

A National Statistics Publication for Scotland

Mental Health Officers Survey, Scotland, 2011¹

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1. Introduction

This Statistics Release presents information in regard to Mental Health Officers (MHOs) in Scotland as national statistics.

The survey data used in this report has been collected annually since 2005, at Local Authority level. The survey has been developed each year with new questions being added when a need for further information has been identified.

The aim of the survey is to collect information about the number of qualified MHOs who are practising within Scotland on the 31st March for a given year. Practising is defined as using legislation directly in relation to working with clients, or potentially using legislation directly in relation to clients e.g. serving on rotas, during the previous 12 months.

A Mental Health Officer (MHO):

- is a qualified Social Worker with at least two years experience, who has completed a further years study on Mental Disorder and the related Law to achieve accreditation.
- has a range of statutory duties under the Criminal Procedure (Consequential Provisions) (Scotland) Act 1995, the Adults with Incapacity (Scotland) Act 2000 and the Mental Health (Care and Treatment)(Scotland) Act 2003.
- can work as either part of a specialist mental health team, or are integrated into a multidisciplinary (non-mental health specialist) teams. MHOs are responsible for making decisions about admissions to hospital for people who, in their judgement, pose a risk to themselves or others.

This release presents the results of the latest survey to give a picture of:

- The number of practising MHOs in post at 31st March 2012.
- The workload undertaken by MHOs.

2. Main points

MHO Workforce

- The number of practicing MHOs has decreased from 728 on the 31st March 2011 to 688 on the 31st March 2012, this is a decrease of 5.5%.
- The staffing whole time equivalent (WTE) has decreased from 687.75 on the 31st March 2011 to 635.44 on the 31st March 2012, this is a decrease of around 8%.
- The reduction in staff numbers has only impacted the non-Specialist Mental Health teams. In 2011, there were 345 MHOs compared to 304 in 2012 an reduction of nearly 12%. This has resulted in a shift to more MHOs working in Specialist Mental Health teams. In 2008 52% of MHOs worked in Specialist Mental Health teams, this has increased in 2012 to 56%.
- The number of MHO exclusive positions has increased from 131 in 2011 to 167 in 2012, this is the highest number of exclusive MHO positions that has been recorded in this publication. The number of unfilled “exclusive” MHO vacancies has increased from 12.3 in 2011 to 16 in 2012, an increase of 30%.
- At the 31st March 2012, 73% of MHOs were aged 45 and over. 70% of MHOs were female and male MHOs were on average older with 78% being aged 45 and over.
- The number of trainee MHOs has increased from 46 in 2011 to 59 in 2012 but there is still a substantial decrease from 105 MHOs in 2008.
- A total of 90 MHOs left the workforce in 2011/12, of which around a third of MHOs left due to retirement and around a fifth of MHOs resigned. This is an increase of 76% from the 51 leavers reported in 2011.

Work completed by MHOs

- The number of MHOs on daytime rota duty has decreased from 529 in 2011 to 490 in 2012, a decrease of just over 7%.
- The number of MHOs working on assessment & treatment orders has shown an increase of 23% between 2011(171 MHOs) and 2012 (210 MHOs). The other two areas of work reported within this publication have both shown decreases between 2011 and 2012, compulsion orders (22%) and designated MHO for restricted patients (26%).
- The majority of mentally disordered offenders (MDO) cases are undertaken by MHOs on Specialist Mental Health teams, this decreased from 82% in 2008 to 73% 2010 before rising in 2011 to 78% but has fallen this year to 69%.

3. MHO workforce

Since 2005, the Scottish Executive has collected information on the MHO workforce within each Local Authority. This report presents figures for the last five years. All figures relate to practicing MHOs in post at the 31st March for a given year.

3.1 MHO numbers over time

Table 1 shows that on the 31st March 2012 there were 688 MHOs practicing this is a decrease of 5.5% from 2011. The staffing whole time equivalent (WTE) on the 31st March 2012 was 635.44, this is a decrease of 7.6% from 2011. The average WTE per MHO has decreased by 2.1% from 0.94 in 2011 to 0.92 in 2012.

Figure 1: Number of MHOs, 2008 to 2012

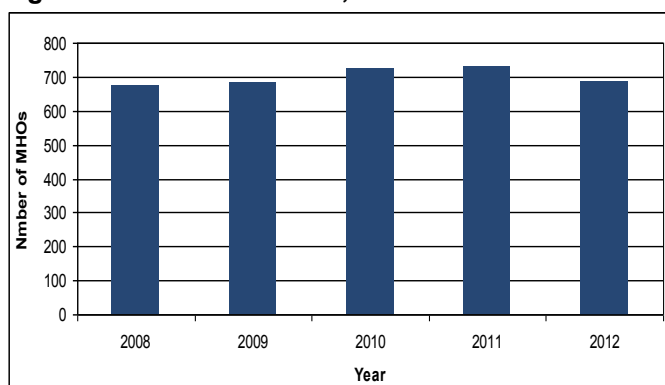


Figure 2: WTE of MHOs, 2008 to 2012

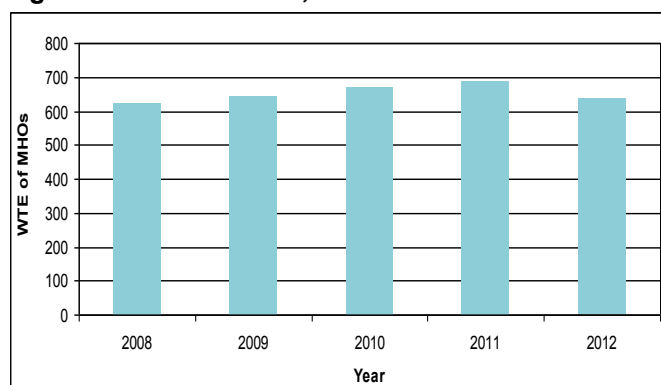


Table 1: Practicing MHOs, 2008 to 2012

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Number of MHO's	674	682	726	728	688
WTE of MHO's	622.16	643.04	667.84	687.75	635.44
Average WTE per person	0.92	0.94	0.92	0.94	0.92

The MHO workforce is split between specialist or non-specialist Mental Health (MH) teams. Table 2 shows that in 2008 52% of MHOs worked in specialist MH teams with the number increasing by 2% to 54% in 2009 before falling back to 52% in 2010. In 2011 this increased to 53% and has increased further in 2012 to 56%. Section 4 of this report looks at the field team on which a MHO works in more detail.

Table 2: MHOs by type of Mental Health team, 2008 to 2012

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Specialist MH teams	352	366	381	383	384
Non-specialist MH teams	322	316	345	345	304
Percentage in Specialists MH teams	52%	54%	52%	53%	56%

3.2 MHO rates per 1,000 of population

Table 3 shows that the rate of MHOs per 1,000 of the Scottish population has remained constant at between 0.12 and 0.13 between 2007 and 2012, with it currently at 0.12 in 2012. (Refer to Annex 1).

Table 3: MHOs rates, 2008 to 2012

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
MHO WTE rate per 1,000 of the Scottish population	0.12	0.12	0.13	0.13	0.12

Source : NRS mid-year population estimates 2007 to 2011.

3.3 Age and gender of MHO workforce

A question regarding the age and gender of an MHO was first introduced in the 2007 survey. A MHOs age and gender can only be provided with their consent, which has resulted in incomplete returns. This means that the figures for each year are not comparable and the figures will not sum to the total number of MHOs due to missing information. (Table 4)

Table 4: Undisclosed MHO age and gender data, 2008 to 2012

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Undisclosed data	3	102	0	28	94

The MHO workforce at 31st March 2012 had 418 (70.3%) female and 176 (29.7%) male MHOs. Looking specifically at the ages of the MHO workforce in 2012, the majority (72.6%) of MHO workforce were aged 45 and over. A higher percentage of males (77.8%) were aged 45 and over compare to females (70.3%). The age grouping with the highest percentage of MHOs is 50-54 for males at 24.4% and 55-59 for females at 23%.

Figure 3: Age and gender of MHO workforce, 2012

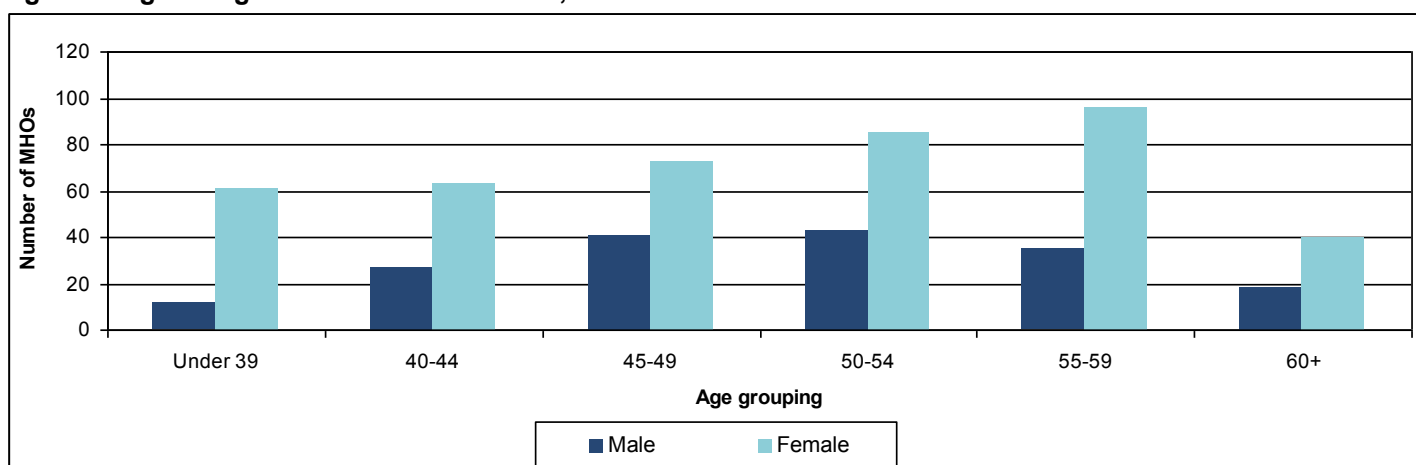


Table 5: Male MHOs by Age group, 2008 to 2012

Age group	Male - Numbers					Male - Percentage				
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Under 39	26	16	15	15	12	11.6%	8.9%	6.6%	6.6%	6.8%
40-44	35	28	37	44	27	15.6%	15.6%	16.2%	19.3%	15.3%
45-49	39	36	46	48	41	17.4%	20.0%	20.2%	21.1%	23.3%
50-54	65	47	54	51	43	29.0%	26.1%	23.7%	22.4%	24.4%
55-59	46	39	49	42	35	20.5%	21.7%	21.5%	18.4%	19.9%
60+	13	14	27	28	18	5.8%	7.8%	11.8%	12.3%	10.2%
Totals	224	180	228	228	176	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Figures for each year are not comparable.

Table 6: Female MHOs by Age group, 2008 to 2012

Age group	Female - Numbers					Female - Percentage				
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Under 39	82	55	79	77	61	18.3%	13.8%	15.9%	15.4%	14.6%
40-44	60	57	69	79	63	13.4%	14.3%	13.9%	15.8%	15.1%
45-49	88	77	89	82	73	19.7%	19.3%	17.9%	16.4%	17.5%
50-54	100	83	120	113	85	22.4%	20.8%	24.1%	22.6%	20.3%
55-59	97	102	101	107	96	21.7%	25.5%	20.3%	21.4%	23.0%
60+	20	26	40	42	40	4.5%	6.5%	8.0%	8.4%	9.6%
Totals	447	400	498	500	418	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Figures for each year are not comparable.

3.4 Ethnicity of the MHO workforce

An ethnicity question was first introduced to the survey in 2008 and as with the age and gender question a MHOs ethnicity can only be provided with their consent.

Table 7 shows that 0.6% of the MHO workforce are from an ethnic minority. However, 12.8% of all staff had either not wanted to disclose or not known their ethnic group this is a increase when compared with 2011 of 9.2%. The majority of MHOs not wanting to disclose their ethnicity are from one Local Authority.

Table 7: Ethnicity of MHOs, 2008 to 2012

Ethnicity	Number of MHOs					Percentage of yearly total				
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
White	550	598	700	656	596	81.6%	87.7%	96.4%	90.1%	86.6%
Minority	5	6	7	5	4	0.7%	0.9%	1.0%	0.7%	0.6%
Not Known / Not Disclosed	119	78	19	67	88	17.7%	11.4%	2.6%	9.2%	12.8%
Total	674	682	726	728	688	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Figures for each year are not comparable.

3.5 Number of trainee MHOs

The number of trainee MHOs has increased from 46 in 2011 to 59 in 2012 but there is still a substantial decrease from 105 MHOs in 2008.

Figure 4: Number of trainee MHOs, 2008 to 2012

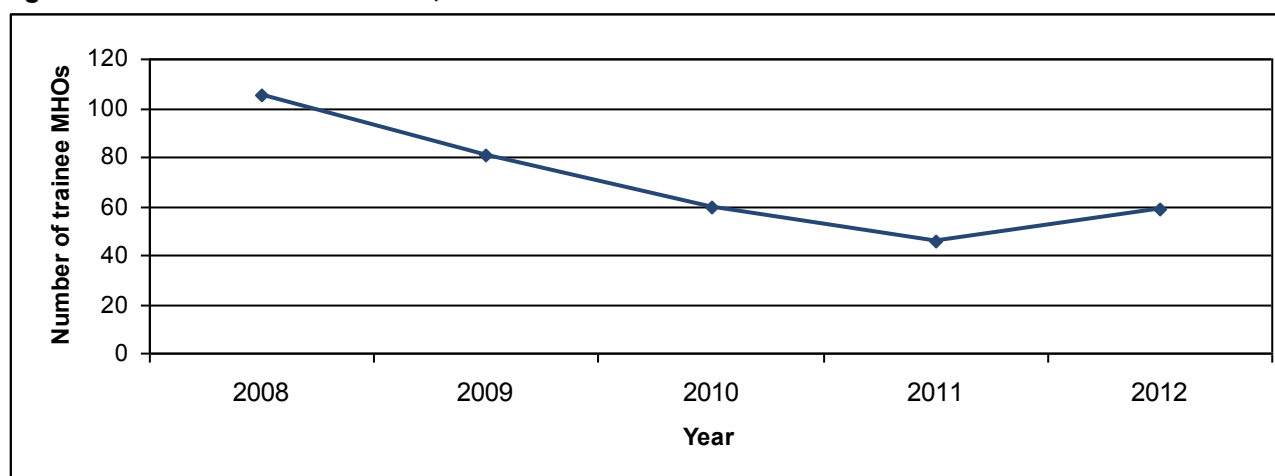


Table 8: Trainee MHO numbers, 2008 to 2012

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Number of trainee MHO	105	81	60	46	59

3.6 MHOs leaving the workforce

A new question was added to the 2009 survey to collect the number of MHOs leaving the workforce and the reason for leaving. During 2011/12 a total of 90 MHOs left the workforce, this figure is substantially higher than reported in the past three years of 51 (refer to Table 9).

The reason for given for a MHO leaving the workforce, has changed considerable since 2009. In 2009 the most common reason was due to a change of post (promotion), this is now one of the least reported reasons in 2012. Table 9 shows that the most common reason for MHOs leaving the workforce in 2012 is due to a retirement (33.3%), closely followed by change of post (22.2%).

Table 9: Number of MHOs leaving the workforce, 2009 to 2012

	Number of MHOs				Percentage of yearly total			
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2009	2010	2011	2012
Change of post (Promotion)	10	3	6	4	19.6%	5.9%	11.8%	4.4%
Change of post (Sideways move)	9	3	2	20	17.6%	5.9%	3.9%	22.2%
Resigned	9	15	14	17	17.6%	29.4%	27.5%	18.9%
Retired	8	18	22	30	15.7%	35.3%	43.1%	33.3%
Career Break	8	4	1	2	15.7%	7.8%	2.0%	2.2%
Other (Secondments etc)	7	8	6	17	13.7%	15.7%	11.8%	18.9%
Total	51	51	51	90	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

3.7 Number of MHOs vacancies

A question asking about MHO vacancies was first introduced to the survey in 2007. Table 10 shows that the number of unfilled "exclusive" MHO vacancies has increased from 12.3 in 2011 to 16 in 2012, an increase of 30%. In 2012 there were also 25 qualified MHOs unavailable compared to 21 in 2011. A MHO is classed as unavailable when they are either on maternity leave, a career break, on long term sick leave or compassionate leave, for a period of 3 months or more.

Table 10: Currently unfilled MHO posts, 2008 to 2012

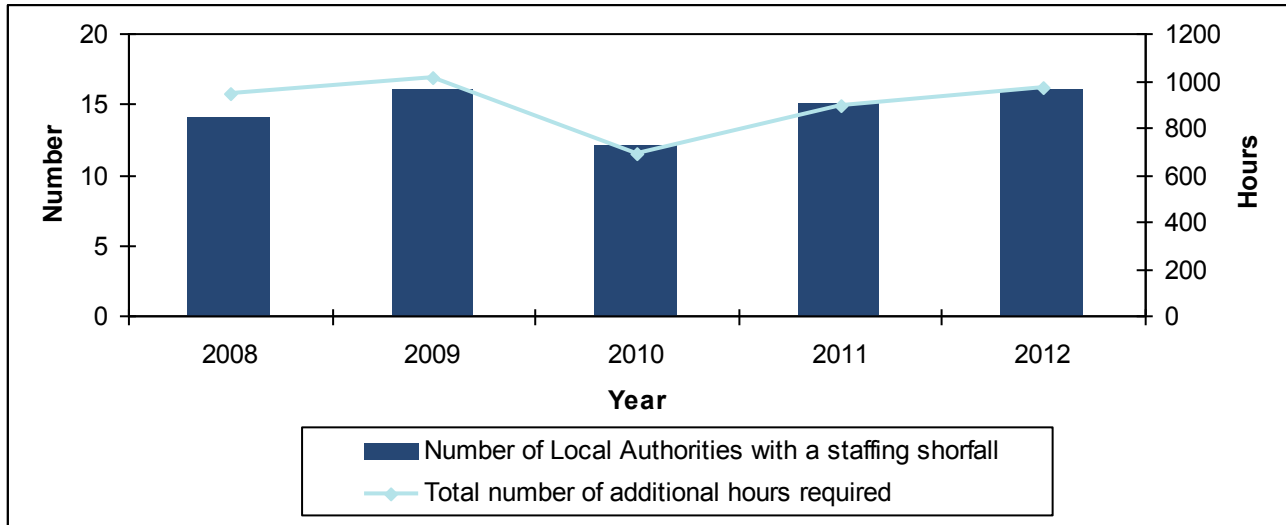
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Unfilled "exclusive" MHO vacancies	21.0	12.5	9.6	12.3	16
MHOs currently unavailable	26	18	26	21	25

Table 11 presents data on the total shortfall of MHO staff within Scotland. Local Authorities were asked to report any gap between real available time and what they felt was needed within their Authority. The number of Local Authorities reporting a shortfall has increased from 15 in 2011 to 16 in 2012, and the hours required has also increased from 893.5 in 2011 to 967 in 2012.

Table 11: MHO staffing shortfall, 2008 to 2012

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Number of Local Authorities with a staffing shortfall	14	16	12	15	16
Total number of additional hours required	948.38	1008.60	690.00	893.50	967.00
Average shortfall in hours	67.74	63.04	57.50	59.57	60.44

Figure 5: MHO staffing shortfall, 2008 to 2012



4. Specialist and Non-specialist Mental Health Teams

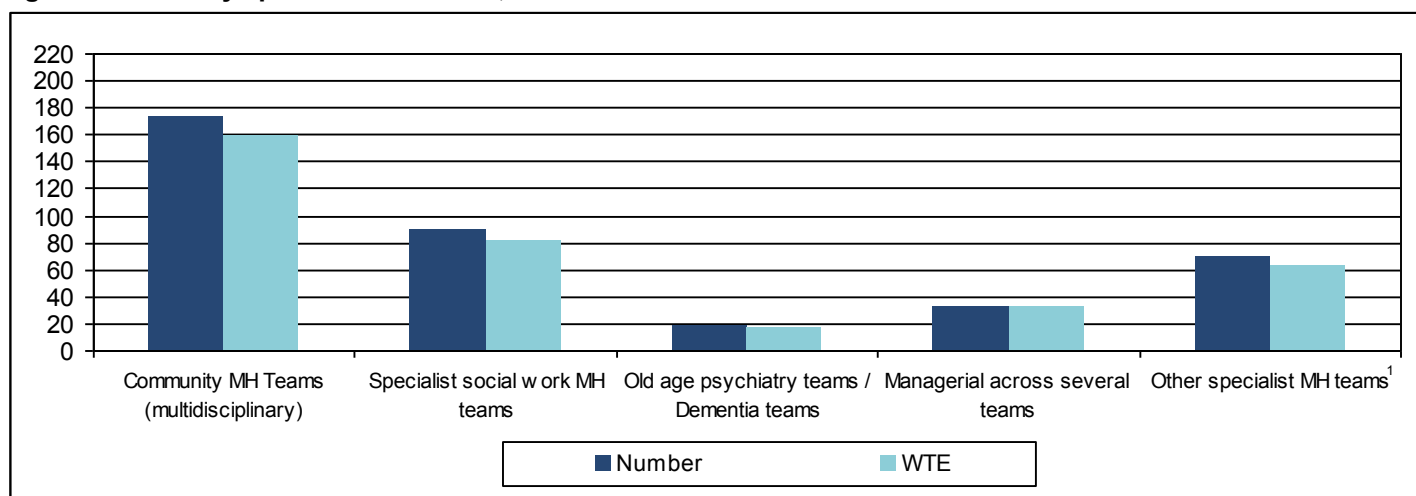
The MHO workforce is split between specialist or non-specialist Mental Health (MH) teams, this section of the report looks at the field team on which a MHO works in more detail.

4.1 MHOs in specialist MH teams

Table 12 shows that the number of MHOs working in specialist MH teams has been increasing steadily since 2008, when there were 352 MHOs. In 2012 this figure has increased by 9.1% to 384 MHOs. Of these 384 MHOs the majority (45.1%) work in Community MH Teams, whilst only 4.9% in 2012 worked in old age/dementia teams.

Table 13 shows the WTE's of the MHOs working in specialist MH teams, the percentage splits across the teams are similar to those in table 12. The 384 MHOs have a WTE of 350.14, giving an average of 0.91 WTE per MHO, compared to 0.93 in 2011.

Figure 6: MHOs by specialist MH teams, 2012



¹Includes Child & adolescent MH teams due to concealment of small numbers.

Table 12: Number of MHOs by specialist MH teams, 2008 to 2012

	Number of MHOs					Percentage of yearly total				
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Community MH Teams (multidisciplinary) ^{2,3}	182	197.5	205.33	201	173	51.7%	54.0%	53.9%	52.5%	45.1%
Specialist social work MH teams ³	76	74	106.83	77	90	21.6%	20.2%	28.0%	20.1%	23.4%
Old age psychiatry teams / Dementia teams ^{2,3}	12	17.5	17.34	21	19	3.4%	4.8%	4.6%	5.4%	4.9%
Managerial across several teams	15	29	25	28	33	4.3%	7.9%	6.6%	7.3%	8.6%
Other specialist MH teams ^{1,3}	67	48	26.5	56.5	69	19.0%	13.1%	7.0%	14.8%	18.0%
Total	352	366	381	383	384	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

¹Includes Child & adolescent MH teams due to concealment of small numbers.

²In 2009, a MHO splits working between teams.

³In 2010, a number of MHOs split working between teams.

Table 13: WTE of MHOs by specialist MH teams, 2008 to 2012

	WTE of MHOs					Percentage of yearly total				
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Community MH Teams (multidisciplinary)	167.80	186.50	192.43	186.80	158.27	51.6%	53.8%	53.6%	52.4%	45.2%
Specialist social work MH teams	70.40	68.14	102.13	71.70	80.78	21.7%	19.7%	28.5%	20.1%	23.1%
Old age psychiatry teams / Dementia teams	10.80	17.00	16.14	18.30	16.90	3.3%	4.9%	4.5%	5.1%	4.8%
Managerial across several teams	14.60	28.80	24.80	27.50	32.20	4.5%	8.3%	6.9%	7.7%	9.2%
Other specialist MH teams ¹	61.36	45.97	23.40	52.45	61.99	18.9%	13.3%	6.5%	14.7%	17.7%
Total	324.96	346.41	358.90	356.75	350.14	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

¹Includes Child & adolescent MH teams due to concealment of small numbers.

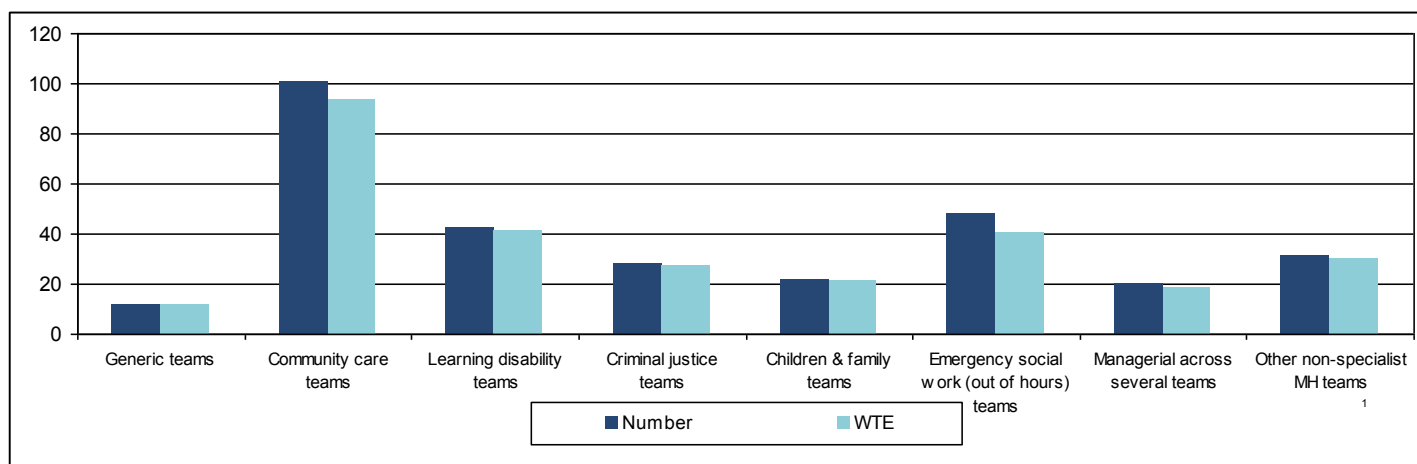
4.2 MHOs in non-specialist MH teams

Table 14 shows that the number of MHOs working in non-specialist MH teams has decreased in 2012, when there were 304 MHOs compared to 345 MHOs in 2010 and 2011. Of these 304 MHOs the majority (33.1%) work in Community care Teams, whilst only 3.9% work in Generic teams.

Table 15 shows the WTE's of the MHOs working in non-specialist MH teams, the percentage splits across the teams are very similar to those in table 14. The 304 MHOs have a WTE of 285.3, giving an average of 0.94 WTE per MHO, compared to 0.96 in 2011.

A very rough estimate shows that on average MHOs working on non-specialist teams spent 5.64 hours in 2012 on MHO work, this compares to 6.57 hours in 2011 (refer to Table 16). These figures have only been collected since 2008 and not all Local Authorities are able to provide a figure.

Figure 7: MHOs by non-specialist MH teams, 2012



¹Includes Intake teams & Physical & sensory disability teams due to concealment of small numbers.

Table 14: Number of MHOs by non-specialist MH teams, 2008 to 2012

	Number of MHOs					Percentage of yearly total				
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Generic teams	28	10	8	20	12	8.7%	3.2%	2.3%	5.8%	3.9%
Community care teams	87	101	98	86	100.5	27.0%	32.0%	28.4%	24.9%	33.1%
Learning disability teams ²	28	30	43.5	39	42.5	8.7%	9.5%	12.6%	11.3%	14.0%
Criminal justice teams ²	37	35	29.5	29	28	11.5%	11.1%	8.6%	8.4%	9.2%
Children & family teams	25	23	27	29	22	7.8%	7.3%	7.8%	8.4%	7.2%
Emergency social work (out of hours) teams ²	66	61	68.5	64	48	20.5%	19.3%	19.9%	18.6%	15.8%
Managerial across several teams	19	17	25	34	20	5.9%	5.4%	7.2%	9.9%	6.6%
Other non-specialist MH teams ^{1,2}	32	39	45.5	44	31	9.9%	12.3%	13.2%	12.8%	10.2%
Total	322	316	345	345	304	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

¹Includes Intake teams & Physical & sensory disability teams due to concealment of small numbers.

²In 2010, a number of MHOs split working between teams.

Table 15: WTE of MHOs by non-specialist MH teams, 2008 to 2012

	WTE of MHOs					Percentage of yearly total				
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Generic teams	27.25	10.00	7.50	20.00	12.00	9.2%	3.4%	2.4%	6.0%	4.2%
Community care teams	80.13	94.53	93.10	82.10	93.95	27.0%	31.9%	30.1%	24.8%	32.9%
Learning disability teams	26.08	28.38	41.08	37.20	41.10	8.8%	9.6%	13.3%	11.2%	14.4%
Criminal justice teams	34.10	32.90	28.95	26.75	27.50	11.5%	11.1%	9.4%	8.1%	9.6%
Children & family teams	24.50	22.10	26.50	29.00	21.20	8.2%	7.5%	8.6%	8.8%	7.4%
Emergency social work (out of hours) teams	58.54	53.72	60.47	61.25	40.45	19.7%	18.1%	19.6%	18.5%	14.2%
Managerial across several teams	17.50	17.00	25.00	33.00	19.00	5.9%	5.7%	8.1%	10.0%	6.7%
Other non-specialist MH teams ¹	29.10	38.00	26.34	41.70	30.10	9.8%	12.8%	8.5%	12.6%	10.6%
Total	297.20	296.63	308.94	331.00	285.30	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

¹Includes Intake teams & Physical & sensory disability teams due to concealment of small numbers.

Table 16: Average hours spent on MHO work by MHOs on non-specialist MH teams, 2008 to 2012

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Generic teams	8.65	7.88	20.13	5.00	5.00
Community care teams	7.32	6.53	10.05	9.10	14.97
Learning disability teams	14.15	12.22	11.68	7.50	13.40
Criminal justice teams	5.89	5.83	8.62	8.00	4.92
Children & family teams	4.16	5.58	7.98	4.57	4.00
Emergency social work (out of hours) teams	3.66	5.29	6.47	3.57	3.98
Managerial across several teams	3.93	2.94	6.00	4.87	5.33
Other non-specialist MH teams ¹	4.41	6.11	4.79	4.68	5.60
Total	5.98	7.42	8.26	6.57	5.64

These are based on figures from 24 Local Authorities in 2008, 28 in 2009, 23 in 2010 & 2011 and 21 in 2012.

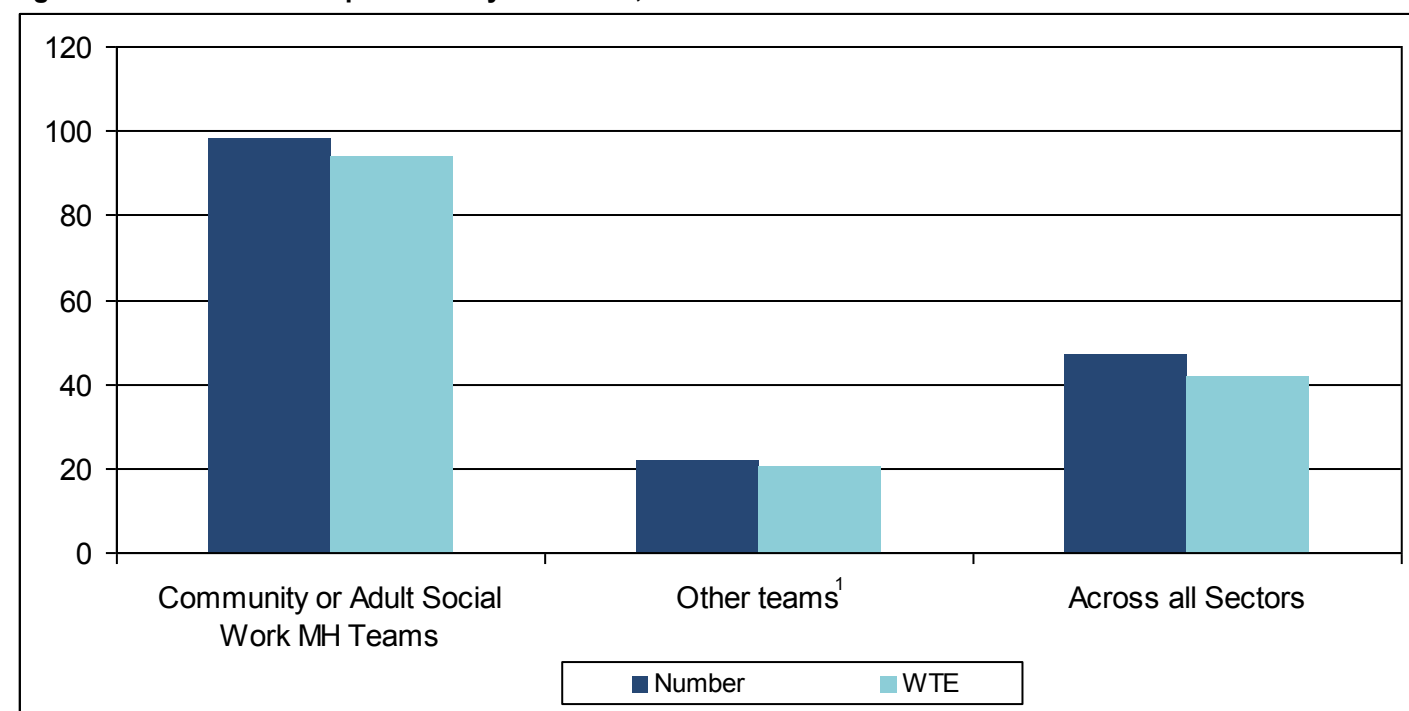
¹Includes Intake teams & Physical & sensory disability teams due to concealment of small numbers.

4.3 Exclusive MHOs positions

An exclusive MHO position refers to MHOs whose contract specifies that they are appointed to primarily undertake statutory Mental Health Officer work. The MHOs counted in this section are also included in sections 4.1 & 4.2.

The number of MHO exclusive positions has increased from 131 in 2011 to 167 in 2012, this is the highest number of exclusive MHO positions that has been recorded in this publication. Table 17 show that the majority of exclusive MHO posts are within the Community or Adult Social work MH teams. Table 18 shows the WTE's of exclusive MHOs, the percentage splits across the teams are very similar to those in Table 17.

Figure 8: Exclusive MHOs positions by MH teams, 2012



¹Includes staff from Learning Disability Teams and Old Age Psychiatry / Dementia Teams due to concealment of small numbers.

Table 17: Number of exclusive MHOs positions by MH teams, 2008 to 2012

	Number of MHOs					Percentage of yearly total				
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Community or Adult Social Work MH Teams	64	82	102	75	98	49.2%	59.0%	65.8%	57.3%	58.7%
Other teams ¹	21	12	25	30	22	16.2%	8.6%	16.1%	22.9%	13.2%
Across all Sectors	45	45	28	26	47	34.6%	32.4%	18.1%	19.8%	28.1%
Total	130	139	155	131	167	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

¹Includes staff from Learning Disability Teams and Old Age Psychiatry / Dementia Teams due to concealment of small numbers.

Table 18: WTE of exclusive MHOs positions by MH teams, 2008 to 2012

	WTE of MHOs					Percentage of yearly total				
	2008 ¹	2009	2010	2011	2012	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
MHOs in CMHT's or Adult Social Work MH Teams	37.7	79.6	97.0	73.0	94.14	39.5%	59.1%	66.4%	57.3%	60.2%
Other teams ¹	16.9	11.6	22.0	29.5	20.5	17.7%	8.6%	15.1%	23.2%	13.1%
MHOs across all Sectors	41.0	43.4	27.0	24.9	41.66	42.9%	32.2%	18.5%	19.6%	26.7%
Total	95.6	134.6	146.0	127.4	156.3	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

¹Includes staff from Learning Disability Teams and Old Age Psychiatry / Dementia Teams due to concealment of small numbers.

²WTE figures for 2008 incomplete due to three Local Authorities being unable to provide WTE for exclusive staff.

5. Work undertaken by MHOs

This section of the report looks at the work specifically undertaken by a MHO.

5.1 Rota Duty

Table 19 shows that the number of MHOs on daytime rota duty has decreased from 529 in 2011 to 490 in 2012, a decrease of 7.4%. However, this figure is higher than 2008 levels and similar to that seen in 2009 & 2010.

The number of MHOs on out-of-hours rota duty has been increasing year on year since 2008, however this year it decreased to 123 MHOs worked on the out-of-hours rota from 137 in 2011. In 2012, 103 daytime MHOs worked on the out-of-hours rota a slight decrease from 2011 but still 61% higher than 2008.

Figure 9: Number of MHOs on rota duties, 2008 to 2012

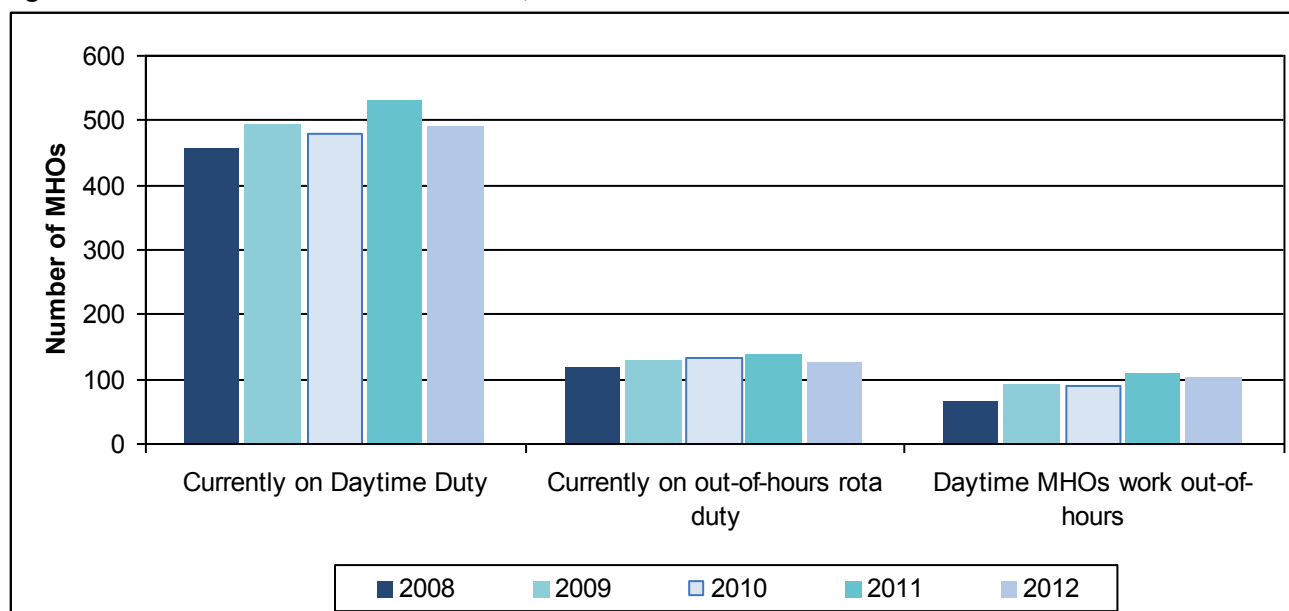


Table 19: Number of MHOs on rota duties, 2008 to 2012

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Currently on Daytime Duty	455	492	481	529	490
Currently on out-of-hours rota duty	116	127	132	137	123
Daytime MHOs work out-of-hours	64	89	89	108	103

5.2 Mentally disordered offender (MDO) work undertaken by MHOs

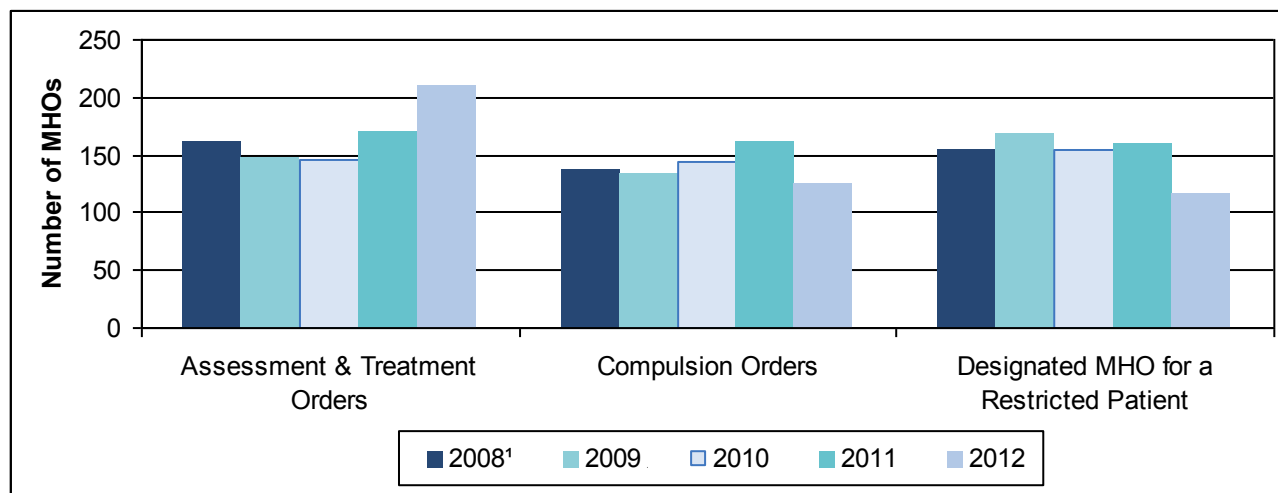
This section of the report examines the specific types of work undertaken by MHOs in relation to mentally disordered offenders (MDO). This question has been in the survey since 2007 and it asks about three specific types of MDO work:

- Assessment & Treatment Orders
- Compulsion Orders
- Designated MHO for a restricted patient

It is possible that a MHO will not be involved in any MDO work or that they may work on more than one type of work during the year, this will depend on the size of a Local Authority and the number of offenders in a year.

The number of MHOs undertaking assessment & treatment orders shown in Table 20 has increased from 171 in 2011 to 210 in 2012. Table 20 also shows that there were 138 MHOs working on compulsion orders in 2008, this decreased in 2009 to 134. In 2011 the number of MHO's working on compulsion orders had increased to 161, but this has decreased in 2012 to 125. The number of MHOs who are the designated officer for a restricted patient has decreased by 26.4%, from 159 in 2011 to 117 in 2012.

Figure 10: Number of MHOs undertaking MDO work by work type, 2008 to 2012



¹Not every Local Authority was able to provide a response by specific work types.

Table 20: Number of MHOs undertaking MDO work by work type, 2008 to 2012

Work area's undertaken by MHO's	Number of MHO's undertaking work				
	2008 ¹	2009	2010	2011	2012
Assessment & Treatment Orders	161	147	146	171	210
Compulsion Orders	138	134	144	161	125
Designated MHO for a Restricted Patient	154	168	154	159	117

¹Not every Local Authority was able to provide a response by specific work types.

The figures in Table 21 show that the majority of MDO cases are undertaken by MHOs on specialist MH teams, this was 81.8% in 2008 and remained at a similar level in 2009. In 2010 this decreased substantially to 73.0%, before rising to 78.2% on 2011 before falling again in 2012 to 68.7%.

Table 21: Number of MHOs undertaking MDO work by MH team, 2008 to 2012

	MHO Numbers					Percentage of yearly total				
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Specialist teams	229	173	176	204	180	81.8%	81.6%	73.0%	78.2%	68.7%
Non-specialist teams	51	39	65	57	82	18.2%	18.4%	27.0%	21.8%	31.3%
Total	280	212	241	261	262	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

6. Background information on the collection of the data

6.1 Data Sources

Mental Health Officers (MHO) survey

The survey data used in this report has been collected since annually since 2005, at Local Authority level. The survey has been developed each year with new questions being added when a need for further information has been identified. The survey collects information about the number of qualified MHOs who are practising within Scotland. The latest survey form is available from: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Health/MentalHealth>

National Records for Scotland (NRS) population estimates

The NRS is the devolved Government department in Scotland responsible for the registration of births, marriages, civil partnerships, deaths, divorces and adoptions in Scotland. The population estimates are produced using the demographic cohort component method. The estimates are based on the 2001 Census. Full details available from:

<http://www.gro-scotland.gov.uk/statistics/theme/population/estimates/index.html>

6.2 Understanding the Statistics in this Report.

All information in this Statistics Release is either a snapshot of the workforce on the 31st March or based on a year from 1st April to 31st March.

All staffing grades have been included as long as they are a practising MHO. These grades include basic grade staff, senior practitioner posts and team leaders or managers.

Whole Time Equivalent (WTE), is the number of whole-time staff, those working a full standard working week and the total number of hours worked by part-time staff, divided by the number of hours considered to be a standard whole-time working week. It should be noted that a standard working week can range between 35 and 39 hours per week. This can have the effect of WTE figures being slightly higher in Local Authorities who have a shorter whole-time standard working week.

An exclusive MHOs position refers to MHOs whose contract specifies that they are appointed to primarily undertake statutory Mental Health Officer work.

A trainee MHO is defined as a Social Worker undertaking MHO training on the 31st March.

A MHOs age, gender and ethnicity can only be provided with their consent. This means that the figures for each year are not comparable and the figures may not sum to the total number of MHOs due to missing information.

Some column totals in the tables in this document may not exactly equal the sum of their component parts due to the effects of rounding. The percentages shown in the tables have been rounded to one decimal place, this means that they will not always total to 100%.

The change in staffing numbers recorded between 2011 and 2012 in Dumfries and Galloway is due in part to a group of 8 staff who provide supervision no longer recorded as active practitioners. This group consists of 3 senior social workers and 5 managers of MHO practitioners.

6.3 Changes to previously published figures

The 2011 figures presented for Orkney Islands in last years publication have been revised. In the 2011 publication staffing data (MHO Numbers, WTE, rota duty, Age/Gender and ethnicity) had been rolled forward due to the non-return of data. Following the receipt of their 2010/11 data the figures have been revised to reflect the correct position in 2011.

6.4 Cost of respondent burden

To calculate the cost of respondent burden to this survey each Local Authority was asked to provide an estimate of the time taken in hours to extract the requested information and complete the survey form. The median time has then been used within the calculation below to calculate that the total cost of responding to this survey is £1,630.

$$\begin{array}{rcl} & \text{(number of responses)} & \\ & \times & \\ \text{Cost of} & = & \text{any additional costs} \\ \text{responding (£)} & \text{median time it takes to respond in hours} & \text{+ experienced by data} \\ & \times & \text{providers} \\ & \text{hourly rate of typical respondent)} & \end{array}$$

6.5 Previous publications

The 2007/08 survey results were published in issue 19 of the Mental Health Officers in Scotland newsletter, which can be found at: <http://www.strath.ac.uk/humanities/socialwork/communitycareworks/publications/mentalhealthofficernewsletter/>

Official Statistics Publications

2008/09 – <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2009/12/15081827/0>

2009/10 – <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2010/08/30114721/0>

2010/11 – <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2011/06/27145626/0>

6.6 Future publications

Please note that this is the last MHO publication to be produced by the Scottish Government. Future Mental Health Officer publications will be collated and published by the Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC). Their first publication will be in 2013 and based on figures collected in December 2012.

Link to website - <http://www.sssc.uk.com/>

6.7 Further information

Further details and analysis of the data presented in this Statistics Release are available on request from the address given below. The Statistics Release is available on the Internet by accessing the Scottish Governments web site: –

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Health/Publications>

Information at local authority level is shown in the annex to this Statistics Release.

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E-mail: SWStat@scotland.gov.uk

This statistics release was published on 26th June 2012.

7. ANNEX

The Annex provides more detailed information:

Annex 1 – Mental Health Officers numbers, whole time equivalents (WTEs) and rates per 1,000 of population by Local Authority, 2008 to 2012.

Local Authority	Number of MHO's					WTE of MHO's					MHO WTE Rate per 1,000 Population				
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Aberdeen City	28	27	29	30	29	26.5	25.8	27.8	28.6	26.6	0.13	0.12	0.13	0.13	0.12
Aberdeenshire	31	30	29	31	36	30.1	29.1	26.4	29.7	32.5	0.13	0.12	0.11	0.12	0.13
Angus	15	15	17	13	12	5.7	13.6	15.8	12.2	10.7	0.05	0.12	0.14	0.11	0.10
Argyll & Bute	12	13	14	14	13	9.1	13.0	13.5	13.5	12.5	0.10	0.14	0.15	0.15	0.14
Clackmannanshire	7	6	6	4	5	5.5	5.0	5.0	4.0	5.0	0.11	0.10	0.10	0.08	0.10
Dumfries and Galloway	20	26	28	31	21	20.2	25.6	27.2	30.6	16.6	0.14	0.17	0.18	0.21	0.11
Dundee City	27	28	24	21	21	25.7	27.8	22.1	17.9	17.7	0.18	0.20	0.16	0.12	0.12
East Ayrshire	19	18	23	23	18	19.1	18.0	23.0	21.5	17.0	0.16	0.15	0.19	0.18	0.14
East Dunbartonshire	9	7	7	5	7	7.2	6.2	6.2	5.0	7.0	0.07	0.06	0.06	0.05	0.07
East Lothian	7	7	5	9	11	5.8	6.0	4.3	8.0	10.0	0.06	0.06	0.04	0.08	0.10
East Renfrewshire	9	8	8	9	7	8.3	7.5	7.0	8.5	7.0	0.09	0.08	0.08	0.09	0.08
Edinburgh City of	56	64	62	58	57	49.5	56.8	53.8	54.0	51.0	0.11	0.12	0.11	0.11	0.10
Eilean Siar	5	5	6	5	4	5.0	5.0	6.0	5.0	4.0	0.19	0.19	0.23	0.19	0.15
Falkirk	17	13	11	12	10	16.2	13.0	11.0	12.0	6.0	0.11	0.09	0.07	0.08	0.04
Fife	47	44	48	47	46	45.5	42.0	47.0	45.5	45.5	0.13	0.12	0.13	0.12	0.12
Glasgow City	88	100	113	120	115	86.6	97.0	93.8	114.3	109.8	0.15	0.17	0.16	0.19	0.18
Highland	41	43	39	36	29	37.8	39.4	38.3	35.0	26.8	0.17	0.18	0.17	0.16	0.12
Inverclyde	13	12	16	16	15	12.6	11.8	15.8	15.4	13.8	0.15	0.15	0.20	0.19	0.17
Midlothian	10	7	7	7	6	8.0	6.8	6.4	6.0	5.0	0.10	0.08	0.08	0.07	0.06
Moray	10	9	13	13	13	9.4	9.0	11.3	11.3	8.5	0.11	0.10	0.13	0.13	0.10
North Ayrshire	22	21	23	23	21	22.3	20.6	22.2	22.2	20.2	0.16	0.15	0.16	0.16	0.15
North Lanarkshire	37	40	45	43	39	36.0	39.0	45.0	43.0	38.2	0.11	0.12	0.14	0.13	0.12
Orkney islands	4	5	5	6	6	4.0	5.0	5.0	6.0	6.0	0.20	0.25	0.25	0.30	0.30
Perth & Kinross	13	15	16	18	15	12.3	14.6	15.6	14.4	14.1	0.09	0.10	0.11	0.10	0.09
Renfrewshire	17	13	16	16	17	16.1	12.5	15.8	15.4	12.8	0.09	0.07	0.09	0.09	0.08
Scottish Borders	20	16	16	15	17	18.8	14.3	16.0	15.0	17.0	0.17	0.13	0.14	0.13	0.15
Shetland islands	5	6	7	6	7	4.3	5.0	6.0	5.5	6.3	0.20	0.23	0.27	0.25	0.28
South Ayrshire	19	17	17	17	17	18.2	16.2	16.2	16.2	17.0	0.16	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.15
South Lanarkshire	27	23	28	31	31	23.9	20.0	24.3	29.4	29.9	0.08	0.06	0.08	0.09	0.10
Stirling	7	9	12	15	13	5.7	5.9	10.0	12.0	12.1	0.06	0.07	0.11	0.13	0.13
West Dunbartonshire	10	13	11	10	8	6.8	11.0	8.3	8.5	7.0	0.08	0.12	0.09	0.09	0.08
West Lothian	24	22	25	24	22	20.0	20.5	21.8	22.3	22.0	0.12	0.12	0.13	0.13	0.13
Scotland	674	682	726	728	688	622.2	643.0	667.8	687.8	635.4	0.12	0.12	0.13	0.13	0.12

Source : GROS mid-year population estimates 2007 to 2011.

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