



# **Commission on Nurse Certification (CNC)**

CNC is the autonomous certifying arm of the AACN who oversees the Clinical Nurse Leader (CNL) certification activities to assure communities of interest that certificants have met accepted standards of practice.



#### **CNL Certification Exam Data**

The following table indicates the pass rate for the new CNL exam administered during the Winter, Spring, and Summer testing cycles:

CNL EXAM ADMINISTERED January 1 - December 31, 2020	CANDIDATES (Students & Faculty)	CANDIDATES  1st TIME (Students & Faculty)	STUDENTS ONLY	1st TIME STUDENTS	FACULTY ONLY	1st TIME FACULTY
TOTAL CANDIDATES	861	707	822	672	39	35
PASSED	609	537	575	506	34	31
FAILED	252	170	247	166	5	4
PASS RATE	71%	76%	70%	75%	87%	89%

**Note:** Aggregate data above includes candidates with outstanding RN license information who sat for the exam. These individuals are not officially certified and therefore the total number of candidates who have passed the exam may not reflect the actual number of certified CNLs.

#### CNL Certification Exam Data (2010-2021)

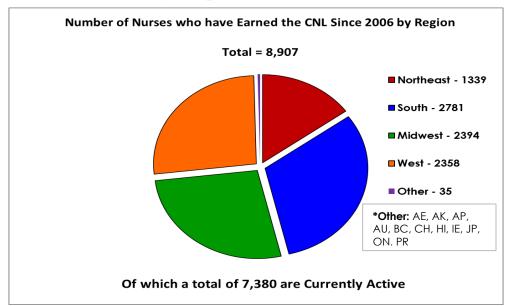
The following table indicates the overall pass rate for the CNL exams administered since 2010.



YEAR	PASSED	FAILED	TOTAL CANDIDATES	PASS RATE
2010	406	191	597	68%
2011	488	242	730	67%
2012	597	225	822	73%
2013	646	249	895	72%
2014	711	241	952	75%
2015	709	371	1080	66%
2016	755	357	1112	68%
2017	761	324	1085	70%
2018	809	321	1130	72%
2019	858	317	1175	73%
2020	609	252	861	71%
2021	568	240	808	70%
OVERALL TOTALS	7917	3330	11247	70%

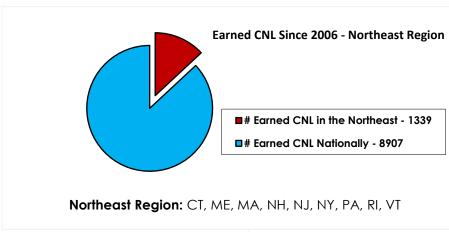
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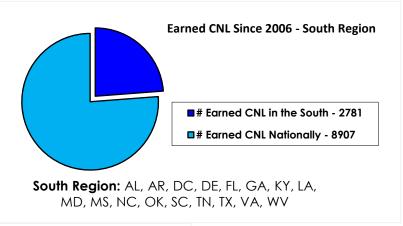
# Earned CNL Certification Since 2006 by Region

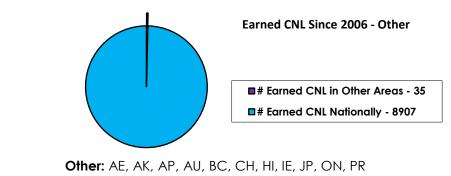


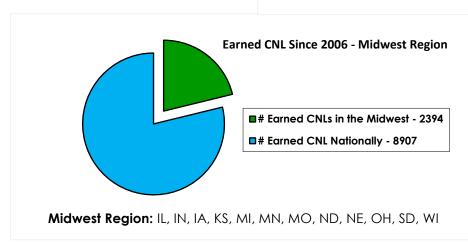
**Note:** The total indicates the number of individuals who have earned Clinical Nurse Leader (CNL) Certification since 2006.

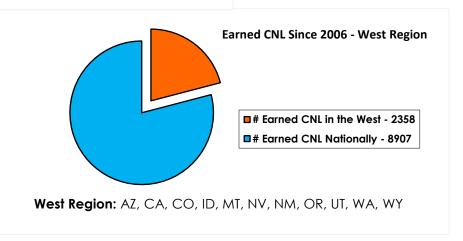
## TRANSFORM. LEAD. EXPERIENCE.





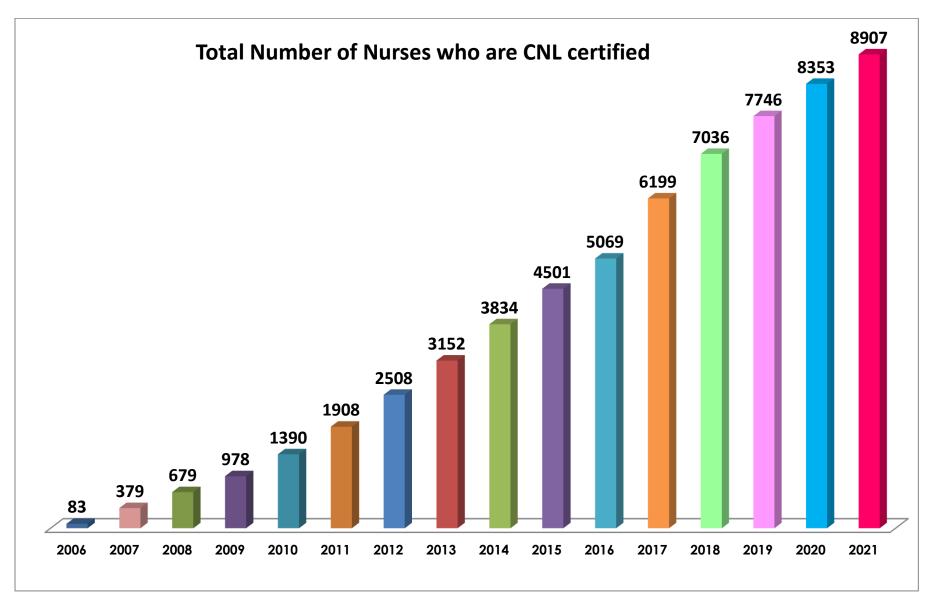




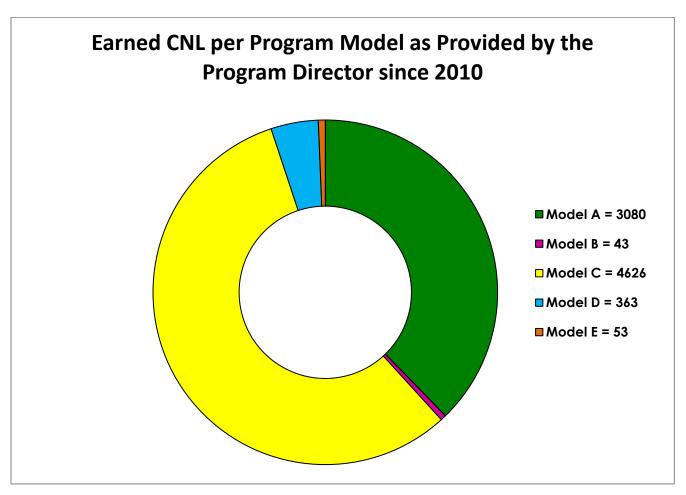


Updated: December 31, 2021









- Model A: Master's degree program designed for BSN graduates
- Model B: Master's degree program for BSN graduates that includes a post-BSN residency that awards master's credit
- Model C: Master's degree program designed for individuals with a baccalaureate degree in another discipline
- Model D: Master's degree program designed for ADN graduates (RN-MSN)
- Model E: Post-master's certificate program designed for individuals with a master's degree in nursing in another area of study



### CNLs by Employment Setting and Type of Community

Acute Care Inpatient - 4,116 CNLs

Other Healthcare Facilities - 1,167 CNLs\*



School of Nursing/University Health - 804 CNLs



\*Other: Addiction/Recovery Facility,

Neuroscience, and Research.

Administration, Behavioral Health Center, Corporate Office, Correctional Facility, Emergency Room/Department, Infection Control, Informatics, Insurance Company, Medical-Surgical, Oncology, Orthopedics/

Outpatient Clinic or Surgery - 575 CNLs



Community/Public Health - 149 CNLs



Nursing Home/Long-Term/Sub-Acute Care - 148 CNLs



Home Health - 71 CNLs

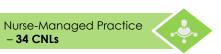


Physician Practice - 65 CNLs



Hospice - 41 CNLs

- 34 CNLs



Note: Totals are based on the number of nurses who earned the CNL since 2010







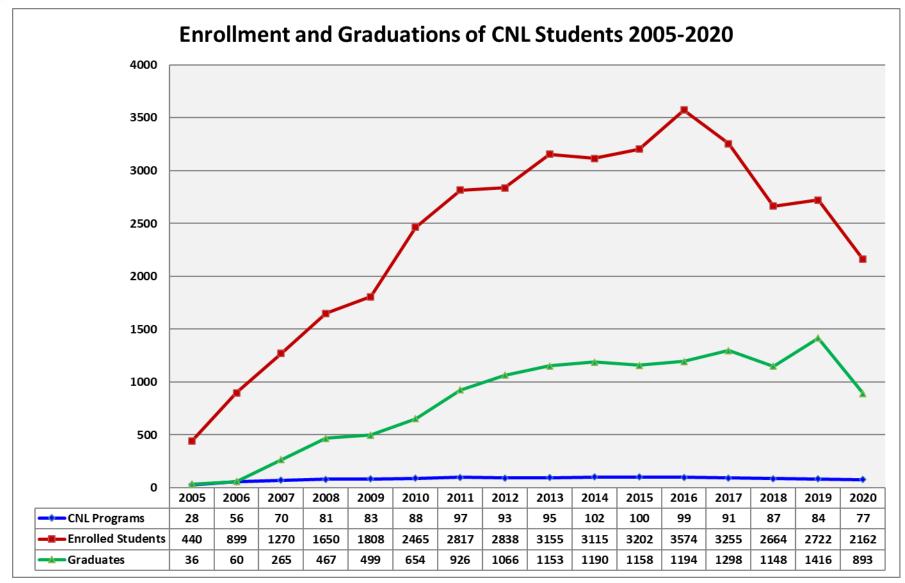


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LOCATION	ACTIVE CNLs	LOCATION	ACTIVE CNLs
Alabama - AL	164	Montana - MT	26
Alaska - AK	8	Nebraska - NE	18
Arizona - AZ	32	Nevada - NV	44
Arkansas - AR	24	New Hampshire - NH	219
California - CA	1489	New Jersey - NJ	219
Colorado - CO	55	New Mexico - NM	9
Connecticut - CT	156	New York - NY	149
Delaware - DE	7	North Carolina - NC	192
District of Columbia - DC	40	North Dakota - ND	1
Florida - FL	223	Ohio - OH	383
Georgia - GA	321	Oklahoma - OK	17
Hawaii - HI	10	Oregon - OR	60
Idaho - ID	13	Pennsylvania - PA	188
Illinois - IL	917	Rhode Island - RI	12
Indiana - IN	37	South Carolina - SC	89
lowa - IA	78	South Dakota - SD	20
Kansas - KS	33	Tennessee - TN	107
Kentucky - KY	50	Texas - TX	410
Louisiana - LA	29	Utah - UT	8
Maine - ME	41	Vermont - VT	22
Maryland - MD	248	Virginia - VA	328
Massachusetts - MA	142	Washington - WA	128
Michigan - MI	134	West Virginia - WV	4
Minnesota - MN	36	Wisconsin - WI	244
Mississippi - MS	19	Wyoming - WY	2
Missouri - MO	164	Other - PR, International	11







AACN Institutional Data System (IDS). 2021