

Plastic surgery

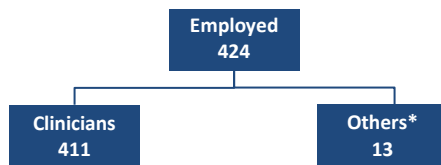
2016 Factsheet



Plastic and Reconstructive surgery is a wide ranging specialty involving manipulation, repair and reconstruction of the skin, soft tissue and bone. Plastic surgery is a specialty not restricted to one organ or tissue type. The main emphasis is on maintaining or restoring form and function, often working in a team approach with other specialties. A minimum of five years full-time advanced training through the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons is required to specialise in this area.

Workforce

In 2016, there were 424 plastic surgeons employed in Australia, of whom 76.9% worked in the private sector. Nearly 97% of plastic surgeons who completed the 2016 National Health Workforce Survey indicated they were clinicians.



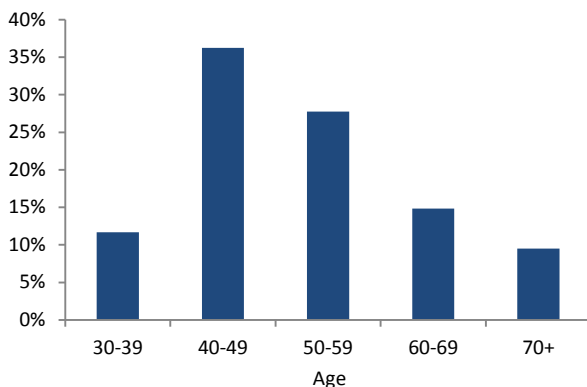
* Includes administrators, researchers and roles reported by survey respondents that did not fit predefined survey categories.

Demographics of clinicians

Males represented 85.9% of clinicians in 2016 and had an average age of 52.7 years. Females represented 14.1% of clinicians and were on average 5.4 years younger than male clinicians.

Category	% of clinicians	Average age	Average hours per week
Male	85.9%	52.7	49.0
Female	14.1%	47.3	46.7
Clinician total	100.0%	51.9	48.7

Ages of clinicians, 2016



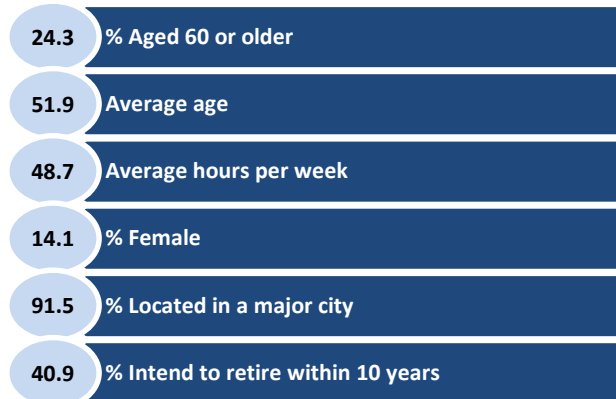
Distribution of clinicians

In 2016, the majority (91.5%) of clinicians 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
%	91.5	6.3	1.7	-	0.5	-	-

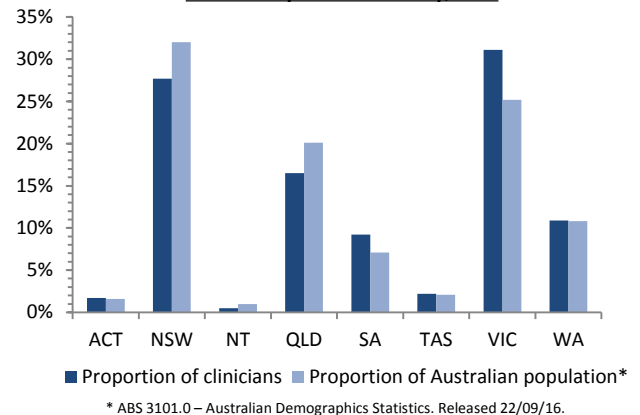
* Further information on the Modified Monash Model is available at doctorconnect.gov.au

Quick facts of clinician workforce



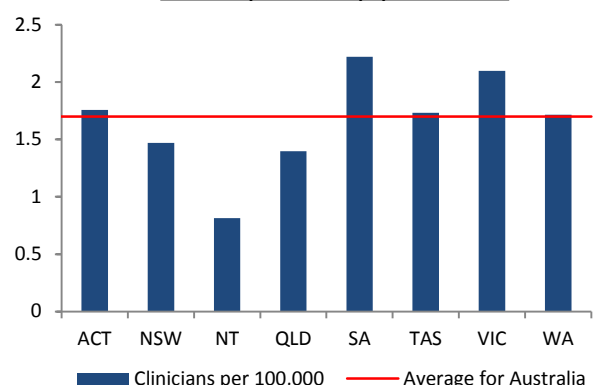
The largest number of clinicians was in Victoria with 31.1% of clinicians indicating their principle place of practice was in this state.

Clinicians by state & territory, 2016



There was an average of 1.7 clinicians per 100,000 population across Australia in 2016. South Australia had the highest ratio of clinicians with 2.2 per 100,000 population, followed by the Victoria with 2.1 per 100,000 population.

Clinicians per 100,000 population, 2016



New fellows

The number of plastic surgery new fellows fluctuated between 2013 and 2015. The number of new fellows in 2015(12) was 14.3% less than the number in 2013(14).

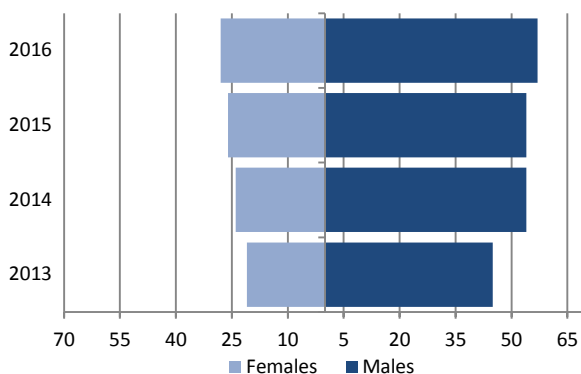
Number of new fellows, 2013-15			
	2013	2014	2015
Males	11	10	8
Females	3	5	4
Total	14	15	12

Vocational training

In 2016, 32.9% of vocational trainees were female. The total number of trainees in 2016 was 28.8% higher than the number in 2013.

Trainee numbers, 2013-16			
Year	Females	Males	Total
2013	21	45	66
2014	24	54	78
2015	26	54	80
2016	28	57	85
Change 2013-16 (%)	33.3%	26.7%	28.8%

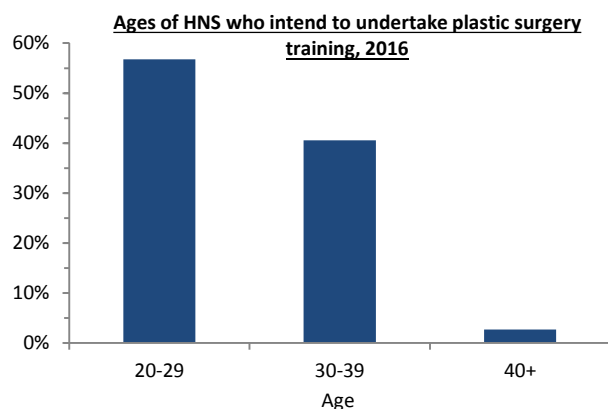
Vocational trainees, 2013-16



Vocational intentions

In 2016, there were 148 Hospital Non-Specialists (HNS*) who indicated their intention to undertake vocational training in plastic surgery.

* 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

Minimal concern Significant concern

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.	

References

- 1) National Health Workforce Dataset (NHWDs): Medical Practitioners 2016.
- 2) Australian Medical Association (AMA) Career Pathways Guide.
- 3) Medical Education and Training Report 1st edition (Unpublished).
- 4) 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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