

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

Main employer	Male	Female	Not reported	Total	%
DHB	71	570	14	655	27.5
Private practice (self-employed)	173	452	22	647	27.2
Private practice (employed)	132	428	7	567	23.8
University / polytechnic	18	44	2	64	2.7
Schools (education service)	6	45	3	54	2.3
Private hospital or rest home	4	43	2	49	2.1
Government dept/Crown agency	1	20	0	21	0.9
Commercial/industrial organisation	2	3	1	6	0.3
Voluntary agency	0	3	0	3	0.1
Other	7	44	1	52	2.2
Not reported	68	183	12	263	11.0
Total	482	1835	64	2381	100.0

Source: Ministry of Health, 2008

Table 6 shows the main employment setting by work type of the active respondents to the 2008 survey. Each physiotherapist can specify more than one work type.

This table shows that the 2381 active physiotherapists reported 4449 worktypes. This is 1.9 worktypes per active physiotherapist.

The main combination of worktypes and employment settings for physiotherapists were musculoskeletal outpatient in private practice (self-employed and employed).

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:

Analytical Services
 Information Directorate
 Ministry of Health
 PO Box 5013
 Tel (04) 816 2870
 Fax (04) 816 2898
 data-enquiries@moh.govt.nz

This pamphlet can be downloaded from:
<http://www.nzhis.govt.nz>

Table 6: Work type by main employment setting of active physiotherapists, 2008

Employment description	Adult neurology	Care of elderly	Community/domiciliary	Continuing care	Management	Med/surg cardiorespiratory	Mental health	Musculoskeletal inpatient	Musculoskeletal outpatient	Occupational health	Other paediatric	Paediatric neurology	Special Education Service	Sports physiotherapy	Study/research	Teaching	Women's health/obstetrics	Other	Not reported	Total
Private practice (self-employed)	43	41	43	5	255	5	6	63	427	87	9	16	0	289	58	43	31	45	7	1473
DHB	130	110	99	0	69	131	13	79	125	6	63	67	1	7	7	21	41	70	10	1049
Private practice (employed)	21	43	26	2	52	8	1	52	411	25	4	8	5	246	38	21	7	30	9	1009
University / Polytechnic	3	1	0	0	10	1	0	2	13	1	0	1	0	5	37	47	1	3	0	125
Private hospital or rest home	6	30	0	2	6	5	0	15	6	1	0	1	1	1	2	6	0	1	0	83
Schools (education service)	1	0	1	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	7	17	30	0	3	4	0	0	1	67
Government dept/Crown agency	1	1	1	0	4	0	0	0	0	2	1	1	4	0	5	2	0	5	2	29
Commercial/industrial organisation	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	7
Voluntary agency	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	3
Other	9	8	2	0	7	1	0	1	9	4	0	9	0	5	5	1	0	19	0	80
Not reported	25	25	13	2	56	8	2	24	136	19	5	8	5	101	21	17	6	24	27	524
Total	239	259	186	11	464	160	22	236	1127	147	89	128	46	654	176	163	87	199	56	4449

Source: Ministry of Health, 2008

Physiotherapists 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 physiotherapists in February 2008.

Of the 3643 physiotherapists who were sent an invoice, 2381 (65.4 percent) indicated that they were working actively as physiotherapists, 275 (7.5 percent) responded to the 2008 survey but did not report that they were actively working and 987 (27.1 percent) did not respond to the survey.

The 2381 actively working physiotherapists represent 89.6 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 2381 active physiotherapists.

Of those respondents, 77.1 percent were female, as illustrated in Table 1. The median age of respondents was 39 years.

Age group	Male	Female	Not reported	Total	%
20–	45	137	0	182	7.6
25–	75	299	6	380	16.0
30–	64	254	8	326	13.7
35–	76	205	6	287	12.1
40–	59	226	8	293	12.3
45–	61	249	12	322	13.5
50–	49	209	5	263	11.0
55–	18	105	7	130	5.5
60+	32	122	6	160	6.7
Not reported	3	29	6	38	1.6
Total	482	1835	64	2381	100

Source: Ministry of Health, 2008

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

Most physiotherapists qualified in New Zealand. The next most common qualification country was the United Kingdom (Table 3).

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 reasons.

Ethnicity	Total	%
NZ European	1606	67.5
Māori	106	4.5
Other European	402	16.9
Chinese	47	2.0
Indian	31	1.3
South East Asian	11	0.5
Samoan	10	0.4
Cook Island Maori	3	0.1
Fijian	3	0.1
Other Asian	3	0.1
Other Pacific	3	0.1
Tongan	2	0.1
Other	105	4.4
Not reported	49	2.1
Total	2381	100.0

Source: Ministry of Health, 2008

Qualification country	Total	%
New Zealand	1822	76.5
United Kingdom	284	11.9
Australia	48	2.0
South Africa	42	1.8
Netherlands	40	1.7
Ireland	18	0.8
Canada	16	0.7
USA	13	0.5
Germany	9	0.4
Zimbabwe	4	0.2
India	3	0.1
Switzerland	3	0.1
Fiji	2	0.1
Hungary	1	0.0
Norway	1	0.0
Russia	1	0.0
Sri Lanka	1	0.0
Sweden	1	0.0
Taiwan	1	0.0
Not reported	71	3.0
Total	2381	100.0

Source: Ministry of Health, 2008

District Health Board	Number	Average full-time hours per week
Northland	52	42.0
Waitemata	164	42.2
Auckland	233	42.5
Counties Manukau	115	42.0
Waikato	118	42.7
Lakes	35	39.6
Bay of Plenty	78	41.8
Tairāwhiti	13	39.9
Hawke's Bay	57	40.6
Taranaki	33	43.0
MidCentral	41	42.8
Whanganui	18	40.8
Capital & Coast	117	41.3
Hutt Valley	36	41.5
Wairarapa	11	42.1
Nelson Marlborough	47	38.7
West Coast	5	47.4
Canterbury	219	41.1
South Canterbury	23	40.0
Otago	130	40.9
Southland	32	43.4
NZ but unspecified	*	40.0
Not reported	5	45.4
Total full-time	1583	41.7
Part-time	670	17.5
Hours not reported	128	–
Total	2381	–

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 Southland (43.4 hours). The lowest was in Nelson Marlborough (38.7 hours).

Table 5 shows that the majority of active physiotherapists were in private practice – either self-employed or employed. Employed in a DHB was the next most common employment setting.