THE NATION’S DEMAND FOR NURSES

The need for Registered Nurses (RNs) and Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs) continues to grow. The Nursing Community Coalition is committed to raising awareness of the current and impending demand for nurses to ensure the workforce will be able to provide the public with accessible, high-quality, cost-effective care.

THE NURSING WORKFORCE BY THE NUMBERS

4,025,000 Licensed Registered Nurses ¹
- 234,000+ Nurse Practitioners ²
- 70,000+ Clinical Nurse Specialists ³
- 50,000+ Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists ⁴
- 11,000+ Certified Nurse-Midwives ⁵

BOTTLENECK OF THE NURSING PIPELINE

- Since 2012, approximately 60,000 baby boomer RNs have retired each year. That number is expected to grow to 70,000 annually by the end of the decade. ⁸
- In 2015, the nursing workforce lost 1.7 million experience-years due to nurse retirements. ³
- In 2016, there were 1,567 faculty vacancies in schools of nursing. Retirement is likely to exacerbate this faculty shortage and further constrain the ability to accept new students in nursing programs. ⁹
- While the demand for nurses will vary by state, the national need for RNs is projected to increase 28% by 2030. By that time, seven states are expected to have a nursing deficit, four of which will have a deficit of over 10,000 nurses. ¹⁰

INCREASED DEMAND FOR CARE

- From January 1, 2011 to December 31, 2029, an estimated 10,000 baby boomers will turn 65 each day. As they age, this population will increasingly suffer from chronic diseases and require additional healthcare services. ⁶
- At any point in time, 25% of the U.S. population has a behavioral/mental health disorder. In total, 5,027 U.S. counties have been identified as areas with shortages of mental health professionals. ⁷
- As of February 2018, there are 7,167 designated Primary Care Health Professional Shortage Areas impacting 84,393,469 Americans. ⁷

STATES WITH THE HIGHEST DEMAND FOR NURSES IN 2030 ¹⁰

SOURCES

⁹American Association of Colleges of Nursing. Faculty Shortages in Baccalaureate and Graduate Nursing Programs. http://www.aacnnursing.org/News-Information/Fact-Sheets/Nursing-Faculty-Shortage.

www.thenursingcommunity.org