

Statistics of Physicians, Dentists and Pharmacists, 2022

【Digest of Summary Report】

○Number of physicians, dentists and pharmacists

The number of notifications for physicians and pharmacists has increased and that for dentists has decreased from 2020 (“the previous survey”).

Physicians	343,275 (3,652, 1.1% increase from the previous survey)
Dentists	105,267 (2,176, 2.0% decrease from the previous survey)
Pharmacists	323,690 (1,708, 0.5% increase from the previous survey)

○The proportion of females who are physicians, dentists, and pharmacists

Physicians	81,139 (3,593, 4.6% increase from the previous survey), 23.6%
Dentists	27,413 (500, 1.9% increase from the previous survey), 26.0%
Pharmacists	199,507 (1,767, 0.9% increase from the previous survey), 61.6%

○The number of physicians whose main specialty is “Pediatrics,” “Obstetrics and gynecology,” or “Surgery (*).”

Pediatrics	17,781 (216, 1.2% decrease from the previous survey)
Obstetrics and gynecology	11,833 (155, 1.3% increase from the previous survey)
Surgery (*)	27,634 (312, 1.1% decrease from the previous survey)

* “Surgery” includes General surgery, Respiratory 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 262.1 (an increase of 5.5 from the previous survey).
The largest numbers were in Tokushima (335.7), Kochi (335.2), and Kyoto (334.3).
The smallest numbers were in Saitama (180.2), Ibaraki (202.0), and Chiba (209.0).

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

Outline of statistics

1 Objective

These statistics are gathered to ascertain 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.

2 Subjects of tabulation

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

3 Tabulation items

- | | |
|--------------------------|--|
| (1) Address | (6) Address of place of work |
| (2) Sex | (7) Chief line of practice (excluding pharmacists) |
| (3) Date of birth | (8) Clinical specialty (excluding pharmacists) |
| (4) Date of registration | (9) Names of the certifications that can be advertised regarding the specialties of physicians and dentists (excluding pharmacists) etc. |
| (5) Type of practice | |

4 Date of the notification

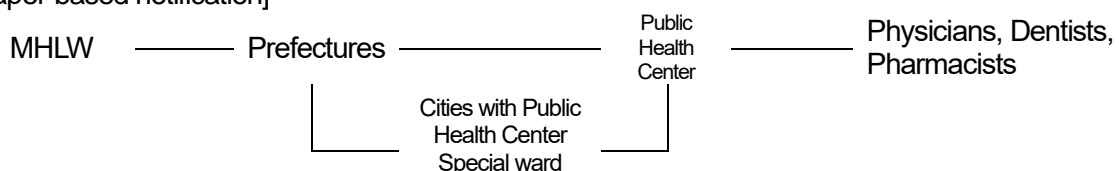
As of 31st December 2022

5 Route of the notification, etc.

(1) Physicians, dentists, and pharmacists who are obligated to provide notification submit the notification to the Minister of Health, Labour and Welfare, via public health centers, prefectures, etc. However, starting in 2022, physicians, dentists and pharmacists who work at medical institutions, etc.* are allowed to submit notification forms to the Minister of Health, Labour and Welfare via the “The medical staff notification system” in accordance with the provisions of Article 6, Paragraph 1 of the Act on the Advancement of Government Administration Processes That Use Information and Communications Technology (Act No. 151 of 2002).

* The term “medical institutions, etc.” is used to refer basically to hospitals, medical clinics, dental clinics, pharmacies, institutions covered by the long-term care insurance, pharmaceutical manufacturing/marketing businesses, pharmaceutical manufacturing businesses, pharmaceutical marketing businesses, educational institutions, public health administration organizations, public health facilities, etc., but other institutions where physicians, etc., work may also submit notifications online.

(2) Route of the notification
[Paper-based notification]



[Online submission]

MHLW ——— Physicians, Dentists, Pharmacists

6 Tabulation of results

Director-General for Statistics, Information System Management and Industrial Relations at MHLW tabulated the results.

7 Definitions

(1) Hospitals

A place where physicians or dentists provide health care and dental care, with inpatient facilities for 20 or more patients.

(2) Medical educational institutions

A university or other institution under the School Education Act where education in medicine or dentistry is provided.

(3) Clinics

A place where physicians or dentists provide health care and dental care, without inpatient facilities or with inpatient facilities for 19 or fewer patients.

(4) 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.

(5) Rehabilitation facilities for the elderly

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

8 Notes

(1) Symbols used in the table

Quantity zero	—
Unknown count or unsuitable for representation	...
Statistically not possible	.
Rounded results of ratios, etc., not reaching 1, which is the minimum digit for representation	
0.0	
Decreased number or percentage	△

(2) Percentages presented are rounded and the sums of the items do not always match the totals.

(3) Rates per 100,000 population were calculated based on the "Population Estimates (as of 1 October 2022)" (Statistics Bureau, Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications)".

(4) The phrase "Names of the certifications that can be advertised regarding the specialties of physicians and dentists" refers to those that can be advertised based on Article 1, item 2 of the "Matters that can be advertised with respect to medical, dental or midwife services or hospital, clinic, or maternity section pursuant to the provisions of Article 6-5 paragraph (3) and Article 6-7 paragraph (3) of the Medical Care Act" (Notification No. 108 of 2007 by the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare)" and Article 2, paragraph 1 of the supplementary provisions (Notification No. 347 by the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, September 27, 2021).

This is called "specialty qualification" in this Summary Report.

(5) Clinical specialties used in these Statistics are those whose advisement is allowed in the Medical Care Act.

Clinical specialties proclaimed by medical institutions were previously stipulated in the Ordinance for Enhancement of the Medical Care Act by limitedly enumerating specific names. On 1st April 2008, however, from the viewpoint of encouraging people to select the appropriate medical institution and see a doctor, the system was changed to a flexible one that allows using names of specific characteristics, such as body parts and patient diseases, as clinical specialties. For this reason, the yearly trends are not suitable for simple comparison.

(Reference: 31st March 2008 Medical Policy No. 0331042, Notice of the Director General of Medical Policy Bureau, "Review of clinical specialties that can be advertised."

URL (<https://www.mhlw.go.jp/topics/bukyoku/isei/kokokukisei/dl/koukokukanou.pdf>)