About this release

This publication is produced by Information Services Division in collaboration with NHS Education for Scotland. It presents information on the Child & Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) workforce staff in post as at 31 December 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

- Since this data collection began in 2006 there has been a 55.1% increase in the CAMHS workforce from 653.7 WTE (741 headcount) to 1013.9 WTE (1,183 headcount) at 31 December 2017. Growth has slowed in recent years; however there has been a 4.0% increase in the last year.
- At 31 December 2017 the average staffing level within NHSScotland CAMHS was 92.8 WTE staff per 100,000 population aged 0 - 18. There is significant variation in this rate across NHS Boards.
- At 31 December 2017, 62.9 WTE vacant posts were in the process of being advertised, equating to a vacancy rate of 5.9%. Since data collection began the average vacancy rate observed is 4.8%.

**Background**

The Scottish Government 10 year Mental Health Strategy 2017-2027 was published in March 2017 ([http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2017/03/1750](http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2017/03/1750)). The strategy highlights the need for capacity of care staff to effectively support children and adolescents living with mental health conditions. The strategy acknowledges that while access to CAMHS has improved, demand for this specialism is continuing to increase, and there is a need to look at the whole system, recognising the importance of specialist services, psychological therapies and early interventions at tiers 1 and 2 including provision of support for families through parenting programmes.

Please see [News and Updates section](http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2017/03/1750) of our website for more details.

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**Further Information**

Further information can be found in the [Child & Adolescent Mental Health Services in NHSScotland Workforce webpage](http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2017/03/1750). A [workbook containing data for this report](http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2017/03/1750) can also be downloaded. You may also be interested in [CAMHS waiting times data](http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2017/03/1750), also published by ISD.

The next release of this publication will be 5 June 2018.

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**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](http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2017/03/1750).