

# VIEWPOINTS RESEARCH

Survey of 1,503 UNA members. April 2008.

The survey at 1503 N is accurate  $\pm 2.5\%$ , 19 times out of 20.

## Selected Questions Released.

Q1 What do you feel is the single most important issue facing nurses today?

Heavy workload / long hours / burnout .....	14.8%
Shortage of nurses .....	68.7%
Quality of patient care .....	1.8%
Safe work environment / working conditions / stress.....	4.0%
Low wages / contract issues .....	0.6%
Job security / stability .....	0.3%
Too many nurses retiring .....	0.3%
Not enough nurses in training/recruitment .....	1.4%
Not enough full time/too much part time .....	0.4%
Education / length of program to become nurse.....	0.3%
Lack of respect for the job nurses perform.....	0.9%
Retention of nurses .....	1.6%
Forced to move around/not working in same unit/facility.....	0.1%
Lack of work ethic/professionalism/quality from new nurses.....	0.6%
Lacking of funding/resources .....	0.4%
Poor management .....	0.5%
Other (specify below) .....	2.7%
Don't know / Refused .....	0.6%

Q2 Over the past few years would you say that the quality of health care available in your site or program has...?

Improved a great deal .....	2.3%
Improved somewhat.....	17.4%
Stayed the same .....	30.6%
Deteriorated somewhat .....	38.5%
Deteriorated a great deal.....	6.7%
Don't know / Refused .....	4.4%

Q3 Why do you feel the quality of health care has improved? (n=297)

More staff .....	22.6%
Fewer patients .....	2.7%
Improved communication .....	10.8%
Adequate / more supplies.....	7.1%
Equipment available and /or improved equipment.....	21.2%
More / improved training.....	19.5%
Improved management / reorganization .....	19.9%
More programs/specialists/services/treatments .....	7.4%
More effort from staff.....	4.0%
Better conditions for nurses/nurses are more satisfied/ higher wages .....	1.0%
Educate patients better.....	1.0%
Other (specify below) .....	16.2%
Don't know / Refused .....	3.0%

Q4 Why do you feel the quality of health care has deteriorated? (n=680)

Not enough staff .....	76.3%
Too many / more patients .....	30.6%
Poor communication.....	3.1%
Not enough supplies .....	6.3%
Not enough equipment / old equipment.....	6.2%
Not enough training.....	7.4%
Poor management .....	11.9%
Lack of funding/cutbacks .....	4.1%
Lack of retention of nurses/too much turnover.....	1.5%
Patients require more care/decreased quality of care/ rushed service .....	4.0%
Not enough resources/services/lack of pay.....	2.4%
Poor work ethic/morale/appreciation.....	1.3%
Wait times too high.....	3.7%
Other (specify below) .....	10.6%
Don't know / Refused .....	0.4%

Q5 If other positions were made available to you, would you want....?

A full time position.....	8.8%
More hours in a part-time position or a larger FTE (full time equivalent) .....	9.2%
No more hours, I'm comfortable with what I work now.....	64.1%
Reduced hours in a part-time position .....	10.6%
To work casual.....	5.4%
Don't know / Refused .....	1.9%

Q6 During the past week how many extra shifts have you worked?

1 .....	18.7%
2 .....	10.5%
3 .....	3.5%
4 .....	1.5%
5 .....	0.6%
6 .....	0.1%
7 or more.....	0.5%
None.....	63.2%
Don't know / Refused .....	1.5%

Q7 Which one of the following best describes the full regular staffing level **(INCLUDING RNs AND RPNs BUT NOT LPNs)** for your unit or workplace The one where you work most often ...

There are more than enough registered nurses .....	3.5%
There are an adequate number of registered nurses .....	23.4%
One more full time registered nurse would make an adequate number of nurses.....	24.8%
It would take more than one more registered nurse to make staffing levels adequate.....	44.0%
<b>DO NOT READ</b>	
More than one / none .....	1.6%
Don't know / Refused .....	2.7%

Q8 Approximately how many times during your most recent 5 shifts was your unit or workplace working with less than a full team of registered nurses? **(NURSES AWAY AND NOT REPLACED)**

Every shift.....	25.1%
4 shifts.....	8.5%
3 shifts.....	13.9%
2 shifts.....	13.8%
1 shift .....	11.4%
No shifts.....	23.2%
Don't know / Refused .....	4.1%

I am now going to read you a number of statements which some nurses have made about their work life. For each one, please tell me whether you strongly agree, agree, disagree, or strongly disagree that it applies to you personally. If you neither agree nor disagree just say so.

		STR AGREE	AGREE	DIS- AGREE	STR DIS- AGREE	Neither agree nor disagree	DK/ REF
Q9	I often have to arrive early or stay late to get my work done.	19.8%	39.9%	31.9%	2.9%	5.4%	0.1%
Q10	I often have to work through my breaks to complete my work load.	19.0%	41.8%	32.1%	3.3%	3.5%	0.2%
Q11	It often seems like I have too much work for one person to do.	20.1%	45.4%	25.5%	2.2%	6.5%	0.3%
Q12	I am usually given enough time to do what is expected of me in my job.	4.5%	42.9%	37.5%	9.8%	4.8%	0.5%
Q13	I usually have too much to do on my shift to do everything well.	18.6%	39.6%	34.0%	2.3%	4.8%	0.7%

Q14 **IF PART TIME OR CASUAL:** Are you currently working the number of hours each week that you would ideally like to work, or would you prefer to be working more or less hours? (n=969)

Working ideal number of hours .....	70.2%
Would like more hours .....	12.4%
Would like less hours .....	15.7%
Don't know / Refused .....	1.8%

Q15 **IF PART TIME OR CASUAL:** If the right conditions came up would you consider working a regular full-time FTE? (n=969)

Yes .....	23.6%
Depends .....	5.0%
No .....	70.8%
Don't know / Refused .....	0.6%

Q16 How many more years do you see yourself working as a nurse?

1 year .....	3.5%
2 to 3 years.....	9.3%
4 to 5 years.....	9.8%
6 to 9 years.....	9.4%
10 years or more .....	64.2%
Don't know / Refused .....	3.7%

Q17 What best describes your workplace?

Hospital.....	71.1%
Long-term care facility .....	5.3%
Home care .....	6.5%
Public Health .....	8.8%
or More than one.....	4.7%
Other .....	3.6%
Don't know / Refused .....	0.1%

Q18 What age category are you in?

18 to 24 .....	5.0%
25 to 30 .....	15.5%
31 to 40 .....	20.8%
41 to 50 .....	27.1%
51 to 60 .....	24.4%
61 to 64 .....	4.8%
65 + .....	2.1%
Don't know / Refused .....	0.3%