

Dental practice now: Dentists

A snapshot as at 30 June 2022

Workforce at a glance



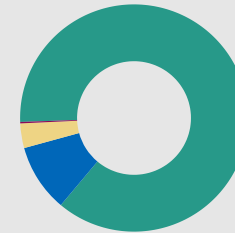
19,219 registered dentists in Australia¹

74.7% of the dental profession

2.3% of regulated health practitioner workforce

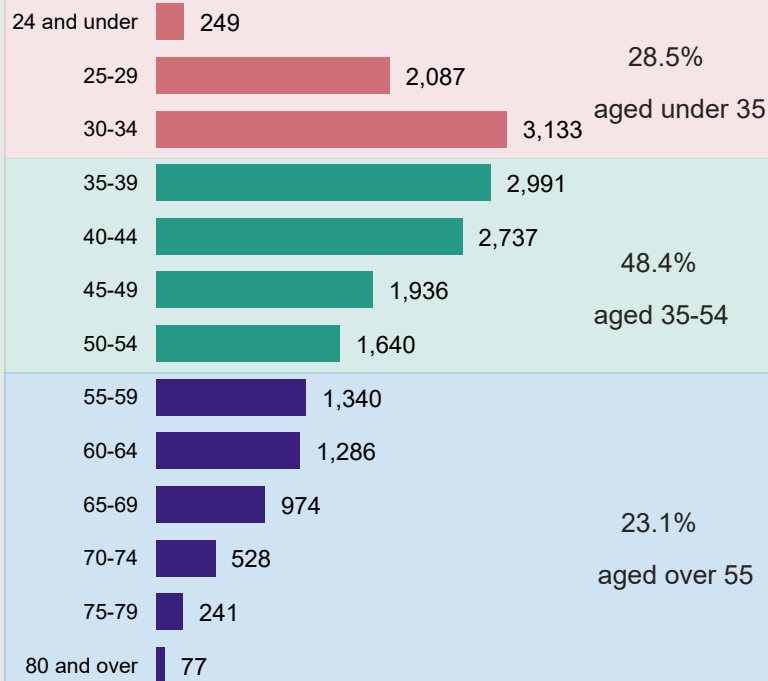
71.6 dentists per 100,000 head of population

Registration types



General registration	86.7%
Specialist registration	9.6%
Non-practising registration	3.5%
Limited registration	0.2%

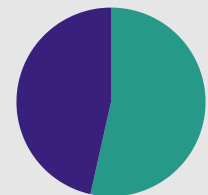
Age range at 2021/22



Average age (mean)

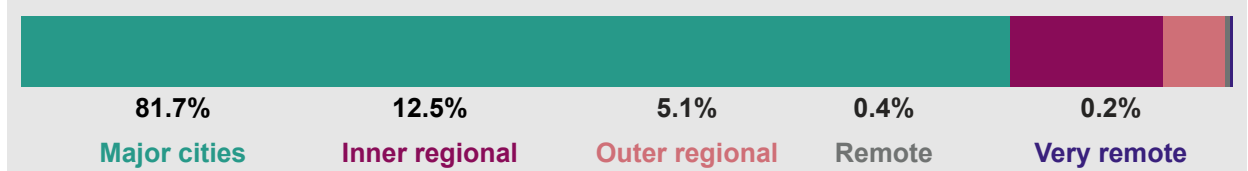
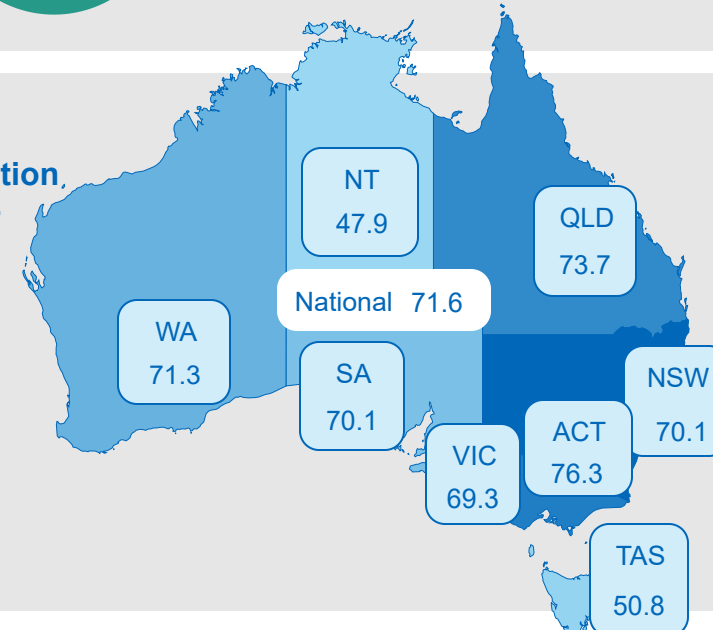
44.1 years

Gender



Male 53.5%
Female 46.5%

Dentists per 100,000 head of population, excluding non-practising registrants



1. Excludes non-practising registrants and those on the pandemic sub-register, unless otherwise stated.

Dental practice now: Dentists

Five year trend from 2017/18 to 2021/22

Registered dentists

17,255	19,219	▲
Percentage of regulated health practitioner workforce		
2.3%	2.3%	●
Practitioners per 100,000 head of population ¹		
69.1	74.2	▲
Age		
Percentage of dentists under the age of 35		
30.0%	28.5%	▼
Percentage of dentists aged 35 to 54		
45.4%	48.4%	▲
Percentage of dentists aged 55 and over		
24.7%	23.1%	▼
Gender		
Percentage of female dentists		
42.6%	46.5%	▲
Percentage of male dentists		
57.4%	53.5%	▼

Five year trend from 2017/18 to 2021/22

Table key

2017/18

2021/22

Trend down ▼

Trend stable ●

Trend up ▲

11.4%

increase in registered dentists

Changes to registration categories

General registration		
87.0%	86.7%	▼
Specialist registration		
10.1%	9.6%	▼
Limited registration		
0.3%	0.2%	▼
Non-practising registration		
2.6%	3.5%	▲

1. Includes non-practising practitioners.

Dental practice now: Dentists

Five year trend from 2017/18 to 2021/22

Changes to workforce across states and territories¹

312	357	+14.4 % ▲
	ACT	
5,435	5,857	+7.8 % ▲
	NSW	
113	122	+8.0 % ▲
	NT	
3,480	3,994	+14.8 % ▲
	QLD	
1,199	1,309	+9.2 % ▲
	SA	
253	297	+17.4 % ▲
	TAS	
4,081	4,688	+14.9 % ▲
	VIC	
1,818	2,018	+11.0 % ▲
	WA	

Changes to workforce across remoteness areas¹

13,560	15,215	+12.2 % ▲
	Major cities	
2,068	2,335	+12.9 % ▲
	Inner regional	
931	957	+2.8 % ▲
	Outer regional	
71	73	+2.8 % ▲
	Remote	
41	43	+4.9 % ▲
	Very remote	

1. Excludes practitioners who do not have an Australian Principal Place of Practice (PPP) recorded on the register - usually because they are residing overseas or have not provided a valid PPP.

Dental practice now: Dentists

Five year trend from 2017/18 to 2021/22

Change to dentist principal speciality

Dento-maxillofacial radiology

11 15 +36.4 % ▲

Endodontics

173 186 +7.5 % ▲

Forensic odontology

24 20 -16.7 % ▼

Oral and maxillofacial surgery

221 253 +14.5 % ▲

Oral medicine

35 46 +31.4 % ▲

Oral and maxillofacial pathology

23 19 -17.4 % ▼

Oral surgery

49 60 +22.4 % ▲

Orthodontics

617 634 +2.8 % ▲

Change to dentist principal speciality - continued

Paediatric dentistry

149 163 +9.4 % ▲

Periodontics

232 251 +8.2 % ▲

Prosthodontics

225 228 +1.3 % ▲

Public health dentistry

16 15 -6.3 % ▼

Special needs dentistry

18 25 +38.9 % ▲