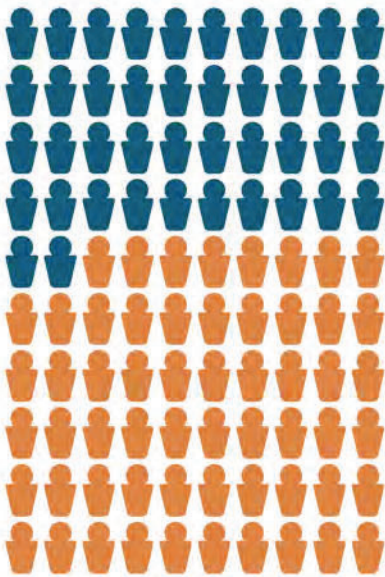


A SNAPSHOT OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY LEGAL PROFESSION

as at October 2016



507 ACTIVE SOLICITORS
214 (42%) 293 (58%)



PRACTITIONER 3-YEAR GROWTH



2014	2015	2016
266	261	214
267	287	293

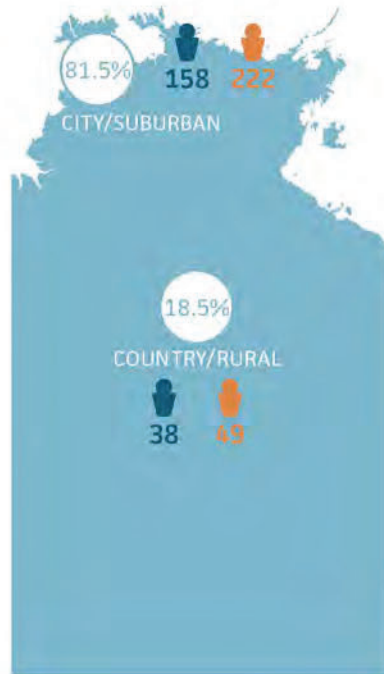
TOTAL RECORDEDⁱ PRACTITIONER GROWTH



1982	2016
315	214
28	293

ⁱ Omits data between 1998–2001

PRACTITIONER DISTRIBUTIONⁱⁱ

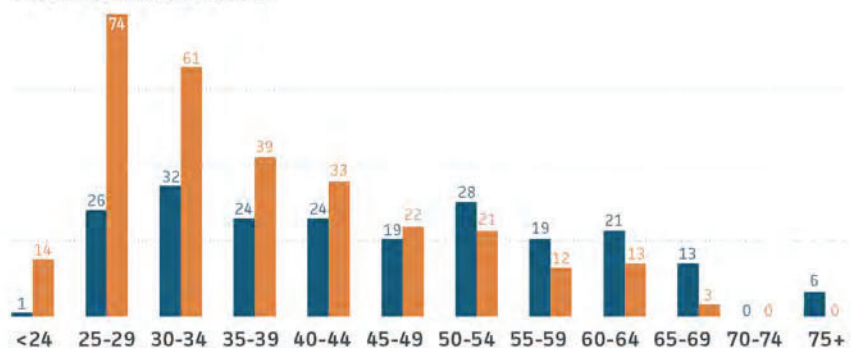


ⁱⁱ 1 interstate practitioner, 38 unknown



ⁱⁱⁱ 1 January – 31 December 2016

PRACTITIONER AGE^{iv}



^{iv} Age records not available from 2 practitioners

DEMOGRAPHICS OF THE PROFESSION

Over the past 3 years the number of NT practitioners has declined—507 at the 2016 census date, compared to 548 in 2015 and 533 in 2014.

The number of male practitioners has declined by 25% over the past 3 years compared to a decline of 5.5% in female practitioners. For the previous two years the split of the profession was 52% female to 48% male. This shifted somewhat significantly in 2016—58% of practitioners are female.

Whilst the number of newly admitted lawyers continues to be steady with 32 lawyers admitted by the NT Supreme Court during the 2016 calendar year, women are joining the NT profession at a much greater rate—in 2016 78% of admittees were female.

A significant proportion (44%) of practitioners have been practising for more than 10 years post admission and these practitioners are divided almost precisely in equal numbers between male (50.2%) and female (49.8%) practitioners.

Conversely however it appears that female practitioners aren't staying in the profession in equal numbers past the age of 50. In the 25 to 29 age group female practitioners vastly exceed the number of male practitioners (74% to 26%). This percentage steadily declines until the 45 to 49 age bracket where the division between male and female practitioners is 46% to 54%. From 50 onward the number of female practitioners continues to decline whilst male practitioner numbers are more steady.

The geography of the profession in the NT hasn't changed significantly in the past 2 years—for 2014 19.6% of the profession was located outside Darwin and Palmerston. In 2016 81.5% of the profession could be found in Darwin and Palmerston and 18.5% in other regional areas, largely Alice Springs and Katherine.

In 2016 there were 40 barristers in the NT, of which 9 (22.5%) were female. This is a slight decline on overall barrister numbers, down from 46 in 2014 and 2013 and means the Bar now represents just over 7.5% of the profession.

Practitioners in private practice constitute 35% of the profession in 2016, which has declined compared to 3 years ago—in 2013 private practitioners made up 41% of the profession.



LawCare

Caring for the legal profession in the NT

The Law Society Northern Territory funds a professional, confidential and free counselling service for our members and their immediate family, provided through Employee Assistance Service Australia (EASA).

If you are experiencing workplace, personal or emotional issues which are affecting your work or personal life, please call LawCare via the Employee Assistance Program 24-hour support line on:

1800 193 123 or visit their website at www.easa.org.au



When booking an appointment, please inform the operator that you are a Law Society Northern Territory member.

This service is completely confidential. The Society will only receive statistical information on the numbers accessing the service.