Psychology Services Workforce in NHSScotland
Quarter Ending 30 September 2017
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About this release
This publication is produced collaboratively by the Information Services Division (ISD) and NHS Education for Scotland. It presents Psychology Services workforce information at 30 September 2017.

Figures are presented as headcount (actual numbers of staff) and whole time equivalent (WTE) which adjusts the figures to take account of part-time working.

Main points
Within Psychology Services in NHSScotland at 30 September 2017:

- Clinical psychologists remained the largest staff group within this workforce with 729.5 WTE in post at this census compared to 311.0 WTE at 30 September 2001 – an increase of 134.6%. This represented an annual increase of 3.5% when comparing to the size of the workforce at 30 September 2016 (see Figure below).

![WTE of all Clinical Staff in NHSScotland Psychology Services, 2001-2017.](image-url)
In respect of all clinical staff within this workforce, there were 1,099.3 WTE (1,333 headcount) in post - 169% higher than reported at the first data collection in 2001. However the rate of growth has slowed since 2010, although more rapid growth was experienced between 2013 and 2014, which was due to a 20% increase in other types of clinician (staff who are are neither clinical or applied psychologists).

112.4 WTE posts were vacant and in the process of being advertised, equating to a 9.3% vacancy rate. The majority (64.5%) of the vacancies advertised at this date were to replace staff who had left or were leaving existing posts and just under a third (30.2%) related to new posts.

Since the 2003 intake there have been a total of 565 graduates from the Doctorate in Clinical Psychology courses in Scotland. Over this period 97.2% of students successfully completed the course.

Background
The Scottish Government 10 year Mental Health Strategy 2017-2027 was published in March 2017 (http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2017/03/1750). The strategy highlights the need to increase the supply of the workforce and to ensure the skill mix across a wide range of services meets the needs of the population.


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Further Information
Further information can be found in the Psychology Services workforce report. A workbook containing data for this report can also be downloaded.

The next update of this publication will be in March 2018.

ISD and Official Stats
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. Find out more about our statistics.