



2019

Podiatrists



Podiatrists are registered healthcare practitioners trained to assess, diagnose and treat foot, ankle, and lower limb problems. Podiatrists treat biomechanical, pain related, and skin conditions as well as assisting in the management of chronic conditions such as poor circulation, and conditions affecting toenails.

To gain registration as a podiatrist, practitioners must complete a minimum three-year undergraduate or two-year postgraduate Master program of study approved by the Podiatry Board of Australia. Further training is required for the registration in the specialty of podiatric surgery.

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2019

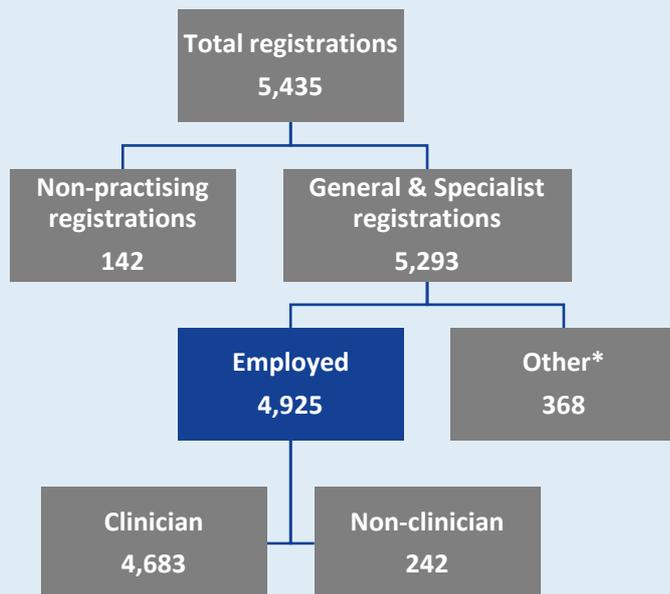
Podiatrists



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Workforce

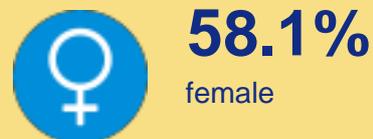
Figure 1: Podiatrists: Workforce status, 2019



**Other' includes: working but on long leave, working outside the profession, looking for work, overseas, and retired.*

Quick Facts - 2019

Quick facts for Podiatrists





Between 2015 and 2019, the total number of Podiatrists with general/specialist or limited registration increased by 19.5% from 4,547 to 5,435 (a compound annual growth rate of 4.6%). The number of employed Podiatrists ('workforce') increased 19.3% from 4,127 to 4,925 over the same period (a compound annual growth rate of 4.5%).

The number of employed Podiatrists who worked as clinicians increased 19.1% from 3,932 to 4,683 over the same period (a compound annual growth rate of 4.5%). Clinicians are Podiatrists who indicated that the principal role of their main job was clinician (including managers and supervisors also providing clinical services). Non-clinicians are Podiatrists who indicated that the principal role of their main job was administrator (including managers not providing clinical services), teacher, educator, research or other.

The following analysis of the Podiatry 'workforce' is drawn from the number of Podiatrists with general, specialist or limited registration who were employed (4,925 in 2019 as indicated by blue shading in figure 1) unless otherwise stated.

Table 1: Podiatrists, 2015 – 2019

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Annual growth
Registered	4,547	4,756	4,900	5,134	5,435	4.6%
Employed	4,127	4,327	4,491	4,730	4,925	4.5%
Clinicians	3,932	4,128	4,289	4,491	4,683	4.5%

Source: NHWDS Podiatrists, 2015-2019

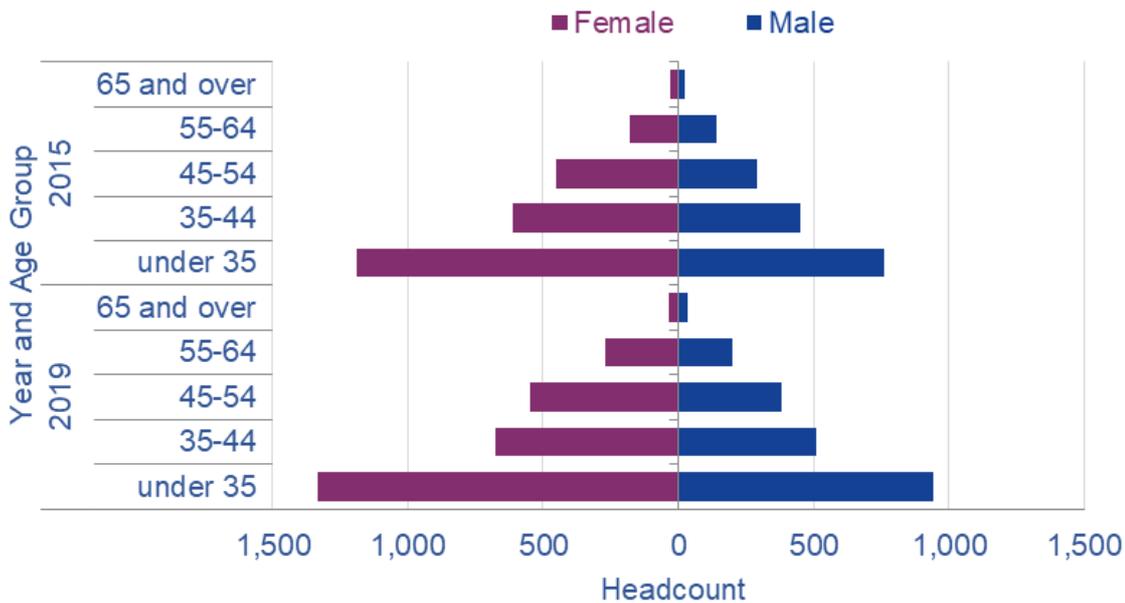
Figure 2: Gender distribution, 2015-2019



Source: NHWDS Podiatrists, 2015 – 2019



Figure 3: Age and gender distribution, 2015 and 2019



Source: NHWDS Podiatrists, 2015 and 2019

Table 2: Replacement rate, 2015 – 2019

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
New entrants	317	299	257	386	363
Exits	105	123	137	179	114
Replacement rate	3.0	2.4	1.9	2.2	3.2

Source: NHWDS, Podiatrists, 2015 - 2019

Table 3: Average hours per week, 2015 – 2019

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Clinical hours*	31.6	31.3	31.6	31.5	31.8
Non-clinical hours^	4.5	4.6	4.4	4.3	4.3
Total hours	36.1	35.9	36.0	35.8	36.1

Source: NHWDS, Podiatrists, 2015 - 2019

Due to rounding figures may not sum to the expected total

* Clinical hours are the reported weekly hours worked in clinical roles (including managers and supervisors also providing clinical services)

^ Non-clinical hours are the reported weekly hours worked in non-clinical roles (including teacher, researcher, administrator or other)

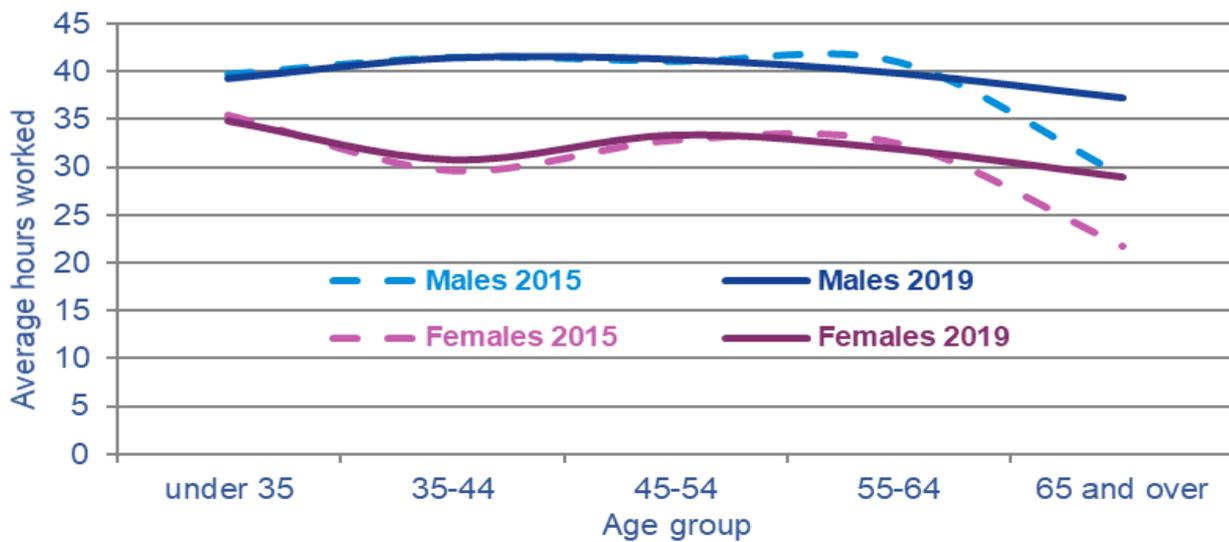


Table 4: Clinical full time equivalent (FTE) by sector, 2015 and 2019

Sector	2015		2019	
	Clinical FTE	%	Clinical FTE	%
Private sector	2,856.0	83.2%	3,450.8	83.8%
Public sector	577.6	16.8%	666.6	16.2%
Total	3,433.6	100%	4,117.4	100%

Source: NHWDS, Podiatrists, 2015 and 2019
Includes Podiatrists who reported working hours in public and / or private sectors in their clinical roles
Due to rounding figures may not sum to the expected total
Full time equivalent (FTE) based on 38 hours per week

Figure 4: Average hours per week by gender and age group, 2015 and 2019



Source: NHWDS Podiatrists, 2015 and 2019



Table 5: Principal role, 2015 and 2019

Principal role	2015		2019	
	Headcount	%	Headcount	%
Clinician	3,932	95.3%	4,683	95.1%
Administrator	102	2.5%	104	2.1%
Teacher or educator	54	1.3%	82	1.7%
Researcher	24	0.6%	41	0.8%
Other	15	0.4%	15	0.3%
Total	4,127	100%	4,925	100%

Source: NHWDS, Podiatrists, 2015 and 2019

Table 6: Principal work setting, 2015 and 2019

Principal work setting	2015		2019	
	Headcount	Avg. hours	Headcount	Avg. hours
Group private practice	1,795	36.3	1,852	36.3
Solo private practice	1,172	37.0	1,155	37.4
Medical centre	-	-	459	34.6
Other community health care service	324	34.3	429	34.2
Outpatient service	249	37.0	305	36.3
Residential aged care facility	197	31.9	238	35.0
Hospital	114	35.3	140	36.7
Educational facility	71	38.8	100	37.0
Sports centre/clinic	40	36.2	90	35.4
Aboriginal health service	31	36.4	40	35.5
Locum private practice	42	30.0	36	30.7
Remaining work settings	92	34.2	81	33.0
Total	4,127	36.1	4,925	36.1

Source: NHWDS, Podiatrists, 2015 and 2019



Table 7: Endorsements, 2015 – 2019

Type of endorsement	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Scheduled Medicines	68	74	82	94	114
% of total employed	1.6%	1.7%	1.8%	2.0%	2.3%

Source: NHWDS, Podiatrists, 2015 - 2019

Table 8: Initial qualification country, 2015 and 2019

Country	2015		2019	
	Headcount	%	Headcount	%
Australia	3,412	82.7%	4,268	86.7%
Overseas	464	11.2%	490	9.9%
Unknown / not stated	251	6.1%	167	3.4%
Total	4,127	100%	4,925	100%

Source: NHWDS, Podiatrists, 2015 and 2019



Table 9: Years worked and years intended to remain in the workforce by principal role, 2019

Principal role	Average years worked	Average years intended to work
Clinician	12.6	17.8
Administrator	17.3	12.4
Teacher or educator	16.8	15.8
Researcher	14.2	17.8
Other	14.6	14.0
Total	12.8	17.7

Source: NHWDS, Podiatrists, 2019

Table 10: Distribution by State/Territory, 2019

State/Territory	Headcount	Full time equivalent (FTE)	Average weekly hours	Population	FTE per 100,000 population
New South Wales	1,406	1,344.7	36.3	8,089,817	16.6
Victoria	1,552	1,442.3	35.3	6,596,039	21.9
Queensland	862	865.1	38.1	5,094,510	17.0
South Australia	456	433.1	36.1	1,751,963	24.7
Western Australia	445	399.7	34.1	2,621,509	15.2
Tasmania	111	100.9	34.5	534,457	18.9
Australia Capital Territory	68	66.1	36.9	426,704	15.5
Northern Territory	19	20.3	40.6	245,929	8.3
Unknown / not stated	6	7.7	48.7	-	-
Australia	4,925	4,679.9	36.1	25,365,571	18.4

Source: NHWDS, Podiatrists, 2019

ABS 3218.0 - Regional Population Growth, June 2019

Australia includes unknown state / territory

Full time equivalent (FTE) based on 38 hours per week



Table 11: Distribution by Modified Monash Model (MMM), 2019

Modified Monash	Headcount	Full time equivalent	Average weekly hours	Population	FTE per 100,000 population
MM1 - Metropolitan	3,725	3,541.7	36.1	18,320,373	19.3
MM2 - Regional centres	445	419.1	35.8	2,245,754	18.7
MM3 - Large rural towns	393	373.4	36.1	1,587,466	23.5
MM4 - Medium rural towns	187	183.7	37.3	968,583	19.0
MM5 - Small rural towns	118	103.9	33.5	1,748,340	5.9
MM6 - Remote communities	34	35.3	39.4	281,794	12.5
MM7 - Very remote communities	17	15.2	34.0	212,587	7.2
Unknown / not stated	6	7.7	48.7	-	-
Australia	4,925	4,679.9	36.1	25,365,571	18.4

Source: NHWDS, Podiatrists, 2019

Australia includes unknown MMM

Full time equivalent (FTE) based on 38 hours per week

<https://www.health.gov.au/resources/publications/modified-monash-model-fact-sheet>

Modified Monash Model (MMM) 2019

ABS Estimated Resident Population (unpublished)

Table 12: Telehealth practitioners by Modified Monash (MMM), 2019

Modified Monash Model	Percentage
MM1 - Metropolitan	72.1%
MM2 - Regional centres	8.6%
MM3 - Large rural towns	7.4%
MM4 - Medium rural towns	3.7%
MM5 - Small rural towns	1.2%
MM6 - Remote communities	2.9%
MM7 - Very remote communities	3.3%

Source: NHWDS, Podiatrists, 2019

MMM breakdown for tele-health refers to the location of the Podiatrists not the location of the person receiving the service

<https://www.health.gov.au/resources/publications/modified-monash-model-fact-sheet>

Modified Monash Model (MMM) 2019



Commonwealth of Australia 2020

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References

- 1) National Health Workforce Dataset (NHWDS) Podiatrists 2015-2019 (<http://hwd.health.gov.au>)
- 2) ABS 3218.0 - Regional Population Growth, June 2019
- 3) ABS Estimated Resident Population (unpublished)