STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS IN GRADUATE NURSING EDUCATION PROGRAMS

This update presents data for the 35 universities/colleges that offer one or more graduate nursing education programs. There were 38 programs that prepared graduates for licensure as advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs) and 76 other programs. Table 1 breaks down these programs by education model:

Table 1. Program Type by Education Model, 2023

Program Type	Master's Degree	Post-Graduate Certificate	Post-Baccalaureate DNP	Post-Master's DNP*	PhD in Nursing
Nurse Practitioner (n=29)	24	23	9	6	0
Clinical Nurse Specialist (n=2)	1	1	1	0	0
Nurse Anesthetist (n=5)	0	0	5	2	0
Nurse-Midwife (n=2)	1	1	1	1	0
Nurse Leadership/Admin (n=24)	20	7	3	9	0
Nursing Education (n=22)	21	13	0	0	0
Nursing Informatics (n=3)	2	2	0	1	0
Clinical Nurse Leader (n=2)	2	0	0	0	0
Nursing Research (n=7)	0	0	0	0	7
Public Health (n=1)	0	0	1	1	0
DNP-No Specialty (n=11)	0	0	1	10	0
Other (n=6)	5	2	0	0	0

Note: n=number of programs. Programs can have multiple models of education.
*The Post-Master's DNP models for APRN programs do not lead to APRN licensure. Those enrolled in these programs already hold an APRN license.

The Texas Center for Nursing Workforce Studies (TCNWS) collected data in the 2023 Board of Nursing's (BON) Nursing Education Program Information Survey (NEPIS) that was available online as of October 2, 2023. The reporting period was academic year (AY) 2023 (September 1, 2022 – August 31, 2023) unless otherwise noted. TCNWS collaborated with the BON in the design and dissemination of the survey.

Demographics of Graduates from Graduate Nursing Programs

The 35 schools that offer graduate nursing education programs reported a total of 3,273 graduates in AY 2022-2023. These data include graduates from all graduate models of education and program types.

Gender

Data regarding gender were available for 99.8% of graduates in 2023.

- Graduates of graduate nursing programs continued to be predominately female in 2023 (86.6%).
- The proportions of males and females varied slightly across education models with the percentage of females ranging from 75.0% (in Post-Bacclaureate DNP models) to 92.6% (in PhD in Nursing programs).

Age

Figure 1 (page 2) shows the age breakdown of graduates from graduate nursing programs in 2023. Data regarding age were available for 98.6% of graduates.

- 28.7% of graduates from graduate nursing programs were 30 years of age and under.
- Individuals 31-40 years of age represented the largest proportion of graduates (40.4%).
- Almost a quarter (22.4%) of graduates were 41-50 years of age.
- 8.5% of graduates were 51 years of age or older.

Figure 1. Age of Graduates, 2023

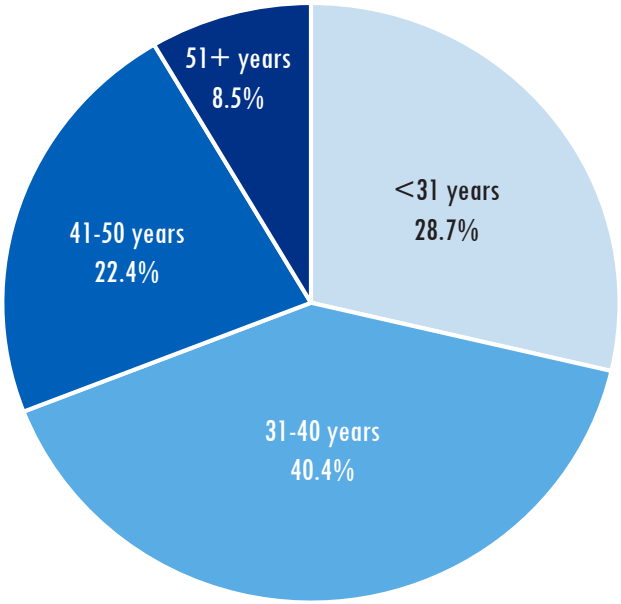
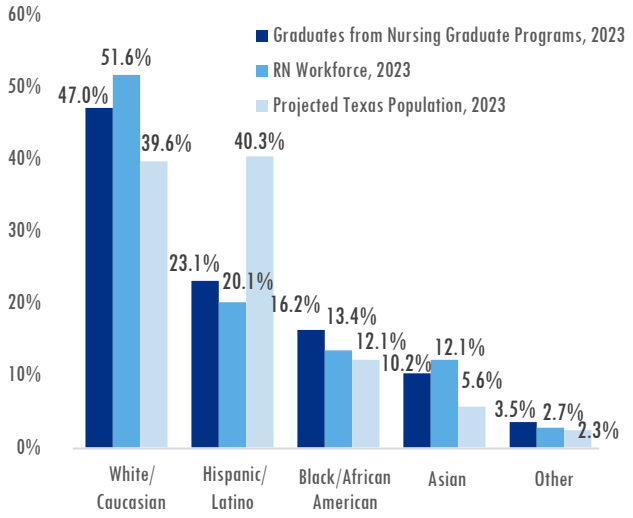


Figure 2. Race/Ethnicity of Graduates, Texas RN Workforce[1], & Texas Population[2], 2023



Race/Ethnicity

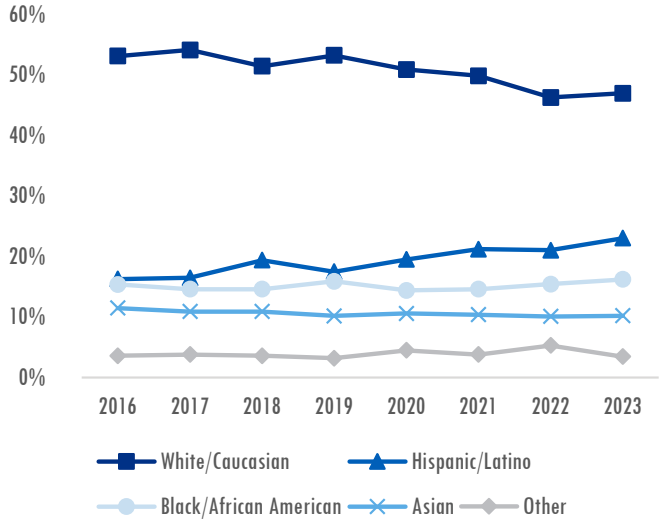
Figure 2 shows a comparison of the 2023 graduates with the 2023 RN workforce and the projected 2023 Texas population. Race/ethnicity data were available for 98.0% of graduates.

- In 2023, the percentage of White/Caucasian graduates (47.0%) was lower than in the 2023 RN workforce (51.6%), but higher than the 2023 general Texas population (39.6%).
- The proportion of Hispanic/Latino graduates (23.1%) and Texas RNs (20.1%) was lower in comparison to the general Texas population (40.3%).
- The proportion of graduates who were Black/ African American (16.2%) was higher than the proportion in the Texas population (12.1%) and the RN workforce (13.4%).
- The proportion of graduates who were Asian (10.2%) was lower than the proportion of the RN workforce (12.1%) but higher than the proportion in the Texas population (5.6%).

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

- In 2023, the proportion of graduates from graduate nursing programs that were White/Caucasian was 47.0%, a small increase from 46.3% in 2022.
- The racial/ethnic proportions of graduates have remained relatively stable over the last six years.

Figure 3. Race/Ethnicity of Graduates, 2016-2023



International Students

- Programs reported a total of 14 graduates who were international students (0.4% of all graduates).[3]

[1]RN workforce data come from the 2023 BON Licensure Renewal file of actively practicing Texas nurses.
[2]Texas population data come from the 2023 Texas Demographic Center population projections (https://demographics.texas.gov/Projections/).
[3]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.