

2021 Wisconsin Licensed Practical Nurse Capacity and Supply Snapshot

The fifth biennial Wisconsin 2021 LPN Workforce Survey was completed by 10,885 licensed practical nurses (LPNs). After data cleaning, 9,590 valid surveys were included in the analysis. All LPNs renewing their licenses in Wisconsin were included, regardless of where or whether they were working in Wisconsin



The 2021 LPN Survey showed minimal change from 2019 in the Wisconsin LPN workforce (9,568 to 9,590)

94.1%
Women

Mean LPN age:
49.2
YEARS

5.7%
Men
0.2%
Non-binary

Highest degree earned



Nursing Degree (9,464)	%
Diploma in Nursing	94.5
Associate Degree in Nursing	5.4
Bachelor of Science in Nursing	0.1
Doctorate in Nursing *	
Non-Nursing Degree (554)	%
Associate	44.8
Bachelors	47.5
Masters	7.0
Doctorate	0.7

*Too few to report.

Skill-based certification

IV	1,271
Other	745
Geriatrics/Gerontology	491
Emergency medicine	251
Wound Care	213
Mental Health	138
Hospice and paliative	69
Hemodialysis	28
Cardio-Vascular	21

Race/Ethnicity (9,580)

Race/Ethnicity (9,580)	2021 LPN Workforce (%)	Wisconsin Population (%)
White	87.7	80.4
Black	7.7	6.4
American Indian or Alaska Native	1.3	1.0
Asian	2.0	3.0
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0.2	0.0*
Other	2.6	3.1
Hispanic, Latino, or Latinx		
Yes	3.5	7.6
No	96.5	92.4

* This number is not zero, but the number is so small that when rounded, it is close to zero.

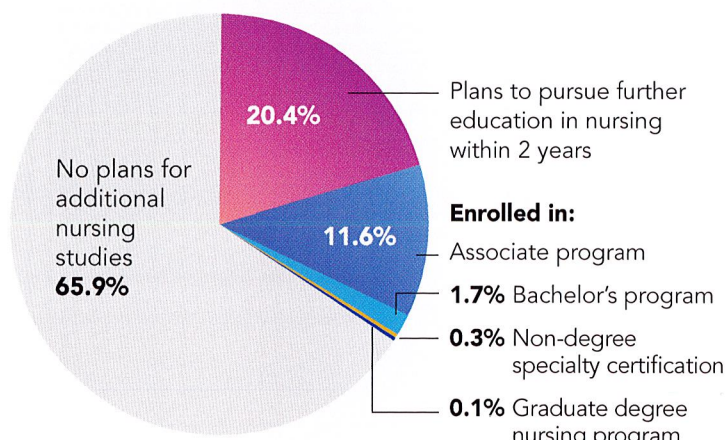
Barriers to further education

Cost of lost work time and benefits	3,240
Cost of tuition, materials, books, etc.	3,123
None	2,839
Family/personal reasons	2,354
Lack of flexibility in work schedule	1,240
Other, not listed	861
Scheduling of educational programs offered	457
Commuting distance to educational program	288
Limited access to online learning or other online resources	252

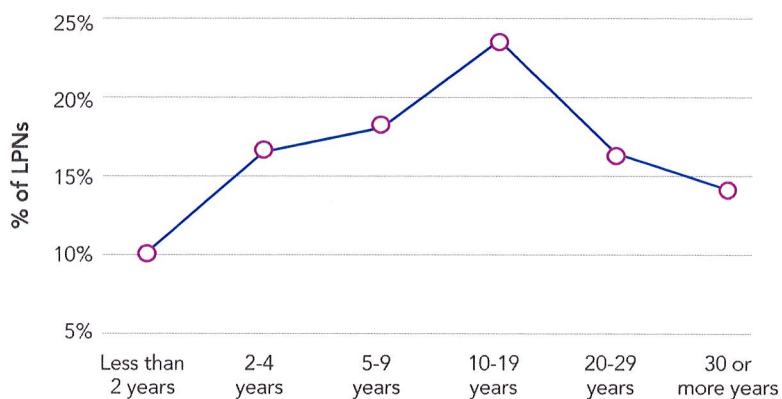
Respondents could choose more than one option.

The most commonly cited barrier was cost of **lost work time and benefits** (33.8%), closely followed by **cost of tuition, materials, books, etc.** (32.6%)

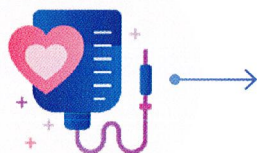
Plans for further education



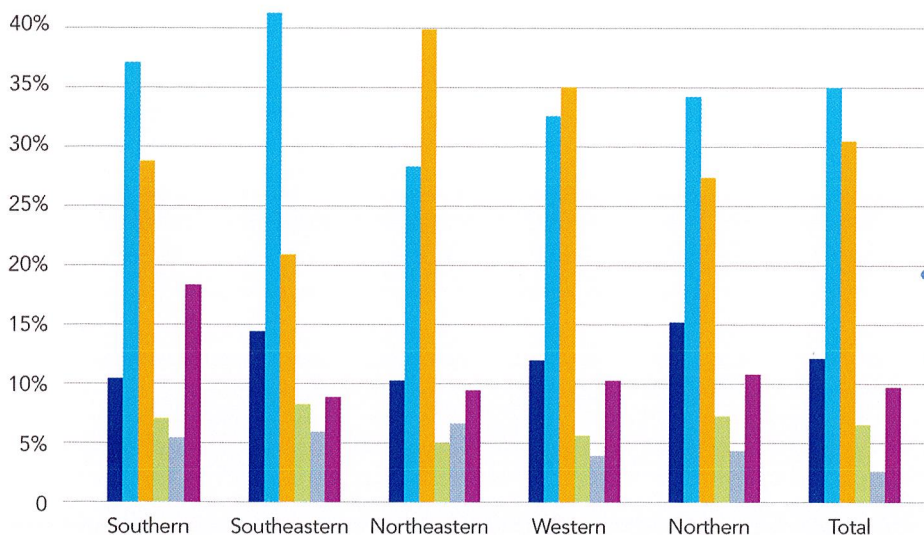
Intent to continue to provide direct patient care



88.1% of Wisconsin LPNs provide direct patient care



Primary work setting by region



Statewide primary work setting

