

# **Nursing labour force 1999 Preliminary report**

Australian Institute of Health and Welfare  
Canberra

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## Abbreviations

ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
ACT	Australian Capital Territory
AHMAC	Australian Health Minister's Advisory Council
AIHW	Australian Institute of Health and Welfare
DETYA	Department of Education, Training and Youth Affairs
DEWRSB	Department of Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business
DIMA	Department of Immigration and Multicultural Affairs
FTE	Full-time equivalent
NSW	New South Wales
NT	Northern Territory
Qld	Queensland
SA	South Australia
Tas	Tasmania
UK	United Kingdom
Vic	Victoria
WA	Western Australia

## Symbols and other usages

Throughout this publication, data may not add to the totals shown due to the estimation process for non-response.

Throughout this publication, percentages may not add to 100.0 due to rounding.

*Italics* within a table denote a subtotal.

Percentage printed as 0.0 may denote less than 0.05%.

.. denotes not applicable.

- denotes nil.

n.a. denotes not available.

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# **Explanatory notes in respect of the national nursing labour force survey**

## **Background**

In 1990, the Australian Health Ministers' Advisory Council (AHMAC) commissioned the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare to develop national health labour force statistics about the major registrable health professions. Data collections based on a national minimum data set were developed addressing the labour force planning needs of the health professions, government, service providers and educational institutions. In addition to nursing, published data from the collection are available for medicine, dentistry, pharmacy, podiatry, optometry and physiotherapy.

In 1997, the National Health Information Management Group of AHMAC reviewed national health labour information requirements and decided that future national collections would be conducted annually for medicine, biennially for nursing, and on a rolling three-year cycle for dentistry and several allied health occupations. The first biennial collection for nursing was conducted in 1997 and the second in 1999.

## **Scope and coverage**

The scope of the national nursing labour force survey, which is conducted in association with renewal of registration and enrolment, is all nurses registered or enrolled with the nurses' board or nursing council in each State and Territory, and eligible to practise.

The coverage may exclude nurses who registered for the first time during the current year. These nurses may not be required to renew their registration at the standard renewal date if the initial registration in that State or Territory has occurred during the preceding 12 months.

## **Method**

The labour force data in this publication were obtained from a nursing labour force survey conducted by each State and Territory nurses board on behalf of the Institute. Each State and Territory nurses board conducts an annual renewal of registrations and a survey questionnaire was sent to all nurses as part of the registration renewal process. Each State and Territory health authority forwarded a computer file of the survey data to the Institute for aggregation into a national data set.

## **Nurse labour force survey response rate**

The overall response rate can only be estimated, because it is known that at least some nurses who were registered in more than one State or Territory completed a questionnaire in just one State or Territory. The incidence of this occurrence cannot be ascertained because matching survey records among States and Territories is not possible.

Based on the total of the registrations in each State and Territory, the estimated response rate to the survey was 79%. The response rate was 83% in New South Wales, 77% in Victoria, 92% in Queensland, 73% in Western Australia, 59% in South Australia, 72% in Tasmania, 36% in the Australian Capital Territory and 70% in the Northern Territory. However, complete data were not available for all responding nurses, either because not

all survey questions were completed or because nurses board initial registration data were incomplete or not provided.

### Collection timing

The labour force survey is conducted by the nurses' registration board in each State and Territory in conjunction with the annual renewal of practice licences. Therefore, the timing of the survey depends on the licence renewal procedure that operates in each State and Territory.

In this publication, survey data collected during 1997 were used, except for the Australian Capital Territory. As the survey was not conducted in the Australian Capital Territory in 1997, the 1998 survey data have been scaled to 1997 registration numbers.

### Identification of registered and enrolled nurses

The 1997 survey questionnaire did not have a question that identified whether a nurse was on the register or the roll in each State and Territory because it was assumed that this would be readily available from the registering authority.

A means of positively identifying whether a respondent to the survey was on the register or the roll was provided for New South Wales, Queensland, Western Australia, Tasmania and the Northern Territory. For all other States and Territories, nurses were identified as registered or enrolled by the division in which they were registered (see table below).

Nurses identified as being both registered and enrolled were defined as registered in the survey database.

#### Nurse labour force survey: method of classifying nurses as registered or enrolled, selected States and Territories, 1997

Classification	Victoria	South Australia	Australian Capital Territory (1998)
<b>Enrolled</b>	Supervised (Div. 2) Mothercraft (Div. 5)	Enrolled Mothercraft	Enrolled Mothercraft
<b>Registered</b>	Comprehensive (Div. 1) Psychiatric (Div. 3) Mental retardation (Div.4)	General Midwifery Infant Mental health Mental deficiency Other	General Midwifery Mental health

# Main features

This publication presents statistics on the numbers of registered and enrolled nurses from 1993 to 1999, and preliminary results from the 1997 nursing labour force survey. It includes data on the labour force status and occupation of registered and enrolled nurses in 1997, on nurses employed in private and public hospitals from 1994–95 to 1998–99, key statistics on nurse education and migration, and information on nurse occupations identified as being in shortage by the Department of Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business (DEWRSB).

The main features include:

- The total numbers of nurse registrations and enrolments increased slightly in 1999, from 264,608 in 1998 to 265,983, but remain below the levels of 1995 and earlier (Table 1).
- The number of enrolments declined by 23% between 1993 and 1999, from 68,625 to 53,103. In the same period, the number of nurse registrations increased by only 0.1%, from 212,630 to 212,878, after dropping to a low of 207,038 in 1996 (Table 1).
- In 1999, total nurse employment was estimated to be 221,988, similar to the previous four years (Table 2; source: AIHW).
- In 1999, the average quarterly employment of nurses in clinical care was 195,900, with 44.1% employed part-time (Table 3; source: ABS).
- The number of full-time equivalent (FTE) nurses employed in public acute and psychiatric hospitals declined by 2.8% between 1995–96 and 1998–99, while the number of patient separations increased by 7.4% during the same period (Table 7). In private acute and psychiatric hospitals during this time, the number of FTE nurses employed increased by 11.0%, while the number of patient separations increased by 16.0% (Table 8).
- In recent years there has been a small steady increase in registration board and employment numbers in the two Territories and in New South Wales, Queensland, Western Australia and South Australia. However, in Victoria, nurse registrations and enrolments fell from 70,554 in 1998 to 68,923 in 1999, while in Tasmania there was a reduction in these numbers from 6,316 in 1998 to 5,863 in 1999. Employment levels per 100,000 population in both States are now only just above the national average of 1,033, whereas a decade earlier they were well above the then national average of 1,171 per 100,000 population (Table 3).
- Between 1997 and 1998, the number of Australian permanent residents completing basic nursing courses declined by 2.2%, from 4,765 to 4,661. The number completing post-basic courses declined by 12.3%, from 4,591 to 4,026 (Table 11). The number of Australian permanent residents commencing basic nursing courses increased by 7.1% from 1997 to 1998, then remained static at 7,388 in 1999. The number commencing post-basic courses declined by 7.4% between 1998 and 1999, from 4,608 to 4,267 (Table 10).
- In 1998–99, 1,080 nurses migrated permanently to Australia and 661 Australian nurses migrated permanently to other countries. During the same period, 450 overseas nurses arrived in Australia for temporary employment, a sharp increase on 276 in 1997–98 (Tables 12–15).

- According to DEWRSB, in December 1999 there were shortages in several nursing occupations for all States and Territories. These included operating theatre and critical/intensive care registered nurses in all States and Territories, and accident/emergency, aged care, mental health, midwifery and general registered nurses in most States and Territories.

More detailed nursing labour force survey, education and immigration statistics will be published in *Nursing Labour Force 1999* later this year.

# Tables

Table 1: Registrations and enrolments (including multiples), States and Territories, 1993 to 1999

Year	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Australia
<b>Registrations</b>									
1993	71,361	54,246	37,515	18,643	17,969	6,440	3,906	2,550	212,630
1994	71,960	55,163	38,221	18,430	17,613	6,103	3,817	2,261	213,568
1995	73,178	52,699	34,073	18,359	17,283	6,083	3,930	2,305	207,910
1996	74,131	49,716	34,924	18,709	17,250	5,640	3,905	2,763	207,038
1997	74,659	52,245	34,278	19,346	17,021	5,375	3,681	2,895	209,500
1998	74,895	52,783	34,703	19,374	16,897	5,224	3,632	3,020	210,528
1999	75,224	51,903	35,252	20,909	17,163	4,988	3,745	3,694	212,878
<b>Enrolments</b>									
1993	16,569	26,285	10,952	6,054	6,369	1,390	822	384	68,825
1994	16,521	24,796	9,145	5,855	6,090	1,390	787	523	65,107
1995	16,565	20,323	8,188	6,146	5,770	1,387	780	466	59,625
1996	16,578	17,965	8,039	5,688	5,618	1,267	719	536	56,410
1997	16,477	17,896	7,351	5,131	5,369	1,176	636	546	54,582
1998	16,343	17,771	7,230	5,279	5,165	1,092	649	551	54,080
1999	16,366	17,020	7,168	5,219	5,174	875	693	590	53,105
<b>Total</b>									
1993	87,930	80,531	48,467	24,697	24,338	7,830	4,728	2,934	281,455
1994	88,481	79,959	47,366	24,285	23,703	7,493	4,604	2,784	278,675
1995	89,743	73,022	42,261	24,505	23,053	7,470	4,710	2,771	267,535
1996	90,709	67,681	42,963	24,397	22,868	6,907	4,624	3,299	263,448
1997	91,136	70,141	41,629	24,477	22,390	6,551	4,317	3,441	264,082
1998	91,238	70,554	41,933	24,653	22,062	6,316	4,281	3,571	264,608
1999	91,590	68,923	42,420	26,128	22,337	5,863	4,438	4,284	265,983
<b>(percentage change from previous year)</b>									
<b>Registrations</b>									
1994	0.8	1.7	1.9	-1.1	-2.0	-5.2	-2.3	-11.3	0.4
1995	1.7	-4.5	-10.9	-0.4	-1.9	-0.3	3.0	1.9	-2.6
1996	1.3	-5.7	2.5	1.9	-0.2	-7.3	-0.6	19.9	-0.4
1997	0.7	5.1	-1.8	3.4	-1.3	-4.7	-5.7	4.8	1.2
1998	0.3	1.0	1.2	0.1	-0.7	-2.8	-1.3	4.3	0.5
1999	0.4	-1.7	1.6	7.9	1.6	-4.5	3.1	22.3	1.1
<b>Enrolments</b>									
1994	-0.3	-5.7	-16.5	-3.3	-4.4	—	-4.3	36.2	-5.4
1995	0.3	-18.0	-10.5	5.0	-5.3	-0.2	-0.9	-10.9	-8.4
1996	0.1	-11.6	-1.8	-7.5	-2.6	-8.7	-7.8	15.0	-5.4
1997	-0.6	-0.4	-8.6	-9.8	-4.4	-7.2	-11.5	1.9	-3.2
1998	-0.8	-0.7	-1.6	2.9	-3.8	-7.1	2.0	0.9	-0.9
1999	0.1	-4.2	-0.9	-1.1	0.2	-19.9	6.8	7.1	-1.8
<b>Total</b>									
1994	0.6	-0.7	-2.3	-1.7	-2.6	-4.3	-2.6	-5.1	-1.0
1995	1.4	-8.7	-10.8	0.9	-2.7	-0.3	2.3	-0.5	-4.0
1996	1.1	-7.3	1.7	-0.4	-0.8	-7.5	-1.8	19.1	-1.5
1997	0.5	3.6	-3.1	0.3	-2.1	-5.2	-6.6	4.3	0.2
1998	0.1	0.6	0.7	0.7	-1.5	-3.6	-0.8	3.8	0.2
1999	0.4	-2.3	1.2	6.0	1.2	-7.2	3.7	20.0	0.5

Source: State and Territory nurse registration boards.

**Table 2: Registered and enrolled nurses: employment status, Australia, 1993 to 1999**

Employment status/occupation	Survey results					Estimates <sup>(a)</sup>	
	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
Employed in nursing, only or mainly in State/Territory							
Clinician <sup>(b)</sup>	195,739	204,750	195,692	197,360	197,209	197,915	198,943
Administrator	8,538	8,534	10,027	9,155	11,940	10,581	10,636
Teacher/educator	4,623	4,717	4,717	3,794	5,158	4,491	4,514
Researcher	637	627	884	719	1,173	949	954
Other	7,161	6,484	9,347	7,037	6,729	6,905	6,941
<i>Total employed in nursing<sup>(c)</sup></i>	<i>216,698</i>	<i>225,112</i>	<i>220,666</i>	<i>218,064</i>	<i>222,209</i>	<i>220,840</i>	<i>221,988</i>
On extended leave <sup>(d)</sup>	2,535	2,856	2,594	3,941	3,149	3,557	3,575
Looking for work in nursing							
Employed elsewhere	4,306	4,280	2,447	3,259	2,188	2,732	2,746
Not employed	9,066	9,979	5,456	5,140	4,344	4,757	4,782
Total	13,372	14,259	7,902	8,399	6,532	7,489	7,528
<i>Nursing labour force</i>	<i>232,605</i>	<i>242,227</i>	<i>231,163</i>	<i>230,404</i>	<i>231,890</i>	<i>231,886</i>	<i>233,096</i>
Overseas	4,142	4,218	3,675	3,665	3,939	3,814	3,834
Not looking for work in nursing							
Employed elsewhere	13,410	9,831	10,501	9,294	8,732	9,042	9,089
Not employed	20,565	12,696	13,820	12,114	10,989	11,589	11,649
Total	33,975	22,527	24,321	21,408	19,721	20,630	20,737
<i>Not in nursing labour force</i>	<i>38,117</i>	<i>26,745</i>	<i>27,996</i>	<i>25,073</i>	<i>23,659</i>	<i>24,444</i>	<i>24,571</i>
<i>Total registered, enrolled</i>	<i>270,722</i>	<i>268,972</i>	<i>259,159</i>	<i>255,477</i>	<i>255,549</i>	<i>256,330</i>	<i>257,662</i>
Multiple registrations, enrolments	10,733	9,703	8,376	7,971	8,533	8,278	8,321
<b>Total registrations, enrolments</b>	<b>281,455</b>	<b>278,675</b>	<b>267,535</b>	<b>263,448</b>	<b>264,082</b>	<b>264,608</b>	<b>265,983</b>

(a) Estimated, based on applying the average of 1996 and 1997 data to total registrations and enrolments for 1998 and 1999.

(b) Includes clinical nurse managers.

(c) Excludes nurses on extended leave.

(d) Not included as an option on the New South Wales and Queensland survey forms for 1993, 1994 or 1995, and on the Queensland survey form for 1997.

(e) Excludes multiple registrations and enrolments.

Source: AIHW.

**Table 3: Registered and enrolled nurse workforce, Australia, 1990 to 1999**

Year	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Australia	Employed part-time	
	(000's)									(000's)	%
<b>Employed registered nurses</b>											
1989	50.9	40.1	21.6	12.0	14.6	6.5	2.6	1.6	149.8	56.7	37.8
1990	52.7	43.6	22.8	11.7	12.9	6.5	2.2	1.2	153.5	60.8	39.6
1991	59.3	41.2	27.1	13.5	13.7	6.8	1.9	1.4	164.5	65.4	39.7
1992	51.4	39.7	27.0	14.1	13.2	6.8	2.0	1.7	155.8	61.5	39.5
1993	53.9	39.9	24.7	15.0	15.1	5.2	2.0	1.6	157.4	63.7	40.5
1994	58.1	33.6	25.5	13.7	12.7	5.2	2.5	1.4	152.6	63.1	41.4
1995	56.4	41.0	23.9	14.4	13.7	5.6	2.7	1.2	158.7	68.2	42.9
1996	57.1	42.4	26.6	13.8	14.2	5.0	2.3	1.7	162.5	68.9	42.4
1997	52.0	43.1	30.5	14.8	13.8	5.1	2.1	1.7	162.9	67.1	41.2
1998	58.5	47.2	27.6	15.3	12.4	4.9	2.8	1.7	170.4	71.7	42.1
1999	58.8	42.8	28.1	15.4	12.9	4.8	2.7	2.0	167.4	72.3	43.2
<b>Employed enrolled nurses</b>											
1989	13.2	14.2	7.7	4.4	5.2	1.8	0.5	0.5	47.3	20.6	43.6
1990	8.7	16.5	6.8	4.6	6.7	1.2	0.2	0.5	45.0	21.1	46.8
1991	9.9	14.9	7.2	4.7	5.4	1.6	0.4	0.5	44.5	22.7	51.0
1992	11.8	17.2	7.1	3.4	5.2	1.3	0.4	0.2	46.6	24.2	51.8
1993	11.4	15.3	6.4	5.0	4.3	1.9	0.5	0.2	44.9	23.6	52.6
1994	9.7	16.0	7.6	3.0	4.2	1.5	0.3	0.1	42.2	22.6	53.6
1995	10.0	12.3	6.8	4.6	3.7	1.8	0.4	0.2	39.6	19.7	49.7
1996	7.3	12.0	6.3	3.8	5.0	1.1	0.2	0.3	36.1	18.2	50.4
1997	9.1	9.3	5.9	2.9	3.8	0.3	0.2	0.2	31.5	16.2	51.4
1998	8.0	8.1	6.1	3.8	4.5	0.2	0.2	0.2	30.9	14.6	47.2
1999	7.1	6.8	7.2	2.2	4.6	0.3	0.3	0.1	28.5	14.1	49.5
<b>Employed registered and enrolled nurses</b>											
1989	64.1	54.3	29.3	16.4	19.8	8.3	3.0	2.1	197.1	77.3	39.2
1990	61.3	60.1	29.6	16.3	19.6	7.7	2.4	1.6	198.5	81.8	41.2
1991	69.2	56.1	34.3	18.2	19.1	8.4	2.3	1.8	209.0	88.0	42.1
1992	63.2	56.8	34.2	17.5	18.4	8.0	2.4	1.9	202.4	85.6	42.3
1993	65.3	55.1	31.1	20.0	19.4	7.1	2.5	1.8	202.2	87.3	43.2
1994	67.8	49.6	33.1	16.7	16.8	6.6	2.8	1.5	194.8	85.7	44.0
1995	66.3	53.3	30.7	19.0	17.4	7.3	3.0	1.3	198.4	87.8	44.3
1996	64.4	54.4	32.9	17.6	19.2	6.1	2.5	2.0	198.6	87.1	43.9
1997	61.1	52.4	36.3	17.6	17.6	5.3	2.3	1.9	194.3	83.2	42.8
1998	66.5	55.2	33.6	19.2	16.9	5.1	3.0	1.9	201.3	86.3	42.9
1999	65.9	49.6	35.3	17.6	17.4	5.2	2.9	2.1	195.9	86.4	44.1
<b>Population ('000s)</b>											
1989	5,771.9	4,321.5	2,834.1	1,594.7	1,424.6	451.1	278.7	156.3	16,833.1		
1999	6,441.7	4,712.2	3,512.4	1,861.0	1,493.1	470.3	310.2	192.9	18,966.8		
<b>Employment per 100,000 population</b>											
1989	1,110.6	1,256.5	1,033.8	1,025.3	1,388.1	1,834.4	1,085.4	1,311.6	1,171.1		
1999	1,023.0	1,052.1	1,003.6	947.1	1,167.0	1,095.0	942.9	1,062.7	1,032.7		
<b>Employed enrolled nurses as % of nurse workforce</b>											
	<b>(per cent)</b>										
1989	20.6	26.2	26.2	26.9	26.3	21.8	15.7	22.0	24.0	26.6	..
1999	10.7	13.7	20.3	12.6	26.1	6.3	9.4	4.9	14.5	16.3	..

**Notes**

1. The above annual estimates are the averages of the four quarterly estimates.
2. The sampling fraction for the monthly labour force survey was 1 in 230 dwellings for NSW and Victoria, 1 in 160 for Qld, 1 in 70 for Tasmania and 1 in 115 for other States and Territories prior to September 1992.
3. The sampling fraction for the monthly labour force survey was 1 in 277 dwellings for NSW, 1 in 242 for Victoria, 1 in 195 for Qld, 1 in 139 for SA, 1 in 146 for WA and 1 in 75 for Tasmania and the Territories from September 1992.
4. *The Labour Force Australia* (ABS cat. no. 6203.0) provides the standard errors for labour force survey estimates.

Source: AIHW, from ABS monthly labour force quarterly estimates.

**Table 4: Registered and enrolled nurses: professional employment status, States and Territories, 1997**

<b>Professional employment status</b>	<b>NSW</b>	<b>Vic</b>	<b>Qld</b>	<b>WA</b>	<b>SA</b>	<b>Tas</b>	<b>ACT</b>	<b>NT</b>	<b>Total</b>
Employed in nursing, only or mainly in this State									
Clinician	56,845	53,156	34,528	19,383	17,916	5,275	2,791	1,960	191,857
Clinical nurse manager <sup>(a)</sup>	2,452	2,509	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	229	161	n.a.	5,352
Administrator	5,615	2,906	1,280	850	804	219	142	124	11,940
Teacher/educator	2,282	1,223	575	458	362	82	99	78	5,158
Researcher	483	275	124	148	104	19	8	12	1,173
Other	2,282	1,573	306	871	1,279	187	183	49	6,729
<i>Total employed in nursing<sup>(b)</sup></i>	<i>69,960</i>	<i>61,641</i>	<i>36,813</i>	<i>21,711</i>	<i>20,465</i>	<i>6,012</i>	<i>3,384</i>	<i>2,222</i>	<i>222,209</i>
On extended leave <sup>(c)</sup>	843	1,237	n.a.	261	537	108	64	99	3,149
Looking for work in nursing									
Employed elsewhere	1,032	559	240	137	128	29	14	50	2,188
Not employed	1,695	1,159	735	300	250	76	59	70	4,344
<i>Total</i>	<i>2,727</i>	<i>1,718</i>	<i>974</i>	<i>436</i>	<i>378</i>	<i>104</i>	<i>74</i>	<i>120</i>	<i>6,532</i>
<i>Nursing labour force</i>	<i>73,530</i>	<i>64,596</i>	<i>37,788</i>	<i>22,409</i>	<i>21,379</i>	<i>6,225</i>	<i>3,522</i>	<i>2,442</i>	<i>231,890</i>
Overseas	1,823	750	713	420	100	20	42	69	3,939
Not looking for work in nursing									
Employed elsewhere	5,847	1,052	612	438	247	63	275	197	8,732
Not employed	6,463	1,713	1,213	733	351	134	224	157	10,989
<i>Total</i>	<i>12,310</i>	<i>2,765</i>	<i>1,825</i>	<i>1,171</i>	<i>598</i>	<i>198</i>	<i>500</i>	<i>354</i>	<i>19,721</i>
<i>Not in nursing labour force</i>	<i>14,132</i>	<i>3,515</i>	<i>2,538</i>	<i>1,592</i>	<i>699</i>	<i>218</i>	<i>542</i>	<i>423</i>	<i>23,659</i>
<i>Registered and enrolled nurses<sup>(d)</sup></i>	<i>87,663</i>	<i>68,111</i>	<i>40,326</i>	<i>24,001</i>	<i>22,078</i>	<i>6,443</i>	<i>4,064</i>	<i>2,865</i>	<i>255,549</i>
Multiple registrations, enrolments	3,473	2,030	1,303	476	312	108	253	576	8,533
<b>Total registrations, enrolments</b>	<b>91,136</b>	<b>70,141</b>	<b>41,629</b>	<b>24,477</b>	<b>22,390</b>	<b>6,551</b>	<b>4,317</b>	<b>3,441</b>	<b>264,082</b>

(a) Included with clinicians for Queensland, Western Australia, South Australia and the Northern Territory.

(b) Excludes nurses on extended leave.

(c) Not included as an option on the Queensland survey form.

(d) Excludes multiple registrations and enrolments.

Source: AIHW.

**Table 5: Registered nurses: professional employment status, States and Territories, 1997**

<b>Professional employment status</b>	<b>NSW</b>	<b>Vic</b>	<b>Qld</b>	<b>WA</b>	<b>SA</b>	<b>Tas</b>	<b>ACT</b>	<b>NT</b>	<b>Total</b>
Employed in nursing, only or mainly in this State									
Clinician	45,116	38,885	28,148	15,317	13,522	4,264	2,322	1,629	149,202
Clinical nurse manager <sup>(a)</sup>	2,393	2,400	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	229	161	n.a.	5,183
Administrator	5,360	2,670	1,255	794	794	214	132	120	11,339
Teacher/educator	2,127	1,059	568	432	360	82	94	74	4,797
Researcher	474	255	123	136	102	19	8	12	1,129
Other	1,663	762	232	456	857	134	134	45	4,283
<b>Total employed in nursing<sup>(b)</sup></b>	<b>57,133</b>	<b>46,032</b>	<b>30,326</b>	<b>17,136</b>	<b>15,634</b>	<b>4,942</b>	<b>2,851</b>	<b>1,881</b>	<b>175,935</b>
On extended leave <sup>(c)</sup>	698	973	n.a.	217	412	99	60	84	2,544
Looking for work in nursing									
Employed elsewhere	764	296	164	87	60	16	10	34	1,430
Not employed	1,288	753	541	234	179	54	42	59	3,149
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,052</b>	<b>1,048</b>	<b>705</b>	<b>320</b>	<b>239</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>4,579</b>
<b>Nursing labour force</b>	<b>59,882</b>	<b>48,054</b>	<b>31,031</b>	<b>17,673</b>	<b>16,285</b>	<b>5,111</b>	<b>2,963</b>	<b>2,059</b>	<b>183,058</b>
Overseas	1,780	702	698	395	92	20	42	66	3,796
Not looking for work in nursing									
Employed elsewhere	4,686	634	458	305	154	51	240	133	6,660
Not employed	5,274	1,213	945	548	256	106	198	126	8,666
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,960</b>	<b>1,847</b>	<b>1,403</b>	<b>853</b>	<b>410</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>438</b>	<b>259</b>	<b>15,327</b>
<b>Not in nursing labour force</b>	<b>11,741</b>	<b>2,549</b>	<b>2,102</b>	<b>1,248</b>	<b>502</b>	<b>177</b>	<b>480</b>	<b>325</b>	<b>19,123</b>
<b>Registered nurses<sup>(d)</sup></b>	<b>71,623</b>	<b>50,602</b>	<b>33,132</b>	<b>18,921</b>	<b>16,787</b>	<b>5,287</b>	<b>3,444</b>	<b>2,384</b>	<b>202,181</b>
Multiple registrations	3,036	1,643	1,146	425	234	88	237	511	7,319
<b>Total registrations</b>	<b>74,659</b>	<b>52,245</b>	<b>34,278</b>	<b>19,346</b>	<b>17,021</b>	<b>5,375</b>	<b>3,681</b>	<b>2,895</b>	<b>209,500</b>

(a) Included with clinicians for Queensland, Western Australia, South Australia and the Northern Territory.

(b) Excludes nurses on extended leave.

(c) Not included as an option on the Queensland survey form.

(d) Excludes multiple registrations.

Source: AIHW.

**Table 6: Enrolled nurses: professional employment status, States and Territories, 1997**

<b>Professional employment status</b>	<b>NSW</b>	<b>Vic</b>	<b>Qld</b>	<b>WA</b>	<b>SA</b>	<b>Tas</b>	<b>ACT</b>	<b>NT</b>	<b>Total</b>
Employed in nursing, only or mainly in this State									
Clinician	11,729	14,271	6,380	4,068	4,394	1,012	469	331	42,654
Clinical nurse manager <sup>(a)</sup>	59	109	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	—	—	n.a.	168
Administrator	255	236	25	56	11	5	10	3	601
Teacher/educator	155	163	7	26	2	—	5	3	361
Researcher	9	20	1	11	2	—	—	—	44
Other	619	811	75	414	422	53	49	3	2,446
<b>Total employed in nursing<sup>(b)</sup></b>	<b>12,827</b>	<b>15,609</b>	<b>6,488</b>	<b>4,576</b>	<b>4,831</b>	<b>1,069</b>	<b>533</b>	<b>341</b>	<b>46,274</b>
On extended leave <sup>(c)</sup>	145	263	n.a.	44	125	10	4	15	605
Looking for work in nursing									
Employed elsewhere	268	263	75	50	68	13	4	16	758
Not employed	407	407	194	66	71	22	18	11	1,195
<b>Total</b>	<b>675</b>	<b>670</b>	<b>269</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>1,953</b>
<b>Nursing labour force</b>	<b>13,648</b>	<b>16,542</b>	<b>6,757</b>	<b>4,736</b>	<b>5,094</b>	<b>1,114</b>	<b>559</b>	<b>383</b>	<b>48,832</b>
Overseas	42	48	15	25	9	—	—	3	142
Not looking for work in nursing									
Employed elsewhere	1,161	418	154	133	93	13	36	64	2,072
Not employed	1,189	500	268	185	95	29	26	31	2,323
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,350</b>	<b>918</b>	<b>422</b>	<b>318</b>	<b>188</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>4,394</b>
<b>Not in nursing labour force</b>	<b>2,392</b>	<b>967</b>	<b>437</b>	<b>344</b>	<b>197</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>4,537</b>
<b>Enrolled nurses<sup>(d)</sup></b>	<b>16,040</b>	<b>17,509</b>	<b>7,194</b>	<b>5,079</b>	<b>5,291</b>	<b>1,155</b>	<b>620</b>	<b>481</b>	<b>53,369</b>
Multiple enrolments	437	387	157	52	78	21	16	65	1,213
<b>Total enrolments</b>	<b>16,477</b>	<b>17,896</b>	<b>7,351</b>	<b>5,131</b>	<b>5,369</b>	<b>1,176</b>	<b>636</b>	<b>546</b>	<b>54,582</b>

(a) Included with clinicians for Queensland, Western Australia, South Australia and the Northern Territory.

(b) Excludes nurses on extended leave.

(c) Not included as an option on the Queensland survey form.

(d) Excludes multiple enrolments.

Source: AIHW.

**Table 7: Patient and staffing statistics, public acute and psychiatric hospitals, Australia, 1995–96 to 1998–99**

Item					% change from
	1995–96	1996–97	1997–98	1998–99	1995–96
<b>Patient statistics</b>					
Separations ('000s)	3,593	3,642	3,771	3,859	7.4
Occupied bed days ('000s)	16,555	15,181	16,561	16,274	-1.7
Average stay (days)	4.6	4.5	4.4	4.2	-8.5
<b>FTE staffing</b>					
Salaried medical officers	13,361	14,210	15,387	16,458	23.2
Nurses	80,570	77,390	78,239	78,319	-2.8
Other personal care staff <sup>(a)</sup>	4,901	5,389	4,544	2,289	-53.3
Diagnostic and health professionals	24,299	22,360	22,748	22,686	-6.6
Administrative and clerical staff	26,213	24,418	24,894	26,410	0.8
Domestic and other staff	35,159	30,927	29,212	29,373	-16.5
<b>Total staff</b>	<b>184,494</b>	<b>174,695</b>	<b>175,024</b>	<b>175,535</b>	<b>-4.9</b>
<b>Separations per FTE</b>					
Salaried medical officers	269	256	245	234	-12.8
Nurses	45	47	48	49	10.5
Other personal care staff	733	676	830	1,686	130.0
Diagnostic and health professionals	148	163	166	170	15.0
Administrative and clerical staff	137	149	151	146	6.6
Domestic and other staff	102	118	129	131	28.6
<b>Total staff</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>12.9</b>
<b>Occupied bed days per FTE</b>					
Salaried medical officers	1,239	1,163	1,076	989	-20.2
Nurses	205	214	212	208	1.1
Other personal care staff	3,378	3,068	3,645	7,110	110.5
Diagnostic and health professionals	681	739	728	717	5.3
Administrative and clerical staff	632	677	665	616	-2.4
Domestic and other staff	471	535	567	554	17.7
<b>Total staff</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>3.3</b>

(a) Other personal care staff were included with diagnostic and health professionals or with domestic and other staff by several States in 1998–99.

Source: AIHW, Australian hospital statistics annual publications.

**Table 8: Patient and staffing statistics, private acute and psychiatric hospitals, Australia, 1993–94 to 1998–99**

	1993–94	1994–95	1995–96	1996–97	1997–98	1998–99	% change from
<b>Patient statistics</b>							
Separations ('000s)	1,250.7	1,346.7	1,452.3	1,539.4	1,585.3	1,684.2	16.0
Patient bed days ('000s)	5,172.4	5,421.9	5,844.2	5,853.6	5,858.8	6,040.7	3.4
Average stay (days)	4.1	4.0	4.0	3.8	3.7	3.6	-10.5
<b>FTE staffing</b>							
Salaried medical officers and other diagnostic and health professionals	1,310	1,609	1,653	1,765	2,055	2,125	28.6
Nursing staff	20,033	21,512	23,136	24,193	24,567	25,670	11.0
Registered	16,362	18,112	19,546	20,702	21,131	22,412	14.7
Other	3,672	3,401	3,590	3,492	3,436	3,258	-9.2
Administrative and clerical staff	4,125	4,593	5,106	5,225	5,419	5,687	11.4
Domestic and other staff	8,290	8,875	9,206	9,725	9,525	9,571	4.0
<b>Total staff</b>	<b>33,758</b>	<b>36,589</b>	<b>39,100</b>	<b>40,908</b>	<b>41,566</b>	<b>43,053</b>	<b>10.1</b>
<b>Separations per FTE</b>							
Salaried medical officers and other diagnostic and health professionals	955	837	879	872	771	793	-9.8
Nursing staff	62	63	63	64	65	66	4.5
Registered	76	74	74	74	75	75	1.1
Other	341	396	405	441	461	517	27.8
Administrative and clerical staff	303	293	284	295	293	296	4.1
Domestic and other staff	151	152	158	158	166	176	11.5
<b>Total staff</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>5.3</b>
<b>Patient days per FTE</b>							
Salaried medical officers and other diagnostic and health professionals	3,948	3,370	3,537	3,317	2,851	2,843	-19.6
Nursing staff	258	252	253	242	238	235	-6.8
Registered	316	299	299	283	277	270	-9.9
Other	1,409	1,594	1,628	1,677	1,705	1,854	13.9
Administrative and clerical staff	1,254	1,180	1,145	1,120	1,081	1,062	-7.2
Domestic and other staff	624	611	635	602	615	631	-0.6
<b>Total staff</b>	<b>153</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>-6.1</b>

Note: Percentage increases are calculated for 1995–96 to 1998–99 for comparison with Table 7.

Source: ABS, *Private Hospitals*, cat. no. 4390.0.

**Table 9: Patient and staffing statistics, private free-standing day hospitals, 1993–94 to 1998–99**

	1993–94	1994–95	1995–96	1996–97	1997–98	1998–99	% change from
<b>Patient statistics</b>							
Separations	182,178	189,863	208,793	226,266	271,700	302,100	44.7
<b>FTE staffing</b>							
Nursing staff	360	410	497	571	696	746	49.9
Administrative and clerical staff	212	244	291	332	398	443	52.5
Other staff	82	101	102	108	126	130	27.9
<b>Total staff</b>	<b>653</b>	<b>755</b>	<b>890</b>	<b>1,011</b>	<b>1,220</b>	<b>1,309</b>	<b>47.1</b>
<b>Separations per FTE</b>							
Nursing staff	506	464	420	396	391	405	-3.5
Administrative and clerical staff	861	777	718	682	683	682	-5.1
Other staff	2,235	1,874	2,055	2,103	2,150	2,326	13.2
<b>Total staff</b>	<b>279</b>	<b>251</b>	<b>235</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>223</b>	<b>231</b>	<b>-1.6</b>

Note: Percentage increases are calculated for 1995–96 to 1998–99 for comparison with Table 7.

Source: ABS, *Private Hospitals*, cat. no. 4390.0.

**Table 10: Nursing course commencements: type and level of course, residency and year of commencement, Australia, 1990 to 1999**

Type/level of course	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997 <sup>(a)</sup>	1998	1999
<b>Australian citizens and permanent resident students</b>										
<b>Basic nursing</b>										
Bachelor (postgraduate)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12	13	18
Bachelor (pass/honours)	184	779	8,232	7,889	7,264	7,088	6,818	6,881	7,368	7,370
Diploma/other	7,635	8,546	347	121	13	11	3	6	—	—
<i>Total basic nursing</i>	<i>7,819</i>	<i>9,325</i>	<i>8,579</i>	<i>8,010</i>	<i>7,277</i>	<i>7,099</i>	<i>6,821</i>	<i>6,899</i>	<i>7,381</i>	<i>7,388</i>
Per cent female	86.6	85.6	85.3	84.9	85.5	84.6	84.7	85.7	86.1	86.3
<b>Post-basic nursing</b>										
PhD/Masters/higher doctorate	135	261	293	434	458	637	693	872	841	843
Postgraduate qualifying	12	43	12	14	3	—	3	—	—	—
Postgraduate diploma	354	501	692	1,034	1,397	1,843	2,038	2,075	1,725	1,757
Bachelor (postgraduate)	—	98	—	—	115	108	47	7	59	171
Bachelor (pass/honours)	2,969	3,148	3,866	3,962	3,705	3,670	2,964	1,942	1,484	1,027
Graduate certificate	—	46	87	233	225	301	439	337	488	445
Diploma/assoc. dip./other	135	15	7	15	8	18	19	23	11	24
<i>Total post-basic nursing</i>	<i>3,605</i>	<i>4,112</i>	<i>4,957</i>	<i>5,692</i>	<i>5,911</i>	<i>6,577</i>	<i>6,203</i>	<i>5,256</i>	<i>4,608</i>	<i>4,267</i>
Per cent female	88.8	89.3	89.2	91.0	91.3	89.7	89.9	89.7	89.9	89.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,424</b>	<b>13,437</b>	<b>13,536</b>	<b>13,702</b>	<b>13,188</b>	<b>13,676</b>	<b>13,024</b>	<b>12,155</b>	<b>11,989</b>	<b>11,655</b>
Per cent female	87.3	86.8	86.7	87.4	88.1	87.1	87.2	87.4	87.6	87.5
<b>Overseas students</b>										
<b>Basic nursing</b>										
Bachelor (pass/honours)	6	28	389	354	465	441	429	429	371	415
Diploma/other	170	194	19	13	—	—	—	—	—	—
<i>Total basic nursing</i>	<i>176</i>	<i>222</i>	<i>408</i>	<i>367</i>	<i>465</i>	<i>441</i>	<i>429</i>	<i>429</i>	<i>371</i>	<i>415</i>
Per cent female	92.0	86.0	85.8	87.7	87.1	88.7	90.4	94.4	88.2	88.4
<b>Post-basic nursing</b>										
PhD/Masters/higher doctorate	3	14	17	31	38	36	46	90	140	163
Postgraduate qualifying	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Postgraduate diploma	10	18	28	33	47	63	54	44	61	56
Bachelor (postgraduate)	—	2	—	—	17	3	17	4	2	2
Bachelor (pass/honours)	206	266	389	276	260	398	480	821	1,077	1,008
Graduate certificate	—	1	2	3	3	5	18	26	12	16
Diploma/assoc. dip./other	31	29	—	1	—	1	1	—	—	3
<i>Total post-basic nursing</i>	<i>250</i>	<i>331</i>	<i>436</i>	<i>346</i>	<i>365</i>	<i>506</i>	<i>616</i>	<i>985</i>	<i>1,292</i>	<i>1,248</i>
Per cent female	90.8	91.9	90.2	92.5	91.8	92.1	95.5	92.7	92.3	93.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>426</b>	<b>553</b>	<b>844</b>	<b>713</b>	<b>830</b>	<b>947</b>	<b>1,045</b>	<b>1,414</b>	<b>1,664</b>	<b>1,663</b>
Per cent female	91.3	89.5	88.0	90.0	89.2	90.5	93.4	93.2	91.3	91.9
<b>(overseas students as a percentage of all students)</b>										
<b>Basic nursing</b>										
Bachelor (pass/honours)	4.6	3.2	4.5	4.3	6.0	5.9	5.9	5.9	4.8	5.3
Diploma/other	2.2	2.2	5.2	9.7	—	—	—	—	—	—
<i>Total basic nursing</i>	<i>2.2</i>	<i>2.2</i>	<i>4.5</i>	<i>4.4</i>	<i>6.0</i>	<i>5.8</i>	<i>5.9</i>	<i>5.9</i>	<i>4.8</i>	<i>5.3</i>
<b>Post-basic nursing</b>										
PhD/Masters/higher doctorate	2.2	2.2	5.5	6.7	7.7	5.3	6.2	9.4	14.3	16.2
Postgraduate qualifying	—	0.0	—	12.5	—	—	—	—	—	—
Postgraduate diploma	2.7	2.7	3.9	3.1	3.3	3.3	2.6	2.1	3.4	3.1
Bachelor (postgraduate)	—	—	—	—	12.9	2.7	26.6	36.4	3.3	1.2
Bachelor (pass/honours)	6.5	6.5	9.1	6.5	6.6	9.8	13.9	29.7	42.1	49.5
Graduate certificate	—	—	2.2	1.3	1.3	1.6	3.9	7.2	2.4	3.5
Diploma/assoc. dip./other	18.7	18.7	—	6.3	—	5.3	5.0	—	—	11.1
<i>Total post-basic nursing</i>	<i>6.5</i>	<i>6.5</i>	<i>8.1</i>	<i>5.7</i>	<i>5.8</i>	<i>7.1</i>	<i>9.0</i>	<i>15.8</i>	<i>21.9</i>	<i>22.6</i>
<b>Total</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>5.9</b>	<b>4.9</b>	<b>5.9</b>	<b>6.5</b>	<b>7.4</b>	<b>10.4</b>	<b>12.2</b>	<b>12.5</b>

(a) Includes New Zealand citizens, which were included with Australian permanent resident students data for 1997 by DETYA. Numbers, however, are small because New Zealand citizens are required to pay HECS fees up front at Australian universities.

Note: Some courses have been re-classified from basic nursing to post-basic nursing, and vice versa. Therefore published figures may not match previously published data.

Source: AIHW analysis of DETYA unpublished data.

**Table 11: Nursing course completions: type and level of course, residency and year of completion, Australia, 1989 to 1998**

Type/level of course	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996 <sup>(a)</sup>	1997	1998
<b>Australian permanent resident students</b>										
<b>Basic nursing</b>										
Bachelor (postgraduate)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8
Bachelor (pass/honours)	—	16	203	2,149	5,232	5,670	5,384	4,970	4,753	4,645
Diploma/other	3,035	3,759	4,254	2,673	1,165	180	46	7	12	8
<i>Total basic nursing</i>	<i>3,035</i>	<i>3,775</i>	<i>4,457</i>	<i>4,822</i>	<i>6,397</i>	<i>5,850</i>	<i>5,430</i>	<i>4,977</i>	<i>4,765</i>	<i>4,661</i>
Per cent female	88.4	87.5	88.3	88.6	88.3	87.6	87.7	87.8	87.4	87.1
<b>Post-basic nursing</b>										
PhD/Masters/higher doctorate	2	14	42	51	113	131	154	187	298	313
Postgraduate qualifying	—	—	13	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Postgraduate diploma	62	177	289	359	584	921	1,025	1,458	1,622	1,556
Bachelor (postgraduate)	—	—	67	—	149	103	100	75	38	15
Bachelor (pass/honours)	1,048	1,164	1,745	3,386	3,064	3,611	3,504	3,059	2,282	1,731
Graduate certificate	—	—	23	56	157	149	201	334	324	399
Diploma/assoc. dip./other	393	82	18	8	—	13	17	20	27	12
<i>Total post-basic nursing</i>	<i>1,505</i>	<i>1,437</i>	<i>2,197</i>	<i>3,861</i>	<i>4,067</i>	<i>4,928</i>	<i>5,001</i>	<i>5,133</i>	<i>4,591</i>	<i>4,026</i>
Per cent female	88.2	87.7	88.2	90.1	91.3	91.5	91.1	91.5	91.5	90.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,540</b>	<b>5,212</b>	<b>6,654</b>	<b>8,683</b>	<b>10,464</b>	<b>10,778</b>	<b>10,431</b>	<b>10,110</b>	<b>9,356</b>	<b>8,687</b>
Per cent female	<b>88.4</b>	<b>88.3</b>	<b>87.6</b>	<b>88.3</b>	<b>89.3</b>	<b>89.4</b>	<b>89.4</b>	<b>89.3</b>	<b>89.7</b>	<b>89.4</b>
<b>Overseas students</b>										
<b>Basic nursing</b>										
Bachelor (pass/honours)	—	—	2	160	473	460	336	167	488	365
Diploma/other	78	53	68	91	22	3	3	—	—	—
<i>Total basic nursing</i>	<i>78</i>	<i>53</i>	<i>70</i>	<i>251</i>	<i>495</i>	<i>463</i>	<i>339</i>	<i>167</i>	<i>488</i>	<i>365</i>
Per cent female	93.6	81.1	84.3	80.5	88.5	86.8	88.8	91.0	90.4	92.6
<b>Post-basic nursing</b>										
PhD/Masters/higher doctorate	4	2	4	2	6	14	15	26	53	62
Postgraduate diploma	4	12	14	8	20	34	62	24	48	53
Bachelor (postgraduate)	—	—	1	—	34	14	15	20	6	2
Bachelor (pass/honours)	76	153	215	410	207	290	311	425	679	916
Graduate certificate	—	—	—	1	2	1	1	1	24	10
Diploma/assoc. dip./other	14	62	69	—	—	—	1	—	1	2
<i>Total post-basic nursing</i>	<i>98</i>	<i>229</i>	<i>303</i>	<i>421</i>	<i>269</i>	<i>353</i>	<i>405</i>	<i>496</i>	<i>811</i>	<i>1,045</i>
Per cent female	90.8	92.1	94.1	92.2	88.8	93.8	92.8	95.6	94.0	94.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>176</b>	<b>282</b>	<b>373</b>	<b>672</b>	<b>764</b>	<b>816</b>	<b>744</b>	<b>663</b>	<b>1,299</b>	<b>1,410</b>
Per cent female	<b>92.0</b>	<b>90.1</b>	<b>92.2</b>	<b>87.8</b>	<b>88.6</b>	<b>89.8</b>	<b>91.0</b>	<b>94.4</b>	<b>92.6</b>	<b>94.2</b>
<b>(overseas students as a percentage of all students)</b>										
<b>Basic nursing</b>										
Bachelor (pass/honours)	—	—	1.0	6.9	8.3	7.5	5.9	3.3	9.3	7.3
Diploma/other	2.5	1.4	1.6	3.3	1.9	1.6	6.1	—	—	—
<i>Total basic nursing</i>	<i>2.5</i>	<i>1.4</i>	<i>1.5</i>	<i>4.9</i>	<i>7.2</i>	<i>7.3</i>	<i>5.9</i>	<i>3.2</i>	<i>9.3</i>	<i>7.3</i>
<b>Post-basic nursing</b>										
PhD/Masters/higher doctorate	66.7	12.5	8.7	3.8	5.0	9.7	8.9	12.2	15.1	16.5
Postgraduate diploma	6.1	6.3	4.6	2.2	3.3	3.6	5.7	1.6	2.9	3.3
Bachelor (postgraduate)	—	—	1.5	—	18.6	12.0	13.0	21.1	13.6	11.8
Bachelor (pass/honours)	6.8	11.6	11.0	10.8	6.3	7.4	8.2	12.2	22.9	34.6
Graduate certificate	—	—	—	1.8	1.3	0.7	0.5	0.3	6.9	2.4
Diploma/assoc. dip./other	3.4	43.1	79.3	0.0	—	—	5.6	—	3.6	14.3
<i>Total post-basic nursing</i>	<i>6.1</i>	<i>13.7</i>	<i>12.1</i>	<i>9.8</i>	<i>6.2</i>	<i>6.7</i>	<i>7.5</i>	<i>8.8</i>	<i>15.0</i>	<i>20.6</i>
<b>Total</b>	<b>3.7</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>5.3</b>	<b>7.2</b>	<b>6.8</b>	<b>7.0</b>	<b>6.7</b>	<b>6.2</b>	<b>12.2</b>	<b>14.0</b>

(a) Includes New Zealand citizens, which were included with Australian permanent resident students data for 1996 by DETYA. Numbers, however, are small because New Zealand citizens are required to pay HECS fees up front at Australian universities.

Note: Some courses have been re-classified from basic nursing to post-basic nursing, and vice versa. Therefore published figures may not match previously published data.

Source: AIHW analysis of DETYA unpublished data.

**Table 12: Temporary migration of nurses to Australia for employment, 1993–94 to 1998–99**

Category/country	1993–94	1994–95	1995–96	1996–97	1997–98	1998–99
Country of previous residence						
New Zealand	69	66	77	72	74	136
UK/Ireland	26	32	45	54	170	250
Other countries	23	15	24	22	32	64
<b>Total</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>276</b>	<b>450</b>

Source: AIHW analysis of DIMA unpublished data.

**Table 13: Permanent migration of nurses to Australia, 1993–94 to 1998–99**

Category/country	1993–94	1994–95	1995–96	1996–97	1997–98	1998–99
Country of previous residence						
New Zealand	147	170	210	230	245	331
Other Oceania	18	5	17	19	1	2
UK/Ireland	325	396	364	287	328	285
Other Europe	101	114	102	73	75	61
Middle East	10	32	31	35	35	29
Africa	20	28	45	42	58	61
Hong Kong	65	158	88	46	54	65
China	22	13	151	70	25	40
Philippines	39	38	33	38	47	61
Other Asia	59	73	66	57	56	76
USA/Canada	37	50	54	55	55	30
Other countries	4	4	5	3	15	39
<b>Total</b>	<b>847</b>	<b>1,081</b>	<b>1,166</b>	<b>955</b>	<b>994</b>	<b>1,080</b>

Source: AIHW analysis of DIMA unpublished data.

**Table 14: Temporary migration of nurses from Australia for employment, 1993-94 to 1998-99**

Category/country	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99
Country of long-term stay						
New Zealand	26	32	27	30	42	34
Other Oceania	22	30	30	20	4	10
UK/Ireland	175	185	231	299	345	438
Other Europe	27	16	26	15	20	24
Middle East	235	224	233	192	162	150
Hong Kong	47	63	54	55	47	48
Singapore	33	24	24	36	26	17
Other Asia	39	57	61	71	67	47
USA/Canada	98	68	71	69	71	58
Other countries	18	26	29	20	31	25
<b>Total</b>	<b>720</b>	<b>725</b>	<b>786</b>	<b>807</b>	<b>815</b>	<b>851</b>

Source: AIHW analysis of DIMA unpublished data.

**Table 15: Permanent migration of nurses from Australia, 1993-94 to 1998-99**

Category/country	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99
Country of future residence						
New Zealand	236	207	207	207	183	170
Other Oceania	9	5	5	12	3	6
UK/Ireland	225	195	225	241	273	224
Other Europe	33	42	43	38	32	32
Middle East	16	16	24	25	17	17
Asia	43	35	49	52	41	72
USA/Canada	79	85	76	71	84	129
Other countries	25	6	4	5	18	13
<b>Total</b>	<b>666</b>	<b>591</b>	<b>633</b>	<b>651</b>	<b>651</b>	<b>661</b>

Source: AIHW analysis of DIMA unpublished data.

**Table 16: Nursing occupations in shortage, States and Territories, December 1999**

<b>Nursing occupation in shortage</b>	<b>Australia</b>	<b>NSW/ACT</b>	<b>Vic</b>	<b>Qld</b>	<b>WA</b>	<b>SA</b>	<b>Tas</b>	<b>NT</b>
Operating theatre RN	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Critical/intensive care RN	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Accident/emergency RN	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	..	Y	Y
Cardiothoracic RN	Y	Y	Y	Y	..	..	Y	Y
Neonatal intensive care RN	Y	Y	..	Y	..	..	Y	Y
Perioperative RN	..	..	Y	Y	Y <sup>r</sup>	..	..	..
Paediatric RN	Y	Y	..	Y	..	..	..	Y
Renal RN	..	Y	..	Y	..	..	..	Y
Aged care RN	Y	Y	..	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Aboriginal health	..	..	..	Y	..	..	..	..
Community nursing	..	..	..	Y	Y <sup>r</sup>	..	..	..
Oncology RN	..	Y	..	Y	..	..	..	Y
Neurological RN	Y	Y	Y	..	..	..	..	Y
General RN	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	..	Y	Y
Registered midwife	Y	Y <sup>m</sup>	Y	Y	Y	..	Y	Y
Registered mental health nurse	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	..	Y	Y

*Note:* Y means in shortage; Y<sup>r</sup> means shortage in some regional areas only, Y<sup>m</sup> means shortage in metropolitan areas only.

*Source:* National and State skills shortage lists, DEWRSB.

# Glossary

## Country

The Australian Bureau of Statistics, *Australian Standard Classification of Countries for Social Statistics*, Catalogue No. 1269.0 has been used to classify country of initial qualification and country of birth into the following categories:

1. *Australia*
2. *New Zealand*
3. *United Kingdom and Ireland*: England, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland, Ireland
4. *Asia*: Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Viet Nam, People's Republic of China, Hong Kong, Japan, Democratic People's Republic of Korea (North Korea), Republic of Korea (South Korea), Macau, Mongolia, Formosa, Taiwan, Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka
5. *Other countries*: all countries not specified above.

## Enrolled nurse

A nurse who is on the roll maintained by the State or Territory nurses board or nursing council to practise nursing in that State or Territory. The minimum educational requirement for an enrolled nurse is a one year diploma from a tertiary education institution or equivalent from a recognised hospital based program. It is necessary for a nurse to have practised for a specified minimum period in the past five years to maintain enrolment. Enrolled nurses include mothercraft and dental nurses where the educational course requirements may be greater than one year but less than a three year degree course or equivalent.

## Nursing labour force

The nursing labour force (registered and enrolled nurses) in each State and Territory includes nurses currently employed in nursing and nurses who are not employed in nursing but are looking for work in nursing.

Registered and enrolled nurses who, at the time of the survey, were on maternity or other extended leave for more than three months are employed, and thus form part of the nursing labour force. However, in most tables for employed nurses, those on extended leave have not been included because not all States and Territories collected data on their employment characteristics prior to commencement of leave.

## Occupation

A description of the job function within the field of nursing of a person with nursing qualifications. The occupations are:

- *clinician*: a registered or enrolled nurse who is mainly involved in the care and treatment of patients, including nursing diagnosis and preventative action;
- *clinical nurse manager*: a person mainly employed in managing nurse clinicians;
- *administrator*: a person mainly employed in nursing administration;

- *teacher/educator*: a person who is teaching or training persons in nursing for their initial qualification or in advanced skills after initial qualification;
- *researcher*: a person engaged in nursing research; and
- *other*: a job function in nursing which is not one of the above—for example, industrial relations or public health activities in nursing.

### **Registered nurse**

A nurse who is on the register maintained by the State or Territory nurses board or nursing council to practise nursing in that State or Territory. The minimum educational requirement for a registered nurse is a three year degree from a tertiary education institution or equivalent from a recognised hospital-based program. Registered nurses may have their practice certificate endorsed to practise in a specific clinical area (for example, midwifery) on completion of a recognised postgraduate course. To maintain registration, it is necessary for a nurse to have practised for a specified minimum period in the field of nursing in the past five years.

## References

Australian Bureau of Statistics 2000. Private hospitals, Australia 1998–99. ABS Cat. No. 4390.0. Canberra: ABS.

Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) 2000. Australian hospital statistics 1998–99. Canberra: AIHW.

Department of Primary Industries and Energy & Department of Health and Family Services 1994. Rural, remote and metropolitan areas classification. Canberra: AGPS.

## Related publications

The following publications relating to the health labour force have been issued by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare.

### National health labour force series

No. 1: Pharmacy labour force 1992

No. 2: Podiatry labour force 1992

No. 3: Medical labour force 1992–93

No. 4: Physiotherapy labour force 1993

No. 5: Pharmacy labour force 1993

No. 6: Medical labour force 1994

No. 7: Podiatry labour force 1994

No. 8: Pharmacy labour force 1994

No. 9: Nursing labour force 1993 and 1994

No. 10: Medical labour force 1995

No. 11: Nursing labour force 1995

No. 12: Pharmacy labour force 1995

No. 13: Medical labour force 1996

No. 14: Medical labour force 1997

No. 15: Nursing labour force 1998

No. 16: Medical labour force 1998

No. 17: Pharmacy labour force 1998

No. 18: Optometrist labour force 1999

### Other publications

Australia hospital statistics 1993–95: an overview

Australian hospital statistics 1996–97

Australian hospital statistics 1997–98

Australian hospital statistics 1998–99

**Internet access**

A selection of material produced by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare is published on the Institute's web-site at <http://www.aihw.gov.au>. This includes the Institute's medical and nursing labour force publications, the publications catalogue and ordering information.