



FLORIDA CENTER **FOR NURSING**

Nursing Education Report
December 2022

Florida Nursing Education Report Academic Year 2020-2021

Florida Center for Nursing

Headquartered at the University of South Florida College of Nursing
12901 Bruce B. Downs Blvd., MDC 22
Tampa, FL 33612

Report Citation Information: Florida Center for Nursing (2022). *Florida Nursing Education Report, Academic Year 2020-2021*.

This report was prepared by Rayna M. Letourneau, PhD, RN, Interim Executive Director, Florida Center for Nursing (raynaletourneau@usf.edu).

If you require this report in an alternate format, please contact us at FLCenterforNursing@usf.edu.

Acknowledgements

The Florida Center for Nursing would like to thank the deans, directors, department chairs, and support staff Florida's schools of nursing. This report would not be possible without their participation in our survey.

The Interim Executive Director of the Florida Center for Nursing would also like to acknowledge the following individuals and organizations for their contributions:

University of South Florida College of Nursing

Florida Nurses Association

Ayesha Johnson, PhD
Statistician and Assistant Professor
University of South Florida College of Nursing

Abigail Carden, MPH, CPH
Data Engineer
Florida Center for Nursing

Department of Information Systems Technology
School of Modeling, Simulation & Training
University of Central Florida

Florida Department of Health, Division of Medical Quality Assurance
Bureau of Health Care Practitioner Regulation, Board of Nursing

National Forum of State Nursing Workforce Centers

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List of Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Definition
ADN	Associate Degree in Nursing
APRN	Advanced Practice Registered Nurse
AY	Academic year
BSN	Baccalaureate Degree in Nursing
CIE	Commission for Independent Education
CNM	Certified Nurse Midwife
CNS	Clinical Nurse Specialist
CRNA	Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist
DNP	Doctor of Nursing Practice
FCN	Florida Center for Nursing
ICUF	Independent Colleges and Universities of Florida
LPN	Licensed Practical Nurse
MSN	Master of Science in Nursing
NCLEX	National Council Licensure Examination
NCLEX-PN	National Council Licensure Examination for Practice Nurses
NCLEX-RN	National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses
NCSBN	National Council of State Boards of Nursing
NP	Nurse Practitioner
PhD	Doctor of Philosophy
RN	Registered Nurse

Introduction

Consistent with Florida statute (§464.0195), the FCN evaluated data for approved and accredited nursing programs for Academic Year (AY) 2020-2021.

This report provides information about the nursing programs' capacity, enrollment, and graduates that potentially contribute to the state's nursing workforce. Prelicensure nursing programs are the pipeline to the nursing workforce. Graduates prepared for success on the licensure examination are critical so employers can fill vacant and new positions. A persistent inability for employers to fill open nursing positions may result in decreased access to quality and safe nursing care for the people of Florida.

Survey Methodology

Nursing education programs were identified from the Florida Department of Health Division of Medical Quality Assurance Search Services website (<https://mqa-internet.doh.state.fl.us/MQASearchServices/NursingPrograms>), which maintains an updated database of Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN), Associate Degree in Nursing (ADN) and prelicensure Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) programs by National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX) code. The search service does not track post-licensure nursing programs that do not lead to a new license. Survey respondents with a prelicensure NCLEX code were able to provide information on affiliated post-licensure programs.

Prelicensure nursing programs include prelicensure programs offered by Florida state universities, colleges, public school districts, private institutions licensed by the Florida Commission for Independent Education (CIE), private institutions that are members of the Independent Colleges and Universities of Florida (ICUF), and religious institutions authorized by law to offer nursing programs.

Post-licensure RN programs advance the training of licensed RNs and include Registered Nurse to Bachelor of Science in Nursing (RN to BSN), Master of Science in Nursing (MSN), Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP), Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) programs, and nursing certificates. Upon completion of some masters and doctorate programs, registered nurses transition to an Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) license. These roles include Nurse Practitioner (NP), Certified Nurse Midwife (CNM), Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS), Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner and Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA).

Sample

The FCN requested data from 482 nursing education programs with NCLEX codes via an online survey. Email invitations and reminders were sent to the last known contact identified on surveys submitted in 2019. Additional outreach efforts were made via phone and email when

addresses or contact information were deemed invalid. Surveys were accessible between February 14, 2022 through March 18, 2022. Programs were asked to report data about the 2020-2021 academic year. The AY 2020-2021 is defined as the Fall (August/September) 2020 semester through the Summer (July/August) 2021 semester.

Measures

Capacity. Capacity is measured in terms of quantities that the nursing programs can produce. The following definitions were used to determine capacity of nursing programs:

- Number of vacant student seats: the maximum possible number of new students that could enroll in a program in a single academic year (includes first-time enrollees and re-admits).
- Number of applications received: the number of students that submitted applications for admission for AY 2020-2021
- Number of qualified applicants: the total number of program applicants who met the minimum admission standards.
- Number of students admitted: the number of qualified applicants that were accepted into the program. This includes newly admitted students and re-admits (i.e., students previously in the nursing program who dropped out and had to reapply for admission).
- Number of admitted students who enrolled: Enrolled students include those that registered for course work and paid fees.

Student Retention. Retention rates consider the proportion of a cohort of newly enrolled students that have graduated or are still enrolled one year later, compared to those that leave without completing their degree program. Survey participants were asked to report on the status of a cohort of students in a generic traditional program one year after their first enrollment in either Fall 2019, Spring 2020, or Summer 2020.

Budgeted, Filled, and Vacant Faculty Positions. In this section, respondents reported the number of budgeted faculty positions and vacancies, the composition of the program's faculty, and current and future need for additional faculty positions. Full-time faculty were defined as instructional, administrative, or research staff of the nursing academic unit who are employed full-time as defined by the institution, hold academic rank, carry the full scope of faculty responsibility (e.g., teaching, advisement, committee work), and receive rights and privileges associated with full-time employment. These faculty members may be tenured, tenure-track, or non-tenure track. Part-time faculty were defined as instructional, administrative, or research staff of the nursing academic unit who are employed part-time as defined by the institution, may or may not hold academic rank, carry responsibility for a specific area (e.g., teaching a single course), and may carry any number of titles (e.g., adjunct, clinical instructor).

Overview of the Nursing Education Programs in Florida (AY 2020-2021)

The response rate was 71% (n=343) and included 148 LPN programs and 195 RN programs. Additionally, survey respondents reported data related to post-licensure programs, including RN to BSN (n=18) and graduate (n=78). The following table demonstrates statewide data collected from all survey respondents.

	Pre-licensure			Post-licensure		Total
	LPN	ADN	BSN	RN to BSN	Grad	
<u>PROGRAMS</u>						
# of Education Programs	148	134	61			343
# of Programs with Students Enrolled	111	149	76	18	78	432
<u>FACULTY</u>						
# Full-Time Faculty	441	992	908			2,341
# Full-Time new hires	130	249	180			559
# Faculty separations	136	291	163			590
# Faculty retiring	19	29	34			82
# Part-Time Faculty	429	1,415	1,066			2,910
# Part-Time new hires	171	518	390			1,079
# Full-Time Faculty Vacancies	72	159	125			356
# Part-Time Faculty Vacancies	83	200	90			373
# Full-Time Faculty Needed, Not Budgeted	119	178	152			449
<u>STUDENTS</u>						
# New Students Admitted + Enrolled	4,462	14,178	6,456	3,315	3,324	31,735
# Qualified Applicants	6,012	22,407	11,220	4,947	4,749	49,335
Total # Students Enrolled	5,614	23,484	10,728	4,357	6,009	50,192
Total # Seats Available	6,512	27,905	13,158	6,528	9,158	63,261
# of Graduates	2,611	8,516	4,324	2,617	2,282	20,350
<u>Retention</u>						
Newly enrolled	2,166	4,325	2,638			9,129
Still enrolled	477	1,358	1,248			3,083
Graduated	1,091	1,963	1,107			4,161
Left without finishing	598	1,004	323			1,925
Retention (%)	72.4%	76.8%	87.9%			79.0%
(AY 2020-21) Total NCLEX Pass Rate	62.9%	60.7%	85.0%			66.5%

Note: Program counts represent number of schools offering one or more curriculum for each education level. Total number of graduate programs unavailable as there is no comprehensive list of nursing graduate programs in the state available. Counts of students and faculty reflect survey respondents only and may not represent 100% of active programs during AY 2020-21. NCLEX passage rates exclude graduates of special circumstances (e.g., partial RN taking LPN exam, unnamed closed program).

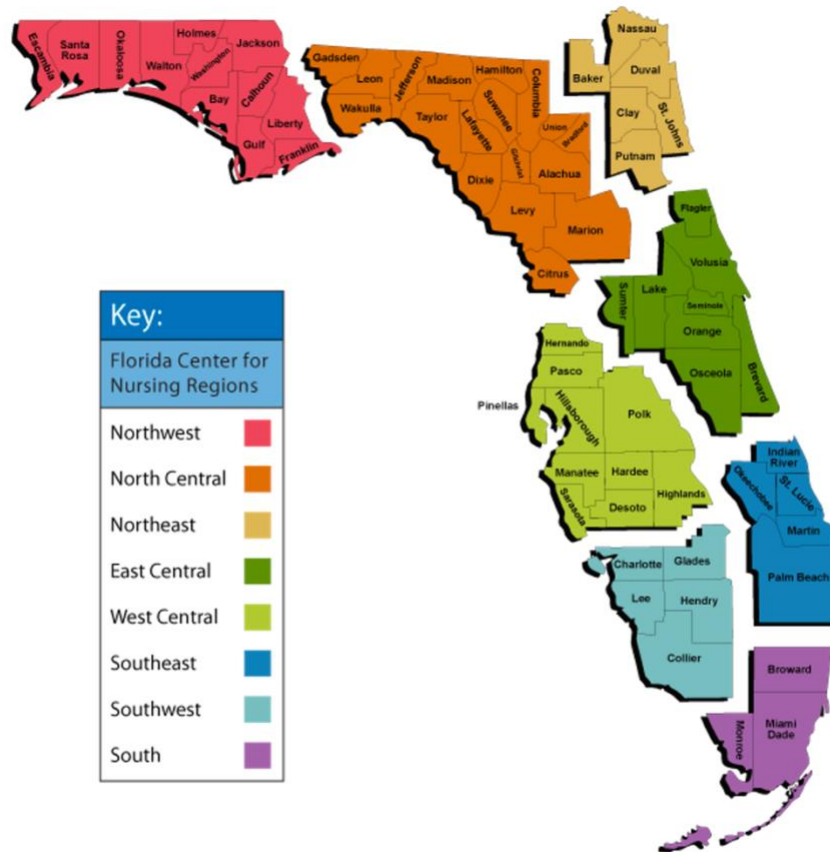
In addition to statewide findings, the FCN deems it critical to evaluate data at the regional level.

The FCN divides the state into 8 geographical regions:

- **East Central Region-** Brevard, Flagler, Lake, Orange, Osceola, Seminole, Sumter, and Volusia counties.
- **North Central Region-** Alachua, Bradford, Citrus, Columbia, Dixie, Gadsden, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Jefferson, Lafayette, Leon, Levy, Madison, Marion, Suwanee, Taylor, Union, and Wakulla counties.
- **Northeast Region-** Baker, Clay, Duval, Nassau, Putnam, and St Johns counties.
- **Northwest Region-** Bay, Calhoun, Escambia, Franklin, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Liberty, Okaloosa, Santa Rosa, Walton, and Washington counties.
- **South Region-** Broward, Miami-Dade, and Monroe counties.
- **Southeast Region-** Indian River, Martin, Okeechobee, Palm Beach, and St. Lucie counties.
- **Southwest Region-** Charlotte, Collier, Glades, Hendry, and Lee counties.
- **West Central Region-** Desoto, Hardee, Hernando, Highlands, Hillsborough, Manatee, Pasco, Pinellas, Polk, and Sarasota counties.

Image 1. Regional map of Florida.

The following map demonstrates the 8 geographical regions of Florida.



East Region Nursing Education Program Summary AY 2020-2021

The East Central region covers Brevard, Flagler, Lake, Orange, Osceola, Seminole, Sumter, and Volusia counties.

	Pre-licensure			Post-licensure		Total
	LPN	ADN	BSN	RN to BSN	Grad	
<u>PROGRAMS</u>						
# of Education Programs	16	17	6			39
# of Programs with Students Enrolled	13	24	7	2	11	57
<u>FACULTY</u>						
# Full-Time Faculty	41	161	101			303
# Part-Time Faculty	53	226	140			419
# Full-Time Faculty Vacancies	7	30	10			47
# Part-Time Faculty Vacancies	9	21	2			32
# Full-Time Faculty Needed, Not Budgeted	10	26	17			53
<u>STUDENTS</u>						
# New Students Admitted + Enrolled	542	1,372	688	1,738	630	4,970
Total # Students Enrolled	576	2,459	961	2,517	1,146	7,659
# of Graduates	199	1,053	588	1,289	418	3,547
(AY 2020-21) Total NCLEX Pass Rate	76.9%	69.7%	90.2%			75.5%

Note: Program counts represent number of schools offering one or more curriculum for each education level. Total number of graduate programs unavailable as there is no comprehensive list of nursing graduate programs in the state available. Counts of students and faculty reflect survey respondents only and may not represent 100% of active programs during AY 2020-21. NCLEX passage rates exclude graduates of special circumstances (e.g., partial RN taking LPN exam, unnamed closed program).

North Central Region Nursing Education Program Summary AY 2020-2021

The North Central region covers Alachua, Bradford, Citrus, Columbia, Dixie, Gadsden, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Jefferson, Lafayette, Leon, Levy, Madison, Marion, Suwanee, Taylor, Union, and Wakulla counties.

	Pre-licensure			Post-licensure		Total
	LPN	ADN	BSN	RN to BSN	Grad	
<u>PROGRAMS</u>						
# of Education Programs	12	10	5			27
# of Programs with Students Enrolled	11	13	7	2	6	39
<u>FACULTY</u>						
# Full-Time Faculty	44	94	137			275
# Part-Time Faculty	43	143	96			282
# Full-Time Faculty Vacancies	6	8	16			30
# Part-Time Faculty Vacancies	8	30	23			61
# Full-Time Faculty Needed, Not Budgeted	9	16	19			44
<u>STUDENTS</u>						
# New Students Admitted + Enrolled	369	1,525	594	112	215	2,815
Total # Students Enrolled	534	2,189	921	103	507	4,254
# of Graduates	292	875	415	70	118	1,770
(AY 2020-21) Total NCLEX Pass Rate	82.8%	83.0%	87.5%			84.3%

Note: Program counts represent number of schools offering one or more curriculum for each education level. Total number of graduate programs unavailable as there is no comprehensive list of nursing graduate programs in the state available. Counts of students and faculty reflect survey respondents only and may not represent 100% of active programs during AY 2020-21. NCLEX passage rates exclude graduates of special circumstances (e.g., partial RN taking LPN exam, unnamed closed program).

Northeast Region Nursing Education Program Summary AY 2020-2021

The Northeast region covers Baker, Clay, Duval, Nassau, Putnam, and St Johns counties.

	Pre-licensure			Post-licensure		Total
	LPN	ADN	BSN	RN to BSN	Grad	
<u>PROGRAMS</u>						
# of Education Programs	8	6	5			19
# of Programs with Students Enrolled	8	11	8	4	13	44
<u>FACULTY</u>						
# Full-Time Faculty	24	66	89			179
# Part-Time Faculty	43	91	39			173
# Full-Time Faculty Vacancies	8	9	11			28
# Part-Time Faculty Vacancies	7	8	8			23
# Full-Time Faculty Needed, Not Budgeted	8	11	10			29
<u>STUDENTS</u>						
# New Students Admitted + Enrolled	425	1,102	755	367	272	2,921
Total # Students Enrolled	561	1,635	1,075	431	545	4,247
# of Graduates	197	594	559	360	340	2,050
(AY 2020-21) Total NCLEX Pass Rate	82.9%	82.0%	87.5%			84.0%

Note: Program counts represent number of schools offering one or more curriculum for each education level. Total number of graduate programs unavailable as there is no comprehensive list of nursing graduate programs in the state available. Counts of students and faculty reflect survey respondents only and may not represent 100% of active programs during AY 2020-21. NCLEX passage rates exclude graduates of special circumstances (e.g., partial RN taking LPN exam, unnamed closed program).

Northwest Region Nursing Education Program Summary AY 2020-2021

The Northwest region covers Bay, Calhoun, Escambia, Franklin, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Liberty, Okaloosa, Santa Rosa, Walton, and Washington counties.

	Pre-licensure			Post-licensure		Total
	LPN	ADN	BSN	RN to BSN	Grad	
<u>PROGRAMS</u>						
# of Education Programs	13	7	1			21
# of Programs with Students Enrolled	12	11	1	1	4	29
<u>FACULTY</u>						
# Full-Time Faculty	46	60	22			128
# Part-Time Faculty	29	113	30			172
# Full-Time Faculty Vacancies	3	8	2			13
# Part-Time Faculty Vacancies	1	11	4			16
# Full-Time Faculty Needed, Not Budgeted	9	11	4			24
<u>STUDENTS</u>						
# New Students Admitted + Enrolled	489	819	150	346	223	2,027
Total # Students Enrolled	497	1,432	184	403	276	2,792
# of Graduates	255	598	123	312	83	1,371
(AY 2020-21) Total NCLEX Pass Rate	71.6%	76.7%	89.7%			78.9%

Note: Program counts represent number of schools offering one or more curriculum for each education level. Total number of graduate programs unavailable as there is no comprehensive list of nursing graduate programs in the state available. Counts of students and faculty reflect survey respondents only and may not represent 100% of active programs during AY 2020-21. NCLEX passage rates exclude graduates of special circumstances (e.g., partial RN taking LPN exam, unnamed closed program).

South Region Nursing Education Program Summary AY 2020-2021

The South region covers Broward, Miami-Dade, and Monroe counties.

	Pre-licensure			Post-licensure		Total
	LPN	ADN	BSN	RN to BSN	Grad	
<u>PROGRAMS</u>						
# of Education Programs	43	43	19			105
# of Programs with Students Enrolled	25	31	21	6	20	103
<u>FACULTY</u>						
# Full-Time Faculty	71	198	220			489
# Part-Time Faculty	67	262	354			683
# Full-Time Faculty Vacancies	15	31	40			86
# Part-Time Faculty Vacancies	31	66	11			108
# Full-Time Faculty Needed, Not Budgeted	47	42	40			129
<u>STUDENTS</u>						
# New Students Admitted + Enrolled	984	2,767	2,285	394	1,311	7,741
Total # Students Enrolled	1,118	5,103	4,133	358	1,790	12,502
# of Graduates	607	1,807	1,270	147	799	4,630
(AY 2020-21) Total NCLEX Pass Rate	49.9%	47.9%	82.5%			58.2%

Note: Program counts represent number of schools offering one or more curriculum for each education level. Total number of graduate programs unavailable as there is no comprehensive list of nursing graduate programs in the state available. Counts of students and faculty reflect survey respondents only and may not represent 100% of active programs during AY 2020-21. NCLEX passage rates exclude graduates of special circumstances (e.g., partial RN taking LPN exam, unnamed closed program).

Southeast Region Nursing Education Program Summary AY 2020-2021

The Southeast region covers Indian River, Martin, Okeechobee, Palm Beach, and St. Lucie counties.

	Pre-licensure			Post-licensure		Total
	LPN	ADN	BSN	RN to BSN	Grad	
<u>PROGRAMS</u>						
# of Education Programs	21	23	8			52
# of Programs with Students Enrolled	12	24	10	2	12	60
<u>FACULTY</u>						
# Full-Time Faculty	42	133	100			275
# Part-Time Faculty	66	279	134			479
# Full-Time Faculty Vacancies	14	43	22			79
# Part-Time Faculty Vacancies	8	19	14			41
# Full-Time Faculty Needed, Not Budgeted	15	47	34			96
<u>STUDENTS</u>						
# New Students Admitted + Enrolled	435	2,913	663	79	129	4,219
Total # Students Enrolled	458	4,036	1,260	122	541	6,417
# of Graduates	161	996	505	134	183	1,979
(AY 2020-21) Total NCLEX Pass Rate	40.0%	41.1%	72.3%			45.0%

Note: Program counts represent number of schools offering one or more curriculum for each education level. Total number of graduate programs unavailable as there is no comprehensive list of nursing graduate programs in the state available. Counts of students and faculty reflect survey respondents only and may not represent 100% of active programs during AY 2020-21. NCLEX passage rates exclude graduates of special circumstances (e.g., partial RN taking LPN exam, unnamed closed program).

Southwest Region Nursing Education Program Summary AY 2020-2021

The Southwest region covers Charlotte, Collier, Glades, Hendry, and Lee counties.

	Pre-licensure			Post-licensure		Total
	LPN	ADN	BSN	RN to BSN	Grad	
<u>PROGRAMS</u>						
# of Education Programs	13	6	6			25
# of Programs with Students Enrolled	11	7	7		3	28
<u>FACULTY</u>						
# Full-Time Faculty	34	38	54			126
# Part-Time Faculty	19	51	50			120
# Full-Time Faculty Vacancies	3	2	11			16
# Part-Time Faculty Vacancies	6	10	15			31
# Full-Time Faculty Needed, Not Budgeted	3	4	13			20
<u>STUDENTS</u>						
# New Students Admitted + Enrolled	301	774	280		44	1,399
Total # Students Enrolled	456	1,296	419		98	2,269
# of Graduates	212	526	180		41	959
(AY 2020-21) Total NCLEX Pass Rate	61.8%	54.6%	92.9%			62.5%

Note: Program counts represent number of schools offering one or more curriculum for each education level. Total number of graduate programs unavailable as there is no comprehensive list of nursing graduate programs in the state available. Counts of students and faculty reflect survey respondents only and may not represent 100% of active programs during AY 2020-21. NCLEX passage rates exclude graduates of special circumstances (e.g., partial RN taking LPN exam, unnamed closed program).

West Central Region Nursing Education Program Summary AY 2020-2021

The West Central region covers Desoto, Hardee, Hernando, Highlands, Hillsborough, Manatee, Pasco, Pinellas, Polk, and Sarasota counties.

	Pre-licensure			Post-licensure		Total
	LPN	ADN	BSN	RN to BSN	Grad	
<u>PROGRAMS</u>						
# of Education Programs	22	22	11			55
# of Programs with Students Enrolled	19	28	15	1	9	72
<u>FACULTY</u>						
# Full-Time Faculty	139	242	185			566
# Part-Time Faculty	109	250	225			584
# Full-Time Faculty Vacancies	16	28	8			52
# Part-Time Faculty Vacancies	13	35	13			61
# Full-Time Faculty Needed, Not Budgeted	18	21	15			54
<u>STUDENTS</u>						
# New Students Admitted + Enrolled	917	2,906	1,041	279	371	5,514
Total # Students Enrolled	1,414	5,334	1,775	423	1,006	9,952
# of Graduates	688	2,067	684	305	300	4,044
(AY 2020-21) Total NCLEX Pass Rate	75.2%	83.5%	90.0%			83.2%

Note: Program counts represent number of schools offering one or more curriculum for each education level. Total number of graduate programs unavailable as there is no comprehensive list of nursing graduate programs in the state available. Counts of students and faculty reflect survey respondents only and may not represent 100% of active programs during AY 2020-21. NCLEX passage rates exclude graduates of special circumstances (e.g., partial RN taking LPN exam, unnamed closed program).

NCLEX Pass Rates

Several steps must be completed before a nurse can earn a license to practice. These steps include graduating from an approved or accredited program, meeting the requirements of the Florida State Board of Nursing, and passing the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX).

The National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) develops the NCLEX to test the competency of nursing program graduates in the United States and Canada. The NCLEX is a variable-length, valid and reliable computerized adaptive test to measure nursing competence. The passing standards for the NCLEX-RN and NCLEX-PN reflect the amount of nursing knowledge, skills, and attitudes required to practice competently at the entry level of the profession.

The number of candidates passing the NCLEX (“pass rate”) is an indicator of the number of new nurses entering the nursing workforce. The NCLEX first attempt pass rate is often used as a measure of prelicensure nursing program effectiveness. The following tables provide data on candidate performance for the NCLEX-RN and NCLEX-PN examinations.

Florida's NCLEX Pass Rates Calendar Years 2020 and 2021

The 2020 rates identified in this report reflect results of first-time test-takers from January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020. The 2021 rates identified in this report reflect results of first-time test-takers from January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021.

The 2020 and 2021 statewide pass rates for both NCLEX-RN and NCLEX-PN candidates in Florida are much below the national average. In 2021, Florida's pass rate on the NCLEX-RN for first-time candidates was 64.79% and Florida's pass rate on the NCLEX-PN for first-time candidates was 62.53%. Both state and national pass rates have decreased from 2020 to 2021. This may be because the COVID-19 pandemic's impact on nursing education, the need to pivot to 100% online education, suspended clinical experiences with direct patient care experiences, and candidates' ability to schedule tests in a timely manner.

The following tables provide comparison data of NCLEX-RN and NCLEX-PN state and national pass rates for 2020 and 2021. Additionally, the RN category is differentiated between ADN and BSN candidates.

RN NCLEX PASS RATES IN 2020 VS. 2021		
YEAR	FL PASS RATES	NATIONAL PASS RATES
2020	68.92%	86.57%
2021	64.79%	82.48%

ADN NCLEX PASS RATES IN 2020 VS. 2021		
YEAR	FL PASS RATES	NATIONAL PASS RATES
2020	63.02%	82.80%
2021	58.72%	78.78%

BSN NCLEX PASS RATES IN 2020 VS. 2021		
YEAR	FL PASS RATES	NATIONAL PASS RATES
2020	86.56%	90.29%
2021	81.45%	86.06%

PN NCLEX PASS RATES IN 2020 VS. 2021		
YEAR	FL PASS RATES	NATIONAL PASS RATES
2020	67.01%	83.08%
2021	62.53%	79.60%

Florida's NCLEX Pass Rates 2020 and 2021 Regional Data

In addition to statewide findings, the FCN deems it critical to evaluate data at the regional level.

The following tables provide comparison data of NCLEX-RN and NCLEX-PN regional pass rates for 2020 and 2021. Additionally, the RN category is differentiated between ADN and BSN candidates.

REGIONAL RN PASS RATES IN 2020 VS. 2021		
REGION	2020 PASS RATES	2021 PASS RATES
Northwest	82.41%	78.10%
North Central	87.30%	82.24%
Northeast	84.10%	82.60%
East Central	81.24%	75.18%
West Central	85.99%	80.10%
Southeast	44.93%	43.34%
Southwest	65.11%	67.43%
South	60.99%	56.43%
Total	68.92%	64.79%

REGIONAL ADN PASS RATES IN 2020 VS. 2021		
REGION	2020 PASS RATES	2021 PASS RATES
Northwest	78.66%	73.11%
North Central	12.82%	80.31%
Northeast	79.38%	81.01%
East Central	76.70%	71.36%
West Central	84.96%	77.94%
Southeast	40.50%	39.06%
Southwest	58.33%	60.63%
South	50.71%	46.22%
Total	58.16%	58.72%

REGIONAL BSN PASS RATES IN 2020 VS. 2021		
REGION	2020 PASS RATES	2021 PASS RATES
Northwest	91.81%	88.84%
North Central	87.56%	86.44%
Northeast	91.20%	85.27%
East Central	92.31%	84.46%
West Central	89.88%	86.47%
Southeast	76.70%	74.66%
Southwest	91.71%	91.90%
South	82.75%	76.06%
Total	86.56%	81.45%

REGIONAL PN PASS RATES IN 2020 VS. 2021		
REGION	2020 PASS RATES	2021 PASS RATES
Northwest	78.36%	73.84%
North Central	86.00%	83.97%
Northeast	88.02%	81.65%
East Central	80.21%	68.26%
West Central	79.02%	75.28%
Southeast	38.26%	43.14%
Southwest	69.46%	74.42%
South	53.40%	41.36%
Total	67.01%	62.53%

Florida's NCLEX Pass Rates 2020 and 2021 Data by Program Type

Nursing programs are part of organizations that can be classified as public or private, for-profit or not-for-profit. The following tables provide comparison data of NCLEX-RN and NCLEX-PN public or private, for-profit or not-for-profit rates for 2020 and 2021 at the state and regional levels. Additionally, the RN category is differentiated between ADN and BSN candidates.

SCHOOL TYPE PASS RATES BY EXAM TYPE			
EXAM TYPE	SCHOOL TYPE	2020 PASS RATES	2021 PASS RATES
RN	PUBLIC	89.17%	83.77%
	PRIVATE	58.18%	54.82%
PN	PUBLIC	81.58%	78.91%
	PRIVATE	51.09%	45.39%

SCHOOL TYPE PASS RATES BY REGION			
REGION	PROFIT TYPE	2020 PASS RATES	2021 PASS RATES
Northwest	PUBLIC	81.16%	76.20%
	PRIVATE	84.04%	81.82%
North Central	PUBLIC	88.25%	82.82%
	PRIVATE	84.21%	82.02%
Northeast	PUBLIC	89.29%	82.71%
	PRIVATE	80.00%	82.18%
East Central	PUBLIC	91.20%	87.73%
	PRIVATE	69.95%	59.54%
West Central	PUBLIC	90.60%	84.65%
	PRIVATE	80.25%	74.99%
Southeast	PUBLIC	89.70%	81.76%
	PRIVATE	35.93%	36.25%
Southwest	PUBLIC	78.47%	81.50%
	PRIVATE	54.07%	58.58%
South	PUBLIC	85.34%	80.24%
	PRIVATE	52.70%	46.52%

PROFIT TYPE PASS RATES BY EXAM TYPE IN 2020 VS. 2021			
EXAM TYPE	PROFIT TYPE	2020 PASS RATES	2021 PASS RATES
RN	NON-PROFIT	88.00%	82.16%
	FOR-PROFIT	59.69%	59.10%
PN	NON-PROFIT	81.53%	79.18%
	FOR-PROFIT	65.98%	57.29%

PROFIT TYPE PASS RATES BY REGION IN 2020 VS. 2021			
REGION	PROFIT TYPE	2020 PASS RATES	2021 PASS RATES
Northwest	NON-PROFIT	81.86%	77.02%
	FOR-PROFIT	80.00%	80.60%
North Central	NON-PROFIT	88.32%	82.81%
	FOR-PROFIT	83.75%	82.00%
Northeast	NON-PROFIT	88.98%	83.04%
	FOR-PROFIT	76.71%	81.28%
East Central	NON-PROFIT	89.50%	85.13%
	FOR-PROFIT	55.25%	45.65%
West Central	NON-PROFIT	89.90%	84.32%
	FOR-PROFIT	77.82%	71.94%
Southeast	NON-PROFIT	86.56%	80.80%
	FOR-PROFIT	51.53%	48.57%
Southwest	NON-PROFIT	79.67%	82.16%
	FOR-PROFIT	48.91%	54.55%
South	NON-PROFIT	84.85%	77.77%
	FOR-PROFIT	50.48%	50.02%

Florida's NCLEX Pass Rates 2020 and 2021 Data by Program Licensure Status

The Florida Board of Nursing provides definitions for approved and accredited prelicensure nursing education programs. The subsequent information was retrieved from the [Florida Board of Nursing website](#):

An “approved” nursing education program is a program for the prelicensure education of professional or practical nurses that is conducted in Florida at an educational institution that is approved and regulated under s. 464.019, Florida Statutes. Approved RN nursing education programs are required to obtain accreditation within five years after enrolling the program’s first students, pursuant to S. 464.019(11), Florida Statute.

An “accredited” nursing education program, as defined by s. 464.003, Florida Statutes, is a program for the prelicensure education of professional or practical nurses that is conducted in the United States at an educational institution, whether in Florida, another state, or the District of Columbia, and that is accredited by a specialized nursing accrediting agency that is nationally recognized by the United States Secretary of Education to accredit nursing education programs Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN), Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE)) or National League for Nursing Commission for Nursing Education Accreditation (NLN CNEA).

The following tables provide comparison data of NCLEX-RN and NCLEX-PN state and regional pass rates for accredited, approved, probationary, and non-accredited programs in 2020 and 2021. Additionally, the RN category is differentiated between ADN and BSN candidates.

LICENSURE STATUS PASS RATES BY EXAM TYPE 2020 VS. 2021			
EXAM TYPE	LICENSURE STATUS	2020 PASS RATES	2021 PASS RATES
RN	ACCREDITED	88.50%	83.20%
	APPROVED	64.91%	54.41%
	PROBATIONARY	65.40%	56.67%
	NON-ACCREDITED	25.97%	22.22%
	UNKNOWN	15.79%	100.00%
	CLOSED	19.38%	18.75%
PN	ACCREDITED	81.18%	73.44%
	APPROVED	83.47%	78.02%
	PROBATIONARY	50.36%	42.02%
	NON-ACCREDITED	36.99%	28.43%

LICENSURE STATUS PASS RATES BY EXAM TYPE IN 2020 VS. 2021			
REGION	LICENSURE STATUS	2020 PASS RATES	2021 PASS RATES
Northwest	ACCREDITED	86.83%	80.59%
	APPROVED	78.91%	77.78%
	PROBATIONARY	72.73%	67.02%
	NON-ACCREDITED	-	-
	CLOSED	-	-
North Central	ACCREDITED	88.69%	83.42%
	APPROVED	87.02%	87.03%
	PROBATIONARY	67.92%	61.82%
	NON-ACCREDITED	-	-
	CLOSED	100.00%	-
Northeast	ACCREDITED	88.10%	83.57%
	APPROVED	88.48%	81.65%
	PROBATIONARY	-	-
	NON-ACCREDITED	48.57%	66.04%
	CLOSED	0.00%	0.00%
East Central	ACCREDITED	91.07%	86.98%
	APPROVED	83.15%	77.34%
	PROBATIONARY	57.53%	43.18%
	NON-ACCREDITED	36.46%	26.53%
	CLOSED	25.00%	50.00%
West Central	ACCREDITED	91.49%	84.80%
	APPROVED	84.16%	78.02%
	PROBATIONARY	66.67%	60.00%
	NON-ACCREDITED	30.93%	28.20%
	CLOSED	28.00%	22.22%
Southeast	ACCREDITED	84.16%	79.89%
	APPROVED	74.69%	55.12%
	PROBATIONARY	68.80%	62.15%
	NON-ACCREDITED	24.45%	23.58%
	CLOSED	13.60%	9.62%
Southwest	ACCREDITED	80.75%	79.61%
	APPROVED	88.41%	87.34%
	PROBATIONARY	67.43%	63.83%
	NON-ACCREDITED	13.73%	13.46%
	CLOSED	0.00%	-
South	ACCREDITED	86.95%	80.97%
	APPROVED	62.59%	60.90%
	PROBATIONARY	51.19%	37.74%
	NON-ACCREDITED	27.66%	20.92%
	CLOSED	24.76%	31.46%

Next Steps

The Florida Center for Nursing will continue to take a deep dive into analysis of nursing education programs with a goal to recommend strategies to balance the supply and demand of Florida's nursing workforce. The goal of the FCN is to inform, educate, and provide updates on nursing workforce issues to ensure an adequate supply of nurses to care for the people of Florida.