# 7 Trends in nursing employment

## 7.1 Broad trends

### Registrations and enrolments from 1993 to 1998

Between 1993 and 1998, total registrations and enrolments decreased by 5.9%, from 281,453 to 264,819. The fall of 14,701 in enrolments (21.4%) was much greater than that for registrations (0.9%).

The largest variations in total registrations and enrolments occurred in the Northern Territory (+21.7%), Tasmania (–19.3%), Queensland (–13.5%) and Victoria (–12.4%). The changes in the Northern Territory and Tasmania were mainly in registrations, while the decreases in Victoria and Queensland were mainly in enrolments.

### Employed registered nurses, 1993 to 1996

The number of employed registered male nurses increased by 12.1% from 12,166 in 1993 to 13,642 in 1996, while the corresponding number of females increased by 5.0% from 150,490 to 158,043.

The percentage of employed registered nurses aged under 30 years increased from 16.1% of the total to 18.2% over this period, while the percentage aged 60 and over fell from 3.2% to 2.9%.

The percentage of registered nurses employed in the public sector decreased from 71.4% in 1993 to 69.6% in 1996. The number employed in public nursing homes decreased by 22.1% from 10,706 to 8,344; those employed in private sector nursing homes decreased by 6.0% from 12,500 to 11,752.

The percentage of registered nurses employed in capital cities increased from 64.2% of the total to 66.5%, while the percentages employed in 'Other metropolitan centres' decreased from 8.1% to 6.7% and in large rural centres from 9.6% to 8.4%. The percentages in other geographic areas changed only marginally over the period.

### Employed enrolled nurses, 1993 to 1996

From 1993 to 1996, numbers of employed enrolled nurses decreased by 11.4% from 52,444 to 46,488. The decline in numbers occurred mainly in those employed in public nursing homes, down 3,974, and private nursing homes, down 1,731.

**Table 29: Employed registered nurses: characteristics, Australia, 1993 to 1996**

| Characteristics | 1993 | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 | 1993 | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | (per cent) | | |
| **Sex** | | | | | | | | |
| Males | 12,166 | 12,924 | 13,123 | 13,642 | 7.5 | 7.6 | 7.6 | 7.9 |
| Females | 150,490 | 158,020 | 158,651 | 158,043 | 92.5 | 92.4 | 92.4 | 92.1 |
| **Geographic location** | | | | | | | | |
| Capital city | 105,439 | 110,131 | 111,488 | 114,236 | 64.2 | 63.9 | 64.9 | 66.5 |
| Other metropolitan centre | 13,321 | 13,966 | 12,810 | 11,503 | 8.1 | 8.1 | 7.5 | 6.7 |
| Large rural centre | 15,801 | 16,830 | 15,873 | 14,417 | 9.6 | 9.8 | 9.2 | 8.4 |
| Small rural centre | 11,019 | 11,719 | 12,001 | 11,534 | 6.7 | 6.8 | 7.0 | 6.7 |
| Other rural area | 14,713 | 15,738 | 15,422 | 15,277 | 9.0 | 9.1 | 9.0 | 8.9 |
| Remote centre | 1,592 | 1,648 | 1,642 | 1,887 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.1 |
| Other remote area | 2,367 | 2,403 | 2,538 | 2,831 | 1.4 | 1.4 | 1.5 | 1.6 |
| **Age (years)** | | | | | | | | |
| Average | 40.0 | 39.6 | 39.6 | 40.1 | . . | . . | . . | . . |
| <30 | 26,170 | 29,610 | 29,894 | 31,284 | 16.1 | 17.3 | 17.4 | 18.2 |
| 30–39 | 56,725 | 60,182 | 58,299 | 54,636 | 34.9 | 35.2 | 33.9 | 31.8 |
| 40–49 | 49,680 | 51,667 | 53,801 | 53,858 | 30.5 | 30.2 | 31.3 | 31.4 |
| 50–59 | 24,932 | 25,051 | 25,500 | 26,849 | 15.3 | 14.7 | 14.8 | 15.6 |
| 60+ | 5,150 | 4,434 | 4,281 | 5,058 | 3.2 | 2.6 | 2.5 | 2.9 |
| **Hours worked per week** | | | | | | | | |
| Average | 32.6 | 32.5 | 32.7 | 34.2 | . . | . . | . . | . . |
| Part-time (<35 hours) | 73,852 | 79,754 | 80,318 | 80,667 | 45.0 | 46.3 | 46.8 | 47.0 |
| Full-time (35 hours+) | 90,400 | 92,680 | 91,457 | 91,018 | 55.0 | 53.7 | 53.2 | 53.0 |
| **Field of nursing** | | | | | | | | |
| Clinician | 147,238 | 155,752 | 151,485 | 154,210 | 89.6 | 90.3 | 88.2 | 89.8 |
| Administrator | 8,360 | 8,359 | 9,735 | 8,915 | 5.1 | 4.8 | 5.7 | 5.2 |
| Teacher/educator | 4,174 | 4,309 | 4,298 | 3,553 | 2.5 | 2.5 | 2.5 | 2.1 |
| Researcher | 626 | 613 | 849 | 700 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.5 | 0.4 |
| Other | 3,854 | 3,402 | 5,408 | 4,306 | 2.3 | 2.0 | 3.1 | 2.5 |
| **Area of clinical nursing (clinicians)** | | | | | | | | |
| Medical/surgical | 46,986 | 51,731 | 50,733 | 49,526 | 31.9 | 33.2 | 33.5 | 32.1 |
| Operating theatre | 9,491 | 10,538 | 10,652 | 11,222 | 6.4 | 6.8 | 7.0 | 7.3 |
| Midwifery/obstet/gynaecology | 13,049 | 14,095 | 14,839 | 14,067 | 8.9 | 9.0 | 9.8 | 9.1 |
| Gerontology/geriatric | 22,259 | 22,663 | 22,129 | 22,111 | 15.1 | 14.6 | 14.6 | 14.3 |
| Other | 55,454 | 56,724 | 53,132 | 57,284 | 37.7 | 36.4 | 35.1 | 37.1 |
| **Work setting of main job** | | | | | | | | |
| Public sector | | | | | | | | |
| Acute/psychiatric hospital | 81,155 | 85,458 | 85,009 | 84,852 | 49.9 | 50.0 | 49.5 | 49.4 |
| Nursing home | 10,706 | 9,813 | 8,008 | 8,344 | 6.6 | 5.7 | 4.7 | 4.9 |
| Community | 7,203 | 8,760 | 9,325 | 9,557 | 4.4 | 5.1 | 5.4 | 5.6 |
| Other | 17,011 | 17,429 | 16,651 | 16,745 | 10.5 | 10.2 | 9.7 | 9.8 |
| *Total* | *116,077* | *121,461* | *118,993* | *119,498* | *71.4* | *71.1* | *69.3* | *69.6* |
| Private sector | | | | | | | | |
| Acute/psychiatric hospital | 21,923 | 23,313 | 24,398 | 24,936 | 13.5 | 13.6 | 14.2 | 14.5 |
| Nursing home | 12,500 | 12,608 | 12,985 | 11,752 | 7.7 | 7.4 | 7.6 | 6.8 |
| Private medical rooms | 3,901 | 4,995 | 5,236 | 5,273 | 2.4 | 2.9 | 3.0 | 3.1 |
| Other | 9,852 | 10,057 | 10,162 | 10,226 | 6.1 | 5.9 | 5.9 | 6.0 |
| *Total* | *48,175* | *50,973* | *52,781* | *52,187* | *29.6* | *29.8* | *30.7* | *30.4* |
| **Classification of main job** | | | | | | | | |
| Level 1 registered nurse | 102,904 | 108,747 | 105,025 | 106,739 | 62.6 | 63.1 | 61.1 | 62.2 |
| Other | 61,348 | 63,687 | 66,749 | 64,945 | 37.4 | 36.9 | 38.9 | 37.8 |
| **No. per 100,000 population** | 930.3 | 966.8 | 951.6 | 926.4 | . . | . . | . . | . . |
| **Total** | **164,252** | **172,434** | **171,774** | **171,684** | **100.0** | **100.0** | **100.0** | **100.0** |

*Source*: AIHW.

**Table 30: Employed enrolled nurses: characteristics, Australia, 1993 to 1996**

| Characteristics | 1993 | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 | 1993 | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | | (per cent) | |
| **Sex** | | | | | | | | |
| Males | 2,986 | 3,242 | 2,973 | 2,852 | 5.7 | 6.2 | 6.1 | 6.3 |
| Females | 49,209 | 49,092 | 45,919 | 43,636 | 94.3 | 93.8 | 93.9 | 93.7 |
| **Geographic location** | | | | | | | | |
| Capital city | 26,054 | 26,317 | 24,543 | 23,548 | 49.7 | 50.0 | 50.2 | 50.7 |
| Other metropolitan centre | 4,341 | 4,495 | 3,869 | 3,328 | 8.3 | 8.5 | 7.9 | 7.2 |
| Large rural centre | 5,117 | 5,473 | 4,711 | 4,260 | 9.8 | 10.4 | 9.6 | 9.2 |
| Small rural centre | 5,333 | 5,118 | 5,148 | 4,748 | 10.2 | 9.7 | 10.5 | 10.2 |
| Other rural area | 9,517 | 9,456 | 8,768 | 8,702 | 18.1 | 18.0 | 17.9 | 18.7 |
| Remote centre | 801 | 658 | 721 | 776 | 1.5 | 1.2 | 1.5 | 1.7 |
| Other remote area | 1,283 | 1,159 | 1,132 | 1,125 | 2.4 | 2.2 | 2.3 | 2.4 |
| **Age (years)** | | | | | | | | |
| Average | 37.6 | 37.3 | 37.9 | 38.7 | . . | . . | . . | . . |
| <30 | 10,470 | 10,792 | 9,213 | 7,946 | 20.1 | 20.6 | 18.8 | 17.1 |
| 30–39 | 22,016 | 21,828 | 20,042 | 18,229 | 42.2 | 41.7 | 41.0 | 39.2 |
| 40–49 | 13,987 | 14,214 | 14,203 | 14,408 | 26.8 | 27.2 | 29.0 | 31.0 |
| 50–59 | 4,997 | 4,898 | 4,867 | 5,203 | 9.6 | 9.4 | 10.0 | 11.2 |
| 60+ | 726 | 601 | 567 | 701 | 1.4 | 1.1 | 1.2 | 1.5 |
| **Hours worked per week** | | | | | | | | |
| Average | 31.1 | 30.9 | 31.1 | 33.0 | . . | . . | . . | . . |
| Part-time (<35 hours) | 28,232 | 29,576 | 27,333 | 26,480 | 53.8 | 56.1 | 55.9 | 57.0 |
| Full-time (35 hours+) | 24,212 | 23,100 | 21,559 | 20,008 | 46.2 | 43.9 | 44.1 | 43.0 |
| **Field of nursing** | | | | | | | | |
| Clinician | 48,499 | 48,997 | 44,207 | 43,248 | 92.5 | 93.0 | 90.4 | 93.0 |
| Administrator | 178 | 175 | 291 | 244 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.6 | 0.5 |
| Teacher/educator | 449 | 408 | 419 | 243 | 0.9 | 0.8 | 0.9 | 0.5 |
| Researcher | 11 | 14 | 35 | 19 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.0 |
| Other | 3,307 | 3,083 | 3,939 | 2,734 | 6.3 | 5.9 | 8.1 | 5.9 |
| **Area of clinical nursing (clinicians)** | | | | | | | | |
| Medical/surgical | 15,655 | 16,259 | 15,693 | 14,528 | 32.3 | 33.2 | 35.5 | 33.6 |
| Operating theatre | 2,276 | 2,299 | 2,284 | 2,229 | 4.7 | 4.7 | 5.2 | 5.2 |
| Psychiatric/mental health | 2,068 | 1,944 | 1,820 | 1,840 | 4.3 | 4.0 | 4.1 | 4.3 |
| Gerontology/geriatric | 19,427 | 18,671 | 16,533 | 16,160 | 40.1 | 38.1 | 37.4 | 37.4 |
| Other | 9,074 | 9,824 | 7,877 | 8,490 | 18.7 | 20.0 | 17.8 | 19.6 |
| **Work setting of main job** | | | | | | | | |
| Public sector | | | | | | | | |
| Acute/psychiatric hospital | 18,157 | 18,780 | 18,924 | 18,479 | 34.6 | 35.7 | 38.7 | 39.8 |
| Nursing home | 11,503 | 10,514 | 7,750 | 7,529 | 21.9 | 20.0 | 15.9 | 16.2 |
| Community | 728 | 835 | 881 | 868 | 1.4 | 1.6 | 1.8 | 1.9 |
| Other | 5,402 | 6,384 | 5,270 | 4,868 | 10.3 | 12.1 | 10.8 | 10.5 |
| *Total* | *35,790* | *36,512* | *32,825* | *31,744* | *68.2* | *69.3* | *67.1* | *68.3* |
| Private sector | | | | | | | | |
| Acute/psychiatric hospital | 4,390 | 4,223 | 4,098 | 3,793 | 8.4 | 8.0 | 8.4 | 8.2 |
| Nursing home | 8,060 | 7,340 | 7,226 | 6,329 | 15.4 | 13.9 | 14.8 | 13.6 |
| Private medical rooms | 1,042 | 1,347 | 1,429 | 1,447 | 2.0 | 2.6 | 2.9 | 3.1 |
| Other | 3,162 | 3,255 | 3,314 | 3,175 | 6.0 | 6.2 | 6.8 | 6.8 |
| *Total* | *16,654* | *16,164* | *16,067* | *14,744* | *31.8* | *30.7* | *32.9* | *31.7* |
| **No. per 100,000 population** | 296.8 | 295.0 | 270.5 | 253.9 | . . | . . | . . | . . |
| **Total** | **52,444** | **52,676** | **48,892** | **46,488** | **100.0** | **100.0** | **100.0** | **100.0** |

*Source*: AIHW.

## 7.2 Nursing workforce by work setting and area of nursing, 1996

### Nurses employed in public hospitals

There were 103,331 nurses employed in public hospitals in 1996, representing 47.4% of employed nurses.

The number of nurses employed in public hospitals increased by 4,019 (4.0%) between 1993 and 1996, comprising an increase of 5,459 (14.8%) in part-time employment and a decrease of 1,440 (2.3%) full–time employees.

Of nurses employed in public hospitals in 1996, 82.1% were registered nurses. Compared with employed registered nurses generally, nurses employed in public hospitals:

- had a higher percentage of males (9.1% compared with 7.9%);

- had a lower percentage with a main job in a capital city (61.3% compared with 66.5%);

- were younger (average age 37.7 years compared with 40.1 years). Nearly a quarter (22.9%) were under 30 years of age, much higher than the 18.2% for all employed registered nurses; and

- were more likely to be Level 1 registered nurses (65.8%) than all employed registered nurses (62.2%).

### Nurses employed in private hospitals

There were 28,729 nurses employed in private hospitals in 1996—an increase of 0.8% over the previous year and 9.2% more than in 1993.

Nurses in private hospitals represented 21.8% of nurses employed in hospitals, slightly higher than in 1993 (20.9%).

In private hospitals, 67.5% of nurses worked in medical/surgical and operating theatre, compared with 50.0% in public hospitals. Approximately 11% of nurses in both public and private hospitals worked in obstetrics, gynaecology and midwifery. Only 4.6% of nurses in private hospitals were males compared with 9.1% in public hospitals, which also employed a higher proportion of enrolled nurses (17.9% compared with 13.2%).

### Nurses employed in nursing homes

Between 1993 and 1996, the number of nurses employed in public nursing homes decreased from 22,209 to 15,873 (–28.5%), with decreases in both registered nurses (–2,362) and enrolled nurses (–3,974). Over this period, the number of nurses employed in private nursing homes fell from 20,560 in 1995 to 18,081 (–12.1%).

Between 1993 and 1996, there were notable increases in the percentage of registered nurses employed in public nursing homes (48.2% to 52.6%) and private nursing homes (60.8% to 65.0%). Their average weekly hours worked per week increased by 0.6 hours and 1.6 hours respectively over this period.

### Nurses employed in community health centres

In 1996, there were 10,425 nurses employed in community health centres, an increase of 31.4% on the number employed in 1993, with all except 140 (1.8%) of the increase occurring in registered nurses.

Of nurses employed in community health centres:

- 40.5% worked in community nursing, 12.8% in mental health nursing, 10.4% in child health and 10.3% in district/domiciliary nursing,

- just 53.0% had their main job in capital cities (much lower than the 64% of the population who lived there), 6.8% in 'Other metropolitan areas', 16.6% in rural centres, 19.2% in 'Other rural areas' and 4.4% in remote areas,

- the average age was 42.4 years—higher than for all employed nurses (39.9), and

- 62.1% worked full-time—higher than for all employed nurses (59.9%).

## Nurses employed in private medical rooms

In 1996, there were 6,720 nurses employed in private medical rooms, a 35.9% increase on 1993, but only slightly more than in 1995. All except 50 nurses were female, and 70.4% of the total worked part-time. Of the registered nurses, 78.6% were classified as Level 1—much higher than the percentage for all registered nurses (62.2%). 63.6% worked in capital cities, 6.9% in 'Other metropolitan areas' and 29.5% in rural and remote areas—similar to the percentages of the population living in those areas.

## Nurses employed in school health services

In 1996, there were 2,231 nurses employed in school health services, slightly fewer than in the previous year. In 1996:

- 96.0% were females,

- 67.2% were located in capital cities in their main job,

- 91.9% were registered nurses, and of these a low 30.8% were classified as Level 1,

- 55% worked full-time, and

- their average age was 45.2 years—significantly above the norm.

## Nurses employed in community/district/domiciliary services

Of the 8,778 nurses employed in community/district/domiciliary services in 1996:

- 95.9% were females,

- 91.2% were registered nurses,

- 54.4% had their main job in a capital city and 4.9% in 'Other metropolitan areas' somewhat less than the 71% of the population living in those areas, while 36.1% were located in rural areas, where only 21.4% of the population lives,

- their average age was 42.4 years—somewhat above that for all employed registered nurses (40.1).

## Nurses employed in geriatrics and gerontology

In 1996, a total of 38,271 nurses were employed in geriatrics and gerontology nursing, slightly less than the number in 1995, and 8.2% fewer than in 1993.

The proportion of registered nurses increased from 53.4% in 1993 to 57.8% in 1996. Of these, 96.0% were female, and only 31.3% worked full-time. 34.0% were employed in public nursing homes, 39.8% in private nursing homes, 13.4% in hospitals and 3.2% in hostels.

## Nurses employed in medical and surgical nursing

In 1996, there were 64,054 nurses working mainly in medical or surgical nursing or both fields, less than in previous years. Of these, 88.4% were employed in public and private hospitals, 51.1% worked full-time, 94.4% were female, and 77.5% of the registered nurses were classified as Level 1.

Only 68% worked mainly in metropolitan areas, lower than the percentage of the population living in those areas (71%).

## Nurses employed in psychiatry and mental health

In 1996, there were 11,255 nurses working mainly in psychiatric and mental health nursing, a similar number to the four previous years. However, the proportion of registered nurses increased during this period from 81.4% to 83.7%. Three-quarters (75.4%) were working full-time, 79.1% were employed in hospitals and 73.3% of those registered were Level 1. In contrast to other fields of nursing, a relatively high proportion (34.2%) was male.

## Nurses employed in midwifery, obstetrics and gynaecology

In 1996, there were 14,642 nurses employed in these disciplines, an increase of 6.4% on 1993. Of this workforce, nearly all (99.1%) were females, 96.1% were registered nurses, only 51.1% of which were classified as Level 1. Also, 93.8% worked in hospitals and a low 42.9% worked full-time.

## Nurses employed in operating theatre nursing

In 1996, there were 13,451 nurses working mainly in operating theatre nursing. Of these, 83.4% were registered nurses, 71.7% of which were classified Level 1. Also, 94.2% were female, 57.1% worked in public hospitals, 32.3% in private hospitals and 6.4% in day procedure centres.

## Nurses employed in intensive care nursing

In 1996, there were 9,755 nurses working mainly in intensive care nursing, a 15.3% increase since 1993. Of the intensive care workforce, 98.5% were registered nurses, 68.2% of which were classified Level 1. Also, 11.5% were males, 80.5% worked in public hospitals and 15.6% in private. Intensive care nurses in 1996 had an average age of 34.8 years in 1996, almost four years younger than the average for all nurses working in public and private hospitals.

**Table 31: Registered and enrolled nurses employed in public hospitals: characteristics, Australia, 1993 to 1996**

| Characteristics | 1993 | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 | 1993 | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | (per cent) | | |
| **Type of nurse** | | | | | | | | |
| Registered nurses | 81,155 | 85,458 | 85,009 | 84,852 | 81.7 | 82.0 | 81.8 | 82.1 |
| Enrolled nurses | 18,157 | 18,780 | 18,924 | 18,479 | 18.3 | 18.0 | 18.2 | 17.9 |
| **Sex** | | | | | | | | |
| Males | 8,325 | 9,342 | 9,482 | 9,442 | 8.5 | 9.0 | 9.1 | 9.1 |
| Females | 90,106 | 93,959 | 94,451 | 93,889 | 91.5 | 91.0 | 90.9 | 90.9 |
| **Geographic location of main job** | | | | | | | | |
| Capital city | 59,388 | 61,516 | 62,044 | 63,334 | 59.8 | 59.0 | 59.7 | 61.3 |
| Other metropolitan centre | 7,312 | 7,815 | 7,568 | 7,038 | 7.4 | 7.5 | 7.3 | 6.8 |
| Large rural centre | 9,255 | 10,316 | 10,155 | 8,809 | 9.3 | 9.9 | 9.8 | 8.5 |
| Small rural centre | 7,856 | 8,554 | 8,283 | 8,472 | 7.9 | 8.2 | 8.0 | 8.2 |
| Other rural area | 12,040 | 12,885 | 12,325 | 13,182 | 12.1 | 12.4 | 11.9 | 12.8 |
| Remote centre | 1,376 | 1,207 | 1,409 | 608 | 1.4 | 1.2 | 1.4 | 0.6 |
| Other remote area | 2,086 | 1,945 | 2,149 | 1,888 | 2.1 | 1.9 | 2.1 | 1.8 |
| **Age (years)** | | | | | | | | |
| Average | 37.4 | 36.9 | 37.2 | 37.7 | . . | . . | . . | . . |
| <30 | 22,952 | 25,475 | 25,095 | 23,709 | 23.3 | 24.7 | 24.1 | 22.9 |
| 30–39 | 38,280 | 40,264 | 38,959 | 37,293 | 38.9 | 39.0 | 37.5 | 36.1 |
| 40–49 | 25,465 | 26,401 | 27,967 | 29,463 | 25.9 | 25.6 | 26.9 | 28.5 |
| 50–59 | 10,167 | 9,908 | 10,566 | 11,388 | 10.3 | 9.6 | 10.2 | 11.0 |
| 60+ | 1,567 | 1,253 | 1,346 | 1,479 | 1.6 | 1.2 | 1.3 | 1.4 |
| **Hours worked per week** | | | | | | | | |
| Average | 34.5 | 34.2 | 34.1 | 34.8 | . . | . . | . . | . . |
| Part-time (<35 hours) | 36,923 | 40,355 | 41,632 | 42,382 | 37.2 | 38.7 | 40.1 | 41.0 |
| Full-time (35 hours+) | 62,389 | 63,883 | 62,302 | 60,949 | 62.8 | 61.3 | 59.9 | 59.0 |
| **Field of nursing** | | | | | | | | |
| Clinician | 93,509 | 98,882 | 97,309 | 97,018 | 94.2 | 94.9 | 93.6 | 93.9 |
| Administrator | 3,506 | 3,615 | 3,900 | 3,839 | 3.5 | 3.5 | 3.8 | 3.7 |
| Teacher/educator | 1,306 | 1,188 | 1,219 | 1,229 | 1.3 | 1.1 | 1.2 | 1.2 |
| Researcher | 302 | 227 | 342 | 322 | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0.3 | 0.3 |
| Other | 689 | 325 | 1,163 | 923 | 0.7 | 0.3 | 1.1 | 0.9 |
| **Area of clinical nursing (clinicians)** | | | | | | | | |
| Medical/surgical | 41,907 | 44,714 | 43,213 | 40,928 | 44.8 | 45.2 | 44.4 | 42.2 |
| Operating theatre | 6,835 | 7,434 | 7,398 | 7,612 | 7.3 | 7.5 | 7.6 | 7.8 |
| Intensive care | 7,305 | 7,832 | 7,747 | 7,983 | 7.8 | 7.9 | 8.0 | 8.2 |
| Paediatric | 2,824 | 3,014 | 3,111 | 3,087 | 3.0 | 3.0 | 3.2 | 3.2 |
| Obstetrics/gynaecology/midwifery | 10,002 | 10,846 | 11,196 | 10,803 | 10.7 | 11.0 | 11.5 | 11.1 |
| Psychiatric/mental health | 6,628 | 7,763 | 8,034 | 8,067 | 7.1 | 7.9 | 8.3 | 8.3 |
| Geriatric/gerontology | 3,837 | 3,853 | 4,064 | 4,277 | 4.1 | 3.9 | 4.2 | 4.4 |
| Accident and emergency | 4,867 | 4,671 | 4,771 | 5,011 | 5.2 | 4.7 | 4.9 | 5.2 |
| Other | 9,304 | 8,756 | 7,776 | 9,251 | 9.9 | 8.9 | 8.0 | 9.5 |
| **Classification of main job (registered nurses)** | | | | | | | | |
| Level 1 registered nurse | 54,890 | 58,978 | 55,548 | 55,794 | 67.6 | 69.0 | 65.3 | 65.8 |
| Other | 26,265 | 26,480 | 29,462 | 29,058 | 32.4 | 31.0 | 34.7 | 34.2 |
| **Employed nurses per 100,000 population** | | | | | | | | |
| Registered nurses | 459.6 | 479.1 | 470.9 | 457.9 | . . | . . | . . | . . |
| Enrolled nurses | 102.8 | 105.3 | 104.8 | 99.7 | . . | . . | . . | . . |
| All nurses | 562.5 | 584.4 | 575.8 | 557.6 | . . | . . | . . | . . |
| **Total all nurses** | **99,312** | **104,238** | **103,933** | **103,331** | **100.0** | **100.0** | **100.0** | **100.0** |

*Source*: AIHW.

**Table 32: Registered and enrolled nurses employed in private hospitals: characteristics, Australia, 1993 to 1996**

| Characteristics | 1993 | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 | 1993 | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | (per cent) | | |
| **Type of nurse** | | | | | | | | |
| Registered nurses | 21,923 | 23,313 | 24,398 | 24,936 | 83.3 | 84.7 | 85.6 | 86.8 |
| Enrolled nurses | 4,390 | 4,223 | 4,098 | 3,793 | 16.7 | 15.3 | 14.4 | 13.2 |
| **Sex** | | | | | | | | |
| Males | 1,025 | 1,179 | 1,346 | 1,312 | 3.9 | 4.3 | 4.7 | 4.6 |
| Females | 25,158 | 26,244 | 27,149 | 27,417 | 96.1 | 95.7 | 95.3 | 95.4 |
| **Geographic location of main job** | | | | | | | | |
| Capital city | 18,507 | 19,292 | 19,988 | 21,666 | 70.3 | 70.1 | 70.1 | 75.4 |
| Other metropolitan centre | 2,234 | 2,544 | 2,618 | 1,743 | 8.5 | 9.2 | 9.2 | 6.1 |
| Large rural centre | 3,787 | 3,841 | 3,818 | 3,229 | 14.4 | 14.0 | 13.4 | 11.2 |
| Small rural centre | 1,138 | 1,069 | 1,175 | 1,177 | 4.3 | 3.9 | 4.1 | 4.1 |
| Other rural area | 634 | 773 | 850 | 873 | 2.4 | 2.8 | 3.0 | 3.0 |
| Remote centre | 8 | 5 | 6 | 3 | — | — | — | — |
| Other remote area | 5 | 12 | 40 | 37 | — | — | 0.1 | 0.1 |
| **Age (years)** | | | | | | | | |
| Average | 38.6 | 38.0 | 38.4 | 38.8 | . . | . . | . . | . . |
| <30 | 4,156 | 4,855 | 4,989 | 4,902 | 15.9 | 17.7 | 17.5 | 17.1 |
| 30–39 | 10,965 | 11,557 | 11,467 | 11,006 | 41.9 | 42.1 | 40.2 | 38.3 |
| 40–49 | 7,799 | 7,892 | 8,564 | 8,950 | 29.8 | 28.8 | 30.1 | 31.2 |
| 50–59 | 2,838 | 2,761 | 3,078 | 3,398 | 10.8 | 10.1 | 10.8 | 11.8 |
| 60+ | 427 | 357 | 397 | 474 | 1.6 | 1.3 | 1.4 | 1.6 |
| **Hours worked per week** | | | | | | | | |
| Average | 30.4 | 30.7 | 31.0 | 31.4 | . . | . . | . . | . . |
| Part-time (<35 hours) | 15,168 | 15,791 | 16,238 | 16,395 | 57.6 | 57.3 | 57.0 | 57.1 |
| Full-time (35 hours+) | 11,145 | 11,745 | 12,258 | 12,334 | 42.4 | 42.7 | 43.0 | 42.9 |
| **Field of nursing** | | | | | | | | |
| Clinician | 24,691 | 25,686 | 26,399 | 26,767 | 93.8 | 93.3 | 92.6 | 93.2 |
| Administrator | 1,146 | 1,502 | 1,430 | 1,376 | 4.4 | 5.5 | 5.0 | 4.8 |
| Teacher/educator | 203 | 227 | 254 | 247 | 0.8 | 0.8 | 0.9 | 0.9 |
| Researcher | 12 | 12 | 10 | 15 | — | — | — | 0.1 |
| Other | 261 | 109 | 402 | 324 | 1.0 | 0.4 | 1.4 | 1.1 |
| **Area of clinical nursing (clinicians)** | | | | | | | | |
| Medical/surgical | 13,147 | 14,283 | 14,140 | 13,869 | 53.2 | 55.6 | 53.6 | 51.8 |
| Operating theatre | 3,973 | 4,221 | 4,158 | 4,194 | 16.1 | 16.4 | 15.8 | 15.7 |
| Intensive care | 1,059 | 1,181 | 1,326 | 1,549 | 4.3 | 4.6 | 5.0 | 5.8 |
| Paediatric | 192 | 224 | 244 | 239 | 0.8 | 0.9 | 0.9 | 0.9 |
| Obstetrics/gynaecology/midwifery | 2,851 | 3,096 | 3,199 | 3,125 | 11.5 | 12.1 | 12.1 | 11.7 |
| Psychiatric/mental health | 751 | 831 | 903 | 922 | 3.0 | 3.2 | 3.4 | 3.4 |
| Geriatric/gerontology | 368 | 297 | 614 | 531 | 1.5 | 1.2 | 2.3 | 2.0 |
| Accident and emergency | 180 | 144 | 291 | 361 | 0.7 | 0.6 | 1.1 | 1.3 |
| Other | 2,169 | 1,408 | 1,526 | 1,976 | 8.8 | 5.5 | 5.8 | 7.4 |
| **Classification of main job (registered nurses)** | | | | | | | | |
| Level 1 registered nurse | 15,996 | 17,057 | 16,814 | 17,087 | 73.0 | 73.2 | 68.9 | 68.5 |
| Other | 5,927 | 6,257 | 7,584 | 7,849 | 27.0 | 26.8 | 31.1 | 31.5 |
| **Employed nurses per 100,000 population** | | | | | | | | |
| Registered nurses | 124.2 | 130.7 | 135.2 | 134.6 | . . | . . | . . | . . |
| Enrolled nurses | 24.9 | 23.7 | 22.7 | 20.5 | . . | . . | . . | . . |
| All nurses | 149.0 | 154.4 | 157.9 | 155.0 | . . | . . | . . | . . |
| **Total all nurses** | **26,313** | **27,536** | **28,496** | **28,729** | **100.0** | **100.0** | **100.0** | **100.0** |

*Source*: AIHW.

**Table 33: Registered and enrolled nurses employed in public nursing homes: characteristics, Australia, 1993 to 1996**

| Characteristics | 1993 | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 | 1993 | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | (per cent) | | |
| **Type of nurse** | | | | | | | | |
| Registered nurses | 10,706 | 9,813 | 8,008 | 8,344 | 48.2 | 48.3 | 50.8 | 52.6 |
| Enrolled nurses | 11,503 | 10,514 | 7,750 | 7,529 | 51.8 | 51.7 | 49.2 | 47.4 |
| **Sex** | | | | | | | | |
| Males | 1,082 | 1,051 | 737 | 748 | 4.9 | 5.2 | 4.7 | 4.7 |
| Females | 21,082 | 19,225 | 15,022 | 15,125 | 95.1 | 94.8 | 95.3 | 95.3 |
| **Geographic location of main job** | | | | | | | | |
| Capital city | 11,609 | 10,309 | 7,599 | 7,884 | 52.3 | 50.7 | 48.2 | 49.7 |
| Other metropolitan centre | 2,019 | 1,838 | 1,367 | 1,291 | 9.1 | 9.0 | 8.7 | 8.1 |
| Large rural centre | 2,273 | 2,129 | 1,748 | 1,499 | 10.2 | 10.5 | 11.1 | 9.4 |
| Small rural centre | 2,019 | 1,906 | 1,616 | 1,618 | 9.1 | 9.4 | 10.3 | 10.2 |
| Other rural area | 3,919 | 3,845 | 3,161 | 3,334 | 17.6 | 18.9 | 20.1 | 21.0 |
| Remote centre | 155 | 113 | 112 | 71 | 0.7 | 0.6 | 0.7 | 0.4 |
| Other remote area | 216 | 187 | 154 | 176 | 1.0 | 0.9 | 1.0 | 1.1 |
| **Age (years)** | | | | | | | | |
| Average | 42.7 | 42.2 | 43.0 | 43.6 | . . | . . | . . | . . |
| <30 | 2,264 | 2,236 | 1,533 | 1,376 | 10.2 | 11.0 | 9.7 | 8.7 |
| 30–39 | 6,601 | 6,107 | 4,381 | 4,172 | 29.8 | 30.1 | 27.8 | 26.3 |
| 40–49 | 7,460 | 7,043 | 5,641 | 5,773 | 33.7 | 34.7 | 35.8 | 36.4 |
| 50–59 | 4,763 | 4,082 | 3,506 | 3,717 | 21.5 | 20.1 | 22.3 | 23.4 |
| 60+ | 1,075 | 808 | 698 | 835 | 4.8 | 4.0 | 4.4 | 5.3 |
| **Hours worked per week** | | | | | | | | |
| Average | 29.4 | 28.8 | 29.7 | 30.0 | . . | . . | . . | . . |
| Part-time (<35 hours) | 14,107 | 13,589 | 10,179 | 10,460 | 63.5 | 66.9 | 64.6 | 65.9 |
| Full-time (35 hours+) | 8,102 | 6,738 | 5,579 | 5,413 | 36.5 | 33.1 | 35.4 | 34.1 |
| **Field of nursing** | | | | | | | | |
| Clinician | 20,408 | 19,163 | 14,319 | 14,506 | 91.9 | 94.3 | 90.9 | 91.4 |
| Administrator | 1,007 | 966 | 741 | 863 | 4.5 | 4.8 | 4.7 | 5.4 |
| Teacher/educator | 175 | 120 | 93 | 77 | 0.8 | 0.6 | 0.6 | 0.5 |
| Researcher | 9 | 2 | 2 | — | — | — | — | — |
| Other | 611 | 77 | 604 | 427 | 2.8 | 0.4 | 3.8 | 2.7 |
| **Area of clinical nursing (clinicians)** | | | | | | | | |
| Medical/surgical | 820 | 637 | 504 | 443 | 4.0 | 3.3 | 3.5 | 3.1 |
| Psychiatric/mental health | 489 | 318 | 169 | 176 | 2.4 | 1.7 | 1.2 | 1.2 |
| Developmental disability | 155 | 77 | 117 | 82 | 0.8 | 0.4 | 0.8 | 0.6 |
| Geriatric/gerontology | 18,260 | 17,753 | 13,213 | 13,426 | 89.5 | 92.6 | 92.3 | 92.6 |
| Community | 123 | 49 | 17 | 17 | 0.6 | 0.3 | 0.1 | 0.1 |
| District/domiciliary | 132 | 42 | 36 | 5 | 0.6 | 0.2 | 0.3 | — |
| Occupational health | 9 | 5 | 2 | 17 | — | — | — | 0.1 |
| Private medical/independent practice | 18 | 5 | 17 | 148 | 0.1 | — | 0.1 | 1.0 |
| Other | 401 | 277 | 243 | 193 | 2.0 | 1.4 | 1.7 | 1.3 |
| **Classification of main job (registered nurses)** | | | | | | | | |
| Level 1 registered nurse | 6,039 | 5,305 | 5,054 | 5,423 | 56.4 | 54.1 | 63.1 | 65.0 |
| Other | 4,667 | 4,508 | 2,954 | 2,921 | 43.6 | 45.9 | 36.9 | 35.0 |
| **Employed nurses per 100,000 population** | | | | | | | | |
| Registered nurses | 60.6 | 55.0 | 44.4 | 45.0 | . . | . . | . . | . . |
| Enrolled nurses | 65.1 | 58.9 | 42.9 | 40.6 | . . | . . | . . | . . |
| All nurses | 125.8 | 114.0 | 87.3 | 85.7 | . . | . . | . . | . . |
| **Total all nurses** | **22,209** | **20,327** | **15,758** | **15,873** | **100.0** | **100.0** | **100.0** | **100.0** |

*Source*: AIHW.

**Table 34: Registered and enrolled nurses employed in private nursing homes: characteristics, Australia, 1993 to 1996**

| Characteristics | 1993 | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 | 1993 | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | (per cent) | | |
| **Type of nurse** | | | | | | | | |
| Registered nurses | 12,500 | 12,608 | 12,985 | 11,752 | 60.8 | 63.2 | 64.2 | 65.0 |
| Enrolled nurses | 8,060 | 7,340 | 7,226 | 6,329 | 39.2 | 36.8 | 35.8 | 35.0 |
| **Sex** | | | | | | | | |
| Males | 681 | 645 | 659 | 655 | 3.3 | 3.3 | 3.3 | 3.6 |
| Females | 19,783 | 19,207 | 19,553 | 17,426 | 96.7 | 96.7 | 96.7 | 96.4 |
| **Geographic location of main job** | | | | | | | | |
| Capital city | 13,884 | 13,029 | 13,223 | 12,313 | 67.5 | 65.3 | 65.4 | 68.1 |
| Other metropolitan centre | 1,700 | 1,805 | 1,835 | 1,283 | 8.3 | 9.1 | 9.1 | 7.1 |
| Large rural centre | 1,456 | 1,682 | 1,722 | 1,353 | 7.1 | 8.4 | 8.5 | 7.5 |
| Small rural centre | 1,541 | 1,463 | 1,531 | 1,367 | 7.5 | 7.3 | 7.6 | 7.6 |
| Other rural area | 1,818 | 1,804 | 1,727 | 1,654 | 8.8 | 9.0 | 8.5 | 9.1 |
| Remote centre | 113 | 122 | 106 | 50 | 0.5 | 0.6 | 0.5 | 0.3 |
| Other remote area | 48 | 43 | 68 | 62 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.3 | 0.3 |
| **Age (years)** | | | | | | | | |
| Average | 42.8 | 42.5 | 43.2 | 43.7 | . . | . . | . . | . . |
| <30 | 1,871 | 1,944 | 1,717 | 1,447 | 9.1 | 9.8 | 8.5 | 8.0 |
| 30–39 | 6,067 | 5,918 | 5,558 | 4,626 | 29.6 | 29.8 | 27.5 | 25.6 |
| 40–49 | 7,327 | 7,113 | 7,638 | 6,968 | 35.8 | 35.8 | 37.8 | 38.5 |
| 50–59 | 4,185 | 4,057 | 4,396 | 4,207 | 20.5 | 20.4 | 21.7 | 23.3 |
| 60+ | 1,013 | 820 | 902 | 833 | 4.9 | 4.1 | 4.5 | 4.6 |
| **Hours worked per week** | | | | | | | | |
| Average | 27.4 | 28.0 | 28.5 | 29.0 | . . | . . | . . | . . |
| Part-time (<35 hours) | 14,473 | 13,781 | 14,010 | 12,533 | 70.4 | 69.1 | 69.3 | 69.3 |
| Full-time (35 hours+) | 6,087 | 6,167 | 6,202 | 5,548 | 29.6 | 30.9 | 30.7 | 30.7 |
| **Field of nursing** | | | | | | | | |
| Clinician | 18,285 | 18,029 | 17,650 | 15,944 | 88.9 | 90.4 | 87.3 | 88.2 |
| Administrator | 1,709 | 1,661 | 1,770 | 1,549 | 8.3 | 8.3 | 8.8 | 8.6 |
| Teacher/educator | 161 | 163 | 134 | 120 | 0.8 | 0.8 | 0.7 | 0.7 |
| Researcher | 3 | 2 | 2 | 3 | — | — | — | — |
| Other | 402 | 94 | 655 | 465 | 2.0 | 0.5 | 3.2 | 2.6 |
| **Area of clinical nursing (clinicians)** | | | | | | | | |
| Medical/surgical | 474 | 352 | 471 | 362 | 2.6 | 2.0 | 2.7 | 2.3 |
| Psychiatric/mental health | 169 | 146 | 101 | 86 | 0.9 | 0.8 | 0.6 | 0.5 |
| Developmental disability | 84 | 44 | 65 | 55 | 0.5 | 0.2 | 0.4 | 0.3 |
| Geriatric/gerontology | 17,019 | 17,287 | 16,852 | 15,251 | 93.1 | 95.9 | 95.5 | 95.7 |
| Community | 103 | 23 | 12 | 6 | 0.6 | 0.1 | 0.1 | — |
| District/domiciliary | 172 | 15 | 15 | 8 | 0.9 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 |
| Occupational health | 11 | 8 | 7 | 6 | 0.1 | — | — | — |
| Private medical/independent practice | 31 | 18 | 35 | 39 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0.2 |
| Other | 220 | 138 | 94 | 128 | 1.2 | 0.8 | 0.5 | 0.8 |
| **Classification of main job (registered nurses)** | | | | | | | | |
| Level 1 registered nurse | 7,588 | 7,879 | 8,120 | 7,358 | 60.7 | 62.5 | 62.5 | 62.6 |
| Other | 4,912 | 4,729 | 4,865 | 4,394 | 39.3 | 37.5 | 37.5 | 37.4 |
| **Employed nurses per 100,000 population** | | | | | | | | |
| Registered nurses | 70.8 | 70.7 | 71.9 | 63.4 | . . | . . | . . | . . |
| Enrolled nurses | 45.6 | 41.2 | 40.0 | 34.2 | . . | . . | . . | . . |
| All nurses | 116.4 | 111.8 | 112.0 | 97.6 | . . | . . | . . | . . |
| **Total all nurses** | **20,560** | **19,948** | **20,211** | **18,081** | **100.0** | **100.0** | **100.0** | **100.0** |

*Source*: AIHW.

**Table 35: Registered and enrolled nurses employed in community health centres: characteristics, Australia, 1993 to 1996**

| Characteristics | 1993 | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 | 1993 | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | (per cent) | | |
| **Type of nurse** | | | | | | | | |
| Registered nurses | 7,203 | 8,760 | 9,325 | 9,557 | 90.8 | 91.3 | 91.4 | 91.7 |
| Enrolled nurses | 728 | 835 | 881 | 868 | 9.2 | 8.7 | 8.6 | 8.3 |
| **Sex** | | | | | | | | |
| Males | 735 | 837 | 903 | 923 | 9.8 | 9.0 | 8.8 | 8.9 |
| Females | 6,802 | 8,432 | 9,303 | 9,502 | 90.2 | 91.0 | 91.2 | 91.1 |
| **Geographic location of main job** | | | | | | | | |
| Capital city | 3,896 | 4,902 | 5,100 | 5,521 | 49.1 | 51.1 | 50.0 | 53.0 |
| Other metropolitan centre | 756 | 806 | 783 | 707 | 9.5 | 8.4 | 7.7 | 6.8 |
| Large rural centre | 648 | 720 | 764 | 734 | 8.2 | 7.5 | 7.5 | 7.0 |
| Small rural centre | 735 | 807 | 999 | 1,003 | 9.3 | 8.4 | 9.8 | 9.6 |
| Other rural area | 1,455 | 1,708 | 1,842 | 1,999 | 18.3 | 17.8 | 18.0 | 19.2 |
| Remote centre | 69 | 124 | 150 | 40 | 0.9 | 1.3 | 1.5 | 0.4 |
| Other remote area | 371 | 527 | 569 | 421 | 4.7 | 5.5 | 5.6 | 4.0 |
| **Age (years)** | | | | | | | | |
| Average | 42.2 | 41.5 | 41.9 | 42.4 | . . | . . | . . | . . |
| <30 | 448 | 731 | 784 | 712 | 5.9 | 7.9 | 7.7 | 6.8 |
| 30–39 | 2,711 | 3,420 | 3,598 | 3,478 | 36.0 | 36.9 | 35.3 | 33.4 |
| 40–49 | 2,752 | 3,255 | 3,708 | 4,000 | 36.5 | 35.1 | 36.3 | 38.4 |
| 50–59 | 1,378 | 1,626 | 1,836 | 1,955 | 18.3 | 17.5 | 18.0 | 18.8 |
| 60+ | 248 | 236 | 279 | 280 | 3.3 | 2.5 | 2.7 | 2.7 |
| **Hours worked per week** | | | | | | | | |
| Average | 33.8 | 33.7 | 33.9 | 34.5 | . . | . . | . . | . . |
| Part-time (<35 hours) | 2,679 | 3,445 | 3,728 | 3,955 | 33.8 | 35.9 | 36.5 | 37.9 |
| Full-time (35 hours+) | 5,252 | 6,150 | 6,478 | 6,470 | 66.2 | 64.1 | 63.5 | 62.1 |
| **Field of nursing** | | | | | | | | |
| Clinician | 7,270 | 8,998 | 9,211 | 9,472 | 91.7 | 93.8 | 90.3 | 90.9 |
| Administrator | 298 | 328 | 440 | 429 | 3.8 | 3.4 | 4.3 | 4.1 |
| Teacher/educator | 145 | 160 | 169 | 165 | 1.8 | 1.7 | 1.7 | 1.6 |
| Researcher | 13 | 7 | 22 | 19 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0.2 |
| Other | 205 | 101 | 363 | 338 | 2.6 | 1.1 | 3.6 | 3.2 |
| **Area of clinical nursing (clinicians)** | | | | | | | | |
| Medical/surgical | 585 | 603 | 598 | 536 | 8.0 | 6.7 | 6.5 | 5.7 |
| Psychiatric/mental health | 1,127 | 1,163 | 1,157 | 1,211 | 15.5 | 12.9 | 12.6 | 12.8 |
| Geriatric/gerontology | 644 | 577 | 687 | 686 | 8.9 | 6.4 | 7.5 | 7.2 |
| Community | 3,178 | 4,077 | 3,745 | 3,838 | 43.7 | 45.3 | 40.7 | 40.5 |
| Child health | 668 | 795 | 924 | 983 | 9.2 | 8.8 | 10.0 | 10.4 |
| District/domiciliary | 191 | 794 | 886 | 972 | 2.6 | 8.8 | 9.6 | 10.3 |
| Obstetrics/gynaecology/midwifery | 65 | 75 | 125 | 104 | 0.9 | 0.8 | 1.4 | 1.1 |
| Private medical/independent practice | 26 | 47 | 30 | 64 | 0.4 | 0.5 | 0.3 | 0.7 |
| Other | 786 | 868 | 1,059 | 1,079 | 10.8 | 9.6 | 11.5 | 11.4 |
| **Classification of main job (registered nurses)** | | | | | | | | |
| Level 1 registered nurse | 3,289 | 3,690 | 4,077 | 4,018 | 45.7 | 42.1 | 43.7 | 42.0 |
| Other | 3,915 | 5,070 | 5,247 | 5,539 | 54.3 | 57.9 | 56.3 | 58.0 |
| **Employed nurses per 100,000 population** | | | | | | | | |
| Registered nurses | 40.8 | 49.1 | 51.7 | 52.9 | . . | . . | . . | . . |
| Enrolled nurses | 4.1 | 4.7 | 4.9 | 4.8 | . . | . . | . . | . . |
| All nurses | 44.9 | 53.8 | 56.5 | 57.8 | . . | . . | . . | . . |
| **Total all nurses** | **7,931** | **9,595** | **10,206** | **10,425** | **100.0** | **100.0** | **100.0** | **100.0** |

*Source*: AIHW.

**Table 36: Registered and enrolled nurses employed in private medical rooms: characteristics, Australia, 1993 to 1996**

| Characteristics | 1993 | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 | 1993 | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | (per cent) | | |
| **Type of nurse** | | | | | | | | |
| Registered nurses | 3,901 | 4,995 | 5,236 | 5,273 | 78.9 | 78.8 | 78.6 | 78.5 |
| Enrolled nurses | 1,042 | 1,347 | 1,429 | 1,447 | 21.1 | 21.2 | 21.4 | 21.5 |
| **Sex** | | | | | | | | |
| Males | 25 | 32 | 45 | 50 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.7 | 0.7 |
| Females | 4,893 | 6,268 | 6,621 | 6,670 | 99.5 | 99.5 | 99.3 | 99.3 |
| **Geographic location of main job** | | | | | | | | |
| Capital city | 2,914 | 3,895 | 4,025 | 4,274 | 59.0 | 61.4 | 60.4 | 63.6 |
| Other metropolitan centre | 475 | 531 | 577 | 465 | 9.6 | 8.4 | 8.7 | 6.9 |
| Large rural centre | 544 | 612 | 645 | 536 | 11.0 | 9.6 | 9.7 | 8.0 |
| Small rural centre | 417 | 543 | 582 | 599 | 8.4 | 8.6 | 8.7 | 8.9 |
| Other rural area | 504 | 624 | 682 | 724 | 10.2 | 9.8 | 10.2 | 10.8 |
| Remote centre | 39 | 70 | 71 | 48 | 0.8 | 1.1 | 1.1 | 0.7 |
| Other remote area | 50 | 67 | 83 | 74 | 1.0 | 1.1 | 1.2 | 1.1 |
| **Age (years)** | | | | | | | | |
| Average | 42.3 | 41.6 | 41.8 | 42.0 | . . | . . | . . | . . |
| <30 | 381 | 551 | 531 | 560 | 7.8 | 8.7 | 8.0 | 8.3 |
| 30–39 | 1,627 | 2,275 | 2,368 | 2,271 | 33.1 | 36.1 | 35.5 | 33.8 |
| 40–49 | 1,802 | 2,206 | 2,408 | 2,472 | 36.6 | 35.0 | 36.1 | 36.8 |
| 50–59 | 898 | 1,035 | 1,120 | 1,155 | 18.3 | 16.4 | 16.8 | 17.2 |
| 60+ | 209 | 232 | 239 | 262 | 4.2 | 3.7 | 3.6 | 3.9 |
| **Hours worked per week** | | | | | | | | |
| Average | 25.2 | 25.3 | 26.2 | 26.7 | . . | . . | . . | . . |
| Part-time (<35 hours) | 3,526 | 4,521 | 4,679 | 4,728 | 71.3 | 71.3 | 70.2 | 70.4 |
| Full-time (35 hours+) | 1,417 | 1,821 | 1,987 | 1,992 | 28.7 | 28.7 | 29.8 | 29.6 |
| **Field of nursing** | | | | | | | | |
| Clinician | 4,286 | 5,934 | 5,706 | 5,874 | 86.7 | 93.6 | 85.6 | 87.4 |
| Administrator | 75 | 67 | 143 | 165 | 1.5 | 1.1 | 2.1 | 2.5 |
| Teacher/educator | 6 | 21 | 11 | 18 | 0.1 | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0.3 |
| Researcher | 9 | 14 | 23 | 15 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.3 | 0.2 |
| Other | 567 | 305 | 782 | 647 | 11.5 | 4.8 | 11.7 | 9.6 |
| **Area of clinical nursing (clinicians)** | | | | | | | | |
| Medical/surgical | 1,249 | 1,374 | 1,325 | 1,253 | 29.1 | 23.1 | 23.2 | 21.3 |
| Obstetrics/gynaecology/midwifery | 112 | 149 | 159 | 173 | 2.6 | 2.5 | 2.8 | 2.9 |
| Private medical/indepenent practice | 2,333 | 3,674 | 3,538 | 3,752 | 54.4 | 61.9 | 62.0 | 63.9 |
| Operating theatre | 39 | 68 | 64 | 76 | 0.9 | 1.1 | 1.1 | 1.3 |
| Accident and emergency | 65 | 76 | 105 | 77 | 1.5 | 1.3 | 1.8 | 1.3 |
| Community | 71 | 83 | 56 | 69 | 1.7 | 1.4 | 1.0 | 1.2 |
| Occupational health | 22 | 16 | 31 | 23 | 0.5 | 0.3 | 0.5 | 0.4 |
| Other | 395 | 494 | 429 | 452 | 9.3 | 8.3 | 7.5 | 7.7 |
| **Classification of main job (registered nurses)** | | | | | | | | |
| Level 1 registered nurse | 2,975 | 4,068 | 4,193 | 4,145 | 76.3 | 81.4 | 80.1 | 78.6 |
| Other | 925 | 927 | 1,043 | 1,128 | 23.7 | 18.6 | 19.9 | 21.4 |
| **Employed nurses per 100,000 population** | | | | | | | | |
| Registered nurses | 22.1 | 28.0 | 29.0 | 29.2 | . . | . . | . . | . . |
| Enrolled nurses | 5.9 | 7.5 | 7.9 | 8.0 | . . | . . | . . | . . |
| All nurses | 28.0 | 35.6 | 36.9 | 37.2 | . . | . . | . . | . . |
| **Total all nurses** | **4,943** | **6,341** | **6,665** | **6,720** | **100.0** | **100.0** | **100.0** | **100.0** |

*Source*: AIHW.

**Table 37: Registered and enrolled nurses employed in school health services: characteristics, Australia, 1993 to 1996**

| Characteristics | 1993 | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 | 1993 | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | (per cent) | | |
| **Type of nurse** | | | | | | | | |
| Registered nurses | 1,414 | 1,422 | 2,006 | 2,051 | 81.1 | 88.8 | 88.9 | 91.9 |
| Enrolled nurses | 329 | 179 | 249 | 180 | 18.9 | 11.2 | 11.1 | 8.1 |
| **Sex** | | | | | | | | |
| Males | 22 | 13 | 31 | 89 | 1.3 | 0.9 | 1.4 | 4.0 |
| Females | 1,708 | 1,503 | 2,225 | 2,142 | 98.7 | 99.1 | 98.6 | 96.0 |
| **Geographic location of main job** | | | | | | | | |
| Capital city | 1,198 | 1,137 | 1,605 | 1,499 | 68.8 | 71.0 | 71.2 | 67.2 |
| Other metropolitan centre | 84 | 74 | 100 | 114 | 4.8 | 4.6 | 4.4 | 5.1 |
| Large rural centre | 135 | 125 | 159 | 139 | 7.8 | 7.8 | 7.0 | 6.2 |
| Small rural centre | 126 | 89 | 142 | 175 | 7.3 | 5.6 | 6.3 | 7.8 |
| Other rural area | 139 | 104 | 202 | 264 | 8.0 | 6.5 | 9.0 | 11.8 |
| Remote centre | 25 | 36 | 17 | 18 | 1.4 | 2.2 | 0.8 | 0.8 |
| Other remote area | 35 | 36 | 31 | 21 | 2.0 | 2.2 | 1.4 | 0.9 |
| **Age (years)** | | | | | | | | |
| Average | 42.9 | 43.3 | 44.2 | 45.2 | . . | . . | . . | . . |
| <30 | 125 | 87 | 162 | 130 | 7.2 | 5.7 | 7.2 | 5.8 |
| 30–39 | 463 | 441 | 554 | 507 | 26.8 | 29.1 | 24.6 | 22.7 |
| 40–49 | 672 | 570 | 837 | 821 | 38.8 | 37.6 | 37.1 | 36.8 |
| 50–59 | 394 | 351 | 614 | 640 | 22.7 | 23.1 | 27.2 | 28.7 |
| 60+ | 77 | 68 | 88 | 133 | 4.5 | 4.5 | 3.9 | 5.9 |
| **Hours worked per week** | | | | | | | | |
| Average | 33.5 | 33.2 | 32.6 | 33.1 | . . | . . | . . | . . |
| Part-time (<35 hours) | 721 | 669 | 975 | 1,005 | 41.4 | 41.8 | 43.2 | 45.0 |
| Full-time (35 hours+) | 1,022 | 932 | 1,281 | 1,226 | 58.6 | 58.2 | 56.8 | 55.0 |
| **Field of nursing** | | | | | | | | |
| Clinician | 1,539 | 1,530 | 1,933 | 1,892 | 88.3 | 95.6 | 85.7 | 84.8 |
| Administrator | 35 | 30 | 49 | 84 | 2.0 | 1.9 | 2.2 | 3.8 |
| Teacher/educator | 50 | 27 | 74 | 57 | 2.9 | 1.7 | 3.3 | 2.6 |
| Researcher | 13 | 2 | – | 2 | 0.7 | 0.1 | — | 0.1 |
| Other | 105 | 12 | 199 | 195 | 6.0 | 0.7 | 8.8 | 8.8 |
| **Area of clinical nursing (clinicians)** | | | | | | | | |
| Paediatric | 89 | 105 | 147 | 96 | 5.8 | 6.9 | 7.6 | 5.1 |
| Community health | 63 | 70 | 201 | 158 | 4.1 | 4.5 | 10.4 | 8.3 |
| Child health | 1,132 | 967 | 885 | 737 | 73.6 | 63.2 | 45.8 | 38.9 |
| School medical | 118 | 253 | 372 | 545 | 7.7 | 16.6 | 19.2 | 28.8 |
| No one principal area | 5 | 23 | 14 | 71 | 0.3 | 1.5 | 0.7 | 3.7 |
| Other | 131 | 113 | 314 | 286 | 8.5 | 7.3 | 16.3 | 15.0 |
| **Classification of main job (registered nurses)** | | | | | | | | |
| Level 1 registered nurse | 530 | 454 | 484 | 632 | 37.5 | 31.9 | 24.2 | 30.8 |
| Other | 884 | 968 | 1,521 | 1,419 | 62.5 | 68.1 | 75.8 | 69.2 |
| **Employed nurses per 100,000 population** | | | | | | | | |
| Registered nurses | 8.0 | 8.0 | 11.1 | 11.4 | . . | . . | . . | . . |
| Enrolled nurses | 1.9 | 1.0 | 1.4 | 1.0 | . . | . . | . . | . . |
| All nurses | 9.9 | 9.0 | 12.5 | 12.4 | . . | . . | . . | . . |
| **Total all nurses** | **1,743** | **1,600** | **2,255** | **2,231** | **100.0** | **100.0** | **100.0** | **100.0** |

*Source*: AIHW.

**Table 38: Registered and enrolled nurses employed in community/district/domiciliary services: characteristics, Australia, 1993 to 1996**

| Characteristics | 1993 | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 | 1993 | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | (per cent) | | |
| **Type of nurse** | | | | | | | | |
| Registered nurses | 8,447 | 8,956 | 7,076 | 8,005 | 95.1 | 94.6 | 91.0 | 91.2 |
| Enrolled nurses | 685 | 728 | 698 | 773 | 7.7 | 7.7 | 9.0 | 8.8 |
| **Sex** | | | | | | | | |
| Males | 307 | 345 | 280 | 361 | 3.5 | 3.6 | 3.6 | 4.1 |
| Females | 8,579 | 9,124 | 7,494 | 8,417 | 96.5 | 96.4 | 96.4 | 95.9 |
| **Geographic location of main job** | | | | | | | | |
| Capital city | 4,669 | 4,870 | 4,106 | 4,778 | 52.5 | 51.4 | 52.8 | 54.4 |
| Other metropolitan centre | 553 | 592 | 446 | 429 | 6.2 | 6.2 | 5.7 | 4.9 |
| Large rural centre | 691 | 774 | 592 | 581 | 7.8 | 8.2 | 7.6 | 6.6 |
| Small rural centre | 782 | 853 | 713 | 792 | 8.8 | 9.0 | 9.2 | 9.0 |
| Other rural area | 1,672 | 1,795 | 1,561 | 1,801 | 18.8 | 19.0 | 20.1 | 20.5 |
| Remote centre | 153 | 166 | 77 | 80 | 1.7 | 1.8 | 1.0 | 0.9 |
| Other remote area | 367 | 418 | 279 | 318 | 4.1 | 4.4 | 3.6 | 3.6 |
| **Age (years)** | | | | | | | | |
| Average | 41.8 | 41.7 | 42.4 | 42.4 | . . | . . | . . | . . |
| <30 | 697 | 853 | 676 | 715 | 7.8 | 9.0 | 8.7 | 8.1 |
| 30–39 | 3,199 | 3,431 | 2,721 | 2,967 | 36.0 | 36.2 | 35.0 | 33.8 |
| 40–49 | 3,065 | 3,197 | 2,763 | 3,172 | 34.5 | 33.8 | 35.5 | 36.1 |
| 50–59 | 1,601 | 1,714 | 1,417 | 1,661 | 18.0 | 18.1 | 18.2 | 18.9 |
| 60+ | 325 | 274 | 196 | 263 | 3.7 | 2.9 | 2.5 | 3.0 |
| **Hours worked per week** | | | | | | | | |
| Average | 27.7 | 27.9 | 28.6 | 32.1 | . . | . . | . . | . . |
| Part-time (<35 hours) | 4,339 | 4,676 | 3,802 | 4,314 | 48.8 | 49.4 | 48.9 | 49.1 |
| Full-time (35 hours+) | 4,547 | 4,793 | 3,972 | 4,464 | 51.2 | 50.6 | 51.1 | 50.9 |
| **Work setting of main job** | | | | | | | | |
| Public sector | | | | | | | | |
| Hospital | 454 | 521 | 312 | 325 | 5.1 | 5.5 | 4.0 | 3.7 |
| Hospice | 213 | 83 | 44 | 25 | 2.4 | 0.9 | 0.6 | 0.3 |
| Community centre | 3,410 | 4,997 | 4,260 | 3,490 | 38.4 | 52.8 | 54.8 | 39.8 |
| Agency | — | 167 | 110 | 115 | — | 1.8 | 1.4 | 1.3 |
| School | 54 | 60 | 163 | 166 | 0.6 | 0.6 | 2.1 | 1.9 |
| Other | 2,979 | 2,050 | 1,629 | 3,192 | 33.5 | 21.6 | 21.0 | 36.4 |
| Private sector | | | | | | | | |
| Nursing home | 247 | 36 | 23 | 115 | 2.8 | 0.4 | 0.3 | 1.3 |
| Agency | 256 | 318 | 218 | 111 | 2.9 | 3.4 | 2.8 | 1.3 |
| Nursing practice | 140 | 252 | 218 | 134 | 1.6 | 2.7 | 2.8 | 1.5 |
| Private industry | 35 | 45 | 46 | 116 | 0.4 | 0.5 | 0.6 | 1.3 |
| Other | 1,097 | 940 | 749 | 990 | 12.3 | 9.9 | 9.6 | 11.3 |
| **Classification of main job (registered nurses)** | | | | | | | | |
| Level 1 registered nurse | 4,184 | 4,471 | 3,647 | 4,076 | 49.5 | 49.9 | 51.5 | 50.9 |
| Other | 4,263 | 4,485 | 3,429 | 3,929 | 50.5 | 50.1 | 48.5 | 49.1 |
| **Employed nurses per 100,000 population** | | | | | | | | |
| Registered nurses | 47.8 | 50.2 | 39.2 | 43.2 | . . | . . | . . | . . |
| Enrolled nurses | 3.9 | 4.1 | 3.9 | 4.2 | . . | . . | . . | . . |
| All nurses | 51.7 | 54.3 | 43.1 | 47.4 | . . | . . | . . | . . |
| **Total all nurses** | **9,132** | **9,684** | **7,774** | **8,778** | **102.8** | **102.3** | **100.0** | **100.0** |

*Source*: AIHW.

**Table 39: Registered and enrolled nurses employed as clinicians in geriatrics/gerontology: characteristics, Australia, 1993 to 1996**

| Characteristics | 1993 | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 | 1993 | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | (per cent) | | |
| **Type of nurse** | | | | | | | | |
| Registered nurses | 22,259 | 22,663 | 22,129 | 22,111 | 53.4 | 54.8 | 57.2 | 57.8 |
| Enrolled nurses | 19,427 | 18,671 | 16,533 | 16,160 | 46.6 | 45.2 | 42.8 | 42.2 |
| **Sex** | | | | | | | | |
| Males | 1,583 | 1,622 | 1,503 | 1,540 | 3.8 | 3.9 | 3.9 | 4.0 |
| Females | 39,979 | 39,586 | 37,160 | 36,731 | 96.2 | 96.1 | 96.1 | 96.0 |
| **Geographic location of main job** | | | | | | | | |
| Capital city | 23,446 | 23,229 | 21,374 | 21,683 | 56.2 | 56.2 | 55.3 | 56.7 |
| Other metropolitan centre | 3,626 | 3,614 | 3,441 | 2,817 | 8.7 | 8.7 | 8.9 | 7.4 |
| Large rural centre | 3,532 | 3,860 | 3,663 | 3,203 | 8.5 | 9.3 | 9.5 | 8.4 |
| Small rural centre | 3,641 | 3,533 | 3,434 | 3,465 | 8.7 | 8.5 | 8.9 | 9.1 |
| Other rural area | 6,842 | 6,581 | 6,170 | 6,567 | 16.4 | 15.9 | 16.0 | 17.2 |
| Remote centre | 205 | 176 | 225 | 123 | 0.5 | 0.4 | 0.6 | 0.3 |
| Other remote area | 393 | 342 | 356 | 413 | 0.9 | 0.8 | 0.9 | 1.1 |
| **Age (years)** | | | | | | | | |
| Average | 41.8 | 41.7 | 42.4 | 42.9 | . . | . . | . . | . . |
| <30 | 4,744 | 4,752 | 3,962 | 3,776 | 11.4 | 11.5 | 10.2 | 9.9 |
| 30–39 | 13,405 | 12,928 | 11,537 | 10,530 | 32.3 | 31.4 | 29.8 | 27.5 |
| 40–49 | 13,819 | 14,103 | 13,715 | 13,992 | 33.2 | 34.2 | 35.5 | 36.6 |
| 50–59 | 7,835 | 7,863 | 7,945 | 8,306 | 18.9 | 19.1 | 20.6 | 21.7 |
| 60+ | 1,759 | 1,563 | 1,503 | 1,668 | 4.2 | 3.8 | 3.9 | 4.4 |
| **Hours worked per week** | | | | | | | | |
| Average | 27.7 | 27.9 | 28.6 | 29.3 | . . | . . | . . | . . |
| Part-time (<35 hours) | 28,936 | 28,887 | 26,496 | 26,275 | 69.4 | 69.9 | 68.5 | 68.7 |
| Full-time (35 hours+) | 12,750 | 12,448 | 12,166 | 11,996 | 30.6 | 30.1 | 31.5 | 31.3 |
| **Work setting of main job** | | | | | | | | |
| Public sector | | | | | | | | |
| Hospital | 4,195 | 3,886 | 4,360 | 4,536 | 10.1 | 9.4 | 11.3 | 11.9 |
| Nursing home | 16,841 | 16,458 | 12,696 | 13,007 | 40.4 | 39.8 | 32.8 | 34.0 |
| Community | 719 | 597 | 731 | 716 | 1.7 | 1.4 | 1.9 | 1.9 |
| Other | 924 | 1,512 | 1,396 | 1,738 | 2.2 | 3.7 | 3.6 | 4.5 |
| Total | 22,679 | 22,453 | 19,182 | 19,997 | 54.4 | 54.3 | 49.6 | 52.3 |
| Private sector | | | | | | | | |
| Hospital | 391 | 299 | 668 | 578 | 0.9 | 0.7 | 1.7 | 1.5 |
| Nursing home | 16,830 | 16,620 | 16,858 | 15,247 | 40.4 | 40.2 | 43.6 | 39.8 |
| Hostel | 429 | 763 | 845 | 1,218 | 1.0 | 1.8 | 2.2 | 3.2 |
| Agency | 714 | 508 | 512 | 440 | 1.7 | 1.2 | 1.3 | 1.2 |
| Nursing practice | 278 | 375 | 336 | 416 | 0.7 | 0.9 | 0.9 | 1.1 |
| Other | 365 | 316 | 260 | 374 | 0.9 | 0.8 | 0.7 | 1.0 |
| Total | 19,007 | 18,881 | 19,480 | 18,274 | 45.6 | 45.7 | 50.4 | 47.7 |
| **Classification of main job (registered nurses)** | | | | | | | | |
| Level 1 registered nurse | 15,433 | 15,066 | 15,807 | 16,026 | 69.3 | 66.5 | 71.4 | 72.5 |
| Other | 6,826 | 7,597 | 6,322 | 6,085 | 30.7 | 33.5 | 28.6 | 27.5 |
| **Employed nurses per 100,000 population** | | | | | | | | |
| Registered nurses | 126.1 | 127.1 | 122.6 | 119.3 | . . | . . | . . | . . |
| Enrolled nurses | 110.0 | 104.7 | 91.6 | 87.2 | . . | . . | . . | . . |
| All nurses | 236.1 | 231.7 | 214.2 | 206.5 | . . | . . | . . | . . |
| **Total all nurses** | **41,686** | **41,334** | **38,662** | **38,271** | **100.0** | **100.0** | **100.0** | **100.0** |

*Source*: AIHW.

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**Table 40: Registered and enrolled nurses employed as clinicians in medical and surgical nursing: characteristics, Australia, 1993 to 1996**

| Characteristics | 1993 | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 | 1993 | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | (per cent) | | |
| **Type of nurse** | | | | | | | | |
| Registered nurses | 46,986 | 51,731 | 50,733 | 49,526 | 75.0 | 76.1 | 76.4 | 77.3 |
| Enrolled nurses | 15,655 | 16,259 | 15,693 | 14,528 | 25.0 | 23.9 | 23.6 | 22.7 |
| **Sex** | | | | | | | | |
| Males | 3,403 | 3,834 | 3,819 | 3,591 | 5.5 | 5.7 | 5.7 | 5.6 |
| Females | 58,944 | 63,762 | 62,607 | 60,463 | 94.5 | 94.3 | 94.3 | 94.4 |
| **Geographic location of main job** | | | | | | | | |
| Capital city | 37,208 | 39,816 | 38,563 | 39,158 | 59.4 | 58.6 | 58.1 | 61.1 |
| Other metropolitan centre | 4,601 | 5,263 | 5,321 | 4,406 | 7.3 | 7.7 | 8.0 | 6.9 |
| Large rural centre | 6,001 | 6,728 | 6,846 | 5,549 | 9.6 | 9.9 | 10.3 | 8.7 |
| Small rural centre | 4,858 | 5,181 | 4,929 | 4,889 | 7.8 | 7.6 | 7.4 | 7.6 |
| Other rural area | 7,923 | 8,973 | 8,518 | 8,621 | 12.6 | 13.2 | 12.8 | 13.5 |
| Remote centre | 741 | 715 | 797 | 302 | 1.2 | 1.1 | 1.2 | 0.5 |
| Other remote area | 1,310 | 1,315 | 1,453 | 1,129 | 2.1 | 1.9 | 2.2 | 1.8 |
| **Age (years)** | | | | | | | | |
| Average | 37.2 | 36.6 | 36.8 | 37.3 | . . | . . | . . | . . |
| <30 | 15,381 | 18,281 | 18,114 | 16,691 | 24.7 | 27.0 | 27.3 | 26.1 |
| 30–39 | 23,542 | 25,054 | 23,397 | 21,810 | 37.8 | 37.1 | 35.2 | 34.0 |
| 40–49 | 16,052 | 16,917 | 17,534 | 17,774 | 25.7 | 25.0 | 26.4 | 27.7 |
| 50–59 | 6,316 | 6,472 | 6,484 | 6,858 | 10.1 | 9.6 | 9.8 | 10.7 |
| 60+ | 1,057 | 873 | 898 | 921 | 1.7 | 1.3 | 1.4 | 1.4 |
| **Hours worked per week** | | | | | | | | |
| Average | 32.5 | 32.4 | 32.5 | 33.2 | . . | . . | . . | . . |
| Part-time (<35 hours) | 29,167 | 32,173 | 31,984 | 31,338 | 46.6 | 47.3 | 48.1 | 48.9 |
| Full-time (35 hours+) | 33,474 | 35,818 | 34,443 | 32,716 | 53.4 | 52.7 | 51.9 | 51.1 |
| **Work setting of main job** | | | | | | | | |
| Public sector | | | | | | | | |
| Hospital | 41,949 | 44,995 | 43,970 | 42,030 | 67.0 | 66.2 | 66.2 | 65.6 |
| Nursing home | 693 | 589 | 459 | 415 | 1.1 | 0.9 | 0.7 | 0.6 |
| Community | 597 | 622 | 604 | 543 | 1.0 | 0.9 | 0.9 | 0.8 |
| Agency | 0 | 695 | 756 | 824 | 0.0 | 1.0 | 1.1 | 1.3 |
| Other | 2,597 | 2,744 | 2,153 | 2,048 | 4.1 | 4.0 | 3.2 | 3.2 |
| Total | 45,835 | 49,644 | 47,942 | 45,861 | 73.2 | 73.0 | 72.2 | 71.6 |
| Private sector | | | | | | | | |
| Hospital | 12,803 | 14,344 | 14,603 | 14,619 | 20.4 | 21.1 | 22.0 | 22.8 |
| Nursing home | 430 | 337 | 447 | 351 | 0.7 | 0.5 | 0.7 | 0.5 |
| Day procedure centre | 438 | 409 | 492 | 543 | 0.7 | 0.6 | 0.7 | 0.8 |
| Medical (Doctor's rooms) | 1,196 | 1,315 | 1,272 | 1,221 | 1.9 | 1.9 | 1.9 | 1.9 |
| Agency | 1,141 | 974 | 874 | 724 | 1.8 | 1.4 | 1.3 | 1.1 |
| Other | 797 | 968 | 796 | 736 | 1.3 | 1.4 | 1.2 | 1.1 |
| Total | 16,805 | 18,347 | 18,484 | 18,193 | 26.8 | 27.0 | 27.8 | 28.4 |
| **Classification of main job (registered nurses)** | | | | | | | | |
| Level 1 registered nurse | 35,977 | 40,328 | 39,553 | 38,402 | 76.6 | 78.0 | 78.0 | 77.5 |
| Other | 11,009 | 11,403 | 11,180 | 11,124 | 23.4 | 22.0 | 22.0 | 22.5 |
| **Employed nurses per 100,000 population** | | | | | | | | |
| Registered nurses | 266.1 | 290.0 | 281.0 | 267.2 | . . | . . | . . | . . |
| Enrolled nurses | 88.7 | 91.2 | 86.9 | 78.4 | . . | . . | . . | . . |
| All nurses | 354.8 | 381.2 | 368.0 | 345.6 | . . | . . | . . | . . |
| **Total all nurses** | **62,641** | **67,991** | **66,426** | **64,054** | **100.0** | **100.0** | **100.0** | **100.0** |

*Source*: AIHW.

**Table 41: Registered and enrolled nurses employed as clinicians in psychiatry/mental health: characteristics, Australia, 1993 to 1996**

| Characteristics | 1993 | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 | 1993 | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | (per cent) | | |
| **Type of nurse** | | | | | | | | |
| Registered nurses | 9,066 | 9,408 | 9,428 | 9,415 | 81.4 | 82.9 | 83.8 | 83.7 |
| Enrolled nurses | 2,068 | 1,944 | 1,820 | 1,840 | 18.6 | 17.1 | 16.2 | 16.3 |
| **Sex** | | | | | | | | |
| Males | 3,834 | 4,026 | 3,920 | 3,845 | 34.4 | 35.5 | 34.9 | 34.2 |
| Females | 7,300 | 7,326 | 7,327 | 7,410 | 65.6 | 64.5 | 65.1 | 65.8 |
| **Geographic location of main job** | | | | | | | | |
| Capital city | 7,713 | 7,767 | 7,634 | 7,868 | 69.3 | 68.4 | 67.9 | 69.9 |
| Other metropolitan centre | 807 | 818 | 835 | 710 | 7.2 | 7.2 | 7.4 | 6.3 |
| Large rural centre | 1,495 | 1,589 | 1,616 | 1,540 | 13.4 | 14.0 | 14.4 | 13.7 |
| Small rural centre | 650 | 669 | 643 | 595 | 5.8 | 5.9 | 5.7 | 5.3 |
| Other rural area | 444 | 461 | 452 | 495 | 4.0 | 4.1 | 4.0 | 4.4 |
| Remote centre | 11 | 33 | 21 | 12 | 0.1 | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0.1 |
| Other remote area | 13 | 15 | 47 | 35 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.4 | 0.3 |
| **Age (years)** | | | | | | | | |
| Average | 39.7 | 39.4 | 39.7 | 40.3 | . . | . . | . . | . . |
| <30 | 1,433 | 1,522 | 1,534 | 1,472 | 12.9 | 13.4 | 13.6 | 13.1 |
| 30–39 | 4,370 | 4,448 | 4,206 | 3,904 | 39.2 | 39.2 | 37.4 | 34.7 |
| 40–49 | 3,663 | 3,728 | 3,856 | 4,110 | 32.9 | 32.8 | 34.3 | 36.5 |
| 50–59 | 1,330 | 1,317 | 1,417 | 1,495 | 11.9 | 11.6 | 12.6 | 13.3 |
| 60+ | 264 | 248 | 235 | 274 | 2.4 | 2.2 | 2.1 | 2.4 |
| **Hours worked per week** | | | | | | | | |
| Average | 37.1 | 37.0 | 37.4 | 37.7 | . . | . . | . . | . . |
| Part-time (<35 hours) | 2,405 | 2,600 | 2,586 | 2,767 | 21.6 | 22.9 | 23.0 | 24.6 |
| Full-time (35 hours+) | 8,729 | 8,752 | 8,662 | 8,488 | 78.4 | 77.1 | 77.0 | 75.4 |
| **Work setting of main job** | | | | | | | | |
| Public sector | | | | | | | | |
| Hospital | 6,895 | 7,766 | 8,107 | 8,189 | 61.9 | 68.4 | 72.1 | 72.8 |
| Nursing home | 429 | 292 | 153 | 128 | 3.9 | 2.6 | 1.4 | 1.1 |
| Community | 1,197 | 1,193 | 1,159 | 599 | 10.8 | 10.5 | 10.3 | 5.3 |
| Developmental disability service | 154 | 99 | 190 | 73 | 1.4 | 0.9 | 1.7 | 0.6 |
| Other | 1,251 | 857 | 493 | 1,154 | 11.2 | 7.6 | 4.4 | 10.3 |
| Total | 9,926 | 10,207 | 10,101 | 10,142 | 89.2 | 89.9 | 89.8 | 90.1 |
| Private sector | | | | | | | | |
| Hospital | 760 | 830 | 925 | 707 | 6.8 | 7.3 | 8.2 | 6.3 |
| Nursing home | 159 | 139 | 95 | 46 | 1.4 | 1.2 | 0.8 | 0.4 |
| Other | 289 | 176 | 126 | 360 | 2.6 | 1.6 | 1.1 | 3.2 |
| Total | 1,208 | 1,145 | 1,146 | 1,113 | 10.8 | 10.1 | 10.2 | 9.9 |
| **Classification of main job (registered nurses)** | | | | | | | | |
| Level 1 registered nurse | 6,110 | 6,535 | 6,994 | 6,901 | 67.4 | 69.5 | 74.2 | 73.3 |
| Other | 2,956 | 2,873 | 2,434 | 2,514 | 32.6 | 30.5 | 25.8 | 26.7 |
| **Employed nurses per 100,000 population** | | | | | | | | |
| Registered nurses | 51.3 | 52.7 | 52.2 | 50.8 | . . | . . | . . | . . |
| Enrolled nurses | 11.7 | 10.9 | 10.1 | 9.9 | . . | . . | . . | . . |
| All nurses | 63.1 | 63.6 | 62.3 | 60.7 | . . | . . | . . | . . |
| **Total all nurses** | **11,134** | **11,352** | **11,247** | **11,255** | **100.0** | **100.0** | **100.0** | **100.0** |

*Source*: AIHW.

**Table 42: Registered and enrolled nurses employed as clinicians in midwifery, obstetrics and gynaecology: characteristics, Australia, 1993 to 1996**

| Characteristics | 1993 | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 | 1993 | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | (per cent) | | |
| **Type of nurse** | | | | | | | | |
| Registered nurses | 13,049 | 14,095 | 14,839 | 14,067 | 94.8 | 95.2 | 96.0 | 96.1 |
| Enrolled nurses | 710 | 711 | 614 | 575 | 5.2 | 4.8 | 4.0 | 3.9 |
| **Sex** | | | | | | | | |
| Males | 139 | 173 | 160 | 131 | 1.0 | 1.2 | 1.0 | 0.9 |
| Females | 13,619 | 14,633 | 15,293 | 14,511 | 99.0 | 98.8 | 99.0 | 99.1 |
| **Geographic location of main job** | | | | | | | | |
| Capital city | 9,058 | 9,699 | 10,234 | 10,137 | 65.8 | 65.5 | 66.2 | 69.2 |
| Other metropolitan centre | 1,111 | 1,205 | 1,214 | 1,044 | 8.1 | 8.1 | 7.9 | 7.1 |
| Large rural centre | 1,472 | 1,598 | 1,746 | 1,357 | 10.7 | 10.8 | 11.3 | 9.3 |
| Small rural centre | 976 | 1,079 | 1,060 | 1,004 | 7.1 | 7.3 | 6.9 | 6.9 |
| Other rural area | 899 | 938 | 888 | 939 | 6.5 | 6.3 | 5.7 | 6.4 |
| Remote centre | 159 | 193 | 179 | 75 | 1.2 | 1.3 | 1.2 | 0.5 |
| Other remote area | 84 | 94 | 132 | 86 | 0.6 | 0.6 | 0.9 | 0.6 |
| **Age (years)** | | | | | | | | |
| Average | 39.4 | 38.3 | 38.6 | 39.4 | . . | . . | . . | . . |
| <30 | 1,491 | 2,003 | 1,886 | 1,580 | 10.8 | 13.5 | 12.2 | 10.8 |
| 30–39 | 6,063 | 6,908 | 7,228 | 6,484 | 44.1 | 46.7 | 46.8 | 44.3 |
| 40–49 | 4,151 | 4,114 | 4,565 | 4,700 | 30.2 | 27.8 | 29.5 | 32.1 |
| 50–59 | 1,609 | 1,434 | 1,596 | 1,688 | 11.7 | 9.7 | 10.3 | 11.5 |
| 60+ | 227 | 170 | 178 | 191 | 1.6 | 1.1 | 1.2 | 1.3 |
| **Hours worked per week** | | | | | | | | |
| Average | 30.9 | 30.6 | 30.6 | 30.8 | . . | . . | . . | . . |
| Part-time (<35 hours) | 7,210 | 8,087 | 8,559 | 8,363 | 52.4 | 54.6 | 55.4 | 57.1 |
| Full-time (35 hours+) | 6,549 | 6,719 | 6,893 | 6,279 | 47.6 | 45.4 | 44.6 | 42.9 |
| **Work setting of main job** | | | | | | | | |
| Public sector | | | | | | | | |
| Hospital | 9,931 | 10,590 | 11,177 | 10,583 | 72.2 | 71.5 | 72.3 | 72.3 |
| Community | 66 | 75 | 123 | 101 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.8 | 0.7 |
| Agency | – | 152 | 136 | 131 | 0.0 | 1.0 | 0.9 | 0.9 |
| Other | 513 | 469 | 344 | 269 | 3.7 | 3.2 | 2.2 | 1.8 |
| Total | 10,511 | 11,287 | 11,780 | 11,082 | 76.4 | 76.2 | 76.2 | 75.7 |
| Private sector | | | | | | | | |
| Hospital | 2,754 | 3,017 | 3,241 | 3,142 | 20.0 | 20.4 | 21.0 | 21.5 |
| Medical (Doctor's rooms) | 106 | 139 | 150 | 161 | 0.8 | 0.9 | 1.0 | 1.1 |
| Agency | 127 | 103 | 86 | 50 | 0.9 | 0.7 | 0.6 | 0.3 |
| Other | 261 | 261 | 196 | 207 | 1.9 | 1.8 | 1.3 | 1.4 |
| Total | 3,248 | 3,519 | 3,673 | 3,560 | 23.6 | 23.8 | 23.8 | 24.3 |
| **Classification of main job (registered nurses)** | | | | | | | | |
| Level 1 registered nurse | 9,789 | 10,838 | 7,559 | 7,183 | 75.0 | 76.9 | 50.9 | 51.1 |
| Other | 3,260 | 3,258 | 7,280 | 6,884 | 25.0 | 23.1 | 49.1 | 48.9 |
| **Employed nurses per 100,000 population** | | | | | | | | |
| Registered nurses | 73.9 | 79.0 | 82.2 | 75.9 | . . | . . | . . | . . |
| Enrolled nurses | 4.0 | 4.0 | 3.4 | 3.1 | . . | . . | . . | . . |
| All nurses | 77.9 | 83.0 | 85.6 | 79.0 | . . | . . | . . | . . |
| **Total all nurses** | **13,759** | **14,806** | **15,453** | **14,642** | **100.0** | **100.0** | **100.0** | **100.0** |

*Source*: AIHW.

**Table 43: Registered and enrolled nurses employed as clinicians in operating theatre nursing: characteristics, Australia, 1993 to 1996**

| Characteristics | 1993 | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 | 1993 | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | (per cent) | | | |
| **Type of nurse** | | | | | | | | |
| Registered nurses | 9,491 | 10,538 | 10,652 | 11,222 | 80.7 | 82.1 | 82.3 | 83.4 |
| Enrolled nurses | 2,276 | 2,299 | 2,284 | 2,229 | 19.3 | 17.9 | 17.7 | 16.6 |
| **Sex** | | | | | | | | |
| Males | 667 | 744 | 777 | 782 | 5.7 | 5.8 | 6.0 | 5.8 |
| Females | 11,099 | 12,093 | 12,159 | 12,669 | 95.1 | 94.9 | 94.0 | 94.2 |
| **Geographic location of main job** | | | | | | | | |
| Capital city | 7,964 | 8,651 | 8,663 | 9,423 | 67.7 | 67.4 | 67.0 | 70.1 |
| Other metropolitan centre | 1,062 | 1,169 | 1,175 | 1,011 | 9.0 | 9.1 | 9.1 | 7.5 |
| Large rural centre | 1,365 | 1,494 | 1,522 | 1,381 | 11.6 | 11.6 | 11.8 | 10.3 |
| Small rural centre | 769 | 831 | 860 | 912 | 6.5 | 6.5 | 6.6 | 6.8 |
| Other rural area | 500 | 576 | 576 | 666 | 4.2 | 4.5 | 4.5 | 5.0 |
| Remote centre | 79 | 77 | 95 | 28 | 0.7 | 0.6 | 0.7 | 0.2 |
| Other remote area | 27 | 38 | 45 | 30 | 0.2 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.2 |
| **Age (years)** | | | | | | | | |
| Average | 38.0 | 37.8 | 37.8 | 38.3 | . . | . . | . . | . . |
| <30 | 2,110 | 2,404 | 2,633 | 2,612 | 18.1 | 18.9 | 20.4 | 19.4 |
| 30–39 | 4,914 | 5,368 | 5,117 | 5,131 | 42.1 | 42.1 | 39.6 | 38.1 |
| 40–49 | 3,274 | 3,561 | 3,750 | 4,068 | 28.1 | 28.0 | 29.0 | 30.2 |
| 50–59 | 1,239 | 1,287 | 1,301 | 1,483 | 10.6 | 10.1 | 10.1 | 11.0 |
| 60+ | 130 | 117 | 135 | 158 | 1.1 | 0.9 | 1.0 | 1.2 |
| **Hours worked per week** | | | | | | | | |
| Average | 34.0 | 34.0 | 33.7 | 34.3 | . . | . . | . . | . . |
| Part-time (<35 hours) | 4,679 | 5,312 | 5,444 | 5,780 | 39.8 | 41.4 | 42.1 | 43.0 |
| Full-time (35 hours+) | 7,087 | 7,525 | 7,492 | 7,671 | 60.2 | 58.6 | 57.9 | 57.0 |
| **Work setting of main job** | | | | | | | | |
| Public sector | | | | | | | | |
| Hospital | 6,894 | 7,432 | 7,393 | 7,685 | 58.6 | 57.9 | 57.2 | 57.1 |
| Day procedure | 70 | 168 | 250 | 382 | 0.6 | 1.3 | 1.9 | 2.8 |
| Other | 286 | 275 | 225 | 212 | 2.4 | 2.1 | 1.7 | 1.6 |
| Total | 7,251 | 7,875 | 7,869 | 8,279 | 61.6 | 61.3 | 60.8 | 61.5 |
| Private sector | | | | | | | | |
| Hospital | 3,899 | 4,212 | 4,218 | 4,346 | 33.1 | 32.8 | 32.6 | 32.3 |
| Day procedure | 407 | 468 | 528 | 484 | 3.5 | 3.6 | 4.1 | 3.6 |
| Medical rooms | 37 | 65 | 60 | 73 | 0.3 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.5 |
| Nursing practice | 9 | 52 | 69 | 93 | 0.1 | 0.4 | 0.5 | 0.7 |
| Other | 163 | 283 | 321 | 342 | 1.4 | 2.2 | 2.5 | 2.5 |
| Total | 4,516 | 5,079 | 5,197 | 5,337 | 38.4 | 39.6 | 40.2 | 39.7 |
| **Classification of main job (registered nurses)** | | | | | | | | |
| Level 1 registered nurse | 6,724 | 7,745 | 7,588 | 8,048 | 70.9 | 73.5 | 71.2 | 71.7 |
| Other | 2,767 | 2,793 | 3,064 | 3,174 | 29.1 | 26.5 | 28.8 | 28.3 |
| **Employed nurses per 100,000 population** | | | | | | | | |
| Registered nurses | 53.8 | 59.1 | 59.0 | 60.6 | . . | . . | . . | . . |
| Enrolled nurses | 12.9 | 12.9 | 12.7 | 12.0 | . . | . . | . . | . . |
| All nurses | 66.6 | 72.0 | 71.7 | 72.6 | . . | . . | . . | . . |
| **Total all nurses** | **11,766** | **12,837** | **12,936** | **13,451** | **100.0** | **100.0** | **100.0** | **100.0** |

*Source*: AIHW.

**Table 44: Registered and enrolled nurses employed as clinicians in intensive care nursing: characteristics, Australia, 1993 to 1996**

| Characteristics | 1993 | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 | 1993 | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | (per cent) | | |
| **Type of nurse** | | | | | | | | |
| Registered nurses | 8,320 | 8,876 | 9,099 | 9,610 | 98.3 | 98.3 | 98.3 | 98.5 |
| Enrolled nurses | 143 | 154 | 158 | 145 | 1.7 | 1.7 | 1.7 | 1.5 |
| **Sex** | | | | | | | | |
| Males | 885 | 960 | 1,017 | 1,123 | 10.5 | 10.6 | 11.0 | 11.5 |
| Females | 7,578 | 8,070 | 8,241 | 8,632 | 89.5 | 89.4 | 89.0 | 88.5 |
| **Geographic location of main job** | | | | | | | | |
| Capital city | 6,309 | 6,811 | 7,044 | 7,483 | 74.6 | 75.4 | 76.1 | 76.7 |
| Other metropolitan centre | 720 | 709 | 750 | 763 | 8.5 | 7.8 | 8.1 | 7.8 |
| Large rural centre | 738 | 765 | 753 | 756 | 8.7 | 8.5 | 8.1 | 7.7 |
| Small rural centre | 489 | 554 | 534 | 564 | 5.8 | 6.1 | 5.8 | 5.8 |
| Other rural area | 148 | 150 | 151 | 157 | 1.8 | 1.7 | 1.6 | 1.6 |
| Remote centre | 43 | 30 | 13 | 20 | 0.5 | 0.3 | 0.1 | 0.2 |
| Other remote area | 15 | 11 | 14 | 12 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0.1 |
| **Age (years)** | | | | | | | | |
| Average | 34.4 | 34.2 | 34.3 | 34.7 | | | | |
| <30 | 2,492 | 2,709 | 2,855 | 2,993 | 29.4 | 30.0 | 30.8 | 30.7 |
| 30–39 | 4,055 | 4,329 | 4,270 | 4,355 | 47.9 | 47.9 | 46.1 | 44.6 |
| 40–49 | 1,609 | 1,658 | 1,793 | 2,005 | 19.0 | 18.4 | 19.4 | 20.6 |
| 50–59 | 294 | 325 | 320 | 370 | 3.5 | 3.6 | 3.5 | 3.8 |
| 60+ | 14 | 9 | 20 | 33 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0.3 |
| **Hours worked per week** | | | | | | | | |
| Average | 34.6 | 34.5 | 33.9 | 34.8 | | | | |
| Part-time (<35 hours) | 3,273 | 3,608 | 3,925 | 4,302 | 38.7 | 40.0 | 42.4 | 44.1 |
| Full-time (35 hours+) | 5,191 | 5,422 | 5,333 | 5,453 | 61.3 | 60.0 | 57.6 | 55.9 |
| **Work setting of main job** | | | | | | | | |
| Public sector | | | | | | | | |
| Hospital | 7,063 | 7,522 | 7,597 | 7,851 | 83.5 | 83.3 | 82.1 | 80.5 |
| Agency | . . | 53 | 110 | 119 | . . | 0.6 | 1.2 | 1.2 |
| Other | 163 | 139 | 76 | 94 | 1.9 | 1.5 | 0.8 | 1.0 |
| Total | 7,226 | 7,714 | 7,783 | 8,064 | 85.4 | 85.4 | 84.1 | 82.7 |
| Private sector | | | | | | | | |
| Hospital | 1,037 | 1,140 | 1,320 | 1,522 | 12.2 | 12.6 | 14.3 | 15.6 |
| Agency | 154 | 152 | 125 | 125 | 1.8 | 1.7 | 1.3 | 1.3 |
| Other | 47 | 24 | 30 | 44 | 0.6 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.4 |
| Total | 1,237 | 1,316 | 1,474 | 1,691 | 14.6 | 14.6 | 15.9 | 17.3 |
| **Classification of main job (registered nurses)** | | | | | | | | |
| Level 1 registered nurse | 6,060 | 6,566 | 6,141 | 6,555 | 72.8 | 74.0 | 67.5 | 68.2 |
| Other | 2,260 | 2,310 | 2,959 | 3,055 | 27.2 | 26.0 | 32.5 | 31.8 |
| **Employed nurses per 100,000 population** | | | | | | | | |
| Registered nurses | 47.1 | 49.7 | 50.4 | 52.5 | . . | . . | . . | . . |
| Enrolled nurses | 0.8 | 0.9 | 0.9 | 0.8 | . . | . . | . . | . . |
| All nurses | 47.9 | 50.6 | 51.2 | 53.3 | . . | . . | . . | . . |
| **Total all nurses** | **8,463** | **9,030** | **9,258** | **9,755** | **100.0** | **100.0** | **100.0** | **100.0** |

*Source*: AIHW.