

## The Voice of the Nurse Practitioner®

### There are more than 290,000 nurse practitioners (NPs) licensed in the U.S. <sup>1</sup>

- More than 30,000 new NPs completed their academic programs in 2018–2019.<sup>2</sup>
- 89.7% of NPs are certified in an area of primary care, and 69.0% of all NPs deliver primary care.<sup>3</sup>
- 82.9% of full-time NPs are accepting Medicare patients and 80.2% are accepting Medicaid patients.<sup>4</sup>
- 41.7% of full-time NPs hold hospital privileges; 11.7% have long-term care privileges.<sup>4</sup>
- 95.7% of NPs prescribe medications, and those in full-time practice write an average of 20 prescriptions per day.<sup>4</sup>
- NPs hold prescriptive privileges, including controlled substances, in all 50 states and D.C.
- In 2019, the median base salary for full-time NPs was \$110,000.<sup>3</sup>
- The majority of NPs (57.4%) see three or more patients per hour.<sup>4</sup>
- Malpractice rates remain low; only 1.1% have been named as primary defendant in a malpractice case.<sup>4</sup>
- NPs have been in practice an average of 10 years.<sup>3</sup>
- The average age of NPs is 47 years.<sup>3</sup>

### DISTRIBUTION BY NP CERTIFICATION <sup>3</sup>

Certification*	Percent of NPs
Family^	65.4
Adult^	12.6
Adult–Gerontology Primary Care^	7.8
Acute Care	5.5
Pediatrics–Primary Care^	3.7
Adult–Gerontology Acute Care	3.4
Women’s Health^	2.8
Psychiatric/Mental Health–Family	1.8
Gerontology^	1.7
Hospice and Palliative Care	1.5

\* NPs may be certified in more than one area

^ Primary Care Focus

Updated August 2020

<sup>1</sup> AANP National Nurse Practitioner Database, 2020.

<sup>2</sup> American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN). (2020). *2019–2020 Enrollment and Graduations in Baccalaureate and Graduate Programs in Nursing*. Washington DC: AACN.

<sup>3</sup> 2019 AANP National Workforce Survey.

<sup>4</sup> 2018 AANP National Nurse Practitioner Sample Survey.