

General Practice

GP workforce and practice list sizes 2006 - 2016

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About this release

This report from the Information Service Division presents information on the General Practitioner (GP) workforce contracted to work in Scottish practices in the years 2006 to 2016. This report also provides information about the number of GP practices and profile of patients registered.

Main Points

- The number of women GPs has continued to rise; 59% of GPs were female at September 2016.
- Around one third of all GPs are aged 50 and over.
- The number of GPs in Scotland has remained at around 4,900 since 2008.
- The number of patients registered with GP practices continues to rise slowly year on year and has increased by 5% since 2006.
- The number of patients aged 65+ has increased by 19% since 2006.
- The average practice list size increased by 12% between 2006 and 2016, while the number of practices decreased by 6%.

Background

This publication presents data on the General Practitioner (GP) workforce contracted to work in Scottish practices in the years 2006 to 2016. Data is broken down at NHS Board and Local Authority level, by age, gender and [designation](#). The GP headcounts in this report do not include GPs who work only as locums (also known as sessional GPs) and those working purely in Out of Hours services.

Note that GP workforce information is only available as a headcount. An estimate of the whole time equivalent GPs for 2015 can be found in the [National Primary Care Workforce Survey 2015](#).

For workforce information on all medical staff employed directly by the NHS, please see the NHS Scotland Workforce Publications <http://www.isdscotland.org/Health-Topics/Workforce/Publications/>.

Information is also presented on the number of patients registered with GP practices between 2006 and 2016, broken down at NHS Board and Local Authority level, by age group and practice type. There are three types of General Practice contract in Scotland: “GMS/17J” practices (GP run with nationally negotiated contract), “17C” practices (GP run with a locally negotiated agreement with the NHS Board) and “2C” practices (NHS Board).

Contact

David Scott
Principal Information Analyst
0131 275 6258

Claire Howitt
Senior Information Analyst
0131 275 6203

Email: nss.isdgeneralpractice@nhs.net

Further Information

The data from this publication is available to download [from our web page](#) where a [glossary](#) can also be found.

For more information on General Practice see the [General Practice section of our website](#).

The next release of this publication will be in December 2017.

ISD and Official Statistics

Information Services Division (ISD) is the principal and authoritative source of statistics on health and care services in Scotland. ISD is designated by legislation as a producer of ‘Official Statistics’. Our official statistics publications are produced to a high professional standard and comply with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics. [Further information about our statistics](#).