



South Dakota Annual Report of Nursing Education Programs: 2025

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OVERVIEW AND METHODS

This *2025 South Dakota Annual Report of Nursing Education Programs* report was prepared by the South Dakota Board of Nursing (SDBON). Data for this report was collected by the SDBON to fulfill a requirement for ongoing approval of South Dakota nursing education programs in accordance with ARSD 20:48:07:47. The report provides a descriptive analysis of the data collected. Aggregate data was collected from each approved nursing education program for their 2024-2025 academic year beginning with the 2024 fall session and ending with the 2025 summer session, herein referred to as the “2025 reporting period” or “2025.” Data and information collected was compared with historical data on students, education program capacity, curriculum, graduates, National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX®) results, and nursing faculty. Information regarding the SDBON requirements for nursing education programs is located at <https://www.sdbon.org>.

SDBON APPROVED NURSING EDUCATION PROGRAMS

The table below shows the total number of approved nursing education programs in South Dakota (SD) for registered nurses (RN), licensed practical nurses (LPN), and advanced practice registered nurses (APRN) from 2023 to 2025.

Year	LPN	Associate RN	Baccalaureate RN	Masters APRN	Doctorate APRN	Total
2023	7	6	8	4	3	28
2024	6	6	7	3	4	26
2025	6	6	7	2	4	25

South Dakota’s nursing education programs approval status, as of February 2026, is provided in the following tables; for the most up-to-date information see the SDBON’s website at <https://www.sdbon.org>. See the school websites, listed in the tables, for more information on nursing education tracks offered.

Practical Nurse Programs	SDBON Approval	National Accreditation
Lake Area Technical College (LATC) Main Campus: Watertown, SD Website: www.lakeareatech.edu	Full	Higher Learning Commission (HLC) Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN)
Mitchell Technical College (MTC) Main Campus: Mitchell, SD Website: www.mitchelltech.edu	Full	HLC
Sinte Gleska University (SGU) Main Campus: Mission, SD Website: www.sintegleska.edu	Full	HLC
Sisseton Wahpeton College (SWC) Main Campus: Sisseton, SD Website: www.swcollege.edu	Full	HLC
Southeast Technical College (STC) Main Campus: Sioux Falls, SD Website: www.southeasttech.edu	Full	HLC ACEN
Western Dakota Technical College (WDTC) Main Campus: Rapid City, SD Website: www.wdt.edu	Full	HLC ACEN

Associate Degree RN Programs	SDBON Approval	National Accreditation
Dakota Wesleyan University (DWU) Main Campus: Mitchell, SD Website: www.dwu.edu	Interim	HLC ACEN (Candidate)
Lake Area Technical College (LATC) Main Campus: Watertown, SD Website: www.lakeareatech.edu	Full	HLC ACEN
Mitchell Technical College (MTC) Main Campus: Mitchell, SD Website: www.mitchelltech.edu	Full	HLC
Oglala Lakota College (OLC) Main Campus: Pine Ridge, SD Website: www.olg.edu	Full	HLC Commission for Nursing Education Accreditation, through April 10, 2025.
Southeast Technical College (STC) Main Campus: Sioux Falls, SD Website: www.southeasttech.edu	Full	HLC ACEN
Western Dakota Technical College (WDTC) Main Campus: Rapid City, SD Website: www.wdt.edu	Full	HCL ACEN

Baccalaureate Degree RN Programs	SDBON Approval	National Accreditation
Augustana University (AU) Main Campus: Sioux Falls, SD Website: www.augie.edu	Full	HLC Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE)
Dakota Wesleyan University (DWU) Main Campus: Mitchell, SD Website: www.dwu.edu	Full	HLC CCNE
Mount Marty University (MMU) Main Campus: Yankton, SD Website: www.mountmarty.edu	Full	HLC CCNE
Northern State University (NSU) Main Campus: Aberdeen, SD Website: www.northern.edu	Interim	HLC
South Dakota State University (SDSU) Main Campus: Brookings, SD Website: www.sdstate.edu	Full	HLC CCNE
University of Sioux Falls (USF) Main Campus: Sioux Falls, SD Website: www.usiouxfalls.edu	Full	HLC CCNE
University of South Dakota (USD) Main Campus: Vermillion, SD Website: www.usd.edu	Full	HLC CCNE

Master's Degree APRN Programs	SDBON Approval	National Accreditation
Augustana University (AU) Main Campus: Sioux Falls, SD Website: www.augie.edu	Full	HLC CCNE
Mount Marty University (MMU) Main Campus: Yankton, SD Website: www.mountmarty.edu	Full	HLC CCNE

Doctoral Degree APRN Programs	SDBON Approval	National Accreditation
Augustana University (AU) Main Campus: Sioux Falls, SD Website: www.augie.edu	Pre-requisite	Pre-requisite Status
Mount Marty University (MMU) Nurse Anesthesia Program Main Campus: Sioux Falls, SD Website: www.mountmarty.edu	Full	HLC Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs (COA)
South Dakota State University (SDSU) Main Campus: Brookings, SD Website: www.sdstate.edu	Full	HLC CCNE
University of South Dakota (USD) Nurse Anesthesia Program Main Campus: Vermillion, SD Website: www.usd.edu	Full	HLC COA

PRACTICAL NURSE EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Curriculum

Required credit hours for graduation for South Dakota's practical nurse (PN) programs ranged between 45-60 hours. Each program's required course hours are shown in the tables below. Most clinical experiences for PN programs took place in practice settings and ranged between 52%-73% of total clinical time. The use of simulation technology ranged between 9%-30% of clinical time, and lab experience ranged between 7%-18% of clinical time.

Credit Hours Required for Graduation

PN Program	General and Support Courses	Nursing Theory and Clinical Courses	Total
Lake Area Technical College	13.5	32	45.5
Mitchell Technical College	16.5	36.5	53
Sinte Gleska University	27	33	60
Sisseton Wahpeton College	29	26	55
Southeast Technical College	19	28	47
Western Dakota Technical College	15	30	45

Clinical Experiences Required for Graduation

PN Program	Practice Setting Hours	Simulation Hours	Lab Hours	Total
Lake Area Technical College	475.25 (73%)	132.25 (20%)	45 (7%)	652.5 (100%)
Mitchell Technical College	302 (52%)	177 (30%)	106 (18%)	585 (100%)
Sinte Gleska University	347.25 (57%)	150.25 (25%)	109.5 (18%)	607 (100%)
Sisseton Wahpeton College	474 (70%)	132 (20%)	69 (10%)	675 (100%)
Southeast Technical College	396 (65%)	120 (19%)	96 (16%)	612 (100%)
Western Dakota Technical College	384 (73%)	48 (9%)	96 (18%)	528 (100%)

Program Capacity

PN programs had 459 seats available with 390 new students enrolled in the 2025 reporting period; 69 seats were not filled.

PN Program Capacity

PN Program	Seats Available for New Students	Number of Accepted Applicants	Number of New Students Enrolled
Lake Area Technical College	123	226	127
Mitchell Technical College	36	47	33
Sinte Gleska University	12	6	6
Sisseton Wahpeton College	8	4	3
Southeast Technical College	184	211	160
Western Dakota Technical College	96	61	61
Total:	459	555	390

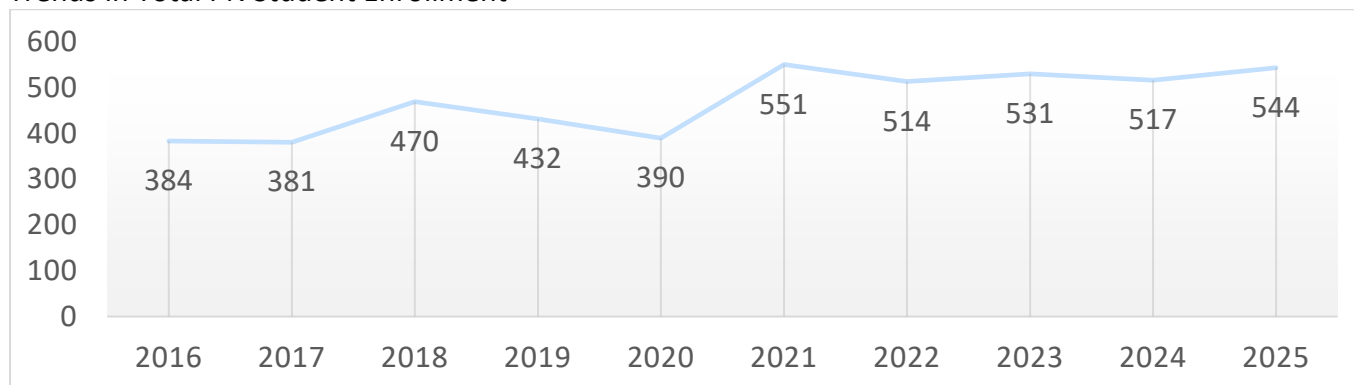
Enrollment

Total student enrollment is shown in the table below. Enrollment for new and continuing students in 2025 was 544 students, an increase of 27 students from 2024. Trends in student enrollment rates from 2016 to 2025 are shown in the line chart for historical comparison. The percentage of students enrolled by a PN Program is shown in the pie chart.

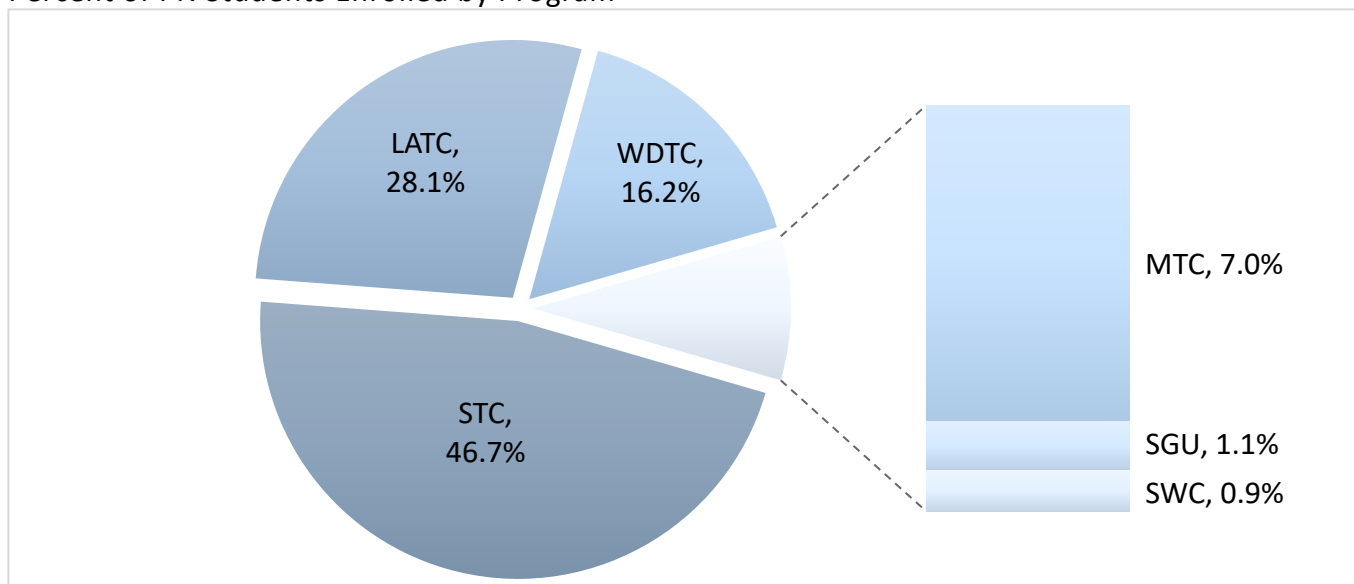
PN Program Enrollment

PN Program	2025 Total Students	2025 % Total Students	2024 Total Students	2024-2025 Difference	2024-2025 % Change
Lake Area Technical College	153	28.1%	154	-1	-0.6%
Mitchell Technical College	38	7.0%	25	13	52.0%
Sinte Gleska University	6	1.1%	7	-1	-14.3%
Sisseton Wahpeton College	5	0.9%	3	2	66.7%
Southeast Technical College	254	46.7%	246	8	3.3%
Western Dakota Technical College	88	16.2%	82	6	7.3%
Total:	544	100.0%	517	27	5.2%

Trends in Total PN Student Enrollment



Percent of PN Students Enrolled by Program



Characteristics of PN Students

Gender

The majority of PN students were female (91%).

PN Student Gender

PN Program	Female	Male	Total Students
Lake Area Technical College	140	13	153
Mitchell Technical College	36	2	38
Sinte Gleska University	6	0	6
Sisseton Wahpeton College	5	0	5
Southeast Technical College	229	25	254
Western Dakota Technical College	79	9	88
Total:	495	49	544
Percent:	91.0%	9.0%	100.0%

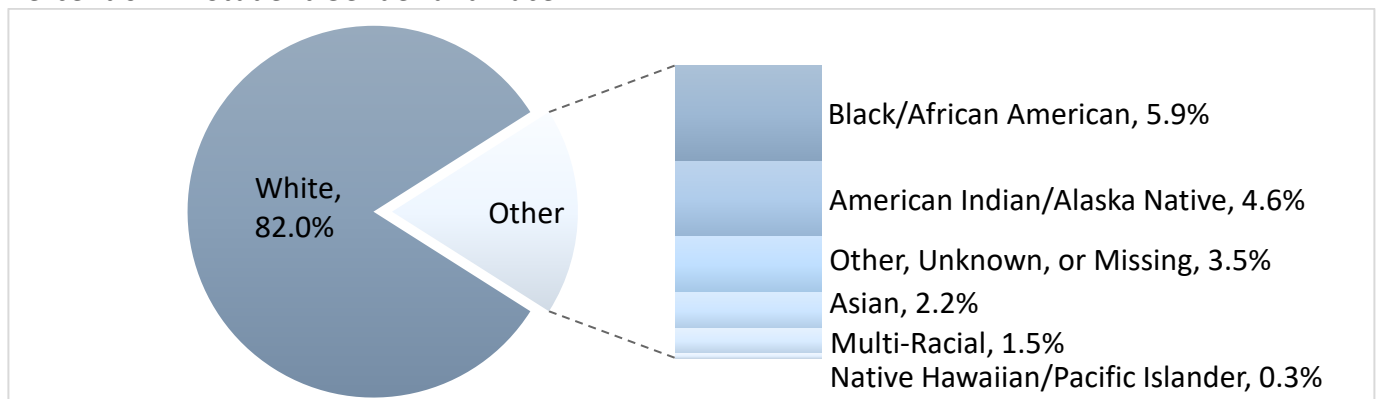
Race and Ethnicity

As shown in the table and pie charts, most students were White (82%).

PN Student Race

PN Program	American Indian /Alaska Native	Asian	Black / African American	Native Hawaiian / Pacific Islander	White	Multi-Racial	Other, Unknown, or Missing	Total Students
Lake Area Technical College	2	1	11	0	139	0	0	153
Mitchell Technical College	1	1	0	0	34	0	2	38
Sinte Gleska University	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
Sisseton Wahpeton College	4	0	1	0	0	0	0	5
Southeast Technical College	7	8	16	2	199	7	15	254
Western Dakota Technical College	5	2	4	0	74	1	2	88
Total:	25	12	32	2	446	8	19	544
Percent:	4.6%	2.2%	5.9%	0.3%	82.0%	1.5%	3.5%	100.0%

Percent of PN Student Gender and Race



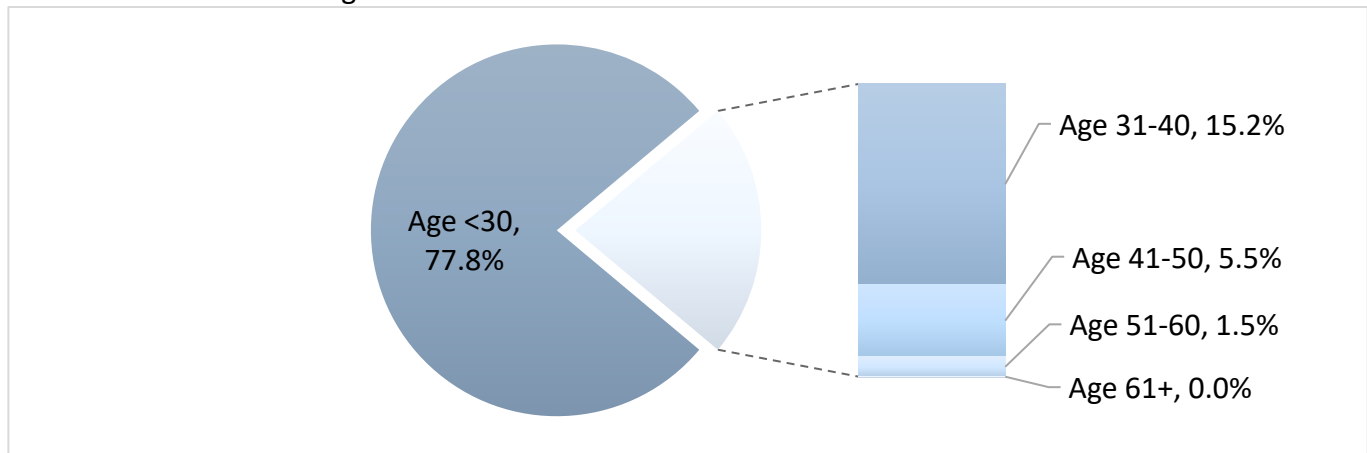
Age

The PN student age distribution is shown below in the table and graph.

PN Student Age

PN Program	≤ 30	31-40	41-50	51-60	61+	Total
Lake Area Technical College	125	25	2	1	0	153
Mitchell Technical College	36	2	0	0	0	38
Sinte Gleska University	2	2	2	0	0	6
Sisseton Wahpeton College	3	2	0	0	0	5
Southeast Technical College	202	34	13	5	0	254
Western Dakota Technical College	55	18	13	2	0	88
Total:	423	83	30	8	0	544
Percent:	77.8%	15.2%	5.5%	1.5%	0.0%	100.0%

Percent of PN Student Age



State of Residence

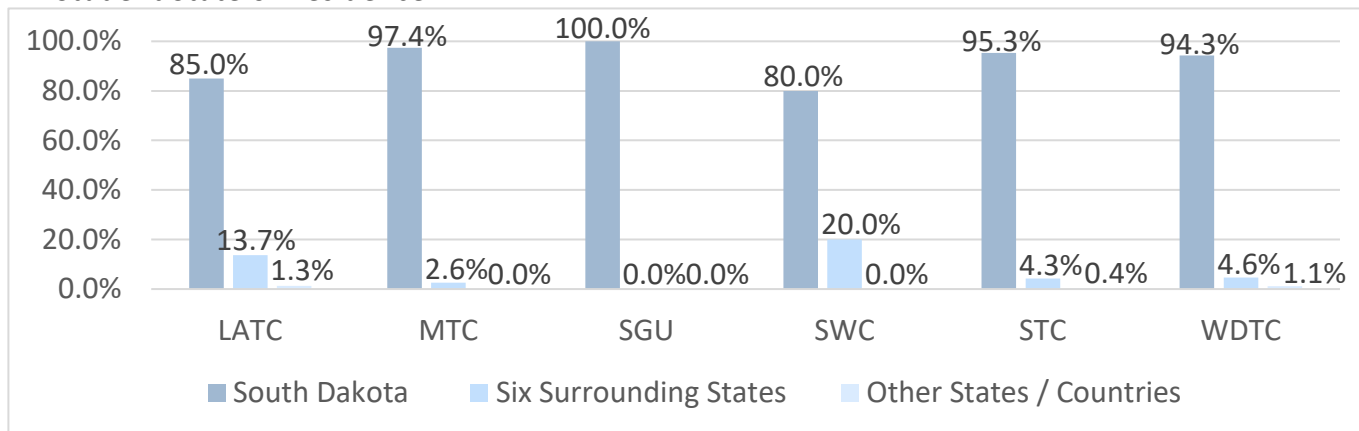
The primary state of residences of PN students is shown in the following table and bar graph. The majority of students resided in South Dakota.

PN Student State of Residence

PN Program	South Dakota		Six Surrounding States ¹		Other States or Countries		Total
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number
Lake Area Technical College	130	85.0%	21	13.7%	2	1.3%	153
Mitchell Technical College	37	97.4%	1	2.6%	0	0.0%	38
Sinte Gleska University	6	100.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	6
Sisseton Wahpeton College	4	80.0%	1	20.0%	0	0.0%	5
Southeast Technical College	242	95.3%	11	4.3%	1	0.4%	254
Western Dakota Technical College	83	94.3%	4	4.6%	1	1.1%	88
Total:	502	92.3%	38	7.0%	4	0.7%	544

¹ Iowa, Montana, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, Wyoming

PN Student State of Residence



¹ Iowa, Montana, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, Wyoming

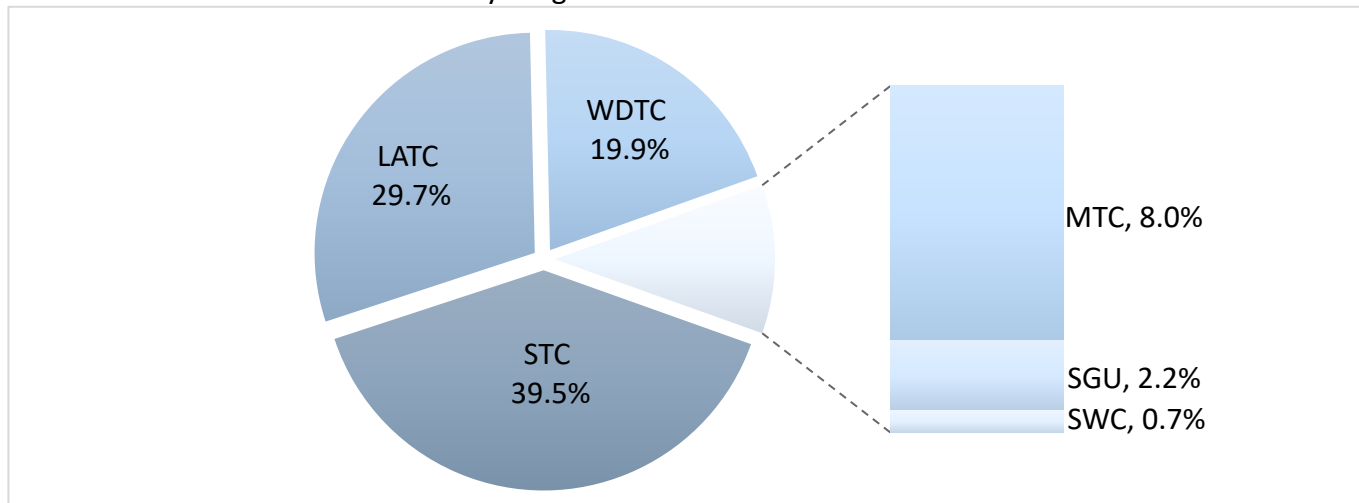
Characteristics of PN Graduates

As shown in the table, during the 2025 reporting period a total of 276 students graduated from PN programs, an increase of 17 students (6.6%) from 2024. The percentage of PN graduates produced by the programs is shown in the pie chart. Graduation rates from 2016 to 2025 are shown in the line chart for historical comparison.

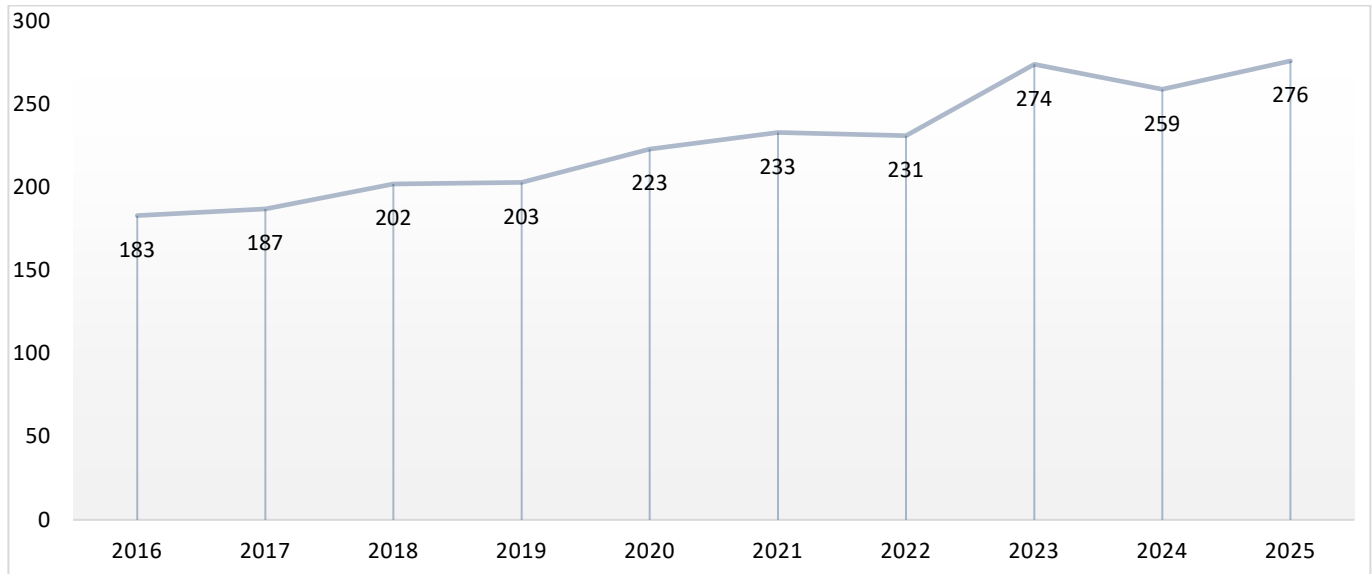
PN Graduates

PN Programs	2025 Graduates and % of Total Graduates		2024 Graduates	2024-2025 Difference and % Change	
Lake Area Technical College	82	29.7%	60	22	36.7%
Mitchell Technical College	22	8.0%	16	6	37.5%
Sinte Gleska University	6	2.2%	6	0	0.0%
Sisseton Wahpeton College	2	0.7%	1	1	100.0%
Southeast Technical College	109	39.5%	121	-12	-9.9%
Western Dakota Technical College	55	19.9%	55	0	0.0%
Total:	276	100.0%	259	17	6.6%

Percent of PN Graduates Produced by Program



Trends in PN Graduates



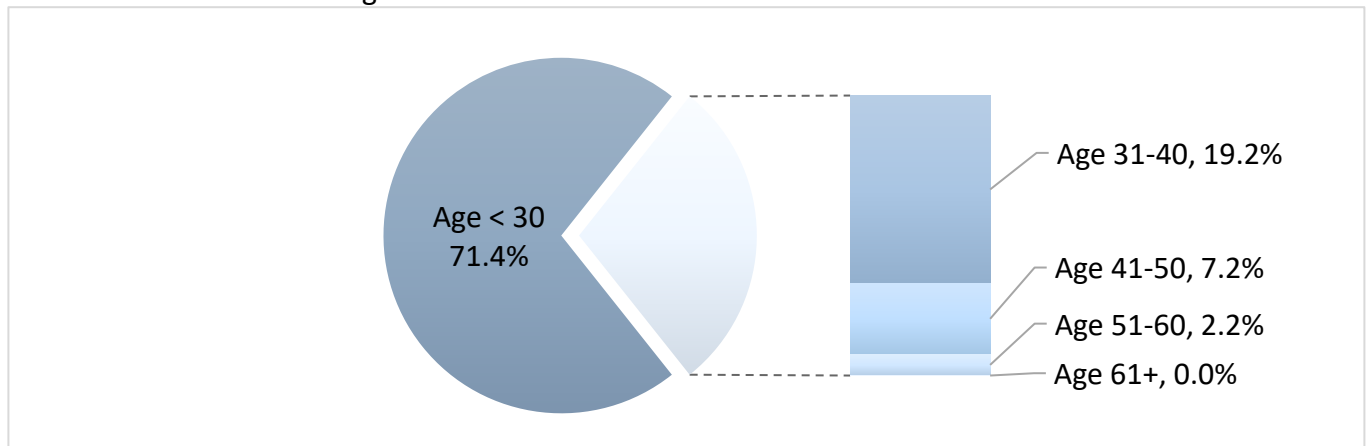
Age

The age distribution of PN graduates is shown in the table and pie chart. Consistent with previous reports, most graduates, 71.4%, were 30 years or younger.

PN Graduate Age

PN Program	≤ 30	31-40	41-50	51-60	61+	Total
Lake Area Technical College	68	12	2	0	0	82
Mitchell Technical College	20	2	0	0	0	22
Sinte Gleska University	2	2	2	0	0	6
Sisseton Wahpeton College	1	1	0	0	0	2
Southeast Technical College	79	21	6	3	0	109
Western Dakota Technical College	27	15	10	3	0	55
Total:	197	53	20	6	0	276
Percent:	71.4%	19.2%	7.2%	2.2%	0.0%	100.0%

Percent of PN Graduate Age



State of Residence

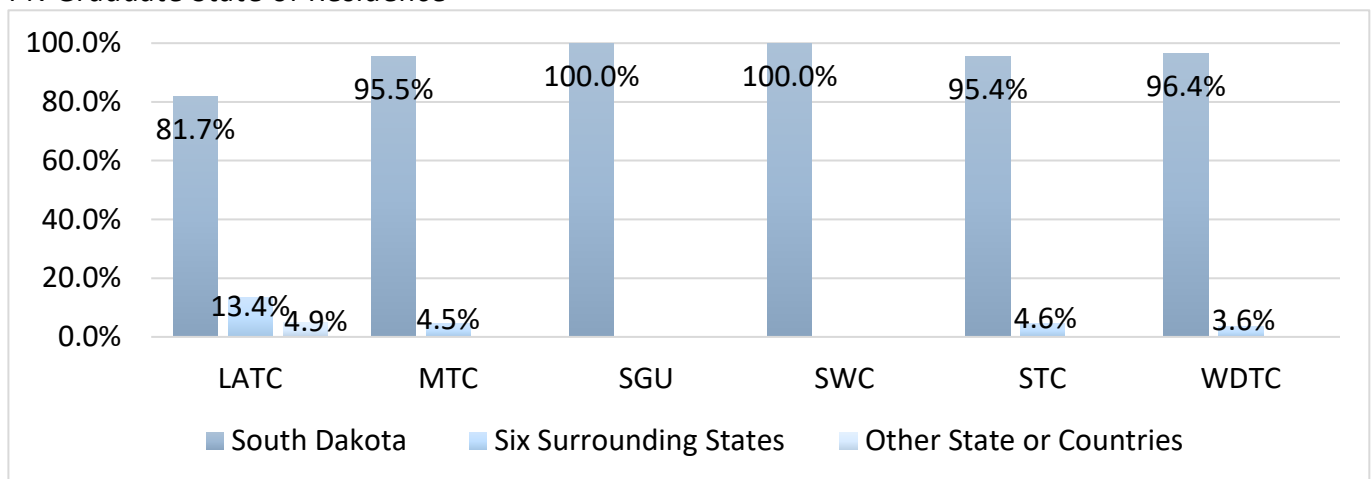
The primary state of residence of PN graduates is shown in the table and bar graph. Consistent with previous reports, the majority, 91.7%, of graduates resided in South Dakota.

PN Graduate State of Residence

PN Program	South Dakota		Six Surrounding States ¹		Other States or Countries		Total
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Lake Area Technical College	67	81.7%	11	13.4%	4	4.9%	82
Mitchell Technical College	21	95.5%	1	4.5%	0	0.0%	22
Sinte Gleska University	6	100.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	6
Sisseton Wahpeton College	2	100.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2
Southeast Technical College	104	95.4%	5	4.6%	0	0.0%	109
Western Dakota Technical College	53	96.4%	2	3.6%	0	0.0%	55
Total:	253	91.7%	19	6.9%	4	1.4%	276

¹ Iowa, Montana, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, Wyoming

PN Graduate State of Residence



¹ Iowa, Montana, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, Wyoming

NCLEX–PN® Examination Results

Graduates' results on the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX-PN®) from January-December 2025 are shown in the table. Pass rates are evaluated by the SDBON for ongoing approval of a program using measuring periods as defined in ARSD 20:48:07:47. A measuring period commences on January 1 of each calendar year and continues until December 31 of that year in which the number of first-time writers since the start of that measuring period equals or exceeds 21. Measuring periods for programs with fewer than 21 test writers in one calendar year extend over more than one year until 21 is reached. The pass rate for all first-time test writers in South Dakota in 2025 was 95.8% and the national pass rate was 86.6%. Pass rates from 2016 to 2025 are shown in the bar chart for historical comparison.

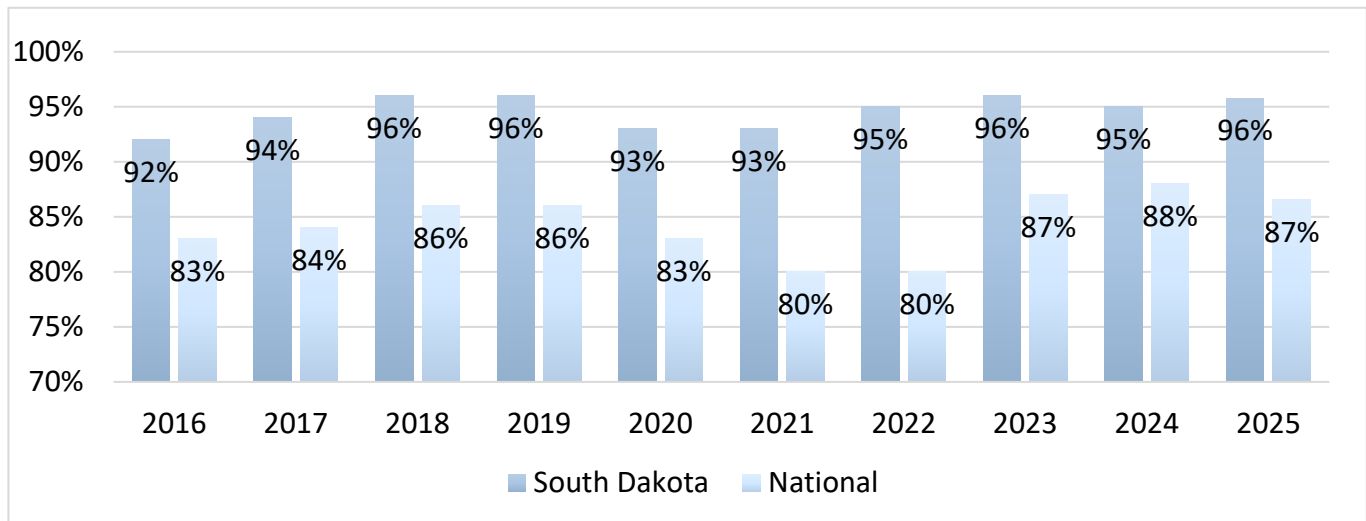
2025 NCLEX-PN Results

PN Program	# Delivered	# Passed	# Failed	2025 Pass Rate
Lake Area Technical College	87	85	2	97.7%
Mitchell Technical College	21	21	0	100.0%
Sinte Gleska University	6	6	0	*
Sisseton Wahpeton College	2	2	0	*
Southeast Technical College	106	104	2	98.1%
Western Dakota Technical College	56	48	8	85.7%
LPN Licensure by Equivalency ¹	7	7	0	Not applicable
Total:	285	273	12	95.8%

¹SD law allows licensure as an LPN by equivalency of education for applicants who successfully completed an RN program but were unable to pass the NCLEX-RN® or who partially completed an RN program but were unable to progress.

* Pass rate to be determined upon reaching or exceeding an N of 21 graduates.

NCLEX–PN® Pass Rates



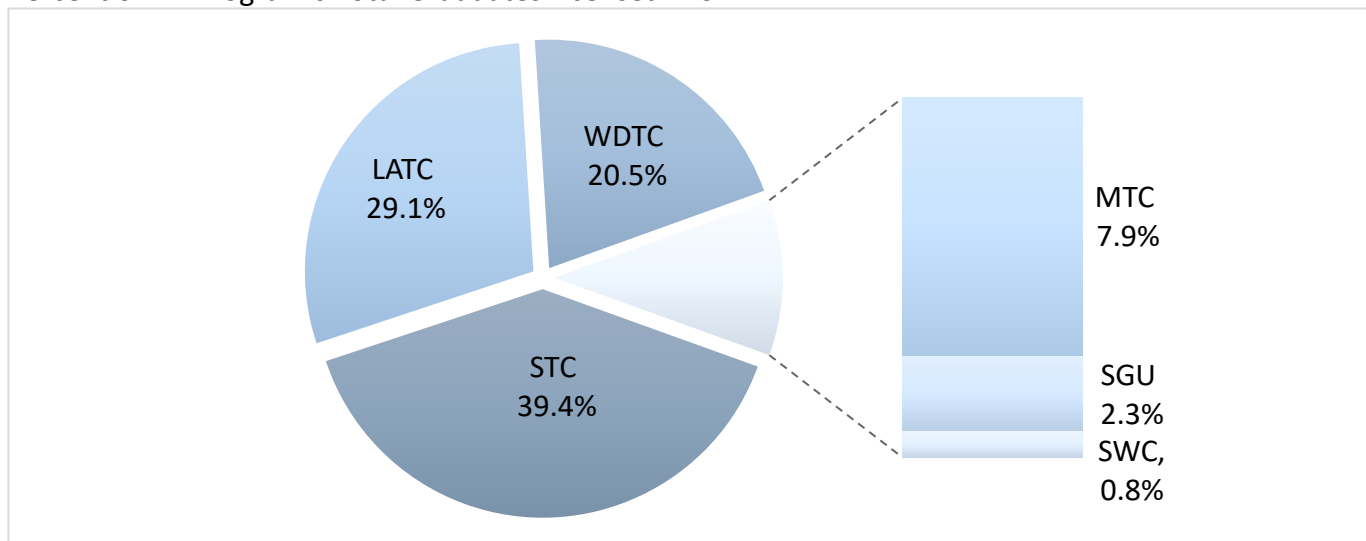
Graduates Licensed as LPNs in South Dakota

The number of graduates licensed by NCLEX-PN® examination in South Dakota from January 1 to December 31, 2025, is shown in the table. In 2025, 92.0% of PN graduates produced by South Dakota's programs were licensed in South Dakota. This was an increase of 1.3% since 2024.

PN Graduates Licensed into South Dakota

PN Program	Graduates Produced	Graduates Licensed in SD	Percent of Total Graduates Licensed in SD
Lake Area Technical College	82	74 (90.2%)	29.1%
Mitchell Technical College	22	20 (90.9%)	7.9%
Sinte Gleska University	6	6 (100.0%)	2.3%
Sisseton Wahpeton College	2	2 (100.0%)	0.8%
Southeast Technical College	109	100 (91.7%)	39.4%
Western Dakota Technical College	55	52 (94.5%)	20.5%
Total:	276	254 (92.0%)	100.0%

Percent of PN Program's Total Graduates Licensed in SD



PN Faculty

Employment Status

Respondents were asked to identify the number of full-time, part-time, and clinical adjunct PN nursing education faculty employed by their program. Full-time faculty are expected to work 40 hours per week and are responsible for teaching, participating in curriculum development, holding office hours for student advisement, attending faculty meetings, participating in campus-wide events, pursuing scholarly activities, and attending professional development events. Part-time faculty work less than 40 hours per week and are responsible for teaching, collaborating with other faculty, and maintaining availability to students. Clinical adjunct faculty provide clinical teaching under the direction of full-time and part-time faculty.

PN Faculty

PN Program	Full-time	Part-time	Clinical	Total Faculty
Lake Area Technical College	9	1	5	15
Mitchell Technical College	4	0	1	5
Sinte Gleska University	3	1	0	4
Sisseton Wahpeton College	1	0	1	2
Southeast Technical College	11	0	22	33
Western Dakota Technical College	5	0	6	11
Total:	33	2	35	70
Percent:	47.1%	2.9%	50.0%	100.0%

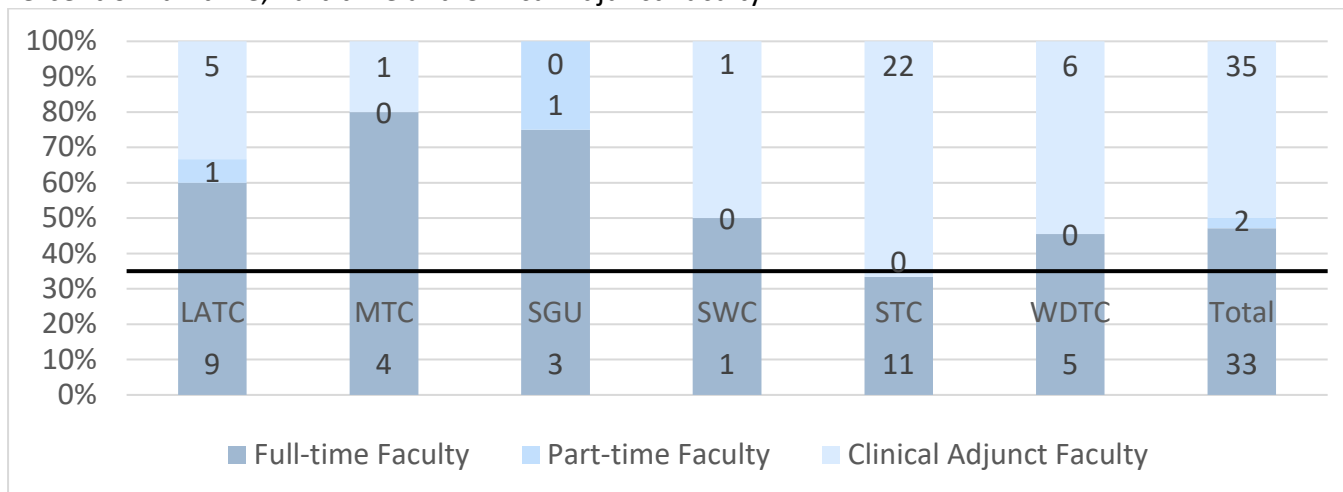
PN Faculty Vacancies

As of September 2025, there were 3 full-time faculty vacancies reported in PN programs.

National Faculty Quality Indicator

According to Spector et al. (2020), a program with 35% of their total faculty employed full-time by the institution is an indicator of a quality nursing program. As shown by the benchmark line in the graph, most practical nursing programs in South Dakota met this quality indicator.

Percent of Full-time, Part-time and Clinical Adjunct Faculty



Faculty Characteristics

Gender

Of the 35 full-time and part-time PN faculty, 34 (97.1%) were female and 1 (2.9%) was male.

Pursuing Advanced Nursing Degree

Five (14.3%) of the 35 full-time and part-time PN faculty were pursuing an advanced nursing degree in 2025.

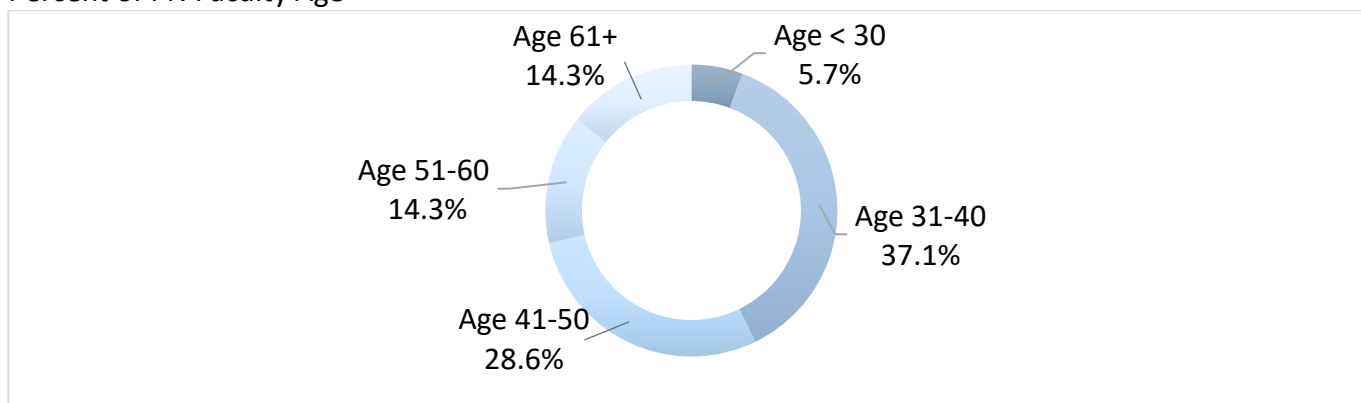
Age and Academic Preparation

As shown in the table and graph, 42.8% of full-time and part-time PN faculty were 40 years old or younger. Of the nursing faculty holding a graduate degree, 19 (79.2%) were less than 51 years old.

PN Faculty Age and Academic Preparation

Academic Preparation	≤ 30	31-40	41-50	51-60	61+	Total	Percent
Doctor of Nursing Practice	0	0	2	0	0	2	5.7%
Master's in Nursing	0	9	8	3	2	22	62.9%
Bachelor's in Nursing	2	3	0	2	2	9	25.7%
Associate Degree in Nursing	0	1	0	0	1	2	5.7%
Total:	2	13	10	5	5	35	100.0%
Percent:	5.7%	37.1%	28.6%	14.3%	14.3%	100.0%	

Percent of PN Faculty Age



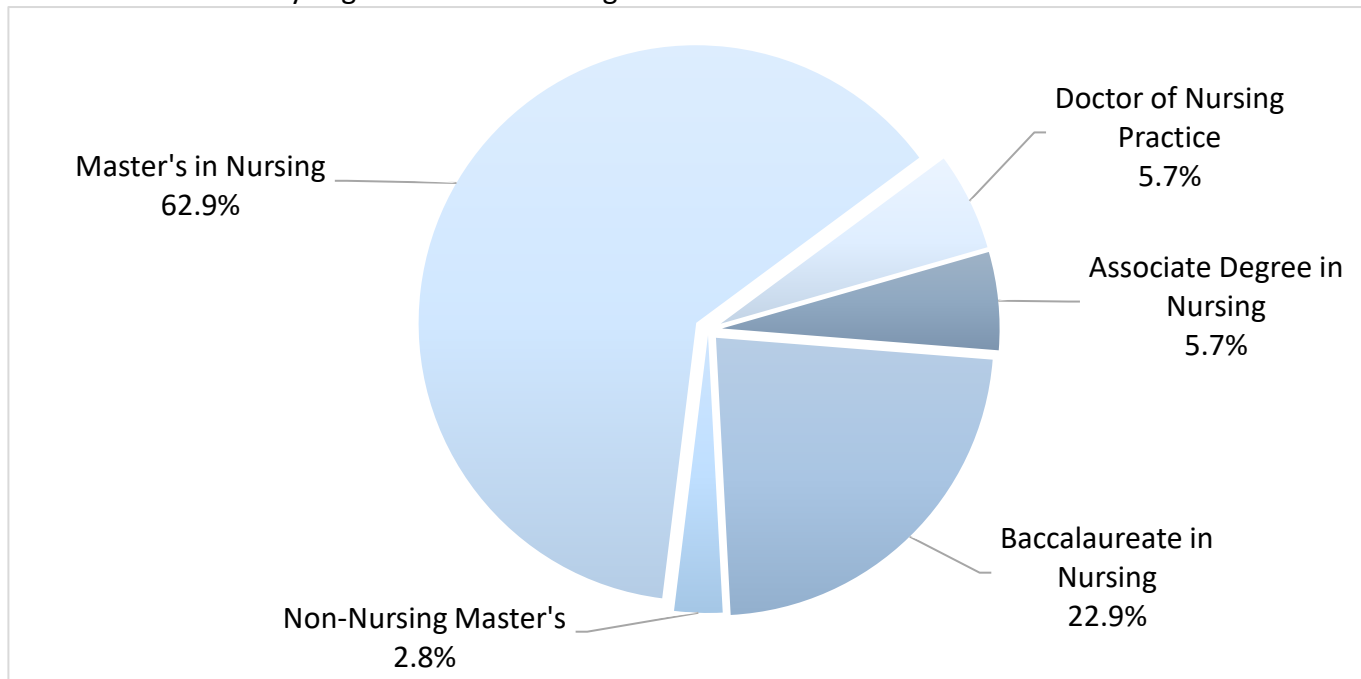
Highest Academic Achievement of PN Faculty by Program

The highest academic degree achieved by full-time and part-time PN faculty is shown in the table and pie chart. The majority, 62.9%, hold a master’s degree in nursing.

Highest Academic Achievement of PN Faculty by Program

PN Program	Associate Degree in Nursing	Bachelor’s in Nursing	Non-Nursing Master’s	Master’s in Nursing	Doctor of Nursing Practice	Total Full-time & Part-time
Lake Area Technical College	0	0	1	9	0	10
Mitchell Technical College	0	0	0	2	2	4
Sinte Gleska University	2	0	0	2	0	4
Sisseton Wahpeton College	0	0	0	1	0	1
Southeast Technical College	0	4	0	7	0	11
Western Dakota Technical College	0	4	0	1	0	5
Total:	2	8	1	22	2	35
Percent:	5.7%	22.9%	2.8%	62.9%	5.7%	100.0%

Percent of PN Faculty Highest Academic Degree



REGISTERED NURSE EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Curriculum

Course hours required for graduation from all RN programs are shown in the table below.

Credit Hours Required for Graduation

AD RN Programs	General and Support Courses	Nursing Theory and Clinical Courses	Credits from Previous Nursing Diploma/Degree	Total
Dakota Wesleyan University	27	45	Not applicable	72
Lake Area Technical College ¹	18	23	LPN – 45.5	86.5
Mitchell Technical College ¹	23	30	Not Reported	53
Oglala Lakota College	30	41	Not applicable	71
Southeast Technical College ¹	18	24	Not Reported	42
Western Dakota Technical College ¹	17	24	Not Reported	41
Baccalaureate RN Programs	General and Support Courses	Nursing Theory and Clinical Courses	Credits from Previous Nursing Diploma/Degree	Total
Augustana University				
• Generic & Accelerated BSN	74	50	Not applicable	124
Dakota Wesleyan University				
• Generic BSN	62	59	Not applicable	121
• LPN to BSN	39	54	LPN – 30	123
Mount Marty University				
• Generic BSN	64	64	Not applicable	128
South Dakota State University				
• Generic & Accelerated BSN	58	62	Not applicable	120
• RN to BSN	44	30	AD RN – 46	120
University of Sioux Falls				
• Generic BSN	63	57	Not applicable	120
• Accelerated BSN	32	57	Degree Required	89
• LPN to BSN	43	47	LPN – 30	120
University of South Dakota				
• Generic BSN	61	59	Not applicable	120
• LPN to BSN	62	58	Not applicable	120
• RN to BSN	58	27	AD RN – 35	120

¹ LPN to AD RN Program

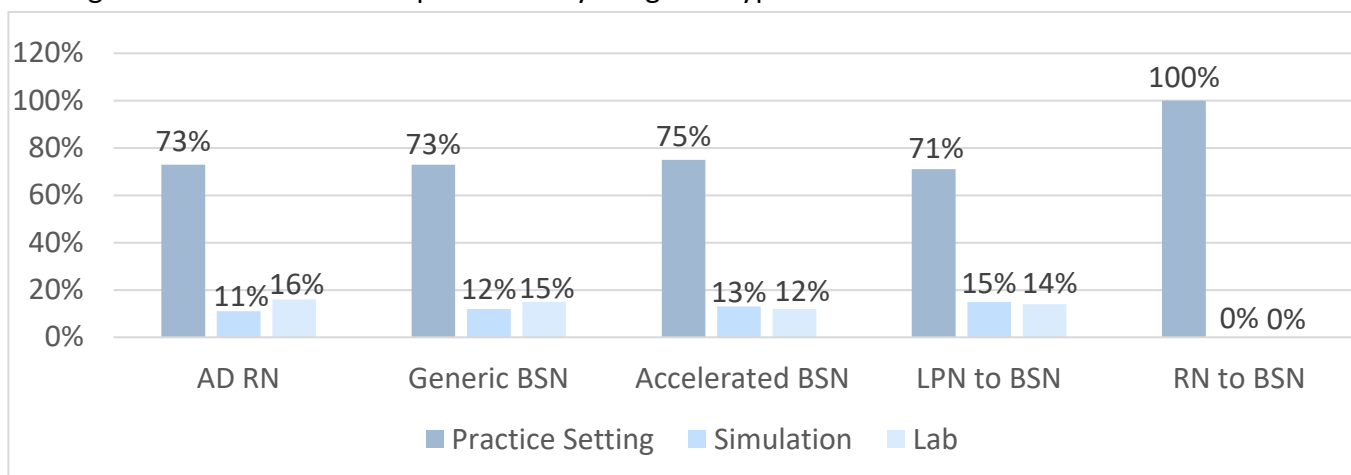
A breakdown of the hours spent in clinical experiences by practice settings, simulation, and lab are shown in the tables and chart. Most generic RN programs require students to complete the majority of clinical time in practice settings. All generic RN programs used simulation, ranging from 7% to 21%, as a replacement for clinical hours in a practice setting.

Clinical Experiences

AD RN Programs	Practice Setting Hours	Simulation Hours	Lab Hours	Total
Dakota Wesleyan University	393.5 (70%)	56.5 (10%)	112.5 (20%)	562.5 (100%)
Lake Area Technical College ¹	338 (82%)	67.5 (16%)	7.5 (2%)	413 (100%)
Mitchell Technical College ¹	239 (59%)	62 (15%)	104 (26%)	405 (100%)
Oglala Lakota College	341 (78%)	24 (6%)	70 (16%)	435 (100%)
Southeast Technical College ¹	240 (73%)	48 (15%)	40 (12%)	328 (100%)
Western Dakota Technical College ¹	240 (74%)	20 (6%)	64 (20%)	324 (100%)
Baccalaureate RN Programs	Practice Setting Hours	Simulation Hours	Lab Hours	Total
Augustana University				
• Generic BSN	478 (76%)	67 (11%)	85 (13%)	630 (100%)
• Accelerated BSN	478 (76%)	67 (11%)	85 (13%)	630 (100%)
Dakota Wesleyan University				
• Generic BSN	393.5 (70%)	56.5 (10%)	112.5 (20%)	562.5 (100%)
• LPN to BSN	281.5 (73%)	18.5 (5%)	84.5 (22%)	384.5 (100%)
Mount Marty University				
• Generic BSN	687 (75%)	78 (9%)	150 (16%)	915 (100%)
South Dakota State University				
• Generic BSN	576 (65%)	189 (21%)	120 (14%)	885 (100%)
• Accelerated BSN	576 (65%)	189 (21%)	120 (14%)	885 (100%)
• RN to BSN	90 (100%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	90 (100%)
University of Sioux Falls				
• Generic BSN	484 (83%)	43 (7%)	60 (10%)	587 (100%)
• Accelerated BSN	484 (83%)	43 (7%)	60 (10%)	587 (100%)
• LPN to BSN	264 (67%)	96 (25%)	30 (8%)	390 (100%)
University of South Dakota				
• Generic BSN	644 (72%)	140 (15%)	116 (13%)	900 (100%)
• LPN to BSN	644 (72%)	140 (15%)	116 (13%)	900 (100%)
• RN to BSN	225 (100%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	225 (100%)

¹ LPN to AD RN Program

Average Percent of Clinical Experiences by Program Type



Program Capacity

There were 1,274 seats (296 AD RN and 978 baccalaureate) available in South Dakota’s prelicensure RN programs with 993 new students (287 AD RN and 706 baccalaureate) enrolled in the 2025 reporting period. There were 294 prelicensure RN seats left unfilled or 23.1%, compared to 36.7% unfilled seats in 2024.

RN Program Capacity

AD RN Programs	Seats Available for New Students	Number of Accepted Applicants	Number of New Students Enrolled
Dakota Wesleyan University	24	24	24
Lake Area Technical College	62	66	56
Mitchell Technical College	36	40	31
Oglala Lakota College	20	13	13
Southeast Technical College	106	106	89
Western Dakota Technical College	48	38	36
Total:	296	287	249
Baccalaureate RN Programs			
Augustana University	88	75	75
Dakota Wesleyan University	72	41	41
Mount Marty University	50	21	21
South Dakota State University	440	363	394
University of Sioux Falls	72	46	46
University of South Dakota	256	160	154
Total:	978	706	731
Total AD and Baccalaureate RN Programs:	1,274	993	980

Enrollment

There were 2,012 new and continuing students enrolled in RN programs in 2025, an increase of 11.3% from 2024. In 2025, enrollment in AD RN programs increased by 21.7% and baccalaureate enrollment increased by 9.3%.

RN Student Enrollment

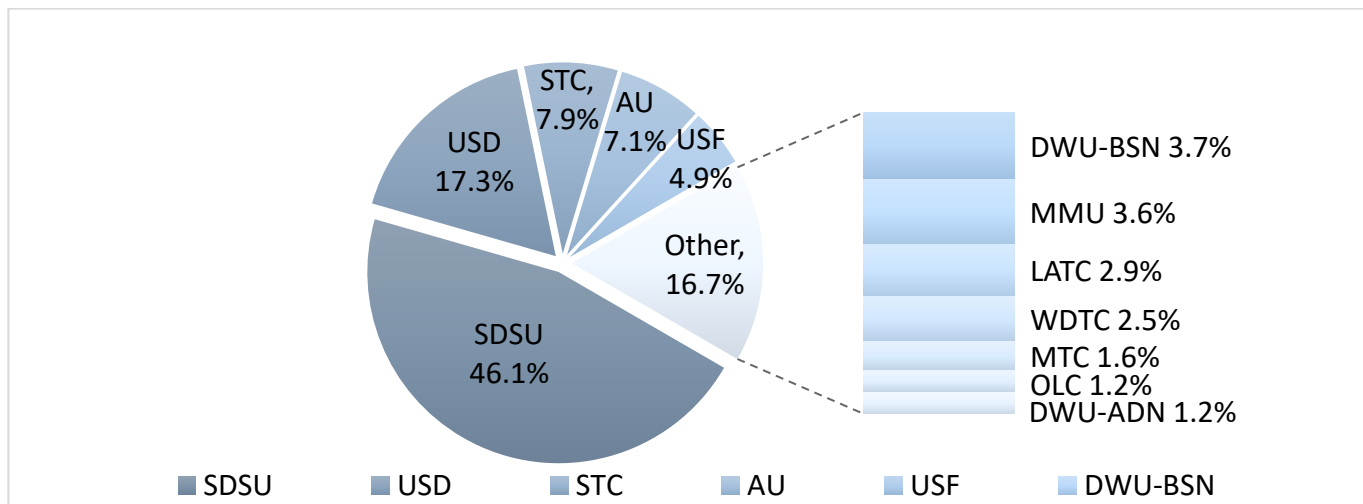
AD RN Programs	2025 Total Students	2025 % Total Students	2024 Total Students	2024-2025 Difference	2024-2025 % Change
Dakota Wesleyan University	24	1.2%	0	24	N/A
Lake Area Technical College	59	2.9%	54	5	9.3%
Mitchell Technical College	33	1.6%	28	5	17.9%
Oglala Lakota College	24	1.2%	26	-2	-7.7%
Southeast Technical College	158	7.9%	130	28	21.5%
Western Dakota Technical College	50	2.5%	48	2	4.2%
Total:	348	17.3%	286	62	21.7%

RN Student Enrollment

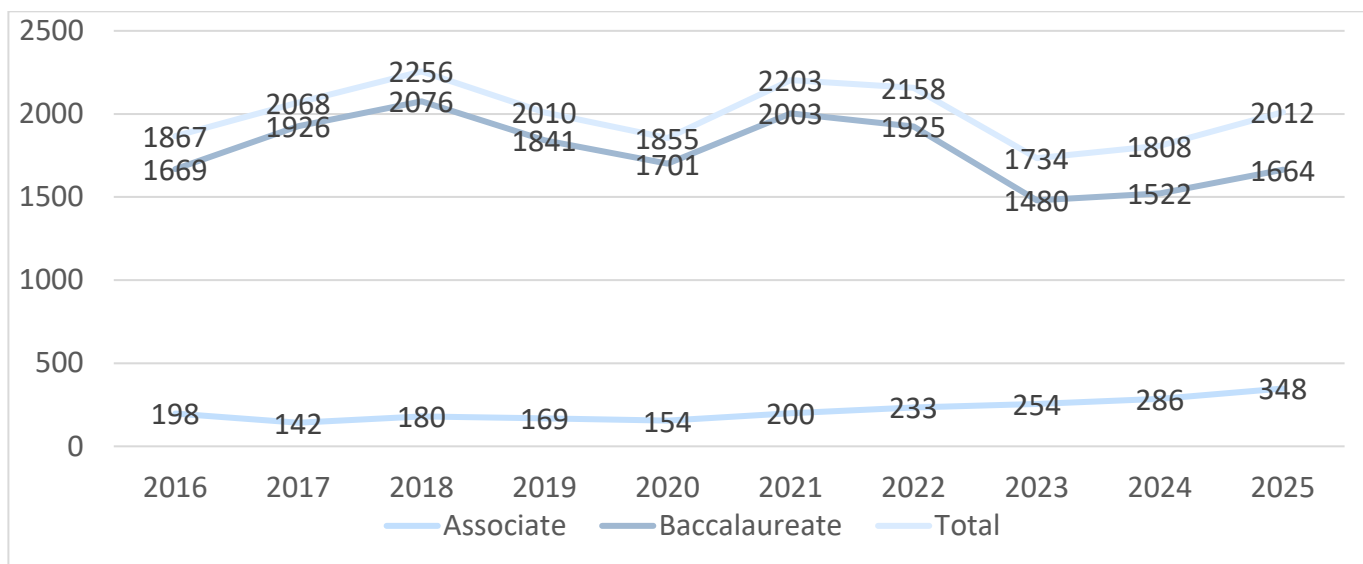
Baccalaureate RN Programs	2025 Total Students	2025 % Total Students	2024 Total Students	2024-2025 Difference	2024-2025 % Change
Augustana University	143	7.1%	114	29	25.4%
Dakota Wesleyan University	74	3.7%	82	-8	-9.8%
Mount Marty University	72	3.6%	76	-4	-5.3%
South Dakota State University	927	46.1%	830	97	11.7%
University of Sioux Falls	99	4.9%	95	4	4.2%
University of South Dakota	349	17.3%	325	24	7.4%
Total:	1,664	82.7%	1,522	142	9.3%
Total AD and Baccalaureate RN Programs:	2,012	100.0%	1,808	204	11.3%

Percent of total associate and baccalaureate student enrollment is shown in the pie chart. Trends in student enrollment rates from 2016 to 2025 are shown in the line chart for historical comparison.

Total RN Associate and Baccalaureate Student Enrollment



Trends in RN Student Enrollment



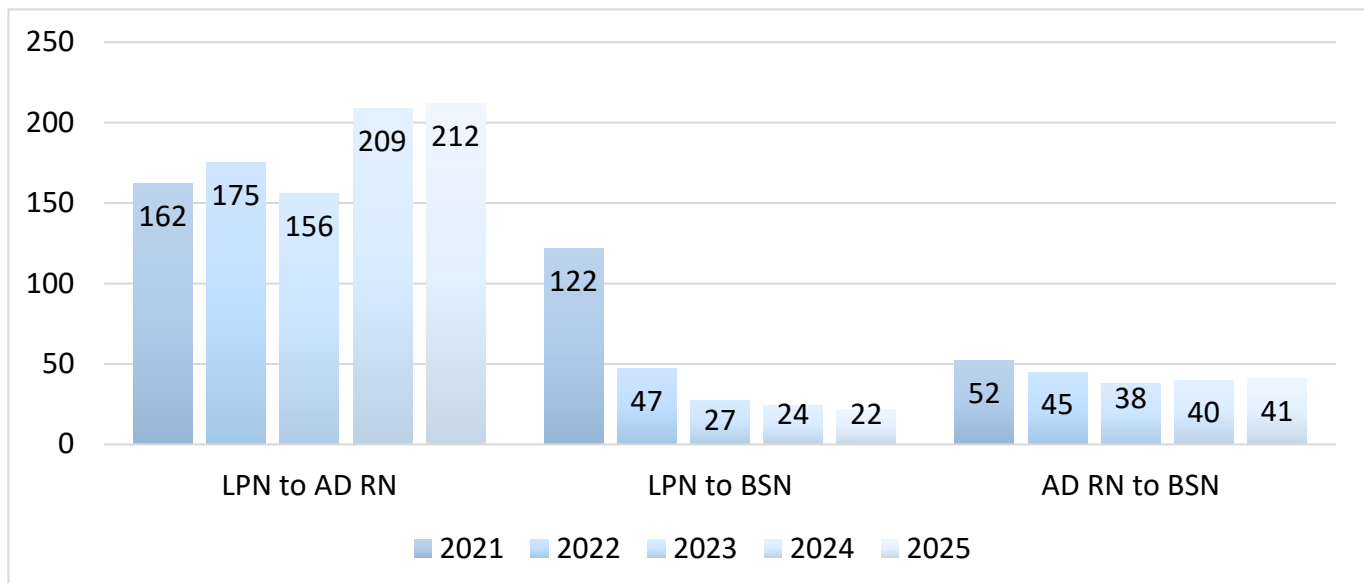
RN Upward Mobility Program Enrollment

The following tables display the number of LPNs and AD RNs who were enrolled in RN upward mobility programs; in 2025, 234 LPNs were enrolled in AD RN or baccalaureate RN upward mobility programs, and 41 RNs were enrolled in baccalaureate upward mobility nursing programs. The chart below shows trends in enrollment from 2021 – 2025.

RN Upward Mobility Program Enrollment

LPN Enrollment in AD RN Programs	2025	2024	Difference	% Change
Lake Area Technical College	56	53	3	5.7%
Mitchell Technical College	31	27	4	14.8%
Southeast Technical College	89	95	-6	-6.3%
Western Dakota Technical College	36	34	2	5.9%
Total:	212	209	3	1.4%
LPN Enrollment in Baccalaureate RN Programs	2025	2024	Difference	% Change
Dakota Wesleyan University	20	24	-4	-16.7%
University of South Dakota	2	0	2	N/A
Total:	22	24	-2	-8.3%
Total LPN Enrollment in AD and RN Programs:	234	233	1	0.4%
RN Enrollment in Baccalaureate RN Programs	2025	2024	Difference	% Change
South Dakota State University	31	36	-5	-13.9%
University of South Dakota	10	4	6	150.0%
Total:	41	40	1	2.5%
Total Upward Mobility Enrollment:	275	273	2	0.7%

Trends in Enrollment in RN Upward Mobility Programs



Characteristics of RN Students

Generic, accelerated, LPN to BSN, and RN to BSN RN Programs reported the following student characteristics for the 2025 reporting period.

Gender

Consistent with previous years, most RN students, 87.0%, were female.

Student Gender

AD RN Programs	Female	Male	Total Students
Dakota Wesleyan University	22	2	24
Lake Area Technical College	57	2	59
Mitchell Technical College	32	1	33
Oglala Lakota College	21	3	24
Southeast Technical College	151	7	158
Western Dakota Technical College	43	7	50
Total:	326	22	348
Percent:	93.7%	6.3%	100.0%
Baccalaureate RN Programs	Female	Male	Total Students
Augustana University	116	27	143
Dakota Wesleyan University	67	7	74
Mount Marty University	49	23	72
South Dakota State University	795	132	927
University of Sioux Falls	82	17	99
University of South Dakota	315	34	349
Total:	1424	240	1664
Percent:	85.6%	14.4%	100.0%
Total AD and Baccalaureate RN Programs:	1750	262	2012
Percent:	87.0%	13.0%	100.0%

Race and Ethnicity

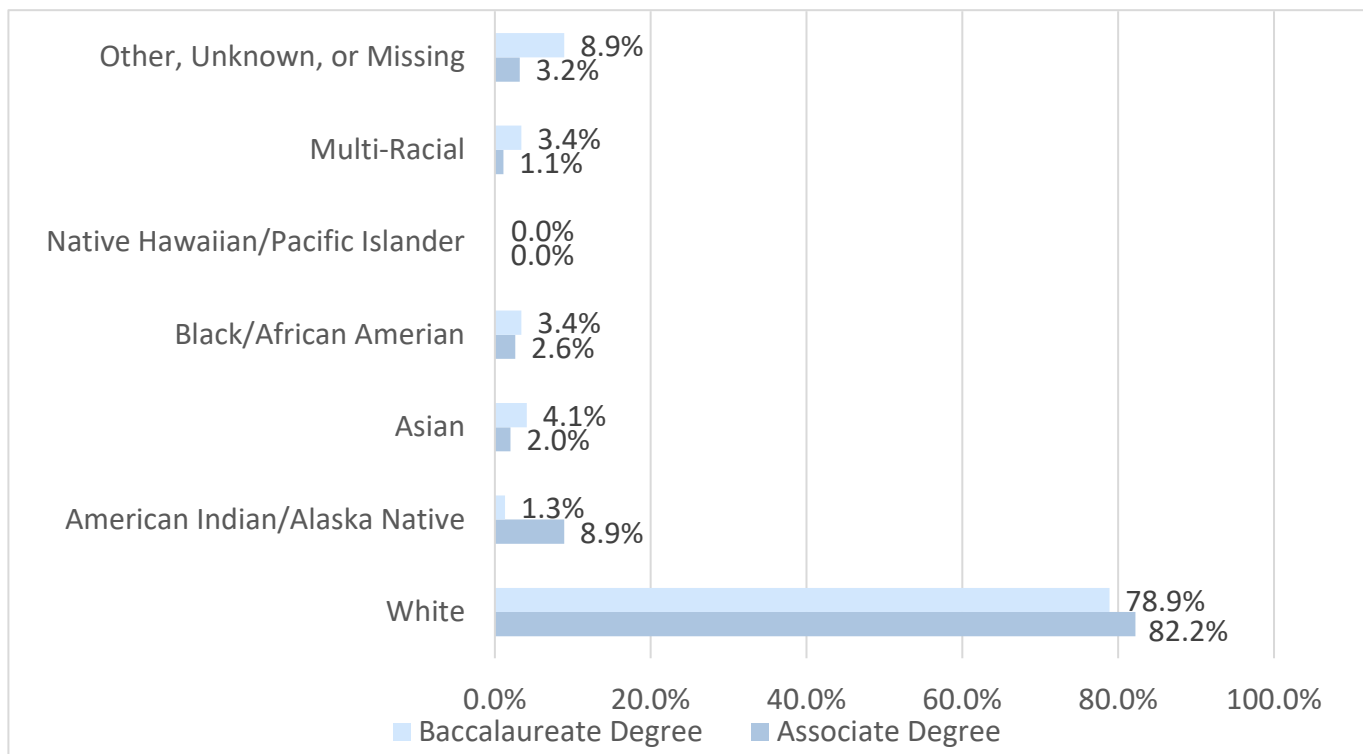
As shown in the tables below, 79.5% of RN students were White.

Student Race

AD RN Programs	American Indian / Alaska Native	Asian	Black / African American	Native Hawaiian / Pacific Islander	White	Multi-Racial	Other, Unknown, or Missing	Total Students
Dakota Wesleyan University	1	0	1	0	21	1	0	24
Lake Area Technical College	2	0	0	0	57	0	0	59
Mitchell Technical College	1	0	0	0	30	0	2	33
Oglala Lakota College	22	0	0	0	2	0	0	24
Southeastern Technical College	1	6	8	0	133	2	8	158
Western Dakota Technical College	4	1	0	0	43	1	1	50
Total:	31	7	9	0	286	4	11	348
Percent:	8.9%	2.0%	2.6%	0.0%	82.2%	1.1%	3.2%	100.0%

Baccalaureate RN Programs	American Indian / Alaska Native	Asian	Black / African American	Native Hawaiian / Pacific Islander	White	Multi-Racial	Other, Unknown, or Missing	Total Students
Augustana University	0	17	12	0	113	1	0	143
Dakota Wesleyan University	0	1	0	0	67	6	0	74
Mount Marty University	1	0	0	0	60	5		72
South Dakota State	12	41	32	0	685	31	126	927
University of Sioux Falls	2	2	0	0	84	6	5	99
University of South Dakota	6	7	13	0	304	8	11	349
Total:	21	68	57	0	1313	57	148	1664
Percent:	1.3%	4.1%	3.4%	0.0%	78.9%	3.4%	8.9%	100.0%
Total AD and Baccalaureate RN Programs:	52	75	66	0	1599	61	159	2012
Percent:	2.6%	3.7%	3.3%	0.0%	79.5%	3.0%	7.9%	100.0%

RN Student Race



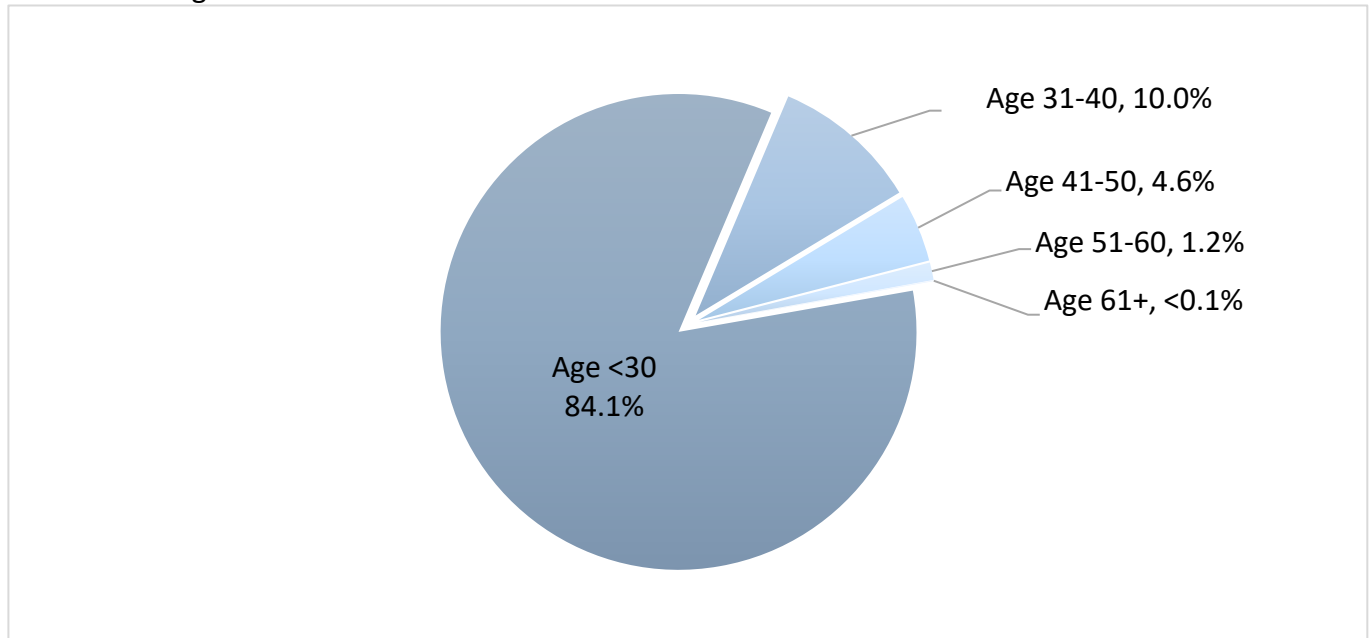
Age

The age of RN graduates is shown in the table and pie chart.

RN Student Age

Associate Degree RN Programs	≤ 30	31-40	41-50	51-60	61+	Total
Dakota Wesleyan University	12	5	5	2	0	24
Lake Area Technical College	37	14	6	2	0	59
Mitchell Technical College	19	8	4	2	0	33
Oglala Lakota College	7	8	8	1	0	24
Southeast Technical College	113	37	7	1	0	158
Western Dakota Technical College	25	8	14	3	0	50
Total:	213	80	44	11	0	348
Baccalaureate Degree RN Programs	≤ 30	31-40	41-50	51-60	61+	Total
Augustana University	135	7	1	0	0	143
Dakota Wesleyan University	57	13	4	0	0	74
Mount Marty University	71	1	0	0	0	72
South Dakota State University	808	78	31	9	1	927
University of Sioux Falls	85	9	4	1	0	99
University of South Dakota	324	13	9	3	0	349
Total:	1,480	121	49	13	1	1,664
Total AD and Baccalaureate Programs:	1,693	201	93	24	1	2,012

RN Student Age



State of Residence

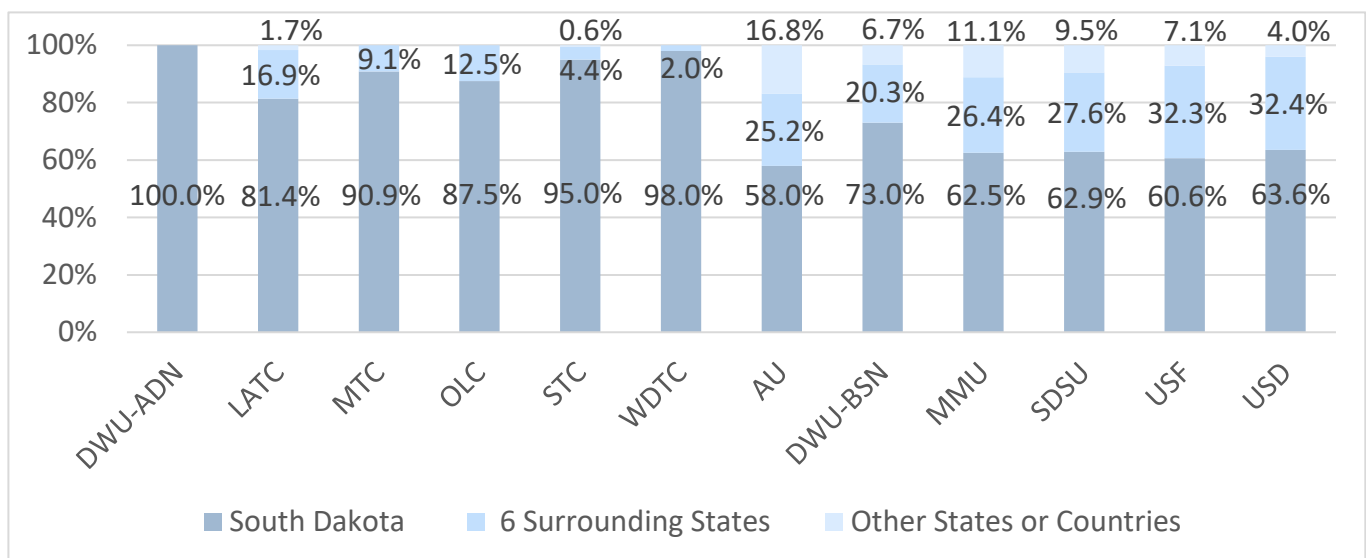
The primary state of residence of RN students is shown in the table and bar chart; over 92% of AD students resided in South Dakota.

Student State of Residence

AD RN Programs	South Dakota		Six Surrounding States ¹		Other States or Countries		Total
Dakota Wesleyan University	24	100.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	24
Lake Area Technical College	48	81.4%	10	16.9%	1	1.7%	59
Mitchell Technical College	30	90.9%	3	9.1%	0	0.0%	33
Oglala Lakota College	21	87.5%	3	12.5%	0	0.0%	24
Southeast Technical College	150	95.0%	7	4.4%	1	0.6%	158
Western Dakota Technical College	49	98.0%	1	2.0%	0	0.0%	50
Total:	322	92.5%	24	6.9%	2	0.6%	348
Baccalaureate RN Programs	South Dakota		Six Surrounding States ¹		Other States or Countries		Total
Augustana University	83	58.0%	36	25.2%	24	16.8%	143
Dakota Wesleyan University	54	73.0%	15	20.3%	5	6.7%	74
Mount Marty University	45	62.5%	19	26.4%	8	11.1%	72
South Dakota State University	583	62.9%	256	27.6%	88	9.5%	927
University of Sioux Falls	60	60.6%	32	32.3%	7	7.1%	99
University of South Dakota	222	63.6%	113	32.4%	14	4.0%	349
Total:	1047	62.9%	471	28.3%	146	8.8%	1664
Total AD and Baccalaureate Programs:	1369	68.0%	495	24.6%	148	7.4%	2012

¹ Iowa, Montana, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, Wyoming

Student State of Residence



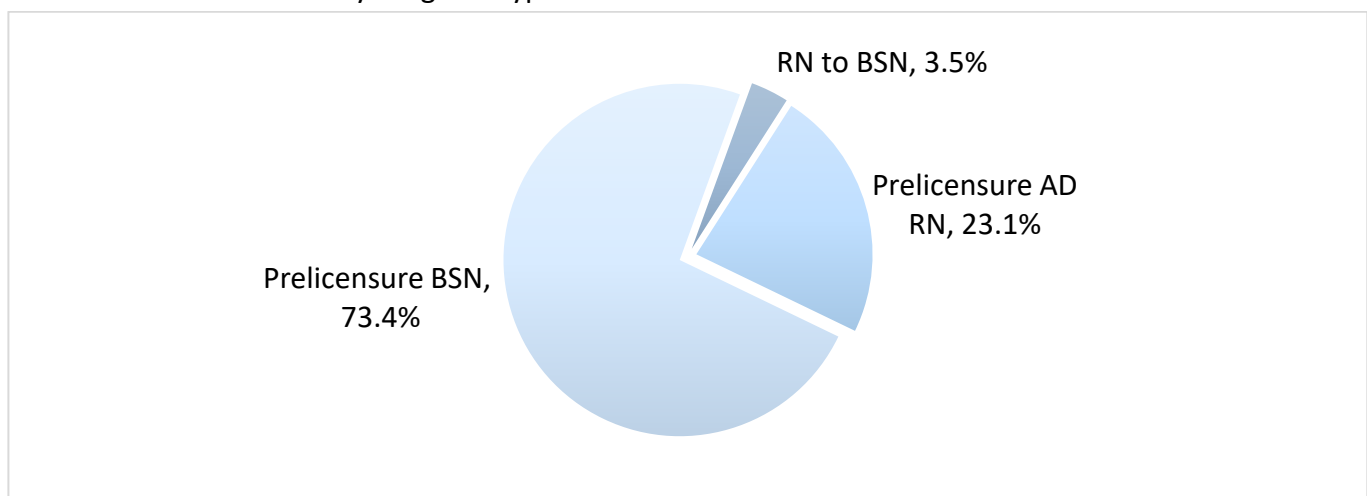
Characteristics of RN Graduates

The following table shows the number of prelicensure RN and post-licensure RN to BSN graduates during the 2025 measuring period. Of the 772 total graduates, there were 745 graduates who were eligible for licensure. They included 178 AD RN graduates, and 567 generic, accelerated, and LPN to BSN graduates. The remaining 27 graduates were enrolled in RN to BSN programs and already held an RN license. The pie chart shows the percentage of graduates by educational level. Trends in prelicensure RN graduates from 2016-2025 are shown in the line graph for historical purposes.

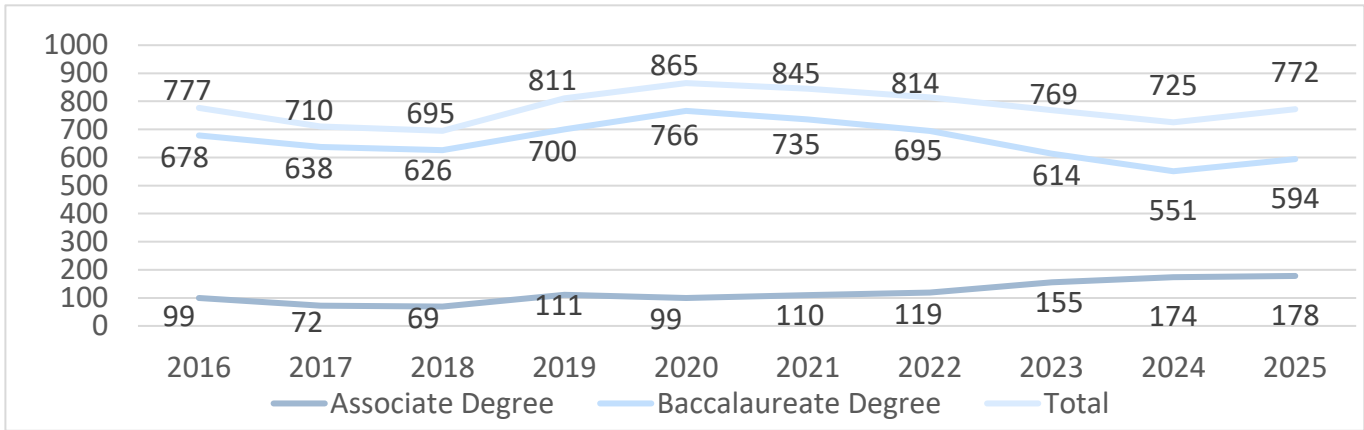
RN Graduates

AD RN Programs	AD RN	Generic BSN	Accelerated BSN	LPN to BSN	RN to BSN	Total Graduates
Lake Area Technical College	44	--	--	--	--	44
Mitchell Technical College	23	--	--	--	--	23
Oglala Lakota College	8	--	--	--	--	8
Southeast Technical College	69	--	--	--	--	69
Western Dakota Technical College	34	--	--	--	--	34
Total:	178	--	--	--	--	178
Baccalaureate RN Programs	AD RN	Generic BSN	Accelerated BSN	LPN to BSN	RN to BSN	Total Graduates
Augustana University	--	54	14	--	--	68
Dakota Wesleyan University	--	12	--	20	--	32
Mount Marty University	--	29	--	--	--	29
South Dakota State University	--	221	78	--	23	322
University of Sioux Falls	--	26	13	--	--	39
University of South Dakota	--	100	--	--	4	104
Total:	--	442	105	20	27	594
Total Associate and Baccalaureate RN:	178	442	105	20	27	772
Percent:	23.1%	57.2%	13.6%	2.6%	3.5%	100.0%

Percent of RN Graduates by Program Type



Trends in Prelicensure RN Graduates (Excludes RN to BSN Graduates)



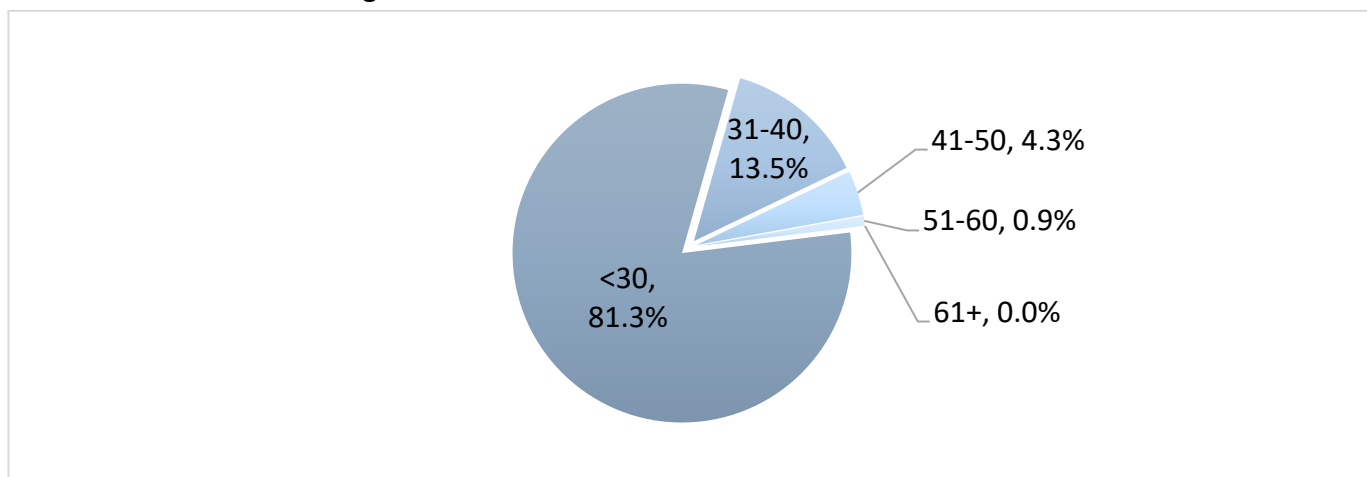
Age

The age of RN students is shown in the table. Consistent with previous years, the majority of students, 81.3%, were 30 years or younger.

Graduate Age

AD RN Programs	≤ 30	31-40	41-50	51-60	61+	Total
Lake Area Technical College	30	11	2	1	0	44
Mitchell Technical College	16	5	0	2	0	23
Oglala Lakota College	2	4	2	0	0	8
Southeast Technical College	48	18	3	0	0	69
Western Dakota Technical College	18	5	8	3	0	34
Total:	114	43	15	6	0	178
Baccalaureate RN Programs	≤ 30	31-40	41-50	51-60	61+	Total
Augustana University	63	5	0	0	0	68
Dakota Wesleyan University	26	5	1	0	0	32
Mount Marty University	29	0	0	0	0	29
South Dakota State University	264	44	13	1	0	322
University of Sioux Falls	35	4	0	0	0	39
University of South Dakota	97	3	4	0	0	104
Total:	514	61	18	1	0	594
Total Associate and Baccalaureate RN:	628	104	33	7	0	772

Percent of RN Graduate Age



State of Residence

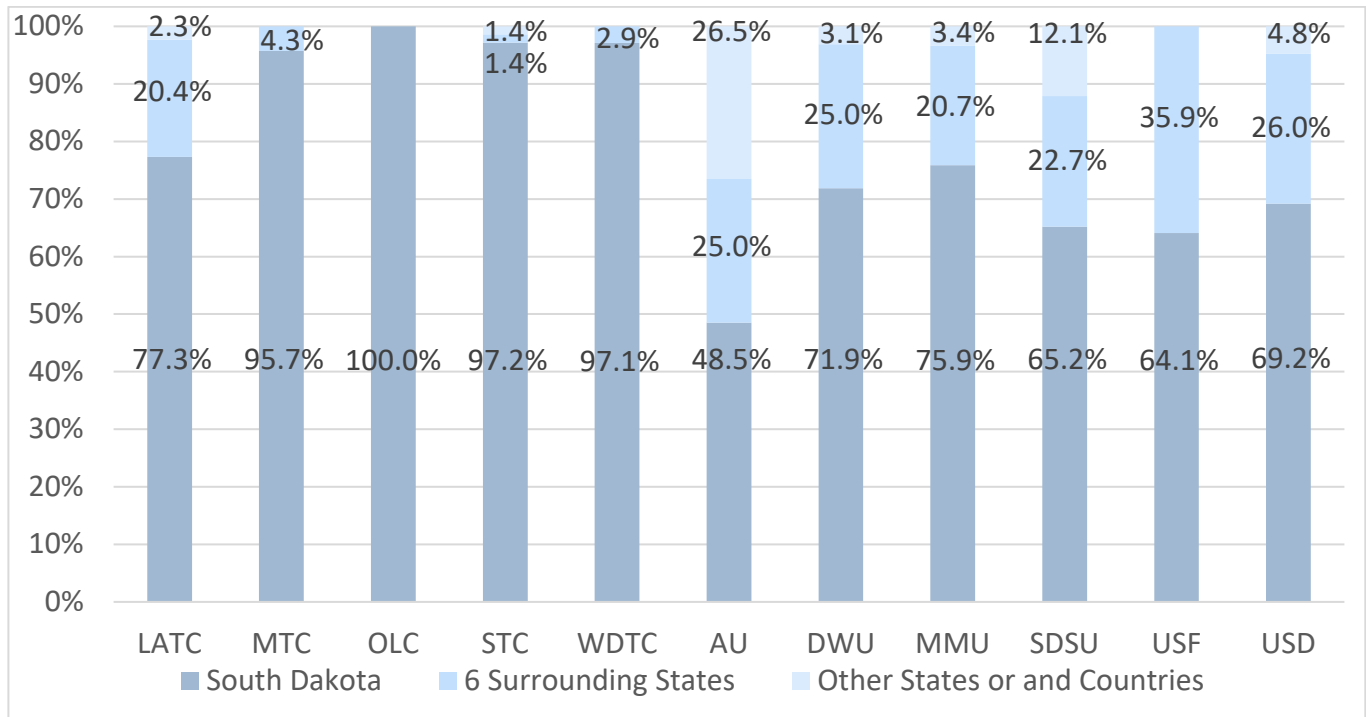
The primary state of residence of RN graduates is shown in the following table and bar graph. Consistent with previous reports, the majority, 71.1%, of graduates reside in South Dakota.

Graduate State of Residence

Associate Degree RN Programs	South Dakota		Six Surrounding States ¹		Other State or Countries		Total
	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage	
Lake Area Technical College	34	77.3%	9	20.4%	1	2.3%	44
Mitchell Technical College	22	95.7%	1	4.3%	0	0.0%	23
Oglala Lakota College	8	100.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	8
Southeast Technical College	67	97.2%	1	1.4%	1	1.4%	69
Western Dakota Technical College	33	97.1%	1	2.9%	0	0.0%	34
Total:	164	92.1%	12	6.8%	2	1.1%	178
Baccalaureate Degree RN Programs	South Dakota		Six Surrounding States ¹		Other State or Countries		Total
	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage	
Augustana University	33	48.5%	17	25.0%	18	26.5%	68
Dakota Wesleyan University	23	71.9%	8	25.0%	1	3.1%	32
Mount Marty University	22	75.9%	6	20.7%	1	3.4%	29
South Dakota State University	210	65.2%	73	22.7%	39	12.1%	322
University of Sioux Falls	25	64.1%	14	35.9%	0	0.0%	39
University of South Dakota	72	69.2%	27	26.0%	5	4.8%	104
Total:	385	64.8%	145	24.4%	64	10.8%	594
Total AD and Baccalaureate RN Programs:	549	71.1%	157	20.3%	66	8.6%	772

¹ Iowa, Montana, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, Wyoming

RN Graduate State of Residence



NCLEX–RN® Examination Results

Results from the NCLEX–RN® examination from January–December 2025 are shown in the table. Pass rates are evaluated by the SD Board of Nursing for ongoing approval of a program using measuring periods as defined in ARSD 20:48:07:47. A measuring period commences on January 1 of each calendar year and continues until December 31 of that calendar year in which the number of first-time writers since the start of that measuring period equals or exceeds 21. Measuring periods for programs with fewer than 21 test writers in one calendar year extend over more than one year until 21 is reached. In 2025, the pass rate for all first-time test writers in South Dakota was 91.6% and the national pass rate for US educated first-time test writers was 86.7%. Pass rates from 2016 to 2025 are shown in the bar chart for historical comparison.

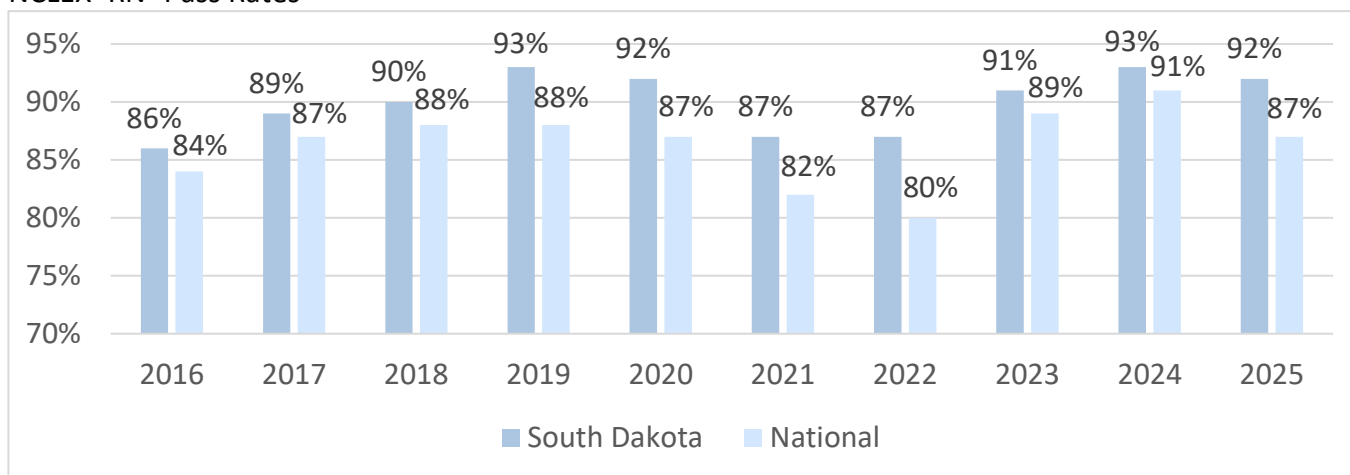
2025 NCLEX-RN Results

AD RN Programs	# Delivered	# Passed	# Failed	2025 Pass Rate
Lake Area Technical College	40	34	6	85.0%
Mitchell Technical College	23	23	0	100.0%
Oglala Lakota College	7	4	3	*
Southeast Technical College	71	65	6	91.5%
Western Dakota Technical College	34	31	3	91.2%
Total:	175	157	18	89.7%

*Pass rate to be determined upon reaching or exceeding an N of 21 graduates.

Baccalaureate Degree RN Programs	# Delivered	# Passed	# Failed	2025 Pass Rate
Augustana University	68	65	3	95.6%
Dakota Wesleyan University	33	31	2	93.9%
Mount Marty University	28	19	9	67.9%
South Dakota State University	297	277	20	93.3%
University of Sioux Falls	39	38	1	97.4%
University of South Dakota	100	91	9	91.0%
Total:	565	521	44	92.2%
Total AD and Baccalaureate RN Programs:	740	678	62	91.6%

NCLEX–RN® Pass Rates



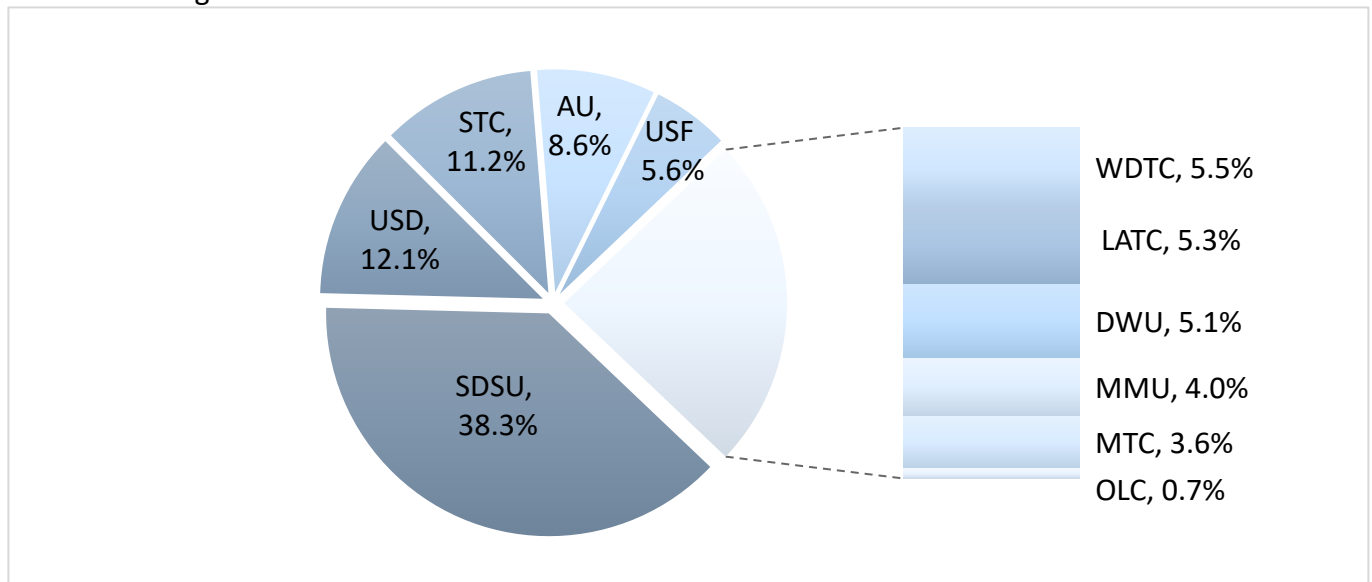
Graduates Licensed as RNs in South Dakota

The number of graduates licensed by NCLEX–RN® examination in South Dakota from January 1 to December 31, 2025, is shown in the table. In 2025, 78.4% of the RN graduates produced by South Dakota’s programs were licensed in SD. This was an increase of 2.9% since 2024.

RN Graduates Licensed into SD

AD RN Programs	Prelicensure Graduates Produced	Total Prelicensure Graduates Licensed in SD	Percent of Total Prelicensure Graduates Licensed in SD
Lake Area Technical College	44	32 (72.7%)	5.3%
Mitchell Technical College	23	22 (95.7%)	3.6%
Oglala Lakota College	8	4 (50.0%)	0.7%
Southeast Technical College	69	68 (98.6%)	11.2%
Western Dakota Technical College	34	33 (97.1%)	5.5%
Total:	178	159 (89.3%)	26.3%
Baccalaureate RN Programs	Prelicensure Graduates Produced	Total Prelicensure Graduates Licensed in SD	Percent of Total Prelicensure Graduates Licensed in SD
Augustana University	68	52 (76.5%)	8.6%
Dakota Wesleyan University	32	31 (96.9%)	5.1%
Mount Marty University	29	24 (82.8%)	4.0%
South Dakota State University	322	232 (72.1%)	38.3%
University of Sioux Falls	39	34 (87.2%)	5.6%
University of South Dakota	104	73 (70.2%)	12.1%
Total:	594	446 (75.1%)	73.7%
Total AD and Baccalaureate RN Programs:	772	605 (78.4%)	100.0%

Percent of Program’s Total Graduates Licensed in SD



RN Faculty

Employment Status

Respondents were asked to identify the number of full-time, part-time, and clinical adjunct RN nursing education faculty employed by their program. Full-time faculty are expected to work 40 hours per week and are responsible for teaching, participating in curriculum development, holding office hours for student advisement, attending faculty meetings, participating in campus-wide events, pursuing scholarly activities, and attending professional development events. Part-time faculty work less than 40 hours per week and are responsible for teaching, collaborating with other faculty, and maintaining availability to students. Clinical adjunct faculty provide clinical teaching under the direction of full-time and part-time faculty.

RN Faculty

AD RN Programs	Full-time Faculty	Part-time Faculty	Clinical Adjunct Faculty	Total Faculty
Dakota Wesleyan University	2	0	0	2
Lake Area Technical College	6	0	1	7
Mitchell Technical College	4	0	0	4
Oglala Lakota College	4	0	0	4
Southeast Technical College	5	0	5	10
Western Dakota Technical College	2	0	6	8
Total:	23	0	12	35
Percent:	65.7%	0.0%	34.3%	100.0%
Baccalaureate RN Programs	Full-time Faculty	Part-time Faculty	Clinical Adjunct Faculty	Total Faculty
Augustana University	10	0	42	52
Dakota Wesleyan University	7	0	1	8
Mount Marty University	4	0	10	14
South Dakota State University	49	0	98	147
University of Sioux Falls	5	0	30	35
University of South Dakota	27	4	32	63
Total:	102	4	213	319
Percent:	32.0%	1.2%	66.8%	100.0%
Total Associate and Baccalaureate RN:	125	4	225	354
Percent:	35.3%	1.1%	63.6%	100.0%

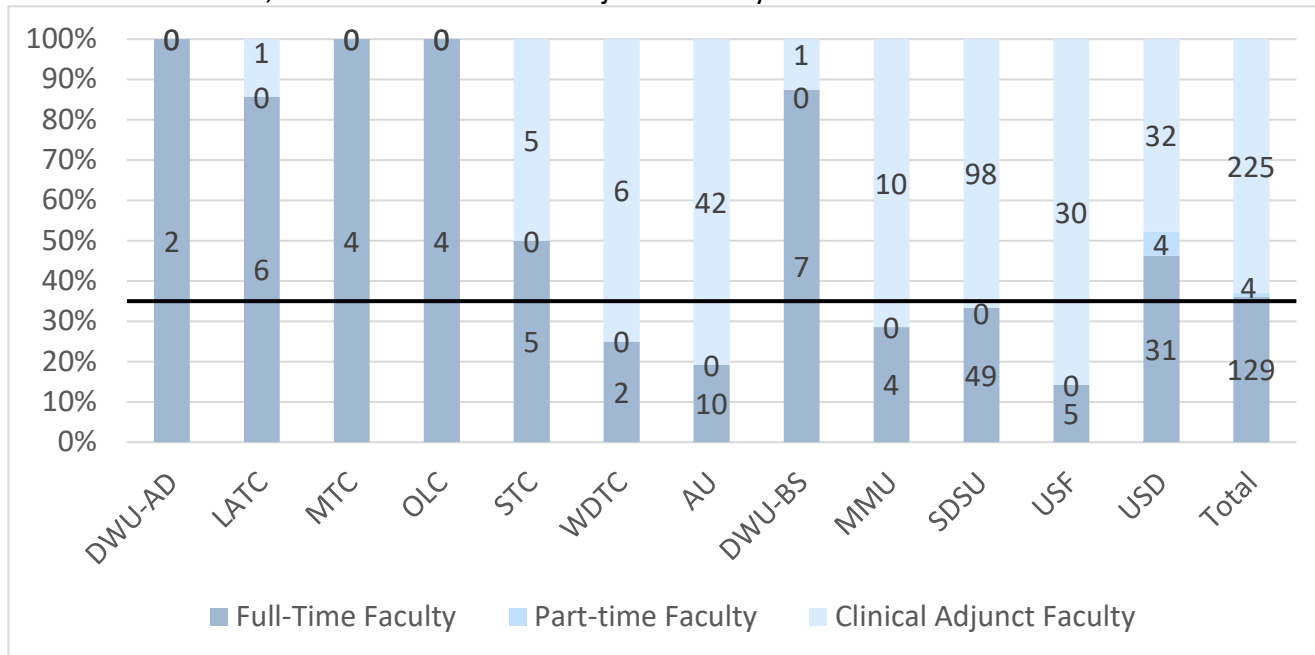
Vacancies

As of September 2025, there were 2 full-time faculty vacancies reported in AD RN programs and 5 full-time faculty vacancies in baccalaureate programs.

National Faculty Quality Indicator

According to Spector et al. (2020), a program with 35% of their total faculty employed full-time by the institution is an indicator of a quality nursing program. As shown by the benchmark line in the graph, most RN nursing programs in South Dakota met this quality indicator.

Percent of Full-time, Part-time and Clinical Adjunct Faculty



Faculty Characteristics

Gender

Of the 129 full-time and part-time RN faculty, 122 (94.6%) were female and 7 (5.4%) were male.

Pursuing Advanced Nursing Degree

There were 11 (8.5%) of the 129 full-time and part-time RN faculty pursuing an advanced nursing degree in 2025.

Faculty with Doctoral Degrees

There were 39 (30.2%) of the 129 full-time and part-time faculty holding a doctoral degree.

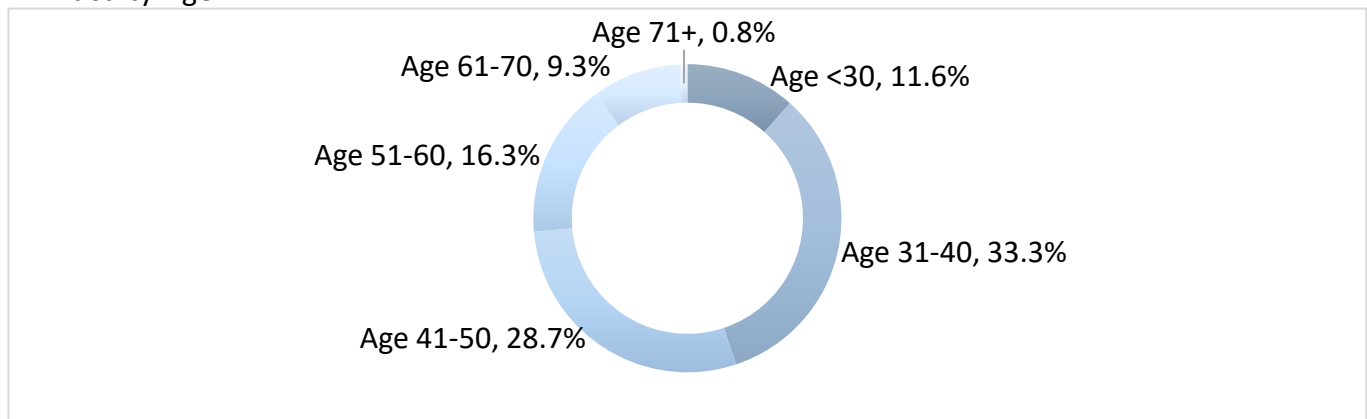
Age and Academic Preparation

As shown in the table and graph, 58 (45.0%) of the 129 full-time and part-time RN faculty were less than 41 years old. Fifty-eight (45.0%) were between the ages of 41-60 years old, and thirteen were 61 years old or older (10.0%).

Age and Academic Preparation

AD RN Programs	≤ 30	31-40	41-50	51-60	61-70	71+	Total
PhD in Nursing	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Doctor of Nursing Practice	0	0	1	1	0	0	2
Other Nursing Doctorate	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Non-Nursing Doctorate	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Master's in Nursing	3	7	5	1	1	0	17
Non-Nursing Master's	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bachelor's in Nursing	0	1	0	0	0	1	2
Total:	3	8	7	2	2	1	23
Percent:	13.0%	34.8%	30.4%	8.7%	8.7%	4.4%	100.0%
Baccalaureate RN Programs	≤ 30	31-40	41-50	51-60	61-70	71+	Total
PhD in Nursing	1	4	3	6	5	0	19
Doctor of Nursing Practice	0	2	6	4	3	0	15
Other Nursing Doctorate	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Non-Nursing Doctorate	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Master's in Nursing	11	27	17	9	2	0	66
Non-Nursing Master's	0	0	3	0	0	0	3
Bachelor's in Nursing	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Total:	12	35	30	19	10	0	106
Percent:	11.3%	33.0%	28.3%	17.9%	9.5%	0.0%	100.0%
Total AD and Baccalaureate RN Programs:	15	43	37	21	12	1	129
Percent:	11.6%	33.3%	28.7%	16.3%	9.3%	0.8%	100.0%

RN Faculty Age



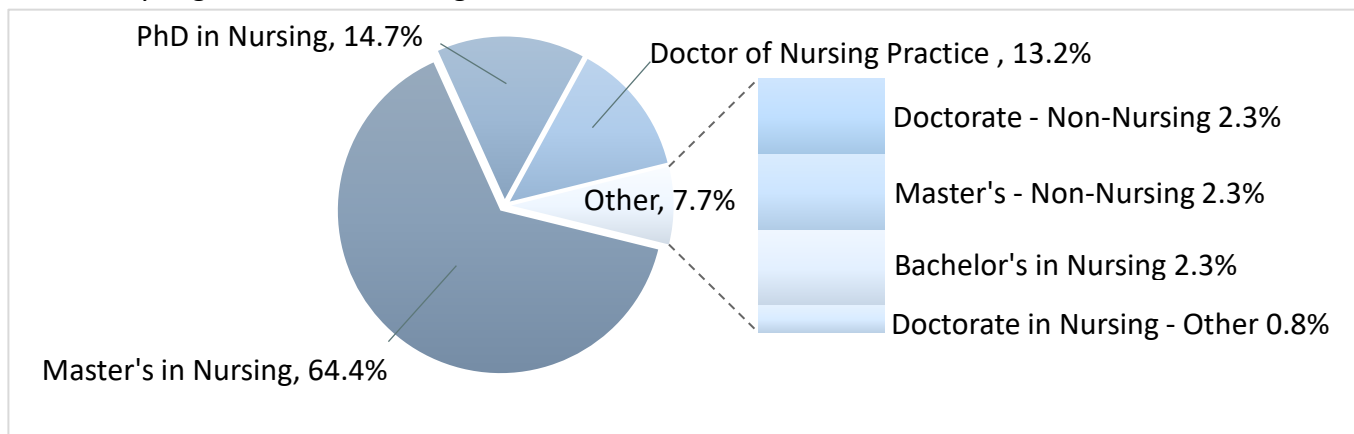
Highest Academic Achievement of RN Faculty by Program

The following table and chart present the highest academic preparation of full-time and part-time RN faculty. The majority, 74.0%, of faculty employed in AD RN programs held master’s in nursing degrees. The majority, 62.3%, of faculty employed in baccalaureate RN programs held a master’s in nursing degree.

Highest Academic Achievement by Program

AD RN Programs	Bachelor's in Nursing	Non-Nursing Master's	Master's in Nursing	Doctorate – Not in Nursing	Doctorate in Nursing - Other	Doctor of Nursing Practice	PhD in Nursing	Total Faculty
Dakota Wesleyan University	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	2
Lake Area Technical College	0	0	5	0	0	1	0	6
Mitchell Technical College	1	0	2	0	0	1	0	4
Oglala Lakota College	0	0	3	0	1	0	0	4
Southeast Technical College	1	0	3	1	0	0	0	5
Western Dakota Technical College	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	2
Total:	2	0	17	1	1	2	0	23
Percent:	8.7%	0.0%	74.0%	4.3%	4.3%	8.7%	0.0%	100.0%
Baccalaureate RN Programs								
Augustana University	0	2	6	0	0	2	0	10
Dakota Wesleyan University	1	1	4	0	0	1	0	7
Mount Marty University	0	0	1	2	0	0	1	4
South Dakota State University	0	0	33	0	0	3	13	49
University of Sioux Falls	0	0	2	0	0	2	1	5
University of South Dakota	0	0	20	0	0	7	4	31
Total:	1	3	66	2	0	15	19	106
Percent:	0.9%	2.8%	62.3%	1.9%	0.0%	14.2%	17.9%	100.0%
Total Associate and Baccalaureate RN:	3	3	83	3	1	17	19	129
Percent:	2.3%	2.3%	64.4%	2.3%	0.8%	13.2%	14.7%	100.0%

RN Faculty Highest Academic Degree



ADVANCED PRACTICE REGISTERED NURSE EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Enrollment

Student enrollment for South Dakota’s approved advanced practice registered nurse (APRN) programs is shown in the following tables by APRN role, degree type, and program foci specialty.

APRN Student Enrollment

Nurse Practitioner Programs	Doctor of Nursing Practice		Master’s in Nursing			Post Graduate Certificate			Total
	Family Across the Lifespan	Psych- Mental Health	Family Across the Lifespan	Psych- Mental Health	Acute Care Adult /	Family Across the Lifespan	Psych- Mental Health	Acute Care Adult / Gerontology	
Augustana University	--	--	--	--	13	--	--	1	14
Mount Marty University	--	--	40	22	--	0	4	--	66
South Dakota State University	60	10	--	--	--	--	8	1	79
Total:	60	10	40	22	13	0	12	2	159

Clinical Nurse Specialist Programs	Master’s in Nursing		Post Graduate Certificate		Total
	Acute Care Adult / Gerontology		Acute Care Adult / Gerontology		
Augustana University	2		0		2
Total:	2		0		2

Nurse Anesthesia Programs	Prelicensure Doctor of Nurse Anesthesia Practice	Total
Mount Marty University	118	118
University of South Dakota	47	47
Total:	165	165

Graduates

The following tables show the number of graduates produced by South Dakota’s approved APRN programs by APRN role, degree type, and specialty foci. Trends in the number of graduates produced by South Dakota’s programs are shown in the bar graph.

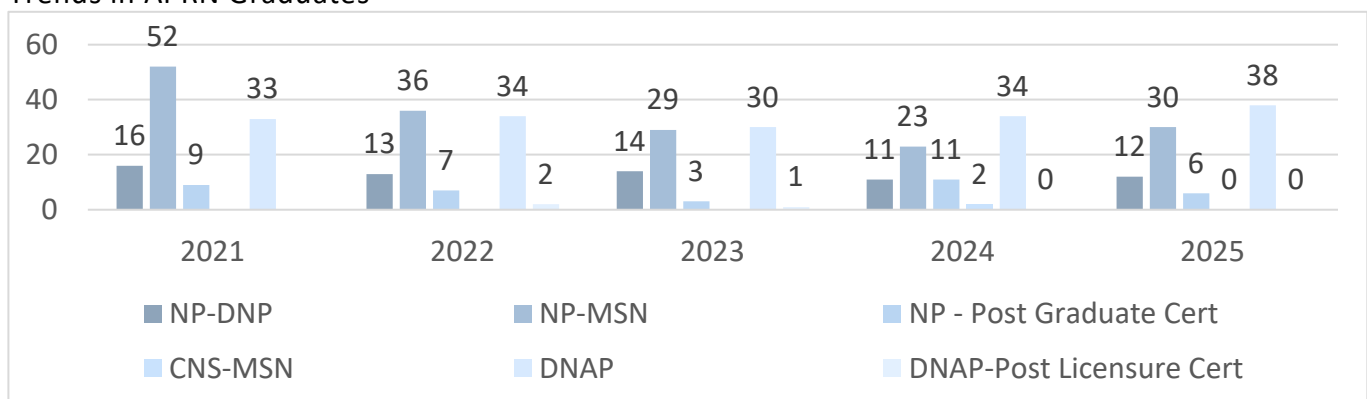
APRN Graduates

Nurse Practitioner Programs	Doctor of Nursing Practice		Master’s in Nursing			Post Graduate Certificate			Total
	Family Across the Lifespan	Psych- Mental Health	Family Across the Lifespan	Psych- Mental Health	Acute Care Adult / Gerontology	Family Across the Lifespan	Psych- Mental Health	Acute Care Adult / Gerontology	
Augustana University	--	--	--	--	4	--	--	1	5
Mount Marty University	--	--	12	14	--	0	4	--	30
South Dakota State University	11	1	--	--	--	0	1	--	13
Total:	11	1	12	14	4	0	5	1	48

Clinical Nurse Specialist Programs	MSN	Post-Graduate	Total
	Acute Care Adult / Gerontology	Acute Care Adult / Gerontology	
Augustana University	0	0	0
Total:	0	0	0

Nurse Anesthesia Programs	Prelicensure Doctor of Nurse Anesthesia Practice	Total
Mount Marty University	38	38
University of South Dakota	0	0
Total:	38	38

Trends in APRN Graduates



Characteristics of APRN Graduates

Gender

As shown in the table and pie chart, most APRN graduates (72.1%) were female, which is consistent with previous reports.

APRN Graduate Gender

	Female	Male	Total
Nurse Practitioner	41 (85.4%)	7 (14.6%)	48
Clinical Nurse Specialist	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0
Nurse Anesthesia	21 (55.3%)	17 (44.7%)	38
Total:	62 (72.1%)	24 (27.9%)	86

Race and Ethnicity

Consistent with previous reports, most APRN graduates were White (90.7%) and of those reported, most were of Non-Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin.

APRN Graduate Race

Educational Program	American Indian / Alaska Native	Asian	Black / African American	Native Hawaiian / Pacific Islander	White	Mixed Race / Other / Unknown	Total Students
Augustana University Nurse Practitioner	0	0	0	0	5	0	5
Augustana University Clinical Nurse Specialist	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mount Marty University Nurse Practitioner	1	0	4	0	24	1	30
Mount Marty University Nurse Anesthesia	0	0	0	0	38	0	38
South Dakota State University Nurse Practitioner	0	0	1	0	11	1	13
University of South Dakota Nurse Anesthesia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total:	1	0	5	0	78	2	86
Percent:	1.2%	0.0%	5.8%	0.0%	90.7%	2.3%	100.0%

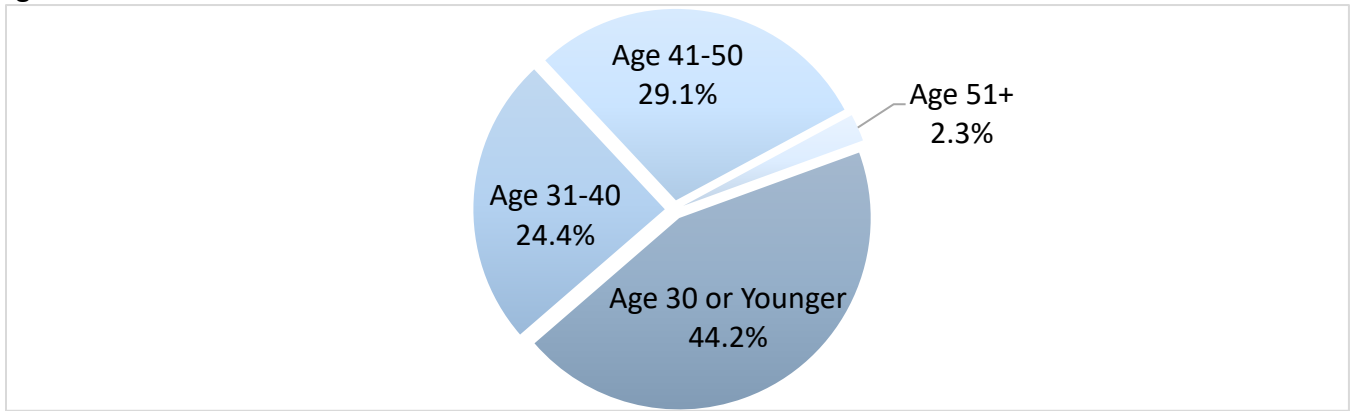
Age

The largest percentage (44.2%) of APRN graduates were in the 30 or younger age range.

Graduate Age

APRN Program	≤ 30	31-40	41-50	51+	Total
Augustana University Nurse Practitioner	3	1	1	0	5
Augustana University Clinical Nurse Specialist	0	0	0	0	0
Mount Marty University Nurse Practitioner	7	13	10	0	30
Mount Marty University Nurse Anesthesia	28	7	2	1	38
South Dakota State University Nurse Practitioner	0	0	12	1	13
University of South Dakota Nurse Anesthesia	0	0	0	0	0
Total:	38	21	25	2	86
Percent:	44.2%	24.4%	29.1%	2.3%	100.0%

Age of Graduates



APRN Faculty

Employment Status

Respondents were asked to identify the number of faculty who were licensed as APRNs, who were teaching full-time in the graduate programs, and carried the full scope of faculty responsibilities, including teaching, advisement, and committee work. Part-time faculty included those who were licensed as APRNs and who may or may not have held academic rank or carried the full scope of faculty responsibilities. This also included faculty who divided time between the nursing programs within the institution.

APRN Faculty

APRN Program	Full-time	Part-time	Total
Augustana University Clinical Nurse Specialist	1	0	1
Augustana University Nurse Practitioner	1	0	1
Mount Marty University Nurse Practitioner	3	0	3
Mount Marty University Nurse Anesthesia	5	5	10
South Dakota State University Nurse Practitioner	7	7	14
University of South Dakota Nurse Anesthesia	3	1	4
Total:	20	13	33
Percent:	60.6%	39.4%	100.0%

Vacancies

As of September 2025, there were 2 full-time faculty vacancies reported, one in a nurse anesthesia program and one in a nurse practitioner program.

Faculty Characteristics

Gender

Of faculty teaching in APRN programs, 72.7% were female and 27.3% were male.

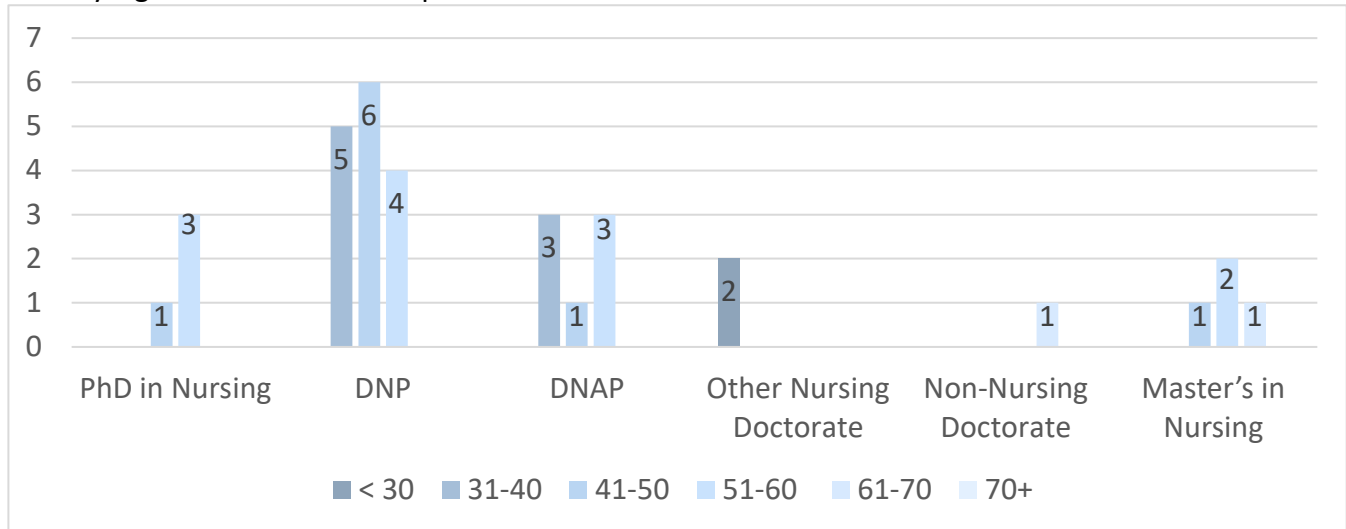
Age and Academic Preparation

The largest percentage (36.3%) of APRN faculty were in the 51-60 age range and 6.1% were 61 years of age or older. The majority of faculty, 84.9%, held a doctoral degree in nursing.

Faculty Age and Academic Preparation

Academic Preparation	≤ 30	31-40	41-50	51-60	61-70	71+	Total	%
PhD in Nursing	0	0	1	3	0	0	4	12.1%
Doctor of Nursing Practice	0	5	6	4	0	0	15	45.5%
Doctor of Nurse Anesthesia Practice	0	3	1	3	0	0	7	21.2%
Other Nursing Doctorate	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	6.1%
Non-Nursing Doctorate	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	3.0%
Master's in Nursing	0	0	1	2	1	0	4	12.1%
Total:	2	8	9	12	2	0	33	100.0%
Percent:	6.1%	24.2%	27.3%	36.3%	6.1%	0.0%	100.0%	

Faculty Age and Academic Preparation



HISTORICAL NOTES

2010 – Current:

- June 2010: MMC granted prerequisite status for PN program.
- September 2010: USD granted prerequisite status for RN to BSN program.
- September 2010: MMC granted interim status for a PN program.
- January 2011: MMC began first cohort of PN Program.
- June 2011: NAU granted approval for reorganization to add Sioux Falls campus.
- June 2011: SWC approved for LPN to AD RN online program.
- September 2011: USD began first cohort of RN to BSN students.
- September 2011: STI granted interim status for LPN to AD RN (Associate of Applied Science) program.
- February 2012: USD generic baccalaureate program granted prerequisite status.
- February 2012: SDSU approved to offer accelerated BSN option in Aberdeen.
- February 2013: USD generic baccalaureate program granted interim status.
- May 2013: USF baccalaureate program granted full status.
- January 2014: DWU generic baccalaureate program granted prerequisite status.
- January 2014: STI PN program approved to add online students.
- June 2014: Augustana College accelerated baccalaureate program approved.
- February 2015: DWU generic baccalaureate program granted interim status.
- April 2015: STI LPN-AAS Program granted full status.
- September 2015: SWC PN program placed on voluntary hold; no faculty for 2015-2016 academic year.
- September 2016: Mitchell Technical Institute (MTI) granted prerequisite status for a PN program.
- February 2017: MTI granted interim status for PN program.
- February 2017: DWU voluntarily closed AD RN program in Mitchell and LPN to RN program in Sioux Falls.
- February 2017: STI approved to offer online LPN to AD RN program.
- February 2017: MMC voluntarily closed PN program.
- April 2017: USD granted full status for BSN program.
- September 2017: LATI granted prerequisite status to offer LPN to AD RN program.
- November 2017: STI approved to reorganize program to offer LPN to AD RN program in Huron.
- February 2018: LATI granted interim status to offer LPN to AD RN program.
- February 2018: OLC granted full status for AD RN program.
- April 2018: WDT granted full status for PN program.
- June 2018: WDT granted prerequisite status for LPN to AD RN program.
- June 2018: SGU granted full status for PN program.
- September 2018: PC granted full status for BSN program.
- November 2018: SWC granted full status for PN program.
- November 2018: MTI granted continued interim status for PN program.
- November 2018: NAU granted full status for BSN program.
- December 2018: USD voluntarily closed AD RN program in Watertown.
- February 2019: STI granted approval to offer PN program in Huron SD.
- April 2019: WDT granted interim status for LPN to AD RN program.
- April 2019: SDSU plan to offer post-graduate Psychiatric-Mental Health NP received.
- July 2019: DWU granted continued interim status for the BSN program.

- July 2019: DWU granted approval to offer LPN to BSN program in Mitchell.
- September 2019: NAU voluntarily closed BSN, RN to BSN, and MSN programs.
- September 2019: MMC plan to offer DNP track in leadership and education received.
- November 2019: LATI granted continued interim status for LPN to AD RN program.
- February 2020: DWU voluntarily closed LPN to BSN program in Mitchell and granted full status for BSN program.
- February 2020: USD voluntarily closed program site in Pierre.
- February 2020: LATI granted approval for PN and LPN to AD RN programs in Pierre.
- April 2020: MTI granted full status for PN program and granted prerequisite status for LPN to AD RN program.
- April 2020: Curriculum changes approved for several programs related to COVID-19 pandemic.
- June 2020: USD submitted a plan to offer MSN in nursing informatics and E-health and a Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) in organizational and system leadership.
- June 2020: Post-secondary technical institutes renamed to: Lake Area Technical College (LATC), Mitchell Technical College (MTC), Southeast Technical College (STC), and Western Dakota Technical College (WDTC).
- September 2020: MTC granted interim status for LPN to AD RN program.
- September 2020: PC granted prerequisite status for PN program.
- September 2020: SWC voluntary hold of PN program.
- September 2020: WDTC granted approval to offer PN program in Whitewood.
- September 2020: MMC renamed to Mount Marty University (MMU).
- September 2020: DWU voluntary hold of RN to BSN program.
- November 2020: PC granted interim status for PN program.
- November 2020: WDTC granted continued interim status for AD RN program.
- February 2021: LATC granted full status for PN to AD RN program.
- May 2021: AU granted prerequisite status to offer Adult-Gerontology Acute Care NP and Adult-Gerontology CNS tracks.
- August 2021: AU granted interim status to offer Adult-Gerontology Acute Care NP and Adult-Gerontology CNS tracks.
- August 2021: USD granted approval of closure plan for West River site.
- August 2021: SDSU granted approval of West River reorganization plan up to 72 students per cohort.
- August 2021: USD granted prerequisite status for Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists (CRNA) program.
- August 2021: WDTC granted approval to offer PN program in Philip.
- February 2022: SDSU granted approval of Rapid City accelerated BSN program reorganization.
- May 2022: USD granted interim approval of Doctor of Nursing Anesthesia Practice (DNAP) program.
- May 2022: SDSU granted approval of reorganization plan for the addition of a post-graduate Adult-Gero Acute Care NP certificate.
- May 2022: SDSU granted approval of reorganization plan for a dual degree program with a BS in global health from NSU and an accelerated BSN from SDSU.
- May 2022: SGU placed on probation for one year to correct deficiencies.
- November 2022: MTC granted continuing interim status for AD RN program.
- February 2023: USD granted full approval of DNAP program.
- February 2023: PC notified Board of voluntary closure plan.
- May 2023: Articulation agreement granted between SDSU, USD, LATC, MTC, STC, and WDTC.
- August 2023: DWU granted prerequisite approval for AD RN program in Rapid City.

- August 2023: PC voluntarily closed PN, BSN, and NP programs. Transcripts were transferred to St. Ambrose University in Iowa.
- August 2023: NSU granted prerequisite status for a BSN program.
- November 2023: WDTC granted approval to offer PN program in Hot Springs.
- February 2024: WDTC granted full approval of AD RN program.
- February 2024: SGU probation removed and granted full approval status for PN program.
- March 2024: DWU granted prerequisite status for AD RN program in Rapid City.
- May 2024: MTC granted full approval of AD RN program.
- August 2024: AU granted full approval for Adult-Gerontology Acute Care NP and Adult-Gerontology CNS programs.
- November 2024: NSU granted interim status for BSN program.
- November 2024: SDSU voluntarily closed RN accelerated BSN program in Aberdeen.
- November 2024: USF granted approval for reorganization plan for an LPN to BSN program.
- February 2025: AU granted prerequisite status for DNP in Adult-Gero Acute Care NP and CNS programs.
- February 2025: SDSU granted approval to offer a BSN online program.
- February 2025: SDSU closed post-graduate certificate Family NP.
- February 2025: DWU voluntarily closed LPN to BSN program in Sioux Falls.
- February 2025: DWU granted approval for reorganization of AD RN program in Sioux Falls.
- August 2025: DWU granted approval for online RN to BSN program.

Additional history available upon request.

REFERENCES

- Spector, N., Silvestre, J., Alexander, M., Martin, B., Hooper, J. I., Squires, A., & Ojemeni, M. (2020). NCSBN regulatory guidelines and evidence-based quality indicators for nursing education programs. *Journal of Nursing Regulation, 11*(2), S1–S64. [https://doi.org/10.1016/S2155-8256\(20\)30075-2](https://doi.org/10.1016/S2155-8256(20)30075-2)