JQ06 – Stock of nurses by country of first qualification

Nurses' data is compiled by the Department of Health as part of the Non-Monetary Health Care Statistics, administered jointly by Eurostat, OECD and WHO in fulfilment of the European regulation (EU) 2022/2294. These statistics are compiled and published on an annual basis and refer to the stock of nurses according to country from where they obtained their first nursing qualification, as at end of the referenced year.

Source:

Data is compiled from the annual registrations and declarations of nurses administered by Nursing and Midwifery Board of Ireland (https://www.nmbi.ie/Home). This registration process is a legal obligation to be fulfilled by each nurse annually in order to obtain a license for nursing practice.

Definitions:

Nurses refer to medical nurses who have graduated in nursing and midwifery from medical faculties or similar institutions and are licensed to practice. Practising nurses provide services for individual patients, families and communities. It also refers to interns and resident nurses who have graduated in nursing/midwifery from medical faculties or similar institutions and who provide services under supervision of other medical nurses.

Note that figures also include midwives since it is not possible to distinguish between nurses and midwives, due to all registered nurses also hold registered midwifery qualifications.

Type of training refers to the main type of training the nurses received, based on where they obtained their first medical qualification. The categories are defined and grouped as follows:

i. **Domestically trained** – refers to nurses who have received their first nursing training and qualification locally in the Republic of Ireland.
ii. **Foreign trained** – refers to nurses who have received their first nursing training and qualification outside of the Republic of Ireland.
iii. **Unknown place of training** – refers to nurses who have their place of first nursing training and qualification unknown.

Foreign country of first qualification (applied only for foreign trained nurses) refers to the country where first nursing qualification was obtained from. The country codes follow the ISO 3166-1 alpha-3 code classification.

Year (also referred to as data reference year) is taken as at the end of the calendar year of reference. (31st December).

Unit refers to the unit of measure applied, which in this case refers to a numerical headcount of nurses.

Value refers to the count of nurses falling within respective categories for the respective data reference year.

Flag indicates any particular caution or issues with the data worth of note for further data use. The following flags may be applied, along with their definition:

- **Flag M** indicates that the value is missing as it was not collected for that particular instance. This may be due to legal requirements, unavailability of data or data quality issues, among many reasons.

- **Flag B** indicates that the values from that data reference point onwards are not directly comparable with previous data points due to methodological issues which are explained in the coverage section below.
- **Flag E** indicates that the particular data point is based on an estimate and should be compares with other non-estimate data points with caution. Estimation methods applies are explained in the coverage section below.
- **Flag S** indicates that the particular data point has been supressed for confidentiality and/or quality purposes, such as; very small counts or very high variation. This should not be treated as a true zero. Whenever a value is a true zero, this has been indicated and not supressed.

Coverage:

Data refers to all nurses (including those working abroad) who have registered and maintained their name as fully registered nurses on the NMBI register, regardless of the area in which they are engaged or whether or not they are practising.

Estimation:

Not applicable.

Breaks in series:

Not applicable.

Suppression:

Any Country with a value smaller than 25 was suppressed for confidentiality purposes.

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Period of time	As at end of calendar year from 2021-2022.