

JURISDICTIONAL DATA

VIRGINIA

2025



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction.....3

Architectural Licensure Overview4

Jurisdictional Demographics..... 6

ARE 5.0 Pass Rates 8

INTRODUCTION

NCARB regularly analyzes and shares data highlighting current trends along the path to licensure, including program completion time, pass rates, and demographics. This information, which is gathered from customers' NCARB Records, enables NCARB and our key stakeholders to make strategic decisions, educate policymakers and the public, and guide changes to our programs and services.

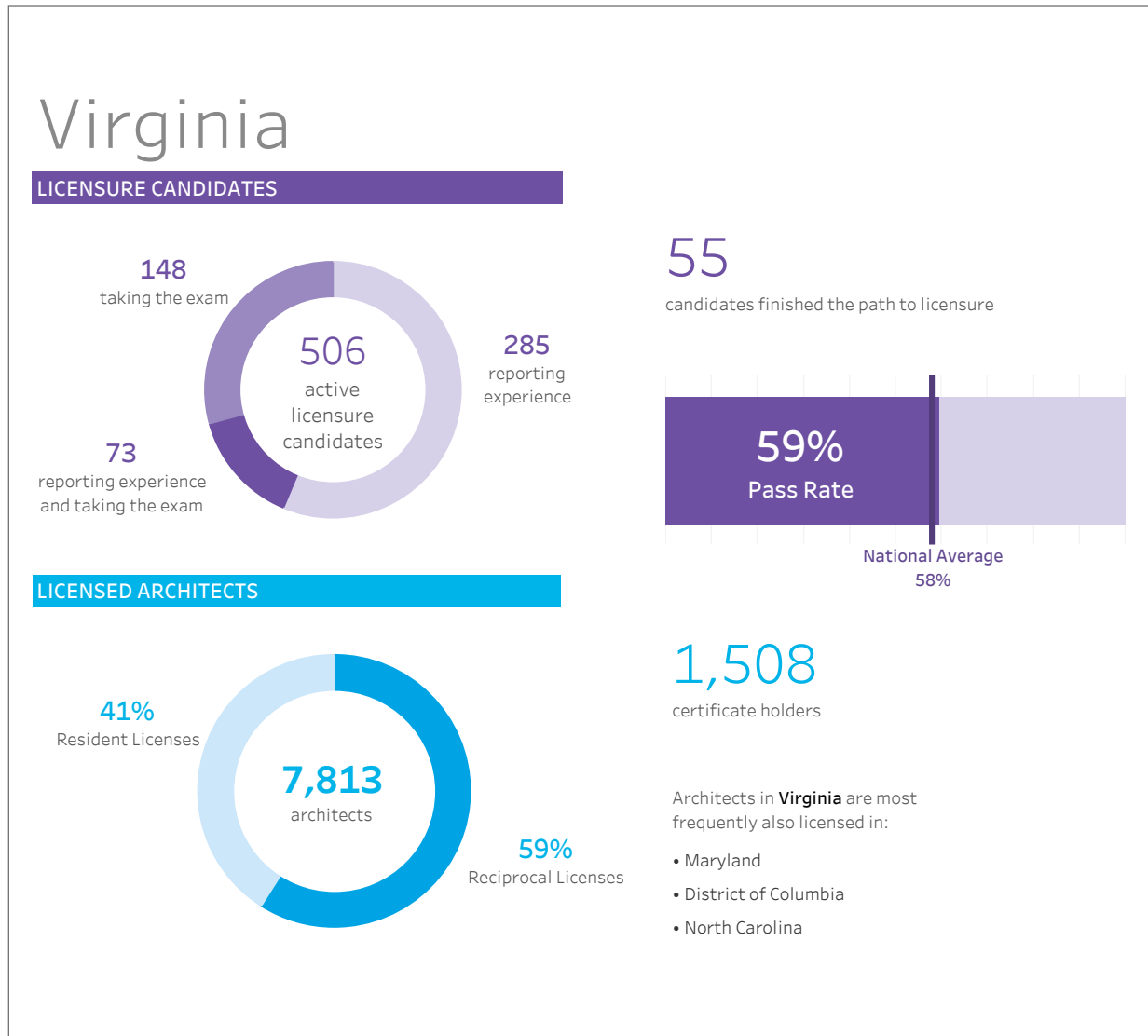
As a leader in your jurisdiction, you can use this data to guide discussions at the jurisdictional level. The information included in this packet has been filtered to share data gathered from licensure candidates and architects in your jurisdiction only. Each chart includes a basic explanation of what data is being shared, as well as an overview of the trends NCARB has seen at the national level for comparison.

As you review the data, here are a few key things to keep in mind:

- Your jurisdictional data may not align with national trends.
- Not all NCARB Record holders submit their demographic data. However, the majority do self-report their demographic data.
- Not all licensees in your jurisdiction are NCARB Record holders.
- Depending on the number of licensure candidates and architects in your jurisdiction, you may see a much higher degree of fluctuation over time compared to the fluctuation seen at the national level. Jurisdictions with a smaller pool of candidates/architects are more likely to see dramatic change from year to year.
- NCARB will not share demographic data publicly if there are fewer than 30 individuals in a designated group (our threshold for a valid sample size). However, we have shared all data with you regardless of this sample size to ensure you have the most complete picture of your jurisdiction.
- If no information is shown for a specific field or demographic, it is because no individuals in your jurisdiction fit that field or demographic.
- The timeframe for the data reflected in a chart varies by chart. Refer to the chart description for each chart to find this information.

If you have questions about the data presented in this packet, please feel free to reach out to Jenny Kawecki at jkawecki@ncarb.org.

ARCHITECTURAL LICENSURE OVERVIEW



This chart provides an overview of licensure candidates and licensed architects in your jurisdiction during the calendar year 2024, including:

- The number of candidates working to complete the Architectural Experience Program® (AXP®), Architect Registration Examination® (ARE®), or both
- The average ARE pass rate in your jurisdiction compared to the national average

- The number of candidates who completed the licensure path in your jurisdiction
- The states where architects in your jurisdiction are most likely to hold reciprocal licenses

National Trends

- In 2024, the number of active licensure candidates rose by 5% to 39,499.
- There were 116,005 U.S. architects in 2024, a 4% decrease from 2023.
- The number of new architects held steady at 3,606.
- In 2024, the average time to licensure fell to 12.9 years, the first time this number has decreased since the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The average ratio of in-state to out-of-state licenses shifted slightly, with 59% reciprocal and 41% resident licenses.

JURISDICTIONAL DEMOGRAPHICS

Racial, Ethnic, and Gender Diversity

This table shows the approximate racial, ethnic, and gender diversity of individuals at each career stage for individuals who were seeking licensure or were licensed in this jurisdiction during the calendar year 2024. Individuals can be represented in multiple career stages. To ensure data privacy around exam performance, NCARB will report “insufficient information” if your jurisdiction has fewer than 5 individuals in a given demographic group in the “Taking the ARE” category.

Virginia

		All Architects	New Architects	Taking the ARE	Submitting Experience	Opened NCARB Record
Gender	Female	262	13	105	401	139
	Male	487	26	100	265	100
Ethnicity	American Indian or Alaska Native				1	2
	Another Group	25	1	10	47	2
	Asian	55	3	31	124	52
	Black or African American	30	3	20	70	35
	Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish	24	3	22	73	26
	Middle Eastern or North African	1			8	10
	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	1		***	3	1
	White	590	31	127	386	141
Total	Total	817	42	221	710	256

*** values do not meet NCARB's data privacy condition

Career Stage Definitions

New NCARB Record Holders: This stage includes all individuals who started an NCARB Record in 2024. Starting an NCARB Record is an approximation for beginning the path to licensure, as all candidates need an NCARB Record to document the education, experience, and examination requirements for licensure.

Reporting Experience: This stage includes all individuals who documented experience toward the AXP in 2024, based on the work date of the experience report.

Taking the ARE: This stage includes all individuals who took an exam division in 2024.

New Architects: This stage includes all individuals who finished their final “core requirement” for licensure in 2024. Core licensure requirements include education, experience, and examination, although some jurisdictions do have additional requirements. This stage is an approximation for individuals who received an initial license in 2024.

All Certificate Holders: This stage includes all individuals who hold an NCARB Certificate, which can be used to approximate the makeup of the architect population in this jurisdiction.

National Trends

NCARB has seen consistent growth in gender equity and racial diversity across all candidate stages over the past 5 years. In 2024, 49% of the licensure candidate population identified as a person of color, and 46% were women.

Women now make up 47% of the testing population, and typically earn their licenses faster than men—completing requirements a year sooner on average. In 2024, nearly half (44%) of candidates completing the AXP and a third (33%) of candidates completing the ARE identified as a person of color.

In 2024, we also saw racial, ethnic, and gender diversity in the licensure candidate population beginning to make its way to the pool of licensed architects: in 2024, 1 in 3 new architects identified as a person of color..

ARE 5.0 PASS RATES

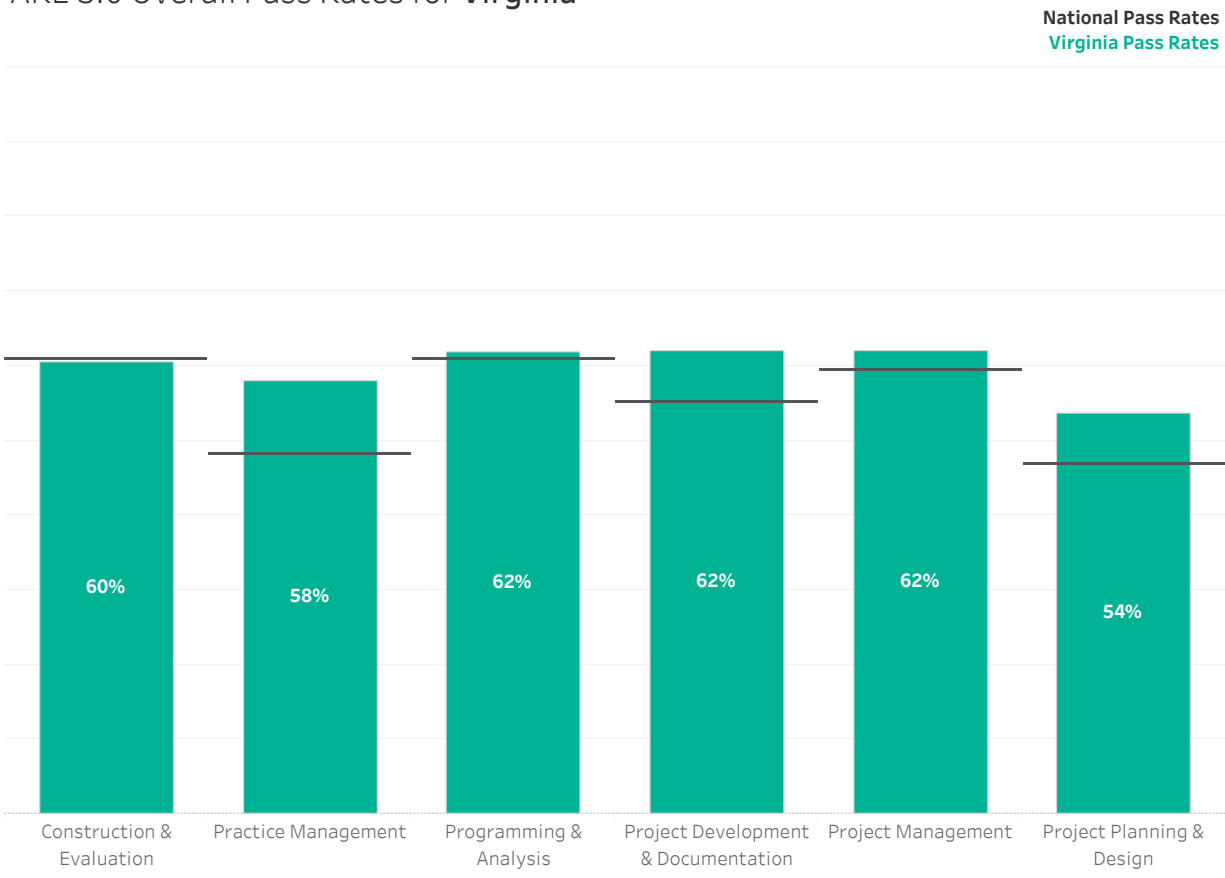
NCARB tracks pass rates to understand candidate performance across the exam’s six divisions. A “pass rate” reflects the proportion of division attempts that scored at or above the cut score for that division. “Overall pass rate” refers to the average pass rate across all six divisions. Thanks to enhanced data science capabilities, NCARB has been able to segment and analyze pass rates by demographic information, including race and ethnicity, gender, and age.

The charts below include information about pass rates in your jurisdiction during the calendar year 2024, including pass rates segmented by race, ethnicity, and gender.

Overall ARE 5.0 Pass Rates

This chart shows each division’s pass rate for all candidates in your jurisdiction, including all division attempts in the calendar year 2024. The grey line indicates the national pass rate for all candidates on each division.

ARE 5.0 Overall Pass Rates for Virginia



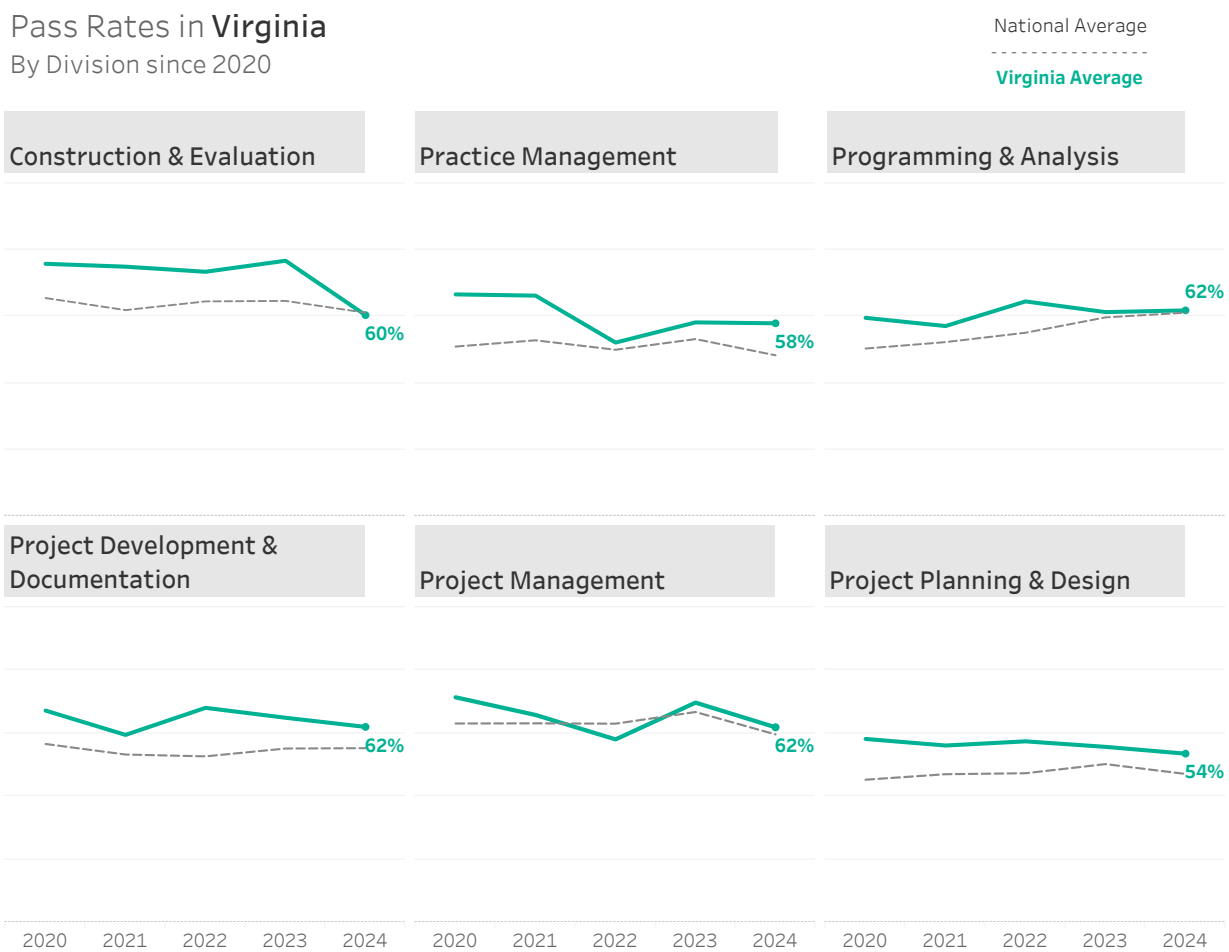
Shift in Pass Rates by Division

This chart shows the change in ARE 5.0 pass rates for candidates in your jurisdiction across all six divisions over the last five years. The dashed grey line indicates the national pass rate for all candidates on each division.

At a national level, overall pass rates fell by 3% in 2024—a return to average following last year’s increase. NCARB’s free practice exams have helped drive this positive change, providing candidates with greater insight into the testing experience. Overall, candidates who took one of NCARB’s free practice exams before attempting the related division were 16 percentage points more likely to pass.

Pass Rates in Virginia

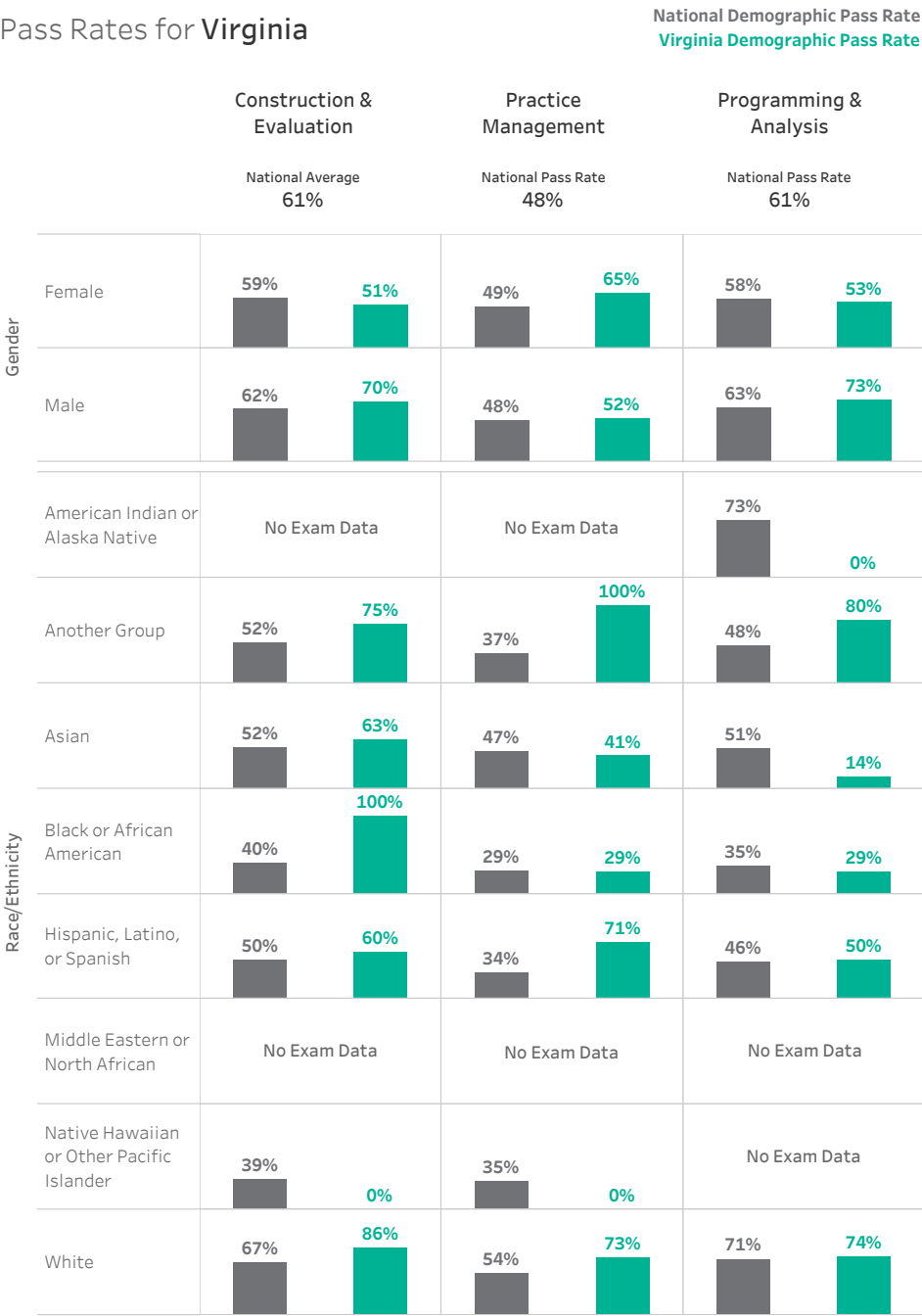
By Division since 2020



ARE 5.0 Divisional Pass Rates by Demographic

This chart shows each division’s 2024 pass rate for candidates in your jurisdiction segmented by the candidate’s race/ethnicity and gender. The grey bar indicates the national pass rate for the related demographic group on each division.

The chart shows data for the Construction & Evaluation, Practice Management, and Programming & Analysis divisions on this page and data for the Project Development & Documentation, Project Management, and Project Planning & Design divisions on the next page.



ARE 5.0 Divisional Pass Rates by Demographic

The grey bar indicates the national pass rate for the related demographic group on each division.

Pass Rates for Virginia

National Demographic Pass Rate
Virginia Demographic Pass Rate

