

Townsville Practice Nursing Stats (from the 2005 ADGP survey)

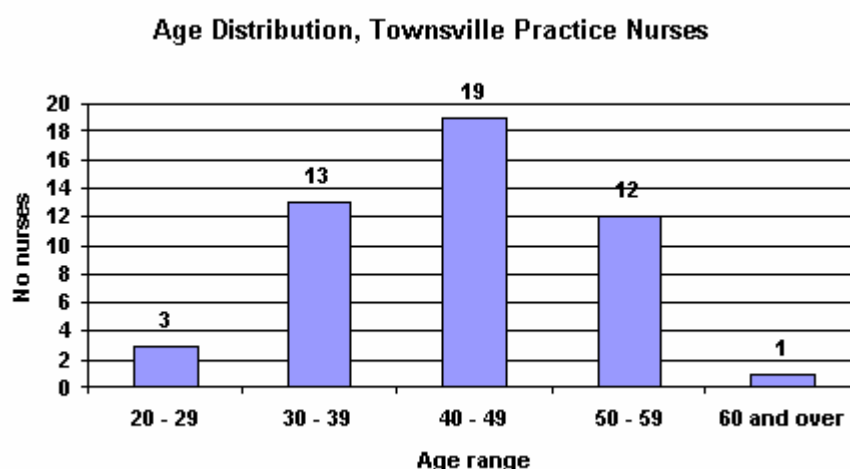
In late 2005 The Australian Divisions of General Practice, now Australian General Practice Network, asked local Divisions to implement a survey of practice nurses on their behalf. A further survey is planned for June / July 2007.

This report highlights some of the Townsville survey results.

At the time of the survey (December 2005) there were 34 standard General Practices in Townsville (excluding military and special clinics). Of these, 31 participated and a total of 55 practice nurses submitted surveys (though not all questions were answered by all participants). Many thanks to those who participated.

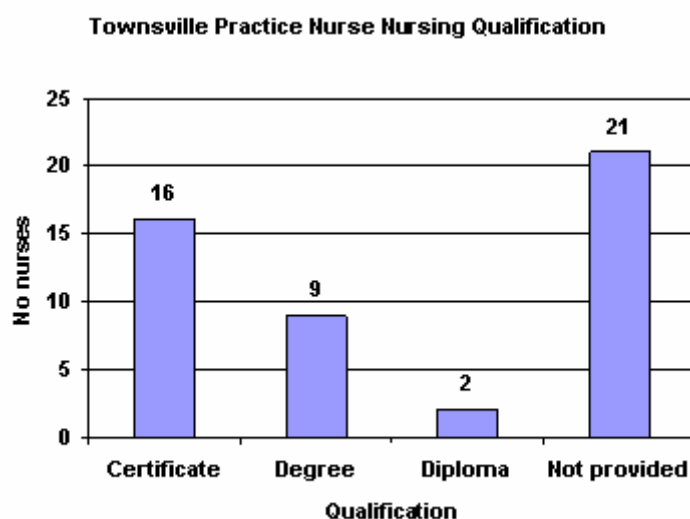
Based on the completed surveys, Townsville had a total of 41 Full Time Equivalent (a workload of 38 hours a week) practice nurses. All nurses were female.

Figure 1



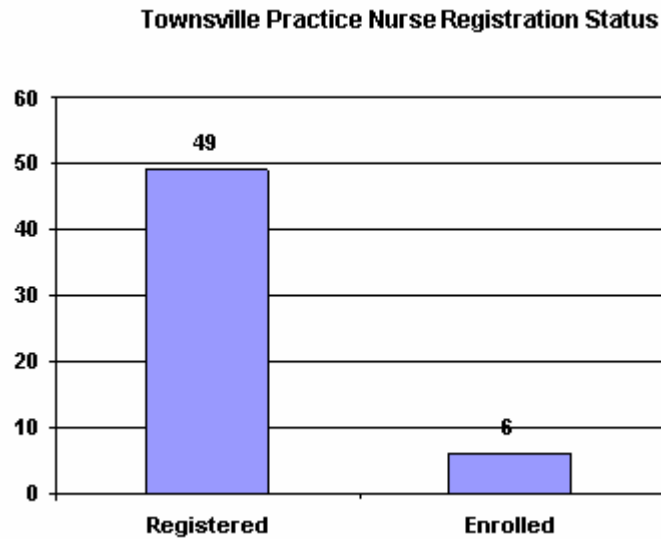
The age range of Townsville practice nurses (figure 1) peaks in the 40 – 49 year bracket. Two-thirds of nurses were aged 40 years and over.

Figure 2



Although many respondents did not provide their qualifications, of those that did, a Certificate was the most common.

Figure 3



Most nurses were registered (Figure 3)

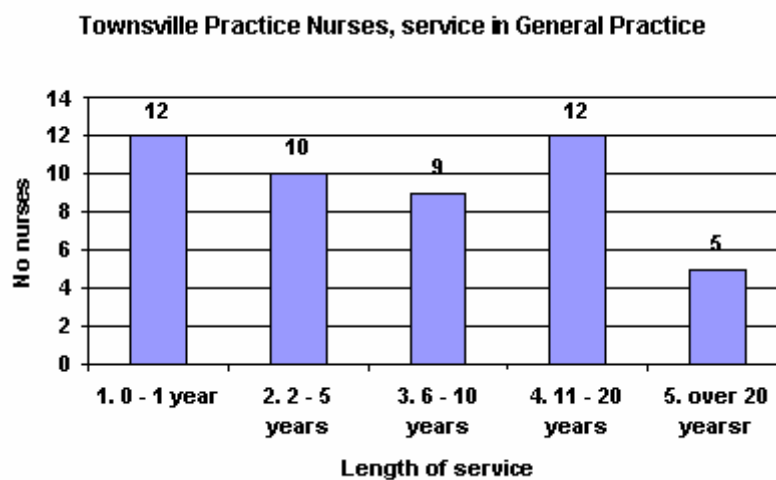
Specialty Qualifications

A number of nurses had obtained qualifications in specialised areas. The most common areas were midwifery and immunisation (Table 1)

Table 1

Qualification	#
Midwifery	8
Accredited nurse Immuniser	5
Other	2
Geriatric / Rehabilitation	1
X-ray operator	1
Medications in Practice	1

Figure 4



Length of service (Figure 4) was evenly spread, with fairly equal numbers of new comers to the profession and those who have worked long term in General Practice