



The Long Term Care Nurse Staffing Study (LTCNSS) assesses nurse staffing and related issues in the long term care setting. In 2018, approximately 27% of licensed vocational nurses (LVNs) and 3% of registered nurses (RNs) in Texas worked in the nursing home/extended care setting. Long term care facilities may also employ certified nurse aides (CNAs), certified medication aides (CMAs), and advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs). During the summer of 2019, the Texas Center for Nursing Workforce Studies (TCNWS) administered the LTCNSS to directors of nursing (DONs) or facility administrators of 1,205 Texas nursing facilities. A total of 314 facilities participated for a final response rate of 26.1%.

Long term care facilities that completed the 2019 LTCNSS were representative of all Texas long term care facilities by geographic region, but not by geographic designation or bed size. This report provides response rates by region, geographic designation, and bed size. It also includes information on nurses on boards.

Geographic Characteristics of Long Term Care Facilities

Figure 1. Response rate by region

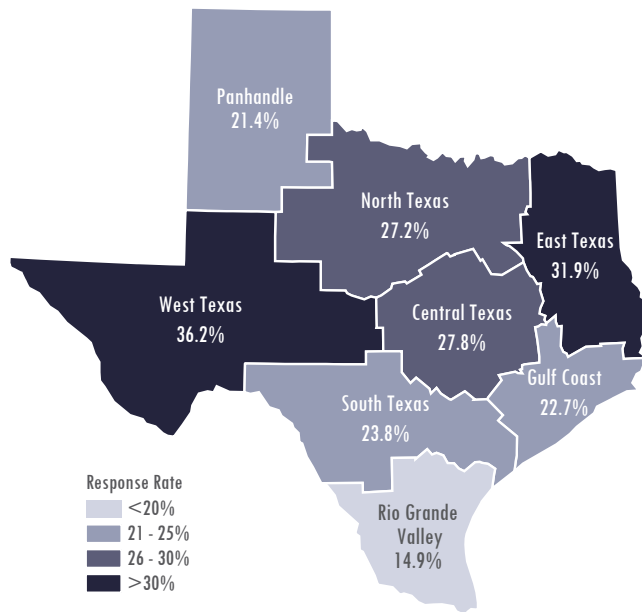


Table 1. Response rate by region

Region	# of responding facilities	# of facilities in population	Response rate
Central Texas	45	162	27.8%
East Texas	46	144	31.9%
Gulf Coast	45	198	22.7%
North Texas	97	356	27.2%
Panhandle	15	70	21.4%
Rio Grande Valley	11	74	14.9%
South Texas	34	143	23.8%
West Texas	21	58	36.2%

The overall response rate for 2019 was 26.1%, down from the 2017 response rate of 36.6%. West Texas (36.2%) and East Texas (31.9%) had the highest response rates, while the Rio Grande Valley (14.9%) and the Panhandle (21.4%) had the lowest (Table 1).

- Analysis found that there was not a significant difference between responding facilities and the facility population by region.¹

¹ (X² (7, N=1,205 =9.847, p=.197)



Table 2 shows the number of responding facilities by geographic designation.

- Non-metropolitan, non-border counties had the highest response rate (32.3%), while metropolitan, non-border counties had the lowest (23.7%).
- Results could not be generalized to the facility population by geographic designation.²

Table 2. LTCNSS response rates by geographic designation

	# of responding facilities	# of facilities in population	Response rate
Metro Border	14	57	24.6%
Metro Non-Border	192	810	23.7%
Non-Metro Border	6	22	27.3%
Non-Metro Non-Border	102	316	32.3%

² Due to an assumption violation, the chi-square test results were invalid (an expected cell frequency was less than 5).

Table 3 displays the number of responding facilities by bed size.

- Facilities with less than 50 beds had the highest response rate (35.6%), while those with 100-199 beds had the lowest (23.0%).
- Analysis found that there was a significant difference between responding facilities and the facility population by facility bed size.³

Table 3. LTCNSS response rates by number of licensed beds

# of Licensed Beds	# of responding facilities	# of facilities in population	Response rate
<49	16	45	35.6%
50 - 99	111	349	31.8%
100 - 199	179	777	23.0%
≥200	8	34	23.5%
Total	314	1205	26.1%

³ ($X^2(3, N=1,205) = 8.786, p = .032$)

Nurses on Boards

The Institute of Medicine has recommended preparing and enabling nurses to lead change to advance health, which includes having representation on boards and other key leadership positions.⁴

- 48 out of 139 (34.5%) facilities reported having a RNs on their board.

- 40 out of the 48 (83.3%) respondents that did have RN board members reported that RNs had voting privileges.

⁴Institute of Medicine, Committee on the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Initiative on the Future of Nursing. (2011). Front matter. The future of nursing: Leading change, advancing health.

Conclusion

In 2019, the LTCNSS response rate was 26.1%. West Texas (36.2%) and East Texas (31.9%) had the highest response rates, while the Rio Grande Valley (14.9%) and the Panhandle (21.4%) had the lowest. Response rates were also highest in non-metropolitan, non-border counties (32.3%). Facilities that had fewer than 50 beds had the highest response rate with over one-third responding to the LTCNSS. Responding agencies were representative of all Texas hospitals by region, but not by not by bed size or county designation. 48 out of 139 facilities reported having RNs on their boards, and 83.3% of these facilities had voting privileges.

