



# Nursing Practice in Rural and Remote Canada II

## British Columbia

### Research Question

What is the nature of nursing practice in rural and remote Canada?

**311 out of 764 British Columbian nurses responded to the RRNII survey, 50% were RNs**

### Survey Methods

Survey mailed to 9,622 eligible nurses (RNs, NPs, RPNs, LPNs)

All nurses in the territories & stratified systematic sample in every province

Canada-wide response rate: 40% (N=3,822)  
British Columbia response rate: 41% (N=311)

### Demographics



### Highest nursing education



### Workplace



### Perceived scope



### Career plans



6% work in a fly-in community  
19% work in a community <2,500  
94% are female  
25% are employed in a casual position  
64% live in their primary work community  
33% are 55 years of age or older

**RNs**  
49% Bachelor's  
45% Diploma  
6% Master's

**NPs**  
88% Master's  
6% Bachelor's  
6% Diploma

**LPNs**  
98% Diploma  
2% Bachelor's

**RPNs**  
100% Diploma

41% Hospital  
29% Nursing Home  
25% Community health  
5% Other

**RNs**  
90% within  
5% beyond  
5% below

**NPs**  
100% within

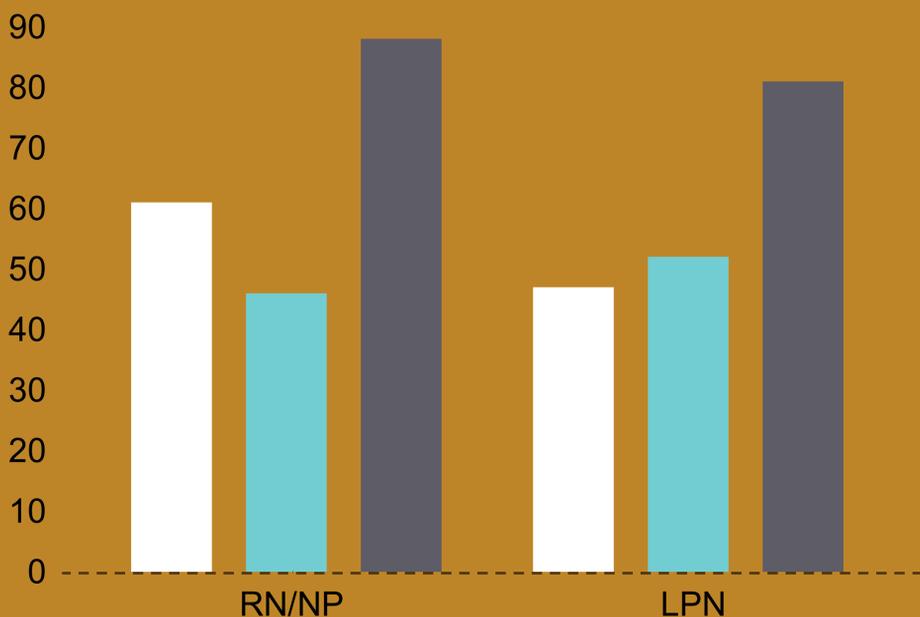
**LPNs**  
78% within  
2% beyond  
20% below

**RPNs**  
78% within  
11% beyond  
11% below

Planning to leave position within the next 12 months:  
**33% of all BC nurses**  
(56% of RPNs, 34% of LPNs, 32% of RNs, 23% of NPs)  
**Of these nurses:**  
26% plan to retire  
24% plan to nurse in the same community

### Rural BC Nurse Recruitment Factors

Professional Job-related Personal & Community



**Professional:** advanced practice opportunities; career; interest in practice setting, **Job-Related:** benefits; flexibility of work; income, **Personal & Community:** spouse employment/transfer; family or friends; lifestyle; location

### Take Home Messages

- BC nurses were of similar ages to rural nurses in Canada overall
- BC NPs were more likely to hold a master's degree compared to NPs in Canada overall
- BC nurses indicated that they work within their scope of practice and expressed positive views about primary health care in their workplace
- BC nurses were more likely to be employed in casual positions compared to rural Canada nurses overall
- This study makes an important contribution by providing a comprehensive overview of rural and remote nurses' practice and communities within each Canadian province and territory

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For more details, please see the BC fact sheet [<http://ruralnursing.unbc.ca>]

