



**North & South Essex**  
Local Medical Committees

**Essex LMC  
Workforce Overview:  
April 2026**



# North & South Essex

Local Medical Committees

## Essex GP Workforce & Patient Growth Snapshot (April 2026)

### Growing Patient Demand

**2,015,000+**  
Registered Patients

The patient list size has seen a steady, continuous increase since October 2022.



### Record-High Enrollment

Patient numbers grew from approximately 1.92 million in 2022 to over 2 million by April 2026.

### Permanent GP Workforce Capacity



**745.6** Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) GPs

Represents the total combined capacity of GP Partners and Salaried GPs.

### Partner vs. Salaried Distribution



**Total Permanent GPs:**  
984 Headcount / 745.6 FTE



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## **Essex LMC Workforce and Patient Population Analysis: April 2026**

### **Executive Summary**

This briefing document provides a comprehensive overview of the primary care landscape in Essex as of April 2026, based on the Essex LMC Databank. The data reveals a significant long-term growth in the registered patient population, which transitioned from approximately 1.92 million in late 2022 to over 2.01 million by April 2026. While the total permanent GP workforce (Partners and Salaried) shows a slight month-on-month increase in both headcount and Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) positions, there remains a notable disparity between headcount and actual clinical capacity (FTE), particularly within the salaried GP sector.

### **Patient Population Trends**

The "List Size" data, representing the number of registered patients, indicates a steady and substantial upward trajectory over a 42-month period:

- **Growth Trajectory:** In October 2022, the registered patient population stood at approximately 1,919,000. By April 2026, this figure rose to approximately 2,015,000.
- **Peak and Stabilisation:** The population peaked in early 2026 (approximately January/February) at just under 2,020,000 before showing a very slight decline/stabilisation leading into April 2026.
- **Net Increase:** Over the period displayed, the region has seen a net increase of approximately 96,000 registered patients.



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## Workforce Composition and Capacity

The workforce data, sourced from the NHS England workforce dataset, categorises permanent GPs into Partners and Salaried roles. As of April 2026, the total permanent workforce consists of 984 individuals, contributing a total of 745.6 FTE.

## Comparative Workforce Data (April 2026)

<u>Metric</u>	<u>GP Partners</u>	<u>Salaried GPs</u>	<u>Total Permanent GPs</u>
Headcount (Apr 2026)	530	454	984
Headcount (Mar 2026)	528	453	981
FTE (Apr 2026)	471.7	273.9	745.6
FTE (Mar 2026)	470.6	271.6	742.2

## Key Workforce Insights

- **GP Partners:** Partners remain the largest segment of the permanent workforce by both headcount (530) and FTE (471.7). They maintain a high FTE-to-headcount ratio (approximately 0.89), suggesting that partners generally work closer to full-time hours.
- **Salaried GPs:** While the salaried headcount is significant at 454, the FTE contribution is considerably lower at 273.9. This results in an FTE-to-headcount ratio of approximately 0.60, indicating a high prevalence of part-time working arrangements within this cohort.
- **Monthly Growth:** Between March 2026 and April 2026, there was a modest increase across all workforce metrics:
  - Total headcount increased by 3.
  - Total FTE increased by 3.4.
- **Capacity Gap:** Despite the headcount of nearly 1,000 permanent GPs (984), the actual full-time equivalent capacity is approximately 24% lower (745.6 FTE) due to the composition of the workforce and part-time commitments.



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