

The Voice of the Nurse Practitioner®

There are more than 248,000 nurse practitioners (NPs) licensed in the U.S. ¹

- More than 26,000 new NPs completed their academic programs in 2016-2017²
- 97.8% of NPs have graduate degrees ³
- 86.6% of NPs are certified in an area of primary care, and 77.8% of all NPs deliver primary care ³
- 84.9% of NPs are accepting Medicare patients and 82.9% are accepting Medicaid patients ⁴
- 49.9% of NPs hold hospital privileges; 11.3% have long-term care privileges ⁴
- 95.8% of NPs prescribe medications, and those in full-time practice write an average of 23 prescriptions per day ⁴
- NPs hold prescriptive privileges, including controlled substances in all 50 states and D.C.
- In 2017, the mean, full-time base salary was \$105,546 ³
- The majority (60.8%) of NPs see three or more patients per hour ⁴
- Malpractice rates remain low; only 1.9% have been named as primary defendant in a malpractice case ⁴
- Nurse practitioners have been in practice an average of 11 years ³
- The average age of NPs is 49 years ³

Distribution, Top Practice Setting and Clinical Focus Area by Area of NP Certification ³

Population*	Percent of NPs	Top Practice Setting	Top Clinical Foci
Acute Care	6.4	Hospital Inpatient (33.0%)	Surgical (16.1%)
Adult^	15.7	Hospital Outpatient Clinic (15.2%)	Primary Care (32.4%)
Adult-Gerontology Acute Care	2.0	Hospital Inpatient (43.3%)	Surgical (13.3%)
Adult-Gerontology Primary Care^	4.4	Hospital Outpatient Clinic (18.7%)	Primary Care (46.6%)
Family^	60.6	Private Group Practice (12.7%)	Primary Care (46.2%)
Gerontology^	2.2	Long-Term Care Facility (16.6%)	Primary Care (46.2%)
Neonatal	1.3	Hospital Inpatient Clinic (69.1%)	Neonatal (57.8%)
Pediatric - Primary Care^	4.6	Hospital Outpatient Clinic (18.7%)	Primary Care (55.6%)
Psychiatric/Mental Health - Adult	1.7	Psych/Mental Health Facility (23.0%)	Psychiatric (93.6%)
Psychiatric/Mental Health - Family	2.1	Psych/Mental Health Facility (25.8%)	Psychiatric (91.6%)
Women's Health^	3.4	Hospital Outpatient Clinic (15.7%)	OB/GYN (64.1%)

* NPs may be certified in more than one area

^ Primary Care Focus

Sources:

1. AANP National Nurse Practitioner Database, 2018
2. American Association of Colleges of Nursing. (2018) *2017-2018 Enrollment and Graduations in Baccalaureate and Graduate Programs in Nursing*. Washington D.C.: AACN.
3. 2017 AANP National Nurse Practitioner Sample Survey
4. 2016 AANP National Nurse Practitioner Sample Survey

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