

## Publication Summary



# Psychology Services Workforce in NHSScotland

Workforce Information at 31 December 2015

23 February 2016



## About this Release

This quarterly publication is collaboration between Information Services Division 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 specialism within Psychology Services.

This report presents information on headcount, which is the number of staff employed, and Whole Time Equivalent (WTEs).

## Key Points

- The total number of clinical staff employed in Psychology Services continues to rise annually, with 1071.9 WTE (1281 headcount) at 31 December 2015.
- The number of Clinical and Other Applied Psychologists, has more than doubled over the last 12 years, from 371.0 WTE (426 headcount) in 2003 to the current level of 772.6 WTE (930 headcount).
- This represents a staffing level of 14.4 WTE Applied Psychologists per 100,000 of the population of Scotland.
- An additional 63.4 WTE posts were in the process of being advertised at 31 December 2015. A further 7.0 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.

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 [Psychology Services Workforce in NHSScotland](#) report. A [workbook containing data for this report](#) can be downloaded.

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

### ISD and 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. Further information [about our statistics](#).