



The Illinois Center for Nursing RN and APN Workforce Reports

What are the changes in the nursing workforce in Illinois? Are there areas with an excess of nurses – LPNs, RNs or APNs (NP, CNMW, CRNA, CNS)? Are there nursing specialties that are more in demand than others? What do we know about the nursing workforce to optimize partnerships to improve the health of Illinois residents? The Illinois Center for Nursing (ICN) collected data with RN and APN on-line license renewal in 2016 and LPN license renewal that ended January 2017. The ICN Board of Directors is working to prepare reports on the analysis of workforce data and facilitating action around state initiatives focused on workforce and education, such as ones contained in the *Report of the Higher Education Commission on the Future of the Workforce*.

The ICN Board continues to build partnerships with other state organizations and professional nurses associations to decrease duplication of effort and support improving the culture of health of Illinois citizens. Goals outlined in reports such as *Healthy Illinois 2021*, which includes statewide health priorities of a set of health indicators that highlight the key health issues in Illinois. Information in the nurse workforce reports lays the groundwork for partnership work particularly around nursing shortages in the state.

Past reports show that the Illinois nursing workforce shares many characteristics of our national picture: approximately 40% of nurses are 55+ years old and one third intend to retire in the next 5-10 years. Mapping where the nurses are working, rural and urban, number of nurses per population density – as was done in the past is also anticipated with future reports. The ICN anticipates the nursing reports will be available by June 2017. Final reports will be on the ICN website, <http://nursing.illinois.gov>