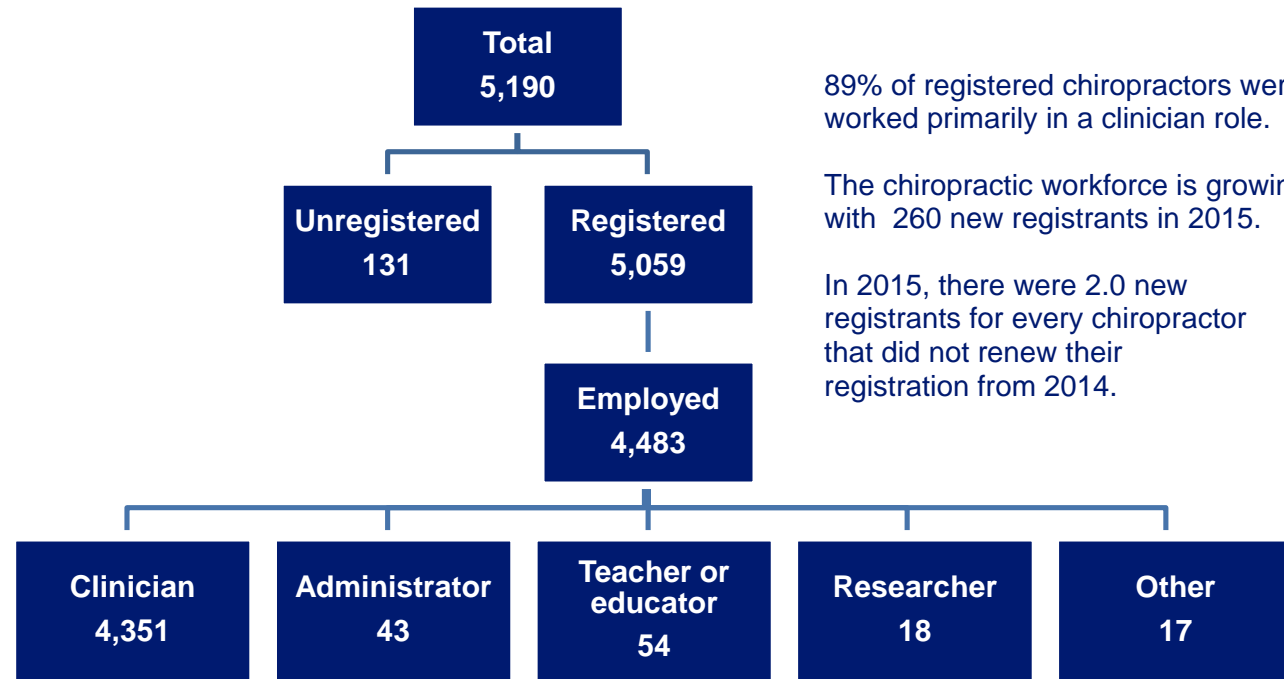


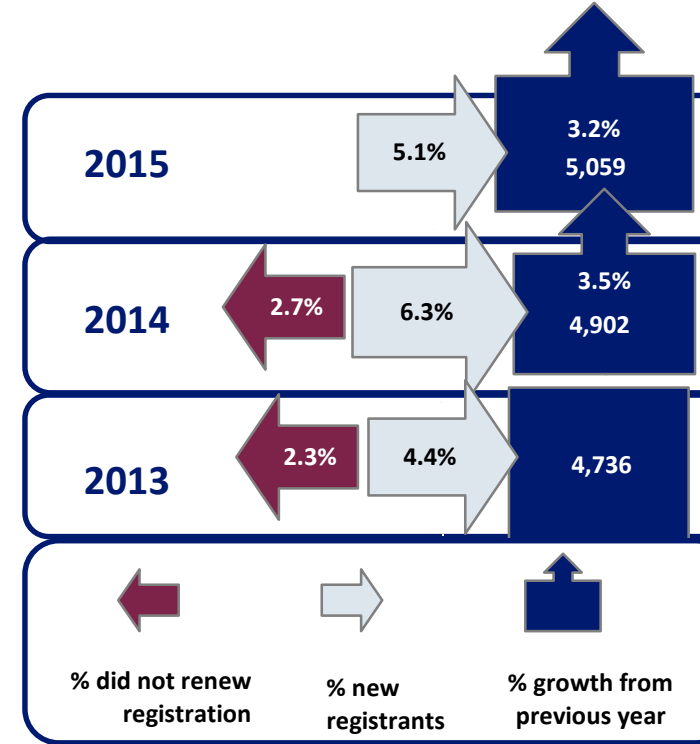
# The NATIONAL HEALTH WORKFORCE DATASET (NHWDS) CHIROPRACTIC 2015



89% of registered chiropractors were employed, and the majority of employed chiropractors (97%) worked primarily in a clinician role.

The chiropractic workforce is growing, with 260 new registrants in 2015.

In 2015, there were 2.0 new registrants for every chiropractor that did not renew their registration from 2014.



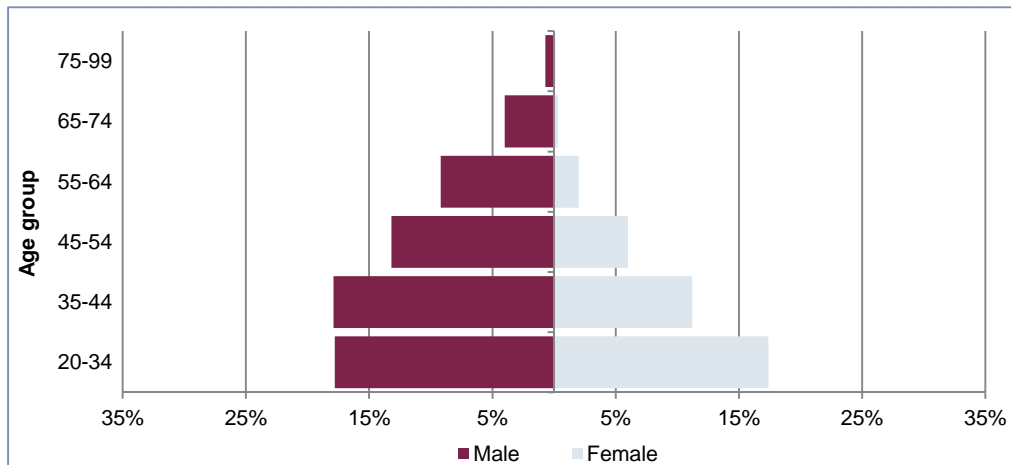
- 41 Average age
- 32.5 Average weekly hours
- 37 % female
- 73 % born in Australia
- 0.3 % Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander
- 85 % with Australian/NZ qualifications
- 16 % Registered 3 years or less (Early Career)
- 76 % in major cities

31 chiropractors (<1%), all in Victoria, held an acupuncture endorsement. 64% of employed chiropractors were aged 44 years or younger. Female practitioners were outnumbered by male practitioners in all age groups other than 20-34 years, where female practitioners comprised half (51%) of the age group. The proportion of male chiropractors in the workforce has increased from 64% in 2013 to 63% in 2015.

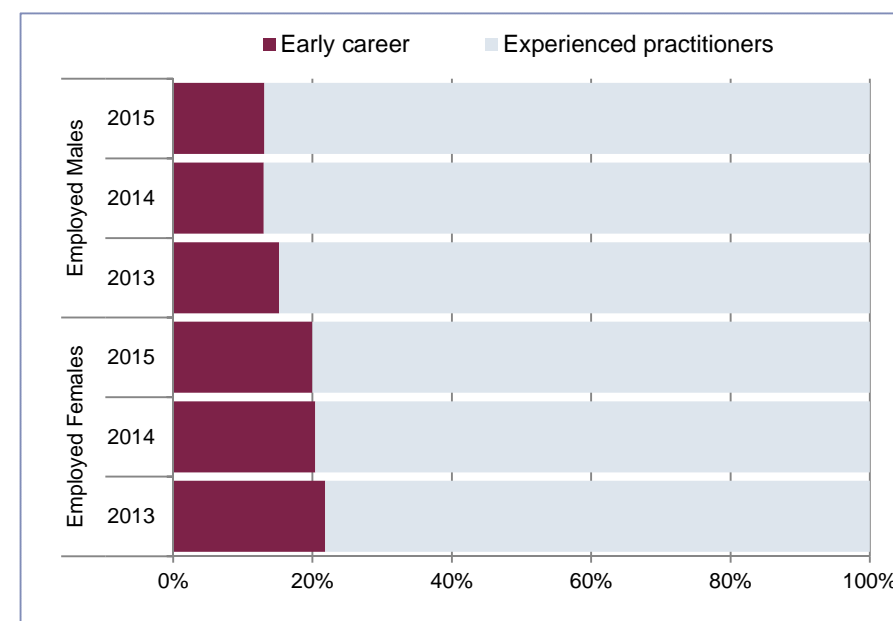
88% of Early Career chiropractors (registered 3 years or less) were aged 20-34 years. In 2015, there were 96 Early Career chiropractors over 34 years of age.

90% of Early Career practitioners and 89% of Experienced practitioners were employed in the chiropractic workforce. Early Career practitioners comprised 20% of female chiropractors, a decrease from 21% in 2013. The proportion of Early Career practitioners among male chiropractors decreased from 15% in 2013 to 13% in 2015.

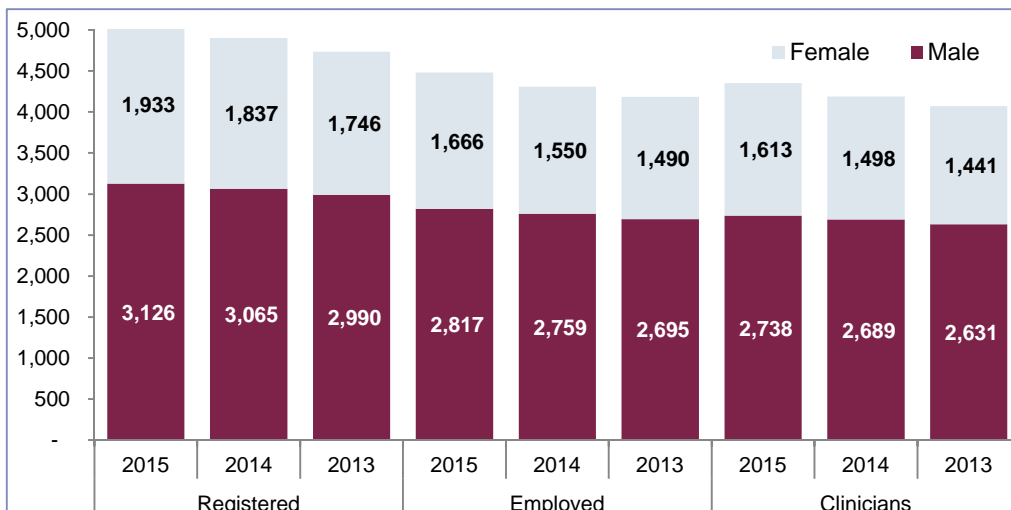
Employed practitioners: Gender (%) by Age Group



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



Registered practitioners: Gender by Workforce Status



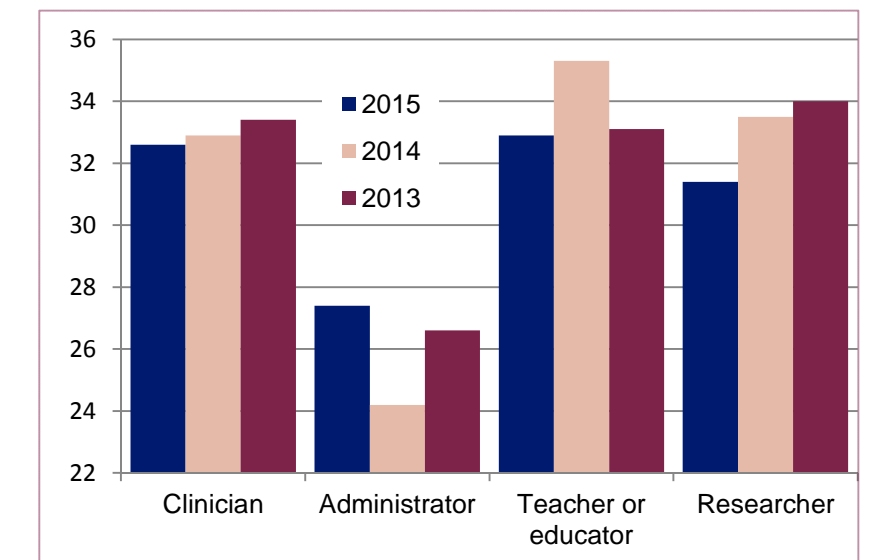
The small number of Researchers (18) worked the longest hours per week (32.9), while the 43 chiropractors working as Administrators reported the shortest total hours at 27.4 hours per week on average.

Non-clinician chiropractors (132 in total) worked 14.4 clinical hours per week on average.

## HOURS WORKED

In 2015, clinician chiropractors worked 32.6 total hours per week on average, and 29 clinical hours; a 0.6 hour per week decrease from 2013.

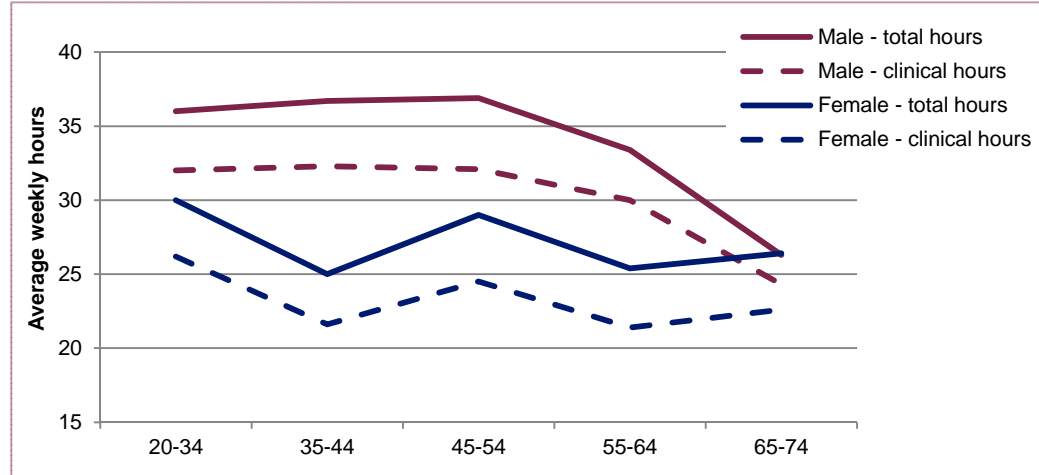
Employed practitioners: Average weekly hours by Job Role and Year



Male chiropractors worked 35.2 total hours per week on average, and 31.2 clinical hours. Female chiropractors worked 28 total hours and 24.2 clinical hours per week on average.

The most total hours were worked by male practitioners in the 45-54 age group (36.9).

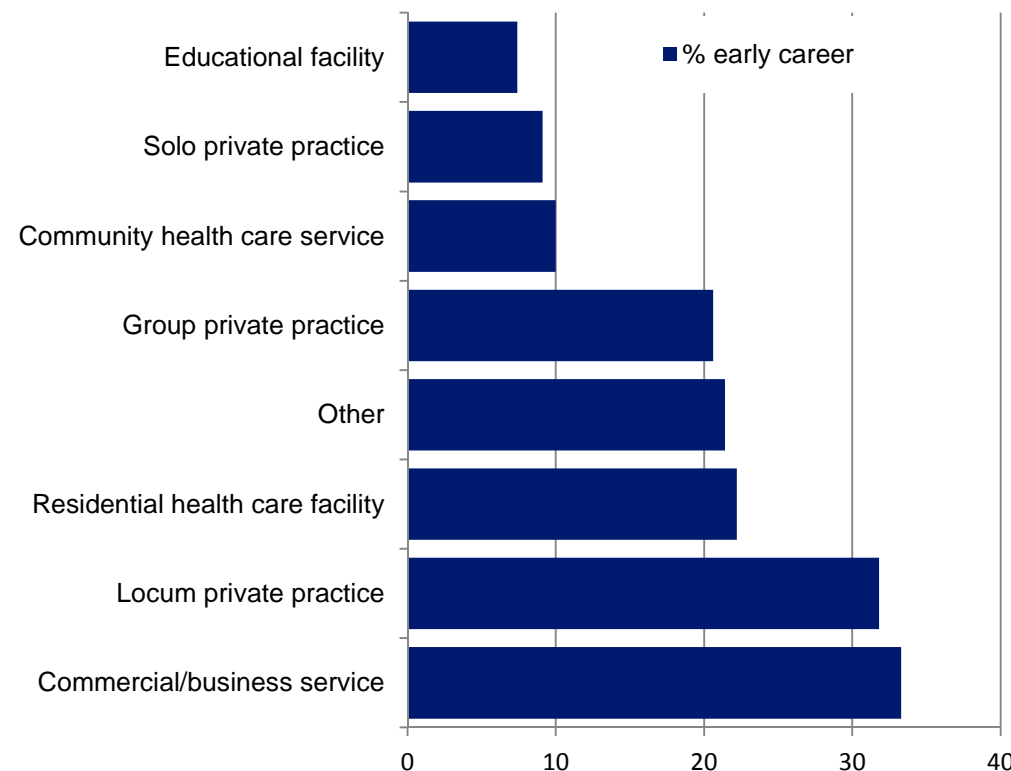
Employed practitioners: Average Weekly Hours by Age Group and Gender



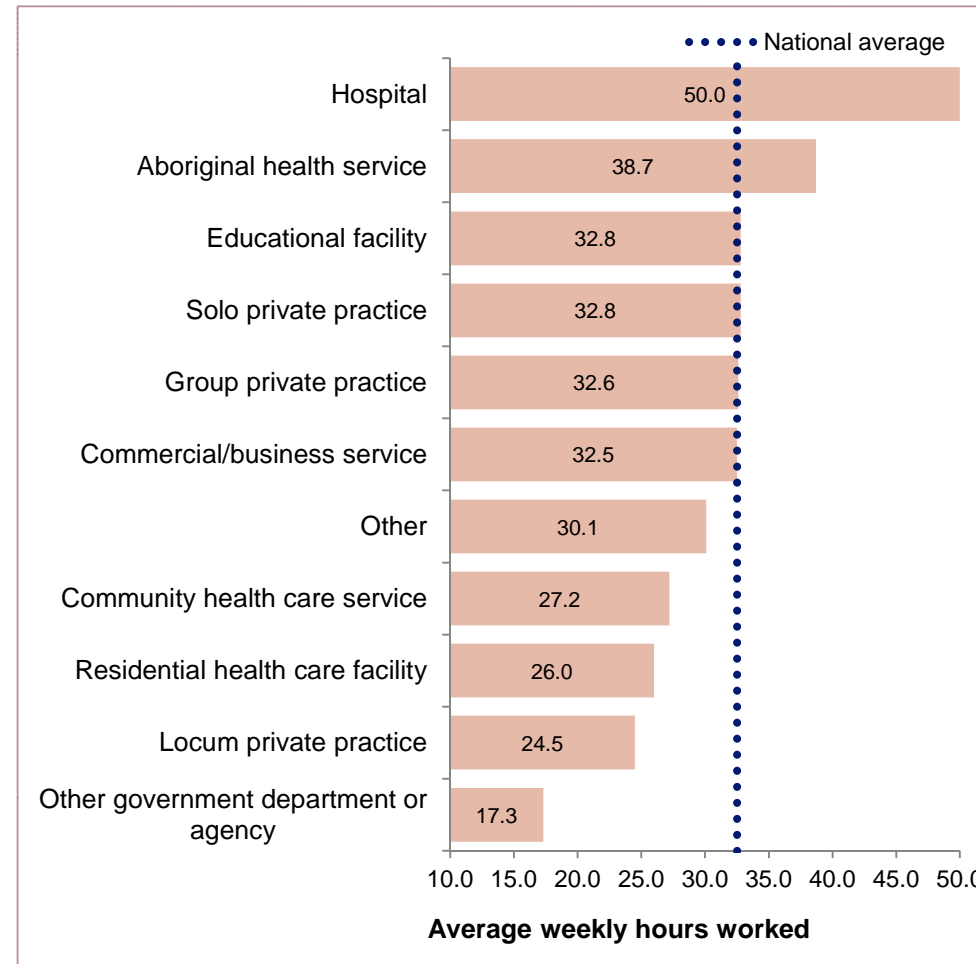
Early Career practitioners worked more total hours per week on average (32.6 hours) than more experienced practitioners (32.5 hours), and also worked more clinical hours per week (29.3 hours) than more experienced practitioners (28.5 hours).

At 16% of the overall workforce, Early Career practitioners comprised 20% of chiropractors in Group private practice, 10% of Solo private practice, and 33% of the Locum private practice workforce.

Employed practitioners: Early Career practitioners (%) in selected Job Settings



Employed practitioners: Average Weekly Hours by Job Setting

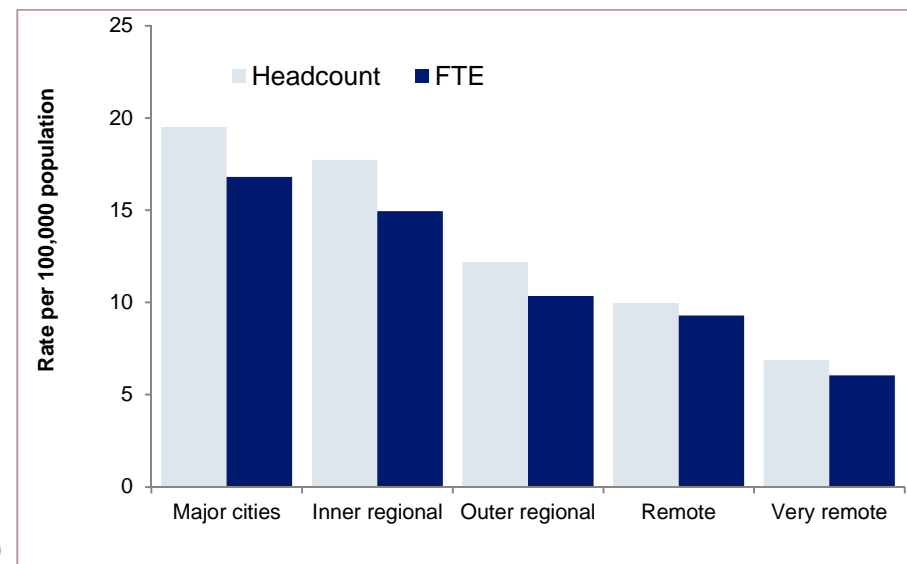


LOCATION

Numbers of full-time equivalent (FTE) clinicians per 100,000 population decreased with remoteness, from 17 FTE clinicians in Major Cities to 6 FTE in Very Remote locations.

The number of chiropractors working in Very Remote locations has increased from 9 in 2013 to 14 in 2015.

Clinicians: Headcount and FTE by Remoteness Area



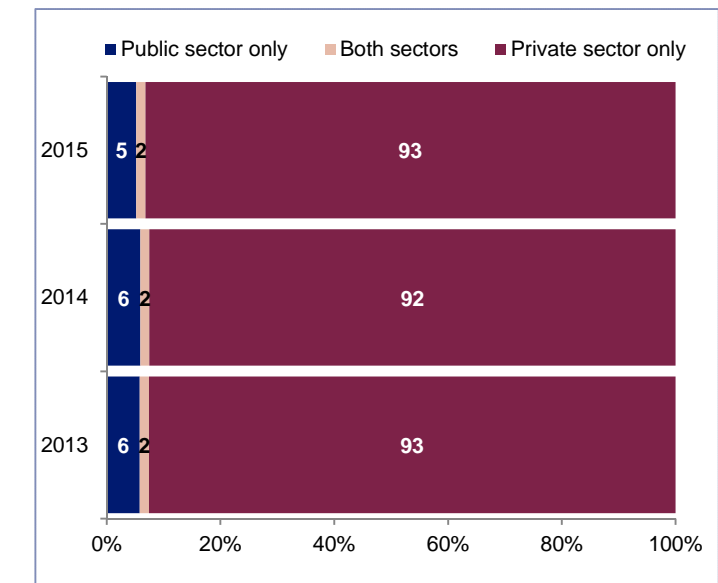
SETTING AND SECTOR

52% of employed chiropractors worked in a Group private practice setting, and 43.5% worked in Solo private practice.

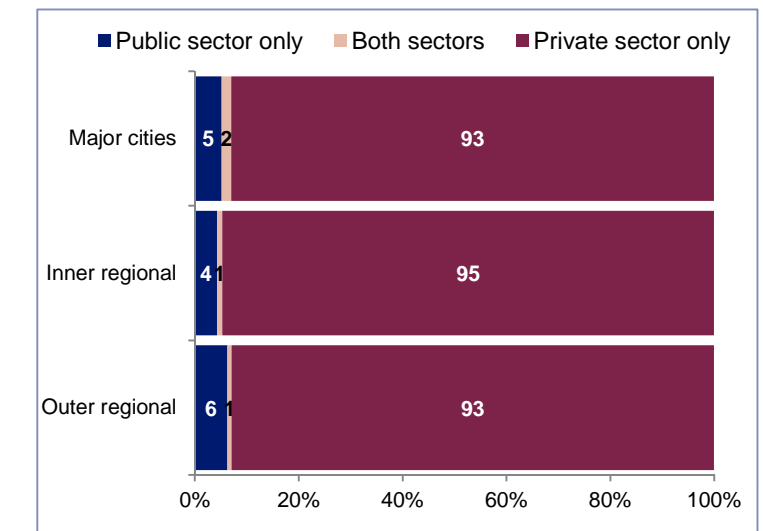
66 chiropractors worked in a Locum private practice setting, 54 worked in an Educational Facility, and the remaining 70 practitioners worked across a range of settings.

In 2015, 7% of clinician chiropractors worked some hours in the public sector, a decrease from 8% of clinicians in 2013.

Clinicians (%) by Sector and Year

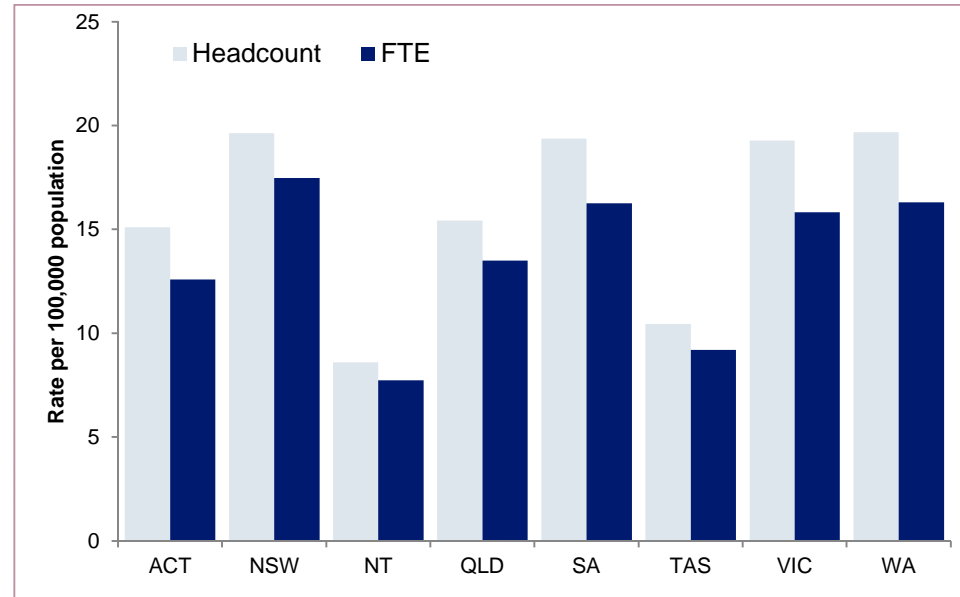


Clinicians (%) by Sector and Remoteness Areas



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

Clinicians: Headcount and FTE by State / Territory

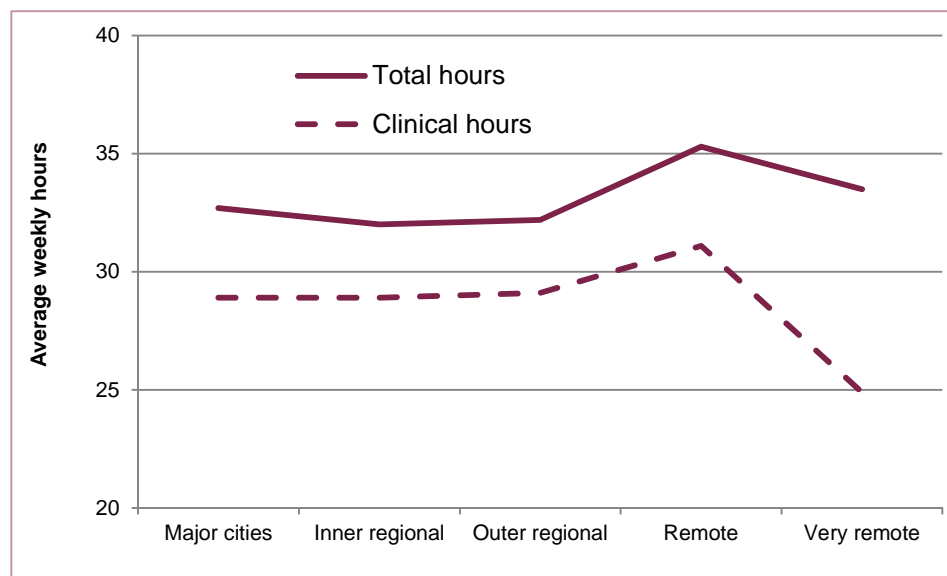


Average total hours for clinicians were highest in NT (34.3) and NSW (33.8) and lowest in Victoria at 31.2 hours per week on average.

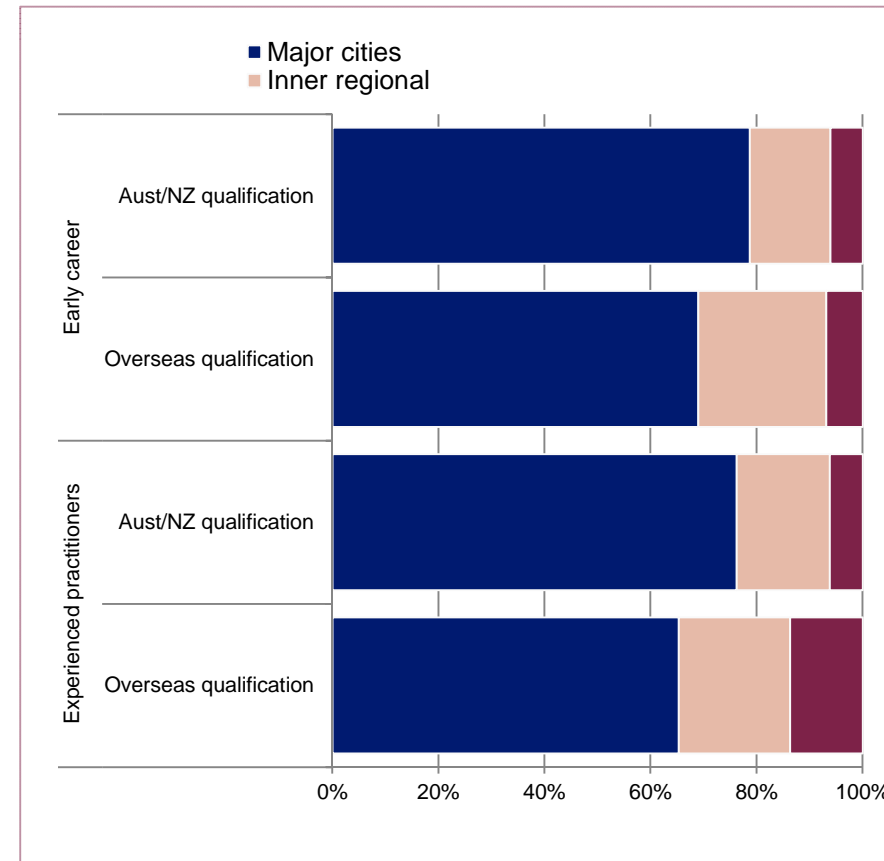
Clinicians' average total hours increased slightly from 32 hours per week in Inner Regional areas to 35.3 hours in Remote areas.

Clinicians in Major Cities worked an average of 28.9 clinical hours per week, increasing to 31.1 clinical hours per week in Remote areas.

Clinicians: Average Weekly Hours by Remoteness Area

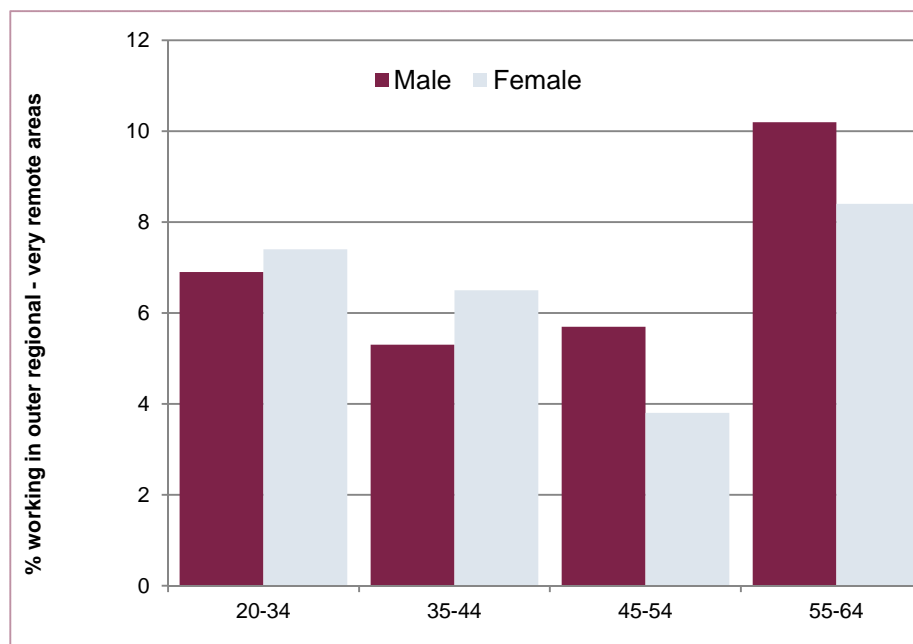


Clinicians: Remoteness Area by Career Status



31% of Early Career clinicians with overseas qualifications, and 35% of Experienced overseas-qualified clinicians worked outside Major Cities locations.

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



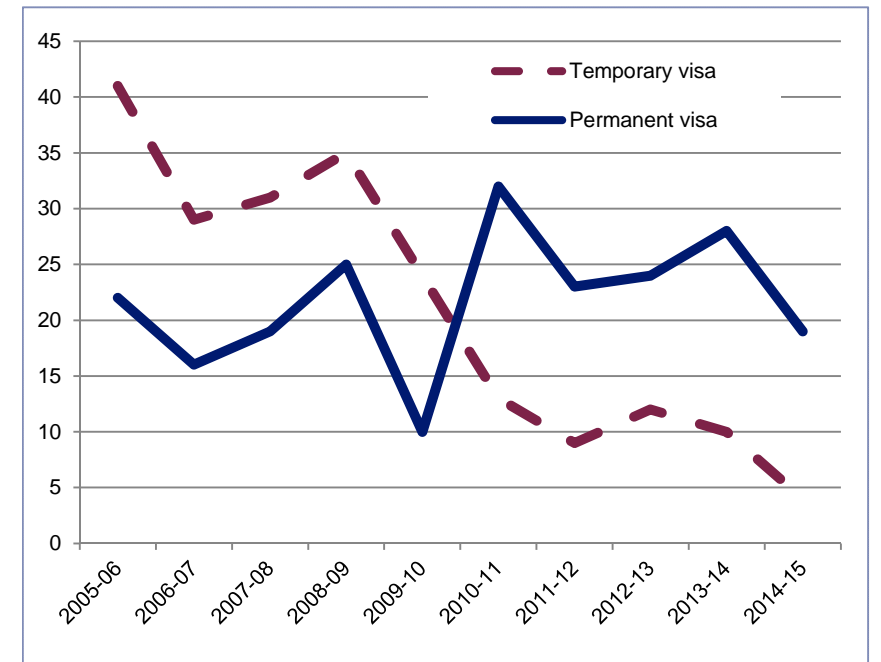
Female clinicians up to 44 years of age were more likely than their male counterparts to work outside Major Cities.

## WORKFORCE TRENDS

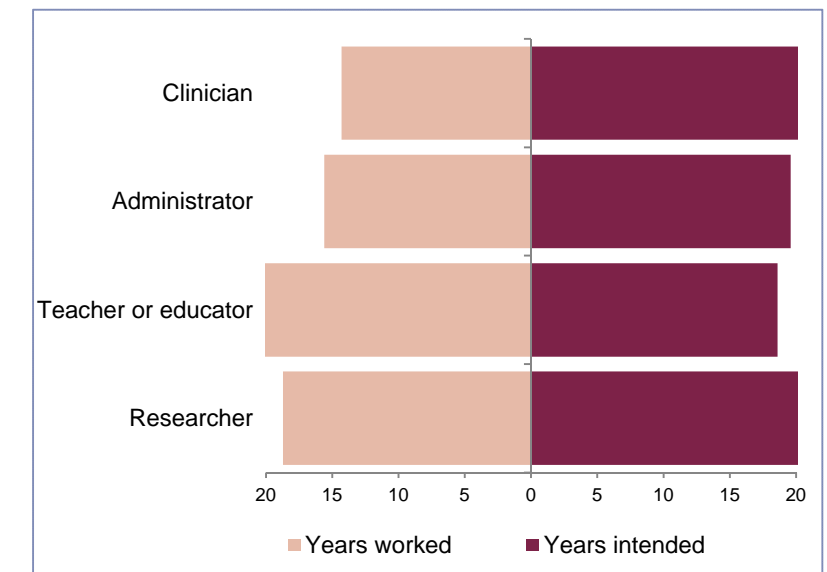
From 2005 to 2015, the numbers of temporary visas granted to chiropractors each year have steadily decreased. An average of 21.8 permanent visas have been granted to chiropractors annually since 2005.

Temporary and Permanent Visas issued, 2005-2015

Source: DIBP Administrative data, 2015



Employed practitioners: Career Length by Job Role



Overall, chiropractors reported an intended career length of 36.2 years. Teachers and educators had the longest work history (20.6 years) and the longest intended careers (39.2 years).

Clinicians reported the shortest work histories (14.3 years) and the shortest intended careers (36.2 years).

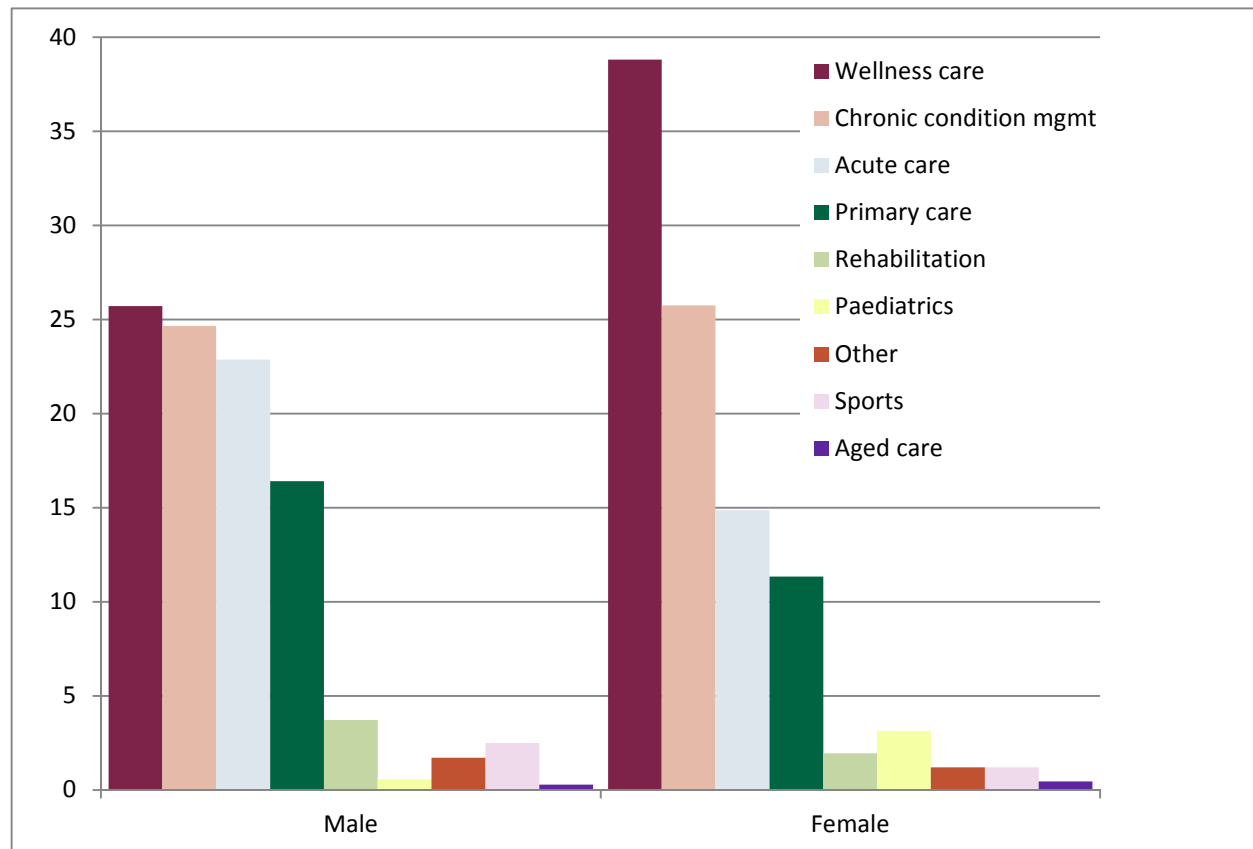
**SCOPE OF PRACTICE**

Of the 4,421 clinicians that nominated a principal scope of practice of their main job as a chiropractor, the most common were Wellness Care (32%), Chronic Condition Management (25%), Acute Care (19%) and Primary Care (14%).

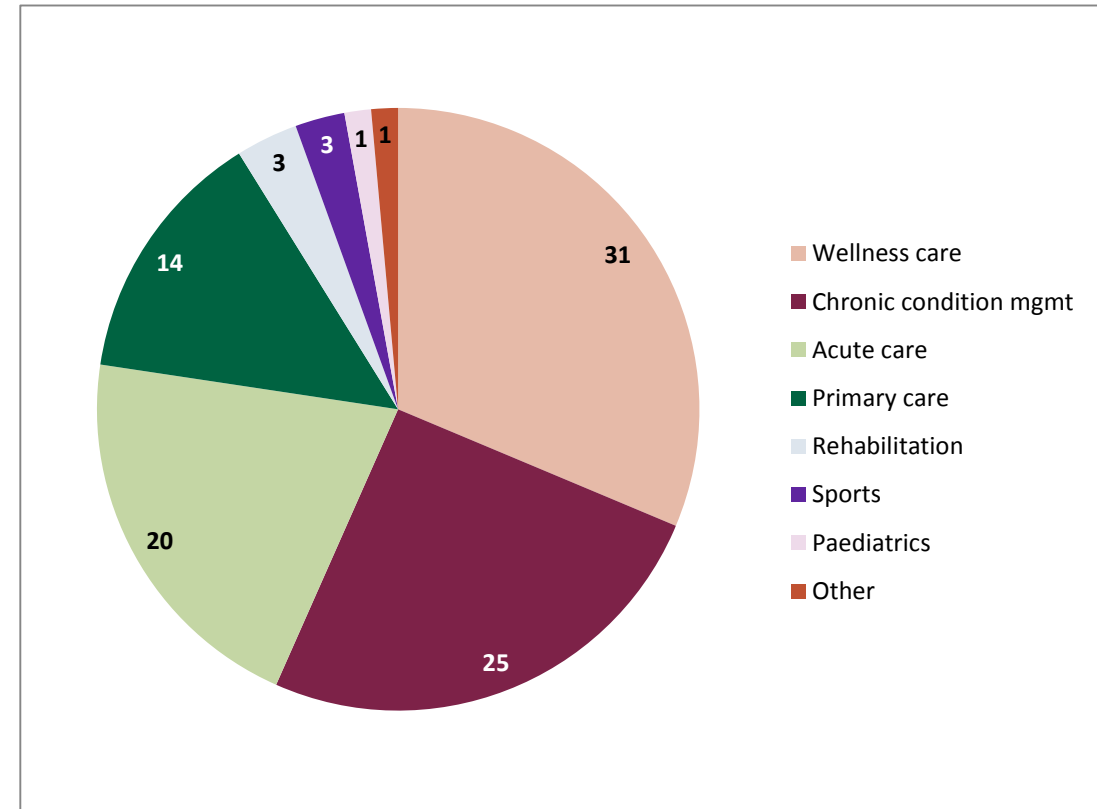
48 female clinicians (3% of female clinicians with a nominated principal scope of practice) worked in the Paediatrics scope, compared to 14 male clinicians (1% of male clinicians).

In contrast, 94 male clinicians (3%) worked in the Sports scope of practice, and 23 female chiropractors (1%) worked in this scope.

**Clinicians: Principal Scope of Practice (%) by Gender**



**Clinicians: % by Principal Scope of Practice**



The distribution of scopes of practice was generally similar between Early Career practitioners and Experienced practitioners. However, 6% of Early Career practitioners worked within the Sports scope of practice compared to 2% of Experienced practitioners, and 15% of Experienced practitioners worked in the Primary Care scope compared to 8% of Early Career practitioners.