

OFFICIAL



Australian Government
Department of Health, Disability and Ageing

Health Care Practitioners by African Birth Country in Australia

Table 1. Headcount and FTE of Regulated Health Practitioners* born in Africa, 2021 to 2024

Profession / Region of Birth	2021		2022		2023		2024	
	Headcount	FTE	Headcount	FTE	Headcount	FTE	Headcount	FTE
Allied Health								
Africa Total	7,745	7,115.7	8,078	7,550.0	8,686	8,030.8	9,284	8,573.8
Sub-Saharan Africa Total	5,922	5,392.2	6,133	5,695.9	6,619	6,071.1	7,024	6,453.2
Ethiopia	33	34.3	36	34.7	41	41.9	48	45.2
Ghana	41	37.3	40	38.8	41	38.8	41	38.2
Kenya	358	327.6	353	332.3	380	349.5	399	366.2
Nigeria	150	150.1	171	170.2	193	201.9	243	251.8
South Africa	4,053	3,654.3	4,194	3,848.7	4,521	4,095.1	4,737	4,288.0
North Africa Total	1,823	1,723.5	1,945	1,854.0	2,067	1,959.8	2,260	2,120.7
Egypt	1,623	1,536.8	1,729	1,640.7	1,843	1,750.5	2,028	1,903.6
Medical Practitioners								
Africa Total	6,300	6,679.9	6,533	6,853.0	6,801	7,085.8	7,188	7,379.3
Sub-Saharan Africa Total	4,832	5,159.2	5,002	5,285.5	5,211	5,450.7	5,513	5,706.1
Ethiopia	37	41.4	38	40.7	43	48.6	42	45.6
Ghana	51	60.5	54	59.7	63	70.6	71	77.6
Kenya	278	280.5	295	297.7	308	309.8	333	337.7
Nigeria	646	736.0	701	784.4	761	840.7	848	921.7
South Africa	2,733	2,879.1	2,817	2,946.1	2,900	2,986.5	3,028	3,096.4
North Africa Total	1,468	1,520.7	1,531	1,567.6	1,590	1,635.1	1,675	1,673.2
Egypt	1,251	1,295.1	1,296	1,325.8	1,355	1,388.9	1,399	1,398.0
Nurses and Midwives								
Africa Total	13,564	13,210.0	14,095	14,040.7	14,801	14,932.5	15,577	15,546.1
Sub-Saharan Africa Total	13,110	12,761.1	13,603	13,542.2	14,260	14,390.1	15,011	14,984.8
Ethiopia	387	376.0	420	404.4	434	438.2	454	440.9
Ghana	355	378.5	386	418.3	397	425.2	423	451.5
Kenya	1,478	1,427.3	1,561	1,553.4	1,687	1,725.8	1,826	1,829.9
Nigeria	987	992.0	1,095	1,142.6	1,233	1,304.5	1,371	1,431.1
South Africa	3,563	3,264.5	3,543	3,324.6	3,623	3,391.9	3,782	3,505.2
North Africa Total	454	448.9	492	498.5	541	542.4	566	561.3
Egypt	122	114.3	126	118.7	134	126.5	136	127.6
Total Regulated Health Professions								
All African Countries	27,609	27,005.6	28,706	28,443.8	30,288	30,049.2	32,049	31,499.2
Sub-Saharan Africa	23,864	23,312.5	24,738	24,523.6	26,090	25,911.9	27,548	27,144.1
North Africa	3,745	3,693.1	3,968	3,920.2	4,198	4,137.3	4,501	4,355.2

→ Sources

- National Health Workforce Dataset (NHWDS)

Extract Date:
10 February 2026

Purpose of the Analysis:

Freedom of Information request on practitioners born in Africa by OSCA profession.

Notes on the Analysis:

Table 1 shows headcount and full-time equivalent (FTE) of registered and employed practitioners (excluding those on extended leave) born in Africa, in regulated health professions between 2021 and 2024.

Country of birth is based on the Standard Australian Classification of Countries (SACC 2016). Africa includes:

- 41XX (North Africa),
- 9XXX (Sub-Saharan Africa), and
- 10194 (Other Africa).

For more information, please visit

<https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/classifications/standard-australian-classification-countries-sacc/latest-release>

Full-time equivalent (FTE) is based on 40 hours per week for Medical Practitioners, and 38 hours per week for Nurses and Midwives and Allied Health. FTE totals may not match up due to rounding.

* **Not all health professions are nationally regulated.** For a full list of Occupation Standard Classification for Australia (OSCA) occupations mapped from the National Health Workforce Dataset (NHWDS), see the NHWDS-OSCA Mapping sheet.

OFFICIAL



Australian Government
Department of Health, Disability and Ageing

NHWDS to OSCA Mapping

Table 2. OSCA Occupation ID to NHWDS Profession

Occupation Standard Classification for Australia (OSCA) ID	National Health Workforce Dataset (NHWDS) Profession / Specialty
Allied Health	
261231 Psychologist	Psychologists
262131 Chiropractor	Chiropractors
262331 Occupational Therapist	Occupational Therapists
262431 Physiotherapist	Physiotherapists
262531 Podiatrist	Podiatrists
262932 Osteopath	Osteopaths
263133 Radiographer	
263131 Nuclear Medicine Technologist	Medical Radiation Practitioners
263132 Radiation Therapist	
263331 Optometrist	Optometrists
2634 Pharmacists	Pharmacists
269133 Oral Health Therapist or Dental Therapist	
269131 Dental Hygienist	Dental Practitioners
269132 Dental Prosthetist	
269232 Dentist	
2694 Paramedic Professionals	Paramedics
269931 Acupuncturist	
269932 Chinese Medicine Practitioner	Chinese Medicine Practitioners
441931 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Practitioner	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Practitioners
Medical Practitioners	
141333 Medical Administrator	Medical administration
244731 Pathologist	Pathology-microbiology
269231 Dental Specialist	Surgery-oral and maxillofacial surgery
264 Medical Practitioners	All other medical practitioners
Nurses and Midwives	
441131 Enrolled Nurse	Enrolled nurses
265 Midwifery and Nursing Professionals	All other nurses and midwives

→ Sources

- National Health Workforce Dataset (NHWDS)
- Occupation Standard Classification for Australia (OSCA) 2024 v1.0

Extract Date:
10 February 2026

Purpose of the Analysis:

Freedom of Information request on practitioners born in Africa by OSCA profession.

Notes on the Analysis:

Table 2 shows the mapping from the regulated professions in the National Health Workforce Dataset (NHWDS) to the Occupation Standard Classification for Australia (OSCA).

Professions not listed here are not captured in the NHWDS, and thus would not be counted in Table 1.

For more information on OSCA, please visit
<https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/classifications/osca-occupation-standard-classification-australia/2024-version-1-0>