

Health and Social Care Northern Ireland Quarterly Workforce Bulletin June 2021

Key Findings

- The Health and Social Care Northern Ireland Workforce, at 30th June 2021, stood at 72,053 (63,100.4 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 16,276 WTE. This represented an increase of 640 WTE (or 4.1%) from the previous June.
- Between June 2017 and June 2021, there was a net increase of 1,577 WTE (20.1%) 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 681 WTE (16.7%) between June 2017 and June 2021. The annual increase from June 2020 was ~95 WTE (2.0%).

Table 1: HSC Workforce (WTE) June 2017 – June 2021

Staff Group	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	% Change 2017-21	% Change 2020-21
Generic	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0%	0.0%
Administration & Clerical	11,037.3	11,085.6	11,362.9	11,768.9	12,379.6	12.2%	5.2%
Estates Services	689.5	-693.1	-725.4	769.3	-773.0	12.4%	0.7%
Support Services	4,734.6	4,861.4	5,089.3	5,187.5	5,247.0	10.8%	1.1%
Qualified Nursing & Midwifery	14,936.5	14,984.2	15,159.4	15,635.8	16,276.2	9.0%	4.1%
Nurse Support Staff	4,268.4	4,371.7	4,405.2	5,441.6*	4,725.6	10.7%	-13.2%
Social Services (excluding Home Helps)	7,131.9	7,350.6	-7,598.4	-8,091.8	-8,188.4	14.8%	1.2%
Professional & Technical	7,834.5	8,139.2	8,557.4	-9,196.2	9,411.4	20.1%	2.3%
Medical & Dental	4,084.5	4,158.1	4,281.3	-4,669.8	4,765.2	16.7%	2.0%
Ambulance	1,110.9	1,099.6	1,170.3	1,224.9	1,330.0	19.7%	8.6%
Total	55,828.1	56,746.5	58,355.6	61,994.0	63,100.4	13.0%	1.8%

* Includes final year students, employed prior to graduation, to support staff during the first wave of the Covid-19 pandemic.

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Table 2: HSC Northern Ireland Workforce by Trust, June 2021 - 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	3,676	3,250.0	259	253.8	2,501	1,867.9	5,559	5,016.0	1,836	1,610.3	2,239	2,015.8	3,797	3,359.6	1,656	1,552.6	57	47.1	0	0.0	21,580	18,973.3
Northern HSC Trust	1,997	1,661.6	152	151.3	1,120	790.6	3,063	2,665.0	841	717.8	1,879	1,680.7	1,899	1,612.8	514	470.6	21	15.5	0	0.0	11,486	9,766.0
South Eastern HSC Trust	1,650	1,432.5	92	92.0	1,157	873.8	3,159	2,819.1	824	717.7	1,667	1,460.5	1,464	1,295.9	593	538.9	43	33.1	0	0.0	10,649	9,263.5
Southern HSC Trust	2,111	1,750.9	130	127.8	903	682.0	3,285	2,783.1	952	816.9	1,740	1,551.8	1,804	1,542.8	606	551.9	17	13.5	0	0.0	11,548	9,820.8
Western HSC Trust	1,958	1,735.7	143	143.0	1,197	914.7	3,192	2,912.3	917	827.8	1,536	1,431.6	1,611	1,443.1	526	498.7	27	24.1	0	0.0	11,107	9,931.0
NI Ambulance Service	134	130.7	-	-	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	-	-	0	0.0	1,356	1,330.0	-1,490	-1,460.7
Trusts Total	11,526	9,961.4	-776	-768.0	6,878	5,129.1	18,258	16,195.5	5,370	4,690.5	9,061	8,140.5	10,575	9,254.2	-3,895	-3,612.7	165	133.4	1,356	1,330.0	-67,860	-59,215.3
Business Services Organisation	1,434	1,369.8	5	5.0	116	113.1	40	37.3	0	0.0	-	-	50	50.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	-1,645	-1,575.3
Health & Social Care Board	413	393.2	0	0.0	0	0.0	-	-	0	0.0	7	6.8	43	35.0	21	12.9	12	7.6	0	0.0	-496	-455.5
NI Blood Transfusion Service	57	48.0	0	0.0	6	4.8	15	11.7	39	35.1	0	0.0	58	55.7	6	5.4	0	0.0	0	0.0	181	160.6
NI Guardian Ad Litem Agency	21	18.4	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	44	41.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	65	59.5
NI Medical and Dental Training Agency	74	70.9	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1,041	947.9	6	2.8	0	0.0	1,121	1,021.6
NI Practice & Education Council	8	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	-8	-8.0
NI Social Care Council	56	54.0	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	0.0	56	54.0
Patient Client Council	23	21.4	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	23	21.4
Public Health Agency	394	336.6	0	0.0	0	0.0	25	24.6	0	0.0	0	0.0	13	12.0	43	38.6	0	0.0	0	0.0	475	411.8
Regulation & Quality Improvement Authority	102	97.9	0	0.0	0	0.0	-	-	0	0.0	-	-	5	4.5	-	-	0	0.0	0	0.0	113	108.4
Regional Services Total	2,582	2,418.2	5	5.0	122	117.9	88	80.7	39	35.1	-51	-47.9	169	157.2	-1,111	-1004.8	18	10.4	0	0.0	-4,183	-3,875.9
Northern Ireland Total	14,108	12,379.6	-781	-773.0	7,000	5,247.0	18,346	16,276.2	5,409	4,725.6	-9,112	-8,188.4	10,744	9,411.4	5,010	4,621.4	183	143.8	1,356	1,330.0	72,053	63,100.4

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. Figures include students employed to assist medical and nursing staff during the Covid-19 pandemic.

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.