

Österreichische  
**Zahnärztekammer**

# Dentistry in Austria

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Austrian Dental Chamber

# Issues

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- Legal basics
- Finances
- Some interesting numbers

# Legal basics

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- Professional laws (Dental Law, Dental Chamber Law)
- Laws concerning social security

# Professional Laws (Dental Law)

## Definitions/Regulation of:

- activities reserved for dentists (diseases of teeth, mouth and jaws, prophylaxis, cosmetic treatments)
- Professional duties (information of patients, patient documentation, continuing education, quality assurance etc.)
- Binding disciplinary rules

# Professional Laws (Dental Law)

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- Only dentists are allowed to practise dentistry (no dental specialities legally established), but
- dentists are allowed to announce to the public special dental knowledge / specialisation

# Professional Laws (Dental Law)

## Dental Staff

- Dental chairside assistants – 3 years theoretical (organised by regional dental chambers) and practical training (in dental practices) of 3000 hours
- Prophylaxis assistants – 144 hours of additional training
- Dental technicians – working independently with no direct access to patients. (own office or together with a dentist as an employee)

# Professional Laws (Dental Chamber Law)



- Obligatory membership for all dentists (self-employed and employed)
- Austrian Dental Chamber as legal entity
- 9 regional chambers who are not legal entities, but autonomous in financial and personnel matters

# Professional Laws (Dental Chamber Law)

## Main autonomous competences:

- General contracts with social security system
- Accreditation of continuing education
- Rules for advertisement of dentists
- General contracts about the salaries of dental personnel
- Continuing education for chairside assistants and Prophylaxisassistants



# Professional Laws (Dental Chamber Law)

## Competences under surveillance of Ministry of Health:

- Registration of Austrian and foreign dentists
- Withdrawal of dental licenses
- Competent authority for all EU-issues related to dentistry
- Recommendations for dental fees
- Rules for quality assurance

# Laws concerning social security

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- 9 regional social security systems for all employed persons, special ones for all public servants, railway employees and self-employed persons
- They run low – cost walk in dental-clinics in big cities with the political aim to make pressure on our private fees
- 99% of all Austrians (+ all foreigners working in Austria) insured via social security system

# Laws concerning social security (Dental medicine)

- Social security covers basic conservative and surgical treatment and simple removable prosthetics
- removable orthodontics and orthodontics for persons under 18 years with IOTN-grades 4 and 5
- All other dental treatments have to be paid by the patients themselves
- Private dental insurances do not play a significant role in Austria

# Laws concerning social security (Dental medicine)

- About 2.500 dental offices (out of about 3.900) have the right to work directly for the social security system
- About 60% of those dentists use Austrian Dental Chamber to settle their fees with the social security system
- In about 1.400 dental offices patients have to pay their fees directly and will be reimbursed partially by the social security system

# Finances

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- In general austrian dentists generate only about 45% of their income out of the social security system, a figure with decreasing tendency.
- Dentists generate about 55% of their income out of the pockets of patients, who only for very few treatments are reimbursed by social security.
- Cross subsidization

# Finances

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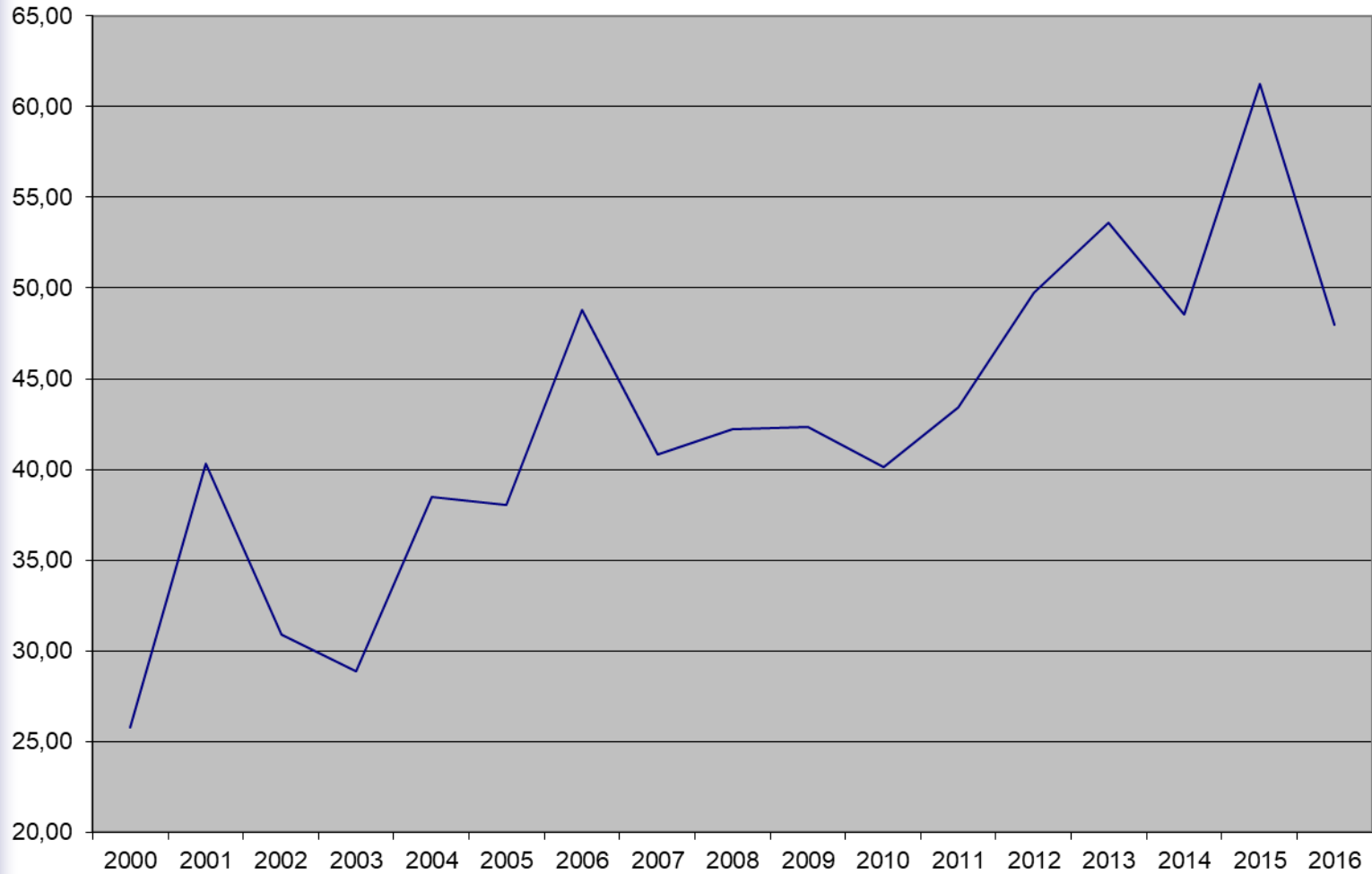
- Private dental fees are free and not bound to any obligatorial rules, but Austrian Dental Chamber is obliged to release annually recommended fees.
- Fees for treatments inside social security are negotiated annually between Austrian Dental Chamber and the umbrella organisation of social security system.

# Some interesting numbers

Region	Total	Own Practice	Employed	Others
Burgenland	125	106	4	15
Carinthia	303	262	24	17
Lower Austria	762	607	51	104
Upper Austria	677	558	95	24
Salzburg	338	274	37	27
Styria	677	560	73	44
Tyrol	478	383	46	49
Vorarlberg	195	156	28	11
Vienna	1442	963	275	204
<b>Austria</b>	<b>4997</b>	<b>3869</b>	<b>633</b>	<b>495</b>

# Some interesting numbers

Percentage of foreign new dentists





# Some interesting numbers

New dentists from European Union (since 2000):

Germany	505
Romania	152
Hungary	133
Poland	47
Italy	40
Bulgaria	35
Croatia	35
Czech Republic	26
Slovakia	21
Slovenia	20
Greece	17
France	4
Lithuania	4
Netherlands	4
Spain	4
Belgium	3
Sweden	3
Latvia	2
U. K.	2

# Some interesting numbers

New dentists from outside EU (since 2000):

Bosnia-Herzegovina	84
Iran	51
Serbia	26
Syria	15
Ukraine	15
Switzerland	14
Russia	12
Iraq	10
FYROM	8
Turkey	8
Egypt	7
Jordan	6
Kosovo	6
China	4
India	4
Libanon	4
USA	4

# Some interesting numbers

Percentage of women in dentistry	
2006	36,15%
2007	37,12%
2008	38,09%
2009	39,06%
2010	39,99%
2011	40,56%
2012	41,07%
2013	41,53%
2014	41,87%
2015	42,08%
2016	42,76%
2017	42,81%
2018	43,59%

Thank you for your interest!

