



April 2024

Dear Colleague,

2024 Census of Adults and Older People's Mental Health workforce across England

We are writing to request your assistance in providing workforce data relating to the provision of Adults and Older People's Mental Health services in England.

In line with the NHS Long Term Plan, adult mental health services are undergoing notable transformation to increase both the scale and scope of services to better meet the increasing demand for mental health care. Central to the delivery of the ambition for improved and increased service provision is the workforce – a workforce with the right skills and training, teams with the right skill mix, and a workforce of the right size.

For 2024, the NHS England Workforce, Training and Education directorate has commissioned the NHS Benchmarking Network (NHSBN) to undertake a dedicated census and analysis of the Adults and Older People's Mental Health workforce across England.

The census will provide detailed tracking of the workforce across occupations so that we can understand the extent to which we are achieving our goals for growth, as well as equality, diversity, and inclusion factors. Data will be used to support workforce planning and transformation to support the existing and future workforce and improve the quality of service for patients. Further details on the project scope can be found in the data specification attached and on the project website [here](#).

We would be grateful if your organisation could complete the relevant enclosed data collection template as appropriate in respect of the services that you offer that are in the scope of this exercise. **In order to collate accurate information, data leads should work closely with clinical leads to validate the return prior to submission.**

We are requesting this template is completed for the workforce as of 31st March 2024. If you require any assistance, please contact the NHSBN team (nhsbn.aopworkforce@nhs.net). The data collection period for this project closes on **Friday 14th June 2024, 12:00**, and we ask that the data collection templates are completed and submitted on or before this date.

If you are not the appropriate person for coordinating the completion of this information, please share the project details with the relevant person/people in your

organisation who are. To help the NHSBN team liaise with the right people about this exercise, please send any revised or additional contact details to the NHSBN team (nhsbn.aopworkforce@nhs.net).

On completion of this exercise, participating organisations will receive a bespoke submission report, illustrating their position within the context of the national dataset.

With your invaluable support, the findings of this and future censuses will help us support the required improvements to the capacity and quality of the workforce. Thank you in advance for your help with this important programme.

Yours sincerely,



Julian Emms
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Chair Mental Health Reference Group, NHS Benchmarking Network



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