Student Demographics in Graduate Nursing Education Programs 2019

This update presents data for 32 of the 33 universities/colleges that offer one or more graduate nursing education programs.[1] There were 35 programs that prepared graduates for licensure as advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs) and 75 other programs. Table 1 breaks down these programs by education model:

Table 1. Program Type by Education Model, 2019

Program Type	Master's Degree	Post-Master's Certificate	Post-Baccalaureate DNP	Post-Master's DNP	PhD in Nursing
Nurse Practitioner (n=26)	23	19	5	5	0
Clinical Nurse Specialist (n=3)	3	3	1	0	0
Nurse Anesthetist (n=4)	0	0	4	2	0
Nurse-Midwife (n=2)	1	1	1	1	0
Nursing Leader/Admin (n=22)	20	7	1	9	0
Nursing Education (n=21)	21	11	0	0	0
Nursing Informatics (n=2)	1	1	0	1	0
Clinical Nurse Leader (n=6)	5	2	0	1	0
Nursing Research (n=7)	0	0	0	0	7
Public Health (n=1)	0	0	0	1	0
DNP-No Specialty/Generic (n=9)	0	0	0	9	0
Other (n=7)	6	1	0	0	0

Note: n=number of programs

The Texas Center for Nursing Workforce Studies (TCNWS) collected data in the 2019 Board of Nursing's (BON) Nursing Education Program Information Survey (NEPIS) that was available online as of October 1, 2019. The reporting period was academic year (AY) 2019 (September 1, 2018 – August 31, 2019) unless otherwise noted. TCNWS collaborated with the BON in the design and dissemination of the survey.

[1]One university with nurse anesthetist programs did not respond to the 2019 Graduate NEPIS; decreases in nurse anesthetist program counts likely reflect the absence of this program's data.

Demographics of Graduates in Graduate Nursing Programs

The 32 responding graduate schools reported demographic information on 3,778 graduates in AY 2019. These data include graduates from all graduate models of education and program types.

Sex

Data regarding sex were available for 3,777 graduates in 2019.

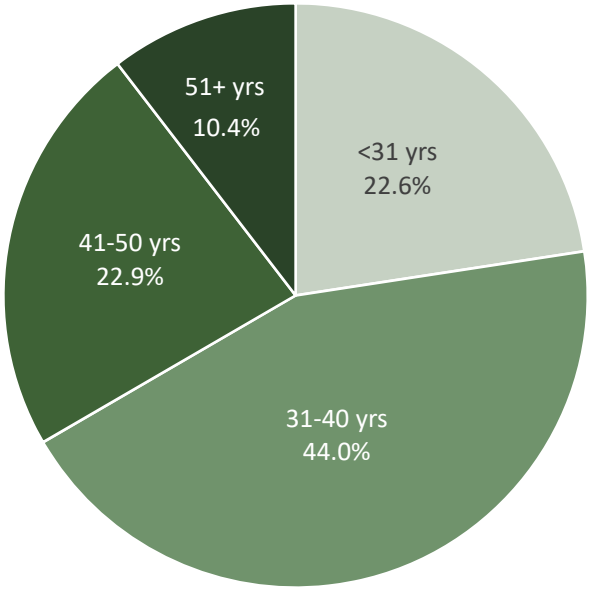
- Similar to 2018, graduates of graduate nursing programs were predominately female in 2019 (85.9%).
- The proportions of males and females were consistent across education models with the exception of post-baccalaureate DNP graduates, which were 67.8% female and 32.2% male.

Age

Figure 1 (page 2) shows the age breakdown of graduates from graduate nursing programs in 2019. Data regarding age were available for all 3,378 graduates.

- 22.6% of graduates from graduate nursing programs were 30 years of age or younger.
- 31-to-40-year-olds represented the largest proportion of graduates (44.0%).
- 10.4% of graduates were 51 years of age or older.

Figure 1. Age of Graduates, 2019



Race/Ethnicity

Figure 2 shows a comparison of the 2019 graduates with the 2019 APRN workforce and the projected 2019 Texas population. Race/ethnicity data were available for 3,689 graduates.

- In 2019, the percentage of white/Caucasian graduates (53.3%) was lower than in the APRN workforce (58.8%), but higher than the general Texas population (41.3%).
- The proportion of Hispanic/Latino graduates and Texas APRNs was much lower in comparison to the general Texas population.
- The proportions of graduates who were black/African American or other races were higher than the respective proportions in the Texas population.

Figure 3 shows the racial/ethnic proportions of graduates over time.

- In 2019, the proportion of graduates from graduate nursing programs that were Hispanic/Latino was 17.5%, a decrease from 19.4% in 2018.
- The racial/ethnic proportions of graduates have remained relatively stable over the last five years.

International Students

- Programs reported a total of 17 graduates who were international students (0.4% of all graduates).[4]

Figure 2. Race/Ethnicity of Graduates, Texas APRN Workforce[2], & Texas Population[3], 2019

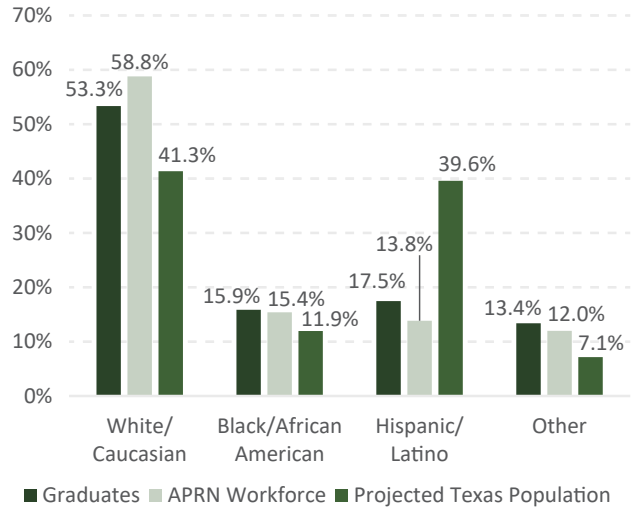
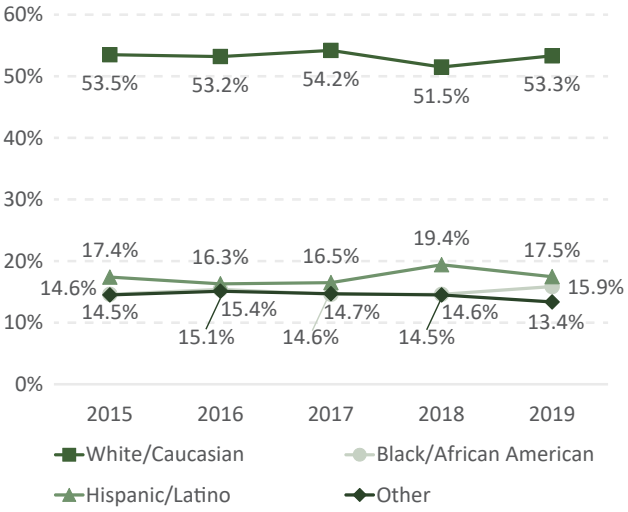


Figure 3. Race/Ethnicity of Graduates, 2015-2019



[2]APRN workforce data come from the 2019 BON Licensure Renewal file of actively practicing Texas nurses.

[3]Texas population projections data for 2019 were generated January 22, 2020 with the Texas Demographic Center's 2018 Texas Population Projections Data Tool at demographics.texas.gov/Data/TPEPP/Projections/Tool.

[4]International was defined as a person who is not a citizen or permanent resident of the United States and who is in this country on a temporary basis and does not have the right to remain indefinitely.