

# Publication Summary



## NHSScotland Workforce Information

Quarterly update of Staff in Post, Vacancies  
and Turnover at 31 March 2015

**Publication date – 2 June 2015**



### 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 March 2015. It also includes agency and bank use for nursing and midwifery staff for the year ending 31 March 2015 and staff governance information on sickness absence and equality and diversity.

### Key points

- At 31 March 2015, NHSScotland had a headcount of 160,746 staff, equivalent to 137,603.5 whole time staff (WTE). These are increases of 1.5% and 1.2% respectively since 31 March 2014.
- Of the overall increase in staff of 1,977.8WTE between March 2014 and March 2015, the biggest increase was seen in nursing and midwifery (1,001.8 WTE)
- The number of consultants in post saw an annual increase of 4.8% (224.8 WTE) to 4,918.4 WTE at 31 March 2015. This was partly due to more complete recording of data, as boards moved to a new national HR system.
- The total number of combined nursing and midwifery vacancies increased by 354.3 WTE from March 2014 to 1,991.8 WTE, a rate of 3.3%<sup>R</sup>.
- At 31 March 2015, 7.7% (407.6 WTE) of consultant posts were vacant, an increase from the rate of 6.5% at March 2014. Of these, 147.7 WTE were vacant for more than six months, an increase of 68.5 WTE on March 2014.
- The use of agency nursing and midwifery staff increased by 53.4% over the past year. Agency staff provided cover equivalent to 191 whole time staff at a cost of £16m, compared to 124 whole time staff (£9.3m) the year before. Bank nurse usage increased over the same period from 3,933 WTE to 4,256 WTE.

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## Further Information

Further information can be found in the [Full Publication Report](#) or on the [ISD website](#)

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