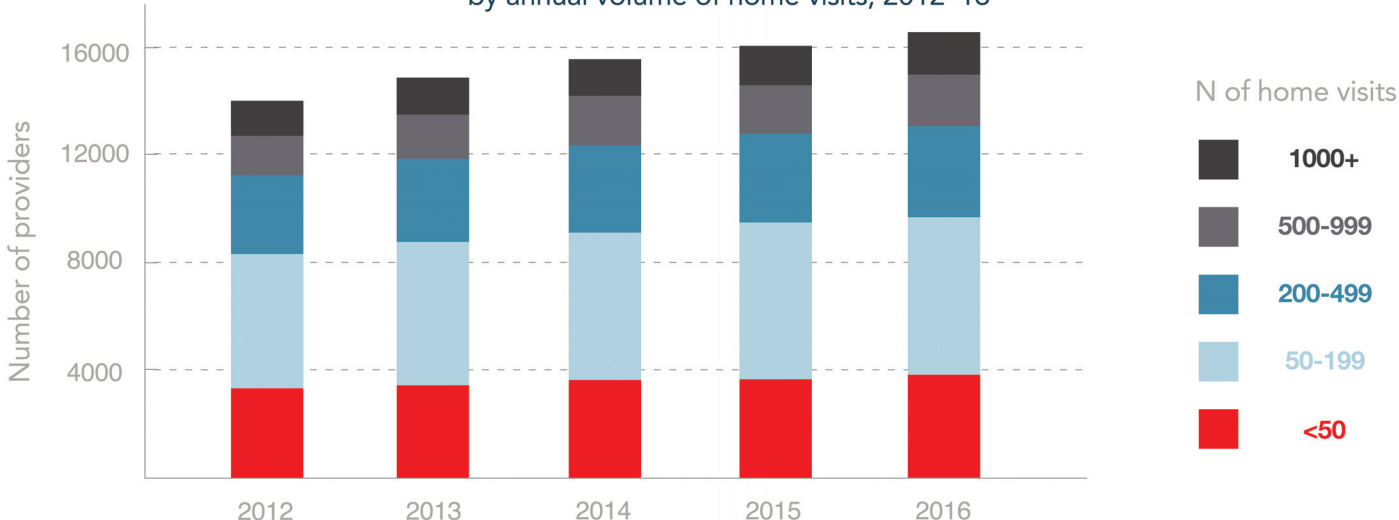


## IN TRADITIONAL MEDICARE, MODEST GROWTH IN THE HOME CARE WORKFORCE IS LARGELY DRIVEN BY NURSE PRACTITIONERS

In exploring recent trends in the US home-based medical care workforce that serves traditional (fee-for-service) Medicare beneficiaries, researchers drew several conclusions:

### 1. Steady increase of home-based medical care providers from 2012 to 2016

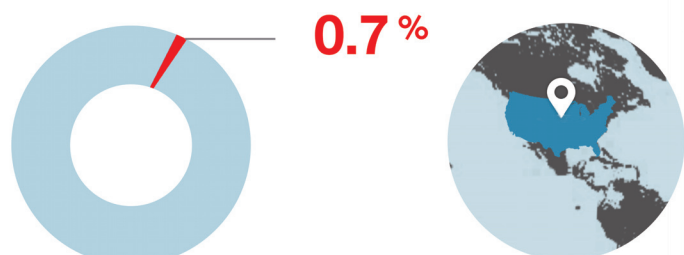
Number of home-based medical care providers participating in traditional Medicare, by annual volume of home visits, 2012–16



▶ The overall number of home-based medical care providers increased from 14,100 in 2012 to around 16,600 in 2016.

### 2. Low participation among providers in traditional Medicare

Only 0.7 percent of physicians in Medicare provided 50 or more home visits annually



< 6,000

Physicians provided routine home care in 2016

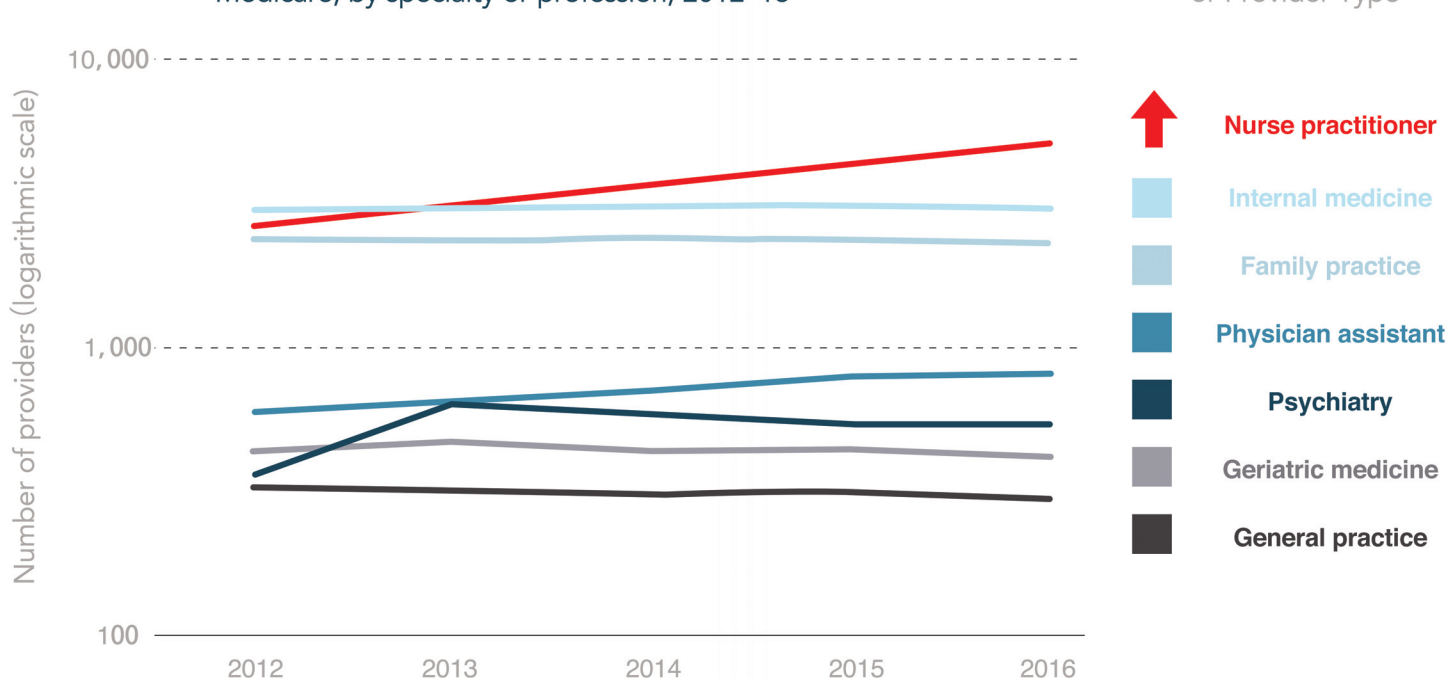


< 200

Most home care providers made fewer than 200 home visits annually to traditional Medicare beneficiaries

### 3. Growth in the workforce attributed almost entirely to nurse practitioners

Number of home-based medical care providers in traditional Medicare, by specialty or profession, 2012–16



▶ The number of home-based medical care nurse practitioners nearly doubled in five years (a 92% increase), whereas the number of home-based medical care physicians did not increase.

### 4. Providers "come in and out" of the workforce every year



Approximately 4,000 providers joined or re-entered the workforce annually while 3,000 stopped or paused participation.

**Source:**

Yao N, Mutter JB, Berry JD, Yamanaka T, Mohess DT, Cornwell T. In Traditional Medicare, Modest Growth in the Home Care Workforce Largely Driven by Nurse Practitioners. Health Affairs (Millwood). 2021 Mar;40(3):478-486. doi: 10.1377/hlthaff.2020.00671. PMID:33646879

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