Snapshot – Southern and Eastern Africa:
pediatric nursing specialities
Snapshot – South Africa: education process to becoming a PICU nurse
Typical education process (varies across countries)

• Qualification as a children’s nurse is usually through additional post basic training, ranging from a one year diploma to a two year masters degree. A small number of countries including Malawi and Zambia offer direct entry BSc programmes to qualify as a registered nurse with an additional registration as a paediatric nurse.

• Once qualified you have to register with the national nursing council.

• The PICU Post Basic Qualification is only offered by two institutions in southern and eastern Africa:
  
  o Postgraduate Diploma in Child Critical Care Nursing at the University of Cape Town, South Africa
  
  o Higher National Diploma in paediatric critical care nursing at Gertrude’s Children’s Hospital, Nairobi
Snapshot – Africa: WHO state of the world’s nursing 2020 Report
**South Africa**

**Nursing personnel (latest year)**
- **Nursing professionals**: 73558
- **Nursing associates**: 0
- **Nurses not further defined**: 73558

**Share of professional nurses**
- **Density**: 13.1 per 10000 population
- **Graduates per year**: 10192
- **Minimum duration of training**: 4 years

**Nursing stock and density 2013-2018**

**Age distribution**
- <35: 20%
- 35-54: 50%
- 55+: 24%
- Density: 52.0%

**Sex distribution**
- Male: 91%
- Female: 9%

**Nurse mobility**
- Foreign trained: NR
- Foreign born: NR

**Issues for consideration**
An estimated shortage range of 50000 to 60000 nurses is projected for year 2020.

*As compared to a benchmark density. Details in State of the world’s nursing 2020 report and Global Strategy on Human Resources for Health: Workforce 2030.

Source: National Health Workforce Accounts (NHA), 2020 except 1. Latest available data are displayed. Includes multiple data sources such as the OECD/Eurostat/MHCE-ELPH Joint Data Collection, labour force survey, census data and estimates from WHO for shortages. Stock and density projections by 2030 based on a simple stock and flow model. See full report for further details.

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