

Neurology

2016 Factsheet

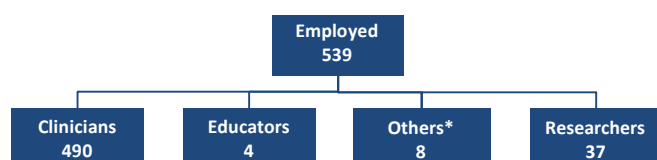


The practice of neurology involves the diagnosis and management of diseases affecting the central, peripheral and autonomic nervous systems and muscles. A minimum of six years full-time training through the Royal Australasian College of Physicians is required to specialise in this area.

* Factsheet excludes paediatric neurology figures.

Workforce

In 2016, there were 539 neurologists employed in Australia, of whom 46.0% worked in the private sector. The majority (90.9%) of specialists in this field who completed the 2016 National Health Workforce Survey indicated they were clinicians.



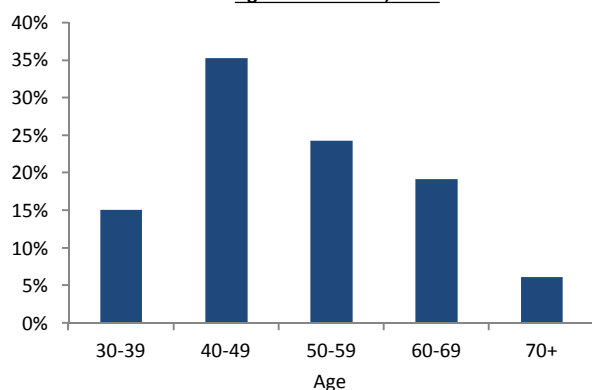
* Includes administrators and roles reported by survey respondents that did not fit predefined survey categories.

Demographics of clinicians

Males represented the majority (74.7%) of clinicians in 2016 and had an average age of 53.0 years. Females represented 25.3% of clinicians and were on average 7.2 years younger.

Category	% of clinicians	Average age	Average hours per week
Male	74.7%	53.0	44.6
Female	25.3%	45.8	38.7
Clinician total	100.0%	51.2	43.1

Ages of clinicians, 2016



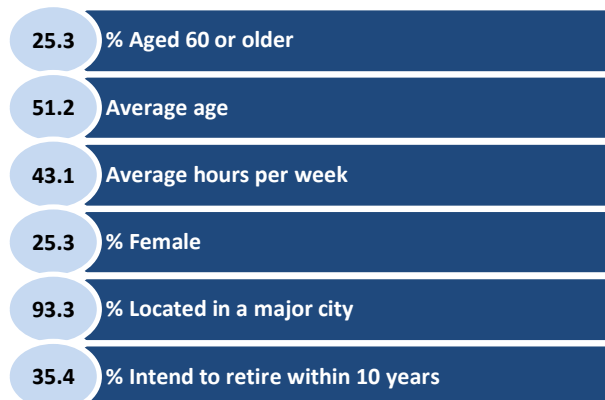
Distribution of clinicians

The majority (93.3%) of clinicians 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
%	93.3	4.7	2.0	-	-	-	-

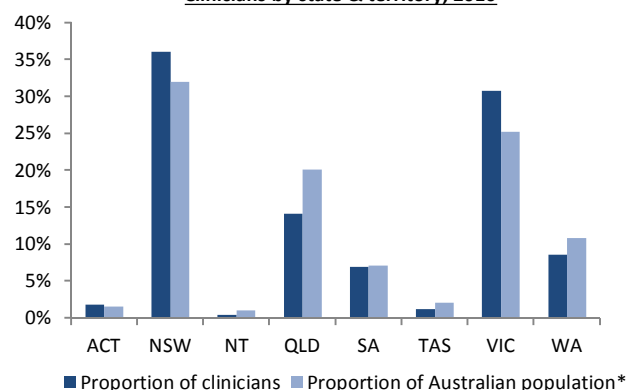
* Further information on the Modified Monash Model is available at doctorconnect.gov.au

Quick facts of clinician workforce



In 2016, the jurisdiction with the highest number of clinicians was New South Wales with 36.1%, followed by Victoria and Queensland with 30.8% and 14.1% respectively.

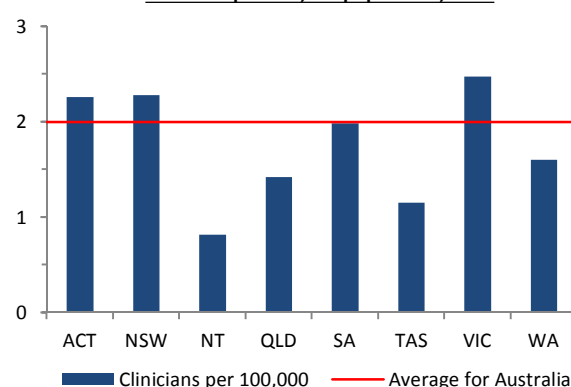
Clinicians by state & territory, 2016



* ABS 3101.0 – Australian Demographics Statistics. Released 22/09/16.

There was an average of 2.0 clinicians per 100,000 population in 2016. Victoria had the highest ratio of clinicians with 2.5 per 100,000 population, by contrast the Northern Territory had the lowest ratio with 0.8 per 100,000 population.

Clinicians per 100,000 population, 2016



New fellows

The number of neurology new fellows in 2015 was 29.6% higher than the number in 2013. Between 2013 and 2015 female new fellows increased by 35.7% and male new fellows increased by 23.1%.

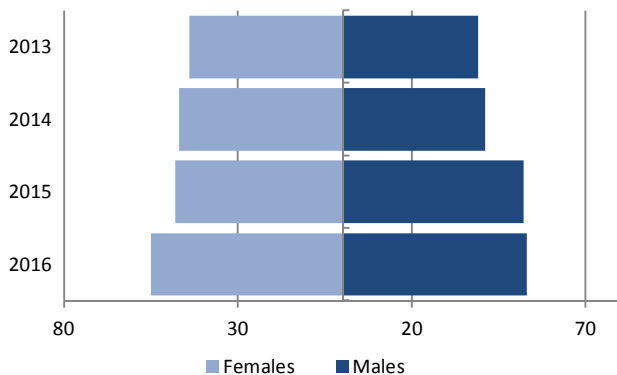
Number of new fellows, 2013-15			
	2013	2014	2015
Males	13	4	16
Females	14	2	19
Total	27	6	35

Vocational training

The number of neurology trainees in 2016 was 30.1% higher than the number in 2013. The gender ratio was close to 1:1 each year between 2013 and 2016.

Trainee numbers, 2013-16			
Year	Females	Males	Total
2013	44	39	83
2014	47	41	88
2015	48	52	100
2016	55	53	108
Change 2013-16 (%)	25.0%	35.9%	30.1%

Vocational trainees, 2013-16

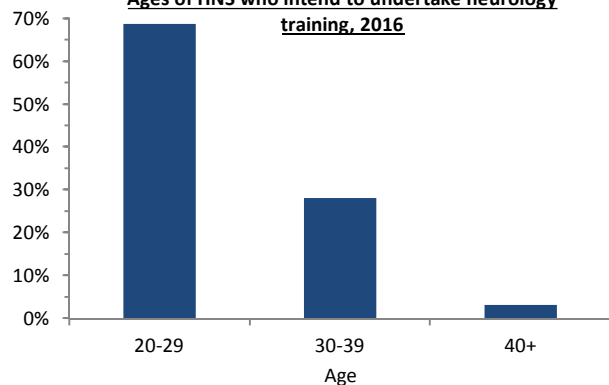


Vocational intentions

In 2016, there were 64 Hospital Non-Specialists (HNS*) who indicated their intention to undertake vocational training in neurology. Over 68% 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.

Ages of HNS who intend to undertake neurology 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



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

References

- 1) National Health Workforce Dataset (NHWDs): Medical Practitioners 2016.
- 2) Royal Australasian College of Physicians.
- 3) Medical Education and Training Report 1st edition (Unpublished).
- 4) ABS 3101.0 – Australian Demographics Statistics. Released 22/09/16.
- 5) Australian Medical Association (AMA) Career Pathways Guide.
- 6) National Medical Training Advisory Network (NMTAN) – Prevocational Doctor Factsheet Methodology Paper.

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