

TAFE teachers: facing the challenge

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The paper will report on highlights from a recent AEU research project on the experiences of TAFE teachers in a difficult and rapidly changing context for TAFE institutes. The detailed, 12 page survey sought the views of teachers about their paid and real working hours, their workload and the changes which have impacted on their work. It asked about their professional development, study and qualifications, their interest in promotion and their future career. It asked them their views about the impact of recent changes and to identify the relationship between their work and family/personal life.

The project gave a particular focus to the views of women teachers, with a weighted random sample of about 1700 women and 300 men. In addition, about 600 questionnaires were distributed to casual/sessional/hourly paid teachers through AEU institute networks. The overall response rate across the two sub-samples was 35.5%, or 940 responses.