



Florida Center for Nursing Information

The Florida Center for Nursing (FCN): The definitive source for information, research, and strategies addressing the dynamic workforce needs of nursing in Florida.

The Florida Center for Nursing was established in 2001 under section 464.0195, Florida Statutes, to research and address issues of supply and demand for nursing, including issues of recruitment, retention, and utilization of nurse workforce resources.

FCN GOALS:

- ⇒ Develop a strategic statewide plan for the nursing workforce in Florida
- ⇒ Convene various groups representative of nurses, other health care providers, business and industry, consumers, legislators, and educators to recommend systemic changes
- ⇒ Enhance and promote recognition, reward, and renewal activities for Florida nurses

The FCN aims to ensure that the health care needs of the residents and visitors of Florida are met by a competent and sufficient nursing workforce. FCN staff works to achieve this goal in the following ways:

- Developing and implementing strategies
- Generating and disseminating credible information
- Identifying and promoting recognition, reward, and licensure renewal activities for nurses and future nurses in the state

Programs and initiatives include Strategies to Combat Florida's Nursing Shortage webinars, the Community Engagement Tour across Florida, the *Frontline Nursing* podcast, and the Prelicensure Professional Networking Program.

Recent publications: The State of Nursing Education in Florida 2025, the Florida Center for Nursing Impact Report 2024, the State of Nursing Education and Proposed Solutions Think Tank Executive Summary

FCN VALUES

- ◇ Accountability
- ◇ Integrity
- ◇ Respect
- ◇ Courage

NURSING EDUCATION

Consistent with 464.0195, Florida Statutes, FCN published The State of Nursing Education in Florida 2025.

The report provides a comprehensive view of nursing education in Florida. Part One: Nursing Education Program Report AY 2023-2024 details the nursing programs' capacity, enrollment, graduation rates. Part Two: 2024 NCLEX Results, provides detailed analysis of Florida's NCLEX pass rates.



The State of Nursing Education in Florida 2025 summarizes data about the extent to which nursing programs have the capacity to prepare a nursing workforce to meet Florida's demand for nurses at all levels of practice.

- Prelicensure nursing programs are the pipeline to the nursing workforce.
- Graduates prepared for success on the national licensure examination (NCLEX) are critical so employers can fill vacant and new positions.
- A persistent inability for employers to fill vacant nursing positions may result in decreased access to quality and safe nursing care for the people of Florida.

The report can be viewed and downloaded by clicking the following link:

The State of Nursing Education in Florida 2025 – <https://flcntr.org/NursingEd25>

Key findings from the report:

- **Enhanced Program Capacity** – Prelicensure nursing programs reported an increase in the number of qualified applicants, accepted applicants, and new enrollees since last year.
- **Improved Retention Rates** – Retention rates for PN and ADN programs improved from the previous academic year.
- **NCLEX First-Time Pass Rates** – Florida NCLEX-RN and NCLEX-PN first-time pass rates increased since last year, closing the gap between Florida pass rates and the national averages. However, Florida test-takers continued to underperform in 2024.
 - **NCLEX-RN**
 - Florida's 2024 first-time NCLEX-RN pass rate was 84.9%, below the national average of 91.16%.
 - Florida's NCLEX-RN first-time pass rates ranked 52 out of 55 jurisdictions and 50 out of 50 U.S. states.
 - Over the past 10 years, the gap between Florida's NCLEX-RN first-time pass rate and the national pass rate was widest in 2020 (17.74 percentage points) but has improved to 6.26 percentage points below the national average in 2024.
 - **NCLEX-PN**
 - Florida's 2024 first-time NCLEX-PN pass rate was 80.78%, below the national average of 88.38%.
 - Florida's NCLEX-PN first-time pass rates ranked 52 out of 54 jurisdictions and 50 out of 50 U.S. states.
 - Over the past 10 years, the gap between Florida's NCLEX-PN pass rate and the national pass rate was widest in 2021 (17.05 percentage points) but has improved to 7.6 percent points below the national average in 2024.

The FNA is grateful for recurring funding of the Florida Center for Nursing, which is dedicated to studying supply and demand and making projections to promote a safe nursing workforce for the citizens of Florida.

- The Florida Legislature directs the Florida Center for Nursing to annually review and report on nursing program approval, capacity, enrollment, graduation and accountability processes. We believe that the Center is essential in these challenging times to monitor and make projections regarding the nursing workforce.