

Collapse of the US Healthcare Workforce Data Points

AAMC

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The Complexities of Physician Supply and Demand: Projections From 2019 to 2034

<https://www.aamc.org/media/54681/download>

- From 2019 to 2034. During this time, the U.S. population is projected to grow by 10.6%, from about 328 million to 363 million, with a projected 42.4% increase in those aged 65 and above.
- More than two of every five active physicians in the U.S. will be 65 or older within the next decade.
- AAMC's 2019 National Sample Survey of Physicians, 40% of the country's practicing physicians felt burned out at least once a week before the COVID-19 crisis began.
- If marginalized minority populations, people living in rural communities, and people without health insurance had the same health care use patterns as populations with fewer barriers to access, up to an additional 180,400 physicians would be needed now.
- According to public opinion research conducted by the AAMC in 2019, 35% of survey respondents said they or someone they knew had trouble finding a doctor in the past year or two. This is a 10-point increase from when the question was asked in 2015.
- The United States could see a shortage of between 37,800 and 124,000 physicians by 2034.

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Physician workforce in the United States of America: forecasting nationwide shortages

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7006215/>

Results:

On the basis of current trends, the number of states receiving a grade of "D" or "F" for their physician shortage ratio will increase from 4 in 2017 to 23 by 2030, with a total national deficit of 139,160 physician jobs.

1.2 Million More Nurses Needed by 2030 to Meet U.S. Demand

<https://www.goodcall.com/news/1-2-million-more-nurses-needed-by-2030-to-meet-u-s-demand-09308/>

Among those nurses working now are a ton of baby boomers, many of whom are at or near retirement. Within the next 15 years, nearly 33% of registered nurses will stop working. By 2024, this number will reach 650,000, and by 2030, it is projected that close to 850,000 nurses will have retired from the workforce.

The solution seems simple: train more nurses. The American Association of Colleges of Nursing reports that nearly 66% of nursing schools turn away applicants because of faculty shortages. In 2014 (the most recent year with available data), 68,934 qualified applicants could not be admitted to undergraduate and graduate nursing programs because there were not enough faculty and preceptors – specialized mentors. Also, there aren't enough classrooms or enough clinical sites to get more nurses ready.

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United States Registered Nurse Workforce Report Card and Shortage Forecast

<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/31479295/>

The number of states receiving a grade of "D" or "F" for their RN shortage ratio will increase from 5 in 2009 to 30 by 2030, for a total national deficit of 918 232 (725 619 - 1 112 112) RN jobs. There will be significant RN workforce shortages throughout the country in 2030

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Massive Post COVID support staff shortages will drive Boomer Physician retirement cliff

We are seeing thousands of entry level healthcare job openings go unfilled across the country. MA's, nurses aides, reception and more are not coming back from the layoffs that occurred during the COVID driven downturn in routine healthcare activities.

There is huge pressure in the job market at the entry level wage point and healthcare is no longer seen as a safe, clean profession with pandemic waves continuing.

Other industries are much more flexible in pay and bonus structures than healthcare. Case Study: Dick's Drive In, Seattle is offering \$20/hr to entry level burger flippers and a \$5000 bonus to anyone who works all their shifts in the first 90 days. This is far more lucrative than the average MA comp package.

The Fallout?

The physicians were understaffed to handle the routine charting and digital tasks in the back office before covid.