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# Workforce Characteristics

## Dental Technicians and Prosthetists Re-registered in Queensland, 2002

Response rates to the survey form, which accompanied the dental technician and dental prosthetist re-registration form, have varied from a low of 65.5% in 1995 to a high of 74.4% in 1994 for technicians and prosthetists. Because of this variation, care must be taken when analysing trends in actual numbers over time. Tables within this report are not based on all registered dental technicians and prosthetists. It only includes those who responded to the voluntary survey at time of re-registration.

Over the period 1994 to 2002 the number of dental technicians and dental prosthetists who re-registered in Queensland decreased from 796 in 1994 to 600 in 2002.

Of the dental technicians and prosthetists who responded to the survey in 2002, approximately 81 per cent stated that they worked in Queensland<sup>1</sup>.

### Respondent dental technicians only working in Queensland<sup>1</sup> in 2002:

- 79.0% of respondent dental technicians are male.
- Age distribution shows the predominant age group for all respondent dental technicians are those aged 40-49 years.
- The practice type of respondent dental technicians' main job is largely 'Public hospital/dental clinic employee' (38.5%) closely followed by 'Laboratory owner/partner' (35.4%).
- Total hours usually worked per week by respondent dental technicians are greatest for those working 40-49 hours (32.3%).

### Respondent dental technicians and dental prosthetists working as dental prosthetists<sup>2</sup> in Queensland<sup>1</sup> in 2002:

- 95.0% of respondent dental prosthetists are male with the predominant age group 40-49 years, accounting for 39.5% of males.
- In their main job's practice type, 91.3% of respondent dental prosthetists reported they work as 'Solo practitioner/partner'.
- Total hours usually worked per week by respondent dental prosthetists are in the range of 10-19 hours (17.5%) followed by 40-49 hours (8.8%), however half have not stated their total hours worked.

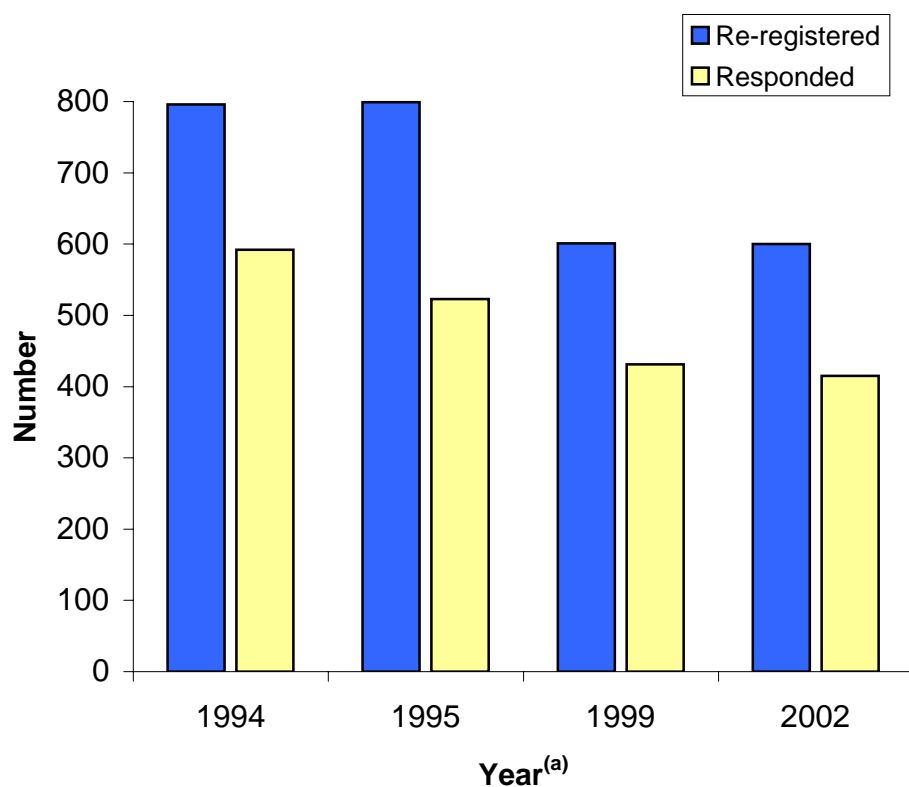
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<sup>1</sup> 'Working in Queensland' includes those who recorded their work status as 'only in Queensland', 'mainly in Queensland', 'mainly interstate but also in Queensland', and those 'currently on leave for 3 months or longer'.

<sup>2</sup> A condition of registration as a Dental Prosthetists for an individual under Section 25 of the Dental Technicians and Dental Prosthetists Act 1991 is registration as a Dental Technician.

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**Workforce characteristics of dental technicians and dental  
prosthetists, Queensland: Number re-registered and responded,  
1994 to 2002<sup>(a)</sup>**



**Workforce characteristics of dental technicians and dental prosthetists<sup>(b)</sup>, Queensland:  
Number re-registered and responded**

Year <sup>(a)</sup>	Number		
	Re-registered	Responded	% response
<b>Dental Technicians &amp; Prosthetists</b>			
1994	796	592	74.4
1995	799	523	65.5
1999	601	431	71.7
2002	600	415	69.2
<b>Dental Technicians only</b>			
1994	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
1995	649	426	65.6
1999	459	316	68.8
2002	459	317	69.1
<b>Dental Prosthetists<sup>(b)</sup> #</b>			
1994	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
1995	150	97	64.7
1999	142	115	81.0
2002	141	98	69.5

<sup>(a)</sup> Collection undertaken only for those years shown

<sup>(b)</sup> In 1994, dental prosthetists were not individually identified on the survey form

# A condition of registration as a Dental Prosthetist for an individual under Section 25 of the Dental Technicians and Dental Prosthetists Act 1991 is registration as a Dental Technician.

**Respondent dental technicians only re-registered in Queensland, 2002:  
work status by sex**

Work status	Male		Female		Person	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Working only in Queensland	198	78.9	53	80.3	251	79.2
Working mainly in Queensland	3	1.2	-	-	3	0.9
Working mainly in other States but also in Queensland	2	0.8	-	-	2	0.6
Working only in States other than Queensland	13	5.2	1	1.5	14	4.4
Working overseas only	3	1.2	-	-	3	0.9
Working in Queensland but currently on leave for three months or longer	-	-	1	1.5	1	0.3
Currently not working						
<i>Looking for work as a dental technician</i>	10	4.0	5	7.6	15	4.7
<i>Not looking for work as a dental technician</i>	2	0.8	4	6.1	6	1.9
<i>Not stated</i>	1	0.4	-	-	1	0.3
Currently working, but not as a dental technician	7	2.8	1	1.5	8	2.5
Not stated	12	4.8	1	1.5	13	4.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>251</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>317</b>	<b>100.0</b>

In 2002, 141 dental technicians and dental prosthetists<sup>(a)</sup> re-registered in Queensland and 98 of these responded to the survey. Those registering as dental prosthetists are required to also be registered as dental technicians and they are able to work in both fields. Therefore, of the 98 respondent dental technicians and dental prosthetics 79 work as dental technicians and 80 work as dental prosthetists in Queensland. The tables below show the breakdown of each work status:

**Respondent dental technician and dental prosthetists<sup>(a)</sup> re-registered in Queensland, 2002:  
dental prosthetists work status by sex**

Work status as dental prosthetist	Male		Female		Person	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Working only in Queensland	74	80.4	3	50.0	77	78.6
Working mainly in Queensland	2	2.2	1	16.7	3	3.1
Working mainly in other States but also in Queensland	-	-	-	-	-	-
Working only in States other than Queensland	5	5.4	-	-	5	5.1
Working overseas only	1	1.1	-	-	1	1.0
Working in Queensland but currently on leave for three months or longer	-	-	-	-	-	-
Currently not working						
<i>Looking for work as a dental prosthetist</i>	1	1.1	-	-	1	1.0
<i>Not looking for work as a dental prosthetist</i>	1	1.1	-	-	1	1.0
Currently working, but not as a dental prosthetist	3	3.3	2	33.3	5	5.1
Not stated	5	5.4	-	-	5	5.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Respondent dental technician and dental prosthetists<sup>(a)</sup> re-registered in Queensland, 2002:  
dental technician work status by sex**

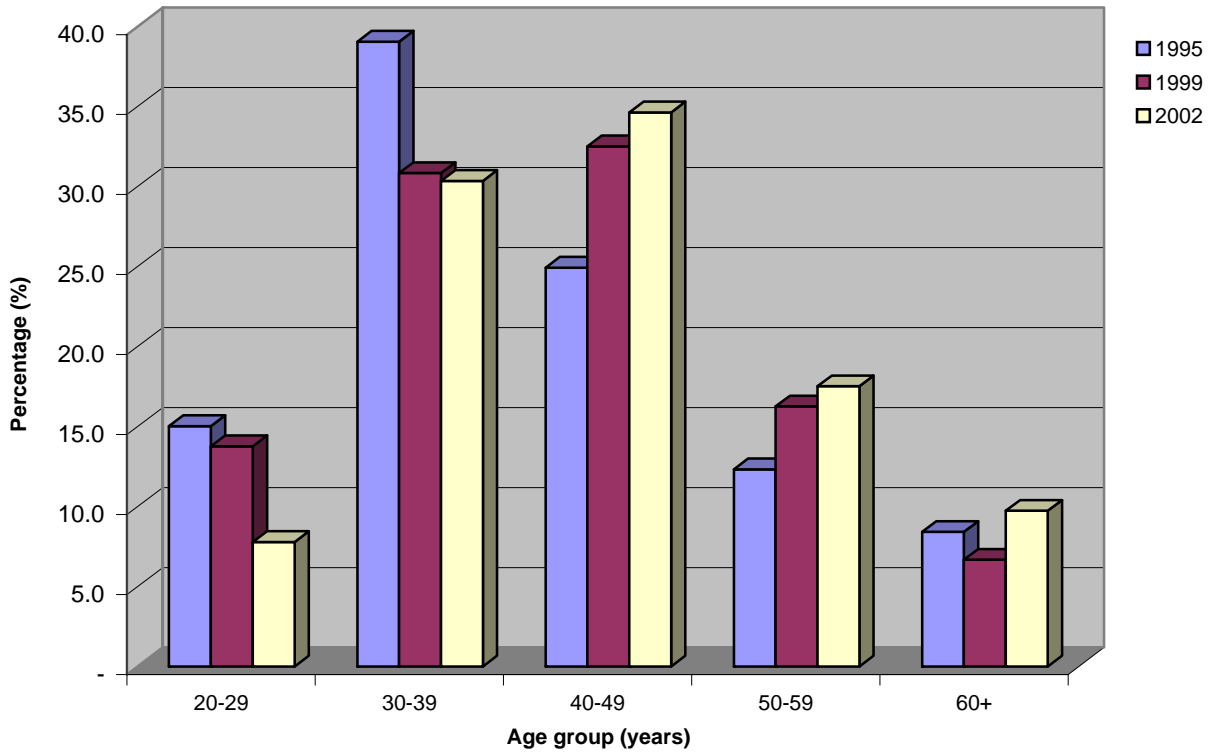
Work status as dental technician	Male		Female		Person	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Working only in Queensland	70	76.1	5	83.3	75	76.5
Working mainly in Queensland	2	2.2	1	16.7	3	3.1
Working mainly in other States but also in Queensland	-	-	-	-	-	-
Working only in States other than Queensland	5	5.4	-	-	5	5.1
Working overseas only	1	1.1	-	-	1	1.0
Working in Queensland but currently on leave for three months or longer	1	1.1	-	-	1	1.0
Currently not working	-	-	-	-	-	-
Currently working, but not as a dental technician	-	-	-	-	-	-
Not stated	13	14.1	-	-	13	13.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>100.0</b>

<sup>(a)</sup> A condition of registration as a Dental Prosthetist for an individual under Section 25 of the Dental Technicians and Dental Prosthetists Act 1991 is registration as a Dental Technician.

**Respondent dental technicians only working in Queensland, 2002:  
age distribution**

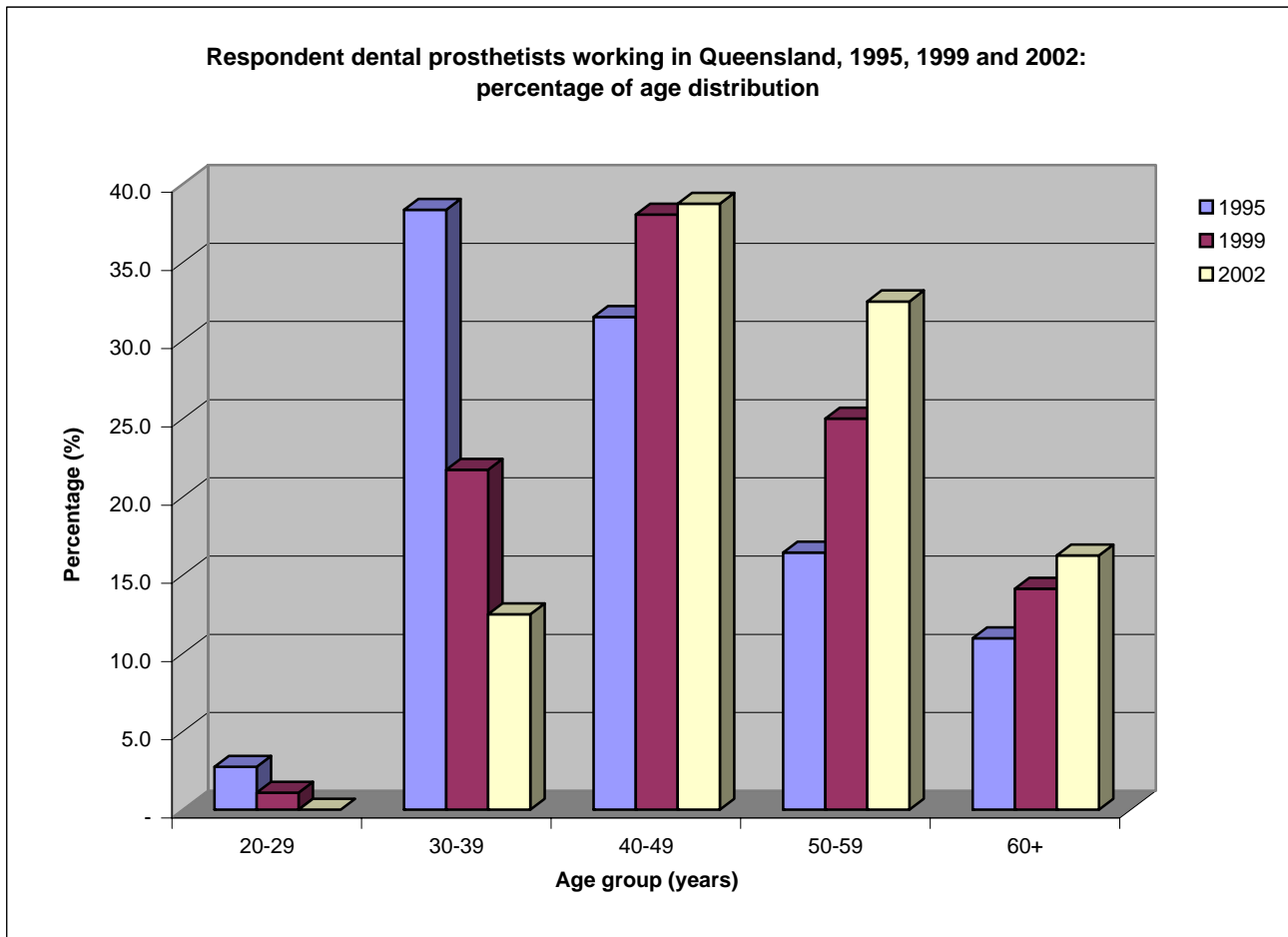
Survey years	Age group (years)					Total
	20-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60+	
<b>Number</b>						
<b>1995</b>	50	130	83	41	28	333
<b>1999</b>	33	74	78	39	16	240
<b>2002</b>	20	78	89	45	25	257
<b>Percentage (%)</b>						
<b>1995</b>	15.0	39.0	24.9	12.3	8.4	100.0
<b>1999</b>	13.8	30.8	32.5	16.3	6.7	100.0
<b>2002</b>	7.8	30.4	34.6	17.5	9.7	100.0

**Respondent dental technicians working in Queensland, 1995, 1999 and 2002:  
percentage of age distribution**



**Respondent dental prosthetists working in Queensland, 1995, 1999, & 2002:  
age distribution**

Survey years	Age group (years)					Total
	20-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60+	
<b>Number</b>						
<b>1995</b>	2	28	23	12	8	73
<b>1999</b>	1	20	35	23	13	92
<b>2002</b>	-	10	31	26	13	80
<b>Percentage (%)</b>						
<b>1995</b>	2.7	38.4	31.5	16.4	11.0	100.0
<b>1999</b>	1.1	21.7	38.0	25.0	14.1	100.0
<b>2002</b>	-	12.5	38.8	32.5	16.3	100.0



**Note:**

A condition of registration as a Dental Prosthetist for an individual under Section 25 of the Dental Technicians and Dental Prosthetists Act 1991 is registration as a Dental Technician.

**Respondent dental technicians only working in Queensland, 2002:  
location category of main job by age group**

Location category of main job	Age group (years)					Total	%
	20-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60+		
Capital City	12	40	43	21	11	127	49.4
Other Metropolitan Centre	3	10	5	5	2	25	9.7
Large Rural Centre	1	17	16	8	4	46	17.9
Small Rural Centre	1	2	10	5	2	20	7.8
Other Rural Area	-	2	7	3	1	13	5.1
Remote Centre	-	-	-	-	1	1	0.4
Other Remote Area	1	2	1	-	-	4	1.6
Not stated	2	5	7	3	4	21	8.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>257</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Respondent dental prosthetists working in Queensland, 2002:  
location category of main job by age group**

Location category of main job	Age group (years)					Total	%
	20-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60+		
Capital City	-	4	8	10	6	28	35.0
Other Metropolitan Centre	-	2	8	4	3	17	21.3
Large Rural Centre	-	2	8	3	2	15	18.8
Small Rural Centre	-	-	2	4	1	7	8.8
Other Rural Area	-	-	3	-	1	4	5.0
Remote Centre	-	1	1	1	-	3	3.8
Other Remote Area	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Not stated	-	1	1	4	-	6	7.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Rural, Remote and Metropolitan Areas Classification** has been used to categorise location.

Capital City - consists of capital city statistical divisions.

Other Metropolitan Centre - consists of one or more statistical subdivisions which have an urban centre population of at least 100,000.

Large Rural Centres - SLAs where most of the population resides in urban centres of population 25,000 or more.

Small Rural Centres - SLAs in rural zones containing urban centres of population 10,000 to 24,999.

Other Rural Areas - the remaining SLAs within the rural zone.

Remote Centres - SLAs in the remote zone containing urban centres of population 5,000 or more.

Other Remote Areas - the remaining SLAs within the remote zone.

The categories Rural and Remote are based on a function of population density, and distance from and size of nearest urban centre.

Source: *Rural, Remote and Metropolitan Areas Classification 1991 Edition*. Australian Government Publishing Service: Canberra, November 1994.

**Respondent dental technicians only working in Queensland, 2002:  
practice type and employment type of main job**

Practice type of main job	Employment Type of main job							
	Permanent		Temporary		Casual		Total <sup>(a)</sup>	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Laboratory owner / partner	85	37.8	-	-	4	18.2	91	35.4
Public hospital / dental clinic employee	91	40.4	3	100.0	5	22.7	99	38.5
Commercial dental laboratory employee	15	6.7	-	-	5	22.7	20	7.8
Private dental laboratory employee	30	13.3	-	-	6	27.3	36	14.0
Other	4	1.8	-	-	2	9.1	6	2.3
Not stated	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	1.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>225</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>257</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Respondent dental prosthetists working in Queensland, 2002:  
practice type and employment type of main job**

Practice type of main job	Employment Type of main job							
	Permanent		Temporary		Casual		Total <sup>(a)</sup>	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Solo practitioner / partner	59	93.7	1	100.0	4	100.0	73	91.3
Public hospital / dental clinic employee	2	3.2	-	-	-	-	3	3.8
Dental prosthetic practice employee	2	3.2	-	-	-	-	2	2.5
Private dental practice employee	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1.3
Not stated	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>100.0</b>

<sup>(a)</sup> Total includes 'other' and 'not stated'.

**Respondent dental technicians only working in Queensland, 2002:  
practice type of main job by sex**

<b>Practice type of main job</b>	<b>Male</b>		<b>Female</b>		<b>Person</b>	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Laboratory owner / partner	81	39.9	10	18.5	91	35.4
Public hospital / dental clinic employee	73	36.0	26	48.1	99	38.5
Commercial dental laboratory employee	17	8.4	3	5.6	20	7.8
Private dental laboratory employee	22	10.8	14	25.9	36	14.0
Other	5	2.5	1	1.9	6	2.3
Not stated	5	2.5	-	-	5	1.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>203</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>257</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Respondent dental prosthetists working in Queensland, 2002:  
practice type of main job by sex**

<b>Practice type of main job</b>	<b>Male</b>		<b>Female</b>		<b>Person</b>	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Solo practitioner / partner	71	93.4	2	50.0	73	91.3
Public hospital / dental clinic employee	3	3.9	-	-	3	3.8
Dental prosthetic practice employee	2	2.6	-	-	2	2.5
Private dental practice employee	-	-	1	25.0	1	1.3
Not stated	-	-	1	25.0	1	1.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Respondent dental technicians only working in Queensland, 2002:  
full-time and part-time status<sup>(a)</sup> by sex and age group**

Sex and age group		Full-time/part-time status <sup>(a)</sup>							
		Full-time		Part-time		Not stated		Total	
		Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Male	20-29	10	5.6	1	6.3	-	-	11	5.4
	30-39	49	27.4	1	6.3	1	12.5	51	25.1
	40-49	70	39.1	5	31.3	1	12.5	76	37.4
	50-59	36	20.1	4	25.0	1	12.5	41	20.2
	60+	14	7.8	5	31.3	5	62.5	24	11.8
	Total	179	100.0	16	100.0	8	100.0	203	100.0
Female	20-29	7	21.2	1	5.6	1	33.3	9	16.7
	30-39	18	54.5	8	44.4	1	-	27	50.0
	40-49	6	18.2	6	33.3	1	-	13	24.1
	50-59	2	6.1	2	11.1	-	33.3	4	7.4
	60+	-	-	1	5.6	-	-	1	1.9
	Total	33	100.0	18	100.0	3	100.0	54	100.0
<b>Total</b>		<b>212</b>		<b>34</b>		<b>11</b>		<b>257</b>	

**Respondent dental prosthetists working in Queensland, 2002:  
full-time and part-time status<sup>(a)</sup> by sex and age group**

Sex and age group		Full-time/part-time status <sup>(a)</sup>							
		Full-time		Part-time		Not stated		Total	
		Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Male	20-29	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	30-39	1	7.7	4	16.7	4	10.3	9	11.8
	40-49	7	53.8	9	37.5	14	35.9	30	39.5
	50-59	2	15.4	6	25.0	17	43.6	25	32.9
	60+	3	23.1	5	20.8	4	10.3	12	15.8
	Total	13	100.0	24	100.0	39	100.0	76	100.0
Female	20-29	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	30-39	-	-	1	33.3	-	-	1	25.0
	40-49	-	-	1	33.3	-	-	1	25.0
	50-59	-	-	-	-	1	100.0	1	25.0
	60+	-	-	1	33.3	-	-	1	25.0
	Total	-	-	3	100.0	1	100.0	4	100.0
<b>Total</b>		<b>13</b>		<b>27</b>		<b>40</b>		<b>80</b>	

<sup>(a)</sup> Full-time is defined as working 35 or more hours per week. Part-time is defined as working less than 35 hours per week.  
(hours based on total hours worked per week in main job and others)

**Respondent dental technicians only working in Queensland, 2002:  
total hours usually worked per week<sup>(a)</sup> by sex**

Total hours usually worked per week <sup>(a)</sup>	Male		Female		Person	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Less than 10	1	0.5	4	7.4	5	1.9
10-19	7	3.4	7	13.0	14	5.4
20-29	4	2.0	3	5.6	7	2.7
30-39	53	26.1	17	31.5	70	27.2
40-49	68	33.5	15	27.8	83	32.3
50-59	23	11.3	3	5.6	26	10.1
60+	39	19.2	2	3.7	41	16.0
Not stated	8	3.9	3	5.6	11	4.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>203</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>257</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Respondent dental prosthetists working in Queensland, 2002:  
total hours usually worked per week<sup>(a)</sup> by sex**

Total hours usually worked per week <sup>(a)</sup>	Male		Female		Person	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Less than 10	6	7.9	-	-	6	7.5
10-19	12	15.8	2	50.0	14	17.5
20-29	5	6.6	1	25.0	6	7.5
30-39	2	2.6	-	-	2	2.5
40-49	7	9.2	-	-	7	8.8
50-59	4	5.3	-	-	4	5.0
60+	1	1.3	-	-	1	1.3
Not stated	39	51.3	1	25.0	40	50.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>100.0</b>

<sup>(a)</sup> 'Total hours usually worked per week' is calculated by combining all hours worked in main job and others (hours1 & hours2).

If any one of the fields is not stated or unknown then the total hours is recorded as not stated.