

11 Registered medical practitioners not practising medicine

In December 1995 there were 6,068 medical practitioners who were registered in Australia but were not practising medicine in Australia. These comprised 417 (6.9%) medical practitioners who were employed but on leave for three months or more; 2,523 (41.6%) who were registered in Australia and practising overseas; 2,775 (45.7%) who were not employed; and 353 (5.8%) who were employed, but not in medicine.

On leave for three months or more

Of the 417 medical practitioners who were on leave for three months or more:

- 60.9% were female. The age distribution of registered medical practitioners who were on extended leave differed between males and females because 91.3% of females and 45.4% of males were younger than 45 years of age. Females were therefore more likely to be on extended leave during child rearing years while males were more likely to take extended leave during the second half of their medical careers.
- 77.5% gained their initial qualification in Australia.

Practising overseas

Of the 2,523 medical practitioners who were practising overseas:

- 74.2% were male. Of the males, 56.7% were younger than 45 years of age, while 81.4% of females were in that age group.
- 35.9% had gained their initial qualification overseas. Of these, 35.1% had gained their initial qualification from Asia, 33.1% from the United Kingdom or Ireland, 23.5% from New Zealand, and the remaining 8.3% from other countries.
- The proportion of medical practitioners practising overseas who had gained their initial qualification overseas increased with age: 20.4% for those younger than 35 years of age but 60.5% for those aged 75 years and over.

Not employed

Of the 2,775 who were not employed:

- 70.4% were male.
- Most were retired. For males, 4.9% were younger than 45 years of age, 12.1% were aged 45–64 years, and 83.0% were aged 65 years and over. For females, 30.0% were younger than 45 years of age, 19.0% were aged 45–64 years, and 51.0% were aged 65 years and over.
- 23.9% had gained their initial qualification overseas. Of these, 63.0% had gained their initial qualification from the United Kingdom or Ireland.

Employed, but not in medicine

Of the 353 who were employed, but not in medicine:

- 74.2% were male.
- 14.4% had gained their initial qualification overseas. This proportion varied with age. For those younger than 55 years of age, only 7.2% had gained their initial qualification overseas; while for those aged 55 years and over, 26.0% had initially qualified overseas, with 70.6% of those qualifying in the United Kingdom or Ireland.

Table 83: Registered medical practitioners on leave for three months or more: country of initial qualification, age and sex, Australia, 1995

Country of initial	Age (years)						Total
	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75+	
Males							
Australia	33	20	18	13	11	7	102
New Zealand	5	3	0	0	0	0	8
United Kingdom/Ireland	2	3	4	3	0	0	11
Asia	2	5	10	11	3	0	30
Other countries	2	1	3	4	1	1	12
Total	42	32	34	30	15	8	163
Females							
Australia	129	83	5	3	1	0	220
New Zealand	0	1	0	0	0	2	3
United Kingdom/Ireland	9	3	2	0	0	0	14
Asia	0	1	4	3	0	0	8
Other countries	3	2	0	1	0	0	7
Total	141	91	11	7	1	2	254
Persons							
Australia	162	103	23	15	12	7	322
New Zealand	5	5	0	0	0	2	11
United Kingdom/Ireland	11	6	6	3	0	0	25
Asia	2	6	13	14	3	0	38
Other countries	4	4	3	5	1	1	19
Total	183	124	45	38	16	10	417
(per cent—age)							
Australia	50.2	32.1	7.1	4.8	3.8	2.1	100.0
New Zealand	42.1	42.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	15.5	100.0
United Kingdom/Ireland	41.6	24.2	24.3	9.9	0.0	0.0	100.0
Asia	4.4	15.5	35.3	37.9	6.8	0.0	100.0
Other countries	23.2	20.3	14.0	28.2	6.9	7.4	100.0
Total	44.0	29.8	10.8	9.1	3.9	2.3	100.0
(per cent—country of initial qualification)							
Australia	88.4	83.4	50.7	40.9	75.8	68.1	77.5
New Zealand	2.5	3.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	17.5	2.7
United Kingdom/Ireland	5.7	4.9	13.6	6.6	0.0	0.0	6.1
Asia	0.9	4.8	29.9	38.3	16.1	0.0	9.2
Other countries	2.4	3.1	5.9	14.2	8.1	14.4	4.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Table 84: Registered medical practitioners practising overseas: country of initial qualification, age and sex, Australia, 1995

Country of initial	Age (years)						Total
	25–34	35–44	45–54	55–64	65–74	75+	
Males							
Australia	363	387	226	110	43	6	1,136
New Zealand	35	50	46	15	19	0	165
United Kingdom/Ireland	48	74	50	32	13	7	224
Asia	9	70	127	68	13	0	287
Other countries	5	20	20	7	5	3	61
Total	461	601	469	232	93	16	1,873
Females							
Australia	239	167	55	14	7	0	482
New Zealand	19	20	9	0	0	0	48
United Kingdom/Ireland	34	33	5	4	0	0	76
Asia	2	6	18	5	0	0	31
Other countries	2	9	3	0	0	0	14
Total	295	235	90	24	7	0	651
Persons							
Australia	602	554	281	125	50	6	1,617
New Zealand	54	70	55	15	19	0	213
United Kingdom/Ireland	82	107	55	36	13	7	300
Asia	11	76	145	73	13	0	318
Other countries	7	30	23	7	5	3	74
Total	756	836	559	256	100	16	2,523
(per cent—age)							
Australia	37.2	34.2	17.4	7.7	3.1	0.4	100.0
New Zealand	25.4	32.8	26.0	6.9	9.0	0.0	100.0
United Kingdom/Ireland	27.3	35.5	18.2	12.1	4.5	2.3	100.0
Asia	3.4	23.9	45.6	22.9	4.1	0.0	100.0
Other countries	9.9	40.0	30.7	9.4	6.2	3.8	100.0
Total	30.0	33.1	22.2	10.1	4.0	0.6	100.0
(per cent—country of initial qualification)							
Australia	79.6	66.2	50.3	48.8	49.8	39.5	64.1
New Zealand	7.2	8.4	9.9	5.7	19.2	0.0	8.5
United Kingdom/Ireland	10.9	12.8	9.8	14.3	13.4	43.0	11.9
Asia	1.4	9.1	25.9	28.5	13.1	0.0	12.6
Other countries	1.0	3.6	4.1	2.7	4.6	17.6	3.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Table 85: Registered medical practitioners currently not employed: country of initial qualification, age and sex, Australia, 1995

Country of initial	Age (years)						Total
	25–34	35–44	45–54	55–64	65–74	75+	
Males							
Australia	39	41	17	136	687	532	1,452
New Zealand	1	1	0	2	11	12	28
United Kingdom/Ireland	6	3	10	33	169	90	310
Asia	0	3	5	23	29	10	70
Other countries	0	2	4	8	43	38	94
Total	46	50	35	202	938	683	1,954
Females							
Australia	85	132	51	65	210	116	659
New Zealand	2	3	2	1	5	0	13
United Kingdom/Ireland	10	9	6	20	50	14	108
Asia	2	0	2	5	12	0	21
Other countries	1	2	0	3	4	9	19
Total	100	146	62	94	281	138	820
Persons							
Australia	124	173	68	200	897	648	2,111
New Zealand	3	4	2	3	16	12	42
United Kingdom/Ireland	16	11	16	53	218	104	418
Asia	2	3	7	28	41	10	91
Other countries	1	4	4	11	47	46	113
Total	146	195	97	295	1,220	821	2,775
(per cent—age)							
Australia	5.9	8.2	3.2	9.5	42.5	30.7	100.0
New Zealand	7.6	10.6	5.6	7.6	39.5	29.1	100.0
United Kingdom/Ireland	3.7	2.7	3.8	12.8	52.2	24.8	100.0
Asia	1.7	3.1	7.7	30.9	45.4	11.1	100.0
Other countries	1.2	3.5	3.3	9.3	41.5	41.1	100.0
Total	5.3	7.0	3.5	10.6	44.0	29.6	100.0
(per cent—country of initial qualification)							
Australia	85.1	88.5	70.3	67.8	73.5	79.0	76.1
New Zealand	2.2	2.3	2.4	1.1	1.3	1.5	1.5
United Kingdom/Ireland	10.7	5.8	16.2	18.1	17.9	12.7	15.1
Asia	1.1	1.5	7.2	9.5	3.4	1.2	3.3
Other countries	1.0	2.0	3.9	3.6	3.8	5.7	4.1
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Table 86: Registered medical practitioners, employed, but not in medicine: country of initial qualification, age and sex, Australia, 1995

Country of initial	Age (years)						Total
	25–34	35–44	45–54	55–64	65–74	75+	
Males							
Australia	28	69	50	32	32	9	219
New Zealand	3	0	0	3	1	0	7
United Kingdom/Ireland	0	4	0	12	6	4	25
Asia	0	0	1	4	0	1	6
Other countries	2	1	0	0	1	0	4
Total	32	74	52	50	40	14	262
Females							
Australia	17	32	10	9	13	1	83
New Zealand	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
United Kingdom/Ireland	1	0	0	1	1	0	4
Asia	2	0	1	0	0	0	3
Other countries	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Total	20	32	13	10	15	1	91
Persons							
Australia	45	101	60	41	45	11	302
New Zealand	3	0	0	3	1	0	7
United Kingdom/Ireland	1	4	0	13	7	4	29
Asia	2	0	3	4	0	1	9
Other countries	2	1	1	0	1	0	6
Total	52	106	64	60	55	16	353
(per cent—age)							
Australia	14.8	33.3	20.0	13.4	14.9	3.5	100.0
New Zealand	44.1	0.0	0.0	36.6	19.3	0.0	100.0
United Kingdom/Ireland	4.8	13.7	0.0	44.2	24.3	12.9	100.0
Asia	17.3	0.0	28.3	39.4	0.0	15.0	100.0
Other countries	29.0	23.9	21.7	0.0	25.3	0.0	100.0
Total	14.9	30.0	18.2	16.9	15.5	4.4	100.0
(per cent—country of initial qualification)							
Australia	85.2	95.0	94.0	68.0	82.1	67.3	85.6
New Zealand	6.1	0.0	0.0	4.4	2.5	0.0	2.0
United Kingdom/Ireland	2.7	3.7	0.0	21.4	12.8	23.8	8.2
Asia	3.1	0.0	4.1	6.2	0.0	8.9	2.6
Other countries	3.0	1.2	1.9	0.0	2.5	0.0	1.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0