



## 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 website, [www.ncsbn.org](http://www.ncsbn.org).

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

2010 NCLEX® Volume and Pass Rates<sup>1</sup>

Candidates	Jan. – March	April – June	July – Sept.	Oct. – Dec.	2010 Total
<b>RN</b>					
<b>Total</b>	49,595 (76.12%)	52,766 (77.66%)	68,602 (75.44%)	26,812 (60.51%)	197,775 (74.18%)
First-Time	39,683 (84.79%)	43,865 (86.00%)	56,649 (81.97%)	15,093 (66.89%)	155,290 (82.37%)
Repeat	9,912 (41.43%)	8,901 (36.56%)	11,953 (44.48%)	11,719 (45.40%)	42,485 (42.36%)
U.S.-Educated	40,613 (85.28%)	45,473 (85.54%)	61,420 (81.16%)	20,091 (71.94%)	167,597 (82.24%)
Internationally Educated	8,982 (34.74%)	7,293 (28.56%)	7,182 (26.54%)	6,721 (26.35%)	30,178 (29.43%)
<b>PN</b>					
<b>Total</b>	18,793 (77.19%)	18,006 (74.80%)	26,674 (81.80%)	19,046 (76.85%)	82,519 (78.08%)
First-Time	15,315 (85.65%)	14,176 (84.61%)	23,177 (88.72%)	15,095 (85.78%)	67,763 (86.51%)
Repeat	3,478 (39.94%)	3,830 (38.49%)	3,497 (35.97%)	3,951 (42.75%)	14,756 (39.37%)
U.S.-Educated	18,310 (78.44%)	17,495 (75.88%)	26,244 (82.64%)	18,574 (77.81%)	80,623 (79.11%)
Internationally Educated	483 (30.02%)	511 (37.77%)	430 (30.93%)	472 (38.98%)	1,896 (34.55%)

<sup>1</sup>Number = the number of candidates taking the examination.

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

2010 First-Time Internationally Educated Candidates:  
Top Five Countries (with respect to volume)<sup>1</sup>

Volume	Jan. – March	April – June	July – Sept.	Oct. – Dec.	2010 YTD
<b>1st</b>	Philippines 3,024	Philippines 2,529	Philippines 2,227	Philippines 2,009	Philippines 9,789
<b>2nd</b>	South Korea 301	India 256	India 245	India 249	India 1,033
<b>3rd</b>	India 283	South Korea 230	South Korea 180	South Korea 185	South Korea 896
<b>4th</b>	Canada 131	Canada 128	Canada 169	Canada 143	Canada 571
<b>5th</b>	Puerto Rico 104	Nigeria 52	Nigeria 74	Nigeria 75	Nigeria 274

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

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