

May 31, 2014



The Illinois Center for Nursing Conducts Workforce Survey

This Illinois Center for Nursing (ICN), for the first time offered Illinois RNs the opportunity to voluntarily participate in a survey upon completion of the 2014 on-line licensure renewal process. The ICN partnered with the IDFPR Licensing and Information Technology units to create a straightforward process.

As of December 2013 there were 168, 770 Illinois licensed RNs (this does not include the 9,208 also licensed as APNs). As of April 15, 2014 approximately 15% of RNs completing the on-line licensure renewal process have also completed the survey. The survey is 28 questions long, includes all questions from the national minimum data set, plus 5 additional questions and was finalized by members of the ICN Board. Approximately 90% of IL RNs renew their license through the on-line licensure renewal process. The IDFPR on-line licensure renewal period was March 7, 2014 through May 31, 2014.

Registered nurses represent the largest profession within the US health workforce, with over 2.7 million RNs employed in 2010 (US BLS, 2012). The BLS forecasts demand for RNs will result in 3.5 million nursing jobs by 2020, marking a 26% increase over 10 years. Demand is driven largely by population growth, particularly by the increasing number of older Americans who will require more health care services. The ACA will likely impact the places where RNs work and the skills they need to be successful in these settings. The most rapid growth is in outpatient settings, ambulatory care and, home health care environments.

The ICN Board will use this data with their continued strategic planning, with a focus on nursing workforce development that impacts access to quality health care policy, practice and education in this era of change. Visit the ICN website, www.nursing.illinois.gov