



Nursing Education Program of Saskatchewan (NEPS) Exit Survey:

Graduates of the SDEO option of the NEPS Program in
the 2009-2010 Academic Year

Prepared for
The College of Nursing of the University of Saskatchewan, the
Nursing Division of the Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science
and Technology, and the Health Sciences Department of the First
Nations University of Canada

Final Report
Class of 2009-10



Acknowledgments

We wish to acknowledge the support and direction from the Deans of the Nursing Education Program of Saskatchewan:

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Science and Technology

Acting Director Carrie Lavallie
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Chris Barlow, Nursing Division, SIAST
Carrie Lavallie, First Nations University of Canada

We also wish to acknowledge the financial support from the following:

Saskatchewan Health and Saskatchewan Learning
Saskatchewan Registered Nurses' Association
Saskatchewan Union of Nurses

The final report prepared by Inshtrix, *Nursing Education Program of Saskatchewan (NEPS) Exit Survey: Graduates of the 2009-2010 Academic Year Final Report* is available from the College of Nursing, University of Saskatchewan, the Nursing Division, Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science and Technology, or the Dept. of Health Sciences, First Nations University of Canada. These reports are available on the College of Nursing website at <http://www.usask.ca/nursing/NEPS/reports.htm>

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Executive Summary
Class of 2009-10



Executive Summary

In this report, we summarize the results of the 2009-2010 Graduate Exit Survey for the Nursing Education Program of Saskatchewan (NEPS) Second Degree Entry Option (SDEO). This is the ninth exit survey that has been conducted for the NEPS program but only the fourth report for the NEPS SDEO. In this report, we examine anticipated employment and graduate expectations at program completion. This report includes comparisons with the 2006-2007, 2007-2008, 2008-2009 NEPS SDEO exit surveys.

Response Rate

The survey was conducted online by e-mail invitation sent to 47 graduates of the SDEO option of the NEPS program of whom 32 completed the survey, giving a 68.1% response rate overall. This report summarizes the results for SDEO NEPS graduates; a report summarizing results for the regular graduates is available in a separate document.

Experience Prior to and During the NEPS Program

Prior to starting the SDEO NEPS program, one in five (21.9%) indicated that they had previous education in the health care field. Most (84.4%) held a Baccalaureate degree prior to entering the SDEO NEPS program. In the year prior to entering the program, fifty percent (50.0%) were working and 46.9% were going to school. Of those who were working, 37.5% were working in the health care field.

During the NEPS program, seven in ten (71.9%) experienced a major life change. Four in ten (43.8%) relocated their home and three in ten (31.3%) experienced the illness or death of a family member or friend.

About one half (56.3%) of respondents worked as a Senior Assistant during their NEPS program and about four in ten (40.6%) had another job during the program.

Two thirds (68.8%) of respondents received scholarships or bursaries during the program, and most (95.5%) of these scholarships are from government support. The average value of the scholarship received by these respondents is \$5,250.

A majority (59.4%) also received student or educational loans during the program. The average value of the student or educational loans at the completion of the NEPS program is \$26,500.

Your Job Search and Anticipated Employment

At the time of the survey, nearly all (90.6%) of respondents had a job as a graduate nurse confirmed. All but one respondent (96.9%) expect to remain in Saskatchewan, and about one in ten (9.7%) will work in Prince Albert or Northern Saskatchewan. As with previous years' results, most (84.4%) will be working at a single site, and the most common type of location is a general hospital with 100 beds or more. The average weekly hours that respondents will work is 36. Graduates who had a job confirmed were asked the extent to which their job meets their ideal preferences on a five-point scale where 1 is "not at all" and 5 is "highly ideal". On average, the job responsibilities (4.3) and location (4.3) rated highest, while shifts (3.9) received the lowest average rating. Although respondents will most commonly (43.8%) be working regular full-time hours, the proportion who will be working either casual or part-time hours has increased significantly from 8.6% in 2009 to 31.3% this year. There has also been a notable decline in the proportion who are or will be employed in their preferred hours. This year, a total of 59.4% were employed as per their preference, compared to 71.4% last year and a high of 86.4% in 2007. Overall, most (56.3%) respondents expect to earn between \$50,000 and \$70,000 per year.

Only one (3.1%) respondent does not expect to be employed in nursing within the first six months after graduation, and indicated that this is because of an intent to travel.

In terms of the factors that most influenced respondents' choice of work location for their first job as a graduate nurse, family or community commitments (56.3%), geographic location (53.1%) and clinical or client group I wanted (50.0%) are most commonly chosen as one of the top three factors influencing respondents' choice of work location. Clinical or work experience in the facility during the program (56.3%) was most commonly chosen as the most useful strategy in respondents' job search.

Many (66.7%) respondents received a job offer from a unit where they were employed as a Senior Assistant, and most (53.1%) received a job offer from a unit where they had their 4th year practicum experiences. However, respondents were much more likely to indicate that their job search was more difficult (43.8%) than expected than to indicate that it was less difficult (12.5%) than expected.

Demographics and Satisfaction

Most (59.4%) respondents were between the ages of 21 and 25 when they entered the SDEO NEPS program. At the time of entry into the program, 53.1% were single and 46.9% were married or common law, while at the end of the program, 37.5% were single and 62.5% were married or common law. About one in ten (9.4%) had dependents while they were in the program. All but one respondent is female (96.9%). One (3.2%) respondent is of Aboriginal ancestry, and this respondent is Métis.

Nine in ten (87.5%) are satisfied or very satisfied with their educational experience in the NEPS program. Additionally, 75.0% feel that the NEPS program prepared them well for nursing practice and 6.3% feel that the program prepared them very well.

Table of Contents

GRADUATES OF THE SDEO OPTION OF THE NEPS PROGRAM IN THE 2009-2010 ACADEMIC YEAR	1
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS	2
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	<u>ii</u>
RESPONSE RATE	<u>ii</u>
EXPERIENCE PRIOR TO AND DURING THE NEPS PROGRAM	<u>ii</u>
YOUR JOB SEARCH AND ANTICIPATED EMPLOYMENT	ii
DEMOGRAPHICS AND SATISFACTION	<u>iiiii</u>
TABLE OF CONTENTS.....	<u>ii</u>
INTRODUCTION AND METHODOLOGY	<u>11</u>
GOALS AND OBJECTIVES.....	<u>11</u>
SCOPE OF WORK	<u>11</u>
SURVEY DESIGN.....	<u>11</u>
SURVEY DISTRIBUTION.....	<u>11</u>
RESPONSE RATES AND CONFIDENCE INTERVALS	2
RESEARCH NOTE.....	2
REPORTING NOTE	2
KEY FINDINGS	<u>33</u>
PRIOR TO STARTING THE NEPS PROGRAM	<u>33</u>
1c. Did you have any previous education in the health care field prior to starting the NEPS program?	<u>33</u>
2. Please identify your previous education in the health care field (check as many as apply).....	<u>44</u>
3. What was your highest educational achievement prior to starting the program?.....	<u>44</u>
4. Please specify the degree(s)/diploma(s)/certificates (including field of study) you held prior to starting the program:.....	<u>55</u>
5. What was your major activity in the year before starting NEPS?	<u>66</u>
6. Was this work in the health care field?.....	<u>66</u>
DURING THE NEPS PROGRAM	<u>77</u>
7. What year did you start your NEPS program:	<u>77</u>
8. What was your age when you entered the NEPS program?	<u>77</u>
9. What was your marital status when you entered the NEPS program?.....	<u>88</u>
9b. Did you have dependents during the program?.....	<u>99</u>
10. What was the program site at entry to the NEPS program?	<u>99</u>
11. Please indicate if you experienced any of the following significant life changes during the NEPS program? (check all that apply)	<u>99</u>
12. Did you work as a Senior Assistant during your NEPS program?	<u>1010</u>
13. Did you have a job, other than as a Senior Assistant, while in the NEPS program?.....	<u>1111</u>
14-17. On average, how many hours a week did you work at your job?	<u>1111</u>
18. Did you receive any scholarships or bursaries during the program?	<u>1212</u>
19. What was the total dollar value of scholarships or bursaries you received during the NEPS program?	<u>1212</u>
20. What was the major source of your scholarship/bursary support?	<u>1313</u>
21. Did you obtain any student or educational loans during the program?	<u>1313</u>
22. What was the total dollar value of your student or educational loans at completion of the NEPS program?	<u>1414</u>
24. What was your program site at graduation from the NEPS program?.....	<u>1414</u>

Exit Survey of the 2009-10 Graduates of the SDEO NEPS Program

YOUR JOB SEARCH AND ANTICIPATED EMPLOYMENT	1515
25. At the time of graduation, did you have a job as a graduate nurse confirmed?	1515
26-30. If you have confirmed employment, to what extent does your <i>first job</i> meet your ideal preferences, where '1' is not at all to '5' being highly ideal?	1717
31. Name the (one) most positive aspect of your first job.	1818
32. Within the first 6 months after graduation, do you expect to be:	1919
34. What is/would likely be the geographical location of your <i>first job</i> as a graduate nurse?.....	2020
35. Please specify whether the location of your <i>first job</i> as a graduate nurse is/would likely be:..	2121
36. Please rank <u>the top 3 factors</u> that influenced your choice of work location for your <i>first job</i> as a nurse, with 1 being most important and 3 being least important:	2323
37. Which strategy has been <u>most useful</u> in your job search?	2424
39. Did you get a job offer from a unit where you had your 4 th year senior practicum experiences?	2525
40. How does your experience in finding your <i>first job</i> compare with your expectations?.....	2626
41. What will be the work hours of your <i>first job</i> as a graduate nurse?	2727
42. Is being employed on this basis your preference?.....	2828
43. When you start your <i>first nursing job</i> , what do you expect will be the length of your orientation (including "buddy" shifts)?	2929
44. How many sites will you/do you expect to work at for your first job as a graduate nurse?	3030
45. What type of organization will you be working at?	3131
47. What is your main area of responsibility?.....	3131
48. On average, how many hours per week will you work?.....	3232
49. What do you expect will be your total annual earnings per year before taxes and deductions (Canadian Dollars)?.....	3333
GENERAL QUESTIONS	3434
50. Are you registering with any of the following associations (check all that apply)?	3434
51. What is your gender?.....	3434
52. Where did you grow up?	3535
53. Are you of Aboriginal ancestry?	3535
55. What is your current marital status?	3636
56. How satisfied are you with your educational experience in the NEPS program?.....	3737
57. How well do you believe your educational program has prepared you for nursing practice?..	3838
58. Do you plan to pursue graduate studies (Masters/PhD) at some time in the future?	3939
59. Do you have any additional comments regarding the education you received in the NEPS program?	4040
APPENDIX A	4141

Introduction and Methodology

Goals and Objectives

The purpose of this survey is to track the progress of students through NEPS and identify the career paths of Saskatchewan basic nursing education graduates. The goals include the following:

- Establish employment profiles of graduates and to identify trends over time.
- Identify graduates' perceptions of preparation and support for entry into the workforce.
- Explore details of the job search process.

Dr. Linda Ferguson obtained ethical approval for the individual phases of this project from the University of Saskatchewan Advisory Committee on Ethics in Behavioral Science Research. This report includes the results of the Exit Survey for the graduates of the SDEO program in the 2009-2010 academic year and compares them to the results of the 2006-2007, 2007-2008 and 2008-2009 NEPS SDEO Exit surveys.

Scope of Work

The College of Nursing at the University of Saskatchewan, the Nursing Division of the Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science and Technology (SIAST), and Department of Health Sciences at the First Nations University of Canada contracted Insightrix Research, Inc. to conduct research with the 2009-2010 Nursing Education Program of Saskatchewan (NEPS) Second Degree Entry Options (SDEO) graduates. The survey was conducted primarily online.

Survey Design

The questions asked of graduates were similar to the previous NEPS Exit surveys. The questionnaire was designed by the NEPS Database Coordinating Committee. Insightrix programmed the survey for online survey administration and distributed the invitation to complete the survey questionnaire by e-mail to the graduates.

Survey Distribution

Insightrix received e-mail addresses of the graduating SDEO NEPS students and each potential respondent was sent a personalized e-mail with a link to the survey.

The data collection was divided into three phases. The survey was administered to graduates at the end of their NEPS program. Reminder e-mails were sent to those who did not respond to the first invitation.

Response Rates and Confidence Intervals

The survey was conducted online by an e-mail invitation sent to graduates of the class of 2009-2010. Of the 47 graduates, 32 completed the survey, giving an overall response rate of 68.1%. Given this response rate, we can be 95% sure that the results reported are within ± 9.9 percentage points of the actual population figures, finite population correction factor applied.

Research Note

Due to the small sample size, results should be considered directional in nature.

Reporting Note

For ease in reporting results in graphs and tables throughout this report, the following labels will be used:

Graph / Table Label	Graduating Class
2007	2006-2007
2008	2007-2008
2009	2008-2009
2010	2009-2010

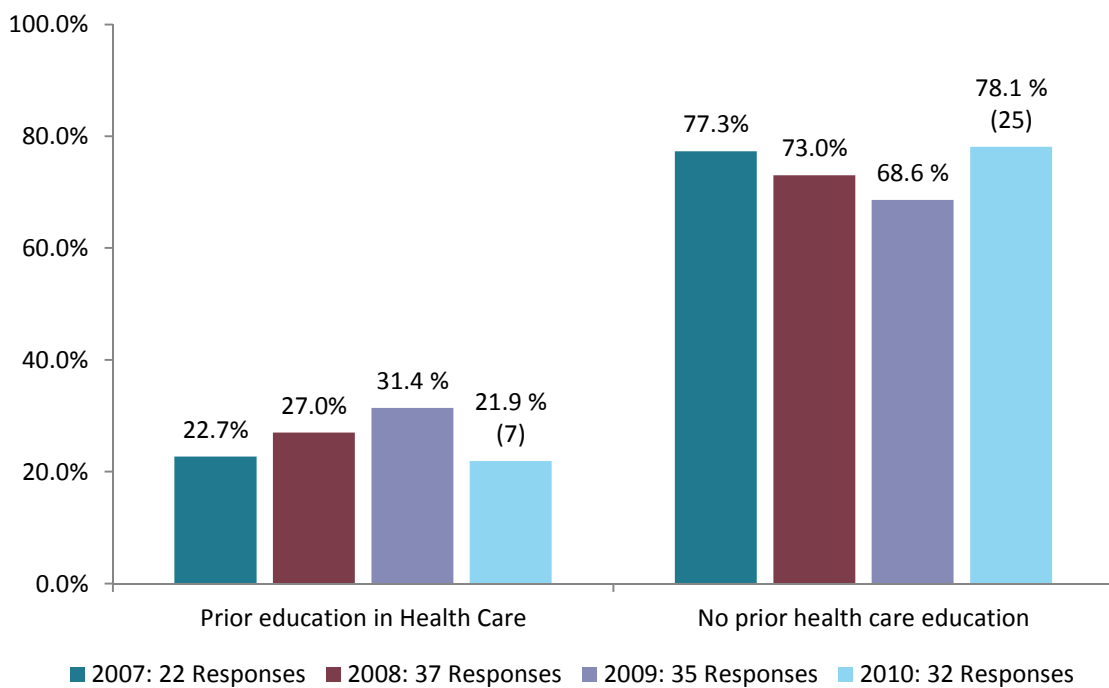
Key Findings

Prior to Starting the NEPS Program

1c. Did you have any previous education in the health care field prior to starting the NEPS program?

Prior to starting the SDEO NEPS program, two in ten (21.9%) had previous education in the health care field.

Figure 1- Previous education in the health care field



2. Please identify your previous education in the health care field (check as many as apply)

The following list includes the previous education listed by respondents.

- Kinesiology (2)
- Lab Tech/EMT
- Athletic Therapy
- Certified Exercise Physiologist (Kinesiology)
- Volunteer program
- Pulmonary Function Tech / Exercise Therapy / Kinesiologist / Disability Management / Ergonomics/Lab Tech/EMT

3. What was your highest educational achievement prior to starting the program?

More than eight in ten (84.4%) completed a University Baccalaureate degree prior to entering the NEPS program.

	2007	2008	2009	2010
Baccalaureate	63.6%	86.5%	88.6%	84.4 % (27)
Masters Degree	18.2%	0.0%	0.0%	3.1 % (1)
Some University*	18.2%	13.5%	8.6%	12.5 % (4)

* Those that had not completed a degree had at least 90 credit units of university preparation as a qualification for the program.

4. Please specify the degree(s)/diploma(s)/certificates (including field of study) you held prior to starting the program:

Most commonly, respondents held a Bachelor of Science. A number of different disciplines were mentioned.

Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry (3)

Bachelor of Science in Kinesiology (5)

Bachelor of Science in Biology (2)

Bachelor of Education (Secondary) and Bachelor of Arts in Art

Bachelor of Fine Arts

Bachelor of Arts in Geography, BSA in Plant Ecology, Masters of Science in Plant Science, Prairie

Horticulture Certificate

Bachelor of Management Degree

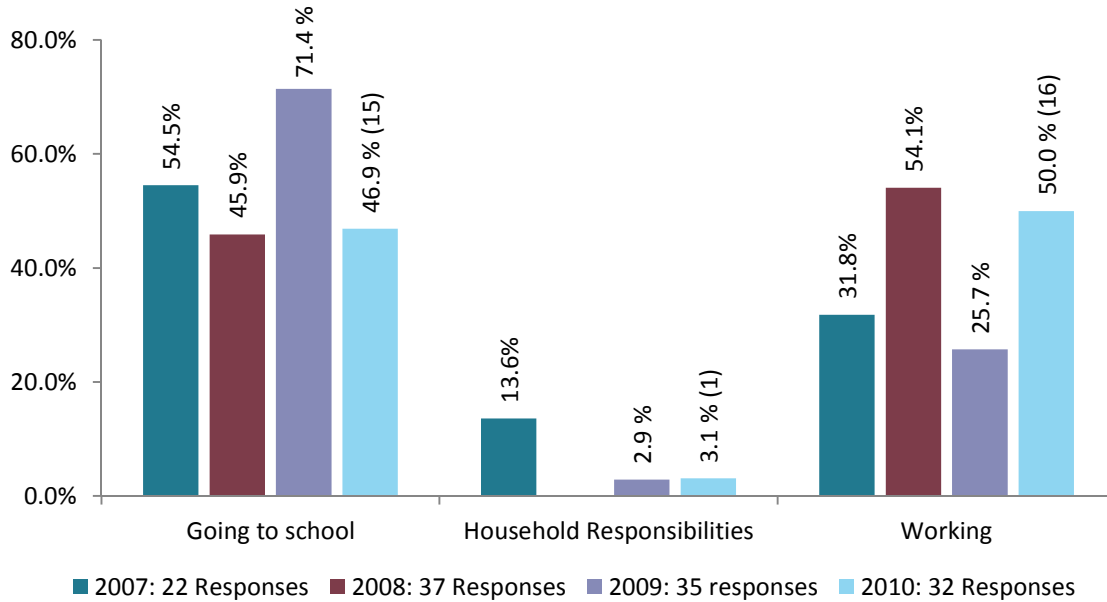
Bachelor of Science in Physiology

Bachelor of Science (No major specified)

Bachelor of Science in Microbiology and Biotechnology

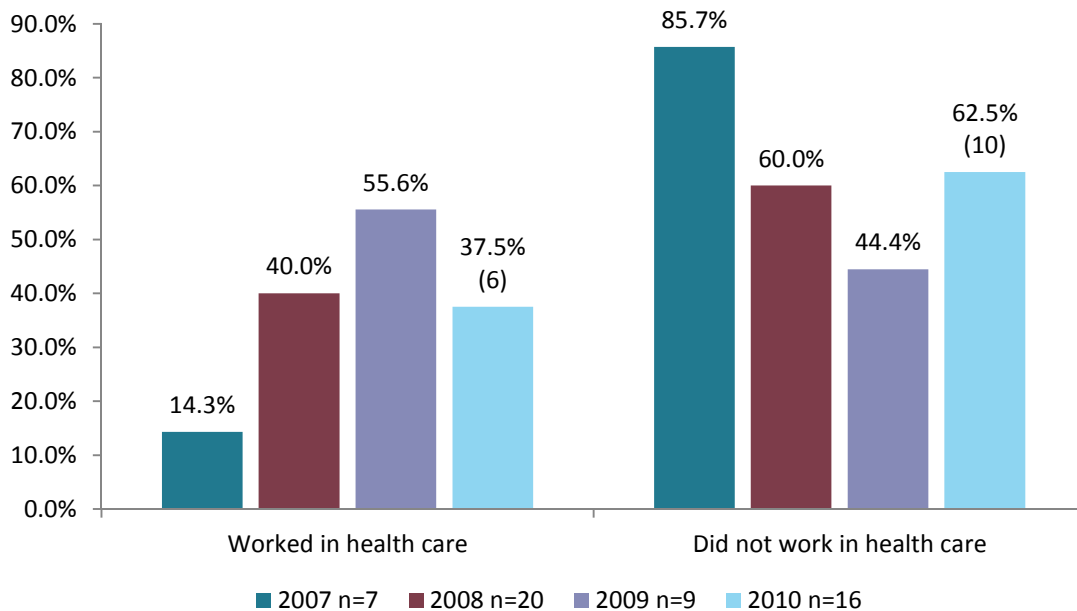
5. What was your major activity in the year before starting NEPS?

Fifty percent (50.0%) of respondents were working in the year before starting the NEPS program and about the same proportion were going to school (46.9%). The remaining 3.1% were taking care of household responsibilities.



6. Was this work in the health care field?

A minority (37.5%) worked in the health care field prior to entering in the SDEO NEPS program.



During the NEPS Program

7. What year did you start your NEPS program:

All respondents started their program in 2008.

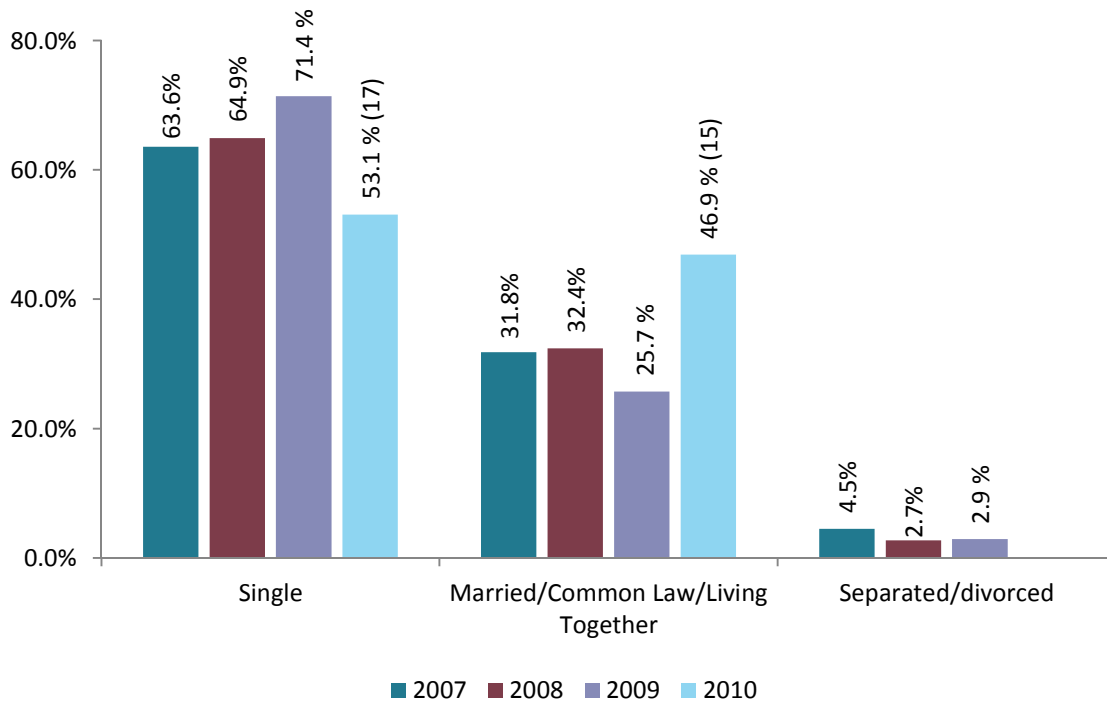
8. What was your age when you entered the NEPS program?

Most (59.4%) respondents were between the ages of 21 and 25 when they entered the SDEO program.

	2007 n = 22	2008 n = 37	2009 n = 35	2010 n = 32
20 or younger	4.5%	8.1%	11.4%	3.1 % (1)
21-25	59.1%	43.2%	65.7%	59.4 % (19)
26-30	18.2%	29.7%	11.4%	18.8 % (6)
Over 30	18.2%	18.9%	11.4%	18.8 % (6)

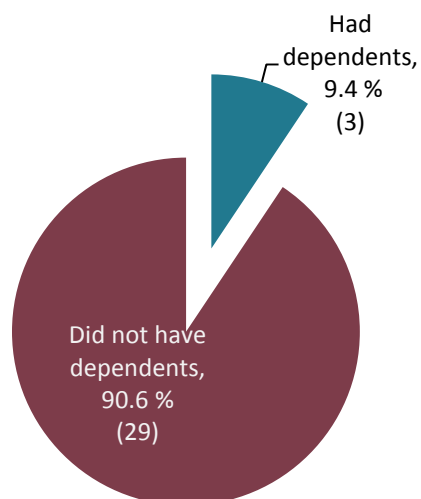
9. What was your marital status when you entered the NEPS program?

About one half (53.1%) were single when they entered the program and the remainder (46.9%) were married, common-law or living with a partner.



9b. Did you have dependents during the program?

Four respondents (9.4%) had dependents during the program. Two respondents had dependents that were 3 years old, another had a dependent that was 14 years old, and the fourth had two dependents that were 5 and 3 years old.



10. What was the program site at entry to the NEPS program?

All respondents entered the SDEO NEPS program in Saskatoon, the only site where the SDEO option is offered.

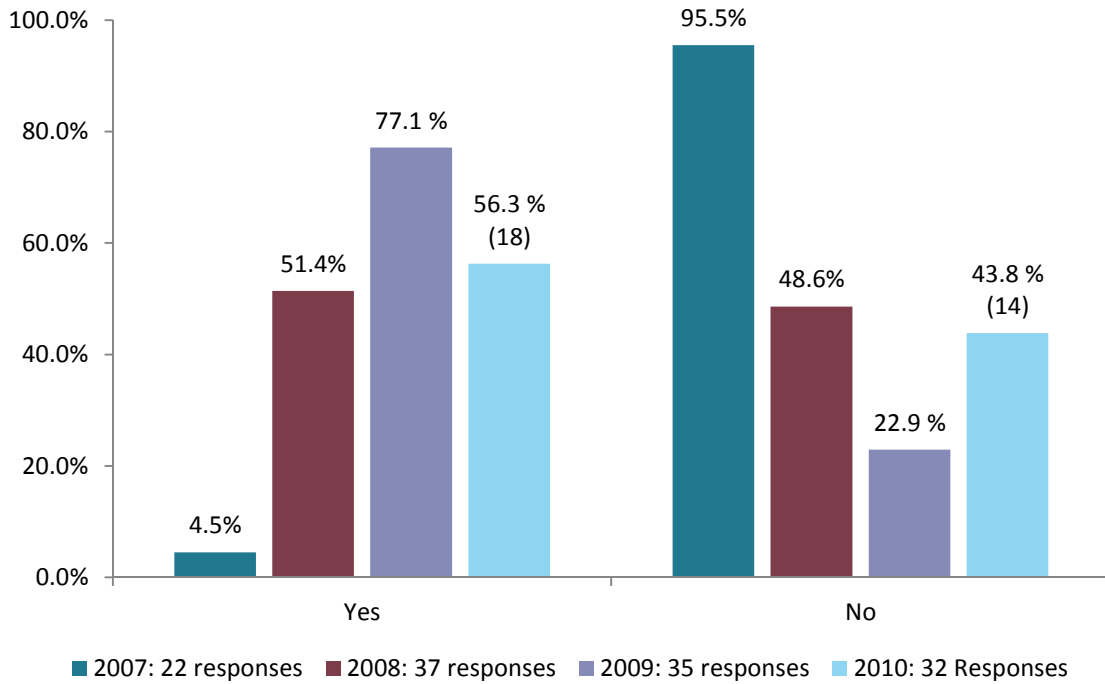
11. Please indicate if you experienced any of the following significant life changes during the NEPS program? (check all that apply)

Among NEPS SDEO program graduates, many (71.9%) experienced significant life changes during the program. A total of 43.8% relocated their home, 31.3% experienced an illness or death of a family member or friend and 12.5% had a change in marital status during that time.

	2007 n = 22	2008 n = 37	2009 n = 35	2010 n = 35
Home relocation	40.9%	40.5%	51.4 %	43.8 % (14)
Illness or death of family member or friend	22.7%	13.5%	28.6 %	31.3 % (10)
Change in marital status	0.0%	18.9%	5.7 %	12.5 % (4)
Care giving for dependent children or dependent adults	13.6%	5.4%	0.0 %	9.4 % (3)
Major uncertainty of Nursing as your profession	13.6%	16.2%	14.3 %	6.3 % (2)
Major personal illness or disability	0.0%	2.7%	8.6 %	3.1 % (1)
Birth of child	0.0%	2.7%	2.9 %	0.0 %
Other, (please specify)	4.5%	5.4%	0.0 %	6.3 % (2)
None	40.9%	40.5%	37.1 %	28.1 % (9)

12. Did you work as a Senior Assistant during your NEPS program?

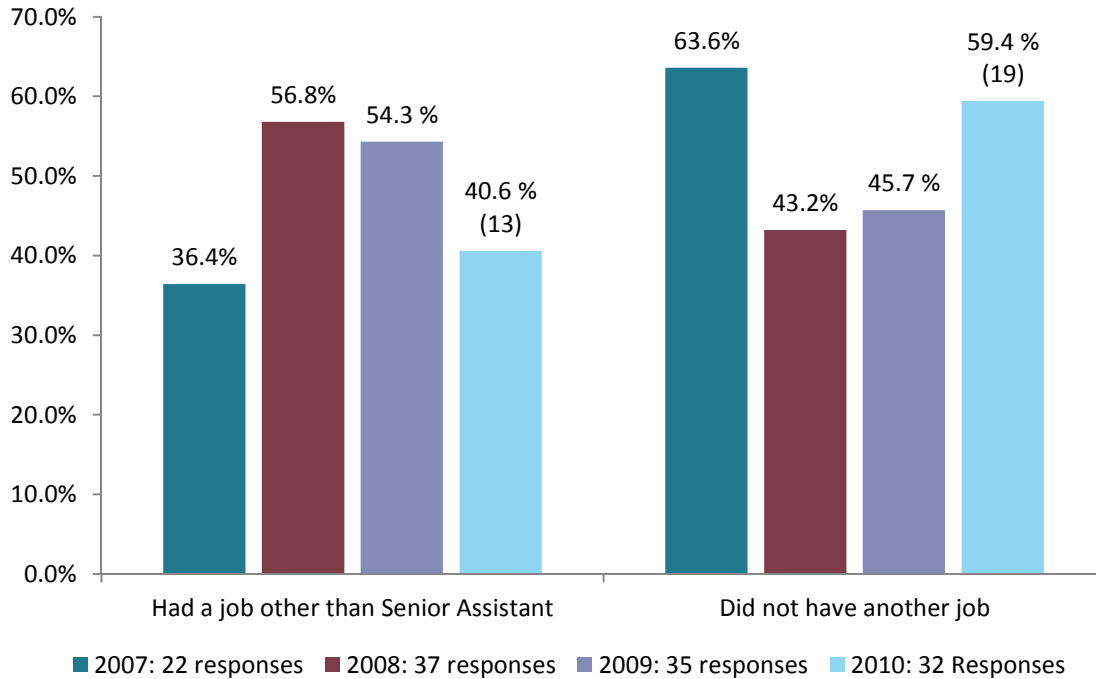
About one half (56.3%) worked as a Senior Assistant during their NEPS program.



13. Did you have a job, other than as a Senior Assistant, while in the NEPS program?

Four in ten (40.6%) had a job aside from working as a Senior Assistant while they were in the NEPS program.

Figure 27 - Had a job while in NEPS



14-17. On average, how many hours a week did you work at your job?

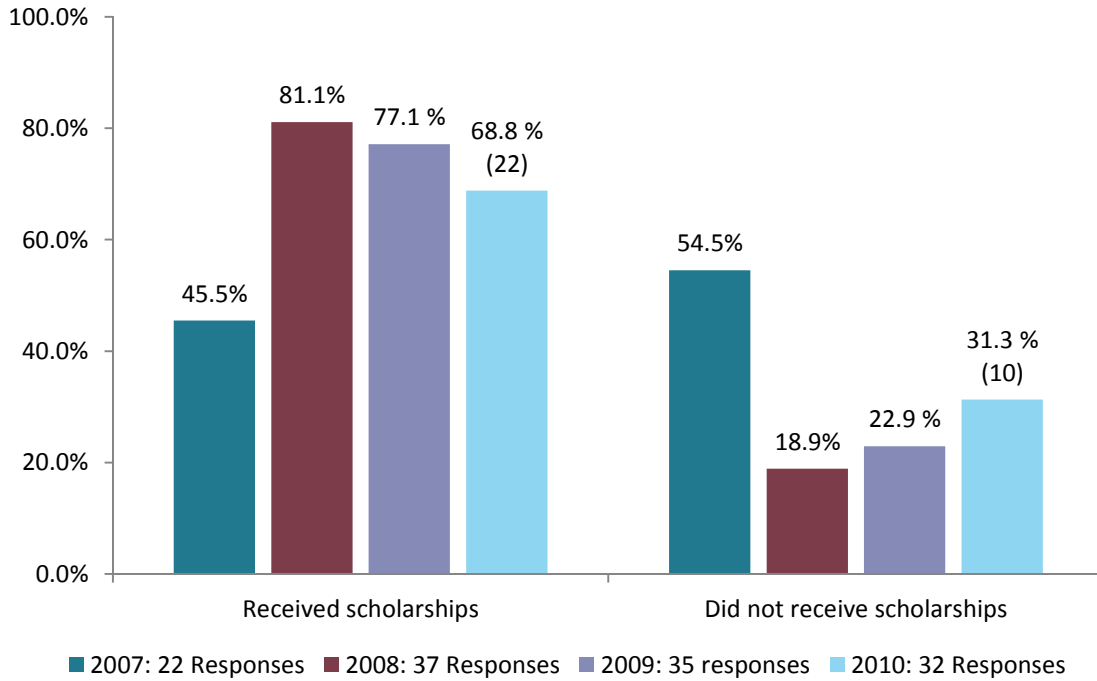
Among those who worked while attending the NEPS program, respondents worked an average of 9.4 hours per week in their first year and 8.6 hours per week in their second year.

	2007	2008	2009	2010
First Year	13.8	10.2	10.4	9.4
Second Year	10.9	9.4	11.9	8.6

18. Did you receive any scholarships or bursaries during the program?

Two thirds (68.8%) of respondents received scholarships or bursaries during the program.

Figure 38 - Received scholarships during the program



19. What was the total dollar value of scholarships or bursaries you received during the NEPS program?

Most (59.1%) respondents received between \$5,001 and \$10,000 in scholarship support. The average value of respondents' scholarships totaled \$5,250.

	2007		2008		2009		2010	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
\$1,000 and under	0	0.0%	2	6.7%	2	7.4%	1	4.5 %
\$1,001 to \$2,000	2	20.0%	3	10.0%	2	7.4%	1	4.5 %
\$2,001 to \$5,000	2	20.0%	6	20.0%	9	33.3%	6	27.3 %
\$5,001 to \$10,000	6	60.0%	19	63.3%	11	40.7%	13	59.1 %
More than \$10,000	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	3	11.1%	1	4.5 %
Total	10	100.0%	30	100.0%	27	100.0%	22	100.0 %
Average	\$5,100		\$5,770		\$6,407		\$5,250	

20. What was the major source of your scholarship/bursary support?

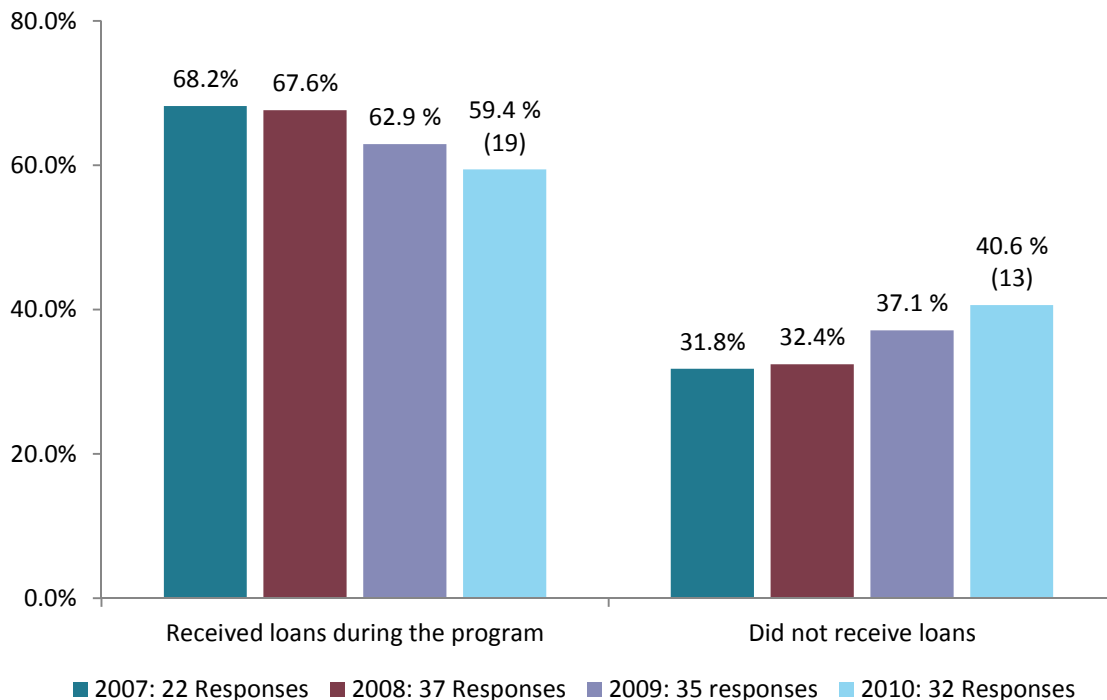
Nearly all (95.5%) respondents indicated that the government was the main source of their scholarship.

	2007		2008		2009		2010	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Government	7	70.0%	23	76.7%	18	66.7%	21	95.5 %
University	2	20.0%	5	16.7%	5	18.5%	0	0.0 %
Regional Health Authority	1	10.0%	1	3.3%	0	0.0%	1	4.5 %
First Nation Bands/Metis Organization	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	7.4%	0	0.0 %
Other	0	0.0%	1	3.3%	2	7.4%	0	0.0 %
Total	10	100.0%	30	100.0%	27	100.0%	22	100.0 %

21. Did you obtain any student or educational loans during the program?

Six in ten (59.4%) obtained student or educational loans during their program.

Figure 46 - Obtained student loans during the program



22. What was the total dollar value of your student or educational loans at completion of the NEPS program?

The average value of respondents' loans is \$26,500.

	2007		2008		2009		2010	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
\$10000 & under	0	0.0%	1	4.2%	4	18.2%	3	15.8 %
\$10001-\$20000	1	6.7%	7	29.2%	8	36.4%	6	31.6 %
\$20001-\$35000	8	53.3%	5	20.8%	4	18.2%	5	26.3 %
Over \$35000	6	40.0%	11	45.8%	6	27.3%	2	10.5 %
Total	15	100.0%	24	100.0%	22	100.0%	19	100.0 %
Average	\$35,200		\$32,902		\$27,323		\$26,500	

23. On what date did you complete your NEPS program?

All but two respondents completed their program in April 2010, and two completed in September of 2010.

24. What was your program site at graduation from the NEPS program?

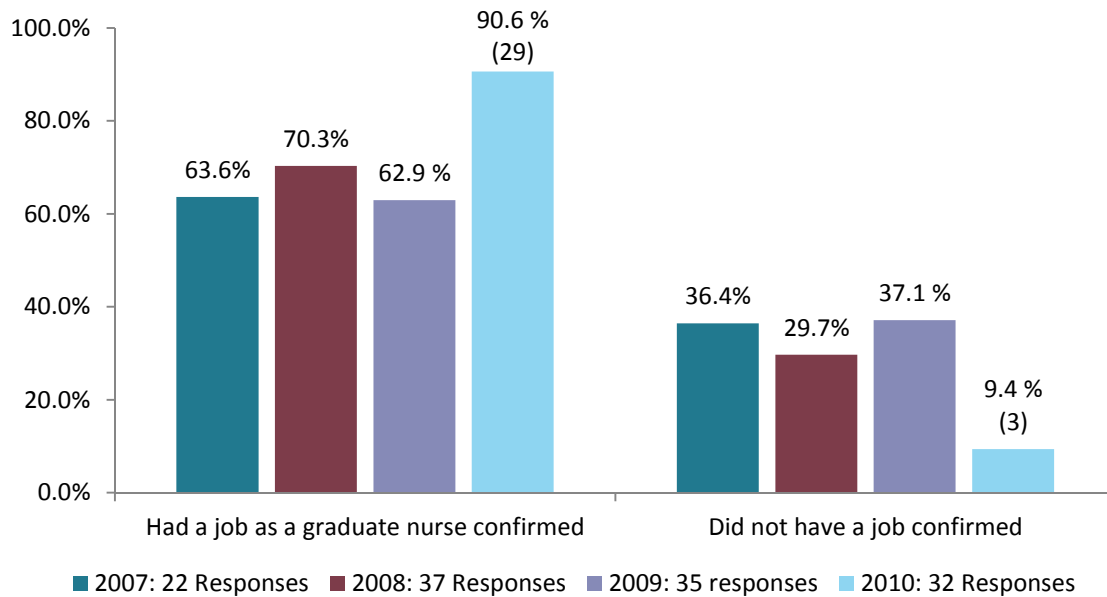
All respondents graduated from the Saskatoon location, which is the only site that offers the SDEO NEPS program.

Your Job Search and Anticipated Employment

25. At the time of graduation, did you have a job as a graduate nurse confirmed?

Nine in ten (90.6%) had a job confirmed at the time of their graduation from the SDEO NEPS program.

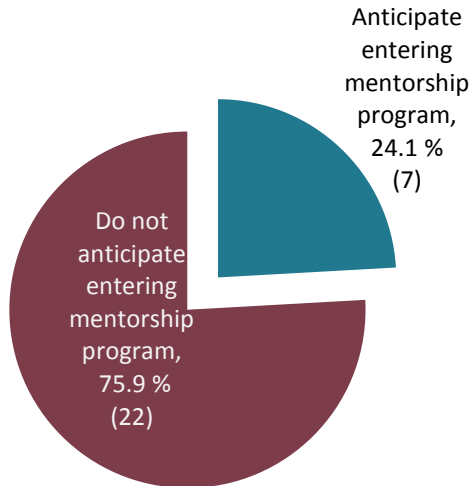
Figure 510 - Have a graduate job confirmed



*In 2007 and 2008, respondents were asked “At this time, do you have a job as a graduate nurse confirmed”.

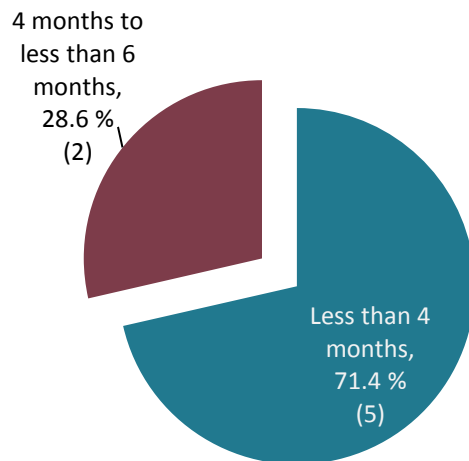
25a. Do you anticipate entering a formal mentorship program provided by your employing health region?

About one quarter (24.1%) of respondents anticipate entering a mentorship program provided by the health region at which they are employed.



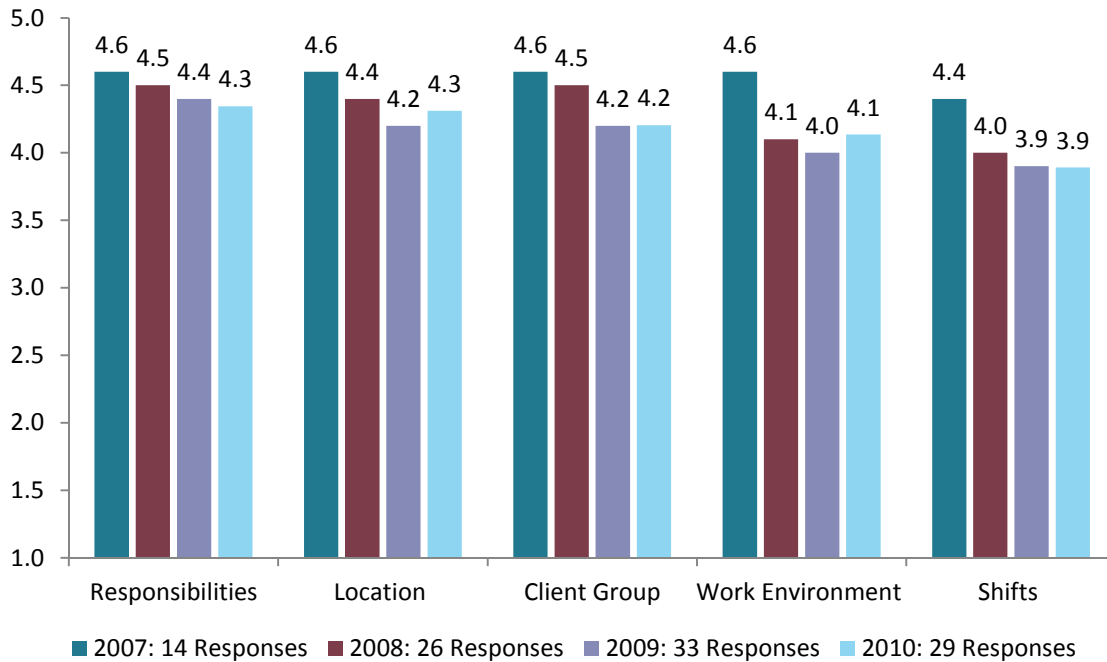
25b. How long do you expect the mentorship period to be?

Most (71.4%) expect the mentorship program to last less than 4 months and 28.6% expect the program to last between 4 and 6 months.



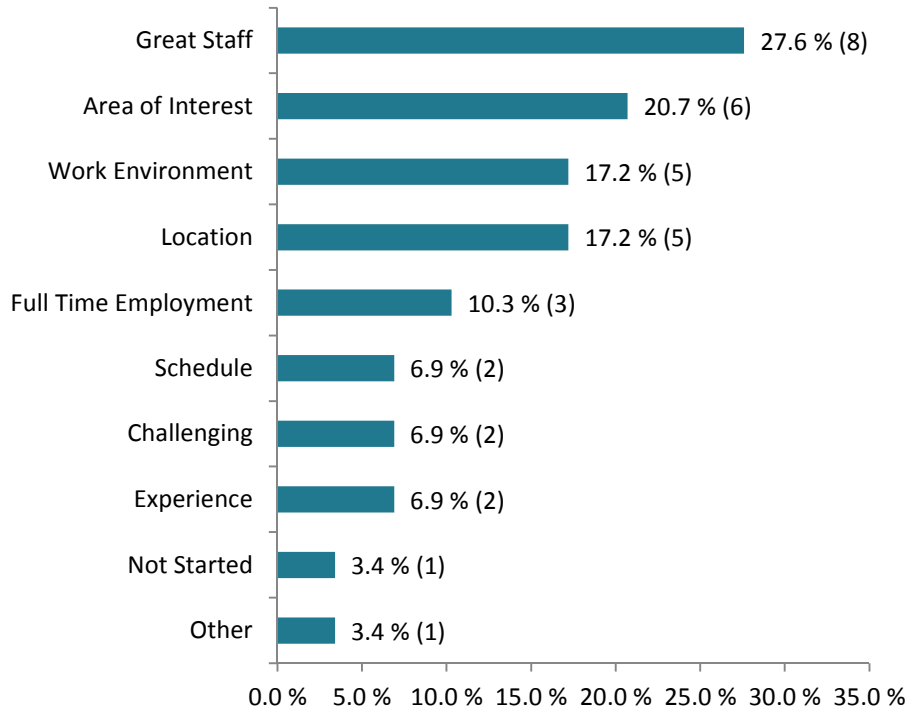
26-30. If you have confirmed employment, to what extent does your *first job* meet your ideal preferences, where '1' is not at all to '5' being highly ideal?

Responsibilities (4.3) and location (4.3) received the highest average ratings in terms of how well their first job meets their ideal preferences, followed by the client group (4.2) and the work environment (4.1). Shifts (3.9) received the lowest average rating among respondents of the five areas listed.



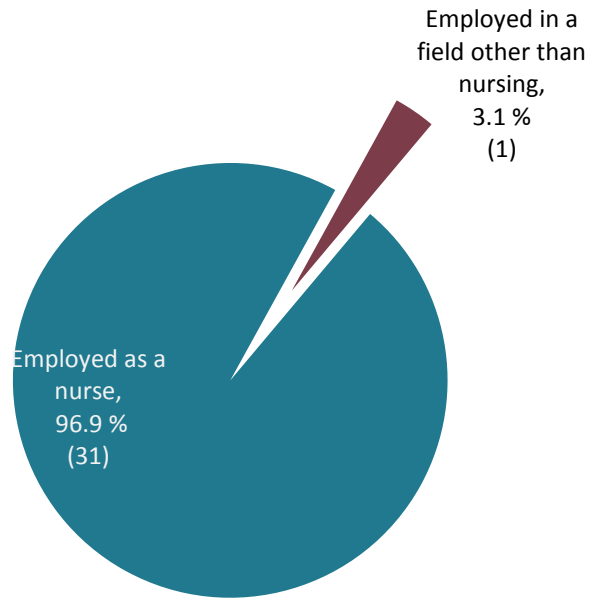
31. Name the (one) most positive aspect of your first job.

Great staff (27.6%) is most commonly mentioned as the most positive aspect of respondents' first jobs. Working in their area of interest (20.7%), the work environment (17.2%) and the location (17.2%) is also commonly mentioned.



32. Within the first 6 months after graduation, do you expect to be:

Nearly all (96.9%) respondents expect to be employed as a nurse within the first six months after graduation.

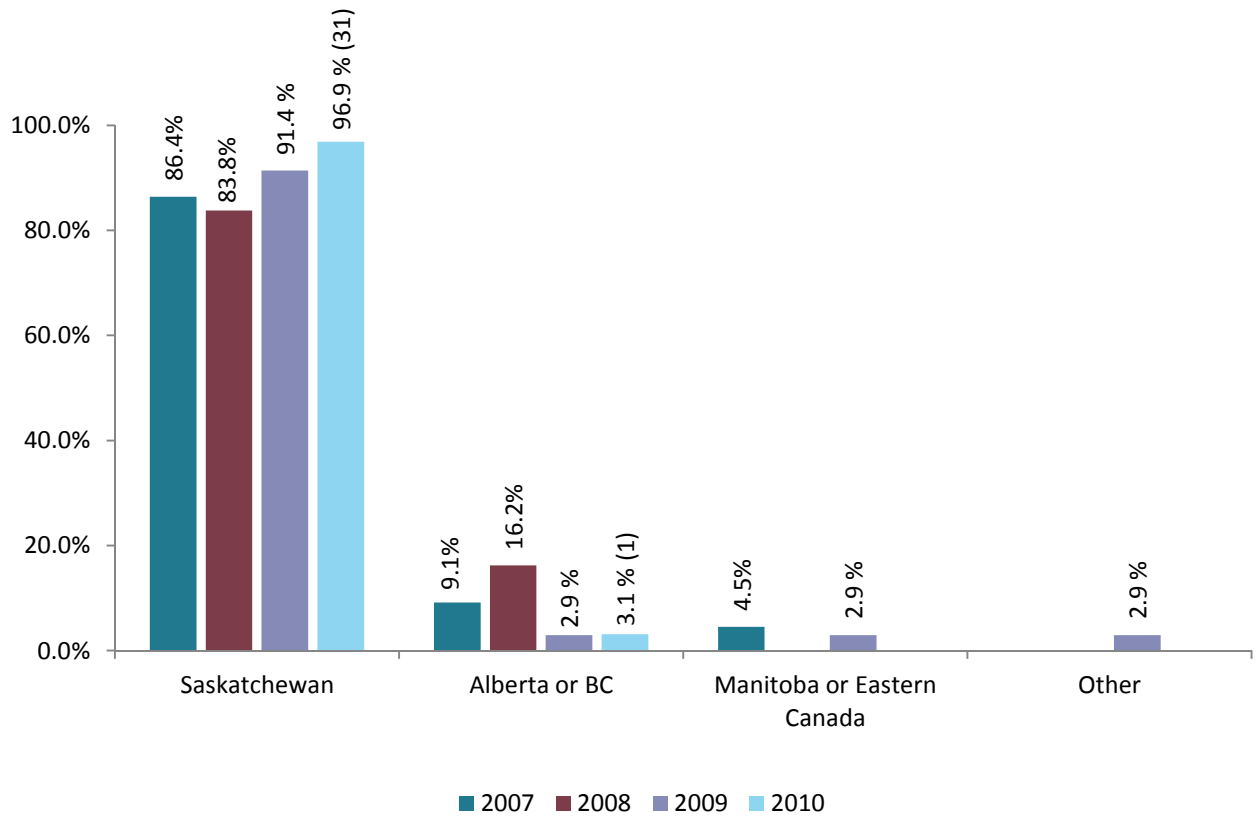


33. If you do not expect to be employed as a nurse in the first 6 months after completing the NEPS program, what is the MAIN reason why?

One respondent does not expect to be employed in the field of nursing in the first six months after graduation because he or she intends to be traveling.

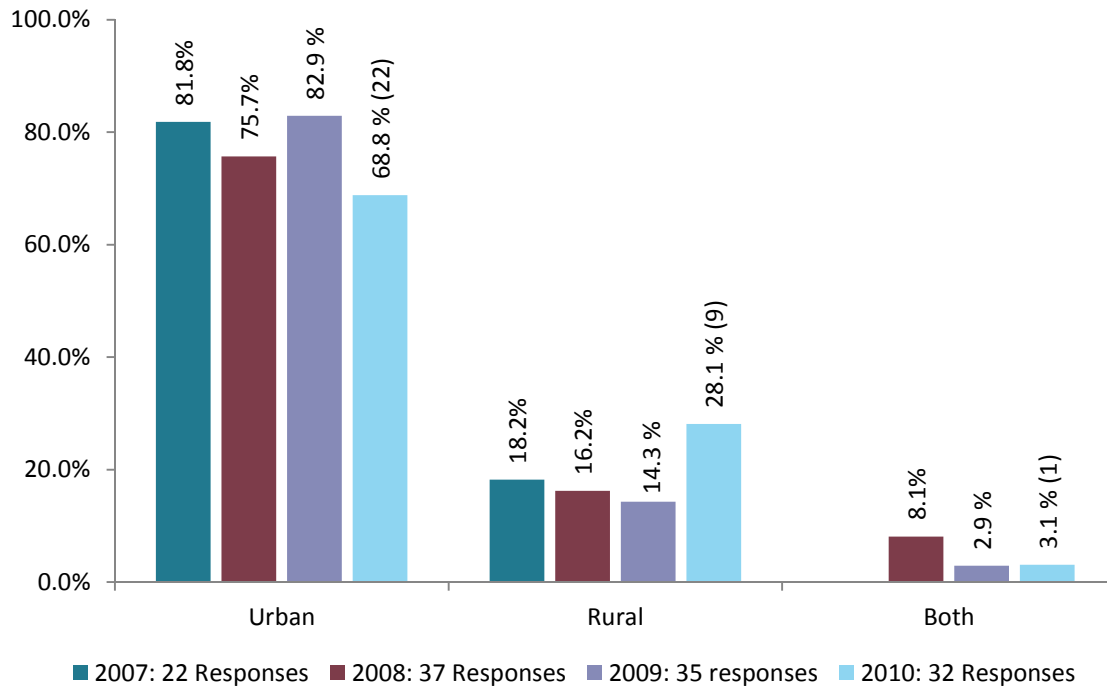
34. What is/would likely be the geographical location of your *first job* as a graduate nurse?

Nearly all (96.9%) respondents indicated that they will be or will likely be employed in Saskatchewan in their first job as a graduate nurse.



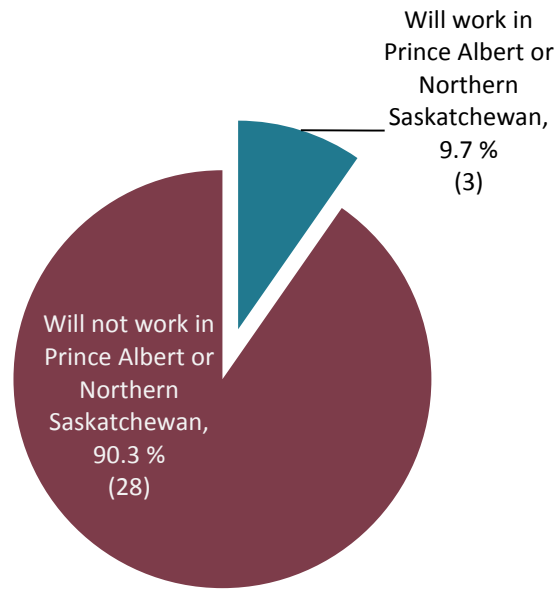
35. Please specify whether the location of your *first job* as a graduate nurse is/would likely be:

Most (68.8%) are or anticipate working in an urban setting; however, the proportion that are or anticipate working in a rural setting has doubled from 14.3% in 2009 to 28.1% in 2010.



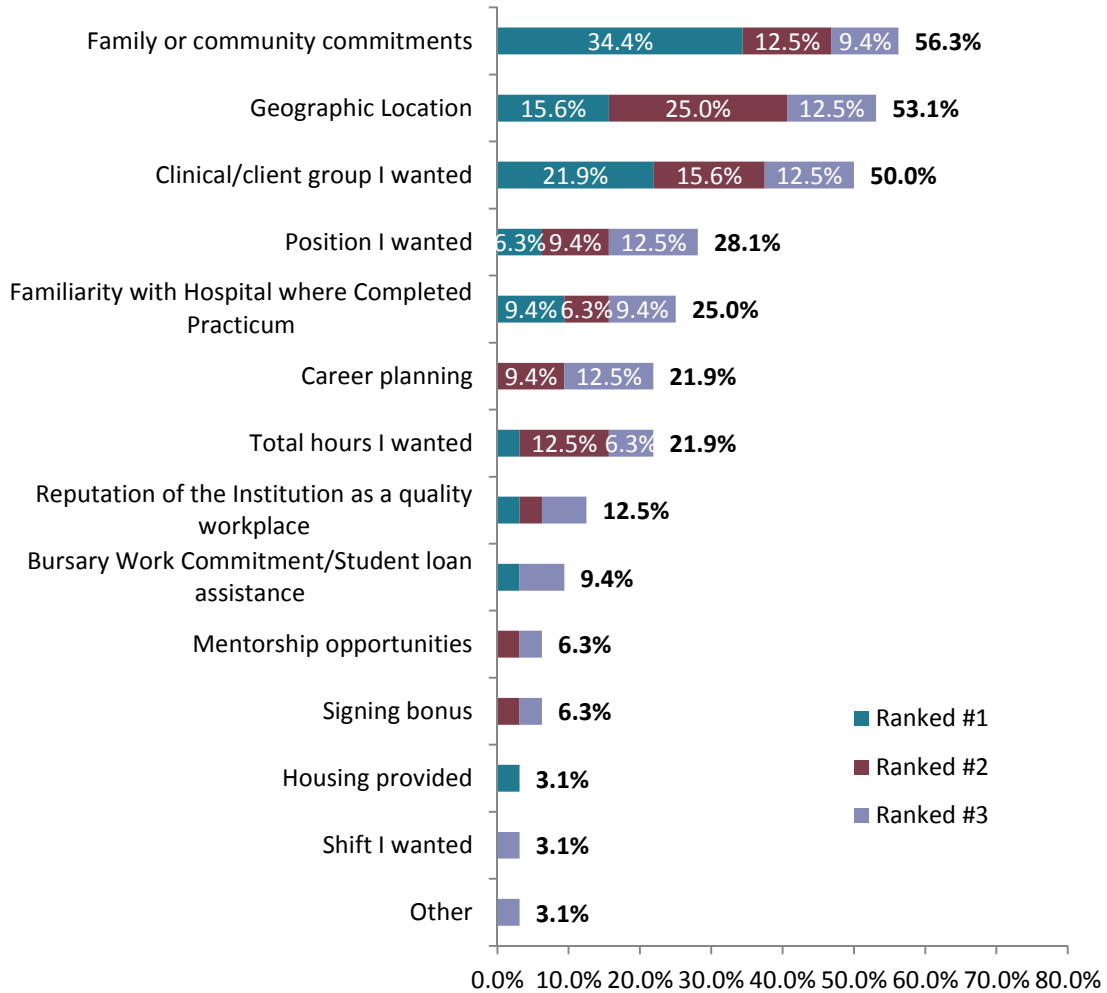
35a. Do you / will you work in Prince Albert or Northern Saskatchewan?

One in ten (9.7%) will or plan to work in Prince Albert or Northern Saskatchewan.



36. Please rank the top 3 factors that influenced your choice of work location for your **first job as a nurse, with 1 being most important and 3 being least important:**

In terms of factors of that influenced respondents' choice of work location, three factors were considered to be in the top three for one half or more respondents: family or community commitments (56.3%), geographic location (53.1%) and the desired clinical or client group (50.0%).



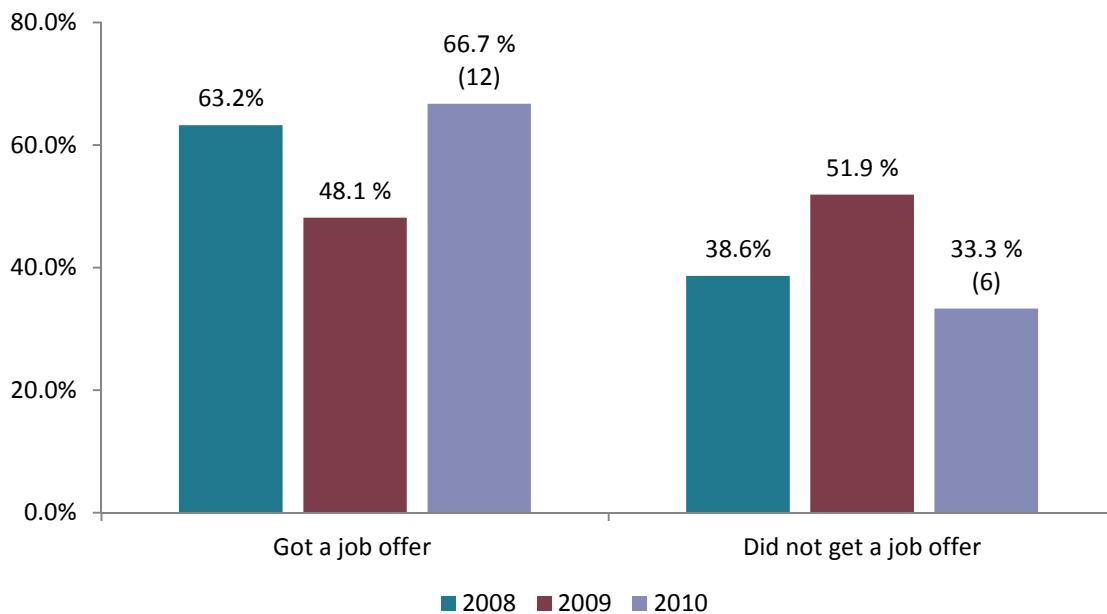
37. Which strategy has been most useful in your job search?

Most (56.3%) respondents indicated that clinical or work experience in the facility during the program has been most useful in their job search. One in five (21.9%) found Internet directories most useful and a further one in eight (12.5%) found word of mouth to be most useful.

	2007	2008	2009	2010
Clinical or work experience in the facility during the program	63.6%	51.4%	57.1%	56.3 % (18)
Internet directories	4.5%	16.2%	0.0%	21.9 % (7)
Word of mouth	13.6%	16.2%	14.3%	12.5 % (4)
Recruitment Fairs	9.1%	10.8%	5.7%	6.3 % (2)
Advertisements (journals, newspapers, postings)	4.5%	2.7%	2.9%	0.0 %
Other	4.5%	2.7%	20.0%	3.1 % (1)

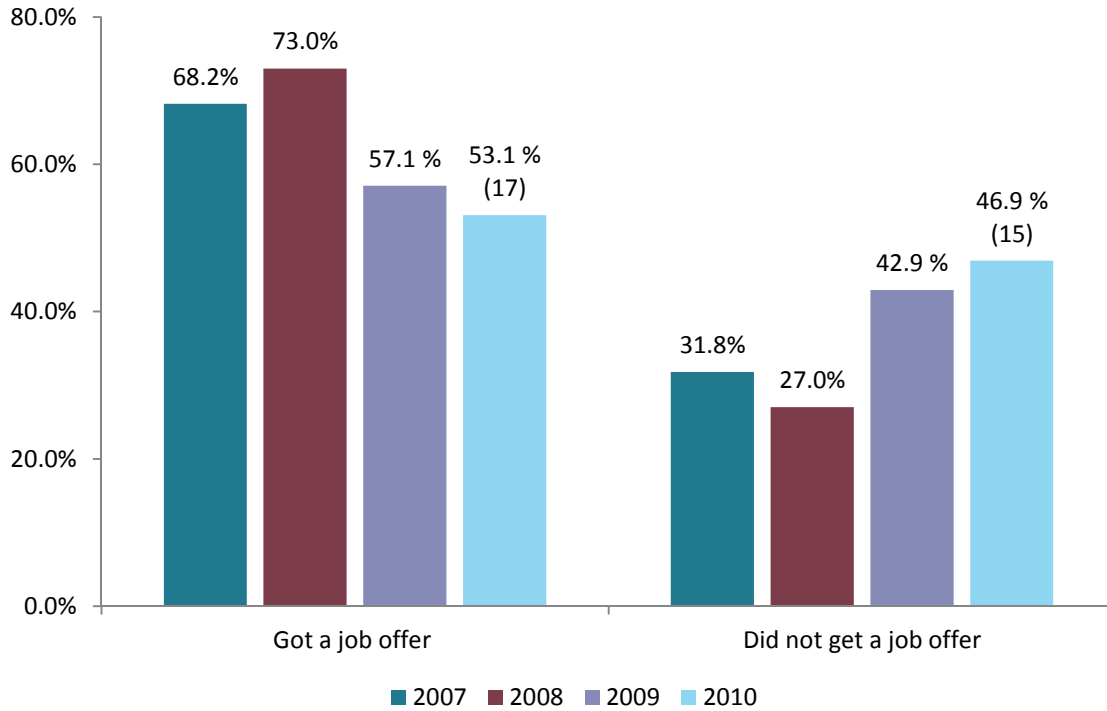
38. Did you get a job offer from a unit where you were employed as a Senior Assistant?

Two thirds (66.7%) received a job offer from a unit where they were employed as a Senior Assistant.



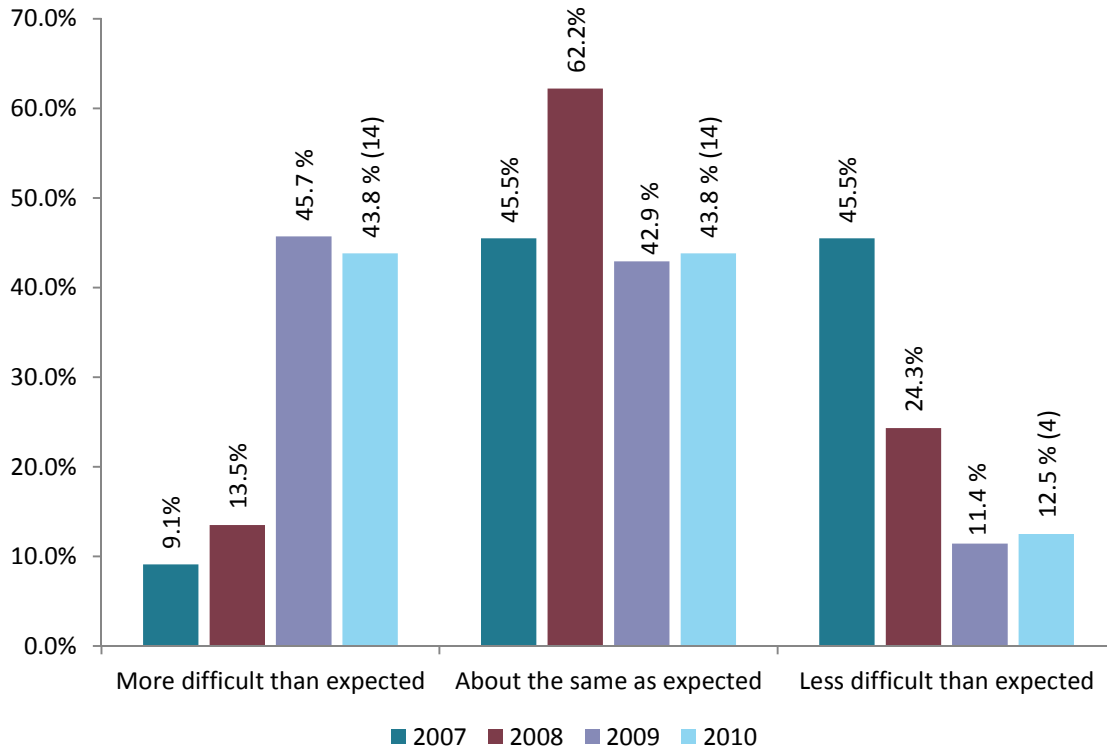
39. Did you get a job offer from a unit where you had your 4th year senior practicum experiences?

One half (53.1%) received a job offer from a unit where they had their 4th year senior practicum experience.



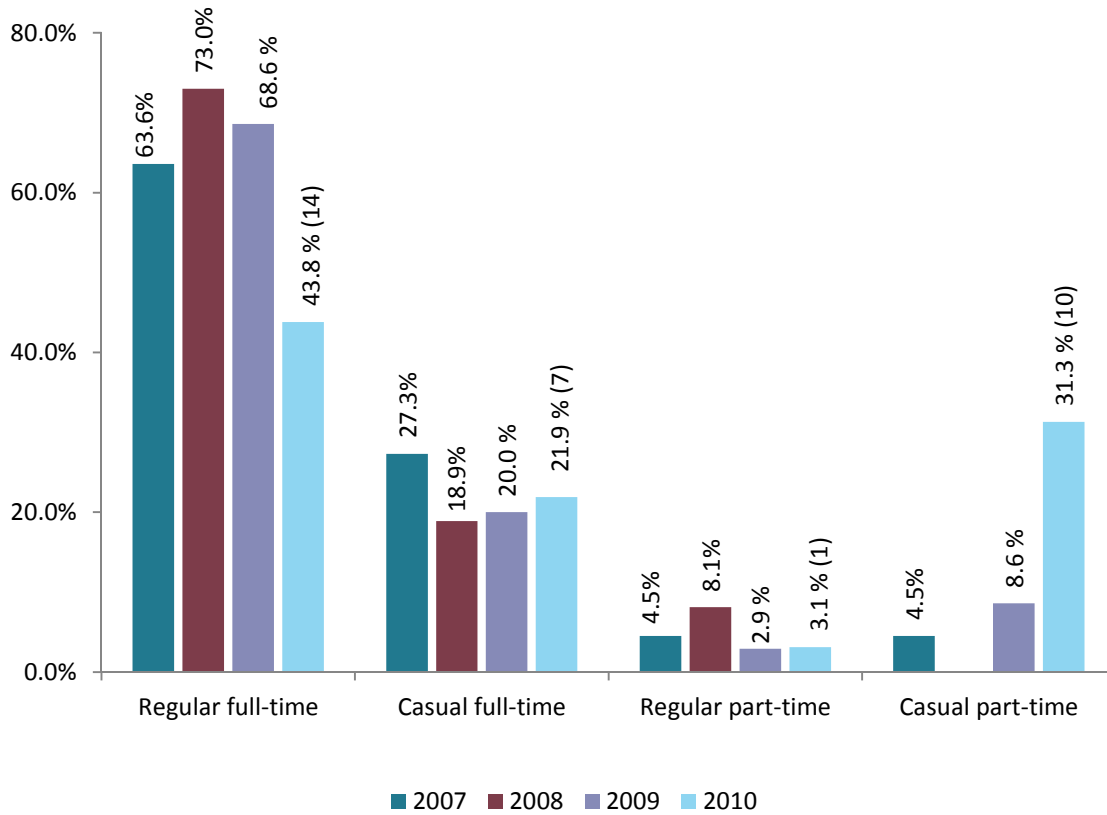
40. How does your experience in finding your *first job* compare with your expectations?

A total of 43.8% found their experience in finding their first job as a graduate nurse to be more difficult than they expected, while 12.5% found the experience less difficult than expected.



41. What will be the work hours of your *first job* as a graduate nurse?

Most commonly (43.8%), respondents will work regular full-time hours as a graduate nurse. Other employment hours are also relatively common; 31.3% work casual part-time hours and 21.9% work casual full-time hours. The proportion who are employed on a casual basis has increased notably from 28.6% in 2009 to 53.2% this year.

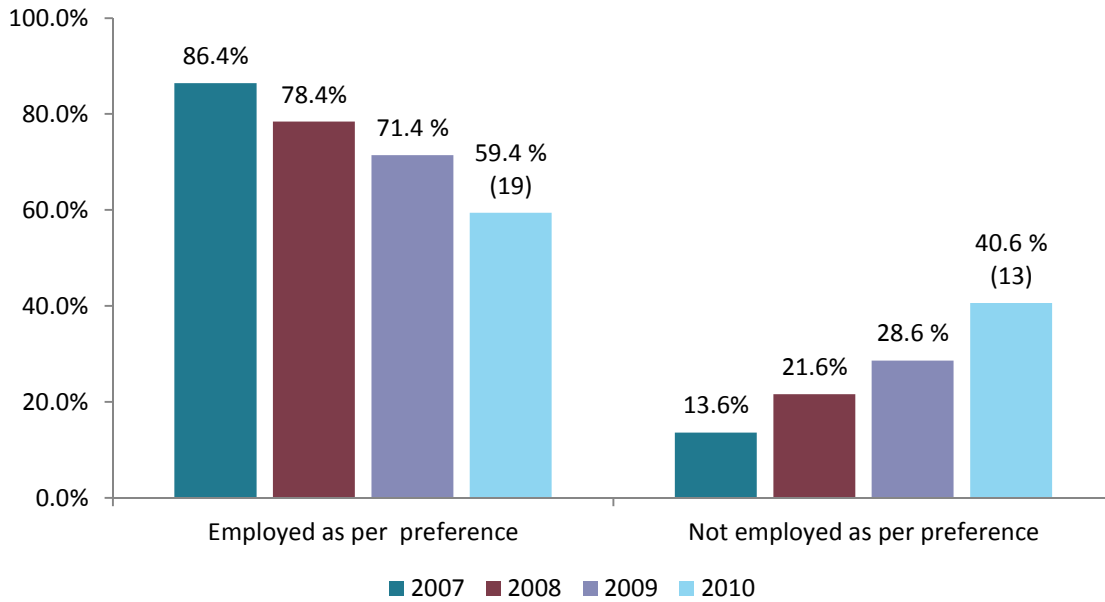


Definitions

"Regular" reflects permanent employment, even though it may be time limited;
"Casual" reflects the fact that the employment does not guarantee a fixed number of hours of work per pay period. (It also would include occasional, on call, on demand, or seasonal work.)

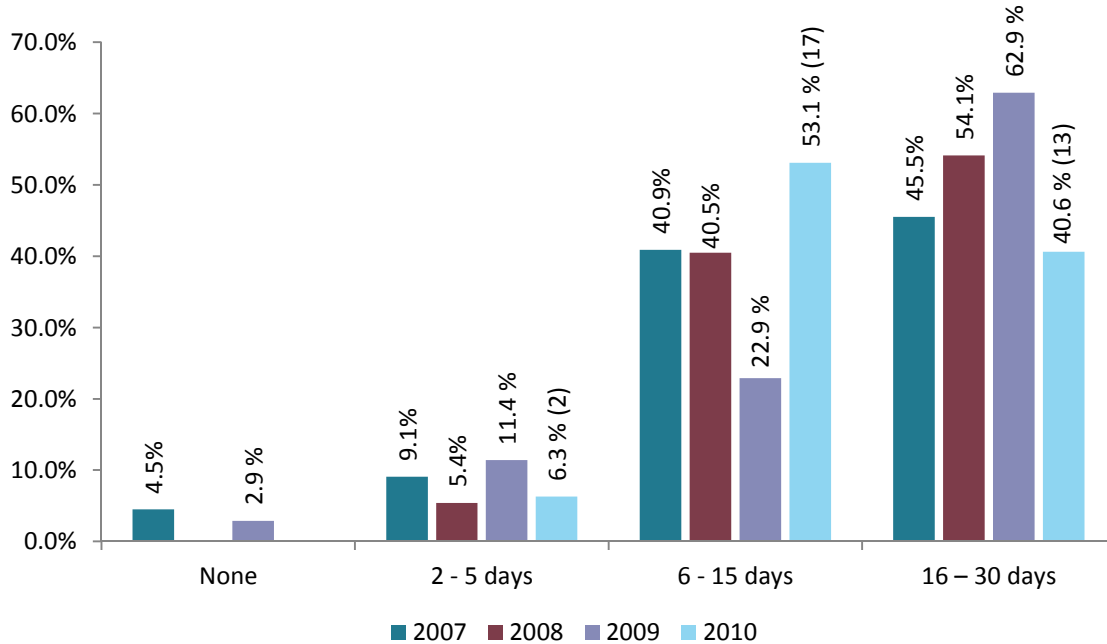
42. Is being employed on this basis your preference?

Six in ten (59.4%) are employed as per their preference. The proportion of respondents who are employed in their preferred employment hours has continued to decline from a high of 86.4% in 2007.



43. When you start your *first nursing job*, what do you expect will be the length of your orientation (including "buddy" shifts)?

Most commonly (53.1%), respondents expect their orientation to be between 6 and 15 days. Four in ten (40.6%) expect their orientation to be between 16 and 30 days.



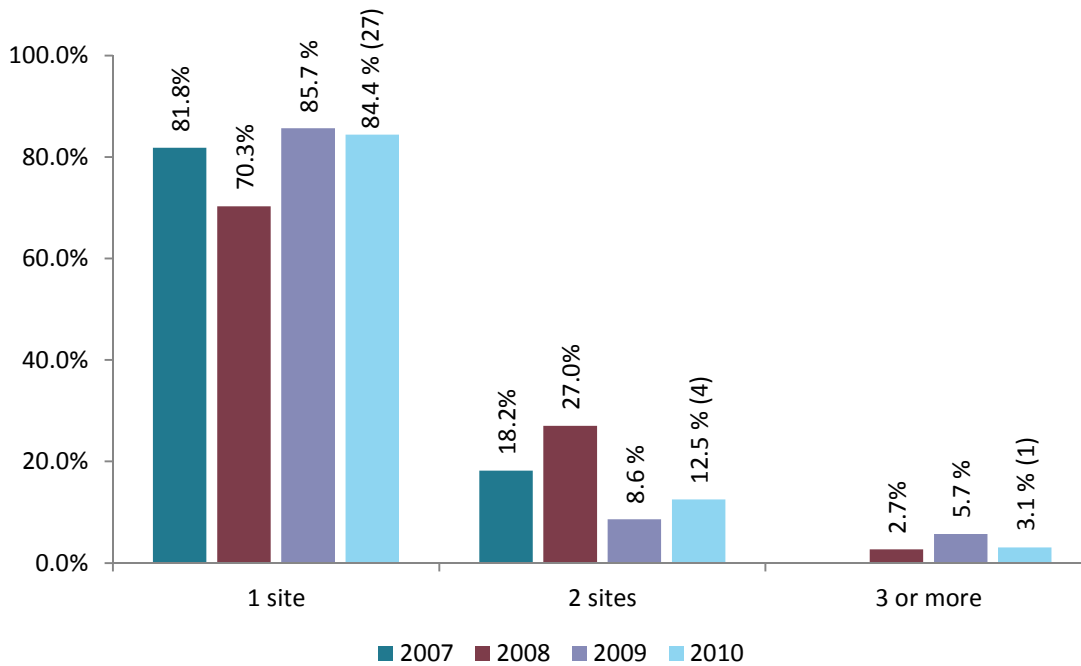
44. How many sites will you/do you expect to work at for your first job as a graduate nurse?

Sites include:

- Different work sites but same employer
- Different units but same employer
- Different employers with same or different units
- For public health nurses, many schools would be one unit

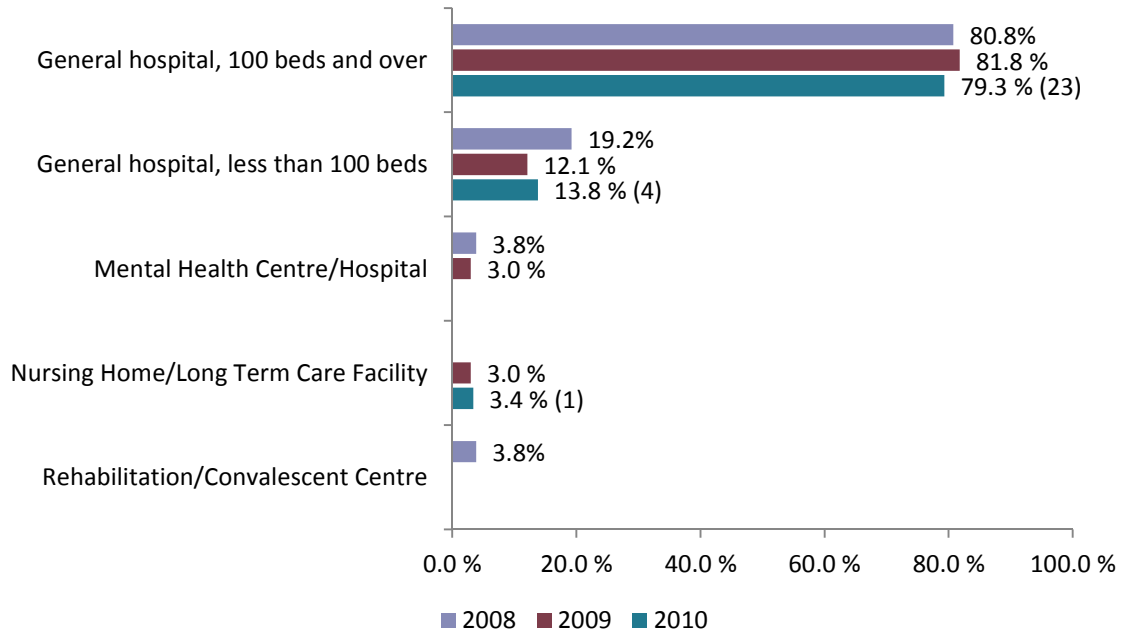
As with previous years, most (84.4%) respondents expect to work at a single site.

Figure 619 - Number of sites



45. What type of organization will you be working at?

Most commonly (79.3%), respondents will be working at a general hospital with 100 beds or more.



46. What is your position?

All respondents but one will be a staff nurse in their main job and one respondent will be a nursing practitioner.

47. What is your main area of responsibility?

All respondents will work in direct care.

47a. In what area will you provide nursing care?

Most commonly (62.1%) respondents will provide nursing care in the medical or surgical area. Maternal or newborn care (24.1%) and pediatric care (20.7%) are also common.

	First site	Second Site	Third site	Overall	
Medical/Surgical	15	3	0	18	62.1%
Maternal/Newborn	6	1	0	7	24.1%
Pediatric	6	0	0	6	20.7%
Geriatric/Long term care	4	1	0	5	17.2%
Emergency care	3	0	0	3	10.3%
Psychiatric/Mental Health	2	1	0	3	10.3%
Critical Care	3	0	0	3	10.3%
Ambulatory Care	2	0	1	3	10.3%
Oncology	2	0	0	2	6.9%
Community Health	1	0	0	1	3.4%
Several clinical areas	1	0	0	1	3.4%
Operating Room/RR	1	0	0	1	3.4%
Other	1	0	0	1	3.4%
	29	5	1		

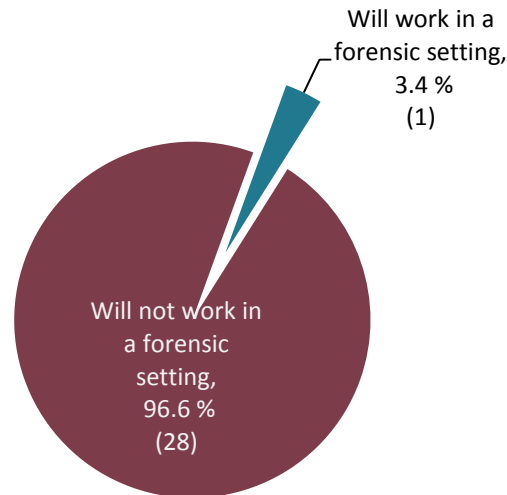
48. On average, how many hours per week will you work?

On average, respondents will work 36 hours per week in all of their sites.

	2008	2009	2010
Mean	40	38	36
Median	40	36	36

48a. Will you work in a forensic setting?

One respondent (3.4%) expects to work in a forensic setting.



49. What do you expect will be your total annual earnings per year before taxes and deductions (Canadian Dollars)?

Most commonly (37.5%), respondents expect to earn between \$50,000 and \$60,000 annually.

	2007	2008	2009	2010
Less than \$30,000	5.4%	0.0%	5.8%	9.4% (3)
\$30,000 to \$40,000	8.1%	9.1%	5.7%	9.4% (3)
\$40,000 to \$50,000	16.2%	36.3%	22.9%	3.1% (1)
\$50,000 to \$60,000	35.1%	18.2%	34.3%	37.5% (12)
\$60,000 to \$70,000	18.9%	22.7%	22.9%	18.8% (6)
\$70,000 or more	2.7%	0.0%	2.9%	6.2% (2)
Don't know	13.5%	13.6%	5.7%	15.6% (5)

General Questions

50. Are you registering with any of the following associations (check all that apply)?

Most (93.8%) expect to register with the Saskatchewan Registered Nurses Association (SRNA).

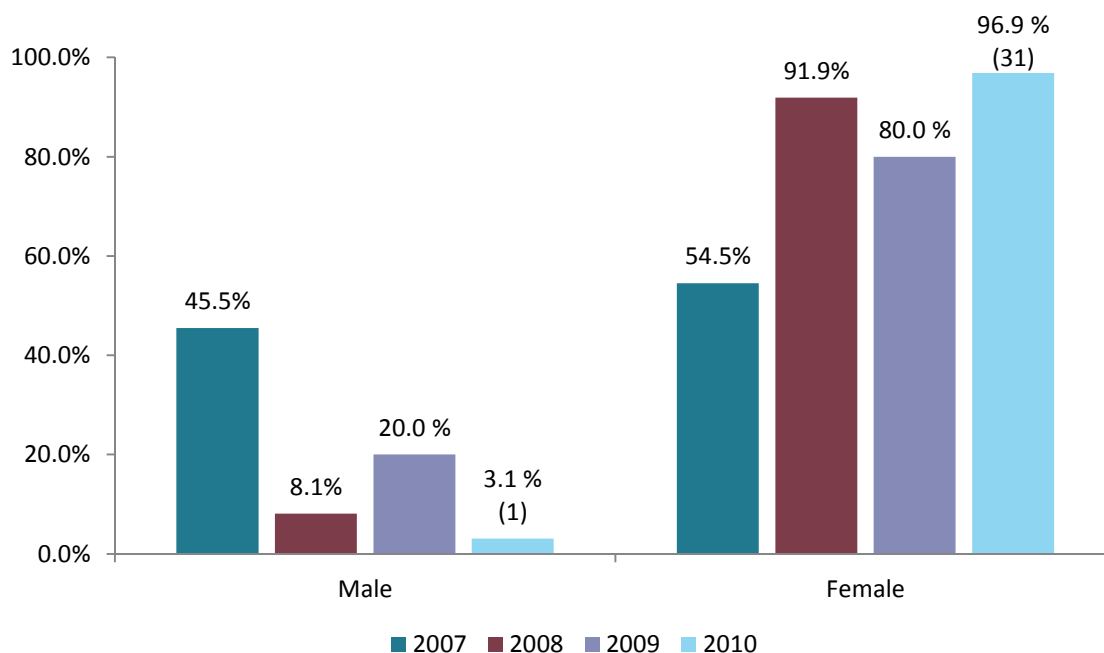
Table 131 - Nursing associations

	2007		2008		2009		2010	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
SRNA	21	95.5%	31	83.8%	33	94.3%	30	93.8%
SRNA & RPNAS	1	4.5%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Other nursing licensure	3	13.6%	8	21.6%	3	8.6%	1	3.1%
None	0	0.0%	2	5.4%	0	0.0%	1	3.1%
Total	22	100.0%	37	100.0%	35	100.0%	32	100.0%

51. What is your gender?

A total of 96.9% of respondents are female and 3.1% of respondents are male.

Figure 721 - Gender



52. Where did you grow up?

Most commonly (28.1%), respondents grew up in Saskatoon or in a town in Saskatchewan (21.9%). Many (18.8%) also grew up out of province.

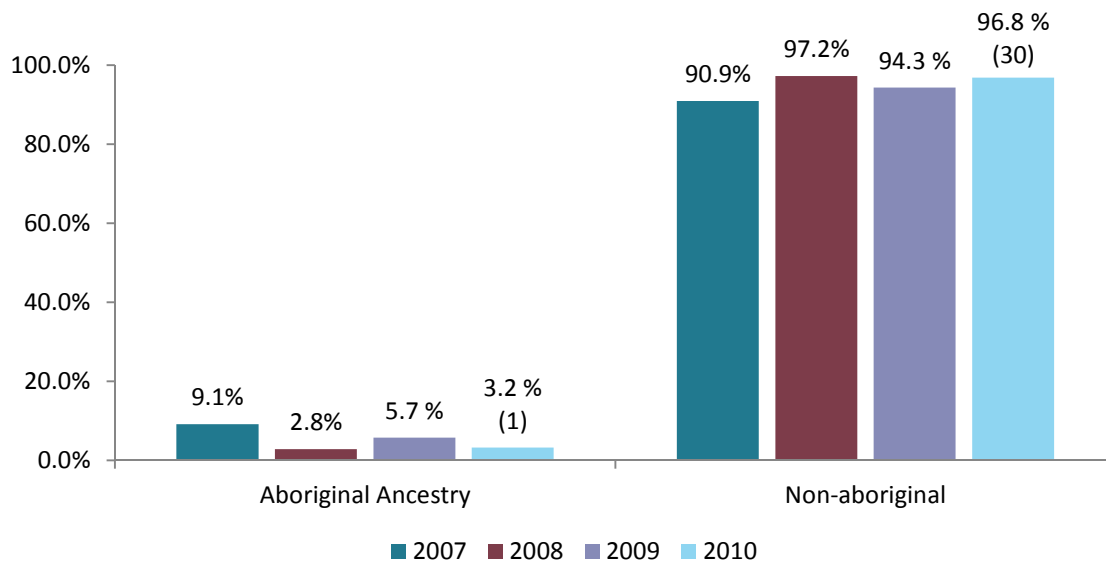
Table 232 – Location

	2007	2008	2009	2010
Saskatoon	18.2%	16.2%	22.9%	28.1 % (9)
Town in Saskatchewan	18.2%	24.3%	8.6%	21.9 % (7)
Outside Saskatchewan	27.3%	18.9%	37.1%	18.8 % (6)
Rural Saskatchewan	13.6%	24.3%	17.1%	12.5 % (4)
Other city in Saskatchewan	9.1%	13.5%	8.6%	12.5 % (4)
Regina	13.6%	2.7%	5.7%	6.3 % (2)

53. Are you of Aboriginal ancestry?

One (3.2%) respondent is of Aboriginal ancestry, and this respondent is Métis.

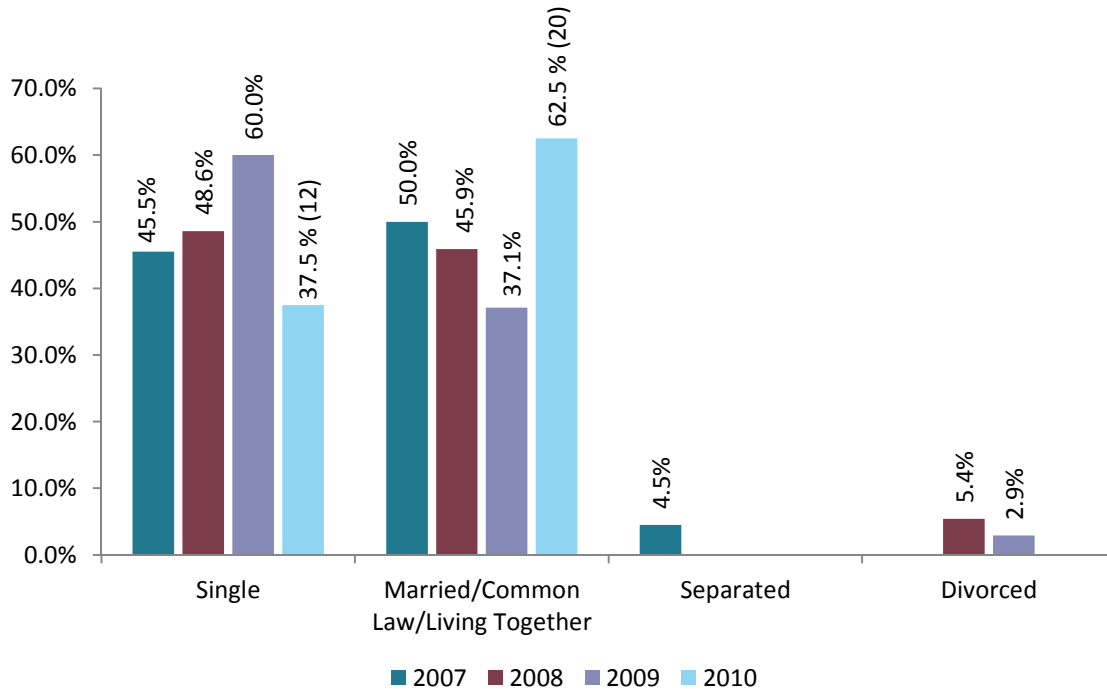
Figure 822 - Aboriginal ancestry



55. What is your current marital status?

Most (62.5%) respondents are currently married, common law or living with their partner, while 37.5% are currently single.

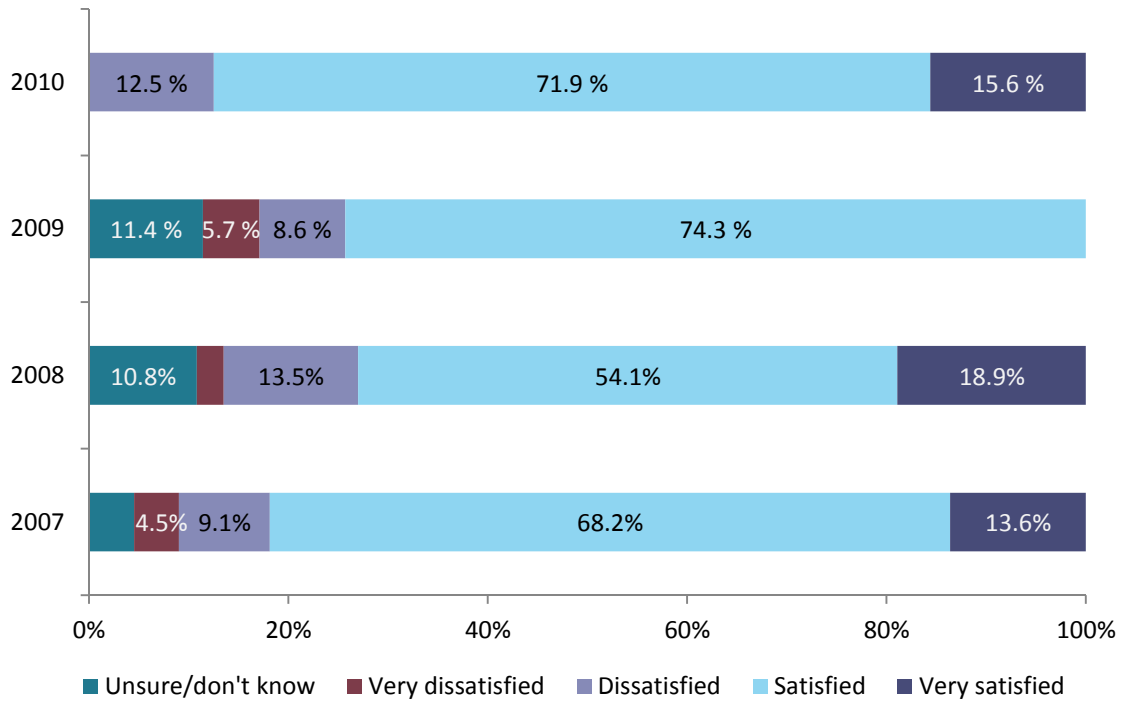
Figure 923 - Current marital status



56. How satisfied are you with your educational experience in the NEPS program?

Seven in ten (71.9%) respondents are satisfied with their educational experience in the NEPS program, and an additional 15.6% are very satisfied. One in eight (12.5%) respondents are dissatisfied.

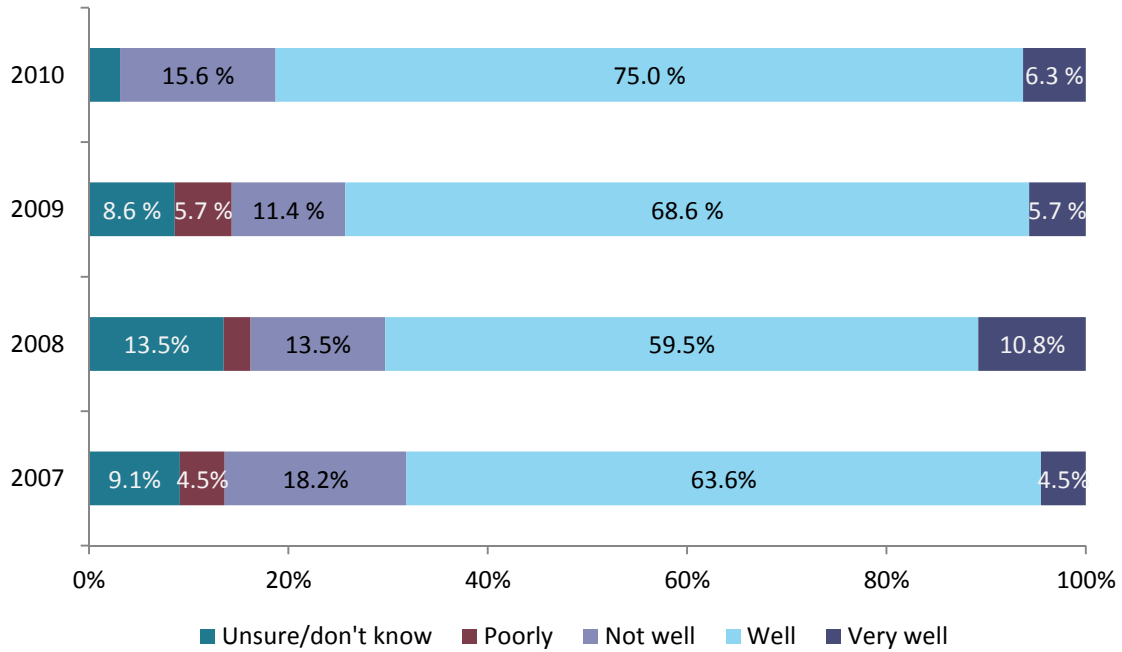
Figure 1024 - Satisfaction with NEPS



57. How well do you believe your educational program has prepared you for nursing practice?

Three quarters (75.0%) feel that the NEPS program prepared them well for nursing practice. Few (6.3%) feel that they were very well prepared and 15.6% feel that they were not well prepared for nursing practice.

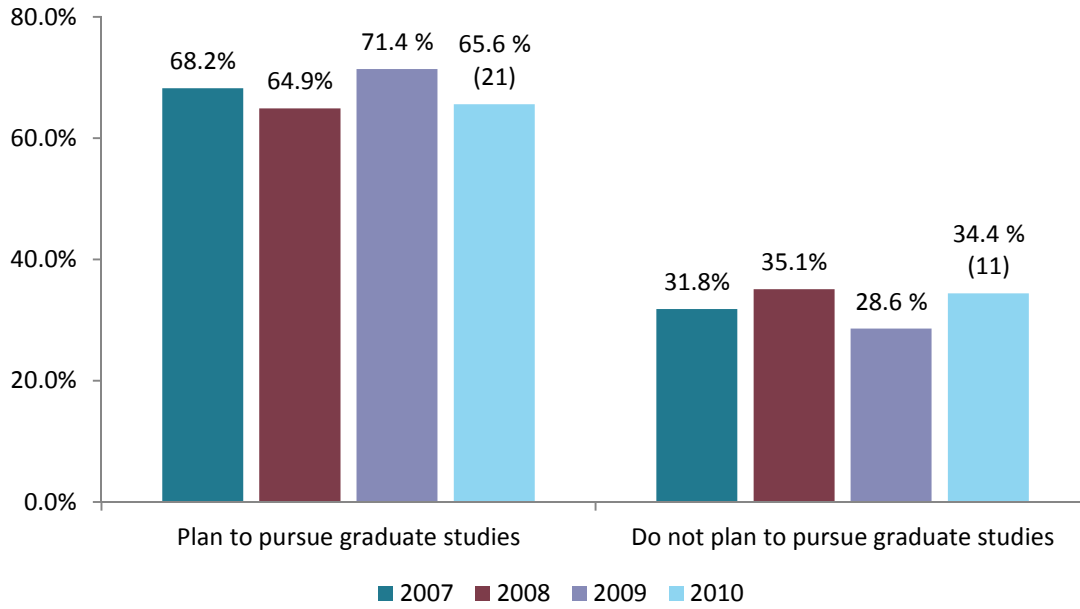
Table 333 - How well NEPS prepared for nursing practice



58. Do you plan to pursue graduate studies (Masters/PhD) at some time in the future?

Most (65.6%) plan to pursue graduate studies at some time in the future.

| **Figure 1125 - Plan to pursue graduate studies**



59. Do you have any additional comments regarding the education you received in the NEPS program?

Appendix A

1a. What was your field of study?

• Anatomy and Cell Biology
• Anatomy and Cell Biology; Psychology
• Arts and Science - Biology
• Athletic Therapy/Kinesiology
• Biochemistry (3)
• Biochemistry - Bachelor of Science
• Biology
• Education (first degree) and Art (second degree)
• English
• Fine Arts
• Kinesiology (10)
• Management/Human Resources
• Microbiology and Biotechnology
• Microbiology and Immunology
• Nursing
• Physiology
• Physiology
• Plant Science
• Political Studies
• Psychology
• Registered Nurse

2. Please identify your previous education in the health care field.

Other

• Athletic Therapy
• Certified Exercise Physiologist (Kinesiology)
• Kinesiology
• Kinesiology degree
• Pulmonary Function Tech / Exercise Therapy / Kinesiologist / Disability Management / Ergonomics

4. Please specify the degree(s)/diploma(s)/certificates (including field of study) you held prior to starting the program:

• 4-year B.A. in Psychology
• 4-year B.Sc. Anatomy and Cell Biology
• B.A. (English)
• B.Ed. (Sec)
• B.Sc. 4 Year - Biology
• B.Sc. Honours Microbiology and Biotechnology
• B.Sc. in Biochemistry

Exit Survey of the 2009-10 Graduates of the SDEO NEPS Program

• B.Sc. in Biochemistry
• B.Sc. Kinesiology
• Bachelor of Fine Arts
• Bachelor of Kinesiology
• Bachelor of Kinesiology
• Bachelor of Management Degree
• Bachelor of Science
• Bachelor of Science (3-year) in Anatomy and Cell Biology
• Bachelor of Science- 3 Year Degree (Biochemistry)
• Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry
• Bachelor of Science in Biology
• Bachelor of Science in Kinesiology (5)
• Bachelor of Science in Physiology (Honours)
• Bachelor's Degree in Physical Activity Studies (now referred to as Kinesiology)
• Bachelors of Science Honours in Microbiology and Immunology
• Kinesiology Degree
• Prairie Horticulture Certificate

6. Was this work in the health care field?

Yes (please specify)

• Daniels Kimber Physiotherapy Clinic as a Certified Exercise Physiologist
• Exercise Therapist
• Personal Trainer and Exercise Therapist
• Personal Trainer, Fitness Instructor, Research Assistant
• Saskatoon Health Region - Pulmonary Function Lab Technologist
• Staff Education and Health and Safety at three long-term care centres

11. Please indicate if you experienced any of the following significant life changes during the NEPS program?

Other

• Appendectomy.
• Engaged to be married.
• Spouse working shift work throughout program.

20. What was the major source of your scholarship/bursary support?

Other

• Career Transition Program

31. Name the (one) most positive aspect of your first job?

• Client population.
• Exactly what I wanted!!
• Feeling well supported.
• Flexible.

Exit Survey of the 2009-10 Graduates of the SDEO NEPS Program

• Full-time, permanent position with 12-hour shifts.
• Huge learning opportunities.
• I haven't started yet, so I don't know.
• I would say the staff accepting me as a new person.
• In Saskatoon.
• It is a full-time, permanent position.
• It is in the area that I wanted.
• It's a full-time position.
• It's in the area that I have always wanted to be a nurse.
• It's where I did my senior practicum, so it's familiar and I feel comfortable there.
• Location and area of specialty.
• Patient responsibility.
• Senior staff to work with on a day-to-day basis.
• Staff and manager have created a positive working and learning environment.
• Staff on ward is supportive and youthful.
• Supportive co-workers.
• Supportive staff. I did my senior practicum there, so I feel comfortable on the floor already, so it's nice.
• That I at least partially have the opportunity to work in my preferred field of maternal/child health.
• The climate of the work environment is very supportive.
• The vast variety and responsibility and being in a rural area.
• The workload is manageable.
• While it is a crazy, busy environment, I know I can count on my co-workers for support.
• Working in maternal/child health.

36. Please rank the top 3 factors that will/has influenced your choice of work location for your **first job as a nurse, with 1 being most important and 3 being least important:**

Other

• Familiarity with department where senior practicum completed.
• I was willing to take any position I could get.

37. Which strategy has been most useful in your job search?

Other

• Applying for a graduate nurse position through People Strategies.
• Taking whatever I can get.

45. What type of organization will you be working at?

b. Other

• RPC.

Exit Survey of the 2009-10 Graduates of the SDEO NEPS Program

46. What is your position?

a. Other

- | |
|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Graduate Nurse. |
|---|

47a. In what area will you provide nursing care?

aa. Other

- | |
|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gynaecological Surgeries |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• It is a small hospital that deals with everything and anything. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• NICU |

50. Are you registering with any of the following associations?

Other

- | |
|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• CRNBC |
|---|

52. Where did you grow up?

Other

- | |
|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• BC |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Calgary, AB |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• china |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lloydminster, Alberta |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rural Manitoba |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Victoria, British Columbia, Canada |