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Most importantly, we also thank the psychologists who took the time to complete the survey. Without their cooperation, it would not have been possible to conduct this collection, which is used to inform the community about the psychology profession.

Symbols and other usages

Throughout this publication, data from the AIHW surveys may not add to the totals shown due to the estimation process used for non-responses (see 'Explanatory notes'). As a result of this process, numbers of psychologists may be in fractions, but are rounded to whole numbers for publication. Percentages are calculated on the unrounded figures. Where tables contain a 'not stated' category, percentage calculations exclude this category. Per cent distributions may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

Italics within a table denote a subtotal.

— Nil or rounded to zero.

. . Not applicable.

n.a. Not available.

n.p. Not publishable because of small numbers, confidentiality concerns or other concerns about the quality of the data. Main findings

Main findings

- In 2004–05 there were 22,175 registered psychologists in Australia (excluding the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory, where registration figures were not available).
- In 2005, the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) national estimate of the number of employed clinical psychologists was 13,939, a rise of 50.5% from the estimate for 2000 (9,260). Over a comparable period (1999–00 and 2004–05), the numbers of psychologists registered with the psychology boards in most jurisdictions increased by between 20.2% and 58.5%.
- The first psychology data to be published as part of the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare's (AIHW) National Health Labour Force series have been compiled from surveys of psychologists conducted in New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, South Australia and the Australian Capital Territory in 2003. Registered psychologists in the jurisdictions which participated in the 2003 survey totalled 16,094.
- The AIHW survey showed that most of those (14,073 or 87.4%) were employed in the profession (the psychology workforce), ranging from 89.6% in Victoria to 85.3% in South Australia.
- The figure of 14,073 across the surveyed jurisdictions comprising the AIHW data was slightly higher than data from the 2005 ABS Labour Force survey, which estimated that employed psychologists numbered 12,256 for the same group of jurisdictions.
- AIHW survey data showed that most employed psychologists self-reported that they were practising in the clinical psychology field, while around a third were employed in non-clinical fields (ranging from 28.5% in New South Wales to 36.6% in the Australian Capital Territory).
- The full-time equivalent (FTE) rate of psychologists per 100,000 population for each jurisdiction was New South Wales, 88; Victoria, 95; Queensland, 64; South Australia, 54; and the Australian Capital Territory, 170 (reflecting its capital city status).
- In the jurisdictions surveyed:
  - the average age of working psychologists was highest in South Australia (46.9 years) and lowest in Queensland (41.5 years)
  - psychologists were predominantly female, with males comprising around a third of the profession (ranging from 26.3% in Victoria to 39.7% in South Australia)
  - average weekly hours worked by psychologists ranged between 33.7 in Queensland and 37.7 in the Australian Capital Territory
  - the proportion of psychologists working more than 50 hours per week was lowest in Queensland (9.0%), while the proportions in the remaining jurisdictions ranged from 14.7% to 17.5%
  - the proportion of psychologists working part-time ranged between 30.2% in South Australia and 40.1% in Victoria.