

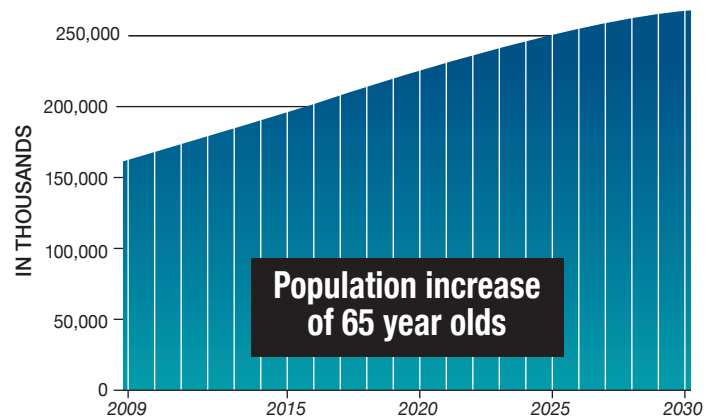
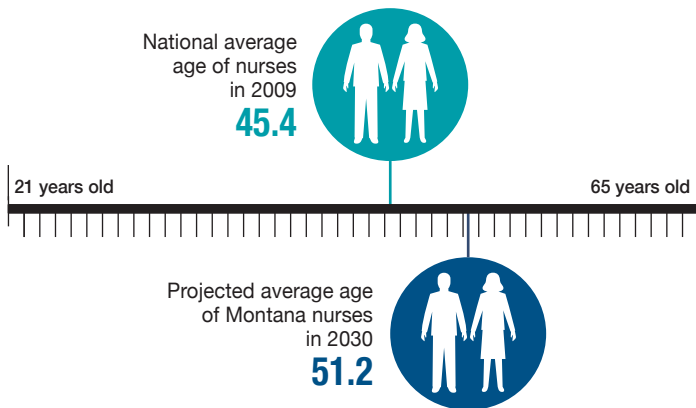
A Shortage of Nurses is a Looming Problem for Montana Health Care

The combination of a growing population of older residents with an aging nursing workforce poses challenges for Montana residents and health care in the state. If Montana cannot avoid a nursing shortage, there will be widespread repercussions. An article in the *American Journal of Medical Quality*, "United States Registered Nurse Workforce Report Card," gave Montana a passing grade on the RN workforce shortage for 2009, but projected a failing grade in 2030 if this trend is not reversed. This infographic presents the factors affecting that grade.

An aging RN workforce and an aging population are the major contributors to a negative forecast for health and health care in Montana.

The mean age of nurses is rising nationwide and Montana is ahead of the trend with a projected average age increase of **4.5** years among Montana nurses by 2030.

The number of Montana baby boomers over age 65 will increase, as will their need for health services, just as many nurses will also be retiring.



The projected supply of qualified nurses in Montana in 2030 is outstripped by the projected need.



Total number of full-time equivalent nursing jobs in 2009:



Predicted number of full-time equivalent nursing jobs needed in 2030:



The Report Card for Montana's RN Future is Not Looking Good

In 2009 nationally, there were: 2 As, 10 Bs, 10 C+s, 17 Cs, 5 Ds & zero Fs.
The forecast for 2030 nationally is: zero As, 1 B, 1 C+, 9 Cs, 9 C-s, 18 Ds & 12 Fs



Sources: United States Registered Nurse Workforce Report Card and Shortage Forecast, 2012. Census & Economic Information Center (CEIC) Montana Department of Commerce, 2012.