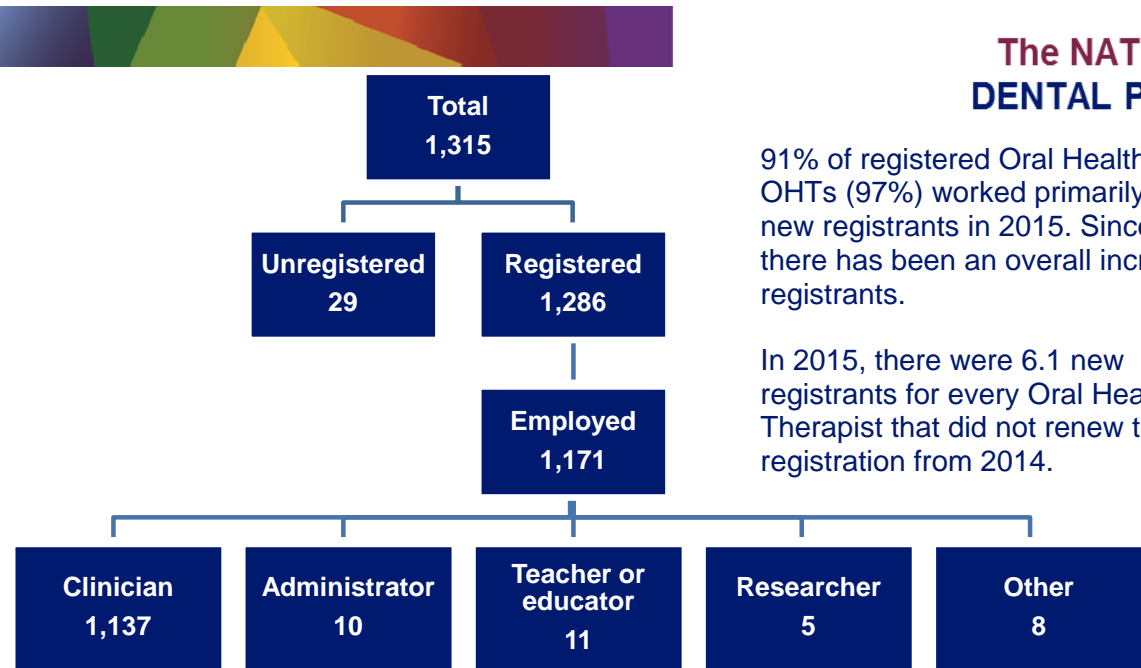
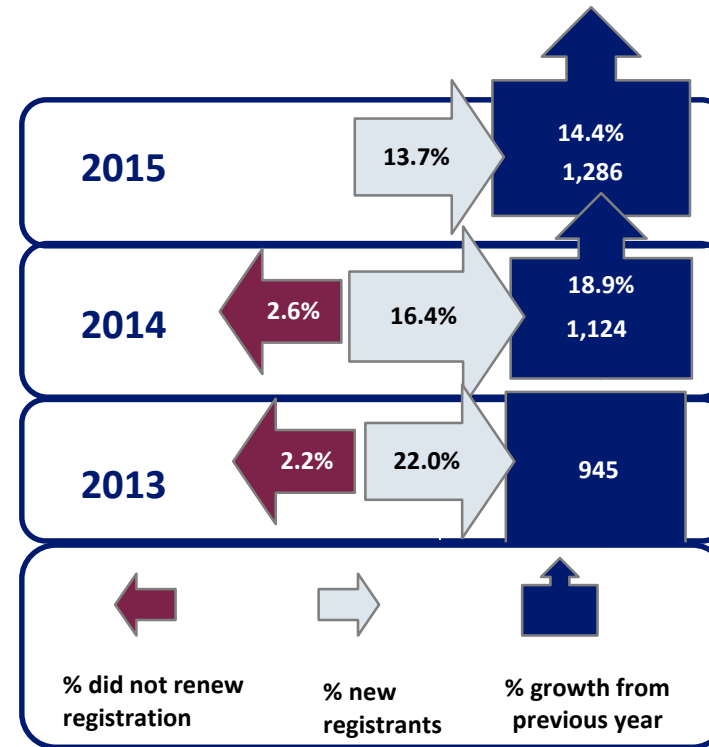


# The NATIONAL HEALTH WORKFORCE DATASET (NHWDS) DENTAL PRACTITIONERS - ORAL HEALTH THERAPISTS 2015



91% of registered Oral Health Therapists (OHTs) were employed, and the majority of employed OHTs (97%) worked primarily in a clinician role. The OHT workforce is growing, with 176 new registrants in 2015. Since 2013 there has been an overall increase of 341 registrants.

In 2015, there were 6.1 new registrants for every Oral Health Therapist that did not renew their registration from 2014.



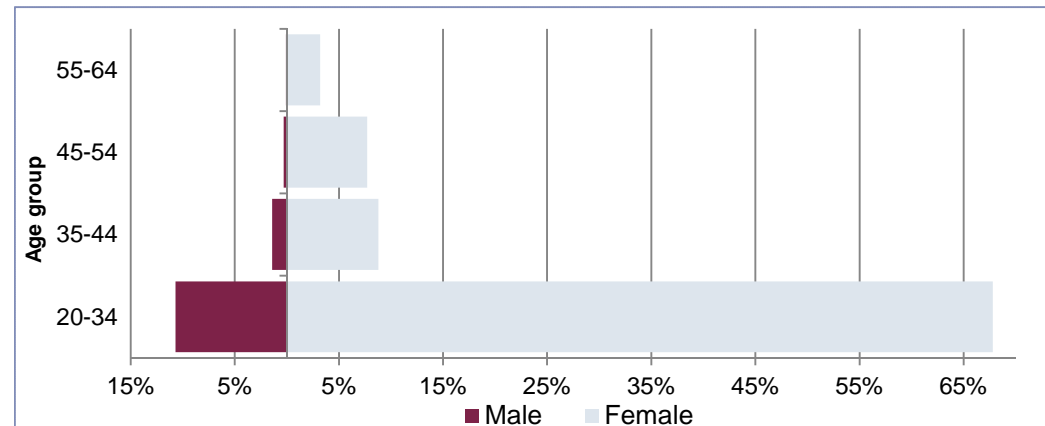
5 OHTs were also registered in the Dental Hygienist division.

89% of the OHT workforce was aged 44 years or younger.

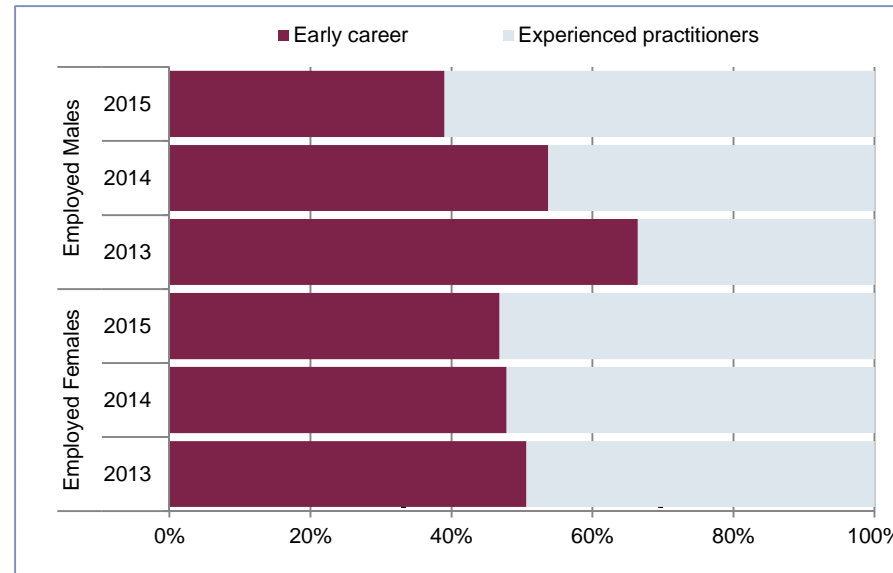
Female practitioners outnumbered male practitioners in all age groups, and comprised 86% of the 20-34 years age group.

The proportion of male OHTs in the workforce has decreased from 14% in 2013 to 12.5% in 2015.

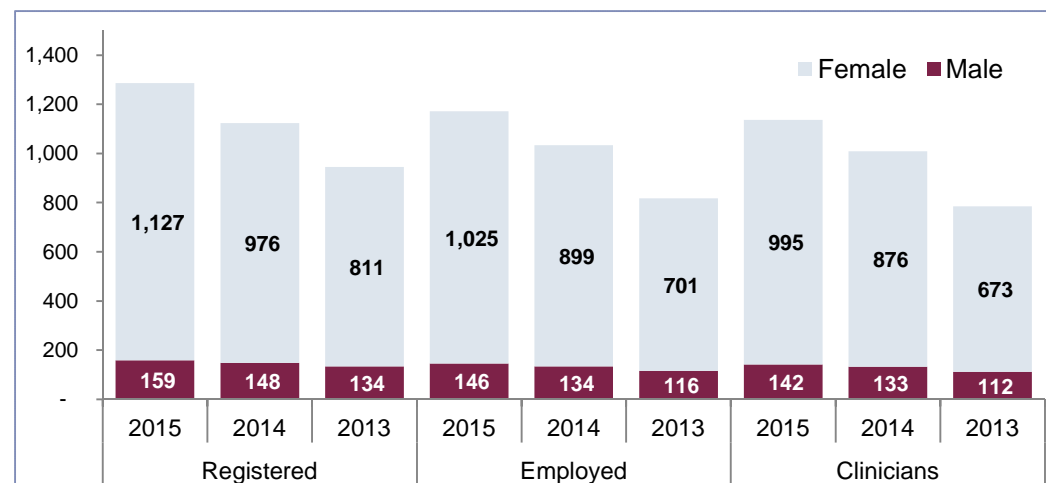
Employed practitioners: Gender (%) by Age Group



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



Registered practitioners: Gender by Workforce Status

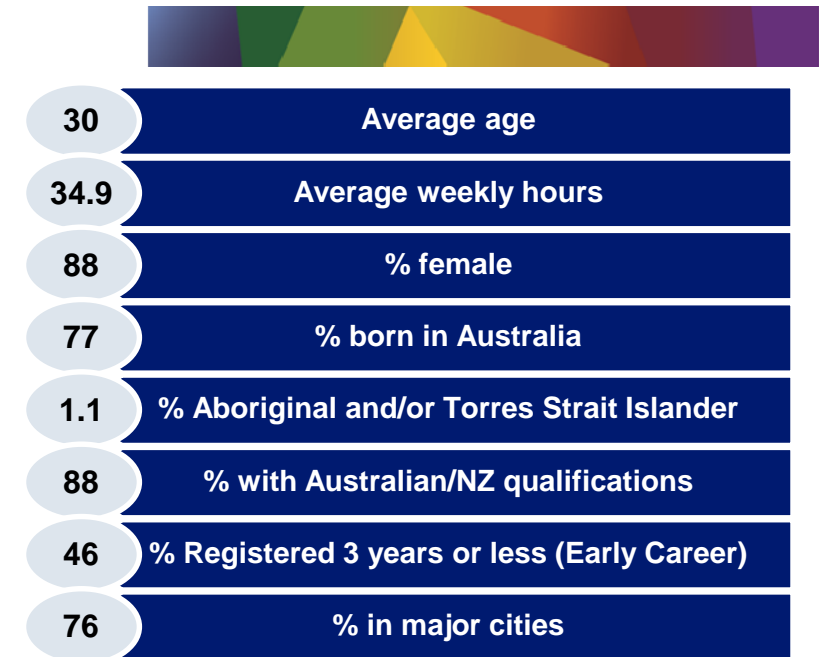


## HOURS WORKED

In 2015, clinician OHTs worked 35 total hours per week on average. This is an increase of 1.3 hours per week from 2013.

Practitioners in the 'Other' category worked the longest hours (35.8) while the 5 Researchers (not shown) worked the shortest hours at (27.8).

Clinician OHTs spent an average of 33 hours per week performing clinical duties, while non-clinicians spent 16.3 hours per week on clinical work.



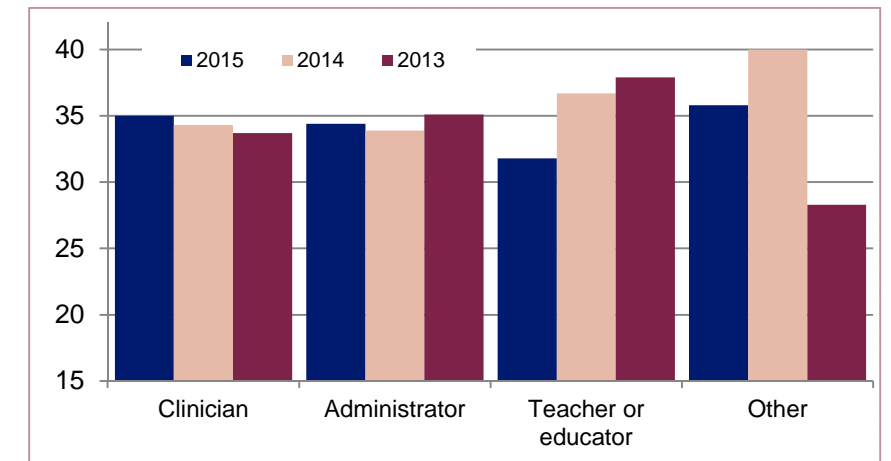
95% of Early Career OHTs (registered 3 years or less) were aged 20-34 years.

In 2015, there were 28 Early Career OHTs over 34 years of age.

94% of Early Career practitioners and 89% of Experienced Practitioners were employed in the OHT workforce.

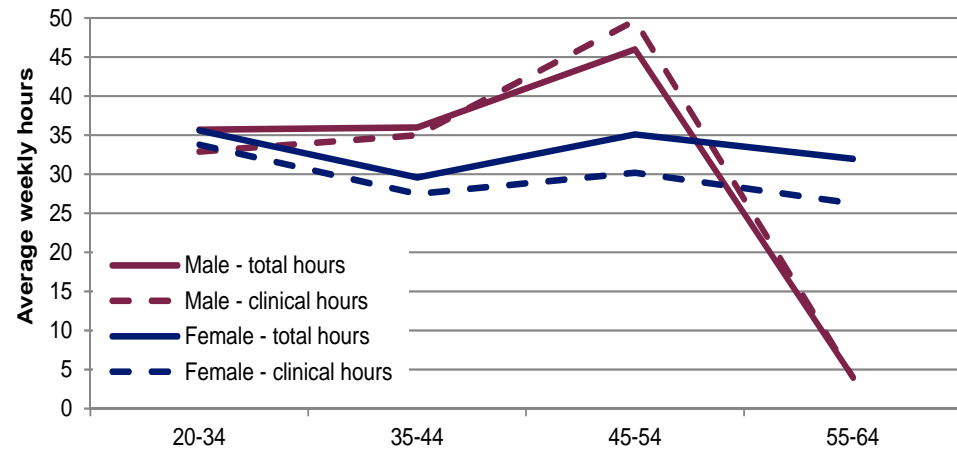
Early Career practitioners comprised 45% of female OHT registrants, a decline from 51% in 2013. The proportion of Early Career practitioners among male OHTs declined from 66% in 2013 to 38% in 2015.

Employed practitioners: Average weekly hours by Job Role and Year



# The NATIONAL HEALTH WORKFORCE DATASET (NHWDS) DENTAL PRACTITIONERS - ORAL HEALTH THERAPISTS 2015

Employed practitioners: Average Weekly Hours by Age Group and Gender

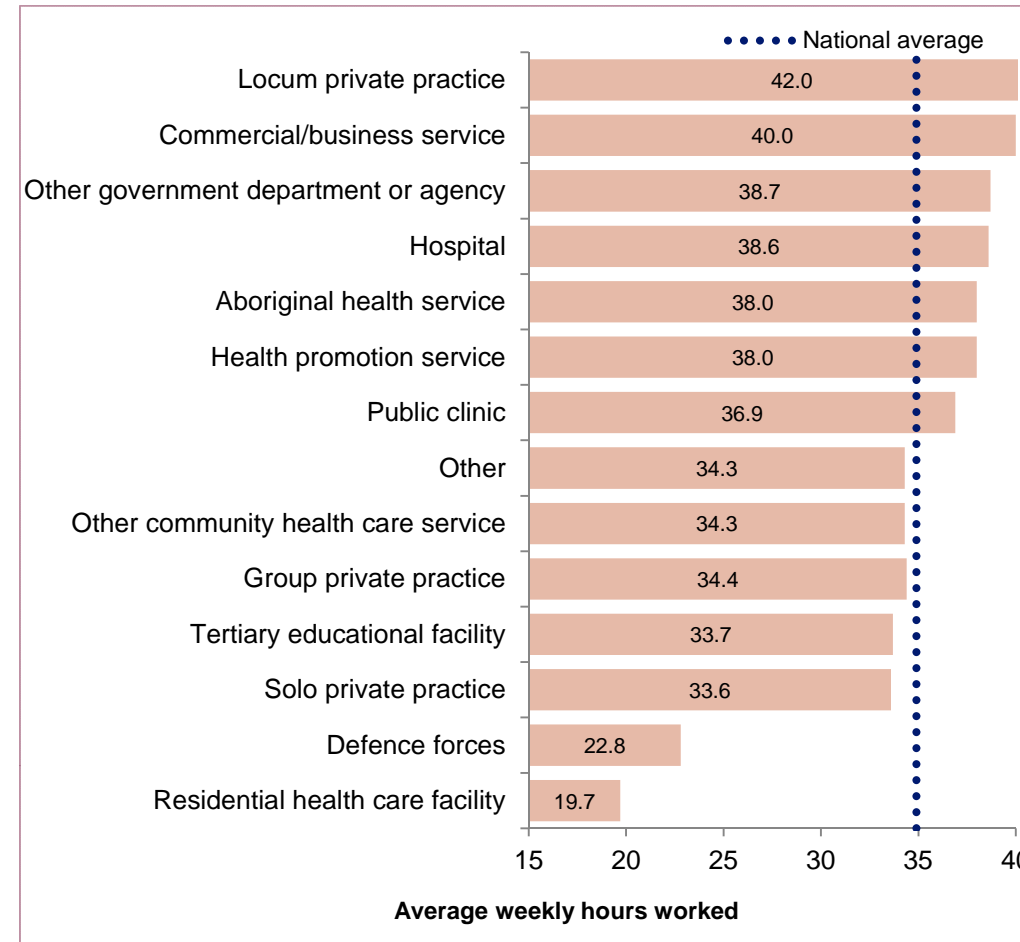


Male practitioners worked 35.8 total hours per week on average, while female practitioners worked 34.9 total hours. There was no comparable sample of male practitioners in age groups over 44 years.

Early Career practitioners worked more total hours per week on average (36.1 hours) than more experienced practitioners (34 hours), and also worked more clinical hours per week (34.4 hours) than more experienced practitioners (31.2 hours).

At 46% of the overall workforce, Early Career OHTs comprised the majority of the small numbers of practitioners in Aboriginal Health Services (9) and Other community health care services (7 practitioners).

Employed practitioners: Average Weekly Hours by Job Setting

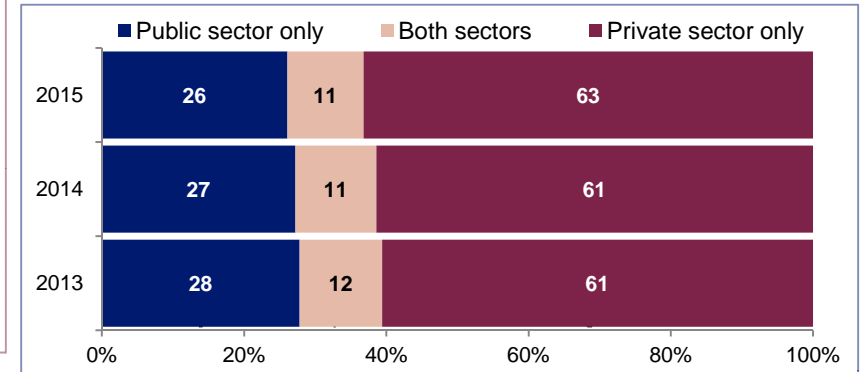


## SETTING AND SECTOR

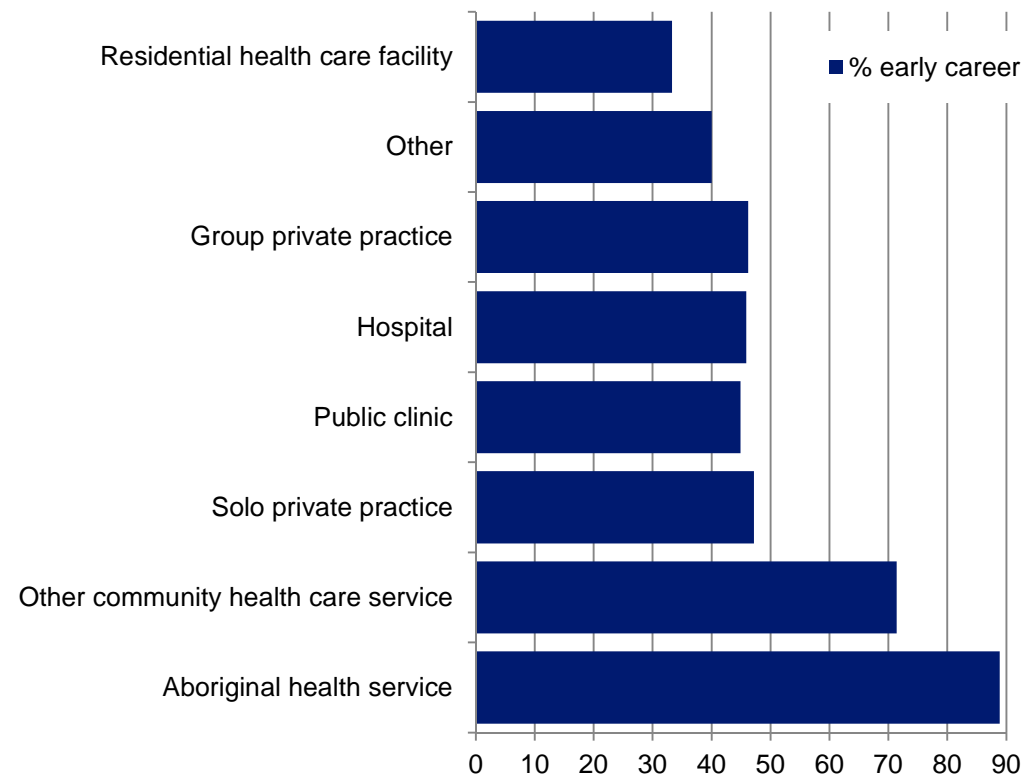
38% of employed OHTs worked in Group private practice, and 29% worked in Solo private practice.

23% of OHTs worked in a Public Clinic setting, 5% worked in Hospitals and the remaining 53 practitioners worked across a range of settings.

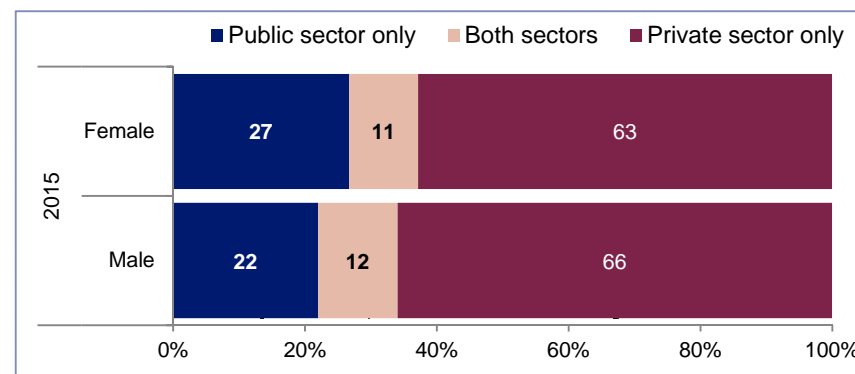
Clinicians (%) by Sector and Year



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



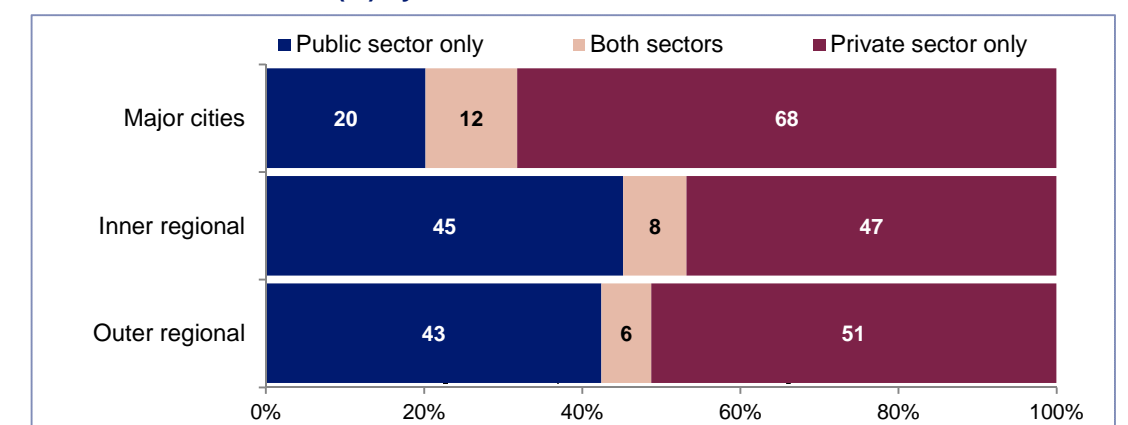
Clinicians: Male and Female (%) by Sector



Female clinicians were more likely to work in the public sector, with 38% working some clinical hours in the public sector, compared to 34% of male clinicians.

Since 2013, the proportion of clinicians working some hours in the public sector declined from 34% to 32% in Major Cities, from 61% to 53% in Inner Regional areas, and declined from 56% to 49% in Outer Regional locations.

Clinicians (%) by Sector and Remoteness Areas

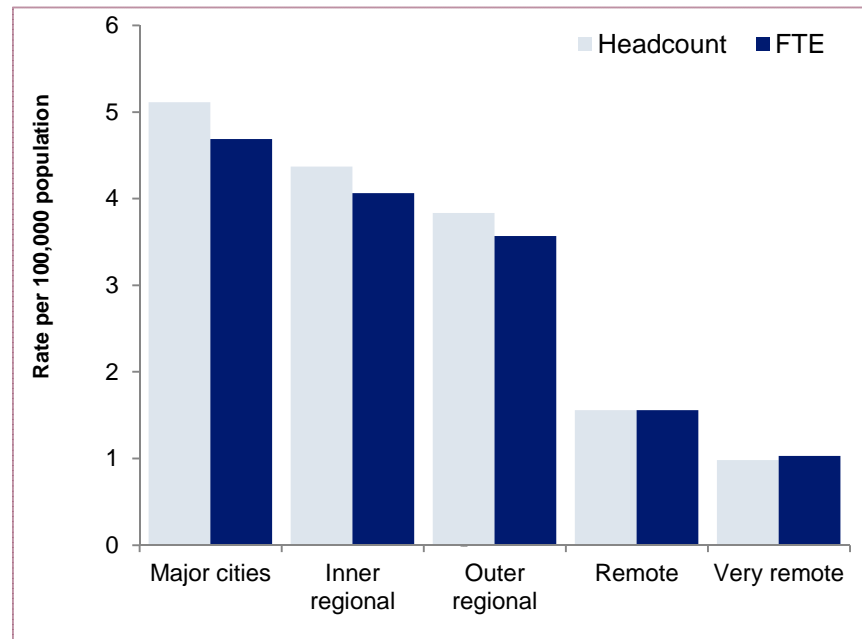


# The NATIONAL HEALTH WORKFORCE DATASET (NHWDS) DENTAL PRACTITIONERS - ORAL HEALTH THERAPISTS 2015

## LOCATION

Numbers of full-time equivalent (FTE) clinicians per 100,000 population decreased with remoteness, from 5 FTE clinicians in Major Cities to 1 FTE in very remote locations. Since 2013, the number of FTE clinicians per 100,000 population increased by 1 FTE in each remoteness area.

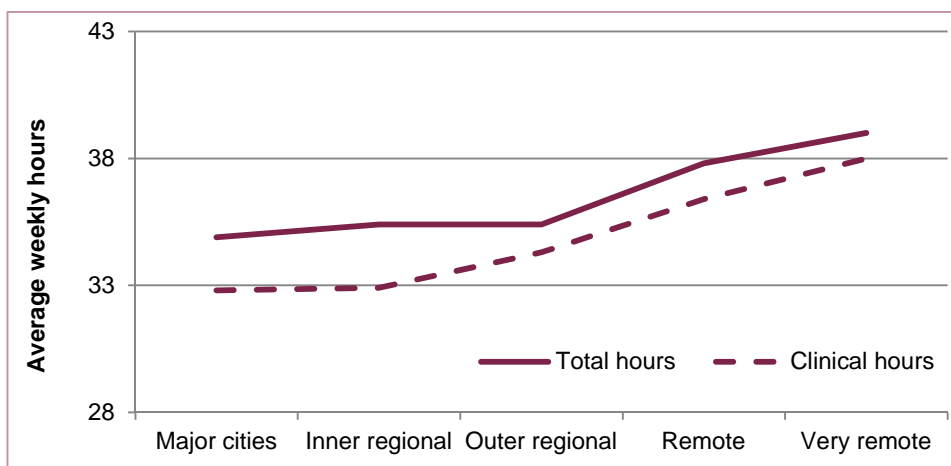
Clinicians: Headcount and FTE by Remoteness Area



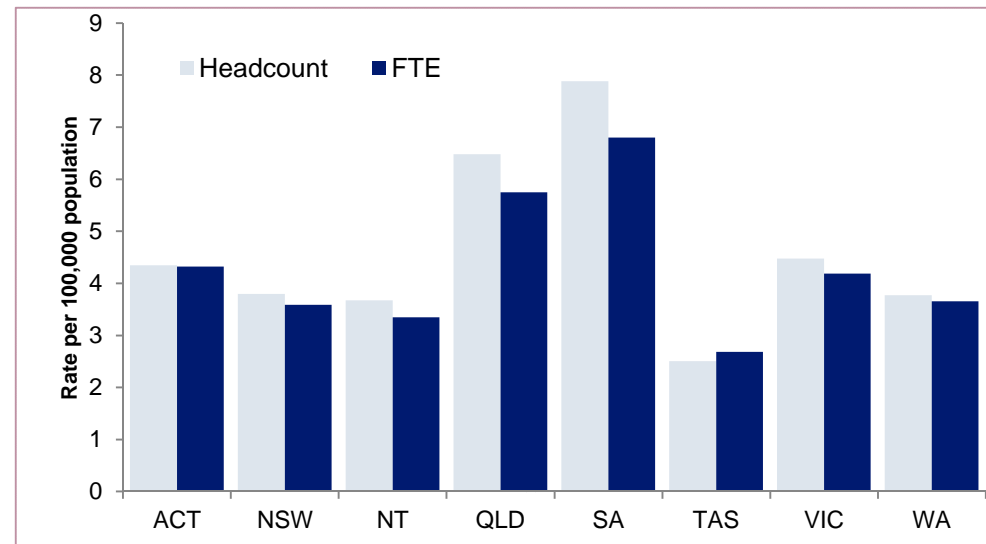
Average total hours for clinicians were highest in Tasmania (40.6) and ACT (37.7) and lowest in SA at 32.8 hours.

Clinicians' average total hours increased from 34.9 hours per week in Major Cities to 35.4 hours in Inner and Outer Regional areas, Remote areas, and increased further to 37.8 hours in Remote and 39 hours in Very Remote areas.

Clinicians: Average Weekly Hours by Remoteness Area

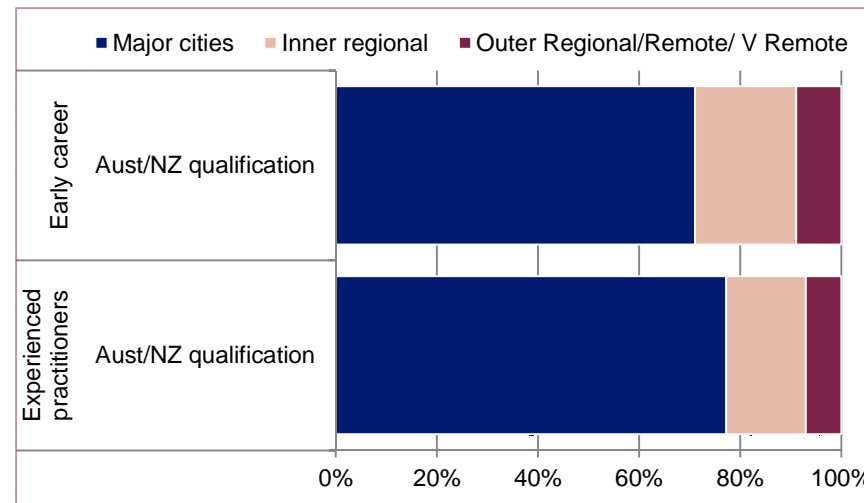


Clinicians: Headcount and FTE by State / Territory



The distribution of the workforce across states and territories shows a peak of 7 FTE clinicians per 100,000 population in SA. Since 2013, FTE numbers increased by 2 in SA and WA, and increased by 1 FTE in NSW, NT, Qld, Tasmania and Victoria, while FTE numbers in the ACT remained at 4.

Clinicians: Remoteness Area by Career Status



29% of Early Career clinicians worked outside Major Cities in regional and remote areas, compared to 23% of Experienced Practitioners.

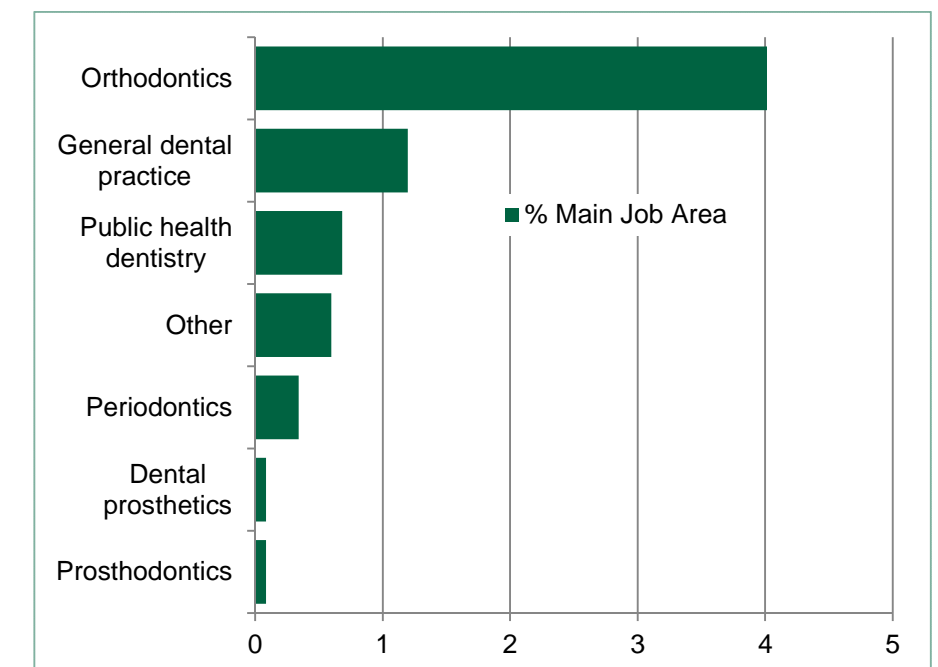
Due to small sample sizes, no comparable data is available for Early Career and Experienced practitioners with Overseas qualifications.

## JOB AREA

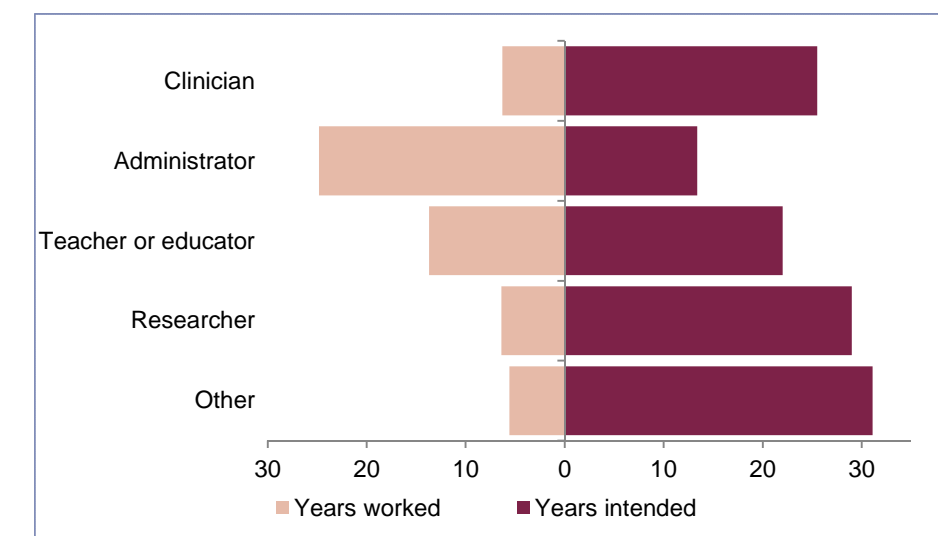
40% of OHTs reported 'Oral health therapy - mainly in dental hygiene' as the main area in which they worked. 27% reported 'Oral health therapy - mainly in dental therapy', 16% reported 'Dental hygiene' and 10% reported 'Dental therapy'.

The remaining Job Areas as shown in the chart below were each reported by less than 5% of OHTs.

Employed practitioners (%) in selected Job Areas



Employed practitioners: Career Length by Job Role



Overall, OHTs reported an intended career length of 32 years. Administrators had the longest work history (24.8 years) and the longest intended careers (38.2 years). Clinicians reported the shortest work histories (6.3 years) and the shortest intended careers (31.8 years).