

association news

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Reliability of exam reflected in consistent pass rates

Nearly 40,000 exams were administered in 2014, an increase of 9.3% over 2013

Year over year, the pass rates for first-time test-takers of ASWB's licensing exams have remained consistent, attesting to the validity and reliability of the exams. Both measures are critical for these high-stakes exams, which assess minimum competency for practice. Pass rates of first-time test-takers are reported because they are the most reliable measure of ability.

The 2014 pass rates for first-time test-takers for all exam categories appear below and can be found on ASWB's website.

Associates exam 68.9%*
Bachelors exam 78.0%
Masters exam 82.1%

Advanced generalist exam 71.5%*

Clinical exam 77.8%

*Rates are most representative for groups of more than 200 candidates. Associates (161) and Advanced Generalist (158) exam administrations fall below this threshold A total of 39,778 exams were administered in 2014, an increase of 9.3 percent compared to 2013. The Candidate Services Center (CSC) answered a record number of calls—78,197—from candidates registering for the exam, ordering exam guides or online practice tests, requesting testing accommodations, or asking general questions about how to become licensed. Satisfaction of candidates that the registration process went smoothly (91 percent) continues to reflect the outstanding customer service that ASWB's staff delivers.