

The Long Term Care Nurse Staffing Study (LTCNSS) assesses nurse staffing and related issues in the long term care setting. During the spring and summer of 2024, the Texas Center for Nursing Workforce Studies (TCNWS) administered the LTCNSS to directors of nursing (DONs) or facility administrators of 1,186 Texas nursing facilities. A total of 229 facilities completed at least 50% of the survey, for a final response rate of 19.3%.

Long term care facilities that completed the 2024 LTCNSS were representative of all Texas long term care facilities by public health 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. The numbers presented are all self-reported by facilities and should not be used to calculate staffing ratios.

Geographic Characteristics of Long Term Care Facilities

Figure 1. Response rate by region

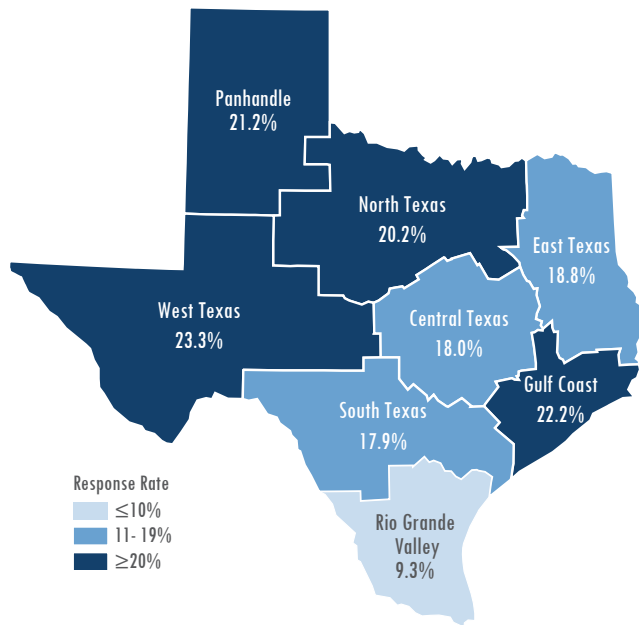


Table 1. LTCNSS response rate by region

Region	# of responding facilities	# of facilities in population	Response rate
Panhandle	14	66	21.2%
North Texas	71	352	20.2%
East Texas	26	138	18.8%
Gulf Coast	43	194	22.2%
Central Texas	29	161	18.0%
South Texas	25	140	17.9%
West Texas	14	60	23.3%
Rio Grande Valley	7	75	9.3%
Total	229	1,186	19.3%

The overall response rate for 2024 was 19.3%, a decrease from the 2022 response rate of 27.5%. West Texas (23.3%) and the Gulf Coast (22.2%) had the highest response rates, while South Texas (17.9%) and the Rio Grande Valley (9.3%) had the lowest rates (Figure 1, Table 1).

- Analysis found that there was not a significant difference between responding facilities and the facility population by region. Therefore, responses were representative by public health region.¹

¹ (X² (7, N=1,186 =5.756, p=.569)

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

- Non-metropolitan, non-border counties had the highest response rate (22.6%), while non-metropolitan, border counties had the lowest (4.5%).
- Analysis found that there was not a significant difference between responding facilities and the facility population by geographic designation.² However, the responses are not representative of all geographic designations because there is only one response from a facility in a non-metropolitan border county, meaning that any analyses by geographic designation would only be representative of the experiences of that facility and not of the entire geographic designation.

Table 2. LTCNSS response rates by geographic designation

Geographic Designation	# of responding facilities	# of facilities in population	Response rate
Metro Border	7	63	11.1%
Metro Non-Border	152	796	19.1%
Non-Metro Border	1	22	4.5%
Non-Metro Non-Border	69	305	22.6%

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

- Facilities with less than 50 beds had the highest response rate (50.0%), while those with 150 or more beds had the lowest (13.6%).
- Analysis found that there was a significant difference between responding facilities and the facility population by facility bed size.³ Therefore, survey results are not representative by bed size.

Table 3. LTCNSS response rates by number of licensed beds

# of Licensed Beds	# of responding facilities	# of facilities in population	Response rate
<50	19	38	50.0%
50 - 99	72	324	22.2%
100 - 149	118	677	17.4%
≥150	20	147	13.6%

² (X² (3, N=1,186) =6.430, p=.092)

³ (X² (3, N=1,186) =23.677, p<0.001)

Nurses on Boards

Facilities were asked if they had RNs on their boards and if they have voting privileges. Table 4 shows the results of these questions over the past 4 iterations of the survey.

- Out of the 85 facilities that responded to this question, 43 (50.6%) reported having an RN on their board.
- 35 out of the 43 (81.4%) respondents that did have RN board members reported that RNs had voting privileges.

Table 4. Number of responding facilities with RNs on boards, 2017-2024

Year	n	RNs on boards	RN has voting privileges
2017	425	55 (12.9%)	48 (87.3%)
2019	139	48 (34.5%)	40 (83.3%)
2022	128	51 (39.8%)	40 (78.4%)
2024	85	43 (50.6%)	35 (81.4%)

Note: n=number of responding facilities in Texas

Summary of Highlights

- The overall response rate for the 2024 LTCNSS was 19.3%.
- The region with the highest response rate was West Texas (23.3%).
- Facilities in non-metropolitan, non-border counties had the highest response rate (22.6%)
- Facilities with less than 50 licensed beds had the highest response rate (50.0%).
- Results were representative by region but not geographic designation or bed size.
- 43 facilities reported having an RN on their board and 35 of them reported that RN board members have voting privileges.