

NDWS Wave 1 Data Collection Protocol

Community Clinicians

The Community Clinician (CC) sample was drawn from the sampling frame constructed from the National Plan and Provider Enumeration System (NPPES) database of clinicians who have a National Provider Identifier (NPI). In addition to the list of NPIs, we used data from CMS (see the Wave 1 CC sample from overview on the [NDWS.org](https://www.ndws.org) website) to identify clinicians with specific licensures and specialties who have treated a person with a dementia diagnosis recorded in Medicare claims data. This yielded a list of 492,186 eligible clinicians from which a sample of 25,000 was drawn. For more information about NDWS Wave 1 Sampling and Weighting please consult “NDWS Community Clinicians Sampling and Weighting” document and the information on frame construction at [NDWS.org](https://www.ndws.org).

Between August 2024 and April 2025, the sample of 25,000 CCs were invited to complete a 25-minute Web survey via a series of mail and email invitations and reminders. Non-responding CCs received telephone calls as part of the non-response follow up effort. In addition to Web, CCs were offered an option to complete the NDWS survey using a paper-and-pencil (PAPI) instrument. Data collection results are presented below.

Nursing Homes and Assisted Living Communities

For Nursing Homes (NH) and Assisted Living Communities (AL) a two-stage sample design and data collection approach was used. In the first stage, samples of 200 organizations for each of the NH and AL surveys were selected from separate sample frames. All 50 states and the District of Columbia were included in these frames. For more information about NDWS Wave 1 Sampling and Weighting please consult “NDWS Assisted Living and Nursing Home Sampling and Weighting” documents and the sample frame construction description at [NDWS.org](https://www.ndws.org).

Sampled organizations were contacted via mail, email, and phone. An administrator with the knowledge and authority needed to complete the survey was identified in each sampled organization and asked to complete an organization-level survey and to provide a roster of their staff relevant to care for dementia residents. In the second stage, the staff rosters were sampled and the selected individual staff members were invited to complete a 20 - 25 minute Web survey via a series of mail and email invitations and reminders. Non-responding staff members received telephone calls as part of the non-response follow up effort. In addition to Web, sampled staff were offered an option to complete the NDWS survey using a paper-and-pencil (PAPI) instrument. Data collection results are presented below.

NDWS Wave 1 Data Collection Results

Fieldwork Period

Survey	Start Date	End Date
Community Clinicians	August 2024	April 2025
Assisted Living Communities	August 2024	March 2025
Assisted Living Staff	August 2024	April 2025
Nursing Home Facility	August 2024	March 2025
Nursing Home Staff	August 2024	April 2025

Survey Completion and Sample Sizes

Sampling and completion rates by age are shown in the table below. The following sections of this report contain details about sampling, methods, and response.

Survey	Sample Size	Number of completed surveys	Survey completion rate
Community Clinicians	25,000	4,699	18.9%
Assisted Living Communities			
Organization	200	35	32.0%
Staff	663	447	66.7%
Nursing Homes			
Organization	200	28	21.5%
Staff	722	394	55.5%