

**FOI DOF/2026-0154**

**Request**

1. Could you please provide me a count of how many declared Assistant Statistician positions there are service wide?
2. How many posts have been declared as of today?
3. Where are these posts at this time both department and location.
4. How many posts in the NICS at Assistant Statistician are currently filled by agency staff, please note not substantive grade (SO) the specific role.

**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 February 2026, (the most recent figures available at time of the request), NICSHR was managing a caseload of 3 Assistant Statistician vacancies.

3. All 3 Assistant Statistician vacancies are based in the Department of Finance, Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency (NISRA) in Belfast.
4. Three Assistant Statistician roles are currently filled by agency staff. These roles are located within NISRA Census Office for Northern Ireland, NISRA Economic and Labour Market Statistics Branch, and NISRA Research Support Unit respectively.