



IDFPR

Illinois Department of
Financial and Professional Regulation

Division of Professional Regulation

www.idfpr.com

JB PRITZKER
Governor

MARIO TRETO, JR.
Secretary

CECILIA ABUNDIS
Director

IL Nursing Workforce Center Full Practice Authority - Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (FPA-APRN) Survey 2020 Results Executive Summary

General overview: This is the first survey of Illinois Full Practice Authority Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (FPA-APRNs). Initial licensure of Illinois FPA-APRNs began in 2019. Data on the characteristics, supply, and distribution of Full Practice Authority Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (FPA-APRNs) in the State of Illinois is essential to expanding access to care and planning for provision of essential primary and other health care services. The survey was conducted through an email direct request for participation. Participation was voluntary, 301 or 25% of the 1,185 Illinois FPA-APRNs completed the survey. This report contains data on the demographics of Illinois' current FPA-APRN workforce, including type of FPA-APRN, the relative numbers of FPA-APRNs in each age group, their racial, ethnic and gender diversity, and educational preparation. The data quantifies the services FPA-APRNs provide, the process that is used to bill for these services, and reimbursement for services. Finally, the survey captures the diversity of APRN specialty expertise and settings where patients receive these specialized services.

Age of workforce: The report presents important information about the aging of the Illinois FPA-APRN workforce. There are three types of FPA-APRNs: Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS), Certified Nurse Midwife (CNM) and Certified Nurse Practitioner (NP). The average age varies based on type of FPA-APRN. The primary age range of two types of FPA-APRNs (CNP, CNM) is middle of the grid, 53% are between 34-54 years of age. 36% of Certified Nurse Practitioners and Certified Nurse Midwives are < 45 years of age. Over 70% of CNSs are 55 years of age or older. Most FPA-APRNs are over 35 years of age, possibly reflecting working as an RN and an APRN prior to applying for Illinois FPA-APRN licensure.

Diversity: In contrast to the increase in ethnic and racial diversity in the state of Illinois, data indicate a less ethnic and racially diverse Full Practice Authority - Advanced Practice Registered Nursing workforce. Though the majority, 81% of FPA-APRNs are White or Caucasian, a higher percent of FPA-APRNs from ethnic and racially diverse backgrounds are under the age of 55 years. For example, approximately 59% of Hispanic/Latinx, Black or African American as well as White/Caucasian FPA-APRNs are 54 years of age or younger; 75% of Asian FPA-APRNs are under the age of 54 years. Twelve percent of the FPA-APRNs are male. The results are similar to, but reflect slightly more gender, racial and ethnic diversity than data reported in the 2020 APRN survey.

Specialty/Workplace Characteristics: The survey respondents reported on their nursing specialty, and workplace setting. The respondents were provided a choice amongst job settings as well as the option to write in settings that were not listed. Approximately 60% of respondents practice in ambulatory settings; approximately 22% practice in a hospital/inpatient setting. Some FPA-APRNs indicated time was split between acute care in-patient and non-acute-care outpatient settings. The majority of FPA-APRNs are salaried, work between 31-50 hours per week and do not take evening or weekend call. Approximately half do not have a collaborating physician on site, though respondents reported a range of physician-collaborator relationships.

Billing/Reimbursement: FPA-APRNs see approximately 20 patients per day, with reimbursement for services from Medicare (29%), Medicaid (25%), Private Insurance (37%) and no insurance or self-pay (7%). Almost half of the FPA-APRN respondents indicated they manage a panel of patients. 100% of FPA-APRNs have a National Provider Identifier (NPI) number. Forty-nine percent of respondents bill exclusively under their NPI number; this was followed by 18% billing under the clinic/facility NPI number. In addition, 7% do not bill as they are employed by a hospital, approximately 4% are employed by a federal facility and 4% are contract employees. There is a range of services and a range of billing for services.

Summary: The 2020 Illinois FPA-APRN survey was the first survey of Illinois Full Practice Authority Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (FPA-APRNs). Initial licensure of Illinois FPA-APRNs began in 2019. This data will be extremely valuable as health care planners project the human health care capital that will be needed in Illinois. These data will be of great use in estimating the current FPA-APRN supply, their demographics, and practice specialties. The anticipated shortage of primary care providers is particularly acute in Illinois. Focused workforce planning is urgently needed to assure access to healthcare for Illinois residents. The full report is available on the IDFP/ Illinois Nursing Workforce Center website <http://nursing.illinois.gov/ResearchData.asp>