

6 Medical labour force in hospitals

6.1 Public hospitals

The data in this section are on medical practitioners who indicated that the employment setting of their main, second or third job was a public hospital in 1995. The features of public hospital medical practitioners included the following:

- There were 20,647 medical practitioners working in public hospitals in 1995, comprising 42.2% of all practising medical practitioners.
- 5,630 (27.3%) of these practitioners were female. This proportion was similar across States and Territories, although lower in Tasmania (21.9%) and the Northern Territory (22.3%).
- The distribution of public hospital medical practitioners across the occupation of their main job differed between males and females. For males, 40.7% worked as specialists in their main job; 19.0% as specialists-in-training; 16.8% as hospital non-specialists; 7.1% as primary care practitioners; and the remaining 16.4% as non-clinicians, mainly in education (6.2%) and administration (5.5%). For females, the largest occupation group was hospital non-specialists (31.7%), followed by specialists-in-training (24.6%), specialists (22.8%), primary care practitioners (8.2%), and non-clinicians (12.7%).
- 87.1% of public hospital medical practitioners who worked as a clinician in their main hospital job were employed in major urban centres in 1995, followed by 11.8% in rural areas, and 1.0% in remote areas. By comparison, the distribution of the overall population was 70.6% living in major urban centres, 26.2% in rural areas, and 3.1% in remote areas.
- Specialists were the main medical occupation working in public hospitals at 35.9%, but the medical occupation distribution varied by region. In major urban centres, large rural centres and small rural centres, specialists comprised around 40% and hospital non-specialists comprised around 21% of the public hospital workforce. In other rural areas, primary care practitioners predominated (55.9% of the public hospital workforce) and in remote areas, hospital non-specialists were predominant (39.2% of the public hospital workforce).
- 83.8% of medical practitioners working in a public hospital had obtained their initial qualification in Australia, followed by 6.3% from the United Kingdom or Ireland, 3.9% from Asian countries, 2.7% from New Zealand, and the remaining 3.3% from other countries.
- 1.4% of public hospital medical practitioners were not Australian citizens or permanent residents of Australia in 1995. Of these, 42.7% had obtained their initial qualification from the United Kingdom or Ireland.

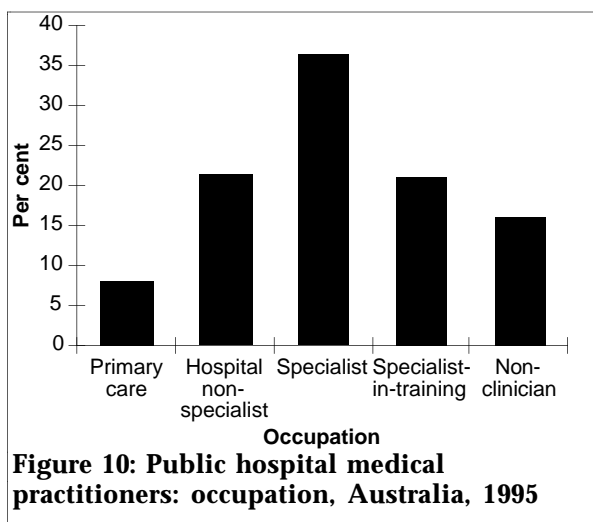


Table 58: All medical practitioners working in public hospitals^(a): occupation, sex and States and Territories, 1995

Occupation (b)	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Total
Males									
<i>Clinician:</i>	5,585	2,562	1,679	913	1,154	264	257	147	12,561
Primary care practitioner	693	170	76	49	49	10	28	0	1,074
Hospital non-specialist	1,166	401	473	156	171	41	66	48	2,522
Specialist	2,674	1,256	671	494	664	163	125	70	6,117
Specialist-in-training	1,053	736	459	214	271	49	39	28	2,849
<i>Non-clinician:</i>	573	835	368	217	355	67	31	10	2,456
Administrator	194	321	87	79	98	22	18	2	822
Teacher/educator	151	261	157	105	217	35	7	2	935
Researcher	67	99	25	23	20	2	4	0	240
Public health physician	68	85	60	0	11	2	0	4	231
Occupational health	4	8	6	2	4	4	2	0	31
Other	88	60	33	7	4	2	0	2	197
Total	6,158	3,397	2,047	1,130	1,509	331	288	157	15,017
Females									
<i>Clinician:</i>	2,077	1,093	701	350	461	79	112	41	4,914
Primary care practitioner	231	89	39	11	57	13	17	2	459
Hospital non-specialist	817	298	327	150	112	20	40	22	1,785
Specialist	522	347	133	70	157	23	26	8	1,286
Specialist-in-training	506	360	202	120	135	23	28	10	1,384
<i>Non-clinician:</i>	211	269	98	44	71	14	5	4	716
Administrator	64	96	17	20	21	9	3	4	234
Teacher/educator	26	41	21	2	10	0	2	0	101
Researcher	32	44	14	9	17	0	0	0	115
Public health physician	28	37	27	2	12	2	0	0	108
Occupational health	7	2	0	2	0	2	0	0	13
Other	54	50	20	9	12	2	0	0	145
Total	2,288	1,362	799	394	532	93	117	45	5,630
Persons									
<i>Clinician:</i>	7,662	3,655	2,380	1,264	1,615	342	369	188	17,475
Primary care practitioner	924	258	115	60	106	23	45	2	1,533
Hospital non-specialist	1,983	699	800	306	282	61	106	70	4,307
Specialist	3,196	1,603	804	564	820	187	151	78	7,403
Specialist-in-training	1,559	1,095	661	334	406	72	66	38	4,232
<i>Non-clinician:</i>	784	1,104	466	260	426	82	36	14	3,172
Administrator	258	417	103	99	119	31	22	6	1,055
Teacher/educator	177	302	178	107	227	35	9	2	1,036
Researcher	99	144	38	32	37	2	4	0	355
Public health physician	96	122	88	2	23	4	0	4	339
Occupational health	12	10	6	5	4	6	2	0	44
Other	142	110	52	16	16	4	0	2	342
Total	8,446	4,759	2,846	1,524	2,041	424	405	202	20,647

(continued)

Table 58 (continued): All medical practitioners working in public hospitals^(a): occupation, sex and States and Territories, 1995

Occupation (b)	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Total
(per cent—males)									
<i>Clinician:</i>	90.7	75.4	82.0	80.8	76.5	79.6	89.2	93.6	83.6
Primary care practitioner	11.2	5.0	3.7	4.3	3.2	3.1	9.6	0.0	7.1
Hospital non-specialist	18.9	11.8	23.1	13.8	11.3	12.3	22.9	30.8	16.8
Specialist	43.4	37.0	32.8	43.7	44.0	49.4	43.3	44.9	40.7
Specialist-in-training	17.1	21.7	22.4	19.0	17.9	14.8	13.4	17.9	19.0
<i>Non-clinician:</i>	9.3	24.6	18.0	19.2	23.5	20.4	10.8	6.4	16.4
Administrator	3.1	9.5	4.2	7.0	6.5	6.8	6.4	1.3	5.5
Teacher/educator	2.5	7.7	7.7	9.3	14.4	10.5	2.5	1.3	6.2
Researcher	1.1	2.9	1.2	2.1	1.3	0.6	1.3	0.0	1.6
Public health physician	1.1	2.5	3.0	0.0	0.7	0.6	0.0	2.6	1.5
Occupational health	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.3	1.2	0.6	0.0	0.2
Other	1.4	1.8	1.6	0.6	0.3	0.6	0.0	1.3	1.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
(per cent—females)									
<i>Clinician:</i>	90.8	80.2	87.7	89.0	86.6	84.6	95.5	91.3	87.3
Primary care practitioner	10.1	6.5	4.9	2.8	10.7	13.5	14.9	4.3	8.2
Hospital non-specialist	35.7	21.8	40.9	38.1	21.0	21.2	34.3	47.8	31.7
Specialist	22.8	25.5	16.6	17.7	29.5	25.0	22.4	17.4	22.8
Specialist-in-training	22.1	26.4	25.3	30.4	25.4	25.0	23.9	21.7	24.6
<i>Non-clinician:</i>	9.2	19.8	12.3	11.0	13.4	15.4	4.5	8.7	12.7
Administrator	2.8	7.0	2.1	5.0	4.0	9.6	3.0	8.7	4.1
Teacher/educator	1.1	3.0	2.6	0.6	1.8	0.0	1.5	0.0	1.8
Researcher	1.4	3.3	1.7	2.2	3.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.0
Public health physician	1.2	2.7	3.4	0.6	2.2	1.9	0.0	0.0	1.9
Occupational health	0.3	0.1	0.0	0.6	0.0	1.9	0.0	0.0	0.2
Other	2.4	3.6	2.5	2.2	2.2	1.9	0.0	0.0	2.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
(per cent—persons)									
<i>Clinician:</i>	90.7	76.8	83.6	82.9	79.1	80.7	91.0	93.1	84.6
Primary care practitioner	10.9	5.4	4.0	3.9	5.2	5.4	11.1	1.0	7.4
Hospital non-specialist	23.5	14.7	28.1	20.1	13.8	14.3	26.2	34.6	20.9
Specialist	37.8	33.7	28.3	37.0	40.2	44.0	37.3	38.7	35.9
Specialist-in-training	18.5	23.0	23.2	21.9	19.9	17.0	16.4	18.8	20.5
<i>Non-clinician:</i>	9.3	23.2	16.4	17.1	20.9	19.3	9.0	6.9	15.4
Administrator	3.1	8.8	3.6	6.5	5.8	7.4	5.4	2.9	5.1
Teacher/educator	2.1	6.3	6.2	7.0	11.1	8.2	2.2	1.0	5.0
Researcher	1.2	3.0	1.3	2.1	1.8	0.5	0.9	0.0	1.7
Public health physician	1.1	2.6	3.1	0.1	1.1	0.9	0.0	2.0	1.6
Occupational health	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.2	1.4	0.5	0.0	0.2
Other	1.7	2.3	1.8	1.0	0.8	0.9	0.0	1.0	1.7
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

(a) All medical practitioners who reported working in a public hospital in a main, second or third job.

(b) For clinicians working in a public hospital, occupation refers to their main job as a clinician and not necessarily to their occupation within a public hospital. For example, a medical practitioner in a rural area may be a primary care practitioner in their main job but also work as a non-specialist at the local hospital. For non-clinicians, occupation refers to their principal job in a public hospital.

Table 59: All medical practitioners working in public hospitals^(a): occupation and region, Australia, 1995

Occupation (b)	Region(c)					Total
	Major urban centre	Large rural centre	Small rural centre	Other rural area	Remote area	
<i>Clinician:</i>	15,220	1,039	532	506	179	17,475
Primary care practitioner	872	119	146	348	47	1,533
Hospital non-specialist	3,742	305	120	60	81	4,307
Specialist	6,500	511	260	92	39	7,403
Specialist-in-training	4,105	104	6	6	11	4,232
<i>Non-clinician:</i>	2,713	204	109	118	28	3,172
Administrator	855	84	50	52	14	1,055
Teacher/educator	895	67	36	34	5	1,036
Researcher	355	0	0	0	0	355
Public health physician	282	30	4	19	4	339
Occupational health	35	2	2	4	2	44
Other	291	21	17	9	4	342
Total	17,933	1,243	641	623	207	20,647
	(per cent)					
<i>Clinician:</i>	84.9	83.6	83.0	81.1	86.3	84.6
Primary care practitioner	4.9	9.6	22.8	55.9	22.7	7.4
Hospital non-specialist	20.9	24.5	18.7	9.6	39.2	20.9
Specialist	36.2	41.1	40.6	14.7	19.0	35.9
Specialist-in-training	22.9	8.4	0.9	0.9	5.5	20.5
<i>Non-clinician:</i>	15.1	16.4	17.0	18.9	13.7	15.4
Administrator	4.8	6.8	7.8	8.4	6.8	5.1
Teacher/educator	5.0	5.4	5.6	5.4	2.3	5.0
Researcher	2.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.7
Public health physician	1.6	2.4	0.6	3.0	1.8	1.6
Occupational health	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.6	0.9	0.2
Other	1.6	1.7	2.7	1.5	1.8	1.7
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

(a) All medical practitioners who reported working in a public hospital in a main, second or third job.

(b) For clinicians working in a public hospital, occupation refers to their main job as a clinician and not necessarily to their occupation within a public hospital. For example, a medical practitioner in a rural area may be a primary care practitioner in their main job but also work as a non-specialist at the local hospital. For non-clinicians, occupation refers to their principal job in a public hospital.

(c) Region of main job worked in a public hospital.

Table 60: All medical practitioners working in public hospitals^(a): country of initial qualification and citizenship/residency status, Australia, 1995

Country of initial qualification	Australian citizen/ permanent resident	Not a permanent resident	Total	Australian citizen/ permanent resident	Not a permanent resident	Total
	(number)			(per cent)		
Australia	17,213	84	17,297	84.6	28.6	83.8
New Zealand	505	51	557	2.5	17.3	2.7
United	1,164	126	1,291	5.7	42.9	6.3
Asia	793	14	806	3.9	4.6	3.9
Other countries	677	20	696	3.3	6.6	3.4
Total	20,352	295	20,647	100.0	100.0	100.0

(a) All medical practitioners who reported working in a public hospital in a main, second or third job.

6.2 Private hospitals

The data in this section are on medical practitioners who indicated that the employment setting of their main, second or third job was a private hospital in 1995. The features of private hospital medical practitioners included the following:

- There were 3,392 medical practitioners working in private hospitals in 1995, comprising 6.9% of all practising medical practitioners. Of these, 551 (16.2%) were female.
- Similar to the public hospital workforce, the distribution of employment in private hospitals across main occupation differed between males and females. For males, most (55.7%) worked as specialists in their main job; 11.3% as primary care practitioners; 6.3% as specialists-in-training; 7.4% as hospital non-specialists; and the remaining 19.4% as non-clinicians, mainly in education and administration. For females, specialists were the largest occupation group (36.3%), followed by primary care practitioners (24.9%), hospital non-specialists (12.7%), specialists-in-training (9.8%), and the remainder (16.3%) were non-clinicians in their main private hospital job.
- 86.6% of private hospital medical practitioners working as clinicians in their main hospital job were employed in major urban centres; 11.7% were employed in large and small rural centres; and 1.7% were employed in other rural and remote areas. By comparison, the distribution of the overall population was 70.6% living in major urban centres; 12.6% in large and small rural areas; and 16.7% in other rural and remote areas.
- Specialists were the main medical occupation working in private hospitals (52.5% of the medical workforce) but the medical occupation distribution varied by region. In major urban centres, large rural centres and small rural centres, specialists comprised 51.7% to 61.9% of the private hospital workforce. In other rural and remote areas, primary care practitioners were predominant in the private hospital medical workforce (60.4% compared with specialists' 32.0%).
- 86.6% of medical practitioners working in a private hospital had obtained their initial qualification in Australia (83.7%) or New Zealand (2.9%), followed by 7.6% in the United Kingdom or Ireland, 3.0% in Asian countries, and the remaining 2.8% in other countries.

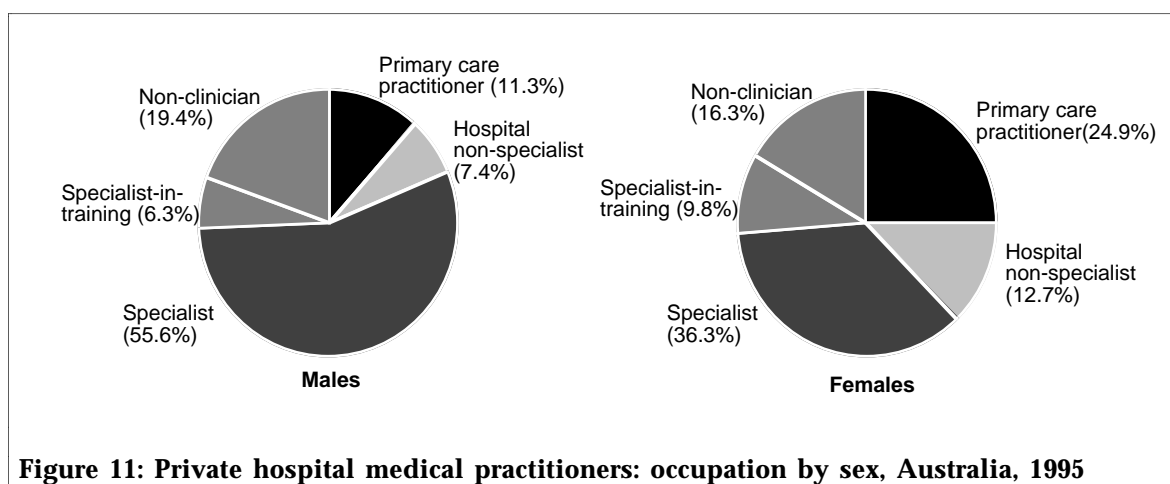


Figure 11: Private hospital medical practitioners: occupation by sex, Australia, 1995

Table 61: All medical practitioners working in private hospitals^(a): occupation, sex and States and Territories, 1995

Occupation (b)	NSW/ACT	Vic	Qld	WA	SA/NT	Tas	Total
Males							
<i>Clinician:</i>	1,342	267	302	152	174	54	2,291
Primary care practitioner	185	46	46	7	27	10	321
Hospital non-specialist	113	14	65	10	5	3	210
Specialist	931	185	178	125	124	39	1,581
Specialist-in-training	113	23	12	10	19	3	179
<i>Non-clinician:</i>	155	89	111	51	97	47	550
Administrator	54	28	34	22	27	18	183
Teacher/educator	51	35	48	17	46	16	213
Researcher	9	5	17	5	14	8	57
Public health physician	3	3	3	0	2	3	14
Occupational health	4	2	0	0	0	0	6
Other	33	17	9	7	8	3	77
Total	1,497	356	413	203	271	101	2,841
Females							
<i>Clinician:</i>	266	63	63	25	29	15	461
Primary care practitioner	73	22	23	2	5	11	137
Hospital non-specialist	35	6	13	7	8	0	70
Specialist	123	27	23	12	11	4	200
Specialist-in-training	35	8	4	2	5	0	54
<i>Non-clinician:</i>	28	14	22	2	22	2	90
Administrator	7	3	7	0	7	0	25
Teacher/educator	7	0	3	0	7	0	17
Researcher	3	2	1	0	2	0	8
Public health physician	0	0	0	0	0	2	2
Occupational health	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	10	9	10	2	6	0	38
Total	294	77	85	27	51	17	551
Persons							
<i>Clinician:</i>	1,608	330	365	176	203	69	2,752
Primary care practitioner	258	68	69	10	32	22	459
Hospital non-specialist	148	20	78	17	14	3	280
Specialist	1,054	212	201	137	134	43	1,781
Specialist-in-training	148	31	16	12	23	3	233
<i>Non-clinician:</i>	183	103	133	54	119	49	640
Administrator	62	31	41	22	34	18	207
Teacher/educator	58	35	51	17	53	16	230
Researcher	12	6	19	5	16	8	66
Public health physician	3	3	3	0	2	4	16
Occupational health	4	2	0	0	0	0	6
Other	43	26	19	10	14	3	115
Total	1,791	433	498	230	322	118	3,392

(continued)

Table 61 (continued): All medical practitioners working in private hospitals^(a): occupation, sex and States and Territories, 1995

Occupation (b)	NSW/ACT	Vic	Qld	WA	SA/NT	Tas	Total
(per cent—males)							
<i>Clinician:</i>	89.6	75.1	73.0	74.7	64.4	53.8	80.6
Primary care practitioner	12.3	12.9	11.2	3.6	9.9	10.3	11.3
Hospital non-specialist	7.6	3.9	15.8	4.8	2.0	2.6	7.4
Specialist	62.2	51.9	43.2	61.4	45.7	38.5	55.7
Specialist-in-training	7.5	6.4	2.9	4.8	6.9	2.6	6.3
<i>Non-clinician:</i>	10.4	24.9	27.0	25.3	35.6	46.2	19.4
Administrator	3.6	7.7	8.3	10.8	9.9	17.9	6.4
Teacher/educator	3.4	9.9	11.6	8.4	16.9	15.4	7.5
Researcher	0.6	1.3	4.1	2.4	5.0	7.7	2.0
Public health physician	0.2	0.9	0.8	0.0	0.8	2.6	0.5
Occupational health	0.3	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2
Other	2.2	4.7	2.1	3.6	3.0	2.6	2.7
<i>Total</i>	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
(per cent—females)							
<i>Clinician:</i>	90.6	81.6	74.6	90.9	56.4	88.9	83.7
Primary care practitioner	24.9	28.6	27.1	9.1	10.0	66.7	24.9
Hospital non-specialist	11.8	8.2	15.3	27.3	16.4	0.0	12.7
Specialist	42.0	34.7	27.1	45.5	20.9	22.2	36.3
Specialist-in-training	11.9	10.2	5.1	9.1	9.1	0.0	9.8
<i>Non-clinician:</i>	9.4	18.4	25.4	9.1	43.6	11.1	16.3
Administrator	2.5	4.1	8.5	0.0	13.6	0.0	4.5
Teacher/educator	2.5	0.0	3.4	0.0	13.6	0.0	3.1
Researcher	1.0	2.0	1.7	0.0	4.5	0.0	1.5
Public health physician	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	11.1	0.3
Occupational health	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other	3.5	12.2	11.9	9.1	11.8	0.0	6.9
<i>Total</i>	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
(per cent—persons)							
<i>Clinician:</i>	89.8	76.3	73.3	76.6	63.1	58.9	81.1
Primary care practitioner	14.4	15.7	13.9	4.3	9.9	18.4	13.5
Hospital non-specialist	8.3	4.6	15.7	7.5	4.3	2.2	8.2
Specialist	58.9	48.9	40.4	59.6	41.7	36.1	52.5
Specialist-in-training	8.2	7.1	3.3	5.3	7.2	2.2	6.9
<i>Non-clinician:</i>	10.2	23.7	26.7	23.4	36.9	41.1	18.9
Administrator	3.4	7.1	8.3	9.6	10.5	15.4	6.1
Teacher/educator	3.3	8.1	10.2	7.4	16.4	13.2	6.8
Researcher	0.7	1.4	3.7	2.1	4.9	6.6	1.9
Public health physician	0.2	0.7	0.7	0.0	0.7	3.8	0.5
Occupational health	0.2	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2
Other	2.4	6.1	3.7	4.3	4.4	2.2	3.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

(a) All medical practitioners who reported working in a private hospital in a main, second or third job.

(b) For clinicians working in a private hospital, occupation refers to their main job as a clinician and not necessarily to their occupation within a private hospital. For example, a medical practitioner in a rural area may be a primary care practitioner in their main job but also work as a non-specialist at the local hospital. For non-clinicians, occupation refers to their principal job in a private hospital.

Note: NSW/ACT and SA/NT are combined for confidentiality reasons.

Table 62: All medical practitioners working in private hospitals^(a): occupation and region, Australia, 1995

Occupation (b)	Region(c)				Total
	Major urban centre	Large rural centre	Small rural centre	Other rural/ remote area	
<i>Clinician:</i>	2,356	234	104	59	2,753
Primary care practitioner	345	47	31	36	459
Hospital non-specialist	261	9	6	4	280
Specialist	1,518	177	67	19	1,781
Specialist-in-training	232	1	0	0	233
<i>Non-clinician:</i>	582	54	4	0	640
Administrator	168	39	0	0	207
Teacher/educator	230	0	0	0	230
Researcher	66	0	0	0	66
Public health physician	14	2	0	0	16
Occupational health	6	0	0	0	6
Other	99	12	4	0	115
Total	2,938	288	108	59	3,392

	(per cent)				
<i>Clinician:</i>	80.2	81.4	96.3	100.0	81.2
Primary care practitioner	11.8	16.2	28.9	60.4	13.5
Hospital non-specialist	8.9	3.1	5.6	7.6	8.3
Specialist	51.7	61.5	61.9	32.0	52.5
Specialist-in-training	7.9	0.5	0.0	0.0	6.9
<i>Non-clinician:</i>	19.8	18.6	3.7	0.0	18.9
Administrator	5.7	13.7	0.0	0.0	6.1
Teacher/educator	7.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.8
Researcher	2.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.9
Public health physician	0.5	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.5
Occupational health	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2
Other	3.4	4.1	3.7	0.0	3.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

- (a) All medical practitioners who reported working in a private hospital in a main, second or third job.
- (b) For clinicians working in a private hospital, occupation refers to their main job as a clinician and not necessarily to their occupation within a private hospital. For example, a medical practitioner in a rural area may be a primary care practitioner in their main job but also work as a non-specialist at the local hospital. For non-clinicians, occupation refers to their principal job in a private hospital.
- (c) Region of main job worked in a private hospital.

Table 63: All medical practitioners working in private hospitals^(a): country of initial qualification and citizenship/residency status, Australia, 1995

Country of initial qualification	Australian citizen/ permanent resident	Not a permanent resident	Total	Australian citizen/ permanent resident	Not a permanent resident	Total
	(number)			(per cent)		
Australia	2,838	6	2,843	84.1	25.0	83.7
New Zealand	89	10	99	2.6	43.8	2.9
United	251	7	258	7.4	31.3	7.6
Asia	100	0	100	3.0	0.0	3.0
Other countries	95	0	95	2.8	0.0	2.8
Total	3,372	23	3,395	100.0	100.0	100.0

- (a) All medical practitioners who reported working in a private hospital in a main, second or third job.