## **Emergency medicine**



## 2016 Factsheet

Emergency medicine physicians are acute generalists with specialist skills in resuscitation and diagnosis in the acute phase of illness. With a wide range of procedural and technical skills, emergency medicine physicians provide care for patients of all ages and with a wide range of clinical needs. It takes a minimum of five years of full-time training with the Australasian College for Emergency Medicine to specialise in emergency medicine.

## Workforce

In 2016, there were 1,761 emergency medicine physicians employed in Australia, of whom 9.5% worked in the private sector. The majority (92.4%) of emergency medicine physicians who completed the 2016 National Health Workforce Survey indicated they were clinicians.

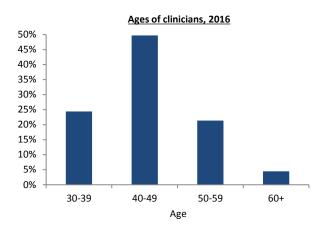


<sup>\*</sup> Includes roles reported by survey respondents that did not fit predefined survey categories.

## **Demographics of clinicians**

Males represented 68% of clinicians in 2016 and had an average age of 46.3 years. Females represented 32% of clinicians and were on average 2.9 years younger than male clinicians.

Category	% of clinicians	Average age	Average hours per week
Male	68.0%	46.3	39.7
Female	32.0%	43.4	35.7
Clinician total	100.0%	45.3	38.5



## **Distribution of clinicians**

In 2016, most clinicians (81.5%) were located in a major city or a location considered as MMM1 under the Modified Monash Model classification system.

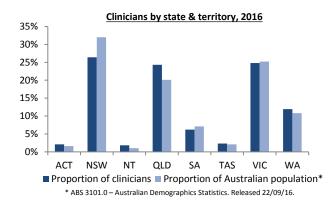
Location of clinicians by remoteness, Modified Monash Model (MMM*)							
MMM	4	2			-		-
category	1	2	3	4	5	ь	/
%	81.5	10.3	6.6	0.4	0.1	1.1	-

<sup>\*</sup> Further information on the Modified Monash Model is available at doctorconnect.gov.au

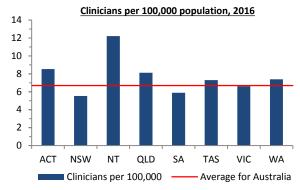
## Quick facts of clinician workforce



New South Wales had the highest number of clinicians in 2016 at 26.4%.



In the graph below, three jurisdictions (New South Wales [5.5], South Australia [5.9] and Victoria [6.6]) had less clinician's than the national average of 6.7 per 100,000 population. The Northern Territory had the highest at 12.2 per 100,000 population.



## **New fellows**

The number of new fellows from the Australasian College for Emergency Medicine increased 91.3% from 2013 to 2015. Overseas trained new fellows who obtained their specialist qualification outside of Australia decreased by 30.4% during this period.

Number of new fellows, 2013-15				
	2013	2014	2015	
Trained in Australia	92	116	204	
Overseas trained	23	21	16	
Total	115	137	220	

In 2015, 35.9% of new fellows were female.

## New fellows by gender, 2013-15 2014 2013 150 100 50 0 50 100 150 Females Males

## **Vocational training**

The number and proportion of female trainees increased each year between 2013 and 2016. During this period, the number of female trainees increased by 13.4%, whereas the number of male trainees decreased by 2.6%.

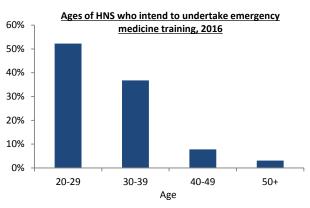
Trainee numbers, 2013-16				
Year	Females	Males	Total	
2013	866	1,200	2,066	
2014	892	1,219	2,111	
2015	971	1,201	2,172	
2016	982	1,169	2,151	
Change 2013-16 (%)	13.4%	-2.6%	4.1%	

# 2016 2014 2013 1050 550 50 450 950 Females Males

## **Vocational intentions**

In 2016, there were 511 Hospital Non-Specialists (HNS\*) who indicated their intention to undertake vocational training in emergency medicine.

\* A HNS is a medical practitioner employed in a salaried position mainly in a hospital. They do not hold a specialist qualification and are not training to obtain one. They include career medical officers, hospital medical officers, interns, principal house officers, resident medical officers and registrars.



## Workforce dynamics indicator\*

The workforce dynamics indicator highlights areas of concern in the future. The indicators measured and their current status is highlighted in the table below.

**Note:** The workforce dynamics indicators are for workforce assessment purposes only and are not intended to guide future training numbers.

\* Further information on the workforce dynamics Indicator is available at <a href="https://example.com/health.gov.au">health.gov.au</a>



Indicator	Description	Status
Ageing of workforce	Workforces with higher average ages are more susceptible to higher exit rates due to retirements.	
Replacement rate	This measure indicates whether trainee numbers are sufficient to replace the numbers leaving the workforce.	
Reliance on Overseas Trained Specialists (OTS)	Workforces with high proportions of OTS are of concern because they depend on a supply stream affected by immigration policies that change.	
Duration of training program	This measure indicates how long it takes to train a replacement workforce.	
	Indicator considers basic and advanced training components.	

### References

- 1) National Health Workforce Dataset (NHWDS): Medical Practitioners 2016.
- 2) Australasian College for Emergency Medicine
- 3) Medical Education and Training Report 1st edition (Unpublished).
- 4) ABS 3101.0 Australian Demographics Statistics. Released 22/09/16.
- 5) Australian Medical Association (AMA) Career Pathways Guide
- 6) Australia's Future Health Workforce Emergency Medicine 2017.
- National Medical Training Advisory Network (NMTAN) Prevocational Doctor Factsheet Methodology Paper.

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