About this Release
This release forms part of the quarterly workforce publication cycle, and includes information on staff in post across all NHS staff groups, staff turnover and vacancy information for nursing and midwifery, allied health professions and consultants as at 31 December 2014.

Key points
- The total number of NHSScotland staff in post was 137,511.9 whole time equivalent (WTE) and 160,524 headcount at 31 December 2014. This is an increase of 1.8% and 1.5% respectively since 31 December 2013.
- The largest group in the workforce continues to be nursing and midwifery, which accounted for 42.9% of all staff with 59,003.8 WTE at 31 December 2014.
- The number of consultants in post (including Directors of Public Health) recorded has seen an annual increase of 6.4% (294.8 WTE) to 4,900.6 WTE at 31 December 2014. This is partly due to more complete recording of data as boards move to a new national HR system.
- The total number of combined nursing and midwifery vacancies has decreased by 65.3 WTE since the last quarter to 2,088.3 WTE. However, the number of midwifery vacancies has increased by 29.8 WTE to 100.0 WTE.
- There are 395.6 WTE consultant vacancies, 163.7 WTE have been vacant for more than six months, an increase of 44.9% (50.7 WTE) since September 2014.
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