

# NHS Dental Commissioning Statistics for England – June 2016



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## Background

This release provides information about the amount of NHS dental activity that has been commissioned, measured in Units of Dental Activity (UDAs).

The UDAs commissioned are shown for each Local Office in England. There are now 14 Local Offices that commission NHS dental activity. Previously, there were 13, but Lancaster and Greater Manchester Local Office have now separated following devolution in Greater Manchester.

## Key Definitions

### Units of Dental Activity (UDAs)

are a measure of the amount of work done during dental treatment. More complex dental treatments count for more UDAs than simpler ones. For example, an examination is 1 UDA, fillings are 3 UDAs, and dentures are 12 UDAs.

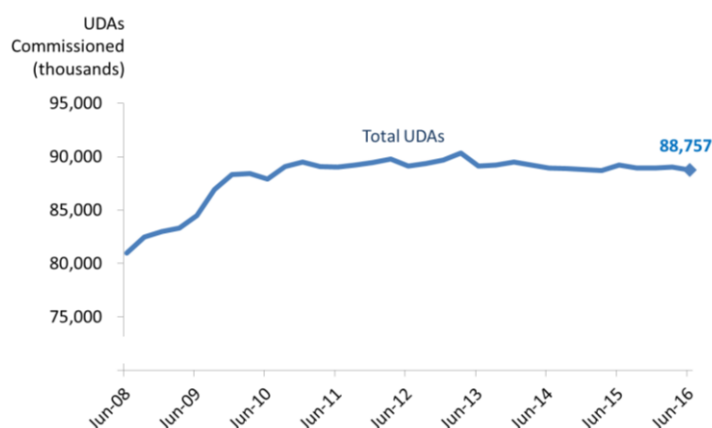
**'Up and running UDAs'** refer to UDAs that are in contracts that are already delivering services.

**Contracts which are not yet delivering services** may be new contracts, where the contract has been signed but the dental activity has not yet started.

## 1. Summary

### National level

- As at 30<sup>th</sup> June 2016, local offices had commissioned 88,757,000 UDAs to be provided between 1<sup>st</sup> July 2016 and 30<sup>th</sup> June 2017.
- This number has remained fairly stable. It was a decrease of 249,300 UDAs compared to March 2016, equivalent to a -0.3% change.
- It was 474,500 fewer UDAs, or -0.5%, compared to the number of UDAs commissioned at 30<sup>th</sup> June 2015 to be provided between 1<sup>st</sup> July 2015 and 30<sup>th</sup> June 2016.



### Local Office level

- The largest percentage change since the last quarter (March 2016) at Local Office level was a decrease of 2.7%, or 193,000 UDAs, in Central Midlands.
- The largest percentage changes since last year (June 2015) at Local Office level were decreases of 2.4% in the East and Yorkshire and Humber. These were decreases of 168,100 and 236,500 UDAs, respectively.

### UDAs in contracts not yet delivering services

- The number of UDAs commissioned in contracts which are not yet delivering services remains low. It was 19,800 in total (0.02%), all in London.

Previous publications: <https://www.england.nhs.uk/statistics/category/statistics/dental-commissioning/>  
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## 2. Changes at National and Commissioning Region level

Table 1 below shows the changes compared to the previous quarter (March 2016):

- The total UDAs commissioned in England by June 2016 was slightly lower (-0.3%, which was 249,300 fewer UDAs).
- The South was the only region to increase the number of UDAs commissioned. It had an increase of 0.3%, or 60,100 UDAs.
- The Midlands and East had the largest percentage decrease (-1.0%) of all the regions. This was a decrease of 272,700 UDAs.

Table 1: Units of Dental Activity Commissioned by **Quarterly** Change.  
England, Commissioning Regions

*Numbers rounded to the nearest 100 UDAs*

	Total UDAs		Quarterly change	
	March 2016	June 2016	Counts	% change
<b>England</b>	<b>89,006,500</b>	<b>88,757,200</b>	<b>-249,300 ▼</b>	<b>-0.3%</b>
North	27,947,600	27,922,100	-25,500 ▼	-0.1%
Midlands and East	26,895,600	26,622,900	-272,700 ▼	-1.0%
London	12,649,700	12,638,400	-11,300 ▼	-0.1%
South	21,513,600	21,573,700	60,100 ▲	0.3%

Table 2 below shows the changes compared to the previous year (June 2015):

- The total UDAs commissioned in England by June 2016 was slightly lower (-0.5%, which is 474,500 fewer UDAs).
- London was the only region to increase the number of UDAs commissioned. It had an increase of 0.1% or 17,600 UDAs.
- The North had the largest percentage decrease (-1.1%) of all the regions. This was a decrease of 320,200 UDAs.

Table 2: Units of Dental Activity Commissioned by **Annual** Change.  
England, Commissioning Regions

*Numbers rounded to the nearest 100 UDAs*

	Total UDAs		Annual change	
	June 2015	June 2016	Counts	% change
<b>England</b>	<b>89,231,700</b>	<b>88,757,200</b>	<b>-474,500 ▼</b>	<b>-0.5%</b>
North	28,242,300	27,922,100	-320,200 ▼	-1.1%
Midlands and East	26,786,700	26,622,900	-163,800 ▼	-0.6%
London	12,620,800	12,638,400	17,600 ▲	0.1%
South	21,581,900	21,573,700	-8,200 ▼	0.0%

### 3. Changes at Local Office level

Table 3 below shows the annual and quarterly changes in UDAs commissioned, by Local Office.

Compared to the previous quarter (March 2016):

- Seven out of the 14 Local Offices showed increases in the number of UDAs commissioned, six showed decreases, and one showed no change.
- The North Midlands had the largest percentage increase (0.8%, or 49,900 UDAs).
- The Central Midlands and East had the greatest percentage decreases (-2.7% and -2.3% respectively). This was 193,600 and 157,400 fewer UDAs respectively. Although this was a notably larger decrease compared to the other Local Offices, it is still a small decrease overall.

Compared to the previous year (June 2015):

- Half of the 14 Local Offices showed increases in the number of UDAs commissioned, whilst the other half showed decreases.
- The East and Yorkshire and the Humber had the largest percentage decreases (both -2.4%). This was 168,100 and 236,500 fewer UDAs respectively.
- The West Midlands had the largest percentage increase (1.7%, or 112,200 UDAs).

Table 3: Units of Dental Activity Commissioned, Quarterly and Annual Changes England, Local Offices

*Numbers rounded to the nearest 100 UDAs*

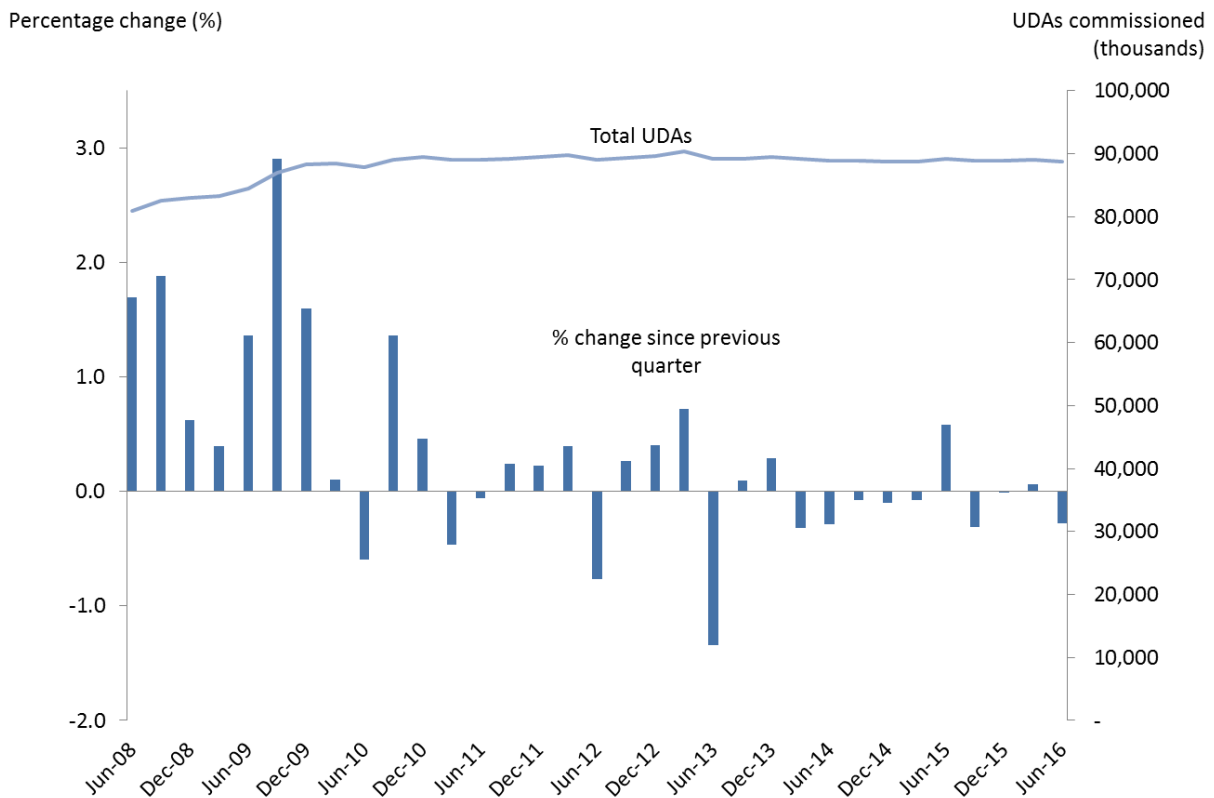
	Total UDAs	Quarterly change		Annual change	
		Counts	% Change	Counts	% Change
<b>England</b>	<b>88,757,200</b>	<b>-249,300</b>	<b>-0.3%</b>	<b>-474,500</b>	<b>-0.5%</b>
Q70 Wessex	4,326,400	9,300	0.2%	20,000	0.5%
Q71 London	12,638,400	-11,200	-0.1%	17,700	0.1%
Q72 Yorkshire and the Humber	9,622,200	10,600	0.1%	-236,500	-2.4%
Q74 Cumbria and North East	6,011,600	-8,700	-0.1%	-77,700	-1.3%
Q75 Cheshire and Merseyside	4,832,700	-28,200	-0.6%	-51,600	-1.1%
Q76 North Midlands	5,959,400	49,900	0.8%	19,000	0.3%
Q77 West Midlands	6,845,500	28,400	0.4%	112,200	1.7%
Q78 Central Midlands	7,035,700	-193,600	-2.7%	-126,900	-1.8%
Q79 East	6,782,200	-157,400	-2.3%	-168,100	-2.4%
Q80 South West	5,677,900	25,600	0.5%	-36,000	-0.6%
Q81 South East	6,574,300	28,400	0.4%	53,200	0.8%
Q82 South Central	4,995,100	-3,300	-0.1%	-45,400	-0.9%
Q83 Greater Manchester	4,956,200	0	0.0%	24,800	0.5%
Q84 Lancashire	2,499,400	800	0.0%	20,800	0.8%

#### 4. Long-term quarterly trends (national)

The data from June 2016 show that there has been a decrease in the number of UDAs commissioned nationally (-0.3%) compared to the previous quarter (March 2016). In March 2016, there had been a 0.1% increase. These are small fluctuations, and the long-term quarterly trend has generally been quite stable. The total number of UDAs commissioned has remained within a narrow band (89.5 million  $\pm$  800,000) since September 2010. The largest quarterly increase was back in September 2009 (2.9%) and the largest decrease was in June 2013 (-1.3%).

As Figure 1 below shows, there have been seasonal variations affecting the quarter to quarter changes. Historically, large dips have been seen in the March and June quarters (for precise figures see Annex 1). This is most likely due to non-recurrent commissioning contracts coming to an end (end of the financial year) and new commissioning for the year not yet decided upon.

Figure 1: Percentage change of Units of Dental Activity Commissioned quarter on quarter. England, June 2008 to June 2016.

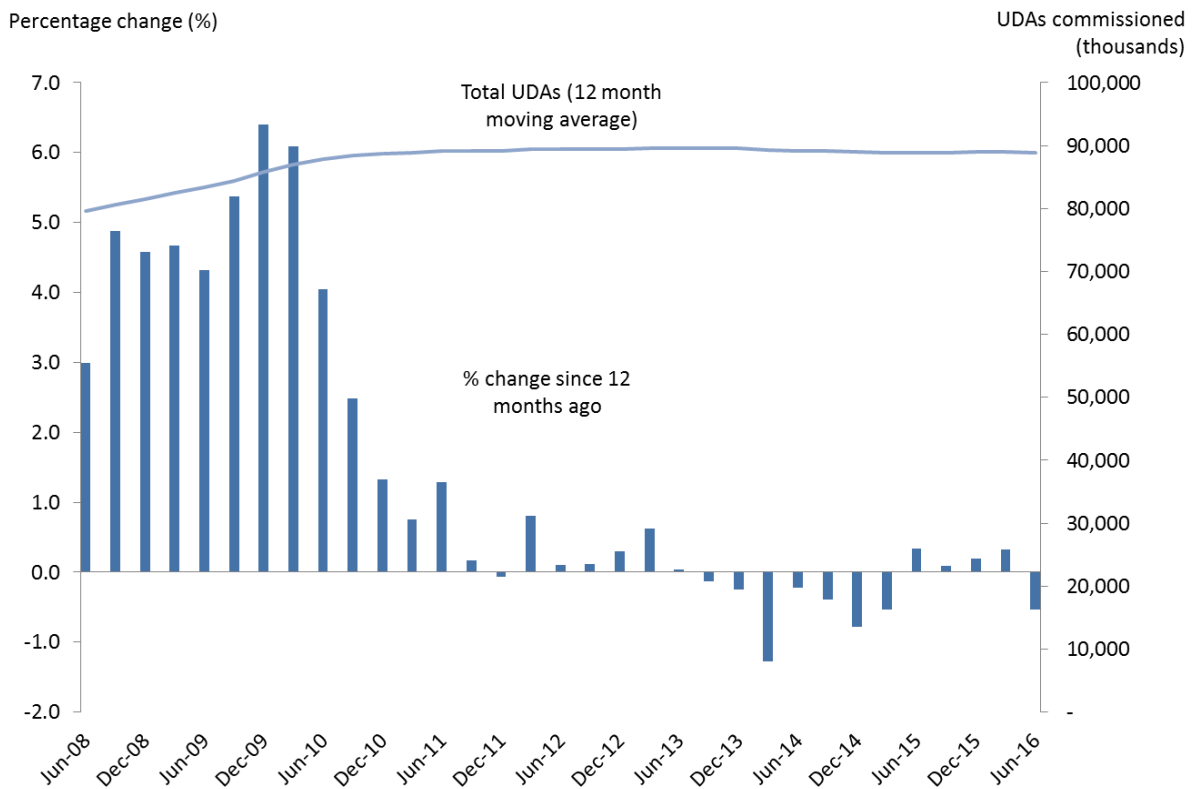


## 5. Long term annual trends (national)

The annual change for total UDAs commissioned nationally has fallen (-0.5%) for the first time in four quarters in June 2016. The last time there was a negative annual change was September 2013 to March 2015.

For each quarter between June 2008 and June 2010, the total number of UDAs commissioned was at least 3.0% higher than at the same time 12 months earlier. The percentage increase declined to around 1.0% or below from December 2010 onwards. March 2014 marked the most negative percentage change across the time period of -1.3%. See Figure 2 below.

Figure 2: Percentage change of Units of Dental Activity Commissioned year on year. England, June 2008 to June 2016.

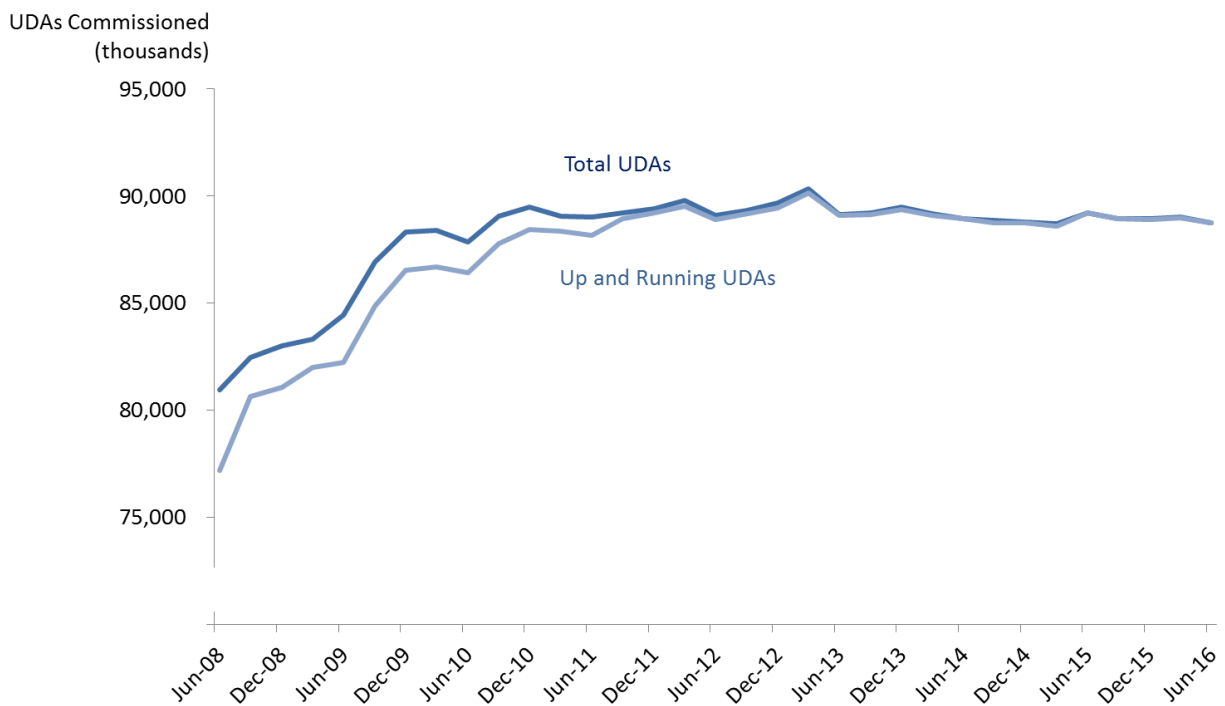


## 6. 'Up and running' UDAs

Over time, the gap between the total number of UDAs commissioned and the 'up and running' UDAs has narrowed. The number of UDAs commissioned in contracts which are not yet delivering services in June 2016 was 19,800 (0.02% of all UDAs commissioned). This is a decrease from 32,900 in March 2016, but a small increase from 12,900 in June 2015.

Since March 2011, UDAs commissioned in contracts which are not yet delivering services have represented 1.0% or less of the total UDAs commissioned. The data from June 2014 showed the smallest proportion seen over time of UDAs not yet delivering services (0.003%).

Figure 3: Time Series of Units of Dental Activity Commissioned England, June 2008 to June 2016.



## 7. Annex 1

Table 4: Units of Dental Activity (UDAs) Commissioned  
England, June 2008 to June 2016

As of...	UDAs commissioned		Total*
	In contracts delivering services	In contracts not yet delivering services	
June 2008	77,195,314	3,767,917	80,963,231
September 2008	80,644,848	1,841,733	82,486,581
December 2008	81,072,917	1,926,811	82,999,728
March 2009	81,989,867	1,340,108	83,329,975
June 2009	82,224,496	2,240,289	84,464,785
September 2009	84,876,778	2,044,575	86,921,353
December 2009	86,531,325	1,779,416	88,310,741
March 2010	86,713,183	1,691,265	88,404,448
June 2010	86,410,349	1,471,597	87,881,946
September 2010	87,797,178	1,279,192	89,076,370
December 2010	88,442,502	1,043,909	89,486,411
March 2011	88,373,545	693,691	89,067,236
June 2011	88,182,055	833,609	89,015,664
September 2011	88,931,847	297,480	89,229,327
December 2011	89,212,421	218,773	89,431,194
March 2012	89,537,613	251,330	89,788,943
June 2012	88,895,085	207,517	89,102,602
September 2012	89,171,087	165,942	89,337,029
December 2012	89,440,435	257,890	89,698,325
March 2013	90,144,430	202,302	90,346,732
June 2013	89,118,011	16,000	89,134,011
September 2013	89,140,430	77,692	89,218,122
December 2013	89,382,784	96,211	89,478,995
March 2014	89,122,113	70,801	89,192,914
June 2014	88,935,606	2,247	88,937,853
September 2014	88,740,473	132,702	88,873,175
December 2014	88,773,154	10,240	88,783,394
March 2015	88,618,075	96,115	88,714,190
June 2015	89,218,798	12,900	89,231,698
September 2015	88,940,241	12,900	88,953,141
December 2015	88,913,840	38,138	88,951,978
March 2016	88,973,599	32,869	89,006,468
June 2016	88,737,377	19,800	88,757,177

\*Commissioned UDAs cover contracted UDAs in the next 12 months in GDS and PDS contracts and in VDP arrangements. This excludes salaried services where there are no contracted UDAs.