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About this release

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

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

As at 30 September 2022:

- There were a total of 1478.0 WTE (1778 headcount) clinical staff in post. This is 10.8% (144.6 WTE) higher than reported 12 months previously. Since the last quarterly census, the WTE of staff in post has decreased very slightly, by -0.3 WTE.
- Female staff comprise the majority of the NHSScotland Psychology Services workforce: 85.4% (1519 headcount) compared to 14.6% (259 headcount) male staff. While the headcount of whole-time female staff has increased by 16.7% (100 headcount) since 30 September 2021, these figures have fallen by -1.7% (-12 headcount) since the previous quarter. The headcount of part-time female staff continues to increase: by 6% (46 headcount) since 30 September 2021 and 2.4% (19 headcount) since 30 June 2022.
- There were 210.6 WTE advertised vacancies, which is 7.1% (13.9 WTE) higher than 30 September 2021 and -3.2% (-6.9 WTE) lower than 30 June 2022. Of these vacancies, 54.6% (114.9 WTE) had been advertised for less than three months, 28.3% (59.6 WTE) for three to six months and 17.1% (36.1 WTE) for longer than six months. The vacancy rate was 12.5%, compared to 12.8% at 30 June 2022 and 12.9% at 30 September 2021.
- In 2022, 47 students graduated from the Doctorate in Clinical Psychology, 30 from the University of Edinburgh course and 17 from the course at the University of Glasgow. The probabilities of completing these courses within five years of starting are 0.95 and 0.96 respectively.

Psychology Workforce census data - 30 September 2022



CLINICAL STAFF IN POST

1,778.0
Headcount

1,478.0
Whole Time Equivalent

+ 10.8%
Increase

over previous 12 months
(+144.6 WTE)

- 0.3 WTE
Decrease

since last
quarterly census



DOCTORATE IN CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY

47 Students

graduated from the Doctorate
in Clinical Psychology

30 Students

from the University of Edinburgh course

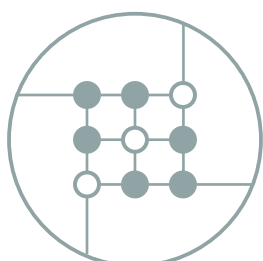
17 Students

from the University of Glasgow course

The probabilities of completing these courses within five years of starting:

95% from the University
of Edinburgh course

96% from the University
of Glasgow course



VACANCIES

210.6 Vacant posts
as at 30 September 2022

54.6%
(114.9 WTE)

Were advertised for
less than 3 months

28.3%
(59.6 WTE)

Were advertised
for 3-6 months

17.1%
(36.1 WTE)

Were advertised for
longer than 6 months

12.5%
Vacancy Rate

→ Compared to **12.8%**
at 30 June 2022

→ Compared to **12.9%**
at 30 September 2021

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

LIZ JAMIESON,
Workforce Information Manager,
NHS Education for Scotland (NES)

ANITA GEORGE,
Information Analyst Business Partner,
NHS Education for Scotland (NES)

E-MAIL: datagroup@nes.scot.nhs.uk

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 March 2023.

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](#).