

Nurse Salaries: Which States Pay the Best (2021 Updated)

[nightingale.edu/blog/nurse-salary-by-state/](https://nightingale.edu/blog/nurse-salary-by-state/)

UPDATED Nursing salaries by state & nurse specialty. Find out the average nurse salary info for RNs, BSN, MSN, Advanced Practice Nurse, LPN & more!

New Data for Interactive Map:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1updPwOIZOIZWHmG0C44S7WSZWJiszkzfbxJWBs0DbeQ/edit#gid=1011263036>

## NURSE SALARY BY STATE IN 2021: WHICH US STATES & SPECIALTIES PAY THE BEST?

The decisions you make when you are starting or furthering your nursing career can be heavily influenced by how much you can potentially earn. Figuring out how much you can make as a nurse is important for planning your education, as well as deciding in which state you will practice.

Searching for nursing job salaries by state can get tedious very quickly, so we at Nightingale College created a list with all the pay information about the average nurse salary per state, for you to access in one place.

In this article, you will find out the **average nursing pay scale**, how much you can **make per month and per hour** as a nurse, the salary differences between Licensed Practical Nurses, Registered Nurses, RNs with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing, and Registered Nurses with a Master's of Science in Nursing.

While knowing your earning potential is incredibly important when choosing a career, it's just as useful to know how your paycheck will hold up in terms of where you live. That's why your **nursing salary adjusted to the cost of living** is a criteria you also need to consider. We want you to have all the facts, which is why we included in our guide the adjusted salaries, so that you realistically know how much money you will earn when you factor in the cost of living in your state.

### The Average Nursing Salaries in the US

Salary is one the biggest concerns most working professionals have prior to embarking on a specific job journey. It can also be the defining factor when determining if additional education or a career switch is the right decision. Let's look at average nursing salaries across the U.S.

Below you will find an interactive map that shows you an overview of **annual nursing salaries throughout the United States**. We have included **salaries for LPNs, Registered Nurses, BSN RNs**, as well as the salaries for some of the most sought after **MSN nursing roles**.

Use the drop-down menu to select the average salary for each of the nursing roles we mentioned. You can also select the option to view the nursing wages adjusted for the local cost of living.

This data was gathered from the latest [Bureau of Labor Statistics](#) and [Numbeo](#), which is a platform we used to adjust salaries to the cost of living in each state.

[MAP WITH ADJUSTED 2021 SALARIES - the interactive one]

Next, let us discuss different levels of nursing and their corresponding salary expectations. As a general rule, the more you advance your education, the higher your income potential will be. Here are some of the most common nursing levels and the national average salaries for each of them:

Nursing Role	2020 Hourly wage	2020 Annual wage
Licensed Practical Nurses	\$24.08	\$50,090
Registered Nurses	\$38.47	\$80,010
Nurse Educator	-	\$84,060
Nurse Practitioners	\$55.05	\$114,510
Nurse Midwives	\$55.55	\$115,540
Nurse Anesthetists	\$90.96	\$189,190

Nurses can make anywhere from \$50,090 to six figures. **Let's see how each of these nursing jobs get paid by state, at a local level.**

## RN SALARY BY STATE: How Much Does a Registered Nurse Make in the United States?

## Average Salary & Projected Growth

As of 2020, [The US Bureau of Labor Statistics](#) (BLS) reported that between May 2019 and May 2020, RNs brought in a **mean salary of \$80,010 per year** – a **3.2% increase compared to the previous year**.

There are some projected employment figures that are favorable to highly trained nurses. Reports predict a rise of **7% in the employment of nurses**, equaling an extra 175,900 job openings for Registered Nurses each year, on average, over the decade.

Read more about [job outlook for Registered Nurses](#).

## Highest and Lowest Paying States for RNs

The highest and best paying state to work as a Registered Nurse in 2020 is **California, with an average annual RN salary of \$120,560**, followed by **Hawaii with \$104,830** per year, **Massachusetts with \$96,250** per year, **Oregon with \$96,230**, and **Alaska with \$95,270 annually**. Washington, New York, Nevada, New Jersey and Connecticut also make the list of the highest paying states for RNs. In Washington, Registered Nurses make on average \$91,310; in NY, they earn \$89,760, only \$10 more than the mean salary for Nevada RNs - \$89,750. In New Jersey and Connecticut nurses also bring home wages above the national average: \$85,720 and \$84,850 respectively.

In 2020, **Alabama was the lowest paying state** for nurses, with an **average RN salary of \$60,230**. South Dakota and Mississippi are also on the lower paying side of the spectrum. Here, Registered Nurses have an average annual income of \$60,960 and \$61,250.

If you didn't find your state among the highest nor the lowest paying states in the nursing field, don't worry. Below you can find detailed information about the Registered Nurse Salary in each state:

### Alabama

The average RN salary in Alabama (AL) is **\$60,230** which is well below the national average. The monthly salary is \$5,019, equaling an average of \$28.96 hourly wage.

### Alaska

The average Registered Nurse salary in Alaska (AK) is **\$95,270** which is well above the national average. The monthly salary is \$7,939 or an average of \$43.81 per hour.

### Arizona

The average Registered Nurse salary in Arizona (AZ) is **\$80,380** which is only slightly above the national average. The monthly salary is \$6,698 or an average of \$38.64 hourly wage.

### **Arkansas**

The average Registered Nurse salary in Arkansas (AR) is **\$63,640** which is below the national average. The monthly salary is \$5,303 or an average of \$30.60 per hour.

### **California**

The average Registered Nurse salary in California (CA) is **\$120,560** which is well above the national average. The monthly salary is \$10,046 or an average of \$57.96 per hour.

### **Colorado**

The average Registered Nurse salary in Colorado (CO) is **\$77,860** which is below the national average for RNs - \$88,010. The monthly salary here is \$6,488 and it breaks down as an average of \$37.43 hourly wage.

### **Connecticut**

The average Registered Nurse salary in Connecticut is **\$84,850** which is above the national average for Registered Nurses. The monthly salary is \$7,070 and it breaks down as an average of \$40.79 per hour.

### **Delaware**

The average, or mean, Registered Nurse salary in Delaware is **\$74,330**. The monthly salary is \$6,194 and it breaks down as an average of \$35.74 per hour.

### **District of Columbia**

The average annual salary for RNs in District of Columbia (DC) is **\$90,050**, which breaks down to a \$7,504 monthly salary or \$43.29 per hour.

For BSN-trained nurses, the salary is \$105,186 per year or \$50.57 per hour.

### **Florida**

The average Registered Nurse salary in Florida (FL) is **\$69,510** which is below the national average for RNs. The monthly salary is \$5,792 and it breaks down as an average of \$33.42 per hour.

### **Georgia**

The average Registered Nurse salary in Georgia (GA) is **\$71,510** which is below the national average for RN's, \$80,010. The monthly salary is \$5,959 and it breaks down as an average of \$34.38 per hour.

### **Hawaii**

The average Registered Nurse salary in Hawaii (HI) is **\$104,830** which is well above the national average. The monthly salary is \$8,735 and it breaks down as an average of \$50.40 per hour.

### **Idaho**

The average Registered Nurse salary in Idaho (ID) is **\$71,640** which is below the national average for RN's. The monthly salary is \$5,970 and it breaks down as an average of \$34.44 per hour.

### **Illinois**

The average Registered Nurse salary in Illinois (IL) is **\$74,560** which is below the national average figure for RNs, \$8,010. The monthly salary is \$6,213 and it breaks down as an average of \$35.85 per hour.

### **Indiana**

The average salary for a Registered Nurse in Indiana (IN) is **\$66,560** which is more than \$10,000 below the national average for RN's viewed across all U.S. states, \$80,010. The monthly salary is \$5,624 and it breaks down as an average of \$32.45 per hour.

### **Iowa**

The average salary for a Registered Nurse in Iowa (IA) is **\$62,570**, which is below the national average. The monthly salary is \$5,214 and it breaks down as an average of \$30.08 per hour.

### **Kansas**

The average salary for a Registered Nurse in Kansas (KA) is **\$64,200**, which is well below the national average for RNs viewed across all U.S. states, \$80,010. The monthly salary is \$5,350 and it breaks down as an average of \$30.87 per hour.

### **Kentucky**

The average salary for a Registered Nurse in Kentucky (KY) is \$64,730, which is below the national average for RN's. The monthly salary is \$5,394 and it breaks down as an average of \$31.12 per hour.

### **Louisiana**

The average salary for a Registered Nurse in Louisiana (LA) is \$68,010 which is below the national average for RNs viewed across all U.S. states, \$80,010. The monthly salary is \$5,668 and it breaks down as an average of \$32.70 per hour.

### **Maine**

The average salary for a Registered Nurse in Maine (ME) is \$71,040, which is below the national average for RN's. The monthly salary is \$5,920 and it breaks down as an average of \$34.16 per hour.

### **Maryland**

The average salary for a Registered Nurse in Maryland (MA) is **\$81,590**, which is above the national average for RN's. The monthly salary is \$6,799 and it breaks down as an average of \$39.23 per hour.

**Massachusetts**

The average salary for a Registered Nurse in Massachusetts (MA) is **\$96,250**, which is above the national average for RNs. The monthly salary is \$8,020 and it breaks down as an average of \$46.27 per hour.

**Michigan**

The average salary for a Registered Nurse in Michigan (MI) is **\$73,980**, which is below the national average for RNs. The monthly salary is \$6,165 and it breaks down as an average of \$35.57 per hour.

**Minnesota**

The average salary for a Registered Nurse in Minnesota (MN) is **\$80,960**, which is slightly above the national average for RN's viewed across all U.S. states, \$80,010. The monthly salary is \$6,747 and it breaks down as an average of \$38.92 per hour.

**Mississippi**

The average salary for a Registered Nurse in Mississippi (MS) is **\$61,250**, which is more than \$18,000 below the national average for RNss, \$80,010. The monthly salary is \$5,104 and it breaks down as an average of \$29.45 per hour.

**Missouri**

The average salary for a Registered Nurse in Missouri (MO) is **\$65,900**, which is below the national average for RNss viewed across all U.S. states. The monthly salary is \$5,492 and it breaks down as an average of \$31.68 per hour.

**Montana**

The average salary for a Registered Nurse in Montana (MT) is **\$70,530**, which is below the national average for RNs viewed across all U.S. states, \$80,010. The monthly salary is \$5,878 and it breaks down as an average of \$33.91 per hour.

**Nebraska**

The average salary for a Registered Nurse in Nebraska (NE) is **\$69,480** which is below the national average for RNs viewed across all U.S. states. The monthly salary is \$5,790 and it breaks down as an average of \$33.41 per hour.

**Nevada**

The average salary for a Registered Nurse in Nevada (NV) is **\$89,750**, which is above the national average for RNs viewed across all U.S. states, \$80,010. The monthly salary is \$7,479 and it breaks down as an average of \$43.15 per hour.

**New Hampshire**

The average salary for a Registered Nurse in New Hampshire (NH) is **\$75,970**, which is below the national average for RN's viewed across all U.S. states, \$80,010. The monthly salary is \$6,330 and it breaks down as an average of \$36.52 per hour.

**New Jersey**

The average salary for a Registered Nurse in New Jersey (NJ) is **\$85,720**, which is above the national average. The monthly salary is \$7,143 and it breaks down as an average of \$41.21 per hour.

**New Mexico**

The average salary for a Registered Nurse in New Mexico (NM) is **\$75,700**, which is below the national average. The monthly salary is \$6,308 and it breaks down as an average of \$36.40 per hour.

**New York**

The average salary for a Registered Nurse in New York (NY) is **\$89,760**, which is above the national average for RNs viewed across all U.S. states, \$80,010. The monthly salary is \$7,480 and it breaks down as an average of \$43.16 per hour.

**North Carolina**

The average salary for a Registered Nurse in North Carolina (NC) is **\$68,950**, which is below the national average for RN's viewed across all U.S. states. The monthly salary is \$5,745 and it breaks down as an average of \$33.15 per hour.

**North Dakota**

The average salary for a Registered Nurse in North Dakota (ND) is **\$69,630**, which is below the national average. The monthly salary is \$5,802 and it breaks down as an average of \$34.47 per hour.

**Ohio**

The average salary for a Registered Nurse in Ohio (OH) is **\$69,750**, which is below the national average for RN's viewed across all U.S. states, \$80,010. The monthly salary is \$5,812 and it breaks down as an average of \$33.53 per hour.

**Oklahoma**

The average salary for a Registered Nurse in Oklahoma (OK) is **\$66,600**, which is below the national average for RN's viewed across all U.S. states. The monthly salary is \$5,550 and it breaks down as an average of \$32.02 per hour.

**Oregon**

The average salary for a Registered Nurse in Oregon (OR) is **\$96,230**, which is above the national average for RN's viewed across all U.S. states - \$80,010. The monthly salary is \$8,019 and it breaks down as an average of \$46.27 per hour.

### **Pennsylvania**

The average salary for a Registered Nurse in Pennsylvania (PA) is **\$74,170**, which is below the national average for RN's viewed across all U.S. states. The monthly salary is \$6,180 and it breaks down as an average of \$35.66 per hour.

### **Rhode Island**

The average salary for a Registered Nurse in Rhode Island is **\$82,790**, which is above the national average for RN's viewed across all U.S. states - \$80,010. The monthly salary is \$6,899 and it breaks down as an average of \$39.81 per hour.

### **South Carolina**

The average salary for a Registered Nurse in South Carolina (SC) is **\$67,140**, which is below the national average for RNs viewed across all U.S. states. The monthly salary is \$5,595 and it breaks down as an average of \$32.28 per hour.

### **South Dakota**

The average salary for a Registered Nurse in South Dakota (SD) is **\$60,960**, which is below the national average for RNs viewed across all U.S. states. The monthly salary is \$5,080 and it breaks down as an average of \$29.30 per hour.

### **Tennessee**

The average salary for a Registered Nurse in Tennessee (TN) is **\$64,120**, which is below the national average for RNss viewed across all U.S. states. The monthly salary is \$5,343 and it breaks down as an average of \$30.83 per hour.

### **Texas**

The average salary for a Registered Nurse in Texas (TX) is **\$76,800**, which is below the national average for RN's viewed across all U.S. states - \$80,010. The monthly salary is \$6,400 and it breaks down as an average of \$36.92 per hour.

### **Utah**

The average salary for a Registered Nurse in Utah (UT) is **\$70,370**, which is well below the national average for RN's viewed across all U.S. states - \$80,010. The monthly salary is \$5,864 and it breaks down as an average of \$33.83 per hour.

### **Vermont**

The average salary for a Registered Nurse in Vermont (VT) is **\$72,140**, which is below the national average for RN's viewed across all U.S. states. The monthly salary is \$6,012 and it breaks down as an average of \$34.68 per hour.

### **Virginia**

The average salary for a Registered Nurse in Virginia (VA) is **\$74,380**, which is below the national average for RN's viewed across all U.S. states - \$80,010. The monthly salary is \$6,198 and it breaks down as an average of \$35.76 per hour.



### Washington

The average salary for a Registered Nurse in Washington (WA) is **\$91,310**, which is above the national average for RN's viewed across all the U.S. The monthly salary is \$7,609 and it breaks down as an average of \$43.90 per hour.

### West Virginia

The average salary for a Registered Nurse in West Virginia (WV) is \$65,130, which is below the national average for RN's viewed across all U.S. states. The monthly salary is \$5,427 and it breaks down as an average of \$31.31 per hour.

### Wisconsin

The average salary for a Registered Nurse in Wisconsin (WI) is **\$74,760**, which is below the national average for RN's viewed across all U.S. states. The monthly salary is \$6,230 and it breaks down as an average of \$35.94 per hour.

### Wyoming

The average salary for a Registered Nurse in Wyoming (WY) is **\$72,600**, which is below the national average for RN's viewed across all U.S. states, \$80,010. The monthly salary is \$6,050 and it breaks down as an average of \$34.90 per hour.

## BSN SALARY BY STATE: What Is the Average Salary of a BSN Prepared Nurse?

### Average Salary & Projected Growth

Although the Bureau of Labor Statistics does not provide specific information about the salaries of BSN-educated nurses, [as the BSN Nursing portal points out](#), BSN-educated nurses are the top 25% earners in the field. Therefore, the data showing the 75th percentile salary range is a good indicator of the average annual salary of BSN nurses.

According to [2020 BLS](#) 75th percentile wage estimates, the **average salary of BSN nurses is \$93,590**. This breaks down to an average of \$44.99 per hour. This puts the difference between RN salaries and BSN salaries at around \$13,580. The more you learn, the more you earn.

In addition to enjoying higher salaries, BSN RNs also have **tremendous job prospects**. Over 80% of employers in the healthcare industry have a strong preference for hiring BSN trained nurses, while over 42% already require that their new hires have a BSN degree under their belt. BSN Nurses are typically associated with better patient outcomes and fewer medical mistakes, so the need for them will only increase over the decade.

## Highest & Lowest Paying States for BSN RNs

BSN prepared nurses will earn the highest wages in **California, Hawaii, Massachusetts, Alaska, and Oregon**. In California, Register Nurses who have a Bachelor's Degree can expect to make up to \$147,830. Hawaii is second in the list of top-paying states for BSN Nurses, with salaries of around \$124,880. Next in line is Massachusetts, where BSN RNs earn \$117,310. In Alaska, the earnings round up to \$110,890, followed by Oregon - \$110,220.

Among the states where BSNs will earn the **lowest salaries are Alabama, Iowa, and South Dakota**. In Alabama, the income of a Nurse with a Bachelor's Degree will be around \$68,960. In Iowa, BSN RNs make \$69,960 yearly, while in South Dakota the paycheck stands at an average of \$70,020.

Below, you will find the average **annual and hourly salaries for BSN Registered Nurses in all 50 states**, as well as the salaries adjusted for the cost of living in each state:

State	BSN Hourly Salary	BSN Annual Salary	Adjusted BSN Annual Salary
Alabama	\$33.15	\$68,960	\$76,339
Alaska	\$53.31	\$110,890	\$77,734
Arizona	\$44.67	\$92,920	\$95,708
Arkansas	\$35.40	\$73,630	\$83,276
California	\$71.07	\$147,830	\$71,402
Colorado	\$43.47	\$90,410	\$85,347
Connecticut	\$47.62	\$99,040	\$71,606
Delaware	\$40.42	\$84,070	\$77,260
Florida	\$38.28	\$79,630	\$81,302
Georgia	\$39.67	\$82,500	\$91,410
Hawaii	\$60.04	\$124,880	\$88,660
Idaho	\$39.16	\$81,450	\$87,722
Illinois	\$41.48	\$86,280	\$91,025
Indiana	\$37.25	\$77,470	\$85,217
Iowa	\$33.63	\$69,960	\$76,886
Kansas	\$35.68	\$74,220	\$82,384
Kentucky	\$36.00	\$74,890	\$81,705
Louisiana	\$37.51	\$78,020	\$82,779
Maine	\$38.93	\$80,970	\$66,800

Maryland	\$45.56	\$94,760	\$66,616
Massachusetts	\$56.40	\$117,310	\$80,240
Michigan	\$40.39	\$84,010	\$93,335
Minnesota	\$45.82	\$95,310	\$93,785
Mississippi	\$34.23	\$71,190	\$81,085
Missouri	\$37.64	\$78,290	\$88,389
Montana	\$38.71	\$80,510	\$74,955
Nebraska	\$38.14	\$79,330	\$86,628
Nevada	\$50.27	\$104,560	\$95,672
New Hampshire	\$42.39	\$88,170	\$79,618
New Jersey	\$47.63	\$99,080	\$74,211
New Mexico	\$40.90	\$85,070	\$95,704
New York	\$51.12	\$106,330	\$64,755
North Carolina	\$38.35	\$79,770	\$83,838
North Dakota	\$38.08	\$79,200	\$80,150
Ohio	\$38.09	\$79,230	\$86,519
Oklahoma	\$37.05	\$77,060	\$87,078
Oregon	\$52.99	\$110,220	\$72,525
Pennsylvania	\$40.50	\$84,240	\$82,808
Rhode Island	\$46.30	\$96,300	\$77,618
South Carolina	\$37.32	\$77,630	\$80,813
South Dakota	\$33.66	\$70,020	\$70,160
Tennessee	\$35.73	\$74,330	\$82,729
Texas	\$42.83	\$89,080	\$96,652
Utah	\$38.21	\$79,470	\$80,742
Vermont	\$40.10	\$83,410	\$71,316
Virginia	\$41.71	\$86,750	\$86,143
Washington	\$51.80	\$107,740	\$96,212
West Virginia	\$36.64	\$76,210	\$82,993
Wisconsin	\$40.52	\$84,280	\$86,556
Wyoming	\$39.32	\$81,790	\$90,542

# MSN SALARY BY STATE: What is the average salary of an MSN prepared Nurse?

The average salaries as well as job outlook for MSN Nurses varies greatly among specialties. Below, we will give a closer look at some of the most sought after MSN jobs.

## Average Salary & Projected Growth

The **national average salary for Nurse Educators is \$84,060**. Nursing Instructors are in particularly high demand. The nursing faculty shortage is one of the leading causes of the countrywide nursing shortage, making the job outlook for Nurse Educators all the more promising.

Nurse Practitioners are some of the highest paid MSN Nurses. On average, **NPs earn around \$114,510** annually. Nurse Practitioners are easily the nursing specialty with the best career outlook. The NP employment rate is expected to grow by 52% by 2029, creating more than 110,000 jobs.

**Nurse Midwives make an average yearly salary of \$115,540**. That breaks down to \$55.55 per hour. They also have great job prospects. BLS projections indicate that the job outlook for midwifery will grow 12% throughout the decade.

Nurse Anesthetists are by far the best paid Advanced Practice Registered Nurses. On a national level, **Nurse Anesthetists earn an average of \$189,190** annually. Also, they have excellent job prospects. BLS estimates indicate that there will be around 2,900 job openings on average for Nurse Anesthetists every year, over the decade.

## Highest & Lowest Paying States for MSN RNs

Nurse Educators have the **highest annual mean wages in Florida, Massachusetts, California and New York**. In Florida, Nursing Instructors make \$116,650. Massachusetts offers salaries of around \$106,950, fairly close to California's wages for Nurse Educators - \$106,420. Among the states where Nurse Educators make the least money are Arkansas - \$60,790; West Virginia - \$61,140, and Oklahoma - \$63,690.

**Nurse Practitioners have the best chance of making the most money in California, New Jersey, Washington, New York, and Massachusetts**. The highest annual mean wage is offered by the Golden State - \$145,970. In New Jersey, Nurse Practitioners make around \$130,890, followed by Washington - \$126,480. The lowest salaries for Nurse Practitioners will be encountered in Tennessee, Alabama, and Florida. On average, in Tennessee, NPs earn \$99,370; in Alabama - \$99,790 and in the sunshine state, the mean wages are \$101,060.

The **best states to work as a Nurse Midwife in, from a financial standpoint, are California, Utah, Mississippi, New York, and Minnesota**. In California, Nurse Midwives earn on average \$159,590 annually. Utah is second among the top paying states for NMs - \$133,680. In

Mississippi, your earning potential in this role is also way above average - \$127,960. On the other side of the coin, Florida, Idaho, and Georgia offer the lowest salaries for Nurse Midwives. In Florida, you can expect to earn on average \$67,530, in Idaho, \$72,150 and in Georgia, \$92,840.

The **top-paying states for Nurse Anesthetists are Oregon, Wisconsin, Wyoming, Nevada, and Connecticut**. In all these states, the NAs' mean wages surpass the \$200,000 line. In Oregon, as a Nurse Anesthetist your earning potential is as high as \$236,540 yearly. Wisconsin is not too far behind. Here, NAs can make up to \$231,520. In Wyoming, the average salaries for Nurse Anesthetists are \$231,250. Utah, Idaho, and Louisiana are on the other end of the list, offering the lowest salaries for NAs. In Utah, the average salary is \$127,130, while in Idaho and Louisiana the wages for Nurse Anesthetists are slightly higher: \$156,250 and \$161,310 respectively.

Below, you can find the salaries for all these MSN jobs across the U.S.:

State	NURSE EDUCATOR - Annual mean wage	NURSE MIDWIFE - Annual mean wage	NURSE PRACTITIONER - Annual mean wage	NURSE ANESTHETIST - Annual mean wage
Alabama	\$71,950.00	-	\$99,790.00	\$170,560.00
Alaska	\$86,970.00	\$93,080.00	\$110,270.00	-
Arizona	\$73,210.00	\$121,530.00	\$117,480.00	\$173,460.00
Arkansas	\$60,790.00	-	\$106,210.00	\$167,030.00
California	\$106,420.00	\$159,590.00	\$145,970.00	\$205,360.00
Colorado	\$87,580.00	\$106,280.00	\$109,760.00	\$175,760.00
Connecticut	\$96,620.00	\$104,200.00	\$116,780.00	\$217,360.00
Delaware	-	\$96,090.00	\$112,230.00	-
Florida	\$116,650.00	\$67,530.00	\$101,060.00	\$176,760.00
Georgia	\$72,090.00	\$92,840.00	\$106,220.00	\$179,630.00
Hawaii	\$76,540.00	-	\$118,780.00	\$201,930.00
Idaho	\$81,050.00	\$72,150.00	\$113,890.00	\$156,250.00
Illinois	\$74,870.00	\$109,310.00	\$112,060.00	\$194,950.00
Indiana	\$91,310.00	\$112,510.00	\$109,940.00	\$169,620.00
Iowa	\$77,170.00	\$102,830.00	\$107,910.00	\$198,480.00
Kansas	\$69,550.00	-	\$104,530.00	\$167,700.00
Kentucky	\$70,320.00	-	\$102,460.00	\$163,700.00

Louisiana	\$71,050.00	-	\$111,880.00	\$161,310.00
Maine	\$70,350.00	\$119,030.00	\$111,580.00	\$198,940.00
Maryland	\$94,080.00	\$107,670.00	\$115,240.00	\$182,780.00
Massachusetts	\$106,950.00	\$113,910.00	\$126,050.00	\$195,900.00
Michigan	\$83,020.00	\$103,870.00	\$109,150.00	\$199,870.00
Minnesota	\$72,590.00	\$123,600.00	\$118,900.00	\$216,050.00
Mississippi	\$72,840.00	\$127,960.00	\$109,550.00	\$174,540.00
Missouri	\$68,420.00	\$113,320.00	\$106,870.00	\$189,610.00
Montana	\$76,520.00	-	\$114,370.00	\$216,420.00
Nebraska	\$72,570.00	-	\$107,330.00	\$176,880.00
Nevada	\$82,560.00	-	\$119,890.00	\$223,680.00
New Hampshire	\$72,690.00	\$115,760.00	\$112,460.00	\$197,570.00
New Jersey	\$91,400.00	\$117,070.00	\$130,890.00	\$207,500.00
New Mexico	\$75,790.00	\$105,980.00	\$117,050.00	\$164,980.00
New York	\$98,850.00	\$125,780.00	\$126,440.00	\$217,050.00
North Carolina	\$73,320.00	\$102,020.00	\$108,370.00	\$192,830.00
North Dakota	\$74,280.00	-	\$111,070.00	\$192,050.00
Ohio	\$73,220.00	\$105,960.00	\$105,630.00	\$190,120.00
Oklahoma	\$63,690.00	-	\$112,750.00	\$179,410.00
Oregon	\$80,610.00	\$105,600.00	\$118,600.00	\$236,540.00
Pennsylvania	\$78,360.00	\$103,230.00	\$111,560.00	\$185,090.00
Rhode Island	\$87,700.00	\$107,510.00	\$117,300.00	-
South Carolina	\$77,650.00	-	\$101,190.00	\$185,850.00
South Dakota	\$69,880.00	-	\$103,080.00	\$190,660.00
Tennessee	\$73,750.00	\$93,690.00	\$99,370.00	\$171,020.00
Texas	\$65,970.00	\$109,510.00	\$116,700.00	\$180,380.00
Utah	\$81,640.00	\$133,680.00	\$113,550.00	\$127,130.00
Vermont	\$71,370.00	\$97,240.00	\$108,280.00	\$189,780.00
Virginia	\$73,060.00	-	\$109,660.00	\$179,180.00
Washington	\$86,850.00	\$112,310.00	\$126,480.00	\$197,740.00
West Virginia	\$61,140.00	\$123,450.00	\$105,220.00	\$187,430.00
Wisconsin	\$83,520.00	\$110,380.00	\$113,030.00	\$231,520.00

Wyoming	\$67,620.00	-	\$118,810.00	\$231,250.00
---------	-------------	---	--------------	--------------

## LPN SALARY BY STATE: What Is the Average Salary of a Licensed Practical Nurse?

### Average LPN Salary & Projected Growth

According to data from the [Bureau of Labor Statistics](#), **the average salary for Licenced Practical Nurses (called in some states Licensed Vocational Nurses) is \$50,090.**

Employment of LPNs is also expected to grow steadily throughout the decade. BLS projections indicate a 9% growth from 2019 to 2029, much faster than the average for all occupations.

Learn more about [LPN salaries](#) in the United States.

### Highest & Lowest Paying States for LPNs

The **states with the highest salaries for Licensed practical nurses are Alaska (\$67,620), California (\$64,090), and Massachusetts (\$60,400).** LPNs also earn above the national average salaries in Washington and Nevada. In Washington, LPN wages are around \$59,780, while in Nevada, Licenced Practical Nurses make about \$59,700. On the other side of the spectrum are West Virginia (\$38,940), South Dakota (\$39,420), and Mississippi (\$40,340).

In the table below you can explore the hourly and annual wages for Licensed Practical Nurses across the country. You will also find the salaries adjusted to the cost of living in each of the states:

State	Hourly mean wage	Annual mean wage	Adjusted Annual mean wage
Alabama	\$19.56	\$40,680.00	\$45,033.00
Alaska	\$32.51	\$67,620.00	\$47,401.62
Arizona	\$26.84	\$55,820.00	\$57,494.60
Arkansas	\$20.08	\$41,760.00	\$47,230.56
California	\$30.81	\$64,090.00	\$30,955.47
Colorado	\$26.11	\$54,310.00	\$51,268.64
Connecticut	\$28.09	\$58,430.00	\$42,244.89
Delaware	\$25.92	\$53,920.00	\$49,552.48
Florida	\$22.46	\$46,710.00	\$47,690.91
Georgia	\$21.48	\$44,690.00	\$49,516.52

Hawaii	\$26.04	\$54,160.00	\$38,453.60
Idaho	\$23.38	\$48,640.00	\$52,385.28
Illinois	\$26.24	\$54,580.00	\$57,581.90
Indiana	\$23.02	\$47,890.00	\$52,679.00
Iowa	\$22.05	\$45,860.00	\$50,400.14
Kansas	\$21.66	\$45,050.00	\$50,005.50
Kentucky	\$21.23	\$44,160.00	\$48,178.56
Louisiana	\$20.16	\$41,920.00	\$44,477.12
Maine	\$23.27	\$48,390.00	\$39,921.75
Maryland	\$27.03	\$56,220.00	\$39,522.66
Massachusetts	\$29.04	\$60,400.00	\$41,313.60
Michigan	\$25.10	\$52,220.00	\$58,016.42
Minnesota	\$23.96	\$49,840.00	\$49,042.56
Mississippi	\$19.39	\$40,340.00	\$45,947.26
Missouri	\$21.39	\$44,490.00	\$50,229.21
Montana	\$22.12	\$46,010.00	\$42,835.31
Nebraska	\$21.98	\$45,710.00	\$49,915.32
Nevada	\$28.70	\$59,700.00	\$54,625.50
New Hampshire	\$27.12	\$56,400.00	\$50,929.20
New Jersey	\$27.69	\$57,590.00	\$43,134.91
New Mexico	\$24.27	\$50,480.00	\$56,790.00
New York	\$24.66	\$51,300.00	\$31,241.70
North Carolina	\$22.65	\$47,120.00	\$49,523.12
North Dakota	\$23.10	\$48,060.00	\$48,636.72
Ohio	\$22.40	\$46,590.00	\$50,876.28
Oklahoma	\$20.79	\$43,250.00	\$48,872.50
Oregon	\$27.56	\$57,320.00	\$37,716.56
Pennsylvania	\$24.16	\$50,250.00	\$49,395.75
Rhode Island	\$28.41	\$59,090.00	\$47,626.54
South Carolina	\$20.97	\$43,630.00	\$45,418.83
South Dakota	\$18.95	\$39,420.00	\$39,498.84
Tennessee	\$20.35	\$42,330.00	\$47,113.29



Texas	\$23.26	\$48,380.00	\$52,492.30
Utah	\$22.86	\$47,550.00	\$48,310.80
Vermont	\$24.64	\$51,240.00	\$43,810.20
Virginia	\$22.79	\$47,410.00	\$47,078.13
Washington	\$28.74	\$59,780.00	\$53,383.54
West Virginia	\$18.72	\$38,940.00	\$42,405.66
Wisconsin	\$23.11	\$48,070.00	\$49,367.89
Wyoming	\$23.55	\$48,980.00	\$54,220.86

Are you interested in an LPN Career? Enroll in [Nightingale College's Practical Nurse Diploma](#) Program today!

## Nursing Salary Factors that Influence a Nurse's Pay

It's no surprise that nurses' salaries depend on a variety of factors. Supply and demand influences and other popular factors listed below explain the variations in pay:

- **Location** – The state where a nurse works has a big impact on their income. Dense metropolitan areas will always offer a better pay compared to rural environments, even if the demand is high.
- **Career specialization** – Nurses who work in a specialized field of nursing can earn significantly more. Specialized fields usually welcome registered nurses that already hold a Bachelor of Science in Nursing Degree or a MSN.

Read more about the [best nursing certifications](#) - a great way to pursue specialization in the nursing field.

- **Experience and work hours** – Nobody can underestimate the power of acquired years of valuable experience, which is why senior nurses make more than those just entering the workforce.

One rule of thumb that generally applies to nursing salaries is that **the more you learn, the more you earn**. So, every step you take on the educational ladder will propel you toward higher wages. You probably noticed this trajectory even through this article. LPNs make on average \$50,090; RNs earn up to \$80,010, while RNs that have a Bachelor's Degree have average salaries of \$93,590. By climbing even higher on the academic ladder and pursuing an MSN you unlock your potential to earn APRN level salaries that range from \$114,510 (Nurse Practitioners) to \$189,190 (Nurse Anesthetists).

However, keep in mind that these factors are always intertwined and you need to consider them all when trying to determine your earning potential.

Enroll in **Nightingale College's [RN-to-BSN Program](#)** and take your career - and your paycheck - one step forward!

## The Best Paying Nursing Jobs Specialties in US

As we've mentioned, salaries depend largely on geography, employer, experience and other aspects. But there are some nursing specialties that are generally recognized as some of the best paying in the industry. Here are some of them:

### Nurse Anesthetists

Nobody should be surprised by Nurse Anesthetists being at the **top of the list** as long as high salaries for RNs go. Their main task is **prescribing and administering anesthesia** to patients during medical procedures, but they also **provide pain management** and **oversee patient recovery**. And big responsibilities come with big paychecks. Nurse **Anesthetists take home annually \$189,190**, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

### Geriatric Nurse Practitioner

Geriatric NPs **focus on the older patients** who require specialized care. Usually, they work in private practices, hospitals or treatment centers. As Advanced Practice Nurses, they also enjoy more independence, are able to prescribe drugs, order diagnostics tests and develop and implement treatment plans for patients. Geriatric Nurse Practitioners earn about **\$172,645** per year.

### Cardiac Nurse Practitioner

Cardiac Nurse Practitioners also make the list of high-paying nursing jobs. Their **yearly wages are around \$136,846**. Their job description revolves around treating patients who suffer from diseases of the heart, blood vessels, and circulatory system.

### Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner

Mental health practitioners have a very delicate job that integrates both psychology and psychiatry knowledge. Their work implies **treating patients diagnosed with mental illnesses**, and in order to do that they work side by side with psychiatrists and other physicians. Their **salary is in the ballpark of \$123,600**.

### Nurse Manager

According to the Bureau of Labour Statistics, Medical and Health Services Managers, Nurse Managers included, earn a **mean salary of \$118,800**, making this administrative role one of the best paying in the nursing field.

Find out [how much Nurse Managers earn](#) in all 50 states.

## Orthopedic Nurse Practitioner

On average, **Orthopedic Nurse Practitioners earn around \$111,680 annually**. Among their duties are conducting physical exams, taking patient's history, analyzing test results, and prescribing treatments and medication.

## Pain Management Nurse

A relatively new field, Pain Management Nursing has risen to the top of the highest paying in the nursing field. Pain Management Nurses **earn about \$109,000 a year**. They care for patients who suffer from chronic, crippling pain. Pain Management Nurses are indispensable in helping patients alleviate or manage their pain.

## Nurse Midwife

Nurse midwifery is a top choice for RNs with a high interest in women's reproductive health and childbirth. It's also a great option for Nurses who want to earn well while doing something they love. As it is an advanced nursing specialty, the earnings fall in line. Certified Nurse **Midwives enjoy an average salary of \$115,540**.

Discover more about [Nurse Midwives' earning potential](#) across the US.

## Clinical Nurse Specialist

Clinical Nurse Specialists tend to work in specialized units or clinics, and more often than not they also specialize in particular areas of medicine. CNSs are viewed as **experts in their field**, and as such, their salaries are also reasonably high: \$106,400.

## Informatics Nurse

For nurses who are also passionate about technology, this might be the perfect career track, especially since **Nurse Informaticians earn about \$102,200 a year**. In this role, you will bridge the worlds of nursing and IT.

Find out [more of the highest paid nursing jobs](#).

## Key Takeaways for Nurses

Registered Nurses with a BSN degree and an MSN degree will be in high demand in the next decade. And **not only is demand growing - so are salaries**. Of course, alongside the salary, there are many other things to consider when picking a career. The location, the job benefits, the schedule, the cost of living in the area - these are just a few of the characteristics you have to take into account when pursuing a nursing job. Keep them in mind while planning your career path and you will get the most personal and professional satisfaction out of your career as a Registered Nurse.

Do you want to **broaden your horizon, your education and most importantly, your salary?**  
Enroll in [Nightingale College's BSN program](#) and take your career to the next level!

**Already a working professional? Get ahead of the game by pursuing a fully online  
[RN-to-BSN degree](#).**