There are now more than 700,000 people on our register – more than ever. This includes nurses and midwives eligible to practise in the UK and nursing associates eligible to practise in England.

The number of nurses, midwives and nursing associates on our register grew from 698,237 in April to 706,252 in September.

In comparison, our register grew by 3,340 people during the same period the previous year, April to September 2018.

The number of nurses on our register grew from 653,544 in April to 660,213 in September.

The number of midwives on our register increased from 36,916 in April to 37,255 in September.

The number of nursing associates grew from 489 in April to 1,488 in September.

A new profession on our register since January 2019, which bridges the gap between registered nurses and health and care assistants in England.
The number of people aged 61–65 grew by 2,220 (5.57%), compared to 1,659 (1.48%) in the 21–30 bracket. This means the number of people on our register approaching retirement age is growing quicker than the number of under-30s.

From April to September 2018, the number of people aged 61–65 grew by 2,088 and those aged 21–30 increased by 1,454.

For the first time, we have published the number of people with additional recordable qualifications. Specialist health visitor qualifications and specialist district nurse qualifications are the largest of these groups. In September 2019 there were 22,967 people with specialist health visitor qualifications and 15,608 people with specialist district nurse qualifications.

The number of professionals from outside the EEA increased from 73,308 to 77,373. Of these professionals, 30,666 (39.6%) were trained in the Philippines and 21,035 (27.2%) in India.

From April to September 2018, the number of professionals from outside the EEA grew by 2,053.

The number of professionals from the European Economic Area (EEA) on our register fell from 33,035 in April to 31,973 in September.

From April to September 2018, the number of professionals from the EEA fell by -1,241.

The number of nurses in all four fields of practice has increased. However, while the number of learning disabilities nurses has grown by 21 (+0.12%) to a total of 17,146, this is more than 1,000 fewer than five years ago.

From April to September 2018, the number of people aged 61–65 grew by 2,088 and those aged 21–30 increased by 1,454.

Specialist health visitor qualifications and specialist district nurse qualifications are the largest of these groups. In September 2019 there were 22,967 people with specialist health visitor qualifications and 15,608 people with specialist district nurse qualifications.
Joiners’ data doesn’t include those re-joining the register having previously left. Also, the overall number on the register is from one point in time, whereas the joiners’ and leavers’ data are the sum of activity over six months. Therefore, these figures won’t add up exactly.

* Nursing associates is a new professional role in England, introduced in January 2019.
As of 30 September 2019, there were 1,488 nursing associates on our register.