

# Right to Information Decision

## Right to Information No.: RTI201516-025

### 1 How many people have presented in Emergency for oral health services?

Region	Number
North West	264
North	217
South	264

\*1 January 2015 to date of application

### 2 How many people are on the Oral Health Tasmania waiting list?

There were 8939 for general dental and 700 for dentures as at July 2015.

### 3 How long is the expected wait time?

As at June 2015, the average waiting time for general was 31.7 months and for prosthetics, it was 7.8 months.

Please note, this data should be treated with caution as oral health waiting lists do not operate the same as other health related waiting lists. Patients are not categorised (Category 1, Category 2, and Category 3) in the same way as clinics or elective surgery. If someone is placed on the oral health waiting list, they are not requiring urgent work. All urgent work is prioritised under a triage system and seen in order of need. This could see some patients getting a same-day appointment. The data provided above can look over inflated from point-in-time extraction if other cases have been triaged above those waiting for non-urgent work.

### 4 What is the nature of the procedures required?

The issues range across general dental work through to the provision of dentures.

### 5 How many children aged 12 and under are on the waiting list for general anaesthetic for an oral health issue?

151

### 6 What is the nature of the procedures required by those patients?

Treatments under general anaesthesia may include extractions of abscessed teeth, restorations, and placement of stainless steel crowns.