

**NATIONAL COUNCIL
OF
STATE BOARDS OF NURSING, INC.**

1988

Licensure and Examination Statistics

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**National Council of State Boards of Nursing, Inc.
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INTRODUCTION

The National Council of State Boards of Nursing, Inc., is committed to establishing itself as a clearinghouse of information on the activities of its sixty-one Member Boards of Nursing. This publication represents a continuation of the National Council's efforts to be responsive to the information needs of its Member Boards of Nursing and the public whom they protect through the regulation of nursing practice at the state level.

Provided in this publication are the 1988 statistics on the licensing activities of the National Council's Member Boards and on the National Council's two licensure examinations, the National Council Licensure Examination for Practical Nurses (NCLEX-PN) and the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN). These examinations are each administered twice a year by Member Boards to test a licensure candidates' capabilities to provide minimally safe and effective nursing care.

National Council of State Boards of Nursing, Inc.

PART I

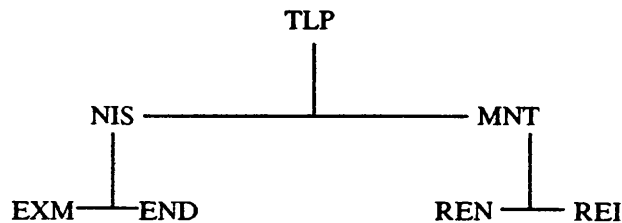
1988 LICENSURE STATISTICS

1988 Licensure and Examination Statistics

INTRODUCTION TO PART I; 1988 LICENSURE STATISTICS

The data reported in this section was obtained from the 61 Member Boards of the National Council of State Boards of Nursing. They were requested to provide data that indicated licensure processing activity during 1988 and data on the total number of individuals licensed to practice within the jurisdiction within 1988.

The varied licensure procedures and methods which exist among the Member Boards of Nursing have been classified according to the common licensure practices in which each Member Board engages to fulfill its mission. Processing activity is the focal point about which the data are organized. As the figure illustrates, four basic processing activities (Examination, Endorsement, Renewal, and Reinstatement), within two functional areas (New in State Functions and Maintenance Functions) represent the sources which contribute to the measure of the Total Number of Licenses Processed.



- TLP: Total Licenses Processed
- NIS: New in State Functions
- MNT: Maintenance Functions
- EXM: Examination
- END: Endorsement
- REN: Renewal
- REI: Reinstatement

Member Boards of Nursing were asked to provide estimates based upon knowledge and experience whenever the exact figure requested for this collection of data was unknown. In this manner the National Council of State Boards of Nursing attempts to provide the best information available from informed sources in each jurisdiction.

DEFINITIONS

REINSTATEMENT is defined as the reactivation of revoked, suspended, or lapsed licenses and is not considered part of routine renewal.

ACTIVE LICENSE figures are based upon the report actual or estimated total number of individuals holding an active license within a jurisdiction. Whereas the processing figures provide a measure of the magnitude of board operation, the active license figures 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 does not represent the total number of licensees.

REPORTING CONVENTIONS

For easy reading and speedy reference, all tables which display individual Member Board figures contain two columns headed ID (Identification Number) and JD (Jurisdiction).

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

TABLE I lists the National Council's Member Boards, the geographic locality within which a board has responsibility for regulating nursing practice (JD), the types of licenses for which a board has licensure authority, and the boards of nursing which are empowered to issue licenses or certificates to practice in a specialty area of nursing.

1988 Licensure and Examination Statistics

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

ID	JD	Board of Nursing	RN	PN/VN	Others
01	AL	Alabama Board of Nursing	Y	Y	Y
02	AK	Alaska Board of Nursing	Y	Y	Y
03	AZ	Arizona State Board of Nursing	Y	Y	Y
04	AR	Arkansas State Board of Nursing	Y	Y	Y
05	CA	California Board of Registered Nursing	Y	n	Y
06	CO	Colorado Board of Nursing	Y	Y	n
07	CT	Connecticut Board of Examiners for Nursing	Y	Y	Y
08	DE	Delaware Board of Nursing	Y	Y	Y
09	DC	District of Columbia Board of Nursing	Y	Y	n
11	FL	Florida Board of Nursing	Y	Y	Y
12	GA	Georgia Board of Nursing	Y	n	Y
13	GA	Georgia State Board of Licensed Practical Nurses	n	Y	n
14	GU	Guam Board of Nurse Examiners	Y	Y	Y
15	HI	Hawaii Board of Nursing	Y	Y	n
16	ID	Idaho Board of Nursing	Y	Y	Y
17	IL	Illinois Department of Registration and Education	Y	Y	n
18	IN	Indiana State Board of Nursing	Y	Y	n
19	IA	Iowa Board of Nursing	Y	Y	Y
20	KS	Kansas Board of Nursing	Y	Y	Y
21	KY	Kentucky Board of Nursing	Y	Y	Y
22	LA	Louisiana State Board of Nursing	Y	n	Y
23	LA	Louisiana State Board of Practical Nurse Examiners	n	Y	Y
24	ME	Maine State Board of Nursing	Y	Y	n
25	MD	Maryland Board of Examiners of Nurses	Y	Y	Y
26	MA	Massachusetts Board of Registration in Nursing	Y	Y	Y
27	MI	Michigan Board of Nursing	Y	Y	Y
28	MN	Minnesota Board of Nursing	Y	Y	n
29	MS	Mississippi Board of Nursing	Y	Y	Y
30	MO	Missouri State Board of Nursing	Y	Y	n
31	MT	Montana State Board of Nursing	Y	Y	Y
32	NE	Nebraska Bureau of Examining Boards	Y	Y	Y
33	NV	Nevada State Board of Nursing	Y	Y	Y
34	NH	New Hampshire Board of Nurse Education and Nurse Registration	Y	Y	Y
35	NJ	New Jersey Board of Nursing	Y	Y	n
36	NM	New Mexico Board of Nursing	Y	Y	Y
37	NY	New York State Board for Nursing	Y	Y	n
38	NC	North Carolina Board of Nursing	Y	Y	Y

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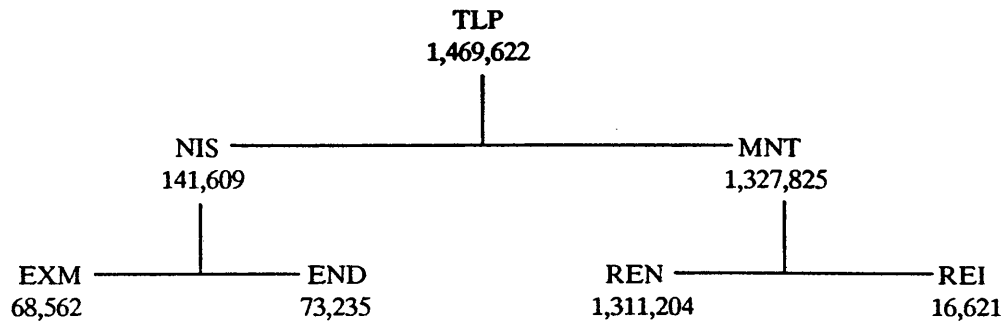
TABLE 1. Boards of Nursing Empowered to License Registered Nurses, Practical/Vocational Nurses, or Other Categories of Nursing Personnel (continued)

39	ND	North Dakota Board of Nursing	y	y	y
40	OH	Ohio Board of Nursing Education and Nurse Registration	y	y	y
41	OK	Oklahoma Board of Nurse Registration and Nursing Education	y	y	y
42	OR	Oregon State Board of Nursing	y	y	y
43	PA	Pennsylvania State Board of Nursing	y	y	y
44	RI	Rhode Island Board of Nurse Registration and Nursing Education	y	y	n
45	SC	State Board of Nursing for South Carolina	y	y	y
46	SD	South Dakota Board of Nursing	y	y	y
47	TN	Tennessee State Board of Nursing	y	y	n
48	TX	Board of Nurse Examiners for the State of Texas	y	n	n
49	TX	Texas Board of Vocational Nurse Examiners	n	y	n
50	UT	Utah State Board of Nursing	y	y	y
51	VT	Vermont State Board of Nursing	y	y	y
52	VA	Virginia State Board of Nursing	y	y	y
53	VI	Virgin Islands Board of Nurse Licensure	y	y	y
54	WA	Washington State Board of Nursing	y	n	y
55	WA	Washington State Board of Practical Nursing	n	y	n
56	WV	West Virginia Board of Examiners for Registered Nurses	y	n	y
57	WV	West Virginia State Board of Examiners for Practical Nurses	n	y	n
58	WI	Wisconsin Bureau of Nursing	y	y	y
59	WY	Wyoming State Board of Nursing	y	y	y
60	AS	American Samoa Health Service Regulatory Board	y	y	y
61	CM	Northern Mariana Islands Commonwealth Board of Nursing	y	y	y
62	CA	California Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technician Examiner	n	y	y

1988 Licensure and Examination Statistics

Summary

Registered Nurse Licenses Processed



KEY:

TLP: Total Licenses Processed
NIS: New in State Function
MNT: Maintenance Functions
EXM: Examination
END: Endorsement
REN: Renewal
REI: Reinstatement

National Council of State Boards of Nursing, Inc.

TABLE 2. Registered Nurses: Total Licenses Processed, by Jurisdiction

ID	JD	New in State		Maintenance		Total Processed	
		n	%	n	%	n	%
1	AL	2208	1.56	26663	2.01	28871	1.96
2	AK	479	0.34	3785	0.29	4264	0.29
3	AZ	2950	2.08	31369	2.36	34319	2.34
4	AR	1266	0.89	8050	0.61	9316	0.63
5	CA	14180	10.01	111684	8.41	125864	8.56
6	CO	2318	1.64	14637	1.10	16955	1.15
7	CT	2679	1.89	48903	3.68	51582	3.51
8	DE	755	0.53	70	0.01	825	0.06
9	DC	a		a		a	
11	FL	10263	7.25	0	0.00	10263	0.70
12	GA	3868	2.73	48386	3.64	52254	3.56
14	GU	90	0.06	90	0.01	180	0.01
15	HI	0	0.00	0	0.00	188	0.01
16	ID	617	0.44	131	0.01	748	0.05
17	IL	4837	3.42	109891	8.28	114728	7.81
18	IN	3118	2.20	75	0.01	3193	0.22
19	IA	996	0.70	9055	0.68	10051	0.68
20	KS	1629	1.15	14200	1.07	15829	1.08
21	KY	2084	1.47	24290	1.83	26374	1.79
22	LA	2189	1.55	27439	2.07	29628	2.02
24	ME	1013	0.72	12435	0.94	13448	0.92
25	MD	3148	2.22	21470	1.62	24618	1.68
26	MA	4336	3.06	89573	6.75	93909	6.39
27	MI	4254	3.00	51967	3.91	56221	3.83
28	MN	2251	1.59	32541	2.45	34792	2.37
29	MS	1255	0.89	16021	1.21	17276	1.18
30	MO	3029	2.14	55066	4.15	58095	3.95
31	MT	479	0.34	8386	0.63	8865	0.60
32	NE	635	0.45	15022	1.13	15657	1.07
33	NV	1022	0.72	5133	0.39	6155	0.42
34	NH	1275	0.90	9122	0.69	10397	0.71
35	NJ	5989	4.23	92739	6.98	98728	6.72
36	NM	1210	0.85	351	0.03	1561	0.11
37	NY	7975	5.63	1486	0.11	9461	0.64
38	NC	4263	3.01	26455	1.99	30718	2.09
39	ND	412	0.29	6860	0.52	7272	0.49
40	OH	5752	4.06	1354	0.10	7106	0.48
41	OK	1336	0.94	19198	1.45	20534	1.40
42	OR	1991	1.41	12832	0.97	14823	1.01
43	PA	6536	4.62	87586	6.60	94122	6.40
44	RI	788	0.56	13198	0.99	13986	0.95

1988 Licensure and Examination Statistics

TABLE 2. Registered Nurses: Total Licenses Processed, by Jurisdiction (continued)

ID	JD	New in State		Maintenance		Total Processed	
		n	%	n	%	n	%
45	SC	2098	1.48	20526	1.55	22624	1.54
46	SD	564	0.40	3669	0.28	4233	0.29
47	TN	2674	1.89	40517	3.05	43191	2.94
48	TX	7058	4.98	57620	4.34	64678	4.40
50	UT	1013	0.72	9795	0.74	10808	0.74
51	VT	670	0.47	1	0.00	671	0.05
52	VA	4304	3.04	27104	2.04	31408	2.14
53	VI	a		a		a	
54	WA	3523	2.49	43555	3.28	47078	3.20
56	WV	1177	0.83	17287	1.30	18464	1.26
58	WI	2609	1.84	47206	3.56	49815	3.39
59	WY	444	0.31	3032	0.23	3476	0.24
60	AS	a		a		a	
61	CM	a		a		a	
Total		141609	100.00	1327825	100.00	1469622	100.00

a information not available

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**TABLE 3: Registered Nurses: New in State Functions,
by Jurisdiction**

ID	JD	Examination		Endorsement		New in State	
		n	%	n	%	n	%
1	AL	1249	1.82	959	1.31	2208	1.56
2	AK	63	0.09	416	0.57	479	0.34
3	AZ	824	1.20	2126	2.90	2950	2.08
4	AR	663	0.97	603	0.82	1266	0.89
5	CA	6447	9.40	7733	10.56	14180	10.01
6	CO	637	0.93	1681	2.30	2318	1.64
7	CT	994	1.45	1685	2.30	2679	1.89
8	DE	286	0.42	469	0.64	755	0.53
9	DC	a		a		a	
11	FL	2982	4.35	7281	9.94	10263	7.25
12	GA	1323	1.93	2545	3.48	3868	2.73
14	GU	25	0.04	65	0.09	90	0.06
15	HI	188	0.27	0	0.00	0	0.00
16	ID	208	0.30	409	0.56	617	0.44
17	IL	2835	4.13	2002	2.73	4837	3.42
18	IN	1704	2.49	1414	1.93	3118	2.20
19	IA	924	1.35	72	0.10	996	0.70
20	KS	771	1.12	858	1.17	1629	1.15
21	KY	1003	1.46	1081	1.48	2084	1.47
22	LA	1034	1.51	1155	1.58	2189	1.55
24	ME	291	0.42	722	0.99	1013	0.72
25	MD	1096	1.60	2052	2.80	3148	2.22
26	MA	2464	3.59	1872	2.56	4336	3.06
27	MI	3012	4.39	1242	1.70	4254	3.00
28	MN	1226	1.79	1025	1.40	2251	1.59
29	MS	685	1.00	570	0.78	1255	0.89
30	MO	1520	2.22	1509	2.06	3029	2.14
31	MT	198	0.29	281	0.38	479	0.34
32	NE	344	0.50	291	0.40	635	0.45
33	NV	192	0.28	830	1.13	1022	0.72
34	NH	251	0.37	1024	1.40	1275	0.90
35	NJ	3450	5.03	2539	3.47	5989	4.23
36	NM	520	0.76	690	0.94	1210	0.85
37	NY	6060	8.84	1915	2.61	7975	5.63
38	NC	1547	2.26	2716	3.71	4263	3.01
39	ND	243	0.35	169	0.23	412	0.29
40	OH	3733	5.44	2019	2.76	5752	4.06
41	OK	684	1.00	652	0.89	1336	0.94
42	OR	727	1.06	1264	1.73	1991	1.41
43	PA	4259	6.21	2277	3.11	6536	4.62
44	RI	408	0.60	380	0.52	788	0.56

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**TABLE 3: Registered Nurses: New in State Functions,
by Jurisdiction (continued)**

ID	JD	Examination		Endorsement		New in State	
		n	%	n	%	n	%
45	SC	789	1.15	1309	1.79	2098	1.48
46	SD	314	0.46	250	0.34	564	0.40
47	TN	1468	2.14	1206	1.65	2674	1.89
48	TX	3467	5.06	3591	4.90	7058	4.98
50	UT	538	0.78	475	0.65	1013	0.72
51	VT	281	0.41	389	0.53	670	0.47
52	VA	1398	2.04	2906	3.97	4304	3.04
53	VI	a		a		a	
54	WA	1200	1.75	2323	3.17	3523	2.49
56	WV	559	0.82	618	0.84	1177	0.83
58	WI	1362	1.99	1247	1.70	2609	1.84
59	WY	116	0.17	328	0.45	444	0.31
60	AS	a		a		a	
61	CM	a		a		a	
Total		68562	100.00	73235	100.00	141609	100.00

a information not available

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TABLE 4: Registered Nurses: Maintenance Function, by Jurisdiction

ID	JD	Renewal		Reinstatement		Total Maintenance	
		n	%	n	%	n	%
1	AL	26314	2.01	349	2.10	26663	2.01
2	AK	3731	0.28	54	0.32	3785	0.29
3	AZ	31361	2.39	8	0.05	31369	2.36
4	AR	8039	0.61	11	0.07	8050	0.61
5	CARN	111672	8.52	12	0.07	111684	8.41
6	CO	14637	1.12	0	0.00	14637	1.10
7	CT	48703	3.71	200	1.20	48903	3.68
8	DE	0	0.00	70	0.42	70	0.01
9	DC	a		a		a	
11	FL	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
12	GARN	48000	3.66	386	2.32	48386	3.64
13	GAPN	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
14	GU	82	0.01	8	0.05	90	0.01
15	HI	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
16	ID	58	0.00	73	0.44	131	0.01
17	IL	109736	8.37	155	0.93	109891	8.28
18	IN	0	0.00	75	0.45	75	0.01
19	IA	8639	0.66	416	2.50	9055	0.68
20	KS	13400	1.02	800	4.81	14200	1.07
21	KY	23903	1.82	387	2.33	24290	1.83
22	LARN	26502	2.02	937	5.64	27439	2.07
23	LAPN	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
24	ME	12038	0.92	397	2.39	12435	0.94
25	MD	21470	1.64	0	0.00	21470	1.62
26	MA	89548	6.83	25	0.15	89573	6.75
27	MI	50442	3.85	1525	9.18	51967	3.91
28	MN	31600	2.41	941	5.66	2541	2.45
29	MS	15880	1.21	141	0.85	16021	1.21
30	MO	54278	4.14	788	4.74	5506	4.15
31	MT	8281	0.63	105	0.63	8386	0.63
32	NE	14914	1.14	108	0.65	15022	1.13
33	NV	4955	0.38	178	1.07	5133	0.39
34	NH	8657	0.66	465	2.80	9122	0.69
35	NJ	92730	7.07	9	0.05	92739	6.98
36	NM	175	0.01	176	1.06	351	0.03
37	NY	1486	0.11	0	0.00	1486	0.11
38	NC	25398	1.94	1057	6.36	26455	1.99
39	ND	6854	0.52	6	0.04	6860	0.52
40	OH	0	0.00	1354	8.15	1354	0.10
41	OK	18824	1.44	374	2.25	19198	1.45
42	OR	12832	0.98	0	0.00	12832	0.97
43	PA	87336	6.66	250	1.50	87586	6.60
44	RI	13197	1.01	1	0.01	13198	0.99
45	SC	20254	1.54	272	1.64	20526	1.55
46	SD	3573	0.27	96	0.58	3669	0.28
47	TN	40517	3.09	0	0.00	40517	3.05
48	TXRN	55257	4.21	2363	14.22	57620	4.34

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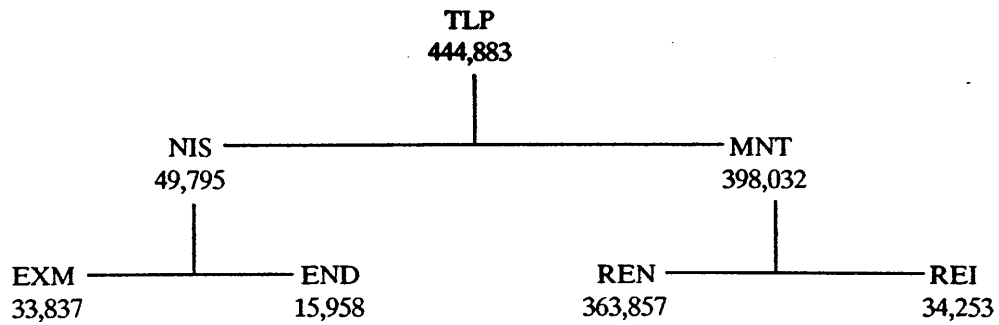
**TABLE 4: Registered Nurses: Maintenance Function,
by Jurisdiction (continued)**

ID	JD	Renewal		Reinstatement		Total Maintenance	
		n	%	n	%	n	%
49	TXPN	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
50	UT	9647	0.74	148	0.89	9795	0.74
51	VT	0	0.00	1	0.01	1	0.00
52	VA	26083	1.99	1021	6.14	27104	2.04
53	VI	a		a		a	
54	WARN	43555	3.32	0	0.00	43555	3.28
55	WAPN	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
56	WVRN	16488	1.26	799	4.81	17287	1.30
57	WVPN	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
58	WI	47201	3.60	5	0.03	47206	3.56
59	WY	2957	0.23	75	0.45	3032	0.23
60	AS	a		a		a	
61	CM	a		a		a	
62	CAVN	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
Total							
		1311204	100.00	16621	100.00	1327825	100.00

a information not available

Summary

Practical/Vocational Nurse Licenses Processed



KEY:

TLP: Total Licenses Processed
NIS: New in State Function
MNT: Maintenance Functions
EXM: Examination
END: Endorsement
REN: Renewal
REI: Reinstatement

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TABLE 5. Practical/Vocational Nurses: Total Licenses Processed, by Jurisdiction

ID	JD	New in State		Maintenance		Total Processed	
		n	%	n	%	n	%
1	AL	1032	2.07	1774	0.45	2806	0.63
2	AK	89	0.18	664	0.17	753	0.17
3	AZ	866	1.74	704	0.18	1570	0.35
4	AR	835	1.68	7485	1.88	8320	1.87
6	CO	735	1.48	7716	1.94	8451	1.90
7	CT	472	0.95	11994	3.01	12466	2.80
8	DE	164	0.33	1920	0.48	2084	0.47
9	DC	a		a		a	
11	FL	3733	7.50	796	0.20	4529	1.02
13	GA	1284	2.58	23049	5.79	24333	5.47
14	GU	30	0.06	41	0.01	71	0.02
15	HI	123	0.25	29	0.01	152	0.03
16	ID	178	0.36	3104	0.78	3282	0.74
17	IL	1045	2.10	13391	3.36	14436	3.25
18	IN	1059	2.13	17900	4.50	18959	4.26
19	IA	915	1.84	2633	0.66	3548	0.80
20	KS	711	1.43	3425	0.86	0	0.00
21	KY	798	1.60	344	0.09	1142	0.26
23	LA	1031	2.07	5272	1.32	6303	1.42
24	ME	269	0.54	4192	1.05	4461	1.00
25	MD	586	1.18	4657	1.17	5243	1.18
26	MA	935	1.88	960	0.24	1895	0.43
27	MI	1103	2.22	19909	5.00	21012	4.72
28	MN	995	2.00	10549	2.65	11544	2.60
29	MS	579	1.16	629	0.16	1208	0.27
30	MO	1048	2.10	20271	5.09	21319	4.79
31	MT	206	0.41	3064	0.77	3270	0.74
32	NE	374	0.75	162	0.04	536	0.12
33	NV	332	0.67	1356	0.34	1688	0.38
34	NH	318	0.64	2075	0.52	2393	0.54
35	NJ	1832	3.68	26416	6.64	28248	6.35
36	NM	370	0.74	0	0.00	3197	0.72
37	NY	5099	10.24	1134	0.28	6233	1.40
38	NC	1343	2.70	8017	2.01	9360	2.10
39	ND	64	0.13	3030	0.76	3094	0.70
40	OH	1742	3.50	42238	10.61	43980	9.89
41	OK	841	1.69	262	0.07	1103	0.25
42	OR	595	1.19	0	0.00	0	0.00
43	PA	1704	3.42	27496	6.91	29200	6.56
44	RI	214	0.43	3482	0.87	3696	0.83

National Council of State Boards of Nursing, Inc.

TABLE 5. Practical/Vocational Nurses: Total Licenses Processed, by Jurisdiction (continued)

ID	JD	New in State		Maintenance		Total Processed	
		n	%	n	%	n	%
45	SC	795	1.60	8140	2.05	8935	2.01
46	SD	90	0.18	1276	0.32	1366	0.31
47	TN	1334	2.68	22653	5.69	23987	5.39
49	TX	3344	6.72	34553	8.68	37897	8.52
50	UT	590	1.18	3296	0.83	3886	0.87
51	VT	117	0.23	35	0.01	152	0.03
52	VA	1377	2.77	11476	2.88	12853	2.89
53	VI	a		a		a	
55	WA	1090	2.19	0	0.00	0	0.00
57	WV	507	1.02	7100	1.78	7607	1.71
58	WI	421	0.85	361	0.09	782	0.18
59	WY	131	0.26	921	0.23	1052	0.24
60	AS	a		a		a	
61	CM	a		a		a	
62	CA	4350	8.74	26081	6.55	30431	6.84
Total		49795	100.00	398032	100.00	444833	100.00

a information not available

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TABLE 6. Practical/Vocational Nurses: New in State Functions, by Jurisdiction

ID	JD	Examination		Endorsement		New in State	
		n	%	n	%	n	%
1	AL	721	2.13	311	1.95	1032	2.07
2	AK	15	0.04	74	0.46	89	0.18
3	AZ	353	1.04	513	3.21	866	1.74
4	AR	529	1.56	306	1.92	835	1.68
5	CARN	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
6	CO	378	1.12	357	2.24	735	1.48
7	CT	245	0.72	227	1.42	472	0.95
8	DE	92	0.27	72	0.45	164	0.33
9	DC	a		a		a	
11	FL	1740	5.14	1993	12.49	3733	7.50
12	GARN	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
13	GAPN	816	2.41	468	2.93	1284	2.58
14	GU	12	0.04	18	0.11	30	0.06
15	HI	123	0.36	0	0.00	123	0.25
16	ID	107	0.32	71	0.44	178	0.36
17	IL	739	2.18	306	1.92	1045	2.10
18	IN	671	1.98	388	2.43	1059	2.13
19	IA	731	2.16	184	1.15	915	1.84
20	KS	472	1.39	239	1.50	711	1.43
21	KY	555	1.64	243	1.52	798	1.60
22	LARN	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
23	LAPN	725	2.14	306	1.92	1031	2.07
24	ME	134	0.40	135	0.85	269	0.54
25	MD	196	0.58	390	2.44	586	1.18
26	MA	632	1.87	303	1.90	935	1.88
27	MI	832	2.46	271	1.70	1103	2.22
28	MN	799	2.36	196	1.23	995	2.00
29	MS	398	1.18	181	1.13	579	1.16
30	MO	699	2.07	349	2.19	1048	2.10
31	MT	125	0.37	81	0.51	206	0.41
32	NE	274	0.81	100	0.63	374	0.75
33	NV	94	0.28	238	1.49	332	0.67
34	NH	112	0.33	206	1.29	318	0.64
35	NJ	1435	4.24	397	2.49	1832	3.68
36	NM	173	0.51	197	1.23	370	0.74
37	NY	4813	14.22	286	1.79	509	10.24
38	NC	679	2.01	664	4.16	1343	2.70
39	ND	39	0.07	41	0.26	64	0.13
40	OH	1306	3.86	436	2.73	1742	3.50
41	OK	604	1.79	237	1.49	841	1.69
42	OR	374	1.11	221	1.38	595	1.19
43	PA	1407	4.16	297	1.86	1704	3.42
44	RI	34	0.10	180	1.13	214	0.43
45	SC	431	1.27	364	2.28	795	1.60
46	SD	28	0.08	62	0.39	90	0.18

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TABLE 6. Practical/Vocational Nurses: New in State Functions, by Jurisdiction (continued)

ID	JD	Examination		Endorsement		New in State	
		n	%	n	%	n	%
47	TN	774	2.29	560	3.51	1334	2.68
48	TXRN	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
49	TXPN	2393	7.07	951	5.96	3344	6.72
50	UT	541	1.60	49	0.31	590	1.18
51	VT	51	0.15	66	0.41	117	0.23
52	VA	760	2.25	617	3.87	1377	2.77
53	VI	a		a		a	
54	WARN	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
55	WAPN	717	2.12	373	2.34	1090	2.19
56	WVRN	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
57	WVPN	371	1.10	136	0.85	507	1.02
58	WI	155	0.46	266	1.67	421	0.85
59	WY	59	0.17	72	0.45	131	0.26
60	AS	a		a		a	
61	CM	a		a		a	
62	CAVN	3390	10.02	960	6.02	4350	8.74
Total							
		33837	100.00	15958	100.00	49795	100.00

a information not available

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TABLE 7. Practical/Vocational Nurses: Maintenance Functions, by Jurisdiction

ID	JD	Renewal		Reinstatement		Total Maintenance	
		n	%	n	%	n	%
1	AL	1273	0.35	501	1.46	1774	0.45
2	AK	664	0.18	0	0.00	664	0.17
3	AZ	702	0.19	2	0.01	704	0.18
4	AR	7471	2.05	14	0.04	7485	1.88
6	CO	7716	2.12	0	0.00	7716	1.94
7	CT	11922	3.28	72	0.21	11994	3.01
8	DE	1906	0.52	14	0.04	1920	0.48
9	DC	78	0.02	0	0.00	78	0.00
11	FL	0	0.00	796	2.32	796	0.20
13	GA	202	0.06	22847	66.70	23049	5.79
14	GU	36	0.01	5	0.01	41	0.01
15	HI	0	0.00	29	0.08	29	0.01
16	ID	3017	0.83	87	0.25	3104	0.78
17	IL	12857	3.53	534	1.56	13391	3.36
18	IN	17840	4.90	60	0.18	17900	4.50
19	IA	2354	0.65	279	0.81	2633	0.66
20	KS	3000	0.82	425	1.24	3425	0.86
21	KY	0	0.00	344	1.00	344	0.09
23	LA	5135	1.41	137	0.40	5272	1.32
24	ME	3971	1.09	221	0.65	4192	1.05
25	MD	4657	1.28	0	0.00	4657	1.17
26	MA	948	0.26	12	0.04	960	0.24
27	MI	19564	5.38	345	1.01	19909	5.00
28	MN	9810	2.70	739	2.16	10549	2.65
29	MS	0	0.00	629	1.84	629	0.16
30	MO	19813	5.45	458	1.34	20271	5.09
31	MT	3044	0.84	20	0.06	3064	0.77
32	NE	0	0.00	162	0.47	162	0.04
33	NV	1287	0.35	69	0.20	1356	0.34
34	NH	1931	0.53	144	0.42	2075	0.52
35	NJ	26409	7.26	7	0.02	26416	6.64
36	NM	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
37	NY	1134	0.31	0	0.00	1134	0.28
38	NC	7430	2.04	587	1.71	8017	2.01
39	ND	3030	0.83	0	0.00	3030	0.76
40	OH	41512	11.41	726	2.12	42238	10.61
41	OK	1	0.00	261	0.76	262	0.07
42	OR	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
43	PA	27371	7.52	125	0.36	27496	6.91
44	RI	3482	0.96	0	0.00	3482	0.87

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TABLE 7. Practical/Vocational Nurses: Maintenance Functions, by Jurisdiction (continued)

ID	JD	Renewal		Reinstatement		Total Maintenance	
		n	%	n	%	n	%
45	SC	7957	2.19	183	0.53	8140	2.05
46	SD	1215	0.33	61	0.18	1276	0.32
47	TN	22653	6.23	0	0.00	22653	5.69
49	TX	34530	9.49	23	0.07	34553	8.68
50	UT	3271	0.90	25	0.07	3296	0.83
51	VT	24	0.01	11	0.03	35	0.01
52	VA	10455	2.87	1021	2.98	11476	2.88
53	VI	a		a		a	
55	WA	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
57	WV	6850	1.88	250	0.73	7100	1.78
58	WI	359	0.10	2	0.01	361	0.09
59	WY	921	0.25	0	0.00	921	0.23
60	AS	a		a		a	
61	CM	a		a		a	
62	CA	24055	6.61	2026	5.91	26081	6.55
Total		363857	100.00	34253	100.00	398032	100.00

a information not available

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TABLE 8. Total Number of Active Licenses: Registered Nurses and Practical/Vocational Nurses, by Jurisdiction

ID	JD	Registered Nurses		Practical Nurses		Total Number	
		n	%	n	%	n	%
1	AL	27267	1.13	16709	1.99	43976	1.35
2	AK	3898	0.16	664	0.08	4562	0.14
3	AZ	31369	1.30	8653	1.03	40022	1.23
4	AR	17225	0.72	14598	1.73	31823	0.98
5	CA	212902	8.85	0	0.00	212902	6.56
6	CO	30621	1.27	7168	0.85	37789	1.16
7	CT	48703	2.03	11922	1.42	60625	1.87
8	DE	8174	0.34	1906	0.23	10080	0.31
9	DC	16000	0.67	2500	0.30	18500	0.57
11	FL	111648	4.64	42200	5.02	153848	4.74
12	GA	48234	2.01	0	0.00	48234	1.49
13	GA	0	0.00	24333	2.89	24333	0.75
14	GU	417	0.02	128	0.02	545	0.02
15	HI	8500	0.35	5000	0.59	13500	0.42
16	ID	8414	0.35	3333	0.40	11747	0.36
17	IL	114145	4.75	30737	3.65	144882	4.46
18	IN	53494	2.22	16364	1.94	69858	2.15
19	IA	30685	1.28	9614	1.14	40299	1.24
20	KS	26400	1.10	8400	1.00	34800	1.07
21	KY	25532	1.06	10320	1.23	35852	1.10
22	LA	29628	1.23	0	0.00	29628	0.91
23	LA	0	0.00	13487	1.60	13487	0.42
24	ME	13448	0.56	269	0.03	13717	0.42
25	MD	50148	2.09	10778	1.28	60926	1.88
26	MA	89548	3.72	22358	2.66	111906	3.45
27	MI	96340	4.01	37051	4.40	133391	4.11
28	MN	44682	1.86	19620	2.33	64302	1.98
29	MS	17276	0.72	10896	1.29	28172	0.87
30	MO	58095	2.42	21319	2.53	79414	2.45
31	MT	8865	0.37	0	0.00	8865	0.27
32	NE	16639	0.69	6385	0.76	23024	0.71
33	NV	6155	0.26	1287	0.15	7442	0.23
34	NH	16534	0.69	4013	0.48	20547	0.63
35	NJ	95758	3.98	26409	3.14	122167	3.76
36	NM	11454	0.48	4224	0.50	15678	0.48
37	NY	229967	9.56	67833	8.06	297800	9.17
38	NC	55795	2.32	19750	2.35	75545	2.33
39	ND	7265	0.30	3094	0.37	10359	0.32
40	OH	119574	4.97	43031	5.11	162605	5.01
41	OK	20710	0.86	13767	1.64	34477	1.06
42	OR	27711	1.15	5807	0.69	33518	1.03
43	PA	174672	7.26	52743	6.27	227415	7.01
44	RI	13985	0.58	3596	0.43	17581	0.54

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TABLE 8. Total Number of Active Licenses: Registered Nurses and Practical/Vocational Nurses, by Jurisdiction (continued)

ID	JD	Registered Nurses		Practical Nurses		Total Number	
		n	%	n	%	n	%
45	SC	22352	0.93	8752	1.04	31104	0.96
46	SD	7590	0.32	2557	0.30	10147	0.31
47	TN	38571	1.60	21738	2.58	60309	1.86
48	TX	113051	4.70	0	0.00	113051	3.48
49	TX	0	0.00	72385	8.60	72385	2.23
50	UT	10796	0.45	3271	0.39	14067	0.43
51	VT	7572	0.31	2412	0.29	9984	0.31
52	VA	58724	2.44	22442	2.67	81166	2.50
53	VI	685	0.03	149	0.02	834	0.03
54	WA	46797	1.95	0	0.00	46797	1.44
55	WA	0	0.00	15295	1.82	15295	0.47
56	WV	18464	0.77	0	0.00	18464	0.57
57	WV	0	0.00	7273	0.86	7273	0.22
58	WI	48983	2.04	16656	1.98	65639	2.02
59	WY	3363	0.14	1067	0.13	4430	0.14
60	AS	35	0.00	140	0.02	175	0.01
61	CM	108	0.00	38	0.00	146	0.00
62	CA	0	0.00	65000	7.72	65000	2.00
Total		2404968	100.00	841441	100.00	3246409	100.00

a information not available

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TABLE 9. Number of Graduates of Foreign Nursing Programs Licensed, by Jurisdiction

ID	JD	RN Graduates of Foreign Nursing Programs		PN/VN Graduates of Foreign Nursing Programs	
		n	%	n	%
1	AL	9	0.17	2	0.09
2	AK	0	0.00	0	0.00
3	AZ	24	0.45	8	0.35
4	AR	77	1.45	0	0.00
5	CA	2596	48.86	0	0.00
6	CO	0	0.00	0	0.00
7	CT	149	2.80	5	0.22
8	DE	0	0.00	0	0.00
9	DC	a		a	
11	FL	0	0.00	0	0.00
12	GA	54	1.02	0	0.00
13	GA	0	0.00	0	0.00
14	GU	8	0.15	10	0.44
15	HI	0	0.00	0	0.00
16	ID	34	0.64	0	0.00
17	IL	151	2.84	1	0.04
18	IN	107	2.01	3	0.13
19	IA	3	0.06	0	0.00
20	KS	2	0.04	0	0.00
21	KY	6	0.11	0	0.00
22	LA	84	1.58	0	0.00
23	LA	0	0.00	0	0.00
24	ME	30	0.56	2	0.09
25	MD	125	2.35	0	0.00
26	MA	150	2.82	5	0.22
27	MI	638	12.01	110	4.83
28	MN	79	1.49	0	0.00
29	MS	3	0.06	0	0.00
30	MO	51	0.96	3	0.13
31	MT	2	0.04	0	0.00
32	NE	11	0.21	1	0.04
33	NV	10	0.19	6	0.26
34	NH	19	0.36	0	0.00
35	NJ	366	6.89	602	26.44
36	NM	0	0.00	0	0.00
37	NY	0	0.00	902	39.61
38	NC	92	1.73	3	0.13
39	ND	5	0.09	0	0.00
40	OH	66	1.24	2	0.09
41	OK	31	0.58	1	0.04
42	OR	0	0.00	0	0.00
43	PA	26	0.49	2	0.09
44	RI	8	0.15	1	0.04

National Council of State Boards of Nursing, Inc.

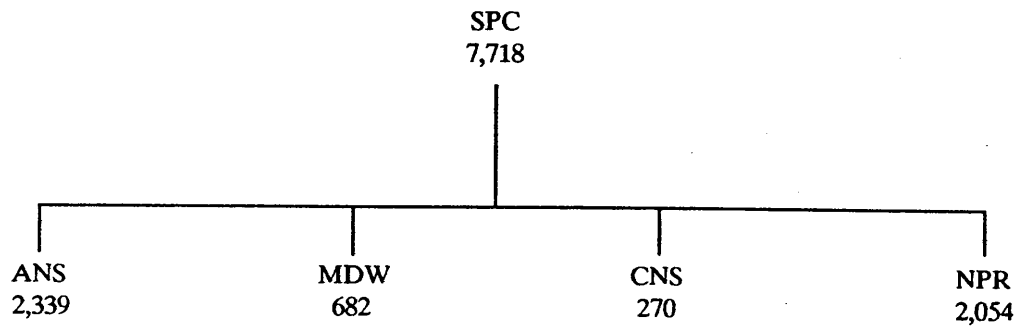
TABLE 9. Number of Graduates of Foreign Nursing Programs Licensed, by Jurisdiction (continued)

ID	JD	RN Graduates of Foreign Nursing Programs		PN/VN Graduates of Foreign Nursing Programs	
		n	%	n	%
45	SC	29	0.55	5	0.22
46	SD	1	0.02	0	0.00
47	TN	5	0.09	0	0.00
48	TX	180	3.39	0	0.00
49	TX	0	0.00	105	4.61
50	UT	4	0.08	2	0.09
51	VT	5	0.09	0	0.00
52	VA	29	0.55	4	0.18
53	VI	a		a	
54	WA	0	0.00	0	0.00
55	WA	0	0.00	17	0.75
56	WV	0	0.00	0	0.00
57	WV	0	0.00	0	0.00
58	WI	41	0.77	2	0.09
59	WY	3	0.06	0	0.00
60	AS	a		a	
61	CM	a		a	
62	CA	0	0.00	813	35.70
Total		5313	100.00	2617	114.93

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Summary

Specialty Licenses Processed



KEY:

SPC: Total Specialty Licenses Processed
ANS: Nurse Anesthetist
MDW: Nurse Midwife
CNS: Clinical Nurse Specialist
NPR: All categories of nurse practitioners

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TABLE 10. Distribution of Licensing Boards Empowered to Grant Specialty Licenses, by Specialty Category

Key	Category	Number of Boards Empowered to Issue	
		n	%
ANS	nurse anesthetist	25	68
MDW	nurse midwife	26	70
CNS	Cinical nurse specialist	10	27
Nurse Practioners			
NEO	neonatal	11	30
FAM	family	14	38
FPN	family planning	7	19
GER	geriatric	9	24
EMR	emergency	4	11
SCH	school	12	32
COL	college	4	11
WOM	ob-gyn/women's health	14	38
PSY	psychiatric/mental health	10	27
PRI	primary care	4	11
AHP	adult health	13	35
CHP	child health	12	32
NPR	nurse practitioner (no designation)	15	41
OTS	other specialty	11	30
Total Number of Boards Empowered to Issue Specialty Licenses or Certificates		37	

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TABLE 11. Distribution of Specialty Licenses Processed
Within Each Specialty Category, by Jurisdiction

ID	JD	ANS	MDH	CNS	NEO	FAM	FPN	GER	EMR	SCH	COL	WOM	PSY	PRI	AHP	CHP	NPR	OTS	TOTAL PROCESSED
		n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n
1	AL	130	7														19		156
2	AK	19	2	1				1				3			1				27
3	AZ		11		4	11				1		11			6	11			55
4	AR	90	4																381
5	CA	155	107														287	0	1319
7	CT	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
8	DE	79																	79
11	FL	215	26	19	0	36	1	6	0			23		26		35			387
12	GA	600	300	52													192		1144
14	GU																		
16	ID	47															2		49
19	IA	17	2			1				0		5	0			2			27
20	KS	59	6	26													174	318	583
21	KY	101	4	1													22	1	129
24	ME	58	3		0	8	0	1	0	0	0	3	0	1	3	5			82
25	MD	35	16		7	16		5				8			31	14			132
26	MA	71	30	91															305
27	MI	125	13														113		203
29	MS	42	1		0	6	0					1			2	0			52
31	MT	96	16															91	203
32	NE	21	0																27
33	NV	3			1	5	1	1				2				1		6	15
34	NH																		201
36	NM				3	10						8			1	2			24
38	NC		3		5	28			1	1		7			7	4			56
39	ND		3	3															36
40	OH		78														28	2	78
41	OK		0																10
42	OR		8			12		1	0	2		4	12		13	11			61
43	PA				8	28	2	9	0	2		37		1	22	38		4	151

National Council of State Boards of Nursing, Inc.

**TABLE 11. Distribution of Specialty Licenses Processed
Within Each Specialty Category, by Jurisdiction (continued)**

ID	JD	ANS	MDH	CNS	NEO	FAM	FPN	GER	EMR	SCH	COL	WOM	PSY	PRI	AHP	CHP	NPR	OTS	TOTAL PROCESSED
		n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n
46	SD	16	0		4	1		0		0		1	0		0	1			23
48	TX	289	15	61	2	28	0	6		4		46			5	25			481
50	UT	6	6	13									4				16	22	67
51	VT	23	2			2			0	0		3	2		0	4		0	36
52	VA	0	0		0	0	0	0	0	0		0			0	0		0	220
53	VI																		a
54	WA																		178
56	WV		14																14
58	WI		3																3
59	WY	42	1	3		12	2			1		11	1		2	5		3	83
60	AS																		a
61	CM																		a
62	CA																	640	640
Total		2339	682	270	34	204	6	30	1	9	0	173	19	28	93	158	2054	1018	7718

a information not available

1988 Licensure and Examination Statistics

TABLE 12. Total Number of Active Specialty Licenses Within the 61 Member Board Jurisdictions

Key	Category	Number of Active Licenses	
		n	%
ANS	nurse anesthetist	11502	26.80
MDW	nurse midwife	2077	4.84
CNS	clinical nurse specialist	2000	4.66
Nurse Practitioners			
NEO	neonatal	160	.37
FAM	family	1517	3.53
FPN	family planning	77	.18
GER	geriatric	88	.21
EMR	emergency	34	.08
SCH	school	49	.11
COL	college	10	.02
WOM	ob-gyn/women's health	609	1.42
PSY	psychiatric/mental health	164	.38
PRI	primary care	2	.005
AHP	adult health	828	1.93
CHP	child health	726	1.69
NPR	Nurse practitioner (no designation)	8478	19.75
OTS	other specialty	14604	34.02
Total		42925	

National Council of State Boards of Nursing, Inc.

TABLE 13. Distribution of Active Specialty Licenses Within Each Specialty Category, by Jurisdiction

ID	JD	ANS	MDW	CNS	NEO	FAM	FPN	GER	EMR	SCH	COL	WOM	PSY	PRI	AHP	CHP	NPR	OTS	TOTAL ACTIVE LICENSES
		n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n
1	AL	746	15														232		993
2	AK	51	24		5	57		2		4		24	3		7			13	190
3	AZ		60		60	177				11		80			86	78			552
4	AR	328	13																1006
5	CA	1015	532														1459	253	3259
7	CT	0	63	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	63
8	DE	93																	93
11	FL	1403	274														1424		3101
12	GA	631	145	52													639		1467
14	GU	3	2			5				1		2			3				16
16	ID	193																93	286
19	IA	156	4			14				5		17	2			32			230
20	KS																		0
21	KY	474	34	10													194	13	725
22	LA	742	19	491														137	1389
25	MD	367	115		7	95		9		2		48			317	178			1138
26	MA	844	189	561															3215
27	MI	959	38														1621		1302
29	MS	334	25		1	42	7					27			3	22			461
31	MT	96	16															91	203
32	NE	250																29	279
33	NV	33	4		4	18	20	1				12	2		3	6		5	108
34	NH	0	33	0	0	68	0	11	1	6	0	44	17	0	49	39	0	0	268
36	NM	187		17	16	120	0	21	0	2	2	50	0	0	18	30			463
38	NC	1078	34	735	10	363	24	6	1	2		37	0		22	28		13	2353
39	ND		4	7														78	94
40	OH		78																78
41	OK		22																191
42	OR		82			122		12		2	8	89	91		140	86			632
43	PA																	1287	1287

1988 Licensure and Examination Statistics

TABLE 13. Distribution of Active Specialty Licenses Within Each Specialty Category, by Jurisdiction (continued)

ID	JD	ANS	MDW	CNS	NEO	FAM	FPN	GER	EMR	SCH	COL	WOM	PSY	PRI	AHP	CHP	NPR	OTS	TOTAL ACTIVE LICENSES	
		n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n
45	SC	387	50	25	8	34	17			5		24	1	2	8	26			1	588
46	SD	162	5		16	35		1		1		1	1		4	4				230
50	UT	86	52	97									28				221	124		608
51	VT	16	19			57			1	4		20	18		26	22			6	189
52	VA	819	67		33	296	6	25	31	3		118			139	169			2	1708
53	VI																			a
54	WA																			0
56	WV		14																	14
58	WI		44																	44
59	WY	49	1	5		14	3			1		16	1		3	6			3	102
60	AS																			a
61	CM																			a
62	CA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14000	14000
Total		11502	2077	2000	160	1517	77	88	34	49	10	609	164	2	828	726	8478	14604		42925

a information not available

National Council of State Boards of Nursing, Inc.

**TABLE 14. Summary Statistics for NCLEX-RN February 1988,
March 1988 and July 1988**

	February 1988	March 1988	July 1988
Number of Test Items	298	288	299
Number of Items Omitted KR-20	2	12	1
Mean Difficulty of Test	.89	.89	.88
Mean Discrimination of Test	.70	.74	.69
Mean Ability Estimate	.16	.16	.15
Standard Error of Ability Estimate	-.09	-.14	-.13
Passing Score Ability Estimate	.13	.15	.13
Mean Rasch Difficulty	-.56	-.55	-.51
	-1.12	-1.40	-1.10

National Council of State Boards of Nursing, Inc.

PART II

1988 LICENSURE EXAMINATION STATISTICS

1988 Licensure and Examination Statistics

INTRODUCTION TO PART II: 1988 Licensure Examination Statistics

The National Council Licensure Examinations for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN) and the National Council Licensure Examination for Practical Nurses (NCLEX-PN) are each administered to licensure candidates by the National Council's Member Boards of Nursing two times every year. The purpose of the licensing examination is to determine if a licensure candidate possesses the minimum knowledge, skills and abilities to provide minimally safe and effective nursing care.

As is indicated in each of the following tables, each examination is labeled with the month and year it was administered. For NCLEX-RN, the designations are 288 for February and 788 for July; for NCLEX-PN, the designations are 488 for April and 088 for October. In keeping with the purpose of the licensure examinations, examination results throughout these tables are reported as the percent passing. The passing criterion is equivalent to the number of questions that a candidate must answer correctly in order to demonstrate that they possess the minimum ability (nursing knowledge) necessary to provide minimally safe and effective nursing care.

The statistics reported are derived from data provided to the National Council and its Member Boards of Nursing by CTB/McGraw-Hill, the National Council's test service, following each administration of an examination.

National Council of State Boards of Nursing, Inc.

TABLE 1. Number of Candidates Taking NCLEX and Percent Passing, by Type of Candidate

NCLEX-PN		April 19, 1988
Type of Candidate	Number of Candidates	Percent Passing
First-Time U.S. Educated	11206	86
Repeat U.S. Educated	3604	42
First-Time Foreign Educated	1055	54
Repeat Foreign Educated	1067	18
Total	16932	71
Illegal Jurisdiction Codes:	42	
Illegal Country Codes:	6	

1988 Licensure and Examination Statistics

TABLE 2. Number of Candidates Examined and Passing Rates for First-Time Candidates Educated in Member Board Jurisdictions

NCLEX-PN 488		April 19, 1988
Jurisdiction Code	Number of Candidates Examined	Percent of Candidates Passing
AL	358	79
AK	0	0*
AS	0	0*
AZ	117	91
AR	115	89
CA	1130	73
CO	31	90
CM	0	0*
CT	244	95
DE	101	82
DC	18	72
FL	781	85
GA	332	82
GU	0	0*
HI	1	100
ID	27	100
IL	185	86
IN	170	98
IA	96	99
KS	91	92
KY	237	91
LA	345	93
ME	12	100
MD	34	76
MA	5	60
MI	244	92
MN	156	95
MS	114	78
MO	114	84
MT	49	94
NE	121	95
NV	0	0*
NH	16	100
NJ	240	81
NM	43	100
NY	2319	84

National Council of State Boards of Nursing, Inc.

TABLE 2. Number of Candidates Examined and Passing Rates for First-Time Candidates Educated in Member Board Jurisdictions (continued)

	NCLEX-PN 488	April 19, 1988
Jurisdiction Code	Number of Candidates Examined	Percent of Candidates Passing
NC	51	98
ND	11	100
OH	328	96
OK	153	90
OR	59	100
PA	535	91
RI	1	0
SC	83	98
SD	2	0
TN	255	95
TX	749	83
UT	149	95
VT	12	100
VI	13	54
VA	509	87
WA	206	99
WV	71	86
WI	37	92
WY	1	100
Total	11071	
Illegal jurisdiction codes:	22	
Illegal program codes:	135	

* no candidates tested

1988 Licensure and Examination Statistics

TABLE 3. Number of First-Time Candidates Not Educated in Member Board Jurisdictions Taking NCLEX and Percent Passing

Country of Education	Number of Candidates	Percent Passing
Barbados	1	100
Belgium	2	100
Belize (Br. Honduras)	1	100
Brazil	1	0
Burma	1	0
Canada	13	92
Colombia	1	0
Czechoslovakia	3	0
Dominica	1	100
Egypt, Arab Republic of	1	0
El Salvador	1	100
England	53	57
Ethiopia	3	33
Fiji Islands	1	0
France	1	0
Germany (Western)	10	80
Ghana	8	50
Guyana	11	64
Haiti	5	40
Hong Kong	4	75
India	118	43
Iran	5	80
Israel	7	57
Jamaica	12	58
Japan	2	50
Kenya	3	33
Korea	27	48
Lebanon	3	0
Liberia	2	0
Macao	1	0
Malta	1	0
Mexico	8	50
Netherlands	1	100
New Zealand	1	0
Nicaragua	1	100
Niger	1	100
Nigeria	24	58
Northern Ireland	1	100
Pakistan	2	0
Panama, Republic of	1	0
Peoples Republic of China	2	50
Philippines	637	58
Poland	1	100
Puerto Rico	22	14
Rumania Romania	3	33

National Council of State Boards of Nursing, Inc.

TABLE 3. Number of First-Time Candidates Not Educated in Member Board Jurisdictions Taking NCLEX and Percent Passing (continued)

NCLEX-PN 488	April 19, 1988	
Country of Education	Number of Candidates	Percent Passing
Scotland	2	100
Sierra Leone	7	57
South Africa	3	67
Sweden	2	50
Taiwan (Repub. of China)	19	26
Tanzania, United Republic of	1	0
Thailand	4	50
Trinidad & Tobago	7	71
United Arab Emirates	1	0
Wales	1	0
Total	1055	
Illegal Country Codes	6	

1988 Licensure and Examination Statistics

TABLE 4. Number of Candidates Taking NCLEX and Percent Passing, by Type of Candidate

NCLEX-PN		October 18, 1988
Type of Candidate	Number of Candidate	Percent Passing
First-Time U.S. Educated	21676	89
Repeat U.S. Educated	3138	42
First-Time Foreign Educated	1237	51
Repeat Foreign Educated	1401	19
Total	27452	79
Illegal Jurisdiction Codes:	65	
Illegal Country Codes:	7	

National Council of State Boards of Nursing, Inc.

TABLE 5. Number of Candidates Examined and Passing Rates for First-Time Candidates Educated in Member Board Jurisdictions

NCLEX-PN 088		October 18, 1988
Jurisdiction Code	Number of Candidates Examined	Percent of Candidates Passing
AL	373	91
AK	1	100
AS	4	0
AZ	177	94
AR	439	87
CA	1585	75
CO	306	95
CM	3	33
CT	3	100
DE	156	90
DC	32	78
FL	1054	85
GA	473	81
GU	1	100
HI	74	89
ID	72	100
IL	842	89
IN	469	96
IA	637	97
KS	395	95
KY	350	90
LA	349	97
ME	113	100
MD	146	89
MA	555	92
MI	593	94
MN	629	96
MS	298	85
MO	554	92
MT	80	94
NE	160	95
NV	54	93
NH	99	91
NJ	580	84
NM	86	92
NY	2343	78

1988 Licensure and Examination Statistics

TABLE 5. Number of Candidates Examined and Passing Rates for First-Time Candidates Educated in Member Board Jurisdictions (continued)

NCLEX-PN 088

October 18, 1988

Jurisdiction Code	Number of Candidates Examined	Percent of Candidates Passing
NC	534	96
ND	12	83
OH	930	97
OK	399	92
OR	250	99
PA	865	94
RI	48	98
SC	326	95
SD	24	100
TN	500	94
TX	2144	90
UT	367	97
VT	45	91
VI	0	0*
VA	221	88
WA	467	98
WV	306	95
WI	96	94
WY	57	98
Total	21389	
Illegal jurisdiction codes:	34	
Illegal program codes:	287	

* no candidates tested

National Council of State Boards of Nursing, Inc.

TABLE 6. Number of First-Time Candidates Not Educated in Member Board Jurisdictions Taking NCLEX and Percent Passing

NCLEX-PN 088		October 18, 1988
Country of Education	Number of Candidates	Percent Passing
Argentina	1	100
Ascension	1	100
Australia	1	100
Bahamas	1	0
Belgium	3	100
Belize (Br. Honduras)	2	100
Brazil	4	75
Canada	15	73
Colombia	1	100
Czechoslovakia	1	100
Dominica	2	0
Egypt, Arab Republic of	1	0
El Salvador	6	0
England	43	67
Ethiopia	3	67
Fiji Islands	1	0
France	1	100
Germany (Western)	7	100
Ghana	4	50
Guyana	7	71
Haiti	4	75
Hong Kong	12	58
Hungary	1	0
India	97	30
Indonesia	1	0
Iran	19	47
Ireland	4	100
Israel	6	17
Jamaica	3	33
Japan	4	50
Kenya	1	0
Korea	22	32
Lebanon	2	50
Mexico	6	67
New Zealand	2	100
Nicaragua	5	0
Nigeria	15	20
Northern Ireland	1	100

1988 Licensure and Examination Statistics

TABLE 6. Number of First-Time Candidates Not Educated in Member Board Jurisdictions Taking NCLEX and Percent Passing (continued)

NCLEX-PN 088	October 18, 1988	
Country of Education	Number of Candidates	Percent Passing
Pakistan	6	17
Panama, Republic of	1	0
Peoples Republic of China	5	0
Peru	5	60
Philippines	824	56
Poland	6	17
Puerto Rico	32	9
Rumania Romania	5	20
Scotland	2	100
Sierra Leone	6	67
South Africa	1	100
Spain	1	100
Surinam	1	0
Sweden	1	0
Taiwan (Repub. of China)	13	15
Thailand	12	8
Trinidad & Tobago	4	100
Yugoslavia	1	100
Total	1237	
Illegal country codes	7	

National Council of State Boards of Nursing, Inc.

**TABLE 7. Summary Statistics for NXLEX-PN April 1988
NCLEX-PN October 1988**

	April 1988	October 1988
Number of Test Items	204	202
Number of Items Omitted	0	2
KR-20	.88	.88
Mean Difficulty of Test	.72	.77
Mean Discrimination of Test	.18	.18
Mean Ability of Test	-.20	-.09 ^a
Standard Error of Ability Estimate	.16	.18
Passing Score Ability Estimate	-.72	-.71
Mean Rasch Difficulty	-1.33	-1.53

a Starting with NCLEX-PN 088 the Mean Ability Estimate is computed over candidates' actual ability estimates based on the Rasch model as opposed to a linear transformation of the mean scale score prior to PN 088.

1988 Licensure and Examination Statistics

TABLE 8. Number of Candidates Taking NCLEX and Percent Passing, by Type of Candidate

NCLEX-RN 288		February 2-3, 1988
Type of Candidate	Number of Candidates	Percent Passing
First-Time U.S. Educated	10538	87
Repeat U.S. Educated	5731	56
First-Time Foreign Educated	1895	58
Repeat Foreign Educated	2165	29
Total	20329	69
Illegal Jurisdiction Codes:	29	
Illegal Country Codes:	3	

National Council of State Boards of Nursing, Inc.

TABLE 9. Number of Candidates Examined and Passing Rates for First-Time Candidates Educated in Member Board Jurisdictions

Jurisdiction Code	Number of Candidates Examined	Percent of Candidates Passing:			
		Total	Associate Degree	Diploma	Baccalaureate Degree
AL	377	85	85	0	86
AK	10	90	0*	0*	90
AS	5	0	0	0*	0*
AZ	5	100	100	0*	100
AR	10	50	63	0	0
CA	14	93	88	0*	100
CO	52	92	94	0*	80
CM	0	0*	0*	0*	0*
CT	55	96	96	0*	100
DE	33	91	90	0*	100
DC	34	62	36	0*	80
FL	789	87	88	97	82
GA	55	87	89	0*	84
GU	0	0*	0*	0*	0*
HI	30	90	50	0*	93
ID	0	0*	0*	0*	0*
IL	423	81	81	81	80
IN	488	88	91	98	83
IA	223	91	93	100	89
KS	121	86	80	100	96
KY	135	84	87	0*	79
LA	449	95	95	94	95
ME	38	92	93	100	80
MD	35	83	82	100	71
MA	342	80	83	87	70
MI	700	92	93	94	90
MN	103	92	94	0*	80
MS	195	82	86	0*	70
MO	232	88	87	91	93
MT	42	90	0*	0*	90
NE	99	94	80	93	97
NV	0	0*	0*	0*	0*
NH	1	100	0*	0*	100
NJ	17	94	100	90	100
NM	4	100	100	0*	100
NY	1332	82	85	87	68
NC	159	92	96	100	68
ND	78	92	100	100	90
OH	803	89	88	92	89
OK	40	85	86	0*	75
OR	22	95	94	0*	100

1988 Licensure and Examination Statistics

TABLE 9. Number of Candidates Examined and Passing Rates for First-Time Candidates Educated in Member Board Jurisdictions (continued)

Jurisdiction Code	NCLEX-RN 288		February 2-3, 1988		
	Number of Candidates Examined	Total	Percent of Candidates Passing: Associate Degree	Diploma	Baccalaureate Degree
PA	546	89	85	92	85
RI	28	93	67	100	96
SC	200	83	91	100	68
SD	52	90	100	100	89
TN	175	79	86	76	67
TX	894	87	84	95	88
UT	188	93	93	0*	93
VT	9	89	89	0*	0*
VI	2	50	50	0*	0*
VA	153	88	91	75	86
WA	207	89	90	0*	88
WV	44	68	69	0*	50
WI	463	93	94	88	92
WY	13	100	100	0*	0*

Total 10523

Illegal jurisdiction codes: 3

Illegal program codes: 14

* no candidates tested

National Council of State Boards of Nursing, Inc.

TABLE 10. Number of First-Time Candidates Not Educated in Member Board Jurisdictions Taking NCLEX and Percent Passing

NCLEX-RN 288	February 2-3, 1988	
Country of Education	Number of Candidates	Percent Passing
Argentina	1	100
Australia	15	100
Austria	1	100
Bahamas	12	42
Barbados	5	100
Belgium	7	43
Belize (Br. Honduras)	1	0
Brazil	1	0
Canada	201	86
Chile	1	100
Colombia	2	50
Costa Rica	1	100
Cuba	2	0
Czechoslovakia	2	0
Denmark	5	100
Dominica	5	60
Dominican Republic	3	33
Egypt, Arab Republic of	1	100
El Salvador	4	50
England	170	76
Ethiopia	2	50
Finland	2	50
France	2	100
Germany (Western)	11	91
Ghana	7	43
Guyana	29	52
Haiti	17	29
Hong Kong	3	67
Iceland	1	0
India	121	36
Iran	11	45
Ireland	126	83
Israel	9	89
Jamaica	79	63
Japan	5	60
Jordan	2	100
Kenya	1	0
Korea	36	69
Korea (North)	1	0
Lebanon	3	67
Leeward Islands	3	67
Liberia	8	13
Malaysia	2	50
Mexico	5	20
Netherlands	4	100
New Zealand	10	80

1988 Licensure and Examination Statistics

TABLE 10. Number of First-Time Candidates Not Educated in Member Board Jurisdictions Taking NCLEX and Percent Passing (continued)

NCLEX-RN 288	February 2-3, 1988	
Country of Education	Number of Candidates	Percent Passing
Nicaragua	2	0
Nigeria	34	15
Northern Ireland	12	83
Norway	2	50
Pakistan	13	31
Panama, Republic of	1	100
Peoples Republic of China	3	33
Peru	2	0
Philippines	690	52
Poland	8	25
Portugal	1	100
Puerto Rico	79	11
Rhodesia	3	100
Rumania Romania	2	50
Scotland	11	82
Sierra Leone	1	0
South Africa	9	89
Spain	2	50
Swaziland	1	0
Sweden	7	71
Taiwan (Repub. of China)	23	30
Thailand	7	43
Trinidad & Tobago	23	48
Turkey	1	100
USSR	2	50
Uganda	1	0
Venezuela	1	0
Wales	6	83
Windward Islands	6	83
Yugoslavia	2	50
Total	1895	
Illegal Country Codes	3	

National Council of State Boards of Nursing, Inc.

TABLE 11. Number of Candidates Taking NCLEX and Percent Passing, by Type of Candidate

NCLEX-RN		March 8-9, 1988
Type of Candidate	Number of Candidates	Percent Passing
First-Time U.S. Educated	2985	83
Repeat U.S. Educated	1508	42
First-Time Foreign Educated	1760	34
Repeat Foreign Educated	4339	12
Total	10592	40
Illegal Jurisdiction Codes:	24	
Illegal Country Codes:	48	

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TABLE 12. Number of Candidates Examined and Passing Rates for First-Time Candidates Educated in Member Board Jurisdictions

Jurisdiction Code	NCLEX-RN 388		March 8-9, 1988		
	Number of Candidates Examined	Total	Percent of Candidates Passing:		
			Associate Degree	Diploma	Baccalaureate Degree
AL	2	100	0*	0*	100
AK	0	0*	0*	0*	0*
AS	0	0*	0*	0*	0*
AZ	281	88	87	0*	89
AR	156	84	83	86	82
CA	1655	82	82	85	83
CO	3	67	50	0*	100
CM	2	0	0	0*	0*
CT	0	0*	0*	0*	0*
DE	0	0*	0*	0*	0*
DC	6	67	0	0*	100
FL	2	100	100	0*	0*
GA	1	100	0*	0*	100
GU	3	0	0	0*	0*
HI	0	0*	0*	0*	0*
ID	9	67	75	0*	0
IL	2	100	0*	100	100
IN	3	100	0*	0*	100
IA	6	100	100	0*	100
KS	3	67	50	0*	100
KY	2	100	0*	0*	100
LA	1	100	0*	100	0*
ME	0	0*	0*	0*	0*
MD	219	86	83	92	91
MA	4	75	0	0*	100
MI	4	75	0*	100	67
MN	1	100	0*	0*	100
MS	4	75	0*	0*	75
MO	1	100	0*	100	0*
MT	1	0	0*	0*	0
NE	5	80	0*	0*	80
NV	14	93	93	0*	0*
NH	2	50	100	0*	0
NJ	275	81	89	79	63
NM	80	85	78	0*	97
NY	151	90	91	100	89
NC	4	50	100	0*	33
ND	2	100	0*	0*	100
OH	2	100	100	100	0*
OK	1	100	100	0*	0*
OR	1	0	0*	0*	0

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TABLE 12. Number of Candidates Examined and Passing Rates for First-Time Candidates Educated in Member Board Jurisdictions (continued)

		NCLEX-RN 388		March 8-9, 1988		
Jurisdiction Code	Number of Candidates Examined	Total	Percent of Candidates Passing:			
			Associate Degree	Diploma	Baccalaureate Degree	
PA	8	63	0	0*	71	
RI	3	100	0*	0*	100	
SC	2	100	0*	0*	100	
SD	5	100	100	0*	100	
TN	2	100	0*	0*	100	
TX	16	75	100	0*	64	
UT	12	100	100	0*	100	
VT	1	100	100	0*	0*	
VI	0	0*	0*	0*	0*	
VA	2	100	0*	0*	100	
WA	6	100	100	0*	100	
WV	0	0*	0*	0*	0*	
WI	8	88	100	0*	86	
WY	0	0*	0*	0*	0*	
Total		2973				
Illegal jurisdiction codes:		10				
Illegal program codes:		12				

* no candidates tested

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TABLE 13. Number of First-Time Candidates Not Educated in Member Board Jurisdictions Taking NCLEX and Percent Passing

NCLEX-RN 388	March 8-9, 1989	
Country of Education	Number of Candidates	Percent Passing
Argentina	2	0
Australia	18	94
Austria	2	50
Azores	1	0
Belgium	3	33
Belize (Br. Honduras)	1	0
Bolivia	1	0
Brazil	2	0
Canada	70	86
Colombia	1	0
Czechoslovakia	1	100
Denmark	1	0
Egypt, Arab Republic of	1	0
El Salvador	4	0
England	148	76
Ethiopia	4	0
Fiji Islands	1	0
Finland	1	100
France	3	67
Germany (Western)	8	75
Ghana	8	25
Guyana	8	38
Honduras	1	0
Hong Kong	7	57
India	133	23
Indonesia	4	25
Iran	21	14
Iraq	2	50
Ireland	40	75
Israel	7	43
Italy	1	100
Jamaica	19	63
Japan	5	0
Jordan	1	100
Korea	44	32
Lebanon	1	0
Lesotho	1	0
Liberia	3	0
Mexico	12	8
Netherlands	3	33
Netherlands Antilles	1	0
New Zealand	5	100
Nicaragua	1	100
Nigeria	29	17
Northern Ireland	3	33
Norway	1	100

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TABLE 13. Number of First-Time Candidates Not Educated in Member Board Jurisdictions Taking NCLEX and Percent Passing (continued)

NCLEX-RN 388	March 8-9, 1989	
Country of Education	Number of Candidates	Percent Passing
Okinawa	2	0
Pakistan	5	0
Panama, Republic of	2	0
Peoples Republic of China	4	25
Peru	6	0
Philippines	1003	24
Pitcairn Islands	1	0
Poland	2	0
Puerto Rico	14	0
Rhodesia	1	0
Rumania Romania	2	0
Scotland	17	82
Sierra Leone	8	0
South Africa	5	80
Spain	1	100
St. Vincent	4	25
Sweden	2	50
Switzerland	6	67
Taiwan (Repub. of China)	27	22
Thailand	7	14
Trinidad & Tobago	1	0
USSR	1	0
Wales	4	75
Yugoslavia	1	0
Total	1760	
Illegal Country Codes	48	

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TABLE 14. Number of Candidates Taking NCLEX and Percent Passing, by Types of Candidate

NCLEX-RN		July 12-13, 1988
Type of Candidate	Number of Candidates	Percent Passing
First-Time U.S. Educated	52223	84
Repeat U.S. Educated	5292	34
First-Time Foreign Educated	4239	38
Repeat Foreign Educated	6553	12
Total	68307	70
Illegal Jurisdiction Codes:	109	
Illegal Country Codes:	42	

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TABLE 15. Number of Candidates Examined and Passing Rates for First-Time Candidates Educated in Member Board Jurisdictions

Jurisdiction Code	Number of Candidates Examined	NCLEX-RN 788				July 12-13, 1988
		Total	Percent of Candidates Passing:			
			Associate Degree	Diploma	Baccalaureate Degree	
AL	1077	81	83	95	78	
AK	37	100	100	0*	100	
AS	5	0	0	0*	0*	
AZ	474	88	87	0*	91	
AR	509	81	83	0	78	
CA	3278	84	85	83	81	
CO	505	85	83	0*	87	
CM	3	0	0	0*	0*	
CT	678	89	86	93	90	
DE	250	82	81	88	83	
DC	232	69	32	0*	78	
FL	1697	84	83	90	84	
GA	1154	86	86	85	84	
GU	19	79	79	0*	0*	
HI	103	83	85	0*	73	
ID	222	86	88	0*	68	
IL	2637	81	82	83	78	
IN	1323	87	88	88	86	
IA	920	86	87	88	85	
KS	641	85	85	94	85	
KY	1018	79	82	0*	73	
LA	566	87	89	89	85	
ME	273	84	81	93	85	
MD	825	85	82	97	87	
MA	1898	82	86	79	79	
MI	2170	90	89	90	92	
MN	1008	87	88	0*	84	
MS	679	80	87	0*	68	
MO	1214	85	84	86	87	
MT	158	87	89	0*	86	
NE	305	83	79	86	86	
NV	168	89	92	0*	80	
NH	300	84	81	93	89	
NJ	1439	79	81	70	86	
NM	307	85	84	0*	92	
NY	4650	77	78	83	72	
NC	1350	84	86	85	81	
ND	228	79	69	88	82	
OH	3109	87	87	89	85	
OK	750	83	83	0*	84	
OR	647	91	95	0*	85	

1988 Licensure and Examination Statistics

TABLE 15. Number of Candidates Examined and Passing Rates for First-Time Candidates Educated in Member Board Jurisdictions (continued)

Jurisdiction Code	NCLEX-RN 788		July 12-13, 1988		
	Number of Candidates Examined	Total	Percent of Candidates Passing: Associate Degree	Diploma	Baccalaureate Degree
PA	3923	83	82	88	80
RI	368	76	78	70	75
SC	644	87	88	75	86
SD	319	88	90	100	83
TN	1330	87	89	84	84
TX	2253	87	86	82	88
UT	260	89	89	0*	89
VT	135	81	75	0*	86
VI	14	36	36	0*	0*
VA	1316	83	79	90	85
WA	881	91	89	0*	95
WV	628	81	82	90	74
WI	1060	86	88	91	84
WY	118	86	93	0*	61

Total 52075

Illegal jurisdiction codes: 61

Illegal program codes: 148

* no candidates tested

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TABLE 16. Number of First-Time Candidates Not Educated in Member Board Jurisdictions Taking NCLEX and Percent Passing

NCLEX-RN 788	July 12-13, 1988	
Country of Education	Number of Candidates	Percent Passing
Afghanistan	1	0
Angola	1	0
Argentina	3	0
Australia	25	88
Austria	1	0
Bahamas	5	0
Barbados	2	100
Belgium	5	40
Belize (Br. Honduras)	2	0
Bolivia	1	100
Brazil	7	57
Burma	1	0
Canada	407	83
Chile	7	29
Colombia	7	14
Czechoslovakia	4	25
Denmark	12	75
Dominica	4	50
Dominican Republic	1	0
Ecuador	1	100
Egypt, Arab Republic of	2	0
El Salvador	7	14
England	363	67
Ethiopia	12	0
Finland	5	20
France	4	75
Germany (Western)	23	65
Ghana	12	17
Grenada and the Grenadines	1	0
Guatemala	2	0
Guyana	29	41
Haiti	18	22
Honduras	1	0
Hong Kong	27	70
Iceland	2	100
India	256	21
Indonesia	1	0
Iran	36	8
Iraq	1	0
Ireland	186	68
Israel	26	50
Italy	1	0
Jamaica	109	52

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TABLE 16. Number of First-Time Candidates Not Educated in Member Board Jurisdictions Taking NCLEX and Percent Passing (continued)

NCLEX-RN 788	July 12-13, 1988	
Country of Education	Number of Candidates	Percent Passing
Japan	9	0
Jordan	2	50
Kenya	1	100
Korea	79	30
Korea (North)	2	0
Lebanon	12	25
Leeward Islands	5	0
Lesotho	1	0
Liberia	13	8
Macao	1	0
Malawi	1	0
Malaysia	5	40
Mexico	28	11
Netherlands	6	50
Netherlands Antilles	2	0
New Hebrides	1	0
New Zealand	16	75
Nicaragua	10	0
Nigeria	76	16
Northern Ireland	11	73
Norway	3	33
Okinawa	1	0
Pakistan	20	20
Panama, Republic of	7	0
Peoples Republic of China	5	40
Peru	9	22
Philippines	1878	26
Poland	9	33
Puerto Rico	149	11
Reunion Island	1	0
Rhodesia	6	33
Rumania Romania	9	33
Saudi Arabia	1	0
Scotland	39	62
Sierra Leone	3	33
Singapore	3	33
South Africa	17	53
Spain	5	0
St. Lucia	1	0
Swaziland	1	0
Sweden	17	59
Switzerland	4	100
Taiwan (Repub. of China)	54	33

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TABLE 16. Number of First-Time Candidates Not Educated in Member Board Jurisdictions Taking NCLEX and Percent Passing (continued)

NCLEX-RN 788 Country of Education	July 12-13, 1988	
	Number of Candidates	Percent Passing
Thailand	25	12
Trinidad & Tobago	40	35
Turkey	1	0
USSR	4	25
Uganda	1	0
Wales	6	67
Windward Islands	11	27
Yugoslavia	6	17
Zambia	1	0
Total	4239	
Illegal Country Codes	42	

APPENDIX A

LICENSURE EXAMINATION SUMMARY STATISTICS DEFINITIONS

Number of Test Items. Actual number of items on which candidate performance is determined.

Number of Items Omitted. Items that have a negative point biserial correlation coefficient are eliminated prior to scoring. These items are a problem because less-able candidates perform better on them than do more-able candidates.

KR-20. This is a measure of the internal consistency of the items in a test, or in other words, the extent to which candidates who do well on one question also do well on the others. If the questions are highly related to each other in the sense that they measure the same trait, the reliability will be high. This statistic also depends in part on the number of questions in the examination.

Mean Difficulty of Test. The average point-biserial correlation coefficient for all items on the examination. The purpose of the test is to distinguish (i.e., discriminate) between candidates who are competent to practice and those who are not. Each question in the test should help us to make that discrimination. If high-scoring candidates answer it correctly and low-scoring candidates answer it incorrectly, the item is helping to discriminate between competent and incompetent candidates. The statistic used to represent item discrimination is the point-biserial correlation coefficient.

Mean Ability Estimate. The average ability (entry-level nursing competence) of the candidates taking this examination. The ability estimate is obtained by applying the Rasch Item Response Model. These estimates generally range between -4.00 (very low ability) and +4.00 (very high ability).

Standard Error of Ability Estimate. This statistic provides an estimate of the amount of variation expected in the mean ability estimate, if the candidates were somehow retested again and again with the same instrument and with no learning or forgetting. Two-thirds of the scores would be expected to fall within a range of plus or minus one standard error of the original estimate.

Passing Score Ability Estimate. This ability estimate must be at least -.52 for the RN examination and -.72 for the PN examination. The scale for each of these examinations is independent of the other, so the RN and PN passing scores are not directly comparable.

Mean Rasch Difficulty. Based on the assumptions of the Rasch model, this index provides an estimate of the average item difficulty. It is on the same scale as the Mean Ability Estimate (see above). The advantage of the Mean Rasch Difficulty over the Mean Difficulty (see above) is that its calculation is free from dependence on the abilities of the particular group of candidates taking the examination. The Rasch difficulty index for NCLEX items ranges between -3.00 (very easy) to +1.00 (quite difficult).