



Florida's Nursing Education Programs Continued to Expand in 2011 with Significant Increases in Student Enrollment and Graduates

at a glance

To address the nursing shortage in Florida, the 2009 Legislature modified how the Board of Nursing oversees nursing education programs. The intent of the modifications was to increase the number of nursing programs and qualified nurses in Florida. Since the legislation took effect in July 2009,

- the Board of Nursing has approved 111 new nursing education programs, which has increased the total number of programs by 67%;
- the number of nursing student seats has increased by 47%;
- enrollment in nursing programs has increased by 40%, with the greatest increase occurring in associate degree programs;
- nursing program retention rates have gradually increased; and
- the number of students graduating from nursing programs has increased by 14%.

However, not enough time has elapsed to fully evaluate the effects of the new law on nursing licensure exam passage rates or employment outcomes of nursing program graduates.

Scope

The Legislature directed OPPAGA to annually review the Board of Nursing's administration of the program approval and accountability processes for nursing programs.^{1,2} This second in a series of five annual report addresses how nursing programs' capacity, enrollment, and student outcomes changed since the 2009 law took effect.

Due to the recent implementation of Ch. 2009-168, *Laws of Florida*, and Ch. 2010-37, *Laws of Florida*, insufficient time has elapsed to evaluate the effectiveness of the new approval process in producing quality nursing programs and maintaining the quality of nursing graduates. OPPAGA will issue subsequent reports on the program approval process and outcomes annually through 2015.

Background

To ensure quality nursing practice, Ch. 464, *Florida Statutes*, establishes the Florida Board of Nursing and grants the board authority to adopt rules, discipline nurses who violate regulations, and approve and

¹ Chapter 2010-37, *Laws of Florida*.

² The prior OPPAGA reports issued were entitled: *Since Implementing Statutory Changes, the State Board of Nursing Has Approved More Nursing Programs; the Legislature Should Address Implementation Issues*, OPPAGA [Report No. 10-14](#), January 2010; *Board of Nursing Addressed Statutory Changes; Nursing Program Capacity Expanded in 2009-10*, OPPAGA [Report No. 11-06](#), January 2011; and *Supplemental Report: Florida Nursing Education Programs 2009-10*, OPPAGA [Report No. 11-18](#), May 2011. OPPAGA's supplemental report provides detailed data that nursing programs reported on their capacity, enrollment, graduation, retention, and examination passage rates.

monitor nursing education programs.³ In 2009, the Legislature modified the process for approving new nursing education programs by removing rulemaking authority from the Board of Nursing and specifying the nursing education program approval process in statute.⁴ Our 2010 report identified several issues with the board’s implementation of the 2009 law and made recommendations to the Legislature and the Board of Nursing.⁵ The 2010 Legislature modified statutes to address issues raised by our report and stakeholders. In addition, our 2011 report determined that the board has implemented the revised processes and addressed other issues we identified.⁶

As shown in Exhibit 1, 222 nursing education programs in Florida had students enrolled during the 2011 academic year.^{7,8} These

included 109 programs that offered a licensed practical nursing certificate, 88 programs that offered an associate degree in nursing, and 25 programs that offered a bachelor’s degree in nursing. Many of these programs offered both a generic curriculum (also called a track) for students with no medical experience and a bridge curriculum, which is an expedited program for students with nursing licenses or previous medical experience.⁹

These nursing programs are offered by public school districts, Florida colleges, state universities, private institutions licensed by the Commission for Independent Education, and private institutions that are members of the Independent Colleges and Universities of Florida. In addition, state law authorizes Pensacola Christian College to offer a bachelor of science in nursing degree.¹⁰

³New programs submit an application, fees, and supporting documents to the board office, which then reviews the application for any errors or deficiencies. Upon the receipt of a complete application, board staff places the program’s application on the Board of Nursing’s agenda for approval. The board monitors approved nursing programs by reviewing their students’ scores on the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX).

⁴Section 464.019, F.S.

⁵Since Implementing Statutory Changes, the State Board of Nursing Has Approved More Nursing Programs; The Legislature Should Address Implementation Issues, OPPAGA Report No. 10-14, January 2010.

⁶Board of Nursing Addressed Statutory Changes; Nursing Program Capacity Expanded in 2009-10, OPPAGA Report No. 11-06, January 2011.

⁷An institution in another state offers one of Florida’s nursing education programs. Indiana State University has a distance learning nursing program that awards a bachelor of science in nursing degree. For purposes of this report, this program is

categorized as a bachelor of science second degree track. Students must have a practical nursing certificate to be admitted.

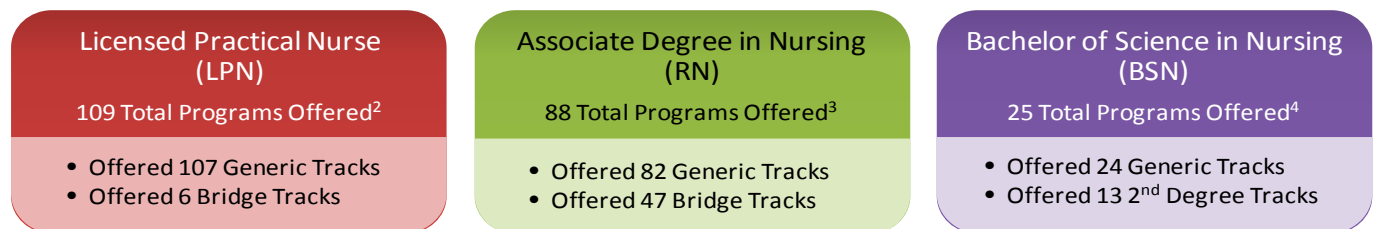
⁸In addition, 56 programs were approved by the Board of Nursing but did not have students enrolled during 2010-11. Two programs that reported students during 2011 have since closed, however, both programs have reapplied and were approved by the Board in December 2011.

⁹Section 464.019, F.S., does not differentiate between bridge and generic curriculum tracks. In addition, the Florida Board of Nursing does not make a distinction between generic, bridge, or accelerated tracks.

¹⁰Nursing education programs in Florida that hold specialized nursing accreditation by the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC) or by the Collegiate Commission on Nursing Education (CCNE) are not regulated by the Florida Board of Nursing.

Exhibit 1

During 2010-11, 222 Nursing Education Programs in Florida had Students Enrolled¹



¹The total includes all curriculum tracks for programs, including 46 programs with multiple tracks.

²Four licensed practical nurse programs have both a generic and a bridge curriculum track and two have a bridge-only track.

³Forty-one associate degree programs have both a generic and a bridge curriculum track and six have a bridge-only track.

⁴Twelve bachelor’s degree programs have both a generic curriculum track and a second degree curriculum track and one program only has a second degree track. In addition, Indiana State University is not included in these totals, but has a distance bachelor’s degree program that admits Florida students who have a practical nursing certificate.

Source: OPPAGA survey and analysis.

Findings

How have nursing programs' capacity, enrollment, and student outcomes changed since the 2009 law took effect?

Legislative changes to nursing program approval and monitoring processes were intended to increase the number and quality of nursing graduates in Florida by expanding the capacity of existing programs and creating new programs. Since the law's inception, the number of new nursing programs has increased 67%, increasing the number of student seats by 47%, enrollment by 40%, and nursing graduates by 14%. Data is limited to evaluate licensure exam passage rates by graduates of new programs. In addition, data is not yet available to evaluate employment outcomes for nursing program graduates affected by the 2009 law changes.

Overall, the number of new nursing programs has increased by 67% since the law went into effect. Of the 277 nursing programs statewide, 111 were approved since the statutory changes took effect in July 2009 (a 67% increase).¹¹ As shown in Exhibit 2, the number of approved programs has steadily increased from year to year since the law took effect.¹² During calendar year 2011, the board considered 54 applications for new nursing programs and approved 50 of these programs.^{13, 14}

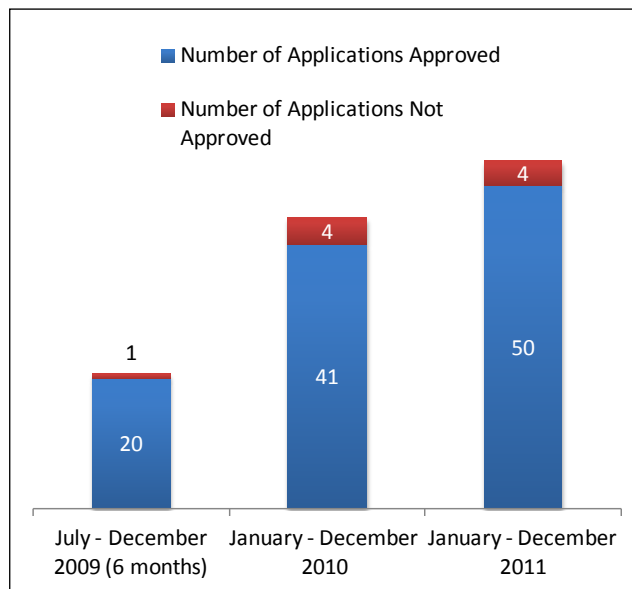
¹¹ Two programs closed in 2011, which reduced the total number of programs to 277.

¹² Prior to the law taking effect, 17 of 18 nursing program applications were approved from January 2008 through June 2009.

¹³ The four applicants were denied because they did not meet statutory requirements. This includes not meeting the requirements of faculty qualifications, curriculum, and clinical agreements.

¹⁴ This is an unduplicated count of program applications and board approval from January 2011 through December 2011. Programs may waive the committee's review of their application or their applications may be denied. In 2011, three programs waived the committee's initial review to future meetings, two of which were later approved and one was not taken up again. Another program's application was denied initially but the program reapplied and has since been approved.

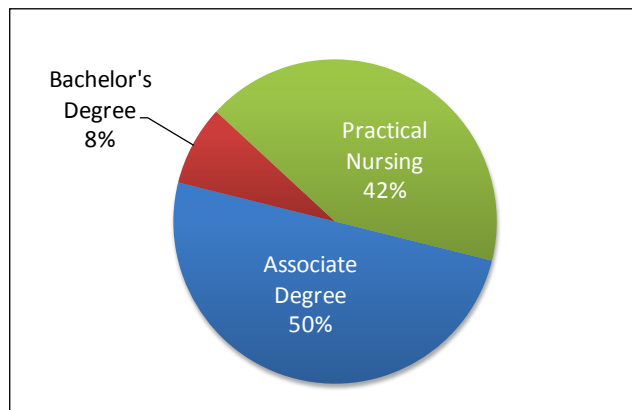
Exhibit 2 Since the 2009 Law Went Into Effect, the Number of Nursing Programs Approved has Increased Each Year



Source: OPPAGA analysis of Florida Board of Nursing data.

As shown in Exhibit 3, 50% of the 50 new programs approved in 2011 award associate degrees and 42% award practical nursing certificates. The remaining four programs (8%) award bachelor's degrees.

Exhibit 3 Most of the Nursing Programs Approved in 2011 Offer Associate Degrees



Source: OPPAGA analysis of Florida Board of Nursing data.

Capacity and enrollment in nursing education programs has continued to increase. Nursing programs have continued to increase their capacity for new students, and admitted more students (approved applications) in 2010-11 than in 2009-10 and 2008-09. For example, as shown in Exhibit 4, the number of new seats available for qualified students increased by nearly 3,500 in 2009-10, and by 4,300 in 2010-11, for an overall increase of 47% since the law was enacted. In addition, a higher

number of new students with approved applications enrolled during the 2010-11 academic year than previous years. These capacity increases are the result of approving new programs and expanding existing programs. The revised law allows existing programs to increase capacity without board approval. During 2010-11, 78 of the 177 (44%) existing programs expanded the number of seats available to new students.

**Exhibit 4
Capacity of Nursing Programs Continue to Expand Under the New Law**

Capacity Measure	2008-09 (Prior to the Law Taking Effect)	2009-10	2010-11	Percentage Increase/Decrease		
				2008-09 to 2009-10	2009-10 to 2010-11	2008-09 to 2010-11
New Seats	16,430	19,898	24,211	21%	22%	47%
Applications Received	46,997	70,464	66,136	50%	-6%	41%
Qualified Applicants	30,685	41,284	40,554	35%	-2%	32%
Students Admitted (Approved for Admission)	17,264	19,708	23,010	14%	17%	33%
Students Approved for Admission Who Enrolled	15,616	18,316	21,436	17%	17%	37%

Source: OPPAGA survey of nursing education programs.

Overall, student enrollment in nursing programs grew by 40% from 2008-09 to 2010-11. Enrollment increased by at least 11% in all types of curriculum during this period. As shown in Exhibit 5, the greatest increase was in associate degree in nursing (bridge curriculum) programs

(106%), with 10 new programs and 21 existing programs that expanded their enrollment. Associate degree in nursing (generic curriculum) programs also experienced a large increase in enrollment due to the addition of 23 new programs and the expansion of 36 existing programs.

**Exhibit 5
Student Enrollment Continues to Increase Across All Types of Nursing Programs**

Curriculum Type	2008-09 Enrollment ¹	2009-10 Enrollment	2010-11 Enrollment	Percentage Increase/Decrease 2008-09 to 2010-11
Practical Nursing (LPN) – Generic	6,454	7,730	8,981	39%
Associate Degree in Nursing – Generic	9,825	10,676	13,971	42%
Associate Degree in Nursing – Bridge	1,953	2,232	4,019	106%
Bachelor’s Degree in Nursing – Generic	4,081	4,342	4,523	11%
Bachelor’s Degree in Nursing – Second Degree	1,142	1,228	1,273	11%
Total	23,455	26,208	32,767	40%

¹ Prior to the law taking effect.

Source: OPPAGA survey of nursing education programs.

The percentage of students retained in nursing programs has gradually increased. Retention rates provide information on whether students persist in or complete their educational program a year later. We assessed retention in each type of nursing program using the cohort of students who entered the programs in 2008, 2009, and 2010. To calculate retention, we added the number of graduates and the number of students still enrolled and divided by the number of newly enrolled students for each cohort.¹⁵

The resulting retention rates varied slightly among program types. For example, as shown in Exhibit 6, bachelor’s degree programs typically had higher one-year retention rates (between 87% and 92%) than practical nursing programs (between 74% and 80%). These differences are due to varying admissions criteria and program lengths. Overall, the retention rates for students who entered in 2010 were higher than the rates for those who entered in 2008 and 2009.

¹⁵ Nursing programs admit students throughout the year, with several programs admitting students multiple times per year. We requested

each nursing program to select a cohort of students for 2008, 2009, and 2010 and report to us the outcomes of these students over a one-year period.

Exhibit 6
The Percentage of Students Retained in Nursing Programs Increased in 2011

Curriculum Type	Students Entering in 2008 (Status as of 2009)		Students Entering in 2009 (Status as of 2010)		Students Entering in 2010 (Status as of 2011)	
	Total New Students Enrolled	Percentage Retained ¹	Total New Students Enrolled	Percentage Retained ¹	Total New Students Enrolled	Percentage Retained ¹
Practical Nursing – Generic	2,342	74%	2,437	78%	3,051	80%
Associated Degree in Nursing – Generic	3,125	81%	3,265	82%	4,605	85%
Associated Degree in Nursing – Bridge	744	83%	839	81%	1,217	83%
Bachelor’s Degree in Nursing – Generic	1,377	91%	1,519	91%	1,478	92%
Bachelor’s Degree in Nursing – Second Degree	372	95%	448	91%	538	87%
Total	7,960	81%	8,508	83%	10,889	84%

¹ Includes graduates and students enrolled.

Source: OPPAGA survey of nursing education programs.

The number of students graduating from nursing programs increased 14% from academic year 2008-09 to 2010-11. Lengths of time for completing nursing programs generally range from one to four years, depending on curriculum. For example, a licensed practical nursing program is a one-year program, while the associate degree in nursing is a two-year program and the bachelor’s degree in nursing is a four-year program. As a result, students who enrolled in new programs or programs that experienced increased capacity as a result of the new law began to graduate during the 2010-11 academic year. While it is too early to determine if the change in the law increased the number of student graduating from four-year programs, it appears that the number of students graduating from one- and two-year programs is increasing.¹⁶

Although the overall number of students graduating from nursing education programs increased by 14% from 2008-09 to 2010-11, the number varied among the types of programs. For example, as shown in Exhibit 7, associate degree in nursing (bridge curriculum) programs experienced the greatest increase in students graduating (84%), while associate degree in nursing (generic curriculum) programs experienced only a slight increase (0.95%). However, there are 29 associate degree in nursing (generic curriculum) programs with students enrolled who have not yet graduated, so these rates may increase over time.

for which OPPAGA could not control include students’ economic stability, cost of programs, and curriculum changes.

¹⁶ Other factors may affect the graduation rate of students. Factors

Exhibit 7

The Number of Students Graduating from Nursing Programs Increased from 2008-09 to 2010-11

Curriculum Type	Graduates			Percentage Increase/Decrease 2008-09 to 2010-11
	2008-09 ¹	2009-10	2010-11	
Practical Nursing – Generic ²	3,910	3,805	4,581	17%
Associate Degree in Nursing – Generic ³	4,964	4,685	5,011	1%
Associate Degree in Nursing – Bridge ⁴	885	1,029	1,629	84%
Bachelor’s Degree in Nursing – Generic ⁵	1,623	1,757	1,704	5%
Bachelor’s Degree in Nursing – Second Degree ⁶	408	432	508	25%
Total	11,790	11,708	13,433	14%

¹ Prior to the law taking effect.

² Fifteen licensed practical nurse generic curriculum programs had students enrolled who have not yet graduated.

³ Twenty-nine associate degree generic curriculum programs had students enrolled who have not yet graduated.

⁴ Thirteen associate degree bridge programs had students enrolled who have not graduated.

⁵ Three bachelor’s degree generic curriculum programs had students enrolled who have not graduated.

⁶ Two bachelor’s second degree programs had students enrolled who have not graduated.

Source: OPPAGA survey of nursing education programs.

Data is limited to evaluate Nursing Licensing Examination (NCLEX) passing rates for nursing program graduates affected by the 2009 law changes. One measure of program quality is the passage rates of graduates taking the National Council of State Boards of Nursing Licensing Examination (NCLEX). Chapter 2010-37, *Laws of Florida*, required that nursing programs maintain a passage rate on the examination that is not 10 percentage points lower than the national average during a calendar year. Programs can be placed on probationary status if their passage rates are 10 percentage points or lower than the national average for two consecutive calendar years.¹⁷

During calendar year 2011, only 17 of the 111 new nursing programs had graduates who took the NCLEX examination, and for most of these programs, multiple years of data are not available to evaluate trends.¹⁸ As a result, it is still too early to evaluate how new programs’ graduates are performing on the licensure exam. However, across all types of nursing programs, more students passed the licensure exam in 2011 than

in 2010. In calendar year 2011, the overall passage rate for associate degree in nursing programs was 92%, the passage rate for licensed practical nursing programs was 80%, and the passage rate for bachelor’s degrees in nursing programs was 87%. Appendix A provides a detailed listing of the passage rates for each nursing program in Florida.

Data is not yet available to evaluate employment outcomes for nursing program graduates affected by the 2009 law changes. With the capacity of nursing programs expanding to accommodate higher student enrollment, a key issue is whether graduates are remaining in the state and are employed in nursing-related fields.¹⁹ However, the most recent data available for evaluating student employment outcomes is for 2009, which is prior to when the new law took effect. This information is provided as a baseline comparison for future reports. The most recent employment information (2009) showed that most individuals who graduated from a Florida nursing program and received a license to practice nursing were employed in health care-

¹⁷ These guidelines do not apply to programs that are accredited by a specialized nursing accrediting agency in accordance with s. 464.003(1), *F.S.*

¹⁸ In calendar year 2011, no new bachelor’s degree in nursing program graduates took the NCLEX exam, while 10 new associate degree in nursing program and 7 new licensed practical nursing program graduates took the exam.

¹⁹ Nursing-related industries include hospitals, doctors’ offices, assisted living facilities, nursing homes, and other patient care facilities. Nursing-related industries may also include educational programs that teach health care or health care insurance industries.

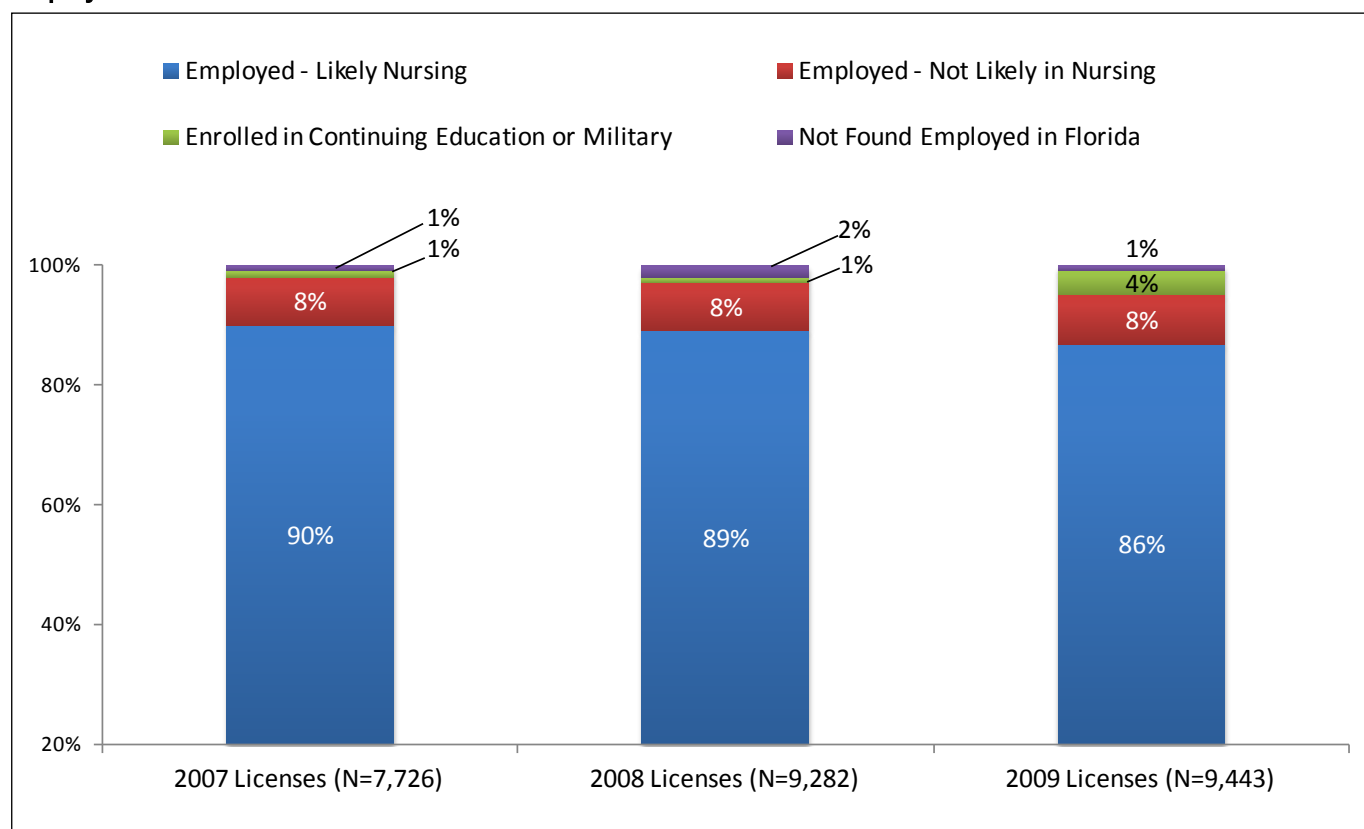
related fields in Florida.²⁰ For example, 90% of 2007 licensees, 89% of 2008 licensees, and 86% of

²⁰ To determine how many graduates were employed in nursing fields in Florida, we obtained data on individuals who were approved for a nursing license (practical nursing or professional nursing) in 2007, 2008, and 2009, and selected those individuals who reported graduating from a Florida nursing school. In 2007, 7,726 nursing program graduates received nursing licenses. In 2008, the number of graduates receiving licenses was 9,282, and in 2009, the number receiving licenses was 9,443. We matched these individuals to the Florida Education and Training Placement Information Program (FETPIP) unemployment insurance database to determine if they were employed in Florida and where they were employed. The 2007, 2008, and 2009 calendar years were the most recent years available for this analysis, as the unemployment insurance database runs a year behind.

2009 licensees were employed in a health care-related field in Florida. (See Exhibit 8.) However, while the number of licensees has increased each year since 2007, the number of licensees in the military or enrolled in continuing education is increasing.²¹ Because the Florida Education and Training Placement Information Program unemployment insurance database runs a year behind, it is still too early to evaluate the employment outcomes of the nursing program graduates affected by the 2009 law changes.

²¹ In 2009, almost all (99.5%) of the licensees identified as enrolled in continuing education or in the military were enrolled in continuing education.

Exhibit 8
Most Graduates of Florida Nursing Programs Who Received Nursing Licenses in 2007, 2008, and 2009 Were Employed in Health Care-Related Fields



Source: OPPAGA analysis of licensure data from the Department of Health and unemployment insurance data from the Florida Education and Training Placement Information Program (FETPIP).

Appendix A

Licensed Practical Nurse Program Graduate Exam Scores

Table A-1 shows for each institution the passage rates for licensed practical nurse program graduates who took the National Council of State Boards of Nursing Licensure Examination (NCLEX) during calendar years 2009, 2010, and 2011.^{22, 23} While the percentage of exam takers who passed the exam declined from 2010 to 2011 (87% and 80%, respectively), the overall number of students passing the exam continued to increase. Programs approved since the 2009 law are highlighted in yellow.

Table A-1
Passage Rates for Licensed Practical Nurse Program Graduates

NCLEX Code	School	Calendar Year 2009			Calendar Year 2010			Calendar Year 2011		
		Exam Takers	Number of Exam Takers Who Passed	Percentage of Exam Takers Who Passed	Exam Takers	Number of Exam Takers Who Passed	Percentage of Exam Takers Who Passed	Exam Takers	Number of Exam Takers Who Passed	Percentage of Exam Takers Who Passed
70-201	Academy for Practical Nursing	155	119	77%	116	97	84%	149	116	78%
70-107	Bradford-Union Area Vocational Technical Center	19	17	89%	13	12	92%	17	16	94%
70-172	Brevard Community College	37	30	81%	26	20	77%	38	26	68%
70-133	Brewster Technical Center	12	11	92%	3	2	67%	17	15	88%
70-186	Broward Atlantic Technical Center	171	147	86%	141	126	89%	89	85	96%
70-210	Broward Blanche Ely High School	18	13	72%	14	14	100%	9	8	89%
70-202	Broward McFatter Technical Center	116	104	90%	130	119	92%	126	105	83%
70-205	Broward Sheridan Technical Center	129	115	89%	119	109	92%	104	91	88%
70-127	Cambridge Institute of Allied Health				13	11	85%	16	6	38%
70-277	Caregiver Education				6	5	83%	30	10	33%
70-272	Carleen Home Health School							24	19	79%
70-155	Center for Allied Health Nursing				41	41	100%	78	76	97%
70-131	Centura Institute	1	1	100%	21	17	81%	42	20	48%
70-166	Charlotte County Technical Center	48	40	83%	64	56	88%	48	44	92%
70-100	Chipola College	12	12	100%	10	8	80%	11	11	100%
70-105	Choice Technical Center	42	41	98%	42	38	90%	36	35	97%
70-102	College of Central Florida	28	28	100%	29	28	97%	27	27	100%

²² This includes both licensed practical nurse—generic program students as well as licensed practical nurse—bridge program students.

²³ This data includes only first-time test takers.

NCLEX Code	School	Calendar Year 2009			Calendar Year 2010			Calendar Year 2011		
		Exam Takers	Number of Exam Takers Who Passed	Percentage of Exam Takers Who Passed	Exam Takers	Number of Exam Takers Who Passed	Percentage of Exam Takers Who Passed	Exam Takers	Number of Exam Takers Who Passed	Percentage of Exam Takers Who Passed
70-282	Community Educational School - Indian River County	13	13	100%	8	8	100%	7	6	86%
70-125	Concorde Career Institute	45	39	87%	48	39	81%	53	45	85%
70-221	Coral Ridge Training School	12	4	33%	24	13	54%	47	10	21%
70-268	Dade County - Homestead Senior High	15	15	100%	10	10	100%	14	13	93%
70-153	Dade County - Lindsey Hopkins Technical Center	46	39	85%	57	56	98%	71	63	89%
70-254	Dade County - Miami Lakes Technical Center	97	89	92%	111	91	82%	124	102	82%
70-248	Dade County - Robert Morgan Technical Center	90	69	77%	78	60	77%	120	105	88%
70-185	Daytona State College	71	61	86%	63	61	97%	65	64	98%
70-163	DeSoto County Schools	12	12	100%	11	10	91%	11	6	55%
70-110	Dr. Earl Lennard High School - Ruskin							4	0	0%
70-154	Erwin Vocational Technical Center	147	118	80%	156	143	92%	137	117	85%
70-182	First Coast Technical College	51	45	88%	62	54	87%	44	37	84%
70-106	Florida Gateway College	48	44	92%	51	47	92%	56	50	89%
70-216	Florida National College - Hialeah	26	17	65%	25	25	100%	22	12	55%
70-231	Florida National College - Miami	29	17	59%	29	26	90%	26	23	88%
70-179	Florida State College at Jacksonville	106	84	79%	94	73	78%	99	70	71%
70-123	Fortis College - Tampa	63	46	73%	51	40	78%	63	48	76%
70-230	Gadsden Technical Institute	7	3	43%	9	2	22%	21	11	52%
70-104	Galen School of Nursing	145	140	97%	135	134	99%	212	193	91%
70-260	Green Cross School of Nursing							31	15	48%
70-197	Gulf Coast Community College	23	18	78%	23	22	96%	30	27	90%
70-118	Health Opportunity Technical Center	86	24	28%	78	31	40%	74	25	34%
70-264	Hope Health Career Institute							16	8	50%
70-145	Immokalee Technology Center	4	3	75%	30	26	87%	14	11	79%
70-177	Indian River State College	65	59	91%	50	39	78%	58	53	91%
70-116	Inlet Grove Community High School	38	13	34%	23	11	48%	48	32	67%
70-134	Keiser Career College - Green Acres	39	24	62%	37	32	86%	50	37	74%
70-144	Keiser Career College - Jacksonville				4	4	100%	54	53	98%

NCLEX Code	School	Calendar Year 2009			Calendar Year 2010			Calendar Year 2011		
		Exam Takers	Number of Exam Takers Who Passed	Percentage of Exam Takers Who Passed	Exam Takers	Number of Exam Takers Who Passed	Percentage of Exam Takers Who Passed	Exam Takers	Number of Exam Takers Who Passed	Percentage of Exam Takers Who Passed
70-269	Keiser Career College - Miami Lakes	36	34	94%	62	60	97%	61	54	89%
70-207	Keiser Career College - New Port Richey	26	25	96%	72	68	94%	82	75	91%
70-190	Keiser Career College - St. Petersburg	37	37	100%	63	61	97%	42	39	93%
70-178	Lake County Technical Center	56	54	96%	93	86	92%	71	67	94%
70-181	Lee County High Technical Center Central - Ft. Myers	51	44	86%	74	68	92%	79	73	92%
70-219	Lee County High Technical Center Central - Labelle							3	3	100%
70-142	Lee County High Technical Center North	28	26	93%	35	34	97%	33	33	100%
70-130	Lincoln Technical Institute	37	35	95%	44	38	86%	68	50	74%
70-199	Lively Technical Center	64	58	91%	43	35	81%	53	49	92%
70-236	Locklin Technical Center							1	1	100%
70-170	Lorenzo Walker Institute of Technology	49	40	82%	35	27	77%	62	44	71%
70-183	Manatee Technical Institute	76	67	88%	95	81	85%	75	69	92%
70-115	MedVance Institute - Miami	35	31	89%	32	30	94%	33	25	76%
70-111	MedVance Institute - Palm Springs	20	16	80%	25	19	76%	38	19	50%
70-109	MedVance Institute - Stuart	37	31	84%	44	34	77%	40	26	65%
70-160	Mercy Hospital School of Practical Nursing	59	50	85%	74	66	89%	68	52	76%
70-140	Miami Dade College	33	33	100%	80	68	85%	5	4	80%
70-268	Miami-Dade County - Homestead Senior High	15	15	100%	10	10	100%	14	13	93%
70-153	Miami-Dade County - Lindsey Hopkins Technical Center	46	39	85%	57	56	98%	71	63	89%
70-254	Miami-Dade County - Miami Lakes Technical Center	97	89	92%	111	91	82%	124	102	82%
70-248	Miami-Dade County - Robert Morgan Technical Center	90	69	77%	78	60	77%	120	105	88%
70-189	North Florida Community College	17	15	88%	18	18	100%	24	20	83%
70-187	Orlando Tech	62	56	90%	64	57	89%	64	57	89%
70-180	Palm Beach County Schools	3	1	33%	2	1	50%	9	0	0%
70-150	Palm Beach State College	19	18	95%	51	50	98%	35	34	97%
70-164	Pasco Hernando Community College	80	76	95%	94	89	95%	95	86	91%
70-157	Pensacola State College	29	26	90%	36	33	92%	27	26	96%

NCLEX Code	School	Calendar Year 2009			Calendar Year 2010			Calendar Year 2011		
		Exam Takers	Number of Exam Takers Who Passed	Percentage of Exam Takers Who Passed	Exam Takers	Number of Exam Takers Who Passed	Percentage of Exam Takers Who Passed	Exam Takers	Number of Exam Takers Who Passed	Percentage of Exam Takers Who Passed
70-194	Pinellas Technical Education Center - Clearwater	60	52	87%	73	59	81%	125	107	86%
70-151	Pinellas Technical Education Center - St. Petersburg	99	67	68%	126	116	92%	86	80	93%
70-119	Rasmussen College	15	15	100%	29	27	93%	45	43	96%
70-108	Ridge Career Center	29	29	100%	41	39	95%	58	55	95%
70-290	Rose Training Institute	17	7	41%	9	4	44%	37	12	32%
70-249	SABER, Inc.	62	48	77%	46	34	74%	114	62	54%
70-196	Santa Fe College	11	11	100%	23	23	100%	22	22	100%
70-193	Sarasota County Technical Institute	60	54	90%	76	73	96%	62	58	94%
70-175	Seminole State College	40	38	95%	43	41	95%	33	31	94%
70-112	Sigma Institute of Health Careers	116	41	35%	34	16	47%	111	25	23%
70-168	South Florida Community College	21	21	100%	23	23	100%	25	25	100%
70-159	South Technical Academy	5	2	40%	1	1	100%	4	0	0%
70-173	Suwannee-Hamilton Technical Center	14	13	93%	18	18	100%	15	11	73%
70-128	Tampa Bay Technical High School	9	2	22%	3	2	67%	17	4	24%
70-114	Taylor College	29	27	93%	45	42	93%	47	33	70%
70-136	Technical Education Center Osceola	50	47	94%	36	35	97%	61	60	98%
70-286	Techni-Pro Institute							5	4	80%
70-191	Tom P. Haney Technical Center	42	37	88%	35	32	91%	40	38	95%
70-195	Traviss Career Center	77	72	94%	91	79	87%	65	59	91%
70-162	Vintex Training Institute							57	23	40%
70-215	Virginia College at Pensacola	27	22	81%	37	31	84%	22	19	86%
70-120	Walton Career Development Center	21	18	86%	24	24	100%	31	30	97%
70-171	Washington-Holmes Technical Center	38	35	92%	51	44	86%	40	38	95%
70-167	Withlacoochee Technical Institute	22	22	100%	15	15	100%	16	15	94%
Total Statewide¹		3,784	3,127	83%	4,070	3,561	87%	4,638	3,706	80%
National Average				86%			87%			85%

¹ Closed programs and remedial programs were not included in the table or statewide totals.

² All percentages are rounded to the nearest whole number.

Source: *National Council Licensure Examination for Practical Nurses Quarterly Report* from the Florida Board of Nursing's website.

Associate Degree in Nursing (Generic and Bridge) Program Graduate Exam Scores

Table A-2 shows for each institution the passage rates for associate degree in nursing program graduates who took the National Council of State Boards of Nursing Licensure Examination (NCLEX) during calendar years 2009, 2010, and 2011.²⁴ This includes both associate degree in nursing generic curriculum program students as well as associate degree in nursing—bridge curriculum program students. While the percentage of exam takers who passed remained approximately the same from 2010 to 2011 (88% and 87%, respectively), the overall number of students passing the exam continued to increase. Programs approved since the 2009 law are highlighted in yellow.

Table A-2
Passage Rates for Associate Degree in Nursing Program Graduates

NCLEX Code	School	Calendar Year 2009			Calendar Year 2010			Calendar Year 2011		
		Exam Takers	Number of Exam Takers Who Passed	Percentage of Exam Takers Who Passed	Exam Takers	Number of Exam Takers Who Passed	Percentage of Exam Takers Who Passed	Exam Takers	Number of Exam Takers Who Passed	Percentage of Exam Takers Who Passed
70-470	Brevard Community College - Cocoa Campus	81	74	91%	79	71	90%	74	65	88%
70-438	Brevard Community College - Palm Bay Campus	43	35	81%	39	36	92%	59	55	93%
70-475	Broward College	333	299	90%	295	267	91%	373	342	92%
70-429	Cambridge Medical Institute							13	9	69%
70-401	Chipola College	41	37	90%	67	59	88%	53	48	91%
70-437	City College - Ft. Lauderdale	17	16	94%	21	18	86%	46	30	65%
70-449	City College - Miami							1	1	100%
70-451	College of Central Florida - Lecanto Campus				11	10	91%	4	4	100%
70-482	College of Central Florida - Ocala Campus	76	69	91%	82	81	99%	91	87	96%
70-433	Concorde Career Institute - Jacksonville				36	30	83%	36	18	50%
70-499	Concorde Career Institute - Miramar							26	15	58%
70-421	Concorde Career Institute - Tampa							14	10	71%
70-431	Dade Medical College - Hollywood							42	14	33%
70-408	Dade Medical College - Miami	1	0	0%	4	2	50%	22	12	55%
70-483	Daytona State College	214	184	86%	195	175	90%	188	178	95%
70-472	Edison State College	223	195	87%	267	244	91%	270	240	89%
70-430	Everest University - Brandon	18	13	72%	24	21	88%	15	14	93%

²⁴ This data includes only first-time test takers.

NCLEX Code	School	Calendar Year 2009			Calendar Year 2010			Calendar Year 2011		
		Exam Takers	Number of Exam Takers Who Passed	Percentage of Exam Takers Who Passed	Exam Takers	Number of Exam Takers Who Passed	Percentage of Exam Takers Who Passed	Exam Takers	Number of Exam Takers Who Passed	Percentage of Exam Takers Who Passed
70-478	Florida Gateway College	65	60	92%	60	55	92%	73	66	90%
70-410	Florida Hospital College of Health Sciences	153	125	82%	115	100	87%	136	116	85%
70-474	Florida Keys Community College	25	20	80%	26	26	100%	33	32	97%
70-453	Florida National College							22	12	55%
70-473	Florida State College at Jacksonville	377	320	85%	378	304	80%	394	331	84%
70-447	Fortis Institute - Pensacola				15	10	67%	114	70	61%
70-411	Galen Health Institute	128	118	92%	81	74	91%	133	115	86%
70-481	Gulf Coast Community College	65	60	92%	63	53	84%	70	66	94%
70-444	Herzing College	24	20	83%	39	34	87%	45	42	93%
70-469	Hillsborough Community College	234	201	86%	263	227	86%	225	179	80%
70-477	Indian River State College	127	115	91%	132	125	95%	136	123	90%
70-488	ITT Technical Institute - Ft. Myers							3	1	33%
70-441	Kaplan University				22	7	32%	22	11	50%
70-413	Keiser Career College - Miami Lakes							19	14	74%
70-423	Keiser University - Ft. Lauderdale	44	34	77%	30	26	87%	33	26	79%
70-490	Keiser University - Jacksonville	41	25	61%	38	31	82%	28	22	79%
70-407	Keiser University - Kendall	43	37	86%	48	45	94%	33	28	85%
70-403	Keiser University - Lakeland	39	26	67%	39	23	59%	33	27	82%
70-415	Keiser University - Melbourne	57	48	84%	76	59	78%	55	47	85%
70-455	Keiser University - Orlando				36	34	94%	36	32	89%
70-420	Keiser University - Sarasota	36	29	81%	37	34	92%	45	43	96%
70-426	Keiser University - Tallahassee	16	12	75%	18	17	94%	18	15	83%
70-418	Keiser University - Tampa							9	8	89%
70-406	Keiser University - West Palm Beach	37	23	62%	31	25	81%	47	35	74%
70-405	Lake-Sumter Community College	76	72	95%	82	70	85%	70	68	97%
70-409	Mercy Hospital College of Nursing - Miami				17	13	76%	35	30	86%
70-484	Miami Dade College	559	487	87%	597	511	86%	515	434	84%

NCLEX Code	School	Calendar Year 2009			Calendar Year 2010			Calendar Year 2011		
		Exam Takers	Number of Exam Takers Who Passed	Percentage of Exam Takers Who Passed	Exam Takers	Number of Exam Takers Who Passed	Percentage of Exam Takers Who Passed	Exam Takers	Number of Exam Takers Who Passed	Percentage of Exam Takers Who Passed
70-416	North Florida Community College	18	12	67%	18	16	89%	23	19	83%
70-450	Northwest Florida State College	44	44	100%	43	42	98%	55	55	100%
70-492	Palm Beach State College - Belle Glade	12	10	83%	16	13	81%	13	13	100%
70-486	Palm Beach State College - Lake Worth	178	154	87%	171	153	89%	143	138	97%
70-464	Pasco Hernando Community College	150	122	81%	159	139	87%	161	138	86%
70-487	Pensacola State College - Warrington Campus	192	168	88%	137	123	90%	218	178	82%
70-476	Polk State College	182	170	93%	151	145	96%	142	139	98%
70-495	Rasmussen College - Ocala Campus	14	12	86%	19	14	74%	44	36	82%
70-428	Sanford Brown Institute				9	6	67%	40	21	53%
70-471	Santa Fe College	127	118	93%	144	129	90%	137	129	94%
70-462	Seminole State College	151	141	93%	183	166	91%	187	181	97%
70-400	South Florida Community College	34	31	91%	33	31	94%	53	47	89%
70-425	St. Johns River Community College	79	70	89%	103	92	89%	65	59	91%
70-489	St. Petersburg College	323	267	83%	331	284	86%	397	348	88%
70-480	State College of Florida - Manatee-Sarasota	134	118	88%	125	121	97%	145	143	99%
70-468	Tallahassee Community College	51	39	76%	61	59	97%	49	44	90%
70-457	Taylor College							15	12	80%
70-404	The Center for Allied Health and Nursing Education							24	23	96%
70-467	Valencia Community College	261	243	93%	284	268	94%	293	275	94%
Total Statewide		5,062	4,399	87%	5,271	4,647	88%	5,913	5,133	87%
National Average				88%			86%			87%

¹ All percentages are rounded to the nearest whole number.

Source: *National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses Quarterly Report* from the Florida Board of Nursing's website.

Bachelor of Science in Nursing (Generic and Second Degree) Program Graduate Exam Scores

Table A-3 shows for each institution the passage rates for bachelor of science in nursing program graduates who took the National Council of State Boards of Nursing Licensure Examination (NCLEX) in calendar years 2009, 2010, and 2011.²⁵ This includes both bachelor of science in nursing—generic program students and bachelor of science in nursing—second degree students. Both the percentage of exam takers who passed (89% and 92%, respectively) and number of students passing the exam increased from 2010 to 2011.

Table A-3
Passage Rates for Bachelor of Science in Nursing Program Graduates

NCLEX Code	School	Calendar Year 2009			Calendar Year 2010			Calendar Year 2011		
		Exam Takers	Number of Exam Takers Who Passed	Percentage of Exam Takers Who Passed	Exam Takers	Number of Exam Takers Who Passed	Percentage of Exam Takers Who Passed	Exam Takers	Number of Exam Takers Who Passed	Percentage of Exam Takers Who Passed
70-592	Barry University	114	98	86%	149	114	77%	150	127	85%
70-569	Bethune-Cookman University	29	21	72%	76	48	63%	63	49	78%
70-525	Chamberlain College of Nursing							7	6	86%
70-598	Florida A&M University	70	63	90%	72	61	85%	73	62	85%
70-566	Florida Atlantic University	71	68	96%	98	83	85%	62	58	94%
70-503	Florida Gulf Coast University	63	56	89%	60	49	82%	57	53	93%
70-589	Florida International University	165	155	94%	192	173	90%	149	140	94%
70-520	Florida Southern College				20	13	65%	21	16	76%
70-590	Florida State University	131	122	93%	154	142	92%	108	103	95%
70-560	Jacksonville University	70	59	84%	66	61	92%	72	66	92%
70-578	Nova Southeastern University - Ft. Lauderdale	91	83	91%	135	125	93%	145	137	94%
70-596	Nova Southeastern University - Ft. Myers							21	19	90%
70-530	Palm Beach Atlantic University	39	37	95%	21	21	100%	30	29	97%
70-568	Pensacola Christian College	89	81	91%	96	85	89%	84	69	82%
70-515	Remington College of Nursing				34	33	97%	71	66	93%
70-504	South University - Tampa	69	49	71%	75	62	83%	80	69	86%
70-570	South University - West Palm Beach	57	48	84%	59	51	86%	57	52	91%
70-567	University of Central Florida	220	216	98%	209	198	95%	237	227	96%

²⁵ This data includes only first-time test takers.

NCLEX Code	School	Calendar Year 2009			Calendar Year 2010			Calendar Year 2011		
		Exam Takers	Number of Exam Takers Who Passed	Percentage of Exam Takers Who Passed	Exam Takers	Number of Exam Takers Who Passed	Percentage of Exam Takers Who Passed	Exam Takers	Number of Exam Takers Who Passed	Percentage of Exam Takers Who Passed
70-585	University of Florida	194	190	98%	182	177	97%	128	117	91%
70-591	University of Miami	137	129	94%	158	147	93%	180	172	96%
70-594	University of North Florida	108	97	90%	119	100	84%	128	113	88%
70-565	University of South Florida	151	145	96%	169	162	96%	210	199	95%
70-510	University of Tampa	56	56	100%	35	35	100%	39	38	97%
70-505	University of West Florida	33	31	94%	32	30	94%	29	27	93%
Total Statewide		1,957	1,804	92%	2,211	1,970	89%	2,201	2,014	92%
National Average				89%			89%			89%

¹ All percentages are rounded to the nearest whole number.

Source: *National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses Quarterly Report* from the Florida Board of Nursing website.

OPPAGA supports the Florida Legislature by providing data, evaluative research, and objective analyses that assist legislative budget and policy deliberations. This project was conducted in accordance with applicable evaluation standards. Copies of this report in print or alternate accessible format may be obtained by telephone (850/488-0021 or 800/531-2477), by FAX (850/487-3804), in person, or by mail (OPPAGA Report Production, Claude Pepper Building, Room 312, 111 W. Madison St., Tallahassee, FL 32399-1475). Cover photo by Mark Foley.

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