

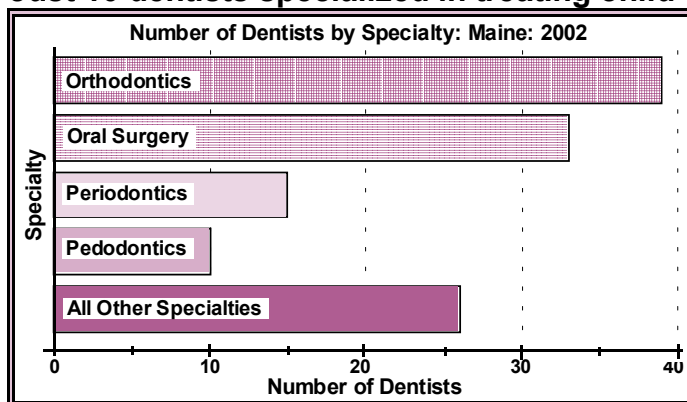
GENERAL PRACTICE AND SPECIALIST DENTISTS

Data are from the
MAINE COOPERATIVE HEALTH MANPOWER RESOURCE SYSTEM: 2002

- ➔ In 2002, 589 dentists reported that they were working in Maine. Nearly 80% of them (465) reported that they were general practitioners and 20% (123) reported that they were specialists.
- ➔ Statewide, there was a ratio of 3.8 general practice dentists for each specialist dentist. Five counties had no specialist dentists. Of those that did, Cumberland and Sagadahoc counties had the lowest ratios with 2.5 general practice dentists for each specialist; Hancock county had the highest with 11.0 general practice dentists per specialist.

Number and Ratio of General Practice (GP) Dentists to Specialist Dentists by County, Maine: 2002							
County	# G.P. Dentists	# Specialist Dentists	Ratio GP:Specialist	County	# G.P. Dentists	# Specialist Dentists	Ratio GP:Specialist
Androscoggin	38	10	3.8 : 1	Oxford	16	0	-
Aroostook	18	5	3.6 : 1	Penobscot	45	15	3.0 : 1
Cumberland	140	56	2.5 : 1	Piscataquis	5	0	-
Franklin	9	0	-	Sagadahoc	10	4	2.5 : 1
Hancock	22	2	11.0 : 1	Somerset	12	2	6.0 : 1
Kennebec	49	12	4.1 : 1	Waldo	8	0	-
Knox	18	5	3.6 : 1	Washington	10	0	-
Lincoln	13	2	6.5 : 1	York	52	10	5.2 : 1

- ➔ More than half of Maine's specialist dentists were oral surgeons (33) or orthodontists (39) in 2002. Just 10 dentists specialized in treating children; this resulted in a ratio of 24,000 children for each pediatric specialist¹.



- ➔ On average, both specialists and general practice dentists worked 38 hours each week with all but 2 or 3 hours spent providing patient care.
- ➔ Fifty-seven percent of both general practice dentists and specialist dentists treated MaineCare (Medicaid) patients in their practice in 2002. When asked if they were accepting new MaineCare patients, more than 60% of specialists reported that they were compared to 23% of general practitioners.
- ➔ Patients who required emergency care were treated on the same day they requested service, or on the next day, by 80% of general practice dentists and 86% of specialists. Ninety-eight percent of all dentists reported seeing emergency patients within 3 days of their call.

Notes: The most current specialty information available from the Board of Dental Examiners was used to update the final 2002 health manpower data file; 1 Maine dentist did not report specialty information.

¹ Ratio is based on 2000 census data for residents <15, the most current population data for which age breakouts are available.

For further data on this topic, please contact:
the Office of Data, Research, and Vital Statistics, BUREAU OF HEALTH
at 161 Capitol Street, #11 State House Station, Augusta, Maine 04333-0011
The contact person is: Kim Haggan - (207) 287-5500 287-2070 (TTY)

For program information, please contact: Judith Feinstein at 287-3267
For loan repayment information for dental professionals, please contact Sophie Glidden at 287-5503

Visit our website at: <http://www.maine.gov/dhs/bohodr/index.htm>

John Elias Baldacci
Governor

