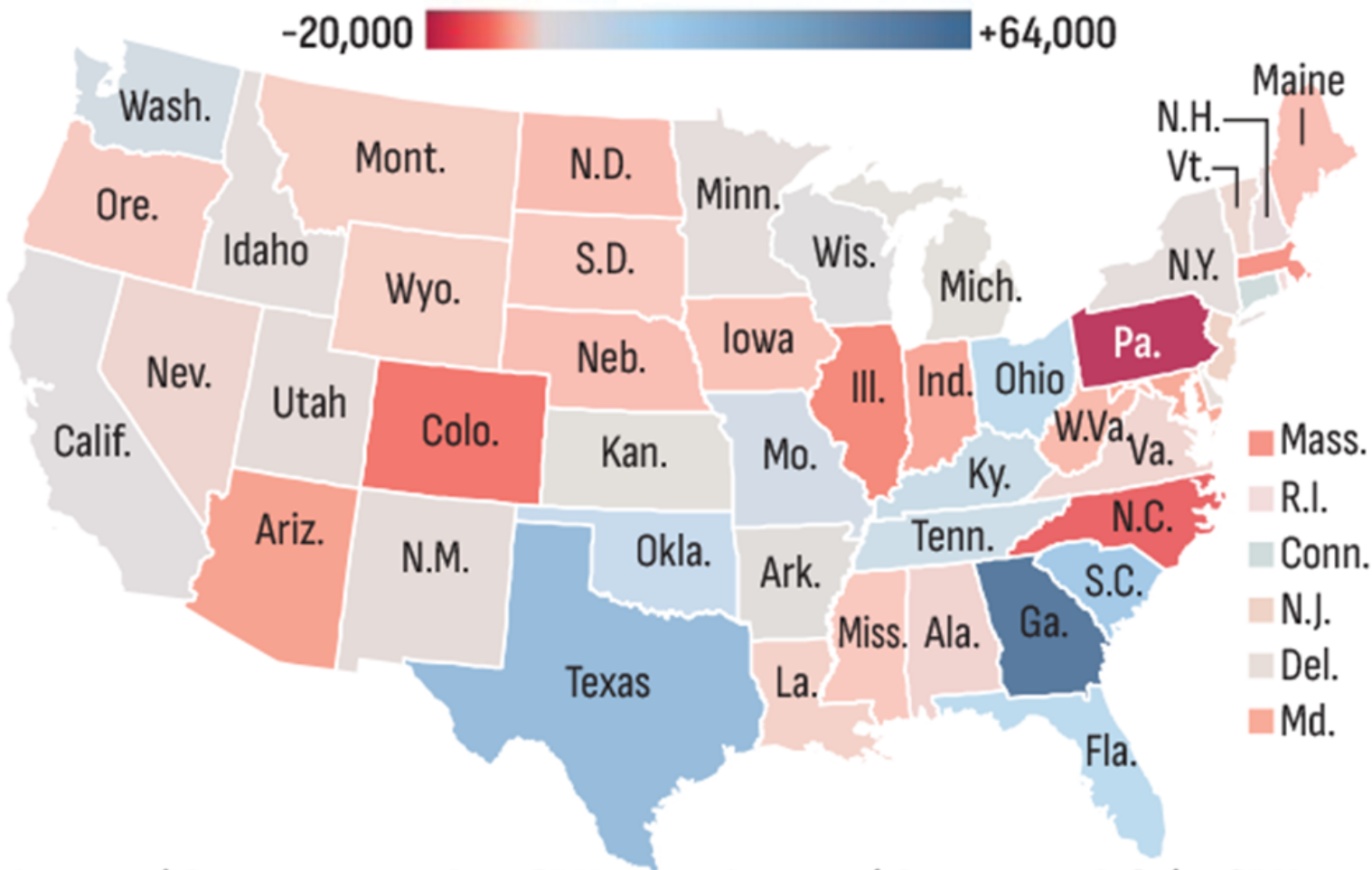


Registered nurses gap, surplus by state

As a result of nurses retiring and/or permanently leaving the profession, projections see employers needing to hire more than 1.1 million nurses by 2026. If current trends hold, 29 states will not be able to fill the demand, with the largest shortages predicted for Pennsylvania, North Carolina, Colorado, Illinois and Massachusetts.

PROJECTED 2026 GAP, SURPLUS OF REGISTERED NURSES BY STATE



States with greatest surplus of RNs

		2024	2025	2026
1	Ga.	43,550	53,895	64,002
2	Texas	15,014	19,057	22,313
3	S.C.	9,433	12,148	14,689
4	Fla.	3,134	4,678	5,430
5	Ohio	2,424	3,948	5,232

States with greatest deficit of RNs

		2024	2025	2026
1	Pa.	-13,265	-16,688	-20,345
2	N.C.	-9,013	-10,914	-13,112
3	Colo.	-7,319	-8,759	-10,431
4	Ill.	-6,369	-7,452	-8,654
5	Mass.	-5,714	-6,575	-7,576

Source: Mercer

James Hilston/Post-Gazette