

An Official statistics publication. Publication date: 6 September 2022

About this release

This release by NHS Education for Scotland (NES) provides a quarterly update, as at 30 June 2022, on NHSScotland Psychology Services workforce staff in post and vacant posts.

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

Main Points

At 30 June 2022:

- There were a total of 1478.3 WTE (1770 headcount) clinical staff in post. This is 10.6% (142.1 WTE) higher than reported 12 months previously. Since the last quarterly census, the WTE of staff in post has increased by 3.3% (47.2 WTE).
- The WTE of All Applied Psychologists has risen by 4.2% (37.3 WTE) since June 2021, from 894.6 WTE to 931.9 WTE, but fallen by 0.5% (-5.1 WTE) since March 2022, from 937.0 WTE. The WTE of Other Clinical Staff has risen by 23.7% (104.7 WTE) since June 2021, from 441.6 WTE to 546.3 WTE. Since March 2022, this figure has risen by 10.5% (52.1 WTE), from 494.2 WTE.
- Female staff comprise 85.4% (1512 headcount) of the workforce. While more female staff work part-time than male staff (52.9% compared to 34.1%), there has been a recent increase in whole-time working patterns among female staff. As at 30 June 2022, 712 headcount (47.1%) female staff worked whole-time; this is a 17.1% increase from 608 headcount (44.3%) in June 2021, and a 7.1% increase from 665 headcount (45.4%) in March 2022.
- There were a total of 217.5 vacant posts. This is 16.4% (30.7 WTE) higher than twelve months previously, but 17.9% (47.4 WTE) lower than March 2022. Of these vacancies, 51.1% (111.1 WTE) had been advertised for less than three months, 31.2% (67.9 WTE) for three to six months and 17.7% (38.5 WTE) for longer than six months. The vacancy rate was 12.8%, compared to 12.3% at 30 June 2021 and 15.6% at 31 March 2022.

Psychology Workforce census data - 30 June 2022



**CLINICAL STAFF
IN POST**

1,770
Headcount

1,478.3
Whole Time Equivalent

+ 10.6%
Increase

over
previous 12 months
(+142.1 WTE)

+ 3.3%
Increase

since
last quarterly census
(+47.2 WTE)



**APPLIED
PSYCHOLOGISTS**

WTE of All Applied
Psychologists has risen by

▲ 4.2%
(37.3 WTE)

Since June 2021

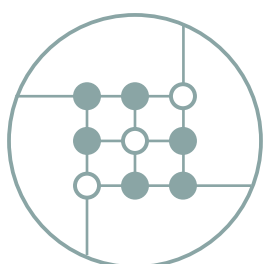
from 894.6 WTE to 931.9 WTE

WTE of All Applied
Psychologists has fallen by

▼ 0.5%
(-5.1 WTE)

Since March 2022

down from 937.0 WTE



VACANCIES

217.5 Vacant posts as at 30 June 2022

51.1%
(111.1 WTE)

Were advertised for
less than 3 months

31.2%
(67.9 WTE)

Were advertised for
3-6 months

17.7%
(38.5 WTE)

Were advertised for
longer than 6 months

12.8%
Vacancy Rate

→ Compared to **12.3%** at
30 June 2021

→ Compared to **15.6%** at
31 March 2022

Background

The Scottish Government 10 year Mental Health Strategy 2017-2027 was published in March 2017 (<http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2017/03/1750>). The strategy highlights the need to increase the supply of the workforce and to ensure the skill mix across a wide range of services meets the needs of the population.

Contact

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Further Information

As of 1st October 2019, NHS Education for Scotland (NES) has taken responsibility for some national workforce data, statistical & intelligence functions. A joint [letter](#) [346Kb] by the Chief Executives of NSS and NES, dated 23rd August 2019, details the rationale for the changes and arrangements for the transfer of these functions. Full data are available to download as [Excel Tables](#) or to view in the [Psychology Dashboard](#).

Publications prior to 3 December 2019 can be accessed via the ISD Workforce publications [page](#).

For related topics, please see the ISD [Mental Health](#) pages.

The next release of this publication will be in December 2022..

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](#).