



AVIATION INDUSTRY SURVEY

A survey of over 2000 aviation workers has revealed conditions at airports have reached crisis levels, with poor pay and conditions driving skilled workers out of the industry and impacting on safety for both workers and the travelling public.

SAFETY ISSUES

+ 48%

have been
injured at work

! 54%

feel unsafe
at work

- “ My pregnancy is high risk and I have made it known to management but feel pressured to do the full scope of the role which could put my baby at risk
- “ Friend lost his finger to a tug's tow hook, another greatly damaged his feet when they got crushed under a cargo loader

UNDERSTAFFING

only 21%

say they have adequate
staffing numbers

64%

have faced
fatigue at work



87%

have been rushed
or pressured to
work unsafely

- “ I've been called by work at 4am on a day off after 3 days of 30+ hours of duty
- “ Biggest issue is cost cutting. You work mornings and nights and the hours are everywhere so you micro-sleep while working or driving

FAULTY EQUIPMENT



Only 1 in 4 ground workers
say they have up-to-date equipment

- “ A colleague fall through a gap on the loader ripping his shin open. Loaders are always faulty and have fuel and oil leaks
- “ Old aeroplanes mean lots of tech problems. Loss of pressurisation, engines, electrical systems and navigation systems are par for the course

LOSS OF SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE

Aviation relies on a skilled and experienced workforce, with critical safety roles. But cost-cutting in the pursuit of short-term profit gains has drained skills and experience from our airports.

71%

have had to address medical or other equipment emergencies at work.



“ The skill and professionalism of my crew has saved at least one of my passengers. I’ve dealt with multiple systems failures and fume events requiring the use of oxygen

“

I was on a flight where we had to perform CPR to a baby that was 3 months old

“

I’ve had a death on board which requires using the defibrillator and commencing CPR

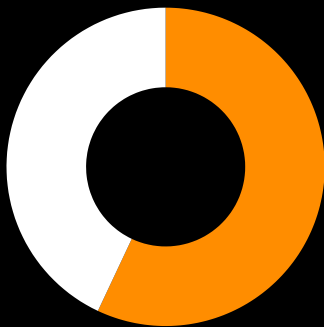
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I’ve dealt with a miscarriage onboard a 3-hour flight

HIGH TURNOVER

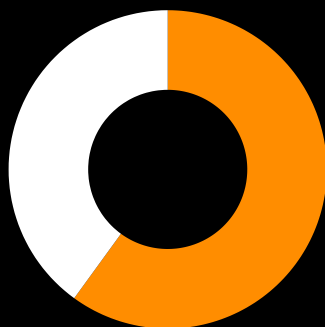
58%

have worked in aviation for less than five years.



60%

say their safety is compromised by high turnover of staff



“

Covid and Qantas got rid of most of the professional ground handlers so we’re on a training roundabout

“

A staff member who was poorly trained crashed a power stow that was faulty into a plane, damaging the cargo hold door

“

I was the only person on board able to assess a medical emergency when managers were unsure how to proceed. There are too few crew members with the experience to respond quickly to serious emergencies

AVIATION WORKERS FORCED OUT

The combination of poor pay, job security and work-life balance, coupled with significant safety issues and high turnover, is forcing workers out of aviation.

Though 92% want to stay in aviation, the majority say they can't continue under the current pay and conditions.

“

If I don't work overtime, I don't make money. Simple

“

I love aviation but it is not an industry that will offer job security. I tried for 15 years for a full time job

“

I'm considering demoting from Captain to Second Officer at another company to get my life back. We would leave the country if we could

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In every agreement negotiation the company says we need to keep conditions tight in order to renew our contracts

92%

want to stay in aviation

75%

say they can't continue under current pay and conditions

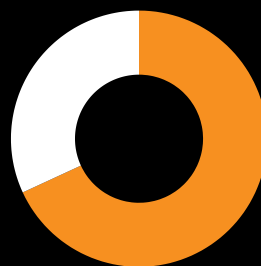
1 in 3

have had to do another job to make ends meet.



91%

say their pay has not kept up with cost of living.



68%

don't have enough time to see their families.



52%

feel their jobs are insecure.