

2 Nursing employment, 1998

There were 265,753 registrations and enrolments in 1997 and 264,819 in 1998. Applying the average of the numbers in each employment status and occupation for 1995 and 1996 to these totals results in an estimated 257,571 registered and enrolled nurses for 1997, with 231,011 in the nursing labour force and 219,581 employed mainly in nursing. Using the same method results in an estimated 256,666 registrations and enrolments for 1998, with 230,199 in the nursing labour force and 218,810 employed mainly in nursing.

The nurse clinician workforce of 196,000 in 1998 estimated using this method is almost the same as the estimate of 197,700 derived by averaging the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) quarterly nurse workforce estimates for 1998.

Table 5: Registered and enrolled nurses: employment status, Australia, 1993 to 1998

Employment status/occupation	Survey results				Estimates ^(a)	
	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998
Employed in nursing, only or mainly in State/Territory						
Clinician	195,737	204,748	195,692	197,458	196,720	196,029
Administrator	8,538	8,534	10,027	9,159	9,600	9,566
Teacher/educator	4,623	4,717	4,717	3,796	4,260	4,245
Researcher	637	627	884	719	802	799
Other	7,161	6,484	9,347	7,040	8,200	8,171
<i>Total</i>	<i>216,696</i>	<i>225,110</i>	<i>220,666</i>	<i>218,172</i>	<i>219,581</i>	<i>218,810</i>
Employed in nursing ^(b)	216,696	225,110	220,666	218,172	219,581	218,810
On extended leave ^(c)	2,535	2,856	2,594	3,943	3,271	3,260
Looking for work in nursing						
Employed elsewhere	4,306	4,280	2,447	3,260	2,856	2,846
Not employed	9,066	9,979	5,456	5,143	5,303	5,284
<i>Total</i>	<i>13,372</i>	<i>14,259</i>	<i>7,902</i>	<i>8,403</i>	<i>8,159</i>	<i>8,130</i>
<i>Nursing labour force</i>	<i>232,603</i>	<i>242,225</i>	<i>231,163</i>	<i>230,519</i>	<i>231,011</i>	<i>230,199</i>
Overseas	4,142	4,218	3,675	3,667	3,673	3,661
Not looking for work in nursing						
Employed elsewhere	13,410	9,831	10,501	9,298	9,907	9,872
Not employed	20,565	12,696	13,820	12,120	12,980	12,934
<i>Total</i>	<i>33,975</i>	<i>22,527</i>	<i>24,321</i>	<i>21,419</i>	<i>22,887</i>	<i>22,806</i>
<i>Not in nursing labour force</i>	<i>38,117</i>	<i>26,745</i>	<i>27,996</i>	<i>25,085</i>	<i>26,560</i>	<i>26,467</i>
Nursing labour force	232,603	242,225	231,163	230,519	231,011	230,199
Not in nursing labour force	38,117	26,745	27,996	25,085	26,560	26,467
<i>Total registered, enrolled nurses</i>	<i>270,720</i>	<i>268,970</i>	<i>259,159</i>	<i>255,604</i>	<i>257,571</i>	<i>256,666</i>
Multiple registrations, enrolments	10,733	9,703	8,376	7,975	8,182	8,153
Total registrations & enrolments	281,453	278,673	267,535	263,579	265,753	264,819

(a) Estimated, based on applying the average of 1995 and 1996 data to total registrations and enrolments for 1997 and 1998.

(b) Excludes nurses on extended leave.

(c) Not included as an option on the New South Wales or Queensland survey forms.

Source: AIHW.