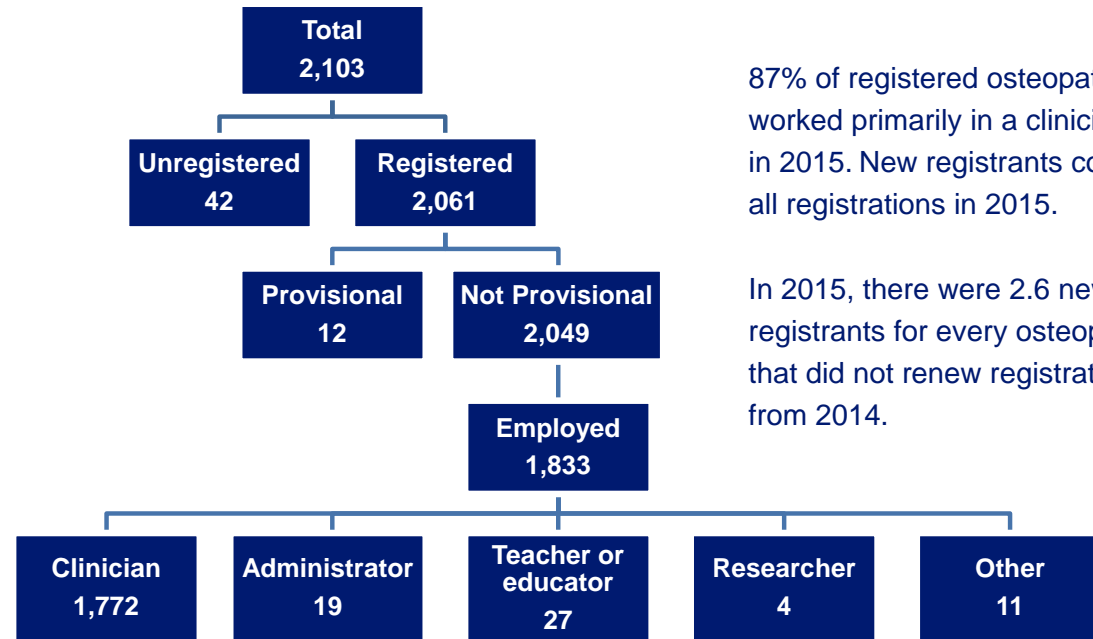
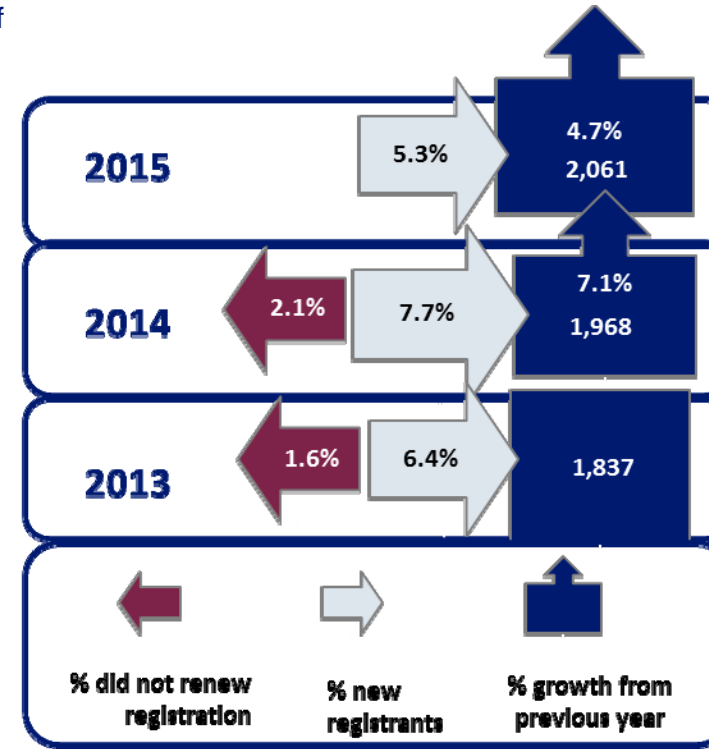


The NATIONAL HEALTH WORKFORCE DATASET (NHWDS) OSTEOPATHY 2015



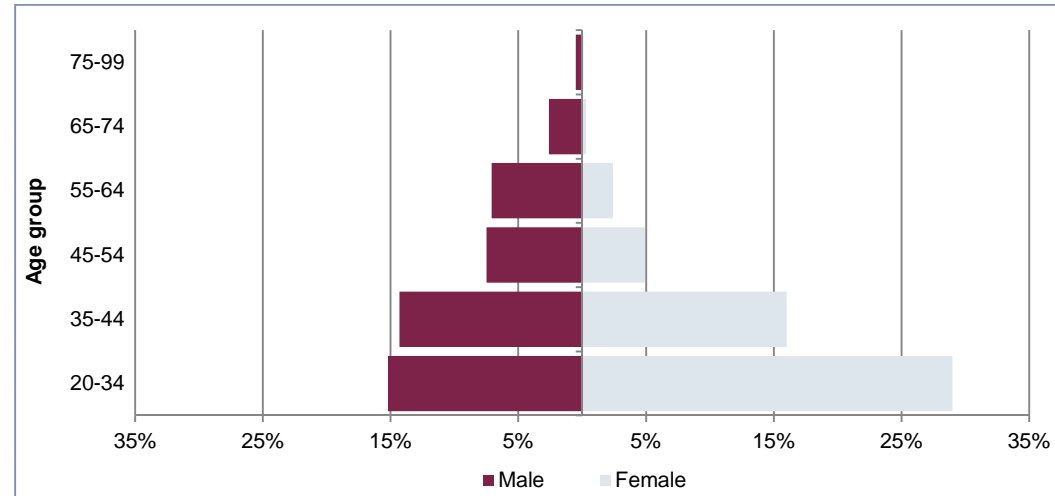
87% of registered osteopaths were employed, and the majority of employed osteopaths (97%) worked primarily in a clinician role. The osteopathy workforce is growing, with 110 new registrants in 2015. New registrants comprised 5% of all registrations in 2015.

In 2015, there were 2.6 new registrants for every osteopath that did not renew registration from 2014.

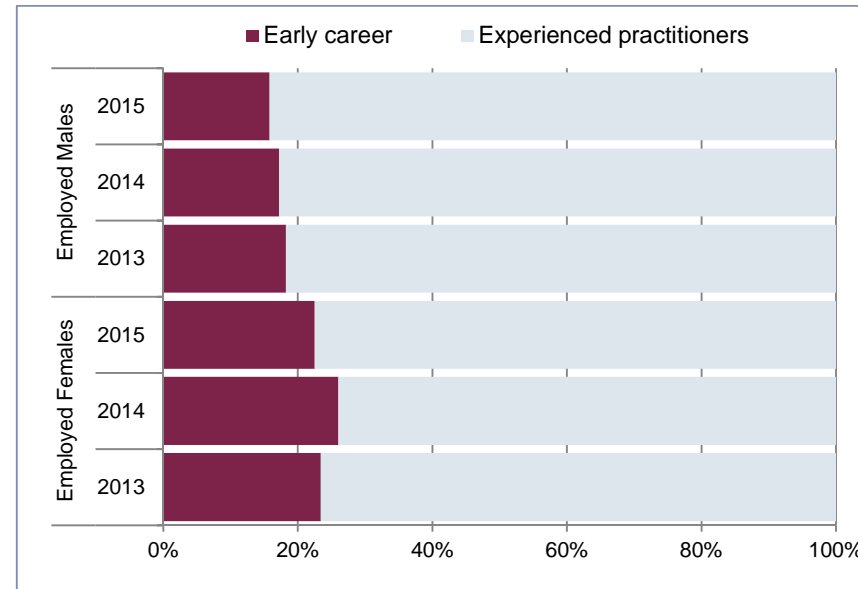


2 registered osteopaths held an Acupuncture endorsement.
75% of employed osteopaths were aged 44 years or younger.
Female practitioners outnumbered male practitioners in age groups up to 45 years, and comprised 67% of the 20-34 years age group.

Employed practitioners: Gender (%) by Age Group

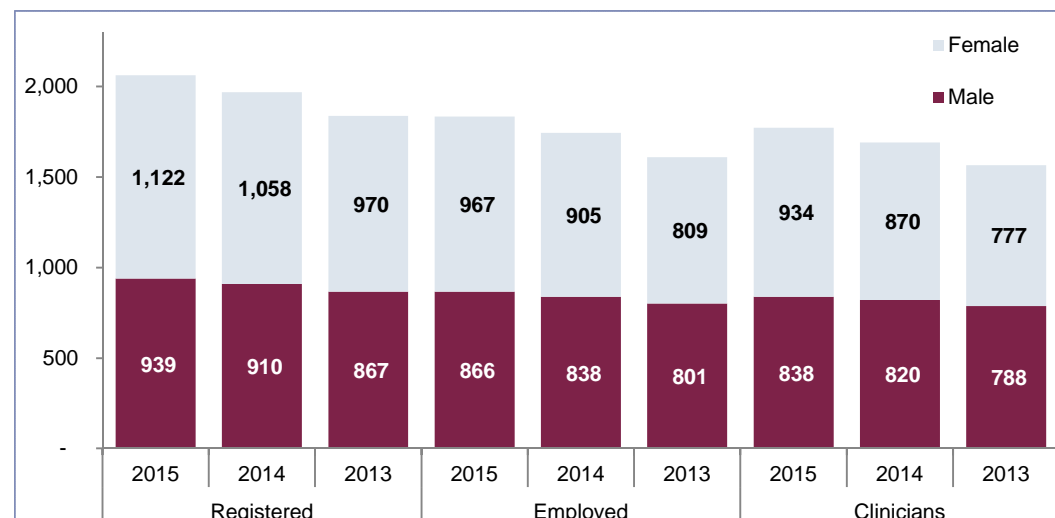


Employed Male and Female practitioners: Early Career (%) by Year



On average, osteopaths worked 33.7 total hours per week, and 30.1 clinical hours. The very small number of Researchers reported working the longest hours (39) and Administrators worked the shortest hours at 30.9. Clinician osteopaths spent an average of 30.4 hours per week performing clinical duties. On average, non-clinicians spent 17.3 hours per week on clinical duties.

Registered practitioners: Gender by Workforce Status



- 39** Average age
- 33.7** Average weekly hours
- 53** % female
- 81** % born in Australia
- 0.8** % Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander
- 86** % with Australian/NZ qualifications
- 19** % Registered 3 years or less (Early Career)
- 80** % in major cities

83% of Early Career osteopaths (registered 3 years or less) were aged 20-34 years. In 2015, there were 64 Early Career osteopaths over 34 years of age.

92% of registered Early Career practitioners and 89% of Experienced practitioners were employed in the osteopathy workforce.

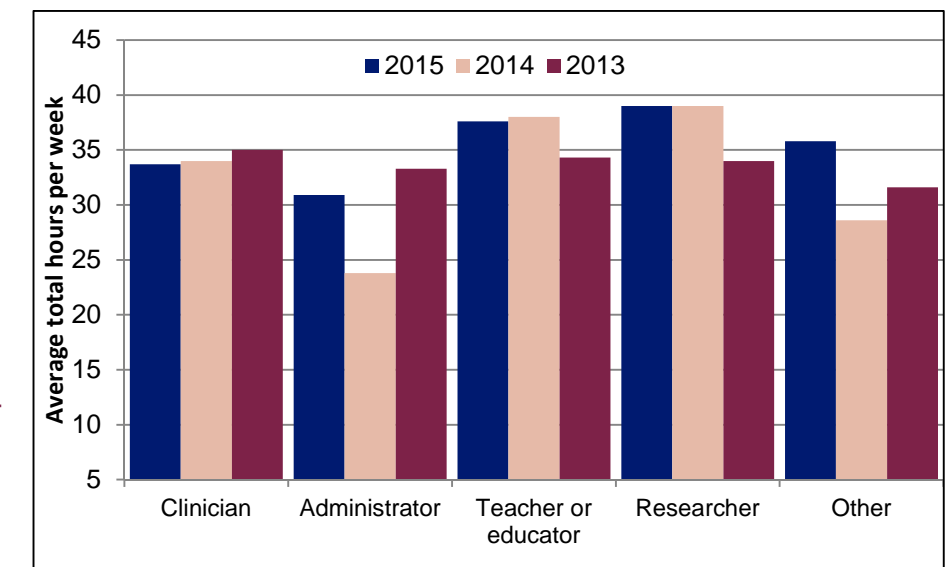
Early Career practitioners comprised 23% of employed female osteopaths and 16% of male osteopaths in the workforce.

The proportion of Early Career practitioners amongst male osteopaths has decreased between 2013 and 2015.

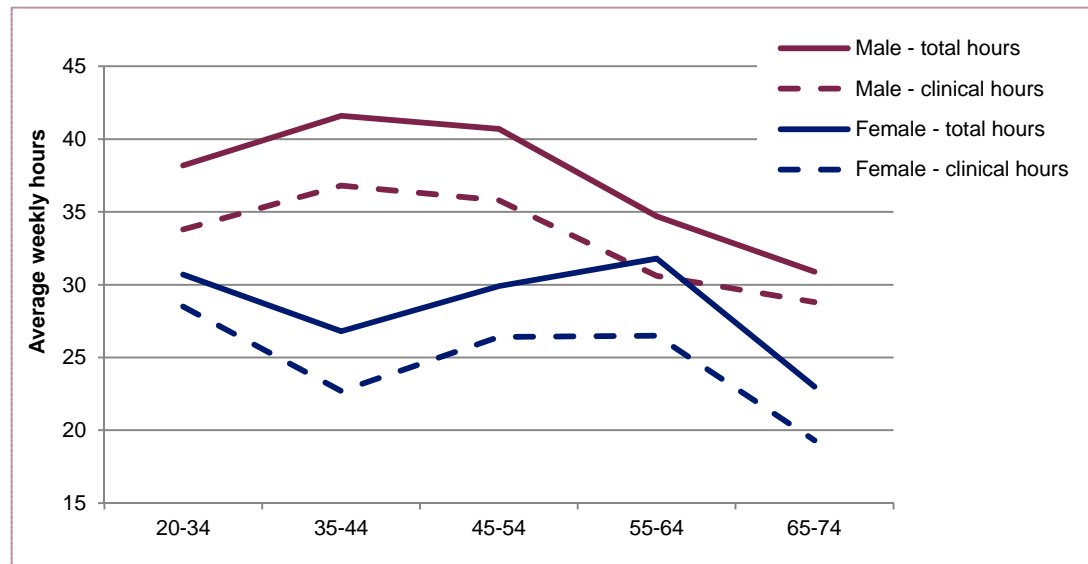
HOURS WORKED

Average weekly hours have decreased from 35 hours in 2013 to 33.7 by 2015.

Employed practitioners: Average weekly hours by Job Role and Year



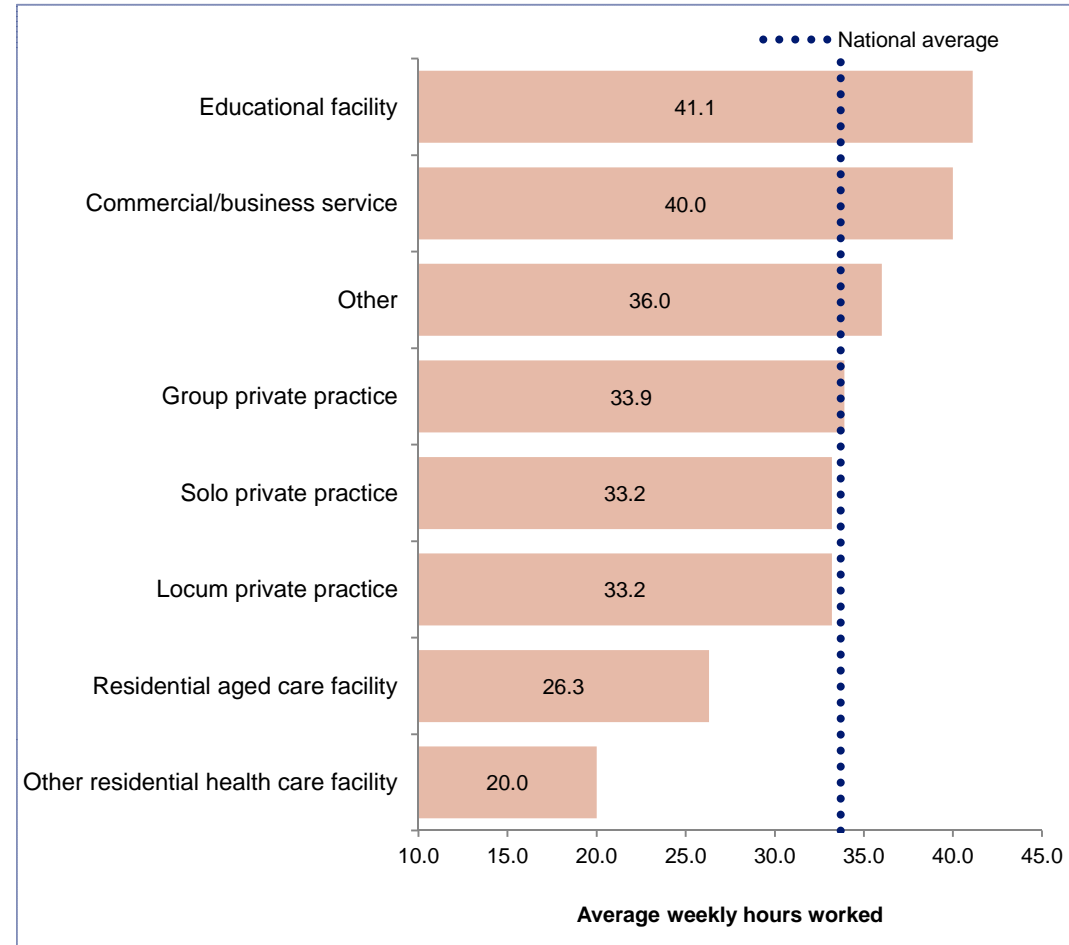
Employed practitioners: Average Weekly Hours by Age Group and Gender



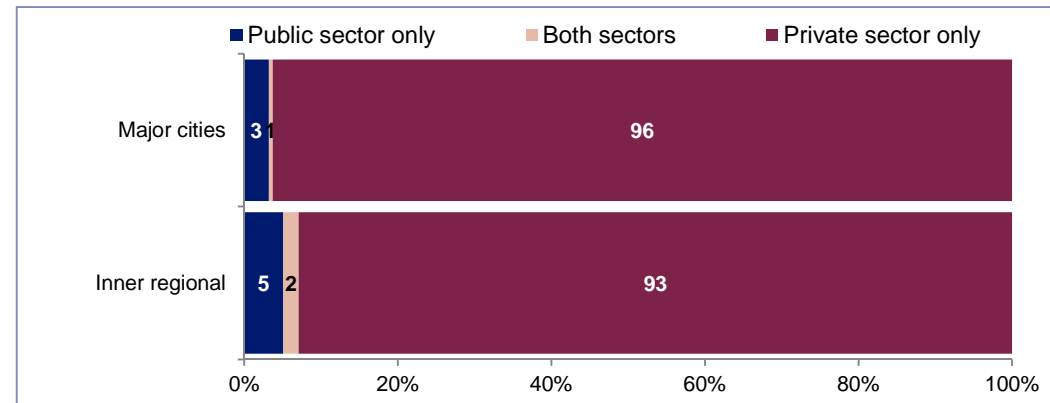
Male practitioners worked 38.4 total hours per week on average, while female osteopaths worked 29.4 average total hours. The most total hours were worked by male practitioners in the 35-44 years age group, at 41.6 hours per week. Among female practitioners, the most total hours were worked by the 55-64 age group, at 31.8 hours per week.

Experienced practitioners worked more total hours per week on average (34 hours) than Early Career practitioners (32.5 hours), however Early Career practitioners spent slightly more time on clinical duties (30.4 hours) than Experienced practitioners (30 hours per week).

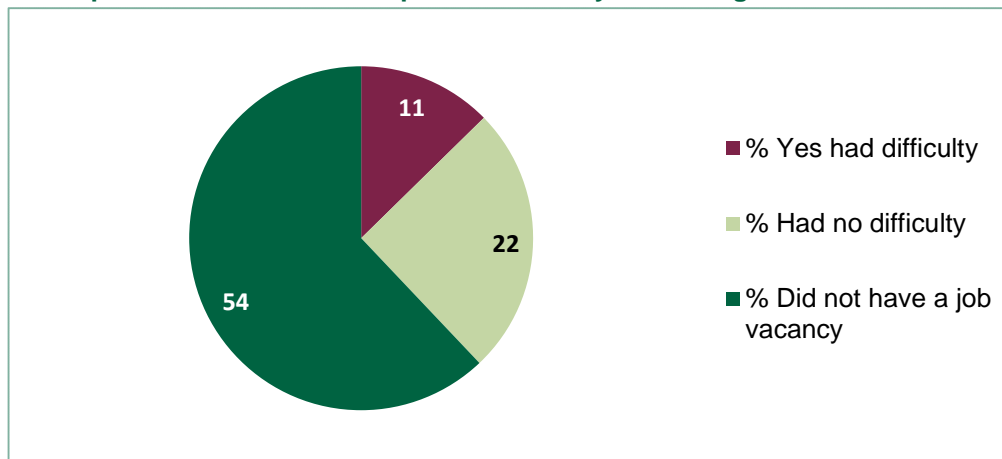
Employed practitioners: Average Weekly Hours by Job Setting



Clinicians (%) by Sector and Remoteness Areas



Principal and Associate Osteopaths : Difficulty Recruiting



SETTING AND SECTOR

The majority of employed osteopaths (68.5%) worked in a Group Private Practice setting, and another 29% worked in Solo Private Practice. A total of 44 osteopaths worked in settings other than Group or Solo private practice.

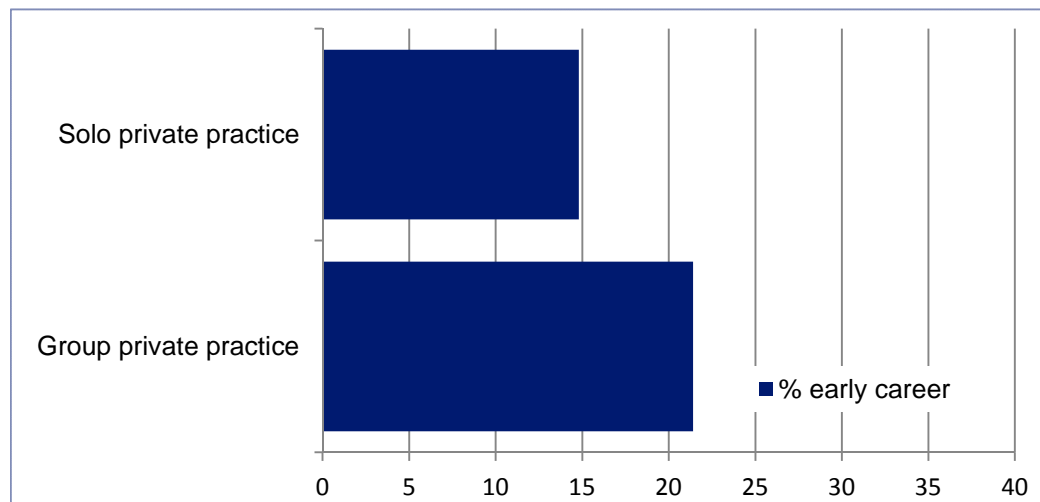
54% of employed osteopaths reported their job position as 'Principal', and 33% reported their position as 'Associate'.

Very few clinician osteopaths (77 in total) worked some hours in the public sector in 2015. 76 osteopaths worked some public sector hours in 2013.

The majority (80%) of clinician osteopaths worked in Major Cities, and a further 17% worked in Inner Regional locations. 96% of clinicians in Major Cities and 93% of clinicians in Inner Regional areas worked only in the private sector.

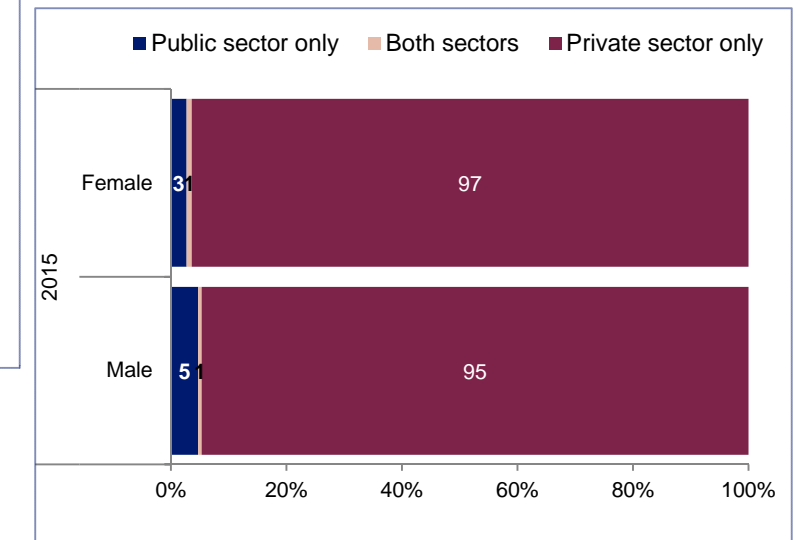
Osteopaths working in the private sector worked more clinical hours per week on average (30.7 in Major Cities and 28.9 in Inner Regional areas) than clinicians in the public sector, who worked 29.9 clinical hours on average in Major Cities, and 24.7 clinical hours per week in Inner Regional areas.

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



At 19% of the overall workforce, Early Career practitioners comprised 21% of the osteopathy workforce in Group Private Practice, and 15% of osteopaths in Solo Private Practice.

Clinicians: Male and Female (%) by Sector



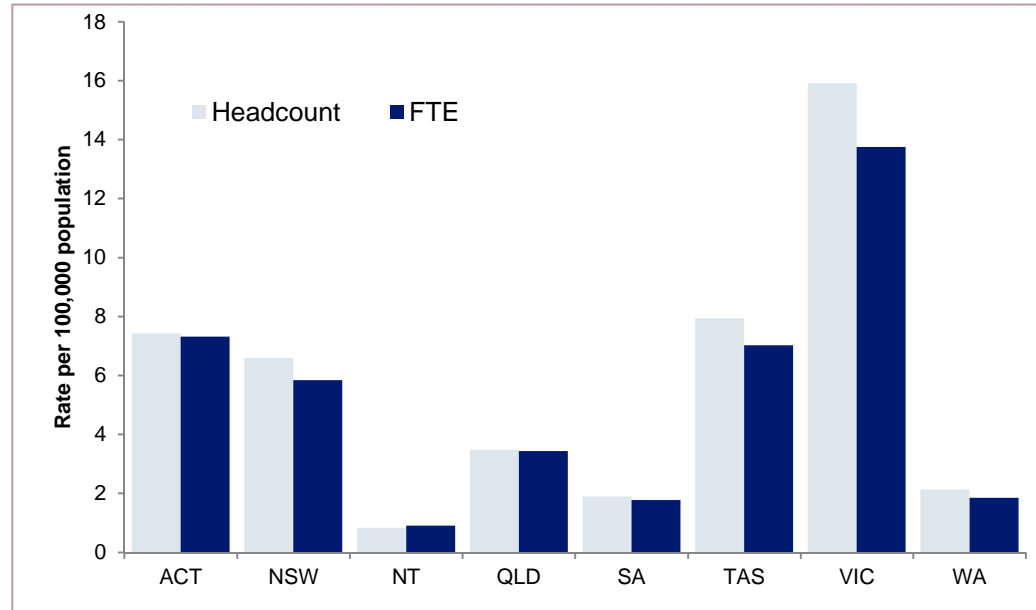
In 2015, 203 Principal and Associate osteopaths reported difficulty recruiting an osteopath for a job vacancy in their practice. In 2013, 15% of osteopaths responding to this item reported difficulty in recruiting. The proportion of osteopaths reporting no difficulty is unchanged from 2013, while the proportion reporting no job vacancy has increased from 51% in 2013.

LOCATION

Of the 1,772 osteopaths that are working as clinicians 53% are based in Victoria.

Numbers of full-time equivalent (FTE) clinicians per 100,000 population decreased with remoteness, from 8 FTE clinicians in Major Cities to 2 FTE in Outer Regional locations. Less than five osteopaths worked in Remote and Very Remote locations, therefore these areas are excluded from the graph.

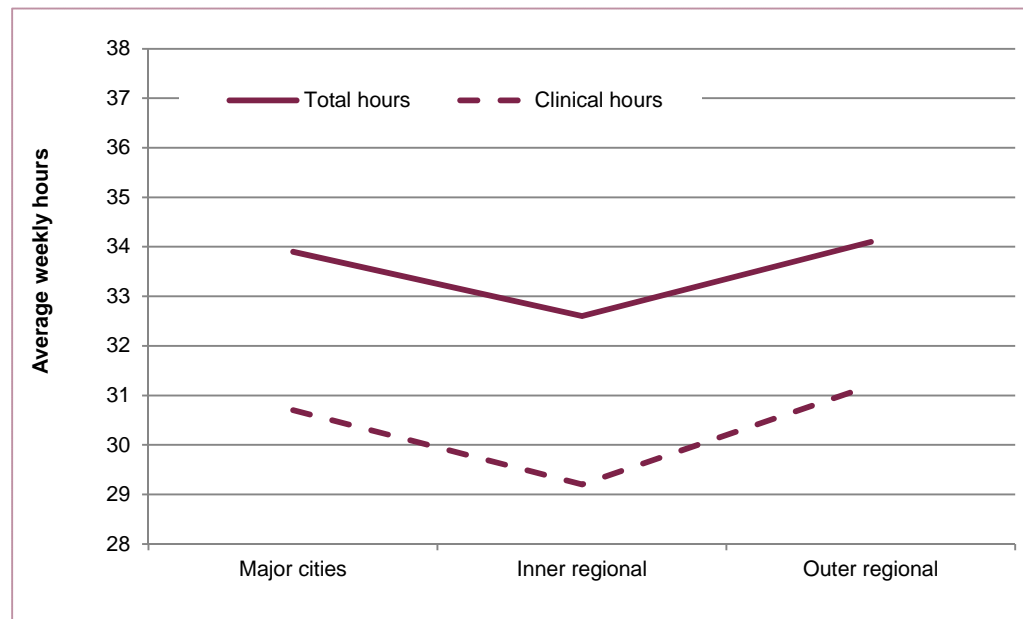
Clinicians: Headcount and FTE by State / Territory



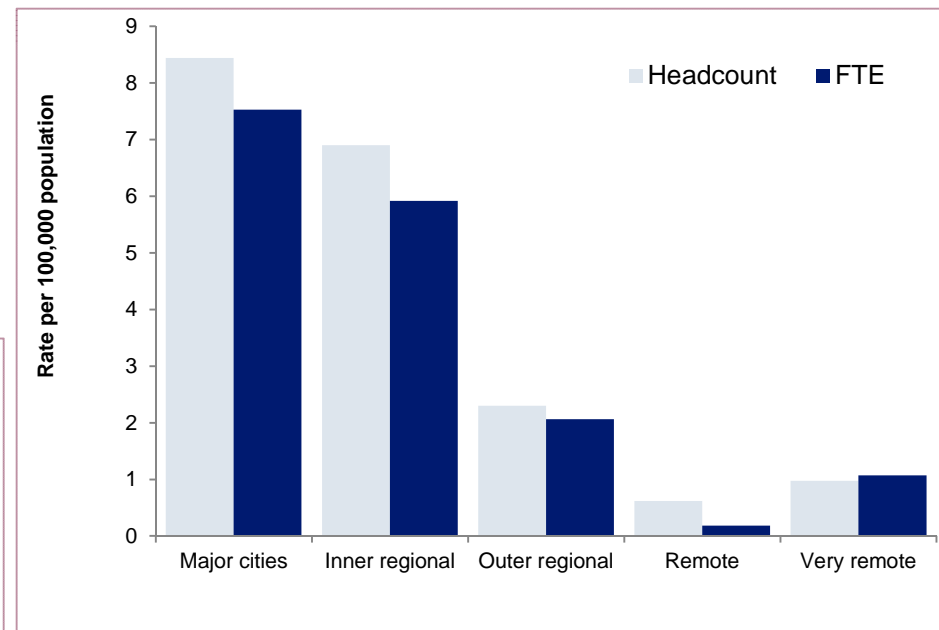
Average total hours for clinicians were highest in NT (42.5 hours per week) and Qld (37.4) and were lowest in WA at 32.8 hours.

Clinicians in Inner Regional areas spent more hours on non-clinical duties (3.5 hours per week on average) than clinicians in Major Cities or Outer Regional areas (3.1 hours per week).

Clinicians: Average Weekly Hours by Remoteness Area



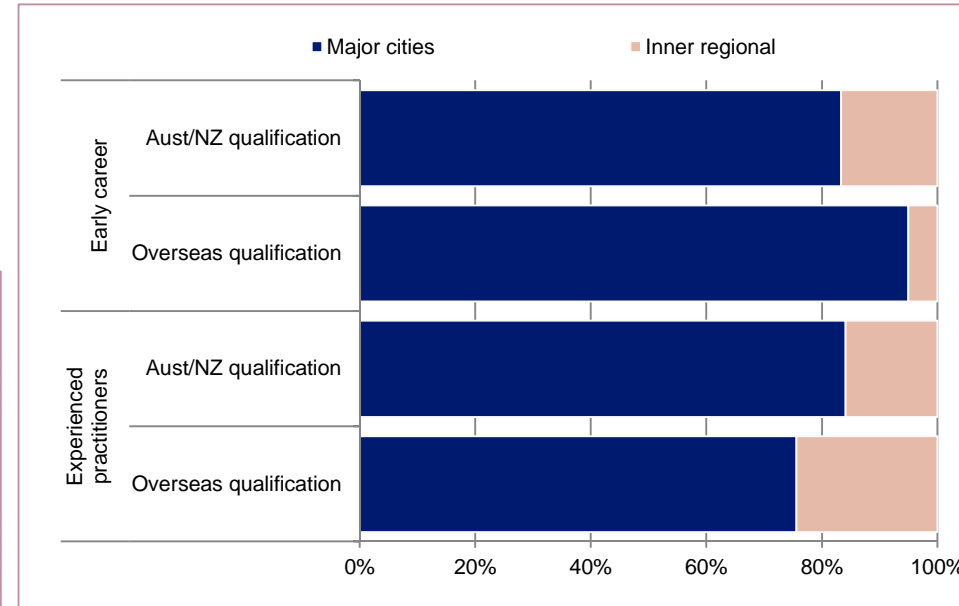
Clinicians: Headcount and FTE by Remoteness Area



The distribution of the workforce across states and territories shows a peak of 14 FTE clinicians per 100,000 population in Victoria.

The FTE rates have remained unchanged in most jurisdictions since 2013, with the exception of Tasmania, which increased from 6 to 7 FTE, and Victoria, which also increased from 13 FTE in 2013 to 14 FTE in 2015.

Clinicians: Remoteness Area by Career Status



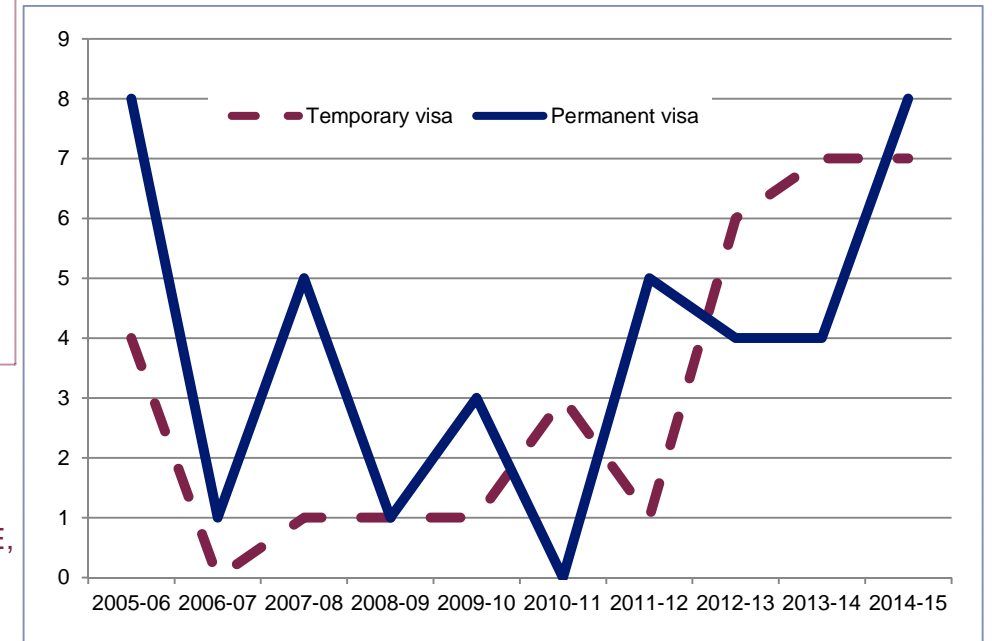
Of the 20 Early Career clinicians that were overseas-qualified, 95% worked in Major Cities. However, Experienced practitioners with overseas qualifications were more likely than Australian/NZ qualified clinicians to work outside Major Cities, with 23.5% working in Inner Regional locations.

WORKFORCE TRENDS

From 2005 to 2015, a total of 31 temporary visas and 39 permanent visas have been granted to osteopaths.

Temporary and Permanent Visas issued, 2005-2015

Source: DIBP Administrative data, 2015



Overall, osteopaths reported an intended career length of 33.1 years. Administrators reported the shortest work histories (10.1 years) and the shortest intended careers (30.4 years). Teachers and educators had the longest intended careers, at 33.8 years.

Employed practitioners: Career Length by Job Role

