

Section A – Health System Overview

A1. Which of the following statements comes closest to expressing your overall view of the healthcare system in this country?

- On the whole, the health care system works pretty well and only minor changes are necessary to make it work better.
- There are some good things in our health care system, but fundamental changes are needed to make it work better.
- Our health care system has so much wrong with it that we need to completely rebuild it.

A2. Given what you know about the state of healthcare, and nursing in particular, how likely would you be to advise a high school or college student to pursue nursing as a career choice?

- Definitely would advise
- Probably would advise
- Probably would not advise
- Definitely would not advise

A3. Overall, would you say that in your community the supply of registered nurses who are working in patient care settings is...?

- Much greater than the demand
- Somewhat greater than the demand
- About equal to the demand
- Somewhat less than the demand
- Much less than the demand

A4. In your community, would you say that the supply of registered nurses **in your clinical specialty** who are working in patient care settings is...?

- Much greater than the demand
- Somewhat greater than the demand
- About equal to the demand
- Somewhat less than the demand
- Much less than the demand

A5. Do you believe that there is a nursing shortage?

- Yes
- No → **SKIP TO B1 ON PAGE 3**

A6. From what you know -- whether you are working as a nurse or not -- how much of a problem do you think the shortage of nurses has been for...?

	Major Problem	Minor Problem	Not a Problem
The quality of patient care provided by nurses	☺	☺	☺
The amount of time nurses have to carry out physician orders	☺	☺	☺
The amount of time nurses have to devote to each of their patients	☺	☺	☺
The early detection of patient complications by nurses	☺	☺	☺
The amount of time nurses have to collaborate with other team members	☺	☺	☺
The ability of nurses to maintain patient safety	☺	☺	☺
The quality of work life of nurses	☺	☺	☺
The stress on nurses	☺	☺	☺

A7. What do you think are the **main** reasons there is a nursing shortage? *Please choose up to two answers.*

- Lack of qualified students pursuing nursing as a career
- Fewer applicants admitted to nursing schools
- More career options for women
- Salary and benefits
- Undesirable hours
- Negative perceptions of healthcare work environments
- Nurses don't have to work as much to help support their households
- Other (please specify below)

A8. How much do you think each of the following would help to solve the nursing shortage?

	A Great Deal	Some-what	Not at All
Financial aid to encourage people to enter the field of nursing	☺	☺	☺
Programs (non-financial) to encourage people to enter the field of nursing	☺	☺	☺
Use of nurse's aides, licensed practical nurses and others as support staff to RNs	☺	☺	☺
Improved wages and benefits	☺	☺	☺
Improved working environments	☺	☺	☺
Recruitment of more men and minorities into the field of nursing	☺	☺	☺
Increased capacity to educate and train nurses	☺	☺	☺
Higher status of nurses in the hospital environment	☺	☺	☺
Better hours	☺	☺	☺