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# Workforce Characteristics

## Occupational Therapists Re-registered in Queensland, 2005

Response rates to the survey form, which accompanied the occupational therapists re-registration form, have varied from a low of 75.3% in 1995 to a high of 91.6% in 1999. Because of this variation, care must be taken when analysing trends in actual numbers over time. Tables within this report are not based on all registered occupational therapists. It only includes those who responded to the voluntary survey at time of re-registration.

Over the period 1988 to 2005 the number of occupational therapists who re-registered in Queensland progressively increased from 625 in 1988 to 1714 in 2005.

Of the occupational therapists who responded to the survey, 84.2% stated that they worked in Queensland<sup>1</sup>.

In 2005, 54 respondent occupational therapists stated that they were currently not working. The majority of these gave child rearing as the reason for being out of the workforce. Of the 54, only 14 were looking for work in occupational therapy and the majority of those were looking to re-enter the workforce in a part-time<sup>2</sup> capacity.

### Respondent occupational therapists working in Queensland<sup>1</sup> in 2005:

- 93.6% of respondent occupational therapists are female.
- Age distribution of respondent occupational therapists shows that the predominant age group are those aged 30-39 years (33.5%).
- Almost half (48.8%) of respondent occupational therapists stated that they work in a capital city location in their main job followed by large rural centres (13.6%).
- The public sector employs the majority of respondent occupational therapists with 77.2%. Within the public sector, the largest number are those working in a hospital setting as their main job (30.2%) followed by community health services (26.9%) and government services (8.8%).
- Almost half of respondent occupational therapists working full-time<sup>3</sup> are aged 20-29 years (43.1%), followed by 30-39 years (30.1%).
- Over half of respondent occupational therapists do not have a waiting list (58.1%).

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<sup>1</sup> 'Working in Queensland' includes those who recorded their work status as 'only in Queensland', 'mainly in Queensland', 'mainly interstate but also in Queensland', and in 2002 also those 'on leave for 3 months or longer'.

<sup>2</sup> Part-time is defined as working less than 35 hours per week.

<sup>3</sup> Full-time is defined as working 35 hours or more per week.