



Nursing Practice in Rural and Remote Canada II

Nova Scotia

Research Question

What is the nature of nursing practice in rural and remote Canada?

378 out of 797 Nova Scotia nurses responded to the RRNII survey, 56% were RNs

Survey Methods

Survey mailed to 9,622 eligible nurses (RNs, NPs, RPNs, LPNs)

All nurses in the territories & stratified systematic sample in every province

Canada-wide response rate: 40% (N=3,822)
Nova Scotia response rate: 47% (N=378)

Demographics



Highest nursing education



Workplace



Perceived scope



Career plans



2% work in a fly-in community
11% work in a community <2,500
96% are female
65% are employed in a full-time/permanent position
52% live in their primary work community
37% are 55 years of age or older

RNs
50% Diploma
46% Bachelor's
4% Master's or Doctorate

NPs
71% Master's
29% Doctorate

LPNs
100% Diploma

63% Hospital
16% Community health
15% Nursing Home
7% Other

RNs
96% within
1% beyond
3% below

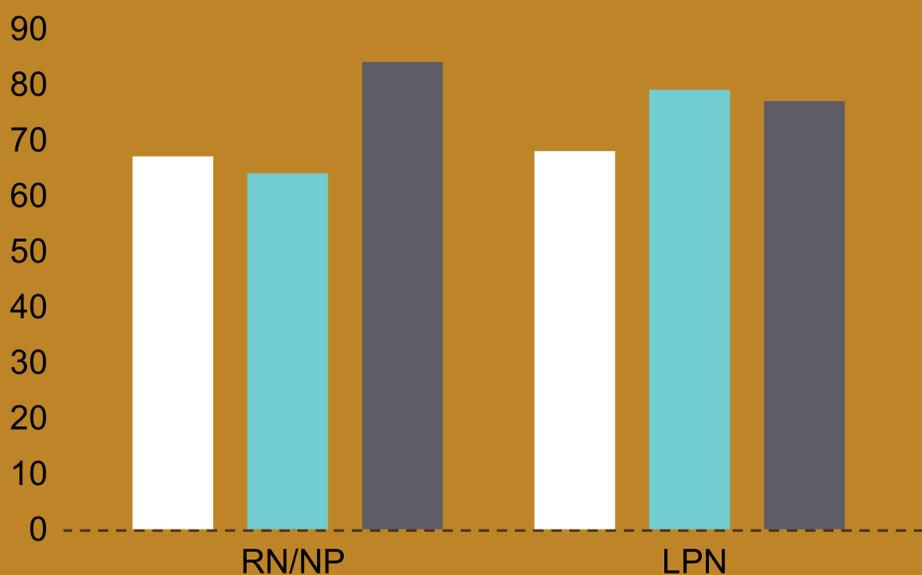
NPs
86% within
14% beyond

LPNs
88% within
10% below
2% beyond

Planning to leave position within the next 12 months:
21% of all NS nurses
(43% NPs, 23% of RNs, 17% of LPNs)
Of these nurses:
42% plan to retire
25% plan to nurse in the same community

Rural NS Recruitment Factors

Professional Job-related Personal & Community



Professional: advanced practice opportunities; career; interest in practice setting, **Job-Related:** benefits; flexibility of work; income, **Personal & Community:** spouse employment/transfer; family or friends; lifestyle; location

Take Home Messages

- Rural NS nurses were more likely to work in hospitals than rural Canada nurses overall
- Rural NS nurses were older than rural nurses in Canada overall, especially RNs
- The large majority of rural NS nurses reported working within their licensed scope of practice
- A greater proportion of rural NS nurses held a permanent full-time position compared to rural Canada nurses overall
- This study makes an important contribution by providing a comprehensive overview of rural and remote nurses' practice and communities within each Canadian province and territory

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For more detail, please see the NS fact sheet [<http://ruralnursing.unbc.ca>]

