

1 Main features

The following overview highlights key findings in this report in respect of a number of major medical workforce issues facing national, State and local planners. More detail on these and other medical workforce issues may be found in analyses in later chapters, in the statistical data presented in this report and in supplementary statistical tables published on the Institute's Internet site at <http://www.aihw.gov.au>.

Overall numbers

- The Australian medical labour force in December 1996 comprised 48,355 practitioners of whom 47,682 were employed and practising in medicine, 407 were on extended leave and 266 were looking for work in medicine.
- 45,342 practitioners were clinicians: 20,516 (45.2%) primary care practitioners, 4,630 (10.2%) hospital non-specialists, 15,744 (34.7%) specialists and 4,451 (9.8%) specialists-in-training.

Distribution among States and Territories

- There were 246.2 clinicians per 100,000 population in Australia in 1996.
- There were significant State differences with a 23.2% difference between the jurisdictions with the lowest and highest supply. There were 223.7 clinicians per 100,000 population in the Northern Territory, 225.3 in Western Australia, 226.6 in Queensland, 230.9 in Tasmania, 246.7 in Victoria, 255.9 in New South Wales, 271.0 in the Australian Capital Territory and 275.6 in South Australia.

Rural medical workforce

Remedying a much lower level of medical workforce provision in rural and remote areas has been a planning priority for the Commonwealth Government, and State and local governments and medical professional bodies for many years. There are now numerous incentive schemes to attract and retain doctors in rural areas.

- There were 142.9 practising medical practitioners per 100,000 population in rural and remote areas in 1996, compared with 308.2 per 100,000 population in metropolitan areas.
- 7,556 medical practitioners worked in a rural or remote area in their main job – 15.4% of all medical practitioners. This proportion contrasts with the 28.9% of the population living in rural and remote areas in 1996, and the 30.8% of nurses employed in rural and remote areas in 1995.
- There were 88.2 primary care practitioners per 100,000 population (1 practitioner per 1,134 population) in rural and remote areas, compared with 121.8 primary care practitioners per 100,000 population (1 practitioner per 821 population) in metropolitan centres.
- Employed in the rural medical workforce were 1,794 female practitioners, or 23.7% of the rural workforce. The proportion of female practitioners was similar across the different geographic regions and across States and Territories, although higher in remote areas (28.5%).
- Medical practitioners employed in rural and remote areas worked an average of 49.8 hours per week. The average was 52.8 hours in remote areas. Some 17.2% of rural

practitioners worked 65 hours or more per week, compared with 13.6% in metropolitan centres.

- The majority of practitioners in rural and remote areas were employed in primary care (61.7%); 25.3% were specialists; 7.7% were hospital non-specialists; 2.4% were specialists-in-training; and the remaining 2.9% were non-clinicians.
- The distribution of rural practitioners across medical occupations differed by sex: 58.9% of males were employed in primary care and 30.1% were specialists; and 70.6% of females were employed in primary care, 12.8% were hospital non-specialists and 9.9% were specialists.

Female medical practitioners

- There were 13,196 employed female medical practitioners in 1996 comprising 27.7% of the employed medical workforce – an increase from 24.8% in 1993.
- Between 1993 and 1996, the number of female clinicians in the workforce increased by 17.7%, compared with a 3.7% increase for males.
- In 1996 females represented 42.1% of medical practitioners younger than 35 years, 32.5% of those aged 35–44 years, 20.3% of those aged 45–54 years, 13.8% of those aged 55–64 years and 10.6% of those aged over 65 years.
- The proportion of females completing initial medical degree courses has been increasing for many years from a low level, and rose from 39.8% in 1988 to 47.0% in 1996.
- The proportion of females commencing initial medical degree courses increased from 43.6% in 1989 to 48.5% in 1996 before falling to 45.8% in 1997. The fall in 1997 is associated with relatively low numbers of females commencing the new graduate entry courses.
- Female practitioners have been more likely than males to choose general practice as a career with 50.1% of primary care practitioners younger than 35 years and 58.2% of primary care trainees being female, compared with 22.1% of specialists younger than 35 years and 32.8% of specialists-in-training being female.

Doctors working very long hours

- 10.1% of clinicians reported working 65–79 hours per week and a further 4.5% reported working 80 or more hours.
- 56.1% of interns and resident medical officers worked 50–64 hours while 15.3% worked 65 or more hours per week. The AIHW medical labour force survey does not collect data on the length of shifts worked.
- 49.1% of specialists-in-training worked 50–64 hours per week, while 20.6% worked 65 or more hours.
- 41.2% of specialists worked 50–64 hours per week, while 17.0% worked 65 hours per week or more. In the surgical specialties, 28.7% of doctors worked 65 hours per week or more, compared with 19.7% in internal medicine, 4.9% in pathology specialists and 12.8% in other specialties. The main specialties in which practitioners worked 65 hours a week or more were cardiothoracic surgery (44.8%), vascular surgery (34.0%), orthopaedic surgery (30.7%) and paediatric surgery (30.1%).
- 32.4% of primary care practitioners worked 50–64 hours per week, and 11.5% worked 65 or more hours.

- 32.4% of salaried hospital career practitioners worked 50–64 hours per week, and 11.2% worked 65 or more hours.
- The highest proportions of doctors reporting working 80 or more hours per week were surgeons (9.6%), specialists-in-training (6.6%), internal medicine specialists (5.6%), and interns and resident medical officers (5.1%).

Aboriginal health service employment

- There were 547 medical practitioners in 1996 who indicated that the employment setting of their main, second or third job was an Aboriginal health service. No information is available on how many of these doctors were Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander themselves.
- The distribution of Aboriginal health service clinicians in some States and Territories differed significantly from the distribution of the Aboriginal population: 11.3% of these clinicians were in Queensland with 26.2% of the Aboriginal population; 13.2% were in Victoria with 5.9% of the population; and 12.4% were in South Australia with 5.7% of the population. The other States and Territories had approximately the same proportion of Aboriginal health service clinicians as Aboriginal population.
- 63.0% of Aboriginal health service medical practitioners were located in a metropolitan area where 36.2% of the Indigenous population was located.
- 38.2% (209) of the 547 medical practitioners employed in an Aboriginal health were female.
- 49.2% of the practitioners were primary care practitioners; 36.4% were specialists; 4.4% were specialists-in-training; 6.4% were hospital non-specialists; and the remaining 3.6% worked in a non-clinical field including administration and education.

Medical workforce in hospitals

- There were 19,948 medical practitioners working in public hospitals, comprising 41.8% of all practising medical practitioners.
- 88.9% of all specialists-in-training worked in a public hospital, as did 83.2% of hospital non-specialists, 58.7% of specialists, 10.4% of primary care practitioners and 32.5% of non-clinicians.
- 85.1% of public hospital medical practitioners who worked as a clinician in their main hospital job were employed in metropolitan centres, followed by 13.8% in rural areas, and 1.1% in remote areas.
- Specialists represented 46.3% of doctors working in public hospitals, but the medical occupation distribution varied by region. In hospitals in small rural centres, primary care practitioners played a major role with 77.7% of the hospital workforce. In remote areas, primary care practitioners (41.5%) and hospital non-specialists (34.1%) were predominant.
- There were 4,904 medical practitioners working in private hospitals, comprising 10.2% of all employed medical practitioners.
- 19.5% of all specialists worked in a private hospital, as did 4.8% of primary care practitioners, 8.2% of specialists-in-training, 7.4% of hospital non-specialists, 4.8% of primary care practitioners and 5.7% of non-clinicians.

Overseas-trained medical practitioners

- Of the 47,682 employed medical practitioners in 1996, 82.0% had obtained their initial qualification in Australia (79.7%) or New Zealand (2.3%), and the remainder had qualified in the United Kingdom or Ireland (8.1%), Asia (5.7%) and in other countries (4.2%).
- These proportions varied across States and Territories. Medical practitioners working in Western Australia and Tasmania were more likely to have obtained their initial qualification overseas – 30.1% and 31.8% respectively had initially qualified overseas – and more likely to have qualified in the United Kingdom or Ireland, 18.4% and 17.9% respectively. In the Northern Territory, 11.9% of medical practitioners had obtained their initial qualification from Asia, compared with the national average of 5.7%.
- Permanent resident overseas-trained medical practitioners were more likely to work in a rural or remote area if they had qualified in the United Kingdom or Ireland initially (25.4% worked in rural areas and 3.4% in remote areas), compared with those who had initially qualified in Asia (10.3% in rural areas and 0.3% in remote areas) or New Zealand (10.1% and 0.9% respectively).
- The 537 temporary resident medical practitioners included 399 overseas-trained doctors and 238 occupational trainees who had received initial medical training in Australia.
- Those who were overseas-trained were employed in primary care (30.5%) or as hospital non-specialists (28.1%), specialists (19.0%), specialists-in-training (18.9%) and non-clinicians (3.4%).
- In addition:
 - 47.3% of overseas-trained doctors had obtained their initial qualification in the United Kingdom or Ireland, along with 22.0% in New Zealand, 15.8% in Asia and 14.9% in other countries;
 - 75.4% were employed in their main jobs in a major urban centre, 18.3% in a rural area and 6.2% in a remote area; and
 - 55.0% practised in public hospitals and 29.6% practised from private rooms.

Medical education and training

- 1,743 Australian citizen and permanent resident students completed medicine courses in 1996: 1,327 (76.1%) completed undergraduate courses and 416 (23.9%) completed post-graduate courses. Of these, 832 (47.7%) were female – an increase from 40.5% in 1989.
- 1,233 Australian citizen and permanent resident students commenced initial medicine courses in 1997.
- Of these commencing students, 88.6% originated from a capital city or other metropolitan area, 10.1% came from a rural area and 0.5% came from a remote area.
- The average age of commencing students increased by 5–8 years at the three universities which introduced graduate entry to initial medical courses. This will decrease the lifetime contribution to the medical labour supply.

Additions to the medical workforce from migration

- 369 medical practitioners who were citizens of foreign countries permanently migrated to Australia in 1996-97. The majority (40.7%) had previously resided in Asia, 17.3% in the United Kingdom or Ireland, and 16.8% in New Zealand.
- During the same year, 159 permanent resident medical practitioners permanently migrated from Australia – 32.1% to New Zealand.
- 1,597 medical practitioners who were citizens of foreign countries arrived in Australia in 1996-97 to take up temporary employment – 513 for a long-term stay and 1,084 for a short-term stay. Of these, 69.1% had previously resided in the United Kingdom or Ireland and 7.7% in New Zealand. This was a large increase on the 1995-96 intake of 980, despite restrictions on access to rendering of Medicare services introduced in late 1996.
- During the same year, 437 Australian citizen or permanent resident medical practitioners left Australia temporarily to take up long-term employment overseas. They were intending to work in the United Kingdom or Ireland (33.6%), in Asia (29.2%), in the United States of America or Canada (20.4%) and in New Zealand (5.3%).
- In 1997, there were 222 overseas-trained doctors who passed the Australian Medical Council's clinical examination and became eligible for registration in Australia. This was a similar number to those of the previous five years.

Workforce growth

- Between 1984-85 and 1996-97, the number of medical practitioners providing Medicare services increased by 50.2% from 27,372 to 41,116. The population increased by 18.3% during this period.
- The annual growth in the number of medical practitioner Medicare providers declined to 1.7% in 1996-97 from 2.1% in 1995-96 and 3.0% in 1994-95 – partly because restrictions in access to rendering of Medicare services were introduced in 1996 for new workforce entrants.
- From 1985-86 to 1995-96, full-time equivalent employment of salaried medical officers in public and repatriation hospitals increased by 40.8% from 9,300 to 13,095. Patient separations during the same period increased by 47.1% from 2.5 million to 3.6 million.

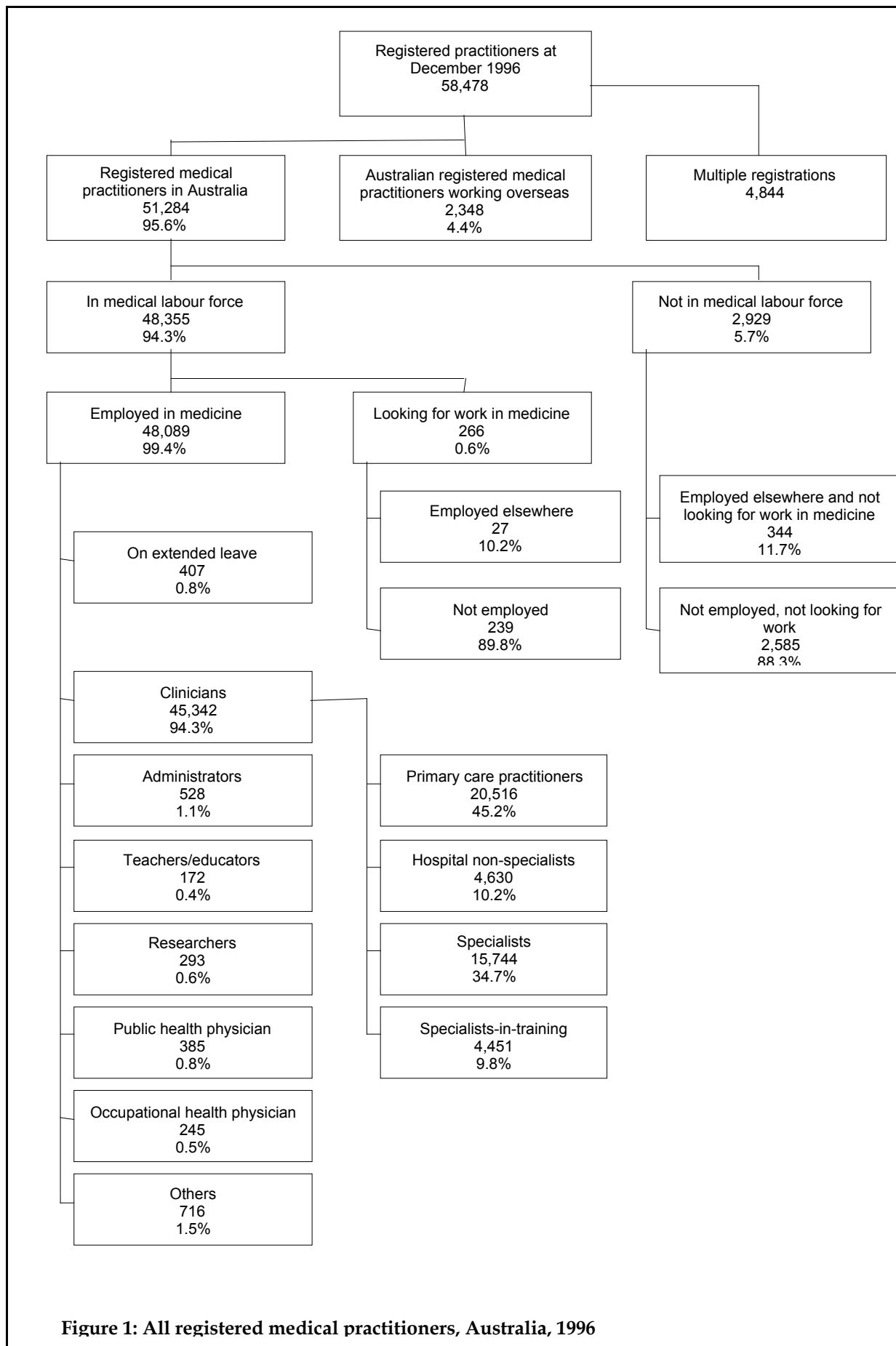


Figure 1: All registered medical practitioners, Australia, 1996

Table 1: Employed clinician medical practitioners: States and Territories, 1993-96

Year	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Total
1993 ^(r)	15,036	10,659	6,902	3,597	3,912	1,019	778	398	42,300
1994 ^(r)	15,326	10,838	7,137	3,781	3,951	1,066	791	383	43,274
1995 ^(r)	15,639	11,142	7,430	3,960	4,037	1,067	802	406	44,483
1996	15,971	11,304	7,639	4,015	4,068	1,095	836	414	45,342

(r) Revision of estimates published in previous reports. See Explanatory Notes for discussion of the revision methodology.

Table 2: Employed clinician medical practitioners: occupation and sex, Australia, 1993-96

Occupation	1993 ^(r)	1994 ^(r)	1995 ^(r)	1996	% increase 1993 to 1996
Males					
Primary care	13,255	13,320	13,946	13,865	4.6
Hospital non-specialist ^(a)	2,420	2,591	2,851	2,622	8.3
Specialist ^(a)	13,177	13,112	12,810	13,397	1.7
Specialist-in-training ^(a)	2,863	2,951	2,911	2,998	4.7
Total	31,714	31,975	32,518	32,883	3.7
Females					
Primary care	5,664	5,988	6,462	6,651	17.4
Hospital non-specialist ^(a)	1,647	1,890	2,059	2,008	22.0
Specialist ^(a)	2,064	2,131	2,095	2,347	13.7
Specialist-in-training ^(a)	1,211	1,289	1,349	1,453	19.9
Total	10,586	11,299	11,965	12,459	17.7
Persons					
Primary care	18,918	19,309	20,408	20,516	8.4
Hospital non-specialist ^(a)	4,067	4,481	4,910	4,630	13.9
Specialist ^(a)	15,240	15,244	14,905	15,744	3.3
Specialist-in-training ^(a)	4,074	4,240	4,261	4,451	9.3
Total	42,300	43,274	44,483	45,342	7.2
(per cent female)					
Primary care	29.9	31.0	31.7	32.4	
Hospital non-specialist	40.5	42.2	41.9	43.4	
Specialist	13.5	14.0	14.1	14.9	
Specialist-in-training	29.7	30.4	31.7	32.6	
Total	25.0	26.1	26.9	27.5	

(a) Prior to 1995, Victoria used a questionnaire that was not standardised with the other States and Territories. The main effect was that specialists-in-training were included in the data for specialists or hospital non-specialists. Therefore, the 1993 and 1994 Victorian data for occupation have been estimated based on the distribution of these occupations in 1995 and 1996.

(r) Revision of estimates published in previous reports. See Explanatory Notes for discussion of the revision methodology.

Table 3: Employed medical practitioners: occupation and sex, States and Territories, 1996

Occupation	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Total
Males									
Clinician	11,571	8,255	5,526	2,918	2,984	786	571	271	32,883
Primary care	4,932	3,338	2,358	1,259	1,255	377	230	115	13,865
Hospital non-specialist	1,059	484	557	164	210	58	56	34	2,622
Specialist	4,559	3,558	2,090	1,271	1,272	290	254	103	13,397
Specialist-in-training	1,020	876	521	224	246	61	31	19	2,998
Non-clinician	550	497	238	89	123	37	56	13	1,603
Administrator	126	88	53	26	38	6	19	7	365
Teacher/educator	41	33	17	8	17	2	2	1	121
Researcher	65	59	13	12	22	0	8	1	181
Public health physician	73	56	44	20	21	8	5	3	231
Occupational health physician	83	58	17	16	8	5	8	0	196
Other	162	203	93	6	15	16	14	0	509
Total	12,121	8,752	5,764	3,007	3,107	823	627	284	34,486
Females									
Clinician	4,399	3,048	2,112	1,097	1,085	309	265	144	12,459
Primary care	2,252	1,593	1,163	626	569	185	165	98	6,651
Hospital non-specialist	825	357	383	159	161	56	42	26	2,008
Specialist	822	680	342	189	223	40	37	14	2,347
Specialist-in-training	500	418	225	123	132	28	22	7	1,453
Non-clinician	281	214	99	48	51	12	20	11	737
Administrator	68	25	25	18	15	1	7	3	163
Teacher/educator	27	14	5	2	3	0	0	0	51
Researcher	48	32	7	10	5	3	4	3	112
Public health physician	47	45	28	12	13	2	4	3	154
Occupational health physician	21	16	4	2	5	1	0	0	49
Other	70	81	30	4	10	4	5	2	207
Total	4,680	3,262	2,211	1,145	1,136	321	286	155	13,196
Persons									
Clinician	15,971	11,304	7,639	4,015	4,068	1,095	836	414	45,342
Primary care	7,185	4,931	3,521	1,885	1,824	563	395	212	20,516
Hospital non-specialist	1,884	841	941	323	371	114	98	59	4,630
Specialist	5,381	4,238	2,431	1,461	1,495	330	291	117	15,744
Specialist-in-training	1,521	1,294	746	346	378	88	53	25	4,451
Non-clinician	831	711	337	136	174	49	77	24	2,340
Administrator	194	114	78	44	53	7	27	11	528
Teacher/educator	67	47	22	10	20	2	2	1	172
Researcher	113	91	20	22	27	3	12	5	293
Public health physician	120	101	72	32	34	10	9	6	385
Occupational health physician	104	75	21	18	14	6	8	0	245
Other	233	284	123	10	25	21	19	2	716
Total	16,802	12,015	7,976	4,151	4,242	1,144	913	439	47,682

Table 4: Employed medical practitioners per 100,000 population: occupation, States and Territories, 1996

Occupation	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Total
<i>Clinician</i>	255.9	246.7	226.6	225.3	275.6	230.9	271.0	223.7	246.2
Primary care	115.1	107.6	104.4	105.8	123.6	118.7	127.9	114.7	111.4
Hospital non-specialist	30.2	18.4	27.9	18.1	25.1	24.0	31.7	31.9	25.1
Specialist	86.2	92.5	72.1	82.0	101.3	69.6	94.2	63.3	85.5
Specialist-in-training	24.4	28.2	22.1	19.4	25.6	18.6	17.1	13.7	24.2
<i>Non-clinician</i>	13.3	15.5	10.0	7.7	11.8	10.4	24.8	13.2	12.7
Administrator	3.1	2.5	2.3	2.5	3.6	1.6	8.6	5.7	2.9
Teacher/educator	1.1	1.0	0.7	0.6	1.4	0.5	0.5	0.8	0.9
Researcher	1.8	2.0	0.6	1.2	1.8	0.6	3.9	2.5	1.6
Public health physician	1.9	2.2	2.1	1.8	2.3	2.1	3.0	3.3	2.1
Occupational health physician	1.7	1.6	0.6	1.0	0.9	1.3	2.6	0.0	1.3
Other	3.7	6.2	3.7	0.6	1.7	4.3	6.3	0.9	3.9
Total	269.2	262.3	236.6	233.0	287.4	241.3	295.9	236.9	258.9
(per cent of national total)									
<i>Clinician</i>	104.0	100.2	92.0	91.5	112.0	93.8	110.1	90.9	100.0
Primary care	103.4	96.6	93.8	95.0	110.9	106.6	114.8	103.0	100.0
Hospital non-specialist	120.1	73.0	111.0	72.0	100.0	95.4	126.3	127.0	100.0
Specialist	100.9	108.2	84.4	95.9	118.5	81.4	110.3	74.1	100.0
Specialist-in-training	100.8	116.9	91.5	80.4	106.0	77.2	70.9	56.8	100.0
<i>Non-clinician</i>	104.8	122.2	78.7	60.3	92.7	81.9	195.5	103.9	100.0
Administrator	108.5	86.5	81.1	86.3	125.8	55.2	300.8	199.3	100.0
Teacher/educator	114.9	109.6	71.1	61.1	146.3	55.6	52.6	83.4	100.0
Researcher	114.0	124.9	37.9	77.7	115.8	36.0	243.5	157.5	100.0
Public health physician	92.2	105.5	102.2	86.1	111.3	99.7	143.8	157.9	100.0
Occupational health physician	125.1	122.3	45.9	76.0	70.5	98.0	194.9	0.0	100.0
Other	95.8	159.3	94.1	14.5	43.7	111.5	160.7	23.0	100.0
Total	104.0	101.3	91.4	90.0	111.0	93.2	114.3	91.5	100.0

Table 5: All registered medical practitioners: employment status and sex, States and Territories, 1996

Employment status	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Total
Males									
Only in this State	11,726	8,590	5,632	2,989	2,968	805	552	268	33,530
Mainly in this State	395	162	132	18	139	19	75	16	956
<i>Total</i>	<i>12,121</i>	<i>8,752</i>	<i>5,764</i>	<i>3,007</i>	<i>3,107</i>	<i>823</i>	<i>627</i>	<i>284</i>	<i>34,486</i>
Mainly in another State	513	143	99	38	57	24	84	130	1,089
Only in other States	944	497	500	94	309	189	126	191	2,851
<i>Total</i>	<i>1,457</i>	<i>640</i>	<i>599</i>	<i>133</i>	<i>366</i>	<i>213</i>	<i>211</i>	<i>321</i>	<i>3,940</i>
On extended leave	53	48	16	12	12	5	3	3	151
Practising overseas	776	462	223	36	150	44	36	17	1,744
Currently not employed	874	335	236	154	264	99	40	22	2,024
Employed, not in medicine	132	75	26	16	23	0	6	1	280
<i>Total</i>	<i>15,412</i>	<i>10,313</i>	<i>6,864</i>	<i>3,358</i>	<i>3,922</i>	<i>1,185</i>	<i>923</i>	<i>648</i>	<i>42,625</i>
Females									
Only in this State	4,600	3,244	2,199	1,141	1,116	318	267	150	13,035
Mainly in this State	80	18	12	4	20	3	21	5	163
<i>Total</i>	<i>4,680</i>	<i>3,262</i>	<i>2,211</i>	<i>1,145</i>	<i>1,136</i>	<i>321</i>	<i>288</i>	<i>155</i>	<i>13,198</i>
Mainly in another State	95	24	17	4	17	7	16	11	191
Only in other States	242	157	108	26	63	52	21	46	714
<i>Total</i>	<i>336</i>	<i>180</i>	<i>125</i>	<i>30</i>	<i>80</i>	<i>59</i>	<i>37</i>	<i>57</i>	<i>905</i>
On extended leave	92	81	39	18	17	1	1	7	256
Practising overseas	265	178	69	8	52	13	13	5	604
Currently not employed	380	155	98	36	72	32	18	8	799
Employed, not in medicine	35	26	18	2	10	1	0	0	91
<i>Total</i>	<i>5,789</i>	<i>3,883</i>	<i>2,561</i>	<i>1,238</i>	<i>1,366</i>	<i>427</i>	<i>357</i>	<i>232</i>	<i>15,853</i>
Persons									
Only in this State	16,326	11,835	7,832	4,129	4,083	1,122	819	418	46,565
Mainly in this State	475	180	144	22	159	22	96	21	1,119
<i>Total</i>	<i>16,802</i>	<i>12,015</i>	<i>7,976</i>	<i>4,151</i>	<i>4,242</i>	<i>1,144</i>	<i>915</i>	<i>439</i>	<i>47,684</i>
Mainly in another State	608	167	116	42	74	31	101	141	1,280
Only in other States	1,185	653	608	120	372	241	148	237	3,565
<i>Total</i>	<i>1,793</i>	<i>820</i>	<i>724</i>	<i>162</i>	<i>446</i>	<i>272</i>	<i>248</i>	<i>378</i>	<i>4,844</i>
On extended leave	145	130	55	30	28	6	4	9	407
Practising overseas	1,041	641	292	44	202	57	49	22	2,348
Currently not employed	1,253	490	334	190	336	132	58	30	2,823
Employed, not in medicine	167	100	44	18	33	1	6	1	371
Total	21,201	14,196	9,425	4,596	5,288	1,612	1,280	880	58,478

Table 6: Employed medical practitioners: occupation, age and sex, Australia, 1996

Occupation	Age (years)							Total
	<25	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75+	
Males								
Clinician	296	6,446	9,188	8,578	4,872	2,808	694	32,888
Primary care	4	1,783	4,210	3,852	2,081	1,493	441	13,868
Hospital non-specialist	292	1,783	331	127	61	27	2	2,622
Specialist	0	482	4,110	4,536	2,729	1,288	251	13,397
Specialist-in-training	0	2,399	536	63	0	0	0	2,998
Non-clinician	9	183	324	363	331	289	104	1,603
Administrator	0	16	95	116	91	42	5	365
Teacher/educator	0	8	15	32	29	29	8	121
Researcher	0	35	53	22	37	22	11	181
Public health physician	5	55	64	50	34	21	2	231
Occupational health physician	0	15	36	61	47	28	9	196
Other	4	53	61	82	92	147	69	509
Total	306	6,629	9,511	8,942	5,203	3,098	798	34,486
Females								
Clinician	328	4,549	4,324	2,127	735	324	72	12,459
Primary care	0	1,862	2,770	1,349	409	213	48	6,651
Hospital non-specialist	328	1,295	237	94	47	6	1	2,008
Specialist	0	219	1,080	641	279	106	22	2,347
Specialist-in-training	0	1,173	237	43	0	0	0	1,453
Non-clinician	15	148	262	148	96	58	9	737
Administrator	0	13	68	57	21	5	0	163
Teacher/educator	0	6	19	9	12	2	4	51
Researcher	0	33	53	15	6	5	0	112
Public health physician	6	43	51	22	17	15	0	154
Occupational health physician	0	7	22	10	8	4	0	49
Other	9	47	49	36	33	28	5	207
Total	343	4,697	4,586	2,278	831	382	81	13,196
Persons								
Clinician	625	10,995	13,512	10,705	5,607	3,133	766	45,342
Primary care	4	3,644	6,980	5,201	2,491	1,706	490	20,516
Hospital non-specialist	620	3,078	568	221	108	33	3	4,630
Specialist	0	701	5,190	5,177	3,008	1,394	274	15,744
Specialist-in-training	0	3,572	774	106	0	0	0	4,451
Non-clinician	24	331	585	512	428	347	113	2,340
Administrator	0	29	163	173	112	47	5	528
Teacher/educator	0	14	34	41	41	31	12	172
Researcher	0	68	107	37	43	27	11	293
Public health physician	11	98	115	72	52	37	2	385
Occupational health physician	0	21	57	71	55	32	9	245
Other	14	100	110	118	125	174	75	716
Total	649	11,326	14,097	11,217	6,034	3,480	879	47,682

Note: A State and Territory dissection of these data is available on the Internet at <http://www.aihw.gov.au>.

Table 7: Employed clinician medical practitioners: occupation, total hours worked per week and sex, Australia, 1996

Occupation	Total hours worked per week						Total	(per cent)	
	1-19	20-34	35-49	50-64	65-79	80+		65-79	80+
Males									
Primary care	584	1,109	4,341	5,774	1,498	560	13,865	10.8	4.0
VRGP	440	897	3,646	5,284	1,395	486	12,148	11.5	4.0
GP trainee	14	40	295	138	13	12	511	2.5	2.4
OMP	130	172	400	352	90	62	1,206	7.5	5.2
Hospital non-specialist	41	105	682	1,407	257	130	2,622	9.8	4.9
RMO/intern	16	47	421	1,112	199	101	1,896	10.5	5.3
Other	25	58	261	295	59	29	726	8.1	4.0
Specialist	582	936	3,503	5,883	1,749	745	13,397	13.1	5.6
Internal medicine	177	205	776	1,656	549	212	3,577	15.4	5.9
Pathology	25	38	216	234	23	9	544	4.2	1.7
Surgery	99	191	443	1,127	500	253	2,613	19.1	9.7
Other specialties	280	503	2,067	2,866	677	271	6,663	10.2	4.1
Specialist-in-training	14	39	738	1,503	494	210	2,998	16.5	7.0
Total	1,221	2,189	9,263	14,567	3,999	1,644	32,883	12.2	5.0
Females									
Primary care	1,274	2,132	2,054	883	174	134	6,651	2.6	2.0
VRGP	1,024	1,760	1,519	714	143	105	5,269	2.7	2.1
GP trainee	92	185	328	87	13	4	712	1.8	0.6
OMP	158	184	207	82	18	21	670	2.7	3.1
Hospital non-specialist	96	132	570	933	181	97	2,008	9.0	4.8
RMO/intern	35	55	434	874	162	81	1,642	9.9	4.9
Other	61	76	136	59	19	16	367	5.0	4.3
Specialist	230	521	805	612	108	72	2,347	4.6	3.1
Internal medicine	57	115	184	161	36	20	574	6.2	3.6
Pathology	10	37	81	54	4	0	185	2.0	0.0
Surgery	4	10	27	29	17	5	95	17.4	8.4
Other specialties	147	365	524	360	55	42	1,494	3.7	2.8
Specialist-in-training	29	93	437	682	128	83	1,453	8.8	5.7
Total	1,629	2,875	3,866	3,110	591	385	12,459	4.7	3.1
Persons									
Primary care	1,858	3,241	6,395	6,656	1,672	694	20,516	8.1	3.4
VRGP	1,465	2,657	5,165	5,998	1,537	594	17,417	8.8	3.4
GP trainee	106	225	623	224	26	16	1,223	2.1	1.3
OMP	287	356	607	434	109	83	1,876	5.8	4.4
Hospital non-specialist	137	236	1,251	2,340	438	227	4,630	9.5	4.9
RMO/intern	52	102	854	1,986	361	182	3,537	10.2	5.1
Other	86	134	397	354	77	45	1,093	7.1	4.1
Specialist	812	1,457	4,307	6,494	1,857	817	15,744	11.8	5.2
Internal medicine	234	321	961	1,817	585	233	4,151	14.1	5.6
Pathology	35	75	296	287	26	9	729	3.6	1.3
Surgery	104	201	470	1,156	517	261	2,708	19.1	9.6
Other specialties	427	867	2,592	3,227	732	313	8,157	9.0	3.8
Specialist-in-training	43	132	1,175	2,185	623	293	4,451	14.0	6.6
Total	2,850	5,067	13,129	17,677	4,590	2,030	45,342	10.1	4.5

Table 8: Employed clinician medical practitioners: occupation, total hours worked per week and region of main job, Australia, 1996

Occupation/ total hours worked per week	Region of main job							Total
	Capital city	Other metro. centre	Large rural centre	Small rural centre	Other rural area	Remote centre	Other remote area	
Primary care								
1-19	1,354	131	112	84	161	8	7	1,858
20-34	2,424	256	182	165	178	22	13	3,241
35-49	4,649	534	352	311	464	50	35	6,395
50-64	4,333	542	466	425	745	64	82	6,656
65-79	1,026	137	92	111	253	19	33	1,672
80+	409	49	25	50	136	4	21	694
Total	14,195	1,649	1,229	1,146	1,937	168	191	20,516
Hospital non-specialist								
1-19	117	9	9	1	1	0	0	137
20-34	177	24	13	14	6	2	0	236
35-49	949	138	99	33	11	10	11	1,251
50-64	1,715	272	200	51	44	34	25	2,340
65-79	354	21	40	8	9	2	5	438
80+	204	10	5	2	5	2	0	227
Total	3,516	474	365	109	77	49	41	4,630
Specialist								
1-19	652	59	57	28	13	3	0	812
20-34	1,258	78	52	42	21	4	1	1,457
35-49	3,491	309	304	149	46	7	1	4,307
50-64	5,168	488	557	208	52	11	10	6,494
65-79	1,422	153	197	56	23	6	1	1,857
80+	619	67	67	46	15	3	0	817
Total	12,609	1,154	1,234	528	170	34	14	15,744
Specialist-in-training								
1-19	38	3	1	1	0	0	0	43
20-34	117	11	5	0	0	0	0	132
35-49	1,056	83	25	3	3	1	3	1,175
50-64	1,939	165	70	6	1	3	1	2,185
65-79	523	50	40	6	3	1	0	623
80+	260	23	8	0	0	1	1	293
Total	3,932	334	149	16	7	7	6	4,451
Total								
1-19	2,161	201	179	115	175	11	7	2,850
20-34	3,977	369	252	221	206	28	15	5,067
35-49	10,145	1,065	779	496	524	69	51	13,129
50-64	13,154	1,467	1,293	689	842	113	118	17,677
65-79	3,324	361	369	181	288	27	39	4,590
80+	1,490	148	105	97	156	10	23	2,030
Total	34,252	3,611	2,977	1,799	2,192	258	252	45,342
(per cent—region)								
Primary care								
65-79	7.2	8.3	7.5	9.7	13.1	11.1	17.3	8.1
80+	2.9	3.0	2.0	4.3	7.0	2.5	11.1	3.4
Hospital non-specialist								
65-79	10.1	4.4	10.9	7.8	12.3	3.3	11.6	9.5
80+	5.8	2.1	1.3	1.5	6.3	3.6	0.0	4.9
Specialist								
65-79	11.3	13.3	16.0	10.5	13.4	16.5	9.8	11.8
80+	4.9	5.8	5.5	8.7	8.8	8.2	0.0	5.2
Specialist-in-training								
65-79	13.3	14.9	26.6	36.4	40.0	20.0	0.0	14.0
80+	6.6	6.8	5.1	0.0	0.0	20.2	24.9	6.6
Total								
65-79	9.7	10.0	12.4	10.1	13.1	10.6	15.5	10.1
80+	4.4	4.1	3.5	5.4	7.1	4.0	9.0	4.5