

Table 6: Main employment setting by work type for active occupational therapists, 2008

Main employment setting	Therapist	Specialist assessor	Clinical supervisor	Equipment/Technology prescriber	Case manager	Educator/Trainer	Consultant	Environmental modifier	Organisational manager	Professional advisor	Policy developer	Researcher	Tertiary student	Community developer	Cultural consultant	Cultural educator	Other	Total
DHB	971	108	158	121	126	49	24	67	19	36	15	7	19	7	0	1	28	1756
Private practice (self-employed)	256	138	62	46	4	20	56	17	43	7	8	5	5	2	0	1	14	684
Schools	81	12	6	19	2	12	12	10	3	0	5	0	1	0	1	0	6	170
Tertiary education providers	4	0	6	1	1	35	4	1	3	1	2	14	2	1	0	0	4	79
Government dept / Crown agency	27	3	4	4	1	1	4	4	1	5	1	0	0	1	0	0	2	58
Not reported	254	72	38	42	30	34	25	21	33	12	14	6	3	8	2	1	40	635
Total	1593	333	274	233	164	151	125	120	102	61	45	32	30	19	3	3	94	3382

Source: Ministry of Health, 2008

Table 6 shows the main employment setting by work type of the active respondents to the 2008 census. Each occupational therapist can specify more than one work type. This table shows that the 1892 active occupational therapists reported 3382 worktypes. This is 1.8 worktypes per active occupational therapists.

The most common combination of work type and employment setting for occupational therapists was as a therapist in a DHB hospital or health service.

The Ministry of Health would like to thank all the health care professionals who completed the 2008 workforce questionnaire. This is an annual census 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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Occupational Therapists Workforce

Summary Results from the 2008 Health Workforce Annual Census

All 1892 occupational therapists completed the health workforce census as part of the on-line registration process for their Annual Practising Certificates (APC) in July 2008.

Of those respondents, 92.2 percent were female, as illustrated in Table 1. The median age of occupational therapists was 39 years.

Age group	Male	Female	Total	%
20–	11	174	185	9.8
25–	17	243	260	13.7
30–	32	265	297	15.7
35–	25	265	290	15.3
40–	29	243	272	14.4
45–	12	221	233	12.3
50–	16	189	205	10.8
55–	4	83	87	4.6
60+	1	61	62	3.3
Not reported	0	1	1	0.1
Total	147	1745	1892	100.0

Source: Ministry of Health, 2008

The majority (62.7 percent) of the active occupational therapists 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.

Most (72.6 percent) occupational therapists qualified in New Zealand. The next most common qualification country was the United Kingdom (see Table 3).

Ethnicity	Total	%
NZ European	1186	62.7
British/Irish	290	15.3
Other European NFD	48	2.5
Māori	39	2.1
Indian	34	1.8
Australian	29	1.5
Chinese	23	1.2
Dutch	21	1.1
African (or cultural group of Africa)	16	0.8
Pacific peoples	16	0.8
German	14	0.7
Filipino	12	0.6
Asian	7	0.4
European	6	0.3
Other	61	3.2
Not reported	90	4.8
Total	1892	100.0

Source: Ministry of Health, 2008

Qualification country	Total	%
New Zealand	1374	72.6
United Kingdom	281	14.9
South Africa	55	2.9
Australia	26	1.4
Canada	14	0.7
USA	11	0.6
Germany	9	0.5
Philippines	9	0.5
India	6	0.3
Netherlands	6	0.3
Sweden	6	0.3
Ireland	5	0.3
Zimbabwe	4	0.2
Other	5	0.3
Not reported	81	4.3
Total	1892	100.0

Source: Ministry of Health, 2008

Table 4 shows the work type of the active respondents, by average hours worked.

Work type	Number	Avg hrs per week
Therapist	1593	27.2
Specialist Assessor	333	15.5
Case Manager	164	17.2
Equipment/Technology Prescriber	233	7.3
Organisational Manager	102	14.7
Educator/Trainer	151	9.7
Consultant	125	9.4
Clinical Supervisor	274	3.4
Professional Advisor	61	13.6
Environment Modifier	120	6.0
Tertiary Student	30	8.0
Researcher	32	5.5
Community Developer	19	6.2
Policy Developer	45	2.5
Cultural Educator	3	5.7
Cultural Consultant	3	2.7
Other	94	15.9
Total	3382	

Source: Ministry of Health, 2008

The highest average hours worked per week was as a Therapist (27.2 hours). The lowest was as a cultural consultant (3 hours).

Table 5 shows that the majority of active occupational therapists work for District Health Boards (DHB).

Main employment setting	Male	Female	Total	%
DHB	66	899	965	51.0
Private practice (self-employed)	18	304	322	17.0
Schools	5	75	80	4.2
Tertiary education providers	4	32	36	1.9
Government dept / Crown Agency	3	32	35	1.8
Not reported	51	403	454	24.0
Total	147	1745	1892	100.0

Source: Ministry of Health, 2008