

# **General and Personal Medical Services**

**England**

**1997-2007**



## Main Findings

- The growth rate in the number of practitioners continued to slow in 2007, increasing by 0.8% on 2006, compared to an increase of 1.1% in 2006.
- The number of female practitioners has risen by an average annual rate of 4.8% since 1997 and rose again in 2007 by 3.3% from 13,550 to 14,003. The percentage of male practitioners was unchanged between 1997 and 2007. Female staff now make up 42% of the workforce.
- Other GPs have increased from 846 in 1997 to 6,022 in 2007. This growth accelerated from 2002 onwards, reflecting the increase in practitioners who are paid a salary to work in General Practice.
- The number of GP partnerships has decreased steadily each year between 1997 and 2007, from 9,102 to 8,261. The number of practitioners has grown in this time, indicating that partnerships are now larger on average. Further evidence of this is shown in the decrease of single-handed Providers between 1997 and 2007, from 2,817 to 2,125.



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## INTRODUCTION

This statistical bulletin relates to GP practices contracted to the NHS in England. The data are collected from the NHS GP payments system.

Various types of medical practitioners work in General Practice. The term 'practitioner' in this bulletin is defined as all general medical practitioners **excluding GP registrars and GP retainers**. Locums are not covered in this bulletin. Further definitions can be found on page 4.

Information on hospital and community health services (HCHS) medical and dental and HCHS non-medical staff are published in other Information Centre statistical bulletins. A table showing all NHS staff (previously table 1a/b) can be found in the Staff In The NHS 2007 leaflet; for further information on the leaflet and other bulletins see page 7.

## ANALYSIS AND COMMENTARY

### Number of practitioners by type (Tables 1 & 2, Figures 1 & 2)

In 2007, 82% of practitioners were GP Providers. The remaining 18% is made up of Other GPs.

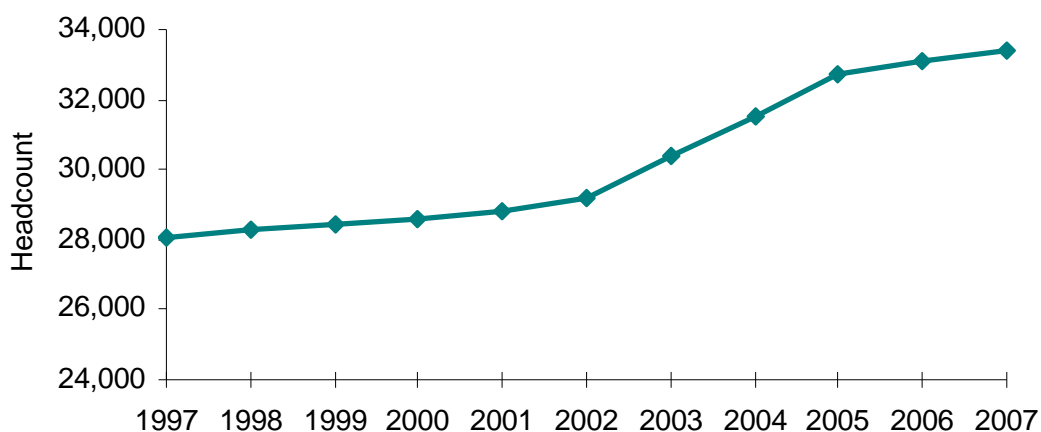
Between 1997 and 2007 the number of practitioners rose by 19%, from 28,046 to 33,364. Of these, GP Providers increased at a slower rate of 0.5% from 27,200 in 1997 to 27,342 in 2007, peaking in 2005 at 29,340 before falling in 2006 and again by 1.3% in 2007.

The number of Other GPs has increased more significantly, from 846 in 1997 to 6,022 in 2007. This reflects growth in the number of practitioners who are paid a salary to work in General Practice, particularly since the introduction of the new GP contract in April 2004.

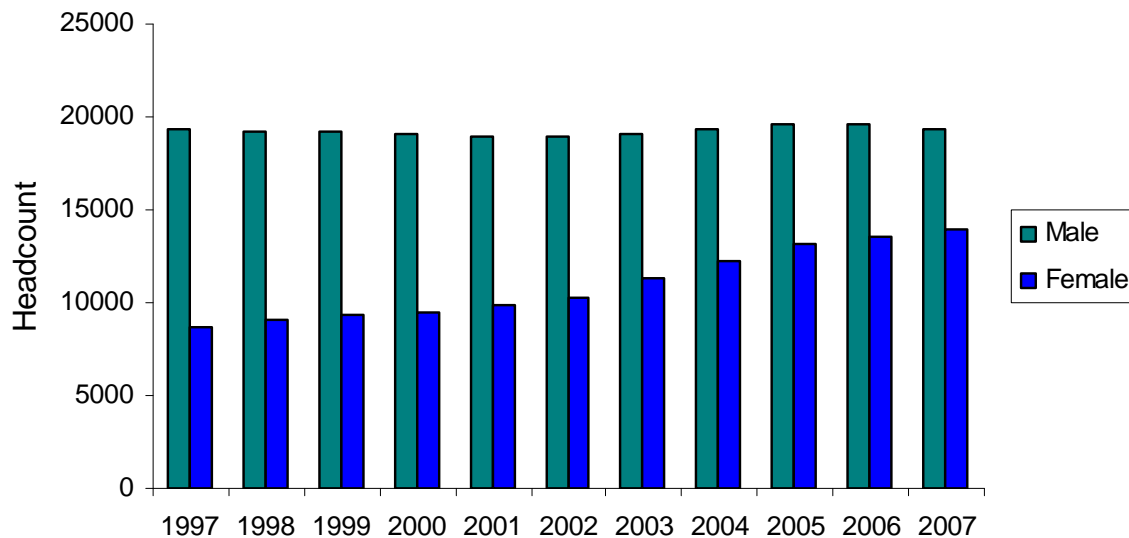
Overall the increase in number of practitioners has slowed down. Whereas the average annual percentage change was 1.8% between 1997 and 2007, the percentage change between 2006 and 2007 was 0.8%.

The number of full time equivalent (FTE) practitioners increased to 30,936 in 2007 from 26,359 in 1997. However, recent increases should be treated with caution – please see note on page 5.

**Figure 1: Number of Practitioners 1997- 2007**



**Figure 2: Practitioners by Gender 1997-2007**



The number of female practitioners has increased significantly over the last ten years, from 8,724 in 1997 (31% of the total) to 14,003 in 2007 (42% of the total) as shown in Figure 2.

**GP Registrars  
(Table 1)**

The number of GP Registrars rose by 85% from 1,343 in 1997 to 2,491 in 2007, at an annual growth rate of 6.4%. In the last year there has been a rise of 213 (9.4%) in GP Registrars from 2,278 in 2006 to 2,491 in 2007, almost back to the 2005 figure.

Since 1997, the number of female GP Registrars has increased by 100%. In 2007 they represented 61% of Registrars compared to 56% in 1997.

**Partnerships and average number of patients per practitioner/partnership  
(Table 3)**

Over the past decade, the average number of patients per practitioner has gradually fallen each year, from 1,815 in 1997 to 1,606 in 2007.

The number of patients per partnership has grown steadily each year since

1997 to 2007, from 5,594 to 6,487. In the same time period the number of partnerships has decreased year on year from 9,102 to 8,261. This reflects the move towards larger partnerships employing more GPs and thus registering a larger number of patients.

This trend is also evident in the decline in numbers of single-handed GPs. The number of single-handed GP Providers has fallen from 2,817 in 1997 to 2,125 in 2007.

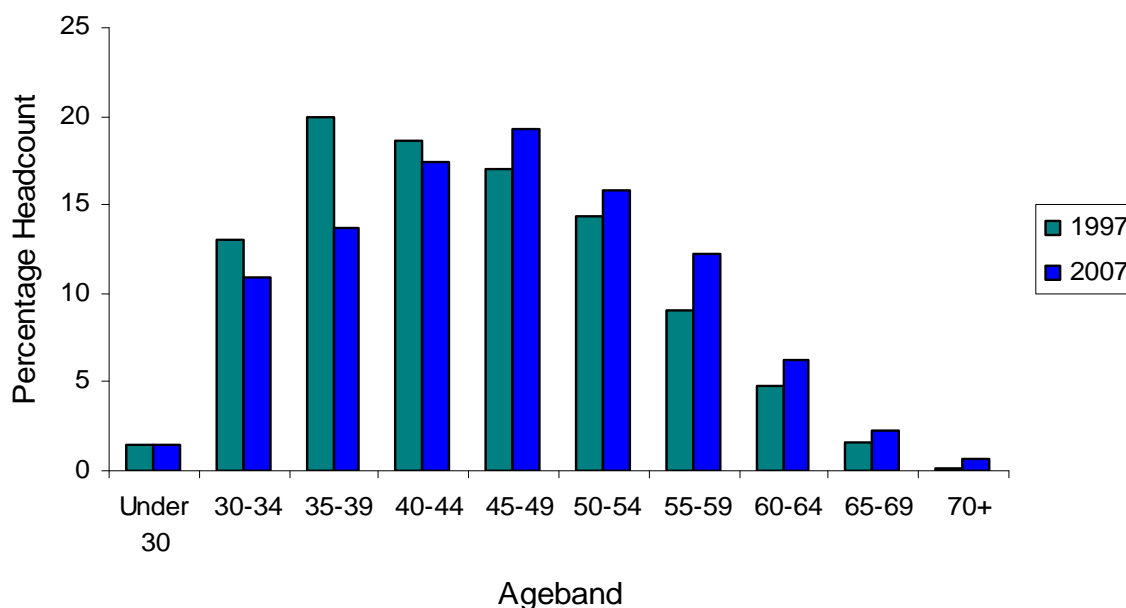
**Country of Primary Medical Qualification  
(Table 6)**

There has been little change in the proportions of practitioners obtaining their primary medical qualification in the UK, EEA and elsewhere over the last ten years.

In 2007, 79% qualified in the UK, compared with 80% in 1997.

Within the 22% of practitioners qualifying overseas in 2007, there was an increase in those qualifying in the rest of the EEA, from 3% of the total in 1997 to 5% in 2007.

**Figure 3: Practitioners by Ageband 1997 and 2007**



**Age  
(Table 7 & Figure 3)**

The age profile of GPs has changed over the last decade.

The proportion of practitioners aged 55 and above has risen from 16% in 1997 to 21% in 2007. The number aged under 35 has fallen from 14% in 1997 to 12% in 2007.

**Practitioners and the population  
(Table 1)**

The number of practitioners rose at an average annual rate of 1.8% between 1997 and 2007. This is higher than the rate of growth in the population, so that by 2007 there were 66 practitioners per 100,000 population compared to 58 in 1997.

**Type of contract  
(Table 5)**

Data on the type of GP contract has not been published for 2007. Examination of the data has found some inconsistencies in the way that contracts have been recorded. This will require

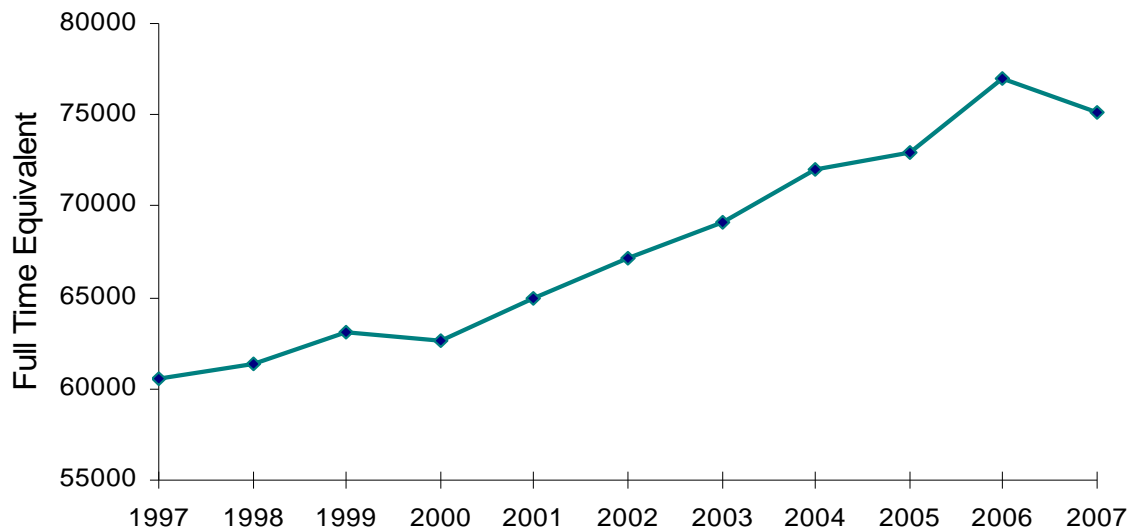
investigation with the Primary Care Trusts. Data will be released at a future date.

**Joiners and Leavers  
(Table 8)**

By examining whether practitioners are present in successive censuses, it is possible to estimate the numbers of joiners and leavers. These figures are therefore snapshots from two specific points in time and only represent the national position at this time. They do not cover movement in and out between these two points, nor do they relate to the local level turnover of staff between PCTs.

In 2007, 2,402 practitioners joined the workforce, a decrease of 319 from the previous year. The number of leavers has fallen by 402 on 2005, from 2,368 to 1,966 in 2006. 46% of these were 55 and over.

**Figure 4: FTE Practice Staff 1997-2007**



**Staff in practices  
(Table 4 and Figure 4)**

Practitioners work closely with nurses, midwives and health visitors, employed mainly by Community and Primary Care Trusts. In addition, most GP practices directly employ their own staff, including nursing, direct patient care, and administrative and clerical staff.

The number of FTE practice staff rose by 24% between 1997 and 2007, but fell by 2% between 2006 and 2007 to just over 75,000.

The number of FTE practice nurses rose by 44% between 1997 and 2007, but fell slightly by 62 between 2006 and 2007 from 14,616 to 14,554.

**DEFINITIONS**

Only those practitioners whose 'Responsible PCT' lies within England have been included in this bulletin. The responsible PCT is the one where most patients of the practice to which the practitioner belongs reside, and is responsible for payments.

All tables and figures in this bulletin **exclude GP Locums**

**All Practitioners** (excluding GP registrars and GP retainers) include GP Providers and Other GPs.

A **GP Provider** is a practitioner who has entered into a contract with a PCT to provide services to patients. These practitioners were formerly known as Contracted and Salaried GPs.

Following the introduction of the new GP contract in 2004, the computerised Exeter system that records GP numbers was refined. Where prior to 2004 only GP Providers were included on this system, the revision allowed all GP types to be included. Previously, numbers of Other GPs, GP Retainers and GP Registrars came from the PCT on a separate return. Therefore in 2004 and 2005 some non-Providers, but not all, were included on the system without a method for identifying them, and will be included in the GP Provider figure for these years. From the 2006 census onwards, the Exeter system was able to identify those non-Provider GPs.

**Other GPs** work within partnerships and were formerly known as GMS or PMS Others. These practitioners will be paid a salary.

**GP Retainers** are practitioners who provide service sessions in general practice. They are employed by the partnership to undertake sessions and are allowed to work a maximum of 4 sessions of approximately half a day each week.

A **GP Registrar** is a fully registered practitioner who is being trained for general practice under an arrangement approved by the Secretary of State.

The **primary medical qualification** used to identify the country of qualification is based on information held on each individual doctor on the GMC register. The countries are grouped into UK, European Economic Area (EEA) and Elsewhere. Historical figures are based on the current EEA membership for comparability.

**Primary Care Trusts (PCTs)** are free standing statutory bodies and have their own budget for local health care. They commission the bulk of hospital and community health services for their local population and are able to provide health and other services.

**General Medical Services (GMS)** is the contract under which most GPs are employed. It is a national agreement between the provider and the PCT which sets out the financial arrangements, the services to be provided and support arrangements.

**Personal Medical Services (PMS)** were first introduced in 1998. They allow the provider to negotiate a local agreement with their PCT for the services they will provide and payments they will receive, taking into account specific local healthcare needs.

## **Alternative Provider Medical Services (APMS) and Primary Care Trust Medical Services (PCTMS)**

- **APMS** allow contracts to be bid for by the private, voluntary and public sectors. They offer greater flexibility in the nature of service provision which is decided in agreement between the provider and the commissioner (PCT).
- **PCTMS** services are provided directly, as well as managed, by the PCT.

Our census cannot distinguish between the two schemes.

A **Partnership** is a financial arrangement between two or more bodies of which one must be a practitioner.

A **Single-Handed GP Provider** is one who has no partners, although a GP Other, GP registrar or GP retainer may work in the practice.

A **Single-Handed Practitioner** has no partners although a GP registrar or GP retainer may work in the practice.

## **Full-Time Equivalent (FTE)**

Some statistics are expressed in terms of full-time equivalents (FTE). For this purpose, numbers of part-time staff are converted into an equivalent number of 'full-time' staff by taking account of the weekly number of hours or sessions in their contract. The maximum FTE for all staff is 1. All staff working less than full time have an FTE less than 1.

In 2006, GP FTE data (for most GPs) was entered directly onto the Exeter system for the first time, consequently comparisons with previous years need to be treated with some caution.

For 2005 and 2004 FTE factors were estimated from the results of the 1992-93 GMP workload survey using factors of 1.0 full time and 0.6 part-time. FTE Retainers have been estimated using a factor of 0.12 per session.

Prior to 2004, FTE figures were estimated using factors of 1.0 full time, 0.69 three quarter time, 0.65 job share and 0.6 half time.

**FTE Practice staff** are calculated by aggregating the total number of hours staff in a grade are contracted to work and dividing by the standard hours for that grade. In this way, part-time staff are converted into an equivalent number of full time staff.

The **average number of Patients per Practitioner** is the total number of patients for whom the partnership is responsible divided by the number of practitioners who belong to or work in that partnership.

## EXPLANATORY NOTES

Unless stated otherwise, all figures in this bulletin relate to England at 1 October (1996-2000) or 30 September (2001-2007).

Percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

Tables on the proportion of full time/part time practitioners are not included this year. The process of recording this information was changed in 2006 and requires further analysis to assess its suitability for publication.

Where tables refer to numbers, the figures represent a count of contracts. Some doctors may have more than one contract and hence will be included more than once in the figures. In 2007, there were 73 such GPs.

## Sources

The Exeter database is a computerised payment system of General Medical Practitioners who are in contract with PCTs in England. It includes details of each practitioner's name, age, sex, partnership details, country of primary medical qualification and whether certain allowances are payable.

Some information is also supplied by PCT via electronic data transfer. This includes partnership structure, patients, registrars, retainers, practice staff, services offered by partnerships and target achievements.

Population projections for mid year 2006 figures (2004 based) issued by the Office of National Statistics have been used to calculate the number of practitioners per 100,000 population in Table 3.

## Table Conventions

The following symbols are used in tables:

- .. = not available
- . = not applicable
- = zero

## **FURTHER INFORMATION**

Any questions concerning the data in this publication, requests for further information or further copies of this bulletin should be addressed to:

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Press enquiries should be made to the media relations manager

Telephone: 0845 300 6016  
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### **The NHS Staff Leaflet and Further Bulletins**

The NHS staff leaflet is available on the internet at :  
<http://www.ic.nhs.uk/statistics-and-data-collections/workforce/nhs-staff-numbers>

Bulletins and more detailed data on Non-Medical Staff and Medical and Dental staff are also available from this website.

### **Dental General Practice**

Data on General Dental Practitioners (high-street dentists) are available on the internet at:  
<http://www.ic.nhs.uk/statistics-and-data-collections/primary-care/dentistry>

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**Table 1: General Medical Practitioners: Analysis by sex and status, 1997-2007**

England	Numbers <sup>(1)</sup> and percentages											Average	
	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	% change 2006-2007	annual % change 1997-2007
<b>Total</b>													
Practitioners <sup>(2)</sup>	..	..	30,959	31,369	31,835	32,292	33,564	34,855	35,944	36,008	36,420	1.1	..
Practitioners (excluding GP retainers)	29,389	29,697	29,987	30,252	30,685	31,182	32,593	34,085	35,302	35,369	35,855	1.4	2.0
Practitioners (excluding GP registrars and GP retainers)	28,046	28,251	28,467	28,593	28,802	29,202	30,358	31,523	32,738	33,091	33,364	0.8	1.8
GP Providers	27,200	27,489	27,681	27,791	27,938	28,117	28,646	28,781	29,340	27,691	27,342	-1.3	0.1
Other GPs	846	762	786	802	864	1,085	1,712	2,742	3,398	5,400	6,022	11.5	21.7
GP Registrars	1,343	1,446	1,520	1,659	1,883	1,980	2,235	2,562	2,564	2,278	2,491	9.4	6.4
GP Retainers	..	..	972	1,117	1,150	1,110	971	770	642	639	565	-11.6	..
<b>Males</b>													
Practitioners <sup>(2)</sup>	..	..	19,840	19,763	19,743	19,696	20,019	20,336	20,662	20,452	20,365	-0.4	..
Practitioners (excluding GP retainers)	19,909	19,802	19,815	19,744	19,721	19,673	20,003	20,311	20,633	20,431	20,342	-0.4	0.2
Practitioners (excluding GP registrars and GP retainers)	19,322	19,194	19,185	19,080	18,990	18,892	19,107	19,288	19,598	19,541	19,361	-0.9	0.0
GP Providers	18,968	18,914	18,881	18,742	18,624	18,450	18,464	18,296	18,437	17,692	17,381	-1.8	-0.9
Other GPs	354	280	304	338	366	442	643	992	1,161	1,849	1,980	7.1	18.8
GP Registrars	587	608	630	664	731	781	896	1,023	1,035	890	981	10.2	5.3
GP Retainers	..	..	25	19	22	23	16	25	29	21	23	9.5	..
<b>Females</b>													
Practitioners <sup>(2)</sup>	..	..	11,119	11,606	12,092	12,596	13,545	14,519	15,282	15,556	16,055	3.2	..
Practitioners (excluding GP retainers)	9,480	9,895	10,172	10,508	10,964	11,509	12,590	13,774	14,669	14,938	15,513	3.8	5.0
Practitioners (excluding GP registrars and GP retainers)	8,724	9,057	9,282	9,513	9,812	10,310	11,251	12,235	13,140	13,550	14,003	3.3	4.8
GP Providers	8,232	8,575	8,800	9,049	9,314	9,667	10,182	10,485	10,903	9,999	9,961	-0.4	1.9
Other GPs	492	482	482	464	498	643	1,069	1,750	2,237	3,551	4,042	13.8	23.4
GP Registrars	756	838	890	995	1,152	1,199	1,339	1,539	1,529	1,388	1,510	8.8	7.2
GP Retainers	..	..	947	1,098	1,128	1,087	955	745	613	618	542	-12.3	..
Practitioners (excluding GP registrars and GP retainers) per 100,000 population	57.6	57.9	58.1	58.1	58.2	58.8	60.9	62.9	64.9	65.3	65.7		

<sup>(1)</sup> Represents a count of contracts, some doctors may have more than one contract. In September 2007 there were 73 GPs who appear more than once.

<sup>(2)</sup> Includes GP retainers

Data as at 1 October 1997 to 1999 and 30 September 2000 to 2007

Figures exclude GP locums

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**Table 2: Practitioners (excluding GP registrars and GP retainers) and GP Retainers: FTE<sup>(1)</sup> 1997-2007**

England	Full Time Equivalent & percentages												
	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	% change 2006-2007	Average annual % change 1997-2007
Practitioners (excluding GP registrars and GP retainers)	26,359	26,455	26,558	26,557	26,628	26,833	27,624	28,308	29,248	30,931	30,936	0.0	1.6
GP Retainers <sup>(2)</sup>	..	..	321	390	415	416	307	259	219	263	385	46.6	..

<sup>(1)</sup> Full Time Equivalent (FTE) data for 1997-2005 have been estimated using the results from the 1992-93 GMP Workload Survey;

For 1997-2003 Contracted GPs - Full time 1.00 fte; three quarter time 0.69 fte; job share 0.65 fte; and half time 0.60 fte; Other GP types - Full time 1.00 fte; Part time 0.6 fte

For 2004-2005 All GPs - Full Time 1.0 fte; Part time 0.6 fte

For 2006-2007 FTE figures have been collected based on the number of sessions, hours or percentage each GP works. Therefore time series data may not be fully comparable

<sup>(2)</sup> FTE GP Retainers have been estimated using a factor of 0.12 per session for 1997-2007

Data as at 1 October 1997 to 1999 and 30 September 2000 to 2007

Figures exclude GP locums

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**Table 3: Practitioners (excluding GP registrars and GP retainers), selected statistics, 1997-2007**

England	Numbers and percentages										
	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Practitioners (excluding GP registrars and GP retainers)	28,046	28,251	28,467	28,593	28,802	29,202	30,358	31,523	32,738	33,091	33,364
of which, percentage											
female	31.1	32.1	32.6	33.3	34.1	35.3	37.1	38.8	40.1	40.9	42.0
Average number of Patients per Practitioner (excluding GP registrars and GP retainers)	1,815	1,809	1,788	1,795	1,780	1,764	1,736	1,666	1,613	1,610	1,606
Practice Staff (FTE) per Practitioner (excluding GP registrars and GP retainers) <sup>(1)</sup>	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.2	2.5	2.4
Number of GP Partnerships	9,102	9,090	9,034	8,965	8,910	8,833	8,833	8,542	8,451	8,325	8,261
Number of Patients per Partnership	5,594	5,624	5,634	5,726	5,753	5,833	5,968	6,149	6,250	6,400	6,487
Single Handed GP Provider <sup>(2)</sup>	2,817	2,779	2,721	2,662	2,626	2,566	2,578	2,285	2,176	2,222	2,125
Single Handed Practitioners (excluding GP registrars and GP retainers) <sup>(3) (4)</sup>	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,949	1,828	1,717	1,594

<sup>(1)</sup> 2002 Practice staff totals include imputed data for 8 PCTs who did not submit returns.

<sup>(2)</sup> A Single Handed GP Provider is one who has no partners, although they may employ a GP Other, GP Registrar or GP Retainer.

<sup>(3)</sup> A Single Handed Practitioner (excluding GP registrars and GP retainers) has no partners although may employ a GP registrar or GP retainer

<sup>(4)</sup> Figures can not be calculated prior to 2004 for Single Handed Practitioners (excluding GP registrars and GP retainers).

Data as at 1 October 1997 to 1999 and 30 September 2000 to 2007

Figures exclude GP locums

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**Table 4: Practice Staff by type 1997-2007**

England	Numbers and percentages										
	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	(1) 2002	(1)(3) 2003	2004	2005	2006	(2) 2007
Total Practice Staff											
Number	100,047	100,975	105,828	102,270	104,319	107,275	110,091	112,254	112,094	119,642	117,375
FTE	60,579	61,332	63,087	62,583	64,998	67,107	69,140	72,006	72,990	76,977	75,085
FTE Practice Staff by type											
Practice Nurse	10,082	10,359	10,689	10,711	11,163	11,998	12,967	13,563	13,793	14,616	14,554
Direct Patient Care	1,521	1,745	1,876	1,866	2,090	2,511	3,031	3,591	4,140	5,170	5,011
Admin & Clerical	48,341	48,887	49,990	49,529	51,390	51,444	52,250	53,290	53,517	55,116	53,679
Other	635	342	531	477	355	1,154	891	1,561	1,540	2,075	1,842
Percentage Breakdown of FTE Staff											
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Practice Nurse	16.6	16.9	16.9	17.1	17.2	17.9	18.8	18.8	18.9	19.0	19.4
Direct Patient Care	2.5	2.8	3.0	3.0	3.2	3.7	4.4	5.0	5.7	6.7	6.7
Admin & Clerical	79.8	79.7	79.2	79.1	79.1	76.7	75.6	74.0	73.3	71.6	71.5
Other	1.0	0.6	0.8	0.8	0.5	1.7	1.3	2.2	2.1	2.7	2.5
Practice Staff per Practitioner (excluding Registrars & Retainers)											
FTE	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.2	2.5	2.4
Number	3.6	3.6	3.7	3.6	3.6	3.7	3.6	3.6	3.4	3.6	3.5

<sup>(1)</sup> 2002 and 2003 Practice Staff totals include imputed data based on the previous census for a number of PCTs who did not submit returns.

<sup>(2)</sup> 2007 Practice Staff totals include imputed data based on the previous census for a number of PCTs who did not submit returns. FTE figures for one PCT who did not submit returns have been calculated using the national average ratio of 1:1.6 from headcount figures

<sup>(3)</sup> Figures have been amended from previously published

Totals may not equal sum of components due to rounding

Data as at 1 October 1997 to 1999 and 30 September 2000 to 2007

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**Table 5: Type of contract coverage of GMS, PMS and APMS/PCTMS, 1998-2006 <sup>(1)</sup>**

England		Numbers <sup>(2)</sup> and percentages <sup>(3)</sup>									
		1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	
Practitioners (excluding GP Retainers)	GMS number	29,296	28,989	28,850	26,333	23,658	20,783	21,627	23,235	21,780	
	GMS %	98.6	96.7	95.4	85.8	75.9	63.8	63.5	65.8	61.6	
	PMS number	401	998	1,402	4,352	7,524	11,810	12,458	12,067	13,180	
	PMS %	1.4	3.3	4.6	14.2	24.1	36.2	36.5	34.2	37.3	
	APMS/PCTMS	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	409
	APMS/PCTMS %	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1.2
Practitioners (excluding GP Registrars and GP Retainers)	GMS number	27,881	27,544	27,294	24,760	22,175	19,345	19,976	21,509	20,376	
	GMS %	98.7	96.8	95.5	86.0	75.9	63.7	63.4	65.7	61.6	
	PMS number	370	923	1,299	4,042	7,027	11,013	11,547	11,229	12,325	
	PMS %	1.3	3.2	4.5	14.0	24.1	36.3	36.6	34.3	37.2	
	APMS/PCTMS	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	390
	APMS/PCTMS %	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1.2
Estimated FTE Practitioners (excluding GP Registrars and GP Retainers) <sup>(4)</sup>	GMS number	26,118	25,703	25,355	22,923	20,458	17,654	18,004	19,275	19,138	
	GMS %	98.7	96.8	95.5	86.1	76.2	63.9	63.6	65.9	61.9	
	PMS number	338	855	1,202	3,705	6,375	9,970	10,305	9,973	11,471	
	PMS %	1.3	3.2	4.5	13.9	23.8	36.1	36.4	34.1	37.1	
	APMS/PCTMS	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	322
	APMS/PCTMS %	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1.0
Patients <sup>(5) (6)</sup>	GMS number	50,479,024	49,323,527	49,079,419	44,241,627	39,583,713	34,172,734	33,976,253	35,152,210	33,760,132	
	GMS %	98.8	96.9	95.6	86.3	76.8	64.8	64.7	66.6	63.4	
	PMS number	638,622	1,575,421	2,257,393	7,013,206	11,941,181	18,541,046	18,551,484	17,665,290	19,523,655	
	PMS %	1.2	3.1	4.4	13.7	23.2	35.2	35.3	33.4	36.6	
Average List Size of All Practitioners (excluding GP Registrars and GP Retainers) <sup>(5)</sup>	GMS number	1,811	1,791	1,798	1,787	1,785	1,766	1,701	1,634	1,657	
	PMS number	1,726	1,707	1,738	1,735	1,699	1,684	1,607	1,573	1,584	

Data on the type of GP contact will not be published at this time. Examination of the data has found inconsistencies in the way that GPs have been recorded. This will require investigation with the Primary Care Trusts. Data will be released at a future date.

<sup>(1)</sup> At 1 October 1998 and 1999, and 30 September 2000 to 2006

<sup>(2)</sup> Represents a count of contracts, some doctors may have more than one contract. In September 2006 there were 264 GPs who appear more than once

<sup>(3)</sup> Percentages of total, (sum of GMS, PMS and APMS/PCTMS).

<sup>(4)</sup> For definitions of FTE figures for Practitioners see table 2b

<sup>(5)</sup> GMS/PMS split for patient data has been estimated for 2003, using information from partnership data

<sup>(6)</sup> 2003 patient data has been amended from previously published

Figures exclude GP locums

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**Table 6: Practitioners (excluding GP registrars and GP retainers) by country of primary medical qualification, 1997-2007**

England	Numbers & Percentages										
	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Practitioners (excluding GP retainers and GP registrars)	28,046	28,251	28,467	28,593	28,802	29,202	30,358	31,523	32,738	33,091	33,364
Country of Qualification Group:											
UK	22,556	22,807	22,987	23,072	23,474	23,751	24,707	25,590	26,363	26,082	26,197
EEA	855	884	947	999	1,075	1,206	1,334	1,514	1,647	1,696	1,657
Elsewhere	4,635	4,560	4,533	4,522	4,253	4,245	4,317	4,419	4,728	5,313	5,510
Percentage breakdown											
UK	80.4	80.7	80.7	80.7	81.5	81.3	81.4	81.2	80.5	78.8	78.5
EEA	3.0	3.1	3.3	3.5	3.7	4.1	4.4	4.8	5.0	5.1	5.0
Elsewhere	16.5	16.1	15.9	15.8	14.8	14.5	14.2	14.0	14.4	16.1	16.5

Data as at 1 October 1997 to 1999 and 30 September 2000 to 2007

Figures exclude GP locums

The EEA (excluding the UK) includes Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Irish Republic, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland

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**Table 7: Practitioners (excluding GP registrars and GP retainers) by age band, 1997 to 2007**

	<i>Numbers (headcount)</i>										
	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
<b>Practitioners (excluding GP registrars and GP retainers)</b>	<b>28,046</b>	<b>28,251</b>	<b>28,467</b>	<b>28,593</b>	<b>28,802</b>	<b>29,202</b>	<b>30,358</b>	<b>31,523</b>	<b>32,738</b>	<b>33,091</b>	<b>33,364</b>
Under 30	399	392	341	315	321	414	503	507	472	527	472
30-34	3,663	3,306	3,043	2,749	2,665	2,719	3,003	3,259	3,525	3,569	3,631
35-39	5,586	5,602	5,502	5,269	4,993	4,787	4,613	4,610	4,579	4,529	4,591
40-44	5,211	5,390	5,587	5,695	5,896	5,947	6,064	6,146	6,174	5,979	5,797
45-49	4,787	4,794	4,806	4,990	5,114	5,283	5,545	5,805	6,062	6,303	6,446
50-54	4,039	4,314	4,420	4,585	4,641	4,619	4,702	4,769	4,953	5,124	5,261
55-59	2,533	2,648	2,883	3,054	3,232	3,432	3,751	3,899	4,147	4,148	4,099
60-64	1,351	1,335	1,387	1,397	1,395	1,421	1,541	1,783	1,945	1,972	2,068
65-69	434	426	452	480	486	521	561	614	701	719	774
70 +	43	44	46	59	59	59	75	131	177	220	225
Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	-

Data as at 1 October 1997 to 1999 and 30 September 2000 to 2007

Figures exclude GP locums

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Table 8: Practitioners (excluding GP registrars and GP retainers), Joiners and Leavers, 2000-2007

England	Numbers and Percentages							
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
<b>Practitioners (excluding GP registrars and GP retainers)</b>	<b>28,593</b>	<b>28,802</b>	<b>29,202</b>	<b>30,358</b>	<b>31,523</b>	<b>32,738</b>	<b>33,091</b>	<b>33,364</b>
<i>of which</i>								
<b>Joiners in this year</b>	<b>1,408</b>	<b>1,737</b>	<b>2,112</b>	<b>2,647</b>	<b>2,930</b>	<b>2,864</b>	<b>2,721</b>	<b>2,402</b>
<b>Males</b>	<b>716</b>	<b>848</b>	<b>931</b>	<b>1,135</b>	<b>1,168</b>	<b>1,272</b>	<b>1,210</b>	<b>1,047</b>
Under 30	74	105	96	121	101	102	127	97
30-34	234	278	290	343	319	337	363	361
35-39	149	162	208	196	216	255	231	233
40-44	77	84	115	129	141	177	167	129
45-49	44	77	61	88	94	150	115	91
50-54	52	54	56	83	79	65	72	30
55-59	41	37	51	61	72	79	53	36
60-64	18	33	36	58	72	52	36	31
65-69	18	11	13	33	39	30	27	23
70+	9	7	5	23	35	24	19	16
Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
<b>Females</b>	<b>692</b>	<b>889</b>	<b>1,181</b>	<b>1,512</b>	<b>1,762</b>	<b>1,592</b>	<b>1,511</b>	<b>1,355</b>
Under 30	131	133	192	235	242	202	239	199
30-34	261	333	457	529	590	590	551	494
35-39	133	181	232	292	376	325	301	278
40-44	68	132	140	229	285	238	207	194
45-49	46	64	78	101	147	118	119	107
50-54	25	28	39	65	68	52	51	42
55-59	12	7	22	32	29	36	30	20
60-64	5	6	17	20	11	18	8	10
65-69	7	5	2	5	8	7	2	10
70+	4	-	2	4	6	4	3	1
Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-
<i>Joiners as a % of workforce</i>	<i>4.9%</i>	<i>6.0%</i>	<i>7.2%</i>	<i>8.7%</i>	<i>9.3%</i>	<i>8.7%</i>	<i>8.2%</i>	<i>7.2%</i>
<b>Leavers from this year</b>	<b>1,528</b>	<b>1,712</b>	<b>1,491</b>	<b>1,765</b>	<b>1,649</b>	<b>2,368</b>	<b>1,966</b>	<b>..</b>
<b>Males</b>	<b>931</b>	<b>1,033</b>	<b>917</b>	<b>1,013</b>	<b>938</b>	<b>1,272</b>	<b>1,150</b>	<b>..</b>
Under 30	6	13	6	12	16	14	21	..
30-34	49	76	60	76	86	110	62	..
35-39	82	70	96	109	108	116	93	..
40-44	69	94	91	99	93	110	81	..
45-49	58	81	62	94	85	108	92	..
50-54	98	122	116	124	92	90	102	..
55-59	232	259	183	228	181	301	299	..
60-64	198	201	175	147	152	279	223	..
65-69	125	103	108	106	88	100	117	..
70+	14	14	20	18	37	43	60	..
Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	1	..	..
<b>Females</b>	<b>597</b>	<b>679</b>	<b>574</b>	<b>752</b>	<b>711</b>	<b>1,096</b>	<b>816</b>	<b>..</b>
Under 30	22	18	28	40	28	46	33	..
30-34	127	128	113	162	172	271	204	..
35-39	135	154	109	150	152	242	145	..
40-44	76	105	94	118	103	164	101	..
45-49	48	48	49	77	60	95	75	..
50-54	52	66	50	62	67	68	50	..
55-59	64	91	63	76	70	103	120	..
60-64	50	46	42	46	39	66	63	..
65-69	19	22	21	19	13	32	16	..
70+	4	1	5	2	7	8	9	..
Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	1	..	..
<i>Leavers as a % of workforce</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>5.9%</i>	<i>5.1%</i>	<i>5.8%</i>	<i>5.2%</i>	<i>7.2%</i>	<i>5.9%</i>	<i>..</i>

The figures in the table above are arrived at by checking if a Practitioners GMC number appears in consecutive years of the census.  
A joiner is a practitioner whose GMC number was present in a census but not observed in the previous census a leaver's GMC number was in 2003 but not 2004.  
These figures are therefore snapshots from two specific points in time and only represent the national position at these times.  
They do not cover movement in and out of the NHS between these two points, nor do they relate to the local level turnover of staff between NHS Trusts.  
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