



## Iowa Board of Nursing

Iowa's nursing workforce center (The Center) is a program under the Iowa Board of Nursing and is staffed by an Iowa Board of Nursing (IBON) employee. Employment and education data is collected by the IBON through the licensure process for licensed practical nurses, registered nurses and advanced registered nurse practitioners. Statistical information is then reported in the *Trends Report*, and as needed and requested, by interested stakeholders ([nursing.iowa.gov/iowa-center-nursing-workforce](http://nursing.iowa.gov/iowa-center-nursing-workforce)).

Since the development of The Center in 2013, the IBON has gathered demographic information during the licensure process according to the minimum data set designed by the National Forum of State Nursing Workforce Centers. In conversations with Di Findley of the Iowa Caregivers over the years, it was determined that it could be beneficial to know how many nurses had been direct care workers or certified nursing assistants prior to their professional licensure. In 2020, that question was added to the IBON's licensure survey.

Nurses renew their licenses every three years. The data to-date, so approximately one-third of the current licensees, reported as follows:

<b>Registered Nurses (RN)</b>		
No	6171	32.27%
Yes	12951	67.73%
Total To-Date	19122	

<b>Licensed Practical Nurses (LPN)</b>		
No	679	21.58%
Yes	2468	78.42%
Total To-Date	3147	

<b>Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioners (ARNPs)*</b>		
No	185	48.30%
Yes	198	51.70%
Total	383	

\*ARNPs may hold their RN license in other states. All Iowa nurses who are ARNPs, also hold their RN license in this state. Some information may be duplicative.

It is too early to draw any specific conclusions about the information gathered on this topic to-date. However, with over two-thirds of RNs and nearly four-fifths of LPNs having had prior experience in the direct care workforce, possessing the knowledge about how many direct care workers there are in the state of Iowa would be beneficial to understanding the future of the nursing workforce.

Questions about Iowa's nursing workforce statistics may be directed to Laura Hudson, Associate Director – Workforce, at [laura.hudson@iowa.gov](mailto:laura.hudson@iowa.gov).