

Graduate Nursing Rankings

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How much does your organization focus on national research?

A Great Deal

Quite a Bit

Somewhat

A Little

Not at All

0%

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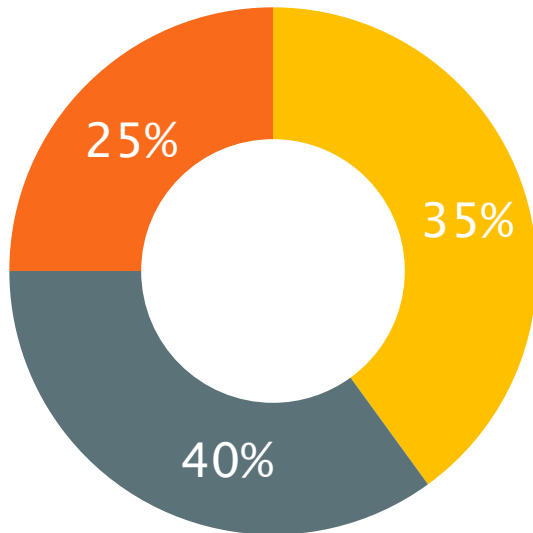
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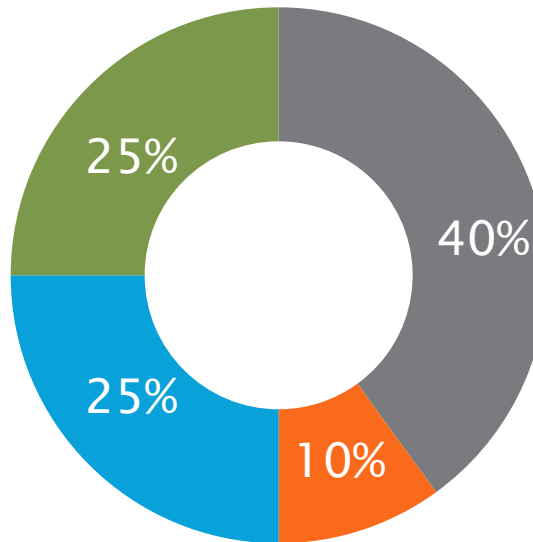


GRADUATE RANKING METHODOLOGIES DIFFER (2017)

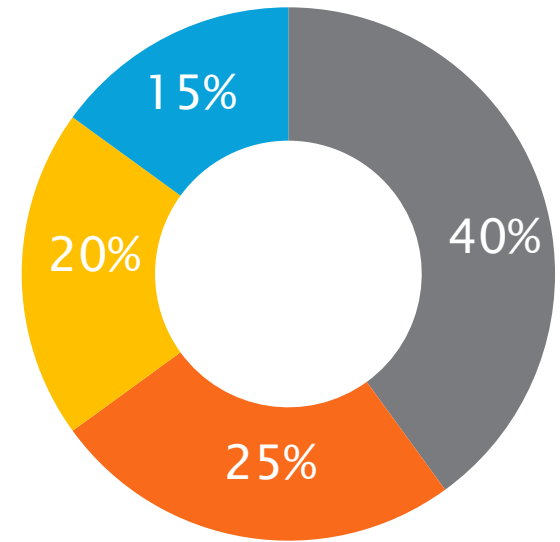
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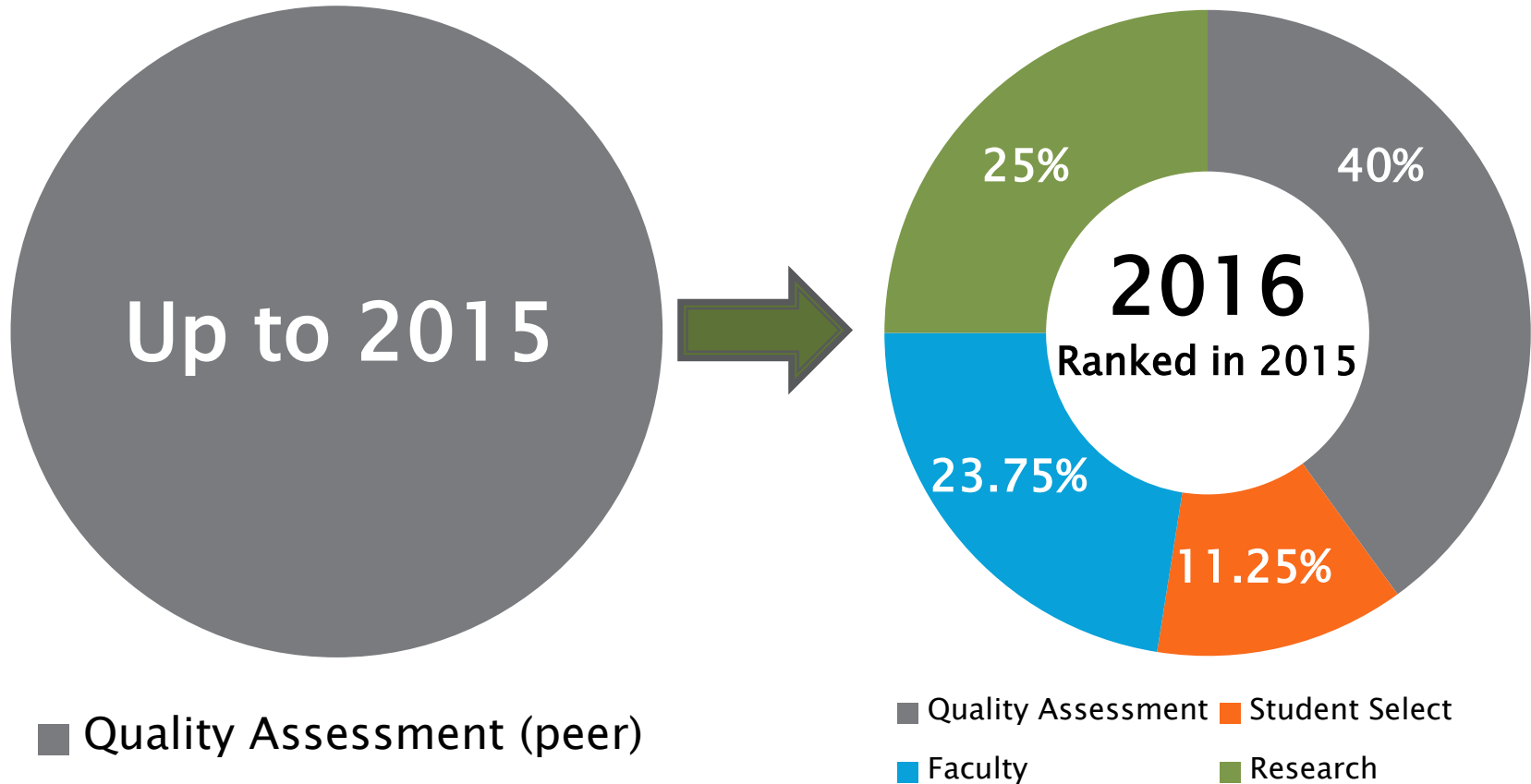
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- Quality Assessment
- Student Selectivity
- Faculty Resources
- Research Activity
- Career Placement Success

Quality of program survey, student selectivity, and career placement are common requirements, but are reported differently in each ranking.

Nursing Ranking Historical Perspective



AACN Ad Hoc Taskforce on Rankings

- ▶ Began in 2015 when 2016 USNWR Rankings were published
- ▶ Representatives from AACN & member schools
- ▶ Conference calls with USNWR representatives



Issues Raised with 2016 Rankings with USNWR

Peer Survey Distribution

- Use AACN addresses

Achievement \neq # Degrees Awarded

- Number of degrees awarded not necessarily indicates quality

Student : Faculty Ratio

- All faculty may not teach in MSN programs

Faculty Achievements Define

- Consistency in definition, competitive selection

Nursing Practice Define

Masters Degree Output

- Higher number does not always equal quality

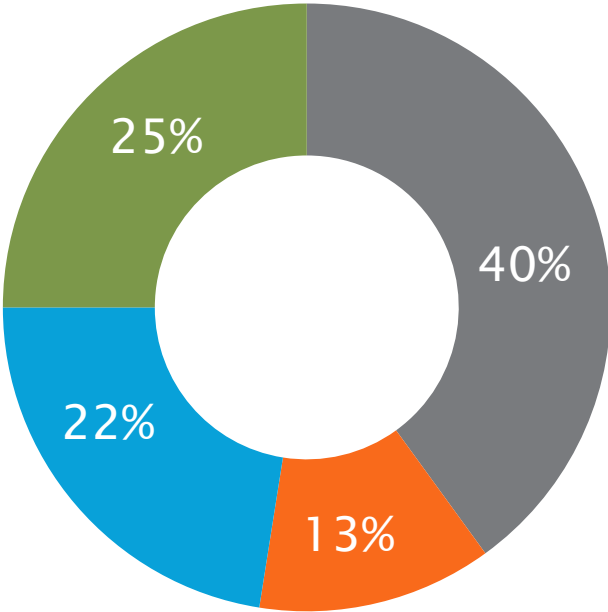
For the 2016 rankings, USNWR said:

“the upcoming master’s ranking methodology will change since we have changed the definitions of many of the statistical indicators used in last year’s ranking (2016) per our work with AACN and other deans at nursing schools. We will rank DNP programs using a separate methodology than the master’s ranking uses.”

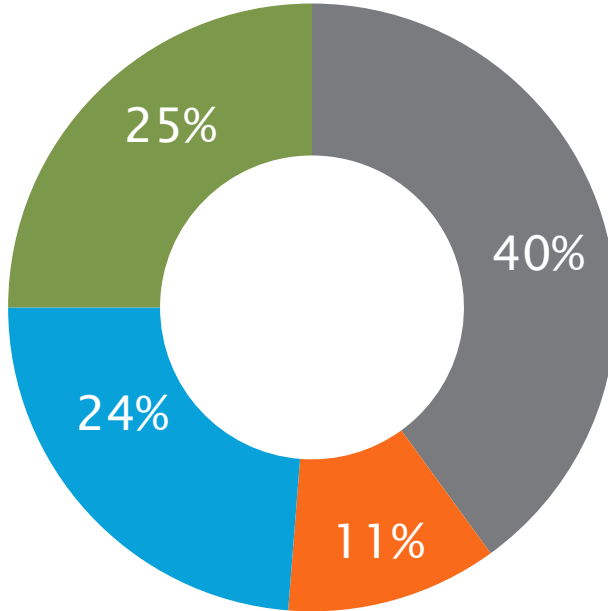
Nursing Graduate Rankings

Methodologies Changes 2016-2017

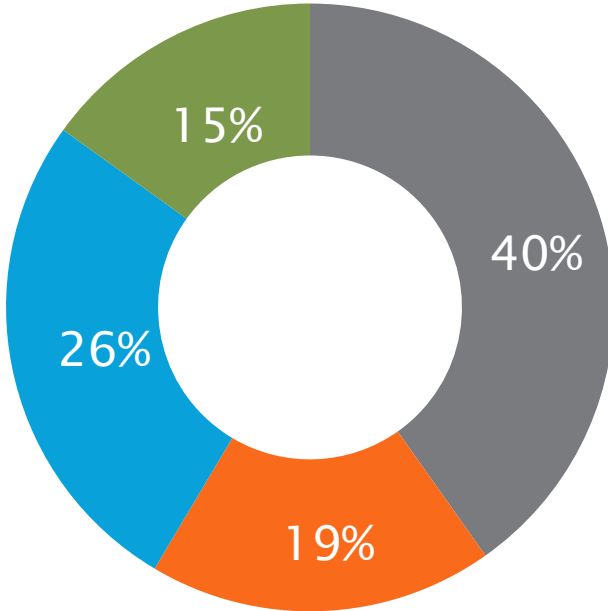
2016 Masters



2017 Masters

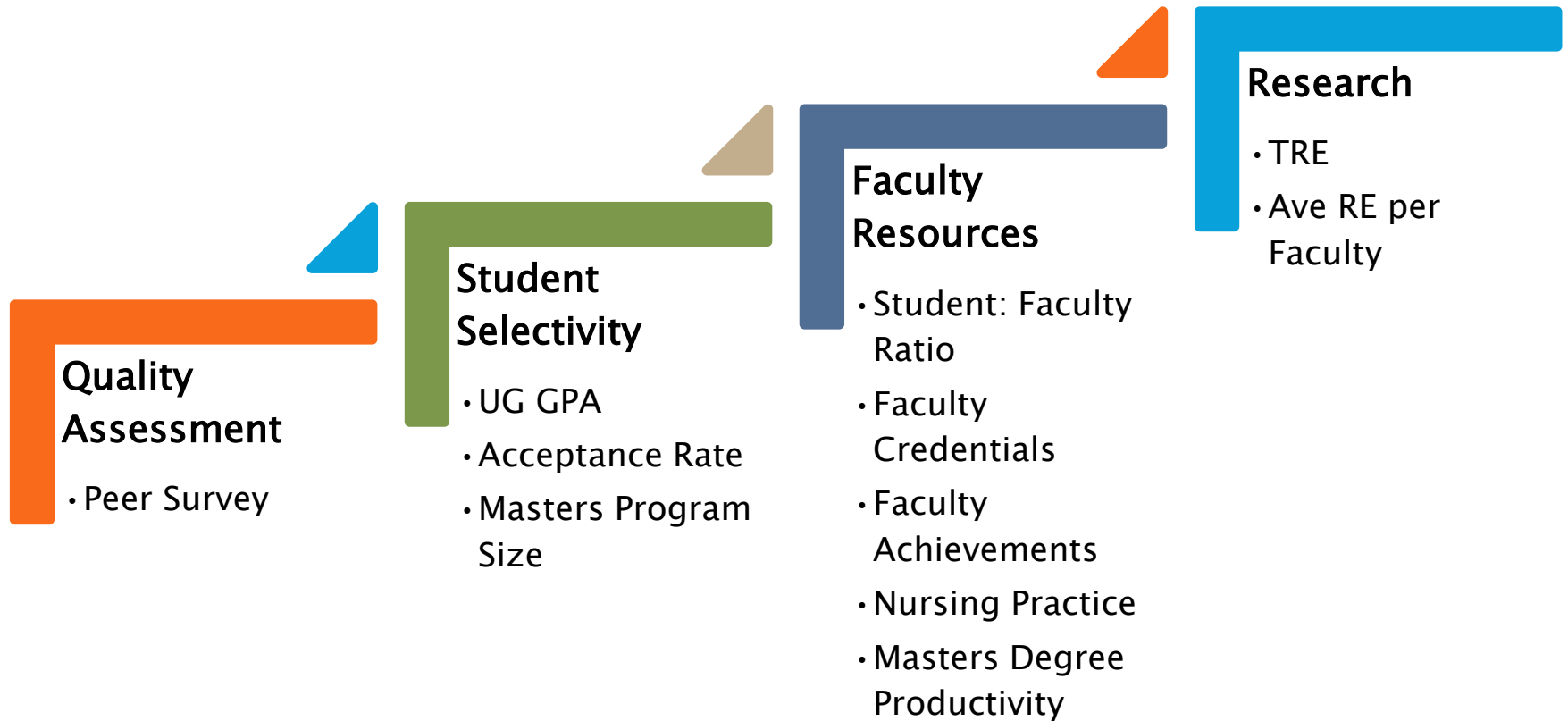


2017 DNP



■ Quality Assessment ■ Student Selectivity ■ Faculty Resources ■ Research

Masters Indicators: 2017 Survey



current indicators reflect "best" Masters in M programs?

YES

NO

NOT

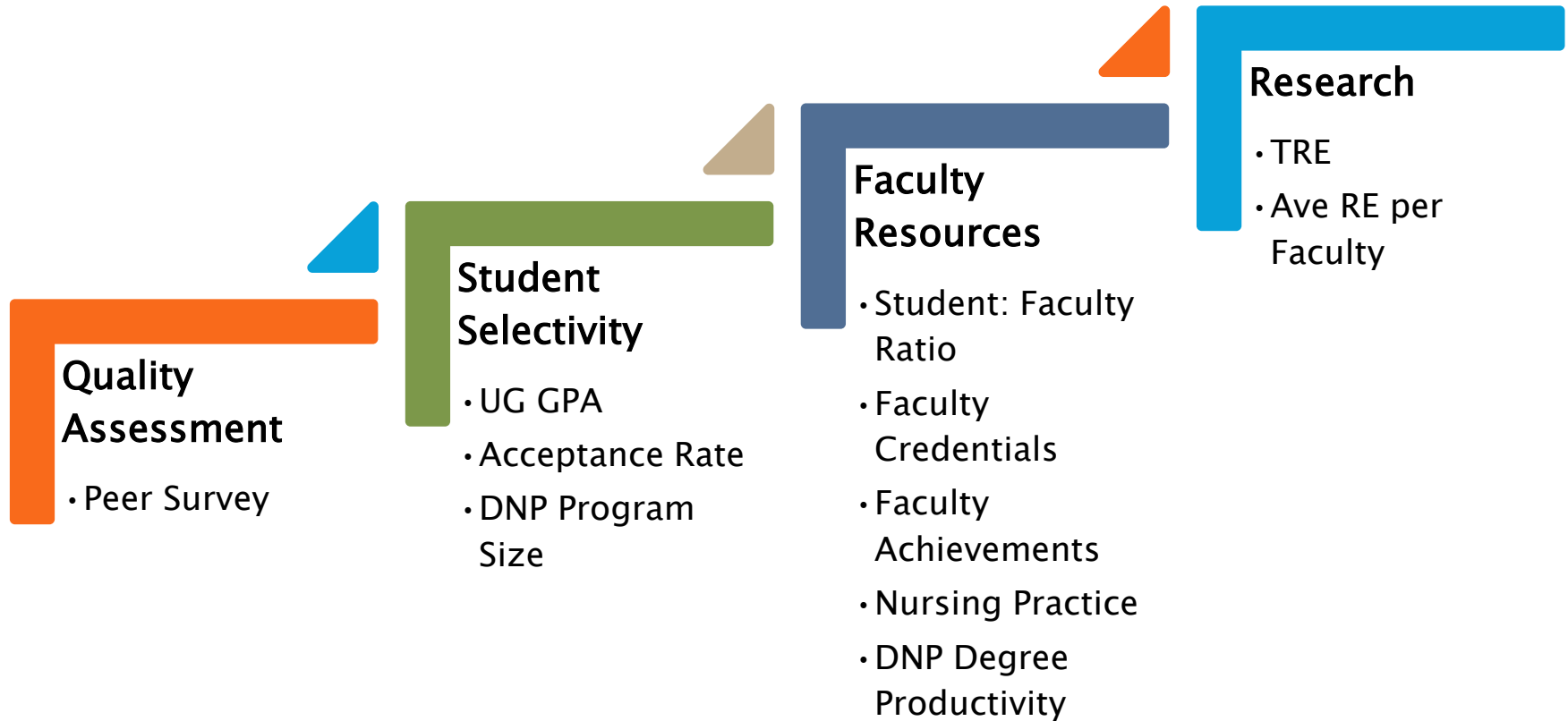
SURE

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DNP Indicators: 2017 Survey



Are the current indicators reflective of the "best programs?"

YES

NO

NOT SURE

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Specialty Rankings 2017

CNL, NP, Nursing Administration, Nursing Informatics

2016

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graph TD; A[2016] --> B[Peer Assessment: Deans & Graduate program Directors]; B --> C[Identify up to 10 programs]; C --> D[Need 7 votes to be ranked];
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Peer Assessment: Deans & Graduate program Directors

Identify up to 10 programs

Need 7 votes to be ranked

Specialty Rankings : CRNA & Midwifery 2016


- ▶ Ranked separately from Nursing Survey, Nurse Midwifery and Nurse Anesthesia rankings “based on the universe of all accredited programs” (R. Morse, USNWR, 2016)
 - 39 graduate programs in nurse midwifery accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Midwifery Education (62 percent)
 - 112 graduate programs in nurse anesthesia accredited by the Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs (54 percent)
- ▶ Peer Survey only

See <http://www.usnews.com/education/best-graduate-schools/articles/health-schools-methodology?int=9d2d08>

Issues Raised with 2017 Rankings with USNWR

- ▶ Measures of Quality
 - National Certification Rates
 - Graduation Rates rather than # Degrees Awarded
- ▶ Faculty Resources
 - Add in questions about faculty teaching in Masters and DNP programs.
 - Defined “Fellows” in academies
 - Suggested faculty certification rates as a faculty credential to consider
 - Defined “active in nursing practice” broadly
- ▶ Research Expenditures
 - MSN and DNP programs are not research focused so recommended decreasing weight in the category
 - Broaden scope of funding (private, state, local sources)
- ▶ Recommended separating BSN to DNP and Post-masters DNP rankings

USNWR 2018 Rankings Survey

- ▶ Sent in fall 2016
 - ▶ Used AACN school contact list for Quality Assessment mailing.
 - ▶ Included questions related to certification and graduation rates.
 - ▶ Asked about numbers of faculty who teach in masters & DNP programs
 - ▶ Defined “nursing practice.”
 - ▶ Set parameters for research funding timeframe
- 

Future Directions



- ▶ Methodology for 2018 rankings released in spring 2017
- ▶ AACN Taskforce will continue dialog with USNWR
- ▶ USNWR will only use data that they can calculate
- ▶ Employers Surveys

Comments / Suggestions for Taskforce