

13th March 2026

By email

[REDACTED]

Our Ref: FOI 2733

Dear [REDACTED],

I am writing to you in response to your Freedom of Information request received by the Northern Ireland Medical and Dental Training Agency (NIMDTA) on 26th January 2026 in which you requested information relating to the below:

I am looking to obtain any EDI data on sex and ethnicity (protected characteristics) breakdown across dental postgraduate training. This includes dental core trainees and dental specialty trainees (including dental clinical academic trainees) by dental specialty type?

It would be great if you were able to share anonymised data in these key areas:

1. Entry/access - Application and job offer rates for each specialty by sex and ethnicity

2. Training progression – ARCP outcomes for each specialty by sex and ethnicity

3. Training outcomes: ARCP outcomes 6 for each specialty by sex and ethnicity

4. The final question is what data do you hold across other protected characteristics for trainees? If you are able to provide an idea of the quality of this data that would also be helpful.

I am asking for percentages for candidates appointed from 2018-19 to 2024-2025 (or the most recent data available).

Firstly, please accept my apologies for the delay in providing a response.

Please find the response below and attached.

Please find details below in relation to the requested pieces of information as it is not possible to provide the information under each category.

1. Recruitment to Dental Core and Specialty training is undertaken by the national recruitment offices. Local recruitment takes place for a small number of posts and this protected information is not available to NIMDTA.
2. A composite response has been provided for ARCP outcome 1 for Dental Core and Specialty Training. This is due to the small number of dental specialty trainees training within each specialty (n = or < 2 per specialty).
3. A composite response has been provided for ARCP outcome 6 for specialty training due to the small number of dental trainees in each specialty.
4. Applicants are requested to provide information in relation to protected characteristics as part of their Oriel application, however this is not always completed. Data for those appointed to Training Programmes is held on our Training Information System – however, due to the incompleteness of data provided on applications via Oriel, as well as restrictions on access, this data is not always migrated/imported to the Training Information System upon commencement of training. NIMDTA also provides a Single Lead Employer function for Resident Doctors and Dentists in Training (RDDiT) in Northern Ireland – RDDiT employees are requested to provide information in relation to their protected characteristics via the HR system, but again they may choose not to, and the data held will be incomplete for many.

I hope that the information provided assists you. If you are dissatisfied in any way with the handling of your request, you have the right to request a review. You should do this as soon as possible or in any case within two months of the date of issue of this letter, as NIMDTA, along with all other public authorities are not obliged to accept internal review requests after this period has lapsed.

In the event that you require a review to be undertaken, you can do so by writing to The Business Services Organisation (BSO), which provides an Information Governance service on our behalf:

Post: Information Governance Manager,
2 Franklin Street,
Belfast,
BT2 8DQ

Email: foi.bso@hscni.net

If, following an internal review, carried out by an independent decision making panel, you remain dissatisfied in any way with the handling of the request, you may make a complaint to the Information Commissioner's Office and ask that they investigate whether NIMDTA has complied with the terms of the Freedom of Information Act

The Information Commissioner's Office – Northern Ireland
10th Floor
Causeway Tower
9 James Street South
Belfast
BT2 8DN

Telephone: 0303 123 1114

Email: ni@ico.org.uk

In most circumstances the Information Commissioner will not investigate a complaint unless an internal review procedure has been carried out. However the Commissioner has the option to investigate the matter at his discretion.

Yours Sincerely,



Aaron McClelland
Senior Governance, IT and Facilities Manager, NIMDTA

Specialty Name (group) 1	StandardisedOutcome (group)	Academic Year / Sex (group)																					
		2018-2019			2020-2021			2021-2022			2022-2023			2023-2024			2024-2025						
		Female	Male	Not Disclosed	Female	Male	Not Disclosed	Female	Male	Not Disclosed	Female	Male	Not Disclosed	Female	Male	Not Disclosed	Female	Male	Not Disclosed	Female	Male	Not Disclosed	
Dental Specialties	Percentage (%) of trainees with Outcome 6	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
	Percentage (%) of trainees who did not achieve Outcome 6																				100.00%	0.00%	0.00%

Specialty Name (group) 1	StandardisedOutcome (group)	Academic Year / EthnicOrigin (group)																					
		2018-2019				2020-2021				2021-2022				2022-2023				2023-2024				2024-2025	
		Not Disclosed		White	BME	Not Disclosed		White	BME	Not Disclosed		White	BME	Not Disclosed		White	BME	Not Disclosed		White	BME		
Dental Specialties	Percentage (%) of trainees with Outcome 6	0.00%		0.00%	0.00%	0.00%		0.00%	0.00%	0.00%		0.00%	0.00%	0.00%		0.00%	0.00%	0.00%		0.00%	0.00%		
	Percentage (%) of trainees who did not achieve Outcome 6																			50.00%	50.00%	0.00%	