

Health and Social Care Northern Ireland Quarterly Workforce Bulletin March 2020

Key Findings

- The Health and Social Care Northern Ireland Workforce, at 31st March 2020, stood at 68,766 (60,089.8 whole-time equivalent [WTE]). This figure excludes staff on career breaks, bank staff and Home Helps, due to the variable nature of their contracted hours, members of staff with a WTE of less than 0.03, Chairs/Members of Boards and Out of Hours GPs.
- The largest single staff group was Qualified Nursing & Midwifery, with 15,692 WTE. This represented an increase of 389 WTE (or 2.5%) from the previous March.
- Between March 2016 and March 2020, there was a net increase of ~1,444 WTE (19.3%) in the Professional & Technical staff group. This group includes the Allied Health Professions and support staff (e.g. physiotherapists, radiotherapists, dieticians and podiatrists) along with Scientific & Technical staff (e.g. laboratory staff).
- The Medical & Dental workforce increased by ~499 WTE (12.5%) between March 2016 and March 2020. The annual increase from March 2019 was ~194 WTE (4.5%).

Table 1: HSC Workforce (WTE) March 2016 – March 2020

Staff Group	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	% Change 2016-20	% Change 2019-20
Generic	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0%	0.0%
Administration & Clerical	11,057.0	11,019.5	11,067.4	11,295.0	11,670.6	5.5%	3.3%
Estates Services	695.1	685.8	685.9	722.3	767.5	10.4%	6.3%
Support Services	4,595.2	4,619.8	4,801.8	4,993.7	5,018.2	9.2%	0.5%
Qualified Nursing & Midwifery	14,932.9	15,134.1	15,112.4	15,303.3	15,692.1	5.1%	2.5%
Nurse Support Staff	4,080.3	4,267.3	4,373.9	4,433.0	4,446.8	9.0%	0.3%
Social Services (excluding Home Helps)	6,957.4	7,129.5	7,325.8	7,498.3	~7,816.1	12.4%	4.3%
Professional & Technical	7,509.0	7,829.5	8,137.1	8,505.9	~8,952.7	19.3%	5.3%
Medical & Dental	4,002.0	4,098.1	4,199.0	4,307.1	~4,501.2	12.5%	4.5%
Ambulance	1,091.5	1,093.3	1,099.7	1,187.8	1,216.4	11.4%	2.4%
Total	55,216.0	56,352.3	57,513.5	58,246.5	60,089.8	8.8%	3.2%

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Table 2: HSC Northern Ireland Workforce by Trust, March 2020 - Headcount (HC) and WTE

HSC Organisation	Administration & Clerical		Estates Services		Support Services		Qualified Nursing & Midwifery		Nursing & Midwifery Support Staff		Social Services (excl. Home Helps)		Professional & Technical		Medical		Dental		Ambulance		Northern Ireland Total	
	HC	WTE	HC	WTE	HC	WTE	HC	WTE	HC	WTE	HC	WTE	HC	WTE	HC	WTE	HC	WTE	HC	WTE	HC	WTE
Belfast HSC Trust	3,593	3,167.8	255	250.6	2,284	1,735.7	5,419	4,846.7	1,743	1,519.8	2,177	1,951.5	3,591	3,200.6	1,757	1,661.5	54	44.2	0	0.0	20,873	18,378.5
Northern HSC Trust South	1,969	1,625.4	149	148.5	1,134	798.4	3,045	2,628.9	831	706.1	1,880	1,673.5	1,826	1,543.9	620	574.8	25	17.5	0	0.0	11,479	9,717.0
Eastern HSC Trust	1,622	1,397.5	97	97.0	1,135	855.5	2,886	2,544.5	819	715.8	1,519	1,347.2	1,414	1,248.0	688	635.3	46	33.3	0	0.0	10,226	8,874.0
Southern HSC Trust	1,929	1,589.7	121	119.4	809	630.5	3,182	2,716.9	860	745.2	1,632	1,445.2	1,699	1,453.9	670	612.5	20	14.6	0	0.0	10,922	9,327.7
Western HSC Trust	1,817	1,598.1	146	146.0	1,154	877.0	3,160	2,868.1	806	722.4	1,463	1,350.0	1,519	1,357.1	608	583.8	28	23.1	0	0.0	10,701	9,525.7
NI Ambulance Service	105	101.6	-	-	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	-	-	0	0.0	1,243	1,216.4	1,352	1,322.1
Trusts Total	11,035	9,480.1	~768	~761.5	6,516	4,897.1	17,692	15,605.1	5,059	4,409.2	8,671	7,767.4	10,049	8,803.5	~4,343	~4,067.9	173	132.9	1,243	1,216.4	65,553	57,145.0
Business Services Organisation	1,336	1,262.0	-	-	117	115.8	43	40.7	0	0.0	-	-	40	40.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1,541	1,463.5
Health & Social Care Board	399	378.9	0	0.0	0	0.0	-	-	0	0.0	9	8.4	47	39.0	24	14.1	12	7.2	0	0.0	~491	~447.6
NI Blood Transfusion Service	52	44.2	0	0.0	8	5.3	15	11.4	42	37.6	0	0.0	62	59.3	-	-	0	0.0	0	0.0	~179	~157.7
NI Guardian Ad Litem Agency	21	18.4	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	43	40.3	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	64	58.7
NI Medical and Dental Training Agency	64	61.9	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	324	240.9	-	-	0	0.0	~388	~302.8
NI Practice & Education Council	10	9.6	0	0.0	0	0.0	6	6.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	16	15.6
NI Social Care Council	56	52.8	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	56	52.8
Patient Client Council	24	22.6	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	24	22.6
Public Health Agency	251	237.6	0	0.0	0	0.0	24	23.8	0	0.0	0	0.0	12	11.0	37	32.7	0	0.0	0	0.0	324	305.0
Regulation & Quality Improvement Authority	108	102.5	0	0.0	0	0.0	-	-	0	0.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0.0	0	0.0	119	111.2
Regional Services Total	2,321	2,190.4	~0	~0	125	121.1	94	87.1	42	37.6	~52	~48.7	~161	~149.3	~385	~287.7	~12	~7.2	0	0.0	3,213	2,944.8
Northern Ireland Total	13,356	11,670.6	774	767.5	6,641	5,018.2	17,786	15,692.1	5,101	4,446.8	~8,723	~7,816.1	~10,210	~8,952.7	4,736	4,361.1	~185	~140.1	1,243	1,216.4	68,766	60,089.8

Source: HSCNI Human Resources, Payroll, Travel & Subsistence. Figures exclude staff on career breaks, bank staff, Chairs / Members of Boards, Out-of-Hours GPs, and staff with a whole-time equivalent of less than or equal to 0.03.

The recorded whole-time equivalent for home helps does not adequately reflect the full contribution of these staff, due to the variable hours of contracts. Home Helps are therefore excluded from this analysis.

A dashed line (-) represents a cell count between 1 and 4 inclusive. This symbol is used in order to minimise the risk of personal disclosure, where it may be possible to identify an individual from the data provided. As a result of this protocol overall totals are correct although some row and column sub-totals may have been changed; the cells affected have been marked with a tilde (~). This will not affect the accuracy of overall staff totals but may mean that some individual columns or rows do not sum.

Revised as at 23rd July 2021