

Recommended Psychologist Numbers: British Figures

Source: Prepared by Paul Skirrow for DHB Psychologists Leadership Council and the Psychology Workforce Task Group, convened by the Ministry of Health. Presented in 2019

Area	Number	Guideline
Acute Inpatient	1 FTE per 20 beds. 0.2-0.5FTE per ward. 0.1FTE minimum standard.	Salisbury MH Centre 2004 BPS 2012 RCP Minimum Standard
Intellectual Disabilities.	4 FTE per 250,000 local population.	BPS (1994)
Prison in-reach/forensic		
Oncology	3FTE per 'Cancer Centre' (?population?)	BPS (1997)
Older Person's Mental Health	1FTE per 10,000 older people (roughly 1-5 in, general population)	BPS (2006)
Child Community Mental Health Service	1FTE per 75,000 local population.	BPS (1993)
Diabetes	1FTE per hospital region.	BPS (1994b)
Dentistry	1FTE per dental hospital (UK).	BPS (2009).
Community Mental Health Service	1FTE per 30,000 local population.	BPS (2002)
Obstetrics & Gynaecology	1FTE per O&G department	BPS (1995)
Intensive Mental Health Services -Assertive outreach -Early Intervention -Crisis Resolution -Home treatment.	5 FTE per 400,000 local population.	BPS (2002)

Sources of Guideline Information

BPS (1993). Services for Children, Young People and their Families. British Psychological Society, Leicester.

BPS (1994). Services for People with Learning Disabilities and their Families. British Psychological Society, Leicester

BPS (1994b). Services for People with Diabetes Mellitus. British Psychological Society, Leicester

BPS (1994). Services for Obstetrics & Gynaecology. British Psychological Society, Leicester

BPS (1997). Clinical Psychology Services in Oncology. British Psychological Society, Leicester.

BPS (2002). Clinical Psychology in Adult Mental Health Services. British Psychological Society, Leicester

BPS (2006). Services for Older People. British Psychological Society, Leicester

BPS (2009). Clinical Psychology in Dentistry. British Psychological Society, Leicester.

BPS (2012). Psychology in Acute Adult Mental Health Care (2012). British Psychological Society, Leicester.

Sainsbury Centre for Mental Health (2005). *Acute Care 2004: A National Survey of Adult Psychiatric Wards in England.*

Royal College of Psychiatrists Centre for Quality Improvement (2009). *Accreditation for Acute In-patient Mental Health Services. Standards for Acute In-patient Wards – Working age adults.* (3rd ed.) London: Author.