

# How Much Do Nurse Practitioners (NPs) Make? A Complete Salary Guide

Nurse Practitioners (NPs) are advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs) who play a vital role in the healthcare system. They provide primary and specialty care, diagnose and treat illnesses, prescribe medications, and offer preventive health education. With the growing demand for healthcare services, the profession has gained popularity not only for its impact but also for its strong earning potential. One of the most common questions people ask is: How much do nurse practitioners make?

This guide will provide an in-depth look into [how much do np make](#) salaries, including average earnings, factors that influence pay, and future trends.

## Average Salary of Nurse Practitioners in the United States

According to the **U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS)**, the average annual salary for nurse practitioners in 2023 was around **\$124,000 per year**, which translates to approximately **\$59.62 per hour**.

- **Lowest 10% of NPs:** Around \$95,000 per year
- **Median (50%):** Around \$121,000 per year
- **Highest 10% of NPs:** Over \$160,000 per year

This makes the NP profession one of the most lucrative in the nursing field.

## Salary by State

Salaries can vary widely depending on location. States with higher demand for healthcare professionals often pay more.

- **Highest Paying States for NPs:**
  - California: \$150,000+
  - New Jersey: \$140,000+
  - New York: \$135,000+
  - Washington: \$130,000+
  - Massachusetts: \$128,000+
- **Lower Paying States for NPs:**
  - Kentucky: \$105,000
  - Tennessee: \$107,000
  - Alabama: \$108,000
  - South Carolina: \$110,000

## Salary by Specialization

The type of practice area can greatly influence earnings.

- **Psychiatric NPs:** \$140,000 – \$160,000
- **Acute Care NPs:** \$135,000 – \$150,000
- **Pediatric NPs:** \$110,000 – \$125,000
- **Family Nurse Practitioners (FNPs):** \$115,000 – \$125,000
- **Women's Health NPs:** \$112,000 – \$120,000

## Salary by Work Setting

Where NPs work also impacts their salaries.

- **Hospitals (General and Surgical):** \$130,000+
- **Outpatient Care Centers:** \$135,000+
- **Colleges/Universities (Teaching/Research):** \$110,000 – \$115,000
- **Doctor's Offices:** \$122,000 – \$125,000
- **Home Health Care Services:** \$117,000 – \$120,000

## Factors That Influence NP Salaries

Several elements determine how much an NP earns:

1. **Location:** Cost of living and demand for healthcare workers.
2. **Experience:** Senior NPs with 10+ years typically earn more.
3. **Specialization:** High-demand specialties command higher pay.
4. **Work Setting:** Hospitals and specialty clinics pay more than schools or community centers.
5. **Certifications:** Advanced certifications and subspecialties increase earning potential.

## Job Outlook for Nurse Practitioners

The NP profession is one of the fastest-growing careers in healthcare. According to BLS, NP employment is expected to grow by **38% between 2022 and 2032**, which is much faster than average. This growth is fueled by physician shortages, an aging population, and the rising need for primary care providers.

With such growth, salaries are expected to remain competitive and even increase in the coming years.

## Conclusion

So, **how much do nurse practitioners make?** On average, NPs earn about **\$124,000 per year**, but salaries can vary significantly depending on location, experience, specialization, and work setting. States like California and New York, as well as specialties such as psychiatry and acute care, offer some of the highest salaries in the field.

Nurse practitioners enjoy not only financial rewards but also the satisfaction of making a real difference in patients' lives. With excellent job security, a growing demand, and strong

compensation, becoming an NP is both a rewarding and financially stable career choice.