



Even before COVID-19, statisticians predicted that there would not be enough trained nurses to meet demand. This has been exacerbated by the pandemic, causing a **nursing shortage** close to 13 million workers across the world.¹ In the United States, about 1.1 million nurses need to be replaced by 2024.²

Factors that impact the current staffing shortage among nurses include an aging population, aging workforce, nurse burnout, wage disparities, family obligations, lack of nursing faculty,³ and infection rates and death.⁴ However, one of the major factors contributing to the shortage is **limited access to nursing education** and training. Even though student applications surged in fall 2020 programs, there were 80,521 qualified

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- ¹ <https://nursejournal.org/articles/post-pandemic-nursing-shortage/>
- ² <https://bhwh.hrsa.gov/sites/default/files/bureau-health-workforce/data-research/nchwa-hrsa-nursing-report.pdf>
- ³ The Nursing Shortage in California: The Public Policy Role Of The California Strategic Planning (<http://ojin.nursingworld.org/MainMenuCategories/ThePracticeofProfessionalNursing/workforce/NursingShortage/Resources/NursingShortageinCalifornia.html>)
- ⁴ <https://nursejournal.org/articles/post-pandemic-nursing-shortage/>
- ⁵ <https://nursejournal.org/articles/post-pandemic-nursing-shortage/>
- ⁶ <https://www.aacnnursing.org/News-Information/News/View/ArticleId/25127/January-2022-Data-Spotlight-Impact-of-Insufficient-Clinical-Sites-on-Baccalaureate-Program-Admissions>
- ⁷ <https://www.aacnnursing.org/news-information/fact-sheets/impact-of-education>
- ⁸ <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/24983041/>
- ⁹ <https://www.registerednursing.org/articles/largest-nursing-shortages/>
- ¹⁰ The Nursing Shortage in California: The Public Policy Role Of The California Strategic Planning (<http://ojin.nursingworld.org/MainMenuCategories/ThePracticeofProfessionalNursing/workforce/NursingShortage/Resources/NursingShortageinCalifornia.html>)
- ¹¹ <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/29183169/>
- ¹² <https://www.ruralcenter.org/resource-library/workforce-shortage>
- ¹³ <https://khn.org/morning-breakout/health-care-deserts-nearly-80-percent-of-rural-u-s-designated-as-medically-underserved-shortages/>