

Care Management Outcomes

School nurse care management of selected students with complex health needs involves use of a plan of care that includes specific interventions with achievable goals, measurable outcomes and regular evaluations. Students may have one or more planned outcomes based on identified needs. School nurses may care manage students with a variety of diagnoses. Not all chronic condition diagnosed students are in need of care management services. Care management outcomes for the following diagnosis are reported each school year:

Asthma	Consistently verbalized accurate knowledge of the pathophysiology of their condition	78%
	Consistently demonstrated correct use of asthma inhaler and/or spacer	83%
	Accurately listed his/her asthma triggers	62%
	Remained within peak flow/pulse oximeter plan goals	66%
	Improved amount and/or quality of regular physical activity	77%
	Improved grades	64%
	Decreased number of absences	70%

Diabetes	Consistently verbalized an accurate knowledge of the pathophysiology of their condition	82%
	Demonstrated improvement in the ability to correctly count carbohydrates	81%
	Improved skill in testing own blood sugar.	83%
	Showed improvement in HgA1C (if measured and available.)	71%
	Consistently (90% of time) calculated accurate insulin dose	81%
	Improved ability to deliver insulin dose	84%
	Improved grades	67%
Decreased number of absences	75%	

Mental/Behavioral Health	Consistently verbalized recognition of feelings, behaviors, and/or physical complaints associated with diagnosis/condition	72%
	Consistently documented compliance, or improved compliance, with provider treatment plan	73%
	Regularly reported examples of increased quality of life and/or enjoyable activities	74%
	Regularly reported examples of perceived increased ability to function satisfactorily at school	23%
	Improved grades	21%
	Decreased number of absences	62%

Seizure Disorder	Consistently verbalized accurate knowledge of the pathophysiology of his/her condition	75%
	Consistently recognized seizure triggers	71%
	Reduced side effects of seizure medications	75%
	Avoided complications from seizure activity	79%
	Reduced number of seizures	79%
	Improved grades	67%
Decreased number of absences	40%	

Severe Allergy	Consistently verbalized accurate knowledge of the pathophysiology of his/her condition	77%
	Consistently avoided allergy triggers	75%
	Improved skill in recognizing hidden sources of allergen	75%
	Improved skill in epinephrine administration	80%
	Reduced episodes of severe allergic reactions	78%
	Improved grades	72%
	Decreased number of absences	70%

Weight Management	Consistently verbalized accurate knowledge of relationship of food and activity to weight	75%
	Kept a daily food diary as planned	56%
	Increased physical activity (PE or after school)	58%
	Improved frequency of healthy food choices	75%
	Consistently able to identify appropriate portion sizes	71%
	Improved BMI	52%
	Improved grades	54%
Decreased number of absences	62%	

Summary

School nursing services are one component of a local School Health Program. By working with multiple partners in health and education, including the North Carolina Division of Public Health, North Carolina Division of Medical Assistance, North Carolina Department of Public Instruction, North Carolina Pediatric Society, North Carolina Academy of Family Physicians, North Carolina Dental Society, Prevent Blindness North Carolina, North Carolina School and Community Health Alliance, local health departments, and more, school nurses are working to help students achieve at levels they might not otherwise reach. In many school health areas North Carolina can serve as a model for school health programs. In others, services are limited as a result of relatively slow growth in the number of school nurse positions in relation to student population growth and complexity of health care needs. Working towards an increase in the number of school nurses in North Carolina could positively impact overall student health and well-being, resulting in improved student attendance and successful academic outcomes.

This data represents key information shared by North Carolina School Nurses via the Annual School Health Report Surveys. The information is based on students known to school nurses who received health related services in North Carolina public schools. It is not intended as surveillance data. Except where indicated the data does not include students in North Carolina Charter public charter schools. Additional data is collected and is available upon request.

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This and reports from previous school years are available for download at: <https://www2.ncdhhs.gov/dph/wch/stats/>

North Carolina Annual School Health Services Report 2014-2015



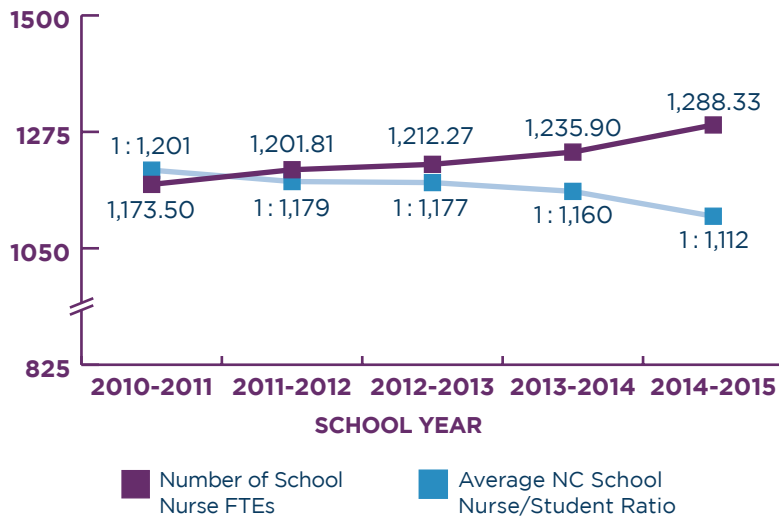
North Carolina School Health Nurses

*Keeping Students in Class
and Ready to Learn*



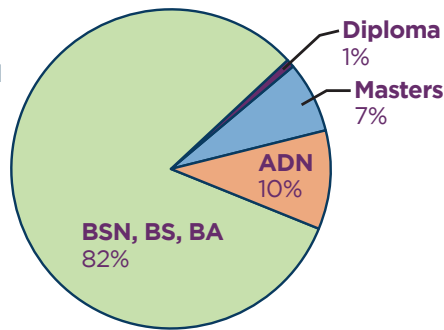
School Nurse Profile

School Nurse Staffing and Nurse-to-Students Ratios



School Nurse Educational Preparation

School nurses are Registered Nurses (RN) with varied educational preparation. In addition to being a RN, national certification in school nursing is the standard by which North Carolina school nurses are assured to have the advanced knowledge and skills required in this independent specialty practice. A baccalaureate is the minimum degree required for certification eligibility. At the close of the 2014-2015 school year 52% of the total number of school nurses were nationally certified. NC school nurse degree status is illustrated in the following graph.



NC Public Charter Schools that Employ a School Nurse

While NC LEA public schools are required to provide the services of a Registered Nurse to plan for the health needs of students, public charter schools are not. During the 2014-15 year 21.3% of public charter schools reported employing a school nurse, full or part-time.

Common School Nurse Activities:

North Carolina school nurses are assigned a varying case load dependent upon school district resources and serve between one and six schools per nurse. Common school nurse activities include:

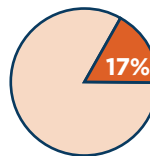
- Preventing and responding to communicable disease outbreaks
- Developing and implementing plans for emergency health related assistance
- Planning and providing specialized clinical services and related health instruction
- Medication and health care procedure oversight
- Assessment, referral, and assuring care for identified health needs
- Assuring that mandated health related activities are completed
- Provision of health education and health counseling
- Helping to assure a safe and healthy school environment

NC Students

Chronic Disease

School nurses assess needs, complete health care plans, and provide instruction to meet the health needs of students with chronic conditions.

2014-2015 Most Common Chronic Conditions	
Asthma	93,106
ADD/ADHD	57,020
Severe Allergies	42,163
Nonspecific Emotional/Behavioral/Psychiatric	11,375



Percent of student population receiving school nurse services related to chronic disease

Procedures

School nurses completed or supervised completion of 12,373 individual student health care procedures that were needed many times over the course of the school year.

Students and Suicide

	Elementary School	Middle School	High School
Suicide attempt	38	196	516
Death from suicide	0	4	24
Suicide occurred at school	0	0	1

Selected Services Provided

School Nurse/Student Encounters and Return to Class

A student with a health concern who sees a school nurse is more likely to remain in school. During the 2014-15 school year NC school nurses reported 2,030,274 student encounters. Of those, 88% of students seen were returned to class. Nationally, 91% of students seen by a school nurse were returned to class.

Medication Delivery and Oversight

School nurses provide oversight for medication administration in schools through training, administration, auditing for medication variances and assuring compliance with requirements.

2014-2015 Student Medications	
Number of students on long term medications (more than 3 weeks)	57,926
Number of students on short term medications (less than 3 weeks)	44,561
Number of students on PRN (non-emergency) medications	35,642
Number of students on emergency medications (included 20,919 orders for epinephrine auto-injectors)	67,563

Screening Data

School nurses manage screening programs to identify health conditions that may impact education. The most common screening program is for visual issues.

2014-2015 School Year	
% Target Population Screened	31.2
% Referred for vision care	8.1
% Referred who secured vision care	71.7

Counseling

School nurses provide health counseling which is defined as any encounter with a student where direct service, instruction and advice for health promotion, health improvement and health maintenance were discussed.

Mental Health Issue Counseling	
Total Number of Counseling Sessions	352,026
Other Mental Health Issues	12,001
Depression	4,504
Suicide Ideation	1,232