



QUARTERLY EXAMINATION STATISTICS

Volume, Pass Rates & First-Time Internationally Educated Candidates' Countries

Multiple steps must be completed before a nurse can safely enter the profession. These steps typically include:

- Graduating from a recognized nursing program,
- Meeting the specific requirements of the state board of nursing, and
- Passing the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) NCLEX® examination for registered nurses (RNs) or licensed practical/vocational nurses (LPN/VNs).

Because passing the NCLEX is usually the final step in the nurse licensure process, the number of people passing the NCLEX ("pass rate") is a good indicator of how many new nurses are entering the profession in the U.S.

These tables provide the most recent data on the NCLEX testing volume and the associated pass rates. In addition, NCSBN has listed the top five countries where nurses were educated outside the U.S. and who are taking the NCLEX examination in hopes of obtaining nursing employment in the U.S.

For more detailed NCLEX Examination statistics, including historical pass rates, see Exam Psychometrics under the NCLEX Examinations section of NCSBN's Web site, www.ncsbn.org.

For general information about the NCLEX, visit the NCLEX Examinations section of NCSBN's Web site.

2007 NCLEX® Volume and Pass Rates¹

Candidates	Jan. – March	April – June	July – Sept.	Oct. – Dec.	2007 Total
RN					
Total	44,512 (73.0%)	49,305 (70.8%)	72,951 (72.5%)	33,441 (55.5%)	200,209 (69.4%)
First-Time	35,184 (81.7%)	39,307 (80.4%)	59,614 (79.0%)	19,242 (64.1%)	153,347 (78.1%)
Repeat	9,328 (40.2%)	9,998 (33.1%)	13,337 (43.5%)	14,199 (43.9%)	46,862 (40.8%)
U.S.-Educated	31,372 (84.0%)	36,459 (81.3%)	59,703 (79.7%)	18,456 (67.8%)	145,990 (79.5%)
Internationally Educated	13,140 (46.7%)	12,846 (41.2%)	13,248 (40.3%)	14,985 (40.3%)	54,219 (42.1%)
PN					
Total	16,500 (77.9%)	15,566 (74.9%)	26,184 (83.3%)	16,683 (74.4%)	74,933 (78.4%)
First-Time	13,500 (86.0%)	12,151 (84.6%)	23,034 (89.0%)	13,194 (83.1%)	61,880 (86.2%)
Repeat	3,000 (41.2%)	3,414 (40.1%)	3,150 (41.5%)	3,489 (41.6%)	13,053 (41.1%)
U.S.-Educated	15,673 (80.0%)	14,674 (77.5%)	25,310 (84.8%)	15,752 (76.7%)	71,409 (80.5%)
Internationally Educated	827 (38.5%)	892 (32.3%)	874 (38.8%)	931 (34.8%)	3,524 (36.0%)

¹Number = the number of candidates taking the examination.

Percentage = percentage of candidates passing the examination (Pass Rate).

2007 First-Time Internationally Educated Candidates:
Top Five Countries (with respect to volume)¹

Volume	Jan. – March	April – June	July – Sept.	Oct. – Dec.	2007 Total
1st	Philippines 5,076	Philippines 4,868	Philippines 5,139	Philippines 6,416	Philippines 21,499
2nd	India 1,384	India 1,348	India 1,339	India 1,299	India 5,370
3rd	South Korea 600	South Korea 422	South Korea 418	South Korea 466	South Korea 1,906
4th	Canada 201	Canada 213	Canada 268	Canada 206	Canada 888
5th	Cuba 168	Cuba 172	Cuba 185	Cuba 148	Cuba 673

¹In this table, the count of first-time internationally educated candidates includes both RNs and PNs.

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