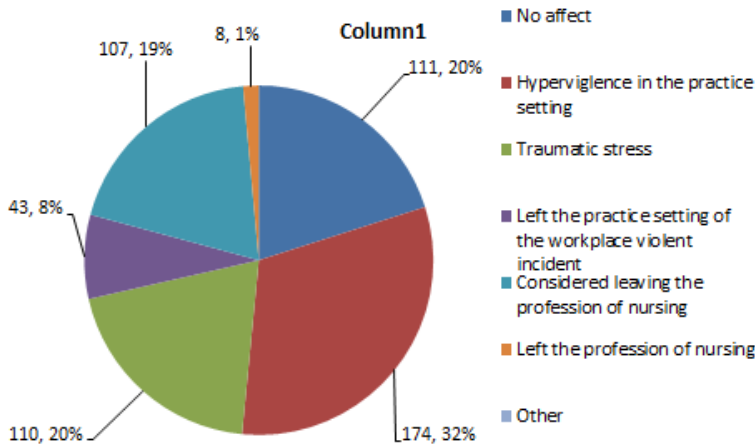


## Workplace Violence “Not Part of Nursing’s Job

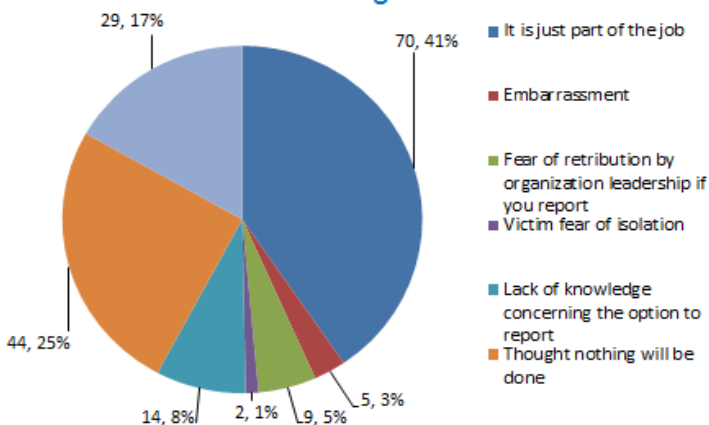
Workplace violence against nurses can be found in just about every practice setting; meaning the hospital, clinic, psychiatric, home care, long term care and correctional health, among others. Workplace violence consists of aggressive acts that include physical assaults, threats of assaults, verbal abuse, inappropriate touching, sexual harassment and verbal slander. For nurses the perpetrator can be the patient, the patient’s family member or a visitor. WNA conducted a survey of nurses about the incidence of workplace violence in 2012 and 2017. Of over two-thousand plus nurses responding, more than 30 percent reported a personal incidence of workplace violence during the year.

### Results of the 2017 Nurse Workplace Violence Survey

If you experienced or witnessed workplace violence by patients, family members and/or visitors has it led to any of the following conditions/processes? (please check all that apply)



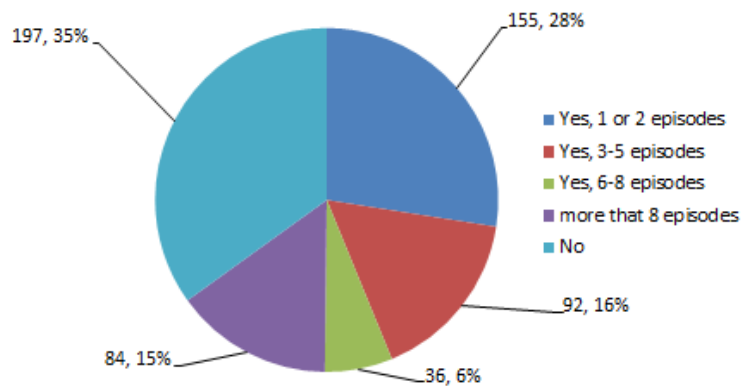
If you did not report the workplace violence directed toward you by patients or visitors, was it due to any of the following reasons:



The impact of workplace violence results in both health and financial consequences. The health related consequences include physical injuries, emotional distress, psychological health concerns and, in this most recent tragic event, death. The financial consequences can cast a wide net that go beyond the victim. These include lost work time, medical and psychological treatment costs, and legal fees. Co-workers’ reactions include low productivity, decreased morale, staff turnover and unfortunately leaving the nursing profession. The WNA surveys also found that many nurses perceive workplace violence “just part of the job”. This perception needs to change.

Wisconsin has a criminal penalty law that applies to battery of emergency personnel. WNA would like this law, which is classified as a Level H Felony, to be extended to all nurses, and those they supervise (i.e. CNA, Nurse Tech, etc) who are victims of workplace violence. WNA believes that this law will increase nurse reporting of workplace violence and inform the public of the criminal penalty, which is a fine of \$10,000 or six years of incarceration.

Have you personally experienced workplace violence directed at yourself by patients, family members and/or visitors while on duty in the last 12 months?



What type of violence have you experienced in the workplace? (please check all that apply)

