

An Official statistics publication. Publication date: 1 December 2020

About this release

This release by NHS Education for Scotland (NES) provides a quarterly update, as at 30 September 2020. 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



146,630.9 | Number of Staff employed by NHSScotland (170,579 HC)

-0.5%
Quarter
change

+3.7%
Annual
change

+6.5%
5 Years
change

+8.6%
10 Years
change

MEDICAL AND DENTAL

KEY FIGURES



5,587.4 | NUMBER OF CONSULTANTS (WTE)

▲ 1.1% INCREASE OVER THE LAST QUARTER.

38 years | MEDICAL AND DENTAL MEDIAN AGE

377.4 | NUMBER OF VACANCIES (WTE)

NURSING AND MIDWIFERY

KEY FIGURES



61,775.0 | NUMBER OF STAFF (WTE)

▼ 2.2% DECREASE OVER THE LAST QUARTER.

45 years | NURSING AND MIDWIFERY MEDIAN AGE

3,293.5 | NUMBER OF VACANCIES (WTE)

ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONS

KEY FIGURES



12,227.8 | NUMBER OF STAFF (WTE)

▲ 0.3% INCREASE OVER THE LAST QUARTER.

42 years | ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONS MEDIAN AGE

549.3 | NUMBER OF VACANCIES (WTE)

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE

KEY FIGURES



26,505.3 | NUMBER OF STAFF (WTE)

▲ 0.9% INCREASE OVER THE LAST QUARTER.

49 years | ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE MEDIAN AGE



PHARMACY WORKFORCE

3,458.7

Number of Staff
(3,985 HC)



50.2%

Qualified Pharmacists
(1,735.2 WTE)



7.8%

Vacancy Rate
(291.2 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.

During the initial response to the COVID-19 pandemic Nursing students in their second or third year were added to the NHS Scotland Workforce. The majority of the second year Nursing students returned to their normal studies at the end of August leading to a drop in the number of staff in post shown here.

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

Contact

MORAG MACPHERSON

Specialist Data and Information Analyst

morag.macpherson@nes.scot.nhs.uk

PETER WARD

Senior Specialist Information Analyst

peter.ward@nes.scot.nhs.uk

BEN TAIT

Specialist Data and Information Analyst

ben.tait@nes.scot.nhs.uk

e-mail: 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.