

# CAREER QUARTERLY

Career Information, Job Seeking Advice, Labor Market Data, and More!



## In This Issue

**Virginia Economy at a Glance** 2

### Labor Market Research

**Job openings, hires and total separations down in most industries over the year ending June 2023** 3

**Healthcare Occupations: Characteristics of the Employed** 5

### Job Searching

**Spotlight: Nurse Anesthetists, Nurse Midwives, and Nurse Practitioners** 11

### Career and Labor Market Information Publications

**<https://virginiaworks.com/publications>** 14



# Virginia's Economy at a Glance

Data Series	Jan 2023	Feb 2023	Mar 2023	Apr 2023	May 2023	June 2023
<a href="#">Labor Force Data</a>						
Civilian Labor Force <sup>(1)</sup>	4,487.6	4,505.4	4,529.1	4,550.8	4,574.3	(P)4,588.1
Employment <sup>(1)</sup>	4,342.7	4,359.5	4,385.5	4,410.6	4,439.9	(P)4,463.0
Unemployment <sup>(1)</sup>	144.9	145.9	143.6	140.3	134.4	(P)125.1
Unemployment Rate <sup>(2)</sup>	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.1	2.9	(P)2.7
<a href="#">Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment</a>						
Total Nonfarm <sup>(3)</sup>	4,128.0	4,133.1	4,136.7	4,140.0	4,143.5	(P)4,146.4
12-month % change	2.9	2.4	2.4	2.2	2.2	(P)2.3
Mining and Logging <sup>(3)</sup>	7.2	7.1	7.1	7.1	7.0	(P)7.2
12-month % change	4.3	1.4	0.0	0.0	-1.4	(P)0.0
Construction <sup>(3)</sup>	215.8	214.5	213.4	212.5	215.1	(P)211.9
12-month % change	4.2	3.1	2.4	2.1	3.6	(P)1.6
Manufacturing <sup>(3)</sup>	245.6	245.1	245.6	246.0	245.3	(P)246.2
12-month % change	2.2	1.4	0.8	0.6	0.2	(P)0.4
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities <sup>(3)</sup>	667.9	667.9	665.5	665.5	665.9	(P)666.6
12-month % change	1.2	0.4	0.2	0.1	0.1	(P)0.4
Information <sup>(3)</sup>	69.8	70.2	70.8	71.2	72.4	(P)71.4
12-month % change	1.5	1.7	2.5	2.9	4.3	(P)3.0
Financial Activities <sup>(3)</sup>	214.4	214.2	213.9	216.4	216.3	(P)216.2
12-month % change	0.2	-0.1	-0.6	0.4	0.2	(P)0.0
Professional & Business Services <sup>(3)</sup>	814.3	812.4	814.8	811.3	815.0	(P)814.9
12-month % change	2.7	1.8	2.2	1.2	1.6	(P)1.5
Education & Health Services <sup>(3)</sup>	570.4	572.3	573.8	576.0	574.9	(P)575.2
12-month % change	4.8	4.7	5.2	4.6	4.0	(P)4.1
Leisure & Hospitality <sup>(3)</sup>	407.9	407.9	408.4	409.8	408.8	(P)407.9
12-month % change	7.5	6.4	6.1	6.0	5.8	(P)5.4
Other Services <sup>(3)</sup>	195.1	195.2	195.6	195.6	194.9	(P)195.0
12-month % change	3.7	3.3	3.3	2.9	2.6	(P)2.8
Government <sup>(3)</sup>	719.6	726.3	727.8	728.6	727.9	(P)733.9
12-month % change	1.3	1.8	2.0	2.3	2.0	(P)3.1

## Footnotes

<sup>(1)</sup> Number of persons, in thousands, seasonally adjusted.

<sup>(2)</sup> In percent, seasonally adjusted.

<sup>(3)</sup> Number of jobs, in thousands, seasonally adjusted.

(P) Preliminary

Data extracted on: August 10, 2023

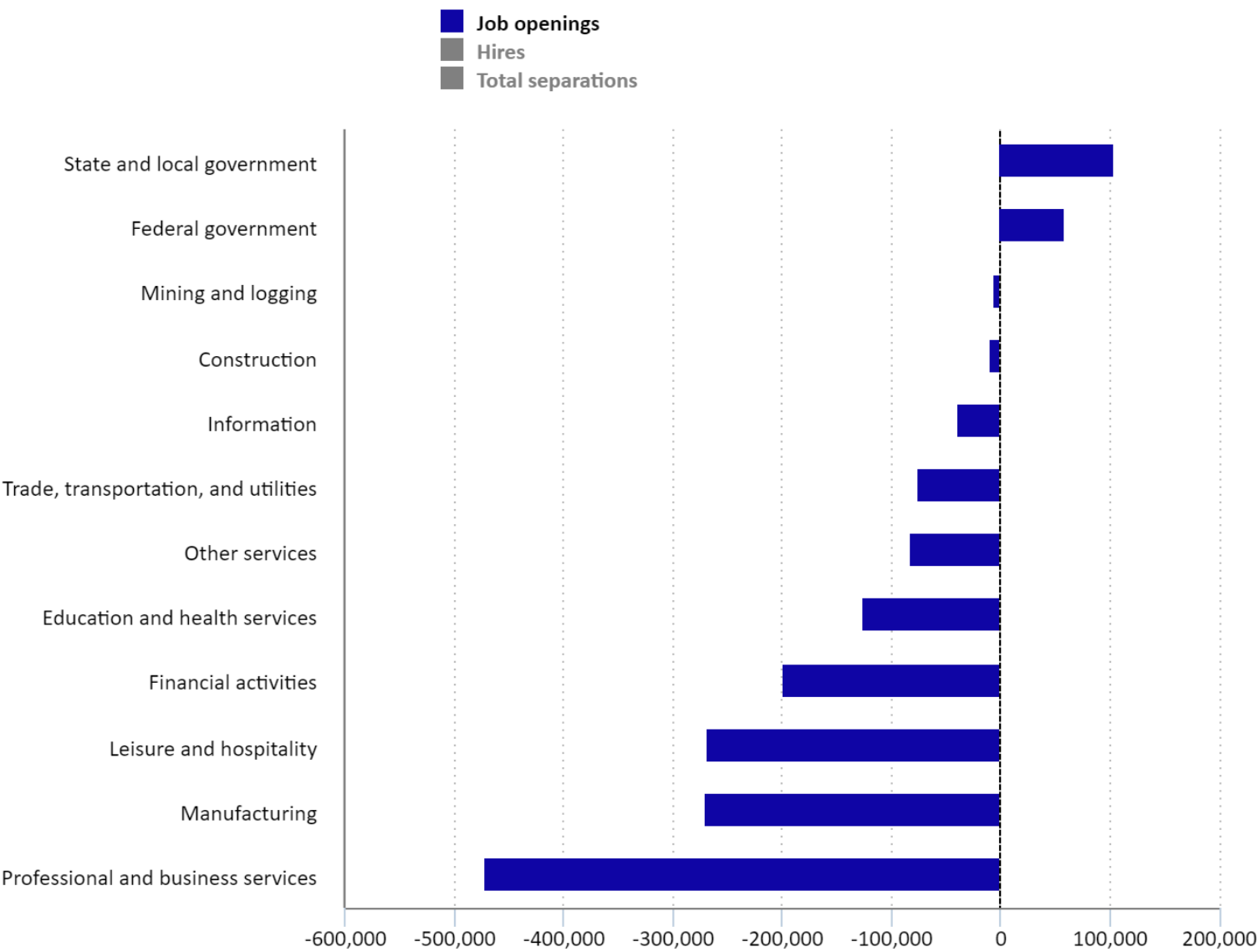
Source: <https://www.bls.gov/eag/eag.va.htm>

Labor Market Research

Job openings, hires and total separations down in most industries over the year ending June 2023

From June 2022 to June 2023, total job openings decreased by 1.4 million to 9.6 million. Total hires went down by 543,000 to 5.9 million, while total separations fell by 354,000 to 5.6 million. The number of job openings fell over the year in most major private industries, while openings rose in government. State and local government job openings rose 105,000 and federal government openings rose 59,000.

Change in job openings, hires, and total separations by industry, June 2022 to June 2023, seasonally adjusted





Professional and business services had the largest over-the-year decline in job openings, falling by 472,000 to a total of 1.7 million in June 2023. In manufacturing, job openings declined from 852,000 in June 2022 to 582,000 in June 2023. Leisure and hospitality had 268,000 fewer job openings this year than last.

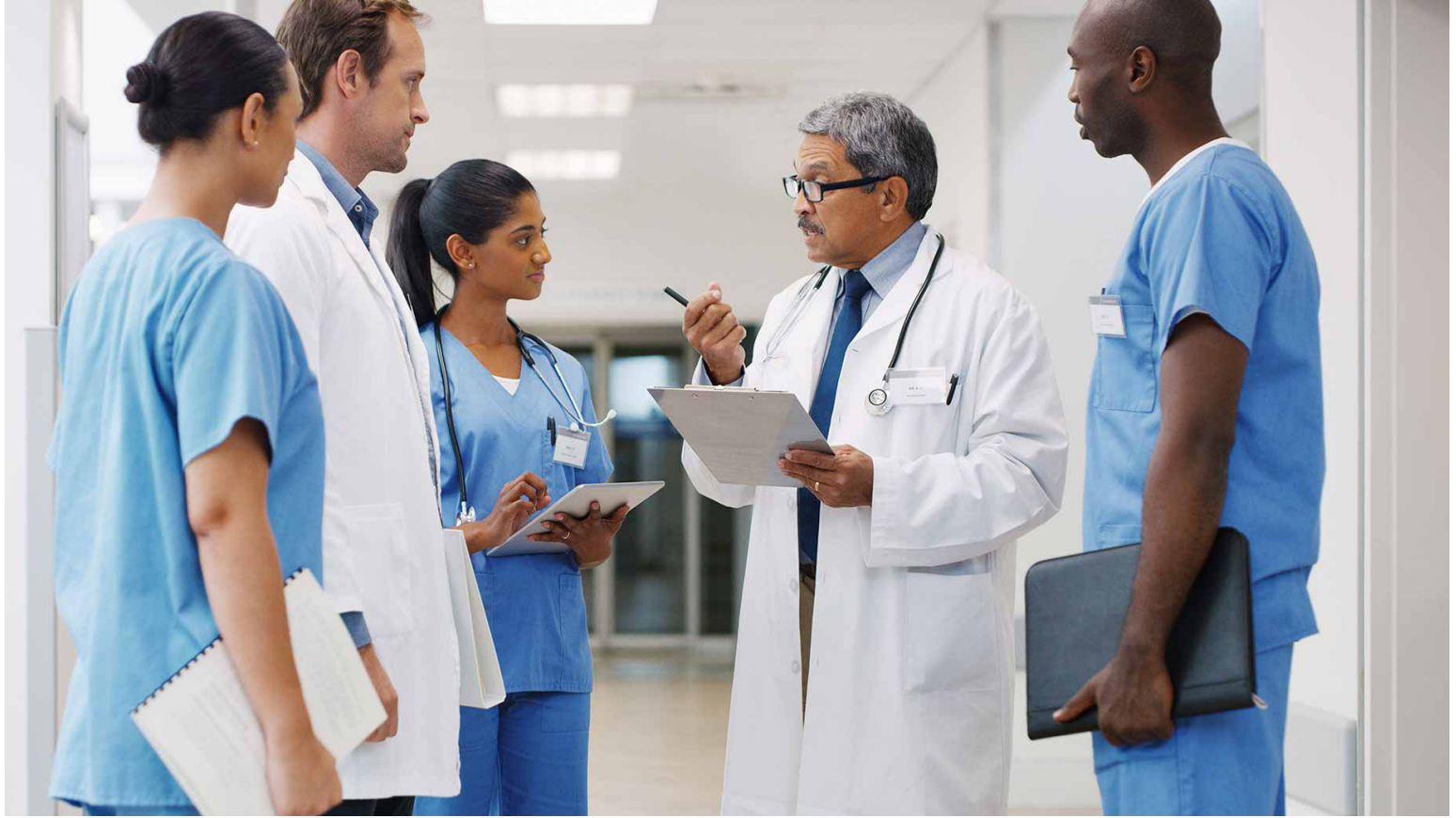
Professional and business services had the largest decline in hires for the year ending June 2023, down 130,000 to 1.1 million. Trade, transportation, and utilities and leisure and hospitality also had declines in hires over the year, each down by 116,000.

Total job separations were lower than the previous year in most industries. The industries with increases were education and health services (19,000); trade, transportation, and utilities (11,000); and mining and logging (3,000). Industries with the largest over-the-year decreases in separations included leisure and hospitality (-110,000); professional and business services (-75,000); and state and local government (-72,000).

These data are from the Job Openings and Labor Turnover Survey and are seasonally adjusted. Data for the most recent month are preliminary. To learn more, see “Job Openings and Labor Turnover — June 2023.” We also have more charts of job openings, hires, and separations data. Total separations include quits, layoffs and discharges, and other separations. Quits are generally voluntary separations initiated by the employee. Therefore, the quits rate can serve as a measure of workers’ willingness or ability to leave jobs. Layoffs and discharges are involuntary separations initiated by the employer. Other separations include separations due to retirement, death, disability, and transfers to other locations of the same firm.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, The Economics Daily, Job openings, hires and total separations down in most industries over the year ending June 2023 at <https://www.bls.gov/opub/ted/2023/job-openings-hires-and-total-separations-down-in-most-industries-over-the-year-ending-june-2023.htm> (visited August 08, 2023).

## Healthcare Occupations: Characteristics of the Employed



The healthcare field has some of the fastest growing occupations in the United States. But what are the demographic characteristics of workers in healthcare occupations? Which healthcare occupations have the greatest share of self-employed workers, or the largest share of workers in the public sector? How about the average hours of work per week for people in a particular healthcare occupation?

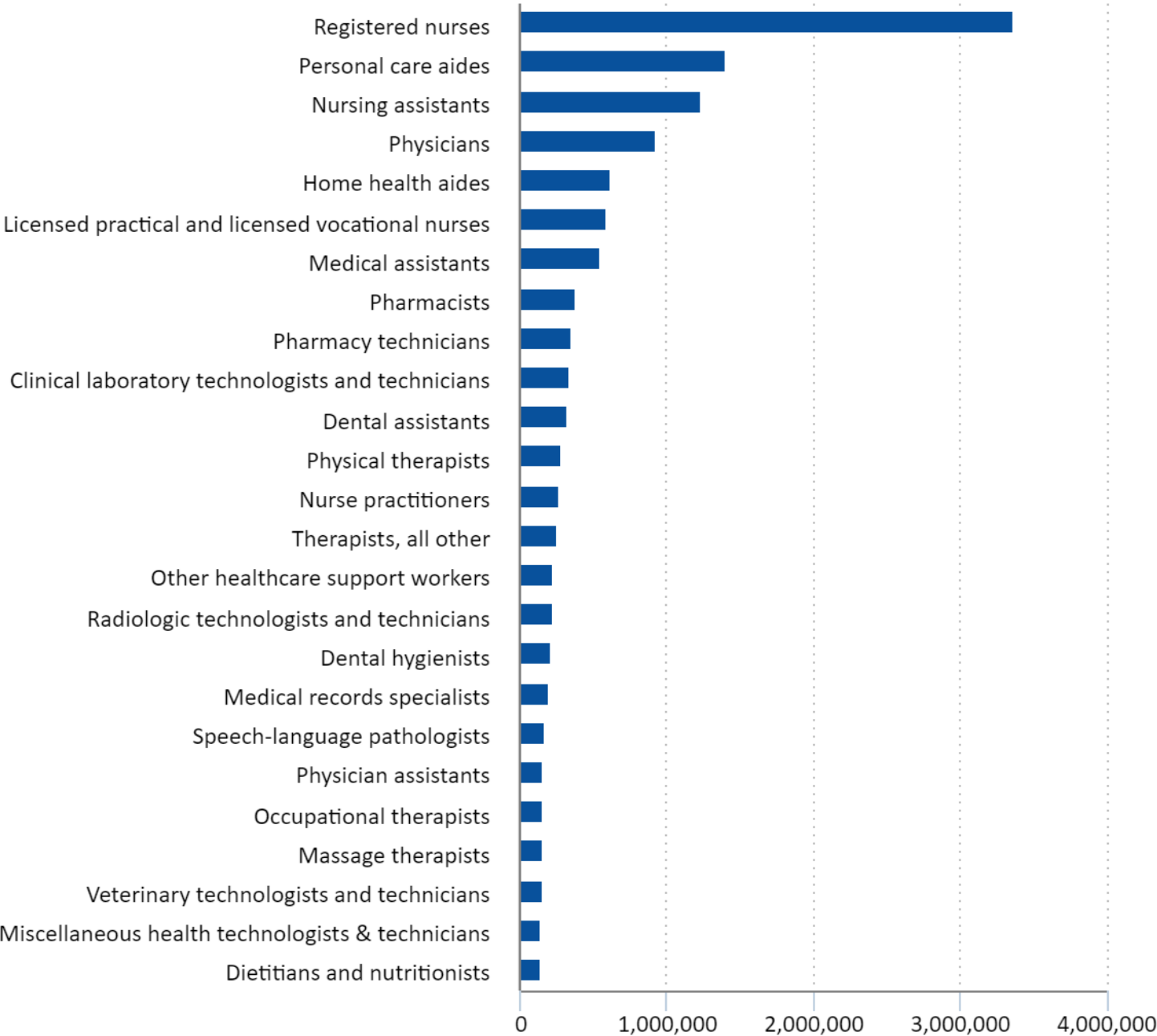
Healthcare occupations vary widely in terms of skills and formal education required. They include healthcare practitioners such as physicians, registered nurses, laboratory technicians, and pharmacists; and people who provide healthcare support, such as nursing assistants, personal care aides, and home health aides.



Healthcare employment accounts for 9.3 percent of total employment

In 2022, 14.7 million people age 16 and older were employed in healthcare occupations, accounting for 9.3 percent of total employment. The largest of these occupations was registered nurses, who numbered 3.4 million in 2022, or more than 1 out of every 5 healthcare workers. Personal care aides (1.4 million) and nursing assistants (1.2 million) held the number two and three spots in terms of the sheer number of healthcare workers. Altogether, employment in the top 25 healthcare occupations represented more than four-fifths of the 14.7 million people working in the healthcare field.

Employment in the 25 largest healthcare occupations, 2022

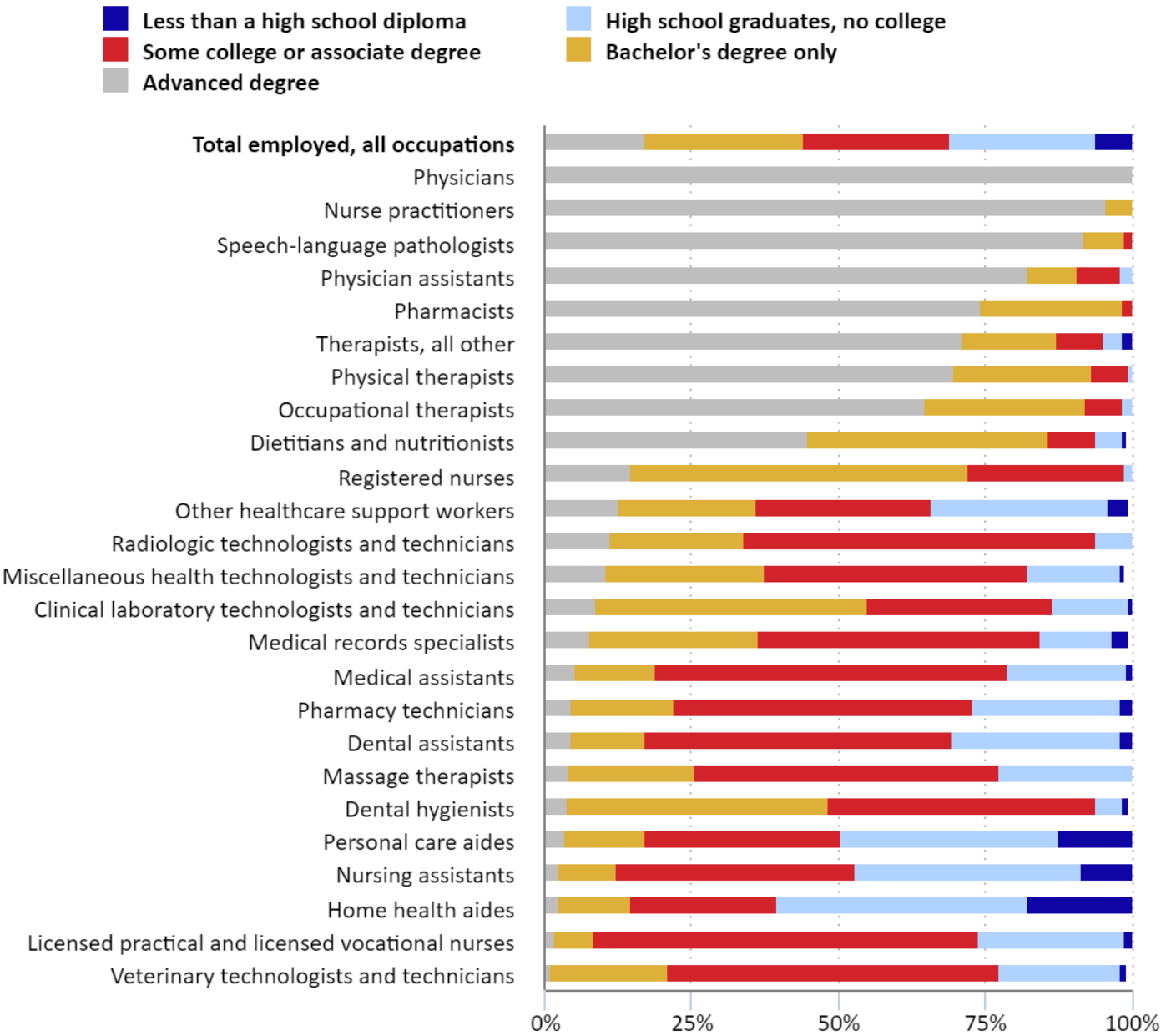


Educational attainment varies across healthcare occupations

Educational attainment—based on the highest diploma or degree earned and presented here for people age 25 and older—varies across healthcare occupations. Among healthcare occupations with lower levels of educational attainment, 60 percent of home health aides, 49 percent of personal care aides, and 47 percent of nursing assistants had a high school diploma or less; this compares with 31 percent for all workers age 25 and older.

Among healthcare occupations with higher levels of educational attainment, all physicians and nearly all nurse practitioners held advanced degrees (master’s, professional, and doctoral degrees) in 2022. A high percentage of speech-language pathologists (92 percent) also held advanced degrees. By contrast, only 17 percent of all employed people age 25 and older in the nation held advanced degrees.

Percent of employed people 25 years and older in the 25 largest healthcare occupations by educational attainment, 2022



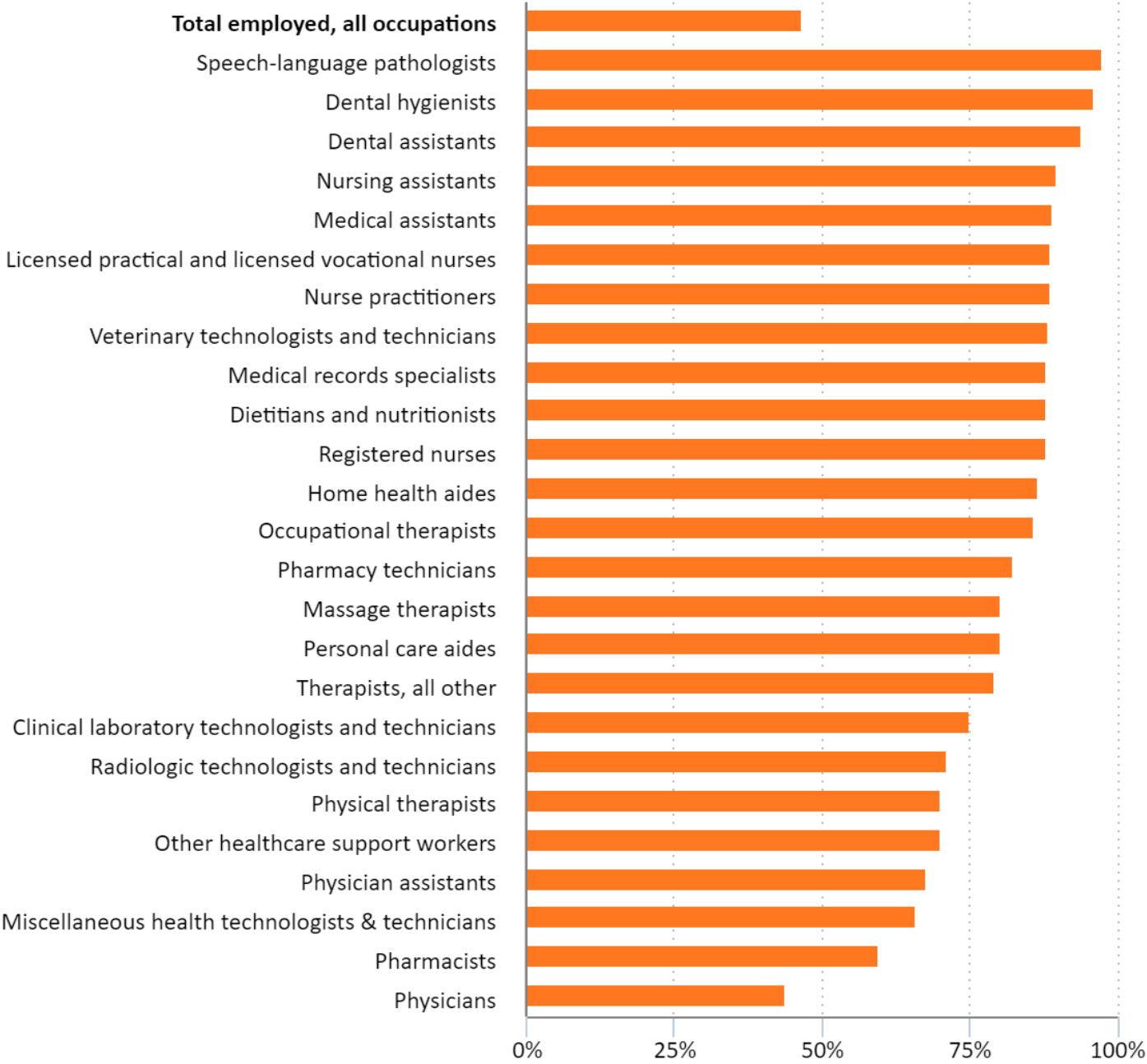
About 8 in 10 workers in healthcare occupations are women

In 2022, about 8 in 10 workers in all healthcare occupations were women, much higher than for overall employment, where women made up nearly one-half of all employed workers.

Healthcare occupations with particularly high concentrations of women included speech-language pathologists (98 percent), dental hygienists (96 percent), dental assistants (94 percent), and nursing assistants (90 percent).

In contrast, women were slightly underrepresented among physicians (44 percent)

Percent of women employees in the 25 largest healthcare occupations, 2022



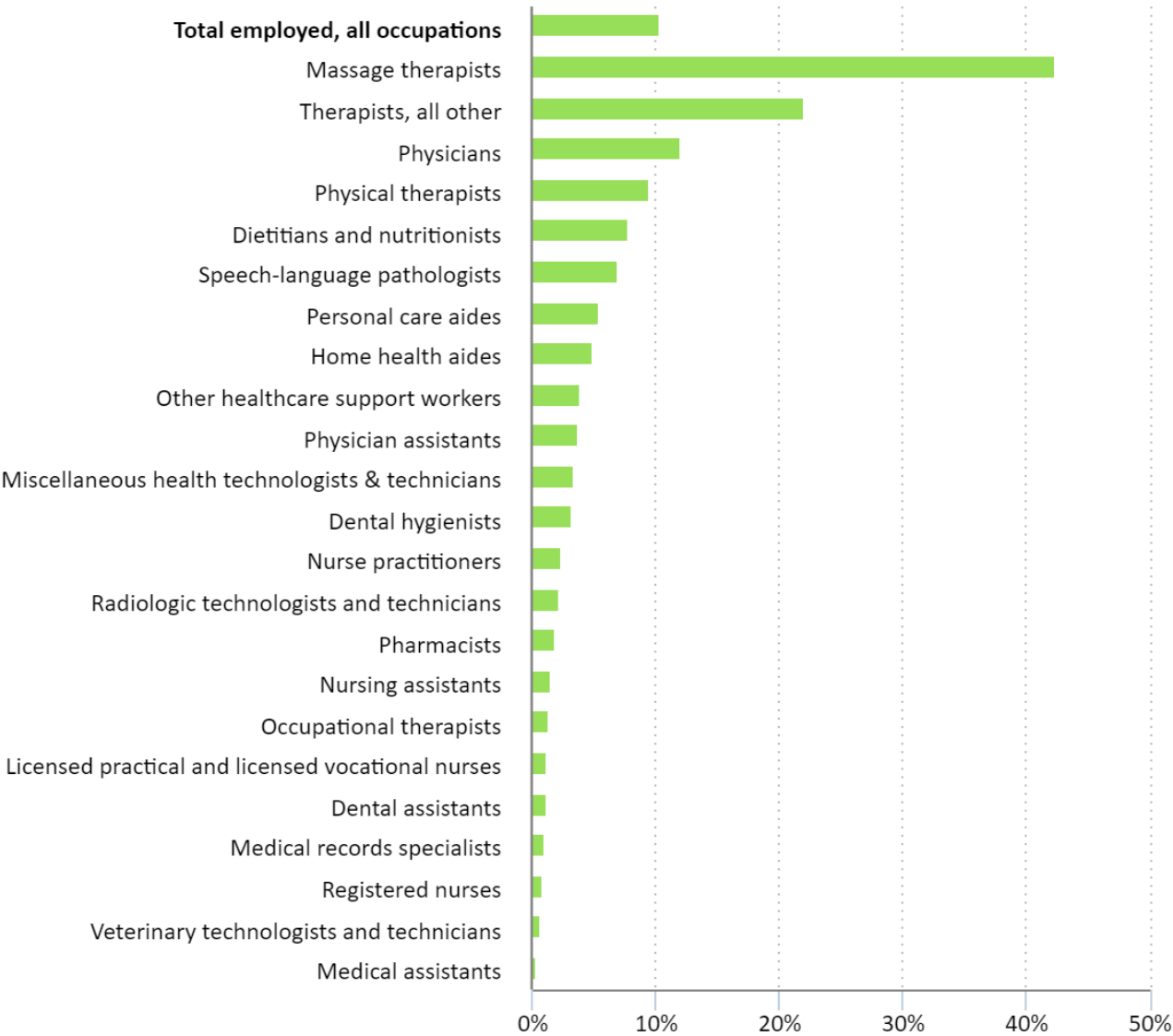


Massage therapists had high shares of self-employment in 2022

In 2022, about 1 in 10 workers in the nation were self-employed among all occupations. Among the 25 largest healthcare occupations, 42 percent of massage therapists were self-employed. In addition, 22 percent of therapists, all other—an occupational group that includes art therapists, hydrotherapists, and music therapists—were self-employed in 2022. Physicians had a self-employment rate of 12 percent in 2022. Clinical laboratory technologists and technicians and pharmacy technicians are excluded from this chart because their self-employment numbers are effectively zero.

Percentage of wage and salary employment in the public and private sectors in the 25 largest healthcare occupations, 2022  
Federal, state, and local government workers  
Private sector workers  
Total employed, all occupations  
Massage therapists  
Dental hygienists  
Veterinary technologists and technicians  
Pharmacy technicians  
Dental assistants  
Radiologic technologists and technicians  
Pharmacists  
Medical assistants  
Home health aides  
Clinical laboratory technologists and technicians  
Physical therapists  
Licensed practical and licensed vocational nurses  
Nurse practitioners  
Nursing assistants  
Therapists, all other  
Physician assistants  
Miscellaneous health technologists and technicians  
Physicians  
Medical records specialists  
Registered nurses  
Other healthcare support workers  
Occupational therapists  
Personal care aides  
Dietitians and nutritionists  
Speech-language pathologists  
0% 25% 50% 75% 100%  
Click legend items to change data display. Hover over chart to view data. Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

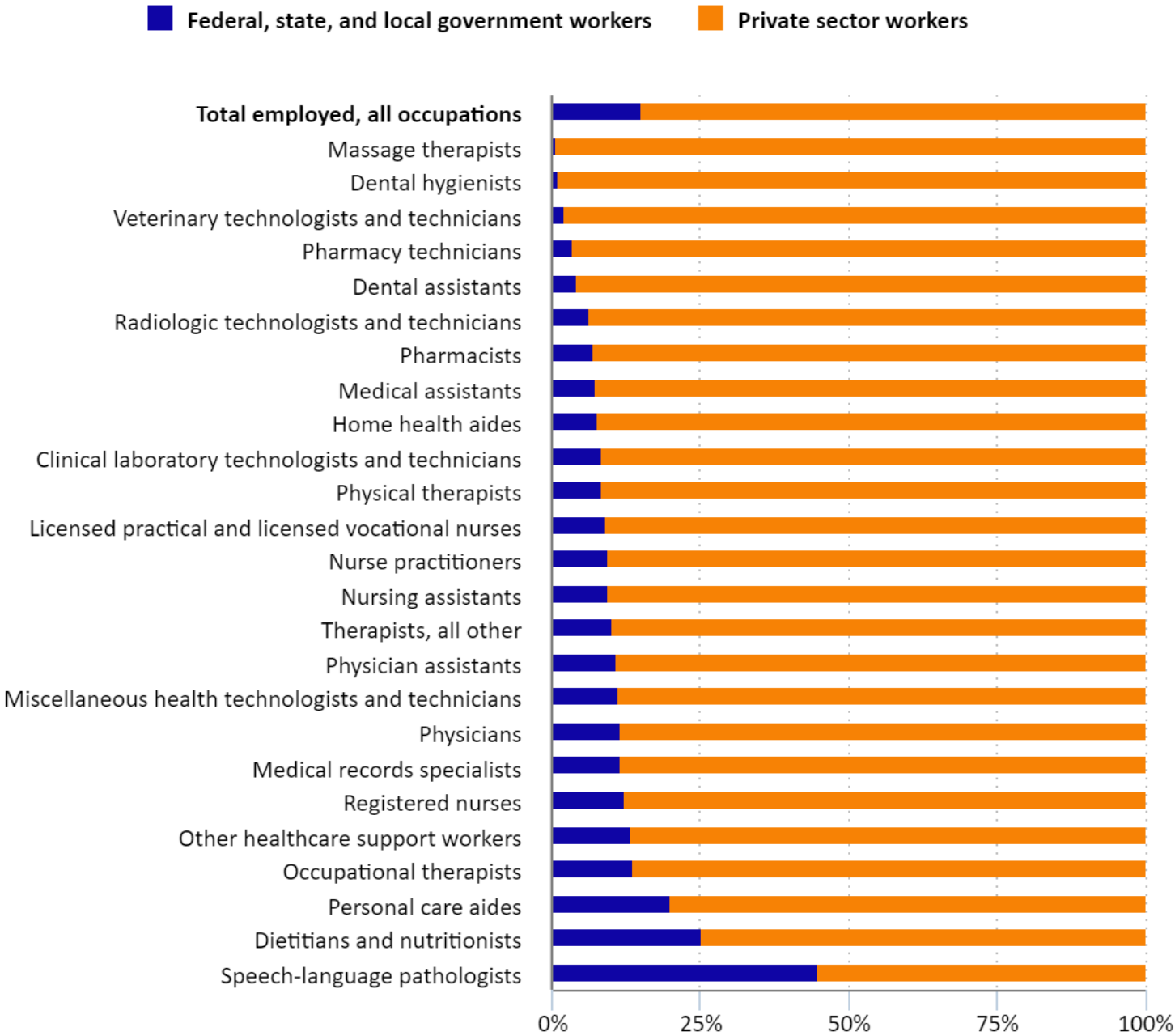
Percent of workers in the largest healthcare occupations who are self-employed, 2022



Nearly half of speech-language pathologists worked in the public sector

Nearly half of speech-language pathologists were employed in the public sector in 2022. This large share (45 percent) reflects the fact that many speech-language pathologists work in schools. Similarly, dietitians and nutritionists (25 percent) and personal care aides (20 percent) also were more likely to be employed in the public sector than workers overall. In 2022, 15 percent of all workers were employed in the public sector.

Percentage of wage and salary employment in the public and private sectors in the 25 largest healthcare occupations, 2022



Source: <https://www.bls.gov/spotlight/2023/healthcare-occupations-in-2022/home.htm>

Job Searching



Nurse Anesthetists, Nurse Midwives, and Nurse Practitioners

Quick Facts: Nurse Anesthetists, Nurse Midwives, and Nurse Practitioners	
2021 Median Pay	\$123,780 per year \$59.51 per hour
Typical Entry-Level Education	Master's degree
Work Experience in a Related Occupation	None
On-the-job Training	None
Number of Jobs, 2021	300,000
Job Outlook, 2021-31	40% (Much faster than average)
Employment Change, 2021-31	118,600

Nurse anesthetists, nurse midwives, and nurse practitioners, also referred to as advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs), coordinate patient care and may provide primary and specialty healthcare. The scope of practice varies from state to state.

## Duties

- Advanced practice registered nurses typically do the following:
- Take and record patients' medical histories and symptoms
- Perform physical exams and observe patients
- Create patient care plans or contribute to existing plans
- Perform and order diagnostic tests
- Operate and monitor medical equipment
- Diagnose various health problems
- Analyze test results or changes in a patient's condition and alter treatment plans, as needed
- Give patients medicines and treatments
- Evaluate a patient's response to medicines and treatments
- Consult with doctors and other healthcare professionals, as needed
- Counsel and teach patients and their families how to stay healthy or manage their illnesses or injuries
- Conduct research

APRNs work independently or in collaboration with physicians. In most states, they can prescribe medications, order medical tests, and diagnose health problems. APRNs may provide primary and preventive care and may specialize in care for certain groups of people, such as children, pregnant women, or patients with mental health disorders.

## Education

Nurse anesthetists, nurse midwives, and nurse practitioners typically need at least a master's degree in an advanced practice nursing field. Accredited healthcare and related programs in these specialties typically include classroom education and clinical experience. Courses in subjects such as advanced health assessment, pathophysiology, and pharmacology are common as well as coursework specific to the chosen APRN role.

An APRN must have a registered nursing (RN) license before pursuing education in one of the advanced practice roles, and a strong background in science is helpful.

Most APRN programs prefer candidates who have a bachelor's degree in nursing. However, some schools offer bridge programs for registered nurses with an associate's degree or diploma in nursing. Graduate-level programs are also available for individuals who did not obtain a bachelor's degree in nursing but in a related health science field. These programs prepare the student for the RN licensure exam in addition to offering the APRN curriculum.

Although a master's degree is the most common form of entry-level education, APRNs may choose to earn a Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) or a Ph.D. The specific educational requirements and qualifications for each of the roles are available on professional organizations' websites.





Prospective nurse anesthetists must have 1 year of experience working as registered nurse in a critical care setting as a prerequisite for admission to an accredited nurse anesthetist program.

APRNs have some of the same duties as registered nurses, including gathering information about a patient's condition and taking action to treat or manage the patient's health. However, APRNs are trained to do other tasks, including ordering and evaluating test results, referring patients to specialists, and diagnosing and treating ailments. APRNs focus on patient-centered care, which means understanding a patient's concerns and lifestyle before choosing a course of action.

### Pay

The median annual wage for nurse anesthetists, nurse midwives, and nurse practitioners was \$123,780 in May 2021. The median wage is the wage at which half the workers in an occupation earned more than that amount and half earned less. The lowest 10 percent earned less than \$79,870, and the highest 10 percent earned more than \$200,540.

In Virginia, the entry level wage for a nurse practitioner averages \$89,340, median wage is \$110,860, and experienced average is around \$141,490.

### Job Outlook

Overall employment of nurse anesthetists, nurse midwives, and nurse practitioners is projected to grow 40 percent from 2021 to 2031, much faster than the average for all occupations.

About 30,200 openings for nurse anesthetists, nurse midwives, and nurse practitioners are projected each year, on average, over the decade. Many of those openings are expected to result from the need to replace workers who transfer to different occupations or exit the labor force, such as to retire.

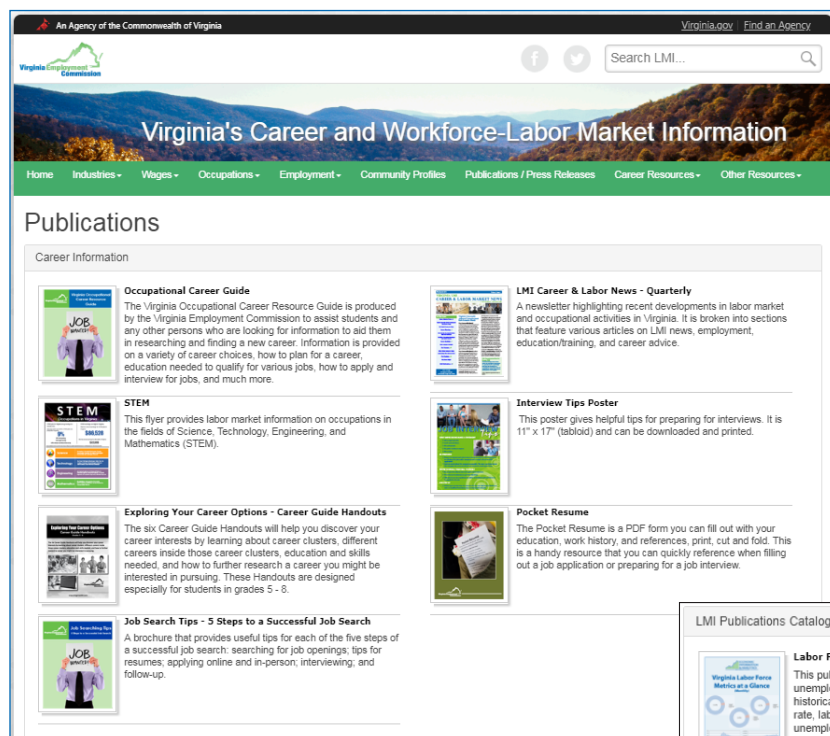
Source: <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/nurse-anesthetists-nurse-midwives-and-nurse-practitioners.htm#tab-1>



# Career and Labor Market Information Publications • • • • •

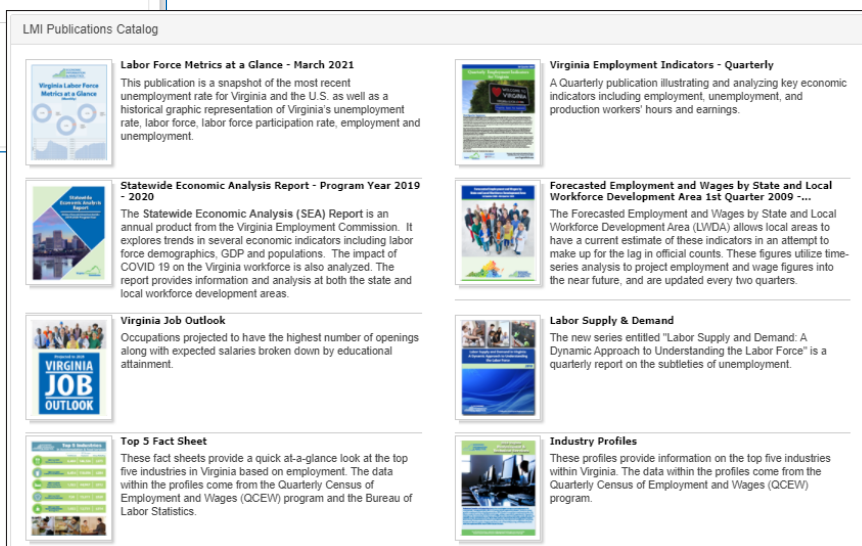
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These products provide labor market information, job tips, career planning, and more.



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