

Publication Summary



Psychology Services Workforce in NHSScotland

Workforce Information as at 30th September 2013

26th November 2013



About this Release

This release presents data on staff in post in NHSScotland Psychology Services as at 30th September 2013. Data are available at NHS Board and Scotland level for numbers of staff (headcount) and whole time equivalents (wte) to take account of part-time staff. The data presented includes information on staff in post, skill mix, vacancies and trainees. It also includes information on the age of clients seen and area of work.

Key Points

- In total there were 800 (670.3wte) Clinical and Other Applied Psychologists employed in NHSScotland as at 30th September 2013. This is an increase in headcount of 3.9% (+30 hc) which equates to 3.9% wte (+25.3wte) since 30th September 2012. This staff group includes Clinical Psychologists, Forensic Psychologists, Counselling Psychologists and Health Psychologists.
- This represents a national staffing level of 12.6 wte Applied Psychologists per 100,000 of the population of Scotland.
- Mental Health is the principal area of work for staff in post, employing 349.1 wte Clinical and Other Applied Psychologists.
- At 30th September 2013 there were 71.0 wte vacancy posts advertised and filled, with the majority of staff due to be in post from October 2013.
- Psychology services employ a skill-mix of other clinical staff including masters level graduates in Psychological Therapies in Primary Care (56wte), masters level graduates in Applied Psychology of Children & Young People (30wte), Assistant Psychologists (59wte), and Cognitive Behavioural Therapists (38wte), and Counsellors (27wte).

Background

There is a strong evidence base for the effectiveness of psychological interventions in delivering positive health change for a wide range of clinical conditions. Healthcare policy in Scotland has endorsed a shift towards a greater emphasis on psychologically based approaches. These offer a scientific basis for understanding, and practical skills for influencing, how people think, feel and behave, with specific reference to physical health and mental well being.

This release is collaboration between NHS Education for Scotland (NES) and the Information Services Division (ISD). NES has responsibility for the pre-registration training of Clinical Psychologists for NHSScotland which is the main source of psychology workforce supply. NES also has responsibility for commissioning two masters level training courses aimed at enhancing the skill mix; MSc Psychological Therapy in Primary Care and MSc Applied Psychology in Children and Young People.

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Further Information

For further information, including the [full publication report](#), please see: [Psychology Workforce Planning Project](#)

For further information on training programmes within applied psychology in NHS Scotland please see: [NHS Education for Scotland Psychology Education and Training](#)

About ISD

Scotland has some of the best health service data in the world combining high quality, consistency, national coverage and the ability to link data to allow patient based analysis and follow up.

Information Services Division (ISD) is a business operating unit of NHS National Services Scotland - and has been in existence for over 40 years. We are an essential support service to NHSScotland and the Scottish Government Health Department and others, responsive to the needs of NHSScotland as the delivery of health and social care evolves.

About NES

NES are a Special Health Board, responsible for supporting NHS services delivered to the people of Scotland by developing and delivering education and training for those who work in NHSScotland.

NES helps to provide better patient care by providing educational solutions for workforce development. This is done by designing, commissioning, quality assuring and where appropriate providing education for NHSScotland staff.

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. The Code of Practice is produced and monitored by the UK Statistics Authority which is independent of Government. Under the Code of Practice, the format, content and timing of statistics publications are the responsibility of professional staff working within ISD.

Further information on ISD's statistics, including compliance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics, and on the UK Statistics Authority, is available on the [ISD website](http://www.isdscotland.org/About-ISD/About-Our-Statistics/). www.isdscotland.org/About-ISD/About-Our-Statistics/