

## There are more than 385,000 nurse practitioners (NPs) licensed in the U.S.<sup>1</sup>

- More than 39,000 new NPs completed their academic programs in 2021–2022.<sup>2</sup>
- 88.0% of NPs are certified in an area of primary care, and 70.3% of all NPs deliver primary care.<sup>3</sup>
- 83.2% of full-time NPs are seeing Medicare patients and 81.9% are seeing Medicaid patients.<sup>3</sup>
- 45.6% of full-time NPs hold hospital privileges; 10.9% have long-term care privileges.<sup>3</sup>
- 96.2% of NPs prescribe medications, and those in full-time practice write an average of 21 prescriptions per day.<sup>3</sup>
- NPs hold prescriptive privileges, including controlled substances, in all 50 states and D.C.
- In 2021, the median base salary for full-time NPs was \$113,000.<sup>3</sup>
- The majority of full-time NPs (56.9%) see three or more patients per hour.<sup>3</sup>
- NPs have been in practice an average of 9 years.<sup>3</sup>
- The average age of NPs is 46 years.<sup>3</sup>

## DISTRIBUTION OF NPs BY PRIMARY CERTIFICATION AREA<sup>3</sup>

| Certification*                  | Percent of NPs |
|---------------------------------|----------------|
| Family^                         | 70.3           |
| Adult–Gerontology Primary Care^ | 8.9            |
| Psychiatric/Mental Health       | 6.5            |
| Adult–Gerontology Acute Care    | 6.1            |
| Adult^                          | 5.7            |
| Acute Care                      | 2.9            |
| Pediatrics–Primary Care^        | 2.4            |
| Women’s Health^                 | 2.2            |
| Gerontology^                    | 0.9            |
| Pediatrics–Acute Care           | 0.6            |
| Neonatal                        | 0.5            |

\* The sum of all percentages is greater than 100% because some NPs have more than one certification.

^ Indicates a primary care certification.

Updated February 2024

<sup>1</sup> AANP National Nurse Practitioner Database, 2022.

<sup>2</sup> American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN). (2023). 2022–2023 Enrollment and Graduations in Baccalaureate and Graduate Programs in Nursing. Washington, DC: AACN.

<sup>3</sup> 2022 AANP National Nurse Practitioner Workforce Survey.