

Registered nurses was one of the largest occupations in the United States, with over 2.4 million workers earning an average salary of \$59,730 per year.

**Figure 8** Profile for registered nurses (RNs), May 2006

- Twenty-five percent of registered nurses earned more than \$69,850 per year, and 10 percent earned more than \$83,440.
- More than half of registered nurses were employed in general medical and surgical hospitals.
- Offices of physicians, home health care services, and nursing care facilities were also large employers of registered nurses.

Wage distribution for RNs (percentile)					
	10th	25th	50th (median)	75th	90th
Hourly	\$19.35	\$22.94	\$27.54	\$33.58	\$40.11
Annual	\$40,250	\$47,710	\$57,280	\$69,850	\$83,440
Industries with the largest concentration of RNs					
Industry	Percent of industry employment			Employment	
General medical and surgical hospitals	28.11			1,373,610	
Specialty (except psychiatric and substance abuse) hospitals	21.14			40,500	
Home health care services	14.58			124,470	
Outpatient care centers	14.40			69,870	
Psychiatric and substance abuse hospitals	13.49			32,000	
States with the highest employment concentration of RNs					
State	Percent of area employment			Hourly mean wage	
South Dakota	2.47			\$23.83	
Massachusetts	2.41			34.09	
Maine	2.29			26.47	
Mississippi	2.26			24.10	
Pennsylvania	2.24			27.42	
Metropolitan areas with highest mean wages for RNs					
Metropolitan area	Mean annual wage			Employment	
San Jose-Sunnyvale-Santa Clara, CA	\$92,400			14,930	
Oakland-Fremont-Hayward, CA Metropolitan Division	89,820			17,430	
Salinas, CA	84,920			2,130	
San Francisco-San Mateo-Redwood, CA Metropolitan Division	82,840			15,430	
Santa Rosa-Petaluma, CA	80,790			3,240	

