

# A summary of the adult social care sector and workforce in Cambridgeshire 2023/24



Across England, the vacancy rate has decreased compared to last year and the number of filled posts has increased. During this period international recruitment increased which has impacted these trends.

Workers in Cambridgeshire had on average 8.6 years of experience in the sector and 70% of the workforce had been working in the sector for at least three years.

We have many resources and tools available to help. Please visit our [values-based recruitment](#) page for more information. Skills for Care have also collaborated with the adult social care sector and people who draw on care and support to develop a [Workforce Strategy](#), which includes [attraction recommendations and commitments](#).

## **Employment information**

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We estimate Cambridgeshire had 14,500 adult social care filled posts in the local authority and independent sectors. These included 1,200 managerial roles, 650 regulated profession roles, 10,500 direct care (including 9,000 care workers), and 2,200 other-non-care providing roles.

The average number of sickness days taken in the last year in Cambridgeshire was 4.3, (4.5 in Eastern and 5.3 across England). With an estimated directly employed workforce of 14,000, this means employers in Cambridgeshire lost approximately

## Qualifications, training and skills

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We believe that everyone working in adult social care should be able to take part in learning and development so that they can carry out their roles effectively. Learning and development helps everyone to develop the right skills and knowledge to enable them to provide high-quality care and support.

Skills for Care estimates show that 43% of the direct care providing workforce in Cambridgeshire hold a *relevant* adult social care qualification (44% in Eastern and 47% in England). Raw data from the ASC-WDS showed, of those workers without a relevant adult social care qualification recorded, 56% had five or more years of experience in the adult social care sector, 72% had engaged with the Care Certificate and 78% had completed training.

### Factors affecting turnover

Together with a data science specialist, we used ASC-WDS information to create machine learning models that were used to assess which variables had an effect on adult social care workers' propensity to leave their posts.

### Across England, variables that influence the likelihood of a care worker leaving their role were:

Workers who travelled further were more likely to leave.

Those under 25, and over 60 years old, were more likely to leave their posts.

Turnover decreased with higher levels of experience working in the sector.

Likelihood of leaving decreased as pay levels increased.

Likelihood of leaving decreased with higher levels of experience in role.

Likelihood of leaving decreased if workers had more training.

Turnover decreased if workers had a higher number of contracted hours.

Likelihood of leaving decreased if workers had fewer sickness days.

Workers on zero-hours contracts were more likely to leave their posts.

Likelihood of high turnover rates increased if the establishment had high turnover historically.

For more information please email [analysis@skillsforcare.org.uk](mailto:analysis@skillsforcare.org.uk)

For more information please see Chapter 9 of 'The State of the adult social care sector and workforce, 2024' available at:

[www.skillsforcare.org.uk/Stateof](http://www.skillsforcare.org.uk/Stateof)

### Analytical service and relevant resources

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Our analysis team provides an external analysis service which is able to produce a range of in-depth reports, tailored to your specific requirements.

You can commission us to help you:

Partner with us to draw on our adult social care data and expertise to win bids and tenders.

Provide a detailed analysis of a geographic area, including analysis below local authority level.

Draw on our data science capabilities - discover how key outcomes (such as CQC scores, turnover rates and vacancy rates) can be improved.

Provide trends back to 2012/13 and forecasts for how the workforce could look like in the future.

Request a feed of data to enhance or improve a product or service.

Skills for Care provides outstanding workforce intelligence relied upon by the sector to make decisions about adult social care planning and service delivery. To read more publications, including the 'State of the adult social care sector and workforce in Eastern' and key workforce topic areas please see:

[www.skillsforcare.org.uk/WIpublications](http://www.skillsforcare.org.uk/WIpublications)

For more detail about the methodology used to create these estimates please see:

[www.skillsforcare.org.uk/workforceestimates](http://www.skillsforcare.org.uk/workforceestimates)

### Interactive visualisations

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Two interactive visualisations have been created at an LA level, to enable you to see and understand your workforce intelligence in a more visual and interactive way. One allows you to see your LA area in more detail and another to compare LA areas. To access the visualisations, please see

[www.skillsforcare.org.uk/lasummaries](http://www.skillsforcare.org.uk/lasummaries)