



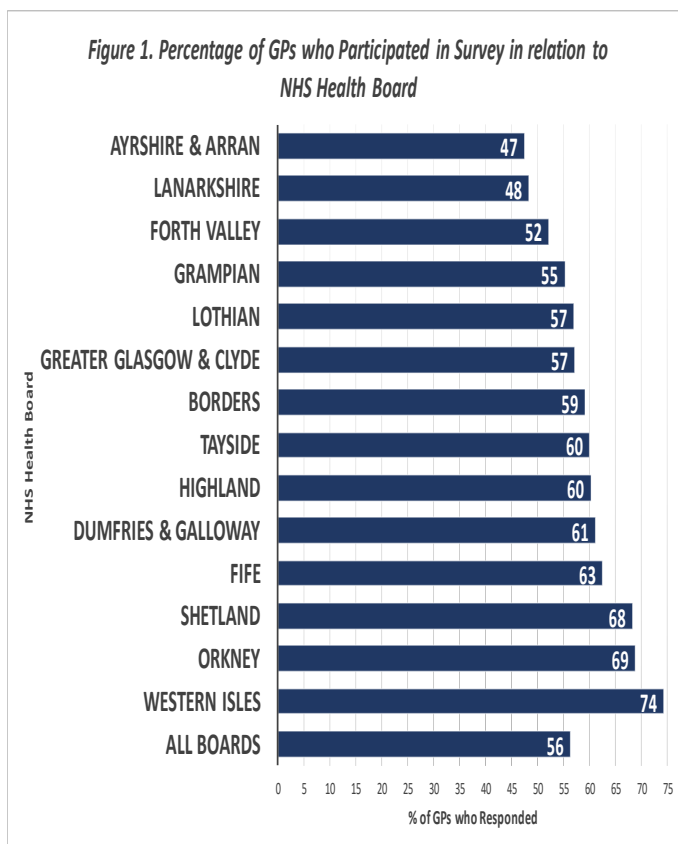
Scottish School of Primary Care

2018 Scottish GP Survey

Results Summary

This self-completed questionnaire survey of all GPs (excluding locums) in Scotland was funded and carried out by the Scottish School of Primary Care (SSPC) between July and September 2018. It included work-related satisfaction questions that have been used in previous UK GP surveys, as well as some additional questions on the new GP contract and GP Clusters. This paper presents a summary of the results of our preliminary analysis.

56.4% of GPs participated in the survey, a much higher response rate than the 20-30% achieved for similar UK GP surveys. Our respondents represented all territorial health boards, all Health and Social Care Partnerships and 88% of all GP Practices.



There were some differences in response rates between health boards; lowest from NHS Ayrshire & Arran and NHS Lanarkshire and highest from NHS Western Isles (Figure 1).

There were no differences in GP response in relation to deprivation of their patients (when categorised whether or not over one-third lived in the most deprived quintile).

The characteristics of respondents are summarised in Table 1.

Table 1. Characteristics of Respondents

Gender	Number (%)
male	1023 (41.5)
female	1434 (58.2)
not specified	8 (0.3)
Age	Years
minimum	28
maximum	73
mean (standard deviation)	46.3 (8.625)
Date Qualified as GP	Year
earliest	1970
latest	2018
Current Role	Number (%)
partner/principal	2048 (83.1)
salaried	387 (15.7)
other	10 (0.4)
not specified	20 (0.8)
Years in Current Practice	Number
minimum	0
maximum	43
mean (standard deviation)	12.5 (9.405)
Sessions Worked Each Week	Number
minimum	1
maximum	14
mean (standard deviation)	6.85 (1.751)

Most GPs (92.6%) reported that they were not currently seeking a different working model.

Activities contributing to the workloads of respondents are summarised in Table 2.

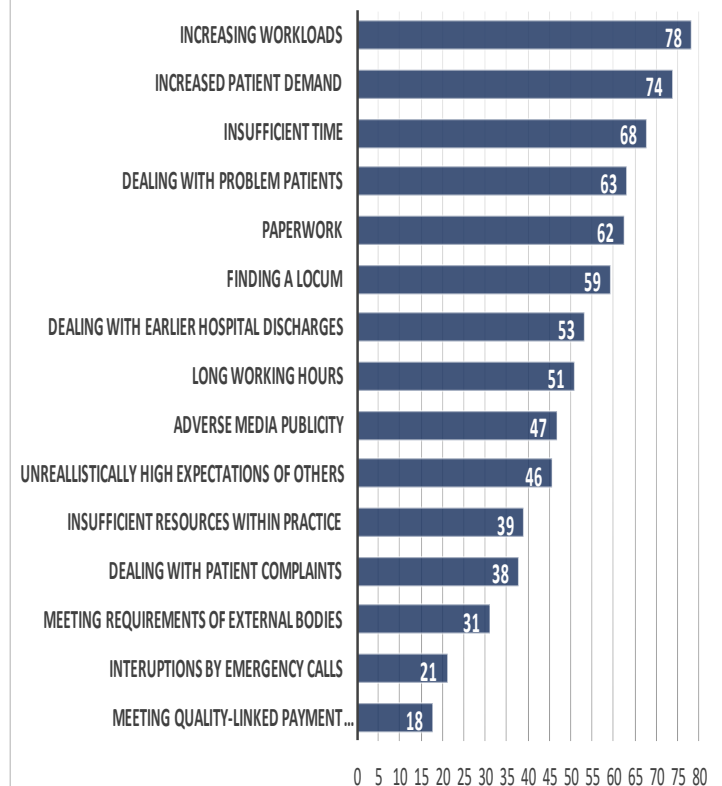
Table 2. Reported Weekly GP Workload	
Direct Patient Care	Number of Hours
minimum	0
maximum	80
mean (standard deviation)	24.77 (8.774)
Indirect Patient Care	Number of Hours
minimum	0
maximum	30
mean (standard deviation)	7.50 (4.575)
Practice Administration	Number of Hours
minimum	0
maximum	20
mean (standard deviation)	2.69 (2.454)
External Meetings	Number of Hours
minimum	0
maximum	24
mean (standard deviation)	0.98 (2.075)
Other Work	Number of Hours
minimum	0
maximum	40
mean (standard deviation)	2.44 (2.591)

Considerable work-related pressures were reported, the highest related to increasing workload and patient demand and lowest to meeting quality-linked related payment requirements (Figure 2).

More than half of the GP survey respondents (54.1%) believed that at least one-fifth of their workload could be carried out by new types of practitioners in general practice (such as, clinical pharmacists, advanced nurse practitioners, MSK physiotherapists, paramedics).

In terms of importance, additional investment in more GPs was rated as the most important by 68.1% of respondents whilst investment in a more diverse clinical workforce to support GPs was considered most important by 28.5% of respondents.

Figure 2. Percentage of Respondents Reporting more than Considerable Pressure



Analyses are ongoing, and further findings will be presented at the 2019 SSPC Annual Conference on the 28th of May. For more information on the programme and to reserve a place at the conference, please see <http://www.sspc.ac.uk/events/conferences/>

We are grateful to everyone who participated in this survey. We will be able to compare our findings with those of other similar UK surveys. It will also provide important information on the GP workforce now, in terms of job satisfaction and future working intentions, but perhaps more importantly will form a 'baseline' for future surveys as the new ways of working expand and embed in Scotland. **Once again, many thanks.**