

The Class of '15

**Research on registrants who
registered with the
GCC for the first time in 2015**

June 2016

**General
Chiropractic
Council**



Introduction

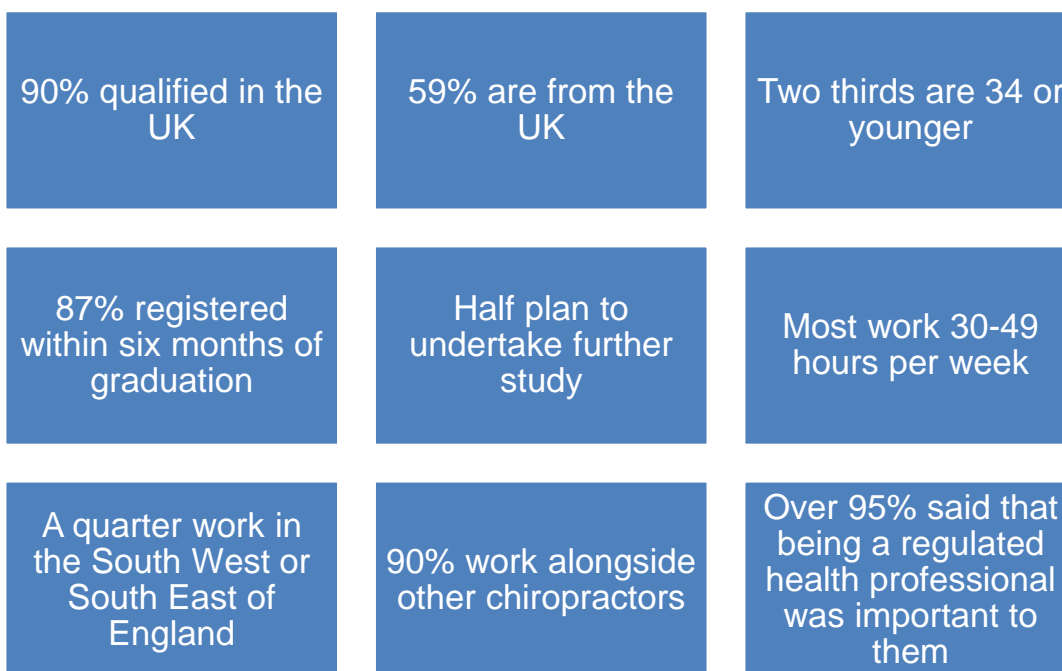
In 2015, over 100 new chiropractors joined the GCC register for the first time, allowing them to practise chiropractic in the UK.

We felt that it would be interesting to learn a little more about the people coming into the profession in the UK for the first time, and so over February and March 2016 we wrote to everyone who joined the register during 2015 asking them to complete a survey to give us an opportunity to learn a little more about them. The survey was anonymous.

69¹ people – almost half – responded to the invitation to take part. To the 69 – thank you. Your help is appreciated, and will help us ensure that we provide a high standard of service to this year's new registrants.

We also plan to follow this survey with another of the profession as a whole over the Summer of 2016. We will also repeat this survey in 2017 to see if the class of '16 is different to the class of '15!

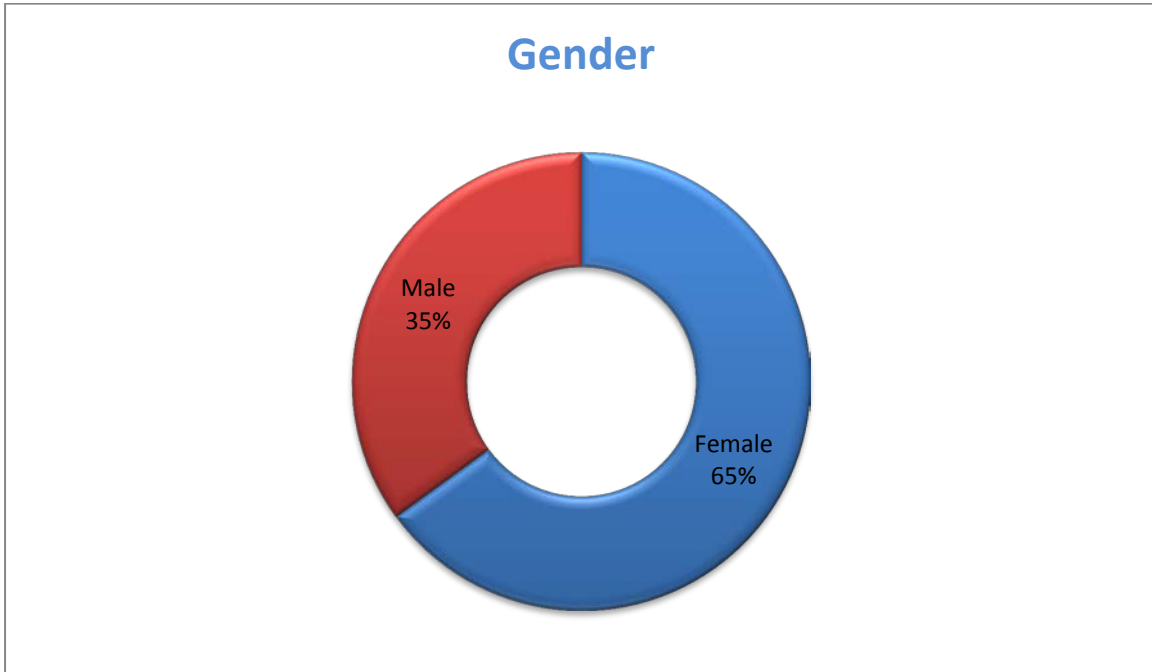
So, who was the Class of '15?



¹ Note that not all respondents answered every questions, so responses to some questions add to less than 69

The Class of '15

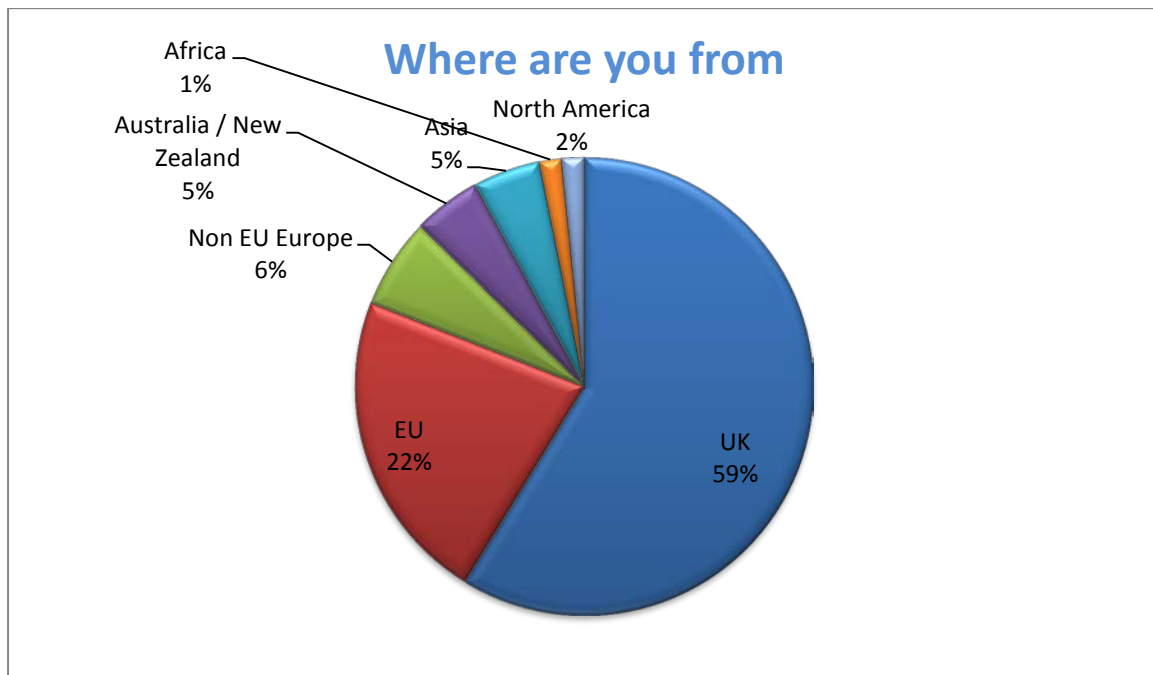
Although the profession as a whole has a 50:50 split between the sexes, respondents to our survey were dominated by ladies, with 65% of respondents being female, and only 21 respondents being male.



90% of respondents qualified in the UK, with the three chiropractic colleges each accounting for approximately a third of respondents. Of the remainder, three qualified in New Zealand, and two in France and the US.

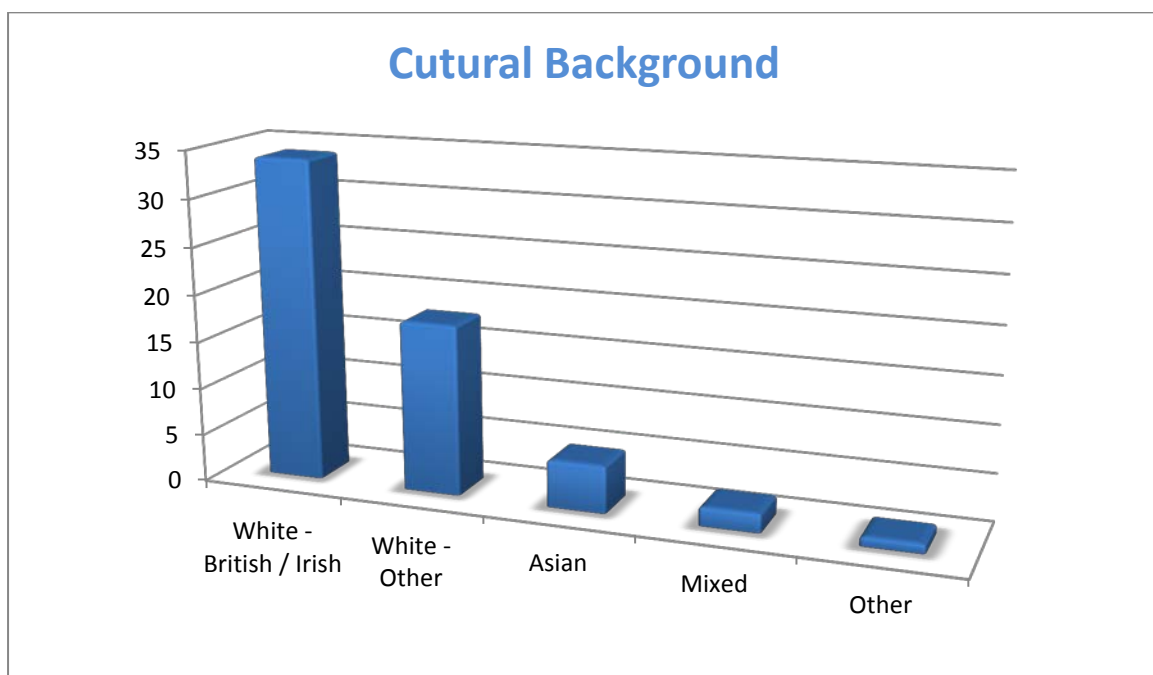


With so many chiropractors having qualified in the UK, it is no surprise that the majority of respondents are British. Just under 60% were from the UK, with a further 22% coming from the EU. 5% came from non EU European countries.

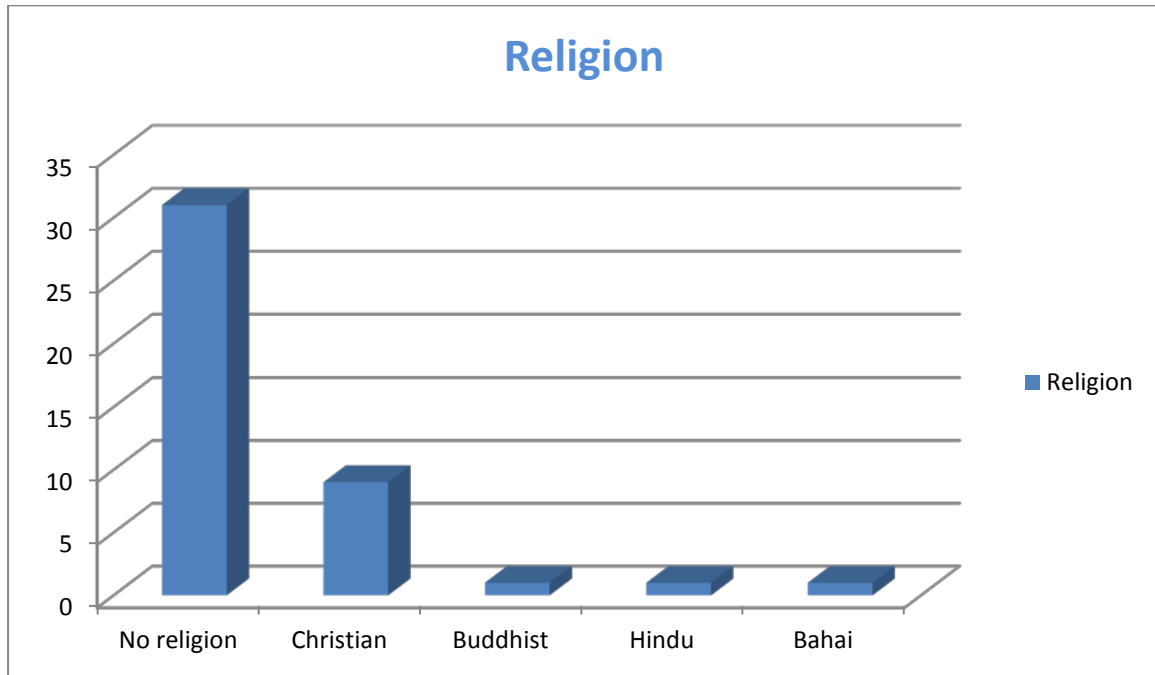


The remainder were from all over the world – three each came from Australasia and Asia, with one each from Africa and North America.

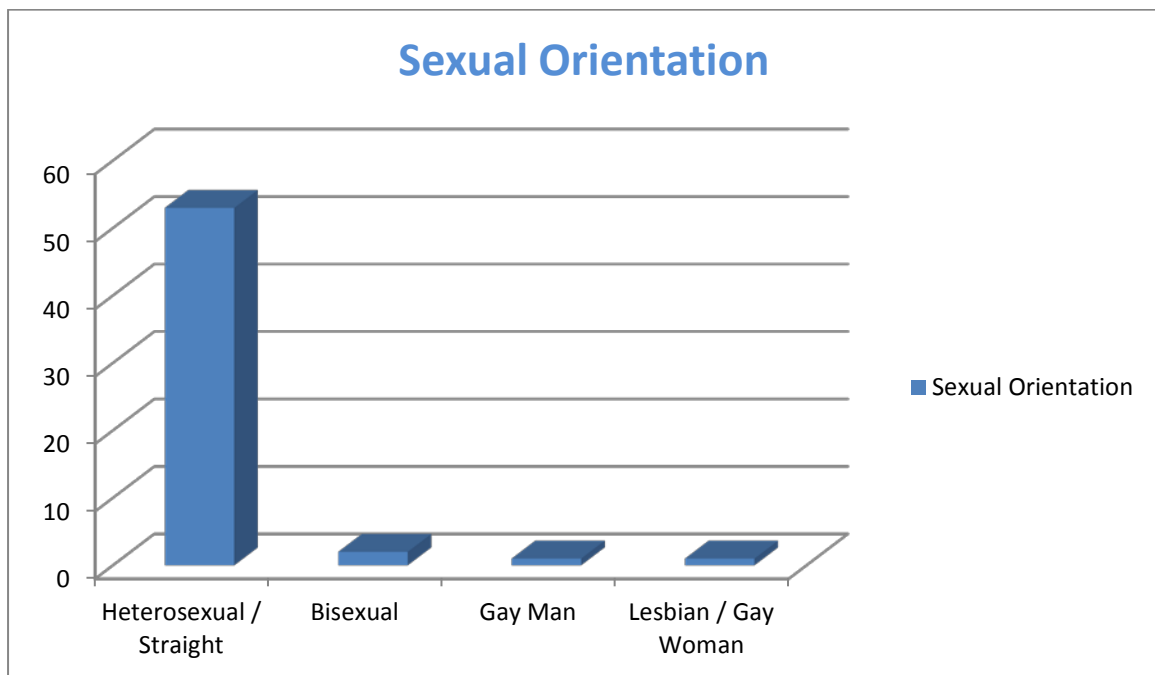
New registrants are also white, 87% of respondents saying that white is their cultural background. 33 were white British, 1 was white Irish and the remainder were white from elsewhere. The only other groups were White and Asian, British Indian, British Chinese and Asian British, which had one or two respondents.



Over 50% of respondents also have no religious beliefs. Of those who do, 83% were Christian, with single Buddhists, Hindus and Bahai.



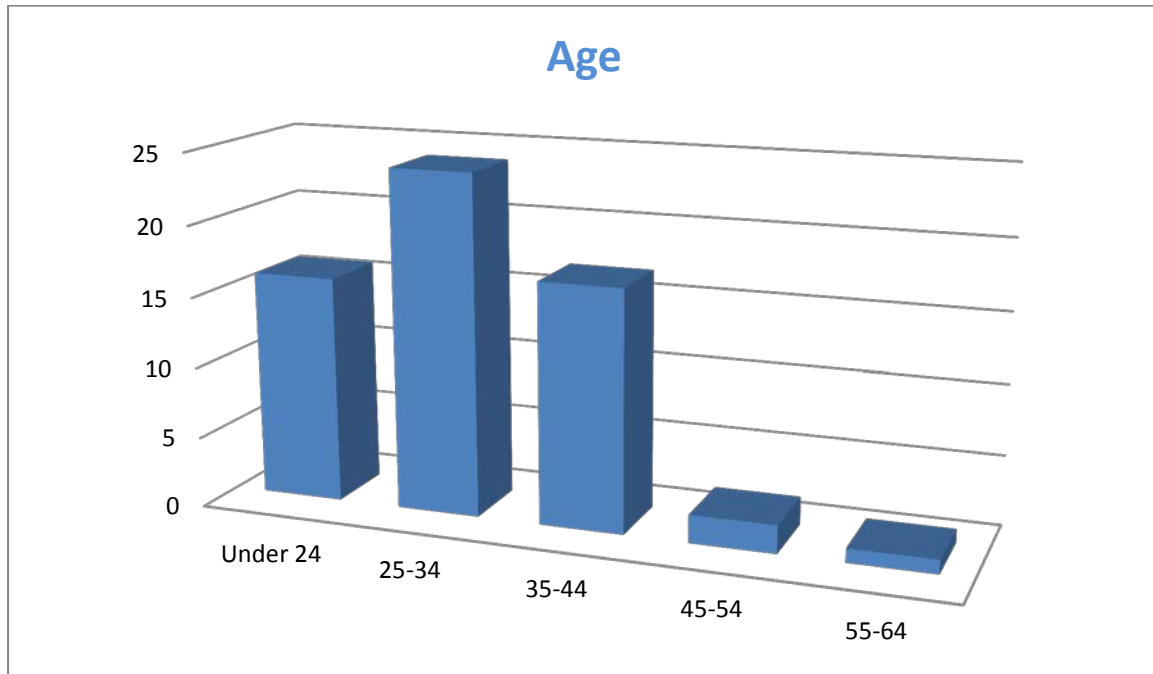
87% of respondents were heterosexual, with 2 bisexual, 1 gay man and 4 lesbian/gay women responding.



Only 2 respondents were disabled.

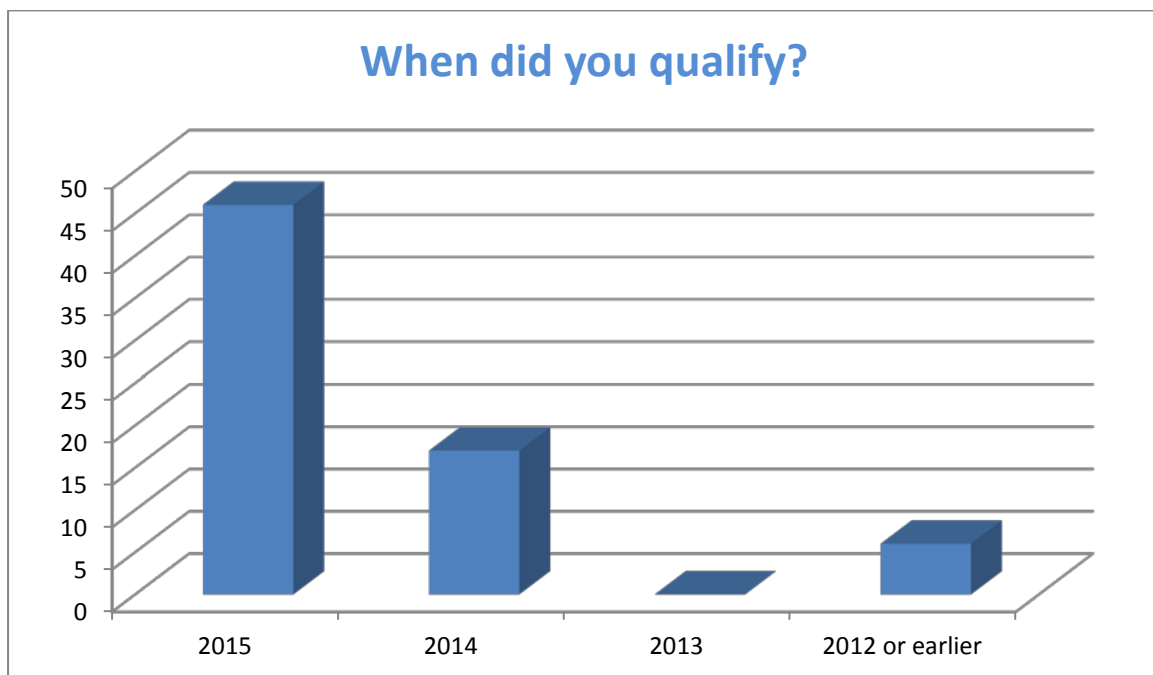
Age

As you would expect for new entrants to the profession, they are young. 66% of respondents are under 34 years old – increase the upper age limit to 44 and 93% of respondents are covered.

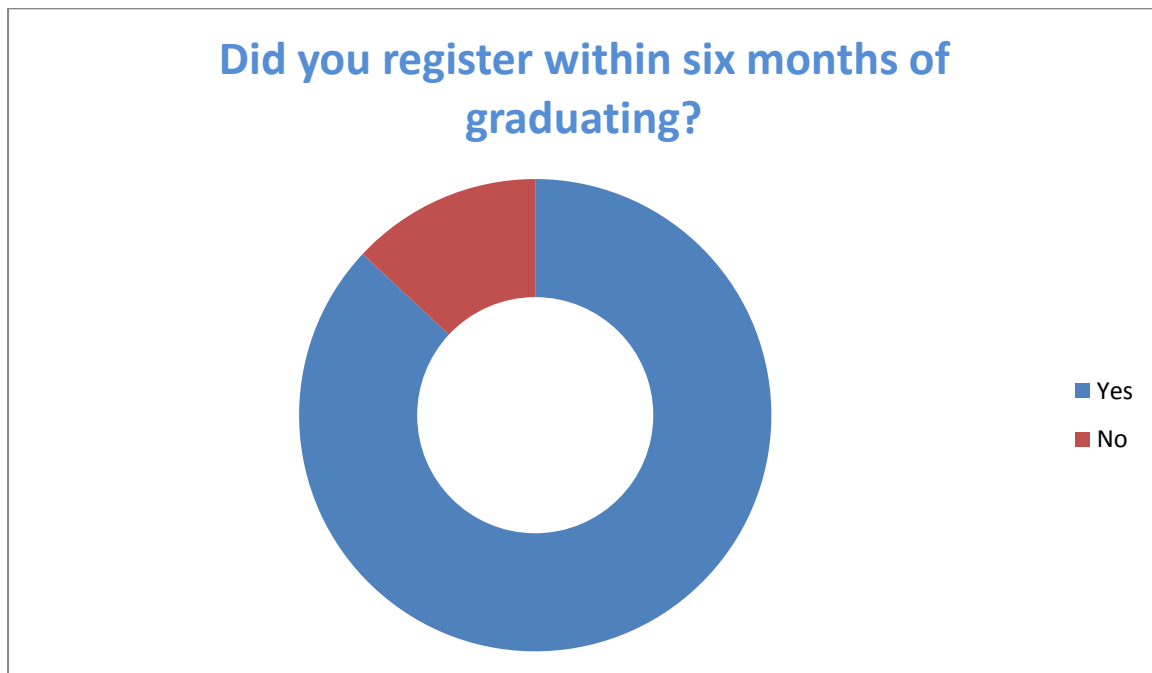


Registered soon after graduation

67% of respondents had graduated in 2015, and a further quarter graduated in 2014. 6 graduated in 2012 or earlier - the longest waiting since 1995 to register.



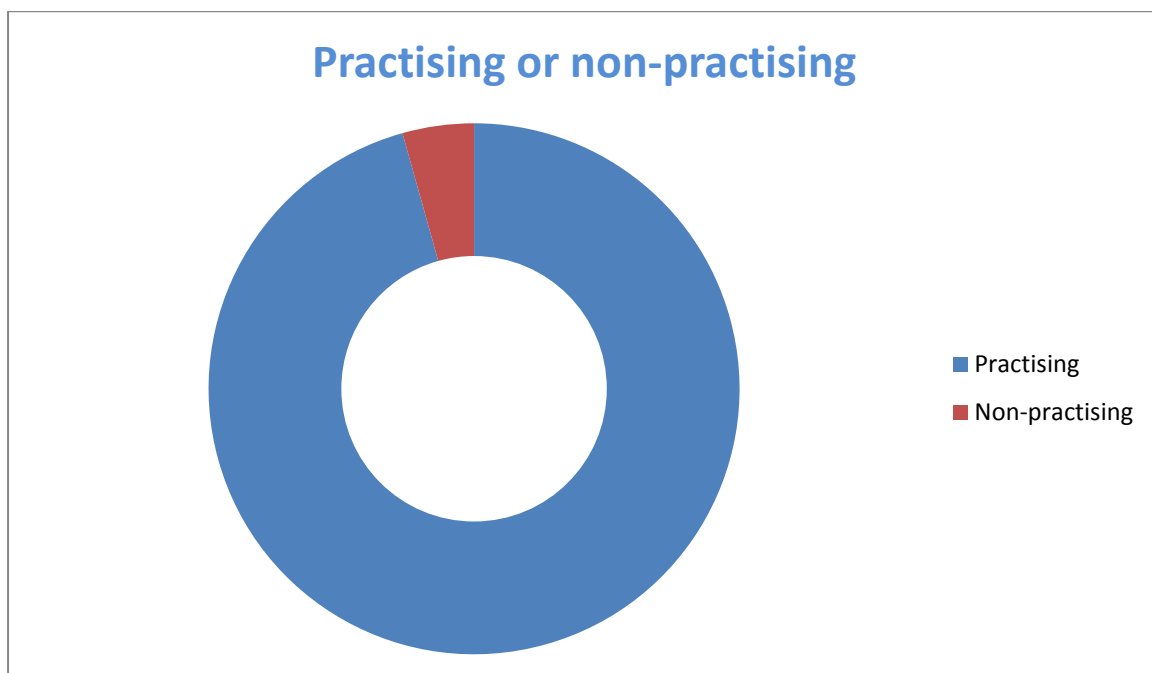
However, most register soon after graduation. Perhaps not unsurprisingly, 87% of respondents registered within six months of graduating, with only 9 waiting longer.



The main reason people spent longer than six months to register after graduating was that they went travelling or worked abroad once they had graduated. One was delayed by problems getting background checks from the US authorities before they were able to register with us.

Registration Status

96% of respondents joined the register as practising chiropractors.



The three who joined as non-practising did so because they were planning to live and work abroad.

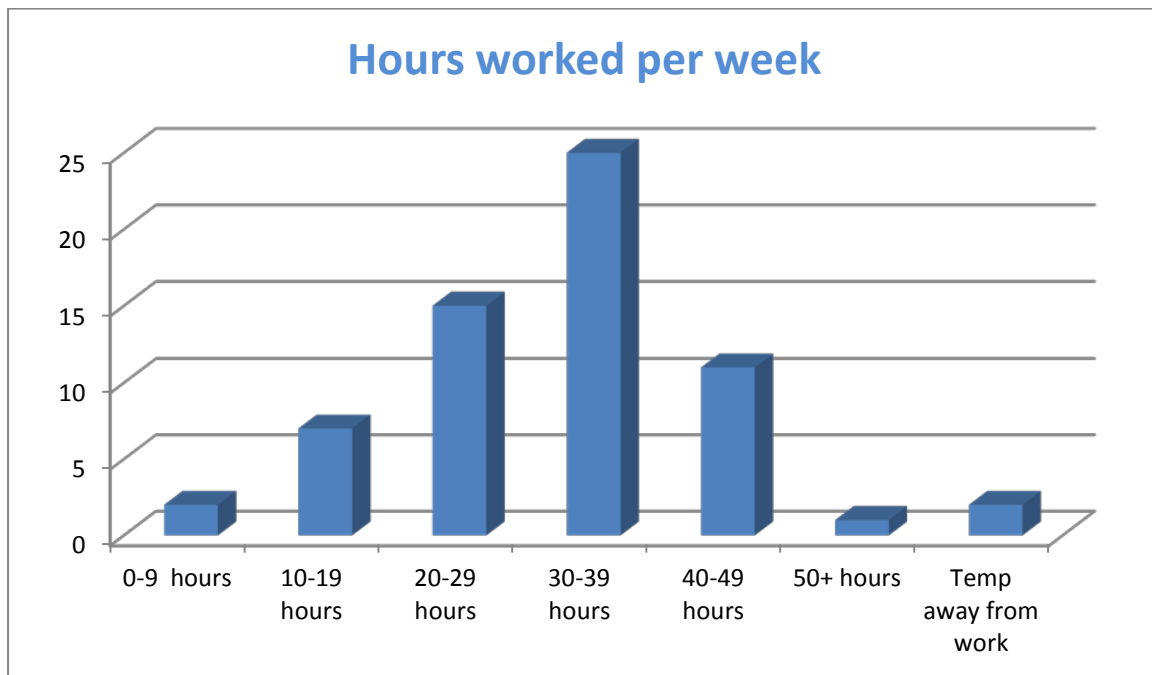
Further study

50% of respondents plan to carry out further study.

The most popular courses that new respondents wish to take is to learn about animal chiropractic, with five respondents planning to learn about how to treat animals. Three are planning to take the Royal College of Chiropractic's PRT to seek membership of the college, while other courses that more than one person was interested in covered paediatrics and dry needling techniques.

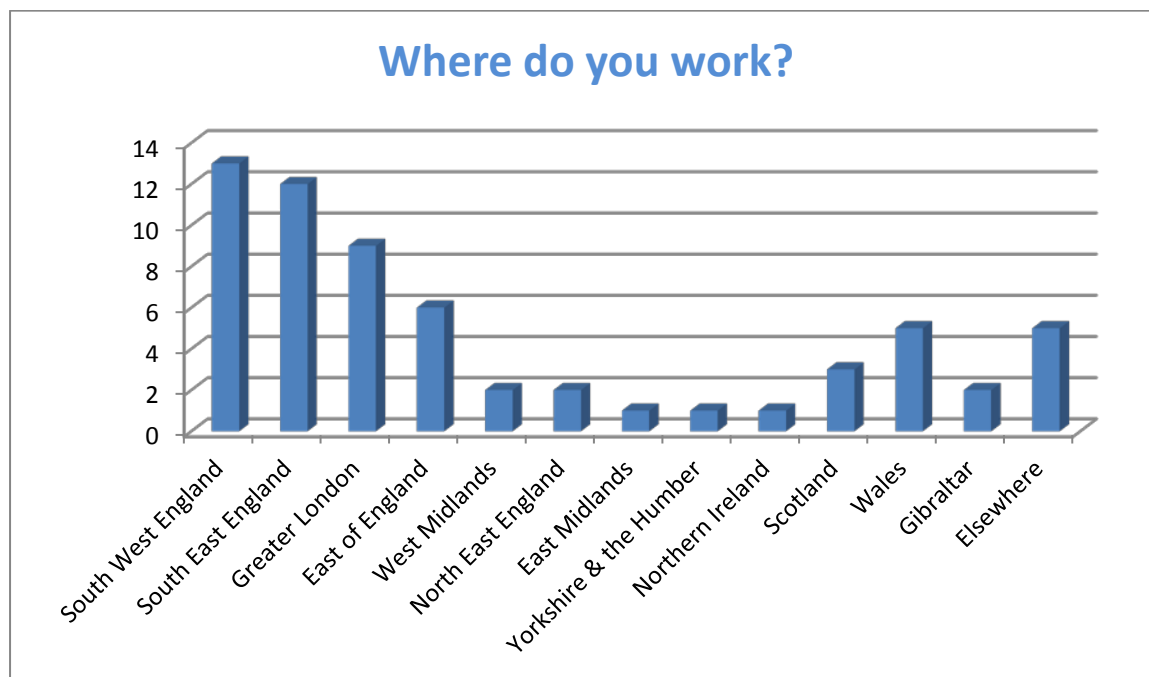
Employment

1 busy chiropractor was working in excess of 50 hours a week. However, the majority some 57%, were working a more manageable 30-49 hours per week. A further quarter were working between 20-29 hours per week.



Location

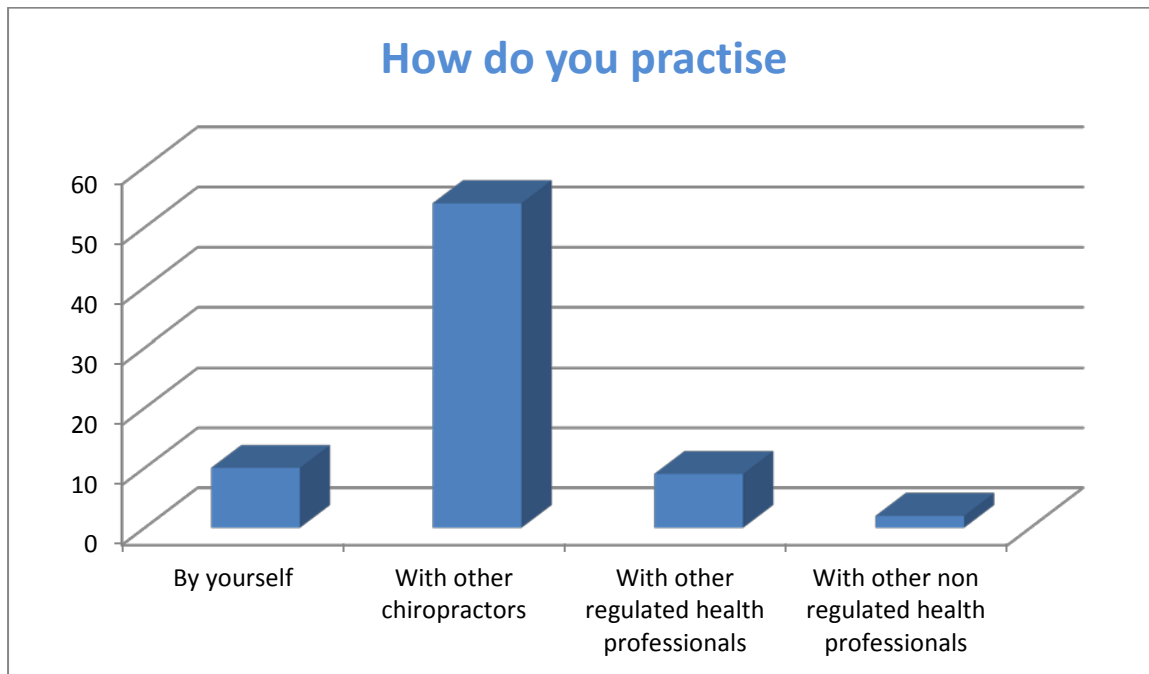
After graduation, new chiropractors gravitate towards southern England. One in four work in either the South East or South West, with a further 15% finding work in Greater London. None worked in the North West.



Three quarters of chiropractors work in England. 8% work in Wales, 5% in Scotland and just 1% in Northern Ireland. Two chiropractors registered with us from Gibraltar, the newest territory that we regulate.

Working with other chiropractors

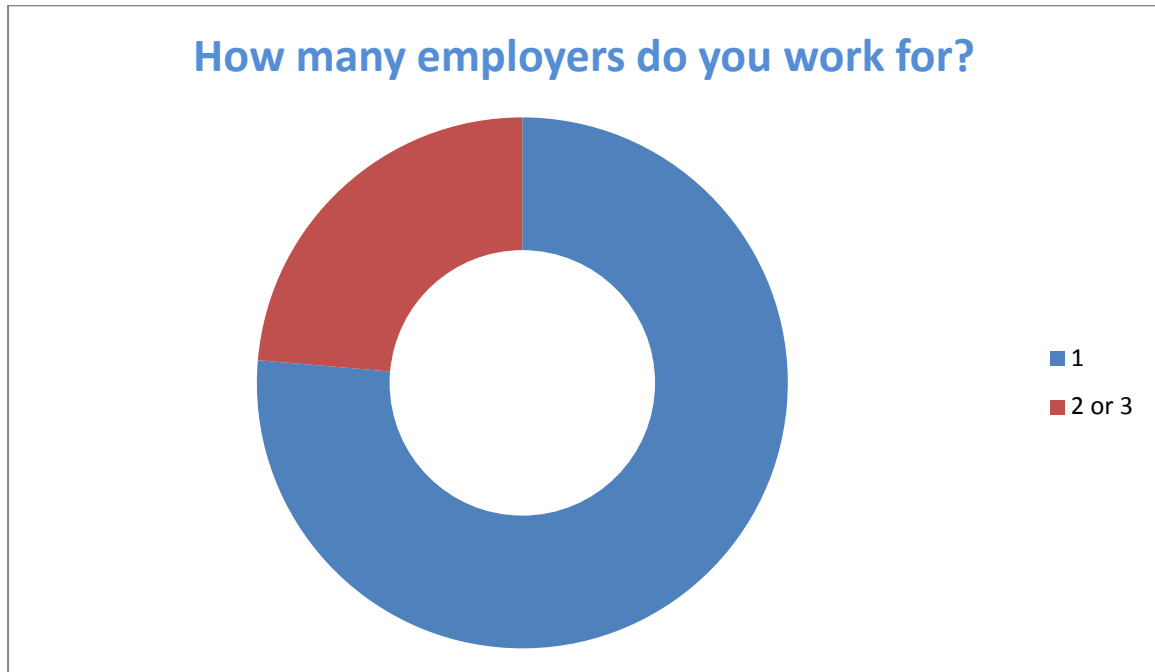
Only 16% of new chiropractors work on their own, with 87% of new graduates working alongside other chiropractors. Only 3% of newly qualified chiropractors work alongside non regulated health professionals.



Just under half of new chiropractors (45%) also work in practices that are part of a group of chiropractic practices. Of those working with other chiropractors, the majority (36%) work with two other chiropractic colleagues. Slightly fewer (34%) work with just one more colleague, while none work with more than ten.



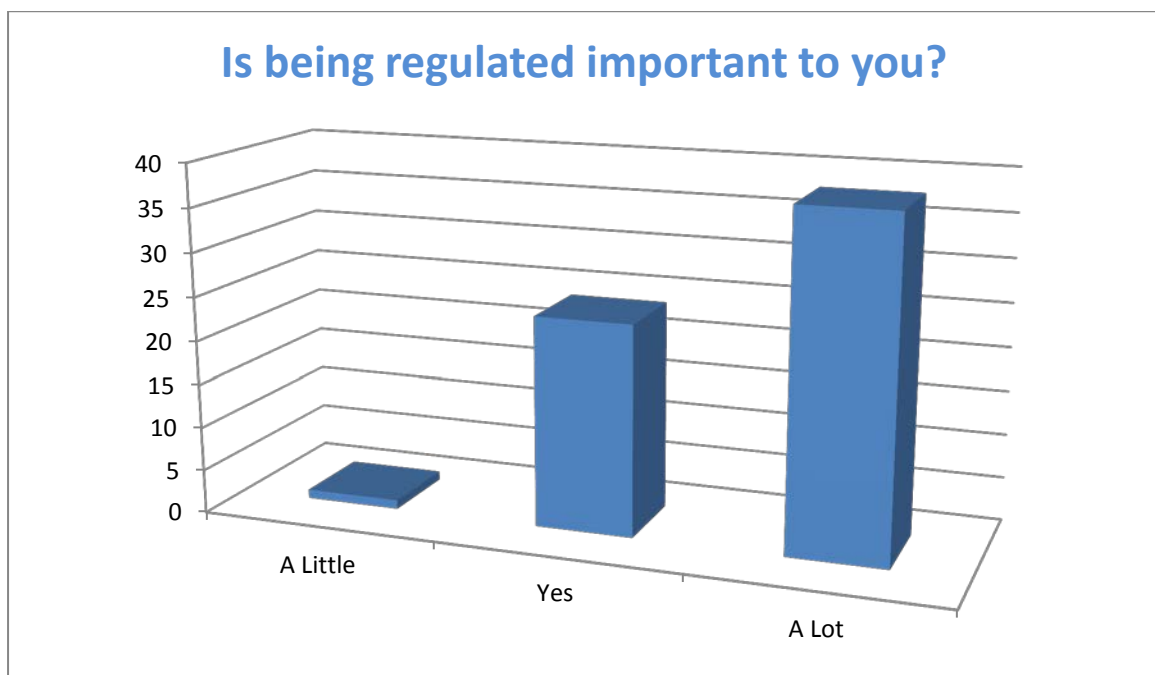
76% of them also only work for one employer. The remainder have two or three employers, none have more than three.



They are almost exclusively working in the private sector. Only one respondent did any NHS funded work. NHS patients accounted for between 26% and 50% of that chiropractor's work.

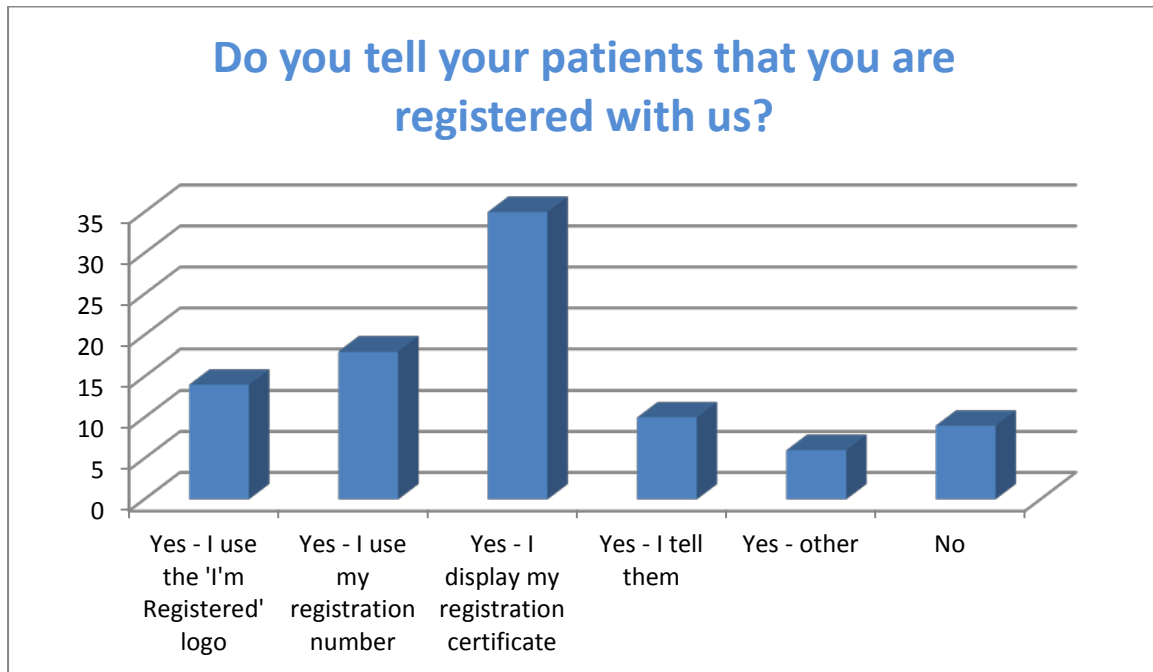
Registration

New chiropractors clearly value their regulated status. 98% of respondents said that being a regulated health professional is important to them, with 60% saying that being registered was important 'a lot'. A further 38% said it was important.



They are clearly proud of their registration, and so are keen to tell patients about it. 55% of them display their registration certificate, and almost 30% use their registered number with patients, 22% also make use of our 'I'm Registered' logo.

A further 15% tell patients that they are registered with us. A number also provide information on their websites about their registered and regulated status.



Those who don't tell patients about their registered status with work abroad or are chiropractors operating on a temporary or locum basis, who don't have a long term patient relationship.