

STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS IN VOCATIONAL NURSING PROGRAMS

This update presents data for the 84 vocational nursing (VN) programs and the military-based VN program¹ in Texas during the 2024 reporting year, including:

- 80 generic programs
- 4 Multiple Entry/Exit Programs (MEEPs)

The Texas Center for Nursing Workforce Studies (TCNWS) collected data using the 2024 Board of Nursing's (BON) Nursing Education Program Information Survey (NEPIS) that was available online as of October 1, 2024. The reporting period was academic year (AY) 2023-2024 (September 1, 2023 – August 31, 2024) unless otherwise noted. TCNWS collaborated with the BON in the design and dissemination of the survey.

¹Data collected from the military-based VN program were analyzed separately and can be found on page 2.

VN Graduate Demographics

Gender

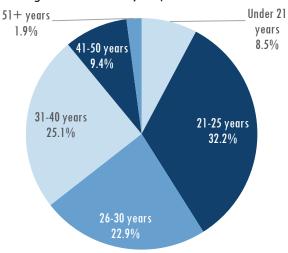
In 2024, there were 3,298 graduates from vocational nursing programs in Texas. Gender data were missing for 9 VN graduates. The graduates from VN programs were predominately female (89.6%).

Age

Figure 1 presents the AY 2023-2024 breakdown of VN graduates by age. Age data were missing for .4% of VN graduates.

- The majority (63.6%) of VN graduates were 30 years or younger.
- 11.3% of VN graduates were aged 41 and older.

Figure 1. Age of VN Graduates, 2024



Race/Ethnicity

Figure 2 (page 2) shows the racial/ethnic distribution of 2024 VN graduates compared to the 2024 Texas VN workforce² and the 2024 projected Texas population.³ Race/ethnicity data were missing for 3.0% of VN graduates.

- The proportion of VN graduates who were White/Caucasian (24.7%) was lower than both the proportion in the 2024 VN workforce (41.0%) and in the 2024 projected Texas population (39.2%).
- The proportion of Black/African American VN graduates (21.7%) was higher than the proportion of Black/African American Texans in 2024 (12.2%) but less than the proportion of Black/African American nurses in the 2024 VN workforce (25.9%).
- The proportion of VN graduates who were Hispanic/Latino (48.0%) was greater than both the proportion in the 2024 Texas VN workforce (28.9%), and the 2024 Texas population (40.5%).

Figure 3 (page 2) shows that the VN graduate population is diversifying.

The proportion of VN graduates who were White/Caucasian has dropped by 13% since 2015, while the percentage of graduates who were Hispanic/Latino has increased by 12%.

International Graduates

■ Programs reported a total of 45 international graduates⁴ (1.4% of all VN graduates).

Figure 2. Race/Ethnicity of VN Graduates, Texas VN Workforce², and Texas Population³

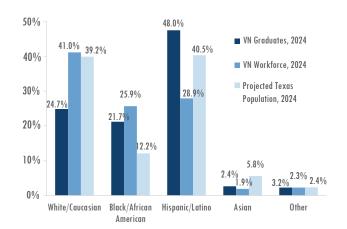
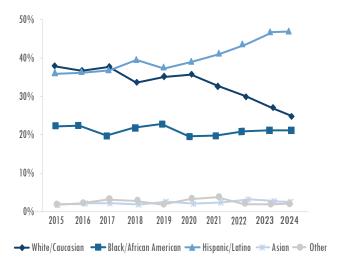


Figure 3. Race/Ethnicity Trends of VN Graduates, 2015-2024



²VN workforce data come from the 2024 BON Licensure Renewal file of actively practicing Texas vocational nurses.

³2024 Texas population projections: Texas Demographic Center (2018). Population for 2010-2050 for State of Texas and Counties. Retrieved Janary 28, 2025, from TDC - 2018 Projections (texas.gov).

⁴International 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.

Military-Based VN Graduate Demographics

Gender

Unlike other VN programs, graduates from the military-based VN program were predominately male (59.2%).

Age

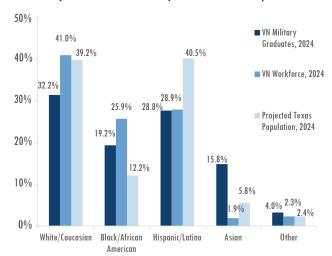
The majority of graduates (77.7%) were 30 years old or younger. Military VN graduates who were 17-20 years comprised 21.7%, compared to 8.5% in non-military programs.

Race/Ethnicity

Figure 4 shows the racial/ethnic distribution of graduates from the military-based VN program compared to the 2024 Texas VN workforce and the 2023 projected Texas population. Race/ethnicity data were missing for 3.8% of military VN graduates.

- The proportion of White/Caucasian VN military graduates (32.2%) was lower than the proportion of the VN workforce (41.0%) and the Texas population (39.2%).
- Black/African American graduates (19.2%) and the 2024 VN workforce (25.9%) were both higher in proportion compared to the 2024 Texas population (12.2%)
- Hispanic/Latino graduates (28.8%) and 2024 VN workforce (28.9%) were lower in proportion compared to the 2024 Texas population (40.5%).
- The proportion of Asian graduates (15.8%) was more than the proportion of the Texas population (5.8%) and the 2024 VN workforce (1.9%).

Figure 4. Race/Ethnicity of Military-Based VN Program Graduates, Texas VN Workforce, and the Texas Population



Compared to non-military VN program graduates:

- The proportion of White/Caucasian military graduates (32.2%) was higher than the proportion of non-military White/Caucasian graduates (24.7%).
- The proportion of Hispanic/Latino military graduates (28.8%) was lower than non-military Hispanic/Latino graduates (48.0%).