

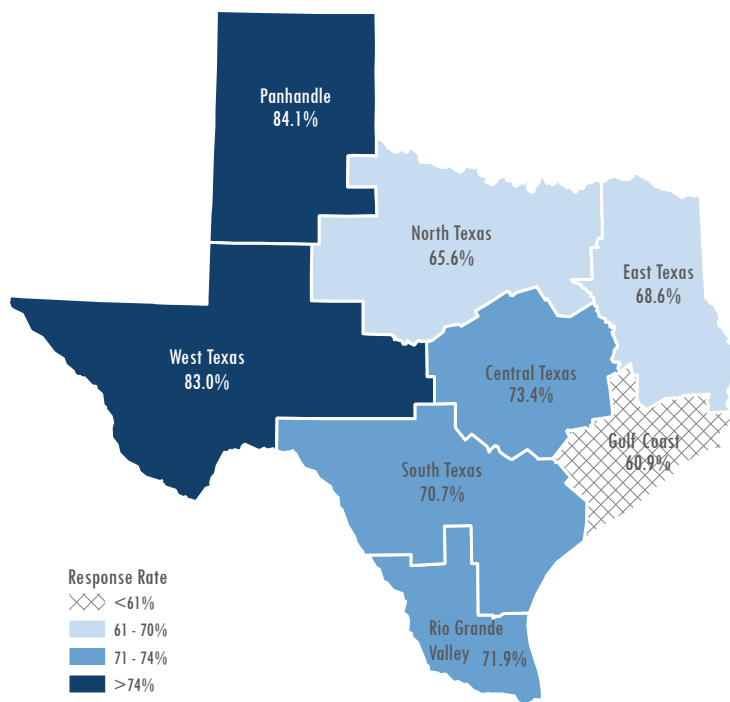


**T**he Hospital Nurse Staffing Survey (HNSS) assesses the size and effects of the nursing shortage in hospitals, Texas' largest employer of nurses. During the spring of 2014, the TCNWS administered the HNSS to 619 Texas hospitals. These included for-profit, nonprofit, public, and Texas Department of State Health Services-operated hospitals, as well as hospitals linked to academic institutions; military hospitals were not surveyed. The facilities surveyed were general acute care, psychiatric, special, and rehabilitation hospitals. 428 (69.1%) hospitals responded to the survey.

The hospitals that completed the 2014 HNSS were representative of all Texas hospitals by region ( $\chi^2(1, N = 428) = 4.6, p = 0.7$ ) and bed size ( $\chi^2(4, N = 428) = 3.3, p = 0.5$ ). This report provides survey response rates by region and bed size. It also includes relevant hospital characteristics such as the number and distribution of teaching, rural, Magnet, Pathway to Excellence, and trauma center designated hospitals in the 2014 HNSS sample.

## Geographic Location of Hospitals

Figure 1. Response rate by region



- This year 428 hospitals responded to the survey compared with 373 in 2012.

- The overall response rate for 2014 was 69.1%, which was an increase over the 2012 response rate of 61.9%.
- The Panhandle and West Texas had the highest response rates, with at least three quarters of hospitals in those regions responding to the survey (See Figure 1 and Table 1).

Table 1. 2014 HNSS response rate by region

Region	# of Respondents in Region	Total # of Hospitals in Region	Response Rate
Panhandle	37	44	84.1%
North Texas	128	195	65.6%
East Texas	35	51	68.6%
Gulf Coast	78	128	60.9%
Central Texas	47	64	73.4%
South Texas	41	58	70.7%
Rio Grande Valley	23	32	71.9%
West Texas	39	47	83.0%
Texas	428	619	69.1%

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

- Metropolitan border counties had the highest response rate (87.5%).
- Metropolitan, non-border hospitals had the lowest response rate (64.1%).

**Table 2. 2014 HNSS response rate by geographic designation**

Geographic Designation	# of Respondents in Designation	Total # of Hospitals in Designation	Response Rate
Metro Border	28	32	87.5%
Metro Non-Border	282	440	64.1%
Non-Metro Border	10	15	66.7%
Non-Metro Non-Border	108	132	81.8%

Table 3 displays information on the proportion of hospitals responding to the survey by region and bed size.

- In North Texas and East Texas response rates were 50% or higher in each bed size category.
- The North Texas response rate for hospitals with 100-299 beds was 77.1%.

Hospitals with fewer than 50 beds had the highest response rate (77%), while hospitals with greater than 499 beds had the lowest response rate (45.8%).

**Table 3. Number of responding hospitals over total number of hospitals by region and bed size**

Region	Bed Size					Total
	<50	50-99	100-299	300-499	>499	
Panhandle	29/32	4/7	0/0	4/4	0/1	37/44
North Texas	62/85	29/58	27/35	5/10	5/7	128/195
East Texas	19/27	6/8	6/11	4/5	0/0	35/51
Gulf Coast	36/48	13/27	20/34	5/11	4/8	78/128
Central Texas	24/26	8/19	12/14	3/4	0/1	47/64
South Texas	19/29	6/8	13/13	3/4	0/4	41/58
Rio Grande Valley	22/27	5/6	9/9	3/4	0/1	39/47
West Texas	7/9	4/8	5/8	5/5	2/2	23/32
Texas	218/283	75/141	92/124	32/47	11/24	428/619

Note: Because beds in state hospitals are not technically licensed, calculations use state hospitals' bed capacities.

## Hospital Designations

Hospitals were asked to indicate applicable hospital designations from the following choices:

- Teaching hospitals are individual hospitals, health systems, and health networks that deliver medical care to patients and provide clinical education and training for preparing healthcare professionals, as verified through membership in the Council of Teaching Hospitals (COTH).
- Magnet Hospitals are awarded this status by the American Nurses Credentialing Center based on successfully meeting specified standards that show the hospital's ability to attract and retain top talent, improve patient care, safety, and satisfaction, foster a collaborative culture, advance nursing standards and practice, and grow business and financial success.
- Pathway to Excellence hospitals are awarded this status by the American Nurses Credentialing Center based on the confirmed presence of a set of characteristics known as "The Pathway to Excellence Criteria" in the facility. Criteria include a safe and

health working environment, the existence of orientation and professional development programs for nurses, equitable compensation and recognition of achievements, and the use of evidence-based practice, among others.

- Trauma hospitals are designated by the Texas Department of State Health Services to provide emergency and specialized intensive care to critically ill and injured patients.
- Rural hospitals meet at least one of the following American Hospital Association criteria: have 100 or fewer beds, 4000 or fewer admissions, or are located outside a Metropolitan Statistical Area.

Table 4 shows the percentages of responding hospitals in each class of hospital designation by region.

- 57.5% of responding teaching hospitals were located in North Texas and the Gulf Coast.
- 75% of responding Magnet hospitals were located in North Texas and the Gulf Coast.
- 83.3% of responding Pathway to Excellence



**Table 4. Number and percentage of responding hospitals in each hospital designation by region**

	Region								
	Panhandle	North Texas	East Texas	Gulf Coast	Central Texas	South Texas	Rio Grande Valley	West Texas	Texas
Teaching	2	10	0	13	4	4	3	4	40
	5.4%	7.8%	0.0%	16.7%	8.5%	9.8%	13.0%	10.3%	9.3%
Magnet	0	13	1	5	4	1	0	0	24
	0.0%	10.2%	2.9%	6.4%	8.5%	2.4%	0.0%	0.0%	5.6%
Pathway to Excellence	2	20	1	12	8	1	0	4	48
	5.4%	15.6%	2.9%	15.4%	17.0%	2.4%	0.0%	10.3%	11.2%
Trauma Center	26	49	25	26	30	22	15	25	218
	70.3%	38.3%	71.4%	33.3%	63.8%	53.7%	65.2%	64.1%	50.9%
Rural	27	45	24	15	19	14	6	21	171
	73.0%	35.2%	68.6%	19.2%	40.4%	34.1%	26.1%	53.8%	40.0%

Hospitals were located in North Texas, the Gulf Coast, and Central Texas.

- The greatest percentage of responding hospitals designated as trauma centers was in East Texas, while the Gulf Coast had the lowest percentage.
- North Texas had the greatest percentage of responding rural hospitals, while the Rio Grande Valley had the lowest percentage.

### Teaching Hospitals by Geographic Designation

- Most teaching hospitals were located in metropolitan, non-border counties (35 out of 40).
- 14.3% of responding hospitals in metropolitan border counties were teaching hospitals.

### Magnet Hospitals by Geographic Designation

- All 24 responding Magnet hospitals were located in metropolitan, non-border counties.
- 8.5% of responding hospitals in metropolitan, non-border counties were Magnet hospitals.
- There were 32 total Magnet hospitals in Texas.<sup>1</sup>

### Pathway to Excellence Hospitals by Geographic Designation

- 89.4% of responding Pathway to Excellence hospitals were located in metropolitan, non-border counties.
- The remaining hospitals were located in either metropolitan border counties or non-metropolitan,

non-border counties.

- 14.9% of responding hospitals in metropolitan, non-border counties were Pathway to Excellence hospitals.
- There were 54 total Pathway to Excellence hospitals in Texas.<sup>2</sup>

### Trauma Centers by Geographic Designation

- There were 218 responding Trauma Centers reported.
- Nearly half (45.4%) were located in metropolitan, non-border counties.
- 42.7% were located in non-metropolitan, non-border counties.
- All 10 responding hospitals in non-metropolitan, border counties were trauma hospitals.
- There were 284 total hospitals designated as Trauma Centers in Texas.<sup>3</sup>

### Rural Hospitals by Geographic Designation

- Over half (60.2%) of rural hospitals were located in non-metropolitan, non-border counties.
- All 10 responding hospitals located in non-metropolitan, border counties were rural hospitals.

<sup>1</sup><http://www.nursecredentialing.org/Magnet/FindaMagnetFacility.aspx>

<sup>2</sup><http://www.nursecredentialing.org/Pathway/DesignationOrganizations.aspx>

<sup>3</sup><http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/emstraumasystems/etrahosp.shtm>



## Level of Trauma Center

Trauma facilities are hospitals that are designated by the Texas Department of State Health Services to provide emergency and specialized intensive care to critically ill and injured patients. They range from Level 1, which is a comprehensive trauma facility that manages major and severe trauma patients, to Level 4, a basic trauma facility that transfers major and severe trauma patients to a higher-level trauma facility.<sup>3</sup>

There are a total of 284 trauma centers (TCs) in Texas as of September 2, 2014.

- Of 16 Level 1 TCs, 81.3% responded.
- Of 17 Level 2 TCs, 88.2% responded.
- Of 52 Level 3 TCs, 73.1% responded.
- Of 199 Level 4 TCs, 76.4% responded.

## Level of Trauma Center by Region

Table 5 shows the percentage of responding hospitals in each region that were designated to be certain Trauma Center levels.

- The majority of responding Level 1 centers were in North Texas, the Gulf Coast, and Central Texas.
- The Gulf Coast and South Texas contained no Level 2 centers.
- The Gulf Coast reported the most Level 3 centers.
- North Texas contained the most Level 4 centers.

**Table 5. Level of responding trauma centers by region**

Trauma Center Level	Region								Texas
	Panhandle	North Texas	East Texas	Gulf Coast	Central Texas	South Texas	Rio Grande Valley	West Texas	
1	1	3	0	4	3	1	0	1	13
	2.7%	2.3%	0.0%	5.1%	6.4%	2.4%	0.0%	2.6%	3.0%
2	1	5	2	0	4	0	1	2	15
	2.7%	3.9%	5.7%	0.0%	8.5%	0.0%	4.3%	5.1%	3.5%
3	1	7	7	10	0	3	6	4	38
	2.7%	5.5%	20.0%	12.8%	0.0%	7.3%	26.1%	10.3%	8.9%
4	23	34	16	12	23	18	8	18	152
	62.2%	26.6%	45.7%	15.4%	48.9%	43.9%	34.8%	46.2%	35.5%
Non-Trauma Centers	11	79	10	52	17	19	8	14	210
	29.7%	61.7%	28.6%	66.7%	36.2%	46.3%	34.8%	35.9%	49.1%

<sup>3</sup><http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/emtraumasystems/etrahosp.shtm>



## Level of Trauma Center by Geographic Designation

Table 6 provides the number of responding hospitals designated at each level of trauma center by geographic designation.

- All 13 responding Level 1 Trauma Centers were in metropolitan counties and 12 of these were located in metropolitan, non-border counties.
- Each of the 15 responding Level 2 Trauma Centers was located in a metropolitan county.
- There were 26 responding Level 3 Trauma Centers in metropolitan, non-border counties. The remaining 12 were divided between metropolitan border and non-metropolitan, non-border counties.
- Metropolitan, non-border counties contained the most responding Level 1, Level 2, and Level 3 Trauma Centers.
- Non-metropolitan, non-border counties contained the most responding Level 4 Trauma Centers.

Table 6. Level of responding trauma centers by geographic designation

Trauma Center Level	Geographic Designation			
	Metro Border	Metro Non-Border	Non-Metro Border	Non-Metro Non-Border
1	1	12	0	0
	3.6%	4.3%	0.0%	0.0%
2	1	14	0	0
	3.6%	5.0%	0.0%	0.0%
3	7	26	0	5
	25.0%	9.2%	0.0%	4.6%
4	7	47	10	88
	25.0%	16.7%	100.0%	81.5%
Non-Trauma Centers	12	183	0	15
	42.9%	64.9%	0.0%	13.9%

