



# AHHA Mental Health Forum

Primary Health Reforms and  
Workforce Engagement

# APS Background

- 22,800 members
  - Nine Colleges
  - State/Territory C'tees, 42 Branches and 49 Interest Groups
  - APS Institute
  - Over 100 staff located in Melbourne CBD
  - Representation on National and State Government Committees
  - Commonwealth funded projects
  - Founding member MHPA, AHPA, MHPN, KidsMatter, Headspace, MHWPA
-

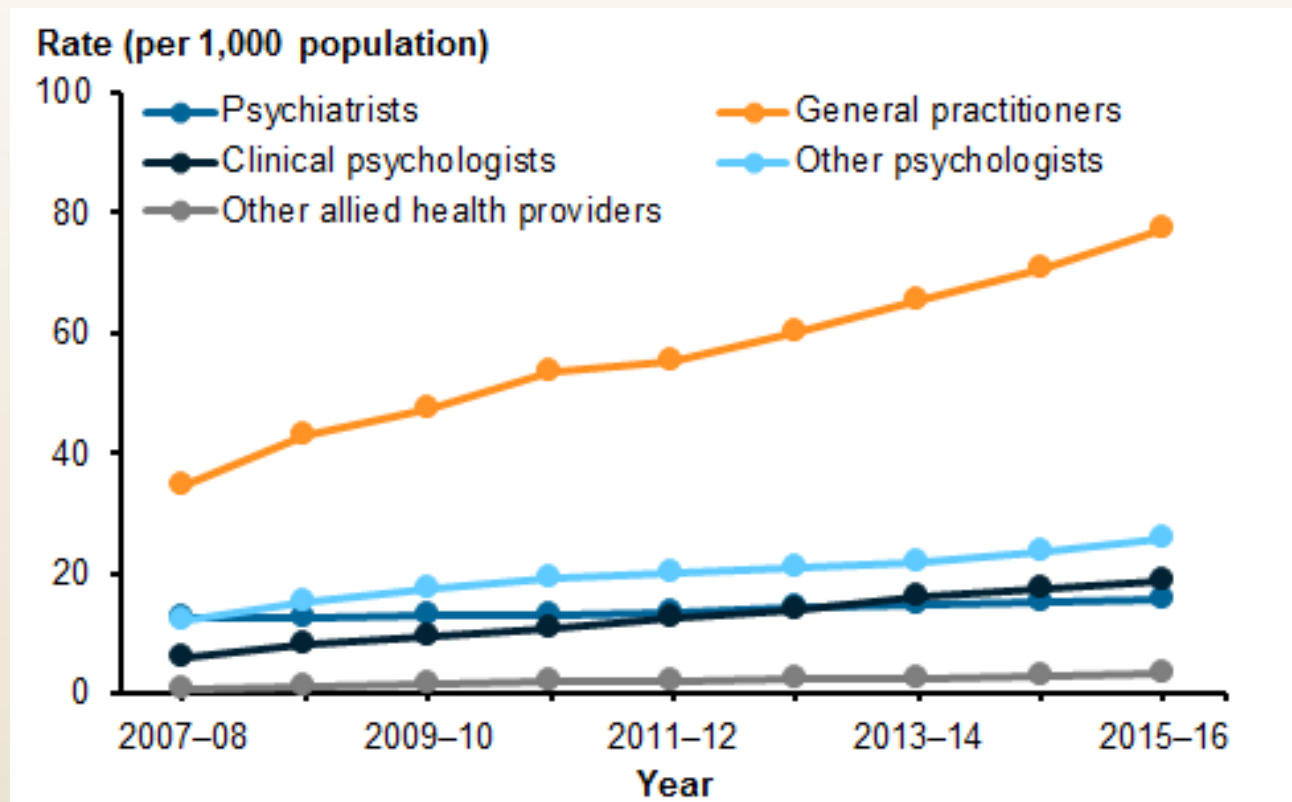


# Mental Health Expenditure

- \$5.2 billion was spent on state and territory mental health services in 2014-15
  - \$2.2 billion for public hospital services for admitted patients
  - \$1.9 billion for community mental health care services
- \$1.1 billion in benefits for Medicare-subsidised mental health-related services in 2015–16, equating to 5.3% of all Medicare subsidies
  - \$489 million on psychologist services (clinical and other) that made up the largest component of mental health-related Medicare subsidies in 2015–16
- \$433 million on specialised mental health services in private hospitals
- \$343 million for PHN flexible funding pool

# Better Access Initiative

People receiving Medicare-subsidised mental health-related services, by provider type, 2007-08 to 2015-16 – MHSa 2016





## Number of mental health professionals

- 3,090 psychiatrists, 20,192 & mental health nurses and 23,878 registered psychologists working in Australia.
  - The majority (87%) of FTE psychologists reported their principal area to be clinician
  - The most common work setting was private practice (37%), followed by an educational facility (18%) and community health service (15%)
  - 40% of clinician psychologists worked some hours in the public sector
- 800 mental health NGOs in Australia with a total workforce in excess of 12,000 FTE employees

# Public Private

Psychologists	2011	2014	Variation
<b>Public</b>	6,417 (WA 782)	5,596 (WA 649)	-821 (WA - 133)
<b>Private</b>	8,460 (WA 848)	8,607 (WA (903)	147 (WA 55)
<b>GPs</b>			
<b>Public</b>	2,597 (WA 294)	1,931 (WA 318)	-666 (WA -24)
<b>Private</b>	21,936 (WA 1,980)	22,355 (WA 2,141)	419 (WA 161)

- AHIW Dynamic Data



# Primary mental health reforms

- Stepped Care
- Low Intensity
- Psychological services to underserviced groups
- Pilots for people with severe mental illness
- Regional approach to suicide prevention
- ATSI mental health
- Child and youth mental health

## NDIS

Changes to state funded mental health for community  
mental health services

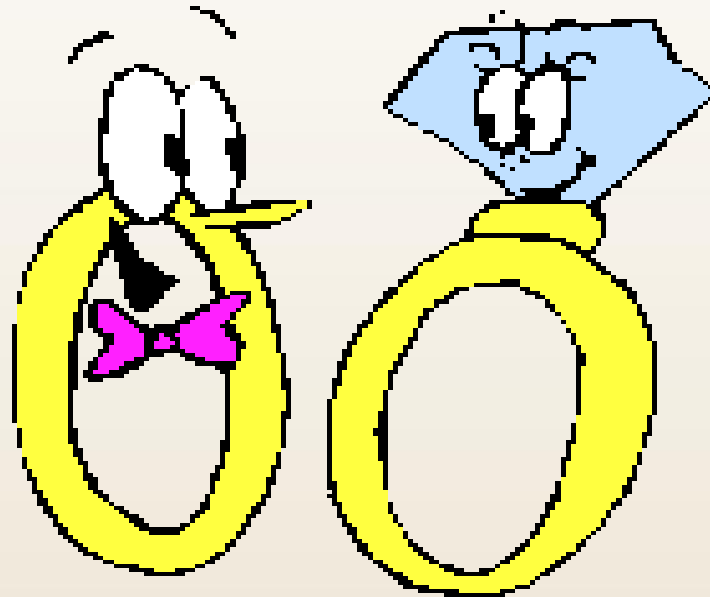
---

# Workforce issues

- Changing external environment
    - Changes to delivery of mental health services delivery
    - Shift away from sole providers
    - Corporatisation of service provision
      - Skill and experience of workforce
      - Profit motivation
    - Tightening of finances
      - Stagnant economy
      - Medicare freeze
      - Practice costs
      - Insurance
      - Underestimating delivery costs
  - Further fragmentation of service delivery
  - Loss of workforce particularly in rural and remote
-



# Workforce engagement



It's a two way relationship

---

# Strategies to improve engagement

- **What can we do for you?**
    - 23,000 members with State and Branch infrastructure
    - Member Assistance Service
    - Professional Practice Management Standards
    - Online, Journals, Member database
    - Conferences
    - Other forums
      - Mental Health Professionals Association
      - Mental Health Professionals Network
      - Allied Health Professions Australia
      - AASW, OTA, RANZCP, RACGP
-

# What can you do?

- Communicate



- Communicate



- Communicate

