# NursesEverywhere 

## 2020 Expand Nursing Care Survey: A Research Brief

NursesEverywhere is a voluntary, nonpartisan coalition of healthcare leaders launched in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic with the goal of helping ensure that Americans have access to the nursing care they need. The organization is committed to improving health outcomes and dedicated to educating the public about their rights to access nursing care. With NursesEverywhere, the public has an ally to assist them in more effectively advocating with their elected officials and ensure that their access to exceptional and equitable health outcomes is guaranteed.

NursesEverywhere's first project was to listen to the public and obtain their views about nurses and access to nursing care with a specific focus on their care during the COVID-19 emergency. Thus NursesEverywhere commissioned The Harris Poll to help understand the views of the public. The online survey was fielded by from July $23-27,2020$ and queried 2,039 U.S. adults ages 18 and above.

The results of the survey found the public wants nurses to play a greater role in their health and wellbeing, now and into the future. The following graphs indicate the extent to which the public agreed to statements regarding nurses and healthcare. The total percentage of the public who "agree" or "strongly agree" with the statements is indicated in black font at the end of each bar graph.

THE PUBLIC VALUES NURSES


The public values nurses. Ranging from nearly 80\%-90\% agreement, the public believes nurses can help improve access to care and address health disparities. Most notably, the public wants nurses to continue to play an integral role after the pandemic.

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## THE PUBLIC WANTS SAFE NURSE STAFFING

■ Agree ■ Strongly Agree


The public wants safe nurse staffing in hospitals and nursing homes. Nine out of 10 members of the public believe that organizations that provide care for others should adhere to safe minimum nurse staffing standards.

## THE PUBLIC TRUSTS NURSE PRACTITIONERS



The public trusts nurse practitioners. Eight out of every 10 members of the public would trust nurse practitioners with their health. Nearly three-quarters believed seeing a nurse practitioner was equal to seeing a physician for problems that both are qualified to treat, while two-thirds of public indicated that a difference in office fees would impact their decision to choose a nurse practitioner over a physician.

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## THE PUBLIC WANTS A NURSE IN EVERY SCHOOL



The public wants a full-time nurse in every school. With the continuing threat of Covid-19 infections, $86 \%$ of the public believe school nurses are necessary to safely re-open schools.
the public wants health policies to change


The public wants health policies to change to permit greater access to nurses. Nearly three-quarters of the public believe nurses should be able to practice across state lines, treat patients without physician oversight, and be able to do so through telehealth platforms.
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