

# PROFILE OF THE EMERGENCY/TRAUMA/TRANSPORT NURSING WORKFORCE

The MedEvac Foundation International, the Board of Certification for Emergency Nursing (BCEN), the Society of Trauma Nurses (STN), the Air & Surface Transport Nurses Association (ASTNA), and the Emergency Nurses Association (ENA) recently conducted the Emergency/Trauma/Transport Nurse Survey (ETTS) to understand the current state of the emergency/trauma/transport nursing workforce. Key findings include:



## 167,375

nurses provide direct patient care\*

**43% under 40**

**82% female**

**13% of diverse ethnicities**

more likely to be male and white/Caucasian  
than the overall nursing workforce



## 16

years of experience on average

**78% bachelor's degree  
(or higher) in nursing**

**58% hold specialty board  
certification**

gained experience in 27 different  
work settings

\* Source: Smiley, R.A., Lauer, P., Bienemy, C., Berg, J.G., Shireman, E., Reneau, K.A., & Alexander, M. (2018). The 2017 National Nursing Workforce Survey. *Journal of Nursing Regulation*, 9(3), S1-S88; All other data from 2019 Emergency/Transport/Trauma Nurse Survey.



## PREPAREDNESS

- 69% feel prepared or very prepared to excel at their jobs regardless of age
- 40% desire additional training on specific equipment or leadership/management skills
- 75% perceive that new nurses need more focus on critical thinking, decision making, and time management skills



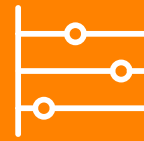
## WORKLOAD AND NURSE WELL-BEING

- 65% are satisfied or very satisfied with their jobs and the work they do
- 59% of time is spent on direct patient care and 28% of time spent on documentation
- 39% report workload that is too heavy or overwhelming
- 42% believe their employers value their contribution and care about their well-being
- 38% report some symptoms of burnout.
- 50% report employers provide access to counselors; 36% report no resources to address burnout

# \$77,500

## median salary for nurses working full time

- Majority of full time salaries range from \$62,500 to \$97,500
- Employers most frequently provide training and tuition assistance for professional development
- Nurses desire funding for professional association membership, conference attendance, and advanced certification



- 80% of current nurses expect a shortage of nurses in the next 5 to 10 years
- 47% plan to continue in their current role and 45% plan to pursue specialty certification
- Improving pay, employer support, and nurse-to-patient ratios are important for building the pipeline



## IMPACT OF EMERGENCY, TRAUMA, AND TRANSPORT NURSING

Emergency/trauma/transport nurses:

- Assess, intervene, evaluate, and communicate critical medical information
- Prevent errors by catching overlooked medical issues
- Provide support to patients even after discharge
- Advocate for patients with physicians and management
- Provide counsel and support to patients and their families
- Identify and help victims of child abuse, domestic violence, elder abuse, and human trafficking
- Help patients with “bigger picture” issues
- Increase patient safety
- Identify the need for, and implement, new programs
- Increase the quality, speed, and effectiveness of operations

The MedEvac Foundation International and its partners, the Board of Certification for Emergency Nursing (BCEN), the Society of Trauma Nurses (STN), the Air & Surface Transport Nurses Association (ASTNA), and the Emergency Nurses Association (ENA) partnered with the Human Resources Research Organization (HumRRO) to profile the emergency/trauma/transport nursing workforce.

The study relied on three sources of data, including (a) analysis of certification and membership records, (b) secondary analysis of the emergency/trauma data from the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) 2017 National Nursing Workforce Survey, and (c) responses to a custom designed survey from 4,196 practicing emergency, trauma, and transport nurses across the United States in January and February 2019. The results presented on this infographic are derived from these three sources.



This study represents the first comprehensive analysis of the emergency/trauma/transport nursing workforce. These results are intended to provide insights about the workforce that employers of emergency, trauma, and transport nurses can use to support the current workforce and ensure they are prepared for future demand. Overall, the emergency/trauma/transport nursing workforce shares many demographic similarities with nurses in other specialty areas. In addition, the results were generally consistent across the emergency, trauma, and transport designations.

An executive summary and this infographic are available on each partner's website. Full study results will be published later this year.

BCEN: <https://bcen.org/>  
STN: <https://www.traumanurses.org/>  
ASTNA: <https://www.astna.org/>  
ENA: <https://www.ena.org/>