



Social workers on the Register

1 April 2019



What are the main points?

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

6,263 social workers are registered, an increase from **6,133** in **2018**

3,806 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 women to men remains **4:1**

The percentage of social workers employed by local authority social services decreased from **75% in 2014** to **72% this year**

The percentage employed in the private sector increased from **5% in 2014** to **8%**

The percentage who hold a master's or bachelor's degree in social work increased from **29% in 2014** to **46% this year**



How many left and joined the Register?

In the last year, **276** social workers left the Register and **406** joined

48% of those leaving did not maintain their registration

25% of those leaving retired

8% continued to work in social care outside Wales

3 social workers were removed following a fitness to practise hearing



What qualifications do social workers hold?

46% hold a bachelor's or master's degree in social work

38% hold a diploma in social work

13% hold an older accepted social work qualification

3% qualified outside the UK



Where are social workers employed?

72% work in local authority social services

8% work in the private sector

5% work in the third sector

4% are self-employed

43% of social workers have been in their current role for three years or less

12% have been in their current role for **10** years or more



What is the profile of social workers?

There are **5,114** women and **1,149** men

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

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

38.5% of social workers speak some Welsh or are fluent

2.5% of social workers have a disability