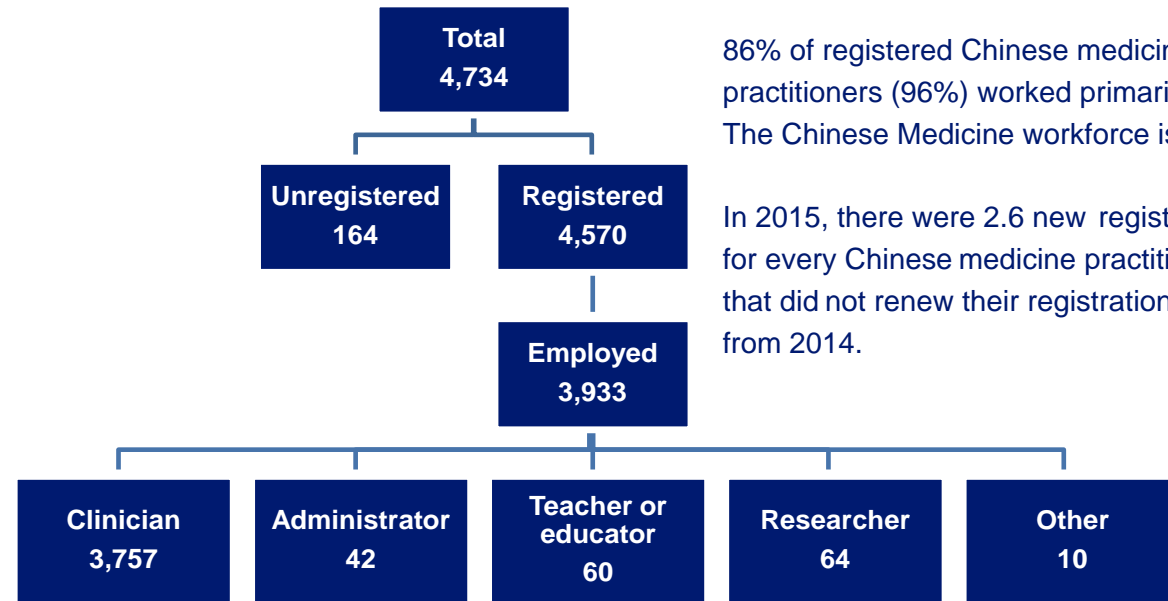
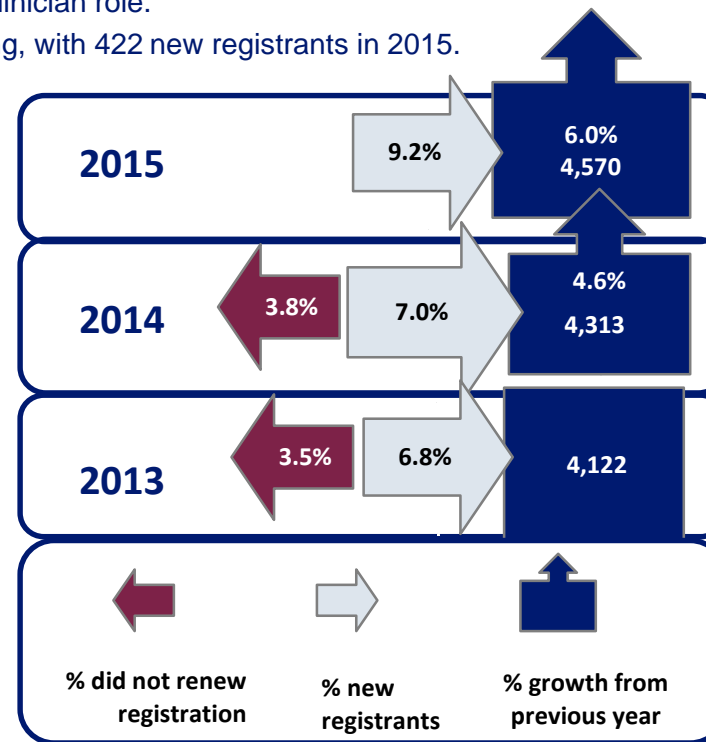


The NATIONAL HEALTH WORKFORCE DATASET (NHWDS) CHINESE MEDICINE 2015



86% of registered Chinese medicine practitioners were employed, and the majority of the employed practitioners (96%) worked primarily in a clinician role. The Chinese Medicine workforce is growing, with 422 new registrants in 2015.

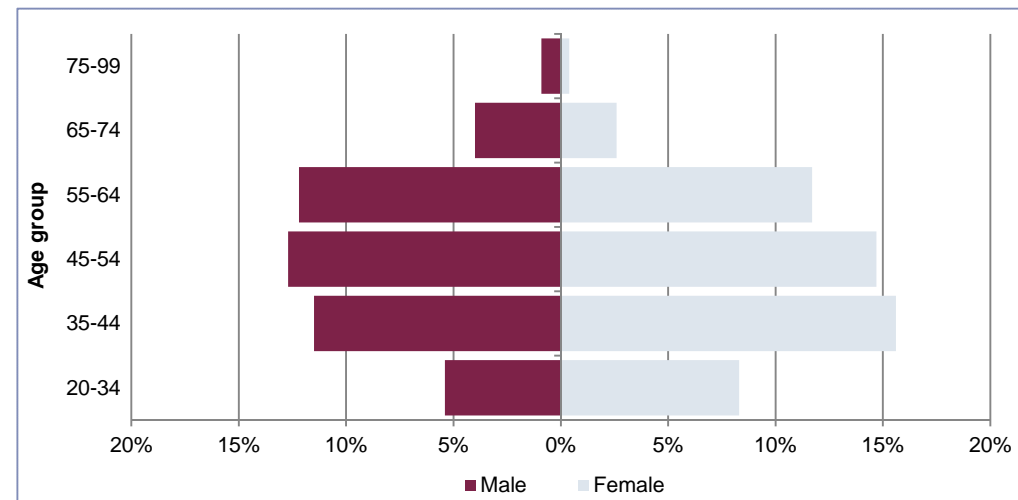
In 2015, there were 2.6 new registrants for every Chinese medicine practitioner that did not renew their registration from 2014.



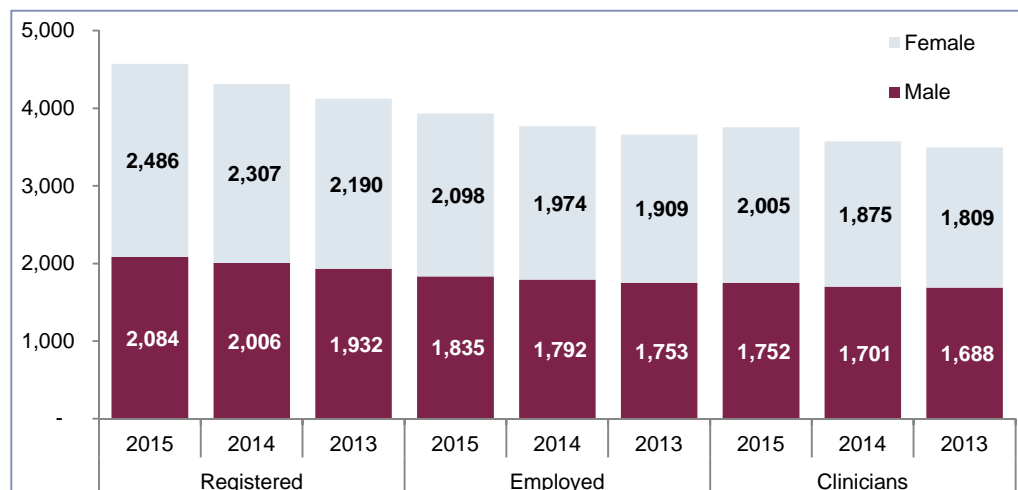
Female practitioners outnumbered male practitioners up to age 55 years, and comprised 64% of the 20-34 years age group.

The proportion of female Chinese medicine practitioners in the workforce has increased from 52% in 2013 to 53% in 2015.

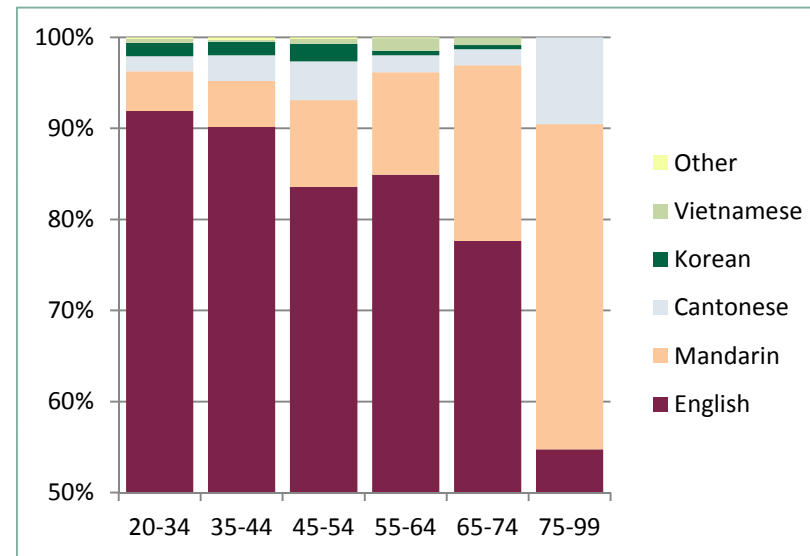
Employed practitioners: Gender (%) by Age Group



Registered practitioners: Gender by Workforce Status



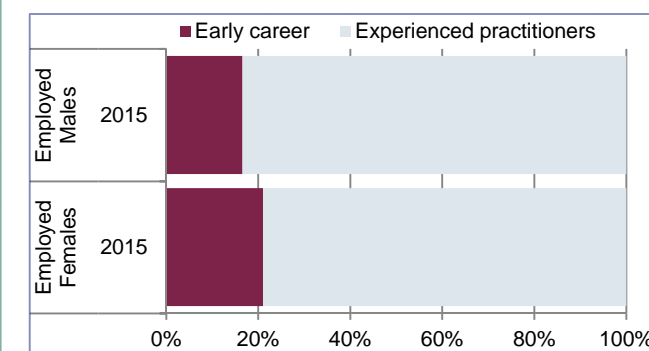
Employed practitioners: Main Language (%) by Age Groups



MAIN LANGUAGE

78% of employed practitioners mainly spoke English in their practice, while 8% mainly spoke Mandarin and 3% spoke Cantonese. 46 Chinese medicine practitioners mainly spoke Korean, and 22 spoke Vietnamese. Mandarin and Cantonese was more commonly spoken by older practitioners, while Korean was more common among practitioners 54 years of age and younger.

Employed Male and Female practitioners: Early Career (%) by Year

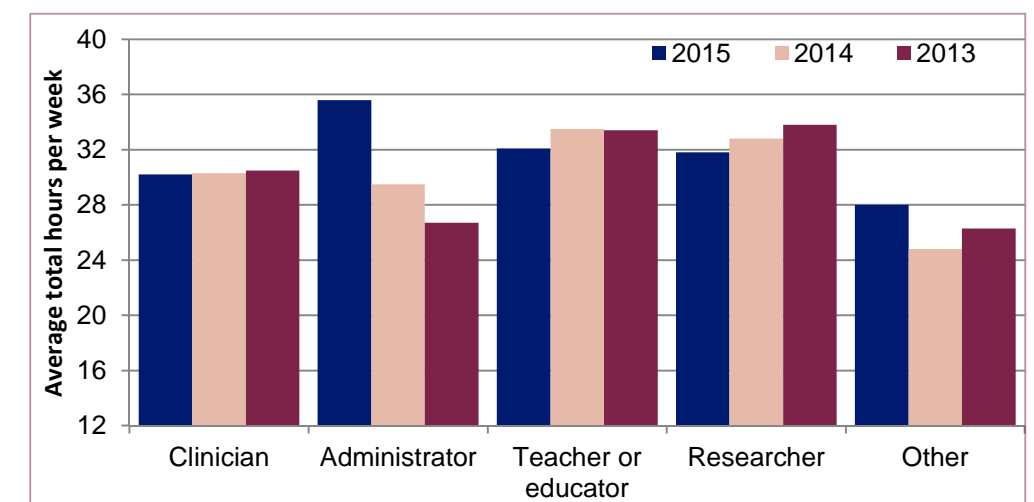


HOURS WORKED

Chinese medicine clinicians work 30.2 total hours per week and worked an average of 26.7 clinical hours.

Administrators in Chinese Medicine worked the longest total hours, at 35.6 hours per week on average, and worked 24 clinical hours per week.

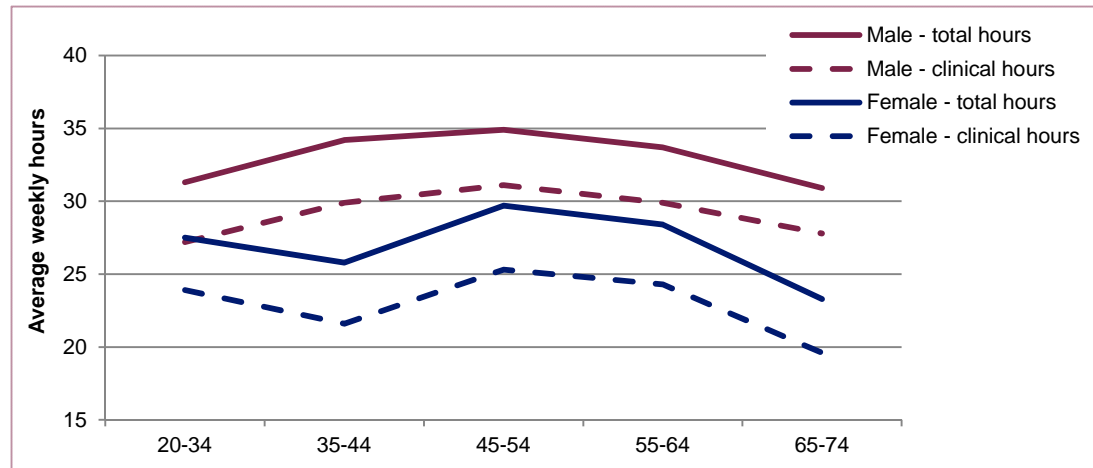
Employed practitioners: Average weekly hours by Job Role and Year



Male practitioners worked 33.4 total hours per week on average, and 29.5 clinical hours. Female practitioners worked 27.6 total hours, and 23.5 clinical hours.

Male Chinese medicine practitioners in the 45-54 age group worked the longest total hours per week (34.9 on average). The 45-54 age group also worked the longest total hours among female practitioners (29.7 hours).

Employed practitioners: Average Weekly Hours by Age Group and Gender



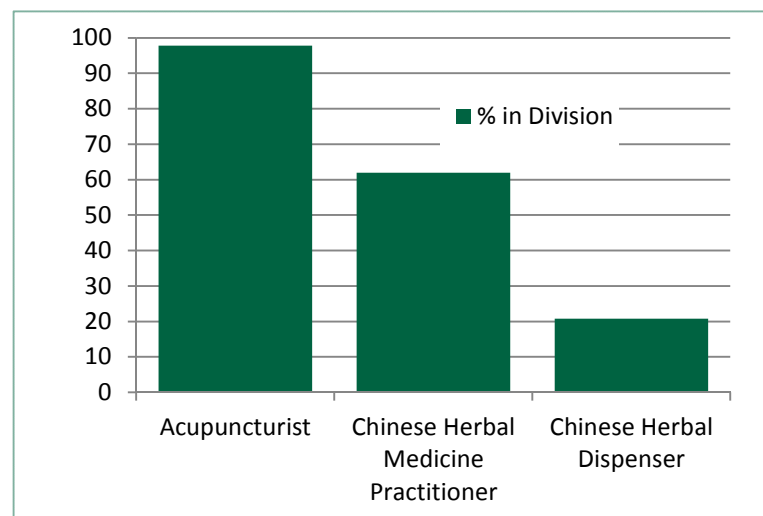
Early Career practitioners worked fewer total hours per week on average (27.5 hours) than more experienced practitioners (31 hours), and also worked fewer clinical hours per week (24.3 hours) than more experienced practitioners (26.8 hours).

DIVISIONS OF PRACTICE

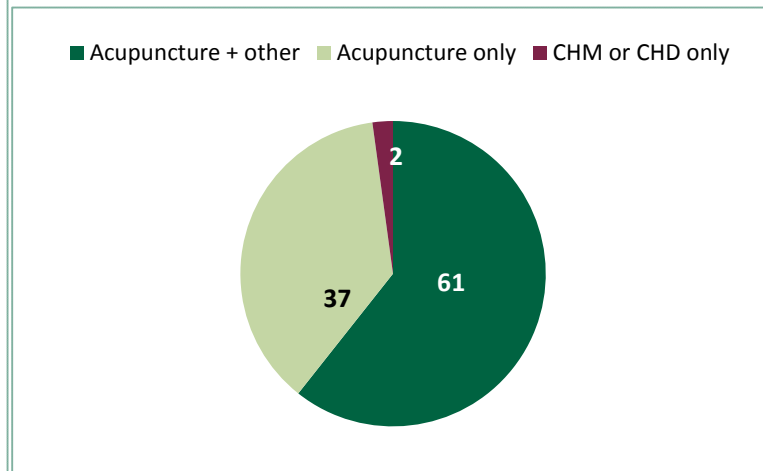
Chinese medicine practitioners may be registered in multiple divisions. 98% of employed Chinese medicine practitioners were Acupuncturists, 62% were registered as Chinese Herbal Medicine (CHM) Practitioners, and 21% as a Chinese Herbal Dispenser (CHD).

The number of Chinese medicine practitioners registered solely in a Division other than Acupuncture has decreased from 95 practitioners in 2013 to 85 practitioners in 2015.

Registered practitioners (%) by Division



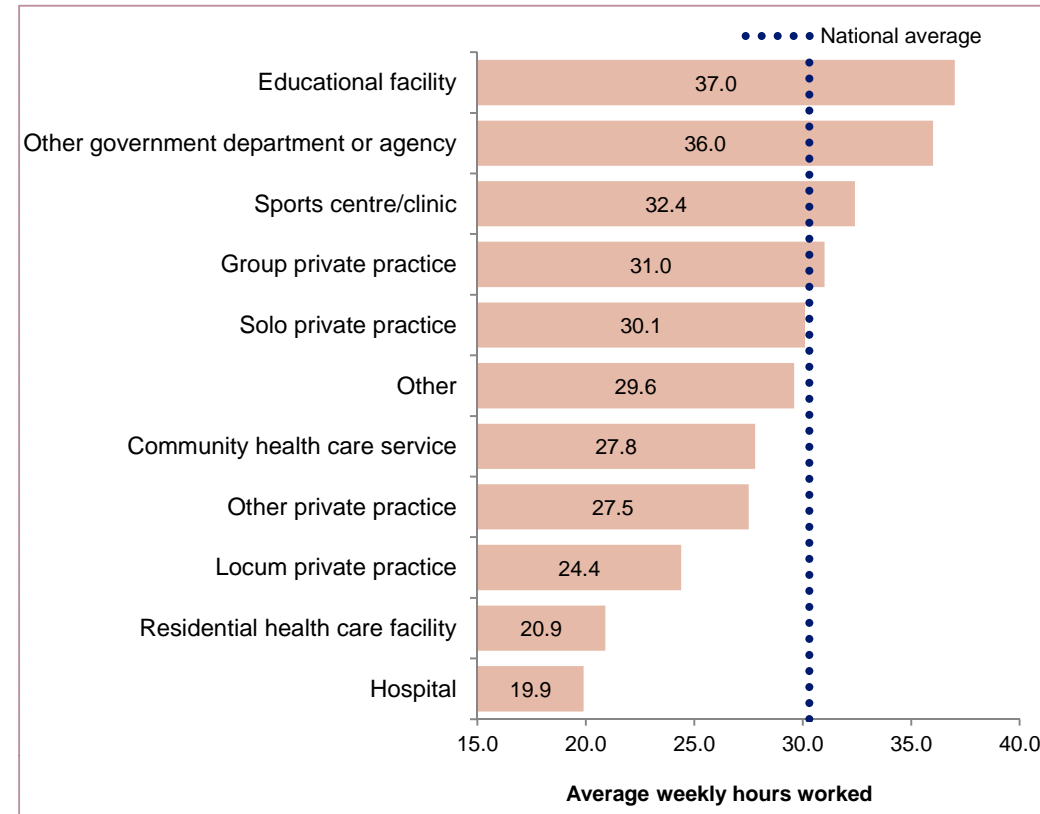
Registered practitioners (%) in single or multiple Divisions



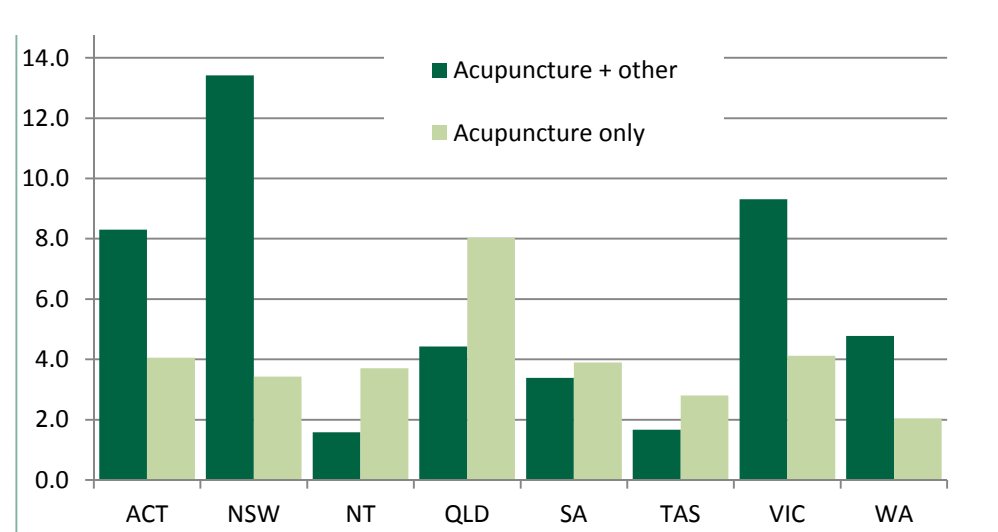
In ACT, NSW, Vic and WA, the number of FTE practitioners per 100,000 population was greater for practitioners holding registration as Acupuncturists along with an additional Division.

In the remaining jurisdictions, FTE Practitioners registered only as Acupuncturists exceeded the number of practitioners registered in multiple Divisions.

Employed practitioners: Average Weekly Hours by Job Setting



Employed practitioners: FTE in Acupuncture Division by state / territory



SETTING AND SECTOR

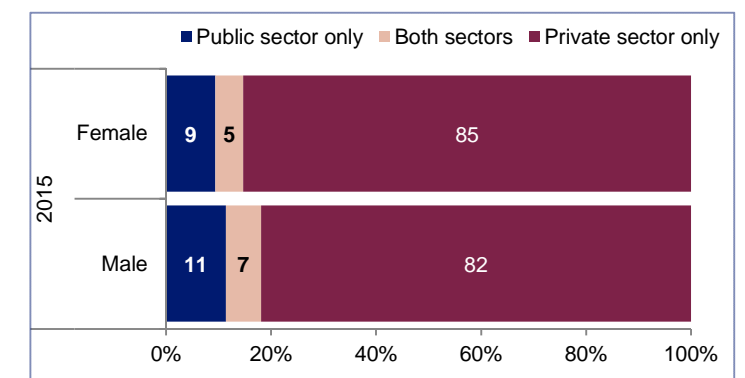
65% of employed Chinese medicine practitioners worked in Solo private practice settings, 27% worked in Group private practice, and 3% worked in an Other private practice setting.

90 Chinese medicine practitioners worked in an Educational facility, and smaller numbers worked in other settings such as Community Health Care and Sports centres.

The proportion of Chinese medicine clinicians working some hours in the public sector has decreased from 18% in 2013 to 16% in 2015.

Female clinicians were less likely to work in the public sector, with 14% working some clinical hours in the public sector, compared to 18% of male clinicians.

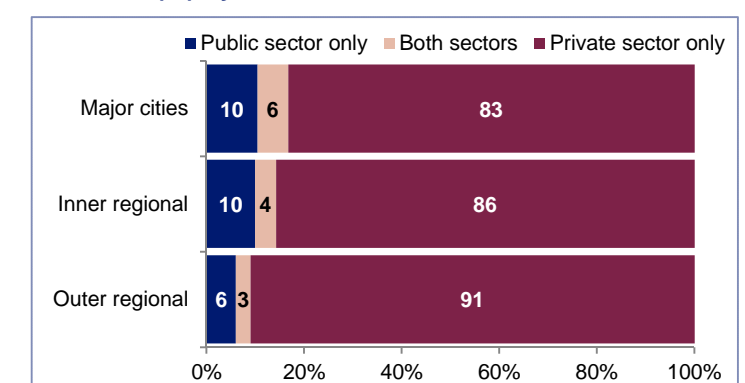
Clinicians: Male and Female (%) by Sector



The proportion of Chinese medicine clinicians working only in the Private sector increased with remoteness, to 91% of clinicians in Outer Regional areas. This proportion has increased from 83% of Outer Regional clinicians in 2013.

The small number of clinicians in Remote and Very Remote settings (15) prevents meaningful comparison across sectors for these locations.

Clinicians (%) by Sector and Remoteness Area

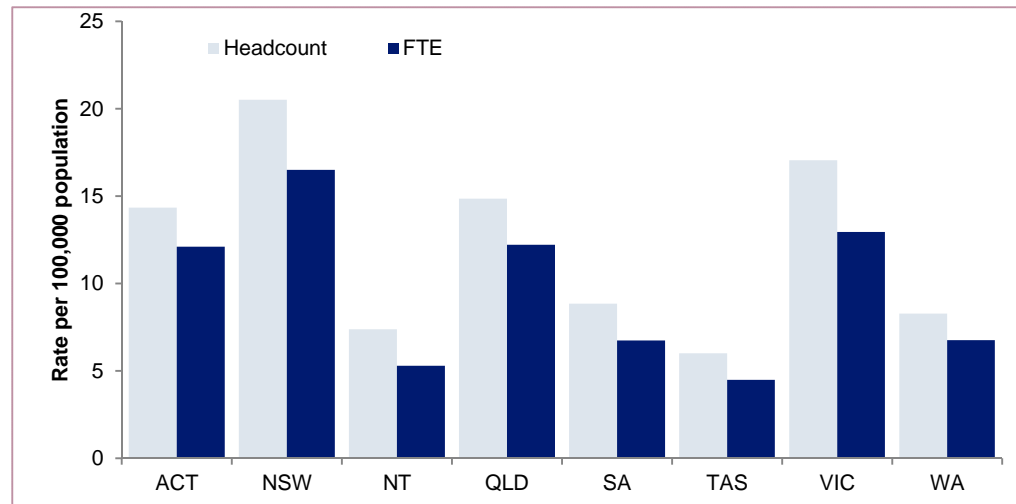


LOCATION

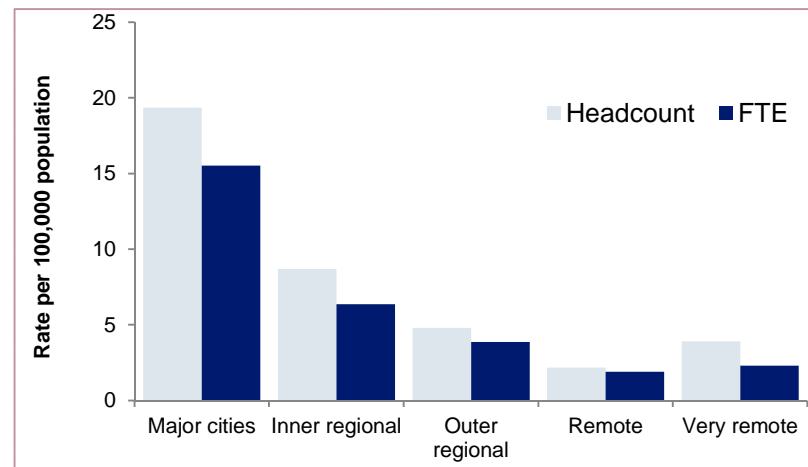
Numbers of full-time equivalent (FTE) clinicians per 100,000 population decreased with remoteness, from 16 FTE clinicians in Major Cities to 2 FTE in Remote and Very Remote locations.

The distribution of the workforce across states and territories shows a peak of 17 FTE clinicians per 100,000 population in NSW, and 4 FTE clinicians in Tasmania. FTE numbers and Headcounts have remained relatively unchanged since 2013.

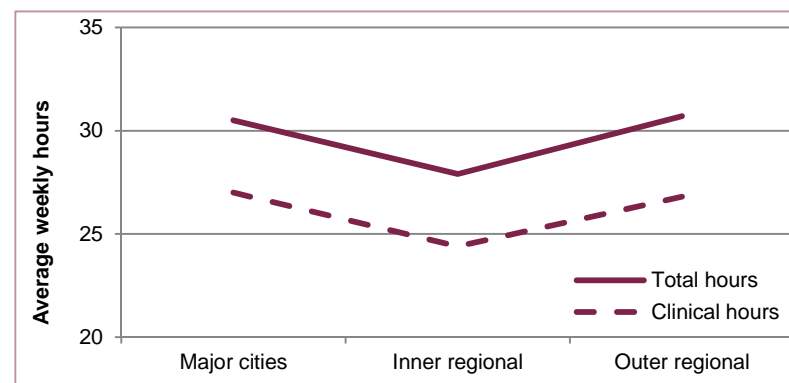
Clinicians: Headcount and FTE by State / Territory



Clinicians: Headcount and FTE by Remoteness Area



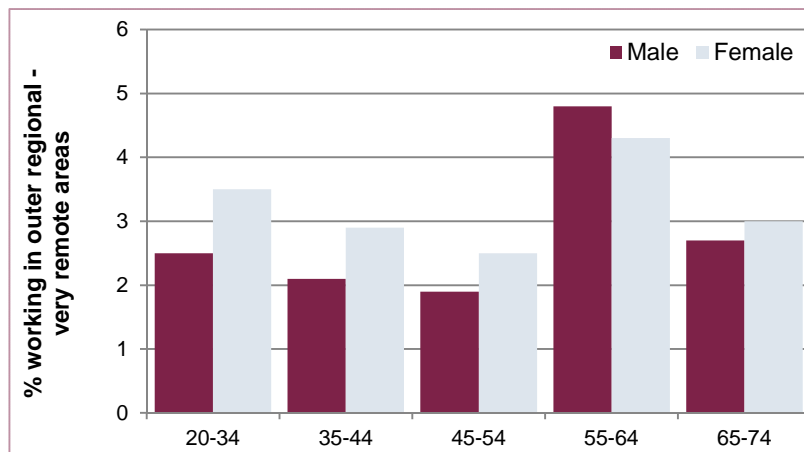
Clinicians: Average Weekly Hours by Remoteness Area



Average total hours for clinicians were highest in ACT (32.1 hours per week) and lowest in NT (27.3) and Tasmania (28.3).

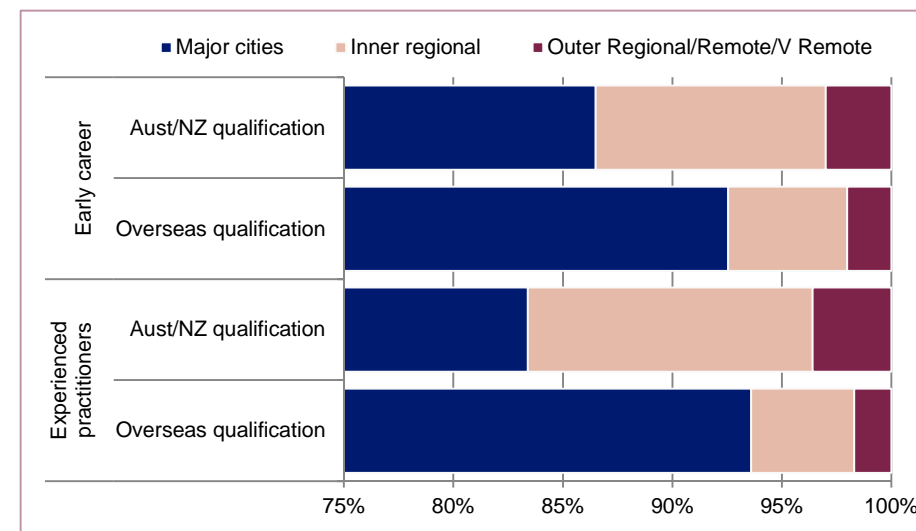
Clinicians' average total hours decreased from 30.5 hours per week in Major Cities to 27.9 hours in Inner Regional areas. The small number of clinicians in Remote and Very Remote settings (15) prevents meaningful comparison of hours worked for these locations.

Clinicians: % in Outer Regional and Remote Areas by Sex and Age Group



Female clinicians up to 55 years of age were more likely than their male counterparts to work outside Major Cities. In 2015, there were 8 female clinicians and 7 male clinicians working in remote and very remote locations around Australia.

Clinicians: Remoteness Area by Career Status



13.5% of Early Career clinicians and 17% of Experienced clinicians with Australian or New Zealand qualifications worked outside Major Cities.

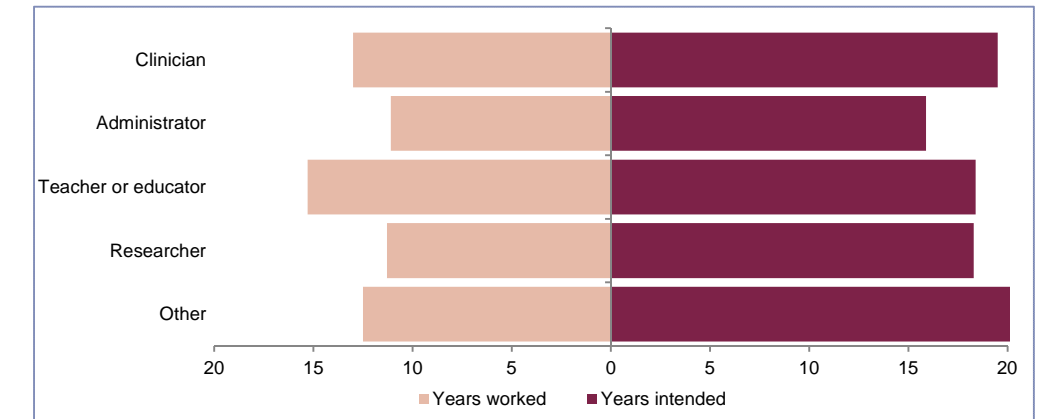
Overseas-qualified clinicians were more likely to work in Major Cities, with 7% of Early Career and 6% of Experienced clinicians working outside these areas.

WORKFORCE TRENDS

Overall, Chinese medicine practitioners reported an intended career length of 32.4 years. Teachers and educators had the longest work history (15.3 years) and the longest intended careers (33.7 years).

Administrators reported the shortest intended careers, at 27 years.

Employed practitioners: Career Length by Job Role



From 2005 to 2015, an average of 5.1 temporary visas and 9.1 permanent visas were granted each year to Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) practitioners. From 2010 to 2015, a total of 10 temporary visas and 5 permanent visas have been granted to practitioners of Acupuncture.

Temporary and Permanent Visas issued, 2005-2015

Source: DIBP Administrative data, 2015

