

Dental Council

Workforce Analysis 2023-2025

Reporting periods:

Dentists and dental specialists
1st October 2022 – 30th September 2025

Oral health therapists, dental therapists,
dental hygienists, and technicians
1st April 2022 – 31st March 2025

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Introduction

The workforce report for 2023 to 2025 provides an overview of the oral health workforce based on data from the Dental Council (the Council) registration system, workforce survey data collected from oral health practitioners and dentist graduate data from the University of Otago.

The report is focussed on the statistical analysis of the data and can be used for oral health workforce planning and policy settings.

Handling of data

Oral health practitioners can be registered in multiple scopes of practice and have different practising statuses. Analysis includes all registered scopes for a practitioner and the associated information. This is particularly relevant for the dentist/dental specialist and the dental technology/clinical dental technology sections.

Inclusion in multiple sub-categories may lead to overall totals varying from the summed totals, or totals based on distinct counts, as relevant. For example, when reporting on registration or practising statuses of professions with multiple scopes, or practitioners with multiple workplaces and/or clinical areas of work.

The determination of whether a practitioner was “practising” is based on the longest practising status held on the Council records during the reporting year, rather than the status at the end of the APC cycle which mostly reflects the intention for the next practising year. This is considered a more accurate record of practising resource availability for the reported year.

General commentary

To provide a high-level overview of salient facts, a visual dashboard that summarises key information is provided for the oral health workforce overall and for each profession in their particular sections.

An executive summary in each section highlights the key changes, movements, and critical observations. The report compares changes from 2023 to 2025 but also provides relative observations from previous years to allow comparison over longer periods.

The quality and validity of the specific information is dependent on the information practitioners provide. Detailed responses are not always provided which may reduce the confidence for some aspects where the number of responses is lower, even with a high overall workforce survey response rate.

Survey response rates remain very high ranging between 89 to 95% of registered practitioners, for 2025. While some information is mandated by the Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act, most information is offered voluntarily, and the ongoing high level of participation is greatly appreciated.

The report follows classifications based on Statistics New Zealand or HISO (Health Information Standards Organisation) standards where they exist, and are applicable.

Population estimates for health regions and territorial authorities were sourced from the Statistics NZ and Health NZ website for 2023 to 2025, as estimated at June of each year.

Territorial authorities are as defined under the Local Government Act 2002 as a city or a district council.

Unless otherwise stated, numbers in brackets represent column percentages throughout the report.

Changes to this report

Ethnicity Statistics

Ethnicity reporting has been changed from detailed counts of all ethnicities reported to a summary level based on health sector standards¹. This provides a high-level perspective more relevant for the purposes of this report, rather than the previously detailed ethnicity breakdowns.

Two recommended methods for summarised reporting includes “prioritisation” (counting a single major prioritised ethnicity per person) and “total response count” (counting all the major ethnicities collected for a person). In both approaches, reporting follows the same priority sequence for major ethnicity categories:

1. Māori
2. Pacific peoples
3. Asian
4. MELAA (Middle Eastern/Latin American/African)
5. Other Ethnicity
6. European
7. Residual Categories.

Both methods are provided in this report. “Prioritisation” is commonly used in the health sector but may lead to undercounting certain groups specifying multiple ethnicities. Using “total response count” reflects all ethnicities self-reported.

Replacement of district health boards

This report references health regions and health districts, which replaced district health boards (DHBs) in July 2022.

The public health system now has four health regions, three in the North Island and one for the South Island. Each region is made up of health districts, that retained the names of the previous DHBs except for Capital and Coast and Hutt Valley District which have been combined. For historical comparisons, these two merged districts will be reported combined and individually to ensure continuity of data.

Retention of newly registered overseas qualified practitioners

With the increased focus on understanding patterns of workforce behaviour, an analysis of overseas qualified practitioners has been included in this report based on workforce data from 2020 to 2025.

¹ HISO Ethnicity Data Protocols (HISO 10001:2017)

The registration and practising pattern of newly registered overseas qualified practitioners were tracked in each of the subsequent years to determine whether they were still on the register and if they still had a practising status.

As overseas qualified dentists and dental specialists are dominant within the group of overseas registrants, they were identified as a separate group to be able to identify different patterns of behaviour between this group and the other oral health professions.

The initial analysis provides some insights on the number of overseas qualified practitioners who remain on the register over time and their practising status. The results are provided in a new section in the report (Section 1: The oral health workforce overview)

New dashboards

For this release the previous infographics have been replaced with dashboards providing high level summary statistics for the oral health workforce overall and the individual professions.

Future focus areas

Efforts to improve the identification of practising practitioners' public health districts and territorial authorities where they work in, are already underway.

The initial analysis to quantify the retention of overseas qualified new registrants needs to be continued and expanded in future reports. The initial 6 years of data provided some insights but were influenced by the COVID-19 pandemic, which may have skewed "normal" patterns of behaviour. To fully understand these patterns longer term, and with continued reliance on overseas trained practitioners, this area needs further expansion and refinements. This information will also be important in tracking future changes to overseas registration pathways.

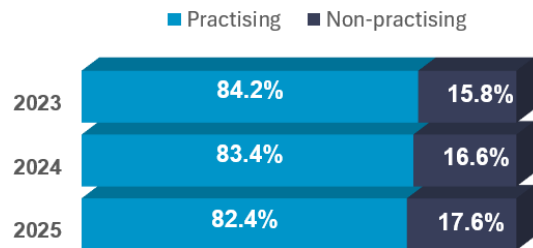
Section 1: The oral health workforce overview

Oral Health Workforce All Practitioners

Registered practitioners

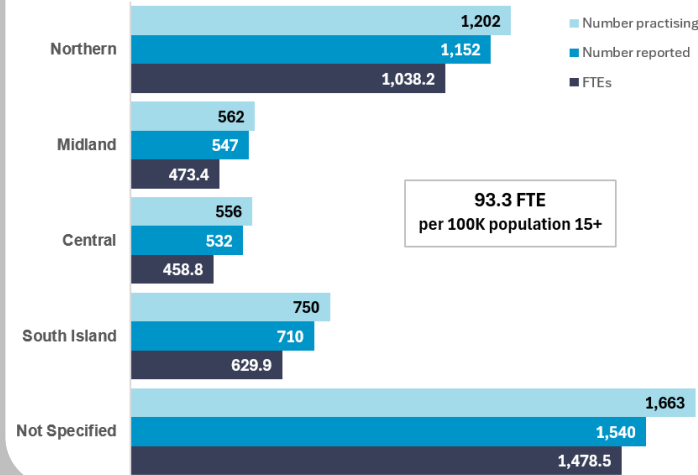


Practising status

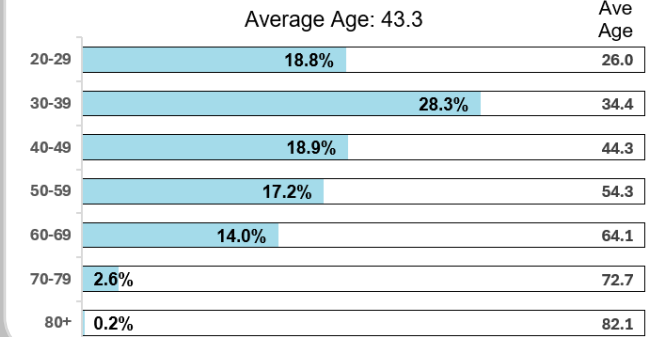


Intend to practise in NZ next 5 years: **91.7%**

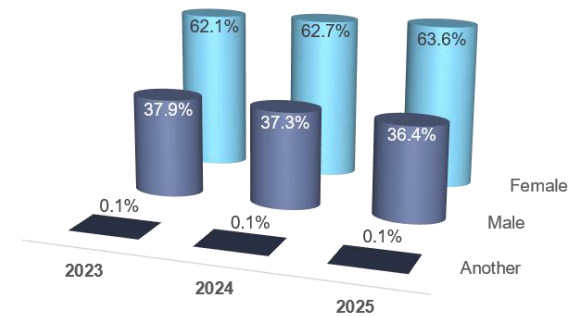
Practitioners by public health region 2025



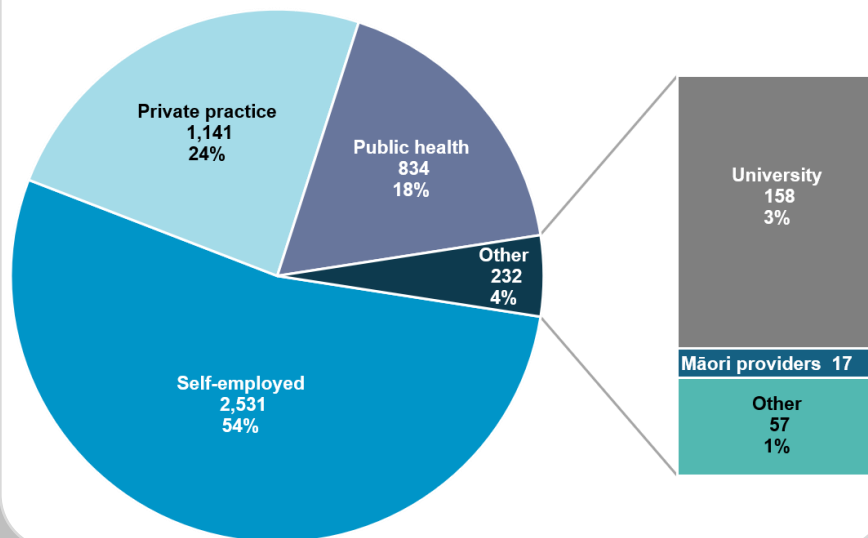
Age distribution practising practitioners 2025



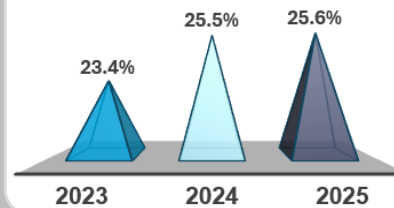
Gender for practising practitioners



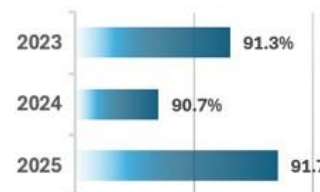
Employment type practising practitioners 2025



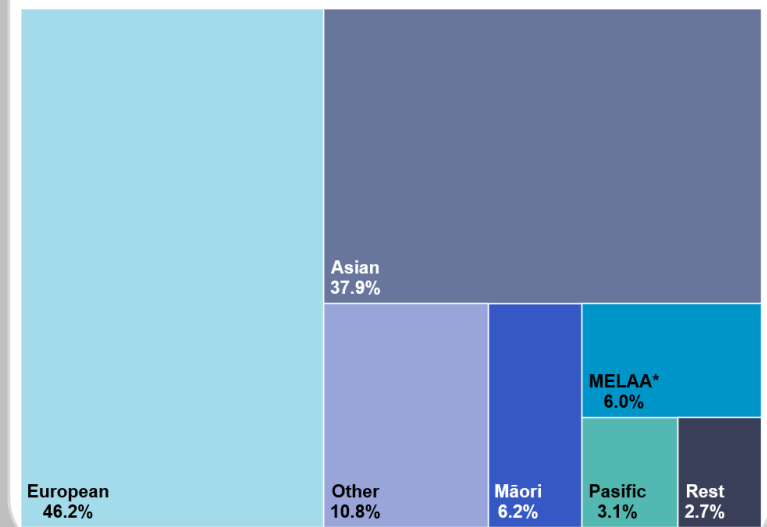
Overseas qualifications



Survey response rates



Ethnicity total count for practising practitioners 2025



*MELAA - Middle East, Africa & Latin America

Retention of overseas qualified practitioners registered between 2020 - 2025

With an increasing focus on understanding the movement patterns of workforce behaviour, an analysis of overseas qualified practitioners has been included in this report.

Newly registered overseas qualified practitioners in 2020 to 2025 were tracked in subsequent years to determine if they were still registered and whether they were practising. This provides information about their collective movements annually: how many remain on the register and are still practising. More detailed analysis of attrition rates may also identify common patterns of behaviour that could help inform future modelling and policy decisions.

Similar to the rest of the oral health profession, some transitions occur where practitioners remove themselves from the register, return at a later stage and change practising status annually adding further discontinuity. For new overseas registrants, early practising intentions may be influenced by immigration and employment factors. More recently, the practising status is reconfirmed when an overseas practitioner's registration is approved, especially if the registration application was submitted some time ago due to changing circumstances.

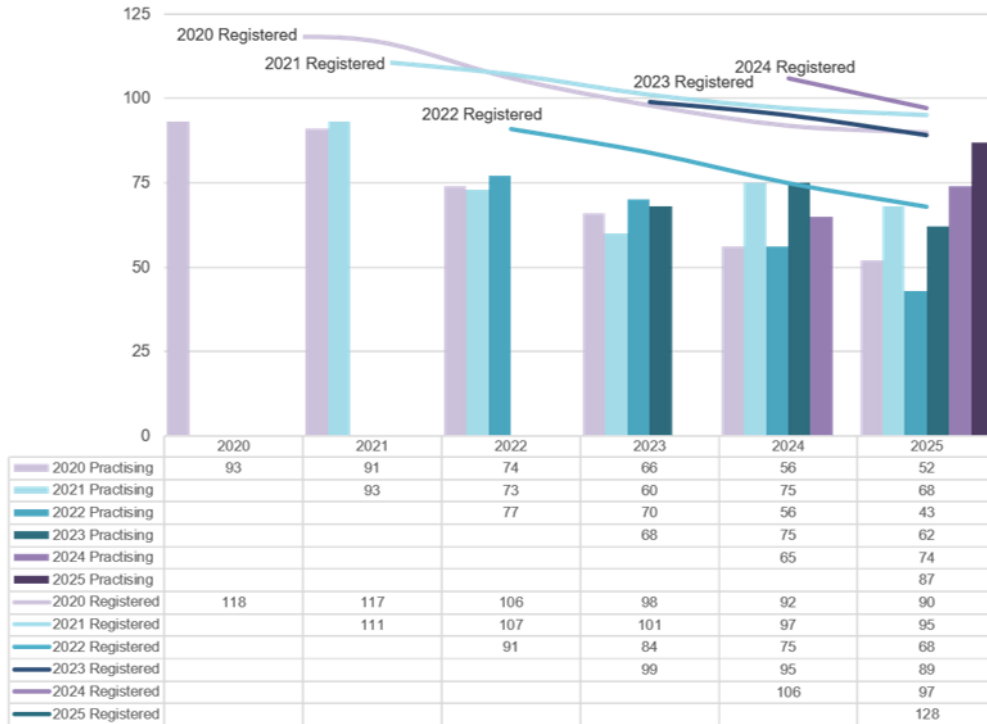
The following two pages of graphics provides a summary view of the observations for each base year (initial year of registration) and movements in following years. The first page covers changes in the registration and practising retention rates (volume and percentage change), cumulative rates of registration attrition for subsequent years and the annual (year-on-year) changes.

The following page provides the relative volumes for existing and new overseas qualified practitioners; the registration and practising statuses of dentists & dental specialists as one group and the rest of the professions (labelled as "Other") as another. Statistics are provided for individual base years and collectively by rebasing the data for all years to year 0 and subsequent years 1 to 5 (to cover 2020-25).

Caution is needed in the interpretation of the 2021 and 2022 data with other years due to the impact of COVID-19 travel restrictions on international workforce movements and the associated behavioural impact.

Patterns of overseas qualified practitioners registered 2020 to 2025

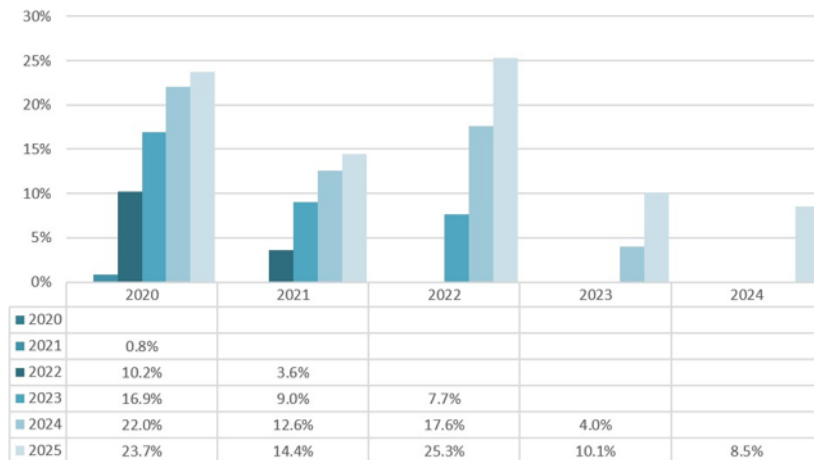
Registration & practising trends
new overseas registrants 2020 to 2025



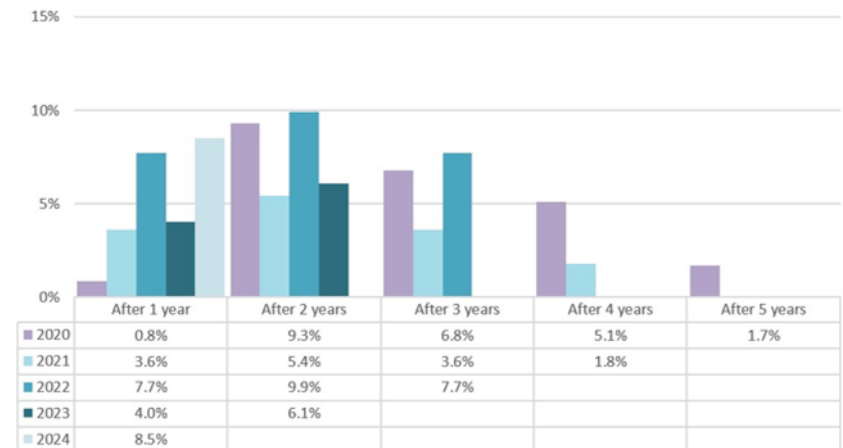
Registration & practising volumes
new overseas registrants 2020 to 2025



Cumulative annual registration attrition rate for base year 2020 to 2024

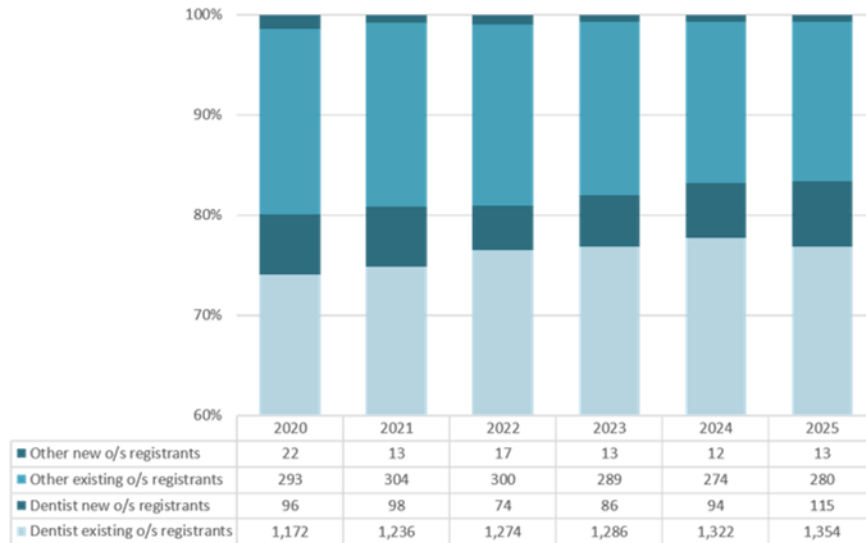


Year-on-year registration attrition rate 2020 to 2024

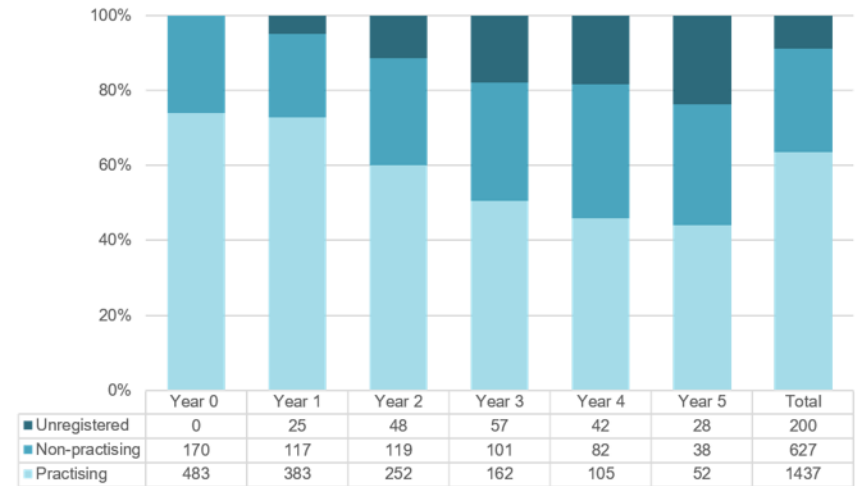


Patterns of overseas qualified practitioners registered 2020 to 2025

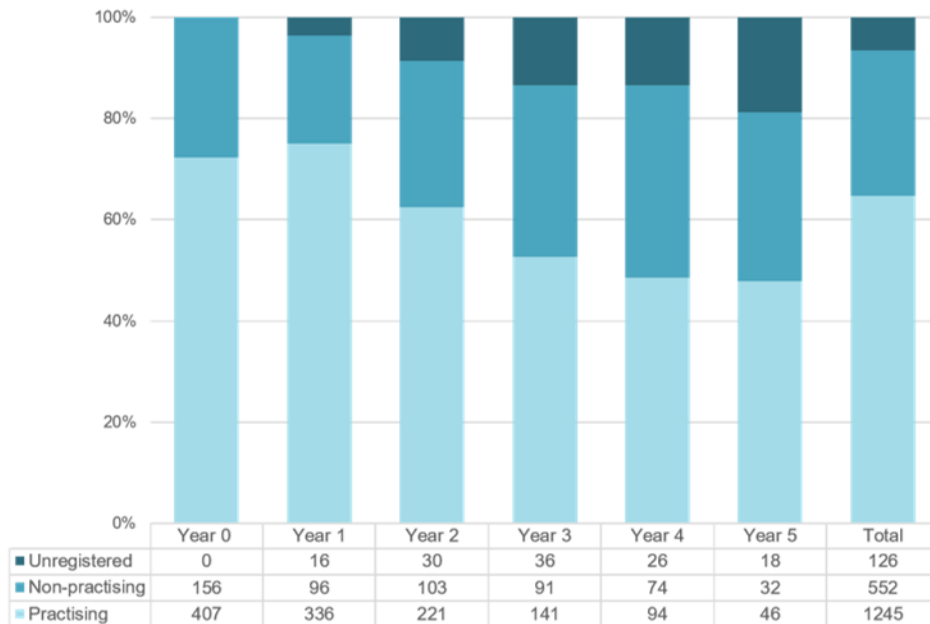
Overseas qualified practitioners – existing vs new registrants



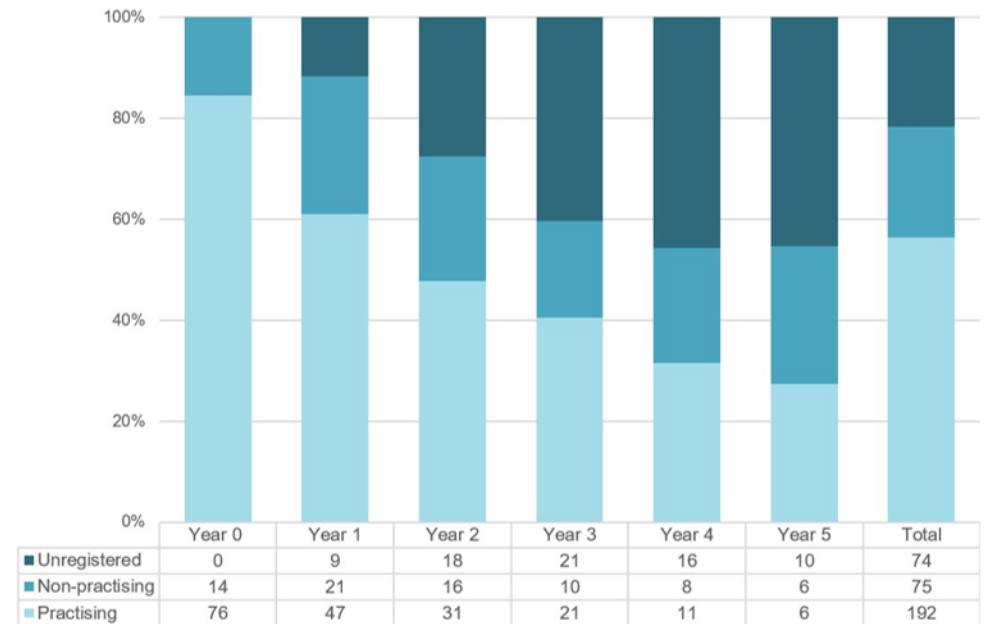
Registration and practising volumes from base year



Registration and practising volumes from base year Dentists & dental specialists



Registration and practising volumes from base year Other Professions*



* Excludes dentists & dental specialists

Analysis of overseas qualified practitioners registered during 2020 - 2025

Table 1-1 provides the key statistics for each of the “base” registration years between 2020 to 2025, with tracking of subsequent years presented from left to right. The 2-line entry lists the registration count with the practising count in brackets followed by the relative percentages which is based *on the initial base year registration count*.

As an example for interpreting the table, for base year 2020, with initially 118 new registrants and 93 who held APCs, by 2025 this had reduced to 90 who were still registered and 52 with APCs. This means, 76.3% were still on the register and 44.1% held APCs after 5 years. Alternatively, this can be described as a registration attrition rate of 23.7%, while those with APCs fell from 78.8% in 2020 to 44.1% in 2025, a decline of 34.7%.

Table 1-1. Registration and practising status of overseas qualified practitioners registered between 2020 - 2025

Base Years	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
2020	118 (93)	117 (91)	106 (74)	98 (66)	92 (56)	90 (52)
	100.0% [78.8%]	99.2% [77.1%]	89.8% [62.7%]	83.1% [55.9%]	78.0% [47.5%]	76.3% [44.1%]
2021		111 (93)	107 (73)	101 (60)	97 (75)	95 (68)
		100.0% [83.8%]	96.4% [65.8%]	91.0% [54.1%]	87.4% [67.6%]	85.6% [61.3%]
2022			91 (77)	84 (70)	75 (56)	68 (43)
			100.0% [84.6%]	92.3% [76.9%]	82.4% [61.5%]	74.7% [47.3%]
2023				99 (68)	95 (75)	89 (62)
				100.0% [68.7%]	96.0% [75.8%]	89.9% [62.6%]
2024					106 (65)	97 (74)
					100.0% [61.3%]	91.5% [69.8%]
2025						128 (87)
						100.0% [68.0%]

Legend: registration count (practising count)

registration % [practising %] (both based on the base year registration count)

Table 1-2 provides a summary of the *registration attrition rates* for new overseas registrations for years since the base year of registration to allow comparative observations.

Table 1-2. Cumulative registration attrition of overseas qualified practitioners registered between 2020 – 2025

Elapsed Years	Base Year				
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Year 0					
Year 1	0.8%	3.6%	7.7%	4.0%	8.5%
Year 2	10.2%	9.0%	17.6%	10.1%	
Year 3	16.9%	12.6%	25.3%		
Year 4	22.0%	14.4%			
Year 5	23.7%				

For base year 2020, the attrition rate over 2 years was 10.2% (Year 2) and 23.7% over 5 years.

Table 1-3 represents the same data as Table 1-2 but reflects the attrition rate as year-on-year (annual change), which provides the change for specific years. The highest yearly attrition rate was 9.9% for base year 2022 after 2 years.

Table 1-3. Year-on-year registration attrition of overseas qualified practitioners registered between 2020 - 2025

Elapsed Years	Base Year					Range	
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Minimum	Maximum
Year 0							
Year 1	0.8%	3.6%	7.7%	4.0%	8.5%	0.8%	8.5%
Year 2	9.3%	5.4%	9.9%	6.1%		5.4%	9.9%
Year 3	6.8%	3.6%	7.7%			3.6%	7.7%
Year 4	5.1%	1.8%				1.8%	5.1%
Year 5	1.7%					1.7%	1.7%

Table 1-4 provides a summary of *total practising attrition rates* for new overseas registrants for elapsed years:

Table 1-4. Cumulative practising attrition of overseas qualified practitioners registered between 2020 - 2025

Elapsed Year	Base Year				
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Year 0					
Year 1	1.7%	18.0%	7.7%	-7.1%	-8.5%
Year 2	16.1%	29.7%	23.1%	6.1%	
Year 3	22.9%	16.2%	37.4%		
Year 4	31.4%	22.5%			
Year 5	34.7%				

Note that for base years 2023 and 2024, the practising rates *increased* (hence the negative attrition rate). This means that more practitioners changed from non-practising to practising in year 1.

The highest cumulative APC attrition rate was 37.4% for base year 2022 after 3 years.

Table 1-5 represents the same data as Table 1-4 but reflects the *year-on-year (annual change)*, which allows to observe changes for a specific elapsed year across all base years.

Table 1-5. Year-on-year practising attrition of overseas qualified practitioners registered between 2020 - 2025

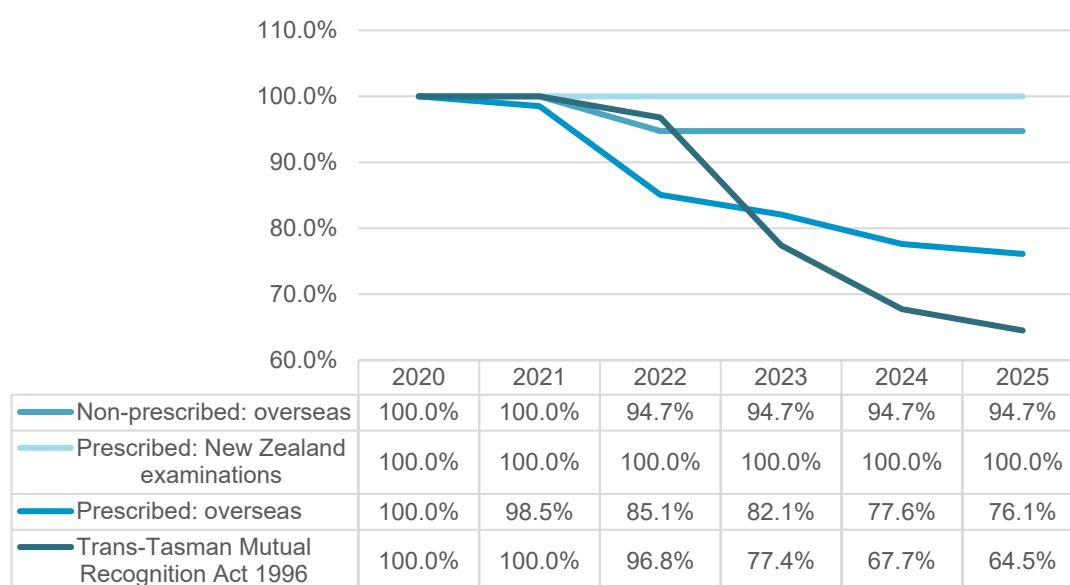
Elapsed Years	Base Year					Range	
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Minimum	Maximum
Year 0							
Year 1	1.8%	18.0%	7.7%	-7.1%	-8.5%	-8.5%	18.0%
Year 2	14.4%	11.7%	15.4%	13.2%		11.7%	15.4%
Year 3	6.8%	-13.5%	14.2%			-13.5%	14.2%
Year 4	8.4%	6.3%				6.3%	8.4%
Year 5	3.4%					3.4%	3.4%

The highest annual practising attrition rate was 18.0% for base year 2021 in the 1st year and 15.4% for base year 2022 in the 2nd year.

The number of APCs increased during year 3 for the 2021 base year, and during year 1 for the 2023 and 2024 base years.

Registration retention by overseas registration pathway for the 2020 base year is represented in the following graph. For this base year, the TTMR and prescribed overseas registration pathways showed the largest registration drop-off over the 5-year period (respectively, 20 from 31 and 51 from 67 remain registered).

Figure 1-1. Registration retention by overseas registration pathway for the 2020 base year



Using base years 2020 to 2023 (having two or more following historical years), the year-on-year attrition rates for registrations and practising can graphically be represented as follows for comparison (scales consistent across all three years):

Figure 1-2. Year-on-year registration and practising attrition rates of overseas qualified practitioners registered during base years 2020-2022



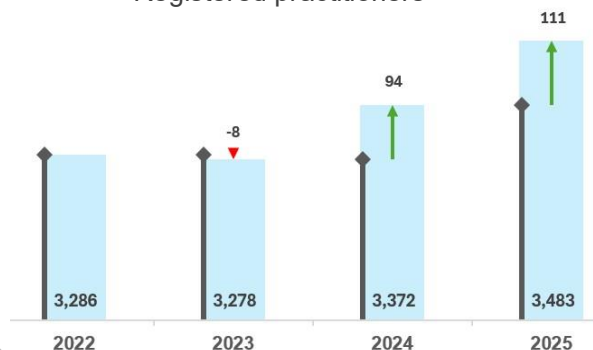
Key observations

- Base years 2021 and 2022 were likely the most affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Considering the registration attrition patterns, the higher yearly attrition occurs in years 2 and 3, with an annual attrition range of 3.8% – 9.9% during those periods. For all three years, the peak registration attrition rate was in the 2nd year. This may indicate a pattern but needs further statistical confirmation.
- For practising attrition patterns the highest APC attrition occurs during the first 3 years, with the maximum annual drop in APCs between 14.2% - 18.0% per year. In three instances, the level of APCs increased from the previous year. Two of those increased APCs occurred in year 1 - likely attributed to immigration and employment changes.
- For those registered in 2020, after 5 years 23.7% are no longer registered in New Zealand and 55.9% no longer held an APC.
- During the period of observation (2020 - 2025), dentists and dental specialists made up the major portion (80%) of new overseas registrations. Dentists and dental specialists had a higher retention registration and practising rate.

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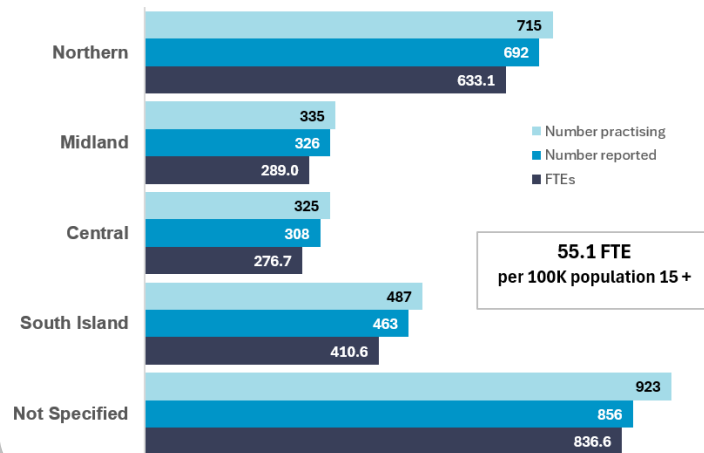
Section 2: The dentist and dental specialist workforce

Registered practitioners

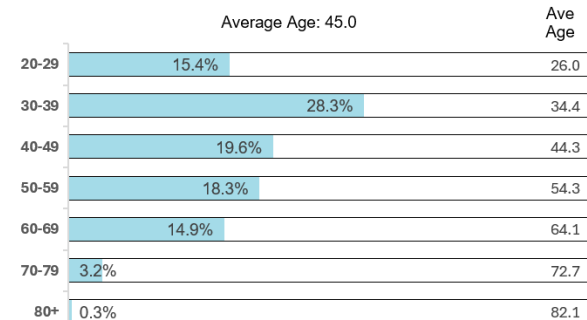


Dentists & dental specialists

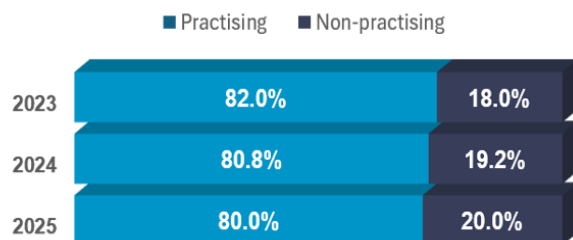
Practitioners by public health region 2025



Age distribution for practising practitioners 2025

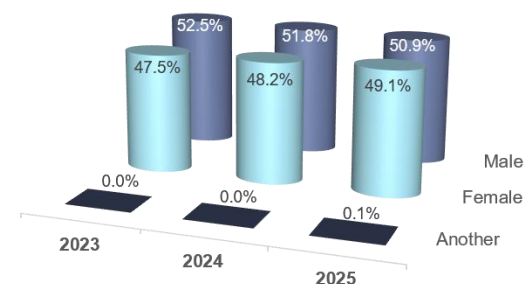


Practising status

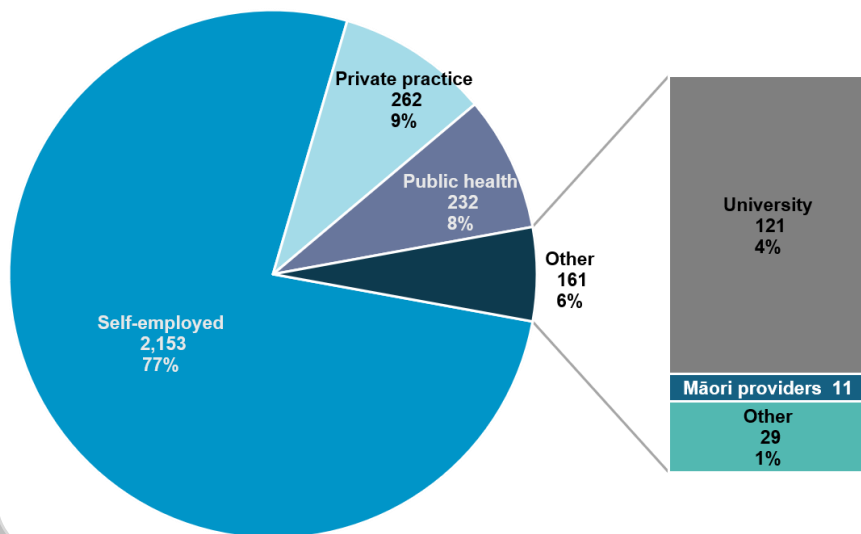


Intend to practise in NZ next 5 years: **91.6%**

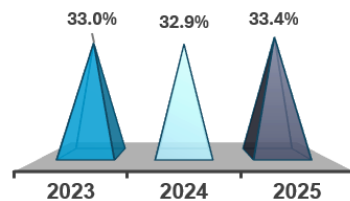
Gender for practising practitioners



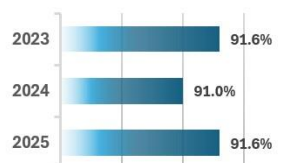
Employment type practising practitioners 2025



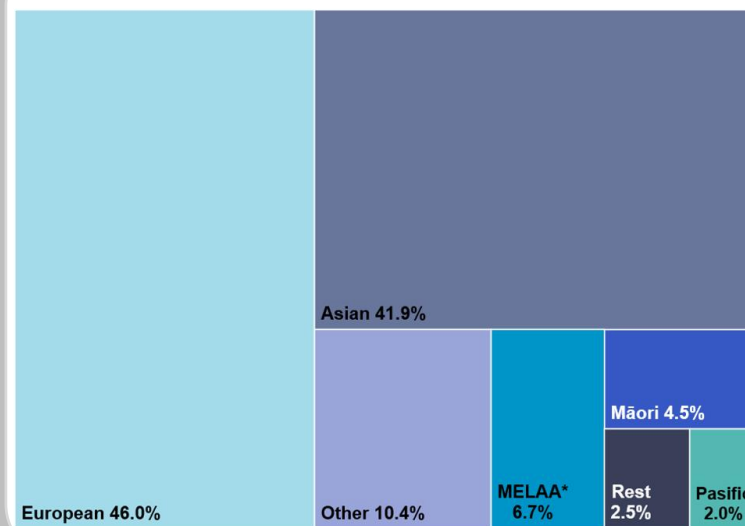
Overseas qualifications



Survey response rates



Ethnicity total count for practising practitioners 2025



*MELAA - Middle East, Africa & Latin America

Executive summary dentists and dental specialists

Number of dentists and dental specialists

In 2025 there was a total of 3,483 dentists and dental specialists on the register: an increase of 6.0% from 2022. ^{Table 2-1} A total of 2,785 (80.0%) practitioners held practising certificates for most of the 2025 year, and 732 practitioners were non-practising for 2025 in one or more of their scopes of practice. ^{Table 2-3}

Table 2-1. Registered dentists and dental specialists

	2023	% YoY	2024	% YoY	2025
Registered dentists with practising certificates	2,522	1.7%	2,564	1.9%	2,613
Registered dental specialists with practising certificates	345	0.6%	347	4.0%	361
Registered dentists with no practising certificates	559	8.2%	605	7.6%	651
Registered dental specialists with no practising certificates	109	14.7%	125	-4.0%	120
Unique practitioner count	3,278	2.9%	3,372	3.3%	3,483

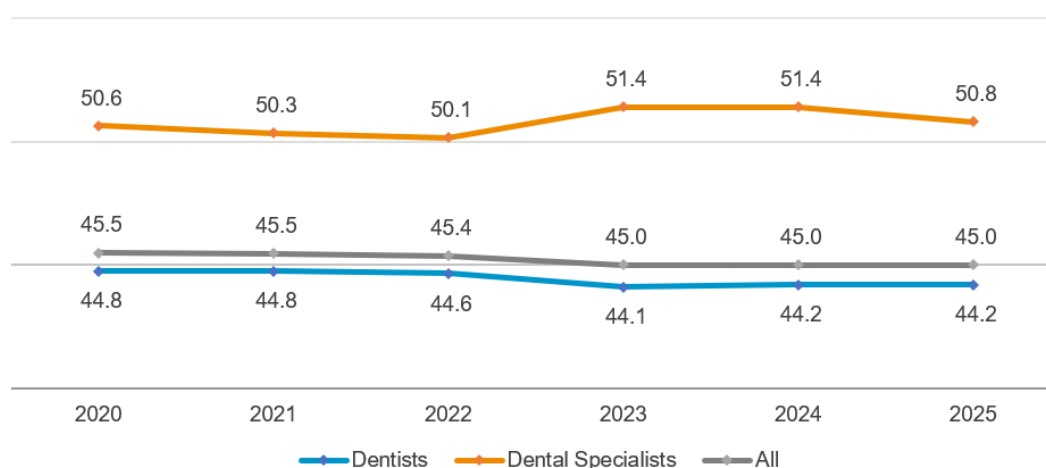
Practitioners could be registered as a dentist and/or dental specialists, with different practising intentions

Demographics

The overall mean age of practising dentists remained flat with a slight decrease for dental specialists.

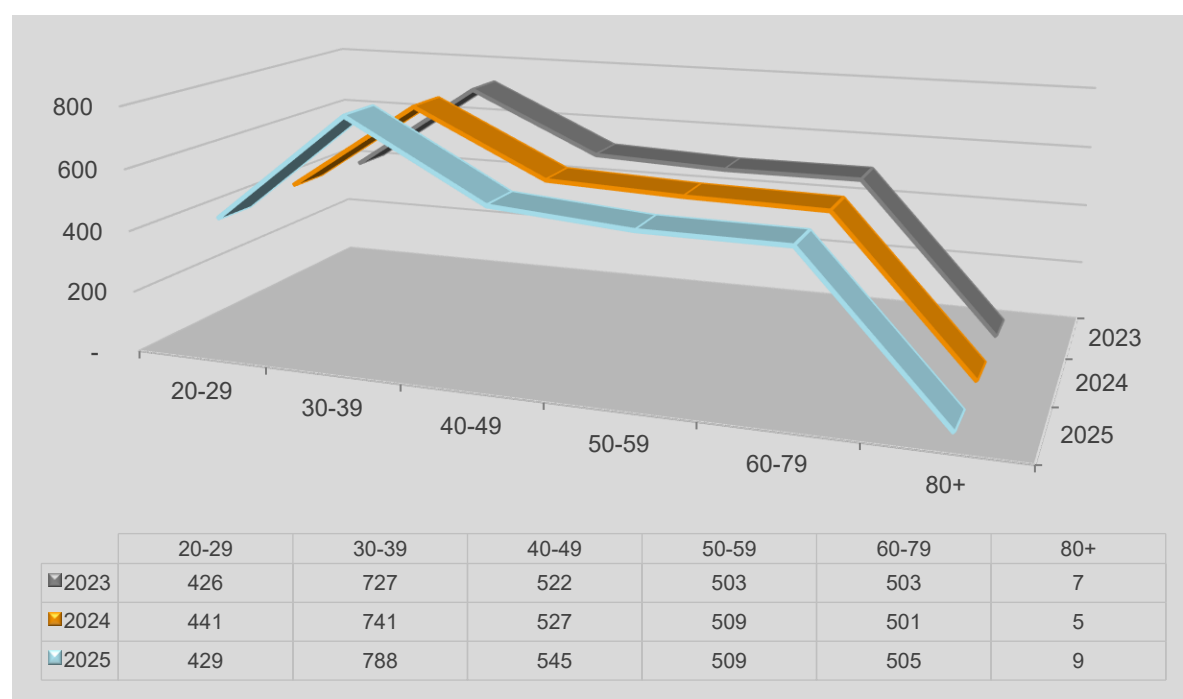
The mean age for practising dentists was 44.2, for dental specialists 50.8, and for the total group 45.0 in 2025. ^{Figure 2-1}

Figure 2-1. Mean age of practising dentists and dental specialists



The age group distribution indicates that there were gradual increases in the earlier age groups with a peak in the 30-39 age group, with a sustained but steep decline in numbers after 70+ years of age. A total of 99 dentists and dental specialists aged 70 years and older had practising certificates in 2025; with 9 of those over 80. ^{Figure 2-2, Table 2-4}

Figure 2-2. Age band distribution of dentists and dental specialists



Females continued to increase in numbers from 35.1% of practising dentists and dental specialists in 2012, to 45.9% in 2022, and 49.0% in 2025. ^{Table 2-3}

The ethnicity reported reflects the diversity of the profession, but not the make-up of the population of New Zealand². European remains the largest self-reported ethnicity at 46.0% total count, with Māori 4.5% and Pacific peoples 2.0% of practising dentists and dental specialists in 2025. The second largest group (41.9%) identified as Asian. ^{Table 2-7}

Registration

The proportion of overseas qualifications by practising dentists and dental specialists was 33.4% in 2025, similar to the 33.7% recorded at the end of 2017. ^{Table 2-3}

The greatest number of overseas qualifications in 2025 were from Australia (262, 7.7%), United Kingdom (229, 6.7%), India (201, 5.9%) and South Africa (98, 2.8%). ^{Table 2-11}

Over recent years there has been a downward trend in the number of dentists registering with overseas qualifications with APCs at the end of the workforce reporting year. In 2017 a total of 60 overseas qualified dentists registered and held APCs, decreasing to 49 in 2019, and 30 in 2022. This slightly increased during the 2023 – 2025 reporting years, with 45 overseas registrants holding APCs during 2025. ^{Figure 2-3, Table 2-14}

At the end of the 2025 reporting year, of the total overseas qualified dentists on the register that held practising certificates, 45.5% had prescribed overseas qualifications, 30.7% passed the New Zealand Dentist Registration Examination, 7.0% of overseas qualified dentists were registered by having their overseas qualifications and experience individually assessed, while 16.8% registered via TTMR. ^{Table 2-14}

² 2025 Stats NZ [Māori population estimates](#)

Figure 2-3. Types of registration pathways for dentists with overseas qualifications, practising at 30 September 2025

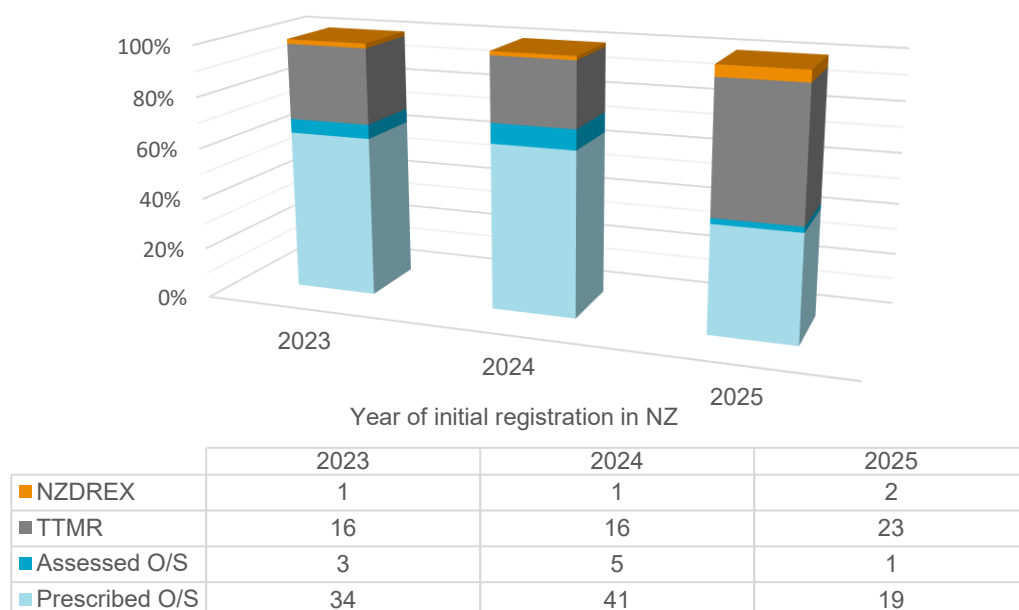
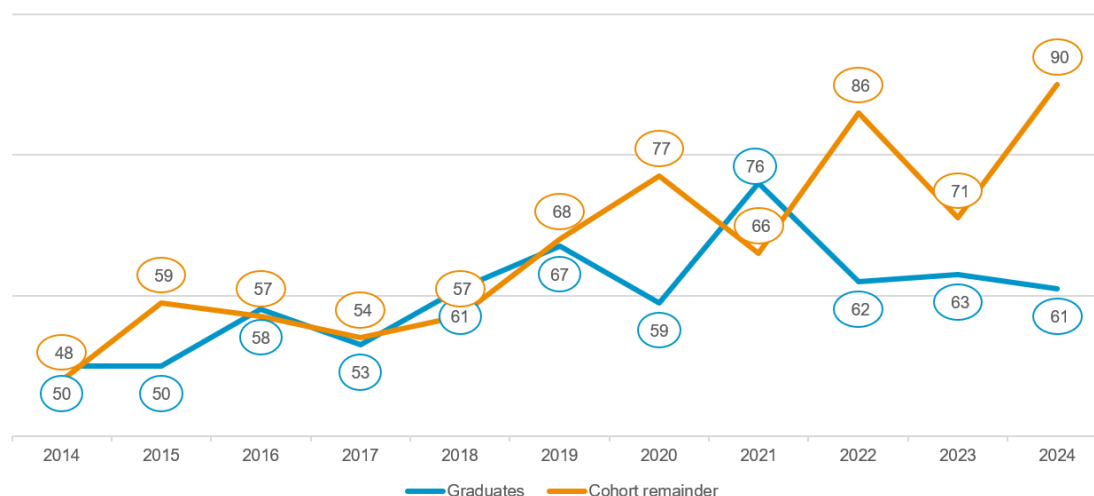


Figure 2-4. Longitudinal cohort remainder rate of University of Otago dental graduates for 2025 reporting year



From the 2012 University of Otago dentist graduate cohorts onwards (except for the 2021 cohort), over 90% remain registered with APCs at the end of the 2025 reporting year. The peak is the 2024 cohort at 147.5%. Retention of locally trained dentists remains very high. ^{Table 2-12}

Practising characteristics

The dentists and dental specialists reported as self-employed has increased from 67.5% in 2015 to 76.7% in 2025. Those reporting as employees have increased from 16.5% in 2015 to 22.3% in 2025. ^{Table 2-16}

Using a 40-hour work week as a norm, 71.2% of dentists reported working 40 hours or less per week in 2025, which is slightly more than the 69.8% reported in 2022. Similarly, more dental specialists reported working 40 hours or less, increasing to 52.7% in 2025 from 50.0% in 2022. This means that 28.8% of dentists and 47.3% of dental specialists reported working longer than 40 hours per week.

In 2025, 6.3% of dental specialists and 2.0% of dentists reported working 61+ hours per week. For dental specialists this remains similar to 2022, while for dentists this decreased from 2.6% in 2022. Table 2-17

For activities related to general dental practice, an average of 25.7 hours per week (sd 12.6) were reported for 2025, with those working in public health settings reporting the highest number at 29.1 hours per week (sd 17.1), followed closely by those working in private practice and Māori health providers (27.4 and 26.3 hours per week, respectively). Table 2-20

For dental specialists, care provided is often reported as a combination against the specialist discipline and general dental practice. Oral surgery reported the highest total with an average of 26.2 hours per week (sd 16.2), closely followed by endodontic specialists at 26.1 hours per week (sd 10.4). Four other specialist disciplines reported between 20 – 24 hours per week (oral and maxillofacial surgery, orthodontics, periodontics and oral pathology). Table 2-20

Teaching, research, and other activities were reported at 2.9 – 3.2 hours per week (sd 3.3 – 3.7), with an average of 4.5 hours per week spent on administration (sd 4.0). Table 2-20

Personal choice (52.1%), parental responsibilities (23.1%), semi-retirement (11.1%) and studying (3.9%) were the main reasons reported by dentists and dental specialists working part-time. Table 2-21

In 2025, of those not practising in New Zealand, 86.4% reported that they were practising overseas, with only 3.7% in New Zealand while not practising. A total of 91.6% of dentists and dental specialists indicated that they expect to practise in New Zealand over the next five years. Table 2-22, Table 2-23

Geographical distribution

Similar to 2019, in 2025 seven territorial authorities (TAs) did not have practising dentists or dental specialists, while 42 TAs (63%) had no dental specialists recorded. The seven TAs without any dentists or dental specialists were: Kaipara, Buller, Westland, Hurunui, MacKenzie, Waimate and Chatham Island. Table 2-24

Based on the health regions analysis, the dentists and dental specialists per 100,000 NZ population over 15 years of age was 62.7 in 2025. This is similar to the 62.3 reported in 2015. This means that the profession has not kept pace with the population growth of roughly 726,000 residents since March 2015.³, Table 2-28

Overall, a 55.1 FTE per 100,000 NZ population over 15 years of age was reported for 2025. This is slightly down from 2022 with a reported 57.9 FTE, but up from the 44.5 FTE reported in 2015. This represents an increase of 10.6 FTE per 100,000 NZ population over 15 years of age since 2015. Table 2-28

Across the health districts, the highest reported FTE per 100,000 NZ population over 15 years of age were in the following Health Districts: Auckland (54.4), Southern (51.5) and Capital, Coast and Hutt (41.7). The lowest were in the West Coast (17.3), followed by Tairāwhiti (21.6) and South Canterbury (22.9). Table 2-28

Postgraduate studies

Postgraduate studies reported by dentists and dental specialists showed variation over the years, with a high in 2013 (143) down to 68 in 2025. The most common areas of study self-reported in 2025

³ <https://www.stats.govt.nz/topics/population/>

were orthodontics (18), periodontics (12), endodontics and oral and maxillofacial surgery (7 each), followed by paediatric dentistry (6) and oral surgery (5). ^{Table 2-29, Table 2-30}

Workforce survey response rate

The survey response rate fluctuates year on year for dentists and dental specialists. In 2017 the response rate was 75.0%, with a very high response rate of 91.6% in 2025. ^{Table 2-2}

Table 2-2. Dentist and dental specialist survey responses

Year	Response rate (%)
2023	91.6
2024	91.0
2025	91.6

(Data source: Workforce survey)

Dentists and dental specialists workforce data tables

Table 2-3. Number of dentists and dental specialists with practising certificates, by workforce reporting year

Report year	Total	Male (%)	Female (%)	Unspecified (%)	% overseas qualifications
1993	1,306	84.2	15.8		7.4
1994	1,312	84.0	16.0		7.5
1995	1,346	83.2	16.8		8.8
1996	1,364	81.7	20.3		8.4
1997	1,473	79.5	20.5		12.1
1998	1,496	79.0	21.0		13.1
1999	1,558	77.2	22.8		14.5
2000	1,591	76.4	23.6		16.1
2001	1,601	76.3	23.7		16.9
2002	1,645	75.6	24.4		20.2
2003	1,662	74.5	25.5		22.7
2004	1,747	73.0	27.0		21.1
2005	1,682	72.8	27.2		21.0
2006	1,717	70.8	29.2		22.8
2007	1,779	70.1	29.9		24.0
2008 ^a	1,867	68.6	31.4		25.4
2009 ^b	2,000	66.5	33.5		27.6
2010/11	2,083	66.0	34.0		30.4
2011/12	2,127	64.9	35.1		30.3
2012/13	2,166	64.7	35.3		30.5
2013/14	2,235	63.0	37.0		30.5
2014/15	2,292	61.9	38.1		31.3
2015/16	2,432	60.5	39.5		32.6
2016/17	2,596	59.0	41.0		33.7
2017/18	2,436	57.4	42.6		32.0 ^c
2018/19	2,465	56.8	43.2		32.6
2019/20	2,558 ^d	55.6	44.4		32.6
2020/21	2,642	54.7	45.3		34.1
2021/22	2,678	54.1	45.9		33.0
2022/23	2,688	52.5	47.5		33.0
2023/24	2,724	51.8	48.2		32.9
2024/25	2,785	50.9	49.1	0.1	33.4

^a Reporting date 31 March (previously 31st December)

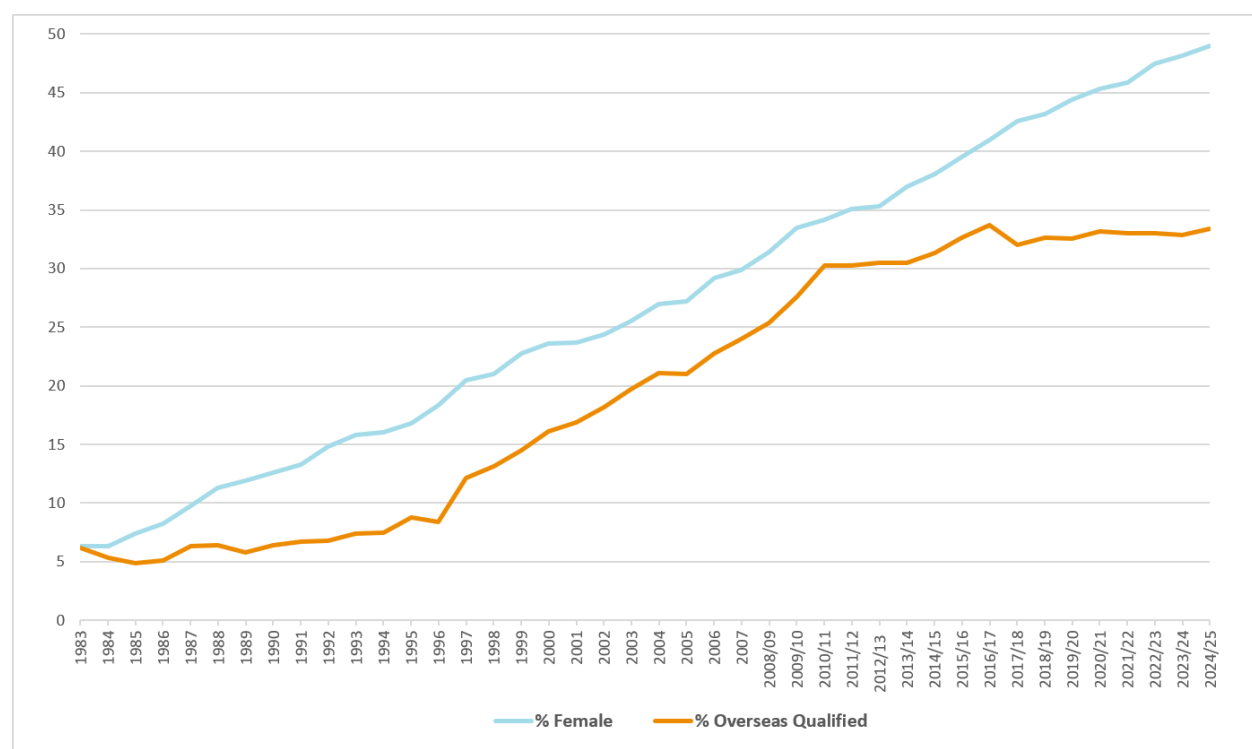
^b Reporting date changed to 30 September for 2009 onwards

^c From this reporting year onwards, multiple qualifications per practitioner could apply

^d Distinct counts, 2020 onwards

(Data source: Dental register)

Figure 2-5. Trends in the proportion of female and overseas qualified dentists and dental specialists with practising certificates, from 1983 to 2025



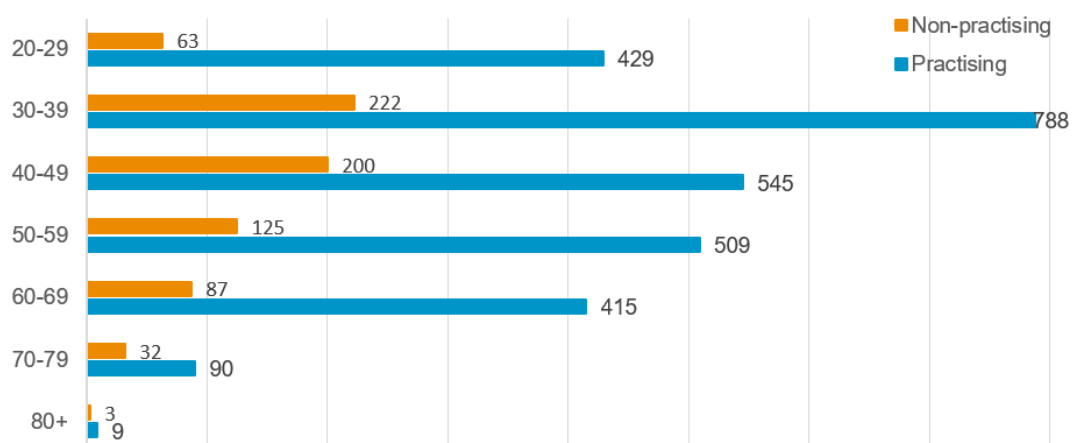
(Data source: Dental register)

Table 2-4. Age of dentists and dental specialists by practising certificate status, as at 30 September 2025

Age bands	Practising certificate (%) ^a	No practising certificate (%)
20 - 29	429 (15.4)	63 (8.6)
30 - 39	788 (28.3)	222 (30.3)
40 - 49	545 (19.6)	200 (27.3)
50 - 59	509 (18.3)	125 (17.1)
60 - 69	415 (14.9)	87 (11.9)
70 - 79	90 (3.2)	32 (4.4)
80+	9 (0.3)	3 (0.4)
Mean age	45.0	45.7

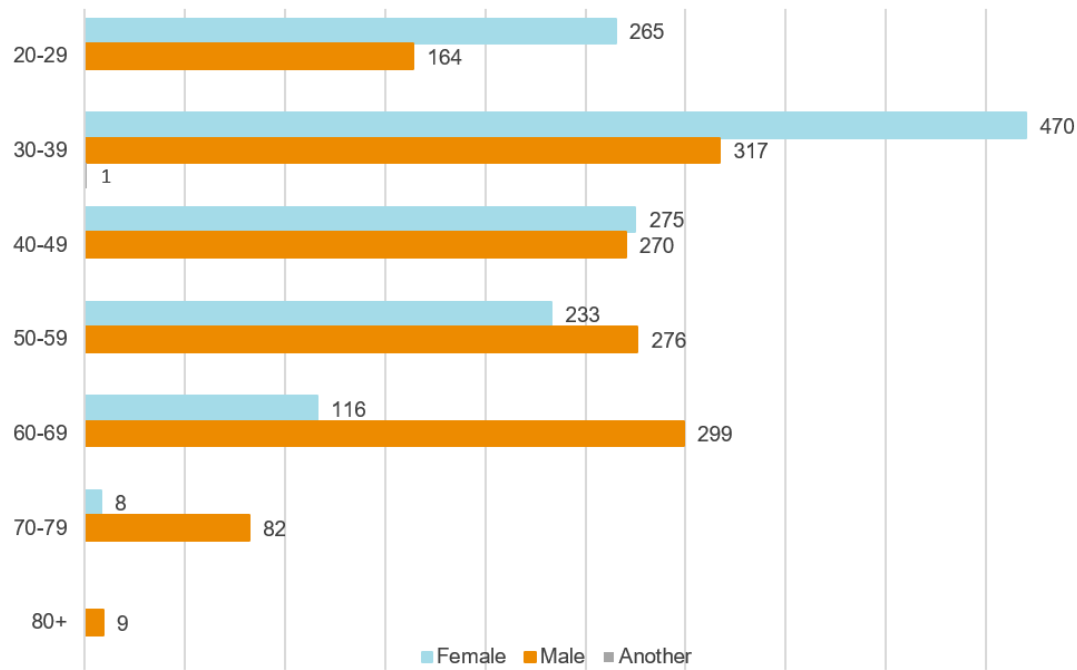
^a A practitioner can hold different practising statuses if registered in multiple scopes of practice
(Data source: Dental register)

Figure 2-6. Age of dentists and dental specialists by practising certificate status, as at 30 September 2025



(Data source: Dental register)

Figure 2-7. Age of practising dentists and dental specialists by gender, as at 30 September 2025



(Data source: Dental register)

Table 2-5. Gender of dentists and dental specialists by practising certificate status

	Gender	Total distinct (%)	Practising certificate (%) ^a	No practising certificate (%)
2023	Male	1,734 (52.9)	1,412 (52.5)	344 (55.1)
	Female	1,544 (47.1)	1,276 (47.5)	280 (44.9)
	Total	3,278		
2024	Male	1,752 (52.0)	1,411 (51.8)	367 (53.0)
	Female	1,620 (48.0)	1,313 (48.2)	326 (47.0)
	Total	3,372		
2025	Male	1,783 (51.2)	1,417 (50.9)	386 (52.7)
	Female	1,699 (48.8)	1,367 (49.1)	346 (47.3)
	Unspecified	1 (0.0)	1 (0.0)	
	Total	3,483		

^a A practitioner can hold different practising statuses if registered in multiple scopes of practice
(Data source: Dental register)

Table 2-6. Scope of practice practising certificates for dentists and dental specialists, by gender

	Total (distinct) (column %) ^a	Male (row %)	Female (row %)	Unspecified (row %)
2023	General dental practice	2,522 (93.8)	1,302 (51.6)	1,220 (48.4)
	Endodontics	28 (1.0)	18 (64.3)	10 (35.7)
	Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery	45 (1.7)	42 (93.3)	3 (6.7)
	Oral Medicine	7 (0.3)	5 (71.4)	2 (28.6)
	Oral Pathology	6 (0.2)	5 (83.3)	1 (16.7)
	Oral Surgery	12 (0.4)	8 (66.7)	4 (33.3)
	Orthodontics	114 (4.2)	65 (57.0)	49 (43.0)
	Paediatric Dentistry	21 (0.8)	8 (38.1)	13 (61.9)
	Periodontology	37 (1.4)	24 (64.9)	13 (35.1)
	Prosthodontics	36 (1.3)	28 (77.8)	8 (22.2)
	Public Health Dentistry	21 (0.8)	9 (42.9)	12 (57.1)
	Restorative Dentistry	4 (0.1)	4 (100.0)	—
	Special Needs Dentistry	16 (0.6)	6 (37.5)	10 (62.5)
2024	General dental practice	2,564 (94.1)	1,306 (50.9)	1,258 (49.1)
	Endodontics	29 (1.1)	19 (65.5)	10 (34.5)
	Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery	46 (1.7)	42 (91.3)	4 (8.7)
	Oral Medicine	8 (0.3)	5 (62.5)	3 (37.5)
	Oral Pathology	6 (0.2)	5 (83.3)	1 (16.7)
	Oral Surgery	14 (0.5)	9 (64.3)	5 (35.7)
	Orthodontics	107 (3.9)	62 (57.9)	45 (42.1)
	Paediatric Dentistry	23 (0.8)	9 (39.1)	14 (60.9)
	Periodontology	38 (1.4)	24 (63.2)	14 (36.8)
	Prosthodontics	34 (1.2)	26 (76.5)	8 (23.5)

	Total (distinct) (column %) ^a	Male (row %)	Female (row %)	Unspecified (row %)	
Public Health Dentistry	24 (0.9)	8 (33.3)	16 (66.7)		
Restorative Dentistry	4 (0.1)	4 (100.0)	—		
Special Needs Dentistry	16 (0.6)	6 (37.5)	10 (62.5)		
2025	General dental practice	2,613 (93.8)	1,303 (49.9)	1,309 (49.9)	1 (0.1)
	Endodontics	31 (1.1)	20 (64.5)	11 (35.5)	
	Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery	47 (1.7)	44 (93.6)	3 (6.4)	
	Oral Medicine	7 (0.3)	4 (57.1)	3 (42.9)	
	Oral Pathology	6 (0.2)	5 (83.3)	1 (16.7)	
	Oral Surgery	12 (0.4)	8 (66.7)	4 (33.3)	
	Orthodontics	114 (4.1)	65 (57.0)	49 (43.0)	
	Paediatric Dentistry	21 (0.8)	8 (38.1)	13 (61.9)	
	Periodontology	42 (1.5)	26 (61.9)	16 (38.1)	
	Prosthodontics	37 (1.3)	29 (78.4)	8 (21.6)	
	Public Health Dentistry	25 (0.9)	8 (32.0)	17 (68.0)	
	Restorative Dentistry	3 (0.1)	3 (100.0)	—	
	Special Needs Dentistry	18 (0.6)	7 (38.9)	11 (61.1)	

^a Registrations in multiple scopes of practice (Data source: Dental register)

Table 2-7. Self-identification of ethnicity by total count for practising dentists and dental specialists, based on 2025 data

Ethnicity	Total count	%	Dentists	%	Dental specialists	%
Māori	126	4.5	121	4.6	12	3.3
Pacific peoples ^a	56	2.0	52	2.0	8	2.2
Asian	1,166	41.9	1,123	43.0	98	27.1
MELAA ^b	186	6.7	163	6.2	30	8.3
Other Ethnicity	290	10.4	270	10.3	44	12.2
European	1,280	46.0	1,181	45.2	210	58.2
Residual Categories	70	2.5	68	2.6	7	1.9
Total	3,174		2,978		409	

^a Pacific peoples counts included as relevant: Pacific peoples, not further defined; Samoan; Cook Island Māori; Tongan, Niuean; Tokelauan; Fijian; Indigenous Australian; Hawaiian; Kiribati (also reported separately)

^b Middle Eastern/Latin American/African

^c Percentages based on number of respondents

(Data sources: Dental register & workforce survey)

Table 2-8. Self-identification of ethnicity, prioritised for practising dentists and dental specialists, based on 2025 data

Ethnicity	Prioritised count	% ^c	Dentists	%	Dental specialists	%
Māori	126	4.5	121	4.6	12	3.3
Pacific peoples ^a	51	1.8	47	1.8	8	2.2
Asian	1,155	41.5	1,114	42.6	96	26.6
MELAA ^b	179	6.4	156	6.0	30	8.3
Other Ethnicity	175	6.3	159	6.1	34	9.4
European	1,058	38.0	976	37.4	176	48.8
Residual Categories	41	1.5	40	1.5	5	1.4
Total	2,785		2,613		361	

^a Pacific peoples counts included as relevant: Pacific peoples, not further defined; Samoan; Cook Island Māori; Tongan, Niuean; Tokelauan; Fijian; Indigenous Australian; Hawaiian; Kiribati (also reported separately)

^b Middle Eastern/Latin American/African

^c Percentages based on number of respondents

(Data sources: Dental register & workforce survey)

Table 2-9. Country of registration qualification for practising dentists and dental specialists, for 2023

Country of qualification ^a	Dentist qualifications (%)	Dental specialist qualifications (%)	Total (%)
New Zealand	1,979 (68.5)	224 (56.6)	2,203 (67.0)
Overseas	912 (31.5)	172 (43.4)	1,084 (33.0)
Total	2,891	396	3,287
Breakdown of overseas qualifications			
	(Column %) ^b	(Column %)	(Column %)
Australia	167 (5.8)	54 (13.6)	221 (6.7)
Fiji	11 (0.4)	—	11 (0.3)
Hong Kong (Special Administrative Region)	4 (0.1)	3 (0.8)	7 (0.2)
India	184 (6.4)	4 (1.0)	188 (5.7)
South Africa	94 (3.3)	13 (3.3)	107 (3.3)
United Kingdom	193 (6.7)	43 (10.9)	236 (7.2)
China, People's Republic of	6 (0.2)	2 (0.5)	8 (0.2)
Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM)	1 (0.0)	—	1 (0.0)
France	2 (0.1)	—	2 (0.1)
Germany	5 (0.2)	3 (0.8)	8 (0.2)
Iraq	47 (1.6)	—	47 (1.4)
Japan	1 (0.0)	—	1 (0.0)
Korea, Republic of	5 (0.2)	—	5 (0.2)
Romania	6 (0.2)	—	6 (0.2)
Ukraine	1 (0.0)	—	1 (0.0)
Argentina	4 (0.1)	1 (0.3)	5 (0.2)
Bangladesh	3 (0.1)	—	3 (0.1)
Belgium	1 (0.0)	—	1 (0.0)
Brazil	20 (0.7)	6 (1.5)	26 (0.8)
Bulgaria	2 (0.1)	1 (0.3)	3 (0.1)
Canada	11 (0.4)	3 (0.8)	14 (0.4)
Chile	2 (0.1)	—	2 (0.1)
Colombia	5 (0.2)	—	5 (0.2)
Czech Republic	3 (0.1)	—	3 (0.1)
Egypt	6 (0.2)	—	6 (0.2)
Greece	1 (0.0)	1 (0.3)	2 (0.1)
Iran	1 (0.0)	—	1 (0.0)
Ireland	7 (0.2)	8 (2.0)	15 (0.5)
Israel	1 (0.0)	—	1 (0.0)
Italy	—	1 (0.3)	1 (0.0)
Jordan	2 (0.1)	—	2 (0.1)
Malaysia	5 (0.2)	—	5 (0.2)

Country of qualification ^a	Dentist qualifications (%)	Dental specialist qualifications (%)	Total (%)
Netherlands	3 (0.1)	1 (0.3)	4 (0.1)
Pakistan	5 (0.2)	—	5 (0.2)
Philippines	10 (0.3)	—	10 (0.3)
Poland	3 (0.1)	—	3 (0.1)
Russia	10 (0.3)	—	10 (0.3)
Serbia	3 (0.1)	—	3 (0.1)
Singapore	5 (0.2)	1 (0.3)	6 (0.2)
Spain	1 (0.0)	—	1 (0.0)
Sri Lanka	7 (0.2)	—	7 (0.2)
Sweden	2 (0.1)	1 (0.3)	3 (0.1)
Switzerland	2 (0.1)	—	2 (0.1)
Syria	1 (0.0)	—	1 (0.0)
Taiwan	1 (0.0)	—	1 (0.0)
Thailand	2 (0.1)	—	2 (0.1)
Turkey	1 (0.0)	—	1 (0.0)
United Arab Emirates	2 (0.1)	—	2 (0.1)
United States of America	49 (1.7)	26 (6.6)	75 (2.3)
Venezuela	1 (0.0)	—	1 (0.0)
Yugoslavia	3 (0.1)	—	3 (0.1)

^a Multiple qualifications per registrant, per scope of practice, and from the same or different countries can apply

^b Percentages calculated from totals inclusive of New Zealand qualifications

(Data source: Dental register)

Table 2-10. Country of registration qualification for practising dentists and dental specialists, for 2024

Country of qualification ^a	Dentist qualifications (%)	Dental specialist qualifications (%)	Total (%)
New Zealand	1,999 (68.0)	234 (60.0)	2,233 (67.1)
Overseas	939 (32.0)	156 (40.0)	1,095 (32.9)
Total	2,938	390	3,328
Breakdown of overseas qualifications			
	(Column %) ^b	(Column %)	(Column %)
Australia	185 (6.3)	54 (13.8)	239 (7.2)
United Kingdom	202 (6.9)	36 (9.2)	238 (7.2)
India	195 (6.6)	4 (1.0)	199 (6.0)
South Africa	83 (2.8)	11 (2.8)	94 (2.8)
United States of America	47 (1.6)	18 (4.6)	65 (2.0)
Iraq	45 (1.5)	—	45 (1.4)
Brazil	21 (0.7)	6 (1.5)	27 (0.8)
Canada	13 (0.4)	3 (0.8)	16 (0.5)
Ireland	8 (0.3)	8 (2.1)	16 (0.5)
Fiji	11 (0.4)	—	11 (0.3)
Russia	11 (0.4)	—	11 (0.3)
Philippines	10 (0.3)	—	10 (0.3)
China, People's Republic of	6 (0.2)	2 (0.5)	8 (0.2)
Germany	5 (0.2)	3 (0.8)	8 (0.2)
Sri Lanka	7 (0.2)	—	7 (0.2)
Hong Kong (Special Administrative Region)	4 (0.1)	3 (0.8)	7 (0.2)
Singapore	6 (0.2)	1 (0.3)	7 (0.2)
Argentina	5 (0.2)	2 (0.5)	7 (0.2)
Egypt	6 (0.2)	—	6 (0.2)
Korea, Republic of	5 (0.2)	—	5 (0.2)
Colombia	5 (0.2)	—	5 (0.2)
Romania	5 (0.2)	—	5 (0.2)
Sweden	3 (0.1)	1 (0.3)	4 (0.1)
Netherlands	3 (0.1)	1 (0.3)	4 (0.1)
Pakistan	4 (0.1)	—	4 (0.1)
Malaysia	4 (0.1)	—	4 (0.1)
Czech Republic	4 (0.1)	—	4 (0.1)
Poland	3 (0.1)	—	3 (0.1)
Bulgaria	2 (0.1)	1 (0.3)	3 (0.1)
Bangladesh	3 (0.1)	—	3 (0.1)
Serbia	3 (0.1)	—	3 (0.1)
France	2 (0.1)	—	2 (0.1)

Country of qualification ^a	Dentist qualifications (%)	Dental specialist qualifications (%)	Total (%)
Chile	2 (0.1)	—	2 (0.1)
United Arab Emirates	2 (0.1)	—	2 (0.1)
Yugoslavia	2 (0.1)	—	2 (0.1)
Thailand	2 (0.1)	—	2 (0.1)
Jordan	2 (0.1)	—	2 (0.1)
Greece	1 (0.0)	1 (0.3)	2 (0.1)
Ukraine	1 (0.0)	—	1 (0.0)
Italy	—	1 (0.3)	1 (0.0)
Taiwan	1 (0.0)	—	1 (0.0)
Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM)	1 (0.0)	—	1 (0.0)
Turkey	1 (0.0)	—	1 (0.0)
Costa Rica	1 (0.0)	—	1 (0.0)
Israel	1 (0.0)	—	1 (0.0)
Syria	1 (0.0)	—	1 (0.0)
Spain	1 (0.0)	—	1 (0.0)
Venezuela	1 (0.0)	—	1 (0.0)
Belgium	1 (0.0)	—	1 (0.0)
Iran	1 (0.0)	—	1 (0.0)
Japan	1 (0.0)	—	1 (0.0)

^a Multiple qualifications per registrant, per scope of practice, and from the same or different countries can apply

^b Percentages calculated from totals inclusive of New Zealand qualifications
(Data source: Dental register)

Table 2-11. Country of registration qualification for practising dentists and dental specialists, for 2025

Country of qualification ^a	Dentist qualifications (%)	Dental specialist qualifications (%)	Total (%)
New Zealand	2,026 (67.6)	239 (59.2)	2,265 (66.6)
Overseas	971 (32.4)	165 (40.8)	1,136 (33.4)
Total	2,997	404	3,401
Breakdown of overseas qualifications			
	(Column %) ^b	(Column %)	(Column %)
Australia	206 (6.9)	56 (13.9)	262 (7.7)
United Kingdom	189 (6.3)	40 (9.9)	229 (6.7)
India	197 (6.6)	4 (1.0)	201 (5.9)
South Africa	87 (2.9)	11 (2.7)	98 (2.9)
United States of America	56 (1.9)	21 (5.2)	77 (2.3)
Iraq	45 (1.5)	1 (0.2)	46 (1.4)
Brazil	21 (0.7)	3 (0.7)	24 (0.7)
Canada	16 (0.5)	2 (0.5)	18 (0.5)
Ireland	8 (0.3)	7 (1.7)	15 (0.4)
Fiji	12 (0.4)	—	12 (0.4)
Philippines	10 (0.3)	1 (0.2)	11 (0.3)
Russia	10 (0.3)	—	10 (0.3)
Germany	5 (0.2)	5 (1.2)	10 (0.3)
China, People's Republic of	7 (0.2)	2 (0.5)	9 (0.3)
Sri Lanka	7 (0.2)	—	7 (0.2)
Argentina	5 (0.2)	2 (0.5)	7 (0.2)
Colombia	6 (0.2)	—	6 (0.2)
Malaysia	6 (0.2)	—	6 (0.2)
Singapore	5 (0.2)	1 (0.2)	6 (0.2)
Egypt	6 (0.2)	—	6 (0.2)
Pakistan	6 (0.2)	—	6 (0.2)
Romania	5 (0.2)	—	5 (0.1)
Korea, Republic of	5 (0.2)	—	5 (0.1)
Czech Republic	4 (0.1)	—	4 (0.1)
Hong Kong (Special Administrative Region)	2 (0.1)	2 (0.5)	4 (0.1)
Netherlands	3 (0.1)	1 (0.2)	4 (0.1)
Bulgaria	3 (0.1)	1 (0.2)	4 (0.1)
Bangladesh	3 (0.1)	—	3 (0.1)
Switzerland	3 (0.1)	—	3 (0.1)
Sweden	2 (0.1)	1 (0.2)	3 (0.1)
France	3 (0.1)	—	3 (0.1)
Türkiye	1 (0.0)	2 (0.5)	3 (0.1)

Country of qualification ^a	Dentist qualifications (%)	Dental specialist qualifications (%)	Total (%)
Poland	3 (0.1)	—	3 (0.1)
Serbia	3 (0.1)	—	3 (0.1)
Thailand	2 (0.1)	—	2 (0.1)
United Arab Emirates	2 (0.1)	—	2 (0.1)
Jordan	2 (0.1)	—	2 (0.1)
Iran	2 (0.1)	—	2 (0.1)
Chile	2 (0.1)	—	2 (0.1)
Greece	1 (0.0)	1 (0.2)	2 (0.1)
Yugoslavia	2 (0.1)	—	2 (0.1)
Syria	1 (0.0)	—	1 (0.0)
Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM)	1 (0.0)	—	1 (0.0)
Ukraine	1 (0.0)	—	1 (0.0)
Taiwan	1 (0.0)	—	1 (0.0)
Costa Rica	1 (0.0)	—	1 (0.0)
Belgium	1 (0.0)	—	1 (0.0)
Israel	1 (0.0)	—	1 (0.0)
Italy	—	1 (0.2)	1 (0.0)
Japan	1 (0.0)	—	1 (0.0)

^a Multiple qualifications per registrant, per scope of practice, and from the same or different countries can apply

^b Percentages calculated from totals inclusive of New Zealand qualifications

(Data source: Dental register)

Table 2-12. Cohort remainder rate for University of Otago dental graduates for 2025 reporting year

Graduation cohort	Total number of domestic dental graduates ^a	Number of dental graduates with practising certificates ^b	Cohort remainder rate
1966-1970	239	10	4.2
1971-1975	212	18	8.5
1976-1980	272	61	22.4
1981-1985	269	137	50.9
1986-1990	224	131	58.5
1991-1995	247	142	57.5
1996-2000	279	134	48.0
2001	60	27	45.0
2002	59	16	27.1
2003	56	23	41.1
2004	56	24	42.9
2005	60	25	41.7
2006	62	22	35.5
2007	61	24	39.3
2008	57	29	50.9
2009	55	35	63.6
2010	60	35	58.3
2011	58	35	60.3
2012	54	52	96.3
2013	52	48	92.3
2014	50	48	96.0
2015	50	59	118.0
2016	58	57	98.3
2017	53	54	101.9
2018	61	57	93.4
2019	67	68	101.5
2020	59	77	130.5
2021	76	66	86.8 ^c
2022	62	86	138.7
2023	63	71	112.7
2024	61	90	147.5

^a For the purpose of this analysis a domestic dental graduate is defined as a dental student not externally funded

^b There are internationally-funded students who register in New Zealand—resulting in the number of registrants exceeding the domestic graduates

^c Some students' graduation was delayed until January 2022 due to the impact of clinic closures during COVID-19 lockdowns. Decrease in remainder rates relate to the delayed registration for some of the 2021 cohort.

(Data sources: Dental register and Faculty of Dentistry)

Table 2-13. Longitudinal analysis of the cohort remainder rate of University of Otago dental graduates

Year of graduation											
	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
Total number of graduates, not externally funded ^{a, b}											
	61	63	62	76	59	67	61	53	58	50	50
Practising status:	Number of Otago dental graduates with practising certificates (cohort remainder rate)										
September 2025	90 (147.5)	71 (112.7)	86 (138.7)	66 (86.8)	77 (130.5)	68 (101.5)	57 (93.4)	54 (101.9)	57 (98.3)	59 (118.0)	48 (96.0)
September 2024		71 (112.7)	91 (146.8)	71 (93.4)	81 (137.3)	71 (106.0)	62 (101.6)	58 (109.4)	58 (100.0)	58 (116.0)	47 (94.0)
September 2023			97 (156.5)	73 (96.1)	84 (142.4)	74 (110.4)	64 (104.9)	57 (107.5)	59 (101.7)	61 (122.0)	51 (102.0)
September 2022				66 (88.0) ^c	83 (140.7)	70 (104.5)	63 (103.3)	57 (107.5)	54 (93.1)	53 (106.0)	47 (94.0)
September 2021					84 (142.4)	72 (107.5)	64 (104.9)	59 (111.3)	56 (96.6)	52 (104.0)	49 (98.0)
September 2020						76 (113.4)	68 (111.5)	63 (118.9)	64 (110.3)	59 (118.0)	53 (106.0)
September 2019							71 (116.4)	66 (124.5)	67 (115.5)	64 (128.0)	58 (116.0)
September 2018								72 (135.8)	76 (131.0)	71 (142.0)	68 (136.0)
September 2017									78 (134.5)	71 (142.0)	64 (128.0)
September 2016										73 (146.0)	64 (128.0)
September 2015											65 (130.0)

^a For the purpose of this analysis a domestic student is defined as a student not externally funded

^b There are internationally-funded students who register in New Zealand—resulting in the number of registrants exceeding the domestic graduates

^c Some students' graduation was delayed until January 2022 due to the impact of clinic closures during COVID-19 lockdowns

(Data sources: Dental register and Faculty of Dentistry)

Table 2-14. Overseas qualified dentists with practising certificates—type of New Zealand registration pathway by year for 2025 reporting year

Year of first registration in New Zealand	Prescribed overseas qualifications (%)	Trans-Tasman Mutual Recognition (%)	Overseas qualifications equivalency assessed (%)	NZDREX (%)
1984-2000	31 (7.8)	—	1 (1.6)	64 (23.9)
2001	4 (1.0)	—	1 (1.6)	9 (3.4)
2002	7 (1.8)	—	—	13 (4.9)
2003	11 (2.8)	1 (0.7)	—	11 (4.1)
2004	10 (2.5)	1 (0.7)	—	10 (3.7)
2005	16 (4.0)	—	—	12 (4.5)
2006	14 (3.5)	2 (1.4)	1 (1.6)	17 (6.3)
2007	6 (1.5)	2 (1.4)	—	19 (7.1)
2008	12 (3.0)	1 (0.7)	—	13 (4.9)
2009	10 (2.5)	2 (1.4)	—	16 (6.0)
2010	11 (2.8)	1 (0.7)	—	18 (6.7)
2011	4 (1.0)	1 (0.7)	—	14 (5.2)
2012	8 (2.0)	3 (2.0)	—	12 (4.5)
2013	11 (2.8)	3 (2.0)	1 (1.6)	12 (4.5)
2014	7 (1.8)	9 (6.1)	1 (1.6)	5 (1.9)
2015	11 (2.8)	6 (4.1)	2 (3.3)	7 (2.6)
2016	14 (3.5)	5 (3.4)	5 (8.2)	8 (3.0)
2017	16 (4.0)	8 (5.4)	6 (9.8)	1 (0.4)
2018	20 (5.0)	10 (6.8)	4 (6.6)	—
2019	20 (5.0)	10 (6.8)	9 (14.8)	—
2020	24 (6.0)	8 (5.4)	9 (14.8)	1 (0.4)
2021	21 (5.3)	5 (3.4)	7 (11.5)	—
2022	16 (4.0)	14 (9.5)	5 (8.2)	2 (0.7)
2023	34 (8.5)	16 (10.9)	3 (4.9)	1 (0.4)
2024	41 (10.3)	16 (10.9)	5 (8.2)	1 (0.4)
2025	19 (4.8)	23 (15.6)	1 (1.6)	2 (0.7)
Total (row%)	398 (45.5)	147 (16.8)	61 (7.0)	268 (30.7)

Note: NZDREX = New Zealand Dentist Registration Examination
(Data source: Dental register)

Table 2-15. Overseas qualified dental specialists with practising certificates—type of New Zealand registration pathway by year, for 2025 reporting year

Year of first registration in New Zealand	Prescribed overseas qualifications (%)	Trans-Tasman Mutual Recognition (%)	Overseas qualifications equivalency assessed (%)	NZSDREX (%)
1990 - 2000	12 (28.6)	2 (6.5)	15 (23.4)	—
2001	—	—	2 (3.1)	—
2002	—	—	3 (4.7)	—
2003	—	—	2 (3.1)	—
2004	1 (2.4)	—	3 (4.7)	—
2005	1 (2.4)	—	3 (4.7)	1 (33.3)
2006	1 (2.4)	1 (3.2)	—	1 (33.3)
2007	1 (2.4)	2 (6.5)	1 (1.6)	—
2008	—	—	1 (1.6)	—
2009	—	1 (3.2)	2 (3.1)	—
2010	—	1 (3.2)	3 (4.7)	—
2011	3 (7.1)	1 (3.2)	—	1 (33.3)
2012	—	1 (3.2)	1 (1.6)	—
2013	2 (4.8)	1 (3.2)	1 (1.6)	—
2014	2 (4.8)	2 (6.5)	3 (4.7)	—
2015	2 (4.8)	1 (3.2)	—	—
2016	—	—	—	—
2017	2 (4.8)	2 (6.5)	2 (3.1)	—
2018	1 (2.4)	2 (6.5)	4 (6.3)	—
2019	1 (2.4)	—	3 (4.7)	—
2020	1 (2.4)	5 (16.1)	2 (3.1)	—
2021	1 (2.4)	3 (9.7)	1 (1.6)	—
2022	2 (4.8)	—	2 (3.1)	—
2023	3 (7.1)	2 (6.5)	3 (4.7)	—
2024	2 (4.8)	3 (9.7)	6 (9.4)	—
2025	4 (9.5)	1 (3.2)	1 (1.6)	—
Total (row%)	42 (30.0)	31 (22.1)	64 (45.7)	3 (2.1)

(Data source: Dental register)

Table 2-16. Type of employment reported by practising dentists and dental specialists

		Distinct (%)	Total %
2023	Self-employed		
	Solo practice	618 (30.0)	22.7
	Group practice	1,445 (70.0)	53.2
	Other	47 (2.3)	1.7
	Self-employed subtotal	2,063	75.9
	Employees		
	Private practice	276 (44.7)	10.2
	Public sector	225 (36.5)	8.3
	<i>Public health regions</i>	201 (32.6)	7.4
	<i>Ministry of Health</i>	8 (1.3)	0.3
	<i>Other government department, not MOH</i>	16 (2.6)	0.6
	University	107 (17.3)	3.9
	Māori health organisation	9 (1.5)	0.3
2024	Employees subtotal	617	22.7
	Other forms of employment or no response	37	1.4
	Total	2,717	
	Self-employed		
	Solo practice	656 (31.1)	23.9
	Group practice	1,442 (68.5)	52.4
	Other	56 (2.7)	2.0
	Self-employed subtotal	2,106	76.6
	Employees		
	Private practice	268 (43.4)	9.7
	Public sector	229 (37.1)	8.3
	<i>Public health regions</i>	198 (32.1)	7.2
	<i>Ministry of Health</i>	8 (1.3)	0.3
	<i>Other government department, not MOH</i>	23 (3.7)	0.8
2025	University	110 (17.8)	4.0
	Māori health organisation	10 (1.6)	0.4
	Employee subtotal	617	22.4
	Other forms of employment or no response	27	1.0
	Total	2,750	
	Self-employed		
	Solo practice	656 (30.5)	23.4
	Group practice	1,501 (69.7)	53.5
	Other	55 (2.6)	2.0
	Self-employed subtotal	2,153	76.7
	Employees		

	Distinct (%)	Total %
Private practice	262 (41.9)	9.3
Public practice	232 (37.1)	8.3
<i>Public health regions</i>	202 (32.3)	7.2
<i>Ministry of Health</i>	11 (1.8)	0.4
<i>Other government department, not MOH</i>	19 (3.0)	0.7
University	121 (19.3)	4.3
Māori health organisation	11 (1.8)	0.4
Employees subtotal	626	22.3
Other forms of employment or no response	29	1.0
Total	2,808	

Note: MOH = Ministry of Health
(Data source: Workforce survey)

Table 2-17. Reported total number of hours worked per week by dentists and dental specialists in New Zealand

	Number of hours worked	Total (%) ^a	Dentists (%)	Dental specialists (%)
2023	1 to 10	67 (2.6)	58 (2.6)	9 (2.8)
	11 to 20	161 (6.3)	146 (6.5)	15 (4.6)
	21 to 30	359 (14.1)	322 (14.4)	37 (11.5)
	31 to 40	1,120 (43.8)	1,017 (45.6)	103 (31.9)
	41 to 50	620 (24.3)	518 (23.2)	102 (31.6)
	51 to 60	153 (6.0)	110 (4.9)	43 (13.3)
	61 to 70	52 (2.0)	42 (1.9)	10 (3.1)
	More than 70	23 (0.9)	19 (0.9)	4 (1.2)
	Number giving data on hours	2,555	2,232	323
	Nil response or excluded			
	Mean no. of hours/week	37.6	37.2	40.5
2024	1 to 10	82 (3.2)	75 (3.3)	7 (2.3)
	11 to 20	171 (6.6)	156 (6.8)	15 (4.9)
	21 to 30	357 (13.8)	334 (14.7)	23 (7.5)
	31 to 40	1,140 (44.1)	1,026 (45.0)	114 (37.0)
	41 to 50	607 (23.5)	523 (23.0)	84 (27.3)
	51 to 60	162 (6.3)	111 (4.9)	51 (16.6)
	61 to 70	43 (1.7)	34 (1.5)	9 (2.9)
	More than 70	24 (0.9)	19 (0.8)	5 (1.6)
	Number giving data on hours	2,586	2,278	308
	Nil response or excluded			
	Mean no. of hours/week	37.1	36.4	41.4
2025	1 to 10	69 (2.6)	62 (2.7)	7 (2.1)
	11 to 20	173 (6.5)	158 (6.8)	15 (4.4)
	21 to 30	390 (14.7)	356 (15.3)	34 (10.1)
	31 to 40	1,200 (45.1)	1,078 (46.4)	122 (36.1)
	41 to 50	602 (22.6)	504 (21.7)	98 (29.0)
	51 to 60	157 (5.9)	116 (5.0)	41 (12.1)
	61 to 70	45 (1.7)	33 (1.4)	12 (3.6)
	More than 70	23 (0.9)	14 (0.6)	9 (2.7)
	Number giving data on hours	2,659	2,321	338
	Nil response or excluded			
	Mean no. of hours/week	37.0	34.9	35.8

^a Dentists and dental specialists reporting working no hours or more than 80 hours per week, are excluded from the calculations (Data source: Workforce survey)

Table 2-18. Work by practice area and employment type for dentists and dental specialists practising in NZ, for 2023

	Self-employed		Private		Public		University		Māori health organisation		Other		Total	
	Distinct number	Average (sd)	Distinct number	Average (sd)	Distinct number	Average (sd)	Distinct number	Average (sd)	Distinct number	Average (sd)	Distinct number	Average (sd)	Distinct number	Average (sd)
General Dental Practice	1,881	26.8 (11.8)	253	28.1 (12.0)	174	29.7 (16.4)	83	14.1 (12.9)	9	20.3 (11.5)	34	28.5 (12.4)	2,334	26.8 (12.4)
Endodontic Specialist	20	27.4 (9.4)	4	28.0 (14.6)	—	—	4	9.5 (3.9)	—	—	—	—	27	25.0 (11.3)
Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Specialist	34	27.2 (17.0)	6	19.0 (5.9)	14	15.4 (11.3)	1	60.0	—	—	—	—	41	24.1 (16.4)
Oral Medicine Specialist	4	10.2 (8.9)	—	—	5	24.0 (12.6)	2	12.0 (5.7)	—	—	—	—	7	16.3 (11.7)
Oral Pathology Specialist	—	—	2	16.5 (12.0)	1	30.0	4	9.3 (7.9)	—	—	—	—	6	14.3 (10.7)
Oral Surgery Specialist	10	28.7 (15.3)	—	—	1	10.0	1	15.0	—	—	1	40.0	12	27.4 (15.2)
Orthodontic Specialist	98	25.2 (12.8)	10	26.7 (13.9)	8	7.1 (3.5)	5	17.0 (13.2)	—	—	1	32.0	108	24.0 (13.2)
Paediatric Dentistry Specialist	11	15.3 (10.9)	—	—	7	26.9 (14.7)	4	13.0 (7.2)	—	—	2	16.0 (5.7)	20	18.2 (12.1)
Periodontic Specialist	28	24.9 (11.6)	3	26.7 (16.7)	2	20.5 (27.6)	4	16.3 (6.8)	—	—	—	—	35	24.0 (12.2)
Prosthodontic Specialist	24	21.3 (11.5)	3	14.7 (6.1)	3	15.0 (7.0)	8	10.6 (4.4)	—	—	—	—	32	18.3 (10.7)
Public Health Dentistry Specialist	1	5.0	—	—	15	16.2 (12.5)	4	23.6 (14.1)	—	—	—	—	20	17.1 (12.8)
Restorative Dentistry Specialist	2	11.0 (12.7)	—	—	2	8.0	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	9.5 (7.5)
Special Needs Dentistry Specialist	4	8.2 (5.7)	—	—	12	21.2 (11.7)	2	19.5 (6.4)	—	—	2	22.5 (24.7)	16	17.8 (12.1)
Administration	1,144	4.4 (4.0)	131	4.2 (3.9)	121	5.5 (5.2)	56	4.5 (2.5)	4	1.5 (1.0)	17	4.1 (2.7)	1,439	4.5 (4.1)
Research	345	2.7 (3.7)	46	2.9 (3.2)	47	3.1 (3.3)	47	6.3 (5.0)	2	1.5 (0.7)	9	2.3 (0.9)	489	3.1 (3.9)
Teaching	273	2.6 (3.5)	41	2.7 (2.3)	86	2.5 (2.8)	67	7.2 (6.0)	—	—	5	3.4 (2.3)	466	3.3 (4.1)
Other	189	2.8 (2.8)	23	4.1 (8.4)	27	3.6 (3.1)	12	9.3 (7.7)	3	1.3 (0.6)	1	2.0	252	3.3 (4.2)
Total distinct count	2,049		274		221		104		9		36		2,543	

Dentists and dental specialists reporting working no hours or more than 80 hours per week, are excluded from the calculations
(Data source: Workforce survey)

Table 2-19. Work by practice area and employment type for dentists and dental specialists practising in NZ, for 2024

	Self-employed		Private		Public		University		Māori health organisation		Other		Total	
	Distinct number	Average (sd)	Distinct number	Average (sd)	Distinct number	Average (sd)	Distinct number	Average (sd)	Distinct number	Average (sd)	Distinct number	Average (sd)	Distinct number	Average (sd)
General Dental Practice	1924	26.0 (11.9)	239	26.2 (12.9)	173	27.5 (15.5)	87	16.5 (13.9)	22	29.0 (12.2)	10	22.6 (13.1)	2,359	25.8 (12.4)
Endodontic Specialist	18	28.5 (9.4)	5	32.4 (4.3)	—	—	4	9.8 (4.1)	—	—	—	—	27	26.6 (10.7)
Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Specialist	39	26.9 (14.7)	2	18.0 (17.0)	17	19.2 (10.7)	1	60.0 (0.0)	—	—	—	—	44	25.0 (14.6)
Oral Medicine Specialist	6	9.3 (7.9)	—	—	3	16.3 (5.5)	1	10.0 (0.0)	—	—	—	—	7	11.0 (7.4)
Oral Pathology Specialist	—	—	2	20.0 (0.0)	1	36.0 (0.0)	3	11.7 (7.6)	—	—	—	—	6	18.5 (10.7)
Oral Surgery Specialist	8	25.7 (15.1)	2	22.5 (10.6)	3	20.7 (17.2)	3	18.8 (9.8)	—	—	—	—	12	23.4 (13.5)
Orthodontic Specialist	92	24.5 (12.8)	11	25.6 (14.2)	9	6.9 (3.6)	2	12.0 (4.2)	1	32.0 (0.0)	—	—	102	23.3 (13.2)
Paediatric Dentistry Specialist	9	11.6 (8.5)	2	13.5 (9.2)	9	24.1 (10.8)	3	21.0 (3.6)	—	—	—	—	18	17.6 (10.4)
Periodontic Specialist	29	24.6 (13.0)	1	18.0 (0.0)	2	20.0 (26.9)	6	23.3 (14.6)	—	—	—	—	36	24.0 (13.3)
Prosthodontic Specialist	25	21.2 (12.8)	3	13.0 (4.4)	3	19.7 (7.5)	9	10.8 (3.8)	—	—	—	—	33	18.4 (11.5)
Public Health Dentistry Specialist	1	5.0 (0.0)	2	17.0 (9.9)	16	16.1 (9.1)	4	31.1 (12.9)	1	12.0 (0.0)	—	—	23	18.1 (11.0)
Restorative Dentistry Specialist	1	4.0 (0.0)	—	—	1	10.0 (0.0)	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	7.0 (4.2)
Special Needs Dentistry Specialist	2	10.7 (4.6)	1	20.0 (0.0)	12	20.2 (9.3)	3	16.3 (16.4)	2	20.0 (21.2)	—	—	16	18.2 (10.5)
Administration	1172	4.5 (3.9)	124	3.8 (3.5)	109	5.6 (5.5)	65	4.3 (3.1)	14	4.4 (3.1)	6	2.2 (1.6)	1,445	4.5 (4.0)
Teaching	356	2.6 (3.0)	39	2.5 (2.1)	43	2.3 (1.9)	54	5.8 (5.5)	4	3.6 (1.3)	2	5.0 (4.2)	485	3.0 (3.4)
Research	295	2.4 (3.5)	45	3.2 (5.6)	70	2.1 (1.3)	66	7.6 (6.9)	3	4.7 (4.6)	1	1.0 (0.0)	462	3.2 (4.6)
Other	175	2.8 (3.4)	23	2.5 (4.4)	20	6.1 (4.9)	11	5.4 (8.0)	1	2.0 (0.0)	4	1.5 (0.6)	230	3.2 (4.0)
Total distinct count	2,085		258		222		109		25		10		2,559	

Dentists and dental specialists reporting working no hours or more than 80 hours per week, are excluded from the calculations
(Data source: Workforce survey)

Table 2-20. Work by practice area and employment type for dentists and dental specialists practising in NZ, for 2025

	Self-employed		Private		Public		University		Māori health organisation		Other		Total	
	Distinct number	Average (sd)	Distinct number	Average (sd)	Distinct number	Average (sd)	Distinct number	Average (sd)	Distinct number	Average (sd)	Distinct number	Average (sd)	Distinct number	Average (sd)
General Dental Practice	1,986	25.6 (11.9)	245	27.4 (12.5)	187	29.1 (17.1)	95	17.8 (14.5)	11	26.3 (10.4)	27	27.4 (11.6)	2,455	25.7 (12.6)
Endodontic Specialist	25	28.5 (8.1)	2	34.5 (0.7)	—	—	5	9.6 (7.2)	—	—	—	—	31	26.1 (10.4)
Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Specialist	39	26.6 (15.0)	3	14.0 (17.4)	17	23.2 (12.7)	1	60.0	—	—	—	—	45	25.6 (15.0)
Oral Medicine Specialist	6	10.0 (8.6)	—	—	4	10.3 (7.4)	2	9.0 (1.4)	—	—	—	—	6	9.9 (7.3)
Oral Pathology Specialist	—	—	—	—	1	36.0	4	17.3 (16.8)	—	—	1	20.0	5	20.8 (15.1)
Oral Surgery Specialist	11	29.1 (16.9)	2	28.0 (17.0)	1	16.0	3	14.7 (13.6)	—	—	—	—	14	26.2 (16.2)
Orthodontic Specialist	102	24.8 (12.2)	10	21.9 (13.6)	7	7.4 (3.4)	7	14.5 (11.3)	—	—	—	—	115	23.3 (12.7)
Paediatric Dentistry Specialist	10	11.8 (10.5)	2	18.0 (2.8)	8	24.4 (11.3)	3	32.3 (10.8)	—	—	1	20.0	20	18.6 (12.2)
Periodontic Specialist	36	23.2 (12.6)	3	24.5 (7.7)	2	20.5 (27.6)	5	19.0 (13.7)	—	—	—	—	43	22.8 (12.6)
Prosthodontic Specialist	25	20.6 (12.2)	4	14.0 (6.3)	2	21.3 (1.8)	8	11.4 (5.1)	—	—	—	—	34	18.3 (11.0)
Public Health Dentistry Specialist	3	4.3 (2.9)	—	—	17	14.8 (9.6)	4	23.5 (15.5)	—	—	2	10.0 (2.8)	25	14.2 (10.8)
Restorative Dentistry Specialist	2	11.0 (9.9)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	11.0 (9.9)
Special Needs Dentistry Specialist	2	7.0 (4.2)	—	—	15	21.0 (11.0)	3	25.3 (14.0)	—	—	1	10.0	18	19.8 (11.5)
Administration	1,232	4.5 (3.9)	104	4.3 (5.2)	116	5.0 (4.3)	66	4.7 (3.5)	6	1.3 (0.8)	16	4.9 (3.1)	1,497	4.5 (4.0)
Research	391	2.5 (2.8)	30	3.0 (3.5)	42	2.0 (1.7)	49	6.7 (4.9)	2	4.5 (4.9)	6	2.7 (1.7)	512	2.9 (3.3)
Teaching	327	2.4 (3.0)	35	2.0 (1.7)	75	2.2 (1.9)	71	6.9 (5.3)	—	—	4	1.9 (1.0)	503	3.0 (3.6)
Other	201	3.1 (3.8)	22	3.7 (3.6)	17	4.0 (3.8)	7	4.9 (3.9)	2	1.5 (0.7)	—	—	247	3.2 (3.7)
Total distinct count	2,153		261		231		121		11		29		2,659	

Dentists and dental specialists reporting working no hours or more than 80 hours per week, are excluded from the calculations
(Data source: Workforce survey)

Table 2-21. Reported reasons for part-time practice by dentist and dental specialist practising in New Zealand

	Reason for practising part-time	Total (%)
2023	Personal choice	438 (52.0)
	Parental responsibilities	191 (22.7)
	Semi-retired from practice	102 (12.1)
	Studying	33 (3.9)
	Doing non-dental work	25 (3.0)
	Health	13 (1.5)
	Seeking dental employment	10 (1.2)
	Other	31 (3.7)
	Total	843
2024	Personal choice	447 (51.1)
	Parental responsibilities	205 (23.5)
	Semi-retired from practice	106 (12.1)
	Studying	42 (4.8)
	Doing non-dental work	25 (2.9)
	Health	16 (1.8)
	Seeking dental employment	3 (0.3)
	Other	30 (3.4)
	Total	874
2025	Personal choice	469 (52.1)
	Parental responsibilities	208 (23.1)
	Semi-retired from practice	100 (11.1)
	Studying	35 (3.9)
	Doing non-dental work	22 (2.4)
	Health	15 (1.7)
	Seeking dental employment	5 (0.6)
	Other	46 (5.1)
	Total	900

(Data sources: Dental register & workforce survey)

Table 2-22. Practising pattern reported by dentists and dental specialists not currently practising in New Zealand

	Employment status	Current APC (%)	No current APC (%)	Overall distinct count
2023	In NZ but not practising	7 (7.9)	17 (4.5)	24 (5.1)
	Overseas and not practising	11 (12.4)	31 (8.1)	42 (8.9)
	Practising overseas	71 (79.8)	334 (87.4)	404 (86.0)
	Total	89	382	470
2024	In NZ but not practising	7 (6.5)	19 (4.6)	26 (5.0)
	Overseas and not practising	11 (10.2)	39 (9.5)	50 (9.6)
	Practising overseas	90 (83.3)	354 (85.9)	444 (85.4)
	Total	108	412	520
2025	In NZ but not practising	11 (9.2)	11 (2.3)	22 (3.7)
	Overseas and not practising	11 (9.2)	48 (10.0)	59 (9.9)
	Practising overseas	97 (81.5)	419 (87.7)	516 (86.4)
	Total	119	478	597

(Data source: Workforce survey)

Table 2-23. Dentists and dental specialists expecting to practise in New Zealand over next five years

		Dentists	Dental specialists	Overall distinct count
2023	Yes, expect to practise	2,814 (91.3)	415 (91.4)	2,989 (91.2)
	No response	267 (8.7)	39 (8.6)	289 (8.8)
2024	Yes, expect to practise	2,869 (90.5)	429 (90.9)	3,046 (90.3)
	No response	300 (9.5)	43 (9.1)	326 (9.7)
2025	Yes, expect to practise	2,994 (91.7)	446 (92.7)	3,190 (91.6)
	No response	270 (8.3)	35 (7.3)	293 (8.4)

(Data source: Workforce survey)

Table 2-24. Geographic distribution and FTE reported by practising dentists and dental specialists by TA, for 2025

TA area	Number of dentists (%)	Number of dental specialists (%)	Distinct total (%)	FTE dentists [N reporting hours]
Far North District	13 (0.5)	—	13 (0.5)	11.7 [13]
Whangarei District	36 (1.4)	8 (2.2)	38 (1.4)	34.2 [37]
Kaipara district	—	—	—	—
Auckland	620 (23.7)	95 (26.3)	664 (23.8)	587.3 [642]
Thames-Coromandel District	9 (0.3)	—	9 (0.3)	7.9 [9]
Hauraki District	3 (0.1)	—	3 (0.1)	2.7 [3]
Waikato District	9 (0.3)	1 (0.3)	9 (0.3)	7.8 [8]
Matamata-Piako District	11 (0.4)	—	11 (0.4)	9.4 [11]
Hamilton City	84 (3.2)	14 (3.9)	92 (3.3)	81.4 [90]
Waipa District	15 (0.6)	—	15 (0.5)	11.2 [14]
Ōtorohanga district	4 (0.2)	—	4 (0.1)	4.0 [4]
South Waikato District	4 (0.2)	1 (0.3)	4 (0.1)	3.9 [4]
Waitomo District	1 (0.0)	—	1 (0.0)	1.0 [1]
Taupo District	12 (0.5)	—	12 (0.4)	12.3 [12]
Western Bay of Plenty District	5 (0.2)	—	5 (0.2)	3.6 [5]
Tauranga City	58 (2.2)	8 (2.2)	64 (2.3)	50.4 [62]
Rotorua District	19 (0.7)	1 (0.3)	20 (0.7)	17.5 [20]
Whakatane District	11 (0.4)	—	11 (0.4)	8.6 [10]
Kawerau District	1 (0.0)	—	1 (0.0)	0.8 [1]
Ōpōtiki district	1 (0.0)	—	1 (0.0)	0.8 [1]
Gisborne District	11 (0.4)	1 (0.3)	12 (0.4)	9.2 [12]
Wairoa District	2 (0.1)	—	2 (0.1)	2.2 [2]
Hastings District	22 (0.8)	7 (1.9)	27 (1.0)	26.0 [26]
Napier City	27 (1.0)	3 (0.8)	29 (1.0)	25.7 [28]
Central Hawke's Bay District	3 (0.1)	—	3 (0.1)	2.7 [3]
New Plymouth District	23 (0.9)	6 (1.7)	24 (0.9)	22.1 [23]
Stratford District	2 (0.1)	—	2 (0.1)	1.1 [1]
South Taranaki District	3 (0.1)	—	3 (0.1)	2.7 [3]
Ruapehu District	1 (0.0)	—	1 (0.0)	1.0 [1]
Whanganui District	15 (0.6)	1 (0.3)	15 (0.5)	13.1 [14]
Rangitikei District	1 (0.0)	—	1 (0.0)	1.0 [1]
Manawatu District	6 (0.2)	—	6 (0.2)	4.4 [6]
Palmerston North City	41 (1.6)	5 (1.4)	43 (1.5)	35.1 [41]
Tararua District	1 (0.0)	—	1 (0.0)	0.6 [1]
Horowhenua District	9 (0.3)	—	9 (0.3)	6.7 [8]
Kapiti Coast District	16 (0.6)	—	16 (0.6)	14.7 [16]
Porirua City	7 (0.3)	1 (0.3)	7 (0.3)	7.1 [7]
Upper Hutt City	15 (0.6)	—	15 (0.5)	15.2 [15]

TA area	Number of dentists (%)	Number of dental specialists (%)	Distinct total (%)	FTE dentists [N reporting hours]
Lower Hutt City	42 (1.6)	10 (2.8)	44 (1.6)	39.3 [43]
Wellington City	113 (4.3)	18 (5.0)	122 (4.4)	99.4 [113]
Masterton District	12 (0.5)	—	12 (0.4)	8.7 [11]
Carterton District	2 (0.1)	—	2 (0.1)	2.1 [2]
South Wairarapa District	2 (0.1)	—	2 (0.1)	2.4 [2]
Tasman District	14 (0.5)	—	14 (0.5)	10.5 [14]
Nelson City	33 (1.3)	10 (2.8)	35 (1.3)	29.0 [34]
Marlborough District	13 (0.5)	1 (0.3)	13 (0.5)	11.7 [13]
Kaikoura District	1 (0.0)	—	1 (0.0)	0.8 [1]
Buller District	—	—	—	—
Grey District	5 (0.2)	—	5 (0.2)	5.1 [5]
Westland district	—	—	—	—
Hurunui district	—	—	—	—
Waimakariri District	7 (0.3)	2 (0.6)	8 (0.3)	6.5 [8]
Christchurch City	177 (6.8)	36 (10.0)	191 (6.9)	158.5 [179]
Selwyn District	11 (0.4)	—	11 (0.4)	9.4 [11]
Ashburton District	6 (0.2)	1 (0.3)	6 (0.2)	5.5 [5]
Timaru District	13 (0.5)	1 (0.3)	14 (0.5)	12.5 [14]
Mackenzie district	—	—	—	—
Waimate district	—	—	—	—
Chatham Islands territory	—	—	—	—
Waitaki District	9 (0.3)	—	9 (0.3)	7.7 [9]
Central Otago District	7 (0.3)	—	7 (0.3)	5.5 [6]
Queenstown-Lakes District	12 (0.5)	2 (0.6)	14 (0.5)	11.2 [13]
Dunedin City	111 (4.2)	54 (15.0)	129 (4.6)	113.7 [123]
Clutha District	1 (0.0)	—	1 (0.0)	1.0 [1]
Southland District	1 (0.0)	—	1 (0.0)	1.1 [1]
Gore District	3 (0.1)	—	3 (0.1)	2.1 [3]
Invercargill City	23 (0.9)	6 (1.7)	25 (0.9)	18.9 [23]
Unknown	838 (32.1)	57 (15.8)	880 (31.6)	800.3 [816]
Area Outside Territorial Authority	36 (1.4)	11 (3.0)	43 (1.5)	36.3 [40]
Total	2,613	361	2,785	2446.1
TAs with no dentists/dental specialists	7	42		

Note: FTE = Full time equivalent. Dentists include dental specialists.
Due to rounding, individual figures may not always sum to the stated totals
(Data sources: Dental register, workforce survey & Statistics New Zealand)

Table 2-25. Population to practising dentists and dental specialists and FTE ratios by TA, for 2025

	No with practising certificates	Number reported hours	Total population ^a	Population aged 15+ years ^a	Population aged 15+ years-to- dentist ratio	Dentists per 100,000 population aged 15+	Population aged 15+ years-to- FTE-dentist ratio ^b	FTE per 100,000 population aged 15+ ^b
Far North District	13	13	73,700	59,600	4,584.6	21.8	5,115.9	19.5
Whangarei District	38	37	100,500	81,100	2,134.2	46.9	2,369.6	42.2
Kaipara district	—	—	26,900	22,000	—	—	—	—
Auckland	664	642	1,816,000	1,476,700	2,223.9	45.0	2,514.5	39.8
Thames-Coromandel District	9	9	32,300	28,000	3,111.1	32.1	3,538.7	28.3
Hauraki District	3	3	22,100	18,300	6,100.0	16.4	6,841.1	14.6
Waikato District	9	8	91,100	72,200	8,022.2	12.5	9,238.6	10.8
Matamata-Piako District	11	11	39,200	31,600	2,872.7	34.8	3,348.3	29.9
Hamilton City	92	90	192,200	152,600	1,658.7	60.3	1,874.4	53.4
Waipa District	15	14	62,100	50,100	3,340.0	29.9	4,488.2	22.3
Ōtorohanga district	4	4	10,650	8,400	2,100.0	47.6	2,126.6	47.0
South Waikato District	4	4	26,000	20,300	5,075.0	19.7	5,172.0	19.3
Waitomo District	1	1	9,950	7,880	7,880.0	12.7	7,880.0	12.7
Taupo District	12	12	42,600	34,900	2,908.3	34.4	2,837.4	35.2
Western Bay of Plenty District	5	5	60,100	49,700	9,940.0	10.1	13,902.1	7.2
Tauranga City	64	62	161,000	130,400	2,037.5	49.1	2,589.9	38.6
Rotorua District	20	20	77,900	61,600	3,080.0	32.5	3,512.5	28.5
Whakatane District	11	10	38,400	30,400	2,763.6	36.2	3,524.6	28.4
Kawerau District	1	1	7,690	6,010	6,010.0	16.6	7,512.5	13.3
Ōpōtiki district	1	1	10,300	8,150	8,150.0	12.3	10,187.5	9.8
Gisborne District	12	12	52,700	41,400	3,450.0	29.0	4,512.3	22.2
Wairoa District	2	2	8,940	6,950	3,475.0	28.8	3,195.4	31.3
Hastings District	27	26	88,300	70,700	2,618.5	38.2	2,721.8	36.7
Napier City	29	28	66,500	54,600	1,882.8	53.1	2,127.6	47.0
Central Hawke's Bay District	3	3	16,000	12,850	4,283.3	23.3	4,694.1	21.3
New Plymouth District	24	23	90,200	73,100	3,045.8	32.8	3,315.2	30.2

	No with practising certificates	Number reported hours	Total population ^a	Population aged 15+ years ^a	Population aged 15+ years-to- dentist ratio	Dentists per 100,000 population aged 15+	Population aged 15+ years-to- FTE-dentist ratio ^b	FTE per 100,000 population aged 15+ ^b
Stratford District	2	1	10,500	8,400	4,200.0	23.8	7,814.0	12.8
South Taranaki District	3	3	29,900	23,800	7,933.3	12.6	8,814.8	11.3
Ruapehu District	1	1	13,500	10,700	10,700.0	9.3	11,263.2	8.9
Whanganui District	15	14	49,200	40,100	2,673.3	37.4	3,072.8	32.5
Rangitikei District	1	1	16,050	12,950	12,950.0	7.7	12,950.0	7.7
Manawatu District	6	6	34,000	27,500	4,583.3	21.8	6,214.7	16.1
Palmerston North City	43	41	90,600	73,300	1,704.7	58.7	2,086.5	47.9
Tararua District	1	1	18,950	15,350	15,350.0	6.5	24,560.0	4.1
Horowhenua District	9	8	38,400	31,500	3,500.0	28.6	4,684.0	21.3
Kapiti Coast District	16	16	58,000	49,000	3,062.5	32.7	3,329.1	30.0
Porirua City	7	7	61,600	48,700	6,957.1	14.4	6,835.1	14.6
Upper Hutt City	15	15	47,500	38,600	2,573.3	38.9	2,535.3	39.4
Lower Hutt City	44	43	114,200	92,800	2,109.1	47.4	2,361.3	42.3
Wellington City	122	113	210,800	181,200	1,485.2	67.3	1,823.7	54.8
Masterton District	12	11	28,900	23,600	1,966.7	50.8	2,704.9	37.0
Carterton District	2	2	10,300	8,600	4,300.0	23.3	4,095.2	24.4
South Wairarapa District	2	2	12,200	10,150	5,075.0	19.7	4,185.6	23.9
Tasman District	14	14	59,900	50,500	3,607.1	27.7	4,815.3	20.8
Nelson City	35	34	54,400	45,700	1,305.7	76.6	1,577.2	63.4
Marlborough District	13	13	50,700	42,500	3,269.2	30.6	3,648.1	27.4
Kaikoura District	1	1	4,340	3,690	3,690.0	27.1	4,920.0	20.3
Buller District	—	—	10,600	9,100	—	—	—	—
Grey district	5	5	14,600	12,000	2,400.0	41.7	2,352.9	42.5
Westland district	—	—	9,440	8,020	—	—	—	—
Hurunui district	—	—	14,350	11,850	—	—	—	—
Waimakariri District	8	8	69,700	58,000	7,250.0	13.8	8,888.9	11.3
Christchurch City	191	179	419,300	350,900	1,837.2	54.4	2,213.7	45.2

	No with practising certificates	Number reported hours	Total population ^a	Population aged 15+ years ^a	Population aged 15+ years-to- dentist ratio	Dentists per 100,000 population aged 15+	Population aged 15+ years-to- FTE-dentist ratio ^b	FTE per 100,000 population aged 15+ ^b
Selwyn District	11	11	87,600	69,600	6,327.3	15.8	7,384.6	13.5
Ashburton District	6	5	37,300	30,100	5,016.7	19.9	5,448.0	18.4
Timaru District	14	14	49,500	41,000	2,928.6	34.1	3,283.3	30.5
Mackenzie district	—	—	5,530	4,640	—	—	—	—
Waimate district	—	—	8,460	7,040	—	—	—	—
Chatham Islands territory	—	—	620	500	—	—	—	—
Waitaki District	9	9	24,500	20,400	2,266.7	44.1	2,640.8	37.9
Central Otago District	7	6	25,800	21,800	3,114.3	32.1	3,945.7	25.3
Queenstown-Lakes District	14	13	53,900	45,600	3,257.1	30.7	4,080.5	24.5
Dunedin City	129	123	132,800	113,900	882.9	113.3	1,001.4	99.9
Clutha District	1	1	18,800	15,400	15,400.0	6.5	15,794.9	6.3
Southland District	1	1	33,900	27,300	27,300.0	3.7	24,818.2	4.0
Gore District	3	3	12,900	10,700	3,566.7	28.0	5,095.2	19.6
Invercargill City	25	23	57,900	47,500	1,900.0	52.6	2,519.1	39.7
Area Outside Territorial Authority	43	40	60	60	—	—	—	—
Missing TA	880	816	—	—	-	—	—	—
Total	2785	2,645	5,324,830	4,353,590	1,563.2	64.0	1,779.8	56.2
No response or excluded		140						

^a Population estimate as at 30 June 2025

^b Where hours are reported

Note: Dentists include dental specialists.

Due to rounding, individual figures may not always sum to the stated totals

(Data sources: Dental register, workforce survey & Statistics New Zealand)

Table 2-26. Population to practising dentists and dental specialists and FTE ratios by health region and districts, for 2023

	No with practising certificates	Number Provided Hours	Total population ^a	Population aged 15+ years ^a	FTE dentists and dental specialists	Population aged 15+ years-to- dentist ratio	Dentists per 100,000 population aged 15+ years	Population aged 15+ years-to- FTE-dentist ratio	FTE per 100,000 population aged 15+ years
Northern region	762	725	1,980,690	1,603,790	675.7	2,104.7	47.5	2,373.6	42.1
Northland Te Tai Tokerau	58	51	202,070	162,540	49.8	2,802.4	35.7	3,261.4	30.7
Waitematā	253	242	661,790	536,760	221.4	2,121.6	47.1	2,424.9	41.2
Auckland Te Toka Tumai	297	283	500,310	422,920	267.4	1,424.0	70.2	1,581.3	63.2
Counties-Manukau	154	149	616,520	481,570	137.0	3,127.1	32.0	3,514.1	28.5
Midland/Te Manawa Taki	353	336	1,094,810	878,030	305.6	2,487.3	40.2	2,872.8	34.8
Waikato	158	146	463,710	371,350	131.9	2,350.3	42.5	2,814.6	35.5
Lakes	32	32	119,040	94,830	32.9	2,963.4	33.7	2,885.1	34.7
Bay of Plenty	86	83	276,510	223,460	71.3	2,598.4	38.5	3,135.2	31.9
Tairāwhiti	13	13	52,490	40,860	10.9	3,143.1	31.8	3,761.6	26.6
Taranaki	64	62	183,060	147,530	58.7	2,305.2	43.4	2,513.8	39.8
Central/Te Ikaroa	340	329	927,360	761,340	301.4	2,239.2	44.7	2,525.7	39.6
Hawke's Bay	31	29	129,680	103,800	27.0	3,348.4	29.9	3,849.8	26.0
Whanganui	19	18	69,580	56,250	16.9	2,960.5	33.8	3,325.9	30.1
MidCentral	64	62	191,400	155,210	55.7	2,425.2	41.2	2,785.9	35.9
Capital, Coast and Hutt Valley	209	203	485,370	403,900	187.6	1,933.5	51.7	2,152.6	46.5
<i>Capital and Coast</i>	<i>146</i>	<i>142</i>	<i>324,280</i>	<i>272,970</i>	<i>128.0</i>	<i>1869.7</i>	<i>53.5</i>	<i>2,132.9</i>	<i>46.9</i>
<i>Hutt Valley</i>	<i>63</i>	<i>61</i>	<i>161,090</i>	<i>130,930</i>	<i>59.7</i>	<i>2078.3</i>	<i>48.1</i>	<i>2,194.7</i>	<i>45.6</i>
Wairarapa	17	17	51,330	42,180	14.2	2,481.2	40.3	2,967.8	33.7
South Island/Te Waipounamu	530	498	1,243,580	1,036,660	440.6	1,956.0	51.1	2,352.7	42.5
Nelson Marlborough	67	64	165,790	139,090	52.6	2,076.0	48.2	2,642.5	37.8
West Coast	7	6	34,260	28,620	5.6	4,089.6	24.5	5,110.7	19.6
Canterbury	233	217	618,410	512,800	191.5	2,201.9	45.4	2,678.2	37.3
South Canterbury	16	15	63,750	53,050	15.0	3,316.6	30.2	3,542.6	28.2
Southern	207	196	361,370	303,100	175.9	1,464.3	68.3	1,722.7	58.0
Unknown, with hours reported	703	652	—	—	659.7	—	—	—	—
Total	2,688	2,540	5,246,440	4,279,820	1,723.4	1,592.2	62.8	2,483.4	40.3
Unknown, no hours reported	148								

^a Due to rounding, individual figures may not always sum to the stated totals. Dentists include dental specialists.
(Data sources: Workforce survey and Ministry of Health)

Table 2-27. Population to practising dentists and dental specialists and FTE ratios by health region and districts, for 2024

	No with practising certificates	Number Provided Hours	Total population ^a	Population aged 15+ years ^a	FTE dentists and dental specialists	Population aged 15+ years-to- dentist ratio	Dentists per 100,000 population aged 15+ years	Population aged 15+ years-to- FTE-dentist ratio	FTE per 100,000 population aged 15+ years
Northern region	735	700	2,029,880	1,648,440	636.8	2,242.8	44.6	2,588.8	38.6
Northland Te Tai Tokerau	53	50	204,730	165,130	46.5	3,115.7	32.1	3,552.1	28.2
Waitematā	244	237	675,080	549,160	211.4	2,250.7	44.4	2,597.3	38.5
Auckland Te Toka Tumai	291	269	511,120	433,840	247.6	1,490.9	67.1	1,751.9	57.1
Counties-Manukau	147	144	638,950	500,310	131.2	3,403.5	29.4	3,813.7	26.2
Midland/Te Manawa Taki	347	331	1,112,650	894,830	297.9	2,578.8	38.8	3,003.5	33.3
Waikato	154	147	471,280	378,370	132.8	2,456.9	40.7	2,848.5	35.1
Lakes	32	31	120,830	96,640	30.1	3,020.0	33.1	3,211.3	31.1
Bay of Plenty	85	82	281,830	228,150	68.3	2,684.1	37.3	3,340.4	29.9
Tairāwhiti	13	12	53,440	41,800	10.1	3,215.4	31.1	4,133.5	24.2
Taranaki	63	59	185,270	149,870	56.6	2,378.9	42.0	2,648.5	37.8
Central/Te Ikaroa	335	318	937,170	771,980	287.6	2,304.4	43.4	2,684.3	37.3
Hawke's Bay	30	28	131,030	105,280	26.6	3,509.3	28.5	3,956.0	25.3
Whanganui	17	17	70,330	56,990	16.0	3,352.4	29.8	3,559.1	28.1
MidCentral	63	61	194,520	158,220	51.6	2,511.4	39.8	3,068.2	32.6
Capital, Coast and Hutt Valley	208	196	489,340	408,720	178.1	1,965.0	50.9	2,294.6	43.6
<i>Capital and Coast</i>	145	137	325,870	275,460	121.3	1,899.7	52.6	2,271.5	44.0
<i>Hutt Valley</i>	63	59	163,470	133,260	56.9	2,115.2	47.3	2,344.1	42.7
Wairarapa	17	16	51,950	42,770	15.3	2,515.9	39.7	2,800.0	35.7
South Island/Te Waipounamu	509	481	1,261,470	1,054,390	423.9	2,071.5	48.3	2,487.6	40.2
Nelson Marlborough	65	60	167,550	141,080	49.2	2,170.5	46.1	2,866.0	34.9
West Coast	6	6	34,720	29,110	6.9	4,851.7	20.6	4,234.2	23.6
Canterbury	221	214	628,190	522,210	187.9	2,362.9	42.3	2,778.5	36.0
South Canterbury	15	14	64,820	54,070	13.2	3,604.7	27.7	4,111.8	24.3
Southern	202	187	366,190	307,920	166.7	1,524.4	65.6	1,847.6	54.1
Unknown, with hours reported	798	729	—	—	725.6			—	—
Total	2,724	2,559	5,341,170	4,369,640	2,371.7	1,604.1	62.3	1,842.4	54.3
Unknown, no hours reported	165								

^a Due to rounding, individual figures may not always sum to the stated totals. Dentists include dental specialists.
(Data sources: Workforce survey and Ministry of Health)

Table 2-28. Population to practising dentists and dental specialists and FTE ratios by health region and districts, for 2025

	No with practising certificates	Number Provided Hours	Total population ^a	Population aged 15+ years ^a	FTE dentists and dental specialists	Population aged 15+ years-to- dentist ratio	Dentists per 100,000 population aged 15+ years	Population aged 15+ years-to- FTE-dentist ratio	FTE per 100,000 population aged 15+ years
Northern region	715	692	2,062,290	1,680,720	633.1	2,350.7	42.5	2,654.6	37.7
Northland Te Tai Tokerau	51	50	207,960	168,310	45.9	3,300.2	30.3	3,668.9	27.3
Waitematā	247	241	685,490	559,580	214.5	2,265.5	44.1	2,608.9	38.3
Auckland Te Toka Tumai	272	259	517,550	441,370	240.2	1,622.7	61.6	1,837.9	54.4
Counties-Manukau	145	142	651,290	511,460	132.6	3,527.3	28.4	3,856.3	25.9
Midland/Te Manawa Taki	335	326	1,129,330	910,830	289.0	2,718.9	36.8	3,151.6	31.7
Waikato	148	144	479,690	386,070	129.3	2,608.6	38.3	2,986.1	33.5
Lakes	32	32	122,280	98,160	29.8	3,067.5	32.6	3,289.8	30.4
Bay of Plenty	82	79	286,400	232,390	64.2	2,834.0	35.3	3,622.6	27.6
Tairāwhiti	12	12	54,160	42,550	9.2	3,545.8	28.2	4,637.6	21.6
Taranaki	61	59	186,800	151,660	56.6	2,486.2	40.2	2,681.9	37.3
Central/Te Ikaroa	325	308	945,210	781,330	276.7	2,404.1	41.6	2,823.7	35.4
Hawke's Bay	29	27	132,080	106,520	25.8	3,673.1	27.2	4,124.7	24.2
Whanganui	17	16	70,740	57,470	15.0	3,380.6	29.6	3,831.3	26.1
MidCentral	62	59	196,600	160,420	50.0	2,587.4	38.6	3,208.5	31.2
Capital, Coast and Hutt Valley	201	191	493,480	413,740	172.6	2,058.4	48.6	2,396.7	41.7
<i>Capital and Coast</i>	<i>142</i>	<i>133</i>	<i>327,930</i>	<i>278,290</i>	<i>118.1</i>	<i>1,959.8</i>	<i>51.0</i>	<i>2,356.3</i>	<i>42.4</i>
<i>Hutt Valley</i>	<i>59</i>	<i>58</i>	<i>165,550</i>	<i>135,450</i>	<i>54.5</i>	<i>2,295.8</i>	<i>43.6</i>	<i>2,484.2</i>	<i>40.3</i>
Wairarapa	16	15	52,310	43,180	13.3	2,698.8	37.1	3,258.9	30.7
South Island/Te Waipounamu	487	463	1,277,030	1,070,330	410.6	2,197.8	45.5	2,606.5	38.4
Nelson Marlborough	62	61	168,980	142,850	51.1	2,304.0	43.4	2,794.8	35.8
West Coast	5	5	34,880	29,410	5.1	5,882.0	17.0	5,766.7	17.3
Canterbury	217	204	636,640	530,450	180.7	2,444.5	40.9	2,934.9	34.1
South Canterbury	14	14	65,360	54,630	12.5	3,902.1	25.6	4,374.8	22.9
Southern	189	179	371,170	312,990	161.2	1,656.0	60.4	1,941.6	51.5
Unknown, with hours reported	923	856	—	—	836.6			—	—
Total	2,785	2,645	5,413,860	4,443,210	2,446.1	1,595.4	62.7	1,816.4	55.1
Unknown, no hours reported	140								

^a Due to rounding, individual figures may not always sum to the stated totals. Dentists include dental specialists.
(Data sources: Workforce survey and Ministry of Health)

Table 2-29. Postgraduate training undertaken by dentists and dental specialists

Expected year of completion		Current APC (%)	No current APC (%)	Overall distinct (%)
2023	2022	9 (12.7)	1 (4.8)	10 (10.9)
	2023	19 (26.8)	8 (38.1)	27 (29.3)
	2024	20 (28.2)	7 (33.3)	27 (29.3)
	2025	15 (21.1)	1 (4.8)	16 (17.4)
	2026	4 (5.6)	—	4 (4.3)
	2027	1 (1.4)	2 (9.5)	3 (3.3)
	2030	1 (1.4)	—	1 (1.1)
	Not stated/unsure	2 (2.8)	2 (9.5)	4 (4.3)
Total in postgraduate training (distinct count)		71	21	92
2024	2023	10 (12.7)	6 (54.5)	16 (17.8)
	2024	28 (35.4)	2 (18.2)	30 (33.3)
	2025	20 (25.3)	2 (18.2)	22 (24.4)
	2026	18 (22.8)	1 (9.1)	19 (21.1)
	2027	2 (2.5)	—	2 (2.2)
	2029	1 (1.3)	—	1 (1.1)
Total in postgraduate training (distinct count)		79	11	90
2025	2024	13 (19.7)	2 (100.0)	15 (22.1)
	2025	20 (30.3)	—	20 (29.4)
	2026	16 (24.2)	—	16 (23.5)
	2027	10 (15.2)	—	10 (14.7)
	2028	4 (6.1)	—	4 (5.9)
	2029	1 (1.5)	—	1 (1.5)
	Not stated/unsure	2 (3.0)	—	2 (2.9)
Total in postgraduate training (distinct count)		66	2	68

(Data source: Workforce survey)

Table 2-30. Areas in which postgraduate training are being undertaken, based on 2025 data

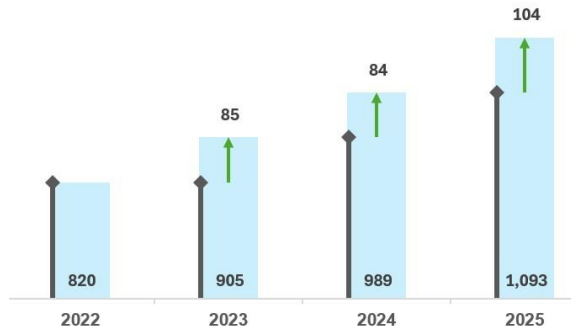
Area of study	Students/Trainees
Orthodontics	18
Periodontics	12
Endodontics	7
Oral and maxillofacial surgery	7
Paediatric dentistry	6
Oral surgery	5
Dental public health	4
Prosthodontics	3
General dentistry	2
Public health	1
Other/not reported/not a dental branch	3
Total	68

(Data source: Workforce survey; not University data)

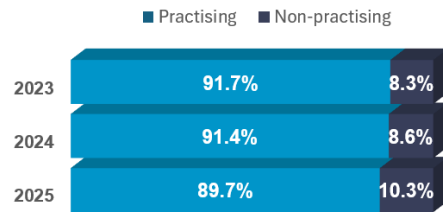
Section 3:

The oral health therapy workforce

Registered practitioners

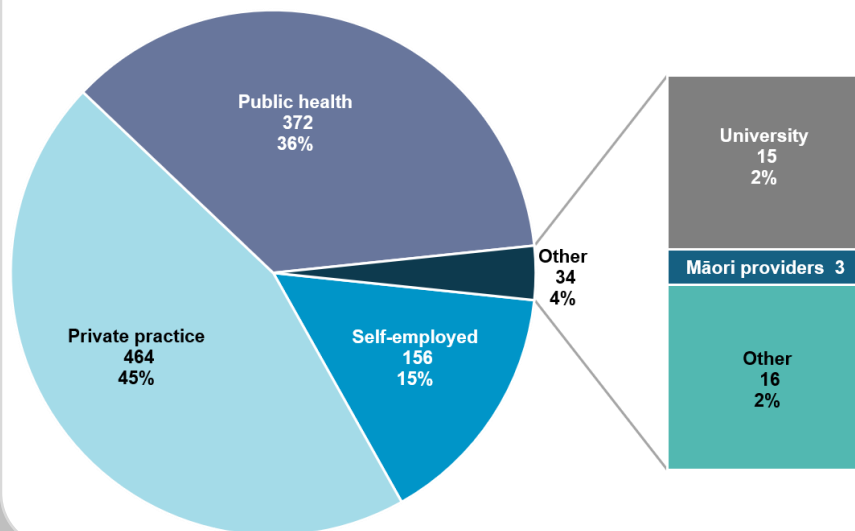


Practising status



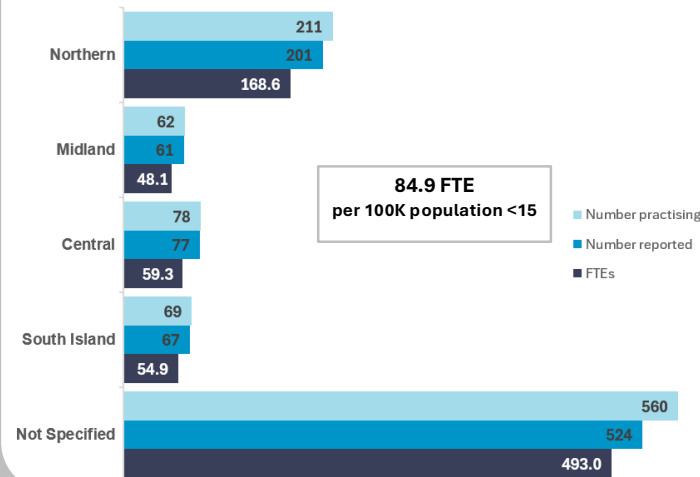
Intend to practise in NZ next 5 years: **94.8%**

Employment type practising practitioners 2025



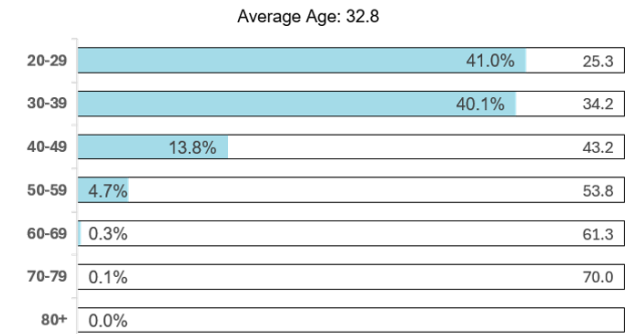
Oral health therapists

Practitioners by public health region 2025

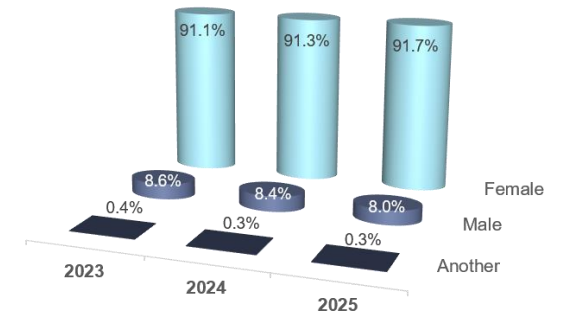


84.9 FTE
per 100K population <15

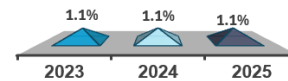
Age distribution for practising practitioners 2025



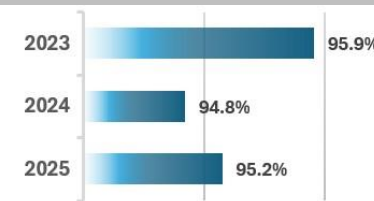
Gender for practising practitioners



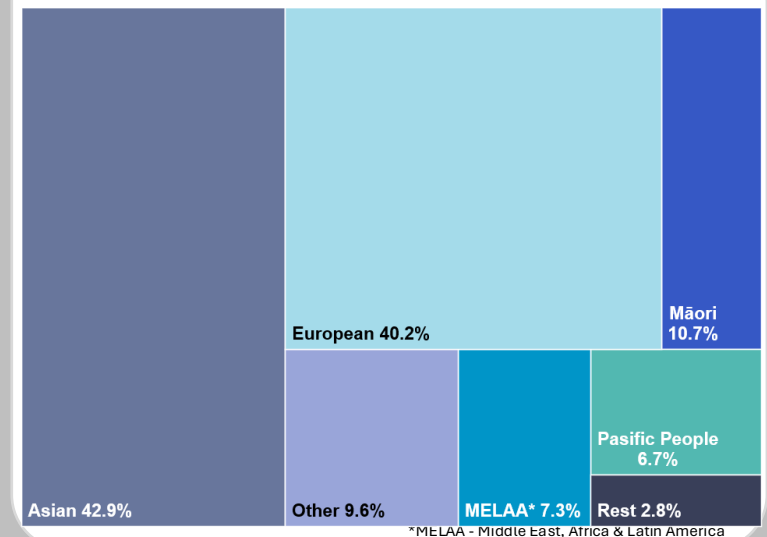
Overseas qualifications



Survey response rates



Ethnicity total count for practising practitioners 2025



*MELAA - Middle East, Africa & Latin America

Executive summary oral health therapists

Number of oral health therapists

Oral health therapists have increased by about 10% year-on-year between 2023 and 2025. Of the 1,093 oral health therapists on the register in 2025, 980 (89.7%) held practising certificates. ^{Table 3-1}

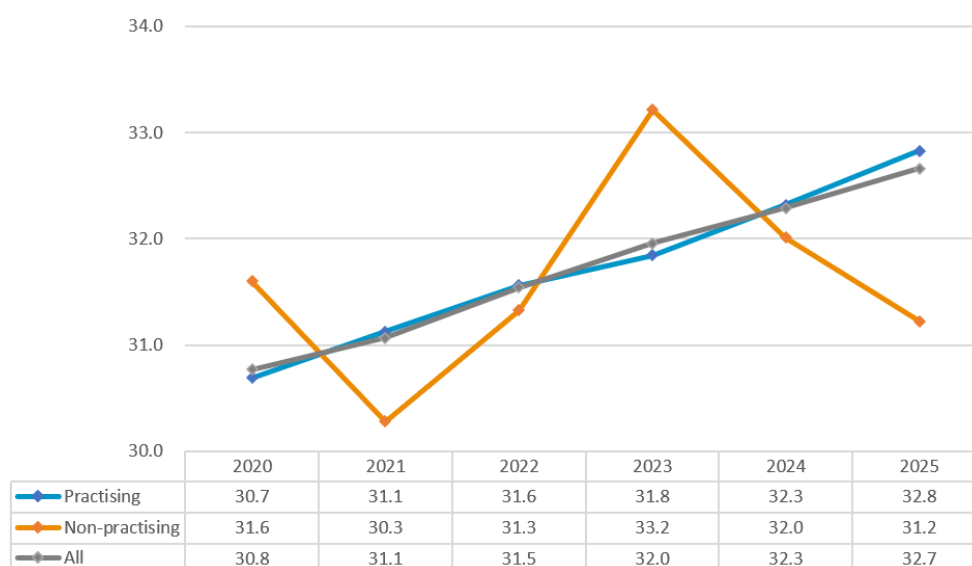
Table 3-1. Registered oral health therapists

	2023	% YoY	2024	% YoY	2025
Oral health therapists with practising certificates	830	8.9	904	8.4	980
Oral health therapists without practising certificates	75	13.3	85	32.9	113
Total	905	9.3	989	10.5	1,093

Demographics

The average age for this group was 32.7 in 2025 (31.5 in 2022) reflecting a relatively young profile. Of those practising, 81.1% were under 40 in 2025. ^{Figure 3-1, Table 3-4}

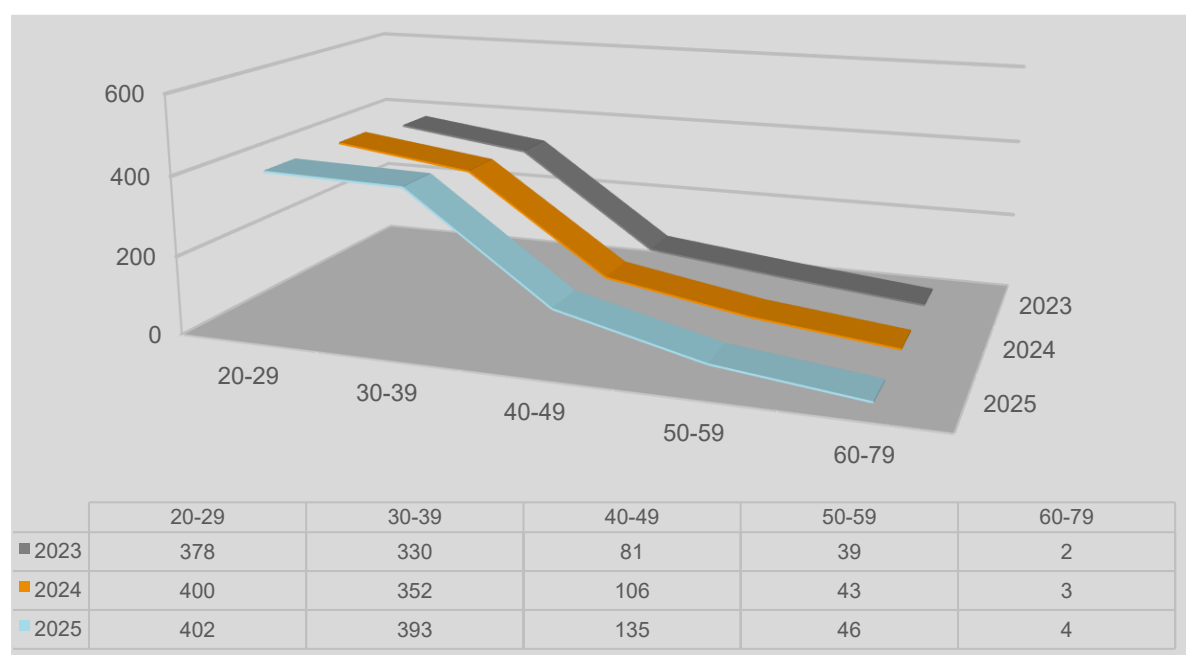
Figure 3-1. Mean age of practising oral health therapists



The age group distribution of practising oral health therapists is significantly skewed towards a younger age compared with other oral health professions. The group is expected to age over an extended period given the current population age, with new registrants being mostly new graduates.

Figure 3-2

Figure 3-2. Age band distribution of practising oral health therapists



Females dominate the oral health therapy workforce, with males only 8.0% of the practising profession in 2025. ^{Table 3-5}

The ethnicity reported by practising oral health therapists reflects diversity, with the second largest Māori representation of the oral health professions (10.7%) - but still below the estimated Māori population in Aotearoa New Zealand of 17.4% ⁴. Asian is the largest ethnic group reported (420, 42.9%) followed by European (394, 40.2%). Pacific peoples are represented at 66 (6.7%). ^{Table 3-6, total counts referenced}

Practising characteristics

Of the 854 (83.2%) who reported being employees for 2025, the majority worked in private practice (464, 45.2%) and public health districts (339, 33.0%). Only 156 (15.2%) reported as being self-employed. ^{Table 3-9}

Using a 40-hour work week as a norm, in 2025 84.0% of practising oral health therapists reported working 40 hours or less on average per week. ^{Table 3-12}

The highest reported mean hours of work in oral health therapy were those provided in the public health sector, reporting 33.4 (sd 10.9) hours per week for 2025. Private practice and self-employed reported 24.2 (sd 11.4) and 22.9 (sd 12.3) average hours per week, respectively. Practitioners may have multiple and varying employment types. For 2025, the average hours worked on oral health therapy activities across the various employment types was 27.0 hours per week (sd 12.3). ^{Table 3-14}

There has been a significant increase of oral health therapists reporting to work part-time, up from 10 in 2018 to 269 in 2023, and 351 in 2025. The primary reasons reported were parental responsibilities (38.2%) and personal choice (36.5%) in 2025. ^{Table 3-13}

Of those not currently practising in New Zealand, 52% reported that they were practising overseas. ^{Table 3-10}

⁴ 2025 Stats NZ [Māori population estimates](#)

On future practising expectations, 94.8% of oral health therapists indicated that they planned to practise in Aotearoa New Zealand over the next five years – the highest across all oral health professions. ^{Table 3-11}

Geographical distribution

The analysis of territorial authorities (TAs) in 2025 showed 26 TAs without practising oral health therapists, similar to the 2019 and 2022 reports but with minor shifts between TAs. The regions with no reported oral health therapists with more than 5,000 population aged below 15 years of age are: Selwyn district, Waimakariri district, Southland, South Taranaki, South Waikato district. From those Southland also has no dental therapists reported, while the others have one dental therapist reported. ^{Table 3-16, Table 4-15}

Comparing the health region distributions, the West Coast continues to report no oral health therapists. ^{Table 3-21}

For the population below 15 years of age: In 2025, there were 101.0 practising oral health therapists per 100k population in 2025 (84.9 FTE), compared to 77.8 (68.4 FTE) in 2022. This has increased from 53.4 (20.4 FTE) oral health therapists per 100k population reported in 2018, the first workforce reporting year for this profession. ^{Table 3-21}

For the population over 15 years of age: There were 22.1 practising oral health therapists per 100k population and 18.5 FTE for this population group in 2025. This compares to 12.8 (+ 9.3) and 4.9 FTE (+ 13.6 FTE) reported in 2018. ^{Table 3-22}

In 2025, the three health districts with the highest number of FTE oral health therapists per 100K population were Auckland and Waitemata (50+ FTEs for population < 15 years of age). The lowest FTE oral health therapists per 100K population < 15 years of age were reported by South Canterbury (14.2), Hawke’s Bay (15.9) and Lakes (17.8). ^{Table 3-21}

Postgraduate studies

An increase in oral health therapists (41) undertaking postgraduate studies in the 2025 workforce survey, compared with 13 reported in 2022. More than half of those was completing an adult restorative care course. ^{Table 3-24}

Workforce survey response rates

Oral health therapists had an overall survey response rate of 95.2% for 2025 similar to earlier survey cycles. Of those that responded 98.3% held practising certificates. ^{Table 3-2}

Table 3-2. Oral health therapists survey responses

Year	Response rate (%)
2023	95.9
2024	94.8
2025	95.2

Oral health therapists' workforce data tables

Table 3-3. Number oral health therapists with practising certificates, by workforce reporting year

Report year	Total	Female (row %)	Male (row %)	Gender unspecified (row %)	% overseas graduates ^a
2017/18	505	455 (90.1)	46 (9.1)	4 (0.8)	0.6
2018/19	550	495 (90.0)	51 (9.3)	4 (0.7)	0.5
2019/20	611	543 (88.9)	64 (10.5)	4 (0.7)	1.0
2020/21	680	611 (89.9)	65 (9.6)	4 (0.6)	0.6
2021/22	753	681 (90.4)	68 (9.0)	4 (0.5)	1.1
2022/23	830	756 (91.1)	71 (8.6)	3 (0.4)	1.1
2023/24	904	825 (91.3)	76 (8.4)	3 (0.3)	1.1
2024/25	980	899 (91.7)	78 (8.0)	3 (0.3)	1.1

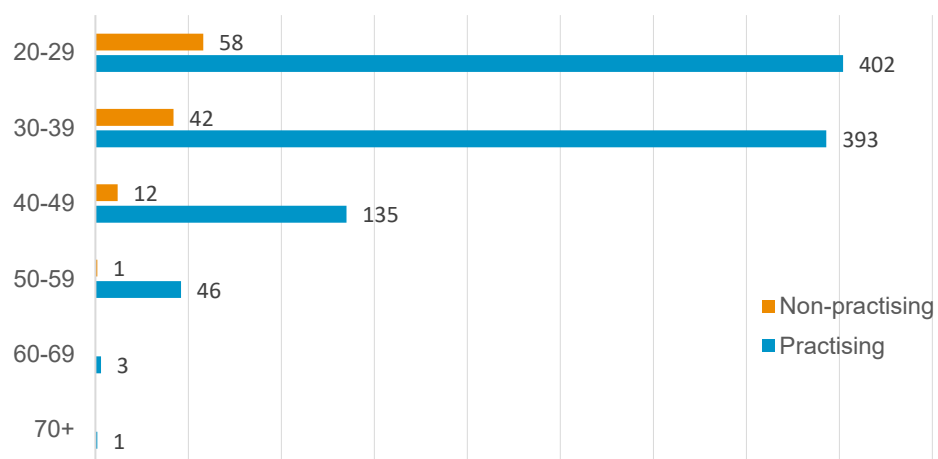
^a Multiple qualifications per practitioner could apply
(Data sources: Dental register & previous workforce reports)

Table 3-4. Age of oral health therapists by practising certificate status, as at 31 March 2025

Age bands	Practising certificate (%)	No practising certificate (%)
20-29	402 (41.0)	58 (51.3)
30-39	393 (40.1)	42 (37.2)
40-49	135 (13.8)	12 (10.6)
50-59	46 (4.7)	1 (0.9)
60-69	3 (0.3)	—
70-79	1 (0.1)	—
Mean age	32.8	31.2

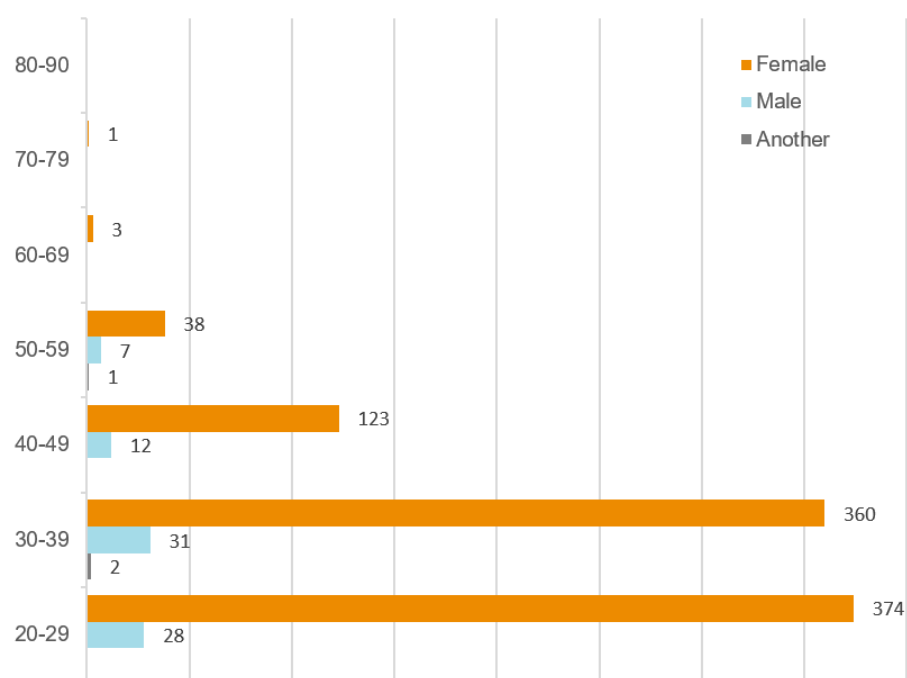
(Data source: Dental register)

Figure 3-3. Age of oral health therapists by practising certificate status, as at 31 March 2025



(Data source: Dental register)

Figure 3-4. Age of practising oral health therapists by gender, as at 31 March 2025



(Data source: Dental register)

Table 3-5. Gender of oral health therapists by practising certificate status

	Gender	Practising certificate (%)	No practising certificate (%)	Distinct total (%)
2023	Female	756 (91.1)	67 (89.3)	823 (90.9)
	Male	71 (8.6)	7 (9.3)	78 (8.6)
	Unspecified	3 (0.4)	1 (1.3)	4 (0.4)
	Total	830	75	905
2024	Female	825 (91.3)	77 (90.6)	902 (91.2)
	Male	76 (8.4)	7 (8.2)	83 (8.4)
	Unspecified	3 (0.3)	1 (1.2)	4 (0.4)
	Total	904	85	989
2025	Female	899 (91.7)	103 (91.2)	1,002 (91.7)
	Male	78 (8.0)	9 (8.0)	87 (8.0)
	Unspecified	3 (0.3)	1 (0.9)	4 (0.4)
	Total	980	113	1,093

(Data source: Dental register)

Table 3-6. Self-identification of ethnicity for practising oral health therapists, based on 2025 data

Ethnicity	Total count	%	Prioritised	%
Māori	105	10.7	105	10.7
Pacific peoples ^a	66	6.7	58	5.9
Asian	420	42.9	403	41.1
MELAA ^b	72	7.3	68	6.9
Other Ethnicity	94	9.6	39	4.0
European	394	40.2	297	30.3
Residual categories	27	2.8	10	1.0
Total	1,178		980	

^a Pacific peoples counts included as relevant: Pacific peoples, not further defined; Samoan; Cook Island Māori; Tongan, Niuean; Tokelauan; Fijian; Indigenous Australian; Hawaiian; Kiribati (also reported separately)

^b Middle Eastern/Latin American/African

^c Percentages based on number of respondents

(Data sources: Dental register & workforce survey)

Table 3-7. Country of registration qualification for practising oral health therapists

Country of qualification	2023 (%) ^a	2024 (%)	2025 (%) ^b
New Zealand	821 (98.9)	895 (98.9)	969 (98.9)
Overseas	9 (1.1)	9 (1.1)	11 (1.1)
Total	830	904	980
Breakdown of overseas qualifications	(%) ^a	(%)	(%)
Australia	8 (1.0)	9 (1.0)	10 (1.0)
United Kingdom	1 (0.1)	—	1 (0.1)

^a Percentages calculated from totals inclusive of New Zealand qualifications

^b Multiple qualifications per registrant, and from the same or different countries can apply
(Data source: Dental register)

Table 3-8. Overseas qualified oral health therapists with practising certificates—type of New Zealand registration pathway by year, for 2025

Year of first registration in New Zealand	Prescribed overseas qualification	Trans-Tasman Mutual Recognition (%)	Overseas qualifications equivalency assessed (%)
2016	1 (33.3)	—	—
2017	—	—	—
2018	—	—	1 (100.0)
2019	—	2 (20.0)	—
2020	—	1 (10.0)	—
2022	—	7 (70.0)	—
2024	2 (66.7)	—	—
Total	3 (21.4)	10 (71.4)	1 (7.1)

(Data source: Dental register)

Table 3-9. Type of employment of practising oral health therapists

		Distinct (%)	Total %
2023	Self-employed		
	Solo practice	52 (48.6)	5.8
	Group practice	43 (40.2)	4.8
	Other	12 (11.2)	1.3
	Self-employed subtotal	107	11.8
	Employees		
	Private practice	433 (55.3)	48.0
	Public sector	333 (42.5)	36.9
	<i>Public health regions</i>	312 (39.8)	34.6
	<i>Ministry of Health</i>	6 (0.8)	0.7
	<i>Other government department, not MOH</i>	15 (1.9)	1.7
	University	15 (1.9)	1.7
	Māori health organisation	2 (0.3)	0.2
	Employees subtotal	783	86.7
	Other forms of employment or no response	13	1.4
	Total	903	
2024	Self-employed		
	Solo practice	68 (54.4)	7.0
	Group practice	43 (34.4)	4.4
	Other	14 (11.2)	1.4
	Self-employed subtotal	125	12.8
	Employees		
	Private practice	447 (53.6)	45.9
	Public sector	364 (43.6)	37.4
	<i>Public health regions</i>	338 (40.5)	34.7
	<i>Ministry of Health</i>	15 (1.8)	1.5
	<i>Other government department, not MOH</i>	11 (1.3)	1.1
	University	18 (2.2)	1.8
	Māori health organisation	5 (0.6)	0.5
	Employee subtotal	834	85.6
	Other forms of employment or no response	15	1.5
	Total	974	
2025	Self-employed		
	Solo practice	77 (49.4)	7.5
	Group practice	62 (39.7)	6.0
	Other	17 (10.9)	1.7
	Self-employed subtotal	156	15.2
	Employees		

	Distinct (%)	Total %
Private practice	464 (54.3)	45.2
Public practice	372 (43.6)	36.3
<i>Public health regions</i>	339 (39.7)	33.0
<i>Ministry of Health</i>	20 (2.3)	1.9
<i>Other government department, not MOH</i>	13 (1.5)	1.3
University	15 (1.8)	1.5
Māori health organisation	3 (0.4)	0.3
Employee subtotal	854	83.2
Other forms of employment or no response	16	1.6
Total	1,026	

(Data source: Workforce survey)

Table 3-10. Practising pattern reported by oral health therapists not currently practising in New Zealand

Employment status		Practising certificate (%)	No practising certificate (%)	Distinct total (%)
2023	In NZ but not practising	5 (17.2)	10 (24.4)	15 (21.4)
	Overseas and not practising	8 (27.6)	17 (41.5)	25 (35.7)
	Practising overseas	16 (55.2)	14 (34.1)	30 (42.9)
	Total	29	41	70
2024	In NZ but not practising	4 (17.4)	12 (26.7)	16 (23.5)
	Overseas and not practising	8 (34.8)	16 (35.6)	24 (35.3)
	Practising overseas	11 (47.8)	17 (37.8)	28 (41.2)
	Total	23	45	68
2025	In NZ but not practising	11 (28.9)	8 (13.6)	19 (19.6)
	Overseas and not practising	6 (15.8)	22 (37.3)	28 (28.9)
	Practising overseas	21 (55.3)	29 (49.2)	50 (51.5)
	Total	38	59	97

(Data source: Workforce survey)

Table 3-11. Oral health therapists expecting to practise in New Zealand over next five years

	2023	2024	2025
Yes, expect to practise	859 (94.9)	938 (94.8)	1,036 (94.8)
No response	46 (5.1)	51 (5.2)	57 (5.2)

(Data source: Workforce survey)

Table 3-12. Total number of hours worked per week by oral health therapists practising in New Zealand

Number of hours worked	2023	2024	2025
1 to 10	14 (1.7)	20 (2.3)	22 (2.4)
11 to 20	51 (6.4)	36 (4.2)	60 (6.5)
21 to 30	109 (13.6)	141 (16.4)	157 (16.9)
31 to 40	483 (60.3)	510 (59.3)	541 (58.2)
41 to 50	111 (13.9)	119 (13.8)	115 (12.4)
51 to 60	12 (1.5)	20 (2.3)	13 (1.4)
61 to 70	10 (1.2)	6 (0.7)	8 (0.9)
71 to 80	11 (1.4)	8 (0.9)	14 (1.5)
Number giving data on hours	801	860	930
Nil response or excluded	29	44	50
Mean no. of hours/week (SD)	36.3 (10.6)	36.1 (10.1)	35.4 (10.9)

(Data source: Workforce survey)

Table 3-13. Reasons for part-time practice by oral health therapists practising in New Zealand

	Reason for practising part-time	Total (%)
2023	Parental responsibilities	114 (42.4)
	Personal choice	89 (33.1)
	Studying	20 (7.4)
	Doing non-dental work	17 (6.3)
	Seeking dental employment	7 (2.6)
	Health	4 (1.5)
	Other (please specify)	18 (6.7)
	Total working part time	269
2024	Personal choice	119 (38.9)
	Parental responsibilities	114 (37.3)
	Studying	19 (6.2)
	Doing non-dental work	14 (4.6)
	Seeking dental employment	10 (3.3)
	Health	6 (2.0)
	Semi-retired	1 (0.3)
	Other (please specify)	23 (7.5)
	Total working part time	306
2025	Parental responsibilities	134 (38.2)
	Personal choice	128 (36.5)
	Studying	25 (7.1)
	Doing non-dental work	21 (6.0)
	Seeking dental employment	14 (4.0)
	Health	6 (1.7)
	Other (please specify)	23 (6.6)
	Total working part time	351

Table 3-14. Work by practice area and employment type for oral health therapists practising in NZ

		Public		Private		Self-employed		University		Māori health organisation		Other		Total	
		Distinct number	Mean hours spent at work type (sd)	Distinct number	Mean hours spent at work type (sd)	Distinct number	Mean hours spent at work type (sd)	Distinct number	Mean hours spent at work type (sd)	Distinct number	Mean hours spent at work type (sd)	Distinct number	Mean hours spent at work type (sd)	Distinct number	Mean hours spent at work type (sd)
2023	Oral health therapy practice	333	33.1 (11.0)	432	25.8 (12.0)	101	22.4 (11.9)	15	15.5 (8.8)	2	25.0 (9.9)	13	26.8 (13.0)	802	27.7 (12.4)
	Research	22	4.9 (6.4)	61	2.1 (1.9)	22	2.2 (2.1)	8	7.3 (4.5)	—	—	1	1.0	108	2.9 (3.7)
	Teaching	13	5.4 (6.3)	34	2.1 (2.4)	13	2.0 (2.1)	9	11.1 (6.5)	—	—	1	2.0	67	3.8 (4.9)
	Administration	38	7.4 (10.7)	73	2.9 (4.8)	39	3.1 (3.7)	9	7.9 (4.9)	—	—	3	2.3 (1.5)	155	4.2 (6.6)
	Other	9	2.1 (1.4)	22	3.0 (3.6)	5	1.4 (0.5)	1	5.0	—	—	—	—	36	2.6 (2.9)
	Total distinct number	333	27.8 (15.1)	432	19.1 (14.7)	101	14.2 (13.5)	15	11.1 (7.5)	2	25.0 (9.9)	13	19.9 (15.9)	802	20.8 (15.4)
2024	Oral health therapy practice	362	32.5 (10.7)	444	25.1 (11.4)	123	24.2 (12.0)	18	17.3 (12.5)	5	24.4 (9.4)	14	26.2 (13.5)	861	27.4 (11.9)
	Research	26	2.8 (2.5)	61	2.3 (2.2)	31	1.8 (1.0)	5	9.2 (4.4)	1	1.0	2	2.0 (0.0)	121	2.5 (2.5)
	Teaching	28	4.3 (5.8)	36	2.0 (2.1)	15	1.8 (1.7)	7	13.2 (5.8)	—	—	1	2.0	84	3.5 (4.9)
	Administration	52	7.2 (9.5)	86	3.1 (4.0)	52	4.7 (5.6)	5	7.4 (7.3)	3	6.3 (8.4)	2	3.5 (0.7)	193	4.7 (6.5)
	Other	8	3.4 (2.8)	17	2.4 (2.6)	4	1.5 (1.0)	1	10.0	1	2.0	—	—	30	2.8 (2.8)
	Total distinct number	362	26.1 (15.3)	444	18.5 (14.1)	123	15.0 (14.0)	18	13.8 (10.3)	5	14.4 (13.0)	14	20.3 (15.6)	861	20.2 (15.0)
2025	Oral health therapy practice	372	33.4 (10.9)	463	24.2 (11.4)	152	22.9 (12.3)	15	18.5 (11.6)	3	26.3 (11.9)	16	27.4 (11.5)	930	27.0 (12.3)
	Research	26	3.2 (2.5)	84	2.6 (3.3)	43	1.6 (1.0)	7	8.0 (5.5)	1	4.0	2	1.0	159	2.7 (3.1)
	Teaching	18	4.4 (3.3)	39	2.7 (3.6)	20	1.8 (2.2)	10	12.2 (6.8)	—	—	1	1.0	87	3.9 (4.8)
	Administration	53	8.5 (12.4)	89	3.1 (4.2)	67	4.3 (6.2)	9	8.6 (5.6)	1	2.0	4	2.5 (1.3)	212	4.9 (7.7)
	Other	13	5.9 (6.2)	20	3.0 (3.3)	14	1.7 (0.7)	2	6.0 (1.4)	—	—	2	1.5 (0.7)	48	3.3 (3.9)
	Total distinct number	372	27.2 (15.5)	463	17.6 (13.9)	152	13.9 (13.8)	15	12.7 (9.3)	3	17.0 (15.3)	16	18.5 (15.5)	930	19.5 (15.2)

^a Oral health therapists reporting working no hours or more than 80 hours per week, are excluded from the calculations
(Data source: Workforce survey)

Table 3-15. Geographic distribution and FTE reported by practising oral health therapists by Territorial Authority (TA)

TA area	2025		
	Number of oral health therapists (%)	Number who provided hours	FTE (% of reported hours)
Far North district	6 (0.6)	6	5.2 (0.6)
Whangarei district	5 (0.5)	5	4.0 (0.5)
Kaipara district	2 (0.2)	2	2.3 (0.3)
Auckland	198 (20.2)	188	157.1 (19.1)
Thames-Coromandel district	—	—	—
Hauraki district	—	—	—
Waikato district	2 (0.2)	2	1.6 (0.2)
Matamata-Piako district	1 (0.1)	1	0.5 (0.1)
Hamilton city	21 (2.1)	20	16.1 (2.0)
Waipa district	3 (0.3)	3	2.8 (0.3)
Ōtorohanga district	—	—	—
South Waikato district	—	—	—
Waitomo district	—	—	—
Taupo district	2 (0.2)	2	1.9 (0.2)
Western Bay of Plenty district	2 (0.2)	2	2.1 (0.3)
Tauranga city	11 (1.1)	11	7.5 (0.9)
Rotorua district	3 (0.3)	3	2.4 (0.3)
Whakatane district	3 (0.3)	3	1.9 (0.2)
Kawerau district	—	—	—
Ōpōtiki district	—	—	—
Gisborne district	5 (0.5)	5	4.0 (0.5)
Wairoa district	—	—	—
Hastings district	5 (0.5)	5	3.1 (0.4)
Napier city	2 (0.2)	2	1.0 (0.1)
Central Hawke's Bay district	—	—	—
New Plymouth district	7 (0.7)	7	5.4 (0.7)
Stratford district	2 (0.2)	2	1.9 (0.2)
South Taranaki district	—	—	—
Ruapehu district	—	—	—
Whanganui district	5 (0.5)	5	5.3 (0.6)
Rangitikei district	—	—	—
Manawatu district	3 (0.3)	3	2.0 (0.2)
Palmerston North city	7 (0.7)	7	5.8 (0.7)
Tararua district	—	—	—
Horowhenua district	1 (0.1)	1	0.7 (0.1)
Kapiti Coast district	2 (0.2)	2	1.3 (0.2)

TA area	2025		
	Number of oral health therapists (%)	Number who provided hours	FTE (% of reported hours)
Porirua city	2 (0.2)	2	2.0 (0.2)
Upper Hutt city	5 (0.5)	5	4.0 (0.5)
Lower Hutt city	11 (1.1)	11	8.3 (1.0)
Wellington city	32 (3.3)	31	23.7 (2.9)
Masterton district	3 (0.3)	3	2.3 (0.3)
Carterton district	—	—	—
South Wairarapa district	—	—	—
Tasman district	2 (0.2)	2	2.0 (0.2)
Nelson city	4 (0.4)	4	2.5 (0.3)
Marlborough district	1 (0.1)	1	0.8 (0.1)
Kaikoura district	—	—	—
Buller district	—	—	—
Grey district	—	—	—
Westland district	—	—	—
Hurunui district	—	—	—
Waimakariri district	—	—	—
Christchurch city	26 (2.7)	25	20.9 (2.5)
Selwyn district	—	—	—
Ashburton district	2 (0.2)	2	1.3 (0.2)
Timaru district	1 (0.1)	1	0.5 (0.1)
Mackenzie district	—	—	—
Waimate district	1 (0.1)	1	1.0 (0.1)
Chatham Islands territory	—	—	—
Waitaki district	—	—	—
Central Otago district	2 (0.2)	2	1.8 (0.2)
Queenstown-Lakes district	2 (0.2)	2	1.1 (0.1)
Dunedin city	18 (1.8)	17	13.9 (1.7)
Clutha district	3 (0.3)	3	2.6 (0.3)
Southland district	—	—	—
Gore district	2 (0.2)	2	1.8 (0.2)
Invercargill city	5 (0.5)	5	4.8 (0.6)
Area outside territorial authority	4 (0.4)	4	4.2 (0.5)
TA code not available	556 (56.7)	520	488.8 (59.3)
Total	980	930	824
TAs with no oral health therapists	26		

Note: FTE = Full time equivalent

(Data sources: Dental register, workforce survey & Statistics New Zealand)

Table 3-16. Population to practising oral health therapists and FTE ratios by TA, for 2025

	Total population ^a	Population aged <15 years ^a	Population aged <15 years-to-OHT ratio	OHT per 100,000 population aged <15	Population aged <15 years-to-FTE-OHT ratio ^b	FTE per 100,000 population aged <15 ^b	Population aged >15 years ^a	Population aged >15 years-to-OHT ratio	OHT per 100,000 population aged >15	Population aged >15 years-to-FTE-OHT ratio ^b	FTE per 100,000 population aged >15 ^b
Far North district	73,700	14,100	2,350	42.6	2,738	36.5	59,600	9,933	10.1	11,573	8.6
Whangarei district	100,500	19,400	3,880	25.8	4,881	20.5	81,100	16,220	6.2	20,403	4.9
Kaipara district	26,900	4,900	2,450	40.8	2,119	47.2	22,000	11,000	9.1	9,514	10.5
Auckland	1,816,000	339,300	1,714	58.4	2,160	46.3	1,476,700	7,458	13.4	9,399	10.6
Thames-Coromandel district	32,300	4,300	—	—	—	—	28,000	—	—	—	—
Hauraki district	22,100	3,800	—	—	—	—	18,300	—	—	—	—
Waikato district	91,100	18,900	9,450	10.6	11,813	8.5	72,200	36,100	2.8	45,125	2.2
Matamata-Piako district	39,200	7,600	7,600	13.2	16,889	5.9	31,600	31,600	3.2	70,222	1.4
Hamilton city	192,200	39,600	1,886	53.0	2,453	40.8	152,600	7,267	13.8	9,451	10.6
Waipa district	62,100	12,000	4,000	25.0	4,286	23.3	50,100	16,700	6.0	17,893	5.6
Ōtorohanga district	10,650	2,250	—	—	—	—	8,400	—	—	—	—
South Waikato district	26,000	5,700	—	—	—	—	20,300	—	—	—	—
Waitomo district	9,950	2,070	—	—	—	—	7,880	—	—	—	—
Taupo district	42,600	7,700	3,850	26.0	4,162	24.0	34,900	17,450	5.7	18,865	5.3
Western Bay of Plenty district	60,100	10,400	5,200	19.2	4,952	20.2	49,700	24,850	4.0	23,667	4.2
Tauranga city	161,000	30,600	2,782	35.9	4,060	24.6	130,400	11,855	8.4	17,300	5.8
Rotorua district	77,900	16,300	5,433	18.4	6,687	15.0	61,600	20,533	4.9	25,272	4.0
Whakatane district	38,400	8,000	2,667	37.5	4,324	23.1	30,400	10,133	9.9	16,432	6.1
Kawerau district	7,690	1,680	—	—	—	—	6,010	—	—	—	—
Ōpōtiki district	10,300	2,150	—	—	—	—	8,150	—	—	—	—
Gisborne district	52,700	11,300	2,260	44.2	2,816	35.5	41,400	8,280	12.1	10,318	9.7
Wairoa district	8,940	1,990	—	—	—	—	6,950	—	—	—	—
Hastings district	88,300	17,600	3,520	28.4	5,719	17.5	70,700	14,140	7.1	22,973	4.4
Napier city	66,500	11,900	5,950	16.8	12,205	8.2	54,600	27,300	3.7	56,000	1.8
Central Hawke's Bay district	16,000	3,150	—	—	—	—	12,850	—	—	—	—
New Plymouth district	90,200	17,100	2,443	40.9	3,152	31.7	73,100	10,443	9.6	13,475	7.4

	Total population ^a	Population aged <15 years ^a	Population aged <15 years-to-OHT ratio	OHT per 100,000 population aged <15	Population aged <15 years-to-FTE-OHT ratio ^b	FTE per 100,000 population aged <15 ^b	Population aged >15 years ^a	Population aged >15 years-to-OHT ratio	OHT per 100,000 population aged >15	Population aged >15 years-to-FTE-OHT ratio ^b	FTE per 100,000 population aged >15 ^b
Stratford district	10,500	2,100	1,050	95.2	1,120	89.3	8,400	4,200	23.8	4,480	22.3
South Taranaki district	29,900	6,100	—	—	—	—	23,800	—	—	—	—
Ruapehu district	13,500	2,800	—	—	—	—	10,700	—	—	—	—
Whanganui district	49,200	9,100	1,820	54.9	1,721	58.1	40,100	8,020	12.5	7,584	13.2
Rangitikei district	16,050	3,100	—	—	—	—	12,950	—	—	—	—
Manawatu district	34,000	6,500	2,167	46.2	3,250	30.8	27,500	9,167	10.9	13,750	7.3
Palmerston North city	90,600	17,300	2,471	40.5	3,009	33.2	73,300	10,471	9.5	12,748	7.8
Tararua district	18,950	3,600	—	—	—	—	15,350	—	—	—	—
Horowhenua district	38,400	6,900	6,900	14.5	9,857	10.1	31,500	31,500	3.2	45,000	2.2
Kapiti Coast district	58,000	9,000	4,500	22.2	6,990	14.3	49,000	24,500	4.1	38,058	2.6
Porirua city	61,600	12,900	6,450	15.5	6,532	15.3	48,700	24,350	4.1	24,658	4.1
Upper Hutt city	47,500	8,900	1,780	56.2	2,239	44.7	38,600	7,720	13.0	9,711	10.3
Lower Hutt city	114,200	21,400	1,945	51.4	2,582	38.7	92,800	8,436	11.9	11,198	8.9
Wellington city	210,800	29,600	925	108.1	1,248	80.2	181,200	5,663	17.7	7,638	13.1
Masterton district	28,900	5,300	1,767	56.6	2,304	43.4	23,600	7,867	12.7	10,261	9.7
Carterton district	10,300	1,700	—	—	—	—	8,600	—	—	—	—
South Wairarapa district	12,200	2,050	—	—	—	—	10,150	—	—	—	—
Tasman district	59,900	9,400	4,700	21.3	4,700	21.3	50,500	25,250	4.0	25,250	4.0
Nelson city	54,400	8,700	2,175	46.0	3,515	28.4	45,700	11,425	8.8	18,465	5.4
Marlborough district	50,700	8,200	8,200	12.2	10,250	9.8	42,500	42,500	2.4	53,125	1.9
Kaikoura district	4,340	650	—	—	—	—	3,690	—	—	—	—
Buller district	10,600	1,500	—	—	—	—	9,100	—	—	—	—
Grey district	14,600	2,600	—	—	—	—	12,000	—	—	—	—
Westland district	9,440	1,420	—	—	—	—	8,020	—	—	—	—
Hurunui district	14,350	2,500	—	—	—	—	11,850	—	—	—	—
Waimakariri district	69,700	11,700	—	—	—	—	58,000	—	—	—	—
Christchurch city	419,300	68,400	2,631	38.0	3,270	30.6	350,900	13,496	7.4	16,774	6.0

	Total population ^a	Population aged <15 years ^a	Population aged <15 years-to-OHT ratio	OHT per 100,000 population aged <15	Population aged <15 years-to-FTE-OHT ratio ^b	FTE per 100,000 population aged <15 ^b	Population aged >15 years ^a	Population aged >15 years-to-OHT ratio	OHT per 100,000 population aged >15	Population aged >15 years-to-FTE-OHT ratio ^b	FTE per 100,000 population aged >15 ^b
Selwyn district	87,600	18,000	—	—	—	—	69,600	—	—	—	—
Ashburton district	37,300	7,200	3,600	27.8	5,434	18.4	30,100	15,050	6.6	22,717	4.4
Timaru district	49,500	8,500	8,500	11.8	16,190	6.2	41,000	41,000	2.4	78,095	1.3
Mackenzie district	5,530	890	—	—	—	—	4,640	—	—	—	—
Waimate district	8,460	1,420	1,420	70.4	1,420	70.4	7,040	7,040	14.2	7,040	14.2
Chatham Islands territory	620	120	—	—	—	—	500	—	—	—	—
Waitaki district	24,500	4,100	—	—	—	—	20,400	—	—	—	—
Central Otago district	25,800	4,000	2,000	50.0	2,222	45.0	21,800	10,900	9.2	12,111	8.3
Queenstown-Lakes district	53,900	8,300	4,150	24.1	7,721	13.0	45,600	22,800	4.4	42,419	2.4
Dunedin city	132,800	18,900	1,050	95.2	1,363	73.3	113,900	6,328	15.8	8,216	12.2
Clutha district	18,800	3,400	1,133	88.2	1,333	75.0	15,400	5,133	19.5	6,039	16.6
Southland district	33,900	6,600	—	—	—	—	27,300	—	—	—	—
Gore district	12,900	2,200	1,100	90.9	1,257	79.5	10,700	5,350	18.7	6,114	16.4
Invercargill city	57,900	10,400	2,080	48.1	2,167	46.2	47,500	9,500	10.5	9,896	10.1
Area outside territorial authority	60	—	—	—	—	—	60	15	6,666.7	14	7,041.7
Total^c	5,324,830	971,240	991	100.9	1,179	84.8	4,353,590	4,442	22.5	5,284	18.9

^a Population estimate as at 30 June 2025

^b Where hours are reported

^c Due to rounding, individual figures may not always sum to the stated totals (Data sources: Dental register, workforce survey & Statistics New Zealand)

Table 3-17. Population to practising oral health therapists and FTE ratios by health region for population younger than 15 years of age, for 2023

	No with practising certificates	No with APC who reported hours	FTE oral health therapists (OHT)	Total population ^a	Population aged < 15 years ^a	Population aged < 15 years-to-OHT ratio	OHTs per 100,000 population aged < 15 years	Population aged < 15 years-to-FTE-OHT ratio	FTE per 100,000 population aged < 15 years
Northern region	223	217	182.0	1,980,690	376,900	1,690	59.2	2,071	48.3
Northland Te Tai Tokerau	12	12	9.5	202,070	39,530	3,294	30.4	4,169	24.0
Waitematā	89	86	72.0	661,790	125,030	1,405	71.2	1,737	57.6
Auckland Te Toka Tumai	63	61	52.4	500,310	77,390	1,228	81.4	1,476	67.7
Counties-Manukau	59	58	48.1	616,520	134,950	2,287	43.7	2,804	35.7
Midland/Te Manawa Taki	60	58	47.9	1,094,810	216,780	3,613	27.7	4,528	22.1
Waikato	27	25	22.5	463,710	92,360	3,421	29.2	4,113	24.3
Lakes	5	5	4.2	119,040	24,210	4,842	20.7	5,816	17.2
Bay of Plenty	17	17	12.5	276,510	53,050	3,121	32.0	4,240	23.6
Tairāwhiti	4	4	4.5	52,490	11,630	2,908	34.4	2,584	38.7
Taranaki	7	7	4.3	183,060	35,530	5,076	19.7	8,360	12.0
Central/Te Ikaroa	80	79	67.7	927,360	166,020	2,075	48.2	2,451	40.8
Hawke's Bay	9	9	8.4	129,680	25,880	2,876	34.8	3,072	32.6
Whanganui	6	6	5.7	69,580	13,330	2,222	45.0	2,344	42.7
MidCentral	10	9	8.1	191,400	36,190	3,619	27.6	4,447	22.5
Capital, Coast and Hutt Valley	52	52	42.7	485,370	81,470	1,567	63.8	1,907	52.5
<i>Capital and Coast</i>	36	36	30.1	324,280	51,310	1,425	70.2	1,705	58.7
<i>Hutt Valley</i>	16	16	12.6	161,090	30,160	1,885	53.1	2,387	41.9
Wairarapa	3	3	2.8	51,330	9,150	3,050	32.8	3,327	30.1
South Island/Te Waipounamu	71	69	60.6	1,243,580	206,920	2,914	34.3	3,417	29.3
Nelson Marlborough	8	7	6.7	165,790	26,700	3,338	30.0	3,970	25.2
West Coast	—	—	—	34,260	5,640	—	—	—	—
Canterbury	29	28	24.8	618,410	105,610	3,642	27.5	4,261	23.5
South Canterbury	2	2	1.5	63,750	10,700	5,350	18.7	7,016	14.3
Southern	32	32	27.5	361,370	58,270	1,821	54.9	2,117	47.2
Unknown, with hours reported	396	380	372.3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	830	803	730.5	5,246,440	966,620	1,165	85.9	1,323	75.6

^a Due to rounding, individual figures may not always sum to the stated totals.
(Data sources: Workforce survey and Ministry of Health)

Table 3-18. Population to practising oral health therapists and FTE ratios by health region for population 15 years and older, for 2023

	No with practising certificates	No with APC who reported hours	FTE oral health therapists (OHT)	Total population ^a	Population aged 15+ years ^a	Population aged 15+ years-to-OHT ratio	OHTs per 100,000 population aged 15+ years	Population aged 15+ years-to-FTE-OHT ratio	FTE per 100,000 population aged 15+ years
Northern region	223	217	182.0	1,980,690	1,603,790	7,192	13.9	8,812	11.3
Northland Te Tai Tokerau	12	12	9.5	202,070	162,540	13,545	7.4	17,143	5.8
Waitematā	89	86	72.0	661,790	536,760	6,031	16.6	7,458	13.4
Auckland Te Toka Tumai	63	61	52.4	500,310	422,920	6,713	14.9	8,066	12.4
Counties-Manukau	59	58	48.1	616,520	481,570	8,162	12.3	10,007	10.0
Midland/Te Manawa Taki	60	58	47.9	1,094,810	878,030	14,634	6.8	18,338	5.5
Waikato	27	25	22.5	463,710	371,350	13,754	7.3	16,537	6.0
Lakes	5	5	4.2	119,040	94,830	18,966	5.3	22,782	4.4
Bay of Plenty	17	17	12.5	276,510	223,460	13,145	7.6	17,859	5.6
Tairāwhiti	4	4	4.5	52,490	40,860	10,215	9.8	9,080	11.0
Taranaki	7	7	4.3	183,060	147,530	21,076	4.7	34,713	2.9
Central/Te Ikaroa	80	79	67.7	927,360	761,340	9,517	10.5	11,241	8.9
Hawke's Bay	9	9	8.4	129,680	103,800	11,533	8.7	12,320	8.1
Whanganui	6	6	5.7	69,580	56,250	9,375	10.7	9,890	10.1
MidCentral	10	9	8.1	191,400	155,210	15,521	6.4	19,073	5.2
Capital, Coast and Hutt Valley	52	52	42.7	485,370	403,900	7,767	12.9	9,452	10.6
<i>Capital and Coast</i>	36	36	30.1	324,280	272,970	7,583	13.2	9,071	11.0
<i>Hutt Valley</i>	16	16	12.6	161,090	130,930	8,183	12.2	10,360	9.7
Wairarapa	3	3	2.8	51,330	42,180	14,060	7.1	15,338	6.5
South Island/Te Waipounamu	71	69	60.6	1,243,580	1,036,660	14,601	6.8	17,117	5.8
Nelson Marlborough	8	7	6.7	165,790	139,090	17,386	5.8	20,683	4.8
West Coast	—	—	—	34,260	28,620	—	—	—	—
Canterbury	29	28	24.8	618,410	512,800	17,683	5.7	20,688	4.8
South Canterbury	2	2	1.5	63,750	53,050	26,525	3.8	34,787	2.9
Southern	32	32	27.5	361,370	303,100	9,472	10.6	11,012	9.1
Unknown, with hours reported	396	380	372.3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	830	803	730.5	5,246,440	4,279,820	5,156	19.4	5,859	17.1

^a Due to rounding, individual figures may not always sum to the stated totals.
(Data sources: Workforce survey and Ministry of Health)

Table 3-19. Population to practising oral health therapists and FTE ratios by health region for population younger than 15 years of age, for 2024

	No with practising certificates	No with APC who reported hours	FTE oral health therapists (OHT)	Total population ^a	Population aged < 15 years ^a	Population aged < 15 years-to-OHT ratio	OHTs per 100,000 population aged < 15 years	Population aged < 15 years-to-FTE-OHT ratio	FTE per 100,000 population aged < 15 years
Northern region	219	210	181.7	2,029,880	381,440	1,742	57.4	2,099	47.6
Northland Te Tai Tokerau	13	12	10.7	204,730	39,600	3,046	32.8	3,705	27.0
Waitematā	84	82	73.1	675,080	125,920	1,499	66.7	1,723	58.1
Auckland Te Toka Tumai	62	60	53.0	511,120	77,280	1,246	80.2	1,458	68.6
Counties-Manukau	60	56	44.9	638,950	138,640	2,311	43.3	3,085	32.4
Midland/Te Manawa Taki	59	59	48.3	1,112,650	217,820	3,692	27.1	4,513	22.2
Waikato	27	27	22.5	471,280	92,910	3,441	29.1	4,129	24.2
Lakes	5	5	4.5	120,830	24,190	4,838	20.7	5,406	18.5
Bay of Plenty	16	16	12.9	281,830	53,680	3,355	29.8	4,157	24.1
Tairāwhiti	4	4	4.1	53,440	11,640	2,910	34.4	2,874	34.8
Taranaki	7	7	4.3	185,270	35,400	5,057	19.8	8,180	12.2
Central/Te Ikaroa	80	77	64.4	937,170	165,190	2,065	48.4	2,564	39.0
Hawke's Bay	8	8	6.4	131,030	25,750	3,219	31.1	4,039	24.8
Whanganui	6	5	4.4	70,330	13,340	2,223	45.0	3,006	33.3
MidCentral	11	10	10.1	194,520	36,300	3,300	30.3	3,603	27.8
Capital, Coast and Hutt Valley	52	51	40.9	489,340	80,620	1,550	64.5	1,973	50.7
<i>Capital and Coast</i>	36	35	28.4	325,870	50,410	1,400	71.4	1,775	56.3
<i>Hutt Valley</i>	16	16	12.5	163,470	30,210	1,888	53.0	2,424	41.3
Wairarapa	3	3	2.7	51,950	9,180	3,060	32.7	3,432	29.1
South Island/Te Waipounamu	71	66	56.3	1,261,470	207,080	2,917	34.3	3,678	27.2
Nelson Marlborough	9	7	6.6	167,550	26,470	2,941	34.0	4,041	24.7
West Coast	—	—	—	34,720	5,610	—	—	—	—
Canterbury	29	27	23.6	628,190	105,980	3,654	27.4	4,489	22.3
South Canterbury	2	2	1.5	64,820	10,750	5,375	18.6	7,049	14.2
Southern	31	30	24.6	366,190	58,270	1,880	53.2	2,366	42.3
Unknown, with hours reported	475	448	425.9	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	904	860	776.7	5,341,170	971,530	1,075	93.0	1,251	79.9

^a Due to rounding, individual figures may not always sum to the stated totals.
(Data sources: Workforce survey and Ministry of Health)

Table 3-20. Population to practising oral health therapists and FTE ratios by health region for population 15 years and older, for 2024

	No with practising certificates	No with APC who reported hours	FTE oral health therapists (OHT)	Total population ^a	Population aged 15+ years ^a	Population aged 15+ years-to-OHT ratio	OHTs per 100,000 population aged 15+ years	Population aged 15+ years-to-FTE-OHT ratio	FTE per 100,000 population aged 15+ years
Northern region	219	210	181.7	2,029,880	1,648,440	7,527	13.3	9,072	11.0
Northland Te Tai Tokerau	13	12	10.7	204,730	165,130	12,702	7.9	15,451	6.5
Waitematā	84	82	73.1	675,080	549,160	6,538	15.3	7,512	13.3
Auckland Te Toka Tumai	62	60	53.0	511,120	433,840	6,997	14.3	8,188	12.2
Counties-Manukau	60	56	44.9	638,950	500,310	8,339	12.0	11,134	9.0
Midland/Te Manawa Taki	59	59	48.3	1,112,650	894,830	15,167	6.6	18,538	5.4
Waikato	27	27	22.5	471,280	378,370	14,014	7.1	16,814	5.9
Lakes	5	5	4.5	120,830	96,640	19,328	5.2	21,596	4.6
Bay of Plenty	16	16	12.9	281,830	228,150	14,259	7.0	17,669	5.7
Tairāwhiti	4	4	4.1	53,440	41,800	10,450	9.6	10,321	9.7
Taranaki	7	7	4.3	185,270	149,870	21,410	4.7	34,632	2.9
Central/Te Ikaroa	80	77	64.4	937,170	771,980	9,650	10.4	11,983	8.3
Hawke's Bay	8	8	6.4	131,030	105,280	13,160	7.6	16,515	6.1
Whanganui	6	5	4.4	70,330	56,990	9,498	10.5	12,843	7.8
MidCentral	11	10	10.1	194,520	158,220	14,384	7.0	15,704	6.4
Capital, Coast and Hutt Valley	52	51	40.9	489,340	408,720	7,860	12.7	10,002	10.0
<i>Capital and Coast</i>	36	35	28.4	325,870	275,460	7,652	13.1	9,699	10.3
<i>Hutt Valley</i>	16	16	12.5	163,470	133,260	8,329	12.0	10,693	9.4
Wairarapa	3	3	2.7	51,950	42,770	14,257	7.0	15,989	6.3
South Island/Te Waipounamu	71	66	56.3	1,261,470	1,054,390	14,851	6.7	18,726	5.3
Nelson Marlborough	9	7	6.6	167,550	141,080	15,676	6.4	21,539	4.6
West Coast	—	—	—	34,720	29,110	—	—	—	—
Canterbury	29	27	23.6	628,190	522,210	18,007	5.6	22,122	4.5
South Canterbury	2	2	1.5	64,820	54,070	27,035	3.7	35,456	2.8
Southern	31	30	24.6	366,190	307,920	9,933	10.1	12,504	8.0
Unknown, with hours reported	475	448	425.9	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	904	860	776.7	5,341,170	4,369,640	4,834	20.7	5,626	17.8

^a Due to rounding, individual figures may not always sum to the stated totals.
(Data sources: Workforce survey and Ministry of Health)

Table 3-21. Population to practising oral health therapists and FTE ratios by health region for population younger than 15 years of age, for 2025

	No with practising certificates	No with APC who reported hours	FTE oral health therapists (OHT)	Total population ^a	Population aged < 15 years ^a	Population aged < 15 years-to-OHT ratio	OHTs per 100,000 population aged < 15 years	Population aged < 15 years-to-FTE-OHT ratio	FTE per 100,000 population aged < 15 years
Northern region	211	201	168.6	2,062,290	381,570	1,808	55.3	2,264	44.2
Northland Te Tai Tokerau	13	13	11.4	207,960	39,650	3,050	32.8	3,467	28.8
Waitematā	84	80	71.8	685,490	125,910	1,499	66.7	1,755	57.0
Auckland Te Toka Tumai	58	55	44.7	517,550	76,180	1,313	76.1	1,705	58.6
Counties-Manukau	56	53	40.7	651,290	139,830	2,497	40.0	3,438	29.1
Midland/Te Manawa Taki	62	61	48.1	1,129,330	218,500	3,524	28.4	4,544	22.0
Waikato	27	26	21.0	479,690	93,620	3,467	28.8	4,459	22.4
Lakes	5	5	4.3	122,280	24,120	4,824	20.7	5,626	17.8
Bay of Plenty	16	16	11.5	286,400	54,010	3,376	29.6	4,702	21.3
Tairāwhiti	5	5	4.0	54,160	11,610	2,322	43.1	2,893	34.6
Taranaki	9	9	7.3	186,800	35,140	3,904	25.6	4,814	20.8
Central/Te Ikaroa	78	77	59.3	945,210	163,880	2,101	47.6	2,762	36.2
Hawke's Bay	7	7	4.1	132,080	25,560	3,651	27.4	6,307	15.9
Whanganui	5	5	5.3	70,740	13,270	2,654	37.7	2,510	39.8
MidCentral	11	11	8.5	196,600	36,180	3,289	30.4	4,282	23.4
Capital, Coast and Hutt Valley	52	51	39.3	493,480	79,740	1,533	65.2	2,032	49.2
<i>Capital and Coast</i>	36	35	27.0	327,930	49,640	1,379	72.5	1,839	54.4
<i>Hutt Valley</i>	16	16	12.3	165,550	30,100	1,881	53.2	2,455	40.7
Wairarapa	3	3	2.3	52,310	9,130	3,043	32.9	3,970	25.2
South Island/Te Waipounamu	69	67	54.9	1,277,030	206,700	2,996	33.4	3,766	26.6
Nelson Marlborough	7	7	5.3	168,980	26,130	3,733	26.8	4,954	20.2
West Coast	—	—	—	34,880	5,470	—	—	—	—
Canterbury	28	27	22.2	636,640	106,190	3,793	26.4	4,774	20.9
South Canterbury	2	2	1.5	65,360	10,730	5,365	18.6	7,036	14.2
Southern	32	31	25.8	371,170	58,180	1,818	55.0	2,252	44.4
Unknown, with hours reported	560	524	493.0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	980	930	823.9	5,413,860	970,650	990	101.0	1,178	84.9

^a Due to rounding, individual figures may not always sum to the stated totals.
(Data sources: Workforce survey and Ministry of Health)

Table 3-22. Population to practising oral health therapists and FTE ratios by health region for population 15 years and older, for 2025

	No with practising certificates	No with APC who reported hours	FTE oral health therapists (OHT)	Total population ^a	Population aged 15+ years ^a	Population aged 15+ years-to-OHT ratio	OHTs per 100,000 population aged 15+ years	Population aged 15+ years-to-FTE-OHT ratio	FTE per 100,000 population aged 15+ years
Northern region	211	201	168.6	2,062,290	1,680,720	7,965	12.6	9,971	10.0
Northland Te Tai Tokerau	13	13	11.4	207,960	168,310	12,947	7.7	14,716	6.8
Waitematā	84	80	71.8	685,490	559,580	6,662	15.0	7,798	12.8
Auckland Te Toka Tumai	58	55	44.7	517,550	441,370	7,610	13.1	9,880	10.1
Counties-Manukau	56	53	40.7	651,290	511,460	9,133	10.9	12,574	8.0
Midland/Te Manawa Taki	62	61	48.1	1,129,330	910,830	14,691	6.8	18,942	5.3
Waikato	27	26	21.0	479,690	386,070	14,299	7.0	18,387	5.4
Lakes	5	5	4.3	122,280	98,160	19,632	5.1	22,894	4.4
Bay of Plenty	16	16	11.5	286,400	232,390	14,524	6.9	20,230	4.9
Tairāwhiti	5	5	4.0	54,160	42,550	8,510	11.8	10,604	9.4
Taranaki	9	9	7.3	186,800	151,660	16,851	5.9	20,775	4.8
Central/Te Ikaroa	78	77	59.3	945,210	781,330	10,017	10.0	13,167	7.6
Hawke's Bay	7	7	4.1	132,080	106,520	15,217	6.6	26,285	3.8
Whanganui	5	5	5.3	70,740	57,470	11,494	8.7	10,869	9.2
MidCentral	11	11	8.5	196,600	160,420	14,584	6.9	18,985	5.3
Capital, Coast and Hutt Valley	52	51	39.3	493,480	413,740	7,957	12.6	10,541	9.5
<i>Hutt Valley</i>	36	35	27.0	327,930	278,290	7,730	12.9	10,312	9.7
<i>Capital and Coast</i>	16	16	12.3	165,550	135,450	8,466	11.8	11,046	9.1
Wairarapa	3	3	2.3	52,310	43,180	14,393	6.9	18,774	5.3
South Island/Te Waipounamu	69	67	54.9	1,277,030	1,070,330	15,512	6.4	19,503	5.1
Nelson Marlborough	7	7	5.3	168,980	142,850	20,407	4.9	27,081	3.7
West Coast	—	—	—	34,880	29,410	—	—	—	—
Canterbury	28	27	22.2	636,640	530,450	18,945	5.3	23,847	4.2
South Canterbury	2	2	1.5	65,360	54,630	27,315	3.7	35,823	2.8
Southern	32	31	25.8	371,170	312,990	9,781	10.2	12,114	8.3
Unknown, with hours reported	560	524	493.0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	980	930	823.9	5,413,860	4,443,210	4,534	22.1	5,393	18.5

^a Due to rounding, individual figures may not always sum to the stated totals.
(Data sources: Workforce survey and Ministry of Health)

Table 3-23. Postgraduate training undertaken by oral health therapists

	Expected year of completion	Practising (%)	Non-practising (%)	Overall (%)
2023	2022	3 (27.3)	—	3 (27.3)
	2023	1 (9.1)	—	1 (9.1)
	2024	4 (36.4)	—	4 (36.4)
	2025	2 (18.2)	—	2 (18.2)
	2026	1 (9.1)	—	1 (9.1)
	Total in postgraduate training	11 (100.0)	—	11 (100.0)
2024	2023	8 (33.3)	1 (50.0)	9 (34.6)
	2024	9 (37.5)	1 (50.0)	10 (38.5)
	2025	3 (12.5)	—	3 (11.5)
	2026	2 (8.3)	—	2 (7.7)
	2027	1 (4.2)	—	1 (3.8)
	Unknown	1 (4.2)	—	1 (3.8)
	Total in postgraduate training	24 (92.3)	2 (7.7)	26 (100.0)
2025	2024	4 (10.8)	—	4 (9.8)
	2025	23 (62.2)	1 (25.0)	24 (58.5)
	2026	3 (8.1)	2 (50.0)	5 (12.2)
	2027	5 (13.5)	1 (25.0)	6 (14.6)
	2028	2 (5.4)	—	2 (4.9)
	Total in postgraduate training	37 (90.2)	4 (9.8)	41

(Data source: Workforce survey)

Table 3-24. Areas in which postgraduate training are being undertaken, based on 2025 data

Area of study	Students
Adult restorative care	24
Dentistry	12
Public health	2
Dental public health	1
Māori health	1
Education	1
Total	41

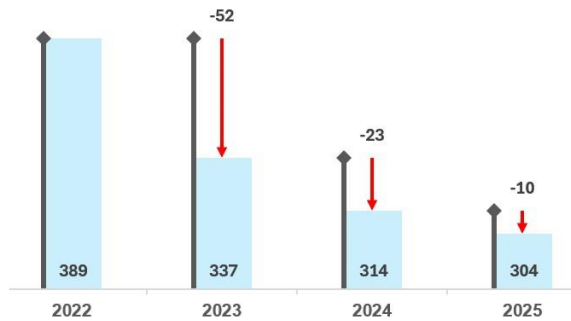
(Data source: Workforce survey)

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Section 4:

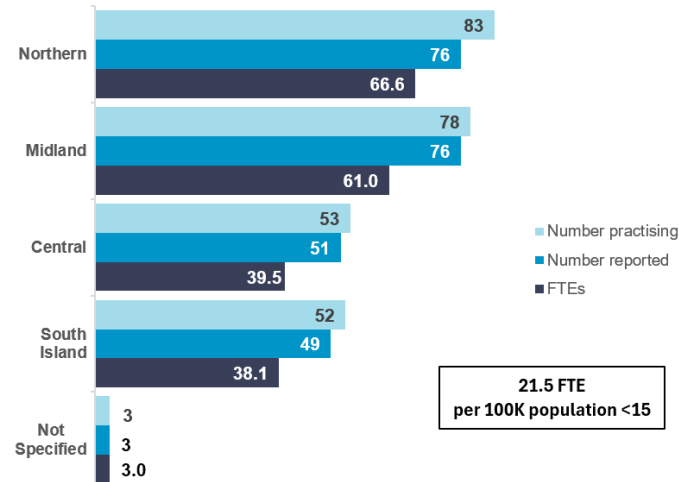
The dental therapy workforce

Registered practitioners



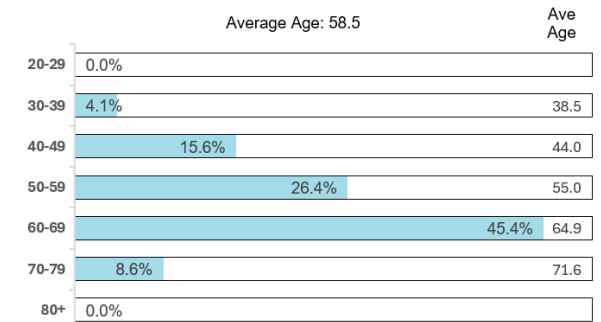
Dental therapists

Practitioners by public health region 2025



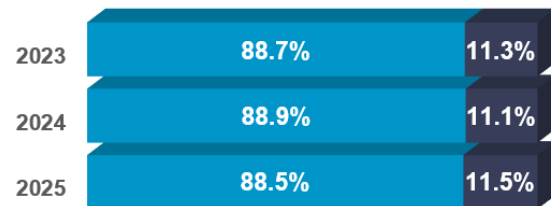
21.5 FTE
per 100K population <15

Age distribution for practising practitioners 2025



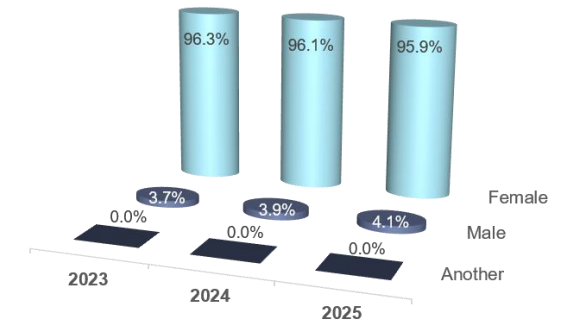
Practising status

■ Practising ■ Non-practising

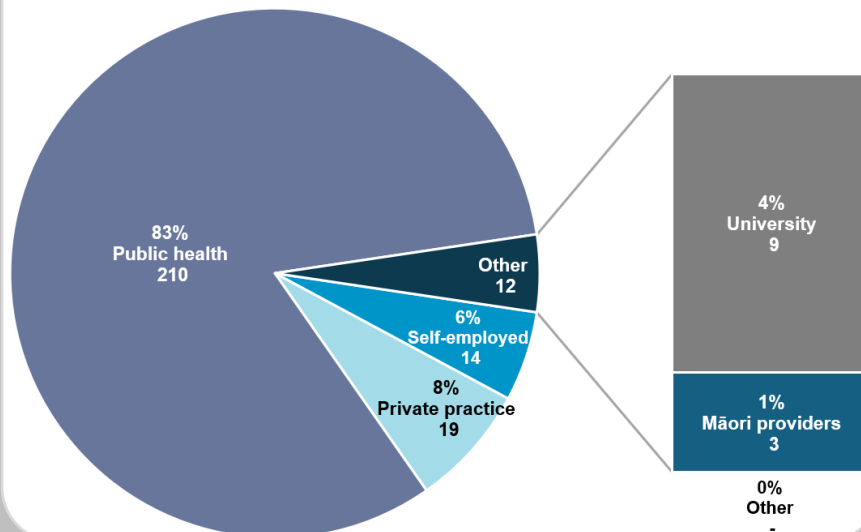


Intend to practise in NZ next 5 years: **91.1%**

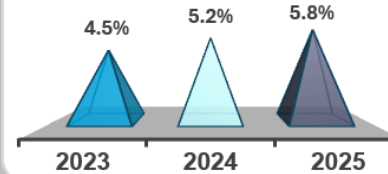
Gender for practising practitioners



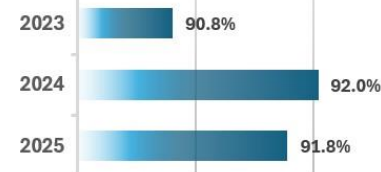
Employment type practising practitioners 2025



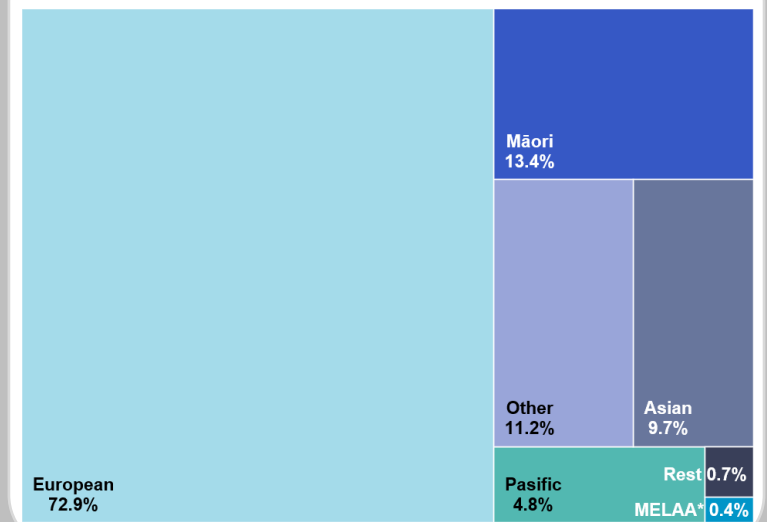
Overseas qualifications



Survey response rates



Ethnicity total count for practising practitioners 2025



*MELAA - Middle East, Africa & Latin America

Executive summary dental therapists

Number of dental therapists

With no dental therapy qualification available in New Zealand, and almost no overseas dental therapists entering the profession, the number of dental therapists continue to decline at an increasing rate. The decline rate from 2018 is at an average of 4.8% per year. Oral health graduates continue to register as oral health therapists in Aotearoa New Zealand.

In 2025, a total of 304 dental therapists remained on the register with 269 (88.5%) holding annual practising certificates. ^{Table 4-1}

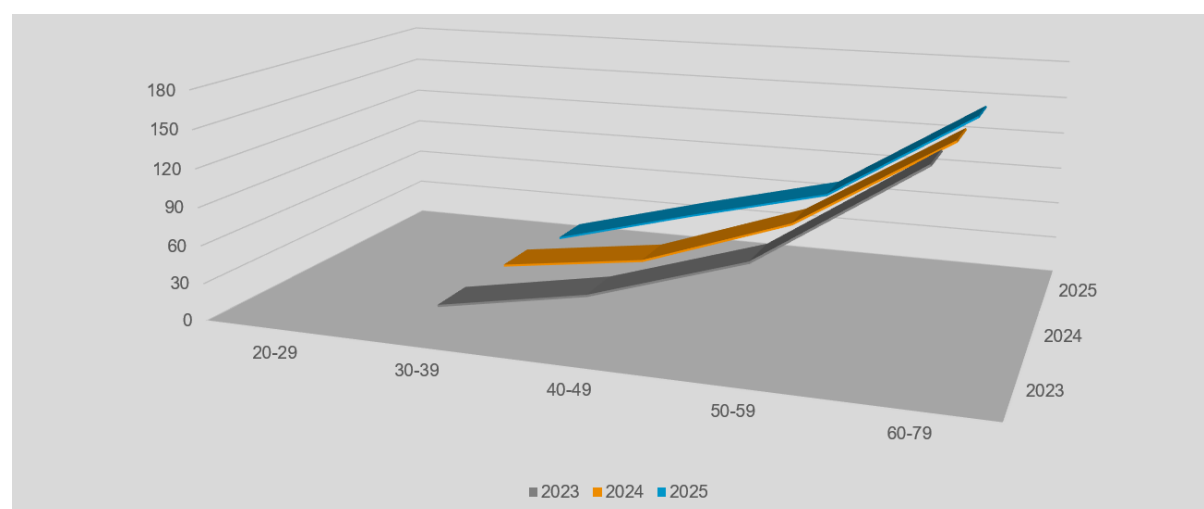
Table 4-1. Registered dental therapists

	2023	% YoY	2024	% YoY	2025
Dental therapists with practising certificates	299	-6.7	279	-3.6	269
Dental therapists without practising certificates	38	-7.9	35	—	35
Total	337	-6.8	314	-3.2	304

Demographics

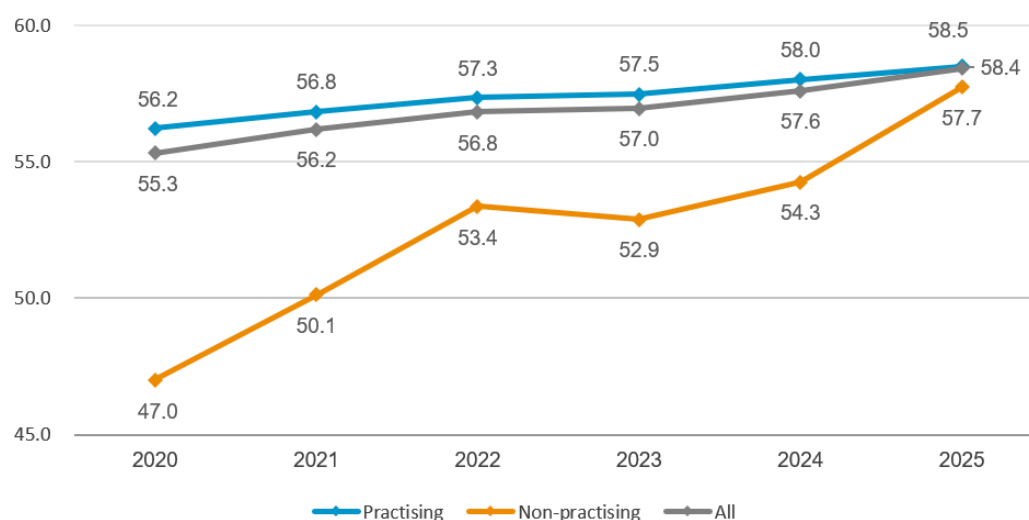
The mean age continued to steadily increase to 58.4 in 2025 (from 55.5 in 2019). This trend will continue as there are no new registrants to the profession. ^{Figure 4-1}

Figure 4-1. Mean age of practising dental therapists



The continued absence of young dental therapists in the profession is demonstrated in the age band trends. ^{Figure 4-2}

Figure 4-2. Age band trends of practising dental therapists



Females continue to dominate the dental therapy workforce, with males only 4.1% of the practising profession in 2025 (a slight increase from 2.7% in 2019). ^{Table 4-5}

The ethnicity reported by dental therapists reflected the diverse nature of the New Zealand population. Māori represented 13.4% of practising dental therapists, the highest of the oral health professions but still slightly lower than the national projection of 17.4% Māori in Aotearoa New Zealand ⁵. European remains the largest group at 72.9%. Pacific peoples were represented at 4.8% practising dental therapists. ^{Table 4-6, total count represented}

Registration

The proportion of overseas dental therapist qualifications was 5.8%, and New Zealand qualifications at 94.2% in 2025. ^{Table 4-7}

Practising characteristics

Of those dental therapists that reported being employees in 2025 (241, 95.6%), the majority remained employed in the public health districts (192, 76.2%) followed by private practice (19, 7.5%). Only 5.6% (14) were self-employed. ^{Table 4-9}

Using a 40-hour work week as a norm, almost all (93.6% in 2025) of dental therapists worked 40 hours or less per week, with only 16 reporting over 40 hours per week. ^{Table 4-12}

Dental therapists employed within the public health sector reported performing dental therapy activities on average 29.0 hours per week (sd 10.2), with the average across all employment types of 27.2 hours per week (sd 11.5). ^{Table 4-14}

The majority (88, 71.5%) of dental therapists who worked part-time reported personal choice as the reason. ^{Table 4-13}

Of those not currently practising in New Zealand, 39% reported practising overseas. ^{Table 4-10}

⁵ 2025 Stats NZ [Māori population estimates](#)

Of those currently registered in dental therapy, 91.1% indicated they would still practise in Aotearoa New Zealand over the next five years. ^{Table 4-11}

Geographical distribution

The analysis of territorial authorities (TAs) shows there were 16 TAs without any practising dental therapist reported. This is slightly higher than the 11TAs without any practising dental therapist reported in 2022. Southland also had no oral health therapist reported. ^{Table 4-15}

For 2025, practising dental therapists were reported across all public health districts, with 27.7 dental therapists per 100k population < 15 years of age, down from the 34.8 in 2022. The FTE per 100k population < 15 years of age for 2025 was 21.5 FTE, down from 26.0 FTE in 2022. This decline will continue with the decrease in dental therapist numbers. Oral health therapists continue to practise in these areas, and both should be considered to determine workforce access for children and adolescents. ^{Table 4-19}

Postgraduate studies

Ten dental therapists indicated they were undertaking postgraduate studies in the 2025 workforce survey, eight of those doing an adult restorative course. ^{Table 4-21}

Workforce survey response rates

The survey response rate for dental therapists was 91.8%, up from 85.9% in 2022. ^{Table 4-2}

Table 4-2. Dental therapist survey responses

Year	Response rate (%)
2023	90.8
2024	92.0
2025	91.8

Dental therapists workforce data tables

Table 4-3. Number of dental therapists with practising certificates, by workforce reporting year

Report year	Total	Female (row %)	Male (row %)	% overseas graduates
2007	673	664 (98.7)	9 (1.3)	— ^a
2008	648	633 (97.7)	15 (2.3)	—
2009	647	632 (97.7)	15 (2.3)	—
2010/11	740	715 (96.6)	25 (3.4)	—
2011/12	804	769 (95.6)	35 (4.4)	2.6
2012/13	820	788 (96.1)	32 (3.9)	2.4
2013/14	841	802 (95.4)	39 (4.6)	2.4
2014/15	875	833 (95.2)	42 (4.8)	2.6
2015/16	942	893 (94.8)	49 (5.2)	2.8
2016/17	961	905 (94.2)	56 (5.8)	2.9
2017/18	458	448 (97.8)	10 (2.2)	1.9 ^b
2018/19	412	401 (97.3)	11 (2.7)	1.9
2019/20	389	378 (97.2)	11 (2.8)	3.0
2020/21	371	360 (97.0)	11 (3.0)	3.4
2021/22	337	325 (96.4)	12 (3.6)	3.8
2022/23	299	288 (96.3)	11 (3.7)	4.5
2023/24	279	268 (96.1)	11 (3.9)	5.2
2024/25	269	258 (95.9)	11 (4.1)	5.8

^a Data not available from historic reports

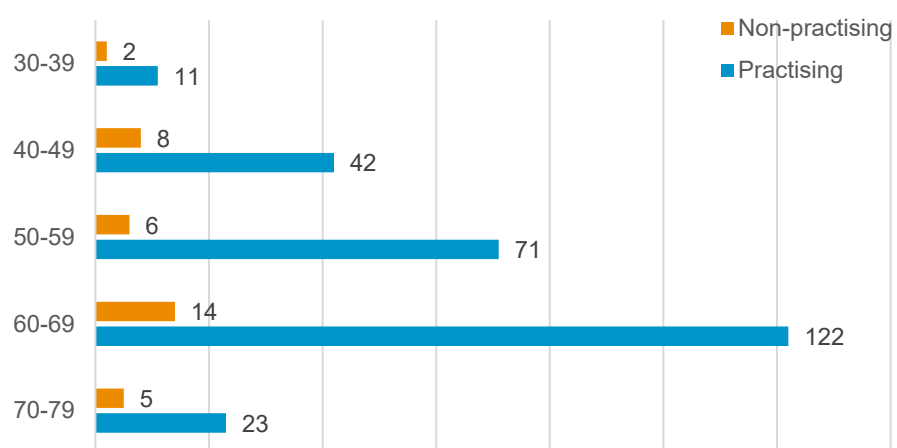
^b 2018 onwards - Multiple qualifications per practitioner could apply
(Data sources: Dental register & previous workforce reports)

Table 4-4. Age of dental therapists by practising certificate status, as at 31 March 2025

Age bands	Practising certificate (%)	No practising certificate (%)
30-39	11 (4.1)	2 (5.7)
40-49	42 (15.6)	8 (22.9)
50-59	71 (26.4)	6 (17.1)
60-69	122 (45.4)	14 (40.0)
70-79	23 (8.6)	5 (14.3)
Mean age	58.5	57.7

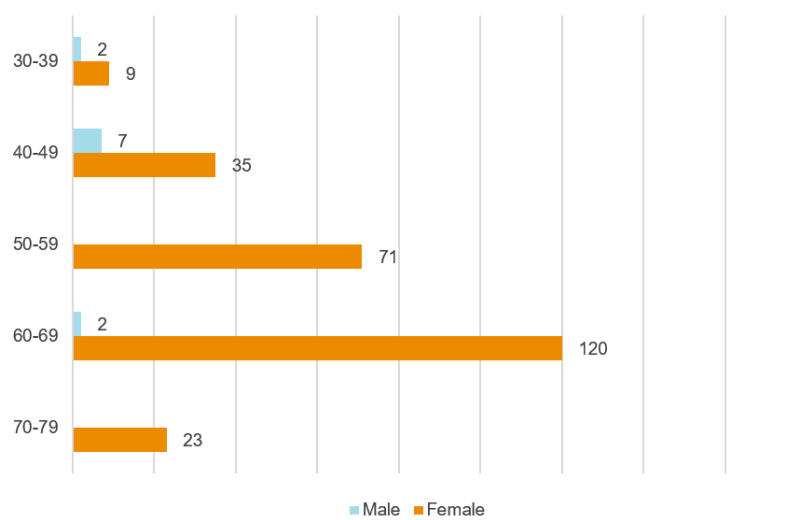
(Data source: Dental register)

Figure 4-3. Age distribution of dental therapists by practising certificate status, as at 31 March 2025



(Data source: Dental register)

Figure 4-4. Age of practising dental therapists by gender, as at 31 March 2025



(Data source: Dental register)

Table 4-5. Gender of dental therapists by practising certificate status

	Gender	Practising certificate (%)	No practising certificate (%)	Total (%)
2023	Female	288 (96.3)	36 (94.7)	324 (96.1)
	Male	11 (3.7)	2 (5.3)	13 (3.9)
	Total	299	38	337
2024	Female	268 (96.1)	33 (94.3)	301 (95.9)
	Male	11 (3.9)	2 (5.7)	13 (4.1)
	Total	279	35	314
2025	Female	258 (95.9)	33 (94.3)	291 (95.7)
	Male	11 (4.1)	2 (5.7)	13 (4.3)
	Total	269	35	304

(Data source: Dental register)

Table 4-6. Self-identification of ethnicity for practising dental therapists, based on 2025 data

Ethnicity	Total count	% ^c	Prioritised	%
Māori	36	13.4	36	13.4
Pacific peoples ^a	13	4.8	10	3.7
Asian	26	9.7	22	8.2
MELAA ^b	1	0.4	1	0.4
Other Ethnicity	30	11.2	28	10.4
European	196	72.9	172	63.9
Residual Categories	2	0.7	—	—
Total	304		269	

^a Pacific peoples counts included as relevant: Pacific peoples, not further defined; Samoan; Cook Island Māori; Tongan, Niuean; Tokelauan; Fijian; Indigenous Australian; Hawaiian; Kiribati (also reported separately)

^b Middle Eastern/Latin American/African

^c Percentages based on number of respondents

(Data sources: Dental register & workforce survey)

Table 4-7. Country of registration qualification for practising dental therapists

Country of qualification	2023 (%) ^a	2024 (%)	2025 (%)
New Zealand	300 (95.5)	271 (94.8)	261 (94.2)
Overseas	14 (4.5)	15 (5.2)	16 (5.8)
Total^b	314	286	277
Breakdown of overseas qualifications			
	(%)	(%)	(%)
Fiji	6 (1.9)	6 (2.1)	6 (2.2)
Australia	2 (0.6)	4 (1.4)	5 (1.8)
United Kingdom	3 (1.0)	2 (0.7)	2 (0.7)
Hong Kong (Special Administrative Region)	1 (0.3)	1 (0.3)	1 (0.4)
India	1 (0.3)	1 (0.3)	1 (0.4)
South Africa	1 (0.3)	1 (0.3)	1 (0.4)

^a Percentages calculated from totals inclusive of New Zealand qualifications

^b Multiple qualifications per registrant, and from the same or different countries can apply
(Data source: Dental register)

Table 4-8. Overseas qualified dental therapists with practising certificates—type of New Zealand registration pathway by year, for 2025

Year of first registration in New Zealand	Trans-Tasman Mutual Recognition (%)	NZDTREX (%)	Overseas qualification equivalency assessed (%)
2004	—	—	2 (25.0)
2005	—	—	1 (12.5)
2006	—	—	2 (25.0)
2007	—	3 (37.5)	—
2008	—	—	—
2009	—	1 (12.5)	1 (12.5)
2010	—	—	1 (12.5)
2011	—	1 (12.5)	1 (12.5)
2012	—	1 (12.5)	—
2013	—	1 (12.5)	—
2014	—	1 (12.5)	—
2015	—	—	—
2016	—	—	—
2017	1 (100.0)	—	—
Total (row%)	1 (5.9)	8 (47.1)	8 (47.1)

Note: NZDTREX = New Zealand Dental Therapy Registration Examination
(Data source: Dental register)

Table 4-9. Type of employment of practising dental therapists

		Distinct (%)	Total %
2023	Self-employed		
	Solo practice	2 (16.7)	0.7
	Group practice	10 (83.3)	3.7
	Other	—	
	Self-employed subtotal	12	4.5
	Employee		
	Private practice	23 (8.8)	8.6
	Public sector	225 (86.5)	83.6
	<i>Public health regions</i>	212 (81.5)	78.8
	<i>Ministry of Health</i>	13 (5.0)	4.8
	<i>Other government department, not MOH</i>		
	Universities	9 (3.5)	3.3
	Māori health organisation	3 (1.2)	1.1
2024	Employee subtotal	260	96.7
	Other	1	0.4
	Total responses	269	
2025	Self-employed		
	Solo practice	1 (11.1)	0.4
	Group practice	8 (88.9)	3.0
	Other	—	
	Self-employed subtotal	9	3.4
	Employee		
	Private practice	20 (7.8)	7.6
	Public sector	222 (87.1)	84.4
	<i>Public health regions</i>	210 (82.4)	79.8
	<i>Ministry of Health</i>	11 (4.3)	4.2
	<i>Other government department, not MOH</i>	1 (0.4)	0.4
	Universities	10 (3.9)	3.8
	Māori health organisation	3 (1.2)	1.1
2025	Employee subtotal	255	97.0
	Total responses	263	
2025	Self-employed		
	Solo practice	1 (7.1)	0.4
	Group practice	11 (78.6)	4.4
	Other	2 (14.3)	0.8
	Self-employed subtotal	14	5.6
	Employee		
	Private practice	19 (7.9)	7.5
	Public sector	210 (87.1)	83.3
	<i>Public health regions</i>	192 (79.7)	76.2

	Distinct (%)	Total %
<i>Ministry of Health</i>	18 (7.5)	7.1
<i>Other government department, not MOH</i>	—	—
Universities	9 (3.7)	3.6
Māori health organisation	3 (1.2)	1.2
Employee subtotal	241	95.6
Total responses	252	

(Data source: Workforce survey)

Table 4-10. Practising pattern, dental therapists who are not currently practising in New Zealand

Employment status		Practising certificate (%)	No practising certificate (%)	Total (%)
2023	In NZ but not practising	1 (33.3)	6 (35.3)	7 (35.0)
	Practising overseas	—	5 (29.4)	5 (25.0)
	Overseas and not practising	2 (66.7)	6 (35.3)	8 (40.0)
	Total	3 (15.0)	17 (85.0)	20
2024	In NZ but not practising	1 (50.0)	5 (33.3)	6 (35.3)
	Practising overseas	1 (50.0)	4 (26.7)	5 (29.4)
	Overseas and not practising	—	6 (40.0)	6 (35.3)
	Total	2 (11.8)	15 (88.2)	17
2025	In NZ but not practising	1 (33.3)	5 (33.3)	6 (33.3)
	Practising overseas	1 (33.3)	6 (40.0)	7 (38.9)
	Overseas and not practising	1 (33.3)	4 (26.7)	5 (27.8)
	Total	3 (16.7)	15 (83.3)	18

(Data source: Workforce survey)

Table 4-11. Dental therapists expecting to practise in New Zealand over next five years

Dental therapists		
2023	Yes, expect to practise	303 (89.9)
	No response	34 (10.1)
2024	Yes, expect to practise	288 (91.7)
	No response	26 (8.3)
2025	Yes, expect to practise	277 (91.1)
	No response	27 (8.9)

(Data source: Workforce survey)

Table 4-12. Total number of hours worked per week by dental therapists practising in New Zealand

Number of hours worked	2023	2024	2025
1 to 10	1 (0.4)	4 (1.5)	6 (2.4)
11 to 20	14 (5.2)	23 (8.7)	20 (7.9)
21 to 30	62 (23.0)	55 (20.8)	62 (24.6)
31 to 40	175 (64.8)	162 (61.4)	148 (58.7)
41 to 50	11 (4.1)	17 (6.4)	10 (4.0)
51 to 60	1 (0.4)	—	5 (2.0)
60 to 80	6 (2.2)	3 (1.1)	1 (0.4)
Number giving data on hours	270	264	252
Nil response or excluded	29	15	17
Mean no. of hours/week (SD)	34.4 (10.0)	33.2 (9.5)	32.7 (9.7)

(Data source: Workforce survey)

Table 4-13. Reasons for part-time practice by dental therapists practising in New Zealand

	Reason for practising part-time	Total (%)
2023	Personal choice	73 (61.9)
	Parental responsibilities	16 (13.6)
	Semi-retired from practice	9 (7.6)
	Doing non-dental work	6 (5.1)
	Health	2 (1.7)
	Studying	1 (0.8)
	Seeking dental employment	1 (0.8)
	Other	10 (8.5)
	Total working part time	118
2024	Personal choice	90 (73.8)
	Parental responsibilities	12 (9.8)
	Semi-retired from practice	9 (7.4)
	Doing non-dental work	3 (2.5)
	Studying	1 (0.8)
	Seeking dental employment	1 (0.8)
	Other	6 (4.9)
	Total working part time	122
2025	Personal choice	88 (71.5)
	Parental responsibilities	14 (11.4)
	Semi-retired from practice	10 (8.1)
	Studying	2 (1.6)
	Doing non-dental work	2 (1.6)
	Other	7 (5.7)
	Total working part time	123

(Data source: Workforce survey)

Table 4-14. Work by practice area and employment type for dental therapists practising in NZ

		Public		Private		Self-employed		University		Māori health organisation		Other		Total	
		Distinct number	Average (sd)	Distinct number	Average (sd)	Distinct number	Average (sd)	Distinct number	Average (sd)	Distinct number	Average (sd)	Distinct number	Average (sd)	Distinct number	Average (sd)
2023	Dental therapy practice	225	30.6 (10.3)	23	16.4 (11.6)	12	15.6 (11.4)	9	22.6 (14.2)	3	30.7 (16.2)	1	5.0	269	28.3 (11.8)
	Adult care in dental therapy practice	2	4.5 (4.9)	2	3.5 (0.7)	1	5.0	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	4.2 (2.6)
	Administration	48	13.6 (12.3)	7	3.7 (5.1)	8	5.6 (5.9)	6	9.3 (3.4)	1	8.0	1	0.5	71	10.9 (11.1)
	Research	13	2.8 (3.3)	3	0.5 (0.3)	3	2.3 (1.5)	5	4.0 (1.0)	1	2.0	1	1.0	26	2.6 (2.5)
	Teaching	12	7.8 (8.9)	4	1.2 (0.4)	2	5.0 (4.2)	6	12.5 (8.7)	1	3.0	1	7.5	26	7.2 (8.0)
	Other	6	4.0 (4.0)	2	10.5 (13.4)	2	9.5 (9.2)	1	5.0	—	—	—	—	11	6.3 (6.6)
	Total distinct number	225	25.1 (13.9)	23	9.9 (11.1)	12	10.0 (9.9)	9	13.3 (11.5)	3	17.5 (17.8)	1	3.5	269	21.4 (14.6)
2024	Dental therapy practice	222	29.4 (11.3)	20	14.5 (11.3)	9	20.9 (12.8)	10	17.2 (13.5)	3	27.5 (13.7)	—	—	263	27.5 (12.3)
	Adult care in dental therapy practice	2	4.0 (0.0)	3	4.7 (1.5)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	4.4 (1.1)
	Administration	45	13.4 (13.1)	9	4.1 (4.7)	5	5.4 (2.9)	6	8.7 (6.2)	2	6.5 (4.9)	—	—	67	10.9 (11.6)
	Research	14	3.5 (5.3)	2	1.0 (0.0)	3	2.7 (1.2)	4	6.8 (7.7)	—	—	—	—	23	3.7 (5.2)
	Teaching	8	5.2 (6.2)	2	1.5 (0.7)	3	2.7 (1.2)	7	11.2 (7.2)	1	1.0	—	—	21	6.2 (6.6)
	Other	4	2.8 (3.5)	—	—	—	—	3	6.4 (8.3)	1	2.0	—	—	8	4.0 (5.4)
	Total distinct number	222	24.5 (14.2)	20	9.6 (10.3)	9	11.6 (12.1)	10	11.6 (10.2)	3	15.8 (15.7)	—	—	263	21.3 (14.7)
2025	Dental therapy practice	210	29.0 (10.2)	18	14.3 (12.8)	14	19.0 (12.1)	9	20.3 (14.3)	3	38.3 (2.9)	—	—	252	27.2 (11.5)
	Adult care in dental therapy practice	2	5.5 (0.7)	2	3.5 (2.1)	1	3.0	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	4.2 (1.6)
	Administration	37	15.1 (12.8)	7	4.6 (4.0)	10	3.8 (4.4)	6	8.9 (5.9)	1	2.0	—	—	61	11.1 (11.4)
	Research	11	2.8 (1.7)	3	0.9 (1.1)	3	2.3 (1.5)	4	4.8 (2.9)	—	—	—	—	21	2.8 (2.1)
	Teaching	9	6.9 (7.8)	—	—	3	2.7 (1.2)	6	10.7 (7.8)	—	—	—	—	18	7.4 (7.4)
	Other	4	4.0 (3.2)	1	24.0	1	5.0	1	4.5	—	—	—	—	7	7.1 (7.8)
	Total distinct number	210	24.7 (13.0)	18	10.0 (11.3)	14	10.0 (11.3)	9	12.5 (11.1)	3	29.3 (18.3)	—	—	252	21.3 (14.0)

(Data source: Workforce survey)

Table 4-15. Geographic distribution and FTE reported by practising dental therapists by Territorial Authority (TA)

TA area	2025	
	Number of dental therapists (%)	FTE (% of reported hours)
Far North district	7 (2.6)	4.6 (2.2)
Whangarei district	6 (2.2)	3.7 (1.8)
Kaipara district	1 (0.4)	0.6 (0.3)
Auckland	69 (25.7)	55.8 (27.1)
Thames-Coromandel district	2 (0.7)	1.4 (0.7)
Hauraki district	—	—
Waikato district	3 (1.1)	2.3 (1.1)
Matamata-Piako district	4 (1.5)	3.0 (1.5)
Hamilton city	10 (3.7)	6.5 (3.2)
Waipa district	3 (1.1)	2.6 (1.3)
Ōtorohanga district	—	—
South Waikato district	1 (0.4)	0.5 (0.2)
Waitomo district	—	—
Taupo district	3 (1.1)	2.2 (1.1)
Western Bay of Plenty district	1 (0.4)	0.8 (0.4)
Tauranga city	21 (7.8)	17.8 (8.6)
Rotorua district	12 (4.5)	9.4 (4.5)
Whakatane district	2 (0.7)	1.6 (0.8)
Kawerau district	—	—
Ōpōtiki district	1 (0.4)	0.6 (0.3)
Gisborne district	2 (0.7)	1.8 (0.9)
Wairoa district	2 (0.7)	2.7 (1.3)
Hastings district	7 (2.6)	5.4 (2.6)
Napier city	3 (1.1)	2.3 (1.1)
Central Hawke's Bay district	—	—
New Plymouth district	4 (1.5)	2.1 (1.0)
Stratford district	—	—
South Taranaki district	1 (0.4)	0.8 (0.4)
Ruapehu district	2 (0.7)	0.8 (0.4)
Whanganui district	7 (2.6)	5.1 (2.5)
Rangitikei district	2 (0.7)	1.2 (0.6)
Manawatu district	1 (0.4)	1.0 (0.5)
Palmerston North city	10 (3.7)	8.3 (4.0)
Tararua district	2 (0.7)	2.2 (1.1)
Horowhenua district	1 (0.4)	0.8 (0.4)
Kapiti Coast district	3 (1.1)	2.3 (1.1)

TA area	2025	
	Number of dental therapists (%)	FTE (% of reported hours)
Porirua city	3 (1.1)	2.3 (1.1)
Upper Hutt city	1 (0.4)	0.9 (0.4)
Lower Hutt city	10 (3.7)	6.2 (3.0)
Wellington city	5 (1.9)	3.7 (1.8)
Masterton district	1 (0.4)	0.9 (0.5)
Carterton district	1 (0.4)	0.9 (0.4)
South Wairarapa district	—	—
Tasman district	3 (1.1)	2.4 (1.2)
Nelson city	1 (0.4)	0.8 (0.4)
Marlborough district	3 (1.1)	0.8 (0.4)
Kaikoura district	—	—
Buller district	—	—
Grey district	1 (0.4)	0.9 (0.4)
Westland district	—	—
Hurunui district	—	—
Waimakariri district	1 (0.4)	—
Christchurch city	21 (7.8)	15.3 (7.4)
Selwyn district	1 (0.4)	1.0 (0.5)
Ashburton district	1 (0.4)	0.4 (0.2)
Timaru district	2 (0.7)	1.7 (0.8)
Mackenzie district	—	—
Waimate district	—	—
Chatham Islands territory	—	—
Waitaki district	1 (0.4)	0.8 (0.4)
Central Otago district	1 (0.4)	—
Queenstown-Lakes district	2 (0.7)	1.8 (0.8)
Dunedin city	11 (4.1)	9.7 (4.7)
Clutha district	1 (0.4)	0.6 (0.3)
Southland district	—	—
Gore district	—	—
Invercargill city	2 (0.7)	2.0 (1.0)
Area outside territorial authority	3 (1.1)	3.0 (1.1)
Total	269	206.2
TAs with no dental therapists	16	

Note: FTE = Full time equivalent

(Data sources: Dental register, workforce survey & Statistics New Zealand)

Table 4-16. Population to practising dental therapists and FTE ratios by TA, for 2025

	Population aged <15 years ^a	FTEs	Population aged <15 years-to- dental therapist ratio	Dental therapist per 100,000 population aged <15	Population aged <15 years-to-FTE- dental therapist ratio ^b	FTE per 100,000 population aged <15 ^b
Far North district	14,100	4.6	2,014	49.6	3,049	32.8
Whangarei district	19,400	3.7	3,233	30.9	5,208	19.2
Kaipara district	4,900	0.6	4,900	20.4	8,167	12.2
Auckland	339,300	55.8	4,917	20.3	6,082	16.4
Thames-Coromandel district	4,300	1.4	2,150	46.5	3,013	33.2
Hauraki district	3,800	—	—	—	—	—
Waikato district	18,900	2.3	6,300	15.9	8,129	12.3
Matamata-Piako district	7,600	3.0	1,900	52.6	2,533	39.5
Hamilton city	39,600	6.5	3,960	25.3	6,089	16.4
Waipa district	12,000	2.6	4,000	25.0	4,601	21.7
Ōtorohanga district	2,250	—	—	—	—	—
South Waikato district	5,700	0.5	5,700	17.5	12,667	7.9
Waitomo district	2,070	—	—	—	—	—
Taupo district	7,700	2.2	2,567	39.0	3,500	28.6
Western Bay of Plenty district	10,400	0.8	10,400	9.6	13,000	7.7
Tauranga city	30,600	17.8	1,457	68.6	1,722	58.1
Rotorua district	16,300	9.4	1,358	73.6	1,739	57.5
Whakatane district	8,000	1.6	4,000	25.0	5,000	20.0
Kawerau district	1,680	—	—	—	—	—
Ōpōtiki district	2,150	0.6	2,150	46.5	3,583	27.9
Gisborne district	11,300	1.8	5,650	17.7	6,278	15.9
Wairoa district	1,990	2.7	995	100.5	751	133.2
Hastings district	17,600	5.4	2,514	39.8	3,246	30.8
Napier city	11,900	2.3	3,967	25.2	5,101	19.6
Central Hawke's Bay district	3,150	—	—	—	—	—
New Plymouth district	17,100	2.1	4,275	23.4	8,192	12.2
Stratford district	2,100	—	—	—	—	—
South Taranaki district	6,100	0.8	6,100	16.4	8,133	12.3
Ruapehu district	2,800	0.8	1,400	71.4	3,484	28.7
Whanganui district	9,100	5.1	1,300	76.9	1,783	56.1
Rangitikei district	3,100	1.2	1,550	64.5	2,489	40.2
Manawatu district	6,500	1.0	6,500	15.4	6,500	15.4
Palmerston North city	17,300	8.3	1,730	57.8	2,082	48.0
Taranua district	3,600	2.2	1,800	55.6	1,636	61.1
Horowhenua district	6,900	0.8	6,900	14.5	8,625	11.6
Kapiti Coast district	9,000	2.3	3,000	33.3	3,956	25.3
Porirua city	12,900	2.3	4,300	23.3	5,609	17.8

	Population aged <15 years ^a	FTEs	Population aged <15 years-to- dental therapist ratio	Dental therapist per 100,000 population aged <15	Population aged <15 years-to-FTE- dental therapist ratio ^b	FTE per 100,000 population aged <15 ^b
Upper Hutt city	8,900	0.9	8,900	11.2	9,889	10.1
Lower Hutt city	21,400	6.2	2,140	46.7	3,480	28.7
Wellington city	29,600	3.7	5,920	16.9	8,027	12.5
Masterton district	5,300	0.9	5,300	18.9	5,653	17.7
Carterton district	1,700	0.9	1,700	58.8	1,943	51.5
South Wairarapa district	2,050	—	—	—	—	—
Tasman district	9,400	2.4	3,133	31.9	3,917	25.5
Nelson city	8,700	0.8	8,700	11.5	10,875	9.2
Marlborough district	8,200	0.8	2,733	36.6	10,581	9.5
Kaikoura district	650	—	—	—	—	—
Buller district	1,500	—	—	—	—	—
Grey district	2,600	0.9	2,600	38.5	2,889	34.6
Westland district	1,420	—	—	—	—	—
Hurunui district	2,500	—	—	—	—	—
Waimakariri district	11,700	—	11,700	8.5	—	—
Christchurch city	68,400	15.3	3,257	30.7	4,466	22.4
Selwyn district	18,000	1.0	18,000	5.6	18,000	5.6
Ashburton district	7,200	0.4	7,200	13.9	18,000	5.6
Timaru district	8,500	1.7	4,250	23.5	5,000	20.0
Mackenzie district	890	—	—	—	—	—
Waimate district	1,420	—	—	—	—	—
Chatham Islands territory	120	—	—	—	—	—
Waitaki district	4,100	0.8	4,100	24.4	5,125	19.5
Central Otago district	4,000	—	4,000	25.0	—	—
Queenstown-Lakes district	8,300	1.8	4,150	24.1	4,743	21.1
Dunedin city	18,900	9.7	1,718	58.2	1,953	51.2
Clutha district	3,400	0.6	3,400	29.4	5,667	17.6
Southland district	6,600	—	—	—	—	—
Gore district	2,200	—	—	—	—	—
Invercargill city	10,400	2.0	5,200	19.2	5,200	19.2
Area outside of TA	—	3.0	—	—	—	—
Total ^c	971,240	206	3,611	27.7	4,711	21.2

^a Population estimate as at 30 June 2025

^b Where hours are reported

^c Due to rounding, individual figures may not always sum to the stated totals
(Data sources: Dental register, workforce survey & Statistics New Zealand)

Table 4-17. Population to practising dental therapists and FTE ratios by health region for population younger than 15 years of age, for 2023

	No with practising certificates	No with APC who reported hours	FTE dental therapists	Total population ^a	Population aged < 15 years ^a	Population aged < 15 years-to-therapist ratio	Therapists per 100,000 population aged < 15 years	Population aged < 15 years-to-FTE-therapist ratio	FTE per 100,000 population aged < 15 years
Northern region	94	82	77.5	1,980,690	376,900	4,010	24.9	4,861	20.6
Northland Te Tai Tokerau	17	15	12.4	202,070	39,530	2,325	43.0	3,190	31.4
Waitematā	24	19	20.3	661,790	125,030	5,210	19.2	6,167	16.2
Auckland Te Toka Tumai	22	20	17.2	500,310	77,390	3,518	28.4	4,506	22.2
Counties-Manukau	31	28	27.7	616,520	134,950	4,353	23.0	4,874	20.5
Midland/Te Manawa Taki	86	79	64.9	1,094,810	216,780	2,521	39.7	3,339	30.0
Waikato	24	23	18.4	463,710	92,360	3,848	26.0	5,027	19.9
Lakes	15	14	11.2	119,040	24,210	1,614	62.0	2,154	46.4
Bay of Plenty	29	26	22.6	276,510	53,050	1,829	54.7	2,346	42.6
Tairāwhiti	3	3	2.2	52,490	11,630	3,877	25.8	5,286	18.9
Taranaki	15	13	10.5	183,060	35,530	2,369	42.2	3,383	29.6
Central/Te Ikaroa	57	51	42.6	927,360	166,020	2,913	34.3	3,894	25.7
Hawke's Bay	7	6	4.8	129,680	25,880	3,697	27.0	5,392	18.5
Whanganui	10	10	8.0	69,580	13,330	1,333	75.0	1,662	60.2
MidCentral	14	12	10.5	191,400	36,190	2,585	38.7	3,439	29.1
Capital, Coast and Hutt Valley	23	21	17.5	485,370	81,470	3,542	28.2	4,645	21.5
<i>Capital and Coast</i>	12	11	9.2	324,280	51,310	4,276	23.4	5,600	17.9
<i>Hutt Valley</i>	11	10	8.4	161,090	30,160	2,742	36.5	3,601	27.8
Wairarapa	3	2	1.8	51,330	9,150	3,050	32.8	5,229	19.1
South Island/Te Waipounamu	59	55	45.0	1,243,580	206,920	3,507	28.5	4,603	21.7
Nelson Marlborough	8	8	6.1	165,790	26,700	3,338	30.0	4,377	22.8
West Coast	2	1	0.9	34,260	5,640	2,820	35.5	6,635	15.1
Canterbury	27	25	19.3	618,410	105,610	3,911	25.6	5,464	18.3
South Canterbury	2	2	1.7	63,750	10,700	5,350	18.7	6,294	15.9
Southern	20	19	17.0	361,370	58,270	2,914	34.3	3,433	29.1
Unknown, with hours reported	8	3	2.3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	299	270	232.3	5,246,440	966,620	3,233	30.9	4,161	24.0
Unknown, no hours reported		29							

^a Due to rounding, individual figures may not always sum to the stated totals.
(Data sources: Workforce survey and Ministry of Health)

Table 4-18. Population to practising dental therapists and FTE ratios by health region for population younger than 15 years of age, for 2024

	No with practising certificates	No with APC who reported hours	FTE dental therapists	Total population ^a	Population aged < 15 years ^a	Population aged < 15 years-to-therapist ratio	Therapists per 100,000 population aged < 15 years	Population aged < 15 years-to-FTE-therapist ratio	FTE per 100,000 population aged < 15 years
Northern region	87	83	73.2	2,029,880	381,440	4,384	22.8	5,208	19.2
Northland Te Tai Tokerau	15	15	11.7	204,730	39,600	2,640	37.9	3,374	29.6
Waitematā	21	19	18.6	675,080	125,920	5,996	16.7	6,761	14.8
Auckland Te Toka Tumai	20	18	16.2	511,120	77,280	3,864	25.9	4,767	21.0
Counties-Manukau	31	31	26.7	638,950	138,640	4,472	22.4	5,199	19.2
Midland/Te Manawa Taki	79	75	60.0	1,112,650	217,820	2,757	36.3	3,631	27.5
Waikato	22	22	15.6	471,280	92,910	4,223	23.7	5,970	16.7
Lakes	13	13	11.0	120,830	24,190	1,861	53.7	2,199	45.5
Bay of Plenty	27	25	21.8	281,830	53,680	1,988	50.3	2,461	40.6
Tairāwhiti	4	2	1.3	53,440	11,640	2,910	34.4	8,954	11.2
Taranaki	13	13	10.3	185,270	35,400	2,723	36.7	3,429	29.2
Central/Te Ikaroa	55	52	42.4	937,170	165,190	3,003	33.3	3,893	25.7
Hawke's Bay	6	6	4.6	131,030	25,750	4,292	23.3	5,568	18.0
Whanganui	11	10	6.9	70,330	13,340	1,213	82.5	1,921	52.1
MidCentral	14	13	12.6	194,520	36,300	2,593	38.6	2,886	34.7
Capital, Coast and Hutt Valley	22	21	16.5	489,340	80,620	3,665	27.3	4,897	20.4
<i>Capital and Coast</i>	11	10	8.4	325,870	50,410	4,583	21.8	6,028	16.6
<i>Hutt Valley</i>	11	11	8.1	163,470	30,210	2,746	36.4	3,730	26.8
Wairarapa	2	2	1.8	51,950	9,180	4,590	21.8	5,030	19.9
South Island/Te Waipounamu	55	51	40.9	1,261,470	207,080	3,765	26.6	5,059	19.8
Nelson Marlborough	7	7	5.1	167,550	26,470	3,781	26.4	5,165	19.4
West Coast	1	1	0.8	34,720	5,610	5,610	17.8	6,800	14.7
Canterbury	27	23	17.9	628,190	105,980	3,925	25.5	5,927	16.9
South Canterbury	2	2	1.7	64,820	10,750	5,375	18.6	6,324	15.8
Southern	18	18	15.4	366,190	58,270	3,237	30.9	3,784	26.4
Unknown, with hours reported	3	3	2.4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	279	264	219.0	5,341,170	971,530	3,482	28.7	4,436	22.5
Unknown, no hours reported		15							

^a Due to rounding, individual figures may not always sum to the stated totals.
(Data sources: Workforce survey and Ministry of Health)

Table 4-19. Population to practising dental therapists and FTE ratios by health region for population younger than 15 years of age, for 2025

	No with practising certificates	No with APC who reported hours	FTE dental therapists	Total population ^a	Population aged < 15 years ^a	Population aged < 15 years-to-therapist ratio	Therapists per 100,000 population aged < 15 years	Population aged < 15 years-to-FTE-therapist ratio	FTE per 100,000 population aged < 15 years
Northern region	83	76	66.6	2,062,290	381,570	4,597	21.8	5,730	17.5
Northland Te Tai Tokerau	14	10	9.0	207,960	39,650	2,832	35.3	4,430	22.6
Waitematā	21	19	19.0	685,490	125,910	5,996	16.7	6,644	15.1
Auckland Te Toka Tumai	17	18	15.4	517,550	76,180	4,481	22.3	4,947	20.2
Counties-Manukau	31	29	23.3	651,290	139,830	4,511	22.2	6,005	16.7
Midland/Te Manawa Taki	78	76	61.0	1,129,330	218,500	2,801	35.7	3,579	27.9
Waikato	24	23	16.5	479,690	93,620	3,901	25.6	5,678	17.6
Lakes	15	15	11.6	122,280	24,120	1,608	62.2	2,084	48.0
Bay of Plenty	25	24	20.8	286,400	54,010	2,160	46.3	2,600	38.5
Tairāwhiti	2	2	1.8	54,160	11,610	5,805	17.2	6,450	15.5
Taranaki	12	12	10.4	186,800	35,140	2,928	34.1	3,377	29.6
Central/Te Ikaroa	53	51	39.5	945,210	163,880	3,092	32.3	4,154	24.1
Hawke's Bay	5	4	2.8	132,080	25,560	5,112	19.6	9,008	11.1
Whanganui	10	10	7.0	70,740	13,270	1,327	75.4	1,901	52.6
MidCentral	14	14	12.3	196,600	36,180	2,584	38.7	2,939	34.0
Capital, Coast and Hutt Valley	22	21	15.5	493,480	79,740	3,625	27.6	5,140	19.5
<i>Capital and Coast</i>	11	11	8.5	327,930	49,640	4,513	22.2	5,866	17.0
<i>Hutt Valley</i>	11	10	7.1	165,550	30,100	2,736	36.5	4,270	23.4
Wairarapa	2	2	1.8	52,310	9,130	4,565	21.9	5,037	19.9
South Island/Te Waipounamu	52	49	38.1	1,277,030	206,700	3,975	25.2	5,423	18.4
Nelson Marlborough	7	7	4.0	168,980	26,130	3,733	26.8	6,574	15.2
West Coast	1	1	0.9	34,880	5,470	5,470	18.3	6,078	16.5
Canterbury	24	22	16.7	636,640	106,190	4,425	22.6	6,352	15.7
South Canterbury	2	2	1.7	65,360	10,730	5,365	18.6	6,312	15.8
Southern	18	17	14.8	371,170	58,180	3,232	30.9	3,924	25.5
Unknown, with hours reported	3	3	3.0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	269	255	208.2	5,413,860	970,650	3,608	27.7	4,662	21.5
Unknown, no hours reported		14							

^a Due to rounding, individual figures may not always sum to the stated totals.

(Data sources: Workforce survey and Ministry of Health)

Table 4-20. Postgraduate training undertaken by dental therapists

	Expected year of completion	Overall (%)
2023	2022	2 (50.0)
	2023	2 (50.0)
	Total in postgraduate training	4
2024	2024	3 (75.0)
	2026	1 (25.0)
	Total in postgraduate training	4
2025	2024	1 (10.0)
	2025	8 (80.0)
	2026	1 (10.0)
	Total in postgraduate training	10

(Data source: Workforce survey)

Table 4-21. Areas in which postgraduate training are being undertaken, based on 2025 data

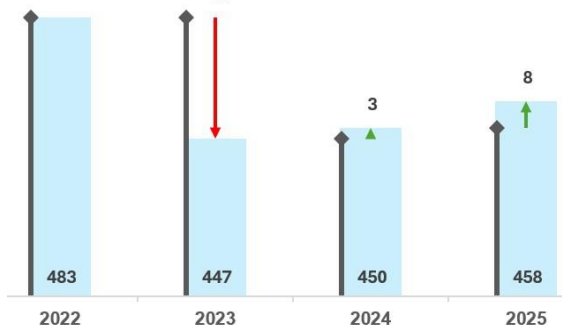
Area of study	Students
Adult restorative	8 (80.0)
Periodontics	1 (10.0)
Dental therapy related	1 (10.0)
Total	10

(Data source: Workforce survey)

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Section 5:
The dental hygiene and orthodontic
auxiliary workforce

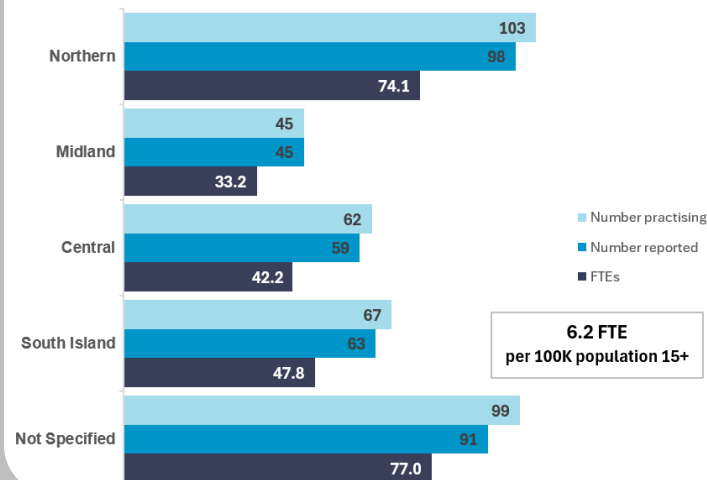
Registered practitioners



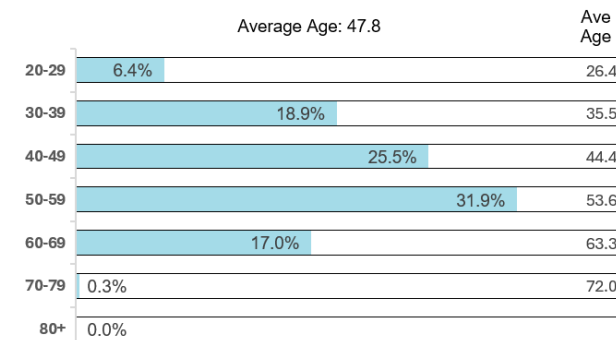
Dental hygienists

Including orthodontic auxiliaries

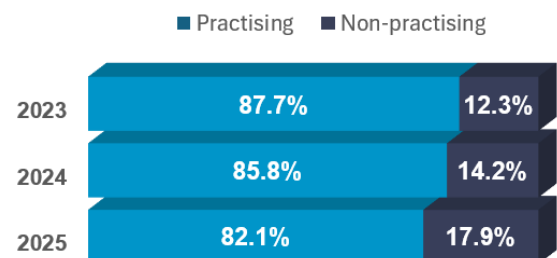
Practitioners by public health region 2025



Age distribution for practising practitioners 2025

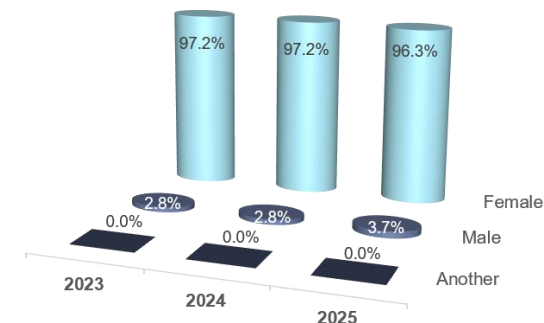


Practising status

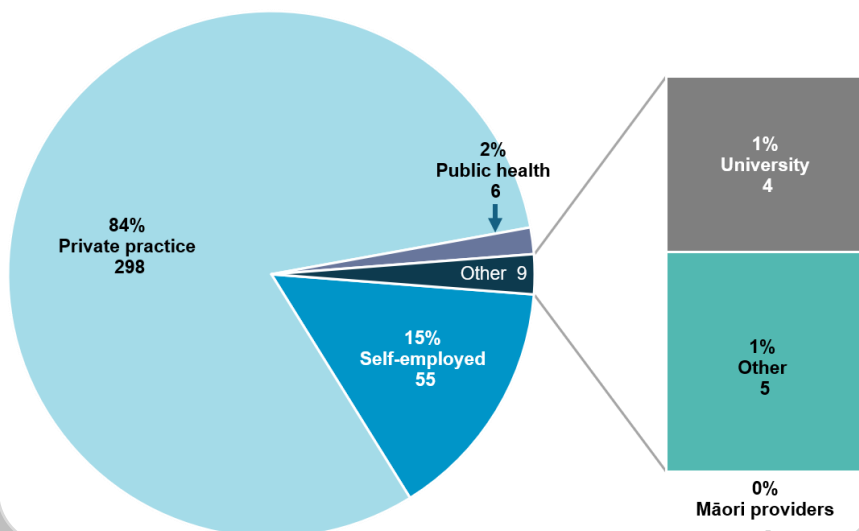


Intend to practise in NZ next 5 years: **90.0%**

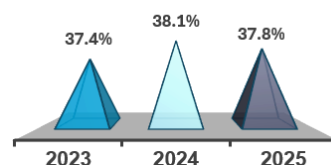
Gender for practising practitioners



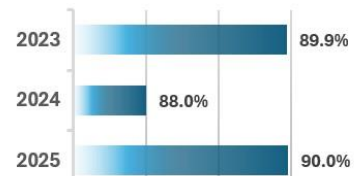
Employment type practising practitioners 2025



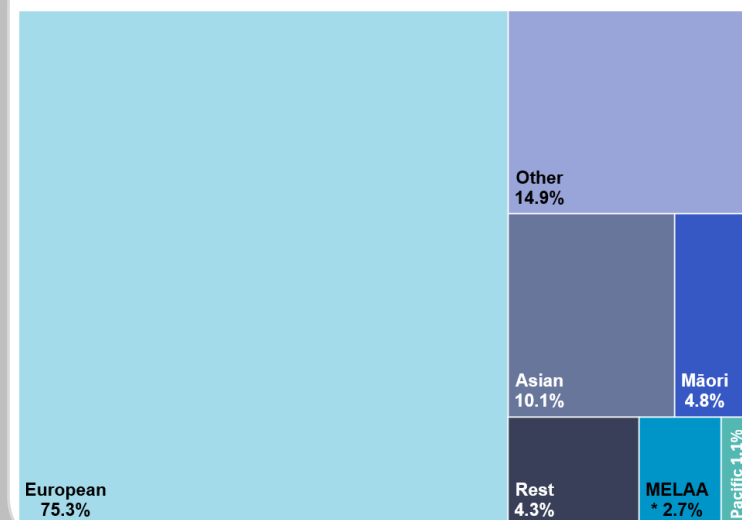
Overseas qualifications



Survey response rates



Ethnicity total count for practising practitioners 2025



*MELAA - Middle East, Africa & Latin America

Executive summary dental hygienists and orthodontic auxiliaries

Number of dental hygienists and orthodontic auxiliaries

With no dental hygiene qualification available in New Zealand, and low numbers of overseas dental hygienists entering the profession, the number of dental hygienists will continue to remain stagnant or decline. Oral health graduates continue to register in oral health therapy in Aotearoa New Zealand.

In 2025 there was a total of 458 dental hygienists and orthodontic auxiliaries on the register. Of those 376 (82.1%) held annual practising certificates.

Table 5-1. Registered hygienists and orthodontic auxiliaries

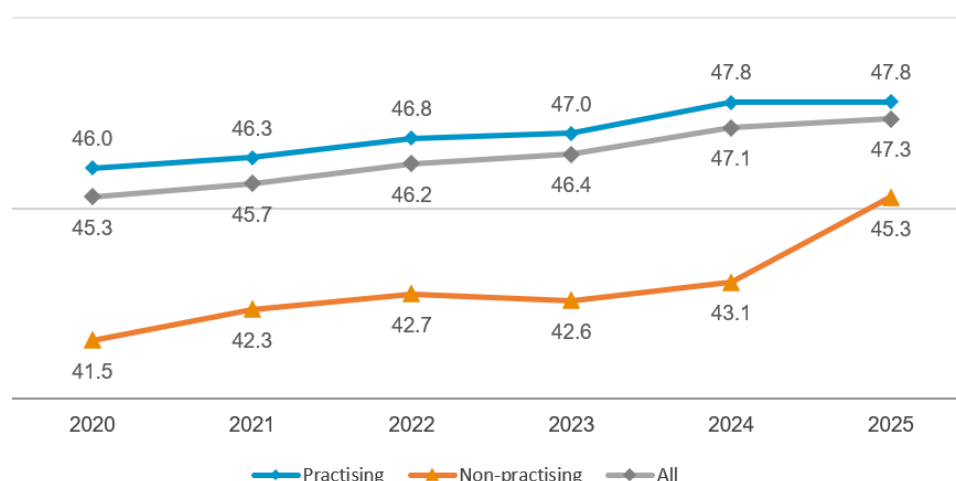
	2023	% YoY	2024	% YoY	2025
Dental hygienists with practising certificates	276	-3.6%	266	-3.8%	256
Orthodontic auxiliaries with practising certificates	125	1.6%	127	-0.8%	126
Dental hygienists without practising certificates	40	15.0%	46	19.6%	55
Orthodontic auxiliaries without practising certificates	16	18.8%	19	47.4%	28
Unique practitioner count	447	0.7%	450	1.8%	458

Practitioners could be registered as a dental hygienist and/or orthodontic auxiliary, with different practising intentions

Demographics

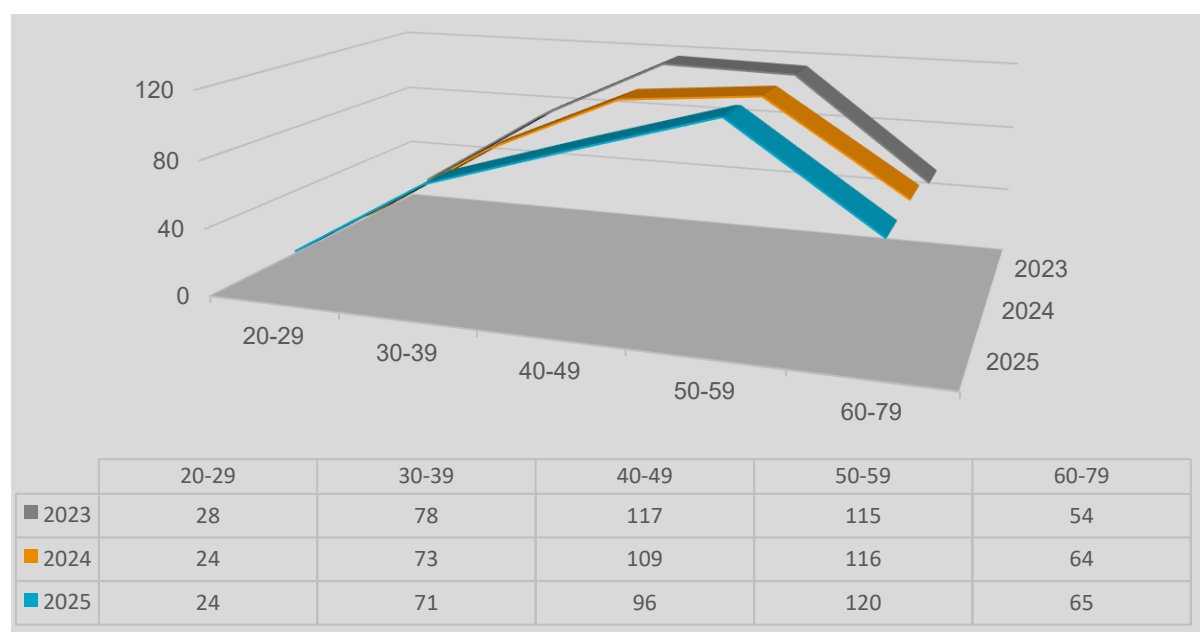
With the move of the oral health graduates from dental hygiene the mean age increased, from 37.5 in 2017 to 47.8 for those practising in 2025. The non-practising group of dental hygienists and orthodontic auxiliaries has a 2.5 year lower mean age than the practising group. Figure 5-1

Figure 5-1. Mean age of practising dental hygienists and orthodontic auxiliaries



The majority of practising dental hygienists and orthodontic auxiliaries are in the 40 to 59 age bands, with a sharp decline after 60 years of age; only 1 practising in the 70-79 band. Figure 5-2, Table 5-4

Figure 5-2. Age band distribution of practising dental hygienists and orthodontic auxiliaries



Males practising in this practitioner group remain low (3.7%) in proportion to females in 2025. ^{Table 5-5}

The ethnicity reported by dental hygienists and orthodontic auxiliaries did not reflect the population ratios in New Zealand ⁶. In 2025, the largest practising groups were European (75.3%), other ethnicity (14.9%), with Māori 4.8% and Pacific peoples 1.1%. ^{Table 5-6, total count represented}

Registration

Overseas qualifications accounted for 37.8% of the dental hygiene and orthodontic auxiliary qualifications (62.2% New Zealand qualifications).

For dental hygienists, most overseas qualifications were from the UK (15.6%), USA (11.2%), and Canada (10.3%). For orthodontic auxiliaries, the USA qualifications (6.6%) relate to the USA-based online component of the New Zealand Association of Orthodontists' orthodontic auxiliary training programme. ^{Table 5-9}

Of those with overseas qualifications and holding an APC in 2025, 68.0% had prescribed qualifications, and 24.6% had their qualifications considered equivalent to the New Zealand prescribed qualifications. Entering based on registration in Australia (TTMR) made up 5.7% of overseas registrations, with only 1.6% through the New Zealand hygiene registration examination pathway. ^{Table 5-10}

Practising characteristics

The shift to employees as an employment type continued (66.2% in 2018) to 86.3% in 2025. Self-employment made up 15.4% in 2025 (19.5% in 2018). During 2025, most employees (308) continued to work in private practice (83.5%), with other employee groups in single digits. ^{Table 5-11}

Using a 40 hour work week as a norm, 90.6% of dental hygienists and orthodontic auxiliaries reported working 40 hours or less per week, down from 97% in 2018 but comparable to 91.3 in 2022. In 2025,

⁶ 2025 Stats NZ [Māori population estimates](#)

the average number of hours of work per week reported was 30.1 (sd 10.4), the same as in 2022. ^{Table 5-14}

In 2025, dental hygienists and orthodontic auxiliaries reported 22.9 (sd 10.2) and 29.3 (sd 11.0) mean hours of work in their respective areas of practice. This is similar to the hours reported in 2022. ^{Table 5-16}

Of the 222 dental hygienists and orthodontic auxiliaries who reported working part-time in 2025, the key reasons reported were personal choice (118, 53.2%) and parental responsibilities (63, 28.4%) – similar to other professions. ^{Table 5-15}

Of those not currently practising in New Zealand, there was an even split (39%) between those practising overseas and those overseas but not practising (the latter being at a higher level than the other professions). ^{Table 5-12}

On future practising expectations, 90.0% of dental hygienists and orthodontic auxiliaries reported in 2025 that they would still practise in Aotearoa New Zealand over the next five years. ^{Table 5-13}

Geographical distribution

There were 26 of the 67 TAs where no dental hygiene and orthodontic auxiliary practice was reported in 2025, one more than reported in 2022. ^{Table 5-17}

Analysing public health districts in 2025 showed all districts had dental hygienists and orthodontic auxiliaries reported. The highest ratio of FTEs per 100K population over 15 years of age were in West Coast (6.5), followed by MidCentral (6.2) and Auckland (6.1), with the lowest in Tairāwhiti (1.5). The number of dental hygienists and orthodontic auxiliaries per 100k population over 15 years of age are slightly down at 8.5 (9.8 in 2022), as well as the FTE per 100k population over 15 years of age at 6.2 FTE (6.7 FTE in 2022). ^{Table 5-21}

Postgraduate studies

There were 3 dental hygienists and orthodontic auxiliaries who reported undertaking postgraduate studies from 2025 – one each in orthodontics, health sciences and the third area unknown. ^{Table 5-22, Table 5-23}

Workforce survey response rates

The survey response rates for dental hygienists and orthodontic auxiliaries are at 90.0%, slightly higher than the 86.7% in 2022. ^{Table 5-2}

Table 5-2. Dental hygienists and orthodontic auxiliaries survey responses

Year	Response rate (%)
2023	89.9
2024	88.0
2025	90.0

Dental hygienists and orthodontic auxiliaries' workforce data tables

Table 5-3. Number of dental hygienists and orthodontic auxiliaries with practising certificates, by workforce reporting year

Report year	Total	Female (%)	Male (%)	% overseas graduates
2007	414	405 (97.8)	9 (2.2)	— ^a
2008	371	363 (97.8)	8 (2.2)	—
2009	378	368 (97.4)	10 (2.6)	—
2010/11 ^b	502	483 (96.2)	22 (3.8)	—
2011/12	593	565 (95.3)	28 (4.7)	24.5
2012/13	626	596 (95.2)	30 (4.8)	22.5
2013/14	683	645 (94.4)	38 (5.6)	20.8
2014/15	735	696 (94.7)	39 (5.3)	22.5
2015/16	843	794 (94.2)	49 (5.8)	22.1
2016/17	897	837 (93.3)	60 (6.7)	17.8
2017/18	405	393 (97.0)	12 (3.0)	27.4 ^c
2018/19	398	387 (97.2)	11 (2.8)	27.8
2019/20	404	393 (97.3)	11 (2.7)	39.4
2020/21	405	393 (97.0)	12 (3.0)	37.5
2021/22	406	394 (97.0)	12 (3.0)	37.3
2022/23	392	381 (97.2)	11 (2.8)	37.4
2023/24	386	375 (97.2)	11 (2.8)	38.1
2024/25	376	362 (96.3)	14 (3.7)	37.8

^a Data not available from historic reports

^b Dental hygiene data include dental hygienists, dental auxiliaries (also known as dental assistants/chairside assistants) and orthodontic auxiliaries until September 2009, when the dental auxiliary scope of practice was closed—some dental auxiliary practitioners retained limited dental hygiene registration

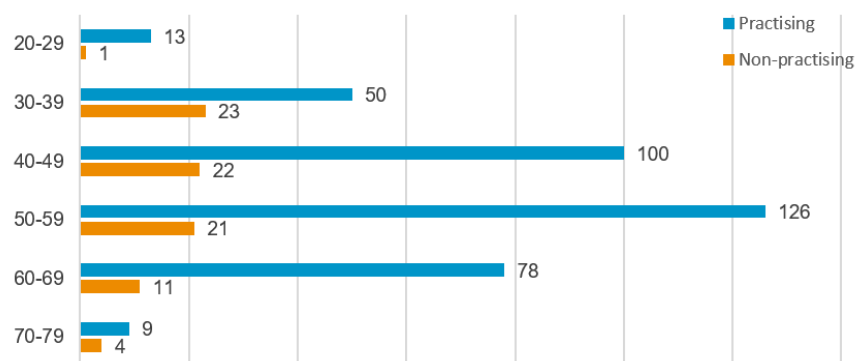
^c From 2017 data, multiple qualifications per practitioner could apply
(Data sources: Dental register & previous workforce reports)

Table 5-4. Age of dental hygienists and orthodontic auxiliaries by practising certificate status, as at 31 March 2025

Age bands	Practising certificate (%) ^a	No practising certificate (%)
20-29	24 (6.4)	8 (9.8)
30-39	71 (18.9)	21 (25.6)
40-49	96 (25.5)	23 (28.0)
50-59	120 (31.9)	21 (25.6)
60-69	64 (17.0)	8 (9.8)
70-79	1 (0.3)	1 (1.2)
Mean age	47.8	45.3

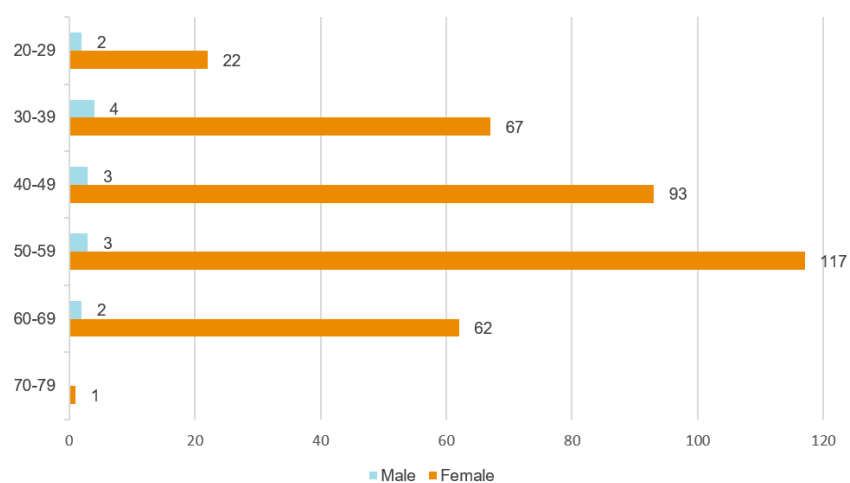
^a A practitioner can hold different practising statuses if registered in both scopes of practice
(Data source: Dental register)

Figure 5-3. Age of dental hygienists and orthodontic auxiliaries by practising certificate status, as at 31 March 2025



(Data source: Dental register)

Figure 5-4. Age of practising dental hygienists and orthodontic auxiliaries by gender, as at 31 March 2025



(Data source: Dental register)

Table 5-5. Gender of dental hygienists and orthodontic auxiliaries by practising certificate status

	Gender	Practising certificate ^a (%)	No practising certificate (%)	Total distinct (%)
2023	Female	381 (97.2)	53 (96.4)	434 (97.1)
	Male	11 (2.8)	2 (3.6)	13 (2.9)
	Total	392	55	447
2024	Female	375 (97.2)	59 (92.2)	434 (96.4)
	Male	11 (2.8)	5 (7.8)	16 (3.6)
	Total	386	64	450
2025	Female	362 (96.3)	78 (95.1)	440 (96.1)
	Male	14 (3.7)	4 (4.9)	18 (3.9)
	Total	376	82	458

^a A practitioner can hold different practising statuses if registered in both scopes of practice
(Data source: Dental register)

Table 5-6. Self-identification of ethnicity by count for practising dental hygienists and orthodontic auxiliaries, based on 2025 data

Ethnicity	Total count	% ^c	Prioritised	%
Māori	18	4.8	18	4.8
Pacific peoples ^a	4	1.1	4	1.1
Asian	38	10.1	37	9.8
MELAA ^b	10	2.7	10	2.7
Other Ethnicity	56	14.9	50	13.3
European	283	75.3	252	67.0
Residual Categories	16	4.3	5	1.3
Total	425		376	

^a Pacific Peoples counts included as relevant: Pacific peoples, not further defined; Samoan; Cook Island Māori; Tongan, Niuean; Tokelauan; Fijian; Indigenous Australian; Hawaiian; Kiribati (also reported separately)

^b Middle Eastern/Latin American/African

^c Percentages based on number of respondents

(Data sources: Dental register & workforce survey)

Table 5-7. Country of registration qualification for practising dental hygienists and orthodontic auxiliaries, for 2023

Country of qualification	Dental hygienists (row %)	Orthodontic auxiliaries (row %)	Total (%)
New Zealand	162 (59.1)	112 (40.9)	274 (62.6)
Overseas	138 (84.1)	26 (15.9)	164 (37.4)
Total^b	300	138	438
Breakdown of overseas qualifications			
	(Column %) ^a	(Column %)	(Column %)
United Kingdom	52 (17.3)	2 (1.4)	54 (12.3)
United States of America	27 (9.0)	14 (10.1)	41 (9.4)
Canada	28 (9.3)	—	28 (6.4)
South Africa	11 (3.7)	1 (0.7)	12 (2.7)
Australia	7 (2.3)	1 (0.7)	8 (1.8)
Philippines	3 (1.0)	3 (2.2)	6 (1.4)
Hong Kong (Special Administrative Region)	2 (0.7)	1 (0.7)	3 (0.7)
Fiji	3 (1.0)	—	3 (0.7)
Japan	2 (0.7)	—	2 (0.5)
Sweden	1 (0.3)	—	1 (0.2)
Bulgaria	—	1 (0.7)	1 (0.2)
Colombia	—	1 (0.7)	1 (0.2)
Switzerland	1 (0.3)	—	1 (0.2)
Brazil	—	1 (0.7)	1 (0.2)
Israel	1 (0.3)	—	1 (0.2)
India	—	1 (0.7)	1 (0.2)

^a Percentages calculated from totals inclusive of New Zealand qualifications

^b Multiple qualifications per registrant, and from the same or different countries can apply
(Data source: Dental register)

Table 5-8. Country of registration qualification for practising dental hygienists and orthodontic auxiliaries, for 2024

Country of qualification	Dental hygienists (row %)	Orthodontic auxiliaries (row %)	Total (row %)
New Zealand	167 (57.2)	130 (44.5)	292 (61.9)
Overseas	155 (86.1)	28 (15.6)	180 (38.1)
Total^b	322	158	472
Breakdown of overseas qualifications			
	(Column %) ^a	(Column %)	(Column %)
United Kingdom	50 (15.5)	2 (1.3)	51 (10.8)
United States of America	34 (10.6)	14 (8.9)	48 (10.2)
Canada	29 (9.0)	—	29 (6.1)
South Africa	16 (5.0)	1 (0.6)	16 (3.4)
Australia	9 (2.8)	1 (0.6)	10 (2.1)
Philippines	3 (0.9)	5 (3.2)	7 (1.5)
Hong Kong (Special Administrative Region)	3 (0.9)	1 (0.6)	4 (0.8)
Fiji	3 (0.9)	—	3 (0.6)
Japan	3 (0.9)	—	3 (0.6)
Colombia	1 (0.3)	1 (0.6)	2 (0.4)
Switzerland	1 (0.3)	—	1 (0.2)
Sweden	1 (0.3)	—	1 (0.2)
Brazil	—	1 (0.6)	1 (0.2)
India	—	1 (0.6)	1 (0.2)
Russia	—	1 (0.6)	1 (0.2)
Israel	1 (0.3)	—	1 (0.2)
Italy	1 (0.3)	—	1 (0.2)

^a Percentages calculated from totals inclusive of New Zealand qualifications

^b Multiple qualifications per registrant, and from the same or different countries can apply
(Data source: Dental register)

Table 5-9. Country of registration qualification for practising dental hygienists and orthodontic auxiliaries, for 2025

Country of qualification	Dental hygienists (row %)	Orthodontic auxiliaries (row %)	Total (%)
New Zealand	162 (54.2)	141 (47.2)	299 (62.2)
Overseas	159 (87.4)	26 (14.3)	182 (37.8)
Total^b	321	167	481
Breakdown of overseas qualifications			
	(Column %) ^a	(Column %)	(Column %)
United Kingdom	50 (15.6)	2 (1.2)	51 (10.6)
United States of America	36 (11.2)	11 (6.6)	47 (9.8)
Canada	33 (10.3)	—	33 (6.9)
South Africa	16 (5.0)	1 (0.6)	16 (3.3)
Australia	8 (2.5)	1 (0.6)	9 (1.9)
Philippines	3 (0.9)	6 (3.6)	8 (1.7)
Hong Kong (Special Administrative Region)	3 (0.9)	1 (0.6)	4 (0.8)
Fiji	3 (0.9)	—	3 (0.6)
Colombia	1 (0.3)	1 (0.6)	2 (0.4)
Japan	2 (0.6)	—	2 (0.4)
Sweden	1 (0.3)	—	1 (0.2)
India	—	1 (0.6)	1 (0.2)
Switzerland	1 (0.3)	—	1 (0.2)
Russia	—	1 (0.6)	1 (0.2)
Brazil	—	1 (0.6)	1 (0.2)
Israel	1 (0.3)	—	1 (0.2)
Italy	1 (0.3)	—	1 (0.2)

^a Percentages calculated from totals inclusive of New Zealand qualifications

^b Multiple qualifications per registrant, and from the same or different countries can apply
(Data source: Dental register)

Table 5-10. Overseas qualified dental hygienists with practising certificates—type of New Zealand registration pathway by year, for 2025 reporting year

Year of first registration in New Zealand	Prescribed overseas qualification (%)	Trans-Tasman Mutual Recognition (%)	NZDHREX (%)	Overseas qualification equivalency assessed (%)
2004	25 (30.1)	1 (14.3)	—	10 (33.3)
2005	4 (4.8)	—	—	3 (10.0)
2006	4 (4.8)	—	—	3 (10.0)
2007	4 (4.8)	—	—	3 (10.0)
2008	1 (1.2)	1 (14.3)	—	—
2009	4 (4.8)	—	—	4 (13.3)
2010	1 (1.2)	—	—	1 (3.3)
2011	1 (1.2)	—	—	1 (3.3)
2012	2 (2.4)	1 (14.3)	1 (50.0)	—
2013	2 (2.4)	1 (14.3)	—	—
2014	6 (7.2)	—	—	1 (3.3)
2015	2 (2.4)	2 (28.6)	—	—
2016	—	—	1 (50.0)	—
2017	4 (4.8)	—	—	—
2018	2 (2.4)	—	—	2 (6.7)
2019	3 (3.6)	1 (14.3)	—	—
2020	—	—	—	2 (6.7)
2021	5 (6.0)	—	—	—
2022	1 (1.2)	—	—	—
2023	3 (3.6)	—	—	—
2024	7 (8.4)	—	—	—
2025	2 (2.4)	—	—	—
Total	83	7	2	30

Note: NZDHREX = New Zealand Dental Hygiene Registration Examination
(Data source: Dental register)

Table 5-11. Type of employment of practising dental hygienists and orthodontic auxiliaries

		Distinct (%)	Total %
2023	Self-employed		
	Solo practice	28 (43.8)	7.7
	Group practice	35 (54.7)	9.6
	Other	3 (4.7)	0.8
	Self-employed subtotal	64	17.6
	Employee		
	Private practice	284 (95.3)	78.0
	Public sector	7 (2.3)	1.9
	<i>Public health regions</i>	3 (1.0)	0.8
	<i>Other government department, not MOH</i>	4 (1.3)	1.1
	Universities	7 (2.3)	1.9
	Employee subtotal	298	81.9
	Other forms of employment or no response	11	3.0
	Total	364	
2024	Self-employed		
	Solo practice	29 (44.6)	8.0
	Group practice	35 (53.8)	9.7
	Other	4 (6.2)	1.1
	Self-employed subtotal	65	18.0
	Employee		
	Private practice	286 (96.0)	79.2
	Public sector	7 (2.3)	1.9
	<i>Public health regions</i>	3 (1.0)	0.8
	<i>Other government department, not MOH</i>	4 (1.3)	1.1
	Universities	5 (1.7)	1.4
	Employee subtotal	298	82.5
	Other forms of employment or no response	8	2.2
	Total	361	
2025	Self-employed		
	Solo practice	22 (40.0)	6.2
	Group practice	32 (58.2)	9.0
	Other	3 (5.5)	0.8
	Self-employed subtotal	55	15.4
	Employee		
	Private practice	298 (96.8)	83.5
	Public sector	6 (1.9)	1.7
	<i>Public health regions</i>	3 (1.0)	0.8
	<i>Other government department, not MOH</i>	3 (1.0)	0.8
	Universities	4 (1.3)	1.1
	Employee subtotal	308	86.3
	Other forms of employment or no response	5	1.4
	Total	357	

(Data source: Workforce survey)

Table 5-12. Practising pattern, not currently practising in New Zealand

Employment status		Practising certificate (%)	No practising certificate (%)	Total (%)
2023	In NZ but not practising	3 (15.8)	5 (22.7)	8 (19.5)
	Practising overseas	12 (63.2)	8 (36.4)	20 (48.8)
	Overseas but not practising	4 (21.1)	9 (40.9)	13 (31.7)
	Total	19	22	41
2024	In NZ but not practising	—	9 (33.3)	9 (22.5)
	Practising overseas	11 (84.6)	12 (44.4)	23 (57.5)
	Overseas but not practising	2 (15.4)	6 (22.2)	8 (20.0)
	Total	13	27	40
2025	In NZ but not practising	3 (18.8)	10 (23.3)	13 (22.0)
	Practising overseas	11 (68.8)	12 (27.9)	23 (39.0)
	Overseas but not practising	2 (12.5)	21 (48.8)	23 (39.0)
	Total	16	43	59

(Data source: Workforce survey)

Table 5-13. Dental hygienists and orthodontic auxiliaries expecting to practise in New Zealand over next five years

		Total (%)
2023	Yes, expect to practise	398 (89.0)
	No response	49 (11.0)
2024	Yes, expect to practise	396 (88.0)
	No response	54 (12.0)
2025	Yes, expect to practise	412 (90.0)
	No response	46 (10.0)

(Data source: Workforce survey)

Table 5-14. Total number of hours worked per week by dental hygienists and orthodontic auxiliaries practising in New Zealand

	Number of hours worked	Dental hygienists (%)	Orthodontic auxiliaries (%)	Total (%)
2023	1 to 10	8 (3.1)	2 (1.7)	10 (2.8)
	11 to 20	44 (17.3)	17 (14.7)	58 (16.0)
	21 to 30	87 (34.3)	26 (22.4)	111 (30.6)
	31 to 40	92 (36.2)	61 (52.6)	151 (41.6)
	41 to 50	15 (5.9)	9 (7.8)	24 (6.6)
	51 to 60	5 (2.0)	—	5 (1.4)
	60 to 80	3 (1.2)	1 (0.9)	4 (1.1)
	Number giving data on hours	254	116	363
	Nil response or excluded	22	9	29
	Mean no. of hours/week (sd)	29.2 (10.5)	32.9 (10.5)	30.2 (10.3)
2024	1 to 10	12 (4.8)	1 (0.9)	13 (3.6)
	11 to 20	41 (16.4)	10 (8.7)	50 (13.9)
	21 to 30	91 (36.4)	30 (26.1)	119 (33.1)
	31 to 40	88 (35.2)	58 (50.4)	144 (40.0)
	41 to 50	12 (4.8)	14 (12.2)	26 (7.2)
	51 to 60	3 (1.2)	—	3 (0.8)
	More than 60	3 (1.2)	2 (1.7)	5 (1.4)
	Number giving data on hours	250	115	360
	Nil response or excluded	16	12	26
	Mean no. of hours/week (sd)	28.7 (10.6)	33.4 (9.2)	30.1 (10.4)
2025	1 to 10	12 (4.8)	1 (0.9)	13 (3.6)
	11 to 20	41 (16.4)	10 (8.7)	50 (13.9)
	21 to 30	91 (36.4)	30 (26.1)	119 (33.1)
	31 to 40	88 (35.2)	58 (50.4)	144 (40.0)
	41 to 50	12 (4.8)	14 (12.2)	26 (7.2)
	51 to 60	3 (1.2)	—	3 (0.8)
	More than 60	3 (1.2)	2 (1.7)	5 (1.4)
	Number giving data on hours	250	115	360
	Nil response or excluded	6	11	16
	Mean no. of hours/week (sd)	29.3 (10.3)	32.3 (9.5)	30.1 (10.4)

(Data source: Workforce survey)

Table 5-15. Reasons for part-time practice by dental hygienists and orthodontic auxiliaries practising in New Zealand

	Reason for practising part-time	Total (%)
2023	Personal choice	119 (53.1)
	Parental responsibilities	70 (31.3)
	Doing non-dental work	10 (4.5)
	Semi-retired from practice	7 (3.1)
	Seeking dental employment	2 (0.9)
	Health	2 (0.9)
	Studying	1(0.4)
	Other	13 (5.8)
	Total working part time	224
2024	Personal choice	131 (55.5)
	Parental responsibilities	64 (27.1)
	Doing non-dental work	9 (3.8)
	Semi-retired from practice	5 (2.1)
	Studying	3 (1.3)
	Health	2 (0.8)
	Seeking dental employment	1 (0.4)
	Other	21 (8.9)
	Total working part time	236
2025	Personal choice	118 (53.2)
	Parental responsibilities	63 (28.4)
	Semi-retired from practice	8 (3.6)
	Doing non-dental work	7 (3.2)
	Studying	6 (2.7)
	Health	2 (0.9)
	Seeking dental employment	1 (0.5)
	Other	17 (7.7)
	Total working part time	222

(Data source: Workforce survey)

Table 5-16. Work by practice area and employment type for dental hygienists and orthodontic auxiliaries practising in NZ

		Private		Self-employed		Public		University		Other		Total	
		Distinct number	Average (sd)	Distinct number	Average (sd)	Distinct number	Average (sd)	Distinct number	Average (sd)	Distinct number	Average (sd)	Distinct number	Average (sd)
2023	Dental hygiene practice	182	21.9 (10.0)	62	22.6 (10.0)	4	34.5 (7.5)	6	18.8 (10.2)	9	28.1 (11.1)	254	22.4 (10.1)
	Orthodontic auxiliary practice	108	29.9 (10.3)	2	28.0 (17.0)	3	12.0 (6.9)	1	0.5	3	20.7 (17.0)	117	29.0 (11.1)
	Administration	46	4.5 (5.3)	25	5.7 (6.4)	4	8.3 (10.7)	3	11.0 (3.6)	1	0.5	78	5.3 (6.0)
	Research	20	2.3 (4.2)	10	2.3 (1.6)	1	1.0	2	7.0 (4.2)	1	1.0	34	2.5 (3.6)
	Teaching	12	2.6 (1.9)	7	2.4 (1.6)	1	2.0	6	8.9 (8.3)	1	7.5	27	4.1 (4.8)
	Other	14	4.9 (7.0)	5	4.4 (2.9)	1	31.0	1	3.0	—	—	21	5.8 (8.1)
	Total distinct number	284		64		7		7		11		364	
2024	Dental hygiene practice	184	22.8 (9.8)	63	20.9 (11.2)	4	28.0 (15.3)	4	13.8 (4.8)	6	23.2 (11.1)	251	22.3 (10.2)
	Orthodontic auxiliary practice	107	29.7 (10.1)	2	28.0 (17.0)	3	20.7 (8.1)	1	1.0	2	38.5 (2.1)	115	29.3 (10.4)
	Administration	51	4.1 (4.3)	29	5.4 (5.6)	3	9.7 (6.0)	3	10.0 (0.0)	2	2.0 (0.0)	87	4.8 (4.9)
	Research	24	1.8 (1.1)	8	2.0 (1.1)	1	1.0	1	10.0	1	1.0	35	2.0 (1.7)
	Teaching	16	1.6 (0.9)	7	2.0 (1.3)	1	1.0	5	8.9 (4.3)	1	1.0	30	2.8 (3.2)
	Other	15	5.0 (8.0)	8	6.4 (8.4)	—	—	1	1.3	—	—	23	5.3 (7.9)
	Total distinct number	286		65		7		5		8		361	
2025	Dental hygiene practice	189	23.8 (9.8)	55	20.3 (10.8)	3	31.3 (8.1)	3	11.7 (2.9)	3	17.3 (13.3)	241	22.9 (10.2)
	Orthodontic auxiliary practice	114	29.4 (10.9)	—	—	3	30.7 (10.1)	1	0.5	2	36.5 (4.9)	120	29.3 (11.0)
	Administration	61	3.5 (4.4)	28	5.8 (8.1)	1	4.0	3	10.0 (0.0)	4	1.5 (1.0)	95	4.3 (5.7)
	Research	38	1.8 (1.5)	9	3.5 (3.4)	—	—	1	10.0	2	0.5 (0.7)	50	2.2 (2.3)
	Teaching	19	2.3 (1.6)	8	1.4 (1.1)	—	—	4	9.7 (4.1)	1	1.0	31	2.9 (3.2)
	Other	18	4.7 (6.0)	3	2.0 (0.0)	1	3.0	—	—	1	1.0	23	4.1 (5.4)
	Total distinct number	299		55		6		4		5		357	

(Data source: Workforce survey)

Table 5-17. Geographic distribution and FTE reported by practising dental hygienists and orthodontic auxiliaries by Territorial Authority (TA), for 2025

TA area	Number practising (%)	FTE (% of reported hours)
Far North district	4 (1.1)	2.4 (0.9)
Whangarei district	6 (1.6)	4.2 (1.5)
Kaipara district	—	—
Auckland	93 (24.7)	67.5 (24.6)
Thames-Coromandel district	2 (0.5)	1.3 (0.5)
Hauraki district	—	—
Waikato district	2 (0.5)	1.8 (0.6)
Matamata-Piako district	—	—
Hamilton city	8 (2.1)	6.4 (2.3)
Waipa district	6 (1.6)	4.2 (1.5)
Ōtorohanga district	—	—
South Waikato district	1 (0.3)	0.6 (0.2)
Waitomo district	—	—
Taupo district	1 (0.3)	0.9 (0.3)
Western Bay of Plenty district	4 (1.1)	2.5 (0.9)
Tauranga city	8 (2.1)	5.7 (2.1)
Rotorua district	2 (0.5)	1.8 (0.7)
Whakatane district	1 (0.3)	0.8 (0.3)
Kawerau district	—	—
Ōpōtiki district	—	—
Gisborne district	1 (0.3)	0.6 (0.2)
Wairoa district	—	—
Hastings district	8 (2.1)	5.9 (2.1)
Napier city	1 (0.3)	1.0 (0.3)
Central Hawke's Bay district	—	—
New Plymouth district	7 (1.9)	4.1 (1.5)
Stratford district	—	—
South Taranaki district	—	—
Ruapehu district	—	—
Whanganui district	4 (1.1)	2.5 (0.9)
Rangitikei district	—	—
Manawatu district	—	—
Palmerston North city	12 (3.2)	9.2 (3.4)
Tararua district	—	—
Horowhenua district	1 (0.3)	0.8 (0.3)
Kapiti Coast district	2 (0.5)	1.2 (0.5)
Porirua city	3 (0.8)	2.5 (0.9)
Upper Hutt city	4 (1.1)	2.3 (0.8)

TA area	Number practising (%)	FTE (% of reported hours)
Lower Hutt city	4 (1.1)	3.4 (1.2)
Wellington city	22 (5.9)	14.4 (5.3)
Masterton district	2 (0.5)	1.0 (0.4)
Carterton district	1 (0.3)	0.9 (0.3)
South Wairarapa district	—	—
Tasman district	2 (0.5)	1.4 (0.5)
Nelson city	3 (0.8)	2.1 (0.8)
Marlborough district	1 (0.3)	0.6 (0.2)
Kaikoura district	—	—
Buller district	—	—
Grey district	2 (0.5)	1.9 (0.7)
Westland district	—	—
Hurunui district	—	—
Waimakariri district	1 (0.3)	0.5 (0.2)
Christchurch city	30 (8.0)	21.5 (7.9)
Selwyn district	4 (1.1)	4.0 (1.4)
Ashburton district	—	—
Timaru district	2 (0.5)	1.5 (0.6)
Mackenzie district	—	—
Waimate district	—	—
Chatham Islands territory	—	—
Waitaki district	1 (0.3)	0.5 (0.2)
Central Otago district	2 (0.5)	0.5 (0.2)
Queenstown-Lakes district	5 (1.3)	4.1 (1.5)
Dunedin city	11 (2.9)	6.5 (2.4)
Clutha district	1 (0.3)	0.9 (0.3)
Southland district	—	—
Gore district	—	—
Invercargill city	2 (0.5)	1.7 (0.6)
Area outside of TA	4 (1.1)	1.5 (0.6)
TA code not available	95 (25.3)	75.5 (27.5)
Total	376	274.3 [10,970.9]
TAs without dental hygienists and orthodontic auxiliaries	26	

Note: FTE = Full time equivalent
(Data sources: Dental register, workforce survey & Statistics New Zealand)

Table 5-18. Population to practising dental hygienists and orthodontic auxiliaries and FTE ratios by TA, for 2025

	Total population ^a	Population aged 15+ years ^a	Population aged 15+ years-to-dental hygienist/orthodontic auxiliary ratio	Dental hygienist/orthodontic auxiliary per 100,000 population aged 15+	Population aged 15+ years-to-FTE- dental hygienist/orthodontic auxiliary ratio ^b	FTE per 100,000 population aged 15+ ^b
Far North district	73,700	59,600	14,900	6.7	24,833	4.0
Whangarei district	100,500	81,100	13,517	7.4	19,425	5.1
Kaipara district	26,900	22,000	—	—	—	—
Auckland	1,816,000	1,476,700	15,878	6.3	21,883	4.6
Thames-Coromandel district	32,300	28,000	14,000	7.1	21,538	4.6
Hauraki district	22,100	18,300	—	—	—	—
Waikato district	91,100	72,200	36,100	2.8	40,676	2.5
Matamata-Piako district	39,200	31,600	—	—	—	—
Hamilton city	192,200	152,600	19,075	5.2	23,751	4.2
Waipa district	62,100	50,100	8,350	12.0	12,000	8.3
Ōtorohanga district	10,650	8,400	—	—	—	—
South Waikato district	26,000	20,300	20,300	4.9	35,304	2.8
Waitomo district	9,950	7,880	—	—	—	—
Taupo district	42,600	34,900	34,900	2.9	41,059	2.4
Western Bay of Plenty district	60,100	49,700	12,425	8.0	20,030	5.0
Tauranga city	161,000	130,400	16,300	6.1	23,080	4.3
Rotorua district	77,900	61,600	30,800	3.2	34,462	2.9
Whakatane district	38,400	30,400	30,400	3.3	40,533	2.5
Kawerau district	7,690	6,010	—	—	—	—
Ōpōtiki district	10,300	8,150	—	—	—	—
Gisborne district	52,700	41,400	41,400	2.4	66,240	1.5
Wairoa district	8,940	6,950	—	—	—	—
Hastings district	88,300	70,700	8,838	11.3	12,034	8.3
Napier city	66,500	54,600	54,600	1.8	57,474	1.7
Central Hawke's Bay district	16,000	12,850	—	—	—	—
New Plymouth district	90,200	73,100	10,443	9.6	18,049	5.5
Stratford district	10,500	8,400	—	—	—	—
South Taranaki district	29,900	23,800	—	—	—	—
Ruapehu district	13,500	10,700	—	—	—	—
Whanganui district	49,200	40,100	10,025	10.0	16,367	6.1
Rangitikei district	16,050	12,950	—	—	—	—
Manawatu district	34,000	27,500	—	—	—	—
Palmerston North city	90,600	73,300	6,108	16.4	7,957	12.6
Taranua district	18,950	15,350	—	—	—	—
Horowhenua district	38,400	31,500	31,500	3.2	42,000	2.4

	Total population ^a	Population aged 15+ years ^a	Population aged 15+ years-to- dental hygienist/ orthodontic auxiliary ratio	Dental hygienist/ orthodontic auxiliary per 100,000 population aged 15+	Population aged 15+ years-to- FTE- dental hygienist/ orthodontic auxiliary ratio ^b	FTE per 100,000 population aged 15+ ^b
Kapiti Coast district	58,000	49,000	24,500	4.1	39,596	2.5
Porirua city	61,600	48,700	16,233	6.2	19,383	5.2
Upper Hutt city	47,500	38,600	9,650	10.4	16,783	6.0
Lower Hutt city	114,200	92,800	23,200	4.3	27,701	3.6
Wellington city	210,800	181,200	8,236	12.1	12,548	8.0
Masterton district	28,900	23,600	11,800	8.5	23,600	4.2
Carterton district	10,300	8,600	8,600	11.6	9,829	10.2
South Wairarapa district	12,200	10,150	—	—	—	—
Tasman district	59,900	50,500	25,250	4.0	36,727	2.7
Nelson city	54,400	45,700	15,233	6.6	21,892	4.6
Marlborough district	50,700	42,500	42,500	2.4	70,833	1.4
Kaikoura district	4,340	3,690	—	—	—	—
Buller district	10,600	9,100	—	—	—	—
Grey district	14,600	12,000	6,000	16.7	6,234	16.0
Westland district	9,440	8,020	—	—	—	—
Hurunui district	14,350	11,850	—	—	—	—
Waimakariri district	69,700	58,000	58,000	1.7	110,476	0.9
Christchurch city	419,300	350,900	11,697	8.5	16,297	6.1
Selwyn district	87,600	69,600	17,400	5.7	17,509	5.7
Ashburton district	37,300	30,100	—	—	—	—
Timaru district	49,500	41,000	20,500	4.9	26,885	3.7
Mackenzie district	5,530	4,640	—	—	—	—
Waimate district	8,460	7,040	—	—	—	—
Chatham Islands territory	620	500	—	—	—	—
Waitaki district	24,500	20,400	20,400	4.9	38,857	2.6
Central Otago district	25,800	21,800	10,900	9.2	48,444	2.1
Queenstown-Lakes district	53,900	45,600	9,120	11.0	11,122	9.0
Dunedin city	132,800	113,900	10,355	9.7	17,423	5.7
Clutha district	18,800	15,400	15,400	6.5	16,649	6.0
Southland district	33,900	27,300	—	—	—	—
Gore district	12,900	10,700	—	—	—	—
Invercargill city	57,900	47,500	23,750	4.2	27,941	3.6
Area outside of TA	60	60	—	—	—	—
Total^c	5,324,380	4,353,590	11,579	8.6	15,873	6.3

^a Population estimate as at 30 June 2025

^b Where hours are reported

^c Due to rounding, individual figures may not always sum to the stated totals

(Data sources: Dental register, workforce survey & Statistics New Zealand)

Table 5-19. Population to practising dental hygienists and orthodontic auxiliaries and FTE ratios by health region, for 2023

	No with practising certificates	No with APC who reported hours	FTE dental hygienists and orthodontic auxiliaries	Total population ^a	Population aged 15+ years	Population aged 15+ years-to-dental hygienist/orthodontic auxiliary ratio	Dental hygienist /orthodontic auxiliary per 100,000 population aged 15+ years	Population 15+ years-to-FTE-dental hygienist/orthodontic auxiliary ratio	FTE per 100,000 population aged 15+ years
Northern region	118	114	86.4	1,980,690	1,603,790	13,591	7.4	18,572	5.4
Northland Te Tai Tokerau	12	10	7.0	202,070	162,540	13,545	7.4	23,117	4.3
Waitematā	36	36	29.0	661,790	536,760	14,910	6.7	18,493	5.4
Auckland Te Toka Tumai	50	48	35.4	500,310	422,920	8,458	11.8	11,964	8.4
Counties-Manukau	20	20	15.0	616,520	481,570	24,079	4.2	32,212	3.1
Midland/Te Manawa Taki	48	46	34.2	1,094,810	878,030	18,292	5.5	25,673	3.9
Waikato	22	21	15.1	463,710	371,350	16,880	5.9	24,593	4.1
Lakes	3	3	2.4	119,040	94,830	31,610	3.2	39,105	2.6
Bay of Plenty	14	13	10.0	276,510	223,460	15,961	6.3	22,318	4.5
Tairāwhiti	1	1	0.6	52,490	40,860	40,860	2.4	74,291	1.3
Taranaki	8	8	6.1	183,060	147,530	18,441	5.4	24,136	4.1
Central/Te Ikaroa	70	67	48.0	927,360	761,340	10,876	9.2	15,849	6.3
Hawke's Bay	7	7	3.7	129,680	103,800	14,829	6.7	27,773	3.6
Whanganui	4	4	2.6	69,580	56,250	14,063	7.1	21,739	4.6
MidCentral	16	15	12.7	191,400	155,210	9,701	10.3	12,245	8.2
Capital, Coast and Hutt Valley	40	38	26.2	485,370	403,900	10,098	9.9	15,394	6.5
<i>Capital and Coast</i>	29	29	19.9	324,280	272,970	9,413	10.6	13,726	7.3
<i>Hutt Valley</i>	11	9	6.4	161,090	130,930	11,903	8.4	20,619	4.8
Wairarapa	3	3	2.8	51,330	42,180	14,060	7.1	15,064	6.6
South Island/Te Waipounamu	78	70	53.4	1,243,580	1,036,660	13,291	7.5	19,404	5.2
Nelson Marlborough	9	7	6.0	165,790	139,090	15,454	6.5	23,085	4.3
West Coast	2	2	1.9	34,260	28,620	14,310	7.0	15,063	6.6
Canterbury	37	35	26.9	618,410	512,800	13,859	7.2	19,063	5.2
South Canterbury	2	2	1.5	63,750	53,050	26,525	3.8	34,787	2.9
Southern	28	24	17.1	361,370	303,100	10,825	9.2	17,751	5.6
Unknown, with hours reported	78	68	60.6	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	392	365	282.6	5,246,440	4,279,820	10,918	9.2	15,145	6.6
Unknown, no hours reported		27							

^a Due to rounding, individual figures may not always sum to the stated totals
(Data sources: Workforce survey and Ministry of Health)

Table 5-20. Population to practising dental hygienists and orthodontic auxiliaries and FTE ratios by health region, for 2024

	No with practising certificates	No with APC who reported hours	FTE dental hygienists and orthodontic auxiliaries	Total population ^a	Population aged 15+ years	Population aged 15+ years-to-dental hygienist/orthod ontic auxiliary ratio	Dental hygienist /orthodontic auxiliary per 100,000 population aged 15+ years	Population 15+ years-to-FTE- dental hygienist/orthod ontic auxiliary ratio	FTE per 100,000 population aged 15+ years
Northern region	114	103	75.3	2,029,880	1,648,440	14,460	6.9	21,903	4.6
Northland Te Tai Tokerau	11	10	6.6	204,730	165,130	15,012	6.7	24,855	4.0
Waitematā	37	33	24.5	675,080	549,160	14,842	6.7	22,438	4.5
Auckland Te Toka Tumai	45	40	29.6	511,120	433,840	9,641	10.4	14,641	6.8
Counties-Manukau	21	20	14.5	638,950	500,310	23,824	4.2	34,474	2.9
Midland/Te Manawa Taki	48	46	32.2	1,112,650	894,830	18,642	5.4	27,768	3.6
Waikato	20	19	13.9	471,280	378,370	18,919	5.3	27,172	3.7
Lakes	4	3	2.5	120,830	96,640	24,160	4.1	38,273	2.6
Bay of Plenty	14	14	9.3	281,830	228,150	16,296	6.1	24,466	4.1
Tairāwhiti	1	1	0.6	53,440	41,800	41,800	2.4	66,880	1.5
Taranaki	9	9	5.8	185,270	149,870	16,652	6.0	25,729	3.9
Central/Te Ikaroa	67	63	45.7	937,170	771,980	11,522	8.7	16,888	5.9
Hawke's Bay	7	7	3.7	131,030	105,280	15,040	6.6	28,648	3.5
Whanganui	5	5	3.0	70,330	56,990	11,398	8.8	19,319	5.2
MidCentral	15	14	10.6	194,520	158,220	10,548	9.5	14,962	6.7
Capital, Coast and Hutt Valley	37	34	25.8	489,340	408,720	11,046	9.1	15,865	6.3
Capital and Coast	28	26	18.3	325,870	275,460	9,838	10.2	15,073	6.6
Hutt Valley	9	8	7.5	163,470	133,260	14,807	6.8	17,798	5.6
Wairarapa	3	3	2.8	51,950	42,770	14,257	7.0	15,553	6.4
South Island/Te Waipounamu	73	70	52.6	1,261,470	1,054,390	14,444	6.9	20,048	5.0
Nelson Marlborough	8	8	6.8	167,550	141,080	17,635	5.7	20,824	4.8
West Coast	2	2	1.9	34,720	29,110	14,555	6.9	15,525	6.4
Canterbury	38	36	27.3	628,190	522,210	13,742	7.3	19,133	5.2
South Canterbury	2	2	1.5	64,820	54,070	27,035	3.7	36,047	2.8
Southern	23	22	15.2	366,190	307,920	13,388	7.5	20,325	4.9
Unknown, with hours reported	84	79	69.8	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	386	361	275.6	5,341,170	4,369,640	11,320	8.8	15,855	6.3
Unknown, no hours reported		25							

^a Due to rounding, individual figures may not always sum to the stated totals
(Data sources: Workforce survey and Ministry of Health)

Table 5-21. Population to practising dental hygienists and orthodontic auxiliaries, and FTE ratios by health region, for 2025

	No with practising certificates	No with APC who reported hours	FTE dental hygienists and orthodontic auxiliaries	Total population ^a	Population aged 15+ years	Population aged 15+ years-to-dental hygienist/orthodontic auxiliary ratio	Dental hygienist /orthodontic auxiliary per 100,000 population aged 15+ years	Population 15+ years-to-FTE-dental hygienist/orthodontic auxiliary ratio	FTE per 100,000 population aged 15+ years
Northern region	103	98	74.1	2,062,290	1,680,720	16,318	6.1	22,695	4.4
Northland Te Tai Tokerau	10	9	6.6	207,960	168,310	16,831	5.9	25,598	3.9
Waitematā	33	32	26.5	685,490	559,580	16,957	5.9	21,115	4.7
Auckland Te Toka Tumai	40	39	27.0	517,550	441,370	11,034	9.1	16,321	6.1
Counties-Manukau	20	18	13.9	651,290	511,460	25,573	3.9	36,697	2.7
Midland/Te Manawa Taki	45	45	33.2	1,129,330	910,830	20,241	4.9	27,419	3.6
Waikato	19	19	14.3	479,690	386,070	20,319	4.9	27,093	3.7
Lakes	3	3	2.6	122,280	98,160	32,720	3.1	37,217	2.7
Bay of Plenty	13	13	8.9	286,400	232,390	17,876	5.6	26,166	3.8
Tairāwhiti	1	1	0.6	54,160	42,550	42,550	2.4	68,080	1.5
Taranaki	9	9	6.8	186,800	151,660	16,851	5.9	22,221	4.5
Central/Te Ikaroa	62	59	42.2	945,210	781,330	12,602	7.9	18,525	5.4
Hawke's Bay	7	7	4.1	132,080	106,520	15,217	6.6	26,301	3.8
Whanganui	4	4	2.5	70,740	57,470	14,368	7.0	23,457	4.3
MidCentral	13	13	10.0	196,600	160,420	12,340	8.1	16,102	6.2
Capital, Coast and Hutt Valley	35	33	23.8	493,480	413,740	11,821	8.5	17,355	5.8
<i>Capital and Coast</i>	27	26	18.2	327,930	278,290	10,307	9.7	15,299	6.5
<i>Hutt Valley</i>	8	7	5.7	165,550	135,450	16,931	5.9	23,973	4.2
Wairarapa	3	2	1.9	52,310	43,180	14,393	6.9	23,029	4.3
South Island/Te Waipounamu	67	63	47.8	1,277,030	1,070,330	15,975	6.3	22,401	4.5
Nelson Marlborough	6	5	4.1	168,980	142,850	23,808	4.2	35,163	2.8
West Coast	2	2	1.9	34,880	29,410	14,705	6.8	15,278	6.5
Canterbury	35	34	26.0	636,640	530,450	15,156	6.6	20,377	4.9
South Canterbury	2	2	1.5	65,360	54,630	27,315	3.7	35,823	2.8
Southern	22	20	14.2	371,170	312,990	14,227	7.0	21,983	4.5
Unknown, with hours reported	99	91	77.0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	376	356	274.3	5,413,860	4,443,210	11,817	8.5	16,200	6.2
Unknown, no hours reported		20							

^a Due to rounding, individual figures may not always sum to the stated totals
(Data sources: Workforce survey and Ministry of Health)

Table 5-22. Postgraduate training undertaken by dental hygienists and orthodontic auxiliaries

Expected year of completion		Overall (%)
2023	2022	1 (25.0)
	2023	1 (25.0)
	2024	1 (25.0)
	2025	1 (25.0)
Total in postgraduate training		4
2024	2024	6 (66.7)
	2026	2 (22.2)
	unknown	1 (11.1)
Total in postgraduate training		9
2025	2024	1 (33.3)
	2025	2 (66.7)
Total in postgraduate training		3

(Data source: Workforce survey)

Table 5-23. Areas in which postgraduate training are being undertaken, based on 2025 data

Areas of study	Students/Trainees
Orthodontics	1 (33.3)
Health sciences	1 (33.3)
Other/not reported/not a dental branch	1 (33.3)
Total	3

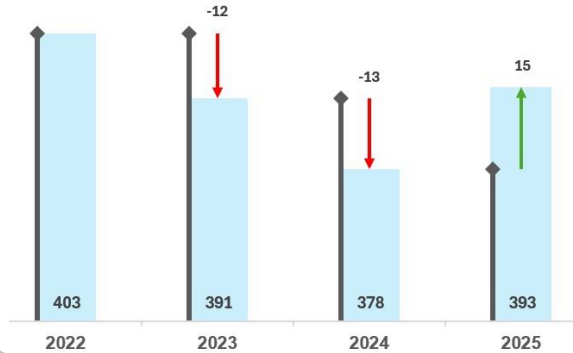
(Data source: Workforce survey)

Section 6:

The dental technology and clinical dental technology workforce

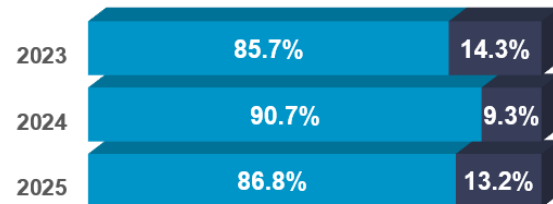
Clinical and dental technicians

Registered practitioners



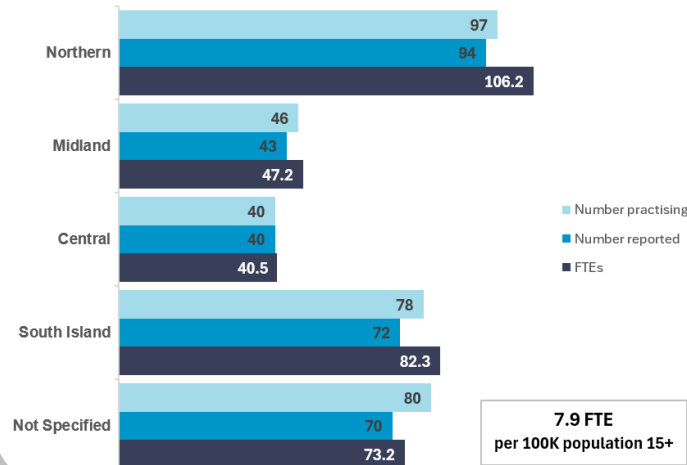
Practising status

■ Practising ■ Non-practising



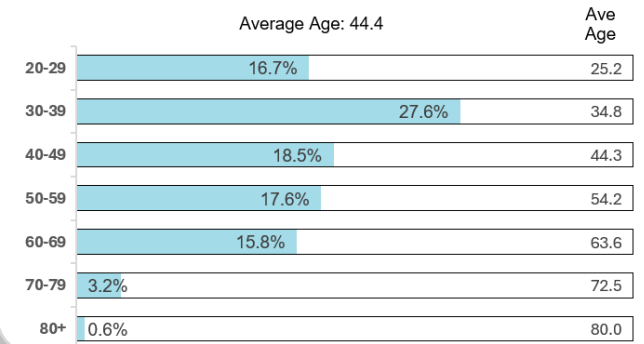
Intend to practise in NZ next 5 years: **91.1%**

Practitioners by public health region 2025

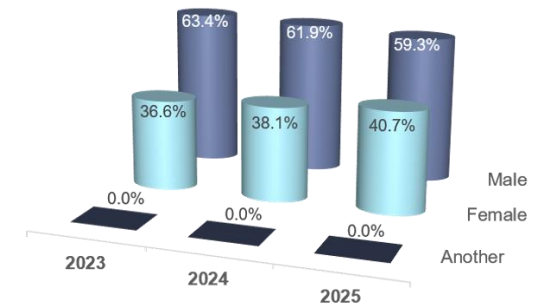


7.9 FTE
per 100K population 15+

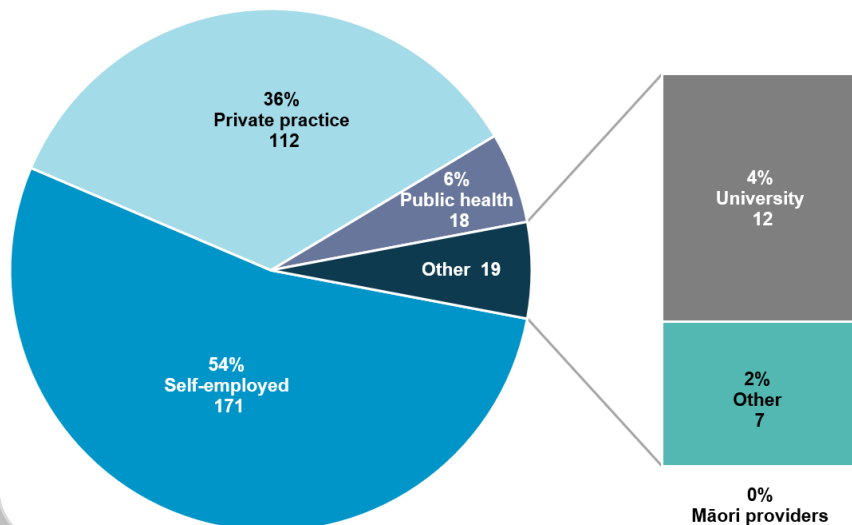
Age distribution for practising practitioners 2025



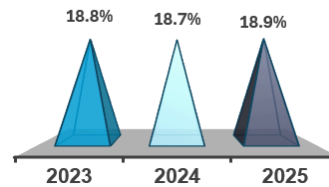
Gender for practising practitioners



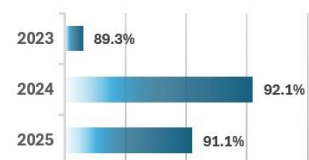
Employment type practising practitioners 2025



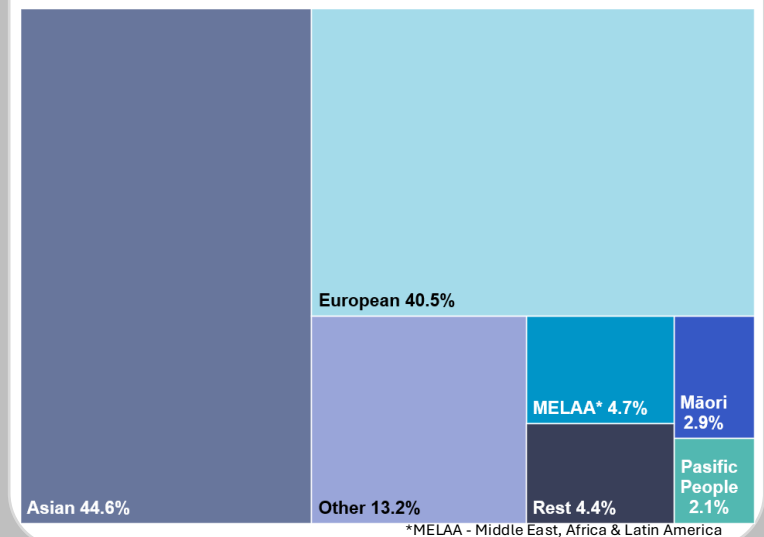
Overseas qualifications



Survey response rates



Ethnicity total count for practising practitioners 2025



*MELAA - Middle East, Africa & Latin America

Executive summary dental technicians and clinical dental technicians

Number of dental technicians and clinical dental technicians

The number of dental and clinical dental technicians remain similar between 2023 and 2025 and decreased by 2.5% since 2022 (403).

In 2025 a total of 85.8% of dental technicians held annual practising certificates, and 91.6% of clinical dental technicians. ^{Table 6-1}

Table 6-1. Registered dental technicians and clinical dental technicians

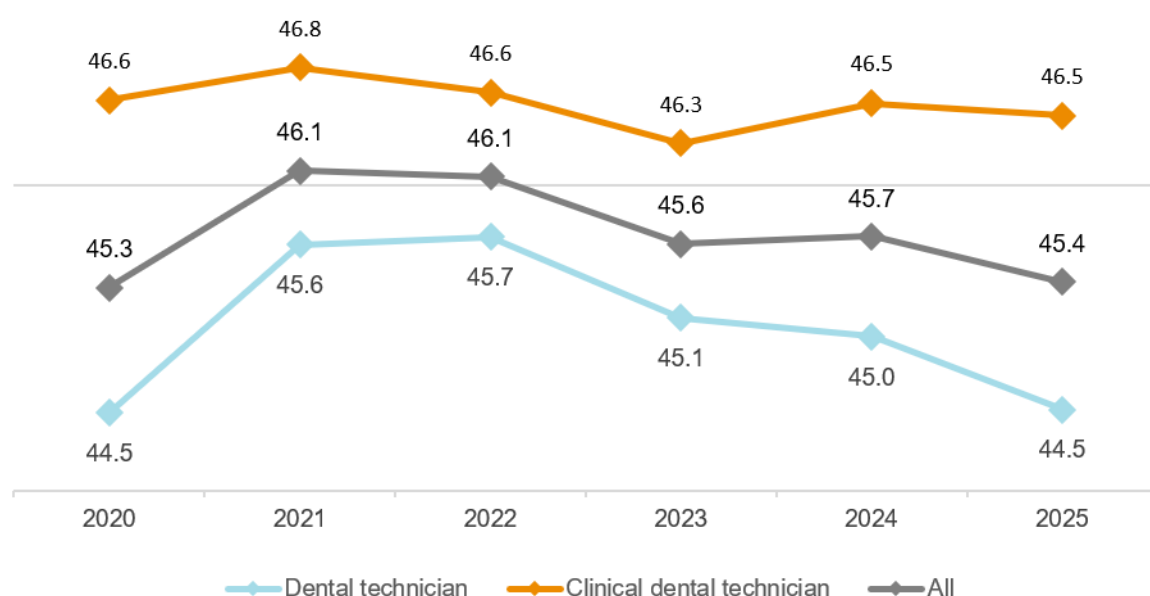
	2023	% YoY	2024	% YoY	2025
Dental technicians with practising certificates	327	3.1%	337	-1.5%	332
Clinical dental technicians with practising certificates	227	5.7%	240	0.4%	241
Dental technicians without practising certificates	60	-40.0%	36	52.8%	55
Clinical dental technicians without practising certificates	23	8.7%	25	-12.0%	22
Unique practitioner count	391	-3.43%	378	4.0%	393

Practitioners could be registered as a dental technician and/or clinical dental technician, with different practising intentions

Demographics

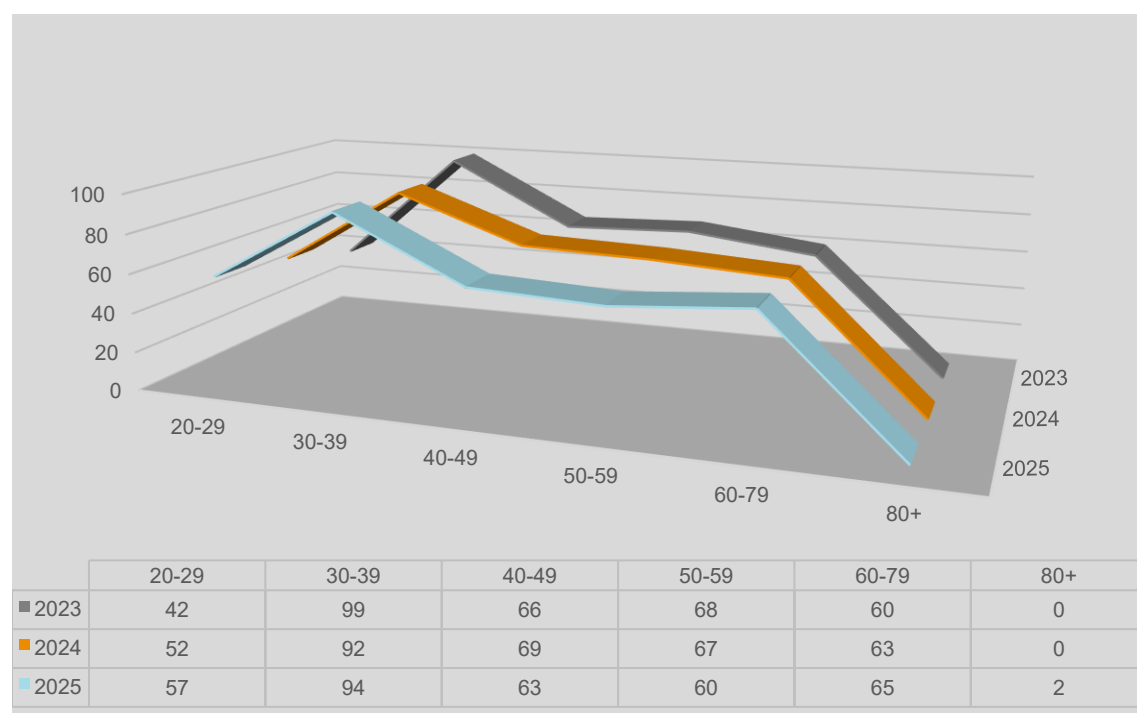
The mean age of the practising technicians as a group remained similar during the 2023 – 2025 period, at 45.4 years in 2025. ^{Figure 6-1}

Figure 6-1. Mean age of practising dental technicians and clinical dental technicians



The 30-to-39-year age band represents the biggest group of practising technicians (27.6%), with 62.8% of practising technicians younger than 50 years of age. In 2025, there were 13 practising technicians over 70 years of age, with two over 80 years of age. Figure 6-2, Table 6-4

Figure 6-2. Age band distribution of practising dental technicians and clinical dental technicians



Females made up 39.3% of the practising dental technician and clinical technician workforce in 2025, a continued increase. Table 6-5

The ethnicity reported by dental technicians and clinical dental technicians did not reflect the current ethnic ratios in New Zealand. Māori made up 2.9% (similar to 2019) and Pacific peoples 2.1%. Asian is the biggest ethnic group at 44.6% followed by European on 40.5%. Table 6-6, total counted represented

Practising characteristics

Self-employment in solo practice continued to be the largest reported employment type with 54.5% in 2025, of which 42.7% worked in solo practice. Employees represented 45.2% of practising technicians, with most working in private practice (35.7%) and 5.7% in the public sector. ^{Table 6-9}

For 2025, a total of 46.8% of technicians reported working 40 hours or less on average per week, with a further 34.1% reporting working between 41 – 50 hours per week. An average of 43.4 hours per week (sd 12.5) were reported. ^{Table 6-1}

For 2025 an average of 23.3 hours per week (sd 12.7) were reported on dental technology related activities across all employment types, with 24.1 hours per week (sd 12.9) reported by those who are self-employed. This was mirrored by those working in the University setting. Clinical dental technology activities across employment types were reported at an average of 18.4 hours per week (sd 10.0). Clinical dental technicians reported activities across both scopes of practice. ^{Table 6-14}

The main reasons reported for part-time practice was personal choice (11, 34.3%). ^{Table 6-12}

Of those not currently practising in New Zealand, 48.6% reported that they were in New Zealand but not practising, the highest across the professions. ^{Table 6-11}

In 2025, 91.1% reported that they expect to practise in Aotearoa New Zealand over the next five years. ^{Table 6-13}

Geographical distribution

The analysis of territorial authorities (TAs) showed that 28 TAs had no dental technicians or clinical dental technicians, one more than in 2022. ^{Table 6-15}

Of the public health districts, the highest ratio of technicians per 100K population over 15 years of age was in Southern (9.1), followed by Nelson Marlborough (8.3), Tairāwhiti (7.6) and Waitematā (7.5). The West Coast still has no reported technician workforce in 2025. ^{Table 6-19}

The average technicians per 100K population over 15 years of age is 7.7 (down from 8.1 in 2022), with the average FTE per 100K population over 15 years of age at 7.9. ^{Table 6-19}

Postgraduate studies

In 2025, five indicated postgraduate studies (9 in 2022). ^{Table 6-20}

Workforce survey response rates

The survey response rates for dental technicians and clinical dental technicians have remained above 90% with 91.1% in 2025, the same as 2022.

Table 6-2. Survey responses

Year	Response rate (%)
2023	89.3
2024	92.1
2025	91.1

Dental technicians and clinical dental technicians workforce data tables

Table 6-3. Number of dental technicians and clinical dental technicians with practising certificates, by workforce reporting year

Report year	Total	Female (%)	Male (%)
2007	373	84 (22.5)	291 (78.0) ^a
2008	345	72 (20.9)	272 (78.8) ^b
2009	346	77 (22.3)	265 (76.6) ^c
2010/11	356	82 (23.0)	274 (77.0)
2011/12	357	88 (24.6)	269 (75.4)
2012/13	345	82 (23.8)	263 (76.2)
2013/14	351	91 (25.9)	260 (74.1)
2014/15	353	97 (27.5)	256 (72.5)
2015/16	375	106 (28.3)	269 (71.7)
2016/17	371	112 (30.2)	259 (69.8)
2017/18	362	114 (31.5)	248 (68.5)
2018/19	361	113 (31.3)	248 (68.7)
2019/20	348	109 (31.3)	239 (68.7)
2020/21	339	105 (31.0)	234 (69.0)
2021/22	336	109 (32.4)	227 (67.6)
2022/23	335	119 (35.5)	216 (64.5)
2023/24	343	125 (36.4)	218 (63.6)
2024/25	341	134 (39.3)	207 (60.7)

^a As recorded in 2007 workforce report; reported as 1 gender unknown

^b Reported as 1 gender unknown

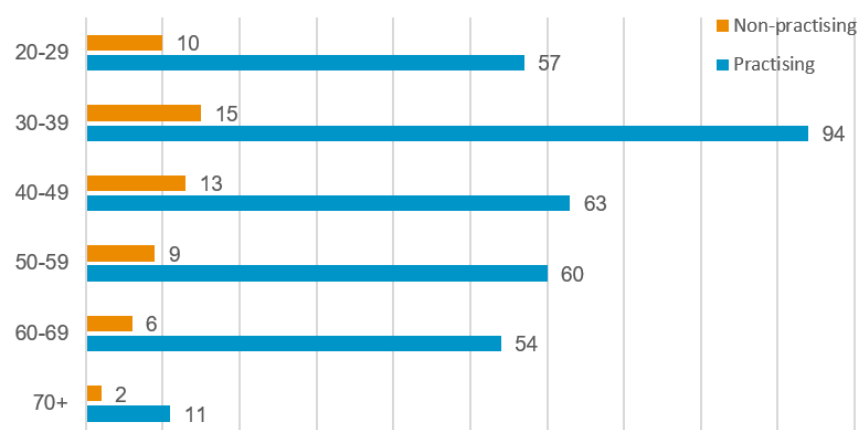
^c As recorded in 2009 workforce report; reported as 3 gender unknown
(Data sources: Dental register & previous workforce reports)

Table 6-4. Age of dental technicians and clinical dental technicians by practising certificate status, as at 31 March 2025

Age bands	Practising certificate (%) ^a	No practising certificate (%)
20-29	57 (16.7)	8 (15.4)
30-39	94 (27.6)	15 (28.8)
40-49	63 (18.5)	12 (23.1)
50-59	60 (17.6)	9 (17.3)
60-69	54 (15.8)	6 (11.5)
70-79	11 (3.2)	2 (3.8)
80+	2 (0.6)	—
Mean age	44.4	43.9

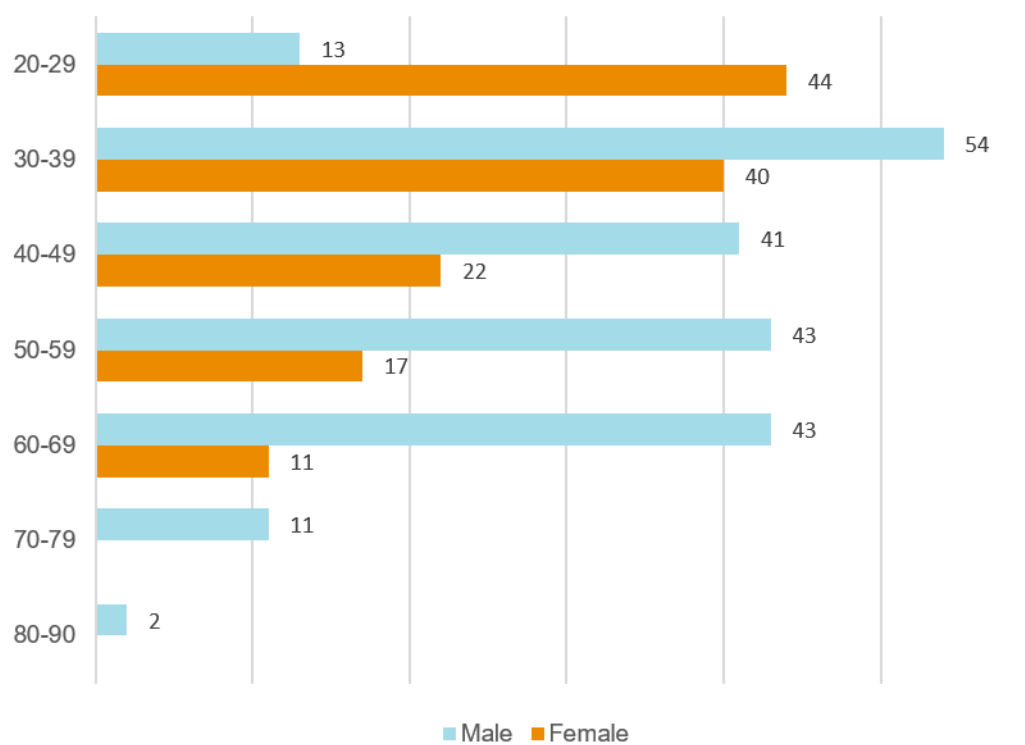
^a A practitioner can hold different practising statuses if registered in both scopes of practice
(Data source: Dental register)

Figure 6-3. Age of dental technicians and clinical dental technicians by practising certificate status, as at 31 March 2025



(Data source: Dental register)

Figure 6-4. Age of practising dental technicians and clinical dental technicians by gender, as at 31 March 2025



(Data source: Dental register)

Table 6-5. Gender of dental technicians and clinical dental technicians by practising certificate status

	Gender	Total distinct (%)	Practising certificate (%) ^a	No practising certificate (%)
2023	Female	143 (36.6)	119 (35.5)	24 (42.9)
	Male	248 (63.4)	216 (64.5)	32 (57.1)
	Total	391		
2024	Female	144 (38.1)	125 (36.4)	19 (54.3)
	Male	234 (61.9)	218 (63.6)	16 (45.7)
	Total	378		
2025	Female	160 (40.7)	134 (39.3)	26 (50.0)
	Male	233 (59.3)	207 (60.7)	26 (50.0)
	Total	393		

^a A practitioner can hold different practising statuses if registered in both scopes of practice
(Data source: Dental register)

Table 6-6. Self-identification of ethnicity for practising dental technicians and clinical dental technicians, based on 2025 data

Ethnicity	Total count	% ^c	Prioritised	%
Māori	10	2.9	10	2.9
Pacific peoples ^a	7	2.1	7	2.1
Asian	152	44.6	149	43.7
MELAA ^b	16	4.7	15	4.4
Other Ethnicity	45	13.2	32	9.4
European	138	40.5	122	35.8
Residual Categories	15	4.4	6	1.8
Total	383		341	

^a Pacific peoples counts included as relevant: Pacific peoples, not further defined; Samoan; Cook Island Māori; Tongan, Niuean; Tokelauan; Fijian; Indigenous Australian; Hawaiian; Kiribati (also reported separately)

^b Middle Eastern/Latin American/African

^c Percentages based on number of respondents

(Data sources: Dental register & workforce survey)

Table 6-7. Country of registration qualification for practising dental technicians and clinical dental technicians, for 2025

Country of qualification	Dental technicians (row %)	Clinical dental technicians (row %)	Total (%)
New Zealand	269 (90.6)	216 (72.7)	297 (86.9)
Overseas	56 (91.8)	7 (11.5)	61 (18.9)
Total^b	311	222	323
Breakdown of overseas qualifications			
	(Column %) ^a	(Column %)	(Column %)
South Africa	18 (5.8)	—	18 (5.6)
Germany	11 (3.5)	—	11 (3.4)
Australia	4 (1.3)	6 (2.7)	9 (2.8)
Japan	8 (2.6)	—	8 (2.5)
United Kingdom	6 (1.9)	1 (0.5)	6 (1.9)
Romania	2 (0.6)	—	2 (0.6)
China, People's Republic of	1 (0.3)	—	1 (0.3)
Fiji	1 (0.3)	—	1 (0.3)
Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM)	1 (0.3)	—	1 (0.3)
Ukraine	1 (0.3)	—	1 (0.3)
France	1 (0.3)	—	1 (0.3)
Korea, Republic of	1 (0.3)	—	1 (0.3)
Hungary	1 (0.3)	—	1 (0.3)

^a Percentages calculated from totals inclusive of New Zealand qualifications

^b Multiple qualifications per practitioner, per scope of practice, and from the same or different countries can apply
(Data source: Dental register)

Table 6-8. Overseas qualified dental technicians and clinical dental technicians with practising certificates—type of New Zealand registration pathway by year, for 2025 reporting year

Year of first registration in New Zealand	NZDTREX (%)	Overseas qualification equivalency assessed (%)	Trans-Tasman Mutual Recognition (%)
1986 to 2000	3 (18.8)	6 (18.2)	—
2001	—	1 (3.0)	—
2002	5 (31.3)	—	—
2003	1 (6.3)	—	1 (6.3)
2004	1 (6.3)	—	—
2005	—	—	—
2006	2 (12.5)	—	1 (6.3)
2007	—	6 (18.2)	6 (37.5)
2008	3 (18.8)	4 (12.1)	—
2009	—	4 (12.1)	1 (6.3)
2010	—	3 (9.1)	1 (6.3)
2011	—	1 (3.0)	—
2012	—	—	—
2013	—	—	—
2014	—	2 (6.1)	2 (12.5)
2015	—	—	—
2016	—	—	—
2017	—	1 (3.0)	1 (6.3)
2018	—	2 (6.1)	1 (6.3)
2019	—	1 (3.0)	—
2020	—	1 (3.0)	—
2021	—	—	—
2022	—	—	—
2023	—	—	1 (6.3)
2024	—	1 (3.0)	1 (6.3)
2025	1 (6.3)	—	—
Total	16	33	16

Note: NZDTREX = New Zealand Dental Technology Registration Examination
(Data source: Dental register)

Table 6-9. Type of employment reported by practising dental technicians and clinical dental technicians

		Distinct (%)	Total %
2023	Self-employed		
	Solo practice	127 (73.8)	40.6
	Group practice	40 (23.3)	12.8
	Other	9 (5.2)	2.9
	Self-employed subtotal	172	55.0
	Employees		
	Private practice	118 (80.3)	37.7
	Public sector	15 (10.2)	4.8
	<i>Public health regions</i>	13 (8.8)	4.2
	<i>Other government department, not MOH</i>	2 (1.4)	0.6
	University	13 (8.8)	4.2
	Māori health organisation	1 (0.7)	0.3
2024	Employee subtotal	147	47.0
	Other forms of employment or no response	4	1.3
	Distinct total	313	
	Self-employed		
	Solo practice	135 (75.8)	42.7
	Group practice	34 (19.1)	10.8
	Other	11 (6.2)	3.5
	Self-employed subtotal	178	56.3
	Employees		
	Private practice	110 (79.1)	34.8
	Public sector	16 (11.5)	5.1
	<i>Public health regions</i>	14 (10.1)	4.4
2025	<i>Other government department, not MOH</i>	2 (1.4)	0.6
	University	13 (9.4)	4.1
	Employee subtotal	139	44.0
	Other forms of employment or no response	8	2.5
	Distinct total	316	
	Self-employed		
	Solo practice	134 (78.4)	42.7
	Group practice	34 (19.9)	10.8
	Other	5 (2.9)	1.6
	Self-employed subtotal	171	54.5
	Employees		
	Private practice	112 (78.9)	35.7
	Public sector	18 (12.7)	5.7
	<i>Public health regions</i>	15 (10.6)	4.8
	<i>Ministry of Health</i>	1 (0.7)	0.3
	<i>Other government department, not MOH</i>	2 (1.4)	0.6
	University	12 (8.5)	3.8
	Employee subtotal	142	45.2
	Other forms of employment or no response	7	2.2
	Distinct total	314	

Note: MOH = Ministry of Health (Data source: Workforce survey)

Table 6-10. Total number of hours worked per week by dental technicians and clinical dental technicians practising in New Zealand

	Number of hours worked	Number (%)	Average hours (sd)
2023	1 to 10	2 (0.6)	5.8 (6.0)
	11 to 20	9 (2.9)	18.0 (2.4)
	21 to 30	15 (4.8)	25.6 (3.2)
	31 to 40	135 (43.1)	39.0 (2.1)
	41 to 50	88 (28.1)	45.9 (3.1)
	51 to 60	39 (12.5)	55.5 (3.2)
	61 to 70	17 (5.4)	66.3 (2.8)
	71 to 80	8 (2.6)	77.9 (3.3)
	Number giving data on hours	313	
	Nil response or excluded	22	
	Mean no. of hours/week (sd)		44.0 (11.7)
2024	1 to 10	3 (0.9)	6.7 (3.1)
	11 to 20	11 (3.5)	17.0 (2.5)
	21 to 30	15 (4.7)	26.6 ((2.4)
	31 to 40	129 (40.8)	39.2 (1.9)
	41 to 50	97 (30.7)	45.9 (2.9)
	51 to 60	45 (14.2)	55.5 (3.1)
	61 to 70	9 (2.8)	67.0 (3.2)
	71 to 80	7 (2.2)	77.1 (3.4)
	Number giving data on hours	316	
	Nil response or excluded	27	
	Mean no. of hours/week (sd)		43.5 (11.3)
2025	1 to 10	6 (1.9)	6.8 (3.7)
	11 to 20	12 (3.8)	17.8 (2.9)
	21 to 30	12 (3.8)	25.1 (2.9)
	31 to 40	117 (37.3)	38.9 (2.2)
	41 to 50	107 (34.1)	45.3 (2.8)
	51 to 60	40 (12.7)	55.2 (3.1)
	61 to 70	7 (2.2)	64.7 (3.8)
	71 to 80	13 (4.1)	77.5 (3.3)
	Number giving data on hours	314	
	Nil response or excluded	27	
	Mean no. of hours/week (sd)		43.4 (12.5)

(Data source: Workforce survey)

Table 6-11. Practising pattern, dental technicians who are not currently practising in New Zealand

Employment status		Practising certificate (%)	No practising certificate (%)	Total (%)
2023	In NZ but not practising	4 (57.1)	9 (39.1)	13 (43.3)
	Practising overseas	2 (28.6)	7 (30.4)	9 (30.0)
	Overseas and not practising	1 (14.3)	7 (30.4)	8 (26.7)
	Total	7	23	30
2024	In NZ but not practising	7 (53.8)	7 (36.8)	14 (43.8)
	Practising overseas	2 (15.4)	6 (31.6)	8 (25.0)
	Overseas and not practising	4 (30.8)	6 (31.6)	10 (31.3)
	Total	13	19	32
2025	In NZ but not practising	1 (11.1)	17 (60.7)	18 (48.6)
	Practising overseas	4 (44.4)	4 (14.3)	8 (21.6)
	Overseas and not practising	4 (44.4)	7 (25.0)	11 (29.7)
	Total	9	28	37

(Data source: Workforce survey)

Table 6-12. Reasons for part-time practice by dental technicians and clinical dental technicians practising in New Zealand

	Reason for practising part-time	Total (%)
2023	Personal choice	10 (35.7)
	Parental responsibilities	9 (32.1)
	Semi-retired from practice	4 (14.3)
	Doing non-dental work	3 (10.7)
	Health	2 (7.1)
	Total working part time	28
2024	Personal choice	10 (35.7)
	Parental responsibilities	10 (35.7)
	Semi-retired from practice	6 (21.4)
	Doing non-dental work	1 (3.6)
	Health	1 (3.6)
	Total working part time	28
2025	Personal choice	11 (34.3)
	Parental responsibilities	9 (28.1)
	Semi-retired from practice	4 (12.5)
	Health issues	3 (9.4)
	Seeking dental employment	2 (6.3)
	Doing non-dental work	1 (3.1)
	Other	2 (6.3)
	Total working part time	32

(Data source: Workforce survey)

Table 6-13. Dental technicians and clinical dental technicians expecting to practise in New Zealand over next five years

		Totals
2023	Yes, expect to practise	341 (87.2)
	No response	50 (12.8)
2024	Yes, expect to practise	348 (92.1)
	No response	30 (7.9)
2025	Yes, expect to practise	358 (91.1)
	No response	35 (8.9)

(Data source: Workforce survey)

Table 6-14. Work by practice area and employment type for dental technicians and clinical dental technicians practising in NZ

		Self-employed		Private		Public		University		Māori Health Provider		Other		Total	
		Number	Average (sd)	Number	Average (sd)	Number	Average (sd)	Number	Average (sd)	Number	Average (sd)	Number	Average (sd)	Number	Average (sd)
2023	Clinical dental technology practice	123	18.3 (9.7)	79	19.4 (10.7)	10	17.1 (10.0)	9	6.1 (4.2)	—	—	3	13.0 (9.6)	218	18.1 (10.2)
	Dental technology practice	165	27.1 (14.1)	107	23.2 (12.7)	14	16.4 (11.2)	13	25.2 (12.5)	1	40.0	4	25.0 (10.0)	296	25.2 (13.6)
	Implant overdentures	9	3.6 (4.1)	2	1.0 (0.0)	—	—	2	3.5 (0.7)	—	—	—	—	13	3.2 (3.5)
	Administration	120	2.4 (1.8)	38	2.2 (2.8)	8	2.6 (3.9)	6	2.9 (1.8)	—	—	1	1.0	168	2.4 (2.2)
	Research	83	1.7 (1.3)	26	1.3 (1.1)	3	1.7 (1.1)	6	2.3 (1.7)	—	—	—	—	117	1.6 (1.3)
	Teaching	37	1.6 (1.4)	11	1.7 (1.6)	3	1.3 (1.1)	5	7.8 (4.5)	—	—	—	—	56	2.3 (2.7)
	Other	24	2.4 (3.3)	4	3.8 (4.4)	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1.0	29	2.5 (3.4)
	Total number	173		118		15		13		1		4		314	
2024	Clinical dental technology practice	134	18.2 (8.7)	72	19.0 (9.0)	11	16.9 (9.5)	9	7.8 (6.3)	—	—	4	27.3 (16.3)	223	18.1 (9.1)
	Dental technology practice	171	25.3 (13.0)	105	23.0 (12.5)	15	17.3 (12.7)	13	20.9 (13.5)	—	—	7	26.6 (17.0)	304	24.0 (13.0)
	Implant overdentures	9	3.0 (2.1)	1	2.0	—	—	2	2.0 (0.0)	—	—	1	1.0	13	2.6 (1.9)
	Administration	133	2.6 (2.2)	34	2.5 (4.0)	6	3.4 (4.4)	6	2.8 (1.6)	—	—	2	1.5 (1.2)	178	2.6 (2.6)
	Research	83	1.8 (1.7)	25	1.4 (2.0)	4	1.5 (0.4)	4	3.6 (3.5)	—	—	2	0.9 (0.4)	118	1.7 (1.8)
	Teaching	39	1.6 (1.3)	14	1.5 (1.1)	5	1.0 (0.7)	5	7.3 (4.9)	—	—	1	1.3 (0.0)	64	2.1 (2.5)
	Other	21	1.5 (1.2)	3	2.6 (4.1)	—	—	2	1.0 (0.5)	—	—	—	—	26	1.6 (1.7)
	Total number	178		110		16		13		—		8		316	
2025	Clinical dental technology practice	130	17.9 (9.9)	75	20.0 (9.6)	12	16.8 (9.3)	7	8.6 (7.8)	—	—	4	25.5 (18.3)	223	18.4 (10.0)
	Dental technology practice	163	24.1 (12.9)	105	22.6 (12.1)	17	18.4 (13.3)	12	24.0 (13.7)	—	—	7	24.8 (13.9)	299	23.3 (12.7)
	Implant overdentures	8	3.0 (2.4)	2	0.8 (0.4)	—	—	1	2.0	—	—	—	—	11	2.5 (2.3)
	Administration	137	2.4 (1.9)	38	2.6 (4.0)	8	2.1 (1.8)	5	3.2 (1.7)	—	—	1	5.0	186	2.4 (2.4)
	Research	98	1.7 (2.1)	27	1.4 (1.6)	7	3.3 (3.2)	4	3.6 (3.5)	—	—	1	5.0	135	1.8 (2.2)
	Teaching	50	1.6 (1.2)	13	1.4 (1.3)	3	0.7 (0.3)	4	8.0 (5.7)	—	—	1	5.0	71	2.0 (2.4)
	Other	34	1.5 (1.6)	6	1.0 (0.7)	2	2.0 (0.0)	1	1.5	—	—	—	—	43	1.5 (1.4)
	Total number	171		112		18		12		—		7		314	

Data source: Workforce survey)

Table 6-15. Geographic distribution and FTE reported by practising dental technicians and clinical dental technicians by Territorial Authority (TA), for 2025

TA area	Number of dental technicians (%)	Number of clinical dental technicians (%)	Distinct total (%)
Far North district	1 (0.3)	1 (0.4)	1 (0.3)
Whangarei district	7 (2.1)	4 (1.7)	7 (2.1)
Kaipara district	1 (0.3)	—	1 (0.3)
Auckland	86 (25.9)	57 (23.7)	88 (25.8)
Thames-Coromandel district	1 (0.3)	1 (0.4)	1 (0.3)
Hauraki district	—	—	—
Waikato district	—	—	—
Matamata-Piako district	1 (0.3)	1 (0.4)	1 (0.3)
Hamilton city	15 (4.5)	15 (6.2)	15 (4.4)
Waipa district	3 (0.9)	3 (1.2)	3 (0.9)
Ōtorohanga district	—	—	—
South Waikato district	—	—	—
Waitomo district	—	—	—
Taupo district	2 (0.6)	2 (0.8)	2 (0.6)
Western Bay of Plenty district	—	—	—
Tauranga city	5 (1.5)	4 (1.7)	5 (1.5)
Rotorua district	3 (0.9)	3 (1.2)	3 (0.9)
Whakatane district	3 (0.9)	1 (0.4)	3 (0.9)
Kawerau district	1 (0.3)	1 (0.4)	1 (0.3)
Ōpōtiki district	—	—	—
Gisborne district	3 (0.9)	3 (1.2)	3 (0.9)
Wairoa district	—	—	—
Hastings district	1 (0.3)	1 (0.4)	1 (0.3)
Napier city	8 (2.4)	7 (2.9)	8 (2.3)
Central Hawke's Bay district	—	—	—
New Plymouth district	3 (0.9)	3 (1.2)	3 (0.9)
Stratford district	—	—	—
South Taranaki district	—	—	—
Ruapehu district	—	—	—
Whanganui district	1 (0.3)	1 (0.4)	1 (0.3)
Rangitikei district	—	—	—
Manawatu district	—	—	—
Palmerston North city	6 (1.8)	4 (1.7)	6 (1.8)
Tararua district	—	—	—
Horowhenua district	—	1 (0.4)	1 (0.3)
Kapiti Coast district	3 (0.9)	2 (0.8)	3 (0.9)
Porirua city	3 (0.9)	3 (1.2)	3 (0.9)
Upper Hutt city	4 (1.2)	2 (0.8)	4 (1.2)

TA area	Number of dental technicians (%)	Number of clinical dental technicians (%)	Distinct total (%)
Lower Hutt city	4 (1.2)	4 (1.7)	4 (1.2)
Wellington city	14 (4.2)	11 (4.6)	14 (4.1)
Masterton district	1 (0.3)	1 (0.4)	1 (0.3)
Carterton district	—	—	—
South Wairarapa district	—	—	—
Tasman district	1 (0.3)	1 (0.4)	1 (0.3)
Nelson city	4 (1.2)	4 (1.7)	5 (1.5)
Marlborough district	3 (0.9)	3 (1.2)	3 (0.9)
Kaikoura district	—	—	—
Buller district	—	—	—
Grey district	—	—	—
Westland district	—	—	—
Hurunui district	—	—	—
Waimakariri district	2 (0.6)	2 (0.8)	2 (0.6)
Christchurch city	29 (8.7)	25 (10.4)	30 (8.8)
Selwyn district	2 (0.6)	2 (0.8)	2 (0.6)
Ashburton district	1 (0.3)	1 (0.4)	1 (0.3)
Timaru district	3 (0.9)	3 (1.2)	3 (0.9)
Mackenzie district	—	—	—
Waimate district	—	—	—
Chatham Islands territory	—	—	—
Waitaki district	2 (0.6)	2 (0.8)	2 (0.6)
Central Otago district	1 (0.3)	1 (0.4)	1 (0.3)
Queenstown-Lakes district	3 (0.9)	2 (0.8)	3 (0.9)
Dunedin city	22 (6.6)	20 (8.3)	23 (6.7)
Clutha district	—	—	—
Southland district	—	—	—
Gore district	—	—	—
Invercargill city	2 (0.6)	2 (0.8)	2 (0.6)
Areas outside of TA	1 (0.3)	—	1 (0.3)
TA code not available	76 (22.9)	37 (15.4)	79 (23.2)
Total	332	241	341
TAs with no dental technicians	28		

(Data sources: Dental register, workforce survey & Statistics New Zealand)

Table 6-16. Population to practising dental technicians and clinical dental technicians by TA, for 2025

	Total population ^a	Population aged 15+ years ^a	Population aged 15+ years-to-technicians ratio	Technicians per 100,000 population aged 15+
Far North district	73,700	59,600	59,600	1.7
Whangarei district	100,500	81,100	11,586	8.6
Kaipara district	26,900	22,000	22,000	4.5
Auckland	1,816,000	1,476,700	16,781	6.0
Thames-Coromandel district	32,300	28,000	28,000	3.6
Hauraki district	22,100	18,300	—	—
Waikato district	91,100	72,200	—	—
Matamata-Piako district	39,200	31,600	31,600	3.2
Hamilton city	192,200	152,600	10,173	9.8
Waipa district	62,100	50,100	16,700	6.0
Ōtorohanga district	10,650	8,400	—	—
South Waikato district	26,000	20,300	—	—
Waitomo district	9,950	7,880	—	—
Taupo district	42,600	34,900	17,450	5.7
Western Bay of Plenty district	60,100	49,700	—	—
Tauranga city	161,000	130,400	26,080	3.8
Rotorua district	77,900	61,600	20,533	4.9
Whakatane district	38,400	30,400	10,133	9.9
Kawerau district	7,690	6,010	6,010	16.6
Ōpōtiki district	10,300	8,150	—	—
Gisborne district	52,700	41,400	13,800	7.2
Wairoa district	8,940	6,950	—	—
Hastings district	88,300	70,700	70,700	1.4
Napier city	66,500	54,600	6,825	14.7
Central Hawke's Bay district	16,000	12,850	—	—
New Plymouth district	90,200	73,100	24,367	4.1
Stratford district	10,500	8,400	—	—
South Taranaki district	29,900	23,800	—	—
Ruapehu district	13,500	10,700	—	—
Whanganui district	49,200	40,100	40,100	2.5
Rangitikei district	16,050	12,950	—	—
Manawatu district	34,000	27,500	—	—
Palmerston North city	90,600	73,300	12,217	8.2
Tararua district	18,950	15,350	—	—
Horowhenua district	38,400	31,500	31,500	3.2
Kapiti Coast district	58,000	49,000	16,333	6.1
Porirua city	61,600	48,700	16,233	6.2
Upper Hutt city	47,500	38,600	9,650	10.4

	Total population ^a	Population aged 15+ years ^a	Population aged 15+ years-to-technicians ratio	Technicians per 100,000 population aged 15+
Lower Hutt city	114,200	92,800	23,200	4.3
Wellington city	210,800	181,200	12,943	7.7
Masterton district	28,900	23,600	23,600	4.2
Carterton district	10,300	8,600	—	—
South Wairarapa district	12,200	10,150	—	—
Tasman district	59,900	50,500	50,500	2.0
Nelson city	54,400	45,700	9,140	10.9
Marlborough district	50,700	42,500	14,167	7.1
Kaikoura district	4,340	3,690	—	—
Buller district	10,600	9,100	—	—
Grey district	14,600	12,000	—	—
Westland district	9,440	8,020	—	—
Hurunui district	14,350	11,850	—	—
Waimakariri district	69,700	58,000	29,000	3.4
Christchurch city	419,300	350,900	11,697	8.5
Selwyn district	87,600	69,600	34,800	2.9
Ashburton district	37,300	30,100	30,100	3.3
Timaru district	49,500	41,000	13,667	7.3
Mackenzie district	5,530	4,640	—	—
Waimate district	8,460	7,040	—	—
Chatham Islands territory	620	500	—	—
Waitaki district	24,500	20,400	10,200	9.8
Central Otago district	25,800	21,800	21,800	4.6
Queenstown-Lakes district	53,900	45,600	15,200	6.6
Dunedin city	132,800	113,900	4,952	20.2
Clutha district	18,800	15,400	—	—
Southland district	33,900	27,300	—	—
Gore district	12,900	10,700	—	—
Invercargill city	57,900	47,500	23,750	4.2
Areas outside of TA	60	60	—	—
Total^b	5,324,830	4,353,590	12,767	7.8

^a Population estimate as at 30 June 2025

^b Due to rounding, individual figures may not always sum to the stated totals

(Data sources: Dental register, workforce survey & Statistics New Zealand)

Table 6-17. Population to practising dental technicians and clinical dental technicians by health region, for 2023

	No with practising certificates	No with APC who reported hours	FTE technicians	Total population ^a	Population aged 15+ years	Population aged 15+ years-to- technicians ratio	Technicians per 100,000 population aged 15+ years	Population 15+ years-to-FTE- technicians ratio	FTE per 100,000 population aged 15+ years
Northern region	108	102	116.9	1,980,690	1,603,790	14,850	6.7	13,719	7.3
Northland Te Tai Tokerau	9	8	9.8	202,070	162,540	18,060	5.5	16,671	6.0
Waitematā	43	41	47.9	661,790	536,760	12,483	8.0	11,203	8.9
Auckland Te Toka Tumai	33	32	34.5	500,310	422,920	12,816	7.8	12,267	8.2
Counties-Manukau	23	21	24.8	616,520	481,570	20,938	4.8	19,448	5.1
Midland/Te Manawa Taki	48	45	50.6	1,094,810	878,030	18,292	5.5	17,352	5.8
Waikato	21	21	22.5	463,710	371,350	17,683	5.7	16,523	6.1
Lakes	4	4	4.9	119,040	94,830	23,708	4.2	19,353	5.2
Bay of Plenty	10	9	9.9	276,510	223,460	22,346	4.5	22,686	4.4
Tairāwhiti	3	3	3.8	52,490	40,860	13,620	7.3	10,753	9.3
Taranaki	10	8	9.6	183,060	147,530	14,753	6.8	15,408	6.5
Central/Te Ikaroa	42	42	44.2	927,360	761,340	18,127	5.5	17,244	5.8
Hawke's Bay	3	3	4.3	129,680	103,800	34,600	2.9	24,281	4.1
Whanganui	1	1	1.1	69,580	56,250	56,250	1.8	50,000	2.0
MidCentral	8	8	7.9	191,400	155,210	19,401	5.2	19,709	5.1
Capital, Coast and Hutt Valley	29	29	30.0	485,370	403,900	13,928	7.2	13,486	7.4
<i>Capital and Coast</i>	21	21	22.8	324,280	272,970	12,999	7.7	11,999	8.3
<i>Hutt Valley</i>	8	8	7.2	161,090	130,930	16,366	6.1	18,185	5.5
Wairarapa	1	1	0.9	51,330	42,180	42,180	2.4	45,600	2.2
South Island/Te Waipounamu	86	78	88.8	1,243,580	1,036,660	12,054	8.3	11,669	8.6
Nelson Marlborough	13	10	13.2	165,790	139,090	10,699	9.3	10,557	9.5
West Coast	—	—	—	34,260	28,620	—	—	—	—
Canterbury	37	34	36.7	618,410	512,800	13,859	7.2	13,992	7.1
South Canterbury	3	3	4.0	63,750	53,050	17,683	5.7	13,346	7.5
Southern	33	31	35.0	361,370	303,100	9,185	10.9	8,651	11.6
Unknown, with hours reported	51	48	50.2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	335	315	350.7	5,246,440	4,279,820	12,776	7.8	12,205	8.2
Unknown, no hours reported		20							

^a Due to rounding, individual figures may not always sum to the stated totals
(Data sources: Workforce survey and Ministry of Health)

Table 6-18. Population to practising dental technicians and clinical dental technicians by health region, for 2024

	No with practising certificates	No with APC who reported hours	FTE technicians	Total population ^a	Population aged 15+ years	Population aged 15+ years-to- technicians ratio	Technicians per 100,000 population aged 15+ years	Population 15+ years-to-FTE- technicians ratio	FTE per 100,000 population aged 15+ years
Northern region	104	97	111.4	2,029,880	1,648,440	15,850	6.3	14,799	6.8
Northland Te Tai Tokerau	9	8	9.5	204,730	165,130	18,348	5.5	17,336	5.8
Waitematā	41	39	44.0	675,080	549,160	13,394	7.5	12,477	8.0
Auckland Te Toka Tumai	32	30	32.0	511,120	433,840	13,558	7.4	13,558	7.4
Counties-Manukau	22	20	25.9	638,950	500,310	22,741	4.4	19,354	5.2
Midland/Te Manawa Taki	48	44	48.4	1,112,650	894,830	18,642	5.4	18,507	5.4
Waikato	22	19	20.2	471,280	378,370	17,199	5.8	18,696	5.3
Lakes	5	5	5.7	120,830	96,640	19,328	5.2	17,029	5.9
Bay of Plenty	9	9	10.3	281,830	228,150	25,350	3.9	22,150	4.5
Tairāwhiti	3	3	3.3	53,440	41,800	13,933	7.2	12,619	7.9
Taranaki	9	8	8.8	185,270	149,870	16,652	6.0	16,982	5.9
Central/Te Ikaroa	41	39	42.0	937,170	771,980	18,829	5.3	18,380	5.4
Hawke's Bay	3	3	3.3	131,030	105,280	35,093	2.8	31,903	3.1
Whanganui	1	1	1.1	70,330	56,990	56,990	1.8	53,014	1.9
MidCentral	7	7	7.0	194,520	158,220	22,603	4.4	22,765	4.4
Capital, Coast and Hutt Valley	29	27	29.7	489,340	408,720	14,094	7.1	13,773	7.3
<i>Capital and Coast</i>	21	20	22.3	325,870	275,460	13,117	7.6	12,366	8.1
<i>Hutt Valley</i>	8	7	7.4	163,470	133,260	16,658	6.0	18,008	5.6
Wairarapa	1	1	1.0	51,950	42,770	42,770	2.3	42,770	2.3
South Island/Te Waipounamu	86	81	89.5	1,261,470	1,054,390	12,260	8.2	11,779	8.5
Nelson Marlborough	11	10	12.3	167,550	141,080	12,825	7.8	11,493	8.7
West Coast	—	—	—	34,720	29,110	—	—	—	—
Canterbury	39	37	40.6	628,190	522,210	13,390	7.5	12,878	7.8
South Canterbury	3	3	3.9	64,820	54,070	18,023	5.5	14,044	7.1
Southern	33	31	32.8	366,190	307,920	9,331	10.7	9,377	10.7
Unknown, with hours reported	64	57	59.1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	343	318	350.3	5,341,170	4,369,640	12,739	7.8	12,474	8.0
Unknown, no hours reported		25							

^a Due to rounding, individual figures may not always sum to the stated totals
(Data sources: Workforce survey and Ministry of Health)

Table 6-19. Population to practising dental technicians and clinical dental technicians by health region, for 2025

	No with practising certificates	No with APC who reported hours	FTE technicians	Total population ^a	Population aged 15+ years	Population aged 15+ years-to- technicians ratio	Technicians per 100,000 population aged 15+ years	Population 15+ years-to-FTE- technicians ratio	FTE per 100,000 population aged 15+ years
Northern region	97	94	106.2	2,062,290	1,680,720	17,327	5.8	15,830	6.3
Northland Te Tai Tokerau	9	9	10.9	207,960	168,310	18,701	5.3	15,512	6.4
Waitematā	38	38	42.1	685,490	559,580	14,726	6.8	13,307	7.5
Auckland Te Toka Tumai	30	28	30.2	517,550	441,370	14,712	6.8	14,627	6.8
Counties-Manukau	20	19	23.1	651,290	511,460	25,573	3.9	22,141	4.5
Midland/Te Manawa Taki	46	43	47.2	1,129,330	910,830	19,801	5.1	19,313	5.2
Waikato	20	18	19.4	479,690	386,070	19,304	5.2	19,901	5.0
Lakes	5	5	5.8	122,280	98,160	19,632	5.1	16,924	5.9
Bay of Plenty	9	9	9.3	286,400	232,390	25,821	3.9	25,056	4.0
Tairāwhiti	3	3	3.3	54,160	42,550	14,183	7.1	13,092	7.6
Taranaki	9	8	9.4	186,800	151,660	16,851	5.9	16,070	6.2
Central/Te Ikaroa	40	40	40.5	945,210	781,330	19,533	5.1	19,280	5.2
Hawke's Bay	3	3	3.5	132,080	106,520	35,507	2.8	30,653	3.3
Whanganui	1	1	1.1	70,740	57,470	57,470	1.7	52,245	1.9
MidCentral	7	7	5.9	196,600	160,420	22,917	4.4	27,422	3.6
Capital, Coast and Hutt Valley	28	28	29.1	493,480	413,740	14,776	6.8	14,218	7.0
<i>Capital and Coast</i>	20	20	22.1	327,930	278,290	13,915	7.2	12,592	7.9
<i>Hutt Valley</i>	8	8	7.0	165,550	135,450	16,931	5.9	19,350	5.2
Wairarapa	1	1	1.0	52,310	43,180	43,180	2.3	43,180	2.3
South Island/Te Waipounamu	78	72	82.3	1,277,030	1,070,330	13,722	7.3	13,001	7.7
Nelson Marlborough	9	9	11.9	168,980	142,850	15,872	6.3	12,029	8.3
West Coast	—	—	—	34,880	29,410	—	—	—	—
Canterbury	35	33	37.6	636,640	530,450	15,156	6.6	14,117	7.1
South Canterbury	3	3	4.3	65,360	54,630	18,210	5.5	12,705	7.9
Southern	31	27	28.6	371,170	312,990	10,096	9.9	10,953	9.1
Unknown, with hours reported	80	70	73.2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	341	319	349.4	5,413,860	4,443,210	13,030	7.7	12,717	7.9
Unknown, no hours reported		22							

^a Due to rounding, individual figures may not always sum to the stated totals
(Data sources: Workforce survey and Ministry of Health)

Table 6-20. Postgraduate training undertaken by dental technicians and clinical dental technicians

	Expected year of completion	Current APC (%)	No current APC (%)	Overall (%)
2023	2022	3 (60.0)	1 (100.0)	4 (66.7)
	2023	2 (40.0)	—	2 (33.3)
	Total in postgraduate training	5 (83.3)	1 (16.7)	6
2024	2023	4 (80.0)	1 (100.0)	5 (83.3)
	2024	1 (20.0)	—	1 (16.7)
	Total in postgraduate training	5 (83.3)	1 (16.7)	6
2025	2024	2 (40.0)	—	2 (40.0)
	2025	2 (40.0)	—	2 (40.0)
	2027	1 (20.0)	—	1 (20.0)
	Total in postgraduate training	5 (100.0)	—	5

(Data source: Workforce survey)

Three of the training related to other/non-dental related topics, and two other dental related topics.

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Section 7: The Māori oral health practitioners' workforce

Executive summary Māori oral health practitioners

Māori representation

Māori made up 6.4% (304) of the total practising oral health workforce in 2025, up from 4.3% in 2017 (207) – a growth of 46.9%. The largest proportional profession representation continued to be in dental therapy (13.8%) for 2025. In absolute terms, the largest group was in the dentist and dentist specialist group (128, 4.6%) now closely followed by oral health therapists (111, 11.3%). ^{Table 7-1}

The Māori representation of 6.4% of practising oral health practitioners in 2025 remains well below Aotearoa New Zealand's estimated Māori representation of 17.4% of the national population ⁷.

Table 7-1. Māori ethnicity, self-identified by practising oral health practitioners

	2023				2024				2025			
	% YoY	Māori	Total	% Total	% YoY	Māori	Total	% Total	% YoY	Māori	Total	% Total
Dentists and dental specialists	4.5	116	2,688	4.3	6.0	123	2,724	4.5	4.1	128	2,785	4.6
Oral health therapists	5.3	80	830	9.6	17.5	94	904	10.4	18.1	111	980	11.3
Dental therapists	- 7.1	39	299	13.0	-7.7	36	279	12.9	2.8	37	269	13.8
Dental hygienists and orthodontic auxiliaries	- 11.8	15	392	3.8	26.7	19	386	4.9	—	19	376	5.1
Dental technicians and clinical dental technicians	10.0	11	335	3.3	-9.1	10	343	2.9	—	10	341	2.9
Total^a	2.0	261	4,544	5.7	8.0	282	4,636	6.1	7.8	304	4,751	6.4

^a Multiple ethnicities can apply. Unique counts.

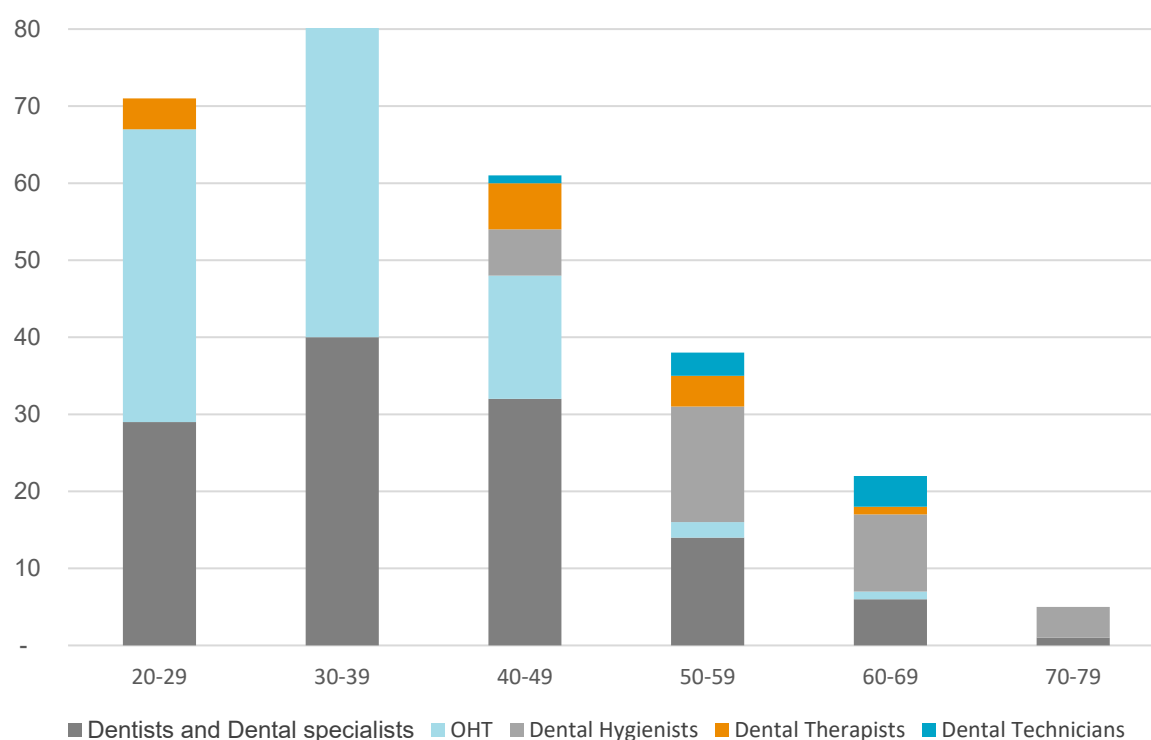
Demographics

The age group distribution for Māori is skewed towards the younger age groups, with 30 - 39 being the largest group (32.6%), followed by 20 – 29 (24.3%). Oral health therapists (91, 52.6%) made up the greatest proportion of these age bands followed by dentists. ^{Table 7-3}

The profile reflected a younger growing population which looks promising for the future but needs to accelerate to match the New Zealand population profile.

⁷ 2025 Stats NZ Māori [population estimates](#)

Figure 7-1. Age band distribution of practitioners self-identified as Māori



Wāhine (females) made up three quarters of the practising Māori workforce (233, 76.6%) in 2025, a similar proportion to 2022 (196, 76.6%). ^{Table 7-4}

Cohort remainder rates

The cohort remainder rates for Māori dentist graduates were calculated with data kindly provided by the Faculty of Dentistry, University of Otago. Limitations for these analyses include small numbers, and Māori identification for the analysis relies on self-identification both during their studies and with the Council.

The university records showed that during this reporting period a total of 24 dentist graduates identified as Māori. The Dental Council records showed a cohort retention range of 80% – 144.4%. The variances may be different ethnicity reported, or graduates not yet practising. ^{Table 7-6}

Practising characteristics

Most Māori practitioners reported being employees: 191 (8.7%) vs 117 (4.6%) self-employed in 2025. Most employees worked for the public health regions (84, 11.1%) followed by private practice (78, 6.7%). Eight employees were recorded working for Māori health organisations. ^{Table 7-8}

Geographical distribution

Geographical distribution of Māori oral health practitioners by region for 2025 showed high variation in distribution between the different professions with many areas without Māori representation. This is expected due to the low overall numbers. ^{Table 7-9}

The West Coast had no reported Māori oral health practitioners. Tairāwhiti had only a dentist reported and in Whanganui no dentist was reported. ^{Table 7-12}

Looking at the distribution across the health regions for 2025, Māori dentists were mostly centred in Auckland, Waitemata, Waikato, Capital, Coast and Hutt Valley and Canterbury (7 or more), with the highest concentration in the North Island. Table 7-12

The highest number of Māori dental therapists and oral health therapists were reported in the Northern and Midland/Te Manawa Taki health regions. Table 7-12

Māori oral health practitioners workforce data tables

Table 7-2. Māori ethnicity, self-identified by practising oral health practitioners

	Ethnicity	Total (%)	Dentists and dental specialists (%)	Oral health therapists (%)	Dental therapists (%)	Dental hygienists (%)	Dental technicians (%)
2023	Māori	261 (5.7)	116 (4.3)	80 (9.6)	39 (13.0)	15 (3.8)	11 (3.3)
	Other	4,283 (94.3)	2,572 (95.7)	750 (90.4)	260 (87.0)	377 (96.2)	324 (96.7)
	Total ^a	4,544	2,688	830	299	392	335
2024	Māori	282 (6.1)	123 (4.5)	94 (10.4)	36 (12.9)	19 (4.9)	10 (2.9)
	Other	4,354 (93.9)	2,601 (95.5)	811 (89.7)	243 (87.1)	368 (95.3)	333 (97.1)
	Total ^a	4,636	2,724	904	279	386	343
2025	Māori	304 (6.4)	128 (4.6)	111 (11.3)	37 (13.8)	19 (5.1)	10 (2.9)
	Other	4,447 (93.6)	2,657 (95.4)	869 (88.7)	232 (86.2)	358 (95.2)	331 (97.1)
	Total ^a	4,751	2,785	980	269	376	341

(Data source: Dental register and workforce survey)

^a Multiple ethnicities can apply. Unique counts.

Table 7-3. Age of practising Māori oral health practitioners, as at the end of the 2025 reporting periods^a

Age bands	Total (%)	Dentists and dental specialists (%)	Oral health therapists (%)	Dental therapists (%)	Dental hygienists (%)	Dental technicians (%)
20-29	74 (24.3)	29 (22.7)	41 (36.9)	—	4 (21.1)	—
30-39	99 (32.6)	43 (33.6)	50 (45.0)	—	4 (21.1)	2 (20.0)
40-49	64 (21.1)	34 (26.6)	17 (15.3)	6 (16.2)	6 (31.6)	1 (10.0)
50-59	39 (12.8)	14 (10.9)	2 (1.8)	16 (43.2)	4 (21.1)	3 (30.0)
60-69	23 (7.6)	7 (5.5)	1 (0.9)	11 (29.7)	1 (5.3)	4 (40.0)
70-79	5 (1.6)	1 (0.8)	—	4 (10.8)	—	—
Total	304	128	111	37	19	10

^a Dentists and dental specialists reporting period ends 30 September; others end 31 March
(Data source: Dental register)

Table 7-4. Gender of practising Māori oral health practitioners

	Gender	Total distinct (%)	Dentists and dental specialists (%)	Oral health therapists (%)	Dental therapists (%)	Dental hygienists (%)	Dental technicians (%)
2023	Tāne	63 (24.1)	56 (48.3)	2 (2.5)	—	—	5 (45.5)
	Wāhine	198 (75.9)	60 (51.7)	78 (97.5)	39 (100.0)	15 (100.0)	6 (54.5)
	Total	261	116	80	39	15	11
2024	Tāne	70 (24.8)	62 (50.4)	2 (2.1)	—	—	6 (60.0)
	Wāhine	212 (75.2)	61 (49.6)	92 (97.9)	36 (100.0)	19 (100.0)	4 (40.0)
	Total	282	123	94	36	19	10
2025	Tāne	71 (23.4)	63 (49.2)	2 (1.8)	—	—	6 (60.0)
	Wāhine	233 (76.6)	65 (50.8)	109 (98.2)	37 (100.0)	19 (100.1)	4 (40.0)
	Total	304	128	111	37	19	10

(Data source: Dental register)

Table 7-5. Scope of practice registrations for practising Māori dentists and dental specialists, by gender

		Total ^a (column %)	Tāne (row %)	Wāhine (row %)
2023	Dentists	112 (91.1)	52 (46.4)	60 (53.6)
	Dental specialists	11 (8.9)	7 (63.6)	4 (36.4)
	Total	123	59 (48.0)	64 (52.0)
	Specialty			
	Endodontics	1 (0.8)	1 (100.0)	—
	Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Specialist	—	—	—
	Oral Medicine Specialist	1 (0.8)	1 (100.0)	—
	Oral Pathology Specialist	—	—	—
	Oral Surgery Specialist	1 (0.8)	1 (100.0)	—
	Orthodontic Specialist	4 (3.3)	3 (75.0)	1 (25.0)
	Paediatric Dentistry Specialist	1 (0.8)	—	1 (100.0)
	Periodontic Specialist	2 (1.6)	1 (50.0)	1 (50.0)
	Prosthodontic Specialist	—	—	—
	Public Health Dentistry Specialist	1 (0.8)	—	1 (100.0)
	Restorative Dentistry Specialist	—	—	—
	Special Needs Dentistry Specialist	—	—	—
2024	Dentists	119 (91.5)	58 (48.7)	61 (51.3)
	Dental specialists	11 (8.5)	7 (63.6)	4 (36.4)
	Total	130	65 (50.0)	65 (50.0)
	Specialty			
	Endodontics	1 (0.8)	1 (100.0)	—
	Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Specialist	—	—	—
	Oral Medicine Specialist	1 (0.8)	1 (100.0)	—
	Oral Pathology Specialist	—	—	—
	Oral Surgery Specialist	1 (0.8)	1 (100.0)	—
	Orthodontic Specialist	4 (3.3)	3 (75.0)	1 (25.0)
	Paediatric Dentistry Specialist	1 (0.8)	—	1 (100.0)
	Periodontic Specialist	2 (1.6)	1 (50.0)	1 (50.0)
	Prosthodontic Specialist	—	—	—
	Public Health Dentistry Specialist	1 (0.8)	—	1 (100.0)
	Restorative Dentistry Specialist	—	—	—
	Special Needs Dentistry Specialist	—	—	—
2025	Dentists	123 (91.1)	59 (48.0)	64 (52.0)
	Dental specialists	12 (8.9)	8 (66.7)	4 (33.3)
	Total	135	67 (49.6)	68 (50.4)
	Specialty			
	Endodontics	1 (0.7)	1 (100.0)	—
	Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Specialist	—	—	—

Oral Medicine Specialist	1 (0.7)	1 (100.0)	—
Oral Pathology Specialist	—	—	—
Oral Surgery Specialist	1 (0.7)	1 (100.0)	—
Orthodontic Specialist	4 (3.0)	3 (75.0)	1 (25.0)
Paediatric Dentistry Specialist	1 (0.7)	—	1 (100.0)
Periodontic Specialist	2 (1.5)	1 (50.0)	1 (50.0)
Prosthodontic Specialist	—	—	—
Public Health Dentistry Specialist	1 (0.7)	—	1 (100.0)
Restorative Dentistry Specialist	—	—	—
Special Needs Dentistry Specialist	1 (0.7)	1 (100.0)	—

^a A practitioner may be registered in multiple scopes of practice
(Data source: Dental register)

Table 7-6. Cohort remainder rate for University of Otago Māori dentist graduates for 2025 reporting year

Graduation cohort	Total number of Māori domestic dental graduates	Number of Māori dental graduates with practising certificates ^a	Māori cohort remainder rate
1995	1	—	—
1996	7	4	57.1
1997	2	2	100.0
1998	1	1	100.0
1999	4	4	100.0
2000	4	2	50.0
2001	3	3	100.0
2002	1	-	—
2003	6	6	100.0
2004	5	4	80.0
2005	4	3	75.0
2006	7	6	85.7
2007	6	6	100.0
2008	1	—	—
2009	1	—	—
2010	5	5	100.0
2011	3	2	66.7
2012	4	3	75.0
2013	2	2	100.0
2014	3	2	66.7
2015	2	3	150.0
2016	7	4	57.1
2017	4	3	75.0
2018	1	6	600.0
2019	6	8	133.3
2020	3	6	200.0
2021	6	4 ^b	66.7
2022	9	13	144.4
2023	10	10	100.0
2024	5	4	80.0

^a There may be differences in ethnicities recorded during the period of study and on registration.

^b Some BDS students' graduation was delayed until January 2022 due to the impact of clinic closures during COVID-19 lockdowns. Remainder rates relate to the delayed registration for some of the 2021 cohort may impact this data.

(Data sources: Dental register and Faculty of Dentistry, University of Otago)

Table 7-7. Longitudinal analysis of the cohort remainder rate of University of Otago Māori dental graduates

	Year of graduation							
	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017
Total number of Māori dental graduates								
	5	10	9	6 ^b	3	6	1	4
Practising status: ^a	Number of Māori dental graduates with practising certificates (cohort remainder rate)							
September 2025	4 (80.0)	10 (100.0)	13 (144.4)	4 (66.7)	8 (266.7)	7 (116.7)	9 (900.0)	3 (75.0)
September 2024		9 (90.0)	13 (144.4)	4 (66.7)	8 (266.7)	7 (116.7)	9 (900.0)	3 (75.0)
September 2023			13 (144.4)	4 (66.7)	8 (266.7)	7 (116.7)	9 (900.0)	1 (25.0)
September 2022				4 (66.7)	6 (200.0)	8 (133.3)	7 (700.0)	3 (75.0)
September 2021					6 (200.0)	8 (133.3)	7 (700.0)	3 (75.0)
September 2020						8 (133.3)	5 (500.0)	2 (50.0)
September 2019							6 (600.0)	3 (75.0)
September 2018								4 (100)

^a There may be differences in ethnicities recorded during the period of study and on registration or annual practising renewal

^b Some BDS students' graduation was delayed until January 2022 due to the impact of clinic closures during COVID-19 lockdowns. Remainder rates relate to the delayed registration for some of the 2021 cohort may impact this data.

(Data sources: Dental register and Faculty of Dentistry)

Table 7-8. Type of employment of Māori oral health practitioners reported practising in New Zealand

		Total distinct (%) ^a	Dentists and dental specialists (%)	Oral health therapists (%)	Dental therapists (%)	Dental hygienists (%)	Dental technicians (%)
2023	Self-employed						
	Solo practice	32 (3.8)	23 (3.7)	6 (11.3)	—	1 (3.2)	2 (1.6)
	Group practice	67 (4.2)	61 (4.2)	3 (7.0)	1 (8.3)	—	2 (4.9)
	Other practice	1 (1.4)	1 (2.1)	—	—	—	—
	Self-employed subtotal	98 (4.0)	83 (4.0)	9 (8.7)	1 (7.1)	1 (1.5)	4 (2.3)
	Employee						
	Private practice	73 (6.4)	8 (2.9)	44 (10.1)	4 (17.4)	14 (4.9)	3 (2.5)
	Public practice	80 (9.9)	15 (6.7)	34 (10.1)	30 (13.3)	—	1 (6.7)
	<i>Public health regions</i>	74 (9.9)	14 (7.0)	31 (9.8)	28 (13.2)	—	1 (7.7)
	<i>Ministry of Health</i>	2 (7.4)	—	—	2 (15.4)	—	—
	<i>Other government department, not MOH</i>	4 (10.8)	1 (6.3)	3 (20.0)	—	—	—
	Universities	6 (4.0)	4 (3.7)	1 (6.7)	1 (11.1)	—	—
	Māori health organisation	4 (26.7)	1 (11.1)	2	1 (33.3)	—	—
	Employee subtotal	163 (7.7)	28 (4.5)	81 (10.3)	36 (13.8)	14 (4.6)	4 (2.7)
	Other forms of employment or no response	1 (1.5)	1 (2.7)	—	—	—	—
	Distinct total	251 (5.8)	108 (4.2)	83 (10.2)	37 (13.7)	15 (4.0)	8 (2.5)
2024	Self-employed						
	Solo practice	38 (4.3)	26 (4.0)	7 (10.0)	—	1 (3.4)	4 (3.0)
	Group practice	68 (4.3)	61 (4.2)	5 (11.1)	1 (11.1)	1 (2.9)	—
	Other	4 (4.7)	3 (5.4)	1 (7.1)	—	—	—
	Self-employed subtotal	107 (4.3)	87 (4.1)	13 (10.2)	1 (10.0)	2 (3.1)	4 (2.2)
	Employee						
	Private practice	63 (5.5)	9 (3.4)	38 (8.4)	3 (14.3)	12 (4.2)	1 (0.9)
	Public practice	92 (11.0)	21 (9.2)	40 (11.0)	29 (12.9)	—	2 (12.5)
	<i>Public health regions</i>	85 (11.1)	20 (10.1)	36 (10.7)	27 (12.7)	—	2 (14.3)

	Total distinct (%) ^a	Dentists and dental specialists (%)	Oral health therapists (%)	Dental therapists (%)	Dental hygienists (%)	Dental technicians (%)
<i>Ministry of Health</i>	3 (8.8)	—	1 (6.7)	2 (18.2)	—	—
<i>Other government department, not MOH</i>	4 (9.8)	1 (4.3)	3 (27.3)	—	—	—
Universities	8 (5.1)	5 (4.5)	1 (5.6)	1 (10.0)	—	1 (7.7)
Māori health organisation	7 (38.9)	2 (20.0)	4 (80.0)	1 (33.3)	—	—
Employee subtotal	170 (7.9)	37 (6.0)	83 (9.9)	34 (13.2)	12 (4.0)	4 (2.8)
Other forms of employment or no response	1 (1.7)	—	—	—	1 (2.5)	—
Distinct total	265 (6.0)	117 (4.5)	91 (10.4)	35 (13.1)	15 (4.1)	7 (2.2)
Self-employed						
Solo practice	37 (4.2)	27 (4.1)	6 (7.9)	—	—	4 (3.0)
Group practice	78 (4.8)	64 (4.3)	9 (14.3)	2 (18.2)	2 (6.1)	1 (2.9)
Other	3 (3.5)	2 (3.6)	1 (5.3)	—	—	—
Self-employed Total	117 (4.6)	92 (4.3)	16 (11.4)	2 (14.3)	2 (3.4)	5 (2.9)
Employee						
Private practice	78 (6.7)	9 (3.4)	47 (10.0)	2 (10.5)	17 (5.7)	3 (2.6)
Public practice	97 (11.5)	20 (8.6)	46 (12.3)	29 (13.8)	—	2 (11.1)
<i>Public health regions</i>	84 (11.1)	19 (9.4)	37 (10.8)	27 (14.1)	—	1 (6.7)
<i>Ministry of Health</i>	8 (16.0)	—	5 (25.0)	2 (11.1)	—	1 (100.0)
<i>Other government department, not MOH</i>	5 (13.5)	1 (5.3)	4 (30.8)	—	—	—
Universities	8 (5.0)	5 (4.1)	1 (6.7)	1 (11.1)	—	1 (8.3)
Māori health organisation	8 (47.1)	4 (36.4)	3 (-)	1 (33.3)	—	—
Employee subtotal	191 (8.7)	38 (6.1)	97 (11.2)	33 (13.7)	17 (5.5)	6 (4.2)
Other forms of employment or no response	1 (1.7)	1 (3.4)	—	—	—	—
Distinct total	292 (6.4)	123 (4.6)	105 (11.1)	35 (13.8)	19 (5.3)	10 (3.2)

Data source: Workforce surveys

^a Percentage calculated from total profession counts (incl. Māori) reporting employment types

Table 7-9. Geographic distribution and FTE reported by practising Māori oral health practitioners by Territorial Authority, as at end of 2025 reporting period (TA)

TA area	Distinct total (%)	Dentists and dental specialists	Oral health therapists	Dental therapists	Dental hygienists	Dental technicians
Far North district	9 (3.1)	2	3	3	—	1
Whangarei district	4 (1.4)	1	1	1	1	1
Kaipara district	1 (0.3)	—	1	—	—	—
Auckland	47 (16.2)	18	17	8	1	3
Thames—Coromandel district	3 (1.0)	1	—	2	—	—
Hauraki district	—	—	—	—	—	—
Waikato district	3 (1.0)	1	1	1	—	—
Matamata—Piako district	1 (0.3)	1	—	—	—	—
Hamilton city	7 (2.4)	3	3	1	—	—
Waipa district	1 (0.3)	1	—	—	—	—
Ōtorohanga district	—	—	—	—	—	—
South Waikato district	1 (0.3)	—	—	—	—	1
Waitomo district	—	—	—	—	—	—
Taupo district	2 (0.7)	—	1	1	—	—
Western Bay of Plenty district	2 (0.7)	2	—	—	—	—
Tauranga city	11 (3.8)	3	2	4	—	2
Rotorua district	7 (2.4)	2	2	3	—	—
Whakatane district	3 (1.0)	1	—	—	2	—
Kawerau district	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ōpōtiki district	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gisborne district	1 (0.3)	1	—	—	—	—
Wairoa district	1 (0.3)	—	—	1	—	—
Hastings district	4 (1.4)	1	2	—	1	—
Napier city	2 (0.7)	1	—	—	1	—
Central Hawke's Bay district	—	—	—	—	—	—
New Plymouth district	4 (1.4)	1	1	1	—	1
Stratford district	—	—	—	—	—	—
South Taranaki district	1 (0.3)	—	—	1	—	—
Ruapehu district	1 (0.3)	—	—	1	—	—
Whanganui district	1 (0.3)	—	1	—	—	—
Rangitikei district	1 (0.3)	—	—	1	—	—
Manawatu district	1 (0.3)	—	1	—	—	—
Palmerston North city	2 (0.7)	—	—	1	—	1
Taranua district	—	—	—	—	—	—
Horowhenua district	2 (0.7)	2	—	—	—	—
Kapiti Coast district	5 (1.7)	3	2	—	—	—

TA area	Distinct total (%)	Dentists and dental specialists	Oral health therapists	Dental therapists	Dental hygienists	Dental technicians
Porirua city	1 (0.3)	—	—	—	1	—
Upper Hutt city	1 (0.3)	—	—	—	1	—
Lower Hutt city	5 (1.7)	3	1	1	—	—
Wellington city	6 (2.1)	5	—	1	—	—
Masterton district	2 (0.7)	1	1	—	—	—
Carterton district	—	—	—	—	—	—
South Wairarapa district	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tasman district	3 (1.0)	3	—	—	—	—
Nelson city	2 (0.7)	—	—	—	1	1
Marlborough district	2 (0.7)	2	—	—	—	—
Kaikoura district	—	—	—	—	—	—
Buller district	—	—	—	—	—	—
Grey district	—	—	—	—	—	—
Westland district	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hurunui district	—	—	—	—	—	—
Waimakariri district	1 (0.3)	1	—	—	—	—
Christchurch city	7 (2.4)	5	2	—	—	—
Selwyn district	1 (0.3)	—	—	1	—	—
Ashburton district	1 (0.3)	1	—	—	—	—
Timaru district	1 (0.3)	1	—	—	—	—
Mackenzie district	—	—	—	—	—	—
Waimate district	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chatham Islands territory	—	—	—	—	—	—
Waitaki district	1 (0.3)	1	—	—	—	—
Central Otago district	—	—	—	—	—	—
Queenstown—Lakes district	1 (0.3)	1	—	—	—	—
Dunedin city	8 (2.7)	4	1	2	—	1
Clutha district	1 (0.3)	—	1	—	—	—
Southland district	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gore district	—	—	—	—	—	—
Invercargill city	2 (0.7)	—	1	—	—	1
Areas outside of TA	2 (0.7)	1	—	—	1	—
Unknown	115 (39.5)	49	60	—	—	6
Total	291	123	105	35	10	19

(Data sources: Dental register, workforce survey & Statistics New Zealand)

Table 7-10. Geographic distribution of practising Māori oral health practitioners by health region & district for 2023

	Dentists and dental specialists (%)	Oral health therapists (%)	Dental therapists (%)	Dental hygienists (%)	Dental technicians (%)
Northern region	22 (19.0)	22 (27.5)	13 (33.3)	6 (40.0)	2 (18.2)
Northland	2 (1.7)	5 (6.3)	4 (10.3)	1 (6.7)	1 (9.1)
Waitemata	7 (6.0)	8 (10.0)	3 (7.7)	2 (13.3)	1 (9.1)
Auckland	9 (7.8)	5 (6.3)	3 (7.7)	2 (13.3)	—
Counties Manukau	4 (3.4)	4 (5.0)	3 (7.7)	1 (6.7)	—
Midland/Te Manawa Taki	19 (16.4)	12 (15.0)	14 (35.9)	3 (20.0)	4 (36.4)
Waikato	9 (7.8)	5 (6.3)	5 (12.8)	1 (6.7)	—
Lakes	1 (0.9)	3 (3.8)	4 (10.3)	—	—
Bay of Plenty	4 (3.4)	2 (2.5)	4 (10.3)	2 (13.3)	2 (18.2)
Tairāwhiti	1 (0.9)	—	—	—	—
Taranaki	4 (3.4)	2 (2.5)	1 (2.6)	—	2 (18.2)
Central/Te Ikaroa	15 (12.9)	7 (8.8)	8 (20.5)	2 (13.3)	2 (18.2)
Hawke's Bay	1 (0.9)	1 (1.3)	2 (5.1)	1 (6.7)	—
Midcentral	3 (2.6)	1 (1.3)	2 (5.1)	1 (6.7)	—
Whanganui	—	1 (1.3)	1 (2.6)	—	—
Capital, Coast and Hutt Valley	10 (8.6)	3 (3.8)	3 (7.7)	—	2 (18.2)
Wairarapa	1 (0.9)	1 (1.3)	—	—	—
South Island/Te Waipounamu	23 (19.8)	4 (5.0)	4 (10.3)	1 (6.7)	2 (18.2)
Nelson Marlborough	5 (4.3)	—	—	—	2 (18.2)
West Coast	—	—	—	—	—
Canterbury	9 (7.8)	1 (1.3)	1 (2.6)	—	—
South Canterbury	—	—	—	—	—
Southern	9 (7.8)	3 (3.8)	3 (7.7)	1 (6.7)	—
Unknown	37 (31.9)	35 (43.8)	—	3 (20.0)	1 (9.1)
Total	116	80	39	15	11

(Data sources: Workforce survey and Ministry of Health)

Table 7-11. Geographic distribution of practising Māori oral health practitioners by health region & district for 2024

	Dentists and dental specialists (%)	Oral health therapists (%)	Dental therapists (%)	Dental hygienists (%)	Dental technicians (%)
Northern region	19 (15.4)	20 (21.3)	12 (33.3)	3 (15.8)	1 (10.0)
Northland	2 (1.6)	5 (5.3)	4 (11.1)	1 (5.3)	—
Waitemata	7 (5.7)	7 (7.4)	2 (5.6)	—	1 (10.0)
Auckland	8 (6.5)	4 (4.3)	3 (8.3)	1 (5.3)	—
Counties Manukau	2 (1.6)	4 (4.3)	3 (8.3)	1 (5.3)	—
Midland/Te Manawa Taki	19 (15.4)	12 (12.8)	13 (36.1)	3 (15.8)	3 (30.0)
Waikato	8 (6.5)	5 (5.3)	5 (13.9)	1 (5.3)	—
Lakes	1 (0.8)	3 (3.2)	3 (8.3)	—	—
Bay of Plenty	6 (4.9)	2 (2.1)	4 (11.1)	2 (10.5)	2 (20.0)
Tairāwhiti	1 (0.8)	—	—	—	—
Taranaki	3 (2.4)	2 (2.1)	1 (2.8)	—	1 (10.0)
Central/Te Ikaroa	15 (12.2)	7 (7.4)	7 (19.4)	2 (10.5)	1 (10.0)
Hawke's Bay	1 (0.8)	1 (1.1)	2 (5.6)	1 (5.3)	—
Midcentral	3 (2.4)	1 (1.1)	1 (2.8)	1 (5.3)	—
Whanganui	—	1 (1.1)	1 (2.8)	—	—
Capital, Coast and Hutt Valley	10 (8.1)	3 (3.2)	3 (8.3)	—	1 (10.0)
Wairarapa	1 (0.8)	1 (1.1)	—	—	—
South Island/Te Waipounamu	18 (14.6)	5 (5.3)	3 (8.3)	3 (15.8)	1 (10.0)
Nelson Marlborough	5 (4.1)	—	—	1 (5.3)	1 (10.0)
West Coast	—	—	—	—	—
Canterbury	6 (4.9)	2 (2.1)	1 (2.8)	—	—
South Canterbury	1 (0.8)	—	—	—	—
Southern	6 (4.9)	3 (3.2)	2 (5.6)	2 (10.5)	—
Unknown	52 (42.3)	50 (53.2)	1 (2.8)	8 (42.1)	4 (40.0)
Total	123	94	36	19	10

(Data sources: Workforce survey and Ministry of Health)

Table 7-12. Geographic distribution of practising Māori oral health practitioners by health region & district for 2025

	Dentists and dental specialists (%)	Oral health therapists (%)	Dental therapists (%)	Dental hygienists (%)	Dental technicians (%)
Northern region	21 (16.4)	22 (19.8)	12 (32.4)	5 (26.3)	2 (20.0)
Northland	3 (2.3)	5 (4.5)	4 (10.8)	2 (10.5)	1 (10.0)
Waitemata	7 (5.5)	8 (7.2)	2 (5.4)	1 (5.3)	1 (10.0)
Auckland	9 (7.0)	5 (4.5)	3 (8.1)	1 (5.3)	—
Counties Manukau	2 (1.6)	4 (3.6)	3 (8.1)	1 (5.3)	—
Midland/Te Manawa Taki	18 (14.1)	11 (9.9)	14 (37.8)	3 (15.8)	4 (40.0)
Waikato	7 (5.5)	4 (3.6)	5 (13.5)	1 (5.3)	—
Lakes	2 (1.6)	3 (2.7)	4 (10.8)	—	—
Bay of Plenty	6 (4.7)	2 (1.8)	4 (10.8)	2 (10.5)	2 (20.0)
Tairāwhiti	1 (0.8)	—	—	—	—
Taranaki	2 (1.6)	2 (1.8)	1 (2.7)	—	2 (20.0)
Central/Te Ikaroa	15 (11.7)	7 (6.3)	6 (16.2)	2 (10.5)	2 (20.0)
Hawke's Bay	1 (0.8)	1 (0.9)	2 (5.4)	1 (5.3)	—
Midcentral	3 (2.3)	1 (0.9)	1 (2.7)	1 (5.3)	—
Whanganui	—	1 (0.9)	1 (2.7)	—	—
Capital, Coast and Hutt Valley	10 (7.8)	3 (2.7)	2 (5.4)	—	2 (10.0)
Wairarapa	1 (0.8)	1 (0.9)	—	—	—
South Island/Te Waipounamu	19 (14.8)	5 (4.5)	3 (8.1)	3 (15.8)	1 (10.0)
Nelson Marlborough	5 (3.9)	—	—	1 (5.3)	1 (10.0)
West Coast	—	—	—	—	—
Canterbury	7 (5.5)	2 (1.8)	1 (2.7)	—	—
South Canterbury	1 (0.8)	—	—	—	—
Southern	6 (4.7)	3 (2.7)	2 (5.4)	2 (10.5)	—
Unknown	55 (43.0)	66 (59.5)	2 (5.4)	6 (31.6)	1 (10.0)
Total	128	111	37	19	10

(Data sources: Workforce survey and Ministry of Health)

Section 8: Appendices

Table 8-1. Geographic distribution of practising oral health practitioners by Territorial Authority for 2025 reporting year

TA area	Dentists and dental specialists (%)	Oral health therapists (%)	Dental therapists (%)	Dental hygienists and orthodontic auxiliaries (%)	Dental technicians and clinical dental technicians (%)
Far North District	13 (0.5)	6 (0.6)	7 (2.6)	4 (1.1)	1 (0.3)
Whangarei District	38 (1.4)	5 (0.5)	6 (2.2)	6 (1.6)	7 (2.1)
Kaipara district	—	2 (0.2)	1 (0.4)	—	1 (0.3)
Auckland	664 (23.8)	198 (20.2)	69 (25.7)	93 (24.7)	88 (25.8)
Thames-Coromandel District	9 (0.3)	—	2 (0.7)	2 (0.5)	1 (0.3)
Hauraki District	3 (0.1)	—	—	—	—
Waikato District	9 (0.3)	2 (0.2)	3 (1.1)	2 (0.5)	—
Matamata-Piako District	11 (0.4)	1 (0.1)	4 (1.5)	—	1 (0.3)
Hamilton City	92 (3.3)	21 (2.1)	10 (3.7)	8 (2.1)	15 (4.4)
Waipa District	15 (0.5)	3 (0.3)	3 (1.1)	6 (1.6)	3 (0.9)
Ōtorohanga district	4 (0.1)	—	—	—	—
South Waikato District	4 (0.1)	—	1 (0.4)	1 (0.3)	—
Waitomo District	1 (0.0)	—	—	—	—
Taupo District	12 (0.4)	2 (0.2)	3 (1.1)	1 (0.3)	2 (0.6)
Western Bay of Plenty District	5 (0.2)	2 (0.2)	1 (0.4)	4 (1.1)	—
Tauranga City	64 (2.3)	11 (1.1)	21 (7.8)	8 (2.1)	5 (1.5)
Rotorua District	20 (0.7)	3 (0.3)	12 (4.5)	2 (0.5)	3 (0.9)
Whakatane District	11 (0.4)	3 (0.3)	2 (0.7)	1 (0.3)	3 (0.9)
Kawerau District	1 (0.0)	—	—	—	1 (0.3)
Ōpōtiki district	1 (0.0)	—	1 (0.4)	—	—
Gisborne District	12 (0.4)	5 (0.5)	2 (0.7)	1 (0.3)	3 (0.9)
Wairoa District	2 (0.1)	—	2 (0.7)	—	—
Hastings District	27 (1.0)	5 (0.5)	7 (2.6)	8 (2.1)	1 (0.3)
Napier City	29 (1.0)	2 (0.2)	3 (1.1)	1 (0.3)	8 (2.3)
Central Hawke's Bay District	3 (0.1)	—	—	—	—
New Plymouth District	24 (0.9)	7 (0.7)	4 (1.5)	7 (1.9)	3 (0.9)
Stratford District	2 (0.1)	2 (0.2)	—	—	—
South Taranaki District	3 (0.1)	—	1 (0.4)	—	—
Ruapehu District	1 (0.0)	—	2 (0.7)	—	—
Whanganui District	15 (0.5)	5 (0.5)	7 (2.6)	4 (1.1)	1 (0.3)
Rangitikei District	1 (0.0)	—	2 (0.7)	—	—

TA area	Dentists and dental specialists (%)	Oral health therapists (%)	Dental therapists (%)	Dental hygienists and orthodontic auxiliaries (%)	Dental technicians and clinical dental technicians (%)
Manawatu District	6 (0.2)	3 (0.3)	1 (0.4)	—	—
Palmerston North City	43 (1.5)	7 (0.7)	10 (3.7)	12 (3.2)	6 (1.8)
Tararua District	1 (0.0)	—	2 (0.7)	—	—
Horowhenua District	9 (0.3)	1 (0.1)	1 (0.4)	1 (0.3)	1 (0.3)
Kapiti Coast District	16 (0.6)	2 (0.2)	3 (1.1)	2 (0.5)	3 (0.9)
Porirua City	7 (0.3)	2 (0.2)	3 (1.1)	3 (0.8)	3 (0.9)
Upper Hutt City	15 (0.5)	5 (0.5)	1 (0.4)	4 (1.1)	4 (1.2)
Lower Hutt City	44 (1.6)	11 (1.1)	10 (3.7)	4 (1.1)	4 (1.2)
Wellington City	122 (4.4)	32 (3.3)	5 (1.9)	22 (5.9)	14 (4.1)
Masterton District	12 (0.4)	3 (0.3)	1 (0.4)	2 (0.5)	1 (0.3)
Carterton District	2 (0.1)	—	1 (0.4)	1 (0.3)	—
South Wairarapa District	2 (0.1)	—	—	—	—
Tasman District	14 (0.5)	2 (0.2)	3 (1.1)	2 (0.5)	1 (0.3)
Nelson City	35 (1.3)	4 (0.4)	1 (0.4)	3 (0.8)	5 (1.5)
Marlborough District	13 (0.5)	1 (0.1)	3 (1.1)	1 (0.3)	3 (0.9)
Kaikoura District	1 (0.0)	—	—	—	—
Buller District	—	—	—	—	—
Grey District	5 (0.2)	—	1 (0.4)	2 (0.5)	—
Westland district	—	—	—	—	—
Hurunui district	—	—	—	—	—
Waimakariri District	8 (0.3)	—	1 (0.4)	1 (0.3)	2 (0.6)
Christchurch City	191 (6.9)	26 (2.7)	21 (7.8)	30 (8.0)	30 (8.8)
Selwyn District	11 (0.4)	—	1 (0.4)	4 (1.1)	2 (0.6)
Ashburton District	6 (0.2)	2 (0.2)	1 (0.4)	—	1 (0.3)
Timaru District	14 (0.5)	1 (0.1)	2 (0.7)	2 (0.5)	3 (0.9)
Mackenzie district	—	—	—	—	—
Waimate district	—	1 (0.1)	—	—	—
Chatham Islands territory	—	—	—	—	—
Waitaki District	9 (0.3)	—	1 (0.4)	1 (0.3)	2 (0.6)
Central Otago District	7 (0.3)	2 (0.2)	1 (0.4)	2 (0.5)	1 (0.3)
Queenstown-Lakes District	14 (0.5)	2 (0.2)	2 (0.7)	5 (1.3)	3 (0.9)
Dunedin City	129 (4.6)	18 (1.8)	11 (4.1)	11 (2.9)	23 (6.7)
Clutha District	1 (0.0)	3 (0.3)	1 (0.4)	1 (0.3)	—

TA area	Dentists and dental specialists (%)	Oral health therapists (%)	Dental therapists (%)	Dental hygienists and orthodontic auxiliaries (%)	Dental technicians and clinical dental technicians (%)
Southland District	1 (0.0)	—	—	—	—
Gore District	3 (0.1)	2 (0.2)	—	—	—
Invercargill City	25 (0.9)	5 (0.5%)	2 (0.7)	2 (0.5)	2 (0.6)
Unknown	880 (31.6)	556 (56.7)	—	95 (25.3)	79 (23.2)
Area Outside Territorial Authority	43 (1.5)	4 (0.4)	3 (1.1)	4 (1.1)	1 (0.3)
Total	2,785	980	269	376	341

(Data sources: Dental register, workforce survey & Statistics New Zealand)

Table 8-2. Population to oral health practitioners by district health board for 2025 reporting year

	Dentists and dental specialists		Oral health therapists			Dental therapists		Dental hygienists and orthodontic auxiliaries		Dental technicians and clinical dental technicians	
	Number with practising certificates	Number per 100,000 population aged 15+ years	Number with practising certificates	Number per 100,000 population aged <15 years	Number per 100,000 population aged 15+ years	Number with practising certificates	Number per 100,000 population aged <15 years	Number with practising certificates	Number per 100,000 population aged 15+ years	Number with practising certificates	Number per 100,000 population aged 15+ years
Northern region	715	42.5	211	55.3	12.6	83	21.8	103	6.1	97	5.8
Northland	51	30.3	13	32.8	7.7	14	35.3	10	5.9	9	5.3
Waitemata	247	44.1	84	66.7	15.0	21	16.7	33	5.9	38	6.8
Auckland	272	61.6	58	76.1	13.1	17	22.3	40	9.1	30	6.8
Counties Manukau	145	28.4	56	40.0	10.9	31	22.2	20	3.9	20	3.9
Midland/Te Manawa Taki	335	36.8	62	28.4	6.8	78	35.7	45	4.9	46	5.1
Waikato	148	38.3	27	28.8	7.0	24	25.6	19	4.9	20	5.2
Lakes	32	32.6	5	20.7	5.1	15	62.2	3	3.1	5	5.1
Bay of Plenty	82	35.3	16	29.6	6.9	25	46.3	13	5.6	9	3.9
Tairāwhiti	12	28.2	5	43.1	11.8	2	17.2	1	2.4	3	7.1
Taranaki	61	40.2	9	25.6	5.9	12	34.1	9	5.9	9	5.9
Central/Te Ikaroa	325	41.6	78	47.6	10.0	53	32.3	62	7.9	40	5.1
Hawke's Bay	29	27.2	7	27.4	6.6	5	19.6	7	6.6	3	2.8
Midcentral	62	38.6	11	30.4	6.9	14	38.7	13	8.1	7	4.4
Whanganui	17	29.6	5	37.7	8.7	10	75.4	4	7.0	1	1.7
Capital, Coast and Hutt Valley	201	48.6	52	65.2	12.6	22	27.6	35	8.5	28	6.8
Wairarapa	16	37.1	3	32.9	6.9	2	21.9	3	6.9	1	2.3
South Island/Te Waipounamu	487	45.5	69	33.4	6.4	52	25.2	67	6.3	78	7.3
Nelson Marlborough	62	43.4	7	26.8	4.9	7	26.8	6	4.2	9	6.3
West Coast	5	17.0	—	—	—	1	18.3	2	6.8	—	—
Canterbury	217	40.9	28	26.4	5.3	24	22.6	35	6.6	35	6.6
South Canterbury	14	25.6	2	18.6	3.7	2	18.6	2	3.7	3	5.5
Southern	189	60.4	32	55.0	10.2	18	30.9	22	7.0	31	9.9
Unknown, with hours reported	923	—	560	—	—	3	—	99	—	80	—
Total	2,785	62.7	980	101.0	22.1	269	27.7	376	8.5	341	7.7

(Data sources: Workforce survey and Statistics New Zealand)

