Data Summary and Historical Trend Analysis

A Presentation of
Pre-Licensure Nursing Education Programs in California

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PREFACE

Nursing Education Survey Background

Development of the 2005-2006 Board of Registered Nursing (BRN) School Survey was the work of the Board's Education Advisory Committee (EAC), which consists of representatives of associate (ADN) and baccalaureate (BSN) nursing education programs, the California Community College Chancellor's Office, the California State University Chancellor's Office and the California Institute of Nursing and Health Care. A list of the EAC members is included in the Appendices. The University of California, San Francisco was commissioned by the BRN to develop the online survey instrument, administer the survey, and report data collected from the survey.

Funding for this project was provided by the California Board of Registered Nursing.

Organization of Report

The survey collects data about nursing programs and their students and faculty from August 1 through July 31. Annual data presented in this report represent August 1, 2005 through July 31, 2006. Demographic information and census data were requested for October 15, 2006.

Data from pre- and post-licensure nursing education programs are presented in separate reports and are available on the BRN website. Data are presented in aggregate form and describe overall trends in the areas and over the times specified and, therefore, may not be applicable to individual nursing education programs.

Statistics for enrollments and completions represent two separate student populations. Therefore, it is not possible to directly compare enrollment and completion data.

Availability of Data

The BRN Annual School Survey was designed to meet the data needs of the BRN as well as other interested organizations and agencies. After the publication of this report, a database with aggregate data derived from the 2005-2006 BRN School Survey is available for public access on the BRN website. Parties interested in accessing data not available on the website should contact the BRN.

The BRN acknowledges that survey respondents may not have had ready access to some of the data that were being requested. To address this issue, a member of the EAC developed a computer program for tracking most of the required data. The computer tracking program was distributed to nursing programs in the fall of 2006. Nursing programs that do not have this program may contact the BRN.
Value of the Survey

This survey has been developed to support nursing, nursing education and workforce planning in California. The Board of Registered Nursing believes that the results of this survey will provide data-driven evidence to influence policy at the local, state, federal and institutional levels.

The BRN extends appreciation to the Education Advisory Committee and all survey respondents. Your participation has been vital to the success of this project.

Survey Participation

All California nursing education programs were invited to participate in the survey. All pre-licensure programs that admitted students in 2005-2006 responded to the survey. A list of nursing programs that responded to the survey is provided in the Appendix.

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<tr>
<th>Program Type</th>
<th># Programs Responded</th>
<th>Total # Programs</th>
<th>Response Rate</th>
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<td>73</td>
<td>73</td>
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<tr>
<td>LVN to ADN</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BSN</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ELM</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sum of Pre-Licensure Programs</strong></td>
<td><strong>117</strong></td>
<td><strong>117</strong></td>
<td><strong>100.0%</strong></td>
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</table>
DATA SUMMARY AND HISTORICAL TREND ANALYSES

This analysis presents pre-licensure program data from the 2005-2006 BRN School Survey in comparison with data from previous years of the survey. Data items addressed include the number of nursing programs, enrollments, completions, retention rates and student and faculty census data.

Trends in Pre-Licensure Nursing Programs

Number of Nursing Programs

From 2004-2005 to 2005-2006, there was a 7.3% (n=8) increase in the number of California nursing programs that lead to RN licensure. Of the eight new programs, one is an ADN program, two are BSN programs, and five are ELM programs. The majority (81.2%) of all pre-licensure nursing programs are public.

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<td>ADN Programs</td>
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<tr>
<td>BSN Programs</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>23</td>
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<td>ELM Programs</td>
<td>4</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>8</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>22</td>
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</table>

Admission Spaces and New Student Enrollments

Admission spaces available for new student enrollments increased by 16.6% (n=1497), from 9,026 spaces in 2004-2005 to 10,523 in 2005-2006. These spaces were filled with a total of 10,989 students, increasing new student enrollment by 23.1% (n=2063) from 2004-2005.

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<td>Spaces Available</td>
<td>6610</td>
<td>6719</td>
<td>7601</td>
<td>7797</td>
<td>9026</td>
<td>10523</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spaces Filled</td>
<td>6128</td>
<td>6422</td>
<td>7457</td>
<td>7825</td>
<td>8926</td>
<td>10989</td>
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<tr>
<td>% Spaces Filled</td>
<td>92.7%</td>
<td>95.6%</td>
<td>98.1%</td>
<td>100.4%</td>
<td>98.9%</td>
<td>104.4%</td>
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</table>

Despite the increase in available admission spaces, nursing programs receive more applications requesting entrance into their programs than can be accommodated. In 2005-2006, 61.3% (n=17421) of qualified applications to California nursing education programs were not accepted for admission.
**Student Admission Applications***

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<td>Qualified Applications</td>
<td>10021</td>
<td>10362</td>
<td>13926</td>
<td>17887</td>
<td>20405</td>
<td>28410</td>
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<tr>
<td>Accepted</td>
<td>6128</td>
<td>6422</td>
<td>7457</td>
<td>7825</td>
<td>8926</td>
<td>10989</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not Accepted</td>
<td>3893</td>
<td>3940</td>
<td>6469</td>
<td>10062</td>
<td>11479</td>
<td>17421</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Qualified Applications</td>
<td>61.3%</td>
<td>61.3%</td>
<td>58.7%</td>
<td>56.3%</td>
<td>56.3%</td>
<td>56.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Since these data represent applications rather than individuals, the increase in qualified applications may not represent an equal growth in the number of individuals applying to nursing school.

**Student Completions**

The number of students who completed a nursing program in California increased by 12.7% (n=846), from 6,677 in 2004-2005 to 7,523 in 2005-2006. The percentage of student completions by program type is 71.1% ADN, 24.7% BSN and 4.2% ELM.

**Retention Rate**

Of the 8,140 students scheduled to complete a nursing program in the 2005-2006 academic year, 74.1% (n=6029) completed the program on-time, 10.4% (n=848) are still enrolled in the program, and 15.5% (n=1263) dropped out or were disqualified from the program. The retention rate increased from 66.2% (n=5610) in 2000-2001 to 74.1% (n=6029) in 2005-2006.

**Student Cohort Completion and Retention Data**

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total # Student Completions</td>
<td>5178</td>
<td>5346</td>
<td>5623</td>
<td>6158</td>
<td>6677</td>
<td>7523</td>
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<tr>
<td>ADN Programs</td>
<td>3799</td>
<td>3826</td>
<td>4027</td>
<td>4488</td>
<td>4769</td>
<td>5346</td>
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<tr>
<td>BSN Programs</td>
<td>1277</td>
<td>1394</td>
<td>1412</td>
<td>1479</td>
<td>1664</td>
<td>1861</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ELM Programs</td>
<td>102</td>
<td>126</td>
<td>184</td>
<td>191</td>
<td>244</td>
<td>316</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*Retention rate = (students who completed the program on-time) / (enrollment)*

There has been fluctuation in the retention and attrition rates over the six-year period documented in the above table. There were changes to the survey between 2003-2004 and 2004-2005, and between 2004-2005 and 2005-2006 that may have affected the comparability of these data over time.
**Student Census Data**

The total number of students enrolled in California nursing programs increased by 12.5% (n=2266), from 18,061 on October 15, 2005, to 20,327 a year later.

The reported number of pre-nursing students declined from 28,478 in 2005 to 20,980 in 2006. This decrease may be due to fewer programs reporting data than to an actual decrease in the number of pre-nursing students. In 2005, 46 nursing programs reported the total number of pre-nursing students. Only 35 programs reported these data in 2006.

**Student Census Data**

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<tr>
<td>Generic</td>
<td>10999</td>
<td>11671</td>
<td>13043</td>
<td>14337</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>LVN</td>
<td>1568</td>
<td>1654</td>
<td>2072</td>
<td>2003</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 Unit</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>72</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Nursing Students</strong></td>
<td><strong>12661</strong></td>
<td><strong>13401</strong></td>
<td><strong>15194</strong></td>
<td><strong>16412</strong></td>
<td><strong>18061</strong></td>
<td><strong>20327</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Pre-Nursing Students</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>28478</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Blank cells indicated that the applicable information was not requested in the given year.

**Changes in the survey may have accounted for the fluctuation in the number of pre-nursing students reported.

**Faculty Census Data**

The total number of nursing faculty increased by 11.4% (n=278) over the last year. On October 15, 2006, there were 2,710 total nursing faculty. Of these faculty, 40.3% (n=1090) were full-time and 59.7% (n=1618) were part-time.

Although there was an increase in the total number of nursing faculty in 2006, that increase has not kept pace with the need for faculty. On October 15, 2006, there were 192 vacant faculty positions. These vacancies represent a 6.6% faculty vacancy rate, the highest vacancy rate reported in the past five years.

**Faculty Census Data**

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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Faculty</td>
<td>1840</td>
<td>1957</td>
<td>2031</td>
<td>2207</td>
<td>2432</td>
<td>2710</td>
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<tr>
<td>Full-time</td>
<td>1047</td>
<td>1090</td>
<td>1087</td>
<td>1061</td>
<td>930</td>
<td>1090</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Part-time</td>
<td>793</td>
<td>867</td>
<td>944</td>
<td>1146</td>
<td>959</td>
<td>1618</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Vacancy Rate</strong></td>
<td><strong>4.1%</strong></td>
<td><strong>5.9%</strong></td>
<td><strong>3.7%</strong></td>
<td><strong>6.0%</strong></td>
<td><strong>6.6%</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vacancies</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>128</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>154</td>
<td>192</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*In 2004-2005 and 2005-2006, the sum of full- and part-time faculty did not equal the total faculty reported.

**Vacancy rate = number of vacancies/(total faculty + number of vacancies)

1- Data were reported by school, not by degree program.
2- Faculty vacancies were estimated based on the vacant FTEs reported.
Summary

California nursing programs have expanded greatly over the past six years. The number of programs has grown by 20, to 117 programs in 2005-2006, and the number of admission spaces has expanded 59.2% (n=3913). Although admission spaces to nursing programs continue to increase, they have not kept pace with the number of qualified applications to those programs.

Nursing program expansions have led to a growing number of RN graduates. Between 2000-2001 and 2005-2006, graduations increased 45.3% (n=2345). Graduations will continue to rise as larger cohorts of students complete RN programs. Nursing program retention rates have shown an increase over the six-year period, ranging from 66.2% in 2000-2001 to 74.1% in 2005-2006.

Expansion in RN education has required nursing programs to hire more faculty. As a result, California RN programs reported that they had 192 faculty vacancies in 2005-2006, representing 6.6 percent of faculty positions. Without more faculty, RN programs will not be able to continue their expansion.
## APPENDICES

### APPENDIX A – List of Survey Respondents by Degree Program

**ADN Programs (73)**

- American River College
- Antelope Valley College
- Bakersfield College
- Butte Community College
- Cabrillo College
- Cerritos College
- Chabot College
- Chaffey College
- City College of San Francisco
- College of Marin
- College of San Mateo
- College of the Canyons
- College of the Desert
- College of the Redwoods
- College of the Sequoias
- Contra Costa College
- Copper Mountain Community College
- Cuesta College
- Cypress College
- De Anza College
- East Los Angeles College
- El Camino College - Compton Education Center
- El Camino Community College
- Evergreen Valley College
- Fresno City College
- Glendale Community College
- Golden West College
- Grossmont College
- Hartnell Community College
- Imperial Community College District
- Long Beach City College
- Los Angeles County College of Nursing & Allied Health
- Los Angeles Trade-Tech College
- Los Angeles City College
- Los Angeles Harbor College
- Los Angeles Pierce College

- Los Angeles Southwest College
- Los Angeles Valley College
- Los Medanos College
- Maric College
- Mendocino College
- Merced College
- Merritt College
- Modesto Junior College
- Monterey Peninsula College
- Moorpark College
- Mount San Antonio College
- Mount San Jacinto College
- Mount St. Mary's College
- Napa Valley College
- National University
- Ohlone College
- Pacific Union College
- Palomar College
- Pasadena City College
- Rio Hondo College
- Riverside Community College
- Sacramento City College
- Saddleback College
- San Bernardino Valley College
- San Diego City College
- San Joaquin Delta College
- Santa Ana College
- Santa Barbara City College
- Santa Monica College
- Santa Rosa Junior College
- Shasta College
- Sierra College
- Solano Community College
- Southwestern College
- Ventura College
- Victor Valley College
- Yuba College
APPENDIX A – List of Survey Respondents by Degree Program

**LVN to ADN Programs (4)**

- Allan Hancock College
- Gavilan College
- West Coast University
- Western Career College

**BSN Programs (26)**

- Azusa Pacific University
- Biola University
- California Baptist University
- CSU Bakersfield
- CSU Chico
- CSU East Bay
- CSU Fresno
- CSU Long Beach
- CSU Los Angeles
- CSU Sacramento
- CSU San Bernardino
- CSU San Marcos
- CSU Stanislaus
- Dominican University of California
- Humboldt State University
- Loma Linda University
- Mount Saint Mary's College
- National University
- Point Loma Nazarene University
- Samuel Merritt College
- San Diego State University
- San Francisco State University
- San Jose State University
- Sonoma State University
- University of California Los Angeles
- University of San Francisco

**ELM Programs (14)**

- Azusa Pacific University
- CSU Bakersfield
- CSU Fresno
- CSU Long Beach
- CSU Los Angeles
- CSU Sacramento
- Samuel Merritt College
- San Francisco State University
- Sonoma State University
- University of California Los Angeles
- University of California San Francisco
- University of San Diego
- University of San Francisco
- Western University of Health Sciences
APPENDIX B – BRN Education Advisory Committee Members

**BRN Education Advisory Committee Members**

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<tr>
<th>Members</th>
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<tr>
<td>Sherry Fox, Chair</td>
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<td>Sue Albert</td>
<td>College of the Canyons</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jim Comins</td>
<td>California Community College Chancellor’s Office</td>
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<tr>
<td>Margaret Craig</td>
<td>Napa Valley College</td>
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<tr>
<td>Becky Fleeger</td>
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<td>Allison Jones</td>
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<td>Deloras Jones</td>
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<tr>
<td>Diane Welch</td>
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<td>Barbara Whitney</td>
<td>California Community College Chancellor’s Office</td>
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**Ex-Officio Members**

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<td>Louise Bailey</td>
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**Project Manager**

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