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## About this release

This release by NHS Education for Scotland (NES) provides a quarterly update, as at 30 September 2023. This includes the number of staff directly employed by NHSScotland and the number of vacant posts there were for nursing and midwifery staff, allied health professions, and medical and dental consultants. When describing the size of a particular staff group figures are presented either as headcount (actual number of staff) or whole time equivalent (WTE) which adjusts the headcount to take account of part time working.

## Key Workforce Figures



**158,375.2** | Number of Staff employed  
by NHSScotland (183,858 HC)

**+1.4%**  
Quarter  
change

**+1.6%**  
Annual  
change

**+13.3%**  
5 Years  
change

**+18.0%**  
10 Years  
change

## MEDICAL AND DENTAL

KEY FIGURES



**5,961.7** | NUMBER OF CONSULTANTS  
EXCLUDING DIRECTORS (WTE)

▲ 1.0% INCREASE OVER THE LAST YEAR.

**38 years** | MEDICAL AND  
DENTAL MEDIAN AGE

**439.1** | NUMBER OF  
VACANCIES (WTE)

## NURSING AND MIDWIFERY

KEY FIGURES



**65,269.8** | NUMBER OF STAFF  
(WTE)

▲ 1.6% INCREASE OVER THE LAST YEAR.

**43 years** | NURSING AND  
MIDWIFERY MEDIAN AGE

**5,447.4** | NUMBER OF  
VACANCIES (WTE)

## ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONS

KEY FIGURES



**13,835.8** | NUMBER OF STAFF (WTE)

▲ 5.2% INCREASE OVER THE LAST YEAR.

**41 years** | ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONS MEDIAN AGE

**934.0** | NUMBER OF VACANCIES (WTE)

## ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE

KEY FIGURES



**29,789.8** | NUMBER OF STAFF (WTE)

▲ 1.2% INCREASE OVER THE LAST YEAR.

**48 years** | ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE MEDIAN AGE



## PHARMACY WORKFORCE

**4,150.7** | **Number of Staff**  
(4,762 HC)



**44.3%** | **Qualified Pharmacists**  
(1,838.7 WTE)



**10.2%** | **Vacancy Rate**  
(471.3 WTE)

## Background

Information on staff directly employed is sourced from each NHS Board's human resources and payroll systems. These are dynamic, operational systems and data can change over time. Work is undertaken with NHS Boards to improve data quality and previously published information may change from one publication to the next to reflect these improvements.

More information is available on [Turas Data Intelligence](#).

## Contact

**LINDSEY MATHIESON**

**Information Analyst Business Partner**

[lindsey.mathieson@nhs.scot](mailto:lindsey.mathieson@nhs.scot)

**PETER WARD**

**Senior Specialist Information Analyst**

[peter.ward@nhs.scot](mailto:peter.ward@nhs.scot)

**BEN TAIT**

**Specialist Data and Information Analyst**

[ben.tait@nhs.scot](mailto:ben.tait@nhs.scot)

**e-mail:** [Datagroup@nes.scot.nhs.uk](mailto:Datagroup@nes.scot.nhs.uk)

## NHS Performs

A selection of information from this publication is included in NHS Performs.

NHS Performs is a website that brings together a range of information on how hospitals and NHS Boards within NHSScotland are performing.

## NES and Official Statistics

NHS Education for Scotland (NES) 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.