Palliative Care and End-of-Life Care: PI 01b-Full-time equivalent employed specialist palliative care workforce, per 100,000 population, 2021

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Palliative Care and End-of-Life Care: PI 01b-Full-time equivalent employed specialist palliative care workforce, per 100,000 population, 2021

Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type:	Indicator
Indicator type:	Indicator
Short name:	PI 01b-Full-time equivalent employed specialist palliative care workforce, per 100,000 population, 2021
METEOR identifier:	741829
Registration status:	Health!, Qualified 21/10/2021
Description:	Full-time equivalent (FTE) employed registered medical practicners and nurses who specialise in or work in a palliative care or a hospice setting, per 100,000 population.
Rationale:	According to the National Palliative Care Strategy 2018 (DoH 2019), workforce planning is an essential element in achieving functional and sustainable healthcare across the palliative care sector. Palliative care faces a range of challenges, including an increase in demand for services due to an ageing population and a decrease in ability to meet service demand due to the size of and changes in the palliative care workforce. An understanding of the characteristics of the workforce will assist in identifying current needs gaps and aid future planning.
Indicator set:	Palliative Care and End-of-Life Care Key Performance Indicators 2021 Health!, Qualified 21/10/2021

Collection and usage attributes

Computation description:	For this indicator, the workforce for each profession is defined as those employed in Australia in the profession, who specialise in or work in palliative care. This excludes those who are registered in the profession but are retired from regular work, working outside the profession, working in the profession but on extended leave of 3 months or more, who are only engaged in unpaid/volunteer work or working outside Australia. A full-time (FTE=1.0) standard working week is defined as 40 hours for medical practicners and as 38 hours for nurses. Numerator: FTE number = Total hours worked by workforce ÷ Standard working week, for selected professions. Denominator: Australian population Employed palliative medicine physicians include only practicners whose main speciality is palliative care. This excludes practicners who practice palliative care as a second or third speciality, and does not include information on whether they are currently working in palliative care. Employed palliative care nurses include only nurses whose principal job area is palliative care, and does not include information on whether they have a speciality in palliative care.
Computation:	(Numerator ÷ Denominator) × 100,000
Numerator:	FTE number of physicians who specialise in palliative care and nurses whose principle job area is palliative care, in the reference year

Numerator data elements:

Data Element / Data Set

Health practitioner—Job area, code NNN[N]

Data Source

National Health Workforce Data Set

Guide for use

Data source type: Survey-based plus administrative by-product data

Job area for nurses:

1403 = Palliative care

Data Element / Data Set

Health practitioner—Primary specialty, code N[N]

Data Source

National Health Workforce Data Set

Guide for use

Data source type: Survey-based plus administrative by-product data

Primary speciality for medical practitioners:

13 = Palliative care

Data Element / Data Set

Health practitioner—registered profession, code AAAA

Data Source

National Health Workforce Data Set

Guide for use

Data source type: Survey-based plus administrative by-product data

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Data Element / Data Set

Health practitioner—Total FTE, code N[N6].N

Data Source

National Health Workforce Data Set

Guide for use

Data source type: Survey-based plus administrative by-product data

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Denominator: Australian population in the reference year

Denominator data elements:

> **Data Element / Data Set**
>
> [Person—estimated resident population of Australia, total people N[N(7)]](#)
>
> **Data Source**
>
> [ABS Estimated resident population (total population)](#)
>
> **Guide for use**
>
> Data source type: Census-based plus administrative by-product data

Disaggregation:

Year (2015 - 2019), state and territory, remoteness area, job role, job setting, by profession for the following professions:

- medical practitioners
- nurses

Disaggregation data elements:

> **Data Element / Data Set**
>
> Health practitioner—Australian state/territory identifier of main job, N[N]
>
> **Data Source**
>
> [National Health Workforce Data Set](#)
>
> **Guide for use**
>
> Data source type: Survey-based plus administrative by-product data

> **Data Element / Data Set**
>
> Health practitioner—Job role, code N[N3]
>
> **Data Source**
>
> [National Health Workforce Data Set](#)
>
> **Guide for use**
>
> Data source type: Survey-based plus administrative by-product data

> **Data Element / Data Set**
>
> Health practitioner—Job setting, code NNN[N]
>
> **Data Source**
>
> [National Health Workforce Data Set](#)
>
> **Guide for use**
>
> Data source type: Survey-based plus administrative by-product data

> **Data Element / Data Set**
>
> Health practitioner—Remoteness area identifier of main job, code AAN
>
> **Data Source**
>
> [National Health Workforce Data Set](#)

Data Element / Data Set

Health practitioner—Year, code NNNN

Data Source

[National Health Workforce Data Set](#)

Guide for use

Data source type: Survey-based plus administrative by-product data

Data Element / Data Set

Health profession—registered profession, code AAAA

Data Source

[National Health Workforce Data Set](#)

Guide for use

Data source type: Survey-based plus administrative by-product data

Registered profession code:

MDCL = Medical Practitioners

NRMW = Nurses and Midwives

Comments:	Reference period for 2021 reporting: 2019. FTE employed health practitioner rates calculated from the National Health Workforce Data Set are available on a national basis from 2011. It is recognised that social workers, occupational therapists, physiotherapists and other allied health professionals form an integral part of the palliative care workforce; however, the current national data sources do not support their inclusion in this indicator. These professions will be added to the indicator as data becomes available.

Representational attributes

Representation class:	Rate
Data type:	Real
Unit of measure:	Person
Format:	N[N(4)].N

Indicator conceptual framework

Framework and dimensions:	[5. Accessibility](#)

Data source attributes

Data sources:

Data Source

[ABS Estimated resident population (total population)](#)

Frequency

Quarterly

Data quality statement

[ABS Estimated resident population (total population), QS](#)

Data custodian

Australian Bureau of Statistics

Data Source

[National Health Workforce Data Set](#)

Data custodian

Australian Government Department of Health

Accountability attributes

Organisation responsible for providing data: Australian Government Department of Health

Other issues caveats: The [National Health Workforce Dataset](#) was sourced from the Australian Government Department of Health.

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare on behalf of the Palliative Care and End-of-Life Care Data Development Working Group

Reference documents: Department of Health (DoH) 2019. National Palliative Care Strategy 2018. Canberra: DoH. Viewed 7 June 2021, https://www.health.gov.au/resources/publications/the-national-palliative-care-strategy-2018.