

Board of Nursing

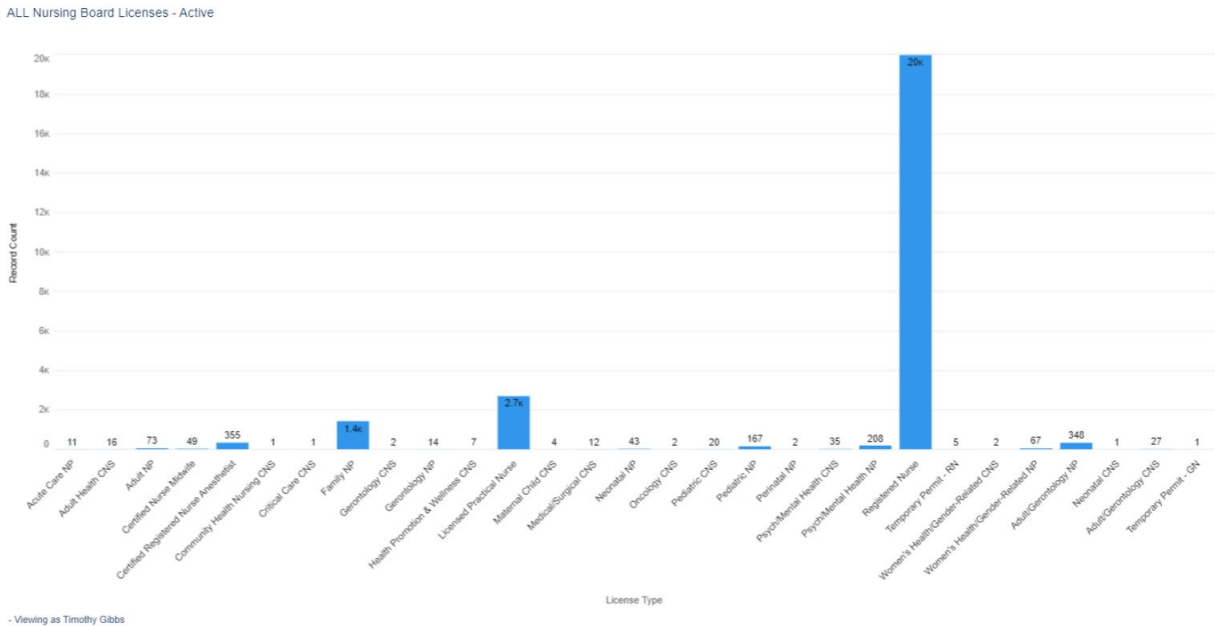
Delaware Health Force Team

The primary objective of the Delaware Board of Nursing is to protect the public health, safety and welfare. To meet this objective to safeguard life and health, the Board

- develops standards for professional competency,
- promulgates rules and regulations,
- adjudicates complaints against professionals and, when necessary, imposes disciplinary sanctions

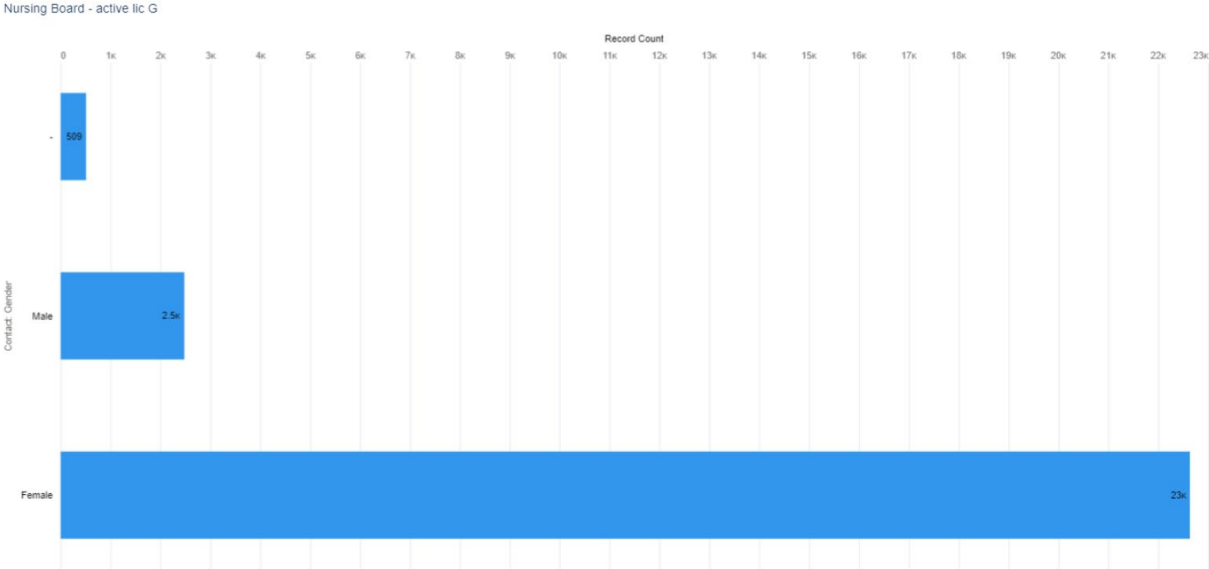
The Board issues licenses to registered nurses (RNs), practical nurses (LPNs) and advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs) (see figures 1-3).

Figure 1. Active Nursing Licenses by Specialty, N=25,620



* an active license does not guarantee an individual is actively seeing patients.

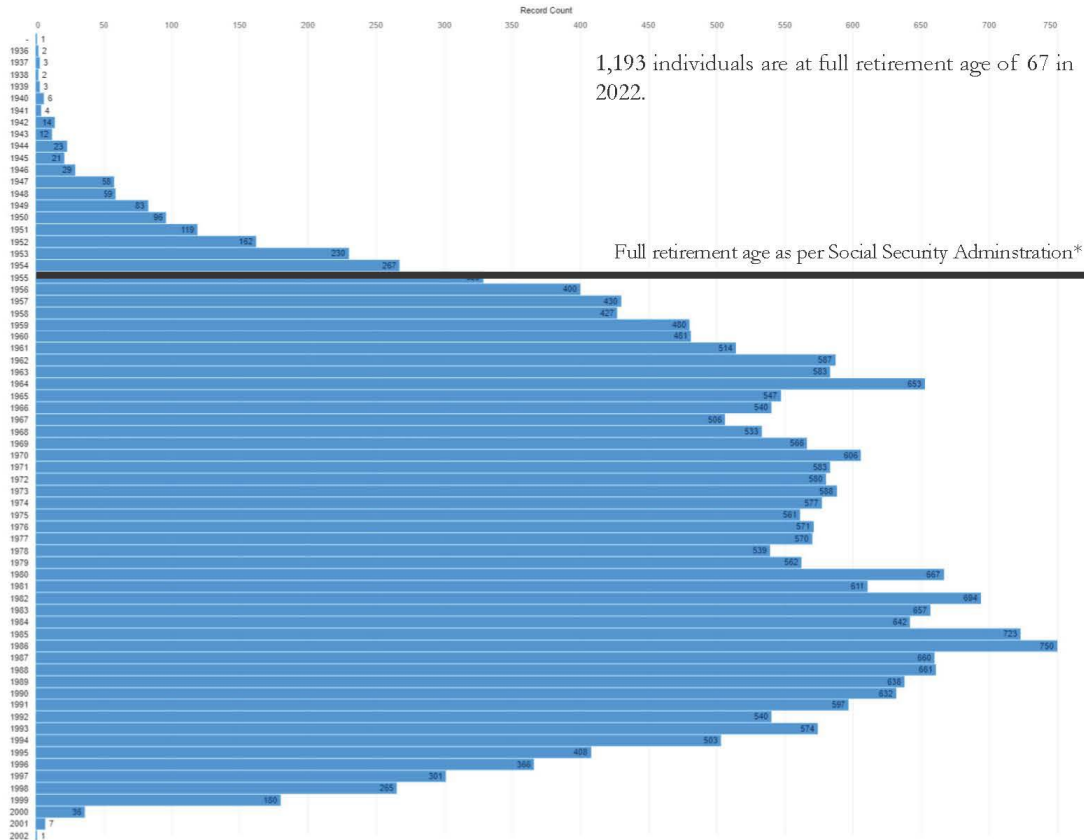
Figure 2. Active Nursing Licenses by Gender, select license types (when reported)



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Figure 3. Active Nursing Licenses by Birth Year (when reported)

Figure 128
Active Nursing Licenses by Birth Year (when reported)



Note. One individual did not provide a year of birth

* According to the Social Security Administration "Full retirement age is the age when you can start receiving your full retirement benefit amount. The full retirement age is 66 if you were born from 1943 to 1954. The full retirement age increases gradually if you were born from 1955 to 1960, until it reaches 67. For anyone born 1960 or later, full retirement benefits are payable at age 67."

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1960, until it reaches 67. For anyone born 1960 or later, full retirement benefits are payable at age 67.”

The Board’s statutory authority is in [24 Del. C., Chapter 19](#). Delaware is a member of the interstate nurse licensure compact covered in [24 Del. C., Chapter 19A](#).

Acute Care Nurse Practitioner

Acute care nurse practitioners are advanced practice registered nurses who specialize in caring for patients with new acute conditions or exacerbated chronic conditions. ACNPs work in a variety of environments—from hospital emergency rooms to urgent-care clinics to operating rooms—and may focus on adults or children.¹

Adult Health Certified Nurse Specialist

A Clinical Nurse Specialist in Adult Health (ACNS) is an advanced nursing practitioner who participates in the advanced care of seriously ill, adult patients. This profession is involved with all aspects of adult care, from assessment to treatment and management of outcomes.²

Adult/Gerontology Nurse Practitioner

Geriatric nurse practitioners (GNPs) provide medical services for older patients. They share skills common among all advanced nurse practitioners. Senior care institutions rely on GNPs to provide comprehensive healthcare services for aging patients. Geriatric nursing practitioners conduct physicals, evaluate well-being and devise care plans specifically for these individuals. GNPs educate senior clients and their caregivers on matters regarding geriatric well-being and also consult with senior patients and their caregivers. Geriatric nursing practitioners advance their discipline through involvement with the National Gerontological Nursing Association, which works with geriatric professionals to produce positive patient outcomes among the senior population.³

Adult/Gerontology Certified Nurse Specialist

The Adult-Gerontological Clinical Nurse Specialists (AG CNS) cares for patients from wellness through acute care, with a specific focus on complex and vulnerable adult and older adult populations. The AG CNS is best described as the “nurses’ nurse” as the CNS is a resource and consultant to nurses and healthcare professionals. The AG CNS is involved in all levels of the healthcare system, spanning from the acute care setting to the home. The AG CNS engages in numerous direct care and leadership roles in the healthcare system including organizing and managing large scale programs, incorporating evidence into practice, coaching and mentoring nurses and serving as a consultant to healthcare professionals, organizations, patients and families.⁴

Adult Nurse Practitioner

Provide general and preventative care, conduct check-ups, treat illnesses, order lab tests and prescribe medication for children and adults. A nurse practitioner is an advanced practice nurse that helps with all aspects of patient care, including diagnosis, treatments and consultations.⁵

Certified Nurse Midwife

A CNM is an advanced practice registered nurse who goes through comprehensive training, mainly providing care to pregnant women from labor to delivery to postpartum care.⁶

Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist

A CRNA (certified registered nurse anesthetist or just “nurse anesthetist”) is an advanced practice registered nurse (APRN) who administers anesthesia and other medications. They also take care of and monitor people who receive or are recovering from anesthesia.⁷

Community Health Nursing Certified Nurse Specialist

The community health nurse clinical specialist (CHNCS) has been clearly delineated by the profession as having a responsibility to the community as client.⁸

Critical Care Certified Nurse Specialist

Provide direct care to acutely/critically ill adult patients regardless of their physical location. Nurses interested in this certification may work in areas such as intensive care units, cardiac care units, combined ICU/CCUs, medical/surgical ICUs, trauma units or critical care transport/flight.⁹

Family Nurse Practitioner

Because of their high level of education, expertise and skill, family nurse practitioners (FNP) will often take on some of the roles of a physician (see figures 4 & 5). However, they will still generally work under the supervision of, or in close conjunction with, a physician. FNPs must be able to offer the care and support consistent with high-quality nursing to patients and families, diagnosing and treating patients across a wide variety of conditions.¹⁰

Figure 4. Numerical Distribution of Active Family Nurse Practitioners by ZIP code

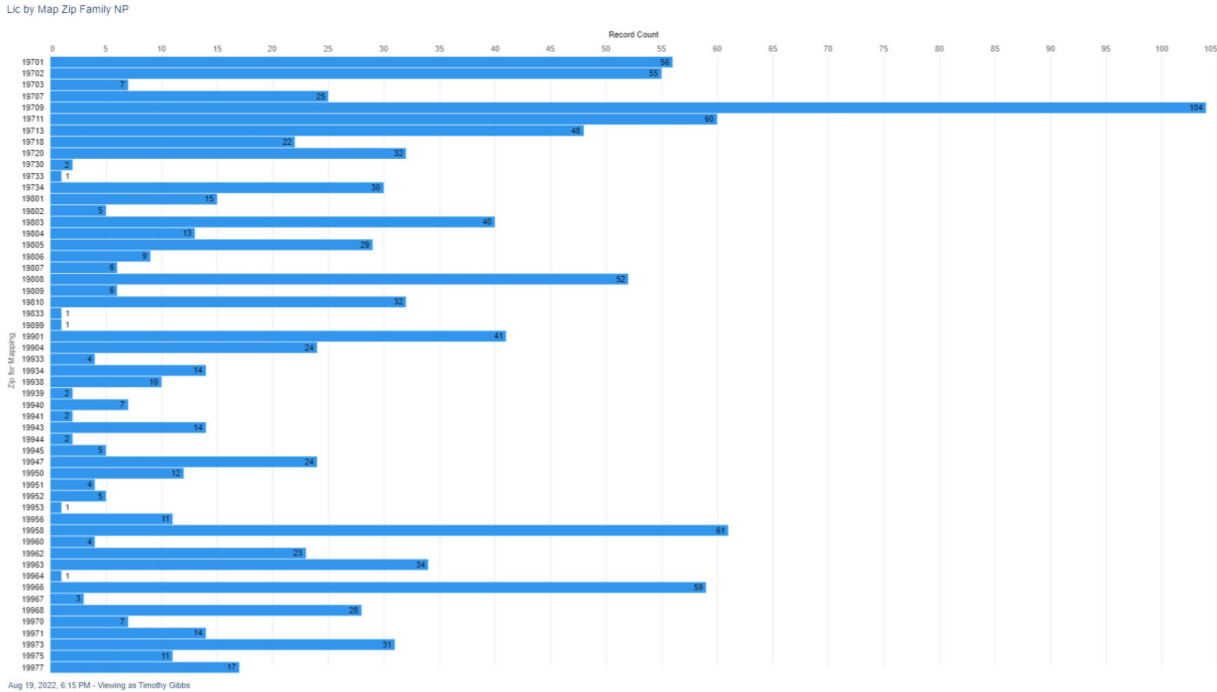
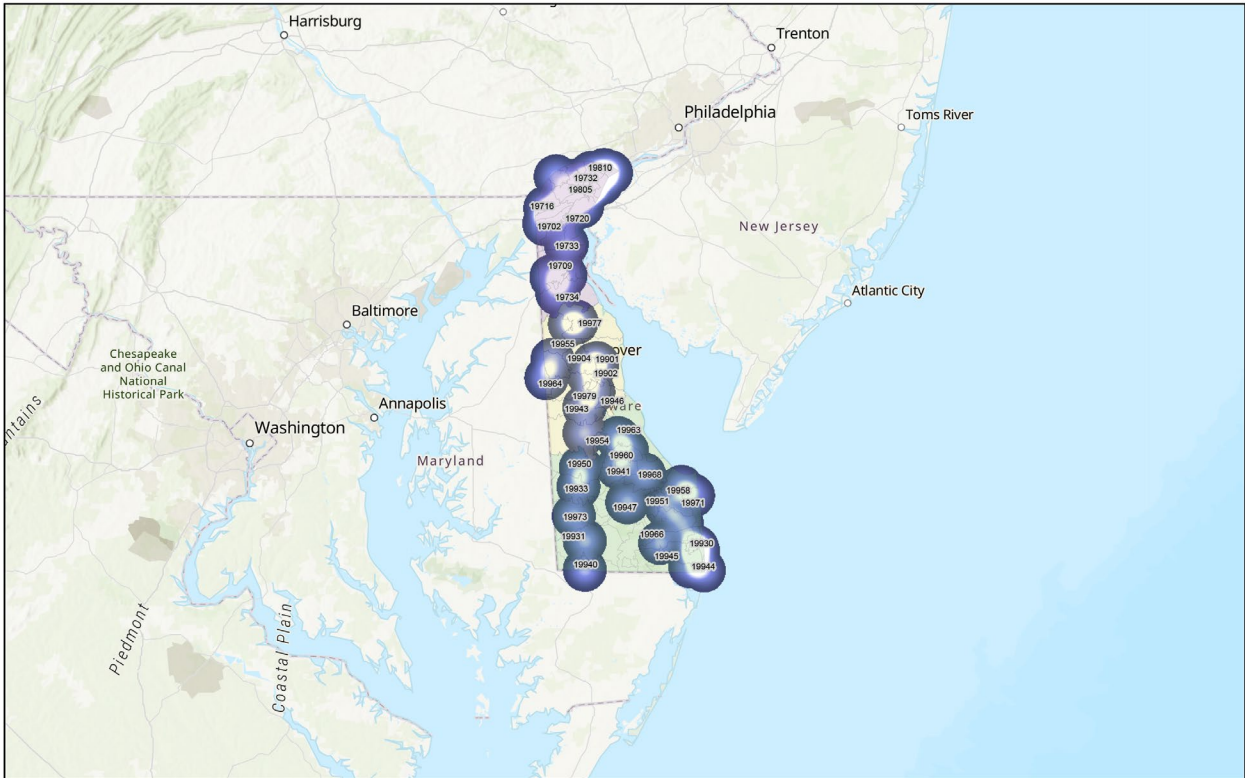


Figure 5. Visual Distribution of Active Family Nurse Practitioners by ZIP code



Gerontology Certified Nurse Specialist

Same as Adult/Gerontology Certified Nurse Specialist.

Gerontology Nurse Practitioner

A Gerontological Nurse Practitioner is a multi-disciplined primary healthcare provider who helps patients manage the physical, mental, and social effects of aging.¹¹

Health Promotion and Wellness Certified Nurse Specialist

Performing health assessments and health screenings such as physicals, checkups, or wellness visits with patients to identify problems and determine appropriate treatment plans. providing care to patients in hospitals and other settings who have been diagnosed with a chronic illness such as diabetes or cancer.¹²

Licensed Practical Nurse

The role of an LPN (see figures 6 & 7) includes providing basic medical care to patients. In addition to helping patients eat, bathe and get dressed, LPNs also perform medical tasks such as changing bandages and inserting catheters. Another important aspect of the role is reporting changes in patient condition to supervisors such as RNs or physicians. Unlike RNs, LPNs do not set up care plans for patients.¹³

Figure 6. Numerical Distribution of Active Licensed Practice Nurse by ZIP code

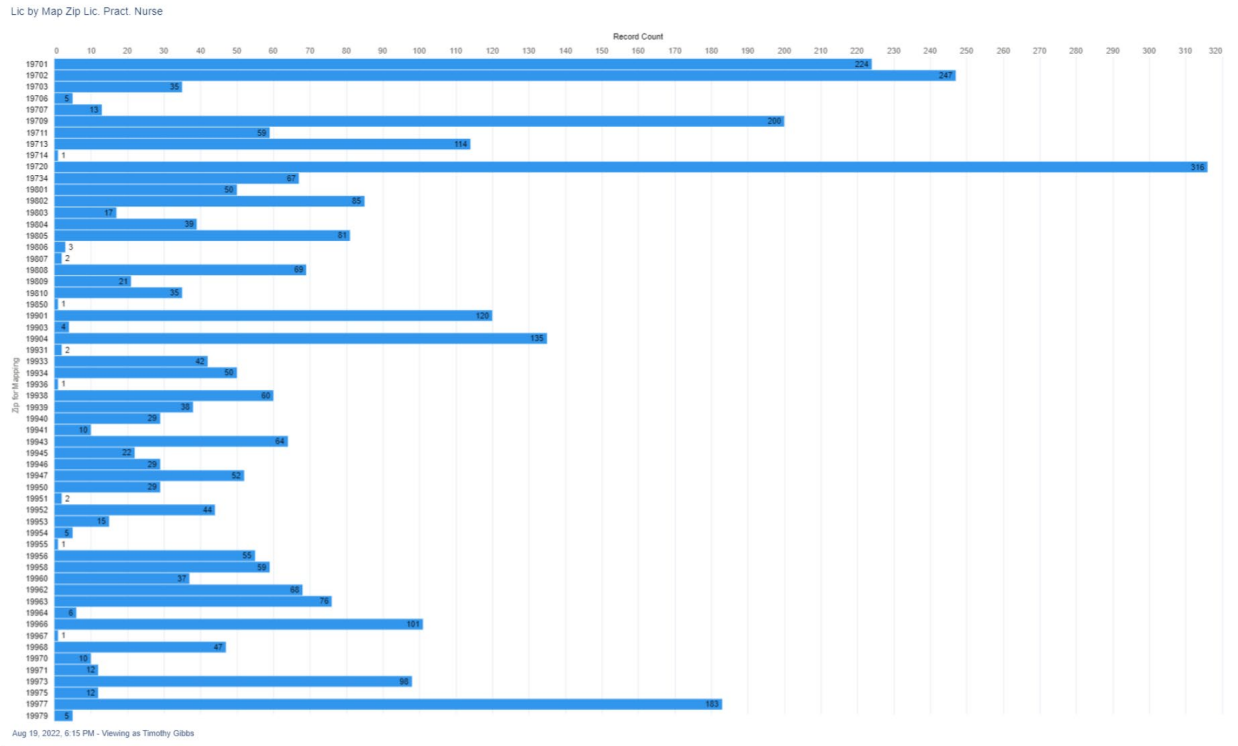
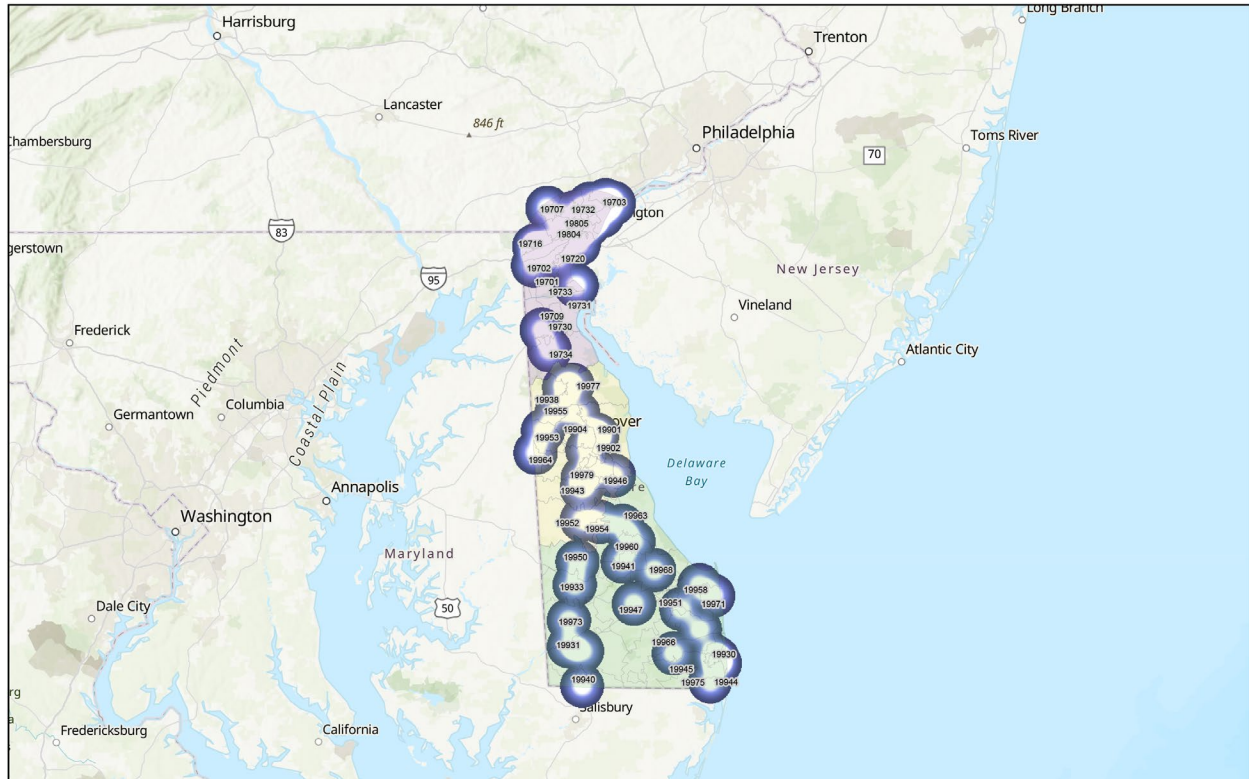


Figure 7. Visual Distribution of Active Licensed Practical Nurses by ZIP code



Maternal Child Certified Nurse Specialist

Provide individual care and monitoring and run educational programs to assist parents and enable them to develop supportive social networks. Maternal and child health nurses support the health and development of children from birth until school age and their parents.¹⁴

Medical/Surgical Certified Nurse Specialist

Medical-surgical nurses are registered nurses who provide care for primarily adult patients before and after surgical procedures. They coordinate healthcare plans with medical professionals, administer medications, and educate patients on surgical procedures. They may be employed at hospitals, clinics, physicians' offices, or care facilities.¹⁵

Neonatal Certified Nurse Specialist

The neonatal clinical nurse specialist is an advanced practice nurse who functions in the role of expert clinician, educator, consultant and researcher for the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, NICU.¹⁶

Neonatal Nurse Practitioner

The role of the NNP is to provide care to high-risk infants who need care due to low birth weights, complications of prematurity, heart abnormalities, infections or other conditions. However, some NNPs may care for infants with long-term health conditions until they reach two years of age.¹⁷

Oncology Certified Nurse Specialist

OCNSs are educationally prepared to provide advanced nursing care to meet the specialized physiologic and psychological needs of patients throughout the continuum of care, including cancer prevention and detection, cancer diagnosis and treatment, rehabilitation, survivorship, and end-of-life care.¹⁸

Pediatric Certified Nurse Specialist

Clinical experts in pediatric nursing who, in addition to providing direct care, serve as leaders in education, research, quality improvement and outcome monitoring in consultation with other nurses. Pediatric clinical nurse specialists provide care to children and adolescents and their families within the context of the family, community and healthcare system.¹⁹

Pediatric Nurse Practitioner

A PNP is an advanced practice registered nurse (APRN) who specializes in caring for newborns, infants, toddlers, adolescents and young adults. PNPs focus on well-child care and the prevention or management of common pediatric acute illnesses and chronic conditions.²⁰

Perinatal Nurse Practitioner

Perinatal nurses care for pregnant patients and their newborns, usually from the early stages of pregnancy to just after giving birth.²¹

Psych/Mental Health Certified Nurse Specialist

PMH-CNSs are psychiatric-mental health advanced practice registered nurses (PMH-APRNs) with a Clinical Nurse Specialist certification. PMH-APRNs, whether CNS or NP, have received specialized graduate level education and are prepared to provide psychiatric and substance use assessments, diagnoses, and treatment, including medication interventions and psychotherapy.²²

Psych/Mental Health Nurse Practitioner

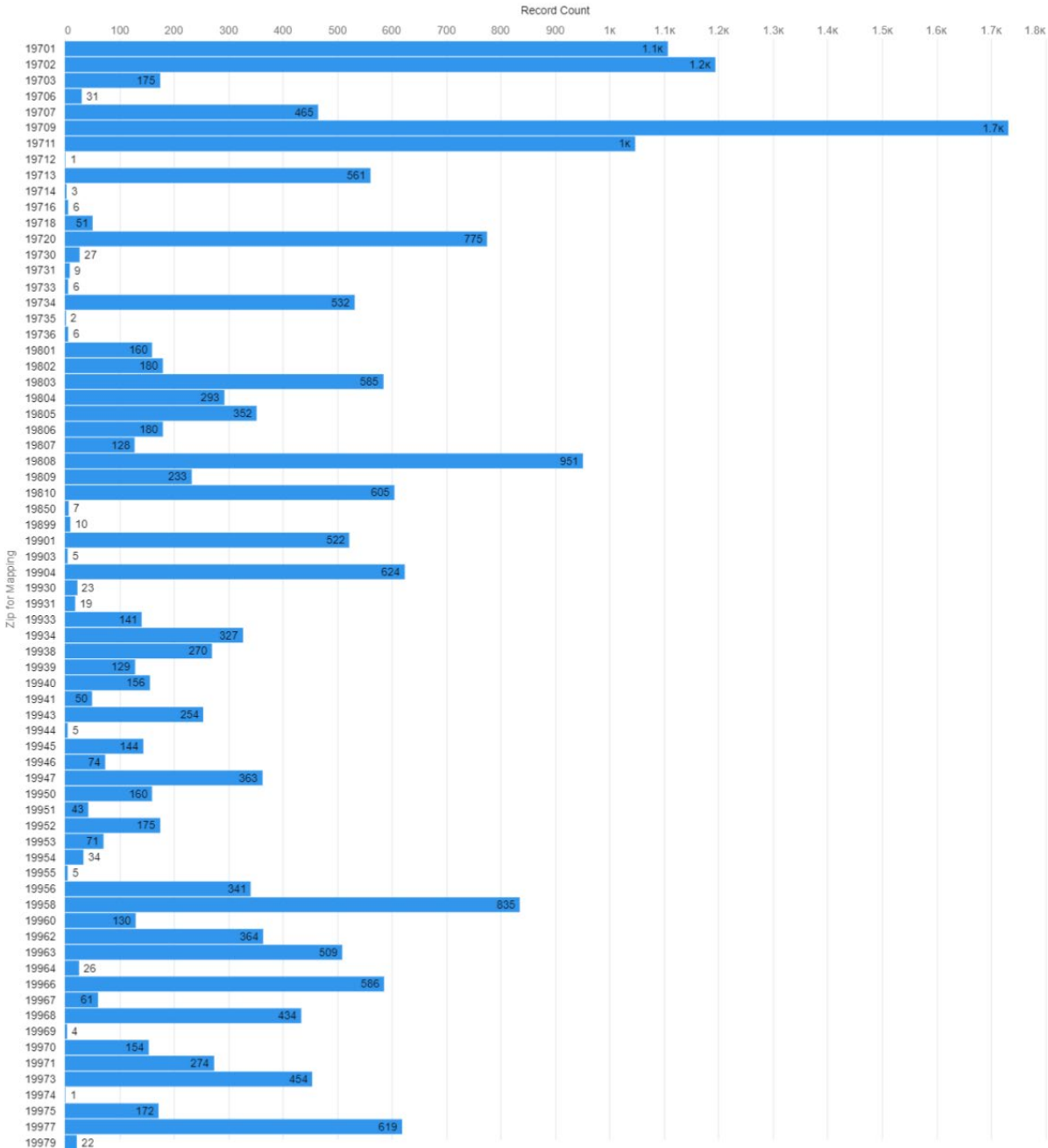
PMHNPs combine a variety of nursing, psychosocial, and neurobiological expertise and methodologies to diagnose, treat, and improve the outcomes of patients facing psychiatric or mental health challenges.²³

Registered Nurse

A registered nurse is a healthcare provider who has graduated from a nursing program and holds a nursing license (see figures 8 & 9). There are many types of registered nurses, mainly defined by their areas of specialization.²⁴

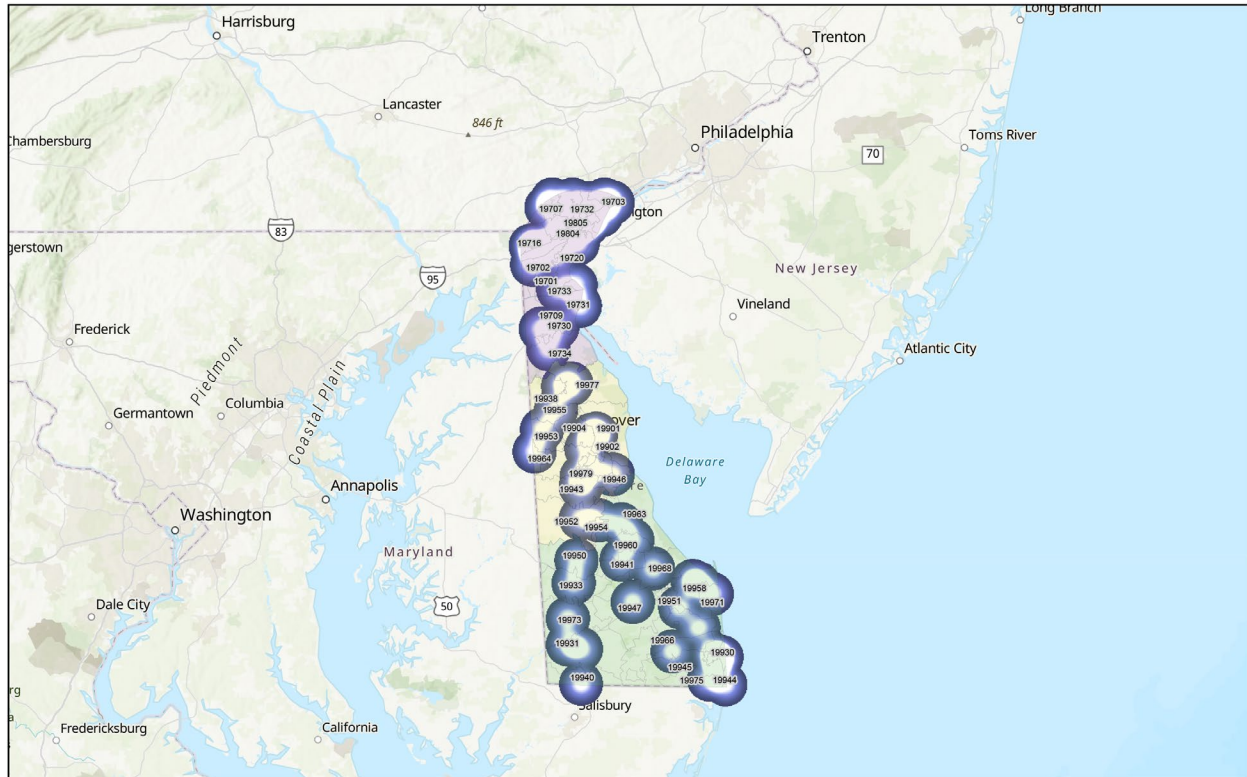
Figure 8. Numerical Distribution of Active Registered Nurses by ZIP code. n=19,992

Lic by Map Registered Nurse



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Figure 9. Visual Distribution of Active Registered Nurses by ZIP code



Temporary Permit - Advanced Practice Nurse Practitioner

A Temporary APRN Permit allows you to practice as an APRN in Delaware until your APRN license is issued.²⁵

Temporary Permit - Registered Nurse

Temporary RN Permit allows you to practice as an RN in Delaware until your RN license is issued.²⁵

Women's Health/Gender-Related Nurse Practitioner

A women's health nurse practitioner (WHNP) provides primary healthcare services to women of all ages, generally beginning at adolescence and continuing through pregnancy and menopause.²⁶

Women's Health/Gender-Related Certified Nurse Specialist

Same as above, but as a certification rather than a degree focusing on the management of patient care. The WHCNS focus on complex cases and vulnerable populations.²⁷

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