This update presents data for the 31 Texas RN (Registered Nurse) programs that indicated they had a post-licensure RN to BSN (Bachelor's of Science in Nursing) program track during the 2013 reporting year, up from 27 programs in 2012.

The focus on post-licensure RN students is due to the Institute of Medicine's 2011 recommendation that 80 percent of RNs have a baccalaureate degree in nursing by the year 2020[1]. Note that the data in this report may include both Texas and non-Texas RN to BSN students and may not include some Texas students who are enrolled in online RN to BSN programs.

The Texas Center for Nursing Workforce Studies (TCNWS) collected data in the 2013 Board of Nursing's (BON) Nursing Education Program Information Survey (NEPIS) that was available online as of October 1, 2013. The reporting period was academic year (AY) 2012-2013 (September 1, 2012 – August 31, 2013) unless otherwise noted. TCNWS collaborated with the BON in the design and dissemination of the survey.

1.Institute of Medicine, Committee on the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Initiative on the Future of Nursing. (2011). Front matter. *The future of nursing: Leading change, advancing health*.

Qualified Applications for Post-Licensure RN to BSN Programs

Table 1 presents data on qualified applications and admissions to post-licensure RN to BSN programs in 2012 and 2013. Qualified applications were those that met all criteria for admission.

Table 1. Qualified Applications, Admissions & QANA: 2012 - 2013

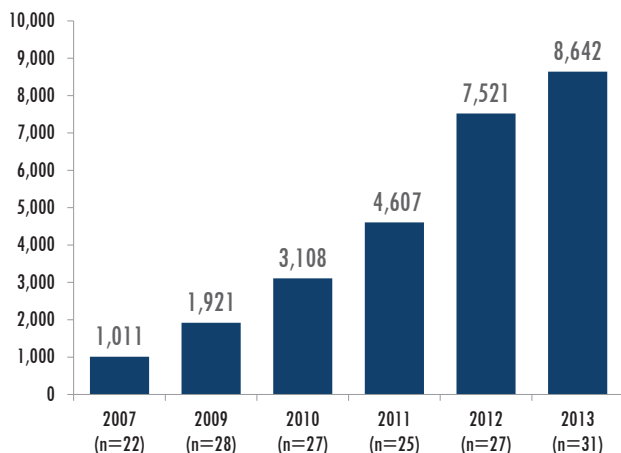|	Enrollment Capacity	Qualified Applications	Offered Admission	% Qualified Applications Not Offered Admission	# Newly Enrolled RN to BSN Students
2012	12,281	7,980	7,639	4.3%	4,515
2013	11,332	8,280	8,221	0.7%	5,165

- The total number of qualified applications in 2013 made up 83.3% of the total capacity for enrollment among the post-licensure RN programs, up from

65.4% in 2012.
- Admission was offered to all but 59 qualified applications (0.7% of all qualified applications), down from 341 qualified applicants in 2012.
- 23 programs offered admission to all students with qualified applications in 2013.
  - Among schools that did not accept all qualified applications, the reasons most often cited as important were a lack of budgeted faculty positions (n=5) and a lack of qualified faculty applicants for budgeted positions (n=4).
- Enrollment capacity decreased in 2013 even though the number of programs increased from 27 to 31. This may be due to one large program decreasing its number of admissions periods and overall enrollment capacity.
- Of the 8,221 applications offered admission, only 5,165 (62.8%) applicants who were offered admission registered and enrolled in a post-licensure RN to BSN program for the 2012-2013 academic year.

Note: Candidates for admission may apply and be accepted by more than one nursing program; therefore, these data may represent some duplicated counts of individuals.

Enrollment in Post-Licensure RN to BSN Programs

On September 30, 2013, as shown in Figure 1, there were 8,642 students enrolled in post-licensure RN to BSN programs.

- Enrollment in post-licensure RN programs has steadily increased since 2007, though the number of RN to BSN programs has varied over the past six years.
- From 2012 to 2013, enrollment increased by 1,121 students (14.9% increase) and the number of RN to BSN programs increased from 27 to 31 programs (14.8% increase).
- From 2007 to 2013, enrollment increased by 7,631 students (754.8% increase) and the number of programs increased from 22 to 31 programs (40.9 % increase).

Figure 1. Total Enrollment in Post-Licensure RN to BSN Programs, 2007-2013

Barriers to Increasing the Number of Graduates

The 31 post-licensure RN to BSN programs were asked to describe any barriers they faced in increasing post-licensure RN to BSN graduates.

- A variety of barriers were cited including student financial difficulties (n=4), lack of qualified faculty available (n=3), and competition with online programs (n=3).
- Other barriers cited included a lack of clinical placements (n=2) and a lack of qualified student applications (n=2).

Level of Difficulty for Graduates to Find a Job in Nursing

The 31 post-licensure RN to BSN programs reported the perceived level of difficulty that their post-licensure RN to BSN graduates experience in finding a job in nursing.

- 18 programs reported that it was very easy for graduates to find a job in nursing.
- 8 programs reported that it was easy for graduates to find a job in nursing.
- The remaining programs reported a neutral level of difficulty.
- No programs reported that it was difficult for graduates to find a job in nursing.
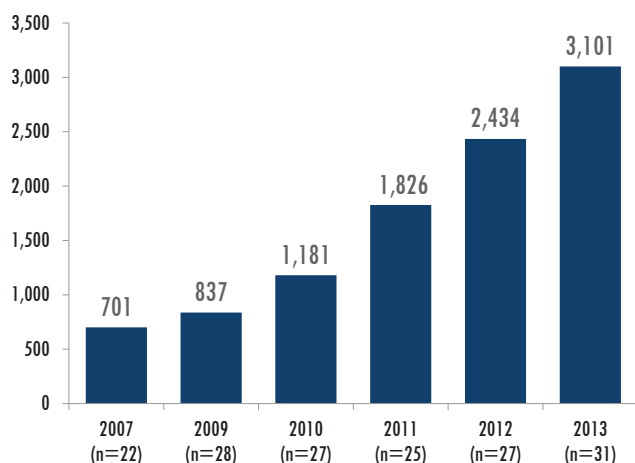
Graduates from Post-Licensure RN to BSN Programs

As shown in Figure 2, there were 3,101 post-licensure RN to BSN graduates during the 2012-2013 academic year.

- This represented a 69.8% increase from the 2010-2011 academic year (n=1,275 more graduates) and a 27.4% increase from the 2011-2012 academic year (n=667 more graduates).
- 19 programs were able to increase the number of post-licensure RN to BSN graduates during the 2012-2013 academic year. Six programs reported a decrease in the number of post-licensure RN to BSN graduates in AY 2012-2013. One program reported the same number of graduates as AY 2011-2012, three programs reported zero graduates, and two programs reported graduates for the first time in AY 2012-2013.

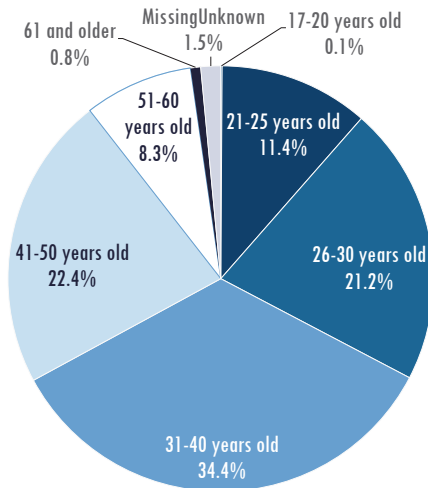## Demographics of Newly Enrolled Post-Licensure RN to BSN Students

Sex and Age

Females made up 85.4% of the 2013 newly enrolled post-licensure RN to BSN student population, which is slightly greater than the proportion who were female in 2012 (84.7%).

Figure 3 displays the breakdown of age among newly enrolled post-licensure RN to BSN students in 2013.

- Newly enrolled RN to BSN students were fairly evenly distributed between age groups 21-30, 31-40, and 41-50 years.
- There were considerably more post-licensure RN to BSN students aged 51 and older (9.1%) compared to pre-licensure RN students (2.3%).
- Students aged 21-25 years made up 11.4% of the post-licensure RN to BSN student population, in contrast to 37.2% of pre-licensure RN students.

Figure 2. Graduates from Post-Licensure RN to BSN Programs, 2007-2013

Figure 3. Age of Newly Enrolled Students

Figure 3. Age of Newly Enrolled Students

- MissingUnknown 1.5%
- 17-20 years old 0.1%
- 61 and older 0.8%
- 51-60 years old 8.3%
- 21-25 years old 11.4%
- 26-30 years old 21.2%
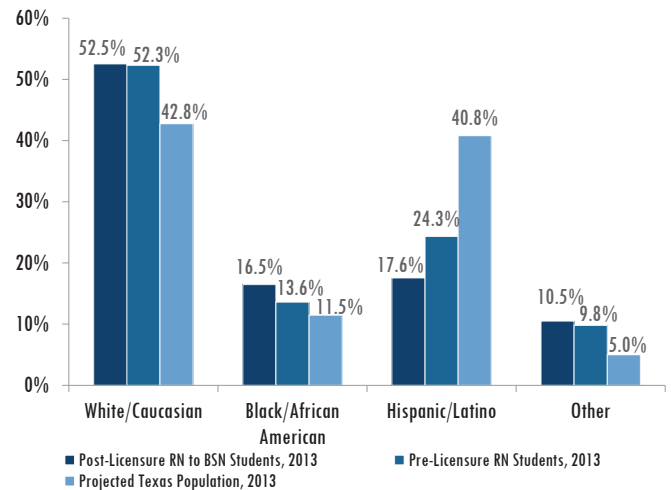- 41-50 years old 22.4%
- 31-40 years old 34.4%

Race/Ethnicity

Figure 4 displays the race/ethnicity distribution of post-licensure RN to BSN students in comparison to the race/ethnicity distribution of pre-licensure RN students and the Texas population. Race/ethnicity data was missing for 2.9% of newly enrolled RN to BSN students.

- White/Caucasians made up a slightly greater proportion of post-licensure RN to BSN newly enrolled students (52.5%) compared to pre-licensure RN students (52.3%) and compared to the Texas population (42.8%). The post-licensure RN to BSN white/Caucasian student proportion was similar to 2012 (52.6%).
- Hispanics/Latinos continued to be underrepresented among post-licensure RN to BSN students.
  - While the proportion of Hispanics/Latinos was 40.8% in Texas, Hispanics/Latinos made up only 17.6% of the post-licensure RN to BSN student population, compared with 24.3% of the pre-licensure RN student population.
- There were slightly more black/African-American newly enrolled post-licensure RN to BSN students (16.5%) compared to newly enrolled pre-licensure RN students (13.6%) and the Texas population (11.5%).
- Other students, which include Asians, Native Hawaiian, Alaskan, and other race/ethnicities, also represented a greater proportion of the post- and pre-licensure student population than the Texas population.
- Programs reported a total of 45 newly enrolled students who were international* (0.9% of all RN to BSN newly enrolled students).

*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.

Figure 4. Race/Ethnicity of RN to BSN Enrollees, 2013, Pre-Licensure Students[1],2013, & Texas Population[2], 2013

	White/Caucasian	Black/African American	Hispanic/Latino	Other
Post-Licensure RN to BSN Students, 2013	52.5%	16.5%	17.6%	10.5%
Pre-Licensure RN Students, 2013	52.3%	13.6%	24.3%	9.8%
Projected Texas Population, 2013	42.8%	11.5%	40.8%	5.0%

1 - Pre-licensure RN data comes from the 2013 RN NEPIS fact sheets located here: http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/chs/cnws/EducReports.shtm#Professional.
2 - Texas population data comes from the 2013 Texas State Data Center population projections located here: http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/chs/popdat/.

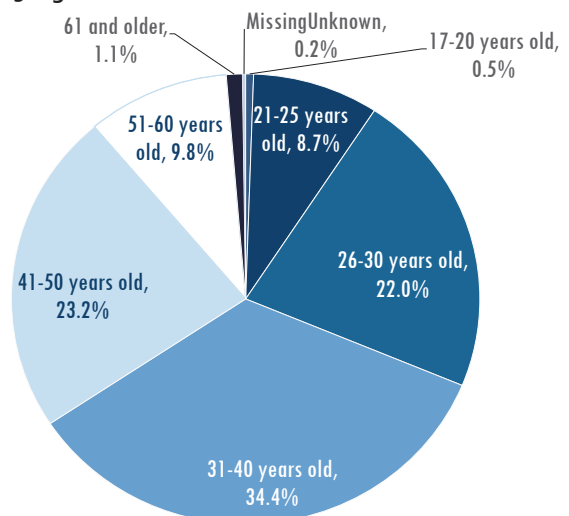## Demographics of Post-Licensure RN to BSN Graduates

Sex and Age

Females made up 84.8% of the 2013 post-licensure RN to BSN graduate population, which is slightly less than the proportion who were female in 2012 (86.4%).

Figure 5 displays the breakdown of age among post-licensure RN to BSN graduates in 2013.

- RN to BSN graduates were fairly evenly distributed among age groups 21-30, 31-40, and 41-50 years.
- There were considerably more post-licensure RN to BSN graduates aged 51 and older (10.9%) compared with pre-licensure RN graduates (2.7%).

Figure 5. Age of Graduates

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- 61 and older, 1.1%
- MissingUnknown, 0.2%
- 17-20 years old, 0.5%
- 51-60 years old, 9.8%
- 21-25 years old, 8.7%
- 26-30 years old, 22.0%
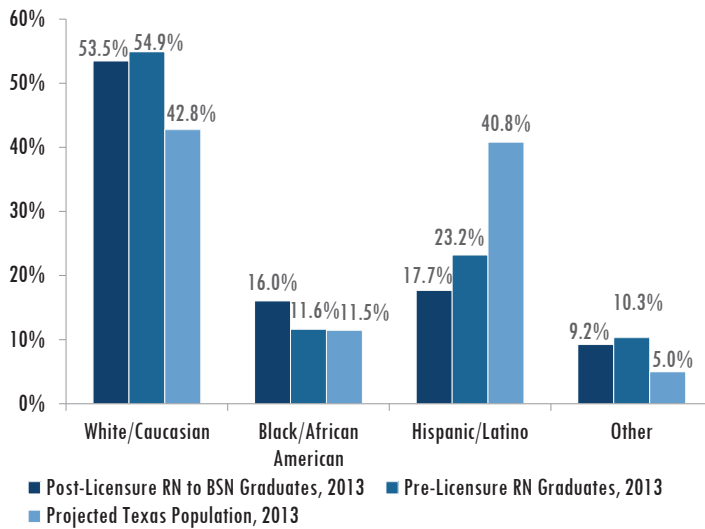- 41-50 years old, 23.2%
- 31-40 years old, 34.4%

- Students aged 21-25 years made up a much smaller percentage of post-licensure RN to BSN graduates than pre-licensure RN graduates (8.7% vs. 36.9%).

Race/Ethnicity

Figure 6 displays the race/ethnicity distribution of post-licensure RN to BSN graduates in comparison to the race/ethnicity distribution of pre-licensure RN graduates and the Texas population. Race/ethnicity data was missing for 3.6% of RN to BSN graduates.

Figure 6. Race/Ethnicity of RN to BSN Graduates, 2013, Pre-Licensure Graduates[1], 2013, & Texas Population[2], 2013

- Programs reported a total of 63 graduates who were international students* (2% of all post-licensure RN to BSN graduates).

*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.

- White/Caucasians made up a slightly smaller proportion of post-licensure RN to BSN graduates (53.5%) than pre-licensure RN graduates (54.9%) but was greater than the proportion of white/Caucasians in the Texas population (42.8%). The post-licensure RN to BSN white/Caucasian graduate proportion decreased from 2012 (60.2%).
- While the proportion of Hispanics/Latinos was 40.8% in Texas, Hispanics/Latinos made up only 17.7% of post-licensure RN to BSN graduates, compared with 23.2% of pre-licensure RN graduates.
- There were slightly more black/African-American post-licensure RN to BSN graduates (16%) compared to pre-licensure RN graduates (11.6%) and the Texas population (11.5%).
- Other race/ethnicities also represented a greater proportion of the post- and pre-licensure graduate population than the Texas population.