

**SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS OF  
2008 NURSING EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM INFORMATION SURVEY (NEPIS) DATA  
SUBMITTED BY BON APPROVED  
VOCATIONAL AND PROFESSIONAL NURSING EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS**

**VOCATIONAL NURSING EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS**

As of September 2008, the Texas Board of Nursing (BON) approved 89 vocational nursing (VN) educational programs. The reporting period for the 2008 VN-NEPIS was September 1, 2007 through August 31, 2008. This reflects the same reporting period as in previous years.

The distribution of BON approved VN educational programs was as follows:

- **84** Generic Programs
  - **67** Public Colleges/Universities
  - **12** Proprietary Organizations
  - **4** Private/Public Hospitals
  - **1** Private University
- **5** Multiple Entry / Exit Programs (MEEP), are all located in public colleges/universities
- The 89 VN educational programs in Texas represent a decrease from 92 programs in 2007 and from 115 in 2006. One of the main reasons for the decrease in the number of programs is that they continue to consolidate. In previous years VN program campuses in different locations or part time vs. full time tracks were reported as separate VN programs and tested under different program codes. Programs now report as "one VN program" and test under one program code to include all their tracks and campuses; thus making 134 VN "tracks" available among the 89 programs.
- The 2008 VN-NEPIS was sent to all 89 schools of vocational nursing that prepare students for initial VN-licensure. The data was collected by the Texas BON and provided to the Texas Center for Nursing Workforce Studies (TCNWS) for analysis. Reports are available in their entirety at <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/chs/cnws/Npublica.shtm#NEdRpts>.
- The data indicates that there were 7,156 students enrolled and 4,384 graduates during the 2008 reporting period. Therefore, both enrollees and graduates have increased each year for the past five years.
- The VN educational programs have the following geographical distribution:
  - Metro Border - 11.94%
  - Rural Border - 4.48%
  - Metro Non-Border - 49.25%
  - Rural Non-Border - 34.33%
- The largest numbers of nursing students are female (87%), Caucasian (46%) and below 25 years of age (31.1%).
- There is one limitation specific to VN educational programs in that comparison data is only available for five years due to changes in reporting requirements since the merger of the two nursing boards in 2004.

## PROFESSIONAL NURSING EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

As of September 2008, the Texas BON approved 92 professional nursing (RN) educational programs. The reporting period for the 2008 RN-NEPIS was September 1, 2007 through August 31, 2008.

The distribution of BON approved RN educational programs was as follows:

- **2** Diploma Nursing Programs
- **60** Associate Degree Nursing (ADN) Programs
  - 50 ADN programs offering ADN degrees to either unlicensed students or unlicensed and licensed vocational nurse (LVN) students
  - 10 LVN to ADN Track Programs that only enroll LVNs
- **29** Baccalaureate Degree Nursing (BSN) Programs offering baccalaureate degrees to unlicensed students
- **1** Alternate Entry/Basic Master's Degree Nursing Program offering a master's of science degree in nursing (MSN) to unlicensed students
- The 2008 RN-NEPIS was sent to all 92 Texas schools of nursing that prepare students for initial RN-licensure. The data was collected by the Texas BON and provided to the TCNWS for analysis. Reports are available in their entirety at <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/chs/cnws/Npublica.shtm#NEdRpts>.

According to the summary of findings from the TCNWS:

### Student Admission, Enrollment, Graduation and Demographics

- Enrollment numbers continued to increase in Texas schools of nursing, with a total of 18,732 students enrolled in the Fall of 2008. This number represents a 53.9% increase from the enrollment numbers in Fall 2001.
- From 2007-2008, enrollment increased 5.0%.
- In the 2007-2008 academic year, a total of 7,689 students graduated from initial RN-licensure programs, a 69.7% increase from the 2000-2001 academic years.
- From 2001 through 2008, the number of qualified applicants applying for admission to nursing programs continued to increase. However, the percentage of qualified applicants not admitted to initial RN-licensure nursing programs was 42% of total qualified applicants. This is similar to the 41% in 2007 but considerably lower than the average 53% during 2004-2006. The most frequently reported reasons for not admitting qualified applicants were lack of: (1) clinical spaces, (2) budgeted faculty positions, and (3) qualified faculty applicants.
- The largest numbers of nursing students are female (83.7%), Caucasian (52%) and below 25 years of age (59% of BSN students but only 31% of ADN students).

### Faculty Demographics and Resources

- Nursing faculty is overwhelmingly female (93.8%) and Caucasian (80.1%).
- Of the 2,257 faculty members, 73% had master's degrees in nursing and 4% had master's degrees in other subjects; and 16% had doctorates.
- The median age of nursing faculty is 53 years and the mean age was 52. Faculty age ranged from 23 to 86 years. The data reveals that 64% of the nursing faculty population are eligible for retirement beginning now and for the next 12 years.
- In 2008, the total faculty vacancy rate was 5.9%. The total faculty turnover rate for all programs was 12.1%; higher than 2007, but lower than any other reported year.

### STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

This is an information report. No action is recommended.