

6. Licensure and Certification Passing Rate

Purpose

To ensure programmatic coursework prepares students to competently practice in their chosen profession.

Description

Index score based on the percentage of first-time test-takers passing licensure and certification exams within each exam. Exams included in this measure are state mandated exams which candidates must pass before becoming active practitioners.

Calculation

Success Rate

Denominator: All licensure and certification exams taken for the first time during the licensure agency's most recent reporting year. Only includes state mandated exams which candidates must pass before becoming active practitioners.

Numerator: Of those in the denominator, the number passing the exam on their first attempt during the licensure agency's most recent reporting year.

Index Score

License Index Score (LIS): College license success rate divided by the statewide license success rate on same exam.

License Denominator (LD): Number of first-time test-takers within each exam.

Total Numerator: Sum of the product of each License Index Score and their License Denominator $[(LIS1 \times LD1) + (LIS2 \times LD2) + \dots]$

Total Denominator: Sum of License Denominators across all exams $(LD1 + LD2 + LD3 + \dots)$

Total Index Score: Total Numerator divided by Total Denominator

Data Sources

Council of Interstate Testing

- *Dental Hygiene (Jan-Dec)*

NC Board of Occupational Therapy

- *Occupational Therapist Assistant (July-June)*

NC Board of Nursing

- *Practical Nursing (Jan-Dec)*
- *Registered Nursing (Jan-Dec)*

NC Board of Physical Therapy Examiners

- *Physical Therapist Assistant (Jan-Dec)*

American Registry of Radiologic Technologists

- *Radiography (July-June)*

NC Department of Insurance, Office of State Fire Marshall - Code Officials Qualification Board

- *Building Inspector (July-June)*
- *Electrical Inspector (July-June)*
- *Fire Inspector (July-June)*
- *Mechanical Inspector (July-June)*
- *Plumbing Inspector (July-June)*

Federation of State Massage Therapy Boards

- *Massage & Body Work Therapist (July-June)*

NC Veterinary Medical Board

- *Veterinary Medicine Technology (Jan-Dec)*

NC Office of Emergency Medical Services

- *EMR (Jan-Dec)*
- *EMT (Jan-Dec)*
- *EMT-P (Jan-Dec)*
- *AEMT (Jan-Dec)*

NC Department of Health and Human Services

- *Nurse Aide I (Jan-Dec)*

NC Department of Justice, Sheriff's Training & Standards Division

- *Detention Officer (Jan-Dec)*

NC Board of Barber Examiners

- *Barber Apprentice (July-June)*

Prov, Inc.

- *Apprentice (Jan-Dec)*
- *Cosmetology (Jan-Dec)*
- *Esthetician (Jan-Dec)*
- *Manicurist (Jan-Dec)*

NC Real Estate Commission

- *Provisional Real Estate Broker (July-June)*

Additional Details

The number of first-time test-takers and the number passing were provided to the System Office by agencies issuing the license or certification. Depending on the exam, data may be provided on a fiscal or calendar year. Exams are listed above in *italics*. Selection of exams based on:

- Requirement to pass in order to practice in North Carolina
- Strong association with an occupation (not part of a job)
- At least 50 test-takers statewide in 2022-23
- At least 5 colleges with test-takers in 2022-23
- Identical assessment used across the System for the licensure or certification.
- Availability of results for a full year (January-December or July-June) that do not overlap previously reported results for the exam

TABLE 6. LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION PASSING RATE, 2024-25

Index score based on the percentage of first-time test-takers passing licensure and certification exams. Exams included in this measure are state mandated exams which candidates must pass before becoming active practitioners.

Excellence: 1.078	TEST TAKERS	Dental Hygiene	Occup. Ther. Asst.	Practical Nursing	Registered Nursing	Physical Ther. Asst.	Radiography	Building Inspector ¹	Elect Inspector ¹	Fire Inspector ¹	Mech Inspector ¹	Plumb Inspector ¹	Massage & Body	Vet. Med. Tech.	EMR	EMT-Basic	EMT-Advanced	EMT-Paramedic	Nurse Aide	Detention Officer	Barbering - Apprentice	Cosmetology	Cosmetology	Cosmetology	Esthetician	Manicurist	Real Estate Sales	TOTAL INDEX SCORE		
Avg Band Max: 1.028		236	92	822	2654	103	354	319	259	407	249	240	200	71	203	3732	431	637	6023	817	181	179	997	658	473	724	24-25	23-24	22-23	
Avg Band Min: 0.929																														
Baseline: 0.780																														
	System Totals	21,061	236	92	822	2654	103	354	319	259	407	249	240	200	71	203	3732	431	637	6023	817	181	179	997	658	473	724	24-25	23-24	22-23
	Alamance CC	501	*	*	0.98	1.07	*	*	*	*	1.13	*	*	*	*	0.95	*	*	0.72	1.02	*	0.87	0.71	0.62	0.81	0.85	0.900	1.022	0.963	
	Asheville-Buncombe TC	567	1.06	*	*	1.08	*	1.08	1.09	1.16	*	1.12	*	*	*	0.99	1.22	1.17	1.10	0.91	*	*	1.15	1.52	1.46	1.18	1.117	1.089	1.087	
	Beaufort County CC	223	*	*	1.02	1.05	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	0.95	0.82	1.14	1.08	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	0.963	0.941	0.973	
	Bladen CC	199	*	*	0.90	1.02	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	0.84	0.53	*	0.80	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	0.834	0.997	0.803	
	Blue Ridge CC	383	*	*	*	1.05	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	0.93	0.98	*	1.21	*	*	1.35	0.85	1.34	*	*	1.114	1.154	1.103	
	Brunswick CC	299	*	*	*	0.91	*	*	*	*	*	*	1.05	*	*	0.94	0.95	*	1.22	0.89	*	*	0.77	0.95	0.94	*	1.004	1.002	1.030	
	Caldwell CC & TI	497	*	*	0.97	1.00	1.05	0.99	*	*	*	*	1.18	*	0.85	1.21	*	*	1.27	*	*	0.82	1.22	*	*	*	1.134	1.079	1.168	
	Cape Fear CC	927	1.06	1.15	1.02	1.08	*	1.08	0.94	*	1.03	*	0.92	*	*	0.98	0.73	*	1.05	0.94	1.35	1.03	0.96	0.83	1.20	1.10	1.013	1.021	1.032	
	Carteret CC	266	*	*	*	1.02	*	1.00	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	0.53	*	0.92	1.05	0.98	*	*	*	1.22	1.03	1.97	1.032	1.037	1.028	
	Catawba Valley CC	395	1.06	*	*	0.88	*	0.98	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	0.86	0.89	*	1.13	1.09	*	*	1.30	0.95	*	*	1.027	1.025	1.024	
	Central Carolina CC	416	0.93	*	1.02	1.10	*	*	*	*	*	*	0.90	1.00	*	0.68	*	0.78	1.03	*	*	1.14	1.01	0.67	*	0.904	0.968	1.000		
	Central Piedmont CC	792	1.06	1.02	0.99	1.09	1.24	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	1.16	*	1.12	0.89	*	*	1.15	*	*	0.94	1.048	1.091	1.041		
	Cleveland CC	369	*	*	1.02	0.96	*	1.04	*	*	0.95	*	*	*	*	0.89	*	1.17	0.93	1.04	*	*	1.06	1.13	1.46	*	0.996	1.032	1.066	
	Coastal Carolina CC	435	1.01	*	0.94	1.07	*	0.94	0.94	1.00	0.95	0.98	1.21	*	*	1.13	*	0.99	1.09	*	*	1.13	*	*	*	1.023	1.054	1.041		
	Coll of the Albemarle	319	*	*	1.02	1.06	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	1.02	1.07	*	0.85	0.77	*	0.84	*	*	*	0.971	0.984	1.042		
	Craven CC	331	*	*	0.95	1.03	0.91	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	0.77	*	0.62	1.05	1.09	0.90	*	1.06	1.19	*	1.06	0.996	1.038	1.042	
	Davidson-Davie CC	772	*	*	0.98	0.90	*	*	0.96	1.03	0.84	1.01	*	*	*	1.09	*	1.04	1.09	*	*	1.11	0.76	*	*	0.984	1.021	0.986		
	Durham TCC	507	*	0.92	1.02	0.93	*	*	*	0.84	*	*	*	*	*	1.23	1.23	1.25	0.85	1.09	*	*	0.90	1.22	0.98	0.83	1.046	1.073	0.986	
	Edgecombe CC	264	*	*	0.95	0.95	*	0.98	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	0.67	0.67	0.83	0.81	*	*	*	0.40	0.54	0.20	0.757	0.842	0.893		
	Fayetteville TCC	712	1.01	*	1.02	0.96	0.72	0.98	*	*	*	*	0.77	*	*	1.08	*	1.22	0.83	1.04	1.07	*	0.86	0.94	1.00	*	0.964	0.972	0.999	
	Forsyth TCC	616	1.06	*	1.01	1.04	*	0.98	*	*	*	*	0.89	*	*	1.10	1.23	*	0.86	1.09	*	*	*	*	*	*	0.989	1.023	0.996	
	Gaston College	519	*	*	1.02	1.08	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	1.00	*	0.81	*	1.13	1.00	*	*	1.25	1.11	1.30	*	*	1.077	1.083	1.069	
	Guilford TCC	741	0.99	*	1.02	1.07	0.92	*	*	*	*	*	1.13	*	*	1.06	1.25	1.05	1.01	0.96	*	*	0.81	*	*	*	1.038	0.962	0.981	
	Halifax CC	155	0.71	*	1.02	0.75	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	0.64	*	0.61	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	0.712	0.814	0.821	
	Haywood CC	129	*	*	*	0.78	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	1.01	1.05	0.89	1.26	1.09	*	*	1.04	*	*	*	1.022	0.945	1.047	
	Isothermal CC	220	*	*	0.97	0.79	*	*	*	*	*	*	1.03	*	1.13	0.72	*	0.97	1.18	1.02	*	*	*	*	*	*	0.995	0.992	1.037	
	James Sprunt CC	264	*	*	1.02	1.06	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	0.91	*	1.00	0.91	1.09	0.90	*	0.67	1.15	1.19	*	0.996	0.892	0.796	
	Johnston CC	497	*	*	1.02	1.07	1.08	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	1.02	0.93	0.97	1.14	*	*	*	0.89	*	*	0.82	1.038	1.014	1.089	
	Lenoir CC	400	*	*	0.97	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	1.07	0.99	0.95	*	1.14	*	0.63	0.73	0.75	*	0.892	0.796	0.828		
	Martin CC	39	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	1.33	*	1.25	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	1.039	0.746	0.858	
	Mayland CC	170	*	*	*	1.10	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	1.12	1.00	*	1.03	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	1.058	1.120	1.069	
	McDowell TCC	230	*	*	0.98	0.90	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	0.89	*	*	1.10	*	*	1.34	0.89	1.37	*	1.010	1.072	1.080		
	Mitchell CC	347	*	*	*	1.07	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	1.16	1.04	*	0.91	0.98	1.07	*	1.10	1.41	0.81	0.53	0.999	1.073	1.024		
	Montgomery CC	87	*	*	*	1.02	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	0.34	0.44	*	0.83	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	0.760	0.967	0.954		
	Nash CC	261	*	*	0.95	1.09	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	0.78	*	0.66	1.17	1.05	*	*	*	*	*	*	0.953	1.034	0.970	
	Pamlico CC	36	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	0.92	*	0.73	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	0.886	0.435	0.964	
	Piedmont CC	183	*	*	1.02	0.89	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	1.04	1.01	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	0.950	0.931	0.979	
	Pitt CC	404	*	1.06	*	1.07	*	1.08	*	0.98	*	*	*	*	*	1.11	*	*	0.93	0.98	*	1.29	*	*	2.05	1.067	0.981	0.920		
	Randolph CC	244	*	*	*	1.10	*	1.08	1.00	0.98	*	1.08	*	*	*	1.05	*	*	0.79	0.91	*	0.99	*	*	*	*	0.976	0.917	0.888	
	Richmond CC	210	*	*	*	0.95	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	0.87	*	*	1.18	0.80	*	*	*	*	*	*	1.030	0.821	0.852	
	Roanoke-Chowan CC	85	*	*	*	0.88	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	0.66	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	0.725	0.886	0.913	
	Robeson CC	376	*	*	1.02	1.00	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	0.68	0.60	*	1.14	0.93	*	0.66	*	0.50	0.42	0.76	0.45	0.752	0.926	0.917	
	Rockingham CC	265	*	*	0.90	1.00	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	0.77	*	*	0.87	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	0.869	0.953	0.963	
	Rowan-Cabarrus CC	####	0.93	1.02	0.90	*	1.08	0.99	0.94	*	*	1.06	*	*	0.81	0.92	*	0.85	0.91	1.09	*	1.23	1.34	1.34	1.01	0.980	0.986	0.980		
	Sampson CC	185	*	*	*	1.06	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	1.00	*	*	1.18	*	*	0.66	0.30	0.44	*	0.980	0.911	0.857		
	Sandhills CC	303	*	*	*	1.04	0.90	*	*	*	*	*	1.07	*	*	0.95	*	*	1.10	0.99	1.05	*	*	*	0.71	0.985	0.919	0.940		
	South Piedmont CC	279	*	*	1.02	0.86	*	*	*	*	*	*	1.05	*	*	1.03	*	*	0.94	*	*	*	*	*	0.63	0.909	0.990	0.947		
	Southeastern CC	196	*	*	*	0.90	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	1.35	0.70	*	*	1.17	*	*	0.95	*	*	*	1.047	0.918	0.924		
	Southwestern CC	224	*	*	0.88	0.96	0.91	0.97	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	0.89	*	*	1.00	0.84	*	1.24	*	*	*	0.985	0.863	1.053		
	Stanly CC	227	*	*	1.02	1.10	1.08	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	1.08	*	*	0.99	*	*	0.90	*	*	*	1.023	0.979	1.008		
	Surry CC	390	*	*	1.02	1.05	0.86	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	1.17	0.91	*	1.15	1.01	1.01	*	1.24	1.40	1.03	1.20	1.064	1.051	1.107		
	Tri-County CC	114	*	*	*	0.79	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	1.07	0.97	*	0.92	*	*	*	*	*	*	0.917	1.063	0.900		
	Vance-Granville CC	225	*	*	*	0.87	0.74	1.16	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	0.82	*	0.63	*	*	1.10	0.97	*	*	*	0.867	0.922	0.821		
	Wake TCC	####	1.00	*	*	1.05	1.01	1.07	*	0.92	1.01	1.15	*	*	1.14	1.14	0.90	1.14	1.09	0.89	*	0.91	0.85	1.40	1.106	1.055	1.066			
	Wayne CC	205	1.06	*	1.02	1.10	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	1.29	*	*	0.85	1.01	*	*	*	*	1.60	1.055	0.988	0.979		
	Western Piedmont CC	198	*	*	*	1.08	*	*	0.99	0.92	1.09	1.13	1.01	*	*	1.04	*	1.32	1.04	*	1.25	*	1.35	*	1.166	1.088	1.125			
	Wilkes CC	387	*	*	*	1.05	*	*	0.99	0.92	1.09	1.13	1.01	*	*	1.04	*	1.09	0.93	*	*	1.29	*	0.69	1.034	1.052	1.067			
	Wilson CC	160	*	*																										