

Candidate nursing professionals in the 2020 municipal elections

Profissionais de enfermagem candidatos nas eleições municipais de 2020

Profesionales de enfermería candidatos en las elecciones municipales de 2020

Lincoln Agudo Oliveira Benito¹

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1. Universidade de Brasília,
Graduate Program in Science and
Technology and Health. Brasília,
Federal District, Brazil.
<https://orcid.org/0000-0001-8624-0176>

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RESUMO

Objetivo: Analisar a frequência de profissionais de enfermagem que se candidataram para participação nas eleições municipais do ano de 2020. **Método:** Trata-se de um estudo exploratório, descritivo e de abordagem quantitativa, sendo os dados adquiridos junto ao Repositório de Dados Eleitorais, gerenciados pela Assessoria de Gestão Estratégica (AGE), presentes no portal do Tribunal Superior Eleitoral (TSE). **Resultados:** Foram identificados 8.605 profissionais de enfermagem inscritos, sendo que a maior preponderância, formada por 54,5% (n=4.688) era de técnicos e auxiliares de enfermagem e 45,5% (n= 3.917) eram de enfermeiros. O Sudeste (SE) registrou a maior preponderância quando comparada com as outras regiões, computando 37,7% (n=3.246). O estado de São Paulo (SP) foi aquele que registrou a maior preponderância com 16% (n=1.377). **Considerações finais:** A presente pesquisa identificou a reduzida participação de profissionais de enfermagem no pleito eleitoral analisado. **Descritores:** Política; Enfermeiras e Enfermeiros; Assistentes de Enfermagem; Governo Local.

ABSTRACT

Objective: To analyze the frequency of nursing professionals who applied to participate in the municipal elections in 2020. **Method:** This is an exploratory, descriptive study with a quantitative approach, with the data acquired from the Electoral Data Repository, managed by the Strategic Management Advisory (AGE), present on the website of the Superior Electoral Court (TSE). **Results:** 8.605 registered nursing professionals were identified, with the largest preponderance, formed by 54.5% (n=4.688), of nursing technicians and assistants and 45.5% (n=3.917) of nurses. The Southeast (SE) registered the highest preponderance when compared to the other regions, computing 37.7% (n=3.246). The state of São Paulo (SP) was the one that registered the highest preponderance with 16% (n=1.377). **Final considerations:** The present research identified the reduced participation of nursing professionals in the analyzed electoral election. **Descriptors:** Politics; Nurses and Nurses; Nursing Assistants; Local Government.

RESUMEN

Objetivo: Analizar la frecuencia de profesionales de enfermería que postularon para participar en las elecciones municipales de 2020. **Método:** Se trata de un estudio exploratorio, descriptivo con enfoque cuantitativo, con los datos adquiridos del Repositorio de Datos Electorales, gestionados por la Asesoría de Gestión Estratégica (AGE), presente en la página web del Tribunal Superior Electoral (TSE). **Resultados:** se identificaron 8.605 profesionales de enfermería registrados, con la mayor preponderancia, formada por 54,5% (n=4.688), de técnicos y auxiliares de enfermería y 45,5% (n=3.917) de enfermeras. El Sudeste (SE) registró la mayor preponderancia en comparación con las demás regiones, con 37,7% (n=3.246). El estado de São Paulo (SP) fue el que registró mayor preponderancia con 16% (n=1.377). **Consideraciones finales:** La presente investigación identificó la reducida participación de los profesionales de enfermería en la elección electoral analizada. **Descritores:** Política; Enfermeras y enfermeras; Auxiliares de enfermería; Gobierno local.

Introduction

Nursing is constituted as a professional activity, which historically is and influenced by the daily life in which it is inserted, by changes, transformations and social needs, living with diverse, singular and complex actors, coexisting in the midst of processes of correlation correlation, conflicts and disputes over areas of expertise.¹⁻² In addition to individual and collective health care, these important professionals work in various promotion projects, in health education, in research, in the management and management of programs, in projects and services, as well as in consultancy and technical assistance in the area. education and health.¹⁻³

The importance of nurses and nursing professionals is confirmed, due to the fact that they are intimately inserted in various instances, processes and services, responsible for the idealization, development, implementation, organization, management and evaluation of various issues of incontestable relevance, as is the case in the educational field of political pedagogical projects (PPP) and in the field of health, of several national policies for comprehensive healthcare.³⁻⁵ In this sense and, in the midst of a globalized, liberalist and neo-liberalist world, it is not possible and neither viable the removal or the inertia of these countless social and political agents, together with the bodies responsible for decision-making, in the most varied decision dimensions national.⁴⁻⁵

In an important address given by the President of the Ordem dos Enfermeiros, at the ceremony to link to the profession, held on October 4, 2014 in the city of Lisbon in Portugal, "the reduced view of the professional nurse is perceived, from the point of view sociopolitical, in addition to the importance of this profession, and its role assumed by health organizations ".⁶ Paradoxically to this issue, historically significant nursing representatives in Brazil are identified in great importance, together with positions and institutions of political representation, such as, for example, Florence Nightingale, Dra. Nurse Rosalda Paim and Dra. Enf. Heloísa Helena.^{1,7-9}

Florence Nightingale, nurse, politician, epidemiologist, visionary and humanist, is considered a matriarch of international nursing in the middle of the twentieth century (21st) and, due to her countless achievements and achievements that still echo today and for future generations.⁹⁻¹⁰ With numerous literatures produced, among scientific articles and specialized books, Nightingale emerges, being presented and also revered for the differentiated development of its social, educational, administrative, historical role and, especially distinguished, in matters of feminist, intellectual and political representation.⁹⁻¹¹

Dr. Rosalda Cruz Nogueira Paim, nurse, pedagogue, teacher, researcher and former state deputy, also stood out in the political field, playing an important role in the construction of the scientific field of Brazilian nursing, as well as her commitment to health, with education and political representation.⁸ Its greatest political expression is to be highlighted as the first parliamentary nurse in Brazil from 1983 to 1987, creating more than twenty (20) laws, focused on the social and health area, and showing itself for having contributed to the elaboration of the Project (PL), which would culminate in the promulgation of the Professional Nursing Practice Law (LEPE) number 7,498 / 86.⁷⁻⁸

Heloisa Helena de Moraes, graduated in Nursing, is a licensed professor at the Federal University of Alagoas (UFAL), started her political activism in the student movement (ME), actively participating in union and university mobilizations, she was also one of the founders of the Socialist Party and Freedom (PSOL), even exercising his presidency.¹ In 1992 she won the election as Vice-Mayor of Maceió (AL), in 1994 she was elected State Representative (DE), in 1998 with 56% of the votes she became a Senator, in 2006 if she launched her candidacy for the Presidency of the Republic (PR) receiving 6,675,393 valid votes (6.85% of the total) during the first round of the elections, reaching third place among the legible candidates.¹

In this sense, the objective of the present research was to assess the frequency of nursing professionals who applied for the exercise of political office, along with the municipal electoral elections of the year 2020.

Method

This is an exploratory, descriptive study with a quantitative approach, which analyzed the frequency of nursing professionals who applied for the exercise of political office, with the electoral election of the year 2020. In relation to the electoral process in question, the Superior Electoral Court (TSE), in order to guide the actions and processes related to the election, instituted Resolution number 23,609 that “provides for the choice and registration of candidates for the elections”, Resolution number 23,611 that “provides for the general acts of the electoral process for Elections 2020”, among other important instruction documents.¹²⁻¹³

For the acquisition of the necessary subsidies for the construction of this research, data were acquired from the Electoral Data Repository [<https://www.tse.jus.br/eleicoes/estatisticas/repositorio-de-dados-eleitorais-1/repositorio-de-dados-eleitorais>], managed by the Strategic Management Advisory (AGE), present on the website of the Superior Electoral Court (TSE) at the electronic address [<https://www.tse.jus.br/>]. Said data were extracted systematically in the first half of November of 2020, aiming at making them as accurate as possible, in relation to the candidates registered in the aforementioned Brazilian electoral process.

For structural and methodological purposes, they were constituted as nursing professionals, those governed by the Law of Professional Nursing Practice (LEPE) number 7,498 / 86, regulated by Decree number 94,406 / 87, being the same ones, the Nurse (NUR), the Nursing Technician (NT) and the Nursing Assistant (NA) .¹⁴⁻¹⁵ For the organization and analysis of the necessary subsidies for the construction of this research, the Microsoft Excel 2016® software, belonging to the Microsoft Office 2016® package, was used, for Windows®.

Descriptive statistical analysis was implemented, with percentage calculations (%) being performed, and the results were presented in the form of three (03) explanatory tables and one (01) figure. In order to contextualize the identified evidence, electronic bibliographic surveys were carried out with computerized databases, namely the Virtual Health Library (VHL), Google Scholar (Google Scholar), Minerva-UFRJ, Saber-USP, Institutional Repository of UnB (RIUnB), the Institutional Repository of the Federal University of São Carlos

(RI-UFSCar) and Theses-FIOCRUZ, thus acquiring articles from scientific journals, books, master's dissertations and elements of Brazilian legislation such as laws and a government decree.

The selected and chosen references for the implementation of this research are constituted as national and international, being in the languages "Portuguese Brazil", "Portuguese Portugal" and "English". To facilitate the analysis and contextualization process of the identified evidence, the research "Nursing Profile in Brazil" was used, requested by the Federal Nursing Council (COFEN) and carried out by the Oswaldo Cruz Foundation (FIOCRUZ) of the Ministry of Health (MS).¹⁶⁻¹⁷

The "Nursing Profile Research" (Cofen / Fiocruz), constitutes itself as the most comprehensive survey implemented on a profession, ever carried out in Latin America, presenting in its body, a true diagnosis, characterized as precise and detailed, in relation to the situation of the professionals in this category working in Brazil.¹⁶⁻¹⁸ In this national study, professionals were interviewed in about 50% of Brazilian municipalities and, in all units of the federation (UF), the result of which was presented in detail, highlighting the characteristics, particularities and singularities by states and, allowing a more precise understanding of local realities.¹⁶⁻¹⁸

Results

In the process of organizing and analyzing the data, 557,356 candidates registered in the 2020 elections were identified, of which 1.5% (n = 8,605) were nursing professionals, as shown in table 1. It was also verified that the state of São Paulo (SP) was the one that among the Brazilian federative units (UF), registered the greatest preponderance, both in relation to all registered candidates, as well as professional nursing candidates, in the electoral election under analysis.

Table 1 - Distribution of the frequency of nursing candidates and professional candidates by federal units and percentage, registered with the 2020 election (n = 557,356): *

FU	Candidates f (%)	Candidatos profissionais de enfermagem f (%)
Sao Paulo	93.693 (16,8)	1.377 (16)
Minas Gerais	81.685 (14,7)	1.196 (13,9)
Bahia	41.598 (7,5)	738 (8,6)
Parana	37.046 (6,6)	488 (5,7)
Rio Grande do Sul	33.544 (6)	449(5,2)
Rio de Janeiro	26.474 (4,7)	495 (5,8)
Goias	24.926 (4,5)	311 (3,6)
Pará	23.625 (4,2)	376 (4,4)
Santa Catarina	21.849 (3,9)	279 (3,2)
Pernambuco	21.091 (3,8)	355 (4,1)
Maranhao	20.789 (3,7)	371 (4,3)
Ceara	16.187 (2,9)	304 (3,5)
Mato Grosso	12.838 (2,3)	193 (2,2)

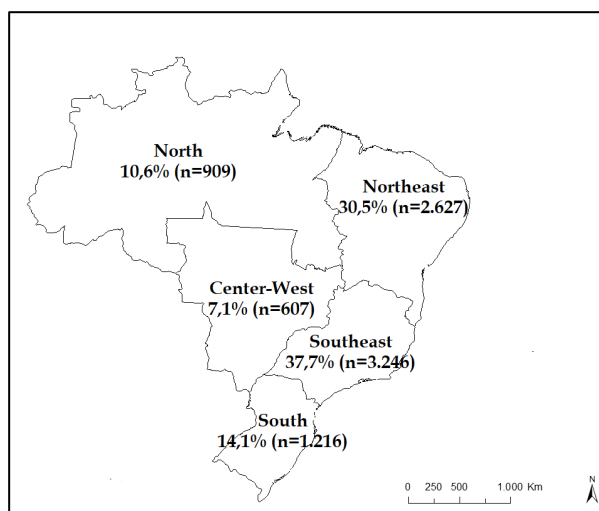
Espírito Santo	12.573 (2,3)	178 (2,1)
Paraíba	12.517 (2,2)	234 (2,7)
Piauí	10.653 (1,9)	196 (2,3)
Rio Grande do Norte	10.553 (1,9)	205 (2,4)
Amazonas	10.460 (1,9)	174 (2)
Tocantins	8.679 (1,6)	142 (1,7)
Mato Grosso do Sul	8.662 (1,6)	103 (1,2)
Alagoas	7.572 (1,4)	123 (1,4)
Sergipe	7.010 (1,3)	101 (1,2)
Rondônia	5.928 (1,1)	87 (1)
Acre	3.029 (0,5)	44 (0,5)
Amapá	2.492 (0,4)	55 (0,6)
Roraima	1.883 (0,3)	31 (0,4)
Total	557.356 (100)	8.605 (100)

Source: Adapted from TSE, 2020.

* The extracted data are faithful to the providing institution.

Regarding the distribution of candidacies from nursing professionals in the 2020 elections by Brazilian regions, it was possible to verify that the greatest preponderance was identified in the Southeast (SE), registering a total of 37.7% (n = 3,246), as shown next to Figure 1.

Figure 1 - Distribution of the frequency of professional nursing candidates by regions in Brazil in the 2020 election (n = 8,605): *



Source: Adapted from TSE, 2020.

* The extracted data are faithful to the providing institution.

When analyzing the frequency of professional nursing candidates by category, federative units and percentage, it was possible to verify that the state of SP was the one that registered the highest preponderance with 16% (n = 1,377), as shown in table 2. It was also possible to verify that SP also registered the highest preponderance in relation to the frequency of nursing professional candidates, belonging to the category of NFE.

Table 2 - Distribution of the frequency of professional nursing candidates by category, federative units and percentage, registered with the 2020 election (n = 8,605):

FU	Total f (%)	NA e NT f (%)	NUR f (%)
Sao Paulo	1.377 (16)	633 (13,5)	744 (19)
Minas Gerais	1.196 (13,9)	634 (13,5)	562 (14,3)
Bahia	738 (8,6)	443 (9,4)	295 (7,5)
Rio de Janeiro	495 (5,8)	281 (6)	214 (5,5)
Parana	488 (5,7)	232 (4,9)	256 (6,5)
Rio Grande do Sul	449 (5,2)	311 (6,6)	138 (3,5)
Pará	376 (4,4)	234 (5)	142 (3,6)
Maranhao	371 (4,3)	176 (3,8)	195 (5)
Pernambuco	355 (4,1)	181 (3,9)	174 (4,4)
Goias	311 (3,6)	157 (3,3)	154 (3,9)
Ceará	304 (3,5)	159 (3,4)	145 (3,7)
Santa Catarina	279 (3,2)	170 (3,6)	109 (2,8)
Paraíba	234 (2,7)	123 (2,6)	111 (2,8)
Rio Grande do Norte	205 (2,4)	133 (2,8)	72 (1,8)
Piauí	196 (2,3)	98 (2,1)	98 (2,5)
Mato Grosso	193 (2,2)	103 (2,2)	90 (2,3)
Espírito Santo	178 (2,1)	102 (2,2)	76 (1,9)
Amazonas	174 (2)	99 (2,1)	75 (1,9)
Tocantins	142 (1,7)	91 (1,9)	51 (1,3)
Alagoas	123 (1,4)	66 (1,4)	57 (1,5)
Mato Grosso do Sul	103 (1,2)	55 (1,2)	48 (1,2)
Sergipe	101 (1,2)	67 (1,4)	34 (0,9)
Rondônia	87 (1)	48 (1)	39 (1)
Amapá	55 (0,6)	41 (0,9)	14 (0,4)
Acre	44 (0,5)	32 (0,7)	12 (0,3)
Roraima	31 (0,4)	19 (0,4)	12 (0,3)
Total	8.605 (100)	4.688 (100)	3.917 (100)

Source: Adapted from TSE, 2020.

* The extracted data are faithful to the providing institution.

Table 3 shows the distribution of frequency and percentage of nursing professionals by category, number of members registered with the Regional Nursing Councils (CORENs), by UF, and it is possible to verify that the state of SP registered the highest preponderance when compared with the other Brazilian federative units, changing the universe of 25.4% (n = 601,795).

Table 3 - Distribution of frequency and percentage of nursing professionals by category, enrolled in CORENs, in Brazil by FU (n = 2,373,211). *, **, ***, ****:

FU	Total (%)	NT (%)	NA (%)	NUR (%)	OBS (%)
			215.614		
SP	601.795 (25,4)	242.598 (17,7)	(50,7)	143.294 (24,7)	289 (95,4)
RJ	296.503 (12,5)	190.807 (13,9)	48.461 (11,4)	57.235 (9,9)	-
MG	197.396 (8,3)	125.302 (9,2)	19.920 (4,7)	52.172 (9)	2 (0,7)
BA	138.195 (5,8)	85.705 (6,3)	12.981 (3,1)	39.506 (6,8)	3 (1,0)
RS	131.128 (5,5)	92.253 (6,7)	11.395 (2,7)	27.479 (4,7)	1 (0,3)
PE	112.315 (4,7)	72.357 (5,3)	13.225 (3,1)	26.733 (4,6)	-
PR	110.112 (4,6)	59.512 (4,4)	22.790 (5,4)	27.810 (4,8)	-
CE	81.879 (3,5)	45.205 (3,3)	12.644 (3)	24.030 (4,1)	-
PA	79.918 (3,4)	57.331 (4,2)	8.084 (1,9)	14.502 (2,5)	1 (0,3)
SC	64.524 (2,7)	42.879 (3,1)	5.647 (1,3)	15.997 (2,8)	1 (0,3)
GO	62.961 (2,7)	41.222 (3)	4.837 (1,1)	16.902 (2,9)	-
MA	59.186 (2,5)	40.304 (2,9)	4.005 (0,9)	14.877 (2,6)	-
DF	55.984 (2,4)	36.437 (2,7)	3.034 (0,7)	16.513 (2,8)	-
AM	50.199 (2,1)	35.061 (2,6)	3.216 (0,8)	11.922 (2,1)	-
ES	43.931 (1,9)	30.517 (2,2)	3.822 (0,9)	9.592 (1,7)	-
PB	42.707 (1,8)	25.042 (1,8)	3.412 (0,8)	14.251 (2,5)	2 (0,7)
RN	38.980 (1,6)	23.569 (1,7)	5.556 (1,3)	9.854 (1,7)	1 (0,3)
MT	31.258 (1,3)	18.877 (1,4)	2.485 (0,6)	9.896 (1,7)	-
AL	29.028 (1,2)	16.020 (1,2)	5.077 (1,2)	7.931 (1,4)	-
MS	26.165 (1,1)	15.065 (1,1)	3.315 (0,8)	7.783 (1,3)	2 (0,7)
SE	25.763 (1,1)	12.861 (0,9)	6.302 (1,5)	6.600 (1,1)	-
PI	23.531 (1)	13.402 (1)	2.968 (0,7)	7.161 (1,2)	-
TO	19.342 (0,8)	12.606 (0,9)	945 (0,2)	5.791 (1)	-
RO	18.528 (0,8)	11.165 (0,8)	2.761 (0,6)	4.601 (0,8)	1 (0,3)
AP	14.272 (0,6)	10.580 (0,8)	921 (0,2)	2.771 (0,5)	-
RR	9.036 (0,4)	5.990 (0,4)	1.296 (0,3)	1.750 (0,3)	-
AC	8.575 (0,4)	5.382 (0,4)	592 (0,1)	2.601 (0,4)	-
Total	2.373.211 (100)	1.368.049 (100)	425.305 (100)	579.554 (100)	303 (100)

Source: Adapted from COFEN, 2020.

* The extracted data are faithful to the providing institution.

** Available at: [<http://www.cofen.gov.br/enfermagem-em-numeros>]. Accessed on: November 13, 2020.

*** The data in question is updated between September and October 2020.

**** OBS is related to Midwives, as presented by Law 7,498 / 86.

Discussion

In relation to the reduced number of nursing professionals, registered for participation in the national electoral election held in 2020, support is found in the scientific literature, when it is defended by some researchers who identify characteristics that point out the political weakness of nurses and professionals nursing, in the context of specific socio-historical contexts.² Historically, this finding may be related to nursing being constituted as a politically recent professional category, being the same classified as “modern nursing”, after the social engagement and political activism implemented by Florence Nightingale.^{9,11,19}

The achievements founded by Nightingale, constitute as important

theoretical and factual pillars, of support and elevation of the professional category of nursing, being defended by some authors that the same, constituted by its political engagement, as a pioneer, with regard to its legacy and conceptions structured in scientific, ethical, philosophical, social and political knowledge.^{9,20} On the other hand, when analyzing the issue of political participation of students in the category under analysis, a relationship is established between the participation process and nursing, who recognize the indisputable importance of acting in this area of action, with regard to the student movement (ME), in spite of not exercising it fully with the basic representative bodies.²¹

In this context, the importance of studies regarding the issue of politics in undergraduate courses is defended, however, they are unable to fully define the space in which it should occur and be processed.²¹ In an important study that focused its analysis and reflection regarding the political performance of Brazilian nursing, using as a theoretical-methodological framework, fragments of the intellectual building built by the Polish philosopher and sociologist Zygmunt Bauman, it is found that this professional category, in relation to its performance and social and political representation, is permeated by advances and setbacks.²²

For other researchers, the need for development, along with educational devices for training nursing professionals, the implementation of pedagogical strategies for the construction / deconstruction of ethical-political competence, aiming at qualitative and quantitative expansion, in addition to guarantee your emancipation.²³ In a relevant publication, the political knowledge in the work of the professional nurse is analyzed, discussing the question of the socio-political dimension, and the possibility of producing social interventions, oriented to equity, as a true form of social transformation.²⁴

In relation to what was identified, with regard to the AE and TE being the professionals who registered the highest frequency of enrollments for participation in the 2020 elections, support is found in the scientific literature, when it is argued that the nursing team is majority, constituted by the referred agents, accounting for approximately 77%.²⁵ On the other hand and, according to scientific literature, nurses have shown a vigorous growth in recent years, with a future tendency to expand, representing just under 1/4, that is, approximately 23% of the entire workforce (FT) of this category.²⁵

In important researches that analyzed the phenomenon of training nursing professionals nationally, it is identified that the states of São Paulo (SP), Rio de Janeiro (RJ) and Minas Gerais (MG), are those that historically and hegemonically, registered the highest frequency of training of agents that compose this functional category of health.²⁵⁻²⁶ In this analytical context, it is of fundamental importance to highlight that, in the research requested by COFEN and implemented by FIOCRUZ do MS, 31.4% of the NFE participating in this national survey, took an AE or TE course before completing their graduation and, among these, approximately 86.1% performed this function in health institutions.²⁶

Regarding the Southeast region (SE), having been among the others, in the

electoral election of 2020, having presented the highest number of registered professional nursing candidates, this fact may be related to the same number of regularly registered professionals and in the enjoyment of their labor rights, according to data presented by COFEN between the months of September and October of this year.¹⁶⁻¹⁸ On the other hand, the aforementioned finding is also supported, based on the fact that the SE region constitutes itself as the one with the highest number of training devices for AE and TE professionals, as presented by specialists in the field.²⁶

Analyzing the issue of the health labor market in Brazil, in relation to the availability of jobs for ENF professionals in the last three (03) decades, it is verified that historically, the SE region stands out as the one that has the largest health labor market, particularly for the nursing category.²⁷ For other researchers, in 2004, the nursing team occupied approximately 272,398 jobs in the SE region, working mostly with the public health sector and in hospital establishments, as pointed out by the Health Medical Assistance (MAS) research developed by the Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics (IBGE).²⁸

Still in the middle of 2004, it is pointed out by some researchers that the AE, constituted themselves as the professionals in the nursing category who added the largest contingent of workforce.²⁸ In this historical and political context, it is interesting to remember the National Worker Qualification Plan (PLANFOR), implemented as a public policy for professional qualification in Brazil in 1996, under the direction of the Ministry of Labor and Employment (MTE), having for its operationalization, resources from the Worker Support Fund (FAT).²⁹⁻³⁰

In this way, the general objective of PLANFOR in 1999, was to present a professional education offer sufficient to qualify or requalify, at least 20% of the Economically Active Population (PEA), articulated to the set of actions of the professional education agencies already existing in all federative units of Brazil.²⁹⁻³¹ The Project for the Professionalization of Nursing Workers (PROFAE), initiated in 2000, aimed to improve the qualification in Brazil of about 230 thousand workers, being nursing attendants and the AE, who already developed their activities with the health system, aiming to improve the quality of services provided.³²⁻³³

PROFAE was considered by the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), as one of the most successful training experiences for mid-level technicians in the world, where professional distance learning (DE) practices were mixed with those in face-to-face education.^{32, 34} When analyzed the greater preponderance of nursing professionals registered to participate in the 2020 electoral election in SP, this finding is supported, because the said UF is the one that has the highest number of workers registered with COREN-SP.¹⁶⁻¹⁸

Likewise, the state of SP is the one that hegemonically has the highest number of professionals enrolled in the categories of NUR, TE, AE and OBS, when compared to other Brazilian state units.^{17-18,26} For other authors, the state of SP is historically characterized as a highly industrialized, economically active UF, in addition to having the largest number of health institutions, health professionals and by extension, nursing professionals regularly enrolled with the boards responsible for inspection professional practice.^{13,17-18,28}

Although the nursing category is intimately inserted and active in the

various processes and services and, in numerous programs, policies and actions that benefit the growth and development of society, this important corporation is currently constituted, as a profession undergoing a process of rejuvenation, constituted in its preponderance by young people, a phenomenon that may have contributed to the reduced number of subscribers to participate in the analyzed elections.²⁵⁻²⁶ Thus, it is possible to infer that nursing is an important profession, intimately inserted in issues related to health education, health communication, health promotion, disease prevention, care in all existential dimensions of the living being and in social transformation, responsible for more than half of the entire constitutive corpus of the health sector in Brazil, needing to rethink its strategies and actions to expand its participation in the national electoral processes.^{2,3,13,19,24,27}

Conclusion

Through this research it was possible to verify the reduced participation of nursing professionals in the municipal elections held in the year 2020. This finding is represented and presents itself as an issue of fundamental importance for the professional category analyzed, especially with regard to its growth , development with Brazilian municipal and state decision-making bodies.

In spite of the limitations existing in the construction of a study of this nature, as is the case of the participation and political representation of nursing professionals in the municipal electoral elections, organized and implemented in the year 2020, this research offers legitimate subsidies for a better understanding and clarification of this issue. Another difficulty identified for the production of this production was the scarcity of national scientific literature that fully addressed such an important topic.

In this sense, it was also identified the importance of carrying out other studies and research, which will strongly allow, a greater elucidation and deepening of the analyzed subject. On the other hand, other effective strategies and efficient mechanisms must also be rethought, which truly allow the expansion of the number of nursing professionals with national political decision-making bodies, in all their constitutive and representative dimensions.

The singularity and complexity related to the phenomenon of the participation of nursing professionals and their political representation, in national electoral processes is such that it is configured as a fruitful theme, which allows the implementation of reflections and analyzes on the role to be played by these important agents. The representative bodies of the nursing category must also reinforce their participation in daily mobilizations, in the processes of social representation and in political movements, consolidating their efforts to expand the capacities and potential of civil society, with a view to social transformation.

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Correspondent Author

Lincoln Agudo Oliveira Benito
SEPN 707/907, Via W 5 North, University
Campus. ZIP: 70790-075. Asa Norte.
Brasília, Federal District, Brazil.
lincolnbenito@yahoo.com.br