

Hawai'i Nurse Education Capacity Survey
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What is the purpose of the Nurse Education Capacity Survey?

The Education Capacity Survey is a study conducted annually by the Hawai'i State Center for Nursing (the Center). The survey's primary goal is to assess the collective ability of Hawai'i's schools of nursing to educate enough nurses to meet the workforce needs of the state.

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Why is this survey important?

It is the only survey that monitors and tracks through annual data collection and reporting the total number of nurses produced *all* of Hawai'i's public *and* private schools of nursing. The survey results provide critical information about new nurse production which is essential for sound workforce planning and development.

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What kinds of questions are on the survey?

All the data you provide will be retrospective reporting for the most recently-completed academic year. The questions are divided into 5 categories:

1. Basic School/Department Information
2. Future Plans for Your Department
3. Faculty Data
4. Entry-to-Practice Program Student Data
5. Post-License Program Student Data

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I feel like other organizations already ask us to complete surveys like this. Is this one really necessary?

The Center does not have access to other agencies' data. The Board of Nursing doesn't distribute analyses or summaries of schools' annual reports. Accreditors may or may not publish reports. Any reports accreditors do publish are available only to accredited schools and/or contain aggregated data across many schools, including those in other states. The Healthcare Association of Hawai'i collects some of the same data points that the Center does, but they don't collect faculty data, student demographic data, or data related to challenges that schools face in the course of maintaining or growing their programs.

Ultimately, the Center's Education Capacity survey is the only survey that a) is conducted annually, b) results in highly detailed, publicly available reports, c) contains all of the data points that we use to draw conclusions about Hawai'i's capacity to educate the right number and types of nurses, and d) includes data from all of Hawai'i's public and private schools of nursing. The data we collect from this survey are vitally important to our ability to identify possible mismatches between education programs' production of nurses and the needs of the workforce.

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How did the results from the last study help the Center support in-state schools and the statewide nursing workforce?

We had 100% response rate from all in-state schools last year resulting in extremely high-quality data. Because of our confidence in the data, the Center used it to:

- ▼ demonstrate that schools' production of new RNs is in equilibrium with employer demand for RNs which runs counter to some anecdotal reports from employers;
- ▼ identify faculty recruitment and retention as the number one problem affecting most schools. In turn, our APIN working group made addressing the state's faculty shortage a strategic priority for 2020;
- ▼ bolster the Center's ongoing efforts to coordinate clinical placements and participate in statewide initiatives related to the clinical placement shortage, especially on O'ahu where the shortage is most severe.

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How will our school directly benefit from participating in the survey?

The Center for Nursing is committed to maximizing the direct benefit to your programs for completing this survey by:

- ✎ publishing the statewide report within 5 months of the completion of the study to ensure that the data are timely and relevant;
- ✎ providing each academic institution with a school-to-state comparison report that highlights your school's contribution to nurse education in Hawai'i which you can use to report to your institutional administration, prospective funders, and accreditors;
- ✎ using the data in the statewide report to support policies and legislation that are designed to help nurse education programs overcome barriers to growth and sustainability; and
- ✎ providing informational assistance to the schools of nursing on how to interpret and use the data from the statewide and school reports.

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Will you ever publish or otherwise distribute my school's individual report?

Absolutely not. The Hawai'i State Center for Nursing has a strict policy of publicly distributing only aggregated data. The only document from the Educational Capacity study that the Center will ever publish or distribute will be the statewide summary report which will not contain any school-specific statistics.

The Center will never distribute your report anyone except the people your school designates as report recipients in the survey. In the event that the Center receives inquiries about your school's data, we will make an immediate referral of the inquiry directly to your program's chief administrator.

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What if I don't have all of the data you're asking for?

Our reports are more accurate and more useful when we have complete data from every school. For that reason, we ask you to please report every data point you possibly can. That said, we understand that if you don't have a data point you can't report it. We would ask you to please submit the survey anyway – some data is better than no data.

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Do we have to submit our data via online survey?

No. in response to multiple requests, we have abandoned the online survey as the data submission mechanism. This year, we are collecting data on a form-fillable .pdf. The one benefit to using an online survey form was that we could build skip logic into the survey to hide questions and pages that were not relevant to your school. We can't build skip logic into a .pdf so we are unable to hide irrelevant questions. We did, however, change the overall format for the survey so it is easy to ignore and leave blank irrelevant data entry fields. We also think schools will prefer the .pdf format because:

- ✎ you can see all the questions at once so you know exactly what kind of data you need to assemble,
- ✎ you can save the .pdf at various stages of completeness so you don't have to complete it all at once,
- ✎ you can save the document to a shared drive or email it to your colleagues in case several people in your organization need to enter data or review the survey before submission,
- ✎ we added calculations and data entry validation features that will help you double check the accuracy of the data you're submitting, and
- ✎ you can save a final copy for your own records.

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Do I need to have Acrobat Pro to complete the survey?

No; you can certainly use Acrobat Pro if you have it, but otherwise any .pdf reader should allow you to complete the survey and save your responses. We recommend Acrobat Reader which you can [download here](#).

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How do I submit the survey when we're done with it?

Email the completed .pdf back to the Center's researcher, Carrie Oliveira (carrieol@hawaii.edu).

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I want to get a better idea of how the data are reported. Where can I see last year's report?

[Click here to access the 2017-2018 Hawai'i Nurse Education Capacity Report](#).

If you don't have a copy of your school's individual school-to-state report from last year, email Carrie.

[Click here to access all of the Center's education capacity reports from 2004-2005 through 2012-2013](#).

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What if I need more information or if I would just like to talk to someone about this survey?

Carrie would be delighted to talk to you about this survey or any of the other research activity the Center does. Feel free to send her an email with your questions to set a time to talk.

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