



National Dementia Workforce Study - Survey Report

Wave 1: August 2024 - April 2025

How to cite NDWS data

The following acknowledgement should be included in any publications using NDWS data. Please note that although it is necessary to include a citation to NDWS in any publications, you should not associate your publication with the NDWS grant in NIHMS.

National Dementia Workforce Study (NDWS). Produced and distributed by www.ndws.org with funding from the National Institute on Aging of the National Institutes of Health under Award Number U54AG084520.



NDWS Overview

The National Dementia Workforce Study, sponsored by the National Institute on Aging of the NIH, is comprised of a family of surveys of the dementia care workforce in the United States. Surveys include the Community Clinician, Nursing Home Staff, Assisted Living Staff, and Home Care Staff. Researchers can use the survey data to answer critical questions about the workforce and its impact on care and outcomes for people with dementia.

Restricted-access versions of the surveys are available on the NIA-funded LINKAGE platform, while public use files (PUFs) are available through National Archive of Computerized Data on Aging – Open Aging Repository (NACDA-OAR).

More information about other sources of data available as part of the study and how to access all NDWS data is available on the study website: [NDWS.org](https://ndws.org).

If you have any questions, please contact: info@ndws.org.

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://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://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

Sample sizes and response rates

Sample sizes and response rates by sample type are shown in the table below.

Survey	Sample size	Number of completed surveys	Response rate
Community Clinicians			
	25,000	4,699	19.0%
Assisted Living Communities			
Organization	200	35	19.4%
Staff	663	447	67.4%
Nursing Homes			
Organization	200	28	14.1%
Staff	722	394	55.2%

Summary of changes

NACDA Version	Description of changes	
AL V2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Added grant number to the Funding Sources 	
NH CC V2, AL V3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Added disclosure information to the survey instrument documentation (NDWS_ ... _Wave 1_Survey.pdf). This document now shows which variables were removed for disclosure protection or masked (and how). Corrected Stratum variable for NH and AL. Removed extraneous Staff_SampStrat variable. Updated Codebook with correct frequencies for AL and NH Stratum and to remove Staff_SampStrat Updated SAS format file with the same changes. Replaced "Completion rates" with "Response rates" in the Survey Report. CC, NH: Added grant number to the Funding Sources CC: Updated the dataset, formats, and the codebook with new labels for the Clinician_Type variable. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1=PCP:MD DO--> Primary Care Physician 2=PCP:NP--> Primary Care NP 3=PCP:PA--> Non-surgical PA 4=PSYCH:MD DO--> Psychiatrist 5=PSYCH:NP--> Mental Health NP 6=NEURO:MD DO--> Neurologist 	