Research and development leadership in nursing across the UK: A longitudinal study

Nursing and midwifery professoriate survey - 2013

Since 2003, the RCN have kept a record of nurses, midwives and health visitors who hold tenured chairs in UK Higher Education Institutions. The numbers of nurses holding professorial positions in the UK may serve as a proxy indicator of the development of nursing research and academic leadership within the professions, particularly when compared with cognate professional groups.

The last comprehensive survey was conducted in 2013.

A Definition of Professor (UK)

Holders of Established Chairs are appointed principally to provide leadership in a particular academic subject and to bring distinction to activities in this discipline. They are also expected to represent their subject – and their university – on a national scale, so that their promotion of the subject is widely recognised and supported by peer review.

Personal Chairs are in general awarded solely on grounds of high academic m wi

Drivers

2002: Enquiry from a Director of Nursing at a large hospital, wanting to know number of joint professorial appointments *

2003: Baseline assessment done

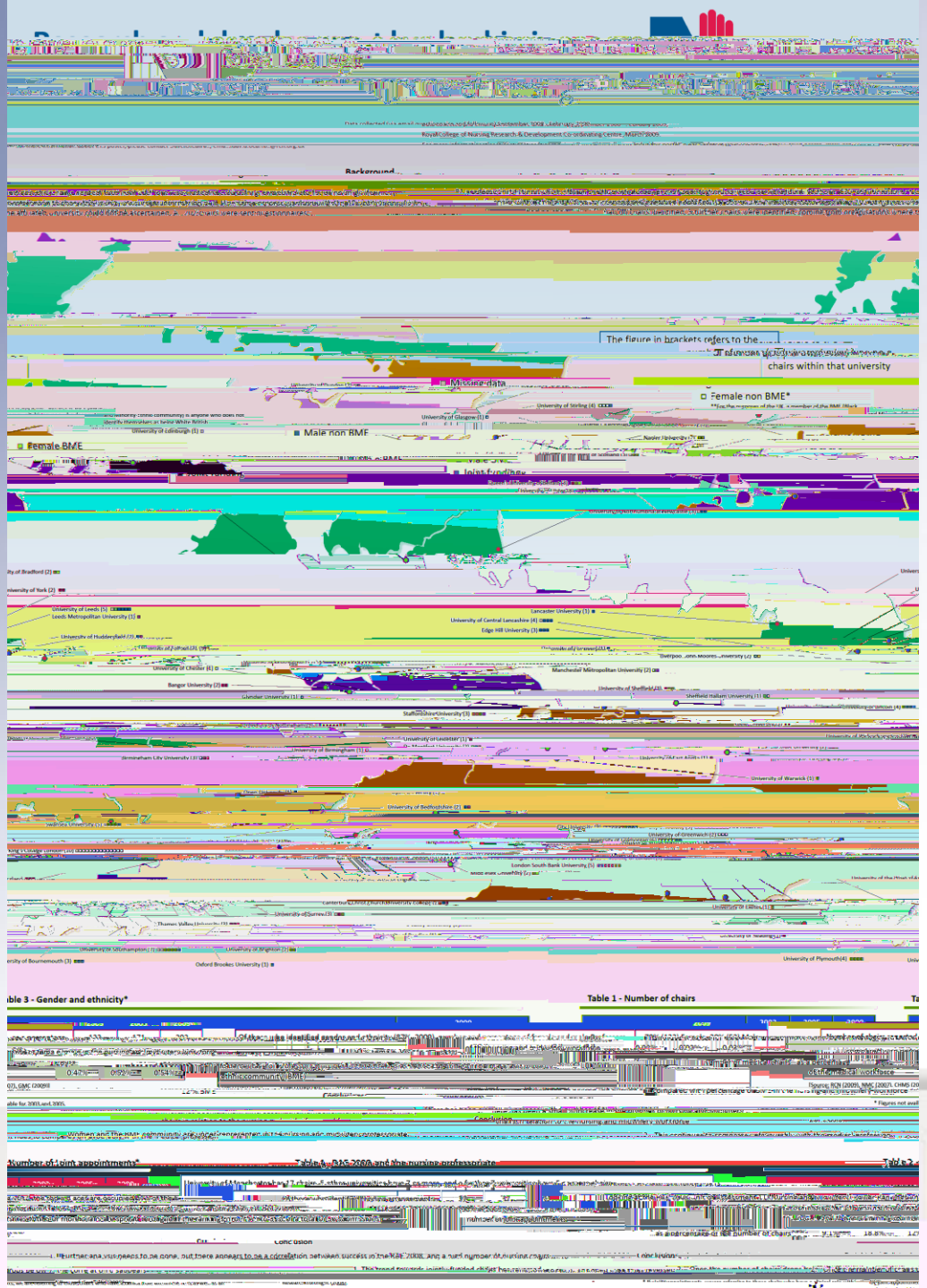
2005: Repeat of exercise

2008: Query about number of professors from Black & Minority Ethnic community

2009 & 2013: Process of enquiry. Additional questions asked

:HRQWDQWKHWRQDQGRERGKRFRPSRVLWLRQDDGHH workforce of nursing and midwifery professors

2009 survey


Background
The figure in brackets refers to the
chairs within that university
Female non BME*
Male non BME
Female BME
Table 1 - Number of chairs
Conclusion

What did we set out to do?

Number of chairs

Critical mass of research capability

Policy drive for clinical academics

Gender and ethnicity

Age range

Method

2009 dataset was reviewed, cleansed and updated using institutional websites as the primary data source

The questionnaire was subsequently sent by email to all known nurses and midwives holding a chair in the UK (n=234)

A reminder email was sent to non-respondents 3 weeks after the first communication

Professors identified for the first time during the census were also sent the questionnaire (n=27)

The survey was conducted between June - September 2013

An 85% response rate was achieved.

Professoriate survey 2013

(Spot the mistake!)

Name:
Job Title:
Place of Work:
Type of chair: (Personal / Appointed / Emeritus):
Funding of Chair: (University/NHS/Joint):
Gender:
Do you identify yourself as being a member of the BME community (Y/N):
Length of time a professor:
Age (<30; 31-40; 41-50; 51-60; >60):

Number of chairs - comparison with medical profession

673,567 nurses and midwives on the register

Nursing and midwifery professors

2013 = 252* (0.04%)

673,567 nurses and midwives on the register (NMC, 2013)

Medical professors

2012 = 1,308 (0.50%)

259,680 doctors on the register (GMC, 2014)

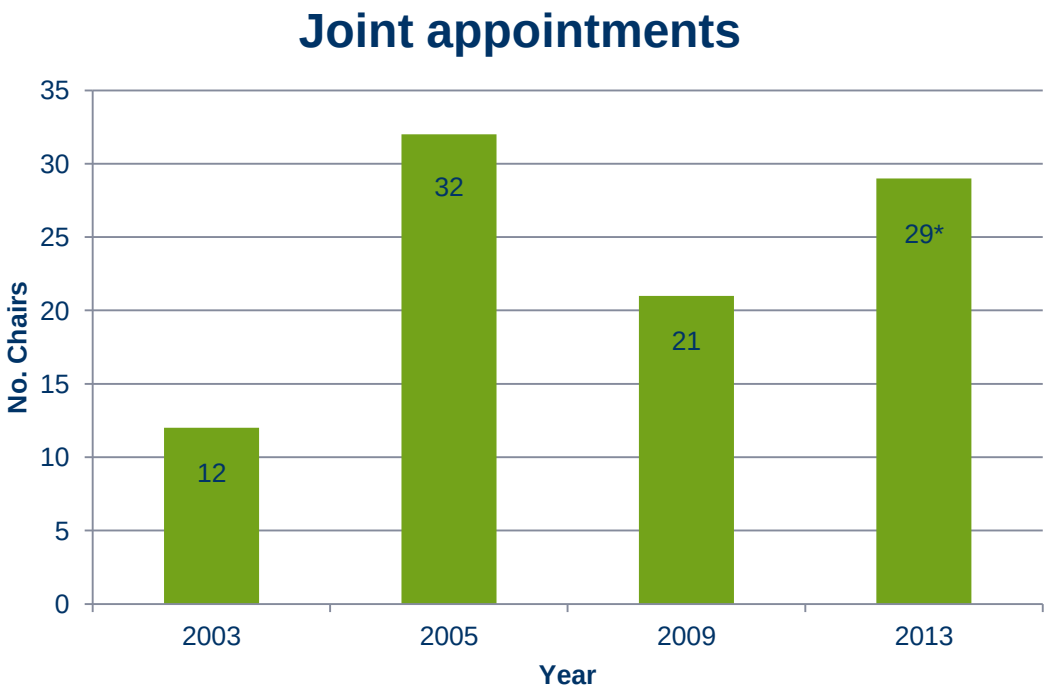
Number of nursing and midwifery chairs if it matched the medical profession (0.5% of the workforce) =

**Excludes the 10 retired professors to enable comparison*

3,368

Revel College
of Nursi

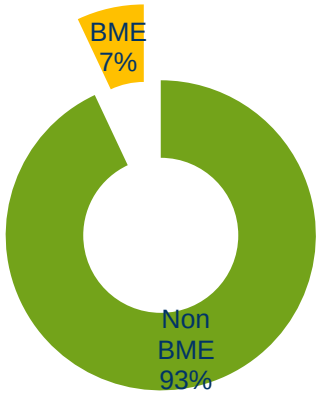
Policy drive for clinical academics – is this borne out?



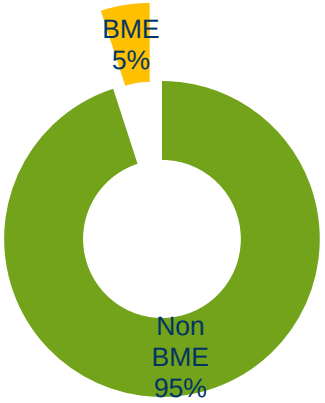
** Of 214 (85%) who answered this question*

Ethnicity – a glass ceiling?*

Professoriate - 2009

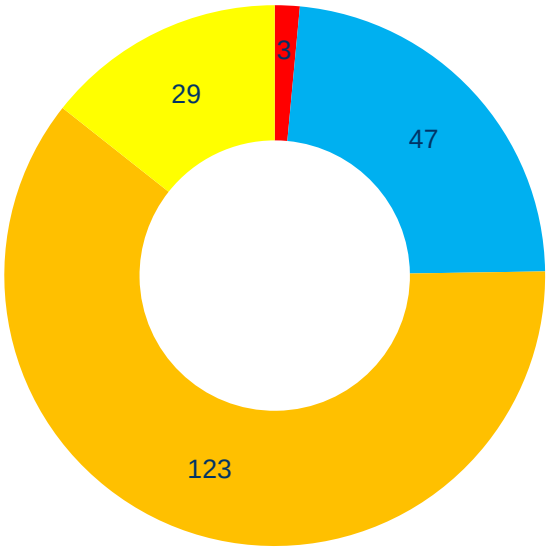


Professoriate - 2013*



Ethnicity

** Of 226 (86%) who answered this question*



Age Range

Age range*

*2013 - <30 = **0;** 31-40 = **3**; 41-50 = **47**; 51-60 = **123**; >60 = **29***

** Of 202 (77%) who answered this question*

Conclusions

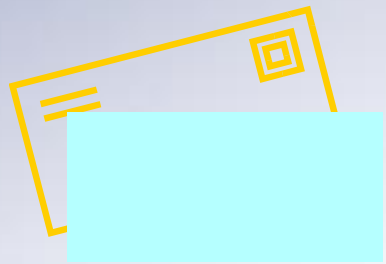
Number. **Doubling of number is a step in the right direction, but nowhere near the number of the medical profession**

Critical mass.

Further details and contact

Nursing professoriate: www.rcn.org.uk/development/research

- 0161-226 3406



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