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Illinois Nursing Workforce Center Registered Nurse (RN) Survey 2020

RNs completing license renewal were invited to participate in this survey. The data was collected during the renewal process post payment of the license renewal fee. Data was collected from 3/10/20 to 9/30/20. The 2020 license renewal period was extended from May 30 to September 30, 2020, by Executive Order during the initial period of the COVID-19 pandemic. A total of 41,983 RNs completed the survey for a survey response rate of 22%.

Key Findings:

- Employment: 92% of nurses work full-time at one job and are actively employed in nursing.
- Employment setting: the majority of Illinois RNs, 52%, work in an acute care setting such as a hospital; 11% are employed in an ambulatory care setting. RNs positions vary in each setting,
- Diversity: consistent with the increase in ethnic and racial diversity in Illinois, there is a slight increase in the diversity of the Illinois nurse workforce. There is more racial, ethnic and gender diversity of RNs under the age of 45 years in the Illinois workforce.
- Age: approximately 52% are over 55 years of age; age cohorts for Illinois RNs in 2020 are similar to those reported in 2018.
- Education: 58% of RNs have either a bachelors, masters or doctorate as the highest nursing degree.

Diversity

- 58% of Hispanic/Latinx nurses are less than 45 years of age.
- 45% of nurses that are male are less than 45 years of age.
- 42% of Asian nurses are less than 45 years of age.
- 56% of nurses that identify as Multiracial are less than 45 years of age.

Age of the RN Workforce

- 52% of the RN workforce is 55 years of age and older.
- 31% are between the ages of 55-64 years.
- 70% of nursing faculty are 55 years of age and older.

RN Employment Settings

- 52% of RNs practice in a hospital/acute care setting—especially nurses in the younger age cohorts. The hospital is the most common acute-care employment setting where nurses have different roles.
- 11% of RNs practice in ambulatory care settings, including outpatient clinics, private practice, doctor offices.
- 9% of RNs practice in a nursing home/extended care/assisted living setting.
- 4% of RNs are school nurses.

RN Position Role

- 66% of RNs provide direct patient care as staff nurses working in acute and non-acute care settings.
- 15% Identify as a nurse manager, administrator or patient care coordinator.
- 3% Identify as nursing faculty.
- In Illinois the average staff nurse salary ranges from \$55,000-\$85,000; the average administrator/manager's salary ranges from \$75,000-\$185,000; the average nursing faculty salary ranges from \$65,000-105,000.

*APRNs and APRN-FPA's who are also licensed as RNs were not included in the survey data.