

Orthopaedic surgery

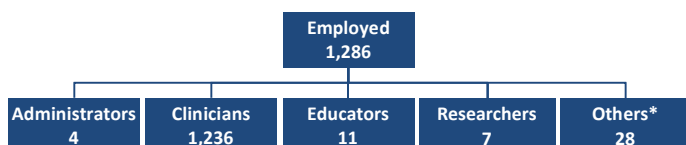


2016 Factsheet

Orthopaedic surgery involves the care of the musculoskeletal system. Orthopaedic surgeons diagnose, care and treat disorders of the bones, joints, muscles, ligaments, tendons, nerves and skin. 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 1,286 orthopaedic surgeons employed in Australia, of whom 76.2% worked in the private sector. Over 96% of orthopaedic surgeons 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.

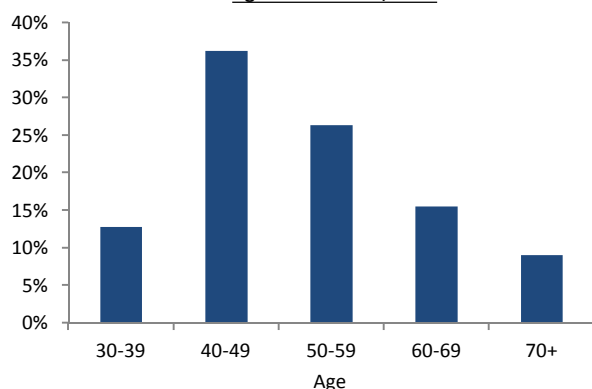
Demographics of clinicians

Males represented 96.9% of clinicians in 2016 and had an average age of 52.0 years. Females represented 3.1% of clinicians and were on average 5.9 years younger than male clinicians.

Category	% of clinicians	Average age	Average hours per week
Male	96.9%	52.0	47.2
Female	3.1%	46.1	46.8
Clinician total	100.0%	51.8	47.2

Over 36% of clinicians were aged 40-49 years and over 26% were aged 50-59 years.

Ages of clinicians, 2016



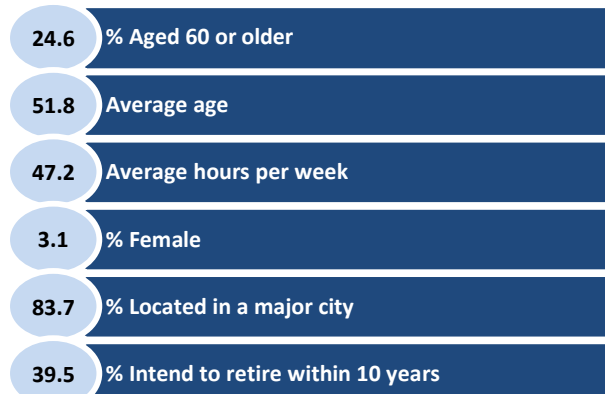
Distribution of clinicians

In 2016, the majority (83.7%) 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
%	83.7	8.8	6.8	-	0.4	0.2	0.1

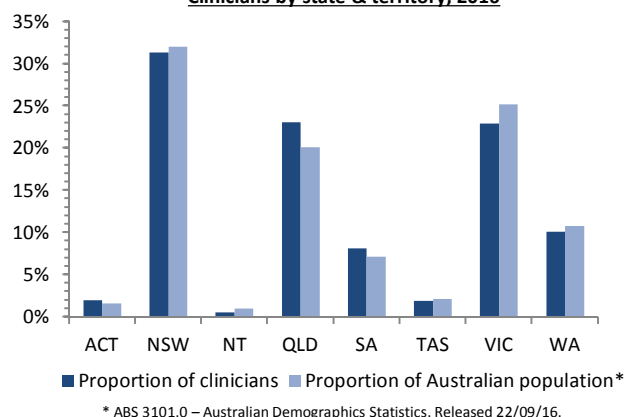
* Further information on the Modified Monash Model is available at doctorconnect.gov.au

Quick facts of clinician workforce



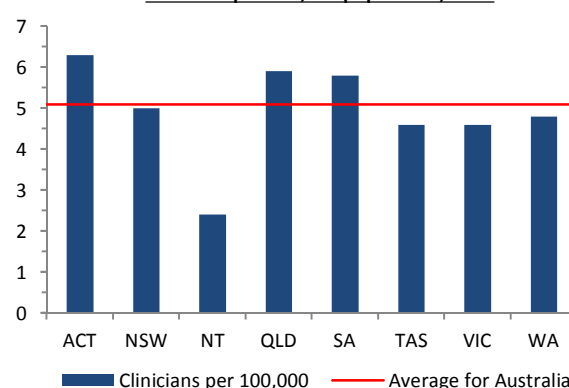
The largest number of clinicians was in New South Wales with 31.3% clinicians indicating their principle place of practice was in this state.

Clinicians by state & territory, 2016



There was an average of 5.1 clinicians per 100,000 population across Australia in 2016. The Australian Capital Territory had the highest ratio of clinicians with 6.3 per 100,000 population, followed by Queensland and South Australia with 5.9 and 5.8 per 100,000 population respectively.

Clinicians per 100,000 population, 2016



New fellows

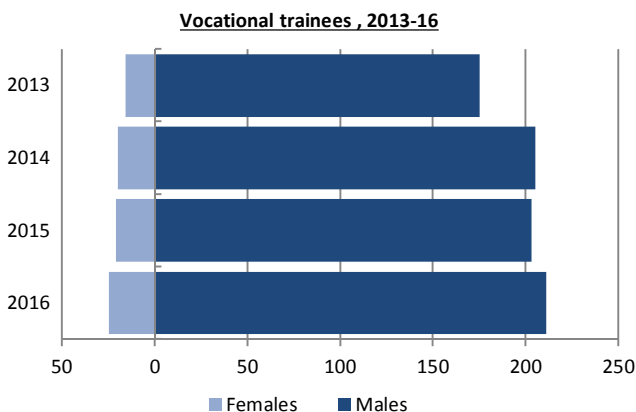
The number of orthopaedic surgery new fellows fluctuated between 2013 and 2015. During this period the number of female new fellows remained static.

Number of new fellows, 2013-15			
	2013	2014	2015
Males	47	28	44
Females	3	3	3
Total	50	31	47

Vocational training

Between 2013 and 2016, the number of female trainees increased by 56.3% and males increased by 20.6%.

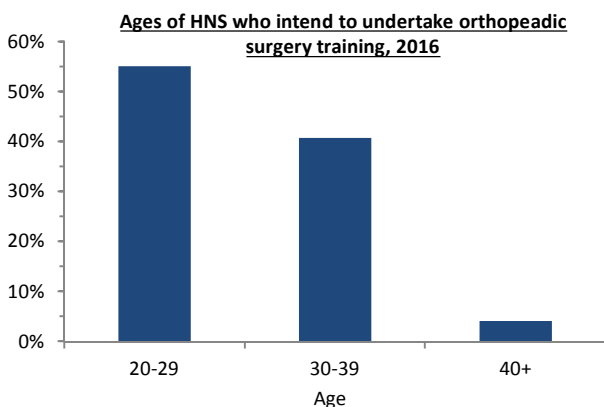
Trainee numbers, 2013-16			
Year	Females	Males	Total
2013	16	175	191
2014	20	205	225
2015	21	203	224
2016	25	211	236
Change 2013-16 (%)	56.3%	20.6%	23.6%



Vocational intentions

In 2016, there were 363 Hospital Non-Specialists (HNS*) who indicated their intention to undertake vocational training in orthopaedic 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



Indicator	Description	Status
Ageing of workforce	Workforces with higher average ages are more susceptible to higher exit rates due to retirements.	Yellow circle
Replacement rate	This measure indicates whether trainee numbers are sufficient to replace the numbers leaving the workforce.	Green circle
Duration of training program	This measure indicates how long it takes to train a replacement workforce.	Yellow circle

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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