

Dental hygienists, dental therapists and oral health therapists now

A snapshot as at 30 June 2022



Workforce at a glance

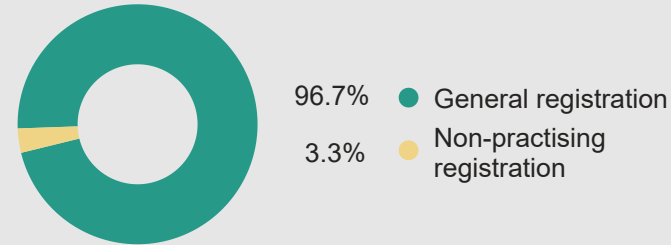
5,260 registered dental hygienists, dental therapists and oral health therapists in Australia¹

20.4% of the dental profession

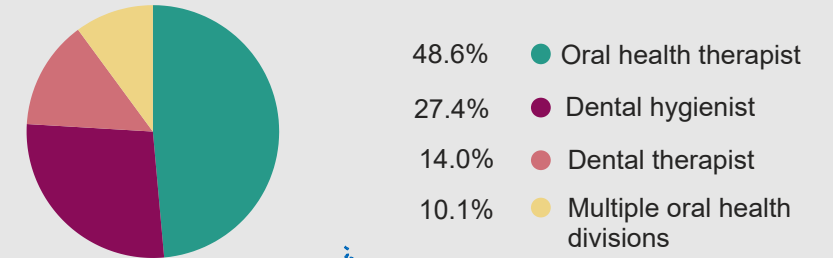
0.6% of regulated health practitioner workforce

19.7 per 100,000 head of population

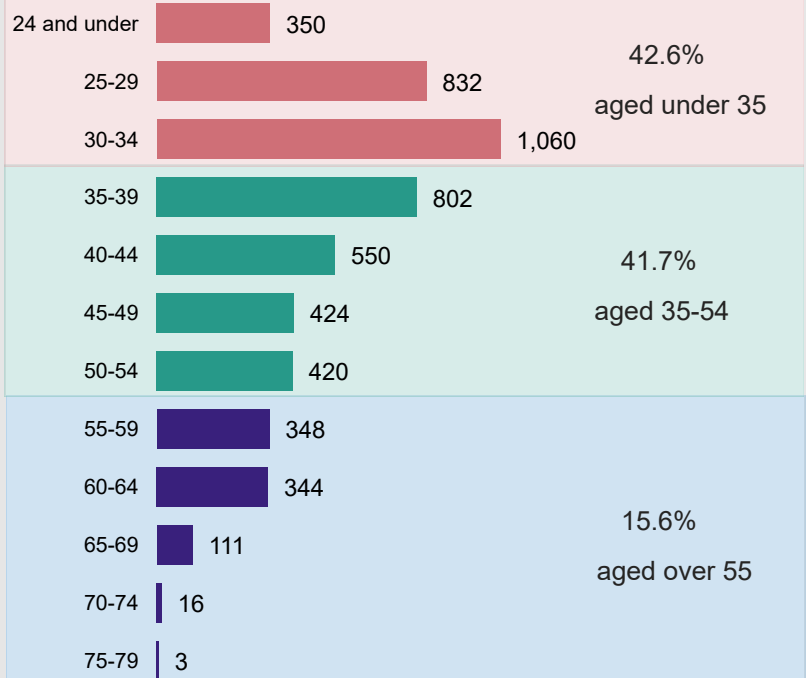
Registration types



Divisions



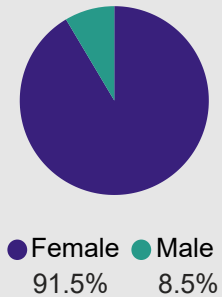
Age range at 2021/22



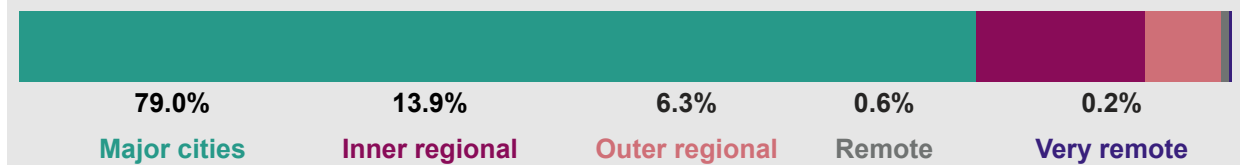
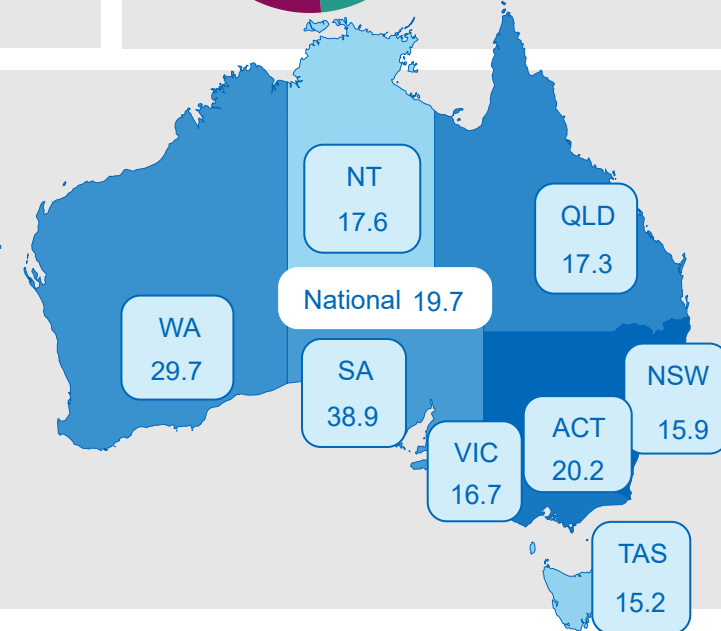
Average age (mean)

39.7 years

Gender



Practitioners 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 hygienists, dental therapists and oral health therapist now

Five year trend from 2017/18 to 2021/22

Registered oral health practitioners

4,594	5,260	▲
Percentage of regulated health practitioner workforce		
0.6%	0.6%	●
Practitioners per 100,000 head of population ¹		
18.4	20.3	▲
Age		
Percentage of practitioners under the age of 35		
42.9%	42.6%	▼
Percentage of practitioners aged 35 to 54		
40.2%	41.7%	▲
Percentage of practitioners aged 55 and over		
16.9%	15.6%	▼
Gender		
Percentage of female practitioners		
92.5%	91.5%	▼
Percentage of male practitioners		
7.5%	8.5%	▲

Five year trend from 2017/18 to 2021/22

Table key

2017/18

2021/22

Trend down ▼

Trend stable ●

Trend up ▲

14.5% increase in registered practitioners

Changes to registration categories

General registration		
97.5%	96.7%	▼
Non-practising registration		
2.5%	3.3%	▲

1. Includes non-practising practitioners.

Dental hygienists, dental therapists and oral health therapist now

Five year trend from 2017/18 to 2021/22

Changes to workforce across states and territories¹

90	96	+6.7 % ▲
ACT		
1,146	1,336	+16.6 % ▲
NSW		
50	45	-10.0 % ▼
NT		
856	949	+10.9 % ▲
QLD		
625	726	+16.2 % ▲
SA		
87	88	+1.1 % ▲
TAS		
920	1,129	+22.7 % ▲
VIC		
771	845	+9.6 % ▲
WA		

Changes to workforce across remoteness areas¹

3,553	4,115	+15.8 % ▲
Major cities		
625	723	+15.7 % ▲
Inner regional		
312	330	+5.8 % ▲
Outer regional		
34	31	-8.8 % ▼
Remote		
16	11	-31.3 % ▼
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 hygienists now

A snapshot as at 30 June 2022



Workforce at a glance

1,954 registered dental hygienists in Australia¹

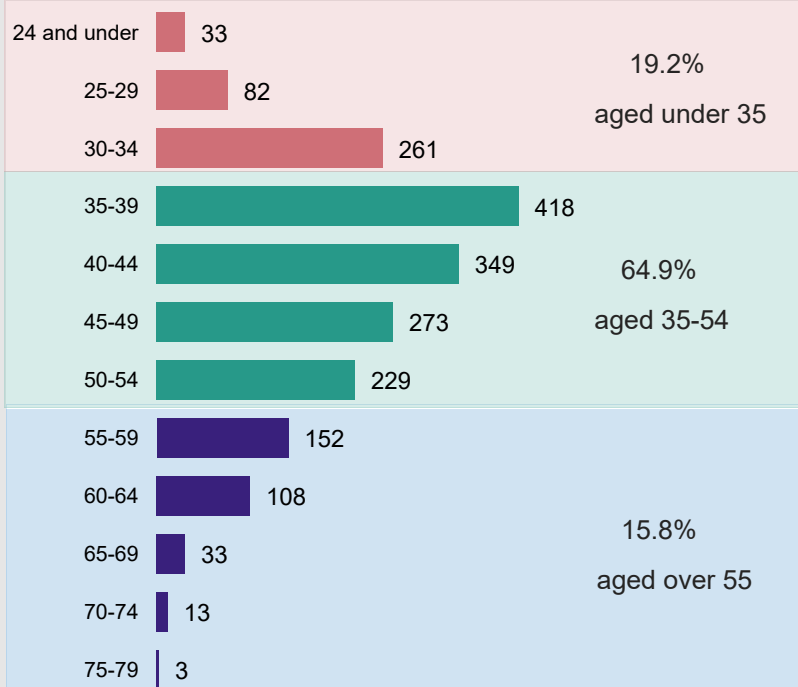
0.2% of regulated health practitioner workforce

7.2 dental hygienists per 100,000 head of population

Registration types



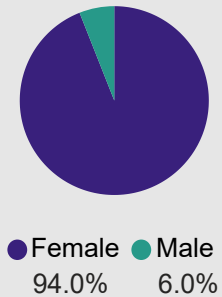
Age range at 2021/22



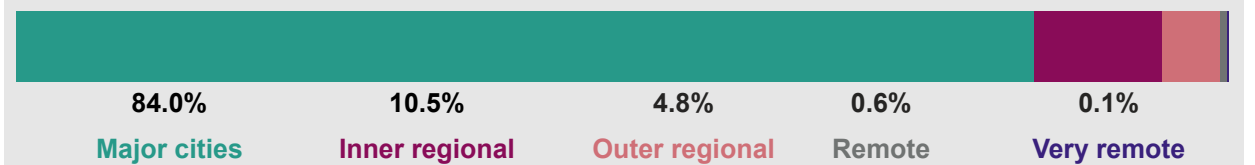
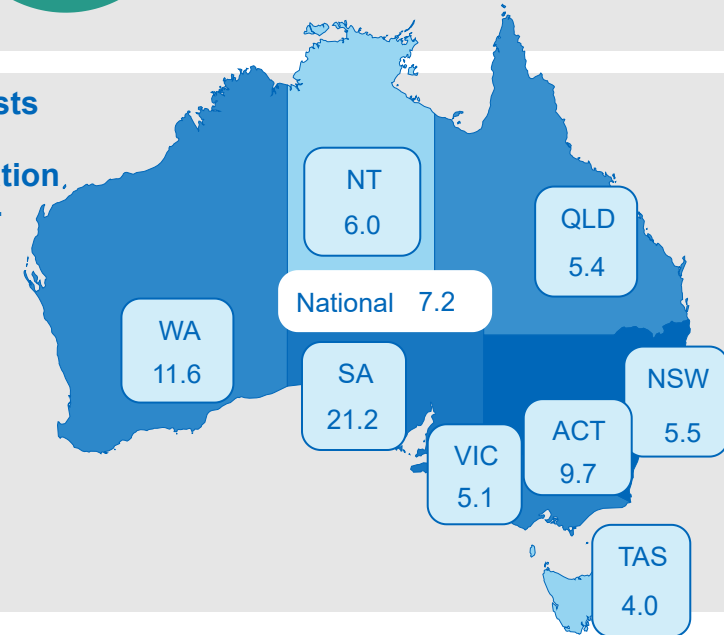
Average age (mean)

43.4 years

Gender



Dental hygienists 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 therapists now

A snapshot as at 30 June 2022

Workforce at a glance

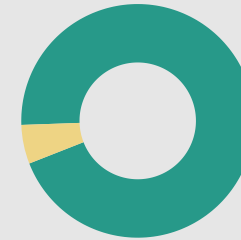


1,206 registered dental therapists in Australia¹

0.1% of regulated health practitioner workforce

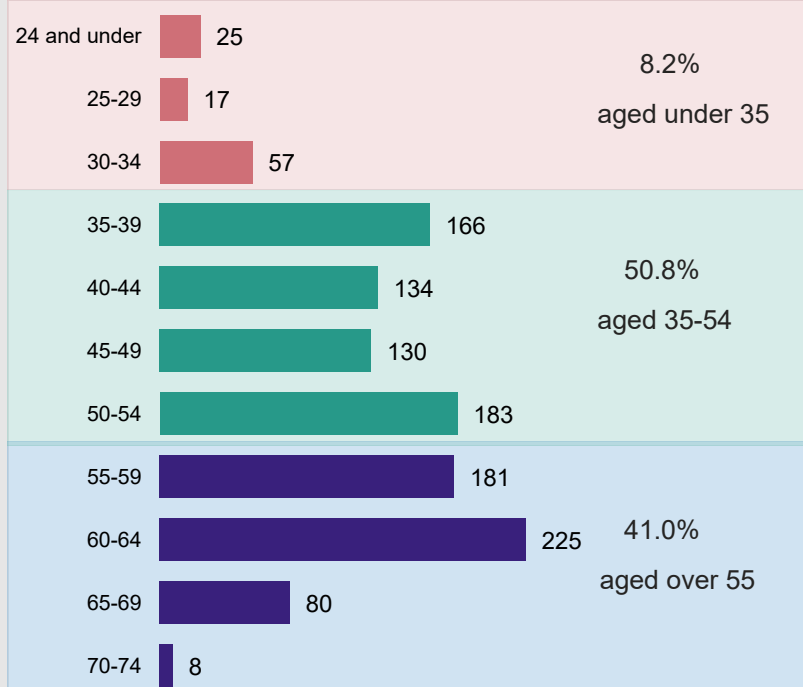
4.4 dental therapists per 100,000 head of population

Registration types



● General registration 94.6%
● Non-practising registration 5.4%

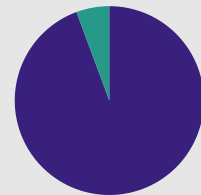
Age range at 2021/22



Average age (mean)

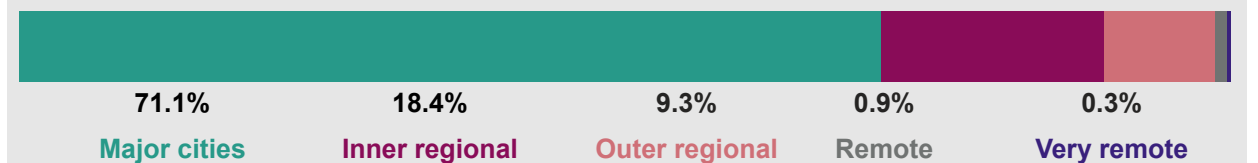
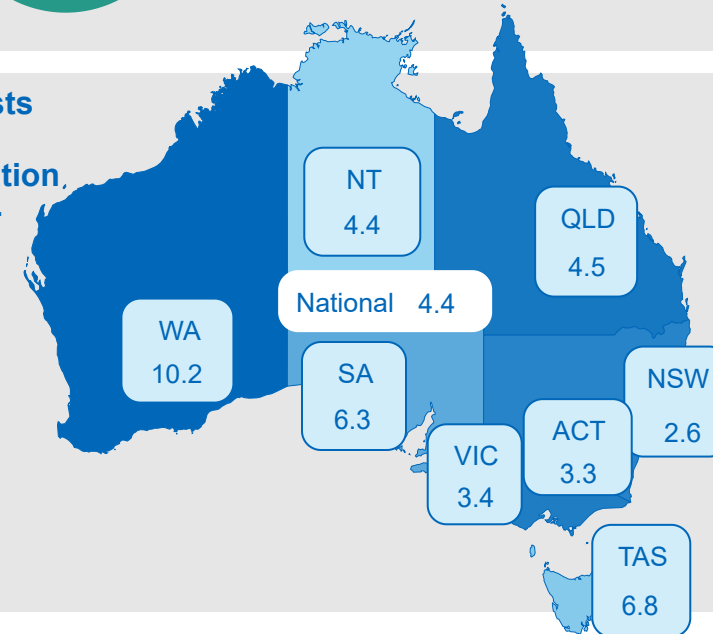
50.1 years

Gender



● Female 94.4% ● Male 5.6%

Dental therapists 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.

Oral health therapists now

A snapshot as at 30 June 2022



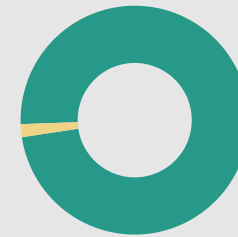
Workforce at a glance

2,673 registered oral health therapists in Australia¹

0.3% of regulated health practitioner workforce

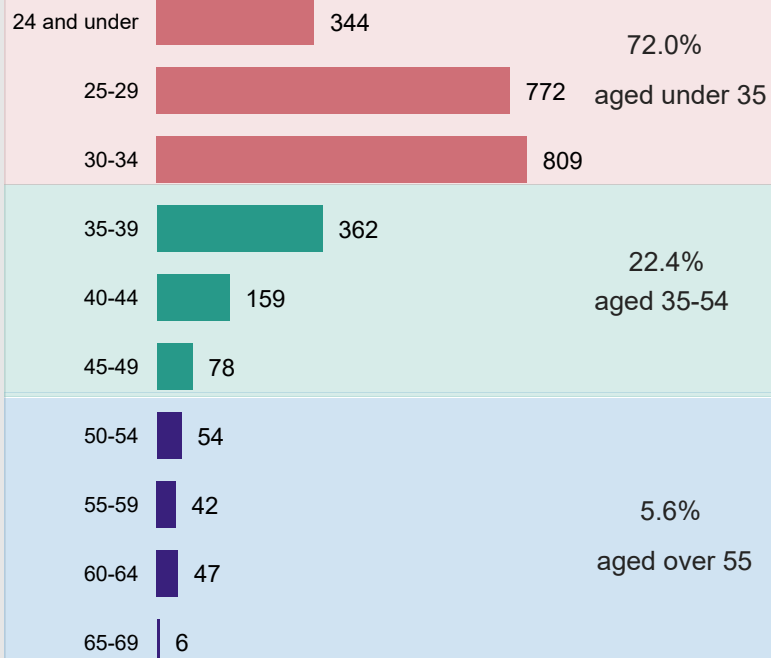
10.1 oral health therapists per 100,000 head of population

Registration types



● General registration 98.1%
● Non-practising registration 1.8%

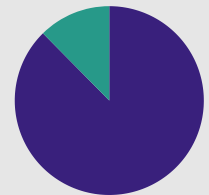
Age range at 2021/22



Average age (mean)

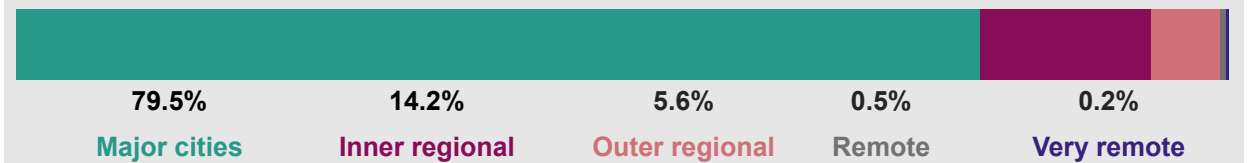
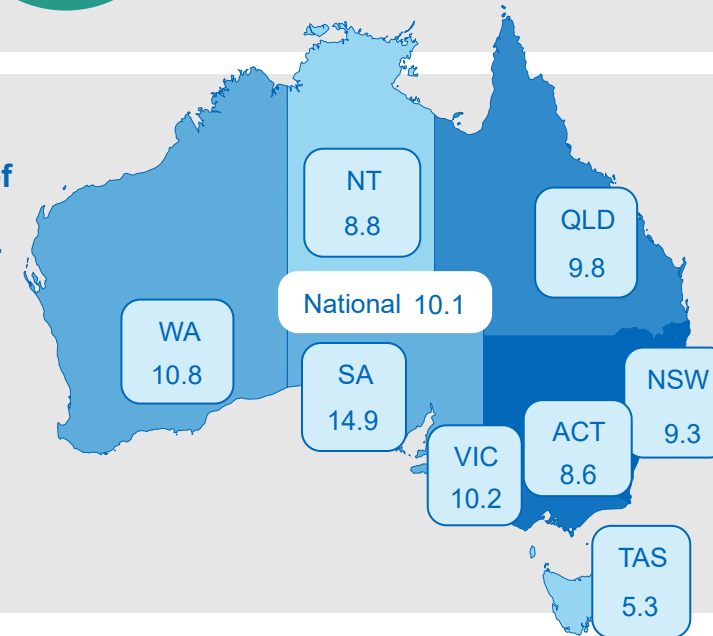
32.4 years

Gender



● Female 87.6%
● Male 12.4%

Oral health therapists 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.