

UK Veterinary Workforce Issues

Historical Context

As of 2024, there are 30,272 veterinary surgeons on the UK-Practising Register, a number which has been gradually increasing over the past 10 years (Figure 1)¹. Over the past 15 years, there has been a notable gender shift in the profession. While historically male-dominated, as evident from the age distribution of gender in Figure 3, since 2008, there has been a substantial increase in the number of female veterinarians on the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (RCVS) Register. As of 2021, there are 1.8 times more female veterinarians (17,484) than male veterinarians (9,737) on the register – meaning for every 10 male vets, there are 18 female vets. Additionally, the UK’s veterinary training capacity has expanded from 6 schools and 739 student places in the 2005/06 academic year (Figure 4), to 12 schools and approximately 1,573 student places in the 2023/24 academic year. Despite a rising number of UK practising veterinarians and veterinary schools, the profession is unable to meet the increased demands of the industry, which faces persistent and growing workforce shortages - most acutely in the veterinary public health sector. In 2018, data from the veterinary major employers group estimated an 11.5% shortage of veterinarians and this number is believed to have worsened since then.

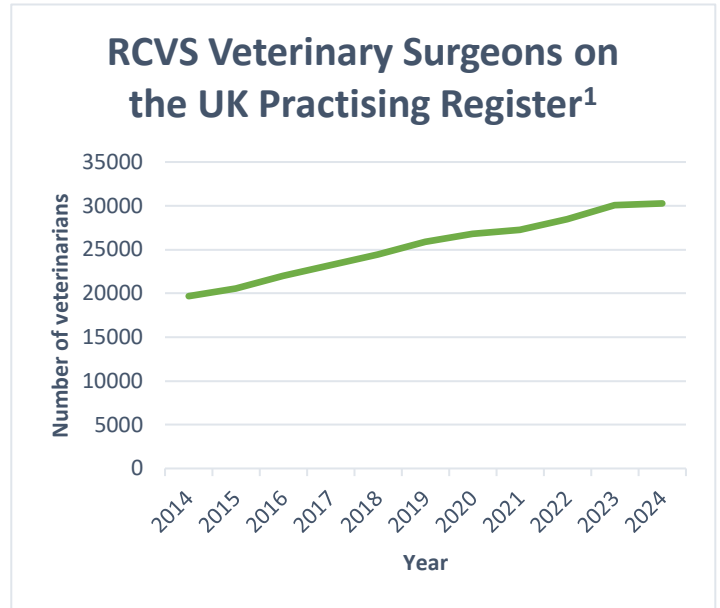


Figure 2: Number of RCVS accredited UK practising veterinary surgeons from 2014-2024

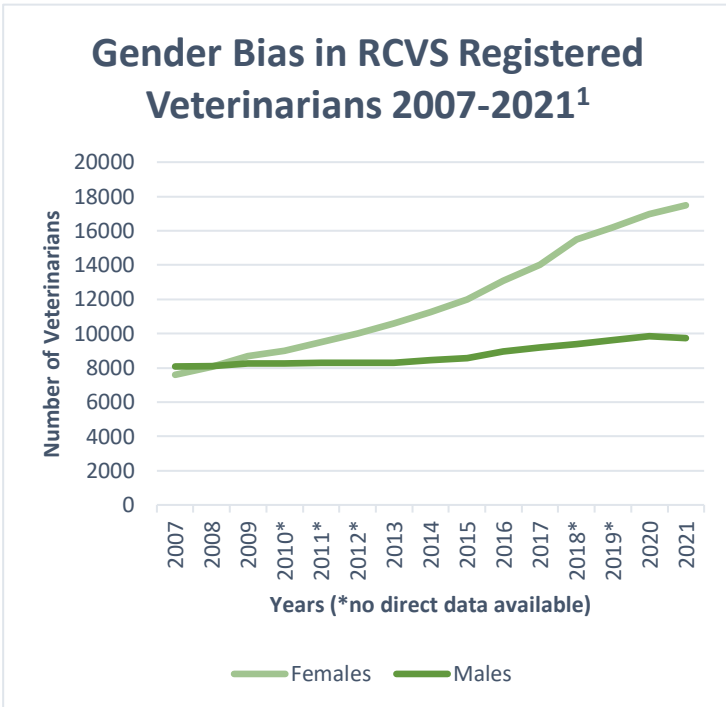


Figure 1: Number of male and female veterinarians on the RCVS register between 2007-2021

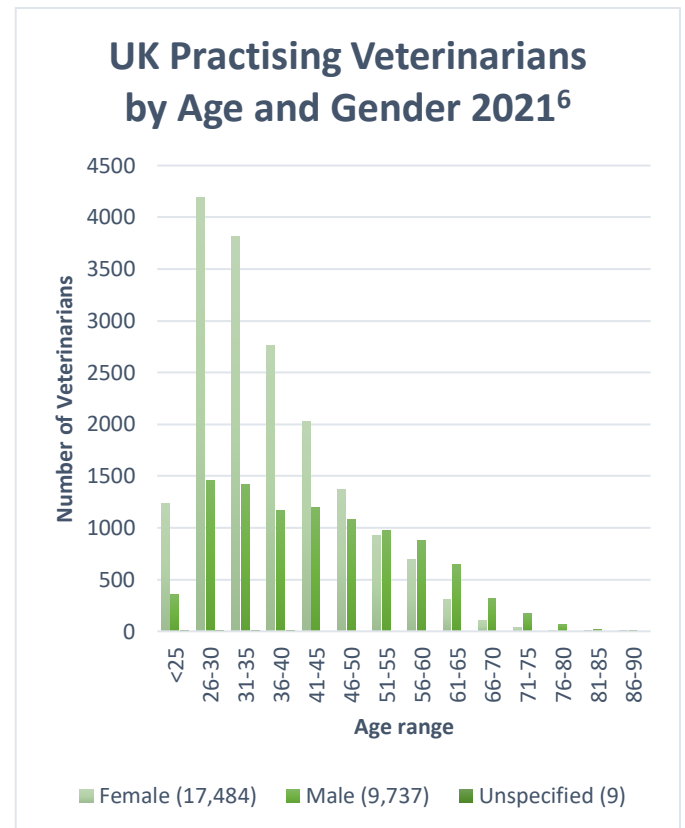


Figure 3: Number of UK practising veterinarians by age and gender 2021

¹ RCVS Facts of various years

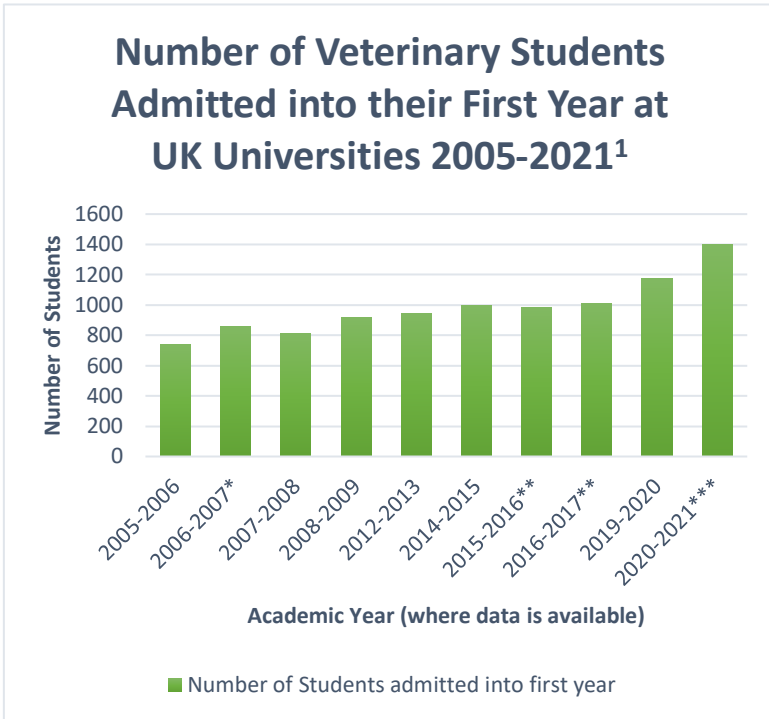


Figure 4: Number of veterinary students admitted into their first year at UK veterinary schools 2005/06-2020/21 academic years.

Notes:
 *University of Nottingham started admitting veterinary students in 2006/07 and are included in data from that year.
 **University of Surrey started admitting veterinary students in 2015/16, but the data was only included in the 2019/20 academic year.
 ***University of Nottingham has two cohorts (April and September) which have been combined for the 2020/21 data.

Workforce Shortage Data

- Following a steady rise in new joiners to the UK vet profession between 2014 to 2018, there has been a marked decline (26%) in new registrations from 2019 (2,782) to 2021 (2,119) (Figure 5).
- There has been an increase in veterinary surgeons leaving the UK-Practising category of the Register since 2018, either by leaving the Register entirely or moving to another registration category.
- In 2020, there was the highest number of vets leaving UK practice in 10 years².
- As a result, the net number of vets joining the UK-Practising category (the total number joining minus the number who have left) has fallen substantially since 2018 (1,360) to 2021 (268) (Figure 5)².
- 37% of total respondents (1,250) to the British Veterinary Association (BVA) voice of the veterinary profession survey 2017 said they were ‘actively thinking about leaving the profession’.³

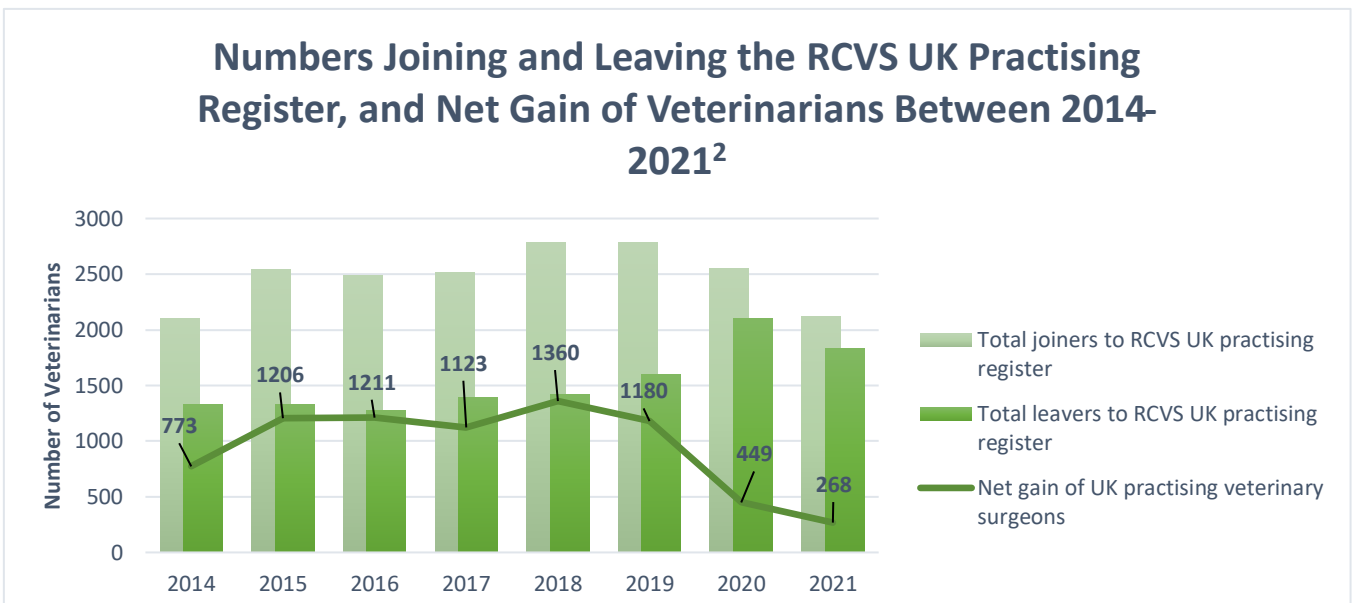


Figure 5: Number of vets leaving and joining the RCVS UK Practising Register with a total net gain of vets between 2014-2021

² RCVS Workforce Summit Report 2021
³ BVA Voice of the Veterinary Profession Survey 2017

- In 2021, 45% of leavers had been in the profession for four years or less - 21% of which had less than one year of experience².
- Furthermore, a large proportion of leavers have considerable veterinary experience; in 2021, 37% of leavers had been on the Register for 10+ years - 23% of which had been on the Register for over 20 years².
- Those who leave the register due to non-payment (51% of those who left the register in 2021) are not asked their reason for leaving. Obtaining this data will allow for a better understanding of reasons vets are choosing to leave the profession.
- RCVS data suggests there has been little change in the length of time people leaving the profession have been on the register in the past decade².

Factors Contributing to Veterinary Workforce Shortages

Veterinary workforce issues are not a novel problem for the profession, however recent events have intensified the issue. Factors contributing to this include increased pressure after the COVID-19 pandemic, reduction on EU-qualified vets entering the UK workforce since Brexit, and a surge in the demand for veterinary services driven by an increase in the UK pet population.

Increased Pressure

The total UK population of pet cats and dogs was 18.6 million in 2014 and has increased by 18% to 22 million in 2023 (Figure 6)⁴. Furthermore, there has been an increased demand for veterinary export health certification on livestock and products of animal origin since Brexit. This has resulted in an increase of export health certificates by 1,276% from 22,990⁵ certificates in 2020 to 316,457⁶ in 2023. There are concerns for animal health and welfare, and UK food safety and security due to the shortage in veterinarians who are required to carry out these checks. The Survey of the Veterinary Profession found that the 5 most common reasons for leaving the profession were; poor work life balance (60%), not feeling valued (55%), chronic stress (49%), long and/or unsocial hours (48%) and pay (44%)². The majority of these feelings are exacerbated by veterinarian shortage and therefore propagates the cycle of people leaving the profession.

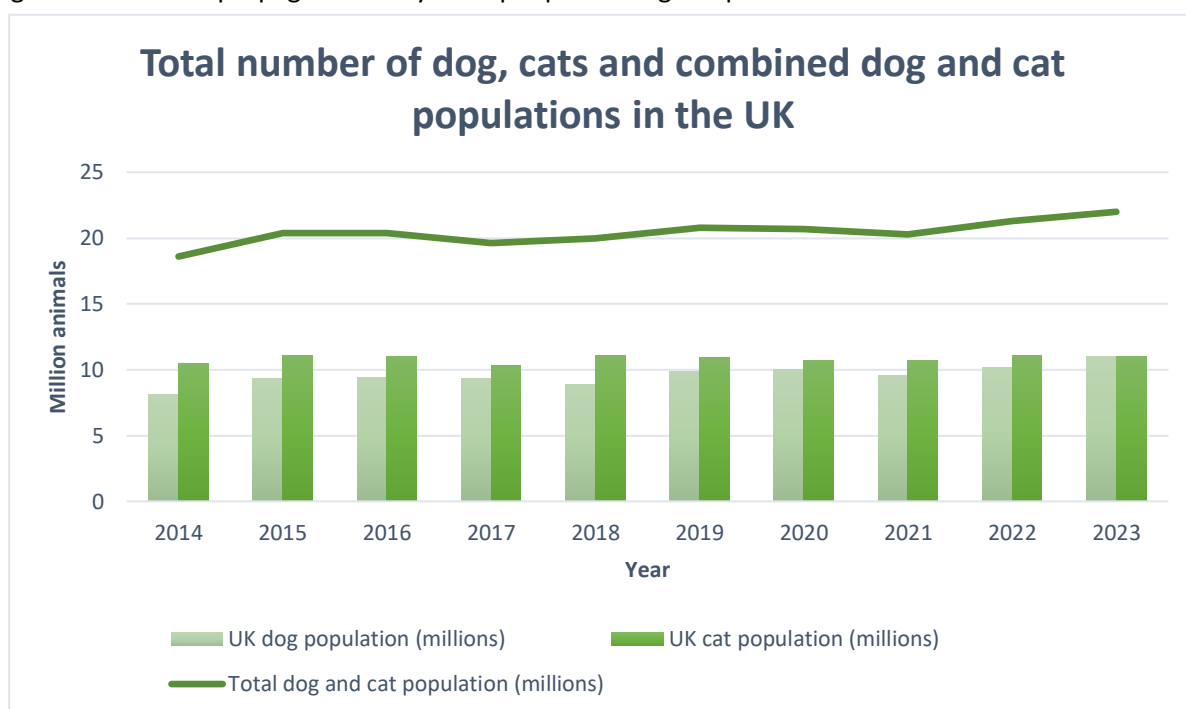


Figure 6: Total number of dog and cat pet populations in the UK from 2014 to 2023

⁴ PDSA PAWS Reports

⁵ <https://www.bva.co.uk/news-and-blog/news-article/uk-s-veterinary-workforce-crisis-deepens-as-eu-registrant-numbers-drop-by-over-two-thirds-since-brexit/>

⁶ <https://s3.eu-west>

[1.amazonaws.com/data.defra.gov.uk/Agriculture/Export Health Certificates Issued Between Great Britain European+ Union by APHA in 2023.pdf](https://s3.eu-west-1.amazonaws.com/data.defra.gov.uk/Agriculture/Export_Health_Certificates_Issued_Between_Great_Britain_European_Union_by_APHA_in_2023.pdf)

Brexit

EU graduated vets leaving the UK veterinary workforce:

- In 2021, 29% of UK registered vets graduated from the EU.
- There is an increased proportion of EU-qualified vets leaving the UK since 2012 increasing from 30% to 46% in 2021, and for the first time overtaking the proportion of leavers who are UK qualified (42%).
- In 2023, there was a 33% attrition rate in Official Veterinarian’s (OV’s) compared to 2022⁷

EU vets no longer coming to the UK to work:

- The RCVS claims EU graduated vets no longer joining the UK veterinary workforce is the most important factor in the fall in new overall registrants¹.
- In 2018, 53% (1,195) of annual new registrants graduated from the EU¹. As of 2021, this dropped to 23% (365) (Figure 7)² - significantly lower than previously, but still reflecting the importance of EU vets to the UK industry⁸.
- Newly published data from the RCVS has shown a partial recovery in new registrations of EU-graduated veterinarians working in the UK to 536 in 2023, but it remains less than 50% of the numbers pre-Brexit.

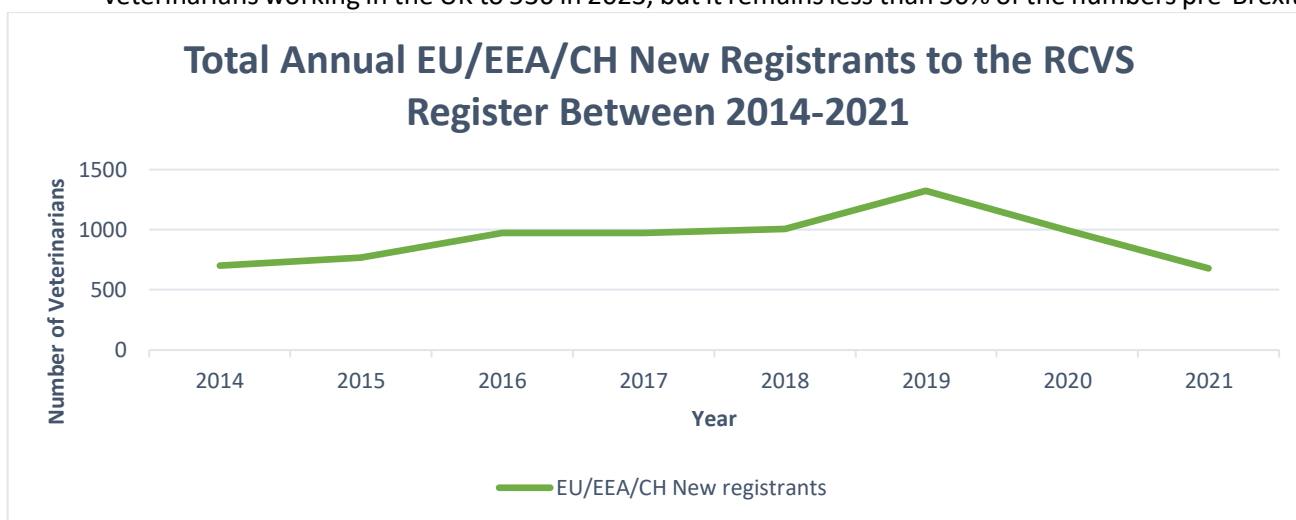


Figure7: Total number of new registrations to the RCVS register with an EU/EEA/CH region of qualification.

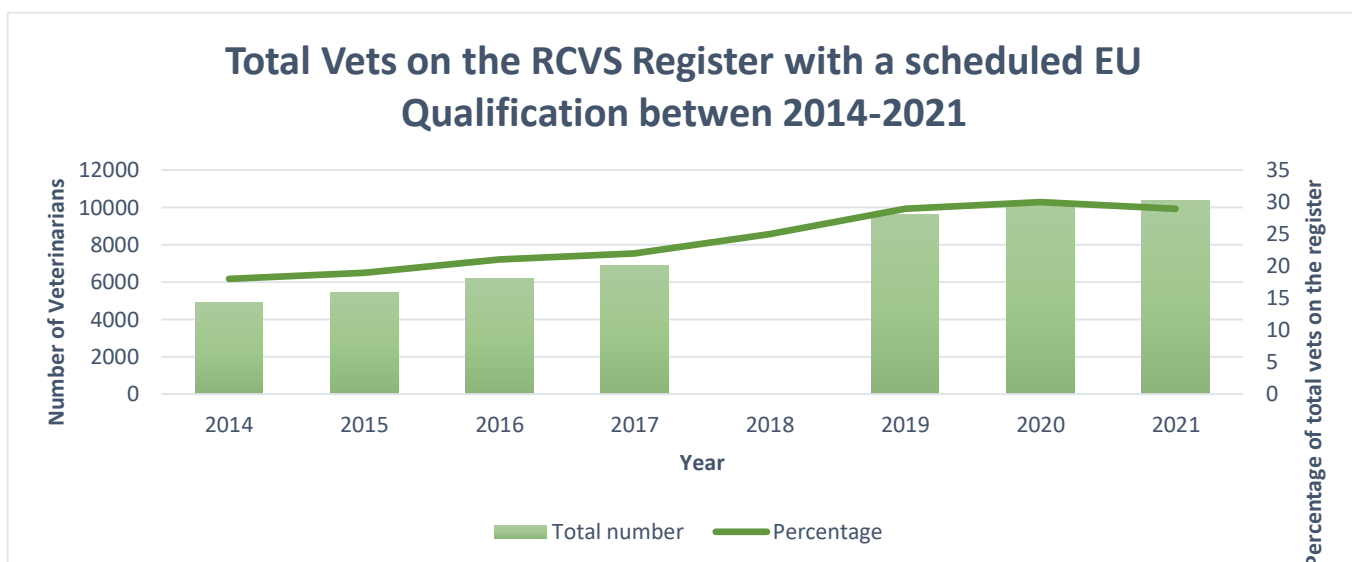


Figure 8: Total number of RCVS Registered vets with a scheduled EU qualification.

Note: no data exists for 2018 (a line of best fit was used for the percentage EU qualification data point for 2018).

⁷ Efracom Veterinary Workforce Shortages 12th March 2024
⁸RCVS Facts 2021

The increased number of EU qualified vets leaving the UK, and fewer numbers joining is thought to be for a multitude of reasons. These include the increase in bureaucracy post-Brexit, the International English Language Testing System (IELTS) Level 7 English language requirement, fewer EU veterinary degrees being recognised in the UK, and the increased requirement of veterinary certification within the EU since Brexit.

Pre-Brexit, all EU veterinary qualifications were recognised in the UK through the mutual recognition of professional qualifications (MRPQ) and there were no official language requirements for EU citizens to work in the UK. Currently, EU-qualified veterinarians wishing to work in the UK must either qualify from an European Association of Establishments for Veterinary Education (EAEVE) or RCVS accredited university (which require a skilled workers visa and an ITLES Level 7 English language score), or if they graduate with a non-recognised qualification, they have to pass the RCVS statutory membership exam (Diagram 1). This examination is expensive, costing £2,500, has no past papers, and is only sat once a year. Furthermore, if the candidate fails any section of the examination, they have to re-sit the whole paper. Overall, European graduated vets must go through a more intensive and laborious system to work legally in the UK, which potentially acts a deterrent for European applicants. In 2023, there was a 33% attrition of OVs working in abattoirs in the UK. One third of these OVs who left because they were unable to achieve ITLES Level 7 as required by the RCVS⁹.

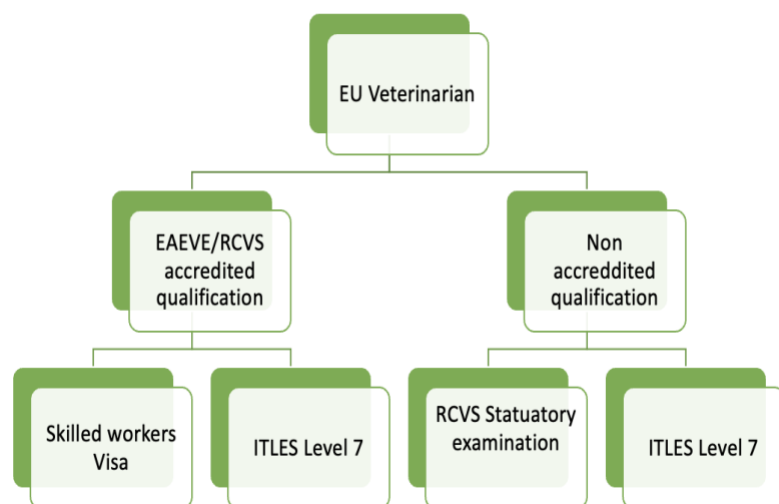


Diagram 1: Post-brexit European veterinary graduate accreditation flow diagram of steps required before being permitted to work in the UK

Home Office Earning Threshold Changes

From the 4th April 2024, the earning threshold for overseas workers were due to increase from £26,200 to £38,700, but have actually increased to approximately £48,000. This could further exacerbate the workforce shortage, as it impact the supply of overseas vets to the UK. Overseas vets often come to the UK in their early-career and will earn far less than this threshold. These changes mean it will cost more to employ vets from overseas (and therefore make obtaining vets in this way unviable) and disproportionately affect the veterinary areas where overseas graduates are overrepresented i.e., in the food chain or academia. The ramifications of this include increasing cost to the taxpayer and people who consume products of animal origin.

Leaving to Work Overseas

In 2021, the four most common countries leavers moved to were Spain, Australia, New Zealand, and the USA. Of those relocating overseas and moving from the UK practising to the practising outside of the UK category a relatively small proportion (25%) were UK graduates, which has been considerably higher in previous years i.e., 38% in 2019². In addition, of those leaving the register completely and going overseas made up on 6% of UK graduates. Of UK graduate leavers, the four most common destination countries were Australia, New Zealand, USA, and Canada².

EAEVE Accreditation

In 5 years' time the direct EAEVE accreditation will stop, meaning that vets from EAEVE-accredited universities in Europe will no longer be able to come to the UK to work and we will lose a significant portion of our workforce. Direct RCVS accreditation of EAEVE universities will help overcome this.

⁹ Oral Evidence Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Vet Shortages 12th March 2024

Feminisation of the Profession

In 1960, under 5% of the UK veterinary surgeons were women¹⁰, as of 2021 the proportion is over 64% (Figure 2). Furthermore, the proportion of new UK-Practising registrants is 77% in 2021, up from 67% in 2017². The reasons for this feminisation are likely multifactorial. The RCVS claims there has been little change in the gender and age profiles of those leaving the profession. The majority of leavers are women (62% in 2021)², however this mirrors the proportion of women in the profession at this time. In the 2019 BVA report on Motivation, Satisfaction and Retention in the profession, women scored consistently higher in thinking about burn-out, desire to leave and lower in their overall job satisfaction compared to men.¹¹

Corporatisation of the Profession

In 2013, almost 90% of the UK veterinary industry were independent practices, however in 2021 they significantly reduced to 45%¹². The majority of practices in the UK are now owned between 6 corporates – the largest of which (IVC) owns over 1,000 practices in the UK alone¹³. Anecdotally, this increase in corporatisation encourages independent vets who own practices to sell out for a significant price and therefore leave the profession to pursue other career avenues.

UK Veterinary Education and Funding

Table 1: UK veterinary undergraduate numbers 2020/21 across the 8 UK vet schools currently producing graduates

| Home location of UK Veterinary Graduates | Total admitted into first year | | Total attending the school | | Total applications for current year | | Total 2020 graduates | |
|--|--------------------------------|-----------|----------------------------|-----------|-------------------------------------|-----------|----------------------|-----------|
| | # | % | # | % | # | % | # | % |
| UK | 1203 | 81 | 5400 | 76 | 8289 | 71 | 841 | 74 |
| EU | 52 | 4 | 314 | 4 | 866 | 8 | 34 | 3 |
| Overseas | 230 | 15 | 1410 | 20 | 2487 | 21 | 266 | 23 |
| <i>EU + Overseas</i> | <i>282</i> | <i>19</i> | <i>1724</i> | <i>24</i> | <i>3353</i> | <i>29</i> | <i>300</i> | <i>26</i> |
| Total | 1485 | | 7124 | | 11642 | | 1141 | |

Currently in the UK, there are 12 vet schools which are formed or in the process of forming, 8 of which are producing graduates. There are 6 UK vet-schools with American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) approval, which are the RVC, Glasgow, Edinburgh, Bristol, Nottingham, and Liverpool. Of these accredited universities, the RVC, Glasgow, and Edinburgh have significantly higher numbers of EU and overseas students which made up 27%, 43% and 49% of all veterinary graduates in 2020, respectively, compared to just 5% from Bristol. The increased funding from overseas students of up to £44,610 per year (RVC 2024/2025) (Glasgow £30,240/year 2024/25) (Edinburgh £34,200/year 2023/2024) been used to fund development of veterinary facilities as well as subsidise homegrown veterinary student fees.

Future veterinary schools are being developed in the UK, particularly in rural areas, with the aim to boost UK-based veterinary graduates who will remain to work in the UK across a variety of veterinary health sectors. Since 2020, 3 new vet schools have been established; Harper Keele (2020), University of Central Lancashire (2023), and Aberystwyth university (2021) which combines with the RVC in years 3-5 and has a focus on production animal issues relevant to Wales. Similarly, the Scottish Rural College, which aims to gain Degree Awarding Powers in Autumn 2024, is the largest provider of veterinary nursing, livestock husbandry and animal care training in Scotland and the veterinary medicine course, of which capacity is expected to be approximately 60 students per year, is designed for individuals from rural backgrounds in Scotland and encourages work in all sectors of the veterinary agriculture industry.

¹⁰ BVA Gender Discrimination in the Veterinary Profession 2018 Report

¹¹ BVA Reports on Motivation, Satisfaction and Retention November 2018

¹² <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/cma-identifies-multiple-concerns-in-vets-market>

¹³ <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/takeover-of-eight-vet-businesses-could-increase-costs-for-animal-owners#:~:text=IVC%20is%20the%20largest%20provider,surgeries%2C%20vaccinations%2C%20and%20microchipping.>

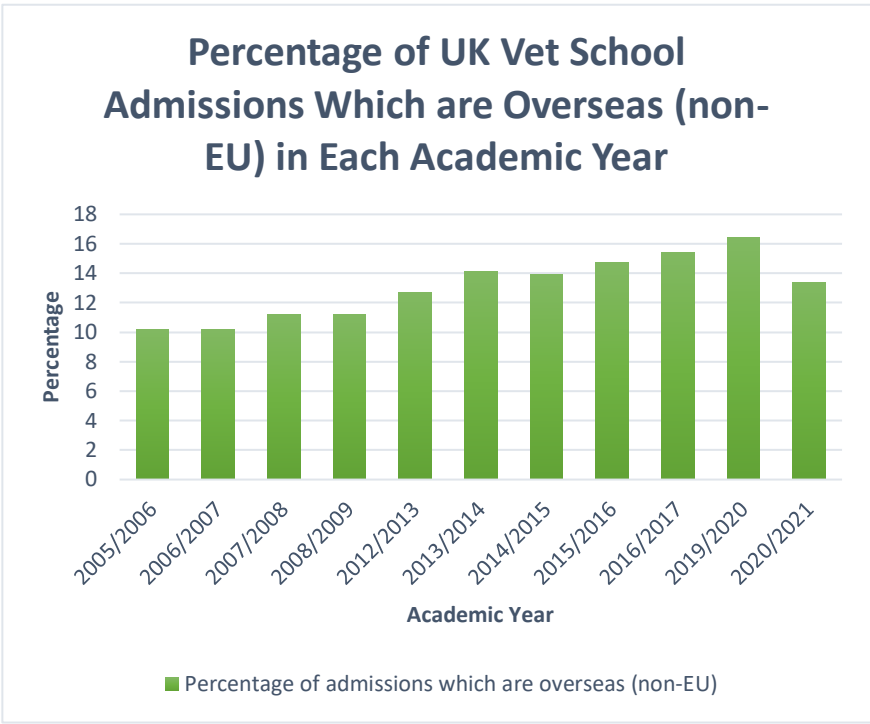


Figure 9: Percentage of undergraduates admitted whose home region is overseas (non-EU)
 Note – no data available for 09/10, 10/11, 11/12, 17/18 and 18/19 academic years

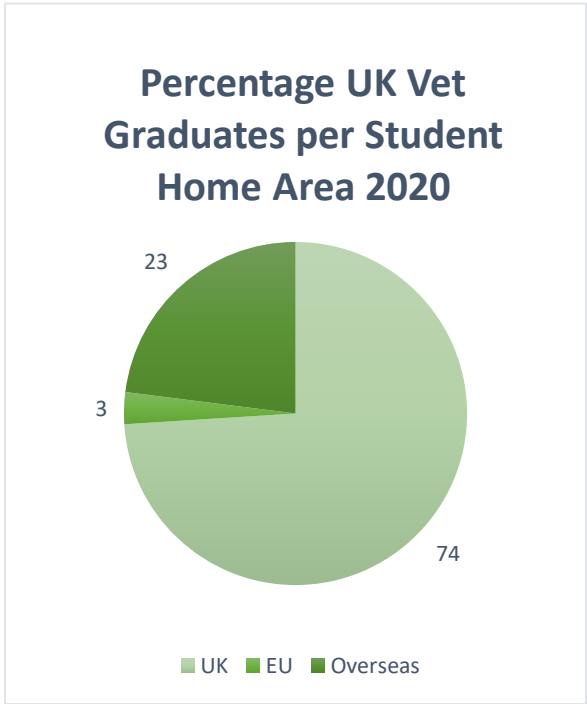


Figure 3: Percentage of UK veterinary graduates based on the student home area in 2020

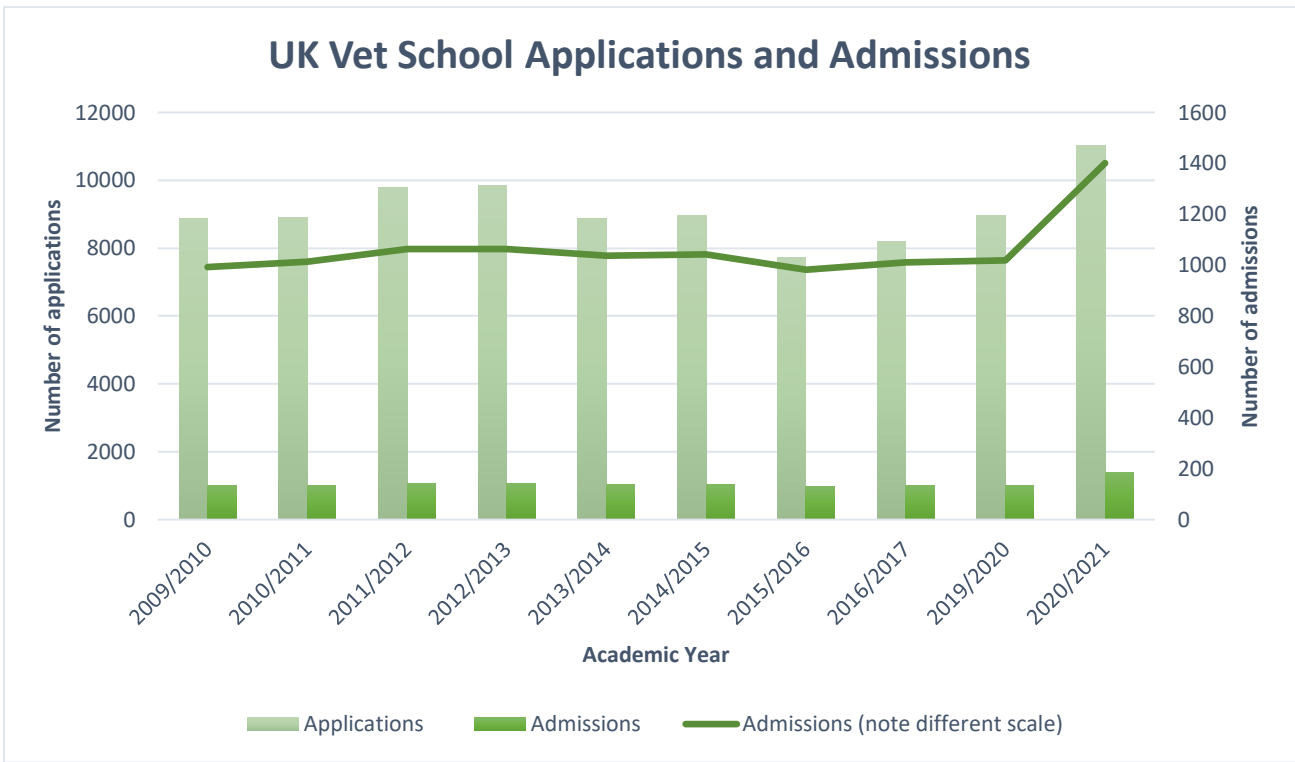


Figure 11: Total UK vet school applications and admissions 2009-2020

Notes:
 The number of applicants is roughly the number of applications divided by 4 (students are allowed to make 4 university choices for veterinary medicine per UCAS application).
 University of Surrey only included in data from 2019 (when they started producing graduates) onwards.
 University of Nottingham now has two cohorts (April and September) which have been combined for the 2020/2021 data.

Unlike medicine and dentistry courses, there are no 'SIFT' payments (funded by the Department of Health and Social Care) for veterinary students, and therefore a veterinary medicine degree (5- or 6-year course from undergraduate level) is the most expensive degree to teach in the UK, with the average teaching cost per full time education (FTE) student £23,282 in 2018/2019¹⁴, with predictions now estimated as high as £32,000 per student per year. The UK undergraduate tuition fee is capped at £9,250/year. Government funding for each student in FTE is £10,580 (adjusted for scaling factor in 2018/2019)¹⁵ for Band A students i.e., those on high-cost courses, which include veterinary medicine. Therefore in 2018/2019, there was a £3,452 funding gap between tuition fees and government grant and the cost of teaching the degree for universities **per student per year**. The government funding for veterinary degrees in England and Wales is capped, therefore, increasing places for prospective UK veterinary students dilutes the subsidy given per student in the UK and will exacerbate the cost deficit. In addition, there are unattributed cost to the student personally of undertaking the mandatory 38 weeks of extra mural studies (EMS), which is thought to be roughly equivalent in time and cost of another academic year. Currently, Cambridge University is the only UK vet school to provide daily financial support to all students for participating in EMS. Other universities, including Cambridge, have means-tested bursary schemes for students from disadvantaged backgrounds for participating in EMS.

Summary of the Issue – a Perfect Storm?

- EU graduates are no longer coming to the UK to work.
- EU graduates currently working in the UK are leaving in higher numbers.
- UK graduates are leaving when recently qualified, and possibly in high numbers, although the data is limited in this area.
- 26% of UK vet school graduates are overseas students, who are less likely to stay and work in the UK.
- Increased demands for veterinary services post Brexit and COVID-19 pandemic.

Actions Taken So Far:

- In 2016, the Veterinary Policy Research Foundation (VPRF), in conjunction with the RCVS and the BVA, organised for 40 individuals (clinical and non-clinical veterinarians) who had left the profession to explore the causes of disillusionment among young graduates. Results of the discussion and possible solutions were published in the Veterinary Record.
- The 2021 RCVS Workforce Summit brought together over 80 stakeholders across all sectors of the veterinary industry to try to better understand workforce issues in the profession and generate ideas to solve them.
- The RCVS is working with the Institute of Employment Studies to develop a workforce model to better understand veterinary shortages and how it will demographics may change in the future.
- The establishment of new veterinary schools and increasing student places, with focus on UK students, to boost homegrown supply of vets.
- Food Standards Agency (FSA) have improved financial incentives to work in the food industry, with an average pay increase for senior executive officer roles of £3,700/year.
- In September 2023, the RCVS approved an 18-month extension to the temporary registration of Novice Official Veterinarians (TRNOVs) scheme which allows suitably qualified EU graduate vets (EAEVE qualification) with an English level of ITLES Level 6 to work in the UK under supervision. It gives individuals the chance to work in the UK for 18 months, after which they must pass to Level 7 of the ITLES. This scheme, first proposed by DEFRA in June 2021, is particularly useful as an interim measure in abattoirs in England and Wales where overseas veterinarians make up 99% of the Official Veterinarians (OVs)¹⁶.
- The RCVS developed a diversity and inclusion group which aims to attract a wider pool of applications to join the profession.
- In 2023, the service delivery partner of the FSA (who employ the OVs in abattoirs) developed the meat health inspector (MHI) pathways whereby vets qualified from EAEVE accredited universities who hold

¹⁴ Measuring the cost of provision using transparent approach to costing data – Department of Education May 2019

¹⁵ Veterinary Schools Council Briefing Note May 2023

¹⁶ <https://www.food.gov.uk/about-us/fsa-22-06-18-veterinary-resourcing-update>

a Level 5 ITLES English can work in the UK under a 2-year visa. The impact of the scheme is expected from July 2025.

- Development of alternative EMS programmes with the aim of recruiting newly graduated veterinarians into more historically unattractive areas of work i.e., APHA, RCVS and VPRF, FSA.
- The British Veterinary Association (BVA) have a 'good veterinary workplaces' policy brief which includes 64 practical recommendations for employers, employees, and the wider profession to follow in order to create a strong and cohesive veterinary team and a healthy work environment. This also includes sections on diversity, equality, and fair treatment.

Future Recommendations

In order to 'solve' the workforce problem in the veterinary sector, it is vital there is a unified multistakeholder collaboration.

Attraction

- **To the profession:**
 - **Reduce the barriers of overseas vets coming to the UK**
 - Direct RCVS accreditation of the overseas universities which account for a significant proportion of overseas-qualified UK registrants would help guarantee standards of qualification and streamline the process for registration of those graduates in the UK.
 - Government policies should ensure that overseas qualified veterinary surgeons of a certain standard are able to gain a working visa in the UK.
 - Keeping the profession on the 'immigration salary list' (formerly 'shortage occupation list') to continue dispensations within immigration rules so employers can easier access migrant labour for those areas of shortage i.e. veterinary profession. Furthermore, **reversion of the Home Office earning threshold changes** to a lower threshold for veterinarians to encourage employers to hire overseas vets.
 - Alteration to modernise the RCVS statutory membership exam to encourage more applicants via this route.
 - **Attract returners to the profession**
 - BVA return to work scheme, and veterinary practice incentives to come back to work i.e. flexible working hours.
 - Government financial incentives to encourage people to return to work i.e. funding of refresher courses
- **To undesirable sectors or geographical areas of work:**
 - **Government grants** – to directly encourage individuals to work in these areas.
 - **Debt-relief or tax-relief schemes**
 - New Zealand and the USA have debt-relief schemes whereby student debt is forgiven if recent graduates chose to work in shortage geographical areas or veterinary sectors.
 - **Conscription for new graduates**
 - In South Africa, it is a mandatory requirement for recent graduates to work for at least 1 year in charity and /or public health sectors of the industry.
 - Similar systems could be employed in the UK to encourage work in the veterinary public health sector and areas of veterinary shortage.
 - **Salary improvement**
 - Improve the salary for OV roles, particularly in abattoirs and in areas of the country where vets are in short supply i.e. Highlands of Scotland as a way to incentivise people living and working in these areas.

Education

- **Increased funding for homegrown veterinary places at university**
 - **Increase government grant** funding for Band-A students to reduce the financial deficit experienced by universities offering the veterinary degree.
 - Currently, 26% of UK veterinary graduates are from overseas (Table 1), of which universities charge in the range of £35-44,000/year. This contrasts with the home

student funding <£20,000/year (tuition fee + government grant). Increasing the number of overseas students at veterinary schools has been one of the ways institutions have been able to subsidise homegrown students. However, overseas students are more likely to leave the UK and work elsewhere. Increased government funding for UK veterinary courses will generate more homegrown vet students who are more likely to join the UK register and stay in the UK long-term compared to overseas UK graduate students.

- It is important to release that the effects of increasing student places at UK vet schools and increasing their funding doesn't have an immediate impact on workforce shortages but takes 5-6 years before an effect will be measurable.
- **Selection criteria:**
 - Improved diversity in selection criteria to focus on resilience of character and personality (psychometric) as well as academic prowess.
- **Alternative career opportunities**
 - Improve the teaching and training in veterinary public health throughout the entire veterinary degree.
 - Diversification of career advice available for veterinary students, or careers days, so they are aware of the different types of job they can get after university.

Retention

- **Legislative reform – paraprofessional roles, increased delegation**
 - The Veterinary Surgeons Act 1966 is outdated and needs to be modernised. The act provides the overarching legislation of the veterinary profession including professional regulation and registration, education standards, professional conduct, and disciplinary actions for misconduct.
 - Reform would include the delegation of veterinary powers to veterinary nurses and other paraprofessionals to incentivise sharing of veterinary workload in a clinical setting to ease pressure on vets. This will also free up vets to focus on work only they are permitted to do in practice, possibly improve career development opportunities and reduce disillusionment within the profession.
 - Redefining what it means to be a 'veterinarian'
 - Could include the formation of limited licences which allow people to do specific tasks (in both small and large animal clinical practice) or work with specific species i.e. equine vet
- **Enhancing support for new graduates** – providing mentorship and support programmes to reduce stress, generate a healthy work-life balance and ultimately improve retention.
- **Work-life incentives:**
 - Based on the results from the Survey of the Veterinary Professionals 2019 (page 3) improved pay, better work life balance and flexibility will all improve the retention within the profession.

More research:

- Most leavers of the profession (51% in 2021) leave the Register simply by not paying their annual renewal fee. These individuals are not included in the RCVS surveys of the profession and therefore do not know their reason for leaving. Obtaining this data will allow for a better understanding of reasons vets are choosing to leave the profession.
- It would be helpful to have historic data for the number of UK-graduated veterinarians leaving the profession.
- Workforce Planning – reports, data collection, cross-governments/stakeholder groups

Appendix

Table 2: UK Veterinary Universities

| University | Established | Accredited | AVMA Approved? | # of places per year | Extra Information? |
|---|-------------------------|------------|----------------|----------------------|--|
| Aberystwyth University | 2021 | No | - | 25 (for 2021) | <i>Years 3-5 are spent at the RVC's Hawkshead campus. Though there will be a specific rotation at Aberystwyth University focused on production animal issues relevant to Wales.</i> |
| University of Bristol | 1949 | - | Yes | 180 | |
| University of Cambridge | 1949 | - | - | 67 | |
| University of Central Lancashire | 2023 | No | - | ? | <i>Currently working in partnership with University Centre Myerscough. Dedicated building to be completed in September 2024. Head of School: Dr Heather Bacon OBE</i> |
| University of Edinburgh | 1873 | - | Yes | 170 | <i>Including 60 places on the 4-year graduate-entry veterinary programme</i> |
| University of Glasgow | 1861 | - | Yes | 137 | |
| Harper and Keele | 2020 | No | - | 114 | <i>Lectures will be delivered at one or other site and live streamed to the other. Practicals, tutorials and other learning sessions will be delivered in a variety of formats. Students may select which they would like to be their "host" university.²</i> |
| University of Liverpool | 1905 | - | Yes | 165 | |
| Royal Veterinary College | 1791 | - | Yes | 265 | <i>Includes 105 places on the 4-year graduate-entry veterinary programme</i> |
| University of Nottingham | 2006 | 2011 | Yes | 300 (2x150) | <i>Has 2 intakes per year - one in September and one in April.</i> |
| Scotland's Rural College (SRUC) - Aberdeen ³ | 2024 (pending approval) | No | - | ? | <i>SRUC is the biggest provider of veterinary nursing, livestock husbandry and animal care training in Scotland. It plans to begin a range of Veterinary Medicine courses in 1-2 years. Dean/Head of School: Caroline Argo</i> |
| University of Surrey | 2014 | 2020 | - | 150 | |

Current 2021 RCVS Register data⁵

| Total On Register | | 35,176 |
|------------------------------------|---|---------------|
| By registration category | Total Practising | 30,602 |
| | <i>UK Practising</i> | 27,230 |
| | <i>Practising Outside UK</i> | 3,372 |
| | Total Non-Practising | 3,979 |
| | <i>UK</i> | 3,243 |
| | <i>Overseas</i> | 736 |
| By country of qualification | UK-qualified | 22,059 |
| | Scheduled EU Qualification | 10,395 |
| | Commonwealth Qualification | 2,084 |
| | Accepted Overseas Qualification OR Overseas qualification + RCVS Statutory Exam | 624 |