

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

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.

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



Overview 1 (General Trends Focus)

Australian-born **born overseas**
narrowed **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