

## NCARB BY THE NUMBERS

2023 EDITION



### Join the Conversation on Social Media



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## Welcome to the 2023 edition of NCARB by the Numbers!

Each year, NCARB by the Numbers provides exclusive insights into key data shaping the architecture community. This year's report marks our 12th edition, and, as always, we have continued to enhance and expand the information presented to offer clear and reliable data on the path to architectural licensure.

Together with our members, the 55 U.S. architectural licensing boards, we have used this information to implement several improvements along the path to licensure, maintaining rigorous health, safety, and welfare standards while removing unnecessary burdens. In June 2022, NCARB released free practice exams for each Architect Registration Examination® (ARE®) division, leading to an average 12% increase in pass rates for practice exam users, with the greatest increases seen for certain non-white racial/ethnic groups. These free practice exams—along with our work to audit exam item content for bias, launch ARE accommodations for candidates who speak English as a Second Language (ESL), and minimize exam rescheduling fees—are part of NCARB's strides to ensure the path to licensure is accessible for all candidates.

While growth in the architect population has slowed, we have seen an uptick in Record holders who are licensed in multiple jurisdictions and abroad, demonstrating the continued value of professional mobility. To meet our customers' needs, we've continued to keep pace with an increasingly interconnected global economy by enhancing the value of the NCARB Certificate as a passport to global licensure.

Of the updates you'll see in this year's report, worth noting is the expanded examination section that allows you to explore the effect of practice exams on pass rates for various demographic groups. Additionally, we have merged two sections—State of Licensure and Navigating the Path—to provide a clearer picture of candidate progress on the path to earning an architecture license.

As we embark on our next year, we will continue using the information gathered in *NCARB by the Numbers*, as well as insight from our members, customers, volunteers, and the public, to respond to today's most pressing challenges and uphold our vision to ensure safe spaces and places for all communities.

Michael J. Armstrong

Chief Executive Officer

National Council of Architectural Registration Boards

### State of Licensure

In 2022, there were nearly 120,000 licensed architects across the 55 U.S. jurisdictions. Those architects also held approximately 145,000 reciprocal (out-of-state) licenses—a 6% increase compared to 2021—signaling the increased demand for professional mobility since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The number of candidates who made progress on the path to licensure in 2022 also rose by 9%, with more than 35,000 candidates reporting experience, taking the national licensing exam, or both. And at 13.3 years, the average time a candidate takes to complete these core requirements is about 2% longer than five years ago.

Over 3,400 candidates completed the path to architectural licensure in 2022, a slight decrease from 2021. This small dip could be a result of fewer candidates completing the experience program in recent years, as well as the continued impact of COVID-19 on candidates' careers.





119,906
ARCHITECTS IN THE U.S.



145,023



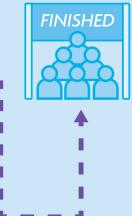
35,621

candidates actively working toward licensure in 2022

# OF ACTIVE CANDIDATES 3,423---

finished the path to licensure







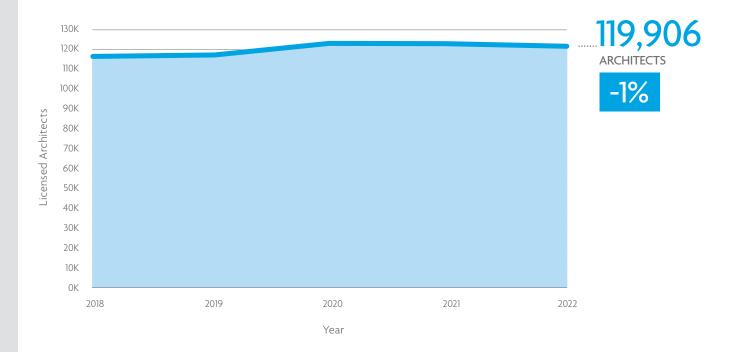


OVER 10 YEARS, 37% OF CANDIDATES STOP PURSUING LICENSURE

### Number of U.S. Architects Remains Steady

The number of architects licensed in the United States remained relatively steady in 2022, decreasing by 1% to 119,906—about 1,600 fewer than the number seen in 2021, according to data from NCARB's annual Survey of Architectural Registration Boards.

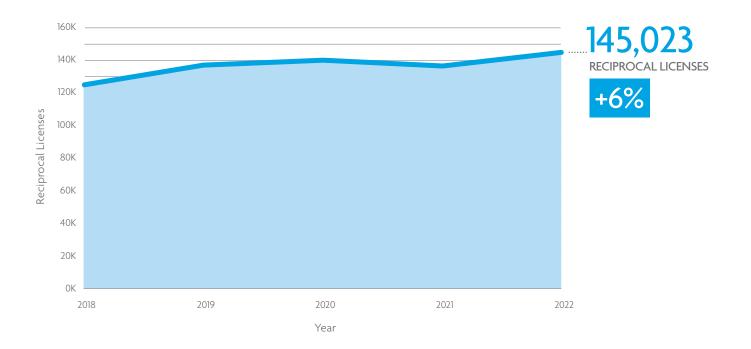
Though the number of architects rose steadily from 2016-2020, the slight dip in recent years is likely due to the ongoing effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, as the historically low number of new architects seen since the pandemic's onset has not offset the number of existing architects retiring from the profession.



## Number of Reciprocal Licenses Increasing

In addition, the Survey of Architectural Registration Boards indicated that the number of reciprocal licenses held by U.S. architects rose from 136,614 in 2021 to 145,023 in 2022, a 6% increase. This is approximately 20% higher than the number of architects in the United States, signaling that the average architect is licensed in more than one jurisdiction.

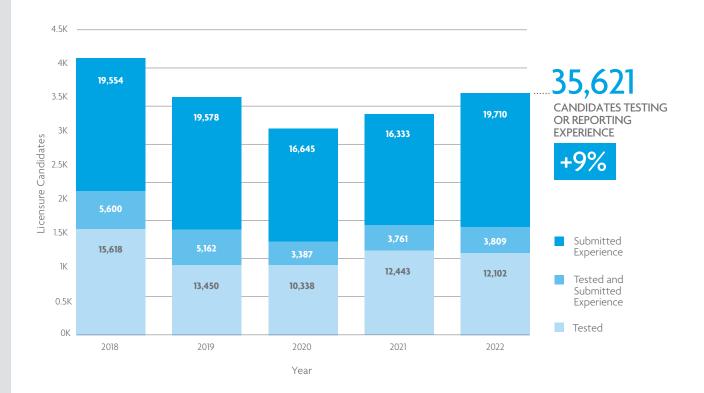
The rise in the number of reciprocal licenses reflects the increased demand for professional mobility and flexibility since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. With an increasingly global economy and NCARB's continued pursuit of greater international opportunities for NCARB-certified architects, it is likely that the demand for reciprocal licenses will continue to grow in the coming years.



### Number of Licensure Candidates on the Rise

Since the pandemic-related drop in candidate activity seen in 2020, the number of licensure candidates making progress toward licensure has been steadily recovering. In 2022, more than 35,000 candidates reported experience, took an exam division, or both—a 9% increase from 2021.

Most of these individuals—19,710 candidates—reported experience but didn't test, a 17% increase from 2021 and the highest number seen since before the pandemic. Another 3,809 candidates were taking the ARE and reporting experience, and 12,102 did not report experience but took at least one exam division.

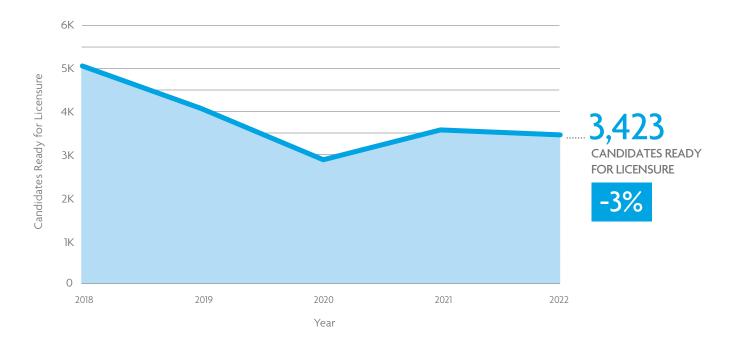


## Number of Candidates Ready for Licensure Falls Slightly

Just over 3,400 candidates completed the path to architectural licensure in 2022, 3 percentage points less than in 2021. This slight dip may be an effect of the decline in candidates completing the experience program in recent years, as well as the continued impacts of COVID-19 on candidates' career paths.

The path to architectural licensure includes earning a degree from an accredited architecture program and completing the national experience and examination programs. Achieving these key requirements for licensure is a reliable indicator that an individual has become (or will soon become) licensed in a U.S. jurisdiction.

Note: Some jurisdictions have additional licensure requirements, such as a supplemental exam.

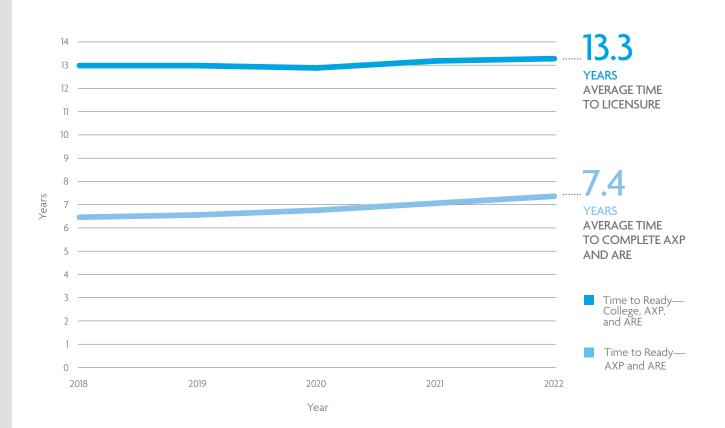


### Time to Licensure Remains Steady

From beginning their first college degree to finishing their final licensure requirement, the average candidate who completed the path to licensure in 2022 took 13.3 years to do so, around one month longer than in 2021.

On average, 7.4 of those years were spent completing NCARB's experience and examination programs.

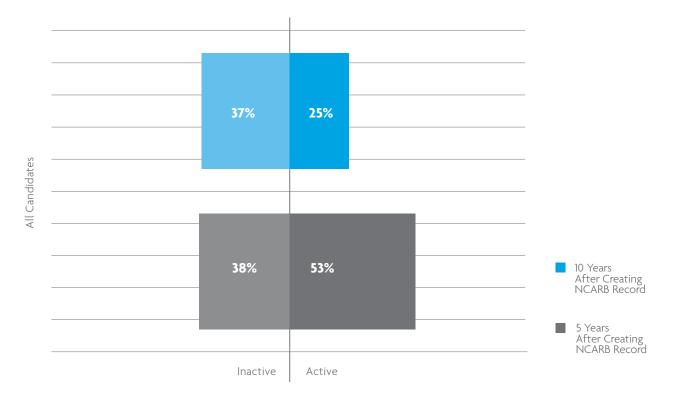
Note: Historical data can shift because licensure candidates can backdate experience up to five years.



### Over 10 Years, 37% of Candidates Stop Pursuing Licensure

In 2022, 53% of candidates who started their NCARB Record five years ago (in 2018) were still actively pursuing a license, and 38% were not actively pursuing licensure.

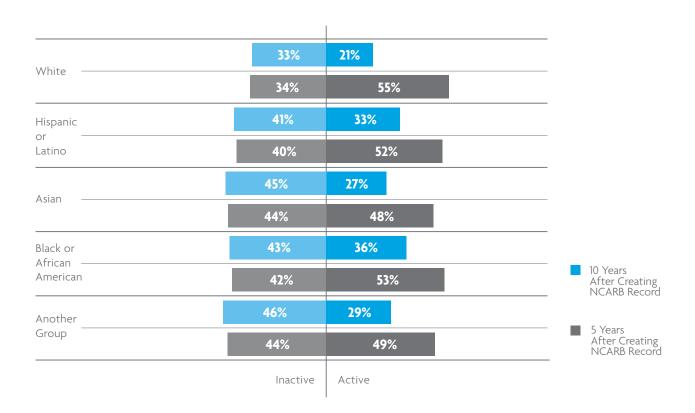
Of candidates who started their NCARB Record 10 years ago (in 2013), a quarter (25%) were still actively working toward earning their license, and 37% had stopped pursuing licensure. The remaining 38% of candidates who started their Record 10 years ago have since earned their license.



## People of Color More Likely to Leave Path to Licensure

At both the five- and 10-year mark after starting an NCARB Record, white candidates had the lowest proportion of inactive licensure candidates at 34% and 33%, respectively.

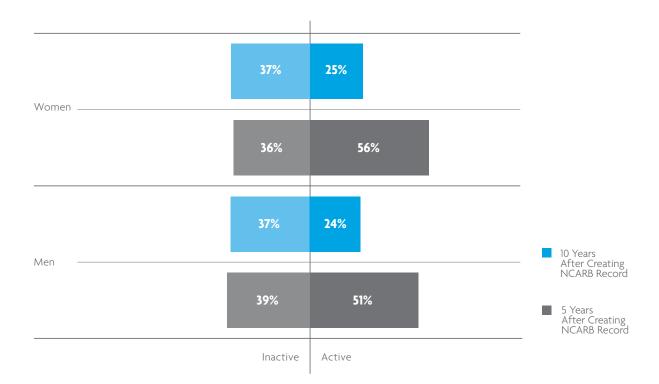
Black or African American candidates had the highest proportion (36%) of active candidates after 10 years, aligning with NCARB data that indicates Black candidates take longer than those of other races and ethnicities to be ready for licensure. At 46%, candidates who chose "Another Group" when selecting their race and ethnicity were the most likely to leave the licensure path after 10 years.



## Men and Women See Equal Rates of Attrition While Pursuing Licensure

There was less variance among candidates when viewing the data by gender. For example, 10 years after starting an NCARB Record, 37% of both men and women were no longer active on the path to licensure.

The greatest gap between men and women was seen for active licensure candidates at the five-year mark, where women were 5 percentage points more likely than men to be active (56% vs. 51%).



## Younger Candidates More Likely to Stay on Path to Licensure

When filtering the data by age, 18-22-year-olds had the largest proportion (62%) of active candidates at the five-year mark. Only 35% of candidates aged 55+ were active within five years of starting an NCARB Record.



## Candidate Progress on the Path to Licensure by Race and Ethnicity

Across the years, white candidates remain the least likely racial and ethnic group to leave the path. The gap between races and ethnicities does begin to shrink, however, for candidates who started an NCARB Record in 2013 and later.

For candidates who started the path to licensure between 2008-2012, there is a 13 percentage point gap between the least likely group (white candidates) and the most likely group (Black or African American candidates) to leave the path. Additionally, one-fifth of African Americans left the path before starting NCARB programs. Asians were the next most likely group to leave the path, typically while taking the ARE. Today, 18% of African Americans who started the path between 2008-2012 are now licensed architects, compared to 43% of white Record holders.

For candidates who started their licensure journey slightly later (between 2013 and 2017), the gap between the least likely group (white candidates) and the most likely group (Asian candidates) to leave the path is 10 percentage points. Additionally, candidates of all races and ethnicities were most likely to leave the path while earning professional experience.

For those who recently started the path to licensure (2018-2022), 74-79% of individuals across racial and ethnic groups are still active on the path. Individuals of "another group," which includes candidates who identify as Native American and Native Pacific Islander, were the most likely to leave the path at 27%, closely followed by African American and Asian candidates, both at 26%. Most candidates that left the path did so before starting NCARB programs or while working to gain and report professional experience. See more details on the following page.

#### Candidates Who Started Their NCARB Record Between 2008-2012

		White	Hispanic or Latino	Asian	Black or African American	Another Group
Off the Path	Before Starting NCARB Programs	11%	13%	13%	20%	13%
off th	During AXP	10%	10%	12%	15%	12%
0	Between AXP and Exam	6%	7%	7%	6%	6%
	During Exam	12%	16%	19%	11%	16%
On the Path	Off the Path Total	39%	47%	50%	52%	48%
O d	Active Candidate	18%	28%	22%	30%	22%
	Architect	43%	25%	28%	18%	30%
	On the Path Total	61%	53%	50%	48%	52%

#### Candidates Who Started Their NCARB Record Between 2013-2017

		White	Hispanic or Latino	Asian	Black or African American	Another Group
Path	Before Starting NCARB Programs	8%	10%	10%	12%	10%
Off the Path	During AXP	12%	13%	16%	16%	14%
Off	Between AXP and Exam	4%	6%	4%	4%	6%
	During Exam	10%	12%	15%	11%	13%
	Off the Path Total	34%	41%	44%	42%	43%
On the Path	Active Candidate	41%	46%	39%	48%	45%
0 _	Architect	25%	13%	16%	10%	12%
	On the Path Total	66%	59%	56%	58%	57%

#### Candidates Who Started Their NCARB Record Between 2018-2022

		White	Hispanic or Latino	Asian	Black or African American	Another Group
Path	Before Starting NCARB Programs	9%	11%	10%	13%	13%
Off the	During AXP	9%	10%	12%	10%	11%
Off	Between AXP and Exam	1%	2%	2%	1%	2%
	During Exam	1%	2%	2%	1%	2%
	Off the Path Total	21%	25%	26%	26%	27%
On the Path	Active Candidate	75%	72%	71%	73%	70%
0 _	Architect	4%	4%	3%	1%	3%
	On the Path Total	79%	75%	74%	73%	73%

## Candidate Progress on the Path to Licensure by Gender

For candidates who started the path to licensure a decade or more ago (between 2008-2012), women were 4 percentage points more likely to leave the path to licensure than men (45% vs. 41%). Both men and women who started the licensure path between 2008-2012 were most likely to leave the path while taking the ARE. 39% of men and 36% of women who started the licensure path between 2008-2012 are now licensed architects.

The attrition seen between men and women shifted for candidates who started the path to licensure between 2013-2017, with nearly equal proportions of men and women leave the path at (38% versus 37%)—typically while gaining professional experience or testing for the ARE.

For candidates who recently started the path to licensure (2018-2022), men were slightly more likely to leave the path than women. Women who recently started the path were also more likely to be actively pursuing an architecture license at 75%, versus 71% of men.

#### Candidates Who Started Their NCARB Record Between 2008-2012

		Male	Female
Path	Before Starting NCARB Programs	12%	12%
Off the Path	During AXP	10%	12%
Off	Between AXP and Exam	7%	6%
	During Exam	13%	15%
On the Path	Off the Path Total	41%	45%
	Active Candidate	20%	19%
0	Architect	39%	36%
	On the Path Total	59%	55%

#### Candidates Who Started Their NCARB Record Between 2013-2017

		Male	Female
Off the Path	Before Starting NCARB Programs	9%	8%
Off th	During AXP	13%	14%
0	Between AXP and Exam	4%	4%
0)	During Exam	11%	11%
On the Path	Off the Path Total	38%	37%
0	Active Candidate	41%	43%
	Architect	22%	20%
	On the Path Total	62%	63%

#### Candidates Who Started Their NCARB Record Between 2018-2022

		Male	Female
Path	Before Starting NCARB Programs	11%	9%
Off the Path	During AXP	10%	10%
Off	Between AXP and Exam	2%	1%
	During Exam	2%	2%
	Off the Path Total	24%	22%
On the Path	Active Candidate	71%	75%
	Architect	4%	z3%
	On the Path Total	76%	78%

## Candidate Progress on the Path to Licensure by Age

For more than a decade, younger candidates have been less likely to leave the path to licensure than candidates over 40. For candidates who started the licensure path between 2008-2012, those aged 40-54 were 11 percentage points more likely to leave the path than 23-29-year-old candidates (51% vs. 40%). Additionally, nearly a quarter of 55+ candidates (24%) left the path before starting NCARB programs.

For those who started the licensure path slightly later (2013-2017), the gap between the least likely and most likely age group to leave the path widened: candidates aged 55+ were 23 percentage points more likely to leave the path than 18-to-22-year-old candidates (57% vs. 34%). Most candidates over 40 left the path while taking the ARE, while 18-29-year-old candidates were more likely to leave the path while working to gain professional experience.

The attrition between age groups decreased for those who started the path to licensure more recently (2018-2022), with 70-81% of individuals of all ages remaining on the path. Most candidates who did become inactive left before starting NCARB programs, with individuals aged 40-55+ the most likely to become inactive.

#### Candidates Who Started Their NCARB Record Between 2008-2012

		18 to 22	23 to 29	30 to 39	40 to 54	55+
Path	Before Starting NCARB Programs	14%	9%	12%	20%	24%
Off the Path	During AXP	13%	11%	9%	7%	8%
Off	Between AXP and Exam	3%	6%	10%	10%	5%
	During Exam	10%	14%	15%	14%	14%
	Off the Path Total	40%	40%	47%	51%	50%
On the Path	Active Candidate	17%	19%	24%	21%	7%
0 _	Architect	42%	41%	30%	28%	42%
	On the Path Total	60%	60%	53%	49%	50%

#### Candidates Who Started Their NCARB Record Between 2013-2017

		18 to 22	23 to 29	30 to 39	40 to 54	55+
Off the Path	Before Starting NCARB Programs	8%	7%	11%	13%	14%
Off th	During AXP	17%	14%	10%	4%	2%
0	Between AXP and Exam	3%	5%	6%	3%	2%
<u>e</u> _	During Exam	6%	10%	13%	27%	39%
On the Path	Off the Path Total	34%	36%	40%	46%	57%
0	Active Candidate	46%	40%	41%		30%
	Architect	20%	24%	19%	17%	13%
	On the Path Total	66%	64%	60%	54%	43%

#### Candidates Who Started Their NCARB Record Between 2018-2022

		18 to 22	23 to 29	30 to 39	40 to 54	55+
Path	Before Starting NCARB Programs	7%	9%	14%	19%	22%
Off the	During AXP	11%	11%	8%	4%	1%
Off	Between AXP and Exam	0%	2%	2%	2%	1%
	During Exam	0%	2%	2%	4%	6%
	Off the Path Total	19%	23%	26%	29%	30%
On the Path	Active Candidate	80%	74%	68%	60%	48%
0 _	Architect	21%	3%	6%	11%	23%
	On the Path Total	81%	77%	74%	71%	70%

## Education

Earning a degree from an architecture program accredited by the National Architectural Accrediting Board (NAAB) is the most common path for candidates seeking architectural licensure in the United States. Data continues to show that, on average, licensure candidates with a degree from a NAAB-accredited program have greater success when taking the national licensing exam.

In 2022, most new architects graduated from public universities, with 10 schools educating nearly 25% of all new architects in 2022. The proportion of new architects with just one degree is increasing, although most Record holders have both a degree from a non-accredited program and a degree from a NAAB-accredited program.

Interest in the Integrated Path to Architectural Licensure (IPAL) continues, with over 700 students enrolled in IPAL options across the country during the 2021-2022 school year.

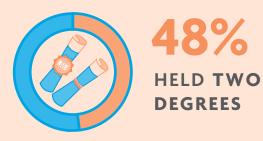


#### **NEW ARCHITECTS:**



61%

GRADUATED FROM A PUBLIC UNIVERSITY





85%
HELD A DEGREE FROM A NAAB-ACCREDITED PROGRAM

31 IPAL PROGRAMS

700+ STUDENTS enrolled at

27 schools

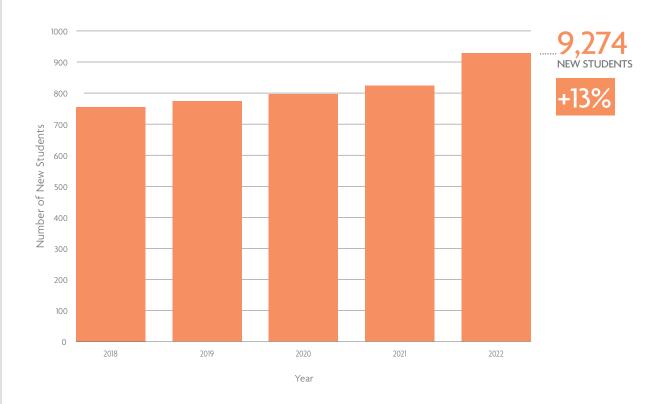


### New Enrollment in NAAB-Accredited Programs On the Rise

NAAB data shows that over 9,200 new students enrolled in a NAAB-accredited program in the 2021-2022 school year—a 13% increase from the previous school year. Of the new students, 47% are enrolled in Bachelor of Architecture programs, and 53% are enrolled in Master of Architecture or Doctor of Architecture programs.

Just over half of new students are women (53 percent), 2 percentage points higher than the previous school year. This suggests that NCARB may see greater gender representation on the licensure path in the years to come.

Note: This data is provided to the NAAB by accredited programs and will be published in the 2022 NAAB Report on Accreditation in Architecture, available at www.naab.org. Students enrolled in non-accredited architecture programs are not represented.

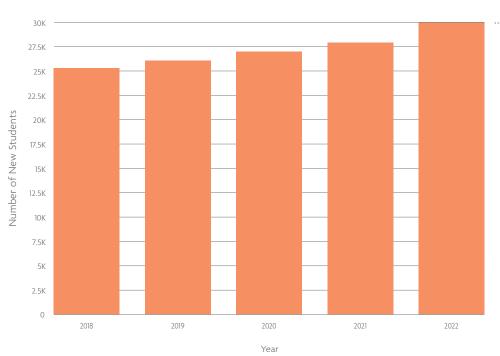


## Total Enrollment in NAAB-Accredited Programs Grows

Nearly 30,000 students were enrolled in a NAAB-accredited program in the 2021-2022 school year, an increase of 7% compared to the previous academic year. This is the fifth consecutive year of steady increases.

Of these students, 60% are enrolled in Bachelor of Architecture programs and 40% are enrolled in Master of Architecture or Doctor of Architecture programs. Forty-seven percent are men, and 53% are women.

Note: This data is provided to the NAAB by accredited programs and will be published in the 2022 NAAB Report on Accreditation in Architecture, available at www.naab.org. Students enrolled in non-accredited architecture programs are not represented.



29,988 TOTAL STUDENTS

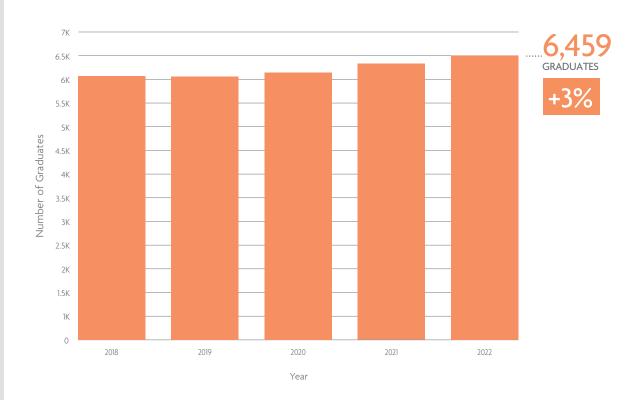
+7%

## Number of Graduates From NAAB-Accredited Programs Increases

Nearly 6,500 degrees were awarded by NAAB-accredited programs across the country in 2022, a 3% increase compared to the previous school year.

Of these graduates, 49% were men and 51% were women—the same proportion seen in 2021.

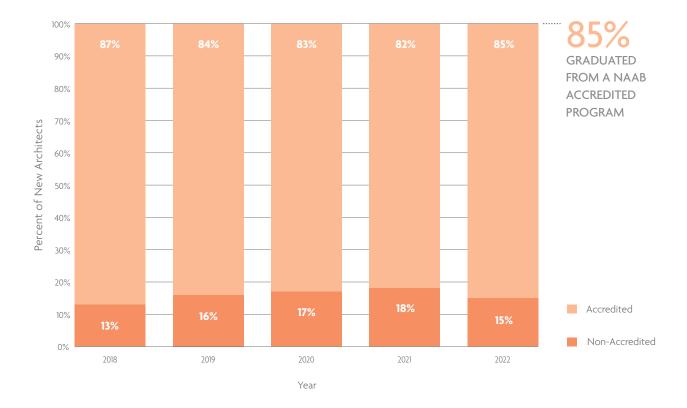
Note: This data is provided to the NAAB by accredited programs and will be published in the 2022 NAAB Report on Accreditation in Architecture, available at www.naab.org. Students enrolled in non-accredited architecture programs are not represented.



## Proportion of New Architects Without a Degree From an Accredited Program Falls

After several years of gradual increases, the proportion of new architects without a degree from a NAAB-accredited program fell by 3 percentage points in 2022. Eighty-five percent of new architects in 2022 held a degree from a NAAB-accredited program.

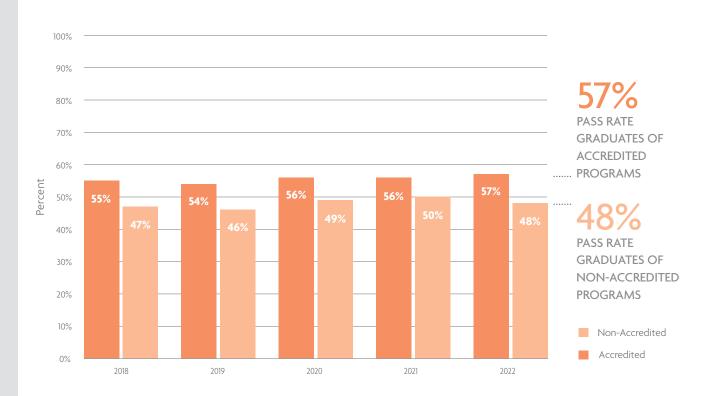
Out of the 55 U.S. jurisdictions, only 17 will license individuals who don't hold a degree from a NAAB-accredited program (typically by substituting additional experience in lieu of a professional degree).



## Graduates of NAAB-Accredited Programs Have Higher ARE Pass Rates

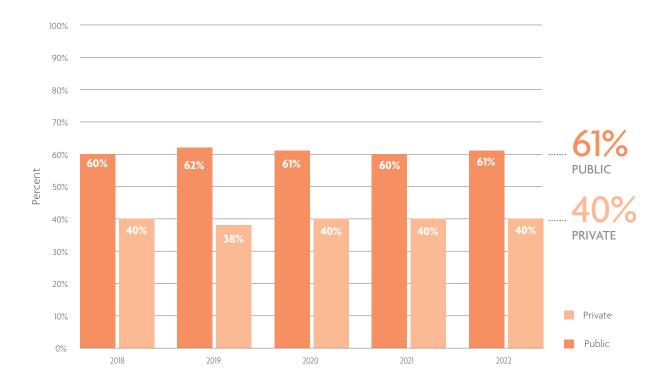
Graduates of NAAB-accredited programs perform significantly better on the ARE compared to their peers who did not graduate from a NAAB-accredited program. In 2022, graduates of NAAB-accredited programs had an overall exam pass rate of 57%, compared to 48% for graduates of non-accredited programs—a 9 percentage point difference.

The average overall ARE pass rate for all candidates in 2022 was 55%.



## Most New Architects Graduated From Public Universities

In 2022, 61% of new architects graduated from a public university, and 40% graduated from a private university. The proportion of new architects who hold a degree from a public university has held relatively steady since 2018.



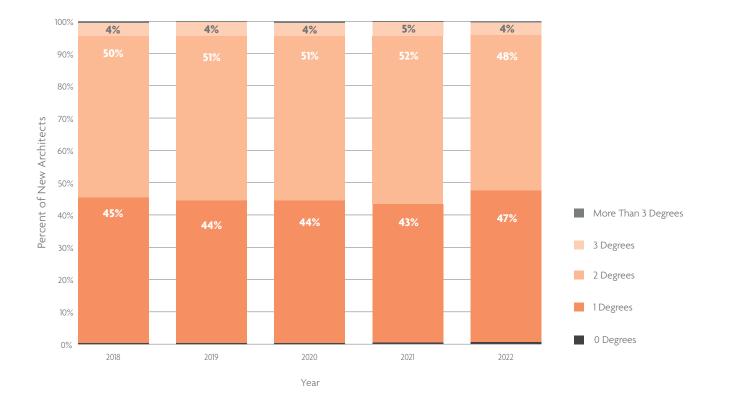
### Top 10 Schools Producing New Architects

Ten schools produced nearly a quarter of new architects in 2022. Just over 3% of all new architects in 2022 graduated from Virginia Tech, and 3% graduated from California Polytechnic State University. These two schools have consistently been the top two sources of new architects over the past five years.

Private	2.2% Syracuse University	2.0% University of Southern California	1.7% Pratt Institute	1.6% Boston Architectural College		
Public	3.4% Virginia Tech	3.0% California Polytechnic State University	2.4% University of Michigan	2.4% University of Oregon	2.3% University of Texas at Austin	2.0% Kansas State University

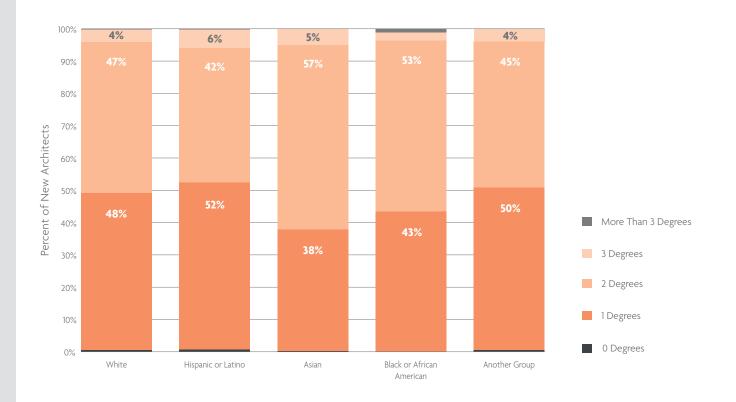
## Increase in Architects With One Degree

Of new architects in 2022, 47% held just one degree—up 4 percentage points from 2021. A near-equal proportion (48%) held two degrees, compared to 52% in 2021. Of the remaining new architects, 1% held no degree, and 4% held three degrees.



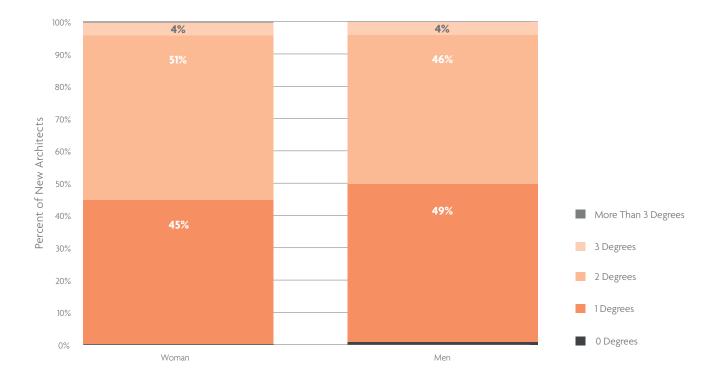
### Asian Architects Most Likely to Hold More Than One Degree

Sixty-two percent of new Asian architects in 2022 held more than one degree—the highest proportion of all racial and ethnic groups. At 52%, new Hispanic or Latino architects had the highest proportion of individuals with just one degree—but also the highest proportion with three degrees (6%).



### Women More Likely to Hold More Than One Degree

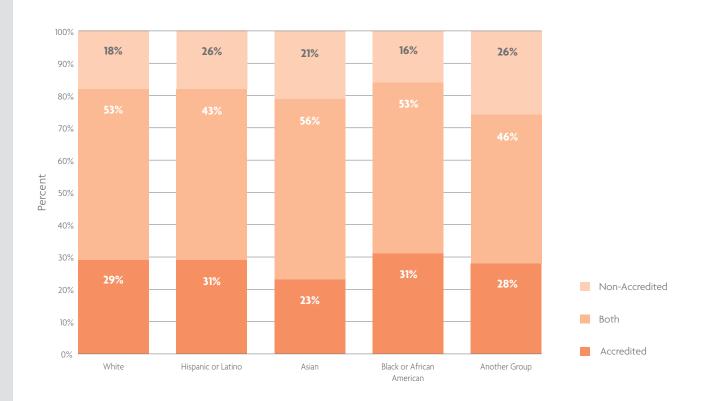
Fifty-five percent of new female architects in 2022 held more than one degree, compared to 50% of new male architects. Of new male architects, 1% had no degree, 49% had one degree, 46% had two degrees, and 4% had three or more. By comparison, less than 1% of new female architects held no degree, 45% had one degree, 51% had two, and 4% had three or more.



### Black or African American Record Holders Most Likely to Hold A Degree From an Accredited Program

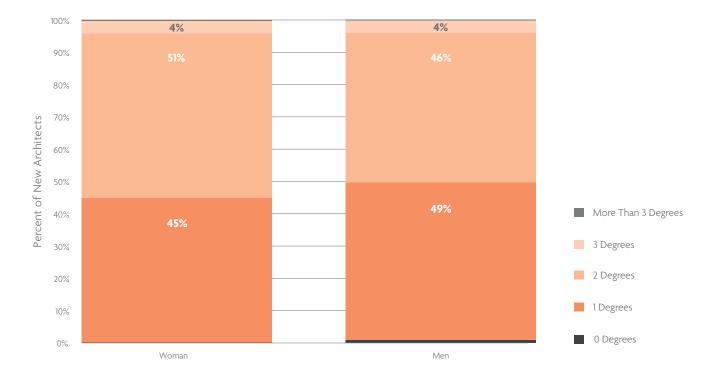
When a Record holder has finished their education, they can add their transcript to their NCARB Record and have their degree verified by NCARB. Of Black or African American Record holders who had their education verified in 2022, 84% held at least one degree from a NAAB-accredited program—including 53% who held both a degree from a NAAB-accredited program and from a non-accredited program.

Hispanic or Latino Record holders were the least likely to hold a degree from a NAAB-accredited program at 74%.



### Women Slightly More Likely to Hold a Degree From an Accredited Program

Of female Record holders who had their education verified in 2022, 82% held at least one degree from a NAAB-accredited program, including 54% who held both a degree from a NAAB-accredited program and from a non-accredited program. Comparatively, 80% of male Record holders held at least one degree from a NAAB-accredited program.



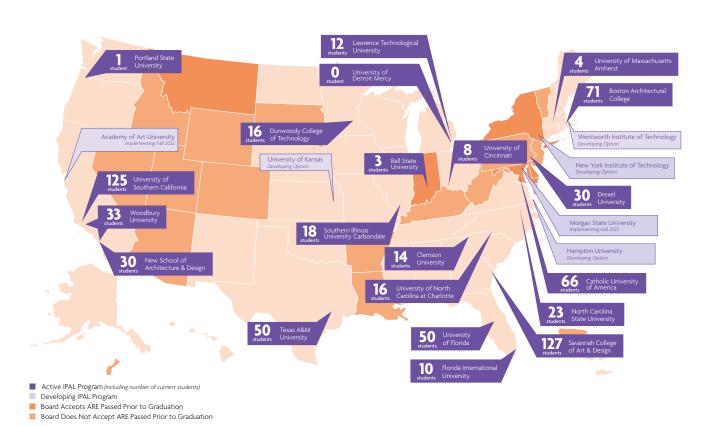
#### **IPAL Initiative Continues to Grow**

There are currently 31 NAAB-accredited programs at 27 colleges participating in NCARB's Integrated Path to Architectural Licensure (IPAL) initiative, which launched in 2015.

The IPAL option—offered as an additional path within an existing NAAB-accredited program—seeks to shorten the time it takes to become an architect for students dedicated to earning a license. Participating programs provide students with the opportunity to complete the AXP and take all six ARE 5.0 divisions prior to graduation.

During the 2021-2022 school year, over 700 students were enrolled in IPAL options across the United States. Over two-thirds (38) of NCARB's 55 U.S. jurisdictions will accept divisions of the exam passed while participating in an IPAL option.

Note: Enrollment data is from the 2021-2022 school year. Some accepted programs are still developing their IPAL options.



### Experience

NCARB's Architectural Experience Program® (AXP®) is a required component of the licensure process in almost all U.S. jurisdictions. The AXP is designed to equip candidates with the skills to practice architecture competently by providing a framework for earning and reporting professional experience.

2022 data suggests that the COVID-19 pandemic continues to impact candidates' AXP progress. The number of candidates starting the program fell dramatically, and the number of candidates completing the program continued to decline.

Time to complete the program also showed evidence of the pandemic's ongoing impact, as the average length of time for completion increased by one month.



4,464

-22% CHANGE

CANDIDATES
STARTED THE AXP

24.5

average age at

**START** 

4,138
CANDIDATES
COMPLETED THE AXP

29.6
average age at



4.8 YEARS
AVERAGE TIME

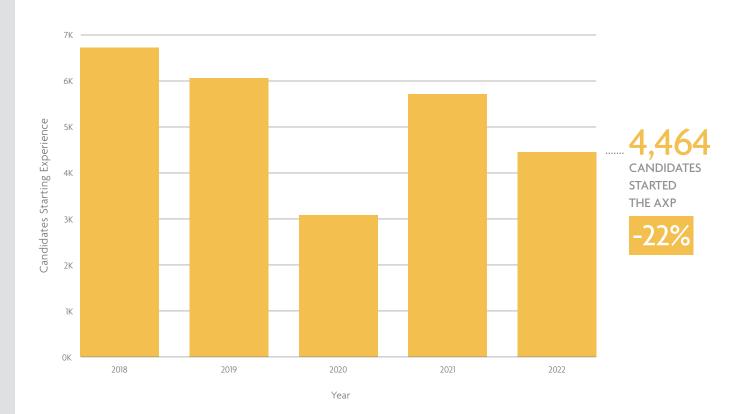
taken to complete the AXP



## Number of Candidates Starting Experience Drops

In 2020, the number of candidates beginning the AXP, which is often one of the first steps toward earning a license, fell dramatically as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. By 2021, the number had increased by 85%. In 2022, the number of candidates starting the experience program fell by 22%, still above the number seen during the COVID-19 pandemic but significantly fewer than the number of candidates starting the AXP in the years leading up to the pandemic.

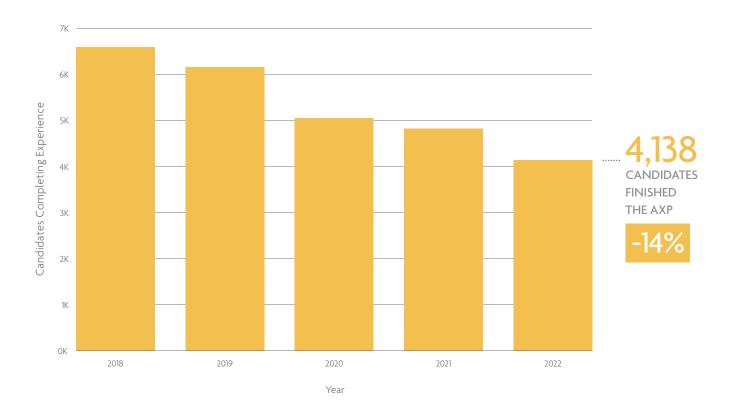
However, because candidates can backdate experience up to five years, this number may shift upward over time.



#### Experience Completions Continue to Fall

For the sixth consecutive year on record, the number of candidates completing the experience program fell in 2022.

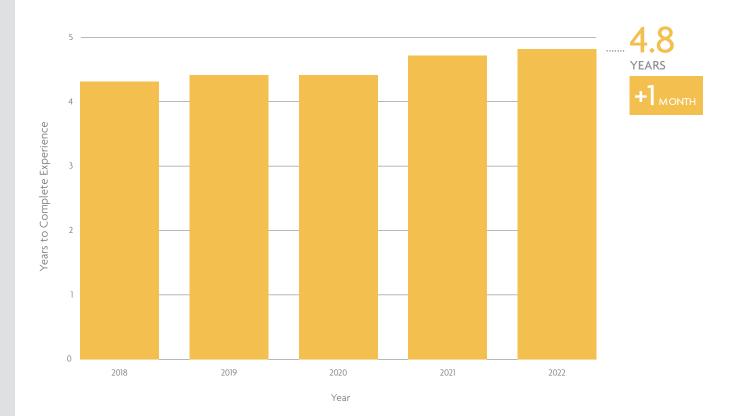
The launch of the AXP in 2016 accelerated candidates' progress and created a peak in the number of completions, leading to a steady decline in AXP completions over the subsequent years. Because it takes an average of 4.8 years to complete the program, the decline in program starts in recent years may lead to a decline in program completions in the future.



# Time to Complete Experience Increases Slightly

In 2022, the average candidate took 4.8 years to complete the experience program. This is a one-month increase compared to 2021 and an approximate five-month increase compared to 2020. The average time to complete the AXP has been on the rise since the program launched in 2016.

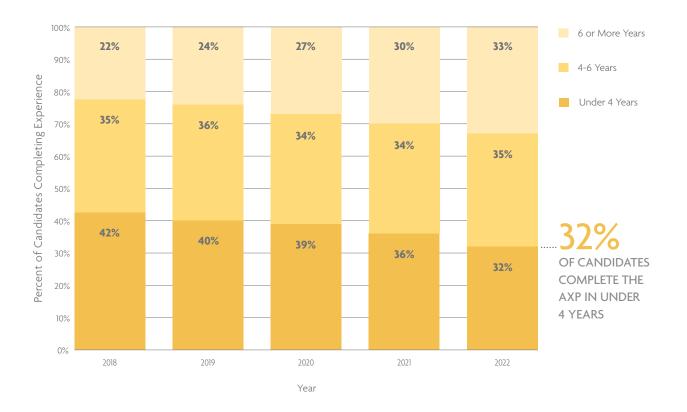
Similar to 2021, the increase in time to complete the experience program in 2022 is likely an ongoing result of the COVID-19 pandemic.



## Fewer Candidates Complete Experience in Less Than Four Years

In comparison to 2021, the proportion of candidates who completed the AXP in less than four years has decreased. Thirty-two percent of candidates completed the AXP in under four years—a 4 percentage point drop compared to the proportion seen in 2021.

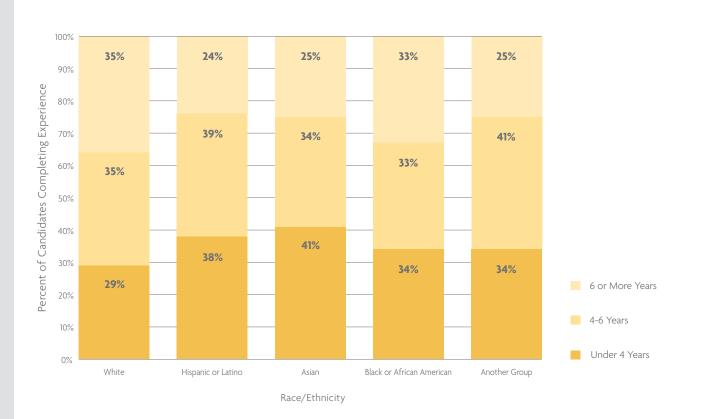
The proportion of candidates who completed the AXP in four to six years in 2022 increased a percentage point to 35%. The remaining 33% of candidates finished the AXP in six or more years—a three percentage point increase from last year.



## Asian Candidates More Likely to Complete AXP in Under Four Years

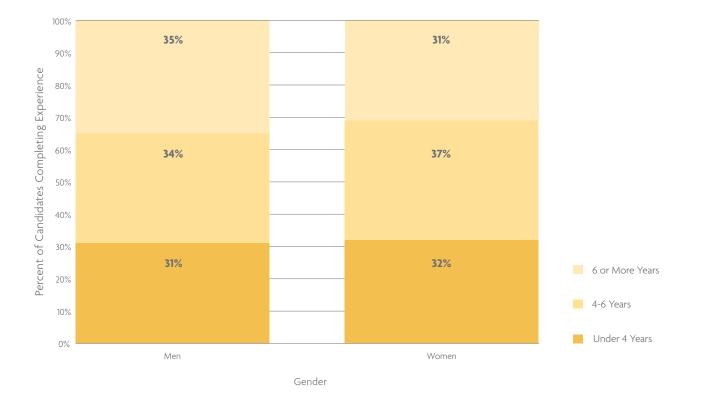
Of white candidates who completed the AXP in 2022, 29% did so in less than four years—the lowest proportion of all racial and ethnic groups. By comparison, 41% of Asian candidates who completed the AXP in 2022 did so in less than four years.

This aligns with NCARB's data regarding when candidates start the AXP, which indicates that white candidates are most likely to start reporting experience while still in school. This can draw out their average time to complete the program, since many students report intermittent hours rather than full-time experience.



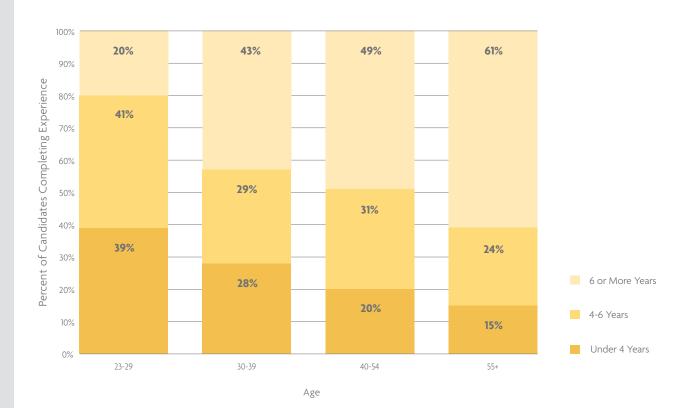
## Women More Likely to Complete AXP in Under Four Years

In 2022, nearly equal proportions of men and women completing the AXP did so in less than four years: 32% for women versus 31% for men. Additionally, 37% of women who completed the AXP in 2022 did so in four to six years, compared to 34% of men. Compared to women, men were 4 percentage points more likely to take six or more years to complete the program.



# Younger Candidates More Likely to Complete AXP in Under Four Years

Thirty-nine percent of 23-29-year-old candidates completed the AXP in less than four years—the highest proportion seen based on age group. As candidates get older, the proportion of candidates completing the program in longer time frames increased, with 61% of candidates 55 or older completing the program in six or more years.





19,385
AXP SUPERVISORS



2 average number of

CANDIDATES PER AXP SUPERVISOR



19%

OF SUPERVISORS ARE PEOPLE OF COLOR



2 DAYS

AVERAGE TIME
TO APPROVE
EXPERIENCE REPORTS



24%

OF SUPERVISORS ARE WOMEN





#### Examination

Required by all 55 U.S. jurisdictions, the Architect Registration Examination® (ARE®) 5.0 is a six-part exam taken by candidates seeking architectural licensure. Over 3,400 candidates completed the ARE in 2022, and the average candidate took 2.9 years to complete all six exams.

NCARB implemented a variety of changes to the ARE in 2022, including moving exam delivery vendors from Prometric to PSI, launching new English as a Second Language (ESL) accommodations for testers whose first language is not English, and launching free, full-length practice exams for all six ARE divisions. With the migration to PSI in June 2022, NCARB also removed exam rescheduling fees, which led to significantly fewer exam deliveries in the second half of the year.

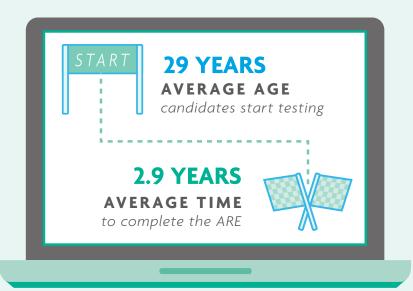
On all divisions of the ARE and for all demographic groups, pass rates increased significantly for candidates who used NCARB's free, full-length practice exams. However, because more candidates tested in the first half of the year—prior to the launch of the practice exams—overall ARE pass rates held steady for the year.

3,465 II +1% CHANGE COMPLETED THE ARE

38,894

-6% CHANGE

DIVISIONS TAKEN IN 2022





36%
OF CANDIDATES
COMPLETED THE EXAM
IN 2 YEARS OR LESS



#### PEOPLE OF COLOR

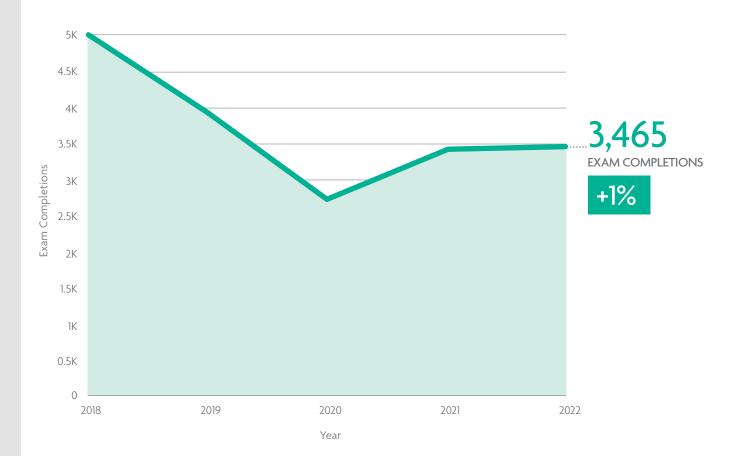
AND 40+ CANDIDATES TAKE LONGER
TO COMPLETE THE ARE



#### Number of Exam Completions Remains Steady

The number of candidates completing the national licensing exam remained relatively steady in 2022, increasing by just 1% to 3,465. This stall in exam completions is likely due to the removal of exam rescheduling fees in June 2022. With the ability to reschedule for free, candidates began rescheduling exams at a higher rate during the second half of the year, leading to a decrease in exam deliveries.

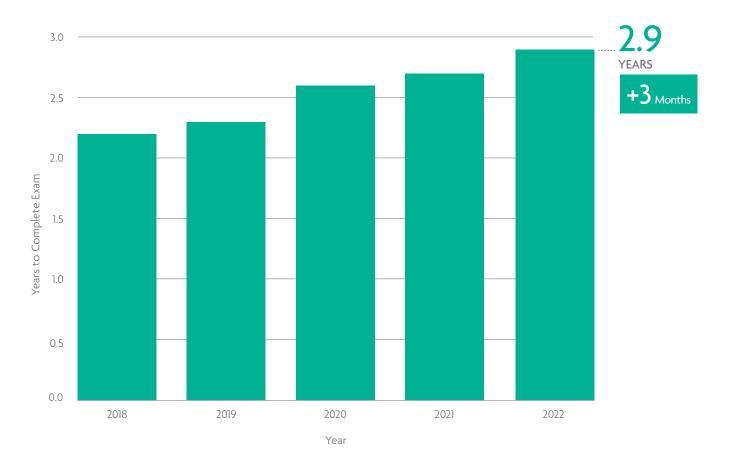
The dip in exam completions seen in 2020 resulted from test center closures near the initial onset of COVID-19 and limited testing availability throughout the remainder of the year.



#### Time to Complete Exam Increases

The average candidate who completed the ARE in 2022 took 2.9 years to do so, three months longer than in 2021. This increase is most likely tied to the ongoing impact of COVID-19, which caused many candidates to delay their testing plans in 2020-2021, as well as the increase in exam rescheduling seen in the second half of 2022.

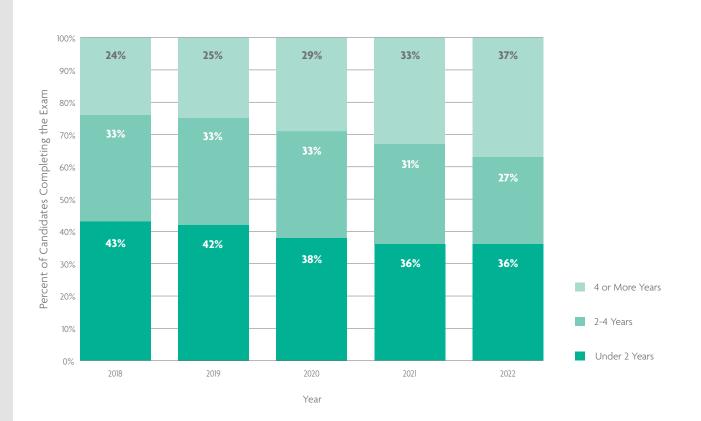
As candidates continue to enjoy the flexibility to reschedule their exam appointments as needed, the time needed to complete the ARE may continue to increase in the years ahead.



## One in Three Candidates Completes the Exam in Two Years or Less

Similar to 2021 data, slightly more than a third (36%) of ARE candidates who finished the exam in 2022 did so in two years or less. 2022 represents the first year since 2017 that the proportion of candidates completing the exam in under two years has not decreased.

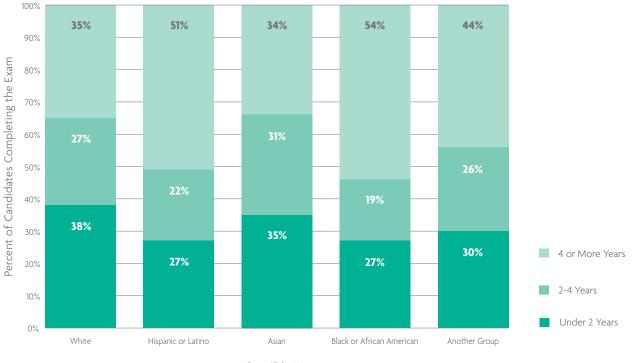
However, the number of candidates who took four or more years to complete the exam increased by 4 percentage points to 37%.



### White and Asian Candidates Complete Exam in Less Time

Most candidates of color took longer to complete the exam than their white peers. For example, over half of Black or African American candidates (54%) and Hispanic or Latino candidates (51%) took four or more years to complete the ARE. These two racial and ethnic groups also have the smallest proportion of testers finishing the exam in under two years (27%).

At 38% and 35%, white and Asian candidates were the most likely to complete the exam in under two years.

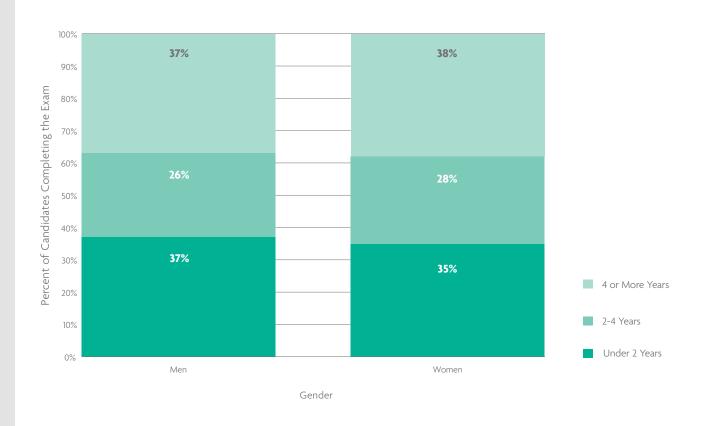


Race/Ethnicity

## Men and Women Complete Exam in Similar Time Frames

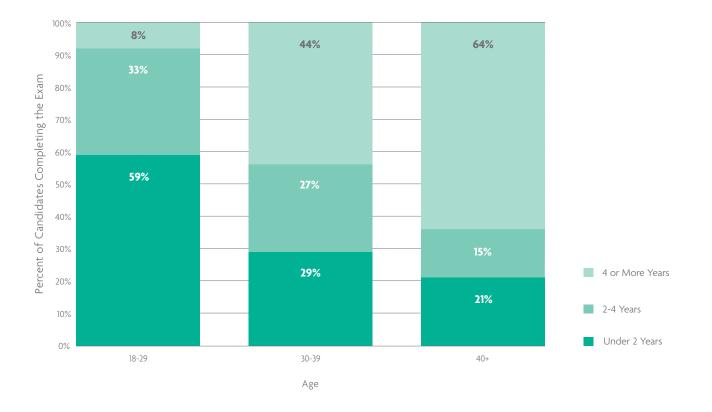
In 2022, men and women completed the ARE in similar time frames, with men two percentage points more likely than women to complete the ARE in under two years (37% vs. 35%).

For both men and women, 63% of candidates completed the exam in four or less years.



# Younger Candidates Take Less Time to Complete Exam

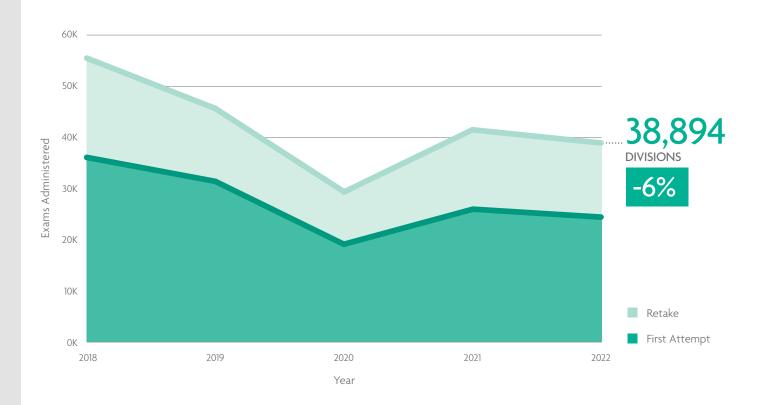
When viewing the data for different age groups, younger candidates were much more likely to complete the exam in a shorter time frame, with 92% of candidates aged 18-29 finishing in four or less years. However, 64% of candidates aged 40 or older took four or more years to complete the ARE.



#### Number of Exams Administered Decreases

The number of exams administered fell slightly from 40,944 in 2021 to 38,894 in 2022—a decrease of 6%. Of the exams administered in 2022, over a third (14,468) were retakes, and the remaining 25,714 were first attempts.

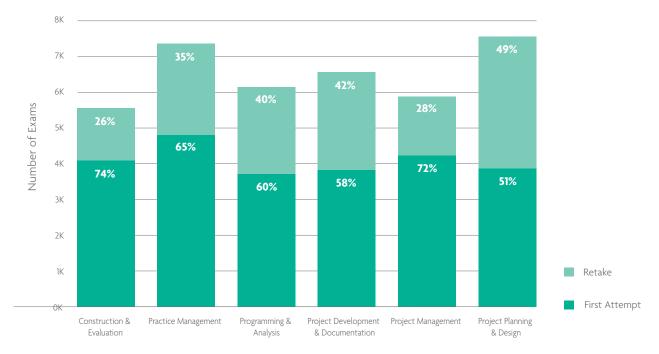
The slight decrease in overall exam administrations was likely a result of NCARB's decision to remove exam rescheduling fees in June 2022, which led to fewer exam deliveries for the latter half of the year.



#### Project Planning & Design Has Greatest Number of Exams Administered

Of the nearly 39,000 exams taken in 2022, approximately 19% were for the Project Planning & Design (PPD) division, including 3,847 first attempts and 3,675 retakes. The Project Planning & Design (PPD) division also saw the largest proportion of retakes (49%), closely followed by Project Development & Documentation (PDD) at 42%.

Construction & Evaluation (CE) and Project Management (PjM) saw the lowest proportion of retakes in 2022, reflecting the higher initial pass rates seen for these divisions.

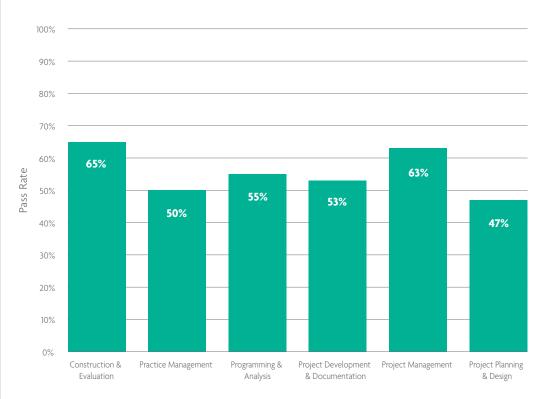


### Construction & Evaluation Has Highest Pass Rate

After an uncharacteristic drop in 2021, Construction & Evaluation (CE) had the highest divisional pass rate again at 65%, increasing by 3 percentage points from 2021 to 2022. CE is closely followed by the Project Management division, which had a pass rate of 63% (no change from 2021).

Other than CE, the only other division to see an increase in pass rates was Programming & Analysis (PA), which increased by 3 percentage points, up to 55%.

Project Planning & Design continued to have the lowest pass rate of the six ARE divisions, unchanged at 47%. Pass rates for Project Development & Documentation also saw no change at 53%. Practice Management was the only division that had a decrease in pass rates, dropping from 53% in 2021 to 50% in 2022.

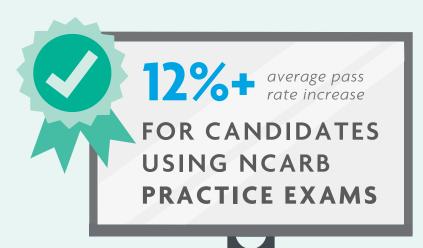


55%

AVERAGE

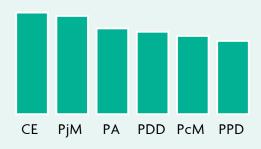
PASS RATE

ACROSS DIVISIONS





65%
CE
HIGHEST
DIVISIONAL
PASS RATE



47%
PPD
LOWEST
DIVISIONAL
PASS RATE





candidates who

TESTED WITHIN 3 MONTHS OF COMPLETING EXPERIENCE AREA

had highest pass rates

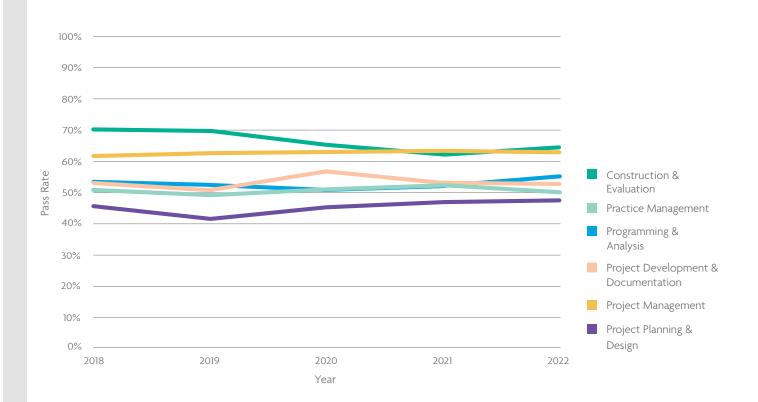
PASS RATES ON FIRST ATTEMPTS WERE HIGHER

than for retakes across all divisions

## Performance Gap Between Divisions Widens Slightly

A review of divisional pass rates over time illustrates how candidate performance across all six divisions has been moving toward a more consistent pass rate in recent years. However, the performance gap between divisions widened slightly in 2022, with a spread of 18 points between the division with the highest pass rate (CE) and the division with the lowest pass rate (PPD)—2 points larger than in 2021.

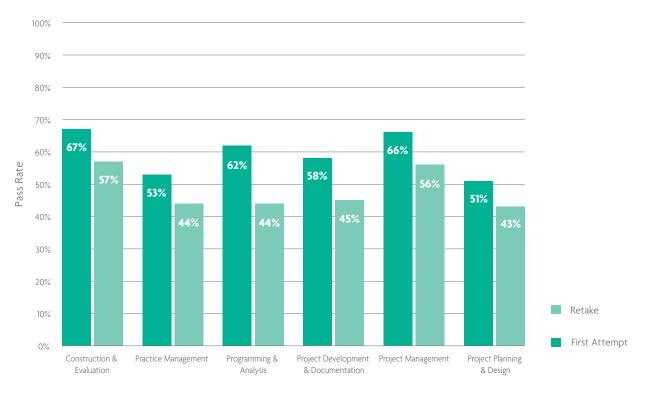
NCARB's staff, expert volunteers, and testing consultants continuously evaluate ARE 5.0 results to ensure that the exam is fair, valid, and accurately measures candidate competency.



#### Exam Pass Rates Higher on First Attempts

For each ARE 5.0 division, pass rates for first attempts were higher than for subsequent retakes on that same division. The most significant gap between first attempts and retakes was seen in the Programming & Analysis division, with an 18 percentage point difference.

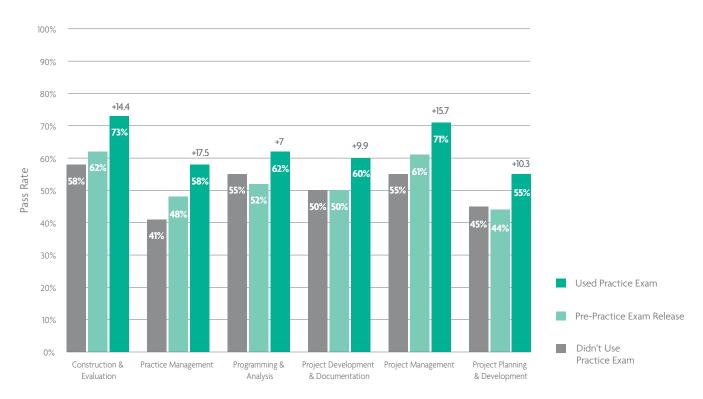
Project Planning & Design had the smallest gap between first attempts (51%) and retakes (43%) —an 8 percentage point difference.



### Pass Rates Increased for Candidates Who Used Practice Exams

Across all six ARE divisions, pass rates increased by 7-18 percentage points for candidates who used NCARB's practice exams.

Pass rates for the Practice Management (PcM) division saw the largest increase after the practice exam launch, with pass rates jumping nearly 18 percentage points from 41% to 58%. The Programming & Analysis (PA) division saw a lower, though still significant, increase in pass rates, rising 7 percentage points.



69%

OF CANDIDATES USED PRACTICE EXAMS BEFORE TAKING THE RELATED DIVISION

12%

**AVERAGE PASS RATE** INCREASE AFTER USING PRACTICE EXAM



#### **PASS RATES FOR PEOPLE OF COLOR**

saw bigger gains than white peers



#### **ASIAN CANDIDATES** HAD HIGHEST **INCREASE**

across ARF divisions





#### **PRACTICE MANAGEMENT:**

division with highest pass rate increase after using practice exam



**58%** 



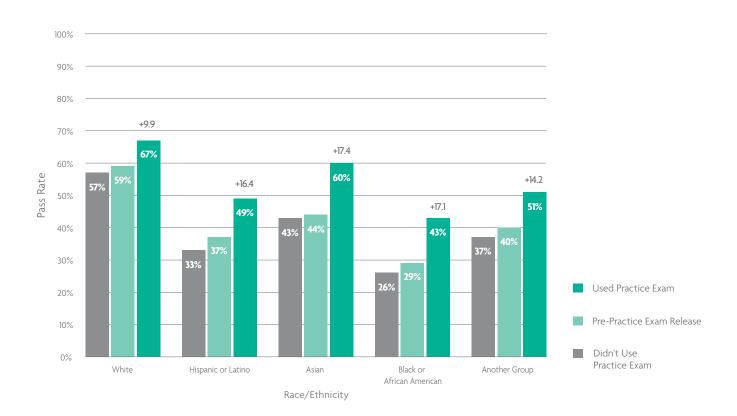
Overall pass rate since practice exam launch (July-Dec 2022)

## Candidates of Color See Larger Impact of Practice Exams

The increase seen for candidates using NCARB's free practice exams was even higher for some demographic groups: Asian or Asian American, Black or African American, and Hispanic or Latino candidates using the practice exams saw a larger impact on pass rates compared to white candidates.

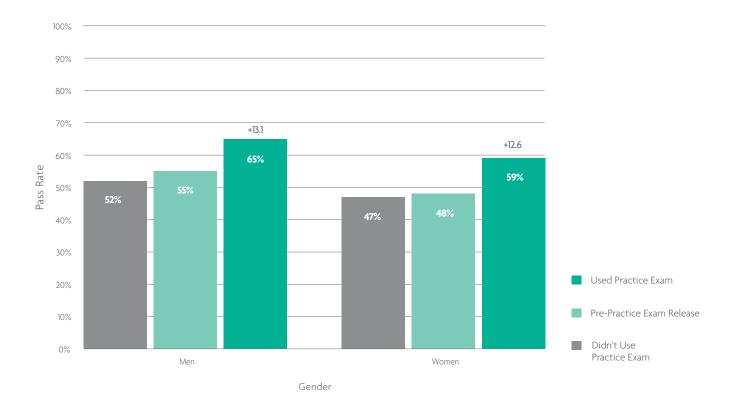
Asian or Asian American and Black or African American candidates saw a 17 percentage point increase in pass rates compared to those who don't use the practice exams—the largest average increase seen across all racial and ethnic groups.

To view the impact of practice exams by demographic and specific divisions, visit the online edition of NCARB by the Numbers at www.ncarb.org/nbtn.



## Men and Women Equally Impacted by Practice Exams

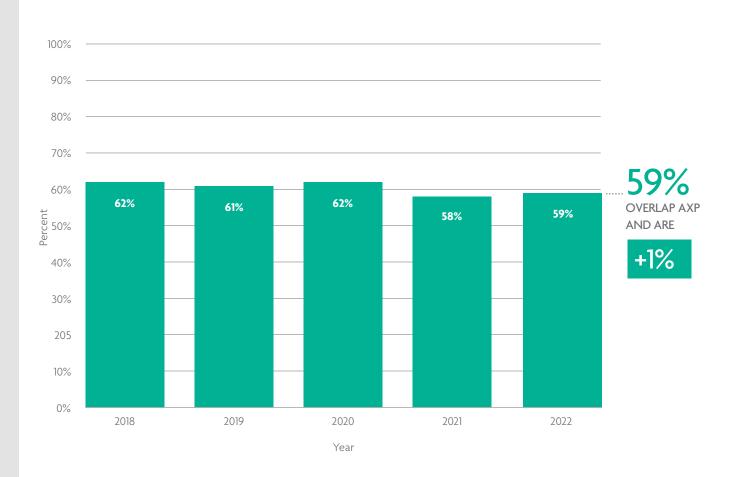
Meanwhile, men and women were equally impacted by use of the practice exams, with both groups seeing a 13 percentage point increase in pass rates compared to candidates who didn't use the practice exams.



#### Proportion of Candidates' Overlapping Experience and Examination Remains Steady

Of the candidates who completed the national licensing exam in 2022, 59% took at least one ARE division prior to completing the experience program—1 percentage point more than in 2021.

The proportion of candidates overlapping the AXP and ARE has been slowly declining since ARE 5.0's launch in 2016, which aligned the AXP's practice areas with the exam divisions.



# Candidates See Highest Pass Rates Immediately After Completing AXP

The six experience areas of the AXP align with the six divisions of ARE 5.0. On average, candidates who took an ARE division within three months of completing the related experience area saw the highest pass rates.

For example, candidates who took the Project Planning and Design (PPD) division within three months of completing the corresponding experience area saw a pass rate of 67%. However, candidates who hadn't yet started the PPD experience area before taking the division had a 40% pass rate—27 percentage points lower.

Note: Most licensure candidates complete some or all of an experience area before testing.

	AXP Incomplete			AXP Complete		
	Less Than 33% Complete	33%-66% Complete	Up to 99% Complete	0-3 Months	4-12 Months	1+ Year
Construction & Evaluation	60%	69%	71%	76%	64%	63%
Practice Management	43%	55%	63%	61%	52%	49%
Programming & Analysis	47%	64%	63%	70%	61%	54%
Project Development & Documentation	47%	54%	55%	72%	55%	53%
Project Manangement	58%	68%	69%	72%	67%	61%
Project Planning & Design	40%	51%	52%	67%	52%	46%

### Demographics

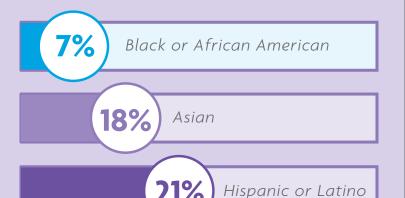
Racial and ethnic diversity continued to increase in early career stages, especially for Asian and Hispanic or Latino candidates: over half of new Record holders and nearly half of candidates reporting experience identified as a race or ethnicity other than white. The candidate population also moved closer to gender parity, with women making up 50% of new Record holders and 49% of candidates reporting experience.

However, diversity slowed at the point of exam completion: 36% of candidates completing the exam identified as a person of color, and 44% identified as female.

Still, new architects were more diverse than ever in 2022: one out of every three new architects was a person of color, and two out of every five were women.

Note: Because shifts in the demographic makeup of Record holders are gradual, NCARB provides a five-year comparison for this data rather than the typical year-over-year comparison found throughout *NCARB By the Numbers*. Additionally, because individuals can identify under multiple racial or ethnic categories (for example, white and Hispanic or Latino), some demographic charts may add up to over 100%.

### NEW RECORD HOLDERS ARE INCREASINGLY DIVERSE:

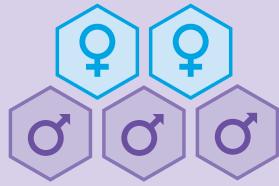




Women earn their license
11 MONTHS
SOONER
than men

2 IN 5
NEW ARCHITECTS
ARE WOMEN





White and Asian candidates complete the licensure process fastest

**12.8 YEARS** 

## Racial and Ethnic Diversity in New NCARB Record Holders Increases

In 2022, nearly 60% of new Record holders identified as a race or ethnicity other than white. Of new Record holders, 21% identified as Hispanic or Latino, 18% identified as Asian, and 7% identified as Black or African American—with individuals who identified as Hispanic or Latino seeing the largest increase across all racial and ethnic groups in the past five years.

Since 2018, there has been a 4 percentage point increase in the proportion of new NCARB Record holders who are women. Correspondingly, the proportion of new male Record holders has decreased, with 50.3% of new Record holders in 2022 identifying as men compared to the 54.5% in 2018.

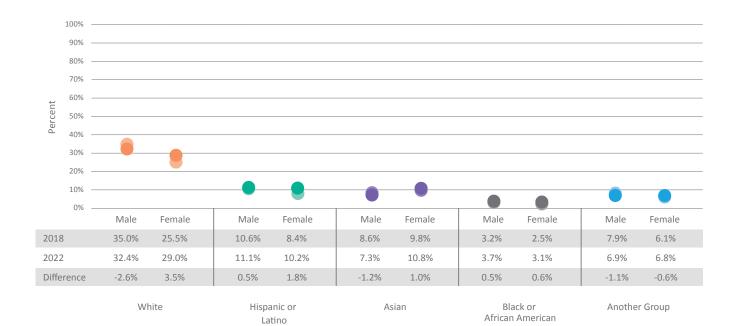
In 2022, most new Record holders were under 30 years old, showing that overall, candidates are starting the path to licensure younger than ever. The 18-22 age group grew by 5.1 percentage points compared to 2018, now comprising 31% of all new Record holders.



# Women of Color Are More Represented in New Record Holders

In 2022, white men made up a third of the pool of new Record holders. At 29%, white women were the next most represented group, a 3.5 percentage point increase compared to 2018.

Asian and Hispanic or Latino men made up 7% and 11% of the new candidate pool, respectively, compared to 11% and 10% for Asian and Latina women. Representation for Asian and Latina women increased by 1 and 2 percentage points, respectively, the largest increase after white women.

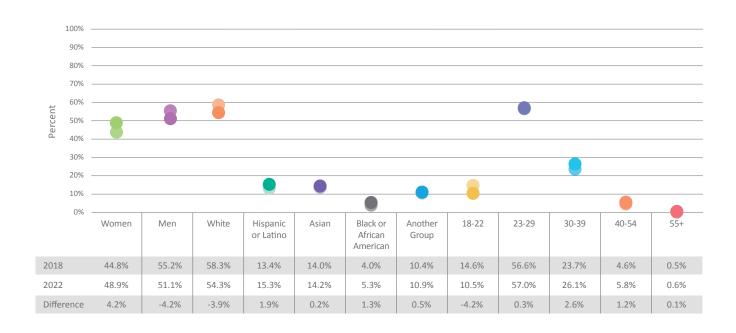


# Diversity Continues to Increase Among Candidates Reporting Experience

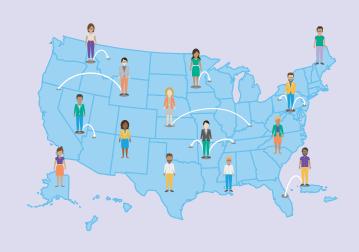
The racial and ethnic diversity seen in the pool of candidates reporting AXP experience has increased by close to 4 percentage points since 2018, with white candidates making up 54.3% of all individuals reporting experience in 2022 compared to 58.3% in 2018. Hispanic or Latino candidates have seen the most growth—they now make up 15.3% of candidates completing the AXP, an almost 2 percentage point increase since 2018.

Similarly, gender representation in the pool of candidates navigating the experience program has also increased in the past five years, with women now making up 49% of candidates reporting experience—near gender parity and a 4.2 percentage point increase in the past five years.

Of candidates reporting experience in 2022, the proportion that were 18-22 years old dropped 4 percentage points compared to 2018. In previous years, candidates reporting experience were younger than ever overall.



# THE ARCHITECT POPULATION IS MORE DIVERSE THAN EVER!



#### OF NEW ARCHITECTS:

43%

**ARE WOMEN** 

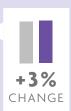


+5% CHANGE

10%

ARE HISPANIC

OR LATINO





**15%** ARE ASIAN



+4% CHANGE

3%

ARE BLACK OR

AFRICAN AMERICAN

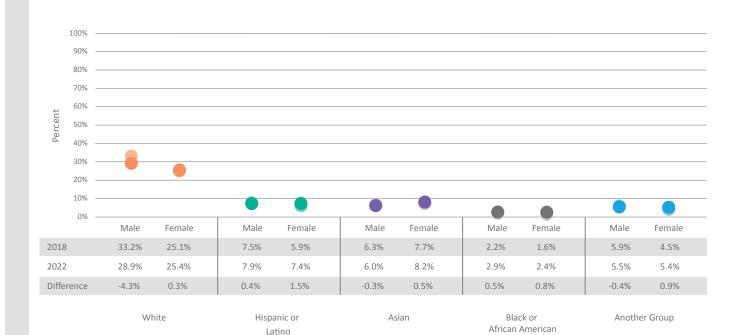




### Larger Proportion of Women of Color Reporting Experience

White men made up 29% of candidates reporting experience in 2022, a 4 percentage point decrease compared to 2018. White women made up another 25% (roughly the same as in 2018).

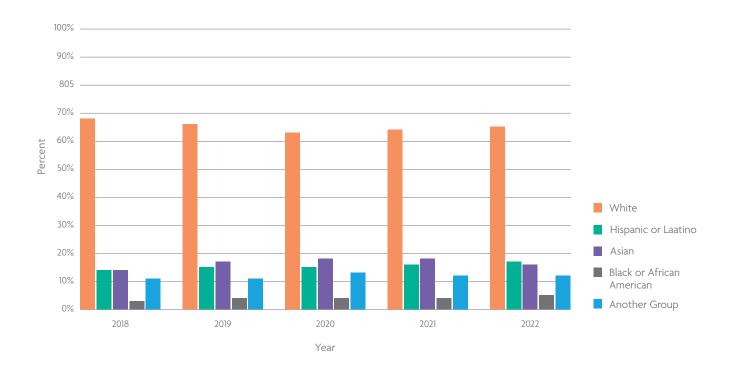
Hispanic or Latina women saw the greatest increase compared to 2018, now making up 7% of candidates reporting experience—a 2 percentage point increase. Black or African American men and women make up 3% and 2% of candidates reporting experience, respectively, a slight increase for both groups.



# Majority of Candidates Finishing the AXP Identified as White

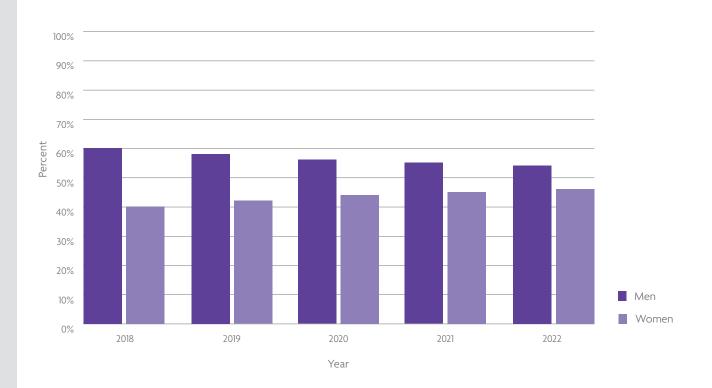
White individuals made up 54% of candidates reporting experience in 2022, but 65% of candidates completing the AXP (down 3 percentage points from 2018).

Hispanic or Latino candidates were the next most represented among candidates who were AXP complete at 17%, with Asian candidates a close third at 16%. Black or African American candidates continue to be underrepresented in the candidate population, only making up 5% of individuals completing the AXP in 2022—a 2 percentage point increase compared to 2018.



# Gender Representation in AXP Completions Improves

In 2022, women made up 46% of candidates who completed the AXP. This is a 6 percentage point increase since 2018, indicating that the candidate pool is nearing gender equity.



# Diversity Continues to Increase for Candidates Taking the ARE

In 2022, white candidates made up 60% of candidates taking the exam, 4 percentage points fewer in 2018. Hispanic or Latino candidates made up 17%, Asian candidates made up 18%, and Black or African American candidates made up 6%— increases of 3, 3, and 1 percentage points, respectively.

Gender diversity among exam candidates has also increased, with women now making up 48% of candidates taking the exam (up 4 percentage points since 2018).

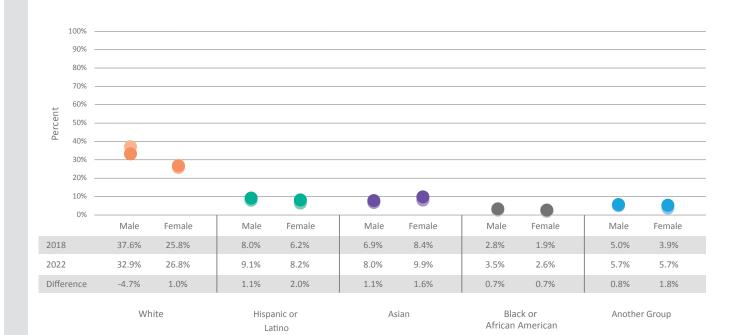
On average, candidates taking the exam in 2022 were slightly older than the pool of candidates seen in 2018, with 40-54-year-olds and candidates 55 or older making up .6 percentage points more of the candidate population.



### Larger Proportion of Latina Women Took the ARE in 2022

In 2022, white men made up a third of the pool of candidates taking the ARE, 5 percentage points fewer than in 2018. At 27%, white women were the next most represented group.

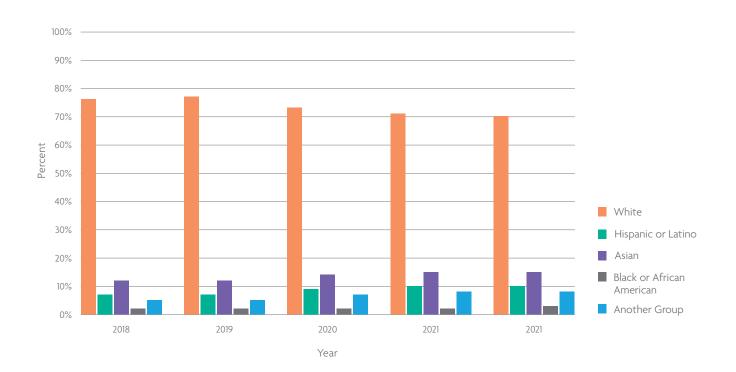
Asian and Latina women made up 10% and 8% of candidates taking the exam, increases of 2 percentage points each—the largest increases seen across all racial and ethnic groups over the past five years. At 3.5% and 2.6%, Black or African American men and women make up .7 percentage points more of the exam candidate population each compared to 2018.



### More Diversity Among Candidates Completing the ARE

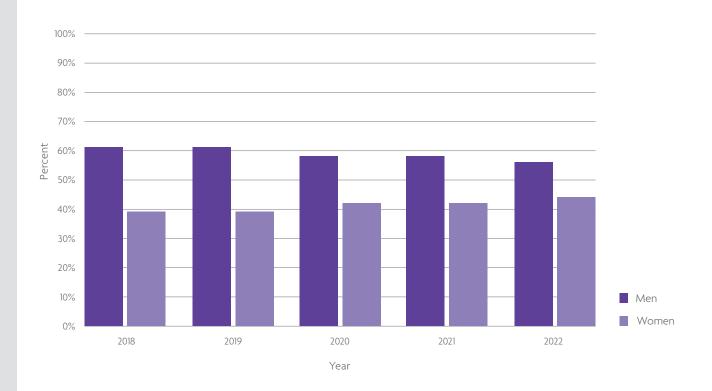
While white candidates made up 60% of candidates taking the ARE in 2022, they represented 70% of candidates passing the ARE—a decrease of 6 percentage points since 2018.

Meanwhile, the proportion of candidates passing the ARE who identify as Black or African American (3%), has only seen a 1 percentage point increase since 2018. Ten percent of candidates who passed the ARE identified as Hispanic or Latino and 15% identified as Asian, with both groups seeing a 3 percentage point increase in the past five years.



# Gender Representation in ARE Completions Increases

Women made up 44% of candidates completing the ARE in 2022, compared to 39% in 2018—a 5 percentage point increase. This is the largest proportion of women completing the exam on record.





### NEARLY 1/2

OF CANDIDATES
REPORTING EXPERIENCE
ARE WOMEN





#### PEOPLE OF COLOR MAKE UP

45%

of candidates reporting experience

53%

of candidates testing

**50%**of candidates
completing experience

36% of candidates completing the ARE

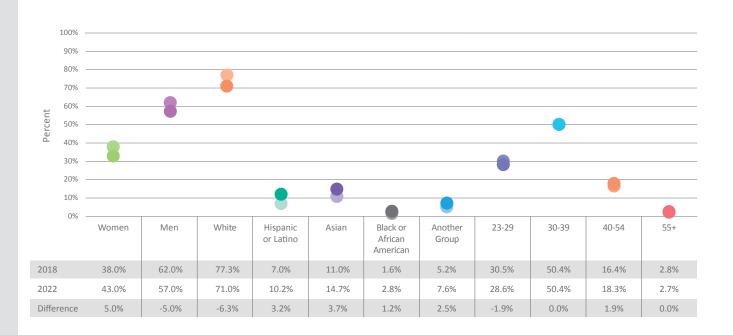
## Proportion of Asian and Hispanic or Latino Architects Increased

While white candidates made up 54% of candidates reporting experience and 60% of candidates taking the exam in 2022, they represented a significantly larger proportion of candidates who completed the path to licensure in 2022 (71%).

Asian candidates made up nearly 15% of individuals completing the path to licensure in 2022, a 4 percentage point increase compared to 2018. Hispanic or Latino candidates made up nearly 10% of new architects, and individuals who identify as some other race or ethnicity (such as Native American or Pacific Islander) made up 7.6%. Black or African American individuals continue to be the least represented in the population of new architects at 2.8%, a 1 percentage point increase compared to 2018.

The proportion of men in the new architect population has continued to be larger than that of women. However, it is nearing gender parity, with women now making up 43% of the architect population, a 5 percentage point increase compared to 2018.

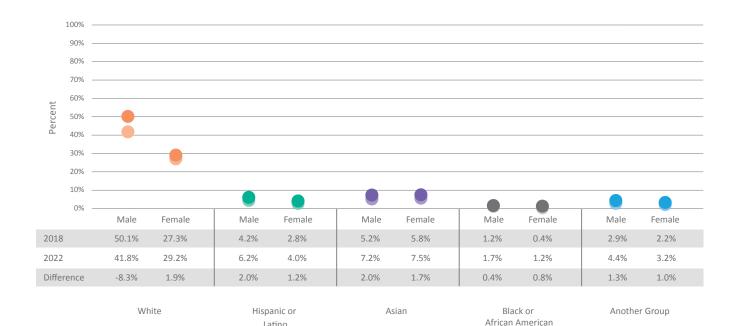
Half (50%) of new architects are between the ages of 30-39, with a further 29% between the ages of 23-29. Of the remaining new architects, 18% are aged 40-54, and 3% are 55 or older.



### Representation for Asian and Hispanic or Latino Architects Increases

White men made up 42% of the new architect population, a decrease of 8 percentage points since 2018. White women were the next most represented group at 29.2%, a 2 percentage point increase since 2018. Asian and Hispanic or Latino men have seen the most growth in the past five years, with both groups increasing by 2 percentage points.

Black or African American women continue to be the most underrepresented group at 1.2% of the new architect population, a .8% increase since 2018.



Latino

### Slight Shift Seen in Diversity of Architects

While the diversity of earlier career stages continues to grow, the makeup of the architect population is slower to shift. Approximately 83% of NCARB Certificate holders identified as white in 2022, a 2 percentage point decrease since 2018.

Asians made up 6.6% of all NCARB Certificate holders in 2022. Hispanic or Latino architects made up 4.9%, and Black or African Americans made up 1.8%— showing minimal change since 2018.

Female architects now make up nearly a quarter of the Certificate holder population, a 2.6 percentage point increase compared to 2018.

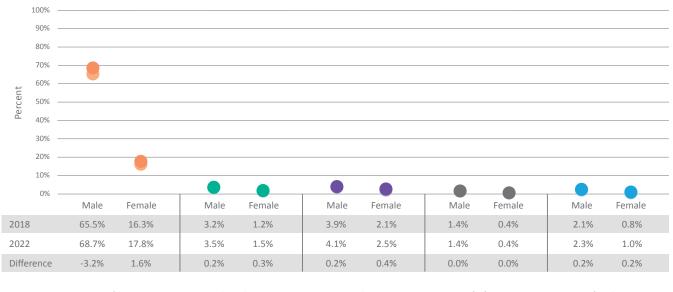
NCARB has seen a slight decrease in younger Certificate holders over the past five years. NCARB Certificate holders in the 23-29 age group saw a decrease by 1 percentage point since 2018, now 1.2%. Those in the 30-39 age group saw a decrease of 1.1 percentage points, with the 40-54 age group seeing no change at all. Of all age groups, individuals 55 and over saw the most growth with a 2 percentage point increase since 2018, now comprising of 45% of the Certificate holder population.



# White Men Made Up Two-Thirds of U.S. Architects in 2022

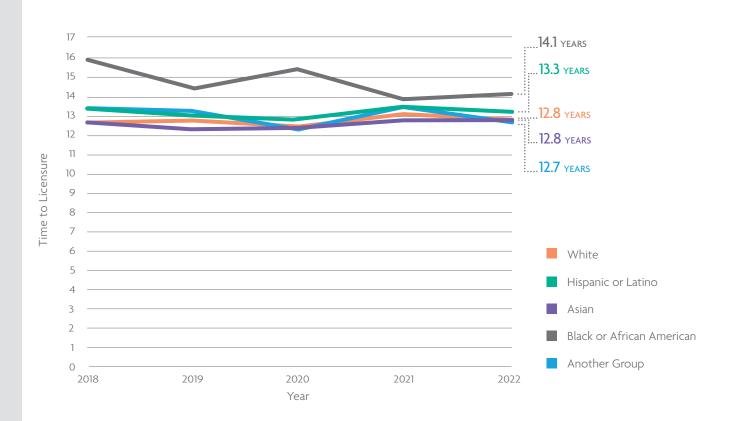
White men made up 66% of NCARB Certificate holders in 2022, a decrease of 3 percentage points compared to 2018. White women are the next most represented group at 18%, and Asian men are a distant third at 4%.

At .4% of NCARB Certificate holders, Black or African American women continue to be the least represented demographic group in the architect population—with no increase since 2018.



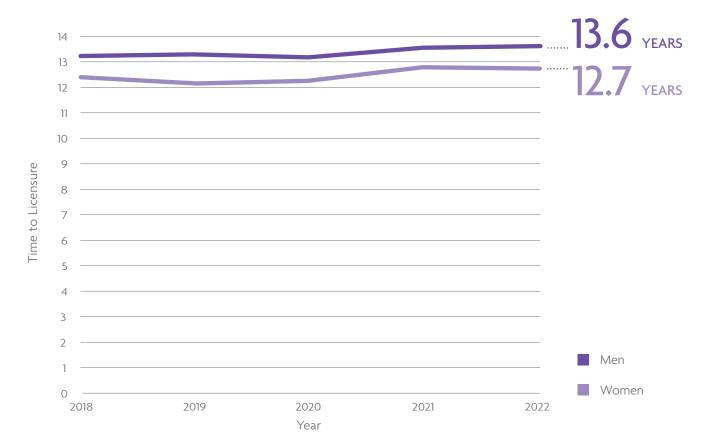
# Asian and White Candidates Complete Their Licensure Process Faster

On average, Asian and white candidates who completed the path to licensure in 2022 took 12.8 years to do so. Hispanic or Latino candidates took an average of 13.3 years, approximately six months longer. On average, Black or African American candidates took 14.1 years to complete the path to licensure in 2022, close to a year and five months longer than their white and Asian peers.



### Women Continue to Complete the Licensure Process Faster Than Men

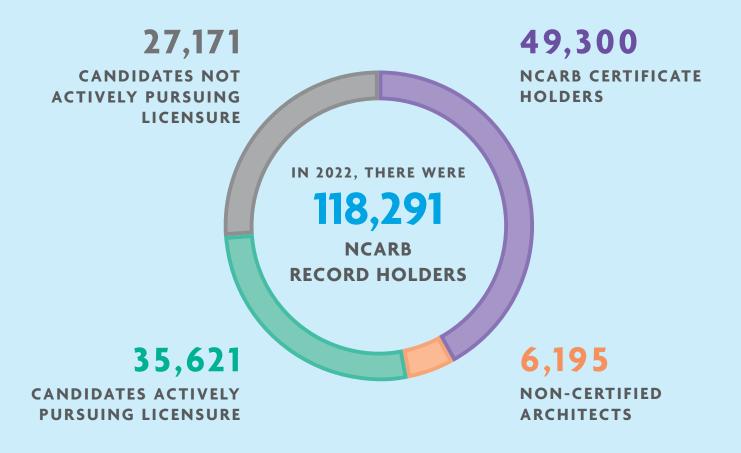
The average woman completing the licensure process in 2022 took 12.7 years—11 months faster than the average man who completed the licensure process in 2022. Over the past five years, women have consistently earned their licenses in less time than their male peers.

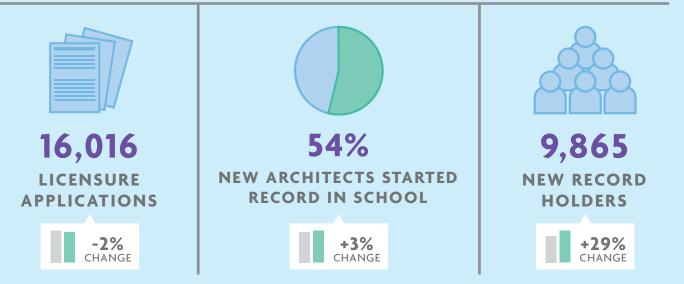


### Inside NCARB

With 55 architectural licensing boards in the United States, each with its own rules and requirements, NCARB works to provide board support, encourage program alignment, and assist individuals seeking licensure.

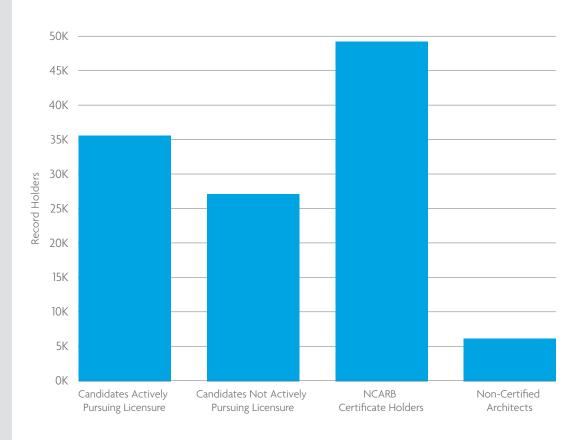
NCARB's community continued growing in 2022, with over 118,000 Record holders, more than 350 volunteers, and over 400 licensing board members. Our volunteer community—made up of architects, licensure candidates, educators, and experts from other professions—worked together across 23 committees continues to develop resources for licensing boards, explore challenges in the field architecture, and more.





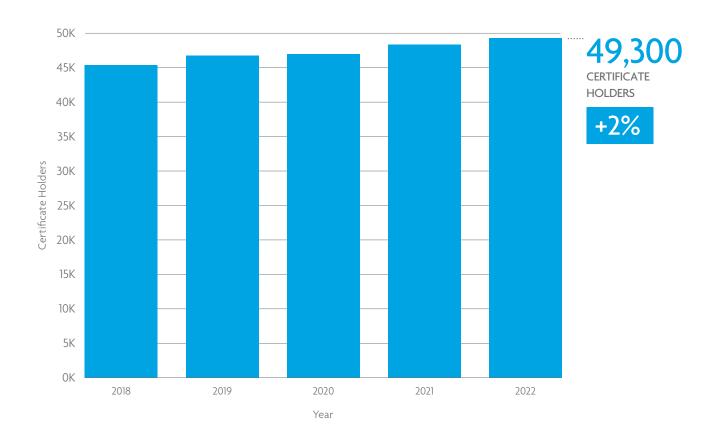
# NCARB's Record Holder Community Continues to Grow

Over 118,000 individuals held an active NCARB Record in 2022, a 3% increase compared to 2021. The majority of this growth was seen in the population of candidates actively pursuing licensure and the number of NCARB Certificate holders.



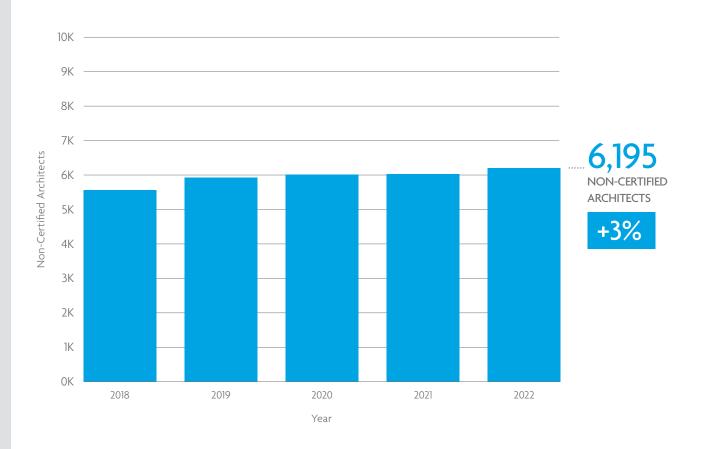
### Number of Certificate Holders Continues to Grow

In 2022, over 49,000 architects held an active NCARB Certificate showing a 2% increase from 2021 and continuing to break record highs since. The number of Certificate holders has been steadily increasing over the past five years, with a slight lull in 2020 due to the pandemic.



# Number of Non-Certified Architects Increases

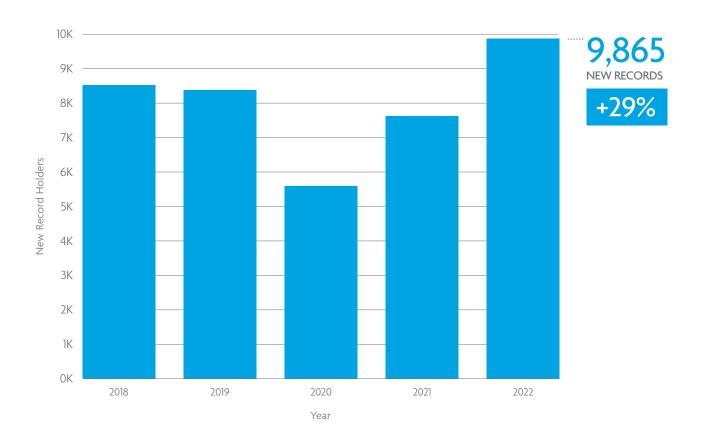
The number of non-certified architects with an NCARB Record increased by 3% in 2022, to nearly 6,200 architects. This number has grown steadily since NCARB introduced updated pathways to pursue NCARB certification for architects who don't hold a degree from a NAAB-accredited program or who are licensed internationally.



# Number of New Record Holders at All-Time High

Over 9,800 candidates opened an NCARB Record in 2022—over 2,000 more than in 2021 (an increase of 29%) and a new high. This continued growth signals a strong recovery from the dip caused by COVID-19's onset in 2020.

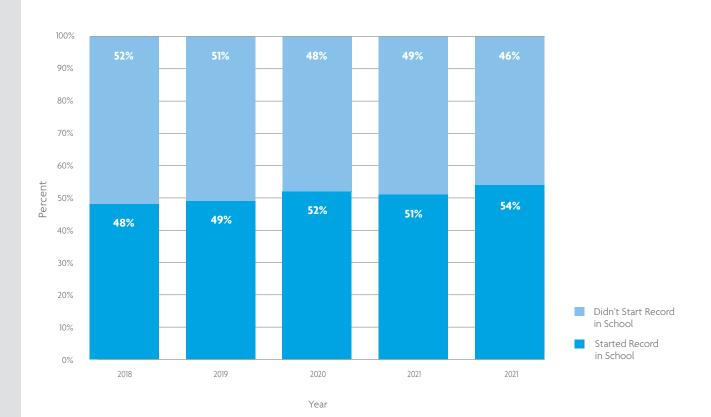
NCARB considers creating an NCARB Record the first step on the path to licensure, as candidates need a Record to verify their education, document professional experience, and take the licensing exam.



# More Architects Starting NCARB Record While In School

The proportion of new architects who started their NCARB Record in school (54%) was at a record high in 2022, and has been gradually increasing since 2018. The remaining 46% waited until after earning their degree to start an NCARB Record, a 6 percentage point decrease from 2018.

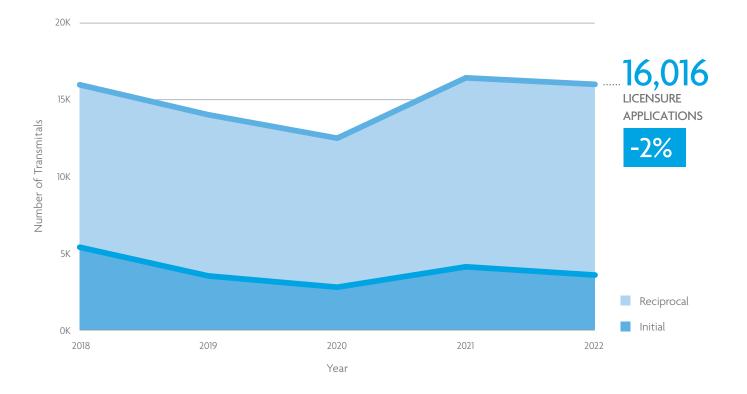
Because NCARB considers starting a Record the first step to earning an architecture license, this trend could signal that more candidates are choosing to start the path to licensure earlier in life.



### Number of Licensure Applications Slightly

When candidates apply for an initial license or architects apply for a reciprocal (out-of-state) license, NCARB transmits their Records to the jurisdiction's licensing board in support of their application.

The total number of transmittals fell 2%, from 16,336 in 2021 to 16,016 in 2022. Of the approximately 16,000 transmittals, more than 12,400 were in support of reciprocal licensure applications—remaining at an all-time high. While the number of initial licensure applications is still lower than those seen prior to the pandemic, the rise in the number of applications for reciprocal licensure indicates that the demand for professional mobility is stronger than ever.



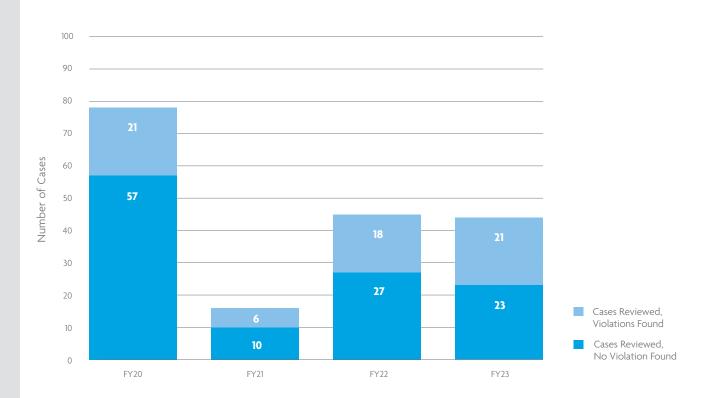
### Disciplinary Data

NCARB's Professional Conduct Committee is responsible for overseeing NCARB's policies and practices regarding the professional conduct of NCARB's Record holders and customers. Each year, the committee reviews any cases where an individual may have violated NCARB's professional conduct standards.

Typically, these cases involve reviewing findings from or actions taken by a jurisdictional licensing board, but they can also involve the violation of NCARB's ARE Candidate Agreement.

In FY23 (July 2022 – June 2023), NCARB's Professional Conduct Committee reviewed 44 cases. In 21 cases, the committee determined that the architect or licensure candidate had violated NCARB's professional conduct standards.

Note: The drop in cases in FY21 was due to a temporary pause on case review while the committee updated its policies and procedures.



SINCE NCARB REFRESHED ITS ADDITIONAL PATHS TO CERTIFICATION IN 2016,



WITHOUT A COLLEGE DEGREE

1,833 WITH A DEGREE FROM

WITH A DEGREE FROM A NON-ACCREDITED PROGRAM

64
OTHER EDUCATIONAL
BACKGROUND



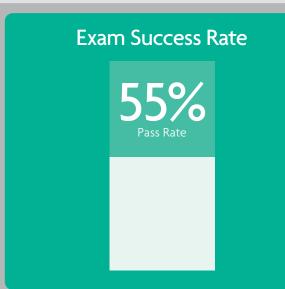
292

INTERNATIONAL ARCHITECTS
HAVE GOTTEN NCARB CERTIFIED
SINCE 2016

### Jurisdictions

The following section includes baseline comparisons for NCARB's 55 Member Boards, which include all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Each page includes a 2022 snapshot of the jurisdiction's experience program completion rate, examination success rate, number of licenses, and completion time for the experience program and examination.







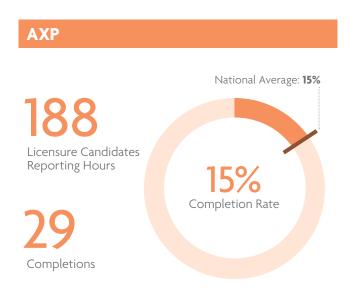


### Jurisdictions

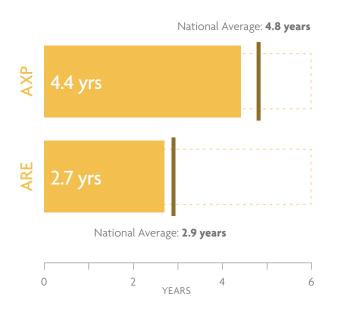
Alabama102	Illinois	116
Alaska103	Indiana	117
Arizona104	lowa	118
Arkansas105	Kansas	119
California106	Kentucky	120
Colorado 107	Louisiana	12
Connecticut108	Maine	122
Delaware109	Maryland	123
District of Columbia110	Massachusetts	124
Florida111	Michigan	12!
Georgia112	Minnesota	126
Guam113	Mississippi	127
Hawaii114	Missouri	128
Idaho115	Montana	129

Nebraska1	30	Rhode Island	144
Nevada	131	South Carolina	.145
New Hampshire1	32	South Dakota	146
New Jersey1	33	Tennessee	.147
New Mexico	34	Texas	148
New York1	35	U.S. Virgin Islands	149
North Carolina	36	Utah	150
North Dakota1	37	Vermont	151
Northern Mariana Islands	38	Virginia	.152
Ohio	39	Washington	.153
Oklahoma14	40	West Virginia	.154
Oregon1	141	Wisconsin	.155
Pennsylvania1	42	Wyoming	156
Puerto Rico1	43		

### Alabama



#### **COMPLETION TIMELINE**



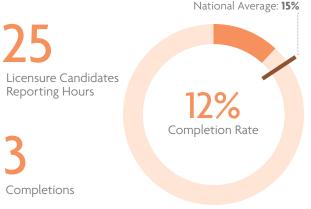




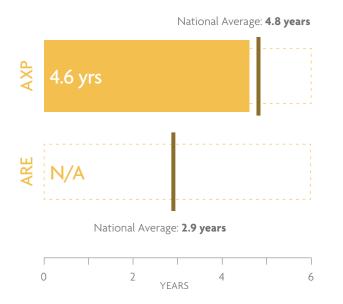


### Alaska

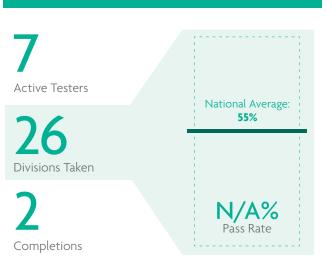




#### **COMPLETION TIMELINE**

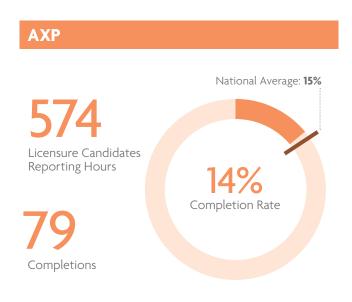


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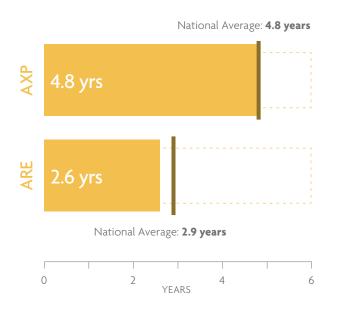


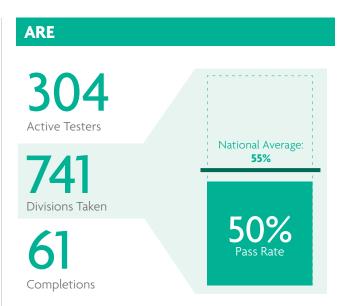


### Arizona



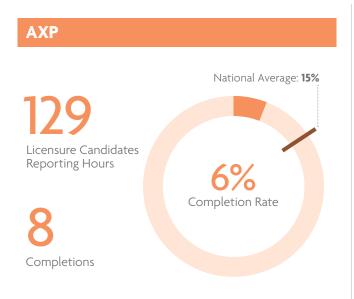
### COMPLETION TIMELINE



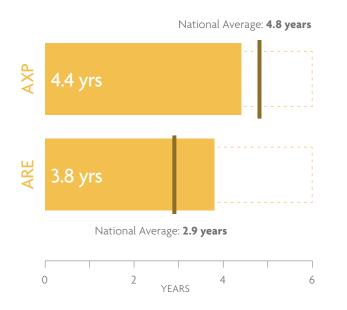




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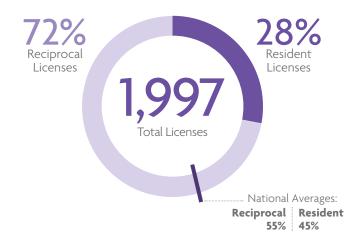


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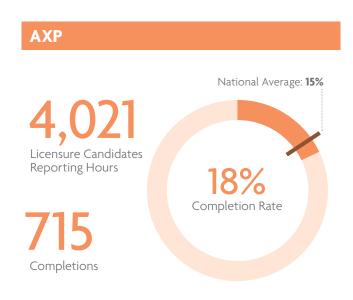


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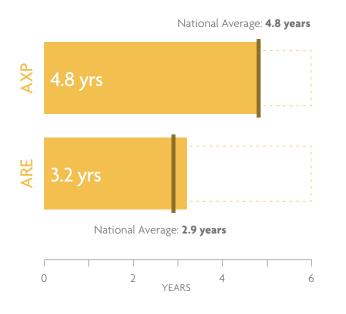


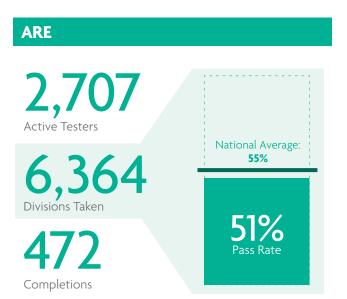


### California



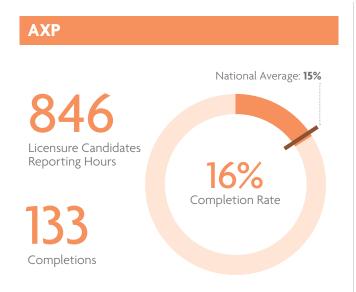
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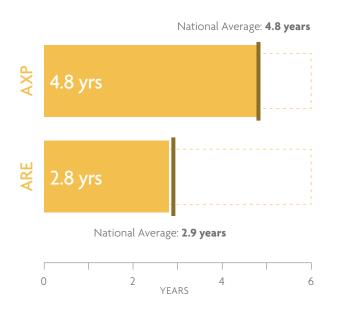




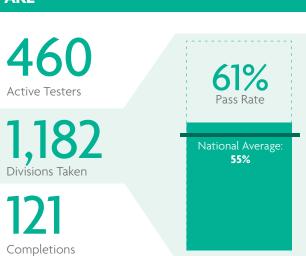
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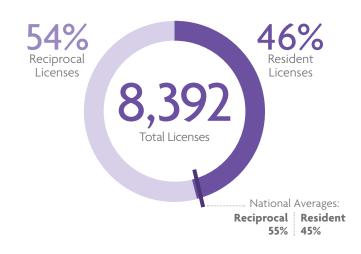


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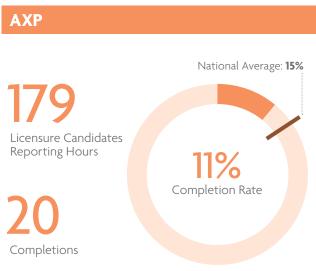


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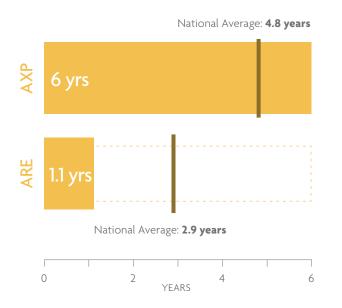


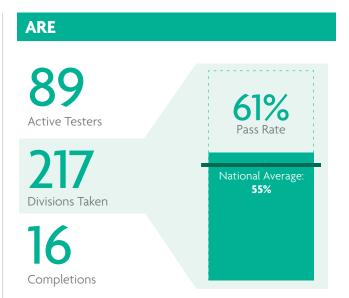


## Connecticut



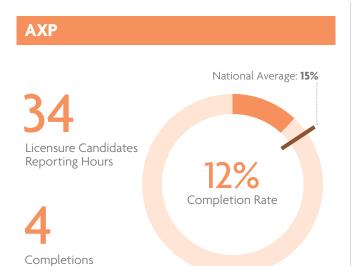
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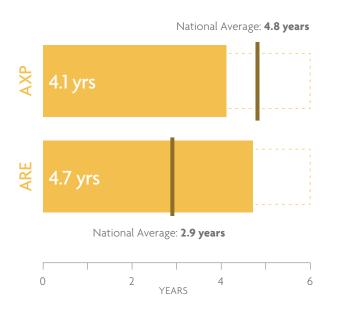




## Delaware



#### **COMPLETION TIMELINE**

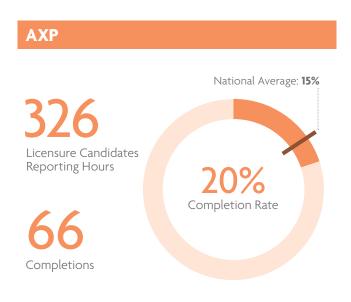


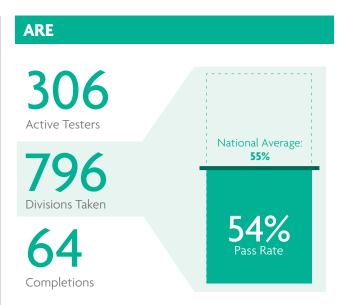
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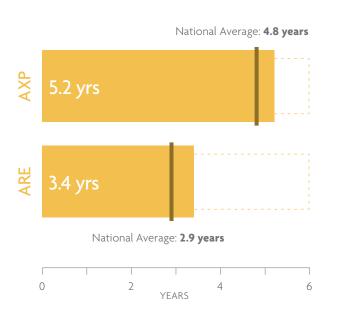


## District of Columbia



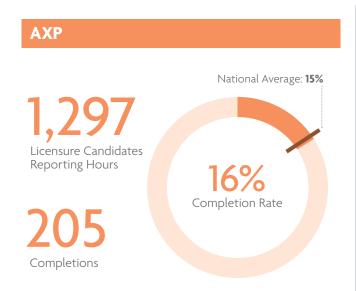


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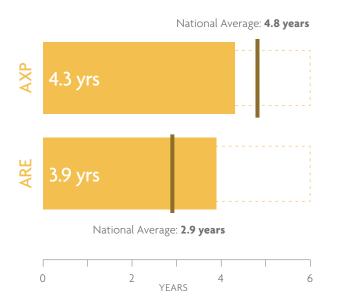




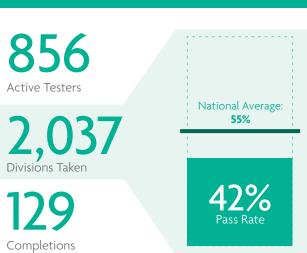
## Florida



#### **COMPLETION TIMELINE**

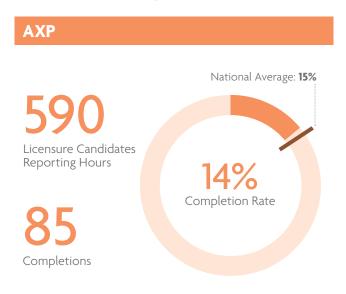


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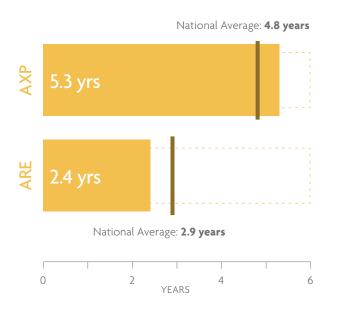


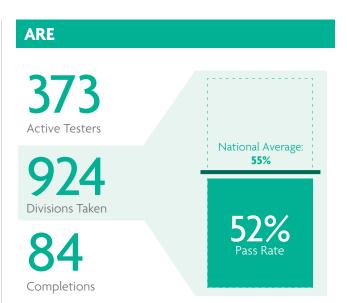


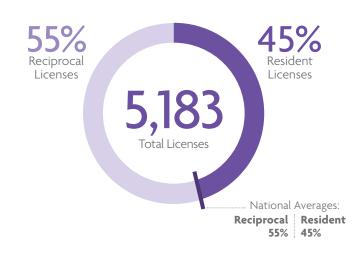
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#### **COMPLETION TIMELINE**





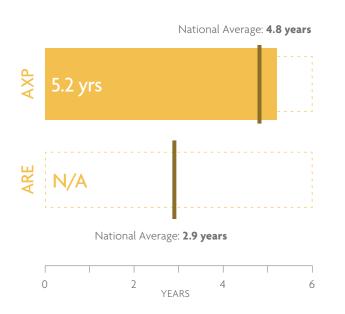


## Guam

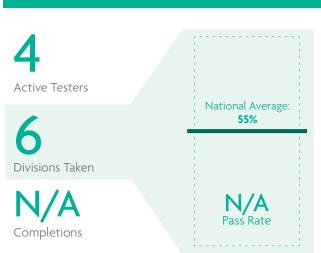




Completions

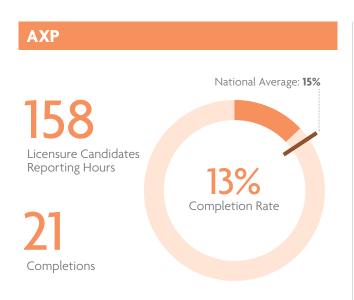


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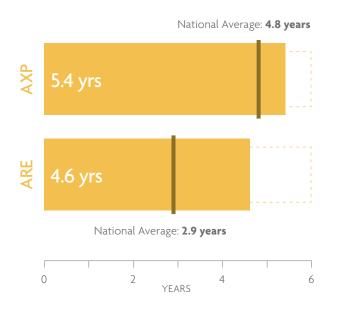




## Hawaii



#### **COMPLETION TIMELINE**







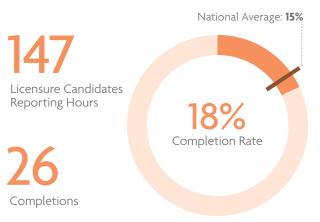
#### **LICENSURE**

Completions

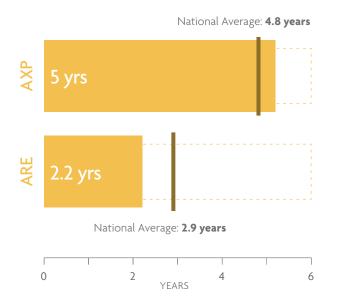


## Idaho

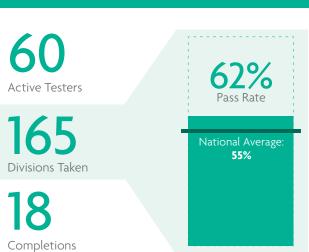




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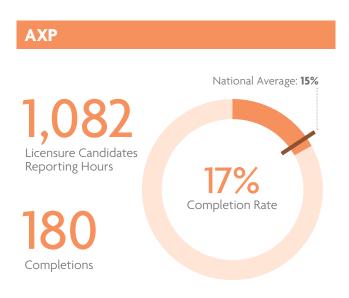


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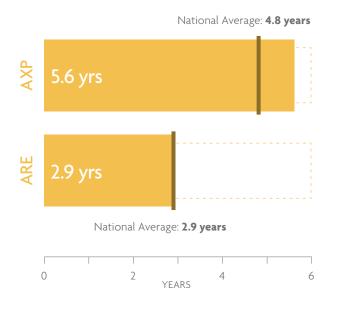


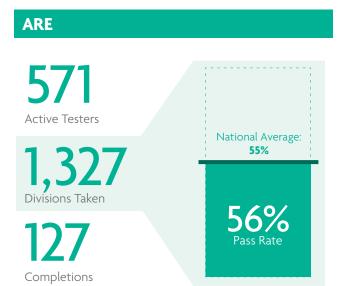


## Illinois



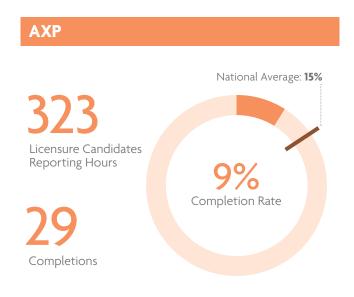
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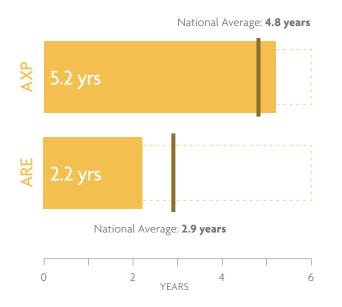




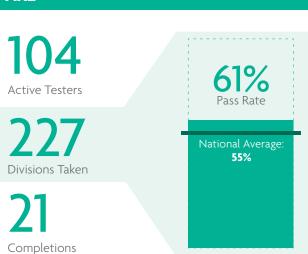
## Indiana



#### **COMPLETION TIMELINE**

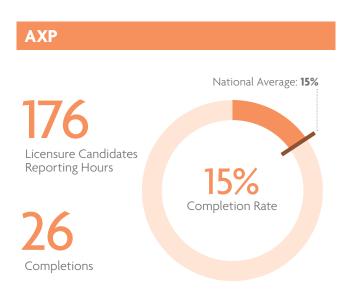


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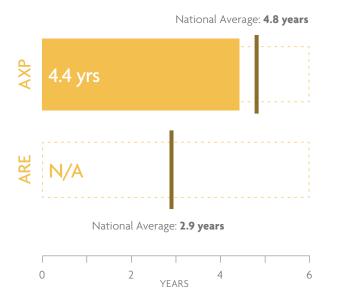




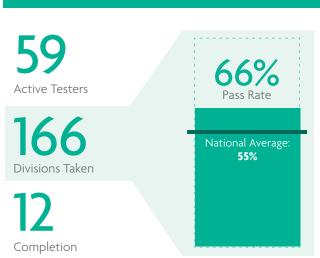
## lowa



#### **COMPLETION TIMELINE**

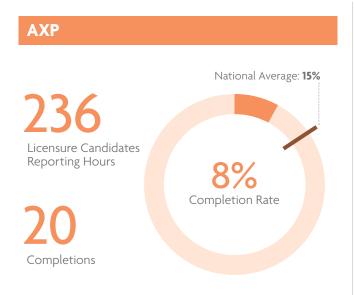




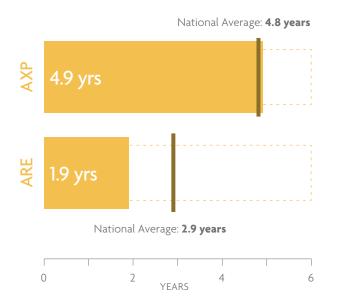




## Kansas



#### **COMPLETION TIMELINE**

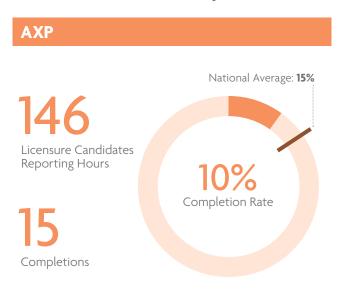


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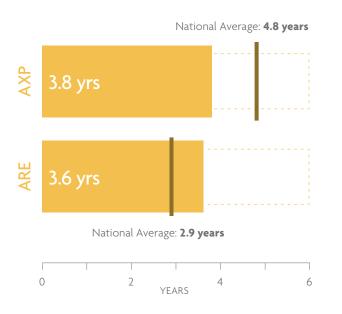




# Kentucky



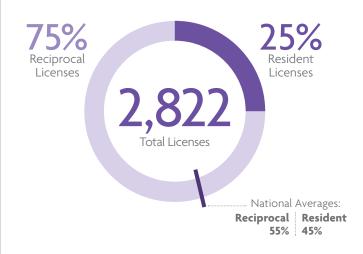
#### **COMPLETION TIMELINE**



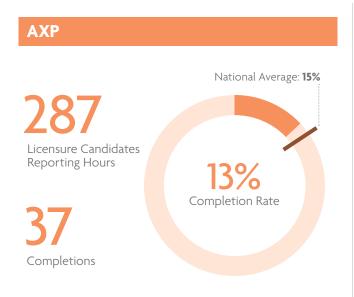


#### **LICENSURE**

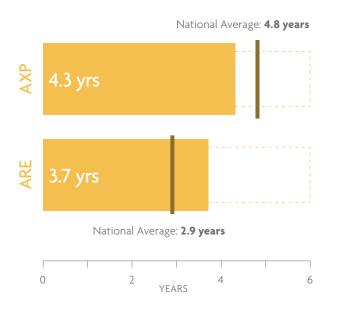
Completions



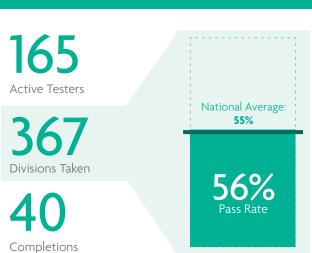
## Louisiana



#### **COMPLETION TIMELINE**

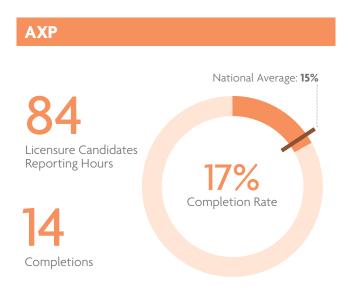


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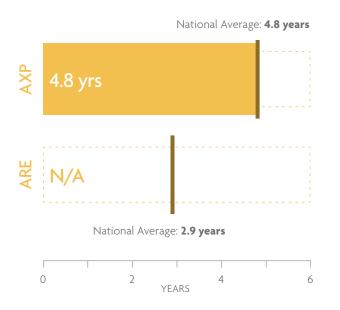


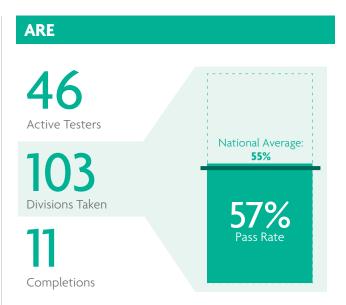


## Maine



#### **COMPLETION TIMELINE**



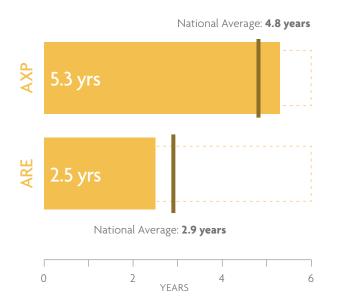




# Maryland



#### **COMPLETION TIMELINE**

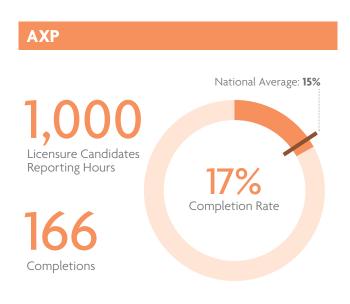


#### ARE



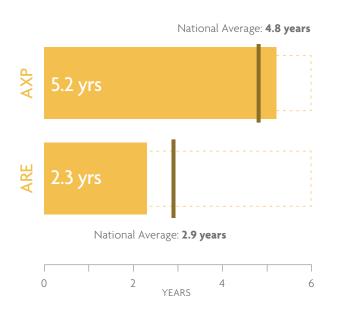


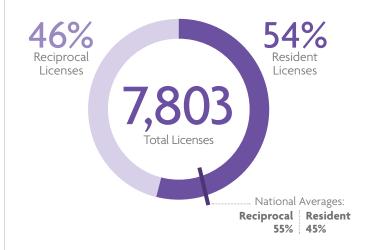
## Massachusetts



# ARE 647 Active Testers 1,649 Divisions Taken National Average: 55% National Average: 55%

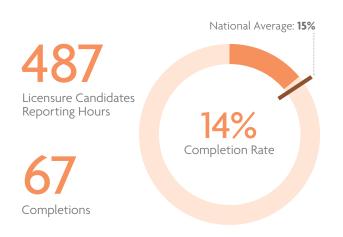
#### **COMPLETION TIMELINE**



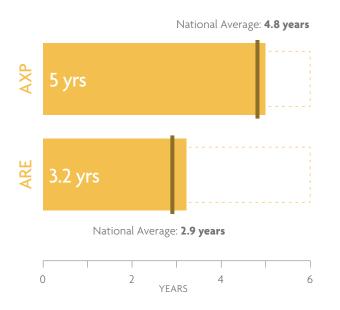


# Michigan

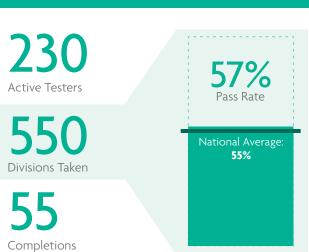




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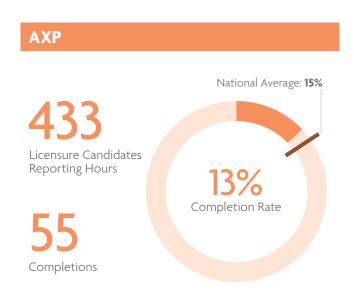


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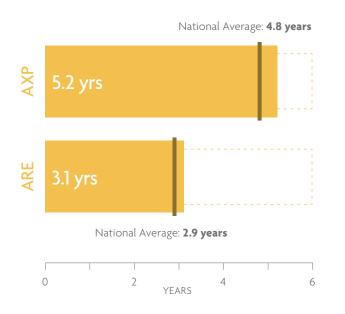


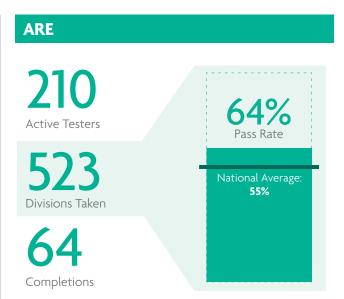


## Minnesota



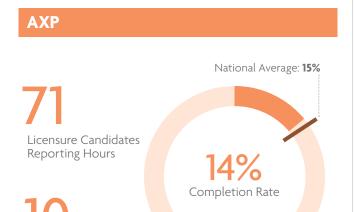
#### COMPLETION TIMELINE





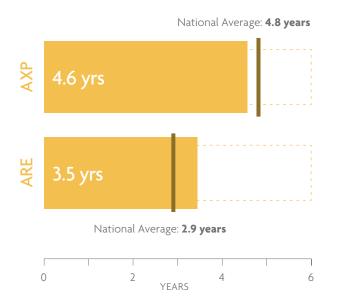


# Mississippi

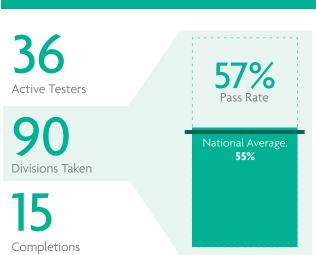


#### **COMPLETION TIMELINE**

Completions

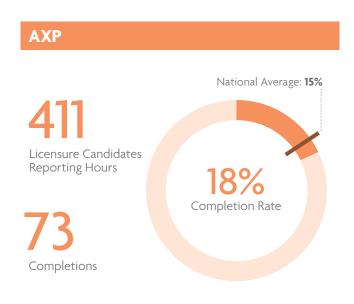


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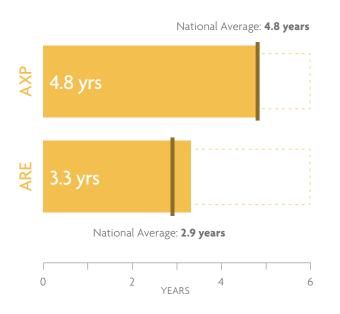


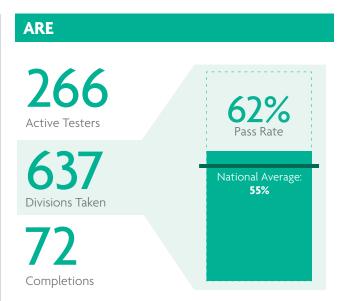


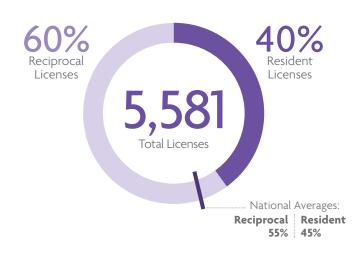
## Missouri



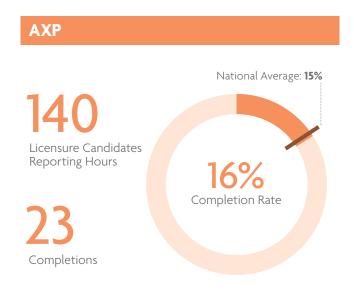
#### **COMPLETION TIMELINE**



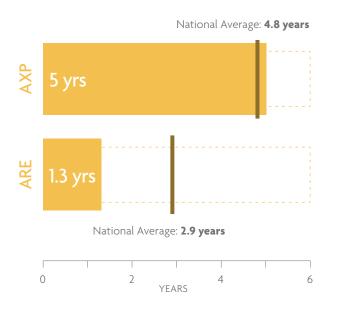




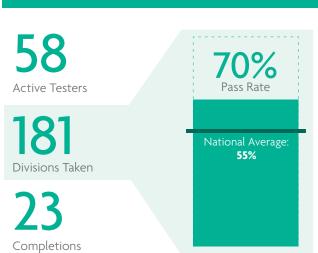
## Montana



#### **COMPLETION TIMELINE**

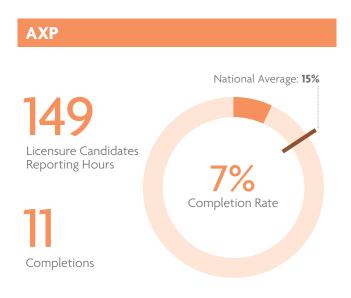


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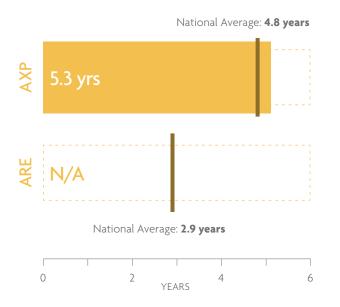


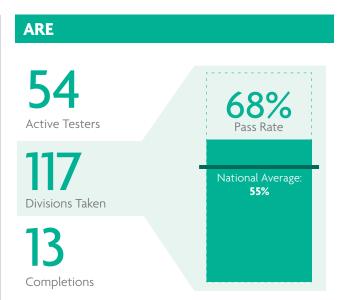


## Nebraska



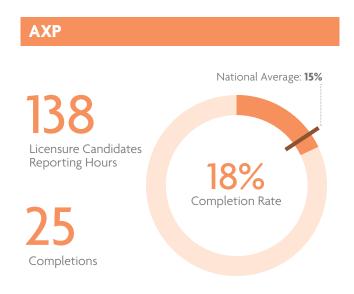
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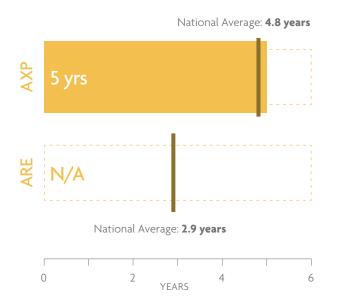




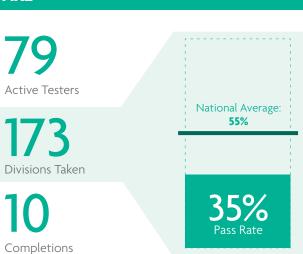
## Nevada



#### COMPLETION TIMELINE

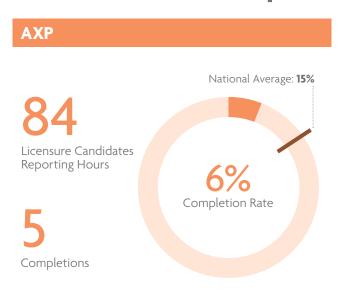


#### ARE



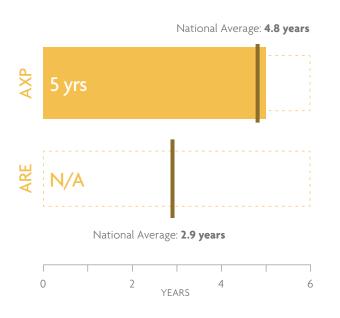


# New Hampshire



# Active Testers 61% Pass Rate National Average: 55% Completions

#### **COMPLETION TIMELINE**

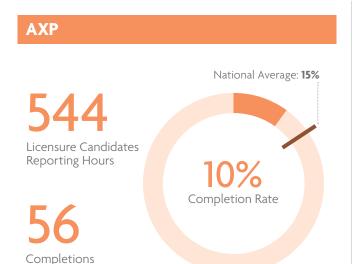


#### **LICENSURE**

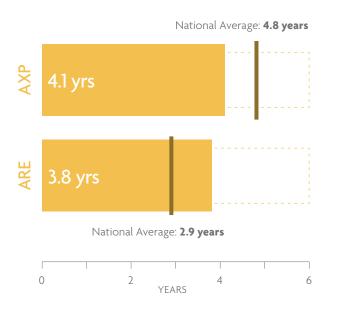
**ARE** 



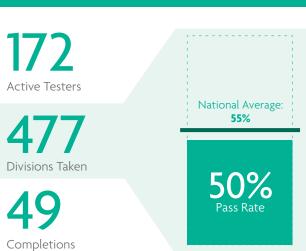
## New Jersey



#### **COMPLETION TIMELINE**

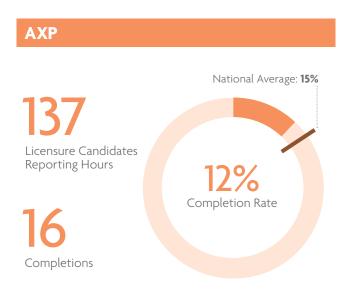


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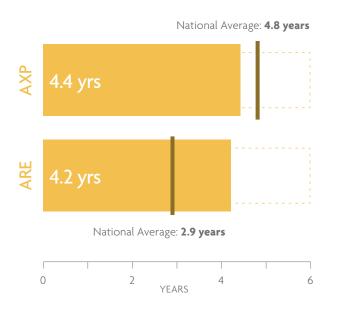


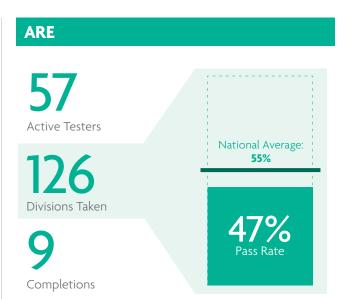


## New Mexico



#### COMPLETION TIMELINE

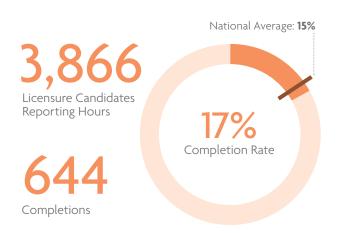




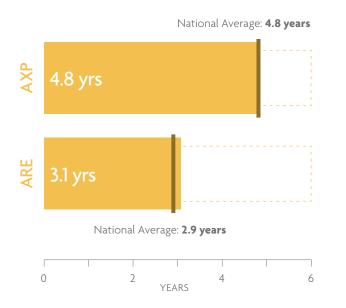


## New York

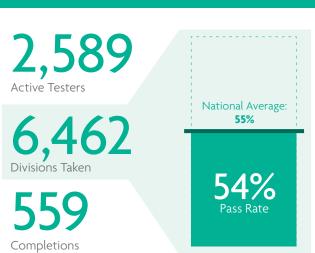




#### **COMPLETION TIMELINE**

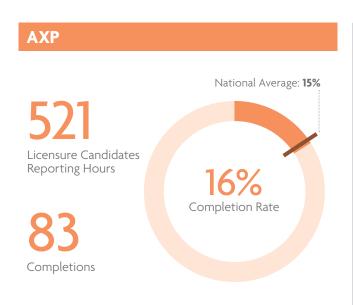


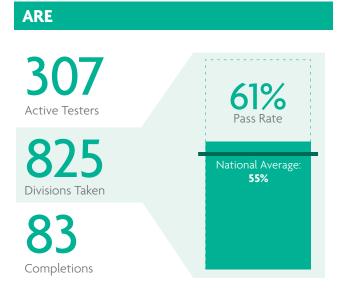
#### ARE



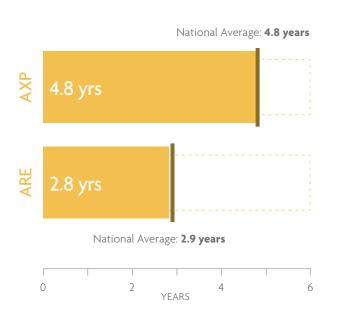


## North Carolina



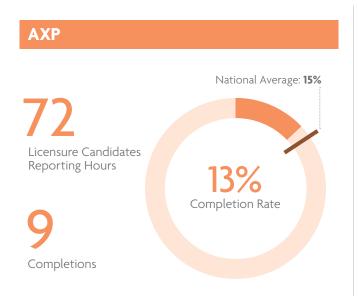


#### **COMPLETION TIMELINE**

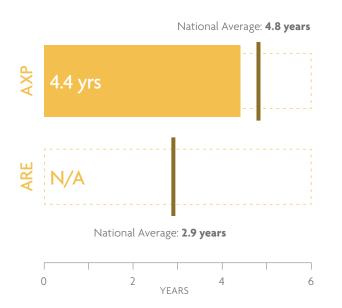




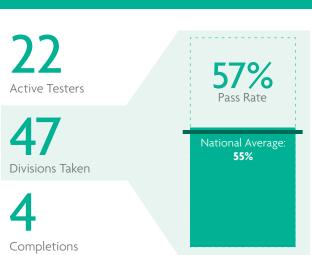
## North Dakota

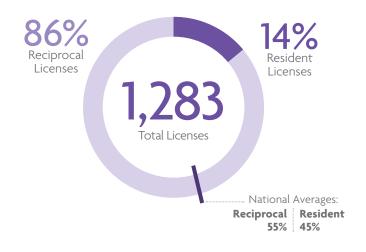


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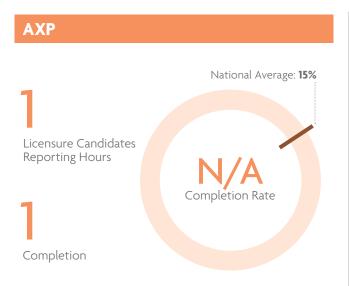


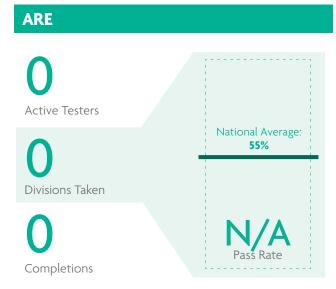
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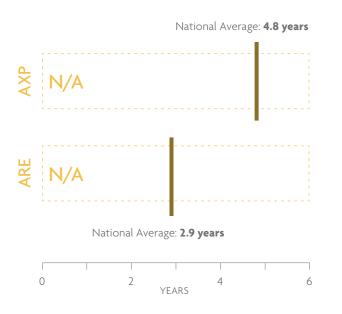


## Northern Mariana Islands



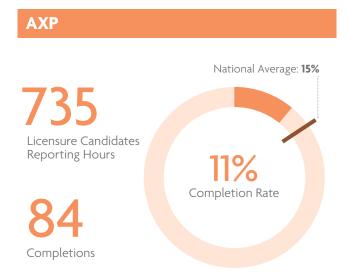


#### **COMPLETION TIMELINE**

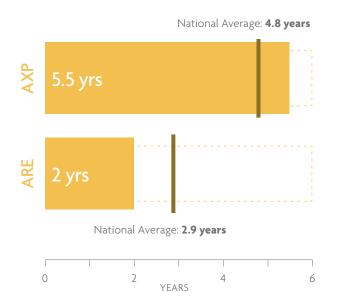




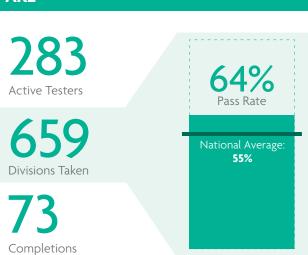
## Ohio

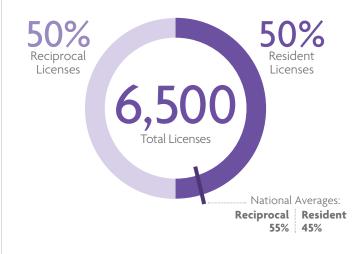


#### **COMPLETION TIMELINE**

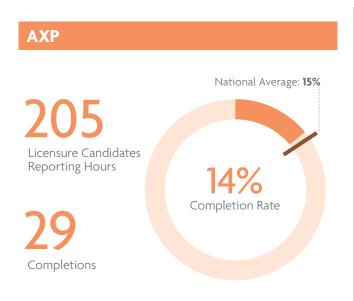


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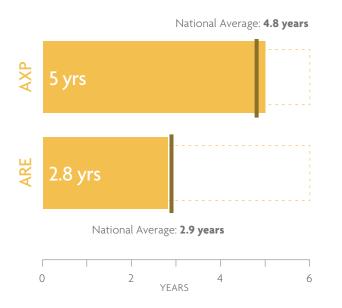


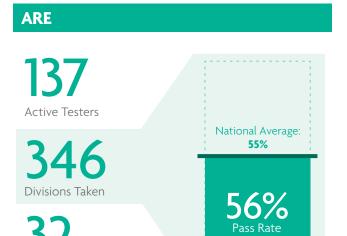


## Oklahoma



#### **COMPLETION TIMELINE**





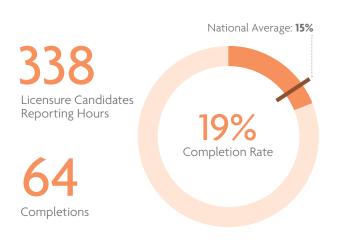
#### **LICENSURE**

Completions

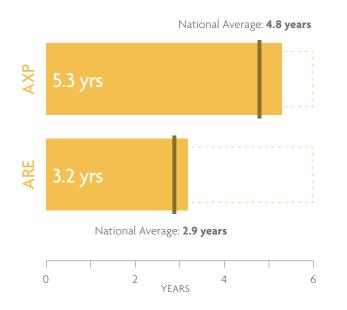


# Oregon





#### **COMPLETION TIMELINE**

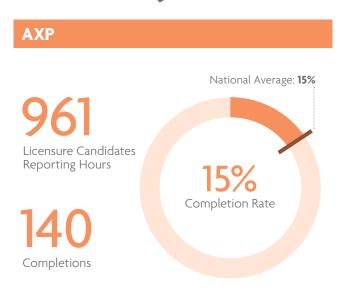


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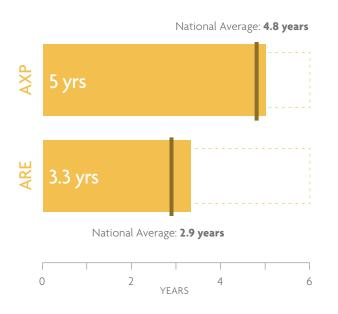


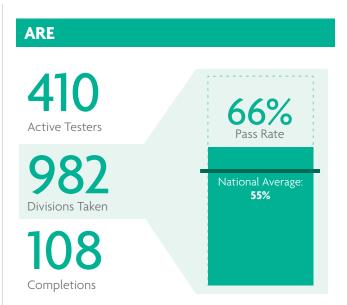


# Pennsylvania



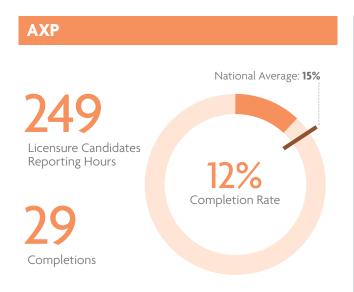
#### **COMPLETION TIMELINE**



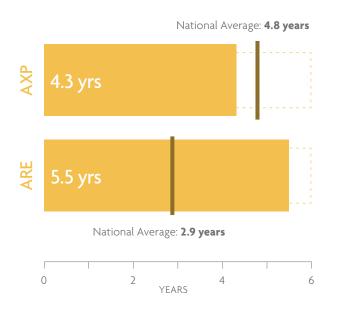




## Puerto Rico



#### COMPLETION TIMELINE



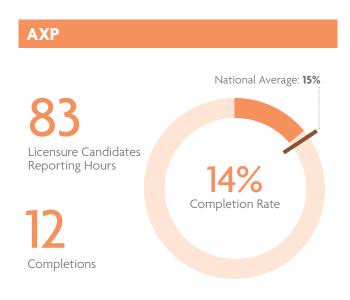


#### **LICENSURE**

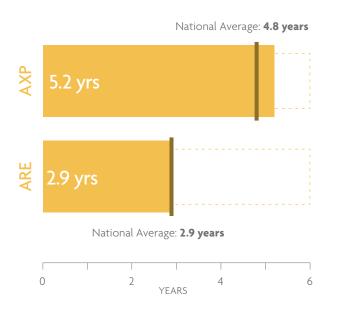
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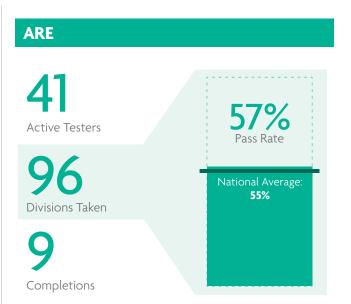


# Rhode Island



#### **COMPLETION TIMELINE**



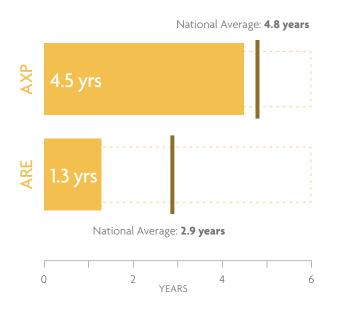




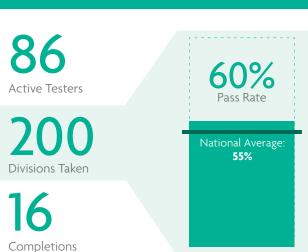
## South Carolina



#### COMPLETION TIMELINE

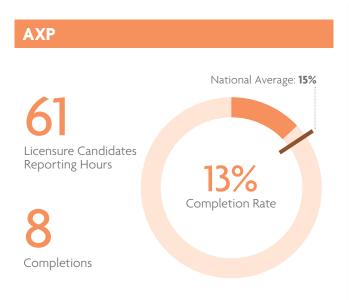


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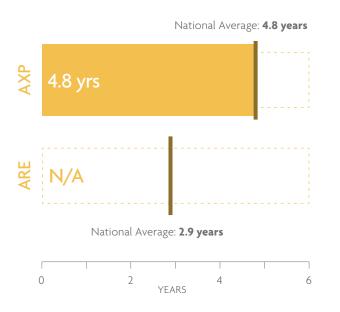


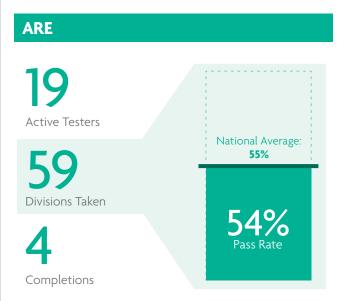


# South Dakota



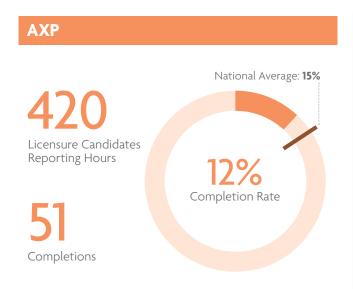
#### **COMPLETION TIMELINE**



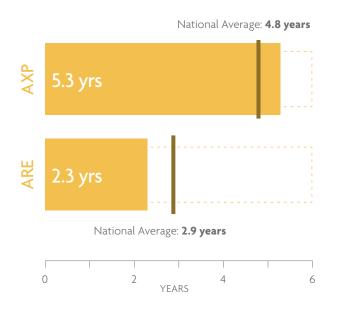




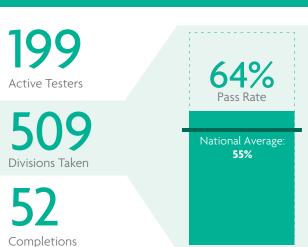
## Tennessee



#### **COMPLETION TIMELINE**

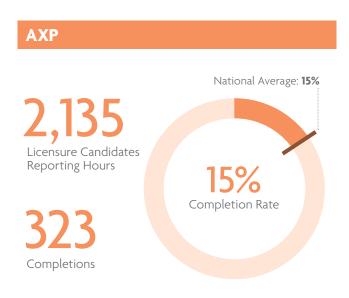


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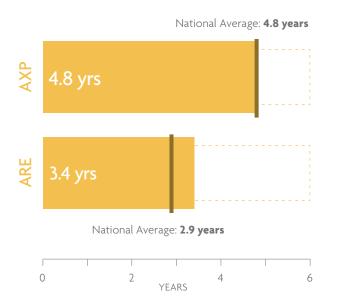




## Texas



#### **COMPLETION TIMELINE**





#### **LICENSURE**

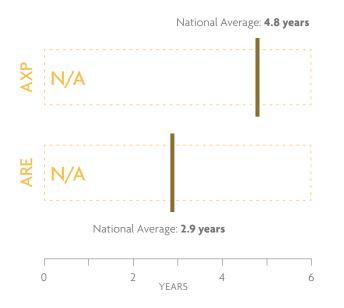
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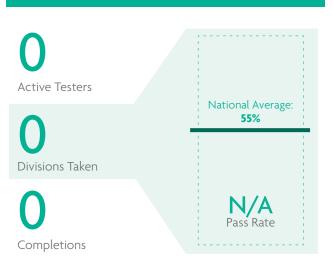
# U.S. Virgin Islands



#### **COMPLETION TIMELINE**

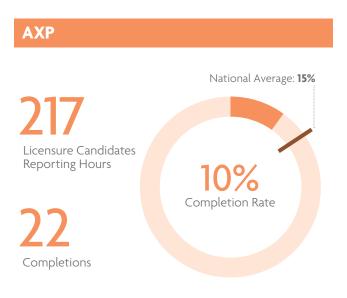


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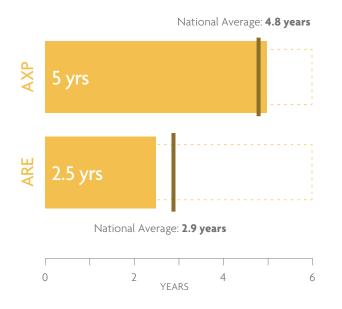


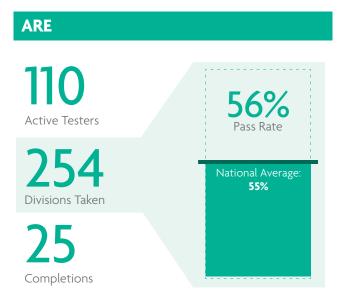


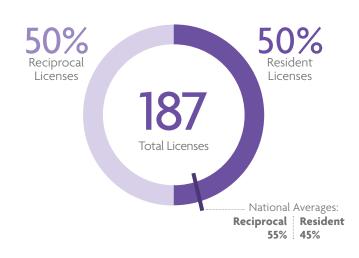
## Utah



#### **COMPLETION TIMELINE**

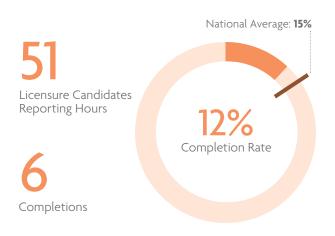




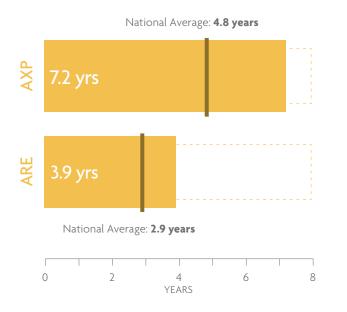


## Vermont

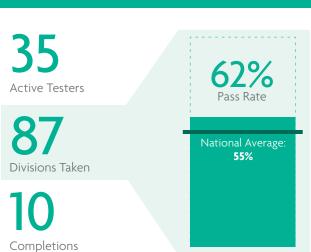




#### **COMPLETION TIMELINE**

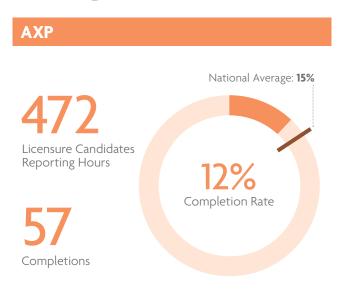


#### ARE

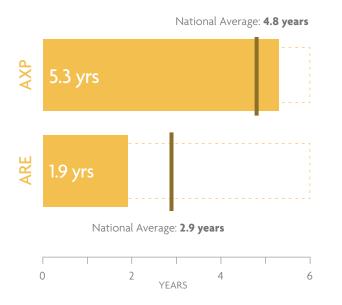


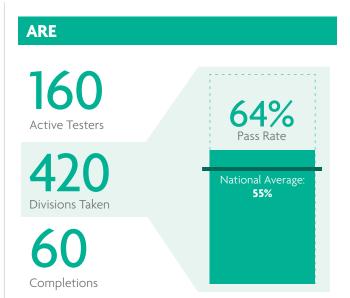


# Virginia



#### **COMPLETION TIMELINE**

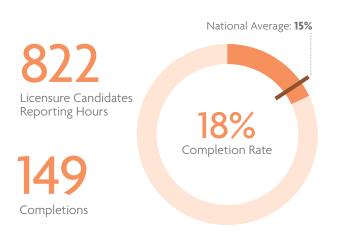




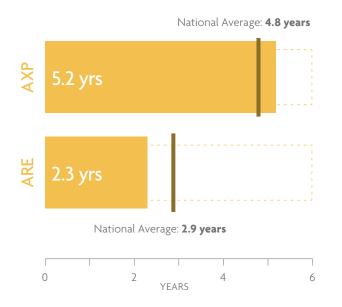


# Washington



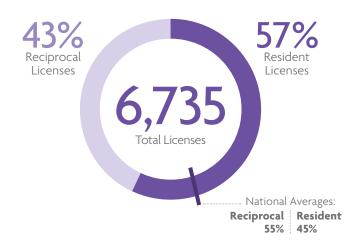


#### **COMPLETION TIMELINE**

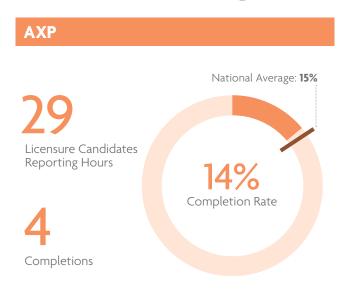


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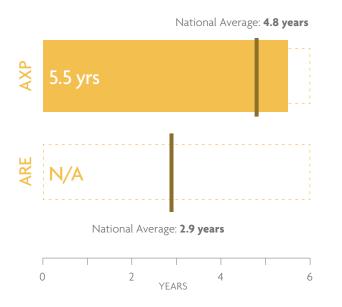




# West Virginia



#### **COMPLETION TIMELINE**





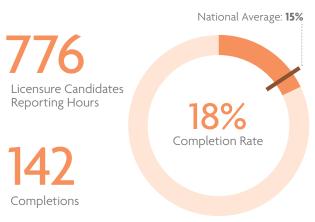
#### **LICENSURE**

Completions

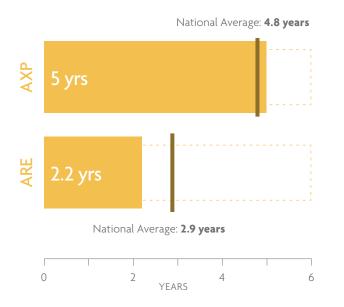


## Wisconsin

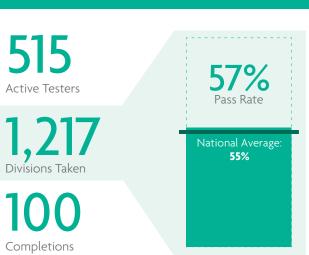




#### COMPLETION TIMELINE

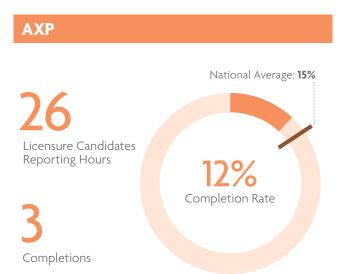


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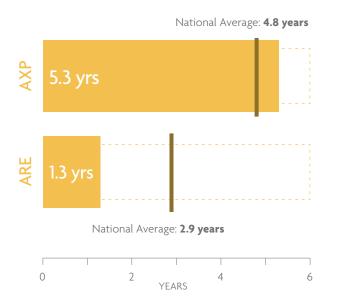




# Wyoming



#### **COMPLETION TIMELINE**





3 Completions

Divisions Taken



## About This Report

This report is based on data collected by the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards (NCARB) during the 2022 calendar year, providing insight into the path to licensure.

NCARB maintains a database of licensure candidates and Certificate holders. This allows us to track the progression of candidates as they move through the AXP, ARE, and beyond.

Some of the data is self-reported, including age, race and ethnicity, gender, and geographic location. Other data is triggered by candidate actions such as starting the AXP or completing the ARE. NCARB also collects data from the U.S. jurisdictional licensing boards to provide a total count of architects.

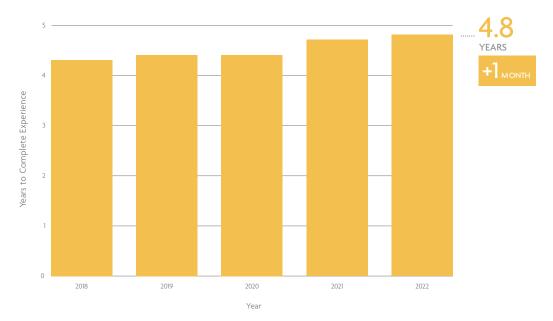
Data from the National Architectural Accrediting Board (NAAB) was also used in this report to provide the number of students entering and graduating from NAAB-accredited programs.

## How to Read This Report

To help readers understand the data presented in NCARB by the Numbers, here are some helpful pieces of information to keep in mind.

#### **Reading Charts**

Most NCARB by the Numbers charts show a year-over-year comparison of data from NCARB's Record holders. For example, each bar in the chart below shows the average time it took for candidates to complete the experience program in a given year.



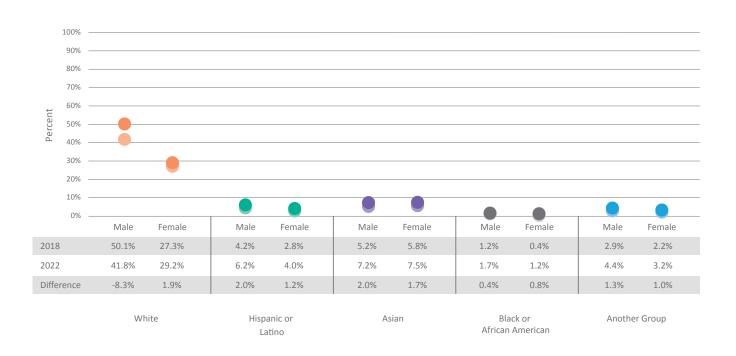
The y (or vertical) axis of this chart measures each individual year, while the x (or horizontal) axis measures time in years. Reading this chart, you can see the average licensure candidate who completed the AXP in 2022 took 4.8 years, a one-month increase compared to 2021.

A note about averages: NCARB typically calculates the median, rather than the average or mean. The median provides a more accurate measure because it better accounts for outliers that skew the overall dataset (like a candidate who take decades to complete a program).

#### Race and Ethnicity

Throughout this year's report, we segment NCARB Record holder data by a variety of demographic factors, such as race and ethnicity, gender, and age. Because individuals can identify as more than one race or ethnicity, some demographic percentages may add to over 100%.

Individuals who identify their race as either American Indian/Alaskan Native or Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander make up a fraction of all NCARB customers. For this reason, they are grouped in the individuals of "another group" category.



#### Percentage Changes vs. Percentage Point Changes

Throughout the 2022 NCARB by the Numbers, we refer to changes in the data as either "percentage point changes" or "percent changes." Percent change measures the rate of change from one number to another (i.e., going from 40,000 to 50,000 is a 25% increase). Percentage point changes, on the other hand, measures the numerical difference in percentages (i.e., going from 40% to 50% is a 10 percentage point increase, but not a 10% increase).

NCARB typically uses percentage point changes when comparing proportions of different cohorts or groups—for example, when comparing the racial and ethnic makeup of candidates who completed the AXP in 2022 to 2021. Because the number of candidates completing the AXP each year is different, referring to the change in *percentage points* rather than the change in *percent change* allows for a more accurate comparison of the proportion of candidates who identify as people of color each year.

NCARB is constantly updating how we filter and present data in *NCARB by the Numbers* to provide the most accurate information. If you have questions or comments about this year's *NCARB by the Numbers*, please reach out to us at communications@ncarb.org.

### **About NCARB**

NCARB is a global leader in architectural regulation; our members are the architectural licensing boards of the 50 U.S. states, the District of Columbia, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

We are dedicated to helping our Member Boards protect the public health, safety, and welfare by recommending and encouraging national requirements for architectural licensure and mobility—including the Architectural Experience Program® (AXP®), Architect Registration Examination® (ARE®), and NCARB Certificate. The Certificate facilitates reciprocal licensure across the United States, Australia, Canada, Mexico, New Zealand, and the United Kingdom.



### Glossary

Age: Median age based on self-reported dates of birth.

**Architect:** An individual who is licensed to practice architecture by one of the 55 U.S. jurisdictions.

**ARE:** The Architect Registration Examination® (ARE®) is a multi-division exam used to assess a candidate's knowledge and skills. It is required for initial licensure in all U.S. jurisdictions.

ARE/Exam Candidate: An NCARB Record holder who is currently taking the ARE.

**ARE Completion:** This data point is triggered when an exam candidate passes all ARE divisions.

**AXP:** The Architectural Experience Program® (AXP®) provides a framework to guide licensure candidates through earning and recording professional experience.

**AXP Completion:** This data point is triggered when a licensure candidate fulfills the AXP's requirements and their Record has been evaluated by NCARB.

**Licensure Candidate:** An NCARB Record holder who is actively documenting experience and/or taking the ARE.

**NAAB:** The National Architectural Accrediting Board (NAAB) accredits U.S. professional programs in architecture. All U.S. jurisdictions accept degrees from NAAB-accredited programs for initial licensure.

**New Record:** A candidate's successful application for an NCARB Record, which is often the first step on the path to licensure.

**NCARB Certificate:** A credential available to architects that facilitates reciprocal licensure across U.S. jurisdictions, as well as Australia, Canada, Mexico, New Zealand, and the United Kingdom (as of 2023).

**New Architect:** NCARB does not receive reliable data regarding when a candidate first receives their license but estimates that a candidate becomes a new architect after becoming ready for licensure. "New Architects" includes candidates who became ready for licensure in the given year.

Non-Certified Architect: An architect who does not hold an NCARB Certificate.

**Pass Rate:** Percentage of division attempts that received a passing score on an ARE division out of the total number of attempts on that division.

**People of Color:** Individuals who identified their race as American Indian or Alaskan Native; Asian; Black or African American; or Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander, as well as individuals who indicated they were of Latino or Hispanic descent.

**Ready for Licensure:** The core requirements for licensure in the United States include gaining an education (typically a degree from a NAAB-accredited program), completing the AXP, and passing the ARE. Some jurisdictions have additional requirements that fall outside this "core," such as a supplemental exam. NCARB considers a candidate ready for licensure when they have completed the core licensure requirements.

**Reciprocal License:** An architecture license issued by a jurisdiction as a result of the applicant holding an initial license in a separate jurisdiction.



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