

OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

**2012 Washington State Primary Care Nurse Practitioner
Survey
Data Report**

August 2012



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2012 Washington State Primary Care Nurse Practitioner Survey

Data Report

Introduction

In the spring of 2012, the Office of Financial Management (OFM) conducted a survey of primary care Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioners (nurse practitioners or NPs hereafter) practicing in Washington. The purpose of the survey was to gain knowledge of the characteristics and capacity of Washington State's primary care workforce, particularly in light of the expected increase in demand for primary care services when a large number of currently uninsured persons gain health coverage in 2014 under the federal health reform law – the Affordable Care Act (ACA). The survey was funded by a grant through the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), State Health Access Program (SHAP). This report presents the distribution of the survey responses.

Also during the spring of 2012, OFM conducted a survey of primary care physician assistants.¹ Earlier, OFM released the Data Report of the survey of primary care physicians that was conducted in the summer of 2011.² Both the physician and physician assistant surveys were funded by the federal agency grant that supported the survey of primary care nurse practitioners.

Select Results from the Survey

(See Results section for detailed responses to each question in the survey.)

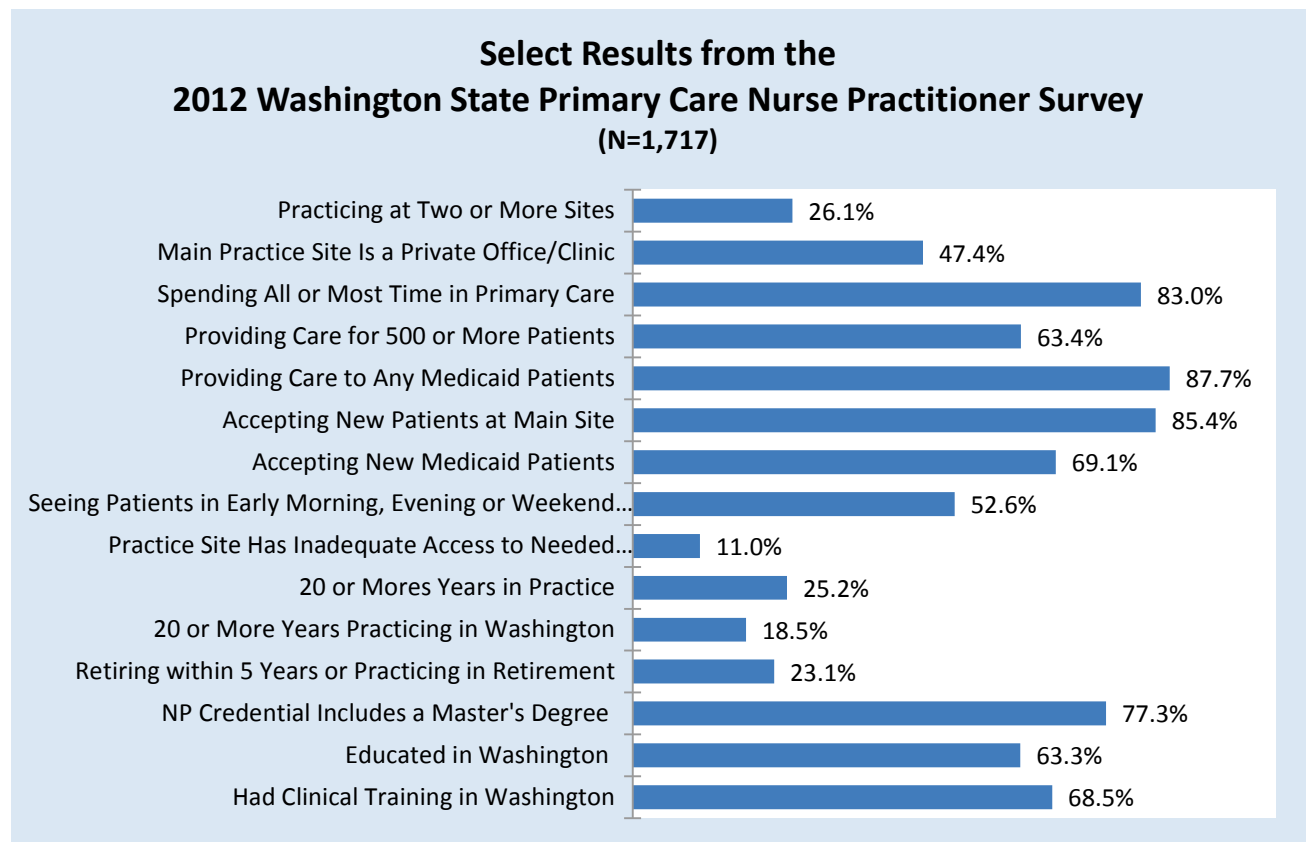
- At the time of the survey, Washington had an estimated total of 1,717 nurse practitioners practicing in primary care.
- Approximately one in four (26 percent) of the primary care NPs practiced at two or more sites.
- Nearly half (47 percent) of the primary care NPs' main practice site is a private office/clinic.
- Four in five (83 percent) reported spending all or most of direct patient care hours in primary care.
- Six in ten (63 percent) had a panel of 500 or more patients.
- Almost nine in ten (88 percent) had a patient panel that included Medicaid patients.
- Also nearly nine in ten (85 percent) of the primary care NPs reported they are accepting new patients at the main practice site while 69 percent are accepting new Medicaid patients.
- More than half (52 percent) reported seeing patients in early morning, evening and weekend hours at the main work site.
- One in ten (11 percent) worked at a site that has inadequate access to needed interpreter services.

¹ See the Data Report of the Primary Care Physician Assistant Survey at

http://www.ofm.wa.gov/healthcare/deliverysystem/2012_PA_survey_frequency_report.pdf

² http://www.ofm.wa.gov/healthcare/deliverysystem/2011_PCP_survey_frequency_report.pdf

- One-quarter (25 percent) of the primary care NPs have practiced twenty or more years while about 19 percent have practiced twenty or more years in Washington.
- Roughly one-quarter (23 percent) reported planning on retiring within five years or working out of retirement.
- More than three-quarters (77 percent) obtained a master’s degree in NP education.
- Six-tenths (63 percent) received NP education and nearly seven-tenths (69 percent) had post-education clinical training in Washington.



About the Survey

The 2012 Washington State Primary Care Nurse Practitioners Survey³ was designed to be a census of all licensed nurse practitioners providing primary care. The survey was sent to all ARNPs licensed with the Washington State Department of Health (DOH) who had a contact address in Washington (N=4,500). Non-primary care nurse practitioners as well as non-practicing nurse practitioners were screened out leaving only the nurse practitioners who practice in primary care in Washington.

The survey questionnaire was developed by the health care research group within OFM’s Forecasting and Research Division in consultation with Susan Skillman, Deputy Director of the Center for Health

³ The full title of the survey is *Washington State Survey of Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioners*.

Workforce Studies at the University of Washington. Several other experts were also consulted for the questionnaire development.

The primary mode for the survey was mail. The questionnaire was mailed to all licensed ARNPs on DOH's file. In addition to mailing, the questionnaire was made available to be filled out online.

At the end of the data collection, 2,292 ARNPs returned the survey, out of the 4,500 on the original list. This yields a response rate of 50.9 percent. A comparison between the 2,292 ARNPs who returned the survey and the original sample of 4,500 ARNPs shows that the responding ARNPs are fairly similar to the total licensed ARNPs in sex and region (based on mailing addresses), but the responding ARNPs tend to be older than ARNPs in the original sample (see Appendix B). As a result, appropriate weights were assigned to the 2,292 responding ARNPs so that they would represent the entire 4,500 ARNPs in the original sample.

The survey data was initially processed by the data collection contractor. OFM conducted additional processing that included consistency checks, error corrections, coding of text (open-ended) responses, imputation of missing values in key variables, and creating derived or composite variables.

A final analysis file was created that contains the 874 respondents who meet the study definition of currently practicing primary care nurse practitioners. These respondent nurse practitioners, when weighted, represent a total of 1,717 such primary care nurse practitioners. The survey results presented below are based on these 1,717 nurse practitioners.

As with any surveys, this survey has its limitations. The following limitations should be considered when interpreting results from this survey.

- The definition of a practicing primary care NP used in this survey is not necessarily a precise one due to the lack of a definition that is commonly accepted. In this survey, the respondent was asked a question on whether her/his main practice activities are considered "primary/generalist care (e.g., primary care ambulatory clinic)" as opposed to "specialized care (e.g. cardiac intensive care or psychiatric care)."
- Although this survey has achieved a response rate of 50 percent, a rate that is higher than those in many other similar surveys, there were still 50 percent of the targeted nurse practitioners that did not respond to the survey. Despite the use of weights to minimize the differences between the characteristics of the responding nurse practitioners and non-responding nurse practitioners, there still remains an uncertainty about whether the responding nurse practitioners might differ from the non-responding nurse practitioners regarding practicing status. That is, are the responding nurse practitioners more likely to be actively practicing compared with the non-responding nurse practitioners? If so, the survey may have overestimated the size of practicing nurse practitioners. On the other hand, the survey may have under-estimated the size of practicing nurse practitioners if the non-responding nurse practitioners are more likely to be actively practicing. In a related project, OFM conducted post-survey research to investigate this issue associated with the primary care physician survey. Using on-line search and phone calls on a random sample of 100 non-responding physicians, the research found that the proportion of the physicians who are practicing

is quite similar for the responding physicians (77 percent, unweighted) and 100 randomly-sampled non-responding physicians (76 percent). It is assumed here that this finding applies to the nurse practitioner survey.

Results

The survey results below are presented in the order the questions appear in the questionnaire (see Appendix A). While for most questions there is one table per question, some questions have more than one associated tables, such as questions that permit more than one answer. All results represent weighted responses. Note again that the results below are based on the final analysis file that includes only the primary care nurse practitioners who reported practicing in Washington.

Section I – Practice Status and Specialty

Question 01 - Do you currently provide any direct care for ambulatory patients?

Q01	Frequency	Percent
Yes	1717	100.0

Question 02 - Do you currently provide direct patient care only in Washington, both in and outside Washington, or only outside Washington?

Q02	Frequency	Percent
Only in Washington	1643	95.7
Both in and outside Washington	74	4.3

Question 03 – Considering the direct patient care you provide, which of the following best describes your main practice activities?

Q03_NP	Frequency	Percent
Primary/Generalist Care	1717	100.0

Question 03A (1) - Primary Specialty – Adult Health

Q03A_1	Frequency	Percent
_Missing	7	.
NO	1399	81.8
Yes	311	18.2

Question 03A (2) - Primary Specialty – Family Health

Q03A_2	Frequency	Percent
_Missing	7	.
No	848	49.6
Yes	863	50.4

Question 03A (3) - Primary Specialty - Pediatrics

Q03A_3	Frequency	Percent
_Missing	7	.
No	1536	89.8
Yes	174	10.2

Question 03A (4) - Primary Specialty – Women’s Health

Q03A_4	Frequency	Percent
_Missing	7	.
No	1415	82.7
Yes	295	17.3

Question 03A (5) - Primary Specialty - Geriatrics

Q03A_5	Frequency	Percent
_Missing	7	.
No	1644	96.1
Yes	67	3.9

Section II – Practice Site in Washington

Question 04 - At how many sites in Washington do you provide direct patient care?

Q04n	Frequency	Percent
One	1270	74.0
Two	305	17.8
Three or More	142	8.3

Question 05 (1) – Region of Main Practice

SPS_10region_practice1	Frequency	Percent
CLARK	71	4.2
EAST BALANCE	141	8.2
KING	520	30.3
NORTH SOUND	118	6.9
OTHER PUGET SOUND METRO	125	7.3
PIERCE	171	10.0
SNOHOMISH	137	8.0
SPOKANE	178	10.4
WEST BALANCE	151	8.8
YAKIMA - TRI CITIES	104	6.1

Question 05 (2) – Region of Secondary Practice

SPS_10region_practice1	Frequency	Percent
<i>_Skipped or missing</i>	1276	.
CLARK	17	3.8
EAST BALANCE	41	9.2
KING	152	34.4
NORTH SOUND	27	6.1
OTHER PUGET SOUND METRO	37	8.5
PIERCE	30	6.8
SNOHOMISH	37	8.5
SPOKANE	46	10.5
WEST BALANCE	33	7.5
YAKIMA - TRI CITIES	21	4.7

Question 06 – Does your main practice site mostly provide primary care?

Q06	Frequency	Percent
<i>_Missing</i>	19	.
Yes	1517	89.3
No	182	10.7

Question 07 – Which best describes your main practice site in Washington?

Q07	Frequency	Percent
<i>_Missing</i>	68	.
Private office/clinic	781	47.4
Hospital outpatient clinic	261	15.8
HMO medical center	61	3.7
Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC)	222	13.5
Certified Rural Health Clinic (RHC)	79	4.8
Or some Other office or clinic (SPECIFY:)	107	6.5
College, school, employer onsite, prison	72	4.4
Medical center of a system, university, military, VA	45	2.7
Free clinic/walk-in	20	1.2

Question 08 (1) – # of providers at main practice - Family Medicine Physicians

Q08n01	Frequency	Percent
<i>_Missing/Skipped</i>	49	.
0	849	50.9
1	199	11.9
2-5	393	23.6
6-10	140	8.4
More than 10	87	5.2

Question 08 (2) – # of providers at main practice - General Practice Physicians

Q08n02	Frequency	Percent
<i>_Missing/Skipped</i>	45	.
0	1540	92.1
1	68	4.1
2-5	40	2.4
6-10	16	0.9
More than 10	8	0.5

Question 08 (3) – # of providers at main practice - General Internal Medicine Physicians

Q08n03	Frequency	Percent
<i>_Missing/Skipped</i>	45	.
0	1263	75.5
1	122	7.3
2-5	177	10.6
6-10	46	2.8
More than 10	64	3.8

Question 08 (4) – # of providers at main practice - General Pediatricians

Q08n04	Frequency	Percent
<i>_Missing/Skipped</i>	43	.
0	1330	79.4
1	111	6.6
2-5	147	8.8
6-10	68	4.0
More than 10	18	1.1

Question 08 (5) – # of providers at main practice - General OB/GYNs

Q08n05	Frequency	Percent
<i>_Missing/Skipped</i>	43	.
0	1379	82.4
1	73	4.4
2-5	131	7.8
6-10	75	4.5
More than 10	17	1.0

Question 08 (6) – # of providers at main practice - General Geriatricians

Q08n06	Frequency	Percent
<i>_Missing/Skipped</i>	49	.
0	1579	94.6
1	33	2.0
2-5	47	2.8
6-10	7	0.4
More than 10	2	0.1

Question 08 (7) – # of providers at main practice - ARNPs (not CNM)

Q08n07	Frequency	Percent
<i>_Missing/Skipped</i>	45	.
0	.	.
1	672	40.2
2-5	861	51.5
6-10	99	5.9
More than 10	40	2.4

Question 08 (8) – # of providers at main practice - Physician Assistants

Q08n08	Frequency	Percent
<i>_Missing/Skipped</i>	49	.
0	1182	70.8
1	213	12.7
2-5	218	13.1
6-10	29	1.7
More than 10	28	1.7

Question 08 (9) – # of providers at main practice - Licensed Midwives

Q08n09	Frequency	Percent
<i>_Missing/Skipped</i>	47	.
0	1631	97.6
1	16	0.9
2-5	15	0.9
6-10	7	0.4
More than 10	2	0.1

Question 08 (10) – # of providers at main practice - Certified Nurse Midwives (CNM-ARNP)

Q08n10	Frequency	Percent
<i>_Missing/Skipped</i>	47	.
0	1425	85.3
1	102	6.1
2-5	103	6.2
6-10	35	2.1
More than 10	5	0.3

Question 09 – Do you refer patients to hospitals?

Q09	Frequency	Percent
<i>_Missing</i>	24	.
Yes	1461	86.2
No	233	13.8

Question 10 - Is the hospital where you refer the largest number of your patients located in Washington?

Q10	Frequency	Percent
_Missing	260	.
Yes	1416	97.2
No	41	2.8

Question 11 - Region of Referral Hospital

SPS_10region_hospital	Frequency	Percent
_Missing	113	.
CLARK	63	3.9
EAST BALANCE	134	8.4
KING	513	32.0
NORTH SOUND	119	7.4
OTHER PUGET SOUND METRO	109	6.8
PIERCE	171	10.6
SNOHOMISH	83	5.2
SPOKANE	176	11.0
WEST BALANCE	128	8.0
YAKIMA - TRI CITIES	109	6.8

Section III – Practice Activities

Question 12 (1) - Work hours per typical week in WA - Direct patient care

imp_Q12n1	Frequency	Percent
1-19 hours	300	17.4
20-34 hours	730	42.5
35-39 hours	214	12.5
40-49 hours	367	21.4
50 or more hours	107	6.2

Question 12 (2) - Work hours per typical week in WA - Administration of clinical practice

imp_Q12n2	Frequency	Percent
0	726	42.3
1-19 hours	918	53.5
20-34 hours	63	3.7
35-39 hours	2	0.1
40-49 hours	6	0.3
50 or more hours	2	0.1

Question 12 (3) - Work hours per typical week in WA - Other NP activities

imp_Q12n3	Frequency	Percent
0	1094	63.7
1-19 hours	596	34.7
20-34 hours	22	1.3
35-39 hours	2	0.1
40-49 hours	4	0.2
50 or more hours	1094	63.7

Question 12 (4) - Work hours per typical week in WA - Computed total hours

imp_Q12sum	Frequency	Percent
1-19 hours	225	13.1
20-34 hours	455	26.5
35-39 hours	148	8.6
40-49 hours	627	36.5
50 or more hours	262	15.2

Question 13 – Thinking about the time you spent on direct patient care during your last typical work week in Washington, how much of that time was spent on providing primary care? Would you say...

Q13	Frequency	Percent
<i>_Missing</i>	18	.
All	878	51.6
Most	533	31.4
About half	121	7.1
Less than half	128	7.5
Or none	40	2.4

Question 14 (1) - Work hours per typical week outside WA - Direct patient care

imp_Q14n1	Frequency	Percent
<i>_Skipped (did not work outside WA)</i>	1643	.
0	36	48.7
1-19 hours	22	29.9
20-34 hours	11	14.3
35-39 hours	0	0.0
40-49 hours	2	2.3
50 or more hours	4	4.8

Question 14 (2) - Work hours per typical week outside WA - Administration of clinical practice

imp_Q14n2	Frequency	Percent
<i>_Skipped (did not work outside WA)</i>	1643	.
<i>_Missing</i>	13	.
0	36	59.3
1-19 hours	25	40.7

Question 14 (3) - Work hours per typical week outside WA - Other NP activities

imp_Q14n3	Frequency	Percent
<i>_Skipped (did not work outside WA)</i>	1643	.
<i>_Missing</i>	13	.
0	47	77.1
1-19 hours	12	18.8
20-34 hours	2	4.1

Question 14 (4) - Work hours per typical week outside WA - - Computed total hours

imp_Q14sum	Frequency	Percent
<i>_Skipped (did not work outside WA)</i>	1643	.
0	26	34.7
1-19 hours	30	40.6
20-34 hours	11	14.4
35-39 hours	0	0.0
40-49 hours	2	3.3
50 or more hours	5	7.1

Question 15 - Approximately how many weeks did you work as an NP in 2011?

imp_Q15n	Frequency	Percent
<i>_Skipped (started practicing in WA after 2011)</i>	20	.
0	2	0.1
1-13	61	3.6
14-26	88	5.2
27-39	113	6.6
40-52	1433	84.4

Question 16 - Did you start practicing in Washington before 2011?

imp_Q16	Frequency	Percent
Yes	1542	89.8
No	175	10.2

Question 17 - Please check the year you first started practicing in WA

imp_Q17	Frequency	Percent
<i>_Skipped (started practicing in WA prior to 2011)</i>	1542	.
2011	155	88.3
2012	20	11.7

Section IV – Patient Service

Question 18 - At all sites in WA in 2011, how many patients did you provide care for?

imp_Q18n	Frequency	Percent
<i>_Skipped (started practicing in 2011)</i>	20	.
None	18	1.1
1-99	228	13.4
100-499	375	22.1
500-999	334	19.7
1000-1499	222	13.1
1500-1999	131	7.7
2000 or more	389	22.9

Question 19 - Percent of these patients (Q18n) who were covered by Medicaid?

imp_Q19n	Frequency	Percent
<i>_Skipped (Treated no patients in 2011)</i>	18	.
<i>_Skipped (started practicing in 2012)</i>	20	.
0	223	13.3
1-25	666	39.7
26-50	508	30.3
51-75	167	9.9
76-100	115	6.9

Question 20 - Are you accepting new patients at main site in Washington?

imp_Q20	Frequency	Percent
Yes	1466	85.4
No	252	14.6

Question 21 - How many new patients do you yourself plan to accept at main site?

imp_Q21n	Frequency	Percent
<i>_Skipped (not accepting new patients)</i>	252	.
1-99	849	57.9
100-499	416	28.4
500-999	112	7.6
1000-1499	57	3.9
1500-1999	13	0.9
2000 or more	19	1.3

Question 22 - Of the new patients you plan to accept, how many are Medicaid patients?

imp_q22	Frequency	Percent
<i>_Skipped (not accepting new patients)</i>	252	.
All	493	33.6
Most	233	15.9
About half	149	10.2
Less than half	330	22.5
Or none	261	17.8

Question 23 - Are you accepting new patients at other sites in Washington?

imp_q23	Frequency	Percent
<i>_Skipped (only worked at one site in WA)</i>	1301	.
Yes	241	58.0
No	175	42.0

Question 24 - Are you accepting Medicaid patients at other sites in Washington?

imp_q24	Frequency	Percent
<i>_Skipped (only worked at one site in WA), or _Skipped (not accepting any new patients at other sites in WA)</i>	1476	.
Yes	190	78.9
No	51	21.1

Question 25 (1) - # of visits seen last typical week - in office and outpatient clinics

imp_q25n1	Frequency	Percent
None	125	7.3
1-49 visits	644	37.5
50-99 visits	752	43.8
100-249 visits	174	10.1
250-499 visits	5	0.3
500+ visits	18	1.1

Question 25 (2) - # of visits seen last typical week - on hospital rounds

imp_q25n2	Frequency	Percent
None	1547	90.1
1-49 visits	169	9.8
50-99 visits	2	0.1

Question 25 (3) - # of visits seen last typical week - in nursing homes or patient homes

imp_q25n3	Frequency	Percent
None	1542	89.8
1-49 visits	158	9.2
50-99 visits	14	0.8
100-249 visits	2	0.1
250-499 visits	2	0.1

Question 25 (4) - # of visits seen last typical week - in telephone consultation

imp_q25n4	Frequency	Percent
None	731	42.6
1-49 visits	955	55.6
50-99 visits	22	1.3
100-249 visits	6	0.3
250-499 visits	3	0.2

Question 25 (5) - # of visits seen last typical week – via email/other electronic consultation

imp_q25n5	Frequency	Percent
None	1215	70.8
1-49 visits	489	28.5
50-99 visits	10	0.6
100-249 visits	3	0.2

Question 26 - Do you normally see patients in early morning, evening, or weekend hours at your main WA practice site?

Q26	Frequency	Percent
<i>_Missing</i>	19	.
Yes	893	52.6
No	806	47.4

Question 27 - Do you have a need for interpreter services for your patients at your WA practice site?

Q27	Frequency	Percent
<i>_Missing</i>	26	.
Yes	1040	61.3
No	658	38.7

Question 28 - Do you have adequate access to interpreter services at your WA practice site?

Q28	Frequency	Percent
<i>_Skipped (did not have a need for interpreter services), or _Missing</i>	681	.
Yes	847	81.8
No	189	18.2

Question 29 (A1) Medicaid - Time spent on paperwork

Q29A1	Frequency	Percent
<i>_Skipped (did not see Medicaid patients), or _Missing</i>	303	.
No problem	302	21.3
2	196	13.9
3	398	28.1
4	348	24.6
Major problem	171	12.1

Question 29 (A2) Medicaid - Waiting time for reimbursement

Q29A2	Frequency	Percent
<i>_Skipped (did not see Medicaid patients), or</i>		
<i>_Missing</i>	779	.
No problem	193	20.5
2	111	11.9
3	309	32.9
4	196	20.9
Major problem	129	13.8

Question 29 (A3) Medicaid - Reimbursement rate

Q29A3	Frequency	Percent
<i>_Skipped (did not see Medicaid patients), or</i>		
<i>_Missing</i>	699	.
No problem	129	12.7
2	104	10.2
3	174	17.1
4	234	23.0
Major problem	377	37.0

Question 29 (A4) Medicaid - Patient acceptance of treatment options

Q29A4	Frequency	Percent
<i>_Skipped (did not see Medicaid patients), or</i>		
<i>_Missing</i>	471	.
No problem	246	19.7
2	343	27.5
3	359	28.8
4	225	18.1
Major problem	73	5.9

Question 29 (A5) Medicaid - Length of patient visit

Q29A5	Frequency	Percent
<i>_Skipped (did not see Medicaid patients), or</i>		
<i>_Missing</i>	467	.
No problem	256	20.4
2	283	22.6
3	352	28.2
4	245	19.6
Major problem	114	9.1

Question 29 (A6) Medicaid - Acceptance of referrals by specialists

Q29A6	Frequency	Percent
<i>_Skipped (did not see Medicaid patients), or</i>		
<i>_Missing</i>	488	.
No problem	185	15.1
2	128	10.4
3	212	17.2
4	334	27.1
Major problem	371	30.2

Question 29 (A7) Medicaid - Complexity of patient needs

Q29A7	Frequency	Percent
<i>_Skipped (did not see Medicaid patients), or</i>		
<i>_Missing</i>	451	.
No problem	86	6.8
2	120	9.5
3	268	21.1
4	471	37.2
Major problem	322	25.4

Question 29 (A8) Medicaid – Other factors

Q29A8	Frequency	Percent
<i>_Skipped (did not see Medicaid patients), or</i>		
<i>_Missing</i>	1607	.
No problem	8	7.3
3	8	7.7
4	20	18.1
Major problem	74	67.0

Question 29 (B1) Commercial – Time spent on paperwork

Q29B1	Frequency	Percent
<i>_Skipped (did not see commercial plan patients), or</i>		
<i>_Missing</i>	243	.
No problem	407	27.6
2	294	20.0
3	444	30.1
4	238	16.1
Major problem	91	6.2

Question 29 (B2) Commercial – Waiting time for reimbursement

Q29B2	Frequency	Percent
<i>_Skipped (did not see commercial plan patients), or _Missing</i>	769	.
No problem	223	23.5
2	243	25.7
3	342	36.1
4	106	11.2
Major problem	34	3.6

Question 29 (B3) Commercial – Reimbursement rate

Q29B3	Frequency	Percent
<i>_Skipped (did not see commercial plan patients), or _Missing</i>	710	.
No problem	207	20.5
2	296	29.4
3	327	32.5
4	136	13.5
Major problem	41	4.0

Question 29 (B4) Commercial – Patient acceptance of treatment options

Q29B4	Frequency	Percent
<i>_Skipped (did not see commercial plan patients), or _Missing</i>	485	.
No problem	311	25.3
2	525	42.6
3	336	27.3
4	48	3.9
Major problem	12	1.0

Question 29 (B5) Commercial – Length of patient visit

Q29B5	Frequency	Percent
<i>_Skipped (did not see commercial plan patients), or _Missing</i>	471	.
No problem	331	26.5
2	383	30.8
3	382	30.7
4	106	8.5
Major problem	44	3.6

Question 29 (B6) Commercial – Acceptance of referrals by specialists

Q29B6	Frequency	Percent
<i>_Skipped (did not see commercial plan patients), or</i>		
<i>_Missing</i>	484	.
No problem	554	44.9
2	412	33.4
3	181	14.7
4	64	5.2
Major problem	22	1.8

Question 29 (B7) Commercial – Complexity of patient needs

Q29B7	Frequency	Percent
<i>_Skipped (did not see commercial plan patients), or</i>		
<i>_Missing</i>	475	.
No problem	139	11.2
2	367	29.6
3	522	42.0
4	171	13.8
Major problem	43	3.5

Question 29 (B8) Commercial – Other factors

Q29B8	Frequency	Percent
<i>_Skipped (did not see commercial plan patients), or</i>		
<i>_Missing</i>	1636	.
No problem	14	17.5
2	20	24.8
3	16	19.5
4	11	14.0
Major problem	20	24.1

Section V – Practice History

Question 30 - How many years have you practiced as a licensed NP in the U.S.?

Q30n	Frequency	Percent
<i>_Missing</i>	10	.
Less than 5 years	373	21.9
5-9 years	300	17.6
10-14 years	341	20.0
15-19 years	263	15.4
20 or more years	430	25.2

Question 31 - How many years have you practiced as a licensed NP in WA?

Q31n	Frequency	Percent
<i>_Missing</i>	10	.
Less than 5 years	473	27.7
5-9 years	338	19.8
10-14 years	331	19.4
15-19 years	248	14.5
20 or more years	316	18.5

Question 32 - When do you plan to retire?

IMP_Q32	Frequency	Percent
Already retired	44	2.6
Within the next 6 months	15	0.9
More than 6 months from now but within the next 2 years	94	5.5
Within the next 3 to 5 years	242	14.1
Within the next 6 to 10 years	331	19.3
More than 10 years from now	991	57.7

Section VI – Background

Question 33 (1) - Did you earn a certificate/award?

Q33_NP_1	Frequency	Percent
<i>_Missing</i>	16	.
No	1604	94.3
Yes	98	5.7

Question 33 (2) - Did you earn a Bachelor's degree?

Q33_NP_2	Frequency	Percent
<i>_Missing</i>	16	.
No	1654	97.2
Yes	48	2.8

Question 33 (3) - Did you earn a Master's degree?

Q33_NP_3	Frequency	Percent
<i>_Missing</i>	16	.
No	387	22.7
Yes	1315	77.3

Question 33 (4) - Did you earn a post-Master's certificate?

Q33_NP_4	Frequency	Percent
<i>_Missing</i>	16	.
No	1536	90.3
Yes	166	9.7

Question 33 (5) - Did you earn a Doctorate degree?

Q33_NP_5	Frequency	Percent
<i>_Missing</i>	16	.
No	1626	95.6
Yes	75	4.4

Question 34 - In which U.S. state or other country (if outside the U.S.) did you obtain this credential?

Q34	Frequency	Percent
<i>_Missing</i>	194	.
A Foreign Country	2	0.1
Another US State	557	36.5
Washington	965	63.3

Question 35 (1) - Were you ever in clinical training in - Washington State

Q35_1	Frequency	Percent
<i>_Missing</i>	22	.
No	534	31.5
Yes	1162	68.5

Question 35 (2) - Were you ever in clinical training in - a rural community

Q35_2	Frequency	Percent
<i>_Missing</i>	22	.
No	964	56.9
Yes	731	43.1

Question 35 (3) - Were you ever in clinical training in - an inner-city community

Q35_3	Frequency	Percent
<i>_Missing</i>	22	.
No	924	54.5
Yes	772	45.5

Question 35 (4) - Were you ever in clinical training in - a predominantly minority community

Q35_4	Frequency	Percent
<i>_Missing</i>	22	.
No	1252	73.9
Yes	443	26.1

Question 35 (5) - Were you ever in clinical training in - Were in none of those locations

Q35_5	Frequency	Percent
<i>_Missing</i>	22	.
No	1576	93.0
Yes	120	7.0

Question 36 – Age

Age	Frequency	Percent
Less than 35	228	13.3
35-49	543	31.6
50-64	801	46.6
65 plus	145	8.5

Question 37 – Sex

Q37	Frequency	Percent
Male	184	10.7
Female	1533	89.3

Question 38 - Are you Hispanic, Spanish, or Latino?

Q38	Frequency	Percent
<i>_Missing</i>	27	.
Yes	35	2.1
No	1655	97.9

Question 39 (1) - What race do you consider yourself to be - White?

Q39_1	Frequency	Percent
<i>_Missing</i>	47	.
No	98	5.9
Yes	1571	94.1

Question 39 (2) - What race do you consider yourself to be - Black or African American?

Q39_2	Frequency	Percent
<i>_Missing</i>	47	.
No	1643	98.4
Yes	26	1.6

Question 39 (3) - What race do you consider yourself to be - Asian or Pacific Islander?

Q39_3	Frequency	Percent
<i>_Missing</i>	47	.
No	1594	95.5
Yes	75	4.5

Question 39 (4) - What race do you consider yourself to be - American Indian or Alaska Native?

Q39_4	Frequency	Percent
<i>_Missing</i>	47	.
No	1647	98.6
Yes	23	1.4

Question 39 (5) - What race do you consider yourself to be - Other?

Q39_5	Frequency	Percent
<i>_Missing</i>	46	.
No	1641	98.2
Yes	30	1.8

Question 40 - Languages you feel comfortable communicating in for most clinical purposes?

Q40x	Frequency	Percent
<i>_Missing</i>	24	.
English Only	1285	75.9
English and Spanish	279	16.5
English and Spanish and Other(s)	23	1.4
English and non-Spanish Other(s)	106	6.2

Question 41 - Are you a participating provider of any provider networks (including HMOs) in Washington?

Q41	Frequency	Percent
<i>_Missing</i>	106	.
Yes	1110	68.9
No	501	31.1

Question 42 – Region of Residence

SPS_10region_home	Frequency	Percent
<i>_Missing</i>	10	.
CLARK	75	4.4
EAST BALANCE	152	8.9
KING	529	31.0
NORTH SOUND	119	6.9
OTHER PUGET SOUND METRO	136	8.0
PIERCE	148	8.7
SNOHOMISH	130	7.6
SPOKANE	168	9.9
WEST BALANCE	146	8.6
YAKIMA - TRI CITIES	105	6.1

Appendix A. *Questionnaire for 2012 Washington State Primary Care Nurse Practitioner Survey*



Washington State Survey of Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioners

For your convenience, you can fill out this survey online at www.waofmsurvey.com or call the Gilmore Research Group at (866) 722-3134 to complete the survey over the phone. You will need your unique ID, which is printed on the back page of this survey.

PRACTICE STATUS AND SPECIALTY

Q01. Do you currently provide any direct care for ambulatory patients? PLEASE CIRCLE ONE

1. Yes
2. No (IF "NO", SKIP TO QUESTION Q30)

Q02. Do you currently provide direct patient care only in Washington, both in and outside Washington, or only outside Washington? PLEASE CIRCLE ONE

1. Only in Washington
2. Both in and outside Washington
3. Only outside Washington (IF "ONLY OUTSIDE WASHINGTON", SKIP TO QUESTION Q30)

Q03. Considering the direct patient care you provide, which of the following best describes your main practice activities? (Check only ONE.)

1. Primary/Generalist care (e.g. primary care ambulatory clinic)
2. Specialized care (e.g. cardiac intensive care or psychiatric care) (IF "SPECIALIZED CARE, SKIP TO QUESTION 30)

Q03A. What specialty most closely corresponds to your practice position as a nurse practitioner? (Select only one)

1. Adult health
2. Family health
3. Pediatrics
4. Women's health
5. Geriatrics
6. Other (specify _____)

PRACTICE SITE IN WASHINGTON

In the following few questions, the term "main practice site in Washington" refers to (1) **the** practice site in Washington if you only work at one site in Washington, or (2) the practice site in Washington where you work the most hours if you work at more than one site in Washington.

Q04. At how many sites in Washington do you provide direct patient care?

Number of sites: _____

Q05. Where are your main practice site and secondary practice site (if applicable) in Washington located?

	<u>Main Site</u>	<u>Secondary Site</u>
1. City:	_____	_____
2. ZIP code:	_____	_____

Q06. Does your main practice site in Washington mostly provide primary care?

1. Yes
2. No

Q07. Which ONE of the following best describes your main practice site in Washington?

1. Private office/clinic
2. Hospital outpatient clinic
3. HMO medical center
4. Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC)
5. Certified Rural Health Clinic (RHC)
6. Other office or clinic not listed above (DESCRIBE)

Q08. How many providers, including yourself (where applicable), in each of the following categories provide care at your main practice site in Washington? (USE ZERO IF THERE IS NO ONE AT THIS SITE IN THAT CATEGORY.)

	Number of Providers
1. Family Medicine Physicians	_____
2. General Practice Physicians	_____
3. General Internal Medicine Physicians	_____
4. General Pediatricians	_____
5. General OB/GYNs	_____
6. General Geriatricians	_____
7. ARNPs (not CNM)	_____
8. Physician Assistants	_____
9. Licensed Midwives	_____
10. Certified Nurse Midwives (CNM-ARNP)	_____

Q09. Do you refer patients to hospitals?

1. Yes
2. No (IF "NO", SKIP TO QUESTION Q12)

Q10. Is the hospital where you refer the largest number of your patients located **in Washington**?

1. Yes
2. No

Q11. Thinking about hospitals **in Washington**, please provide the name and the city of the hospital where you refer the most patients. Check the "N/A" box if you refer all your patients out of Washington.

Hospital Name: _____

City: _____

N/A - I refer all my patients out of Washington.

PRACTICE ACTIVITIES

Q12. During your last typical work week, approximately how many hours did you spend on the following nurse practitioner activities at **all your practice sites in Washington**? Do not include on-call time.

- | | Hours |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|
| 1. Direct patient care
<i>Includes: seeing patients, reviewing tests, preparing for and performing procedures, providing other related patient care services</i> | _____ |
| 2. Administration of clinical practice | _____ |
| 3. Other nurse practitioner activities | _____ |
| 4. Total hours (ADD ITEMS 1-3) | _____ |

Q13. Thinking about the time you spent on direct patient care during your last typical work week **in Washington**, how much of that time was spent on providing **primary care**?

1. All
2. Most
3. About half
4. Less than half
5. None

Q14. During your last typical work week, approximately how many hours did you spend on the following nurse practitioner activities at **all your practice sites outside Washington**? Do not include on-call time. Check the "N/A" box if you do not practice outside Washington.

- | | Hours |
|----------------------------------------|-------|
| 1. Direct patient care | _____ |
| 2. Administration of clinical practice | _____ |
| 3. Other nurse practitioner activities | _____ |
| 4. Total hours (ADD ITEMS 1-3) | _____ |
- N/A – I do not practice **outside Washington**.

Q15. Approximately how many weeks did you work as a nurse practitioner in 2011? (Do not include time spent at professional conferences, military service, vacation, and other absences.)

Number of weeks: _____

Q16. Did you start practicing **in Washington** before 2011?

1. Yes (SKIP TO QUESTION Q18)
2. No

Q17. Please circle the year and month you first started practicing **in Washington**?

Year: 2011 2012

Month: Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun
 Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec

PATIENT SERVICE

Q18. During 2011 **at all your practice sites in Washington**, what was your patient panel size if applicable or about how many unique patients did you provide care for? Your best estimate is fine.

Number of patients: _____

Q19. Approximately what percent of these patients were covered by Medicaid only?

Percent Medicaid only: _____

Q20. Are you yourself currently accepting any new patients **at your main practice site in Washington**?

1. Yes
2. No (SKIP TO QUESTION Q23)

Q21. Currently, about how many more new patients do you yourself plan to accept at this site?

Number of new patients: _____

Q22. Of the total new patients you plan to accept, about how many Medicaid patients would you be willing to accept?

1. All
2. Most
3. About half
4. Less than half
5. None

Q23. Are you yourself accepting any new patients **at any other practice sites in Washington**? Check the box for "N/A" box if you practice at only one site in Washington.

1. Yes
 2. No (SKIP TO QUESTION Q25)
- N/A – I only practice at one site. (SKIP TO QUESTION Q25)

Q24. Are you yourself accepting any new Medicaid patients **at any of the other practice sites in Washington**?

1. Yes
2. No

Q25. Thinking about **all your practice sites in Washington**, during your last typical week of work, **how many patient visits** did you personally have in each of the following settings? Your best estimate is fine.

Please count as one visit each time you saw a patient or provided a telemedicine consultation (e.g. telephone and email in lieu of an office visit) to a patient. Circle "N/A" if the category does not apply to you (for instance, you don't do hospital rounds).

- | | | |
|------------------------------------------------|--------------|-----|
| 1. Visits in the office and outpatient clinics | _____ Visits | N/A |
| 2. Visits on hospital rounds | _____ Visits | N/A |
| 3. Visits in nursing homes and patients' homes | _____ Visits | N/A |
| 4. Telephone consultations | _____ Visits | N/A |
| 5. Email/Other electronic consultations | _____ Visits | N/A |

Q26. Do you normally see patients in early morning, evening, or weekend hours at your **main practice site in Washington**?

1. Yes
2. No

Q27. Do you have a need for interpreter services for your patients at **your main practice site in Washington**?

1. Yes
2. No (IF "NO", SKIP TO QUESTION Q29)

Q28. Do you have adequate access to interpreter services at **your main practice site in Washington**?

1. Yes
2. No

Q29. On the scale of 1 to 5, where 1 means "No Problem" and 5 means "Major Problem," please rate each factor listed on the left of the table below in terms of how they affect your practice for Medicaid patients and commercial plan patients. Check the "N/A" box under "Medicaid Patients" or "Commercial Plan Patients" if you do not see patients covered by that source.

	Medicaid Patients					Commercial Plan Patients				
	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A – I do not see patients covered by Medicaid.					<input type="checkbox"/> N/A – I do not see patients covered by commercial plans.				
CIRCLE A NUMBER FROM 1 THROUGH 5 IN EACH RECTANGLE WHERE 1 MEANS "NO PROBLEM" AND 5 MEANS "MAJOR PROBLEM".										
1. Time spent on paperwork	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
2. Waiting time for reimbursement	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
3. Reimbursement rate	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
4. Patient acceptance of treatment options	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
5. Length of patient visit	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
6. Acceptance of referrals by specialists	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
7. Complexity of patient needs	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
8. Other (DESCRIBE): _____ _____	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5

PRACTICE HISTORY

Q30. How many total years have you practiced as an Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner in the U.S.?

Number of Years: _____

Q31. How many total years have you practiced as an Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner **in Washington**?

Number of Years: _____

Q32. When do you plan to retire?

1. Already retired
2. Within the next 6 months
3. More than 6 months from now but within the next 2 years
4. Within the next 3 to 5 years
5. Within the next 6 to 10 years
6. More than 10 years from now
7. Don't know/Not sure

BACKGROUND

Q33. What formal education program did you complete after your education as an RN that prepared you as an Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner?

1. Certificate/award
2. Bachelor's degree
3. Master's degree
4. Post-Master's certificate
5. Doctorate

Q34. In which U.S. state or other country (if outside the U.S.) did you obtain this credential?

1. U.S. State (USE STATE ABBREVIATION) __ __
2. Other country (GIVE COUNTRY NAME)

Q35. Did your clinical training take place in any of the following places? PLEASE CIRCLE ALL THAT APPLY

1. Washington State
2. A rural community
3. An inner-city community
4. A predominantly minority community
5. None of the above

Q36. What is your year of birth?

Year: _____

Q37. What is your sex?

1. Male
2. Female

Q38. Are you Hispanic, Spanish, or Latino?

1. Yes
2. No

Q39. What race do you consider yourself to be? PLEASE CIRCLE ALL THAT APPLY.

1. White
2. Black or African American
3. Asian or Pacific Islander
4. American Indian or Alaska Native
5. Other (DESCRIBE)

6. Don't know

Q40. In addition to English, what languages do you feel comfortable communicating in for most clinical purposes? CIRCLE ALL THAT APPLY.

1. None (English only)
2. Spanish
3. Other language(s) (SPECIFY)

Q41. Are you a participating provider of any provider networks (including HMOs) in Washington?

1. Yes
2. No

Q42. Do you currently reside in Washington State?

1. Yes → Home ZIP Code: _____
2. No → Home State: _____

(Q43 is left blank intentionally.)

Q44. Would you be interested in being on a focus group panel to provide in-depth input on your primary care practice experience and how the federal Affordable Care Act (ACA) may reshape it, if OFM receives funding to hold one?

1. Yes
→ Please provide your contact information
Name: _____
Phone: _____
Email: _____
2. No

If you are interested in receiving the final results from the survey or have any additional comments, please contact Washington State Office of Financial Management at forecasting@ofm.wa.gov.

Thank you for your participation.

Please return the completed survey in the pre-paid envelope to:

**Gilmore Research Group
2101 4th Avenue, 8th Floor
Seattle, WA 98121**

<insert pin>

Appendix B. Comparison of Responding ARNPs and All Licensed ARNPs

	ARNP Licensees	All ARNP Respondents		Primary Care ARNP Respondents	
	N=4500	Unweighted (N=2292)	Weighted (N=4500)	Unweighted (N=874)	Weighted (N=1717)
<u>REGION</u>					
1 NORTH PUGET	5.1%	5.4%	5.1%	7.3%	6.9%
2 WEST BALANCE	6.0%	5.9%	6.0%	8.0%	8.4%
3 KING COUNTY	35.9%	35.4%	35.9%	30.6%	31.1%
4 OTHER PUGET METRO	6.7%	6.5%	6.7%	7.3%	7.6%
5 CLARK COUNTY	5.3%	4.8%	5.3%	3.6%	4.1%
6 EASTERN BALANCE	6.2%	6.5%	6.2%	9.3%	8.7%
7 SPOKANE COUNTY	11.4%	11.2%	11.4%	10.4%	10.2%
8 YAKIMA AND TRI-CITIES	6.2%	6.2%	6.2%	6.4%	6.5%
9 SNOHOMISH COUNTY	6.5%	6.8%	6.5%	7.9%	7.7%
10 PIERCE COUNTY	10.6%	11.2%	10.6%	9.3%	9.1%
<u>SEX</u>					
1 Male	14.2%	12.8%	14.2%	9.3%	10.3%
2 Female	85.8%	87.2%	85.8%	90.7%	89.7%
<u>AGE</u>					
1. 20 - 29 years	3.5%	3.1%	3.5%	4.4%	5.0%
2. 30 to 39 years	20.5%	17.7%	20.5%	19.3%	22.3%
3. 40 to 49 years	20.7%	17.9%	20.7%	17.4%	20.1%
4. 50 to 59 years	35.0%	37.9%	35.0%	37.1%	34.0%
5. 60+ years	20.2%	23.5%	20.2%	21.9%	18.7%