

The Voice of the Nurse Practitioner®

There are more than 325,000 nurse practitioners (NPs) licensed in the U.S.¹

- More than 36,000 new NPs completed their academic programs in 2019–2020.²
- 88.9% of NPs are certified in an area of primary care, and 70.2% of all NPs deliver primary care.³
- 81.0% of full-time NPs are seeing Medicare patients and 78.7% are seeing Medicaid patients.³
- 42.5% of full-time NPs hold hospital privileges; 12.8% have long-term care privileges.³
- 96.2% of NPs prescribe medications, and those in full-time practice write an average of 21 prescriptions per day.³
- NPs hold prescriptive privileges, including controlled substances, in all 50 states and D.C.
- In 2020, the median base salary for full-time NPs was \$110,000.³
- The majority of full-time NPs (59.4%) see three or more patients per hour.³
- NPs have been in practice an average of 11 years.³
- The average age of NPs is 49 years.³

DISTRIBUTION OF NPs BY PRIMARY CERTIFICATION AREA³

Certification*	Percent of NPs
Family^	69.7
Adult^	10.8
Adult–Gerontology Primary Care^	7.0
Psychiatric/Mental Health	4.7
Acute Care	4.1
Pediatrics–Primary Care^	3.2
Adult–Gerontology Acute Care	2.9
Women’s Health^	2.9
Gerontology^	1.8
Neonatal	1.0
Pediatrics–Acute Care	0.7

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

^ Indicates a primary care certification.

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¹ AANP National Nurse Practitioner Database, 2021.

² American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN). (2021). *2020–2021 Enrollment and Graduations in Baccalaureate and Graduate Programs in Nursing*. Washington, DC: AACN.

³ 2020 AANP National Nurse Practitioner Sample Survey.