



The Illinois Center for Nursing Workforce Data Collection

The Illinois Center for Nursing's (ICN) central challenge: to optimize ICN's influence as the leader for nursing workforce development that impacts quality healthcare policy, practice and education in an era of change.

For the first time, the ICN offered Illinois RNs the opportunity to voluntarily participate in a survey upon completion of the 2014 online licensure renewal process. The ICN partnered with the IDFPR Licensing and Information Technology units to create a straightforward process.

The ICN Board's data team (K. Delaney, J. Bracken & C. Haviley) are now working with a data consultant to evaluate the responses from the 28 question survey. The information obtained from the survey can be categorized into four areas:

- demographic (age, diversity (ethnicity, gender) and retirement horizon)
- human capital elements (education and employment specialty)
- job characteristics (work settings, earnings and other details)
- geographic information (derived from reported employer zip codes)

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 practice, policy and education in this era of change.

The LPN nursing workforce survey offered Illinois LPNs the opportunity to voluntarily participate in a survey upon completion of the 2015 online licensure renewal process. The survey is similar to the RN workforce survey that includes the national minimum data set with additional questions, and is a total of 26 questions long; licensure renewal ended January 31, 2015. As of November 2014, there were 30,311 Illinois licensed LPNs. In the past, approximately 85% of Illinois LPNs renewed their license through the online licensure renewal process.

For the first time, data is being collected on Illinois LPNs, RNs and APNs in one year; APN data is being collected through the Illinois Healthcare Action Coalition (IHAC) Robert Wood Johnson Foundation grant. The RN and LPN nursing workforce surveys are offered upon completion of the individual online licensure renewal. ICN is anticipating an initial RN report in the Spring of 2015; subsequent reports should include comparison to data from other sources.

The ICN is working with industry professionals and educational institutions to ensure that Illinois has the nursing workforce necessary to meet the demands of a growing and aging population. Visit the ICN website, <http://nursing.illinois.gov>