NCSBN Research Brief

2002 Licensure and Examination Statistics

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National Council of State Boards of Nursing, Inc. (NCSBN)

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NCSBN Mission Statement
The National Council of State Boards of Nursing, composed of member boards, provides leadership to advance regulatory excellence for public protection.

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Introduction

The National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN), composed of member boards, provides leadership to advance regulatory excellence for public protection.

NCSBN serves as a consultant, liaison, advocate and researcher to its members, and as an education and information resource to policymakers and the general public. This publication provides statistics, for the year 2002, on the licensing activities of NCSBN's member boards of nursing and its two licensure examinations, the National Council Licensure Examination for Practical Nurses (NCLEX-PN® examination) and the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN® examination).

Part I

The data reported in Part I of this document include licensing statistics of the 61 state and territorial boards of nursing. The numbers of new licenses by endorsement and examination, as well as the total number of active licenses, are provided for each jurisdiction.

The data included in this publication provide licensing statistics for the period July 1, 2001 - June 30, 2002.

Part II

On April 1, 1994, NCSBN began administering NCLEX® examinations via computerized adaptive testing (CAT) for both the NCLEX-RN® examination and NCLEX-PN® examination. Because the examinations are available on a year-round basis, candidate performance is summarized and reported for each quarter, representing a three-month period of time.

This publication provides the examination statistics for a one-year period, January - December 2002. It also provides summary statistics for 1992-2002.

PART I
2002 Licensure Statistics

The data reported in this section indicate licensure processing activity and data on the total number of individuals licensed to practice within each jurisdiction during fiscal year 2002. All data was obtained from state and territorial boards of nursing.

Estimates were provided where the exact figure requested for this collection of data was unknown.

Data are presented in a series of tables. Table 1 lists the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) member boards, the geographic locality (jurisdiction) within which a board has responsibility for regulating nursing practice (JD), the types of licenses for which a board has licensing authority, and whether or not the board is empowered to issue licenses or certificates to practice in a specialty area of nursing. Tables 2-5 provide data related to new licenses issued by endorsement or examination, total numbers of active licenses (both RN and LPN/VN) by jurisdiction, and graduates of foreign nursing programs licensed by jurisdiction. Table 6 provides a summary of licensing activities by examination and endorsement for RNs, LPN/VNs and graduates of foreign nursing programs. Tables 7 and 8 provide the numbers of active specialty licenses, issued within each jurisdiction, by specialty license category.

Figure 1 provides a review of the numbers of active licenses for the years 1992-2002.

Unless noted otherwise, all percentages are calculated in terms of column totals.

Note that nurses in Puerto Rico are licensed by virtue of passing Puerto Rico's Spanish-language examination. In addition to taking this examination, some nurses also take the NCLEX-RN® and/or NCLEX-PN® examination. The Puerto Rican examination only allows nurses to practice in Puerto Rico; if they would like to practice elsewhere in the U.S., they must take the NCLEX® examination.

Key Terms

Registered Nurses (RN) and Licensed Practical or Vocational Nurses (LPN/VN) obtain licensure by endorsement (if licensed in another jurisdiction) or by examination (if the applicant has never taken the appropriate NCLEX® exam).

ACTIVE LICENSE figures are based on the reported actual or estimated total number of individuals holding an active license within a jurisdiction and represent the nurses available for employment. Due to an unknown number of individuals holding active licenses in more than one jurisdiction, the total number of active licenses nationwide may be higher than the total number of nurses.

ADVANCED PRACTICE LICENSES/AUTHORITY TO PRACTICE figures and tables contain data for Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) groups: Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA), Certified Nurse Midwife (CNM), Certified Nurse Specialist (CNS), CNS-Psych/Mental Health, and Nurse Practitioner (NP).

ABBREVIATIONS are followed by the category of advanced practice/authority to practice license:
- CNM – Certified Nurse Midwife
- CRNA – Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist
- CNS-PSYCH – Clinical Nurse Specialist-Psychiatry and/or Mental Health (including all its subspecialties)
- CNS – Clinical Nurse Specialist (all others)

Table 1. Boards of Nursing Empowered to License Registered Nurses, Licensed Practical/Vocational Nurses or Other Categories of Nursing Personnel

JD	Board of Nursing	RN	LPN/ LVN	Other Specialty Groups
AK	Alaska Board of Nursing	YES	YES	YES
AL	Alabama Board of Nursing	YES	YES	YES
AR	Arkansas State Board of Nursing	YES	YES	YES
AS	American Samoa Health Service Regulatory Board	YES	YES	YES
AZ	Arizona State Board of Nursing	YES	YES	YES
CARN	California Board of Registered Nursing	YES	NO	YES
CAVN	California Board of Vocational Nurse and Psychiatric Technician Examiners	NO	YES	NO
CO	Colorado Board of Nursing	YES	YES	YES
CT	Connecticut Board of Examiners for Nursing	YES	YES	YES
DC	District of Columbia Board of Nursing	YES	YES	YES
DE	Delaware Board of Nursing	YES	YES	YES
FL	Florida Board of Nursing	YES	YES	YES
GAPN	Georgia State Board of Licensed Practical Nurses	NO	YES	NO
GARN	Georgia Board of Nursing	YES	NO	YES
GU	Guam Board of Nurse Examiners	YES	YES	YES
HI	Hawaii Board of Nursing Professional and Vocational Licensing Division	YES	YES	YES
IA	Iowa Board of Nursing	YES	YES	YES
ID	Idaho Board of Nursing	YES	YES	YES
IL	Illinois Department of Professional Regulation	YES	YES	YES
IN	Indiana State Board of Nursing	YES	YES	YES
KS	Kansas State Board of Nursing	YES	YES	YES
KY	Kentucky Board of Nursing	YES	YES	YES
LAPN	Louisiana State Board of Practical Nurse Examiners	NO	YES	NO
LARN	Louisiana State Board of Nursing	YES	NO	YES
MA	Massachusetts Board of Registration in Nursing	YES	YES	YES
MD	Maryland Board of Nursing	YES	YES	YES
ME	Maine State Board of Nursing	YES	YES	YES
MI	Michigan CIS/Bureau of Health Services	YES	YES	YES
MN	Minnesota Board of Nursing	YES	YES	YES
MO	Missouri State Board of Nursing	YES	YES	YES
MP	Northern Mariana Islands Commonwealth Board of Nurse Examiners	YES	YES	YES
MS	Mississippi Board of Nursing	YES	YES	YES
MT	Montana State Board of Nursing	YES	YES	YES
NC	North Carolina Board of Nursing	YES	YES	YES
ND	North Dakota Board of Nursing	YES	YES	YES
NE	Nebraska Health and Human Services System	YES	YES	YES

Table 1, continued				
JD	Board of Nursing	RN	LPN/ LVN	Other Specialty Groups
NH	New Hampshire Board of Nursing	YES	YES	YES
NJ	New Jersey Board of Nursing	YES	YES	YES
NM	New Mexico Board of Nursing	YES	YES	YES
NV	Nevada State Board of Nursing	YES	YES	YES
NY	New York State Board for Nursing	YES	YES	YES
OH	Ohio Board of Nursing	YES	YES	YES
OK	Oklahoma Board of Nursing	YES	YES	YES
OR	Oregon State Board of Nursing	YES	YES	YES
PA	Pennsylvania State Board of Nursing	YES	YES	YES
PR	Commonwealth of Puerto Rico Board of Nurse Examiners	YES	YES	YES
RI	Rhode Island Board of Nurse Registration and Nursing Education	YES	YES	YES
SC	South Carolina State Board of Nursing	YES	YES	YES
SD	South Dakota Board of Nursing	YES	YES	YES
TN	Tennessee State Board of Nursing	YES	YES	YES
TXRN	Texas Board of Nurse Examiners	YES	NO	YES
TXVN	Texas Board of Vocational Nurse Examiners	NO	YES	NO
UT	Utah State Board of Nursing	YES	YES	YES
VA	Virginia Board of Nursing	YES	YES	YES
VI	Virgin Islands Board of Nurse Licensure	YES	YES	YES
VT	Vermont State Board of Nursing	YES	YES	YES
WA	Washington State Nursing Care Quality Assurance Commission	YES	YES	YES
WI	Wisconsin Department of Regulation and Licensing	YES	YES	YES
WVPN	West Virginia State Board of Examiners for Licensed Practical Nurses	NO	YES	NO
WVRN	West Virginia Board of Examiners for Registered Professional Nurses	YES	NO	YES
WY	Wyoming State Board of Nursing	YES	YES	YES

Table 2. Registered Nurses: New-in-State Functions, by Jurisdiction						
JD	Examination		Endorsement		Total New-in-State	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
AL	1,441	2.20%	762	0.90%	2,203	1.39%
AR	813	1.24%	711	0.84%	1,524	0.96%
AS	2	0.00%	0	0.00%	2	0.00%
AZ	948	1.45%	2,845	3.36%	3,793	2.39%
CARN	8,045	12.30%	10,443	12.32%	18,488	11.65%
CO	922	1.41%	3,090	3.65%	4,012	2.53%
CT	797	1.22%	2,060	2.43%	2,857	1.80%
DC	153	0.23%	1,480	1.75%	1,633	1.03%
FL	4,047	6.19%	6,753	7.97%	10,800	6.80%
GARN	2,500	3.82%	2,500	2.95%	5,000	3.15%
HI	473	0.72%	1,157	1.37%	1,630	1.03%
IA	986	1.51%	558	0.66%	1,544	0.97%
ID	377	0.58%	606	0.72%	983	0.62%
IN	1,485	2.27%	1,562	1.84%	3,047	1.92%
KS	896	1.37%	1,218	1.44%	2,114	1.33%
KY	1,134	1.73%	1,097	1.29%	2,231	1.41%
LARN	1,553	2.37%	862	1.02%	2,415	1.52%
MA	2,017	3.08%	2,929	3.46%	4,946	3.12%
MD	1,633	2.50%	2,374	2.80%	4,007	2.52%
ME	408	0.62%	840	0.99%	1,248	0.79%
MI	2,569	3.93%	1,522	1.80%	4,091	2.58%
MN	2,185	3.34%	1,978	2.33%	4,163	2.62%
MO	886	1.35%	2,232	2.63%	3,118	1.96%
MS	1,133	1.73%	697	0.82%	1,830	1.15%
MT	220	0.34%	272	0.32%	492	0.31%
NC	2,402	3.67%	3,131	3.69%	5,533	3.49%
ND	222	0.34%	257	0.30%	479	0.30%
NE	643	0.98%	374	0.44%	1,017	0.64%
NH	575	0.88%	1,165	1.37%	1,740	1.10%
NM	457	0.70%	617	0.73%	1,074	0.68%
NV	310	0.47%	2,033	2.40%	2,343	1.48%
NY[1]					8,571	5.40%
OH	3,003	4.59%	2,672	3.15%	5,675	3.58%
OK	968	1.48%	688	0.81%	1,656	1.04%
OR	786	1.20%	2,207	2.60%	2,993	1.89%
PA	2,835	4.34%	2,785	3.29%	5,620	3.54%
RI	356	0.54%	668	0.79%	1,024	0.65%
SC	1,305	2.00%	2,195	2.59%	3,500	2.21%
SD	276	0.42%	346	0.41%	622	0.39%
TN	2,364	3.61%	2,420	2.86%	4,784	3.01%
TXRN	4,931	7.54%	3,831	4.52%	8,762	5.52%
UT	706	1.08%	340	0.40%	1,046	0.66%

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Table 2, continued						
JD	Examination		Endorsement		Total New-in-State	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
VA	1,693	2.59%	3,099	3.66%	4,792	3.02%
VT	245	0.37%	553	0.65%	798	0.50%
WA	1,381	2.11%	2,102	2.48%	3,483	2.19%
WI	1,606	2.46%	1,410	1.66%	3,016	1.90%
WVRN	557	0.85%	894	1.05%	1,451	0.91%
WY	151	0.23%	410	0.48%	561	0.35%
Total	65,395	100.00%	84,745	100.00%	158,711[1]	100.00%

[1]Total new-in-state processing includes 8,571 licenses for New York not available by specific function category.

No information available for Alaska, Delaware, Guam, Illinois, New Jersey, Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Table 3. Licensed Practical/Vocational Nurses: New-in-State Functions, by Jurisdiction						
JD	Examination		Endorsement		Total New-in-State	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
AL	712	2.29%	197	1.42%	909	1.90%
AR	646	2.08%	209	1.50%	855	1.79%
AS	3	0.01%	0	0.00%	3	0.01%
AZ	386	1.24%	413	2.97%	799	1.67%
CAVN	3,762	12.12%	602	4.33%	4,364	9.12%
CO	577	1.86%	353	2.54%	930	1.94%
CT	331	1.07%	280	2.01%	611	1.28%
DC	24	0.08%	274	1.97%	298	0.62%
FL	1,919	6.18%	1,556	11.19%	3,475	7.26%
GAPN	891	2.87%	771	5.54%	1,662	3.47%
HI	73	0.24%	243	1.75%	316	0.66%
IA	755	2.43%	154	1.11%	909	1.90%
ID	187	0.60%	96	0.69%	283	0.59%
IN	942	3.03%	328	2.36%	1,270	2.65%
KS	566	1.82%	236	1.70%	802	1.68%
KY	533	1.72%	309	2.22%	842	1.76%
LAPN	799	2.57%	206	1.48%	1,005	2.10%
MA	568	1.83%	131	0.94%	699	1.46%
MD	363	1.17%	622	4.47%	985	2.06%
ME	19	0.06%	105	0.75%	124	0.26%
MI	1,059	3.41%	231	1.66%	1,290	2.70%
MN	868	2.80%	154	1.11%	1,022	2.14%
MO	1,233	3.97%	379	2.72%	1,612	3.37%
MS	476	1.53%	166	1.19%	642	1.34%
MT	111	0.36%	34	0.24%	145	0.30%
NC	790	2.54%	556	4.00%	1,346	2.81%
ND	130	0.42%	61	0.44%	191	0.40%
NE	261	0.84%	71	0.51%	332	0.69%
NH	223	0.72%	201	1.44%	424	0.89%
NM	152	0.49%	112	0.81%	264	0.55%
NV	45	0.14%	245	1.76%	290	0.61%
NY[1]					2885	6.03%
OH	1,577	5.08%	382	2.75%	1,959	4.09%
OK	968	3.12%	164	1.18%	1,132	2.37%
OR	229	0.74%	171	1.23%	400	0.84%
PA	1,061	3.42%	375	2.70%	1,436	3.00%
RI	24	0.08%	50	0.36%	74	0.15%
SC	519	1.67%	367	2.64%	886	1.85%
SD	61	0.20%	62	0.45%	123	0.26%
TN	1,026	3.30%	700	5.03%	1,726	3.61%
TXVN	3,259	10.50%	947	6.81%	4,206	8.79%
UT	368	1.19%	59	0.42%	427	0.89%

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Table 3, continued						
JD	Examination		Endorsement		Total New-in-State	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
VA	1,134	3.65%	516	3.71%	1,650	3.45
VT	61	0.20%	64	0.46%	125	0.26%
WA	620	2.00%	314	2.26%	934	1.95%
WI	373	1.20%	166	1.19%	539	1.13%
WVPN	294	0.95%	223	1.60%	517	1.08%
WY	71	0.23%	56	0.40%	127	0.27%
Total	31,049	100.00%	13,911	100.00%	47,845[1]	100.00%

[1]Total new-in-state processing includes 2,885 licenses for New York not available by specific function category.

No information available for Alaska, Delaware, Guam, Illinois, New Jersey, Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Table 4. Total Number of Active Licenses: Registered Nurses and Licensed Practical/Vocational Nurses, by Jurisdiction						
JD	Registered Nurses		Licensed Practical/ Vocational Nurses		Total Number	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
AK[1]	6,218	0.20%	715	0.08%	6,933	0.17%
AL	46,208	1.45%	16,057	1.83%	62,265	1.53%
AR	29,362	0.92%	15,769	1.80%	45,131	1.11%
AS	46	0.00%	104	0.01%	150	0.00%
AZ	50,486	1.58%	9,160	1.04%	59,646	1.47%
CARN	268,337	8.42%			268,337	6.60%
CAVN			65,975	7.52%	65,975	1.62%
CO	51,282	1.61%	10,264	1.17%	61,546	1.51%
CT	52,840	1.66%	11,427	1.30%	64,267	1.58%
DC	17,114	0.54%	2,498	0.28%	19,612	0.48%
FL	177,278	5.56%	52,813	6.02%	230,091	5.66%
GAPN			30,144	3.43%	30,144	0.74%
GARN	90,000	2.82%			90,000	2.21%
HI	12,922	0.41%	2,665	0.30%	15,587	0.38%
IA	38,137	1.20%	9,622	1.10%	47,759	1.17%
ID	12,634	0.40%	3,920	0.45%	16,554	0.41%
IL[1]	142,644	4.48%	26,626	3.03%	169,270	4.16%
IN	76,095	2.39%	23,180	2.64%	99,275	2.44%
KS	36,770	1.15%	8,264	0.94%	45,034	1.11%
KY	46,662	1.46%	13,319	1.52%	59,981	1.48%
LAPN			21,295	2.43%	21,295	0.52%
LARN	42,799	1.34%			42,799	1.05%
MA	107,684	3.38%	21,991	2.51%	129,675	3.19%
MD	61,876	1.94%	10,770	1.23%	72,646	1.79%
ME	19,390	0.61%	3,352	0.38%	22,742	0.56%
MI	118,771	3.73%	27,319	3.11%	146,090	3.59%
MN	65,273	2.05%	22,322	2.54%	87,595	2.16%
MO	73,843	2.32%	22,839	2.60%	96,682	2.38%
MS	30,592	0.96%	11,250	1.28%	41,842	1.03%
MT	10,407	0.33%	3,188	0.36%	13,595	0.33%
NC	90,981	2.85%	20,557	2.34%	111,538	2.74%
ND	8,392	0.26%	3,179	0.36%	11,571	0.28%
NE	21,340	0.67%	6,112	0.70%	27,452	0.68%
NH	18,510	0.58%	3,063	0.35%	21,573	0.53%
NJ[1]	109,162	3.43%	23,101	2.63%	132,263	3.25%
NM	16,036	0.50%	3,148	0.36%	19,184	0.47%
NV	17,243	0.54%	2,691	0.31%	19,934	0.49%
NY	231,137	7.25%	68,836	7.84%	299,973	7.38%
OH	140,909	4.42%	41,218	4.70%	182,127	4.48%
OK	31,270	0.98%	16,638	1.90%	47,908	1.18%
OR	36,914	1.16%	4,012	0.46%	40,926	1.01%
PA	201,456	6.32%	49,827	5.68%	251,283	6.18%

Table 4, continued						
JD	Registered Nurses		Licensed Practical/ Vocational Nurses		Total Number	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
RI	17,099	0.54%	2,645	0.30%	19,744	0.49%
SC	40,753	1.28%	11,811	1.35%	52,564	1.29%
SD	10,459	0.33%	2,165	0.25%	12,624	0.31%
TN	68,860	2.16%	26,502	3.02%	95,362	2.35%
TXRN	167,173	5.25%			167,173	4.11%
TXVN			75,185	8.57%	75,185	1.85%
UT	19,278	0.60%	3,518	0.40%	22,796	0.56%
VA	88,262	2.77%	28,380	3.23%	116,642	2.87%
VT	8,506	0.27%	1,839	0.21%	10,345	0.25%
WA	64,024	2.01%	13,975	1.59%	77,999	1.92%
WI	66,197	2.08%	15,398	1.75%	81,595	2.01%
WVPN			6,131	0.70%	6,131	0.15%
WVRN	22,218	0.70%			22,218	0.55%
WY	5,031	0.16%	969	0.11%	6,000	0.15%
Total	3,186,880	100.00%	877,748	100.00%	4,064,628[1]	100.00%

[1]Includes 308,466 total number of active licenses reported in 2001 for Alaska, Illinois and New Jersey.

No information available for Delaware, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Table 5. Number of Graduates of Foreign Nursing Programs Licensed, by Jurisdiction*		
JD	RN Graduates of Foreign Nursing Programs	LPN/VN Graduates of Foreign Nursing Programs
AR	9	0
CARN	3,609	
CT	69	317
FL	881	92
KS	6	1
MA	101	8
MD	160	3
ME	3	0
MN	612	11
MO	29	3
MS	35	2
NC	115	6
NH	100	0
NM	118	25
OR	110	7
PA	97	10
SC	50	
TXRN	998	
VA	7	1
VT	134	
WVRN	10	
Total	7,253	486

*Information provided by 21 boards.

Table 6. Summary of Licensing Activities	
New-in-State	
Registered Nurses	156,211
Licensed Practical/Vocational Nurses	44,960
Total	201,171
Active Licenses	
Registered Nurses	3,186,880
Licensed Practical/Vocational Nurses	877,748
Total	4,064,628[1]
Graduates of Foreign Nursing Program	
Registered Nurses	7,253
Licensed Practical/Vocational Nurses	486
Total	7,739*

[1]Includes 308,466 total number of active licenses reported in 2001 for Alaska, Illinois, and New Jersey.

*Information provided by 21 boards.

No information available for Delaware, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Figure 1. Total Number of Active Licenses: Registered Nurses and Licensed Practical/Vocational Nurses – 1992-2002
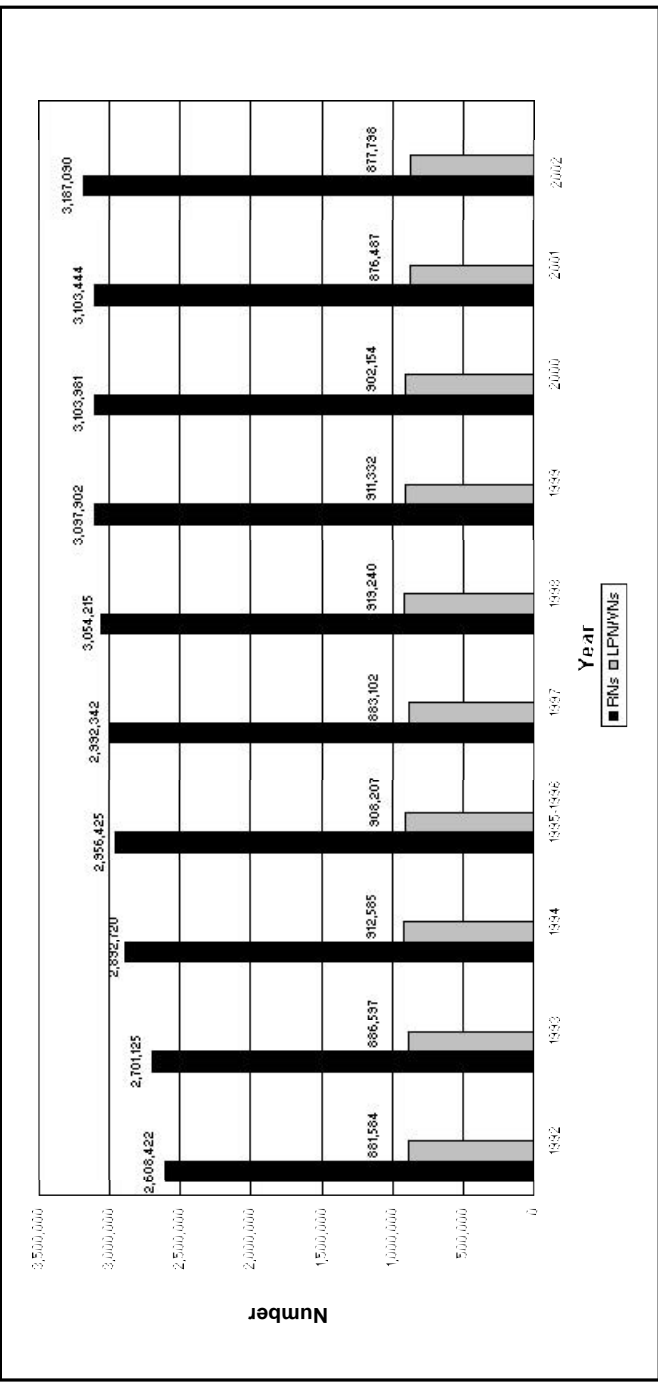
Table 7. Distribution of Active Advanced Practice/Authority to Practice Licenses Within Each Specialty Category, by Jurisdiction

JD	CNM	CRNA	CNS PSYCH	CNS	CNS No Designation	AC	AH	CHP	COL	EMR	FAM	FPN	GER	NEO	WOM	PSY	SCH	NP No Specialty	Other Types	Total Active Licenses
AL	43	1,364	44	100		92	159	119			762		21	73	140	5	1	10	1	2,934
AR	28	627	0		86		0	0										561		1,302
AS	2	0	0	1		0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7
AZ	188	206		92		6	380	200	0	0	887	0	48	146	317	105	9	6	0	2,590
CARN	1,085	1,567	0	1,614		0	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11,115	0	15,381
CO	268	382	880								0		0	285	0	0		2,296		3,826
DC	81	180	19															1,041		1,321
FL	623	2,445				214	1,258	558			2,017		298		376	409		903		9,386
GARN	350	1,375	325	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,600	0	4,650
IA	60	365		114		5	51	164			371	34		5	159	19	4		1	1,352
ID	24	289	11	7														357		688
IN	56			101														1,250		1,407
KS	41	612	5	1,023		1	160	25	0	0	39	1	19	0	19	184	0	33	190	2,352
KY	112	874	115	26		34	172	93			741		22	13	151	10	1	5		2,369
LARN	33	997	103	200		39	47	46			500		13	99	67	1	1	92	51	2,288
MA	459	885	985	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4,729	0	7,058
MD	185	425	379			77	700	367			424		104	129	148	0	0			2,938
ME	74	382	159	17		5	157	83	2	0	395	6	17	20	69	12	2	0	16	1,416
MI	263	1,908																2,477		4,648
MN	163	1,440	219	157		27	344	281	0	0	594	0	212	72	254	0	1	0	2	3,766
MO	93	1,283	131	290		29	356	313	0	0	1,159	0	87	124	244	15	0	0	2	4,126
MS	32	451	0	0		30	48	34	0	0	726	4	13	24	45	15	0	0	0	1,422
MT	38	142	26																335	541
NC	192	1,933	1,167			45	325	185	2	2	1,068	8	71	141	169	10	1		4	5,321
ND	7	217	29															232		485
NE	20	400																440		860

State																				Total
NH	94	229				11	176	85	0	1	397	0	26	18	75	120	2	0	0	1,234
NM		238			132														594	964
NV	90																	361		451
NY						151	3,217	1,330			3,460	1	480	207	921	690	28		77	10,562
OH	260	1,774			1,660														2,278	5,972
OK	30	409			140	9	16	80			250		1	34	126	0	0	0		1,095
OR	203	319	110			19	295	148		2	639		37	26	143	273				2,214
PA						199	875	643		2	1,976	42	217	176	558	60	39	0	635	5,422
RI		182	29															444		655
SC																				1,550
SD	12	317	6	83		2	10	12	0	0	171	0	10	33	14	3	0	5	0	678
TXRN	347	2,467	332	1,045		127	396	622	0	46	2,015	0	202	261	906	71	45	0	37	8,919
UT	106	175	0	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	908	0	1,189
VA	214	1,475	476			82	515	431	3	24	1,567	3	54	107	267		1		1	5,220
VT	60	84	53	4		5	84	27	0	0	156		13	7	42		2		1	538
WA	280	548	417				412	213			1,146		104	48	266		2		19	3,455
WI	70	294					271	135			591		89	14	159	65	0			1,688
WVRN	55	568	0	87		8	44	31	0	0	417	0	9	20	54	0	2	0	15	1,310
WY	7	89	5	6		0	8	7	0	0	85	0	1	0	21	0	0	0	0	229
Total	6,258	30,007	5,915	5,077	2,018	1,217	10,476	6,232	5	75	22,553	102	2,168	2,082	5,710	2,069	141	29,865	4,259	137,779[1]

*See Table 8 for abbreviation definitions, page 16

[1]Includes 1,550 licenses not available by specialty license category.

Abbreviation	Category	Active Licenses	
		n	%
CNM	Certified Nurse Midwife	6,258	4.6%
CRNA	Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist	30,007	22.0%
CNS-PSYCH	Clinical Nurse Specialist – Psychiatry and/or Mental Health (including all its subspecialties)	5,915	4.3%
CNS	Clinical Nurse Specialist (all others)	5,077	3.7%
CNS-no designation	Clinical Nurse Specialist (no designation)	2,018	1.5%
	Nurse Practitioners		
AC	Acute Care	1,217	0.9%
AHP	Adult Health	10,476	7.7%
CHP	Child Health/Pediatric	6,232	4.6%
COL	College Health	5	0.0%
EMR	Emergency	75	0.1%
FAM	Family	22,553	16.6%
FPN	Family Planning	102	0.1%
GER	Geriatric	2,168	1.6%
NEO	Neonatal	2,082	1.5%
WOM	Obstetrical and/or Gynecological and/or Women's Health	5,710	4.2%
PSY	Psychiatric and/or Mental Health	2,069	1.5%
SCH	School Health	141	0.1%
NP	Nurse Practitioner – no specialty designation	29,865	21.9%
OTS	Other Specialty (unspecified)	4,259	3.1%
Total		136,229[1]	100.0%

[1]Excludes 1,550 licenses not available by specialty license category.

PART II
2002 Licensure Examination Statistics

The National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN® examination) and the National Council Licensure Examination for Practical Nurses (NCLEX-PN® examination) are administered to candidates on behalf of NCSBN's member boards. The purpose of the licensing examination is to determine if a candidate possesses the minimum knowledge, skills and abilities in order to provide safe and effective nursing care at the entry level.

On April 1, 1994, NCSBN implemented the use of the NCLEX® examination via computerized adaptive testing (CAT) for the NCLEX-RN and NCLEX-PN examinations. CAT administration offers several advantages over the traditional paper-and-pencil testing. These advantages include: greater measurement efficiency of a candidate's ability level, shorter testing time, year-round testing and a less stressful environment.

Computerized adaptive testing is a method for administration of examinations that uses current computer technology and measurement theory. With CAT, each candidate's test is unique: it is assembled interactively as the individual is tested. As the candidate answers each question, the computer calculates an ability estimate based on all earlier answers. The test questions, which are stored in a large item bank and classified by test plan area and level of difficulty, are then scanned and the question determined to measure the candidate's ability most precisely in the appropriate test plan area is selected and presented on the computer screen. This process is repeated for each question, creating an examination tailored to the individual's knowledge and skills while fulfilling all NCLEX test plan requirements. The examination continues in this way until a pass/fail decision is made. CAT provides greater measurement efficiency than paper-and-pencil testing, as it administers only those questions that will offer the best measurement of the candidate's ability.

The NCLEX licensure examinations assess the ability estimate of the candidate in reference to the established passing standard. The passing standard is the minimum level of knowledge and skill a candidate must demonstrate in order to provide safe and effective nursing care. Those candidates who demonstrate ability above the passing standard will pass the examination, and those with abilities at or below below the standard will fail the examination. Thus, candidate performance is presented as a pass/fail decision.

NCLEX examination pass/fail decisions are not based solely on how many questions a candidate answers correctly. They are also

based on the difficulty of the questions a candidate answers correctly. CAT administers questions with difficulty levels so that each candidate will answer about half correctly; these questions provide the most information. Thus, all candidates answer about 50 percent correctly: passing candidates answer 50 percent of the more difficult questions correctly, and failing candidates answer 50 percent of the easier questions correctly.

Even though candidates may answer different questions and different numbers of questions, the NCLEX examination administered using CAT is fair to every candidate. All examinations conform to either the *NCLEX-RN®* or *NCLEX-PN®* *Test Plan* which controls inclusion of important nursing content, and all candidates have ample opportunity to demonstrate true competence, as the examination will not end until stability of the pass/fail result is assured, a maximum length test is taken or time runs out.

The following statistics reported are derived from NCSBN data. The statistical information is reported as follows:

1. Information regarding passing performance by type of candidate, type of educational program, jurisdiction of education and country of education for foreign-educated nurses are reported on a quarterly basis.

2. Charts compare national passing rates for first-time, U.S.-educated candidates with all examinees, reported by quarters since 1994 and in six-month time periods prior to April 1994.

3. Annual summary statistics are reported for first-time, U.S.-educated candidates.

Definitions of selected statistical terms are provided in Appendix A.

Table 1. Number of Candidates Taking NCLEX-PN® Examination and Percent Passing, by Type of Candidate

NCLEX-PN® Examination: January 1 – December 31, 2002

Type of Candidate	Jan 1 - Mar 31, 2002		Apr 1 - Jun 30, 2002		Jul 1 - Sep 30, 2002		Oct 1 - Dec 31, 2002		Totals	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
First-Time, U.S.-Educated	7,176	84.5%	6,534	84.8%	15,537	88.0%	8,978	86.7%	38,225	86.5%
Invalid Program Codes	26	57.7%	19	68.4%	27	48.1%	0		72	56.9%
Type Total	7,202	84.4%	6,553	84.8%	15,564	87.9%	8,978	86.7%	38,297	86.4%
Repeat, U.S.-Educated	2,032	44.6%	2,080	42.7%	2,231	43.1%	1,778	46.1%	8,121	44.0%
First-Time, Foreign-Educated	417	53.5%	433	59.4%	530	47.7%	430	54.2%	1,810	53.4%
Repeat, Foreign-Educated	445	27.4%	426	23.0%	542	27.1%	377	26.7%	1,790	26.1%
All Candidates	10,096	72.6%	9,492	71.6%	18,867	79.7%	11,563	77.3%	50,018	76.2%

Table 2. Number of Candidates Examined and Passing Rates for First-Time Candidates Educated in Member Board Jurisdictions[1]

NCLEX-PN® Examination: January 1 – December 31, 2002

Jurisdiction	Jan 1 - Mar 31, 2002			Apr 1 - Jun 30, 2002			Jul 1 - Sep 30, 2002			Oct 1 - Dec 31, 2002		
	Candidates Examined	Number Passed	Percent Passed	Candidates Examined	Number Passed	Percent Passed	Candidates Examined	Number Passed	Percent Passed	Candidates Examined	Number Passed	Percent Passed
Alabama	222	182	82.0%	74	57	77.0%	223	188	84.3%	214	171	79.9%
Alaska	0	0	0.0*	0	0	0.0*	0	0	0.0*	0	0	0.0*
American Samoa	0	0	0.0*	0	0	0.0*	0	0	0.0*	0	0	0.0*
Arizona	98	90	91.8%	51	47	92.2%	205	193	94.2%	83	78	94.0%
Arkansas	180	157	87.2%	65	62	95.4%	332	291	87.7%	105	92	87.6%
California	849	664	78.2%	855	601	70.3%	921	658	71.4%	690	534	77.4%
Colorado	113	102	90.3%	93	88	94.6%	305	284	93.1%	75	72	96.0%
Connecticut	9	9	100.0%	248	238	96.0%	109	98	89.9%	50	49	98.0%
Delaware	10	8	80.0%	4	4	100.0%	99	82	82.8%	3	2	66.7%
District of Columbia	167	70	41.9%	171	85	49.7%	172	69	40.1%	158	96	60.8%
Florida	418	353	84.4%	630	522	82.9%	789	658	83.4%	447	376	84.1%
Georgia	260	229	88.1%	238	215	90.3%	211	189	89.6%	284	259	91.2%
Guam	5	5	100.0%	2	2	100.0%	1	1	100.0%	0	0	0.0*
Hawaii	15	14	93.3%	23	21	91.3%	71	64	90.1%	47	43	91.5%
Idaho	48	45	93.8%	12	12	100.0%	54	51	94.4%	16	15	93.8%
Illinois	172	145	84.3%	130	116	89.2%	491	448	91.2%	157	141	89.8%
Indiana	246	217	88.2%	115	109	94.8%	408	383	93.9%	342	306	89.5%
Iowa	113	106	93.8%	180	170	94.4%	541	502	92.8%	90	74	82.2%
Kansas	92	85	92.4%	76	65	85.5%	381	330	86.6%	46	44	95.7%
Kentucky	182	169	92.9%	129	107	82.9%	262	228	87.0%	96	76	79.2%
Louisiana	256	208	81.3%	186	150	80.6%	303	255	84.2%	136	118	86.8%
Maine	1	1	100.0%	0	0	0.0*	11	9	81.8%	2	2	100.0%
Maryland	19	17	89.5%	6	6	100.0%	129	118	91.5%	31	30	96.8%
Massachusetts	37	31	83.8%	17	16	94.1%	509	469	92.1%	60	50	83.3%
Michigan	190	179	94.2%	175	173	98.9%	459	444	96.7%	177	162	91.5%
Minnesota	216	191	88.4%	65	63	96.9%	528	482	91.3%	83	64	77.1%
Mississippi	104	77	74.0%	13	11	84.6%	333	292	87.7%	92	73	79.3%

State												
Missouri	115	106	92.2%	84	69	82.1%	551	507	92.0%	216	185	85.6%
Montana	28	28	100.0%	20	17	85.0%	76	68	89.5%	5	4	80.0%
Nebraska	46	40	87.0%	41	38	92.7%	152	144	94.7%	34	32	94.1%
Nevada	1	1	100.0%	2	2	100.0%	32	31	96.9%	4	4	100.0%
New Hampshire	9	7	77.8%	53	53	100.0%	42	39	92.9%	11	10	90.9%
New Jersey	74	64	86.5%	81	68	84.0%	272	247	90.8%	169	149	88.2%
New Mexico	4	4	100.0%	14	12	85.7%	77	75	97.4%	37	36	97.3%
New York	435	343	78.9%	341	270	79.2%	1,141	972	85.2%	637	500	78.5%
North Carolina	188	186	98.9%	44	43	97.7%	434	402	92.6%	96	86	89.6%
North Dakota	49	46	93.9%	13	13	100.0%	77	75	97.4%	40	36	90.0%
Northern Mariana Islands	0	0	0.0%*	0	0	0.0%*	1	0	0.0%	0	0	0.0%*
Ohio	203	180	88.7%	208	188	90.4%	1,040	949	91.3%	412	372	90.3%
Oklahoma	148	124	83.8%	135	113	83.7%	636	568	89.3%	154	119	77.3%
Oregon	22	22	100.0%	53	53	100.0%	145	145	100.0%	62	62	100.0%
Pennsylvania	276	216	78.3%	245	200	81.6%	329	300	91.2%	530	476	89.8%
Puerto Rico	4	1	25.0%	12	3	25.0%	8	2	25.0%	5	0	0.0%
Rhode Island	1	1	100.0%	0	0	0.0%*	16	13	81.3%	3	3	100.0%
South Carolina	107	92	86.0%	60	53	88.3%	269	241	89.6%	59	52	88.1%
South Dakota	3	3	100.0%	0	0	0.0%*	67	65	97.0%	7	7	100.0%
Tennessee	146	137	93.8%	354	321	90.7%	244	204	83.6%	491	459	93.5%
Texas	789	673	85.3%	524	471	89.9%	502	439	87.5%	1,823	1,638	89.9%
Utah	121	117	96.7%	165	162	98.2%	275	262	95.3%	66	63	95.5%
Vermont	2	2	100.0%	0	0	0.0%*	79	77	97.5%	3	3	100.0%
Virgin Islands, U.S.	0	0	0.0%*	2	0	0.0%	2	0	0.0%	0	0	0.0%*
Virginia	140	95	67.9%	319	256	80.3%	488	383	78.5%	226	183	81.0%
Washington	120	112	93.3%	132	130	98.5%	285	267	93.7%	248	237	95.6%
West Virginia	46	44	95.7%	10	10	100.0%	207	189	91.3%	98	92	93.9%
Wisconsin	70	62	88.6%	60	52	86.7%	185	167	90.3%	52	46	88.5%
Wyoming	7	7	100.0%	4	4	100.0%	58	54	93.1%	6	5	83.3%
Total	7,176	6,067	84.5%	6,534	5,541	84.8%	15,537	13,671	88.0%	8,978	7,786	86.7%

¹Does not include invalid program codes.

*No candidates tested.

Table 3. Number of First-Time Candidates Not Educated in Member Board Jurisdictions Taking NCLEX-PN® Examination and Percent Passing

NCLEX-PN® Examination: January 1 – December 31, 2002

Country of Education	Jan 1 - Mar 31, 2002			Apr 1 - Jun 30, 2002			Jul 1 - Sep 30, 2002			Oct 1 - Dec 31, 2002		
	Candidates Examined	Number Passed	Percent Passed	Candidates Examined	Number Passed	Percent Passed	Candidates Examined	Number Passed	Percent Passed	Candidates Examined	Number Passed	Percent Passed
Argentina				1	1	100.0%						
Armenia	2	1	50.0%	3	1	33.3%	3	1	33.3%	1	0	0.0%
Bangladesh				1	1	100.0%						
Belarus										1	0	0.0%
Belize (British Honduras)							1	1	100.0%			
Bolivia	1	0	0.0%									
Bosnia and Herzegovina	2	0	0.0%	1	1	100.0%	2	2	100.0%	1	1	100.0%
Brazil							1	0	0.0%			
British West Indies				1	0	0.0%						
Bulgaria							1	0	0.0%	1	1	100.0%
Cameroon, Free Republic of				1	0	0.0%						
Canada	10	10	100.0%	12	8	66.7%	12	8	66.7%	8	5	62.5%
Cape Verde Islands				1	1	100.0%						
China, Peoples Republic of	13	5	38.5%	10	6	60.0%	20	6	30.0%	17	9	52.9%
Colombia	1	0	0.0%	1	1	100.0%	1	0	0.0%	1	0	0.0%
Costa Rica				1	0	0.0%	1	0	0.0%			
Croatia							1	0	0.0%			
Cuba				4	3	75.0%	1	1	100.0%	10	2	20.0%
Czech Republic							1	1	100.0%			
Dominican Republic				1	1	100.0%						
Ecuador				1	1	100.0%						
Egypt, Arab Republic of	1	0	0.0%							1	0	0.0%
El Salvador	1	0	0.0%				1	0	0.0%	1	1	100.0%
Eritrea	1	0	0.0%				1	0	0.0%			
Ethiopia				1	0	0.0%	1	0	0.0%			
Fiji Islands				1	1	100.0%						
Finland										1	0	0.0%

Country												
France	1	1	100.0%	2	2	100.0%						
Gambia				1	0	0.0%	1	0	0.0%			
Germany (United)				2	1	50.0%						
Ghana							2	2	100.0%	4	2	50.0%
Greece										1	1	100.0%
Guatemala	1	0	0.0%									
Guyana				1	1	100.0%	2	2	100.0%	3	2	66.7%
Haiti	21	6	28.6%	15	4	26.7%	37	9	24.3%	22	5	22.7%
Honduras				1	1	100.0%	1	1	100.0%			
Hong Kong										2	1	50.0%
India	36	20	55.6%	32	17	53.1%	26	10	38.5%	28	15	53.6%
Indonesia										3	0	0.0%
Iran	4	2	50.0%	2	0	0.0%	1	1	100.0%	1	1	100.0%
Ireland										1	1	100.0%
Italy	1	1	100.0%	1	1	100.0%				1	1	100.0%
Jamaica							3	1	33.3%	1	1	100.0%
Japan							2	2	100.0%	1	1	100.0%
Kazakhstan							1	1	100.0%	1	1	100.0%
Kenya	3	1	33.3%	7	3	42.9%	3	2	66.7%	1	0	0.0%
Korea (South)	4	0	0.0%	3	2	66.7%	2	1	50.0%	1	1	100.0%
Laos				1	0	0.0%						
Lebanon	1	1	100.0%	1	1	100.0%				1	0	0.0%
Liberia	1	1	100.0%	1	0	0.0%						
Lithuania										1	0	0.0%
Macedonia, Former Yugloslav Republic of	1	0	0.0%	1	1	100.0%	1	0	0.0%			
Malawi										1	0	0.0%
Mexico	2	1	50.0%	1	0	0.0%	3	1	33.3%	3	1	33.3%
Moldova				1	0	0.0%	1	1	100.0%	2	2	100.0%
Netherlands				1	1	100.0%						
Nicaragua	1	0	0.0%	1	0	0.0%				2	0	0.0%
Niger							1	0	0.0%			
Nigeria	13	8	61.5%	12	8	66.7%	17	6	35.3%	16	14	87.5%
Pakistan	1	0	0.0%							1	0	0.0%
Palau												
Peru	1	0	0.0%				1	1	100.0%	2	0	0.0%
Philippines	263	154	58.6%	277	173	62.5%	325	162	49.8%	264	152	57.6%

continued on next page

Table 3, continued

Country of Education	Jan 1 - Mar 31, 2002			Apr 1 - Jun 30, 2002			Jul 1 - Sep 30, 2002			Oct 1 - Dec 31, 2002		
	Candidates Examined	Number Passed	Percent Passed	Candidates Examined	Number Passed	Percent Passed	Candidates Examined	Number Passed	Percent Passed	Candidates Examined	Number Passed	Percent Passed
Poland	2	1	50.0%	4	2	50.0%	3	2	66.7%	3	2	66.7%
Portugal							1	0	0.0%			
Romania	3	0	0.0%	3	3	100.0%	4	3	75.0%	2	2	100.0%
Russian Federation	3	1	33.3%	3	1	33.3%	8	5	62.5%	3	2	66.7%
Santa Cruz Island										1	1	100.0%
Sierra Leone				2	0	0.0%	2	1	50.0%			
Singapore				1	1	100.0%						
Slovak Republic							1	1	100.0%			
South Africa				1	1	100.0%						
St. Lucia							1	1	100.0%			
St. Vincent				1	0	0.0%						
Taiwan (Republic of China)	11	2	18.2%	3	2	66.7%	9	5	55.6%	4	1	25.0%
Tajikistan							1	1	100.0%			
Tanzania, United Republic of							3	1	33.3%			
Thailand	1	1	100.0%	2	1	50.0%				2	0	0.0%
Trinidad and Tobago										4	2	50.0%
Uganda				1	0	0.0%	1	0	0.0%			
Ukraine	1	1	100.0%	2	0	0.0%	7	6	85.7%	3	1	33.3%
United Kingdom	4	3	75.0%	2	2	100.0%	2	1	50.0%	1	1	100.0%
Uzbekistan	4	1	25.0%	3	2	66.7%	4	1	25.0%			
Venezuela										1	1	100.0%
Yugoslavia/Former							2	1	50.0%	1	1	100.0%
Zaire							1	0	0.0%			
Zambia							1	1	100.0%			
Zimbabwe	1	1	100.0%	1	1	100.0%	1	1	100.0%	1	1	100.0%
Total	417	223	53.5%	433	257	59.4%	530	253	47.7%	430	233	54.2%

Table 4. Summary Statistics for First-Time, U.S.-Educated Candidates Taking NCLEX-PN® Examination, January - December 2002	
NCLEX-PN® Examination	
	January - December 2002
Passing Standard*	-0.4700 logits
Estimated Decision Consistency	.91
Average Number of Test Items (Questions) Taken	114
Percent Taking Minimum Number of Items	57.5%
Percent Taking Maximum Number of Items	15.3%
Average Testing Time	2 hours, 9 minutes
Percent Taking Maximum Amount of Time	1.5%

*The passing standard is presented in units, called logits, on the Rasch measurement scale.
See Appendix A for definitions of terms.

Figure 1. National Passing Rate: Licensed Practical/Vocational Nurses, 1992-1996

Month/Year Administered

Percent Passing

■ First-Time, U.S.-Educated   ■ All Examinees

*Last paper-and-pencil examination/passing standard change from -0.6300 to -0.5600 logits
**Passing standard change from -0.5600 to -0.5100 logits

Figure 2. National Passing Rate: Licensed Practical/Vocational Nurses, 1997-1999
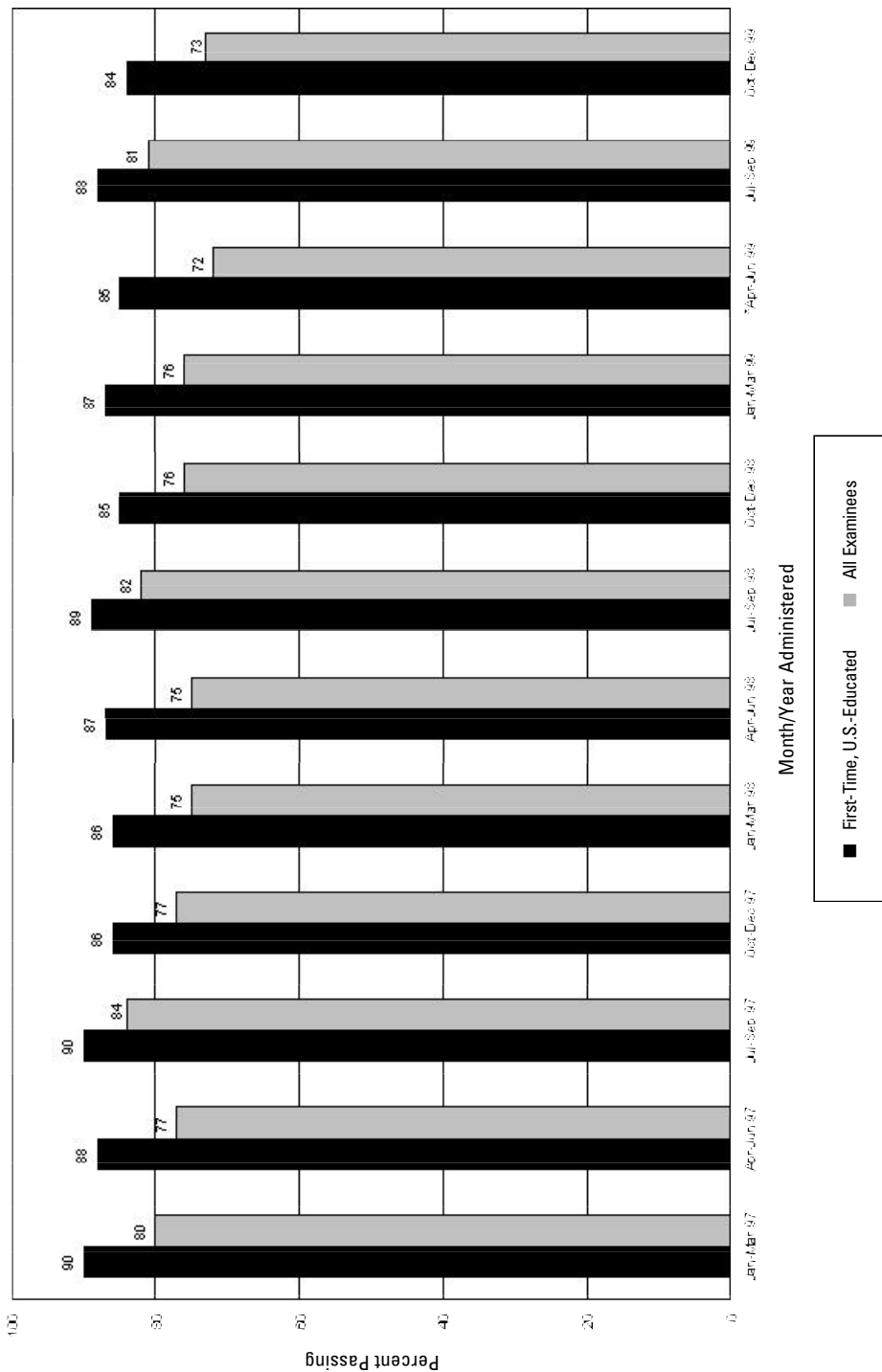
*Passing standard change from -0.5100 to -0.4700 logits

Figure 3. National Passing Rate: Licensed Practical/Vocational Nurses, 2000-2002
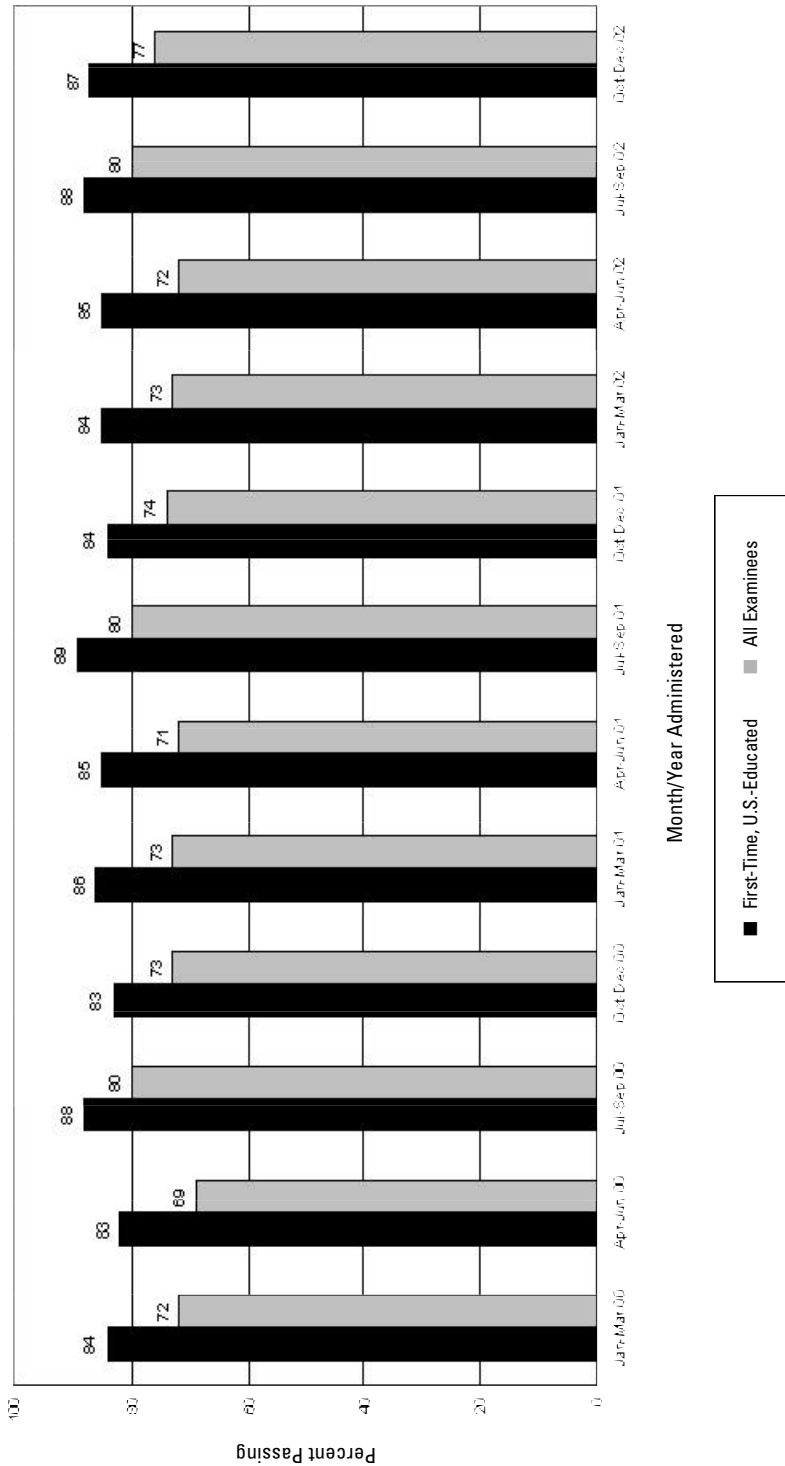
Table 5. Number of Candidates Taking NCLEX-RN® Examination and Percent Passing, by Type of Candidate

NCLEX-RN® Examination: January 1 – December 31, 2002

Type of Candidate	Jan 1 - Mar 31, 2002		Apr 1 - Jun 30, 2002		Jul 1 - Sep 30, 2002		Oct 1 - Dec 31, 2002		Totals	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
First-Time, U.S.-Educated										
Diploma	552	85.3	336	87.2	1,336	86.8	201	84.6	2,425	86.3
Associate Degree	7,717	86.3	8,589	88.8	23,408	86.9	2,668	78.5	42,382	86.7
Baccalaureate Degree	4,912	87.6	4,113	88.6	15,411	86.7	1,385	77.7	25,821	86.7
Invalid/Special Program Codes	9	55.6	8	62.5	16	93.8	31	74.2	64	75.0
Type Total	13,190	86.7	13,046	88.7	40,171	86.8	4,285	78.5	70,692	86.7
Repeat, U.S.-Educated	4,199	48.8	4,142	49.8	3,993	49.5	5,430	56.9	17,764	51.7
First-Time, Foreign-Educated	2,561	54.9	3,180	55.4	4,276	53.2	2,745	59.2	12,762	55.4
Repeat, Foreign-Educated	2,851	22.9	3,242	25.0	4,206	24.8	2,435	23.5	12,734	24.2
All Candidates	22,801	68.2	23,610	68.6	52,646	76.3	14,895	58.1	113,952	70.7

Table 6. Number of Candidates Examined and Passing Rates for First-Time Candidates Educated in Member Board Jurisdictions, by Degree Type[1]

NCLEX-RN® Examination: January 1 – March 31, 2002

Jurisdiction	Total			Diploma			Associate Degree			Baccalaureate Degree		
	Candidates Examined	Number Passed	Percent Passed	Candidates Examined	Number Passed	Percent Passed	Candidates Examined	Number Passed	Percent Passed	Candidates Examined	Number Passed	Percent Passed
Alabama	338	287	84.9%	0	0	0.0*	146	112	76.7%	192	175	91.1%
Alaska	14	12	85.7%	0	0	0.0*	1	1	100.0%	13	11	84.6%
American Samoa	0	0	0.0*	0	0	0.0*	0	0	0.0*	0	0	0.0*
Arizona	344	311	90.4%	0	0	0.0*	201	180	89.6%	143	131	91.6%
Arkansas	226	199	88.1%	112	93	83.0%	99	92	92.9%	15	14	93.3%
California-RN	1,138	983	86.4%	0	0	0.0*	856	745	87.0%	282	238	84.4%
Colorado	189	166	87.8%	0	0	0.0*	104	90	86.5%	85	76	89.4%
Connecticut	48	47	97.9%	0	0	0.0*	2	1	50.0%	46	46	100.0%
Delaware	52	49	94.2%	0	0	0.0*	47	44	93.6%	5	5	100.0%
District of Columbia	11	10	90.9%	0	0	0.0*	1	0	0.0%	10	10	100.0%
Florida	517	457	88.4%	0	0	0.0*	438	387	88.4%	79	70	88.6%
Georgia-RN	196	159	81.1%	0	0	0.0*	67	52	77.6%	129	107	82.9%
Guam	10	6	60.0%	0	0	0.0*	1	1	100.0%	9	5	55.6%
Hawaii	47	41	87.2%	0	0	0.0*	20	17	85.0%	27	24	88.9%
Idaho	21	21	100.0%	0	0	0.0*	10	10	100.0%	11	11	100.0%
Illinois	522	450	86.2%	0	0	0.0*	270	229	84.8%	252	221	87.7%
Indiana	344	293	85.2%	5	5	100.0%	206	174	84.5%	133	114	85.7%
Iowa	232	202	87.1%	0	0	0.0*	180	152	84.4%	52	50	96.2%
Kansas	183	152	83.1%	0	0	0.0*	87	70	80.5%	96	82	85.4%
Kentucky	316	298	94.3%	0	0	0.0*	201	188	93.5%	115	110	95.7%
Louisiana-RN	542	496	91.5%	22	22	100.0%	248	224	90.3%	272	250	91.9%
Maine	40	34	85.0%	0	0	0.0*	5	5	100.0%	35	29	82.9%
Maryland	274	239	87.2%	0	0	0.0*	162	146	90.1%	112	93	83.0%
Massachusetts	279	254	91.0%	0	0	0.0*	158	141	89.2%	121	113	93.4%
Michigan	484	417	86.2%	0	0	0.0*	290	251	86.6%	194	166	85.6%
Minnesota	140	116	82.9%	0	0	0.0*	95	76	80.0%	45	40	88.9%
Mississippi	270	211	78.1%	0	0	0.0*	206	157	76.2%	64	54	84.4%

Missouri	419	358	85.4%	4	3	75.0%	247	211	85.4%	168	144	85.7%
Montana	45	43	95.6%	0	0	0.0%*	3	2	66.7%	42	41	97.6%
Nebraska	186	168	90.3%	23	22	95.7%	6	6	100.0%	157	140	89.2%
Nevada	59	53	89.8%	0	0	0.0%*	38	35	92.1%	21	18	85.7%
New Hampshire	7	5	71.4%	0	0	0.0%*	6	4	66.7%	1	1	100.0%
New Jersey	230	213	92.6%	96	91	94.8%	128	117	91.4%	6	5	83.3%
New Mexico	126	106	84.1%	0	0	0.0%*	76	66	86.8%	50	40	80.0%
New York	767	646	84.2%	6	5	83.3%	687	586	85.3%	74	55	74.3%
North Carolina	179	154	86.0%	50	37	74.0%	59	49	83.1%	70	68	97.1%
North Dakota	47	42	89.4%	0	0	0.0%*	0	0	0.0%*	47	42	89.4%
Northern Mariana Islands	0	0	0.0%*	0	0	0.0%*	0	0	0.0%*	0	0	0.0%*
Ohio	461	395	85.7%	41	35	85.4%	330	289	87.6%	90	71	78.9%
Oklahoma	191	158	82.7%	0	0	0.0%*	175	146	83.4%	16	12	75.0%
Oregon	33	25	75.8%	0	0	0.0%*	7	5	71.4%	26	20	76.9%
Pennsylvania	309	247	79.9%	108	87	80.6%	67	52	77.6%	134	108	80.6%
Puerto Rico	49	10	20.4%	0	0	0.0%*	20	3	15.0%	29	7	24.1%
Rhode Island	70	55	78.6%	0	0	0.0%*	46	40	87.0%	24	15	62.5%
South Carolina	289	256	88.6%	0	0	0.0%*	191	169	88.5%	98	87	88.8%
South Dakota	37	32	86.5%	0	0	0.0%*	2	0	0.0%	35	32	91.4%
Tennessee	346	324	93.6%	15	14	93.3%	76	69	90.8%	255	241	94.5%
Texas-RN	1,432	1,235	86.2%	37	33	89.2%	743	631	84.9%	652	571	87.6%
Utah	138	124	89.9%	0	0	0.0%*	117	103	88.0%	21	21	100.0%
Vermont	2	2	100.0%	0	0	0.0%*	1	1	100.0%	1	1	100.0%
Virgin Islands, U.S.	0	0	0.0%*	0	0	0.0%*	0	0	0.0%*	0	0	0.0%*
Virginia	199	171	85.9%	33	24	72.7%	112	97	86.6%	54	50	92.6%
Washington	252	224	88.9%	0	0	0.0%*	136	124	91.2%	116	100	86.2%
West Virginia-RN	19	17	89.5%	0	0	0.0%*	9	8	88.9%	10	9	90.0%
Wisconsin	502	451	89.8%	0	0	0.0%*	324	293	90.4%	178	158	88.8%
Wyoming	10	10	100.0%	0	0	0.0%*	10	10	100.0%	0	0	0.0%*
Total	13,181	11,434	86.7%	552	471	85.3%	7,717	6,661	86.3%	4,912	4,302	87.6%

*No candidates tested.

¹Does not include invalid/special program codes.

Table 7. Number of Candidates Examined and Passing Rates for First-Time Candidates Educated in Member Board Jurisdictions, by Degree Type[1]

NCLEX-RN® Examination: April 1 – June 30, 2002

Jurisdiction	Total			Diploma			Associate Degree			Baccalaureate Degree		
	Candidates Examined	Number Passed	Percent Passed	Candidates Examined	Number Passed	Percent Passed	Candidates Examined	Number Passed	Percent Passed	Candidates Examined	Number Passed	Percent Passed
Alabama	213	189	88.7%	0	0	0.0%*	126	114	90.5%	87	75	86.2%
Alaska	19	17	89.5%	0	0	0.0%*	4	4	100.0%	15	13	86.7%
American Samoa	4	0	0.0%	0	0	0.0%*	4	0	0.0%	0	0	0.0%*
Arizona	135	117	86.7%	0	0	0.0%*	114	100	87.7%	21	17	81.0%
Arkansas	162	144	88.9%	8	5	62.5%	92	83	90.2%	62	56	90.3%
California-RN	880	741	84.2%	0	0	0.0%*	685	573	83.6%	195	168	86.2%
Colorado	224	196	87.5%	0	0	0.0%*	157	139	88.5%	67	57	85.1%
Connecticut	95	86	90.5%	38	35	92.1%	17	16	94.1%	40	35	87.5%
Delaware	34	28	82.4%	0	0	0.0%*	8	8	100.0%	26	20	76.9%
District of Columbia	9	7	77.8%	0	0	0.0%*	1	0	0.0%	8	7	87.5%
Florida	635	511	80.5%	0	0	0.0%*	495	395	79.8%	140	116	82.9%
Georgia-RN	216	191	88.4%	1	0	0.0%*	100	90	90.0%	115	101	87.8%
Guam	2	1	50.0%	0	0	0.0%*	1	0	0.0%	1	1	100.0%
Hawaii	63	51	81.0%	0	0	0.0%*	17	10	58.8%	46	41	89.1%
Idaho	85	84	98.8%	0	0	0.0%*	76	75	98.7%	9	9	100.0%
Illinois	397	352	88.7%	1	1	100.0%	234	212	90.6%	162	139	85.8%
Indiana	456	401	87.9%	5	3	60.0%	308	269	87.3%	143	129	90.2%
Iowa	251	229	91.2%	0	0	0.0%*	174	157	90.2%	77	72	93.5%
Kansas	140	119	85.0%	0	0	0.0%*	102	87	85.3%	38	32	84.2%
Kentucky	324	308	95.1%	0	0	0.0%*	246	234	95.1%	78	74	94.9%
Louisiana-RN	126	112	88.9%	0	0	0.0%*	70	60	85.7%	56	52	92.9%
Maine	102	94	92.2%	0	0	0.0%*	76	70	92.1%	26	24	92.3%
Maryland	201	173	86.1%	0	0	0.0%*	162	145	89.5%	39	28	71.8%
Massachusetts	329	303	92.1%	2	1	50.0%	237	218	92.0%	90	84	93.3%
Michigan	439	369	84.1%	0	0	0.0%*	273	234	85.7%	166	135	81.3%
Minnesota	211	192	91.0%	0	0	0.0%*	152	136	89.5%	59	56	94.9%
Mississippi	390	361	92.6%	0	0	0.0%*	271	255	94.1%	119	106	89.1%

State	No.	No.	%	No.	No.	%	No.	No.	%	No.	No.	%
Missouri	186	164	88.2%	3	3	100.0%	130	109	83.8%	53	52	98.1%
Montana	42	40	95.2%	0	0	0.0%*	18	18	100.0%	24	22	91.7%
Nebraska	288	273	94.8%	2	1	50.0%	139	129	92.8%	147	143	97.3%
Nevada	64	59	92.2%	0	0	0.0%*	44	41	93.2%	20	18	90.0%
New Hampshire	54	51	94.4%	0	0	0.0%*	31	28	90.3%	23	23	100.0%
New Jersey	132	119	90.2%	56	49	87.5%	67	62	92.5%	9	8	88.9%
New Mexico	57	51	89.5%	0	0	0.0%*	46	41	89.1%	11	10	90.9%
New York	729	595	81.6%	6	5	83.3%	593	487	82.1%	130	103	79.2%
North Carolina	802	746	93.0%	16	13	81.3%	556	522	93.9%	230	211	91.7%
North Dakota	69	68	98.6%	0	0	0.0%*	0	0	0.0%*	69	68	98.6%
Northern Mariana Islands	0	0	0.0%*	0	0	0.0%*	0	0	0.0%*	0	0	0.0%*
Ohio	631	590	93.5%	27	26	96.3%	392	364	92.9%	212	200	94.3%
Oklahoma	297	267	89.9%	0	0	0.0%*	214	194	90.7%	83	73	88.0%
Oregon	267	250	93.6%	0	0	0.0%*	136	126	92.6%	131	124	94.7%
Pennsylvania	259	207	79.9%	80	66	82.5%	83	66	79.5%	96	75	78.1%
Puerto Rico	35	5	14.3%	0	0	0.0%*	16	2	12.5%	19	3	15.8%
Rhode Island	47	40	85.1%	7	7	100.0%	24	22	91.7%	16	11	68.8%
South Carolina	509	468	91.9%	0	0	0.0%*	333	306	91.9%	176	162	92.0%
South Dakota	44	41	93.2%	0	0	0.0%*	14	13	92.9%	30	28	93.3%
Tennessee	532	499	93.8%	0	0	0.0%*	345	326	94.5%	187	173	92.5%
Texas-RN	853	759	89.0%	9	7	77.8%	591	527	89.2%	253	225	88.9%
Utah	146	131	89.7%	0	0	0.0%*	104	93	89.4%	42	38	90.5%
Vermont	17	15	88.2%	0	0	0.0%*	6	5	83.3%	11	10	90.9%
Virgin Islands, U.S.	0	0	0.0%*	0	0	0.0%*	0	0	0.0%*	0	0	0.0%*
Virginia	391	350	89.5%	75	71	94.7%	229	209	91.3%	87	70	80.5%
Washington	175	158	90.3%	0	0	0.0%*	121	110	90.9%	54	48	88.9%
West Virginia-RN	103	91	88.3%	0	0	0.0%*	63	55	87.3%	40	36	90.0%
Wisconsin	145	129	89.0%	0	0	0.0%*	74	68	91.9%	71	61	85.9%
Wyoming	22	21	95.5%	0	0	0.0%*	18	17	94.4%	4	4	100.0%
Total	13,038	11,563	88.7%	336	293	87.2%	8,589	7,624	88.8%	4,113	3,646	88.6%

*No candidates tested.

[1]Does not include invalid/special program codes.

Table 8. Number of Candidates Examined and Passing Rates for First-Time Candidates Educated in Member Board Jurisdictions, by Degree Type[1]

NCLEX-RN® Examination: July 1 – September 30, 2002

Jurisdiction	Total			Diploma			Associate Degree			Baccalaureate Degree		
	Candidates Examined	Number Passed	Percent Passed	Candidates Examined	Number Passed	Percent Passed	Candidates Examined	Number Passed	Percent Passed	Candidates Examined	Number Passed	Percent Passed
Alabama	1,120	983	87.8%	0	0	0.0%*	716	628	87.7%	404	355	87.9%
Alaska	85	79	92.9%	0	0	0.0%*	46	42	91.3%	39	37	94.9%
American Samoa	1	1	100.0%	0	0	0.0%*	1	1	100.0%	0	0	0.0%*
Arizona	532	449	84.4%	0	0	0.0%*	393	328	83.5%	139	121	87.1%
Arkansas	430	369	85.8%	6	4	66.7%	204	171	83.8%	220	194	88.2%
California-RN	2,548	2,192	86.0%	0	0	0.0%*	1,819	1,558	85.7%	729	634	87.0%
Colorado	367	314	85.6%	0	0	0.0%*	153	126	82.4%	214	188	87.9%
Connecticut	505	454	89.9%	18	15	83.3%	229	207	90.4%	258	232	89.9%
Delaware	209	182	87.1%	19	19	100.0%	96	85	88.5%	94	78	83.0%
District of Columbia	107	75	70.1%	0	0	0.0%*	4	2	50.0%	103	73	70.9%
Florida	2,110	1,762	83.5%	2	2	100.0%	1,438	1,180	82.1%	670	580	86.6%
Georgia-RN	964	827	85.8%	2	2	100.0%	445	384	86.3%	517	441	85.3%
Guam	18	16	88.9%	0	0	0.0%*	0	0	0.0%*	18	16	88.9%
Hawaii	161	128	79.5%	0	0	0.0%*	74	57	77.0%	87	71	81.6%
Idaho	237	198	83.5%	0	0	0.0%*	164	140	85.4%	73	58	79.5%
Illinois	1,727	1,534	88.8%	28	24	85.7%	1,094	969	88.6%	605	541	89.4%
Indiana	776	667	86.0%	5	3	60.0%	469	406	86.6%	302	258	85.4%
Iowa	571	480	84.1%	3	3	100.0%	439	367	83.6%	129	110	85.3%
Kansas	667	558	83.7%	0	0	0.0%*	344	282	82.0%	323	276	85.4%
Kentucky	569	510	89.6%	0	0	0.0%*	394	351	89.1%	175	159	90.9%
Louisiana-RN	712	642	90.2%	0	0	0.0%*	295	273	92.5%	417	369	88.5%
Maine	266	222	83.5%	0	0	0.0%*	154	133	86.4%	112	89	79.5%
Maryland	871	770	88.4%	0	0	0.0%*	463	411	88.8%	408	359	88.0%
Massachusetts	1,185	1,013	85.5%	82	56	68.3%	564	497	88.1%	539	460	85.3%
Michigan	1,433	1,221	85.2%	0	0	0.0%*	893	789	88.4%	540	432	80.0%
Minnesota	1,276	1,114	87.3%	0	0	0.0%*	846	742	87.7%	430	372	86.5%
Mississippi	459	399	86.9%	0	0	0.0%*	323	278	86.1%	136	121	89.0%

Missouri	930	821	88.3%	11	11	100.0%	509	442	86.8%	410	368	89.8%
Montana	141	122	86.5%	0	0	0.0*	86	71	82.6%	55	51	92.7%
Nebraska	192	171	89.1%	38	35	92.1%	37	30	81.1%	117	106	90.6%
Nevada	130	114	87.7%	0	0	0.0*	82	75	91.5%	48	39	81.3%
New Hampshire	271	234	86.3%	0	0	0.0*	188	161	85.6%	83	73	88.0%
New Jersey	999	884	88.5%	291	257	88.3%	427	390	91.3%	281	237	84.3%
New Mexico	260	219	84.2%	0	0	0.0*	204	172	84.3%	56	47	83.9%
New York	2,838	2,463	86.8%	39	33	84.6%	2,016	1,765	87.5%	783	665	84.9%
North Carolina	1,480	1,306	88.2%	88	77	87.5%	919	805	87.6%	473	424	89.6%
North Dakota	175	159	90.9%	0	0	0.0*	0	0	0.0*	175	159	90.9%
Northern Mariana Islands	1	0	0.0%	0	0	0.0*	1	0	0.0%	0	0	0.0*
Ohio	1,838	1,665	90.6%	130	118	90.8%	963	871	90.4%	745	676	90.7%
Oklahoma	547	446	81.5%	0	0	0.0*	266	217	81.6%	281	229	81.5%
Oregon	450	394	87.6%	0	0	0.0*	280	246	87.9%	170	148	87.1%
Pennsylvania	2,150	1,880	87.4%	353	304	86.1%	947	835	88.2%	850	741	87.2%
Puerto Rico	50	5	10.0%	0	0	0.0*	23	2	8.7%	27	3	11.1%
Rhode Island	238	208	87.4%	14	10	71.4%	124	108	87.1%	100	90	90.0%
South Carolina	396	347	87.6%	0	0	0.0*	259	237	91.5%	137	110	80.3%
South Dakota	280	252	90.0%	0	0	0.0*	151	131	86.8%	129	121	93.8%
Tennessee	751	660	87.9%	21	21	100.0%	333	299	89.8%	397	340	85.6%
Texas-RN	2,256	2,011	89.1%	81	71	87.7%	1,332	1,170	87.8%	843	770	91.3%
Utah	275	252	91.6%	0	0	0.0*	172	160	93.0%	103	92	89.3%
Vermont	91	75	82.4%	0	0	0.0*	55	43	78.2%	36	32	88.9%
Virgin Islands, U.S.	8	4	50.0%	0	0	0.0*	0	0	0.0*	8	4	50.0%
Virginia	1,114	924	82.9%	105	94	89.5%	551	459	83.3%	458	371	81.0%
Washington	792	701	88.5%	0	0	0.0*	517	464	89.7%	275	237	86.2%
West Virginia-RN	477	416	87.2%	0	0	0.0*	283	242	85.5%	194	174	89.7%
Wisconsin	956	842	88.1%	0	0	0.0*	495	434	87.7%	461	408	88.5%
Wyoming	163	139	85.3%	0	0	0.0*	128	110	85.9%	35	29	82.9%
Total	40,155	34,873	86.8%	1,336	1,159	86.8%	23,408	20,346	86.9%	15,411	13,368	86.7%

*No candidates tested.

†Does not include invalid/special program codes.

Table 9. Number of Candidates Examined and Passing Rates for First-Time Candidates Educated in Member Board Jurisdictions, by Degree Type[1]

NCLEX-RN® Examination: October 1 – December 31, 2002

Jurisdiction	Total			Diploma			Associate Degree			Baccalaureate Degree		
	Candidates Examined	Number Passed	Percent Passed	Candidates Examined	Number Passed	Percent Passed	Candidates Examined	Number Passed	Percent Passed	Candidates Examined	Number Passed	Percent Passed
Alabama	134	108	80.6%	0	0	0.0*	74	55	74.3%	60	53	88.3%
Alaska	7	5	71.4%	0	0	0.0*	3	3	100.0%	2	2	100.0%
American Samoa	0	0	0.0*	0	0	0.0*	0	0	0.0*	0	0	0.0*
Arizona	65	45	69.2%	0	0	0.0*	50	34	68.0%	15	11	73.3%
Arkansas	36	27	75.0%	25	19	76.0%	10	7	70.0%	1	1	100.0%
California-RN	560	436	77.9%	0	0	0.0*	396	311	78.5%	159	121	76.1%
Colorado	56	43	76.8%	0	0	0.0*	37	26	70.3%	19	17	89.5%
Connecticut	16	14	87.5%	0	0	0.0*	5	5	100.0%	10	9	90.0%
Delaware	12	11	91.7%	0	0	0.0*	6	5	83.3%	6	6	100.0%
District of Columbia	9	5	55.6%	0	0	0.0*	3	2	66.7%	6	3	50.0%
Florida	536	411	76.7%	0	0	0.0*	447	342	76.5%	85	65	76.5%
Georgia-RN	20	16	80.0%	0	0	0.0*	7	7	100.0%	12	8	66.7%
Guam	3	1	33.3%	0	0	0.0*	1	0	0.0%	2	1	50.0%
Hawaii	28	19	67.9%	0	0	0.0*	5	2	40.0%	23	17	73.9%
Idaho	14	14	100.0%	0	0	0.0*	7	7	100.0%	4	4	100.0%
Illinois	123	94	76.4%	1	1	100.0%	94	73	77.7%	27	19	70.4%
Indiana	86	68	79.1%	1	0	0.0%	61	48	78.7%	24	20	83.3%
Iowa	66	49	74.2%	0	0	0.0*	59	45	76.3%	5	2	40.0%
Kansas	23	17	73.9%	0	0	0.0*	19	16	84.2%	4	1	25.0%
Kentucky	46	41	89.1%	0	0	0.0*	42	38	90.5%	4	3	75.0%
Louisiana-RN	50	41	82.0%	0	0	0.0*	6	5	83.3%	44	36	81.8%
Maine	14	9	64.3%	0	0	0.0*	5	3	60.0%	9	6	66.7%
Maryland	54	43	79.6%	0	0	0.0*	18	14	77.8%	35	28	80.0%
Massachusetts	54	39	72.2%	4	2	50.0%	30	23	76.7%	20	14	70.0%
Michigan	146	121	82.9%	0	0	0.0*	80	68	85.0%	66	53	80.3%
Minnesota	42	34	81.0%	0	0	0.0*	29	24	82.8%	13	10	76.9%
Mississippi	21	16	76.2%	0	0	0.0*	18	13	72.2%	3	3	100.0%

Missouri	58	48	82.8%	2	2	100.0%	32	25	78.1%	24	21	87.5%
Montana	5	4	80.0%	0	0	0.0%*	0	0	0.0%*	5	4	80.0%
Nebraska	49	42	85.7%	2	2	100.0%	34	30	88.2%	13	10	76.9%
Nevada	10	9	90.0%	0	0	0.0%*	7	7	100.0%	3	2	66.7%
New Hampshire	27	18	66.7%	0	0	0.0%*	24	16	66.7%	3	2	66.7%
New Jersey	60	42	70.0%	20	15	75.0%	15	12	80.0%	25	15	60.0%
New Mexico	21	15	71.4%	0	0	0.0%*	18	12	66.7%	1	1	100.0%
New York	739	606	82.0%	5	5	100.0%	569	465	81.7%	165	136	82.4%
North Carolina	23	18	78.3%	3	3	100.0%	12	8	66.7%	8	7	87.5%
North Dakota	3	3	100.0%	0	0	0.0%*	0	0	0.0%*	3	3	100.0%
Northern Mariana Islands	3	1	33.3%	0	0	0.0%*	3	1	33.3%	0	0	0.0%*
Ohio	152	127	83.6%	4	4	100.0%	82	70	85.4%	62	51	82.3%
Oklahoma	22	16	72.7%	0	0	0.0%*	11	8	72.7%	11	8	72.7%
Oregon	13	10	76.9%	0	0	0.0%*	8	5	62.5%	5	5	100.0%
Pennsylvania	292	228	78.1%	96	80	83.3%	78	55	70.5%	117	92	78.6%
Puerto Rico	50	14	28.0%	0	0	0.0%*	16	4	25.0%	32	10	31.3%
Rhode Island	11	10	90.9%	0	0	0.0%*	5	4	80.0%	6	6	100.0%
South Carolina	39	35	89.7%	0	0	0.0%*	31	28	90.3%	8	7	87.5%
South Dakota	15	4	26.7%	0	0	0.0%*	11	3	27.3%	4	1	25.0%
Tennessee	14	10	71.4%	3	3	100.0%	8	5	62.5%	3	2	66.7%
Texas-RN	124	113	91.1%	21	21	100.0%	71	64	90.1%	30	26	86.7%
Utah	87	76	87.4%	0	0	0.0%*	22	21	95.5%	65	55	84.6%
Vermont	8	6	75.0%	0	0	0.0%*	6	4	66.7%	2	2	100.0%
Virgin Islands, U.S.	6	2	33.3%	0	0	0.0%*	0	0	0.0%*	6	2	33.3%
Virginia	86	68	79.1%	14	13	92.9%	33	25	75.8%	39	30	76.9%
Washington	51	42	82.4%	0	0	0.0%*	32	28	87.5%	19	14	73.7%
West Virginia	9	5	55.6%	0	0	0.0%*	4	2	50.0%	5	3	60.0%
Wisconsin	76	56	73.7%	0	0	0.0%*	17	11	64.7%	59	45	76.3%
Wyoming	11	8	72.7%	0	0	0.0%*	7	5	71.4%	4	3	75.0%
Total	4,285	3,363	78.5%	201	170	84.6%	2,668	2,094	78.5%	1,385	1,076	77.7%

*No candidates tested.
[1]Does not include invalid/special program codes.

Table 10. Number of First-Time Candidates Not Educated in Member Board Jurisdictions Taking NCLEX-RN® Examination and Percent Passing

NCLEX-RN® Examination: January 1 – December 31, 2002

Country of Education	Jan 1 - Mar 31, 2002			Apr 1 - Jun 30, 2002			Jul 1 - Sep 30, 2002			Oct 1 - Dec 31, 2002		
	Candidates Examined	Number Passed	Percent Passed	Candidates Examined	Number Passed	Percent Passed	Candidates Examined	Number Passed	Percent Passed	Candidates Examined	Number Passed	Percent Passed
Afghanistan				1	0	0.0%						
Albania	1	1	100.0%	2	0	0.0%						
Andorra	1	0	0.0%									
Argentina										1	1	100.0%
Armenia							1	1	100.0%	1	1	100.0%
Australia	31	21	67.7%	26	18	69.2%	29	20	69.0%	20	14	70.0%
Austria							2	2	100.0%	1	1	100.0%
Bahamas				2	1	50.0%	6	2	33.3%	6	3	50.0%
Bahrain				1	0	0.0%						
Bangladesh	1	0	0.0%									
Barbados	1	0	0.0%	3	2	66.7%	15	11	73.3%	1	1	100.0%
Belarus	1	0	0.0%	3	0	0.0%	3	1	33.3%	3	0	0.0%
Belgium				4	4	100.0%				1	1	100.0%
Belize (British Honduras)	1	1	100.0%	1	1	100.0%	1	0	0.0%	1	1	100.0%
Bolivia							1	1	100.0%			
Bosnia and Herzegovina	2	0	0.0%	1	0	0.0%						
Botswana				1	0	0.0%						
Brazil	7	6	85.7%	1	0	0.0%	3	3	100.0%	3	1	33.3%
British Indian Ocean Territory										1	0	0.0%
British West Indies				2	0	0.0%	5	3	60.0%			
Bulgaria	2	1	50.0%	1	0	0.0%	3	3	100.0%			
Cameroon, Free Republic of				1	0	0.0%	3	0	0.0%	6	3	50.0%
Canada	275	209	76.0%	297	235	79.1%	427	313	73.3%	345	276	80.0%
Central African Republic							1	0	0.0%			
Chile	2	1	50.0%	2	2	100.0%	3	2	66.7%			

Country												
China, Peoples Republic of	20	10	50.0%	38	25	65.8%	48	34	70.8%	28	18	64.3%
Colombia	4	1	25.0%	7	5	71.4%	6	3	50.0%	15	8	53.3%
Costa Rica	2	1	50.0%	1	0	0.0%	2	0	0.0%			
Croatia							1	0	0.0%			
Cuba	7	6	85.7%	3	0	0.0%	15	4	26.7%	36	14	38.9%
Cyprus										1	1	100.0%
Czech Republic	4	4	100.0%	1	1	100.0%				1	1	100.0%
Denmark	2	2	100.0%				5	3	60.0%	1	1	100.0%
Dominica	1	1	100.0%				4	3	75.0%	1	1	100.0%
Egypt, Arab Republic of				3	0	0.0%	4	1	25.0%	1	0	0.0%
El Salvador	1	0	0.0%				3	1	33.3%			
Eritrea	1	1	100.0%				1	1	100.0%	0	0	0.0%
Estonia										1	1	100.0%
Ethiopia	2	0	0.0%	4	2	50.0%	10	6	60.0%	3	1	33.3%
Fiji Islands	2	0	0.0%							3	1	33.3%
Finland	2	2	100.0%	3	3	100.0%	3	2	66.7%	2	2	100.0%
France	5	3	60.0%	6	4	66.7%	4	3	75.0%	1	1	100.0%
Gambia				1	0	0.0%	3	2	66.7%	3	0	0.0%
Georgia	1	0	0.0%				3	2	66.7%	1	1	100.0%
Germany (United)	7	4	57.1%	15	9	60.0%	23	15	65.2%	7	4	57.1%
Ghana	10	4	40.0%	8	3	37.5%	12	4	33.3%	7	4	57.1%
Gibraltar							1	0	0.0%			
Grenada and the Grenadines				1	1	100.0%				1	1	100.0%
Guatemala							1	1	100.0%			
Guyana	2	1	50.0%	5	2	40.0%	24	13	54.2%	14	5	35.7%
Haiti	2	0	0.0%	3	2	66.7%	8	2	25.0%	6	1	16.7%
Hong Kong	2	1	50.0%				5	1	20.0%	2	0	0.0%
Hungary				1	1	100.0%	1	1	100.0%	1	1	100.0%
Iceland	1	1	100.0%				1	1	100.0%			
India	119	72	60.5%	198	141	71.2%	248	132	53.2%	178	105	59.0%
Indonesia	1	0	0.0%	1	0	0.0%	3	0	0.0%	4	0	0.0%
Iran	12	7	58.3%	10	2	20.0%	17	6	35.3%	4	1	25.0%
Iraq							3	1	33.3%			
Ireland	8	6	75.0%	9	8	88.9%	6	5	83.3%	5	4	80.0%

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Table 10, continued

Country of Education	Jan 1 - Mar 31, 2002			Apr 1 - Jun 30, 2002			Jul 1 - Sep 30, 2002			Oct 1 - Dec 31, 2002		
	Candidates Examined	Number Passed	Percent Passed	Candidates Examined	Number Passed	Percent Passed	Candidates Examined	Number Passed	Percent Passed	Candidates Examined	Number Passed	Percent Passed
Israel	6	4	66.7%	12	10	83.3%	12	9	75.0%	12	11	91.7%
Italy	1	0	0.0%	1	0	0.0%				1	0	0.0%
Ivory Coast												
Jamaica	11	8	72.7%	10	7	70.0%	21	11	52.4%	33	30	90.9%
Japan	6	1	16.7%	5	3	60.0%	21	13	61.9%	7	5	71.4%
Jordan	2	0	0.0%	9	4	44.4%	8	2	25.0%	3	2	66.7%
Kazakhstan										1	0	0.0%
Kenya	12	2	16.7%	5	1	20.0%	22	10	45.5%	12	7	58.3%
Korea (North)				2	1	50.0%	1	1	100.0%	1	0	0.0%
Korea (South)	144	85	59.0%	366	221	60.4%	395	257	65.1%	64	38	59.4%
Kyrgyzstan										1	0	0.0%
Latvia	1	1	100.0%				3	0	0.0%			
Lebanon	7	5	71.4%	4	3	75.0%	12	9	75.0%	2	2	100.0%
Lesotho				1	1	100.0%						
Liberia	4	1	25.0%	3	1	33.3%	4	0	0.0%	1	0	0.0%
Lithuania							1	0	0.0%	2	2	100.0%
Malawi	1	1	100.0%				1	1	100.0%			
Malaysia	1	1	100.0%	1	1	100.0%	3	1	33.3%	1	0	0.0%
Malta	1	1	100.0%	1	0	0.0%						
Mexico	14	3	21.4%	9	4	44.4%	26	5	19.2%	9	4	44.4%
Moldova				1	0	0.0%	2	0	0.0%	1	1	100.0%
Morocco	1	1	100.0%									
Nepal							4	1	25.0%	4	3	75.0%
Netherlands	1	1	100.0%				2	2	100.0%	1	1	100.0%
Netherlands Antilles							1	0	0.0%			
New Zealand	12	10	83.3%	10	8	80.0%	9	9	100.0%	6	6	100.0%
Nicaragua				2	0	0.0%				1	0	0.0%
Niger				1	0	0.0%	1	0	0.0%	1	1	100.0%
Nigeria	73	27	37.0%	66	27	40.9%	87	33	37.9%	46	17	37.0%
Norway	3	1	33.3%	1	1	100.0%	3	1	33.3%	2	1	50.0%
Okinawa	1	0	0.0%							2	1	50.0%

Country												
Pakistan	12	1	8.3%	22	9	40.9%	17	9	52.9%	10	6	60.0%
Panama, Republic of							3	1	33.3%	1	1	100.0%
Peru	5	2	40.0%	3	1	33.3%	4	3	75.0%	3	2	66.7%
Philippines	1470	767	52.2%	1721	857	49.8%	2316	1133	48.9%	1572	868	55.2%
Pitcairn Islands	1	0	0.0%	1	1	100.0%	3	1	33.3%	1	0	0.0%
Poland	7	3	42.9%	17	8	47.1%	14	10	71.4%	12	6	50.0%
Portugal				1	0	0.0%						
Romania	12	4	33.3%	10	3	30.0%	14	6	42.9%	10	6	60.0%
Russian Federation	25	8	32.0%	22	11	50.0%	18	5	27.8%	13	4	30.8%
Santa Cruz Island	1	0	0.0%							1	1	100.0%
Saudi Arabia												
Sierra Leone				1	1	100.0%	6	1	16.7%	3	1	33.3%
Singapore				3	2	66.7%	1	0	0.0%	1	1	100.0%
Slovak Republic				1	0	0.0%				1	1	100.0%
South Africa	32	22	68.8%	15	10	66.7%	26	14	53.8%	24	20	83.3%
Spain				2	2	100.0%	4	3	75.0%	2	1	50.0%
Sri Lanka (Ceylon)	1	0	0.0%									
St. Kitts and Nevis							1	0	0.0%	1	0	0.0%
St. Lucia							16	9	56.3%	3	2	66.7%
St. Vincent							16	2	12.5%	7	1	14.3%
Surinam							1	1	100.0%	2	1	50.0%
Sweden	4	2	50.0%	3	2	66.7%	5	4	80.0%	4	2	50.0%
Switzerland	1	1	100.0%							2	2	100.0%
Taiwan (Republic of China)	21	7	33.3%	23	9	39.1%	51	18	35.3%	17	8	47.1%
Tajikistan				1	0	0.0%	1	0	0.0%	1	1	100.0%
Tanzania, United Republic of	1	0	0.0%	2	1	50.0%	3	1	33.3%	2	0	0.0%
Thailand	3	1	33.3%	9	3	33.3%	7	3	42.9%	4	3	75.0%
Tonga							2	0	0.0%			
Trinidad and Tobago	13	5	38.5%	14	6	42.9%	35	17	48.6%	13	7	53.8%
Turkey				2	2	100.0%				4	4	100.0%
Uganda	1	1	100.0%									
Ukraine	12	3	25.0%	17	7	41.2%	10	5	50.0%	2	1	50.0%
United Arab Emirates				2	2	100.0%				1	0	0.0%
United Kingdom	85	53	62.4%	90	57	63.3%	74	44	59.5%	77	56	72.7%

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Table 10, continued

Country of Education	Jan 1 - Mar 31, 2002			Apr 1 - Jun 30, 2002			Jul 1 - Sep 30, 2002			Oct 1 - Dec 31, 2002		
	Candidates Examined	Number Passed	Percent Passed	Candidates Examined	Number Passed	Percent Passed	Candidates Examined	Number Passed	Percent Passed	Candidates Examined	Number Passed	Percent Passed
Uruguay				1	0	0.0%						
Uzbekistan	3	0	0.0%	10	1	10.0%	8	4	50.0%	9	3	33.3%
Venezuela										1	0	0.0%
Vietnam				1	0	0.0%	2	1	50.0%			
Western Samoa										1	1	100.0%
Yugoslavia/Former	5	1	20.0%	1	0	0.0%	3	1	33.3%			
Zambia	2	2	100.0%	3	2	66.7%	3	2	66.7%	4	1	25.0%
Zimbabwe	5	3	60.0%	4	1	25.0%	5	2	40.0%	4	3	75.0%
Total	2,561	1,406	54.9%	3,180	1,763	55.4%	4,276	2,274	53.2%	2,745	1,626	59.2%

Table 11. Summary Statistics for First-Time, U.S.-Educated Candidates Taking NCLEX-RN® Examination, January – December 2002

NCLEX-RN® Examination	January – December 2002
Passing Standard*	-0.3500 logits
Estimated Decision Consistency	.91
Average Number of Test Items (Questions) Taken	116
Percent Taking Minimum Number of Items	53.4%
Percent Taking Maximum Number of Items	11.4%
Average Testing Time	2 hours, 11 minutes
Percent Taking Maximum Amount of Time	3.0%

See Appendix A for definitions of terms.

*The passing standard is presented in units, called logits, on the Rasch measurement scale.

Figure 4. National Passing Rate: Registered Nurses, 1992-1996
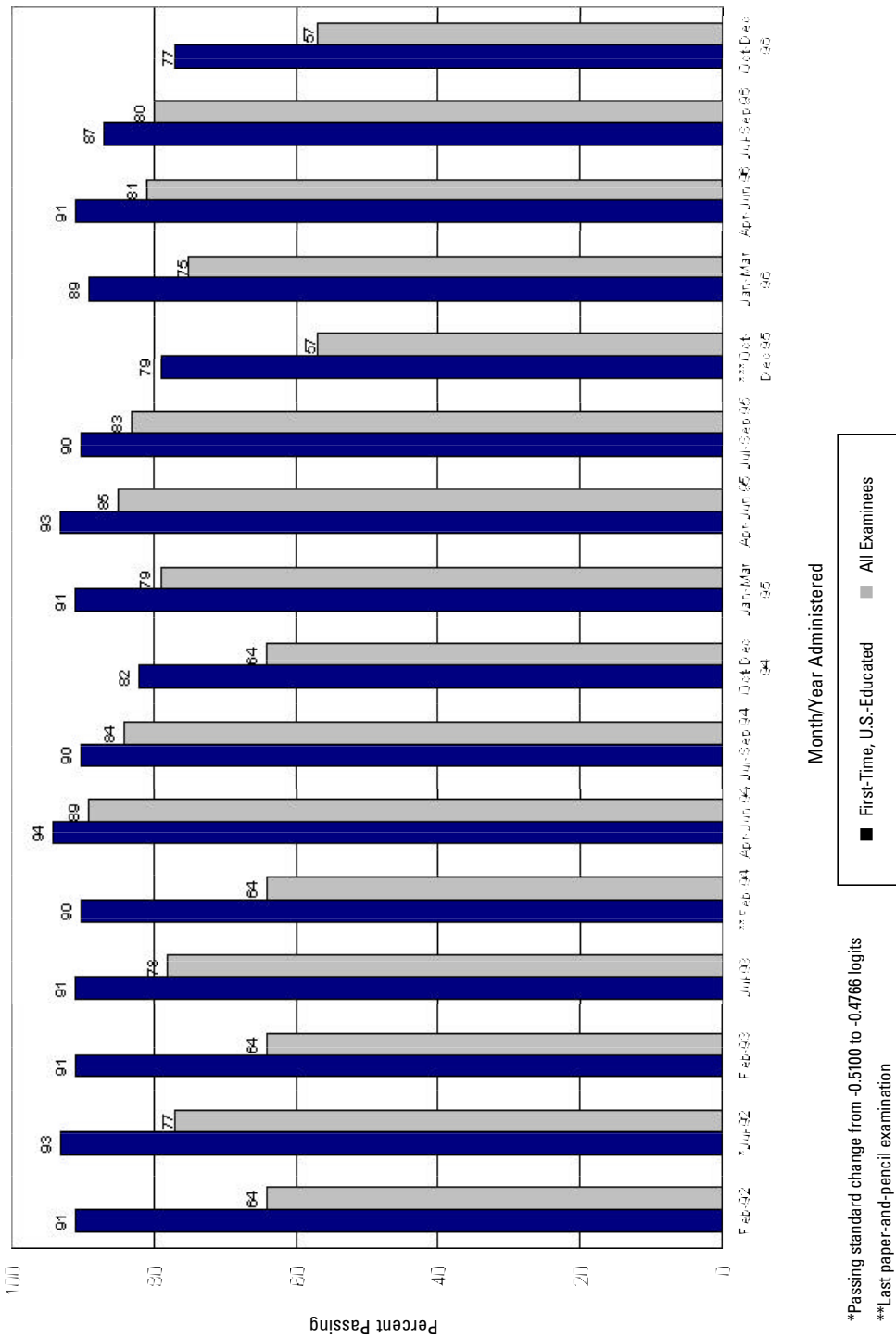
*Passing standard change from -0.5100 to -0.4766 logits

**Last paper-and-pencil examination

***Passing standard change from -0.4766 to -0.4200 logits

Figure 5. National Passing Rate: Registered Nurses, 1997-1999

*Passing standard change from -0.4200 to -0.3500 logits

Figure 6. National Passing Rate: Registered Nurses, 2000-2002
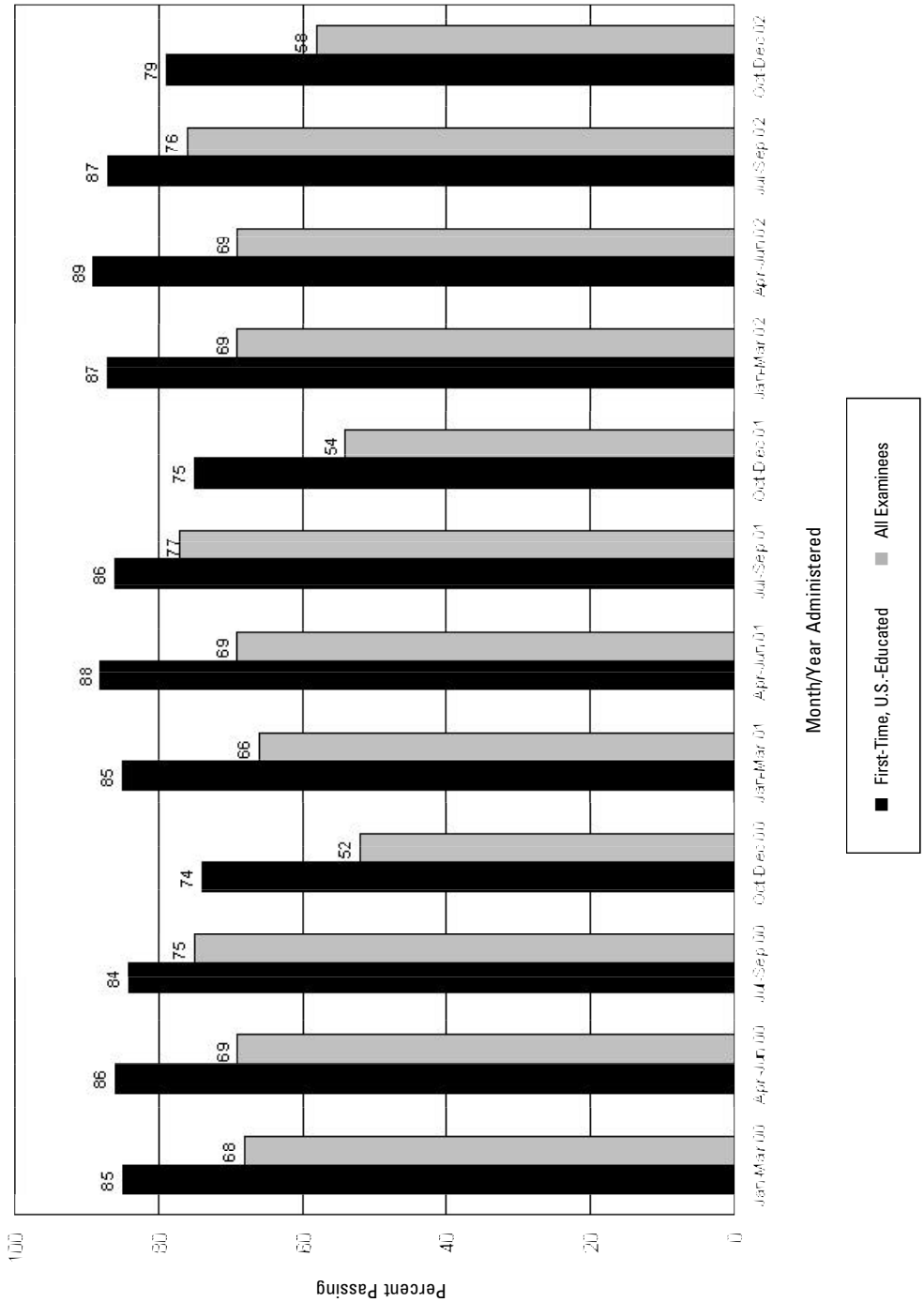
APPENDIX A

Licensure Examination Summary Statistics Definitions

Average Number of Test Items (Questions) Taken

The average number of items (questions) on which candidate performance is determined. In a variable-length computerized adaptive test (CAT), candidates are administered items until they satisfy one of the following stopping rules:

1. A candidate's measure of competence is known to be above or below the passing standard with at least 95 percent confidence (is significantly above or below the standard) and at least the minimum number of questions has been answered.
2. A candidate has taken the maximum number of questions.
3. A candidate has tested for the maximum amount of time.

Computerized Adaptive Testing (CAT)

Each candidate is administered items appropriate for the current estimated ability level until a confident pass/fail decision can be made, the maximum number of items is answered or the candidate runs out of time.

Estimated Decision Consistency

A measure of examination reliability appropriate for CAT. It is the proportion of pass/fail decisions that would remain the same if all candidates were to be retested with parallel examinations.

Passing Standard*

The minimum ability level a candidate must demonstrate in order to pass the examination. Currently, the passing standard effective April 1998 is -0.3500 logits for the NCLEX-RN® examination. In April 1999, the passing standard was raised from -0.5100 to -0.4700 logits for the NCLEX-PN® examination. The RN and PN standards are not directly comparable because they are based on different item pools.

These statistics are presented in units, called logits, on the Rasch measurement scale. There is no inherent meaning of the units; they represent an arbitrary scale useful for reporting relative differences. This scale can be used for two purposes:

1. *To measure degree of candidate competence (-2 = low; +2 = high), and*
2. *To measure degree of item difficulty (-2 = easy; +2 = hard).*

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