



Statewide Survey of Nursing Students and Faculty Compilation Reported January 2005

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Introduction

The Indiana Nursing Workforce Development Coalition (INWDC) annually surveys all statewide public and private schools of nursing. This is the second year that INWDC is able to report state-wide summary information on student enrollments, graduations, and projected faculty vacancies. The 2003-2004 results represent 38 of a possible 41 nursing schools in the state that had information to report. An additional two schools were sent a survey but due to technical issues were unable to respond.

Trends At a Glance

- New enrollment increased in one year in the ASN (associate) program by 8.3%, in the BSN (bachelor) program by 5.5%, and in the MSN (masters) program by 57%.
- Graduates of the ASN program increased 23% over 2002-2003 data; while graduates of the BSN program decreased 8.5% over this same time period.
- Of the 2302 nursing degrees awarded, 1779 of those graduates are new to the nursing workforce.
- Interest in nursing is outpacing programs' abilities to meet this interest. State-wide there were approximately two qualified applicants for every available space in both the ASN and BSN program. However the number of qualified applicants varied by geographical region and public/private institutional classification.
- Reasons for not being able to increase enrollments included: faculty vacancies (noted by 49% respondents); clinical site availability (noted by 29% of respondents); classroom/laboratory (noted by 21% of respondents); and space limitation in required pre-requisite courses to major (noted by 6% of respondents).
- Faculty vacancies increased 10% from 2002-2003 to 2003-2004.
- Recruiting masters and doctorally prepared nursing faculty is perceived as being somewhat to very difficult with the majority viewing faculty with doctorates as being very difficult.
- The ratio of full-time to part-time faculty continues to be fairly consistent with approximately 66% of the faculty being reported as full-time while 34% of the faculty were categorized as part-time.
- A notable 80% (N=349) of full-time faculty are over 45 years of age with less than 1% (N=6) under 30 years of age.

OVERALL FINDINGS

Description of Respondents

Forty-three (43) schools of nursing in Indiana were initially identified. Of these original 43 schools, two schools were new and had no data to report so the number of schools included in the initial survey list was forty-one (41). One additional school never received the survey due to electronic problems so this school was not included among those schools that could respond to the survey. Of the 40 schools actually surveyed 38 schools reported usable information for a response rate of 95%. Among the 38 schools responding the following programs were represented: *(please note that there are more programs than schools as many schools reported on more than one program.)*

- ❖ 26 ASN
- ❖ 16 BSN
- ❖ 6 Accelerated BSN
- ❖ 16 RN to BSN
- ❖ 7 MSN
- ❖ 5 RN to MSN

Student Enrollments and Admissions

Enrollment Capacity

- Total ASN enrollment increased 13% in the 2003-4 academic year as compared to the 2002-3 academic year.
- Total traditional BSN enrollment increased 8% in the 2003-4 academic year as compared to the 2002-3 academic year.
- Total MSN enrollment is unlimited by some programs therefore reliable comparisons could not be made.

Gender and Ethnicity

- 92.5% of nursing enrollees were reported as female and 7.5% were reported as male.
- 89% of enrollees were reported as Caucasian and 11% were reported as other than Caucasian

Available seats for new admits

- ASN available seats (new enrollees) increased 8.3% in the 2003-4 academic year as compared to the 2002-03 academic year.
- Traditional BSN available seats (new enrollees) increased 5.5% in the 2003-4 academic year as compared to the 2002-3 academic year.
- MSN available seats (new enrollees) increased 57% in the 2003-4 academic years as compared to the 2002-3 academic year.
- Data reflects that RNBSN, Traditional BSN and RNMSN schools are admitting a greater number of students than reflected in availability of seats.
- Data reflects qualified ASN applicants (1558), Traditional BSN applicants (655) and Accelerated BSN applicants (72) were not admitted for a total of 2285.
- The respondents reflected the following reasons for not admitting qualified applicants over the past 2 years:
 1. Faculty Vacancies-17%
 2. Budgeted Faculty Vacancies-32%
 3. Clinical Site Availability-29%
 4. Classroom/laboratory limitations-21%
 5. General pre-requisite education courses-6%

Graduates

- ASN graduates increased 23% in the 2003-4 academic year as compared to the 2002-3 academic year.
- Traditional and accelerated BSN graduates decreased 8.5% in the 2003-4 academic year compared to the 2002-3 academic year.
- RNBSN graduates increased 51% in 2003-4 academic year compared to the 2002-3 academic year.
- MSN graduates decreased 3.8% in the 2003-4 academic year as compared to the 2002-3 academic year.
- MSN graduates did not differentiate those students graduating with a second graduate degree in nursing.
- Increases in ASN (8%), Accelerated BSN (45%), and MSN (9%) graduates are projected for 2004-5 academic year as compared to 2003-4 academic year.
- Decreases in RNBSN (49%) and Traditional BSN (8%) graduates are projected for 2004-5 academic year as compared to 2003-4 academic year.

Faculty Age Range, Preparation, Vacancies and Recruitment

Number of faculty

- Total number of full-time faculty decreased 1% 2003-4 academic year as compared to 2002-3 survey.
- Total number of part-time faculty increased by 8% 2003-4 academic year as compared to 2002-3 survey.

Age Range

- 71% of full-time faculty was reported in the 46-60 years of age range.
- 51% of part-time faculty was in the 46-60 years of age range.

Preparation

- 72% of full-time and part-time faculty reported a Master's Degree in Nursing.
- 23% of full-time and part-time faculty reported a Doctorate Degree.

Vacancies

- Respondents reported full-time faculty vacancies increased 10% in the 2003-4 academic year as compared to the 2002-3 academic year.
- Respondents reported part-time faculty vacancies decreased 39% in the 2003-4 academic year as compared to the 2002-3 academic year.

Recruitment

- Based on current existing structure and constraints respondents projected full-time faculty vacancies for the academic year 2004-5 to be 39.
- Based on current existing structure and constraints respondents projected part-time faculty vacancies for the academic year 2004-5 to be 14.
- Respondents reported it was "very difficult" to recruit Master's prepared faculty (43%) and Doctoral prepared faculty (93%).
- Respondents reported the following projected specialty needs according to vacancies:
 1. Pediatrics-16
 2. Psych-15
 3. Obstetrics-13
 4. Medical/Surgical-12
 5. Community 6
 6. Gerontology-3
 7. Critical Care-2
 8. Other-2