



Social workers on the Register – 1 April 2020



What are the key points?

Social workers have had to register with us since **2005**

6,293 social workers are registered, an increase from **6,263** in **2019**

3,921 told us they have a social work caseload

The Register of social workers is well established and numbers have remained steady



What are the five-year trends?

The ratio of female to male social workers remains **4:1**

The number of social workers on the Register has increased by **5%** since **2015**



The percentage employed in the private sector increased from **5%** in **2015** to **9%**

The percentage who hold a master's or bachelor's degree in social work increased from **33%** in **2015** to **50%** this year



How many joined and left the Register?

495 social workers joined the Register and **465** left

54% of those leaving had not maintained their registration

17% of those leaving had retired

9% continued to work in social care outside Wales

8 social workers were removed following a fitness to practise hearing



What qualifications do social workers hold?

50% hold a bachelor's or master's degree in social work

36% hold a diploma in social work

11% hold an older accepted social work qualification

3% qualified outside the UK



Where are social workers employed?

74% work in local authority social services

9% work in the private sector

5% work in the third sector

4% are self-employed

42% of social workers have been in their current role for three years or less

10% have been in their current role for **10** years or more



What is the profile of social workers?

There are **5,178** women and **1,115** men

The average age of social workers is **46**

88% of social workers are white, white British, white Welsh or white Irish

39% of social workers speak some Welsh or are fluent

3% of social workers have a disability