

Occupational therapy now

A snapshot as at 30 June 2022

Workforce at a glance



27,435 registered occupational therapists in Australia¹

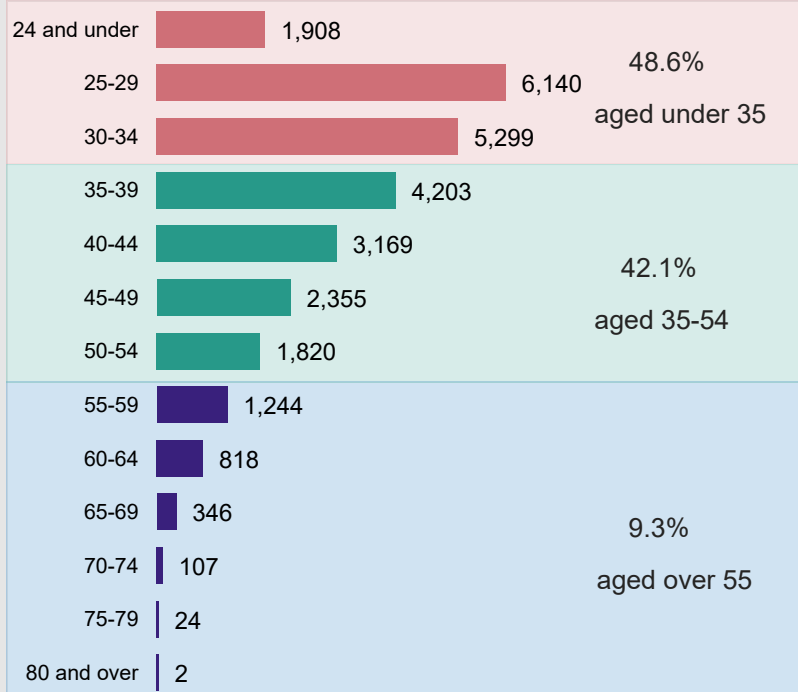
3.3% of regulated health practitioner workforce

103.0 occupational therapists per 100,000 head of population

Registration type



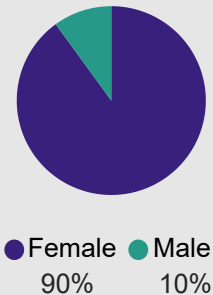
Age range at 2021/22



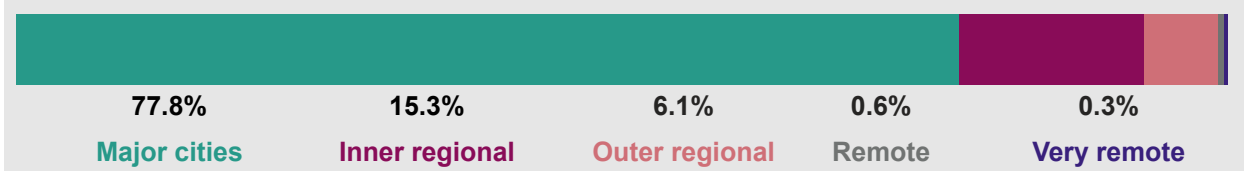
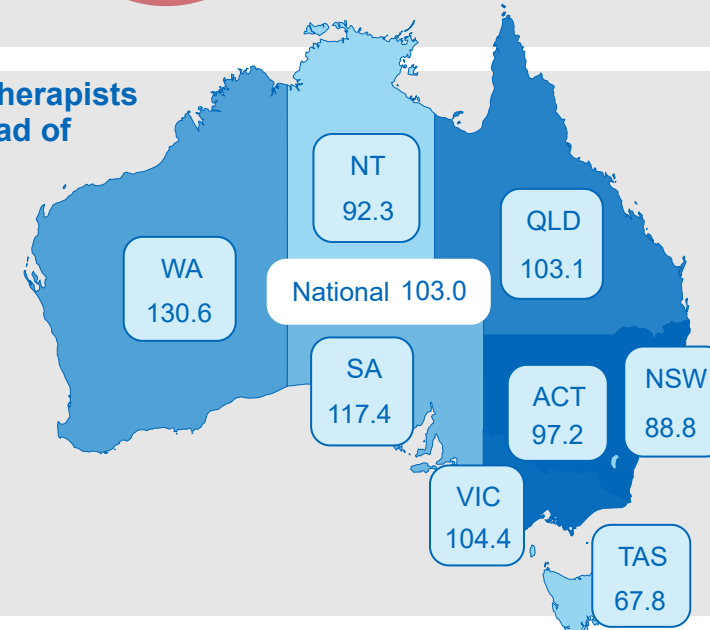
Average age (mean)

37.4 years

Gender



Occupational therapists per 100,000 head of population excluding non-practising registrants



1. Excludes non-practising registrants and those on the pandemic sub-register, unless otherwise stated.

Occupational therapy now

Five year trend from 2017/18 to 2021/22

Registered occupational therapists

20,975	27,435	▲
Percentage of regulated health practitioner workforce		
2.8%	3.3%	▲
Occupational therapists per 100,000 head of population ¹		
84.0	106.0	▲
Age		
Percentage of occupational therapists under the age of 35		
49.2%	48.6%	▼
Percentage of occupational therapists aged 35 to 54		
41.6%	42.1%	▲
Percentage of occupational therapists aged 55 and over		
9.3%	9.3%	●
Gender		
Percentage of female occupational therapists		
91.0%	90.0%	▼
Percentage of male occupational therapists		
9.0%	10.0%	▲

Five year trend from 2017/18 to 2021/22

Table key

2017/18

2021/22

Trend down ▼

Trend stable ●

Trend up ▲

30.8% increase in registered occupational therapists

Changes to registration categories

General registration		
96.5%	96.7%	▲
Limited registration		
0.3%	0.5%	▲
Non-practising registration		
3.1%	2.8%	▼

1. Includes non-practising practitioners.

Occupational therapy now

Five year trend from 2017/18 to 2021/22

Changes to workforce across states and territories¹

369	456	+23.6 % ▲
ACT		
5,881	7,383	+25.5 % ▲
NSW		
182	235	+29.1 % ▲
NT		
4,079	5,609	+37.5 % ▲
QLD		
1,631	2,190	+34.3 % ▲
SA		
313	394	+25.9 % ▲
TAS		
5,267	7,021	+33.3 % ▲
VIC		
2,943	3,753	+27.5 % ▲
WA		

Changes to workforce across remoteness areas¹

15,920	20,996	+31.9 % ▲
Major cities		
3,139	4,121	+31.3 % ▲
Inner regional		
1,383	1,644	+18.9 % ▲
Outer regional		
103	156	+51.5 % ▲
Remote		
65	83	+27.7 % ▲
Very remote		

1. Excludes practitioners who do not have an Australian Principal Place of Practice (PPP) recorded on the register - usually because they are residing overseas or have not provided a valid PPP.