

# Fact vs Fiction



ISSUE	FICTION	FACT
<b>COST TO TAXPAYERS</b>	A 15% pay increase would cost the government and taxpayers \$6.5billion.	<p>We crunched the numbers and costed the pay claim in our Deloitte Rapid Business Case, which found a one year 15% pay increase would cost the government \$863 million dollars. The Ministry of Health's review also calculated a similar figure.</p> <p>The government is inflating the cost with safe staffing levels and other items, over the forward estimates. We stand by the Deloitte Finance Advisory figure.</p> <p>This is not a cost to tax payers, this is an investment in well-staffed public hospitals.</p>
<b>STATE PAY PARITY</b>	The government's 3% pay offer would make NSW RN8s (the top classification), the 2 <sup>nd</sup> highest paid in the country.	<p>With a 3% increase to the base rate, NSW nurses and midwives at an RN8 level would be ranked 4th highest paid for 2024, behind QLD, ACT and NT.</p> <p>With a 3% increase to the base rate, NSW first year/RN1 nurses and midwives would be the lowest paid in the country.</p> <p>Better pay will help nurses and midwives stay in the NSW Health System.</p>
<b>COMPARING TO COALITION'S OFFER</b>	Our offer is 40% more than what was offered by the previous government.	<p>The government's 40% figure is misleading spin, as they're comparing 2.5% to 4% which means they're including super and the irrelevant sign on bonus.</p> <p>The Coalition offered 2.5% in 2022, which is a mere half a percent less than the Labor government's offer of 3%</p> <p>0.5% more than the last government offered when cost of living has gone through the roof is insulting.</p> <p>3% is below inflation, meaning our pay is actually going backwards.</p>
<b>SAFE STAFFING ROLLOUT</b>	The Safe Staffing Levels ratios rollout has commenced in 16 emergency departments across NSW.	<p>Safe staffing ratios have only commenced in 6 hospital emergency departments across the state.</p> <p>So far, 77 FTE nurses have been recruited as part of the SSL rollout.</p>
<b>STAFFING CRISIS</b>	The nursing workforce has increased by more than 2000 FTE since the Labor government came into office.	<p>The headcount has dropped. We have 412 less nurses and midwives in the system since June 2023.</p> <p>The increase in FTE reflects less nurses working longer hours, not more nurses and midwives in the system.</p> <p>During the last financial year, the government spent more than \$103 million on agency costs and more than \$217 million on overtime costs.</p>