

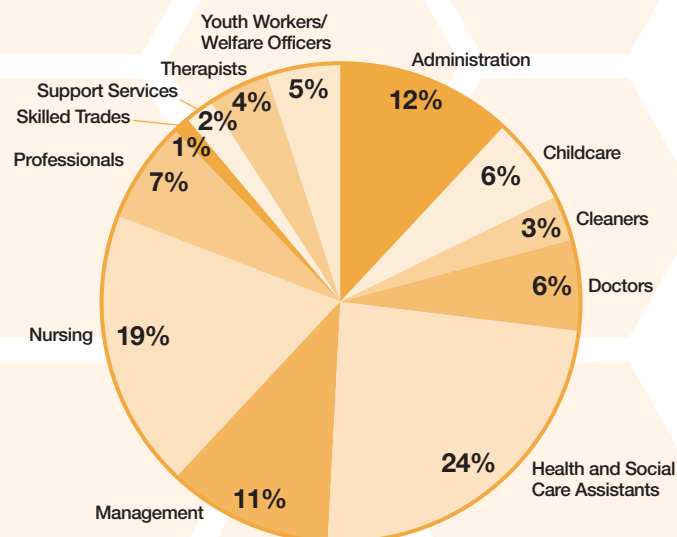


Society, Health and Development

What's happening?

- The health sector employs approximately 2 million people across the UK. With 10.7% of the total UK workforce it's the country's largest employer. (10% of the East of England's workforce). It includes National Health Services, independent healthcare providers and voluntary organisations.
- 254,800 people in the East of England work in the health and social care sector. (In over 9,200 workplaces). They serve a population of approximately 5.4 million people.
- Social care, children and young people account for 37% of the workforce in the East of England.
- The NHS, independent and voluntary health care employers account for 63% of the workforce in the East of England.
- Staff turnover in social care in the East of England is estimated to be about 15%.
- Social care includes caring for old people. Old people may be cared for in hospital, a residential care home or in their own home.
- Surveys show that NHS trusts in London and the South East have the highest turnover rates of nursing staff and, in particular, professions allied to medicine, for example, midwives and health visitors.
- There is a shortage of people with adequate skills for some jobs. Skills shortages include: clinical specialists; IT skills; communication skills and management skills.
- Due to high costs of living there are recruitment problems in the social care sector in London and the South East. The regions of London, South East and the East of England have above average 3 months vacancy rates.
- Almost a fifth of employees do not have a level 2 qualification. Only a third of childminders are educated to level 2. Four-fifths of social workers are educated to above level 3.
- This sector employs a largely female workforce (83%), 52% of whom work on a part-time basis.
- Identified regional priorities within the health sector are - management and leadership; improve numeracy and literacy including ESOL (English for speakers of other languages); increase the ICT skills of the workforce; increase the numbers of the workforce with a level 2 or 3 qualification.
- Identified regional priorities within the care sector are - increase the numbers of the workforce with a level 2 qualification; increase the numbers of young people entering the sector at level 2, develop a strategy to support the attainment of level 3 qualifications; ensure that the registered care home owners and managers in children's/early years settings are able to access relevant management qualifications programmes; extend management training/qualifications into the voluntary sector; improve numeracy and literacy skills, including ESOL. (English for speakers of other languages).

Who does what?



Source: Annual Business Inquiry, 2005, © Crown Copyright. Outputs are rounded to nearest hundred.

Numbers employed within sector by local businesses

	Health	Social Care
Essex LSC	48,100	28,600
Essex	38,700	24,000
Southend UA	7,800	3,000
Thurrock UA	1,600	1,500
UK	1,706,100	937,400

Source: Annual Business Inquiry, 2007, [Nomis 17 May 2007] © Crown Copyright. Figures do not include the self-employed, people under 16 or trainees without a contract of employment. Figures are rounded to nearest hundred.

How much could I earn?

Remember – many jobs will demand minimum entry qualifications. Those earning high salaries are usually well qualified and experienced and will continue to learn throughout their working life.

	Annual mean salary
Care Assistant, Home Carer	£12,116
Doctor	£57,353
Hospital and Health Service Manager	£32,622
Hospital Porter	£16,497
Nurse, Paramedic, Midwife, and Dental Technician	£23,273
Social Worker	£26,306

Salary rates have been calculated using the average gross pay for full-time workers. Figures are for the UK. Averages can hide higher earnings. With training and career development, higher salaries can be achieved. Source: Annual Survey of Hours & Earnings 2007, ONS © Crown Copyright.

What we think will happen

- It is predicted that the care sector will increase its staffing by around 7% in the period 2005-2014.
- Employment levels of health and social welfare associate professionals and health professionals are projected to rise much higher in London than in other parts of the country.
- The South East is forecast to experience the second highest growth rate in the health and social care sector. Caring personal service occupations are expected to contribute substantially to this increase. However, recruiting people into these additional jobs will be a major challenge, as the region currently has the highest 3-month vacancy rates for health care assistants.
- In conjunction with the East of England Skills and Competitive Partnership, the health and social care sector has been identified as a key priority sector. (Including Early Years and Play Work).
- Managers and senior officials, and professional occupations are among the fastest growing major occupational groups within the health sector.
- There is expected to be an increase in demand for residential care provision as more people reach the age of 80 and above.
- In the UK, between 2002 and 2012, 41,000 science and technology associate professionals (which includes jobs in this sector) will have retired. 44,000 people will be required to replace them and to cope with the expected increase in demand for such jobs.
- The reforms linked to the NHS plan are likely to see an increased use of IT in the NHS. It is also expected that the demand for skills in leadership, communications, team working, customer service and partnership working will increase.
- Work is underway with further and higher education bodies to develop the University College Grays. The new campus will provide a wide range of FE/HE, community and work based learning opportunities, with a central location and a cutting edge landmark design. Courses will be delivered at all levels including Health & Social Care, youth and community work.
- There will be a new qualification called a Diploma in Society, Health and Development available from September 2008. This will help people prepare for university, college or work. Look out to see whether it's going to be on offer in your area.

Is this you?

- Caring, friendly and reliable
- Good at listening
- Compassionate and discreet
- Can relate well to people
- Good communication skills

What local students did in 2006

A total of 91 Year 11 local school leavers started full-time employment or work-based training in the health and social care (including child care) sector in 2006. (Essex 75, Southend 12 and Thurrock 4).

Source: Connexions Essex, Southend and Thurrock 2006.

Some job suggestions

- Dietician
- Health Care Assistant
- Nursery Nurse
- Osteopath
- Paramedic
- Pharmacy Technician
- Social Worker
- Youth and Community Worker

Next steps...

If you're serious about this type of work - FIND OUT MORE!

Use your Connexions Resource Area in School/College or visit your local Connexions Centre/One Stop Shop for information about jobs; qualifications; local training; further and higher education; skills and personal characteristics; rates of pay and working conditions.

Really useful websites and resources!

The Sector Skills Council for Health Work

– www.skillsforhealth.org.uk

Skills for Care – www.skillsforcare.org.uk

National Health Service Careers – www.nhscareers.nhs.uk

Social Care Careers – www.socialworkandcare.co.uk

The Diploma – www.direct.gov.uk/diplomas

Apprenticeships – www.apprenticeships.org.uk or **call the helpline on 08000 150600**

Jobs4u (careers database) – www.connexions-direct.com/jobs4u

Working in Booklets – case studies of people in a variety of jobs.

Try your Connexions area, or download them from

www.connexions-direct.com. Go to careers>career

resources>download publications>Working In

For learning opportunities and course information for 14-19 year olds in Essex, Southend and Thurrock, see www.stepon.org

For further information and advice please contact Connexions Direct in confidence (you don't have to give your name or personal details if you don't want to):

Email: via www.connexions-direct.com (click on the email link) • Telephone Connexions Direct on 080 800 13 2 19

Text Connexions Direct on 07766 4 13 2 19 • Local Connexions service www.estconnexions.co.uk

Certain facts and figures are produced under the HMSO Click-Use licence.

March 2008