

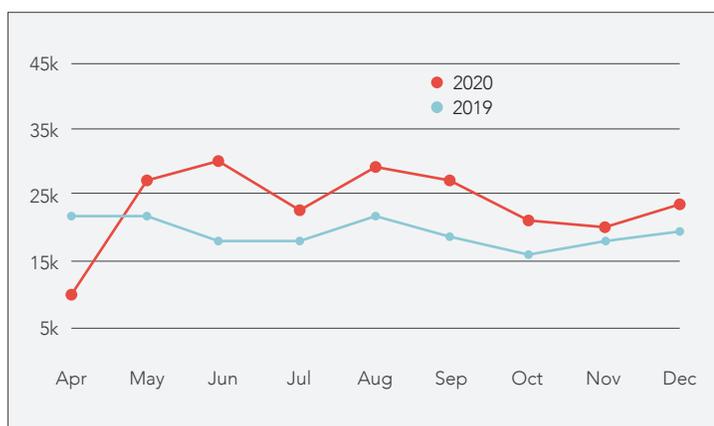
Nursing Admissions Trend Report

This document provides a quick overview of admissions trends in nursing education, including testing volumes for ATI TEAS, the most widely used admissions exam in nursing. The COVID-19 pandemic disrupted some admissions processes in 2020, but interest in the nursing profession has surged thanks to the selfless service of nurses everywhere.

Surging test volumes continue

Media reports of a sharp increase in nursing-program applications was supported by a significant increase in TEAS testers during the final three months of 2020. As Figure 1 makes clear, the decrease in TEAS testers through the middle of 2020 was driven entirely by pandemic challenges. At the same time, nurses have inspired millions by their selfless service, and students' interest in the nursing profession is soaring.

Remote proctoring continues to be an essential tool for addressing this increase and ensuring programs maintain their admissions testing during the pandemic. In December 2020 alone, more than 65% of all TEAS tests were remotely proctored.



Interest in the nursing profession has surged, and so have ATI TEAS test volumes.

Admission Trends in 2021

Enrollment in baccalaureate nursing programs increased nearly 6% according to preliminary results of an annual survey of 900 nursing schools by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing.ⁱ

Two-year associate nursing degree programs seem to be experiencing a similar bump, though hard numbers are unavailable, said Laura Schmidt, president of the Organization for Associate Degree Nursing.

“Nurse” was the No. 1 term that people queried with the phrase “how to become” on Google, according to Google trends data.ⁱⁱ

Medical schools also saw an 18% boost in applications last year, a jump partially attributed to the pandemic and the high profile of respected doctors.ⁱⁱⁱ

Programs at the bachelor’s and graduate degree levels turned away more than 80,000 qualified applicants in 2019, according to a report by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing.^{iv}

Coming Soon – a new ATI TEAS blueprint

ATI recently completed its latest revision to the ATI TEAS blueprint with input from subject matter experts and nurse educators from across the country.

The new test will launch in 2021. Get the most up-to-date information and sign up for alerts at atiteas.info.

References

ⁱ Andrew, Michelle (2021, February 21). COVID-19 didn't scare me away. Kaiser Health News.

ⁱⁱ Andrew, Michelle (2021, February 21). COVID-19 didn't scare me away. Kaiser Health News.

ⁱⁱⁱ AAMC.org; Oct. 22, 2020

^{iv} 2019-2020 Enrollment and Graduations in Baccalaureate and Graduate Programs in Nursing; American Association of Colleges of Nursing