

# Title: Future Demand for Long-Term Care Workers Will Be Influenced By Demographic and Utilization Changes

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**Issue:** A looming question for policy makers is how the growing diversity of the US elderly population and greater use of home and community-based services will affect demand for long-term care workers.

**Methods:** We used national surveys to analyze current use of long-term care and the current long-term care workforce, and projected demand for long-term care services and workers through 2030. We assessed how projections varied if we changed assumptions about utilization patterns.

**Findings:** At least 2.5 million more workers will be needed to provide long-term care between now and 2030. Growth in the use of home and community-based services and shifting demographics will have relatively little effect on overall demand growth, but could have notable effects across occupations because the mix of occupations used to provide services varies substantially across long-term care settings.

**Discussion:** Policy makers and educators should redouble efforts to create and sustainably fund programs to recruit, train, and retain long-term care workers.

**Key Words:** long-term care workers; LTC staffing patterns; demand for LTC workers

**HWRC Website Link:** <http://healthworkforce.ucsf.edu/publication/future-demand-long-term-care-workers-will-be-influenced-demographic-and-utilization>