

**Tennessee Board of Nursing  
Annual Report  
May 2021**

1. Licensing/Regulation

- New Board member appointments: Martina Harris, EdD, MSN, RN (3<sup>rd</sup> Congressional district); Sheryl Wright, MSN, APRN (8<sup>th</sup> Congressional district. Note: May 2020—terms expired for Leslie Akins (4<sup>th</sup>), Mark Young (6<sup>th</sup>); Leslie Akins will serve until replaced
- Elizabeth Lund, Executive Director, retired in April after 35 years of service to the Board of Nursing.
- November 2020, Government Operations voted to recommend continuing the Board for five years.
- 11% increase in facilities and 18% increase in licensees enrolled in Nursys® e-notify
- Updated instructions for expediting applications for RN, LPN exam applicants; posted on website
- Sheila Bouie, DNP, RN, elected Chair; Amber Wyatt, MSN, APRN, elected Vice-chair.
- Sherry Richardson appointed as Interim Executive Director April 2020; appointed Executive Director March 2021.
- Donna Kirkland, Nurse Consultant resigned April 2020.
- Rhonda Potter, Nurse Consultant hired June 2020.
- Nurse Consultant position remains open.
- Two staff positions remain open.
- Additional temporary staff employees in place for 2021 Spring/Summer exam application season.

2. COVID 19

- Numerous Executive Orders were enacted beginning in March 2020 in response to the COVID-19 pandemic; several of these impacted nursing practice:  
<https://sos.tn.gov/products/division-publications/executive-orders-governor-bill-lee>

3. Practice—appropriate, safe practice, curb overprescribing

- a. Amber Wyatt, APRN, appointed BON representative to CSMD Committee
- b. Audits of APRNs for compliance with N&F, certification and CE—continued compliance with “education to compliance”—Similar compliance between those randomly audited and those targeted for audits

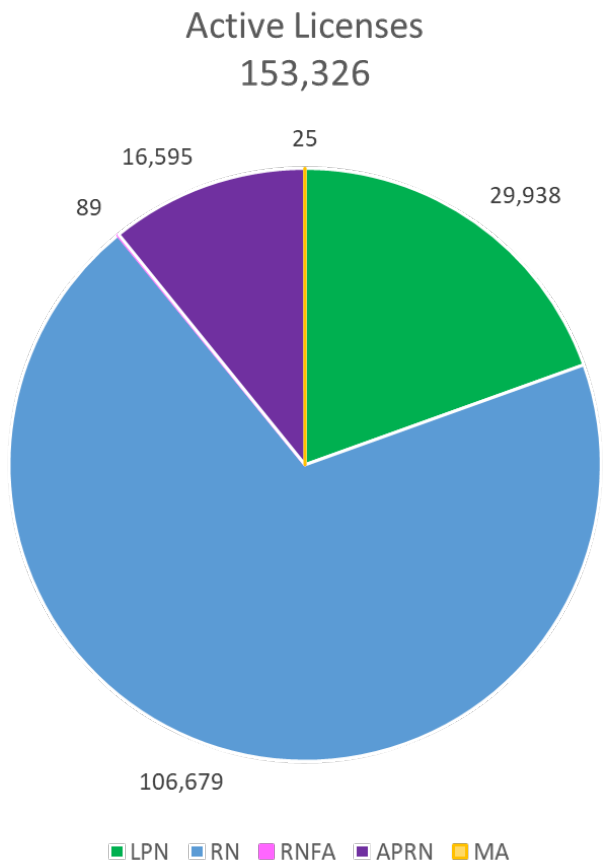
4. Education—access to data, appropriate standards

- a. Sheila Bouie, EdD, MSN, RN appointed Education Committee chair
- b. Workforce data collected via online renewal and transmitted to Nursys®
- c. Select data available via GIS application on BON website; updated quarterly
- d. 100% of new program requests for online nursing program are conducted via WebEx
- e. Results of recommendations from NCSBN’s quantitative, qualitative and education metrics study presented to Board of Directors December 2019. Information may be found in the *Journal of Nursing Regulation, Volume 11, July 2020 Supplement*
- f. Record high NCLEX-RN® pass rates nationally for 2018 at 88.2; Tennessee 92.4

5. Discipline—evidence-based disciplinary actions/ policies fair and consistent
6. Technology—enhance regulation through technology
  - a. Transmission of APRN data to Nursys commenced April 2021 after several years of preparation.
  - b. Data Integrity Project: Effective November 2018 collecting APRN education history via online continuing
  - c. As of December 2020, 276 facilities (11% increase) and 47, 196 nurses (17.7% increase) have registered with NURSYS e-Notify
7. NCSBN Update
  - a. ENLC-33 jurisdictions have joined—New Jersey and Guam implementation TBD in 2021.
  - b. VA Full Practice Authority--NCSBN continues to work with VA and members to implement full practice authority for APRNs
  - c. Nurse Anesthesiologist—BOD took no action on proposed title option
  - d. Outcomes to Alternative to Discipline Programs--Completed pilot study of select states' substance use disorder monitoring programs to assess completion rates, personal and program characteristic's associated with program completion and compare aspects of different programs to understand factor related to relapse (TnPAP participated). Information may be found in the *Journal of Nursing Regulation, Volume 11, July 2020*
  - e. Nursing Education Outcomes and Metrics Committee released results of research related to approval guidelines for educational programs. Information may be found in the *Journal of Nursing Regulation, Volume 11, July 2020 Supplement*

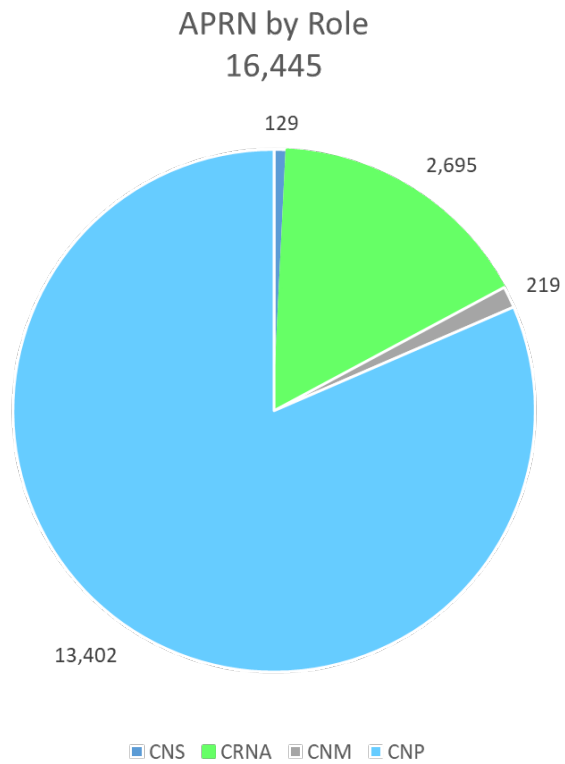
**LICENSURE DATA: APRN, RN, RNFA, LPN, MA**  
**Active Licenses — December 31, 2020**

	LPN	RN	RNFA	APRN	MA	Total
Active	29,938	106,679	89	16,445	21	153,176

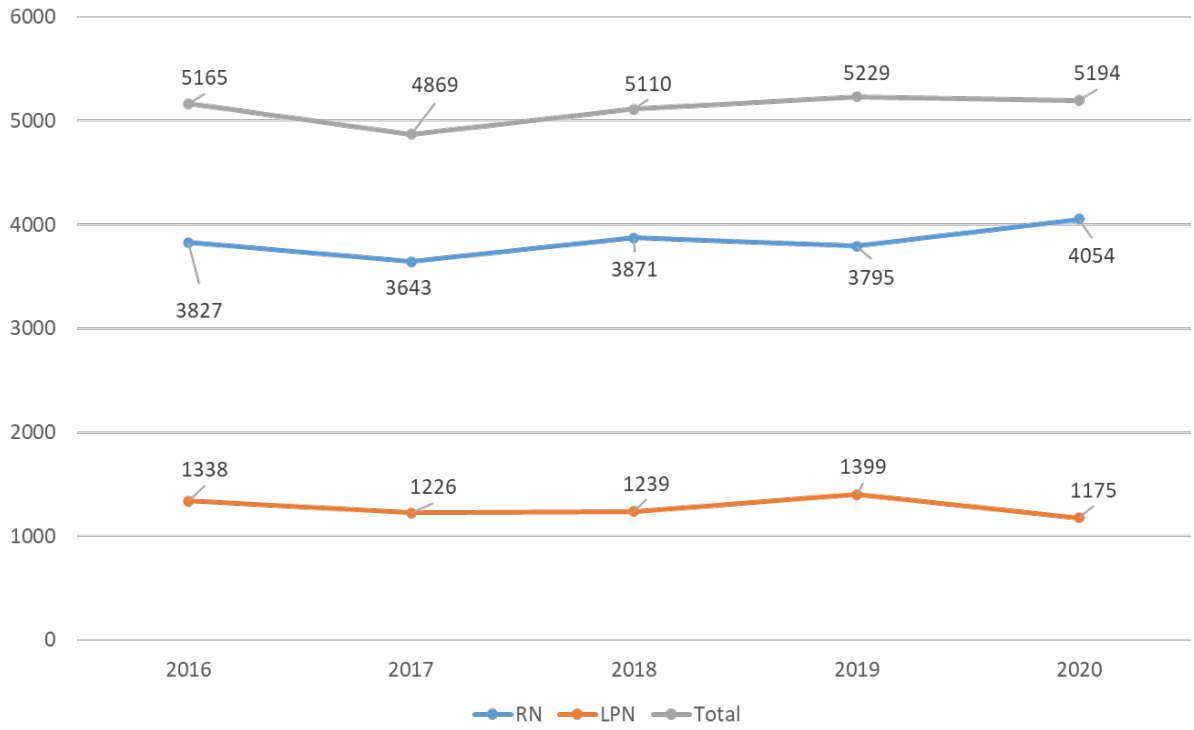


**ADVANCED PRACTICE NURSES  
Active Licenses —December 31, 2020**

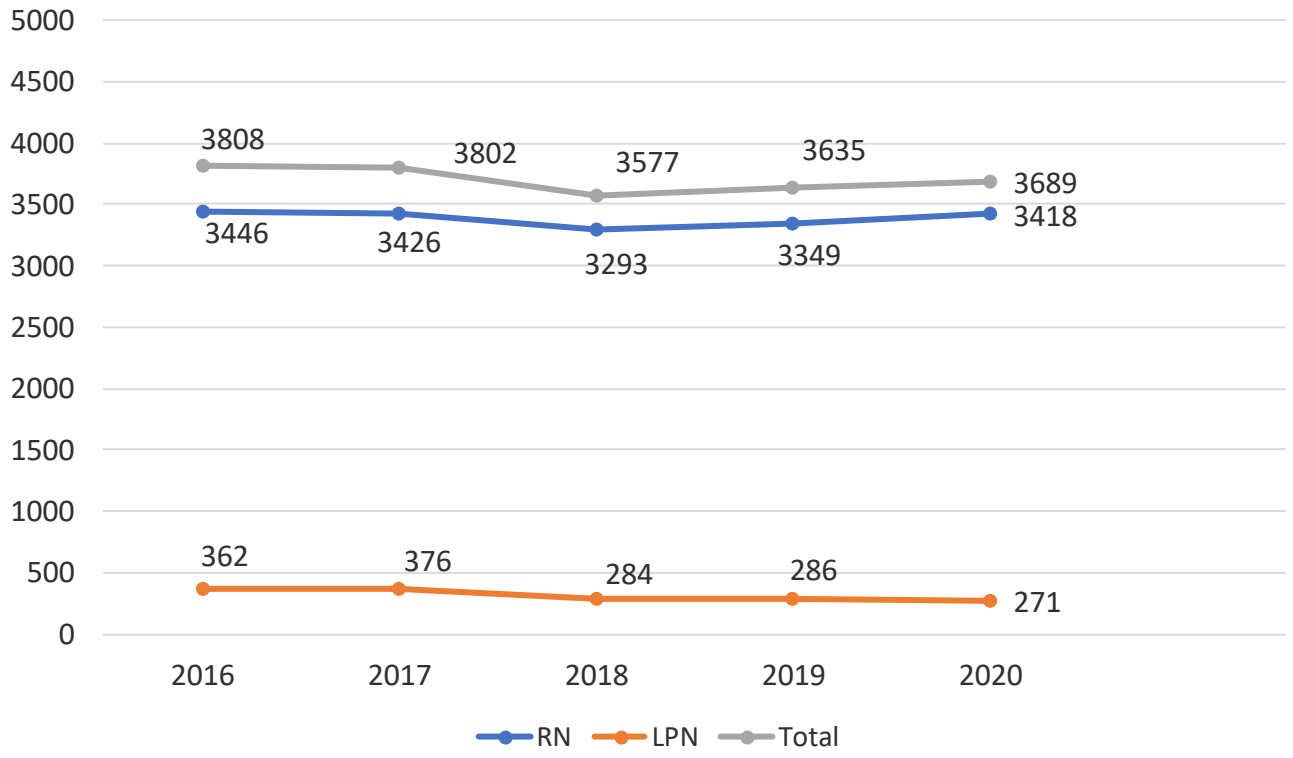
	<b>CNS</b>	<b>CRNA</b>	<b>CNM</b>	<b>CNP</b>	<b>Total</b>
Authority to Prescribe	117	1,653	210	13,334	15,314
No authority to Prescribe	12	1,042	9	68	1,131
<b>Total</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>2,695</b>	<b>219</b>	<b>13,402</b>	<b>16,445</b>



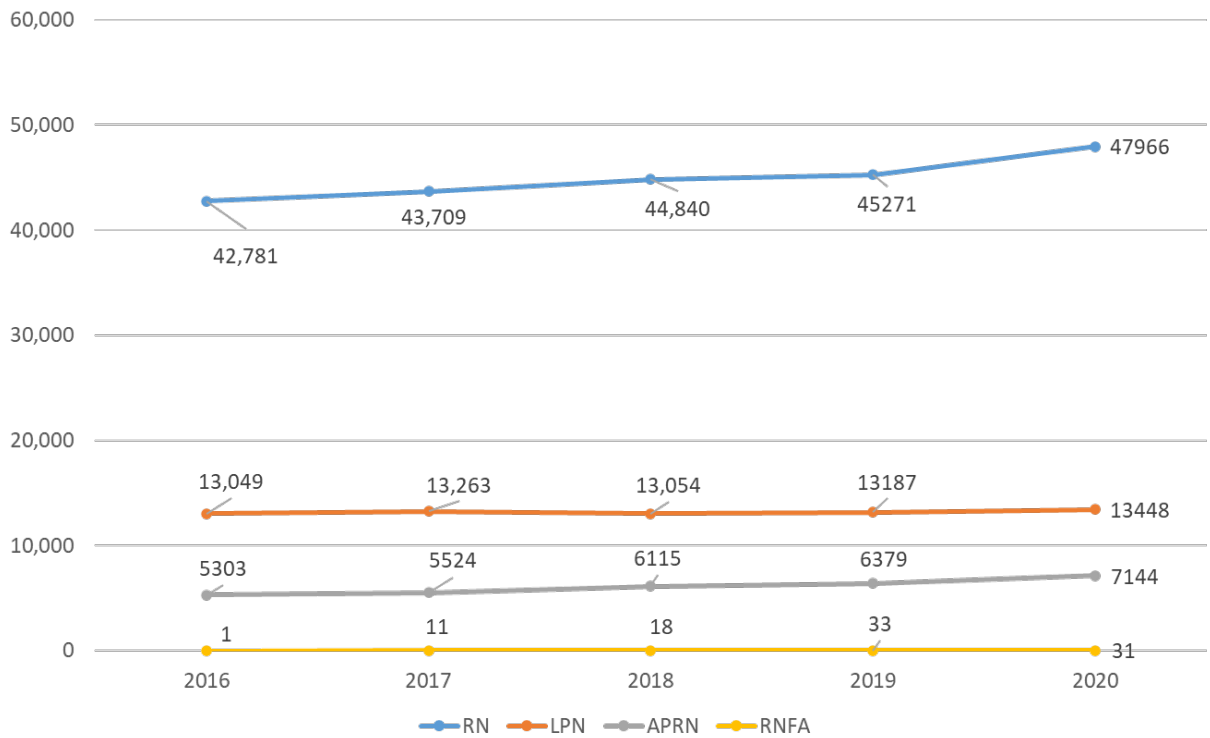
### Licensed by Examination



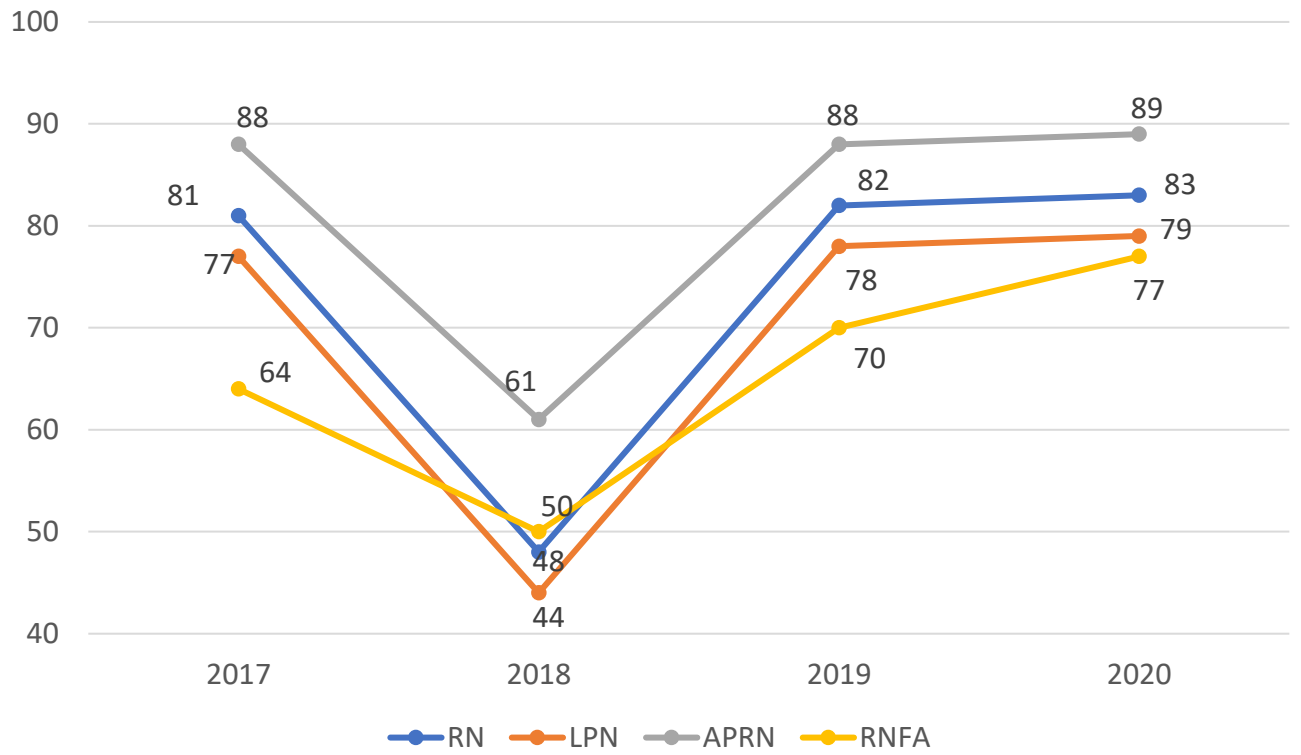
### Licensed by Endorsement



### Renewal By Year



### Percent Renewed Online



Discipline 2020	LPN	RN	APRN	Total
Reprimand	3	26	3	<b>32</b>
Revocation	6	5	0	<b>11</b>
Suspension	36	81	8	<b>125</b>
Probation	25	55	4	<b>84</b>
Voluntary Surrender	10	28	6	<b>44</b>
Civil Penalty	20	39	3	<b>62</b>
Denial	0	1	0	<b>1</b>
Summary Suspension	1	2	0	<b>3</b>
Other	1	0	0	<b>1</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>237</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>372</b>