

Table 5: Main employment setting of active dietitians, by sex, 2008

Main employer	Male	Female	Not reported	Total
DHB	9	242	2	253
Private practice (self employed)	1	42	0	43
Commercial/industrial organisation	1	21	0	22
University/Polytechnic	1	21	0	22
Non-government organisation	0	15	0	15
Government dept/Crown agency	0	10	1	11
Private practice (group practice)	0	3	0	3
Other	0	5	0	5
Not reported	1	38	1	40
Total	13	397	4	414

Source: Ministry of Health, 2008

Table 6: Worktype by main employment setting for active dietitians, 2008

Main employment setting	Clinical (excluding community)	Community	Education	Food service management/consultancy	General management	Industry	Public health policy	Sports nutrition	Study/research	Other	Total
DHB	174	65	4	14	24	0	19	0	5	6	311
Private practice (self employed)	25	14	4	7	9	1	1	11	6	4	82
University/Polytechnic	2	0	15	1	3	0	1	1	11	1	35
Commercial/industrial organisation	1	4	2	2	1	14	4	1	0	3	32
Non-government organisation	2	3	2	1	2	0	8	0	1	1	20
Government dept/Crown agency	3	2	1	2	1	0	7	2	1	0	19
Private practice (group practice)	2	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	6
Other	2	1	2	1	2	0	0	1	0	0	9
Not reported	14	5	1	3	0	2	4	0	2	2	33
Total	225	95	32	31	43	17	44	16	27	17	547

Source: Ministry of Health, 2008

Table 5 shows that the majority of active dietitians who are employed by DHBs.

Table 6 shows the main employment setting by worktype of the active respondents to the 2008 survey. Each dietitian can specify more than one worktype. This table shows that the 414 active dietitians reported 549 worktypes. This is 1.3 worktypes per active dietitian.

The most common combination of worktype of employment setting was clinical (excluding community) work in a DHB.

The Ministry of Health would like to thank all the health care professionals who completed the 2008 workforce questionnaire. This is an annual survey which all health care professionals are encouraged to complete.

If you have any comments or require further survey results please contact:

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Dietitian Workforce

Summary Results from the 2008 Health Workforce Annual Survey

A health workforce survey was included with each invoice for Annual Practising Certificates (APC) sent to dietitians in February 2008.

Of the 471 dietitians who were sent an invoice, 414 (87.9 percent) indicated that they were working actively as dietitians, nine (1.9 percent) responded to the 2008 survey but did not report that they were actively working and 48 (10.2 percent) did not respond to the survey.

The 414 actively working dietitians represent 97.9 percent of survey respondents. It is not known if the APC holders who did not respond to the survey are working in this field.

The following statistics are based on the 414 active dietitians.

Of those respondents, 95.9 percent were female, as illustrated in Table 1. The median age of respondents was 40 years.

Table 1: Age and sex of active dietitians, 2008

Age group	Male	Female	Unknown	Total	%
20–24	0	14	0	14	3.4
25–29	1	66	1	68	16.4
30–34	4	59	0	63	15.2
35–39	4	51	0	55	13.3
40–44	1	33	0	34	8.2
45–49	2	51	0	53	12.8
50–54	1	41	0	42	10.1
55–59	0	40	1	41	9.9
60+	0	36	0	36	8.7
Not reported	0	6	2	8	1.9
Total	13	397	4	414	100.0

Source: Ministry of Health, 2008

The majority (324) of the active dietitians identified themselves as belonging to the New Zealand European ethnic group (see Table 2). This has been a consistent feature of this profession over previous years.

Table 2: Prioritised ethnicity of active dietitians, 2008

Ethnicity	Number	%
NZ European	324	78.3
Māori	10	2.4
Other European	37	8.9
Chinese	16	3.9
South East Asian	7	1.7
Other Asian	5	1.2
Indian	4	1.0
Tongan	3	0.7
Fijian	2	0.5
Other	3	0.7
Not reported	3	0.7
Total	414	100.0

Source: Ministry of Health, 2008

Most (367) dietitians qualified in New Zealand. The next most common qualification countries were South Africa and United Kingdom (table 3).

Table 3: Qualification country of active dietitians, 2008

Qualification country	Total	%
New Zealand	367	88.6
South Africa	12	2.9
United Kingdom	12	2.9
Australia	6	1.4
USA	5	1.2
Netherland	4	1.0
India	2	0.5
Sweden	1	0.2
Not reported	5	1.2
Total	414	100.0

Source: Ministry of Health, 2008

Table 4 shows District Health Board (DHB) of employer, by average hours worked. Please note that, because the number of active practitioners in some DHBs is very low, the average figure must be treated with caution. Also, numbers greater than zero but less than five have been suppressed for privacy.

Table 4: District Health Board of employer, by average hours worked, 2008

District Health Board	Number	Average hours per week
Northland	7	38.6
Waitemata	23	39.4
Auckland	67	40.2
Counties Manukau	23	42.5
Waikato	20	38.2
Lakes	5	38.4
Bay of Plenty	*	37.5
Tairāwhiti	*	38.0
Hawke's Bay	5	38.0
Taranaki	7	39.3
MidCentral	11	40.5
Whanganui	*	40.0
Capital & Coast	22	38.5
Hutt Valley	8	38.0
Wairarapa	*	36.0
Nelson Marlborough	8	39.0
West Coast	*	40.0
Canterbury	32	38.0
South Canterbury	5	37.0
Otago	18	41.7
Southland	7	37.4
Not reported	3	46.0
Total full-time	280	39.5
Part-time	115	18.1
Hours not reported	19	-
Total	414	-

Source: Ministry of Health, 2008

Note: Numbers greater than zero but less than five have been suppressed for privacy reasons.

Of those DHBs with more than five respondents, the highest average hours worked per week was in Counties Manukau (42.5 hours). The lowest was in Southland (37.4 hours).