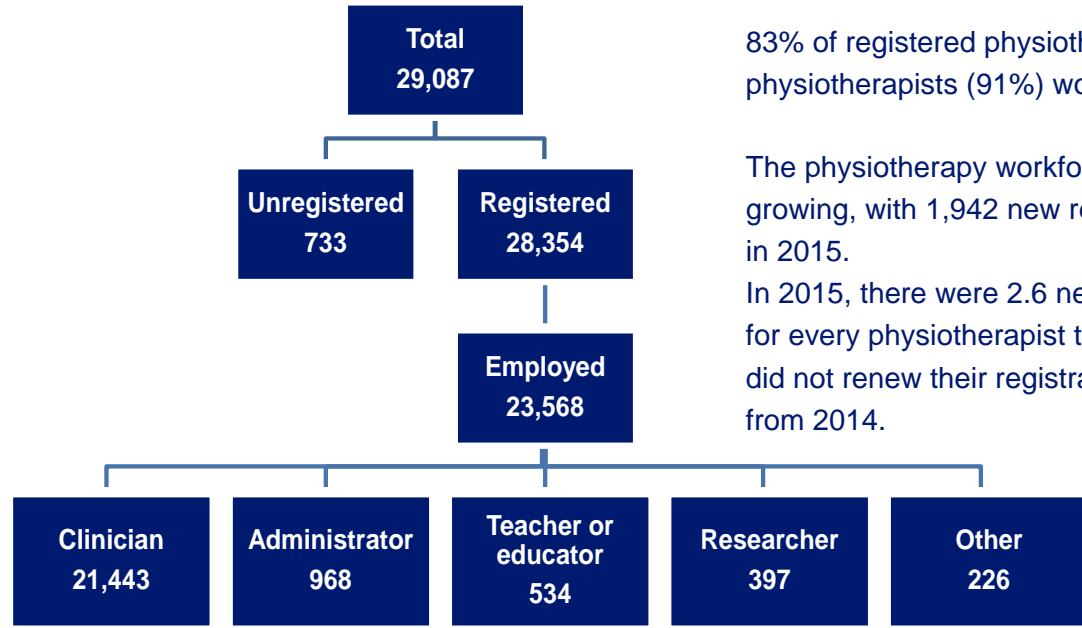
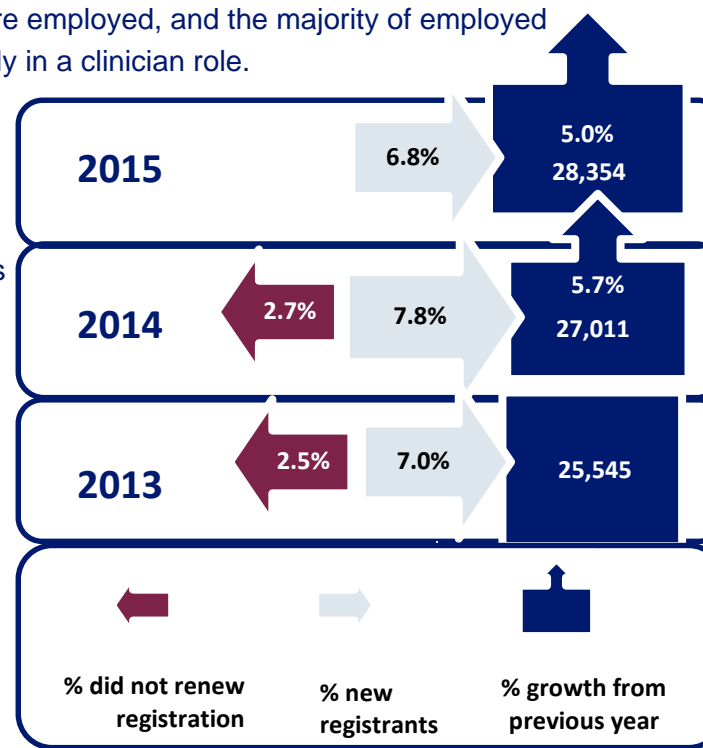


The NATIONAL HEALTH WORKFORCE DATASET (NHWDS) PHYSIOTHERAPY 2015

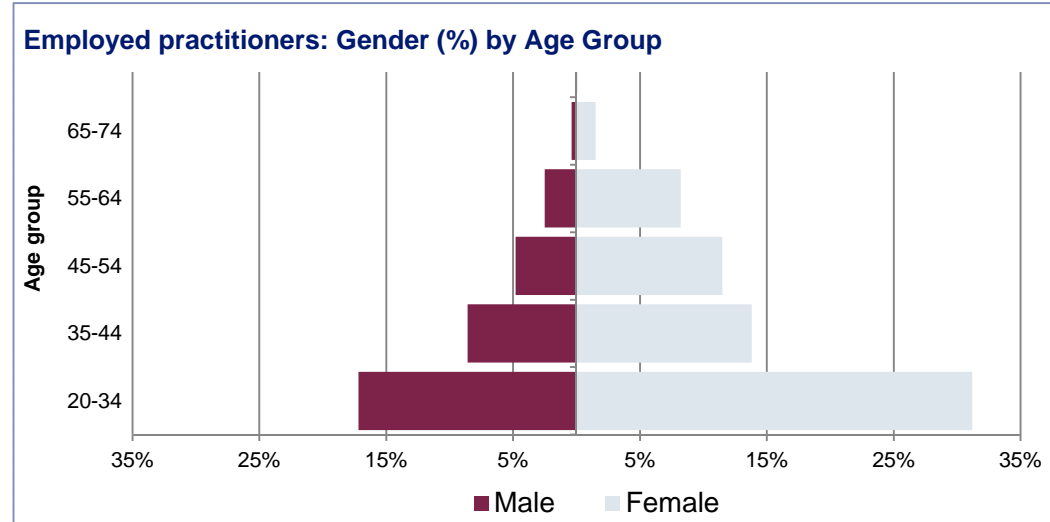


83% of registered physiotherapists were employed, and the majority of employed physiotherapists (91%) worked primarily in a clinician role.

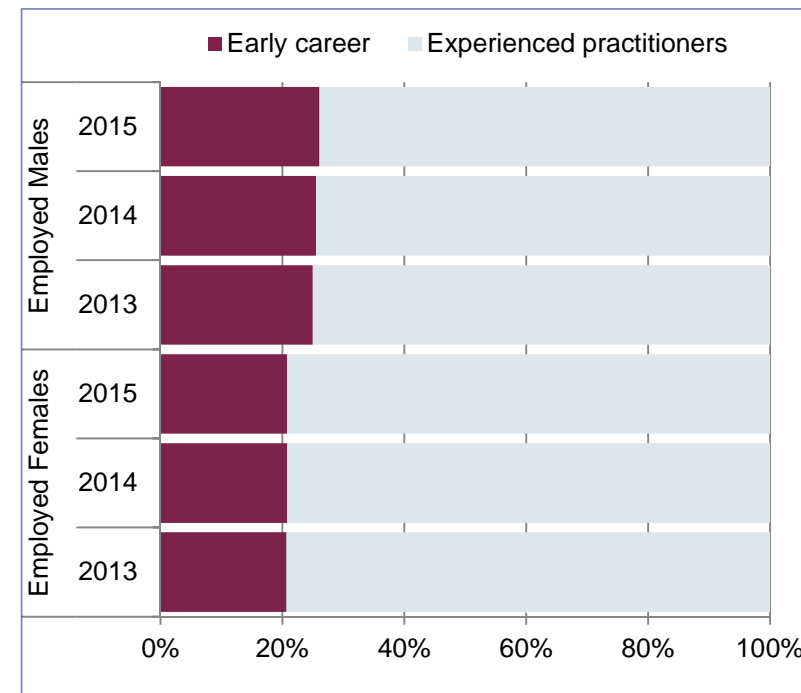
The physiotherapy workforce is growing, with 1,942 new registrants in 2015. In 2015, there were 2.6 new registrants for every physiotherapist that did not renew their registration from 2014.



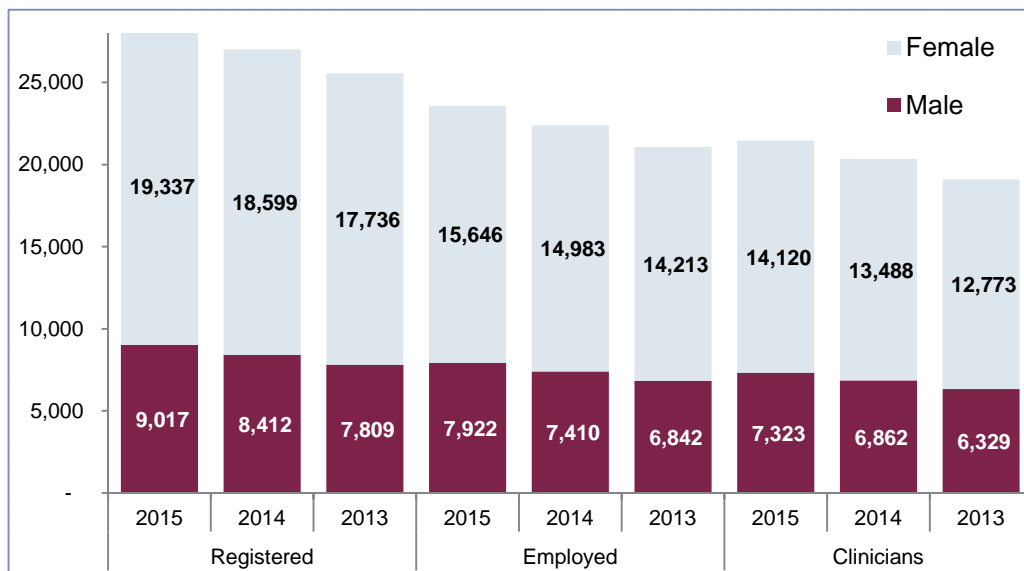
Female practitioners outnumbered male practitioners in all age groups, and comprised two-thirds (66%) of the 20-34 years age group. The proportion of male physiotherapists in the workforce has increased from 32.5% in 2013 to 34% in 2015. 8 physiotherapists (<1%) held an acupuncture endorsement.



Employed Male and Female practitioners: Early Career (%) by Year



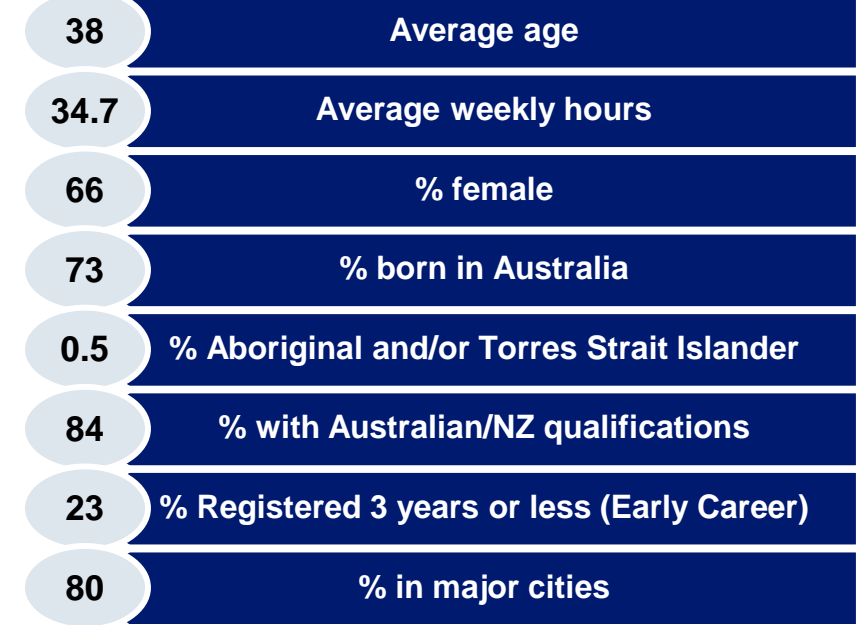
Registered practitioners: Gender by Workforce Status



HOURS WORKED

In 2015, clinician physiotherapists worked 34.7 hours per week on average. Administrators worked the longest hours (35.4) while Teachers and educators worked the shortest (32.8). Clinician physiotherapists spent an average of 31.9 hours per week performing clinical duties, while non-clinicians spent 13.7 hours per week on clinical work.

Average hours worked increased in 2014 for all job roles other than Teacher and educator, and returned to 2013 levels in 2015.



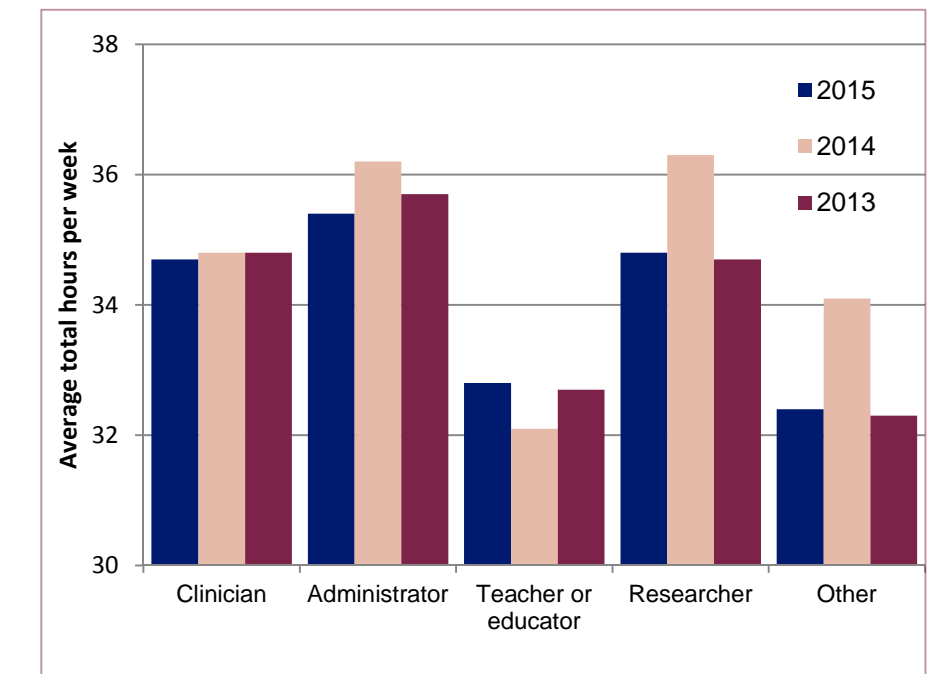
93% of Early Career physiotherapists (registered 3 years or less) were aged 20-34 years.

In 2015, there were 393 Early Career physiotherapists over 34 years of age.

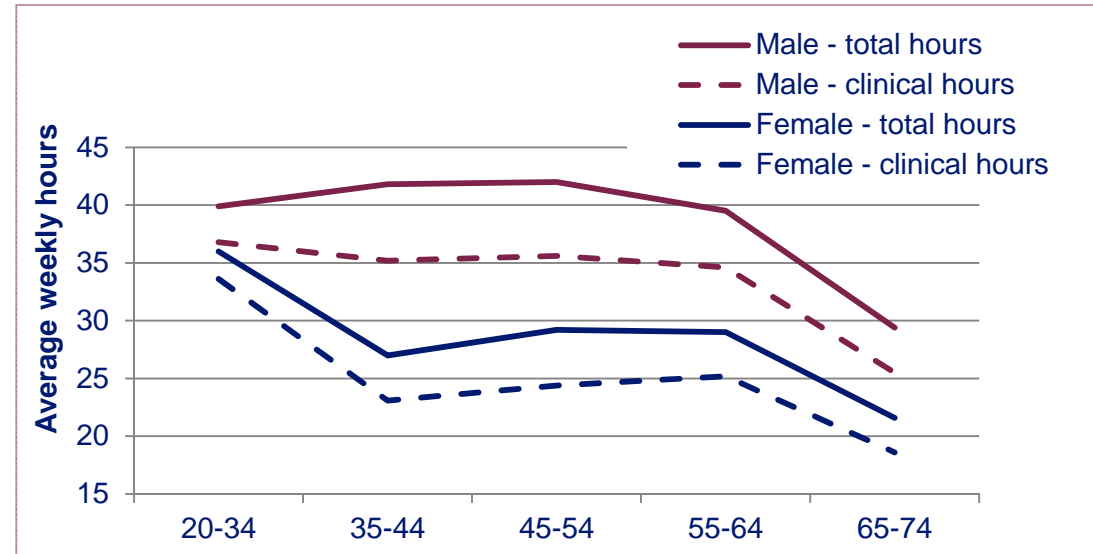
90% of registered Early Career physiotherapists and 81% of Experienced physiotherapists were employed.

Early Career practitioners comprised 21% of female physiotherapists, and this proportion has remained steady from 2013. The proportion of Early Career practitioners among male physiotherapists increased from 25% in 2013 to 26% in 2015.

Employed practitioners: Average weekly hours by Job Role and Year



Employed practitioners: Average Weekly Hours by Age Group and Gender

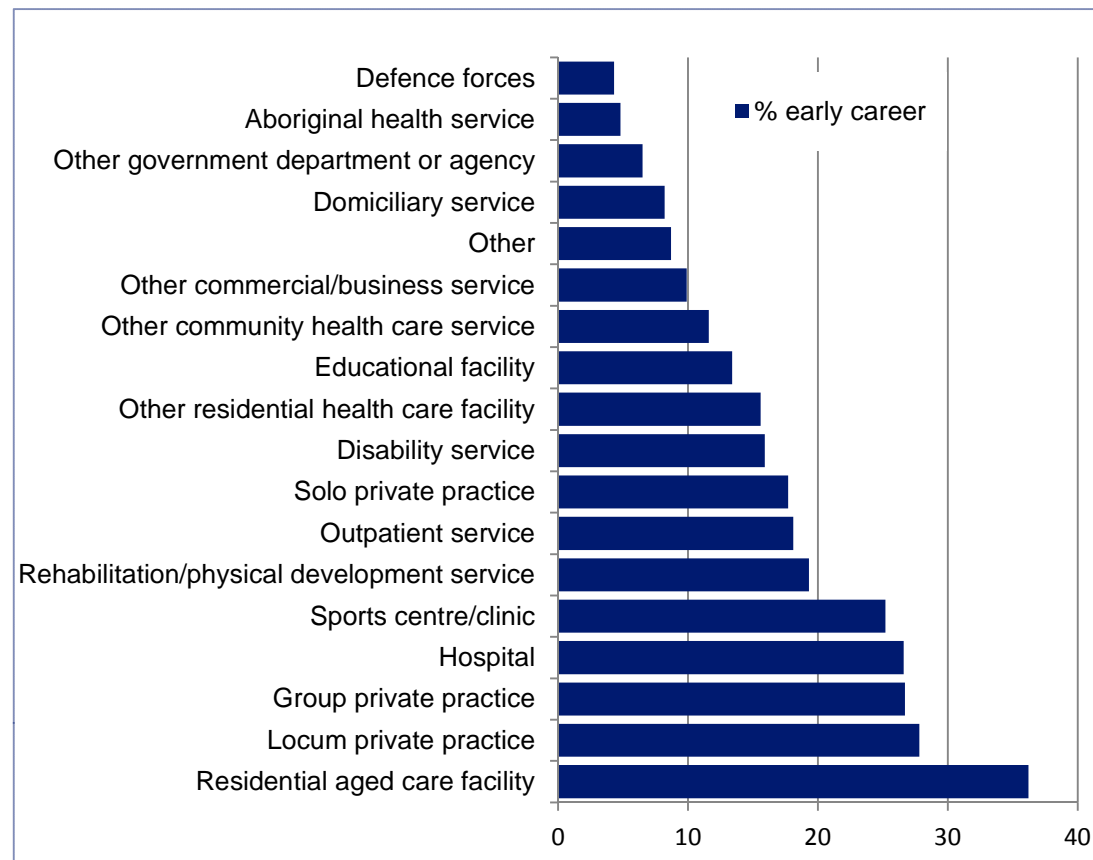


Male practitioners worked 40.5 total hours per week on average, while female practitioners worked 31.8 total hours.

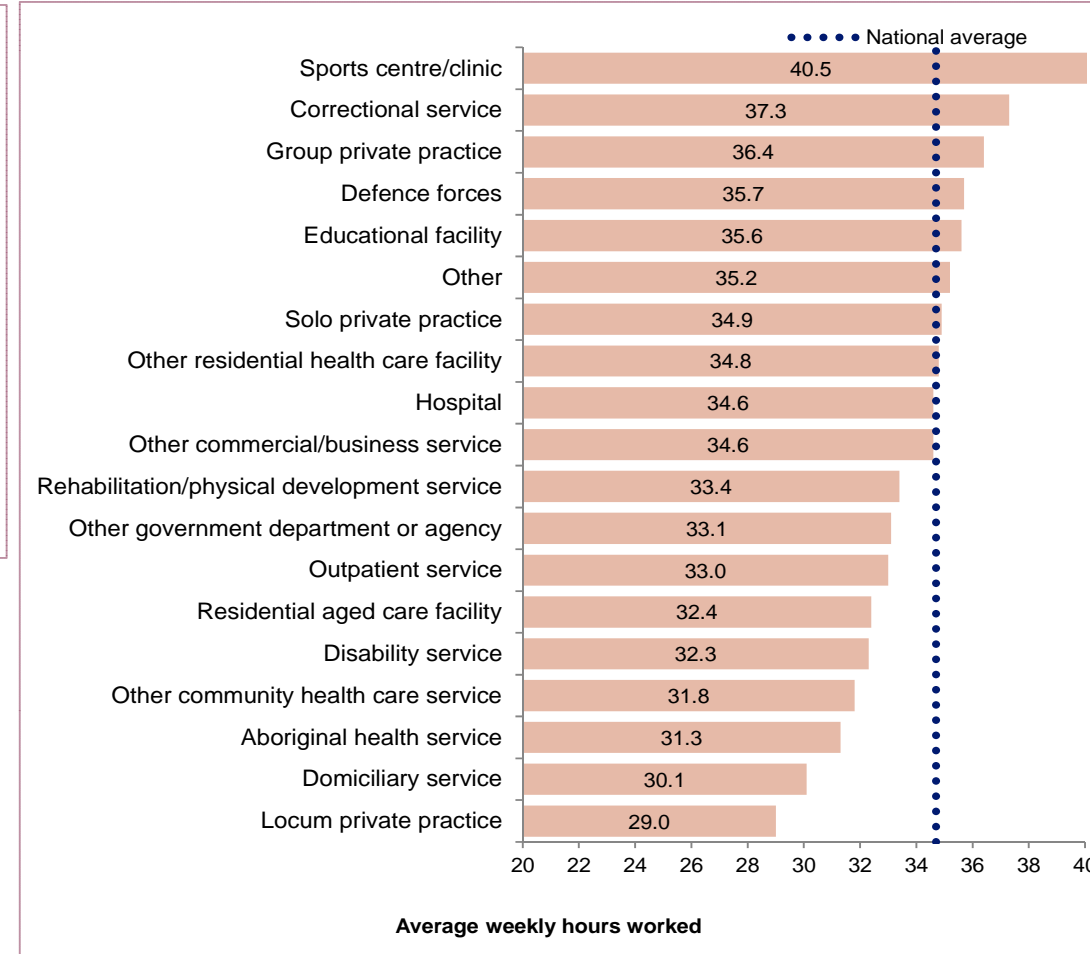
The most clinical hours were worked by male practitioners in the 20-34 years age group, at 36.8 hours per week on average. Among female physiotherapists, the most clinical hours were also worked by the 20-34 age group (33.6 hours)

Early Career practitioners worked more total hours per week on average (38 hours) than more experienced practitioners (33.7 hours), and also worked more clinical hours per week (36.3 hours) than more experienced practitioners (29.5 hours).

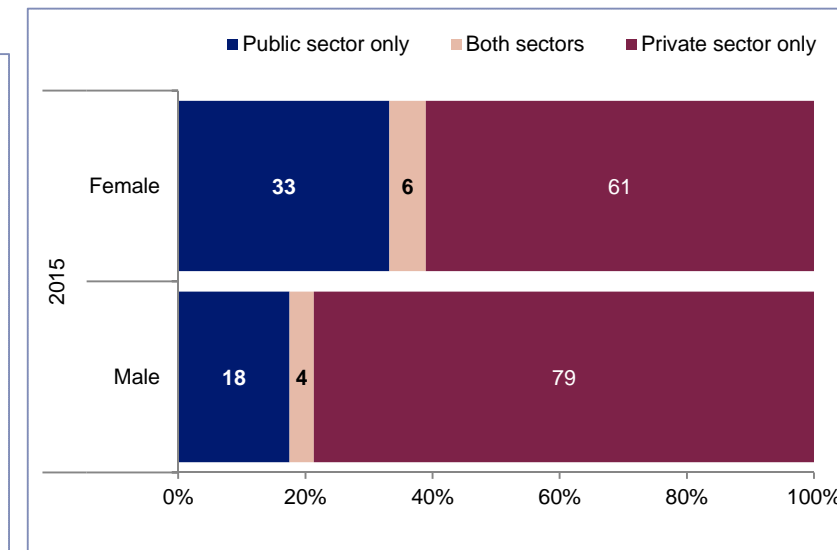
Employed practitioners: Early Career practitioners (%) in selected Job Settings



Employed practitioners: Average Weekly Hours by Job Setting



Clinicians: Male and Female (%) by Sector



The proportion of clinicians working only in the public sector has decreased across all areas since 2013.

The largest decrease occurred in Very Remote areas, where 42% of clinicians worked only in the public sector in 2013, compared to 27% in 2015.

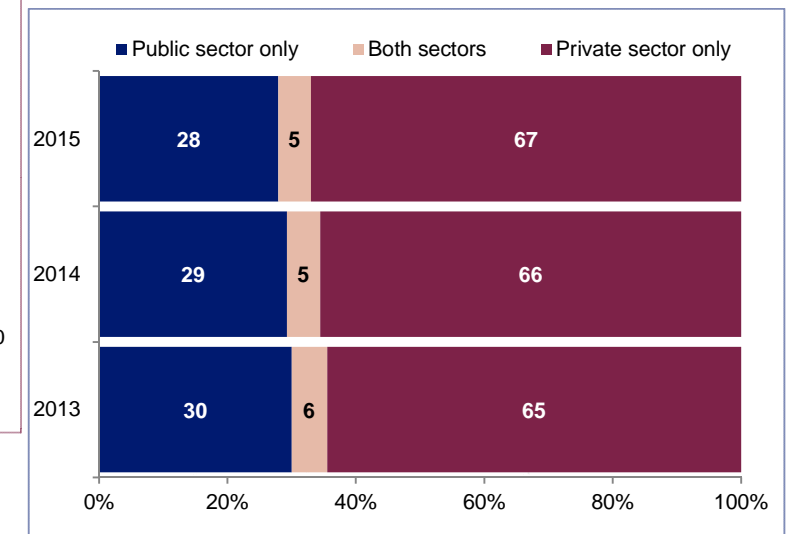
SETTING AND SECTOR

28% of employed physiotherapists worked in Group private practice, and 14% worked in Solo private practice.

20% of physiotherapists worked in Hospitals, 8% in an Outpatient setting, and 7% in a Residential Aged Care facility.

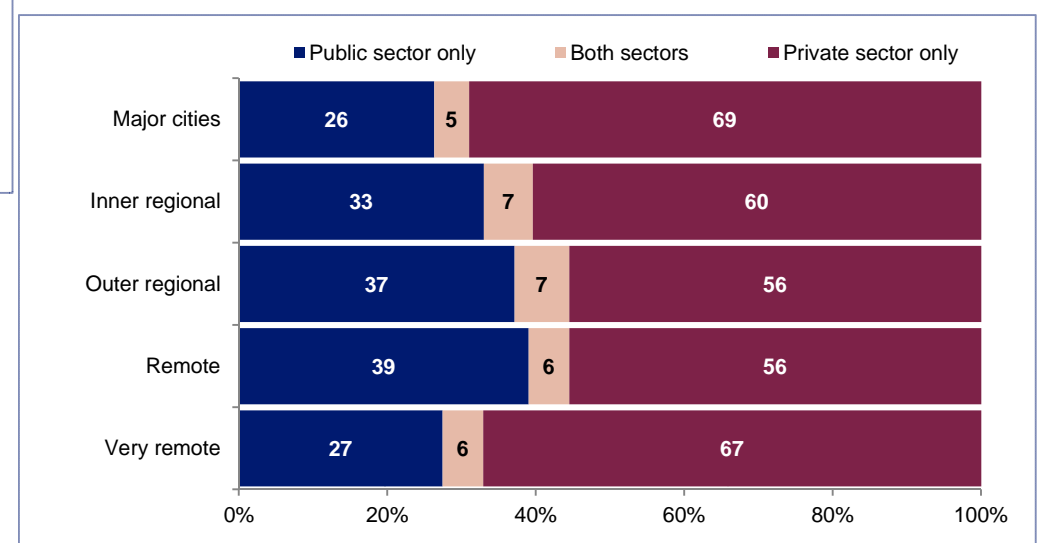
In 2015, 33% of clinician physiotherapists worked some hours in the public sector, a decrease from 36% of clinicians in 2013.

Clinicians (%) by Sector and Year



Female clinicians were more likely to work in the public sector, with 39% working some clinical hours in the public sector, compared to 22% of male clinicians.

Clinicians (%) by Sector and Remoteness Area

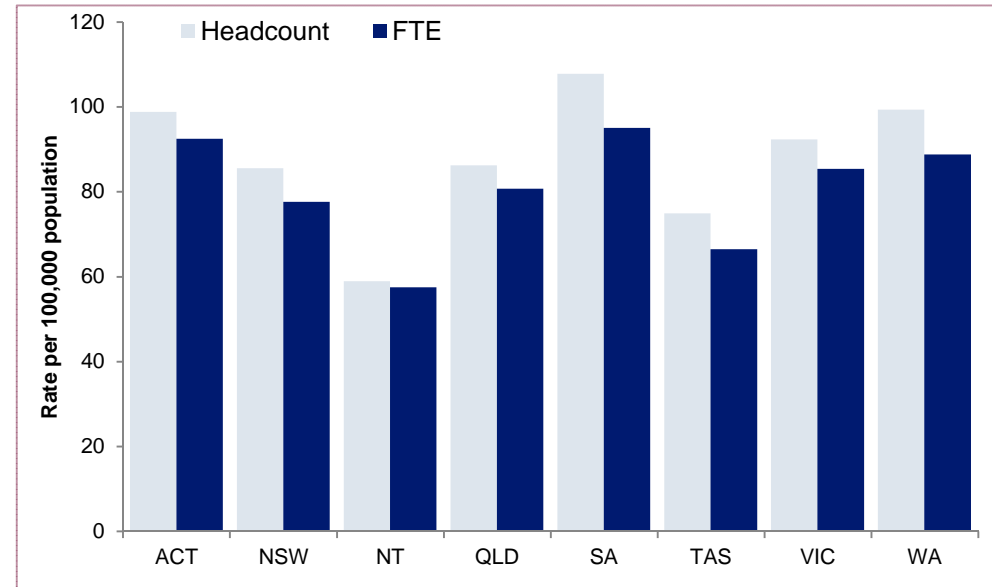


LOCATION

Numbers of full-time equivalent (FTE) clinicians per 100,000 population decreased with remoteness, from 93 FTE clinicians in major cities to 35 FTE in Very Remote locations.

Since 2013, the number of FTE clinicians per 100,000 population increased by 7 FTE in both Major Cities and Inner Regional areas, increased by 3 FTE in Outer Regional areas and remained unchanged in Remote areas. However, for Very Remote areas FTE increased by 13, from 22 FTE clinicians in 2013.

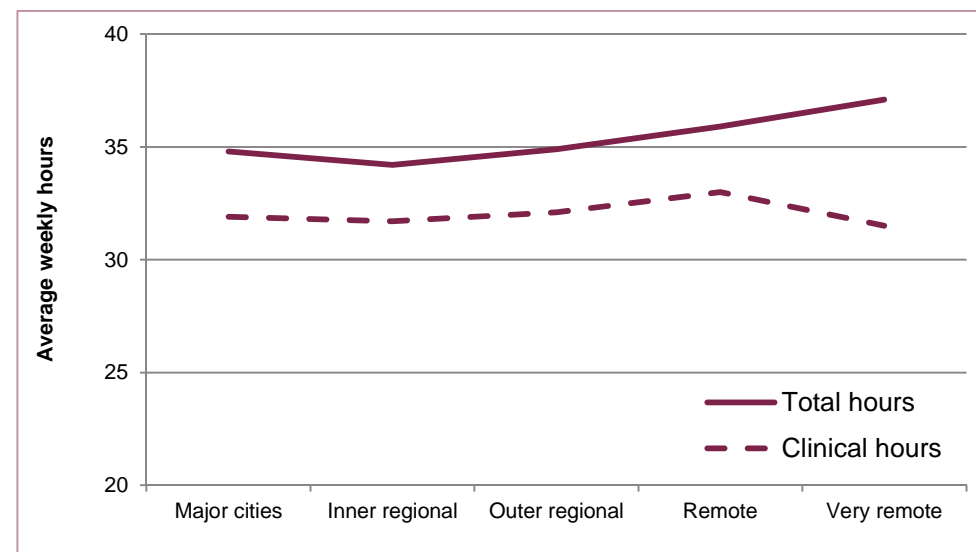
Clinicians: Headcount and FTE by State / Territory



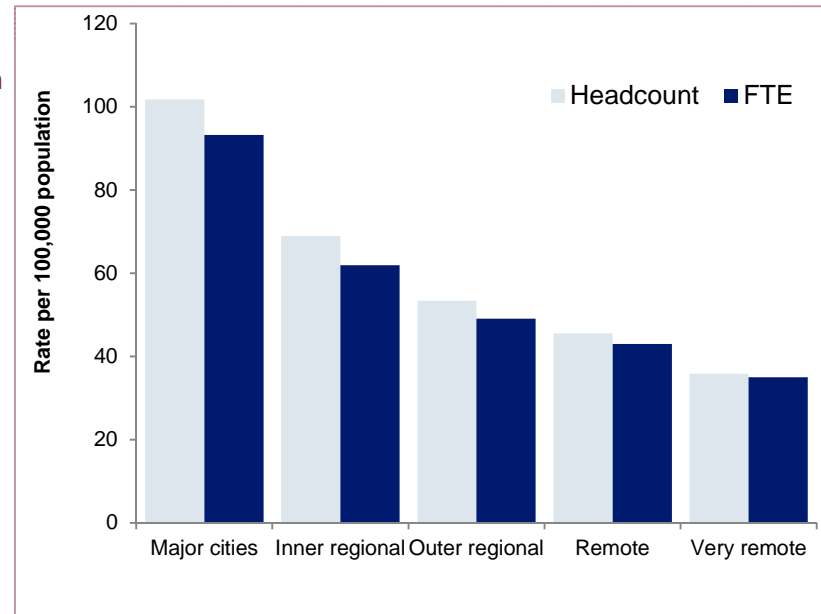
Average total hours for clinicians were highest in NT (37) and lowest in SA, at 33.5 hours. Clinicians' average total hours increased slightly from 34.8 hours in Major Cities to 35.9 hours in Remote areas, and increased further to 37.1 hours in Very Remote areas.

Clinicians' average clinical hours followed a similar pattern between Major Cities and Remote areas, yet decreased to 31.5 hours in Very Remote areas.

Clinicians: Average Weekly Hours by Remoteness Area

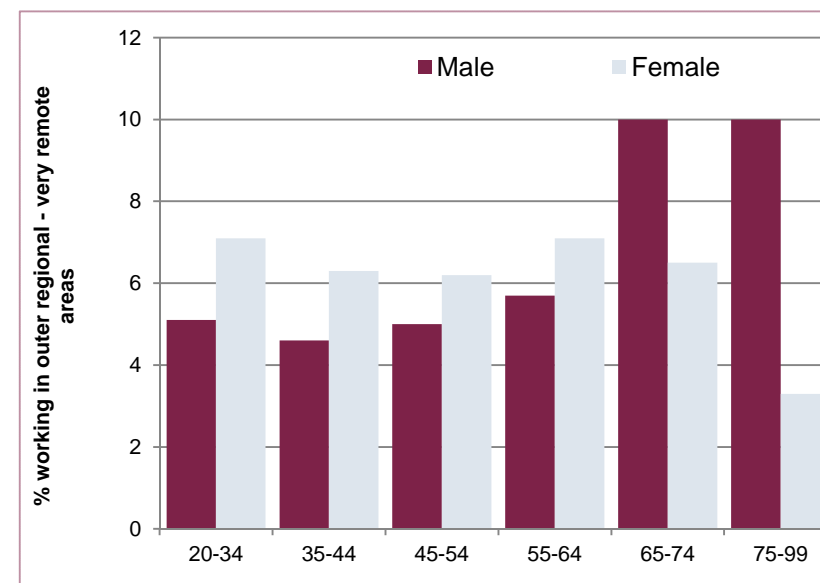


Clinicians: Headcount and FTE by Remoteness Area



The distribution of the workforce across states and territories shows a peak of 95 FTE clinicians per 100,000 population in SA. FTE numbers have increased across all states and territories since 2013, with the largest increases in ACT (an increase of 10 to 92 FTE in 2015) and Tasmania (increase of 9 to 66 FTE in 2015). The NT's 57 FTE clinicians is unchanged from 2013.

Clinicians: % in Outer Regional and Remote Areas by Sex and Age Group



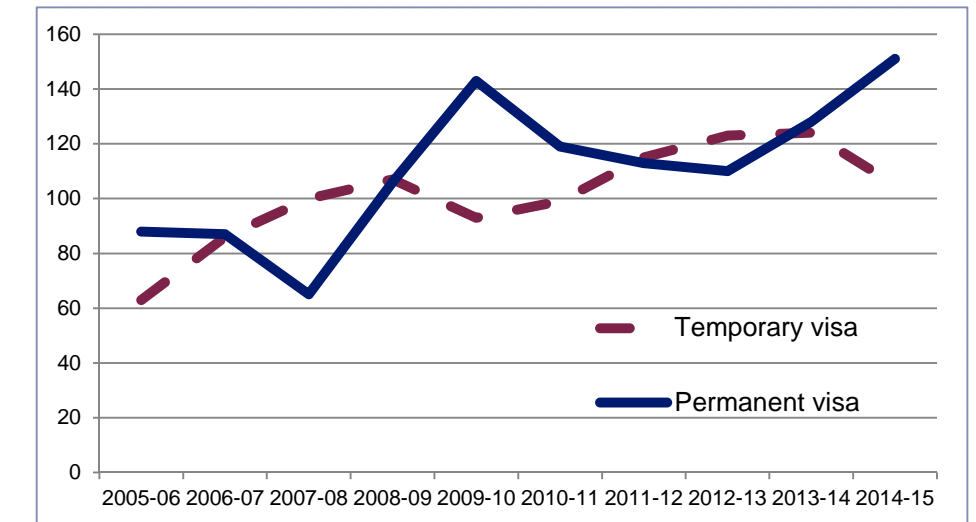
Female clinicians up to 65 years of age were more likely than their male counterparts to work outside major cities. In 2015, there were 146 female clinicians and 73 male clinicians working in Remote and Very Remote locations around Australia.

WORKFORCE TRENDS

From 2005 to 2015, an average of 101 temporary visas and 111 permanent visas were granted to physiotherapists each year.

Temporary and Permanent Visas issued, 2005-2015

Source: DIBP Administrative data, 2015

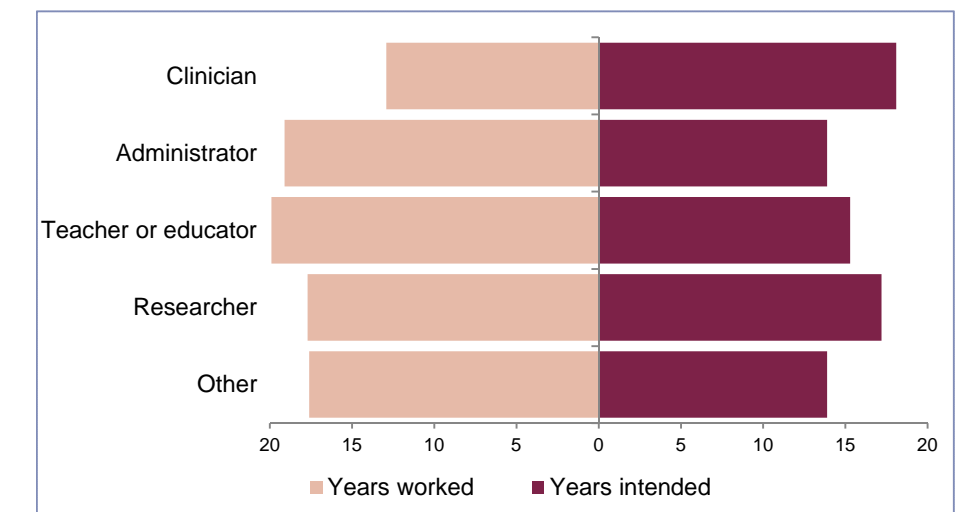


Overall, physiotherapists reported an intended career length of 31.3 years.

Teachers and educators had the longest work history (19.9 years) and the longest intended careers (35.2 years).

Clinicians reported the shortest work histories (12.9 years) and the shortest intended careers (31 years).

Employed practitioners: Career Length by Job Role

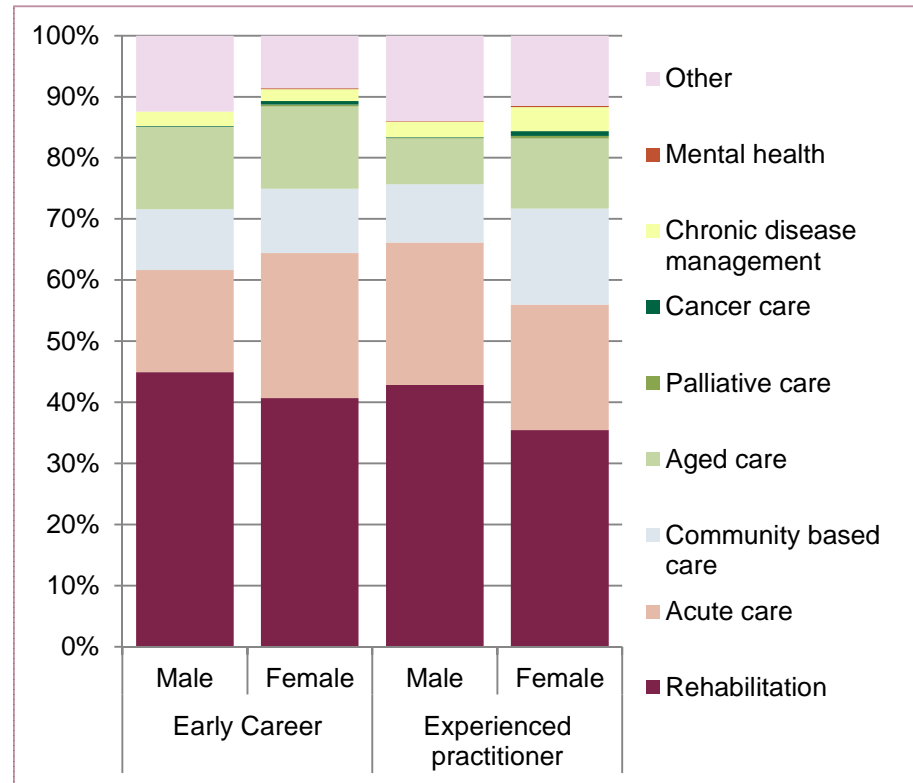


CLINICAL STREAM

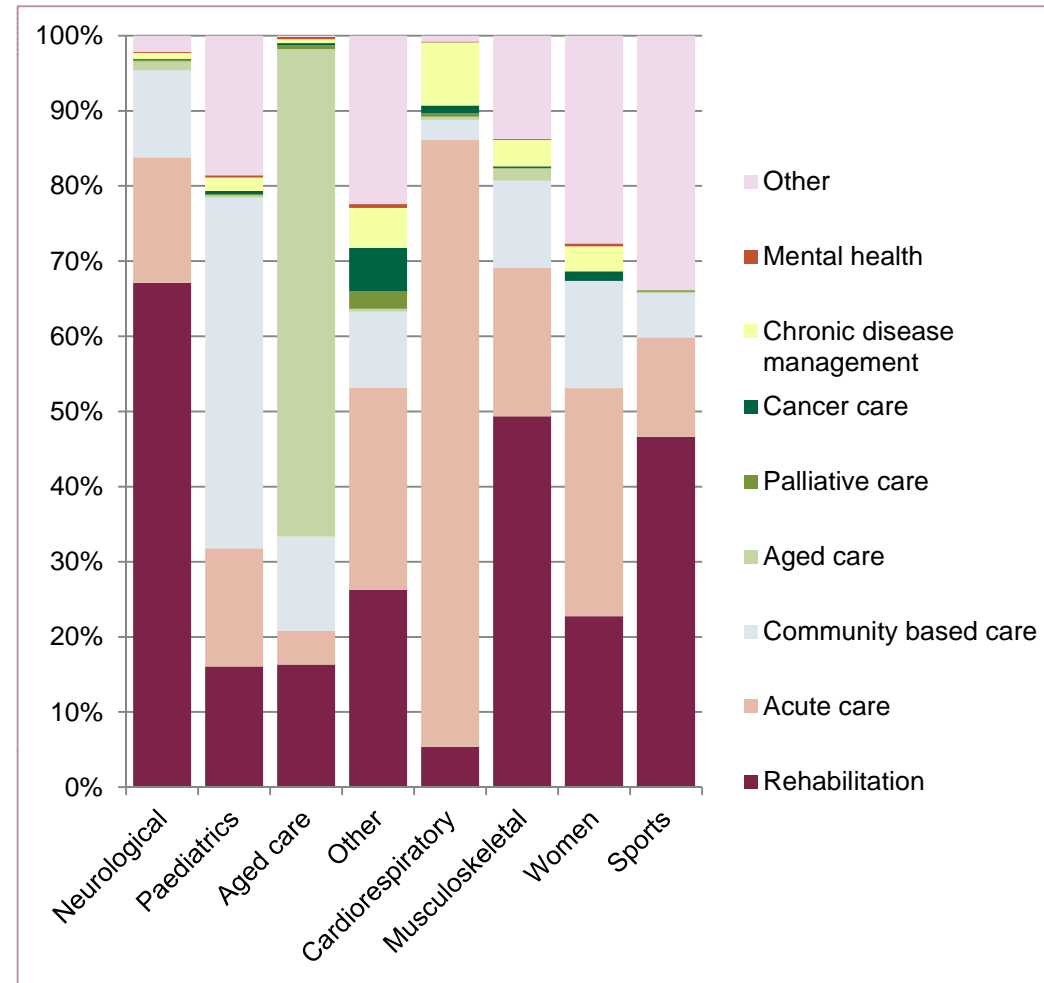
39% of clinicians nominated Rehabilitation as the clinical stream of their main job in physiotherapy. Other commonly reported clinical streams were Acute Care (21%), Community Based Care (13%) and Aged Care (11%).

Female clinicians, both Early Career and Experienced practitioners, were more likely to work in the Aged Care and Community Based Care clinical streams.

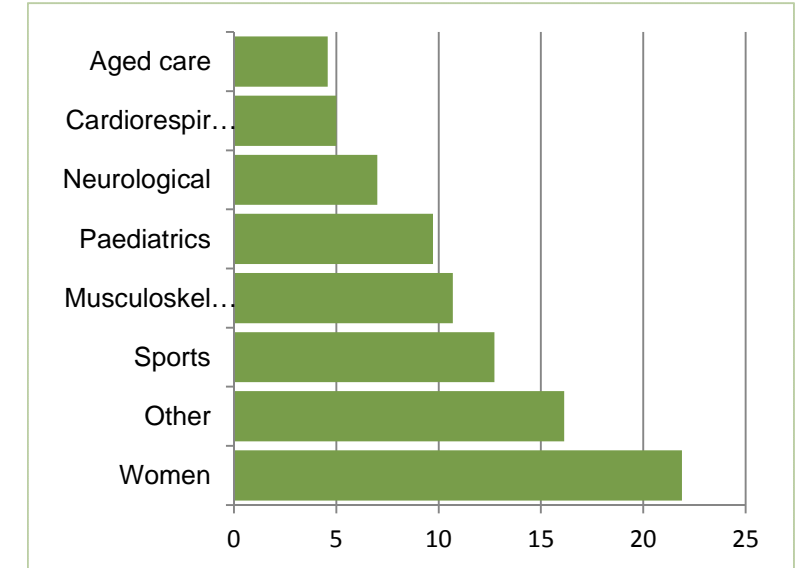
Clinicians: Clinical Streams (%) by Sex and Career Status



Clinicians: Clinical Streams (%) by Scope of Practice



Clinicians (%) by Advanced Scope of Practice



ADVANCED SCOPE OF PRACTICE

10% of clinicians worked in an advanced scope of practice role.

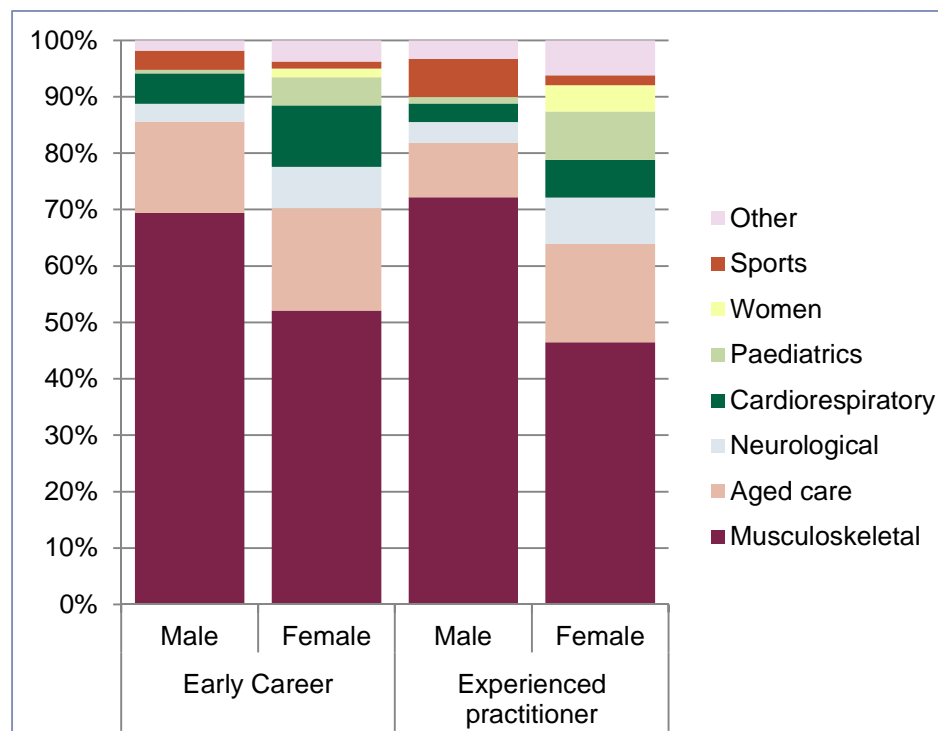
Advanced scope of practice roles were most common in Outpatient services (15%) and solo and group private practice settings (12 and 11%). 7% of clinicians in Hospitals reported an advanced scope of practice role.

Rehabilitation was the most common clinical stream for physiotherapists working within the neurological (67%) musculoskeletal (49%) and sports (47%) scopes of practice, while acute care was the most common clinical stream within the cardiorespiratory (80%) and women (30%) scopes of practice. 47% of clinicians with paediatrics as their principal scope of practice primarily worked within the community based care clinical stream.

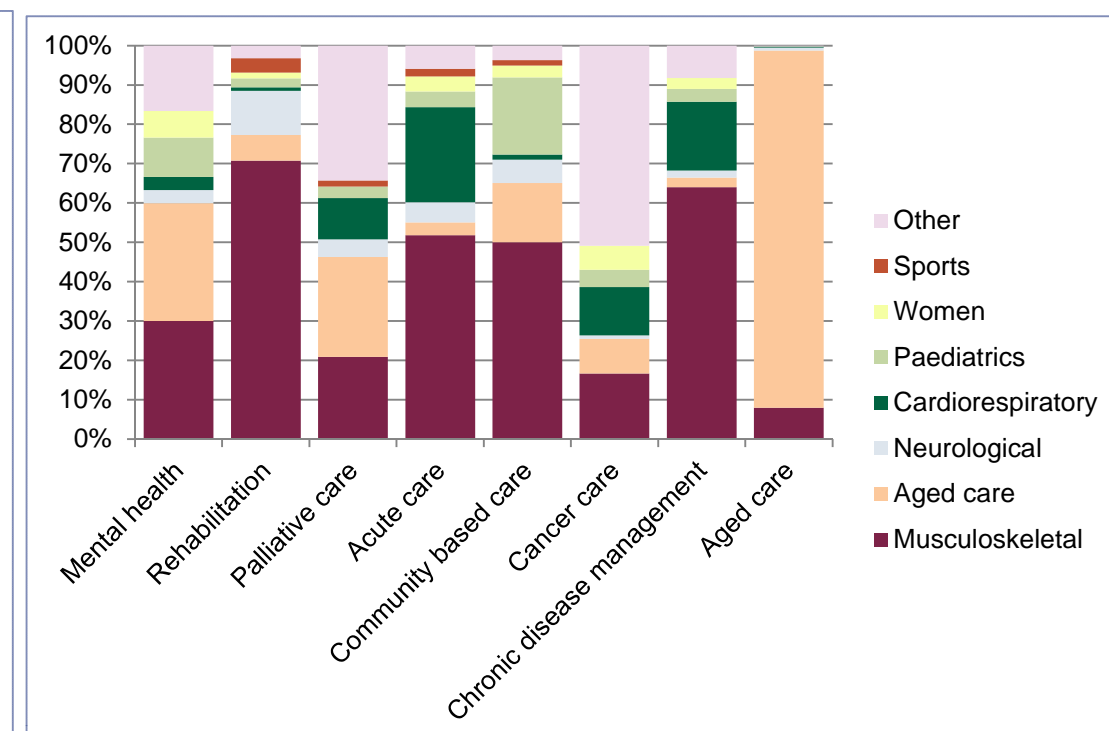
SCOPE OF PRACTICE

55% of clinicians nominated 'musculoskeletal' as their principal scope of practice in their main job in physiotherapy. Other common scope of practice responses were aged care (15%) neurological (6%) cardiorespiratory (6%) and paediatrics (5%). Female clinicians were more likely than male clinicians to work within the neurological, cardiorespiratory and paediatrics scopes, and Experienced female practitioners were more likely to work within the aged care scope of practice than Experienced male Practitioners. 67% of Early Career male clinicians and 70% of Experienced male clinicians worked mainly within a musculoskeletal scope of practice.

Clinicians: Scopes of Practice (%) by Sex and Career Status



Clinicians: Scopes of Practice (%) by Clinical Stream



The musculoskeletal scope of practice was most commonly reported by physiotherapists working in the rehabilitation (69%), chronic disease management (62%), acute care (51%), community based care (49%) and mental health (29%) clinical streams.

The sport scope of practice is mainly a component of rehabilitation (4%) and acute care (2%) clinical streams.