

Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) Workforce in Scotland

AS AT 30 JUNE 2026

An Official statistics publication. Publication date: 1 September 2026.

About this release

This release by Public Services Delivery Scotland provides a quarterly update, as at 30 June 2026, on the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) workforce staff in post, vacancies and staff in training.

Figures are presented as headcount (actual numbers of staff) and whole time equivalent (WTE), which adjusts the figures to take account of part-time working.

Main points

At 30 June 2026:

- ▶ There were 1511.8 WTE (1722 Headcount) staff in post within NHS Scotland CAMHS, an increase of 54.9% since last decade, an increase of 0.1% since last year, and a increase of 0.4% since last quarterly census. This is an increase of 2.0% within the Psychology professional group, a decrease of 0.3% in the Nursing professional group and a decrease of 6.2% in the Medical professional group since last year. Of the total staff in post, 56.6 WTE (3.7%) were on maternity/paternity leave, and 34.7 WTE (2.3%) were on long term sick leave.
- ▶ There were 68.3% members of staff working in whole-time posts and 31.7% working in part-time posts, a decrease of 0.5% in whole-time posts, and increase of 1.2% in part-time posts since last year census. Within the Medical professional group, more than half (54.7%) of the workforce worked part-time, compared to 43.6% in the Psychology professional group and 19.0% in the Nursing professional group.
- ▶ There were 72.6 WTE vacancies advertised which is an increase of 18.8% vacancies since last year. 43.5% of vacancies were in the Psychology professional group, 30.3% of vacancies were in the Nursing professional group, and 10.3% were in the Medical professional group.
- ▶ Of the total vacancies advertised, 70.2% were advertised for less than 3 months, 18.0% were advertised for 3-6 months, and 11.7% were advertised for more than 6 months.
- ▶ There were 37.7 WTE vacancies approved for recruitment but not yet advertised and 27.7 WTE vacancies were sent for approval but were not yet approved.
- ▶ Of the total 72.6 WTE vacancies advertised, 75.3% were advertised as replacement posts, 19.7% were advertised as new posts, and 5.0% were advertised as maternity/paternity cover. The total vacancy rate of 4.6% has increased compared to 4.5% for the last quarterly census and increased compared to 4.0% for last year census.

CAMHS Workforce census data – 30 June 2026



Total staff in post

1,511.8 Whole-time equivalent staff (WTE)
(1,722 headcount)

+ 54.9 %
Increase

since
last decade

+ 0.1 %
Increase

since
last year

+ 0.4 %
Increase

since last
quarterly census



3.7 %
Maternity /
paternity leave



2.3 %
Long term
sick leave



Work pattern

68.3 %
Whole-time posts (WTE)

0.5 % | Decrease since
last year census

31.7 %
Part-time Posts (WTE)

1.2 % | Increase since
last year census



Vacancies

72.6 Whole-time
equivalent
vacancies

+ 18.8 % since
last year
Increase

19.7 %
advertised
as new posts

75.3 %
advertised as
replacement posts

5.0 %
advertised as
maternity /
paternity cover

4.6 %
Vacancy rate



Compared to **4.5%** at last
quarterly census



Compared to **4.0%** for last
year's census

Background

Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) provide essential assessment, care and treatment of children and young people (and their parents/carers) who are experiencing serious mental health problems. They also have an important role in supporting the mental health capability of the wider network of children's services. The delivery of good quality CAMHS services depends upon adequate numbers of staff being recruited and retained across NHS Scotland.

Information on members of staff employed are sourced from each NHS Health board and verified by CAMHS lead clinicians using the National CAMHS Workforce Information Database held centrally at PSDS. Public Services Delivery Scotland work closely with these clinicians to ensure a high level of accuracy. Continuous work is undertaken to improve the data quality and consistency of the information provided. Previously published information may change to reflect any improvements. Further information is available on [Turas Data Intelligence](https://turasdata.nes.nhs.scot/data-and-reports/) (turasdata.nes.nhs.scot/data-and-reports/ official-workforce-statistics).

PSD Scotland CAMHS Workforce data are part of the UK CAMHS and Mental Health Services Benchmarking network and are included in the work published in:

[NHS Benchmarking Network](https://www.nhsbenchmarking.nhs.uk)

www.nhsbenchmarking.nhs.uk

[Children and Young People's Mental Health – Workforce Benchmarking](https://www.wfbenchmarking.nhs.uk/children-and-young-peoples-mental-health)

www.wfbenchmarking.nhs.uk/children-and-young-peoples-mental-health

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Further Information

As of 1 April 2026, NSS and NES merged to become Public Services Delivery Scotland with ownership and responsibility for collecting and reporting workforce data.

As of 1 October 2019, ownership and responsibility for collecting and reporting workforce data transferred from Information Services Division (ISD) to NES.

The data from this publication are available to [download](#) from our web page and available as [dashboards](#). Publications prior to 3 December 2019 can be accessed via the ISD CAMHS [page](#). CAMHS Psychology Workforce information is also included in the [main Psychology Workforce publication](#).

The next release of this publication will be in December 2026.

PSD and Official Statistics

Public Services Delivery (PSD) is NHSScotland's education and training body. It is the authoritative source of information on the people who work for NHSScotland. NES became an accredited provider of Official Statistics in December 2019 and as such this release is produced in accordance with UK Statistics Authority's, [Code of Practice for Statistics](#).