

# SENIOR CARE POLICY BRIEFING

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## NEWSFLASH

- [The Ensign Group](#), one of the country's largest nursing home operators, announced "another record quarter" on February 2, 2023.
- In three groundbreaking lawsuits, [NY Attorney General](#) reveals allegations of millions in "upfront profits" siphoned off of nursing homes by multi-state operators.

**Editor's Note:** These data and reports counter the nursing home industry's argument that it needs more money to provide safe staffing. In fact, most U.S. nursing homes are operated by sophisticated, for-profit entities. Minimum staffing standards are needed to ensure that nursing homes provide promised care. More transparency and accountability are needed to ensure program integrity.

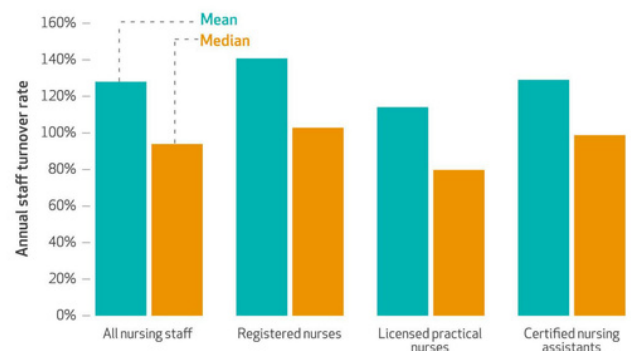
## LTC BY THE NUMBERS

- Federal report ([OIG](#)) finds that an astounding 80% of nursing home residents are administered psychotropic drugs.
- [250,000 nursing home residents](#) receive dangerous antipsychotic drugs each week, despite an FDA warning not to use on elderly people with dementia.
- [31% of residents in assisted living](#) have a diagnosis of heart disease and [42% or more](#) have some form of Alzheimer's or other dementias. Despite the needs and vulnerabilities of its residents, there are currently no federal quality, safety, or staffing standards for assisted living.

Nursing home industry lobbyists have claimed for decades that they are challenged to find more staff, but their own data show that the problem is one of retention: staff leave because of low pay and demeaning and dangerous working conditions.



## Staff Turnover is Really High



## GET THE FACTS

- The nursing home industry is financially healthy. Despite claims that the industry is collapsing, significantly [fewer nursing homes closed](#) in 2022 than the sector's largest lobby association projected.
- The overuse of dangerous antipsychotics persists. A [study finds](#) that the "rate of antipsychotic drug prescribing to people with dementia increased in the initial months of the COVID-19 pandemic...and did not decrease to prepandemic levels after the acute phase of the pandemic had ended."

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The Long Term Care Community Coalition is a non-partisan, non-profit organization dedicated to improving nursing home care.

Visit [NursingHome411.org](https://www.NursingHome411.org) for the latest data on staffing levels and quality for every U.S. nursing home as well as resources on resident rights, quality standards, and more.