

Clinical psychologists are psychologists with an area of practice endorsement and are trained in the assessment, diagnosis and treatment of mental illnesses and psychological problems in children and adults and deliver a range of evidence-based interventions. "They hold particular skills for applying psychological theory and scientific research to solve complex clinical psychology problems requiring individually tailored interventions" (APS College of Clinical Psychologists). NSW Health also employs other endorsed psychologists such as clinical neuropsychologists, forensic psychologists and educational and development psychologists.



Workforce characteristics for NSW Health clinical psychology workforce in 2040



1260
Headcount



86.7%
Female



27.2
Work hours per
week



42.4
Years average age



8.7%
Future 60+



3.4%
Aboriginal
workforce target



Demand is expected to grow **1.6%** (low demand scenario) to **1.9%** (high demand scenario).

Workforce modelling indicates the need to grow the NSW clinical psychology workforce by around **14** to **19** new professionals per annum to meet community need in 2040 across both demand scenarios.

SIGNIFICANT
CAREER
OPPORTUNITIES

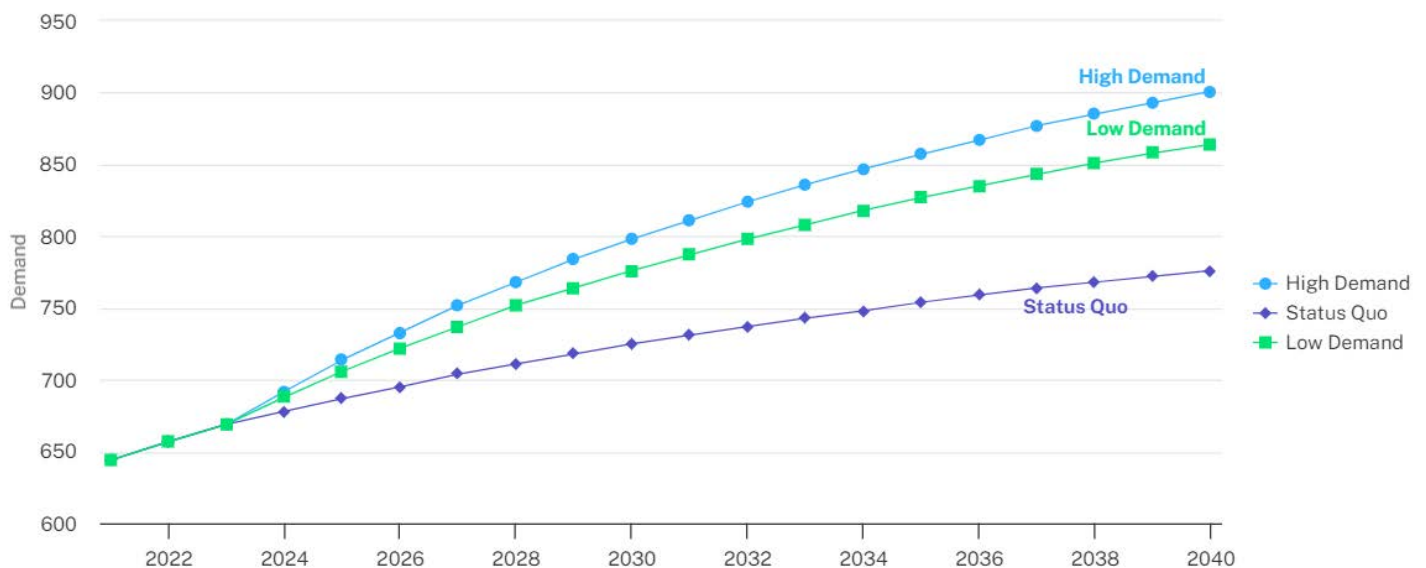
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Notes

- Data included is limited to the workforce employed under the relevant health professional award.
- Specialty health networks are not displayed geographically in the workforce distribution maps.
- LHD/SHN may engage in sessional arrangements in selected circumstances.
- Workforce that cannot be aligned to a physical location have been attributed to a pre-determined facility within each LHD/N. This may impact on Headcount shown at these facilities within the distribution map.
- NSW Health does not make any representations or warranties whether expressed or implied with respect to the accuracy and completeness of the information contained in the fact sheet.

Note: The inclusion of added qualitative inputs within career opportunities varies from standard modelling methodology calculations and hence differs to standard modelling outcomes.

Projected FTE growth for NSW Health clinical psychology workforce to 2040



Workforce characteristics for NSW Health clinical psychology workforce in 2021



900

Headcount



26.19

Work hours per week



43.84

Years average age



83.7%

Female



3.4%

Aged 60+



0.6%

Aboriginal

Metropolitan Sydney



654

Headcount



25.6

Work hours per week



43.2

Years average age



1.9%

Aged 60+

Non-Metropolitan Sydney



274

Headcount



27.3

Work hours per week



45.4

Years average age



1.5%

Aged 60+

Clinical psychology junior entrant positions into NSW Health



2017

41

2018

72

2019

61

2020

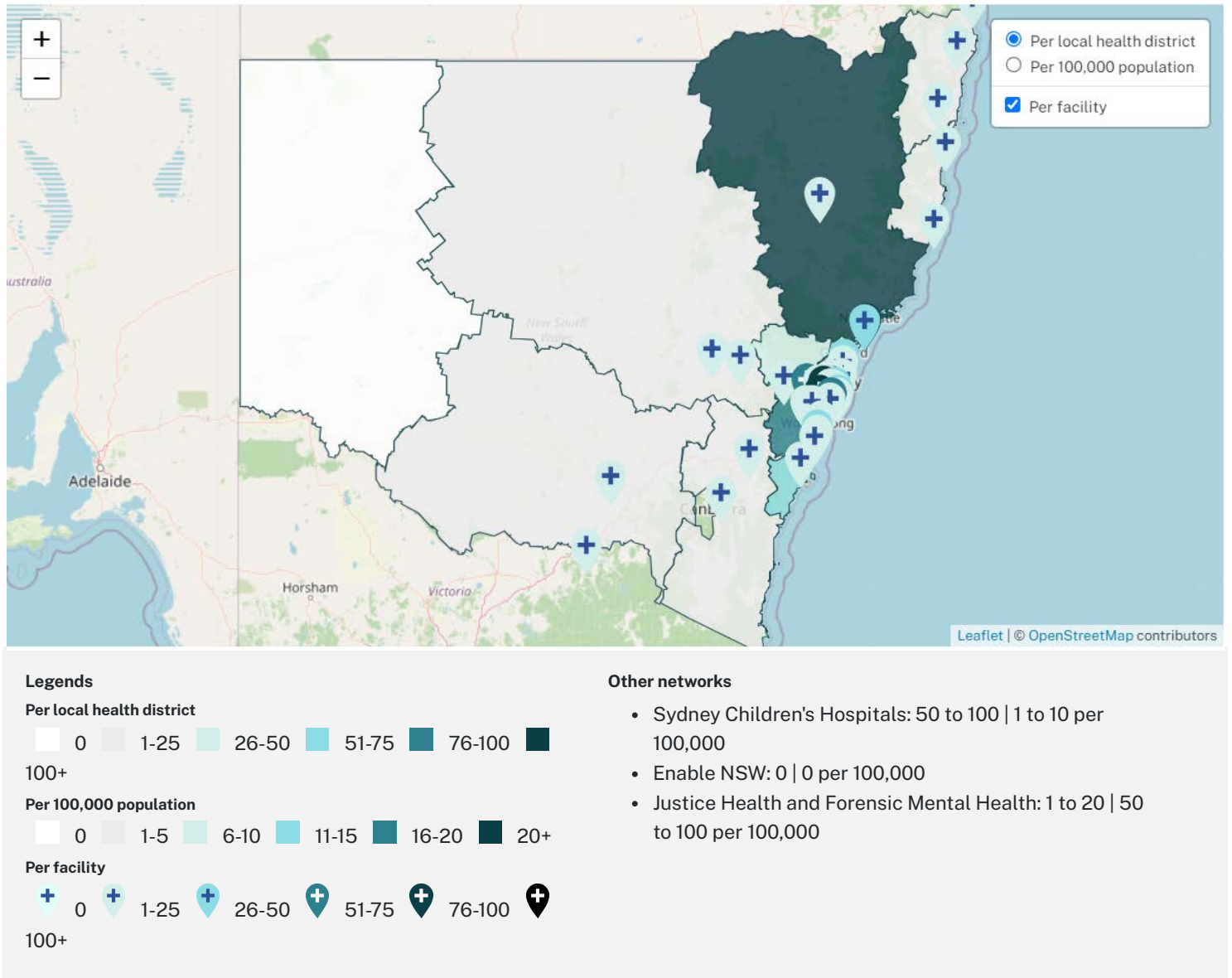
75

2021

69

Workforce distribution for NSW Health clinical psychology workforce in 2021

The geographic distribution of the public workforce by local health district/network, by facility and per 100,000 population.



Workforce considerations

- Population demographics and increasing complex health and social needs which includes our older Australians; people with histories of psycho-social distress or trauma; people with disability and people at risk of violence and harm may increase demand for clinical psychology workforce.
- New government funding initiatives, services, and policy reform will influence the clinical psychology role and the way clinical psychology models of care are delivered in NSW Health.
- Natural disasters, pandemics and economic factors increase psychosocial issues in the community and demand on the clinical psychology workforce.
- Improvements in data capture and demand (met and unmet) is a prioritised need for the workforce.
- Growing the Aboriginal psychology workforce is seen as a priority under the 'Good Health Great Jobs' framework, and investment in workforce pipelines needs development.