



Iowa Center for Nursing Workforce

TRENDS IN NURSING

A SNAPSHOT OF NURSE LICENSEES AND NURSING EDUCATION IN IOWA



Iowa Board of Nursing

INTRODUCTION

The data in this report is based on based on active Iowa nurse licensees. The licensees **may or may** not be actively employed in Iowa.

The data in this report is collected from the Iowa Board of Nursing Annual Report - June 2013 and the Annual Program Reports for 2012-2013, as submitted by the Heads of Nursing Education Programs.

Nursing education programs are counted separately by site and type.

The Iowa Board of Nursing Annual Report and the Trends in Nursing Report are posted on the board's web site at: nursing.iowa.gov.

Charts and graphs have been abridged to the most recent (10) years. Data is available in its entirety from 1986.

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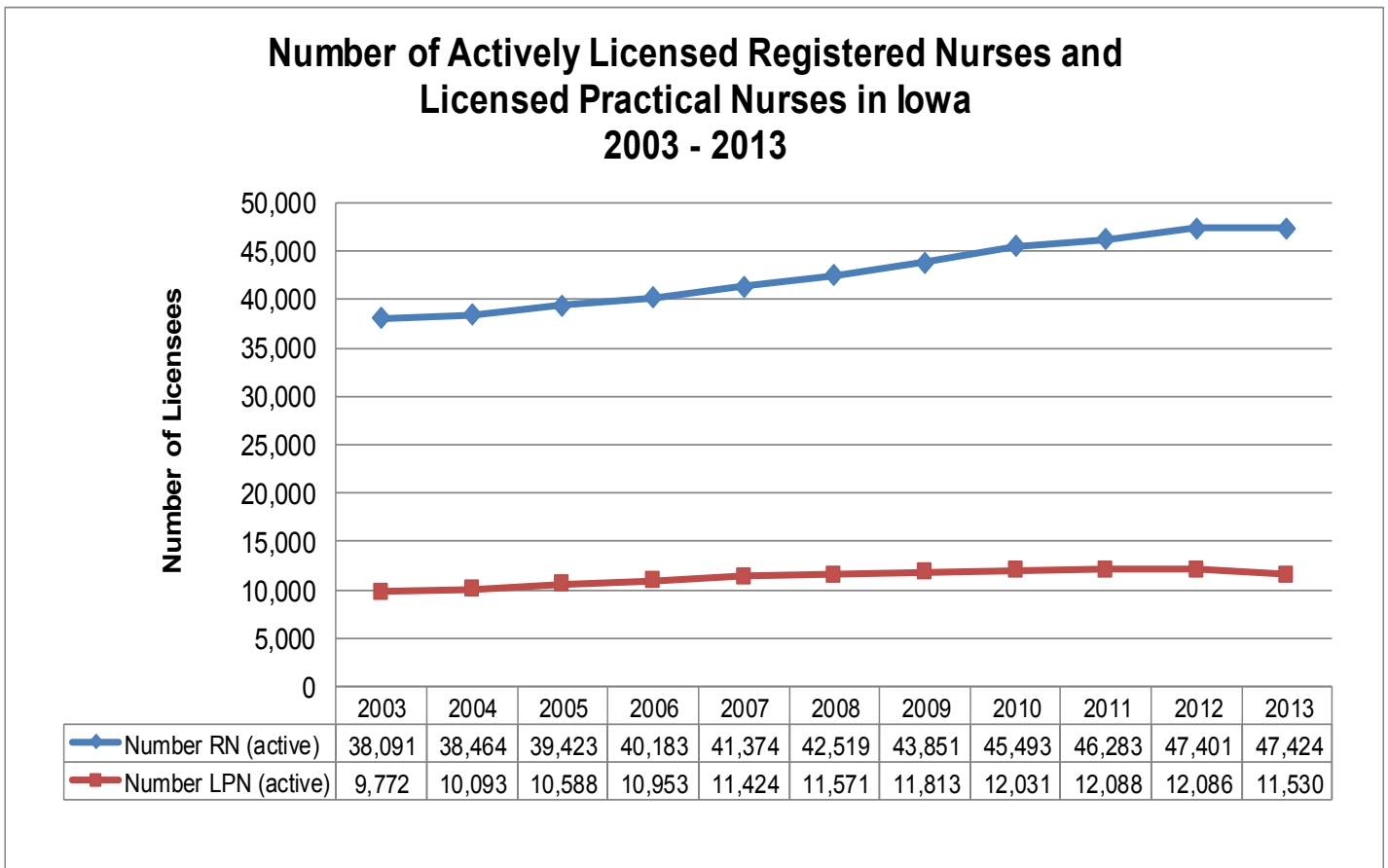
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SECTION 1: NURSING SUPPLY

The following charts are prepared using the Iowa Board of Nursing annual reports from 2003 to 2013. The graphs illustrate trends in Iowa and provide a basis of comparison for Registered Nurse (RN) and Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) data.

Note: In Iowa, nurses may hold RN and LPN licenses concurrently. For this reason, the categories are not mutually exclusive on the following charts.

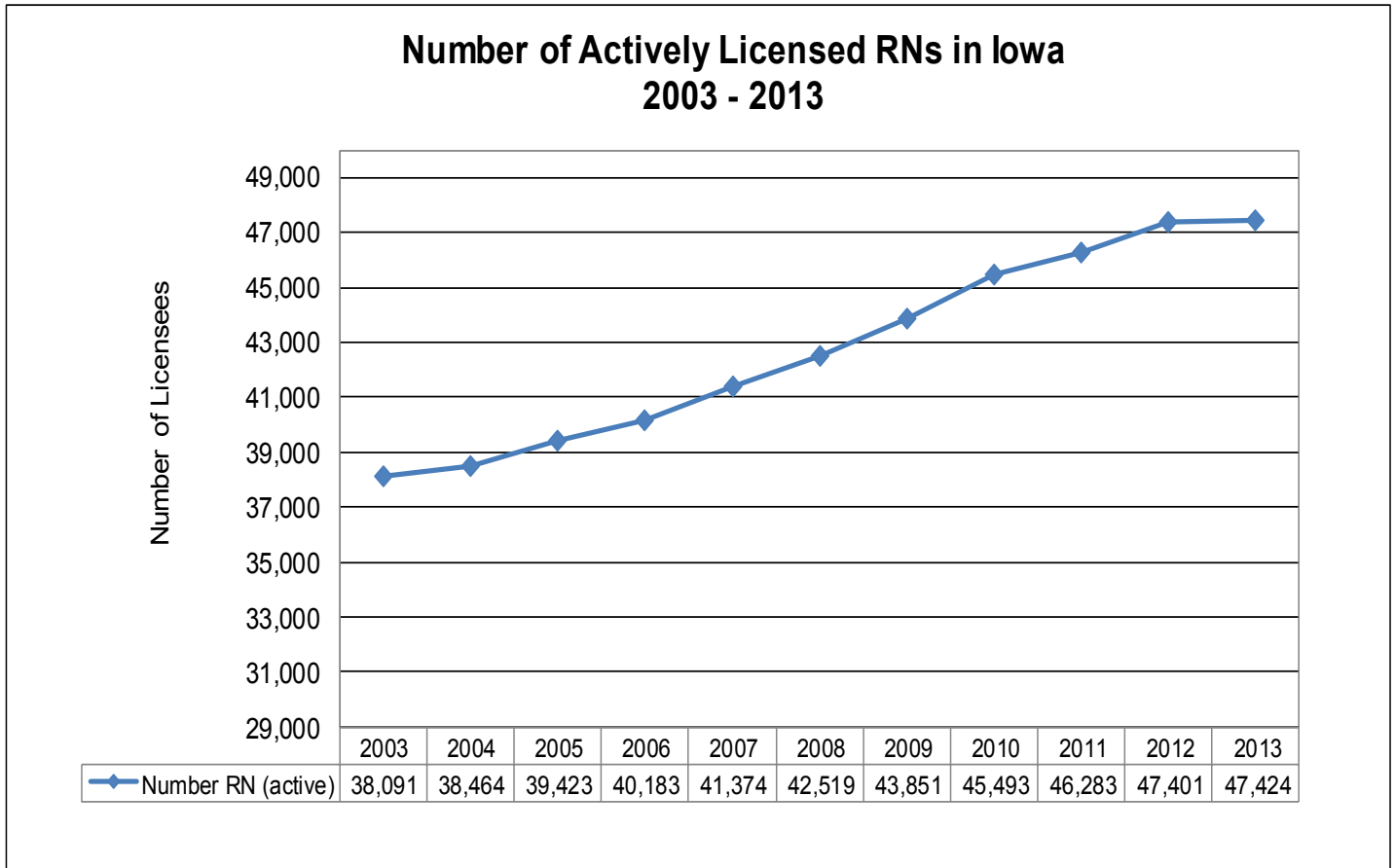
Chart 1



- ◆ The number of active RNs shows a slight, steady increase since 2003, with a 20% increase overall. Likewise, the number of active LPNs has increased 15% overall since 2003, but shows a decrease of 556 active licensees between 2012 and 2013.

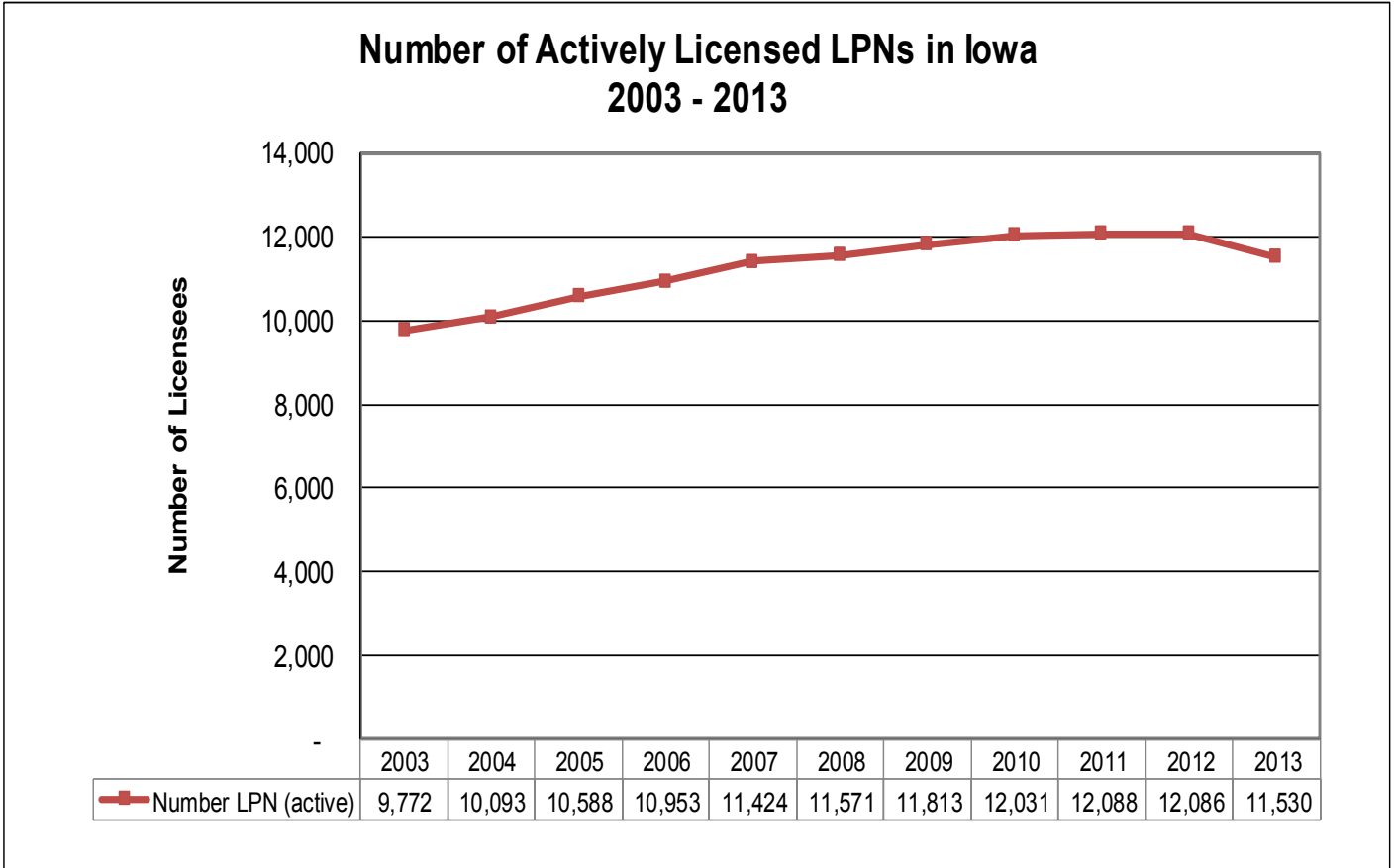
Note: The Nurse Licensure Compact became effective in Iowa on July 1, 2000. For information about the multi-state licensure compact, visit the Iowa Board of Nursing web-site at: nursing.iowa.gov.

Chart 2



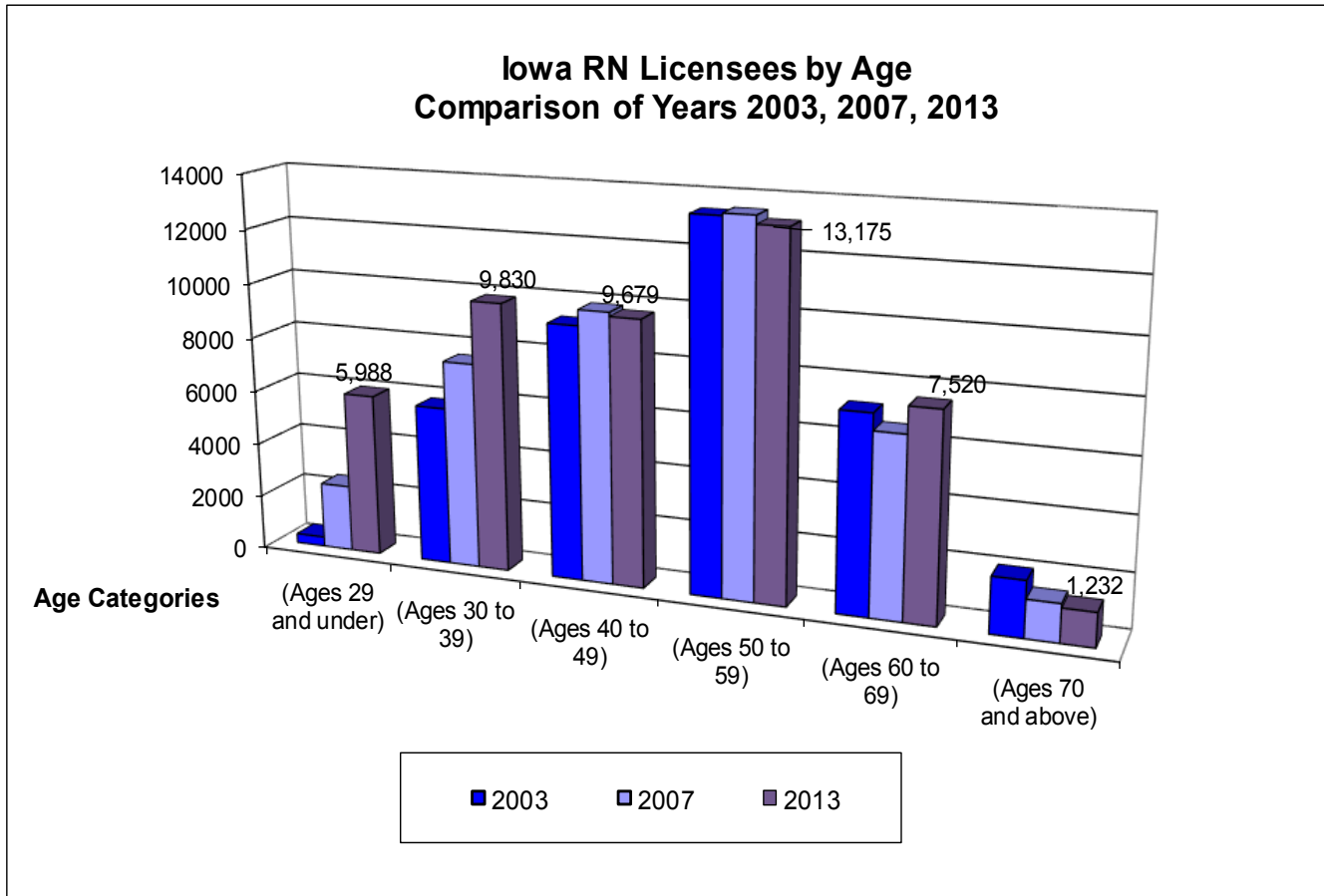
- ◆ The number of active RNs in Iowa increased from 38,091 in 2003 to 47,424 in 2013. The trend reflects a steady increase in RNs since 2005—an increase of over 9,000 licensees in the last eight years.

Chart 3



- ◆ The number of active LPNS in Iowa increased from 9,772 in 2003 to 12,088 in 2011, a net gain of 2,316. The number of active LPNs decreased by two (2) between 2011 and 2012, and dipped by 556 between 2012 and 2013. This aligns, partly, with the reduced number of LPN graduates from nursing programs.

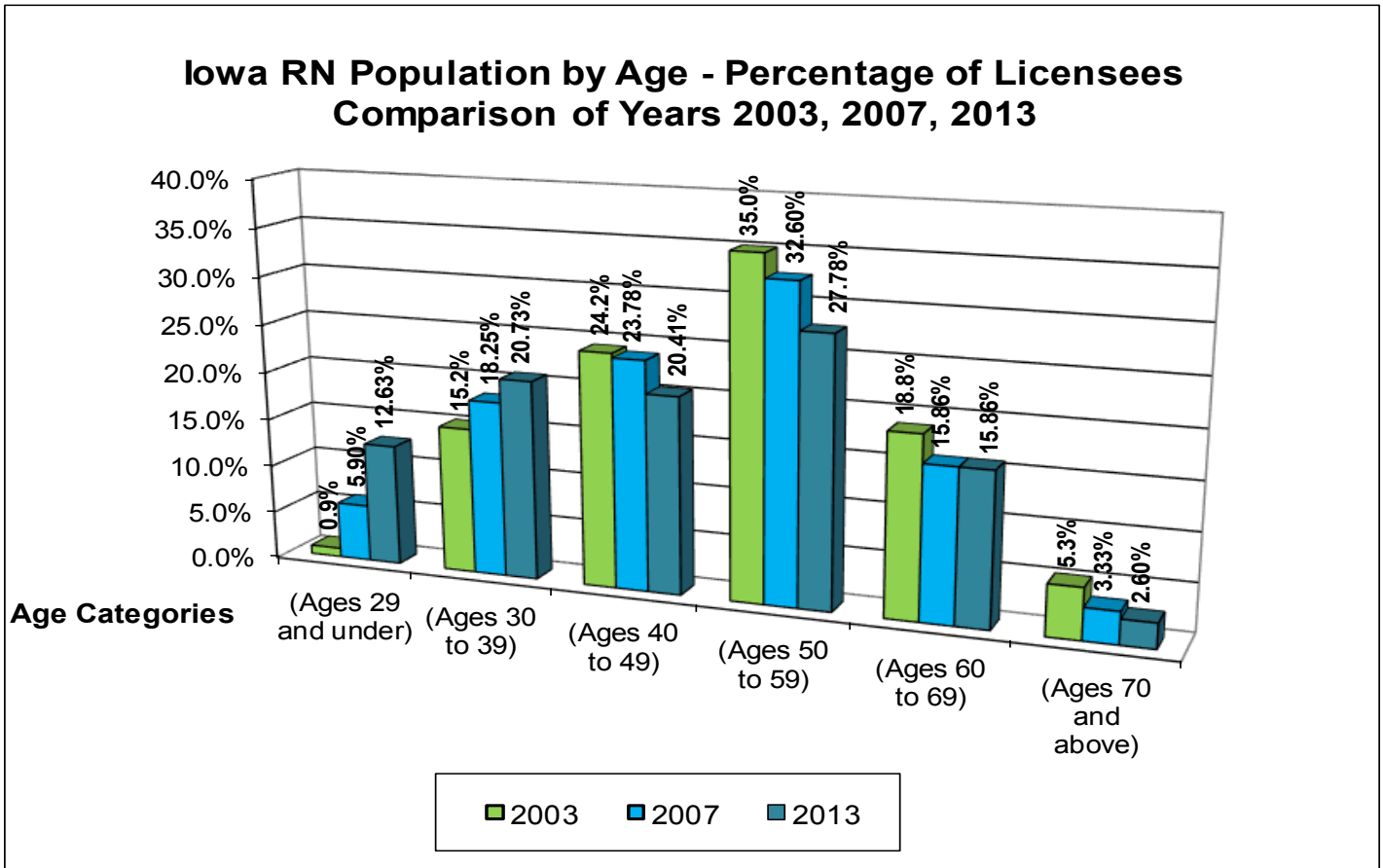
Chart 4



- ◆ There has been a steady increase in the number of licensees aged 39 and under, and a slight decrease in licensees ages 40 to 49. In 2013, the largest cohort of RNs remains in the 50 to 59 year age range.

Age data is compared every two years. For the purposes of this illustration, three of the last 10 years of information are displayed.

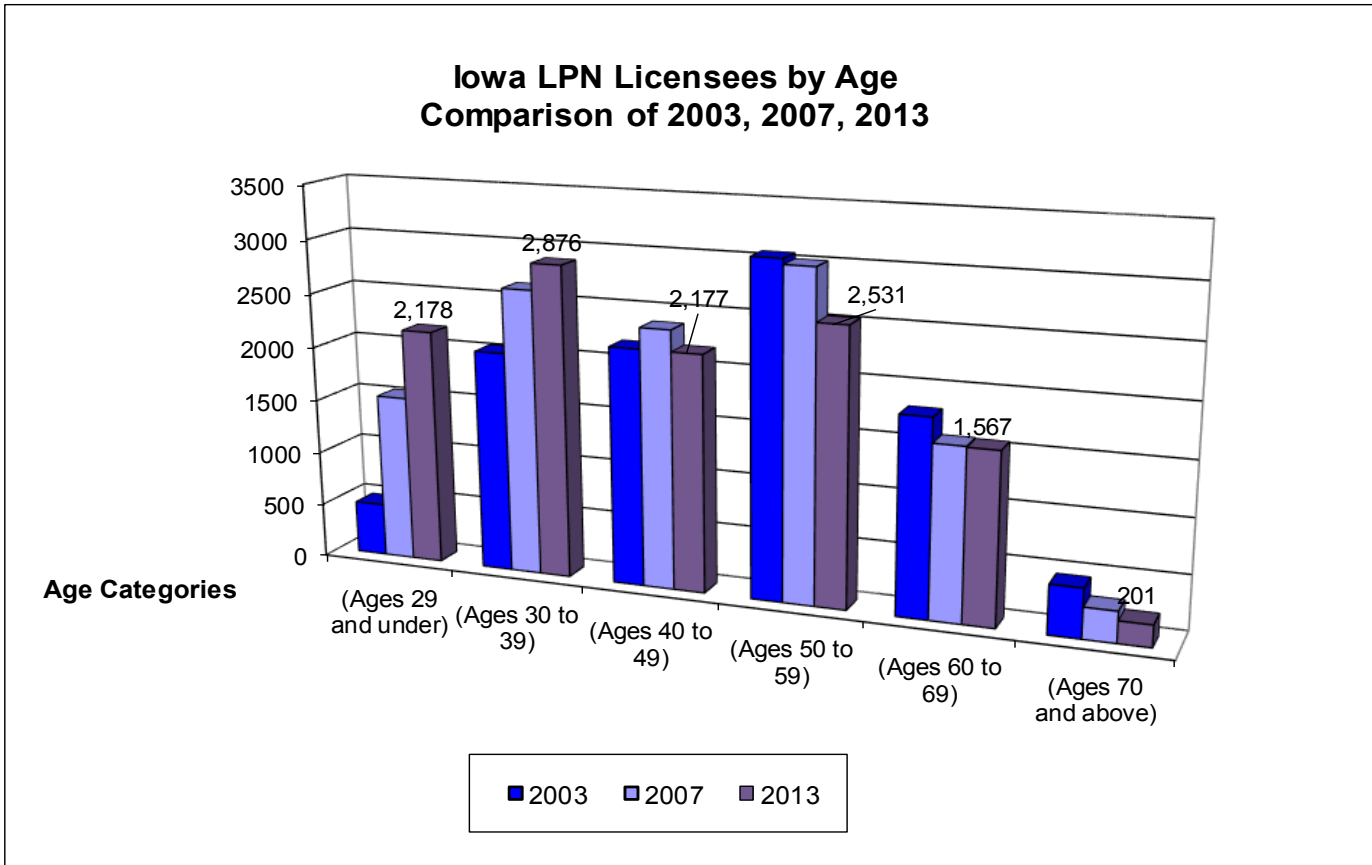
Chart 5



- ◆ The largest percentage of RNs licensed in Iowa are in the 50 to 59 year age range.
- ◆ Forty-six percent (46%) of active RNs are age 50 or older.
- ◆ RNs over the age of 60 account for 18% of the active RN licenses.
- ◆ Roughly 33% of RN licensees are 39 years of age or younger.

Age data is compared every two years. For the purposes of this illustration, three of the last 10 years of information are displayed.

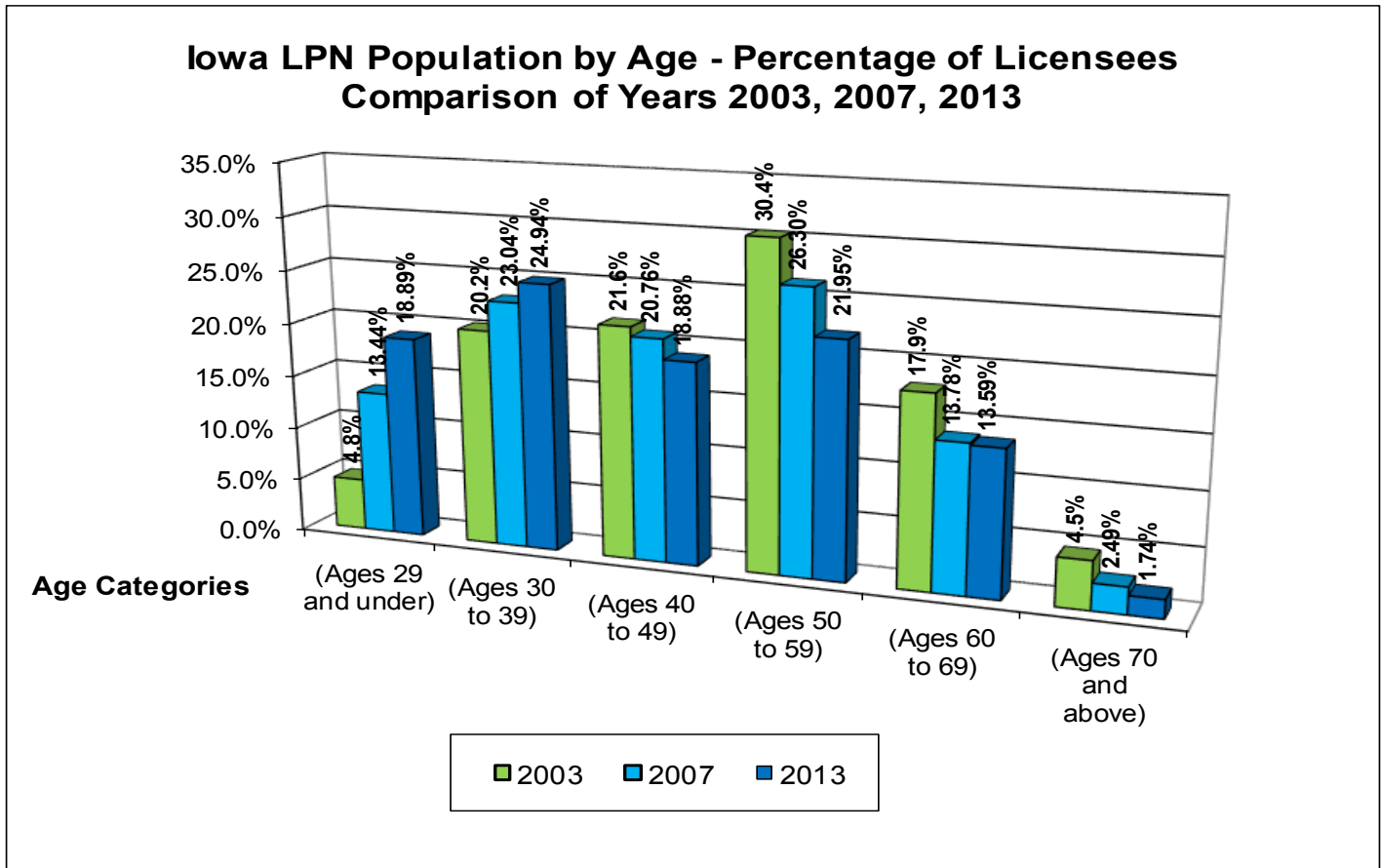
Chart 6



- ◆ An increase in the number of actively licensed LPNs under the age of 39 now outpaces the number of LPNs ages 40 to 59.
- ◆ In 2013, the largest cohort of active LPNs were in the 30 to 39 year age range, followed by those ages 50 to 59.
- ◆ A slight increase in the 60 to 69 age range is seen. These may be nurses who continue to license, but may not be actively practicing.

Age data is compared every two years. For the purposes of this illustration, three of the last 10 years of information are displayed.

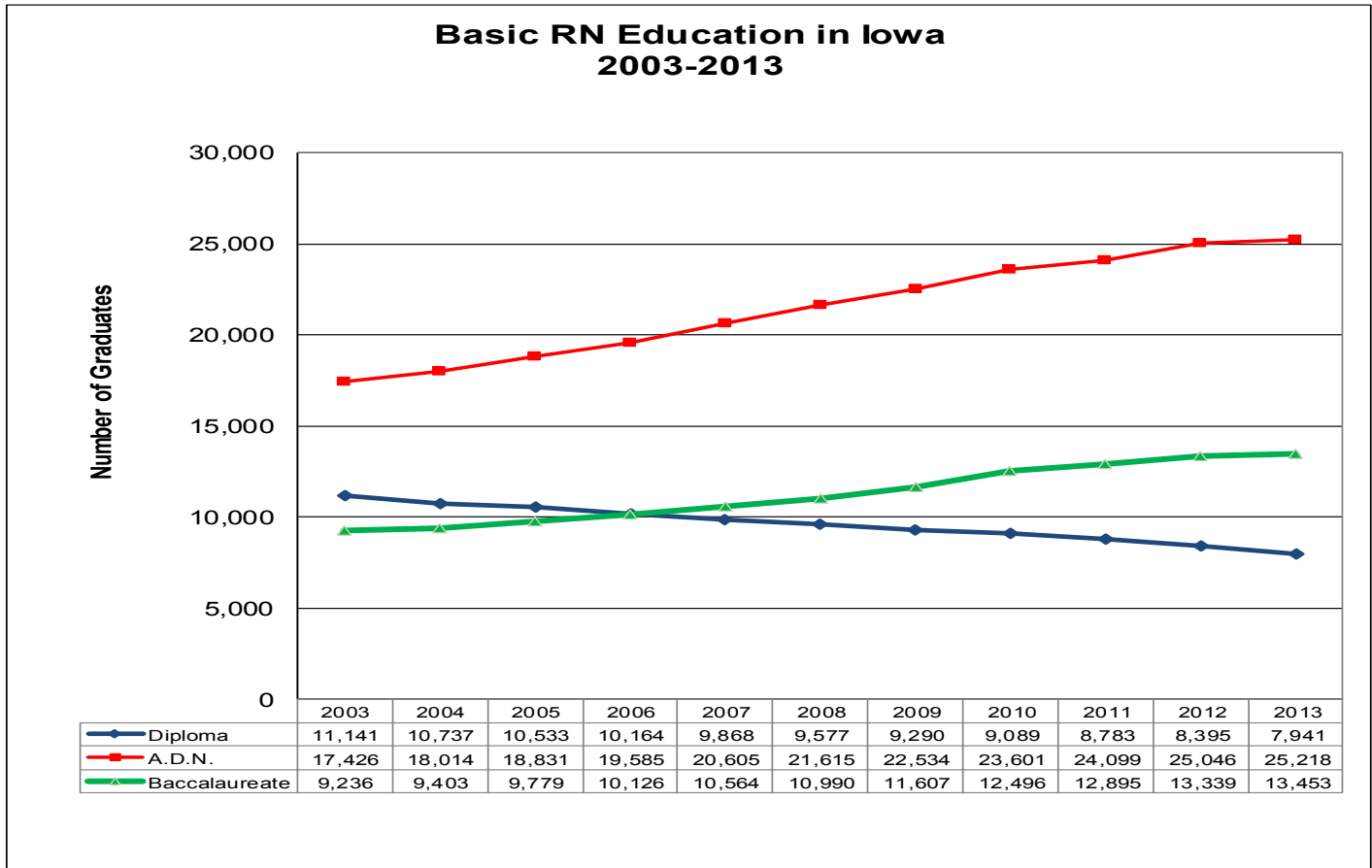
Chart 7



- ◆ The largest percentage (roughly 25%) of Iowa LPN licensees range in age from 30 to 39.
- ◆ The majority (63%) of active LPNs are 49 years of age or younger.
- ◆ LPNs younger than 29 have increased by 14% since 2003.

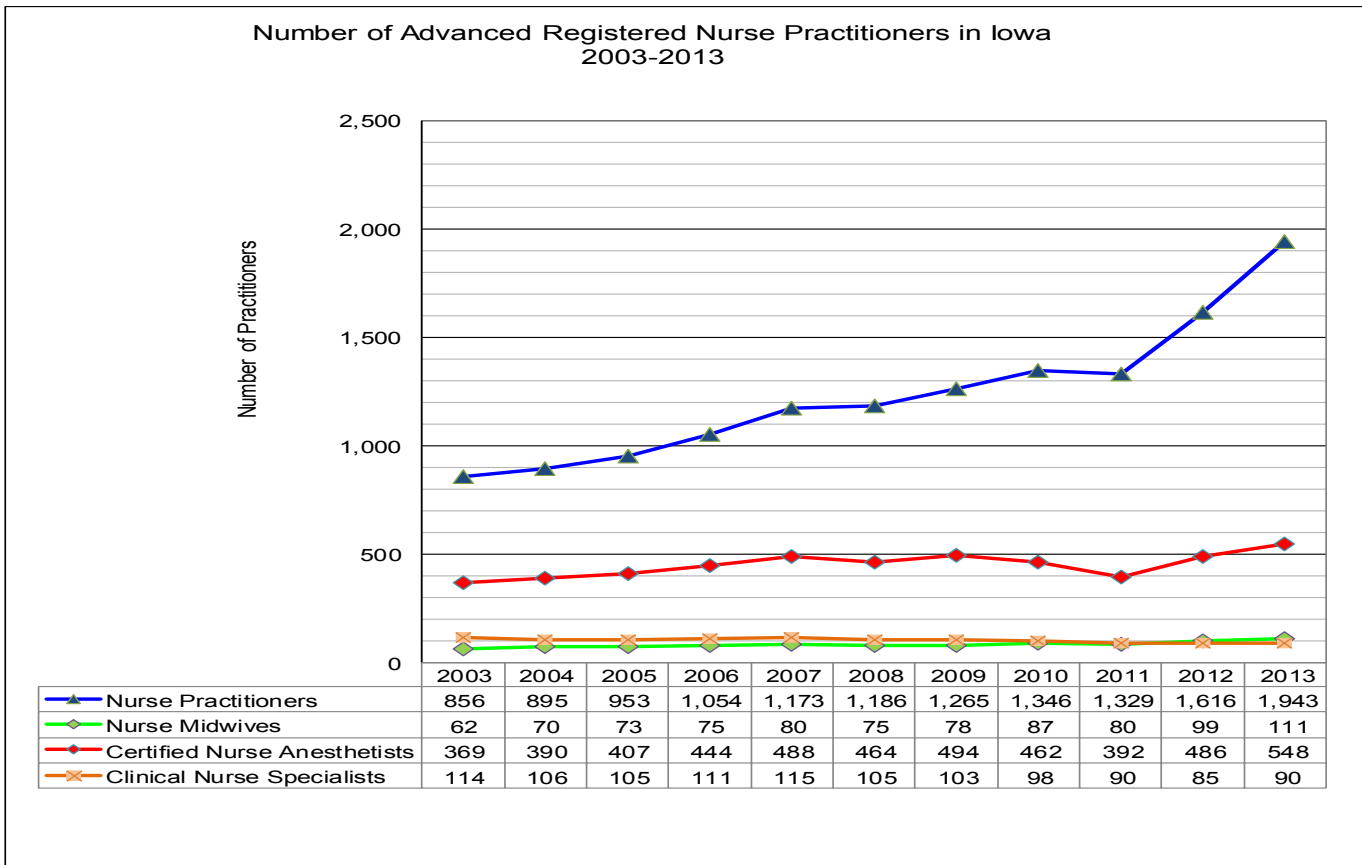
Age data is compared every two years. For the purposes of this illustration, three of the last 10 years of information are displayed.

Chart 8



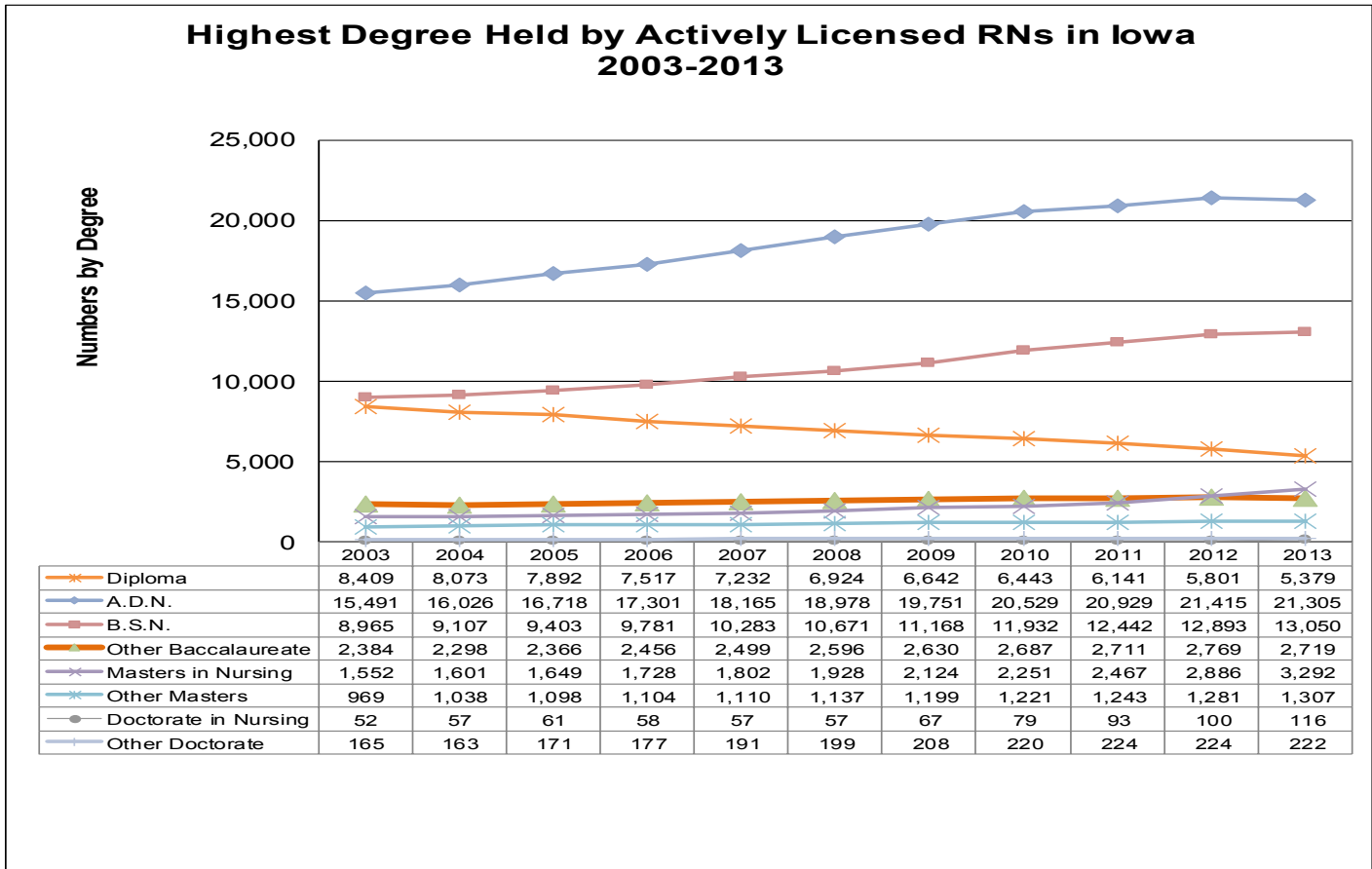
- ◆ The Basic Education—Diploma numbers continue to decline following the closing of the last Iowa diploma program in 1999.
- ◆ The Basic Education from associate degree programs continues to outpace licensees who indicate a Baccalaureate degree as their degree upon original licensure.

Chart 9



- ◆ The total number of Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioners (ARNPs) in Iowa has increased since 2003. The most significant increase among ARNPs from 2012 to 2013 is the Nurse Practitioner category: 327 licensees, or a 20% increase.
- ◆ Certified Nurse Anesthetists (CRNAs) have fluctuated in numbers since 2008. Between 2012 and 2013, an increase of nearly 13%, or 62 licensees, was seen.
- ◆ Between 2012 and 2013, the total number of ARNPs increased by 18%, or 406 licensees. Graduation reports for the 2012-2013 school year indicated 495 students attained DNP, Post Masters or Master's degrees from Iowa schools.

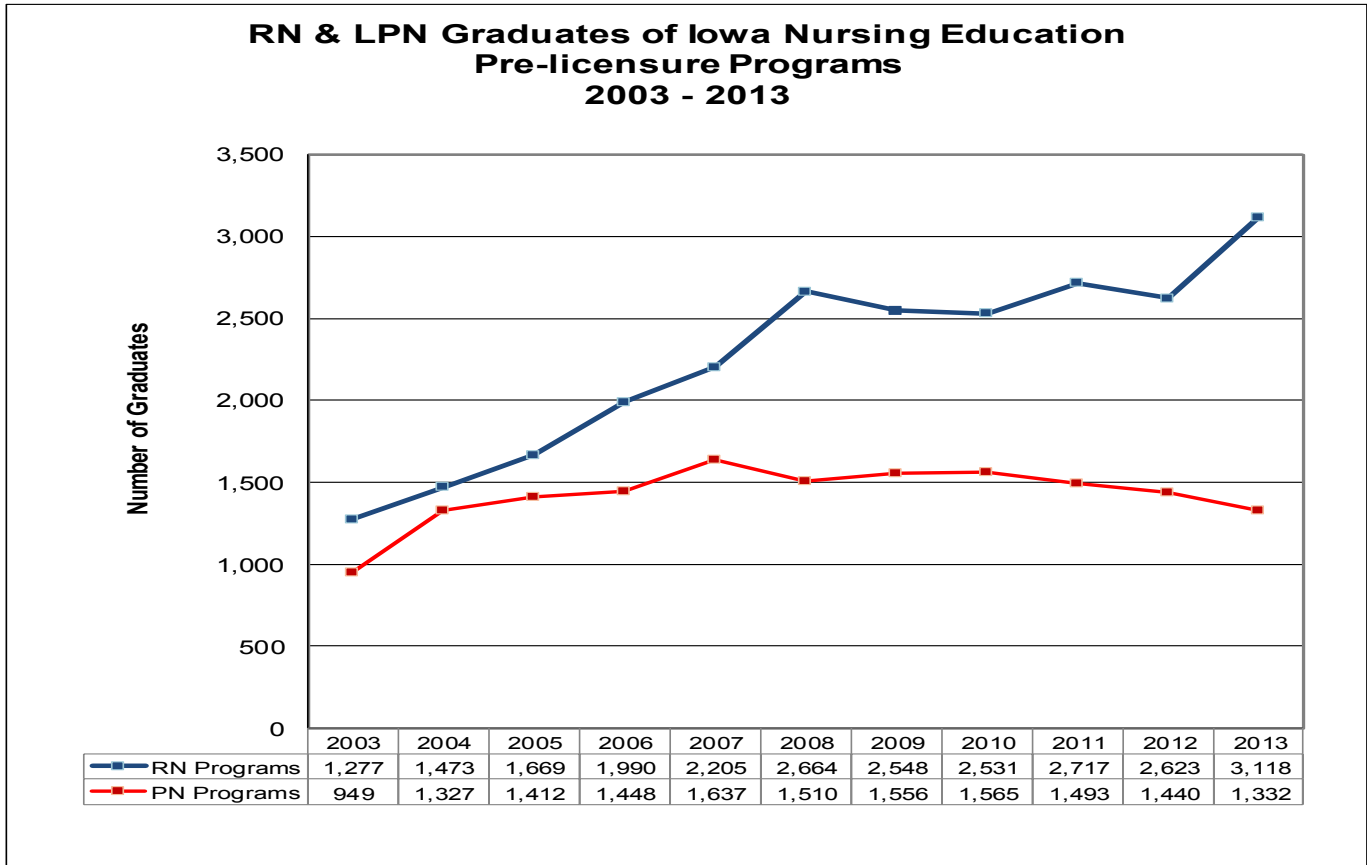
Chart 10



- ◆ All degree categories identified by RNs as their highest degree held have shown an increase since 2003 with the exception of the Diploma. There are no Diploma Nursing Programs in Iowa, which is reflected by the decrease in Diploma Basic RN Education.
- ◆ A 14% increase occurred between 2012 and 2013 for RNs who reported a master's in nursing as their highest degree.
- ◆ There was a 1.2% increase in the number of licensees reporting a bachelor's degree in nursing, or a total of 27.5% of Iowa's nurse licensees.
- ◆ Iowa RNs with a BSN or MSN or DNP as their highest degree total 34.7% of the total licensees.

Note: Faculty members who teach nursing theory must hold a master's degree in nursing or an applicable field, or make progress toward such a degree.

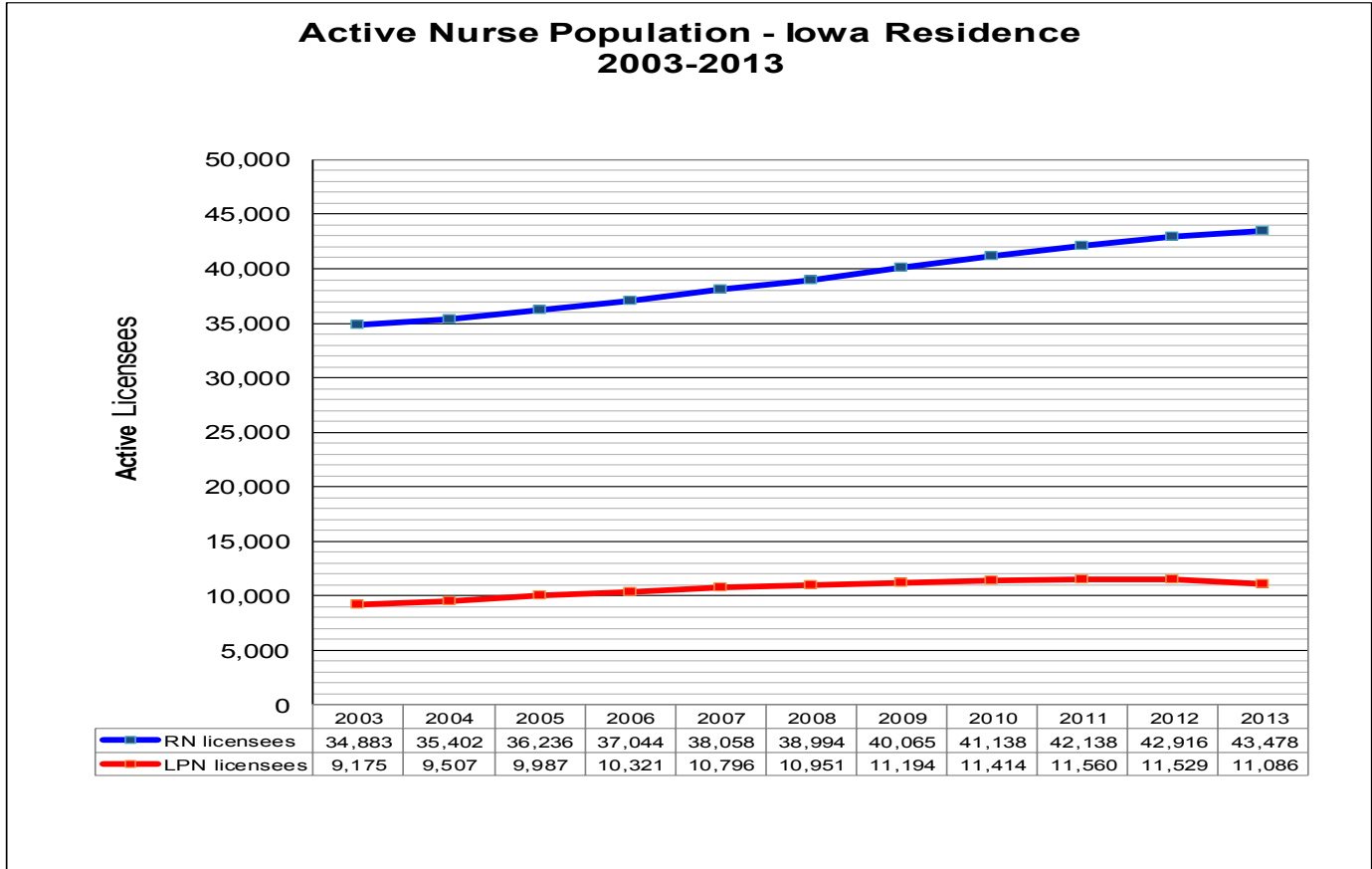
Chart 11



- ◆ The number of RN graduates steadily increased between 2003 and 2008, with a slight decrease in the years 2009, 2010 and 2012. In the year 2013, RN Pre-licensure numbers reached 3,118—the highest level in Iowa’s history.
- ◆ PN graduates continue to decline, after a high of 1,637 graduates seen in 2007.

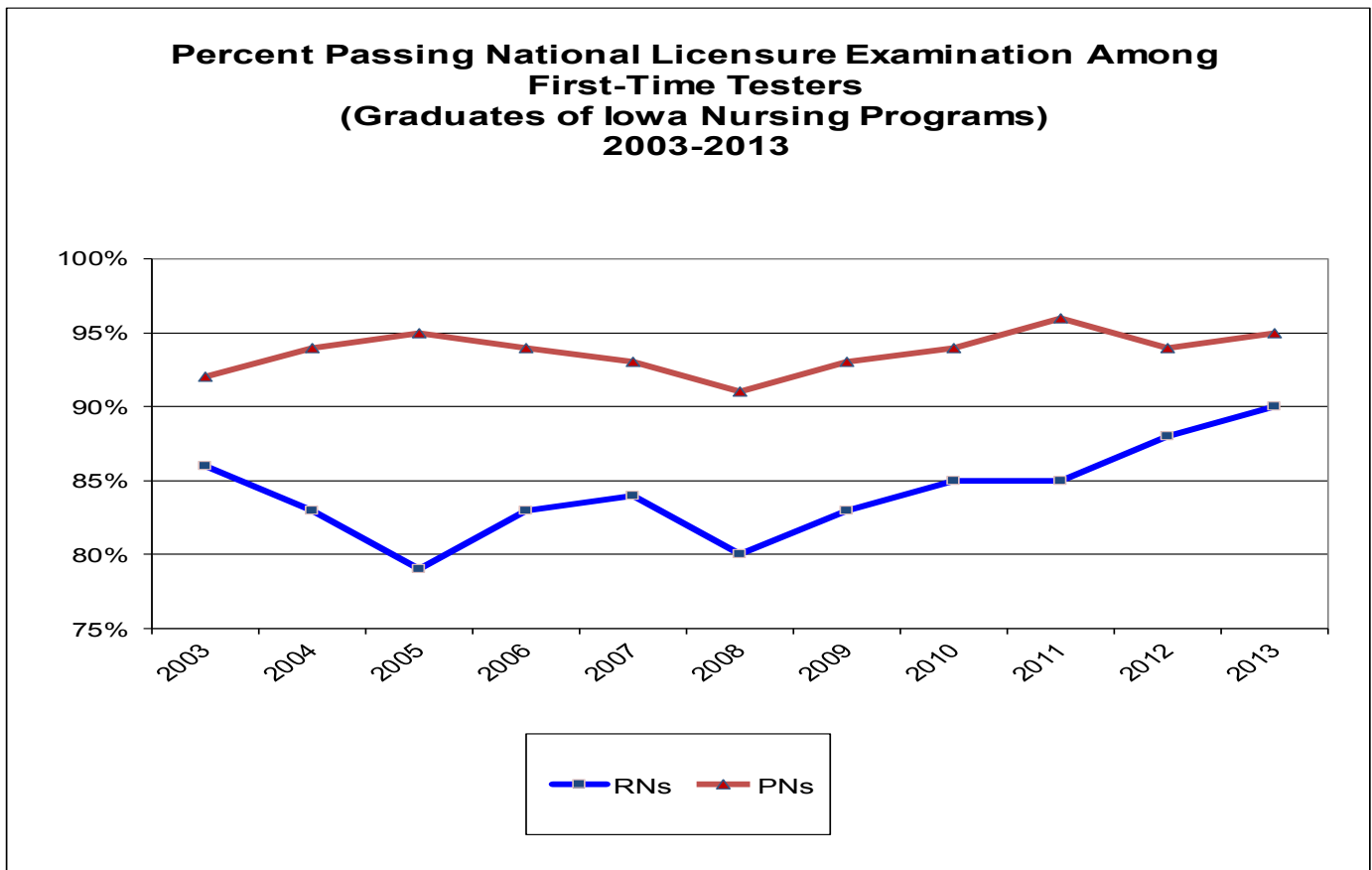
Note: Most nursing education programs at Iowa community colleges are built on a career ladder concept that prepares graduates to apply for LPN licensure upon completion of the first level (year) and RN licensure upon completion of the second level (year).

Chart 12



- ◆ The number of RN Iowa residents showed a slight, steady increase each year between 2003 and 2013. Likewise, in the same time period, the number of LPN residents in Iowa increased over time, with a decrease between 2012 and 2013.

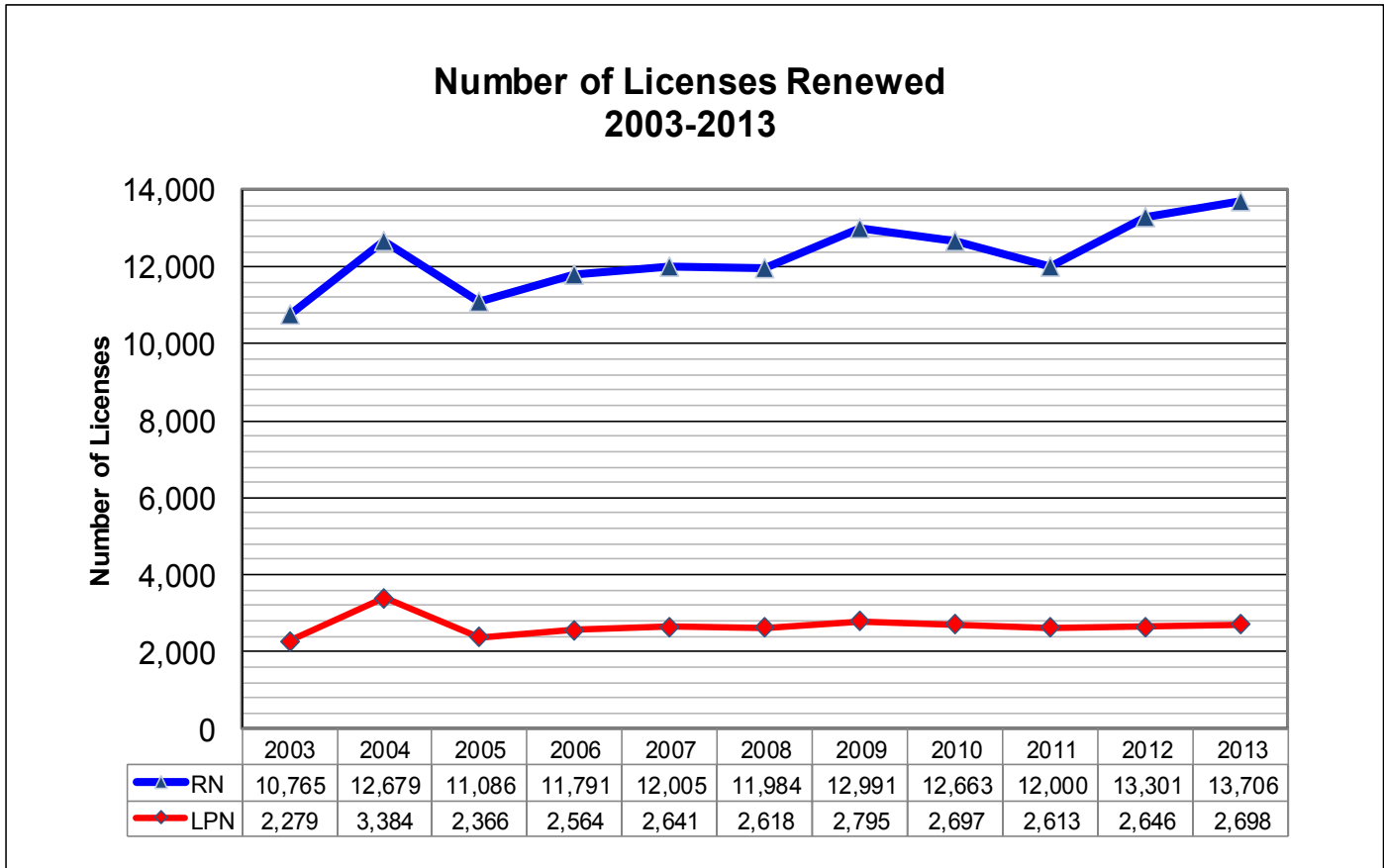
Chart 13



- ◆ RN graduates showed the lowest pass rate in 2005 at 79%. The highest pass rate was seen in 2013 at 90%.
- ◆ LPN graduates showed the lowest pass rate in 2008 at 91%. The highest pass rate was seen in 2011 at 96%.

Note: The State Board Test Pool Examination (SBTPE) was provided from 1946-1982. The National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX) has been provided from 1982 to present. After 1988, NCLEX results were reported as Pass/Fail. The examination was converted to computerized adaptive testing (CAT) in April 1994.

Chart 14



- ◆ LPN license renewal remains steady with a peak in 2004, while RN's increased by 27% between 2003 and 2013.

Note: RN and LPN license renewals are conducted on a three-year cycle.

SECTION 2: NURSING EDUCATION

Nursing Education Programs Number of Nursing Education Programs by Type (2006—2013)

Chart 15

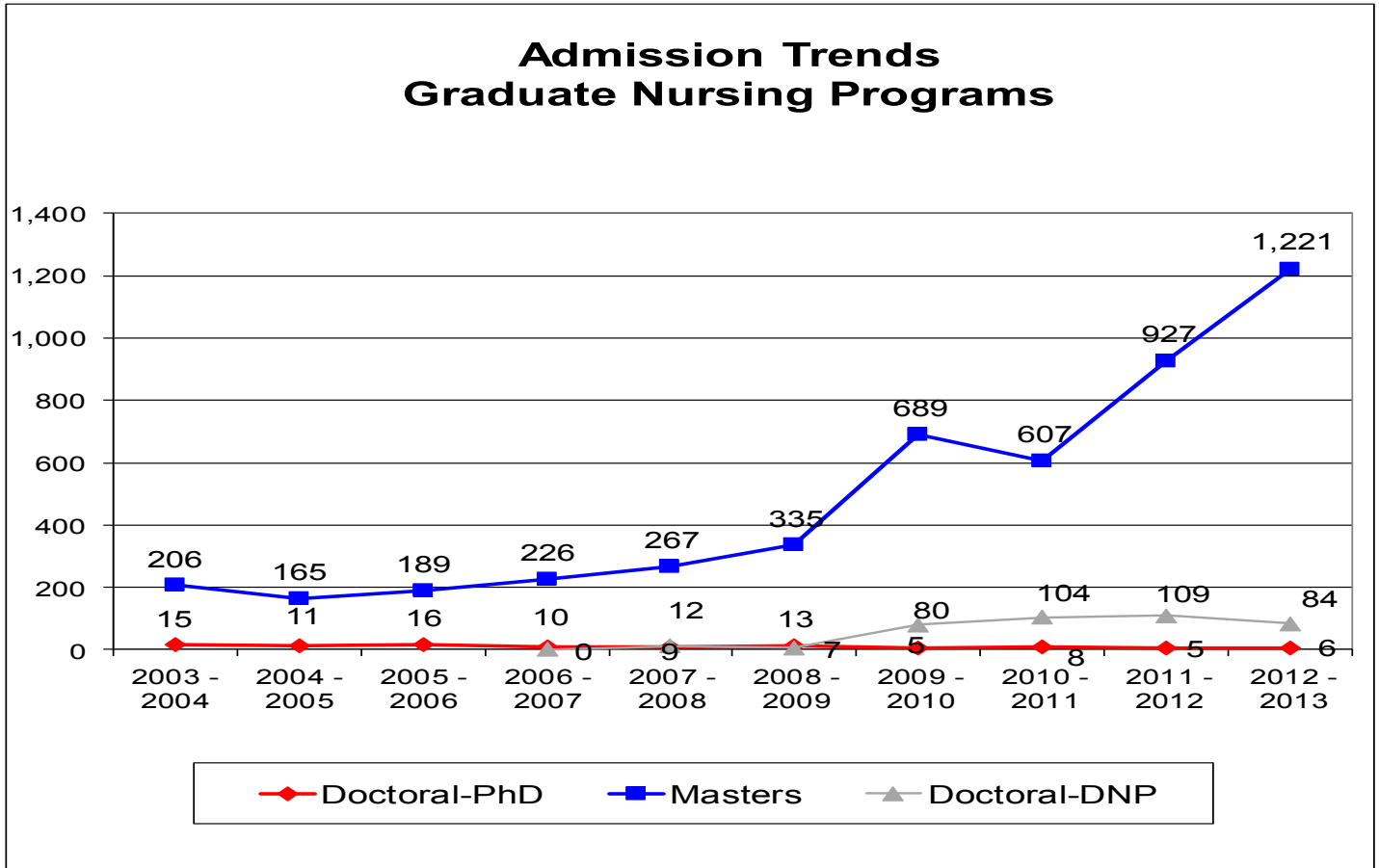
Program	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
PhD	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
DNP				1	2	4	4	6
Post Masters	4	4	5	5	5	5	6	6
Masters	6	6	7	7	9	10	10	9
Professional Masters/CNL (Prelicensure) Masters Degree	1	1	1	1	1	-	-	-
Baccalaureate	18	18	18	19	19	19	19	20
Associate Degree	26	26	26	35	27	30	32	32
Practical Nursing	33	33	33	37	33	32	32	29
Diploma	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

- ◆ For the purposes of this report, nursing programs are listed separately by site and type. In some instances, more than one site may share administration by a single program, a common philosophy, curriculum and faculty.

Admission Data

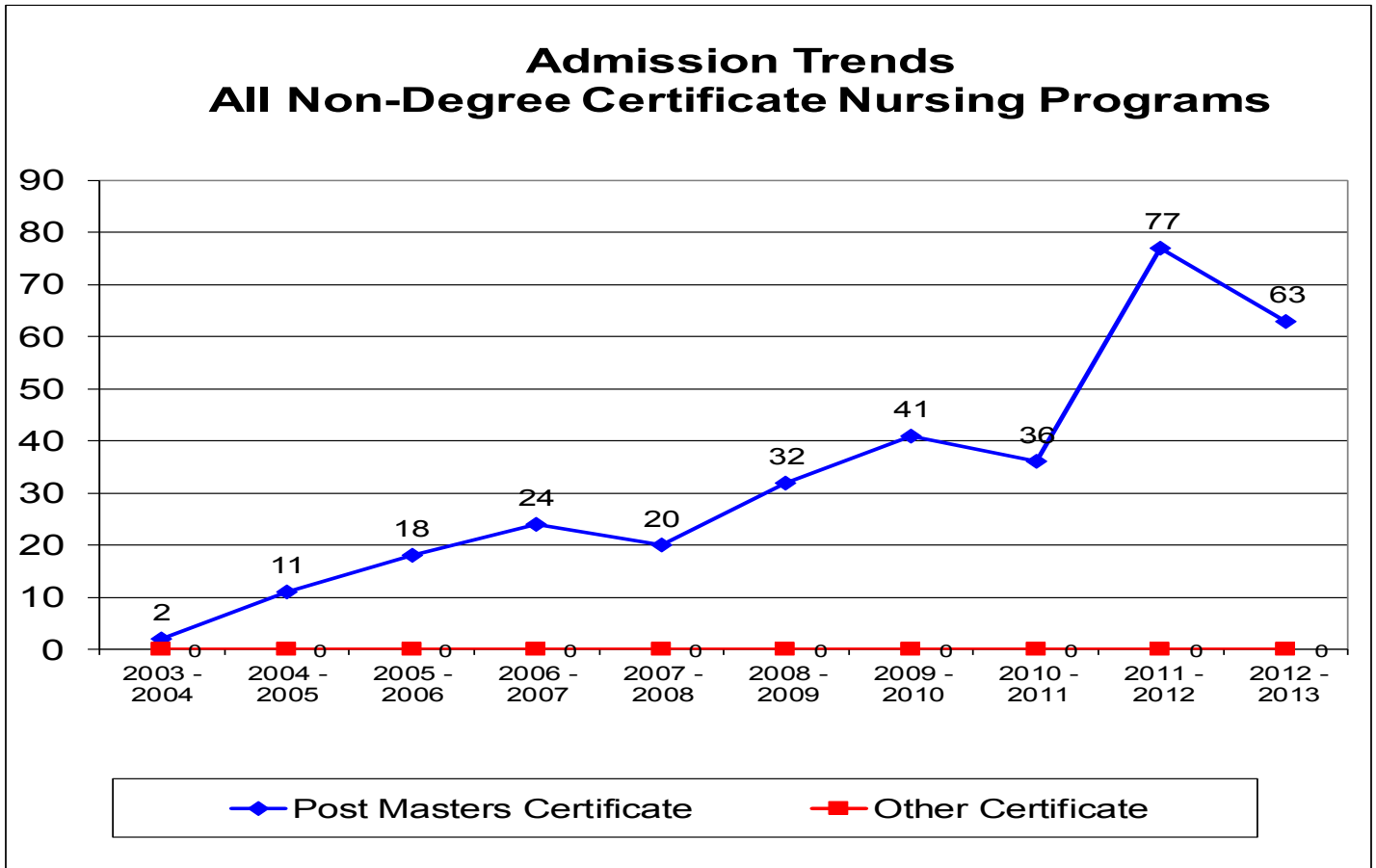
Admission data is based on the number of students who have met program admission requirements and are taking nursing courses the first day classes meet.

Chart 16



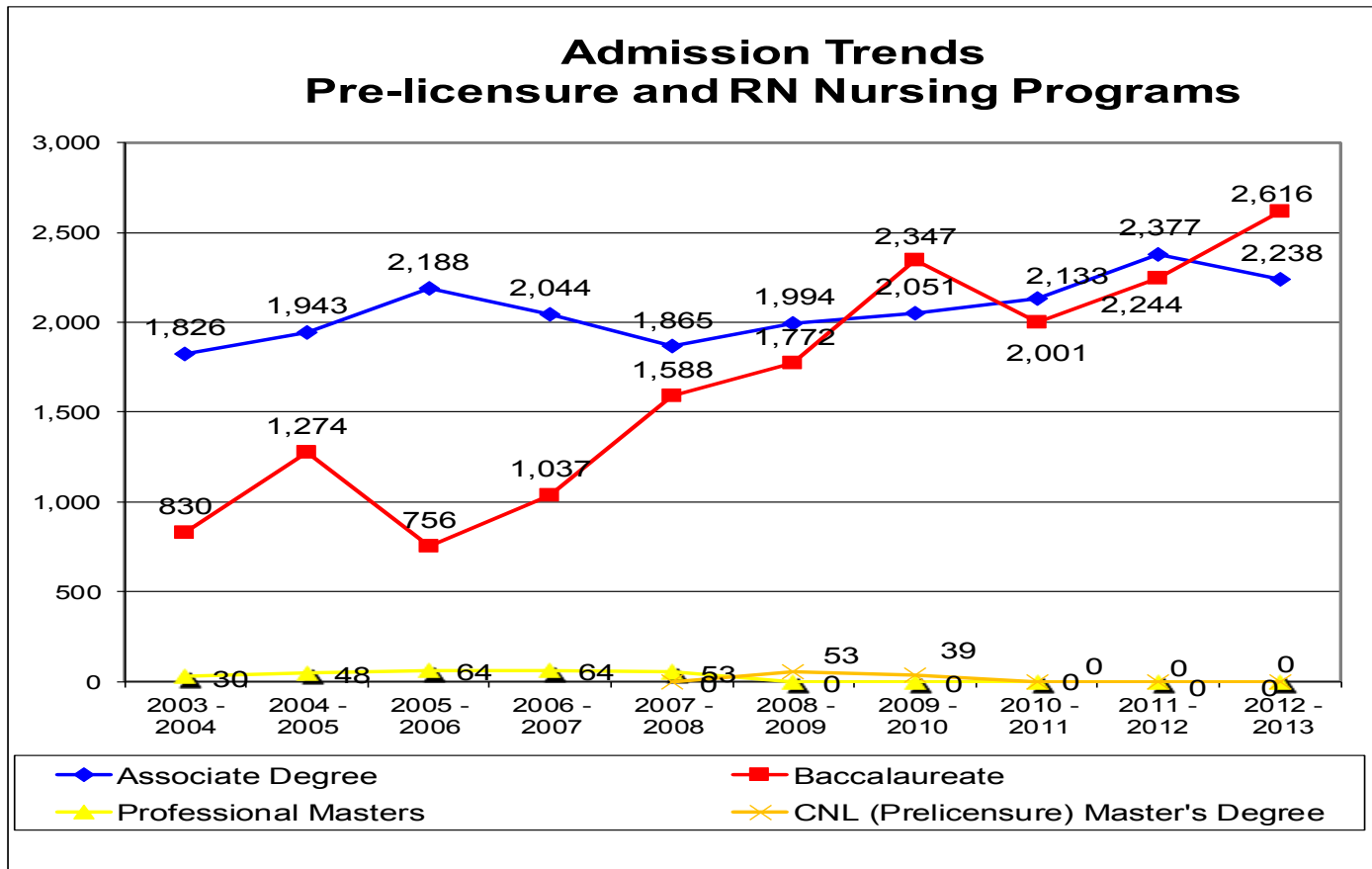
- ◆ Between August 1, 2012 and July 31, 2013: **90 students were admitted to Iowa's Doctoral Programs.**
- ◆ Between August 1, 2012 and July 31, 2013: **1,221 students were admitted to Iowa's academic Masters Programs**, an increase of 32% compared to last year, double the number of students when compared to the 2009-2010 school year.
- ◆ There has been an apparent increase in the number of admissions to Masters Programs from 2007 to 2013. This is due largely to the rise in online graduate programs.
- ◆ In 2013, graduate programs in nursing reported **216** students on waiting lists.

Chart 17



- ◆ Between August 1, 2012 and July 31, 2013: **63 students were admitted to Iowa's Post-Masters Certificate programs**, a decrease of 18% compared to last year and triple the number of students seen in 2007-2008.
- ◆ In 2013, there are **14** students on waiting lists for Post-Masters Certificate programs.

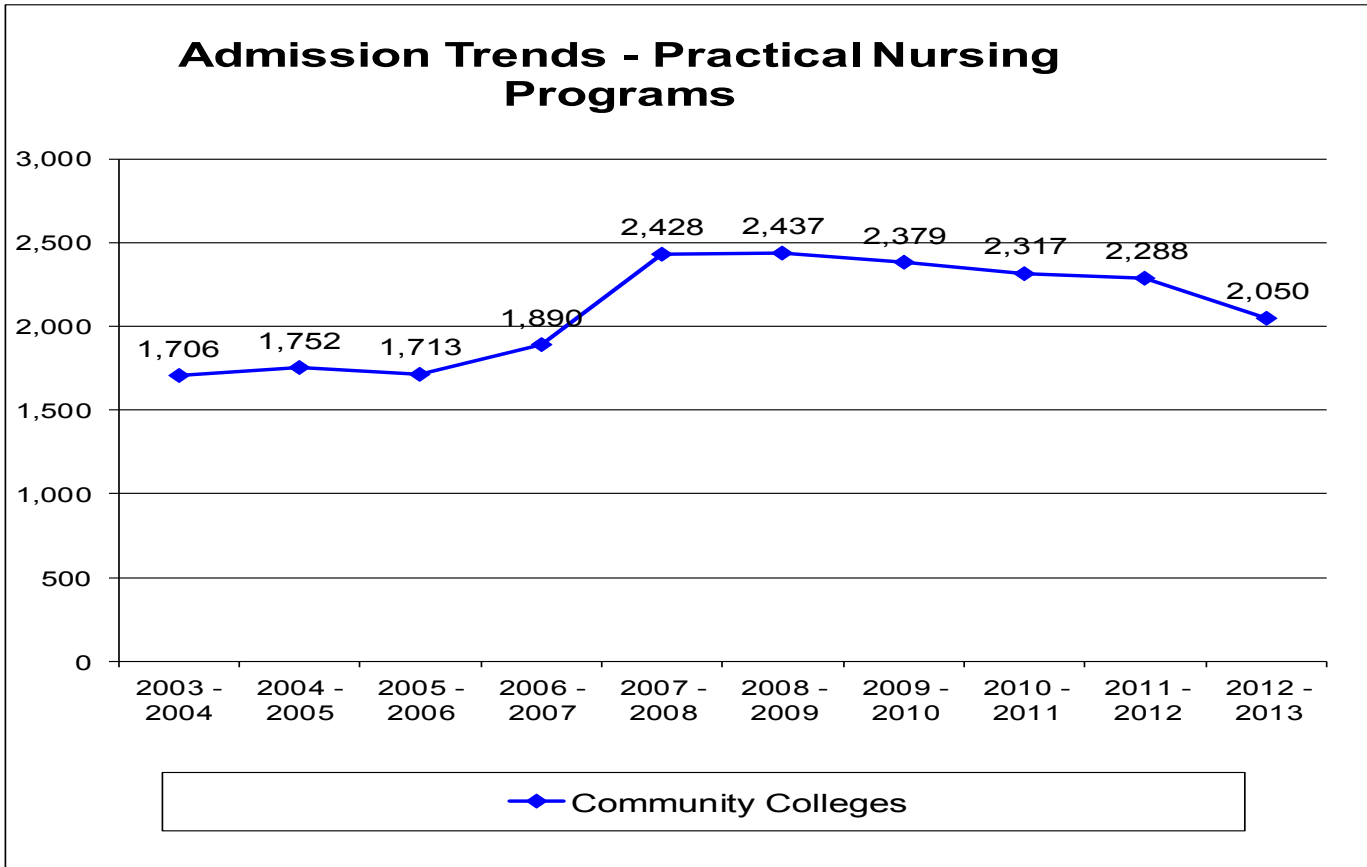
Chart 18



- ◆ Between August 1, 2012 and July 31, 2013: **4,854 students were admitted to Iowa's pre-licensure and RN programs**, an increase of 5% compared to last year and an increase of 23% compared to five years ago.
- ◆ In 2013, the undergraduate RN programs, including Baccalaureate, CNL (Pre-licensure) Master's Degree and Associate Degree, reported **195 students on waiting lists**.
- ◆ The rise in Baccalaureate Program admissions between 2006 and 2010 may be the result of enrollment increases in online RN to BSN Programs.

*Note: In 2013, the Nursing Programs in Iowa reported 41.5 total **faculty vacancies (18 full-time, 6.5 part-time and 17 adjunct)**.*

Chart 19



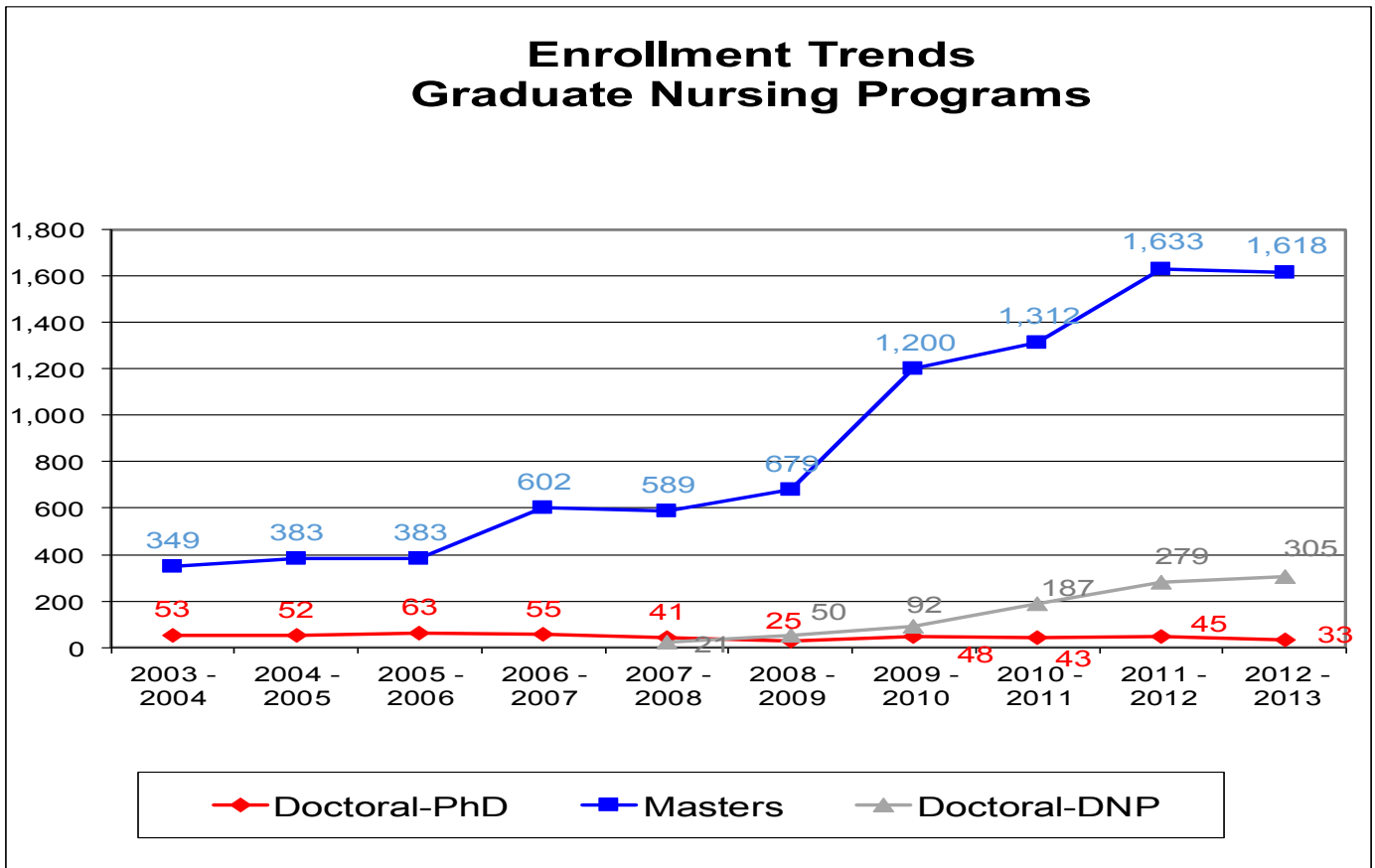
- ◆ Between August 1, 2012 and July 31, 2013: **2,050 students were admitted to Iowa's LPN programs**, a **decrease of 10%** compared to last year and a **decrease of 16%** compared to five years ago.
- ◆ In 2013, the LPN programs reported **171 students on waiting lists**, down from 414, one year ago.

Note: In 2013, approximately 67% of practical nursing graduates proceeded directly to RN programs.

ENROLLMENT DATA

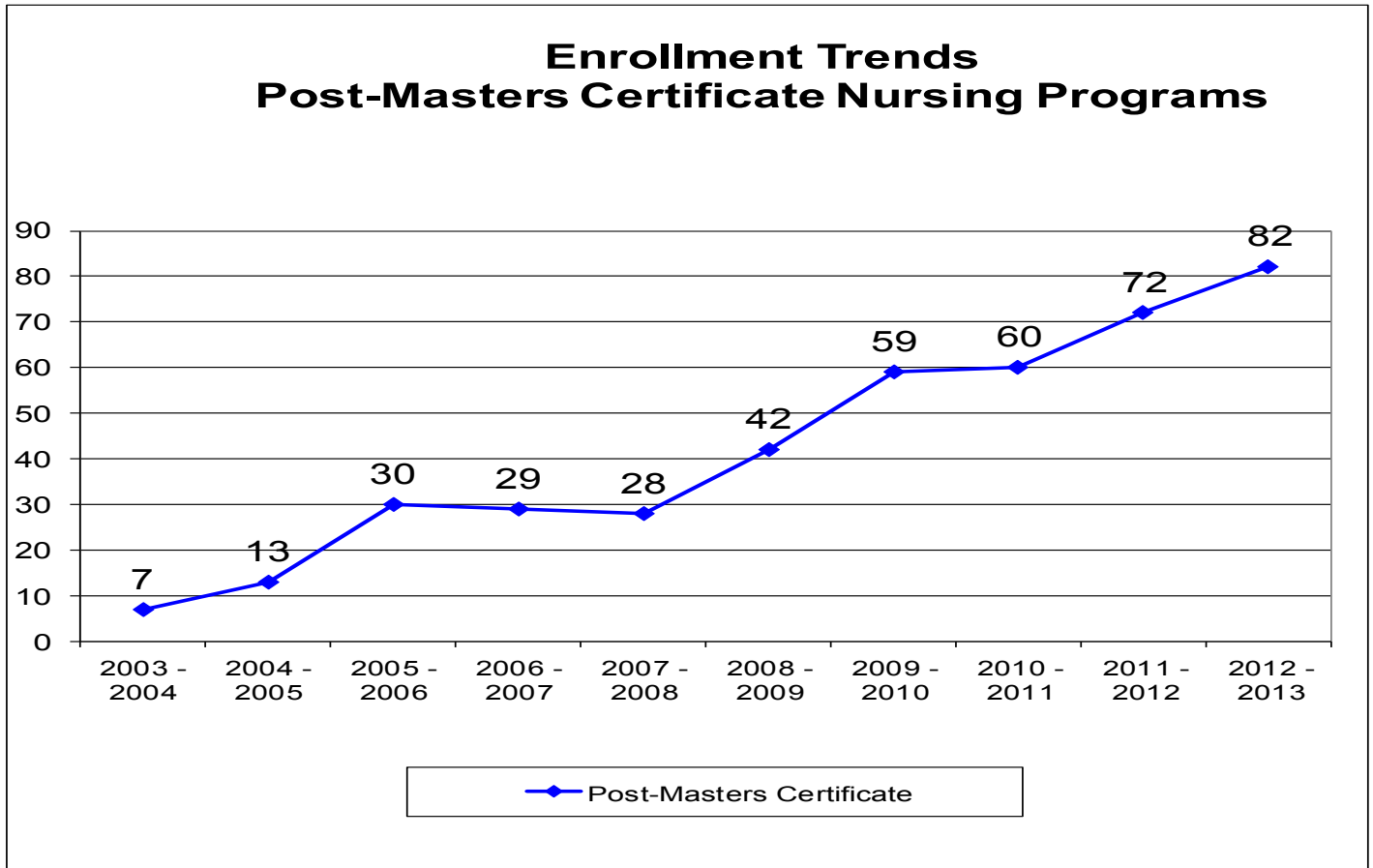
Enrollment data is based on the number of students who have met admission requirements and are accepted into the nursing program and are taking the nursing courses.

Chart 20



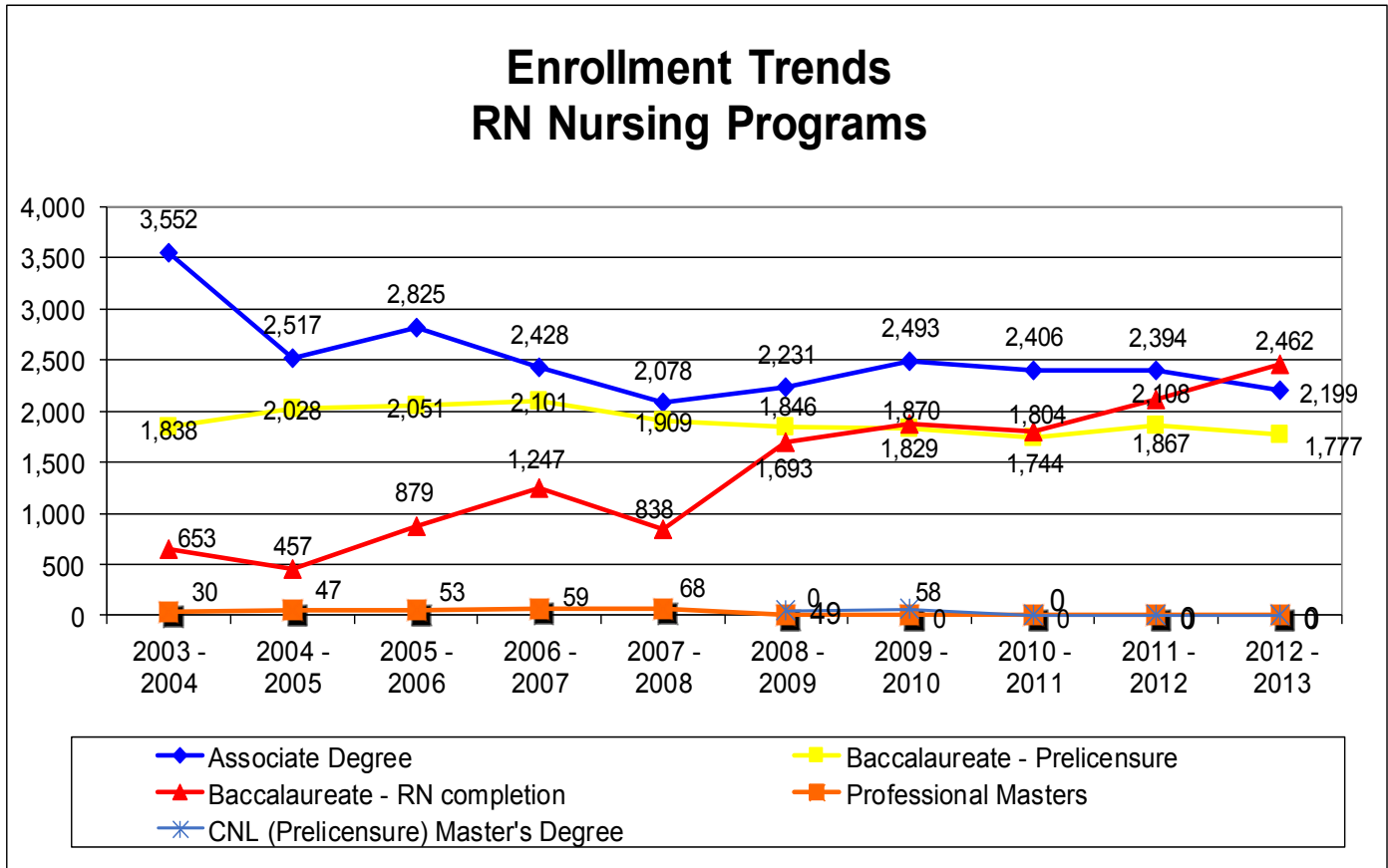
- ◆ Between August 1, 2012 and July 31, 2013: **338 students were enrolled in Iowa's Doctoral programs**, an increase of 4% compared to last year and greater than five times the number seen five years ago.
- ◆ Between August 1, 2012 and July 31, 2013: **1618 students were enrolled in Iowa's academic masters programs**, a 1% decrease compared to last year and an increase of 175% compared to five years ago.

Chart 21



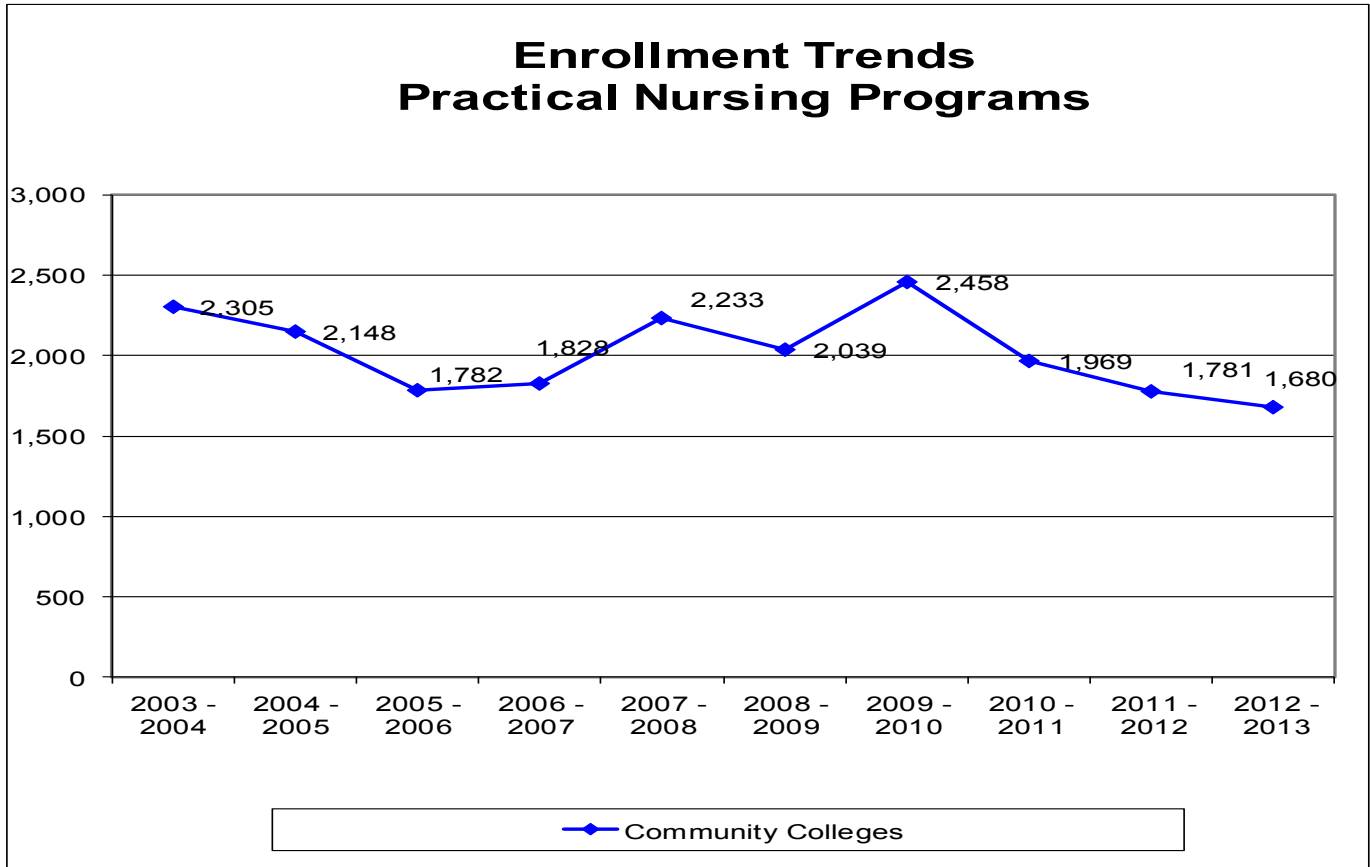
- ◆ Between August 1, 2012 and July 31, 2013: **82 students were enrolled in Iowa's Post-Masters Certificate programs**, an increase of 14% in the last year and a 192% increase from five years ago.

Chart 22



- ◆ Between August 1, 2011 and July 31, 2012: **6,438 students were enrolled in Iowa's RN programs**, an increase of just over 1% compared to last year and an increase of 31.5% compared to five years ago.
- ◆ An increase of 354 students (17%) was seen in the Baccalaureate-RN completion programs when compared to last year.

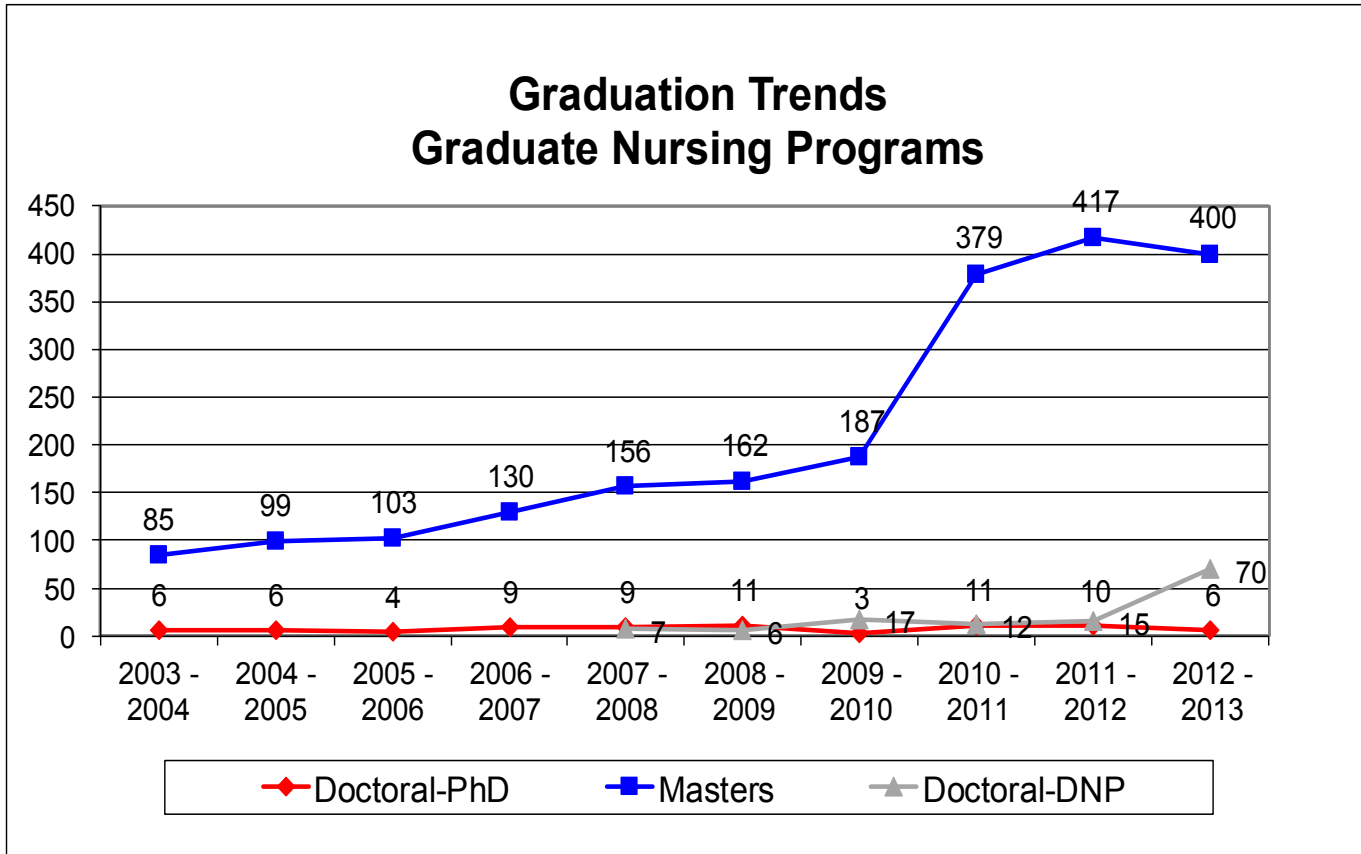
Chart 23



- ◆ In 2013, **1,680 students** were enrolled in Iowa's LPN programs, a **decrease of 6% from** last year and a **decrease of 25%** compared to five years ago.

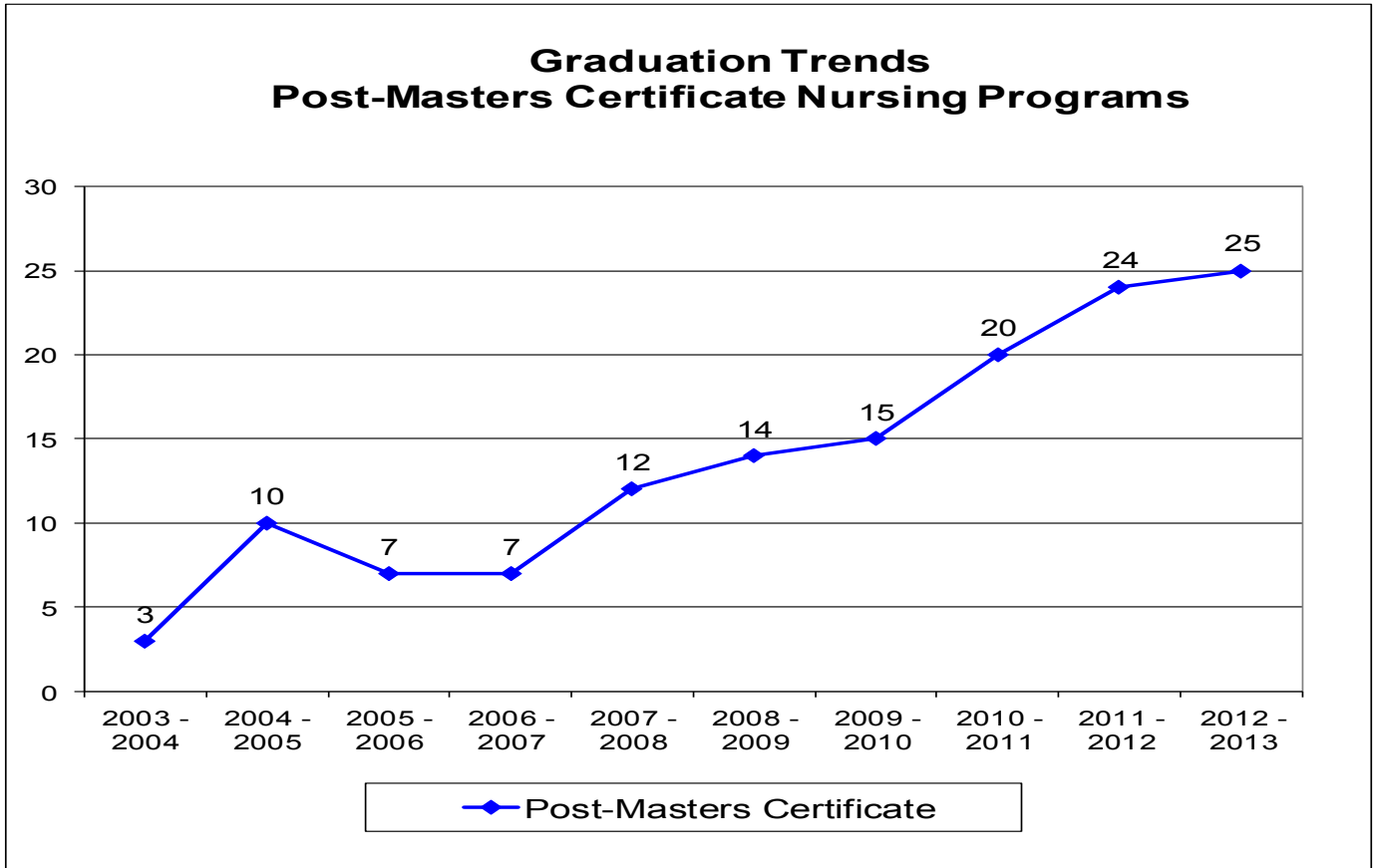
GRADUATION DATA

Chart 24



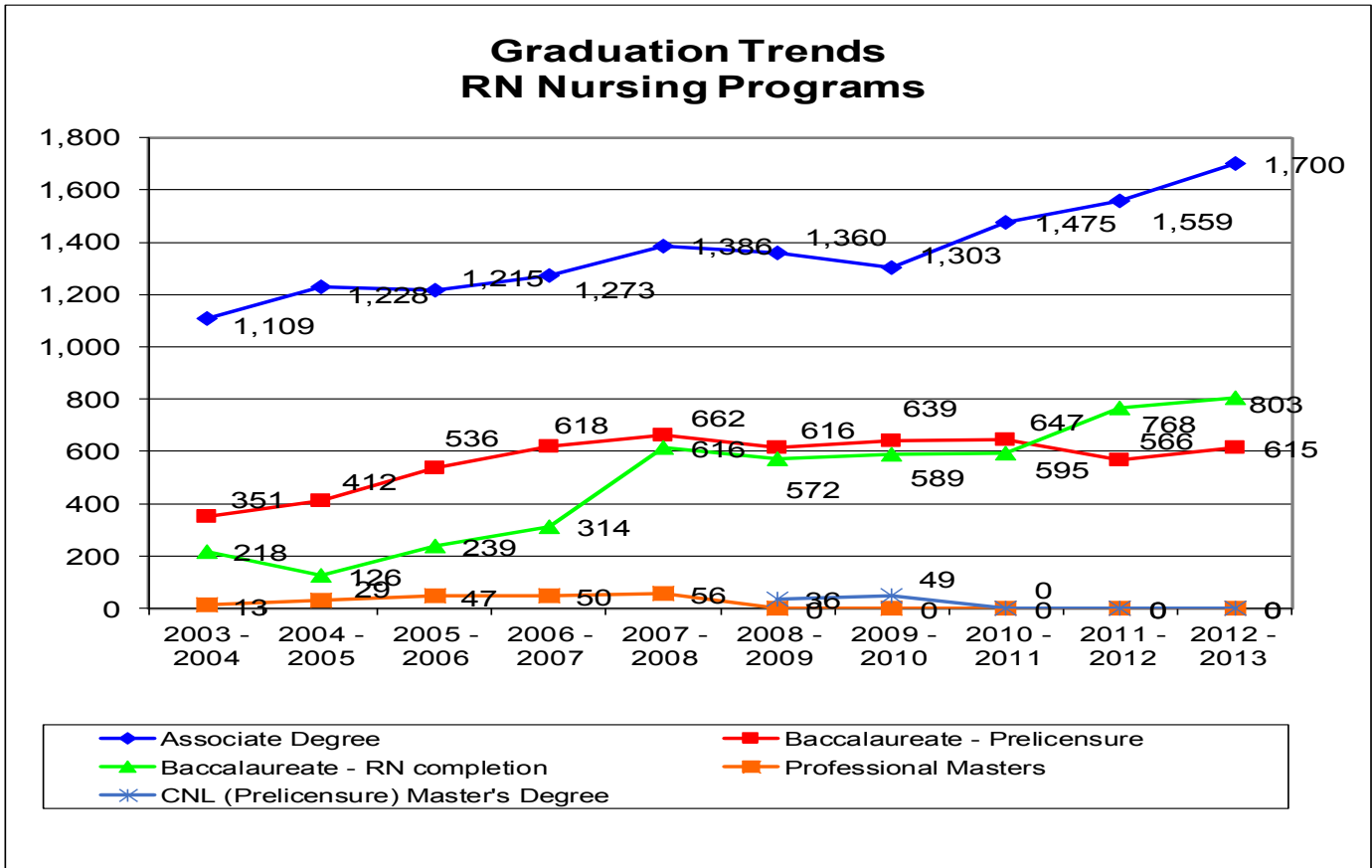
- ◆ Between August 1, 2012 and July 31, 2013: **76 students graduated from Iowa's Doctoral programs**, an increase of 204% compared to last year and an increase of 375% compared to five years ago. A total of 177 students have graduated from the doctoral programs in the past five years.
- ◆ Between August 1, 2012 and July 31, 2013: **400 students graduated from Iowa's academic masters programs**, a 4% decrease from last year, but a 156% increase over five years ago.

Chart 25



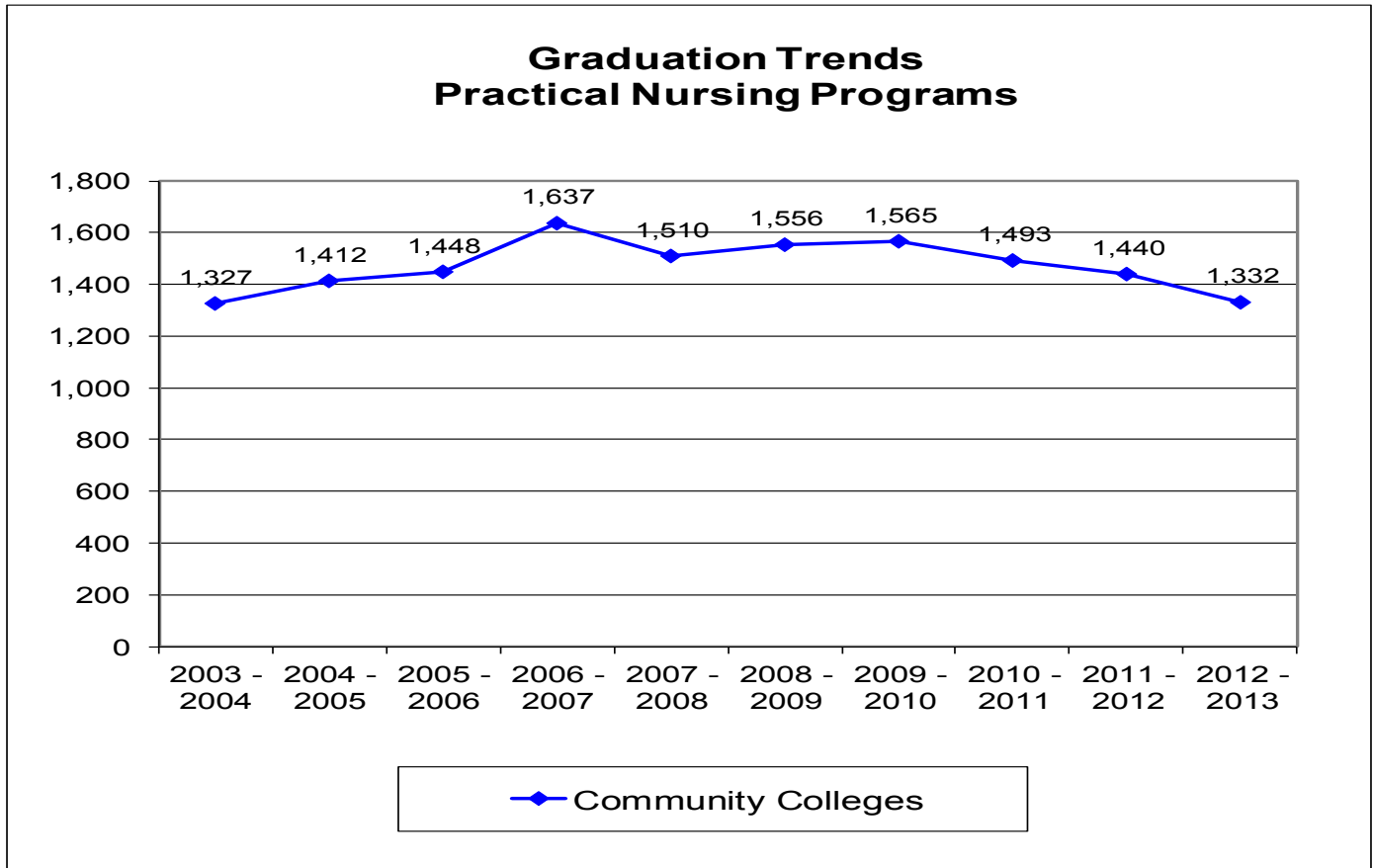
- ◆ Between August 1, 2012 and July 31, 2013: **25 students graduated from Iowa's Post-Masters Certificate programs**, an increase of one student compared to the prior year 20% compared to last year and an increase of 108% compared to five years ago.

Chart 26



- ◆ Between August 1, 2012 and July 31, 2013: 3,118 **students graduated from Iowa's RN programs**, an increase of nearly 8% compared to last year and an increase of 14.5% compared to five years ago.
- ◆ Associate degree graduates continue to outpace Baccalaureate-RN completion programs and Baccalaureate –Prelicensure programs, combined.

Chart 27



- ◆ Between August 1, 2012 and July 31, 2013: **1,332 students graduated from Iowa's LPN programs**, a **decrease of 7.5%** compared to last year and a **decrease of nearly 12%** compared to five years ago.

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For more information contact the Iowa Center for Nursing Workforce:

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Mission Statement

The Iowa Center for Nursing Workforce exists to support a dynamic, well-prepared and diverse nurse workforce to meet the health and wellness needs of Iowans.



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