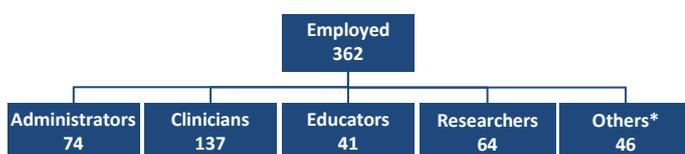


2016 Factsheet

Public Health Medicine is a medical specialty primarily concerned with the health and care of populations. Physicians interested in Public Health Medicine are trained in both clinical medicine and public health. Specialists in this area support public health research and development and advocate for the highest standard of population health. A minimum of four years full-time advanced training through the Royal Australasian College of Physicians, Australasian Faculty of Public Health Medicine, is required to specialise in this area.

Workforce

In 2016, there were 362 public health medicine specialists employed in Australia, of whom 23.2% worked in the private sector. Over 37% of specialists in this field who completed the 2016 National Health Workforce Survey indicated they were clinicians.



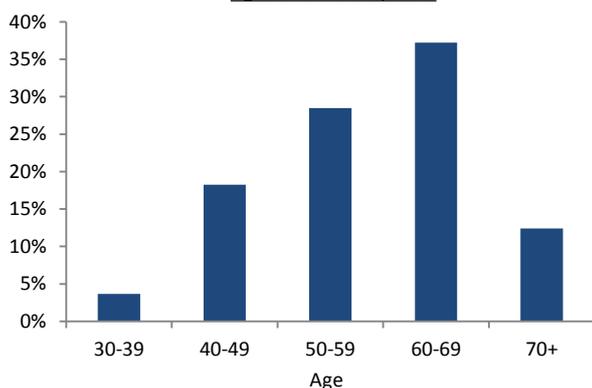
* Includes roles reported by survey respondents that did not fit predefined survey categories.

Demographics of clinicians

Males represented 62.8% of clinicians in 2016 and had an average age of 60.8 years. Females represented 37.2% of clinicians and were on average 8.0 years younger than male clinicians. Nearly 80% of clinicians were aged 50 years or older

Category	% of clinicians	Average age	Average hours per week
Male	62.8%	60.8	17.5
Female	37.2%	52.8	18.6
Clinician total	100.0%	57.8	17.9

Ages of clinicians, 2016



Distribution of clinicians

In 2016, the majority (69.3%) of clinicians were located in a major city or a location considered as MMM1 under the Modified Monash Model classification system.

Location of clinicians by remoteness, Modified Monash Model (MMM*)							
MMM category	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
%	69.3	16.8	2.9	1.5	2.9	3.7	2.9

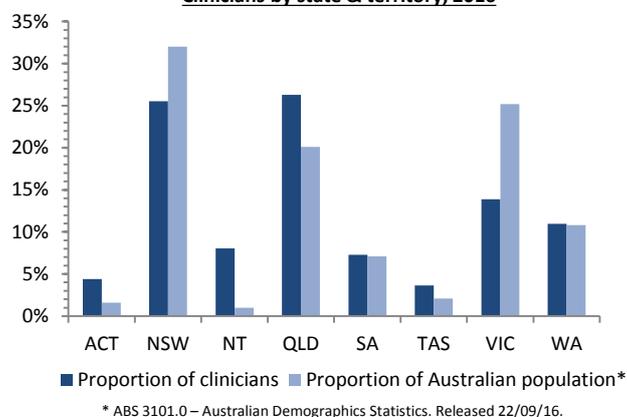
* Further information on the Modified Monash Model is available at doctorconnect.gov.au

The largest concentration of clinicians was in Queensland with 26.3% of clinicians indicating their principle place of practice was in this state.

Quick facts of clinician workforce

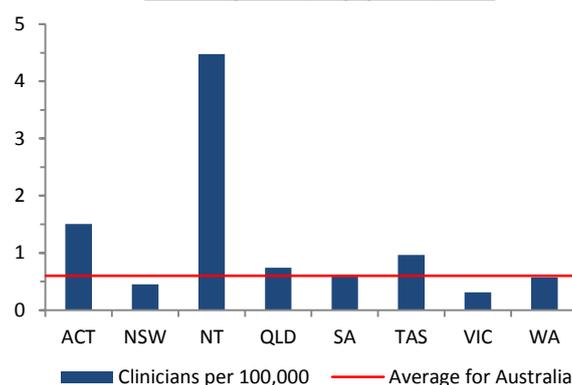


Clinicians by state & territory, 2016



The Northern Territory had the highest ratio of clinicians in 2016 with 4.5 per 100,000 population. Victoria and New South Wales both had less clinicians per 100,000 population than the national average of 0.6.

Clinicians per 100,000 population, 2016



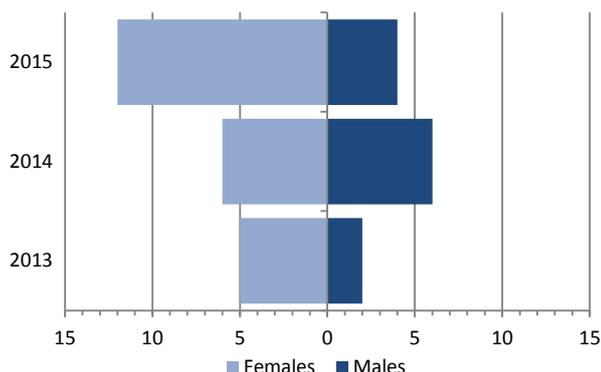
New fellows

The number of public health medicine new fellows increased every year between 2013 and 2015. During this period, overseas trained new fellows who obtained their specialist qualification outside of Australia only made up a small proportion of new fellows.

Number of new fellows, 2013-15			
	2013	2014	2015
Trained in Australia	6	12	14
Overseas trained	1	0	2
Total	7	12	16

The total number of new fellows in 2015 was 128.6% higher than in 2013. Between 2013 and 2015, female new fellows increased by 140.0% and male new fellows increased by 100.0%.

New fellows by gender, 2013-15



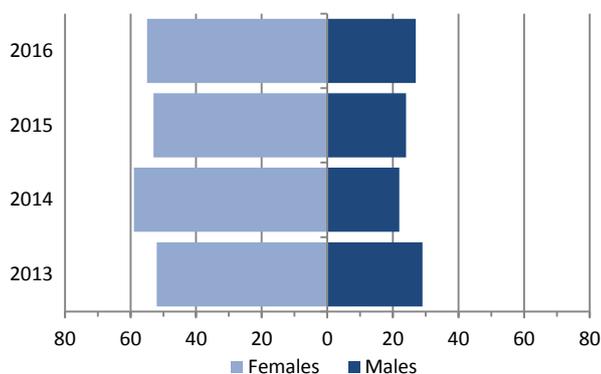
Vocational training

Between 2013 and 2016, the number of female trainees increased by 5.8%, whereas male trainee numbers decreased by 6.9%.

Trainee numbers, 2013-16

Year	Females	Males	Total
2013	52	29	81
2014	59	22	81
2015	53	24	77
2016	55	27	82
Change 2013-16 (%)	5.8%	-6.9%	1.2%

Vocational trainees, 2013-16

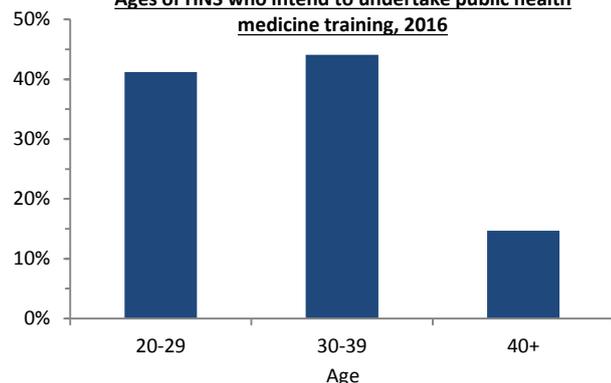


Vocational intentions

In 2016, there were 34 Hospital Non-Specialists (HNS*) who indicated their intention to undertake vocational training in public health medicine.

* 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.

Ages of HNS who intend to undertake public health medicine training, 2016



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

Minimal concern Significant concern

Indicator	Description	Status
Ageing of workforce	Workforces with higher average ages are more susceptible to higher exit rates due to retirements.	
Replacement rate	This measure indicates whether trainee numbers are sufficient to replace the numbers leaving the workforce.	
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.	
Duration of training program	This measure indicates how long it takes to train a replacement workforce.	

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) National Medical Training Advisory Network (NMTAN) – Prevocational Doctor Factsheet Methodology Paper.

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