

STATISTICS UNDERSCORING INCREASED INTEREST IN NURSING AS A CAREER

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THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGES OF NURSING

Preliminary results of its annual survey of 900 nursing schools revealed a nearly 6% increase in baccalaureate nursing program enrollment, according to [an article in USA Today](#).

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THE ORGANIZATION FOR ASSOCIATE DEGREE NURSING

While hard numbers aren't available, the president of OADN, Laura Schmidt, DNP, FNP-BC, told USA Today that 2-year associate degree nursing programs seem to be experiencing a similar bump.

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THE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN MEDICAL COLLEGES

Previously, the average annual increase for med school applications was ~2.5%, said Geoffrey Young, Sr. Dir., in an interview with Inside Higher Ed. [In 2020, applications were up 18% overall.](#) Because applying to med school typically requires several years of prep, Young attributes the increase to multiple pandemic-related factors: fewer students taking a gap year, more time to apply (& less costs related to interviewing), and schools offering greater flexibility.

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Another fascinating stat? In 2020, the No. 1 term people asked when searching for "how to become" was "nurse," according to Google Trends data (and reported by USA Today).