

2025

ANNUAL REPORT



Optometrists & Opticians Board



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Chairman's Message

Dear fellow eyecare colleagues,

The Board extends its sincere appreciation for your partnership to deliver comprehensive eye care to our patients. We also thank you for your continued commitment to professional excellence through the Continuing Professional Education (CPE) programmes. The consistently high participation rates and achievement levels reflect our collective dedication to advancing practitioner competencies and maintaining the highest standards of eye care delivery to our patients and the broader community.

With evolving healthcare landscape, emerging technologies, and emphasis on evidence-based methodologies in our clinical practice, practitioners must actively engage in CPE activities to stay current. This ongoing professional development directly translates to enhanced patient outcomes and strengthens public confidence in our profession.

In the forthcoming year, we will introduce significant operational improvements designed to enhance efficiency and accessibility in our regulatory processes and professional transactions. These developments are necessary to better support our practitioners and maintain high professional standards.

The Board wishes to formally acknowledge the distinguished service of our outgoing Registrar, Dr Harold Tan and members, Dr Sethuraman Rama, Ms Jacqueline Tay, Mr Ken Tong, and Ms Jessica Yang who concluded their terms at the end of 2025. Their contributions have been instrumental in advancing the Board's mission and ensuring high standards of practice by our practitioners.

The Board remains committed to its mandate of protecting the health of our patients through effective regulation while supporting professional development within the optometry sector. We appreciate

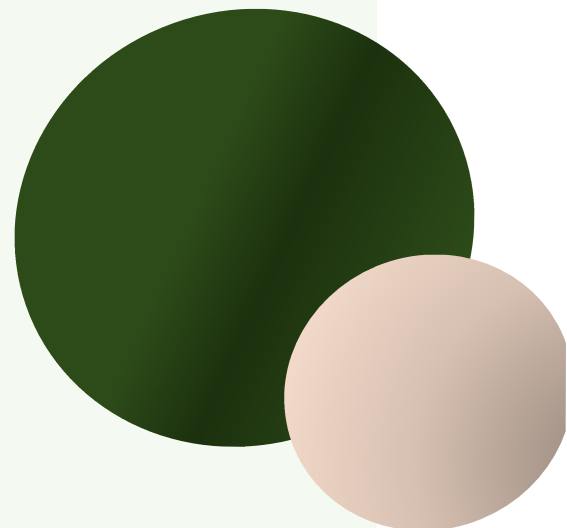
the invaluable contributions of our committees, advisory panels, and Secretariat, whose expertise and dedication enabled us to fulfil our responsibilities effectively.

Our collective efforts continue to focus on reducing healthcare system pressures while ensuring optimal vision health outcomes for Singapore's population.

Prof Lim Tock Han

Chairman

Optometrists and Opticians Board



Optometrists and Opticians Board

(as of 31 December 2025)

Chairman

Prof LIM Tock Han
Ophthalmologist, NHG Health
Group Office

Registrar

Dr Harold TAN
Director, National Mental Health Office,
Ministry of Health

Acting Registrar

Dr Alvin LEE
Deputy Director (Strategy & Evaluation),
Immunisation Policy & Strategy Division,
Communicable Diseases Agency

Representative for Director-General of Education

Dr Kingsley MUK Chee Yong (*till Jun 2025*)
Optometrist, Singapore Polytechnic

Dr Danny SIM Chek Hoo (*wef Jul 2025*)
Optometrist, Singapore Polytechnic

Optometrists and Opticians Board

(as of 31 December 2025)

Members

A/Prof WONG Hon Tym

Ophthalmologist, Tan Tock Seng Hospital

Mr KOH Lian Buck

Optometrist, Pearl's Visioncare Pte Ltd (City Gate)

Mr Daniel CHEONG Lip Keong

Optometrist, Ming Optique

Mr Steve LIM Ngia Teck

Optician (Refraction and Dispensing), Eye's Vision & Optics (Bedok)

Ms Charlie TAN Soon Hua

Optician (Refraction and Dispensing), Yi Specs Pte Ltd

Ms Jessica YANG Shan Mei

Optometrist, Ngee Ann Polytechnic

Ms Jacqueline TAY Li Xin

Optometrist, Singapore National Eye Centre

Mr Ken TONG Wei Jian

Optometrist, The Eyecare Initiative – Optical Pte Ltd

Dr Sethuraman RAMA

Head of Quality and Regulatory Asia Pacific, Roche Diagnostics AsiaPacific Pte Ltd



Committees of the Board

Accreditation Committee

The Accreditation Committee is responsible for accrediting courses of instruction related to optometry and opticianry for the purpose of registration and recommending acceptable displayable higher qualifications.

Assessment Committee

The Assessment Committee is responsible for developing competencies for opticians and optometrists and determining the structure and content of qualifying examinations.

Credentials Committee

The Credentials Committee is responsible for conducting reviews and providing recommendations on all registration matters, including conditions for different types of registration.

Continuing Education Committee

The Continuing Education Committee is responsible for developing and reviewing policies and standards for continuing professional education (CPE), accrediting CPE programmes and approving applications for CPE claims.

Practice, Ethics & Conduct Committee

The Practice, Ethics and Conduct Committee is responsible for developing standards and guidelines for the professional conduct and practice of optometrists and opticians.

Introduction

The Optometrists & Opticians Act (Chapter 213A) (the “Act”) was passed in Parliament in July 2007. The Act empowers the Optometrists and Opticians Board (the “Board”) to register and regulate all optometrists and opticians and their practices in Singapore.

The Board sets the standards required for registration, approves the registration, issues Practising Certificates (PCs) as well as regulates the conduct and practice of optometrists and opticians. These functions ensure that registered practitioners are qualified and properly trained so that members of the public receive safe and quality eye-care services.

As of 31 December 2025, the Board has in its Registers, a total of **2,807** registered optometrists and opticians.

No. of registrants in each category from 2020 to 2025

Register Type	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Optometrists	1,325	1,370	1,367	1,410	1,439
Opticians (Refraction & Dispensing/RD)	1,280	1,286	1,272	1,317	1,305
Opticians (Dispensing/D)	68	67	59	56	50
Opticians (Contact Lens Practitioner/CLP)	16	16	14	14	13
Grand Total	2,689	2,739	2,712	2,797	2,807

Who Are Opticians?

Opticians are eye care providers equipped with the skills to dispense and fit glasses based on prescriptions from optometrists or ophthalmologists.

Opticians are registered in the following categories:

1. **Opticians (Dispensing only)** – these opticians are only qualified to dispense and fit glasses.
2. **Opticians (Refraction and Dispensing)** – these opticians are qualified to:
 - a. Perform refraction on patients who are 8 years of age or older; and
 - b. Dispense and fit glasses to correct vision problems such as short-sightedness, long-sightedness, and astigmatism.
3. **Opticians (Contact Lens Practice)** – these opticians are qualified to:
 - a. Perform refraction on patients who are 8 years of age or older;
 - b. Dispense and fit glasses and contact lenses to correct vision problems such as short-sightedness, long-sightedness and Astigmatism; and
 - c. Provide aftercare to patients, including monitoring to detect, prevent and manage problems or complications arising from the use of contact lenses.

Who Are Optometrists?

Optometrists are primary eye-care providers who specialise in performing vision assessment and eye examinations. Through these examinations, optometrists can detect important eye conditions such as cataract and contact lens complications.

In general, optometrists are qualified to:

1. Perform refraction on adults, children or adolescents;
2. Prescribe and fit optical appliances such as glasses and contact lenses to correct vision problems such as short-sightedness, long-sightedness and astigmatism;
3. Perform eye examinations and refer patients to other healthcare practitioners such as ophthalmologists for further management if any eye conditions are detected; and
4. Provide other forms of eye-care which are part of opticianry (e.g. dispensing and fitting of glasses).

Key Highlights

5.1 Continuing Professional Education (CPE)

Under the Board’s Code of Professional Conduct and Professional Practice Guidelines (articles 5.4 and 6.4), all registered optometrists and opticians are expected to participate in CPE activities to ensure that their optometry and opticianry knowledge and skills remain current and relevant, and that a reasonable level of competence is maintained.

Each qualifying period (QP) begins from 1 October and ends on 30 September in the following year; a fully registered practitioner will go through a two-year cycle. The targeted number of points within the QP of two years is 40 points for opticians and 50 points for optometrists.

For QP ending September 2025, **91%** of the practitioners achieved the minimum CPE points required.

Percentage of practitioners achieving minimum CPE points

	QP ending 2021	QP ending 2022	QP ending 2023	QP ending 2024	QP ending 2025
Percentage of practitioners who met min. CPE points	40%	90%	93%	92%	91%

CPE Events

In 2025 there were a total of **217** events accredited under Category 1A (Local events) while **67%** were conducted virtually.

Category 1A events

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Category 1A	144	144	169	240	217

5.2 Supervisory Framework

Under the OOB's Supervisory Framework, all provisionally and conditionally registered optometrists and opticians ("Supervisees") are required to practise under the supervision of qualified fully registered optometrists and opticians ("Supervisors") and fulfil the Supervisory Framework and/or prescribed conditions during the entire period of their provisional or conditional registration.

To ensure that supervisors carry out their roles and responsibilities effectively, the OOB has been conducting Supervisory Framework briefings for supervisors annually since 2014. The OOB requires each supervisor to attend at least one briefing session before or during the period of undertaking. Selected practitioners on provisional registration are also invited to attend.

Each session is normally conducted over two half-days, with one session for supervisors of provisionally registered optometrists and the other for supervisors of provisionally registered opticians.

The supervisors were briefed on the requirements of the Supervisory Framework and the prescribed conditions for case submissions. To enable supervisors to better understand and apply the case review criteria, attendees were separated into workgroups for discussions using real case records from past logbook submissions by supervisees. The feedback received from the supervisors had been positive and encouraging.

Since 2023, OOB delivered the online briefing session in two parts: asynchronously with pre-recordings in YouTube and synchronously with live streaming via Zoom, focusing on case study discussion and aided by interactive polls, while not compromising the learning objectives and experience.

One round of briefing was conducted at the end of September 2025, and a total of **34** supervisors attended the briefing.

Since 2020, OOB has also been giving talks to optometry graduates at Singapore Polytechnic and Ngee Ann Polytechnic during their annual career sharing day to better prepare them for registration and fulfilment of supervisory framework requirements when they are ready to join the industry.

5.3 Professional Conduct

The Board received a total of six complaints since 2021. **Three** complaints were received in 2025. As of 31 December 2025, six cases were pending investigation and one case, which was received before 2021, had concluded.

Number of complaints received

Complaints received	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Opticians (D)	0	0	0	0	0
Opticians (RD)	0	0	1	0	1
Optometrists	0	0	2	0	2
Grand Total	0	0	3	0	3

Registration Data

The data in this section is based on practitioners who are on register with valid practising certificates.

6.1 New Registrations

Since the Board started regulating the professions in 2008, there has been a steady increase in the number of optometrists and opticians over the years. The figures provided in the table below represent new registrants each year for all registration types (full, provisional, conditional and temporary registration).

Registration type

Register Type	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Opticians (D)	19	0	2	1	0
Opticians (RD)	63	30	107	65	73
Optometrists	165	143	143	127	107
Grand Total	247	173	252	193	180

6.2 Practising Certificate Renewal 2025

A total of **745** registered optometrists and opticians were required to renew their PCs which were valid till 31 December 2025. Among these, 716 (96%) practitioners submitted their applications and successfully renewed their PCs for two years from 1 January 2026 to 31 December 2027.

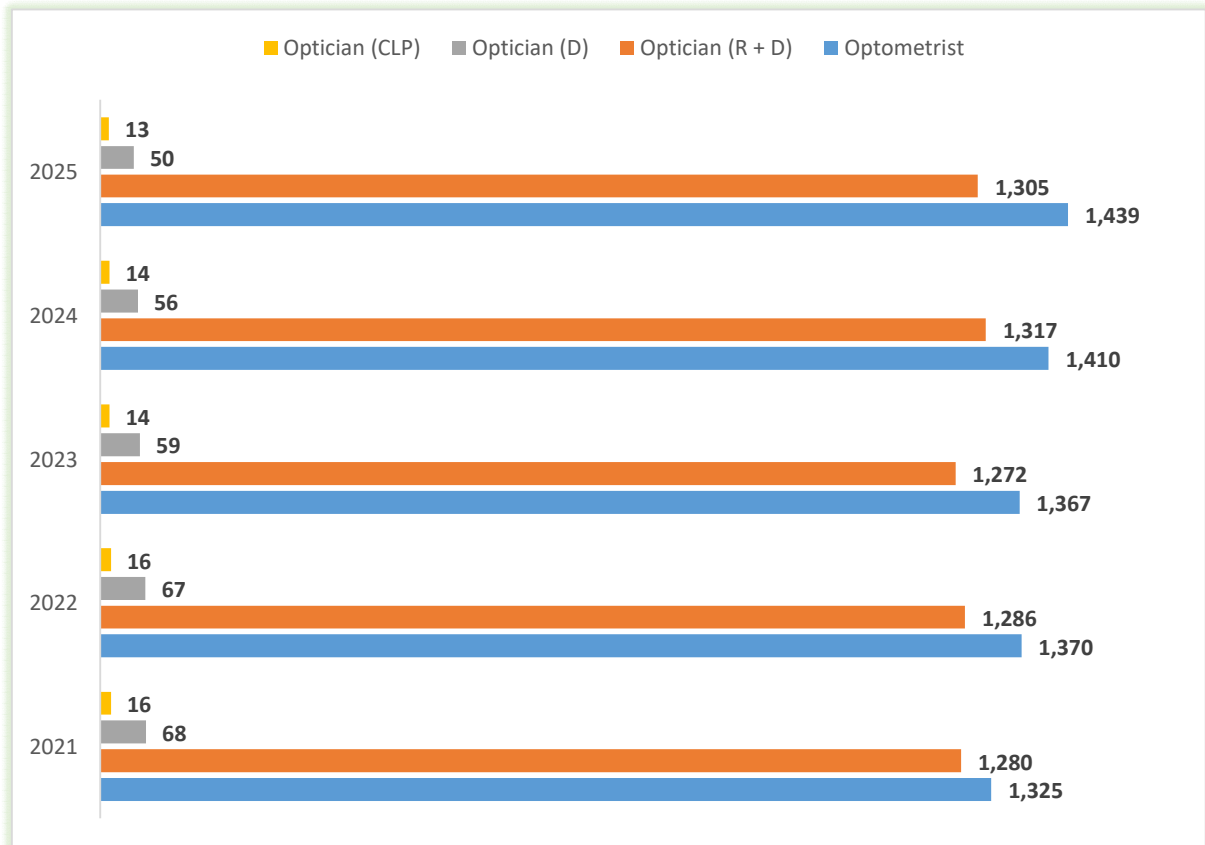
Number of PCs renewed

Register Type	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Opticians (D)	5	50	5	45	5
Opticians (RD)	154	971	166	957	180
Opticians (CLP*)	2	12	1	11	2
Optometrists	441	637	480	693	529
Grand Total	602	1,670	652	1,706	716

* Optician (CLP) is a closed registration category

6.3 Registration by Categories

N=2,807

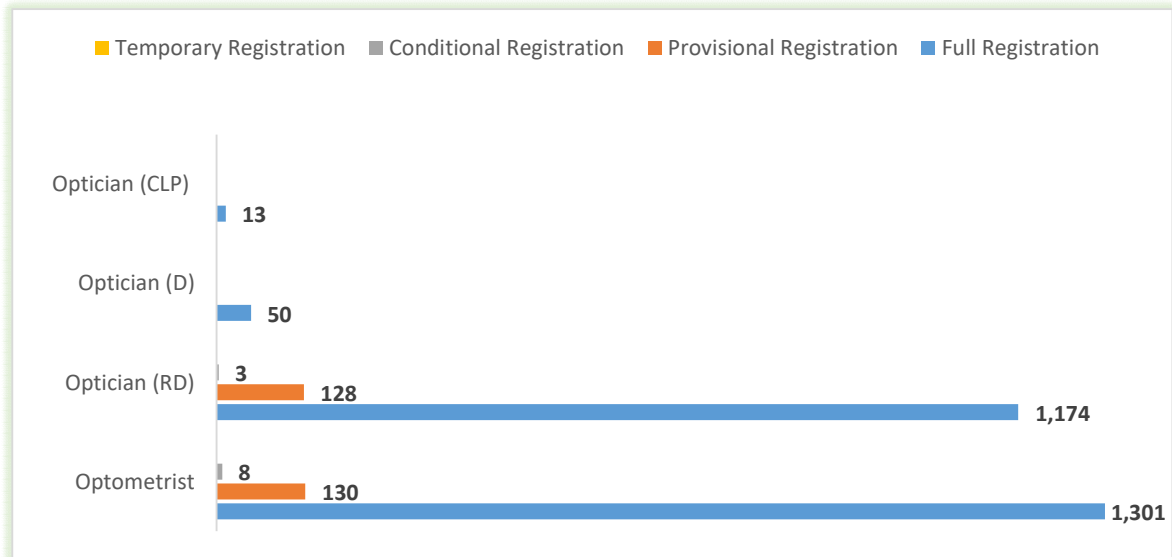


Register Type	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Optometrists	1,325	1,370	1,367	1,410	1,439
Opticians (RD)	1,280	1,286	1,272	1,317	1,305
Opticians (D)	68	67	59	56	50
Opticians (CLP*)	16	16	14	14	13
Grand Total	2,689	2,739	2,712	2,797	2,807

* Optician (CLP) is a closed registration category

6.4 Registration by Type

N=2,807

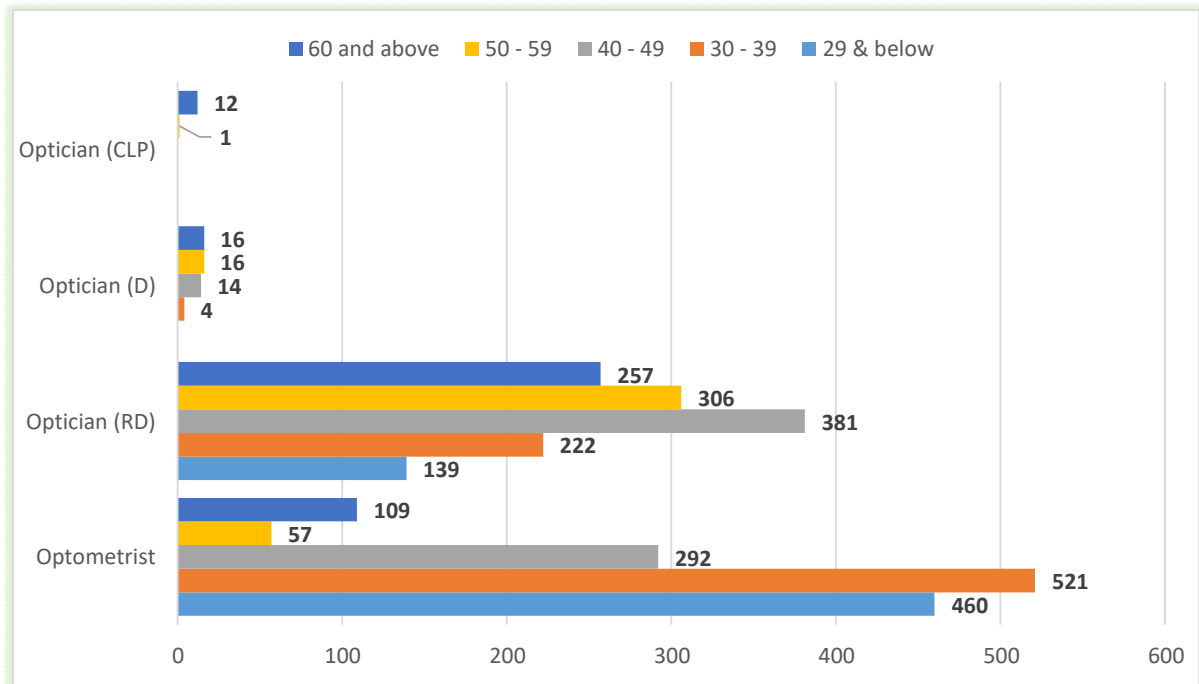


Register Type	Optometrist	Optician (RD)	Optician (D)	Optician (CLP)*
Full Registration	1,301	1,174	50	13
Provisional Registration	130	128	0	0
Conditional Registration	8	3	0	0
Temporary Registration	0	0	0	0
Grand Total	1,439	1,305	50	13

* Optician (CLP) is a closed registration category

6.5 Practitioners by Age Group

N=2,807

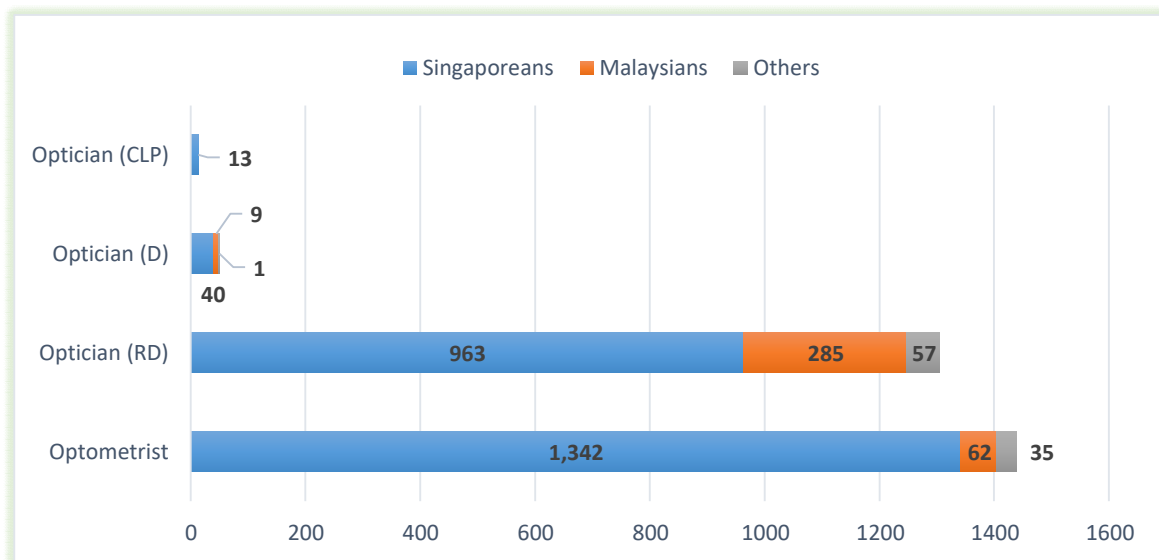


Age Group	Optometrist	Optician (RD)	Optician (D)	Optician (CLP)*
29 & below	460	139	0	0
30 - 39	521	222	4	0
40 - 49	292	381	14	0
50 - 59	57	306	16	1
60 and above	109	257	16	12
Grand Total	1,439	1,305	50	13

* Optician (CLP) is a closed registration category

6.6 Practitioners by Nationality

N=2,807

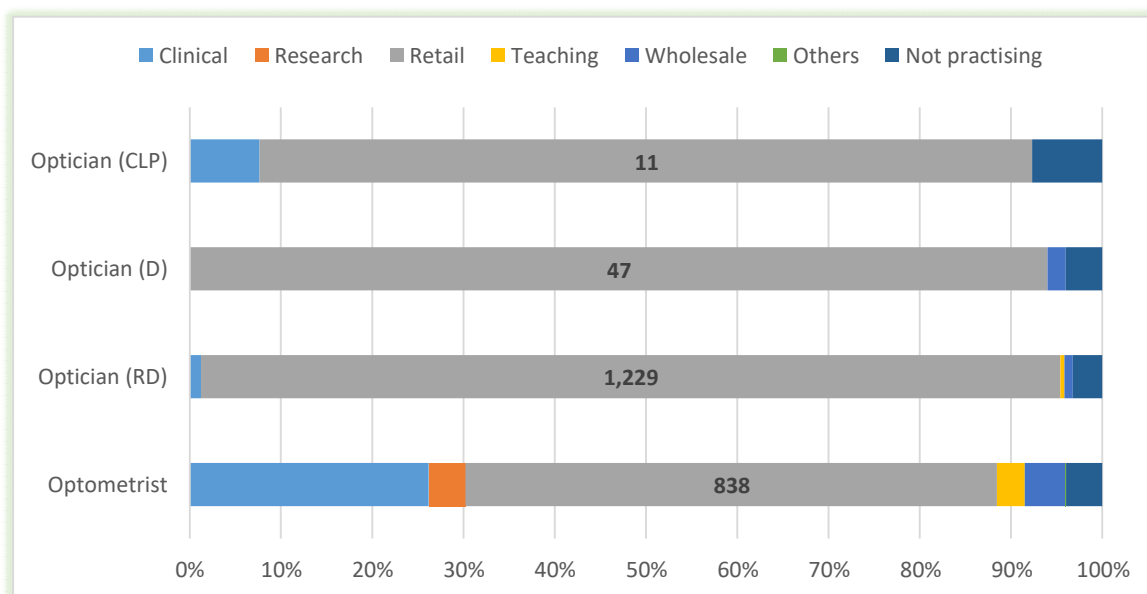


Nationality	Optometrist	Optician (RD)	Optician (D)	Optician (CLP)*
Singaporeans & PRs	1,342	963	40	13
Malaysians	62	285	9	0
Others	35	57	1	0
Grand Total	1,439	1,305	50	13

* Optician (CLP) is a closed registration category

6.7 Practitioners by Fields of Employment

N=2,807



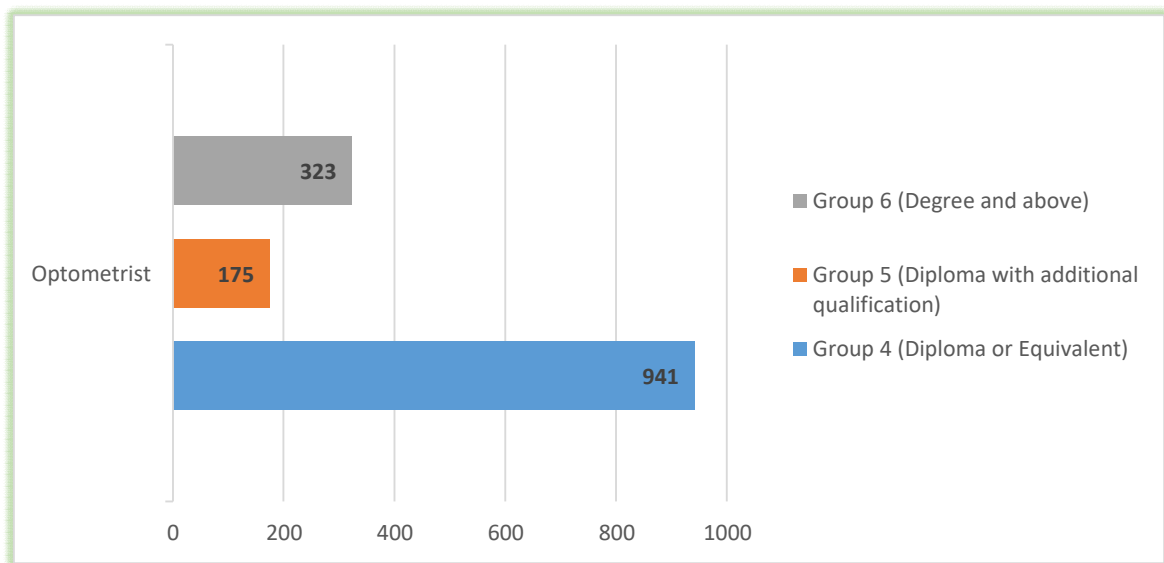
Employment Type	Optometrist	Optician (RD)	Optician (D)	Optician (CLP)*
Clinical	377	16	0	1
Research	58	0	0	0
Retail	838	1229	47	11
Teaching	44	6	0	0
Wholesale	64	12	1	0
Others	1	0	0	0
Not practising	57	42	2	1
Grand Total	1,439	1,305	50	13

* Optician (CLP) is a closed registration category

6.8 Registration by Basic Qualifications

N=1,439

Qualification Type for Optometrists



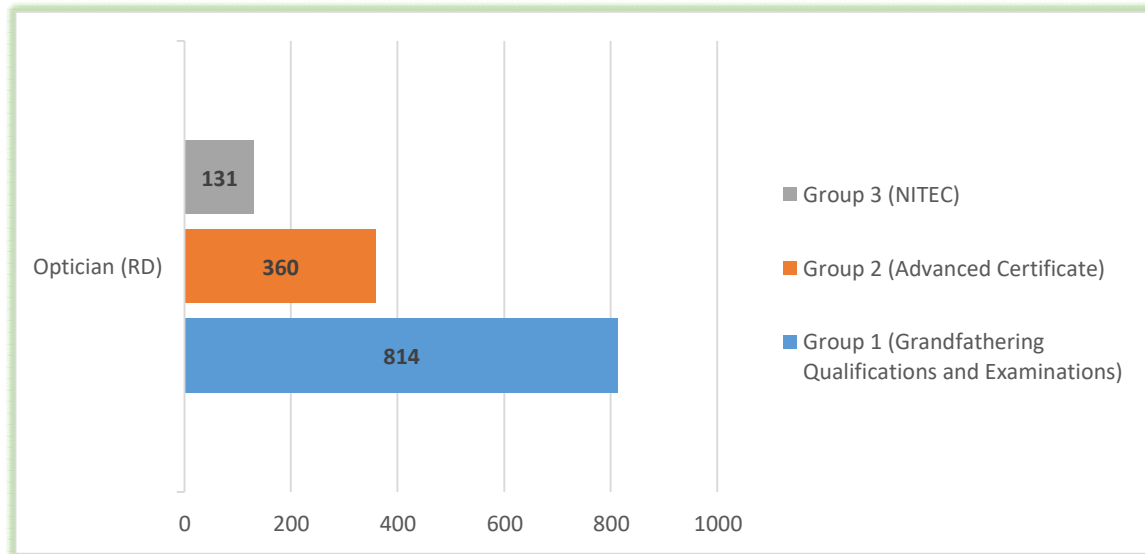
Qualification Type for Optometrists	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Group 4 (Diploma or equivalent qualifications)	890	912	894	921	941
Group 5 (Diploma with additional qualification) *	132	151	164	170	175
Group 6 (Degree and above)	303	307	309	319	323
Grand Total	1,325	1,370	1,367	1,410	1,439

**Additional qualification refers to any other qualifications that are recognised for display in practice but not for the purpose of registration by the optometrists and opticians (Registration and Practising Certificates) Regulations, and may be diplomas, degrees or higher qualifications*

6.8 Practitioners by Basic Qualifications

N=1,305

Qualification Type for Opticians (RD)



Qualification Type for Opticians (RD)	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Group 1 (Grandfathering Qualifications and Examinations)	904	903	860	857	814
Group 2 (Advanced Certificate)	291	217	307	339	360
Group 3 (NITEC)	85	95	105	121	131
Grand Total	1,280	1,215	1,272	1,317	1,305



Optometrists & Opticians Board

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