



# Podiatry Workforce Annual Survey New South Wales, 1997

## Summary Report

### Introduction

Each year, as part of the annual process of renewal of registration for podiatrists in NSW, a survey questionnaire is sent to each podiatrist currently on the register of the Podiatrists Registration Board of NSW. This report provides an overview of information from the 1997 Podiatry Workforce Annual Survey.

In 1997, there were 637 Podiatrists financially registered with the Podiatry Registration Board of NSW. Of these, 395 were female and 242 were male. Table 1 provides an overview of the various registration categories.

**Table 1: Summary of persons registered as Podiatrists in NSW, 1997**

Category	Female		Male		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
New registrants	40	63.5%	23	36.5%	63	100.0%
Renewals	348	61.5%	218	38.5%	566	100.0%
Restoration	7	70.0%	3	30.0%	10	100.0%
Registration status pending	33	63.5%	19	36.5%	52	100.0%

- Notes:**
- The table includes information on podiatrists who were financially registered with the Board during the period 1 July 1996 to 30 June 1997. Care should be taken when interpreting this data as some individual registrants may be included in more than one of the above categories within the twelve month period.
  - **New registrants:** new graduates and persons with qualifications obtained in another jurisdiction who have had their qualifications recognised in NSW. These persons will normally not receive the labour force survey.
  - **Renewals:** persons who have renewed their registration prior to the due date.
  - **Restorations:** persons who have restored their registration after a period where they were un-financial. These persons will normally not receive the current labour force survey, although persons who make late payments are restorations and may have completed a survey.
  - **Registration status pending:** generally persons due for renewal by the end of the survey period who have not immediately re-registered. These persons will most likely appear as deletions or restorations in the following year.

## Response rate to survey

The response rate to the 1997 Podiatrists Labour Force Survey was 90.8 per cent, which is comparable to 1996 (also 90.8 per cent).

**Table 2: Response rate<sup>1</sup> to Podiatrists Labour Force Annual Survey 1996 and 1997**

	1996		1997	
	No.	Rate	No.	Rate
<b>Formal response rate</b>				
<i>Survey respondents<sup>2</sup> who were renewals<sup>3</sup></i>	482		465	
<b>Total renewals<sup>3</sup></b>	531	90.8%	512	90.8%

- Notes:**
- (1) Determining the response rate to the survey is complicated by the relationship between the survey and the renewal process. While new registrants and restorals do not generally receive the survey, some may if they also renew within the twelve month survey period. Additionally, some persons sent renewal notices do not renew their registrations and therefore will not have returned surveys. All responses are analysed in Tables 3 and 4, however, responses not meeting the strict definition of renewals used for the "working renewals cohort" are excluded from the formal response rate.
  - (2) A "survey respondent" is strictly defined in this context as a respondent who provided information to the question on working status. 12 registrants provided some information on other questions only.
  - (3) "Renewal" is strictly defined in this context as a person recorded as renewing their registration with no other actions recorded (eg, restoration, deletion). New registrants and restorals do not receive the workforce survey. This "renewal" group represents those persons who definitely received the survey.

### Notes to aid in interpreting the data in this report

The information in this profile is not adjusted for non-response and should be interpreted with care.

Determining the response rate to the survey is complicated by the relationship between the survey and the renewal process. While new registrations and restorals do not generally receive the survey, some may if they also receive a renewal notice within the twelve month survey period. Additionally, some persons sent renewal notices do not renew their registration and therefore do not return surveys. All survey responses from financially registered podiatrists are analysed in Tables 3 and 4. Tables 5 to 17 describe the *working renewals* cohort of survey respondents (see *Working Renewals* below).

The response rate varies for each question on the survey as not all survey respondents provide a valid response to every question. Total non-response for each table is equal to the non-response to the survey, plus the non-response to the individual survey question(s) from which the table is derived. The latter is shown as "unknown" at the bottom of each table.

### Summary of Working Status of all Survey Respondents

**Table 3: Working status of podiatrists renewing their registration in NSW, 1997<sup>1</sup>**

Working in Podiatry	Female		Male		Total		% Female
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	
Only in NSW	269	68.1%	162	66.9%	431	67.7%	62.4%
Mainly in NSW, but also other states	2	0.5%	6	2.5%	8	1.3%	25.0%
Mainly in other states	6	1.5%	7	2.9%	13	2.0%	46.2%
Only in other states	14	3.5%	3	1.2%	17	2.7%	82.4%
Overseas	2	0.5%	1	0.4%	3	0.5%	66.7%
<b>Not Working in Podiatry</b>							
Not working/ Not looking/ Retired	16	4.1%	12	5.0%	28	4.4%	57.1%
Not in paid work but looking for work	2	0.5%	2	0.8%	4	0.6%	50.0%
In paid work but not in Podiatry	13	3.3%	6	2.5%	19	3.0%	68.4%
<b>Working status unknown</b>							
Non-response <sup>2</sup>	23	5.8%	20	8.3%	43	6.8%	53.5%
Unknown <sup>3</sup>	48	12.2%	23	9.5%	71	11.1%	67.6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>395</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>242</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>637</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>62.0%</b>

- Notes:**
1. Table includes information from all registered podiatrists.
  2. Survey respondents who did not provide information on their working status.
  3. Persons who did not respond to the survey. This includes some renewals, and most new registrants and restorations (although some restorations who are "late payers" do return the current survey with their payment). The labour force characteristics of these three groups vary and this category should be interpreted with care.

**Table 4: Nature of work sought by Podiatrists who were not working in podiatry at the time of renewal in NSW, 1997**

Nature of job seeking activity	No.	%
Not looking for work in podiatry	13	65.0%
Looking for work in podiatry		
Full or part time	3	15.0%
Full time	1	5.0%
Part time	3	15.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
<i>Non-response:</i>	3	13.0%

**Note:** Table includes only those respondents from Table 3 who indicated that they were not in paid work and looking for paid work, or in paid work but not in podiatry (23 respondents).

## Working Renewals

There were 389 "working renewals" in 1997. Working renewals are those respondents who:

- Were financially registered and renewed their registration in 1998 (with no period not financial); and
- Stated on the annual survey that they were working only or mainly in NSW.

The survey data in the following tables refer only to this grouping of Podiatrists who were working in NSW.

**Table 5: Podiatrists working in NSW 1997, by sex**

Sex	No.	%
Females	239	61.4%
Males	150	38.6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>389</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

**Table 6: Podiatrists working in NSW 1997, by age and sex**

Age range	Females		Males		Total		% Female
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	
19-24	17	7.4%	7	4.8%	24	6.4%	70.8%
25-29	49	21.2%	24	16.4%	73	19.4%	67.1%
30-34	42	18.2%	29	19.9%	71	18.8%	59.2%
35-39	39	16.9%	29	19.9%	68	18.0%	57.4%
40-44	23	10.0%	29	19.9%	52	13.8%	44.2%
45-49	17	7.4%	10	6.8%	27	7.2%	63.0%
50-54	15	6.5%	9	6.2%	24	6.4%	62.5%
55-59	5	2.2%	3	2.1%	8	2.1%	62.5%
60-64	5	2.2%	1	0.7%	6	1.6%	83.3%
65-69	6	2.6%	0	0.0%	6	1.6%	100.0%
70-74	6	2.6%	2	1.4%	8	2.1%	75.0%
75+	7	3.0%	3	2.1%	10	2.7%	70.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>231</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>377</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>61.3%</b>
<i>Unknown</i>	8	3.5%	4	2.7%	12	3.2%	

**Table 7: Podiatrists working in NSW registered in other states, 1997**

	No.	%
Registered interstate	31	8.0%
Not registered interstate	356	92.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>387</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
<i>Unknown</i>	2	0.5%

**Table 8: State of additional registration, Podiatrists working in NSW, 1997**

	No.	%
Registered in Qld	9	27.3%
Registered in SA	4	12.1%
Registered in Tas	1	3.0%
Registered in Vic	3	9.1%
Registered in WA	-	0.0%
<i>State of additional registration unknown</i>	14	42.4%

**Table 9: Citizenship status, Podiatrists working in NSW, 1997**

	No.	%
Australian Citizen	363	93.3%
Non citizen		
Permanent resident	22	5.7%
Not Permanent resident	1	0.3%
Unknown status	3	0.8%
<b>Total</b>	<b>389</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

**Table 10: Home locality by Health Service, Podiatrists working in NSW, 1997**

Area Health Service	No.	%
Central Coast AHS	20	5.6%
Central Sydney AHS	32	9.0%
Hunter AHS	19	5.3%
Illawarra AHS	16	4.5%
Northern Sydney AHS	76	21.3%
South Eastern Sydney AHS	69	19.4%
South Western Sydney AHS	27	7.6%
Wentworth AHS	10	2.8%
Western Sydney AHS	27	7.6%
<b>Total Metropolitan Health Services</b>	<b>296</b>	<b>83.1%</b>
Far West AHS	-	0.0%
Greater Murray AHS	10	2.8%
Macquarie AHS	5	1.4%
Mid North Coast AHS	10	2.8%
Mid Western AHS	6	1.7%
New England AHS	6	1.7%
Northern Rivers AHS	16	4.5%
Southern AHS	5	1.4%
<b>Total Rural Health Services</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>16.3%</b>
ACT and Interstate	2	0.6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>356</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
Unknown:	33	8.5%

**Table 11: Work locality by Health Service, Podiatrists working in NSW, 1997**

Area Health Service	Main Job		Second Job	
	No.	%	No.	%
Central Coast AHS	20	5.9%	7	5.2%
Central Sydney AHS	31	9.1%	14	10.4%
Hunter AHS	15	4.4%	5	3.7%
Illawarra AHS	19	5.6%	4	3.0%
Northern Sydney AHS	67	19.8%	22	16.4%
South Eastern Sydney AHS	72	21.2%	30	22.4%
South Western Sydney AHS	23	6.8%	8	6.0%
Wentworth AHS	9	2.7%	6	4.5%
Western Sydney AHS	25	7.4%	14	10.4%
<b>Total Metropolitan Health Services</b>	<b>281</b>	<b>82.9%</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>82.1%</b>
Far West AHS	-	0.0%	-	0.0%
Greater Murray AHS	10	2.9%	5	3.7%
Macquarie AHS	5	1.5%	1	0.7%
Mid North Coast AHS	10	2.9%	3	2.2%
Mid Western AHS	6	1.8%	1	0.7%
New England AHS	6	1.8%	2	1.5%
Northern Rivers AHS	16	4.7%	8	6.0%
Southern AHS	5	1.5%	2	1.5%
<b>Total Rural Health Services</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>17.1%</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>16.4%</b>
ACT and Interstate	-	0.0%	2	1.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>339</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>98.5%</b>
Unknown/no second job:	50	12.9%	255	65.6%

**Note:** "Main Job" is the job in which the respondent worked the greatest number of hours

**Table 12: Number of hours usually worked per week by Podiatrists working in NSW, 1997**

Hours	Main Job		2nd Job		Other Jobs	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
1-9	25	7.1%	55	50.9%	19	76.0%
10-19	35	9.9%	38	35.2%	5	20.0%
20-29	67	19.0%	15	13.9%	1	4.0%
30-39	78	22.2%	-	0.0%	-	0.0%
40-49	92	26.1%	-	0.0%	-	0.0%
50-59	42	11.9%	-	0.0%	-	0.0%
60-69	9	2.6%	-	0.0%	-	0.0%
70+	4	1.1%	-	0.0%	-	0.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>352</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
<i>Unknown/no additional job</i>	37	10%	281	72%	364	94%

**Table 13: Nature of Employment, Podiatrists working in NSW, 1997**

Area	Main Job		Second Job	
	No.	%	No.	%
Clinical podiatrist	347	98.0%	43	79.6%
Administration	1	0.3%	3	5.6%
Teaching / Education	6	1.7%	4	7.4%
Research	0	0.0%	4	7.4%
Other	0	0.0%	-	0.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>354</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
<i>Unknown/no additional area of practice</i>	35	9.0%	335	86.1%

**Table 14: Type of Employment, Podiatrists working in NSW, 1997**

Area	Main Job		Second Job	
	No.	%	No.	%
Own practice or partnership	208	59.9%	19	20.4%
Own practice and sessional appointments elsewhere	23	6.6%	10	10.8%
Own practice and fee-for-service elsewhere	30	8.6%	13	14.0%
Own practice, sessional and fee-for-service elsewhere	10	2.9%	11	11.8%
Salaried podiatrist (private practice, hospital, etc)	62	17.9%	28	30.1%
Locum, regular location	11	3.2%	9	9.7%
Locum, various locations	3	0.9%	3	3.2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>347</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
<i>Unknown/no additional job</i>	42	10.8%	296	76.1%

**Table 15: Industry and sector of employment of Podiatrists working in NSW, main job, 1997**

Industry	Public Sector		Private Sector		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Private (podiatry) surgery/rooms	-	0.0%	276	96.5%	276	83.9%
Hospital inpatient services	2	4.7%	-	0.0%	2	0.6%
Hospital outpatient services	33	76.7%	-	0.0%	33	10.0%
Nursing home/long stay facility	2	4.7%	10	3.5%	12	3.6%
Community centre/day centre/health centre	6	14.0%	-	0.0%	6	1.8%
Domiciliary care service	-	0.0%	-	0.0%	-	0.0%
Physical/developmental disability institution	-	0.0%	-	0.0%	-	0.0%
Tertiary education institution	-	0.0%	-	0.0%	-	0.0%
Government department/organisation	-	0.0%	-	0.0%	-	0.0%
Defence forces	-	0.0%	-	0.0%	-	0.0%
Sports centre/clinic	-	0.0%	-	0.0%	-	0.0%
Industry	-	0.0%	-	0.0%	-	0.0%
Other	-	0.0%	-	0.0%	0	0.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>286</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>329</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
<i>Unknown/no additional job</i>					60	15.4%

**Table 16: Use of local anaesthesia by Podiatrists working in NSW, 1997**

Qualification	Frequency of use	No.	%
Not Qualified		55	15.4%
Qualified			
	Never use	52	14.6%
	Occasionally use	165	46.3%
	Frequently use	78	21.9%
	Not applicable	1	0.3%
	Unknown	5	1.4%
Total		356	100.0%
Unknown		33	8.5%

**Table 17: Languages used professionally by Podiatrists working in NSW, 1997**

	Number of respondents	% of total respondents
English Only	322	91.0%
Other language(s)	32	9.0%
Total	354	100.0%
Other languages spoken		
Greek	3	0.8%
Italian	8	2.3%
Arabic including Lebanese	1	0.3%
French	5	1.4%
Spanish	4	1.1%
German	4	1.1%
Cantonese	2	0.6%
Other (1 respondent each)	16	4.5%
Unknown	35	9.0%