Forecasting the Nursing Workforce in California

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Goals of this project

- Forecast the supply of nurses
- Forecast the demand for nurses
- Compare the supply to projected demand

Based on the projected shortage/surplus, we can...

- Understand the short-term and long-term needs for nurses in California
- Identify strategies to address future shortages
Changes to the model

- New data
  - Numbers of RNs
  - Employment patterns (2014 survey)
  - Graduations (2013-2014 Annual Schools Report)
  - Endorsement, inactive transitions, lapsed license data 2014
- More reliance on BRN data
  - State-to-state migration data from 2008 NSSRN is too old
  - BRN data now from BreEZe extract reports
- Extended forecasts to 2035
Basic structure of the model

- Supply: Stock-and-flow model

- Demand: Focus on RNs per capita, compared with national benchmarks
A model of the supply of RNs

Inflow of nurses → Nurses with Active Licenses Living in California → Outflow of nurses

Share of nurses who work, and how much they work

Full-time equivalent supply of RNs
Nurses with active licenses

- Number of nurses with active licenses and California addresses in April 2015 provided by BRN
- 5-year age groups provided by BRN
Inflows of RNs

- Graduations from California nursing programs
- Immigration from other countries
- Migration from other states
- Transition from inactive license
- Transition from lapsed license
Outflows of nurses

- Migration to other states
- Transition to inactive or lapsed license
How do the numbers compare with the 2013 forecasts?

- Graduations are expected to drop in 2014-2015
- Fewer graduates projected than in the 2013 forecast

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>New enrollment</th>
<th>Projected enrollment from 1 yr</th>
<th>Projected enrollment from 2 yrs</th>
<th>Graduations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2012-2013</td>
<td>13,181</td>
<td>12,948</td>
<td>13,867</td>
<td>11,292</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013-2014</td>
<td>13,226</td>
<td>13,342</td>
<td>12,601</td>
<td>11,291</td>
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<tr>
<td>2014-2015</td>
<td></td>
<td>12,162</td>
<td>13,347</td>
<td>10,795</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015-2016</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>12,177</td>
<td>10,832</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016-2017</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>9,960</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017-2018</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>9,972</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
How do the numbers compare with the 2013 forecasts?

- Declines in licenses to new grads from other states & foreign-educated RNs
  - 54% drop for out-of-state
  - 62% drop for foreign-educated
  - BreEZee extract reports may not be complete (yet)

- Small changes in movements into and out of California

- Employment rates expected to rise a bit among younger RNs, drop a bit among older RNs
How does the supply forecast work?

- The supply of actively licensed RNs next year for an age group will equal....
  - 4/5 of the nurses in the age group (1/5 will “age up” to the next group)
  - 1/5 of the nurses from the younger age group
  - Inflow of nurses in the age group
  - Outflow of nurses in the age group

- Multiply the number of actively licensed RNs by the labor-force participation data to get

  **Full-Time Equivalent Supply**
The range of supply forecasts for 2015 (RN FTEs)
Forecast of Full-time Equivalent RNs per 100,000 population
How do we compare to other states?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Working RNs per 100,000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2013 American Community Survey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Idaho</td>
<td>638</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nevada</td>
<td>648</td>
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<tr>
<td>New Mexico</td>
<td>678</td>
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<tr>
<td>Utah</td>
<td>706</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California</td>
<td>752</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vermont</td>
<td>765</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
What is demand?

- National benchmarks: Employed RNs per 100,000
  - California had 752 in 2013
  - National 25th percentile: 857 per 100,000
  - National average: 936 per 100,000
  - These were adjusted to FTEs
- Employment Development Department, forecast of 2022 demand
  - 297,400 jobs (16.9% growth from 2012)
- RNs per patient day, 2014
  - Estimate growth in patient days based on population growth
  - Predict hospital RN demand from patient days forecast
  - Estimate overall demand as function of hospital demand
Forecasts of RN demand

- National 25th percentile FTE RNs/population
- National average FTE RNs/population
- California Employment Development Dept. forecast
- Maintain 2015 FTE RNs/Population
- OSHPD hours per patient day-based forecast
Best supply and demand forecasts for RNs, 2015-2035
Implications for policy

- Supply & demand are in close alignment
  - Are current employment levels adequate?
  - Should California be at the national average? 25th percentile?
  - Economic demand vs. need-based demand

- Risks
  - Reductions in enrollments and graduations in RN education
  - Loss of nurses to other states

- What do we need to do?
  - Stop declines in RN enrollments/graduations
  - Ensure new graduates get jobs in California