

FOI DOF/2025-0292

Request

Can you please provide the following information:

1. How many Grade 7 posts are expected to be filled via competition IRC313501, broken down by Department and location.
2. How many Grade 6 posts are expected to be filled via competition IRC306699, broken down by Department and location.
3. How many Grade 7s are there currently in the NI Civil Service?
4. How many Grade 7s currently work part-time (less than 37 hours)?
5. How many Grade 6s are there currently in the NI Civil Service?
6. How many Grade 6s currently work part-time (less than 37 hours)?

DoF Response

I can confirm the Department holds some of the information requested.

1 & 2. Details of the total vacancies in each department is not held centrally by Department of Finance. Each Civil Service department is responsible for managing its resources – both financial and staff. Each department determines its individual workforce needs and is responsible for ensuring that any additional staffing resources are affordable. When a department identifies a vacancy that needs filled, the request is referred to NICSHR to initiate the process to fill the post. NICSHR liaises with all departments on an ongoing basis to seek to prioritise recruitment activity within allocated financial and staff resources.

As at the end of April 2025, (the most recent figures available at time of the request), the NICSHR was managing a caseload of 8 vacancies expected to be filled from competition IRC313501 and 20 vacancies expected to be filled from competition IRC306699. The breakdown of the vacancies by Department and location for each Competition is shown in Table 1 and Table 2 below.

Table 1 - G7 Competition IRC313501

Location	DAERA	DfC	DfI	Total
Ballykelly	2			2
Belfast	2	1	2	5
Downpatrick	1			1
Total	5	1	2	8

Table 2 - G6 Competition IRC306699

Location	DAERA	DfC	DfE	DoH	DOJ	Total
Ballykelly	4					4
Belfast	2	9	1	1	1	14
Derry-Londonderry	1					1
Lisburn	1					1
Total	8	9	1	1	1	20

3. As at month end April 2025 (the most recent data available at the time of request), there are 1,372 substantive NICS Grade 7 staff.

4. As at month end April 2025 (the most recent data available at the time of request), there are 257 substantive NICS Grade 7 staff who work part-time hours. Part-time employees are defined, for reporting purposes, as those working less than 37 hours per week.

5. As at month end April 2025 (the most recent data available at the time of request), there are 304 substantive NICS Grade 6 staff.

6. As at month end April 2025 (the most recent data available at the time of request), there are 57 substantive NICS Grade 6 staff who work part-time hours. Part-time employees are defined, for reporting purposes, as those working less than 37 hours per week.