



## National Survey of Nursing Students 2003

### Instructions for completing the survey:

- Please read each of the questions carefully. Using a blue or black pen, place an "X" in the box next to the appropriate response as indicated:  If you are asked to provide a written response to a question, please record your response neatly in the space provided.
- In general, you should select only one response for each question. However, there are a few questions that allow more than one response. These questions will specifically indicate that more than one response is allowed.
- Please answer every question except those that you are specifically instructed to skip. Be sure to follow the "skip instructions" carefully.

Please direct any questions or concerns that you may have about this survey to Sandra Applebaum, Harris Interactive (sapplebaum@harrisinteractive.com or 800-575-4749, ext. 6746).

Thank you in advance for your cooperation!

*Please return your completed questionnaire  
in the enclosed postage-paid envelope to:*

*Harris Interactive  
Coding Department - 18491  
5 Independence Way, 4th floor  
Princeton, NJ 08540*

***This survey is being conducted in collaboration with  
Vanderbilt University School of Nursing***



**Section A – Nursing Trends**

**A1.** Overall, would you say that the supply (number) of registered nurses available to work in the US is...? (9)

- <sub>1</sub> Much greater than what is needed to meet the jobs available
- <sub>2</sub> Somewhat greater than what is needed
- <sub>3</sub> About equal to what is needed
- <sub>4</sub> Somewhat less than what is needed
- <sub>5</sub> Much less than what is needed

**A2.** Do you believe that there is a nursing shortage? (10)

- <sub>1</sub> Yes
- <sub>2</sub> No → **SKIP TO A5**

**A3.** For each of the following items, indicate whether you think it is a major reason, a minor reason, or not a reason there is a nursing shortage?

	Major Reason (1)	Minor Reason (2)	Not At All (3)	
Wages not high enough	☺	☺	☺	(11)
Demanding work schedules	☺	☺	☺	
Work is physically and emotionally challenging	☺	☺	☺	(13)
Other careers are more attractive	☺	☺	☺	
Nurses are not recognized enough for their contributions	☺	☺	☺	(15)
Not enough slots for new students	☺	☺	☺	
Not enough new graduates to fill increasing number of jobs	☺	☺	☺	(17)

**A4.** Do you think the current nursing shortage will lead to any of the following?

	Yes (1)	No (2)	
Higher pay for nurses	☺	☺	(18)
More job choice	☺	☺	
Nurses leaving for non-nursing jobs	☺	☺	(20)
More respect for nurses	☺	☺	
Lower quality care for patients	☺	☺	(22)
Improvements in workplace environment	☺	☺	
Increased stress on nurses	☺	☺	(24)

**A5.** Do you mostly agree or mostly disagree with the following statements about nursing?

	Mostly Agree (1)	Mostly Disagree (2)	
Nursing is a good career for men	☺	☺	(25)
Nursing is a good career for students who rank in top 20% of high school class	☺	☺	
Nursing is a good career for people who are good at science	☺	☺	(27)
Nursing is a good career for people who want a secure job	☺	☺	
Nursing is a good career for people who want respect	☺	☺	
Nursing is physically challenging	☺	☺	(30)

**Section B – Nursing Education**

J18491 Vanderbilt/Harris Survey of Nursing Students

**B1.** Are you currently studying to become a nurse? (31)

- <sub>1</sub> Yes
- <sub>2</sub> No → **SKIP TO D1 ON LAST PAGE**
- <sub>3</sub> Not sure yet

**B2.** Which of the following best describes your student status? (32)

- <sub>1</sub> I am currently enrolled in a nursing program or nursing major
- <sub>2</sub> I am attending a school where there is a nursing program but have not yet been accepted into a nursing program or major
- <sub>3</sub> Other

**B3.** Are you currently...? (33)

- <sub>1</sub> Taking nursing clinical or practice courses
- <sub>2</sub> Planning to start nursing classes at a later date
- <sub>3</sub> Neither of the above → **SKIP TO D1 ON LAST PAGE**

**B4.** Are you currently a...? (34)

- <sub>1</sub> Freshman or first year in program
- <sub>2</sub> Sophomore or second year in program
- <sub>3</sub> Junior or third year in program
- <sub>4</sub> Senior or fourth year in program

**B5.** What nursing degree do you hope to receive from your current program or school and in what year do you expect to receive it? Please “X” one and enter likely year of graduation. (35)

- <sub>1</sub> Associate degree in nursing [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] (36-39)
- <sub>2</sub> Diploma in nursing [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] (40-43)
- <sub>3</sub> Baccalaureate degree in nursing [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] (44-47)

**B6.** What is your overall GPA (grade point average) thus far? (48-50)

\_\_\_\_\_ . \_\_\_\_\_

**B7.** On the whole, how satisfied are you with your nursing education thus far? (51)

- <sub>1</sub> Very satisfied
- <sub>2</sub> Somewhat satisfied
- <sub>3</sub> Somewhat dissatisfied
- <sub>4</sub> Very dissatisfied

**B8.** Which one of the following best describes what you would like to do next after you graduate? (52)

- <sub>1</sub> Patient care in a hospital → **SKIP TO C1**
- <sub>2</sub> Patient care in a setting other than hospital → **SKIP TO C1**
- <sub>3</sub> Administration/Research → **SKIP TO C1**
- <sub>4</sub> Enroll in graduate program - not in nursing → **SKIP TO C1**
- <sub>5</sub> Enroll in graduate school - in nursing → **ANSWER B9**
- <sub>6</sub> Other → **SKIP TO C1**

**B9. IF YOU ANSWERED “ENROLL IN GRADUATE SCHOOL - IN NURSING” AT B8, which one of the following best describes the graduate program you would most likely pursue? (53)**

- <sub>1</sub> Clinical nurse specialist
- <sub>2</sub> Nurse practitioner
- <sub>3</sub> Nurse midwife
- <sub>4</sub> Nurse anesthetist
- <sub>5</sub> Doctoral program
- <sub>6</sub> Administration

**Section C - Your Decision to Pursue a Nursing Career**

**C1.** Does/did any member of your immediate family (parents, siblings, grandparents) work in a health care-related profession?

	Yes (1)	No (2)	
Nurse	☺	☺	(54)
Doctor	☺	☺	
Other health care employee	☺	☺	
Research	☺	☺	(57)

**C2.** For each of the following, please tell us whether you would say it was a **positive**, a **negative**, or **not** a factor that influenced your decision to pursue a career in nursing?

	Positive (1)	Negative (2)	Not a Factor (3)	
Information or advice from parents	☺	☺	☺	(58)
Information or advice from other family members	☺	☺	☺	
Information or advice from guidance counselors or teachers	☺	☺	☺	(60)
News stories about the nursing shortage	☺	☺	☺	
Television advertisements about nursing careers	☺	☺	☺	(62)
Printed materials from schools or hospitals	☺	☺	☺	
Information received at a career or job fair	☺	☺	☺	(64)
Information or advice from friends	☺	☺	☺	
Information or advice from practicing nurses	☺	☺	☺	
Information from websites about nursing career	☺	☺	☺	(67)

**C3.** How are you paying for your nursing education? *Please "X" as many as apply.* (68)

- 1 My own earnings or savings
- 2 My parents are paying
- 3 Financial aid
- 4 Scholarship from school I am attending
- 5 Government loan
- 6 Bank loan
- 7 Other (please specify below)

(69-80) skip  
(1-6) dup  
(7-8) 02

**C4.** Among all the sources you selected in C3, which one covers the biggest share of the costs of your education? C2 (9)

- 1 My own earnings or savings
- 2 My parents are paying
- 3 Financial aid
- 4 Scholarship from school I am attending
- 5 Government loan
- 6 Bank loan
- 7 Other (please specify below)

**C5.** In the past year have you done any of the following?

	Yes (1)	No (2)	
Seen brochures and videos encouraging people	☺	☺	(10)

to "Be A Nurse"			
Seen television commercials with the slogan "They Dare to Care"	☺	☺	
Used website www.discovernursing.com	☺	☺	
Attended "The Promise of Nursing" fundraising events	☺	☺	(13)

**C5a.** Do you know what company or organization sponsored the activities and events listed in C5? If so, please write the name below.

**IF YOU ANSWERED "NO" TO ALL ITEMS IN C5 ABOVE, PLEASE SKIP TO C5d BELOW.**

**IF YOU ANSWERED "YES" TO ANY ITEM IN C5 ABOVE, PLEASE ANSWER C5b, C5c & C5d.**

**C5b.** When were you aware of the activities listed in C5...? (14)

- 1 Before you decided to become a nurse
- 2 While you were in the process of making a decision
- 3 After you had already made a decision
- 4 Not sure

**C5c.** Would you say these activities...? (15)

- 1 Made you feel good about becoming a nurse
- 2 Made you uncertain about becoming a nurse
- 3 Made you feel bad about becoming a nurse
- 4 Had no impact one way or another

**C5d.** In the past year, do you recall seeing or hearing commercials on television or radio about nursing careers sponsored by any of the following organizations?

	Yes (1)	No (2)	
A hospital in your community or region	☺	☺	(16)
A federal or state government agency	☺	☺	
Nurse recruiter	☺	☺	
Johnson & Johnson	☺	☺	(19)
A college or nursing school	☺	☺	
CIGNA	☺	☺	(21)
Nursing association	☺	☺	
A career or job fair	☺	☺	
Sigma Theta Tau	☺	☺	(24)

**Section D - Factuals**

**D1.** What is your year of birth?

\_\_\_\_|\_\_\_\_|\_\_\_\_|\_\_\_\_| Year of birth (25-28)

**D2.** Are you...?

- <sub>1</sub> Male (29)
- <sub>2</sub> Female

**D3.** What is your marital status?

- <sub>1</sub> Married (30)
- <sub>2</sub> Single, never married
- <sub>3</sub> Divorced
- <sub>4</sub> Separated
- <sub>5</sub> Widowed
- <sub>6</sub> Living with partner

**D4.** Do you have children?

- <sub>1</sub> No → **SKIP TO D6** (31)
- <sub>2</sub> Yes

**D5.** How many **children under the age of 18** are living in your household?

\_\_\_\_|\_\_\_\_| Number of children under age of 18 (32-33)

**D6.** Which of the following income categories best describes the approximate income you expect to earn as a nurse in your first year after graduation? (34-35)

- <sub>1</sub> No income from nursing
- <sub>2</sub> Less than \$20,000
- <sub>3</sub> \$20,000 to \$29,999
- <sub>4</sub> \$30,000 to \$39,999
- <sub>5</sub> \$40,000 to \$49,999
- <sub>6</sub> \$50,000 to \$59,999
- <sub>7</sub> \$60,000 or more
- <sub>8</sub> Don't know
- <sub>9</sub> Decline to answer
- <sub>10</sub> Not Applicable

**D7.** In general, do you think the pay nurses receive is...? (36)

- <sub>1</sub> Much too high
- <sub>2</sub> Somewhat high
- <sub>3</sub> About right
- <sub>4</sub> Somewhat low
- <sub>5</sub> Much too low

**D8.** Do you consider yourself...? (37)

- <sub>1</sub> White
- <sub>2</sub> Black or African American
- <sub>3</sub> Asian or Pacific Islander
- <sub>4</sub> Native American or Alaskan native
- <sub>5</sub> Of mixed racial background
- <sub>6</sub> Some other race
- <sub>7</sub> Decline to answer

**D9.** Do you consider yourself to be of Latino or Hispanic origin or descent? (38)

- <sub>1</sub> Yes
- <sub>2</sub> No

**Please provide any further comments you would like to add on the following topics.**

What is the hardest part of being a nursing student?	What is the most rewarding part of being a nursing student?
--	---

*Please return your completed questionnaire in the enclosed postage-paid envelope to:*

*Harris Interactive  
Coding Department – 18491  
5 Independence Way, 4th floor  
Princeton, NJ 08540*

**[ID #]**