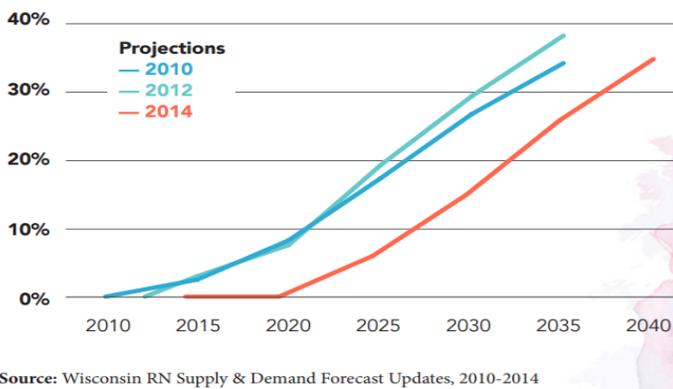


PRESERVE THE NURSING WORKFORCE SURVEY

What is happening?

A legislative bill was introduced to repeal WI State Statute 106.30. §106.30 calls for the Department of Workforce Development (DWD), through a mandatory survey of RNs and LPNs at the time of license renewal, to evaluate the supply of, demand for, and turnover among nurses in this state and determine if there are any regional shortages of nurses, shortages of nurses in any specialty areas, or impediments to entering the nursing profession in this state. §106.30 also require DWD to provide grants to a statewide nursing center. This center has historically been the Wisconsin Center for Nursing (WCN). WCN develops strategies to ensure that there is a nursing workforce that is adequate to meet the current and future health care needs of Wisconsin.

Projected Nursing Workforce Gap 2010-2040



What is the importance of this data?

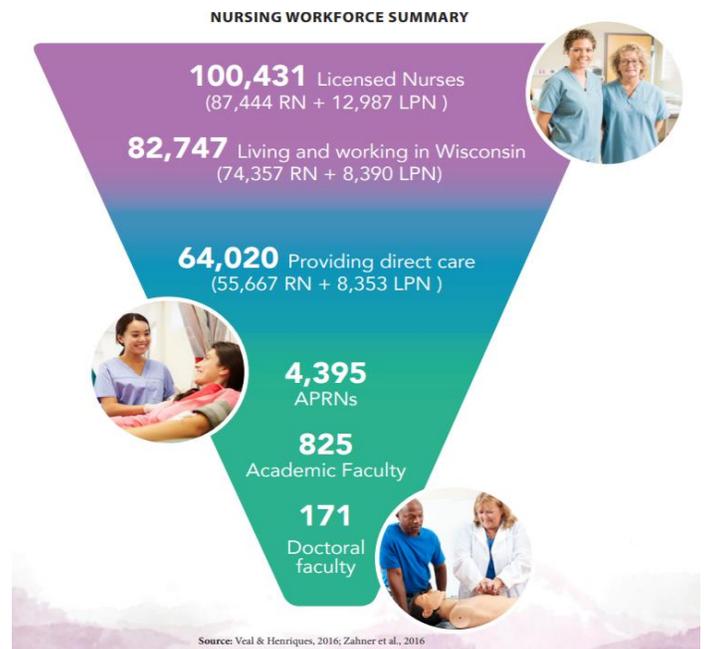
This data tells us:

- 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.

Why is this an issue?

If §106.30 is eliminated Wisconsin will lose important and timely information about the nursing workforce. 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, we may only have data about nurses from Milwaukee or specialty nurses only responding. Moreover, it insufficiently assesses whether there are regional shortages and/or shortages of nurses in specialty areas. 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.



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

WI Statute 106.30:

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

PRESERVE THE NURSING WORKFORCE SURVEY

The nursing workforce survey data has been used to inform decision-making to assure an adequate, competent, and diverse nursing workforce to improve population health in Wisconsin.

In addition to identifying trends in the workforce through survey data, WCN Reports also link the nurse population ratio in different areas of the state to the research being done on the health status of Wisconsin counties by the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute.

The workforce surveys also provide vital demographic information about the nursing workforce and help to identify underrepresented groups.

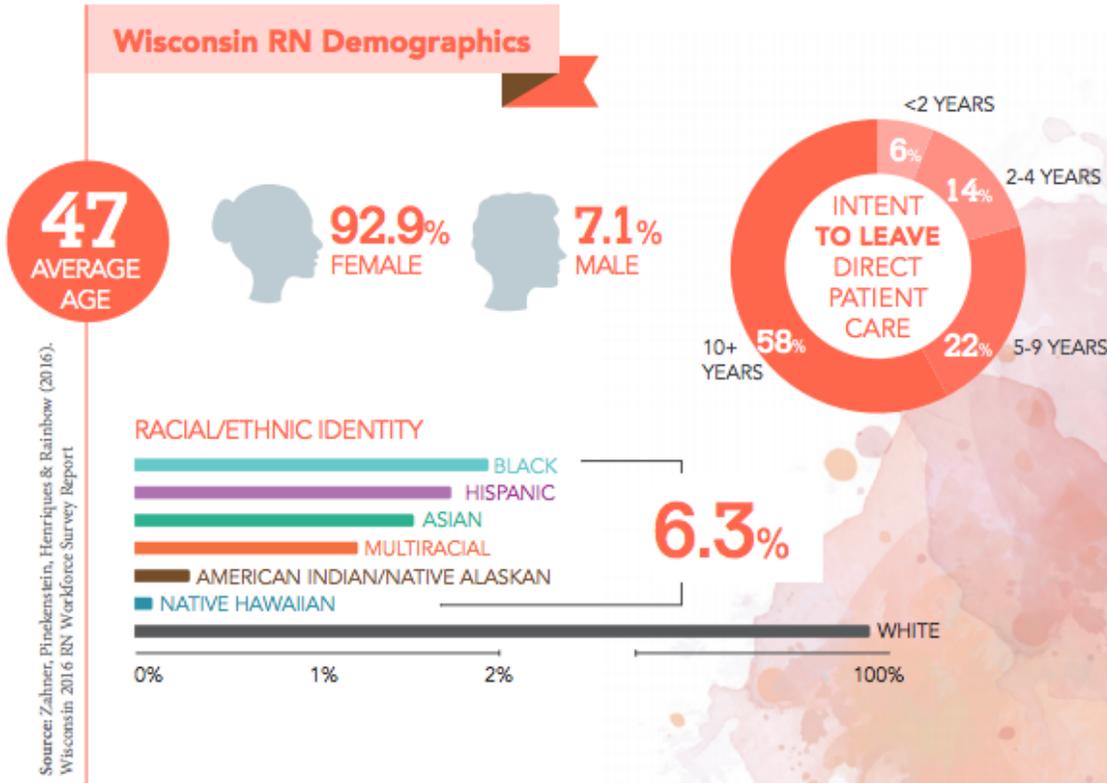
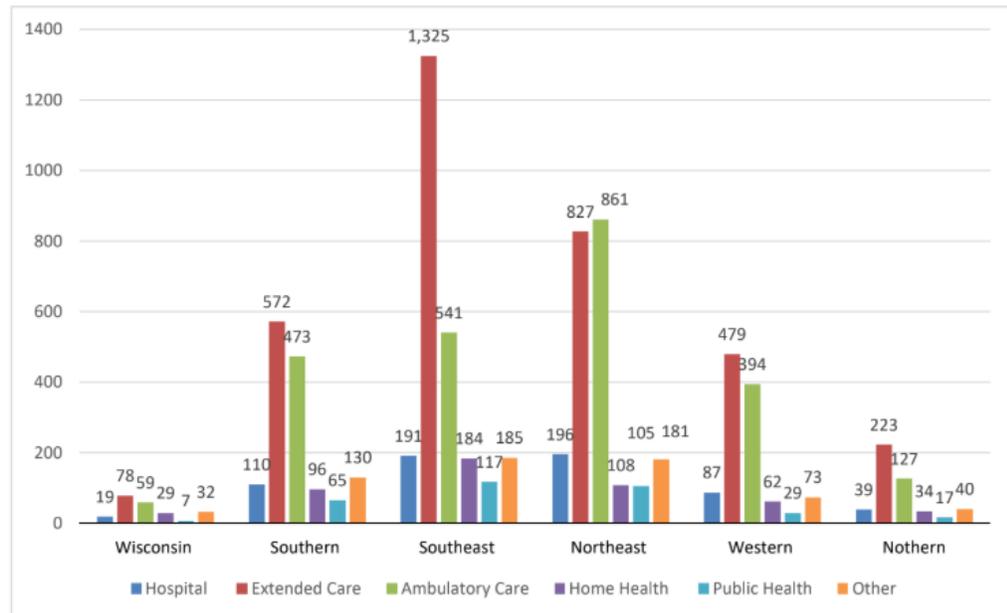


Figure 12. Primary Work Setting of LPNs who Work in Wisconsin

The graphics appearing on this page depict RN and LPN demographic data that was collected from the 2016 & 2017 nursing workforce surveys.

Figure 12 on the right shows the distribution of LPNs across the different DHS regions.



The survey also gathers information about the future. The graph located on the right demonstrates the percentage of LPNs who intend to leave patient care in the following years.

Note that 44% of LPNs report plans to leave work in less than 10 years.

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

