Table 1 Distribution of health workers by profession in Afghanistan in 2021

Health profession	No. of health professionals			Total (%)	Density per 10 000 population
	Female (%)	Male (%)	Total		
Medical specialist	45 (11.78)	337 (88.21)	382	1.51	0.1
General physician	305 (19.75)	1239 (80.24)	1544	6.11	0.5
Midwife	2941 (98.55)	43 (1.44)	2984	11.81	1.0
Nurse	970 (25.88)	2778 (74.11)	3748	14.83	1.2
Pharmacist	2 (6.25)	30 (93.75)	32	0.12	0.0
Public health	126 (18.86)	542 (81.13)	668	2.64	0.2
Dentist	9 (15.51)	49 (84.48)	58	0.22	0.0
Technician	65 (3.81)	1641 (96.18)	1706	6.75	0.6
Administration and finance	99 (11.08)	794 (88.91)	893	3.53	0.3
Vaccinator	960 (31.98)	2041 (68.01)	3001	11.87	1.0
Support staff	1129 (17.62)	5275 (82.37)	6404	25.35	2.1
Others	2183 (56.81)	1659 (43.18)	3842	15.20	1.3
Total	8834 (34.96)	16428 (65.03)	25262	100	8.2

199 health workers in Kapisa, Panjshir, and Parwan Provinces working in COVID-19 projects were excluded. Data for another 45 were missing. Estimated population in 2019–2020 (Afghanistan Central Statistics Office): 30 725 560, excluding nomadic (Kuchi) population.