

Labor Market Spotlight

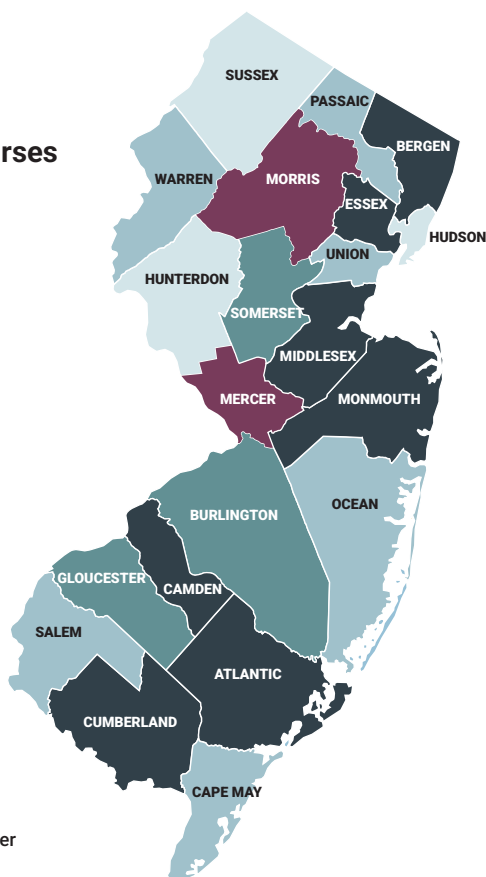
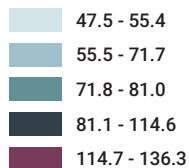
Honoring Nursing in New Jersey

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The New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development (NJDOLE) is releasing this report in honor of our nursing workforce. New Jersey takes pride in having 155,700 nursing jobs, with the majority located in health care settings. Among the various nursing occupations, registered nurses (RN) are the most prevalent, earning an average annual salary of \$110,102.

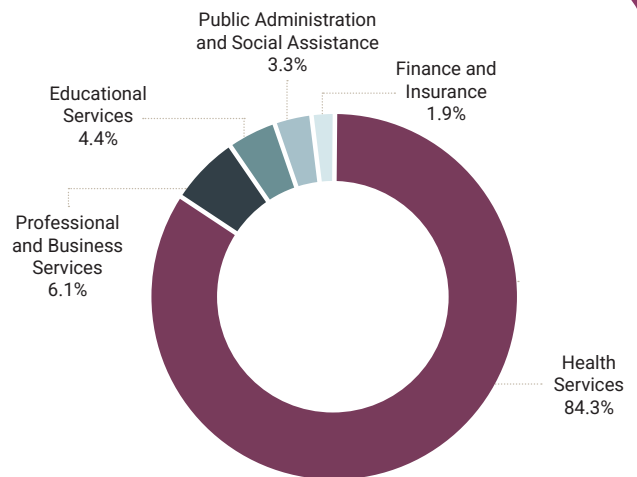
Registered Nurses by County

Registered Nurses Per Capita By County



Values are expressed as registered nurses per 10,000 residents.

Where Nurses Work



15.7% of New Jersey's nursing jobs are outside of health care industries, such as public administration and educational services.

155.7k Number of nurses working in New Jersey

\$110k Average New Jersey salary for RNs, the largest nursing occupation

4k Nursing apprenticeships supported by the NJDOLE GAINS Program

5.9k Students completing nursing-related programs offered at New Jersey secondary and post-secondary schools in 2025



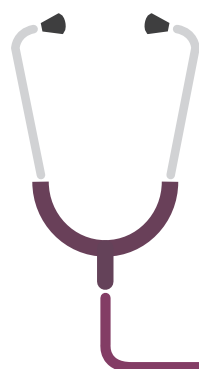
Office of Research and Information

[NJ.GOV/LABOR/DATA](https://nj.gov/labor/data)

Employment by Nursing Occupation

Occupation	Employment	Average Salary
Registered Nurses	92,680	\$110,102
Nursing Assistants	32,400	\$46,809
Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses	17,410	\$74,595
Nurse Practitioners	9,950	\$155,747
Nursing Instructors and Teachers, Postsecondary	2,000	\$83,653
Nurse Anesthetists	1,160	\$290,921
Nurse Midwives	120	\$159,166

Registered nurse is the most common nursing occupation and is often the first thing that comes to mind when people think of a “nurse.” However, it’s worth noting that the nursing field provides a wide range of specialized occupations, many of which offer salaries higher than the state average (\$78,043). These diverse nursing roles, many of which are listed above, allow professionals to explore various paths and pursue specialized areas of expertise, both in terms of clinical practice and earning potential.



Skills Sought by Employers

- ✚ Communications
- ✚ Management
- ✚ Leadership
- ✚ Planning
- ✚ Teaching
- ✚ Problem-Solving

The majority of nursing positions typically require a bachelor’s degree or higher. In addition to nursing expertise, employers seeking to hire nurses have emphasized the importance of candidates possessing strong interpersonal skills, such as effective communication, leadership, and problem-solving abilities.



Apprenticeships Offer Career Opportunities in the Nursing Field

The NJDOL’s Growing Apprenticeships in Nontraditional Sectors (GAINS) program assists individuals pursuing nursing careers by promoting the expansion and development of USDOL-approved Registered Apprenticeship programs. This initiative encourages economic growth by promoting skill development and educational attainment, creating pathways to higher-paying careers and advanced credentials. New Jersey businesses or organizations, as well as current registered apprenticeship sponsors in specific sectors, can receive support for developing new Registered Apprenticeship programs or expanding existing ones to new USDOL-approved occupations through the GAINS program. To date, the GAINS program has enabled 4,017 individuals to participate in nursing program apprenticeships. To learn more about the GAINS program, please [click here](#), then select the Fiscal Year tab followed by the Growing Apprenticeship in Nontraditional Sectors (GAINS) tab to view the grant summary. The option to view the current NGO is located at the bottom of the grant summary.

Technical Note: The data in this report is from the Occupational and Employment Wage Statistics (OEWS) survey May 2025 panel, US Census Bureau American Community Survey 2024 1-year estimates, and the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS).

The New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development’s (NJDOL) Office of Research and Information is the singular solution for labor market data needs, combining the power of data and marketing materials to deliver evidence-based research. Our team of local and industry specialists provide technical assistance and information that highlights key New Jersey economic status, such as employment, wages, occupation, workplace safety, and labor force.

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