



Nursing Practice in Rural and Remote Canada II

Alberta

Research Question

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

344 out of 995 Albertan nurses responded to the RRNII survey, 49% 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)
Alberta response rate: 35% (N=344)

Demographics



Highest nursing education



Workplace



Perceived scope



Career plans



3% work in a fly-in community
17% work in a community <2,500
93% are female
50% are employed in a permanent part-time position
60% live in their primary work community
35% are 55 years of age or older

RNs
49% Bachelor's
44% Diploma
7% Master's

NPs
60% Master's
40% Bachelor's

LPNs
98% Diploma
2% Bachelor's

RPNs
98% Diploma
2% Bachelor's

63% Hospital
19% Community health
15% Nursing Home
4% Other

RNs
88% within
7% below
5% beyond

NPs
100% within

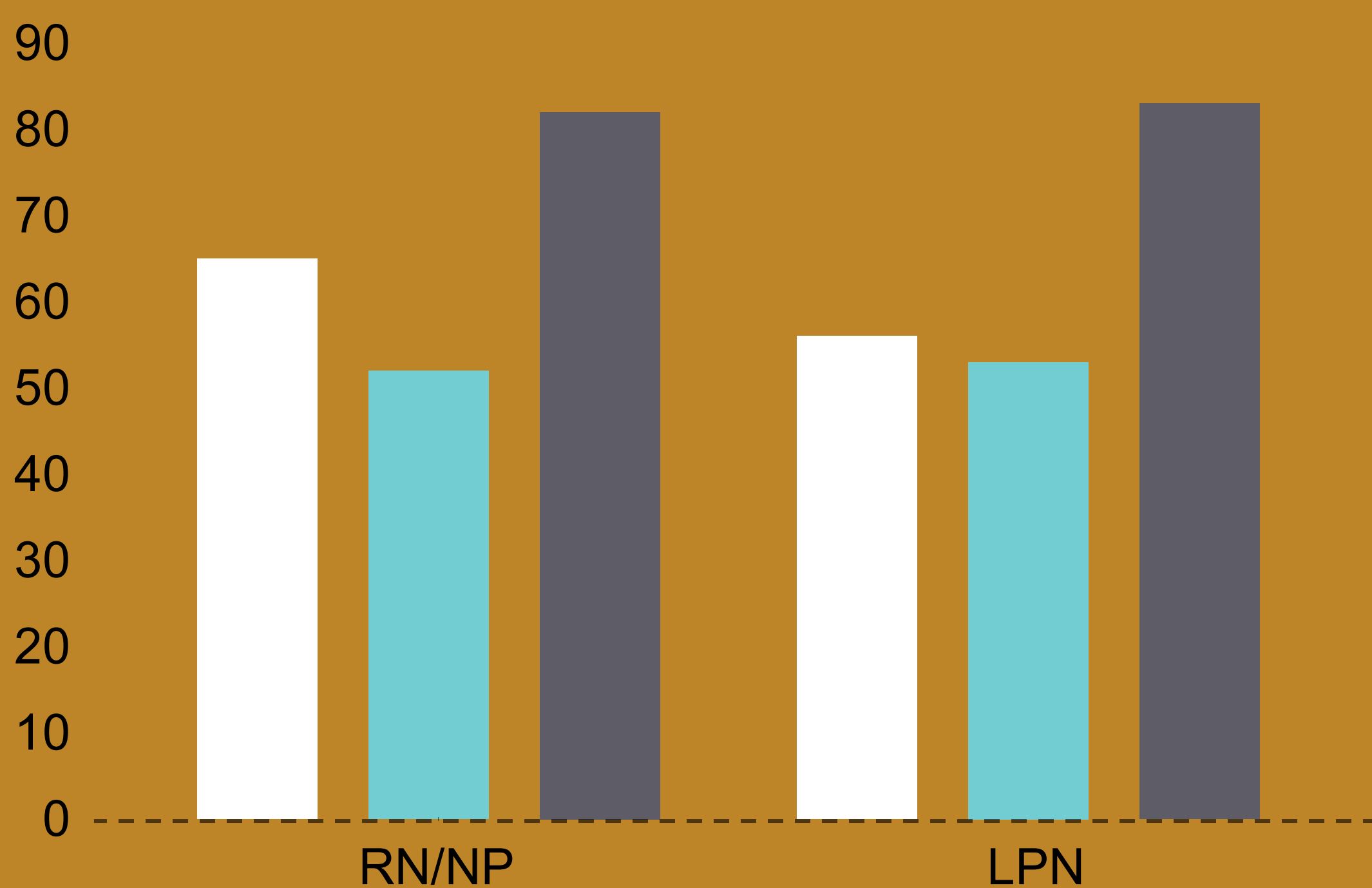
LPNs
81% within
16% below
3% beyond

RPNs
89% within
7% below
5% beyond

Planning to leave position within the next 12 months:
28% of all AB nurses
(40% of NPs, 31% of RNs, 28% of LPNs, 13% of RPNs)
Of these nurses:
26% plan to retire
26% plan to nurse in a different remote/rural community

Rural AB 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

- A greater proportion of rural AB nurses worked in a hospital setting than rural Canada nurses
- Rural AB nurses were less likely to live in communities of less than 1,000 persons compared to rural nurses in Canada overall
- The majority of rural AB nurses indicated they work within their scope of practice
- Rural AB nurses expressed positive views about primary health care, their contributions to it and the accessibility it provides for patients
- 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 AB fact sheet [<http://ruralnursing.unbc.ca>]

