

DENTISTS (1998) AND DENTAL HYGIENISTS (1999)

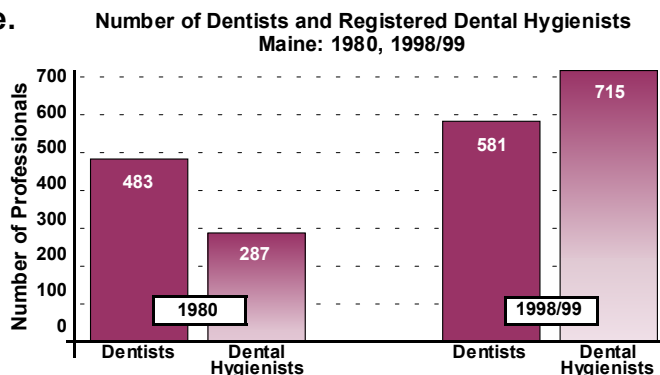
Data are from the
MAINE COOPERATIVE HEALTH MANPOWER RESOURCE SYSTEM

➔ During 1998 and 1999, 581 dentists and 715 registered dental hygienists reported practicing in Maine.

➔ This indicated a 20% growth in the number of dentists and an increase of 150% in the number of dental hygienists practicing in Maine since 1980.

➔ In 1980, there were fewer registered dental hygienists than dentists in Maine; in fact, there were 3 hygienists for every 5 dentists. By 1998, the number of hygienists exceeded the number of dentists and this ratio had grown to more than 6 registered dental hygienists for every 5 dentists.

➔ The increase in the numbers of dental professionals in Maine, and the accompanying increase in the ratio of registered dental hygienists to dentists was experienced by all of Maine's counties.*



Proportion of Registered Dental Hygienists to Each Dentist by County: Maine 1980, 1998/99					
COUNTY	Proportion of Hygienists / Each Dentist		COUNTY	Proportion of Hygienists / Each Dentist	
	1980	1998/99		1980	1998/99
Androscoggin	.4	1.0	Oxford	.6	1.1
Aroostook	.4	1.1	Penobscot	.7	1.6
Cumberland	.8	1.4	Piscataquis	.7	1.8
Franklin	.7	1.1	Sagadahoc	.4	1.1
Hancock	.4	1.3	Somerset	.7	.9
Kennebec	.5	1.0	Waldo	.1	1.1
Knox	.5	1.0	Washington	.2	1.1
Lincoln	.6	1.0	York	.5	1.1

➔ Ninety one percent of dentists were male. Ninety nine percent of registered dental hygienists were female.

➔ On average, registered dental hygienists worked 29 hours weekly with all but 2 hours in patient care. Dentists worked an average of 38 hours each week; all but 2½ hours were in patient care.

➔ Just over 20% of registered dental hygienists worked more than 35 hours/week; approximately 56% of dentists did. An additional 26% of hygienists and 28% of dentists worked 31 – 35 hours per week.

* For further information on the distribution of these professionals in Maine, see Fact Sheet Series 7, Numbers 2, 7, and 17.

For further data on this topic, please contact:
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Commissioner

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Series 9

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HYGIENISTS: 1998/1999
FACT SHEET