



## DNP Trends in Enrollment & Graduations

To inform the Board’s discussion on the follow-up to the 2014 RAND report on the DNP, the data below has been collected from AACN’s annual surveys to show current and trend data related to enrollment and graduations.

### Current State of the DNP

The following is based on AACN’s *2018-2019 Survey of Enrollment and Graduations in Baccalaureate and Graduate Programs in Nursing*.

#### Programs

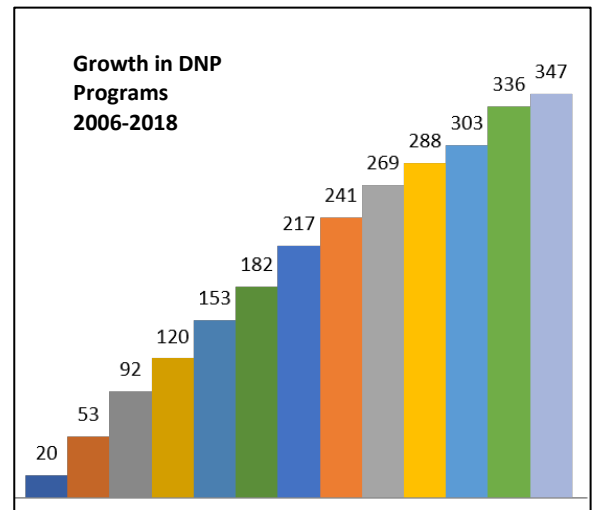
Schools with DNP Programs:	347
Post-Baccalaureate DNP Programs:	233
Post-Master’s DNP Programs:	335
Schools Planning a Post-BSN DNP:	50
Schools Planning a Post-MSN DNP:	48

#### Enrollment & Graduations

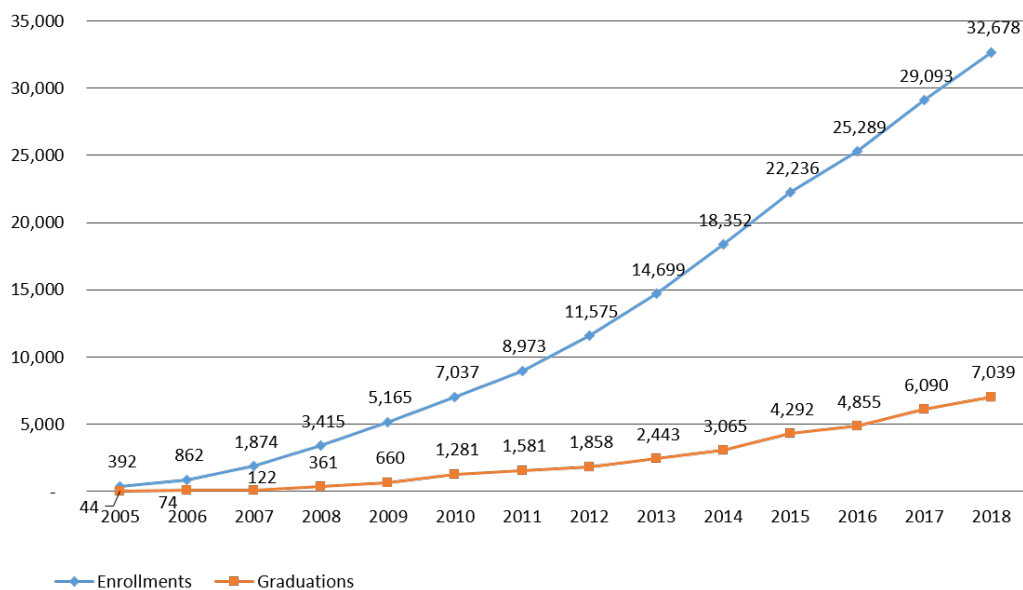
Enrollment in DNP Programs:	32,678
Graduations from DNP Programs:	7,039

#### Applications

Applications Received:	26,765
Applications Meeting Admission Reqs:	20,175
Qualified Applications Turned Away:	2,765



Enrollment and Graduations in DNP Programs: 2005-2018



### DNP Enrollment Trends: 2008-2018

The following data show 10-year enrollment trends in DNP-level APRN programs as well as a breakdown of enrolled students by clinical (APRN) and non-clinical (all other) programs.

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Nurse-Midwifery	44	56	65	81	79	79	107	125	165	193	239
Nurse Anesthesia	73	81	115	221	309	698	1,001	1,540	1,842	2,417	3,047
Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS)	124	179	150	196	219	329	217	198	225	218	243
Nurse Practitioner (NP)	1,482	2,391	3,382	4,590	5,660	7,260	9,539	11,942	13,759	15,843	17,836
Total Clinical Majors	1,723	2,707	3,712	5,088	6,267	8,366	10,864	13,805	15,991	18,671	21,365
Total Non-Clinical Majors	1,692	2,458	3,322	4,006	5,308	6,322	7,487	8,190	9,298	10,422	11,313
Total Enrollment	3,415	5,165	7,034	9,094	11,575	14,688	18,351	21,995	25,289	29,093	32,678
% of Clinical Majors	50%	52%	53%	56%	54%	57%	59%	63%	63%	64%	65%
% of Non-Clinical Majors	50%	48%	47%	44%	46%	43%	41%	37%	37%	36%	35%
Total in Post-Baccalaureate DNP	575	1,060	1,887	3,036	5,031	6,299	8,915	11,106	13,822	16,123	18,240
Total in Post-Master's DNP	2,840	4,105	5,147	6,058	6,544	8,389	9,436	10,889	11,467	12,970	14,438

### DNP Graduation Trends: 2008-2018

The following data show 10-year graduation trends in DNP-level APRN programs as well as a breakdown of graduates by clinical (APRN) and non-clinical (all other) programs. The final column shows the total number of graduates over the 10-year period.

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Total
Nurse-Midwifery	4	7	16	7	26	21	27	17	25	35	34	219
Nurse Anesthesia	1	10	13	20	30	67	107	173	309	442	560	1,732
Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS)	5	19	14	29	14	33	36	54	59	50	41	354
Nurse Practitioner (NP)	127	216	437	630	736	907	1,281	1,876	2,233	2,960	3,457	14,860
Total of Clinical Majors	137	252	480	686	806	1,028	1,451	2,120	2,626	3,487	4,092	17,165
Total of Non-Clinical Majors	224	408	802	909	1,052	1,395	1,614	1,980	2,229	2,603	2,947	16,163
Total	361	660	1,282	1,595	1,858	2,423	3,065	4,100	4,855	6,090	7,039	33,328
% of Clinical Majors	38%	38%	37%	43%	43%	42%	47%	52%	54%	57%	58%	
% of Non-Clinical Majors	62%	62%	63%	57%	57%	58%	53%	48%	46%	43%	42%	
Total Post-Baccalaureate DNP	23	48	40	103	280	463	715	1,183	1,828	2,646	3,151	10,480
Total Post-Master's DNP	338	612	1,242	1,492	1,578	1,960	2,350	2,917	3,027	3,444	3,888	22,848

### Comparison with Graduations from Master's Level APRN Programs

The following data show the total number of graduates from APRN programs offered at the master's and DNP level from 2008-2018.

Master's Level APRN Graduates: 199,282  
 DNP Level APRN Graduates: 17,165

### DNP Program Closures: 2008-2018

Post-Baccalaureate DNP Programs: 4  
 Post-Master's DNP Programs: 3