

Additional tables

Table A.1: Employed clinical psychologists: sex, states and territories, 2000 and 2005

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Total
2000									
Males	713	995	563	319	—	98	94	—	2,781
Females	2,271	1,982	1,356	298	288	108	154	24	6,479
Total	2,984	2,977	1,919	616	288	205	248	24	9,260
2005									
Males	536	1,027	950	187	147	26	46	67	2,985
Females	3,124	3,825	1,190	1,087	1,016	198	397	119	10,954
Total	3,660	4,852	2,140	1,273	1,163	225	442	186	13,939

Sources: ABS Labour Force Surveys, 2000 and 2005.

Table A.2: Employed psychologists: age distribution, New South Wales and Queensland, 2000

Age (years)	NSW			Qld		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
Less than 30	75	559	634	51	323	374
30 to 39	229	705	934	117	336	453
40 to 49	493	917	1,410	207	361	568
50 to 59	499	821	1,320	164	233	397
60 years or older	138	173	311	53	48	101
Total psychologists	1,434	3,176	4,610	592	1,301	1,893
Average age	47.6	42.6	44.2	45.6	39.8	41.5

Source: AIHW Psychology Labour Force Survey, 2000.

Table A.3: Employed psychologists: hours worked per week, 2003

Hours worked per week	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	ACT
Less than 20	621	724	387	72	57
20–34	1,094	1,142	490	160	100
35–49	2,802	2,102	1,344	403	258
50 hours or more	905	684	219	134	86
Hours not stated	166	19	94	..	8
Total psychologists	5,589	4,671	2,535	769	509
Average weekly hours	36.8	34.9	33.7	37.6	37.7

Source: AIHW Psychology Labour Force Survey, 2003.

Table A.4: Employed psychologists, 2000 and 2003

	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	ACT
2000	4,610	..	1,893
2003	5,589	4,671	2,535	769	509
Change (%)	21.2	..	33.9

Sources: AIHW Psychology Labour Force Surveys, 2000 and 2003.

Table A.5: Registered psychologists: labour force status, 2000

Labour force status	NSW	Qld
Psychology labour force	4,861	1,915
Working in psychology	4,610	1,893
Not working in psychology	252	22
Not in psychology labour force	382	27
Looking for work status not stated	38	246
Total registered psychologists	5,281	2,189
Multiple registrations, working mainly or only interstate	168	75
Total registrations	5,449	2,264

Source: AIHW Psychology Labour Force Survey, 2000.

Table A.6: Employed psychologists: rate, FTE rate and selected features of weekly hours worked, 2000

	NSW	Qld
Psychologist rate ^(a)	69	50
FTE rate ^(b)	73	49
Average weekly hours	37.1	34.3
Proportion working part-time ^(c)	30.0	33.9
Proportion working 50 hours or more per week	18.0	8.9
Population	6,486,213	3,561,537

(a) Psychologists per 100,000 population.

(b) FTE per 100,000 population.

(c) Working less than 35 hours per week.

Source: AIHW Psychology Labour Force Survey, 2000.

Table A.7: Employed psychologists: annual income in main job by employment sector, proportion part-time, New South Wales, 2003

Sector	Less than \$20,000	\$20,001–\$40,000	\$40,001–\$60,000	\$60,001–\$80,000	\$80,001–\$100,000	More than \$100,000	Not stated	Total	% part-time
Public	181	461	1,472	841	100	44	176	3,275	25.3
Private	306	440	475	298	135	188	248	2,091	40.4
Total^(a)	514	927	1,991	1,165	246	238	509	5,589	31.6

(a) Includes not stated to sector.

Source: AIHW Psychology Labour Force Survey, 2003.

Table A.8: Employed psychologists: areas of psychology practice in main job, 2003

Area of psychology practice ^{(a) (b)}	NSW	Vic	Qld ^(c)	SA	ACT
Clinical	2,112	1,884	851	477	253
Counselling	2,815	2,564	566	262	246
Educational and developmental	1,459	1,242	188	200	83
Organisational	820	717	266	128	109
Health	565	498	88	112	63
Community	451	316	135	45	44
Forensic	391	339	108	89	40
Research	388	438	n.a.	48	38
Teaching	283	421	n.a.	57	28
Neuropsychology	254	210	68	45	25
Sports	45	38	18	12	15
Academic psychology	n.a.	n.a.	191	n.a.	n.a.
Other	32	36	54	13	n.a.
Total psychologists^(d)	5,589	4,671	2,535	769	509

(a) Figures may add to more than the total because psychologists could nominate more than one area.

(b) The clinical areas listed here are not consistent with the definition of 'clinical psychologist', which is based on hours worked mainly in direct patient care.

(c) Unlike other states/ the ACT where more than one area could be nominated, only one area could be selected in the Queensland survey and therefore comparisons between Queensland and other jurisdictions cannot be made.

(d) Total includes 'not stated'.

Source: AIHW Psychology Labour Force Survey, 2003.

Table A.9: Persons consulting a psychologist in the two-week reference period^(a): age and sex, 2001 and 2004–05

	Client age (years)			Client sex		
	0–24	25–64	65+	Males	Females	Total
2001						
Number	23,400	62,400	**900	39,800	46,800	86,700
Rate per 100,000	352	604	37	413	478	447
2004–05						
Number	38,600	69,000	*5,900	57,700	55,700	113,500
Rate per 100,000	570	638	224	574	548	562
% rate change between 2001 and 2004–05	61.9	5.7	**506.2	38.9	14.6	25.8

(a) Reference period was the two weeks before the survey interview.

* Estimate has a relative standard error of between 25% and 50% and should therefore be used with caution.

**Estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use.

Sources: Unpublished data from the ABS National Health Survey 2001 and 2004–05; ABS population 2003.

Table A.10: Psychology Labour Force Survey: estimated response rate, 2003

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Total
2003 response rate	76.1	29.5	88.4	..	45.1	..	39.2	..	55.7

Source: Psychology Labour Force Survey, 2003.

Table A.11: Employed psychologists: summary characteristics, New South Wales and Queensland, 2000

Characteristic	Number	Average age	% male	Average weekly hours	% part-time
New South Wales					
Field of psychology					
Clinical psychologist	3,571	43.9	29.4	35.7	32.4
Administration / management	570	45.3	38.0	41.2	18.8
Teaching psychology	123	48.4	44.6	37.0	28.6
Psychology research	202	42.5	32.9	39.2	23.9
Provide professional supervision	38	48.5	24.2	32.9	30.5
Other	106	44.5	35.0	39.0	23.7
Principal work setting					
Private practice/consultancy	1,090	47.0	35.1	34.4	46.3
Hospital	407	39.6	23.3	37.7	27.3
Community health (incl. mental health)	887	40.1	30.2	37.0	26.2
Developmental disability service	91	38.3	34.8	36.7	20.1
Government	357	41.4	31.4	38.6	21.5
School	785	48.9	27.8	36.9	27.1
Tertiary education institution	515	47.1	36.9	39.1	25.7
Mining, industrial or commercial	156	38.1	29.8	44.5	13.9
Other	238	41.3	28.4	39.1	15.9
Not stated	82	49.3	27.5	31.1	55.2
Sector of main job					
Public	2,896	43.5	30.5	37.9	23.9
Private	1,632	45.1	32.3	35.8	40.2
Total employed psychologists	4,610	44.2	31.1	37.1	30.0
Queensland					
Field of psychology					
Clinical psychologist	1,366	41.4	29.6	33.6	36.6
Administrator	91	42.7	44.5	37.4	24.8
Teacher/educator	168	45.2	35.4	37.9	24.5
Researcher	89	37.0	25.2	34.8	28.9
Public health psychologist	22	39.0	21.9	35.9	12.6
Occupational health psychologist	144	40.2	40.3	34.4	31.6
Other	13	38.3	19.8	35.1	33.3
Principal work setting					
Private rooms/surgery	418	47.5	39.2	30.8	53.0
Hospital	131	38.2	21.0	35.1	27.6
Other residential health care facility	24	39.1	40.8	33.8	26.9
24-hour or other medical centre	6	37.0	20.2	26.2	80.4
Other non-residential health care facility	264	37.2	26.9	35.9	24.8
Aboriginal health services	3	46.9	50.4	38.5	0.0
Government department or agency	500	38.9	29.7	36.0	22.9
Tertiary educational institution	273	42.8	32.0	36.2	27.8
Defence forces	13	42.4	61.8	36.8	29.7
Other	202	41.1	28.0	32.3	46.5
Not stated	58	43.1	28.6	31.9	40.4
Sector of main job					
Public	1,170	39.5	28.3	36.1	24.1
Private	665	44.8	36.7	31.1	51.4
Total employed psychologists	1,893	41.5	31.3	34.3	33.9

Source: AIHW Psychology Labour Force Survey, 2000.

Explanatory notes

Method and collection timing

The AIHW labour force data in this publication were obtained from the Labour Force Surveys conducted by the psychologists registration boards in New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, South Australia and the Australian Capital Territory. A survey questionnaire was sent to all psychologists in those jurisdictions in conjunction with the registration renewal process. Returned questionnaires were sent to the respective health authorities which then forwarded a computer file of the survey data to the AIHW for analysis. The survey timing depended on the licence renewal procedure operating in each jurisdiction that conducted the survey.

Scope and coverage

The scope of the Psychology Labour Force Survey was intended to be all psychologists registered with the psychologists board or psychology council in each state/territory, and eligible to practise, but the survey was conducted in five jurisdictions only (New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, South Australia and the Australian Capital Territory). Coverage may exclude psychologists who registered for the first time during 2003. These psychologists may not be required to renew their registration at the standard renewal date if the initial registration in that state or territory had occurred during the preceding 12 months. The number of registered psychologists in these jurisdictions comprised around 86% of psychologists registered nationally (Table 1).

Response rate

The overall response rate can only be estimated. It is calculated using the number of questionnaires used to compile the data divided by the number of registrations. Some psychologists were registered in more than one jurisdiction but may have completed a questionnaire in just one state or territory, resulting in a possible undercount. It is not known how often this occurred, because it is not possible to match survey records between states and territories. Response was quite varied across the surveyed jurisdictions and very low in the Australian Capital Territory and Victoria. The overall rate was 55.7% (Table A.10).

Notes on the AIHW labour force estimates

The figures produced from the Psychology Labour Force Survey are estimates only. Not all psychologists who were sent a questionnaire responded to the survey. Estimates of the whole psychology population are based on survey data from renewals that were weighted to match the available registration data. In 2003, total registrations by age and sex were available for New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland and South Australia. For the Australian Capital Territory weights were based on the total registration number.

Additional estimation was made for respondents for whom age, sex and labour force status were not known. In Queensland, the registration file was incomplete for sex, with 38% of registrations missing this data. Where registration data were not available, it was assumed in the estimation that survey non-respondents had the same characteristics as respondents. This process may overestimate psychologist numbers in the labour force in each state/territory if non-respondents are more likely to be those with multiple registration or those not in the psychology labour force. This survey error is likely to be greater in the Australian Capital Territory, where it is probable that a higher proportion of psychologists register in other jurisdictions, and a lower proportion of psychologists practise solely in the Territory.

Glossary of AIHW survey terms

Employed psychologist

A psychologist who reported working in psychology in the four weeks prior to completing the survey. Psychologists registered in more than one state/territory were assigned to the jurisdiction in which they mainly worked (that is, worked the most hours). Registered psychologists who, at the time of the survey, were on maternity or other extended leave for more than three months are employed, and thus part of the psychology labour force (see below). However, in all cross-classified tables for employed psychologists, those on extended leave have not been included.

Field of psychology

A description of the job function of the psychology work undertaken, as self-reported by the AIHW survey respondents. The fields are:

Clinical psychology: The survey forms did not define clinical psychology. However, it can be regarded as the assessment, diagnosis and treatment of psychological problems and mental illness by a registered psychologist. Clinical psychology mainly involves the care and treatment of patients, but includes prevention and mental health promotion programs.

The AIHW questionnaires in some states and territories, but not all, indicated that this work involved direct patient care, but no other guidance was provided to respondents. Those who self-reported spending most work hours as a clinical psychologist were classified as being in the clinical field of psychology. It should be noted, however, that the term 'clinical psychologist' is defined by the Australian Psychological Society College of Clinical Psychologists (CCP) as psychologists with a minimum of six years university training, including approved postgraduate clinical studies and placements in psychiatric settings. To become a full member of the APS CCP requires two years of further approved supervision in the clinical field.

Non-clinical psychology:

- Administration/management
- Teaching/education
- Research
- Other (a job function in psychology that is not one of the above).

Geographic classification

The Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC) and the Remoteness Area Structure within it, produced by the (ABS), has been used in this publication to present regional data. ASGC is based on the Accessibility/Remoteness Index of Australia (ARIA+), where the remoteness index value of a point is based on the physical road distance to the nearest town or service in each of five population size classes based on the 2001 Census of Population and Housing. These classes are:

- Major cities of Australia
 - Inner regional Australia
 - Outer regional Australia
 - Remote Australia
- } Described as 'metropolitan' in this report
- } Described as 'non-metropolitan' in this report

- Very remote Australia.

Hours worked

The total number of weekly hours worked is self-reported by psychologists and relates to the number of hours worked in all psychology-related jobs. In the 2003 survey, hours related to the week prior to the survey, whereas earlier surveys referred to hours 'usually' worked. Hours worked exclude time spent on travel between work locations (except to call-outs) and unpaid professional and/or voluntary activities. In editing survey responses, maximum hours worked were 99 hours per week in any one job. In this publication the ABS definition has been used for the cut-off for full-time and part-time work:

- *full-time work*: 35 hours or more per week
- *part-time work*: less than 35 hours per week.

Metropolitan and non-metropolitan areas

See 'Geographic classification' above.

Principal area of psychology

A psychology specialty or activity in which a person with psychology qualifications practises.

Psychologist

A psychologist who is on the register maintained by the state or territory psychologists board or council to practise psychology in that state or territory. The requirements for registration differ slightly in each State or Territory. The minimum educational requirement of a registered psychologist is either:

- a four-year degree in a course approved by the appropriate state/territory registration board plus two years of supervised training; or
- a four-year degree plus a two-year full-time masters degree accredited by the Australian Psychological Society.

Psychology labour force

The psychology labour force includes registered psychologists currently employed in psychology and those who are not employed in psychology but are looking for work in psychology.

References

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