

Audiologists work with clients to help them to preserve, manage and improve their hearing, their ability to process and understand sounds, and their balance. An audiologist is an allied health professional who diagnoses and manages hearing and balance problems in adults and children. The goal, especially with young children and babies, is to assess hearing so that any necessary treatment can enhance and optimise language and communication skills and learning.



Workforce characteristics for NSW Health audiology workforce in 2040



35

Headcount



23

Work hours per week



3.4%

Aboriginal workforce target



Demand is expected to grow **1.2%** (low demand scenario) to **1.4%** (high demand scenario).

Workforce modelling indicates the need to grow the NSW audiology workforce by around **0.4** to **0.6** new professionals per annum to meet community need in 2040 across both demand scenarios.

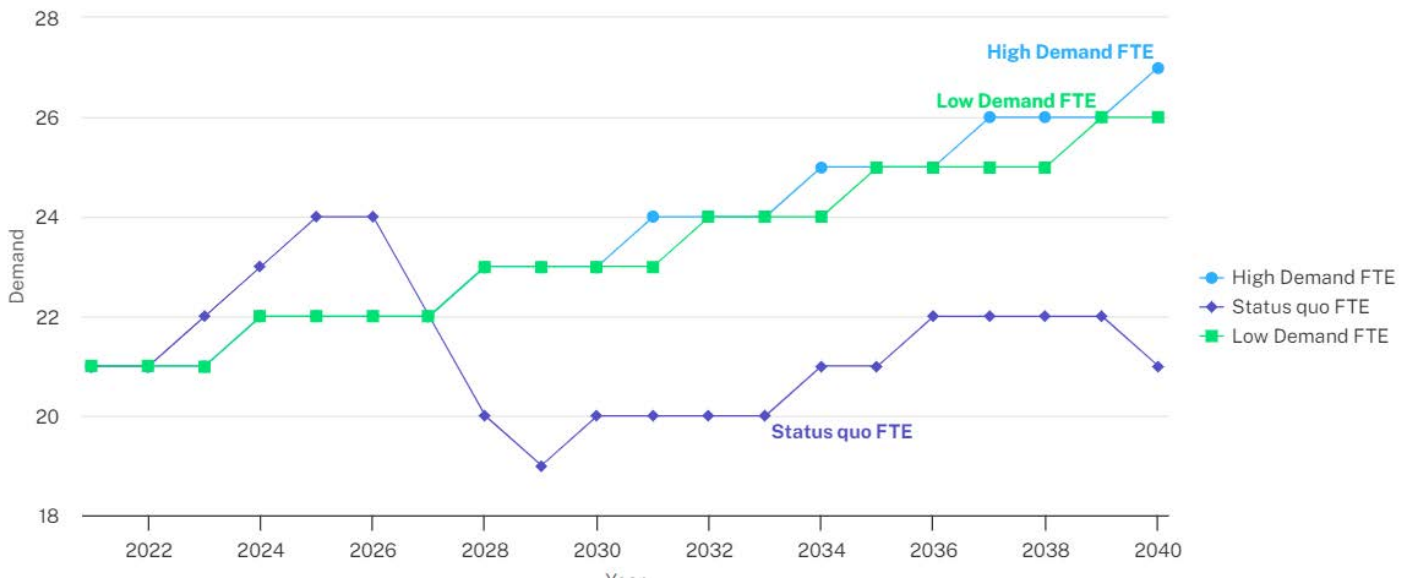
REASONABLE

 CAREER
OPPORTUNITIES

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.

Projected FTE growth for NSW Health audiology workforce to 2040



Workforce characteristics for NSW Health audiology workforce in 2021



29
Headcount



22.2
Work hours per week



50.6
Years average age



86.2%
Female



25%
Aged 60+



0%
Aboriginal

Metropolitan Sydney



28
Headcount



21.6
Work hours per week



50.1
Years average age



13.9%
Aged 60+

Non-Metropolitan Sydney



8
Headcount



24.2
Work hours per week



52.3
Years average age



11.1%
Aged 60+

Audiology junior entrant positions into NSW Health



2017
2

2018
0

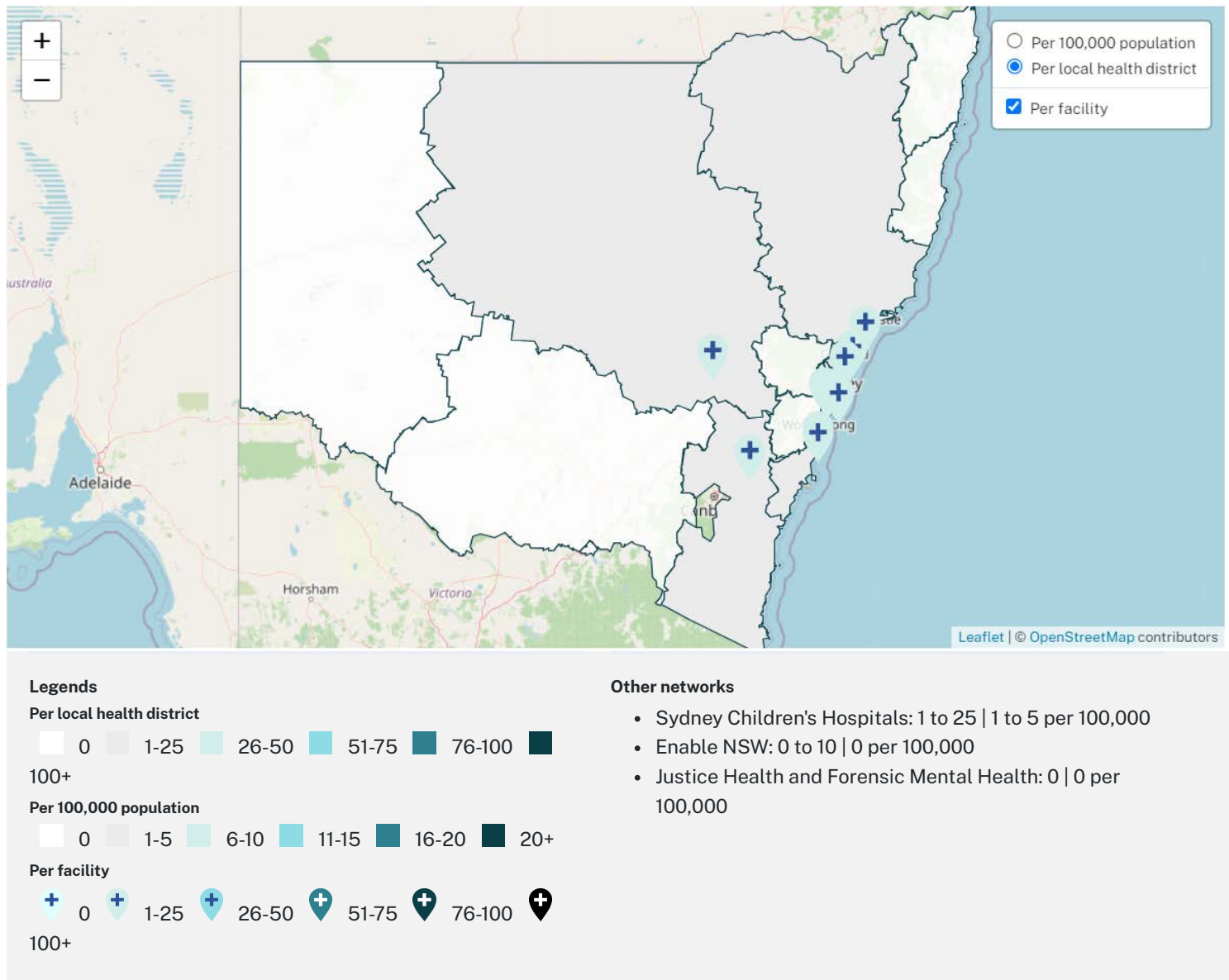
2019
0

2020
1

2021
0

Workforce distribution for NSW Health audiology 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 incidence of complex and chronic disease increases demand for audiology services.
- New government funding initiatives and policy will influence Audiology workforce movement in NSW Health (i.e.: closing the gap on Aboriginal hearing and ear health, the SWIS-H program and the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS)).
- Ensuring sustainable training pipelines, graduates, and workforce reflect the future workforce requirements of the community, by both location, speciality and skills.
- Improvements in data capture and demand (met and unmet) is a prioritised need for the workforce.
- Advancements in technology and increased use of technology for screening, therapeutics, predictive and diagnostic purposes may increase demand for audiology workforce.
- Consideration needs to be given for physical infrastructure and equipment to deliver all audiology services.
- Changes in ear, nose and throat medical models of care may increase demand for audiology workforce.
- The audiology workforce is ageing. Workforce planning which includes succession planning and bringing in new entrants to NSW Health should be a priority for this workforce.