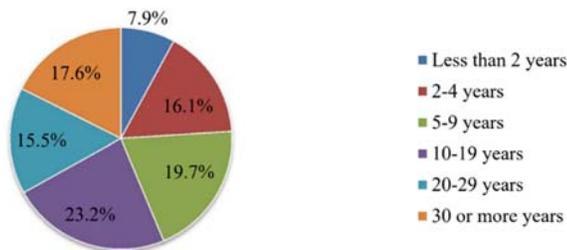


PRESERVE THE NURSING WORKFORCE SURVEY

What is happening?

A legislative proposal to make the mandatory nursing workforce survey voluntary. In the past, a voluntary survey resulted in poor return rates. This occurs because of multiple RN professional roles and practice that occurs in a variety of settings. A voluntary survey does not provide statistical data that evaluates the supply of, demand for, and turnover among nurses in the state. Moreover, it insufficiently assesses whether there are regional shortages and/or shortages of nurses in specialty areas.

How much longer do you plan to work providing direct patient care?



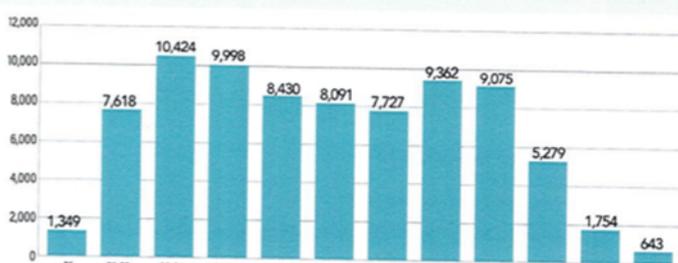
What is the importance of this data?

This data tells us:

- How many RNs and LPNs practice in Wisconsin
- Where nurses are working (i.e. actively in nursing, actively in health care, unemployed, etc.)
- Demographic information about the workplace (i.e. race, sex, age)
- Education level of the workforce (i.e. associate degree, bachelor's degree, etc.)
- Where the nurses are working (i.e. extended care, hospital, home health, public health, etc.)
- And more!

This information is used by educators, health systems, governmental agencies, workforce planners and policy-makers to implement strategies to address emerging nursing workforce challenges.

2018 Wisconsin registered nurses by age (n=79,750)



Why is this an issue?

In the past, Wisconsin has offered the survey in a voluntary format, which resulted in poor return rates and data that did not provide a total picture of the nursing workforce. By design, voluntary surveys are not random and therefore may produce data that is not statistically relevant. For example, nurses from Milwaukee or specialty nurses only responding.

A nursing shortage is already descending upon Wisconsin. The information from the mandatory workforce survey is used to quantify the threat of the shortage and adapt to changes in the workforce. The mandatory workforce survey has been used to inform recruitment, retention, and employment strategies for the nursing workforce.

NURSING WORKFORCE SUMMARY



What is the solution?

It is anticipated that a bill will be re-introduced at the upcoming legislative session. Working with legislators to vote NO on the new legislative version will be a vital step to preserving this survey.

What you can do!

Meet with your legislators! Write letters to your representatives! Learn more about this issue by contacting WNA, WCN or exploring their websites.

WNA: www.wisconsinnurses.org

WCN: www.wisconsincenterfornursing.org

<https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/statutes/statutes/106/II/30>