

## 2014 Graduate Nurse and Midwife Questionnaire

The ANMF conducted a brief survey of 2014 nursing and midwifery graduates to provide a snapshot of information on employment opportunities for newly graduated nurses and midwives in 2015.

The intention of the survey was both to provide a platform for the commencement of further work by the National Graduate Nurse and Midwife Roundtable - Working Group and to continue engagement with new graduate nurses and midwives.

The survey, which was conducted over 10 days, closing on 11 February 2015, simply explored whether nurse and midwives who graduated in 2014 had secured employment, where they had completed their courses and if employed, on what basis – that is full-time, part-time or casual and if they had secured permanent positions. Respondents were also invited to provide information on where they had been offered employment as well as make any additional comments.

There was a total of 366 responses from newly graduated nurses and midwives, with the significant majority being registered nurses (Figure 1).

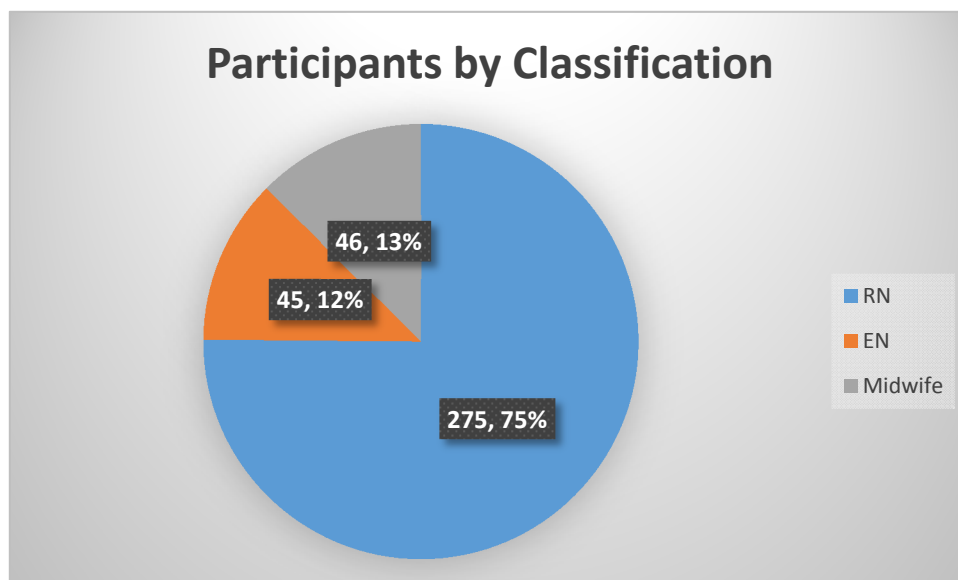


Figure 1 – Participants by classification

Nurses and midwives responded from across all states and territories, with the greatest proportion of responses, 27.6%, from those who had completed their courses in Queensland (Figure 2).

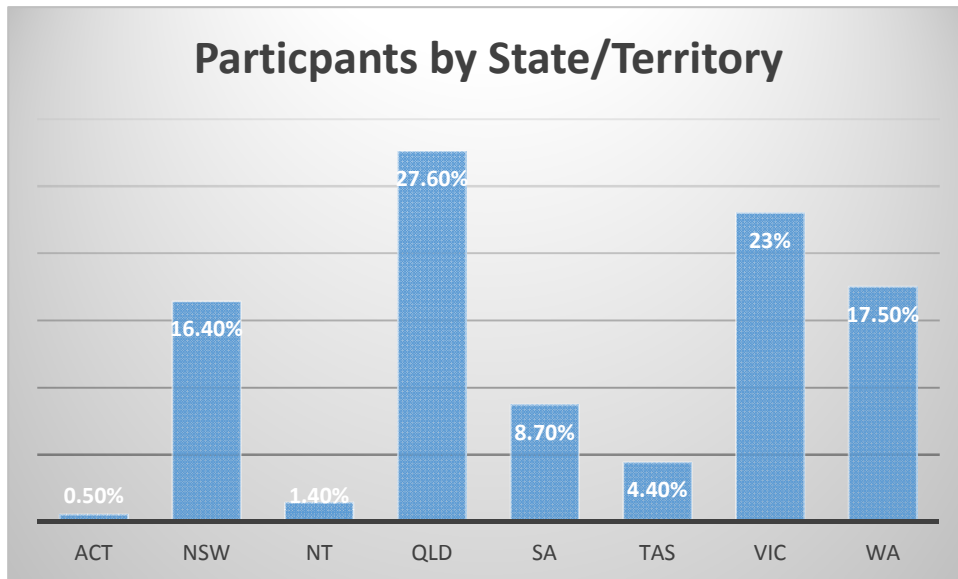


Figure 2 – Participants by state/territory

Almost two –thirds of respondents indicated that they had gained employment, with just over a third still not able to secure employment as a nurse or a midwife (Figure 3). 202 of those employed responded that they are employed within a graduate nurse/midwife transitional program.

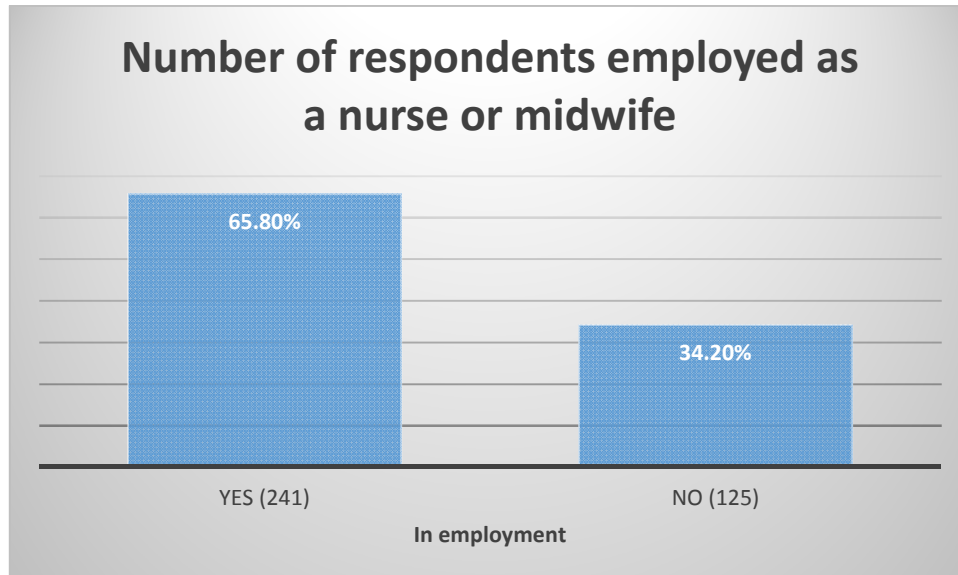


Figure 3 – Number of respondents employed as a nurse or midwife

The majority of respondents who had secured employment reported working on a part-time or casual basis (Figure 4). Only 15% of participants responded that they were employed on a permanent basis.

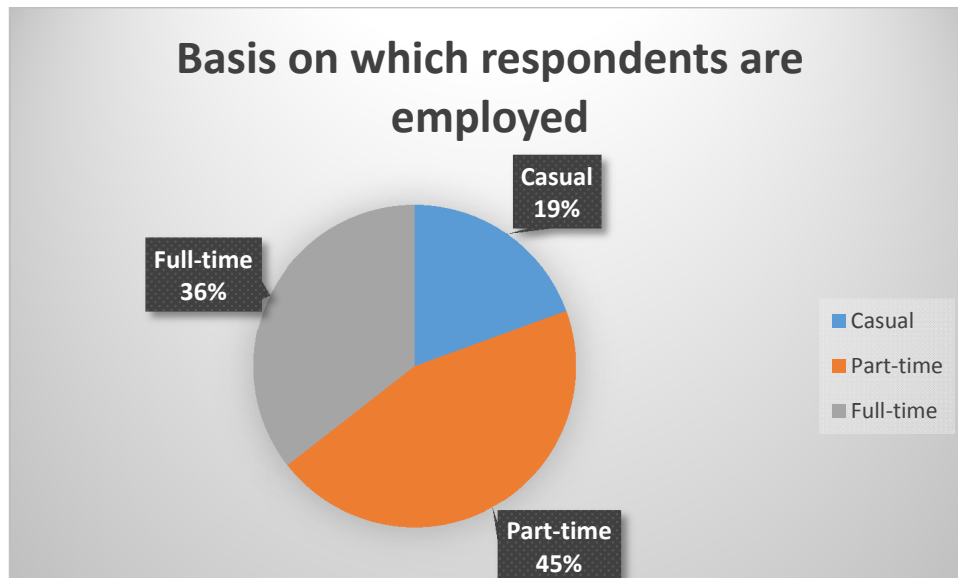


Figure 4 – Basis on which respondents are employed

The respondents who had secured employment were employed across a wide range of clinical areas, including several specialty areas such as peri-operative, critical care, NICU and mental health with a majority of those employed in the public sector. However, very few of these nurses and midwives, as indicated earlier, had secured permanent jobs so will therefore be facing another round of job seeking once they have completed their transition programs.

A number of themes, which the ANMF has increasingly noted over the last few years, were raised by those respondents who had not been able to secure employment.

These included:

- No offer of employment due to lack of experience
- Without completion of a 'new graduate program' can't get work
- Lack of jobs available for new graduates
- Many have applied for multiple positions – 15, 20, 30, 35 – without luck
- Some are working in administration or retail just to get by.