School Nurses in the U.S.

School nurses are licensed nurses who work in public and private schools and use evidence-based practice to promote individual and population-based student health, provide care coordination, advocate for quality student-centered care, and advance academic success. School nurses are leaders who bridge health care and education, and collaborate to help create healthy communities. NASN recommends students have daily access to, at a minimum, a full-time baccalaureate-prepared registered nurse (RN).

Percentage of Schools with School Nurse Coverage

- 35.3% of schools employ part-time school nurses (< 35 hours)
- 39.3% of schools employ full-time school nurses (> 35 hours)
- Across the country 25.2% of schools did not employ a school nurse

Employer/Funding

The majority of school nurses are employed by education and funded from regular/special education funds. Other funding for school nurses include health department, local organizations, federal, and state organizations.

Average Salary for RN School Nurses

National Average RN salary ranges from $63,944* - $66,973**

**The Registered Nurse Population (2010). [Bethesda, Md.]: Health Resources and Services

Race/Ethnicity/Gender:
98.4% Female; 86.9% White; 4.8% Black/African American; 1.4% Asian; 4% Hispanic/Latina; 2.2% multiple; <1 American Indian/Alaskan Native and Hawaiian


Educational Level | School Nurses | RN (national)*
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MSN | 12.5% | 10.3%
BSN | 51.3% | 44.6%
AA | 22.4% | 37.9%

Age (years) | School Nurses | RN (national)*
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< 30 | 5.6% | 14.8%
31-40 | 16.9% | 23.5%
41-50 | 25.9% | 26.8%
51-60 | 33.9% | 26.4%
> 60 | 14% | 8.5%