



Ordem dos Enfermeiros  
Portugal

# Foreign nurses in Portugal

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**Ordem dos Enfermeiros**

ICN 24<sup>th</sup> Quadriennial Congress 2009 Durban

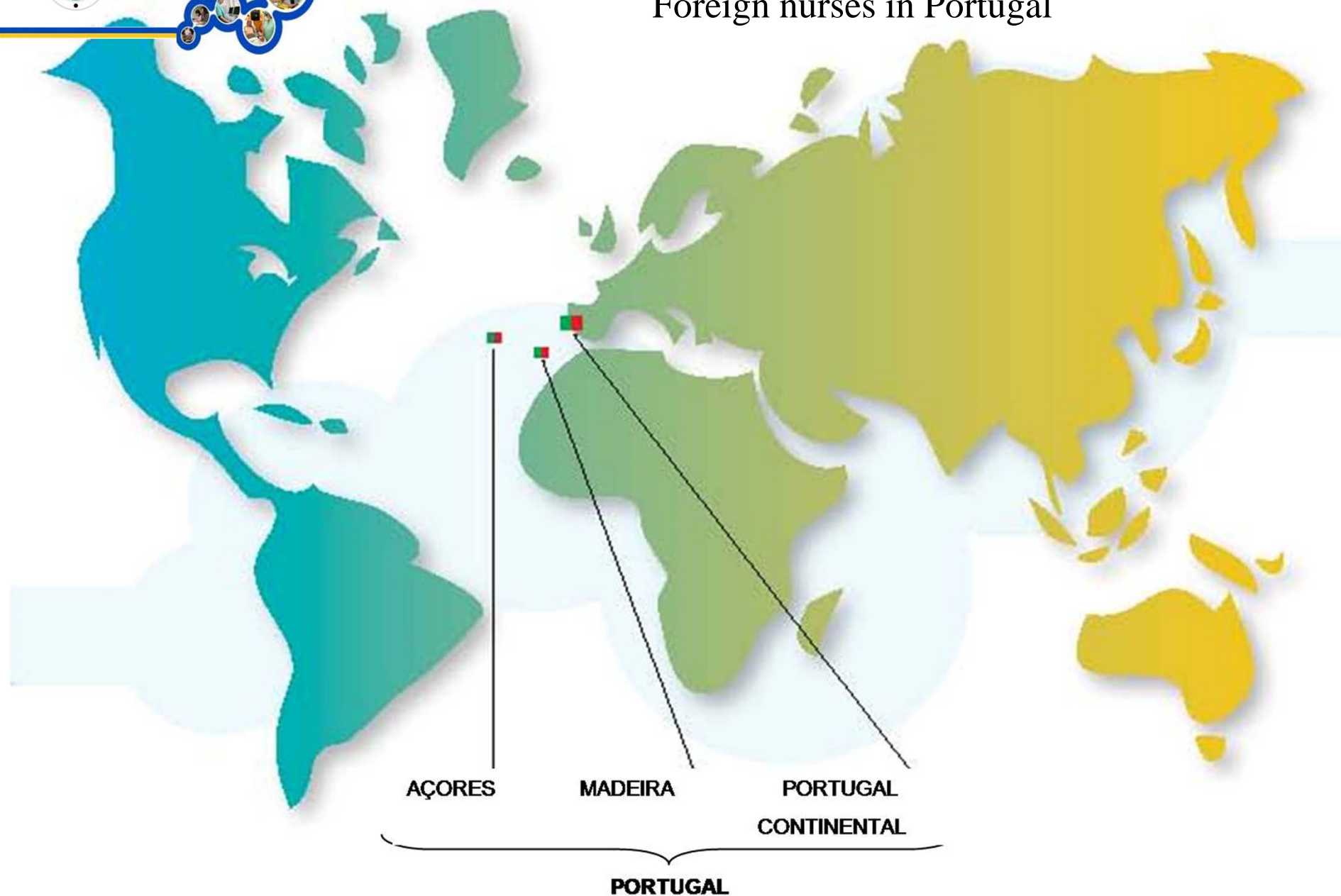


## Overview

1. Ordem dos Enfermeiros
2. Foreign nurses in Portugal
  - survey context
  - main findings
3. Conclusions



## Foreign nurses in Portugal



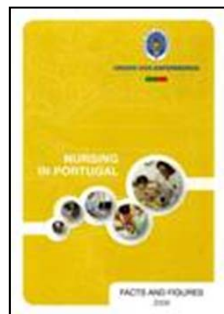


## Foreign nurses in Portugal

### 1. Ordem dos Enfermeiros



The **Ordem dos Enfermeiros** is a public association established in 1998, free and autonomous in the scope of its attributions, with juridical personality, independent of the State, competent authority and representative of nursing and midwifery graduates who practice in Portugal, in compliance with the principles of their constitution and the applicable legislation.



The main aim of the **Ordem dos Enfermeiros** is to promote the defence of the quality of nursing care rendered to the population, as well as to develop, regulate and control the practice of nursing and midwifery, guaranteeing that ethical and professional deontology rules are respected.



## Foreign nurses in Portugal

### 2. Foreign nurses in Portugal – survey context

2007

2<sup>nd</sup> Semester



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## Foreign nurses in Portugal

### 2. Foreign nurses in Portugal – survey context

- Questionnaire
- Based on literature review on the subject
- Previously tested
- Sent by post to all the registered nurses (2135)
- July/August 2007
- Stamped addressed envelope for reply
- 276 valid responses – 12% (290 replies)





## Foreign nurses in Portugal

### 2. Foreign nurses in Portugal – main findings

### Evolution 2000/07

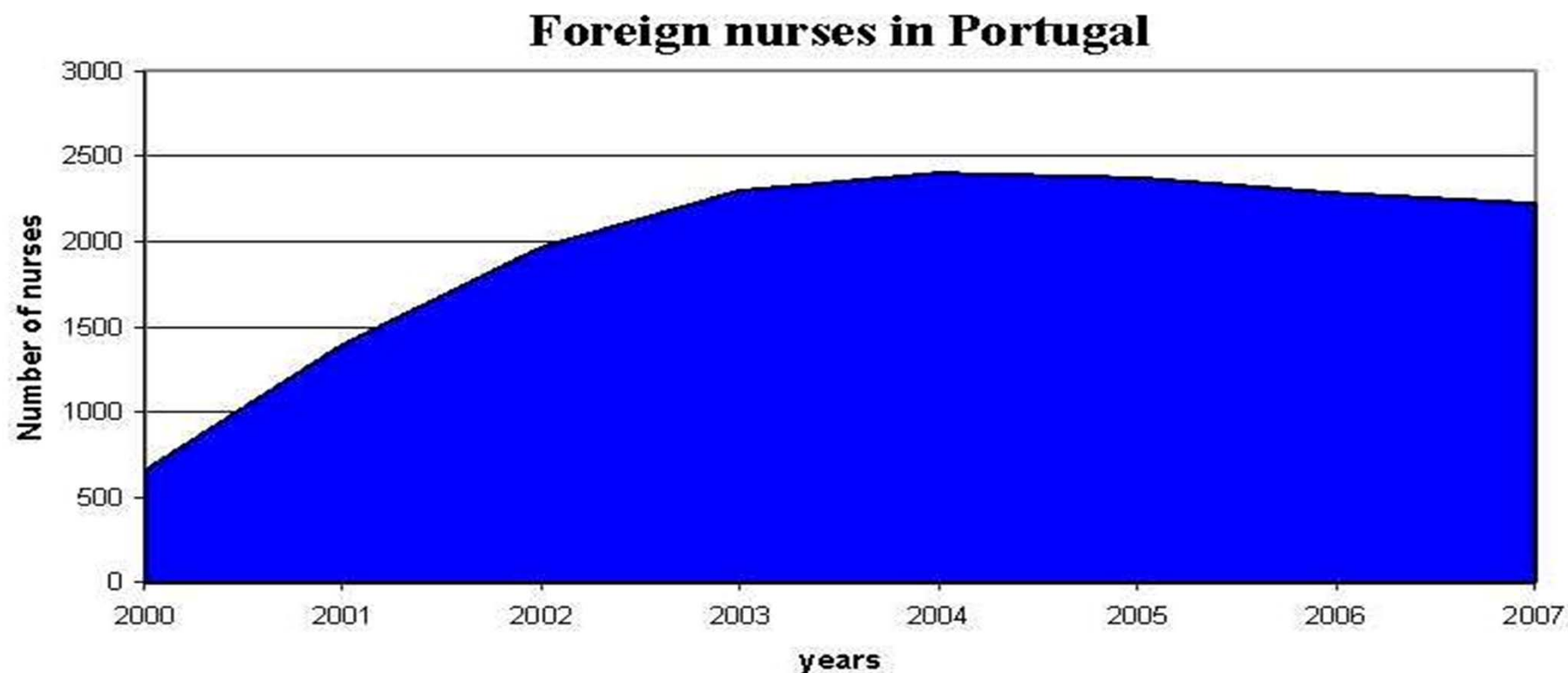


Chart 1 – Evolution of the number of nurses registered in the OE from 2000 to Dec 2007



## Foreign nurses in Portugal

### 2. Foreign nurses in Portugal – main findings

Nationality	F	M	Total
Spanish	974	384	1362
Brazilian	176	21	197
Angolan	60	13	73
French	65	6	71
Guinean	36	22	58
Moldavian	32	8	40
German	29	10	39
British	35	3	38
Ukrainian	31	7	38
S. Tomé	21	6	27

Table 1 – Ten most representative nationalities - OE Data - Dec. 07

## Nationality

Nationality	Frequency	Percentage
Spanish	113	40%
Brazilian	34	12%
Moldavian	16	6%
German	15	5%
Ukrainian	12	5%
French	11	4%
British	9	4%
Guinean	8	3%
Angolan	7	3%
Dutch	7	3%
Portuguese	8	4%

Table 6 – Percentage and frequency of nurses by nationality





## Foreign nurses in Portugal

### 2. Foreign nurses in Portugal – main findings **Gender, age & children**

Gender	Total
Female	1628
Male	507
Total	2135

Table 2 – Gender Distribution, OE Data – Dec 07

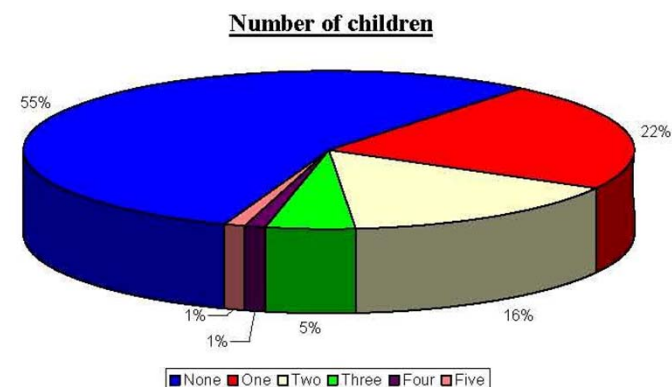


Chart 2 – Percentage of nurses by number of children

**75% of the migrant nurses are between 21-35 years old.**

When compared with similar data from the Portuguese National Institute of Statistics (INE 2005), only 36% of all immigrants in Portugal are in that range.



## Foreign nurses in Portugal

### 2. Foreign nurses in Portugal – main findings

### Length of stay

Permanence time (*)	Total (Months)
Maximum length of stay	107
Minimum length of stay	1
Average length of stay	29
(*) Difference between registration date and the respective cancellation or suspension	

Table 4 – Permanence time of foreign nurses in Portugal, OE data, Dec. 07

Length of stay in Portugal



Chart 3 – Percentage of nurses by length of stay in Portugal



## Foreign nurses in Portugal

## 2. Foreign nurses in Portugal – main findings

## Professional activity

Activity Sector	F	M	Total
Hospitals	950	322	1272
Primary care health centers	150	39	189
Private Health Services	69	15	84
Liberal exercise	30	22	52
Retired	9	2	11
Nursing education	1	0	1
Not declared	419	107	526
<b>Total</b>	<b>1628</b>	<b>507</b>	<b>2135</b>

Table 5 – Distribution of foreign nurses by activity sector, OE data, Dec. 07

Time of language training	Number of nurses
≤ 1 week	3
≤ 2 weeks	5
≤ 1 month	17
≤ 3 months	32
>3 months	42
None	168
<b>Total</b>	<b>267</b>

Table 7- Time of language education



Chart 9 – Time taken in the Professional induction, for percentage of nurses



## Foreign nurses in Portugal

### 2. Foreign nurses in Portugal – main findings

### Intent to return

**Do you intend to return to your home country?**

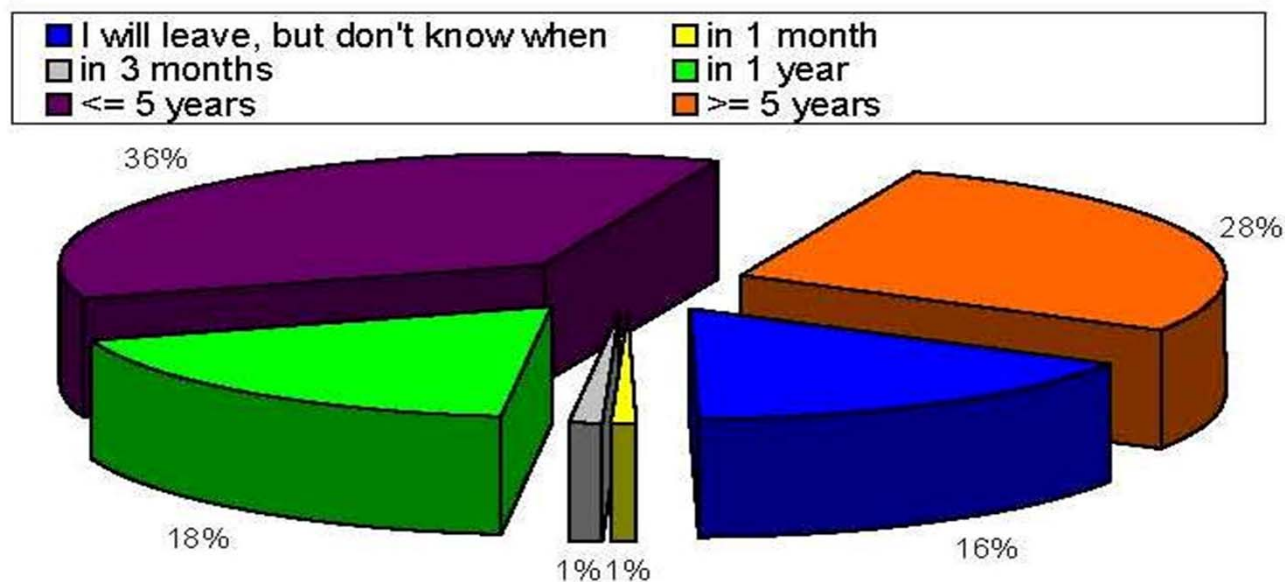


Chart. 6 – Representation of the stated periods for return to the native country considered by the nurses who intend to return



## Foreign nurses in Portugal

### 2. Foreign nurses in Portugal – main findings

### Reasons to return

#### Drivers for returning to their home country



Chart 7 – Frequency of answers by reasons for returning to their native country





## Foreign nurses in Portugal

### 2. Foreign nurses in Portugal – main findings

## Migration drivers

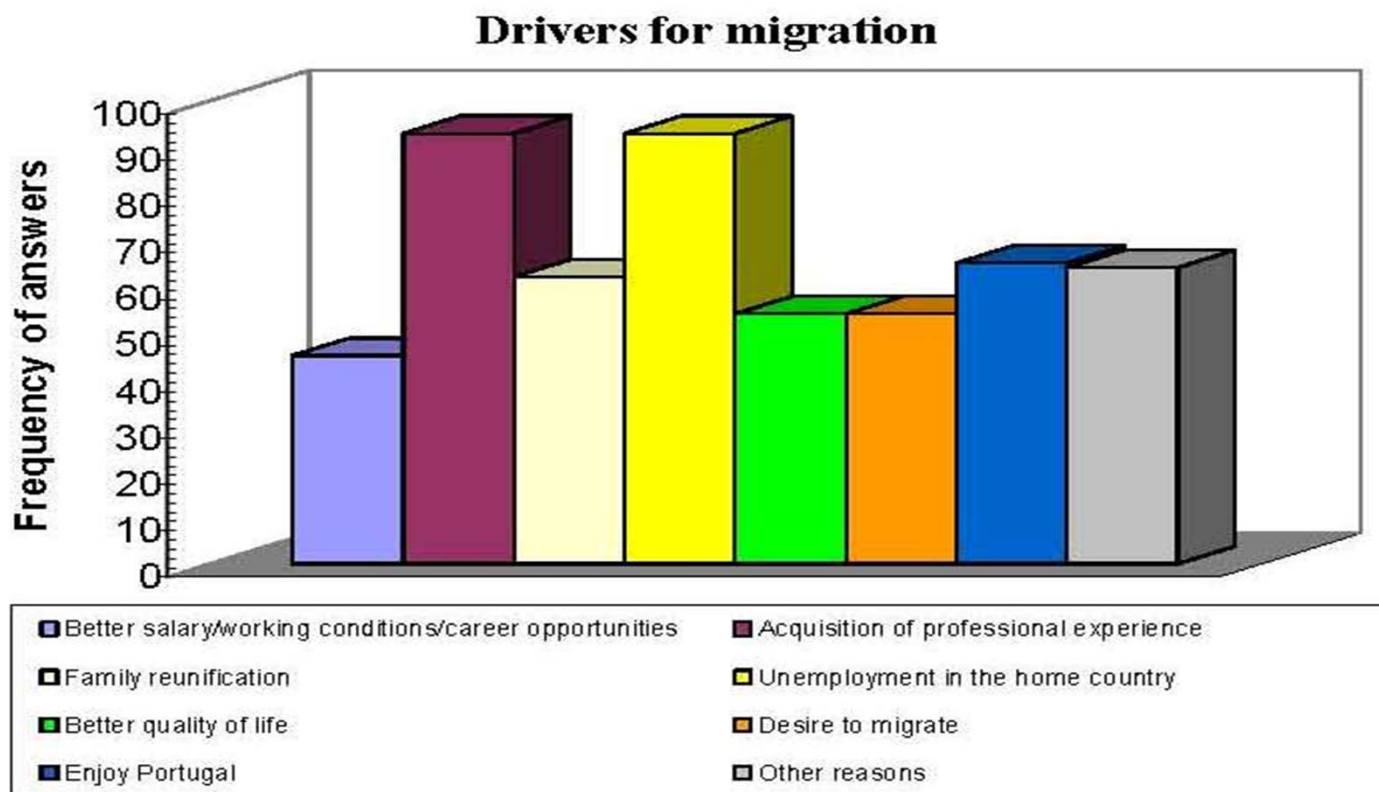


Chart 4 – Frequency of the answers, grouped by drivers for migration



## Foreign nurses in Portugal

### 2. Foreign nurses in Portugal – main findings

### Migration drivers

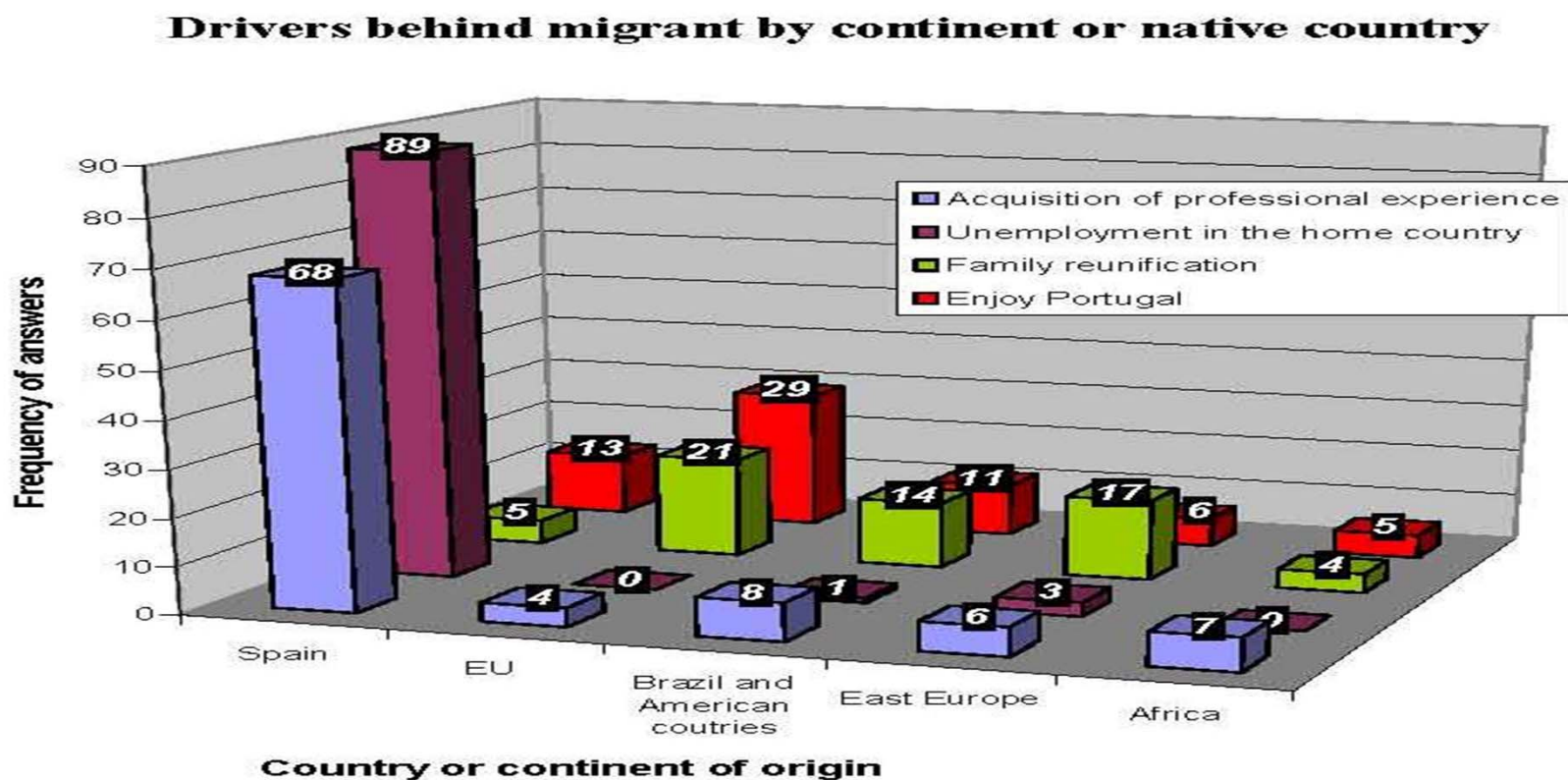


Chart 5 – Frequency of answers on the reasons behind migration, by continent or native country



## Foreign nurses in Portugal

### 2. Foreign nurses in Portugal – main findings

### Reasons to stay

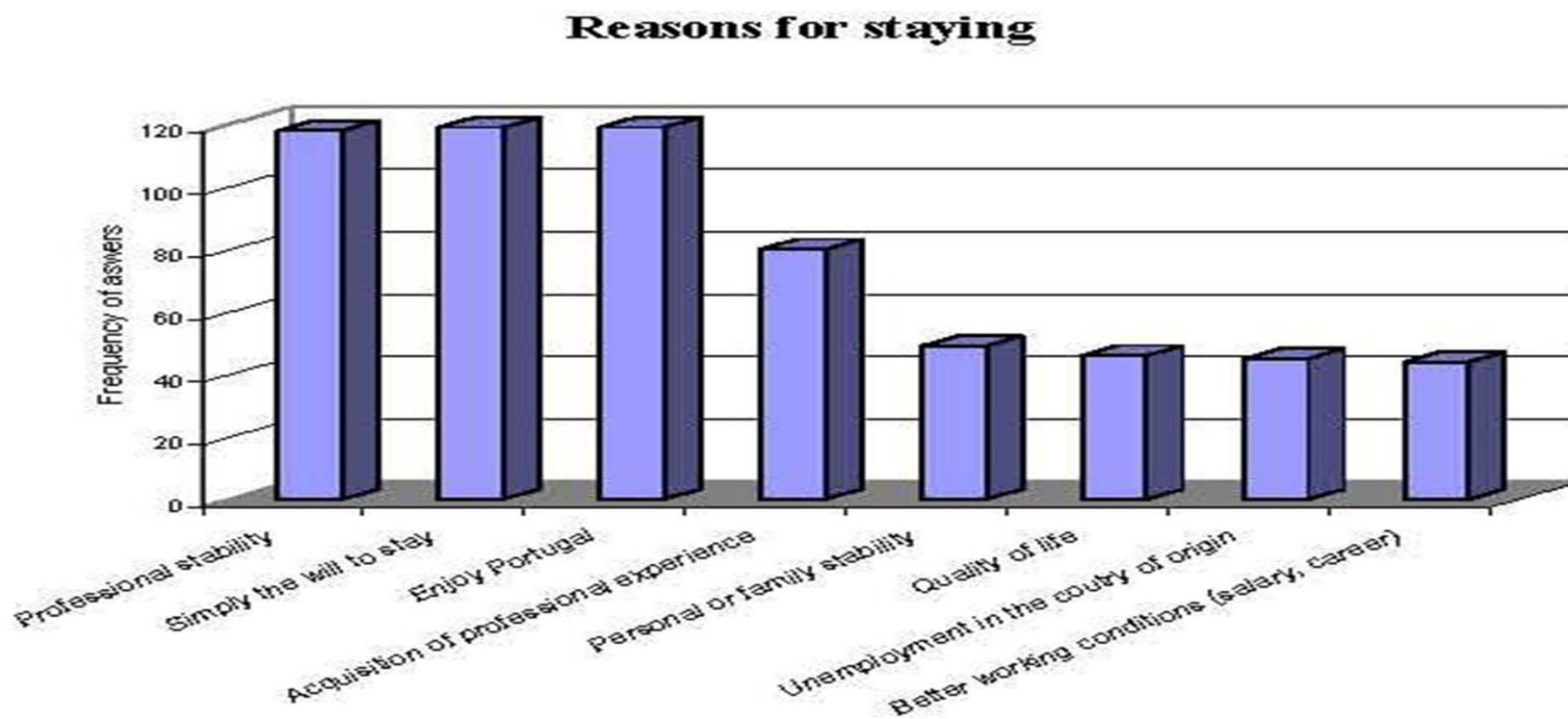
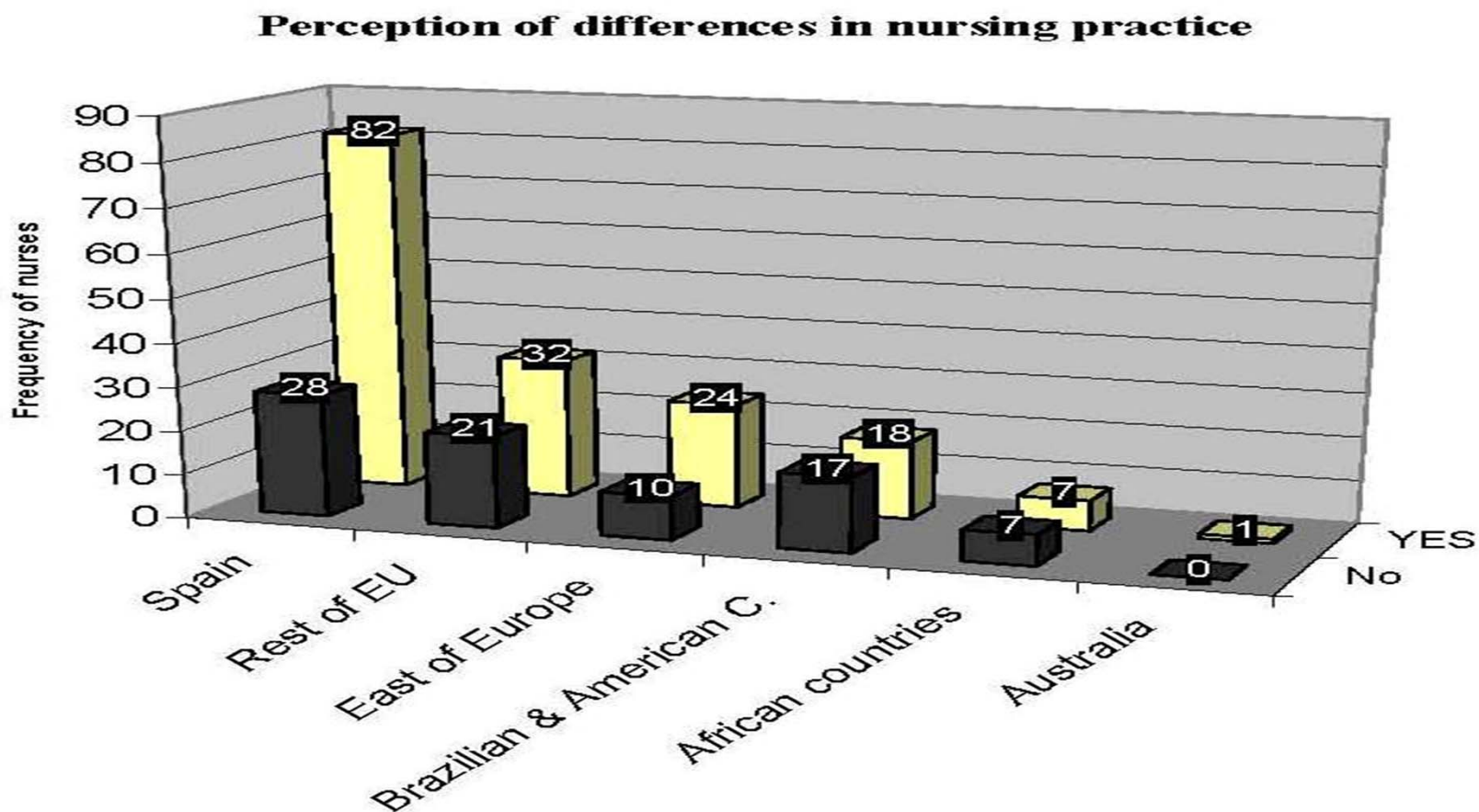


Chart 8 – Frequency of answers by reasons for staying in Portugal

## Foreign nurses in Portugal

### 2. Foreign nurses in Portugal – main findings **Differences in practice**





## Foreign nurses in Portugal

### 2. Foreign nurses in Portugal – main findings

## Discrimination

**Discrimination by patients (outer circle) - 25%  
and by health professionals (inner circle) - 28%**

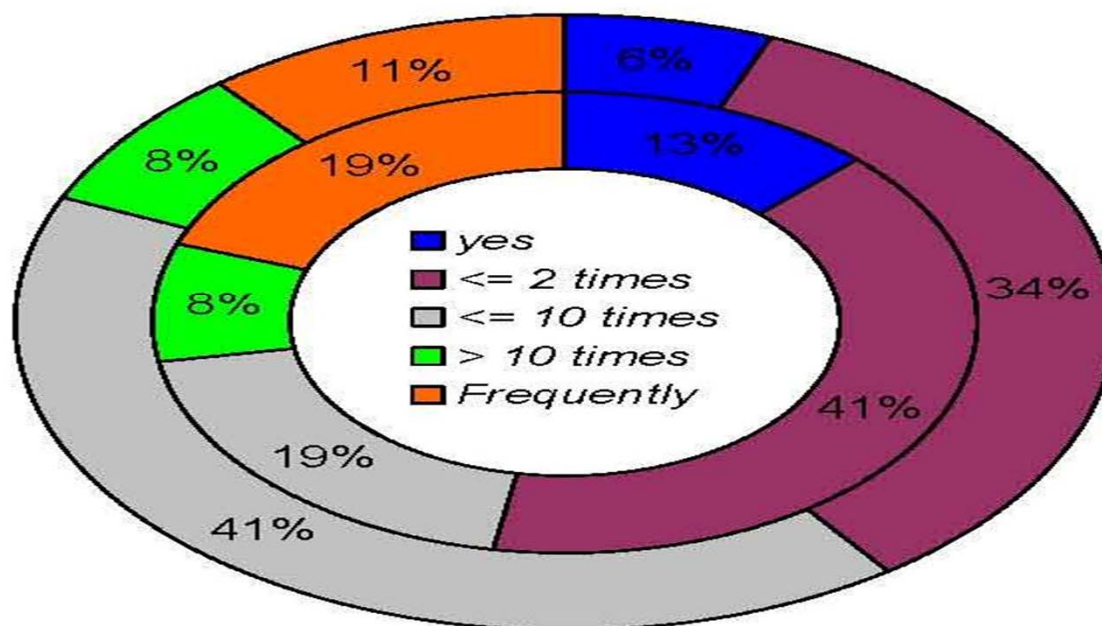


Chart 11 – Perception of episodes of discrimination, either by patients or by other health professionals, felt by foreign nurses.



## Foreign nurses in Portugal

### 2. Foreign nurses in Portugal – main findings

## Difficulties

#### Hardships faced by immigrants

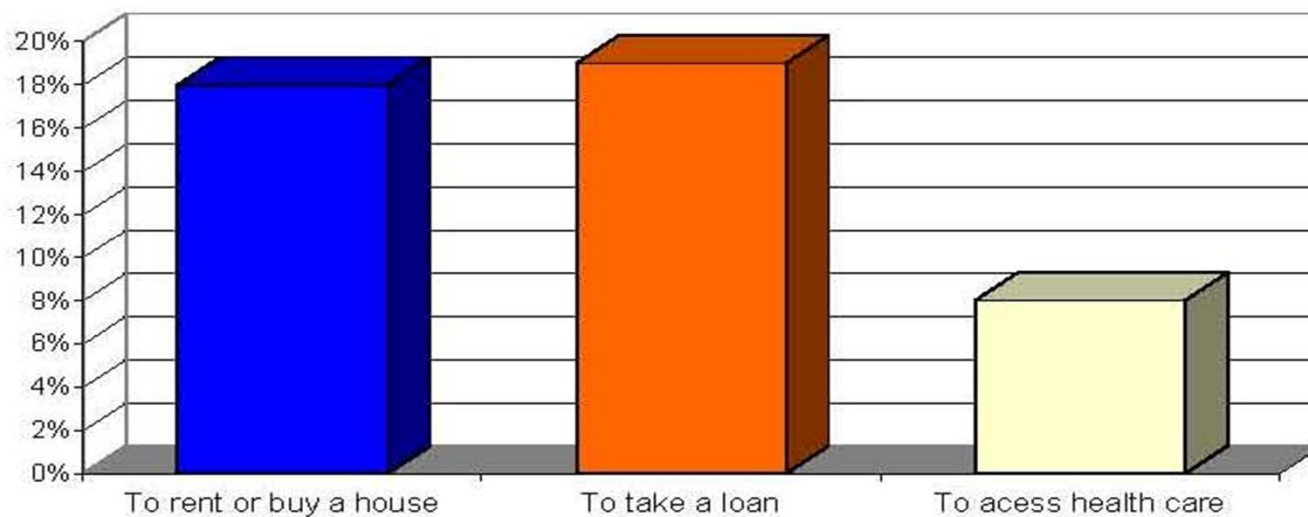


Chart 12 – Percentage of difficulties faced by immigrants.





### 3. Conclusions

- Language difficulties
- Perceived discrimination
- Refusal of care from patients
- Difficulties in professional development
- Portuguese health system is less attractive than before (Spanish mainly)
- Difficulties in the recognition of their academic qualifications
- Foreign nurses feel discriminated by both colleagues and patients;
- Difficulties when searching for housing, bank credit and health care





## Foreign nurses in Portugal

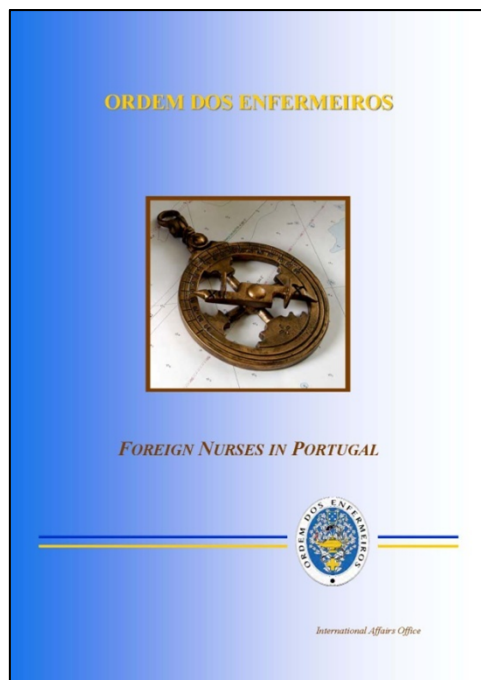
*“I truly hope that this survey will be able to recognize these and many other difficulties faced by the foreign nurses working in Portugal.*

*And may the Ordem dos Enfermeiros, be the facilitator to our rightful inclusion in the labour market.”*

Remark from a foreign nurse



## Foreign nurses in Portugal



Available in English at:  
[www.ordemenfermeiros.pt](http://www.ordemenfermeiros.pt)



# Foreign nurses in **Portugal**

# Thank you

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