



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

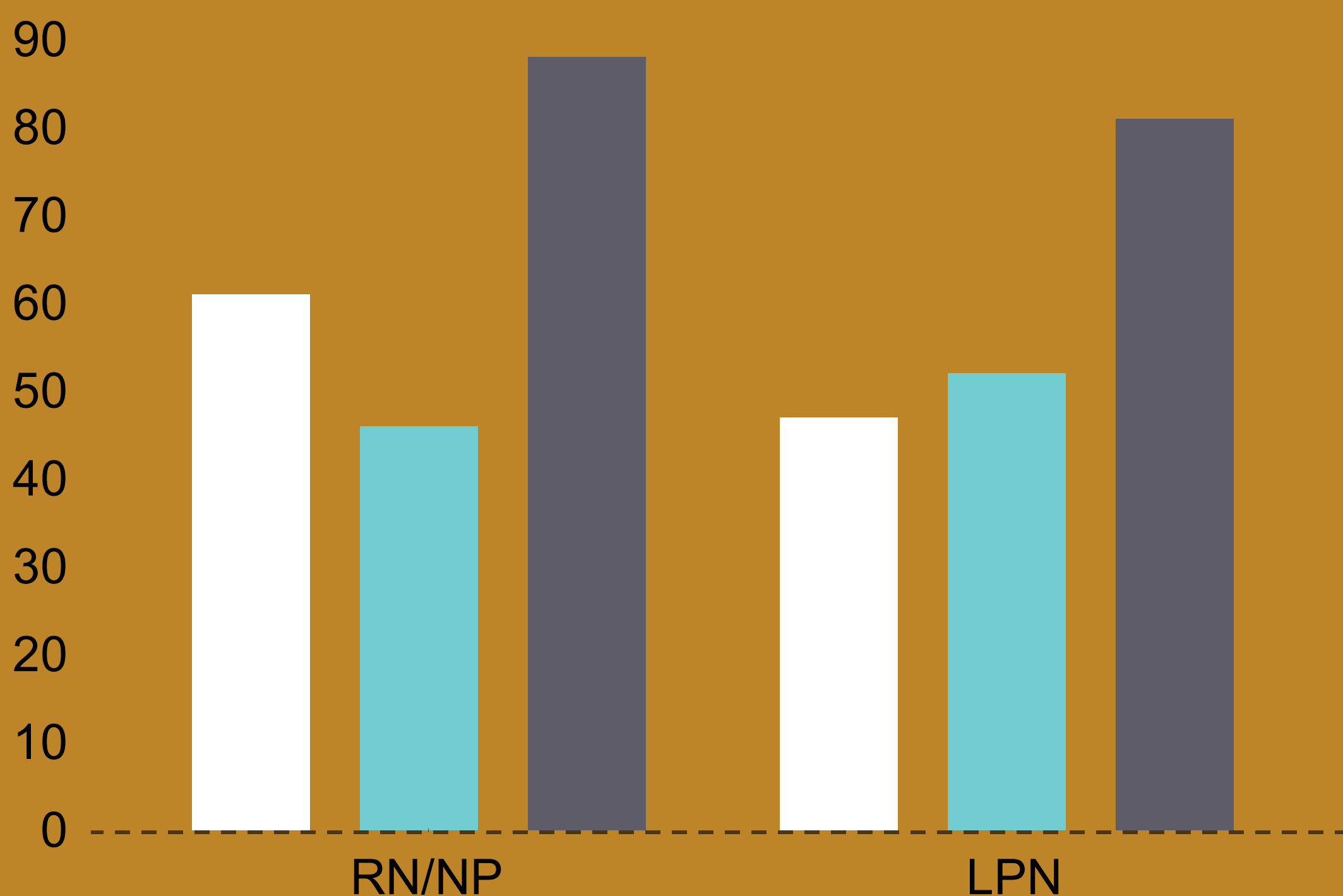
LPNs
78% within
2% beyond
20% below

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>]

