

Collaborators

American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA)
Center for Health Workforce Studies,
University at Albany
College of Pharmacy, Touro University, California
Illinois Department of Public Health,
Division of Oral Health
Illinois Institute for Rural Affairs,
Western Illinois University
Illinois Primary Health Care Association
Illinois Public Health Futures Institute,
Racial & Ethnic Health Disparities Action Council
Iowa Department of Public Health,
Center for Health Workforce Planning
Michigan Primary Care Association
National Center for Rural Health Professionals,
UI College of Medicine at Rockford
UIC College of Allied Health
UIC College of Dentistry
UIC College of Nursing
UIC Institute for Health Research and Policy
UIC School of Public Health
US Bureau of Labor Statistics
University of Maryland, School of Medicine
Wisconsin Primary Health Care Association



Journals

Academic Medicine
AOTA: Administration & Management Special
Interest Section Quarterly
Health Affairs
Journal of Health Care for the Poor & Underserved
American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy
Journal of Medical Systems
Journal of Public Health Dentistry
Journal of Rural Health
Journal of the American Dental Association
Journal of the American Pharmacists Association
Peabody Journal of Education
Pediatrics
Policy, Politics & Nursing Practice
Rural Research Report

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Midwest Center for

Health

Workforce

Studies

**A Resource for
Health Workforce
Data and Analysis**

UIC

Mission

The Midwest Center for Health Workforce Studies (MCHWS) conducts timely and relevant research designed to improve access to care and enhance the effectiveness of health care services for all.

Areas of Activity

The Center's research focuses on health professionals in eight fields: nursing, medicine, dentistry, public health, pharmacy, occupational therapy, physical therapy and genetics. The Center:

- Addresses issues critical to a broad health care audience - policy makers, providers, educators, and researchers;
- Examines trends in the supply, demand, distribution, preparedness, and diversity of health professionals;
- Convenes multi-disciplinary research teams who develop studies that provide data for health workforce planning;
- Provides technical assistance to universities, state and federal agencies, and professional organizations.

Facts on the Center

- Established in 1998 to serve Illinois, the Midwest and the Nation;
- One of six health workforce centers funded by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA);
- An integral part of the Center for Health Services Research at the Institute for Health Research and Policy, University of Illinois at Chicago.

Research Emphasis

Using quantitative and qualitative data, our research examines the forces affecting the number and distribution of health professionals and the labor market.

Pharmacy: Studies have examined the underlying causes of the current pharmacist shortage; the effects of increased pharmaceutical demand on the workforce; and the status of pharmacy school graduates, including differences across states.

Nursing: The Center has surveyed Illinois registered and licensed practical nurses to produce the state's most recent nurse profiles, and has compared state-level strategies to address the nursing shortage in five midwestern states.

Occupational Therapy: A comprehensive analysis of time trends in the occupational therapy assistant workforce, and an analysis of occupational therapy graduates across the country, have provided baseline data for a national research agenda in these fields.

Dentistry: The adequacy of the geographic balance in access to dental care for low-income or Medicaid populations, and the practice plans of graduating dentists, have been the focus of our work in this area, which includes collaborations with several neighboring states.

Policy Issues: The Center conducted an inquiry into educational strategies to increase health professional practice in underserved areas. A descriptive study of the professional composition of local health departments in Illinois demonstrates that professional diversity is positively correlated with an agency's core function performance.

Selected Studies & Publications

Access to Oral Health Care for Medicaid Children in Illinois: A Focus on Rural Illinois.

The Occupational Therapy Workforce in Illinois and National Workforce Trends.

Illinois Graduate Medical Education Programs and Physicians in Training: 1999-2000.

The Illinois Registered Nurse Workforce at the Millennium: A Final Report.

The Local Public Health Workforce: Size, Distribution, Composition, and Influence on Core Function Performance, Illinois 1998-1999.

The Genetic Counselor Workforce: Training Programs, Professional Practice, and Issues Affecting Supply and Demand.

Safety Net Dental Clinics: A viable model for dental care access. Byck GR, Cooksey JA, & Russinof HJ. Journal of the American Dental Association.

Update on the pharmacist shortage: National and state data through 2003. Knapp, K.K., Quist, R.M., Walton, S.M., & Miller, L.M. American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy.

The Pharmacist Shortage and Medication Errors: Issues and Evidence. Walton, S.M. Journal of Medical Systems.

Active State-Level Engagement with the Nursing Shortage: A Study of Five Midwestern States. Cooksey J.A., McLaughlin W., Russinof H., Martinez L.I., & Gordon C. Policy, Politics & Nursing Practice.