

AMERICA'S HEALTHCARE WORKFORCE BY THE NUMBERS

+ EDUCATION

● The US must boost enrollment, increase the capacity of educational programs, and improve academic preparedness.

- The most cited reason for students delaying or foregoing applying to a nursing program was a lack of academic preparedness.
- Nursing schools turned away over 78,000 qualified applications from nursing programs in 2022 alone due to capacity restraints.
- The national dropout rate for nursing programs in the United States is 20%.
- Roughly 42% of new graduates have considered leaving the field of nursing.

+ WORKPLACE & RETENTION

● The US must preserve and retain America's current healthcare workforce to address the nation's healthcare staffing crisis.

- 71,309 physicians left the workforce between 2021 and 2022.
- Nearly 100,000 registered nurses were estimated to have left the field during the COVID-19 pandemic, and roughly 800,000 nurses intend to leave the profession by 2027.
- 85% of healthcare facilities are facing shortages of allied healthcare professionals.
- More than 6.5 million will permanently leave the allied health profession within five years.

+ INTERNATIONAL

● The US must raise awareness of the critical support provided by international clinicians and nurses in the U.S. through targeted legislative and policy solutions.

- Over 100 million Americans live in a Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA).
- The U.S. could see a shortage of between 37,800 and 124,000 primary and specialty care physicians by 2034.
- The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics projects over 177,000 openings for registered nurses for each of the next 10 years.
- About 29% of physicians in the U.S. were born in other countries. Similarly, 15% of registered nurses practicing in the U.S. are foreign-born, as are just over 23% of home health, psychiatric, and nursing aides.