



Student Demographics in Vocational Nursing Programs



This update presents data for the 89<sup>1</sup> vocational nursing (VN) programs in Texas during the 2016 reporting year, including:

- 83 generic programs
  - 64 in public colleges/universities
  - 14 in career schools/colleges
  - 2 in private colleges/universities
  - 3 in private/public hospitals
- **5** Multiple Entry/Exit Programs (MEEP)
  - All in public colleges/universities

The Texas Center for Nursing Workforce Studies (TCNWS) collected data in the 2016 Board of Nursing's (BON) Nursing Education Program Information Survey (NEPIS) that was available online as of October 3, 2016. The reporting period was academic year (AY) 2015-2016 (September 1, 2015 – August 31, 2016) unless otherwise noted. TCNWS collaborated with the BON in the design and dissemination of the survey.

 $^{1}\mbox{Data}$  collected from the military-based VN program were analyzed separately.

# Newly Enrolled Students in Vocational Nursing Programs

# **Race/Ethnicity**

Figure 1 shows the racial/ethnic distribution of the newly enrolled VN students in AY 2015-2016 compared to the 2016 Texas VN workforce and the 2016 projected Texas population.

- The proportion of white/Caucasian newly enrolled VN students in Texas (35.2%) was lower than the proportion of whites/Caucasians in the VN workforce (48.8%) and in the projected Texas resident population (41.5%).
- 22.9% of newly enrolled VN students were black/ African American, which was approximately double the proportion in the Texas resident population (11.4%), but similar to the Texas VN workforce (23.7%).
- The proportion of newly enrolled VN students (36.8%) who were Hispanic/Latino was higher than the proportion in the VN workforce (24.4%), but trailed the proportion of Hispanics/Latinos in the projected Texas resident population (40.5%).

### Sex

The newly enrolled VN student population was predominately female: 85.3% of the newly enrolled VN students were female in AY 2015-2016.





# Age

Figure 2 (next page) presents the breakdown of newly enrolled VN students by age.

- The majority (65.7%) of newly enrolled VN students were 30 years or younger.
- 23.9% of newly enrolled students were between the ages of 31 and 40.
- 10.3% of newly enrolled VN students were 41 years or older.

Figure 2. Age of Newly Enrolled Students, 2016



# Graduates from Vocational Nursing Programs

### **Race/Ethnicity**

Figure 3 shows the racial/ethnic distribution of 2016 VN graduates compared to the 2016 Texas VN workforce and the 2016 projected Texas resident population.

- The proportion of VN graduates (36.5%) who were white/Caucasian was lower than both the proportion in the VN workforce (48.8%) and in the projected Texas resident population (41.5%).
- The proportion of black/African American VN graduates (22.4%) was higher than the proportion of black/African American Texas residents (11.4%), but similar to the proportion of black/African American nurses in the VN workforce (23.7%).
- Like the newly enrolled VN student population, the proportion of VN graduates who were Hispanic/ Latino (36.8%) was greater than the proportion in the Texas VN workforce (24.4%), but lower than the Texas resident population (40.5%).

### Sex

The graduates from VN programs were also predominately female (86.8%).

# Age

Figure 4 illustrates VN graduates by age.

- The majority (63.6%) of VN graduates were 30 years or younger.
- 10.4% of VN graduates were aged 41 and older.

### **International Graduates**

Programs reported a total of 64 international graduates<sup>2</sup> (1.7% of all VN graduates).

# **International Students**

 Programs reported a total of 46 newly enrolled international students<sup>2</sup> (0.8% of all newly enrolled VN students).

<sup>2</sup>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.

<sup>3</sup>VN workforce data come from the 2016 BON Licensure Renewal file of actively practicing Texas vocational nurses.

<sup>4</sup>Texas population data come from the 2016 Texas State Data Center population projections (http://www.dshs.texas.gov/chs/popdat/ST2016p.shtm).

#### Figure 3. Race/Ethnicity of VN Graduates, Texas VN Workforce<sup>3</sup>, and Texas Population<sup>4</sup>, 2016







# Military-Based VN Program Demographics

# **Newly Enrolled Students & Graduates**

# **Race/Ethnicity**

Figure 5 shows the racial/ethnic distribution of newly enrolled students and graduates from the military-based VN program compared to the 2016 Texas VN workforce.

- The proportions of white/Caucasian newly enrolled VN students (49.3%) and graduates (50.2%) in the military-based VN program were similar to the Texas VN workforce (48.8%).
- Black/African American newly enrolled students (16.8%) and graduates (19.1%) were both lower in proportion compared to the Texas VN workforce (23.7%).
- Hispanic/Latino newly enrolled students (15.9%) and graduates (19.1%) were also lower in proportion compared to the Texas VN workforce (24.4%).
- The proportion of newly enrolled students who were other races/ethnicities (17.9%) was greater than proportion of graduates (11.5%) and more than five times greater than the Texas VN workforce (3.1%).

### Sex

Unlike other VN programs, newly enrolled students and graduates from the military-based VN program were predominately male: 68.2% and 64.4%, respectively.

# Age

The majority of newly enrolled students (92.7%) and graduates (90.9%) were 30 years or younger.

Figure 5. Race/Ethnicity of Military-Based VN Program Newly Enrolled Students and Graduates, 2016

