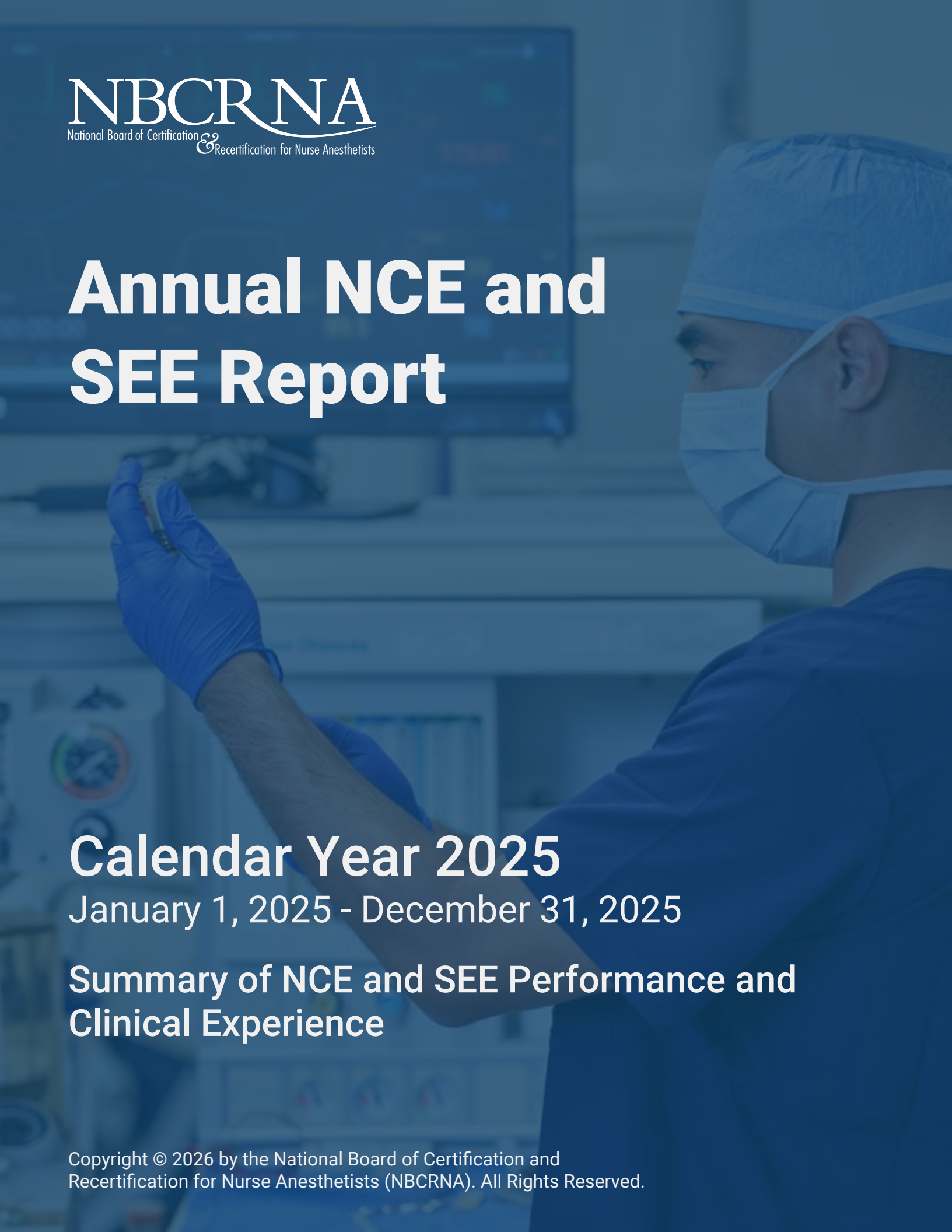
NBCRNA
National Board of Certification & Recertification for Nurse Anesthetists

Annual NCE and SEE Report



Calendar Year 2025

January 1, 2025 - December 31, 2025

Summary of NCE and SEE Performance and Clinical Experience

Table of Contents

Introduction

This report presents a summary of information on individual performance on the National Certification Examination (NCE) and the Self-Evaluation Examination (SEE) in the calendar year 2025 (CY2025), January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025. Earlier FY data are presented for historical continuity; all analyses from CY2019 forward use calendar-year reporting..

Performance on the NCE is summarized first, with pass/fail outcomes presented according to several demographic variables: gender, age, clinical background, and type of graduate degree. Trend data summarizing pass rates over the past five years are also provided in the last column of each table for each demographic. Readers should note that there was no change to the NCE passing standard in 2025. The passing standard was last changed on January 1, 2014; the NBCRNA Board of Directors reviewed the results of the 2023 standard setting study and voted to retain the standard established in 2023.

NCE pass rate summaries are followed by an analysis of candidates' responses on a satisfaction survey administered at the end of the NCE. The survey requested information pertaining to candidates' satisfaction with their registration and test experience. Additionally, descriptive statistics (e.g., mean, standard deviation) are provided for the number of cases performed in various clinical areas by students of nurse anesthesia educational programs who graduated in 2025.

Finally, information about scaled scores for the SEE is presented in the last part of the report, summarizing performance by gender, age, clinical background, type of graduate degree, and year in program. Trend data summarizing the past five years in each demographic subgroup are also provided in the final column of each table.

Candidate Performance on the NCE

The information in **Table 1** addresses the performance of candidates on the NCE during the CY2025 reporting period. Pass rates appear separately for first-time candidates versus repeat candidates, based on the passing standard that took effect on January 1, 2014. The pass rate for the 3,294 first-time candidates is 90.5%. The pass rate is lower for repeat examinees, consistent with the previous year's data.

The CY2025 first-time pass rate (90.5%) is higher than the CY2024 pass rate (89.3%). The cumulative first-time pass rate averaged over the previous five years is 86.6% as shown in the final column of **Table 1** (Years 2021–2025 represents January 1, 2021 – December 31, 2025, total N = 14,349). First-time examinee pass rates for the NCE, by year since 2008, can be found in **Table A1** in Appendix A of this report.

The total number of NCE candidates testing increased in 2025 (3,787 in CY2025 vs. 3,279 in CY2023), of which 3,294 were first-time candidates, whereas in CY2024 2,740 were first-time candidates.

Table 1. Pass/Fail Summary for NCE Candidates, 2025

First-Time Candidates		Frequency	Percent	5-year Trend %
	Pass	2,980	90.5%	86.6%
	Fail	314	9.5%	13.4%
	Total	**3,294**	**100.0%**	**100.0%**
Repeat Candidates		**Frequency**	**Percent**	**5-year Trend %**
	Pass	307	62.3%	59.6%
	Fail	186	37.7%	40.4%
	Total	**493**	**100.0%**	**100.0%**

The NCE total scores and domain-level information for first-time candidates can be found in **Table A2** of Appendix A.

Table 2 shows the distribution of test length and pass/fail status. Only *first-time* candidates are included in Table 2. Of the candidates who passed, the majority (70%) were administered 70 items (not including the 30 unscored pretest items). Only 2.3% of NCE candidates failed the test in 70 items. Approximately 12.3% of the candidates took the maximum test length of 140 items.

The number of candidates getting a score determination in 70 items held steady between CY2024 and CY2025. In CY2025, 72.3% of candidates fell into this category compared to 72.4% in CY2024. The five-year trend is 66.6%.

Table 2. Pass/Fail Summary by Test Length for First-Time NCE Candidates, 2025

	Frequency	Percent	5-year Trend %
Pass in 70 items	2,305	70.0%	62.7%
Pass in 71 to 139 items	423	12.8%	13.8%
Pass in 140 items	252	7.7%	10.2%
Fail in 70 items	76	2.3%	3.9%
Fail in 71 to 139 items	85	2.6%	3.4%
Fail in 140 items	153	4.6%	6.2%
Total	**3,294**	**100.0%**	**100.0%**

Demographic Characteristics of NCE Candidate Population, 2025

The next several tables present pass rates on the NCE grouped by gender, age, clinical background, and degree earned. Only *first-time* candidates are included in these tables. **Table 3** indicates that 64.6% of the NCE candidates were female and 35.2% were male. The pass rates for both females and males in CY2025 were higher than in CY2024 (88.8% vs 88.4% for females, 93.5% vs 91.0% for males), and males continue to show a slightly higher pass rate than females: CY2025 (93.5% vs 88.8% for male and female, respectively); CY2024 (91.0% vs 88.4%); CY2023 (85.1% vs 82%); CY2022 (85.4% vs 82.0%); and CY2021 (85.7% vs 83.0%), consistent with the five-year trend (final column of Table 3). These differences should not be interpreted as evidence of differential capability, but may reflect interacting factors such as prior clinical experience, educational pathways, or test-taking behaviors.

Table 3. Gender of First-Time NCE Candidates, 2025

	Pass		Fail		Total		5-year Trend
Gender	**N**	**Percent**	**N**	**Percent**	**N**	**Percent**	**Pass %**
Female	1,888	88.8%	239	11.2%	2,127	64.6%	85.5%
Male	1,086	93.5%	75	6.5%	1,161	35.2%	88.3%
Other	6	100%	0	0%	6	0.2%	88.5%
Total	**2,980**	**90.5%**	**314**	**9.5%**	**3294**	**100.00%**	**86.6%**

Table 4 presents the pass rate by age group. Pass rates varied by age group, which may reflect differences in time since formal academic preparation, testing familiarity, or competing professional and personal responsibilities. The average age of the CY2025 *first-time* NCE candidates was 30.6 years, down from 31.7 years in CY2024.

Table 4. Age of First-Time NCE Candidates, 2025

	Pass		Fail		Total		5-year Trend
Age	**N**	**Percent**	**N**	**Percent**	**N**	**Percent**	**Pass %**
Under 30	1531	93.0%	116	7.0%	1,647	50.0%	92.1%
30 - 35	1,077	90.3%	116	9.7%	1,193	36.2%	87.1%
36 - 39	234	84.5%	43	15.5%	277	8.4%	81.7%
40 or more	138	78.0%	39	22.0%	177	5.4%	73.7%
Total	**2,980**	**90.5%**	**314**	**9.5%**	**3,294**	**100%**	**86.6%**

Table 5 displays pass rates for candidates' clinical background. The clinical backgrounds reported by the largest share of first-time candidates are MICU (33.5%), ICU/CCU (32.8%), and SICU (21.8%). Pass rate comparisons between different clinical settings should be made with caution because some subgroups for the 2025 data feature small sample sizes. Also, the clinical background categories tend not to be mutually exclusive. Many candidates report experience in multiple clinical backgrounds, and actual experience may be yet more diverse and complex (e.g., SICU in some facilities may include CVICU patients, and many other permutations can exist). Finally, this data is self-reported and could subject to inaccuracies.

When comparing pass rates across clinical background subgroups, readers are advised to refer to the 5-year trend column of Table 5. The pass rates in this column are more reliable for comparisons because they are based on a much larger sample. For instance, over the past five years, first-time NCE examinees with PICU, CCU, Trauma ICU, and SICU clinical backgrounds respectively have demonstrated relatively higher pass rates in the aggregated five-year sample.

Table 5. Clinical Background of First-Time NCE Candidates, 2025

Clinical Background	Pass		Fail		Total		5-year Trend
	N	Percent	N	Percent	N	Percent	Pass %
CCU	506	91.0%	50	9.0%	556	16.9%	87.3%
ER	234	90.0%	26	10.0%	260	7.9%	84.6%
ICU/CCU	978	90.5%	103	9.5%	1,081	32.8%	85.6%
MICU	992	89.9%	112	10.1%	1,104	33.5%	86.5%
NEURO ICU	344	88.7%	44	11.3%	388	11.8%	85.5%
NICU	42	84.0%	8	16.0%	50	1.5%	79.9%
OR	59	86.8%	9	13.2%	68	2.1%	80.5%
PACU	87	88.8%	11	11.2%	98	3.0%	84.2%
PICU	154	90.6%	16	9.4%	170	5.2%	88.9%
SICU	645	90.0%	72	10.0%	717	21.8%	86.8%
TRAUMA ICU	359	90.2%	39	9.8%	398	12.1%	87.2%
Total	**2,980**	**90.5%**	**314**	**9.5%**	**3294**	**100%**	**86.6%**

**Note: Candidates may report multiple clinical backgrounds. Percentages reflect proportion of candidates reporting any experience in each category.*

Table 6 displays distribution of pass rates by degree attained. Of 3,294 first-time NCE takers in 2025, 68.1% (n=2,224) were from programs that awarded a Doctorate of Nurse Practice degree; 31.8% (n=1,047) graduated from programs awarding a Doctorate of Nursing Anesthesia Practice degree; and 0.1% (n=3) were from master's programs. Overall, 99.9% of first-time NCE takers were from programs awarding a doctoral degree.

When comparing pass rates across clinical background subgroups, pass rate differences across degrees should be viewed with caution because some demographic subgroups feature small sample sizes (Table 6). Readers are advised to refer to the 5-year Trend column of Table 6. For instance, over the past five years, first-time NCE examinees coming out of Doctoral programs appear to exhibit the highest rates of success on the NCE. Given the near-universal adoption of doctoral education, these findings primarily reflect contemporary program structures rather than comparative program quality.

Table 6. Types of Graduate Degrees Reported by First-Time NCE Candidates, CY 2025

Degree Upon Completion	Pass		Fail		Total		5-year Trend
	N	Percent	N	Percent	N	Percent	Pass %
DNP	2,026	90.3%	218	9.7%	2,244	68.1%	88.8%
DNAP	954	91.1%	93	8.9%	1,047	31.8%	86.1%
Master's	0	0%	3	100%	3	0.1%	79.6%
Total	**2,980**	**90.5%**	**314**	**9.5%**	**3,294**	**100.0%**	**86.6%**

**Note: Interpret with extreme caution due to small sample size of candidates with a Master's degree.*

Descriptive Information on Number of Clinical Experiences, 2025

The tables in this section report data collected about the number of anesthesia cases performed in clinical areas, as submitted by program directors to the NBCRNA for individuals completing nurse anesthesia programs in the reporting period. *This data reflects records of clinical experiences submitted for individuals with a graduation date in 2025, and not the sample of NCE candidates during this time frame.* As a result, sample sizes presented in this section (3,239) will not equal the number of first-time NCE candidates (3,294) as reported in Tables 1 through 6.

The columns are the same in Tables 7 through 15, presenting the following information:

- The first column contains the clinical area in which cases were performed.
- The *N* column represents the number of doctoral records submitted in the reporting period.
- The *Number of Cases Required* column indicates the minimum number of cases that must be completed by an applicant for the applicant to be deemed eligible to take the NCE. If a minimum number of cases is not required, a "0" is entered in this column.
- The *Mean* column indicates the average number of cases reported on the 2025 records.
- The *Standard Deviation* column describes the dispersion in the number of cases reported on the 2025 records.
- The *Median* column indicates the median number of cases (50th percentile) reported on the records in the reporting period. Half the records contained values higher than this number and half contained a value below this number.
- The *Minimum* column indicates the smallest number of cases reported on the 2025 records.

Table 7. Sections I, II and III: Clinical Experience

Area	N	Number of Cases Required	Mean	Standard Deviation	Median	Minimum
Total Number of Cases	3,239	600	912.6	144.0	893	634
Total Hours of Anesthesia	3,239	0	1783.9	371.6	1716	693
Total Clinical Hours	3,239	0	2717.8	332.4	2692	1668

Table 8. Section IV: Patient Physical Status

Area	N	Number of Cases Required	Mean	Standard Deviation	Median	Minimum
Class I	3,239	0	70.9	34.7	65	1
Class II	3,239	0	349.4	92.6	338	84
Class III-VI Total	3,239	200	492.0	105.4	483	200
Class III	3,239	50	407.0	91.7	399	175
Class IV	3,239	10	81.4	33.7	76	10
Class V	3,239	0	3.2	4.2	2	0
Class VI	3,239	0	0.5	1.0	0	0

Table 9. Section V: Special Cases

Area	N	Number of Cases Required	Mean	Standard Deviation	Median	Minimum
Geriatric, 65+ years	3,239	100	314.7	80.3	307	105
Pediatric, 2-12 years	3,239	30	68.6	29.8	62	30
Pediatric, under 2 years	3,239	10	20.6	10.6	18	10
Neonatal, under 4 weeks	3,239	0	1.0	1.7	0	0
Trauma/Emergency	3,239	30	52.0	20.9	46	30
Obstetrical Management	3,239	30	66.3	33.3	56	30
Cesarean delivery	3,239	10	31.0	15.5	27	10
Analgesia for labor	3,239	10	34.9	22.8	28	10
Pain Management Encounters	3,239	15	54.0	48.0	39	15

Table 10. Section VI: Anatomical Categories

Area	N	Number of Cases Required	Mean	Standard Deviation	Median	Minimum
Intra-abdominal	3,239	75	186.6	60.1	176	79
Intracranial Total	3,239	5	15.4	8.0	14	5
Intracranial Open	3,239	3	10.5	5.7	9	3
Intracranial Closed	3,239	0	4.8	4.9	4	0
Oropharyngeal	3,239	20	103.5	51.1	97	20
Intrathoracic Total	3,239	15	49.9	22.6	46	15
Heart	3,239	5	33.1	17.8	30	5
Open Heart Total	3,239	5	14.2	7.7	13	5
Open Heart with CPB	3,239	0	12.6	7.0	11	1
Open Heart without CPB	3,239	0	1.6	2.4	1	0
Closed Heart	3,239	0	19.0	15.4	16	0
Lung	3,239	5	11.0	6.0	9	5
Other	3,239	0	5.7	9.7	3	0
Neck	3,239	5	22.9	10.7	21	5
Neuroskeletal	3,239	20	44.9	24.2	40	20
Vascular	3,239	10	38.0	17.8	35	10

Table 11. Section VII: Methods of Anesthesia

Area	N	Number of Cases Required	Mean	Standard Deviation	Median	Minimum
General Anesthesia	3,239	400	658.6	118.8	642	400
Inhalation Induction	3,239	25	78.4	40.2	69	25
Mask Management	3,239	25	63.9	73.7	41	25
Supraglottic Airway Devices (total of a & b)	3,239	35	124.7	55.7	116	35
a. Laryngeal mask	3,239	0	118.3	51.2	111	0
b. Other	3,239	0	6.4	29.6	0	0
Tracheal Intubation (total of a & b)	3,239	250	427.3	77.0	419	250
a. Oral	3,239	0	411.2	75.7	404	214
b. Nasal	3,239	0	16.1	14.7	12	0
Alternative Tracheal Intub/Endo (total of a & b)	3,239	25	112.5	75.1	96	25
a. Endoscopic techniques, total	3,239	5	21.2	36.5	10	5
1. Actual Placement	3,239	0	18.1	36.5	7	0
2. Simulated Placement	3,239	0	3.0	6.7	1	0
3. Airway Assessment	3,239	0	12.0	43.7	6	0
b. Other techniques	3,239	5	91.3	71.5	77	5
Emergence from Anesthesia	3,239	300	612.9	136.5	596	300
Regional Techniques	3,239					
Actual Administration (total of a, b, c & d)	3,239	35	152.8	86.5	132	36
a. Spinal (total of 1 & 2)	3,239	10	50.2	28.9	44	10
1. Spinal Anesthesia	3,239	0	45.5	27.0	40	0
2. Spinal Pain Management	3,239	0	4.6	9.5	1	0
b. Epidural (total of 1 & 2)	3,239	10	32.0	21.6	25	10
1. Epidural Anesthesia	3,239	0	7.4	11.3	3	0
2. Epidural Pain Management	3,239	0	24.6	19.4	20	0
c. Peripheral (total of 1, 2, 3 & 4)	3,239	10	60.6	58.1	44	10
1. Anesthesia Upper	3,239	0	10.5	15.1	6	0
2. Anesthesia Lower	3,239	0	11.2	21.3	5	0
3. Pain Management Upper	3,239	0	13.8	19.1	7	0
4. Pain Management Lower	3,239	0	25.0	31.8	15	0
d. Other	3,239	0	10.1	21.7	3	0
1. Anesthesia	3,239	0	7.9	19.1	2	0
2. Pain Management	3,239	0	2.2	6.7	0	0
Management (total of 1 & 2)	3,239	35	95.2	67.6	76	35
1. Anesthesia	3,239	0	46.7	40.9	38	0
2. Pain Management	3,239	0	48.5	42.6	36	0
Moderate/deep sedation	3,239	25	151.6	90.5	140	25

Table 12. Section VIII: Arterial Technique

Area	N	Number of Cases Required	Mean	Standard Deviation	Median	Minimum
Arterial Puncture/Catheter Insertion	3,239	25	57.5	25.9	53	25
Intraarterial Blood Pressure Monitoring	3,239	30	82.7	27	78	30

Table 13. Section IX: Central Venous Pressure Catheter

Area	N	Number of Cases Required	Mean	Standard Deviation	Median	Minimum
Placement—Non-PICC (total of a & b)	3,239	10	14.8	6.4	13	10
a. Non-PICC, Actual	3,239	1	10.4	8.0	10	0*
b. Non-PICC, Simulated	3,239	0	4.4	4.3	3	0
Placement—PICC (total of a & b)	3,239	0	0.4	1.5	0	0
a. PICC, Actual	3,239	0	0.3	1.2	0	0
b. PICC, Simulated	3,239	0	0.1	0.8	0	0
Monitoring	3,239	15	21.7	8.1	19	15

**Note: A small number of 2025 graduates have 0 cases in the category of "Non-PICC, Actual" because they entered the program prior to the minimum number of cases required being increased to 1.*

Table 14. Section X: Pulmonary Artery Catheter (Doctoral)

Area	N	Number of Cases Required	Mean	Standard Deviation	Median	Minimum
Placement	3,239	0	4.5	5.1	3	0
Monitoring	3,239	0	9.4	7.0	8	0

Table 15. Section XI: Other

Area	N	Number of Cases Required	Mean	Standard Deviation	Median	Minimum
Ultrasound (US)-Guided Techniques (total of a & b)	3,239	0	105.0	76.5	83	0
a. Regional	3,239	0	67.5	66.3	46	0
b. Vascular	3,239	0	37.5	25.4	32	0
Intravenous Catheter Placement	3,239	100	166.3	75.3	141	100
Advanced Noninvasive Hemodynamic Monitoring	3,239	0	18.1	85.7	3	0

NCE Exit Survey Results

Candidates provide important ongoing sources of evaluative information about the examination process. This information serves as essential input for the continuous quality improvement initiatives of the NBCRNA. Candidates are asked to complete a post-examination survey regarding their testing experience. The post-examination survey addressed the following four areas:

- Pre-examination activities such as scheduling, registration, locating the testing center, and interaction with test center staff;
- Examination and testing experience such as content fairness, content readability, test-center experience, and use of testing software;
- Examinee perception of the alternative question formats; and
- Personal preparation prior to examination.

Most of the questions employ a Likert-type rating scale, where respondents are asked to indicate their level of agreement with the survey statements. For the purposes of this report, the Likert response categories, *Strongly Agree* and *Agree,* are combined into a single *Agree* category, and *Strongly Disagree* and *Disagree* are combined into *Disagree*. Completion of the survey is not required as part of the examination process and is not part of the three-hour time limit for the NCE.

Responses were analyzed based NCE candidates who were administered the exit survey during the period of CY2025. The responses represent tests administered. If a candidate tested more than once during 2025, their responses would be counted each time they completed the survey.

Candidates continue to indicate satisfaction with scheduling dates and locations. Dates were rated acceptable by 86.8% of candidates while location was acceptable by 90.3% of candidates. Regardless of how they responded, candidates can contact the NBCRNA office after each test administration to address any problems or concerns.

Table 16. Responses to Survey Questions: Scheduling and Registration

	Agree		Disagree	
Survey Question	**Count**	**Percent**	**Count**	**Percent**
I was able to schedule an acceptable test date.	3,287	86.8%	501	13.2%
I was able to schedule an acceptable test center location.	3,419	90.3%	369	9.7%
The exam reservation process was easy to use.	3,682	97.2%	106	2.8%
The test center was easy to locate.	3,738	98.7%	50	1.3%
The testing center registration/check-in process was handled in a professional and efficient manner.	3,742	98.8%	46	1.2%

Six items relate to topics such as content alignment with curricula, content readability, and test-center operations. **Table 17** summarizes the responses to these survey items. Overall, the CY2025 NCE candidates were satisfied with their testing experience (97.9% agreement). Agreement concerning how well images fit onto the screen slightly decreased from 96.7% in CY2024 to 95.6% in CY 2025.

Table 17. Responses to Survey Questions: Examination and Testing Experience

	Agree		Disagree	
Survey Question	**Count**	**Percent**	**Count**	**Percent**
The questions on my test today reflected the knowledge and subject matter I have been taught in my educational program.	3,483	92.0%	305	8.0%
The graphs, figures, and diagrams in the questions were legible.	3,635	96.0%	153	4.0%
The graphs, figures, and diagrams in the questions fit onto the screen.	3,623	95.6%	165	4.4%
My testing environment was clean, quiet, and comfortable.	3,741	98.8%	47	1.2%
I encountered no technical problems with the test administration software.	3,712	98.0%	76	2.0%
Overall, I was satisfied with my testing experience.	3,707	97.9%	81	2.1%

In addition to traditional multiple-choice items, the NCE includes the following alternative-item formats.

- Multiple correct response (MCR): the key is a *set* of options. Examinees are instructed how many options to select.
- Short answer/calculation (SA): there are no options to select—the key is a short numerical response.
- Drag and drop (DND): options are ordered or matched using the mouse.

- Hotspot (HS): the key is a region on an image that must be selected with the mouse. Boundaries indicating keyable areas are hidden from examinees.

Table 18 summarizes candidate ability to understand and respond to alternative items. In September 2021, the survey was revised to ask one general question about alternative items instead of one question per item type. Overall, candidates continue to respond positively with 99.0% agreeing that they understand how to use alternative items compared to 99.1% in CY2024.

Table 18. Responses to Survey Questions: Alternative Item Formats

	Agree		Disagree	
Survey Question	**Count**	**Percent**	**Count**	**Percent**
I understood how to respond to the questions in the alternative formats.	3,749	99.0%	39	1.0%

Responses to items regarding NCE preparation are summarized in **Table 19**. Of the NCE examinees tested in CY2025, 84.4% agreed that the SEE helped them in their certification examination preparation. This is a similar to 84.6% in CY2024 but continues the steady increase in the past several years (from under 60% in FY2017).

Table 19. Responses to Survey Questions: Preparation for the NCE

Survey Question	Response	Count	Percent
Taking the SEE helped prepare me to take the certification examination.	Agree	3,197	84.4%
	Disagree	530	14.0%

Demographic Characteristics of the SEE Examinee Population, 2025

The following section summarizes examinee performance on the SEE according to demographics and program year. Variables include gender, age, clinical background, and degree. Scores are from CY2025 with a column on the right of each table displaying five-year trend averages (Year 2021 through 2025; January 1, 2021–December 31, 2025, *N* = 33,154). Program year was calculated based on each examinee's testing date relative to their stated program start date. **Table A3** of Appendix A summarizes SEE domain-level scores according to program year.

Table 20 summarizes SEE scores by gender and program year. SEE examinees responded 64.6% female, 35.2% male, and 0.2% other. The mean total scores increased by program year: 412.6 (*n* = 2,163) for year 1 and 2, 434.0 (*n* = 5,916) for year 3 and above, and 428.2 (*n* = 8,079) overall. The five-year trend information (last column) shows a similar pattern: 410.0 for year 1 and 2, 431.0 for year 3 and above, and 424.7 overall.
When subdivided by gender, examinees responding male consistently scored higher than examinees responding female or other. These differences should not be interpreted as evidence of differential capability, but may reflect interacting factors such as prior clinical experience, educational pathways, or test-taking behaviors.

Table 20. SEE Candidate Performance by Gender and Program Year, 2025

Program Year	Gender	Count	Mean	Standard Deviation	5-year Trend Mean
Year 1 and 2	Female	1,353	409.5	41.6	406.3
	Male	806	417.7	45.0	416.4
	Other	4	407.8	35.8	407.0
	Total	**2,163**	**412.6**	**43.0**	**410.0**
Year 3 and above	Female	3866	432.2	39.6	428.6
	Male	2039	437.3	40.5	435.2
	Other	11	433.3	52.4	430.2
	Total	**5,916**	**434.0**	**40.0**	**431.0**
Total	Female	5,219	426.3	41.3	422.0
	Male	2,845	431.8	42.7	429.4
	Other	15	426.5	48.7	422.6
	Total	**8,079**	**428.2**	**41.9**	**424.7**

Table 21 summarizes SEE scores by age group and program year. The mean age of year 1 and 2 SEE examinees was 31.2 years. The mean age of year 3 and beyond SEE examinees was 32.5 years. The mean age of all SEE examinees during the period was 32.2 years, compared to first-time NCE examinees (30.6 years) over the same period. The largest age groups were composed of examinees between the ages of 30 - 35 (47.0%) and examinees under the age of 30 (32.9%). Pass rates varied by age group, which may reflect differences in time since formal academic preparation, testing familiarity, or competing professional and personal responsibilities.

Table 21. SEE Candidate Performance by Age and Program Year, 2025

Program Year	Age	Count	Mean	Standard Deviation	5-year Trend Mean
Year 1-2	Under 30	933	415.7	43.7	414.5
	30 - 35	883	412.4	41.7	411.5
	36 - 39	211	406.4	40.3	406.1
	40 or above	136	401.2	48.2	401.4
	Total	**2,163**	**412.6**	**43.0**	**410.0**
Year 3 and above	Under 30	1,721	438.0	41.0	436.6
	30 - 35	2,921	435.0	38.4	433.0
	36 - 39	755	427.6	41.0	427.3
	40 or above	519	423.8	41.2	423.0
	Total	**5,916**	**434.0**	**40.0**	**431.0**
Total	Under 30	2,654	430.2	43.3	427.9
	30 - 35	3,804	429.8	40.3	426.7
	36 - 39	966	423.0	41.8	421.7
	40 or above	655	419.1	43.7	417.3
	Total	**8,079**	**428.2**	**41.9**	**424.7**

Table 22 displays summaries of SEE scores by clinical background and program year. Overall, the most commonly identified clinical settings were MICU (34.0%) and ICU/CCU (33.0%).

When comparing SEE performance across clinical background subgroups, be aware of the small counts which can make comparisons spurious. The five-year trend columns and overall means tend to be more reliable because they are based on much larger sample sizes. Over the past five years, examinees with clinical backgrounds in PICU, SICU, Trauma ICU, MICU, and CCU have the highest SEE scores, respectively.

Table 22. SEE Candidate Performance by Clinical Background and Program Year, 2025

	Clinical Background	Count	Mean	Std Dev	5-Yr Mean
Year 1-2	CCU	374	412.9	44.8	410.3
	ER	162	412.8	44.7	408.4
	ICU/CCU	727	414.0	43.7	409.9
	MICU	758	414.9	41.9	411.4
	NEURO ICU	319	411.5	42.5	410.4
	NICU	35	404.8	38.4	399.9
	OR	46	402.2	40.5	398.3
	PACU	73	410.5	46.9	406.3
	PICU	85	410.3	42.4	411.7
	SICU	428	411.8	41.8	410.4
	TRAUMA ICU	276	414.5	41.7	411.1
	Total	**2163**	**412.6**	**43.0**	**410.0**
Year 3 and above	CCU	1077	432.2	39.2	431.3
	ER	479	432.5	39.3	428.3
	ICU/CCU	1941	434.4	38.9	430.4
	MICU	1985	433.4	40.9	430.7
	NEURO ICU	705	433.8	41.5	428.4
	NICU	105	431.5	40.5	425.5
	OR	135	423.8	44.2	422.9
	PACU	166	432.6	38.5	428.9
	PICU	283	436.0	37.5	433.5
	SICU	1269	435.1	41.8	432.0
	TRAUMA ICU	723	431.7	39.1	431.7
	Total	**5,916**	**434.0**	**40.0**	**431.0**
Total	CCU	1451	427.2	41.5	424.8
	ER	641	427.5	41.6	422.2
	ICU/CCU	2668	428.9	41.3	424.1
	MICU	2743	428.3	42.0	424.9
	NEURO ICU	1024	426.9	43.1	423.0
	NICU	140	424.9	41.5	417.9
	OR	181	418.3	44.2	415.6
	PACU	239	425.8	42.4	421.8
	PICU	368	430.0	40.1	427.3
	SICU	1697	429.2	43.0	425.6
	TRAUMA ICU	999	426.9	40.6	425.3
	Total	8,079	**428.2**	**41.9**	**424.7**

Appendix A - Additional NCE and SEE Performance Data

Table A1. NCE Pass Rate Trends—First-Time Candidates 2008 through December 31, 2025

Reporting Period	Percent Passing
2008* (Graduates 2007 – 2008)	89.9
2009 (Graduates after 2008)	87.7
2010	88.9
2011	89.1
FY2012	88.5
FY2013	88.4
FY2014**	87.8
FY2015	85.0
FY2016	84.5
FY2017	82.6
FY2018	84.3
CY2019	84.4
CY2020	85.2
CY2021	84.1
CY2022	84.0
CY2023***	84.9
CY2024	89.3
CY2025	90.5

*Passing standard increased in August 2008

**Passing standard increased in January 2014

***Both first-time and repeat exam administrations were calculated at the yearly level in the CY-2023 report. The number in this table reflects only first-time candidates.

Table A2. Descriptive Statistics for NCE Total and Domain-Level Scores—First-Time Candidates 2025 (January 1, 2025 – December 31, 2025)

	Mean	Standard Deviation
Total Score	496.6	42.0
Basic Science	495.1	62.3
Equipment, Instrumentation and Technology	501.2	58.2
General Principles of Anesthesia	498.4	49.1
Anesthesia for Surgical Procedures and Special Populations	498.7	54.9

Table A3. Descriptive Statistics for SEE Scores and Domain-Level Information, 2025 (January 1, 2025 – December 31, 2025)

	Year 1-2		Year 3 and Above		All	
	Avg	SD	Avg	SD	Avg	SD
Total	412.6	43.0	434.0	40.0	428.2	41.9
Basic Science	414.4	51.6	430.4	46.7	426.1	48.6
Equipment, Instrumentation and Technology	413.2	49.0	436.6	44.9	430.4	47.2
General Principles of Anesthesia	413.4	46.4	434.8	45.4	429.1	46.7
Anesthesia for Surgical Procedures and Special Populations	412.1	47.5	436.6	46.2	430.1	47.8