



Increases Continue for Nursing Home DON and LPN Rates

Oakland, NJ, July 17 -- While Nursing Home salaries show a continued overall increase in 2009, the percent increase granted was slightly smaller than the increase granted in 2008. The national average salary of Director of Nursing (DON) in Nursing Homes increased 3.75% in 2009, according to the **2009-2010 Nursing Home Salary & Benefits Report**, just published by **Hospital & Healthcare Compensation Service (HCS)**. The percent increase represents only those Nursing Homes that participated in both the 2008 and 2009 **Reports**. By comparison, the average salary for DONs increased 3.91%.

Position	Percent Increase	
	2008	2009
DON	3.91%	3.75%
LPN	2.89%	2.07%

Represents the percent increase from the same group of participants year-to-year.

The average hourly rate for LPNs increased 2.07% in 2009, compared with 2.89% in 2008. In a positive trend, the average length of time to fill the position of LPN was 25.13 days, down from the 2008 figure of 38.85 days. Average vacancy rates for LPNs also declined, going from 15.03 in 2008 to 14.38 in 2009.

2,245 Nursing Homes participated in the study and provided compensation data on more than 205,900 employees nationwide. The **Report**, published in cooperation with the American Association of Homes and Services for the Aging (AAHSA) and supported by the American Health Care Association (AHCA), covers 42 management and 40 nonmanagement positions. Data are reported according to revenue size, bed-size, profit status, geographic region, state, and city. 1,848 for-profit and 397 not-for-profit Nursing Homes provided data. Also covered are 22 fringe benefits, turnover rates by department, and projected salary increases for 2009 to 2010. Data are effective as of May 2009.

The complete 320-page **Report** is available for \$295 from HCS. The salary/hourly data **Report** results in Excel may be purchased in addition to the published Report (cost \$300).

Since 1971, HCS has served the healthcare industry by conducting and publishing an array of comprehensive, reliable compensation reports. HCS currently publishes 12 different **Reports** on an annual basis. In addition, the firm conducts custom marketplace studies to support its clients. For a complete listing of all products and services, please visit our website at www.hhcsinc.com.