

NursingCAS

The Centralized Application Service for Nursing Programs

2017 APPLICANT SURVEY EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

February 2018

SCOPE, METHODOLOGY, & SAMPLE CHARACTERISTICS

The purpose of the NursingCAS Applicant Satisfaction Survey was to gauge areas in which the NursingCAS application was successful and identify opportunities for improvement. In December 2017, an email invitation was sent to 76,992 applicants that utilized NursingCAS during the 2016-2017 cycle requesting their participation. This resulted in 5,605 completed surveys.

The breakdown of program level applications roughly correlated with the proportion of programs at different levels. The vast majority of respondents applied to a Bachelor's level program followed by Master's level and Doctoral level programs ([see figure 1](#)). Of the 5,605 submissions 52.40% respondents indicated that they only applied to one program outside of the NursingCAS environment ([see figure 2](#)).

RESULTS

The majority of applicants reported a positive NursingCAS experience with 82% of respondents either Satisfied or Very satisfied ([see figure 3](#)).

Applicants were asked what they found most valuable about the NursingCAS experience. The top five answers were as follows:

1. Ability to apply to multiple programs using a single application

2. Convenience of submitting 1 set of transcript(s) to NursingCAS
3. Online status check
4. Online application (rather than paper-based)
5. Notifications

Applicants were given the option to fill in their own answers in addition to the standard options. Many applicants indicated that they found the [re-applicant feature](#) and the ability to find programs of interest valuable.

“NursingCAS is so helpful! I really like that I can copy my previous year’s application. What a time saver!”

“From [NursingCAS] I found two other programs that were local to me and I didn’t know I was qualified for.”

“I like that I can transfer information from an old application to a new application very easily!”

“Centralized way of providing information about the schools and other programs is an asset and reduces time spent researching other schools.”

Although the majority of feedback received was positive, there were a few pain points where the applicant experience could be improved. By far the most mentioned critique was regarding the coursework entry process.

“Inputting transcript info when it was received anyway. Wish that would’ve been done for me. Wishful thinking for future.”

“The process of entering transcripts was very slow.”

“Transcript entry – repetitive since I have to have them mailed anyway.”

Several applicants thought the coursework entry process was overly burdensome and time consuming. One comment indicated that the [Professional Transcript Entry \(PTE\)](#) service did help to alleviate the work involved in coursework entry.

Despite dislike for the coursework entry process, the majority of applicants indicated that they would recommend NursingCAS to a friend ([see figure 4](#)) with 35.45% (n=1987) Extremely Likely to recommend the service.

CONCLUSION

In sum, overall impressions of the NursingCAS application were positive despite pain points with the coursework entry process. This feedback will assist with our continued efforts to improve the application process for applicants. *Note, schools can configure their program(s) to not require coursework entry.*

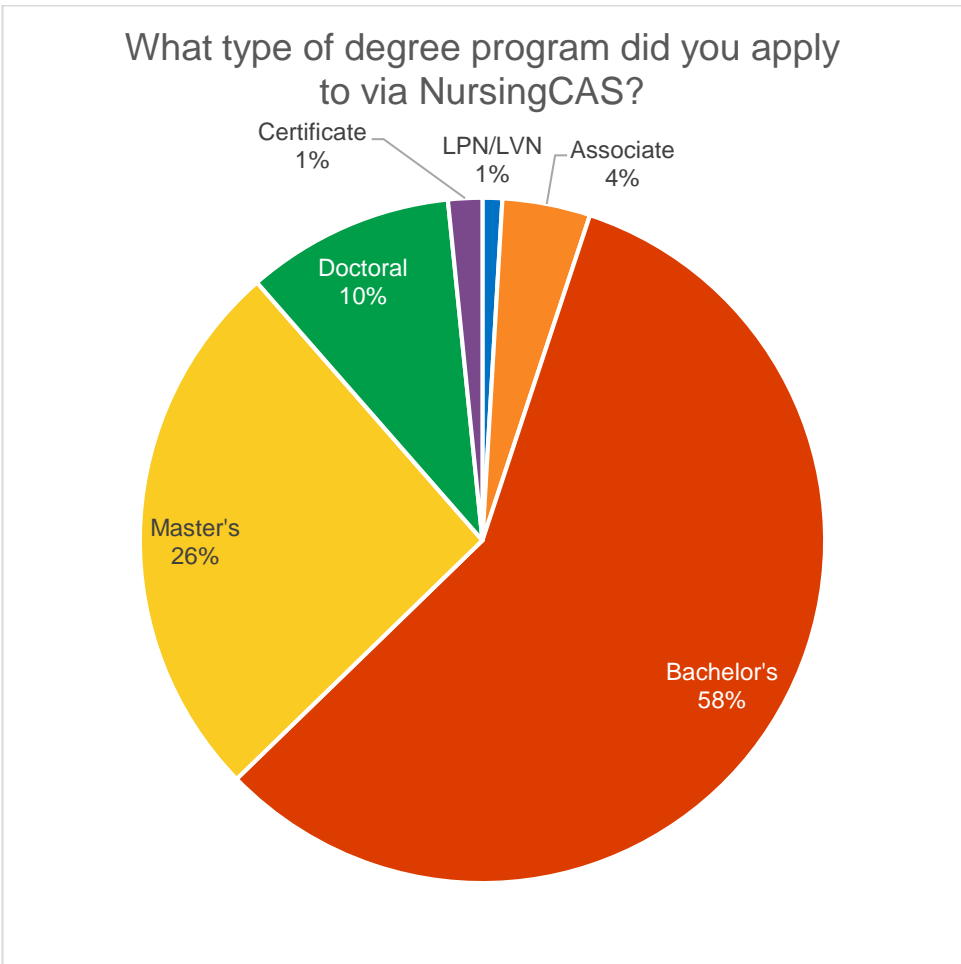


Figure 1

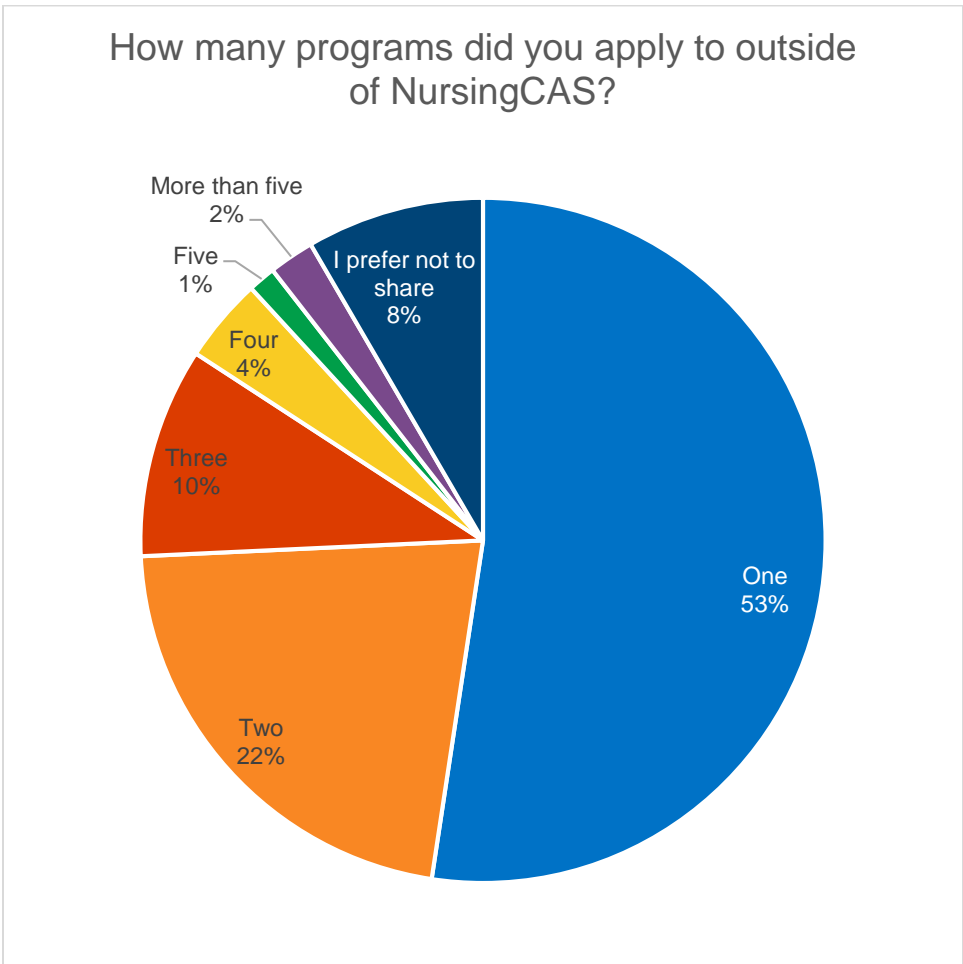


Figure 2

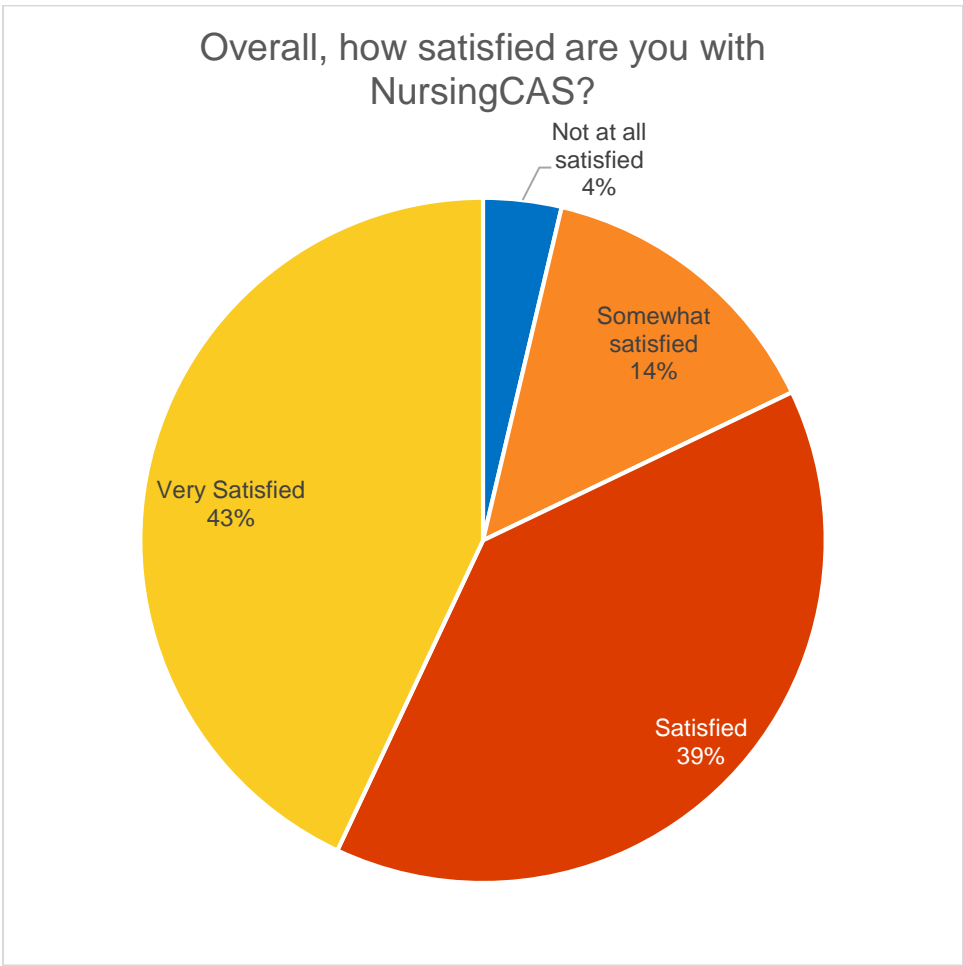


Figure 3

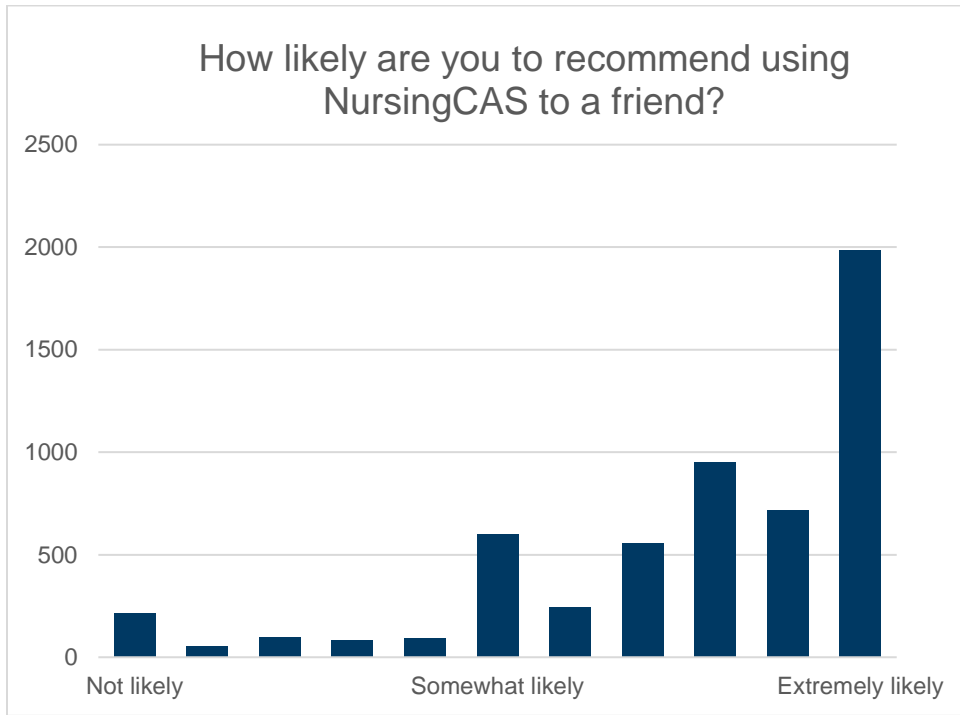


Figure 4