

The Barriers African Americans Face in Becoming Registered Nurses



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Abstract

This project discusses the shortage of African American registered nurses in the United States. The US has a population of over 300 million Americans. There are about two million registered nurses, of which only 9.9 percent are African American. Our research will review the barriers Blacks/African Americans experience on their paths to becoming registered nurses. We will also be looking into why there are disparities within the nursing population compared to other ethnicities. The information presented on the topic will cover current materials from literature review and census data.

Methodology

- 📖 Literature (quantitative/qualitative)
- 📖 Statistics
- 📖 Articles, charts, websites

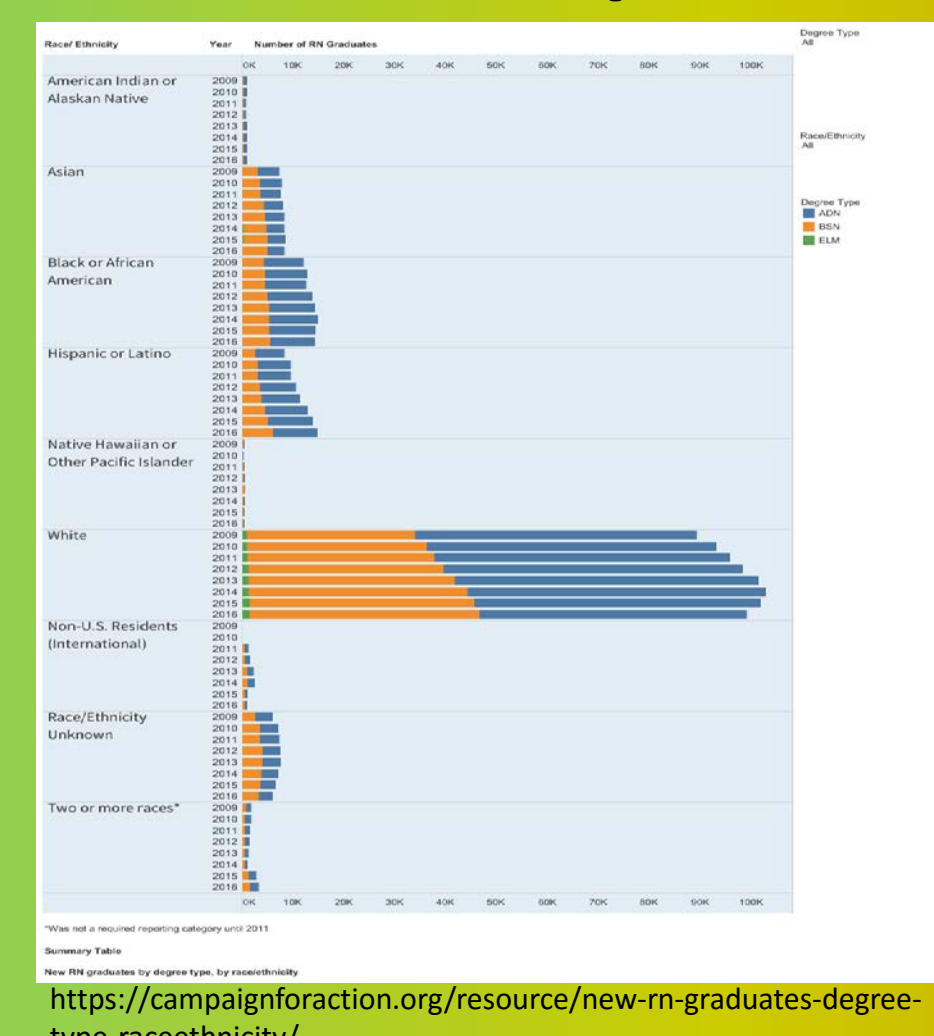
Procedure

- 📖 Nursing articles, nursing census data, population data
- 📖 Trends and current results



Data

- 📖 16.8% nursing population are minority nurses according to the US Census Bureau. Black student enrollment has decreased from 13.9% in 2009 compared to 9% in 2012
- 📖 2013 Survey of nursing school by the National League for Nursing showed that only 33% of the US population are minority nursing students.
- 📖 The shortage of African American RNs impact the quality of care amongst the African American patient population.
- 📖 A 2010 census projected that in 2043 ethnic minorities will make up half the US population



Research Question

- 📖 Why is there a shortage of African American (AA) Registered Nurses (RN) in the United States?
- 📖 What are some of the barriers that impact or deter African American nursing students?

Limitations

- 📖 Time
- 📖 Literature reviews, background information, resources
- 📖 Data collection methods
- 📖 Scarcity/current of research topic
- 📖 Large population
- 📖 Inclusion criteria of only nursing students currently in the program or graduated

Conclusion

Barriers

- 📖 Feelings of discrimination because of their race
- 📖 Lack of family/friend support
- 📖 Shortage of minority faculty
- 📖 Other ethnicities have more support, confidence, education preparation, and financial stability

Recommendations:

- 📖 Educate the AA population on the impact the shortage of AA nurses has on the AA health care outcomes
- 📖 Increases the number of black/AA faculty
- 📖 Improve culturally sensitive education provided by nursing faculty
- 📖 Increase community involvement by AA BSN prepared nurses

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