

Psychiatry

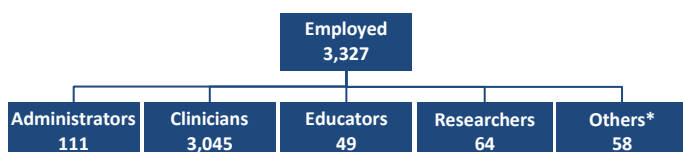
2016 Factsheet



Psychiatrists specialise in the diagnosis, treatment and prevention of mental illness and emotional problems. They are trained to recognise and treat the effects of emotional disturbances on the body, as well as the effects of physical conditions on the mind. A minimum of five years full-time advanced training through the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists is required to specialise in this area.

Workforce

In 2016, there were 3,327 psychiatrists employed in Australia, of whom 49.7% worked in the private sector. The majority (91.5%) of psychiatrists who completed the 2016 National Health Workforce Survey indicated they were clinicians.



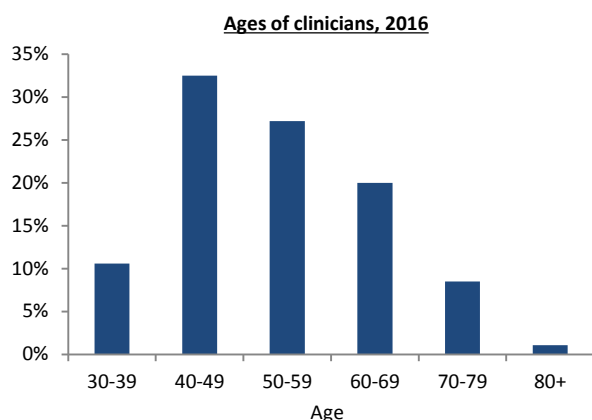
* Includes roles reported by survey respondents that did not fit predefined survey categories.

Demographics of clinicians

Males represented 61.3% of clinicians in 2016 and had an average age of 54.5 years. Females represented 38.7% of clinicians and were on average 3.4 years younger than male clinicians.

Category	% of clinicians	Average age	Average hours per week
Male	61.3%	54.5	40.6
Female	38.7%	51.1	34.2
Clinician total	100.0%	53.1	38.1

Over 32% of clinicians were aged 40-49 years and over 27% were aged 50-59 years.



Distribution of clinicians

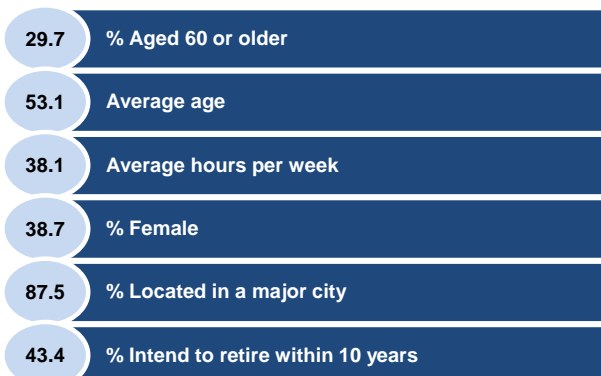
Most clinicians (87.5%) were located in a major city or a location considered as MMM1 under the Modified Monash Model classification system in 2016.

Location of clinicians by remoteness, Modified Monash Model (MMM*)							
MMM category	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
%	87.5	6.6	4.1	0.6	0.4	0.5	0.3

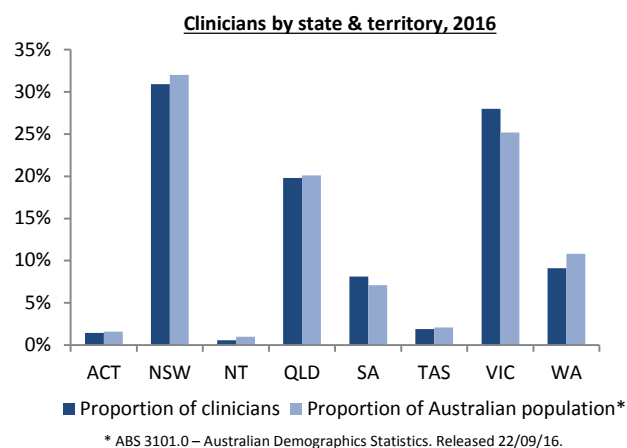
* Further information on the Modified Monash Model is available at doctorconnect.gov.au

The proportion of clinicians for South Australia and Victoria were higher than the population proportions for these states.

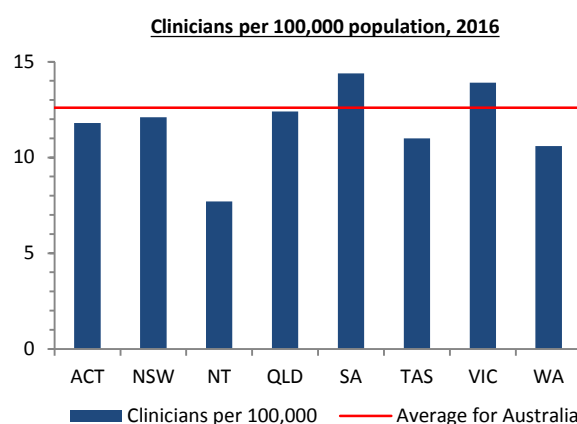
Quick facts of clinician workforce



Over 30% of clinicians reported their principal place of practice was in New South Wales.



New South Wales had the highest number of clinicians for 2016, however South Australia and Victoria were the only states with more clinicians than the national average of 12.6 clinicians per 100,000 population.

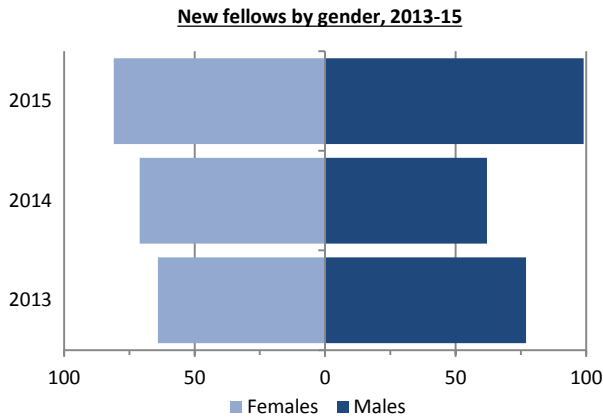


New fellows

The number of new fellows from the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists increased 27.7% from 2013 to 2015. In 2015, 41.1% of new fellows obtained their specialist qualification outside of Australia.

Number of new fellows, 2013-15			
	2013	2014	2015
Trained in Australia	85	92	106
Overseas trained	56	41	74
Total	141	133	180

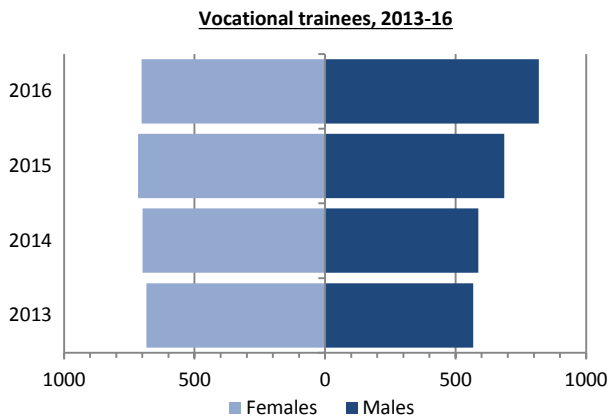
In 2015, 45% of new fellows were female.



Vocational training

The number of trainees increased every year between 2013 and 2016. During this period the number of male trainees increased by 44.4% and female trainees increased by 2.8%.

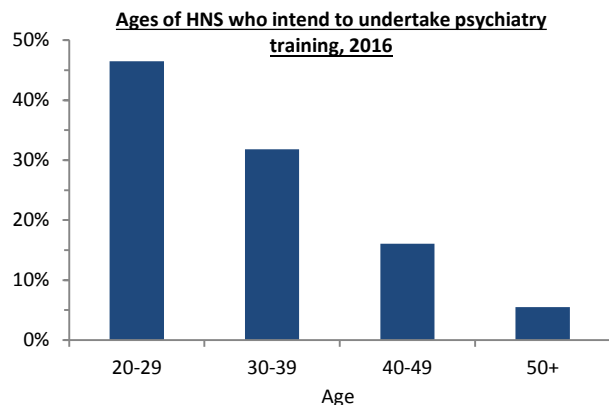
Trainee numbers, 2013-16			
Year	Females	Males	Total
2013	684	567	1,251
2014	699	587	1,286
2015	716	686	1,402
2016	703	819	1,522
Change 2013-16 (%)	2.8%	44.4%	21.7%



Vocational intentions

In 2016, there were 217 Hospital Non-Specialists (HNS*) who indicated their intention to undertake vocational training in psychiatry. Over 46% were aged 20-29 years.

* A HNS is a medical practitioner employed in a salaried position mainly in a hospital. They do not hold a specialist qualification and are not training to obtain one. They include career medical officers, hospital medical officers, interns, principal house officers, resident medical officers and registrars.



Workforce projections

The demand for psychiatrists will exceed supply. There is a projected shortage of 74 full-time equivalent (FTE) psychiatrists in 2025 and a shortfall of 124 FTE in 2030.

Supply and demand forecasts were calculated based on figures from the Australia's Future Health Workforce dataset.

Workforce dynamics indicator*

The workforce dynamics indicator highlights areas of concern in the future. The indicators measured and their current status is highlighted in the table below.

Note: The workforce dynamics indicators are for workforce assessment purposes only and are not intended to guide future training numbers.

* Further information on the workforce dynamics Indicator is available at health.gov.au



Indicator	Description	Status
Ageing of workforce	Workforces with higher average ages are more susceptible to higher exit rates due to retirements.	Orange circle
Replacement rate	This measure indicates whether trainee numbers are sufficient to replace the numbers leaving the workforce.	Green circle
Reliance on Overseas Trained Specialists (OTS)	Workforces with high proportions of OTS are of concern because they depend on a supply stream affected by immigration policies that change.	Red circle
Duration of training program	This measure indicates how long it takes to train a replacement workforce. Indicator considers basic and advanced training components.	Yellow circle

References

- 1) National Health Workforce Dataset (NHWDS): Medical Practitioners 2016.
- 2) Australian Medical Association (AMA) Career Pathways Guide.
- 3) Medical Education and Training Report 1st edition (Unpublished).
- 4) ABS 3101.0 – Australian Demographics Statistics. Released 22/09/16.
- 5) Australia's Future Health Workforce – Psychiatry 2017.
- 6) National Medical Training Advisory Network (NMTAN) – Prevocational Doctor Factsheet Methodology Paper.

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