NNU COVID-19 Survey Results

National Nurses United’s (NNU’s) second COVID-19 survey of U.S. nurses showed the impact of health care employers’ and governments’ failures and disregard for nurses’ lives.

The preliminary results of NNU’s third survey show the impact of reopening too soon. The results report on responses from more than 21,200 nurses from 50 states plus Washington D.C. and three territories.

Even as many states rush to reopen, health care employers continue to implement crisis standards of care, leading to dangerous conditions that leave nurses and their patients unprotected.

NNU’s survey reveals devastating impact of reopening too soon »

- **24%** of nurses think their employer is providing a safe workplace.

- **87%** of nurses who work at hospitals reported reusing at least one piece of single-use PPE. Reusing single-use PPE is a dangerous practice that can increase exposures to nurses, other staff, and to patients.

- **54%** of nurses who work at hospitals say their employer has implemented a decontamination program to “clean” single-use PPE, such as N95 respirators, between uses. Decontamination of single-use PPE has not been proven to be safe nor effective.

- **23%** of nurses reported they have been tested for COVID-19. A lack of testing jeopardizes nurses’ health and safety and their ability to protect their patients and families.

- **36%** of nurses who work at hospitals reported that they are afraid of catching COVID-19 and **43%** are afraid of infecting a family member.

- **27%** of nurses who work at hospitals reported that staffing has gotten much worse recently. Short staffing is unsafe for patients and nurses. The likelihood of patient death increases by 7 percent for every additional patient in the average nurse’s workload in the hospital.

Survey results as of **July 27, 2020**.

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