



Our latest information about nursing and midwifery in the UK

April 2019 – March 2020



EasyRead version

We are the Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC).



We keep the list of all the nurses and midwives who can work in the UK.



We also keep the list of all the nursing associates who can work in England.



Midwives help deliver babies.



Nursing associates are health staff who work in nursing teams in England.



This list is called a register.



Every 6 months we look at the information on our register and write a paper about it.



Between April 2019 and March 2020:

The number of nurses, midwives and nursing associates on our register grew by just over 18,000.



In total there are now more than 716,000 people on our register.



9 out of 10 are nurses. 1 out of 20 are midwives and 1 in 420 are nursing associates.



The number of people who come from the UK went up by just over 9,000. There are now just over 600,000 nurses, midwives and nursing associates from the UK.



The number of people on our register who come from Europe went down again.



There are now just over 31,000 people from Europe. That is 1,650 less than last year.



The number of people on the register who come from outside Europe went up a lot. There are now over 84,000 people from outside Europe.



That is about 11,000 more than last year.



The number of learning disability nurses went up by 54.



But we have about 1,000 less learning disability nurses than we did 5 years ago.



11 out of 100 nurses, midwives and nursing associates are men.



89 out of 100 are women.

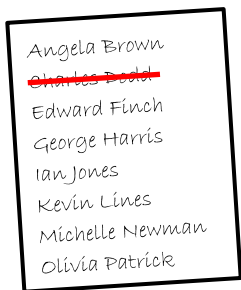
Why did some people leave our register?



You have to be on our register to work as a nurse or midwife in the UK or a nursing associate in England.



If you leave our register, you cannot do these jobs.



In 2019, we asked some people why they left our register.



Over 1,600 people told us.



Just over half said they left because they were older and retired. This was the most common reason.



The second reason was 'too much pressure'. This could mean they felt stressed or their work had led to poor mental health. Just over 1 in 4 said this.



The third reason was that something in their life had changed. Nearly 1 in 4 said this.



The reasons people gave us were different for different groups.



People from the UK were older and 6 out of 10 said they were retiring.



People from Europe were younger. More than 7 out of 10 said they left because they were leaving the UK.



4 out of 10 people from other countries outside Europe also said they were leaving the UK.



People who worked in midwifery or mental health more often said 'too much pressure' was their reason for leaving.

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Ref ISL118 20. June 2020.

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