

3 Primary care practitioners

Primary care practitioners engage in general medical practice or in the primary care of patients. They include practitioners recognised by Medicare as vocationally registered general practitioners (VRGPs), Fellows of the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (FRACGP), RACGP trainees and other medical practitioners (OMPs) who are not recognised general practitioners but whose Medicare patient billing is mainly for unREFERRED attendances.

The Health Insurance Commission recognises as general practitioners those medical practitioners who are vocationally registered or Fellows of the RACGP or trainees for vocational registration who are employed in a recognised general practice.

The data in this chapter are presented for various sub-groups of primary care practitioners which are not necessarily mutually exclusive.

The data for VRGPs (section 3.1), RACGP trainees (section 3.2) and OMPs (section 3.3) are mutually exclusive and sum to the total for primary care practitioners shown in Chapter 2.

The data for special interest primary care practitioners (section 3.4) and locum and deputising services (section 3.5) are subsets of the total primary care practitioners which are not mutually exclusive of each other or the other primary care groups presented.

- There were 21,037 primary care practitioners in 1995, of whom 17,896 (85.1%) were VRGPs, 1,371 (6.5%) were RACGP trainees and 1,771 (8.4%) were OMPs.
- 6,658 (31.6%) primary care practitioners were female.
- 45.4% and 71.5% of male and female primary care practitioners respectively were younger than 45 years of age.
- 12.1% and 51.8% of male and female primary care practitioners respectively worked less than 35 hours per week.
- 4.3% and 1.6% of male and female primary care practitioners respectively worked 80 or more hours per week.
- 92.3% of primary care practitioners practised from private rooms.
- 0.6% of primary care practitioners practised in an Aboriginal health service.
- 75.7% and 82.0% of male and female primary care practitioners respectively practised in major urban centres, and 2.0% of males and 1.9% of females practised in remote areas.
- 74.2% and 80.6% of male and female primary care practitioners respectively gained their initial qualification in Australia.
- 33.0% of those primary care practitioners who had gained their initial qualification in the United Kingdom or Ireland practised in rural centres/areas and remote areas, as did 23.3% of those who had qualified in Australia, 20.0% of those who had qualified in New Zealand, 7.8% of those who had qualified in Asia and 14.4% of those who had qualified in other countries.

The difference between the 21,037 primary care practitioners enumerated in 1995 in the labour force survey and the 24,376 Medicare providers of general practice services in 1995-96 (Table 100) is explained by about 3,000 salaried hospital non-specialists, medical educators, researchers and others who rendered private practice Medicare services in 1995-96. These Medicare providers are nearly all classified by the Health Insurance Commission as OMPs and their level of Medicare activity is low.

3.1 Vocationally registered general practitioners

In the labour force survey, vocationally registered general practitioners are primary care practitioners who self reported that they were either vocationally registered or were Fellows of the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners.

Vocational registration applies to a primary care practitioner's registration as a Medicare provider. The criteria for registration as a vocationally registered general practitioner are:

- certification from either the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, a Vocational Registration Eligibility Committee or the Vocational Registration Appeal Committee, that the practitioner's medical practice is predominantly general practice, and
- appropriate training and experience in general practice.

Features of vocationally registered general practitioners in 1995 include the following.

- There were 17,896 , 85.1% of all primary care practitioners.
- Of these, 12,657 (70.7%) were male and 5,239 (29.3%) were female.
- The average age was 46.9 years—48.8 for males and 42.2 for females.
- 41.1% of males and 67.3% of females were younger than 45 years of age.
- Males worked an average of 51.6 hours per week and females worked an average of 34.5 hours per week.
- 11.1% of males and 53.1% of females worked less than 35 hours per week.
- Average hours per week worked by males was relatively uniform across all geographic regions, ranging from 50.9 hours in major urban centres to 55.2 hours in small rural centres. For females, average hours worked per week ranged from 33.2 hours to 36.4 hours for all metropolitan and rural areas, with a significant increase to an average of 48.9 hours in remote areas.
- 74.4% of males and 81.4% of females had gained their initial qualification in Australia.
- 93.6% of males and 92.8% of females were Australian citizens, and a further 5.9% of males and 6.9% of females were permanent residents of Australia.
- 73.0% of those who were not permanent residents of Australia were practising in major urban centres.
- 74.6% of the primary care practitioners in remote areas were vocationally registered general practitioners, compared with 84.3% in major urban centres and 89.0%, 88.8% and 89.3% in large rural, small rural and other rural areas respectively.
- Private rooms were the work setting of the main job of 94.2% of practising vocationally registered general practitioners.

Table 15: Vocationally registered general practitioners: selected characteristics and States and Territories, 1995

Characteristic	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Total	%
Age (years):										
Males										
<35	208	353	227	116	129	42	19	5	1,099	8.7
35-44	1,333	1,053	712	326	395	154	91	40	4,104	32.4
45-54	1,470	785	596	281	372	82	63	24	3,672	29.0
55-64	798	373	323	183	173	61	31	17	1,959	15.5
65-74	603	316	216	128	130	36	27	11	1,466	11.6
75+	161	71	74	13	29	9	0	0	357	2.8
Females										
<35	225	307	199	115	132	42	29	14	1,064	20.3
35-44	835	572	439	200	235	86	78	18	2,463	47.0
45-54	424	208	198	113	110	34	37	7	1,129	21.6
55-64	142	76	29	39	31	12	12	4	344	6.6
65-74	88	41	30	8	21	2	4	0	195	3.7
75+	16	11	9	6	0	2	0	0	44	0.8
Total hours worked: per week										
Males										
1-19	184	86	77	44	43	11	7	5	457	3.6
20-34	329	216	138	93	83	41	32	19	949	7.5
35-49	1,209	973	660	367	362	122	99	25	3,816	30.2
50-64	1,890	1,307	1,033	415	578	163	76	42	5,502	43.5
65-79	647	282	188	109	106	39	18	7	1,396	11.0
80+	313	86	53	20	56	7	0	0	535	4.2
Mean	53.4	50.4	50.7	48.9	51.2	48.4	47.9	48.1	51.6	..
Mode	60	50	50	40	50	50	50	50	50	..
Median	51.5	49.5	49.5	48.5	49.5	49.5	45.5	49.5	49.5	..
Females										
1-19	347	252	194	96	105	25	23	7	1,049	20.0
20-34	503	430	277	188	192	76	59	10	1,736	33.1
35-49	477	329	284	120	132	48	54	14	1,458	27.8
50-64	310	151	116	50	75	25	18	12	757	14.4
65-79	74	19	23	12	17	3	0	0	149	2.9
80+	18	33	9	15	8	2	5	0	89	1.7
Mean	35.5	33.9	33.0	34.0	35.0	33.5	34.8	36.4	34.5	..
Mode	40	20	40	20	30	40	40	40	40	..
Median	34.5	31.5	33.5	31.5	32.5	29.5	34.5	39.0	33.5	..
Region of main job:										
Males										
Major urban centre	3,582	2,298	1,421	796	926	202	231	56	9,512	75.2
Large rural centre	201	118	342	0	13	70	0	0	744	5.9
Small rural centre	293	189	117	79	72	45	0	3	797	6.3
Other rural area	476	336	211	95	203	64	0	0	1,385	10.9
Remote area	21	9	58	78	15	1	0	39	219	1.7
Females										
Major urban centre	1,440	1,032	644	408	449	105	159	21	4,258	81.3
Large rural centre	88	37	120	0	0	29	0	0	275	5.2
Small rural centre	99	51	44	21	23	14	0	0	252	4.8
Other rural area	97	92	67	27	55	29	0	0	367	7.0
Remote area	5	3	28	26	2	1	0	22	87	1.7
Work setting of main job:										
Private rooms	6,040	3,898	2,893	1,408	1,664	519	338	100	16,861	94.2
Non-residential facility	55	110	41	22	21	21	14	7	291	1.6
Aboriginal health service	19	9	6	21	7	1	2	20	86	0.5
Acute care hospital	59	16	28	13	10	5	2	0	131	0.7
Other residential facility	15	9	19	12	11	3	0	0	70	0.4
Educational institution	37	59	25	13	22	7	12	0	174	1.0
Defence forces	22	18	16	5	2	0	9	3	75	0.4
Other	54	45	23	35	22	5	14	10	208	1.2
Males	4,572	2,950	2,148	1,047	1,229	382	231	97	12,657	70.7
Females	1,729	1,215	904	482	529	179	159	43	5,239	29.3
Total	6,301	4,165	3,052	1,529	1,757	561	390	140	17,896	100.0

Table 16: Vocationally registered general practitioners: selected characteristics and region, Australia, 1995

Characteristic	Region of main job					Total	%
	Major urban centre	Large rural centre	Small rural centre	Other rural area	Remote area		
Average age:							
Males	49.3	47.3	47.3	46.8	45.1	48.8	..
Females	42.3	41.5	41.9	41.9	38.1	42.2	..
Total	47.1	45.6	46.0	45.8	43.0	46.9	..
Total hours worked: per week							
Males							
1-19	365	20	22	43	7	457	3.6
20-34	766	38	48	86	10	949	7.5
35-49	3,047	210	205	299	54	3,816	30.2
50-64	4,027	383	339	651	102	5,502	43.5
65-79	961	75	124	205	31	1,396	11.0
80+	345	18	59	99	14	535	4.2
Mean	50.9	52.3	55.2	55.1	54.8	51.6	..
Females							
1-19	824	68	64	88	6	1,049	20.0
20-34	1,467	82	76	97	15	1,736	33.1
35-49	1,213	78	60	83	24	1,458	27.8
50-64	586	35	44	68	24	757	14.4
65-79	103	8	6	19	13	149	2.9
80+	65	5	2	11	6	89	1.7
Mean	34.1	34.0	33.2	36.4	48.9	34.5	..
Work setting of main job:							
Private rooms	12,937	962	1,019	1,701	242	16,861	94.2
Non-residential facility	235	20	7	18	11	291	1.6
Aboriginal health service	37	8	4	4	33	86	0.5
Acute care hospital	88	9	8	19	8	131	0.7
Other residential facility	66	4	0	0	0	70	0.4
Educational institution	166	4	5	0	0	174	1.0
Defence forces	65	3	3	3	0	75	0.4
Other	177	10	2	6	12	208	1.2
Country of initial							
Males							
Australia	6,951	596	604	1,110	159	9,420	74.4
New Zealand	121	8	11	5	2	146	1.2
United	811	96	122	166	48	1,244	9.8
Asia	1,117	22	29	53	4	1,225	9.7
Other countries	512	22	31	50	7	622	4.9
Females							
Australia	3,458	225	211	307	64	4,266	81.4
New Zealand	39	7	2	3	2	53	1.0
United	307	33	32	41	20	433	8.3
Asia	287	1	3	8	2	301	5.7
Other countries	167	7	5	8	0	187	3.6
Australian residency status:							
Males							
Australian citizen	8,932	702	740	1,282	194	11,849	93.6
Permanent resident	539	41	55	95	20	750	5.9
Not permanent	41	2	2	8	5	57	0.5
Females							
Australian citizen	3,965	248	226	342	80	4,860	92.8
Permanent resident	281	25	26	22	7	361	6.9
Not permanent	13	1	0	3	0	17	0.3
Males	9,512	744	797	1,385	219	12,657	70.7
Females	4,258	275	252	367	87	5,239	29.3
Total	13,770	1,018	1,050	1,752	306	17,896	100.0

3.2 General practitioner (RACGP) trainees

General practitioner trainees practise under the supervision of a Fellow of the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners.

- There were 1,371 general practitioner trainees in 1995, comprising 6.5% of all primary care practitioners.
- 57.6% of RACGP trainees were female.
- 40.3% of female trainees worked less than 35 hours per week, while only 10.1% of male trainees worked less than 35 hours per week.
- Male trainees worked an average of 47.2 hours per week and female trainees averaged 35.6 hours per week. Average hours worked by males ranged from a high of 50.1 in New South Wales to a low of 36.4 in the Northern Territory. Females averaged the longest hours in the Northern Territory (41.5) and the shortest in Western Australia (30.6).
- Median hours worked per week were 44.5 for males and 36.5 for females.
- The average age of RACGP trainees was 31.4 years. This average generally decreased across geographic region from 31.7 years in major urban centres to 29.6 years in remote areas.
- 83.7% of females and 78.5% of males were younger than 35 years of age.
- 73.2% of males were located in major urban centres, 23.4% in rural areas and 3.3% in remote areas. For females, 81.9% were located in major urban centres, 15.1% in rural areas and 3.0% in remote areas.
- The main job of 85.8% of RACGP trainees was in private rooms, compared with 92.3% of all primary care practitioners. A further 5.5% had their main job in acute care hospitals and 4.3% worked mainly in non-residential facilities.
- 79.8% of male trainees and 82.0% of female trainees had gained their initial qualification in Australia.
- 92.6% of males and 88.7% of females were Australian citizens, and a further 6.7% of males and 10.9% of females were permanent residents of Australia.

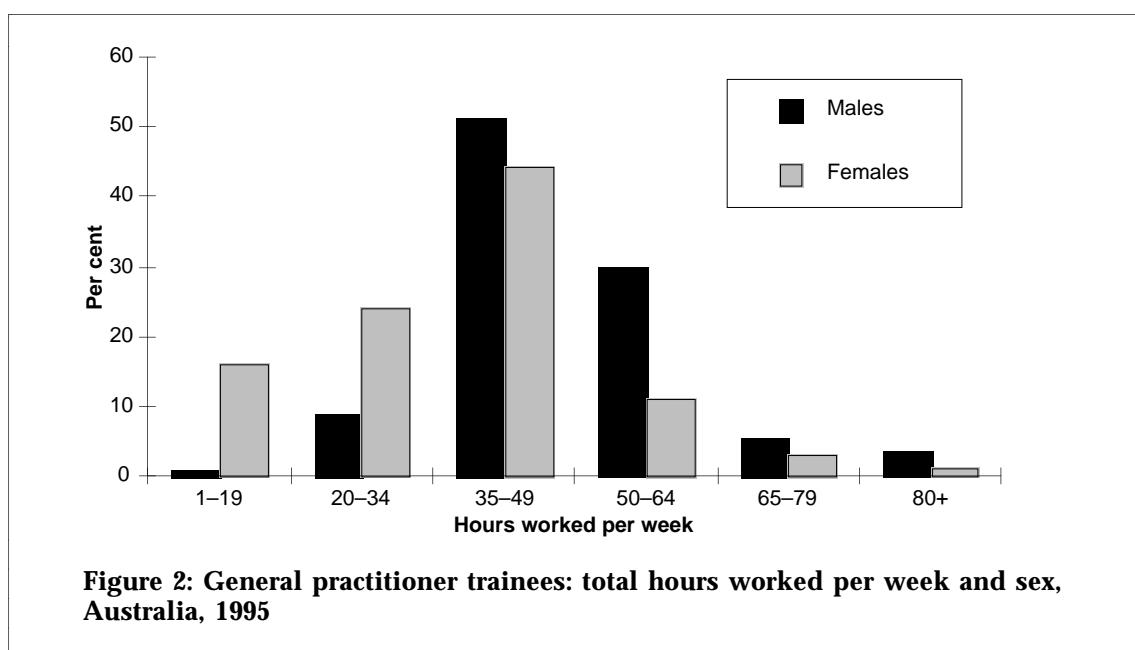


Table 17: General practitioner trainees: selected characteristics and States and Territories, 1995

Characteristic	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Total	%
Age (years):										
Males										
<35	152	128	64	32	52	15	2	11	456	78.5
35-44	45	17	22	10	7	2	4	0	106	18.3
45-54	7	1	3	0	2	1	2	0	17	2.8
55-64	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0.3
65-74	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
75+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Females										
<35	209	181	117	34	53	26	16	25	661	83.7
35-44	54	15	19	7	5	3	5	0	107	13.6
45-54	10	6	3	0	0	0	2	0	20	2.5
55-64	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0.2
65-74	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
75+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Total hours worked: per week										
Males										
1-19	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	3	6	1.1
20-34	16	13	5	6	10	2	0	0	52	9.0
35-49	91	87	46	25	25	15	4	6	299	51.4
50-64	64	41	36	11	17	0	4	0	172	29.7
65-79	19	3	5	0	2	0	0	3	32	5.5
80+	13	2	0	0	5	0	0	0	20	3.4
Mean	50.1	45.1	46.7	43.5	46.6	39.8	48.0	36.4	47.2	..
Mode	40	40	50	38	50	40	40	(a)	40	..
Median	45.5	41.5	45.5	44.5	42.5	39.5	50.5	39.5	44.5	..
Females										
1-19	48	28	19	11	7	6	5	4	128	16.2
20-34	67	64	24	11	15	5	5	0	191	24.1
35-49	113	87	76	13	27	13	7	13	349	44.1
50-64	36	17	15	6	4	5	4	2	89	11.3
65-79	10	2	5	0	2	0	2	4	24	3.1
80+	2	4	2	0	2	0	0	0	9	1.1
Mean	35.6	34.1	36.9	30.6	39.1	33.7	35.6	41.5	35.6	..
Mode	40	38	40	38	40	40	40	40	40	..
Median	35.5	34.5	39.5	32.5	36.5	34.5	39.5	39.5	36.5	..
Region of main job:										
Males										
Major urban centre	160	107	61	33	43	10	8	3	425	73.2
Large rural centre	14	10	5	0	0	4	0	0	33	5.6
Small rural centre	12	8	8	2	0	0	0	0	30	5.2
Other rural area	17	21	15	0	16	4	0	0	73	12.6
Remote area	2	0	2	7	0	0	0	8	19	3.3
Females										
Major urban centre	240	169	112	34	49	16	22	6	647	81.9
Large rural centre	10	6	12	0	0	2	0	0	30	3.8
Small rural centre	16	11	3	2	2	4	0	0	39	4.9
Other rural area	10	16	10	2	7	6	0	0	50	6.4
Remote area	0	0	3	2	0	0	0	18	24	3.0
Work setting of main job:										
Private rooms	405	312	214	71	107	36	17	15	1,177	85.8
Non-residential facility	17	18	6	2	4	2	3	7	59	4.3
Aboriginal health	3	0	0	2	2	0	0	12	19	1.4
Acute care hospital	45	9	7	4	5	4	0	2	76	5.5
Other residential facility	2	2	1	2	0	0	0	0	7	0.5
Educational institution	2	4	2	0	0	0	2	0	8	0.6
Defence forces	5	2	0	2	0	0	6	0	15	1.1
Other	2	2	0	0	0	4	2	0	9	0.7
Males	205	146	91	42	60	18	8	11	581	42.4
Females	275	201	140	41	58	28	22	25	790	57.6
Total	479	348	231	83	118	46	30	36	1,371	100.0

(a) There was no single mode.

Table 18: General practitioner trainees: selected characteristics and region, Australia, 1995

Characteristic	Region of main job					Total	%
	Major urban centre	Large rural centre	Small rural centre	Other rural area	Remote area		
Average age:							
Males	32.2	30.8	31.8	30.1	30.9	31.8	..
Females	31.4	31.1	31.1	29.4	28.6	31.1	..
Total	31.7	30.9	31.4	29.8	29.6	31.4	..
Total hours worked: per week							
Males							
1-19	6	0	0	0	0	6	1.1
20-34	46	2	2	2	0	52	9.0
35-49	220	17	15	42	6	299	51.4
50-64	119	10	10	22	10	172	29.7
65-79	23	0	3	3	2	32	5.5
80+	10	4	0	4	2	20	3.4
Mean	46.3	51.6	49.2	48.9	54.3	47.2	..
Females							
1-19	114	7	3	2	2	128	16.2
20-34	169	9	6	7	0	191	24.1
35-49	286	8	19	27	8	349	44.1
50-64	58	4	7	9	11	89	11.3
65-79	15	0	3	3	3	24	3.1
80+	5	2	0	2	0	9	1.1
Mean	34.4	34.8	42.3	45.1	46.4	35.6	..
Work setting of main job:							
Private rooms	916	51	62	117	29	1,177	85.8
Non-residential facility	44	2	2	4	7	59	4.3
Aboriginal health	8	0	5	0	7	19	1.4
Acute care hospital	68	6	0	2	0	76	5.5
Other residential	5	2	0	0	0	7	0.5
Educational institution	8	0	0	0	0	8	0.6
Defence forces	13	2	0	0	0	15	1.1
Other	9	0	0	0	0	9	0.7
Country of initial qualification:							
Males							
Australia	315	31	29	69	19	464	79.8
New Zealand	12	0	0	0	0	12	2.1
United Kingdom/Ireland	14	0	2	4	0	20	3.4
Asia	43	2	0	0	0	44	7.6
Other countries	41	0	0	0	0	41	7.0
Females							
Australia	518	28	32	45	24	647	82.0
New Zealand	12	0	0	2	0	14	1.7
United Kingdom/Ireland	22	2	0	4	0	27	3.4
Asia	51	0	2	0	0	52	6.6
Other countries	44	0	5	0	0	49	6.2
Australian residency status:							
Males							
Australian citizen	390	29	29	71	19	538	92.6
Permanent resident	32	4	2	2	0	39	6.7
Not permanent	4	0	0	0	0	4	0.6
Females							
Australian citizen	568	28	35	45	24	700	88.7
Permanent resident	76	2	4	5	0	86	10.9
Not permanent	3	0	0	0	0	3	0.4
Males	425	33	30	73	19	581	42.4
Females	647	30	39	50	24	790	57.6
Total	1,073	62	70	123	43	1,371	100.0

3.3 Other medical practitioners

In the labour force survey, other medical practitioners are primary care practitioners who did not self report as being vocationally registered or training to become vocationally registered. There were 1,771 primary care practitioners in this category in the survey. A further 4,894 medical practitioners were classified as other medical practitioners by Medicare (see Chapter 14): these practitioners were nearly all hospital non-specialists with low levels of Medicare billing activity.

- There were 1,771 other medical practitioners in 1995, comprising 8.4% of all primary care practitioners.
- Of these, 1,142 (64.5%) were male and 629 (35.5%) were female. This proportion varied significantly among States and Territories, from a high of 78.6% males in Tasmania to a low of 53.1% males in the Northern Territory.
- The average age was 41.0 years—41.9 years for males and 39.3 years for females. Some 67.4% of males and 74.2% of females were younger than 45 years of age.
- 24.0% of males worked less than 35 hours, while over half (54.3%) of females worked less than 35 hours.
- Males worked an average of 46.3 hours per week and females averaged 32.3 hours.
- 82.7% of males and 88.1% of females practised in major urban centres.
- 77.3% of other medical practitioners practised from private rooms, 6.8% practised in non-residential facilities, and 5.2% practised in acute care hospitals.
- 69.0% of males and 72.5% of females had gained their initial qualification in Australia.
- 84.9% of males and 87.0% of females were Australian citizens, and a further 12.4% of males and 10.3% of females were permanent residents of Australia.

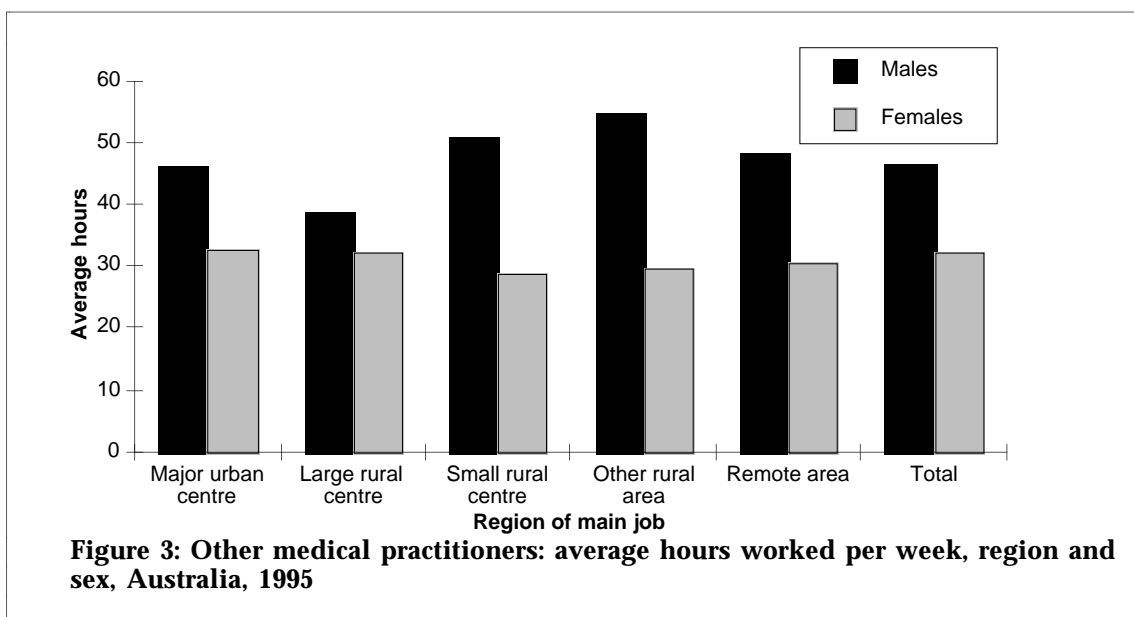


Table 19: Other medical practitioners: selected characteristics and States and Territories, 1995

Characteristic	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Total	%
Age (years):										
Males										
<35	170	90	98	45	54	7	5	7	476	41.7
35-44	126	67	22	35	19	8	13	4	293	25.7
45-54	65	24	15	16	14	3	4	3	143	12.6
55-64	32	12	12	4	3	7	4	0	74	6.5
65-74	41	22	23	10	5	5	0	0	106	9.3
75+	9	3	7	6	15	3	3	3	49	4.3
Females										
<35	91	75	51	30	9	6	2	0	264	42.0
35-44	73	37	31	24	16	1	5	15	202	32.2
45-54	39	15	15	18	6	0	4	0	96	15.2
55-64	12	9	13	2	2	2	0	0	40	6.4
65-74	11	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	18	2.9
75+	0	0	0	0	8	0	0	0	8	1.2
Total hours worked: per week										
Males										
1-19	33	20	20	8	10	0	5	3	98	8.6
20-34	67	34	22	19	15	10	4	4	176	15.4
35-49	130	61	61	38	48	12	6	2	358	31.3
50-64	144	78	60	39	24	8	7	8	368	32.2
65-79	45	12	5	7	4	1	2	0	75	6.6
80+	25	12	9	6	8	2	6	0	67	5.9
Mean	47.6	45.9	44.1	46.2	45.4	44.3	46.1	43.3	46.3	..
Mode	60	50	40	(a)	40	60	55	(a)	(a)	..
Median	48.5	47.5	44.5	44.5	44.5	44.0	49.0	49.5	46.5	..
Females										
1-19	49	36	40	19	18	5	4	8	179	28.5
20-34	53	50	29	21	9	0	2	0	163	25.8
35-49	78	38	27	20	12	4	6	5	189	30.1
50-64	30	16	7	10	2	0	0	3	68	10.8
65-79	12	2	6	2	0	0	0	0	22	3.5
80+	4	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	8	1.3
Mean	35.4	30.8	28.8	33.2	30.8	22	24.9	29.2	32.3	..
Mode	40	40	40	(a)	15	37	(a)	(a)	40	..
Median	36.5	29.5	25.0	32.0	31.5	36.0	35.0	40.5	31.5	..
Region of main job:										
Males										
Major urban centre	382	193	135	86	95	15	29	10	944	82.7
Large rural centre	16	3	12	0	0	5	0	0	36	3.2
Small rural centre	23	7	10	6	6	0	0	0	53	4.6
Other rural area	16	13	10	8	3	13	0	0	64	5.6
Remote area	5	0	10	17	5	0	0	8	45	3.9
Females										
Major urban centre	209	135	85	66	34	5	11	9	554	88.1
Large rural centre	6	5	13	0	0	2	0	0	26	4.1
Small rural centre	5	0	3	0	0	2	0	0	10	1.5
Other rural area	6	4	4	5	3	0	0	0	22	3.6
Remote area	0	0	3	4	4	0	0	6	17	2.7
Work setting of main job:										
Private rooms	518	301	217	138	119	36	25	15	1,370	77.3
Non-residential facility	31	19	31	23	7	3	2	5	121	6.8
Aboriginal health	8	0	2	2	2	0	0	8	21	1.2
Acute care hospital	60	10	6	9	5	0	2	0	91	5.2
Other residential	14	11	12	0	6	0	0	0	42	2.4
Educational institution	3	10	5	2	0	0	2	0	22	1.3
Defence forces	18	3	6	0	0	1	6	5	39	2.2
Other	18	7	6	18	10	2	4	0	65	3.7
Males	443	217	176	117	109	33	29	17	1,142	64.5
Females	226	144	109	75	41	9	11	15	629	35.5
Total	670	361	285	192	150	42	40	32	1,771	100.0

(a) There was no single mode.

Table 20: Other medical practitioners: selected characteristics and region, Australia, 1995

Characteristic	Region of main job					Total	%
	Major urban centre	Large rural centre	Small rural centre	Other rural area	Remote area		
Average age:							
Males	40.9	52.1	45.2	47.6	41.4	41.9	..
Females	39.3	38.3	39.2	39.4	38.9	39.3	..
Total	40.3	46.4	44.2	45.5	40.7	41.0	..
Total hours worked: per week							
Males							
1-19	75	7	5	4	7	98	8.6
20-34	150	7	6	9	3	176	15.4
35-49	307	6	18	16	11	358	31.3
50-64	308	16	7	17	19	368	32.2
65-79	59	0	7	6	3	75	6.6
80+	43	0	10	12	2	67	5.9
Mean	46.2	38.7	50.8	54.7	48.2	46.3	..
Females							
1-19	151	10	4	7	7	179	28.5
20-34	149	2	2	7	3	163	25.8
35-49	169	7	4	5	4	189	30.1
50-64	60	3	0	2	3	68	10.8
65-79	16	4	0	2	0	22	3.5
80+	8	0	0	0	0	8	1.3
Mean	32.8	32.1	28.6	29.5	30.6	32.3	..
Work setting of main job:							
Private rooms	1,161	45	50	81	33	1,370	77.3
Non-residential facility	101	10	4	0	6	121	6.8
Aboriginal health	8	2	2	2	8	21	1.2
Acute care hospital	75	2	7	2	7	92	5.2
Other residential	39	3	0	0	0	42	2.4
Educational institution	22	0	0	0	0	22	1.3
Defence forces	37	0	0	0	2	39	2.2
Other	55	0	2	2	7	65	3.7
Country of initial qualification:							
Males							
Australia	662	28	32	35	30	788	69.0
New Zealand	21	0	5	3	2	31	2.7
United Kingdom/Ireland	60	5	10	15	2	92	8.1
Asia	91	2	2	5	2	102	8.9
Other countries	109	2	5	5	8	129	11.3
Females							
Australia	400	18	4	18	17	456	72.5
New Zealand	15	3	0	0	0	18	2.9
United Kingdom/Ireland	25	5	4	3	0	37	5.9
Asia	60	0	1	2	0	63	10.1
Other countries	54	0	0	0	0	54	8.5
Australian residency status:							
Males							
Australian citizen	806	33	45	52	34	969	84.9
Permanent resident	124	3	3	9	2	141	12.4
Not permanent	14	0	5	3	8	31	2.7
Females							
Australian citizen	489	17	5	19	17	548	87.0
Permanent resident	55	5	1	3	0	65	10.3
Not permanent	10	3	3	0	0	17	2.6
Males	944	36	53	64	45	1,142	64.5
Females	554	26	10	22	17	629	35.5
Total	1,498	62	63	86	62	1,771	100.0

3.4 Special interest primary care practitioners

- Of the 21,037 primary care practitioners in 1995, 1,619 (7.7%) were practising mainly in a special interest area of primary care. This proportion varied across type of primary care practitioner—6.1% of vocationally registered general practitioners, 6.2% of RACGP trainees and 25.0% of other medical practitioners were practising in a special interest area.
- 6.9% and 9.4% of male and female primary care practitioners respectively were practising mainly in a special interest area. This proportion varied among States and Territories: only 3.3% and 4.5% of male and female primary care practitioners respectively in South Australia were practising mainly in a special interest area, compared with 14.9% and 28.1% respectively in the Northern Territory.
- 50.4% of primary care practitioners with a special interest area of practice were in recognised clinical specialties—58.3% and 37.8% of males and females respectively.
- The largest special interest area for male special interest primary care practitioners was sports medicine in which 7.8% were practising, followed by anaesthesia (6.9%) and general surgery (6.6%).
- The largest special interest areas for female special interest primary care practitioners were women’s health (18.5%) and family planning (7.4%).

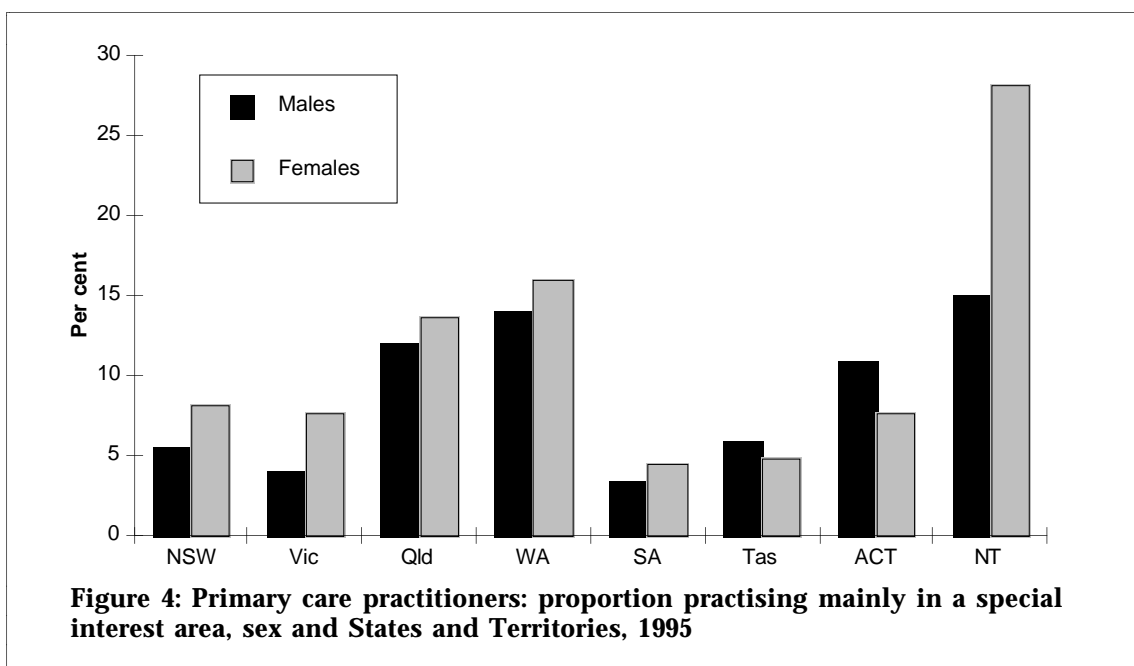


Table 21: Primary care practitioners: sex, qualification, main field of practice and States and Territories, 1995

Qualification/ main field of	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Total
Males									
Vocationally registered:									
General practice	4,389	2,864	1,916	906	1,204	363	216	84	11,940
Special interest	181	85	231	141	24	20	16	14	712
Total	4,571	2,949	2,147	1,047	1,228	382	232	97	12,652
RACGP trainee:									
General practice	199	139	76	34	60	15	8	8	540
Special interest	5	8	14	8	0	2	0	3	41
Total	205	146	91	42	60	18	8	11	581
Other medical practitioner:									
General practice	349	179	132	98	88	30	16	15	907
Special interest	96	39	46	19	22	3	13	2	239
Total	445	218	178	118	110	33	28	17	1,147
Total									
General practice	4,938	3,182	2,124	1,038	1,352	408	240	107	13,387
Special interest	282	131	290	169	46	25	29	19	992
Total	5,220	3,313	2,415	1,207	1,398	433	268	126	14,379
Females									
Vocationally registered:									
General practice	1,628	1,149	798	415	510	172	150	38	4,861
Special interest	101	65	107	67	19	7	9	5	379
Total	1,729	1,214	905	482	529	179	159	43	5,240
RACGP trainee:									
General practice	256	193	135	41	58	26	22	14	745
Special interest	19	9	4	0	0	2	0	11	45
Total	274	201	140	41	58	28	22	25	789
Other medical									
General practice	165	99	62	47	31	7	5	8	424
Special interest	61	45	46	28	9	2	6	8	204
Total	226	145	108	75	40	9	11	15	629
Total									
General practice	2,049	1,441	995	502	599	206	178	60	6,030
Special interest	181	118	157	95	28	10	15	23	628
Total	2,230	1,560	1,153	597	627	216	192	83	6,658
Persons									
Vocationally registered:									
General practice	6,018	4,013	2,714	1,320	1,714	535	366	122	16,802
Special interest	282	149	337	208	43	26	25	18	1,090
Total	6,300	4,163	3,052	1,529	1,757	561	391	140	17,892
RACGP trainee:									
General practice	455	331	212	75	118	42	30	22	1,284
Special interest	24	16	19	8	0	4	0	14	85
Total	479	348	230	83	118	46	30	36	1,370
Other medical									
General practice	514	279	194	145	119	37	21	23	1,331
Special interest	157	84	92	48	31	5	18	10	444
Total	671	363	285	192	150	42	39	32	1,775
Total									
General practice	6,987	4,623	3,120	1,540	1,951	614	417	167	19,417
Special interest	463	250	448	264	74	35	43	42	1,619
Total	7,450	4,873	3,567	1,804	2,025	649	460	209	21,037

(continued)

Table 21 (continued): Primary care practitioners: sex, qualification, main field of practice and States and Territories, 1995

Qualification/ main field of	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Total
(per cent—males)									
Vocationally registered:									
General practice	96.0	97.1	89.3	86.5	98.0	94.9	93.1	85.9	94.4
Special interest	4.0	2.9	10.7	13.5	2.0	5.1	6.9	14.1	5.6
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>
RACGP trainee:									
General practice	97.4	94.8	84.2	80.1	100.0	86.1	100.0	75.0	93.0
Special interest	2.6	5.2	15.8	19.9	0.0	13.9	0.0	25.0	7.0
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>
Other medical									
General practice	78.5	82.3	74.3	83.4	80.3	90.5	55.2	86.6	79.1
Special interest	21.5	17.7	25.7	16.6	19.7	9.5	44.8	13.4	20.9
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>
Total									
General practice	94.6	96.0	88.0	86.0	96.7	94.2	89.3	85.1	93.1
Special interest	5.4	4.0	12.0	14.0	3.3	5.8	10.7	14.9	6.9
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>
(per cent—females)									
Vocationally registered:									
General practice	94.2	94.7	88.2	86.1	96.4	96.3	94.3	88.8	92.8
Special interest	5.8	5.3	11.8	13.9	3.6	3.7	5.7	11.2	7.2
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>
RACGP trainee:									
General practice	93.1	95.8	96.9	100.0	100.0	93.0	100.0	55.6	94.3
Special interest	6.9	4.2	3.1	0.0	0.0	7.0	0.0	44.4	5.7
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>
Other medical									
General practice	73.1	68.6	57.2	62.4	77.5	81.0	48.7	50.0	67.5
Special interest	26.9	31.4	42.8	37.6	22.5	19.0	51.3	50.0	32.5
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>
Total									
General practice	91.9	92.4	86.4	84.1	95.5	95.3	92.4	71.9	90.6
Special interest	8.1	7.6	13.6	15.9	4.5	4.7	7.6	28.1	9.4
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>
(per cent—persons)									
Vocationally registered:									
General practice	95.5	96.4	88.9	86.4	97.5	95.4	93.6	86.8	93.9
Special interest	4.5	3.6	11.1	13.6	2.5	4.6	6.4	13.2	6.1
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>
RACGP trainee:									
General practice	95.0	95.3	91.9	89.9	100.0	90.4	100.0	61.6	93.8
Special interest	5.0	4.7	8.1	10.1	0.0	9.6	0.0	38.4	6.2
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>
Other medical									
General practice	76.7	76.8	67.8	75.3	79.6	88.4	53.4	69.6	75.0
Special interest	23.3	23.2	32.2	24.7	20.4	11.6	46.6	30.4	25.0
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>
Total									
General practice	93.8	94.9	87.4	85.4	96.3	94.6	90.6	79.8	92.3
Special interest	6.2	5.1	12.6	14.6	3.7	5.4	9.4	20.2	7.7
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Table 22: Primary care practitioners mainly practising in a special interest area: special interest area and sex, Australia, 1995

Special interest area	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
	(number)			(per cent)		
<i>Recognised specialties:</i>						
Internal medicine						
Cardiology	61	9	71	6.2	1.5	4.4
General medicine	26	2	28	2.6	0.4	1.7
Infectious diseases	20	12	32	2.0	1.8	2.0
Paediatric medicine	22	23	46	2.3	3.7	2.8
Other internal medicine	46	16	62	4.6	2.6	3.8
Surgery						
General surgery	69	21	89	6.9	3.3	5.5
Orthopaedic surgery	21	2	24	2.2	0.4	1.5
Plastic/reconstructive	16	23	39	1.6	3.7	2.4
Other specialties						
Anaesthesia	66	25	92	6.7	4.1	5.7
Dermatology	18	9	27	1.8	1.5	1.7
Emergency medicine	49	9	58	4.9	1.5	3.6
Obstetrics and gynaecology	20	30	50	2.0	4.8	3.1
Occupational medicine	72	5	77	7.2	0.7	4.7
Psychiatry	24	23	48	2.5	3.7	3.0
Public health medicine	19	7	26	1.9	1.1	1.6
Other recognised specialties	30	19	48	3.0	3.0	3.0
<i>Total recognised specialties</i>	<i>578</i>	<i>237</i>	<i>815</i>	<i>58.3</i>	<i>37.8</i>	<i>50.4</i>
<i>Other special interest areas:</i>						
Sports medicine	78	21	99	7.9	3.3	6.1
Counselling/psychotherapy	62	37	99	6.3	5.9	6.1
Alternative medicine	68	21	89	6.8	3.3	5.5
Family planning	30	47	76	3.0	7.4	4.7
Sexual health	15	14	29	1.5	2.2	1.8
Women's health screening	3	26	28	0.3	4.1	1.8
Drug and alcohol abuse	21	5	26	2.1	0.7	1.6
Obesity and nutrition	16	5	20	1.6	0.7	1.3
Musculoskeletal medicine	17	2	19	1.7	0.4	1.2
Health assessment	7	5	12	0.7	0.7	0.7
Medical education/research	7	5	11	0.7	0.7	0.7
<i>Special interest populations:</i>						
Women's health	2	116	118	0.2	18.5	7.3
Aboriginal health	4	28	32	0.5	4.4	2.0
Rural and remote medicine	31	0	31	3.1	0.0	1.9
Child health	12	19	30	1.2	3.0	1.9
Adolescent health	10	12	21	1.0	1.8	1.3
<i>Not specified above</i>	<i>32</i>	<i>30</i>	<i>63</i>	<i>3.2</i>	<i>4.8</i>	<i>3.9</i>
Total	992	628	1,619	100.0	100.0	100.0

Table 23: Primary care practitioners mainly practising in a special interest area: special interest area and qualification, Australia, 1995

Special interest area	VRGP/ RACGP trainee	OMPs	Total	VRGP/ RACGP trainee	OMPs	Total
	(number)			(per cent)		
<i>Recognised specialties:</i>						
Internal medicine						
Cardiology	54	16	71	77.1	22.9	100.0
General medicine	20	8	28	71.7	28.3	100.0
Infectious diseases	32	0	32	100.0	0.0	100.0
Paediatric medicine	40	5	46	88.5	11.5	100.0
Other internal medicine	48	14	62	77.1	22.9	100.0
Surgery						
General surgery	53	36	89	59.2	40.8	100.0
Orthopaedic surgery	17	6	24	73.4	26.6	100.0
Plastic/reconstructive	35	3	39	91.4	8.6	100.0
Other specialties						
Anaesthesia	82	10	92	89.4	10.6	100.0
Dermatology	21	6	27	77.0	23.0	100.0
Emergency medicine	43	15	58	74.1	25.9	100.0
Obstetric & gynaecology	50	0	50	100.0	0.0	100.0
Occupational medicine	64	13	77	83.2	16.8	100.0
Psychiatry	23	25	48	47.3	52.7	100.0
Public health medicine	20	6	26	76.2	23.8	100.0
Other	24	24	48	50.4	49.6	100.0
<i>Total recognised specialties</i>	<i>627</i>	<i>189</i>	<i>815</i>	<i>76.8</i>	<i>23.2</i>	<i>100.0</i>
<i>Other special interest areas:</i>						
Sports medicine	68	31	99	68.2	31.8	100.0
Counselling/psychotherapy	67	32	99	67.4	32.6	100.0
Alternative medicine	77	12	89	86.4	13.6	100.0
Family planning	36	40	76	47.1	52.9	100.0
Sexual health	17	11	29	60.6	39.4	100.0
Women's health screening	11	17	28	39.7	60.3	100.0
Drug and alcohol abuse	8	17	26	32.3	67.7	100.0
Obesity and nutrition	18	2	20	88.4	11.6	100.0
Musculoskeletal medicine	13	7	19	66.1	33.9	100.0
Health assessment	7	5	12	56.8	43.2	100.0
Medical education/research	11	0	11	100.0	0.0	100.0
<i>Special interest populations:</i>						
Women's health	104	14	118	88.2	11.8	100.0
Aboriginal health	30	3	32	92.1	7.9	100.0
Rural and remote medicine	22	9	31	70.5	29.5	100.0
Child health	13	18	30	41.5	58.5	100.0
Adolescent health	18	3	21	86.7	13.3	100.0
<i>Not specified above</i>	<i>30</i>	<i>33</i>	<i>63</i>	<i>47.9</i>	<i>52.1</i>	<i>100.0</i>
Total	1,176	444	1,619	72.6	27.4	100.0

3.5 Primary care locum tenens and deputising service practitioners

Primary care locum tenens

A primary care locum tenens is a medical practitioner who acts as a substitute for another medical practitioner while that practitioner is temporarily absent from their practice. There were 1,518 primary care practitioners who reported current employment as a locum tenens in 1995. Features of these medical practitioners included the following.

- 523 (34.5%) were female. Over three-quarters (76.6%) of female primary care locums were younger than 45 years of age compared with 48.0% of males.
- 65.6% of female primary care locums were vocationally registered general practitioners, 14.0% were RACGP trainees, and 20.4% were other medical practitioners. The distribution of males was 64.9%, 9.4% and 25.8% respectively.
- 60.7% and 31.9% of female and male primary care locums respectively worked less than 35 hours per week.
- Male primary care locums were more likely to work in a rural or remote area than were their female counterparts. Some 22.0% of male primary care locums worked in a rural or remote area compared with 12.3% of females.
- 68.6% of males and 72.8% of females had gained their initial qualification in Australia. Of those who had gained their initial qualification overseas, 43.5% of males and 31.7% of females initially qualified in the United Kingdom or Ireland.
- Most (82.9%) primary care locums practised in private rooms and a further 6.6% practised in acute care hospitals.

Primary care deputising service practitioners

A deputising service is a medical practitioner, or group of practitioners, who provide after hours care, but not continuing care, to the patients of the subscribing primary care practitioners. There were 261 primary care practitioners who reported current employment as deputising service practitioners in 1995. Features of these medical practitioners included the following.

- 110 (42.3%) were female. Most (90.7%) female deputising service practitioners were younger than 45 years of age compared with 65.1% of males.
- 32.1% of female deputising service practitioners were vocationally registered general practitioners, 44.9% were RACGP trainees, and 23.0% were other medical practitioners. The distribution of males was 62.2%, 16.8% and 21.0% respectively.
- 40.9% and 12.0% of female and male deputising service practitioners respectively worked less than 35 hours per week.
- In contrast to primary care locums, female deputising service practitioners were more likely to work in a rural or remote area than were males: some 13.5% of female deputising service practitioners worked in a rural or remote area compared with 5.6% of males.
- 68.7% of males and 71.0% of females had gained their initial qualification in Australia. Of those who had gained their initial qualification overseas, 34.0% of males initially qualified in the United Kingdom or Ireland and 57.8% of females initially qualified in Asia.
- Most (79.2%) deputising service practitioners practised in private rooms. A further 5.4% practised in non-residential facilities and 5.2% practised in acute care hospitals.

Table 24: Primary care locum tenens: selected characteristics and States and Territories, 1995

Characteristic	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Total	%
Age (years):										
Males										
<35	72	59	52	36	52	12	3	2	289	29.0
35-44	64	47	29	15	15	5	5	9	189	19.0
45-54	33	32	23	10	15	1	5	0	120	12.1
55-64	43	18	26	15	7	3	0	0	113	11.3
65-74	77	42	54	23	13	10	8	0	228	22.9
75+	12	13	13	5	3	6	0	3	56	5.6
Females										
<35	63	85	32	21	14	10	3	0	228	43.6
35-44	77	42	28	8	3	3	7	5	173	33.0
45-54	18	14	14	4	6	2	2	0	59	11.2
55-64	18	4	3	4	5	2	2	2	41	7.7
65-74	7	3	5	0	0	1	0	0	17	3.2
75+	0	5	2	0	0	0	0	0	7	1.3
Professional										
Males										
VRGP	196	135	151	47	65	28	15	8	646	64.9
RACGP trainee	25	28	9	13	8	2	4	4	93	9.4
OMP	81	50	38	43	32	7	4	2	256	25.8
Females										
VRGP	120	94	60	20	22	15	13	0	343	65.6
RACGP trainee	23	27	14	4	4	2	0	0	73	14.0
OMP	40	32	11	14	2	2	0	7	107	20.4
Total hours worked: per week										
Males										
1-19	50	28	28	13	10	7	3	3	143	14.3
20-34	56	47	19	17	17	9	5	5	176	17.6
35-49	90	63	90	44	48	14	3	3	356	35.8
50-64	65	50	47	25	15	4	9	0	215	21.6
65-79	21	10	11	4	6	4	0	2	58	5.8
80+	20	13	3	0	10	0	2	0	48	4.8
Females										
1-19	59	36	21	11	8	5	3	2	143	27.4
20-34	49	55	32	15	12	7	4	2	174	33.3
35-49	45	33	28	7	6	7	5	4	134	25.6
50-64	17	16	4	2	0	0	1	0	41	7.8
65-79	10	7	1	0	2	0	0	0	21	3.9
80+	4	4	0	2	0	0	0	0	10	1.9
Region of main job:										
Males										
Capital city	199	168	107	69	90	20	22	10	685	68.8
Other metropolitan	48	9	35	0	0	0	0	0	92	9.2
Large rural centre	17	5	23	0	2	0	0	2	49	5.0
Small rural centre	21	5	19	11	7	11	0	0	75	7.5
Other rural area	16	23	12	9	7	7	0	0	74	7.5
Remote area	1	2	2	13	0	0	0	2	20	2.0
Females										
Capital city	147	135	51	37	23	15	12	7	428	81.8
Other metropolitan	19	5	7	0	0	0	0	0	31	6.0
Large rural centre	8	2	13	0	0	0	0	0	22	4.3
Small rural centre	5	5	7	0	0	2	0	0	19	3.6
Other rural area	5	3	4	0	4	2	1	0	20	3.8
Remote area	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	3	0.6
Males	302	212	199	103	105	37	22	14	995	65.5
Females	183	152	85	37	27	18	13	7	523	34.5
Total	485	364	284	140	132	56	36	21	1,518	100.0

(continued)

Table 24 (continued): Primary care locum tenens: selected characteristics and States and Territories, 1995

Characteristic	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Total	%
Country of initial										
Males										
Australia	196	161	148	47	85	19	14	12	682	68.6
New Zealand	11	4	6	6	2	0	0	2	30	3.1
United Kingdom/Ireland	30	17	30	31	6	15	7	0	136	13.6
Asia	40	18	3	8	11	0	2	0	82	8.3
Other countries	26	11	12	10	2	3	0	0	65	6.5
Females										
Australia	132	121	60	26	18	11	10	4	381	72.8
New Zealand	8	3	4	0	0	0	0	0	15	2.9
United Kingdom	9	7	12	6	4	6	1	0	45	8.7
Asia	14	13	1	6	5	0	0	2	41	7.8
Other countries	20	9	8	0	0	2	1	2	41	7.9
Citizenship and residency status:										
Males										
Australian citizen	264	201	178	78	96	36	17	12	881	88.6
Not Australian citizen										
Permanent resident	36	11	11	10	9	2	5	2	86	8.7
Not permanent	2	0	11	14	0	0	0	0	27	2.8
Females										
Australian citizen	165	137	71	28	23	15	13	7	459	87.8
Not Australian citizen										
Permanent resident	13	15	7	9	4	3	0	0	52	9.9
Not permanent	5	0	7	0	0	0	0	0	12	2.3
Work setting of main										
Males										
Private rooms	235	172	178	74	84	32	15	8	799	80.3
Non-residential facility	5	6	3	10	4	0	0	0	28	2.8
Aboriginal health	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	4	5	0.5
Acute care hospital	39	7	8	14	2	0	0	0	70	7.0
Other residential facility	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0.1
Educational institution	4	7	3	2	6	2	2	0	25	2.5
Defence forces	2	0	2	0	0	0	2	2	8	0.8
Government	2	7	5	0	2	0	3	0	20	2.0
Other	15	10	2	2	8	3	0	0	39	4.0
Females										
Private rooms	164	130	75	35	25	14	11	5	460	88.0
Non-residential facility	2	1	6	0	0	3	1	0	14	2.6
Aboriginal health	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Acute care hospital	9	14	3	0	2	2	0	0	30	5.7
Other residential facility	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Educational institution	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	4	0.8
Defence forces	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0.5
Government	1	1	0	2	0	0	1	0	6	1.1
Other	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	6	1.2
Persons										
Private rooms	400	302	253	109	110	46	26	13	1,259	82.9
Non-residential facility	7	7	9	10	4	3	1	0	42	2.7
Aboriginal health	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	4	5	0.4
Acute care hospital	48	22	10	14	4	2	0	0	100	6.6
Other residential facility	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0.1
Educational institution	4	10	4	2	6	2	2	0	29	1.9
Defence forces	4	1	2	0	0	0	2	2	10	0.7
Government	4	9	5	2	2	0	5	0	25	1.7
Other	19	10	2	2	8	3	0	2	46	3.0
Males	302	212	199	103	105	37	22	14	995	65.5
Females	183	152	85	37	27	18	13	7	523	34.5
Total	485	364	284	140	132	56	36	21	1,518	100.0

Table 25: Primary care deputising service practitioners: selected characteristics and States and Territories, 1995

Characteristic	NSW/ACT	Vic	Qld	WA	SA/NT	Tas	Total	%
Age (years):								
Males								
<35	19	24	3	0	10	0	57	37.6
35-44	6	11	7	4	10	3	41	27.5
45-54	5	3	3	2	7	3	22	14.9
55-64	10	3	3	4	1	0	21	14.0
65-74	1	4	2	0	2	0	9	5.9
75+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Females								
<35	22	23	4	10	6	4	69	62.4
35-44	12	7	3	4	6	0	31	28.3
45-54	4	3	0	0	0	0	6	5.9
55-64	2	0	0	2	0	0	4	3.5
65-74	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
75+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Professional qualification:								
Males								
VRGP	20	26	12	8	20	6	94	62.2
RACGP trainee	10	7	3	2	3	0	25	16.8
OMP	12	12	2	0	7	0	32	21.0
Females								
VRGP	15	8	2	4	5	2	35	32.1
RACGP trainee	14	21	5	6	2	2	50	44.9
OMP	11	3	0	6	5	0	25	23.0
Total hours worked: per								
Males								
1-19	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	1.5
20-34	6	6	4	0	0	0	16	10.5
35-49	14	14	7	5	17	1	59	39.3
50-64	10	17	3	3	10	3	47	31.4
65-79	9	6	1	2	2	1	21	14.2
80+	0	1	1	0	2	0	5	3.0
Females								
1-19	6	4	3	2	5	0	21	18.8
20-34	11	6	0	6	2	0	24	22.1
35-49	12	16	1	2	5	4	40	36.5
50-64	9	3	3	6	0	0	21	18.8
65-79	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1.1
80+	0	3	0	0	0	0	3	2.7
Region of main job:								
Males								
Capital city	36	43	6	10	29	4	128	85.3
Other metropolitan	2	0	11	0	0	0	14	9.1
Large rural centre	0	2	0	0	0	1	3	2.0
Small rural centre	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	1.6
Other rural area	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0.8
Remote area	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	1.2
Females								
Capital city	33	26	5	11	12	2	90	81.5
Other metropolitan	4	2	0	0	0	0	5	5.0
Large rural centre	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Small rural centre	1	2	0	2	0	2	7	6.3
Other rural area	1	3	1	0	0	0	6	5.2
Remote area	0	0	0	2	0	0	2	2.0
Males	42	45	17	10	31	6	150	57.7
Females	40	32	7	15	12	4	110	42.3
Total	82	77	24	26	43	10	261	100.0

(continued)

Table 25 (continued): Primary care deputising service practitioners: selected characteristics and States and Territories, 1995

Characteristic	NSW/ACT	Vic	Qld	WA	SA/NT	Tas	Total	%
Country of initial								
Males								
Australia	31	27	13	7	22	3	103	68.7
New Zealand	0	4	0	0	0	0	4	2.7
United Kingdom/Ireland	3	4	1	3	2	1	16	10.4
Asia	3	1	0	0	3	0	8	5.5
Other countries	3	8	3	0	3	1	19	12.8
Females								
Australia	31	17	5	11	12	2	78	71.0
New Zealand	0	0	1	2	0	0	4	3.2
United Kingdom/Ireland	0	1	0	2	0	0	4	3.3
Asia	8	11	0	0	0	0	19	17.1
Other countries	1	3	0	0	0	2	6	5.5
Citizenship and residency status:								
Males								
Australian citizen	38	37	15	8	31	6	136	90.4
Not Australian citizen								
Permanent resident	2	7	0	2	0	0	12	7.7
Not permanent	1	0	1	0	0	0	3	1.7
Females								
Australian citizen	36	22	5	10	12	4	90	81.6
Not Australian citizen								
Permanent resident	3	10	1	4	0	0	18	16.0
Not permanent	1	0	0	1	0	0	2	2.1
Work setting of main job:								
Males								
Private rooms	33	36	15	10	20	4	120	79.5
Non-residential facility	0	1	0	0	2	0	3	2.1
Aboriginal health	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Acute care hospital	5	0	1	0	0	1	8	5.0
Other residential facility	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Educational institution	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0.8
Defence forces	1	0	0	0	4	0	5	3.1
Government	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0.8
Other	1	7	0	0	5	0	13	8.8
Females								
Private rooms	35	25	4	11	7	4	87	78.9
Non-residential facility	3	3	1	2	2	0	11	9.9
Aboriginal health	0	0	1	2	0	0	3	3.0
Acute care hospital	1	3	0	0	2	0	6	5.4
Other residential facility	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	1.6
Educational institution	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Defence forces	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Government	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Other	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1.3
Persons								
Private rooms	68	61	20	22	27	8	207	79.2
Non-residential facility	3	4	1	2	3	0	14	5.4
Aboriginal health	0	0	1	2	0	0	3	1.3
Acute care hospital	6	3	1	0	2	1	13	5.2
Other residential facility	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	0.7
Educational	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0.4
Defence forces	1	0	0	0	4	0	5	1.8
Government	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0.4
Other	1	8	0	0	5	0	15	5.6
Males	42	45	17	10	31	6	150	57.7
Females	40	32	7	15	12	4	110	42.3
Total	82	77	24	26	43	10	261	100.0