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2010 Nurse
Licensee Volume
and NCLEX®
Examination
Statistics



2010 Nurse Licensee Volume and NCLEX® Examination Statistics

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

Mission Statement

The National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN[®]) provides education, service and research through collaborative leadership to promote evidence-based regulatory excellence for patient safety and public protection.

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INTRODUCTION

The mission of the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN®) is to provide leadership to advance regulatory excellence by assisting member boards, collectively and individually, and to promote safe and effective nursing practice in the interest of protecting public health and welfare.

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

Part I – Licensure Statistics

The data reported in Part I of this document include licensing statistics of the 60 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, 2009, to June 30, 2010.

Part II – NCLEX® Examination Statistics

The NCLEX-RN and NCLEX-PN examinations are administered on behalf of 59 of the 60 NCSBN member boards (excluding the Nebraska Advanced Practice Registered Nurse Board, which is not responsible for administering entry-level nurse licensure). The purpose of these examinations is to determine if a candidate possesses the minimum knowledge and abilities to provide entry-level nursing care that is safe and effective.

Candidate performance on the NCLEX-RN and NCLEX-PN is summarized and reported by quarter and year. This publication provides a detailed breakdown of candidate performance for 2010, as well as historical data.

PART I – 2010 LICENSURE STATISTICS

The data reported in this section indicate licensure processing activity and the total number of individuals licensed to practice within each jurisdiction from July 1, 2009, to June 30, 2010. All data was obtained from state and territorial boards of nursing (BONs).

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 NCSBN member boards, the geographic locality where a BON has responsibility for regulating nursing practice (JD), the types of licenses for which a BON has licensing authority, and whether or not the BON is empowered to issue licenses or certificates to practice in a specialty area of nursing. Tables 2 through 5 provide data related to new licenses issued by endorsement or examination, total numbers of active licenses (both registered nurse [RN] and licensed practical/vocational nurse [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 2000-2010. Unless noted otherwise, all percentages are calculated in terms of column totals.

Key Terms

RNs and LPN/VNs obtain licensure by endorsement (if licensed in another jurisdiction) or by examination (if the applicant has never taken the appropriate NCLEX® examination).

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); clinical nurse specialist (CNS); and certified nurse practitioner (CNP).

JD	BON	RN	LPN/VN	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
CA-RN	California Board of Registered Nursing	YES	NO	YES
CA-VN	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
GA-PN	Georgia State Board of Licensed Practical Nurses	NO	YES	NO
GA-RN	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
LA-PN	Louisiana State Board of Practical Nurse Examiners	NO	YES	NO
LA-RN	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
NE-AP	Nebraska Advanced Practice Registered Nurse Board	NO	NO	YES
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

Table 1. Boards of Nursing Empowered to License RNs, LPN/VNs or Other Categories of Nursing Personnel

JD	BON	RN	LPN/VN	Other Specialty Groups
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
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
TX	Texas Board of Nurse Examiners	YES	YES	YES
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
WV-PN	West Virginia State Board of Examiners for Licensed Practical Nurses	NO	YES	NO
WV-RN	West Virginia Board of Examiners for Registered Professional Nurses	YES	NO	YES
WY	Wyoming State Board of Nursing	YES	YES	YES

JD	Examination			Endorsement			Total New in State	
	N	%		N	%		N	%
AK	245	0.20		1,087	1.23		1,332	0.62
AL	3,526	2.88		1,420	1.61		4,946	2.30
AR	1,590	1.30		931	1.06		2,521	1.17
AS	3	0.00		5	0.01		8	0.00
AZ	3,096	2.53		2,562	2.91		5,658	2.63
CA-RN	15,097	12.31		8,272	9.40		23,369	10.86
CO							4,635	2.15
CT	1,503	1.23		1,387	1.58		2,890	1.34
DC	365	0.30		2,846	3.23		3,211	1.49
DE	474	0.39		792	0.90		1,266	0.59
FL	5,526	4.51		6,946	7.89		12,472	5.79
GA	3,654	2.98		2,845	3.23		6,499	3.02
GU	30	0.02		169	0.19		199	0.09
IA	1,755	1.43		1,080	1.23		2,835	1.32
ID	662	0.54		848	0.96		1,510	0.70
IL	4,584	3.74		1,778	2.02		6,400	2.97
KS	1,728	1.41		1,431	1.63		3,159	1.47
KY	2,451	2.00		1,112	1.26		3,563	1.66
LA-RN	2,555	2.08		1,248	1.42		3,803	1.77
MA	3,350	2.73		1,719	1.95		5,069	2.35
ME	519	0.42		768	0.87		1,287	0.60
MI	4,830	3.94		1,419	1.61		6,249	2.90
MN	3,315	2.70		2,724	3.09		6,039	2.81
MO	3,519	2.87		2,283	2.59		5,802	2.70
MS	1,082	0.88		460	0.52		1,542	0.72
MT	475	0.39		940	1.07		1,415	0.66
NC	4,418	3.60		2,996	3.40		7,414	3.44
ND	601	0.49		550	0.62		1,151	0.53
NE	978	0.80		710	0.81		1,688	0.78
NH	589	0.48		945	1.07		1,534	0.71
NJ	2,967	2.42		2,832	3.22		5,799	2.69
NM	1,673	1.36		470	0.53		2,143	1.00
NV	861	0.70		2,438	2.77		3,299	1.53
OH	8,094	6.60		2,379	2.70		10,473	4.86
OK	1,920	1.57		1,511	1.72		3,431	1.59
OR	1,463	1.19		1,828	2.08		3,291	1.53
PA	7,037	5.74		3,720	4.23		10,757	5.00
RI	418	0.34		635	0.72		1,053	0.49
TN	3,244	2.65		2,283	2.59		5,527	2.57
TX	9,702	7.91		6,705	7.62		16,407	7.62
VA	3,515	2.87		2,459	2.79		5,974	2.77
VT	2,073	1.69		903	1.03		2,976	1.38

Table 2. RNs: New in State Functions by Jurisdiction

JD	Examination			Endorsement			Total New in State	
	N	%		N	%		N	%
WA	2,543	2.07		3,427	3.89		5,970	2.77
WI	3,204	2.61		1,865	2.12		5,069	2.35
WV-RN	1,086	0.89		1,533	1.74		2,619	1.22
WY	281	0.23		784	0.89		1,065	0.49
Total	122,601	100.00		88,045	100.00		215,319	100.00

No information is available for Hawaii, Indiana, Maryland, New York, Northern Mariana Islands, South Carolina, South Dakota, Utah or Virgin Islands.

Table 3. LPN/VNs: New in State Functions by Jurisdiction

JD	Examination			Endorsement			Total New in State	
	N	%		N	%		N	%
AK	15	0.03		79	0.66		94	0.16
AL	799	1.79		338	2.81		1,137	1.97
AR	1,160	2.59		228	1.89		1,388	2.41
AS	12	0.03					12	0.02
AZ	570	1.27		343	2.85		913	1.59
CO							816	1.42
CT	829	1.85		114	0.95		943	1.64
DC	231	0.52		456	3.79		687	1.19
DE	314	0.70		75	0.62		389	0.68
FL	3,186	7.12		1,367	11.36		4,553	7.90
GA	1,407	3.14		777	6.46		2,184	3.79
GU	25	0.06		5	0.04		30	0.05
IA	1,267	2.83		129	1.07		1,396	2.42
ID	325	0.73		77	0.64		402	0.70
IL	1,407	3.14		218	1.81		1,626	2.82
KS	907	2.03		261	2.17		1,168	2.03
KY	877	1.96		300	2.49		1,177	2.04
LA-PN	1,245	2.78		189	1.57		1,434	2.49
MA	1,032	2.31		164	1.36		1,196	2.08
ME	73	0.16		62	0.52		135	0.23
MI	1,613	3.60		275	2.29		1,888	3.28
MN	1,463	3.27		224	1.86		1,687	2.93
MO	1,437	3.21		367	3.05		1,804	3.13
MS	302	0.67		92	0.76		394	0.68
MT	144	0.32		99	0.82		243	0.42
NC	1,049	2.34		561	4.66		1,610	2.80
ND	306	0.68		78	0.65		384	0.67
NE	472	1.05		66	0.55		538	0.93
NH	215	0.48		98	0.81		313	0.54
NJ	1,568	3.50		306	2.54		1,874	3.25
NM	226	0.50		135	1.12		361	0.63
NV	61	0.14		266	2.21		327	0.57
OH	4,836	10.81		404	3.36		5,240	9.10
OK	1,170	2.61		270	2.24		1,440	2.50
OR	410	0.92		143	1.19		553	0.96
PA	2,293	5.12		692	5.75		2,985	5.18
RI	52	0.12		65	0.54		117	0.20
TN	1,620	3.62		405	3.37		2,025	3.52
TX	5,262	11.76		1,001	8.32		6,263	10.87
VA	1,772	3.96		378	3.14		2,150	3.73
VT	135	0.30		107	0.89		242	0.42
WA	928	2.07		302	2.51		1,230	2.14

Table 3. LPN/VNs: New in State Functions by Jurisdiction

JD	Examination			Endorsement			Total New in State	
	N	%		N	%		N	%
WI	1,193	2.67		180	1.50		1,373	2.38
WV-PN	414	0.93		268	2.23		682	1.18
WY	132	0.29		68	0.57		200	0.35
Total	44,754	100.00%		12,032	100.00%		57,603	100.00%

No information is available for California-VN, Hawaii, Indiana, Maryland, New York, Northern Mariana Islands, South Carolina, South Dakota, Utah or Virgin Islands.

Table 4. Total Number of Active Licenses: RNs and LPN/VNs, by Jurisdiction								
JD	RNs			LPN/VNs			Total Number	
	N	%		N	%		N	%
AK	10,741	0.28		1,075	0.11		11,816	0.25
AL	49,963	1.30		12,935	1.37		62,898	1.31
AR	33,596	0.87		15,698	1.66		49,294	1.03
AS	73	0.00		90	0.01		163	0.00
AZ	70,639	1.83		11,746	1.24		82,385	1.72
CA-RN	379,573	9.85					379,573	7.91
CA-VN				78,423	8.30		78,423	1.63
CO	59,787	1.55		9,035	0.96		68,822	1.43
CT	59,155	1.53		12,817	1.36		71,972	1.50
DC	17,339	0.45		2,076	0.22		19,415	0.40
DE	15,523	0.40		2,922	0.31		18,445	0.38
FL	232,468	6.03		64,805	6.86		297,273	6.20
GA	97,043	2.52		34,237	3.62		131,280	2.74
GU	689	0.02		161	0.02		850	0.02
HI	20,159	0.52		2,740	0.29		22,899	0.48
IA	45,493	1.18		12,031	1.27		57,524	1.20
ID	16,541	0.43		4,104	0.43		20,645	0.43
IL	153,262	3.98		23,952	2.54		177,214	3.69
IN	95,554	2.48		26,739	2.83		122,293	2.55
KS	46,724	1.21		9,921	1.05		56,645	1.18
KY	55,910	1.45		14,783	1.57		70,693	1.47
LA-PN				22,856	2.42		22,856	0.48
LA-RN	48,269	1.25					48,269	1.01
MA	113,592	2.95		21,293	2.25		134,885	2.81
MD	66,128	1.72		12,338	1.31		78,466	1.64
ME	24,517	0.64		2,689	0.28		27,206	0.57
MI	130,114	3.38		26,979	2.86		157,093	3.27
MN	83,728	2.17		24,008	2.54		107,736	2.25
MO	88,647	2.30		25,442	2.69		114,089	2.38
MP	764	0.02		24	0.00		788	0.02
MS	39,840	1.03		12,553	1.33		52,393	1.09
MT	13,618	0.35		3,103	0.33		16,721	0.35
NC	112,173	2.91		21,372	2.26		133,545	2.78
ND	10,736	0.28		3,661	0.39		14,397	0.30
NE	24,678	0.64		7,064	0.75		31,742	0.66
NH	21,435	0.56		3,443	0.36		24,878	0.52
NJ	103,629	2.69		4,869	0.52		108,498	2.26
NM	26,030	0.68		3,487	0.37		29,517	0.62
NV	26,930	0.70		3,269	0.35		30,199	0.63
NY	272,267	7.06		70,123	7.42		342,390	7.14
OH	168,880	4.38		57,086	6.04		225,966	4.71
OK	42,743	1.11		18,806	1.99		61,549	1.28

Table 4. Total Number of Active Licenses: RNs and LPN/VNs, by Jurisdiction

JD	RNs			LPN/VNs			Total Number	
	N	%		N	%		N	%
OR	45,715	1.19		4,091	0.43		49,806	1.04
PA	208,313	5.41		58,455	6.19		266,768	5.56
RI	16,749	0.43		2,058	0.22		18,807	0.39
SC	49,352	1.28		11,971	1.27		61,323	1.28
SD	12,636	0.33		2,227	0.24		14,863	0.31
TN	80,237	2.08		29,276	3.10		109,513	2.28
TX	229,798	5.96		90,905	9.62		320,703	6.68
UT	21,950	0.57		3,411	0.36		25,361	0.53
VA	95,529	2.48		31,557	3.34		127,086	2.65
VI	640	0.02		281	0.03		921	0.02
VT	10,322	0.27		2,178	0.23		12,500	0.26
WA	82,551	2.14		14,310	1.52		96,861	2.02
WI	83,806	2.17					83,806	1.75
WV-PN				7,554	0.80		7,554	0.16
WV-RN	28,218	0.73					28,218	0.59
WY	9,104	0.24		1,459	0.15		10,563	0.22
Total	3,853,870	100.00%		944,488	100.00%		4,798,358¹	100.00%

¹ Includes 260,145 total number of active licenses reported in 2009 for California-VN, Maryland, Northern Mariana Islands, South Carolina, South Dakota, Utah and 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
AL	3	
AR	39	
AS	5	
AZ	70	
CA-RN	4,356	
CT	99	9
GA	24	
GU	68	
IA	1	1
ID	18	1
KY	13	
LA-RN	22	
ME	5	
MN	270	7
MO	44	2
MT	12	12
NC	188	11
ND	12	1
NH	2	
NJ	70	
NM	725	
NV	5	119
OK	31	
OR	49	5
PA	167	7
RI	8	
TX	1,539	49
VT	1,815	
WV-PN		15
WV-RN	3	
Total	9,663	239

Information provided by 29 jurisdictions

Table 6. Summary of Licensing Activities

New In State	
RNs	215,319
LPN/VNs	57,603
Total	272,922
Active Licenses ¹	
RNs	3,853,870
LPN/VNs	944,488
Total	4,798,358
Graduates of Foreign Nursing Program ²	
RNs	9,663
LPN/VNs	239
Total	9,902

1 Includes 260,145 total number of active licenses reported in 2009 for California-VN, Maryland, Northern Mariana Islands, South Carolina, South Dakota, Utah and Virgin Islands.

2 Information provided by 29 jurisdictions.

Table 7. Distribution of Active Advanced Practice/Authority to Practice Licenses Within Each Specialty Category by Jurisdiction

JD	CNM	CRNA	CNS			APRN No Specific Category Designation	CNP No Specialty Designation	Types of Nurse Practitioners													Total Active Licenses						
			CNS	CNS-PSYCH	CNS NON-PSYCH			AC	AH	CHP	COL	EMR	FAM	FPN	GER	NEO	WOM	PSY	SCH	Other Types		All CNPs					
AK	73	151				705			16	44	38				427			8	18	65	69	1				1,615	
AL	16	1,370			124																		3,034				4,544
AR	27	707			21			107	59	122					601			72	24	101	27						1,981
AS	1				1															1							4
AZ	205	572			44			63	454	254					1,558			70	152	184	174						3,861
CA-RN	1,186	2,008			436			6,580	948	831	50				5,104			295	144	800	150						21,751
CO	703	507			308			2,887																			4,405
CT	215							3,424																			3,639
DC	38	75			36																						631
DE	30	310			40				14	85	101				322	1		31	32	6	6						1,065
FL	465	1,844			5			2,187	347	1,453	643				2,959			212	186	312	198	10					14,797
GA	376	1,637			245			4,126																			6,384
GU	7	12													6					3							29
IA	87	462			98				49	112	181				729			48	26	144	54	1	2				1,993
ID	31	364			40			588																			1,023
IL								6,608																			6,608
IN	137							3,026																			3,163
KS	69	838			169				72	193	160				1,136	2		37	141	97	66						3,442
KY	98	1,245			17				113	260	145				1,646			12	28	193	30						3,928
LA-RN	37	1,310			68				113	261	113				1,184			20	159	98	58						3,627
MA	466	1,102			968			6,200																			8,736
ME	82	410			117				11	157	61				568	2		15	14	61	130						1,659
MI	312	2,388						3,810																			6,510
MN	217	1,576			242				43	452	347				1,116				148	225	63						5,006
MO	107	1,615			2				90	631	482				1,844			81	208	277	60						5,817

Table 8. Total Number of Active Advanced Practice/Authority to Practice Licenses Within Member Board Jurisdictions

Abbreviation	Category	Active Licenses	
		N	%
CNM	Certified Nurse Midwife	7,021	3.2
CRNA	Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist	38,620	17.3
CNS	Clinical Nurse Specialist	800	0.4
CNS-PSYCH	Clinical Nurse Specialist - Psychiatry and/or Mental Health (including all its subspecialties)	3,610	1.6
CNS-NON-PSYCH	Clinical Nurse Specialist - Non-Psychiatry	9,174	4.1
APRN	APRN - no specific category designation	15,233	7.0
Nurse Practitioners			
AC	Acute Care	3,631	1.6
AHP	Adult Health	14,308	6.4
CHP	Child Health/Pediatric	8,002	3.6
COL	College Health	50	0.0
EMR	Emergency	181	0.1
FAM	Family	40,412	18.1
FPN	Family Planning	12	0.0
GER	Geriatric	2,223	1.0
NEO	Neonatal	2,573	1.1
WOM	Obstetrical and/or Gynecological and/or Women's Health	5,850	2.6
PSY	Psychiatric and/or Mental Health	3,622	1.6
SCH	School Health	63	0.0
NP	Nurse Practitioner - no specialty designation	47,479	21.2
Other	Other Types of Nurse Practitioners	5,490	2.5
All	All Nurse Practitioners	8,447	3.9
Total		216,801	100.0%

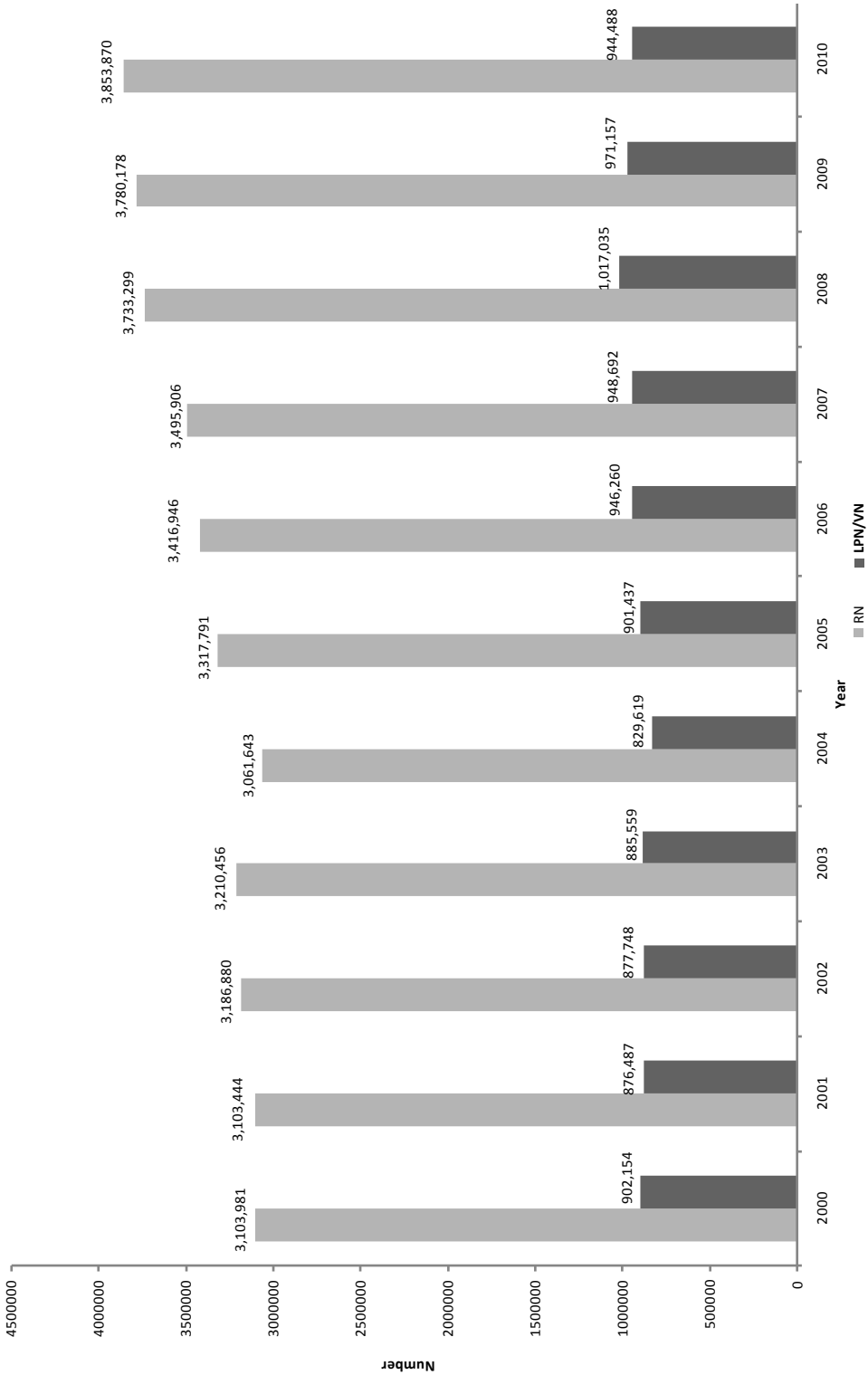


Figure 1. Total Number of Active Licenses: RNs and LPN/VNs - 2000-2010

PART II – 2010 NCLEX® EXAMINATION STATISTICS

Introduction

In 1982, NCSBN revised the State Board Test Pool Examination (SBTPE) substantially. NCSBN changed the examination from a norm-referenced test to a criterion-referenced test, implemented a new test plan and used Rasch's (1960) one parameter logistic model to calibrate items and measure candidates' abilities. At that time, NCSBN renamed the examinations the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN®) and the National Council Licensure Examination for Practical Nurses (NCLEX-PN®). However, these NCLEX® examinations were very different than the NCLEX examinations taken by candidates today. These examinations were only administered twice a year in a pencil-and-paper format; each administration lasted two days.

In 1986, the NCSBN Board of Directors (BOD) funded an initial investigation on the feasibility of using computerized adaptive testing (CAT) procedures. CAT held the promise of making examinations available year round, shortening examination length by only giving candidates items that were appropriate for their ability and providing greater security for the content of the items. On April 1, 1994, NCSBN began administering the NCLEX-RN and NCLEX-PN examinations exclusively via CAT. This publication provides a detailed breakdown of candidate performance for 2010, as well as historical data.

CAT

CAT is a method of administering examinations that combines the power and speed of current computer technology with modern 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 administration software then identifies the content area for the next item. Next, the software scans through available items within the identified content area for an item that has a degree of difficulty sufficient to give the candidate approximately a 50% chance of answering it correctly. This item is selected and presented to the

candidate on the computer screen. This process is repeated for each item, creating an examination tailored to the individual's ability level, while fulfilling all NCLEX test plan requirements. The examination continues in this way until a pass-fail decision can be determined. Because the examination could end at any time after the minimum number of items has been answered, it is important that the test plan specifications are met throughout the entire test.

Setting the Passing Standard

To ensure a consistent standard of competence in nursing practice, NCSBN uses a criterion-referenced standard, which means that passing or failing depends solely upon a candidate's level of performance in relation to the established point that represents safe entry-level competence. There is no preassigned percentage of candidates that pass or fail each examination. Because the practice of nursing changes over time, it is necessary to reevaluate the appropriateness of the passing standard from time to time. To ensure that the passing standards for the NCLEX-RN and NCLEX-PN examinations accurately reflects the knowledge, skills and abilities essential for entry-level nurse practice, NCSBN's BOD reevaluates the passing standard every three years or when the test plan changes. In evaluating the passing standard, the BOD considers information from a variety of sources. Although there is no limit on the information it may consider, the BOD is typically presented with the following information:

1. The results of a standard setting exercise undertaken by the panel of judges. Currently, this exercise consists of a modified Angoff procedure with additional statistical compromise procedures. Also, a list of the members on the panel of judges and their qualifications is included.
2. A historical record of the passing standard and annual summaries of candidate performance on the NCLEX examination since the implementation of the CAT methodology in 1994.
3. The results from the annual standard setting survey, which solicits the opinions of employers

and educators regarding the competence of the current cohort of entry-level nurses.

4. Information detailing the educational readiness of high school graduates who expressed an interest in nursing.

In April 1998, the passing standard for the NCLEX-RN Examination increased from -0.42 logits to -0.35 logits. In April 2001, this standard was retained for another three years. In April 2004, the standard increased to -0.28 logits. In April 2007, the standard increased again to -0.21 logits. In 2010, the standard was revised to -0.16 logits.

The passing standard for the NCLEX-PN Examination has experienced a similar increase over time. In April 1999, the passing standard for the NCLEX-PN Examination increased from -0.51 logits to -0.47 logits. In April 2002, this standard was retained for another three years. In April 2005, the NCLEX-PN passing standard increased from -0.47 to -0.42 logits. And in April 2008, the standard increased to -0.37 logits. It is important to note that the RN and PN standards are not directly comparable because they are based on different item pools and different scopes of practice.

Pass-Fail Decisions

Candidate performance on the NCLEX examinations is reported only as a pass-fail decision. Scores are never reported. As a result, almost all the statistics presented here are pass rates or statistics based upon a pass-fail decision.

To make pass-fail decisions, the computer seeks to determine with 95% certainty whether the candidate's true ability is above or below the passing standard. To do this, three pieces of information must be known: the current person ability estimate, the precision of that estimate and the passing standard. After the minimum number of items has been answered, the computer compares the candidate's ability level to the standard required for passing. Candidates clearly above the passing standard pass. Candidates clearly below the passing standard fail.

If the candidate's ability level is close enough to the passing standard that it is not clear which side of the passing standard his or her ability falls, the computer continues asking items. As more items are

answered, the candidate's ability estimate becomes more precise. After each item, the candidate's ability level is recomputed, using all of the information (answers to all the items asked) available at that point. When it becomes clear on which side of the passing standard the candidate's ability falls, the examination ends.

Some candidates' abilities are very close to the passing standard. For these candidates, all items in the item pool might not provide enough information to be certain their ability is truly above or below the passing standard. These are the candidates who take the maximum number of items. Once the maximum number of items has been administered, the computer waives the 95% certainty requirement and makes a pass or fail decision based upon the candidate's final ability estimate. If the candidate's ability estimate is above the passing standard, the candidate passes. If not, he or she fails.

If an NCLEX examination ends because time runs out, then the computer does not have enough information to make a clear pass-fail decision; if it did, it would have stopped administering items. When the response patterns of people who ran out of time were investigated however; it was found that some had been performing consistently above the passing standard and their ability level appeared to be above passing, although close to it. A mechanism is therefore provided for these candidates to pass. The key word here is "consistently." If a candidate's ability estimate has been consistently above the passing standard over the last 60 items, then he or she will pass, despite having run out of time.

Table 1. Candidates Taking the NCLEX-RN® Examination by Type of Candidate¹

Type of Candidate	NCLEX-RN® Examination: Jan. 1 - Dec.31, 2010											
	Jan 1 - March 31, 2010		April 1 - June 30, 2010		July 1 - Sep 30, 2010		Oct 1 - Dec 31, 2010		Total: Jan 1 - Dec 31, 2010			
	Candidates	%	Candidates	%	Candidates	%	Candidates	%	Candidates	%		
First-Time, U.S.-Educated												
Diploma	967	92.0	820	91.0	1,544	88.1	437	87.2	3,768	89.6		
Baccalaureate Degree	13,184	91.1	16,051	91.9	21,542	85.9	4,630	83.9	55,407	88.7		
Associate Degree	21,071	89.1	23,350	89.2	30,232	84.0	6,949	80.0	81,602	86.5		
Special Program Codes	35	74.3	29	69.0	20	75.0	21	90.5	105	76.2		
Total First-Time, U.S.-Educated	35,257	89.9	40,250	90.3	53,338	84.9	12,037	81.7	140,882	87.4		
Repeat, U.S.-Educated	5,356	54.8	5,222	49.0	8,079	56.6	8,054	57.3	26,711	54.9		
First-Time, Internationally Educated	4,421	44.0	3,614	38.4	3,308	35.0	3,056	34.9	14,399	38.6		
Repeat, Internationally Educated	4,561	25.7	3,681	18.9	3,876	19.3	3,667	19.2	15,785	21.0		
All Candidates	49,595	37,754	52,767	40,980	68,601	51,755	26,814	16,225	197,777	74.2		

¹ Performance of RN Educational Programs. The following is a summary of the 2010 NCLEX pass rates for U.S. RN education programs based upon first-time candidate performance. In 2010, 1,894 U.S. RN programs had at least one first-time candidate. The mean pass rate for those programs was 86.4% (SD 12.4%). When including only those programs with at least ten first-time examinees (N=1,786) the mean pass rate was 86.9% (SD 10.0%).

Table 2. Summary Statistics for First-Time, U.S.-Educated Candidates

NCLEX-RN®	January-December 2010
Passing Standard ¹	-0.16 logits
Estimated Decision Consistency ²	0.92
Average Test Length ³	119 items
Percent of Candidates Taking the Minimum Number of Items	51.9%
Percent of Candidates Taking the Maximum Number of Items	13.1%
Average Testing Time ⁴	2 hours, 18 minutes
Percent of Candidates Taking the Maximum Amount of Time	1.0%

1 The NCLEX-RN passing standard scale uses logits as the unit of measurement. Logits is short for log-odds-units. These units have no inherent meaning with regard to nursing content and in fact have an arbitrary zero point, but logits are practical because the probability of a correct response can easily be computed when the candidate's ability and the item's difficulty are known. Typically, the logit range on the NCLEX-RN scale is from -2.00 (easy items or low ability candidates) to 2.00 (difficult items or high ability candidates).

2 Estimated Decision Consistency is an indicator of reliability. Conceptually, it is the proportion of pass-fail decisions that would remain the same if the same population were retested immediately after their first test (assuming no learning or fatigue effects) using a different set of items.

3 NCLEX-RN Examinations consist of 75 to 265 items.

4 The standard amount of allotted testing time for the NCLEX-RN Examination is six hours.

Table 3. First-Time, U.S.-Educated Candidates Taking the NCLEX-RN® Examination by Degree Type (Jan. 1 - March 31, 2010)¹

Jurisdiction	RN-Diploma			RN-Baccalaureate			RN-Associate Degree			Total Jan. 1 - Mar. 31, 2010		
	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%
Alabama	0			259	236	91.1	372	299	80.4	631	535	84.8
Alaska	0			31	27	87.1	44	43	97.7	75	70	93.3
American Samoa	0			0			0			0		
Arizona	0			283	258	91.2	756	680	90.0	1,039	938	90.3
Arkansas	175	155	88.6	72	68	94.4	320	278	86.9	567	501	88.4
California-RN	0			1,113	1,008	90.6	2,717	2,431	89.5	3,830	3,439	89.8
Colorado	0			295	278	94.2	255	227	89.0	550	505	91.8
Connecticut	78	71	91.0	66	61	92.4	48	44	91.7	192	176	91.7
Delaware	0			9	8	88.9	119	111	93.3	128	119	93.0
District of Columbia	0			49	49	100.0	27	17	63.0	76	66	86.8
Florida	0			385	354	92.0	1,765	1,596	90.4	2,150	1,950	90.7
Georgia-RN	0			405	375	92.6	391	361	92.3	796	736	92.5
Guam	0			1	1	100.0	5	4	80.0	6	5	83.3
Hawaii	0			151	141	93.4	63	56	88.9	214	197	92.1
Idaho	0			26	24	92.3	157	143	91.1	183	167	91.3
Illinois	0			570	531	93.2	694	631	90.9	1,264	1,162	91.9
Indiana	9	8	88.9	339	300	88.5	610	504	82.6	958	812	84.8
Iowa	0			128	111	86.7	358	312	87.2	486	423	87.0
Kansas	0			97	79	81.4	232	189	81.5	329	268	81.5
Kentucky	0			282	261	92.6	525	479	91.2	807	740	91.7
Louisiana-RN	34	32	94.1	519	484	93.3	366	349	95.4	919	865	94.1
Maine	0			98	84	85.7	22	22	100.0	120	106	88.3
Maryland	0			183	155	84.7	479	442	92.3	662	597	90.2
Massachusetts	0			433	388	89.6	357	335	93.8	790	723	91.5
Michigan	0			565	532	94.2	518	473	91.3	1,083	1,005	92.8
Minnesota	0			231	210	90.9	480	398	82.9	711	608	85.5
Mississippi	0			65	60	92.3	290	271	93.5	355	331	93.2
Missouri	21	21	100.0	375	342	91.2	482	424	88.0	878	787	89.6
Montana	0			83	76	91.6	20	18	90.0	103	94	91.3
Nebraska	0			305	283	92.8	16	13	81.3	321	296	92.2
Nevada	0			166	134	80.7	125	111	88.8	291	245	84.2
New Hampshire	0			30	29	96.7	0			30	29	96.7
New Jersey	178	167	93.8	76	64	84.2	354	325	91.8	608	556	91.4
New Mexico	0			101	94	93.1	200	163	81.5	301	257	85.4
New York	0			560	464	82.9	1,585	1,398	88.2	2,145	1,862	86.8
North Carolina	51	51	100.0	383	360	94.0	343	319	93.0	777	730	94.0
North Dakota	0			65	55	84.6	0			65	55	84.6
Northern Mariana Island	0			0			4	2	50.0	4	2	50.0
Ohio	93	84	90.3	401	356	88.8	1,206	1,026	85.1	1,700	1,466	86.2
Oklahoma	0			138	127	92.0	274	251	91.6	412	378	91.7

Table 3. First-Time, U.S.-Educated Candidates Taking the NCLEX-RN® Examination by Degree Type (Jan. 1 - March 31, 2010)¹

Jurisdiction	RN-Diploma			RN-Baccalaureate			RN-Associate Degree			Total Jan. 1 - Mar. 31, 2010		
	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%
Oregon	0			70	69	98.6	21	18	85.7	91	87	95.6
Pennsylvania	189	169	89.4	404	363	89.9	494	407	82.4	1,087	939	86.4
Rhode Island	2	2	100.0	108	103	95.4	73	72	98.6	183	177	96.7
South Carolina	0			210	185	88.1	359	320	89.1	569	505	88.8
South Dakota	0			81	69	85.2	44	39	88.6	125	108	86.4
Tennessee	0			561	545	97.2	367	345	94.0	928	890	95.9
Texas	57	54	94.7	1,304	1,229	94.3	1,582	1,429	90.3	2,943	2,712	92.2
Utah	0			72	69	95.8	273	247	90.5	345	316	91.6
Vermont	0			0			1	0	0.0	1	0	0.0
Virgin Islands	0			1	0	0.0	0			1	0	0.0
Virginia	80	76	95.0	387	336	86.8	254	223	87.8	721	635	88.1
Washington	0			177	158	89.3	296	263	88.9	473	421	89.0
West Virginia-RN	0			94	78	83.0	66	63	95.5	160	141	88.1
Wisconsin	0			376	344	91.5	615	561	91.2	991	905	91.3
Wyoming	0			1	1	100.0	47	37	78.7	48	38	79.2
TOTAL	967	890	92.0	13,184	12,016	91.1	21,071	18,769	89.1	35,222	31,675	89.9

¹ Data does not include Special Program Codes.

Table 4. First-Time, U.S.-Educated Candidates Taking the NCLEX-RN® Examination by Degree Type (April 1 - June 30, 2010)¹

Jurisdiction	RN-Diploma			RN-Baccalaureate			RN-Associate Degree			Total Apr. 1 - June 30, 2010		
	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%
Alabama	0			482	448	93.0	865	748	86.5	1,347	1,196	88.8
Alaska	0			25	24	96.0	18	17	94.4	43	41	95.4
American Samoa	0			0			0			0		
Arizona	0			164	148	90.2	583	542	93.0	747	690	92.4
Arkansas	13	8	61.5	191	167	87.4	94	84	89.4	298	259	86.9
California-RN	0			775	698	90.1	1,330	1,196	89.9	2,105	1,894	90.0
Colorado	0			247	230	93.1	313	268	85.6	560	498	88.9
Connecticut	56	55	98.2	174	166	95.4	70	66	94.3	300	287	95.7
Delaware	19	19	100.0	41	33	80.5	61	50	82.0	121	102	84.3
District of Columbia	0			60	55	91.7	31	23	74.2	91	78	85.7
Florida	0			670	632	94.3	1,408	1,259	89.4	2,078	1,891	91.0
Georgia-RN	0			618	568	91.9	661	604	91.4	1,279	1,172	91.6
Guam	0			0			2	2	100.0	2	2	100.0
Hawaii	0			44	34	77.3	36	31	86.1	80	65	81.3
Idaho	0			63	57	90.5	125	121	96.8	188	178	94.7
Illinois	19	17	89.5	873	822	94.2	808	751	93.0	1,700	1,590	93.5
Indiana	4	4	100.0	649	591	91.1	623	515	82.7	1,276	1,110	87.0
Iowa	0			281	236	84.0	387	347	89.7	668	583	87.3
Kansas	0			466	425	91.2	611	503	82.3	1,077	928	86.2
Kentucky	0			303	287	94.7	741	658	88.8	1,044	945	90.5
Louisiana-RN	0			134	119	88.8	171	163	95.3	305	282	92.5
Maine	0			124	112	90.3	230	220	95.7	354	332	93.8
Maryland	0			162	151	93.2	403	351	87.1	565	502	88.9
Massachusetts	36	36	100.0	280	258	92.1	321	289	90.0	637	583	91.5
Michigan	0			326	292	89.6	614	560	91.2	940	852	90.6
Minnesota	0			447	417	93.3	902	811	89.9	1,349	1,228	91.0
Mississippi	0			202	175	86.6	628	552	87.9	830	727	87.6
Missouri	6	6	100.0	551	508	92.2	437	397	90.9	994	911	91.7
Montana	0			83	79	95.2	84	76	90.5	167	155	92.8
Nebraska	0			304	287	94.4	182	147	80.8	486	434	89.3
Nevada	0			114	100	87.7	92	85	92.4	206	185	89.8
New Hampshire	0			87	84	96.6	280	257	91.8	367	341	92.9
New Jersey	193	169	87.6	193	180	93.3	207	188	90.8	593	537	90.6
New Mexico	0			42	35	83.3	92	81	88.0	134	116	86.6
New York	0			518	469	90.5	1,068	884	82.8	1,586	1,353	85.3
North Carolina	43	41	95.4	593	543	91.6	1,601	1,433	89.5	2,237	2,017	90.2
North Dakota	0			241	221	91.7	51	49	96.1	292	270	92.5
Northern Mariana Island	0			0			1	0	0.0	1	0	0.0
Ohio	72	62	86.1	837	755	90.2	1,088	935	85.9	1,997	1,752	87.7
Oklahoma	0			307	279	90.9	372	321	86.3	679	600	88.4

Table 4. First-Time, U.S.-Educated Candidates Taking the NCLEX-RN® Examination by Degree Type (April 1 - June 30, 2010)¹

Jurisdiction	RN-Diploma			RN-Baccalaureate			RN-Associate Degree			Total Apr. 1 - June 30, 2010		
	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%
Oregon	0			229	215	93.9	68	63	92.7	297	278	93.6
Pennsylvania	137	122	89.1	545	508	93.2	446	404	90.6	1,128	1,034	91.7
Rhode Island	5	5	100.0	37	33	89.2	9	8	88.9	51	46	90.2
South Carolina	0			475	436	91.8	484	455	94.0	959	891	92.9
South Dakota	0			153	146	95.4	171	149	87.1	324	295	91.1
Tennessee	0			585	543	92.8	512	491	95.9	1,097	1,034	94.3
Texas	50	46	92.0	996	936	94.0	1,945	1,783	91.7	2,991	2,765	92.4
Utah	0			179	176	98.3	431	383	88.9	610	559	91.6
Vermont	0			35	32	91.4	134	122	91.0	169	154	91.1
Virgin Islands	0			1	1	100.0	1	1	100.0	2	2	100.0
Virginia	167	156	93.4	366	334	91.3	558	495	88.7	1,091	985	90.3
Washington	0			140	129	92.1	238	216	90.8	378	345	91.3
West Virginia-RN	0			213	183	85.9	178	164	92.1	391	347	88.8
Wisconsin	0			412	380	92.2	500	435	87.0	912	815	89.4
Wyoming	0			14	12	85.7	84	71	84.5	98	83	84.7
TOTAL	820	746	91.0	16,051	14,749	91.9	23,350	20,824	89.2	40,221	36,319	90.3

¹ Data does not include Special Program Codes.

Table 5. First-Time, U.S.-Educated Candidates Taking the NCLEX-RN® Examination by Degree Type (July 1 - Sept. 30, 2010)

Jurisdiction	RN-Diploma			RN-Baccalaureate			RN-Associate Degree			Total July 1 - Sept. 30, 2010		
	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%
Alabama	0			497	429	86.3	689	561	81.4	1,186	990	83.5
Alaska	0			20	16	80.0	19	14	73.7	39	30	76.9
American Samoa	0			0			0			0		
Arizona	0			260	226	86.9	590	522	88.5	850	748	88.0
Arkansas	104	82	78.9	269	204	75.8	297	240	80.8	670	526	78.5
California-RN	0			1,525	1,313	86.1	2,891	2,488	86.1	4,416	3,801	86.1
Colorado	0			326	300	92.0	223	185	83.0	549	485	88.3
Connecticut	5	5	100.0	349	315	90.3	351	308	87.8	705	628	89.1
Delaware	2	1	50.0	150	121	80.7	59	49	83.1	211	171	81.0
District of Columbia	0			111	95	85.6	22	14	63.6	133	109	82.0
Florida	0			952	816	85.7	1,537	1,321	86.0	2,489	2,137	85.9
Georgia-RN	0			410	352	85.9	369	311	84.3	779	663	85.1
Guam	0			1	1	100.0	14	14	100.0	15	15	100.0
Hawaii	0			144	111	77.1	58	44	75.9	202	155	76.7
Idaho	0			52	41	78.9	158	134	84.8	210	175	83.3
Illinois	0			834	712	85.4	1,302	1,086	83.4	2,136	1,798	84.2
Indiana	21	20	95.2	660	577	87.4	916	690	75.3	1,597	1,287	80.6
Iowa	0			216	176	81.5	552	442	80.1	768	618	80.5
Kansas	0			96	74	77.1	147	118	80.3	243	192	79.0
Kentucky	0			220	180	81.8	410	334	81.5	630	514	81.6
Louisiana-RN	0			579	508	87.7	342	304	88.9	921	812	88.2
Maine	0			106	84	79.3	52	47	90.4	158	131	82.9
Maryland	0			558	492	88.2	477	412	86.4	1,035	904	87.3
Massachusetts	30	30	100.0	981	848	86.4	752	654	87.0	1,763	1,532	86.9
Michigan	0			798	688	86.2	1,381	1,185	85.8	2,179	1,873	86.0
Minnesota	0			325	266	81.9	465	346	74.4	790	612	77.5
Mississippi	0			148	116	78.4	332	270	81.3	480	386	80.4
Missouri	20	18	90.0	677	575	84.9	563	482	85.6	1,260	1,075	85.3
Montana	0			45	37	82.2	71	56	78.9	116	93	80.2
Nebraska	0			147	131	89.1	145	115	79.3	292	246	84.3
Nevada	0			78	64	82.1	154	139	90.3	232	203	87.5
New Hampshire	0			93	85	91.4	136	108	79.4	229	193	84.3
New Jersey	295	273	92.5	509	426	83.7	585	523	89.4	1,389	1,222	88.0
New Mexico	0			83	77	92.8	266	225	84.6	349	302	86.5
New York	12	11	91.7	1,610	1,365	84.8	3,186	2,706	84.9	4,808	4,082	84.9
North Carolina	50	43	86.0	295	237	80.3	485	382	78.8	830	662	79.8
North Dakota	0			54	40	74.1	33	28	84.9	87	68	78.2
Northern Mariana Island	0			0			2	2	100.0	2	2	100.0
Ohio	123	97	78.9	1,263	1,056	83.6	1,758	1,470	83.6	3,144	2,623	83.4
Oklahoma	0			458	405	88.4	614	512	83.4	1,072	917	85.5
Oregon	0			350	323	92.3	505	446	88.3	855	769	89.9

Table 5. First-Time, U.S.-Educated Candidates Taking the NCLEX-RN® Examination by Degree Type (July 1 - Sept. 30, 2010)¹

Jurisdiction	RN-Diploma			RN-Baccalaureate			RN-Associate Degree			Total July 1 - Sept. 30, 2010		
	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%
Pennsylvania	732	652	89.1	1,630	1,415	86.8	1,691	1,417	83.8	4,053	3,484	86.0
Rhode Island	25	19	76.0	159	143	89.9	116	103	88.8	300	265	88.3
South Carolina	0			95	77	81.1	368	319	86.7	463	396	85.5
South Dakota	0			85	77	90.6	137	110	80.3	222	187	84.2
Tennessee	0			383	349	91.1	493	444	90.1	876	793	90.5
Texas	36	33	91.7	1,051	911	86.7	1,430	1,144	80.0	2,517	2,088	83.0
Utah	0			91	86	94.5	286	228	79.7	377	314	83.3
Vermont	0			63	59	93.7	72	49	68.1	135	108	80.0
Virgin Islands	0			12	7	58.3	12	9	75.0	24	16	66.7
Virginia	89	76	85.4	414	347	83.8	802	666	83.0	1,305	1,089	83.5
Washington	0			430	402	93.5	992	885	89.2	1,422	1,287	90.5
West Virginia-RN	0			248	193	77.8	296	238	80.4	544	431	79.2
Wisconsin	0			587	509	86.7	492	405	82.3	1,079	914	84.7
Wyoming	0			45	40	88.9	137	103	75.2	182	143	78.6
TOTAL	1,544	1,360	88.1	21,542	18,497	85.9	30,232	25,407	84.0	53,318	45,264	84.9

¹ Data does not include Special Program Codes.

Table 6. First-Time, U.S.-Educated Candidates Taking the NCLEX-RN® Examination by Degree Type (Oct. 1 - Dec. 31, 2010)¹

Jurisdiction	RN-Diploma			RN-Baccalaureate			RN-Associate Degree			Total Oct. 1 - Dec. 31, 2010		
	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%
Alabama	0			90	71	78.9	141	101	71.6	231	172	74.5
Alaska	0			25	23	92.0	7	5	71.4	32	28	87.5
American Samoa	0			0			0			0		
Arizona	0			35	32	91.4	136	121	89.0	171	153	89.5
Arkansas	13	12	92.3	25	16	64.0	123	116	94.3	161	144	89.4
California-RN	0			415	344	82.9	577	453	78.5	992	797	80.3
Colorado	0			116	93	80.2	117	102	87.2	233	195	83.7
Connecticut	0			66	63	95.5	37	31	83.8	103	94	91.3
Delaware	0			7	6	85.7	15	14	93.3	22	20	90.9
District of Columbia	0			4	3	75.0	3	2	66.7	7	5	71.4
Florida	0			204	168	82.4	640	542	84.7	844	710	84.1
Georgia-RN	0			56	43	76.8	55	44	80.0	111	87	78.4
Guam	0			1	1	100.0	4	4	100.0	5	5	100.0
Hawaii	0			71	59	83.1	2	1	50.0	73	60	82.2
Idaho	0			4	4	100.0	41	32	78.1	45	36	80.0
Illinois	0			133	117	88.0	211	131	62.1	344	248	72.1
Indiana	10	7	70.0	61	48	78.7	179	115	64.3	250	170	68.0
Iowa	0			24	18	75.0	124	96	77.4	148	114	77.0
Kansas	0			84	77	91.7	126	113	89.7	210	190	90.5
Kentucky	0			48	39	81.3	203	170	83.7	251	209	83.3
Louisiana-RN	3	3	100.0	85	70	82.4	38	32	84.2	126	105	83.3
Maine	0			27	23	85.2	4	3	75.0	31	26	83.9
Maryland	0			34	23	67.7	64	58	90.6	98	81	82.7
Massachusetts	0			85	64	75.3	56	47	83.9	141	111	78.7
Michigan	0			342	300	87.7	369	308	83.5	711	608	85.5
Minnesota	0			27	18	66.7	51	37	72.6	78	55	70.5
Mississippi	0			22	15	68.2	30	25	83.3	52	40	76.9
Missouri	16	16	100.0	228	202	88.6	35	26	74.3	279	244	87.5
Montana	0			4	4	100.0	6	2	33.3	10	6	60.0
Nebraska	0			27	21	77.8	44	36	81.8	71	57	80.3
Nevada	0			44	36	81.8	35	29	82.9	79	65	82.3
New Hampshire	0			1	1	100.0	22	14	63.6	23	15	65.2
New Jersey	35	32	91.4	217	181	83.4	92	77	83.7	344	290	84.3
New Mexico	0			49	41	83.7	168	136	81.0	217	177	81.6
New York	2	2	100.0	287	227	79.1	857	654	76.3	1,146	883	77.1
North Carolina	4	4	100.0	37	33	89.2	67	51	76.1	108	88	81.5
North Dakota	0			7	3	42.9	1	0	0.0	8	3	37.5
Northern Mariana Island	0			0			1	1	100.0	1	1	100.0
Ohio	31	24	77.4	367	331	90.2	667	565	84.7	1,065	920	86.4
Oklahoma	0			65	54	83.1	53	34	64.2	118	88	74.6

Table 6. First-Time, U.S.-Educated Candidates Taking the NCLEX-RN® Examination by Degree Type (Oct. 1 - Dec. 31, 2010)¹

Jurisdiction	RN-Diploma			RN-Baccalaureate			RN-Associate Degree			Total Oct. 1 - Dec. 31, 2010		
	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%
Oregon	0			37	35	94.6	28	25	89.3	65	60	92.3
Pennsylvania	230	195	84.8	386	329	85.2	260	193	74.2	876	717	81.8
Rhode Island	0			12	10	83.3	9	6	66.7	21	16	76.2
South Carolina	0			64	58	90.6	139	114	82.0	203	172	84.7
South Dakota	0			25	23	92.0	11	5	45.5	36	28	77.8
Tennessee	0			131	121	92.4	27	20	74.1	158	141	89.2
Texas	1			196	164	83.7	435	361	83.0	632	525	83.1
Utah	0			24	22	91.7	104	82	78.9	128	104	81.3
Vermont	0			4	3	75.0	1	1	100.0	5	4	80.0
Virgin Islands	0			0			1	0	0.0	1	0	0.0
Virginia	92	86	93.5	76	57	75.0	260	206	79.2	428	349	81.5
Washington	0			47	43	91.5	166	133	80.1	213	176	82.6
West Virginia-RN	0			110	70	63.6	24	18	75.0	134	88	65.7
Wisconsin	0			80	65	81.3	72	56	77.8	152	121	79.6
Wyoming	0			14	11	78.6	11	8	72.7	25	19	76.0
TOTAL	437	381	87.2	4,630	3,883	83.9	6,949	5,556	80.0	12,016	9,820	81.7

¹ Data does not include Special Program Codes.

Table 7. First-Time, U.S.-Educated Candidates Taking the NCLEX-RN® Examination by Degree Type (Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 2010)

Jurisdiction	RN-Diploma			RN-Baccalaureate			RN-Associate Degree			RN-Special Program Codes			Total Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 2010		
	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%
Alabama	0			1,328	1,184	89.2	2,067	1,709	82.7	0			3,395	2,893	85.2
Alaska	0			101	90	89.1	88	79	89.8	0			189	169	89.4
American Samoa	0			0			0			0			0	0	66.7
Arizona	0			742	664	89.5	2,065	1,865	90.3	0			2,807	2,529	90.1
Arkansas	305	257	84.3	557	455	81.7	834	718	86.1	0			1,696	1,430	84.3
California-RN	0			3,828	3,363	87.9	7,515	6,568	87.4	28	22	78.6	11,371	9,953	87.5
Colorado	0			984	901	91.6	908	782	86.1	0			1,892	1,683	89.0
Connecticut	139	131	94.2	655	605	92.4	506	449	88.7	1	1	100.0	1,301	1,186	91.2
Delaware	21	20	95.2	207	168	81.2	254	224	88.2	0			482	412	85.5
District of Columbia	0			224	202	90.2	83	56	67.5	0			307	258	84.0
Florida	0			2,211	1,970	89.1	5,350	4,718	88.2	3	1	33.3	7,564	6,689	88.4
Georgia-RN	0			1,489	1,338	89.9	1,476	1,320	89.4	0			2,965	2,658	89.6
Guam	0			3	3	100.0	25	24	96.0	0			28	27	96.4
Hawaii	0			410	345	84.1	159	132	83.0	0			569	477	83.8
Idaho	0			145	126	86.9	481	430	89.4	0			626	556	88.8
Illinois	19	17	89.5	2,410	2,182	90.5	3,015	2,599	86.2	7	4	57.1	5,451	4,802	88.1
Indiana	44	39	88.6	1,709	1,516	88.7	2,328	1,824	78.4	0			4,081	3,379	82.8
Iowa	0			649	541	83.4	1,421	1,197	84.2	0			2,070	1,738	84.0
Kansas	0			743	655	88.2	1,116	923	82.7	0			1,859	1,578	84.9
Kentucky	0			853	767	89.9	1,879	1,641	87.3	0			2,732	2,408	88.1
Louisiana-RN	37	35	94.6	1,317	1,181	89.7	917	848	92.5	0			2,271	2,064	90.9
Maine	0			355	303	85.4	308	292	94.8	0			663	595	89.7
Maryland	0			937	821	87.6	1,423	1,263	88.8	1	1	100.0	2,361	2,085	88.3
Massachusetts	66	66	100.0	1,779	1,558	87.6	1,486	1,325	89.2	0			3,331	2,949	88.5
Michigan	0			2,031	1,812	89.2	2,882	2,526	87.6	4	3	75.0	4,917	4,341	88.3
Minnesota	0			1,030	911	88.4	1,898	1,592	83.9	0			2,928	2,503	85.5
Mississippi	0			437	366	83.8	1,280	1,118	87.3	0			1,717	1,484	86.4
Missouri	63	61	96.8	1,831	1,627	88.9	1,517	1,329	87.6	1	0	0.0	3,412	3,017	88.4
Montana	0			215	196	91.2	181	152	84.0	0			396	348	87.9
Nebraska	0			783	722	92.2	387	311	80.4	0			1,170	1,033	88.3

Table 7. First-Time, U.S.-Educated Candidates Taking the NCLEX-RN® Examination by Degree Type (Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 2010)

Jurisdiction	RN-Diploma			RN-Baccalaureate			RN-Associate Degree			RN-Special Program Codes			Total Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 2010		
	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%
Nevada	0			402	334	83.1	406	364	89.7	0			808	678	86.4
New Hampshire	0			211	199	94.3	438	379	86.5	9	100.0	100.0	658	587	89.2
New Jersey	701	641	91.4	995	851	85.5	1,238	1,113	89.9	11	9	81.8	2,945	2,614	88.8
New Mexico	0			275	247	89.8	726	605	83.3	0			1,001	852	85.1
New York	14	13	92.9	2,975	2,525	84.9	6,696	5,642	84.3	0			9,685	8,180	84.5
North Carolina	148	139	93.9	1,308	1,173	89.7	2,496	2,185	87.5	0			3,952	3,497	88.5
North Dakota	0			367	319	86.9	85	77	90.6	0			452	396	87.6
Northern Mariana Island	0			0			8	5	62.5	0			8	5	62.5
Ohio	319	267	83.7	2,868	2,498	87.1	4,719	3,996	84.7	0			7,906	6,761	85.5
Oklahoma	0			968	865	89.4	1,313	1,118	85.1	17	11	64.7	2,298	1,994	86.8
Oregon	0			686	642	93.6	622	552	88.7	3	2	66.7	1,311	1,196	91.2
Pennsylvania	1,288	1,138	88.4	2,965	2,615	88.2	2,891	2,421	83.7	17	14	82.4	7,161	6,188	86.4
Rhode Island	32	26	81.3	316	289	91.5	207	189	91.3	0			555	504	90.8
South Carolina	0			844	756	89.6	1,350	1,208	89.5	3	3	100.0	2,197	1,967	89.5
South Dakota	0			344	315	91.6	363	303	83.5	0			707	618	87.4
Tennessee	0			1,660	1,558	93.9	1,399	1,300	92.9	0			3,059	2,858	93.4
Texas	144	133	92.4	3,547	3,240	91.3	5,392	4,717	87.5	0			9,083	8,090	89.1
Utah	0			366	353	96.4	1,094	940	85.9	0			1,460	1,293	88.6
Vermont	0			102	94	92.2	208	172	82.7	0			310	266	85.8
Virgin Islands	0			14	8	57.1	14	10	71.4	0			28	18	64.3
Virginia	428	394	92.1	1,243	1,074	86.4	1,874	1,590	84.8	0			3,545	3,058	86.3
Washington	0			794	732	92.2	1,692	1,497	88.5	0			2,486	2,229	89.7
West Virginia-RN	0			665	524	78.8	564	483	85.6	0			1,229	1,007	81.9
Wisconsin	0			1,455	1,298	89.2	1,679	1,457	86.8	0			3,134	2,755	87.9
Wyoming	0			74	64	86.5	279	219	78.5	0			353	283	80.2
TOTAL	3,768	3,377	89.6	55,407	49,145	88.7	81,602	70,556	86.5	105	80	76.2	140,882	123,158	87.4

Table 8. First-Time, Internationally Educated Candidates Taking the NCLEX-RN® Examination by Country of Education (Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 2010)

Country of Education	Jan. 1 - Mar. 31, 2010			Apr. 1 - June 30, 2010			July 1 - Sept. 30, 2010			Oct. 1 - Dec. 31, 2010			Total Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 2010		
	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%
Albania	4	0	0.0	2	0	0.0	3	2	66.7	1	1	100.0	10	3	30.0
Antigua and Barbuda	1	1	100.0				1	0	0.0				2	1	50.0
Argentina				1	1	100.0	1	0	0.0				2	1	50.0
Armenia	7	4	57.1	8	0	0.0	15	3	20.0	9	1	11.1	39	8	20.5
Australia	15	11	73.3	16	9	56.3	12	12	100.0	12	8	66.7	55	40	72.7
Austria	1	1	100.0	2	1	50.0							3	2	66.7
Azerbaijan				2	1	50.0				2	0	0.0	4	1	25.0
Bahamas	2	0	0.0	1	1	100.0							3	1	33.3
Bangladesh										3	0	0.0	3	0	0.0
Barbados	1	0	0.0										1	0	0.0
Belarus	6	2	33.3	1	0	0.0	1	1	100.0	4	2	50.0	12	5	41.7
Belize	3	0	0.0	2	1	50.0				3	0	0.0	8	1	12.5
Benin	1	0	0.0	1	0	0.0	1	0	0.0	1	0	0.0	4	0	0.0
Bhutan							1	0	0.0				1	0	0.0
Bosnia and Herzegovina	1	1	100.0	1	1	100.0	2	0	0.0	2	1	50.0	6	3	50.0
Brazil	7	4	57.1	8	3	37.5	6	1	16.7	4	2	50.0	25	10	40.0
Bulgaria	1	1	100.0	3	2	66.7				3	2	66.7	7	5	71.4
Burkina Faso										1	0	0.0	1	0	0.0
Cameroon	6	2	33.3	4	1	25.0	4	1	25.0	9	1	11.1	23	5	21.7
Canada	123	81	65.9	114	67	58.8	162	98	60.5	130	76	58.5	529	322	60.9
Chile	1	1	100.0										1	1	100.0
China	65	30	46.2	39	17	43.6	46	19	41.3	36	16	44.4	186	82	44.1
Colombia	6	3	50.0	10	1	10.0	4	3	75.0	4	3	75.0	24	10	41.7
Congo, The Democratic Republic of the	1	0	0.0				1	0	0.0				2	0	0.0
Costa Rica	2	0	0.0	2	0	0.0	1	1	100.0				5	1	20.0
Croatia							1	0	0.0				1	0	0.0
Cuba	7	2	28.6	8	4	50.0	13	7	53.9	10	3	30.0	38	16	42.1
Czech Republic										1	1	100.0	1	1	100.0
Denmark				1	1	100.0				1	1	100.0	2	2	100.0

Country of Education	Jan. 1 - Mar. 31, 2010						Apr. 1 - June 30, 2010						July 1 - Sept. 30, 2010						Oct. 1 - Dec. 31, 2010						Total Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 2010					
	Candidates		Passed	%	Candidates		Passed	%	Candidates		Passed	%	Candidates		Passed	%	Candidates		Passed	%	Candidates		Passed	%						
Dominica																														
Dominican Republic	1	1	100.0	2	1	50.0	1	50.0	1	0	0.0	1	100.0	0	0.0	2	0	0.0	0	0.0	3	1	33.3	33.3						
Ecuador	1	0	0.0	2	1	50.0																								
Egypt	3	1	33.3	1	0	0.0																								
El Salvador	1	1	100.0	2	1	50.0																								
Eritrea	10	4	40.0	1	0	0.0	1	0	0.0	1	0	0.0	3	2	66.7	15	6	40.0	4	2	50.0	2	50.0	50.0						
Ethiopia	21	6	28.6	15	3	20.0	20	3	15.0	4	20.0	16	4	25.0	72	16	22.2	16	22.2	72	16	22.2	22.2							
Finland	3	3	100.0	1	0	0.0	2	2	100.0	0	0.0	1	0	0.0	7	5	71.4	7	71.4	7	5	71.4	71.4							
France	3	3	100.0	1	1	100.0	2	1	50.0	2	1	50.0	5	2	40.0	11	7	63.6	11	7	63.6	63.6	63.6							
Gambia				1	0	0.0	1	0	0.0	0	0.0																			
Georgia	4	1	25.0	5	0	0.0	6	3	50.0	2	0	0.0	2	0	0.0	17	4	23.5	17	4	23.5	23.5	23.5							
Germany	11	5	45.5	8	5	62.5	12	5	41.7	4	3	75.0	35	18	51.4	35	18	51.4	35	18	51.4	51.4	51.4							
Ghana	16	2	12.5	10	0	0.0	10	0	0.0	10	0	0.0	10	5	50.0	46	7	15.2	46	7	15.2	15.2	15.2							
Gibraltar				1	0	0.0	1	0	0.0	0	0.0																			
Greece				1	1	100.0																								
Grenada				1	0	0.0	1	0	0.0	1	0	0.0	1	0	0.0	2	0	0.0	2	0	0.0	2	0.0	0.0						
Guinea				1	0	0.0																								
Guyana	3	1	33.3				4	3	75.0	2	2	100.0	9	6	66.7	9	6	66.7	9	6	66.7	66.7	66.7							
Haiti	37	3	8.1	22	4	18.2	20	2	10.0	27	5	18.5	106	14	13.2	106	14	13.2	106	14	13.2	13.2	13.2							
Honduras	1	0	0.0																											
Hong Kong				2	1	50.0	3	2	66.7																					
Hungary				2	2	100.0	1	0	0.0	1	0	0.0	4	2	50.0	4	2	50.0	4	2	50.0	50.0	50.0							
Iceland	2	2	100.0																											
India	264	81	30.7	233	71	30.5	227	52	22.9	227	56	24.7	951	260	27.3	951	260	27.3	951	260	27.3	27.3	27.3							
Indonesia	4	3	75.0	2	0	0.0	1	0	0.0	5	1	20.0	12	4	33.3	12	4	33.3	12	4	33.3	33.3	33.3							
Iran, Islamic Republic of	12	5	41.7	8	3	37.5	12	7	58.3	8	3	37.5	40	18	45.0	40	18	45.0	40	18	45.0	45.0	45.0							
Ireland	1	0	0.0	2	2	100.0	3	3	100.0	2	2	100.0	8	7	87.5	8	7	87.5	8	7	87.5	87.5	87.5							
Israel	7	3	42.9	11	7	63.6	9	5	55.6	5	3	60.0	32	18	56.3	32	18	56.3	32	18	56.3	56.3	56.3							
Italy	1	0	0.0				4	2	50.0																					
Jamaica	11	3	27.3	12	4	33.3	12	3	25.0	12	6	50.0	52	16	30.8	52	16	30.8	52	16	30.8	30.8	30.8							

Table 8. First-Time, Internationally Educated Candidates Taking the NCLEX-RN® Examination by Country of Education (Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 2010)

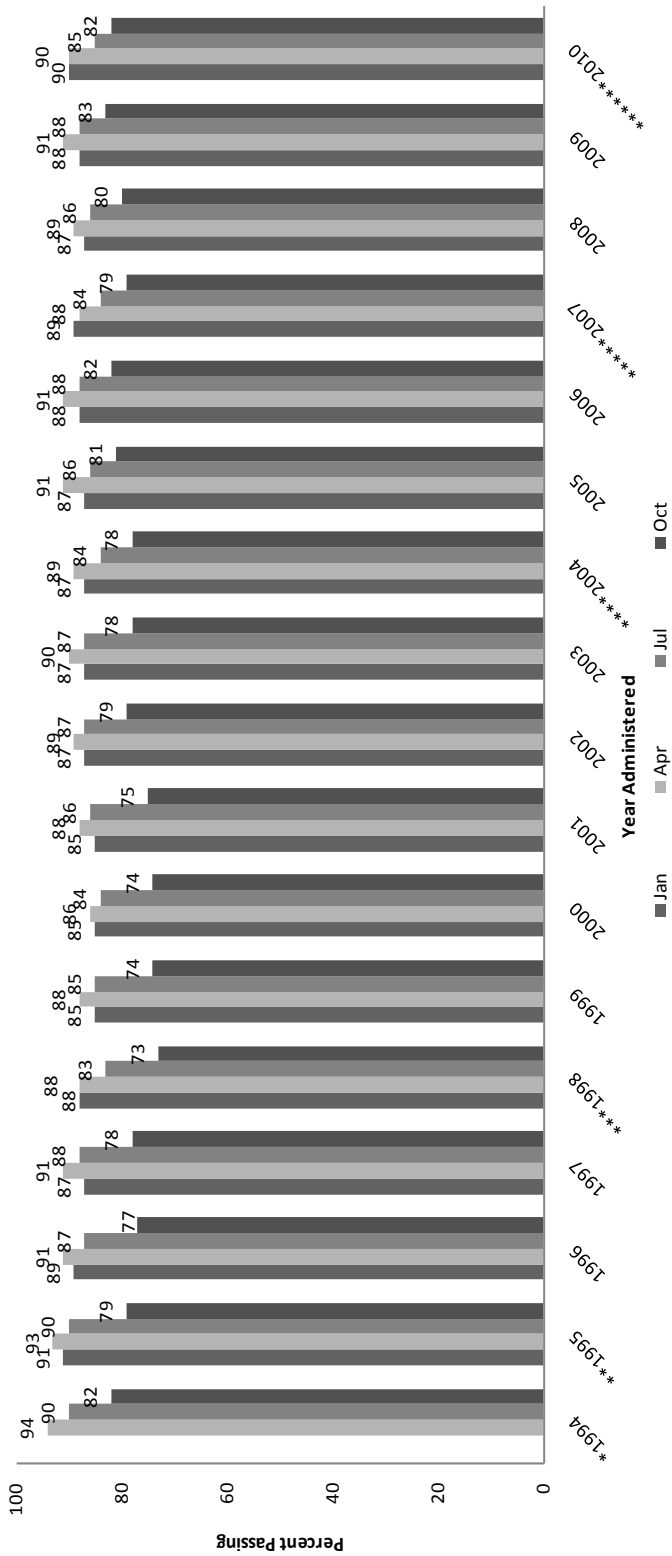
Country of Education	Jan. 1 - Mar. 31, 2010			Apr. 1 - June 30, 2010			July 1 - Sept. 30, 2010			Oct. 1 - Dec. 31, 2010			Total Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 2010		
	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%
Japan	33	15	45.5	21	1	4.8	19	10	52.6	16	10	62.5	89	36	40.4
Jordan	12	6	50.0	11	4	36.4	8	2	25.0	10	3	30.0	41	15	36.6
Kazakhstan				2	1	50.0	1	1	100.0				3	2	66.7
Kenya	13	8	61.5	12	3	25.0	8	3	37.5	19	8	42.1	52	22	42.3
Korea, North				1	1	100.0	2	1	50.0				3	2	66.7
Korea, South	300	200	66.7	230	134	58.3	180	117	65.0	185	111	60.0	895	562	62.8
Kyrgyzstan				3	0	0.0	1	0	0.0				4	0	0.0
Latvia							1	1	100.0	1	1	100.0	2	2	100.0
Lebanon	3	2	66.7	2	0	0.0	4	3	75.0	3	0	0.0	12	5	41.7
Liberia	4	0	0.0	3	0	0.0	4	1	25.0	1	0	0.0	12	1	8.3
Lithuania	2	0	0.0	3	2	66.7				2	1	50.0	7	3	42.9
Malawi							1	0	0.0				1	0	0.0
Malaysia	1	0	0.0	1	0	0.0	1	0	0.0	2	1	50.0	5	1	20.0
Mauritius							1	0	0.0				1	0	0.0
Mexico	17	4	23.5	15	2	13.3	9	3	33.3	13	2	15.4	54	11	20.4
Moldova, Republic of	3	1	33.3				1	0	0.0	1	1	100.0	5	2	40.0
Mongolia	1	0	0.0	1	1	100.0							2	1	50.0
Morocco				1	0	0.0							1	0	0.0
Myanmar				1	1	100.0							1	1	100.0
Nepal	37	23	62.2	21	7	33.3	12	5	41.7	13	3	23.1	83	38	45.8
Netherlands	1	0	0.0	4	0	0.0	1	0	0.0	1	0	0.0	7	0	0.0
New Zealand	4	3	75.0	3	2	66.7	5	3	60.0	10	5	50.0	22	13	59.1
Nicaragua										1	0	0.0	1	0	0.0
Nigeria	65	13	20.0	43	8	18.6	62	9	14.5	68	13	19.1	238	43	18.1
Norway	1	0	0.0							3	2	66.7	4	2	50.0
Oman				3	3	100.0							3	3	100.0
Pakistan	11	4	36.4	5	1	20.0	7	1	14.3	7	1	14.3	30	7	23.3
Palestinian Territory, Occupied				1	0	0.0							1	0	0.0
Panama	1	1	100.0	1	0	0.0	2	1	50.0	1	1	100.0	5	3	60.0

Country of Education	Jan. 1 - Mar. 31, 2010						Apr. 1 - June 30, 2010						July 1 - Sept. 30, 2010						Oct. 1 - Dec. 31, 2010						Total Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 2010					
	Candidates		Passed		%		Candidates		Passed		%		Candidates		Passed		%		Candidates		Passed		%		Candidates		Passed		%	
Peru	4	1	25.0	7	3	42.9	4	1	25.0	2	0	0.0	2	0	0.0	17	5	29.4												
Philippines	2897	1252	43.2	2409	928	38.5	2099	696	33.2	1878	622	33.1	9,283	3,498	37.7															
Poland	18	6	33.3	13	2	15.4	14	6	42.9	9	1	11.1	54	15	27.8															
Portugal	1	0	0.0	2	2	100.0	3	1	33.3	1	0	0.0	7	3	42.9															
Puerto Rico	103	60	58.3	38	6	15.8	41	10	24.4	44	13	29.6	226	89	39.4															
Qatar	1	0	0.0										1	0	0.0															
Romania	14	4	28.6	10	4	40.0	11	2	18.2	16	4	25.0	51	14	27.5															
Russian Federation	33	12	36.4	26	8	30.8	29	6	20.7	19	5	26.3	107	31	29.0															
Rwanda				1	1	100.0							1	1	100.0															
Saint Lucia	1	0	0.0							1	1	100.0	2	1	50.0															
Saudi Arabia	2	2	100.0	5	0	0.0	4	0	0.0	4	1	25.0	15	3	20.0															
Serbia	2	0	0.0	1	0	0.0							3	0	0.0															
Sierra Leone	10	1	10.0	10	1	10.0	8	0	0.0	3	0	0.0	31	2	6.5															
Singapore				2	2	100.0	1	0	0.0	2	0	0.0	5	2	40.0															
South Africa	2	2	100.0	1	1	100.0	6	3	50.0	3	2	66.7	12	8	66.7															
Spain	2	2	100.0				1	1	100.0	2	2	100.0	5	5	100.0															
Sri Lanka							14	1	7.1	10	0	0.0	24	1	4.2															
Swaziland							1	0	0.0				1	0	0.0															
Sweden	3	2	66.7	4	4	100.0	3	1	33.3	2	1	50.0	12	8	66.7															
Switzerland	2	2	100.0				1	1	100.0				3	3	100.0															
Taiwan	32	14	43.8	32	7	21.9	19	4	21.1	33	10	30.3	116	35	30.2															
Tajikistan	1	0	0.0	1	0	0.0	2	0	0.0	1	1	100.0	5	1	20.0															
Tanzania, United Republic of	1	0	0.0										1	0	0.0															
Thailand	17	4	23.5	22	6	27.3	14	2	14.3	17	7	41.2	70	19	27.1															
Togo										1	0	0.0	1	0	0.0															
Tonga	1	0	0.0										1	0	0.0															
Trinidad and Tobago				1	1	100.0	3	2	66.7	3	0	0.0	7	3	42.9															
Turkey	2	1	50.0	1	1	100.0	5	1	20.0	1	0	0.0	9	3	33.3															
Uganda	7	2	28.6				1	0	0.0	2	0	0.0	10	2	20.0															
Ukraine	19	11	57.9	22	5	22.7	18	3	16.7	15	5	33.3	74	24	32.4															

Table 8. First-Time, Internationally Educated Candidates Taking the NCLEX-RN® Examination by Country of Education (Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 2010)

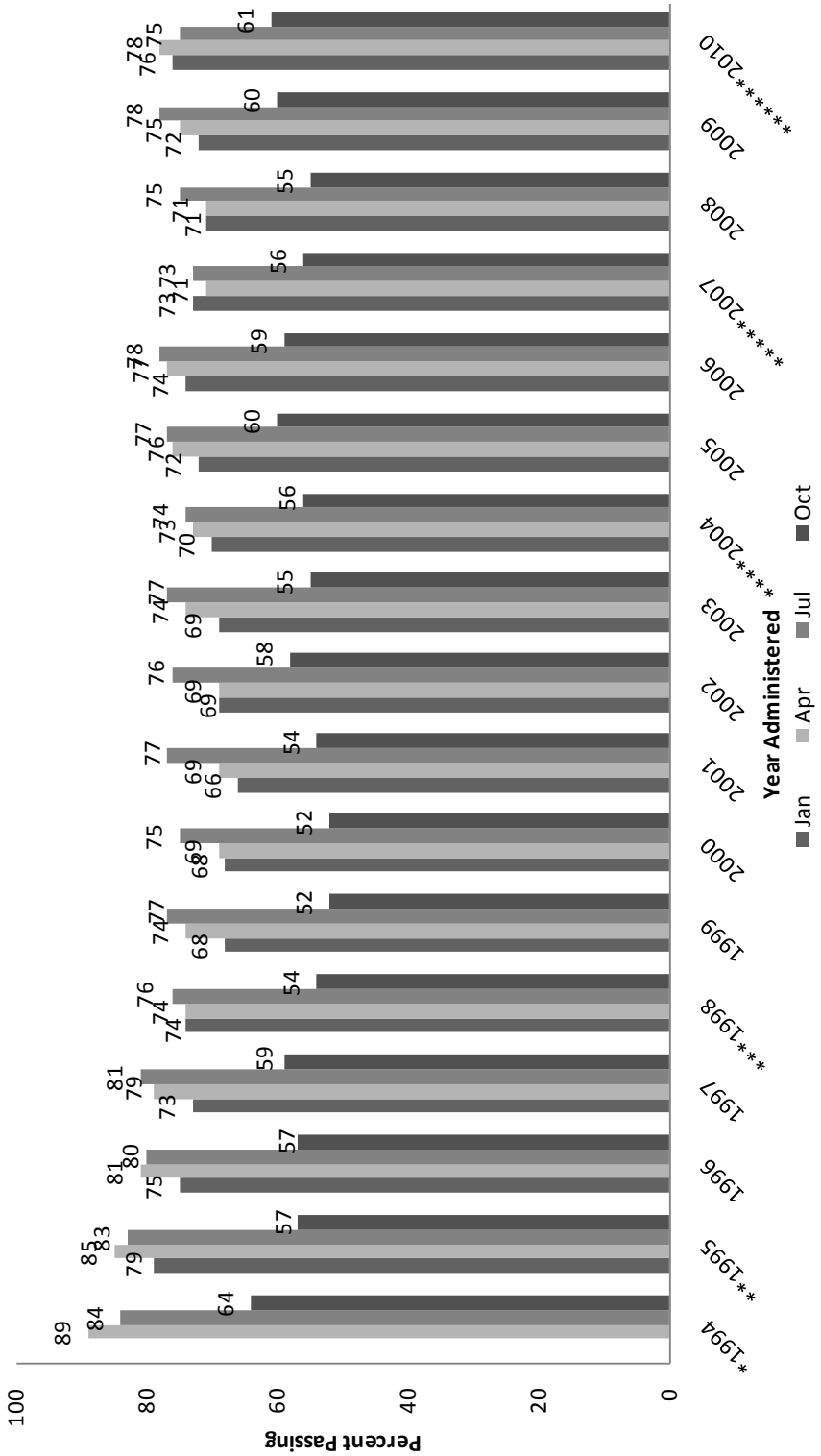
Country of Education	Jan. 1 - Mar. 31, 2010			Apr. 1 - June 30, 2010			July 1 - Sept. 30, 2010			Oct. 1 - Dec. 31, 2010			Total Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 2010		
	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%
United Arab Emirates	1	1	100.0				1	1	100.0				2	2	100.0
United Kingdom	24	10	41.7	32	13	40.6	24	10	41.7	36	11	30.6	116	44	37.9
Uzbekistan	30	3	10.0	16	4	25.0	18	3	16.7	13	3	23.1	77	13	16.9
Venezuela										2	0	0.0	2	0	0.0
Viet Nam	1	0	0.0										1	0	0.0
Zambia							1	0	0.0				1	0	0.0
Zimbabwe	3	2	66.7				2	0	0.0				5	2	40.0
Tunisia	0		44.0	0		38.4	1	0	35.0	0			1	0	0.0
Turkey	7	1	14.3	1	0	0.0	3	1	33.3	2	0	0.0	13	2	15.4
Turkmenistan	0			1	1	100.0	0			0			1	1	100.0
Uganda	0			3	0	0.0	0			1	0	0.0	4	0	0.0
Ukraine	30	13	43.3	31	10	32.3	25	9	36.0	29	9	31.0	115	41	35.7
United Arab Emirates	1	0	0.0	3	1	33.3	0			0			4	1	25.0
United Kingdom	27	7	25.9	36	11	30.6	36	17	47.2	41	24	58.5	140	59	42.1
Venezuela										2	0	0	2	0	0.0
Viet Nam	1	0	0										1	0	0.0
Zambia							1	0	0				1	0	0.0
Zimbabwe	3	2	66.67				2	0	0				5	2	40.0
TOTAL	4,421	1,946	44.0	3,614	1,387	38.4	3,308	1,159	35.0	3,056	1,066	34.9	14,399	5,558	38.6

Figure 1. NCLEX-RN® Pass Rates for First-Time, U.S.-Educated Candidates



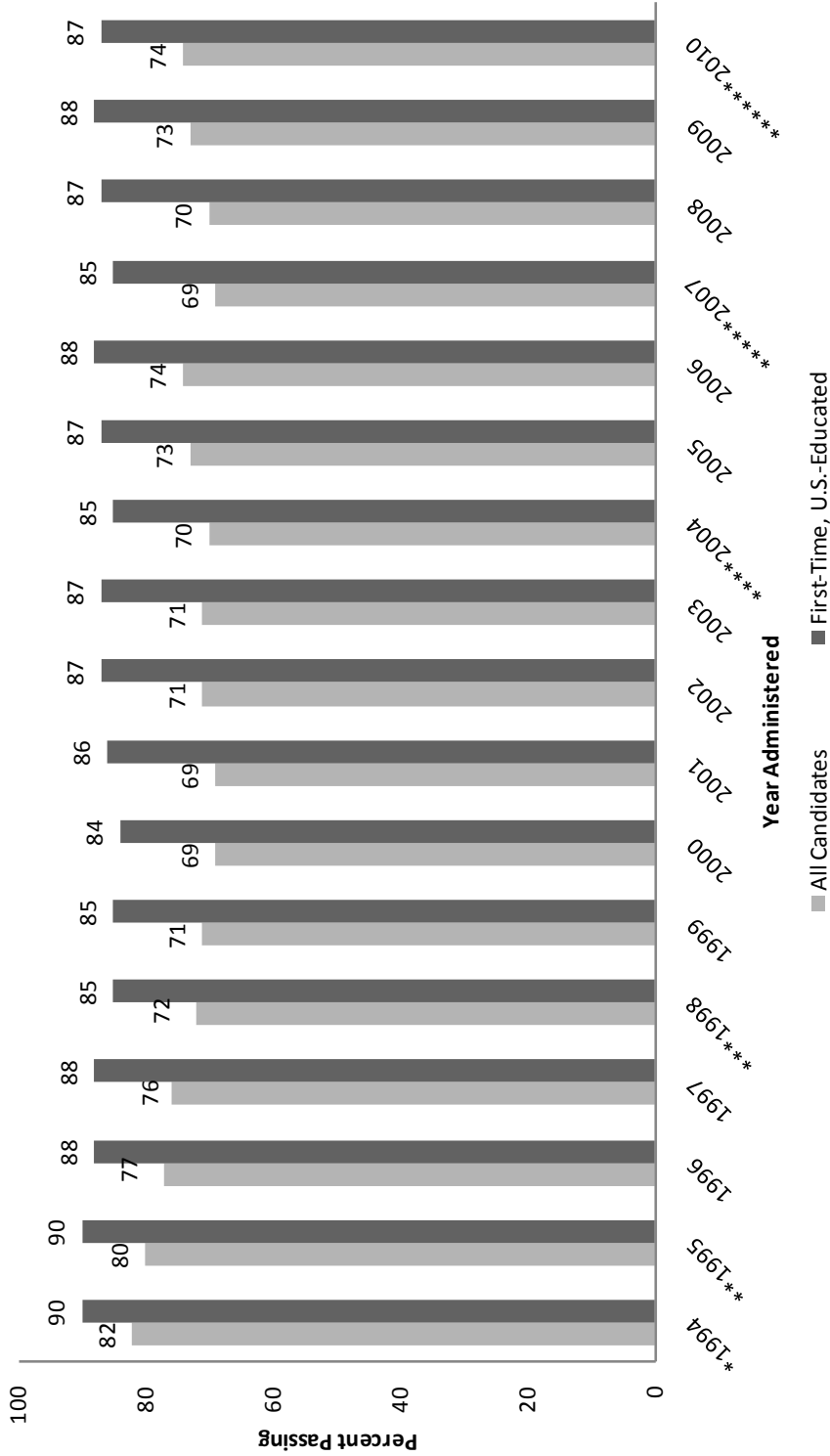
*Apr 1994 Computer Adaptive Test (CAT) begins. Passing Standard -0.4766 logits.
 **Oct 1995 Passing Standard changed from -0.4766 to -0.42 logits.
 ***Apr 1998 Passing Standard changed from -0.42 to -0.35 logits.
 ****Apr 2004 Passing Standard changed from -0.35 to -0.28 logits.
 *****Apr 2007 Passing Standard changed from -0.28 to -0.21 logits.
 *****Apr 2010 Passing Standard changed from -0.21 to -0.16 logits.

Figure 2. NCLEX-RN® Pass Rates for All Candidates



*Apr 1994 Computer Adaptive Test (CAT) begins. Passing Standard -0.4766 logits.
 **Oct 1995 Passing Standard changed from -0.4766 to -0.42 logits.
 ***Apr 1998 Passing Standard changed from -0.42 to -0.35 logits.
 ****Apr 2004 Passing Standard changed from -0.35 to -0.28 logits.
 *****Apr 2007 Passing Standard changed from -0.28 to -0.21 logits.
 *****Apr 2010 Passing Standard changed from -0.21 to -0.16 logits.

Figure 3. NCLEX-RN® Annual Pass Rates, April 1994 - December 2010



*Apr 1994 Computer Adaptive Test (CAT) begins. Passing Standard -0.4766 logits.

**Oct 1995 Passing Standard changed from -0.4766 to -0.42 logits.

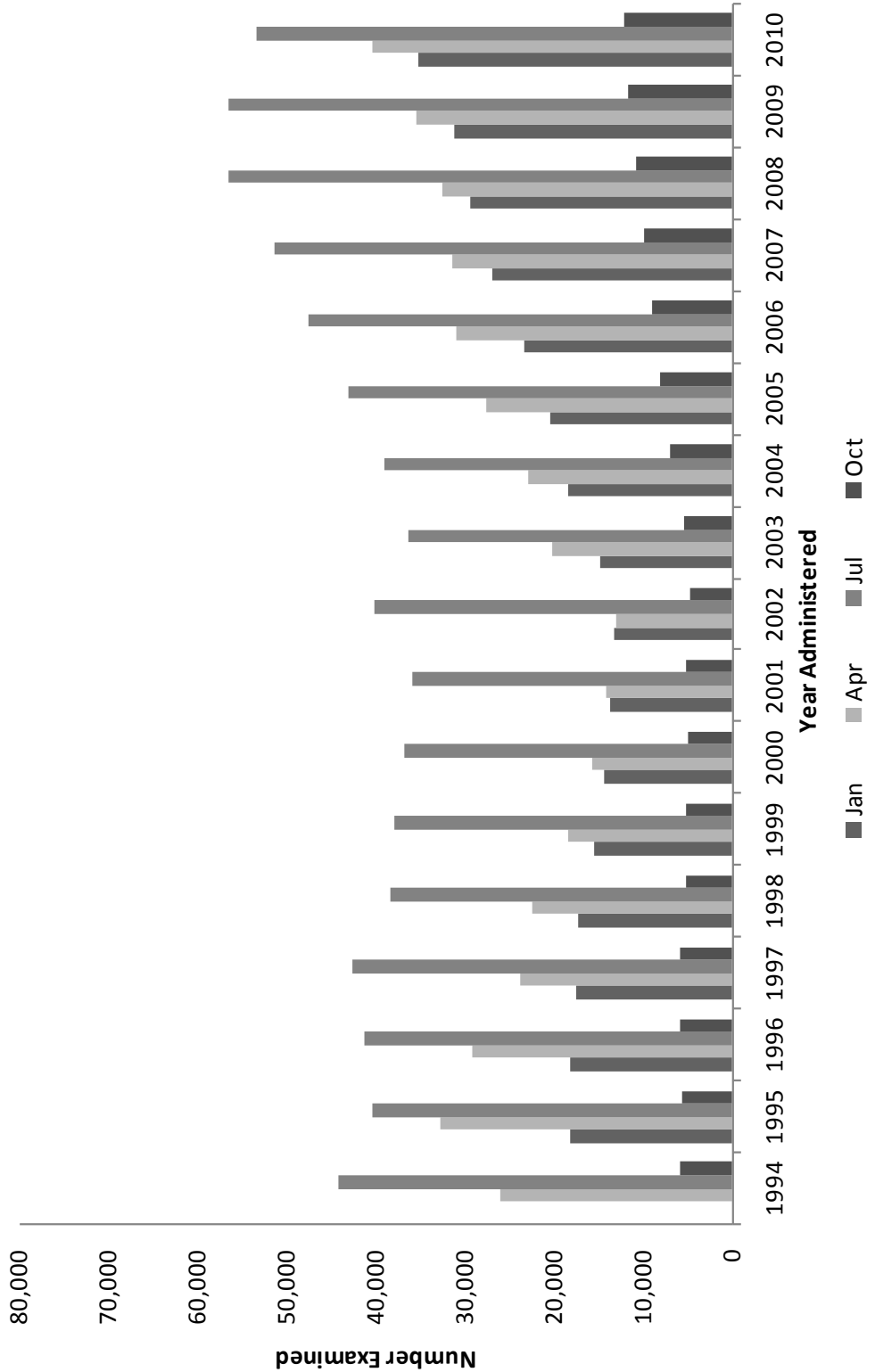
***Apr 1998 Passing Standard changed from -0.42 to -0.35 logits.

****Apr 2004 Passing Standard changed from -0.35 to -0.28 logits.

*****Apr 2007 Passing Standard changed from -0.28 to -0.21 logits.

*****Apr 2010 Passing Standard changed from -0.21 to -0.16 logits.

Figure 4. NCLEX-RN® Volume for First-Time, U.S.-Educated Candidates



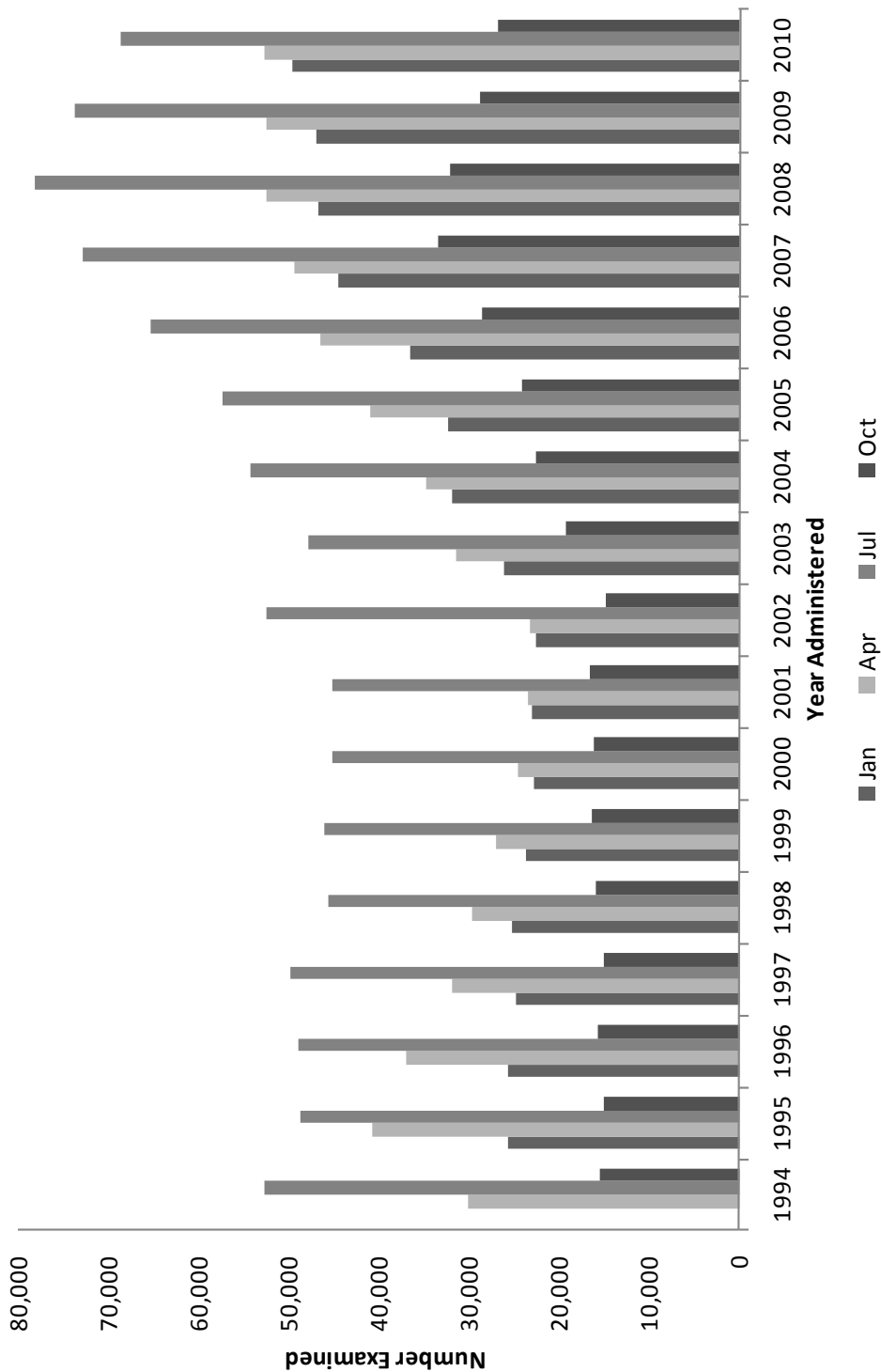


Figure 5. NCLEX-RN® Volume for All Candidates

Figure 6. NCLEX-RN® Annual Volume, April 1994 – December 2010

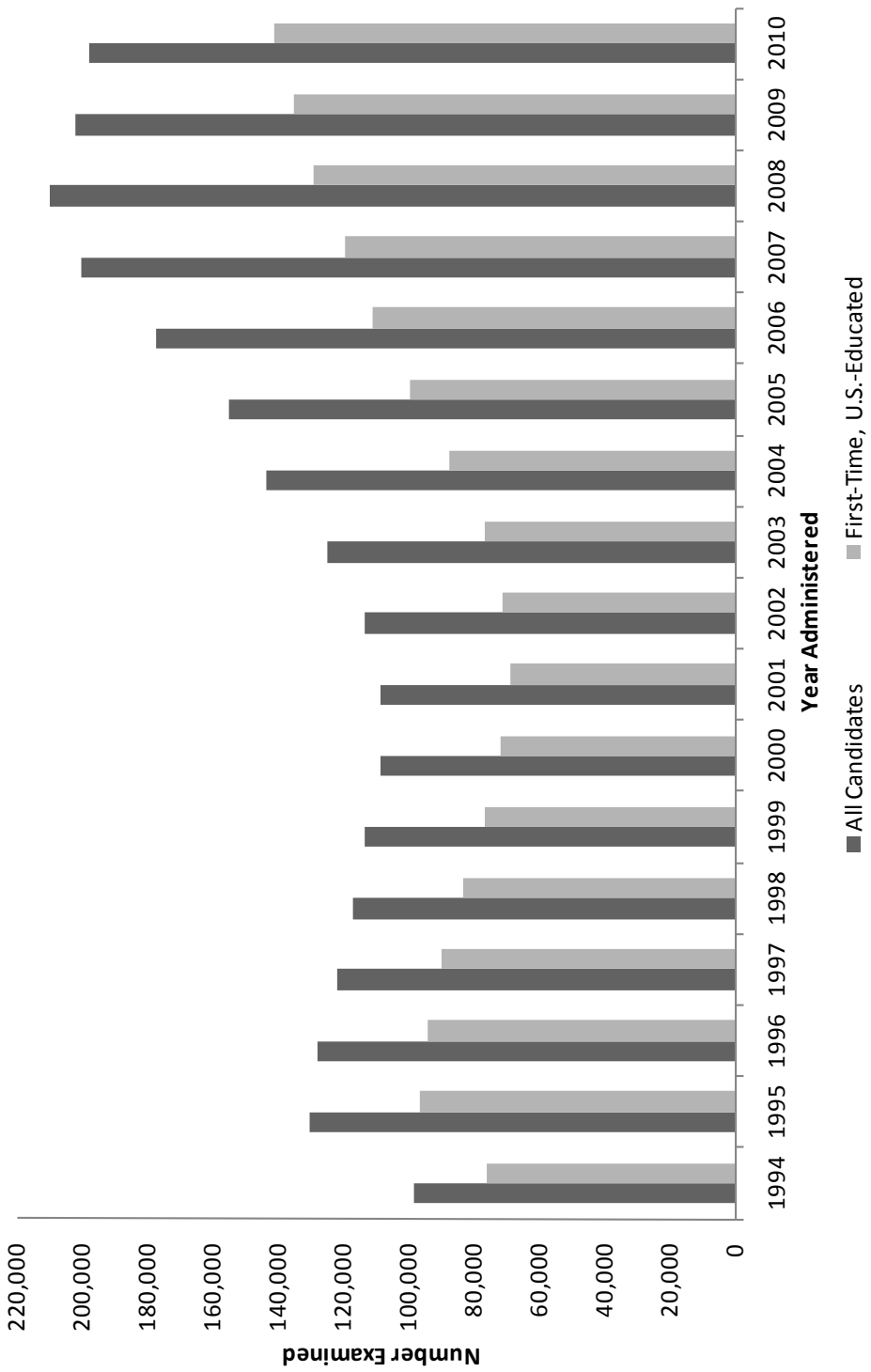


Table 9. Candidates Taking the NCLEX-PN® Examination by Type of Candidate

Type of Candidate	NCLEX-PN® Examination: Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 2010 ¹														
	Jan 1 - March 31, 2010			April 1 - June 30, 2010			July 1 - Sep 30, 2010			Oct 1 - Dec 31, 2010			Total Jan 1 - Dec 31, 2010		
	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%
First-Time, U.S.-Educated	15,093	13,027	86.3	13,916	11,862	85.2	22,951	20,459	89.1	14,850	12,823	86.4	66,810	58,171	87.1
Repeat, U.S.-Educated	3,213	1,335	41.6	3,570	1,413	39.6	3,290	1,228	37.3	3,725	1,630	43.8	13,798	5,606	40.6
First-Time, Internationally Educated	216	91	42.1	250	131	52.4	223	103	46.2	243	124	51.0	932	449	48.2
Repeat, Internationally Educated	267	54	20.2	261	62	23.8	207	30	14.5	229	60	26.2	964	206	21.4
All Candidates	18,789	14,507	77.2	17,997	13,468	74.8	26,671	21,820	81.8	19,047	14,637	76.9	82,504	64,432	78.1

¹ Performance of PN Educational Programs. The following is a summary of the 2010 NCLEX pass rates for U.S. PN education programs based upon first-time candidate performance: In 2010 1,658 U.S. PN programs had at least one first-time candidate. The mean pass rate for those programs was 87.5% (SD 17.8%). When including only those programs with at least ten first-time examinees (N=1,389), the mean pass rate was 88.8% (SD 13.2%).

Table 10. Summary Statistics for First-Time, U.S.-Educated Candidates

NCLEX-PN®	January - December 2010
Passing Standard ¹	-0.37
Estimated Decision Consistency ²	0.92
Average Test Length ³	110 items
Percent of Candidates Taking the Minimum Number of Items	60.8%
Percent of Candidates Taking the Maximum Number of Items	13.4%
Average Testing Time ⁴	Two hours, six minutes
Percent of Candidates Taking the Maximum Amount of Time	0.9%

¹ The NCLEX-PN scale uses logits as the unit of measurement. Logits is short for log-odds-units. These units have no inherent meaning with regard to nursing content and, in fact, have an arbitrary zero point, but logits are practical because the probability of a correct response can easily be computed when the candidate's ability and the item's difficulty are known. Typically, the logit range on the NCLEX-PN scale is from -2.00 (easy items or low ability candidates) to 2.00 (difficult items or high ability candidates).

² Estimated Decision Consistency is an indicator of reliability. Conceptually, it is the proportion of pass-fail decisions that would remain the same if the same population were retested immediately after their first test (assuming no learning or fatigue effects) using a different set of items.

³ NCLEX-PN examinations consist of 85 to 205 items.

⁴ The standard amount of allotted testing time for the NCLEX-PN Examination is five hours.

Table 11. First-Time, U.S.-Educated Candidates Taking the NCLEX-PN® Examination (Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 2010)

Jurisdiction	Jan 1 - March 31, 2010			April 1 - June 30, 2010			July 1 - Sep 30, 2010			Oct 1 - Dec 31, 2010			Total Jan 1 - Dec 31, 2010		
	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%
Alabama	290	273	94.1	77	73	94.8	361	347	96.1	135	128	94.8	863	821	95.1
Alaska	5	4	80.0	4	4	100.0	7	6	85.7	3	3	100.0	19	17	89.5
American Samoa	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	6	5	83.3	3	1	33.3	9	6	66.7
Arizona	103	97	94.2	120	116	96.7	206	196	95.2	110	105	95.5	539	514	95.4
Arkansas	296	272	91.9	160	149	93.1	549	514	93.6	158	144	91.1	1,163	1,079	92.8
California – VN	2,337	1,733	74.2	2,107	1,521	72.2	2,212	1,624	73.4	2,209	1,665	75.4	8,865	6,543	73.8
Colorado	83	75	90.4	87	81	93.1	212	189	89.2	81	75	92.6	463	420	90.7
Connecticut	321	294	91.6	224	210	93.8	225	201	89.3	166	152	91.6	936	857	91.6
Delaware	82	66	80.5	98	83	84.7	92	72	78.3	104	73	70.2	376	294	78.2
District of Columbia	141	102	72.3	139	108	77.7	135	88	65.2	118	94	79.7	533	392	73.6
Florida	1,020	880	86.3	1,007	868	86.2	1,161	1,038	89.4	967	846	87.5	4,155	3,632	87.4
Georgia – PN	294	277	94.2	420	379	90.2	310	277	89.4	383	365	95.3	1,407	1,298	92.3
Guam	10	8	80.0	17	16	94.1	2	1	50.0	1	1	100.0	30	26	86.7
Hawaii	40	38	95.0	25	25	100.0	54	54	100.0	19	17	89.5	138	134	97.1
Idaho	55	49	89.1	52	47	90.4	110	106	96.4	50	48	96.0	267	250	93.6
Illinois	442	408	92.3	218	191	87.6	943	869	92.2	361	316	87.5	1,964	1,784	90.8
Indiana	396	355	89.7	227	187	82.4	513	462	90.1	317	250	78.9	1,453	1,254	86.3
Iowa	260	242	93.1	295	278	94.2	643	622	96.7	167	158	94.6	1,365	1,300	95.2
Kansas	205	192	93.7	370	347	93.8	277	256	92.4	138	132	95.7	990	927	93.6
Kentucky	336	317	94.4	241	224	93.0	306	281	91.8	264	245	92.8	1,147	1,067	93.0
Louisiana – PN	525	450	85.7	416	370	88.9	269	237	88.1	144	137	95.1	1,354	1,194	88.2
Maine	23	19	82.6	21	20	95.2	32	31	96.9	30	25	83.3	106	95	89.6
Maryland	63	59	93.7	50	41	82.0	99	93	93.9	73	68	93.2	285	261	91.6
Massachusetts	110	99	90.0	25	20	80.0	652	622	95.4	77	69	89.6	864	810	93.8
Michigan	350	329	94.0	241	229	95.0	447	426	95.3	406	377	92.9	1,444	1,361	94.3
Minnesota	429	393	91.6	469	436	93.0	583	537	92.1	150	129	86.0	1,631	1,495	91.7
Mississippi	245	209	85.3	64	45	70.3	425	382	89.9	89	77	86.5	823	713	86.6
Missouri	257	227	88.3	166	146	88.0	772	734	95.1	213	193	90.6	1,408	1,300	92.3
Montana	55	55	100.0	31	30	96.8	39	39	100.0	6	6	100.0	131	130	99.2
Nebraska	87	74	85.1	126	113	89.7	181	160	88.4	78	66	84.6	472	413	87.5

Table 11. First-Time, U.S.-Educated Candidates Taking the NCLEX-PN® Examination (Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 2010)

Jurisdiction	Jan 1 - March 31, 2010			April 1 - June 30, 2010			July 1 - Sep 30, 2010			Oct 1 - Dec 31, 2010			Total Jan 1 - Dec 31, 2010		
	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%
Nevada	17	15	88.2	5	4	80.0	20	17	85.0	3	3	100.0	45	39	86.7
New Hampshire	75	65	86.7	122	109	89.3	54	48	88.9	33	22	66.7	284	244	85.9
New Jersey	520	362	69.6	719	475	66.1	873	650	74.5	823	636	77.3	2,935	2,123	72.3
New Mexico	35	34	97.1	40	40	100.0	82	78	95.1	31	31	100.0	188	183	97.3
New York	468	374	79.9	504	388	77.0	1,332	1,140	85.6	1,282	1,052	82.1	3,586	2,954	82.4
North Carolina	185	173	93.5	129	123	95.4	561	543	96.8	191	179	93.7	1,066	1,018	95.5
North Dakota	15	14	93.3	48	47	97.9	97	96	99.0	6	6	100.0	166	163	98.2
Northern Mariana Island	4	1	25.0	4	4	100.0	4	3	75.0	1	0	0.0	13	8	61.5
Ohio	1,100	993	90.3	1,064	950	89.3	1,536	1,429	93.0	1,526	1,412	92.5	5,226	4,784	91.5
Oklahoma	208	195	93.8	216	197	91.2	595	548	92.1	236	214	90.7	1,255	1,154	92.0
Oregon	37	36	97.3	84	76	90.5	187	181	96.8	111	109	98.2	419	402	95.9
Pennsylvania	544	477	87.7	432	375	86.8	653	607	93.0	714	668	93.6	2,343	2,127	90.8
Rhode Island	13	12	92.3	9	9	100.0	3	3	100.0	23	21	91.3	48	45	93.8
South Carolina	105	99	94.3	131	125	95.4	246	233	94.7	129	124	96.1	611	581	95.1
South Dakota	41	35	85.4	17	13	76.5	124	118	95.2	17	16	94.1	199	182	91.5
Tennessee	297	276	92.9	509	481	94.5	530	512	96.6	370	337	91.1	1,706	1,606	94.1
Texas	1,392	1,248	89.7	918	800	87.2	2,031	1,820	89.6	1,288	1,127	87.5	5,629	4,995	88.7
Utah	136	136	100.0	269	266	98.9	131	129	98.5	55	54	98.2	591	585	99.0
Vermont	3	3	100.0	4	4	100.0	155	154	99.4	6	5	83.3	168	166	98.8
Virgin Islands	2	1	50.0	9	4	44.4	3	0	0.0	10	4	40.0	24	9	37.5
Virginia	529	398	75.2	606	463	76.4	759	593	78.1	516	415	80.4	2,410	1,869	77.6
Washington	131	126	96.2	241	232	96.3	409	388	94.9	256	234	91.4	1,037	980	94.5
West Virginia – PN	85	77	90.6	37	29	78.4	291	261	89.7	79	70	88.6	492	437	88.8
Wisconsin	265	255	96.2	279	268	96.1	393	381	97.0	114	109	95.6	1,051	1,013	96.4
Wyoming	26	26	100.0	23	23	100.0	59	58	98.3	10	10	100.0	118	117	99.2
Total	15,093	13,027	86.3	13,916	11,862	85.2	22,951	20,459	89.1	14,850	12,823	86.4	66,810	58,171	87.1

Table 12. First-Time, Internationally Educated Candidates Taking the NCLEX-PN® Examination, by Country of Education (Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 2010)

Country of Education	Jan 1 - March 31, 2010			April 1 - June 30, 2010			July 1 - Sep 30, 2010			Oct 1 - Dec 31, 2010			Total Jan 1 - Dec 31, 2010		
	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%
Albania	1	1	100.0										1	1	100.0
Armenia							1	0	0.0	1	0	0.0	2	0	0.0
Australia							1	1	100.0				1	1	100.0
Azerbaijan							1	0	0.0				1	0	0.0
Belarus	1	0	0.0							1	1	100.0	2	1	50.0
Belize				1	0	0.0	2	0	0.0	1	0	0.0	4	0	0.0
Bosnia and Herzegovina	2	1	50.0	4	2	50.0	1	1	100.0	1	1	100.0	8	5	62.5
Brazil	1	0	0.0										1	0	0.0
Bulgaria				3	2	66.7							3	2	66.7
Cambodia	1	0	0.0										1	0	0.0
Cameroon	2	1	50.0							1	0	0.0	3	1	33.3
Canada	8	7	87.5	14	10	71.4	8	4	50.0	13	12	92.3	43	33	76.7
China	2	0	0.0	4	0	0.0	4	3	75.0	1	0	0.0	11	3	27.3
Colombia							1	1	100.0	3	3	100.0	4	4	100.0
Croatia	1	0	0.0										1	0	0.0
Cuba	15	4	26.7	15	9	60.0	5	3	60.0	14	6	42.9	49	22	44.9
Dominican Republic							1	0	0.0				1	0	0.0
El Salvador										1	0	0.0	1	0	0.0
Ethiopia	1	1	100.0	3	2	66.7	1	1	100.0	2	2	100.0	7	6	85.7
Gambia				1	1	100.0							1	1	100.0
Georgia	1	0	0.0							1	1	100.0	2	1	50.0
Germany							2	2	100.0				2	2	100.0
Ghana	2	0	0.0	1	1	100.0				2	1	50.0	5	2	40.0
Guyana	1	0	0.0	3	1	33.3	2	0	0.0				6	1	16.7
Haiti	2	0	0.0	9	2	22.2	4	1	25.0	2	0	0.0	17	3	17.6
Hong Kong										1	1	100.0	1	1	100.0
India	19	3	15.8	23	10	43.5	18	9	50.0	22	9	40.9	82	31	37.8
Indonesia				1	0	0.0							1	0	0.0
Iran, Islamic Republic of				1	1	100.0							1	1	100.0
Israel				1	1	100.0	1	0	0.0				2	1	50.0

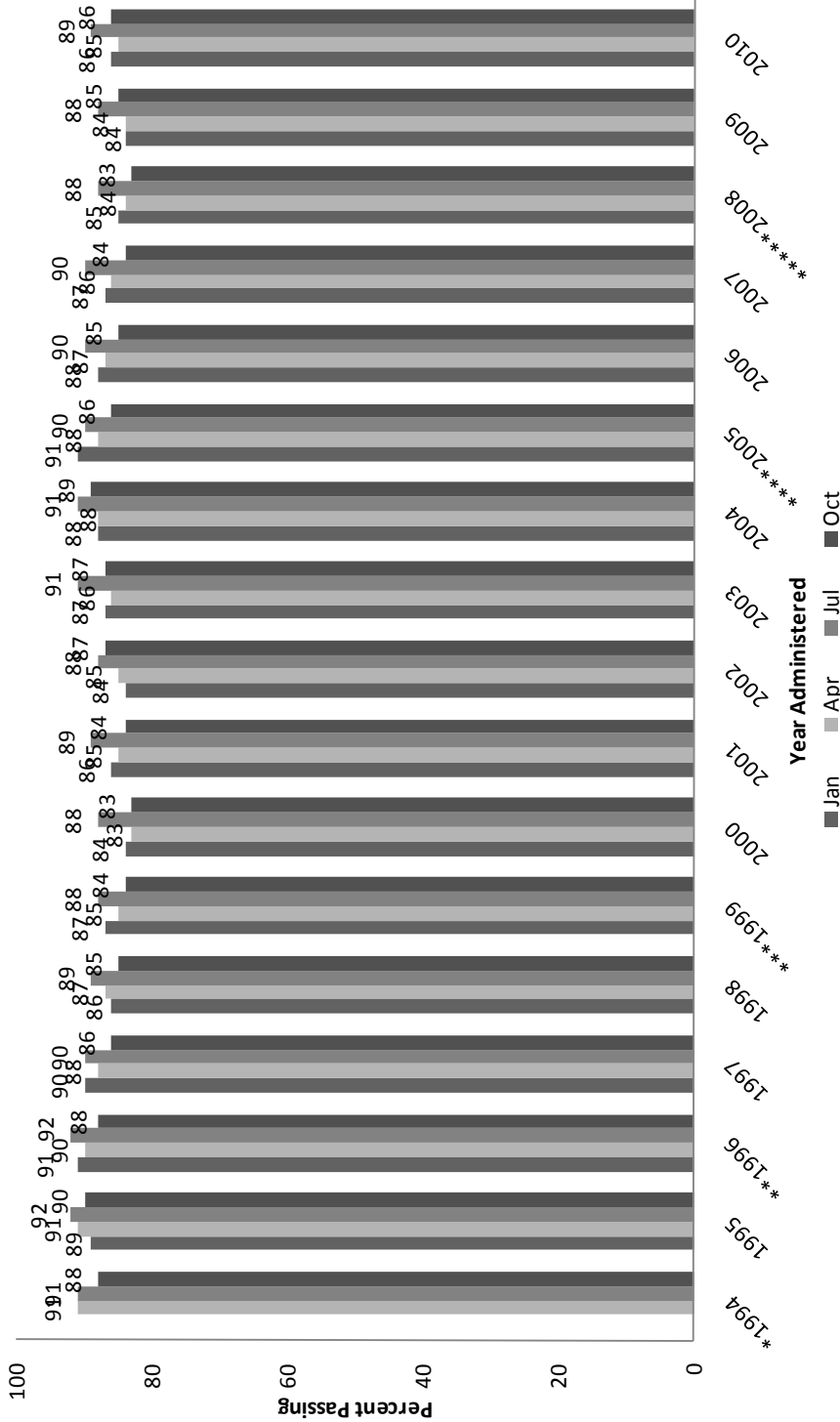
Table 12. First-Time, Internationally Educated Candidates Taking the NCLEX-PN® Examination, by Country of Education (Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 2010)

Country of Education	Jan 1 - March 31, 2010			April 1 - June 30, 2010			July 1 - Sep 30, 2010			Oct 1 - Dec 31, 2010			Total Jan 1 - Dec 31, 2010		
	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%
Italy													1	1	100.0
Jamaica	5	2	40.0	5	5	100.0	3	0	0.0	1	1	100.0	14	8	57.1
Jordan				1	0	0.0							1	0	0.0
Kenya	5	3	60.0	6	5	83.3	5	1	20.0	7	3	42.9	23	12	52.2
Korea, South	1	1	100.0										1	1	100.0
Kyrgyzstan							1	1	100.0				1	1	100.0
Liberia							1	0	0.0				1	0	0.0
Malawi				1	0	0.0							1	0	0.0
Mexico				2	1	50.0							2	1	50.0
Moldova, Republic of	1	1	100.0							1	0	0.0	2	1	50.0
Mongolia							1	0	0.0				1	0	0.0
Montenegro							1	1	100.0				1	1	100.0
New Zealand										1	1	100.0	1	1	100.0
Nigeria	7	4	57.1	9	6	66.7	12	5	41.7	7	5	71.4	35	20	57.1
Pakistan	1	0	0.0				2	0	0.0	1	1	100.0	4	1	25.0
Palestinian Territory, Occupied							1	0	0.0				1	0	0.0
Panama							1	1	100.0				1	1	100.0
Peru				2	1	50.0							2	1	50.0
Philippines	126	57	45.2	120	61	50.8	128	63	49.2	131	65	49.6	505	246	48.7
Poland							1	0	0.0				1	0	0.0
Puerto Rico	1	1	100.0	4	1	25.0	5	1	20.0	14	3	21.4	24	6	25.0
Romania				1	1	100.0	1	0	0.0	1	1	100.0	3	2	66.7
Russian Federation	2	1	50.0				1	0	0.0	1	0	0.0	4	1	25.0
Serbia				2	1	50.0				1	1	100.0	3	2	66.7
Sierra Leone	2	1	50.0	1	0	0.0	1	0	0.0	1	0	0.0	5	1	20.0
Singapore										1	0	0.0	1	0	0.0
Slovakia				1	1	100.0				1	1	100.0	2	2	100.0
Sweden										1	1	100.0	1	1	100.0

Table 12. First-Time, Internationally Educated Candidates Taking the NCLEX-PN® Examination, by Country of Education (Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 2010)

Country of Education	Jan 1 - March 31, 2010			April 1 - June 30, 2010			July 1 - Sep 30, 2010			Oct 1 - Dec 31, 2010			Total Jan 1 - Dec 31, 2010		
	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%
Taiwan	1	0	0.0	1	1	100.0	1	0	0.0	1	1	100.0	4	2	50.0
Thailand				1	1	100.0				1	1	100.0	2	2	100.0
Trinidad and Tobago	1	0	0.0										1	0	0.0
Uganda				1	0	0.0							1	0	0.0
United Kingdom				2	1	50.0		2	100.0				4	3	75.0
Uzbekistan	3	2	66.7	6	3	50.0	2	2	100.0	3	1	33.3	14	8	57.1
Total	216	91	42.1	250	131	52.4	223	103	46.2	243	124	51.0	932	449	48.2

Figure 7. NCLEX-PN® Pass Rates for First-Time, U.S.-Educated Candidates



*Apr 1994 Computer Adaptive Test (CAT) begins. Passing Standard -0.56 logits.

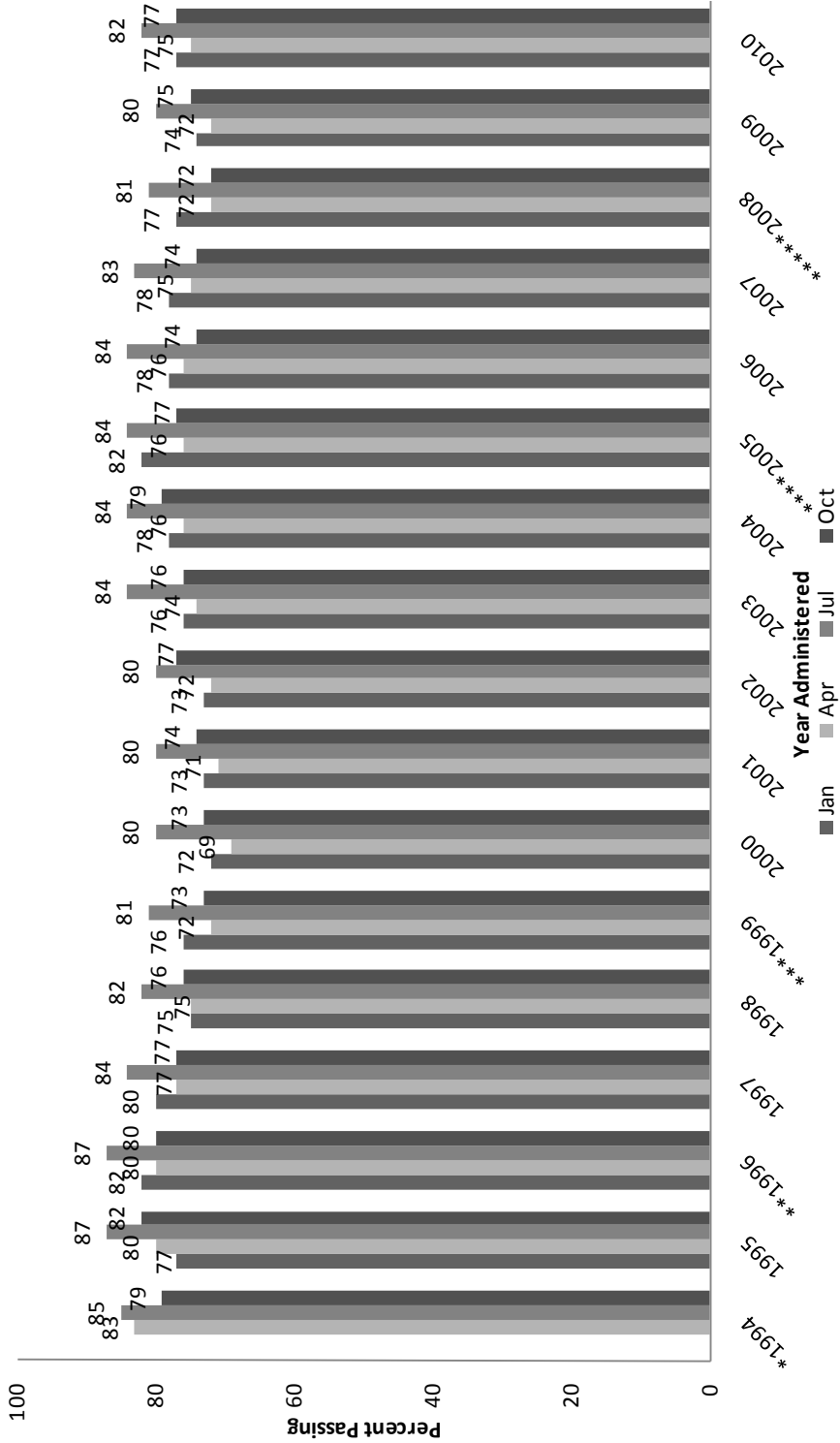
**Oct 1996 Passing Standard changed from -0.56 to -0.51 logits.

***Apr 1999 Passing Standard changed from -0.51 to -0.47 logits.

****Apr 2005 Passing Standard changed from -0.47 to -0.42 logits.

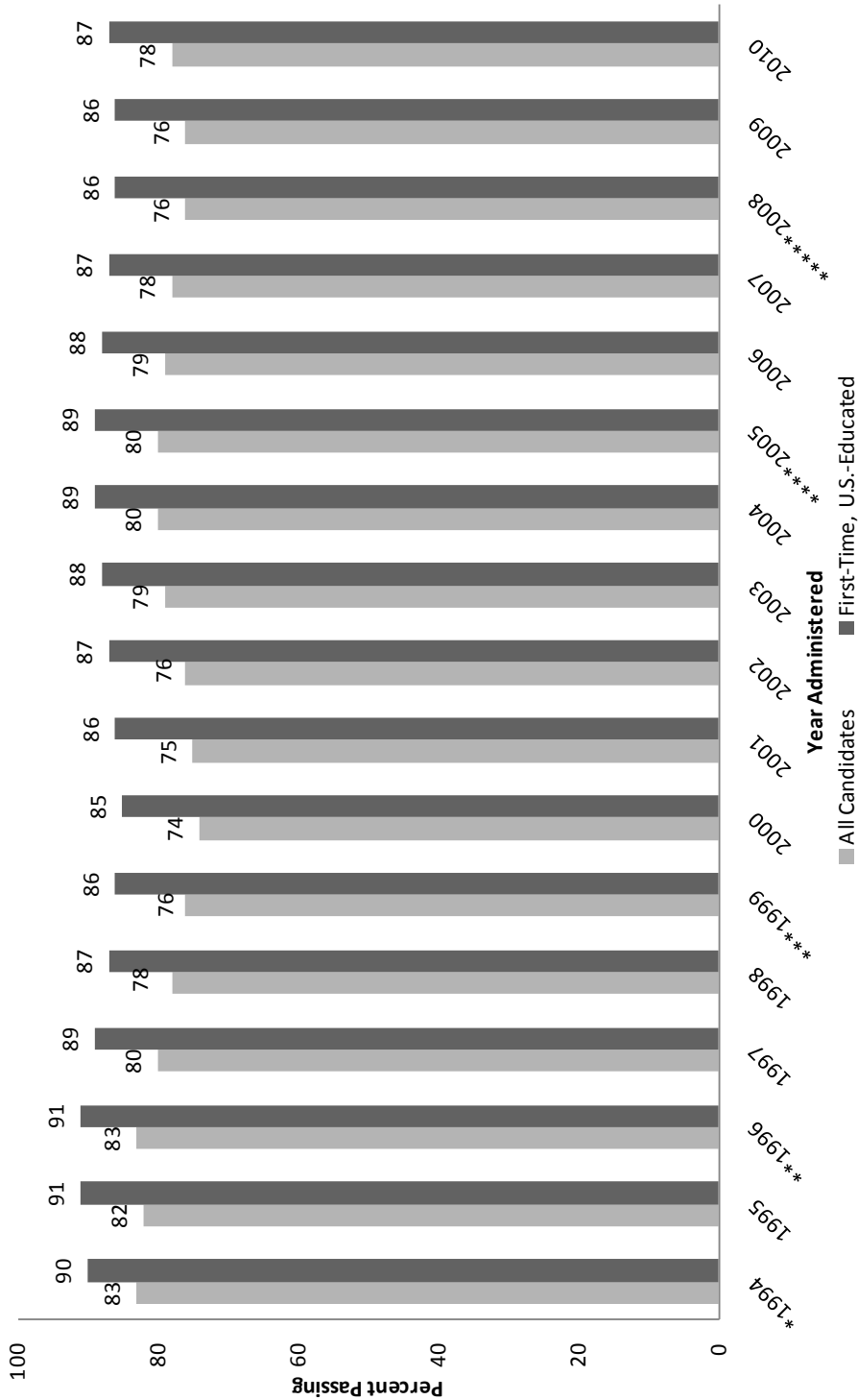
*****Apr 2008 Passing Standard changed from -0.42 to -0.37 logits.

Figure 8. NCLEX-PN® Pass Rates for All Candidates



*Apr 1994 Computer Adaptive Test (CAT) begins. Passing Standard -0.56 logits.
 **Oct 1996 Passing Standard changed from -0.56 to -0.51 logits.
 ***Apr 1999 Passing Standard changed from -0.51 to -0.47 logits.
 ****Apr 2005 Passing Standard changed from -0.47 to -0.42 logits.
 *****Apr 2008 Passing Standard changed from -0.42 to -0.37 logits.

Figure 9. NCLEX-PN® Annual Pass Rates, April 1994 - December 2010



*Apr. 1994: Computer adaptive testing (CAT) begins. Passing Standard is -0.56 logits.

**Oct. 1996: Passing Standard changed from -0.56 to -0.51 logits.

***Apr. 1999: Passing Standard changed from -0.51 to -0.47 logits.

****Apr. 2005: Passing Standard changed from -0.47 to -0.42 logits.

*****Apr. 2008: Passing Standard changed from -0.42 to -0.37 logits.

Figure 10. NCLEX-PN® Volume for First-Time, U.S.-Educated Candidates

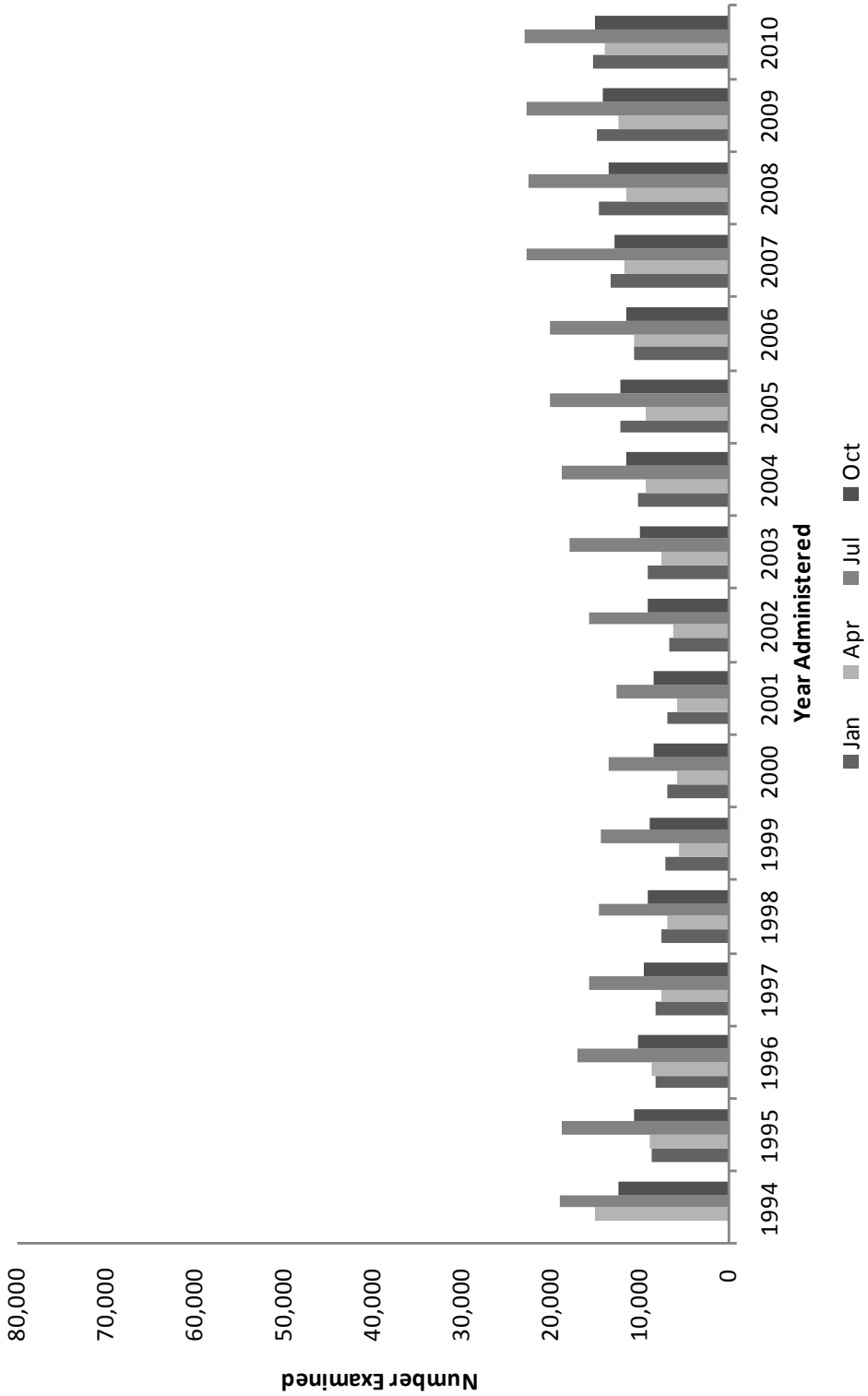


Figure 11. NCLEX-PN® Volume for All Candidates

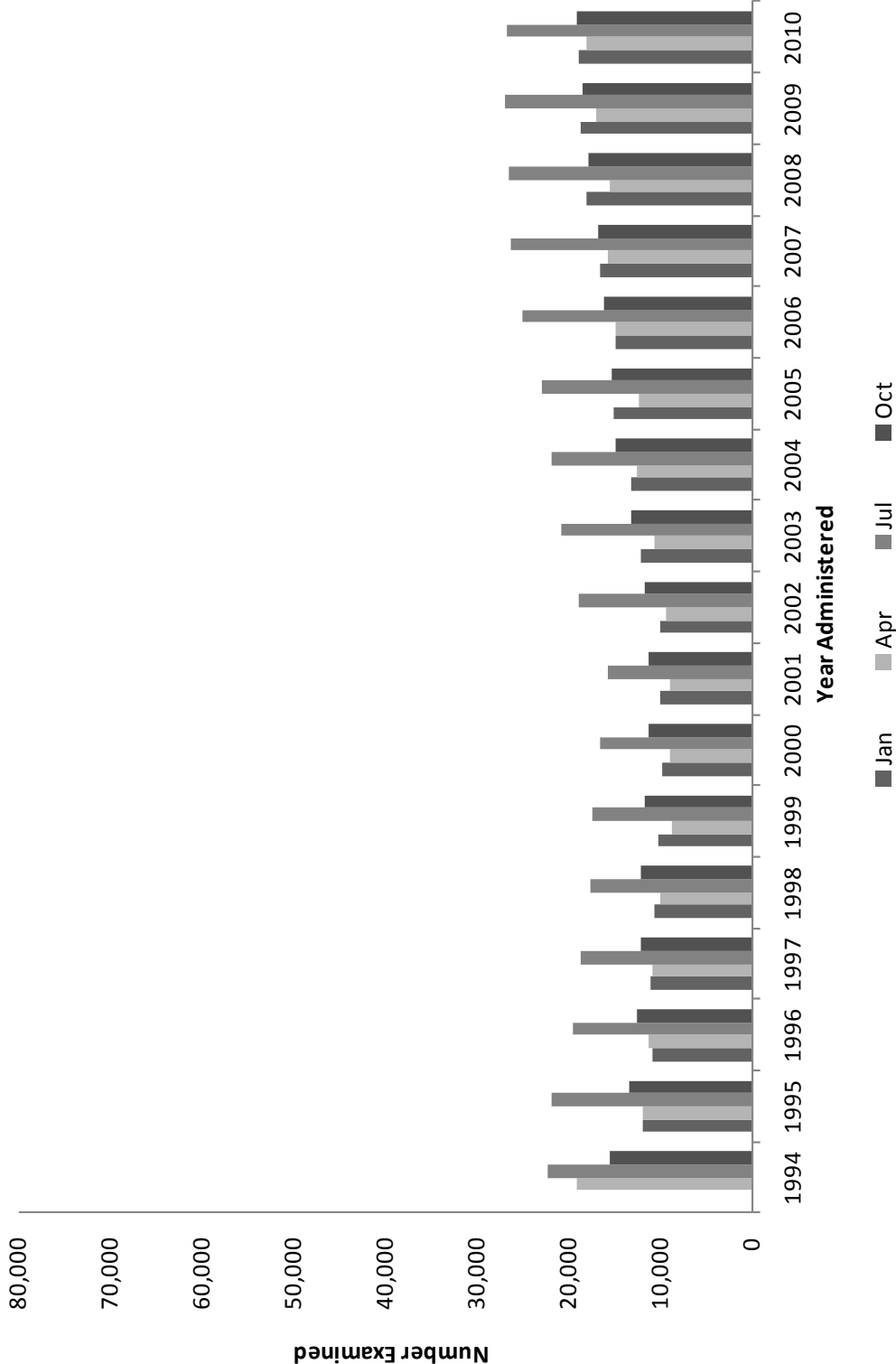
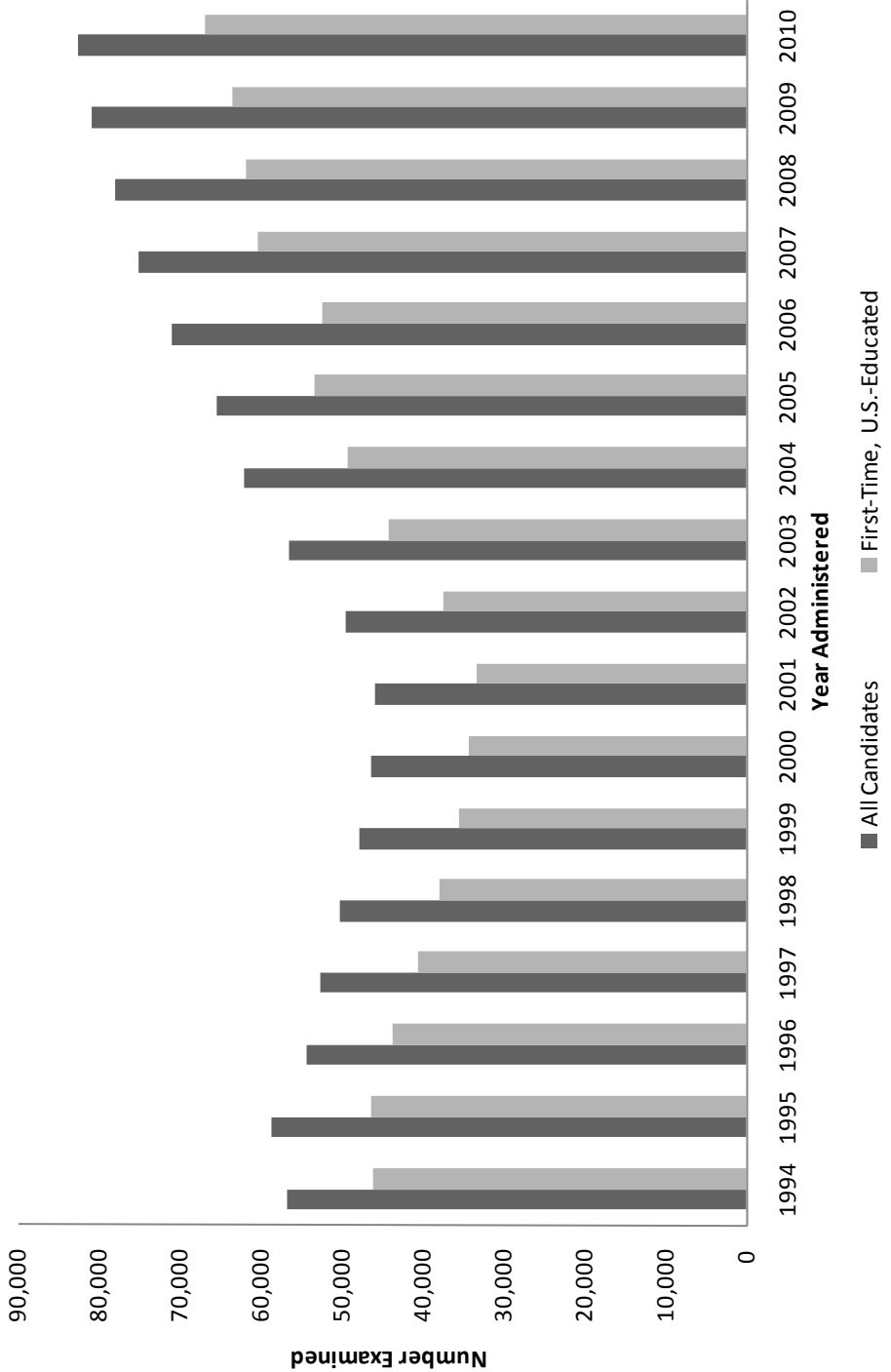


Figure 12. NCLEX-PN® Annual Volume, April 1994 - December 2010





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