



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

QON No. 004

SELECT COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES 2024-2025

Ms Nichole Lawder MLA (Chair) Ms Suzane Orr MLA (Deputy Chair) Miss
Laura Nuttall MLA (Member)

Appropriation Bill 2024-2025 and Appropriation (Office of the Legislative
Assembly) Bill 2024-2025

Question on Notice (Committee)

Asked by: Mr Ed Cocks MLA

Addressed to: Minister for Mental Health

Redirect to: Canberra Health Services

Reference: Mental Health Staffing

Date: 23/07/2024

In relation to: Mental Health Staffing

Question Lodgement Date: 23/07/2024

Date Answer Due: 31/07/2024

Question

How many FTE (Full-time employees) were employed by the ACT Health Directorate and Canberra Health Services in mental health specific roles (with clarity of which directorate each employee falls under) as at 1 January 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, and 2024, broken down by role (including for example psychiatrist, psychologist, peer-worker, administrative support), and qualification?

Ms Stephen-Smith: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

FTE of the Division of Mental Health, Justice Health and Alcohol & Drug Services by classification group.

Classification Group	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Administrative Officers	73.3	73.2	77.7	82.6	82.9
General Service Officers & Equivalent	7.7	6.0	9.0	8.0	8.0
Health Assistants	24.1	24.0	25.7	30.9	31.6
Health Professional Officers	203.4	192.7	202.9	189.6	201.4
Medical Officers	78.5	75.1	79.8	77.5	84.1
Nursing Staff	330.6	350.2	361.6	389.6	408.6
Senior Officers	17.5	16.0	17.0	17.0	23.0
Total	735.0	737.2	773.7	795.2	839.6

Notes:

- (1) Data is as of the first available pay date for each calendar year (08 Jan 2020, 06 Jan 2021, 05 Jan 2022, 04 Jan 2023, 03 Jan 2024)
- (2) Data provided for the whole Division of Mental Health, Justice Health and Alcohol & Drug Services which may include other roles in addition to "mental health specific roles" such as Justice Health Primary Care and Alcohol and Drug Services.
- (3) Data provided for Mental Health, Justice Health and Alcohol & Drug Services includes medical officers working at North Canberra Hospital.

The FTE in Mental Health and Suicide Prevention (MHSP) Division and the Office of the Chief Psychiatrist (OCP) is as below noting that current ACTPS HR systems do not provide data on specific mental health roles.

Year (As at 31 January)	Full-time equivalent*
2024	32.96
2023	34.66
2022	12.78
2021	9.49
2020	6.82

Note:

* Full Time Equivalent (FTE) is the unit of measurement to determine the number of full-time hours worked by all employees including both full-time and part-time.

Current ACT Public Service Human Resource (HR) systems capture the Australia and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupation (ANZSCO) codes and not the role titles.

The ACT Health Directorate only started receiving the ANZSCO information in HR reports from January 2024. Break-up of the headcount in MHSP and OCP by ANZSCO as of January 2024 is as below:

January 2024	
Role	No of employees*
Corporate General Manager/Executive	3
General Clerk	3
Health Promotion Officer	1
Policy Analyst	6
Policy and Planning manager	9
Program or Project Administrator	14
Total	36

Note:

* The data provided is the headcount of all employees (full-time and part-time). Please note the number of employees is greater than the FTE in the table above as it includes the number of part-time employees.

Please note the ACT Health Directorate does not hold data on qualification of staff.

Approved for circulation to the Select Committee on Estimates 2024-2025

Signature: 

Date: 5 August 2024

By Ms Emma Davidson, Minister for Mental Health