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Who earns the big bucks in medicine

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GPs scrape into the top 50 highest earners in Australia, but fall well below their specialist and surgical colleagues, according to the Australian Taxation Office (ATO).

Male GPs earn an average of \$185,000 per year and rank number 48 among all Australian men, while female GPs earn an average of \$130,000 and rank number 40 among all Australian women, taxation statistics from 2013/2014 show.

Neurosurgeons are the top earners among males, raking in almost \$600,000 per year, while judges are the top earners among females, earning about \$350,000 per year.

Specialist physicians and surgeons dominate the top 20 spots, occupying 18 of the top 20 male positions and 17 of the top 20 female positions.

Professionals from the legal and finance industries occupy the majority of the non-medical top 50 positions, with cricketers, politicians, engineers and mining managers also getting a look in.

Although it is widely speculated that tradies earn more than GPs, the ATO statistics reveal that the average income of builders, plumbers and electricians is \$70,000-\$90,000.

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