

Nurses

A snapshot as at 30 June 2020



At a glance



423,335 nurses in Australia

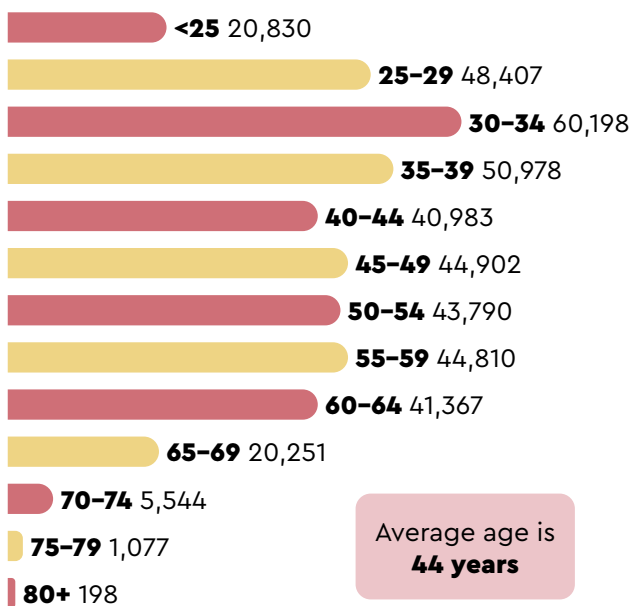
26,881 also hold registration in midwifery

21,834 nurses on the pandemic sub-register

445,169 nurses in total¹

- **55.0%** of the regulated health practitioner workforce
- **1,622** nurses per 100,000 head of population²

Age breakdown at 2019/2020



30.6% under the age of 35

42.7% in the age group of 35-54

26.8% aged 55 or over

Average age is **44 years**

80.5% have initial qualifications from Australia³

1.3% nurses identified as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander³

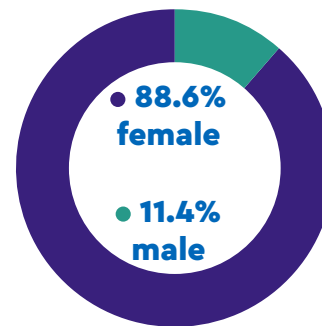
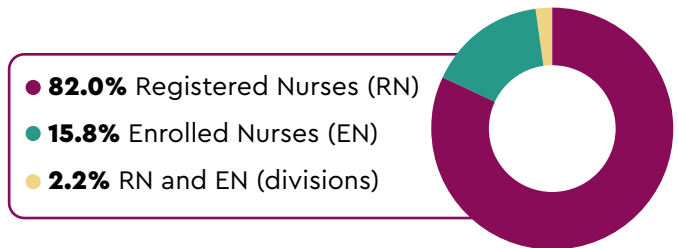
4.9% work 50 hours or more per week

49.6% work 35 or more hours per week

50.4% work less than 35 hours per week

10.5% work less than 20 hours per week

6.2% of employed nurses work no clinical hours³

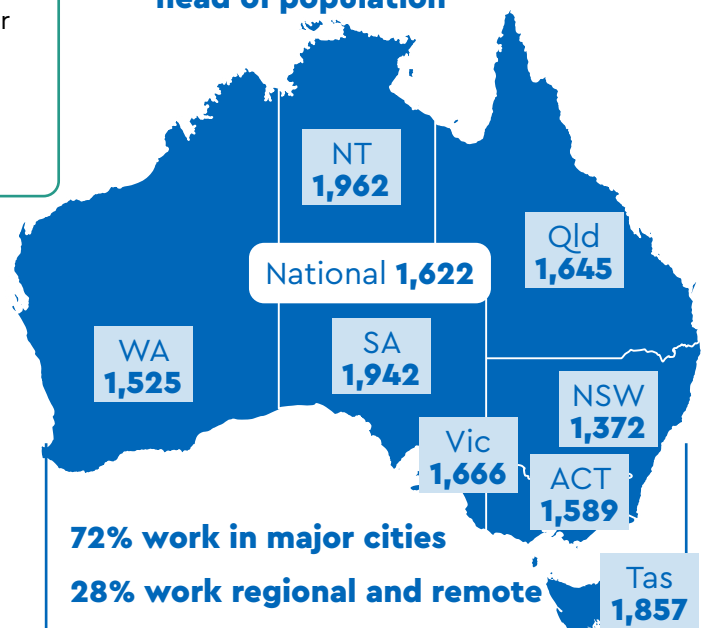


98.4% general registration

0.1% provisional registration

1.5% non-practising registration

Rate of nurses per 100,000 head of population²



72% work in major cities

28% work regional and remote

- 18.7% work inner regional
- 7.8% work outer regional
- 1.4% work remote and very remote

¹The calculations on this page are based on the nursing profession without the pandemic response sub-register where separating the data is possible.

²Excluding non-practising nurses.

³Source: National Health Workforce Data Set (NHWDS).

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Trends: 5 years to 2019/20



12.6% increase in nurse registration

24.7% increase in student registration

	2015/16	2019/20	Trend
Nurse registration	376,086	423,335	↑
Percentage of regulated health practitioner workforce	57.2%	55.0%	↓
Percentage of nurses in Australia's population	1.5%	1.6%	↑
Percentage of nurses under the age of 35	26.9%	30.6%	↑
Percentage of nurses aged 35 to 54	45.0%	42.7%	↓
Percentage of nurses over the age of 55	28.0%	26.8%	↓
Percentage of male nurses	10.8%	11.4%	↑
Percentage of female nurses	89.2%	88.6%	↓

Changes to nursing workforce across states and territories

	2015/16	2019/20	% change
ACT	5,961	6,990	17.3% ↑
NSW	103,818	114,312	10.1% ↑
NT	4,305	4,868	13.1% ↑
Qld	73,722	86,271	17.0% ↑
SA	32,887	34,875	6.0% ↑
Tas	8,858	10,177	14.9% ↑
Vic	98,898	112,802	14.1% ↑
WA	37,632	41,132	9.3% ↑

Changes to registration categories

- General registration increased from 98.3% to **98.4% of registrants**
- Non-practising registration stayed steady at **1.5% of registrants**

Changes to nurse workforce across Australia

	2015/16	2019/20	% change
Major cities	260,953	295,314	13.2% ↑
Inner regional	69,034	77,174	11.8% ↑
Outer regional	29,612	32,106	8.4% ↑
Remote	3,185	3,379	6.1% ↑
Very remote	2,366	2,525	6.7% ↑