Winter 2023



A Partial List of Recent Strikes by Nurses by Annie Kealy, Assistant Editor

January 2023, NY Nurses Strike

- Nurses (about 7,000) strike at Mount Sinai Hospital and Montefiore Medical Center on Jan. 9, 2023.
- Union leaders said tentative contract agreement that ended the strike "will relieve chronic short staffing and boost pay by 19 percent over three years."
- PBS article says nurse unions at two california hospitals are expected to strike when their contracts end this year
- A former nurse who works for the state union and deals with complaints over unsafe staffing says he has received over 7,000 complaints in LA county hospitals since December
- https://www.pbs.org/newshour/nation/how-the-nyc-nurses-strike-points-to-a-nationwide-problem-with-staffing

December 14, 2022, California Nurses Strike

- Nurses at Alta Bates Summit Medical Center in Oakland and Berkley had announced a strike from Dec. 24 to Jan. 2 to protest the administration's lack of attention to nurses's concerns over working conditions, education, and benefits
- Nurses at these hospitals have been in negotiation for a new contract since June of 2021
- https://www.nationalnursesunited.org/press/alta-bates-summit-nurses-to-hold-strike-in-oakland-and-berkeley
- Couldn't find any news articles covering the actual strike

December 6, 2022. Minnesota Nurses Strike

- Nurses in Minnesota had planned to strike over understaffing and safe staffing
- Strike was averted due to tentative contract agreement for over 15,000 nurses in Twin Cities and Twin Ports
- Nurses have been working without contracts since June. New contract is expected to give them a pay increase and contract language that addresses safe staffing
- https://mnnurses.org/nurses-reach-tentative-agreements-on-three-year-contracts-to-retain-nurses-at-the-bedside-avert-planned-strike/

May 2022, Nurses at Cedars Sinai Strike

- Healthcare workers at Cedars-Sinai participated in the hospital's first strike in over 40 years over wages and safety protocols
- Staff and Cedars came to a three year contract agreement that addresses improved safety measures, raises, the increase of minimum wage, protected health care
- https://www.seiu-uhw.org/press/after-historic-strike-healthcare-workers-at-cedars-sinai-ratify-three-year-agreement/

April 25, 2022 Stanford Nurses Strike

- Almost 5,000 nurses at Stanford Health Care and Lucile Packard Children's hospital went on strike in protest of better pay, better staffing, and better mental health support
- Labor contracts expired March 31 and they weren't able to reach an agreement so nurses went on strike without an end date in mind
- https://www.npr.org/2022/04/25/1094689736/stanford-hospital-nurses-strike
- KQED says strike ended around May 2, with nurses reaching an agreement with the hospitals
- Three year contract that includes yearly wage increases, more retirement benefits and more vacation time
- Contract included better access to mental health resources and pay incentives for recruiting and retaining nurses
- https://www.kqed.org/news/11912951/stanford-nurses-approve-new-contracts-ending-weeklong-strike

Bureau of Labor Statistics

- Has charts on labor stoppages between 1993 and 2021 with the biggest percentages of strikes occurring within hospitals, mostly private hospitals
- https://www.bls.gov/wsp/factsheets/summary-of-work-stoppages-in-healthcare-and-social-assistance-industry.htm

International Nurses Strikes

January 18th, 2023. UK Nurses Strike

- Nurses in England walked out in strike over lack of pay against rising inflation
- CBS article says Royal College of Nurses union has announced that to more strike days are planned in February
- https://www.cbsnews.com/news/uk-nurses-strike-strikes-pressure-national-health-service-inflation-economy/
- Other strikes are expected from teachers union, bus workers, rail workers, academic staff as well in February, adding to the nurses strike. Expected to be a huge strike on Feb 1.

November 2022, Doctors Strike in Spain

- Doctors in Spain went on strike over working conditions and salary
- Doctor to patient ratio is incredibly unbalanced
- https://www.lemonde.fr/en/international/article/2022/11/23/in-spain-doctors-are-exhausted-angry-and-striking-indefinitely_6005287_4.html

Kenya

- Doctors in Kenya warned that they will strike is government doesn't address issues surrounding an agreement that was signed in 2016 to give better access to medicine, better working conditions, better health system but was put on hold because of COVID-19
- https://peoplesdispatch.org/2023/01/20/doctors-in-kenya-get-ready-to-strike-after-six-years-of-broken-promises/

French Hospitals, 2023

- Hospitals are reporting that their staff is on sick leave protest over conditions
- France's second largest health union has called an "unlimited walkout"
- Medical staff says France's health system is cracking
- Staffing shortages due to aging staff who are approaching retirement
- Staff are getting paid higher than before, but working nights and weekends has caused burnout
- Ratio of patients to nurse is putting patients and staff in danger
- https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-64216269