



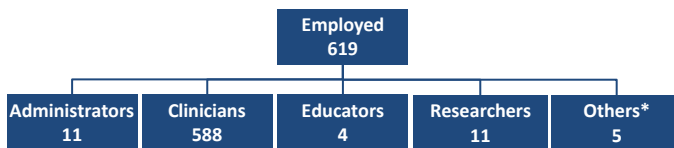
# Geriatric medicine

## 2016 Factsheet

A geriatrician has expertise in the diagnosis and management of complex and multifactorial internal medicine disorders that impact upon the cognition and functional status of older individuals. A minimum of six years full-time training is required through the Royal Australasian College of Physicians to specialise in this area.

### Workforce

In 2016, there were 619 geriatricians employed in Australia, of whom 19.6% worked in the private sector. The majority (95.0%) of geriatricians who completed the 2016 National Health Workforce Survey indicated they were clinicians.



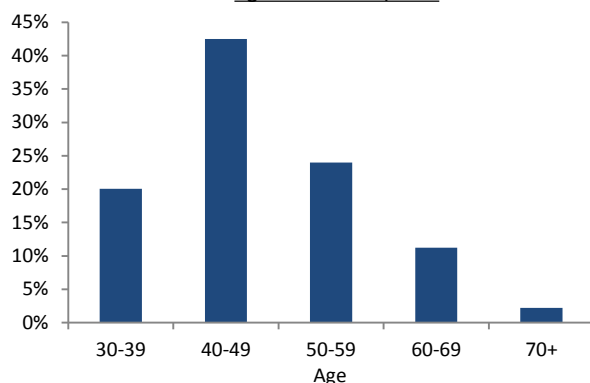
\* Includes roles reported by survey respondents that did not fit predefined survey categories.

### Demographics of clinicians

Males represented 57.0% of clinicians and had an average age of 49.9 and average hours of 38.2 per week. In contrast female clinicians account for 43% of all clinicians and on average were 4.5 years younger and worked 5.9 fewer hours per week than male clinicians.

Category	% of clinicians	Average age	Average hours per week
Male	57.0%	49.9	38.2
Female	43.0%	45.4	32.2
<b>Clinician total</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>48.0</b>	<b>35.6</b>

**Ages of clinicians, 2016**



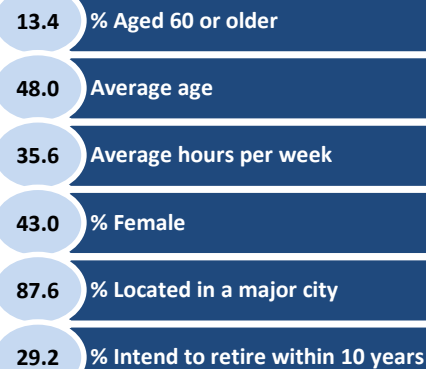
### Distribution of clinicians

In 2016, the majority (87.6%) 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
%	87.6	7.5	3.9	0.7	0.3	-	-

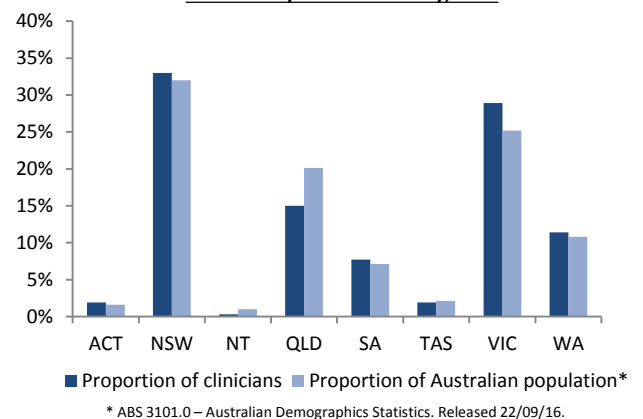
\* Further information on the Modified Monash Model is available at [doctorconnect.gov.au](http://doctorconnect.gov.au)

### Quick facts of clinician workforce



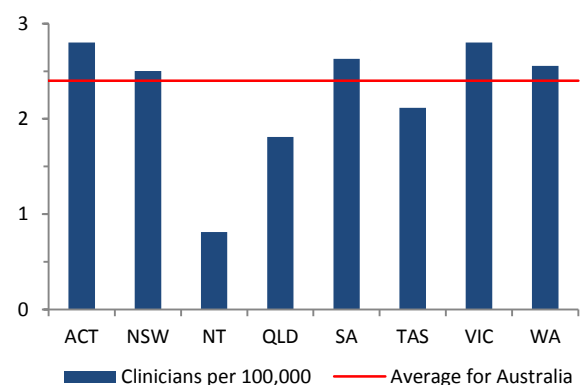
In 2016, the jurisdiction with the highest number of clinicians was New South Wales with 33.0%, followed by Victoria and Queensland with 28.9% and 15.0% respectively.

**Clinicians by state & territory, 2016**



There was an average of 2.4 clinicians per 100,000 population across Australia in 2016. The Australian Capital Territory and Victoria had the highest ratio of clinicians with 2.8 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 geriatric medicine new fellows in 2015 was 47.5% higher than the number in 2013. Between 2013 and 2015 female new fellows increased by 70.6% and male new fellows by 30.4%.

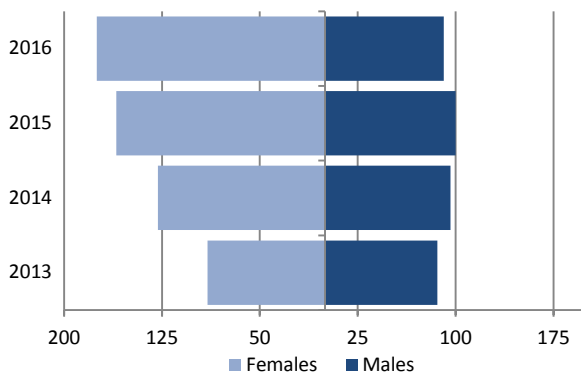
Trainee numbers, 2013-15			
	2013	2014	2015
Males	23	23	30
Females	17	18	29
<b>Total</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>59</b>

## Vocational training

The number of geriatric medicine trainees in 2016 was 51.1% higher than the number in 2013. Between 2013 and 2016, female trainees increased by 94.4% and male trainees increased by 5.8%.

Trainee numbers, 2013-16			
Year	Females	Males	Total
2013	90	86	176
2014	128	96	224
2015	160	100	260
2016	175	91	266
<b>Change 2013-16 (%)</b>	<b>94.4%</b>	<b>5.8%</b>	<b>51.1%</b>

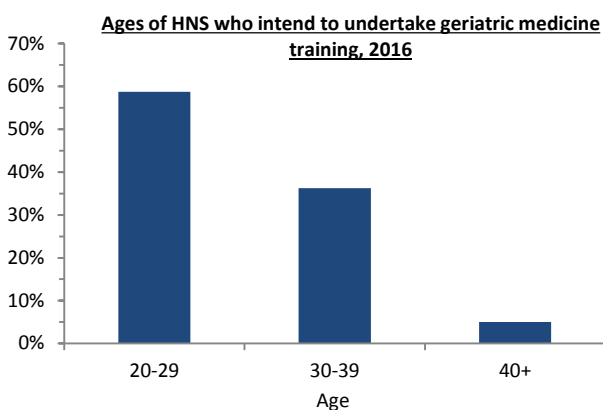
Vocational trainees, 2013-16



## Vocational intentions

In 2016, there were 80 Hospital Non-Specialists (HNS\*) who indicated their intention to undertake vocational training in geriatric 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.



## 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](http://health.gov.au)

Minimal concern Significant concern

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

### References

- 1) National Health Workforce Dataset (NHWDs): Medical Practitioners 2016.
- 2) Royal Australasian College of Physicians.
- 3) Medical Education and Training Report 1<sup>st</sup> 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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