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OF TROPICAL HEALTH & MEDICINE



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# Australia's role in health workforce development in our region

*May 2015*

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## Universal health coverage



- UN Resolution on Universal Health Coverage adopted on December 2012, urging governments to move towards providing all people with access to affordable, quality health-care services.
- Emphasises health as an essential element of international development.
- Concept increasingly recognised and endorsed at international fora
- Health workforce critical aspect
- APEC 2013:

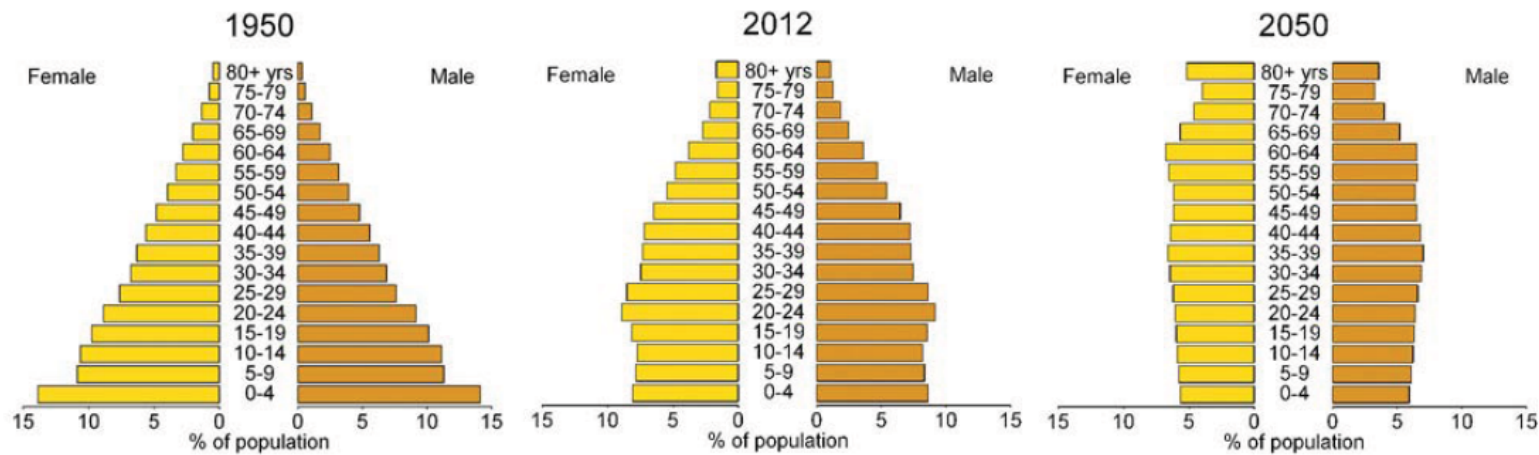
*Welcome work to ensure that economies' health workforces are sufficient in size, well trained, adequately distributed, motivated and appropriately skilled to meet needs of the regions' economies and support traditional health worker readiness to meet national health regulation, which accommodates the integration and synergy of safe and effective traditional medicines and services into a modern health system.*

*Bali, Indonesia: 24-25 September 2013*

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# Demographic changes

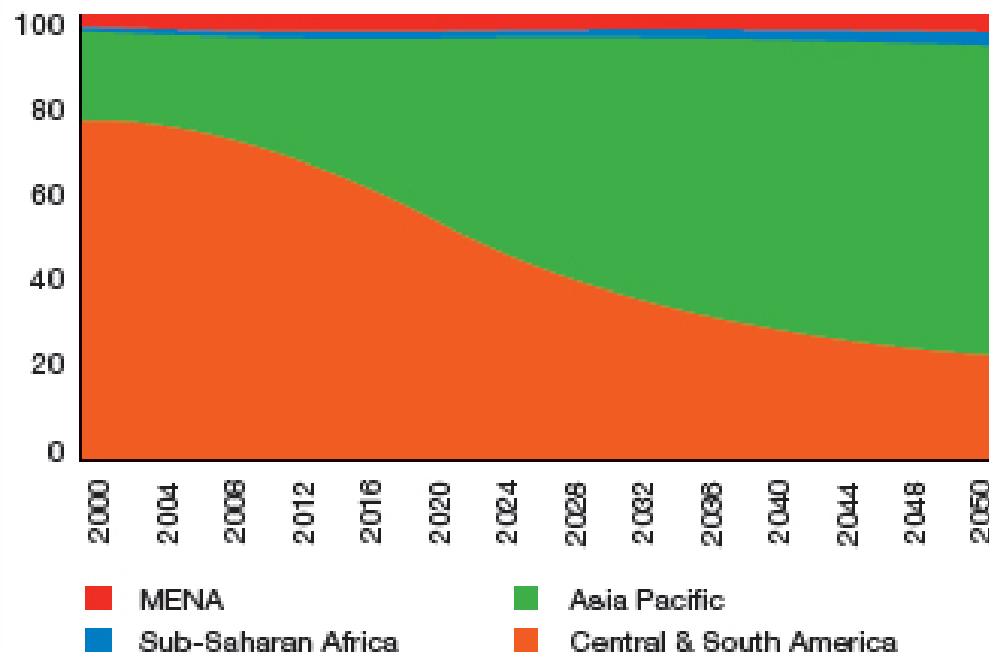
Population pyramid of the Asian and Pacific region in 1950, 2012 and 2050



*Statistical Yearbook for Asia and the Pacific 2013, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific*

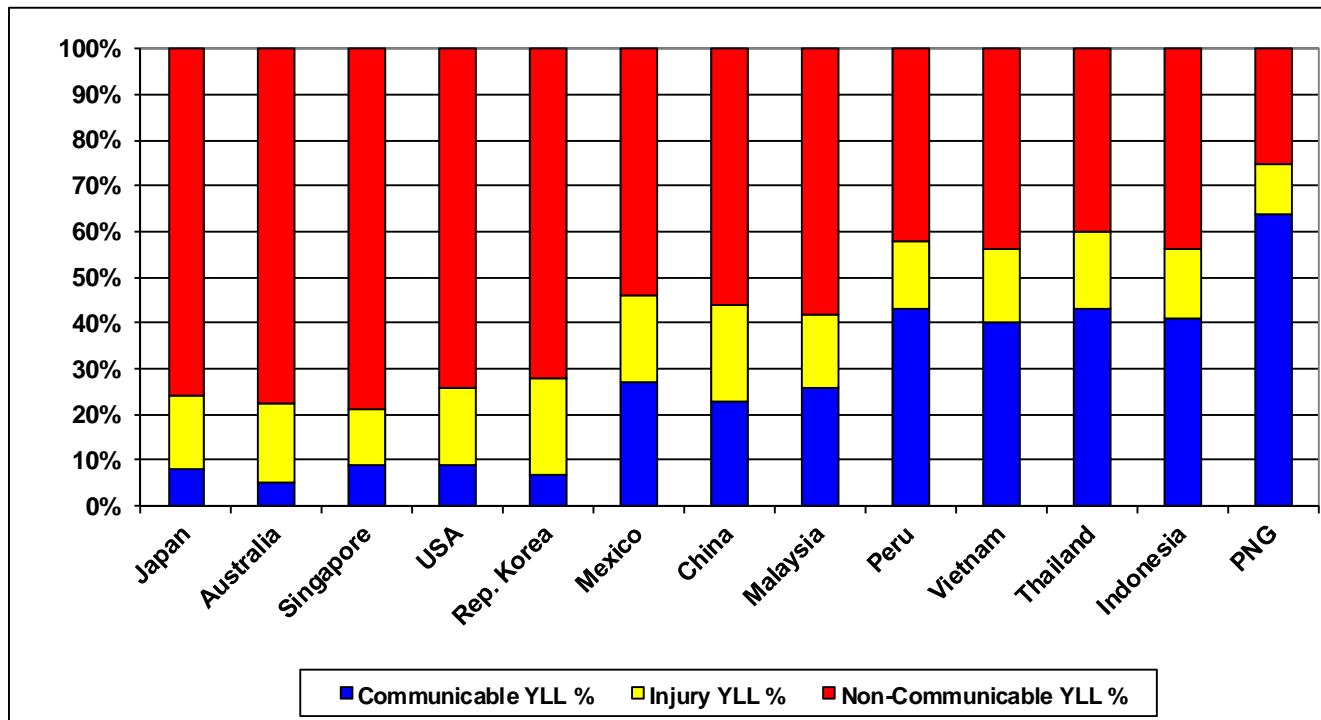
## Demographic changes

### » Global middle class consumption, 2000-50 (Percentage of global total)



Source: Kharas, Homi (2010), "The Emerging Middle Class in Developing Countries", Development Centre Working Papers, No. 295, OECD Publishing.

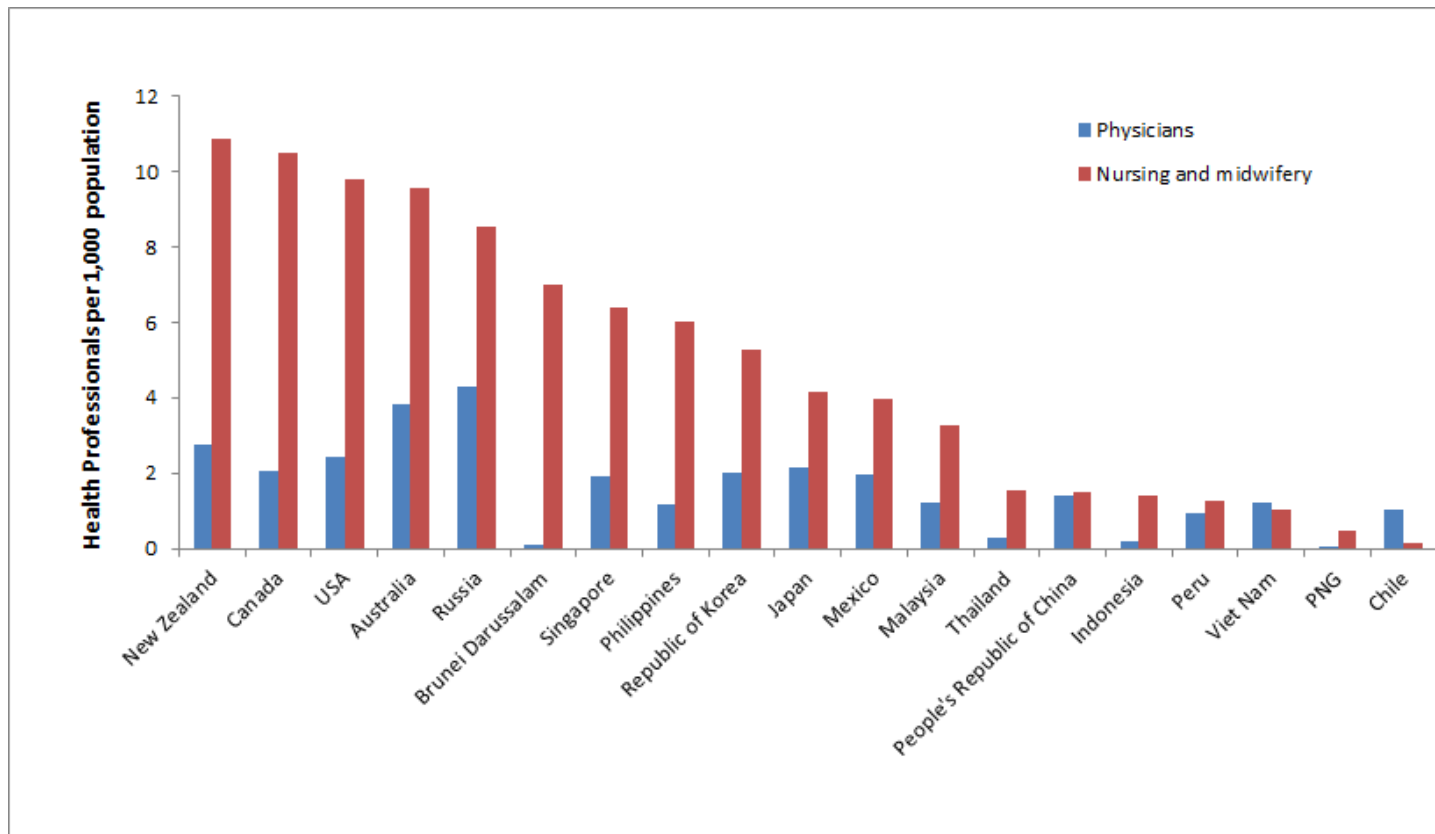
# Changing disease patterns



The 'double burden' of communicable and non-communicable diseases across APEC economies

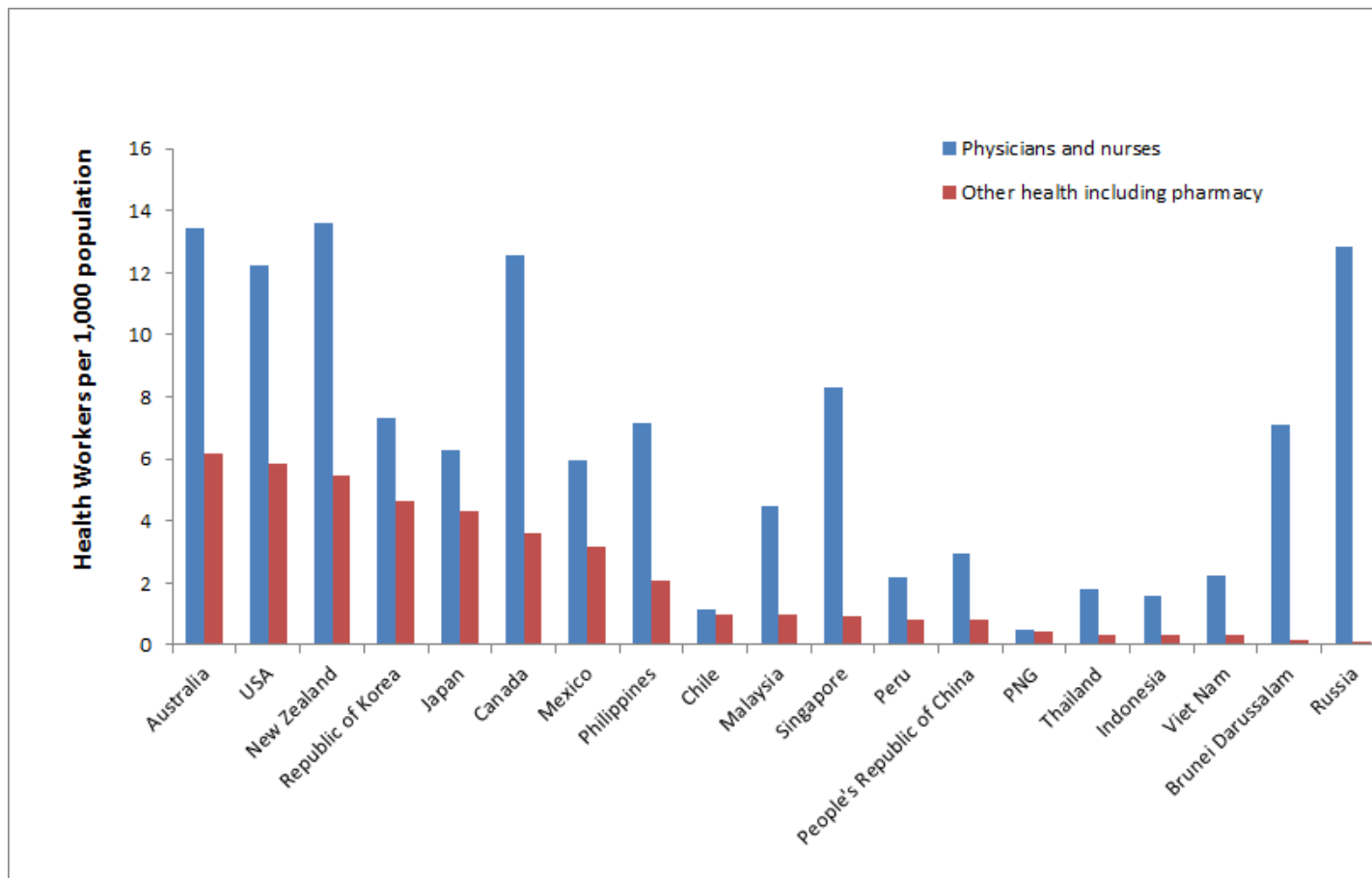
*WHO Global Burden of Disease data, 2009*

## APEC health workforce: doctors and nurses



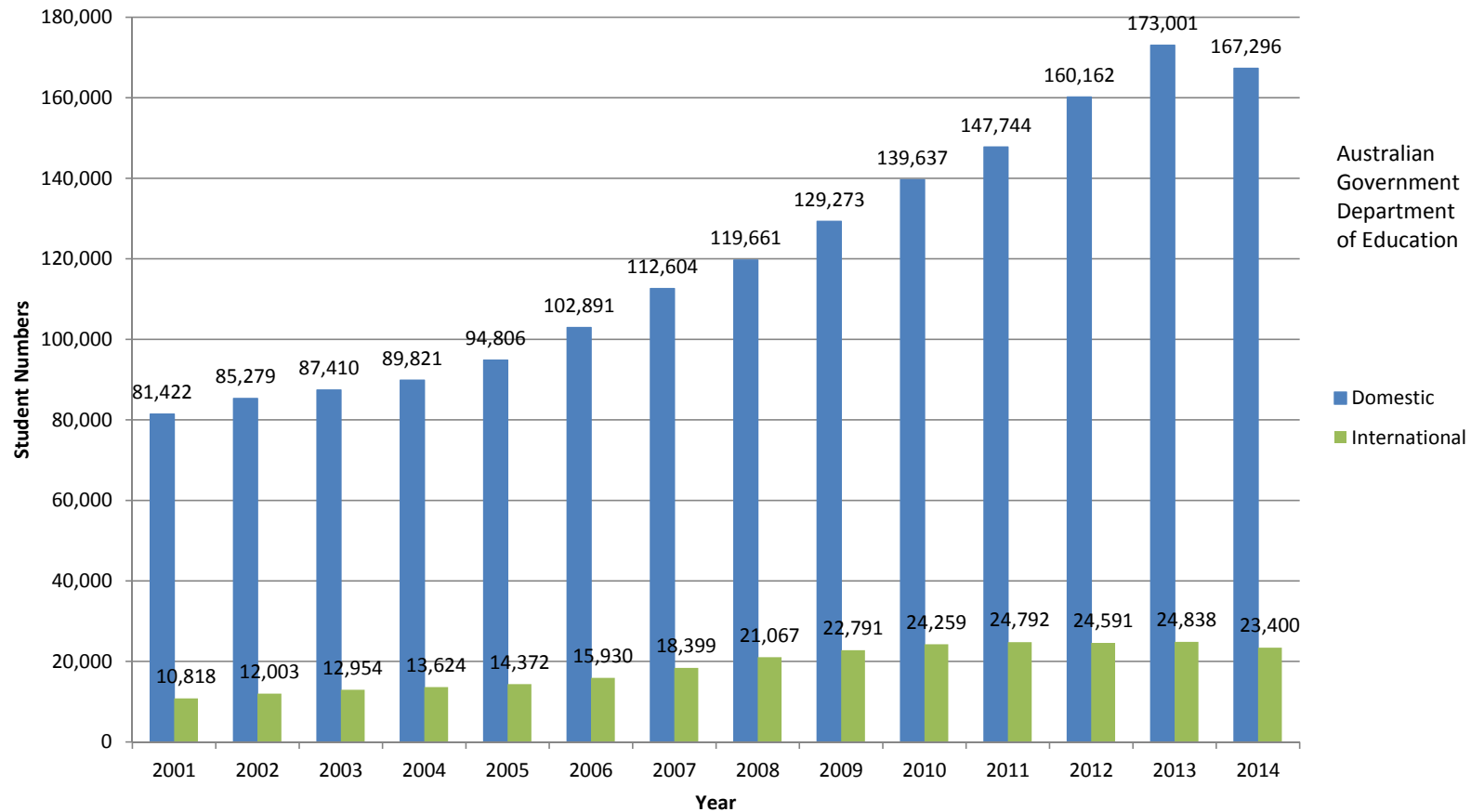
WHO, Global Burden of Disease Global Health Observatory Data Repository, Health Workforce, 2012

## APEC health workforce: 'other health'



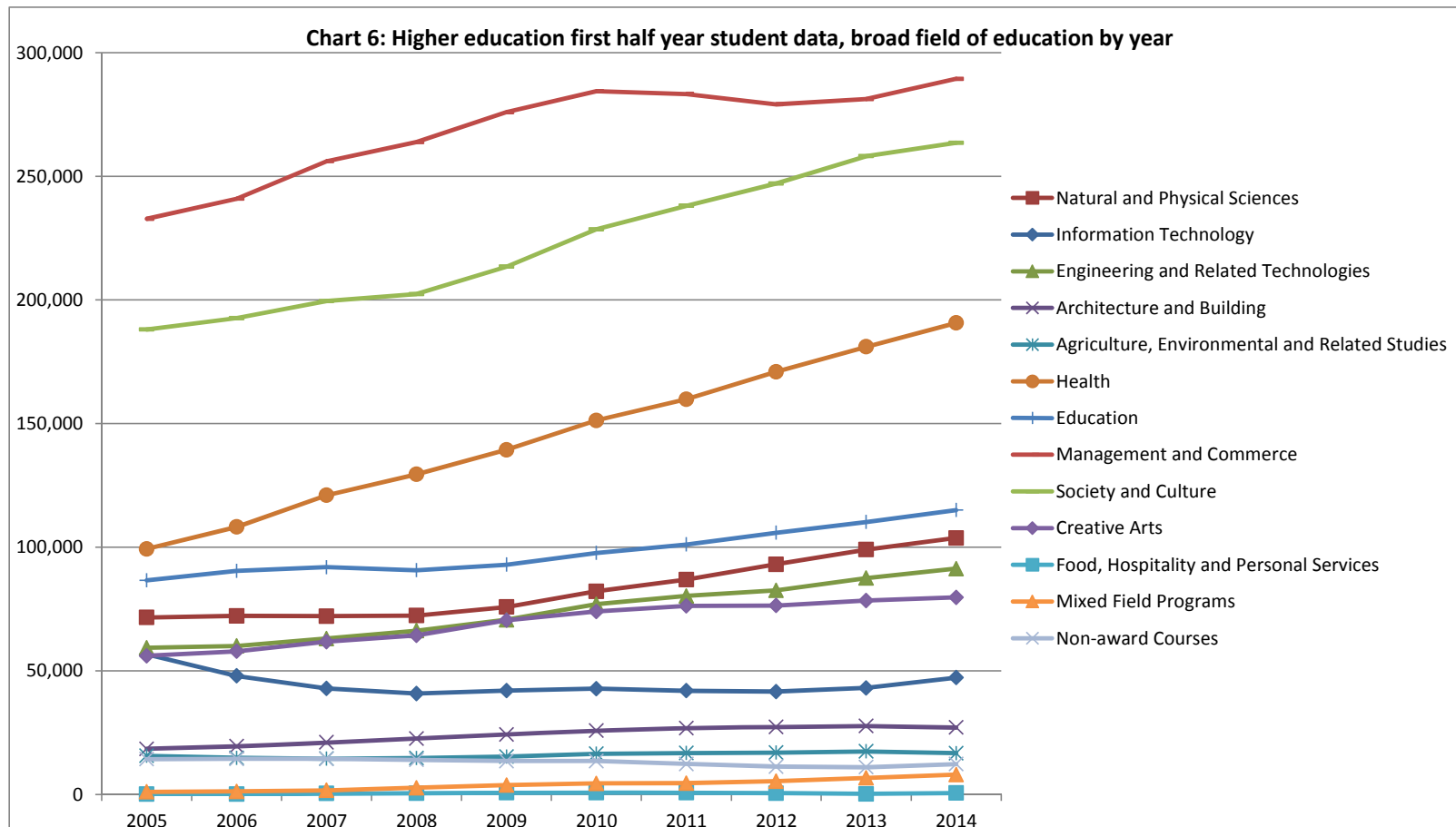
WHO, Global Burden of Disease Global Health Observatory Data Repository, Health Workforce, 2012

# Student enrolments in health in Australia, 2001-2014





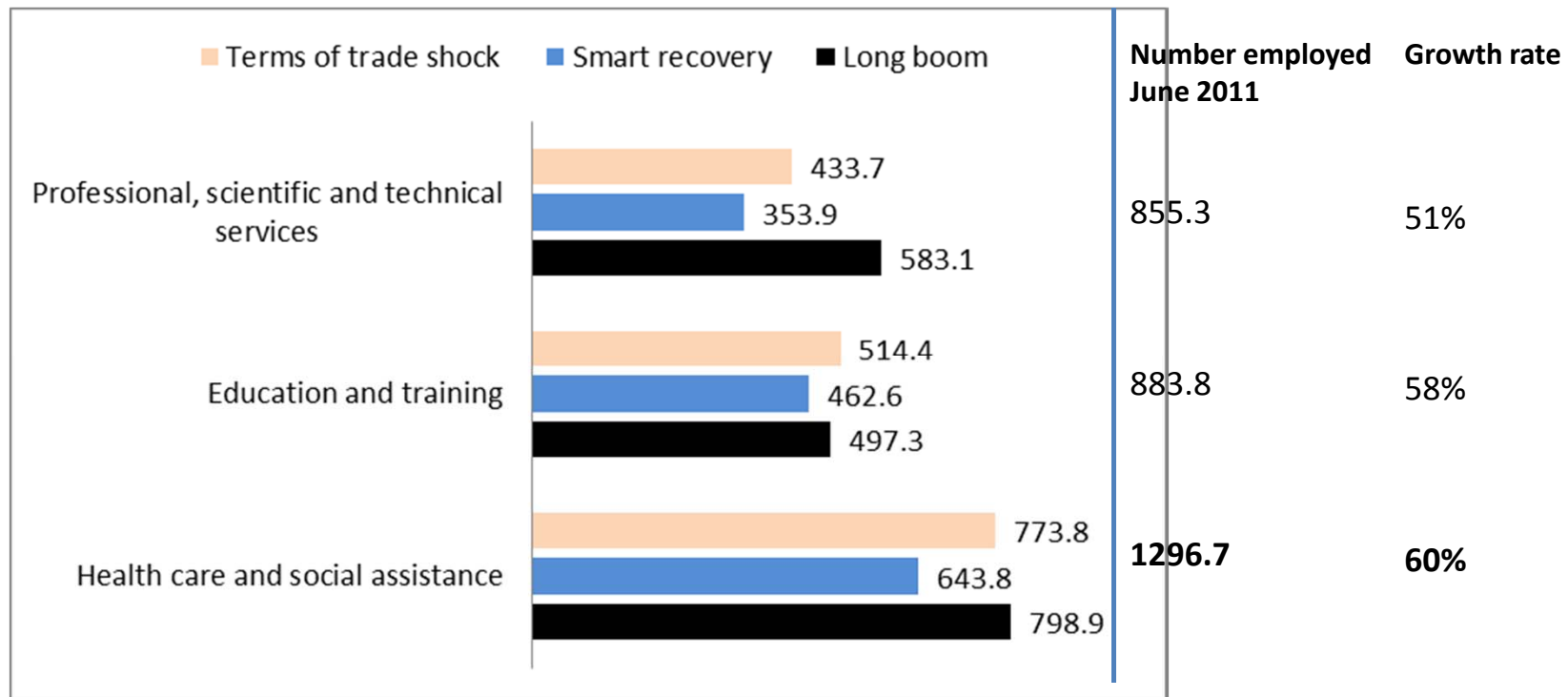
# Student enrolments in health courses, 2005-2014



Australian Government, Department of Education and Training

## Health: largest, and largest growth industry

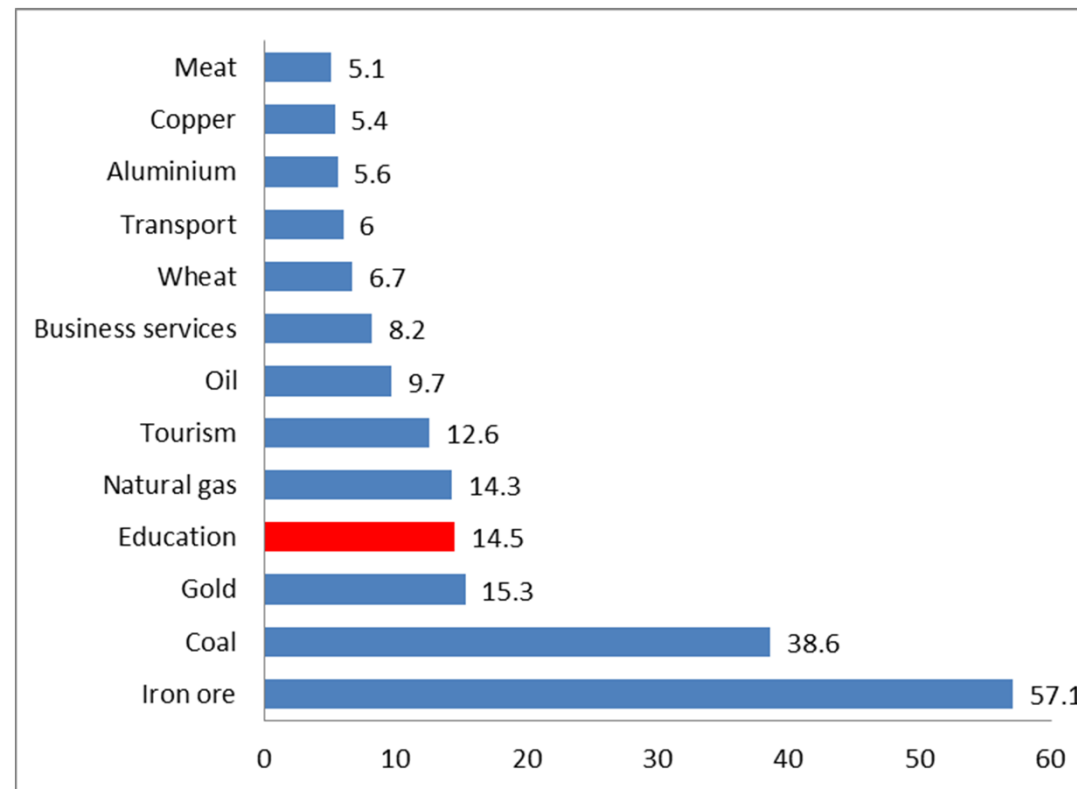
Projected change in number of people employed by industry 2011-2025 ('000s) (3 largest growth industries)



Data source: Australian Financial Review, 15-16 February 2014

# Education: Australia's fourth largest export industry

## Export value by industry sector 2012-13 (\$bn)



Data source: Australian Financial Review, 15-16 February 2014

## Opportunities for Australia



- Address workforce maldistribution and contribute to universal health coverage in neighbouring countries by developing health workforce as an export industry:
    - **Knowledge transfer** initiatives leveraging key areas of expertise (e.g. curricula development, education and training models, health service delivery and workforce models, e-health);
    - **Education**, training and professional development of overseas students and health professionals;
    - **Research** and **research training**;
    - **Freer movement** of health professionals in targeted health professions across a range of willing economies.
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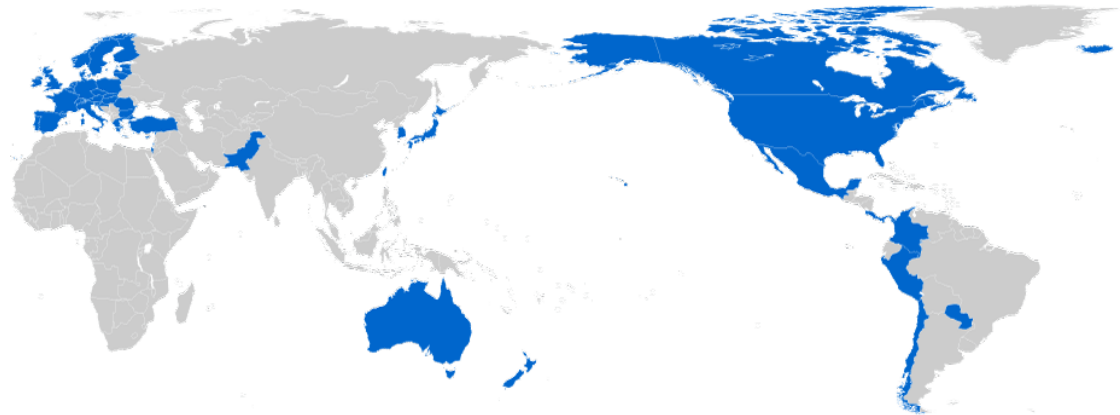
## Freer movement of health workforce – related developments

### Trade in services agreement (TiSA):

- Proposed international trade treaty between 23 parties (jointly led by Australia, US and EU)
- Aim to liberalise worldwide trade of service such as banking, healthcare and transport

### ASEAN Economic Community:

- Mutual Recognition Arrangements in 8 professions
- Progress towards freer skilled mobility slow and uneven...



*Parties to TiSA (DFAT, 2015)*



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