

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

Table 5: Main employment setting of active dietitians, by sex, 2009

Employment description	Female	Male	Unknown	Total
Hospital and Health Service/DHB	257	10	2	269
Private practice – self-employed	46	1	1	48
– group practice	8	1	0	9
Non-governmental organisation	21	1	1	23
Commercial/industrial organisation	21	1	0	22
University/polytechnic	17	0	0	17
Government department/Crown entity	9	1	1	11
Other	7	0	0	7
Not reported	32	1	1	34
Total	418	16	6	440

Ministry of Health, 2009.

Table 6 shows the main employment setting by work type of the active respondents to the 2009 survey. Each dietitian can specify more than one work type. This table shows that the 440 active dietitians reported 588 work types. This is 1.3 work types per active dietitian.

Table 6: Worktype by main employment setting for active dietitians, 2009

Work type	Hospital and Health Service/DHB	Private practice – self-employed	Private practice – group practice	Non-governmental organisation	Commercial/industrial	University/polytechnic	Government dept/Crown agency	Other	Not reported	Total
Clinical (excluding community)	184	27	4	2	0	0	1	0	11	229
Community	67	17	4	6	1	0	1	3	9	108
Education	6	3	1	4	1	13	1	0	2	31
Food service management/consultancy	14	13	0	2	3	0	1	0	2	35
General management	27	3	2	5	2	0	1	2	4	46
Industry	0	1	0	3	16	0	1	0	3	24
Public health/policy	19	0	0	15	1	0	8	2	5	50
Sports nutrition	0	8	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	13
Study/research	4	3	1	3	1	9	1	0	1	23
Other	8	5	0	1	3	0	1	0	2	20
Not reported	5	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	9
Total	334	80	13	41	30	23	18	8	41	588

Ministry of Health, 2009.

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

Dietitian Workforce

Summary Results from the 2009 Health Workforce Annual Survey

The Ministry of Health would like to thank all the health care professionals who completed the 2009 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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A health workforce survey was included with each invoice for Annual Practising Certificates (APC) sent to dietitians in February 2009.

Of the 500 dietitians who were sent an invoice, 440 (88 percent) indicated that they were working actively as dietitians, 30 (six percent) responded to the 2009 survey but did not report that they were actively working and 30 (six percent) did not respond to the survey.

The 440 actively working dietitians represent 93.6 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 440 active dietitians. Of those respondents, 93.6 percent of dietitians of known sex were female, as illustrated in Table 1. The median age of respondents was 38 years.

Table 1: Age and sex of active dietitians, 2009

Age group	Female	Male	Not reported	Total	Percentage
20–24	36	0	0	36	8.2
25–29	71	3	0	74	16.8
30–34	58	6	1	65	14.8
35–39	47	4	1	52	11.8
40–44	40	1	0	41	9.3
45–49	45	2	3	50	11.4
50–54	41	0	1	42	9.5
55–59	42	0	0	42	9.5
60+	31	0	0	31	7.0
Not reported	7	0	0	7	1.6
Total	418	16	6	440	100.0

Ministry of Health, 2009.

The majority (340) 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: Ethnicity of active dietitians, 2009

Ethnic description	Total	Percentage
New Zealand European	340	77.3
New Zealand Māori	15	3.4
Other European – British and Irish	20	4.5
Chinese	17	3.9
Other European	15	3.4
Other European – Australian	7	1.6
South-East Asian	6	1.4
Indian	4	0.9
Other Pacific	4	0.9
Other Asian	3	0.7
African	2	0.5
Other	6	1.4
Not reported	1	0.2
Total	440	100.0

Ministry of Health, 2009.

Most (390) dietitians qualified in New Zealand. The next most common qualification countries were United Kingdom and South Africa (Table 3).

Table 3: Qualification country of active dietitians 2009

Qualification country	Number	Percentage
New Zealand	390	88.6
United Kingdom	18	4.1
South Africa	11	2.5
Australia	7	1.6
United States of America	4	0.9
India	2	0.5
Sweden	1	0.2
Netherlands	1	0.2
Malaysia	1	0.2
Not reported	5	1.1
Total	440	100.0

Ministry of Health, 2009.

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.

Table 4: District Health Board region of employer, by average hours worked, 2009

DHB Description	Number	Average hours per week
Northland	11	38.5
Waitemata	24	40.3
Auckland	68	40.2
Counties Manukau	24	40.5
Waikato	25	38.8
Lakes	6	37.3
Bay of Plenty	7	38.6
Tairāwhiti	*	38.7
Hawke's Bay	5	38.2
Taranaki	8	37.9
MidCentral	9	39.3
Whanganui	*	40.0
Capital & Coast	31	39.6
Hutt Valley	8	40.0
Wairarapa	*	45.0
Nelson Marlborough	6	38.0
West Coast	*	40.0
Canterbury	41	38.6
South Canterbury	*	35.7
Otago	18	41.7
Southland	5	38.4
Not reported	2	46.0
Total full-time	310	39.6
Part-time	123	17.6
Hours not reported	7	–
Total	440	–

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

Ministry of Health, 2009.

Of those DHB regions with more than five respondents, the highest average hours worked per week were in Wairarapa (45 hours). The lowest was in South Canterbury (35.7 hours).