

Australian health (2001)

▪ Male life expectancy	76.6 years
▪ Female life expectancy	82.0 years
▪ Males considering themselves healthy	64%
▪ Females considering themselves healthy	58%
▪ Females eating 2 or more serves of vegetables daily	81%
▪ Females drinking low fat or skim milk	49%
▪ Australians with high blood pressure	10%
▪ Australians diagnosed with diabetes	554,200 (2.9%)
▪ Australians with psychological distress	
○ Low levels	64%
○ Moderate levels	23%
○ High levels	9%

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics

Healthcare (2001)

▪ Hospital beds (per 1,000 population)	4.1
▪ Average length of stay in hospital	3.8 days
▪ Australians who have private health insurance	51%
▪ Aged 65 years and over with Government card for health services free or at concessional rates	90%
▪ Children aged 0-6 years:	
○ fully immunized	95%
○ had been breastfed for a period	87%
▪ Females who had regular mammograms	30%
▪ Females who had regular Pap smear tests	60%

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics

▶▶▶ Migrant story – Lily and Graham, USA

We planned to have a baby in Australia and our level of satisfaction with the hospitals, the doctors and midwives is very high. We could choose to have a water birth and we were well taken care of. We were even allowed to set up a temporary office in the hospital!

Now that our child is 3 years old, we feel Australia is a very safe place. We are confident about leaving Jason in the childcare and we know he won't be put in a life-threatening position because of weapons, illegal drugs or similar.

OVERSEAS JOB SEEKERS

If you have just moved to Australia and plan to start with an employment search, remember that local work experience and references are of utmost importance in a successful job search. It is most likely that you won't have Australian work references, and you may need to be more resourceful in convincing employers you are the right person for that particular position. You will be competing against people with years of local work experience, local market knowledge and verifiable local references.

Here are few tips:

- Don't alter your CV to the point where you change your entire career – don't lie!
- Always remember that you will be required to demonstrate that you have the knowledge described in your CV.
- Broaden your spectrum of potential positions – do not focus on one title only; for example *secretary* can have similar duties to receptionists, office assistant/manager, sales support person etc. An official job title classification in your country may be quite different in Australia; therefore, keep your options and mind open.
- You may have to start at a lower level than initially planned, but after you are given opportunity to excel and are willing to take on more responsibilities, you may be promoted very soon.
- Volunteering is one way of getting your foot in the door.
- Offer to work one week for free to show how you are able to contribute to the employer's success by taking some responsibilities away from them, making higher sales profits, save money by introducing new procedures, or market to more people etc.
- Do not compare the desired position to what you were used in your country. It may be completely different, and procedures and products may vary. Most employers may be interested to hear about the differences to gather some ideas, but if you do it too often, they may assume you are unhappy, or unwilling to adapt.
- Listen to what the employer wants and don't be afraid to ask questions and be willing to learn new skills and gain new knowledge.
- Network, network, network!
- Remember that every local experience will get you closer to the position you want in the long term.
- Stay positive, motivated and be persistent!

Prepare in advance and try to achieve the highest possible level of English language knowledge, before you come to Australia. Some newcomers make mistakes and search for a job in order to learn English.