

KENTUCKY BOARD OF NURSING

2023-2024 ANNUAL REPORT



The Kentucky Board of Nursing protects the public by development and enforcement of state laws governing the safe practice of nurses, dialysis technicians, and licensed certified professional midwives.

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A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



AUDRIA DENKER, DNP, RN, FAADN, ANEF PRESIDENT



KELLY JENKINS MSN, RN, NE-BC EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Colleagues, Licensees, and Stakeholders,

This past year has been one of reflection, progress, and unwavering commitment to our mission. The Kentucky Board of Nursing continues to evolve, addressing challenges with resilience and leveraging opportunities to strengthen the nursing profession and protect public safety.

- **Strengthening Communication:** We implemented measures to streamline internal communication channels and ensure our messaging with licensees and the public is clear and impactful. From adopting centralized platforms to expanding public outreach, these efforts reinforce our commitment to transparency and trust.
- **Strengthening Public Protection:** We advanced our regulatory processes by reimagining discipline to ensure swift and fair resolution of disciplinary cases while prioritizing patient safety and public trust.
- **Modernizing Technology:** With advancements in technology, we aim to streamline processes, improve communication, and adapt programs like KARE, our alternative to discipline program, to better support nurses navigating challenges.
- **Expanding Workforce Support:** Addressing the ongoing nursing shortage, KBN launched initiatives to support workforce development, including streamlining licensure processes, creating a supply and demand data projection model, and fostering pathways for support staff to assist nurses.
- **Investing in Staff Development:** Supporting our dedicated team remains a priority. Formal training programs, mentorship opportunities, and recognition initiatives are designed to empower staff and enhance their engagement and well-being.

Commitment to Collaboration

None of these achievements would have been possible without the dedicated efforts of our board members, staff, and partners. We have worked closely with educational institutions, healthcare organizations, and policymakers to align nursing regulations with the evolving needs of Kentucky's communities. These partnerships are vital as we navigate a complex healthcare landscape.

We extend our deepest gratitude to Kentucky's nurses for their unwavering dedication and compassion. Your commitment inspires our work and strengthens our resolve to support you.

The Board remains committed to building momentum through innovation, not only by our role in regulation and public protection, maintaining a compliant workforce, but also by being consultative, working proactively to help programs of nursing be successful in their missions, partnering with others to attract new nurses and healthcare professionals to the field, and instilling pride in the profession, all of which impact the workforce shortage and Kentucky's future. We remain dedicated to this mission.

KBN BOARD MEMBERS



AUDRIA DENKER RN BOARD MEMBER 2018-2026



ASHLEY ADKINS CITIZEN-AT-LARGE 2021-2027



JANA BAILEY RN BOARD MEMBER 2020-2024



MELISSA BENTLEY RN BOARD MEMBER 2021-2025



SUSAN ELLIS RN BOARD MEMBER 2021-2025



MIRIAM HAAS LPN BOARD MEMBER 2023-2027



JENNIFER HARPE-BATES CRNA BOARD MEMBER 2023-2027



RUTH MARTIN RN BOARD MEMBER 2022-2026



JACOB HIGGINS RN BOARD MEMBER 2020-2024



AMBER POWELL RN BOARD MEMBER 2023-2027



DARLENA JONES

RN BOARD MEMBER

2023-2027

KAREN SHERFEY LPN BOARD MEMBER 2023-2027



HOPE JONES

RN BOARD MEMBER

2021-2025

JANE SMITH CITIZEN-AT-LARGE 2021-2025



ANNE VENO RN BOARD MEMBER 2021-2025



ALISHA CLEMONS APRN BOARD MEMBER 2024-2026



SARA FERGUSON APRN BOARD MEMBER 2024-2028

VISION AND GOALS





We aspire to:

- Deliver benchmark-quality services in healthcare regulation.
- Meet the challenges of a dynamic and ever-changing healthcare environment.
- Have an organizational environment that fosters creativity, innovation, and outstanding leadership.
- Have a committed and appropriately compensated Board/staff who have exceptional knowledge and skills.
- Achieve integration of regulatory efforts affecting the health of the public.
- Have effective and efficient Board functions.



Goal I: Sound, defensible regulatory practice that protects the public

- Increase public awareness and understanding of the role and purpose of the KBN
- Continue enhancements for the disciplinary action and compliance monitoring processes
- Continue to evaluate pre-licensure nursing education program requirements
- Continue to evaluate issues related to the legal scope of licensed practical, registered and advanced registered nursing practice

Goal II: Efficient delivery of services that meets the needs of consumers and regulated entities in a fiscally responsible manner

- Continue technological enhancements for licensure and credentialing processes
- Use available technology to evaluate agency services
- Ensure responsible fiscal management in order to fulfill agency mission

Goal III: Optimal use of technology that support agency services

• Improve utilization of technology to support Board activities and services

Goal IV: Support an organizational culture consistent with Board mission, vision and values

- Optimize ongoing orientation and development of Board members and staff to their role and the agency mission, structure and services
- Ensure compliance with state government requirements for KBN organizational structure

FISCAL YEAR 2023-24 HIGHLIGHTS



Education Committee

Certified Medication Aide Training Programs and Data Registry:

- KBN Education Branch now approves all Certified Medication Aide programs throughout Kentucky
- The addition of the Certified Medication Aide (CMA) II training programs will allow for individuals with CMA I certification, to train in administering insulin via preloaded syringes
- A dynamic search function for approved CMA training programs was created that allows interested individuals to find training programs nearest to them, greatly improving access and knowledge to the public

Significant Regulation Changes:

201 KAR 20:320

- Changes to regulations regarding the use of external exams within a nursing program
- The addition to a requirement for on-campus skills laboratory resources for students
- The removal of the mandatory curricular addition of implicit bias

Practice Committee

- An APRN who is in good standing and has had a collaborative agreement with a physician to prescribe controlled substances after 4 years may apply for an exemption from the CAPA-CS requirement.
- A new graduate APRN may request a provisional license by completing an application for licensure which allows them to practice as an APRN applicant (APRNA) under the mentorship and supervision of an APRN or physician while awaiting their national certification results. The APRNA may not prescribe medications.
- The KBN drafted the administrative regulation 201 KAR 20:067 regarding professional standards for medicinal cannabis as it relates to APRN nursing practice. This regulation establishes requirements for APRNs authorized to provide written certifications for the use of medicinal cannabis.

FISCALLY RESPONSIBLE USE OF FUNDS

FISCALLY **RESPONSIBLE USE OF FUNDS**

The KBN is a 100% fee supported agency utilizing no General Fund monies. The bulk of the revenues realized by KBN are the result of licensing fees, which are assessed annually.

In Fiscal Year 2024, KBN was granted an additional \$1,077,400.00 in appropriations from its available funds for that year's budget. KBN requested this increase due to anticipated costs related to new responsibilities placed on the agency by the General Assembly during the legislative session, such as authorizing APRNs to issue medicinal cannabis certifications and overseeing Certified Medication Aide training programs. At the end of the fiscal year, KBN's total expenditures were \$870,205.00 under the \$10,389,900.00 budgeted.

Expenditures





\$950,127

NISF Grants Distributed \$369,000

FEES FOR LICENSURE APPLICATIONS AND SERVICES

(ALL FEES ARE NONREFUNDABLE AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSE (LPN)/ REGISTERED NURSE (RN)

Endorsement	\$ 165
Examination	\$ 125
Reinstatement	\$ 135
Renewal *	\$ 65
Retired Licensure Status	\$ 25
Name Change	\$ 25

DIALYSIS TECHNICIAN (DT):

DT Initial Credential	\$ 70
DT Credential Renewal	\$ 35
DT Credential Reinstatement	\$ 100
DT Initial Training Program Approval	\$ 2,000
DT Continued Training Program Approval	\$ 1,000
DT Continued Training Program Approval Filed	
After Deadline	\$ 300
DT Reinstatement Training Program Approval	\$ 1,000
Name Change	\$ 25

CERTIFIED MEDICATION AIDE (CMA)

Initial/Reciprocity Application	\$ 25
CMA Reinstatement	\$ 25
CMA Renewal	\$ 25

ADVANCED PRACTICE REGISTERED NURSE

<u>(APRN):</u>		
APRN Initial/Endorsement Licensure	\$ 165	
APRN Reinstatement	\$ 135	
APRN Renewal (Per Designation)	\$ 55	
Application for Authorization to Provide Written		
Certifications for the Use of Medicinal Cannabis	\$ 100	
APRN - Exemption from the CAPA-CS		
Requirement (After Four Years)	\$ 50	
Name Change	\$ 25	

LICENSED CERTIFIED PROFESSIONAL MIDWIFE (LCPM):

Initial LCPM Licensure	\$ 500
LCPM Reinstatement	\$ 500
LCPM Renewal	\$ 500
Name Change	\$ 25

Application to Establish a Program of	
Nursing	\$ 2,000

CONTINUING EDUCATION (CE):

Initial Provider Approval/Program Approval	\$ 400
Reinstatement of Provider Approval	\$ 400
Renewal of Provider Approval	\$ 100
Offering Approval via Staff Review	\$ 10

SEXUAL ASSAULT NURSE EXAMINER (SANE):

SANE Registration	\$ 120
SANE Reinstatement	\$ 120
SANE Renewal	\$ 50
Name Change	\$ 25

PROTECTING THE PUBLIC THROUGH EDUCATION

Kentucky Programs of Nursing as of September 27, 2024

Overview: The number of all nursing programs in Kentucky that have received full, developmental, or initial approval status from the Board.

Developmental: Proposal for new program of nursing approved by the Board Initial: Admission of the first class of a program of nursing Approved: Permission to operate a program of nursing from the Board

Program Type	Developmental	Initial	Approved	Total
DNP/APRN	0	0	10	10
MSN/APRN	1	0	10	11
MEPN	0	0	2	2
BSN	1	3	17	21
ASN	0	9	38	47
PN	0	4	26	30
Total	2	16	103	121

Dept Liseneums Advenced Duratics Devictored Numer (ADDN) Duranneums		
Post-Licensure Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) Programs		
Post-licensure APRN programs are regulat		
Doctor of Nursing Practice	· · · ·	
Bellarmine University	Approved	
Eastern Kentucky University	Approved	
Frontier Nursing University	Approved	
Kentucky State University	Approved	
Murray State University	Approved	
Northern Kentucky University	Approved	
Spalding University	Approved	
University of Kentucky	Approved	
University of Louisville	Approved	
Western Kentucky University	Approved	
Master's of Science in Nursi	ng (MSN)	
Bellarmine University	Approved	
Campbellsville University	Approved	
Eastern Kentucky University	Approved	
Frontier Nursing University	Approved	
Kentucky Christian University	Approved	
Morehead State University	Approved	
Northern Kentucky University	Approved	
Spalding University	Developmental	
University of Louisville	Approved	
University of the Cumberlands	Approved	
Western Kentucky University	Approved	

Prelicensure Registered Nurse (RN) and Practical Nurse (PN) Programs Prelicensure RN and PN programs are regulated by 201 KAR 20:260-360		
Master's Entry into Professional Nursing (MEPN)		
University of Louisville*	Approved	
Western Kentucky University	Approved	
Baccalaureate Degree in Nursing (BSN)		
Beckfield College	Approved	
Bellarmine University	Approved	
Berea College	Approved	
Eastern Kentucky University	Approved	
Galen College of Nursing	Approved	

Kentucky Christian University	Approved
Kentucky State University	Initial
Lincoln Memorial University	Initial
Lindsey Wilson College	Approved
Midway University	Initial
Morehead State University	Approved
Murray State University	Approved
Northern Kentucky University – Highland Heights	Approved
Northern Kentucky University - Williamstown	Developmental
Spalding University	Approved
Thomas More University	Approved
Jnion Commonwealth University	Approved
Jniversity of Kentucky	Approved
Jniversity of Louisville – Louisville	Approved
Jniversity of Louisville – Owensboro	Approved
Nestern Kentucky University	Approved
Associate Degree in Nursing (ASN)	Appioved
American National University	Approved
Ashland Community & Technical College	Approved
ATA College	Initial
Beckfield College	Approved
Big Sandy Community & Technical College – Pikeville	Initial
Big Sandy Community & Technical College – Prestonsburg	Approved
Bluegrass Community & Technical College – Lawrenceburg	Approved
Bluegrass Community & Technical College – Lawrenceburg	
Bluegrass Community & Technical College – Lexington	Approved Initial
Campbellsville University – Campbellsville	Approved
Campbellsville University – Harrodsburg	Approved
Eastern Kentucky University	Approved
Elizabethtown Community & Technical College	Approved
Galen College – Hazard	Approved
Galen College – Louisville	Approved
Galen College – Pikeville	Initial
Gateway Community & Technical College	Approved
Hazard Community & Technical College – Hazard	Approved
Hazard Community & Technical College – Jackson	Approved
Henderson Community College	Approved
Hopkinsville Community College	Approved
Jefferson Community & Technical College – Louisville	Approved
Jefferson Community & Technical College – Shelbyville	Initial
Kentucky State University	Approved
incoln Memorial University	Approved
Madisonville Community College	Approved
Maysville Community & Technical College – Cynthiana	Approved
Maysville Community & Technical College – Maysville	Approved
Maysville Community & Technical College – Mt. Sterling	Approved
Midway University	Approved
Morehead State University – Morehead	Approved
Morehead State University – Mt. Sterling	Approved
Owensboro Community & Technical College	Approved
Somerset Community College – London	Approved
Somerset Community College – Manchester	Initial
Somerset Community College – Somerset	Approved
Somerset Community College – Whitley City	Initial

Southcentral Kentucky Community & Technical College – Bowling Green	Approved
Southcentral Kentucky Community & Technical College – Glasgow	Approved
Southeast Kentucky Community & Technical College – Cumberland	Approved
Southeast Kentucky Community & Technical College – Middlesboro	Approved
Sullivan University – Lexington	Initial
Sullivan University – Louisville	Approved
University of Pikeville	Approved
University of the Cumberlands	Initial
West Kentucky Community & Technical College	Approved
Western Kentucky University	Approved
Practical Nursing (PN) Diploma	
Ashland Community & Technical College	Approved
ATA College	Approved
Beckfield College	Approved
Bluegrass Community & Technical College – Danville	Approved
Bluegrass Community & Technical College – Lexington*	Approved
Campbellsville University – Campbellsville	Approved
Campbellsville University – Harrodsburg*	Approved
Galen College - Louisville	Approved
Galen College – Pikeville	Initial
Hazard Community & Technical College – Hazard	Approved
Hazard Community & Technical College – Jackson	Approved
Hopkinsville Community College	Approved
Jefferson Community & Technical College – Carrollton	Approved
Jefferson Community & Technical College – Louisville	Approved
Jefferson Community & Technical College – Shelbyville	Initial
Madisonville Community College	Approved
Maysville Community & Technical College – Maysville	Approved
Maysville Community & Technical College – Morehead	Approved
Maysville Community & Technical College – Mt. Sterling*	Approved
Medical Career and Technical College	Initial
MedQuest College – LexingtonMed	Approved
Quest College – Louisville	Initial
Somerset Community College – Albany	Approved
Somerset Community College – Albany	Approved
Somerset Community College – Condon Somerset Community College – Somerset	Approved
Southcentral Kentucky Community & Technical College – Bowling Green	Approved
Southcentral Kentucky Community & Technical College – Glasgow	Approved
Southeast Kentucky Community & Technical College	Approved
	Approved
Sullivan University West Kentucky Community & Technical College	Approved

West Kentucky Community & Technical College * Voluntarily Suspended Enrollment



An interactive map of Kentucky Prelicensure Programs of Nursing can be found at:

https://www.google.com/maps/d/u/0/edit?mid=1xqTXD TO64bbGEfqtzwLSV_4oNXGwNKc&usp=sharing

2023-2024 Academic Year (July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024) Prelicensure Programs of Nursing Annual Report Data

The following figures utilize annual report data submitted by prelicensure programs of nursing for the 2023-2024 fiscal year. Some figures also present data from prior years for comparison.

Post-licensure APRN programs are not required to submit an annual report to the Board.



Enrollment and Graduation Snapshot



Total Nursing Student Enrollment

Total Enrollment by Fiscal Year 16,000 +5.3% 14,000 14.394 13.670 12,000 13.423 +9.7% 13.034 -6.7% 10,000 11,886 -11.5% 8,000 6,000 4,000 2,000 0 2019-2020 +724 2020-2021 -971 2021-2022 -1,537 2022-2023 +1,148 2023-2024 **Total Enrollment by ProgramType by Fiscal Year** 8,000 7,000 7,333 7,283 7,247 7,001 6,000 6,361 5,000 4,000 4,908 4,764 3,000 4,327 4,020 3,955 2,000 1,000 0 2,082 1,834 1,726 1,695 1,501 72 69 87 71 71 2019-2020 2020-2021 2021-2022 2022-2023 2023-2024 **Program Type** 2019-2020 2020-2021 2021-2022 2022-2023 2023-2024 **PN** Programs 1,834 2.082 1.726 1,501 1,695 **ASN** Programs 7,333 7,001 7,283 6,361 7,247 **BSN** Programs 4,764 4,908 4,327 3,955 4,020 **MEPN Programs** 71 71 87 69 72 13,423 11,886 Total 13,670 14,394 13,034

Total student enrollment is the number of students officially admitted to the nursing program that were enrolled during the reporting period, including new enrollees, continuing enrollees, transfers, and readmitted students.

New enrollees are students officially admitted to the nursing program that enrolled for the first time in the first nursing course of the nursing program curriculum.



Nursing Student Graduates

Graduates are the students who successfully completed the program requirements and were formally awarded a degree or diploma during the reporting period.



Baseline Enrollment as of May 2024

Baseline enrollment is the total number of first-year nursing students that a prelicensure nursing program is able to enroll in one academic year. First-year students include only students starting or restarting the nursing program in the first nursing course of the nursing program curriculum. Pursuant to 201 KAR 20:260 Section 3(3)(a), if a prelicensure nursing program is meeting the requirements of KRS 314.111(5) and all benchmarks set out in 201 KAR 20:360, the program of nursing may increase its baseline enrollment without limitation from the Board.

Program Type		Baseline	Maximum		
		Enrollment	Seat Capacity	Empty Seats	E
PN Programs	•	1,978	3,019	2,049	_ c
ASN Programs	•	4,993	10,220	5,034	C
BSN Programs	•	3,263	9,540	5,874	- v
MEPN Programs	•	80	200	133	$\frac{1}{t}$
Total		10,314	22,979	13,090	e l

Empty Seats

of nursing program seats that could have been filled but were not. Empty seats are calculated by subtracting the total number of students enrolled across all levels of

the nursing program from the maximum seat capacity, which is calculated by multiplying the baseline enrollment by the number of years required to complete the nursing program on-time, rounded up.

Baseline enrollment and empty seats are reported in May and December each year.



Nursing Student Data by Talent Pipeline Management Region

The Kentucky Hospital Association (KHA) and the Kentucky Chamber Foundation's Workforce Center have created a Talent Pipeline Management (TPM) program to build talent supply chains that support career opportunities in Kentucky by recruiting talent into Kentucky hospitals and educational programs and identifying and sharing regional best practices to support critical jobs needed for various healthcare settings. The following figures break down the 2023-2024 prelicensure annual report data across the Commonwealth by TPM Region.



Kentucky Hospital Association, https://tinyurl.com/34vf95ts

2023-2024 Academic Year (July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024) Prelicensure Programs of Nursing Benchmark Data

Prelicensure nursing program benchmarks are used to evaluate a prelicensure program of nursing to determine if the standards of 201 KAR 20:260 through 201 KAR 20:360 are being met. With the exception of NCLEX Pass Rates, which are calculated per calendar year (January 1st – December 31st), all benchmarks are calculated per fiscal year (July 1st – June 30th). Benchmark standards are specified in 201 KAR 20:360 Section 5(2)(f). Individual nursing program benchmarks can be found on the Kentucky Board of Nursing website at: <u>https://kbn.ky.gov/education/Pages/kentucky-program-of-nursing-benchmarks.aspx.</u>

The following figures utilize benchmark data for the 2023-2024 fiscal year. Some figures also present data from prior years for comparison.

NCLEX Pass Rates

The NCLEX pass rate is the percentage of a prelicensure nursing program's graduates who passed the NCLEX on their first attempt within 12 months of program completion. Because NCLEX pass rates are calculated on a calendar year basis, 2024 NCLEX pass rates have not been calculated.

Benchmark: An average of greater than or equal to 80% for three consecutive years and does not vary above and below 80% from year to year over the previous 5 consecutive years.



* National average of first-time, US Educated test takers, regardless of graduation date, as published by NCSBN.



* The 2019 Kentucky NCLEX pass rates were calculated based on first-time testers who tested within 6 months of the program completion date.

Nursing Faculty Turnover

Nursing faculty turnover is the percentage of full and part-time didactic prelicensure nursing faculty whose employment with the nursing program ended during the reporting period for any reason, including promotion, retirement, termination, or resignation.

Benchmark: Less than or equal to 30% turnover for the previous two consecutive years.





Graduation Rate

Graduation rate is the percentage of prelicensure nursing students who were newly enrolled in an original admitted cohort that graduated during the reporting period within the standard length of the program of nursing. The graduation rate calculation excludes students who left the nursing program due to documented approved extenuating circumstances. Approved extenuating circumstances include: hospitalization, long-term illness, family obligations, relocation, financial barriers, change of major, and transfer to another institution. The 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 graduation rates were calculated based on the number of newly enrolled students of the original admitted cohort that graduated within 1.5 times the standard length of the program and did not allow for any approved exclusions.

Benchmark: Greater than or equal to 60% of the original admitted cohort of newly enrolled students that graduated within the standard length of the nursing program.



Substantiated Nursing Faculty Grievances and Appeals

Substantiated nursing faculty grievances and appeals is the percentage of grievances and appeals filed by nursing program faculty that were substantiated within the reporting period by nursing program or governing institution administration or a higher authority. The substantiated nursing faculty grievances and appeals calculation includes substantiated grievances and appeals filed by all full-time, part-time, and adjunct didactic and clinical instructors.

Benchmark: Substantiation of fewer than 25% of the total number of nursing faculty grievances and appeals filed within the reporting period.

Progra	am Type	Average
PN	Programs	0%
ASN	Programs	0%
BSN	Programs	0%
MEPN	Programs	0%
Aggregate		0%

Substantiated Nursing Student Grievances and Appeals

Substantiated nursing student grievances and appeals is the percentage of grievances and appeals filed by nursing students that were substantiated within the reporting period by nursing program or

governing institution administration or higher authority compared to the total number of nursing students enrolled across all levels of the nursing program.

Benchmark: Substantiation of nursing student grievances and appeals within the reporting period equal to 10% or fewer of the total nursing student population.

Program Type	Average
PN Programs	0.1%
ASN Programs	2.29%
BSN Programs	0.1%
MEPN Programs	0%
Aggregate	1.1%

EDUCATION BRANCH 2023/2024 ACADEMIC YEAR WORKSHOPS

Workshop	Date	Attendance	Delivery
Faculty Essentials	February 24, 2023	56	Virtually
Faculty Essentials	June 16, 2023	16	Virtually
Faculty Essentials	September 15, 2023	28	Virtually
Systematic Plan of Evaluation Workshop	January 13, 2024	165	Virtually
APRN Faculty Essentials	March 1, 2024	3	Virtually
Program Administrator Workshop	March 19, 2024	42	In person
Faculty Essentials	April 19, 2024	15	Virtually
Program Administrator Workshop	June 17, 2024	27	In person

Faculty Essential workshops provide nursing program administrators and faculty with detailed understanding regarding KBN regulations for nursing education and support them in best practices to meet regulatory requirements.

Systematic Plan of Evaluation (SPE) workshops give clarity on how to complete the required report that focuses on programs of nursing progress, outcomes, and interventions, which also prepare programs for their national accrediting body standards. The workshop assists with understanding in how best to use the report to enhance the program of nursing's success.

Program Administrator workshops are designed to address the demands of the nursing program administrator's role and ensure the support that is needed from the KBN Education Branch is provided in a more individualized and specific manner to complete the tasks the program administrator is responsible for to maintain order and strength to the Commonwealth's programs of nursing.

CONTINUING EDUCATION



2023 Continuing Competency CE Audit Report

Nurses who obtained their license before May 1, 2023, and were renewed through October 31, 2024, were subject to 2023 CE Audit. During the renewal process, nurses had to attest they had or would have completed their continuing education requirements on or before October 31st.

The selection of licensees for an audit is completed through a random sampling process. On November 13, 2023, a total of 933 nurses, 696 RNs, 117 LPNs, and 120 APRNs were selected to participate in the 2023 CE Audit. It was determined that (9) were selected in error. They were removed from the audit reducing the total to 924 licensees, 691 RNs, 116 LPNs, and 117 APRNs.

The 2023 CE Audit required the submission of items to verify continuing competency compliance with regulatory continuing education requirements for the earning period November 1, 2022 – October 31, 2023, by December 6, 2023.

2023 CE Audit The 2023 CE Audit totals are illustrated in Chart 1. This chart provides an overview of the individuals selected for the audit and the status of each.



Compliance Comparison 2021, 2022, 2023



Chart 2: Comparison of the compliance rates for the 2021, 2022, and 2023 CE Audits.



2023 CE Provider Renewals – Dates of Receipt

Current KBN - Approved Continuing Education Providerships

There are 139 active KBN approved continuing education providerships.



NURSING PRACTICE: ADVISORY OPINION STATEMENTS

The Kentucky Board of Nursing issues advisory opinions (AO) as to what constitutes safe nursing practice. As such, an opinion is not a regulation of the Board and does not have the force and effect of law. It is issued as a guideline to licensees who wish to engage in safe nursing practice, and to facilitate the delivery of safe, effective nursing care to the public.

The Board approved several new AOs and advisory opinion statements (AOS) in response to many inquiries received over several topics. These new AO and AOS include the following.

- **AOS #43** Roles of Nurses in the Administration of Sub-anesthetic Dosing Ketamine for Psychiatric Disorders and Chronic Pain; This AOS provides guidance in relation to the nurse's role in sub-anesthetic dosing of Ketamine infusions for a variety of conditions including pain, depression, and palliative care.
- **AOS #44** Roles of Nurses in the Performance of General Procedures; This AOS was established to provide guidance for nurses concerning various general procedures not addressed in other AOS. Currently, the procedures identified in this AOS are the nurse's role in X-ray procedures and fluoroscopy.
- **AOS #45** Roles of Nurses in the Performance of Complementary Procedures; This AOS provides guidance to nurses in relation to complementary procedures including acupuncture and dry needling.

Additionally, an AOS Content Index has been prepared to aid in the location of AOs. <u>Advisory Opinion Statements Index Page.</u>

FY2023-2024 PRACTICE INQUIRIES

KBN Professional Practice Branch consultants receive several inquiries related to nurses and other individuals licensed/credentialed by the KBN. The following report provides information regarding the number and topics of inquiries that were received by the Professional Practice Branch during the 2023-2024 fiscal year.

Practice Inquiry Responses via Email

A total of 1279 email responses were provided by the professional practice consultants between July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024. Responses were designated by license type including Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRN), Licensed Practical Nurses (LPN), or Registered Nurses (RN), by credential Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE), Licensed Professional Certified Midwives (LCPM), Dialysis Technician (DT), and those related to unlicensed assistive personnel (UAP) and. Responses applicable to more than one license type are recorded for the lowest licensure designation to which it applies.

For the purpose, of this report UAPs include the following: certified nurse aides (CNA); certified medication aides (CMA); certified medication technicians (CMT); certified medical assistants (CMA); nurse externs, registered nurse applicants (RNA); license practical nurse applicants (LPNA); and paramedics/emergency medical technicians (EMT).

The largest number of email responses were related to APRNs 1015 (79%). Figure 1 illustrates the number of email responses by license, credential, and UAP for the fiscal year 2023-2024.



Common Topics

Email responses to practice inquiries often include multiple topics. Each topic was recorded individually, because a single email may have encompassed multiple topics, a higher number of topics vs emails has been recorded.

This fiscal year the most common topic in practice response was related to prescriptive authority. Many responses to emails included information related to credentialing requirements. The collaborative agreements for prescriptive authority (CAPA) was prominent in responses to both credentialling and prescriptive authority inquiries. The next highest topic was related to controlled substance prescribing. Figure 2 illustrates topics that were addressed in at least 25 or more emails.



Scope of Practice

Please note the following information regarding the topics listed in Figure 2.

Cosmetics includes Med Spas and IV Hydration. Setting Facility includes responses related to both facilities and facility policies as well as school and field trip inquiries. Many facility and employment matters are regulated by another agency.

Delession/Supervision

Collaborating Physician

Independent Practice

Substance Use Disorder

Same or Similar Speciality

Education Training

SettingFailth

Email Inquiries related to Continuing Education

Prescriptive Authority

CAPA

Beginning with the fiscal year July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024, the KBN is tracking the emails related to continuing education topics. A total of 1459 emails related to CE were responded to by the Practice Branch during this fiscal year.

Emails have been assigned to categories, CE Emails, CE Providers, and those related to credential only, compliance only, and other CE matters. Figure 3 provides a look at the categories in which emails were assigned.



Nurse Leadership Program (NLP) for Nursing Students

The KBN offers free virtual NLP presentations four times annually to students in their last year of a nursing program as they prepare to enter the workforce. Two are for RN and LPN students and two for APRN students. They provide an overview of the Kentucky Nursing Laws and the KBN as a regulatory agency, addressing the Board's role, mission, programs, and current activities.

The NLP presentations are free to attendees and are designed to instruct participants regarding the mission of the Board of Nursing, and an overview of the Board's structure and function. Additionally, this program addresses scope of practice, licensure, investigations, and compliance.

In addition to the four (4) NLP presentations provided to students, the KBN offered two (2) presentations for licensed nurses during the 2023-2024 fiscal year. Beginning with the 2024 – 2025 fiscal year all licensed nurses NLPs will be offered online for CE.

The following graph provides an illustration of the NLP webinars held in the 2023-2024 fiscal year.



2023 - 2024 Nurse Leadership Program Presentations

AMENDED KBN REGULATIONS FOR FY23-24

201 KAR 20:056 - Advanced practice registered nurse licensure and certification requirements. The amendments:

- Provided that the Kentucky Board of Nursing (Board) may request evidence of the APRN's current national certification;
- Removed the requirement that the Board notify the APRN that the certification is about to expire; and
- Stated that if the APRN requests a hearing regarding the license being voided due to the lapse of the national certification, and the result of the hearing is unfavorable to the APRN, the APRN must bear the cost of the hearing.

201 KAR 20:057 - Scope and standards of practice of advanced practice registered nurses.

During the 2023 regular session, Senate Bill (SB) 94 created a new section of KRS Chapter 218B and changed requirements related to "Collaborative Agreement for the Advanced Practice Registered Nurse's Prescriptive Authority for Controlled Substances" (CAPA-CS) and the relationship between an APRN and the collaborating physician. The bill also established the CAPA-CS Committee to create a standardized CAPA-CS form. SB 94 further provided that an APRN with four years of controlled substance prescribing may request an exemption from the CAPA-CS requirements, if the APRN is in good standing and meets statutory requirements. Finally, the bill established the Controlled Substances Prescribing Council. The bill also required the Board to promulgate regulations.

The Amendments:

- Use the acronym "APRN";
- Defined "Good standing", "Immediate family" and "PDMP", the acronym for prescription drug monitoring program;
- Established regulatory standards for APRNs engaged in a CAPA-CS, including the new CAPA-CS form; and
- Provided a regulatory process for an APRN to request an exemption from the CAPA-CS requirement.

201 KAR 20:065 - Professional standards for prescribing Buprenorphine-MonoProduct or Buprenorphine-Combined-with-Naloxone by APRNs for medication assisted treatment for opioid use disorder.

The amendments:

- Removed references to the X-waiver;
- Updated "KASPER" to the more general acronym "PDMP";
- Required that an APRN who prescribes Buprenorphine shall have an active DEA registration and PDMP account;
- Required that an APRN who prescribes controlled substances shall have had education training on managing and treating opioid and other substance abuse disorders, as well as continuing education, see also 201 KAR 20:215, below; and
- Clarified the patient drug screening requirements.

AMENDED KENTUCKY ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS (KAR) FOR FY 2024

During the 2023 regular session, SB 47 created KRS Chapter 218B, which provides that patients with qualifying medical conditions may obtain from an authorized practitioner a written certification for the use of medicinal cannabis. An APRN may be authorized to provide certifications if the APRN can prescribe controlled substances under KRS 314.042. The practitioner must establish a bona fide practitioner-patient relationship with the patient, which excludes via telehealth. Moreover, the regulation established,

- The APRN may be authorized to provide a written certification for the use of medicinal cannabis for qualifying medical conditions;
- The conditions and application process for authorization, and renewal process;
- Continuing education requirements for medicinal cannabis practitioners;
- Reasons authorizations may be suspended or revoked; and
- The minimal standards of care.

201 KAR 20:215 - Continuing competency requirements.

The amendments:

- Provided that the Board may accept an employer's satisfactory standard employee evaluation, in lieu of a "Nursing Continuing Education Employment Evaluation Form," as verification for the licensee to obtain seven hours of CE credit.
- Removed references to educational requirements for APRNs with an X-waiver, and streamlined requirements for APRNs who have a DEA certification and a PDMP account to require 3 hours of CEs in pain management or addiction disorders.
- Required that an APRN who prescribes controlled substances shall have had eight hours of continuing education training on managing and treating opioid and other substance abuse disorders but provides an exemption for APRNs who previously held an X-waiver.
- Allowed that groups approved by the DEA and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration may provide training.
- Removed Implicit Bias training from continuing education requirements.

201 KAR 20:220 - Nursing continuing education provider approval.

The amendments update the Material Incorporated by Reference (MIR) to reflect proposed amendments to 201 KAR 20:215, above.

201 KAR 20:225 - Reinstatement of license.

The amendments remove a reference to KRS 164.772, which was repealed on June 26, 2019, and update references to KRS 314.041 and 314.051.

201 KAR 20:240 – Fees for applications and services.

The proposed amendment established a fee \$50 for the review of a CAPA-CS exemption request, as required by SB 94, discussed above in 201 KAR 20:057.

201 KAR 20:320 - Standards for curriculum of prelicensure registered nurse and practical

nurse programs.

The amendments:

- Clarified that external examinations may be weighted no more than the lowest weighted individual examination included within the course grade average;
- Required on-campus physical facilities pursuant for students to practice clinical skills and be observed and provided feedback prior to testing; and
- Removed implicit bias as a required curriculum subject for programs of prelicensure RN and LPN education.

201 KAR 20:360 - Continuing approval and periodic evaluation of prelicensure registered

nursing and licensed practical nursing programs.

The amendments:

- Brought the annual reporting requirements into alignment with other compact states and the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN); and
- Made the report form more generic to account for yearly reporting without having to update the specific years subject to reporting.

201 KAR 20:370 - Applications for licensure.

The amendment required a multistate licensee who changes primary state of residence to Kentucky shall apply for a multistate license in Kentucky within sixty (60) days, in accordance with Nurse Licensure Compact (NLC) rules.

201 KAR 20:390 – Nursing Incentive Scholarship Fund (NISF).

The amendments revised the criteria for NISF awards to include prelicensure applicants; and updated the NISF application included as MIR to conform with the online process.

201 KAR 20:472- Initial approval for dialysis technician training programs.

The amendments updated the list of national credentialing agencies to remove the National Association of Nephrology Technicians/Technologists, because it no longer exists; and cleaned up and directed references to the certifying national organizations into the list within this regulation.

201 KAR 20:476 - Dialysis Technician Credentialing requirements for initial credentialing,

renewal, and reinstatement.

The amendments:

- Required that a DT applicant practice dialysis care under the supervision of a registered nurse, an advanced practice registered nurse, a physician, or a physician's assistant;
- Cleared references to the certifying national organizations into the list within 201 KAR 20:472 Section 5;
- Provided that a DT Applicant shall be issued a provisional credential once, and it shall expire after 18 months; and
- Provided for a path to credentialing for DTs whose credential has lapsed for more than one year, by allowing a provisional credential for 18 months, but that the path is only available once.

201 KAR 20:478 – Dialysis technician scope of practice, discipline, and other miscellaneous requirements.

The amendments updated scope of practice to include preparation and access to central venous catheters with 6-months of training and experience.

201 KAR 20:506 – Nurse licensure compact.

The Amendments updated the NLC MIR to the latest versions.

201 KAR 20:620 - Licensing requirements for licensed certified professional midwives

(LCPMs).

The amendment reduced fees LCPMs from \$1000 to \$500.

201 KAR 20:700 - Medication aide training and credentialing by the Board.

The regulation was required by SB 110 in the 2023 regular session, which created KRS 314.133. The Board promulgated the regulation regarding educational and training requirements to certify medication aides to practice in long-term care facilities. The regulation supplements the CHFS regulation 902 KAR 20:480,

The new regulation established:

- Requirements for the credentialing of medication aides, including educational requirements, standards for training programs including delegation of the administration of oral or topical medications and preloaded insulin injection;
- The KBN approval process of medication aide training programs;
- Credentialing requirements, and fees for initial, renewal, and reinstatement of credentials; and
- Associated fees.

Count of Active APRN/LCPM Licenses

License Type	Counts
APRN -Certified Nurse Midwife	171
APRN -Certified Nurse Practitioner	12,540
APRN -Certified Nurse Specialist	125
APRN -Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist	1,749
LCPM - Licensed Certified Practicing Midwife	34
Medicinal Cannabis Approved Applications	78

Total Number of APRN's = 14,585

LCPM- Licensed Cert Practicing Midwife = 34

As of 09/25/24

DISCIPLINE AGAINST KENTUCKY LICENSES

Discipline 2023-2024 Fiscal Year



Туре	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024
Complaints Received	1,850	2,055	1,723	1,671	1,413
Complaints Resolved	1,754	2,222	2,238	1,409	1,855
Legal Decisions	25	35	31	89	94

Discipline Against Privilege to Practice 2023-2024 Fiscal Year



Consent Decrees 2023-2024 Fiscal Year



PROTECTING THE PUBLIC THROUGH COMPLIANCE AND MONITORING

Compliance Branch

The Kentucky Board of Nursing's (KBN) Compliance Branch monitors nurses participating in the Kentucky Alternative Recovery Effort (KARE for Nurses Program) and those with discipline on their license/credential. This monitoring safeguards the public and helps to ensure that these individuals are skilled and safe to return to nursing practice. Compliance Branch staff also assists individuals who are seeking to reinstate their license following a period of disciplinary action resulting from suspension, voluntary surrender, or denied reinstatement.

Types of Monitoring:

1) KARE for Nurses Program – Alternative to Discipline

Current number of KARE participants – 96

The KARE for Nurses Program was established over 20 years ago to identify nurses whose abilities to provide nursing care may be compromised by a Substance Use Disorder (SUD). The purpose of the program is to assist nurses in their recovery so that they can return to competent and safe practice. The KARE for Nurses Program believes that a nurse should not lose a job or license due to SUD and offers an opportunity for treatment and monitoring. It is an alternative to discipline program and monitors individuals for a period of at least five years.

2) Disciplinary Monitoring

Current number of disciplinary monitoring cases - 150

Disciplinary monitoring is when KBN has taken disciplinary action by placing the licensee/credential holder on a monitoring status for a period specified in an Agreed Order or Board Decision. Monitoring requirements may include random drug screening, reports provided by the licensee/credential holder and/or other professionals, civil penalty and continuing education requirements. Compliance staff conducts face-to-face, virtual, and phone meetings/interviews with licensee/credential holders and applicants, as well as interacts with employers, health care providers, probation officers, and counselors on a regular basis to



Successful completion of monitoring (KARE and discipline):

During fiscal year 2023, the Compliance Branch began conducting a survey to request anonymous feedback from individuals who successfully completed their monitoring. Here are a few responses noting their experiences while being monitored by Compliance Branch staff:

- "I know that without this program I would not have been able to retain my sobriety. This program forced me to recognize and own my issues in a way that nothing else could. I am able to be a nurse!! A sober nurse. I am more open minded and have better integrity than I ever did." "Words cannot begin to describe how thankful I am for this program."
- *"I can say with confidence that I would not be alive if it wasn't for this program. It helped me to get my life back on track when everything had seemed to fall apart..."*
- "I want to thank each and every person that works with KARE. I have been shown many times, that working as a staff member in this program, requires much more than just a nursing degree. It requires a genuine desire to help others, and true heartfelt love for those in need, when they need it the most".
- "My case manager was absolutely amazing. I felt like she was invested in me and my sobriety. I truly felt like she wanted me to succeed and could see my potential."
- "The accountability that is built into the program with meeting sheets, drug screens and my case manager. I always felt that I could reach out to my case manager and would get a timely response that would answer my questions."



Violation of KARE Program Agreement/Agreed Order/Decision

Failure to remain compliant with terms of monitoring, or resolve issues of non-compliance, may result in possible suspension or denied reinstatement of licensure. A suspension, voluntary surrender, or denied reinstatement of licensure is disciplinary action that is reported to the National Council State Boards of Nursing disciplinary database (NURSYS), online validation, and other state, federal and certifying bodies, as applicable. Board staff will make the determination regarding violations of the Program Agreement/Agreed Order/Decision, subject to applicable laws and regulations.



Reinstatement Following Disciplinary Action

Current number of pending reinstatement cases - 38

When there has been disciplinary action taken against a nursing license, the KBN always provides a path to reinstatement for licensure.

The individual seeking reinstatement for licensure carries the burden of proof and must submit evidence to Compliance Branch staff verifying that they are safe to return to nursing practice. The Kentucky Board of Nursing will only consider reinstating a license/credential/privilege to practice once all required documentation and a full and complete application has been submitted. Once all requirements have been submitted as required, Compliance Branch staff will meet with the individual. Following that meeting, an Agreed Order setting forth the terms and conditions for reinstatement of the nursing license/credential/privilege to practice may be entered or a hearing may be held.



LICENSE AND CREDENTIALS

LICENSE/CREDENTIAL/ CERTIFICATION APPLICATIONS PROCESSED 3/1/2023-10/31/2024

APPLICATION NAME

Apps Approved

Address Change - CMA / Dialysis Tech / LCPM / SRNA Application	87
Address Change - Dialysis Tech / LCPM / SRNA	322
ALL LICENSE TYPES (EXCEPT CMA/SRNA) - Request Name Change	637
ALL LICENSE TYPES (EXCEPT CMA/SRNA) - Ver of Lic to another entity	2
ALL LICENSE TYPES (EXCEPT CMA/SRNA) - Wall Certificate Request	10
ALL LICENSE TYPES (EXCEPT SRNA) - Request Name Change	3,894
ALL LICENSE TYPES (EXCEPT SRNA) - Retire a License	508
ALL LICENSE TYPES (EXCEPT SRNA) - Transcript Request	2
ALL LICENSE TYPES (EXCEPT SRNA) - Ver of Lic to another entity	23
ALL LICENSE TYPES (EXCEPT SRNA) - Wall Certificate Request	`125
APRN - DEA/KASPER	209
APRN - Exemption from the CAPA-CS Requirement (After Four Years)	930
APRN - Notification to Discontinue the CAPA-NS After Four Years	1,340
APRN – Prescriptive Authority / CAPA changes	1,660
APRN – Prescriptive Authority CAPA NS/CS	1,982
APRN – Prescriptive Authority CAPA-CS	9
APRN – Prescriptive Authority CAPA-NS	262
APRN - RESCISSION of a CAPA –CS	261
APRN - RESCISSION of a CAPA -NS	275
APRN- Authorization to Provide Written Certifications -Medicinal Cannabis	138
APRN Endorsement	1,602
APRN Initial	1,126
APRN Reinstatement - KY RN	536
APRN Reinstatement - MSR	332
Certified Medication Aide I - Initial/Reciprocity	973
Certified Medication Aide II - Initial/Reciprocity	2
Dialysis Technician Credential - Initial	94
Dialysis Technician Credential - Reinstatement	16
License Certified Professional Midwife Reinstatement	5
Licensed Certified Professional Midwife	9
LPN / RN - Endorsement – a.) Educated in the United States	2,487
LPN / RN - Endorsement – b.) Foreign Educated	317
LPN / RN - Endorsement – c.) Educated in Puerto Rico	22
LPN / RN Reinstatement	1,279
LPN, RN, or APRN - Individual CE Review	3
LPN/RN - Retire a License Request	293
	200

LPN / RN - Endorsement – a.) Educated in the United States	2,487
LPN / RN - Endorsement – b.) Foreign Educated	317
LPN / RN - Endorsement – c.) Educated in Puerto Rico	22
LPN / RN Reinstatement	1,279
LPN, RN, or APRN - Individual CE Review	3
LPN/RN - Retire a License Request	293
LPN/RN Application – Examination – a.) Educated in the United States	6,178
LPN/RN Application – Examination – b.) Foreign Educated	38
LPN/RN Application – Examination – c.) Educated in Puerto Rico	44
LPN/RN Application - Examination RETEST	384
NURSING INCENTIVE SCHOLARSHIP FUND APPLICATION	42
Population Focus	191
Population Focus Reinstatement	14
Reactivate Prescriptive Authority	27
SANE (Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner) Credential	175
SANE (Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner) Credential for RN Reinstatement	1
SRNA - Request Name Change	1,169
SRNA / CMA - Request Name Change	132
SRNA Reinstatement application	7,915
State Registered Nurse Aide (SRNA) Reciprocity Application	5,833
Voluntary Relinquishment	406
TOTAL	44,321

2024 Renewals

Application Type	Number of Approved Renewal Applications
APRN-CNM	138
APRN-CNP	11,079
APRN-CNS	117
APRN-CRNA	1,490
DT Credential	337
LCPM	24
LPN	11,525
RN	71,270
SANE Credential AA	391
SANE Credential PA	35
SRNA Certification	8,259
TOTAL	104,665

NURSING WORKFORCE PROJECTION MODEL



Licensures by Occupation

Total						78,040
		16,164				
	188		150			
111,664	CNM	CNP	CNS	CRNA	LPN	RN

Licensures by Gender

	CNM	CNP	CNS	CRNA	LPN	RN
Female	100.0%	90.8%	95.4%	55.9%	93.9%	90.8%
Male		9.2%	3.9%	44.0%	6.1%	9.2%
Non-binary		0.0%	0.7%	0.0%		0.0%
	СИМ	CNP	CNS	CRNA	LPN	RN
American Indian		0.4%		0.5%	0.5%	0.3%
Asian		2.2%		2.6%	1.1%	2.5%
Black/African American	4.4%	6.9%	1.3%	3.7%	14.2%	5.6%
White/Caucasia	94.6%	89.1%	98.1%	89.8%	83.0%	90.1%
Choose not to answer	1.0%	1.0%	0.6%	3.0%	0.6%	0.8%
Other Race		0.5%		0.5%	0.7%	0.7%

Access comprehensive data on licensures demographics, employment metrics, enrollment, graduates, job trends, and prelicensure nursing programs across Kentucky.

Click Here to Access Data

Licensures by Planning to Retire (In Years)



*Data from 2024 KY nurse renewals (excludes those licensed after May 1, 2024)

				0		
	СММ	CNP	CNS	CRNA	LPN	RN
Less than	8.51%	1.91%	9.33%	5.57%	4.22%	4.37%
3 years	(n=16)	(n=309)	(n=14)	(n=114)	(n=636)	(n=3,413)
3-5 years	4.26%	3.97%	16.67%	6.74%	6.37%	6.04%
	(n=8)	(n=462)	(n=25)	(n=138)	(n=960)	(n=4,710)
5-10 years	13.30%	9.74%	24.00%	12.45%	11.28%	10.57%
	(n=25)	(n=1,575)	(n=36)	(n=255)	(n=1,700)	(n=8,252)
10-15 years	14.36%	17.55%	14.67%	19.24%	14.67%	13.23%
	(n=27)	(n=2,836)	(n=22)	(n=394)	(n=2,211)	(n=10,323)
15-20 years	24.47%	23.14%	18.67%	22.46%	18.59%	17.41%
	(n=46)	(n=3,741)	(n=28)	(n=460)	(n=2,803)	(n=13,590)
Greater than	34.04%	42.64%	14.00%	33.40%	40.53%	42.58%
20 years	(n=64)	(n=6,892)	(n=21)	(n=684)	(n=6,109)	(n=33,230)
Already	1.06%	1.05%	2.67%	0.15%	4.35%	5.79%
Retired	(n=2)	(n=169)	(n=4)	(n=3)	(n=655)	(n=4,522)

COMMUNICATION AND OUTREACH

Facebook Audience



20.0K

25.0K

0.0K

5.0K

10.0K

15.0K

35.0K

30.0K

Facebook Followers



Total Followers = 7,582



Top 5 Facebook Post of 2024



Top Cities of Facebook Audience

