

Health Professionals Report : Capacity, Accessibility and Production

### Specialty of Interest : Ophthalmologic Surgeon

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### Introduction

#### Introduction

This report provides a comprehensive overview per healthcare specialty working within the Belgian health insurance system, within hospital and ambulatory settings.

Professional perspective :

• Aspects covered are: capacity, production (numbers and financials), subspecialties, replacement rates. Those aspects are described by gender, age, geography, type of activity, workplace, evolution.

Patient perspective :

• Accessibility and frequentation are described by gender, age, social status, geographical distribution, evolution.

### Data Sources & Transformations

This report draws insights from the "Doc P" database, encompassing patients who sought care in Belgium and claimed insurance reimbursement. The database spans from accounting years :

- 2013 to 2023 for health professionals
- 2018 to 2023 for health professionals subspecialties
- 2018 to 2022 for insured coverage and patient frequentation

Each studied year N is coupled with socio-demographic data on providers as of December 31 N.

To address GDPR (General Data Protection Regulation) compliance for small cell data, numbers from fewer than 5 registered providers are hidden.

#### Contact

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#### **Additional information**

For official information regarding the number of healthcare providers :

- NIHDI : please click <u>FR | NL</u>
- MOH : please click <u>FR | NL</u>

### **Key Variables & Metrics**

Healthcare professional perspective (specialty is determined by grouping <u>NIHDI competency codes</u>) :

- <u>Demographic characteristics</u> are age (groups by 10Y), sex (M/F), working address (or contact address if not available), communication language (Dutch/French), convention status (full, partly), activity status (>1 intervention/year), type of prestation (see <u>NIHDI</u> <u>nomenclature</u>).
- <u>Numeric characteristics</u> are number of professionals (all providers registered within INAMI-RIZIV), number and cost of (reimbursed) prestations. Evolution is available since 2012 for professionals figures and since 2018 for the study of their activity.
- <u>FTE (full-time equivalent)</u> is calculated to determine the workload of a healthcare provider (= total reimbursements by provider in a given year divided by the median amount of reimbursements for providers aged 45 to 54 in the same specialty, see Annex 1). FTE values are capped at 1. The FTE for employed doctors in medical homes (lump sum financing) was estimated at 0.82 per doctor because the actual FTE cannot be evaluated given the absence of activity registration. Medical homes with lumpsum are not included in the productivity calculation. General practitioners with "Fee for Service" in the title specifies that doctors and patients in medical homes with lumpsum are excluded from the analysis. Weighted conventioned FTE refers to the adjusted calculation where FTEs for partially conventioned providers are multiplied by 0,5.
- Working place : distinction is made between private, polyclinic, day hospitals, or hospital stays, depending on the place of prestation.
- <u>Subspecialty Clusters</u> : Healthcare providers within a specialty can be clustered based on ([sub] group of similar) nomenclature codes reimbursed or working place.
- Indicators of Density : FTE/10.000 insured, total activity/FTE, reimbursement/FTE, number of patients/FTE.

#### Patient perspective :

- <u>Demographic characteristics</u> are age, sex (M/F), address of residence (not treatment place !) (by region, province, etc.), social status ( normal and preferential regime [BIM])), type of specialty contacted during the year.
- <u>Patients Indicators</u> : insured coverage (% at least 1 contact) (N.B. Specialists in training included), insured frequentation (number of contacts/insured), patient frequentation (number contacts/patient).
- A KPI (Key Performance Indicator) color system is used in this report. It is shown as
- Grey for contextual information
- Green for positive performance compared to starting year
- Red for negative performance compared to starting year

### **Limitations & Assumptions**

- Professional density : metrics in this report were not standardized to a consistent population size, which means comparisons between regions or provinces may not be entirely fair or accurate.
- Patient analysis uses actual care years, not accounting years, unlike other analyses. If the analysis year is N, the last available year for patient analysis is N-1 in order to present relevant data.
- The calculation of FTEs may be impacted by modifications of competency codes over the years. A change within a specialty affects the median of reimbursements and thus generates breaks in the evolution of FTEs (see the recognition of nephrologists since 2022 for internal medicine). The median value changes depending on the year (see Annex 1).



# Speciality Metrics and Comparison (2023) : Ophthalmologic Surgeon

This sheet compares the specialty of interest (left) with comparison group (right).

			Ophthalmologic Surgeon	Surgical Pathology	Surgical Patholog
Competency Code	Ophthalmologic Surgeon Description	# N SubSpecialities	1	10	Profession Acute Medicine and
10370 10374	Ophthalmology Specialists Ophthalmology Specialists with recognition in functional and professional rehabilitation for the	# N Total	1,474	11,481	Emergency Medicine Anesthesiologist ENT Specialist
	disabled	# N Active	1,167	8,758	General Surgeon Neurosurgeon Ophthalmologic
		# Full-Time Equivalent (FTE)	737	6,090	Surgeon Orthopedic Surgeon Plastic Surgeon
		€ Expenses per FTE	495,010	357,861	Stomatologist Urologist
		65+	% Active         % FTE           15%         7%	% Active         % FTE           11%         5%	
		Convention	% Active         % FTE           31%         26%	% Active         % FTE           71%         69%	
		Weighted Convention Accreditation	27% 21% 87% 95%	67% 65% 77% 86%	



### Geographical Accessibility (2023) : Ophthalmologic Surgeon

Geographical accessibility is measured by density, calculated as the number of FTE (Full Time Equivalent) per 10.000 insured and comparing the results between provinces and regions. Metrics in this report were not standardized to a consistent population size.

#### Indicators :

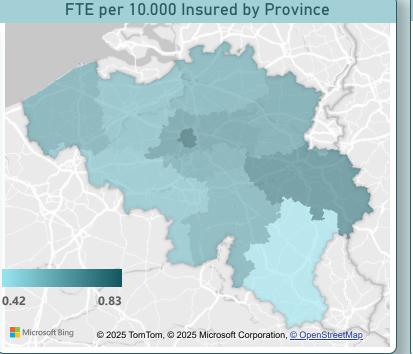
- Geographical distribution which enables to check for homogeneity.
- Evolution over 10 years and growth rate within that period.

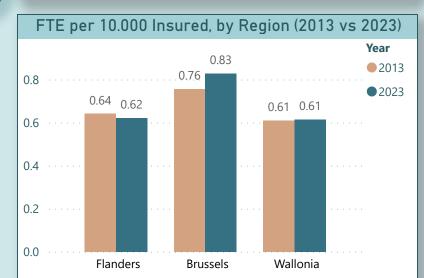
FTE per 10.000 Insured in

2013: 0.64 (-0.37%)

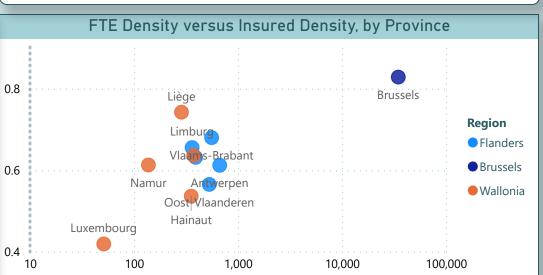
Belgium (2023)

• Comparison of number of FTE and number of insured to detect correlation.





Demographic Information by Province								
Province	#FTE	Density (FTE per 10.000 Insured)	%65+ (FTE)	%Women (FTE)				
West-Vlaanderen	77.63	0.63	5%	71%				
Oost-Vlaanderen	89.27	0.57	5%	63%				
Antwerpen	117.06	0.61	5%	63%				
Limburg	57.48	0.66	9%	65%				
Vlaams-Brabant	79.89	0.68	5%	72%				
Brussels	95.07	0.83	7%	54%				
Brabant Wallon	26.03	0.64	9%	60%				
Hainaut	72.08	0.54	12%	54%				
Namur	30.93	0.61	6%	37%				
Liège	82.06	0.74	7%	56%				
Luxembourg	9.53	0.42	36%	39%				
Total	737.04	0.64	7%	61%				





Financial accessibility is measured by the number of weighted conventioned FTE (Full time equivalent) by 10.000 insured. Weighted conventioned FTE refers to the adjusted calculation where FTEs for partially conventioned providers are multiplied by 0,5.

Convention means that the professional is committed to respect prices determined in the NIHDI convention. This agreement can occur partly (at specific hours during the week) or totally (all the working hours). The conventioned FTE for partially conventioned providers is calculated as half of their total FTE.

Indicators :

0%

- % FTE meeting the criteria / total FTE
- Financial accessibility is gauged by weighted conventioned FTE (Full Time Equivalent) per 10.000 insured.

% Weighted Conventioned FTE (2023) 21% ! 2013: 29% (-26.38%)								
% Conve	% Conventioned FTE by Language and Regime							
Language	Part	Full	Total	Weighted				
FR	10%	20%	40%	30%				
NL	2%	13%	17%	15%				
Total	5%	16%	26%	21%				

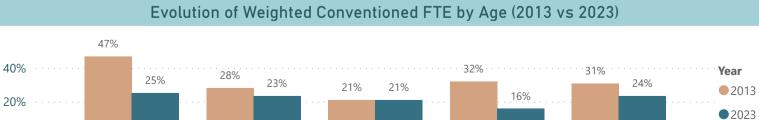
34 -

35-44

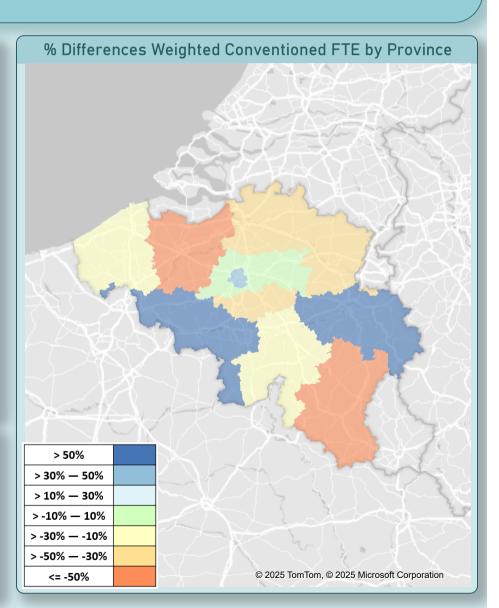
Demographic Information by Province								
Province	Density (FTE per 10.000 Insured)	Density (Weighted Conventioned FTE per 10.000 Insured)	% Weighted Conventioned FTE					
West-Vlaanderen	0.63	0.12	19%					
Oost-Vlaanderen	0.57	0.05	9%					
Antwerpen	0.61	0.09	14%					
Limburg	0.66	0.09	14%					
Vlaams-Brabant	0.68	0.13	19%					
Brussels	0.83	0.25	30%					
Brabant Wallon	0.64	0.07	11%					
Hainaut	0.54	0.21	39%					
Namur	0.61	0.11	19%					
Liège	0.74	0.26	35%					
Luxembourg	0.42	0.00	0%					
Total	0.64	0.14	21%					

55-64

65 +



45-54





CPD (continuous professional development) is measured by accreditation criteria. Accreditation means that the professional meets several CPD (continuous professional development) criteria (which indicates the will for quality of care).

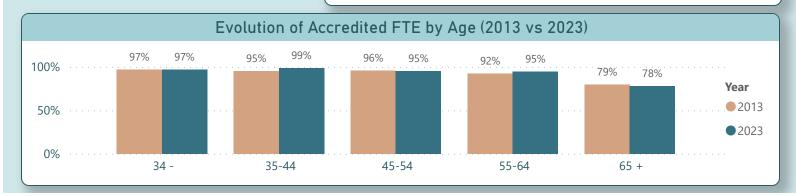
Indicator :

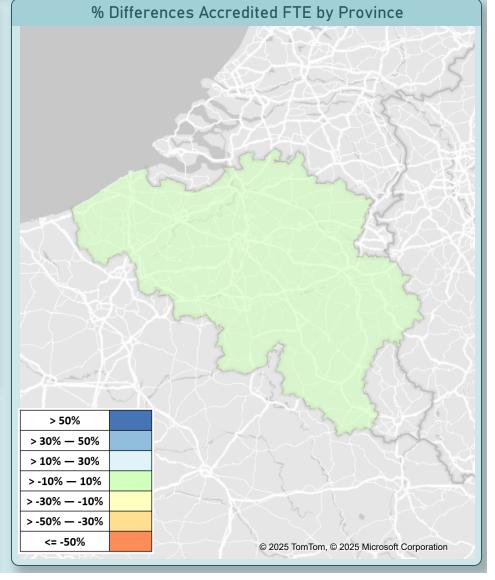
• % FTE meeting the criteria / total FTE

% Accredited FTE (2023)						
95%~						
2013: 94% (+1.01%)						

	% Accredited FTE by Language and Gender									
	Language	F	м	Total						
	FR	96%	90%	93%						
	NL	98%	93%	<b>96</b> %						
	Total 97% 91% 95%									
L										

Demographic Information by Province							
Province	Density (FTE per 10.000 Insured)	Density (Accredited FTE per 10.000 Insured)	% Accredited FTE				
West-Vlaanderen	0.63	0.61	97%				
Oost-Vlaanderen	0.57	0.54	95%				
Antwerpen	0.61	0.60	98%				
Limburg	0.66	0.64	97%				
Vlaams-Brabant	0.68	0.63	93%				
Brussels	0.83	0.76	92%				
Brabant Wallon	0.64	0.61	96%				
Hainaut	0.54	0.48	89%				
Namur	0.61	0.60	97%				
Liège	0.74	0.72	97%				
Luxembourg	0.42	0.39	92%				
Total	0.64	0.61	95%				





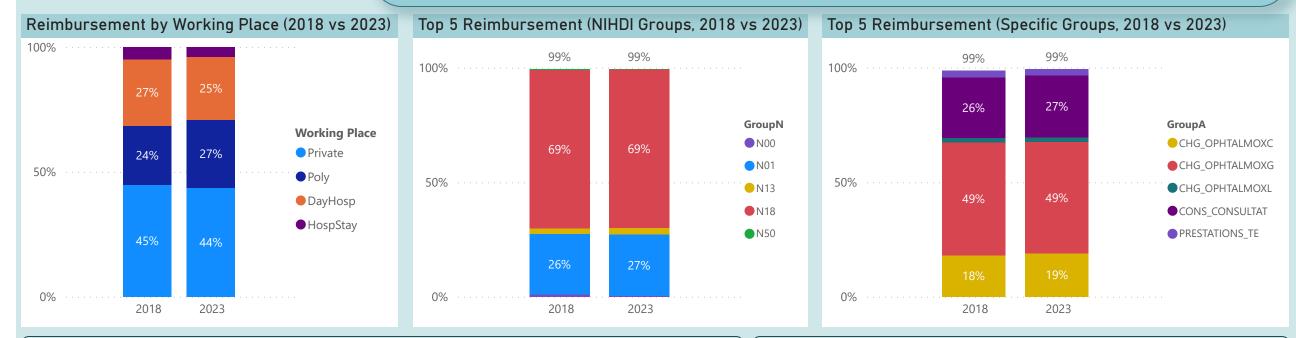


## Subspecialties Activity and Working Place : Ophthalmologic Surgeon

Reimbursement by FTE (2023) **495,983** 2018: 370,849 (+33.74%) The level of activity is measured by the total reimbursement amount of the specialty. The distribution of the reimbursement by specialty allows to distinguish different types of activity which are grouped to study what kind of procedures are done and where. The type of activity is described by 2 criteria: the place of work and the nature of the activity:

- The place of work is the place where the activity takes place (private, polyclinic, day hospital, hospital stay).
- The nature of the activity is described according to 2 logics of grouping. The traditional distribution of reimbursements within NIHDI (N01 contacts, N20 surgery, etc.) and a specific, more detailed breakdown to identify sub-specialties within the specialty (i.e. cardiac surgery within surgery). Indicators :
- Reimbursement (in Euros) / FTE
- % Reimbursement (in Euros) by category / total reimbursement (in Euros)

The evolution provides information on the stability of the patterns of the activity comparing year N with N-5.



Description				
Supervision of hospitalized beneficiaries				
Consultations visits and medical advices				
General special dispensations and punctures				
Ophthalmology				
X-ray diagnosis				
C				

GroupA	Description
CHG_OPHTALMOXC	cataract (opht.)
CHG_OPHTALMOXG	general (opht.)
CHG_OPHTALMOXL	heavy (opht.)
CONS_CONSULTAT	Consultation
PRESTATIONS_TE	Technic prest.

### Subspecialties Activity and Working Place (2023) : Ophthalmologic Surgeon

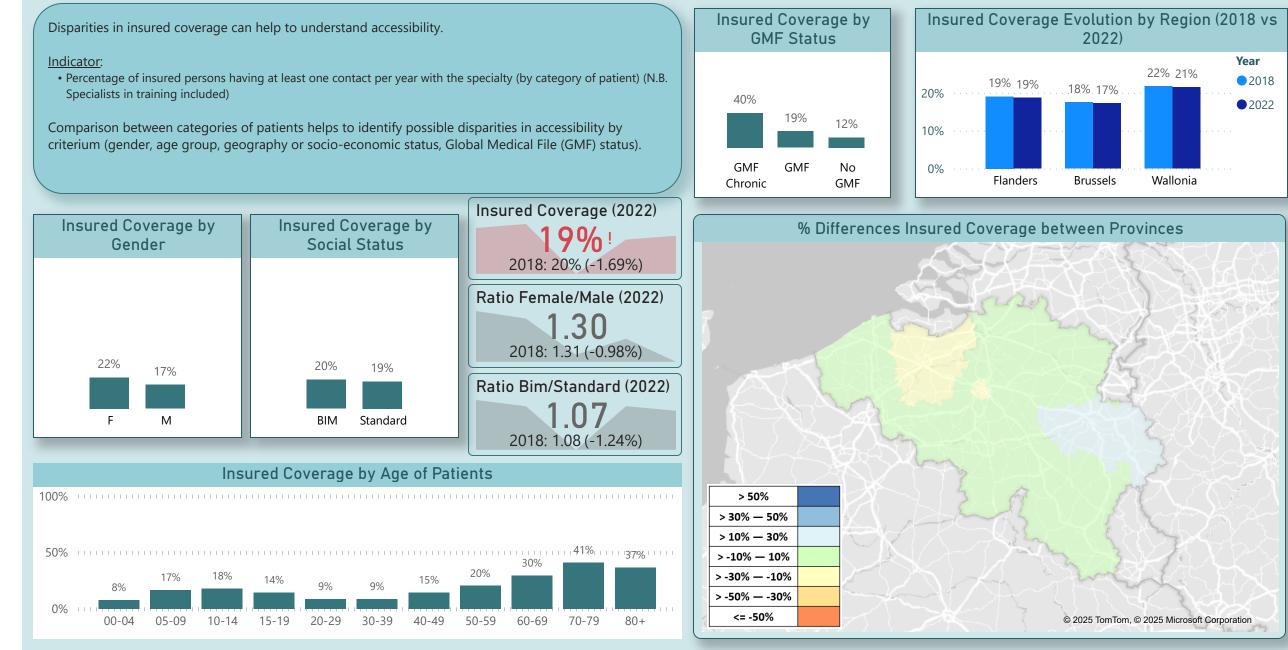
Subspecialties are identified by the working place and/or type of activity (see previous page): the assignment of a health care provider to a sub-specialty prioritizes the type of activity exercised. In general, the type of activity with the most reimbursements, if the amount exceeds 10% of reimbursements in all types of activity, determines the specialty of the health care provider. If no particular activity was identified for the specialty, the assignment was done on the criterium of the workplace: hospital, polyclinic, private. If there is no clear distinction between the different locations, then the cluster is named "Mixed". Clusters less than 5 FTE or less than 0,5% of total FTE are left out. Comparison of clusters helps to understand differences in nature of work. Indicators :

- % FTE by type of cluster
- % type of activity (in Euro ) / total reimbursement (in euro) by cluster



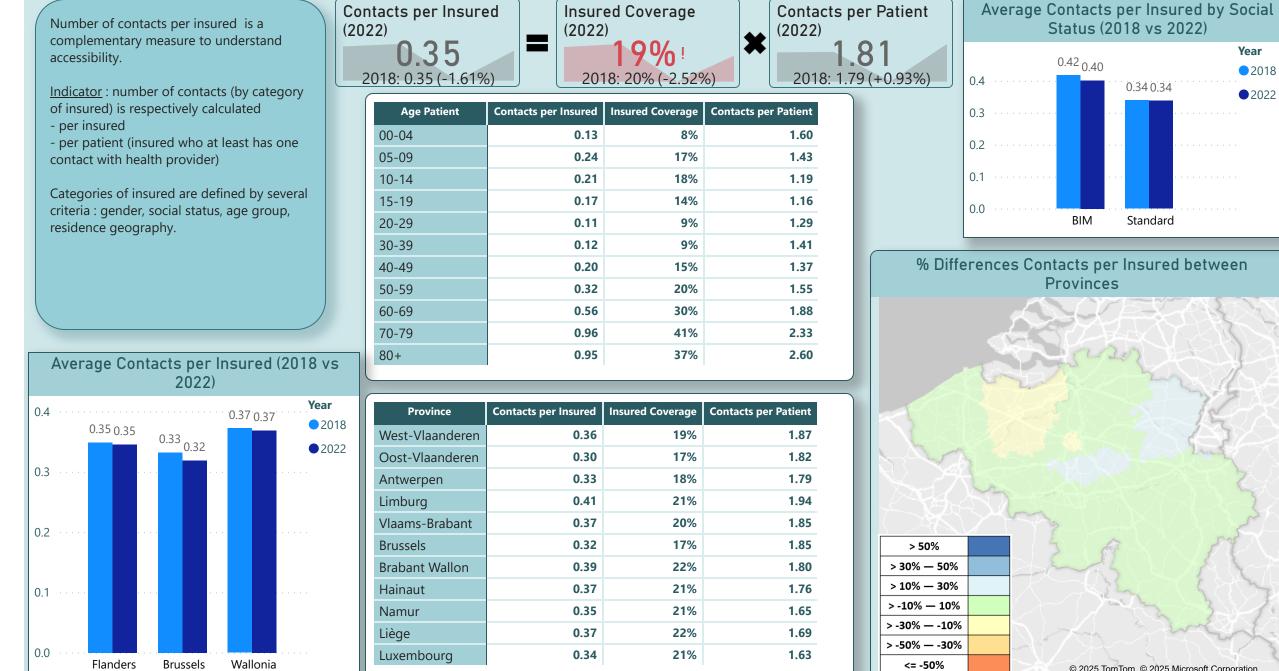


### Accessibility, Insured Coverage (2022) : Ophthalmologic Surgeon





### Accessibility, Contacts per Insured (2022) : Ophthalmologic Surgeon



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Year

0.34 0.34

Standard

BIM

2018

2022

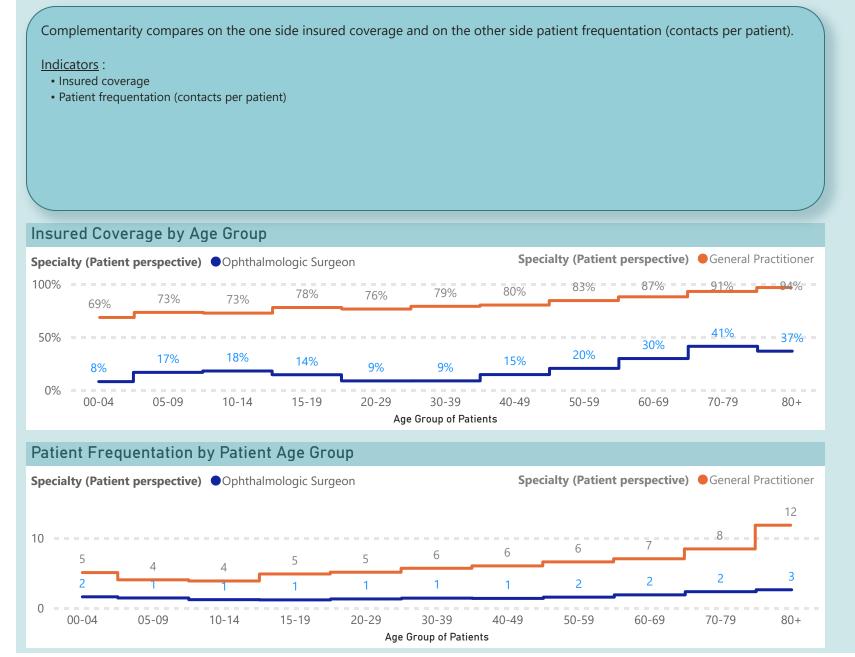


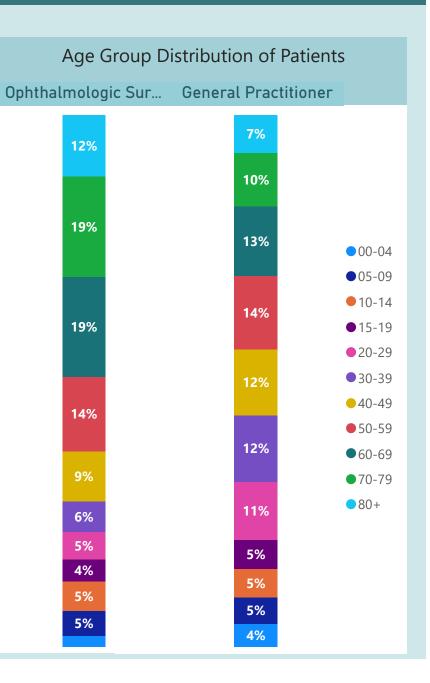
### Patient Frequentation (2022) : Ophthalmologic Surgeon

Contacts per Patient by **Contacts Per Patient by** Frequentation of patients (number of contacts) is a measure to understand health consumption and workload. Gender **Social Status** Indicator : number of contacts (by patient category) is calculated per patient (insured who at least has one contact with a 2.0 health provider). 1.8 1.8 1.8 Categories of patients are defined by several criteria : gender, social status, age group, residence geography, GMF (Global Medical File) Status. Ω Μ F Standard BIM Contacts per Patient by GMF Status 2.2 1.7 0 No GMF GMF **GMF** Chronic Average Contacts per Patient Contacts per Patient by Age of Patient **Contacts per Patient by Province** (2022)1.81 2.0 1.82 1.79 1.80 1.76 1.94 2.6 1.65 1.69 1.63 1.87 2018: 1.79 (+0.93%) 1.85 1.85 2.3 1.5 Average Providers per Patient (2022)1.9 1.0 1.6 1.5 1.4 2018: 1.2 (+0.22%) 1.4 1.4 1.3 1.2 1.2 Average Age of Contacts (2022) 0.5 58.00.0 Oost Vlaanderen 2018: 57.6 (+0.67%) Vlaams-Brabant abant Wallon Luxembourg Antwerpen Limburg West-Waand... Brussels Liège Hainau Namu Average Age of Patients (2022) 0 00-04 05-09 10-14 15-19 20-29 30-39 40-49 50-59 60-69 70-79 80+ 52.3 province AgePatient 2018: 51.9 (+0.73%)



### Complementarity with comparison group (2022) : Ophthalmologic Surgeon







Workload by specialty provides insight into the work volume per year of the specialty by FTE and the patient base population (Individual patients are allocated to one single professional per specialty per year to build the patient base population for each single professional/ provider) (N.B. Specialists in training are excluded). The classification criteria are linked to the healthcare professional (age, language, gender, work address, convention status, accreditation)

Indicators:

- Workload : contacts / FTE
- Patient base population: Patients / FTE
- Contacts per patient per provider

Limitation : working address of health professionals can be different than the location of patients. This can explain differences in workload results (contact/FTE, patients/FTE) and lead to misinterpretation for geographical criteria (province) especially for small numbers of working professionals. Also if the number of FTE by cell is inferior to 5, contacts per FTE and patients per FTE are hidden.

2,736

2,922

3,245

3,879

1.5

1.5

1.5

1.3

Average Contacts per FTE (2022)	Province	Contacts per FTE	Patients Per FTE	Contacts per Patient and Provider	Gen	der	Contacts per FTE	Patients Per FTE	Contacts per Patient and Provider
	West-Vlaanderen	5,673	3,084	1.5	F		5,305	2,980	1.5
5,455	Oost-Vlaanderen	5,406	2,945	1.5	М		5,693	3,105	1.5
2018: 5518 (-1.13%)	Antwerpen	5,229	2,914	1.5					
	Limburg	6,080	3,176	1.5					
	Vlaams-Brabant	5,182	2,727	1.5	Langu	iage	Contacts per FTE	Patients Per FTE	
Average Patients per FTE (2022)	Brussels	5,221	2,776	1.4	<b>^</b>				and Provider
	Brabant Wallon	5,726	3,214	1.5	FR		5,405	3,112	1.4
3,028	Hainaut	6,203	3,653	1.5	NL		5,492	2,967	1.5
2018: 3076 (-1.55%)	Namur	5,248	3,221	1.4					
	Liège	5,169	3,026	1.4	Conven	tion	Contacts per FTE	Dationts Dor FTF	Contacts per Patient
	Luxembourg	4,934	3,187	1.4	Conven				and Provider
Average Contacts per Patient and					Full		5,601	3,032	1.5
Provider (2022)					No		5,421	3,050	1.5
<b>1.5</b> 2018: 1.5 (+0.12%)	Age Class	Contacts per FTE	Patients Per FTE	Contacts per Patient and Provider	Partial		5,448	2,876	1.4
2010. 1.3 (+0.1270)	34 -	5,219	3,012	1.4					

5,135

5,460

5,761

6,090

35-44

45-54

55-64

65 +

Accredited	Contacts per FTE	Patients Per FTE	Contacts per Patient and Provider
No	6,448	3,871	1.4
Yes	5,408	2,988	1.5

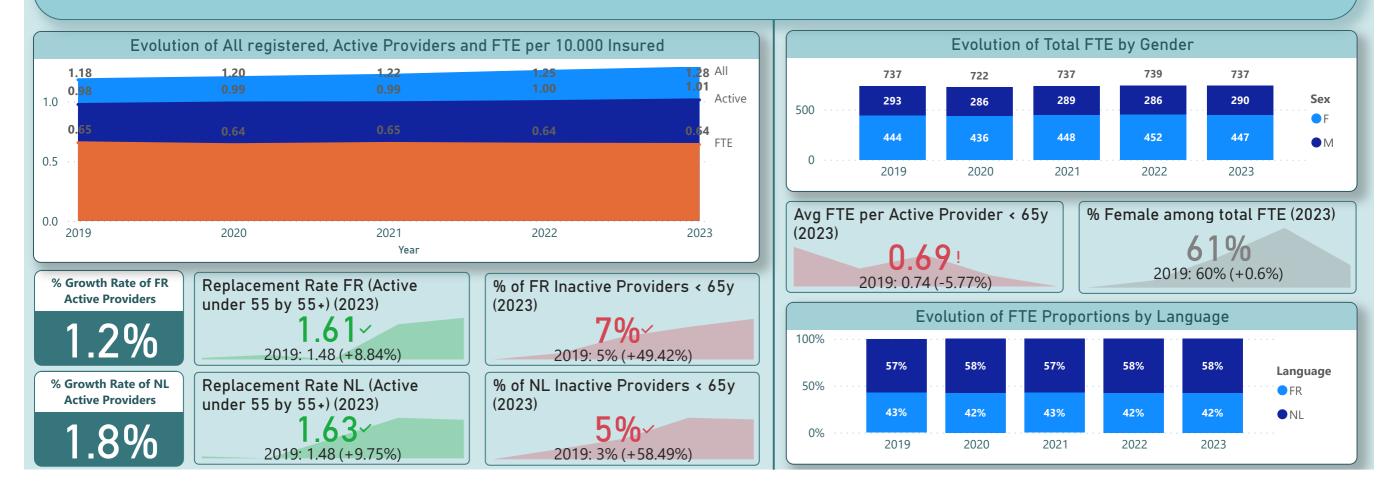


Healthcare workforce demographics present active professionals having more than one activity per year on the <u>left side</u> of the page, while Full-Time Equivalents (FTE) are displayed on the <u>right side</u>. The analysis spans the past decade and is segmented by professional characteristics such as age class, gender, and language. Active indicators (Left):

- Number of Actives (>1 prestation /accounting year) and its % growth rate over the past 5 years.
- Replacement Rate: Active professionals above 55 years compared to those below 55 years.
- Inactivity: % of inactive professionals in relation to the total.

### FTE indicators (Right):

- Equal proportion of gender: Indicates the percentage of female FTE in relation to the total FTE.
- Average FTE: Indicates the level of activity by dividing the FTE below 65 years with the total active workforce.

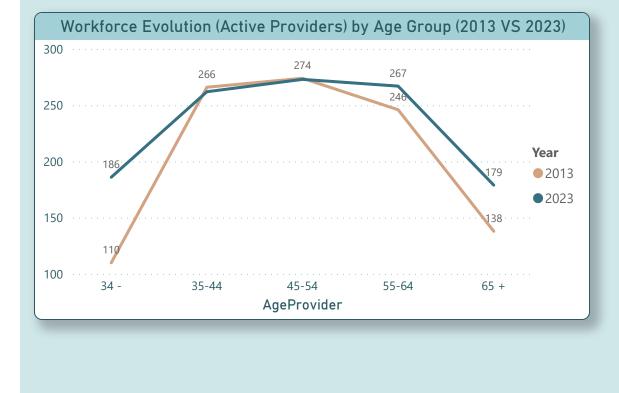


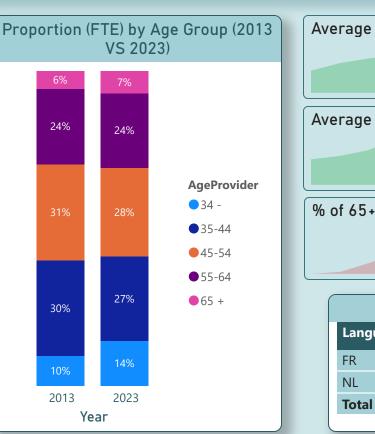


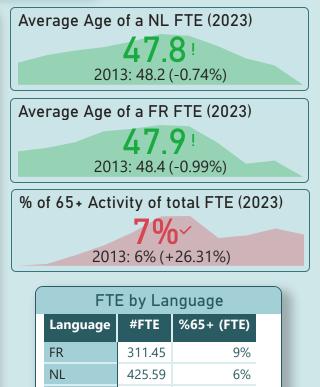
Demographic evolution by age group and activity of professionals above 65 years (provides information on the demographic stability).

Indicators :

- Trend in age group distribution (active/FTE),
- Age FTE : average of a professional's age weighted by its corresponding Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) value, by language of the provider.
- Contribution of older practitioners to the overall activity: % 65+ FTE/ Total FTE







737.04

7%

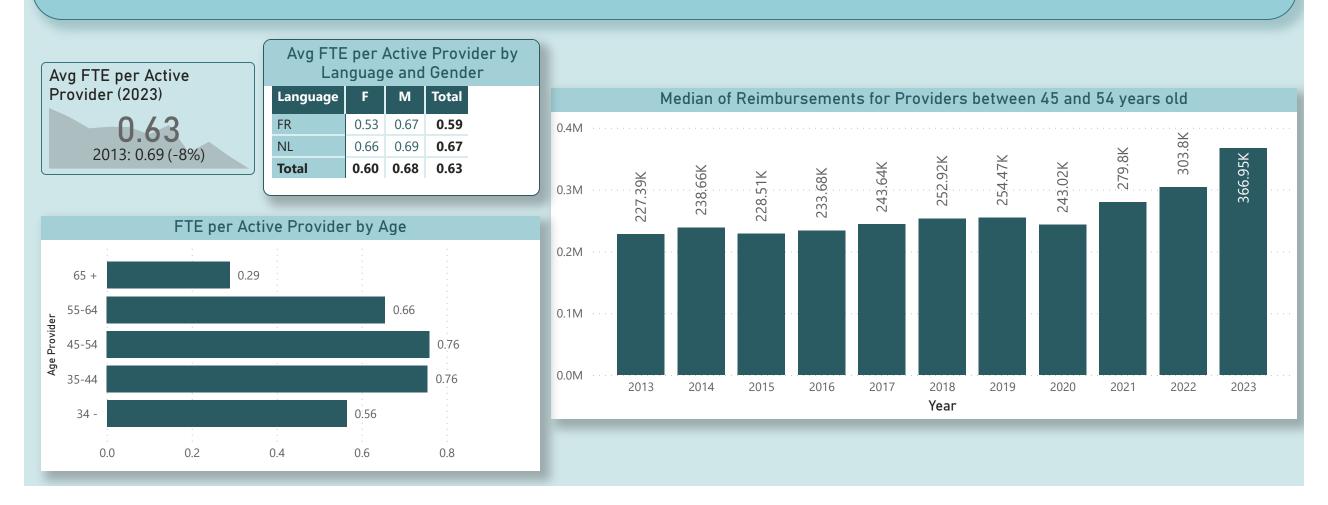


<u>FTE (full-time equivalent)</u> is calculated to determine the workload of a healthcare provider (= total reimbursements by provider in a given year divided by the median of reimbursements for providers aged 45 to 54 in the same specialty).

The median amount of reimbursement for providers aged 45 to 54 is calculated each year. Evolution is not adjusted for inflation.

FTE values are capped at 1. See the comparison per active provider by sex, language and age group.

N.B. The FTE for employed doctors in medical homes (lump sum financing) was estimated at 0,82 per doctor because the actual FTE cannot be evaluated given the absence of activity registration.





### Annex 2: Type of Practice (2023) : Ophthalmologic Surgeon

Type of practice (FTE) by age group and region. Evolution and trends

- 5 types of practices are represented:
- Nursing home: represents care facilities for the elderly or individuals requiring psychiatric care.
- Group: represents collective practices or facilities where professionals work together (ex: medical house with lumpsum, mental health center, day care center, public pharmacies, medical laboratories, bandagist/orthopedist workshops, physiotherapy office).
- Hospital: represents hospitals or medical establishments (ex: general hospitals, psychiatric hospitals, hospital pharmacies)
- Solo: represents individual practitioners or private addresses.
- Other: represents facilities or organizations not falling into the above categories (ex: tariff office, organizations with a registered business number)

N.B. Not Available (NA) values are decreasing over time as the database becomes increasingly complete.

