

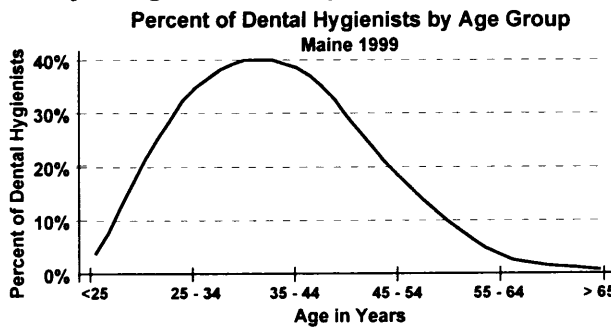
# REGISTERED DENTAL HYGIENISTS

Maine, January 1999

- ➔ In 1999, there were 715 dental hygienists practicing in Maine. This resulted in a statewide ratio of 1 hygienist for every 1,737 residents; 12 of Maine's 16 counties had ratios greater than the state average.

DENTAL HYGIENIST TO POPULATION BY RANK ORDER OF COUNTY: 1999			
COUNTY	DENTAL HYGIENIST/ POPULATION	COUNTY	DENTAL HYGIENIST/ POPULATION
Cumberland	1:1,018	Lincoln	1:2,257
Penobscot	1:1,419	Franklin	1:2,418
Knox	1:1,632	York	1:2,444
Piscataquis	1:1,665	Aroostook	1:2,753
Kennebec	1:1,783	Oxford	1:2,830
Hancock	1:1,986	Washington	1:2,999
Androscoggin	1:2,062	Waldo	1:3,602
Sagadahoc	1:2,229	Somerset	1:4,352

- ➔ Three fourths of all hygienists were younger than 44 years old; this included 3% who were younger than 25. Less than 1% were 65 years old or older.
- ➔ Nearly 3/4 of all dental hygienists worked less than 35 hours per week with 1/4 of them (161) working 31 - 35 hours and another 1/4 of them (161) working 21 - 30 hours. This resulted in a statewide average of 29 hours worked each week with 27 of those hours spent providing patient care services.
- ➔ Ninety percent of Maine's hygienists reported that they were "satisfied" with their employment situation. Most of these hygienists received free or reduced dental care for themselves (80%) and/or their families (76%).



Percent of Dental Hygienists by Employment Benefits Received  
Maine, 1999

Benefit	Yes	No	Benefit	Yes	No
Continuing Education Assistance	86%	14%	Retirement Benefits	57%	43%
Free/Reduced Dental Care for Self	80%	20%	Medical Health Insurance	43%	57%
Free/Reduced Dental Care for Family	76%	24%	Dental Health Insurance	8%	92%
Paid Sick Leave	62%	38%			

- ➔ About 12% of Maine's dental hygienists were salaried employees; the rest worked for an hourly wage. More than half (51%) of those who reported working for an hourly rate earned between \$18.00 and \$20.99 per hour in 1999; another 28% earned \$21.00 or more per hour.

Note: Population data are for July 1997 and are from the data files of the Office of Data, Research, and Vital Statistics.

For further data on this topic, please contact:  
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