



# **National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) Nurse Staffing Hours Indicator**

## **An Overview for Reporting**

### **Henrietta Smith, RN, MSN, CIC**

Protocol & Training Team Lead

Division of Healthcare Quality Promotion (DHQP)/Surveillance Branch

### **Rita Allen, BSN, RN, CIC**

Infection Preventionist

CACI/ Subcontractor to Leidos/Contractor for NHSN

Division of Healthcare Quality Promotion (DHQP)/Surveillance Branch

# Agenda and Objectives

- Background
- Introduction
- Identify reporting requirements
- Understand the reporting process
- Resources
- Q&A (via chat option)

# Background

- Nursing workforce is the nation's largest healthcare profession<sup>1</sup>
- Nursing workforce includes – RNs, Licensed Practical Nurses (LPN)/ Licensed Vocational Nurses (LVN), Nursing Assistants/Orderlies
- Registered Nurses (RNs) one of the largest segments of this workforce
- More than four times as many RNs as physicians
- Number of jobs<sup>2</sup>
  - RN – 3,673,040 – includes advanced practice such as nurse midwives, nurse-practitioners, etc.
  - LPN/LVN – 657,200
  - Nursing Assistants/Orderlies – 1,389,900

<sup>1</sup>[AACN Fact Sheet - Nursing \(aacnnursing.org\)](http://aacnnursing.org)

<sup>2</sup><https://www.bls.gov/>

# Background

- As of March 2022, 16 states currently address nurse staffing in hospitals through either laws or regulations<sup>3</sup>
  - **Hospital-based requirement:**
    - Staffing committees comprised of at least 50% direct care nurses: CT, IL, NV, NY, OH, OR, TX, WA
    - Chief Nursing Officer must develop a core staffing plan: MN
  - **Nurse to patient ratios/standards:** CA, MA
  - **Disclosure and/or reporting requirements:** IL, NJ, NY, RI, VT
- The Safe Staffing for Nurse and Patient Safety Act of 2018<sup>4</sup> – requires staffing committee comprised of at least 55% direct care nurses

<sup>3</sup><https://www.nursingworld.org/practice-policy/nurse-staffing/nurse-staffing-advocacy/>

<sup>4</sup>[BILLS-115hr5052ih.pdf \(congress.gov\)](https://www.congress.gov/bills/115/hr/5052/ih/pdf)

# Overview – The NHSN Nurse Staffing Indicator

- Developed in collaboration with representatives from the American Nurses Association, American Association of Critical-Care Nurses and Press Ganey.
- Based on
  - 0204 – Skill mix (Registered Nurse [RN], Licensed Vocational/Practical Nurse [LVN/LPN], unlicensed assistive personnel [UAP], and contract)
  - 0205 - Nursing Hours per Patient Day
- [NHSN Nurse Staffing Indicator Protocol](#)
- [Monthly Survey](#) form

# NHSN Nursing Hours per Patient Day (NHPPD)

Number of **direct patient care hours** worked by

- Registered Nurses - RNs,
- Licensed Practical/Vocational Nurses - LPN/LVNs and
- Unlicensed Assistive Personnel - UAPs

per patient days in each **critical care unit/location**

# NHSN Nurse Staffing Indicator

**Numerator:** Total number of direct patient care/productive hours worked by nursing staff with direct patient care responsibilities for critical care locations/units (locationType = CC) during the calendar month.

- *Direct patient care responsibilities must be >50% of the assigned shift*

**Excluded:** Nursing care hours from non-critical care locations/units, emergency department, peri-operative unit, and obstetrics are excluded

# Direct Patient Care (Include)

**Patient-focused activities** performed by nursing staff for patients on the same unit. These care activities also include tasks that are patient-related and may occur away from the patient, such as, but not limited to:

- Admission, transfer, discharge activities
- Post-discharge communication
- Care coordination
- Documentation time
- Medication administration
- Monitor patients during transport
- Nursing rounds
- Nursing treatments
- Patient communication
- Patient screening
- Patient teaching
- Tele-ICU care/ Tele-critical care
- Treatment planning
- Triage

# Non-Direct Patient Care (Exclude)

## Examples

- Budgeted/scheduled hours not worked, call-off
- Vacation, sick, other leave types
- Orientation, education, and committee time
- On-call hours without direct patient care provided

# Nursing Hours per Patient Day (NHPPD)

**Denominator:** Total number of patient day count for each critical care location/unit during the calendar month. Patient day counts must be from the same unit in which nursing hours are reported.

- Patient day counts reported for device-associated modules will auto-populate the Monthly Survey

**Excluded:** Patient day counts from non-critical care locations/units, emergency department, peri-operative unit, and obstetrics are excluded.



# Reporting Requirements

- Facility must be enrolled in NHSN
- Facility must commit to reporting NHPPD indicators for all critical care units
- Critical Care Units must be “mapped” in NHSN
- Ideally report at the end of the month for the previous month
- May enter data retrospectively (available starting for January 2023 forward)

# “Mapping” Locations - Critical Care Units

- Chapter 15 of the Patient Safety Protocol
- NHSN Facility Administrator can validate and change locations
- [https://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/pdfs/pscmanual/pcsmanual\\_current.pdf](https://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/pdfs/pscmanual/pcsmanual_current.pdf)

# Accessing the Patient Safety Component

# Reporting Process



Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
CDC 24/7: Saving Lives, Protecting People™

## NHSN - National Healthcare Safety Network



Welcome to the NHSN Landing Page



Select component:

Dropdown menu showing the following options:

- Biovigilance
- Dialysis
- Healthcare Personnel Safety
- Long Term Care Facility
- Medication Safety (pilot facilities only)
- Neonatal
- Outpatient Procedure
- Patient Safety**

# Reporting Process



Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
CDC 24/7: Saving Lives, Protecting People™

## NHSN - National Healthcare Safety Network



Welcome to the NHSN Landing Page



TU07@cdc.gov

Select component:

Patient Safety

Select facility/group:

Fac:

Submit

# Reporting Process

NHSN - National Healthcare Safety Network (ps1150-95cf7b597-mx6xt:80)

**NHSN Home**

- Alerts
- Dashboard ▶
- Reporting Plan ▶
- Patient ▶
- Event ▶
- Procedure ▶
- Summary Data ▶
- COVID-19 ▶
- Import/Export
- Surveys ▶**
- Analysis ▶
- Users ▶
- Facility ▶
- Group ▶

**NHSN Patient Safety Component Home Page**

- Add
- Find
- Incomplete
- Monthly**

# Reporting Process - Manual Data Entry

 Month:  Select month:  Select Year:  Auto populates from Summary Data

Facility ID:  Month:  Year:

*NHSN Location Code	*Total# Productive RN Hours	*Total# Productive LPN/LVN Hours	*Total# Productive UAP Hours	*Total# Patient Days
ICU2				800
ICU				10
71ICU				1000

Total Patient Days must be edited/updated on the Summary Data Denominators page for this location.

# Reporting Process - Manual Data Entry



## Monthly Survey

Facility ID:  Month:  Year:

*NHSN Location Code	*Total# Productive RN Hours	*Total# Productive LPN/LVN Hours	*Total# Productive UAP Hours	*Total# Patient Days
ICU2				800
ICU				10
71ICU				1000

Total Patient Days must be edited/updated on the Summary Data Denominators page for this location.

**Save**

# Reporting Process - CSV Upload

## CSV Upload

**Will be available starting at the end of October 2023.**

# Metrics: Nursing Hours Per Patient

$$\text{ALL Nursing Staff Hours per Patient Days (NHPPD)} = \frac{\text{Total Number of Productive Hours Worked by ALL Nursing Staff}}{\text{Total Number of Patient Days}}$$

$$\text{RNs Hours per Patient Days (RN-HPPD)} = \frac{\text{Total Number of Productive Hours Worked by RNs}}{\text{Total Number of Patient Days}}$$

$$\text{LPNs/LVNs Hours per Patient Days (LPN/LVP-HPPD)} = \frac{\text{Total Number of Productive Hours Worked by LPNs/LVNs}}{\text{Total Number of Patient Days}}$$

$$\text{UAP Hours per Patient Days (UAP-HPPD)} = \frac{\text{Total Number of Productive Hours Worked by UAPs}}{\text{Total Number of Patient Days}}$$

# Metrics: Percent of Productive Hours Worked by Nursing Type

$$\text{Pct of total productive hrs. worked by RNs} = \frac{\text{Total Number of Productive Hours Worked by RNs}}{\text{Total Number of Productive Hours Worked by ALL Nursing Staff}} \times 100$$

$$\text{Pct of total productive hrs. worked by LPNs} = \frac{\text{Total Number of Productive Hours Worked by LPNs/LVNs}}{\text{Total Number of Productive Hours Worked by ALL Nursing Staff}} \times 100$$

$$\text{Pct of total productive hrs. worked by UAPs} = \frac{\text{Total Number of Productive Hours Worked by UAPs}}{\text{Total Number of Productive Hours Worked by ALL Nursing Staff}} \times 100$$

# Future Reporting Options

- Reporting option available September 9, 2023
- Early 2024 we will seek feedback from stakeholders
  - Assess experience with reporting these data
  - Understand how facilities plan to use these data
  - Obtain feedback for future expansion of these data elements
- Indicator available to all acute care facilities expected in 2024

# Resources

- Nurse Staffing Hours Indicator Protocol
- Table of Instructions (TOI)
- Website (under construction)
- NHSN Locations (Chapter 15)  
[https://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/pdfs/pscmanual/pcsmanual\\_current.pdf](https://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/pdfs/pscmanual/pcsmanual_current.pdf)

# Thank you!

We appreciate your commitment to patient safety, and your partnership with NHSN!

**For any questions or concerns,  
contact the NHSN Helpdesk at [nhsn@cdc.gov](mailto:nhsn@cdc.gov)**



**For more information please contact Centers for Disease Control and Prevention**  
1600 Clifton Road NE, Atlanta, GA 30333  
Telephone, 1-800-CDC-INFO (232-4636)/TTY: 1-888-232-6348  
E-mail: [cdcinfo@cdc.gov](mailto:cdcinfo@cdc.gov) Web: [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)

The findings and conclusions in this report are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.