Access to Care

Full practice authority for advanced practice registered nurses in all 50 states

In 27 states and the District of Columbia, nurse practitioners are allowed to provide care to the full extent of their education and training, giving 97 million people better access to care.

Before the Center*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FPA achieved (16)</th>
<th>FPA nearly achieved (3)</th>
<th>Some progress toward FPA (13)</th>
<th>No progress (7)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Since the Center began in 2007

*The Center to Champion Nursing in America, an initiative of AARP Foundation, AARP and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, was founded in 2007 and is housed at the AARP Center for Health Equity through NursingSM. Sources: Annual Estimates of the Resident Population for the United States, Regions, States, District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico, U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division, 2021. Years denote when laws were passed. For more detail about the practice environment for all APRNs, see the National Council of State Boards of Nursing's maps: https://www.ncsbn.org/5397.htm
Racial, ethnic and gender composition of pre-licensure nursing graduates compared to the U.S. population

Registered Nurses (Pre-licensure): 174,810
- Female: 86%
- Male: 14%

Practical/Vocational Nurses (Pre-licensure): 44,448
- Female: 90%
- Male: 10%

U.S. Population: 331,893,745
- Female: 50.5%
- Male: 49.5%

Sources: American Association of Colleges of Nursing, 2020-2021 Enrollment and Graduations in Baccalaureate and Graduate Programs in Nursing; Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS), 2020-2021 Completions Survey; Annual Estimates of the Resident Population by Sex, Race, and Hispanic Origin for the United States, States, and Counties, US Census Bureau, Population Division (July 2021)

Updated: December 8, 2023
©AARP
## Workforce

Diversify nursing at all levels to reflect the U.S. population

### INDICATOR

Racial, ethnic and gender composition of the licensed nursing workforce compared to the U.S. population

### RACE / ETHNICITY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race/Ethnicity</th>
<th>Registered Nurses: 3,735,361</th>
<th>Licensed Practical/Vocational Nurses: 605,721</th>
<th>U.S. Population: 331,893,745</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>67.4%</td>
<td>51.9%</td>
<td>59.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black or African American</td>
<td>.2%</td>
<td>.4%</td>
<td>.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Indian or Alaskan Native</td>
<td>10.8%</td>
<td>24.8%</td>
<td>12.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>.5%</td>
<td>.2%</td>
<td>.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>5.3%</td>
<td>5.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic or Latino</td>
<td>8.4%</td>
<td>13.6%</td>
<td>18.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two or More Races</td>
<td>.4%</td>
<td>.5%</td>
<td>.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Race/Ethnicity Unknown</td>
<td>.1%</td>
<td>.1%</td>
<td>.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### GENDER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Registered Nurses: 3,735,361</th>
<th>Licensed Practical/Vocational Nurses: 605,721</th>
<th>U.S. Population: 331,893,745</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>88%</td>
<td>88%</td>
<td>50.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>49.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2021 American Community Survey, 1-year Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS); Annual Estimates of the Resident Population by Sex, Race, and Hispanic Origin for the United States, States, and Counties, US Census Bureau, Population Division (July 2021)

Updated: December 8, 2023
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Academia

Diversify nursing at all levels to reflect the U.S. population

**INDICATOR**
Racial, ethnic and gender composition of faculty and deans of baccalaureate and graduate level nursing programs compared to the U.S. population

**FACULTY**
- Total: 21,967
- Race/Ethnicity:
  - White: 78.9%
  - Black or African American: 8.7%
  - American Indian or Alaskan Native: 3.8%
  - Asian: 3.6%
  - Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander: 0.7%
  - Hispanic or Latino: 2.1%
  - Two or More Races: 1.7%
  - Non-U.S. Residents (International): 0.3%
  - Race/Ethnicity Unknown: 0.3%
- Gender:
  - Female: 92%
  - Male: 7%

**DEANS**
- Total: 809
- Race/Ethnicity:
  - White: 87.5%
  - Black or African American: 6.8%
  - American Indian or Alaskan Native: 1.5%
  - Asian: 1.2%
  - Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander: 0.7%
  - Hispanic or Latino: 2.7%
  - Two or More Races: 0.2%
  - Non-U.S. Residents (International): 0.7%
  - Race/Ethnicity Unknown: 0.2%
- Gender:
  - Female: 94%
  - Male: 6%

**U.S. POPULATION**
- Total: 331,893,745
- Race/Ethnicity:
  - White: 59.3%
  - Black or African American: 12.6%
  - American Indian or Alaskan Native: 5.9%
  - Asian: 18.9%
  - Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander: 2.3%
- Gender:
  - Female: 50.5%
  - Male: 49.5%

Sources: American Association of Colleges of Nursing, 2020-2021 Faculty and Deans in Baccalaureate and Graduate Programs in Nursing; Annual Estimates of the Resident Population by Sex, Race, and Hispanic Origin for the United States, States, and Counties, US Census Bureau, Population Division (July 2021)