



**We need your help – please complete the voluntary survey after completing RN license renewal 2016**

The Registered Nurse (RN) workforce in Illinois shares many characteristics of our national RN picture. We are an aging workforce - 40% of the respondents are 55-65+ years old and one-third of this group indicates intent to retire within the next five years. The vast majority of RN educators who responded to the 2014 Illinois RN Workforce Survey <http://nursing.illinois.gov/ResearchData.asp> are also concentrated in the older age group. Of particular concern are the small numbers of nurses in the younger age cohorts (25-35 years) who are entering PhD programs.

In 2016, the Illinois Center for Nursing (ICN) will be offering the opportunity to again participate in the collection of data, which will be used by health planners to provide access to quality healthcare in Illinois. Upon completion of payment for an Illinois RN license renewal, RN's will encounter the following transition to the voluntary survey:

“Although this report is not mandatory, your participation is critical, since employees in the field are our best and most reliable real-time source of information available. By participating in this report, you will be helping to ensure that there will be an uninterrupted supply of nurses to meet the increasing future demands in the healthcare industry.”

As of December 31, 2015, there were 176, 514 Illinois licensed RNs (this does not include the 11,238 also licensed as APNs). The vast majority of Illinois RNs complete license renewal through the online process. We urge you to complete the voluntary survey after the RN license renewal in 2016. The survey is 28 questions long, and takes about 10 minutes to complete.

All data will be reported in the aggregate for use in determining nursing workforce projections and needs in Illinois. Individual responses will remain anonymous and confidential. Summary reports, available on the IDFPR website, may be accessed for compilation into national databases or used for comparison with other reported databases. Participation in the surveys is voluntary but very much needed and appreciated!

To renew your Illinois RN license <http://www.idfpr.com/Renewals/defaultSSL.asp>

*There is a chronic nursing shortage with acute exacerbations (Linda Aiken)*