



Health & Social Care in Brighton & Hove

This leaflet looks at employment in Health & Social Care in Brighton & Hove. Common jobs include nursery nurses, care assistants, doctors, nurses and social workers. There are also opportunities for dentists, occupational and speech therapists, radiologists, pharmacists and paramedics for example. Health & Social Care workplaces include hospitals, care homes, children's nurseries, patients' homes and doctors' surgeries. There are also some jobs which are not specific to Health & Social Care like accounts assistants, personal assistants, cleaners, and catering assistants.

A Who works in Health & Social Care?

In Brighton & Hove there are approximately 900 Health & Social Care business units with around 16,000 employees. There are also another 1,600 people in the sector who are self-employed. Across Sussex as a whole there are more than 83,100 Health & Social Care jobs.

Figure 1: Employment in Health & Social Care

	Brighton & Hove	Sussex
Number of business units	900	4,200
Number of employees	16,000	83,100
Number of self-employed	1,600	8,300

Source: ABI 2007 and APS April-June 2006.

Ways of working in the sector

Over half of employees in the sector work on a full-time basis, although there are also many part-time jobs. Some people employed in the sector are required to work 'shifts', which means that they may have to work in the evenings or at weekends.

Figure 2: Working patterns in the Health & Social Care

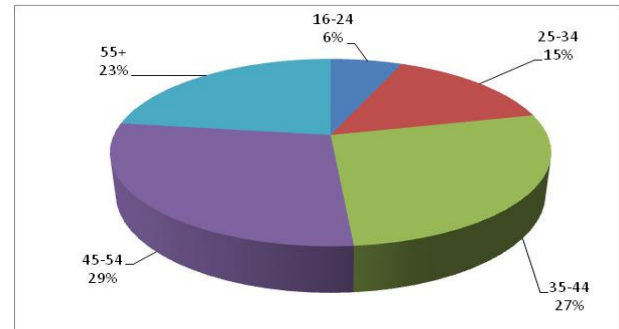
	% of employees
Full-time	59
Part-time	41
Overtime	33
Shifts	18
Flexi-time	9

Source: APS April-June 2006.



Age Profile

Figure 3: Age profile of people working in Health & Social Care



Source: APS April-June 2006.

B Qualifications, skills and occupations

Qualifications explained

Qualification levels used in this leaflet are based on both academic and vocational qualifications. The levels used are:

Figure 4: Qualification types

Qualification type	Equivalent to
No qualifications	No qualifications
Level 1	1 or more GCSEs at any grade
Level 2	5 or more GCSEs (grade A – C)
Level 3	2 or more A Levels
Level 4 or above	First degree level or above

What qualifications are needed?

Most jobs within the Health & Social Care Sector require formal entry qualifications and for professional jobs these are usually at degree level (see Figure 5). Jobs where fewer people have qualifications tend to be those like care assistants and nursing assistants.

Figure 5: Typical entry requirements

Occupation	Entry requirements
Medical Secretaries	Entrants normally require GCSEs or equivalent. To qualify as a medical secretary requires a one-year full-time or two year part-time diploma in medical secretarial studies.
Nursery Nurses	Entry is usually with GCSEs followed by the award of a certificate from CACHE.
Doctors	Entrants require a university degree from a medical school recognised by the General Medical Council followed by a year of pre-registration training as a house officer.
Nurses	Both non-graduate, graduate and postgraduate entry is possible. Training lasts up to four years depending upon the method of study.
Care Assistants & Home Carers	There are no formal academic entry requirements but on the job training towards qualifications is often required.



What else are employers interested in?

Within Health & Social Care, potential employers may be particularly interested in new employees who have or can show that they have general computer skills, customer handling skills, team working, problem solving and job specific skills.

Occupations in Health & Social care

Figure 6 shows the levels of qualifications people working in the most common occupations within Health & Social Care have. Most jobs in the sector have formal entry qualifications and many people who work in the sector have qualifications at Level 4 or above. Lower level qualifications may be expected for many other occupations.

Figure 6: Key Health & Social Care occupations and qualifications of people in these occupations

	No. of employees in Health & Social Care sector	% with type of qualification		
		Level 4+	Level 2 & 3	Below Level 2
Care assistants & home carers	2,590	15	65	20
Nurses	2,380	97	2	1
Doctors	2,100	100	0	0
Childminders	1,980	12	65	24
Dentists	760	97	3	0
Nursing assistants	730	38	54	8
Social Workers	660	85	15	0
Nursery Nurses	610	18	79	4
Nursing home managers/owners	530	77	23	0
Medical Secretaries	380	10	68	21

Source: APS April-June 2006.

What other jobs are there in the Health & Social Care sector?

You don't have to be a carer or doctor to work in Health & Social Care, as there are plenty of opportunities to work in other jobs which are not specific to this area of work. For example, there are around 10,300 people working other occupations such as youth and community workers, accounts assistants, personal assistants, cleaners and catering assistants.

For more information on different careers available, visit the following websites:

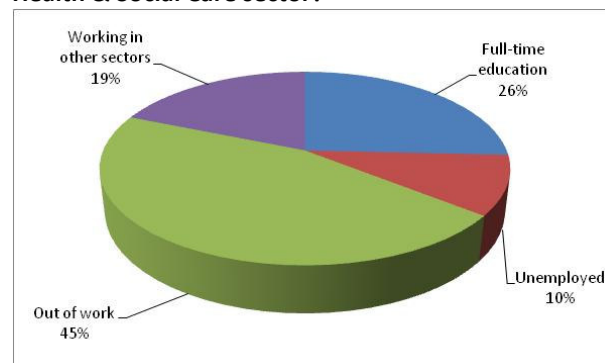
<http://www.connexions-direct.com/Jobs4u> or <http://jobseekers.direct.gov.uk/subjectmenu.aspx?sessionid=514621e5-f90c-4b94-998d-3e01122cea52&pid=1&o=3>



Where do Health & Social Care employees come from?

Nearly half of people entering the Health & Social Care sector have previously been out of work, most commonly looking after children or family.

Figure 7: What did people do before they joined the Health & Social Care sector?



Source: APS April – June 2006. Note: Out of work = neither in employment nor unemployed i.e. caring for children, long term sick, retired etc.

C How much do people earn in the sector?

The average gross weekly pay for all employees in the Health & Social Care sector in Brighton & Hove is around £340 (before tax etc), equivalent to a salary of £17,680 per year. Full-time Health & Social Care workers in Brighton & Hove earn on average £470 (before tax etc) per week or £24,440 per year. The average gross weekly pay for part-time workers is around £210, equivalent to £10,920 per year¹.

Figure 8: Average earnings in the sector



Source: Local level sector estimates based on regional and local data from ASHE 2008. Note: Average wage includes veterinary activities.

What people earn when they enter full-time work in Health & Social Care in Brighton & Hove depends on the job that they do. However, some people could expect a weekly pay of around £290 rising to around £590 per week for more skilled and experienced employees.

¹ Note: these figures are based on local average earnings and South East earnings for Health & Social Care from the Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings.



D How many job vacancies are there?

On average Jobcentre Plus are notified of around 130 job vacancies in the Health & Social Care sector in Brighton & Hove each month.

Figure 9: Notified Jobcentre Plus vacancies

	Brighton & Hove	Sussex	South East
Average number of vacancies each month (Oct 08 - Sept 09)	130	700	3,260

Source: Jobcentre Plus Vacancies.

However, not all vacancies in Health & Social Care are listed with Jobcentre Plus. There are also other organisations and websites that advertise vacancies for the sector. For example, 'NHS Jobs' (<http://www.jobs.nhs.uk/>), 'Jobsgopublic' (<http://www.jobsgopublic.com/>), and 'AllCarejobs' (<http://www.allcarejobs.co.uk/index.aspx>)².

How competitive is the sector?

Around 12% of Health & Social Care employers have vacancies they are finding difficult to fill. This is above the average for all types of employer (7%) and suggests that some employers may be particularly keen to try to attract new staff.

E What might happen in the future?

In the past

Over the last 10 years employment in the Health & Social Care sector has increased in Brighton & Hove by 20% or 2,600 jobs.

In the future

It's difficult to predict but forecasts suggest that employment in Health & Social Care may decrease over the next couple of years. However, the Health & Social Care sector is expected to continue to be an important source of employment over the longer term, with workers needed to support the growing elderly population for example.

F What are the major employers in Health & Social Care in this area?

The table below gives examples of large employers in the sector in Brighton & Hove.

Figure 10: Ten Large Health & Social Care employers in Brighton & Hove

Employer	Type of Health & Social Care	No. of employees
Brighton & Sussex University Hospitals NHS Trust	Hospital	5,800
South Downs Health Care Trust	Hospital	1,500
Nuffield Health Brighton Hospital	Hospital	251 – 500
Sussex Nuffield Hospital	Hospital	250
The Marlets Hospice	Hospice	101-250
The Nevill Hospital	Hospital	101-250
NHS Brighton & Hove Stop Smoking Service	Health Authorities	101-250
Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust	NHS Trust	51-100
Care UK PLC	Care support for elderly & disabled	51-100
Carewatch Care services	Care Services	51-100

Source: Brighton & Hove Business Directory.

² A wide range of recruitment sites are available. These are just some examples.

