

LA454 Tabled Paper

- (1) Public dental services in WA are provided by Dental Health Services (DHS) which falls under the governance of the North Metropolitan Health Service. DHS is a state-wide service with clinics in both, metropolitan and country areas. Below is the breakdown of DHS staff (FTE) working at government clinics within each of the health service catchment areas as requested.

(a)	Dentists	<u>March 2012</u>	<u>March 2013</u>
	North Metropolitan Health Service:	37.32	40.67
	South Metropolitan Health Service:	51.97	51.17
	WA Country Health Service:	29.28	29.26
(b)	Dental Clinic Assistants		
	North Metropolitan Health Service:	95.63	106.41
	South Metropolitan Health Service:	121.43	128.61
	WA Country Health Service:	65.87	63.86
(c)	Dental Technicians		
	North Metropolitan Health Service:	22.89	21.88
	South Metropolitan Health Service:	9.04	9.02
	WA Country Health Service:	3.00	2.95

- (2) Data to answer this question was obtained from the following sources:
- Australian institute of Health and Welfare---“Oral Health and Dental Care in Australia: key facts and figures 2012.”
 - Health Workforce Australia

Practising dental practitioners per 100,000 population in Australia in 2011

	Dentists
Rate (per 100,000)	57.0

Source: Dental workforce 2011, AIHW 2013.

Employed dental practitioners per 100,000 population by practitioner type, states and territories, 2011

Practitioner type	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Australia
Dentists	59.0	56.0	56.5	56.6	61.0	36.6	62.8	41.5	57.0

Source: Dental workforce 2011, AIHW 2013

Number of employed dentists by sector, states and territories, 2011

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Total
Private only	3,505	2,345	1,934	1,028	712	147	188	52	9,916
Public only	367	323	329	155	133	18	28	27	1,381
Working both private and public	379	430	264	148	155	22	15	17	1,437
Total	4,252	3,098	2,526	1,331	1,000	187	231	96	12,734

Source: NHWDS: dental practitioners 2011, unpublished

Information for dental nurses and dental technicians is not easily obtainable as neither group has to be professionally registered to practice. From Health Workforce Australia paper titled “Health Workforce 2025 Oral Health” can only provide the following:

- Total number of dental nurses in Australian Health Workforce was estimated at 18,484 in 2011. The population of Australia in 2011 was approximately 22,323,933. The number of dental nurses per 100,000 population in Australia in 2011 was 82.88.
- Total number of dental nurses in Western Australian Health Workforce was estimated at 1,875 in 2011. The population of Western Australia in 2011 was approximately 2,352,215. The number of dental nurses per 100,000 population in WA in 2011 was 79.8.