

LICENSURE

Section 1--Examinations

The Iowa Board of Nursing, in cooperation with other state boards of nursing, contracts to use national examinations (NCLEX[®]) for registered nurse licensure and practical nurse licensure. The licensing examinations are owned by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing and are prepared by item writers and content experts recommended by boards of nursing and the National Council.

The single purpose of the licensure examination is to determine minimal competence to practice nursing as defined by legally constituted authorities. The most recent passing standard was adopted for the licensure examination for registered nurses in April 2010, and for licensed practical nurses in April 2011. Results of the NCLEX[®] examination are reported to candidates as pass-fail.

There are three types of nursing programs leading to licensure as a registered nurse in the State of Iowa. Graduates of associate degree, baccalaureate and prelicensure master's degree programs are eligible to take the national examination for registered nurse licensure. In Iowa, all nursing programs that prepare registered nurse candidates maintain current approval by the Iowa Board of Nursing.

Graduates of a licensed practical nurse program are eligible to take the national examination for practical nurse licensure. In Iowa, all nursing programs that prepare practical nurse candidates maintain current approval by the Iowa Board of Nursing.

The rules and regulations of the Iowa Board of Nursing require nurses educated and licensed in a foreign country to take the NCLEX[®] for registered nurse licensure or practical nurse licensure. A prerequisite for taking the registered nurse or practical nurse licensing examination is completion of the Professional Report application of the Commission on Graduates of Foreign Nursing Schools Credentials Evaluation Service (CES). The countries and non-member board territories that currently administer the NCLEX Examinations are Australia, Canada, England, Germany (temporarily not testing at this location), Hong Kong, India, Japan, Mexico, Philippines, Puerto Rico and Taiwan.

The NCLEX[®] examinations are provided using computerized adaptive testing. NCS Pearson VUE serves as the vendor to provide testing and administration services for NCLEX[®]. Computerized adaptive testing is conducted at four (4) sites in Iowa: Coralville, Davenport, Des Moines and Sioux City on a year-round basis. Candidates may self-schedule the time and site of choice for the examination when qualifications for licensure and test registration are complete.

There is no provision for temporary licensure of candidates for licensure by examination in Iowa.

License status information may be accessed through the Iowa Board of Nursing automated telephone or online license verification systems.

National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX®) Statistics

Table I--Performance of Candidates Educated Nationally and in Iowa Programs on the NCLEX® Examinations for Registered Nurses and Licensed Practical Nurses by Number of First-Time Test Takers and Passing Percentage from 7-01-10 through 6-30-11.

NCLEX® - Registered Nurse		FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011
National				
Total Number of Test Takers		133,788	143,709	145,613
Number Passing the Exam		116,954	127,611	127,743
Passing Percentage		87.42%	88.80%	87.73%
Iowa				
Total Number of Test Takers		2,016	2,059	2,081
Number Passing the Exam		1,673	*1,755	*1,775
Passing Percentage		82.99%	85.24%	85.30%
NCLEX® - Licensed Practical Nurse		FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011
National				
Total Number of Test Takers		62,951	65,573	67,440
Number Passing the Exam		53,682	56,659	58,521
Passing Percentage		85.28%	86.41%	86.77%
Iowa				
Total Number of Test Takers		1,425	1,352	1,365
Number Passing the Exam		1,322	*1,267	*1,314
Passing Percentage		92.77%	93.71%	96.26%

*A total of 3,089 initial nursing licenses were issued to Iowa candidates in FY '11.

The passing percentage rate for Registered Nurse and Licensed Practical Nurse candidates increased in FY '11.

Table II--Number of Iowa Graduates (and Passing Percentage) Taking the NCLEX® Examination for Registered Nurse and Licensed Practical Nurse Licensure for the First Time in Any Jurisdiction by Type of Education from 7-01-10 through 6-30-11.

	NCLEX®	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011
Baccalaureate Programs				
Total Number of Test Takers		613	623	623
Number Passing the Exam		514	524	537
Passing Percentage		83.85%	84.11%	86.20%
Associate Degree Programs				
Total Number of Test Takers		1,403	1,436	1,458
Number Passing the Exam		1,159	1,231	1,238
Passing Percentage		82.61%	85.72%	84.91%
PN Programs				
Total Number of Test Takers		1,425	1,352	1,365
Number Passing the Exam		1,322	1,267	1,314
Passing Percentage		92.77%	93.71%	96.26%

Table III--NCLEX Results and Program Institutional Plans

Pursuant to 655 IAC 2.10(152), Nursing Programs shall notify the board when the program's NCLEX passing percent, for all first-time applicants within six months of graduation, is lower than 95 percent of the national percentage for two consecutive calendar years. Those programs shall submit to the board an institutional plan for assessment and improvement of NCLEX results.

The following data gives the number of programs which have submitted institutional plans by fiscal year.

<u>FY 2007</u>	<u>FY 2008</u>	<u>FY 2009</u>	<u>FY 2010</u>	<u>FY 2011</u>
6 Programs	6 Programs	8 Programs	7 Programs	6 Programs

Table IV--Iowa Candidates Educated in a Foreign Country Who Passed the Examination in Iowa

	<u>Registered Nurses</u>	<u>Licensed Practical Nurses</u>
Lebanon	1	0
India	2	0
Total	3	0

Table V--**NCLEX Testing Accommodations and Results**

Pursuant to IAC 655 IAC 3.4(5), individuals with diagnosed disabilities as defined in the Americans with Disabilities Act shall be provided modifications/accommodations during administration of the NCLEX. During FY '11 a total of eleven (11) candidates were approved for testing accommodations. The following chart indicates the specific type of accommodation granted and the number of candidates who passed and failed by fiscal year.

Fiscal Year	Separate Room	Additional Testing Time	Separate Room and Reader	Separate Room & Additional Testing Time	Separate Room, Reader & Additional Testing Time	Number Passed	Number Failed
2005	0	0	1	1	3	5	0
2006	1	0	1	0	3	5	0
2007	3	0	1	2	6	4	6
2008	1	2	0	8	3	*6	*8
2009	3	1	1	11	4	*16	*5
2010	1	0	0	11	3	*11	*7
2011	1	1	0	8	1	*11	*5

*Number Passed and Number Failed include candidates who were approved for testing accommodations in a previous fiscal year and tested in the following fiscal year. These numbers will also include candidates that retested due to a previous failure.

During FY '11 one (1) accommodation candidate was denied.

Four (4) candidates approved for testing accommodations in FY '11, will test in FY '12.

Table VI--ARNP

Total Number of Licensees Currently Registered to Practice at the Advanced Level (Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioners)					
	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011
Family Nurse Practitioners	611	636	696	729	723
Nurse Midwives	80	75	78	87	80
Pediatric Nurse Practitioners	189	180	178	181	178
Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists	488	464	494	462	392
School Nurse Practitioners	3	2	1	1	1
Women's Health Care Nurse Practitioners	159	153	152	144	140
Psychiatric/Mental Health Nurse Practitioners	43	41	44	54	72
Adult Nurse Practitioners	80	84	93	112	95
Clinical Nurse Specialists	115	105	103	98	90
Gerontological Nurse Practitioners	48	45	47	48	47
Neonatal Nurse Practitioners	15	17	21	26	28
Acute Care Nurse Practitioners	24	27	32	49	43
Perinatal Nurse Practitioners	1	1	1	2	2
Totals	1856	1830	1940	1993	1891

Section 2--Renewals

A licensee is considered in good standing if currently licensed (active) or officially inactive.

Table VII

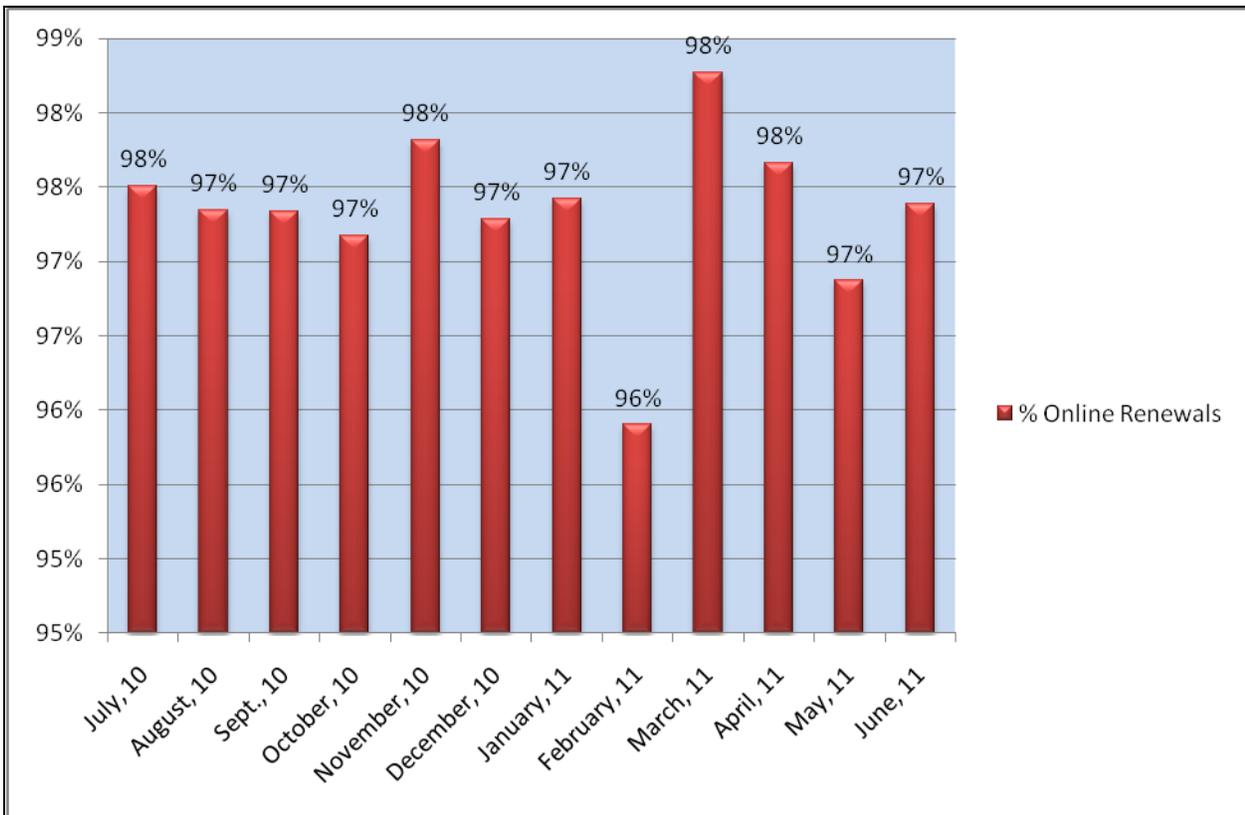
Renewals					
	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011
Registered Nurses					
<i>Total renewals</i>	13,571	13,401	14,251	15,725	14,490
<i>Licenses renewed</i>	11,545	11,533	12,554	12,663	12,000
<i>Licenses renewed with late penalty</i>	460	451	437	407	394
<i>Licenses that became inactive</i>	1,759	1,609	1,694	1,720	2,300

Renewals					
	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011
Licensed Practical Nurses					
<i>Total renewals</i>	3,846	3,848	3,999	4,452	4,062
<i>Licenses renewed</i>	2,489	2,440	2,649	2,697	2,613
<i>Licenses renewed with late penalty</i>	152	178	146	171	149
<i>Licenses that became inactive</i>	1,193	1,314	1,289	1,325	1,480

A license is automatically placed on inactive status 30 days after expiration. Requests for inactive status are only accepted when the licensee has changed primary state of residence to another compact state.

The number of renewals that were processed online for FY '11 was 14,790.
The number of renewals that were processed manually for FY '11 was 392.
The average monthly percent of online renewals for FY '11 was 97%.
The percentage of online renewals remained the same as FY '10.

FY '11 Percentage of Online Renewals



Section 3--Reactivations and Reinstatements

Inactive licensees regain active status by reactivation. Licensees who have been encumbered for disciplinary reasons are returned to good standing by reinstatement after board approval. All licenses automatically convert to inactive status 30 days after expiration.

Table VIII

Reactivations/Reinstatements					
	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011
Reactivations					
RN	509	467	466	472	409
LPN	155	118	161	161	162
Reinstatements					
RN	10	5	13	4	8
LPN	6	4	4	3	7

Section 4--Endorsements

The 2011 Iowa Code provides that the Iowa Board of Nursing may recognize a registered nurse or practical nurse license issued by another state under the condition that the licensee meets all the qualifications required in Iowa.

Table IX

Endorsements					
	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011
RN	691	769	791	1,080	854
LPN	120	126	108	129	125

Section 5--Verifications

The 2011 Iowa Code provides that the Iowa Board of Nursing may verify licensure of registered nurses or licensed practical nurses in this state to another state, territory, or foreign country. The Iowa Board of Nursing verified 326 licenses for other states, employers, territories or foreign countries during FY '11.

The Iowa Board of Nursing implemented participation in the National Council of State Boards of Nursing NURSUS verification of licensure system in January 2001. NURSUS processes license verification requests sent to the National Council of State Boards of Nursing by nurses. The implementation of the NURSUS verification system has affected the Iowa Board of Nursing as follows:

Table X

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Verifications Completed by IBON</u>	<u>Verifications Returned to Licensee</u>
July 1, 1999-June 30, 2000	2,182	
July 1, 2000-June 30, 2001	1,219	
July 1, 2001-June 30, 2002	188	
July 1, 2002-June 30, 2003	109	
July 1, 2003-June 30, 2004	320	
July 1, 2004-June 30, 2005	342	338
July 1, 2005-June 30, 2006	323	235
July 1, 2006-June 30, 2007	255	242
July 1, 2007-June 30, 2008	561	194
July 1, 2008-June 30, 2009	432	252
July 1, 2009-June 30, 2010	580	207
July 1, 2010-June 30, 2011	326	129

Section 6--Number of Licensees

Table XI

Number of Licensees					
	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011
Registered Nurses					
<i>*Active</i>	41,374	42,519	43,851	45,493	46,283
<i>*Inactive</i>	69,351	70,482	71,666	68,015	66,122
<i>**Deceased</i>	6057	6,069	6,079	11,046	14,832
Licensed Practical Nurses					
<i>*Active</i>	11,424	11,571	11,813	12,031	12,088
<i>*Inactive</i>	36,964	38,161	39,247	38,841	38,195
<i>**Deceased</i>	515	518	522	2,093	4,049
Total RN/LPN					
<i>*Active</i>	52,798	54,090	55,664	57,524	58,371
<i>*Inactive</i>	106,315	108,643	110,913	106,856	104,317
<i>**Deceased</i>	6572	6,587	6,601	13,139	18,881

*These totals may include deceased licensees, for whom the board has received no notification.

**The National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) provided a Social Security Death Index Audit Report in FY '10. The report matched Iowa licensees with Social Security numbers who are deceased. By placing a licensee in deceased status the number of inactive nurses decreased and the number of deceased nurses increased this fiscal year.

Adjustments to the database based on the information provided by NCSBN continued in FY '11.

Section 7--Licensed RN Employment Statistics

Table XII

Registered Nurses Licensed in Iowa/Employment Statistics					
	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011
Located In State	38,058	38,994	40,065	41,138	42,138
Located Out of State	3,316	3,526	3,751	4,271	4,145
Employed In Nursing	33,421	34,348	35,484	36,554	36,880
<i>Full-time</i>	24,239	25,146	26,242	27,123	27,432
<i>Part-time</i>	9,182	9,202	9,242	9,431	9,448
Employed Outside Nursing	2,285	2,269	2,307	2,314	2,321
Unemployed	4,848	5,002	5,063	5,527	5,901
Student	58	64	64	82	105
Retired	717	791	883	966	1,037

Section 8--Licensed LPN Employment Statistics

Table XIII

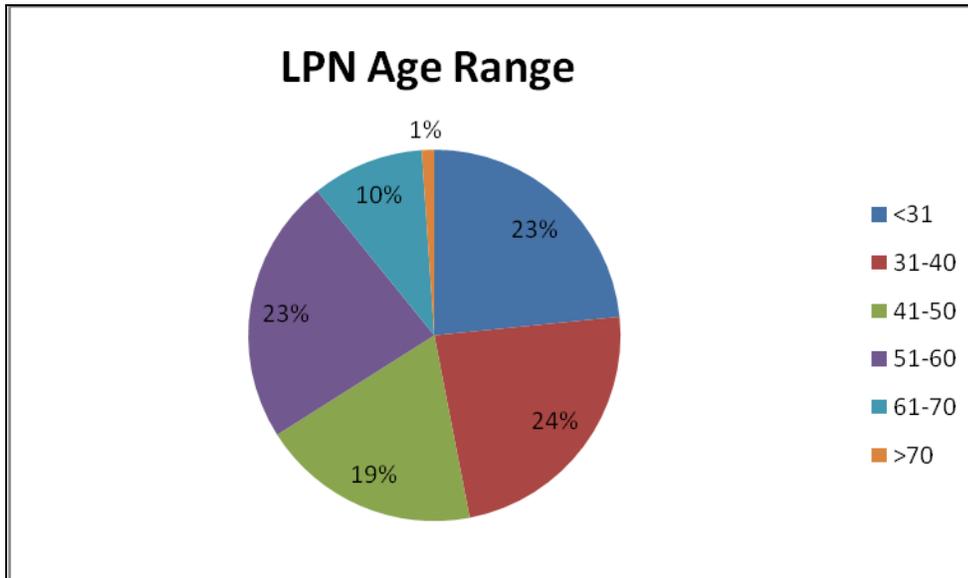
Licensed Practical Nurses Licensed in Iowa/Employment Statistics					
	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011
Located In State	10,796	10,951	11,194	11,414	11,560
Located Out of State	628	616	610	589	528
Employed In Nursing	7,261	7,385	7,630	7,800	7,812
<i>Full-time</i>	5,379	5,519	5,761	5,818	5,793
<i>Part-time</i>	1,882	1,866	1,869	1,982	2,019
Employed Outside Nursing	694	677	695	711	733
Unemployed	3304	3,356	3,303	3,339	3,345
Student	40	36	35	38	47
Retired	93	97	102	103	117

Section 9--LPN/RN Profile by Age

Table XIV

**Active In-State Licensed Practical Nurses
LPN-Total =12,088**

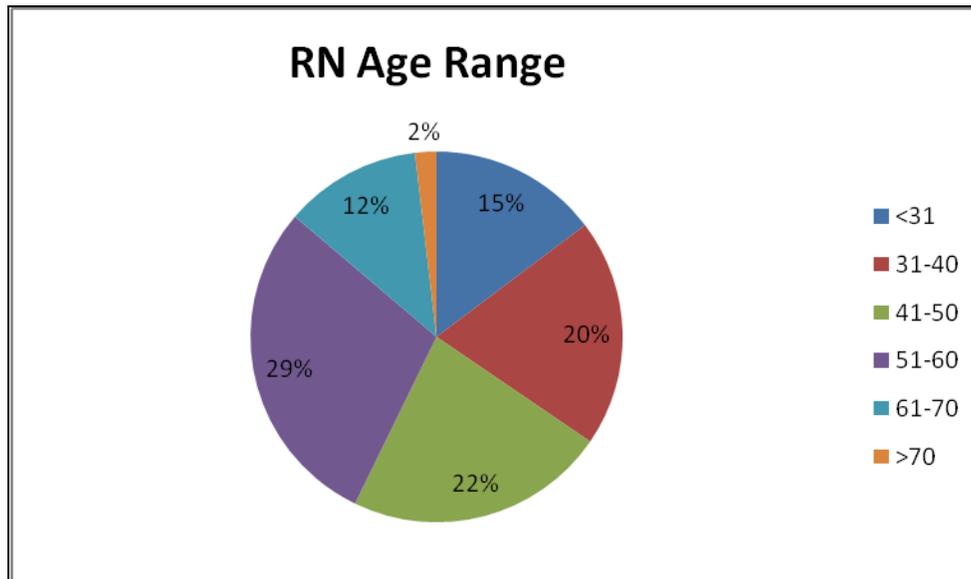
Age Range	<31	31-40	41-50	51-60	61-70	>70
Number	2,829	2,845	2,309	2,794	1,179	132
Percent	23%	24%	19%	23%	10%	1%



34% of Licensed Practical Nurses are 51 years of age or older

**Active In-State Registered Nurses
RN-Total=46,283**

Age Range	<31	31-40	41-50	51-60	61-70	>70
Number	6,814	9,161	10,516	13,409	5,519	864
Percent	15%	20%	22%	29%	12%	2%



43% of active Registered Nurses are 51 years of age or older.

Section 10--Duplicates

The 2011 Iowa Code provides that licensees display licenses where they practice. If current wallet cards are lost or destroyed a duplicate license must be issued. Licensees may also request a reissued wallet card in the event of a name, address change or a change in multi-state privilege.

Table XV

Duplicates/Reissues					
	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011
Duplicates					
RN	138	138	133	133	141
LPN	30	21	41	35	31
Total	168	159	174	168	172
Reissues					
RN	90	105	110	103	113
LPN	16	29	28	17	36
Total	106	134	138	120	149

Section 11--Nurse Licensure Compact

Legislation enacting the Nurse Licensure Compact became effective on July 1, 2000. The compact provides for a state-based nursing license that is mutually recognized among all party states. This facilitates the ability to protect the public health, safety, and welfare of Iowa citizens. The following states have implemented the compact: Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, Delaware, Idaho, Iowa, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Mexico, North Carolina, North Dakota, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Virginia and Wisconsin.

Section 12--Statistical Overview

Table XVI

Active Nurses	Iowa Residence	Out-of-State Residence	Total	% of Total
RNs	42,138	4,145	46,283	79%
LPNs	11,560	528	12,088	21%
Total	53,698	4,673	58,371	

Basic RN Education	Iowa Residence	Out-of-State Residence	Total	% By Program
Diploma	8,005	778	8,783	19%
A.D.N.	22,001	2,098	24,099	53%
B.S.N.	11,668	1,227	12,895	28%
Other	129	13	142	0%
Total	41,803	4,116	45,919	

Highest Degree Held by RNs	Iowa Residence	Out-of-State Residence	Total	% By Program
Diploma	5,597	537	6,134	14%
A.D.N.	19,176	1,693	20,869	50%
B.S.N.	11,263	1,152	12,415	29%
Other Baccalaureate	2,449	250	2,699	7%
Total	38,485	3,632	42,117	

Highest Degree Held by RNs	Iowa Residence	Out-of-State Residence	Total	% By Program
Master's in Nursing	2,184	283	2,467	61%
Other Master's	1,083	157	1,240	31%
Doctorate in Nursing	75	25	100	2%
Other Doctorate	180	42	222	6%
Total	3,522	507	4,029	

Total Number of Licensees Male vs. Female	RN	LPN	Total	% of Total Nurses
*Active Males	2,233	561	2,794	5%
*Active Females	44,050	11,527	55,577	95%
Total	46,283	12,088	58,371	

*These totals may include deceased licensees for whom the board has not been notified.

Male Nurses vs. Total LPN	RN/ # of Male Nurses	Total # of Active Nurses	% of Male Nurses
*Active RN Males	2,233	46,283	5%
*Active LPN Males	561	12,088	5%
Total			

*These totals may include deceased licensees, for whom the board has received no notification.

Data collected for statistics on 06/30/11.