

DEMAND FOR NURSING EDUCATION IN CAVITE

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ABSTRACT

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The paper analyzed the demand for nursing education in Cavite. Specifically, it aimed to describe the status of the demand for nursing education in terms of the number of HEIs (Higher Education Institutions) and enrollees in the different cities and municipalities in Cavite; determine and analyze the factors that affected the demand for nursing education; ascertain the own and cross-price elasticities of the demand for nursing education; identify the problems and current issues faced by the nursing education; and describe the government policies which tends to affect and resolve the demand for nursing education. Analysis of secondary data is placed on a per semester basis (semi annually). This study made use of both descriptive and causal/explanatory research method. Also a multiple linear regression analysis was used in determining the demand for nursing education relative to the various factors hypothesized to affect the demand.

The demand for nursing education was measured through the number of enrollees in the nursing program as the dependent variable. Independent variables include: tuition for nursing and non-nursing courses, local nurse's salary, populationage group between 15 to 24 years old, and the number of baccalaureate courses offered in Cavite.

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The regression model result showed that there is a negative relationship between the demand for nursing education and the following variables: tuition for non-nursing courses, local nurse's salary, and the population-age group. On the other hand, the tuition for nursing and the number of baccalaureate courses showed a positive relationship with the demand for nursing education.

The signs of the coefficients of all variables did not conform to the theory.

The common reason is the eagerness of the student to take up the course regardless of the amount they had invested because they are assured of a high return after graduation once they go abroad.

From the result, among the variables considered to affect demand, only the tuition for nursing and non-nursing courses and the number of baccalaureate courses showed significant relationship with the demand for nursing education. For the own price elasticity of demand, the demand for nursing education shows to be inelastic. On the other hand, the cross-price elasticity of demand indicates that no matter how much is the tuition—for other courses, most of the students still insist to take up nursing even the cost of taking it is higher compared to the other courses available. In this case, other courses cannot be considered as a substitute course to nursing.

There is a demand for nursing education in Cavite but there are several issues and problems involved as far as the demand is concerned. Because of the demand, nursing schools are rapidly increasing resulting in the proliferation of substandard nursing program which, consequently, leads to an increase in the failure rate in the board exam. This problem resulted from a limited training and clinical services



available to students which, therefore, bring out poor quality of nursing graduates. In relation to this, it is a concern of the Commission on Higher Education, in coordination with the local and national government and the association of colleges and universities, to address the problem.

Nevertheless, the government is still doing their part in drawing and implementing some policies in relation to nursing education and practices. These policies forced schools to provide the students quality education making them globally competitive and assure the students for possible overseas employment.