

Statistics of Physicians, Dentists and Pharmacists 2018

【Digest of Summary Report】

- The numbers of physicians, dentists, and pharmacists have increased from the previous survey (2016).

Physicians	327,210 (7,730, 2.4% increase from the previous survey)
Dentists	104,908 (375, 0.4% increase from the previous survey)
Pharmacists	311,289 (9,966, 3.3% increase from the previous survey)

- The proportion of female in physicians, dentists, and pharmacists
- | | |
|-------------|---|
| Physicians | 71,758 (21.9%) (4,265, 6.3% increase from the previous survey) |
| Dentists | 25,297 (24.1%) (953, 3.9% increase from the previous survey) |
| Pharmacists | 190,744 (61.3%) (6,247, 3.4% increase from the previous survey) |

- The number of physicians by type of medical institutions
- | | |
|---|---|
| Hospitals (except hospitals affiliated to medical educational institutions) | 151,691 (4,576, 3.1% increase from the previous survey) |
| Clinics | 103,836 (1,379, 1.3% increase from the previous survey) |
| Hospitals affiliated to medical educational institutions | 56,436 (1,249, 2.3% increase from the previous survey) |

- The number of physicians by clinical specialty (principal)
- | | |
|---------------------------|--|
| Pediatrics | 17,321 (384, 2.3% increase from the previous survey) |
| Obstetrics and gynecology | 11,332 (17, 0.1% decrease from the previous survey) |
| Surgery (※) | 27,833 (179, 0.6% decrease from the previous survey) |
- ※General Surgery, Chest surgery, Cardiovascular surgery, Breast surgery, Broncho-esophagological surgery, Gastroenterological surgery, Proctological surgery and Pediatric surgery.

- The number of physicians practicing in health care facilities per 100,000 population by prefecture:
- The number for all Japan was 246.7 (6.6 increase from the previous survey).
The largest numbers was Tokushima (329.5), Kyoto (323.3) and Kochi (316.9).
The smallest numbers was Saitama (169.8), Ibaraki (187.5) and Chiba (194.1).

Please click [here](#) for the details (Japanese only)

Statistics of Physicians, Dentists and Pharmacists

1 Objective

This statistics is conducted to perceive the distribution of physicians, dentists, and pharmacists by sex, age, type of practice, place of work, and clinical specialty (excluding pharmacists) and to obtain basic data for health and welfare policy making. It had been conducted every year until 1982 and has been conducted every two years since 1982.

2 Statistics Date

As of 31st December 2018

3 Subjects and Objects

The objects of statistics were physicians provided notifications in accordance with paragraph 3, article 6 of the Medical Practitioners Act, dentists provided notifications in accordance with paragraph 3, article 6 of the Dental Practitioners Act, and pharmacists provided notifications in accordance with article 9 of the Pharmacists Act, all of whom have places of residence in Japan.

4 Count Items

(1) Address, (2) Sex, (3) Date of birth, (4) Date of registration, (5) Type of practice, (6) Address of place of work, (7) Chief line of practice (excluding pharmacists), (8) Clinical specialty (excluding pharmacists), (9) The number of Medical Specialists certified by academic society which was approved legitimate advertising practices (excluding pharmacists) etc.

5 Method and Route of the Statistics

(1) Method of the Statistics

Public health centers collect notifications provided by physicians, dentists, and pharmacists who have responsibility of the notifications, then report to the Minister of Health, Labour and Welfare.

(2) Route of the Statistics

MHLW – Prefectures – Public health centers – Physicians, dentists, and pharmacists

[Cities with public health centers
Special area]

6 Tabulation of Result

Director-General for Statistics and Information Policy, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare tabulated the results.

7 Definitions

“Hospitals”

A place where physicians or dentists provide health care and dental care, with inpatient facilities for 20 or more patients (article 1-5 of the Medical Care Act)

“Medical educational institutions”

A university or other institution under School Education Act where they provide education of medicine or dentistry

“Clinics”

A place where physicians or dentists provide health care and dental care, without inpatient facilities or with inpatient facilities for 19 or less patients (article 1-5 of the Medical Care Act)

“Healthcare facilities for the elderly requiring long-term care”

A facility approved by the prefectural governors under the Long-Term Care Insurance Act where they provide their residents requiring long-term care with nursing care and functional training under medical and nursing management, other medical treatment, and support for daily living, based on the facility’s service plan