In 2002, the Connecticut Department of Public Health established an Office of Public Health Work Force Development, which is working with other agencies on a range of health work force issues, including the nursing shortage.

According to the Connecticut Department of Labor, the state has an ongoing nursing shortage, despite efforts from Connecticut schools to increase enrollment of students in nursing programs. The Department estimates that by 2014, the demand for RNs will have grown by 13%.

By 2010, Connecticut will be short more than 11,000 RNs. Data indicates that by 2020, that number is projected to double, leaving Connecticut with fewer than half the nurses it needs, according to a report by the U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration.

A 2007 report by the state Department of Higher Education said Connecticut colleges issued 1,076 registered nursing degrees in 2006. This was 25% more than 2005.

The 2010 licensure data reported 55,731 RNs and 12,817 LPNs in the state of Connecticut.

The RN first time pass rate for Connecticut from July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010 was calculated to be 93.4%. 1,467 students sat for the exam during this period.

The 2007 vacancy rate for staff nurses was 6.6% with the rates for specialty areas ranging from 7.8% - 10.9%.


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