

MIXED GRAPHS – OVERVIEW

Writing an overview for mixed graphs (e.g. a table + bar chart, line + pie chart, etc.) in IELTS Writing Task 1 requires summarizing main trends or patterns from *both* visuals, while not going into details or specific data yet.

Step-by-Step Guide

1. Identify the Graph Types and Their Focus

- Understand what each graph is showing.
 - E.g., a **table** may show actual numbers (e.g., number of doctors).
 - A **bar chart** may show **percentages** by gender or origin.

2. Look for Key Trends or Comparisons

- What increased or decreased?
- Is there a **contrast** between categories (e.g., male vs. female, born in Australia vs. born overseas)?
- Is there a trend of **convergence, divergence, or balance**?

3. Summarize Main Trends Only (No Specific Numbers)

- Use high-level observations like:
 - "Overall, the total number of X rose steadily..."**
 - "There was a gradual increase in the proportion of Y..."**
 - "By the end of the period, Z had overtaken W."**

4. Cover All Graphs Briefly

- Don't ignore one of the visuals.
- Combine trends into one overview paragraph.

Useful Phrases for Overviews

- Overall, it is clear that...
- In general, the most noticeable trend is that...
- It is evident that...
- A striking feature is that...
- There was a steady increase in...
- ...remained the dominant group throughout the period.
- The gap between... narrowed over time.

Overview Template for Mixed Graphs

Overall, the total number of [main subject from graph 1] showed a consistent [increase/decrease] over the period. **Meanwhile**, the [category breakdown from graph 2] revealed a shift in [gender balance/national origin/age group], with [group A] becoming more/less prevalent.

Number of doctors in Australia (1986, 1996, and 2006)

| 1986 | 1996 | 2006 |
|--------|--------|--------|
| 23.720 | 29.060 | 35.450 |

Percentage of doctors in Australia by gender and place of birth (1986, 1996, and 2006)



TASK 1 - DOCTORS IN AUSTRALIA

Overall, the number of doctors in Australia **increased steadily** over the 20-year period. **At the same time**, there were **noticeable shifts** in the demographic composition of the medical workforce, with female and overseas-born doctors **making up an increasingly larger share** by 2006.

Overview 1 (General Trends Focus)

| | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Australian-born narrowed | born overseas steadily increased |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|

Overall, the number of doctors in Australia (1) _____ over the 20-year period, **while** the gender gap between male and female doctors (2) _____. **In terms of place of birth**, the proportion of doctors (3) _____ rose **consistently**, **reaching parity with** (4) _____ doctors by 2006.

Overview 2 (Gender and Nationality Trends)

| | | | | |
|---------------|------------|----------------|--------------|--------------|
| born overseas | clear rise | gender balance | locally born | resulting in |
|---------------|------------|----------------|--------------|--------------|

The charts show a (1)_____ in the number of female doctors, indicating a trend towards (2)_____ in the profession. **Meanwhile**, the share of doctors (3)_____ gradually grew, (4)_____ equal representation with (5)_____ doctors by the end of the period.

Overview 3 (Numerical and Proportional Change)

| | | | |
|----------------|---------------------|--------------|-------------------|
| accompanied by | eventually matching | male doctors | rose consistently |
|----------------|---------------------|--------------|-------------------|

Overall, the number of doctors in Australia increased steadily over the period, (1)_____ a gradual decline in the proportion of (2)_____. At the same time, the share of doctors born overseas (3)_____, (4)_____ the percentage of those born in Australia.

Overview 4 (Gender-Driven Analysis)

| | | | |
|-------------|--------------|---------------------|----------|
| disappeared | feminization | increasing steadily | majority |
|-------------|--------------|---------------------|----------|

Throughout the two decades, the medical profession in Australia experienced significant (1)_____, with the proportion of female doctors (2)_____. **Despite this**, males continued to represent the (3)_____ in all three years. The gap between Australian-born and overseas-born doctors, **however**, (4)_____ by 2006.

| | | | | |
|------------|-------------|------------|----------|-------------|
| diminished | distinction | even split | majority | steady rise |
|------------|-------------|------------|----------|-------------|

Throughout the period, the medical profession in Australia saw a (1)_____ in female participation, though men remained the (2)_____. **Simultaneously**, the (3)_____ between Australian-born and overseas-born doctors (4)_____, resulting in an (5)_____ by the final year.

Overview 5 (Balanced Summary)

| | | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| diversification | marked increase | medical workforce | rising proportion |
|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------|-------------------|

In summary, the Australian (1)_____ grew considerably from 1986 to 2006. This growth was accompanied by a (2)_____ in female participation and a (3)_____ rising proportion of overseas-born doctors, both of which suggest a (4)_____ in the country's medical sector.

| | | | | |
|--------------------|--------------|---------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| demographic shifts | more diverse | overseas-born | rising proportion | significant growth |
|--------------------|--------------|---------------|-------------------|--------------------|

In summary, the Australian medical workforce experienced (1)_____ alongside notable (2)_____. These included a (3)_____ of female doctors and an increasing share of (4)_____ professionals, pointing to a (5)_____ and balanced workforce over time.