Obstetrics & Gynaecology



2016 Factsheet

Obstetrics and Gynaecology are specialist branches of medicine concerned with health care specific to women. Obstetricians provide medical care before, during, and after childbirth. Gynaecologists diagnose, treat, and aid in the prevention of disorders of the female reproductive system. A minimum of six years full-time advanced training through the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists is required to specialise in this area.

Workforce

In 2016, there were 1,742 obstetricians and gynaecologists employed in Australia, of whom 61.1% worked in the private sector. Nearly 95% of obstetricians and gynaecologist who completed the 2016 National Health Workforce Survey indicated they were clinicians.

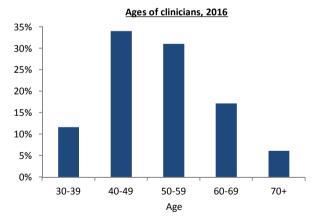


* Includes roles reported by survey respondents that did not fit predefined survey categories.

Demographics of clinicians

Males represented 55.4% of clinicians in 2016 and had an average age of 55.6 years. Females represented 44.6% of clinicians and were on average 8.5 years younger than male clinicians.

			Average hours
Category	% of clinicians	Average age	per week
Male	55.4%	55.6	46.5
Female	44.6%	47.2	44.8
Clinician total	100.0%	51.9	45.7



Distribution of clinicians

In 2016, most clinicians (82.2%) were located in a major city or a location considered as MMM1 under the Modified Monash Model classification system.

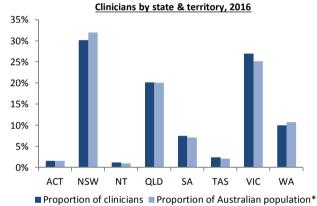
Location of clinicians by remoteness, Modified Monash Model (MMM*)							
MMM							
category	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
%	82.2	9.1	6.6	0.8	0.4	0.9	-

^{*} Further information on the Modified Monash Model is available at doctorconnect.gov.au

Quick facts of clinician workforce

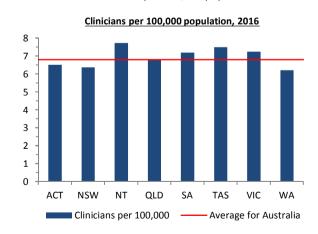


New South Wales had the highest number of clinicians in 2016 followed by Victoria.



* ABS 3101.0 – Australian Demographics Statistics. Released 22/09/16.

The Northern Territory had the highest ratio of clinicians in 2016 with 7.7 per 100,000 population. By contrast, Western Australia had the lowest ratio with 6.2 per 100,000 population.



New fellows

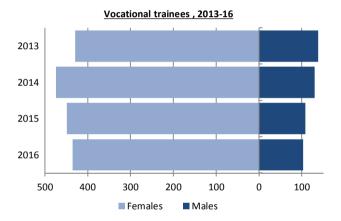
The number of obstetrics and gynaecology new fellows fluctuated between 2013 and 2015. Female new fellow numbers increased by more than 50% from 2013 to 2015.

Number of new fellows, 2013-15				
	2013	2014	2015	
Males	50	66	25	
Females	31	35	69	
Total	81	101	94	

Vocational training

The number of obstetrics and gynaecology trainees in 2016 was 5.1% less than the number in 2013.

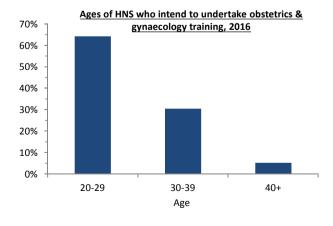
Trainee numbers, 2013-16				
Year	Females	Males	Total	
2013	430	138	568	
2014	475	130	605	
2015	449	108	557	
2016	436	103	539	
Change 2013-16 (%)	1.4%	-25.4%	-5.1%	



Vocational intentions

In 2016, there were 325 Hospital Non-Specialists (HNS*) who indicated their intention to undertake vocational training in obstetrics and gynaecology.

* 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 health.gov.au



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.	
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.
- Australian Medical Association (AMA) Career Pathways Guide.
 Medical Education and Training Report 1st edition (Unpublished)
- Medical Education and Training Report 1st edition (Unpublished).
 ABS 3101.0 Australian Demographics Statistics. Released 22/09/16
- 5) National Medical Training Advisory Network (NMTAN) Prevocational Doctor Factsheet Methodology Paper.

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