


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

## Quarter ending 30 September 2019

Publication date: 3 December 2019

### About this release

This publication is produced by NHS Education for Scotland (NES) and presents information on the Child & Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) workforce staff in post and staff vacancies as at 30 September 2019.

As of 1<sup>st</sup> 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 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2019, details the rationale for the changes and arrangements for the transfer of these functions.

NES anticipates becoming an accredited provider of Official Statistics in December 2019. For the current publication NES has voluntarily applied the UK Statistics Authority's [Code of Practice for Statistics](#).

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 September 2019:

- The staff in posts within CAMHS services was 1,043.0 WTE, an increase of 59.5% since 30 September 2006 census and 49.5 WTE (5.0%) compared to 30 March 2016 census. There was an increase of 12.7 WTE (1.2%) since 30 September 2018.
- The total WTE of staff in post comprised of 67.9% of staff in Whole Time posts and 31.9% in Part Time posts. The staff in posts increased by 1.6% WTE in Whole Time posts and decreased by 0.1% WTE in Part Time posts compared to last year census. The staff in posts increased by 8.3% WTE in Whole Time posts and increased by 63.3% WTE in Part Time posts since March 2011 census.
- Nursing WTE has decreased by 4.5 WTE (1.0%) in the last quarter, but there has been an overall increase of 2.7 WTE (0.6%) since September 2018. Psychology WTE has increased by 17.9 WTE (7.0%) since September 2018, but decreased 12.7 WTE (4.4%) in the last quarter, June 2019 census.
- There were 110.1 WTE vacancies reported as advertised, a vacancy rate of 9.5%. 54.5% of all vacancies advertised were for replacement posts and 41.9% were for newly created posts. This is due to the uncertainties about continuation of some Scottish Government funding beyond March 2020 which may be impacting on the recruitment process and resulted in a large number of vacancies being seen as at 30 September 2019.

**Figure 1: Trend illustrating Whole Time Equivalent of CAMHS staff in NHS Scotland from 30 September 2006 to 30 September 2019.**



## 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 NHSScotland.

## Contact

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## Further Information

Find out more in the [full report](#), which also includes background information and a glossary. The [data](#) from this publication are available to download from our web page.

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

The next release of this publication will be 3 March 2020.