**JQ11 – Graduates in Health-related fields of study**

Graduates' 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 number of graduates from health related fields of study, as at end of the referenced ending scholastic year.

*Source:*

Data is compiled from the Higher Education Authority (HEA) administrative records (https://hea.ie/). All students are all automatically registered with the HEA once they are enrolled in an educational institution that is recognised by the same HEA. For the purpose of this table, only students successfully completing undergraduate degree-level courses and post-graduate courses are included (i.e. ISCED levels 6 and higher).

*Definitions*:

**Graduate** refers to a person enrolled in recognised educational institutions that have successfully completed the full requirements of their course and are eligible to receive official certification for this achievement.

**Year** (also referred to as data reference year) is taken as at the end of the scholastic year of reference (e.g. scholastic year 2020-2021 has a data reference year as 2021).

**Field of study** refers to the area of study of the course that the student is graduating from. The fields of study are defined as follows:

i. **Medical graduates** – refers to students who have graduated in medicine from medical faculties or similar institutions in the Republic of Ireland (i.e., who have completed basic medical education).
ii. **Dentistry graduates** – refers to students who have obtained a recognised qualification in dentistry in the Republic of Ireland.
iii. **Pharmacy graduates** – refers to students who have obtained a recognised qualification in pharmacy in the Republic of Ireland.
iv. **Midwifery graduates** – refers to students who have obtained a recognised qualification in midwifery in the Republic of Ireland.
v. **Nursing graduates** – refers to students who have obtained a recognised qualification in nursing in the Republic of Ireland.

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

**Value** refers to the amount of graduating students 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 students having successfully completed a graduate-level course recognised by the HEA at a formal educational institution, also recognised by the same HEA. A graduate student implies that the student has undergone the full duration of the course and successfully obtained enough course credit to be eligible for a degree. As mentioned above, only graduates from degree-level undergraduate courses and post-graduate courses are included (i.e. ISCED levels 6 and higher).

*Estimation:*

Not applicable.

*Breaks in series:*

A break in series in reference year 1984 was due to midwifery graduates from a new two-year training programme that was introduced in 1982.

Data up to reference year 1998 refers to the number of newly registered midwifery qualifications in the year as Midwifery graduates. Whereas data from reference year 1999 onwards refers to the number of midwifery graduates for that year.

A break in series for Nursing graduates data occurred in data reference year 1999 due to a change in source.

From data reference year 2006 onwards, postgraduates in 'Pharmaceutical Technologies' are now included as Pharmacy graduates.

For data reference year 2021, due to a change in the HEA's coding structure, data refers to all graduate students form the respective ISCED field/disciplines:

- Code 0912 (Medicine) and exclude specialists courses;
- Code 0911 (Dental Studies) and exclude courses on management and dental health promotion;
- Code 0916 (Pharmacy) and exclude courses on management and health promotion;
- Code 0913 (Nursing & Midwifery) and excludes courses relating to nursing; and
- Code 0913 (Nursing & Midwifery), excluding courses relating to midwifery.

*Suppression:*

Not applicable.

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| **Contact Person** | Statistics and Analytics Unit |
| **Contact Person Email** | Statistics_and_Analytics_Unit@health.gov.ie |
| **Period of time** | As at end of scholastic year from 1980-2021. |