Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) Workforce in Scotland
Quarter ending 31 March 2019
A National Statistics publication for Scotland
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About this release
This publication is produced by Information Services Division (ISD) in collaboration with NHS Education for Scotland (NES). It presents information on the Child & Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) workforce staff in post and staff vacancies as at 31 March 2019.

From 4 June 2019, the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) in Scotland: Waiting Times, Service Demand, and Workforce publication will no longer be released as one joint report. Instead, it will be published as two separate reports – CAMHS Waiting Times and Inpatient Activity (published by NHS Information Services Division) and CAMHS Workforce in Scotland (produced by NHS Education for Scotland (NES)).

As of 1 April 2019, ownership and responsibility for collecting workforce data and producing national statistics transferred from ISD to NHS Education for Scotland (NES), ahead of the creation of a new health body, Public Health Scotland (PHS). The publications will be co-produced by ISD and NHS Education for Scotland until 30th September 2019, with full responsibility for the publication production passing to NHS Education for Scotland from 1st October 2019.

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 31 March 2019:

- The WTE of staff in posts within CAMHS services was 1,050.2 WTE, an increase of 35.9 WTE (3.5%) compared to 31 March 2018. This includes a 6.6 WTE (0.6%) increase in the last quarter, since December 2018 (see Figure 1, below).

- The majority of this increase in staff over the last year has been within Nursing and Psychology staff. Although Nursing WTE has decreased by 11.4 (2.6%) in the last quarter, there has been an overall increase of 16.8 WTE (4.0%) in the past year since March 2018. Psychology WTE has increased by 20.2 (7.7%) since March 2018, including an increase of 12.2 (4.5%) in the last quarter.

- There were 89.7 WTE vacancies reported at March 2019, a vacancy rate of 7.9%. This compares with an average vacancy rate of 5.0% for March census dates since this data collection began. The percentage of vacancies accounted for by new posts increased in the last quarter from 18.4% in December 2018 to 34.6% in March 2019.
At 31 March 2019, 38.8 WTE (3.7%) of the 1050.2 WTE total staff in post were on maternity leave and 12.0 WTE (1.1%) on long term sick leave.

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.

CAMHS Psychology Workforce information is also included in the main Psychology Workforce publication. For related topics, please see the Mental Health pages.

The next release of this publication will be September 2019.