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Forecasting the Nursing Workforce in California

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Goals of this project

- Forecast the supply of nurses
- Forecast the demand for nurses
- Compare the supply to projected demand

- Based on the projected shortage/surplus, we can...
 - Understand the short-term and long-term needs for nurses in California
 - Identify strategies to address future shortages

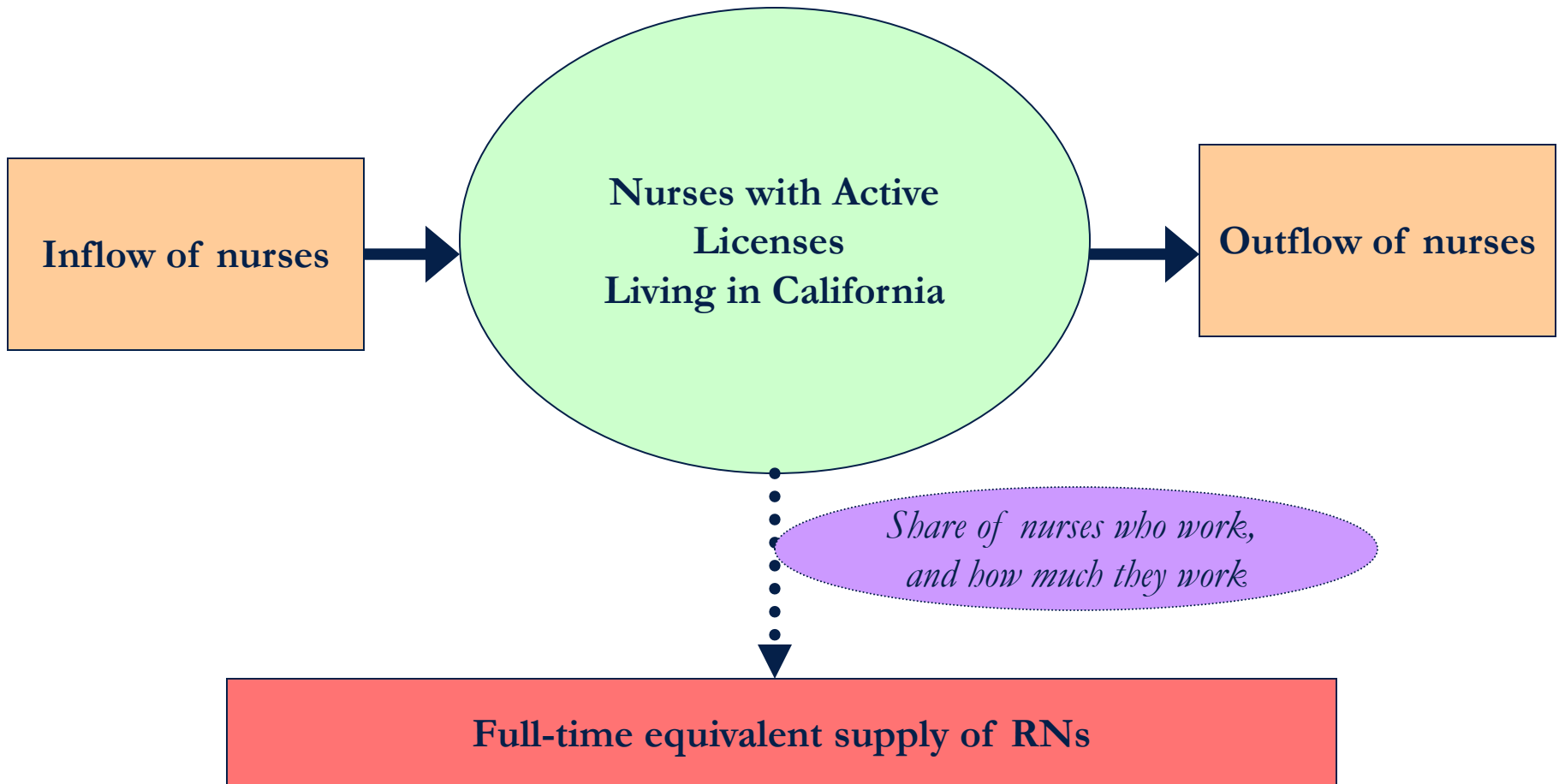
Changes to the model

- New data
 - Numbers of RNs
 - Employment patterns (2014 survey)
 - Graduations (2013-2014 Annual Schools Report)
 - Endorsement, inactive transitions, lapsed license data 2014
- More reliance on BRN data
 - State-to-state migration data from 2008 NSSRN is too old
 - BRN data now from BreEZe extract reports
- Extended forecasts to 2035

Basic structure of the model

- Supply: Stock-and-flow model
- Demand: Focus on RNs per capita, compared with national benchmarks

A model of the supply of RNs



Nurses with active licenses

- Number of nurses with active licenses and California addresses in April 2015 provided by BRN
- 5-year age groups provided by BRN

Inflows of RNs

- Graduations from California nursing programs
- Immigration from other countries
- Migration from other states
- Transition from inactive license
- Transition from lapsed license

Outflows of nurses

- Migration to other states
- Transition to inactive or lapsed license

How do the numbers compare with the 2013 forecasts?

- Graduations are expected to drop in 2014-2015
- Fewer graduates projected than in the 2013 forecast

	New enrollment	Projected enrollment from 1 yr	Projected enrollment from 2 yrs	Graduations
2012-2013	13,181	12,948	13,867	11,292
2013-2014	13,226	13,342	12,601	11,291
2014-2015		12,162	13,347	10,795
2015-2016			12,177	10,832
2016-2017				9,960
2017-2018				9,972

How do the numbers compare with the 2013 forecasts?

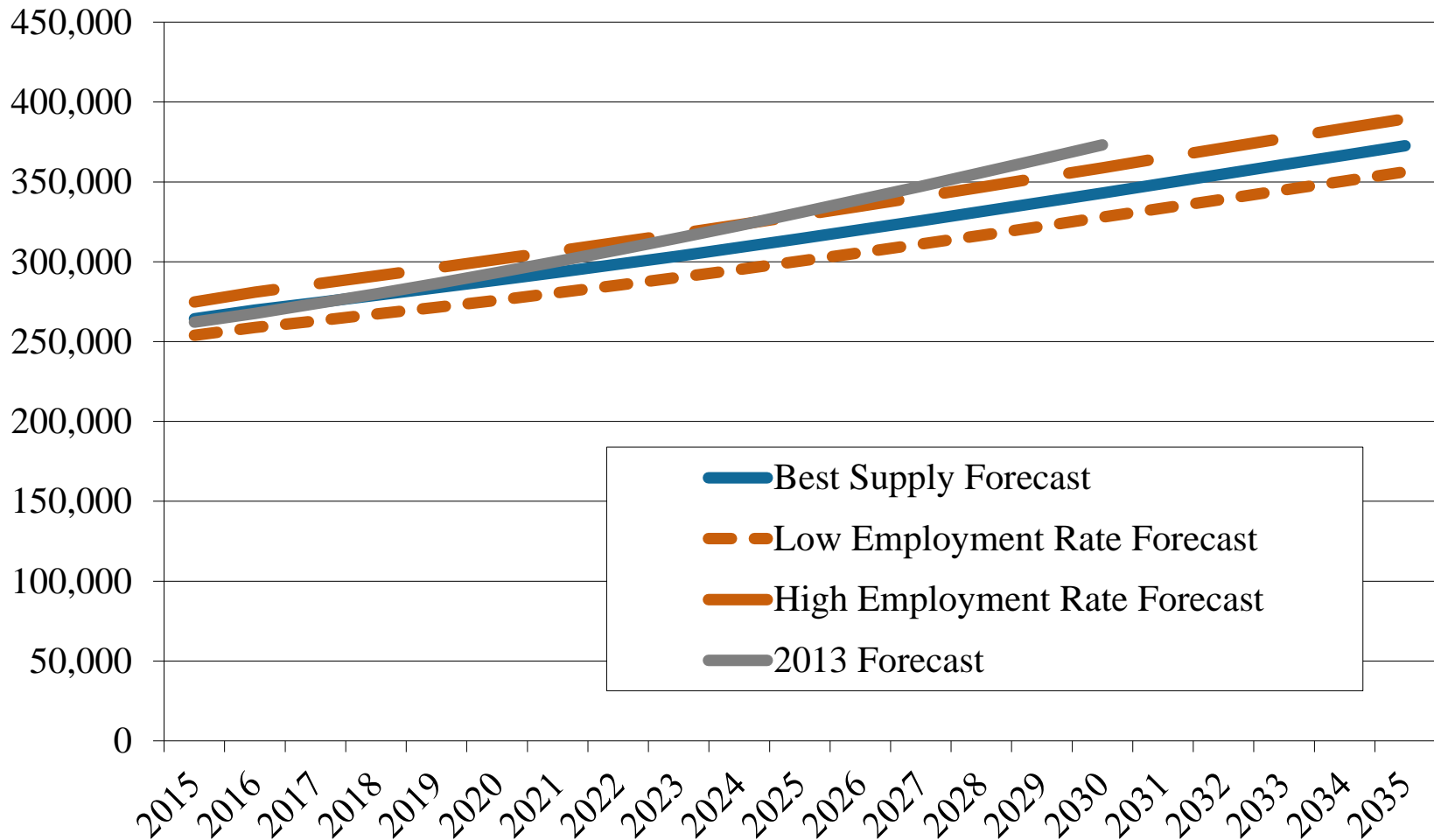
- Declines in licenses to new grads from other states & foreign-educated RNs
 - 54% drop for out-of-state
 - 62% drop for foreign-educated
 - BreEZe extract reports may not be complete (yet)
- Small changes in movements into and out of California
- Employment rates expected to rise a bit among younger RNs, drop a bit among older RNs

How does the supply forecast work?

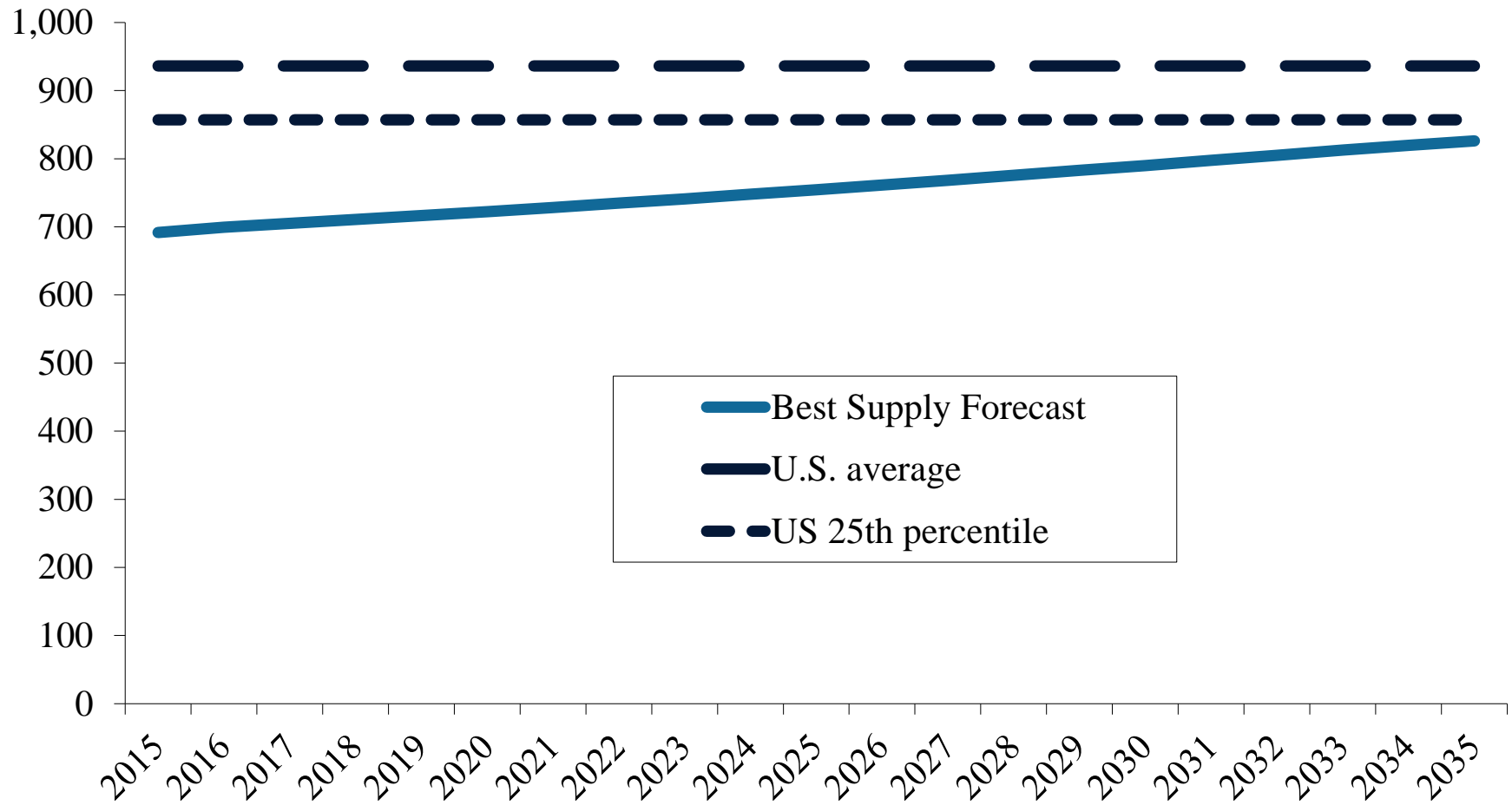
- The supply of actively licensed RNs next year for an age group will equal....
 - $\frac{4}{5}$ of the nurses in the age group ($\frac{1}{5}$ will “age up” to the next group)
 - $\frac{1}{5}$ of the nurses from the younger age group
 - Inflow of nurses in the age group
 - Outflow of nurses in the age group
- Multiply the number of actively licensed RNs by the labor-force participation data to get

Full-Time Equivalent Supply

The range of supply forecasts for 2015 (RN FTEs)



Forecast of Full-time Equivalent RNs per 100,000 population



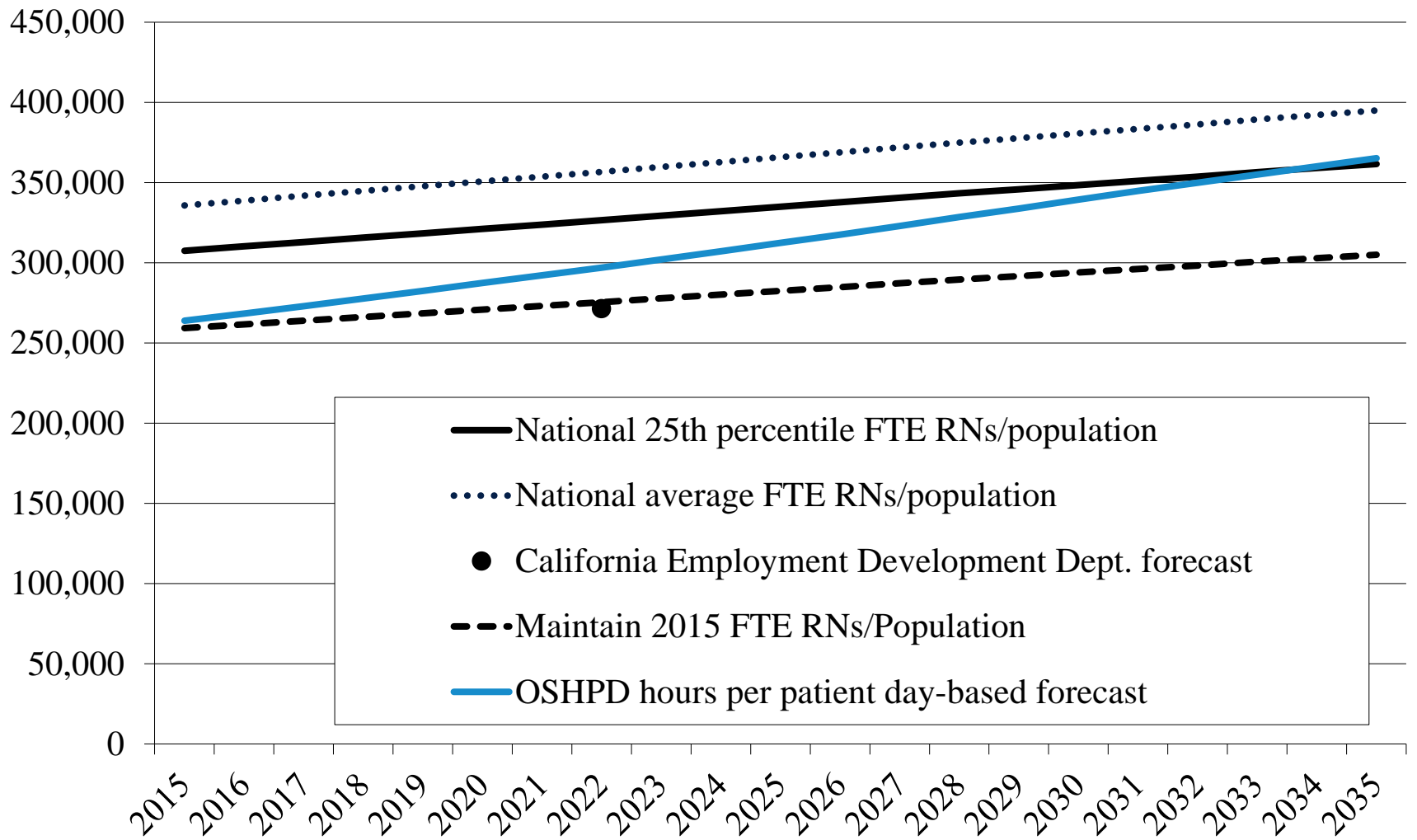
How do we compare to other states?

Working RNs per 100,000 2013 American Community Survey	
Idaho	638
Nevada	648
New Mexico	678
Utah	706
California	752
Vermont	765

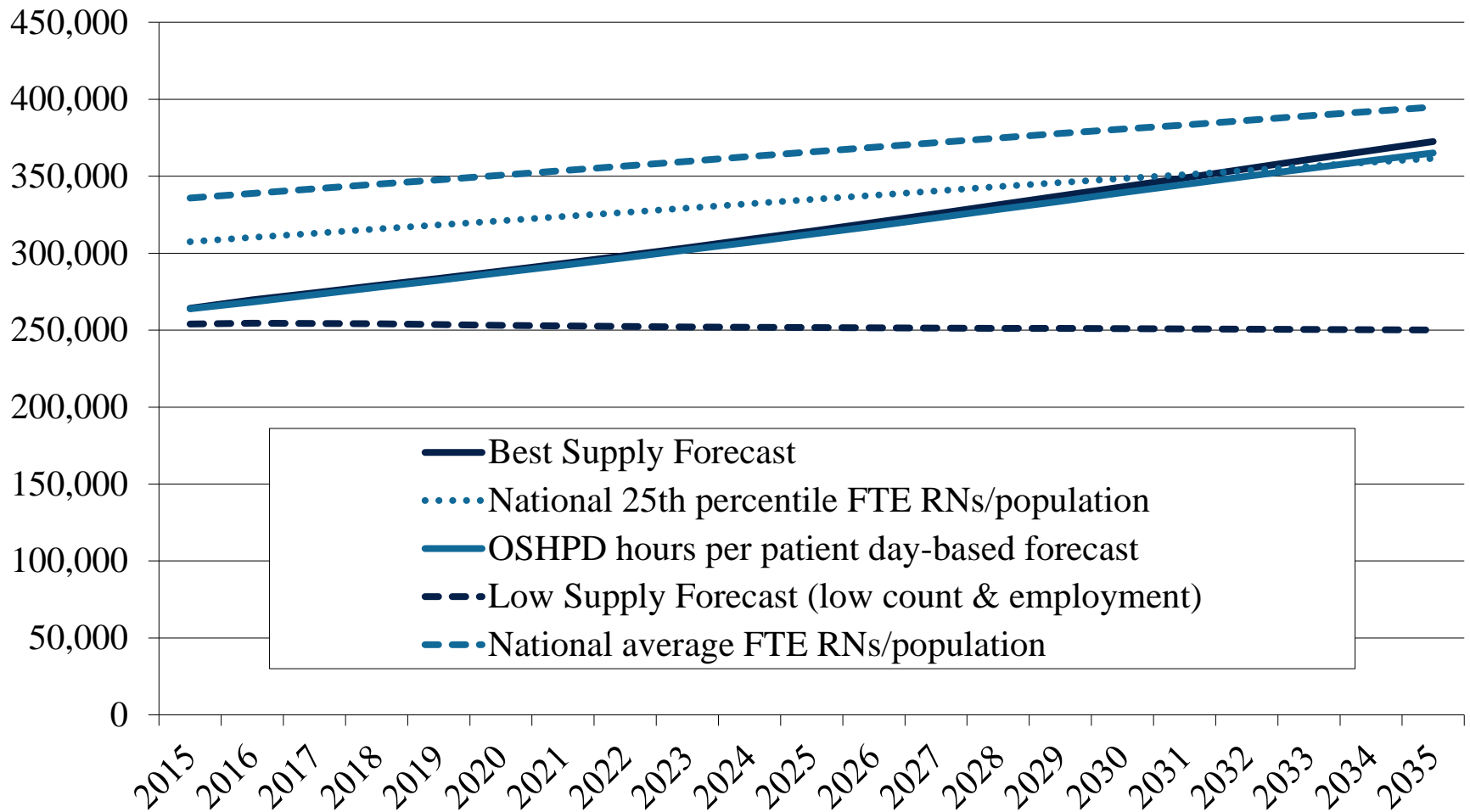
What is demand?

- National benchmarks: Employed RNs per 100,000
 - California had 752 in 2013
 - National 25th percentile: 857 per 100,000
 - National average: 936 per 100,000
 - These were adjusted to FTEs
- Employment Development Department, forecast of 2022 demand
 - 297,400 jobs (16.9% growth from 2012)
- RNs per patient day, 2014
 - Estimate growth in patient days based on population growth
 - Predict hospital RN demand from patient days forecast
 - Estimate overall demand as function of hospital demand

Forecasts of RN demand



Best supply and demand forecasts for RNs, 2015-2035



Implications for policy

- Supply & demand are in close alignment
 - Are current employment levels adequate?
 - Should California be at the national average? 25th percentile?
 - Economic demand vs. need-based demand
- Risks
 - Reductions in enrollments and graduations in RN education
 - Loss of nurses to other states
- What do we need to do?
 - Stop declines in RN enrollments/graduations
 - Ensure new graduates get jobs in California