



Fact Sheet: Multi-Purpose Services Program Residential Care 2020-21

The Multi-Purpose Services (MPS) Program enables older people living in regional, rural and remote areas to receive the aged care services they need close to their own community.

MPS Places

At 30 June 2021, there were 179 operational MPS across Australia (except ACT), with a total of 3,688 operational flexible aged care places.

State/territory	Services	Residential Places	Home Care Places	Total Places
NSW*	64	1,074	139	1,213
Vic	11	359	19	378
Qld	36	450	141	591
WA	38	627	159	786
SA	26	598	14	612
Tas	3	81	21	102
ACT	-	-	-	..
NT	1	4	2	6
Australia	179	3,193	495	3,688

Figure 1: MPS and places, 30 June 2021. *Norfolk Island is included in NSW.

MPS Funding

The program is jointly funded by the Australian Government and state and territory governments. In 2020-21, the Australian Government provided aged care funding of \$216.5 million for the MPS Program, including \$19.6 million to support MPS providers to meet the challenges of delivering aged care services during the COVID-19 pandemic.



Figure 2: Australian Government MPS Program funding in millions, by state, 2020-21. Note: Norfolk Island is included in totals for Other Territories (OT).

MPS Residential Care Clients

In 2020-21, a total of 3,946 people received residential and/or respite care through an MPS nationally. 265 clients (6.7% of total MPS clients compared with 1.1% of total mainstream residential care clients) identified as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander people.

Nearly half of all clients were aged between 85 and 94 years. The average age at entry was 82 years for men and 85 for women, which is similar to mainstream residential care.

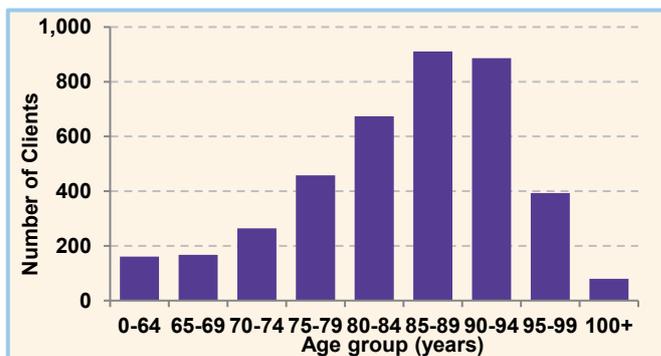


Figure 3: Clients of an MPS receiving residential care, by age, 2020-21

Across 2020-21, occupancy in all MPS nationally was 73.6%.

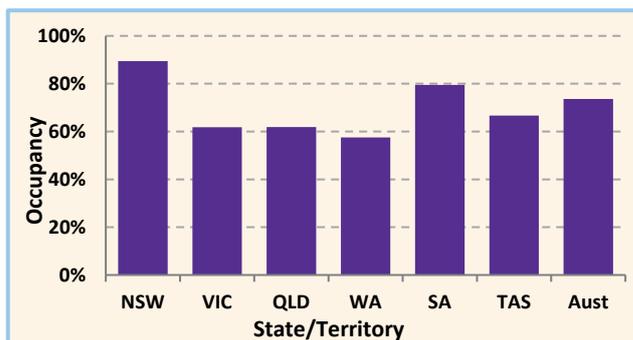


Figure 4: MPS residential occupancy, by state, 2020-21
Note the chart omits jurisdictions with one service

MPS Client Age and Sex

At 30 June 2021, there were 2,352 people receiving residential and/or respite care in an MPS. Of these clients, 64.3% were female. Female clients were also, on average, slightly older than males.

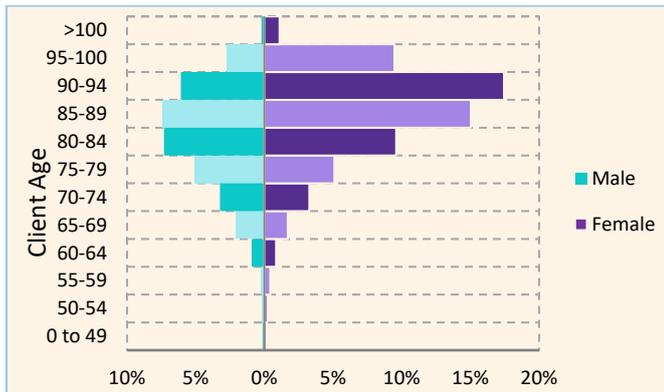


Figure 5: MPS clients receiving residential care, by age and sex, 30 June 2021

Remoteness of MPS clients

The MPS Program focuses on providing services to older people in rural and remote areas. As such, more than half of MPS clients using residential care are in outer regional areas and 31.1% of clients are in remote or very remote areas.

In comparison, at 30 June 2021, 0.56% of residents in permanent mainstream care were in remote or very remote areas.

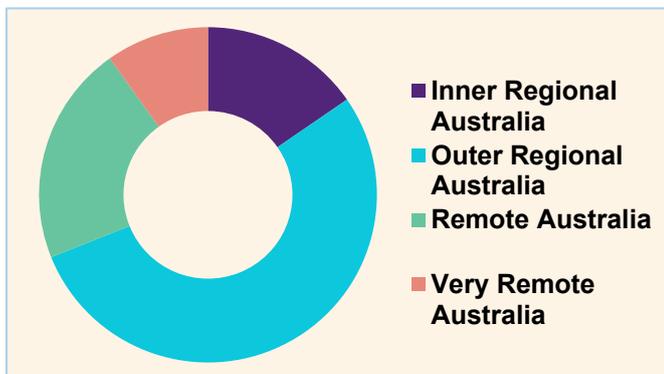


Figure 6: MPS clients receiving residential care, by ABS Remoteness Areas, 2020-21

Reasons for exit from MPS

In 2020-21, there were 1,001 exits by people receiving permanent residential care from an MPS. The highest proportion of exits in this program were due to client death, at 57%.

In comparison, during the same period in mainstream permanent residential aged care, 83% of exits were due to death.

There were 1,739 completed episodes of respite care reported over the year. A client may have more than one episode of respite care in a year. 75.4% of respite stays were 22 days or shorter.

Clients returning to the community represented 3% of all recorded exits from permanent care in 2020-21, a significant decrease from 10% in the previous year.

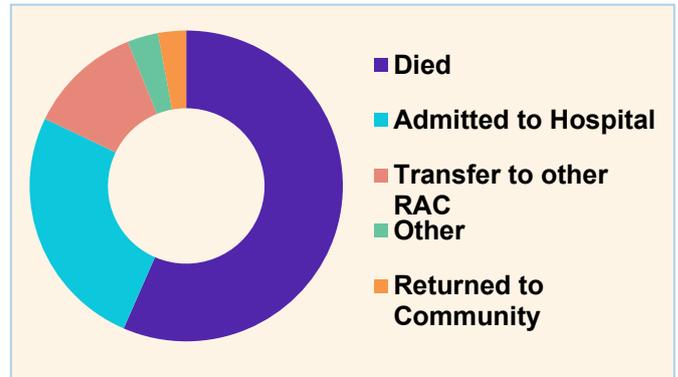


Figure 7: Permanent MPS clients who exited a service, by reason, 2020-21

MPS Length of Stay

The average length of stay for people who left MPS in 2020-21 was slightly over 31.0 months, compared with 36.0 months in mainstream residential care.

The average length of stay for MPS clients who died in care during 2020-21 was 30.5 months.

MPS length of stay data for 2020-21 excludes completed respite episodes, which are typically short.

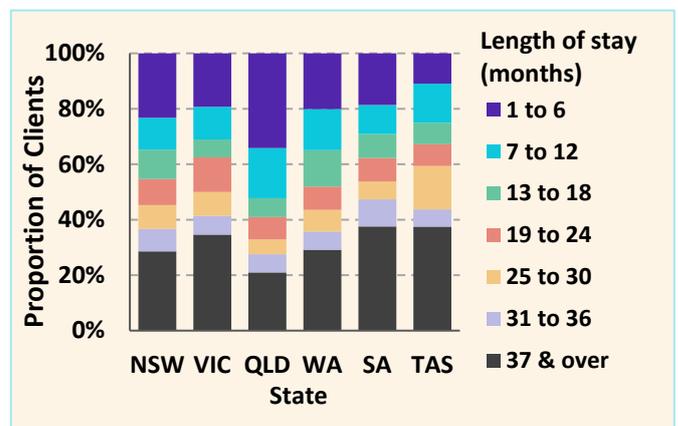


Figure 8: MPS clients' length of stay, by state, 2020-21

Note: Data content and arrangement used in this factsheet may differ to other reporting such as the Report on the Operation of the Aged Care Act 1997 (ROACA).