



General
Chiropractic
Council

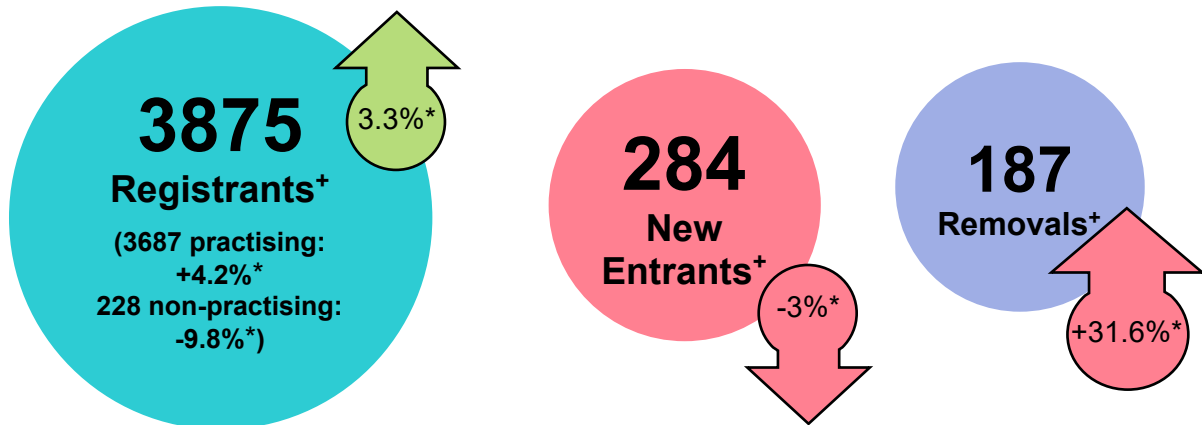
The Register Annual Report

2024



The Register in 2024

This report provides an overview of registration activity in the General Chiropractic Council between 1 January to 31 December 2024 and is a snapshot of the Register of Chiropractors as of 31 December 2024.

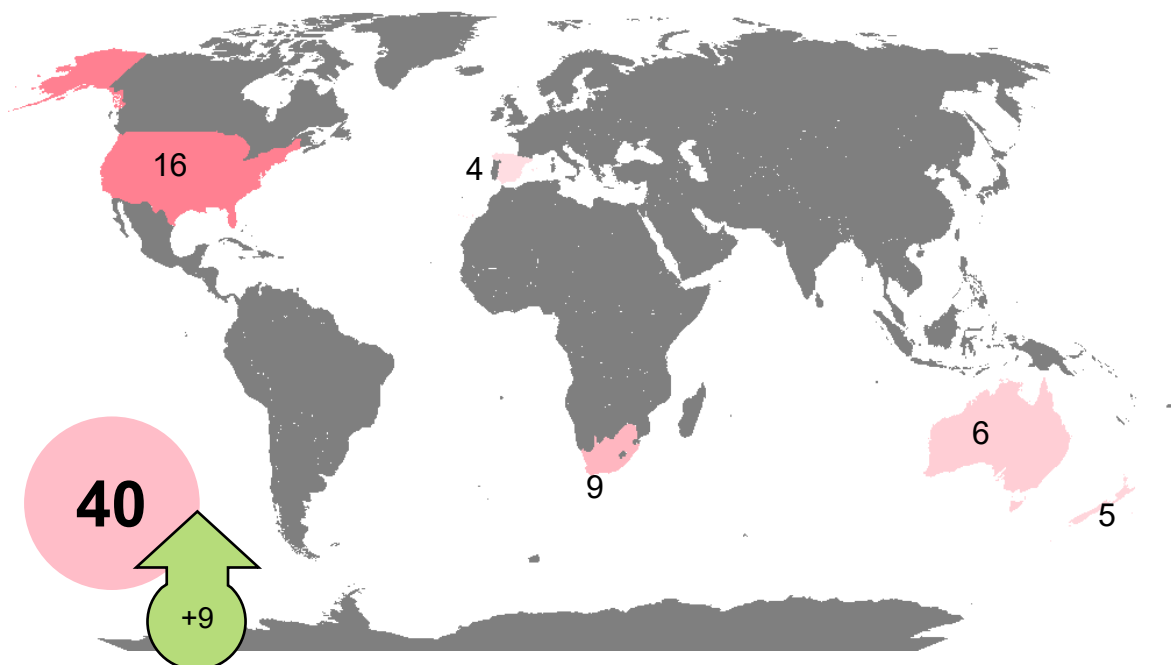


⁺ at 31 December 2024
* when compared to 2023 figures

The register grew in 2024 by 123 – this is less than the growth in 2023 but still a sizable number given the overall size of the register. Predictions indicate that the register will grow for at least the next four years.

Origins of New Registrants

Qualification Country of New Registrants via International Route in 2024



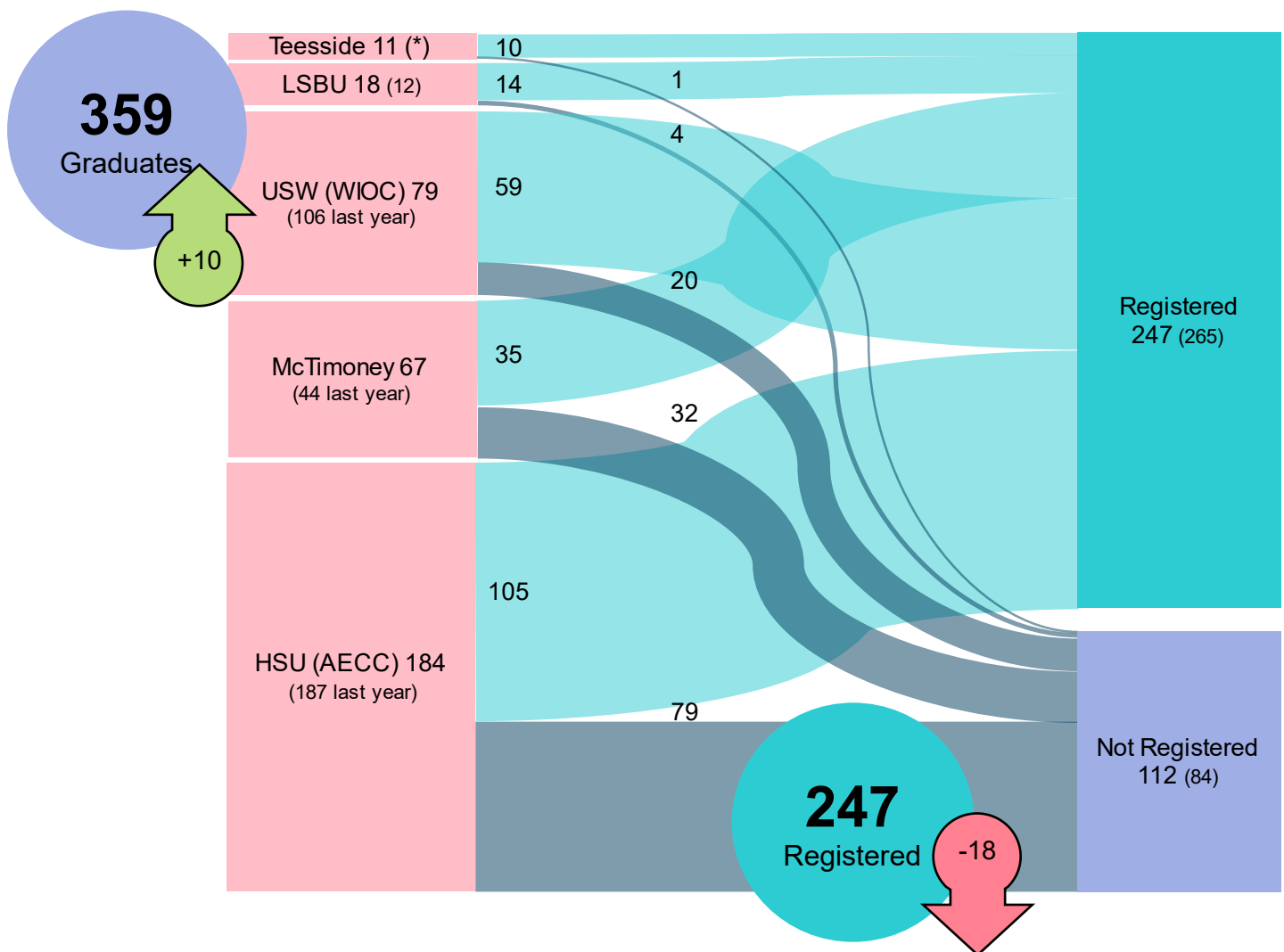
In 2024, a total of 40 new registrants with overseas qualifications joined the register, representing an increase of nine compared to the previous year.

If we consider nationality, half of all new overseas qualified registrants trained in their home country of the USA (12) or South Africa (8 +1 – see below). Chiropractors from Australia (6) and New Zealand (3) also all trained in their home country.

Chiropractors from Canada, Britain, France, Republic of Ireland and Senegal all qualified outside their home country:

Country of Nationality	Total joining register in 2024	Country of qualification
South Africa	9	8 x South Africa, 1 x Spain
Canada	4	2 x USA, 1 x South Africa, 1 x New Zealand
Britain	3	1 x USA, 1 x Spain, 1 x New Zealand
France	1	Spain
Republic of Ireland	1	Spain
Senegal	1	USA

Destination of UK Approved Programme 2024 Graduates



Destination registration figures are for graduates who completed an approved course in 2024, and have joined the register by March 1 2025.

In 2024, 359 students graduated from a GCC approved education programme.

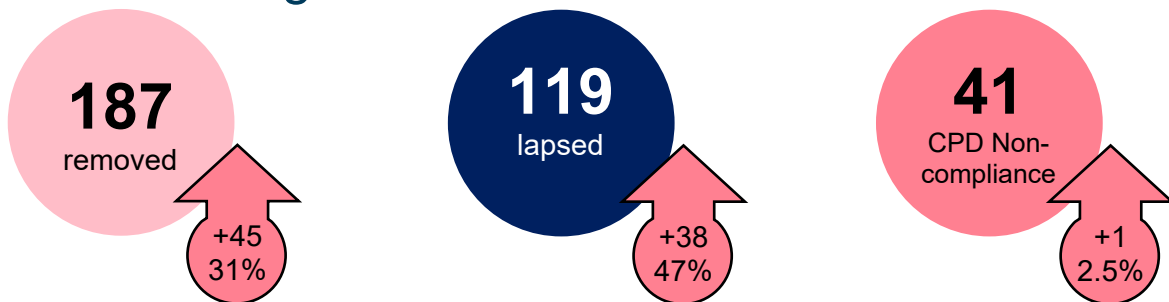
Of note is the University of Teesside's first cohort of students graduating in 2024, with 10 of their 11 graduates registering.

London South Bank University (LSBU) and McTimoney College of Chiropractic (MCC) both increased their graduate numbers, but this growth was balanced out by a drop in University of South Wales (USW / WIOC) graduates. This drop must be seen in the context of 2023 being a record year for USW (WIOC), and the 2024 graduate figures are closer to the previous five year's average.

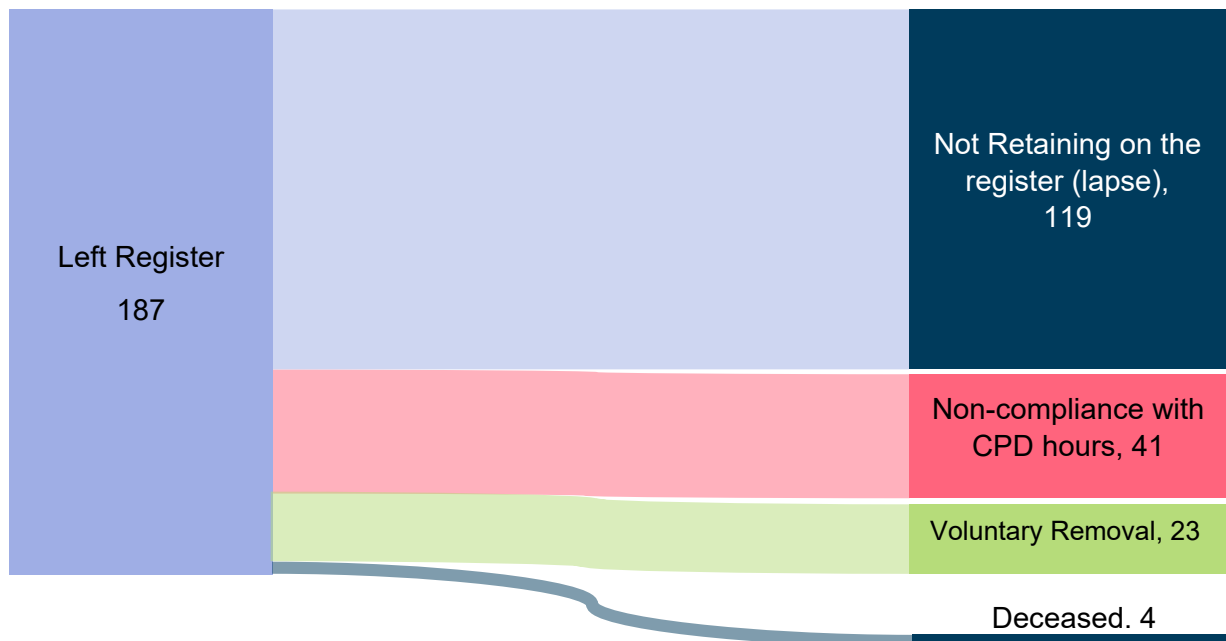
The registration rates for Health Sciences University (AECC) at 57% and USW (WIOC) at 75% both reflect the international student population for the graduating years (as reported in the annual monitoring forms). This suggests few international students continue into practice in the UK.

In previous years, the registration rate for MCC has been over 90%. The 2024 registration rate of 52% is currently low, but we believe this to be a function of the increased number of graduates, and a large December graduation, rather than reflective of a wider trend.

Trends in Register Leavers - 2024



In 2024, a total of 187 chiropractors left the register. Most removals were due to lapsed registrations (119), which saw a significant rise of 47%. There was little change (+1) in the 41 removals for CPD non-compliance (failure to record sufficient CPD hours).



The voluntary removal process, as defined in the GCC rules, is bureaucratic (requiring a sworn statement), with most choosing to leave the register by not retaining on the register at the end of the year (lapsing).

While the 47% increase in lapsed registrations appears to be concerning, this is a positive result of work to reduce the number of non-practising registrants.

Over the previous five years, the total number of registrants paying the non-practising fee has remained steady at around 250 (in 2023 it was 6.7% of the register).

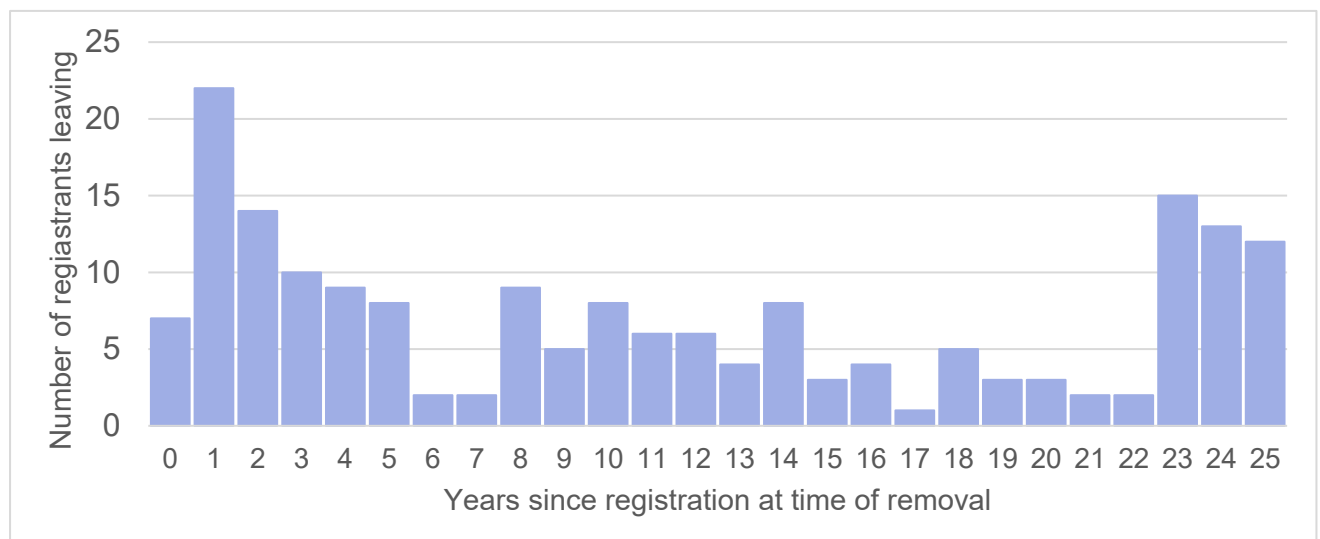
Many non-practising registrants do not realise they are still required to submit CPD and they are disproportionately represented in the removals for non-compliance with CPD hours. In 2024, 19 (46%) of the 41 registrants removed for non-compliance with CPD hours were registered as non-practising.

The October 2024 newsletter [included an article](#) highlighting that non-practising is usually inappropriate for chiropractors seeking a career break, and encouraging them to leave and restore to the register later. This messaging was reinforced in the retention materials and advice provided by the registrations team.

Of the 119 registrations that were not retained, 31 (26%) were non-practising prior to their registration lapsing. Overall, there was a 9.8% drop in the number of non-practising registrants, meaning the 2024 register is 5.8% non-practising.

Across all registrants choosing to leave the register (excluding deaths), 56% were female and 42% were male. However, male registrants were more likely to be removed for non-compliance with CPD hours (M:59%, F:41%), whereas female registrants left due to non-retention (M:41%, F:59%) and voluntary removal (M:30%, F:70%).

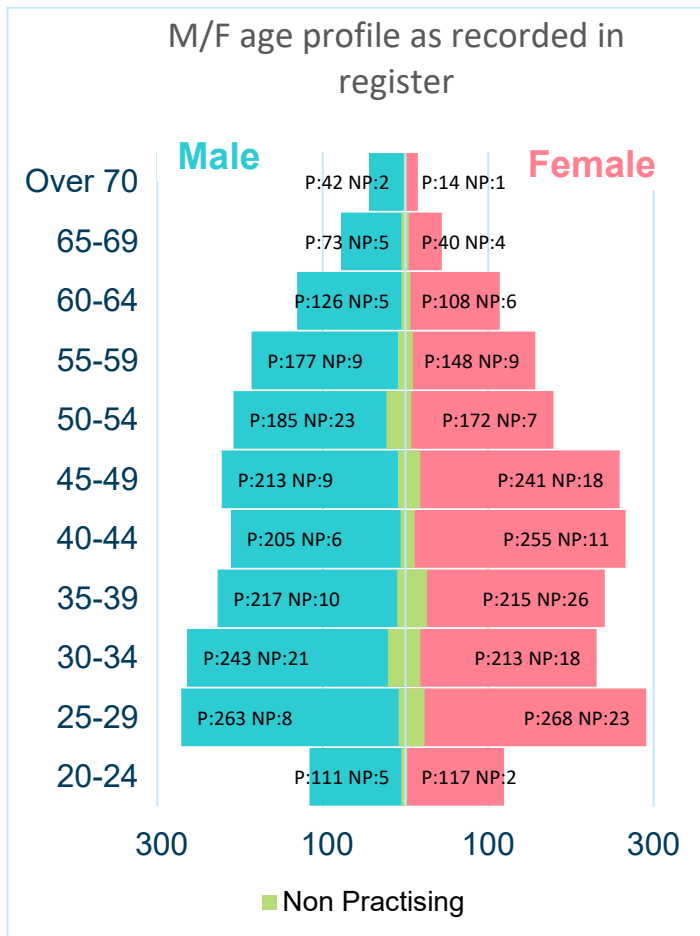
Considering the distribution of years on the register before leaving, there is a clear peak in leavers who have only been registered for a year, and a separate peak over 23 years (which we suggest is due to retirement).



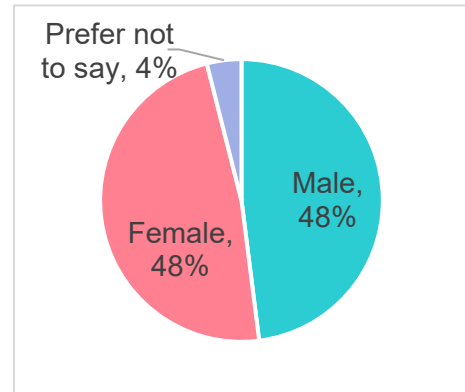
Previous reports have suggested overseas-qualified registrants are over-represented in the numbers leaving the register, however this does not appear to be the case in 2024. Of the 2024 leavers, 8 (4.3%) were overseas-qualified (all left via non-retention). In comparison the total register is 5.6% overseas-qualified.

Demographic profile of the register population

Age and Sex/Gender



Registrants reported their sex as



In previous years, this report has only used “male” or “female” data published within the register.

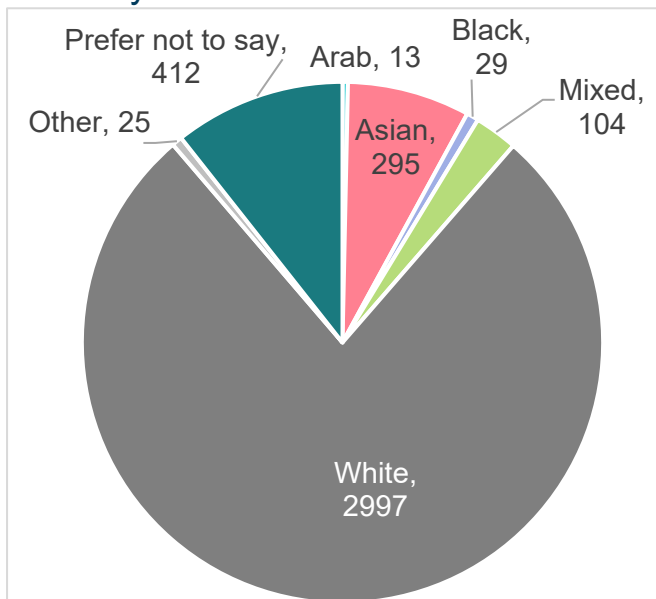
This approach did not give registrants the opportunity to opt their data out of demographic reporting, nor did it define whether “male/female” referred to sex or gender.

From 2023 retention onwards, we have separately asked for the registrant’s sex, and given the option to opt out.

The largest group falls within the 25-29 age range (580), indicating strong early-career participation. Numbers remain high through the 30s and 40s but begin to decline from 50 onwards, suggesting attrition due to retirement or career changes.

The male/female split is near parity until age 50, when female numbers decline more quickly than male. This may mean females leave the profession earlier (due to retirement or career changes) or may reflect historical imbalances in the profession, with more recent cohorts showing greater male/female balance.

Ethnicity



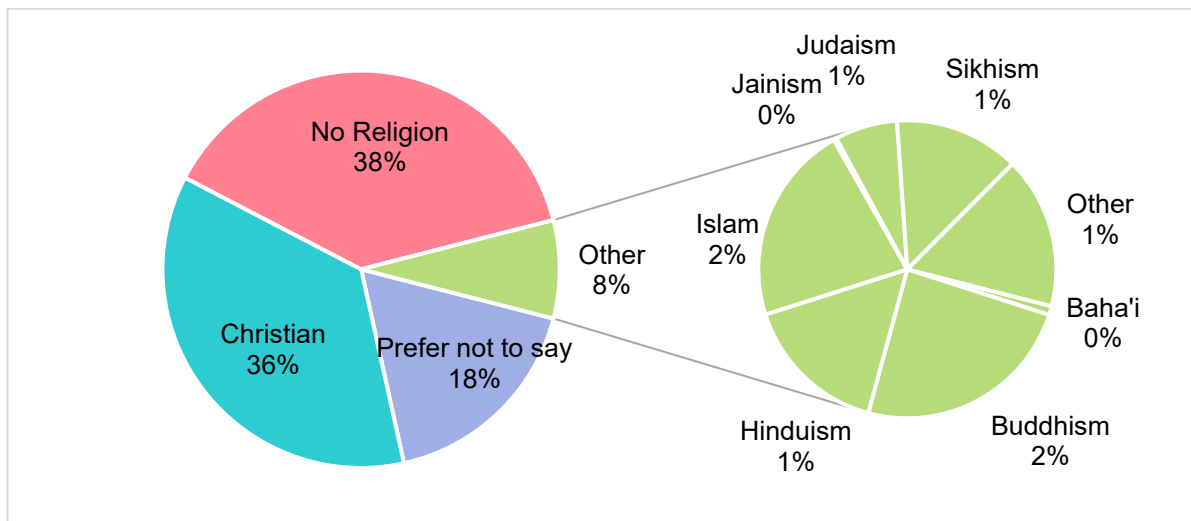
In total 12% of the register identify with a minority ethnicity (compared with 18.3% of the UK population in 2021 census).

10% of the register responded "prefer not to say" when asked their ethnicity (6.1% last year).

The data for religion, sexuality and disability is presented for completeness, but does not yield any specific insights. There is very little change from previous years.

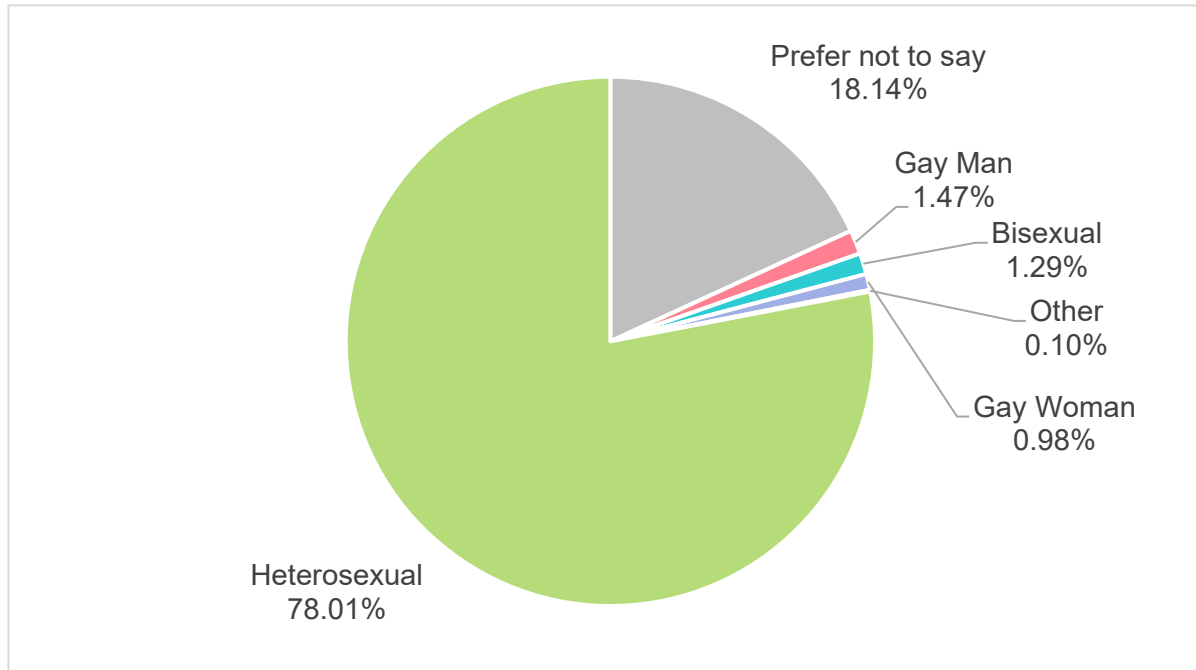
Religion/Beliefs

Which religion or belief system does the registrant identify with?



The proportions broadly reflect the [2021 census data](#) (37.2% no religion, 46.2% Christian, 6% prefer not to say, 6.5% Muslim, 1.7% Hindu).

Sexual Orientation

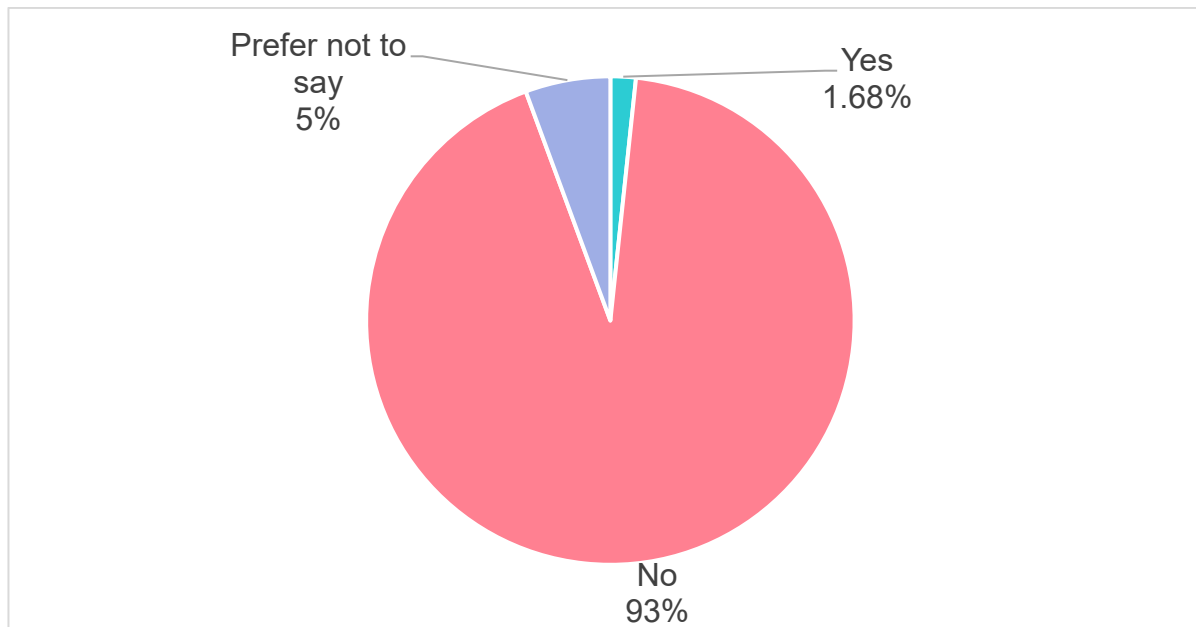


Which sexual orientation does the registrant identify with?

The proportions broadly reflect the [2021 census data](#), (3.2% LGB+, 89.4% heterosexual, 7.5% prefer not to say).

Disability

Does the registrant consider themselves as disabled?



Not unexpectedly, fewer chiropractors consider themselves disabled than the general population according to the [2021 census data](#) (17.7% disabled, 82.2% non-disabled, no option to not answer).

There is a small increase in chiropractors declaring a disability (equivalent 2023 data: 0.73%). It is not clear if this is due to more disability, or more confidence to share the data.
