

# OECD Health Statistics 2023

## Definitions, Sources and Methods

### Practising dentists (ISCO-08 code: 2261)

**Practising dentists** provide services for patients. They include stomatologists, dental and maxillofacial surgeons.

#### Inclusion

- Practising dentists who have completed studies in dentistry / stomatology at university level (granted by an adequate diploma) and who are licensed to practice
- Interns (with an adequate diploma and providing services under supervision of other dentists or dental specialists during their postgraduate internship in a healthcare facility)
- Salaried and self-employed dentists delivering services irrespectively of the place of service provision
- Foreign dentists licensed to practice and actively practising in the country
- Stomatologists
- Dental surgeons
- Maxillofacial surgeons

#### Exclusion

- Students who have not yet graduated
- Dentists working in administration, research and in other posts that exclude direct contact with the patients
- Unemployed dentists and retired dentists
- Dentists working abroad

**Note:** The number should be at the end of the calendar year.

### Sources and Methods

#### Australia

##### Source of data:

- 2013 onwards: **Department of Health (DoH)**. NHWDS Allied Health Practitioners Data. Data request. Also available at <http://hwd.health.gov.au/>. Data are as at the end of the re-registration period for the profession in the reference year.
- 2012: **Australian Institute of Health and Welfare 2014**. Dental workforce 2012. National health workforce series no. 7. Cat. No. HWL 53. Canberra: AIHW. Also available at [www.aihw.gov.au](http://www.aihw.gov.au).
- 2011: **Australian Institute of Health and Welfare 2013**. Dental workforce 2011. National health workforce series no. 4. Cat. no. HWL 50. Canberra: AIHW. Also available at [www.aihw.gov.au](http://www.aihw.gov.au).
- 2009: **Chrisopoulos S & Nguyen T 2012**. Trends in the Australian dental labour force, 2000 to 2009: Dental labour force collection, 2009. Dental Statistics and Research Series no. 61. Cat. no. DEN 218. Canberra: AIHW. Also available at [www.aihw.gov.au](http://www.aihw.gov.au).
- 2006: **Balasubramanian M, Teusner D 2011**. Dentists, specialists and allied practitioners in Australia: Dental Labour Force Collection, 2006. Dental statistics and research series no. 53. Cat. no. DEN 202. Canberra: AIHW. Also available at [www.aihw.gov.au](http://www.aihw.gov.au).
- 2003: **Teusner DN, Chrisopoulos S & Brennan DS 2007**. Geographic distribution of the Australian dental labour force, 2003. Dental statistics and research series no. 37. Cat. no. DEN 168. Canberra: AIHW. Also available at [www.aihw.gov.au](http://www.aihw.gov.au).

- 2000: **Teusner DN & Spencer AJ** 2003. Dental labour force, Australia 2000. Dental statistics and research series no. 28. AIHW Cat No Den 116. Canberra: AIHW. Also available at [www.aihw.gov.au](http://www.aihw.gov.au).

Coverage:

- From 2013, data exclude dentists with non-practising registration.
- From 2011, data regarding practising dentists include those dentists in a clinical role, namely, a practitioner who spends the majority of his or her time working in the area of clinical practice.

Break in time series:

- From 2011, data are based on estimates derived from the National Health Workforce Data Set (NHWDS). The data set contains information on the demographic and employment characteristics of dental practitioners (dentists, dental hygienists, dental prosthetists, dental therapists and oral health therapists) registered in Australia. Data are collected via registration forms and a survey instrument administered by the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency, in conjunction with the annual registration renewal process for dental practitioners. Data prior to 2011 were supplied based on data from the now superseded state and territory dental boards and councils. For more information see Appendix A of *Dental workforce 2011* at <http://www.aihw.gov.au/publication-detail/?id=60129542638>. Comparison of 2011 and later data with data prior to 2011 should be made with caution.
- From 2013 the NHWDS is held by the Department of Health and the data has minor differences from the previous AIHW holdings due to the method of imputation for survey non-response and enhanced geocoding methods.

## Austria

Source of data:

- 1970–2005: **Austrian Medical Association**.
- Since 2006: **Austrian Dental Association**. Dentists have their own professional association since 2006.

Reference period: 31<sup>st</sup> December.

Coverage:

- Included are domestic and foreign practising dentists who are licensed to practice according to the Austrian legislation and who are registered at the Austrian Dental Association (head count).
- Included are salaried and self-employed practising dentists in different places of service provision (private practices, hospitals, etc.).
- Included are interns and residents under supervision of other dentists.
- Included are sub-specialties like e.g. odontologists, stomatologists and orthodontologists.
- Included are oral and maxillofacial surgeons (since 2007).
- Excluded are dentists who do not provide services to individual patients (in industry, administration, research, etc.).
- Excluded are dentists working abroad, unemployed and retired dentists.

Note: Dental specialists without academic training but with a state license are excluded since 2003; their approbation was granted up to 1975.

Deviation from the definition:

- Up to and including 2006, oral and maxillofacial surgeons were counted as physicians. Since 2007, they have been assigned to dentists.

Break in time series:

- 2007: Data includes oral and maxillofacial surgery.

## Belgium

Source of data: **CTI – INAMI**.

Reference period: 31<sup>st</sup> December.

Deviation from the definition: Stomatologists are included in the number of physicians.

Break in time series:

- Data from 2000: Number of dentists with a minimal volume of patient contacts, excluding non-practising dentists, retired professionals and professionals working abroad.
- 1985-1999 data: Number of dentists who carried out at least one reimbursed medical act during the year.

## Canada

Source of data:

- From 2005 to 2009, an estimation of Practising Dentists was based on **Canadian Dental Association membership surveys**.
- From 2010 to 2016, estimations are based on **National Household Survey 2011** and **Census 2016** data from Statistics Canada.
- Exclusion: Dentists working in academic setting and public health.
- 2017, 2018 and 2019 estimates assuming the same percentage increase as in dentists licensed to practice.

## Chile

Data not available. These data exist only for the public sector (not reported in *OECD Health Statistics*). At the national level (public and private), data are available only for "Dentists licensed to practice".

## Colombia

Data not available. Data are available for "professionally active" dentists (including dentists in administrative, academic or research functions who are not providing direct care to patients).

## Costa Rica

Data not available.

## Czech Republic

Source of data:

- Up to 2013: **Institute of Health Information and Statistics of the Czech Republic**; Registry of Physicians, Dentists and Pharmacists.
- Since 2014: **Institute of Health Information and Statistics of the Czech Republic**; National Health Information System (Annual report on health personnel).

Reference period: 31<sup>st</sup> December.

Coverage:

- Until 1999, dentists working in other central organs not included. Since the year 2000, data cover dentists in all health services.
- In 2014, complete data are not available. Estimate is calculated from available data for 2014 and data from 2013.
- Double counting of dentists working in more than one health establishment.
- A new type of statistical survey and improvement of reporting units started in 2016.

Break in time series: 2000, 2014 and 2016.

## Denmark

Source of data: **The Danish Health Data Authority**, Labour Register for Health Personnel.

Reference period: 31<sup>st</sup> December.

Coverage:

- The term of dentist covers all persons qualified as a dentist with or without authorization to practice independently in the country.

## Estonia

Source of data:

- Annual reports, **National Institute for Health Development**, Department of Health Statistics.  
[https://statistika.tai.ee/pxweb/en/Andmebaas/Andmebaas\\_04THressursid\\_05Tootajad/?tablelist=true](https://statistika.tai.ee/pxweb/en/Andmebaas/Andmebaas_04THressursid_05Tootajad/?tablelist=true).
- 1980-2002 published by **Statistics Estonia**, interns included  
([https://andmed.stat.ee/en/stat/Lepetatud\\_tabelid\\_Sotsiaalelu.%20Arhiiv\\_Tervis.%20%20Arhiiv\\_tervishoiuasutused/TH05](https://andmed.stat.ee/en/stat/Lepetatud_tabelid_Sotsiaalelu.%20Arhiiv_Tervis.%20%20Arhiiv_tervishoiuasutused/TH05)).

Reference period:

- 1980-2012: 31<sup>st</sup> of December.
- Since 2013: November.

Break in the series: 1991, 2005 and 2013.

- Until 1990, in addition to health personnel employed in the system of the Ministry of Health, the data include the personnel who worked in healthcare institutions of the Estonian Railway, Estonian Airway and those belonging to the closed establishments of the Soviet Union.
- The total number of physicians from the year 1991 includes only the data of the Ministry of Health and the Estonian Railway.
- Until 2004, the data of practising dentists were based on their educational qualifications.
- From 2005, the head count distribution is made according to their main occupational activity.
- The data collection methodology was changed in 2013. Aggregated data collection was replaced with data collection on a personal basis. From 2013, the predominant (main) area of practice is based on an occupation with the highest workload.

## Finland

Source of data: THL Health Personnel Statistics; **Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare**. The data are based on the Employment Register kept by Statistics Finland.

Reference period: At the end of the calendar year.

Estimation method: For the years 2004-2014, the numbers are provisional and values are not accurate due to possible inconsistencies in how occupations are classified in our database.

## France

Source of data: **Ministère des Solidarités et de la Santé – Direction de la Recherche, des Études, de l'Évaluation et des Statistiques (DREES)**, Sous-Direction de l'Observation de la Santé et de l'Assurance maladie, Bureau des Professions de santé, **RPPS (Répertoire Partagé des Professionnels de Santé)**. Data were revised in 2023 (years 2011 to 2021).

Reference period: 31<sup>st</sup> December year N (approximated by data of January 1<sup>st</sup> year N+1).

Coverage:

- Data refer to metropolitan France and D.R.O.M. (overseas departments and regions).
- Data cover only dentists and stomatologists providing direct care to patients.

## Germany

Source of data: **German Dental Association**, Membership statistics of the dental chambers 2021 and **German Medical Association**, Medical practitioner statistics 2021; special calculation by the Federal Statistical Office on base of data from the German Dental Association and the German Medical Association; <http://www.gbe-bund.de> or <http://www.bzaek.de> or <http://www.baek.de>.

Reference period: 31<sup>st</sup> December.

Coverage:

- Data contain the number of dentists that are actively practising in dental care and provide services directly to patients in dental offices (head-count data).
- The data exclude qualified dentists working abroad or working in administration, research and industry positions.
- Unemployed and retired dentists and students who have not yet graduated are also not included.
- The number of dentists includes those undergoing further training for specialisation and physicians with specialty “dental, oral and maxillofacial surgery”.

## Greece

Data not available. It is not feasible to separate unemployed dentists from the available data. For this reason, only data for dentists licensed to practice are provided.

## Hungary

Source of data:

- Up to 1999: **Ministry of Health**.
- Between 2000 and 2001: Data are estimates from the National Institute for Strategic Health Research (ESKI) based

on the Operational registration of the **Hungarian Medical Chamber** (MOK in Hungarian) [www.mok.hu](http://www.mok.hu).  
- Between 2002 and 2006: Operational registration of the **Hungarian Medical Chamber** (MOK in Hungarian) [www.mok.hu](http://www.mok.hu).  
- From 2007 until 2014: **Office of Health Care Authorisation and Administrative Procedures** (EEKH in Hungarian) [www.eekh.hu](http://www.eekh.hu).  
- From 2015 to 2016, **Health Registration and Training Center** (ENKK in Hungarian) [www.enkk.hu](http://www.enkk.hu).  
- From 2017 to 2020, **National Healthcare Service Center** (ÁEEK in Hungarian) [www.enkk.hu](http://www.enkk.hu), Operational register.  
- From 2021, **National Directorate General for Hospitals** (OKFŐ in Hungarian) [www.enkk.hu](http://www.enkk.hu), Operational register.

Reference period: 31st December.

Coverage:

- Practising dentists reported to the National Register of Physicians.
- Included: Specialised and non-specialised dentists, stomatologists, odontologists, orthodontologists.
- Since 2000, the registry of physicians has been prepared by the Hungarian Medical Chamber (MOK). In the first two years of the transition (until year 2002), the Central Statistical Office could not provide data. Therefore, these data should be treated very cautiously because of the legal and the technical system differences of the two registrations.

Break in time series: 2000, 2002, 2005, 2007, 2008, 2015, 2020.

- In 2005, the Hungarian Medical Chamber (MOK) performed data cleaning in the database deleting persons due to retirement, death, employment abroad or leaving the profession.
- From 2007, the Office of Health Authorisation and Administrative Procedures (EEKH) – unlike in the previous years – provided data not on the basis of last acquired specialisation but according to the dominant specialisation practiced during medical work.
- In 2008, the Office of Health Authorisation and Administrative Procedures significantly revised the data quality of the registry with by calling for refinement, according to the 1997. CLIV. Act.
- In 2015, 2020: In case of physicians, dentists and pharmacists there is a five-yearly cyclical decrease in the operational registration because of the expiry of the five yearly renewable operational license. In every fifth year (2000, 2005, 2010, 2015, 2020) there was a dropout in the case of those physicians, dentists and pharmacists, who did not request the renewal of their next five year cycle because they did not fulfill their mandatory further training, or they have been retired, or left to a foreign country, left the healthcare sector, or died.

## Iceland

Source of data:

- 2011 and onwards: Icelandic Dentists' Association.
- 2001 - 2010: **The Directorate of Health** - Register of dentists.
- Until 2001: **Icelandic Dentists' Association**.

Reference period: 31st December.

Coverage:

Before 2011:

- Includes: Dentists who are 70 year old and younger with a permanent residence in Iceland (Icelanders or foreign).
- Practising dentists - may refer more to professionally active dentists (but the group of non-practising dentists is small).

As of 2011:

- Number of individuals registered as practising dentists by the Icelandic Dentists' Association.

Break in time series: 2011.

## Ireland

Source of data: **Dental Council of Ireland** (<http://www.dentalcouncil.ie/>) and **Ireland's 2016 Census** (<https://www.cso.ie/en/census/>).

Reference period: Figures as at end of December for Dental Council source. Data as at referenced 2016 Census night.

Coverage:

*For data from the Dental Council:*

- Figures refer to all persons registered with the Dental Council of Ireland. This may include dentists which are not in activity.
- The following are included; dentists employed in private practice, dentists employed in medical research, dentists employed in public and private hospitals, foreign dentists registered in Ireland and Irish dentists living/working abroad.

For data from Census:

- Data includes all Irish population as part of the Census enumeration. This includes persons having been resident in Ireland for at least 12 months or with the intention of staying for at least 12 months in Ireland.
- Figure excludes temporary stays (e.g. tourists, medical treatment, religious events, etc.) and any other stays amounting less than 12 months as at the established Census night.

Estimation method:

-  $DP_{C16}$  = Population reporting their Occupation as “Dental practitioners” (code: 2215) under the UK Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) in the 2016 Census.

-  $DC_{2016}$  = Total number of persons registered with the Dental Council for the year 2016.

Therefore:  $DP_{C16} / DC_{2016} = P_{C16}$

Where  $P_{C16}$  is the proportion of persons in Census 2016 reporting their occupation to be dental practitioners out of the total registered dentists with the Dental Council in 2016.

So, an estimate for any year  $N$  after 2016:  $DC_N * P_{C16} = PR_N$

Where  $PR_N$  is the estimated number of practising dentists for year  $N$  based on Dental Council registrations in the same year as a proportion of  $P_{C16}$ .

The proportion will be updated at each available Census, unless better data sources would become available.

- Estimates prior to 2021 not provided.

## Israel

Source of data: The data are based on the Labour Force Survey which is conducted routinely by the **Central Bureau of Statistics** and includes persons who had worked for at least one hour during the week before the survey, for pay, profit or other consideration. Occupation is determined by the type of work performed by the interviewed person at his place of work, without regard to what he studied if his work is not in that field. The classification of occupations is based on the classification of the International Labour Office (ILO): *International Standard Classification of Occupations ISCO 88*.

Coverage:

- Data are for all practising dentists.
- The sample of practising dentists is relatively small and therefore the data are subject to large variations due to sample errors and wide confidence intervals. Any data analysis should be carried out with caution.

Estimation method: Moving average of three years (numbers for previous, current and next years) was made in order to diminish the fluctuations in the numbers. For example, the number of practicing dentists in 1996 is an average of 1995-1997. The number for 2011 is an average of 2010-2012.

Break in time series:

- From January 2012, the **Central Bureau of Statistics** has made a transition from a quarterly system of measuring labour force characteristics to a new and improved system that better suits the latest international recommendations on employment and unemployment - Monthly Labour Force Survey. Therefore the 2012 (original) data refer to the entire labour force (including the military service) and not to the civilian labour force, as it was before.

- In addition to the transition to a monthly survey, in 2012 a new Standard Industrial Classification of Economic Activities based on ISIC was implemented as well as a new Standard Classification of Occupations based on ISCO-08. The (original) numbers for 2012 are still reported according to the previous classifications, but the (original) numbers for 2013 are based on the new classifications.

Further information:

[http://www.cbs.gov.il/publications/labour\\_survey04/labour\\_force\\_survey/answer\\_question\\_e\\_2012.pdf](http://www.cbs.gov.il/publications/labour_survey04/labour_force_survey/answer_question_e_2012.pdf) and

[http://www.cbs.gov.il/publications12/economic\\_activities11/pdf/e\\_print.pdf](http://www.cbs.gov.il/publications12/economic_activities11/pdf/e_print.pdf).

Note: The statistical data for Israel are supplied by and under the responsibility of the relevant Israeli authorities. The use of such data by the OECD is without prejudice to the status of the Golan Heights, East Jerusalem and Israeli settlements in the West Bank under the terms of international law.

## Italy

Source of data: **COGEAPS** <http://wp.cogeaps.it/>.

Reference period: 31<sup>st</sup> December.

Coverage: Practising dentists.

Deviation from the definition: None

Estimation method:

- Data on the “Continuing Medical Training program” have been used to estimate the practicing personnel and the professionally active. In Italy health professionals have to be recorded in the professional register to be licensed to practice and to acquire “training credits” while practicing. These credits are registered in the Continuing Training Education database. The estimate of practicing personnel and the professionally active was done by counting, among all registered professionals, those who acquired at least one credit in the last three years.

- In Italy, there are no dentists who practice a job (research or public health) without providing services to patients too. So it was decided to use the same data for practising and professionally active dentists.

Break in time series: None

## Japan

Source of data: **Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare**, Statistics of Physicians, Dentists, and Pharmacists (published annually until 1981, and every two years from 1982).

Coverage:

- Data consist of dentists working at medical institutions (including those who work as clinical teaching staff at dental school hospitals), at healthcare facilities for the elderly requiring long-term care, and at integrated facility for medical and long-term care. Data include odontologists and foreign dentists licensed to practice. Data exclude dentists working in the areas such as industry, research and administration, dentists working abroad, and not-acting dentists.

- Data include dentists-in-training.

## Korea

Source of data: **Health Insurance Review & Assessment Service**, Health care resources by provider.

Coverage:

- Includes practitioners working in medical practice only.

- Excludes retired dentists and dentists working abroad.

- Foreigners are included.

## Latvia

Source of data:

- Since 2005: **Health Inspectorate of Latvia**; Register of Medical Practitioners and Medical Support Staff.

- 2004 and earlier: **Health Statistics and Medical Technologies State Agency**; Statistical Report No.17 "Report About Medical Staff".

Reference period: 31 December.

Coverage: Including maxillo-facial surgery, dental and oral surgery.

Break in time series: 2005: Change in data source.

## Lithuania

Source of data: **Health Information Centre of Institute of Hygiene**, data of entire annual survey of health establishments. Report “Health Statistics of Lithuania”, available from <http://www.hi.lt/health-statistic-of-lithuania.html>. Available on Official Statistics Portal of Statistics Lithuania <http://osp.stat.gov.lt/en>.

Reference period: 31<sup>st</sup> December.

Coverage:

- The number of practising dentists at the end of the year includes all professionally active dentists excluding those working in administration, health education and research.

- The number of professionally active dentists is collected by annual survey of healthcare establishments. Response rate for private healthcare establishments is about 70%. Due to non-response of part of private healthcare establishments the number of dentists is slightly fluctuating. Due to non-response the number of dentists could

increase by approximately 400 persons (or 17%). But such estimation is not done as it is not clear how many of not responded institutions are actually working.

Break in series: 1997, when compulsory annual survey of private health establishments had started, and as most of the private healthcare establishments were dentist institutions, the number of dentists had increased.

## Luxembourg

Source of data: **Ministère de la Santé**. Register of doctors and health professionals.

Reference period: 31<sup>st</sup> December.

Coverage:

**Until 1999:**

- Includes dentists working in administration and research. Stomatologists included since 1998.
- Retired dentists are not included. However, the end of activity of self-employed dentists is often noted with some time lag.

**From 2000:**

- Dentists who do not work in direct contact with patients (laboratories, administration, R&D, etc) are excluded, and interns are included.

**From 2005 to 2013:**

- Stomatologists are still considered dentists, but it should be noted that stomatologists from Luxembourg are not synonymous with dentist-doctors (they are fully specialised in stomatology).
- Dental surgeons are included.

**From 2014:**

- Stomatologist, dental and maxillofacial surgeons are excluded.

Break in time series: 2000, 2005 and 2014.

## Mexico

Source of data: **Ministry of Health**. Bulletin of Health Information and Statistics. National Health System, Vol. 1, "Human and material health resources" 1990 to 2002. For 2003 to 2021, data are taken from the National Health Information System (SINAIS). In the case of the private sector, for 2002 to 2021 the data are taken from the **National Institute of Statistics and Geography (INEGI)**. National Survey on Medical units with Inpatient Hospital Services.

Coverage:

- The total number of dentists includes those in direct contact with the patients, those practising odontology, and students (interns).
- The data presented include human resources in the public and private health sectors.
- There may be double counting of dentists because some work in the public and private sectors simultaneously.

Note: There was a decrease in the number of practising dentists in 2018 because some medical dental areas were closed. The decrease in 2020 is explained by the fact that, in addition to the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic, about 280 medical units were no longer functioning due to changes in federal programs and IMSS does not disaggregate information on dentists. Finally, the smaller numbers in 2018, 2020 and 2021 are also caused by the fact that the Mexican Social Security Institute (IMSS) did not report the number of dentists.

## Netherlands

Source of data: **Social Statistical Database of Statistics Netherlands, BIG Register** (official register of healthcare professionals).

Reference period: The last Friday before Christmas.

Coverage:

- From 2017: The sector of employment selection was no longer necessary because of the changed registry requirements. A minimum of working hours in the last 5 years in the professional field related to individual patients is now required.
- Up to 2017: all licensed and dentist working as self-employed or employee, except those working outside Health and social care (Sector Q of NACE) and outside healthcare related branches.

Break in time series:

- From 2017 onwards: the license register required re-registration for dentists. The register required dentists to have been practising with a certain minimum amount working hours in the last 5 years in their professional field. The practising requirement has to be directly related to individual patients. Because of this re registration we did not use any selection in the sector of employment. The number of practising dentists significantly increased due to this improvement in meeting the definition of practising dentists.
- In 2015 the register has carried out a check on foreign medical professionals. The result has been an increase in the figure of licensed dentists of around 400.
- Up until 2017, figures have been rounded to 5.

## New Zealand

Source of data: **Ministry of Health and NZ Dental Council Annual Reports.**

Coverage: Data available as of 2020.

- More information on methods can be found on the Dental Council website <https://www.dcnz.org.nz/resources-and-publications/publications/annual-reports/>. All registered oral health practitioners must be registered with the Dental Council under the Health Practitioners Competency Act of 2003. The annual reports produced by the DC show the numbers in each field.

## Norway

Source of data: **Statistics Norway;** Statistics on health-care personnel.

- From 2002 onwards: **Statistics Norway;** Register-based statistics on employment of health-care personnel.
- Up to 2001: **National Board of Health.**

Reference period: 3<sup>rd</sup> week of November.

Coverage:

- Data up to 2001 show FTE; data from 2002 show head count.

Break in time series: 2002, 2015.

- 2002. Comparable time-series cannot be delivered for the years preceding 2002.
- As from 2015, the register-based employment statistics will be based on a new data source for employees. Until the end of 2014, the main data source was The Central Register on Employers and Employees (EE register), produced by the Norwegian Labour and Welfare Organisation (NAV). In 2015, this reporting to NAV was coordinated with the reporting of earnings and personnel data to the Tax Administration and Statistics Norway. This common reporting system is called “a-ordningen” (the a-system).

## Poland

Source of data: **Ministry of Health, Ministry of Interior, Ministry of National Defence and Statistics Poland.**

- Until 2017: survey of medical personnel based on reports provided by healthcare units and dentist's practices.
- 2019: estimates based on administrative sources, i.e. register of licensed dentists (Polish Chamber of Physicians), files provided by Social Insurance Institution and registers of healthcare establishments including dentist's private.

Reference period: 31<sup>st</sup> December.

Coverage:

- Data regarding dentists are based on head counts.
- Dentists are counted in the main workplace.
- Since 2003: Dentists working in the Ministries of National Defence and Interior and Administration are included.
- Since 2004: Dentists working as teaching and administration staff are excluded.
- Since 2005: Dentists working in private medical practice are included.

Break in time series:

- 2003, 2004 and 2005. See coverage notes above for description.
- 2019: The new calculation method based on administrative sources provides more robust results. The data until 2018 are underestimated due to high non-response rates in the survey.

## Portugal

Data not available. (Data available for all dentists licensed to practice only.)

## Slovak Republic

Source of data: **National Health Information Center.**

- Before 2005: Administrative register of healthcare professionals.

Reference period: 31<sup>st</sup> December.

Coverage: Stomatologists (dentists practising only in basic field of activity "stomatology") are included.

Break in time series: As of 2005, data are only available for professionally active dentists. Suitable data source for providing "practising" concept is under development.

## Slovenia

Source of data: **National Institute of Public Health, Slovenia;** National Health Care Providers Database.

Reference period: 31<sup>st</sup> December.

Coverage: Practising dentists are those working in the health-care sector (primary and secondary care), including public health institutes and the health insurance institute.

## Spain

Data not available. (Data based on Economically Active Population Survey and referring to CNO-11 codes at 4-digit level (Spanish equivalence of ISCO-08) are not available.)

- Up to 2010: Practising dentists are included in the number of practising physicians at 3 digit level of the National Occupations Classification (CNO-94), the Spanish equivalence of ISCO-88 in the Economically Active Population Survey.

(Data are available for the total number of dentists licensed to practice.)

## Sweden

Source of data: **National Board of Health and Welfare,** LOVA-register (change of register-name from former NPS-register).

Reference period: 1<sup>st</sup> November.

Coverage:

- Sweden uses NACE-codes to identify practising dentists (i.e. active within the health-care system) and therefore cannot exclude dentists who are seeing patients from those who do not within the health-care system.

- 100% coverage for licensed practising dentists until year 2020.

- The time series has been revised in 2023.

## Switzerland

Source of data: **Swiss Dental Association (SSO),** Bern.

Reference period: Data as of December 31.

Coverage: Dentists with private practices, who contract with social insurance; it can be considered as appropriate full coverage.

Break in time series: 2019. In-depth reassessment of the data, notably to correct for professionals who were to be left out of the sample (retired, deceased).

## Türkiye

Data not available. Data are available for "professionally active" dentists (including dentists in administrative, academic or research functions who are not providing direct care to patients).

## United Kingdom

Source of data:

- **England:**

\* Primary Care Dentists - NHS Business Services Authority. (Data as at 31 March each year).

\* Hospital and Community Health Services (HCHS) Dentists - Up to 2008: Medical & Dental Workforce Census; since 2009: NHS Hospital & Community Health Service (HCHS) workforce statistics. (Data as at 30 September each year). The data from 2009 are headcount.

- **Northern Ireland:** Hospital and Community dentists data from Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety, and General Dental Practitioner data from the Business Services Organisation;

- **Scotland:** GDP data are sourced from the Management Information and Dental Accounting System (MIDAS), and data for HCHS dentists are sourced from the medical and dental workforce census (MEDMAN) and the Scottish Workforce Information Standard System. Dentist Table: <https://turasdata.nes.nhs.scot/workforce-official-statistics/nhsscotland-workforce/publications/01-december-2020/data-tables/>.

- **Wales:** Welsh Government: <http://gov.wales/statistics-and-research/?topic=Health+and+social+care&lang=en>.  
Reference Period:

- **England & Wales:** data are a combination of hospital dentists and primary care (high street) dentists. The hospital dentists are as at 30 September, while the primary care dentists are those providing NHS services in the financial year April – March.

- **Scotland:** data are as at 30<sup>th</sup> September each year.

- **Northern Ireland:** hospital dentists are counted in September and general dental practitioners are counted in October.

Coverage:

- Does not include private sector.

- Data for Financial years i.e. 01-04-07 to 31-03-08 will be presented for 2007.

- Data are a combination of General Dental Practitioners (GDPs) and Hospital and Community Health Services (HCHS) dentists.

- Due to the introduction of the new dental contractual arrangements in England and Wales (01-04-06) and a revised methodology for counting dentists, data for England and Wales are only provided for 2007 onwards as these data are not comparable with previous years. For this reason, previous years for the UK have not been submitted.

- The revised methodology covers GDPs in England and Wales and counts the number of dentists with NHS activity recorded via an FP17 claim form each year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March.

- **England:** Primary Care dental data refer to dental performers who had performed and claimed for NHS activity in each year. Data on Hospital and Community Health Services (HCHS) Dentists were previously rolecount for 2009-2014 - they are now headcount.

- **Scotland:** Includes all General Dentals Service dentists (Salaried and Non-salaried principals, assistants and vocational trainees) Dental Hospital, Community and Public Health services (HCHS) staff of the NHS.

- **Northern Ireland:** General Dental Practitioner data include principal, associate dentists and salaried dentists - assistants and trainees are excluded prior to 2011. Figures from 2011 onwards have been revised and now include principals, associates, salaries, plus assistants and vocational trainees (as at April for these years).

Deviation from the definition:

- There will be dentists in the UK working as both GDPs and HCHS dentists. These are only counted once in Scotland, however, they are unable to be separated in England. In Wales and Northern Ireland some double counting may also occur.

- Dentists may also be counted twice if they have contracts in more than one country of the UK.

- Dentists in Scotland may be counted more than once if they work in different health boards.

Break in time series: 2009.

- **England:** The break in the time series in 2009 relates to a change in the collection methodology: HCHS data changed from an annual census collection to monthly workforce statistics from the Electronic Staff Record (ESR).

- **England:** Up to 2008, data are based on rolecount; since 2009, they are based on headcount.

## United States

Data not available. Data are available for "professionally active" dentists (including dentists in administrative, academic or research functions who are not providing direct care to patients).

## NON-OECD ECONOMIES

### Bulgaria

Source of data: **National Statistical Institute**, Exhaustive annual survey.

Reference period: 31<sup>st</sup> December.

Coverage:

All dentists and maxillo-facial surgeons who worked on a basic labour contract in outpatient and inpatient establishments, as well as those who practice in other health establishments - centres for emergency medical care, centres for transfusion haematology, homes for medical and social care for children, Hygiene-epidemiological inspections and others.

On 01.07.2000 Bulgaria started its Healthcare Reform and financing of curative medical and dental care by the National Health Insurance Fund came into force. Recovery of the private practice gave an opportunity to dentists to practice in individual and group practices for dental care.

Break in time series: 2000.

In 2010, there is a break in time series in respect to:

- the territorial distribution of physicians and dentists, working in practices under a contract with the NHIF. Medical practitioners working in practices that serve more than one municipality or district are included in the total number but not distributed by municipalities or by district.

- physicians working in specialized practices under a contract with the NHIF are allocated to the specialty they are practiced. Those who practice more than one specialty are included in the total but not allocated by specialty.

The methodological amendments has been made in order to avoid double counting.

2010-2017 data for practicing dentists are revised in accordance with the methodological amendments from 2018.

## **Croatia**

Source of data: **Croatian Institute of Public Health**, National Register of Health Care Providers.

Reference period: Status on December 31<sup>st</sup>.

Coverage: Private dentists and stomatologists have been included since 1993 and maxillofacial surgeons since 2009.

Break in time series: 1993 and 2009.

## **Romania**

Source of data: **National Institute of Statistics**, The activity of the sanitary and healthcare network – annual survey performed by NIS.

Reference period: data as of 31<sup>st</sup> December.

Coverage:

- From 1970 to 1998, data refer only to the public sector. From 1999 the data cover all sanitary dentists from public and private sector.

- Dentists (ISCO/COR 2222) are defined as the persons who have completed studies in stomatology at university level and who are licensed to practice. Dentists' tasks include: making diagnosis, giving necessary dental treatment, giving surgical, medical and other forms of treatment for different types of dental and oral diseases and disorders, establish curative and preventive dental measurement, relished reports and participate to scientific communication in oral health and dental care.

- The dentists who work in education field as teachers and dentists from health insurance field or that work in other institutions involved in the administration of the healthcare system (e.g. public health institutes) are not included as practising dentists.

- Excluding: students, unemployed dentists in health field, retired dentists that are not still working, and dentists working abroad, dentists working in sales field even if they work in medical sales (ex. medical drugs).

- Until 2007, dentists working in administration, research and in other posts that exclude direct contact with patients could not be totally excluded.

Deviation from the definition: Between 1999 and 2006, dentists working in administration, research and in other posts that exclude direct contact with patients could not be totally excluded. Beginning with 2007 non-practicing dentists could be identified and in 2010 a distinction was added to the healthcare questionnaire in order to identify active medical personnel. Until 2019, data doesn't include oral and maxillofacial surgeons.

Break in time series:

- 2007 – non-practicing dentists could be identified and were excluded from the number of practicing dentists

- 2019 - Beginning with 2019, oral and maxillofacial surgeons were included in the number of practicing dentists.

