considerable amount of time to identify Referral reason and would require a manual trawl of all referrals. We estimate that compliance with this (element of the) request for information would exceed the appropriate costs limit. Under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the limit has been specified as £450 and represents the estimated cost of one or more persons spending 18 hours in determining whether we hold the information, locating, retrieving and extracting this information.
2022	54759	543	713	53504	
2023	56025	641	723	54661	
2024	56566	749	825	54992	
2025 (< 03 May 25)	21660	244	410	21006	