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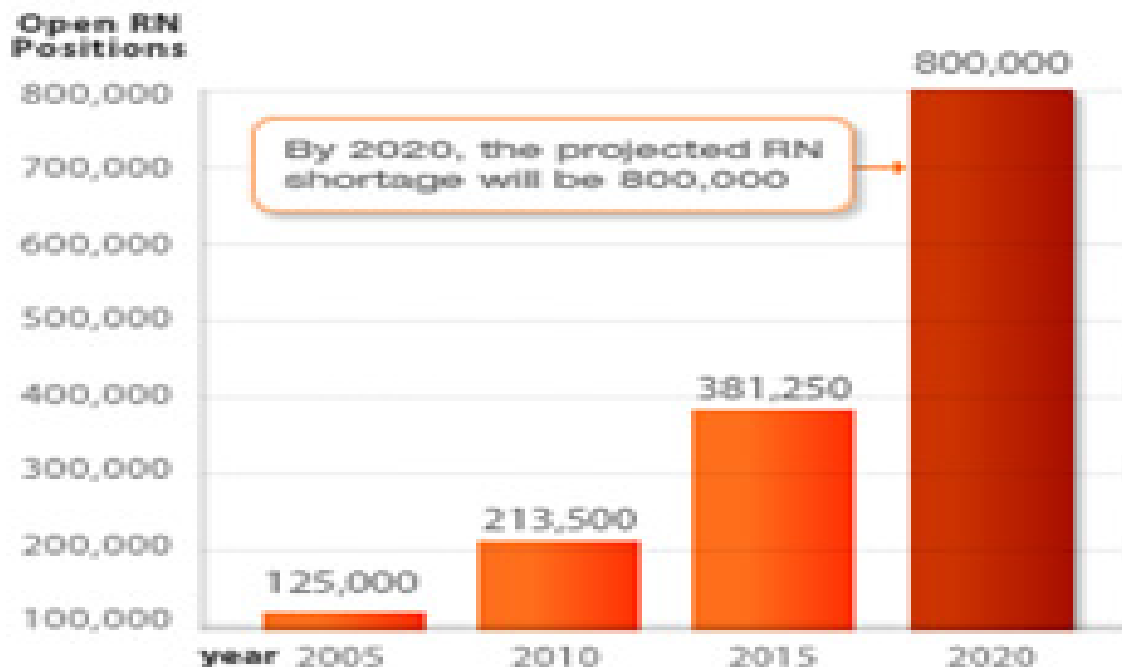
OPPORTUNITIES FOR NURSES IN AMERICA

A compilation of Recent (One Year) Media Reports in USA

Indian Nurses in USA - Opportunities

Among all countries, whose hospitals absorb nurses from India, the United States of America (U.S.) still heads the list. In fact, according to studies conducted by the U.S. Bureau of Labour, employment opportunities for Registered Nurses (RNs) in that country will grow faster than the average for all occupations, through 2008.

Number of Projected Open RN Positions United States 2005-2020

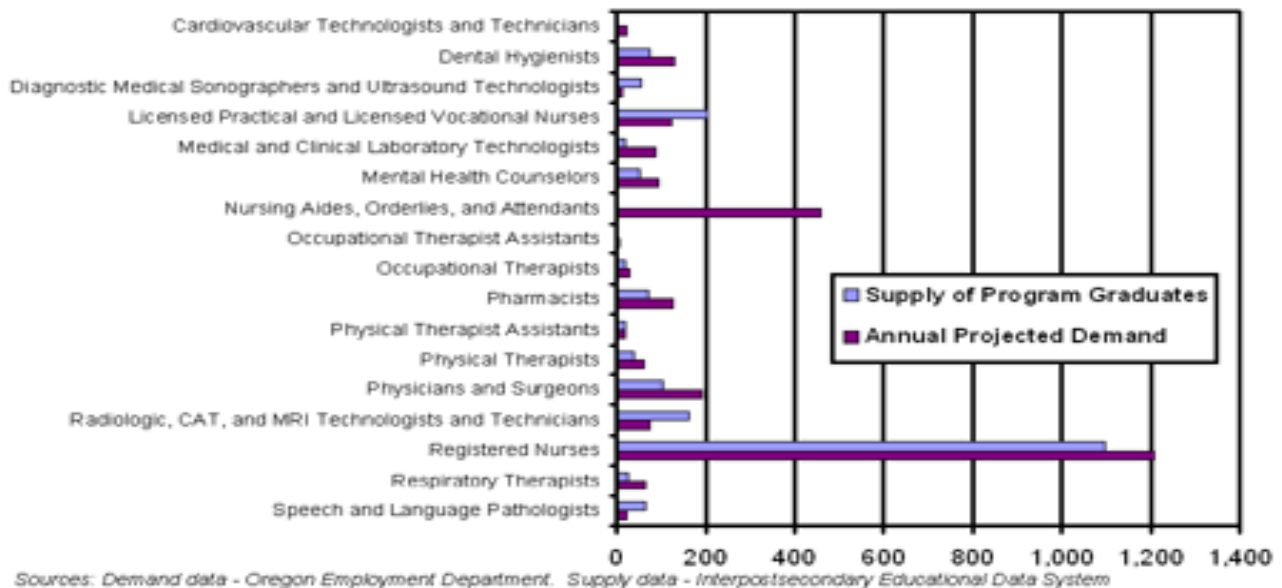


Source: Peter Buerhaus, JAMA 2000

Health Care Sector - Growth Despite - Global Financial Meltdown

The health-care sector is one of the fastest growing sectors of the U.S. economy. Health-care consumption, as a percentage of Gross Domestic Product (GDP), is expected to grow from 16.2 percent in 2005 to 20 percent or \$4.0 trillion by 2015, according to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. America's health care costs in 2004 totaled \$1.9 trillion, or about \$6,300 for each U.S. resident. It's expected to increase to \$11,000 per person by 2015, according to the Citizen's Health Care Working Group.

Annual Projected Demand (2004-2014) and Supply for Identified Shortage Occupations in Oregon



NC Annualized Employment Growth for Major Occupational Groups, 2004 - 2014

Growing Occupation Group

Between 2004 and 2014, occupational employment for all occupations is expected to increase by 690,700 jobs, representing an annualized growth rate of 1.6 percent. The most rapidly growing major occupation group in the state will be Healthcare Support occupations. They are projected to grow at a rate of 3.2 percent annualized, well above the rate of growth for occupational employment in general. Healthcare Support occupations are expected to increase by 43,000 jobs during the period

Job Opportunities for registered Nurses in the U.S. are immense. The Fact that 75% of the vacancy ads placed by Hospitals there is for trained nurses vouch for that.

- 75% or 126,000 of the 168,000 unfilled U.S. hospital positions are for RNs.

Unfilled Hospital Positions



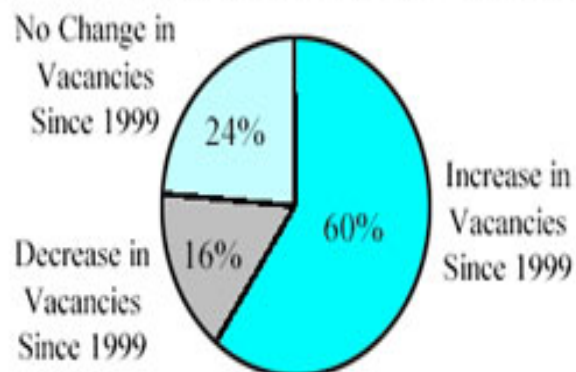
- The vacancy rate of nurses in U.S. hospitals is 13%.
- Over 1 in 7 hospitals (15%) report a severe RN nursing shortage with more than 20% of their nursing positions vacant.
- 80%-85% of hospitals report that they have a nurse shortage

Shortage - Only Intensifying

This Shortage is expected to intensify and affect the health care industry long term for at least the next 20 years

- Nearly two-thirds (60%) of hospitals report an increase in RN vacancies since 1999.

Change in the Number of RN Vacancies Since 1999



Less Entering Nursing Field - Aging RN Workforce

The RN workforce average age has climbed steadily for the past 20 years and is expected to continue aging in the coming decades. The nursing profession has been increasingly concerned about the impact of its aging workforce. A survey administered to nurse executives found that 83% believed that the aging of the RN workforce would result in serious shortages of RNs.

The RN workforce will continue to age over the next two decades because the largest cohort of RNs that entered nursing in the 1970s will be age 50 to 69 years and will not be replaced with younger RNs. By 2010, the average age of employed RNs is forecast to increase 3.5 years over the current age with more than 40% of the RN workforce expected to be older than 50 years.

Unless this trend is reversed, the aging of the RN workforce is expected to continue until 2010. At that time, the supply of RNs will stop growing and begin to shrink as the largest age group of RNs, those in their 50s and 60s, will begin to retire. At the same time, many forces will be accelerating the demand for nurses, especially the 78 million baby boomers who will reach 65 over the next 3 decades. The contraction in supply at the same time that demand for RNs increases is expected to intensify the nursing shortage. Consequently, the RN workforce is forecast to be 20% lower than what is needed by 2020

Overall Effects of Nursing Shortage in USA

The shortage is causing problems and forcing temporary changes in hospital operations and patient care.

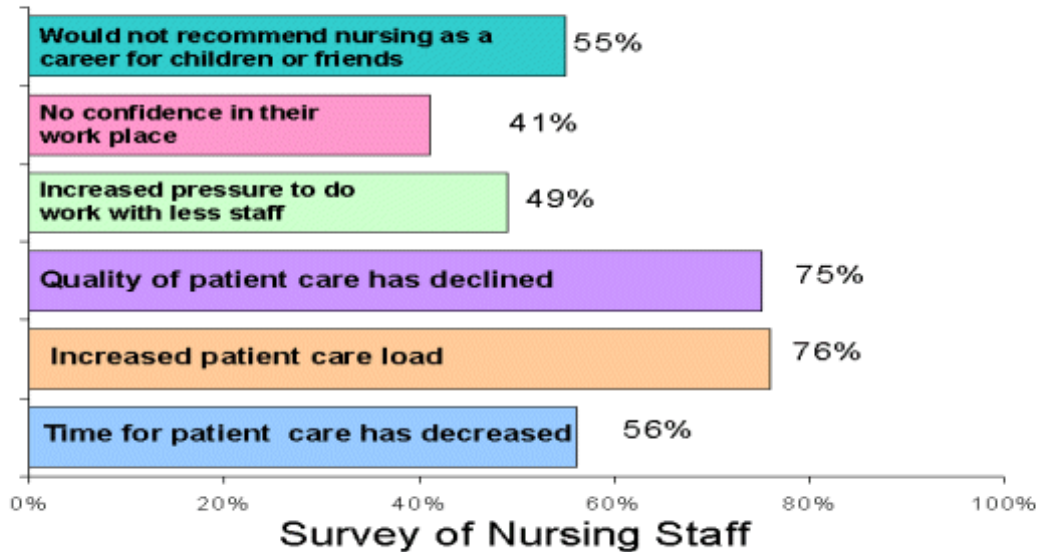
- Hospitals report the largest impact the nursing shortage has on operations includes emergency department overcrowding (38%), diverted emergency department patients (25%), reduced number of beds staffed (23%), increased waiting times for surgery (19%), and discontinued.
- Other impacts included increased overtime, lower morale, higher stress, restricted expansion, increased waiting time for surgery, reduced or elimination of services, and others.

Quality of Care has been affected by nursing shortages.

The realization that overall nursing care has suffered during the "retrogression" and immediate steps are being initiated to mend the situation is apparent under the 'Obama' regime - the lifting of the "retrogression" is round the corner throwing open the gates for entry for healthcare professionals in the United States of America



Effects of the Shortage on the Working Environment of Nurses



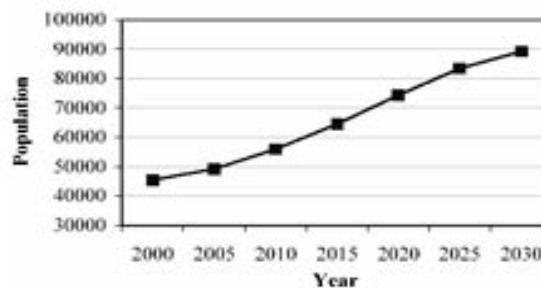
N = 7,300 nurses surveyed nationwide

Source: American Nurses Association (ANA)

Demand for Nurses is Increasing

- Demand depends on the care needs of the population. The demand for nurses to care for our aging population is expected to increase dramatically by 2010 as the first of the 78 million baby-boomer generation begins to retire and enroll in Medicare. As the population ages, patient acuity increases, and utilization of services and demand for nurses increases. This demand for health services will continue to grow in the coming decades as the population age 60 years and older is expected to double between 2000 to 2030. The number of persons age 60 and over is projected to nearly double from 45.5 million in 2000 to 89.2 million by 2030.

U.S. Population 60 Years of Age and Over
Thousands



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What is Being Done to Recruit and Retain Nurses?

Many healthcare administrators have focused on taking immediate costly short-term actions to fill vacancies. This shortage is structural and requires both short-term and long-term recruitment and retention strategies. Solutions to create a sustained improvement will need to be more radical than past shortages and must address many long-term issues. Hospitals that have been successful in addressing the shortage have adopted long-term solutions focusing on changing the fundamental nature of the nurses' job and retaining staff.

Employers that are best positioned to meet the shortage are those that have developed both short-term strategies to meet immediate staffing needs, as well as developing long-term practices for recruitment and retention. Both strategies include the hiring, training, and precepting of new graduates; training for specialty areas; developing partnerships with schools of nursing; and creating a more supportive work environment.

The aging and shrinking RN workforce and the increasing demand driven primarily by the expanding population of Medicare beneficiaries will soon collide. The forces driving the nursing shortages are so strong that assistance will be needed from many different resources including nursing professionals, others in the healthcare industry, policymakers, the public, and media to place the problem onto the national social agenda.

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- 3. Nurses-Careers-Abroad also proposes to establish a "NURSES-BLOG" on the website for the Nursing Fraternity. Look for it at www.nurses.careers.abroad.com*
