

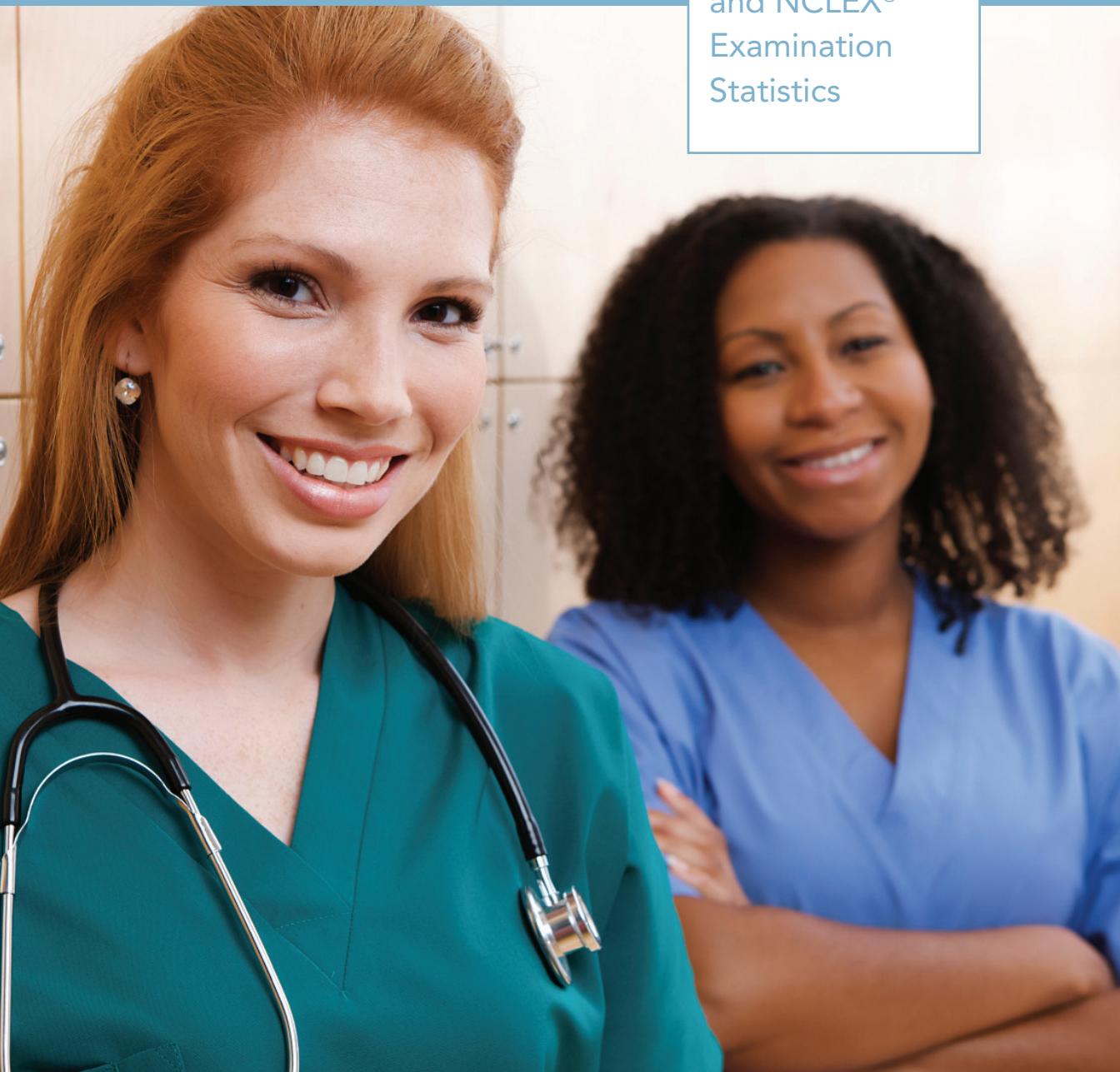


National Council of State Boards of Nursing

NCSBN RESEARCH BRIEF

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2011 Nurse
Licensee Volume
and NCLEX®
Examination
Statistics



2011 Nurse Licensee Volume and NCLEX® Examination Statistics

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 education, service, and research through collaborative leadership to promote evidence-based regulatory excellence for patient safety and public protection. NCSBN is the vehicle through which boards of nursing act and counsel together on matters of common interest. These member boards that comprise NCSBN protect the public by ensuring that safe and competent nursing care is provided by licensed nurses.

This publication provides statistics on the licensing activities of the NCSBN 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 for the period July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011. The numbers of new licenses by endorsement and examination, as well as the total number of active licenses, are provided for each jurisdiction.

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 examinations is summarized and reported by quarter and year. This publication provides a detailed breakdown of candidate performance for 2011, as well as historical data.

PART I – 2011 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, 2010 to June 30, 2011. All data were obtained from state and territorial boards of nursing (BONs). Estimates were provided where the exact figure requested for this collection of data was unknown.

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 registered nurse licenses 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).

Table 1 lists the NCSBN Member Boards' jurisdiction and the types of licenses for which a BON has licensing authority.

Table 1. Boards of Nursing Authorized to License RNs, LPN/VNs or APRNs				
JD	BON	RN	LPN/VN	APRN
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

Table 1. Boards of Nursing Authorized to License RNs, LPN/VNs or APRNs

JD	BON	RN	LPN/VN	APRN
NY	New York State Board for Nursing	YES	YES	YES
OH	Ohio Board of Nursing	YES	YES	YES
OK	Oklahoma Board of Nursing	YES	YES	YES
OR	Oregon State Board of Nursing	YES	YES	YES
PA	Pennsylvania State Board of Nursing	YES	YES	YES
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

Tables 2 through 4 provide data related to new licenses issued by endorsement or examination and the total numbers of active licenses (both RNs and LPN/VNs) by jurisdiction.

Table 2. RNs: New in State by Jurisdiction

JD	Licensure by Examination	Licensure by Endorsement	Total Number of Newly licensed RNs in Jurisdiction
	N	N	N
AR	1,565	770	2,335
AS		10	10
AZ	2,800	2,394	5,194
CA-RN	14,154	8,794	22,948
CO	2,225	2,798	5,023
CT	1,514	1,728	3,242
DC	285	2,796	3,081
DE	476	974	1,450
FL	5,094	7,324	12,418
GA-RN	3,666	3,201	6,867
GU	35	105	140
IA	1,775	854	2,629
ID	702	760	1,462
IL	390	339	729
IN	4,357	2,331	6,688
KS	1,909	1,647	3,556
KY	2,373	1,290	3,663
LA-RN	2,460	1,316	3,776
MA	3,711	2,547	6,258
ME	669	732	1,401
MI	5,092	2,111	7,203
MN	3,440	2,732	6,172
MO	3,615	2,005	5,620

Table 2. RNs: New in State by Jurisdiction

JD	Licensure by Examination	Licensure by Endorsement	Total Number of Newly licensed RNs in Jurisdiction
	N	N	N
MP	61	6	67
MT	552	768	1,320
NC	4,495	3,094	7,589
ND	557	625	1,182
NE	1,016	258	1,274
NH	578	873	1,451
NM	1,053	291	1,344
NV	878	2,259	3,137
OH	7,744	3,354	11,098
OK	2,056	1,353	3,409
OR	1,487	1,879	3,366
PA	6,824	4,022	10,846
RI	463	613	1,076
SD	640	455	1,095
TN	3,099	1,979	5,078
TX	10,262	6,251	16,513
VA	3,471	2,741	6,212
VT			1,849
WA			5,831
WI	3,471	1,698	5,169
WV-RN	1,207	1,550	2,757
WY	189	765	954
Total	112,410	84,392	204,482

No information is available for Alabama, Alaska, Hawaii, Maryland, Mississippi, New Jersey, New York, South Carolina, Utah or Virgin Islands.

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

JD	Licensure by Examination	Licensure by Endorsement	Total Number of Newly licensed LPN/VNs in Jurisdiction
	N	N	N
AR	1,106	206	1,312
AS	8	1	9
AZ	565	353	918
CA-VN	8,809	464	9,273
CO	475	342	817
CT	561	101	662
DC	177	283	460
DE	307	89	396
FL	3,191	1,366	4,557
GA-PN	1,347	839	2,186
GU	26	6	32
IA	1,314	125	1,439
ID	328	85	413
IL	165	56	221
IN	1,448	452	1,900
KS	1,022	261	1,283
KY	968	326	1,294
LA-PN	1,207	238	1,445
MA	832	215	1,047
ME	103	60	163
MI	1,697	305	2,002
MN	1,621	249	1,870
MO	1,488	323	1,811

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

JD	Licensure by Examination	Licensure by Endorsement	Total Number of Newly licensed LPN/VNs in Jurisdiction
	N	N	N
MP	2	0	2
MT	137	192	329
NC	1,093	542	1,635
ND	289	90	379
NE	343	33	376
NH	170	120	290
NM	222	80	302
NV	89	259	348
OH	4,474	900	5,374
OK	1,174	221	1,395
OR	447	152	599
PA	2,566	685	3,251
RI	42	72	114
SD	167	50	217
TN	1,584	429	2,013
TX	5,629	1,116	6,745
VA	1,912	398	2,310
VT			101
WA			1,519
WI	1,146	194	1,340
WV-PN	433	243	676
WY	64	40	104
Total	50,748	12,561	64,929

No information is available for Alabama, Alaska, Hawaii, Maryland, Mississippi, New Jersey, New York, South Carolina, 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
AL	49,963	12,935	62,898
AK	10,741	1,075	11,816
AR	37,042	15,969	53,011
AS	86	102	188
AZ	71,726	11,511	83,237
CA-RN	366,815		366,815
CA-VN		119,538	119,538
CO	58,137	9,158	67,295
CT	56,616	13,190	69,806
DC	22,226	2,384	24,610
DE	16,702	3,254	19,956
FL	234,444	70,446	304,890
GA	102,956	32,443	135,399
GU	927	170	1,097
HI	20,159	2,740	22,899
IA	48,174	12,088	60,262
ID	17,809	3,883	21,692
IL	170,140	28,364	198,504
IN	93,626	27,348	120,974
KS	45,535	10,417	55,952
KY	57,925	14,946	72,871
LA-RN	55,107		55,107
LA-PN		23,087	23,087
MA	116,860	21,265	138,125
ME	22,529	2,638	25,167
MD	66,128	12,338	78,466
MI	132,632	26,806	159,438
MN	86,718	24,076	110,794
MS	39,840	12,553	52,393

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

JD	RNs	LPN/VNs	Total Number
	N	N	N
MO	88,168	24,188	112,356
MP	1,269	39	1,308
MT	14,163	3,313	17,476
NC	114,920	21,394	136,314
ND	11,482	3,667	15,149
NE	27,381	6,921	34,302
NH	21,596	3,459	25,055
NJ	103,629	4,869	108,498
NM	24,060	3,250	27,310
NV	27,582	3,277	30,859
NY	272,267	70,123	342,390
OH	179,203	55,575	234,778
OK	43,586	17,991	61,577
OR	46,772	4,273	51,045
PA	213,057	57,760	270,817
RI	17,124	2,038	19,162
SC	49,352	11,971	61,323
SD	13,952	2,280	16,232
TN	83,647	29,899	113,546
TX	239,377	93,413	332,790
UT	21,950	3,411	25,361
VA	104,359	32,313	136,672
VI	640	281	921
VT	15,893		15,893
WA	83,300	14,150	97,450
WI	164,446	46,701	211,147
WV-LPN		7,470	7,470
WV-RN	29,196		29,196
WY	8,399	1,113	9,512
Total	4,022,333	1,039,863	5,062,196¹

¹ Includes 766,965 total number of active licenses reported in 2010 for Alabama, Alaska, Hawaii, Maryland, Mississippi, New Jersey, New York, South Carolina, Utah and Virgin Islands.

Table 5 provides the total number of 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.

JD	RNs	LPN/VNs
AR	80	
AS	7	
CA-RN	3,473	
CT	113	10
GA	27	
GU	42	2
IA	3	
ID	12	
IN	5	
KY	12	
LA-RN	19	
ME	17	1
MN	382	4
MO	53	5
MP	62	1
NC	112	23
ND	12	
NM	79	15
OK	26	
OR	109	10
PA	176	4
RI	2	
TX	1,343	20
VA	12	
WV-PN		8
WV-RN	1	
Total	6,179	103

Information is provided by 28 jurisdictions

Total Number of Newly Licensed Nurses in All Jurisdictions	
RNs	204,482
LPN/VNs	64,929
Total	269,411
Total number of Active Licenses in All Jurisdictions¹	
RNs	4,022,333
LPN/VNs	1,039,863
Total	5,062,196
Total Number of Graduates of Foreign Nursing Programs in All Jurisdictions²	
RNs	6,179
LPN/VNs	103
Total	6,282

¹ Includes 766,965 total number of active licenses reported in 2010 for Alabama, Alaska, Hawaii, Maryland, Mississippi, New Jersey, New York, South Carolina, Utah and Virgin Islands.

² Information is provided by 28 jurisdictions.

Tables 7 and 8 provide the numbers of APRN licenses issued within each jurisdiction by role and population.

Table 7. Total Number of APRN Licenses Within Member Board Jurisdictions

Abbreviation	Category	Active Licenses	
		N	%
CNM	Certified Nurse Midwife	7,406	3.9%
CRNA	Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist	41,238	21.7%
CNS	Clinical Nurse Specialist	14,775	7.8%
Nurse Practitioners			
NP	No specialty designation	78,750	41.5%
AC	Acute Care Adult Nurse Practitioner	1,590	0.8%
AHP	Adult/General Health Nurse Practitioner	5,393	2.8%
CHP	Acute Care Pediatric Nurse Practitioner	2,168	1.1%
FAM	Family	23,124	12.2%
NEO	Neonatal	1,829	1.0%
WOM	Obstetrical and/or Gynecological and/or Women's Health	3,072	1.6%
PSY	Psychiatric and/or Mental Health	1,889	1.0%
Other	Other Types of Nurse Practitioners	8,519	4.5%
Total		189,753	100.0%

Table 8. Total Number of APRNs by Role/Population and Jurisdiction

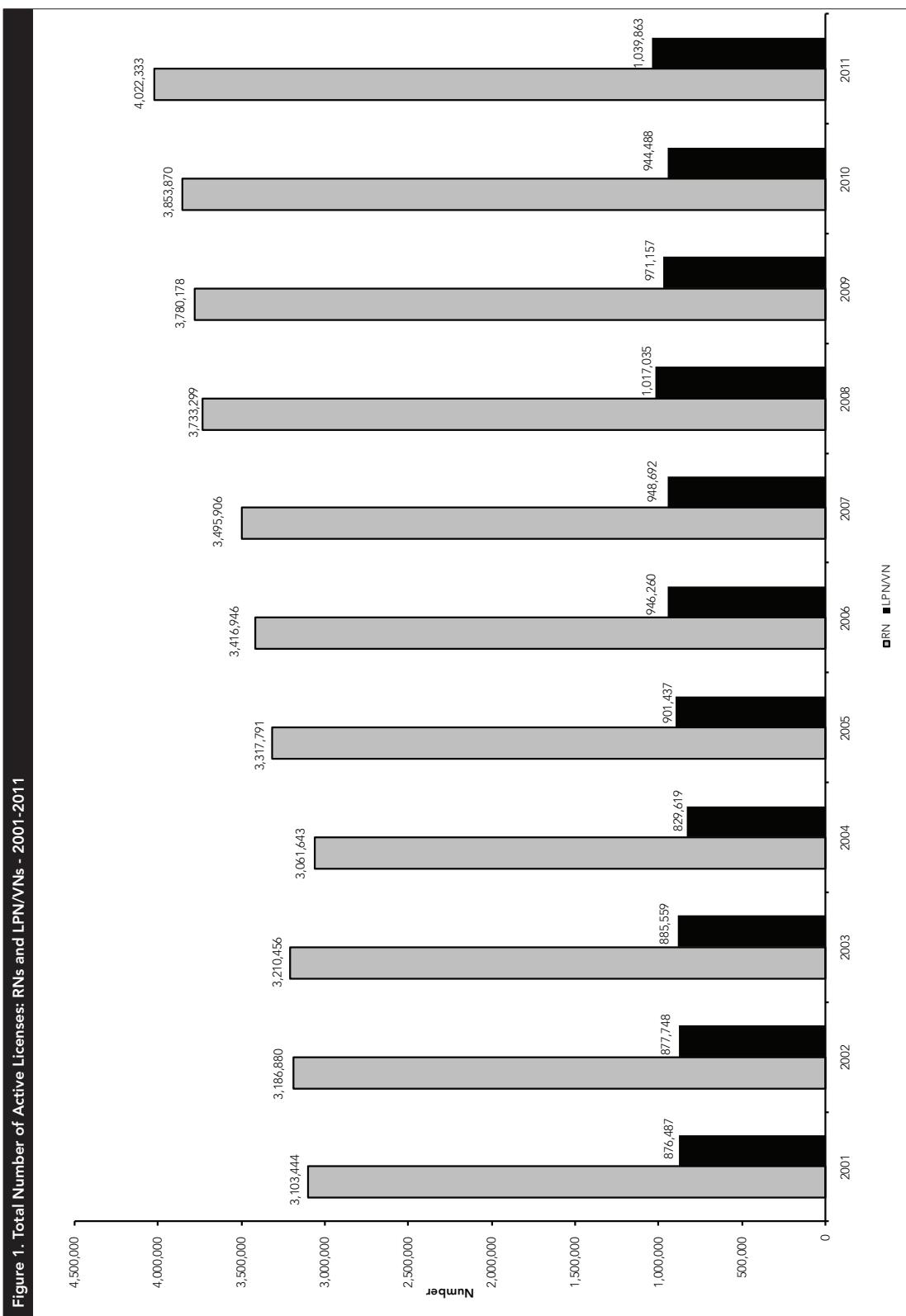
JD	CNM	CRNA	CNS	Nurse Practitioners										Total Active Licenses
				No Specialty Designation	NP	AC	AHP	CHP	FNP	NEO	WOM	PSY	Other	
N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
AR	28	699	133	1,318										2,178
AS	1		1	3				1	4		1			11
AZ	206	540	150		106	542	296	1,731	171	319	295	79		4,435
CA-RN	1,191	2,047	3,099	16,181										22,518
CO	300	480	658	2,775										4,213
CT	219													219
DC	57	105	40	684										886
DE	19	149	95	138					251	20	44	8		724
FL	676	4,318	46	12,951	1	16	1	123	7	15	25			18,179
GA-RN & -PN	415	1,664	285	4,611										6,975
GU	7	9	1	2	1			2	5		2			29
IA	80	392	90		43	95	178	723	28	140	72	50		1,891
ID	33	390	43	668										1,134
IL	410	1,747	1,022	4,789										7,968
IN	82		182	2,752										3,016
KS	72	870	611	21	78	228	179	1,267	147	102	71			3,646
KY	99	1,145	169	2	69	282	218	1,877	34	204	103			4,202

Table 8. Total Number of APRNs by Role/Population and Jurisdiction

JD	Nurse Practitioners												Total Active Licenses
	CNM	CRNA	CNS	No Specialty Designation	AC	AHP	CHP	FNP	NEO	WOM	PSY	Other	
					N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	
LA-RN	40	1,355	256	145	119	278	8	1,320	169	105	63		3,858
MA	467	1,147	941	6,556									9,111
ME	83	394	119	19	19	165	63	690	14	63	161	11	1,801
MI	318	2,440		4,056									6,814
MN	245	1,637	529		2	495	28	1,257	156	256	90	767	5,462
MO	98	1,618	393	598	104	657	11	1,995	203	282	71		6,030
MP	4			9									13
MT	46	152	46	517									761
NC	204	2,978	1,055	386	120	710	309	1,970	166	129	99		8,126
ND	11	301	48		9	16	13	362	7	29	11		807
NE	32	513	99	1,052									1,696
NH	8	30		3	2	19		39	3	1	10		115
NM		383	161	1,167									1,711
OH	334	2,539	1,689	5,251									9,813
OK	58	611	249	1,092									2,010
OR	266	516	200		38	333	137	1,137	45	111	409		3,192
PA			88										7,457
RI	74	227	118	529		27		79		2	8	54	1,118
SD	28	405	76	489									998
TN	142	2,382	121	6,115									8,760
TX	382	3,745	1,439		601	819	156	4,788	479	992	272		13,673
VA	236	1,989	449		258	658	531	2,520	153	199	113		7,106
VT												101	101
WA	361	817		3,852									5,030
WV-RN	60	393	67		15	37	31	760	25	53			1,441
WY	14	111	7	19	5	16	6	226	2	23	8		437
Total	7,406	41,238	14,775	78,750	1,590	5,393	2,168	23,124	1,829	3,072	1,889	8,519	189,753

Figure 1 provides a review of the numbers of active licenses for the years 2001-2011. Unless noted otherwise, all numbers are calculated in terms of column totals.

Figure 1. Total Number of Active Licenses: RNs and LPN/VNs - 2001-2011



PART II – 2011 NCLEX® EXAMINATION STATISTICS

Introduction

In 1982, NCSBN substantially revised the State Board Test Pool Examination (SBTPE). 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 2011, 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. A list of the members on the panel of judges and their qualifications is also 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 April 2010, the standard increased 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. In April 2008, the standard increased to -0.37 logits. In April 2011, the standard increased to -0.27 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 is 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 already would have stopped administering items. However, when the response patterns of people who ran out of time were investigated, 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	Jan. 1 - March 31, 2011			April 1 - June 30, 2011			July 1 - Sept. 30, 2011			Oct. 1 - Dec. 31, 2011			Total: Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 2011		
	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%
First-Time, U.S.-Educated															
Diploma	808	747	92.5	738	667	90.4	1,536	1,363	88.7	350	309	88.3	3,432	3,086	89.9
Baccalaureate Degree	13,550	12,336	91.0	18,063	16,740	92.7	21,729	18,684	86.0	4,925	4,162	84.5	58,267	51,922	89.1
Associate Degree	20,840	18,364	88.1	26,174	23,725	90.6	29,002	24,422	84.2	6,747	5,483	81.3	82,763	71,994	87.0
Special Program Codes	24	17	70.8	35	26	74.3	22	16	72.7	11	7	63.6	92	66	71.7
Total First-Time, U.S.-Educated	35,222	31,464	89.3	45,010	41,158	91.4	52,289	44,485	85.1	12,033	9,961	82.8	144,554	127,068	87.9
Repeat, U.S.-Educated	5,414	2,924	54.0	6,188	3,314	53.6	7,932	4,252	53.6	7,938	4,836	60.9	27,472	15,326	55.8
First-Time, Internationally Educated	2,415	768	31.8	2,623	968	36.9	2,375	856	36.0	2,309	711	30.8	9,722	3,303	34.0
Repeat, Internationally Educated	3,186	668	21.0	3,560	797	22.4	3,439	717	20.8	3,371	625	18.5	13,556	2,807	20.7
All Candidates	46,237	35,824	77.5	57,381	46,237	80.6	66,035	50,310	76.2	25,651	16,133	62.9	195,304	145,504	76.0

Performance of RN Education Programs. The mean nose-off rate for those programs was 80.9% (SD 12.9%). When including only those programs based upon first-time examinees ($N = 1,944$), the mean nose-off rate was 87.4% (SD 11.1%).

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

NCLEX-RN®	January–December 2011
Passing Standard ¹	-0.16 logits
Estimated Decision Consistency ²	0.93
Average Test Length ³	117 items
Percent of Candidates Taking the Minimum Number of Items	53.5%
Percent of Candidates Taking the Maximum Number of Items	13.2%
Average Testing Time ⁴	2 hours, 16 minutes
Percent of Candidates Taking the Maximum Amount of Time	1.1%

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, 2011)¹

Jurisdiction	RN-Diploma			RN-Baccalaureate			RN-Associate Degree			Total Jan. 1 - Mar. 31, 2011		
	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%
ALABAMA	0			325	301	92.6	319	281	88.1	644	582	90.4
ALASKA	0			33	31	93.9	37	34	91.9	70	65	92.9
AMERICAN SAMOA	0			0			0			0		
ARIZONA	0			254	235	92.5	719	663	92.2	973	898	92.3
ARKANSAS	74	64	86.5	95	84	88.4	335	300	89.6	504	448	88.9
CALIFORNIA – RN	0			1,075	977	90.9	2,384	2,145	90.0	3,465	3,126	90.2
COLORADO	0			331	307	92.8	232	214	92.2	563	521	92.5
CONNECTICUT	104	98	94.2	58	55	94.8	134	117	87.3	298	272	91.3
DELAWARE	0			7	7	100.0	136	120	88.2	143	127	88.8
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA	0			51	47	92.2	33	22	66.7	84	69	82.1
FLORIDA	0			313	297	94.9	1,670	1,463	87.6	1,984	1,760	88.7
GEORGIA – RN	0			539	494	91.7	385	348	90.4	924	842	91.1
GUAM	0			0			2	2	100.0	2	2	100.0
HAWAII	0			132	112	84.9	60	53	88.3	192	165	85.9
IDAHO	0			96	92	95.8	123	107	87.0	219	199	90.9
ILLINOIS	0			652	591	90.6	706	626	88.7	1,359	1,217	89.6
INDIANA	15	11	73.3	365	324	88.8	621	493	79.4	1,001	828	82.7
IOWA	0			150	129	86.0	333	290	87.1	483	419	86.8
KANSAS	0			117	101	86.3	262	226	86.3	379	327	86.3
KENTUCKY	0			311	292	93.9	432	385	89.1	743	677	91.1
LOUISIANA – RN	27	27	100.0	469	446	95.1	453	417	92.1	949	890	93.8
MAINE	0			74	68	91.9	36	33	91.7	110	101	91.8
MARYLAND	0			216	188	87.0	479	420	87.7	695	608	87.5
MASSACHUSETTS	0			422	389	92.2	396	364	91.9	821	756	92.1
MICHIGAN	0			643	590	91.8	534	475	89.0	1,177	1,065	90.5
MINNESOTA	0			222	201	90.5	547	474	86.7	769	675	87.8
MISSISSIPPI	0			122	109	89.3	373	331	88.7	495	440	88.9
MISSOURI	8	7	87.5	332	305	91.9	482	434	90.0	823	747	90.8
MONTANA	0			70	66	94.3	49	42	85.7	119	108	90.8
NEBRASKA	0			292	271	92.8	14	10	71.4	306	281	91.8
NEVADA	0			114	107	93.9	134	124	92.5	248	231	93.2
NEW HAMPSHIRE	0			45	43	95.6	10	10	100.0	57	55	96.5
NEW JERSEY	193	184	95.3	91	79	86.8	268	245	91.4	554	509	91.9
NEW MEXICO	0			77	67	87.0	218	171	78.4	295	238	80.7
NEW YORK	0			565	492	87.1	1,433	1,241	86.6	2,000	1,733	86.7
NORTH CAROLINA	65	65	100.0	425	399	93.9	337	294	87.2	827	758	91.7
NORTH DAKOTA	0			73	66	90.4	1	1	100.0	74	67	90.5
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLAND	0			0			0			0		
OHIO	41	33	80.5	423	374	88.4	1,114	972	87.3	1,578	1,379	87.4
OKLAHOMA	0			129	122	94.6	277	249	89.9	407	372	91.4

Table 3. First-Time, U.S.-Educated Candidates Taking the NCLEX-RN® Examination by Degree Type (Jan. 1 - March 31, 2011)¹

Jurisdiction	RN-Diploma			RN-Baccalaureate			RN-Associate Degree			Total Jan. 1 - Mar. 31, 2011		
	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%
OREGON	0			85	79	92.9	13	12	92.3	98	91	92.9
PENNSYLVANIA	168	153	91.1	452	414	91.6	472	406	86.0	1,095	976	89.1
RHODE ISLAND	0			93	82	88.2	72	68	94.4	165	150	90.9
SOUTH CAROLINA	0			218	188	86.2	316	291	92.1	534	479	89.7
SOUTH DAKOTA	0			87	77	88.5	54	46	85.2	141	123	87.2
TENNESSEE	0			459	443	96.5	393	367	93.4	852	810	95.1
TEXAS	60	54	90.0	1,285	1,185	92.2	1,723	1,469	85.3	3,068	2,708	88.3
UTAH	0			54	47	87.0	314	275	87.6	368	322	87.5
VERMONT	0			2	2	100.0	1	1	100.0	3	3	100.0
VIRGIN ISLANDS	0			0			0			0		
VIRGINIA	53	51	96.2	445	401	90.1	251	215	85.7	749	667	89.1
WASHINGTON	0			170	153	90.0	259	232	89.6	429	385	89.7
WEST VIRGINIA – RN	0			117	83	70.9	113	101	89.4	230	184	80.0
WISCONSIN	0			374	323	86.4	726	645	88.8	1,100	968	88.0
WYOMING	0			1	1	100.0	55	40	72.7	56	41	73.2
TOTAL	808	747	92.5	13,550	12,336	91.0	20,840	18,364	88.1	35,222	31,464	89.3

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, 2011)¹

Jurisdiction	RN-Diploma			RN-Baccalaureate			RN-Associate Degree			Total Apr. 1 - June 30, 2011		
	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%
ALABAMA	0			525	502	95.6	878	797	90.8	1,403	1,299	92.6
ALASKA	0			23	22	95.7	33	29	87.9	56	51	91.1
AMERICAN SAMOA	0			0			0			0		
ARIZONA	0			251	238	94.8	602	563	93.5	853	801	93.9
ARKANSAS	8	5	62.5	118	108	91.5	109	95	87.2	235	208	88.5
CALIFORNIA – RN	0			965	866	89.7	1,425	1,283	90.0	2,400	2,157	89.9
COLORADO	0			303	272	89.8	342	317	92.7	645	589	91.3
CONNECTICUT	54	47	87.0	164	156	95.1	131	117	89.3	353	324	91.8
DELAWARE	26	23	88.5	75	62	82.7	75	67	89.3	176	152	86.4
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA	0			75	72	96.0	18	11	61.1	93	83	89.3
FLORIDA	0			677	631	93.2	1,651	1,499	90.8	2,329	2,130	91.5
GEORGIA – RN	0			742	701	94.5	655	608	92.8	1,397	1,309	93.7
GUAM	0			0			3	2	66.7	3	2	66.7
HAWAII	0			39	29	74.4	17	16	94.1	56	45	80.4
IDAHO	0			104	101	97.1	135	130	96.3	239	231	96.7
ILLINOIS	20	18	90.0	800	756	94.5	704	648	92.1	1,527	1,425	93.3
INDIANA	14	11	78.6	815	767	94.1	888	764	86.0	1,717	1,542	89.8
IOWA	0			233	214	91.9	449	410	91.3	682	624	91.5
KANSAS	0			480	436	90.8	613	551	89.9	1,093	987	90.3
KENTUCKY	0			356	340	95.5	768	700	91.2	1,124	1,040	92.5
LOUISIANA – RN	0			204	187	91.7	268	255	95.2	472	442	93.6
MAINE	0			139	123	88.5	268	255	95.2	407	378	92.9
MARYLAND	0			203	173	85.2	437	406	92.9	640	579	90.5
MASSACHUSETTS	52	48	92.3	329	299	90.9	316	298	94.3	698	645	92.4
MICHIGAN	0			410	380	92.7	684	632	92.4	1,096	1,014	92.5
MINNESOTA	0			563	514	91.3	995	881	88.5	1,560	1,396	89.5
MISSISSIPPI	0			262	240	91.6	837	756	90.3	1,099	996	90.6
MISSOURI	11	11	100.0	571	546	95.6	467	428	91.7	1,050	986	93.9
MONTANA	0			89	81	91.0	92	77	83.7	181	158	87.3
NEBRASKA	0			295	284	96.3	175	156	89.1	470	440	93.6
NEVADA	0			154	142	92.2	121	113	93.4	275	255	92.7
NEW HAMPSHIRE	0			72	71	98.6	253	246	97.2	326	317	97.2
NEW JERSEY	108	104	96.3	136	124	91.2	220	196	89.1	468	426	91.0
NEW MEXICO	0			74	69	93.2	181	156	86.2	255	225	88.2
NEW YORK	0			567	493	87.0	1,383	1,184	85.6	1,950	1,677	86.0
NORTH CAROLINA	26	25	96.2	662	636	96.1	1,648	1,530	92.8	2,336	2,191	93.8
NORTH DAKOTA	0			224	215	96.0	59	57	96.6	283	272	96.1
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLAND	0			0			1	0	0.0	1	0	0.0
OHIO	92	75	81.5	846	771	91.1	1,035	924	89.3	1,973	1,770	89.7
OKLAHOMA	0			371	343	92.5	474	430	90.7	847	775	91.5

Table 4. First-Time, U.S.-Educated Candidates Taking the NCLEX-RN® Examination by Degree Type (April 1 - June 30, 2011)¹

Jurisdiction	RN-Diploma			RN-Baccalaureate			RN-Associate Degree			Total Apr. 1 - June 30, 2011		
	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%
OREGON	0			274	248	90.5	75	75	100.0	349	323	92.6
PENNSYLVANIA	139	124	89.2	558	526	94.3	498	426	85.5	1,196	1,077	90.1
RHODE ISLAND	5	5	100.0	32	30	93.8	23	22	95.7	60	57	95.0
SOUTH CAROLINA	0			552	512	92.8	468	445	95.1	1,022	958	93.7
SOUTH DAKOTA	0			179	167	93.3	190	174	91.6	369	341	92.4
TENNESSEE	0			720	676	93.9	700	663	94.7	1,420	1,339	94.3
TEXAS	26	23	88.5	1,408	1,309	93.0	2,466	2,195	89.0	3,900	3,527	90.4
UTAH	0			176	173	98.3	433	384	88.7	610	558	91.5
VERMONT	0			43	43	100.0	118	106	89.8	161	149	92.6
VIRGIN ISLANDS	0			0			0			0		
VIRGINIA	157	148	94.3	383	350	91.4	619	563	91.0	1,159	1,061	91.5
WASHINGTON	0			173	161	93.1	353	328	92.9	526	489	93.0
WEST VIRGINIA – RN	0			257	207	80.5	256	232	90.6	513	439	85.6
WISCONSIN	0			374	357	95.5	456	427	93.6	830	784	94.5
WYOMING	0			18	17	94.4	109	98	89.9	127	115	90.6
TOTAL	738	667	90.4	18,063	16,740	92.7	26,174	23,725	90.6	45,010	41,158	91.4

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, 2011)¹

Jurisdiction	RN-Diploma			RN-Baccalaureate			RN-Associate Degree			Total July 1 - Sept. 30, 2011		
	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%
ALABAMA	0			428	370	86.5	639	523	81.9	1,067	893	83.7
ALASKA	0			27	21	77.8	13	8	61.5	40	29	72.5
AMERICAN SAMOA	0			0			2	1	50.0	2	1	50.0
ARIZONA	0			316	284	89.9	489	423	86.5	805	707	87.8
ARKANSAS	135	120	88.9	343	290	84.6	319	263	82.5	797	673	84.4
CALIFORNIA – RN	0			1,344	1,153	85.8	2,438	2,113	86.7	3,785	3,267	86.3
COLORADO	0			320	282	88.1	215	170	79.1	535	452	84.5
CONNECTICUT	5	3	60.0	340	317	93.2	354	327	92.4	700	648	92.6
DELAWARE	3	3	100.0	157	134	85.4	51	40	78.4	211	177	83.9
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA	0			115	93	80.9	21	14	66.7	136	107	78.7
FLORIDA	0			940	852	90.6	1,690	1,453	86.0	2,630	2,305	87.6
GEORGIA – RN	0			493	418	84.8	448	377	84.2	941	795	84.5
GUAM	0			8	8	100.0	1	1	100.0	9	9	100.0
HAWAII	0			166	138	83.1	97	79	81.4	265	218	82.3
IDAHO	0			67	58	86.6	121	101	83.5	188	159	84.6
ILLINOIS	3	2	66.7	1,001	836	83.5	1,464	1,246	85.1	2,469	2,085	84.4
INDIANA	33	27	81.8	497	426	85.7	590	463	78.5	1,120	916	81.8
IOWA	0			243	208	85.6	518	423	81.7	761	631	82.9
KANSAS	0			121	89	73.6	118	87	73.7	239	176	73.6
KENTUCKY	0			229	198	86.5	416	344	82.7	645	542	84.0
LOUISIANA – RN	0			424	367	86.6	314	269	85.7	738	636	86.2
MAINE	0			86	71	82.6	61	50	82.0	147	121	82.3
MARYLAND	0			634	525	82.8	565	481	85.1	1,199	1,006	83.9
MASSACHUSETTS	50	39	78.0	1,105	952	86.2	794	697	87.8	1,950	1,689	86.6
MICHIGAN	0			816	708	86.8	1,335	1,141	85.5	2,153	1,850	85.9
MINNESOTA	0			287	232	80.8	420	316	75.2	708	549	77.5
MISSISSIPPI	0			83	63	75.9	174	115	66.1	257	178	69.3
MISSOURI	6	5	83.3	688	626	91.0	531	438	82.5	1,226	1,069	87.2
MONTANA	0			33	28	84.9	77	54	70.1	110	82	74.5
NEBRASKA	0			181	153	84.5	160	132	82.5	341	285	83.6
NEVADA	0			91	75	82.4	193	165	85.5	284	240	84.5
NEW HAMPSHIRE	0			99	91	91.9	199	165	82.9	298	256	85.9
NEW JERSEY	340	301	88.5	523	452	86.4	627	576	91.9	1,492	1,331	89.2
NEW MEXICO	0			22	19	86.4	280	206	73.6	302	225	74.5
NEW YORK	8	8	100.0	1,697	1,374	81.0	3,045	2,591	85.1	4,752	3,974	83.6
NORTH CAROLINA	43	41	95.4	231	191	82.7	336	264	78.6	610	496	81.3
NORTH DAKOTA	0			61	46	75.4	38	30	79.0	99	76	76.8
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLAND	0			0			10	6	60.0	10	6	60.0
OHIO	123	93	75.6	1,388	1,191	85.8	1,928	1,628	84.4	3,439	2,912	84.7
OKLAHOMA	0			418	348	83.3	430	332	77.2	850	682	80.2

Table 5. First-Time, U.S.-Educated Candidates Taking the NCLEX-RN® Examination by Degree Type (July 1 - Sept. 30, 2011)¹

Jurisdiction	RN-Diploma			RN-Baccalaureate			RN-Associate Degree			Total July 1 - Sept. 30, 2011		
	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%
OREGON	0			308	276	89.6	485	443	91.3	793	719	90.7
PENNSYLVANIA	609	557	91.5	1,722	1,532	89.0	1,757	1,503	85.5	4,088	3,592	87.9
RHODE ISLAND	14	14	100.0	171	156	91.2	144	132	91.7	329	302	91.8
SOUTH CAROLINA	0			135	91	67.4	340	295	86.8	477	388	81.3
SOUTH DAKOTA	0			77	70	90.9	127	107	84.3	205	178	86.8
TENNESSEE	0			441	393	89.1	313	248	79.2	754	641	85.0
TEXAS	44	38	86.4	779	655	84.1	1,294	990	76.5	2,117	1,683	79.5
UTAH	0			110	102	92.7	287	231	80.5	398	334	83.9
VERMONT	0			60	56	93.3	69	60	87.0	129	116	89.9
VIRGIN ISLANDS	0			11	8	72.7	14	14	100.0	25	22	88.0
VIRGINIA	120	112	93.3	513	446	86.9	886	746	84.2	1,519	1,304	85.8
WASHINGTON	0			452	419	92.7	962	854	88.8	1,414	1,273	90.0
WEST VIRGINIA – RN	0			170	127	74.7	189	152	80.4	359	279	77.7
WISCONSIN	0			711	624	87.8	498	440	88.4	1,209	1,064	88.0
WYOMING	0			47	42	89.4	116	95	81.9	163	137	84.0
TOTAL	1,536	1,363	88.7	21,729	18,684	86.0	29,002	24,422	84.2	52,289	44,485	85.1

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, 2011)¹

Jurisdiction	RN-Diploma			RN-Baccalaureate			RN-Associate Degree			Total Oct. 1 - Dec. 31, 2011		
	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%
ALABAMA	0			85	64	75.3	137	112	81.8	222	176	79.3
ALASKA	0			19	13	68.4	3	3	100.0	22	16	72.7
AMERICAN SAMOA	0			0			1	1	100.0	1	1	100.0
ARIZONA	0			106	95	89.6	84	75	89.3	190	170	89.5
ARKANSAS	8	6	75.0	17	14	82.4	93	81	87.1	118	101	85.6
CALIFORNIA – RN	0			488	417	85.5	492	412	83.7	983	830	84.4
COLORADO	0			112	105	93.8	78	62	79.5	190	167	87.9
CONNECTICUT	2	2	100.0	66	59	89.4	55	46	83.6	123	107	87.0
DELAWARE	0			15	12	80.0	11	7	63.6	26	19	73.1
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA	0			10	8	80.0	10	10	100.0	20	18	90.0
FLORIDA	0			271	234	86.4	904	720	79.7	1,175	954	81.2
GEORGIA – RN	0			71	60	84.5	53	46	86.8	124	106	85.5
GUAM	0			10	8	80.0	1	1	100.0	11	9	81.8
HAWAII	0			71	52	73.2	10	7	70.0	81	59	72.8
IDAHO	0			9	8	88.9	32	28	87.5	41	36	87.8
ILLINOIS	1	1	100.0	167	145	86.8	150	107	71.3	319	253	79.3
INDIANA	15	12	80.0	106	87	82.1	198	142	71.7	319	241	75.5
IOWA	0			21	15	71.4	138	110	79.7	159	125	78.6
KANSAS	0			125	121	96.8	167	137	82.0	292	258	88.4
KENTUCKY	0			25	24	96.0	159	142	89.3	184	166	90.2
LOUISIANA – RN	1	1	100.0	65	53	81.5	69	60	87.0	135	114	84.4
MAINE	0			34	28	82.4	15	14	93.3	50	43	86.0
MARYLAND	0			55	31	56.4	68	58	85.3	123	89	72.4
MASSACHUSETTS	0			93	69	74.2	83	57	68.7	176	126	71.6
MICHIGAN	0			281	264	94.0	364	312	85.7	645	576	89.3
MINNESOTA	0			31	20	64.5	65	41	63.1	96	61	63.5
MISSISSIPPI	0			10	6	60.0	43	38	88.4	53	44	83.0
MISSOURI	21	21	100.0	250	221	88.4	46	36	78.3	317	278	87.7
MONTANA	0			3	3	100.0	5	3	60.0	8	6	75.0
NEBRASKA	0			30	26	86.7	40	32	80.0	70	58	82.9
NEVADA	0			43	32	74.4	59	54	91.5	102	86	84.3
NEW HAMPSHIRE	0			2			4	3	75.0	6	3	50.0
NEW JERSEY	41	34	82.9	253	205	81.0	110	89	80.9	406	330	81.3
NEW MEXICO	0			3	3	100.0	148	113	76.4	151	116	76.8
NEW YORK	0			322	245	76.1	712	554	77.8	1,035	800	77.3
NORTH CAROLINA	1	1	100.0	30	25	83.3	42	32	76.2	73	58	79.5
NORTH DAKOTA	0			5	4	80.0	2	1	50.0	7	5	71.4
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLAND	0			0			5	1	20.0	5	1	20.0
OHIO	20	17	85.0	390	331	84.9	639	548	85.8	1,050	896	85.3
OKLAHOMA	0			30	25	83.3	69	48	69.6	100	74	74.0

Table 6. First-Time, U.S.-Educated Candidates Taking the NCLEX-RN® Examination by Degree Type (Oct. 1 - Dec. 31, 2011)¹

Jurisdiction	RN-Diploma			RN-Baccalaureate			RN-Associate Degree			Total Oct. 1 - Dec. 31, 2011		
	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%
OREGON	0			34	31	91.2	20	19	95.0	54	50	92.6
PENNSYLVANIA	218	194	89.0	399	360	90.2	234	184	78.6	851	738	86.7
RHODE ISLAND	0			13	11	84.6	16	12	75.0	29	23	79.3
SOUTH CAROLINA	0			57	49	86.0	124	111	89.5	182	161	88.5
SOUTH DAKOTA	0			25	23	92.0	10	4	40.0	35	27	77.1
TENNESSEE	0			94	84	89.4	15	11	73.3	109	95	87.2
TEXAS	0			296	250	84.5	368	303	82.3	664	553	83.3
UTAH	0			8	7	87.5	85	71	83.5	93	78	83.9
VERMONT	0			7	7	100.0	5	5	100.0	12	12	100.0
VIRGIN ISLANDS	0			0			3	3	100.0	3	3	100.0
VIRGINIA	22	20	90.9	65	52	80.0	241	194	80.5	328	266	81.1
WASHINGTON	0			38	33	86.8	195	170	87.2	233	203	87.1
WEST VIRGINIA – RN	0			74	46	62.2	8	6	75.0	82	52	63.4
WISCONSIN	0			79	68	86.1	49	39	79.6	128	107	83.6
WYOMING	0			12	9	75.0	10	8	80.0	22	17	77.3
TOTAL	350	309	88.3	4,925	4,162	84.5	6,747	5,483	81.3	12,033	9,961	82.8

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, 2011)

Jurisdiction	RN-Diploma			RN-Baccalaureate			RN-Associate Degree			RN-Special Program Codes			Total Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 2011
	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	
ALABAMA	0			1,363	1,237	90.8	1,973	1,713	86.8	0			3,336
ALASKA	0			102	87	85.3	86	74	86.0	0			188
AMERICAN SAMOA	0			0			3	2	66.7	0			3
ARIZONA	0			927	852	91.9	1,894	1,724	91.0	0			2,821
ARKANSAS	225	195	86.7	573	496	86.6	856	739	86.3	0			1,654
CALIFORNIA – RN	0			3,872	3,413	88.1	6,739	5,953	88.3	22	14	0.6	10,633
COLORADO	0			1,066	966	90.6	867	763	88.0	0			1,933
CONNECTICUT	165	150	90.9	628	587	93.5	674	607	90.1	7	7	1.0	1,729
DELAWARE	29	26	89.7	254	215	84.6	273	234	85.7	0			556
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA	0			251	220	87.6	82	57	69.5	0			333
FLORIDA	0			2,201	2,014	91.5	5,915	5,135	86.8	2	0	0.0	8,118
GEORGIA – RN	0			1,845	1,673	90.7	1,541	1,379	89.5	0			3,386
GUAM	0			18	16	88.9	7	6	85.7	0			25
HAWAII	0			408	331	81.1	184	155	84.2	2	1	0.5	594
IDAHO	0			276	259	93.8	411	366	89.1	0			687
ILLINOIS	24	21	87.5	2,620	2,328	88.9	3,024	2,627	86.9	6	4	0.7	5,674
INDIANA	77	61	79.2	1,783	1,604	90.0	2,297	1,862	81.1	0			4,157
IOWA	0			647	566	87.5	1,438	1,233	85.7	0			2,085
KANSAS	0			843	747	88.6	1,160	1,001	86.3	0			2,003
KENTUCKY	0			921	854	92.7	1,775	1,571	88.5	0			2,696
LOUISIANA – RN	28	28	100.0	1,162	1,053	90.6	1,104	1,001	90.7	0			2,294
MAINE	0			333	290	87.1	380	352	92.6	1	1	1.0	714
MARYLAND	0			1,108	917	82.8	1,549	1,365	88.1	0			2,657
MASSACHUSETTS	102	87	85.3	1,949	1,709	87.7	1,589	1,416	89.1	5	4	0.8	3,645
MICHIGAN	0			2,150	1,942	90.3	2,917	2,560	87.8	4	3	0.8	5,071
MINNESOTA	0			1,103	967	87.7	2,027	1,712	84.5	3	2	0.7	3,133
MISSISSIPPI	0			477	418	87.6	1,427	1,240	86.9	0			1,904
MISSOURI	46	44	95.7	1,841	1,698	92.2	1,526	1,336	87.5	3	2	0.7	3,416
MONTANA	0			195	178	91.3	223	176	78.9	0			418
NEBRASKA	0			798	734	92.0	389	330	84.8	0			1,187
													1,064
													89.6

Table 7. First-Time, U.S.-Educated Candidates Taking the NCLEX-RN® Examination by Degree Type (Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 2011)

Jurisdiction	RN-Diploma			RN-Baccalaureate			RN-Associate Degree			RN-Special Program Codes			Total Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 2011		
	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%
NEVADA	0			402	356	88.6	507	456	89.9	0			909	812	89.3
NEW HAMPSHIRE	0			218	205	94.0	466	424	91.0	3	2	0.7	687	631	91.8
NEW JERSEY	682	623	91.3	1,003	860	85.7	1,225	1,106	90.3	10	7	0.7	2,920	2,596	88.9
NEW MEXICO	0			176	158	89.8	827	646	78.1	0			1,003	804	80.2
NEW YORK	8	8	100.0	3,151	2,604	82.6	6,573	5,570	84.7	5	2	0.4	9,737	8,184	84.1
NORTH CAROLINA	135	132	97.8	1,348	1,251	92.8	2,363	2,120	89.7	0			3,846	3,503	91.1
NORTH DAKOTA	0			363	331	91.2	100	89	89.0	0			463	420	90.7
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLAND	0			0			16	7	43.8	0			16	7	43.8
OHIO	276	218	79.0	3,047	2,667	87.5	4,716	4,072	86.3	1	0	0.0	8,040	6,957	86.5
OKLAHOMA	0			948	838	88.4	1,250	1,059	84.7	6	6	1.0	2,204	1,903	86.3
OREGON	0			701	634	90.4	593	549	92.6	0			1,294	1,183	91.4
PENNSYLVANIA	1,134	1,028	90.7	3,131	2,832	90.5	2,961	2,519	85.1	4	4	1.0	7,230	6,383	88.3
RHODE ISLAND	19	19	100.0	309	279	90.3	255	234	91.8	0			583	532	91.3
SOUTH CAROLINA	0			962	840	87.3	1,248	1,142	91.5	5	4	0.8	2,215	1,986	89.7
SOUTH DAKOTA	0			368	337	91.6	381	331	86.9	1	1	1.0	750	669	89.2
TENNESSEE	0			1,714	1,596	93.1	1,421	1,289	90.7	0			3,135	2,885	92.0
TEXAS	130	115	88.5	3,768	3,399	90.2	5,851	4,957	84.7	0			9,749	8,471	86.9
UTAH	0			348	329	94.5	1,119	961	85.9	2	2	1.0	1,469	1,292	88.0
VERMONT	0			112	108	96.4	193	172	89.1	0			305	280	91.8
VIRGIN ISLANDS	0			11	8	72.7	17	17	100.0	0			28	25	89.3
VIRGINIA	352	331	94.0	1,406	1,249	88.8	1,997	1,718	86.0	0			3,755	3,298	87.8
WASHINGTON	0			833	766	92.0	1,769	1,584	89.5	0			2,602	2,350	90.3
WEST VIRGINIA – RN	0			618	463	74.9	566	491	86.7	0			1,184	954	80.6
WISCONSIN	0			1,538	1,372	89.2	1,729	1,551	89.7	0			3,267	2,923	89.5
WYOMING	0			78	69	88.5	290	241	83.1	0			368	310	84.2
TOTAL	3,432	3,086	89.9	58,267	51,922	89.1	82,763	71,994	87.0	92	66	71.7	144,554	127,068	87.9

Table 8. First-Time, Internationally Educated Candidates Taking the NCLEX-RN® Examination by Country of Education (Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 2011)

Country of Education	Jan. 1 - Mar. 31, 2011			Apr. 1 - June 30, 2011			July 1 - Sept. 30, 2011			Oct. 1 - Dec. 31, 2011			Total Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 2011		
	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%
ALBANIA	2	0	0.0	1	0	0.0	3	1	33.3	3	1	33.3	9	2	22.2
ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA							2	1	50.0				2	1	50.0
ARGENTINA	2	2	100.0							4	1	25.0	6	3	50.0
ARMENIA	7	2	28.6	7	2	28.6	7	4	57.1	11	4	36.4	32	12	37.5
AUSTRALIA	14	6	42.9	11	6	54.6	5	4	80.0	6	3	50.0	36	19	52.8
AZERBAIJAN							3	0	0.0	1	0	0.0	4	0	0.0
BAHAMAS				3	0	0.0				2	0	0.0	5	0	0.0
BANGLADESH				1	1	100.0				2	0	0.0	3	1	33.3
BARBADOS	1	0	0.0				1	1	100.0	1	0	0.0	3	1	33.3
BELARUS	3	2	66.7	2	0	0.0	1	0	0.0	3	1	33.3	9	3	33.3
BELGIUM							5	4	80.0				5	4	80.0
BELIZE	1	1	100.0	1	0	0.0	1	1	100.0	2	1	50.0	5	3	60.0
BENIN										1	0	0.0	1	0	0.0
BHUTAN	1	0	0.0				0.0						1	0	0.0
BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA	1	0	0.0				0.0						1	0	0.0
BRAZIL	4	2	50.0	6	3	50.0	5	0	0.0	5	1	20.0	20	6	30.0
BULGARIA				1	0	0.0	1	1	100.0	2	1	50.0	4	2	50.0
BURKINA FASO													3	1	33.3
BURUNDI	1	1	100.0										1	1	100.0
CAMEROON	7	2	28.6	6	2	33.3	7	1	14.3	10	1	100.0	30	6	20.0
CANADA	130	73	56.2	161	103	64.0	153	106	69.3	167	106	63.5	611	388	63.5
CHILE	2	2	100.0	2	1	50.0				1	1	100.0	5	4	80.0
CHINA	43	17	39.5	41	20	48.8	35	14	40.0	31	11	35.5	150	62	41.3
COLOMBIA	4	2	50.0	6	1	16.7	7	3	42.9	6	1	16.7	23	7	30.4
CONGO				1	0	0.0							1	0	0.0
COSTA RICA				1	1	100.0				1	1	100.0	2	2	100.0
CUBA	16	5	31.3	23	6	26.1	21	4	19.0	20	7	35.0	80	22	27.5
CZECH REPUBLIC				1	1	100.0				1	1	100.0	2	2	100.0
DENMARK				1	1	100.0				1	0	0.0	2	1	50.0

Table 8. First-Time, Internationally Educated Candidates Taking the NCLEX-RN® Examination by Country of Education (Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 2011)

Country of Education	Jan. 1 - Mar. 31, 2011			Apr. 1 - June 30, 2011			July 1 - Sept. 30, 2011			Oct. 1 - Dec. 31, 2011			Total Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 2011			
	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC				3	1	33.3	1	0	0.0					4	1	25.0
ECUADOR							1	0	0.0	2	0	0.0		3	0	0.0
EGYPT	1	0	0.0	2	0	0.0	1	1	100.0					4	1	25.0
EL SALVADOR				2	0	0.0	2	0	0.0	1	0	0.0		5	0	0.0
ERITREA	1	1	100.0	4	2	50.0	4	1	25.0	1	0	0.0		10	4	40.0
ETHIOPIA	20	6	30.0	22	6	27.3	13	6	46.2	11	1	9.1		66	19	28.8
Fiji										1	0	0.0		1	0	0.0
FINLAND	1	0	0.0	2	1	50.0	1	0	0.0	1	1	100.0		5	2	40.0
FRANCE	1	0	0.0	2	2	100.0	2	2	100.0	1	1	100.0		6	5	83.3
GAMBIA	1	0	0.0	3	2	66.7	1	0	0.0	2	1	50.0		7	3	42.9
GEORGIA				6	1	16.7	1	1	100.0	5	1	20.0		12	3	25.0
GERMANY	5	4	80.0	8	4	50.0	11	7	63.6	8	7	87.5		32	22	68.8
GHANA	8	1	12.5	18	7	38.9	12	4	33.3	4	1	25.0		42	13	31.0
grenada	1	0	0.0	1	1	100.0	1	1	100.0					3	2	66.7
GUATEMALA				1	0	0.0								1	0	0.0
GUYANA	1	0	0.0	2	0	0.0	3	1	33.3	1	0	0.0		7	1	14.3
HAITI	20	4	20.0	22	3	13.6	18	4	22.2	19	2	10.5		79	13	16.5
HONG KONG				4	1	25.0				2	2	100.0		7	3	42.9
HUNGARY				1	1	100.0	1	1	100.0	1	1	100.0		3	3	100.0
ICELAND							1	1	100.0	1	1	100.0		2	2	100.0
INDIA	201	31	15.4	200	65	32.5	202	55	27.2	234	52	22.2		837	203	24.3
INDONESIA	1	0	0.0	3	1	33.3	1	0	0.0	2	0	0.0		7	1	14.3
IRAN, ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF	12	2	16.7	13	3	23.1	12	4	33.3	10	3	30.0		47	12	25.5
IRAQ	2	0	0.0											2	0	0.0
IRELAND	1	0	0.0											1	0	0.0
ISRAEL	8	5	62.5	6	3	50.0	10	7	70.0	8	5	62.5		32	20	62.5
ITALY	2	1	50.0	2	1	50.0								4	2	50.0
JAMAICA	11	4	36.4	19	6	31.6	13	6	46.2	14	3	21.4		57	19	33.3
JAPAN	13	3	23.1	16	7	43.8	15	12	80.0	18	5	27.8		62	27	43.5
JORDAN	3	1	33.3	6	1	16.7	6	2	33.3	5	0	0.0		20	4	20.0

Table 8: First-Time, Internationally Educated Candidates Taking the NCLEX-RN® Examination by Country of Education (Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 2011)

Country of Education	Jan. 1 - Mar. 31, 2011			Apr. 1 - June 30, 2011			July 1 - Sept. 30, 2011			Oct. 1 - Dec. 31, 2011			Total Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 2011			
	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	
KAZAKHSTAN				3	0	0.0				1	0	0.0	4	0	0.0	
KENYA	11	3	27.3	8	3	37.5	11	3	27.3	13	3	23.1	43	12	27.9	
KOREA, NORTH	1	1	100.0	1	0	0.0							2	1	50.0	
KOREA, SOUTH	194	98	50.5	181	96	53.0	153	79	51.6	138	63	45.7	666	336	50.5	
LATVIA	1	1	100.0										1	1	100.0	
KUWAIT																
KYRGYZSTAN							1	0	0.0	2	0	0.0	3	0	0.0	
LEBANON	4	1	25.0	4	3	75.0	3	1	33.3	1	1	100.0	12	6	50.0	
LIBERIA	3	0	0.0	2	0	0.0	4	1	25.0	4	1	25.0	13	2	15.4	
LITHUANIA	2	0	0.0	2	0	0.0	3	2	66.7				7	2	28.6	
MALTA										1	0	0.0	1	0	0.0	
MEXICO	16	5	31.3	16	3	18.8	12	1	8.3	10	6	60.0	54	15	27.8	
MOLDOVA, REPUBLIC OF							1	0	0.0	2	0	0.0	3	0	0.0	
MONGOLIA							1	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	4	1	25.0	
MYANMAR							1	0	0.0	2	0	0.0	1	0	0.0	
NEPAL	19	5	26.3	23	12	52.2	23	10	43.5	20	5	25.0	85	32	37.6	
NETHERLANDS							1	1	100.0				2	2	100.0	
NEW ZEALAND	3	2	66.7	4	4	100.0	1	0	0.0	4	3	75.0	12	9	75.0	
NICARAGUA	1	0	0.0							2	0	0.0	3	0	0.0	
NIGERIA	54	15	27.8	45	8	17.8	50	12	24.0	63	16	25.4	212	51	24.1	
OMAN								2	2	100.0	1	1	100.0	3	3	100.0
PAKISTAN	9	5	55.6	7	1	14.3	5	0	0.0	10	2	20.0	31	8	25.8	
PALESTINIAN TERRITORY, OCCUPIED							1	0	0.0	1	0	0.0	2	0	0.0	
PANAMA	1	0	0.0	1	1	100.0				1	0	0.0	3	1	33.3	
PERU				4	3	75.0	5	1	20.0	9	0	0.0	18	4	22.2	
PHILIPPINES	1,329	384	28.9	1,407	467	33.2	1,280	411	32.1	1,190	325	27.3	5,206	1,587	30.5	
PITCAIRN	1	0	0.0										1	0	0.0	
POLAND	6	1	16.7										23	6	26.1	
PORTUGAL							1	0	0.0	1	0	0.0	3	0	0.0	

Table 8. First-Time, Internationally Educated Candidates Taking the NCLEX-RN® Examination by Country of Education (Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 2011)

Country of Education	Jan. 1 - Mar. 31, 2011			Apr. 1 - June 30, 2011			July 1 - Sept. 30, 2011			Oct. 1 - Dec. 31, 2011			Total Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 2011			
	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	
PUERTO RICO	82	38	46.3	76	23	30.3	74	20	27.0	71	20	28.2	303	101	33.3	
ROMANIA	7	2	28.6	15	8	53.3	5	0	0.0	9	3	33.3	36	13	36.1	
RUSSIAN FEDERATION	20	4	20.0	31	14	45.2	26	8	30.8	33	11	33.3	110	37	33.6	
RWANDA							1	0	0.0				1	0	0.0	
SAINT LUCIA		1	0	0.0	1	1	100.0						2	1	50.0	
SAINT VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES							1	0	0.0				1	0	0.0	
SAUDI ARABIA	3	1	33.3	5	1	20.0	2	0	0.0	4	0	0.0	14	2	14.3	
SERBIA							1	0	0.0	1	0	0.0	2	0	0.0	
SIERRA LEONE	1	0	0.0	5	0	0.0	4	1	25.0	7	0	0.0	17	1	5.9	
SINGAPORE	1	0	0.0	2	0	0.0				5	2	40.0	8	2	25.0	
SLOVAKIA	2	2	100.0	3	1	33.3							5	3	60.0	
SOMALIA							1	0	0.0				1	0	0.0	
SOUTH AFRICA	1	1	100.0	1	0	0.0	4	4	100.0	4	1	25.0	10	6	60.0	
SPAIN	2	1	50.0	1	1	100.0	1	1	100.0	2	1	50.0	6	4	66.7	
SRI LANKA	3	0	0.0							1	1	100.0	4	1	25.0	
SWEDEN	4	3	75.0	3	3	100.0				1	0	0.0	8	6	75.0	
SWITZERLAND	1	1	100.0	1	0	0.0							2	1	50.0	
SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC				1	0	0.0							1	0	0.0	
TAIWAN	10	1	10.0	26	5	19.2	23	5	21.7	8	2	25.0	67	13	19.4	
TAJIKISTAN		3	1	33.3									3	1	33.3	
TANZANIA, UNITED REPUBLIC OF		2	2	100.0	1	0	0.0	1	0	0.0	0.0	4	2	50.0		
THAILAND	18	3	16.7	18	5	27.8	11	3	27.3	9	4	44.4	56	15	26.8	
TOGO							1	0	0.0				1	0	0.0	
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO		2	0	0.0	7	2	28.6	4	2	50.0	1	0	100.0	4	2	50.0
TURKEY													0.0	14	4	28.6
TURKMENISTAN							1	0	0.0	1	0	0.0	2	0	0.0	
UGANDA	2	0	0.0	2	2	100.0	1	1	100.0				5	3	60.0	
UKRAINE	16	2	12.5	19	13	68.4	19	8	42.1	7	3	42.9	61	26	42.6	
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	1	0	0.0				1	0	0.0	1	1	100.0	3	1	33.3	

Table 8: First-Time, Internationally Educated Candidates Taking the NCLEX-RN® Examination by Country of Education (Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 2011)

Country of Education	Jan. 1 - Mar. 31, 2011			Apr. 1 - June 30, 2011			July 1 - Sept. 30, 2011			Oct. 1 - Dec. 31, 2011			Total Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 2011		
	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%
UNITED KINGDOM	16	5	31.3	21	13	61.9	20	9	45.0	15	6	40.0	72	33	45.8
UZBEKISTAN	11	2	18.2	14	1	7.1	12	2	16.7	14	0	0.0	51	5	9.8
VENEZUELA	1	0	0.0				1	1	100.0				2	1	50.0
ZAMBIA	1	1	100.0					1		1	0	0.0	2	1	50.0
TOTAL	2,415	768	31.8	2,623	968	36.9	2,375	856	36.0	2,309	711	30.8	9,722	3,303	34.0

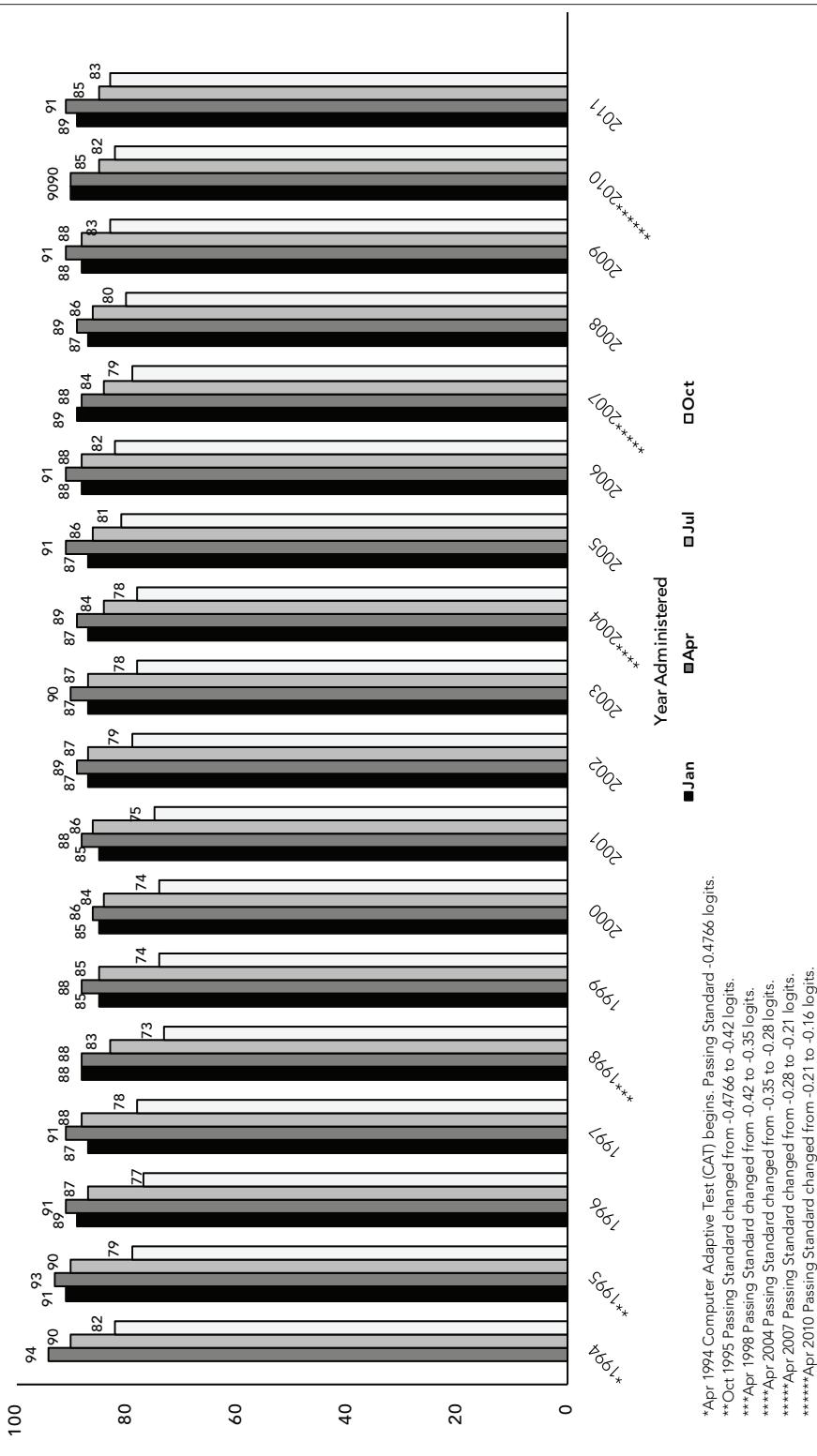


Figure 1. NCLEX-RN® Pass Rates for First-Time, U.S.-Educated Candidates

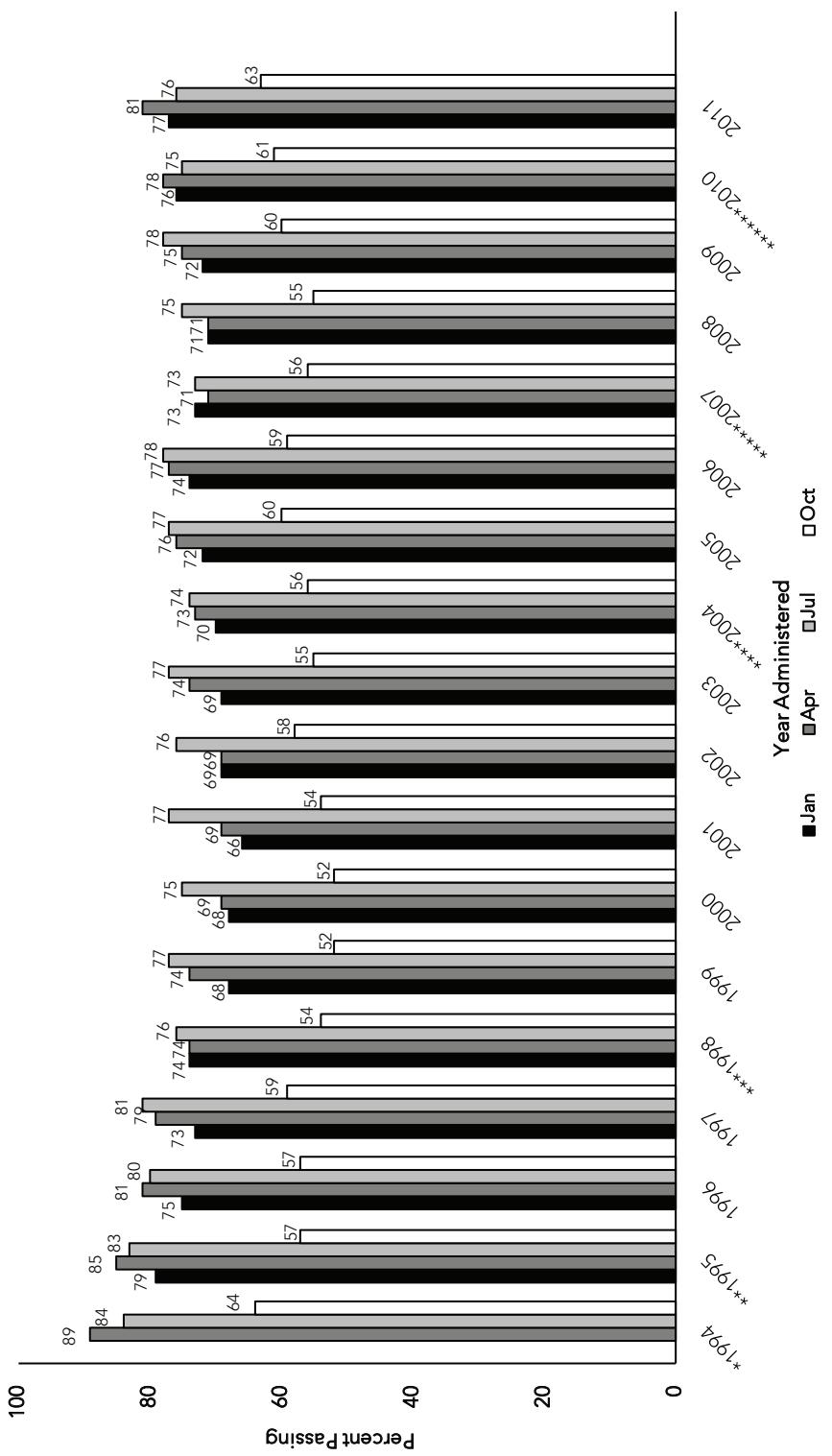


Figure 2. NCLEX-RN® Pass Rates for All Candidates

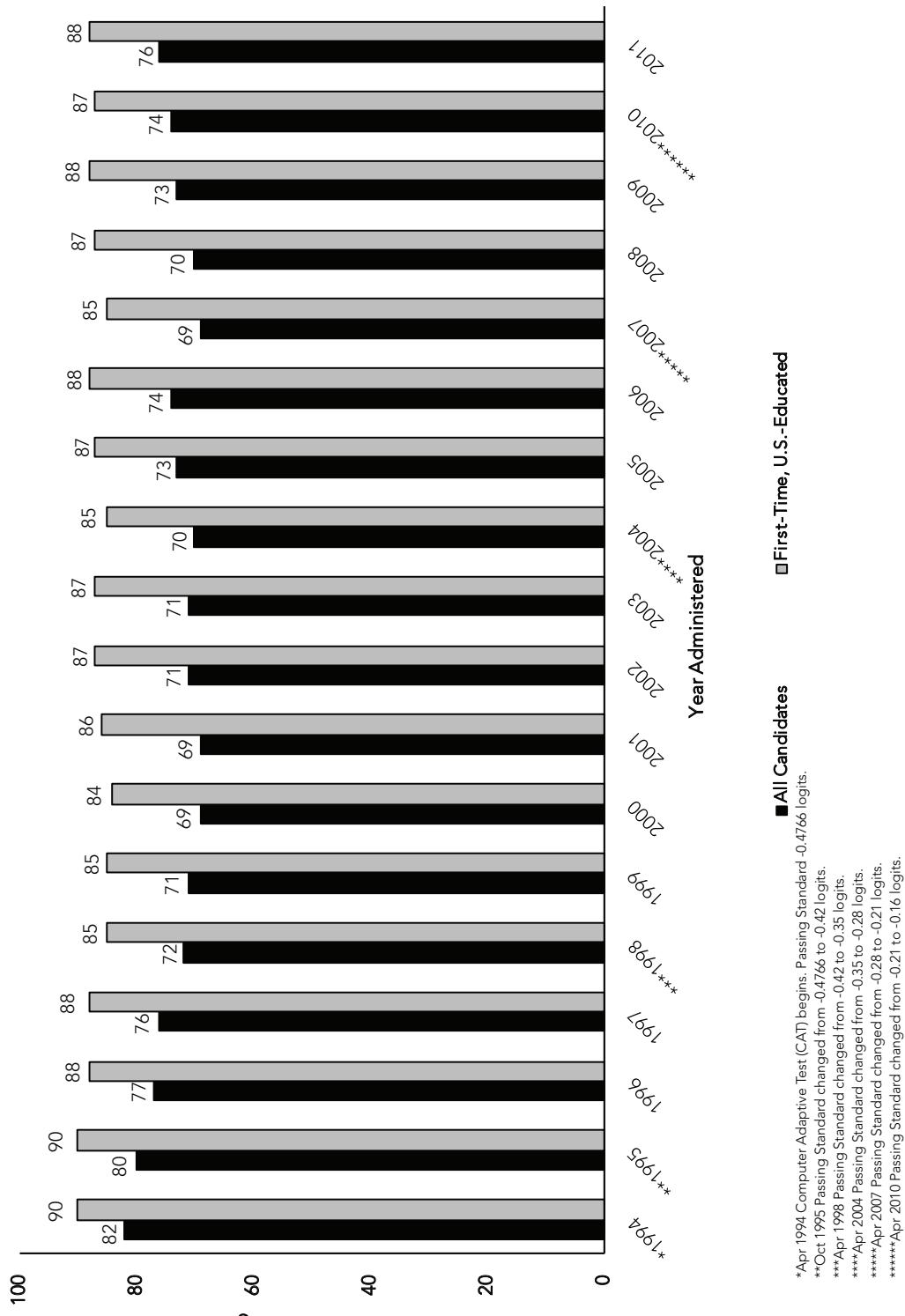
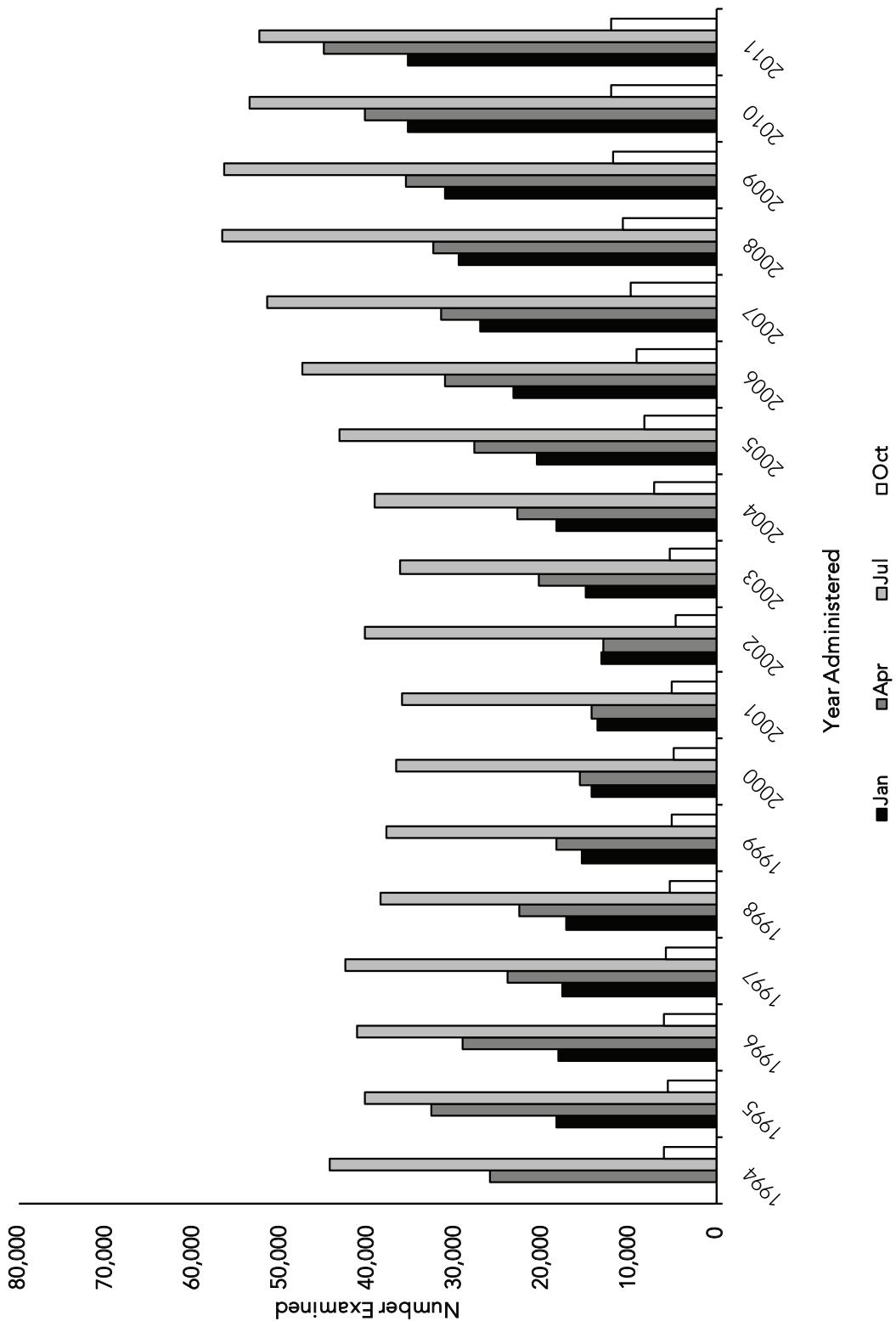


Figure 3. NCLEX-RN® Annual Pass Rates, April 1994 - December 2011



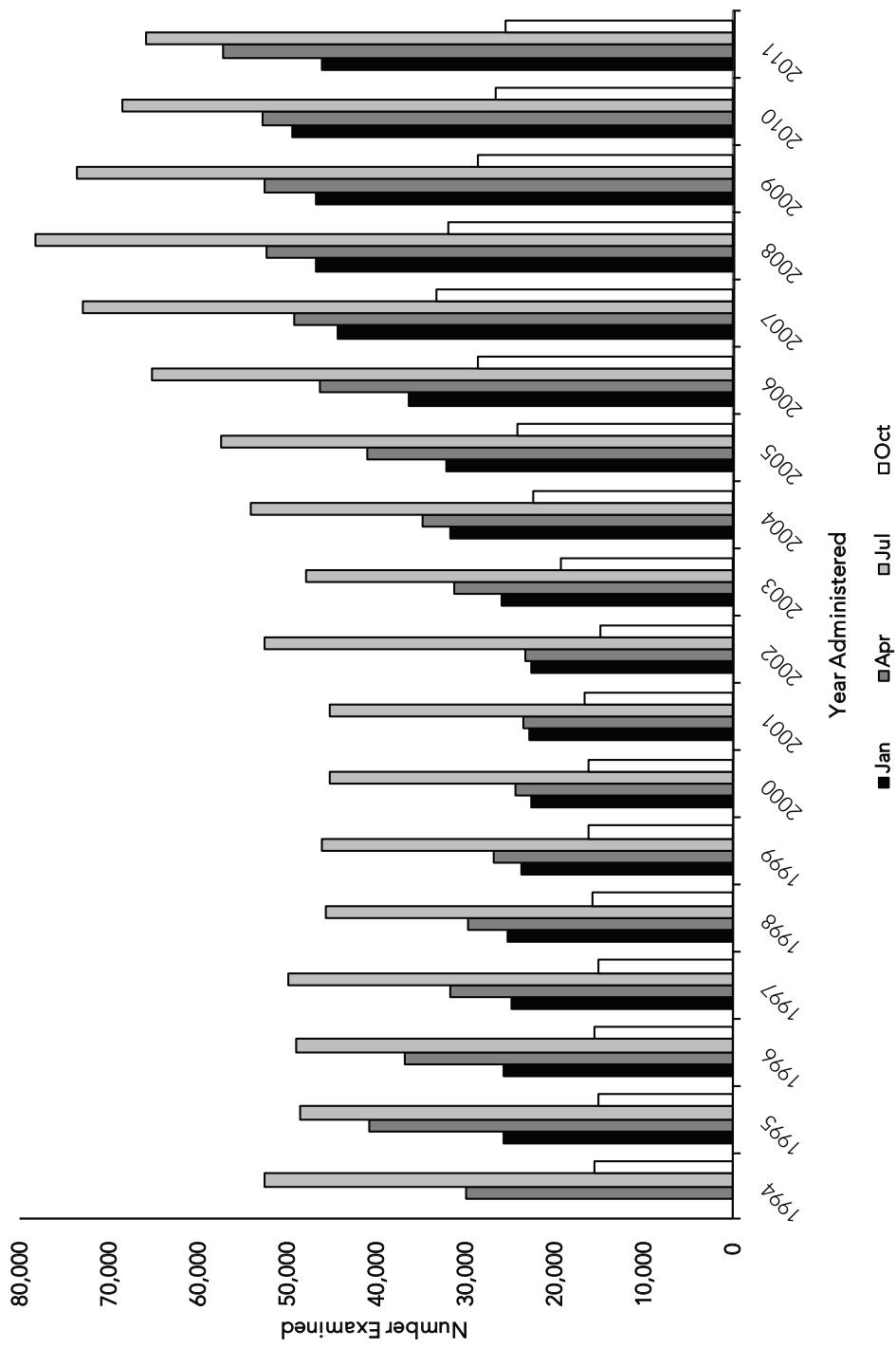


Figure 5. NCLEX-RN® Volume for All Candidates

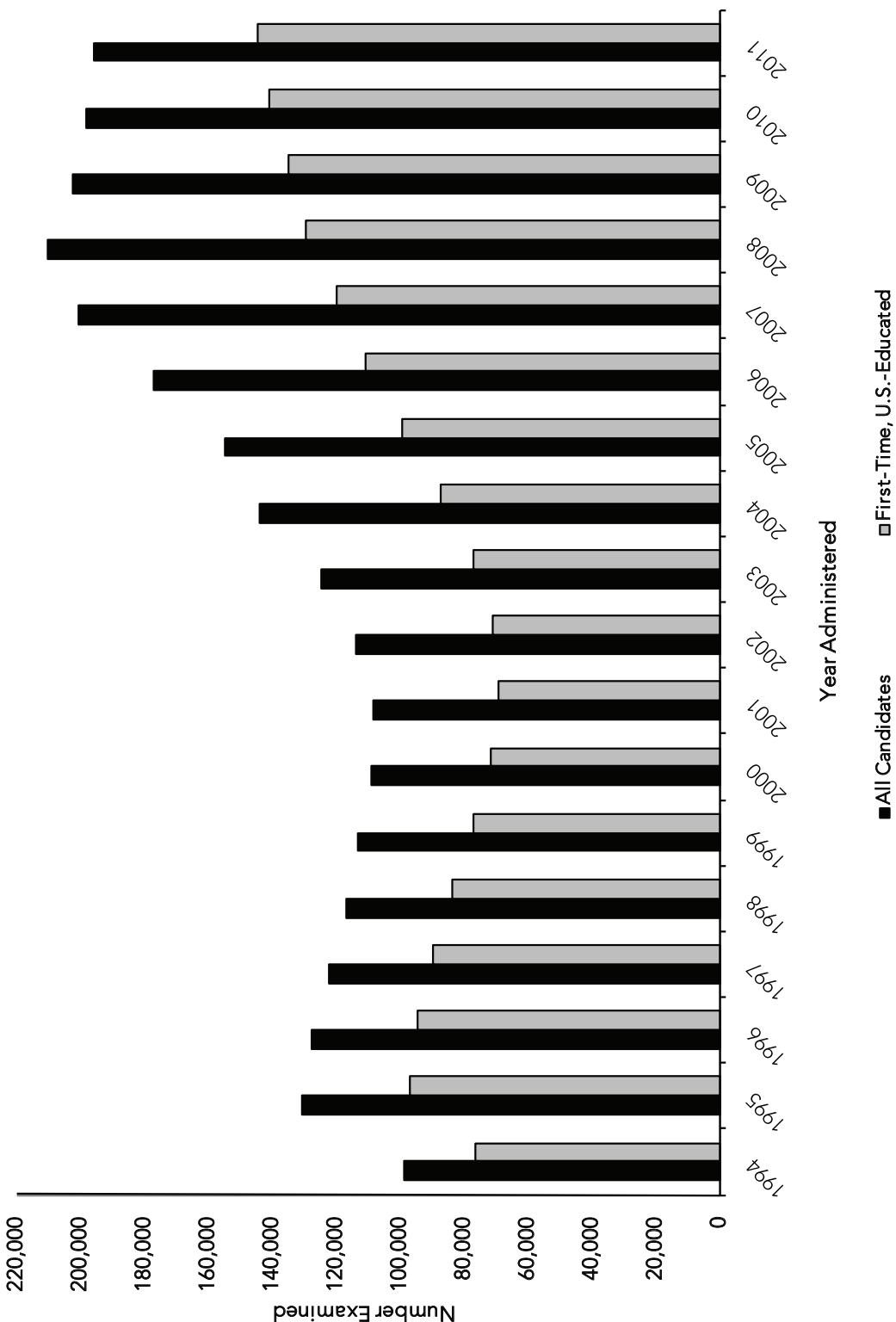


Figure 6. NCLEX-RN® Annual Volume, April 1994 - December 2011

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

Type of Candidate	NCLEX-PN® Examination: Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 2011 ¹						Oct. 1 - Dec. 31, 2011	Total Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 2011	
	Jan. 1 - March 31, 2011	April 1 - June 30, 2011	Candidates Passed	%	Candidates Passed	%			
First-Time, U.S.-Educated	16,516	14,469	87.6	13,121	10,770	82.1	22,289	19,393	87.0
Repeat, U.S.-Educated	3,258	1,390	42.7	3,428	942	27.5	3,502	1,237	35.3
First-Time, Internationally Educated	211	109	51.7	214	78	36.5	159	78	49.1
Repeat, Internationally Educated	226	63	27.9	244	40	16.4	214	27	12.6
All Candidates	20,211	16,031	79.3	17,007	11,830	69.6	26,164	20,735	79.3

¹ All performance of PN Educational Programs. The following is a summary of the 2011 NCLEX pass rates for U.S. PN education programs based upon first-time candidate performance. In 2011 1,630 U.S. PN programs had at least one first-time candidate. The mean pass rate for those programs was 85.2% (SD 18.2%). When including only those programs with at least ten first-time examinees (N=1,386), the mean pass rate was 85.9% (SD 15.1%).

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

NCLEX-PN®	January - December 2011
Passing Standard ¹	-0.27
Estimated Decision Consistency ²	0.90
Average Test Length ³	112 items
Percent of Candidates Taking the Minimum Number of Items	57.2%
Percent of Candidates Taking the Maximum Number of Items	13.5%
Average Testing Time ⁴	Two hours, 14 minutes
Percent of Candidates Taking the Maximum Amount of Time	1.1%

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, 2011)

Jurisdiction	Jan. 1 - March 31, 2011			April 1 - June 30, 2011			July 1 - Sept. 30, 2011			Oct. 1 - Dec. 31, 2011			Total Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 2011		
	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%
ALABAMA	331	319	96.4	97	88	90.7	347	327	94.2	126	111	88.1	901	845	93.8
ALASKA	8	7	87.5	2	2	100.0	3	2	66.7	3	3	100.0	16	14	87.5
AMERICAN SAMOA	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	2	66.7	2	1	50.0	5	3	60.0
ARIZONA	111	104	93.7	144	138	95.8	185	176	95.1	103	97	94.2	543	515	94.8
ARKANSAS	264	241	91.3	106	90	84.9	597	536	89.8	132	104	78.8	1,099	971	88.4
CALIFORNIA – VN	2,752	2,149	78.1	1,957	1,365	69.8	2,073	1,501	72.4	1,879	1,346	71.6	8,661	6,361	73.4
COLORADO	83	79	95.2	94	88	93.6	187	178	95.2	62	59	95.2	426	404	94.8
CONNECTICUT	155	142	91.6	37	33	89.2	324	289	89.2	156	137	87.8	672	601	89.4
DELAWARE	81	62	76.5	90	67	74.4	88	62	70.5	70	39	55.7	329	230	69.9
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA	116	88	75.9	97	66	68.0	80	63	78.8	65	47	72.3	358	264	73.7
FLORIDA	1,292	1,111	86.0	1,001	757	75.6	1,417	1,151	81.2	1,096	802	73.2	4,806	3,821	79.5
GEORGIA – PN	316	301	95.3	361	319	88.4	350	327	93.4	254	236	92.9	1,281	1,183	92.4
GUAM	12	11	91.7	22	12	54.6	3	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	37	23	62.2
HAWAII	63	61	96.8	9	9	100.0	68	64	94.1	44	39	88.6	184	173	94.0
IDAHO	115	110	95.7	27	25	92.6	107	101	94.4	34	33	97.1	283	269	95.1
ILLINOIS	452	411	90.9	213	175	82.2	930	817	87.9	350	290	82.9	1,945	1,693	87.0
INDIANA	395	342	86.6	196	157	80.1	335	302	90.2	274	236	86.1	1,200	1,037	86.4
IOWA	286	275	96.2	269	259	96.3	514	482	93.8	164	148	90.2	1,233	1,164	94.4
KANSAS	277	260	93.9	401	372	92.8	277	257	92.8	83	73	88.0	1,038	962	92.7
KENTUCKY	350	321	91.7	289	255	88.2	322	280	87.0	211	178	84.4	1,172	1,034	88.2
LOUISIANA – PN	488	446	91.4	328	276	84.2	277	217	78.3	112	87	77.7	1,205	1,026	85.2
MAINE	16	15	93.8	30	27	90.0	20	17	85.0	18	17	94.4	84	76	90.5
MARYLAND	42	37	88.1	39	33	84.6	105	99	94.3	58	53	91.4	244	222	91.0
MASSACHUSETTS	81	81	100.0	39	32	82.1	644	592	91.9	112	99	88.4	876	804	91.8
MICHIGAN	374	344	92.0	324	297	91.7	446	414	92.8	294	270	91.8	1,438	1,325	92.1
MINNESOTA	485	446	92.0	547	484	88.5	608	524	86.2	175	138	78.9	1,815	1,592	87.7
MISSISSIPPI	229	207	90.4	30	27	90.0	395	340	86.1	47	36	76.6	701	610	87.0
MISSOURI	289	273	94.5	197	174	88.3	768	714	93.0	200	183	91.5	1,454	1,344	92.4
MONTANA	41	40	97.6	32	31	96.9	42	41	97.6	4	4	100.0	119	116	97.5
NEBRASKA	56	51	91.1	94	85	90.4	175	152	86.9	76	57	75.0	401	345	86.0

Table 11. First-Time, U.S.-Educated Candidates Taking the NCLEX-PN® Examination (Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 2011)

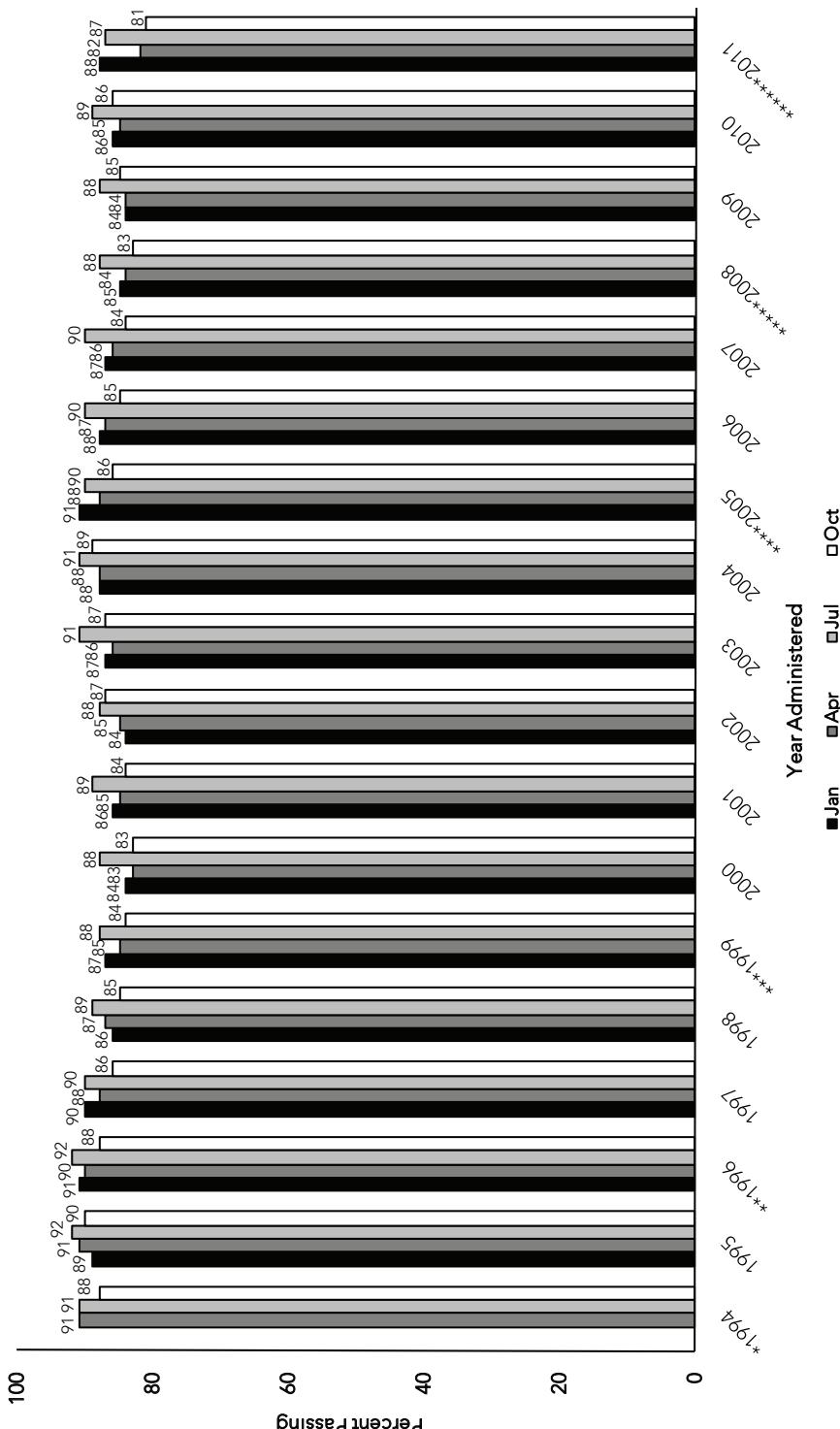
Jurisdiction	Jan. 1 - March 31, 2011			April 1 - June 30, 2011			July 1 - Sept. 30, 2011			Oct. 1 - Dec. 31, 2011			Total Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 2011		
	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%
NEVADA	26	26	100.0	24	20	83.3	19	15	79.0	13	13	100.0	82	74	90.2
NEW HAMPSHIRE	60	50	83.3	77	71	92.2	58	48	82.8	42	25	59.5	237	194	81.9
NEW JERSEY	698	525	75.2	769	501	65.2	745	535	71.8	714	475	66.5	2,926	2,036	69.6
NEW MEXICO	37	36	97.3	48	48	100.0	72	67	93.1	17	14	82.4	174	165	94.8
NEW YORK	432	325	75.2	518	388	74.9	1,407	1,207	85.8	1,090	797	73.1	3,447	2,717	78.8
NORTH CAROLINA	156	144	92.3	150	133	88.7	557	535	96.1	179	159	88.8	1,042	971	93.2
NORTH DAKOTA	27	26	96.3	27	25	92.6	101	96	95.1	4	3	75.0	159	150	94.3
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLAND	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
OHIO	981	898	91.5	778	687	88.3	1,374	1,219	88.7	1,342	1,175	87.6	4,475	3,979	88.9
OKLAHOMA	222	200	90.1	199	165	82.9	509	457	89.8	202	181	89.6	1,132	1,003	88.6
OREGON	96	94	97.9	112	104	92.9	174	162	93.1	129	115	89.2	511	475	93.0
PENNSYLVANIA	722	665	92.1	425	352	82.8	609	545	89.5	776	690	88.9	2,532	2,252	88.9
RHODE ISLAND	3	3	100.0	6	5	83.3	7	7	100.0	10	10	100.0	26	25	96.2
SOUTH CAROLINA	130	126	96.9	108	102	94.4	225	211	93.8	136	131	96.3	599	570	95.2
SOUTH DAKOTA	63	56	88.9	16	14	87.5	107	99	92.5	18	13	72.2	204	182	89.2
TENNESSEE	379	361	95.3	474	434	91.6	500	465	93.0	327	279	85.3	1,680	1,539	91.6
TEXAS	1,743	1,556	89.3	963	816	84.7	1,913	1,711	89.4	1,257	1,013	80.6	5,876	5,096	86.7
UTAH	92	91	98.9	214	214	100.0	144	136	94.4	42	41	97.6	492	482	98.0
VERMONT	1	1	100.0	3	3	100.0	156	146	93.6	8	6	75.0	168	156	92.9
VIRGIN ISLANDS	4	2	50.0	4	1	25.0	2	1	50.0	7	4	57.1	17	8	47.1
VIRGINIA	526	422	80.2	561	411	73.3	782	652	83.4	477	357	74.8	2,346	1,842	78.5
WASHINGTON	143	131	91.6	265	245	92.5	364	342	94.0	234	207	88.5	1,006	925	92.0
WEST VIRGINIA – PN	79	72	91.1	37	29	78.4	275	245	89.1	80	75	93.8	471	421	89.4
WISCONSIN	301	292	97.0	251	240	95.6	447	415	92.8	85	79	92.9	1,084	1,026	94.7
WYOMING	35	33	94.3	20	19	95.0	52	50	96.2	8	7	87.5	115	109	94.8
TOTAL	16,516	14,469	87.6	131,121	10,770	82.1	22,289	19,393	87.0	13,401	10,792	80.5	65,327	55,424	84.8

Table 12. First-Time, Internationally Educated Candidates Taking the NCLEX-PN® Examination, by Country of Education (Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 2011)

Country of Education	Jan. 1 - March 31, 2011			April 1 - June 30, 2011			July 1 - Sept. 30, 2011			Oct. 1 - Dec. 31, 2011			Total Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 2011		
	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%
ARMENIA				1	1	100.0	1	0	0.0				2	1	50.0
AUSTRALIA				1	1	100.0							1	1	1000.0
BELGIUM	1	0	0.0										1	0	0.0
BELIZE	2	0	0.0										2	0	0.0
BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA	1	0	0.0										2	0	0.0
BULGARIA	1	1	100.0										1	1	1000.0
CAMEROON				1	0	0.0	1	0	0.0				2	0	0.0
CANADA	9	7	77.8	9	7	77.8	8	7	87.5	16	10	62.5	42	31	73.8
CHINA				1	0	0.0	2	2	100.0				3	2	66.7
CONGO, THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF	1	1	100.0										1	1	1000.0
COSTA RICA													1	0	0.0
CUBA	14	8	57.1	5	2	40.0	8	5	62.5	21	7	33.3	48	22	45.8
CZECH REPUBLIC													1	1	1000.0
DOMINICA				1	0	0.0							1	0	0.0
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC													1	0	0.0
EGYPT													1	1	1000.0
EL SALVADOR													1	1	1000.0
ETHIOPIA													2	1	50.0
FJJI													1	1	100.0
GAMBIA													1	1	1000.0
GERMANY													2	0	0.0
GHANA				2	0	0.0							2	0	0.0
grenada				1	1	100.0	1	1	100.0				2	2	1000.0
GUYANA				1	0	0.0	3	0	0.0	1	0	0.0	5	0	0.0
HAITI	1	1	100.0	2	2	100.0	2	0	0.0				5	3	60.0
INDIA	18	11	61.1	19	8	42.1	20	8	40.0	17	8	47.1	74	35	47.3
INDONESIA										2	1	50.0	2	1	50.0
IRAN, ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF	1	1	100.0				1	1	100.0				2	2	1000.0
ISRAEL	1	0	0.0				1	0	0.0				2	0	0.0
JAMAICA	1	1	100.0	1	0	0.0	2	1	50.0	5	3	60.0	9	5	55.6

Table 12. First-Time, Internationally Educated Candidates Taking the NCLEX-PN® Examination, by Country of Education (Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 2011)

Country of Education	Jan. 1 - March 31, 2011			April 1 - June 30, 2011			July 1 - Sept. 30, 2011			Oct. 1 - Dec. 31, 2011			Total Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 2011		
	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%	Candidates	Passed	%
JAPAN				1	0	0.0	1	1	100.0				2	1	50.0
JORDAN				1	1	100.0							1	1	100.0
KENYA	1	1	100.0	7	2	28.6	1	1	100.0	1	1	100.0	10	5	50.0
KOREA, SOUTH				1	0	0.0							1	0	0.0
KYRGYZSTAN				1	1	100.0							1	1	100.0
LEBANON															
LIBERIA	1	0	0.0	1	0	0.0									
MEXICO															
MONGOLIA				1	0	0.0									
MOROCCO															
NETHERLANDS	1	1	100.0										1	1	100.0
NIGER				1	0	0.0							1	0	0.0
NIGERIA	17	8	47.1	12	4	33.3	7	3	42.9	9	6	66.7	45	21	46.7
PAKISTAN	1	0	0.0							1	0	0.0	2	0	0.0
PERU				1	1	100.0							1	1	100.0
PHILIPPINES	123	65	52.9	122	42	34.4	88	40	45.5	84	34	40.5	417	181	43.4
POLAND	2	1	50.0	1	0	0.0	1	1	100.0				4	2	50.0
PUERTO RICO	4	0	0.0	6	1	16.7	1	0	0.0				11	1	9.1
ROMANIA	1	1	100.0							1	1	100.0	2	2	100.0
RUSSIAN FEDERATION	4	0	0.0										4	0	0.0
SERBIA										2	1	50.0	2	1	50.0
SIERRA LEONE	1	0	0.0	1	0	0.0							2	0	0.0
TAIWAN	1	1	100.0	2	0	0.0							3	1	33.3
THAILAND				2	2	100.0							2	2	100.0
UGANDA				2	1	50.0							2	1	50.0
UKRAINE	2	0	0.0	1	0	0.0	1	1	100.0				4	1	25.0
UNITED KINGDOM				2	1	50.0				1	1	100.0	3	2	66.7
UZBEKISTAN	1	0	0.0	3	0	0.0	1	0	0.0				5	0	0.0
Total	211	109	51.7	214	78	36.5	159	78	49.1	171	79	46.2	755	344	45.6

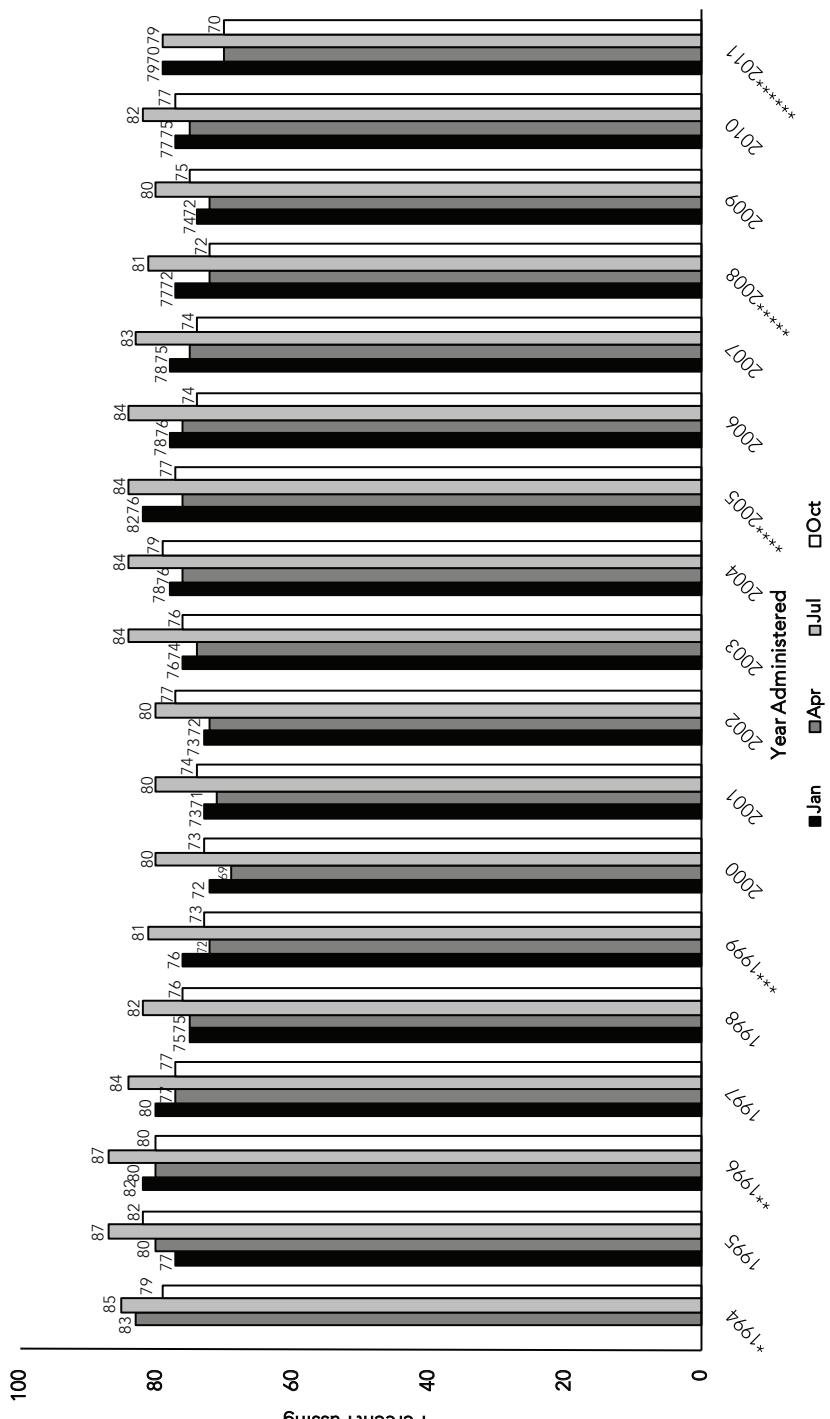


*Apr 1994 Computer Adaptive Test (CAT) begins. Passing Standard -0.56 logits.
 **Oct 1996 Passing Standard changed from -0.56 to -0.51 logits.

***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.
 *****Apr 2011 Passing Standard changed from -0.37 to -0.27 logits.

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.

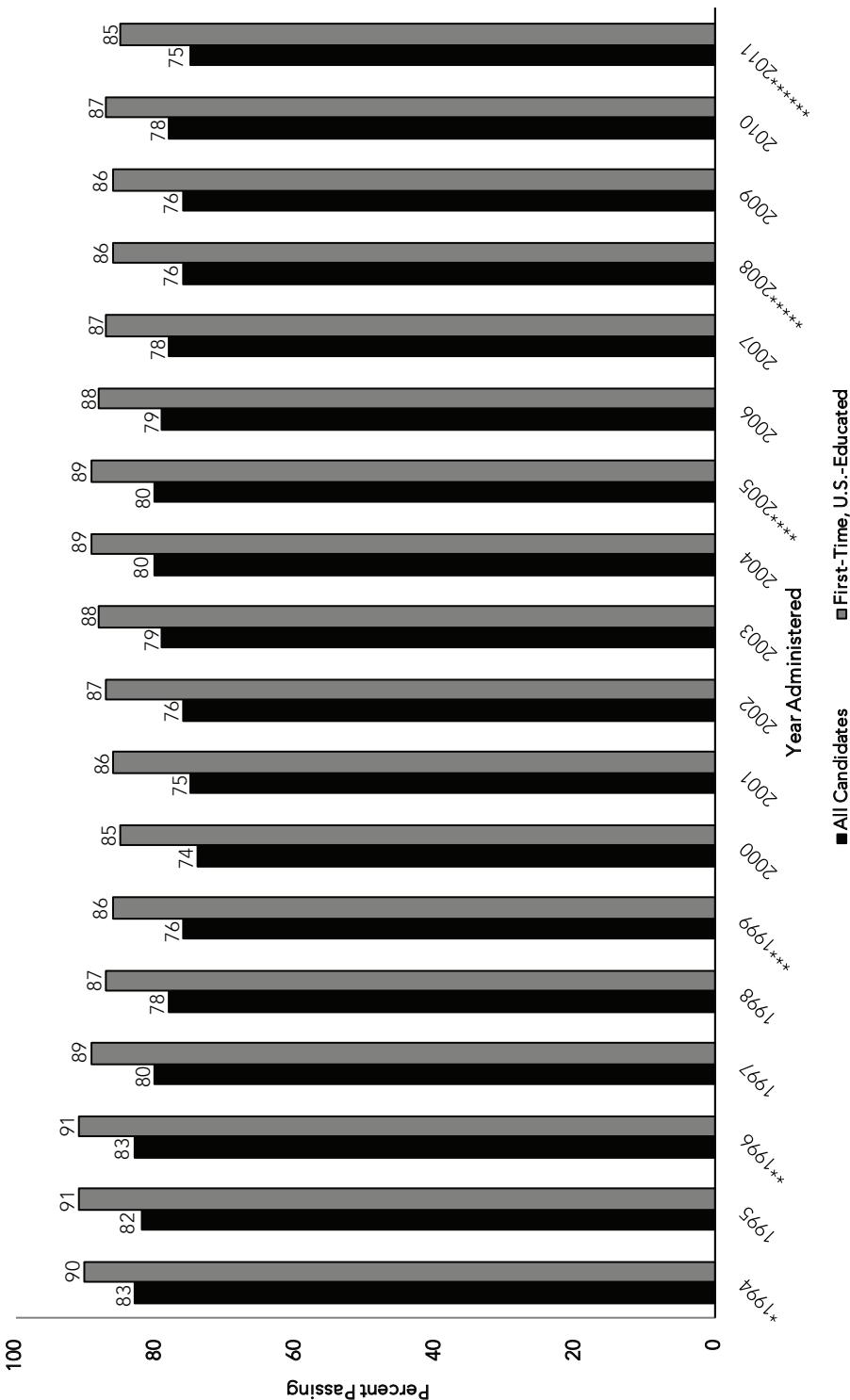
**Oct 1996 Passing Standard changed from -0.56 to -0.51 logits.

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 *****Apr 2011 Passing Standard changed from -0.37 to -0.27 logits.

Figure 9. NCLEX-PN® Annual Pass Rates, April 1994 - December 2011

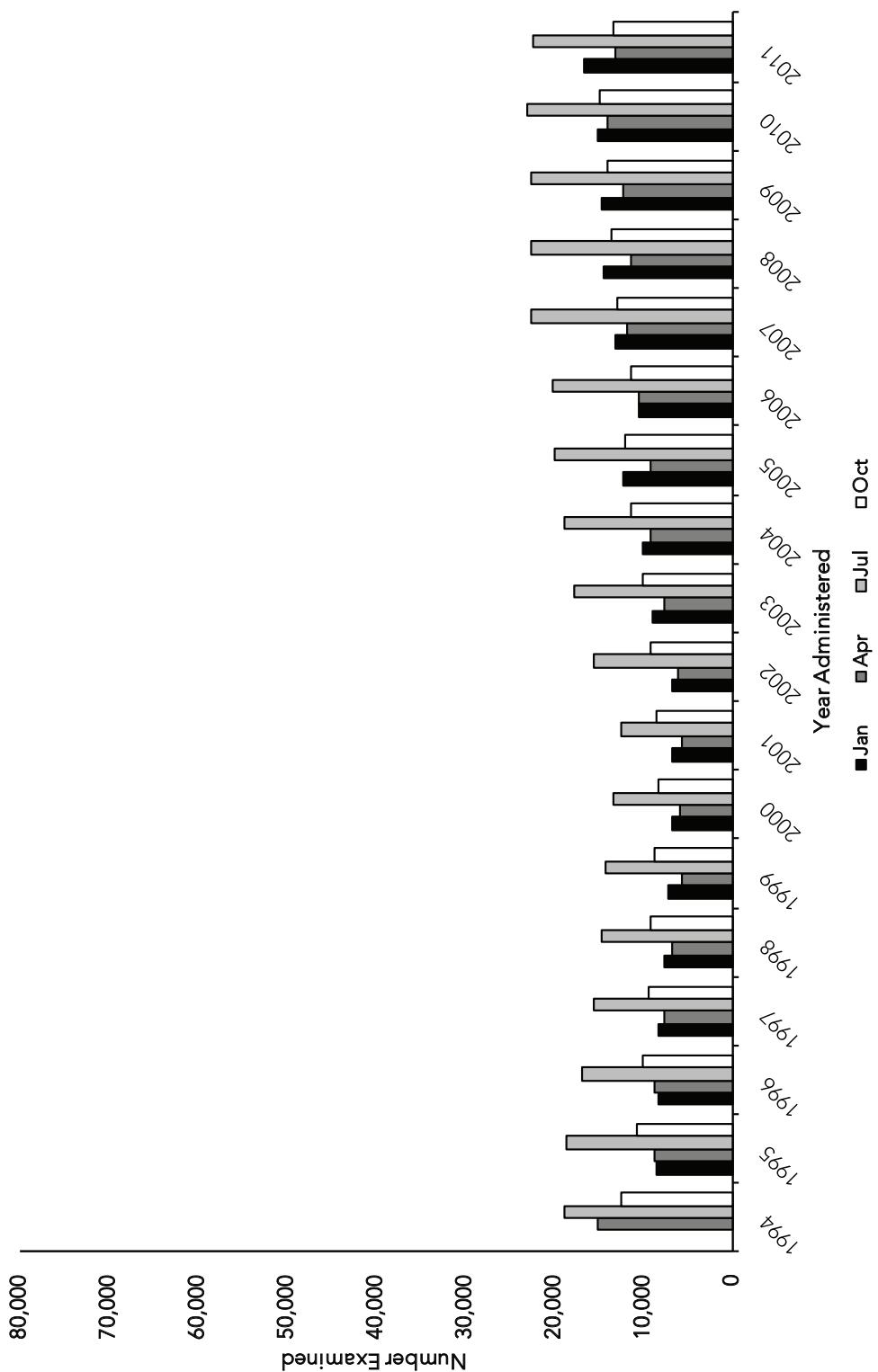


Figure 10. NCLEX-PN® Volume for First-Time, U.S.-Educated Candidates

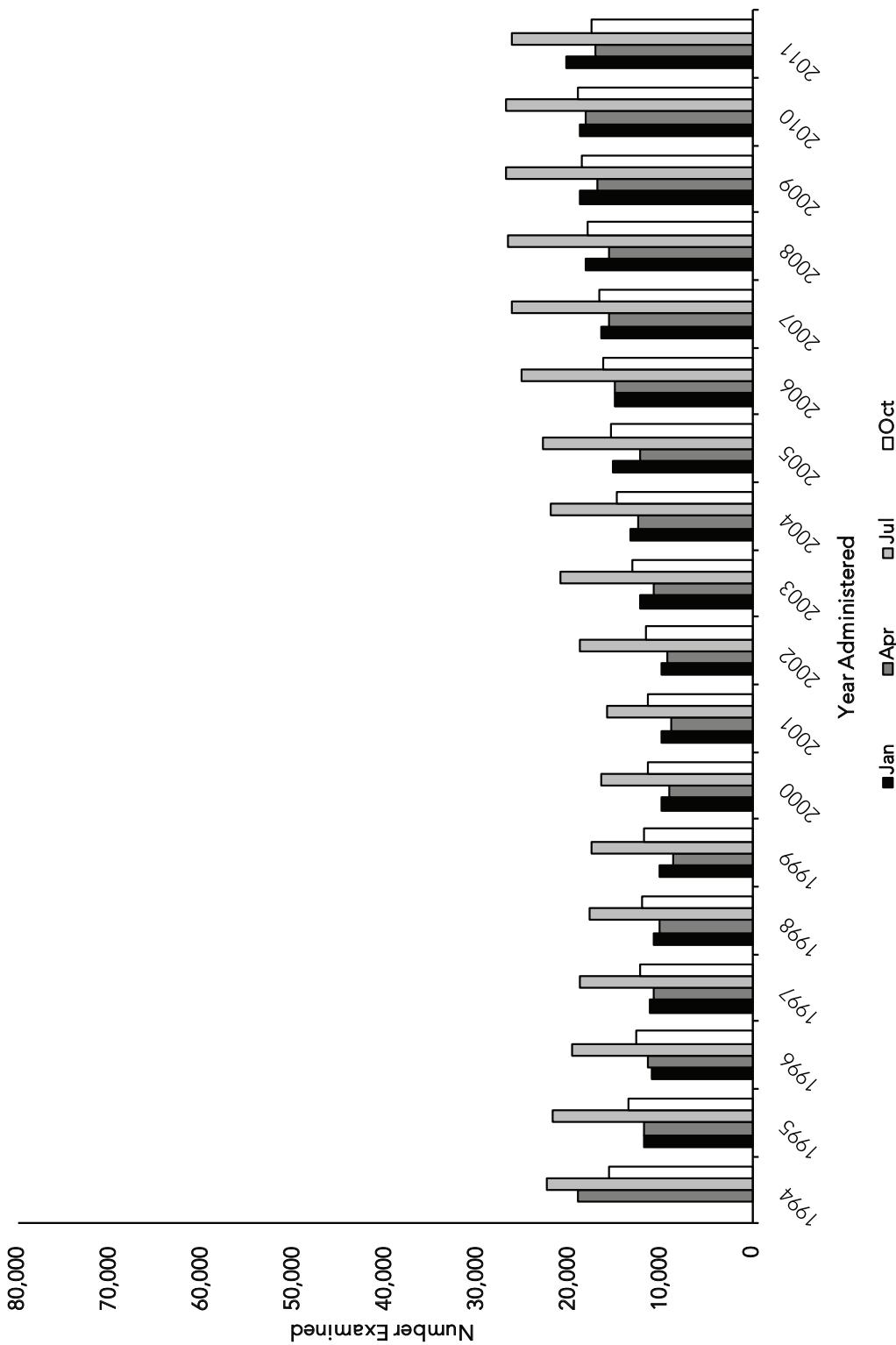


Figure 11. NCLEX-PN® Volume for All Candidates

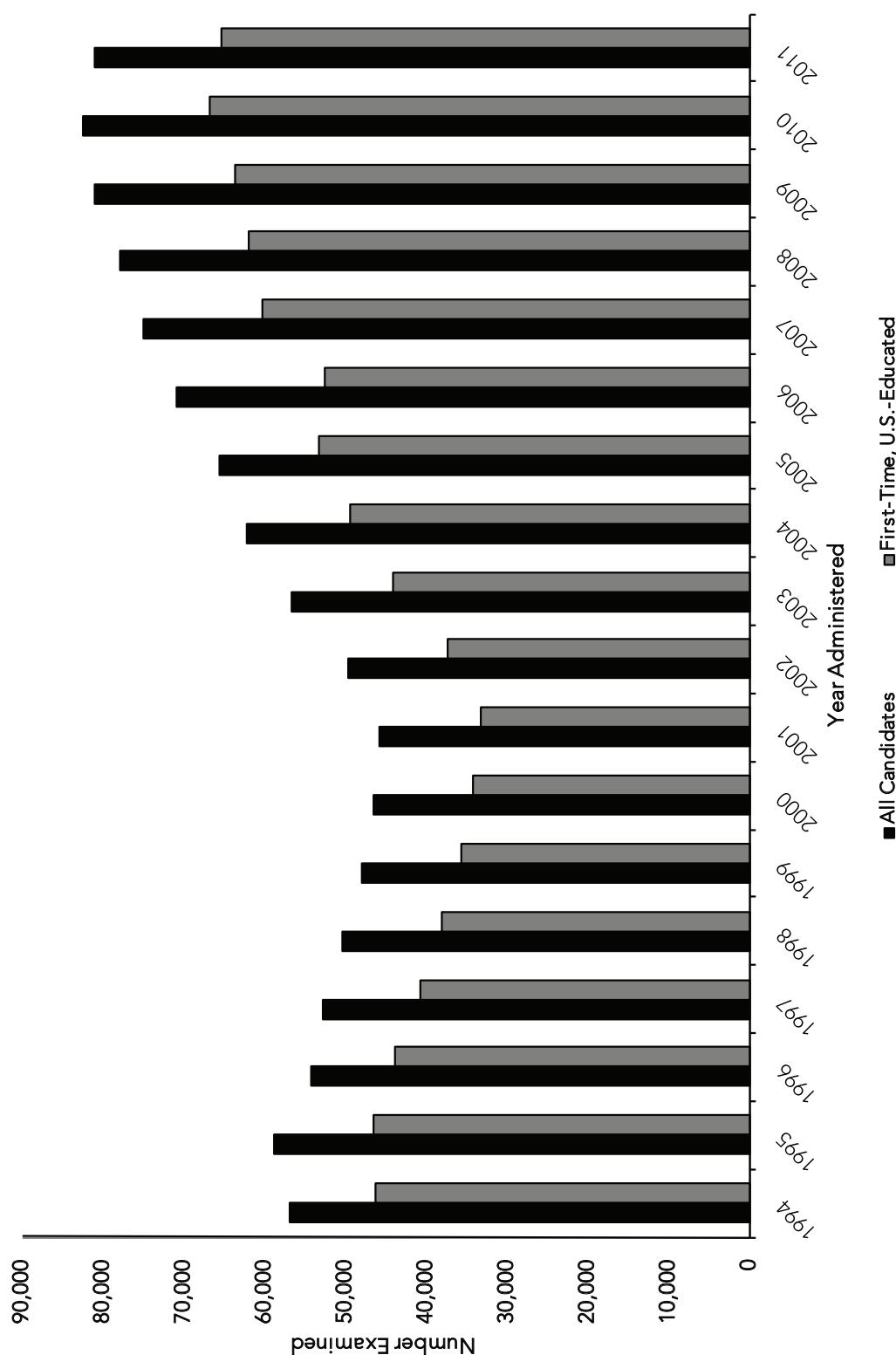


Figure 12. NCLEX-PN® Annual Volume, April 1994 - December 2011



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