Nurses' overtime during the COVID-19 pandemic

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A new study released today sheds light on the change in nurses' overtime work hours before and after the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Among nurses who worked overtime, for Canada overall, average weekly overtime hours increased significantly from 6.6 hours in April 2019 to 9.7 hours in April 2020. Similarly, overtime increased from 5.8 hours in May 2019 to 10.3 hours in May 2020.

Compared with 2019, the change in nurses' average weekly overtime hours varied by region, for instance with average weekly overtime hours increasing in Quebec and Ontario in April and May, but not in the rest of Canada.

The study "Overtime work among professional nurses during the COVID-19 pandemic" is now available as part of the series StatCan COVID-19: Data to Insights for a Better Canada (45280001).

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