



Allied Health: The Facts

Workforce:

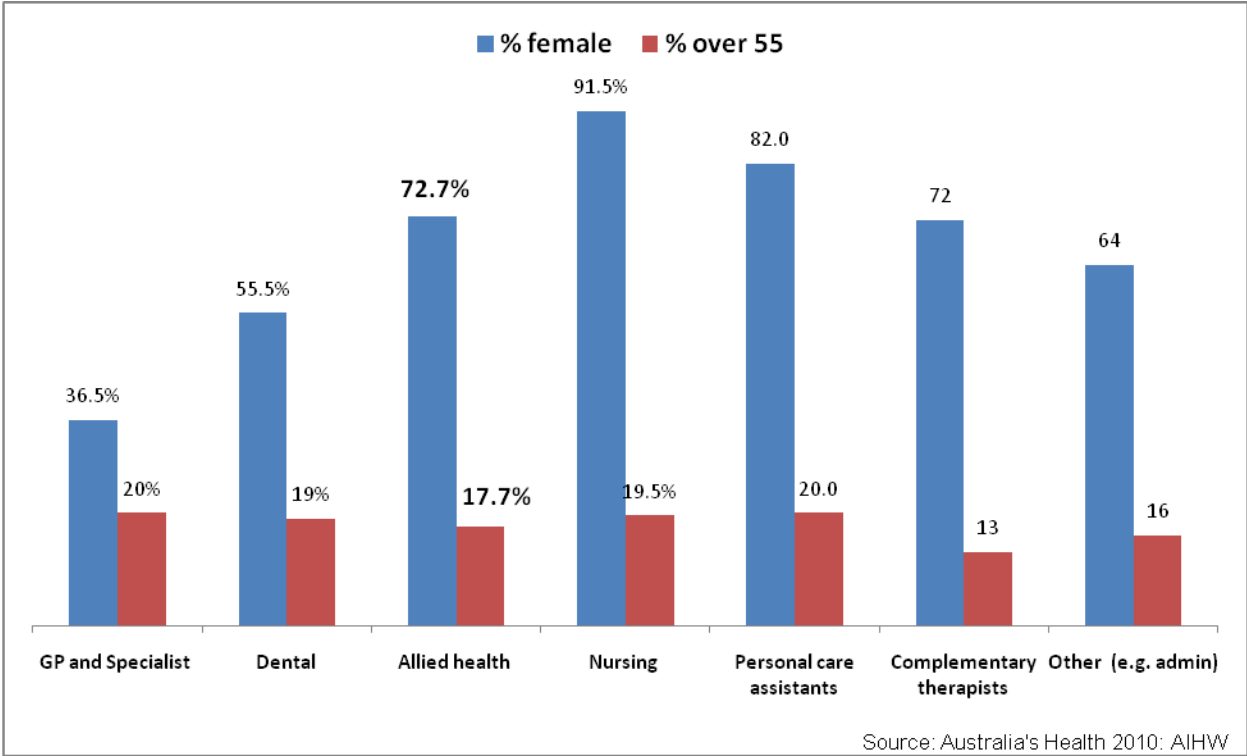
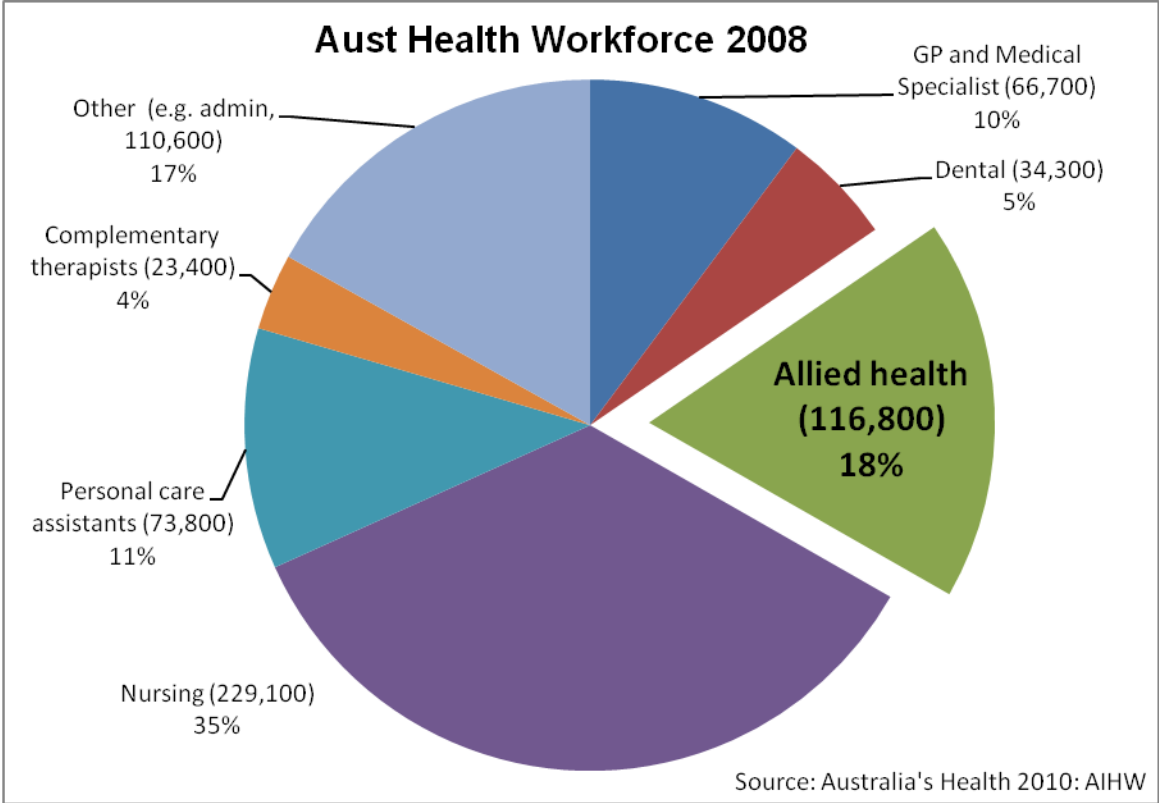
- Allied health professionals¹ constitute 18% of the overall health workforce, more than medical (10%), but less than nursing (35%)
- 72.7% of the allied health workforce is female, more than medical (36.5%), but less than nursing (91.5%)
- 17.7% of the allied health workforce is aged over 55, less than both medical (20%) and nursing (19%)
- The allied health workforce grew by 35.3% between 2003 and 2008, greater than both medical (33.5%) and nursing (15.5%)

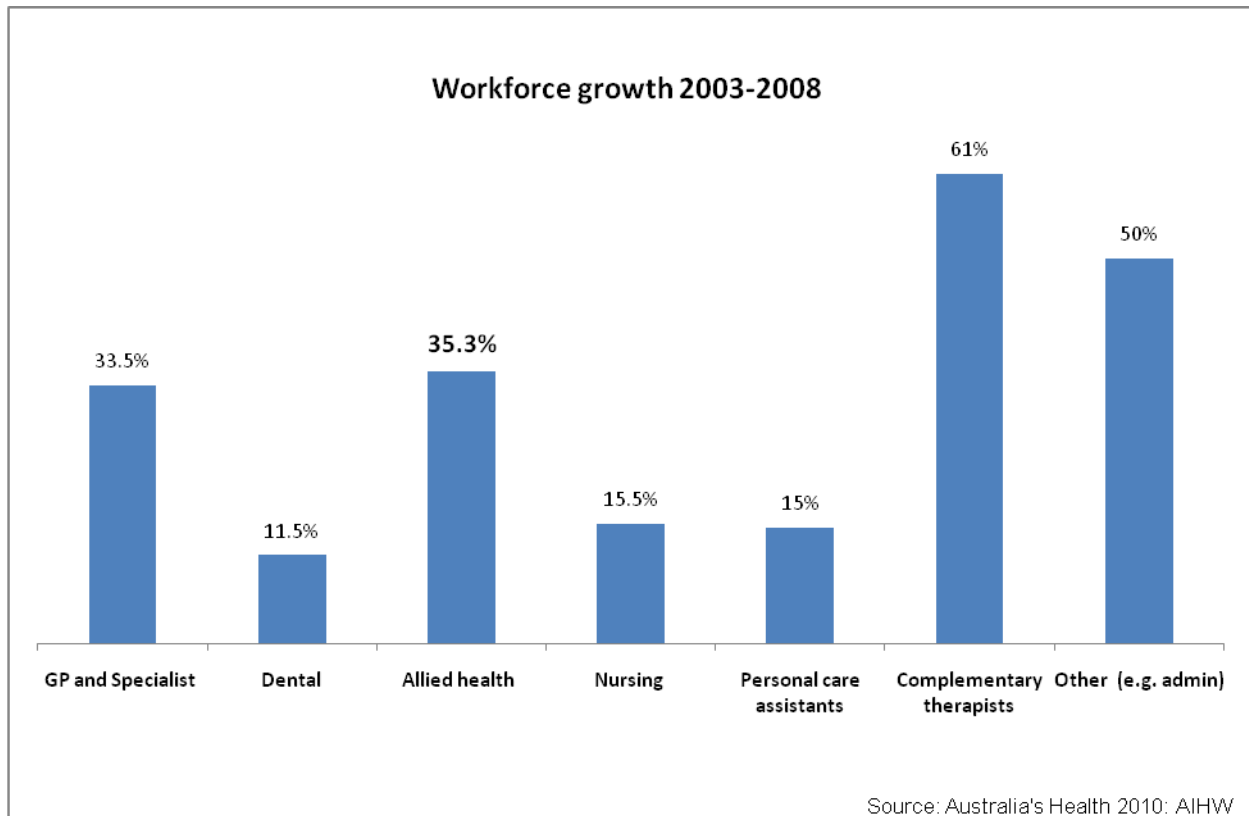
Work settings:

- Acute hospitals – from accidents and emergency, to medical, surgical, maternity, ICU and more
- Sub acute services – rehabilitation after heart attack, stroke, progressive neurological disease, or surgery and a wide range of outpatient services
- Specialist services – crisis intervention, paediatrics/early intervention, mental health, cancer services, aged care and more
- Community health – health promotion and individual and group therapies
- Primary care – private practice (funded by private health insurance, Medicare, DVA, Work Cover, Motor Accident cover, and others)
- Aged care, palliative care and other specialist areas
- Non-health settings including schools, child welfare, and drug and alcohol services.

Work sectors:

- Public and private health services
- Not for profit, charitable and Non-government organisations
- Government departments and agencies – Health, Education, Disability, Centrelink, Defence, Office of Hearing Services, Commonwealth Rehabilitation Service and others
- Higher education and research
- Corporate sector/workplace





Did you know?

- The vast majority of allied health professionals have minimum of 4 years of university training?
- Many allied health professionals also have higher degrees at Masters and Doctorate levels?
- Allied health professionals deliver over 112 million consultations per year to the Australian population²?

¹see p 448 of Australia's Health 2010, includes medical imaging workers, pharmacists, physiotherapists, psychologists, social workers, dietitians, orthoptists, chiropractors, osteopaths, occupational therapists, podiatrists, speech pathologists and audiologists.

² based on 116,800 persons providing /seeing on average 4 clients a day, 5 days per week, 48 weeks per year.