Rutgers School of Nursing – 2016 NCLEX Executive Summary

A total of 270 Newark, New Brunswick, and Blackwood students (208 first-timers and 62 repeaters) took the NCLEX exam in 2016. The pass rate for this population was 83% for first-timers and 52% for repeaters, representing an overall pass rate of 76%. Students who were enrolled in the second degree program had higher pass rates than their generic degree counterparts (81% and 71%, respectively). New Brunswick first-time test takers enrolled in the generic program had the highest pass rate at 84%, followed by Newark (75%) and Blackwood (68%). However, when the second degree students affiliated with the Newark campus were added to equation, they (i.e. all Newark first-time test takers) had the highest pass rate at 85%. Educational Opportunity Fund (EOF) first-time test takers who were enrolled in the generic program at the Newark campus had a higher pass rate than those who were not enrolled (88% and 71%, respectively). However, the EOF repeat test takers had lower pass rates compared to the rest of the generic population (20% and 40%, respectively). Lastly, students' GPAs were positively correlated with their corresponding NCLEX pass rates, meaning those on the higher end of the scale were more likely to pass the exam. The following tables provide detailed data of the aforementioned areas for the 2016 NCLEX exam:

Table 1. Student Type - Overall

Student Type	Number of Students Taking Exam	Number of Students Passing Exam	Pass Rate (%)
First-time test takers	208	173	83
Repeat test takers	62	32	52
Overall	270	205	76

Table 2. Generic Test-Takers

Degree Type	Number of Students Taking Exam	Number of Students Passing Exam	Pass Rate (%)
Generic: first-timers	112	88	79
Generic: repeaters	35	17	49
Generic: overall	147	105	71

Table 3. 2nd Degree Test-Takers

Degree Type	Number of Students Taking Exam	Number of Students Passing Exam	Pass Rate (%)
2nd Degree: first-timers	96	85	89
2nd Degree: repeaters	27	15	56
2nd Degree: overall	123	100	81

Note: All 2nd degree students were based on the Newark campus.

Table 4. Generic Degree by Campus

Degree Type	Number of Students Taking Exam	Number of Students Passing Exam	Pass Rate (%)
Newark: first-timers	36	27	75
Newark: repeaters	15	5	33
Newark: overall	51	32	63
New Brunswick: first-timers	57	48	84
New Brunswick: repeaters	15	8	53
New Brunswick: overall	72	56	78
Blackwood: first-timers	19	13	68
Blackwood: repeaters	5	4	80
Blackwood: overall	24	17	71

Table 5. Both Generic and 2Nd Degree Students Combined (Newark only)

Degree Type	Number of Students Taking Exam	Number of Students Passing Exam	Pass Rate (%)
Newark: first-timers	132	112	85
Newark: repeaters	42	20	48
Newark: overall	174	132	76

Table 6. Generic Degree by Transfer Students

Degree Type	Number of Students Taking Exam	Number of Students Passing Exam	Pass Rate (%)
Transfer: first-timers	31	21	68
Transfer: repeaters	13	8	62
Transfer: overall	44	29	66
Original Admit: first-timers	81	67	83
Original Admit: repeaters	22	9	41
Original Admit: overall	103	76	74

Note: Transfer students are undergraduate students entering with 12+ college credits to Rutgers for the first time.

Table 7. Educational Opportunity Fund (EOF) Student Comparison

Degree Type	Number of Students Taking Exam	Number of Students Passing Exam	Pass Rate (%)
EOF: first-timers	8	7	88
EOF: repeaters	5	1	20
EOF: overall	13	8	62
Non-EOF: first-timers	28	20	71
Non-EOF: repeaters	10	4	40
Non-EOF: overall	38	24	63

Note: All 13 EOF students were generic degree test takers on the Newark campus. Therefore, for comparative purposes, the "Non-EOF" population consists of the remaining generic, Newark campus students.

Table 8. GPA Pass/Fail Comparison for first-time test takers

	GPA Grouped Categories											
	< 3.00 (N = 10)		3.00-3.25 (N = 38)		3.26-3.50 (N = 68)		3.51-3.74 (N = 54)		3.75-4.00 (N = 37)		Total (N = 207)	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Pass	5	50	24	63	52	77	54	100	37	100	172	83

Note: There was a statistically significant difference in GPA for first-time test takers who failed (M = 3.20, SD = .178) and those who passed (M = 3.52, SD = .271) the NCLEX exam; t(205) = -6.44, p < .05. N = 207 as 1 student GPA was unavailable.