

DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.33846/hn60203>
<http://heanoti.com/index.php/hn>



RESEARCH ARTICLE

URL of this article: <http://heanoti.com/index.php/hn/article/view/hn60203>

Isabela State University-College of Nursing's Performance in the Nurse Licensure Examination

Rikka Klair V. Galingana^{1(CA)}, Angelito E. Alvarado^{2(CA)}, Kathleen Joy C. Magtanong^{3(CA)}, Lady Claire C. Bautista⁴, Ma. Maureen Nicefura V. Castronuevo⁵, Reyna A. Coloma⁶, Aira S. Esteban⁷

^{1(CA)}Research Adviser, Isabela State University, College of Nursing, Echague, Isabela, Philippines;
 rikkagalingana@gmail.com

^{2(CA)}Research Coordinator, Isabela State University, College of Nursing, Echague, Isabela, Philippines;
 angelito.e.alvarado@isu.edu.ph

^{3(CA)}Nursing Student, Isabela State University, College of Nursing, Echague, Isabela, Philippines;
 kathmags25@gmail.com

⁴Nursing Student, Isabela State University, College of Nursing, Echague, Isabela, Philippines;
 ladyclairebautista@gmail.com

⁵Nursing Student, Isabela State University, College of Nursing, Echague, Isabela, Philippines;
 mariabarbaracastronuevo@gmail.com

⁶Nursing Student, Isabela State University, College of Nursing, Echague, Isabela, Philippines;
 ilioacgaanyer04@gmail.com

⁷Nursing Student, Isabela State University, College of Nursing, Echague, Isabela, Philippines;
 airakrizelletot@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

The Nursing Licensure Examination (NLE) is a test mandatory to all aspirant for registration as professional nurses as ordered by RA 9173. The main objective was to determine and evaluate the board exam performance of the Isabela State University Echague Campus-College of Nursing Graduates from year 2015 to 2019. It is also focused on the evaluation of board exam performance of nursing graduates and from year 2015 to 2019 based from their ratings in each test categories. This study has covered 15 graduates in 2015, 10 respondents graduated in 2017, 6 graduates in 2018 and 22 for year 2019. Majority of the 53 acquired respondents are female and 19-25 years old. Board passers of year 2019 accumulated the highest frequency among other years. Majority of nursing graduates obtained an average general rating (AVR) ranging from 78-80 percent. This study utilized Purposive Sampling in choosing desired respondents and frequency count and percentage was used in gathering data coherently which was recognized as suitable method in identifying the board examination performance. As revealed on nursing graduates ratings in each test categories, Nursing Practice 5 which contains questions with regards to Care of Clients with Physiologic and Psychological Alterations (Part C) or Care of Clients with Physiologic and Psychosocial Alterations (Part C) is the test category which nursing graduates from 2015 to 2019 find difficult. Hence, the 53 respondents have enrolled themselves in their preferred Review Centers than to self-study before taking the Nursing Licensure Examination (NLE). The result of this study is expected to help the institution improve the nursing program and identify strategies to increase board exam performance of the school and ratings of subsequent board takers.

Keywords: nurse licensure examination; college of nursing; performance

INTRODUCTION

Becoming a Registered Nurse is anything but a simple undertaking in the Philippines; one must pursue to graduate a Bachelor's Degree in Nursing, passed the Nursing Licensure examination which is considered to be one of the most difficult board examinations in the history of the Philippine career professionalism but most importantly, possess the characteristic of an exemplary caring nurse.

It is undeniable that through the years Isabela State University- Echague Campus College of Nursing is utmost committed to produce impeccable nursing professionals from the institution. Capability and competency of every professors and instructors are always relevant to timely change and massive advancement in order to bring out the bests of students, assist them in becoming licensed professionals and enhance nursing skills ensuring relative insights will supplement to their capacities.

Hence, board examination is vital, primarily because it asses the performances of students who took it. In connection with the assessment of performances in students, the board examination is also used to identify what

specific part in the examination needs improvement. And in addition to that, board examination is significant because it is an immense part of our future which can also train an individual to have perseverance in studying and achieving goals.

This study benefits the Isabela State University College of Nursing-Echague because with the help and results of this study they can determine what part of the examination that the nursing graduates experienced difficulty and make up a plan on how to improve next time. The school administration of Isabela State University Echague can also benefit from this study because with their helping hand to the college of nursing in terms of improving, then nursing graduates will have a high percentage of passing rates that will reflect not just the college of nursing but also the school administration of Isabela State University-Echague. In connection to that, the university will have a respectable image because of the high percentage of passing rates. Moreover this study also benefits the nursing students and future nursing students because they will have an idea on what are the categories and components of a licensure examination, they will also have knowledge about what are the rules in the percentage of each categories and on what will happen if they failed a certain category, the nursing students and future nursing students will also have an idea on what is the most difficult part of the licensure examination and make improvement to that.

The intention of this study is to give the readers information and knowledge about what is board examination and nursing licensure examination and why is it important. Another intention of the study is that it will help to determine what actions can be applied to improve the categories of examination that the nursing graduates find difficult in the licensure examination.

The aim of the researchers is to give knowledge about what is nursing licensure examination and its categories. Another aim of the researchers is that to assess the performance of nursing graduates in licensure examination and specify it by categories. In connection, by assessing the performance of nursing graduates in each categories is that the researchers another aim is to determine on what category does the nursing graduates find difficulty and recommend to the college of nursing some actions so the next nursing graduates that will take the licensure examination will not experience or lessen their difficulties in that certain category of nursing licensure examination.

It is undeniable that through the years Isabela State University- Echague Campus College of Nursing is utmost committed to produce impeccable nursing professionals. Capability and competency of every professors and instructors are always relevant to timely change and massive advancement in order to bring out the bests of students, assist them in becoming licensed professionals and enhance nursing skills ensuring relative insights will supplement their capacities.

Nursing Licensure examination is necessary to assess the knowledge and ability of the aspirant for registration to provide safe and effective care upon entering into practice in the Philippines.

In relevance with Republic Act 9173, referred to as Philippine Nursing Act of 2002, SEC. 15, it is indicated that "To adequately achieve in passing the exam, an examinee ought to attain a general average of at least seventy-five percent (75%) with a rating of not lower than sixty percent (60%) in any test category". An examinee who obtains an average rating of seventy-five percent (75%) or better however gets a rating under sixty percent (60%) in any given test category have to take the exam once more but only in the test category or topics wherein he/she is rated under sixty percent (60%). In order to pass the succeeding exam, an examinee ought to achieve a rating of at least seventy-five percent (75%) among the tests categories or topics repeated".

Pertinently in the study of ⁽¹⁾. The performance of the graduates in the licensure examination is a positive assessment of the excellence and quality of directive provided by a certain university.

According to ⁽²⁾. Further confirm that the passing rate is a key factor estimating the type of students and standard of instructions given by the university. It is additionally an indicator of the type of faculty and teacher competence that succeed in a school. Moreover, the performance of the graduates shows somewhat how well prepared they are which could likewise be ascribed to the instructional materials given by the university.

Correspondingly, it can be associated with ⁽³⁾, in which confirms that the correct measure of any board program is passing the final assessment that pertains to the board exam.

Ceaselessly, it is practiced in Isabela State University-Echague Campus on the Department of College of Nursing that every nursing student is free or able to decide when to take the board examination and choose their preferred review center as long as convenient to them. Once they reach the 4th year level of the nursing program, there will be a voluntary in-house review to be guided and supervised by their Clinical Instructors which will assist board exam takers for the preparation of Nursing Licensure Examination (NLE). Besides this, each nursing graduate who aspire to pass the board examination is allowed to join the in-house review for them to be conditioned to gain more insights.

Based from Professional Regulation Commission official website it is acquired that on the year 2015 specifically on May/June the Isabela State University-Echague Campus marginally thrived and attained a rating of 66.67% in the Nursing Licensure Examination while 84.21% in the November/December. On the following year, the school performance had a down fall in May/June which accumulated a 46.67% rating and 20.00% in November/December 2016 board exam. On May/June 2017 the national board exam rating of ISU-E vaguely prosper in which the rating is 25.00% but slightly boosted in the November/December examination which garnered a 50.00% national rate in NLE. Subsequently, on 2018 the board exam performance of school is still but to enhance with a 55.56% rating in May/June and 41.18% on the November/December examination schedule. However, the Nursing Licensure Examination rate of the school escalated and enhanced in the November 2019 board examination which accumulated a national rating of 90.00%.

One of the most important associations that measure and give importance to quality in education is the AACUP. According to ⁽⁴⁾ the AACUP is a non-profit, non-stock corporation and now with 111 State Universities and Colleges (SUCs). To ensure quality assurance for accreditation in the higher state education associations and programs are the duties and obligations of AACUP. Cognizant of this CHED-given jurisdiction, AACUP is making updates on its databank regularly to observe the accomplishments as an accrediting agency.

It has been in the system process in applying for Level III that the program must excel in four (4) areas; one category AACUP is looking for which is adequately in lined to the study is the area 3 (curriculum) which is a study of performance of the school in the nursing licensure examination.

Isabela State University Echague Campus, being a professional higher education institution is accredited in International Organization Standard (ISO), that able to evaluate the needs to find gap(s) between students 'actual performance and faculty service delivery. The outcome of the licensure examination would be an assessment of the nature of faculty administration and what the student has gained.

Also, the outcome of the investigation will impact in the form of improvements and strategies for effective educating techniques, providing essential student activities and potential drills to improve the performance of BSN graduates in the subsequent Nursing Licensure Examination.

Lastly, this research could be a reason for other board programs in the institution to consider their previous performance and make necessary upgrades dependent on their findings.

METHODS

Considering that the purpose of this study is to determine and evaluate the board exam performance of the Isabela State University Echague Campus-College of Nursing Graduates from 2015-2019 as a basis for identifying strategies and ways to increase passing rate and improve board exam takers performance in specific test category which nursing graduates find difficult. The researchers used a descriptive survey or survey study to interpret and gather data in a logical manner, which they recognized as a suitable method for determining the board examination performance of ISU Echague-College of Nursing graduates from 2015 to 2019 because there were no variables to manipulate.

On this study, researchers utilized survey questionnaires from online platforms such as Google Surveys, Messenger Chat, and SMS messaging that were convenient for the respondents. The selected respondents completed the questionnaires in order to incorporate their insights on ISU Echague – College of Nursing Graduates' Board Exam Performance from 2015 to 2019. It was in the form of a checklist, which was created by the researchers as a tool for data collection. The researchers were able to simply determine the perceptions of board examination performance from 2015 to 2019 via a survey.

RESULTS

Profile of the Respondents

The profile of the respondents in terms of age, sex, civil status, year graduated, enrolled in a review center or self-study and year taken NLE are presented.

Table 1. Frequency and percentage of the profile of the respondents

Profile of the respondents	Frequency	Percentage
Age		
19-25	48	91.00
26-30	5	9.00
Sex		
Male	13	25.00
Female	40	75.00
Civil Status		
Single	45	85.00
Married	8	15.00
Widowed	0	0.00
Separated	0	0.00
Year Graduated		
2015	15	28.00
2016	0	0.00
2017	10	19.00
2018	6	11.00
2019	22	42.00
Enrolled in a Review Center		
Enrolled in a Review Center	53	100.00
Self-study	0	0.00
Year taken NLE		
2015	11	21.00
2016	4	8.00
2017	5	9.00
2018	9	17.00
2019	24	45.00

It can be perceived in the table that in terms of the age that the nursing graduates graduated from the nursing program the majority is within the range of 19-25 years old with a frequency of 48 or 91% and the age within the range of 26-30 years old have a frequency of 5 or 9%.

It can be understood that in terms of the sex, the data showed that the majority of the nursing graduates are females with a frequency of 40 or 75% and the males have a frequency of 13 or 25%.

In terms of civil status it can be perceived that the majority of nursing graduates are single with a frequency of 45 or 85%, married have a frequency of 8 or 15% and none of the nursing graduates are separated or widowed.

In terms of the year that the nursing graduates graduated from the nursing program majority of the nursing graduates graduated in the year 2019 with a frequency of 22 or 42%, there are nursing graduates that graduated in 2015 have a frequency of 15 or 28%, next is the year 2017 with a frequency of 10 or 19%, and then the year 2018 with a frequency of 6 or 11% and there is no one who graduated from 2016.

In terms of either the nursing graduates attended a review center or not, the data shows that all of the nursing graduates with a frequency of 53 or 100% attended a review center.

In the year that the nursing graduates took the Nursing Licensure Examination in 2015 there are frequency of 11 or 21 % nursing graduates that took the examination, in the year 2016 there are frequency of 4 or 8% nursing graduates who took the examination, in the year 2017 there are frequency of 5 or 9% who took the examination, next is the year 2018 there are frequency of 9 or 17% nursing graduates who took the examination and lastly in the year 2019 there are frequency of 24 or 45% nursing graduates that took the examination.

In connection with the average general rating of the nursing graduates majority of them with a frequency of 25 or 47% have an average general rating ranging from 78%-80%, nursing graduates with a frequency of 19 or 36% have an average general rating ranging from 75%-77% and lastly nursing graduates with a frequency of 9 or 17% have an average general rating ranging from 81%-83%.

In connection with the rating in nursing practice 1 the majority of nursing graduates with a frequency of 19 or 36% have a rating ranging from 77%-79% and there is also a frequency 19 or 36% nursing students have a rating ranging from 80%-82%, there are a frequency of 11 or 21% nursing graduates that have a rating ranging from 83%-86% and lastly there are frequency of 4 or 7% that have a rating ranging from 74%-76%.

In connection with the rating in nursing practice 2 the majority of nursing graduates with a frequency of 19 or 36% have a rating ranging from 78%-80%, nursing graduates with a frequency of 16 or 22% have a rating ranging from 81%-83%, next is that nursing graduates with a frequency of 11 or 21% have a rating ranging from 75%-77%, another is that nursing graduates with a frequency of 6 or 11% have a rating ranging from 84-87%, nursing graduates with a frequency of 3 or 6% have a rating ranging from 69%-71% and lastly nursing graduates with a frequency of 2 or 4% have a rating ranging from 72%-74%.

As regards with the rating in nursing practice 3 the majority of nursing graduates with a frequency of 21 or 40% have a rating ranging from 78%-80%, nursing graduates with a frequency of 14 or 26% have a rating ranging from 81%-83%, next to that is the nursing graduates with a frequency of 12 or 22% have a rating ranging from 75%-77% and lastly nursing graduates with a frequency of 3 or 6% have a rating ranging from 84%-86% and it is the same frequency of 3 or 6% that have a rating ranging from 70%-74%.

As regards with the rating in nursing practice 4 the majority of nursing graduates with a frequency of 19 or 36% have a rating ranging from 78%-80%, nursing graduates with a frequency of 14 or 26% have a rating ranging from 75%-77%, next to that are the nursing graduates that got a rating ranging from 81%-83% that is frequency of 11 or 21%, another are the nursing graduates with a frequency of 4 or 8% that have a rating ranging from 84%-87%, the nursing graduates with rating ranging from 70%-74% that also have a frequency of 4 or 8% and lastly a frequency of 1 or 2% have a rating of 65%.

As regards with the rating in nursing practice 5 the majority of nursing graduates with a frequency of 23 or 43% have a rating ranging from 78%-80%, nursing graduates with a frequency of 12 or 23% have a rating ranging from 75%-77%, next to that are the nursing graduates with a frequency of 6 or 11% with a rating ranging from 81%-83%, the nursing graduates with rating ranging from 72%-74% that also have a frequency of 6 or 11%, another is that the nursing graduates with a frequency of 2 or 4% have a rating of 84%, the nursing graduates with rating ranging from 69%-71% that also have a frequency of 2 or 4%, next to that is a frequency of 1 or 2% that have a rating ranging from 66%-68% and lastly with the same frequency of 1 or 2% have a rating ranging from 63%-65%.

When it comes to performance of each year in each category that have been gathered from the nursing students in the year 2015 it is understood that the nursing practice 1 rating is 79.73%, the nursing practice 2 rating is 77.13%, nursing practice 3 was rated as 79.07%, nursing practice 4 rating is 79.67% and in the nursing practice 5 rating is 75.02%. The performance of the year 2017 it is perceived that in the category nursing practice 1 it is rated as 78.04%, nursing practice 2 rating is 78.03%, and nursing practice 3 rating is 78.06%, nursing practice 4 was rated as 78% and the nursing practice 5 rating of the year 2017 is 78.02%. Furthermore, in the year 2018 the rating of nursing practice 1 is 79.33%, in nursing practice 2 the rating is 77.67%, the nursing practice 3 rating is 78.17%, nursing practice 4 was rated as 77.67% and the nursing practice 5 rating of the year 2018 is 75.83%. Lastly in the year 2019 the rating of the performance in nursing practice 1 category is 81.41%, the nursing practice 2 rating is 80.77%, nursing practice 3 rating is 79.05%, and nursing practice 4 was rated as 78.32% lastly the nursing practice 5 category rating is 78.18%.

When it comes to test categories perceived by nursing graduates as difficult in varying years the analysis of difficulty of five categories in the year 2015. The nursing practice 1 weighted mean is 4.07 which means in qualitative description is difficult and the rank of nursing practice 1 is 3, the nursing practice 2 weighted mean is 3.80 which means in qualitative description is also difficult and the rank of nursing practice 2 is 5, in nursing practice 3 weighted mean is 4.07 which means in qualitative description also a difficult one and the rank of nursing practice 3 is 3, moreover the nursing practice 4 have a weighted mean of 4.07 which means is qualitative description is difficult and the ranking of nursing practice 4 is also 3 and last of all is the nursing practice 5 that have a weighted mean of 4.40 which means extremely difficult and rank as 1. The average weighted mean in the year 2015 of the entire category is 4.08 which means in qualitative description is difficult.

When it comes to test categories perceived by nursing graduates as difficult in varying years the analysis of difficulty of five categories in the year 2017. The nursing practice 1 weighted mean is 3.80 which means in qualitative description is difficult and the rank of nursing practice 1 is 5, nursing practice 2 have a weighted mean of 3.90 which means in qualitative description is also difficult and the ranking of nursing practice 2 is 2.5, the weighted mean of nursing practice 3 is also 3.90 which means difficult in qualitative description and the ranking of nursing practice 3 is also 2.5, furthermore the weighted mean of nursing practice 4 is 4.00 which means in qualitative description is difficult and the ranking of nursing practice 4 is 1.5 and lastly the weighted mean of nursing practice 5 is also 4.00 which means difficult in qualitative description with a ranking of a 1.5 also. The average weighted mean in the year 2017 of the entire category is 3.92 which means in qualitative description is difficult.

As regards to the test categories perceived by nursing graduates as difficult in varying years the analysis of difficulty of five categories in the year 2018. The nursing practice 1 weighted mean is 3.67 which means in qualitative description is difficult and the rank of nursing practice 1 is 2, nursing practice 2 have a weighted mean of 3.50 which means in qualitative description is difficult and the rank of nursing practice 2 is 3.5, moreover the nursing practice 3 have a weighted mean of 3.50 which means difficult in qualitative description and the ranking of nursing practice 3 is also 3.5, furthermore the weighted mean of nursing practice 4 is 3.67 which means in qualitative description is difficult and the ranking of nursing practice 4 is 2 and last of all s the nursing practice 5 that have a weighted mean of also a 3.67 which means difficult in qualitative description and the ranking of nursing practice 5 is 2. The average weighted mean in the year 2018 of the entire category is 3.60 which means in qualitative description is difficult.

As regards to the test categories perceived by nursing graduates as difficult in varying years the analysis of difficulty of five categories in the year 2019. The nursing practice 1 weighted mean is 3.36 which means in qualitative description is moderately difficult and the ranking of nursing practice 1 is 5, in nursing practice 2 weighted mean is 3.50 which means in qualitative description is difficult and the ranking of nursing practice 2 is 4, the weighted mean of nursing practice 3 is 3.82 which means in qualitative description is difficult and the ranking of nursing practice 3 is 3, furthermore the weighted mean of nursing practice 4 is 4.05 which means also difficult in qualitative description and the ranking of nursing practice 4 is 1 and last of all is the nursing practice 5 with a weighted mean of 4.00 which means difficult in qualitative description and have a ranking of 2. The average weighted mean in the year 2019 of the entire category is 3.74 which means in qualitative description is difficult.

As regards on how many times or attempts that the nursing graduates took the Nursing Licensure Examination. The majority of nursing graduates with a frequency of 47 or 89% took the Nursing Licensure Examination in just one attempt; in addition to that frequency of 5 or 9% of the nursing graduates took the Nursing Licensure Examination in two attempts and frequency of 1 or 2% of the nursing graduates took the Nursing Licensure Examination thrice.

DISCUSSION

According to the nursing graduates of Isabela State University-Echague from the year 2015-2019 that has been selected for this study majority of them graduated in the age ranging from 19-25 years old. It means in that age range of 19-25 years old is not similar to those who graduated at the age of 26-30 years old. Because the majority of nursing graduates that has been selected for this study graduated at the age range of 19-25 years and few are graduated at the age range of 26-30 years old. This pertains that the nursing graduates' respondents are beginning their endeavor as registered nurses at the age bracket of 19-25 years old.

According to the sex, majority of the nursing passers of Isabela State University-Echague from the year 2015-2019 that has been selected for this study are females. The number of males and females that graduated and passers of Nursing Licensure Examination from Isabela State University-Echague is not comparable. It means that females have more interest in going to nursing schools than males and in the early ages however, traditional female dominated profession such as nursing is not into men.

In terms of the civil status it is indicated from the result that majority of the nursing graduates of Isabela State University-Echague from the year 2015-2019 that has been selected for this study are single. The number of nursing graduates and at the same time passers of Nursing Licensure Examination from Isabela State University that are single is not likewise to others that are married, widowed and separated. It means it is more likely to still dedicate their time rendering love and service to their parents, some have not still planned to get married at this point and decided to focus more in their dreamed career.

In terms of the year that the nursing graduates graduated from the nursing program it is indicated from the result that the majority of the nursing graduates of Isabela State University-Echague from the year 2015-2019 that has been selected for this study graduated from the year 2019 and there are just few from the year 2015, 2017 and 2018 and no respondent from the year 2016. The number of nursing graduates and at the same time passers of Nursing Licensure Examination from Isabela State University that graduated from the nursing program in the year 2019 is not similar than those nursing graduates and passers that graduated from the nursing program in the year 2015-2018. It means that the active nursing graduates that joined the study graduated from the year 2019, there are just few nursing graduates that joined the study that graduated from 2015, 2017 and 2018 because some of the respondents did not respond to the researchers and some of them have a hectic schedule because of their duties and lastly there are no respondents attained in the year 2016 since the college did not have any graduates for this specific year.

In terms of either the nursing graduates attended a review center or not it is perceived that all of the nursing graduates of Isabela State University-Echague from the year 2015-2019 that has been selected for this study chose to attend a review center and that review center is a personal choice. The number of nursing graduates and at the same time passers of Nursing Licensure Examination from Isabela State University have a similar decision when it comes whether if they will attend review center or not because all of the nursing graduates that graduated from the year 2015-2019 attended a review center. It means that they still need the help from a respective review center to be more equipped and gain additional insights about the licensure examination.

In connection to the year that the nursing graduates of Isabela State University-Echague from year 2015-2019 that has been selected for this study took the Nursing Licensure Examination still majority of them took the Nursing Licensure Examination in the year 2019. The number of nursing graduates and at the same time passers of Nursing Licensure Examination from Isabela State University that took the licensure examination in the year 2019 is not similar for those who took the licensure examination in the year 2015-2018. It means that the batch of year 2019 is further active in participation than those in other years and also there are a lot of graduates in the year 2019. For the clarification there are no graduates in the year 2016 but there are takers of licensure examination in the year 2016.

In connection with the average general rating of the nursing graduates from Isabela State University-Echague from year 2015-2019 that has been selected for this study it is perceived that the majority got a rating of average general rating ranging from 78%-80%. The nursing students that got a rating ranging from 78%-80% is not likewise as the nursing students that got a rating ranging from 75%-77% and 81%-83%. Because majority got a rating ranging from 78%-80%, some got 75%-77% and few got a rating ranging from 81%-83%. This kind of result is upright and which means pass and it is most likely a worthy average rating range, but at the same time this kind of result can improved.

In connection with the rating in nursing practice 1 (The foundation of professional nursing practice) of the nursing graduates from Isabela State University-Echague from year 2015-2019 that has been selected for this study it is perceived that majority and likewise got a rating of 80%-82% and 77%-79% because 19 respondents got a rating ranging from 80%-82% and also another 19 respondents got a rating ranging from 77%-79% and there are some who got a rating ranging from 83%-86% which means that range of rating is passed and it is most likely an average to good rating range. But there are few that got a range of 74%-76% and it is most likely a poor rating range. This kind of result is important so that the college of nursing can monitor where the nursing graduates have a hard time in the specific part of the licensure examination and have a plan for it not to happen again for the next batch of licensure examination takers.

As regards with the rating in nursing practice 2 (Community Health Nursing and Care of the Mother and Child or Care of Healthy/At Risk Mother and Child) of the nursing graduates from Isabela State University-Echague from year 2015-2019 that has been selected for this study it is apparent that majority got a rating of 78%-80%. The number of nursing graduates that got a rating ranging from 78%-80% is not comparable to those who got other rating ranges because there are some got a rating range from 75% -77%, 81%- 83% and 84%– 87% which means passed and most likely an average rating range. But there are few got a range of 69%-71% and 72%-74% which means failed and most likely a poor rating range. This kind of result is important to the college of nursing for them to be aware that few of the nursing graduates got that kind of rating range which can be improve for the next batch that will take the licensure examination and because that rating ranges that are failed is the reason why there are few of the nursing graduates took the licensure twice and thrice.

As regards with the rating in nursing practice 3 (Care of Clients with Physiologic and Psychosocial Alterations (Part A) of the nursing graduates from Isabela State University-Echague from year 2015-2019 that has been selected for this study it is apparent that majority got a rating of 78%-80%. The majority of nursing graduates that got a rating ranging from 78%-80% in nursing practice 3 is similar to nursing practice 2 because both are same that the preponderance of rating range is 78%-80% and there are some who got a rating ranging from 81%- 83% and 75%-77% in nursing practice 3 which means passed and most likely an average rating range. But there are just few who got a rating range from 84%– 86% and there still also few got a rating of 70%-74% which means failed and most likely a poor rating range. This kind of result is important because there are just few who got a high rating but also there are few who have a failing rating and this result can be improve so that when the next batch will take the licensure examination majority of them will get a high rating not just an average rating and also no one will fail.

As regards with the rating in nursing practice 4 (Care of Clients with Physiologic and Psychosocial Alterations (Part B) of the nursing graduates from Isabela State University-Echague from year 2015-2019 that has been selected for this study it is apparent that majority got a rating of 78%-80%. The majority of nursing graduates that got a rating

ranging from 78%-80% in nursing practice 4 is similar to nursing practice 2 and 3 because all are the same that the preponderance of rating range is 78%-80% and there are some who got a rating ranging from 81%-83% and 75%-77% in nursing practice 4 which means passed and most likely an average rating range. There are few respondents who got a rating ranging from 84%-87% which can be consider as high and upright rating but there are also few of the respondents that got a rating range of 70%-74% and one of the respondent got a rating of 65% in nursing practice, which means that those ratings are failed and most likely a poor and very poor rating range. This result from nursing practice 4 is important because it is portrayed in the results that few of the nursing respondents got a failed rating and one got a very poor rating and this is alarming, this kind of result can help the college of nursing to make a plan about it so it cannot be happened again for the next batch that will take the nursing licensure examination.

When it comes with the rating in nursing practice 5 (Care of Clients with Physiologic and Psychosocial Alterations (Part C) of the nursing graduates from Isabela State University-Echague from year 2015-2019 that has been selected for this study it is understood that majority got a rating of 78%-80%. The majority of nursing graduates that got a rating ranging from 78%-80% in nursing practice 5 is similar to nursing practice 2, 3 and 4 because all are the same that the preponderance of rating range is 78%-80%. There are some who got a rating of 75% – 77% which means pass and an upright result; also there are some who got a rating range of 81% – 83% that is an average result but there are some that got a failure rating range that is 72% -74% that is a poor result. There are few that got a rating of 84% and that is also an upright rating. But there are also few that got a failing rate that is 69%-71%, 66%-68% and 63%-65% and that is a very poor rating range. This kind of results in nursing practice 5 is an alarming one because there are few that got a very poor rating and this kind of result should be the one that will prioritize by the college of nursing.

When it comes to performance of each year in each category that have been gathered from the nursing students in the year 2015 the results is not similar to other years because it is understood that the nursing practice 1 rating is 79.73%, the nursing practice 2 rating is 77.13%, nursing practice 3 was rated as 79.07%, nursing practice 4 rating is 79.67% and in the nursing practice 5 rating is 75.02%. Which means the overall year 2015 rating of performance from nursing practice 1-5 are pass and most likely an average rating. This kind of result is significant and can be improved by the help of college of nursing, review center and the performance of the nursing students.

The performance of the year 2017 is also not similar to other years because it can be perceived that in the category nursing practice 1 it is rated as 78.04%, nursing practice 2 rating is 78.03%, and nursing practice 3 rating is 78.06%, nursing practice 4 was rated as 78% and the nursing practice 5 rating of the year 2017 is 78.02%. Which means also pass and most likely also an average rating. These results are also significant because the college of nursing can monitor the ratings and compare to the year 2015 there are some parts of the year 2017 that had an improvement which is the nursing practice 2 and 5.

The year 2018 rating in each category is also not comparable to other years because it can be perceived that nursing practice 1 is 79.33%, in nursing practice 2 the rating is 77.67%, the nursing practice 3 rating is 78.17%, nursing practice 4 was rated as 77.67% and the nursing practice 5 rating of the year 2018 is 75.83%. This means also pass and most likely a good rating. These results are also significant because the college of nursing can monitor whether the ratings are going down, stable or going up and in the year 2018 that there are some categories that the ratings became low.

Lastly in the year 2019 the rating of the performance is also not similar to other years because in nursing practice 1 category is 81.41%, the nursing practice 2 rating is 80.77%, nursing practice 3 rating is 79.05%, and nursing practice 4 was rated as 78.32% lastly the nursing practice 5 category rating is 78.18%. This means also pass and most likely an average rating. The results of rating performance from year 2015-2019 is also a significant results, because the college of nursing can monitor the results and can come up with plans and interventions to improve the performances of the future batch of nursing students that will take the licensure examination. In addition to that in the year 2019 most of the nursing categories which are the nursing practice 1-5 had higher ratings compare to other years. It is a virtuous result and also can be improved by the performance of next batch with the help of the college of nursing and review centers.

When it comes to test categories perceived by nursing graduates as difficult in varying years the analysis of difficulty of five categories in the year 2015. It is apparent from the result that nursing practice 1-4 are all similar because it has a qualitative description which is difficult and the nursing graduates from the year 2015 and not comparable to nursing practice 5 as extremely difficult, which means majority of the nursing graduates from year 2015 experienced difficulty in encountering nursing test categories 1-5. This result is significant so that the college of nursing can monitor where the nursing students find difficulty and can have a plan and have a different approach with the help of review center for the next batch so that the nursing practice 1-5 will not be that difficult for them.

When it comes to test categories perceived by nursing graduates as difficult in varying years the analysis of difficulty of five categories in the year 2017. It can be perceived from the result that nursing practice 1-5 is similar to each other because all of it has a qualitative description which is difficult. It means also majority of nursing graduates from year 2017 experienced difficulty in answering the nursing test categories 1-5. This result is also significant because the college of nursing can monitor if there is transformation in terms of point of view of the examinees whether the licensure examination is easy or difficult of the current nursing batch that took the licensure examination and it is apparent that year 2015 and 2017 do not have the same result because in year 2015 there is a result extremely difficult which is the nursing practice 5 and there is no result extremely difficult in the year 2017. It

means that there is a slight upright transformation and it can also be enhanced for the next or future batch that will took the licensure examination.

As regards to the test categories perceived by nursing graduates as difficult in varying years the analysis of difficulty of five categories in the year 2018. It can be understood from the result that nursing practice 1-5 are difficult and it is similar to the result of year 2017, which means majority of nursing graduates from year 2018 experienced difficulty in answering the nursing test categories 1-5. This means that there is no change and again it can be enhanced by the help of college of nursing, review center and also the determination of the nursing graduates so that the next or future point of view in terms of the licensure examination is not that difficult again.

As regards to the test categories perceived by nursing graduates as difficult in varying years the analysis of difficulty of five categories in the year 2019. It can be understood that the result from year 2015 to 2018 is not likewise with the result of year 2019 because the result in nursing practice 1 is moderately difficult and nursing practice 2-5 is difficult and just like the other results it means majority of nursing graduates from year 2019 experienced difficulty in answering the nursing categories 1-5. But there is a transformation in the year 2019 because the point of view of the batch 2019 whether the nursing practice 1 is difficult or not the result is moderately difficult that means it is difficult but moderate and it is a good change about their point of view. Again this kind of result can have an enhancement that is more satisfying and the college of nursing and review center can come up with a plan to make it happen and also the determination of the nursing graduates will be a big help.

As regards on how many times or attempts that the nursing graduates took the Nursing Licensure Examination. The nursing graduates of Isabela State University-Echague from the year 2015-2019 that has been selected for this study don't have an equal times of attempt in taking the Nursing Licensure Examination because majority of the nursing graduates took the licensure examination in one attempt, few of them took the licensure examination twice before passing and one respondent took the examination thrice before passing the licensure examination. This kind of result is an average good because majority of the nursing graduates took the licensure in just one attempt and means it is an upright result.

CONCLUSION

From the light of the aforementioned findings, the following conclusions are drawn;

1. The majority of the respondents are between the ages of 19 and 25, as they are recent graduates who are just about to begin their careers as nurses and begin their independent lives. Furthermore, the nursing age range will shift because students now have an additional two years of high school, known as senior high school.
2. The majority are female, because some individuals believe that nursing is exclusive for women, and because males believe that nursing is a traditionally female-dominated profession. Additionally some male are not into nursing because they believe it is too feminine, and they believe they lack the "caring" or "devotion" setting.
3. Because some of them are committed and have decided to improve and focus on their career path and skills in nursing, others have not yet planned to marry because they have no partner in life, or others have the mindset that they should earn money first and be stable before getting married, the majority are single.
4. The majority of the respondents are graduates in the year 2019, it is likely that just a few respondents from previous years participated in the study because some of them are busy or did not immediately respond to the messages. In addition,, since nursing was not in high demand before, there are fewer graduates than in previous years.
5. All of the accumulated 53 respondents enrolled themselves in Review or Testing Centers they preferred to go than depending on their selves and self-study before taking the Nursing Licensure Examination (NLE). It is because they believe that their foundation in the 4 years acquisition of knowledge in the College of Nursing can be honed more when engaged into testing centers in which also prepares them in taking the exam.
6. Many Nursing graduates took the Nursing Licensure Examination and passed in the year 2019 which escalated the board examination performance of College of Nursing in the Isabela State University Echague Campus compared to the past 4 years.
7. The Average General Rating of Nursing Graduates in the Isabela State University Echague Campus has greater number from year 2015 to 2019 with an Average General Rating ranging from 78%-80%.
8. The rating of the respondents is only in the range of 78-80% which is not bad because they did their best for them to pass the board examination. And also in Nursing Practice 1-5 it includes Fundamentals of nursing, Care of the Mother and Child, Community Health Nursing which is very hard to analyze and to learn without a clinical instructor. The respondents passed the Board exam because of the help of their CI's, the review center and also the motivation or inspiration coming from their friends and family. Knowledge from theories and skills from duties has a big impact for the 53 respondents who passed the Licensure Examination.
9. It can be inferred that Nursing Practice 5 which contains questions with regards to Care of Clients with Physiologic and Psychological Alterations (Part C) or Care of Clients with Physiologic and Psychosocial Alterations (Part C) is the test category which nursing graduates from 2015 to 2019 find difficult of as revealed by their ratings in each test categories.
10. Majority of the of the graduates that took the NLE had passed in their first try because those students who took the NLE in a single attempt had a higher percentage of passing but not all of them because some of the students

failed the examination because they failed in just one subject in NLE, and also because the majority of the students who passed the NLE in single attempt strived hard in their studies. In addition to that, it concludes that majority of nursing students at Isabela State University- Echague is upright and really are striving to pass the Nursing licensure examination and achieve their goals.

In the light of the findings and conclusions, the researcher proposes the following recommendations for implementation:

1. Researchers may recommend some strategies to the administrators. First is that the school administrators and the college of nursing can team up to provide the faculty of nursing with tools for analysis and revision of examinations to improve examination analysis of the students. On the other hand the school administrators can also implement mock board examination for the students in college of nursing it is an examination that simulate an actual board examination it can help to assess the preparation of nursing students for the real board examination.
2. Students could even be motivated to aspire more in attaining higher board examination percentage and focus mainly on what previous graduates have struggled with and thoroughly focus thrive on that specific test category.
3. Clinical Instructors and Lecturers would reinforce effective and creative teaching strategies or methods on subjects perceived difficult by nursing graduates guided by the evaluation of the study for effective learning so as to hasten nursing students who are next in line in the taking Nursing Licensure Examination (NLE) and for their future endeavor.
4. Lecturers can be able to encourage and enlighten the minds of their students as well as to be determined to use the tools available for learning and to make suggestions if there are materials they would like to use to enhance their use of syllabus and apparently, the curriculum. This also helps the lecturers to be motivated and be more productive and innovative in their teaching towards producing capable nurses.
5. College of Nursing would come up with some strategies that will help to improve the standard of nursing program and also to improve the ratings of Nursing Licensure Examination (NLE) in our country. Some strategies that the researchers may recommend that can be implemented by the CON is that nursing students as early as second semester in their third year is the start of formal review for board examinations. In addition to that the CON can make a revision in grading scale that increase passing standard.
6. Future researchers can further conduct an in-depth interview with the respondents. They could eventually also conduct the study with larger sample size in different year and explore other variables that will affect the performance of the respondents. In addition, future researchers should be patient to all respondents in doing data gathering procedure.
7. With the abrupt change due to the undesirable health risks the result of this study can be a great help in producing more equipped licensed professional nurses from Isabela State University Echague Campus manifesting characteristic of an exemplary nurse which are timely needed in our society since the outbreak of the corona virus pandemic because there had been a lack of health care providers which will assist allied healthcare workers and patients in addressing their health concerns.
8. Based on theory and practice the Clinical Instructors could be able to teach nursing students how things should work and in nursing practice it will prepare nursing students to seek for different information, sources and different kinds of solution. Theory is vital for nursing students to pass the Nursing Licensure Examination (NLE) and practice/skills will follow.

REFERENCES

1. Basaen CM, Bejar MT, Bambao CME. Licensure Examination Results for Criminologist 1999-2004. Think. 2005;29(1).
2. Basaen CM, Bejar MTU, Bambao CME. Licensure Examination Results for Civil Engineers (2000-2003), Geodetic Engineers (1999-2004), and Architects (1999-2004) LPU. University of the Cordilleras Research Journal. 2005;29(1).
3. Buenaobra R, Medallon MC. Pre-board Examination and Semestral Grade Point Average (GPA) as Predictors of Passing the Nursing Licensure Examination (NLEX). College of Allied Medicine Research Journal. 2013;1(2).
4. Corpus M. The Agency for Accreditation. [Internet]. 2016 [cited 2020 August 2]. Available from: <http://www.aacupqa.org.ph/index.php/about-aacup>