

Activities Report

2013



Royal Australian and New Zealand College of
Obstetricians and Gynaecologists

The Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists

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Glossary

ACT	Australian Capital Territory
AoN	Area of Need
ASM	Annual Scientific Meeting
AUS	Australia
CGO	Certification in Gynaecological Oncology
CMFM	Certification in Maternal Fetal Medicine
COGU	Certification in Obstetrical and Gynaecological Ultrasound
CPD	Continuing Professional Development
CREI	Certification in Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility
CU	Certification in Urogynaecology
CWH	Certificate of Women’s Health
DIBP	Department of Immigration and Border Protection
DRANZCOG	Diploma of RANZCOG
FRANZCOG	Fellow of RANZCOG
MRANZCOG	Member of RANZCOG
GP	General Practitioner
IMG	International Medical Graduate
ITP	Integrated Training Program
NSW	New South Wales
NT	Northern Territory
NZ	New Zealand
O&G	Obstetrics and Gynaecology
OSCE	Objective Structured Clinical Examination
OTV	Occupational Training Visas
PGY2	Post Graduate Year Two
PR&CRM	Practice Review and Clinical Risk Management
QLD	Queensland
RA	Remoteness Area as per the <i>Australian Standard Geographical Classification</i>
RANZCOG	Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists
SA	South Australia
SIMG	Specialist International Medical Graduate
TAS	Tasmania
VIC	Victoria
WA	Western Australia

Introduction

The Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (RANZCOG) is dedicated to the establishment and maintenance of a high standard of practice in obstetrics and gynaecology and women's health.

The College trains and accredits doctors throughout Australia and New Zealand in the specialty of obstetrics and gynaecology so that they are capable - professionally and psychologically - of providing the highest standards of health care.

The College also supports research into women's health and acts as an advocate for women's health care by forging productive relationships with individuals, the community and professional organisations, both locally and internationally.

This Activities Report is provided to the community as a comprehensive account of College activities throughout 2013. It focuses on providing details of the Obstetric and Gynaecological workforce, as well as information regarding training of Fellows, Subspecialists, and Diplomates across Australia and New Zealand, breaking down data into useful subcategories, such as geographical locations, gender and age demographics. Previous Activities Reports can be viewed on the College website at www.ranzcog.edu.au/the-ranzcog/about-the-college/college-statistics.html.

Vision

RANZCOG will pursue excellence in the delivery of health care to women and their families throughout their lives.

Mission

RANZCOG will achieve its vision by innovative training, certification, accreditation and continuing education supported by active evaluation of the effectiveness of those programs.

The College will actively support and communicate with Fellows, members and trainees in order to ensure that they are capable, physically, psychologically and professionally, of providing the highest standards of care.

The College will support research into women's health and will act as an advocate for women's health care, forging productive relationships with individuals, the community and professional organisations both locally and internationally.

Motto

Excellence in women's health

Fellowship Training Program

The primary role of RANZCOG is to train and accredit doctors throughout Australia and New Zealand in the specialty of obstetrics and gynaecology so that they are capable - professionally and psychologically - of providing the highest quality health care for women.

Postgraduate training toward Fellowship of the College and recognition as a specialist in Obstetrics and Gynaecology in Australia and New Zealand is offered by RANZCOG to any graduate from an Australian or New Zealand medical school who has completed PGY2 or above, and who is successful in gaining a place on the College training program through the competitive application process. International Medical Graduates who have completed the requirements necessary to obtain the Australian Medical Council certificate are also eligible to apply to join the training program. Generally, applicants should have general registration with the Medical Board of Australia or the Medical Council of New Zealand, and be able to meet any relevant residency requirements.

In 2013 the FRANZCOG Training Program consisted of a four year Integrated Training Program (ITP) followed by a two year Elective Program. The College has a Recognition of Prior Learning policy (available at www.ranzcog.edu.au/how-do-i-apply68/recognition-of-prior-learning-rpl.html) that can result in a shortening of the time taken to complete the program.

Table 1. Applications, interviews and offers for 2013 FRANZCOG training positions by region and gender

Applications*	ACT	NSW	QLD	SA	NT	VIC	TAS	WA	AUS	NZ	Total
Female applications	4	47	34	19	1	57	-	11	173	23	196
Male applications	-	16	12	3	1	5	-	3	40	5	45
Total applications	4	63	46	22	2	62	0	14	213	28	241

*by applicant home state

Interviews*	ACT/NSW	QLD	SA/NT	VIC/TAS	WA	AUS	NZ	Total
Female interviews	32	20	19	32	7	110	20	130
Male interviews	13	8	4	8	2	35	5	40
Total interviews	45	28	23	40	9	145	25	170

*by applicant home state, not state of interview

Offers	ACT/NSW	QLD	SA/NT	VIC	TAS	WA	AUS	NZ	Total
Female offers	22	13	4	18	2	3	62	15	77
Male offers	6	4	-	4	1	2	17	3	20
Total offers	28	17	4	22	3	5	79	18	97

Table 2. Total numbers of FRANZCOG trainees* in accredited positions by year level, August 2013

	NSW	VIC	QLD	SA	WA	TAS	NT	ACT	AUS	NZ	Total	% change 2012/2013
Year 1	32	23	20	4	4	3	-	3	89	18	107	+11.4%
Year 2	23	26	17	6	9	3	1	3	88	18	106	-0.9%
Year 3	31	24	23	4	6	2	3	2	95	21	116	+18.4%
Year 4	23	27	14	8	5	3	-	4	84	26	110	-2.6%
Year 5	26	26	25	3	7	1	1	-	89	14	103	+15.7%
Year 6+	22	17	18	6	2	3	-	2	70	13	83	-3.5%
Total	157	143	117	31	33	15	5	14	515	110	625	+6.1%

*Includes trainees on extended leave

Table 3. Total numbers of FRANZCOG trainees* in accredited positions by gender, August 2013

	NSW	VIC	QLD	SA	WA	TAS	NT	ACT	AUS	NZ	Total	% change 2012/2013
Female	120	114	89	25	23	10	5	11	397	89	486	+8.7%
Male	37	29	28	6	10	5	-	3	118	21	139	-2.1%
Total	157	143	117	31	33	15	5	14	515	110	625	+6.1%

*Includes trainees on extended leave

Table 4. FRANZCOG trainees in accredited positions by year level, 2010 – 2013

	2010			2011			2012			2013		
	AUS	NZ	Total	AUS	NZ	Total	AUS	NZ	Total	AUS	NZ	Total
Year 1	77	21	98	87	16	103	83	13	96	89	18	107
Year 2	81	20	101	78	22	100	89	18	107	88	18	106
Year 3	74	13	87	86	17	103	75	23	98	95	21	116
Year 4	63	15	78	79	16	95	94	19	113	84	26	110
Year 5	59	10	69	65	14	79	74	15	89	89	14	103
Year 6+	64	6	70	75	10	85	72	14	86	70	13	83
Total	418	85	503	470	95	565	487	102	589	515	110	625

Figure 1. FRANZCOG trainees by year level, 2010 – 2013

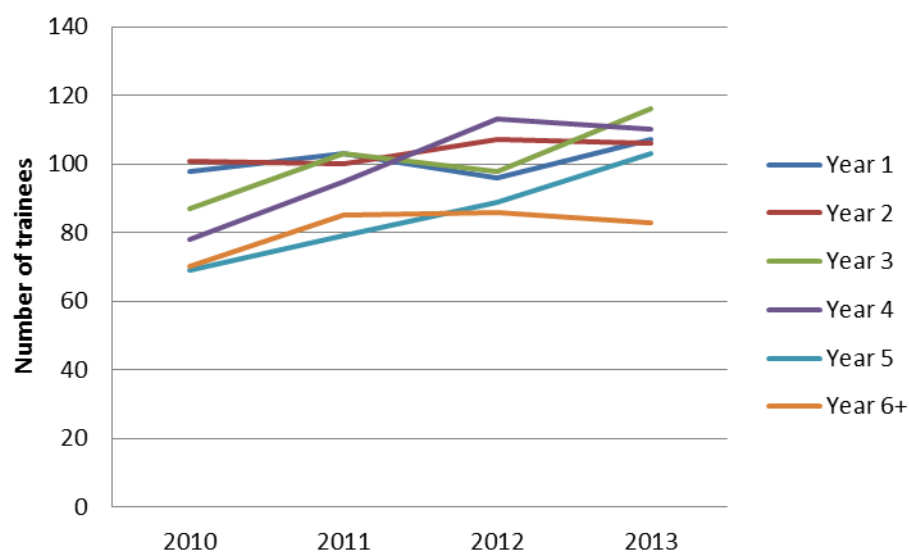


Table 5. FRANZCOG trainees in accredited positions by gender, 2010 – 2013

	2010			2011			2012			2013		
	AUS	NZ	Total	AUS	NZ	Total	AUS	NZ	Total	AUS	NZ	Total
Female	286	66	352	340	73	413	369	78	447	397	89	486
Male	132	19	151	130	22	152	118	24	142	118	21	139
Total	418	85	503	470	95	565	487	102	589	515	110	625

Figure 2. FRANZCOG trainees by gender and country, 2010 – 2013

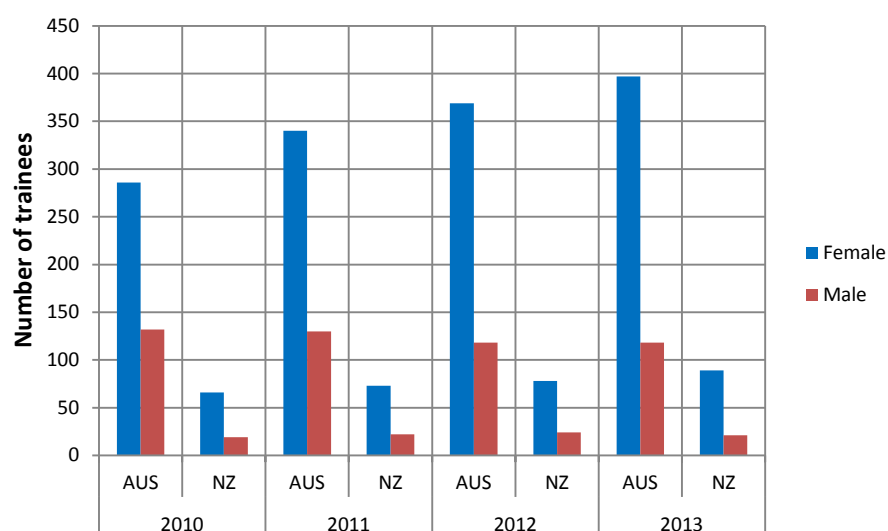


Table 6. FRANZCOG trainees by region, gender and mode of training, August 2013

Mode of training*	NSW	VIC	QLD	SA	WA	TAS	NT	ACT	AUS	NZ	Total
Female trainees	120	114	89	25	23	10	5	11	397	89	486
Full-time	109	93	78	20	18	10	5	10	343	68	411
Part-time	2	10	2	2	1	-	-	1	18	10	28
Full-time + leave	7	9	9	3	4	-	-	-	32	9	41
Part-time + leave	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	2	6
Male trainees	37	29	28	6	10	5	-	3	118	21	139
Full-time	36	26	25	6	10	5	-	3	111	19	130
Part-time	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	2
Full-time + leave	1	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	5	1	6
Part-time + leave	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Total trainees	157	143	117	31	33	15	5	14	515	110	625

* Part-time = part-time for at least some period of their training

Leave = trainee took at least 6 months leave

Table 7. FRANZCOG trainee by year of training, region, gender and mode of training, August 2013

YEAR 1 Mode of training*	NSW	VIC	QLD	SA	WA	TAS	NT	ACT	AUS	NZ	Total
Female trainees	24	19	16	4	2	2	-	3	70	16	86
Full-time	24	18	14	4	2	2	-	3	67	16	83
Part-time	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Full-time + leave	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	2
Part-time + leave	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Male trainees	8	4	4	-	2	1	-	-	19	2	21
Full-time	8	4	4	-	2	1	-	-	19	2	21
Total trainees	32	23	20	4	4	3	0	3	89	18	107

YEAR 2 Mode of training*	NSW	VIC	QLD	SA	WA	TAS	NT	ACT	AUS	NZ	Total
Female trainees	18	21	11	5	7	2	1	2	67	14	81
Full-time	15	17	11	4	7	2	1	2	59	7	66
Part-time	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	6	9
Full-time + leave	2	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	4	-	4
Part-time + leave	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2
Male trainees	5	5	6	1	2	1	-	1	21	4	25
Full-time	5	5	6	1	2	1	-	1	21	4	25
Total trainees	23	26	17	6	9	3	1	3	88	18	106

YEAR 3 Mode of training*	NSW	VIC	QLD	SA	WA	TAS	NT	ACT	AUS	NZ	Total
Female trainees	24	20	20	3	5	2	3	2	79	15	94
Full-time	23	18	20	3	3	2	3	2	74	11	85
Part-time	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2
Full-time + leave	1	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	4	3	7
Male trainees	7	4	3	1	1	-	-	-	16	6	22
Full-time	7	4	2	1	1	-	-	-	15	6	21
Full-time + leave	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Total trainees	31	24	23	4	6	2	3	2	95	21	116

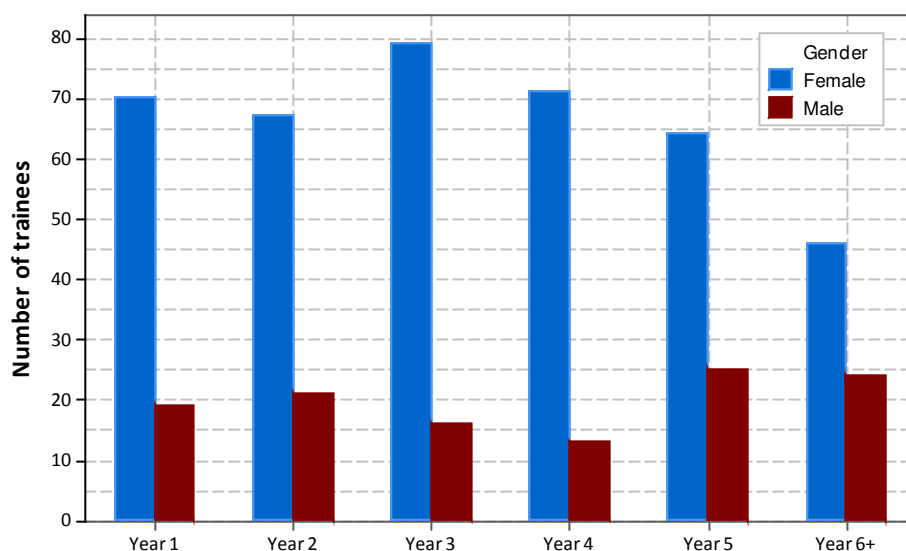
YEAR 4 Mode of training*	NSW	VIC	QLD	SA	WA	TAS	NT	ACT	AUS	NZ	Total
Female trainees	22	24	11	7	2	2	-	3	71	20	91
Full-time	17	18	9	4	1	2	-	2	53	16	69
Part-time	2	2	-	2	-	-	-	1	7	-	7
Full-time + leave	2	3	2	1	1	-	-	-	9	4	13
Part-time + leave	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	2
Male trainees	1	3	3	1	3	1	-	1	13	6	19
Full-time	1	1	3	1	3	1	-	1	11	5	16
Part-time	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Full-time + leave	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2
Total trainees	23	27	14	8	5	3	0	4	84	26	110

YEAR 5 Mode of training*	NSW	VIC	QLD	SA	WA	TAS	NT	ACT	AUS	NZ	Total
Female trainees	19	18	18	2	6	-	1	-	64	11	75
Full-time	18	10	12	2	4	-	1	-	47	10	57
Part-time	-	4	2	-	1	-	-	-	7	1	8
Full-time + leave	1	4	4	-	1	-	-	-	10	-	10
Male trainees	7	8	7	1	1	1	-	-	25	3	28
Full-time	7	8	6	1	1	1	-	-	24	2	26
Part-time	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Full-time + leave	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Total trainees	26	26	25	3	7	1	1	0	89	14	103

YEAR 6+ Mode of training*	NSW	VIC	QLD	SA	WA	TAS	NT	ACT	AUS	NZ	Total
Female trainees	13	12	13	4	1	2	-	1	46	13	59
Full-time	12	12	12	3	1	2	-	1	43	10	53
Full-time + leave	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	3	2	5
Part-time + leave	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Male trainees	9	5	5	2	1	1	-	1	24	-	24
Full-time	8	4	4	2	1	1	-	1	21	-	21
Part-time	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Full-time + leave	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	2
Total trainees	22	17	18	6	2	3	0	2	70	13	83

* Part-time = part-time for at least some period of their training
Leave = trainee took at least 6 months leave

Figure 3. FRANZCOG trainees by year and gender, August 2013



Hospital Accreditation

The Integrated Training Program (ITP) is based in major teaching hospitals, outer suburban and rural/provincial hospitals accredited for such training by the College. A combination of these different types of hospitals forms a consortium, each known also as an ITP. An ITP would normally comprise at least two sites and could be offered by:

- A tertiary hospital and a number of peripheral/rural hospitals;
- Two or more tertiary hospitals;
- All of the teaching hospitals within a state or region;
- Three or more hospitals, at least one of which is a tertiary hospital, in different states or regions;
- Three or more hospitals, at least one of which is a tertiary hospital, in different countries.

The objectives of accreditation of RANZCOG training sites are:

- to ensure that the core requirements for clinical and educational experience as defined in the RANZCOG curriculum are being met for all trainees in participating hospitals in each ITP;
- to assist the hospitals in their role as training providers – not just service providers – by identifying factors that are adversely affecting their capacity to deliver effective and supported training to RANZCOG trainees; and
- to work with the hospital – and with the relevant local Training Accreditation Committee – to formulate strategies that will maximise training opportunities and ensure efficient and safe service delivery provision by RANZCOG trainees.

A follow-up accreditation visit takes place at the end of the first year of accreditation of new training sites. A regular four-yearly re-accreditation cycle is in place which involves either paper-based or site-visit re-accreditations. **There are 105 accredited ITP training sites, 91 in Australia and 14 in New Zealand.**

Table 8. Summary of re-accreditation visits for 2013

Visits	AUS	NZ	Total
Second-round re-accreditation visits completed in 2013	22	6	28
Outcomes			
Sites given full 4-year accreditation	9	3	12
Sites given provisional 4-year accreditation	8	2	10
Sites given provisional 2-year accreditation	3	-	3
Sites given provisional 12-month accreditation	2	1	3

Certificate and Diploma Training Programs

The curriculum and training program for the DRANZCOG and DRANZCOG Advanced have been extensively reviewed and, in July 2010, the College Council accepted and passed a new three tier model of post-nominal qualifications for what is collectively known as the Diploma Training Program. The DRANZCOG and DRANZCOG Advanced are now complemented by a Certificate of Women’s Health (CWH).

Certificate of Women’s Health (CWH)

The CWH is centred primarily on office-based obstetrics and gynaecology and generally involves three months of either practice- or hospital-based training. The CWH is for doctors who wish to increase their knowledge in aspects of women’s health, including non-procedural GPs, GP registrars and junior medical officers.

GP Diploma (DRANZCOG)

The RANZCOG Diploma (DRANZCOG) builds on the skills developed through the Certificate of Women’s Health. It is intended for medical practitioners who wish to gain skills in obstetrics and gynaecology that will enable them to safely undertake non-complex deliveries and perform basic gynaecological procedures. DRANZCOG-specific skills are developed during compulsory hospital-based training that must be prospectively approved.

The Diploma program involves a minimum of six months of hospital-based O&G training. Trainees who have satisfactorily completed, or are in the process of completing prospectively approved training must apply to sit the DRANZCOG Written and Oral Examinations. Each examination is held twice a year and candidates must pass the Written Examination before sitting the Oral Examination.

Advanced GP Diploma (DRANZCOG Advanced)

The DRANZCOG Advanced qualification involves the attainment of skills in advanced obstetrics and gynaecology, which will be practiced predominantly by rural GPs. It requires an additional six-month training program after completing the DRANZCOG, offering extended training for GP obstetricians in addition to the skills obtained through the DRANZCOG program.

Table 9. DRANZCOG trainees by type (highest level in 2013) and region, 2013*

	NSW	VIC	QLD	SA	WA	TAS	NT	ACT	Total
Level 1 Certificate of Women’s Health									
Female	15	22	20	8	6	8	1	-	80
Male	5	6	6	2	1	3	-	-	23
Subtotal	20	28	26	10	7	11	1	0	103
Level 2 DRANZCOG (may include CWH)									
Female	52	106	33	28	40	12	9	8	288
Male	10	24	16	5	6	3	3	1	68
Subtotal	62	130	49	33	46	15	12	9	356
Level 3 DRANZCOG Advanced									
Female	24	24	26	4	21	-	3	1	103
Male	8	9	18	1	10	-	1	-	47
Subtotal	32	33	44	5	31	0	4	1	150
Total	114	191	119	48	84	26	17	10	609

* Includes 31 trainees who withdrew during the year, of which 21 moved into the FRANZCOG Training Program.

Subspecialty Training Programs

RANZCOG offers five Subspecialty Training Programs of three years duration, leading to certification in particular areas of practice:

Gynaecological Oncology A certified gynaecological oncologist (CGO) subspecialist should demonstrate comprehensive management of women with a genital malignancy.

Maternal Fetal Medicine A certified maternal fetal medicine (CMFM) subspecialist should demonstrate advanced knowledge of the obstetrical, medical and surgical complications of pregnancy and their effect on both the mother and the fetus, and expertise in the most current approaches to diagnosis and treatment of patients with complicated pregnancies.

Obstetrical and Gynaecological Ultrasound (COGU) A certified obstetric and gynaecological ultrasound (COGU) subspecialist should demonstrate advanced knowledge in all aspects of ultrasound diagnosis relating to obstetrics and gynaecology, including ultrasound guided interventional diagnostic and therapeutic techniques.

Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility (CREI) A certified reproductive endocrinology and infertility (CREI) subspecialist should demonstrate comprehensive management of patients with reproductive endocrine disorders and infertility.

Urogynaecology (CU) A certified urogynaecology (CU) subspecialist should demonstrate comprehensive management of patients with urogynaecological disorders.

Table 10. Accredited Subspecialty training units by region, 2013

	NSW	VIC	QLD	SA	WA	ACT	AUS	NZ	Total
CGO	3	3	1	2	1	-	10	1	11
CMFM	7	3	2	1	1	1	15	2	17
COGU	3	3	-	1	-	-	7	-	7
CREI	2	3	1	2	1	-	9	4	13
CU	3	3	3	-	1	-	10	-	10
Total	18	15	7	6	4	1	51	7	58

Table 11. Subspecialty training sites newly accredited by region, 2013 (commencing in 2014)

	VIC	QLD	NZ	Total
CGO	-	1	-	1
CREI	1	-	1	2
Total	1	1	1	3

Table 12. Applications made in 2012 for 2013 Subspecialty training positions

		CGO	CMFM	COGU	CREI	CU	Total
Applications	Female	5	4	2	6	-	17
	Male	6	3	-	3	1	13
	Total applications	11	7	2	9	1	30
Interviews	Female	2	4	2	6	-	14
	Male	3	3	-	1	-	7
	Total interviews	5	7	2	7	0	21
Offers	Female	2	4	1	3	-	10
	Male	3	3	-	-	-	6
	Total offers	5	7	1	3	0	16

Table 13. Subspecialty trainees by year of training and gender, August 2013

		Year 1	Year 2	Year 3+	Total
CGO	Female	2	1	1	4
	Male	3	-	2	5
	Subtotal	5	1	3	9
CMFM	Female	6	1	7	14
	Male	3	4	2	9
	Subtotal	9	5	9	23
COGU	Female	2	4	3	9
	Male	-	-	-	0
	Subtotal	2	4	3	9
CREI	Female	3	3	4	10
	Male	-	3	4	7
	Subtotal	3	6	8	17
CU	Female	-	-	3	3
	Male	-	-	1	1
	Subtotal	0	0	4	4
Total	Female	13	9	18	40
	Male	6	7	9	22
	Grand total	19	16	27	62

Table 14. Subspecialty trainees by year of training and region, August 2013

Year 1	NSW	VIC	QLD	SA	WA	AUS	NZ	Total
CGO	2	3	-	-	-	5	-	5
CMFM	2	4	-	-	1	7	2	9
COGU	-	2	-	-	-	2	-	2
CREI	1	-	-	1	-	2	1	3
CU	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Subtotal	5	9	0	1	1	16	3	19
Year 2	NSW	VIC	QLD	SA	WA	AUS	NZ	Total
CGO	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
CMFM	4	1	-	-	-	5	-	5
COGU	2	2	-	-	-	4	-	4
CREI	4	-	1	-	1	6	-	6
CU	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Subtotal	11	3	1	0	1	16	0	16
Year 3+	NSW	VIC	QLD	SA	WA	AUS	NZ	Total
CGO	2	-	1	-	-	3	-	3
CMFM	4	-	2	-	-	6	3	9
COGU	2	1	-	-	-	3	-	3
CREI	4	1	-	-	-	5	3	8
CU	2	2	-	-	-	4	-	4
Subtotal	14	4	3	-	-	21	6	27
Grand total	30	16	4	1	2	53	9	62

Examinations

The MRANZCOG Written Examination is part of the assessment for the attainment of both the MRANZCOG and FRANZCOG qualifications. The MRANZCOG Written Examination is held twice yearly and currently consists of two papers:

- A multiple choice question (MCQ) paper of 120 questions.
- A short answer question (SAQ) paper consisting of 12 questions, all of equal value.

Both papers are standard set on an examination by examination basis.

The MRANZCOG Oral Examination is also part of the assessment for the attainment of both the MRANZCOG and FRANZCOG qualifications, and is held twice yearly. The MRANZCOG Oral Examination is a highly structured examination, consisting of 10 stations, designed to assess the clinical competence (including reasoning and judgment) of a candidate in the examination, diagnosis and management of clinical problems. The examination is standard set on an examination by examination basis.

Table 15. MRANZCOG examination pass rates, 2013

	No. of candidates	No. passed	2013 pass rate (%)
MRANZCOG Written Examination	148	118	79.7%
MRANZCOG Oral Examination	174	104	59.8%

The DRANZCOG Written Examination consists of 150 questions in multiple choice format. **The DRANZCOG Oral Examination** is an Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE), consisting of 15 stations. The **Certificate of Women's Health Written Examination** consists of 100 multiple choice questions. There is no oral examination associated with the CWH.

Table 16. CWH and DRANZCOG examination pass rates, 2013

	No. of candidates	No. passed	2013 pass rate (%)
CWH Written Examination	37	25	67.6%
DRANZCOG Written Examination	214	181	84.6%
DRANZCOG Oral Examination	183	152	83.1%

A written examination is part of the assessment for each Subspecialty qualification. **Subspecialty written examinations** are held once each year in July. The three-hour examination comprises 12 SAQs.

An oral examination is also part of the assessment for each Subspecialty qualification. **Subspecialty oral examinations** take approximately 3 hours and 20 minutes. Candidates rotate through nine stations, each of 20 minutes' duration.

Table 17. Subspecialty examination pass rates, 2013

	No. of candidates	No. passed	2013 pass rate (%)
Subspecialty Written Examination	17	6	35.3%
Subspecialty Oral Examination	15	12	80.0%

Note: Pursuant to College policy, where small numbers may impinge on the rights of individuals under relevant privacy principles and legislation, data related to individual examinations is not published. As such, only overall data for written and oral examinations conducted during 2013 is provided.

Specialist International Medical Graduates (SIMGs)

RANZCOG is the body formally appointed by the Medical Board of Australia to conduct assessments of Specialist International Medical Graduates (SIMGs) who possess overseas qualifications in obstetrics and gynaecology and who wish to be recognised as a specialist in this field in Australia. Assessment is undertaken of the comparability of an applicant’s training, qualifications and experience relative to that of an Australian trained specialist. The College also undertakes such assessments in New Zealand for the Medical Council of New Zealand in the capacity of a Vocational Education and Advisory Body to the Council.

Elevation to Fellowship of the College is governed by regulations, available at <http://www.ranzcog.edu.au/the-ranzcog/governance/ranzcog-regulations.html>

The Area of Need (AoN) process aims to meet gaps in service delivery in Australia, primarily in rural areas where there is an acute shortage of practitioners, including obstetricians and gynaecologists. The College undertakes assessment of IMGs with overseas specialist qualifications relative to a specific position description to determine whether the applicant is able to safely undertake the AoN position in question. AoN applicants are also assessed concurrently for their comparability to an Australian-trained specialist in Obstetrics and Gynaecology.

Further information in regard to specific aspects of the SIMG assessment processes conducted by the College may be found at www.ranzcog.edu.au/process.html.

Table 18. Applications from SIMGs, 2013 – Australia

Applications received (Australia)	No.
SIMG applications	58
Not eligible for interview	2
Application lapsed/withdrawn	5
Applications pending	8
Eligible for interview	43
AoN applications	2

Table 19. Assessment outcomes for SIMGs, 2013 – Australia

Assessment outcomes (Australia)	No.
SIMG Interview outcomes*	
Substantially comparable - no period of oversight	3
Substantially comparable with a period of oversight	21
Partially comparable	13
Not comparable	7
Total	44
AoN applications	
Suitable for AoN	2
Not suitable for AoN	0
Total	2

*The numbers of those found to be eligible for interview in 2013 (Table 18) do not necessarily correspond to the number of interview outcomes in 2013 (Table 19), as many applicants do not have their interview in the same year that their application was processed.

Table 20. Assessment outcomes for SIMGs, 2013 – NEW ZEALAND

SIMG Preliminary advice (New Zealand)	No.
Equivalent	1
Nearly equivalent	1
Not equivalent	0
Cannot assess	3
Total	5

SIMG Interview outcomes in 2013	No.
Equivalent	13
As satisfactory as	0
Neither Equivalent nor As satisfactory as	0
Total	13

Under the arrangements with the MCNZ, all applications forwarded to the College are assessed at interview for suitability for vocational registration.

Occupational Training Visas

Occupational Training Visas (OTVs) are available from the Department of Immigration and Border Protection and allow International Medical Graduates (IMGs) to access training in obstetrics and gynaecology in short-term positions in Australian hospitals (i.e. usually 12 to 24 months’ duration).

The College received 24 applications for OTVs in 2013 and all of these were successful. Three of the applicants applied for and were granted an extension for another 12 months.

Table 21. Applications for Occupational Training Visas, 2013

Short-term training visas	New	Extension	Total
NSW	6	-	6
QLD	1	-	1
SA	4	1	5
VIC	9	2	11
WA	1	-	1
Total	21	3	24

Workforce

RANZCOG collects annual demographic data on the fellowship. This data has enabled the College to gain a greater understanding of the composition of the fellowship and diploma workforce.

Following the conduct of workforce surveys in 2000, 2003 and 2006, in 2009 an annual online practice profile was introduced to provide information on the nature and scope of obstetric and gynaecology practice in Australia and New Zealand. Detailed reporting on workforce data is available in the College’s Practice Profile reports.

Tables 22 to 32 have been produced using membership data from the College database RADAR as at 8 January 2014 in order to summarise the 2013 workforce.

Table 22. Active Fellows by gender and region, 2013

	ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA	AUS	NZ	Total	%
Female	11	181	9	114	48	13	199	57	632	122	754	41.0%
Male	15	316	4	197	68	21	244	89	954	130	1,084	59.0%
Total	26	497	13	311	116	34	443	146	1,586	252	1,838	100%

Table 23. Number of Australian Fellows by Region and Remoteness Area (RA[#]), 2013

	ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA	Total
RA 1 (Major Cities)	26	441	-	240	111	-	390	129	1,337
RA 2 (Inner Regional)	-	55	-	36	2	29	49	8	179
RA 3 (Outer Regional)	-	1	10	31	3	5	4	6	60
RA 4 (Remote)	-	-	3	4	-	-	-	3	10
RA 5 (Very Remote)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Total	26	497	13	311	116	34	443	146	1,586
% in RA 1	100%	88.7%	0	77.2%	95.7%	0	88.0%	88.4%	84.3%

RA based on work location, or home address if no work address provided. RA is determined using the Australian Standard Geographical Classification - Remoteness Area (ASGC-RA).

Figure 4. Regional and Remote Fellows, 2013 (does not include major cities i.e. RA 1)



Table 24. Active Fellows by gender and age group, 2013

Age Group	Gender	AUS	NZ	Total	% of Total Active Fellows		
					2011(%)	2012(%)	2013(%)
30-34							
	Female	14	2	16	0.4%	1.1%	0.9%
	Male	10	-	10	0.2%	0.5%	0.5%
	Subtotal	24	2	26	0.6%	1.6%	1.4%
35-39							
	Female	110	14	124	6.2%	6.4%	6.7%
	Male	35	6	41	2.1%	1.7%	2.2%
	Subtotal	145	20	165	8.3%	8.1%	9.0%
40-44							
	Female	145	26	171	9.6%	8.9%	9.3%
	Male	119	10	129	7.2%	7.1%	7.0%
	Subtotal	264	36	300	16.8%	16.0%	16.3%
45-49							
	Female	148	23	171	8.4%	9.3%	9.3%
	Male	154	20	174	9.6%	9.5%	9.5%
	Subtotal	302	43	345	18.0%	18.8%	18.8%
50-54							
	Female	114	25	139	7.2%	7.4%	7.6%
	Male	149	21	170	9.1%	9.5%	9.2%
	Subtotal	263	46	309	16.3%	16.9%	16.8%
55-59							
	Female	59	19	78	4.0%	4.1%	4.2%
	Male	138	26	164	9.6%	9.3%	8.9%
	Subtotal	197	45	242	13.6%	13.4%	13.2%
60-64							
	Female	27	6	33	1.4%	1.5%	1.8%
	Male	153	23	176	10.3%	9.4%	9.6%
	Subtotal	180	29	209	11.7%	11.0%	11.4%
65-69							
	Female	11	1	12	0.5%	0.7%	0.7%
	Male	121	14	135	8.2%	7.5%	7.3%
	Subtotal	132	15	147	8.7%	8.2%	8.0%
70-74							
	Female	2	-	2	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%
	Male	54	4	58	3.9%	3.9%	3.2%
	Subtotal	56	4	60	4.0%	4.0%	3.3%
75+							
	Female	2	-	2	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%
	Male	19	2	21	1.1%	1.2%	1.1%
	Subtotal	21	2	23	1.2%	1.3%	1.3%
Unknown							
	Female	-	6	6	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%
	Male	2	4	6	0.3%	0.4%	0.3%
	Subtotal	2	10	12	0.6%	0.7%	0.7%
Total Female		632	122	754	38.3%	39.9%	41.0%
Total Male		954	130	1,084	61.7%	60.1%	59.0%
Grand Total		1,586	252	1,838	100%	100%	100%

Figure 5. Active Fellows by age group, gender and country, 2013

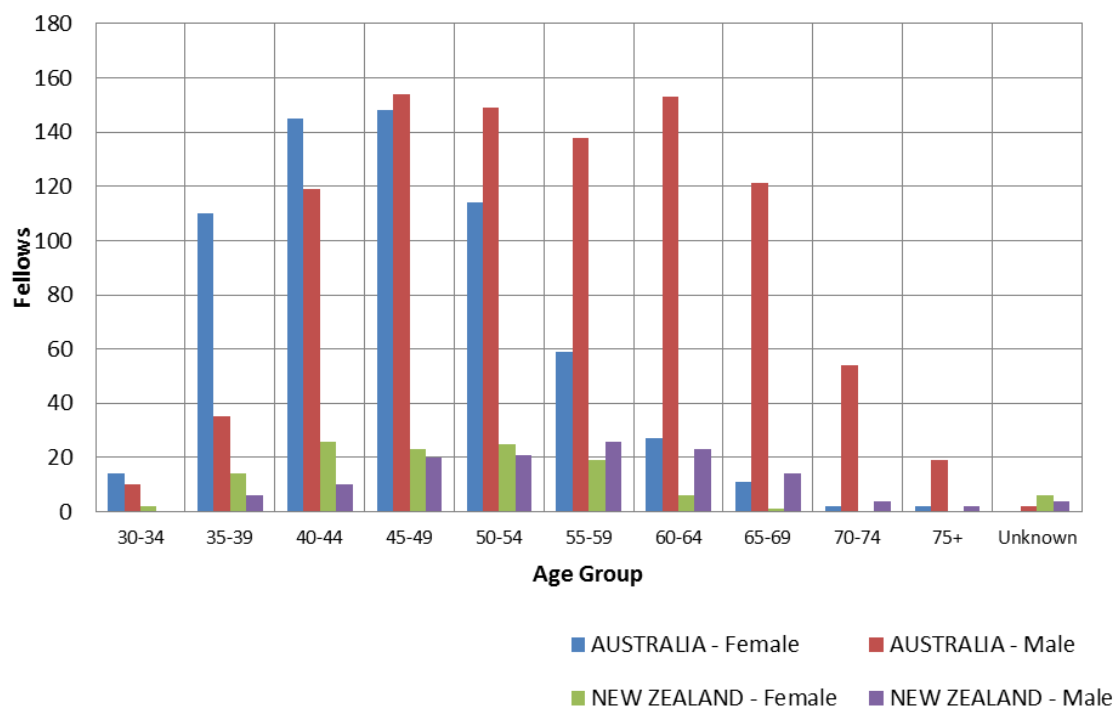


Table 25. New Fellows by work region, gender and age group, 2013

Age Group	ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA	AUS	NZ	Total
30-34											
Female	-	2	-	-	1	-	4	-	7	1	8
Male	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	-	2
Subtotal	1	2	0	1	1	0	4	0	9	1	10
35-39											
Female	-	4	1	4	1	-	5	2	17	3	20
Male	-	7	-	1	-	-	3	1	12	1	13
Subtotal	0	11	1	5	1	0	8	3	29	4	33
40-44											
Female	-	1	-	1	-	-	4	-	6	-	6
Male	-	1	-	4	-	2	3	-	10	2	12
Subtotal	0	2	0	5	0	2	7	0	16	2	18
45-49											
Female	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	1
Male	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	3	1	4
Subtotal	0	2	0	1	0	0	1	0	4	1	5
50-54											
Female	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Male	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	1	3	2	5
Subtotal	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	3	2	5
55+											
Female	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2
Male	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Subtotal	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	2
Total Female	-	8	1	5	2	-	14	2	32	5	37
Total Male	1	10	-	8	-	2	7	2	30	8	38
Grand Total	1	18	1	13	2	2	21	4	62	13	75
% workforce*	3.8%	3.6%	7.7%	4.2%	1.7%	5.9%	4.7%	2.7%	3.9%	5.2%	4.1%

* New Fellows as % of total workforce of the region

Table 26. Number of Fellows who retired by gender and region, 2013

	ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA	AUS	NZ	Total
Female	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	1	3
Male	2	10	-	3	1	1	4	-	21	2	23
Total	2	11	0	3	1	1	5	0	23	3	26
% workforce*	7.7%	2.2%	0	0.9%	0.9%	2.9%	1.1%	0	1.5%	1.2%	1.4%

* Retired Fellows as % of total workforce of the region

Figure 6. Changes in workforce – Fellows, 2013

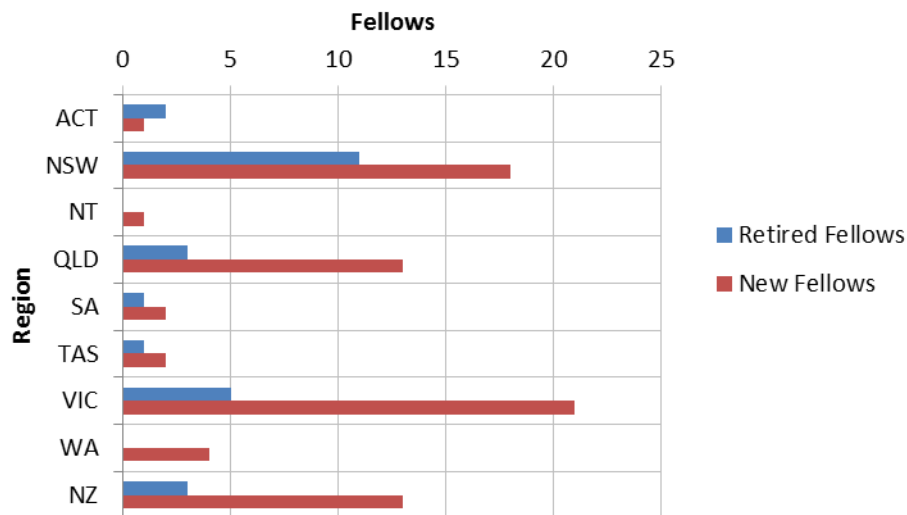


Table 27. Subspecialist Fellows by region, 2013

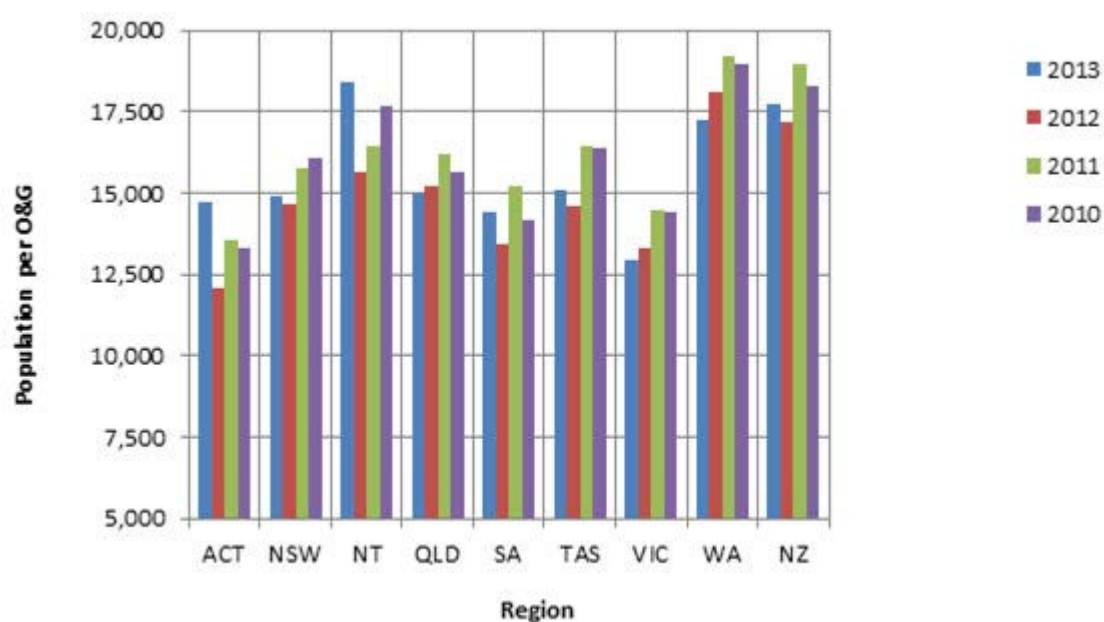
Subspecialty	ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA	AUS	NZ	Total
CGO	-	14	-	10	4	2	12	4	46	-	46
CMFM	-	15	1	10	3	-	10	5	44	6	50
COGU	-	14	-	2	1	-	21	2	40	5	45
CREI	-	37	-	4	4	1	12	2	60	12	72
CU	1	10	-	7	1	-	12	4	35	1	36
Total	1	90	1	33	13	3	67	17	225	24	249

Table 28. Population per O&G Fellow, 2013

Region	No. of active O&G Fellows	Population 2013	Number of population per O&G			
			2013	2012	2011	2010
ACT	26	383,400	14,746	12,087	13,533	13,293
NSW	497	7,407,700	14,905	14,639	15,740	16,051
NT	13	239,500	18,423	15,653	16,443	17,669
QLD	311	4,658,600	14,979	15,200	16,186	15,628
SA	116	1,670,800	14,403	13,454	15,202	14,178
TAS	34	513,000	15,088	14,629	16,470	16,374
VIC	443	5,737,600	12,952	13,294	14,457	14,447
WA	146	2,517,200	17,241	18,137	19,233	18,979
AUS Total	1586	23,130,900	14,584	14,550	15,111	15,602
NZ	252	4,470,000	17,738	17,208	18,988	18,285

Sources: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Australian Demographic Statistics, June Quarter 2013, 2012, 2011, 2010; Statistics New Zealand June 30 2013, 2012, 2011, 2010 estimates; RANZCOG Annual Statistics

Figure 7. Population per O&G, 2010-2013



Diplomates

Table 29. Diplomates by gender and region, 2013

	ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA	Total	%
Female	30	284	56	197	113	34	549	145	1408	57.7%
Male	8	257	20	169	99	17	341	120	1031	42.3%
Total	38	541	76	366	212	51	890	265	2439	100%

Table 30. Australian Diplomates by region and RA[#], 2013

	ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA	Total
RA 1 (Major Cities)	38	318	-	158	123	2	614	169	1,422
RA 2 (Inner Regional)	-	172	1	87	47	38	231	26	602
RA 3 (Outer Regional)	-	44	46	96	36	10	42	34	308
RA 4 (Remote)	-	3	20	15	5	1	1	20	65
RA 5 (Very Remote)	-	3	9	10	1	-	-	14	37
Unknown*	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	2	5
Total	38	541	76	366	212	51	890	265	2,439
% in RA 1	100%	58.8%	0	43.2%	58.0%	3.9%	69.0%	63.8%	58.3%

RA based on work location, or home address if no work address provided

* May include Diplomates working as locums

Table 31. Diplomates by age group and gender, 2013

Age Group	Female	Male	Total
20-24	1	-	1
25-29	82	8	90
30-34	205	27	232
35-39	172	49	221
40-44	217	111	328
45-49	238	138	376
50-54	254	228	482
55-59	155	268	423
60-64	58	143	201
65-69	9	31	40
70-74	2	20	22
75+	-	3	3
Unknown	15	5	20
Total	1,408	1,031	2,439

Figure 8. Diplomates by age group and gender, 2013

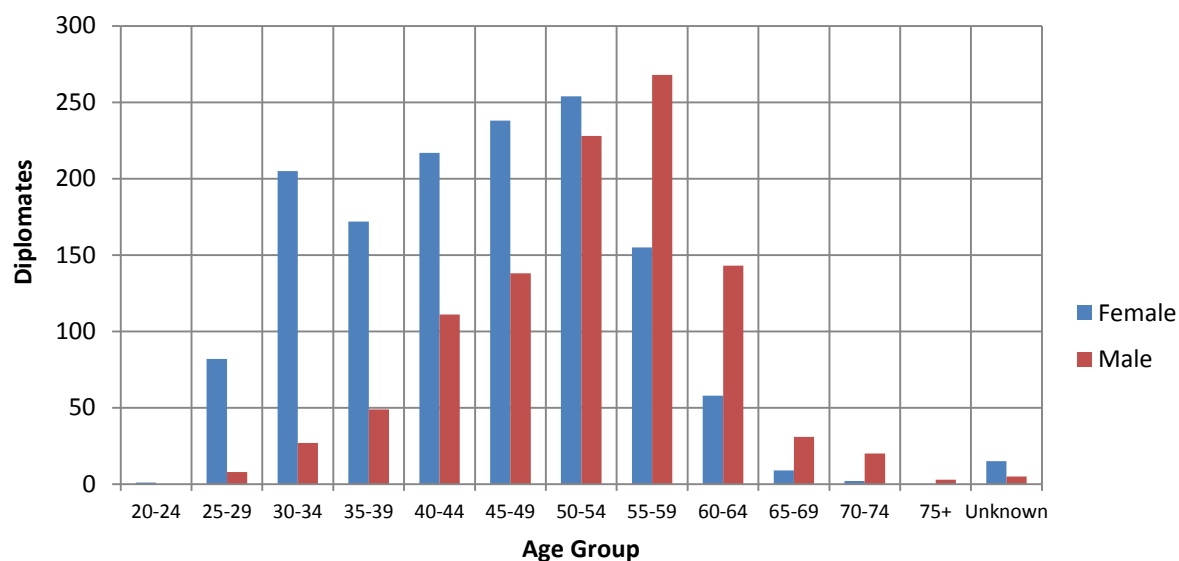


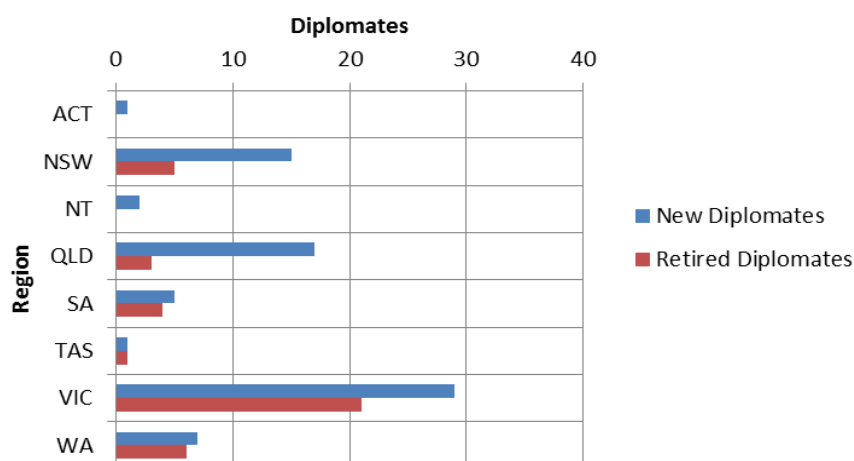
Table 32. New Diplomates by region, 2013

	ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA	Total
RA 1 (Major Cities)	1	8	-	4	3	-	15	5	36
RA 2 (Inner Regional)	-	3	-	4	2	-	8	-	17
RA 3 (Outer Regional)	-	3	2	8	-	1	6	2	22
RA 4 (Remote)	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	2
RA 5 (Very Remote)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Total	1	15	2	17	5	1	29	7	77

Table 33. Retiring Diplomat by region, 2013

	ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA	Total
RA 1 (Major Cities)	-	5	-	1	3	-	19	2	30
RA 2 (Inner Regional)	-	-	-	1	1	-	2	1	5
RA 3 (Outer Regional)	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	2	4
RA 4 (Remote)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
RA 5 (Very Remote)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Total	0	5	0	3	4	1	21	6	40

Figure 9. Changes in workforce – Diplomates, 2013



Associate Members

Associate Membership is open to any medical practitioner who holds a specialist qualification in the area of obstetrics or gynaecology that was not awarded by RANZCOG and who is practising unsupervised providing specialist women's health services in Australia, New Zealand, the Pacific Islands or Timor Leste. Associate Members are required to participate in and satisfactorily complete CPD activities of the College.

Educational Affiliates

Registered medical practitioners working as a specialist in obstetrics and gynaecology or more broadly in Women's Health in Australia or New Zealand who are not a Fellow of RANZCOG, and are not eligible for Associate Membership may apply to become an Educational Affiliate; for example, AoN practitioners in Australia and SIMGs practising in New Zealand under a provisional vocational scope of practice. An Educational Affiliate is encouraged but not required to participate in ongoing CPD.

Table 34. New Associate Members and Educational Affiliates, 2013

	AUS	NZ	Pacific Islands	Total
Associate Members	-	-	-	0
Educational Affiliates	19	12	-	31

Continuing Professional Development

RANZCOG’s Continuing Professional Development (CPD) program is designed to facilitate continuing training, lifelong learning and practice review by:

- providing a framework that directs clinical and professional learning to the essential knowledge, skills and professional qualities that are deemed essential for obstetricians and gynaecologists in the changing healthcare landscape;
- encouraging the development of a Professional Development Plan (PDP), enabling participants to reflect on their practice and identify areas of knowledge, skills or performance that require further development; and
- providing an accessible and easily navigated online portal for Fellows to plan, record and track their CPD activities.

In 1986, RANZCOG fellowship became linked to a mandatory program of continuing education and recertification and in 1999 it became a three year cyclic CPD program.

Fellows/Subspecialists in the *paper-based* CPD Program are required to accrue a minimum of 150 points in CPD activities per three year cycle with a minimum of 25 of those points in the area of practice review and clinical risk management (PR&CRM).

Fellows/Subspecialists in the *CPD Online* Program are required to accrue a minimum of 150 points within the 3 year period, including a minimum of 25 points in each of the following domains:

- Clinical Expertise
- Academic Abilities
- Professional Qualities

Of the 150 points, a minimum of 25 points in Practice Audit and Reflection (PAR) activities must be accrued. These points may be gained in any one domain or across all three.

In addition to CPD requirements for Fellows, Subspecialists are required to:

- accrue at least 100 of the 150 points required over the three year cycle within their subspecialty area.
- the 25 PR&CRM/PAR points must be in the area of their subspecialty
- complete a subspecialty Checklist and be able to verify if required, commitment to and involvement in the subspecialty in at least three of the seven areas detailed in the Checklist. Checklist requirements differ among the five subspecialties.

Each year five per cent of the Fellowship is randomly selected for a verification check. These Fellows/subspecialists are asked to provide verification documentation to support their claims.

In 2013:

- 428 Fellows were due for completion of their CPD requirements and 21 of these, including one subspecialist, were randomly selected for a Verification Check.
- Three of the 21 had previously been selected for a Verification Check.
- Sixteen Fellows successfully completed the Verification Check
- Of the remaining five Fellows, one has been granted a three month extension to their CPD Period, three have been advised of their selection and the remaining Fellow is overdue for submission of the Annual Points Claim (APC) form.