

## Publication Summary



# Psychology Services Workforce in NHSScotland

Workforce Information at 30 June 2015

25 August 2015



## About this Release

This quarterly publication is collaboration between ISD and NHS Education for Scotland (NES) and presents Psychology Services workforce information on staff in post, skill mix, vacancies and trainees. It also includes information on the age of clients seen and area of work.

This report presents information on 'headcount' which is the actual number of staff employed and Whole Time Equivalents (WTEs). WTEs is a calculation that takes account of part-time staff, for example, two part time staff each working 'half time' are working hours equivalent to one full time member of staff ie 1.0 WTE.

The group 'Clinical Psychologists' is composed of staff whose professional group is Clinical Psychology. This is the largest staff group within Psychology Services. 'Other Applied Psychologists' comprises staff from Counselling Psychology, Health Psychology, Forensic Psychology and Neuropsychology. 'All Applied Psychologists' refers to the total of Clinical Psychologists plus Other Applied Psychologists.

## Key Points

- The total number of clinical staff employed in Psychology Services continues to rise, with 1273 staff (1073.4 WTE) including 900 (753.6 WTE) Clinical and Other Applied Psychologists in post at 30 June 2015.
- There has been a significant increase in Clinical and Other Applied Psychologists employed in Psychology Services workforce over the last 12 years, increasing from 371.0 WTE (426 headcount) in 2003 to 753.6 WTE (900 headcount) at 30 June 2015.
- This total of 753.6 WTE (900 headcount) equates to 695.1 WTE (832 headcount) Clinical Psychologists plus 58.5 WTE (68 headcount) Other Applied Psychologists. This represents a staffing level of 14.1 WTE Applied Psychologists per 100,000 of the population of Scotland.

- The total of 1273 staff also includes Graduates of the MSc in Psychological Therapies in Primary Care (66.4 WTE), Graduates of the MSc in the Applied Psychology of Children and Young People (43.5 WTE), Cognitive Behavioural Therapists (54.5 WTE), Counsellors (25.3 WTE), other therapists (15.2 WTE), and other clinical staff (27.4 WTE).
- An additional 65.7 WTE posts were in the process of being advertised and filled at 30 June 2015. A further 10.1 WTE posts were approved for recruitment but not yet advertised.

## 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.

NHS Education for Scotland (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

Further information can be found in the [Full Publication Report](#)

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.

### 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/](http://www.isdscotland.org/About-ISD/About-Our-Statistics/)