

Advance Practice Registered Nurses Working in Vermont 2021

2021 BOARD OF NURSING RELICENSURE SURVEY

Summary prepared by: University of Vermont AHEC Nursing Workforce, Research, and Development

BACKGROUND

This summary provides supply information for Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRN) working in Vermont in 2021.

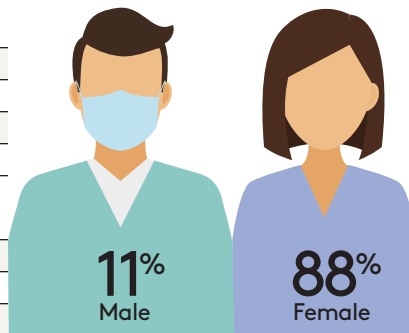
METHODS

During February to March 2021, APRNs in Vermont were required to answer survey questions as part of their relicensure application. These data were prepared for analysis by the Vermont Department of Health; this analysis was done by UVM AHEC. The number of APRNs who completed a relicensure survey in spring 2021 was 1,185 (response rate 99%); this report analyzed only APRNs who reported that they were currently working in the state of Vermont (n=900).

DEMOGRAPHICS

Gender

Female (792)	88%
Male (100)	11%
Unreported (6)	0.7%
Other (2)	0.2%



Age

Average age	49 years
Median	47 years
Range	27-87 years

Race

Race	n=
White	818
Black or African American	24
Asian	13
American Indian or Alaska Native	7
Other	5
Prefer not to answer	40

Ethnicity (n=900)

Hispanic (42)	5%
Non-Hispanic (841)	93%
Prefer not to answer (17)	2%



EDUCATION (Highest degree in nursing)

Undergraduate nursing degree with certificate	ADN	(1)	0.1%
	BSN	(12)	1%
Graduate degree in nursing	MS	(715)	79%
	DNP	(115)	13%
	PhD	(9)	1%
Other degrees		(43)	5%
Missing		(5)	<1%

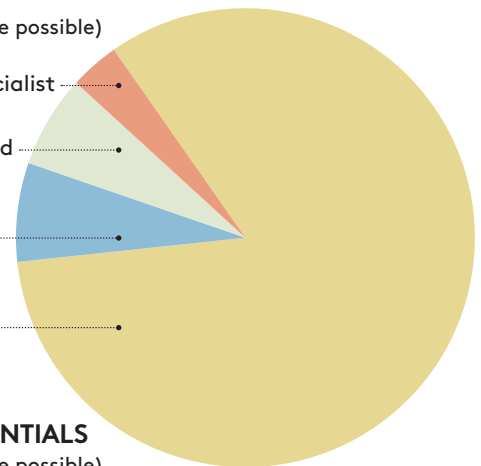
Currently enrolled (N=47)	5%
DNP program (19)	40%
Post-Master's certificate (14)	30%
Master's in nursing (7)	15%
Other (5)	11%
PhD Program (2)	4%

Received their first nursing degree/credential in VT	30%
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TYPE OF APRN

(dual credentials are possible)

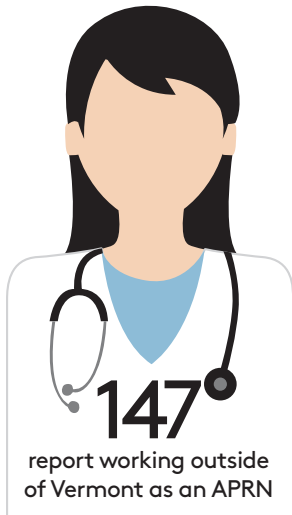
Clinical Nurse Specialist	3% (n=31)
Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist	7% (n=58)
Certified Nurse Midwife	7% (n=62)
Nurse Practitioner	83% (n=739)



AREA OF CREDENTIALS

(dual credentials are possible)

Family (429)	47%
Adult (112)	12%
Psych/Mental Health (96)	10%
Adult/Gerontology (73)	8%
Midwifery: Full Scope (59)	6%
Anesthesiology (58)	6%
Pediatrics (34)	4%
Acute/Emergency Care (26)	3%
Neonatal (15)	2%
Gerontology (11)	1%
Medical/Surgical (1)	<1%
School (1)	<1%



APRN EMPLOYMENT

Mean years worked as an APRN in Vermont	9 years
Median	5 years
Range	<1-47 years
Working in Vermont 1 year or less (185)	21%
Working full-time in patient care at their primary practice site (216)	24%
Working part-time in patient care across all practice sites (660)	73%
Working full-time with Faculty, Administrative, Research or other titles (21)	2%
Working Per Diem (111)	12%
Working as a traveler at a primary site (24)	3%
Working in a second practice site (67)	7%
Working in a third practice site (6)	<1%
Report having hospital privileges (318)	35%

SETTING OF PRIMARY POSITION

Physician/APRN Practice (207)	23%
Community Health Center (130)	15%
Hospital (97)	11%
Hospital: Outpatient (85)	9%
Hospital: Inpatient (70)	8%
Mental Health Center (17)	2%
Independent APRN Practice: Group (35)	4%
Independent APRN Practice: Solo (47)	5%
Urgent Care (24)	3%
Other Setting (20)	2%
School or College Health Service (18)	2%
Nursing Home/Extended Care (25)	3%
Home Health (17)	2%
Occupational Health (9)	1%
Telehealth (36)	4%
Emergency Department (13)	1%
Correctional Facility (9)	1%
Home (11)	1%
Military (9)	1%
Substance Abuse Clinic (8)	1%

DIRECT PATIENT CARE AT PRIMARY SITE BY APRNS

Accepting new patients (711)	79%
Participate in Medicaid (705)	78%
Accepting new Medicaid patients (658)	73%
Participate in Medicare (658)	73%
Accepting new Medicare patients (613)	68%

1 U.S. Department of Health & Human Services Telehealth: Delivering Care Safely During COVID-19. (Published January 25, 2021. Accessed April 6, 2021) www.hhs.gov/coronavirus/telehealth/index.html

2. Diez-Sampedro, A., et al. (2020). "COVID-19 and Advanced Practice Registered Nurses: Frontline Update." *The Journal for Nurse Practitioners* 16 (8): 551-555.

DISCUSSION OF THESE FINDINGS

Vermont is one of 24 states in which nurse practitioners have full practice authority. This practice environment might be one reason for the 21% increase in APRNs in the past 2 years (746 to 900). Nurse practitioners had the largest increase in numbers (613 to 740) over the past two years, while the other types of APRNs remained the same. Twenty percent (185) of APRNs reported being new to Vermont within the last year.

This workforce is well educated with 93% with graduate degrees in nursing and 5% indicated being currently enrolled in a degree program. There was a 52% increase in current enrollment in a nursing program in the past 2 years (31 to 47). Thirty percent of APRNs attended Vermont schools of nursing to become licensed as registered nurses. This indicates that 70% of APRNs have relocated to Vermont, after their initial licensure, to attend graduate school here OR after completion of graduate school elsewhere. This survey doesn't include information about how many APRNs stay in Vermont after completing their graduate education in the state. This might be useful information to collect on the next relicensure survey.

Practice settings have only changed slightly except for an increase in the number of APRNs in solo practice (23 to 47), a 104% increase in two years. Many more are working part-time compared to 2019 (47% in 2019 and 73% now). Despite the COVID-19 pandemic, there has been a decrease in reported work as traveler (28% to 3%) in the last two years. This might be due to more telehealth opportunities emerging as a primary work setting¹. Many APRNs were on the frontlines during COVID-19 and others had to pivot to seeing patients via telehealth. Undoubtable the pandemic has changed APRN practice, but the basics of providing evidence-based care using a multifaceted approach and including care for vulnerable populations remains a priority².

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