

# NCARB BY THE NUMBERS



2018

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# Welcome to the 2018 NCARB by the Numbers

When we first launched *NCARB By the Numbers* in 2012, our goal was to provide a clear and definitive source of information about the past, present, and future of architectural regulation. Now in its seventh year, we are proud to see that our annual publication has become a highly anticipated, exclusive, and trusted source of insight on the path to licensure and beyond.

Through this report, we have been able to highlight and discuss current trends in the profession—including changes in diversity among practitioners and the time it takes to earn a license. Over the past several years, NCARB has worked with our 54 Member Boards to implement program updates that address these issues. By streamlining both the Architectural Experience Program® (AXP™) and Architect Registration Examination® (ARE®), we have been able to open doors to a new pool of candidates while maintaining the rigorous standards necessary for protecting the public health, safety, and welfare.

In 2019, NCARB will turn 100. As our organization celebrates its centennial, we are taking this opportunity to look deeper into our programs and services, and examine where we've been and where we're going. Part of this introspection involves shifting the data we present in *NCARB by the Numbers*, including how we look at the timeline to licensure. The new perspective featured this year will help us better understand the ripple effect that changes in NCARB's programs have on licensure candidates and architects.

This year, the number of candidates working toward licensure fell slightly—but more candidates than ever are completing the core requirements for licensure. Over 5,000 candidates completed the ARE in 2017, and almost 7,000 completed the AXP. Candidates are finishing these two programs sooner than ever before, with the average candidate taking just six and a half years. In addition, the pool of individuals on the path to licensure is increasingly diverse: 45 percent of new AXP participants identified as a racial or ethnic minority, and 46 percent were women.

There's much to consider in this year's edition. I hope you enjoy reading the *2018 NCARB by the Numbers* as much as we enjoyed creating it.



Michael J. Armstrong  
Chief Executive Officer  
National Council of Architectural Registration Boards

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# State of Licensure

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The number of U.S. architects rose slightly in 2017, with over 113,000 licensed practitioners across the 54 jurisdictions—a 3 percent increase from 2016. With over 125,000 reciprocal (out-of-state) licenses, mobility stayed strong, signaling that architects continue to seek work across borders. A record number of individuals completed the core requirements for licensure, causing the pool of candidates to fall slightly in 2017. There are still almost 41,000 individuals actively working toward becoming a licensed architect.

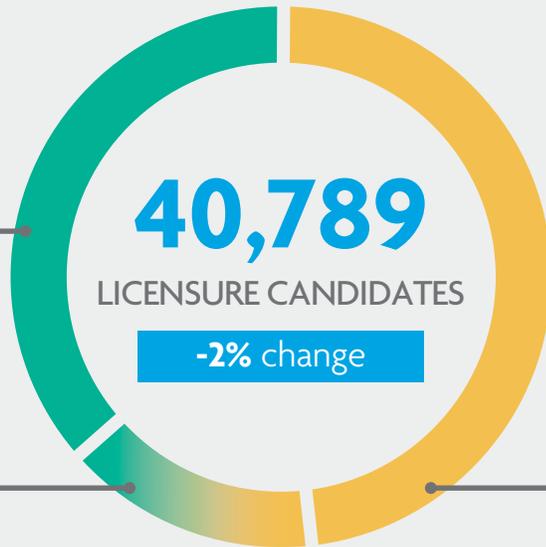


**+3%  
CHANGE** **113,554**  
*architects in the  
United States*

**-1%  
CHANGE** **125,348**  
*reciprocal licenses*



**14,695**  
testing



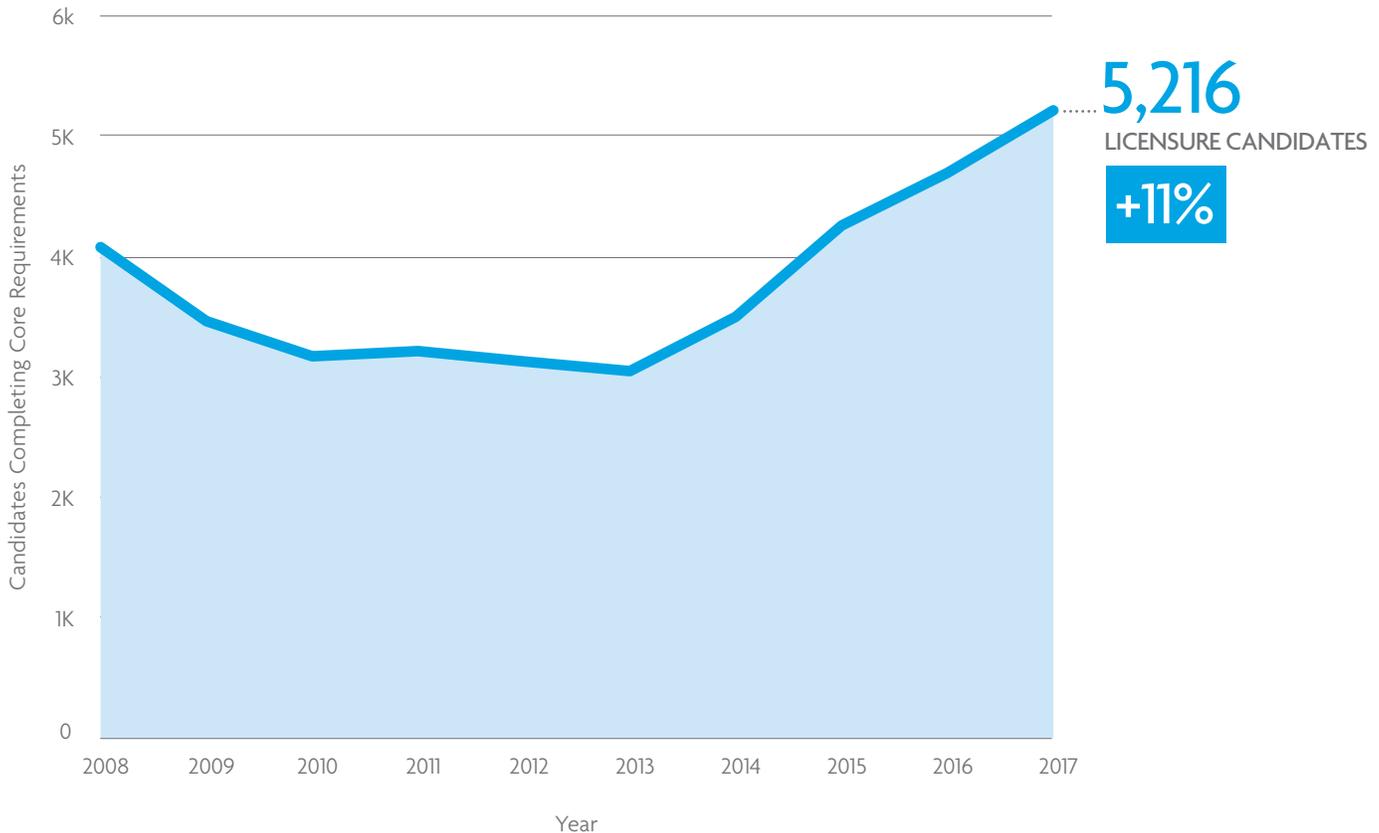
**19,839**  
reporting hours

**6,255**  
reporting  
hours & testing

## Record Number of Candidates Complete Core Licensure Requirements

Over 5,200 candidates completed their final core requirement for licensure in 2017. This is an increase of 11 percent from 2016 and a new record. There are two driving reasons for this spike in requirement completions: the 2016 overhaul of AXP, which accelerated a large group of candidates toward finishing the experience program, and a rush by candidates to complete the exam before the retirement of ARE 4.0.

The increase in completions over the last three years has led to a decrease in the total number of licensure candidates, as higher numbers of candidates exit the pipeline while the number of new Records holds steady. The 11 percent jump in 2017 suggests that the number of licensure candidates actively working toward licensure will likely fall in 2018.

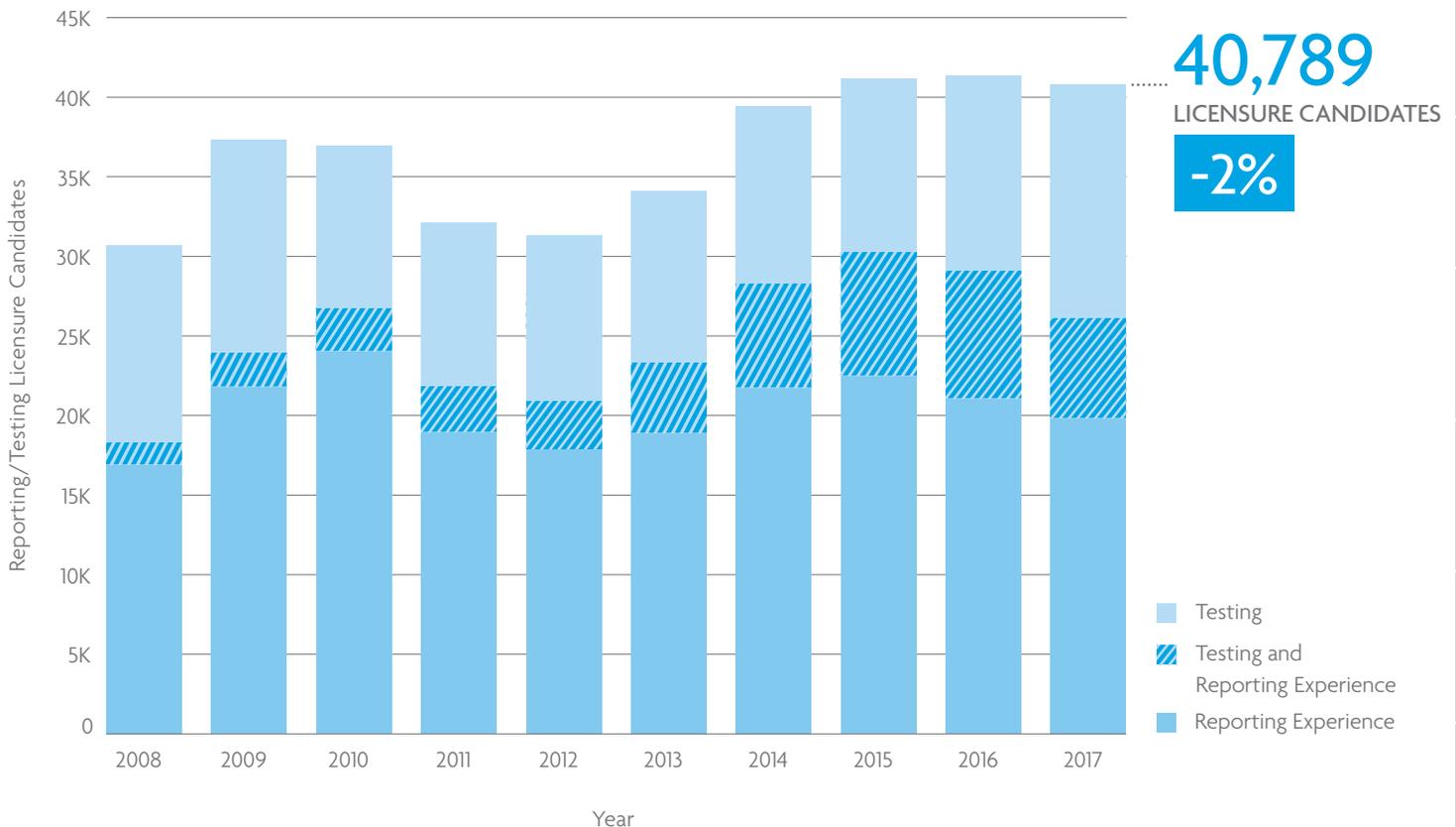


## Pool of Licensure Candidates Dips Slightly

In 2017, nearly 40,800 individuals actively worked toward licensure by reporting AXP hours, taking the ARE, or both. While this represents a 2 percent drop from 2016, the likely reason for the decrease is positive: nearly 10,000 licensure candidates completed their core requirements in 2016 and 2017 combined. As these individuals leave the pipeline, fewer remain in the pool. Therefore, we anticipate that the number of candidates will shrink again (potentially more dramatically) in 2018.

This trend is most apparent when looking at the number of candidates reporting experience. This group has dropped by 4,000 since its peak in 2015, correlating with the large number of people completing the AXP in recent years.

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

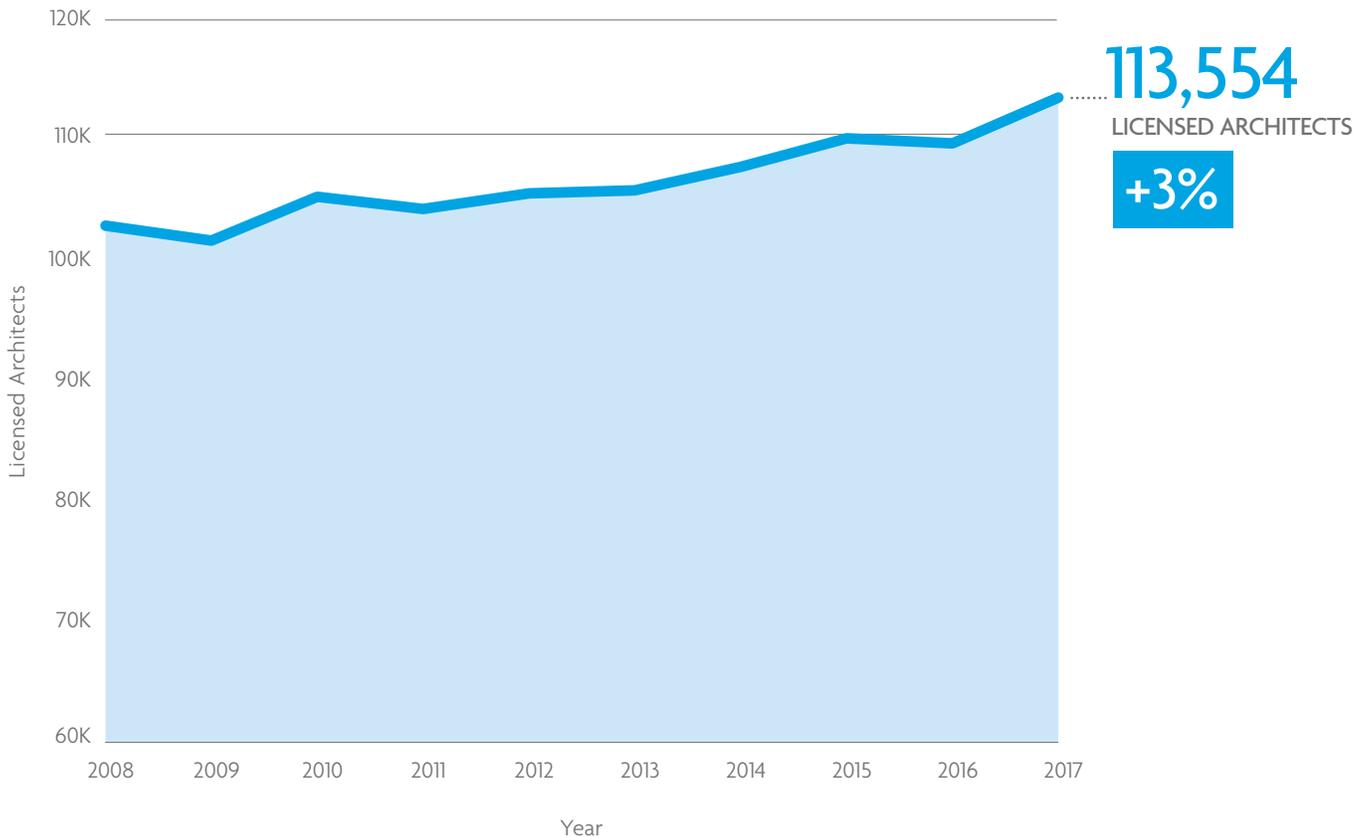


# Number of U.S. Architects Increases

The number of architects licensed in the United States rose to 113,554 in 2017, according to the annual Survey of Architectural Registration Boards. This represents a 3 percent increase from 2016 and an almost 11 percent increase from the number of U.S. architects seen a decade ago. As older generations retire or start to step away from the profession, this suggests that there are sufficient new architects moving along the pipeline to take their place.

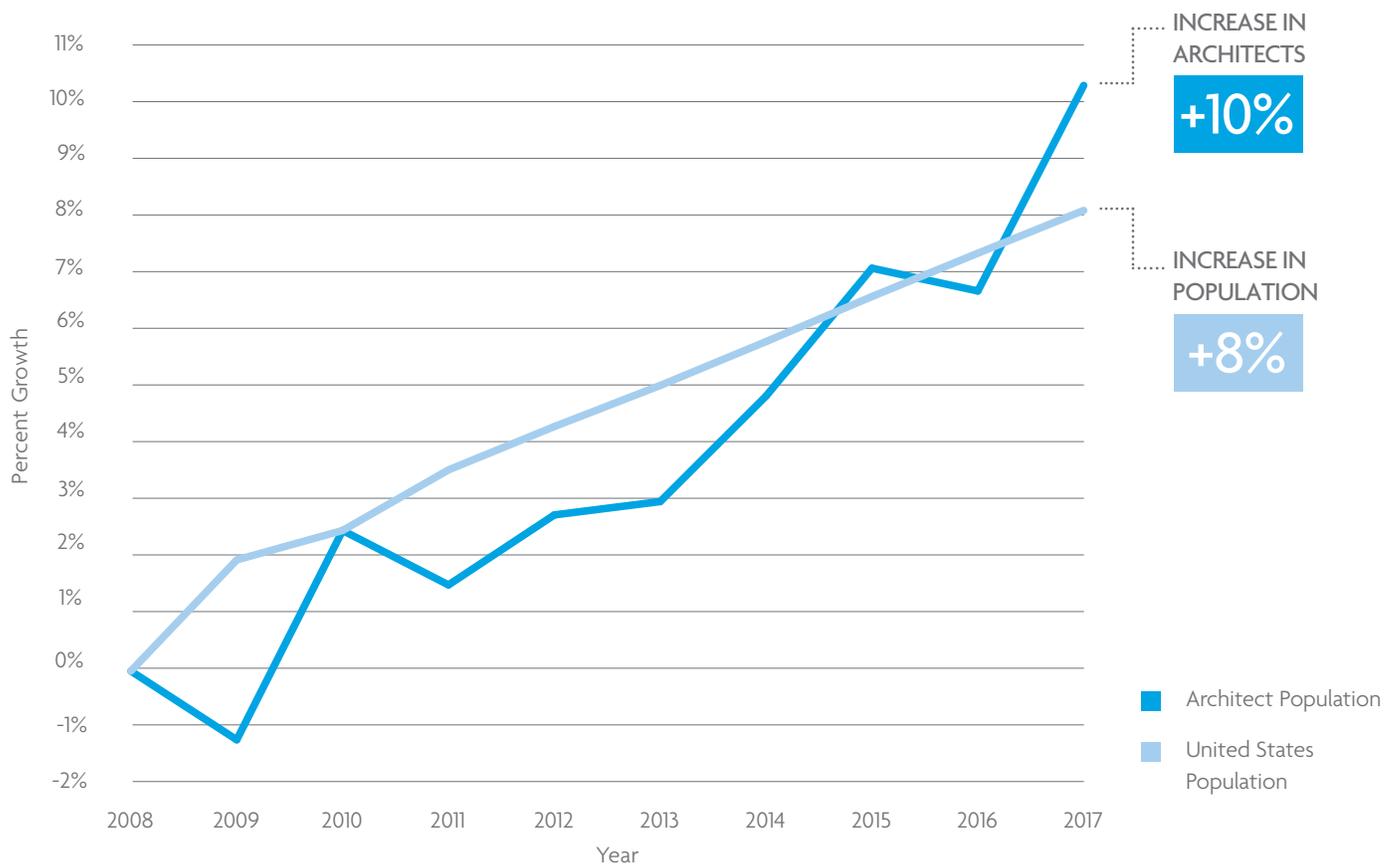
The 2017 Survey of Architectural Registration Boards also revealed that there are still more reciprocal (out-of-state) licenses than resident licenses issued across the U.S. There were 125,348 reciprocal licenses reported in 2017, a 1 percent decrease from 2016.

Each year, NCARB collects this data from its 54 Member Boards, which include the 50 states, the District of Columbia, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.



# Architects Grow in Comparison to U.S. Population

While the number of architects licensed in the United States has risen over 10 percent since 2008, the total U.S. population has risen just 8 percent, according to data from the U.S. Census Bureau. This suggests that there are now slightly more architects per capita (one architect to every 2,900 people) than there were at the start of the 2007-2009 economic recession. Many architects maintain their professional licenses into retirement, which could also impact this data.



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# Education

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For most licensure candidates, the first step to becoming an architect is enrolling in a program accredited by the National Architectural Accrediting Board (NAAB). NAAB data reveals that while the intake of new enrollments during the 2016-2017 school year fell by 6 percent, the number of graduates increased by 2 percent. Overall, the pool of total enrollments has held steady for the past four school years—around 24,000.

Awareness of the licensure process is also increasing among students. NCARB's data shows that almost half of newly licensed architects started the path to licensure while in school. Plus, licensure candidates with a degree from an accredited program progress toward licensure more efficiently—and with greater success.

During the 2016-2017 school year,

**24,109**

students were enrolled in NAAB-accredited programs

**-1% change**

**MORE THAN  
4 OUT OF 10** graduates  
were women

**85%** of licensure candidates  
graduated from a  
NAAB-accredited  
program



**26 IPAL PROGRAMS**

have been accepted with

**454**  
STUDENTS



**6,982**

New Students

**-6% change**



**6,175**

Graduates

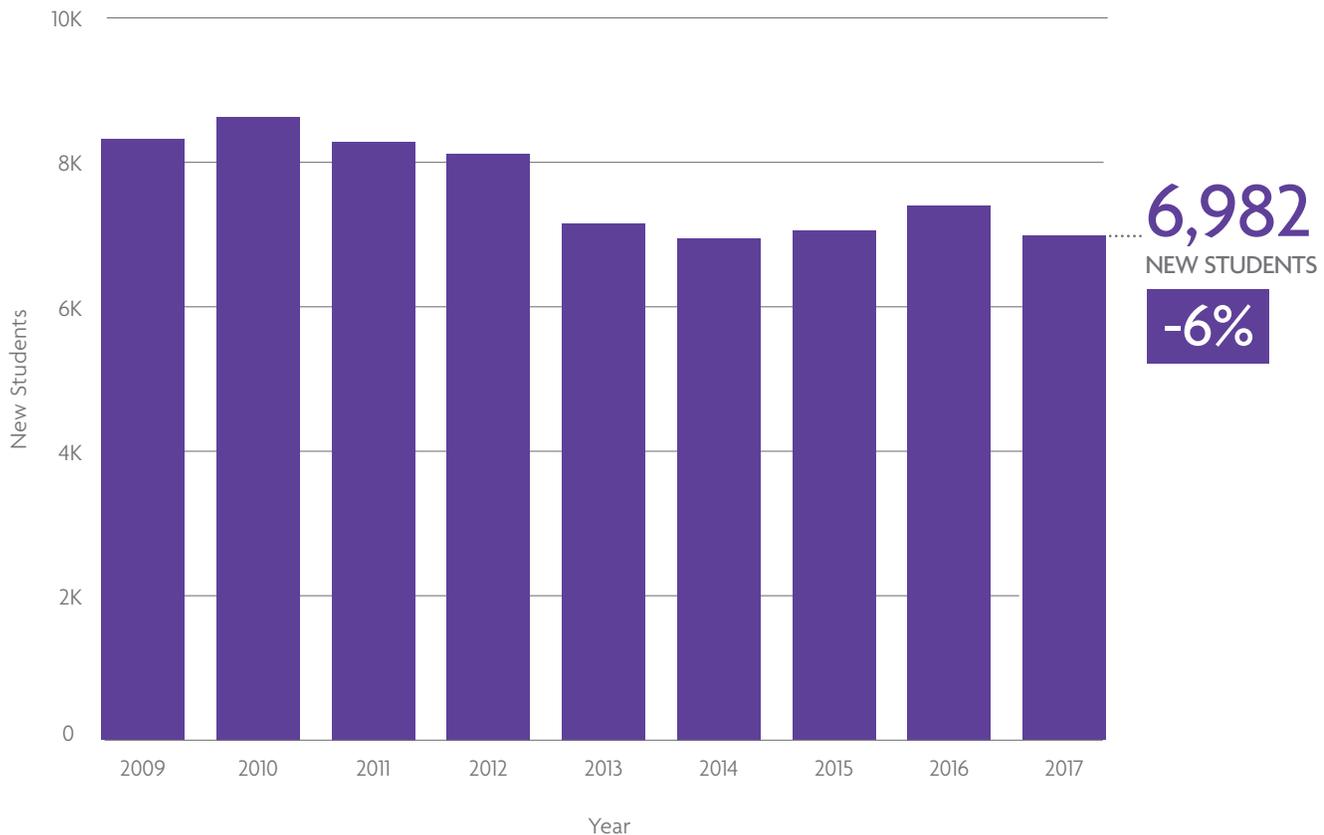
**+2% change**

## New Enrollment in Accredited Programs Drops

Nearly 7,000 new students enrolled in a NAAB-accredited program in 2017—a 6 percent decrease from the previous school year. Of these new students, 45 percent are enrolled in Bachelor of Architecture programs, 54 percent in Master of Architecture programs, and less than 1 percent in Doctor of Architecture degree programs.

Of the total population of new enrollees, 52 percent were men and 48 percent were women. This represents the smallest gap in gender equity across any stage on the path to licensure.

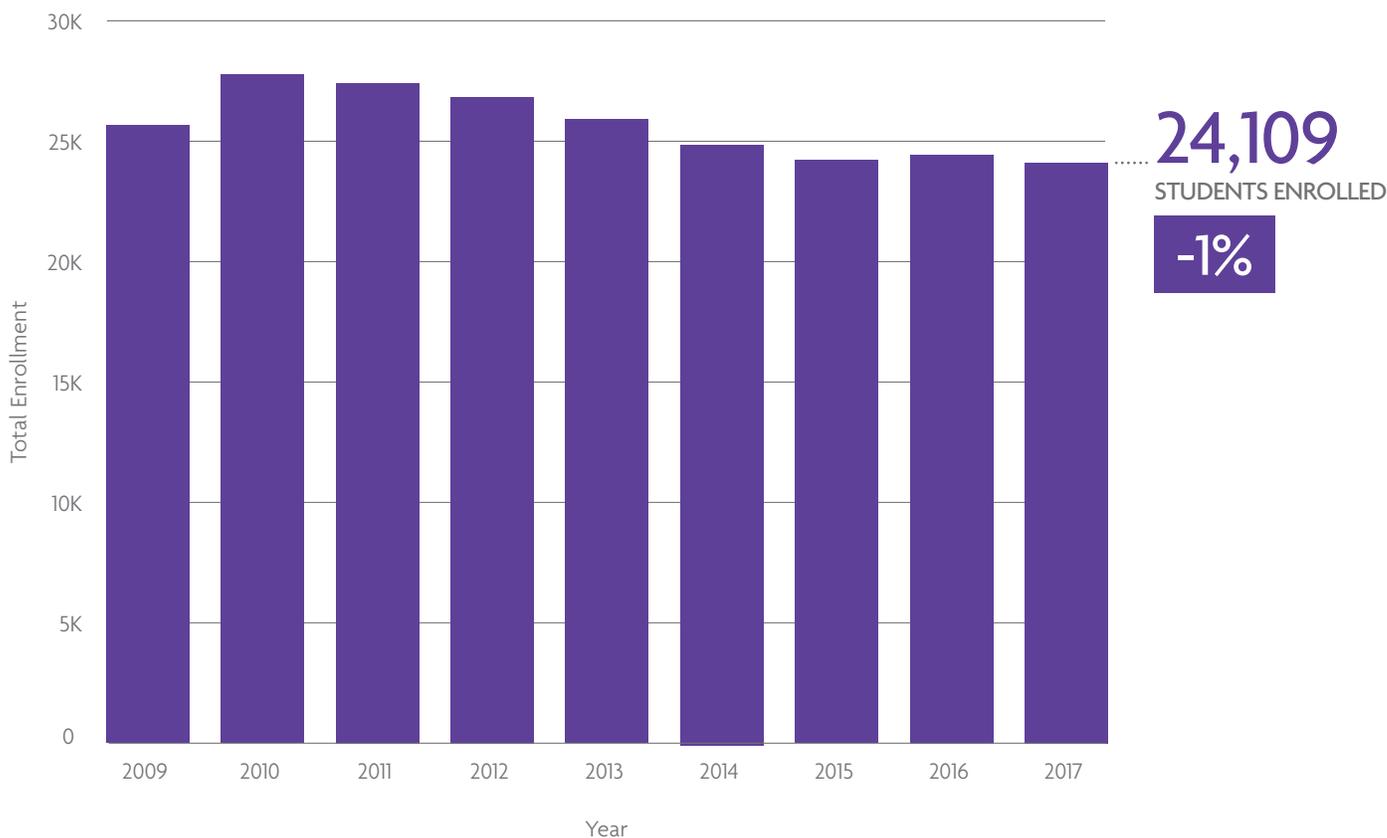
*Note: This data is provided to NAAB by accredited programs and was published in the 2017 NAAB Report on Accreditation in Architecture, available at [www.naab.org](http://www.naab.org). Students enrolled in non-accredited architecture programs are not represented.*



## Overall Enrollment Holds Steady

Just over 24,100 students were enrolled in a NAAB-accredited program in the 2016-2017 school year, down 1 percent from the 2015-2016 school year. This number has remained around 24,000 for the past four school years, indicating that overall enrollment is relatively stable. Of these students, 58 percent are enrolled in Bachelor of Architecture programs, 42 percent in Master of Architecture programs, and less than 1 percent in Doctor of Architecture degree programs. 53 percent are men, and 47 percent are women.

*Note: This data is provided to NAAB by accredited programs and was published in the 2017 NAAB Report on Accreditation in Architecture, available at [www.naab.org](http://www.naab.org). Students enrolled in non-accredited architecture programs are not represented.*

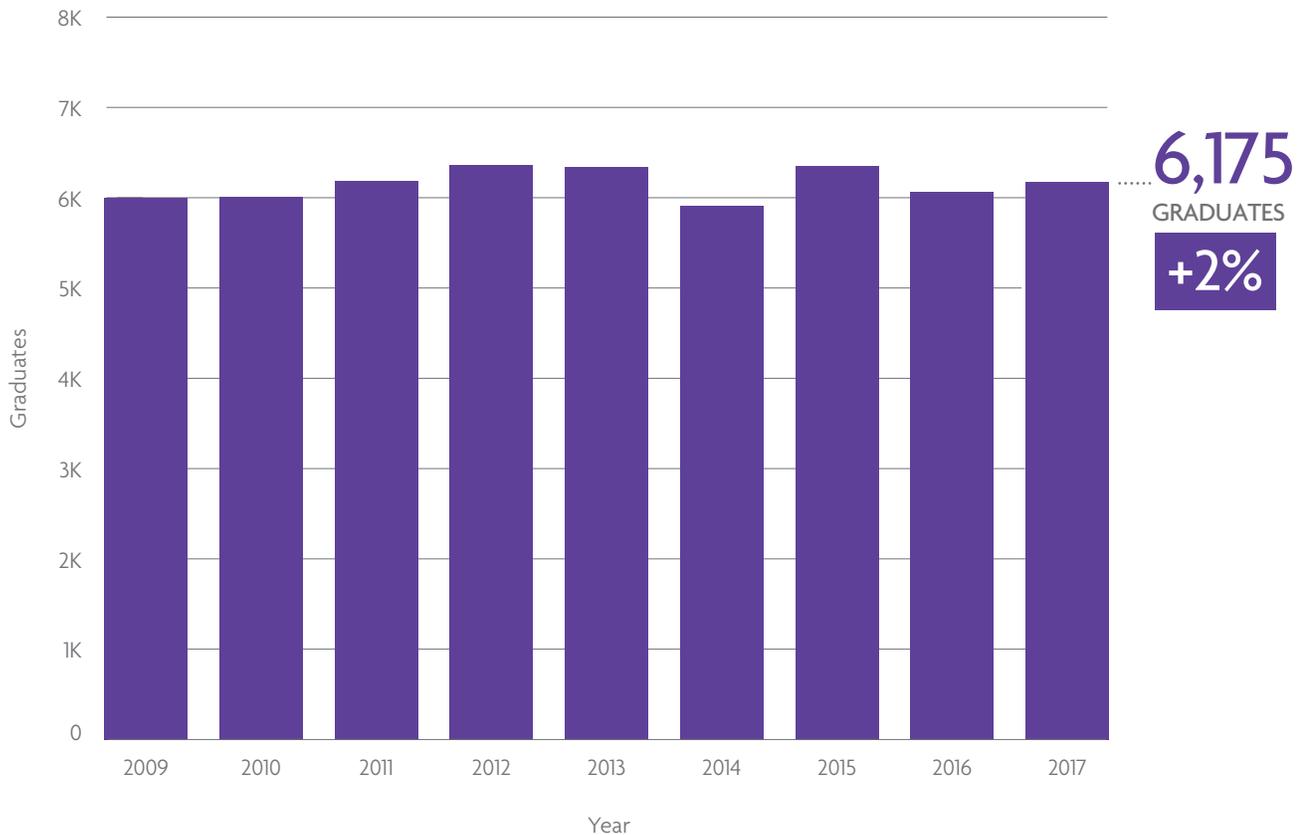


## Number of Graduates Grows Slightly

In 2017, 6,175 degrees were awarded by NAAB-accredited programs, a 2 percent increase from 2016. The nine-year average of 6,154 degrees awarded—nearly equal with this year's number—indicates that like enrollment, graduation rates remain steady.

Of these graduates, 55 percent were men and 45 percent were women—a 2 percentage point improvement in gender equity from the 2015-2016 school year. Broken down by race and ethnicity, 46 percent of graduates identified as white, 14 percent as Hispanic or Latino, 9 percent as Asian, and 4 percent as Black or African American.

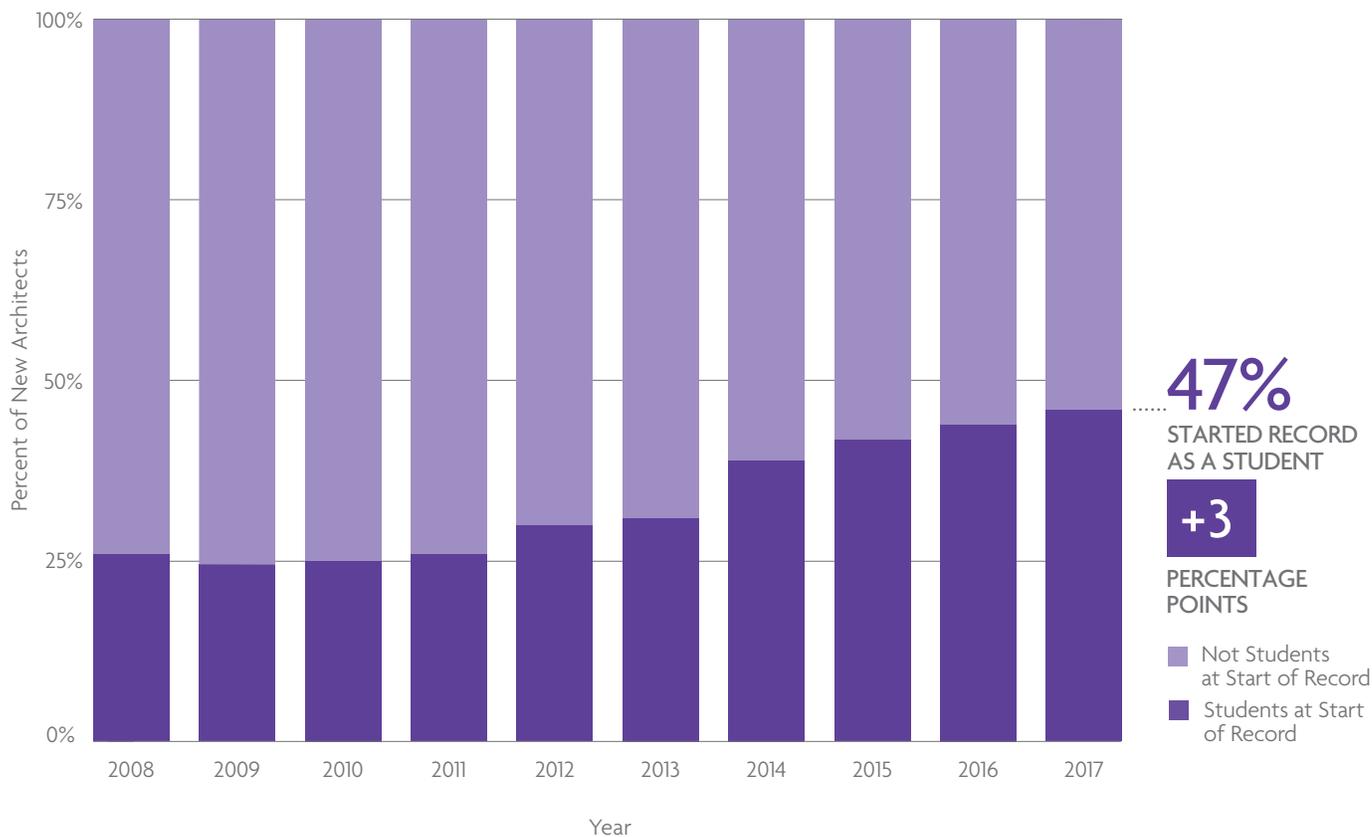
*Note: This data is provided to NAAB by accredited programs and was published in the 2017 NAAB Report on Accreditation in Architecture, available at [www.naab.org](http://www.naab.org). Students enrolled in non-accredited architecture programs are not represented.*



## More Newly Licensed Architects Start Record in School

Of architects who earned an initial license in 2017, 47 percent started their NCARB Record as students, the highest proportion to date.

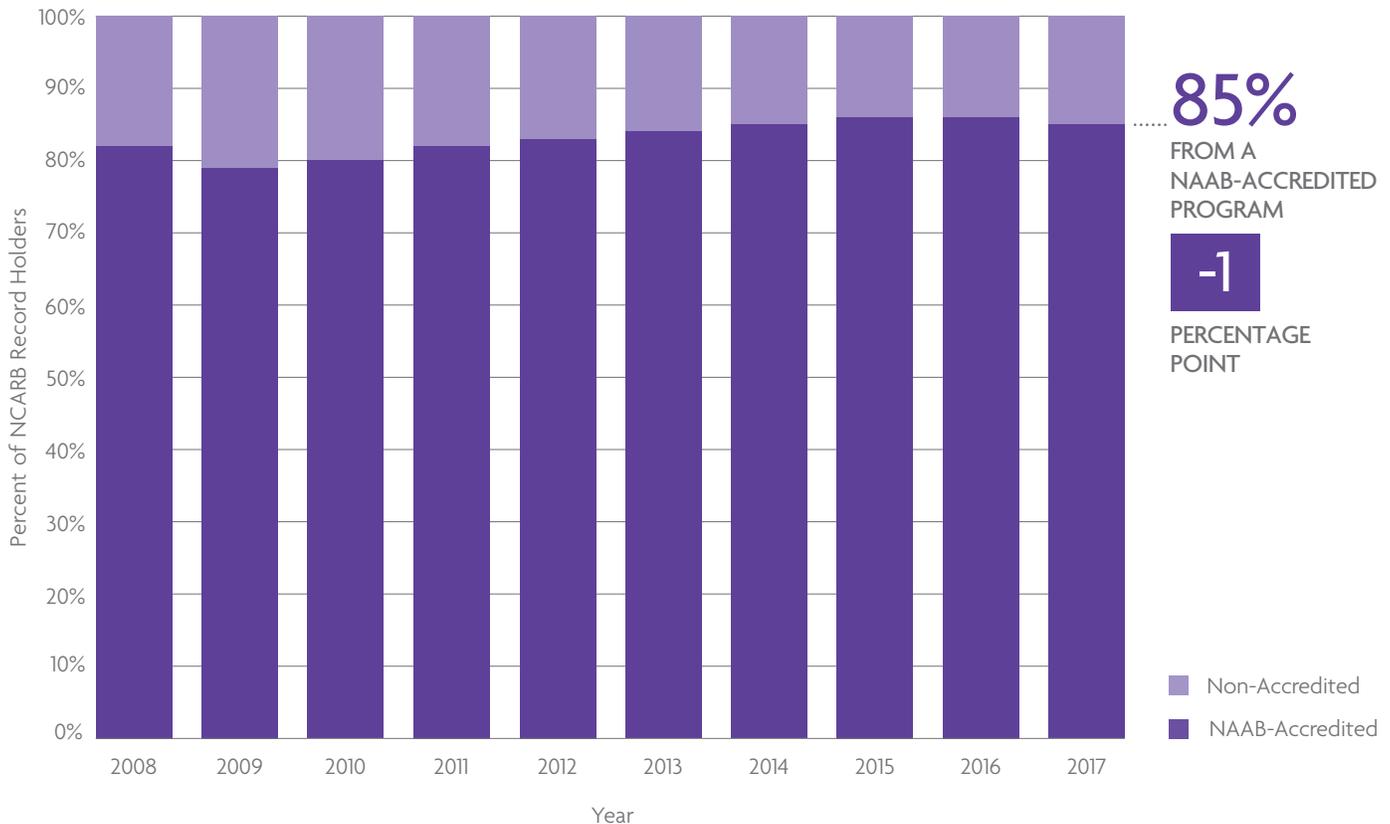
Creating an NCARB Record enables students to begin reporting AXP experience, and is required to take the ARE—because of this, it is considered one of the first steps on the path to licensure.



## Most Licensure Candidates Attend NAAB-Accredited Programs

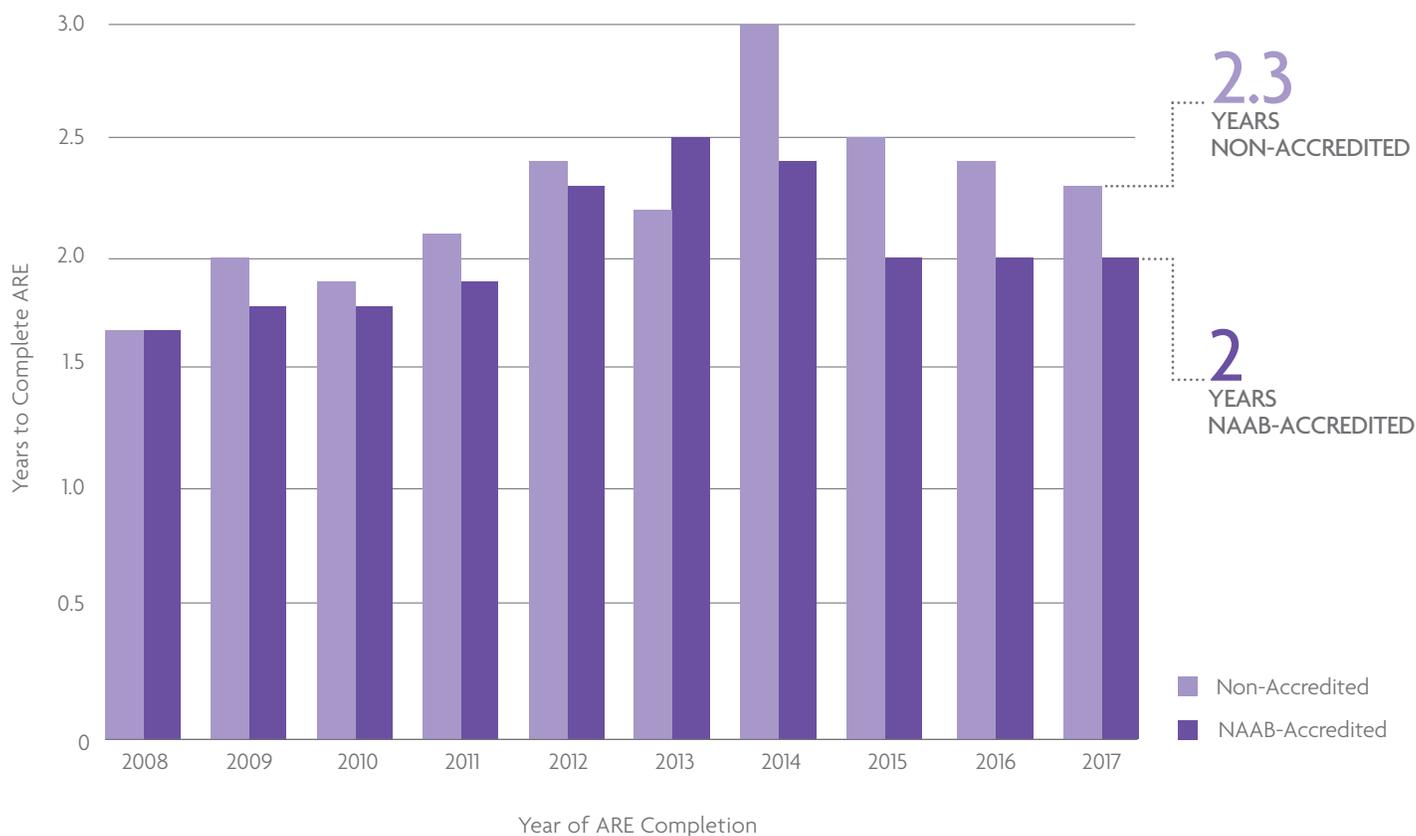
Of the licensure candidates who completed the AXP in 2017, 85 percent held a degree from a NAAB-accredited program. This represents a drop of 1 percentage point from the previous year, but is above the 10-year average of 83 percent. This trend confirms that earning a degree from an accredited program remains the preferred path.

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



## Graduates From Accredited Programs Complete the ARE Sooner

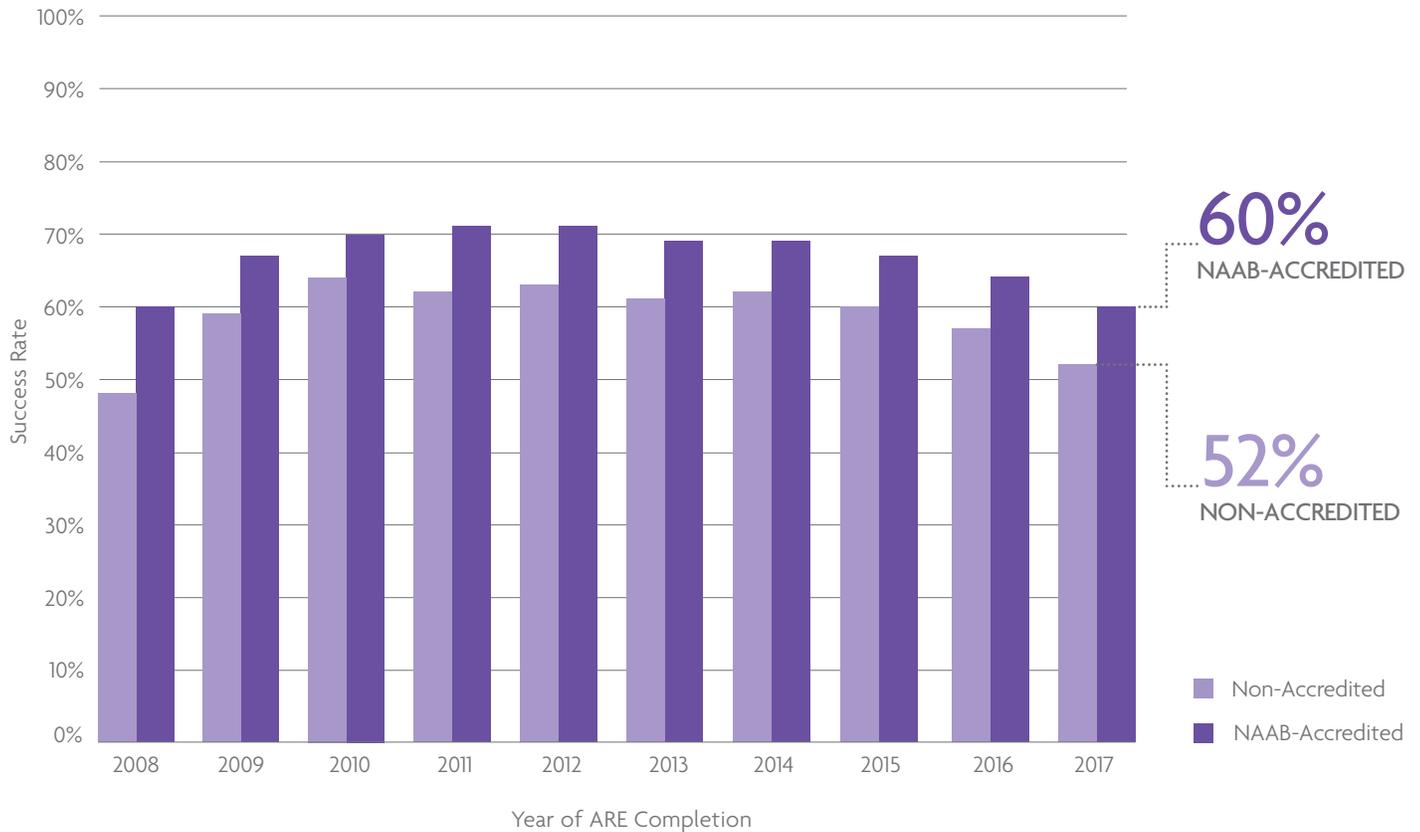
In 2017, candidates who graduated from a NAAB-accredited program finished the ARE in two years on average—about four months sooner than candidates from non-accredited programs. Although graduates from accredited programs historically complete the exam several months sooner, the gap between these two groups has been shrinking since 2014.



## Graduates From Accredited Programs Have Higher ARE Success Rates

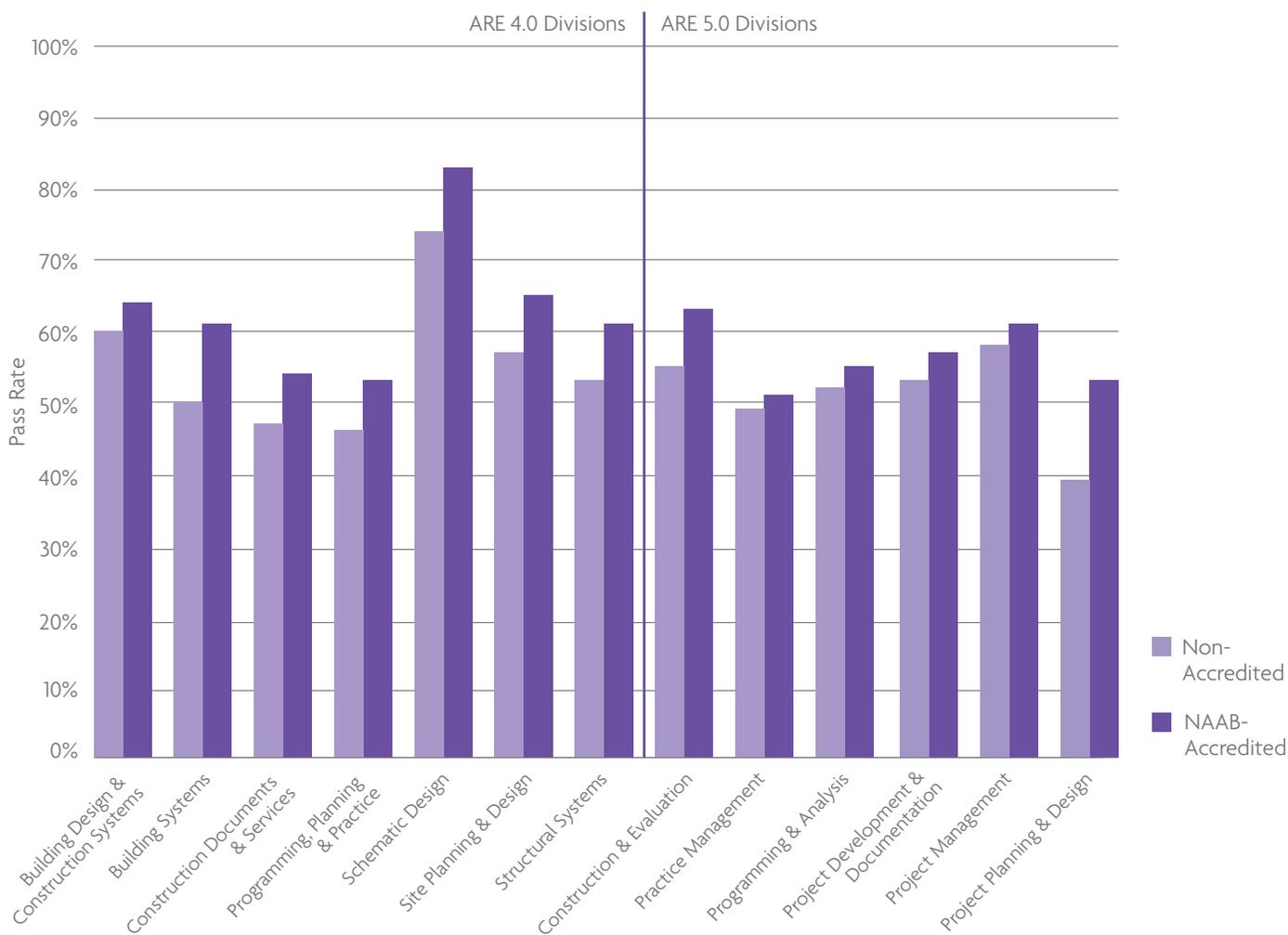
ARE candidates who graduated from a NAAB-accredited program achieved a higher exam success rate (the average pass rate across all divisions). In 2017, graduates from accredited programs had a 60 percent success rate, compared to 52 percent for graduates from non-accredited programs. While success rates for all graduates dropped from 2016 as candidates navigate the transition from ARE 4.0 to ARE 5.0, candidates from accredited programs have consistently outperformed their peers by 7 to 9 percentage points.

For comparison, the average success rate for all exam candidates in 2017 was 58 percent.



# Graduates From Accredited Programs Have Higher ARE Division Pass Rates

In 2017, candidates with degrees from NAAB-accredited programs outperformed their peers across all ARE 4.0 and 5.0 divisions. The difference in pass rates was greatest in ARE 4.0's Building Systems and ARE 5.0's Project Planning & Design, with graduates from accredited programs outperforming graduates from non-accredited programs by 11 and 14 percentage points, respectively.



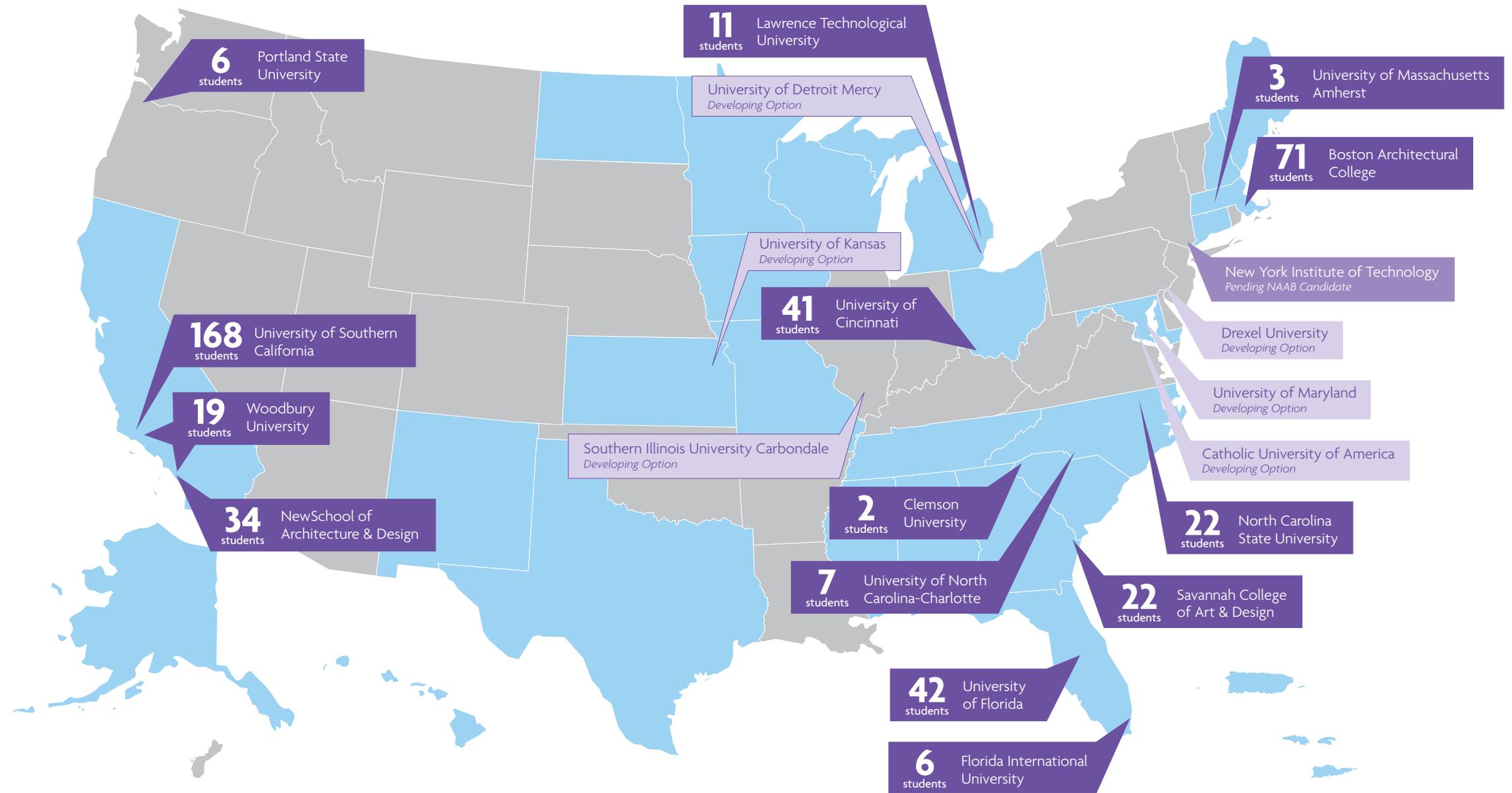
# IPAL Students Across the U.S.

As of December 2017, NCARB has accepted 26 programs at 21 colleges to participate in the Integrated Path to Architectural Licensure (IPAL) initiative.

IPAL options seek to shorten the time it takes to become an architect for students dedicated to earning a license. Participating programs must provide students with the opportunity to complete the AXP and take all six ARE 5.0 divisions prior to graduation. Currently, 27 licensing boards will accept candidates who have completed the ARE prior to graduation through an IPAL program.

*Note: Enrollment data is from the 2017-2018 school year.*

- Active IPAL Program (including number of current students)
- Pending NAAB Candidate
- Developing IPAL Program
- State Accepts IPAL Graduates



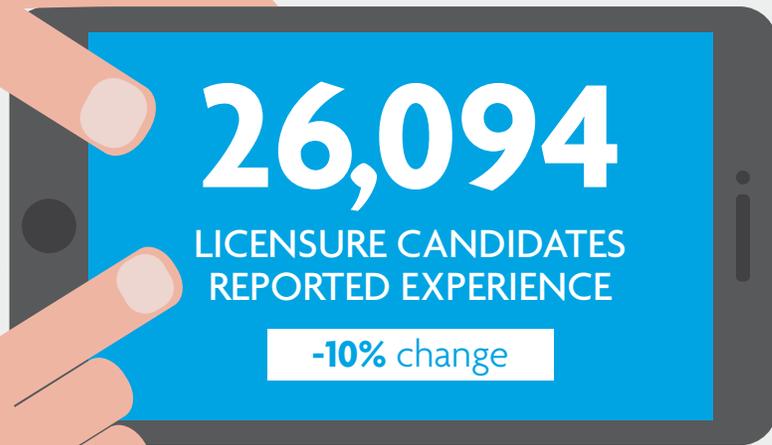
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# Experience

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Following a record high in 2016, the number of candidates completing the Architectural Experience Program® (AXP™) in 2017 fell for the first time in four years. Despite this dip, 2017 holds the second highest number of AXP completions on record.

Candidates finished the AXP sooner than ever in 2017. Contributing to this change are the reduction in required hours and the realignment of experience areas. With a broadened scope and a renewed focus on current architectural practice, the updated AXP allows candidates to gain the necessary knowledge and skills with greater flexibility.



**25** average age a candidate starts the AXP

**29** average age a candidate completes the AXP

**4.1** average years it takes to finish the program

**6,701**

total candidates completed the AXP

**-25% change**

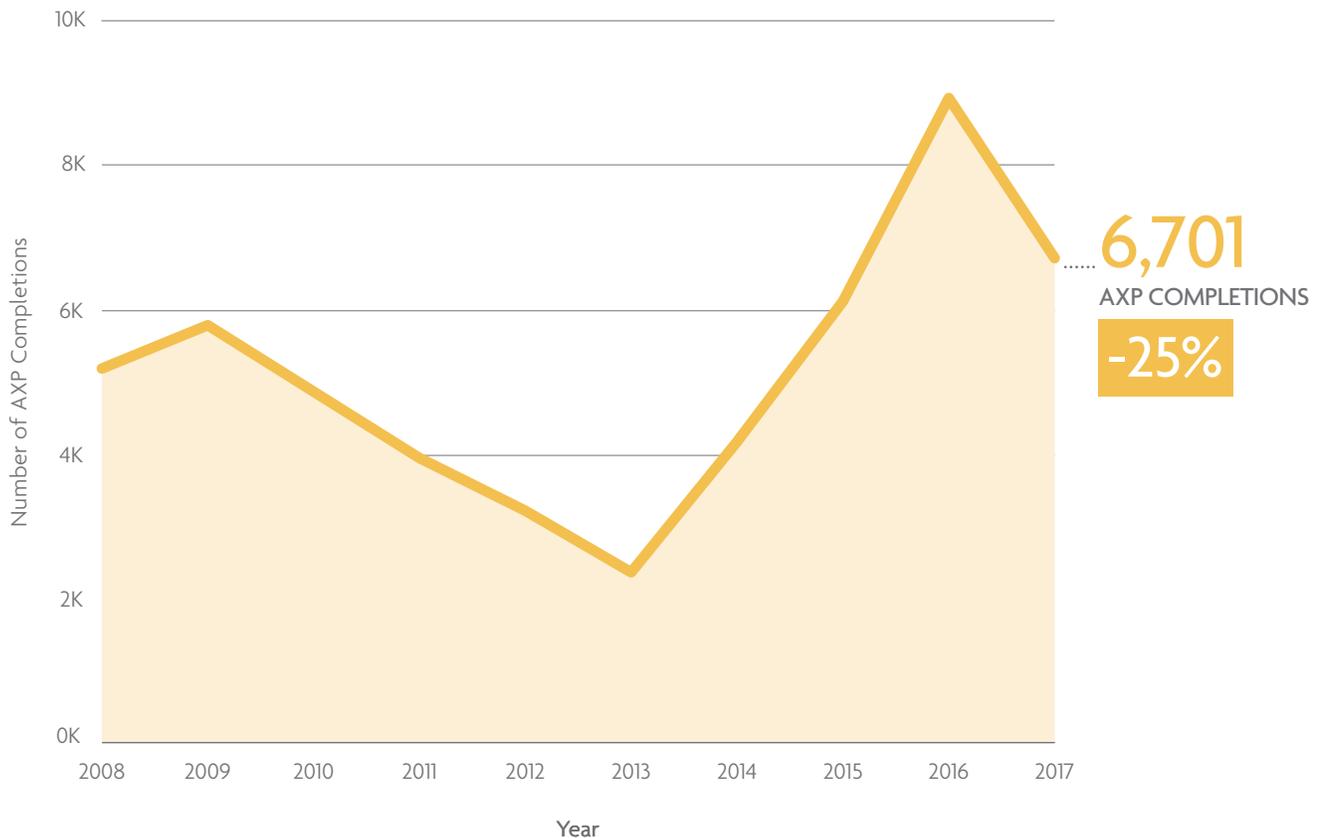


## AXP Completions Drop

In 2017, the number of AXP completions fell by 25 percent—the first drop since 2013. Although a significant decrease, this fall was expected as a follow-up to the spike seen in 2016, when nearly 2,400 candidates completed the program immediately after the experience areas were realigned.

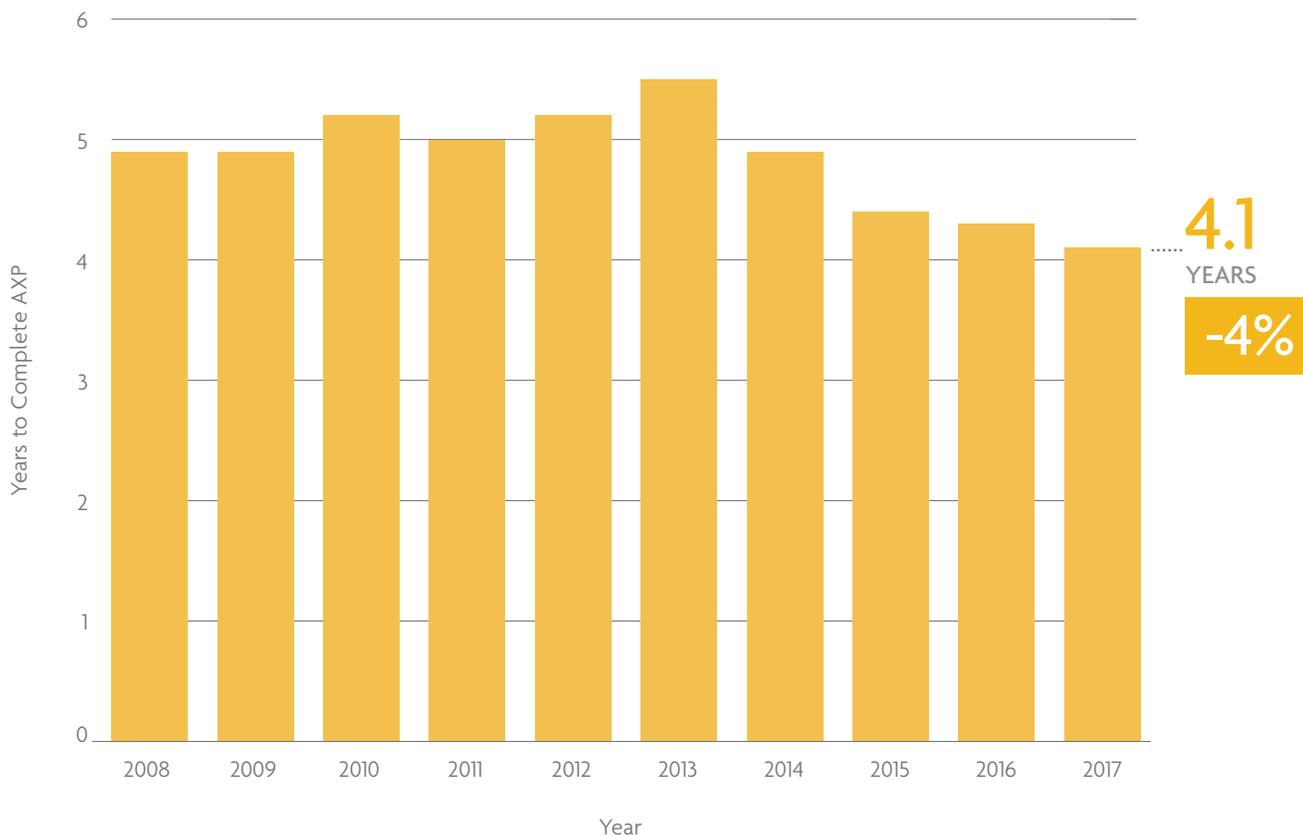
2017 still holds the second highest number of AXP completions on record, as program updates including realigning the experience areas; enabling candidates to earn 50 percent credit for experience more than eight months old (July 2014); and removing elective hours (July 2015) continue to benefit individuals documenting their experience.

*Note: Historical data can shift because licensure candidates can backdate experience up to five years. For example, if someone today submitted a final experience report from 2015, their AXP completion date would be 2015.*



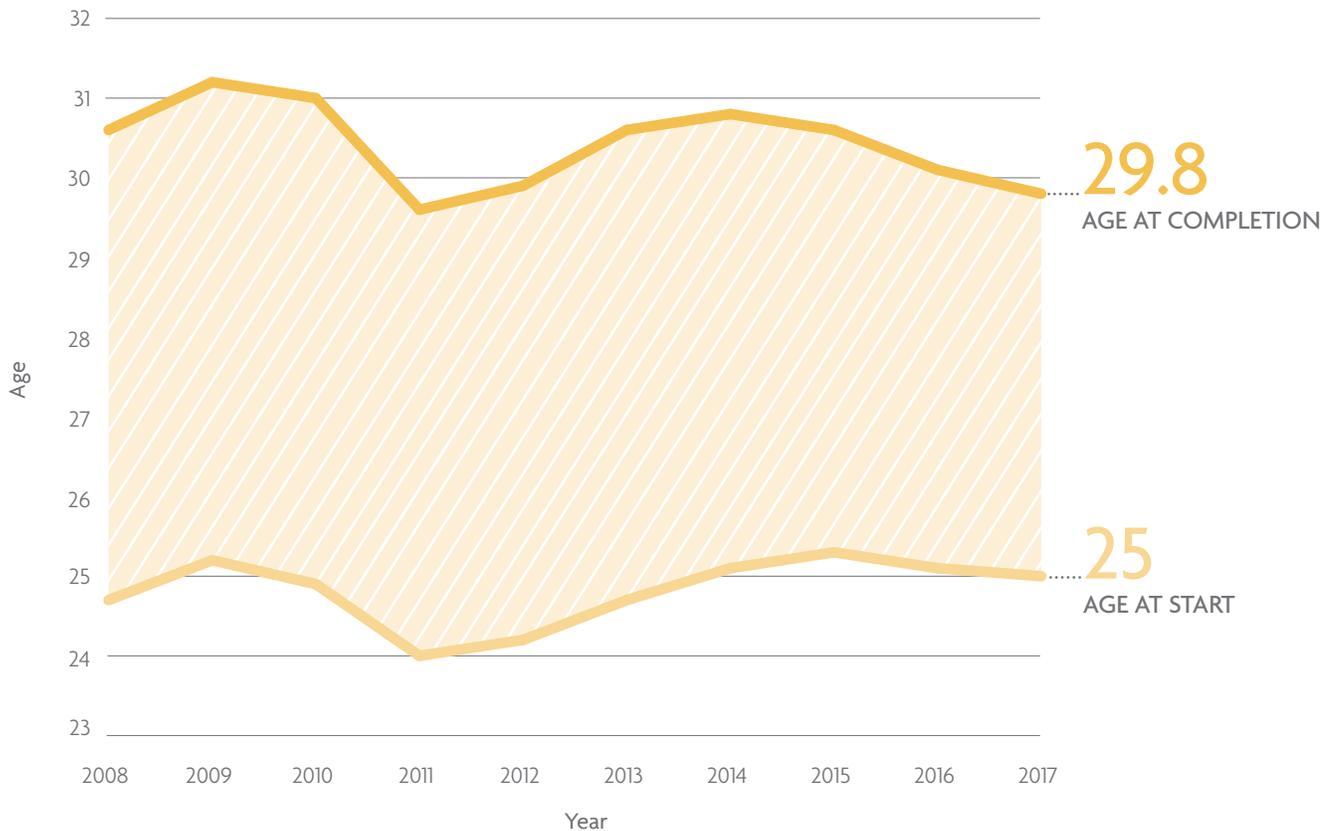
## Licensure Candidates Complete Experience in Record Time

Last year, the average licensure candidate completed the AXP in just over four years. This marks the fourth year of steady decrease since the peak of 5.5 years in 2013, a shift that is likely tied to several recent program updates. The most significant of these updates were allowing candidates to report experience older than six months (2014) and the removal of elective hours (2015). The 2016 realignment of experience areas has also helped reduce the time spent completing the AXP.



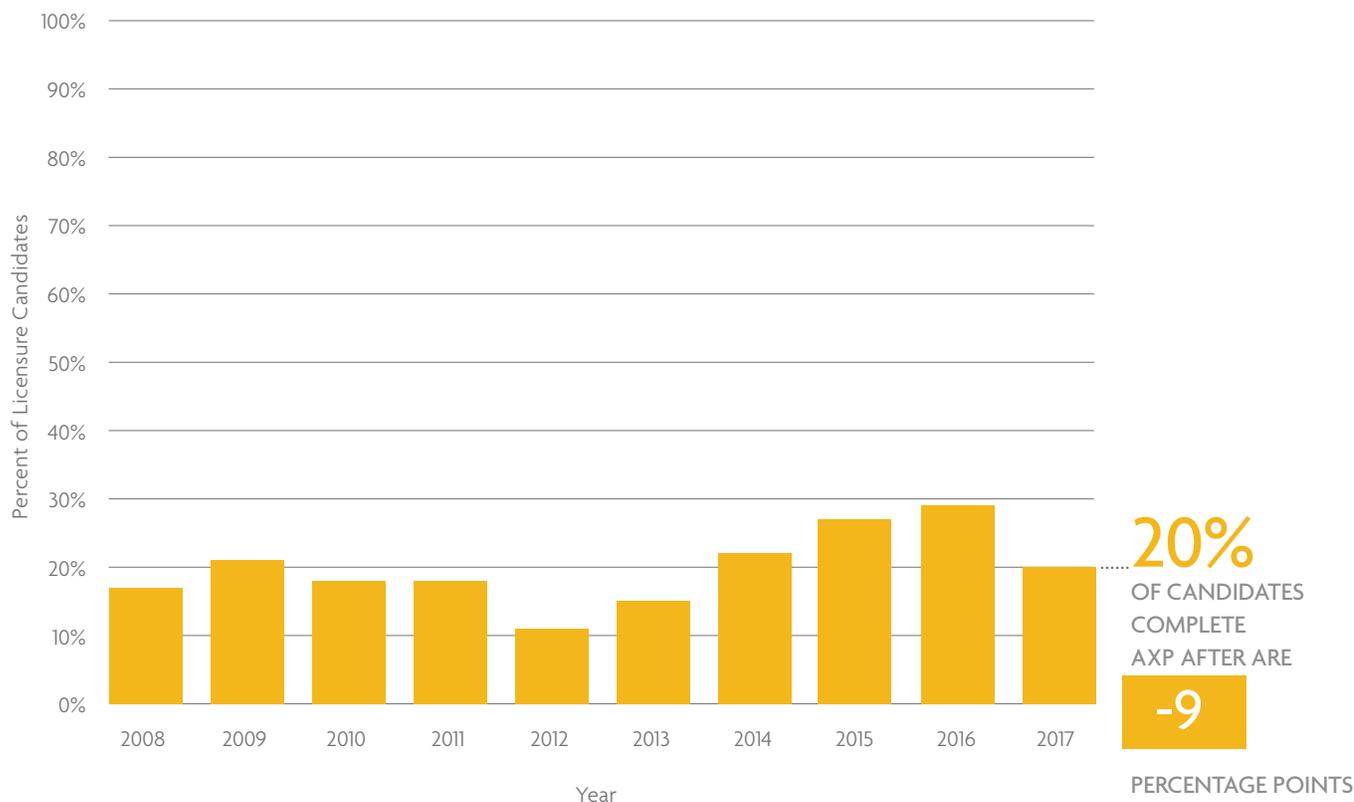
## Age at AXP Completion Dips Slightly

On average, licensure candidates who began the AXP in 2017 were 25 when they started the program, and licensure candidates who completed the AXP in 2017 were 29 when they finished—almost 5 months younger than in 2016. While the ages candidates start and complete the AXP have not shifted dramatically, these two points are gradually growing closer. For comparison, 2017 saw a 4.8-year difference, while 2013 was 5.9.



## Fewer Candidates Complete the ARE Before the AXP

Dropping 9 percentage points from 2016's data, 20 percent of licensure candidates who completed the AXP and ARE in 2017 finished the exam before their experience. While this proportion has been growing in recent years, this year's dip is likely tied to the nearly 2,400 candidates who completed their experience requirement when the AXP launched in 2016. A similar drop of 7 percentage points was seen in 2012 following a previous program update.



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# Examination

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In 2017, the number of candidates who completed the Architect Registration Examination® (ARE®) reached an all-time high. Candidates are also finishing the exam sooner—last year, the average candidate took just two years to pass the exam.

With the launch of ARE 5.0 in November 2016, many candidates worked to finish the exam before ARE 4.0's June 2018 retirement, while others took a combination of both versions. This transitional period allowed some candidates to complete the exam in less time and fewer divisions, but it also led to an increase both in the number of retakes and the total number of tests given.



# 20,950

candidates  
tested in 2017

**+3%** change

# 2

average years  
it takes to finish  
the exam

# 2 OUT OF 3

candidates take  
the ARE while  
completing the AXP

# 29

average age  
a candidate  
starts testing

# 6,079

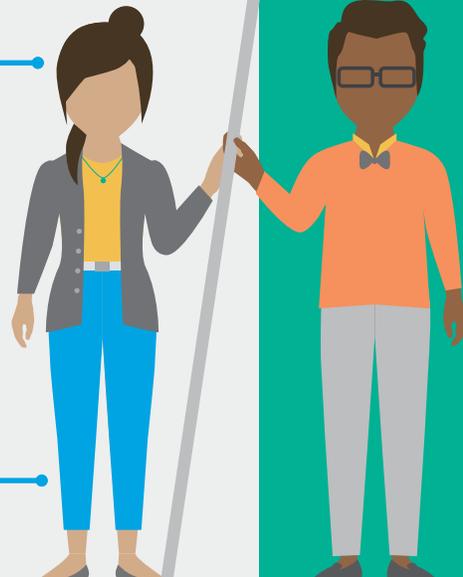
candidates transitioned  
to ARE 5.0 in 2017



# 5,094

candidates  
completed the ARE

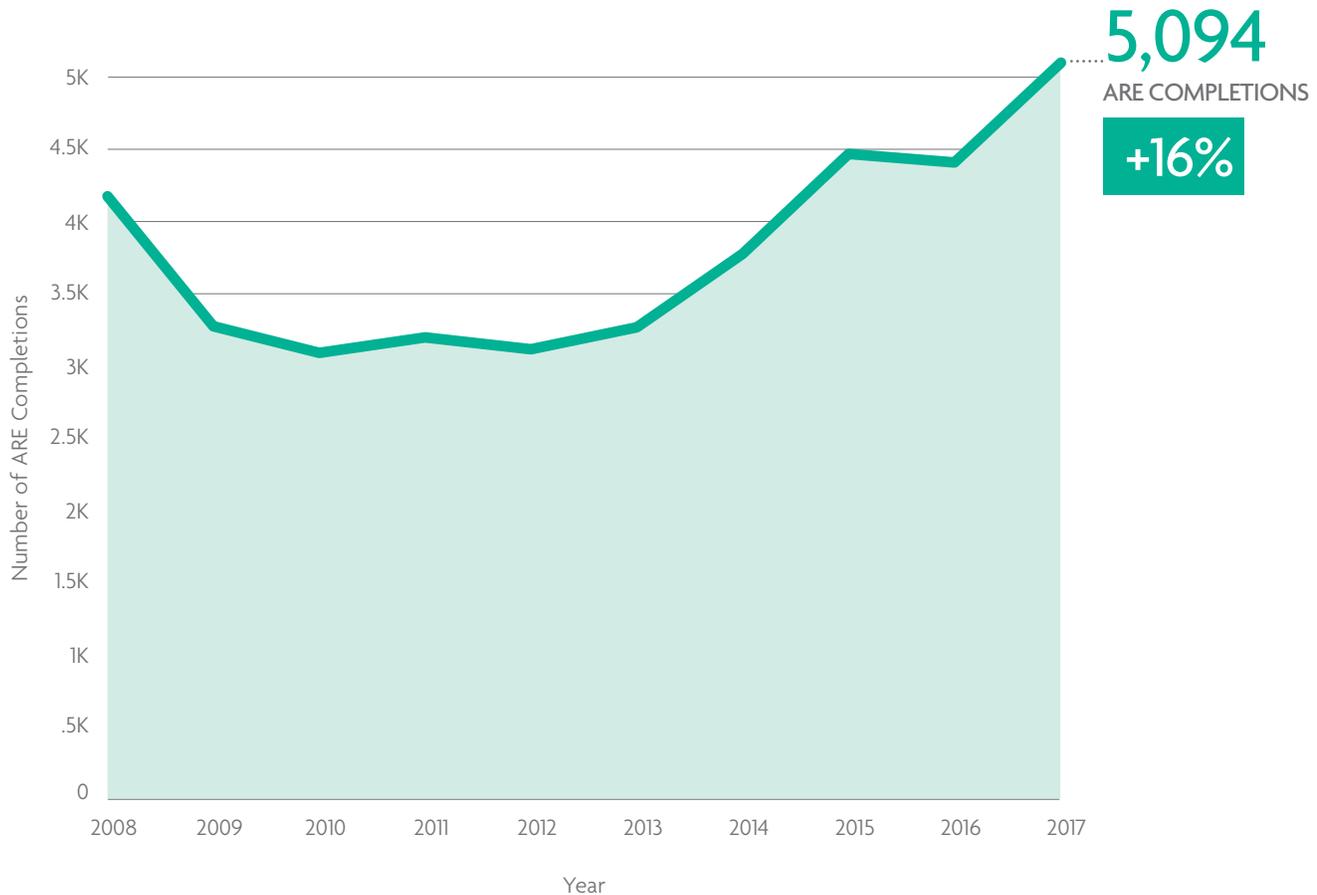
**+16%** change



# ARE

## ARE Completions Reach All-Time High

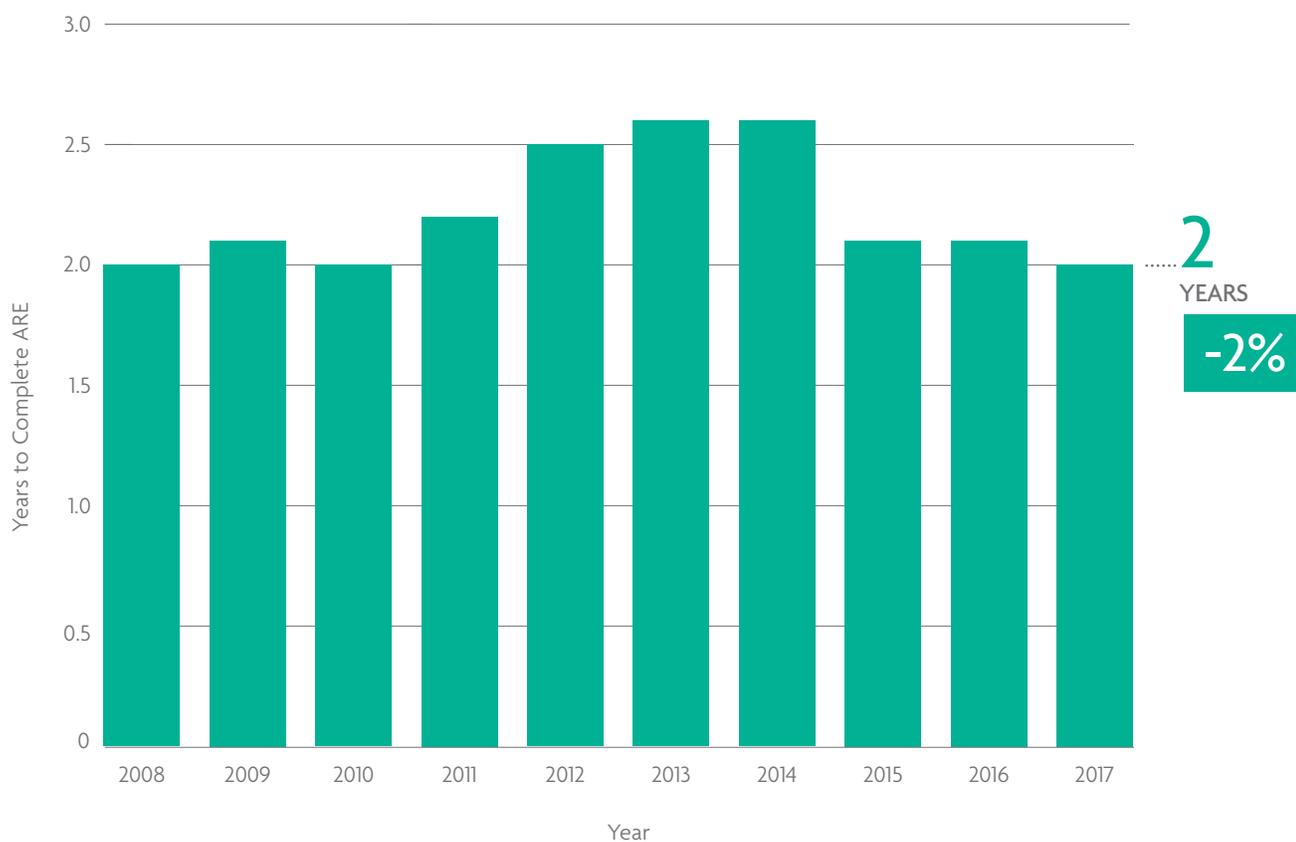
Over 5,000 candidates completed the ARE in 2017—a 16 percent increase from 2016 and the highest number on record. The reasons for this jump are likely twofold: some candidates worked to complete the exam before ARE 4.0's retirement in June 2018, and others waited to complete the exam in ARE 5.0 after the November 2016 launch of the new version. By waiting to take strategic divisions in both versions, over 2,000 candidates have completed the ARE in as few as five tests since ARE 5.0's launch in 2016.



## Time to Complete the ARE Drops Slightly

In 2017, the average candidate took two years to complete the ARE, shaving one month off of the 2016 timeline. Like the increase in ARE completions, this slight dip is most likely a result of the transition between ARE 4.0 and ARE 5.0. Candidates taking strategic divisions in both versions completed the ARE in as few as five tests, and candidates testing solely in ARE 5.0 can complete the exam in six—one fewer than ARE 4.0.

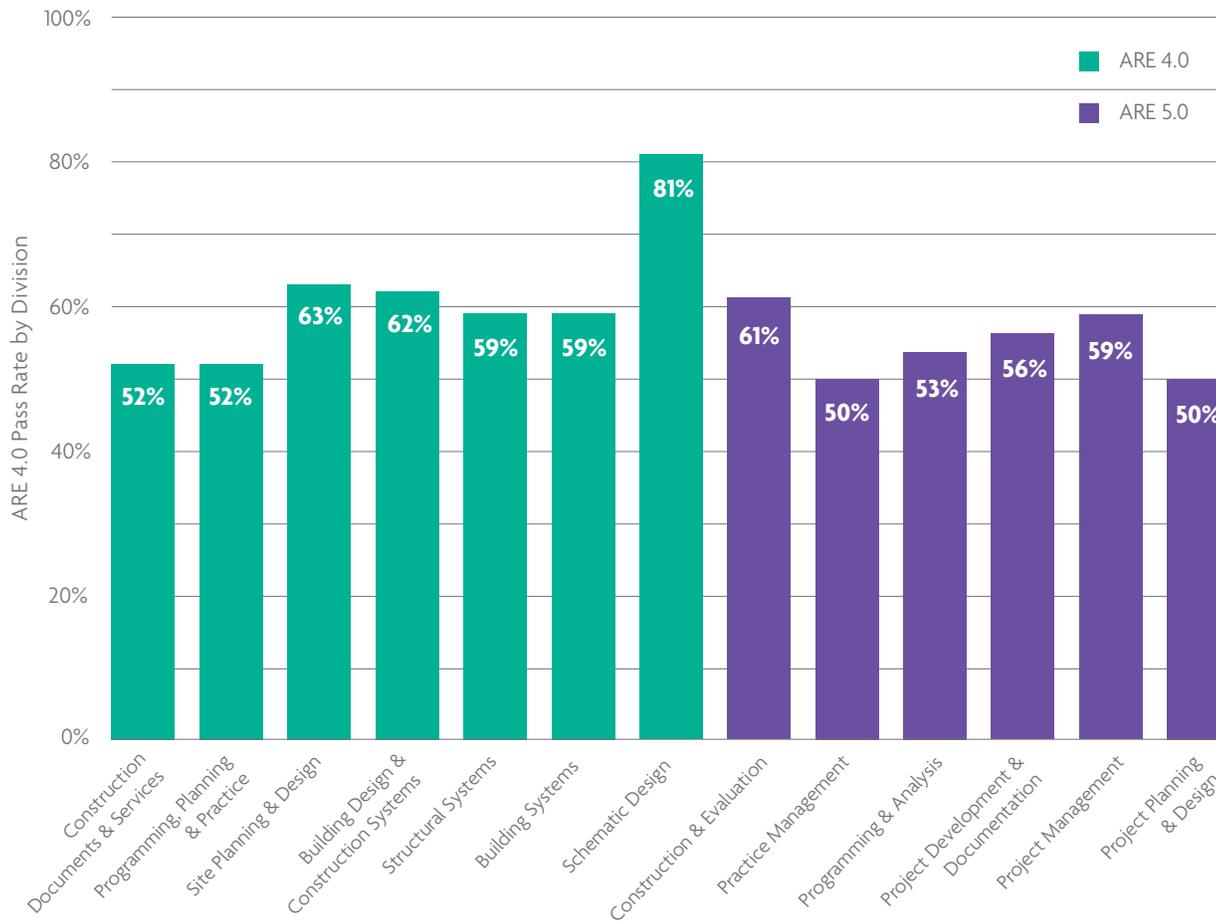
The drop in 2015 is likely tied to NCARB's revised retake policy, which went into effect October 2014. Before then, candidates had to wait six months to retake a failed division. Now they can retake an exam in as few as 60 days and up to three times a year.



## Schematic Design and Construction & Evaluation Have Highest Pass Rates

Among ARE 4.0 divisions, Schematic Design (SD) had the highest pass rate of 81 percent, and Construction Documents & Services (CDS) and Programming, Planning & Practice (PPP) had the lowest at 52 percent. This marks the sixth year in a row that SD held the highest pass rate; for comparison, the average success rate across the remaining six ARE 4.0 divisions was 57 percent.

Among ARE 5.0 divisions, Construction & Evaluation (CE) had the highest pass rate of 61 percent, and Practice Management (PcM) and Project Planning & Design (PPD) had the lowest at 50 percent. For comparison, the average success rate across all six divisions was 54 percent.

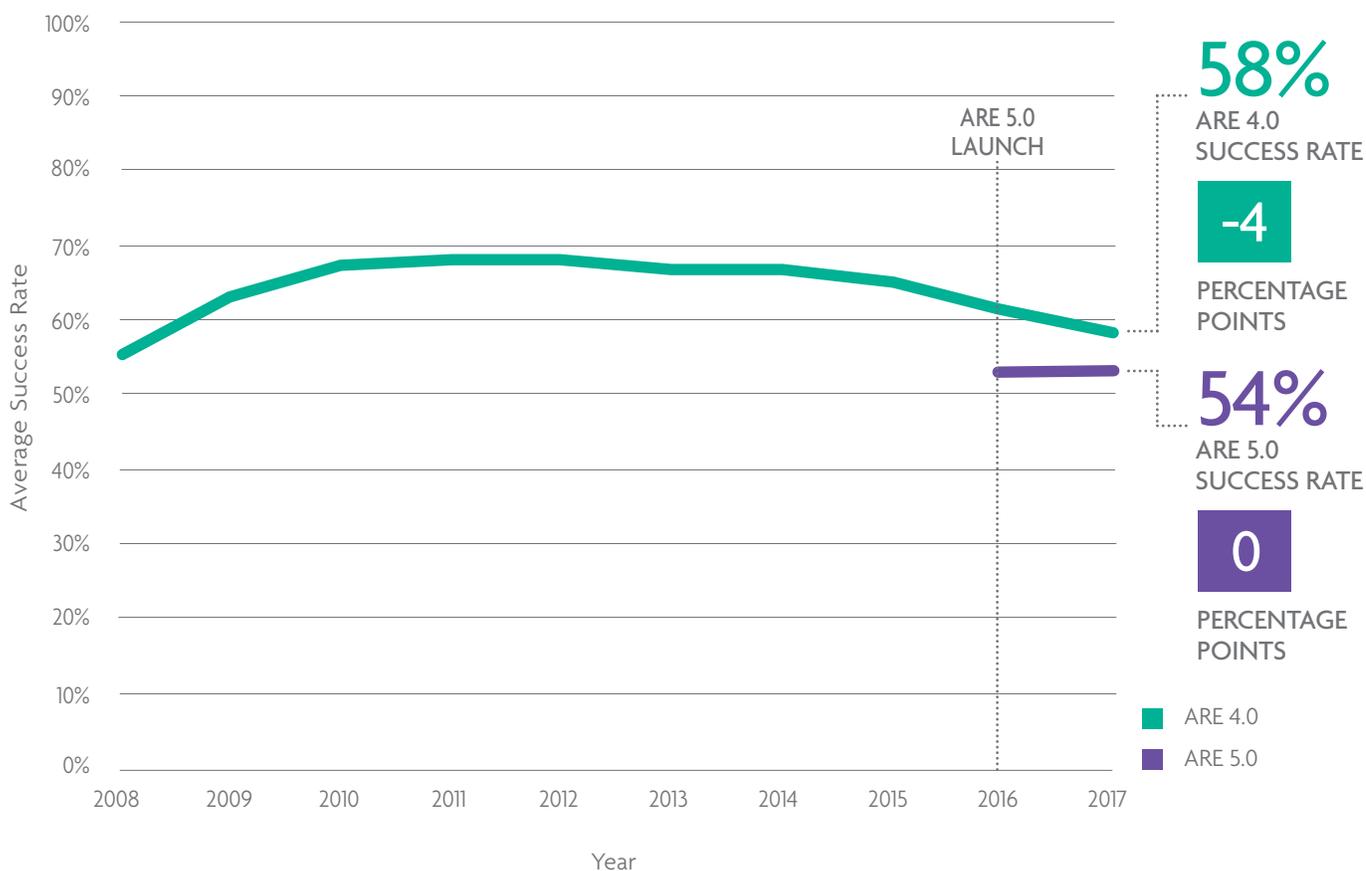


## ARE Success Rates Impacted by New Exam

ARE 4.0 success rates fell 4 percentage points between 2016 and 2017, which is likely due to the transition from ARE 4.0 to ARE 5.0.

Historical trends show that ARE success rates typically drop around the launch of a new exam, as candidates hurry to finish testing in the current version. When ARE 4.0 debuted in 2008, ARE 3.1 success rates dipped about 5 percentage points. That same year, 4.0 success rates started around 55 percent, gradually climbing to the upper-sixties by 2010.

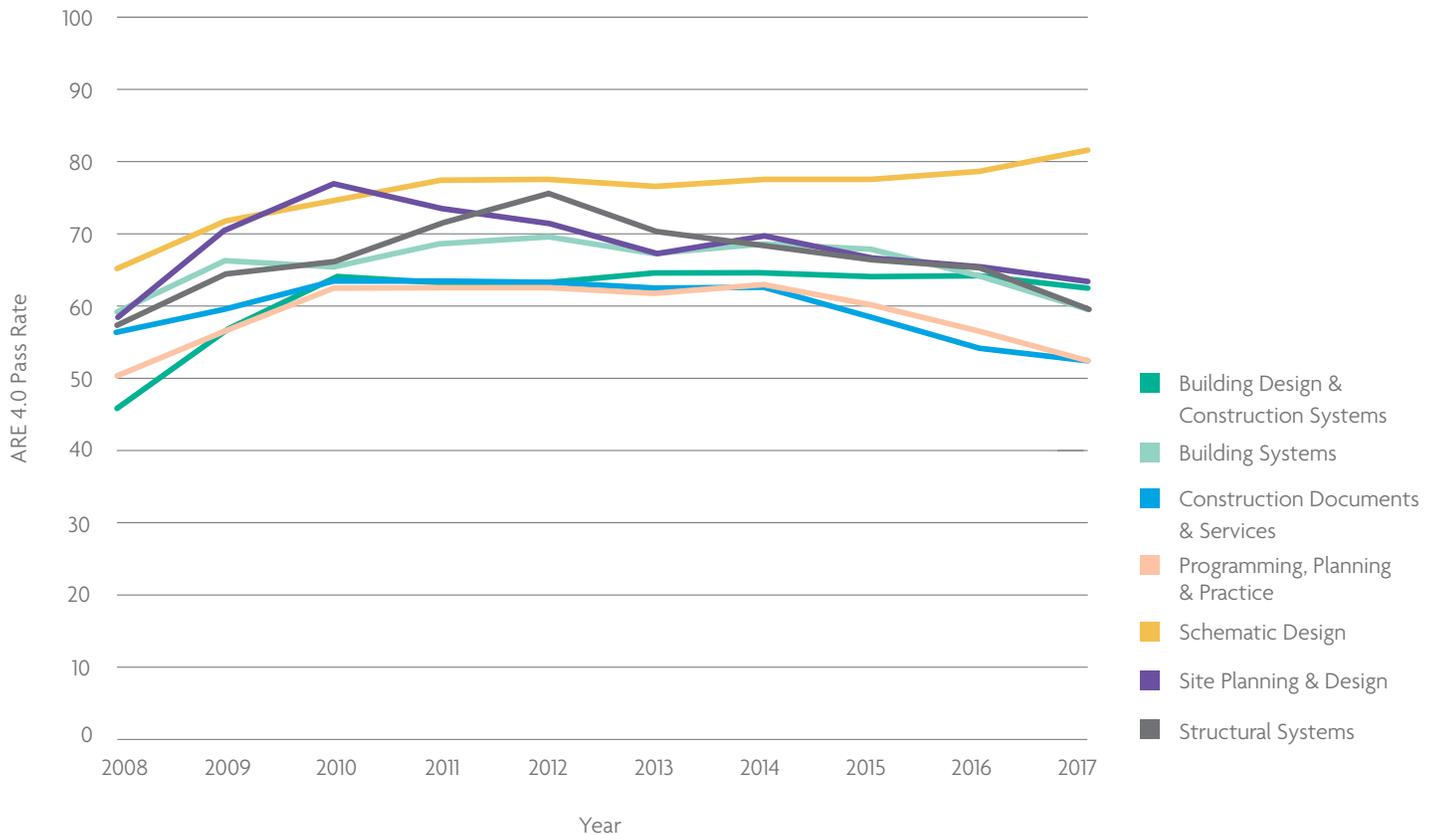
ARE 5.0 success rates have remained stable since the November 2016 launch; at 54 percent, success rates for the new version of the exam align with ARE 4.0's early success rates.



## ARE 4.0 Division Pass Rates Drop

Average ARE 4.0 pass rates continued to fall in 2017 for all divisions except Schematic Design (SD). This decline is likely due to candidates rushing to complete the exam in ARE 4.0 before its retirement in June 2018.

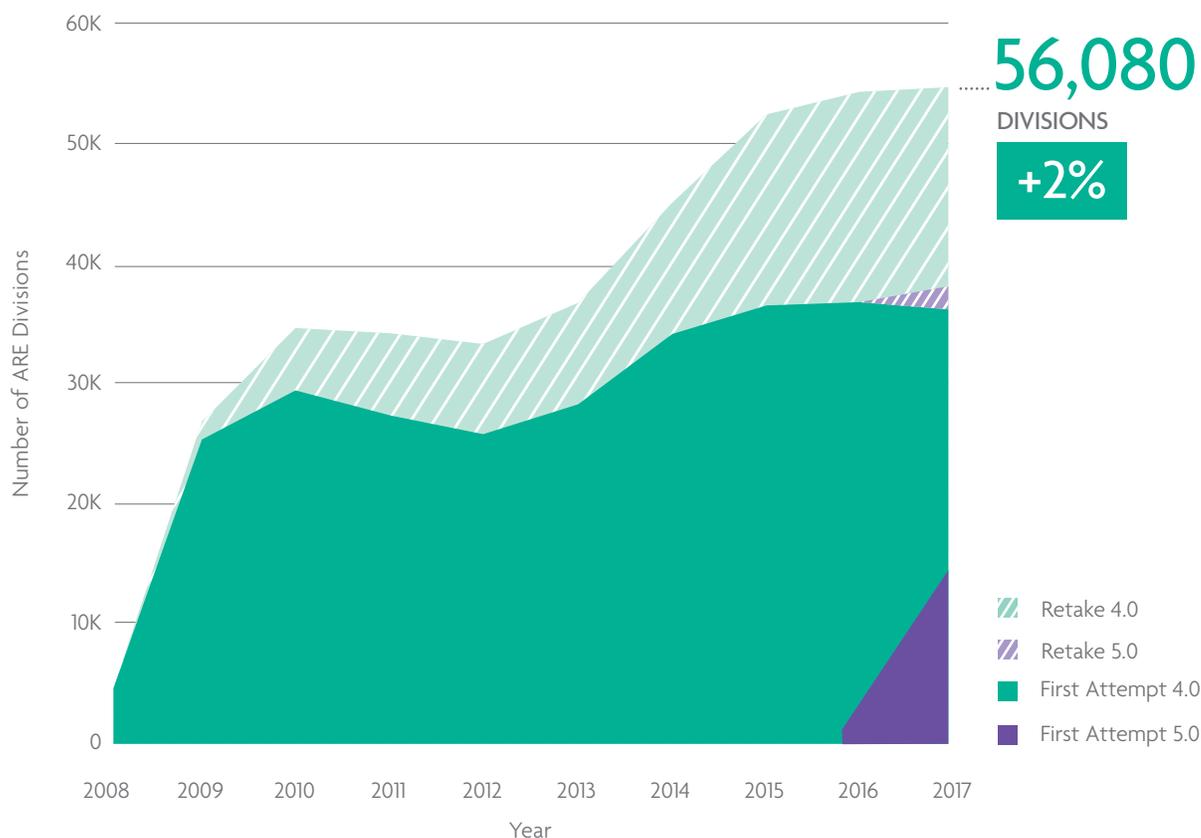
This trend is most evident in the divisions required to test strategically: by combining specific ARE 5.0 divisions with ARE 4.0's Construction Documents & Services (CDS) and Programming, Planning & Practice (PPP), candidates could complete the ARE in as few as five tests. Pass rates for these two divisions have dropped steadily since strategic testing was first announced in 2014.



## Candidates Test More Frequently

The number of ARE divisions taken by candidates increased for the fifth year in a row. Over 56,000 divisions were administered in 2017, 2 percent more than in 2016. The entirety of this growth is seen in the 10 percent increase in the number of retakes, which is likely due to candidates seeking to complete strategic divisions in ARE 4.0 before its June 2018 retirement.

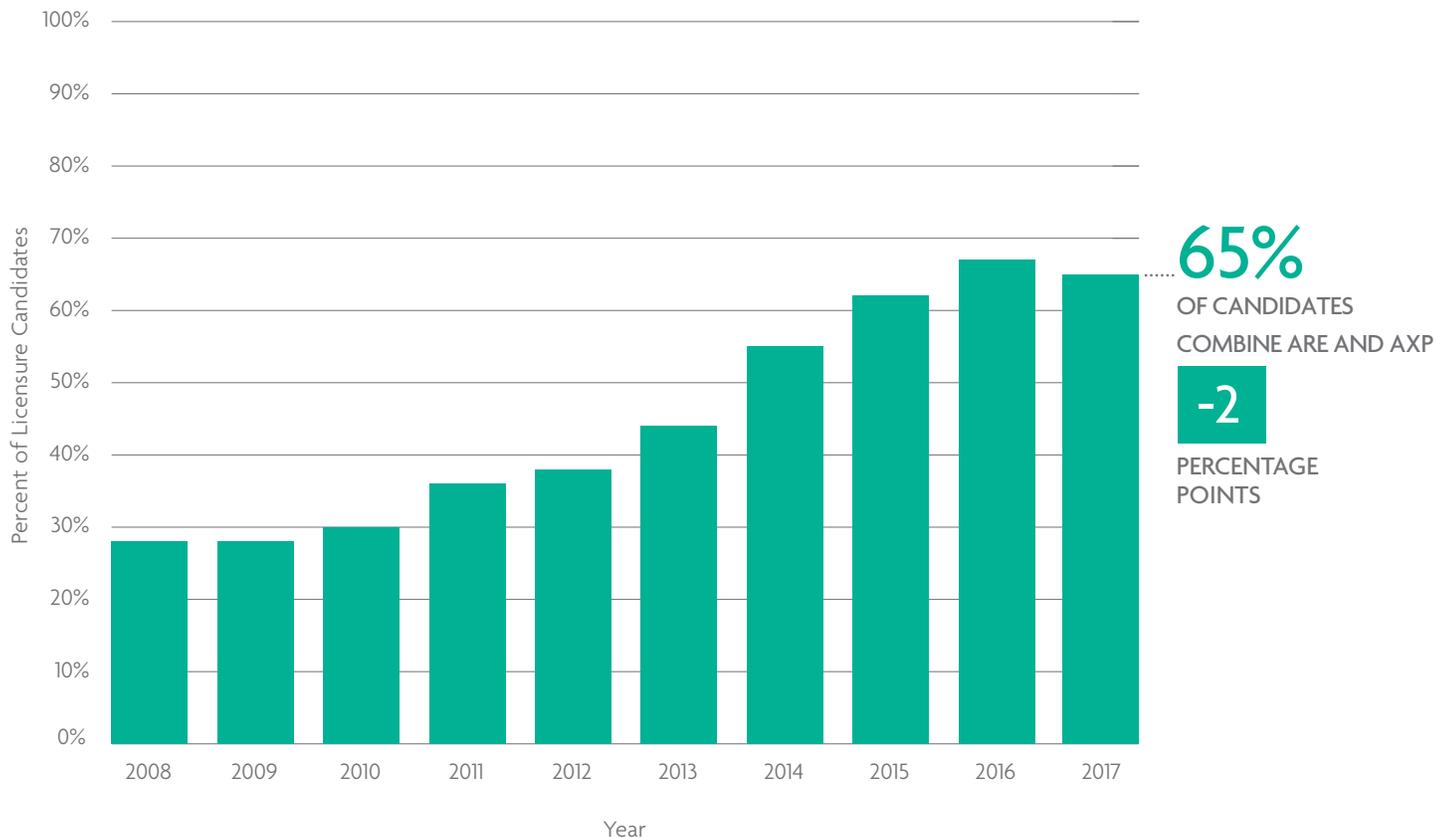
First-time attempts are split between the two versions of the exam, with 58 percent in ARE 4.0 and 42 percent in ARE 5.0. However, over 85 percent of the retakes administered in 2017 were ARE 4.0 divisions. This corresponds with falling pass rates in ARE 4.0 divisions, and contributes to the over 10 percent increase in total retakes in 2017.



## Most Candidates Overlap the ARE and AXP

Of the licensure candidates who completed the ARE in 2017, 65 percent took at least one exam while completing their experience, a 2 percentage point decrease from 2016. Despite this slight dip, 2017 is still the second highest proportion on record, and 3 percentage points higher than in 2015. This dip could be due to the spike of nearly 2,400 candidates who immediately completed the AXP in 2016 upon the program's realignment.

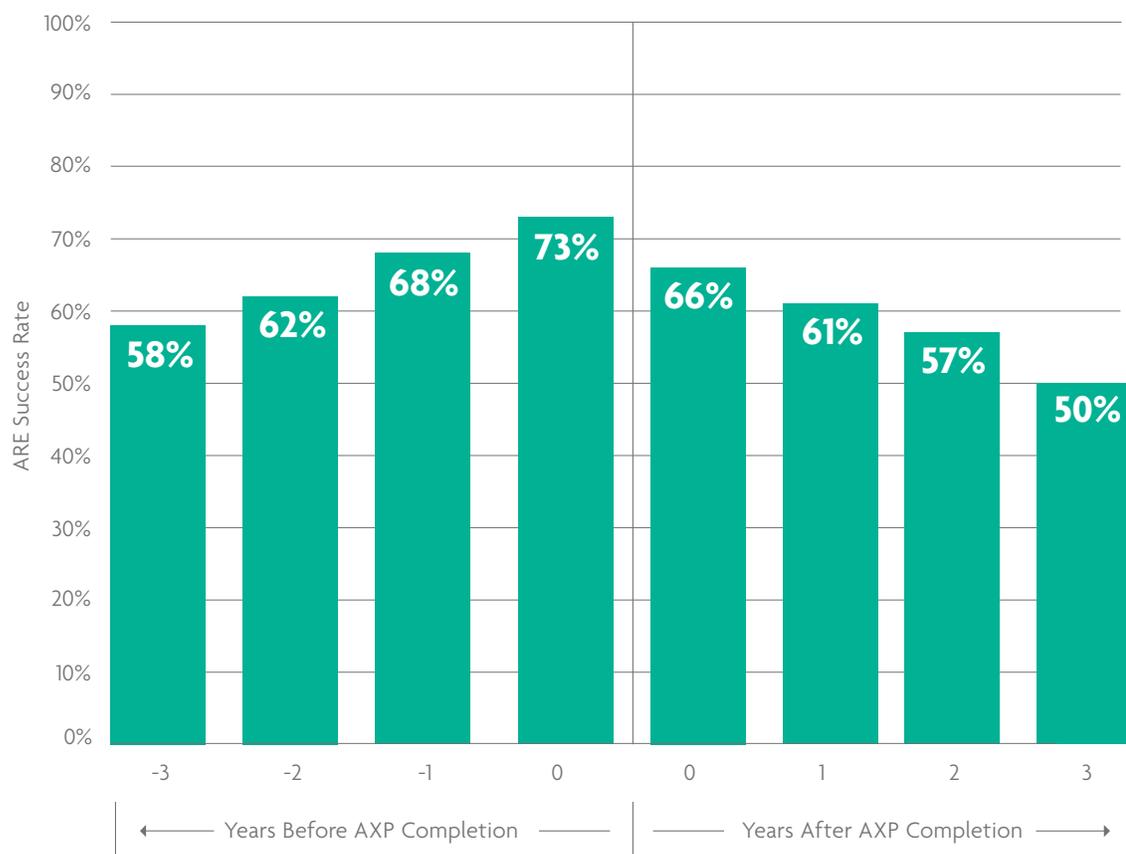
Currently, 50 of the 54 licensing boards allow candidates to overlap gaining experience and taking the ARE.



## ARE Success Rates Highest While Completing AXP

Candidates who take the ARE within a two-year window before completing the AXP tend to have the highest pass rates. With the coordination between the six realigned experience areas and ARE 5.0's six divisions, the higher pass rates suggest an overlap in subject matter expertise is beneficial to candidates. Plus, candidates invested in wrapping up the AXP may be more focused on completing the path to licensure.

*Note: This data represents licensure candidates who completed the AXP between 2015 and 2017.*



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# Timeline to Licensure

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With the help of licensing boards, NCARB has spent the past several years streamlining and aligning its programs to provide greater flexibility and remove unnecessary hurdles along the path to licensure. This year, we have shifted our data to focus on the impact of NCARB's national programs on the time to licensure. 2017's data shows most candidates now overlap the AXP and ARE, and the time it takes to complete these core requirements has steadily decreased over the past eight years.

NCARB expects to see this positive trend continue as recent program improvements continue to take hold, and students participating in Integrated Path to Architectural Licensure (IPAL) options begin to graduate. Launched in 2015, this new initiative enables accredited programs to incorporate experience and examination into curricula.

# EDUCATION

**5.8**  
YEARS



**5,216**  
number of candidates  
who completed the  
AXP and ARE in 2017



**32.5**  
average age at ARE  
and AXP completion



**12.7**  
YEARS

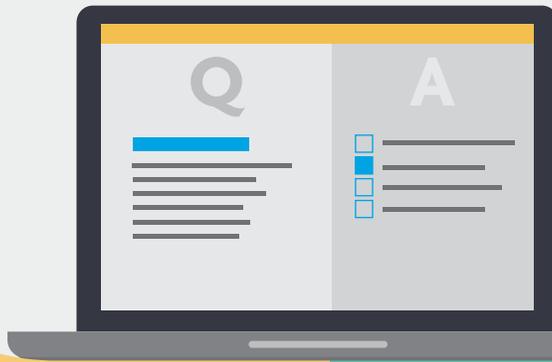
average time to complete  
core requirements  
for licensure

AXP™

**4.7**  
YEARS

ARE®

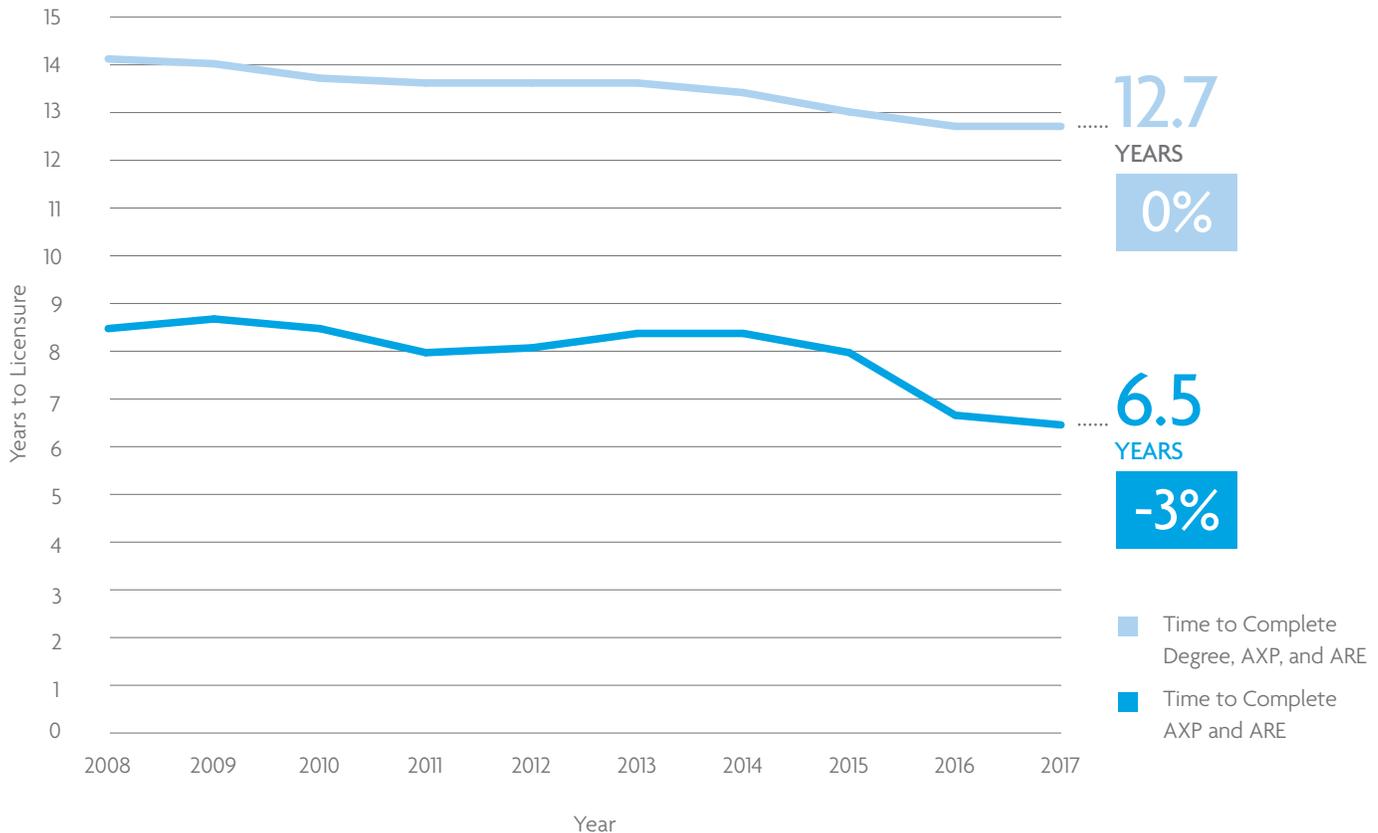
**2**  
YEARS



## Candidates Complete the Core Requirements for Licensure Sooner

On average, it now takes candidates just over 12 and a half years to complete the core requirements for licensure—including education, experience, and examination—and almost half of this time (5.8 years) is spent earning a degree. Focusing solely on NCARB's programs, the average candidate spends 6 and a half years completing both the AXP and the ARE, 2.4 months sooner than in 2016.

The time it takes to complete NCARB-administered programs has dropped by 2.2 years (or 25 percent) since 2009, as updates like the experience area realignment and 60-day retake policy encourage increased overlap and reduce the time spent in each program.

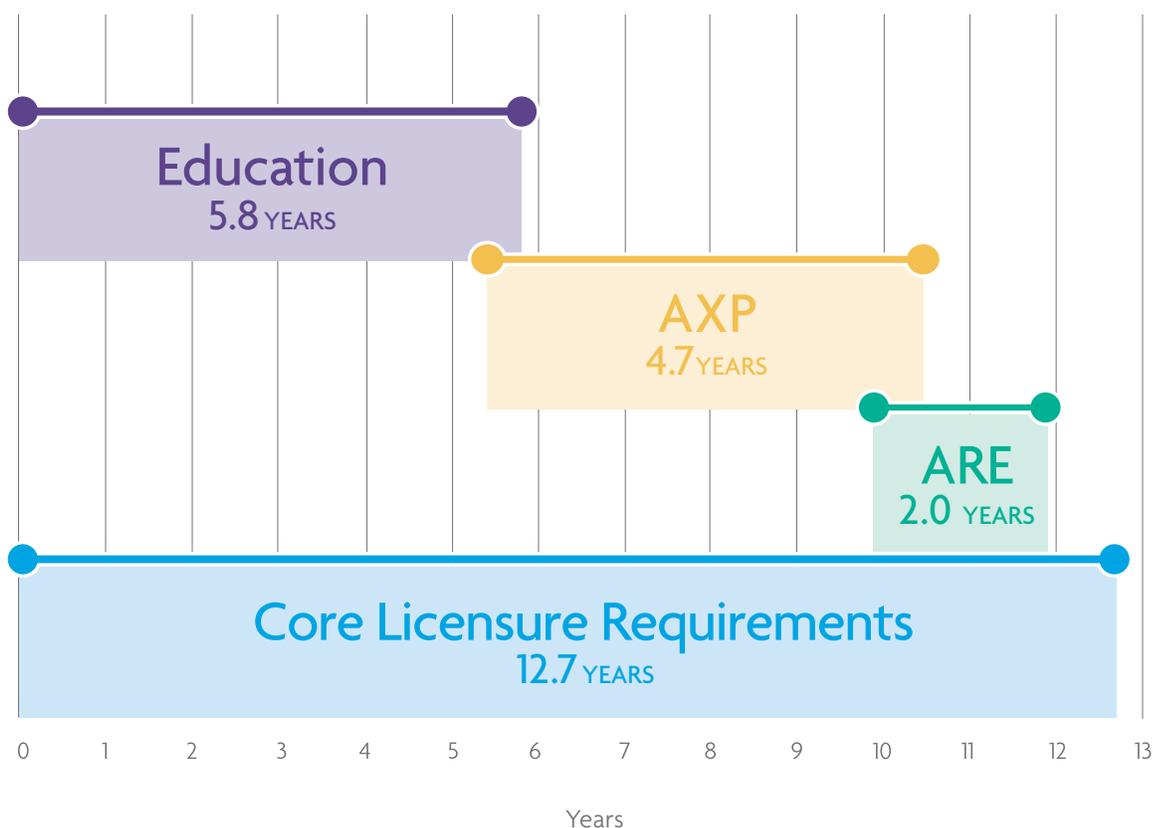


## New Architects Overlap Education, AXP, and ARE

The average path to licensure in 2017 included overlaps among education, experience, and examination. Nearly half (47 percent) of licensure candidates who finished their core requirements in 2017 started the AXP while in school, and 65 percent completed the AXP and ARE concurrently.

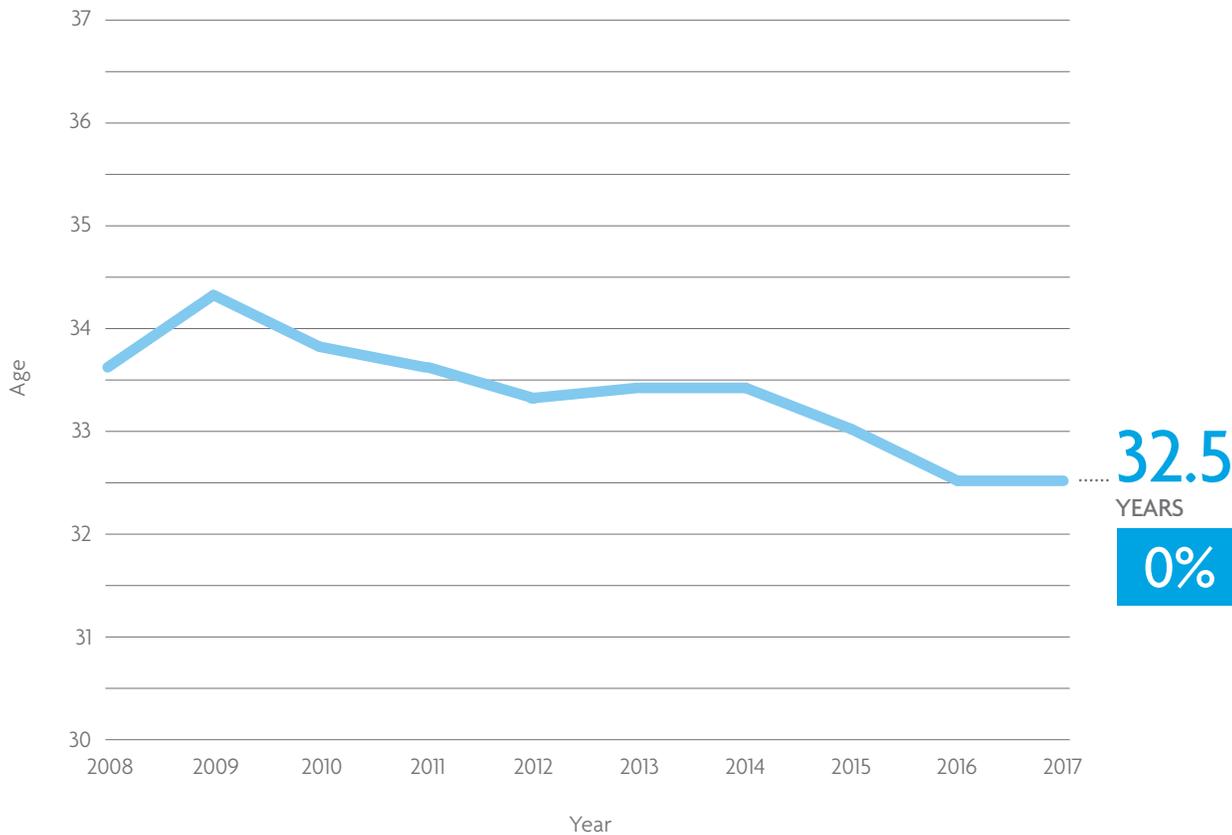
Together, these overlaps have led to a decrease in the overall time it takes to earn a license. Among individuals who completed their final core requirement for licensure in 2017, earning a degree typically took almost six years, while completing the AXP and ARE took just under six years.

*Note: This data represents architects who completed the core requirements for licensure in 2017.*



## Candidates Complete Licensure Requirements Younger

In 2017, the average age of an individual who completed the core requirements for licensure was 32 and half, the same age as the average candidate in 2016. While this average has not changed dramatically from year to year, candidates completing their licensure requirements are now a year younger than they were a decade ago.

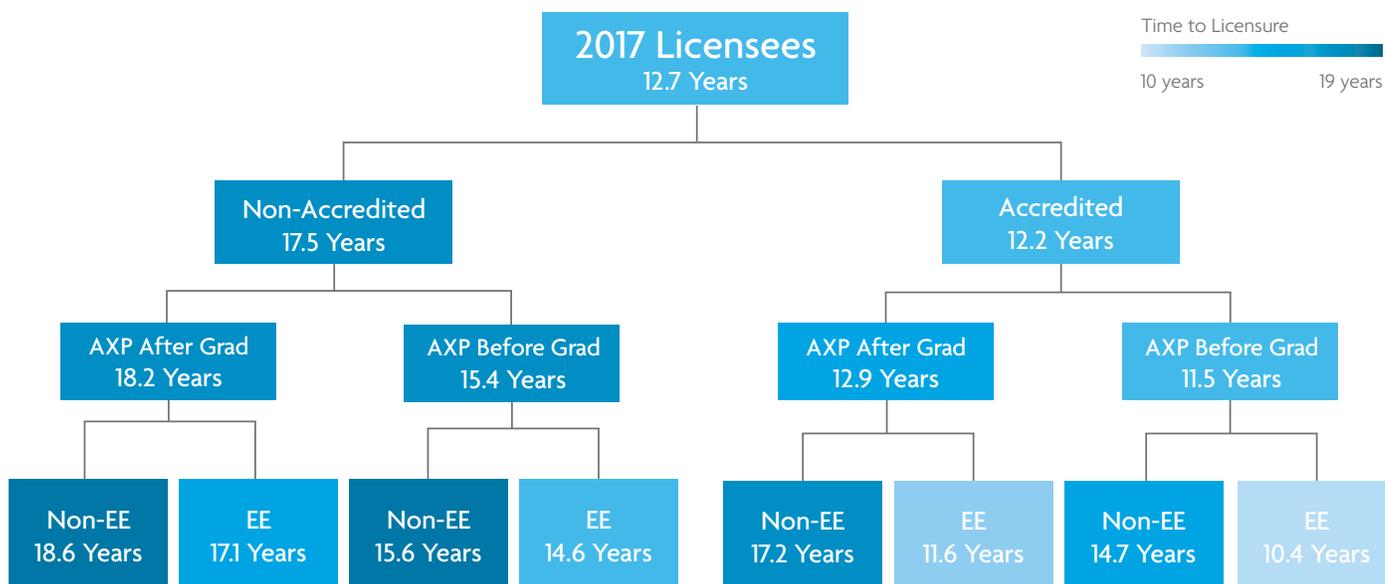


## Three Factors Impact Time to Licensure

There are three key factors that influence a candidate's timeline to licensure: (1) the type of architecture degree they pursue; (2) how early they start reporting experience; and (3) whether they take the ARE before completing the AXP (Early Eligibility).

In 2017, candidates who earned a degree from a NAAB-accredited program, reported experience before graduation, and took at least one exam while completing the AXP were able to complete the core requirements for licensure in 10.4 years—over two years sooner than the average candidate.

*Note: NCARB recognizes there are a variety of other factors that also influence the timeline to licensure, including the time it takes to complete the ARE, as well as economic and personal circumstances.*



*Early Eligibility (EE): The ability to take the ARE before completing the AXP. In 2017, 50 of the 54 licensing boards allowed this overlap.*

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# Demographics

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While racial and ethnic diversity continued to improve in 2017, gender equity remained relatively stable. Women accounted for 35 percent of candidates completing the core requirements for licensure in 2017, and 42 percent of new ARE candidates. Racial and ethnic diversity increased across most early career stages, including a 5 percentage point jump in candidates who identify as non-white completing the AXP. In addition, 16 percent of candidates completing the core requirements for licensure and 33 percent of new exam candidates identified as non-white.

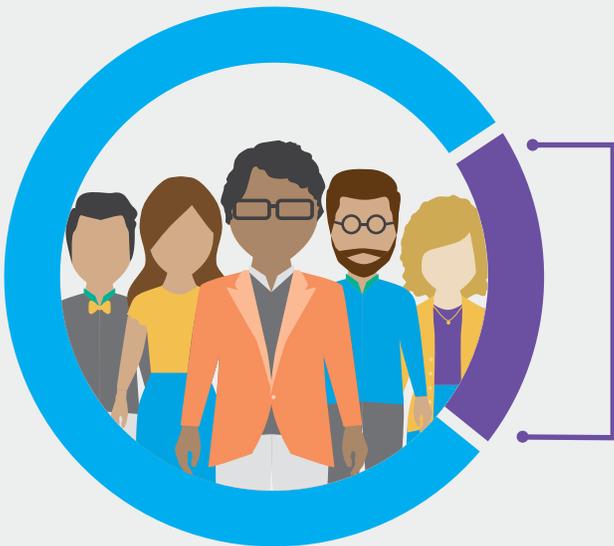
Although several groups remain underrepresented within the profession, trends continue to point to growing diversity among licensure candidates, and eventually, future architects.



**1 IN 3**  
new architects  
are women

Women complete licensure requirements

**1 YEAR**  
sooner than men



**1 IN 5**  
new architects  
identify as a racial  
or ethnic minority



**45%**

*of new AXP participants  
identify as a racial or  
ethnic minority*



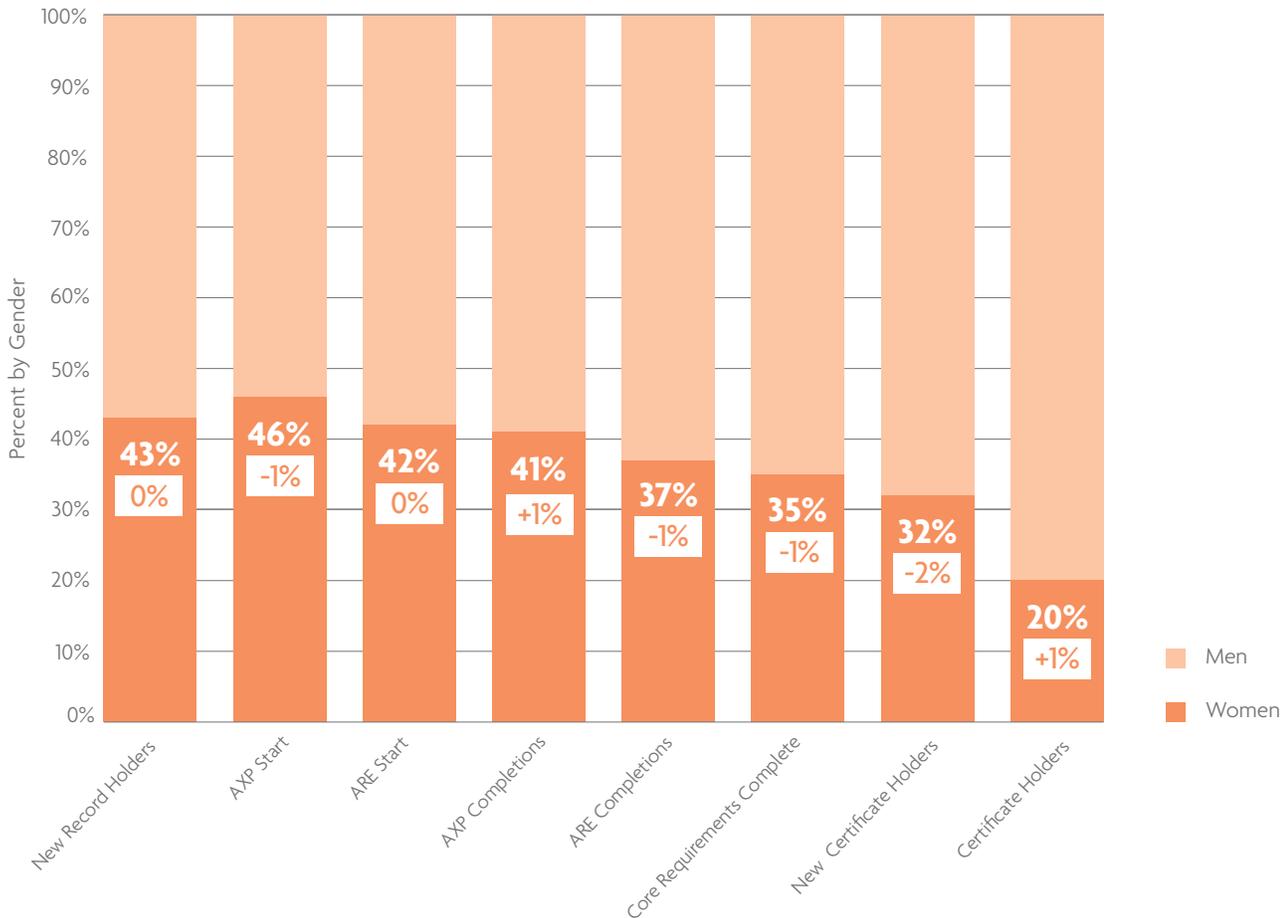
**33%**

*of new ARE participants  
identify as a racial or  
ethnic minority*

## Gender Equity Holds Steady

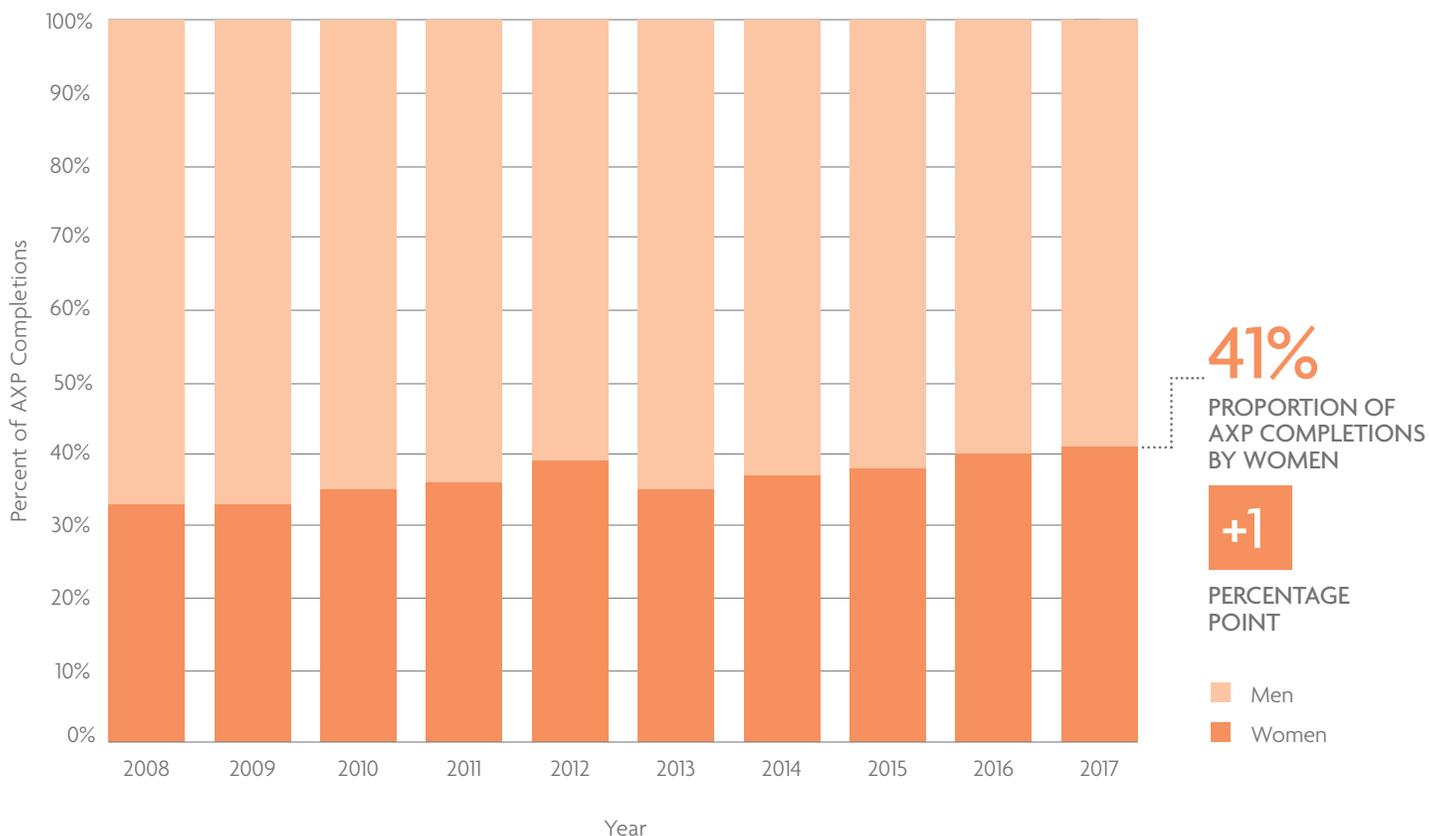
Gender equity remained largely unchanged over the course of 2017, with minimal increases and decreases at various career stages. In 2017, women accounted for 46 percent of new AXP participants, 42 percent of new ARE candidates, and 35 percent of candidates who've completed the major requirements for licensure. By comparison, women made up 47, 42, and 36 percent, respectively, of these groups in 2016.

And while the percentage of new Certificate holders who are women dipped to 32 percent in 2017, the percentage of all Certificate holders who are women rose to 20 percent. This is the third year of successive increase—signaling that while women remain underrepresented in the industry, gender equity is gradually improving.



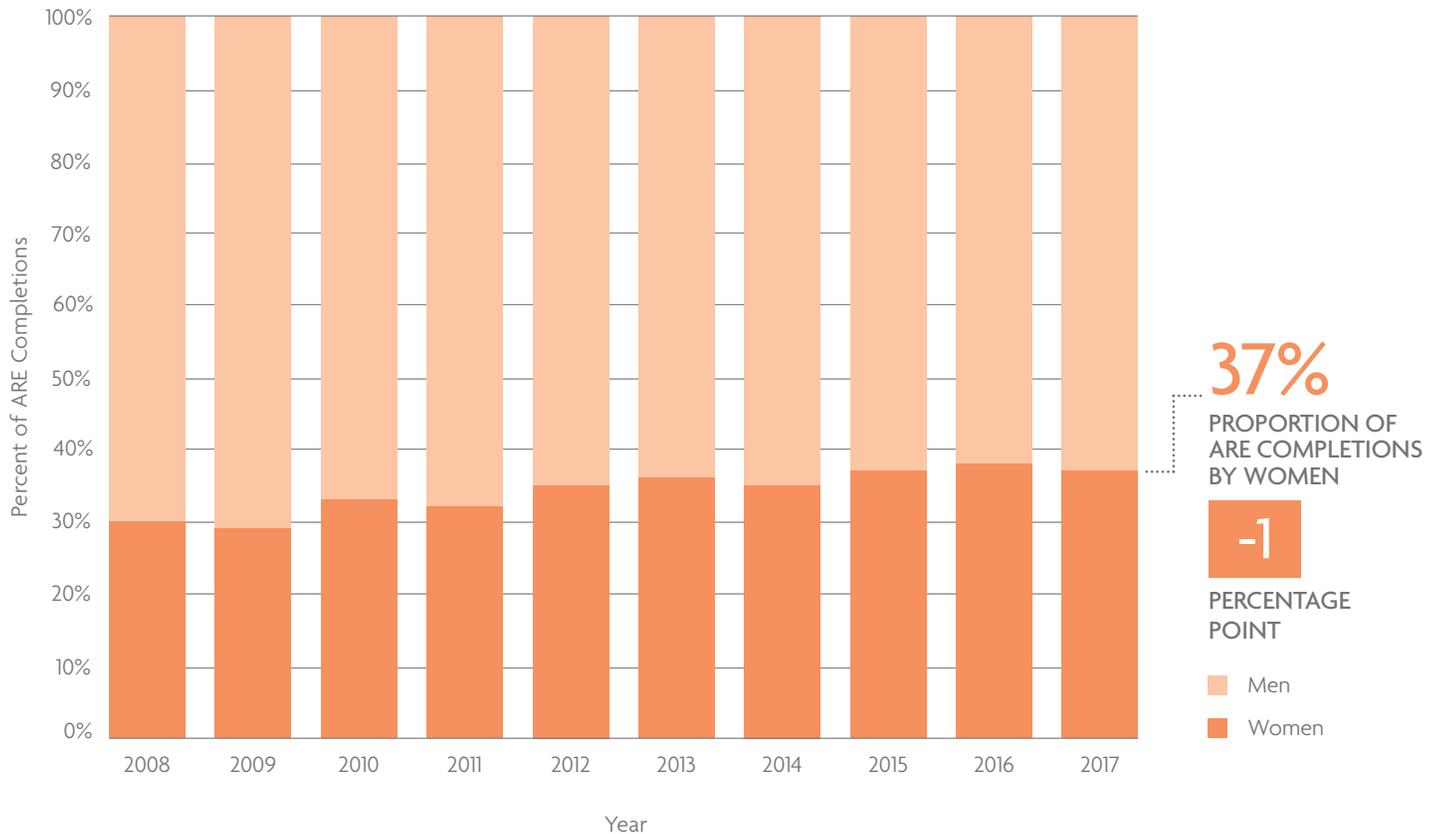
## AXP Completions by Women Continue to Rise

In 2017, women represented 41 percent of AXP completions, the highest proportion on record. Gender equity in AXP completions has been improving for the past four years, potentially impacted by several program changes designed to remove unnecessary hurdles—the first of which (allowing candidates to report experience older than six months for 50 percent credit) was introduced in July 2014. Other changes include a reduction in the AXP's required hours (2015) and the re-alignment of experience areas (2016).



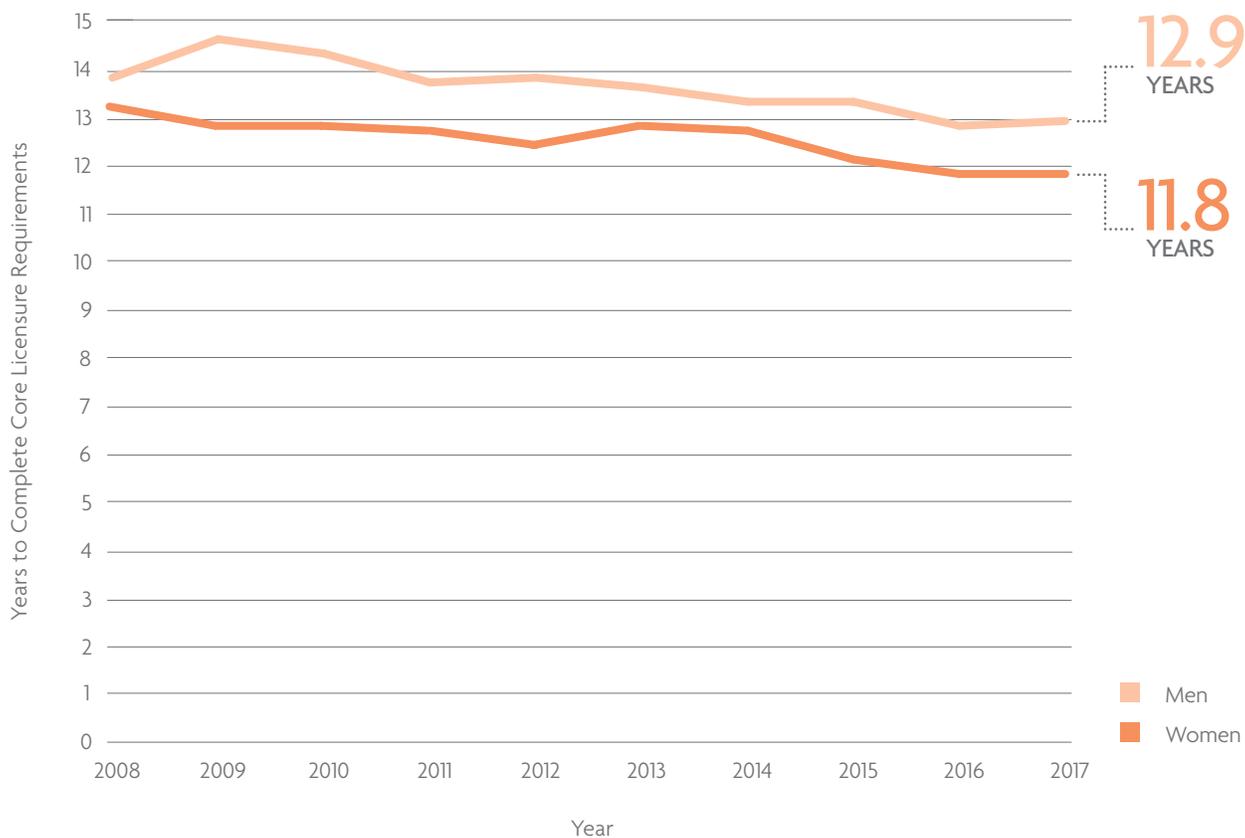
## ARE Completions by Women Fall Slightly

Women accounted for 37 percent of ARE completions in 2017, the second highest on record and the same proportion seen in 2015. While this represents a slight dip from 2016, gender equity has been steadily improving over the last decade. The proportion of women completing the exam in 2017 was 7 percentage points higher than a decade ago.



## Women Complete Licensure Requirements Sooner

On average, women in 2017 completed the core requirements for licensure over one year sooner than their male peers. While the time to complete these requirements increased slightly for both genders, women continue to complete the path in less time.

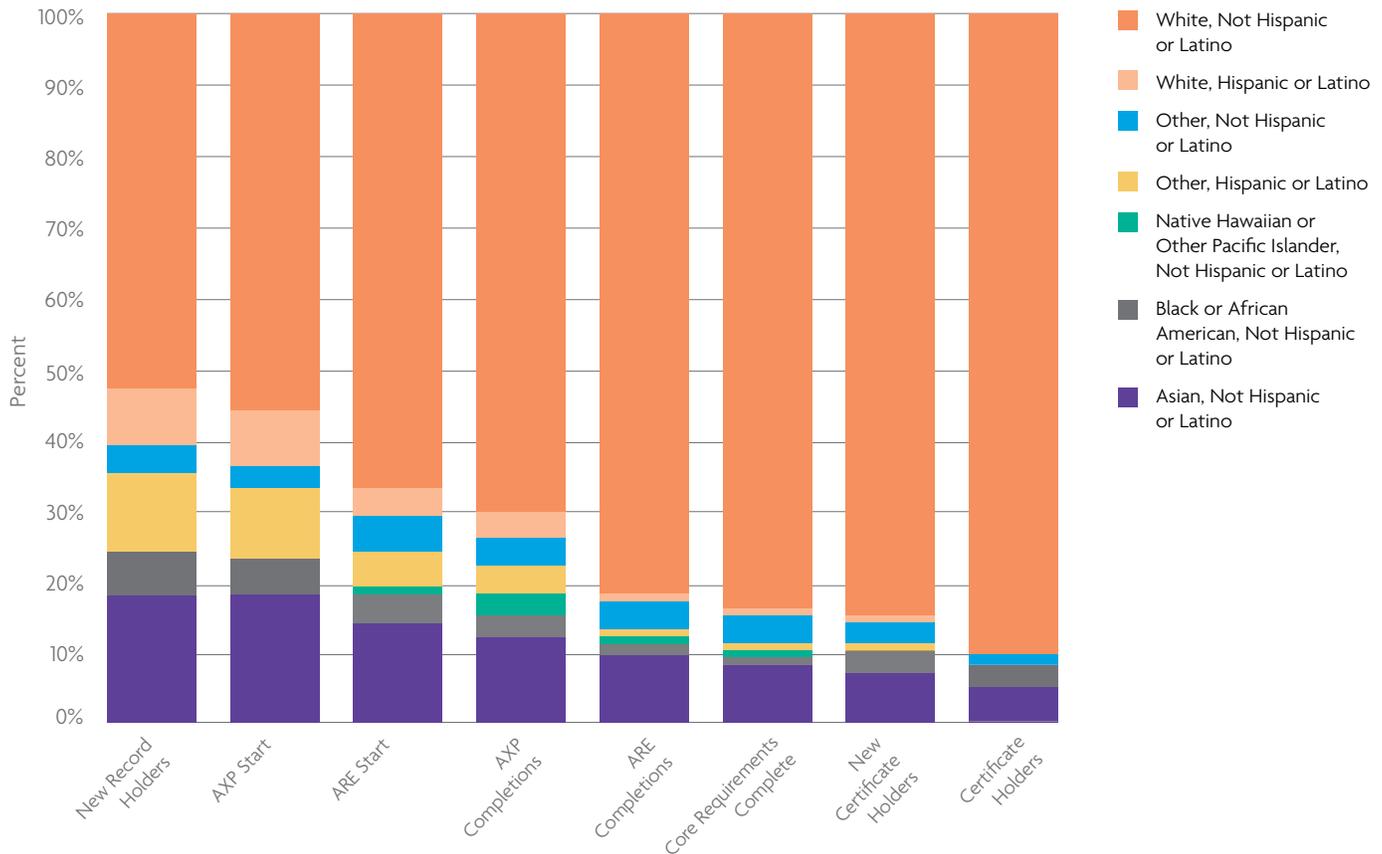


## Racial and Ethnic Diversity Continues to Improve in Early Career Stages

In 2017, racial and ethnic diversity continued to improve along early career stages. Forty-five percent of new AXP participants and 33 percent of new exam candidates identified as non-white, a three percent increase for both groups. Individuals completing the AXP saw an even larger jump: 30 percent identified as non-white, a five percent increase from 2016. While individuals completing the core requirements for licensure saw an increase of 1 percent in 2017, this slight bump signals that the diversity in the pool of licensure candidates may be slowly moving along the pipeline.

For comparison, 34 percent of the U.S. population identifies as either non-white or Hispanic, according to 2015 statistics from the U.S. Census Bureau.

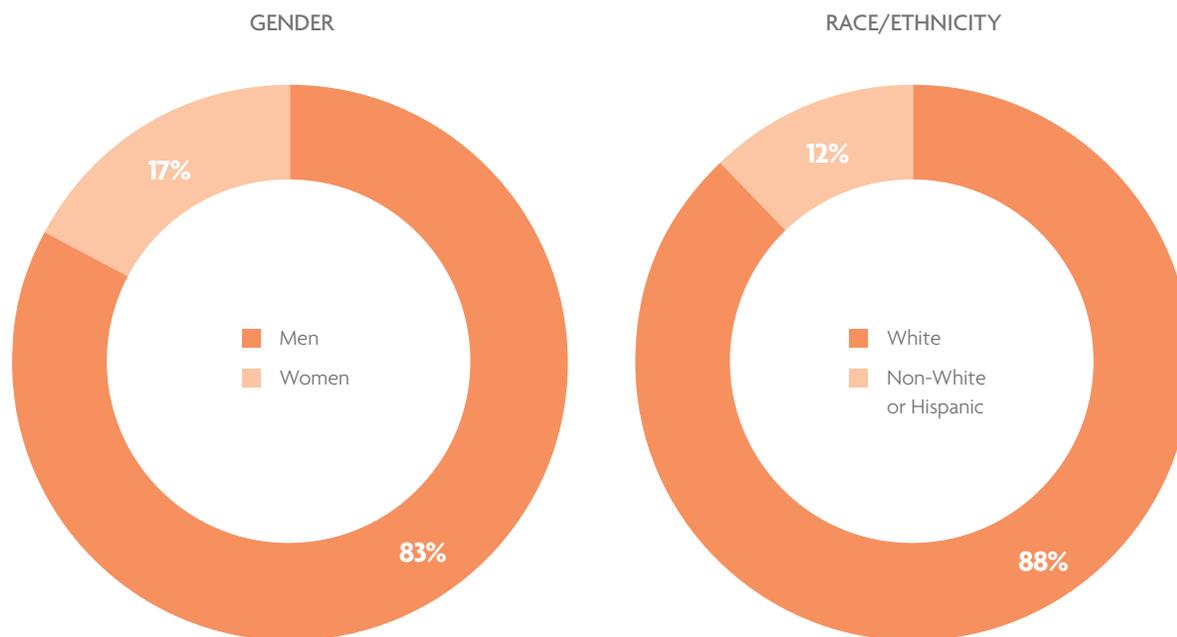
*Note: NCARB uses the same categories for race and ethnicity as the U.S. Census Bureau.*



## Gender Equity and Diversity Minimal Among Supervisors

Of active AXP supervisors in 2017, only 17 percent were women—less than the proportion of women seen at any career stage from beginning an NCARB Record to earning an NCARB Certificate. Similarly, just 12 percent of AXP supervisors identified as either non-white or Hispanic.

This highlights the ongoing challenge for the profession of providing a diverse set of supervisors and mentors to act as role models for the next generation.



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# Navigating the Path

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**New for 2018, this section investigates attrition along the path to licensure.**

NCARB has spent the past several years updating and aligning our programs to remove unnecessary burdens while maintaining the rigor needed to protect the public. A key component of this process is identifying pinch points where candidates fall off the path to licensure—and understanding how those pinch points may vary for candidates from different backgrounds.

LICENSED ARCHITECTS



attrition for men and women has been **EQUAL** since 2012

non-white candidates are

**25%** MORE LIKELY

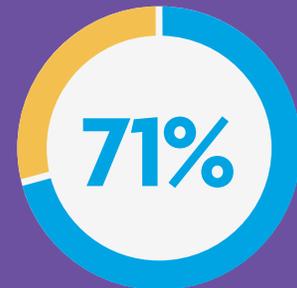
to stop pursuing licensure



OVER 10 YEARS

**1** OUT OF **3**

candidates have fallen off the path to licensure



of candidates who started in **2008** have completed the path to licensure or are actively working on it

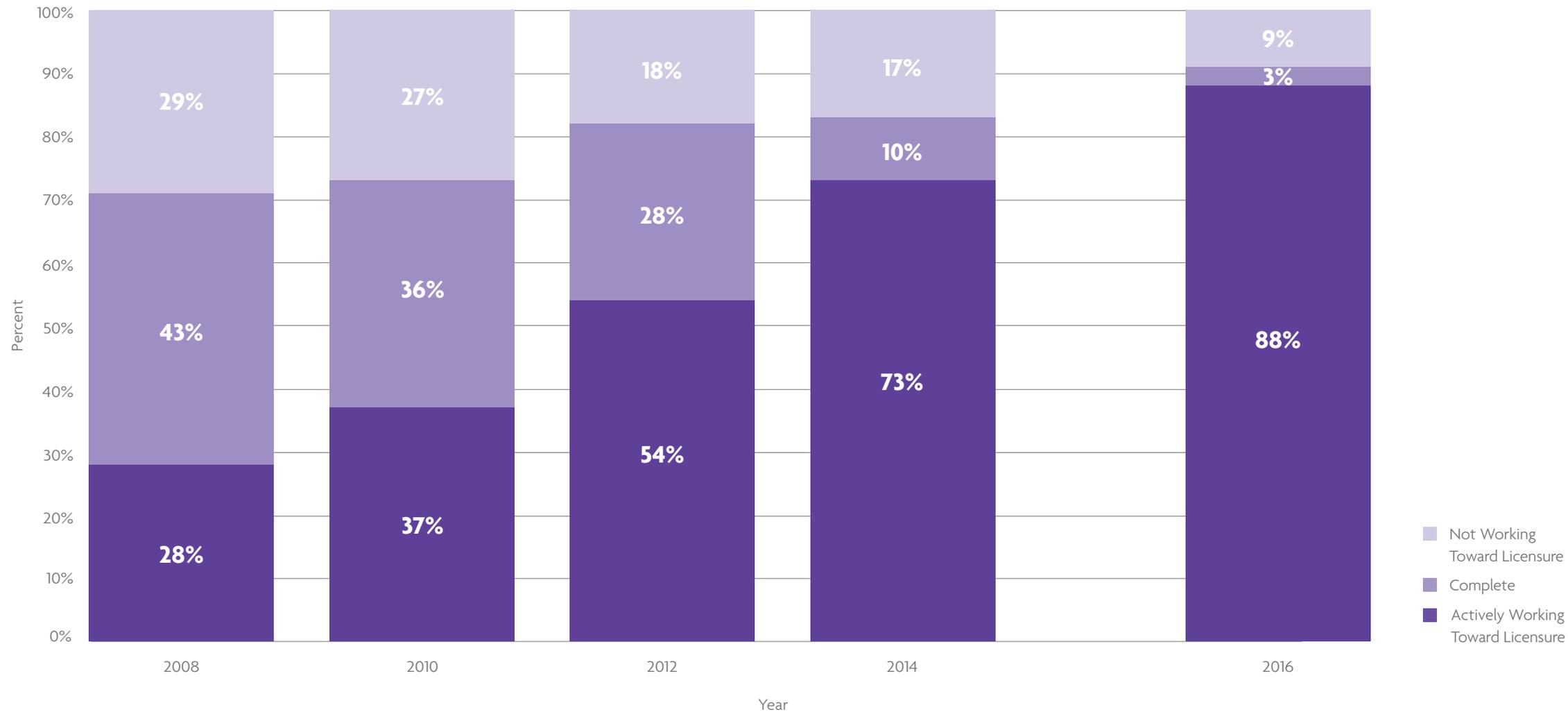


of candidates who started in **2012** have completed the path to licensure or are actively working on it



of candidates who started in **2016** have completed the path to licensure or are actively working on it

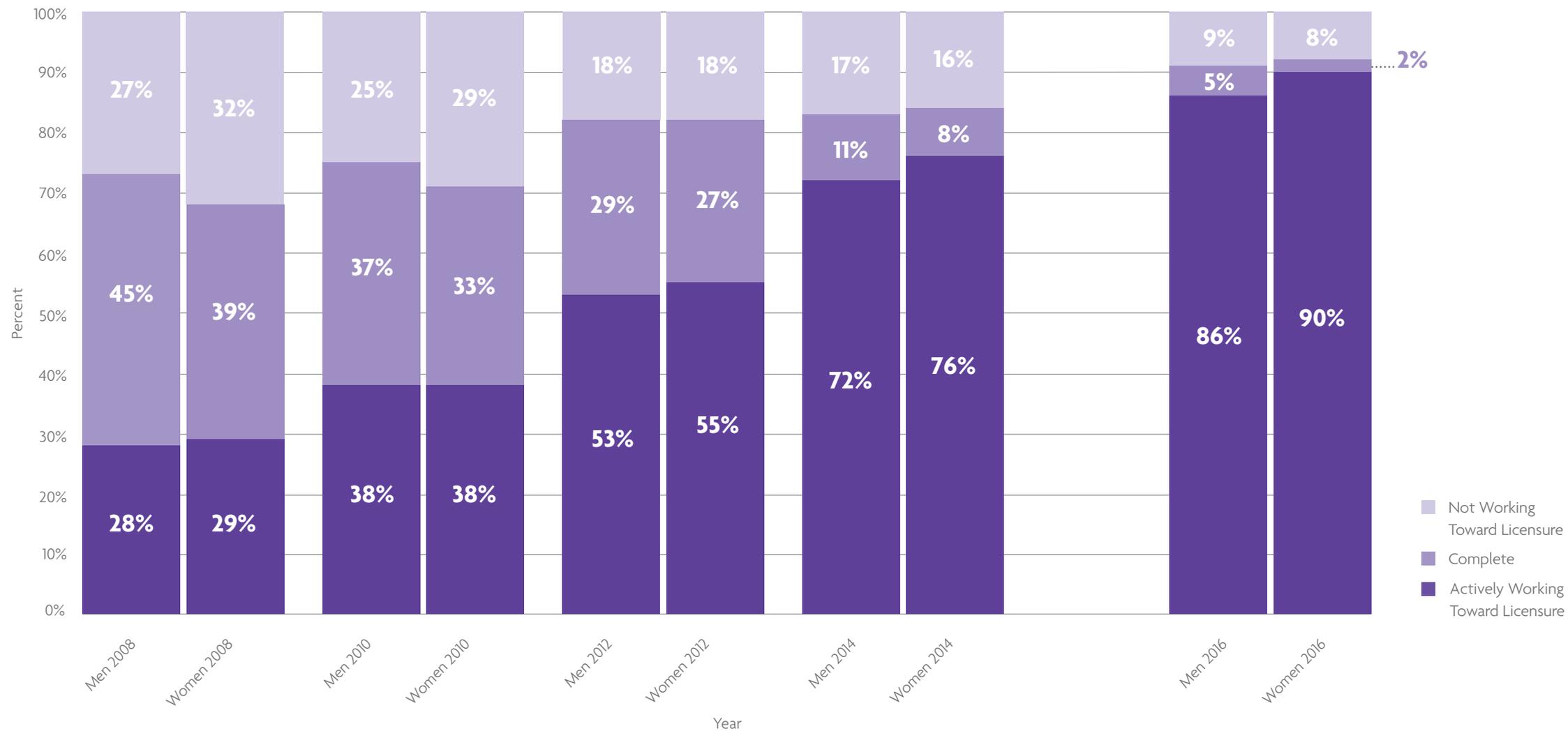
## Most Candidates Stay on the Path to Licensure



Of all the candidates who started their NCARB Record in 2008 (10 years ago), over two thirds have either finished their core requirements for licensure (43 percent) or are still actively working to complete them (28 percent). Twenty-nine percent have stopped working toward licensure and have fallen off the path. When compared to more recent years, fewer candidates have completed the core requirements for licensure, and only a small proportion have fallen off the path.

An assessment of 2016 data (candidates who started a Record two years ago), reveals that 3 percent have completed core licensure requirements, 88 percent are actively working toward licensure, and only 9 percent have been lost. This cohort has had less time to complete their education, experience, and examination requirements.

## Female Attrition Has Reduced in Recent Years

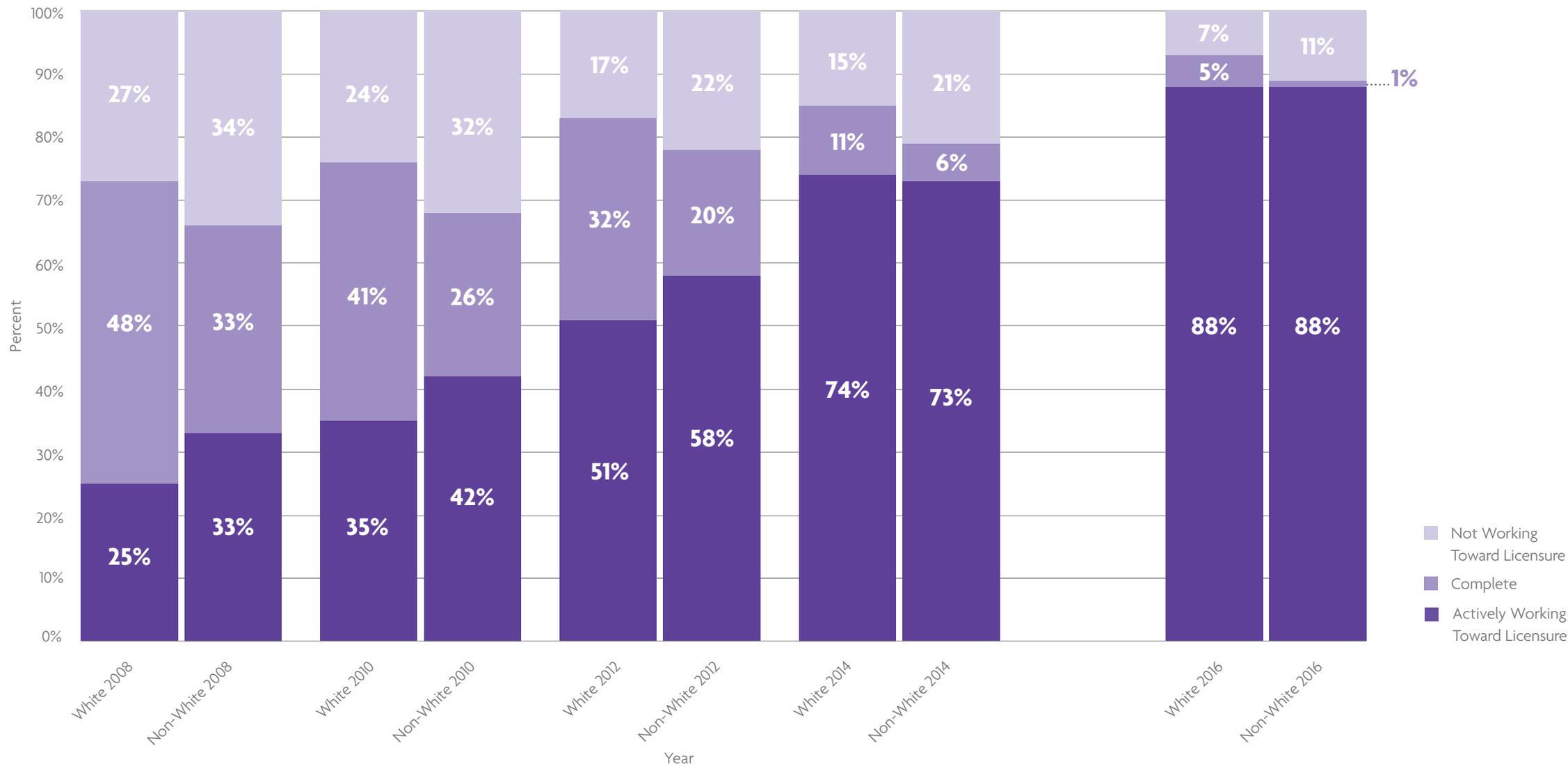


Gender equity has been gradually improving in the profession. Since 2012, historic differences in attrition between genders have disappeared.

Of those who started their NCARB Record in 2008, 32 percent of women and 27 percent of men have fallen off the path to licensure. Similarly, 29 percent of women and 25 percent of men in the 2010 cohort have stopped pursuing licensure, while 33 percent of women and 37 percent of men have completed the core requirements.

The data reveals a different trend for women who began the path to licensure more recently. While women who began their Record in 2014 or 2016 are still less likely to have completed the path to licensure than their male counterparts, they are also less likely to have stopped pursuing licensure—a reversal from 2008 and 2010 candidates.

## Non-White Candidates More Likely to Fall Off the Path to Licensure



While racial and ethnic diversity has been gradually improving in the profession, candidates who identify as non-white or Hispanic are less likely to complete the path to licensure than candidates who identify as white.

Of non-white candidates who started their NCARB Record in 2008, 33 percent had completed the core requirements for licensure by 2017—15 percentage points less than their white counterparts and 10 percentage points below the national average. Thirty-three percent of non-white and 25 percent of white candidates who began their NCARB Record in 2008 are still actively pursuing licensure, while 34 percent of non-white and 27 percent of white candidates have fallen off the path.

This trend continues in more recent years, with non-white candidates typically 25 percent more likely to fall off the path to licensure than their white peers. This is in contrast to the gender comparison of attrition, which has evened out since 2012.

*Note: NCARB uses the same categories for race and ethnicity as the U.S. Census Bureau. Non-white combines those who identified as Asian, Black or African American, Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander, and Hispanic or Latino.*

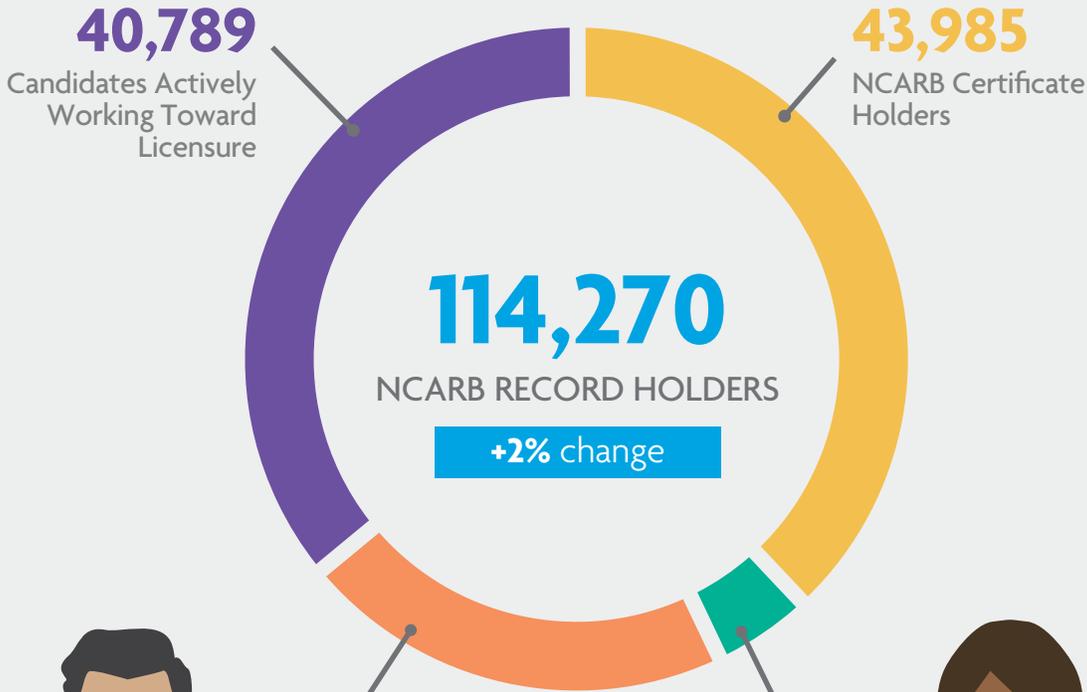
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# Inside NCARB

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With over 114,000 Record holders, more than 15,000 AXP supervisors, and hundreds of volunteers, NCARB's community continues to grow. In 2017, our volunteers worked across 28 committees—the highest number on record—to tackle a wide range of initiatives. Licensure candidates, architects, educators, and other professionals worked together to write exam questions, examine the future of architecture, develop new training and resources for AXP supervisors, and more.

NCARB supports the efforts of the 54 U.S. licensing boards, also known as Member Boards, who work to advance national programs and initiatives while protecting the public. Of the 435 members who serve on these boards, nearly half are practicing architects, 142 are in related professions (such as engineering and landscape architecture), and 68 are members of the public.



**46** average age of a Certificate holder

**29** average age of a licensure candidate



**15,820**  
AXP Supervisors



**309**  
Volunteers

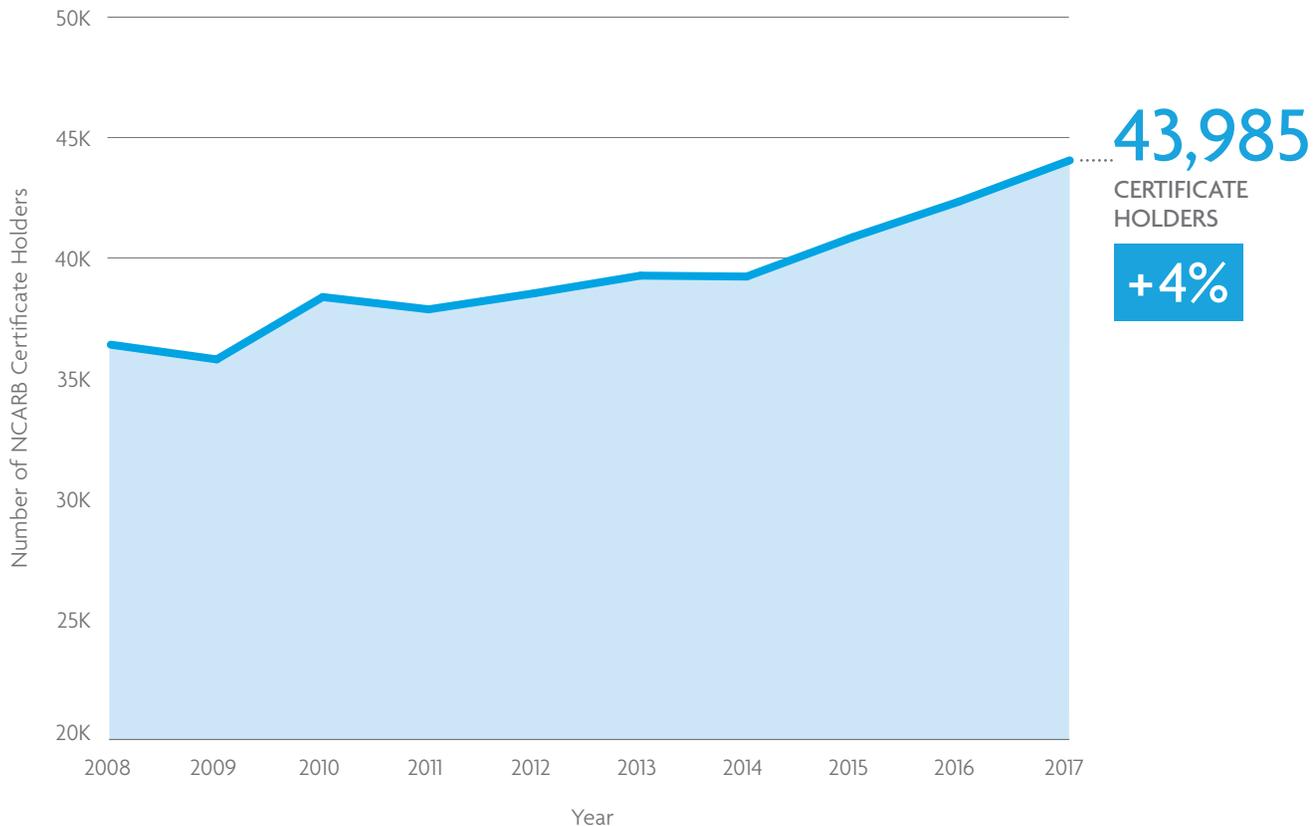


**435**  
Member Board Members

## Number of NCARB Certified Architects Reaches All-Time High

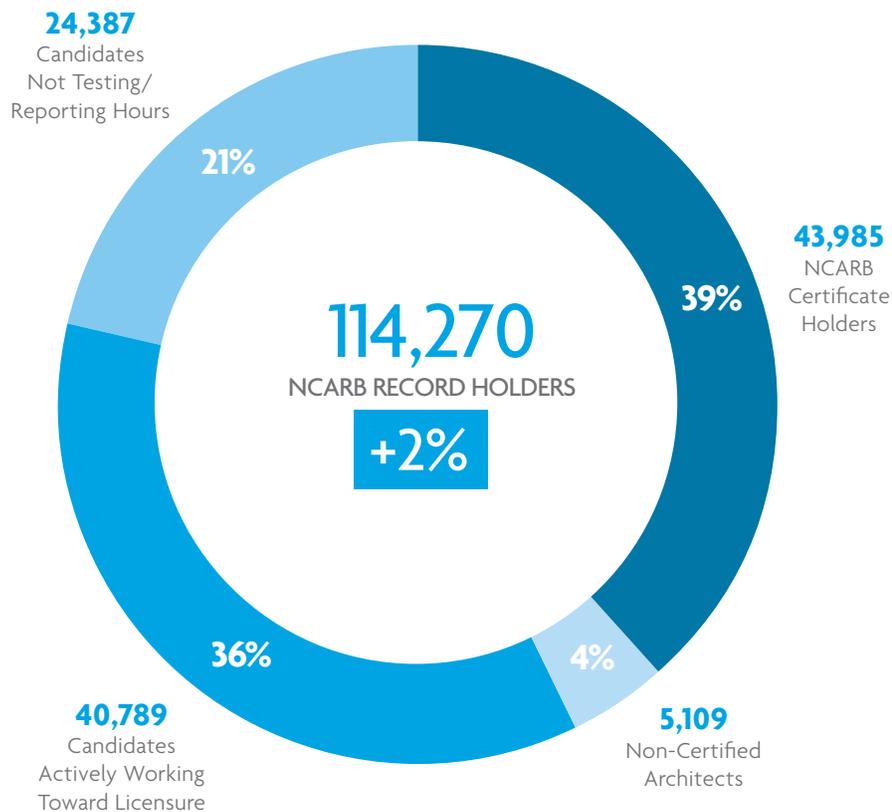
By the end of 2017, just under 44,000 architects held an active NCARB Certificate—an increase of almost 4 percent from the previous year, and the third year in a row this number has reached an all-time high. In addition, increases in the number of candidates becoming certified immediately after initial licensure signals that young professionals are more aware of the Certificate and its benefits.

The NCARB Certificate facilitates reciprocal licensure across the United States and enables U.S. architects to earn licenses in Australia, Canada, Mexico, and New Zealand. Certified architects also have access to free continuing education opportunities through NCARB's Monograph Series.



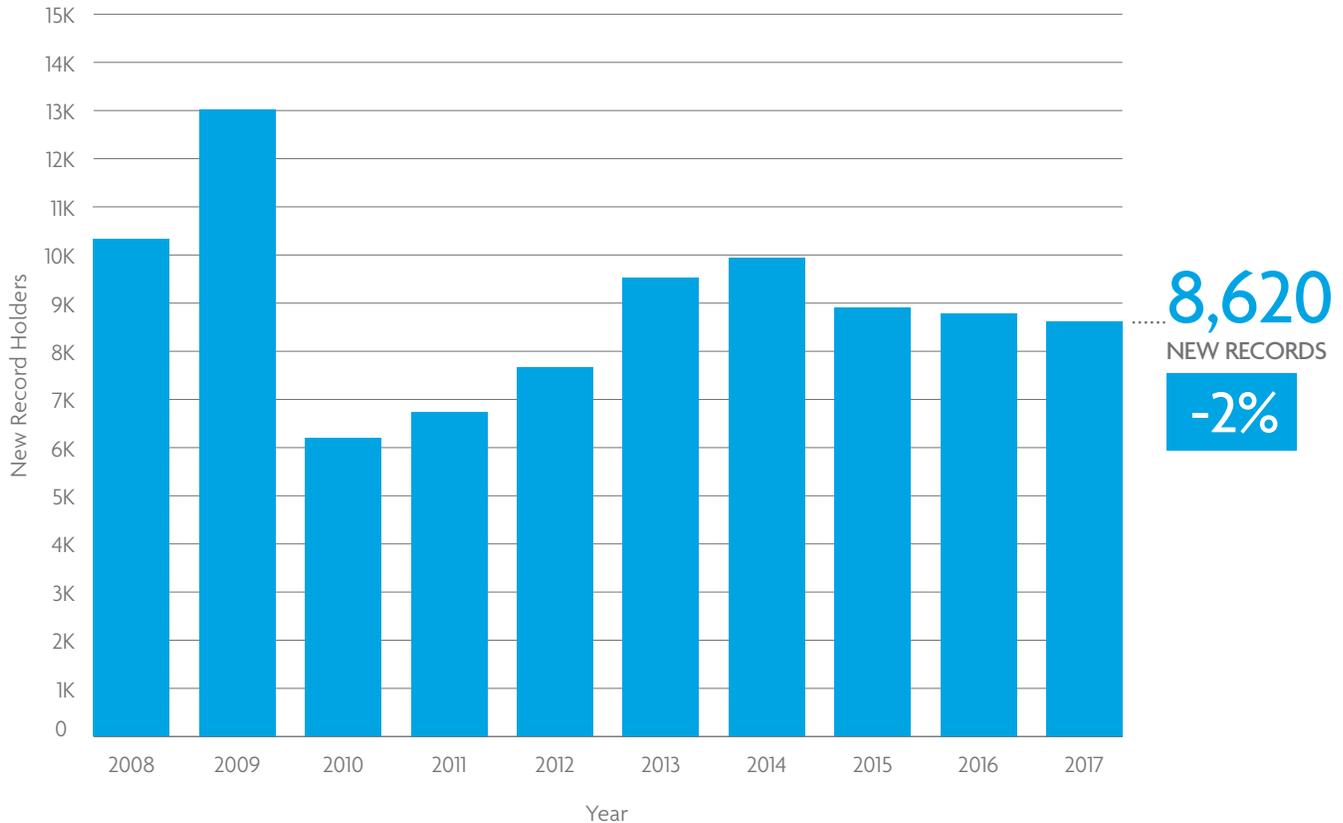
## NCARB's Community Continues to Grow

In 2017, over 114,000 individuals held an NCARB Record, a 2 percent growth from the previous year. Of those Record holders, 39 percent are architects with an NCARB Certificate (up 1 percentage point from 2016), 4 percent are architects without a Certificate (no change from 2016), and 36 percent are candidates actively working toward licensure (down 1 percentage point from 2016—see Number of Licensure Candidates Dips Slightly). The remaining 21 percent are candidates who haven't taken a division of the ARE or reported AXP hours in the last year (no change from 2016).



## Number of New NCARB Records Declines

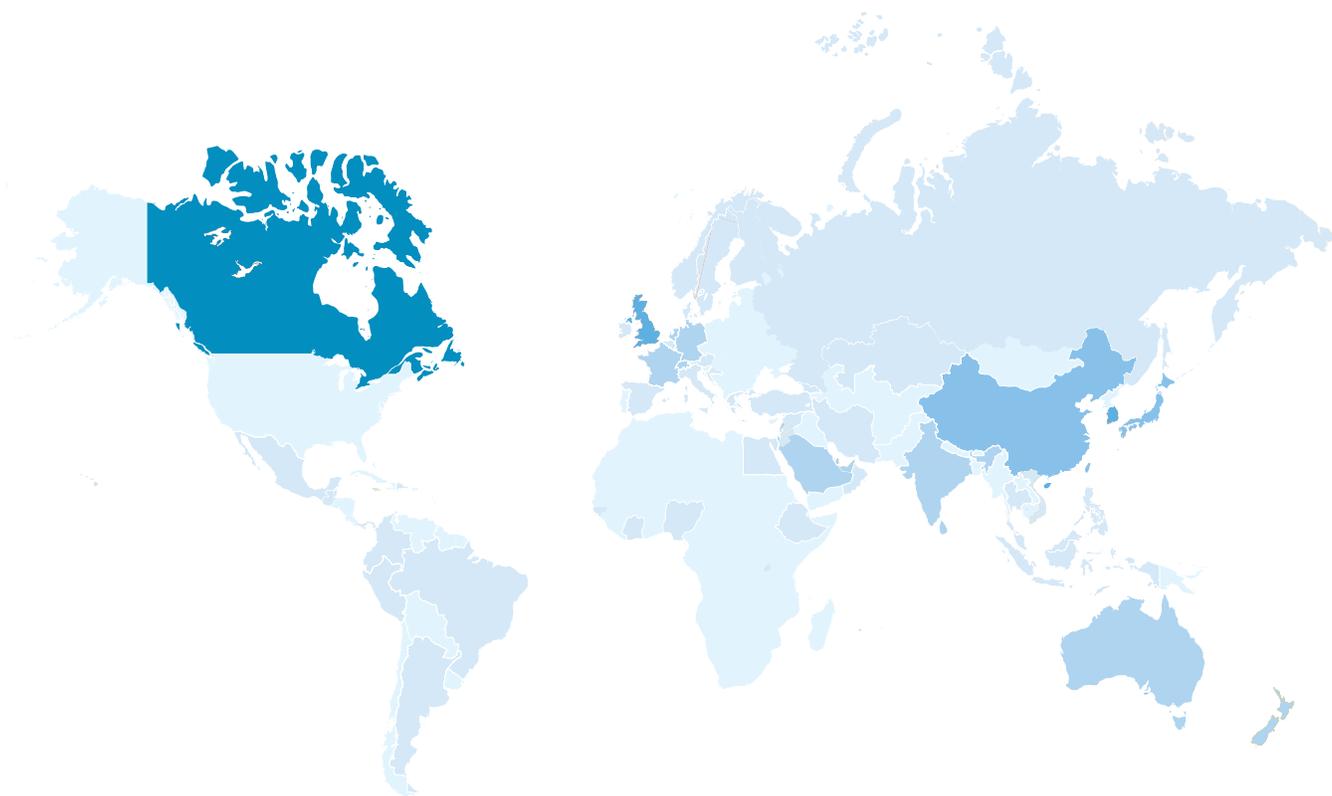
Just over 8,600 individuals started an NCARB Record in 2017, a 2 percent drop from the previous year. This marks the third year in a row the number of new Records has fallen, putting 2017 slightly below the 10-year average of 8,974. Despite this downward trend, the number of new Records has remained relatively stable over the past three years following nearly a decade of unpredictability. The spike in 2009 was the result of a new policy that required licensure candidates taking the exam to hold a Record.



## NCARB Customers Around the World

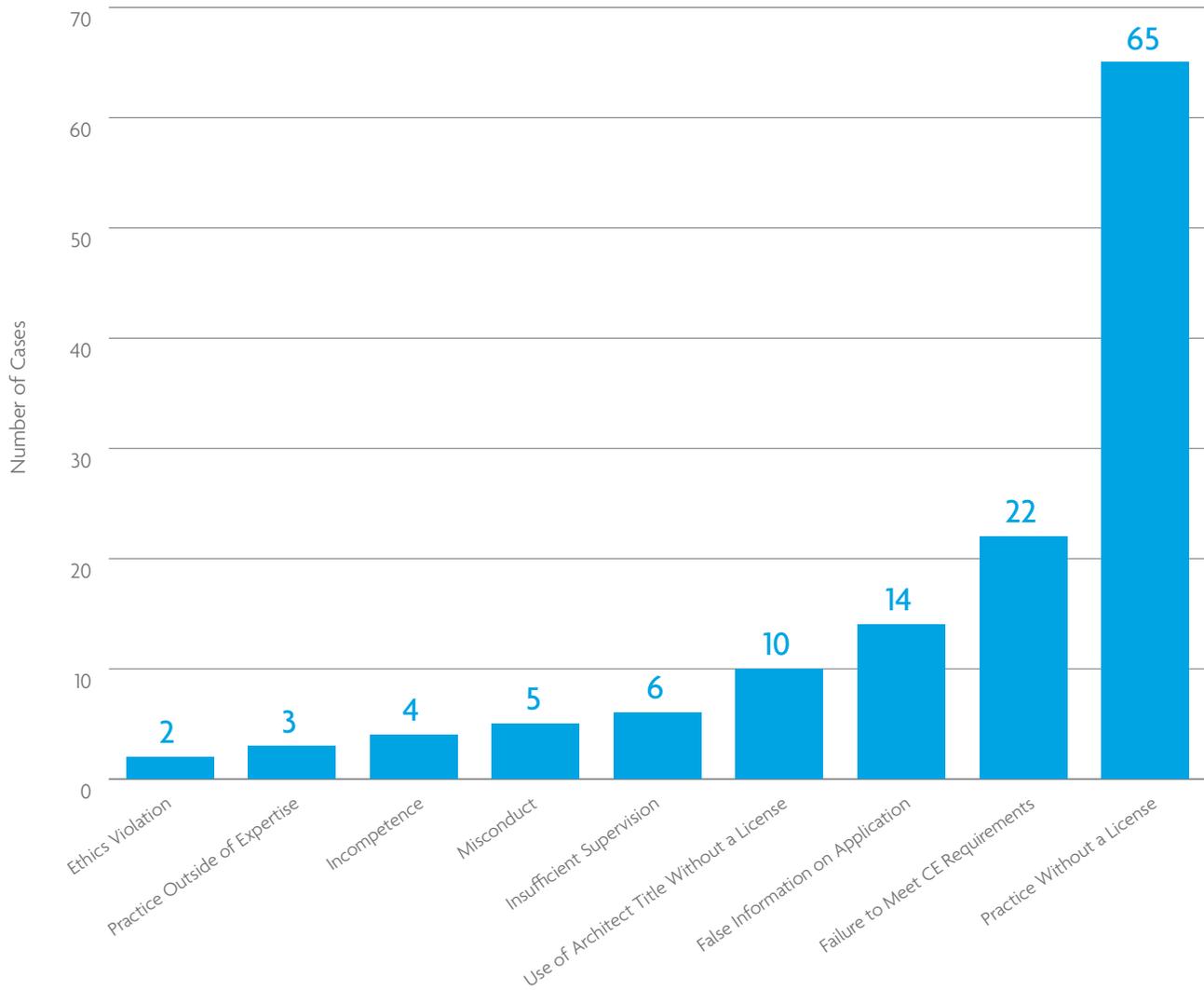
Licensure candidates and NCARB Certificate holders are located in countries across the globe. Outside of the United States, the largest populations of Record holders are based in Canada (710), the Republic of Korea (109), the United Kingdom (103), and China (79).

Through mutual recognition arrangements, NCARB Certificate holders can pursue reciprocal licenses in Australia, Canada, Mexico, and New Zealand. NCARB also offers the ARE at Prometric test centers in Canada, London, Hong Kong, and Abu Dhabi.



## Disciplinary Actions Reported

NCARB helps individual licensing boards protect the public health, safety, and welfare by maintaining a national database of disciplinary action for the profession. In 2017, 22 jurisdictions reported 131 disciplinary actions across nine categories.





## 309 NCARB Volunteers

**28**  
committees

**134**  
charges

**38,290**  
hours volunteered



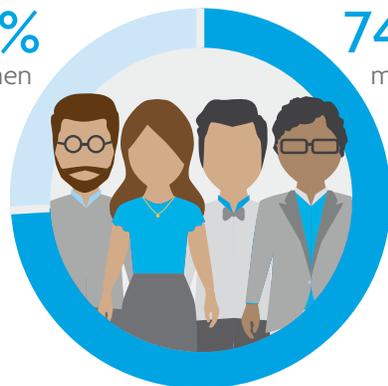
## 54 Member Boards

**30**  
multi-professional  
boards

**24**  
architect only  
boards

**26%**  
women

**74%**  
men



## Member Board Members

**225**  
architect members

**142**  
members from  
related professions

**68**  
public members

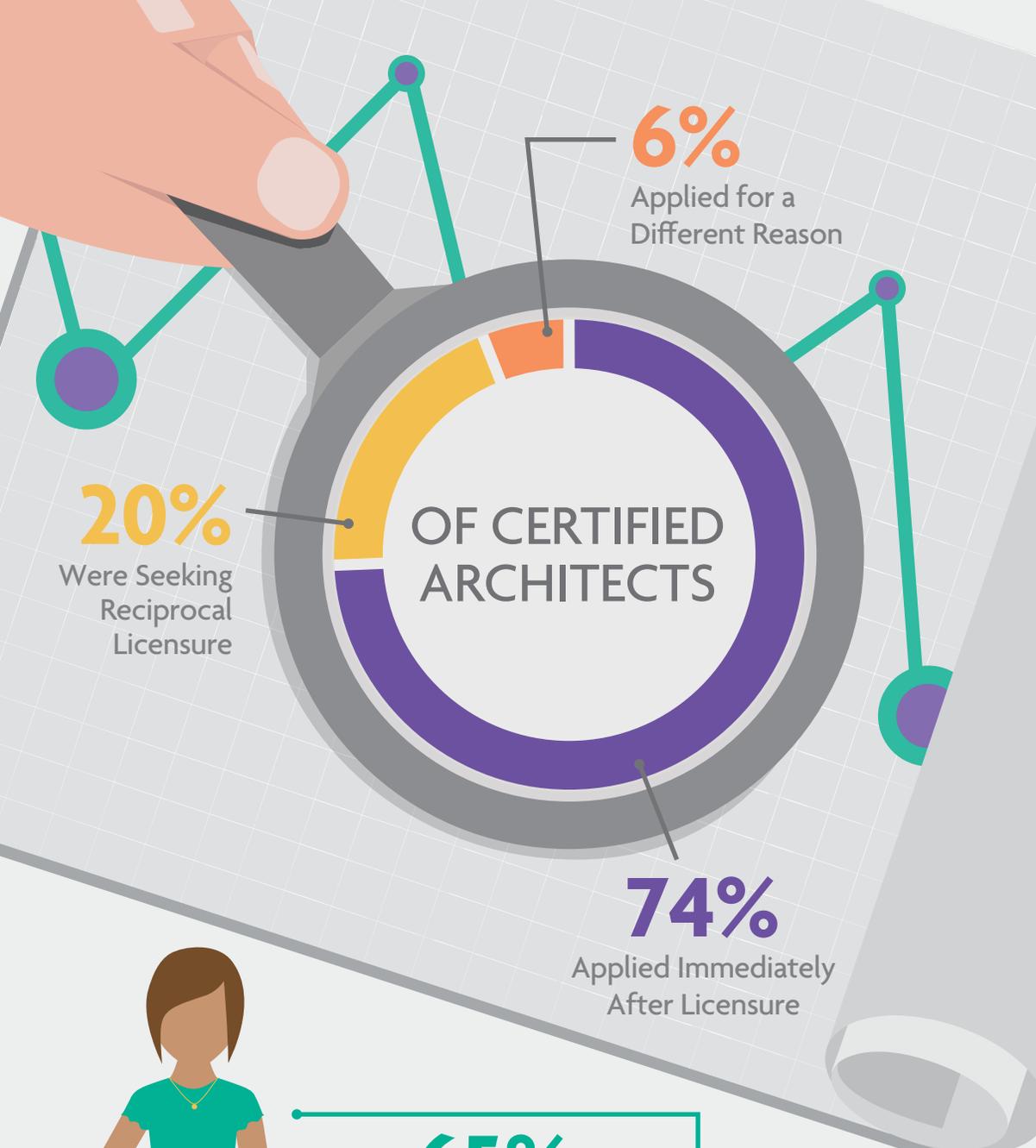
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# NCARB Perceptions

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Every few years, NCARB conducts a survey of individuals in the architecture profession to determine how the organization is perceived. In 2017, NCARB sent the survey to over 60,000 current and past customers, receiving nearly 6,000 responses from a combination of licensure candidates, NCARB-certified architects, and non-certified architects.

In comparison with responses to the 2011 NCARB Perception Analysis Survey, NCARB's perception has improved in recent years, with more respondents providing positive feedback on NCARB's programs, services, and role in the profession.



**65%**  
of candidates intend to apply for certification immediately after licensure



*NCARB has improved its services*  
31% Neutral | 12% Disagree



*AXP helps prepare candidates for practice*  
35% Somewhat Agree  
20% Disagree



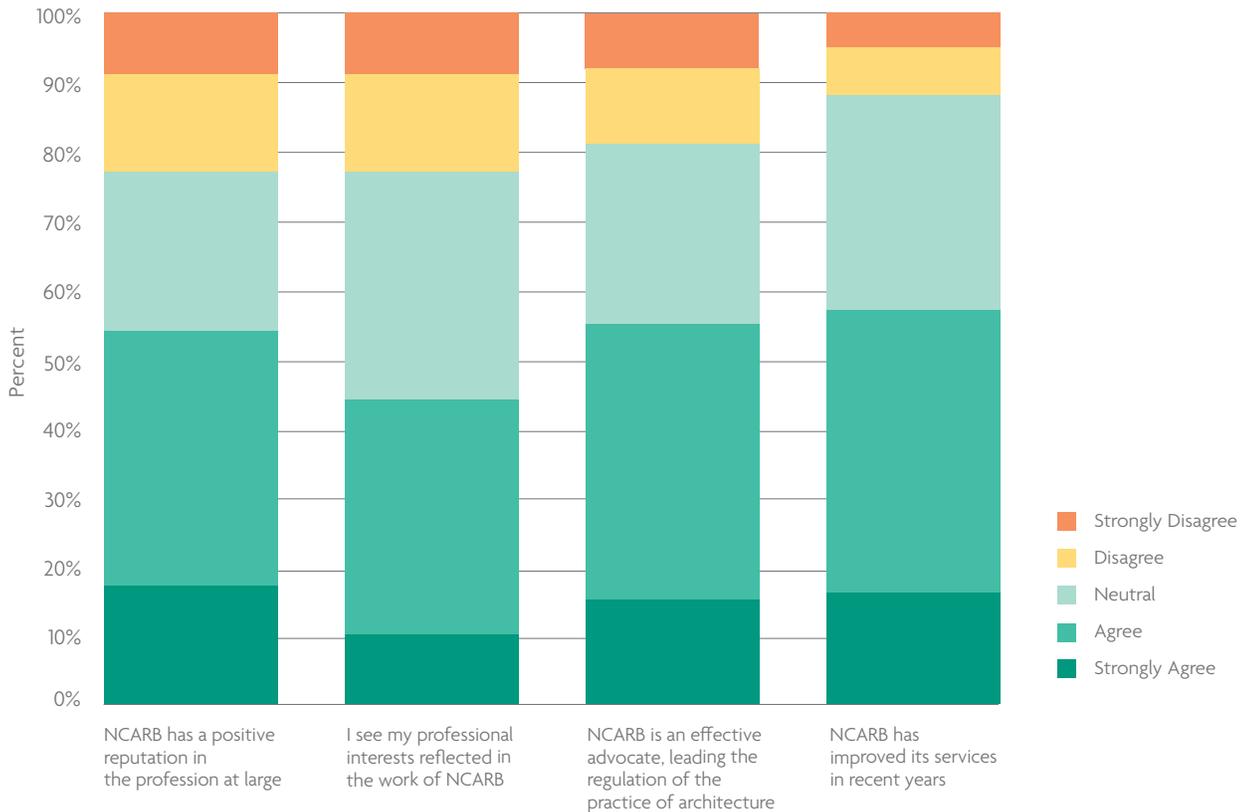
*NCARB's ARE resources are helpful*  
28% Neutral | 15% Disagree

## NCARB Has Improved Its Services

Perceptions of NCARB services trend positive. More than half (57 percent) of respondents either “strongly agree” or “agree” that NCARB has improved its services in recent years, and 54 percent indicated that NCARB has a positive reputation in the profession at large. Fifty-five percent of respondents believe that NCARB is an effective advocate in the profession.

Respondents were slightly less likely to agree that they see their professional interests reflected in NCARB’s work (44 percent).

*Note: Responses indicating “unsure” have not been included in this chart.*

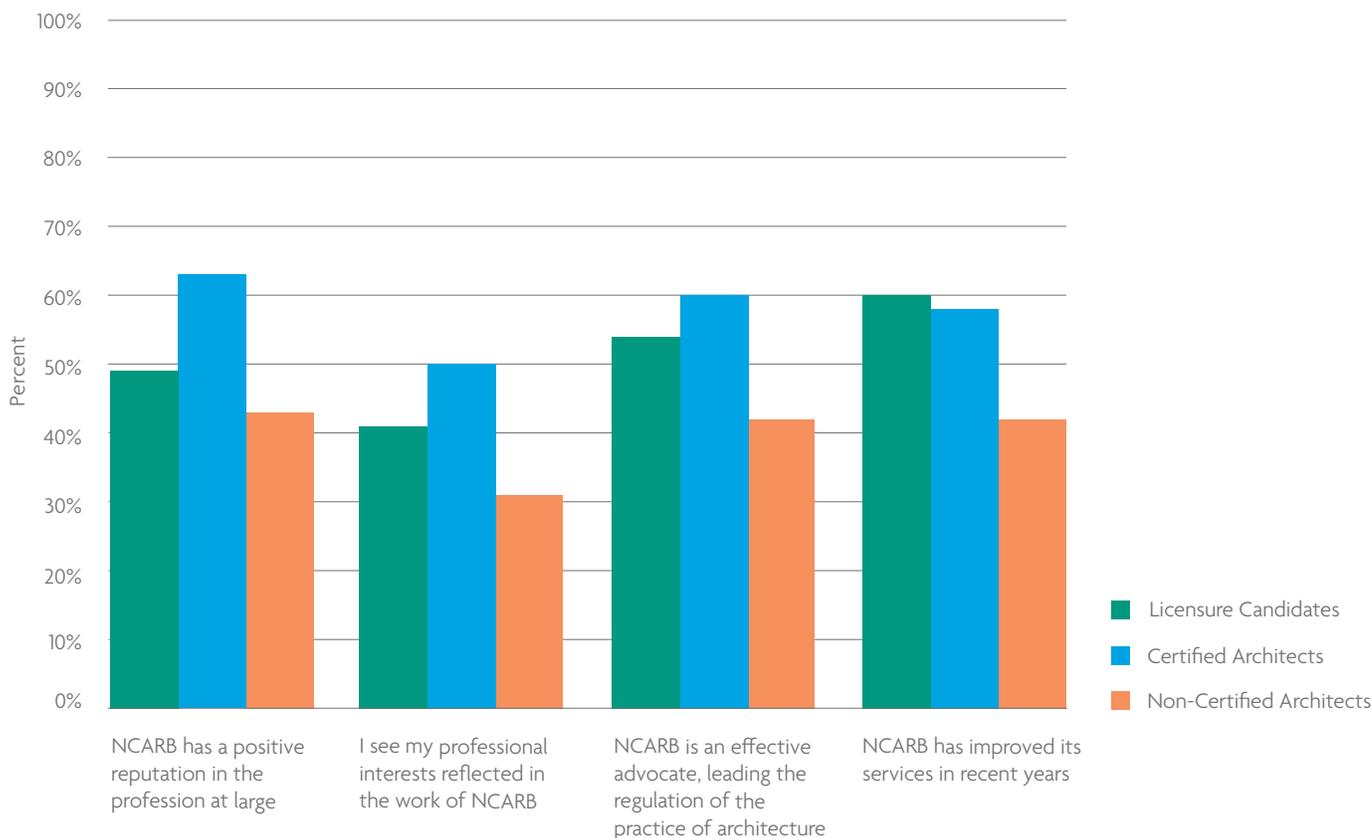


## Certified Architects Have Most Positive Perception

Of all respondents to the survey, architects who hold an active NCARB Certificate were the most likely to agree that NCARB has a positive reputation and is an effective advocate in the profession (63 and 60 percent, respectively).

Licensed architects without an active NCARB Certificate are, on average, 18 percentage points less likely to agree with each statement than Certificate holders.

*Note: Responses indicating "unsure" have not been included in this chart.*

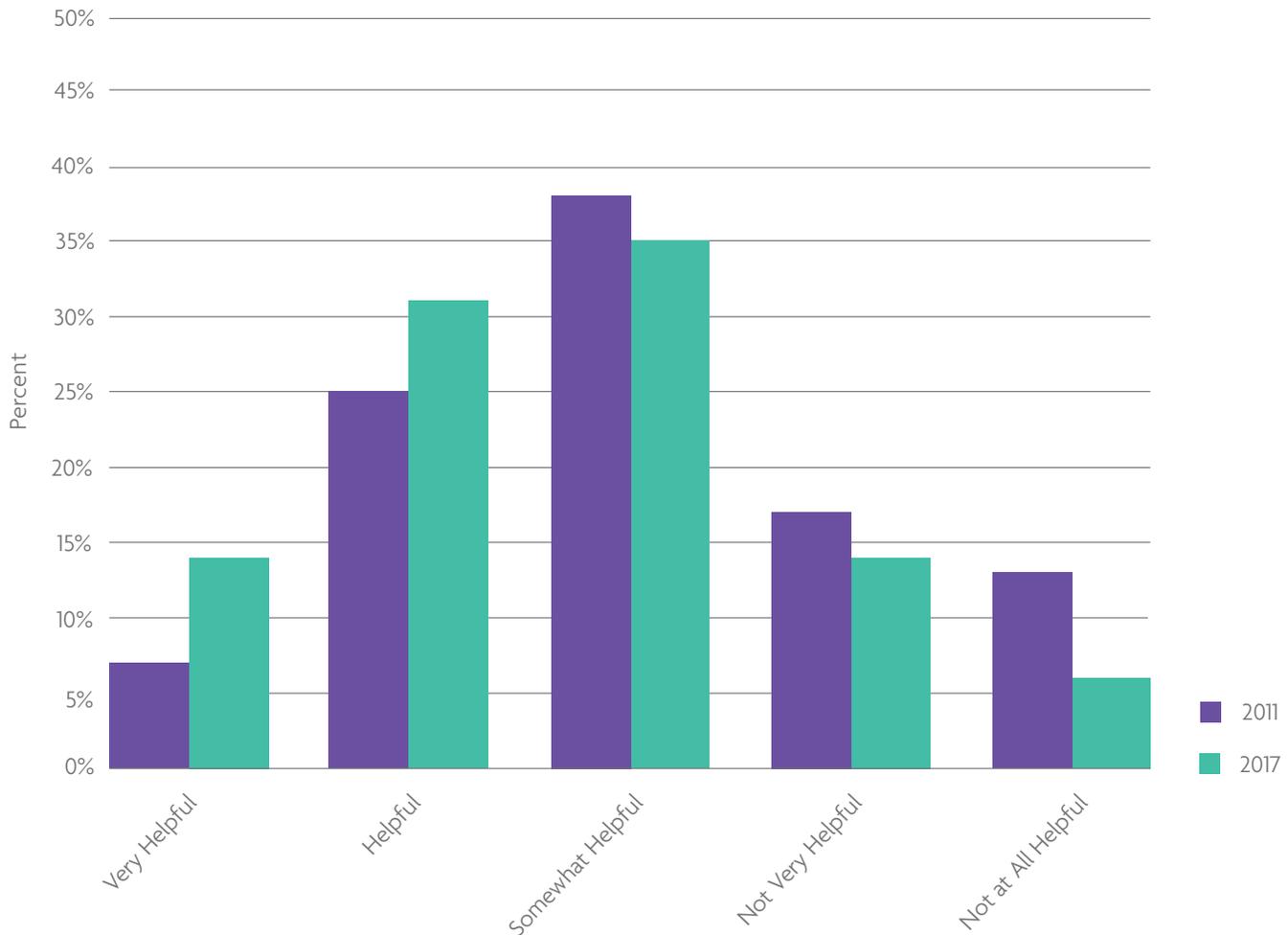


## AXP Provides Better Preparation for Practice

Forty-five percent of individuals who have completed the AXP consider the program to be helpful or very helpful in preparing them for architectural practice. This is 13 percentage points higher than the response in 2011 from individuals who completed the previous iteration of the experience program (the Intern Development Program, or IDP).

Individuals currently on the path to licensure were most likely to select “somewhat helpful” when asked about the AXP’s role in preparing them for practice.

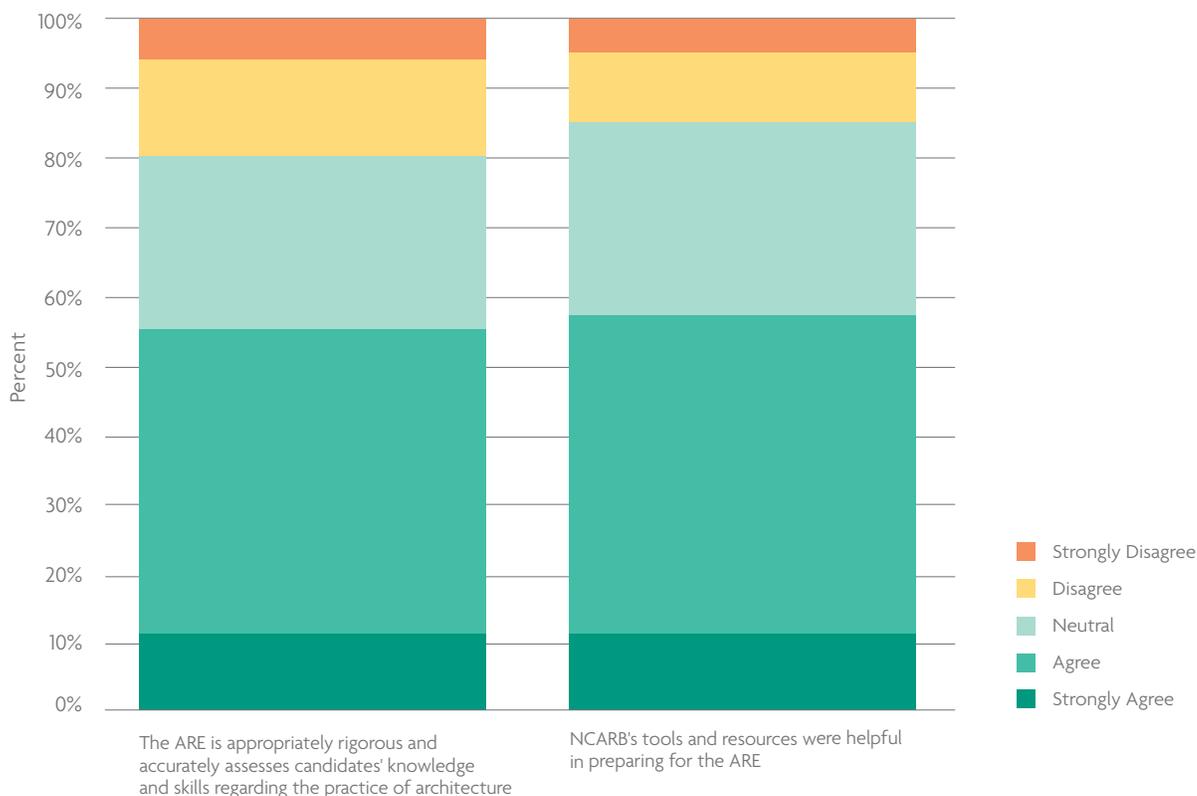
*Note: Responses indicating “not applicable” have not been included in this chart.*



## The ARE is Perceived Positively

Over half (55 percent) of individuals who have completed the ARE agree or strongly agree that the exam is appropriately rigorous and accurately assesses candidates' knowledge and skills, and 57 percent indicated that NCARB's study resources were helpful in preparing for the ARE.

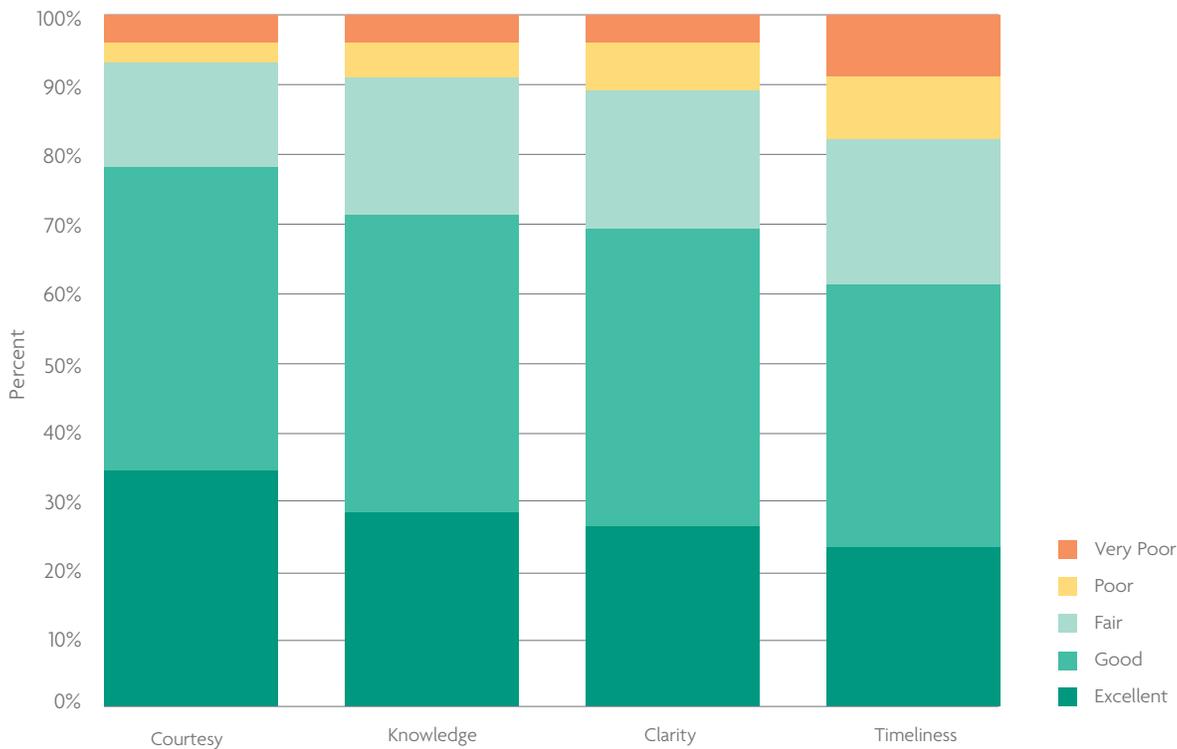
*Note: Responses indicating "unsure" have not been included in this chart.*



## Courtesy Ranks Highest in Customer Relations

Interaction with NCARB's Customer Relations team received positive feedback from respondents, with 78 percent of respondents indicating that the courtesy of their representative was "excellent" or "good." The knowledge and clarity of Customer Relations representatives also received positive ratings, while timeliness was regarded the most negatively by respondents.

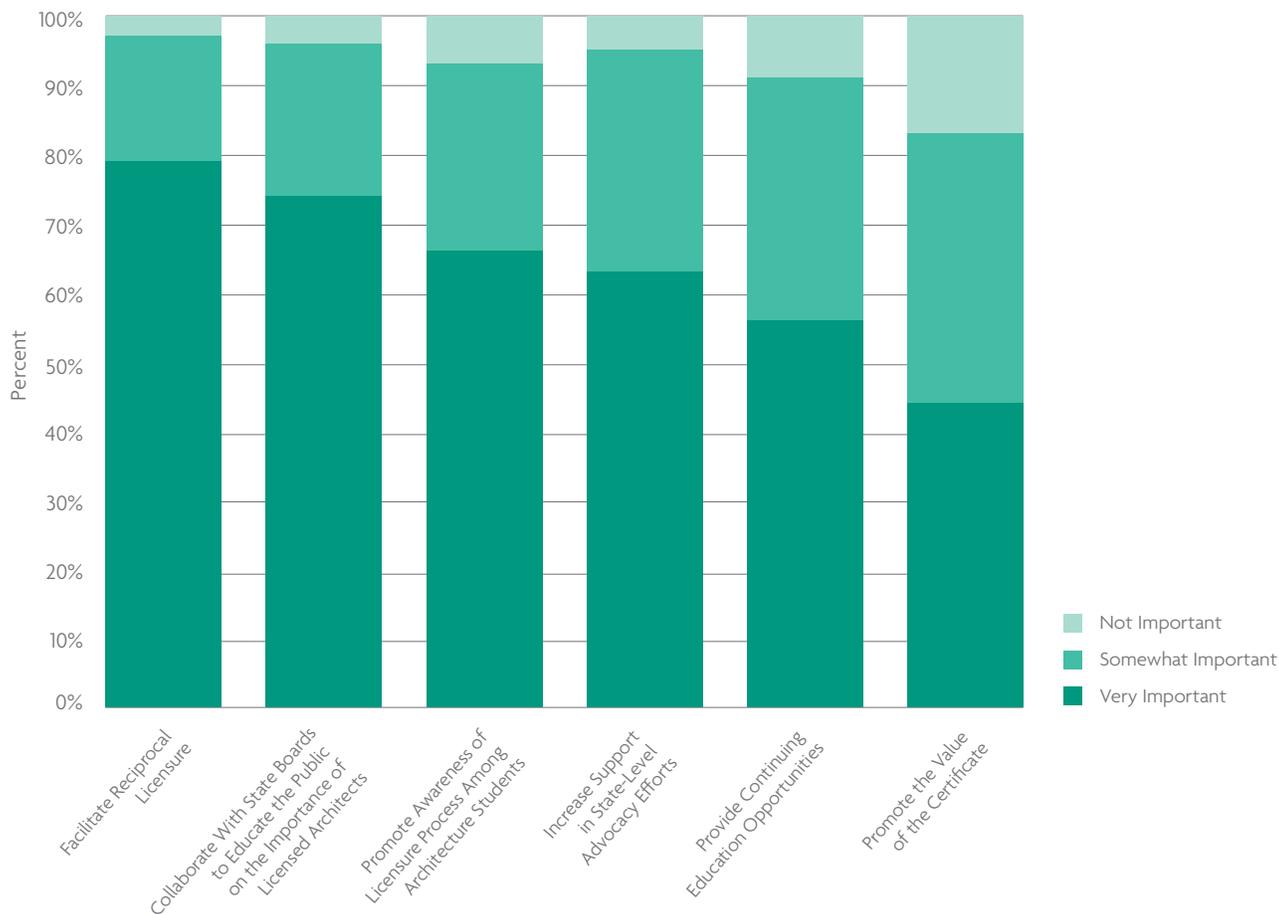
*Note: Responses indicating "not applicable" have not been included in this chart.*



## NCARB Serves Several Important Functions in the Profession

Facilitating reciprocal licensure is regarded as NCARB's most important function, with 79 percent of respondents rating it as "very important."

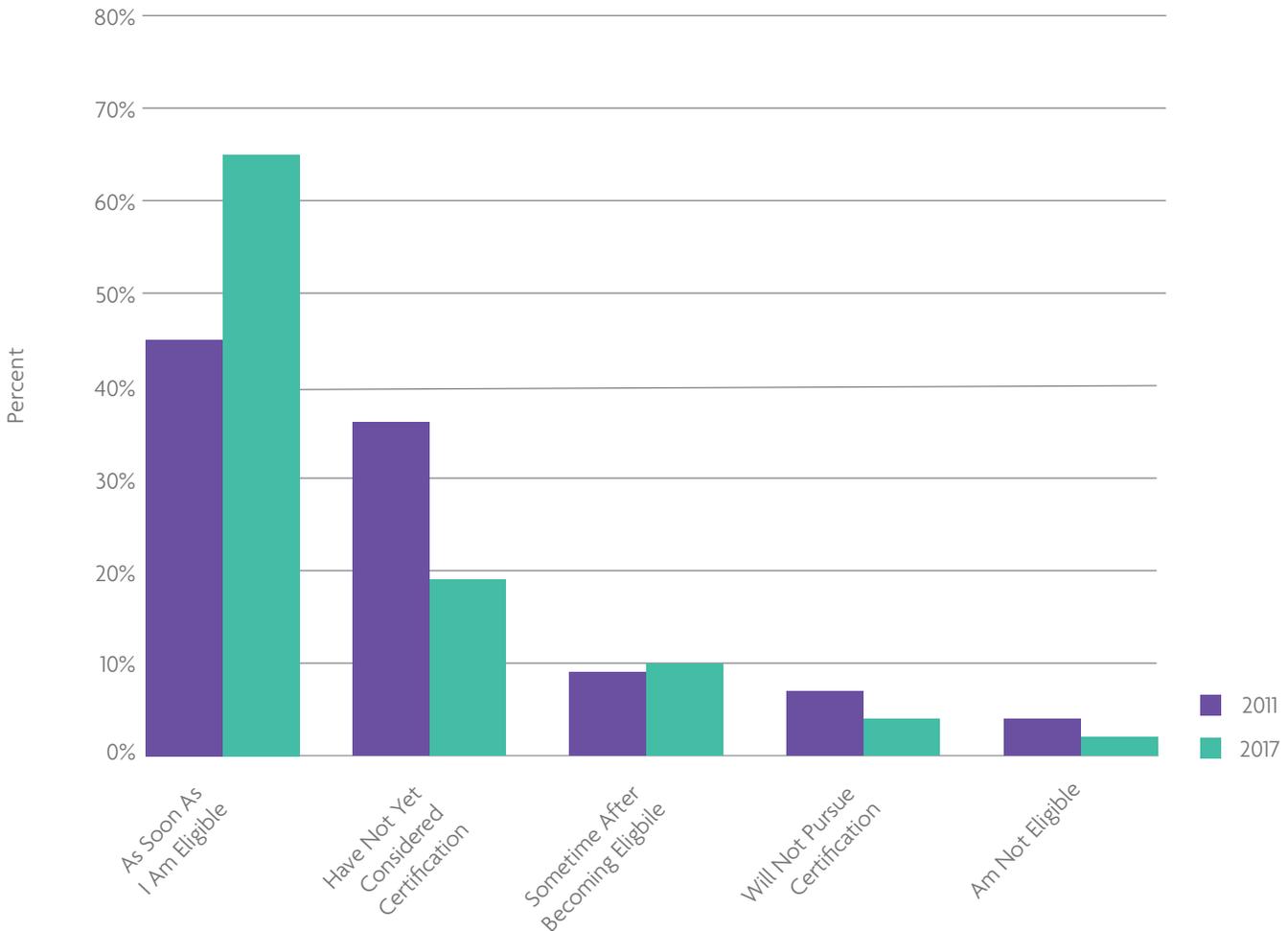
The importance of collaborating with state boards to educate the public on the role licensed architects play in protecting their health, safety, and welfare has increased over time: 74 percent of respondents rated this as "very important" in 2017, compared to 66 percent in 2011.



## Most Licensure Candidates Plan to Become Certified

Current licensure candidates are more aware of the NCARB Certificate than candidates in 2011, with 65 percent indicating that they intend to apply for the NCARB Certificate as soon as they are eligible—a 21 percentage point increase from candidates in 2011.

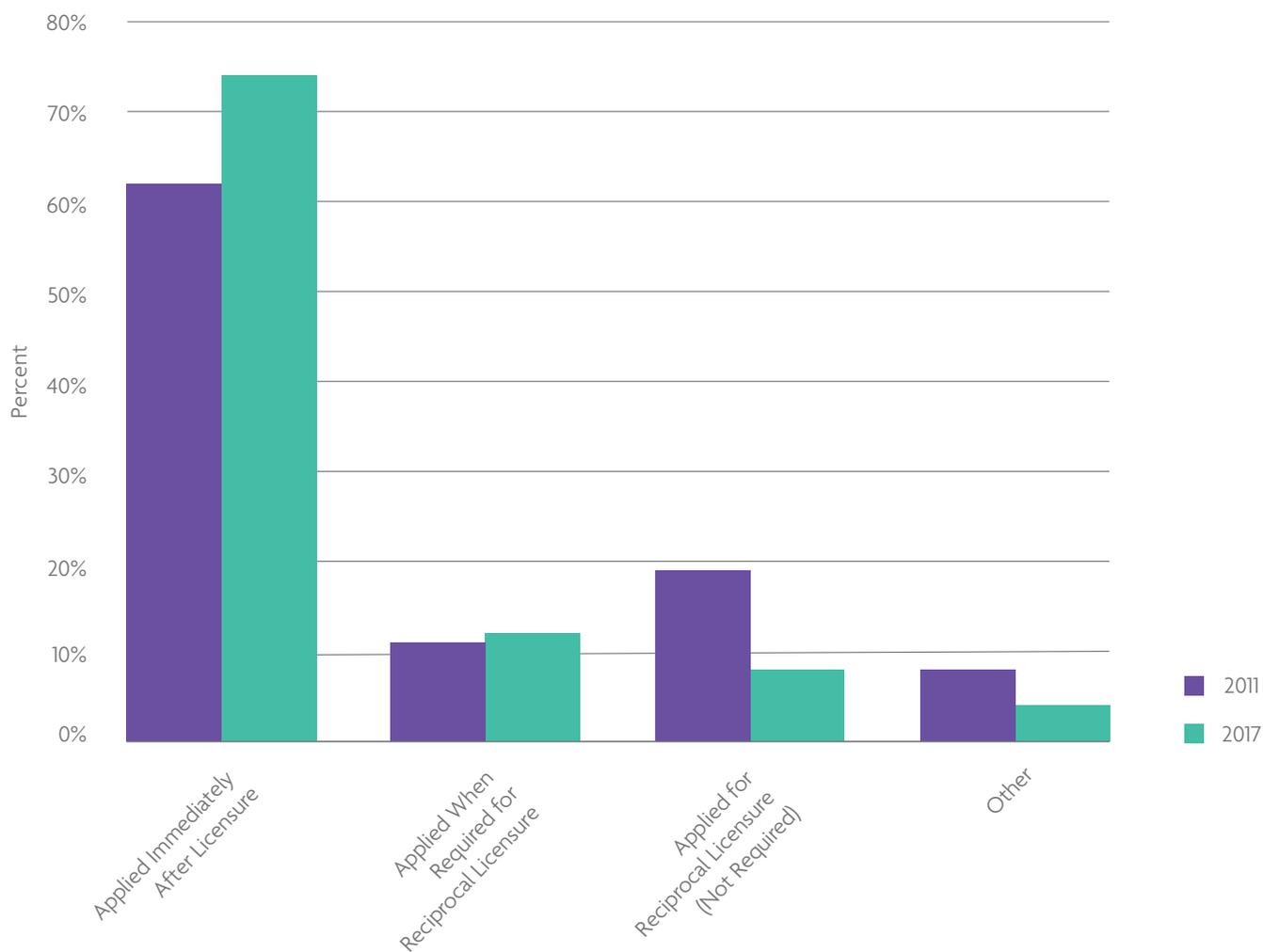
*Note: Data collected from the 2011 and 2017 NCARB Perception Analysis surveys.*



## Most Certified Architects Apply Immediately After Licensure

In 2017, 74 percent of certified architects indicated that they applied for an NCARB Certificate immediately after acquiring their initial license—a 12 percent increase from 2011. This corresponds with an 11 percent drop in architects applying for certification solely to facilitate a reciprocal licensure request.

*Note: Data collected from the 2011 and 2017 NCARB Perception Analysis surveys.*



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# Jurisdictions

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The following section includes baseline comparisons for NCARB's 54 Member Boards, which include all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Each page includes a 2017 snapshot of the jurisdiction's AXP completion rate, ARE divisional success rate, number of licenses, and completion time for the ARE and AXP. For the first time, this snapshot also features the number of disciplinary actions reported by each board.

# 2017 National Averages

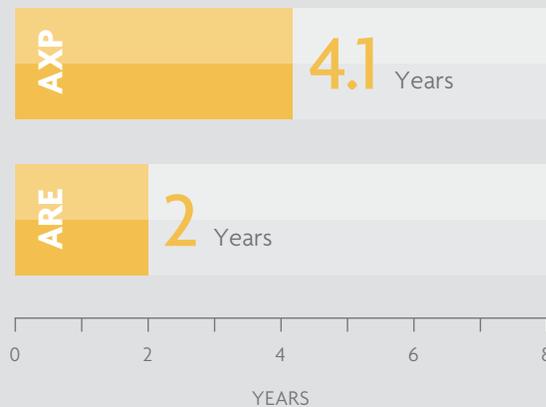
## AXP Completion Rate



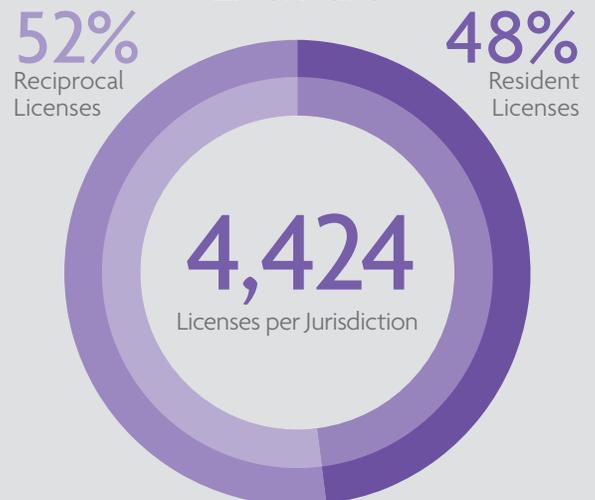
## ARE Divisional Success Rate



## Completion Timeline



## Licensure



# 54 Jurisdictions

Alabama .....	82	Illinois .....	96
Alaska .....	83	Indiana .....	97
Arizona .....	84	Iowa .....	98
Arkansas .....	85	Kansas .....	99
California .....	86	Kentucky .....	100
Colorado .....	87	Louisiana .....	101
Connecticut .....	88	Maine .....	102
Delaware .....	89	Maryland .....	103
District of Columbia .....	90	Massachusetts .....	84
Florida .....	91	Michigan .....	105
Georgia .....	92	Minnesota .....	106
Guam .....	93	Mississippi .....	107
Hawaii .....	94	Missouri .....	108
Idaho .....	95	Montana .....	109

Nebraska .....	110	South Carolina .....	124
Nevada .....	111	South Dakota .....	125
New Hampshire .....	112	Tennessee .....	126
New Jersey .....	113	Texas .....	127
New Mexico .....	114	Utah .....	128
New York .....	115	Vermont .....	129
North Carolina .....	116	U.S. Virgin Islands .....	130
North Dakota .....	117	Virginia .....	131
Ohio .....	118	Washington .....	132
Oklahoma .....	119	West Virginia .....	133
Oregon .....	120	Wisconsin .....	134
Pennsylvania .....	121	Wyoming .....	135
Puerto Rico .....	122		
Rhode Island .....	123		

# Alabama

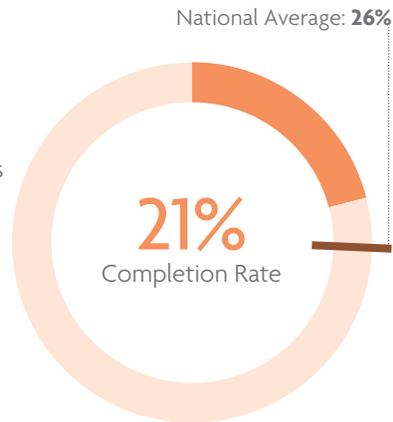
## AXP

141

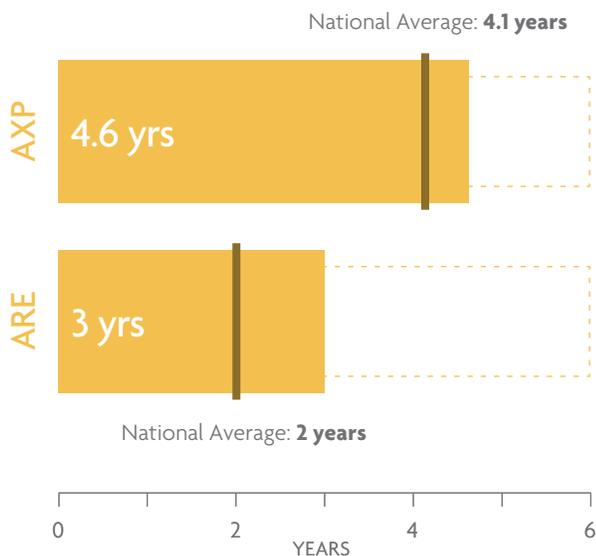
Licensure Candidates Reporting Hours

30

Completions



## COMPLETION TIMELINE



## ARE

105

Active Testers

264

Divisions Taken

28

Completions

61%  
Success Rate

National Average:  
56%

## LICENSURE

69%  
Reciprocal  
Licenses

31%  
Resident  
Licenses

2,941  
Total Licenses

National Averages:  
Reciprocal 52% Resident 48%

5

Disciplinary Actions Reported

# Alaska

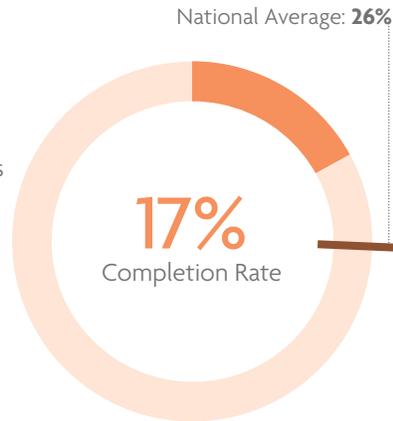
## AXP

47

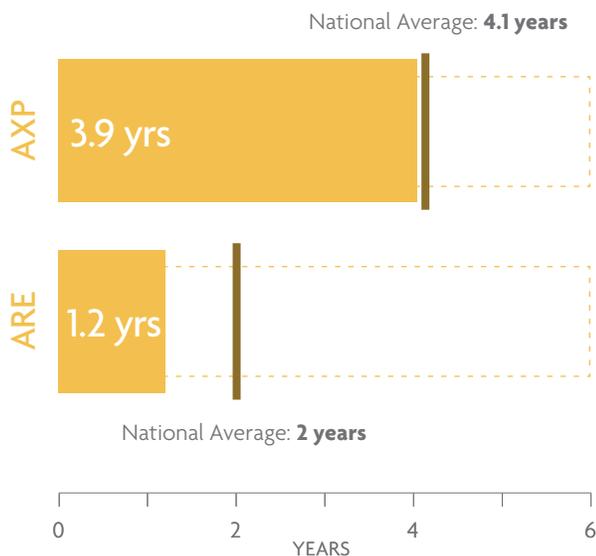
Licensure Candidates Reporting Hours

8

Completions



## COMPLETION TIMELINE



## ARE

17

Active Testers

53

Divisions Taken

6

Completions

58%  
Success Rate

National Average:  
56%

## LICENSURE

58%  
Reciprocal  
Licenses

42%  
Resident  
Licenses

507

Total Licenses

National Averages:  
Reciprocal: 52%  
Resident: 48%

1

Disciplinary Action Reported

# Arizona

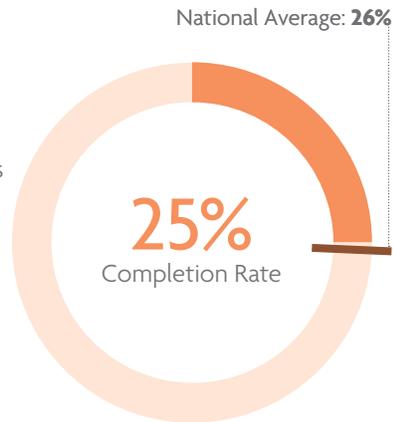
## AXP

324

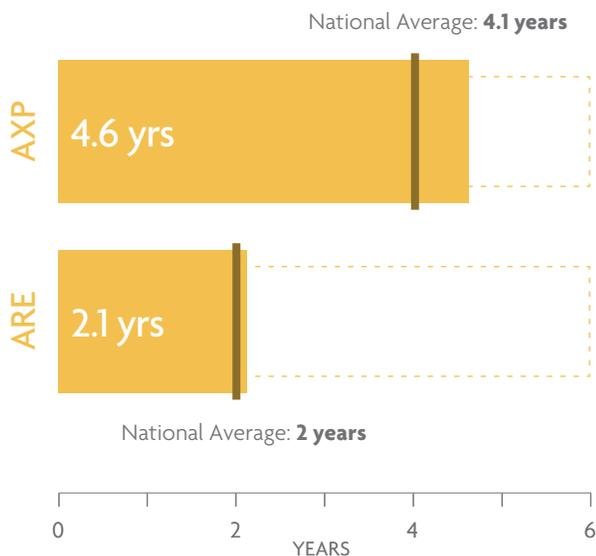
Licensure Candidates  
Reporting Hours

82

Completions



## COMPLETION TIMELINE



## ARE

334

Active Testers

949

Divisions Taken

70

Completions

National Average:  
**56%**

**53%**  
Success Rate

## LICENSURE

61%  
Reciprocal  
Licenses

38%  
Resident  
Licenses

6,090  
Total Licenses

National Averages:  
**Reciprocal 52%** | **Resident 48%**

14

Disciplinary Actions Reported

# Arkansas

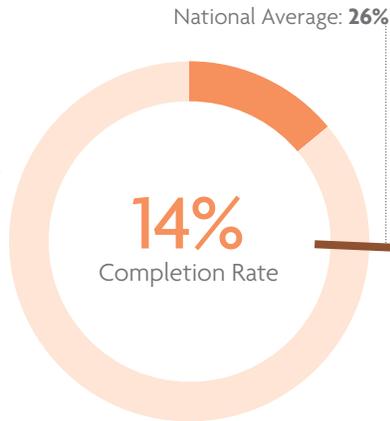
## AXP

88

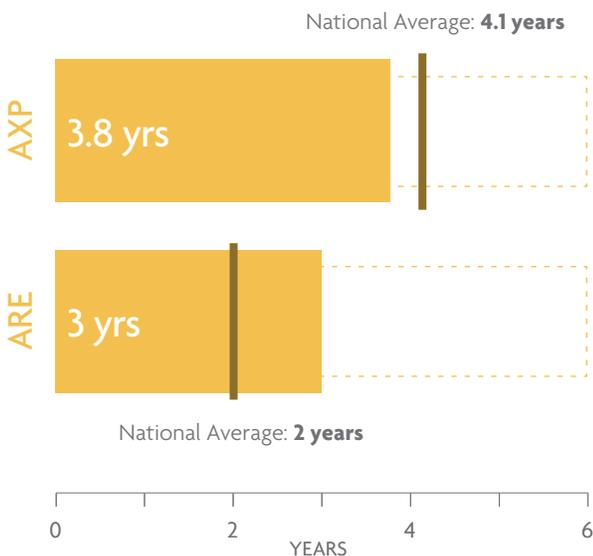
Licensure Candidates Reporting Hours

12

Completions



## COMPLETION TIMELINE



## ARE

89

Active Testers

200

Divisions Taken

18

Completions

**57%**  
Success Rate

National Average: **56%**

## LICENSURE

**66%**  
Reciprocal Licenses

**34%**  
Resident Licenses

**1,627**  
Total Licenses

National Averages:  
**Reciprocal 52%** | **Resident 48%**

0

No Data Reported

# California

## AXP

3,819

Licensure Candidates  
Reporting Hours

1,057

Completions

National Average: 26%



## COMPLETION TIMELINE

National Average: 4.1 years

AXP

4.2 yrs

ARE

2 yrs

National Average: 2 years



## ARE

3,545

Active Testers

8,861

Divisions Taken

645

Completions

National Average:  
56%

51%  
Success Rate

## LICENSURE

19%  
Reciprocal  
Licenses

81%  
Resident  
Licenses

20,267  
Total Licenses

National Averages:  
Reciprocal 52% Resident 48%

0

No Data Reported

# Colorado

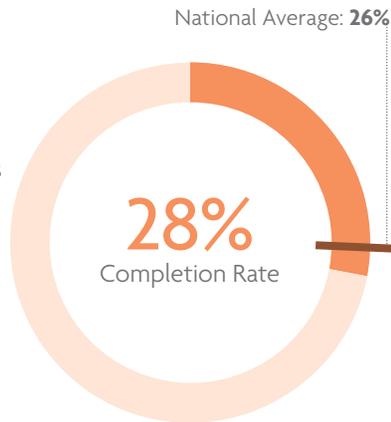
## AXP

662

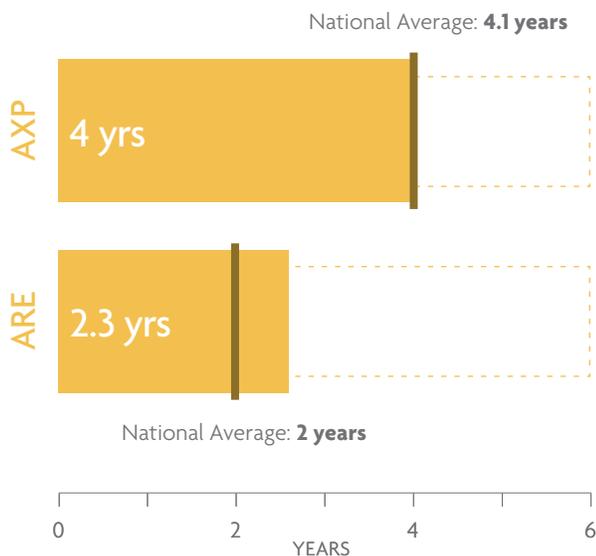
Licensure Candidates Reporting Hours

188

Completions



## COMPLETION TIMELINE



## ARE

590

Active Testers

1,568

Divisions Taken

186

Completions

64%  
Success Rate

National Average:  
56%

## LICENSURE

53%  
Reciprocal  
Licenses

47%  
Resident  
Licenses

7,272  
Total Licenses

National Averages:  
Reciprocal 52% Resident 48%

13

Disciplinary Actions Reported

# Connecticut

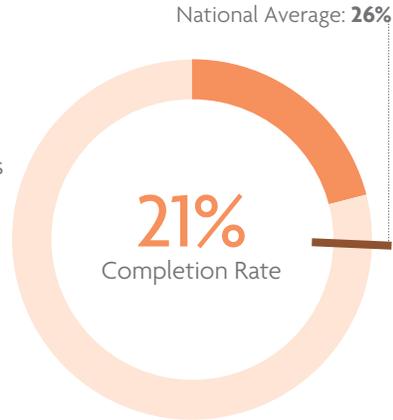
## AXP

324

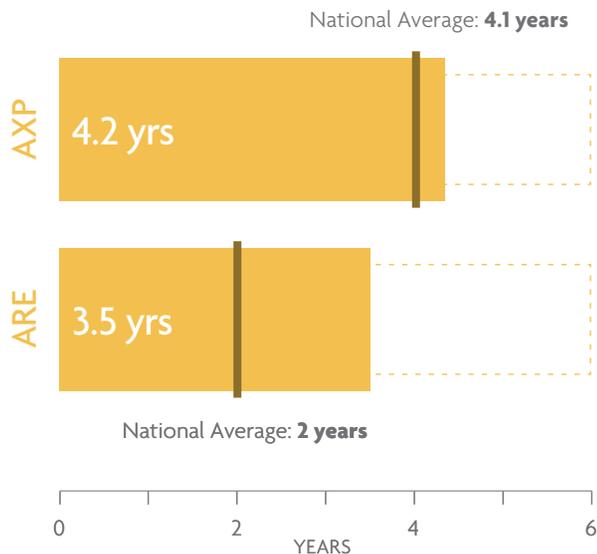
Licensure Candidates  
Reporting Hours

68

Completions



## COMPLETION TIMELINE



## ARE

79

Active Testers

187

Divisions Taken

23

Completions

59%  
Success Rate

National Average:  
56%

## LICENSURE

70%  
Reciprocal  
Licenses

30%  
Resident  
Licenses

4,231  
Total Licenses

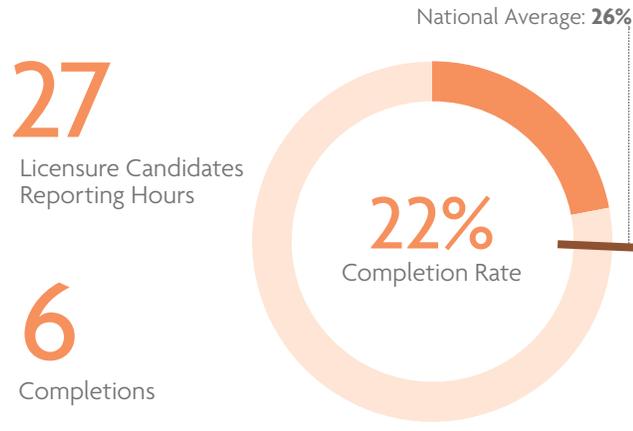
National Averages:  
Reciprocal 52% Resident 48%

0

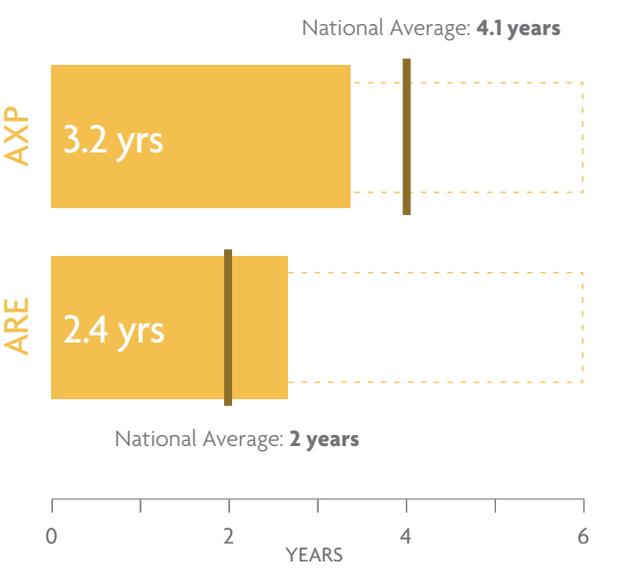
No Data Reported

# Delaware

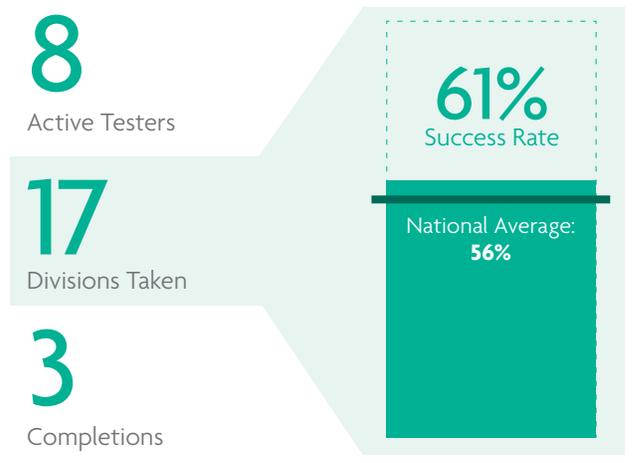
## AXP



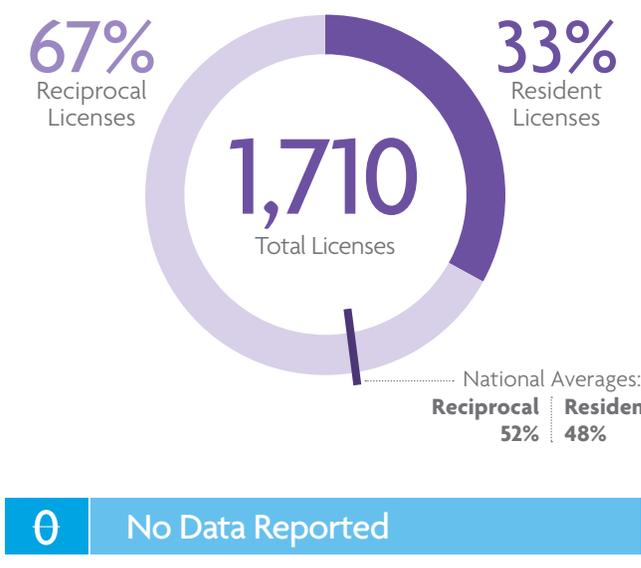
## COMPLETION TIMELINE



## ARE



## LICENSURE



# District of Columbia

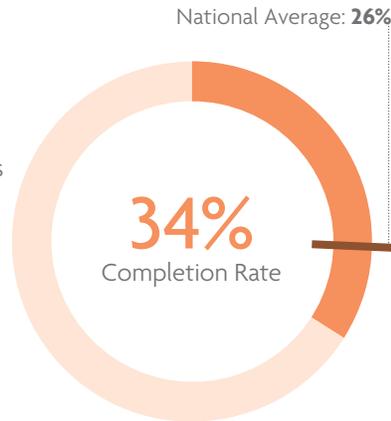
## AXP

216

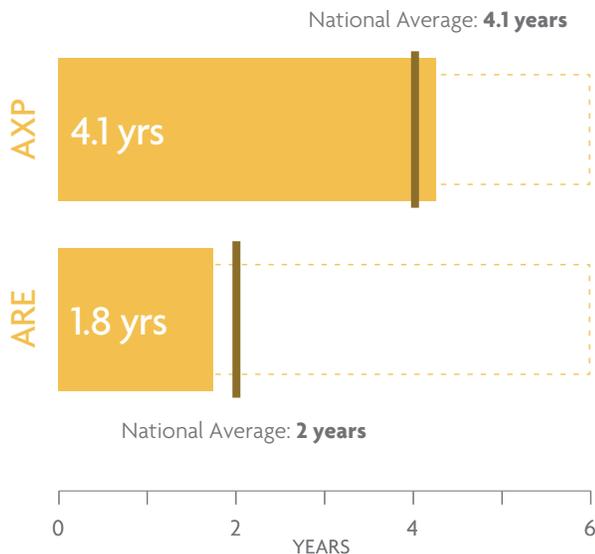
Licensure Candidates  
Reporting Hours

73

Completions



## COMPLETION TIMELINE



## ARE

460

Active Testers

1,258

Divisions Taken

118

Completions

59%  
Success Rate

National Average:  
56%

## LICENSURE

78%  
Reciprocal  
Licenses

22%  
Resident  
Licenses

3,669  
Total Licenses

National Averages:  
Reciprocal 52% Resident 48%

0

No Data Reported

# Florida

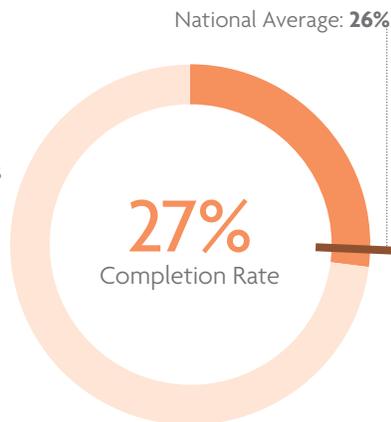
## AXP

1,221

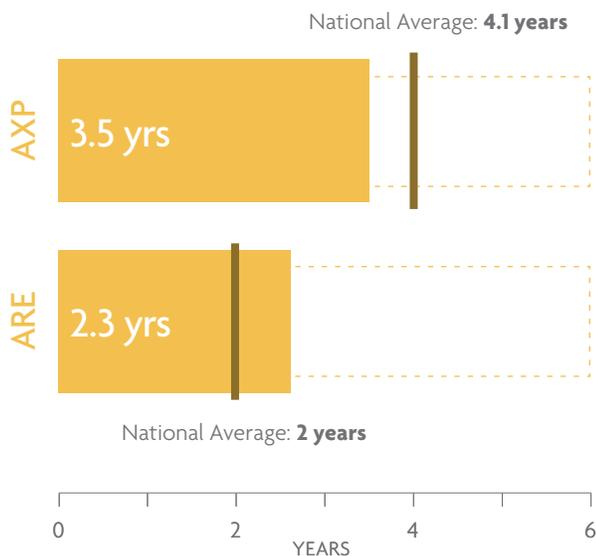
Licensure Candidates Reporting Hours

324

Completions



## COMPLETION TIMELINE



## ARE

1,062

Active Testers

2,815

Divisions Taken

194

Completions

National Average:  
56%

43%  
Success Rate

## LICENSURE

50%  
Reciprocal  
Licenses

50%  
Resident  
Licenses

10,614  
Total Licenses

National Averages:  
Reciprocal 52% Resident 48%

23

Disciplinary Actions Reported

# Georgia

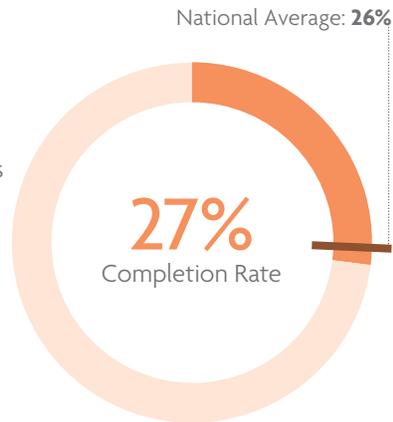
## AXP

583

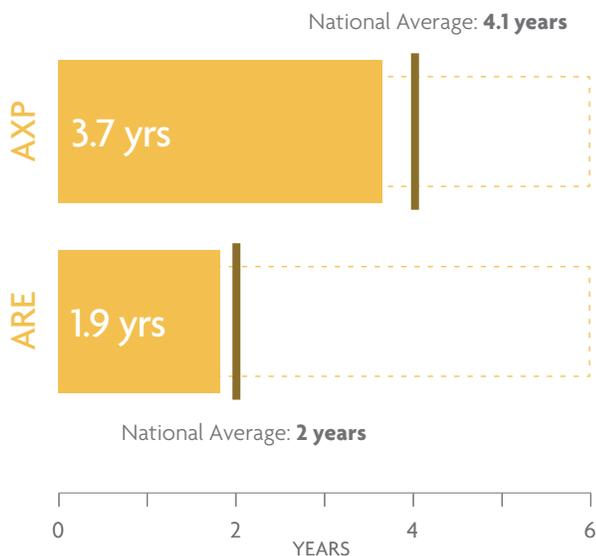
Licensure Candidates  
Reporting Hours

158

Completions



## COMPLETION TIMELINE



## ARE

441

Active Testers

1,223

Divisions Taken

110

Completions

56%  
Success Rate

National Average:  
56%

## LICENSURE

56%  
Reciprocal  
Licenses

44%  
Resident  
Licenses

5,672  
Total Licenses

National Averages:  
Reciprocal 52% Resident 48%

0

No Data Reported

# Guam

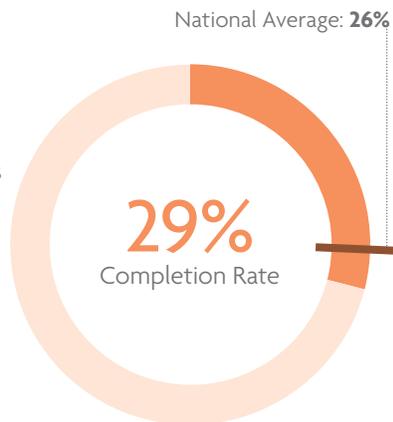
## AXP

7

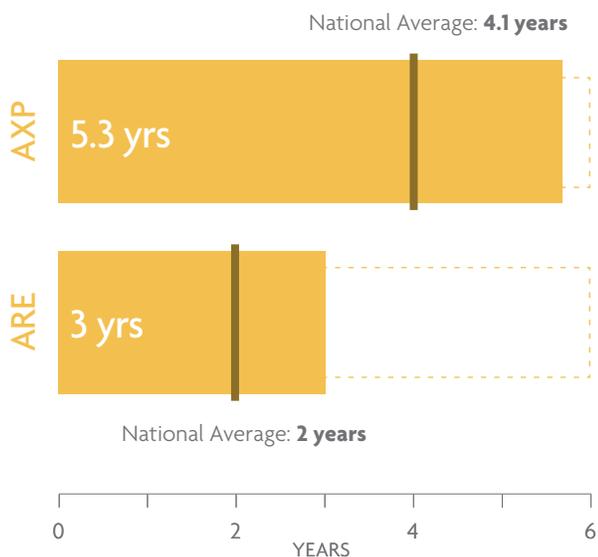
Licensure Candidates Reporting Hours

2

Completions



## COMPLETION TIMELINE



## ARE

6

Active Testers

17

Divisions Taken

2

Completions

National Average:  
**56%**

**41%**  
Success Rate

## LICENSURE

70%  
Reciprocal  
Licenses

30%  
Resident  
Licenses

**110**  
Total Licenses

National Averages:  
**Reciprocal 52%** | **Resident 48%**

0

No Data Reported

# Hawaii

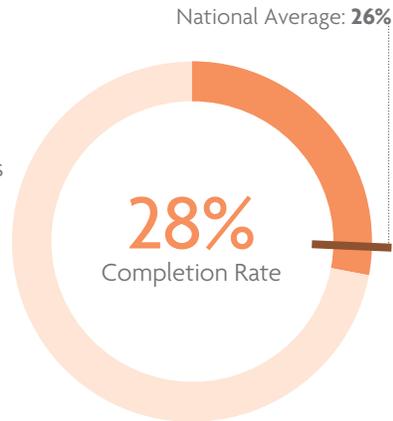
## AXP

129

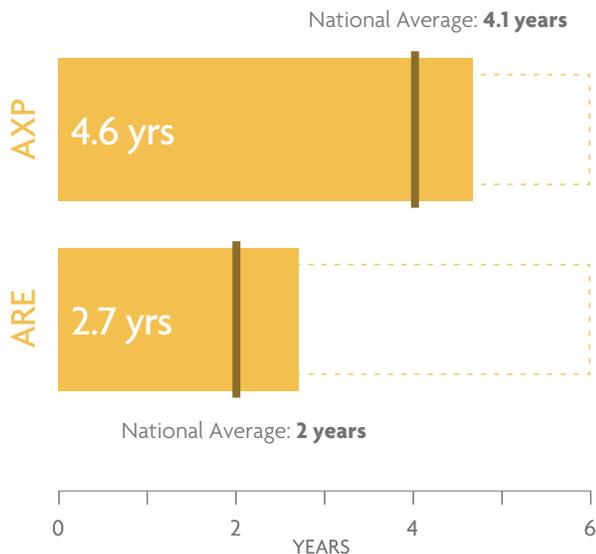
Licensure Candidates Reporting Hours

36

Completions



## COMPLETION TIMELINE



## ARE

132

Active Testers

379

Divisions Taken

27

Completions

National Average:  
**56%**

**53%**  
Success Rate

## LICENSURE

59%  
Reciprocal  
Licenses

41%  
Resident  
Licenses

2,564  
Total Licenses

National Averages:  
**Reciprocal 52%** | **Resident 48%**

3

Disciplinary Actions Reported

# Idaho

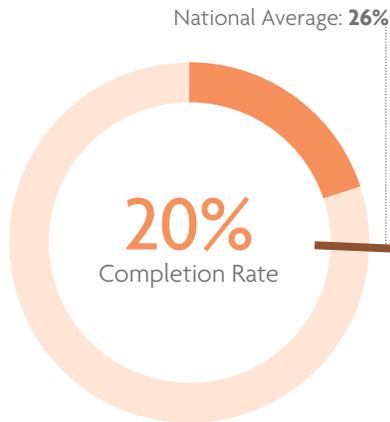
## AXP

84

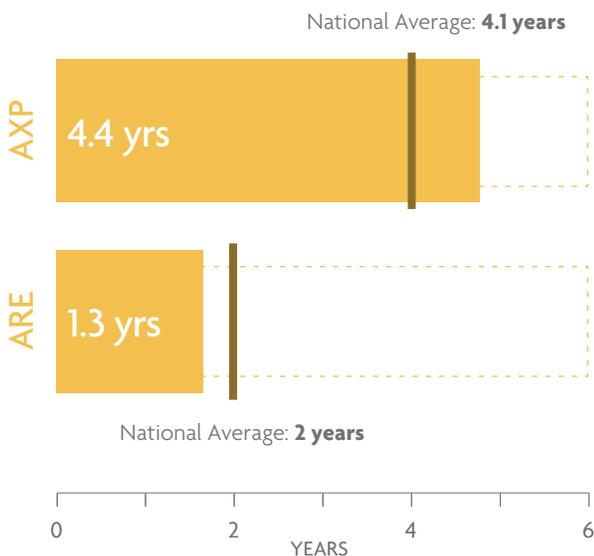
Licensure Candidates Reporting Hours

17

Completions



## COMPLETION TIMELINE



## ARE

72

Active Testers

197

Divisions Taken

16

Completions

National Average: 56%

50% Success Rate

## LICENSURE

72% Reciprocal Licenses

28% Resident Licenses

1,792 Total Licenses

National Averages: Reciprocal 52% Resident 48%

1 Disciplinary Action Reported

# Illinois

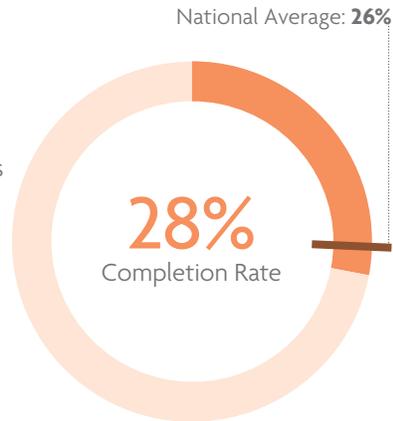
## AXP

1,219

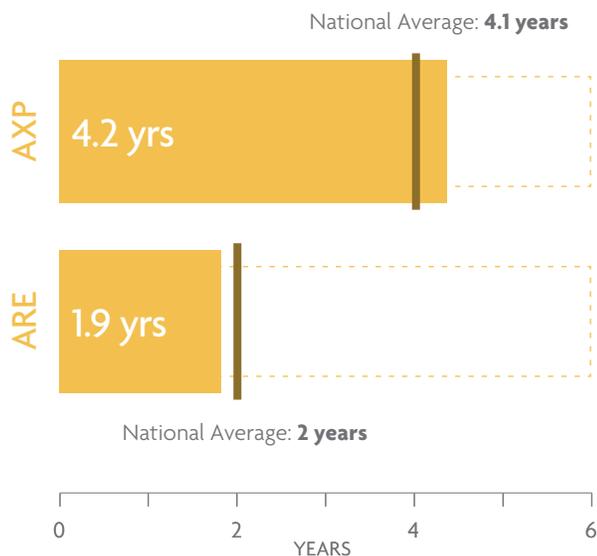
Licensure Candidates  
Reporting Hours

344

Completions



## COMPLETION TIMELINE



## ARE

920

Active Testers

2,508

Divisions Taken

266

Completions

**61%**  
Success Rate

National Average:  
**56%**

## LICENSURE

40%  
Reciprocal  
Licenses

60%  
Resident  
Licenses

9,857  
Total Licenses

National Averages:  
**Reciprocal** | **Resident**  
**52%** | **48%**

0

No Data Reported

# Indiana

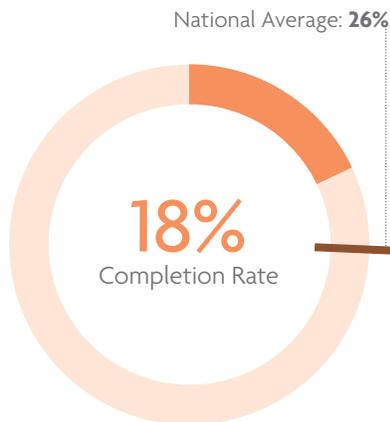
## AXP

226

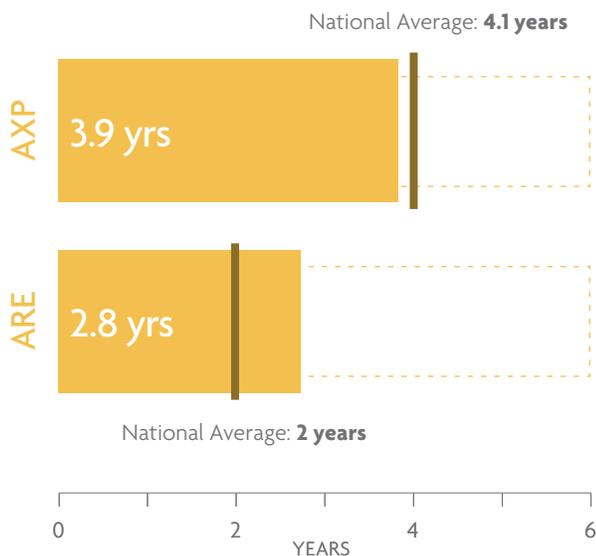
Licensure Candidates Reporting Hours

41

Completions



## COMPLETION TIMELINE



## ARE

108

Active Testers

270

Divisions Taken

28

Completions

61% Success Rate

National Average: 56%

## LICENSURE

70% Reciprocal Licenses

30% Resident Licenses

3,211 Total Licenses

National Averages:  
Reciprocal 52% Resident 48%

0 No Data Reported

# Iowa

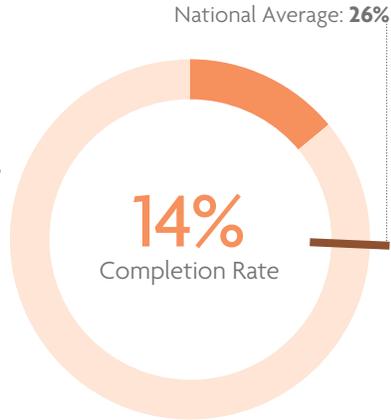
## AXP

160

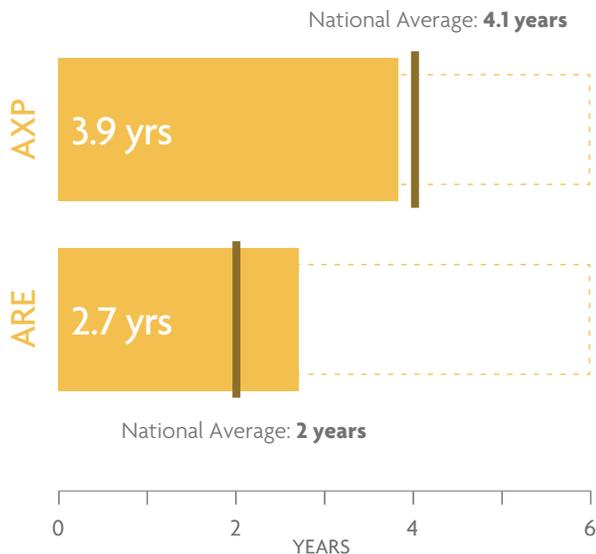
Licensure Candidates Reporting Hours

23

Completions



## COMPLETION TIMELINE



## ARE

126

Active Testers

352

Divisions Taken

48

Completions

**70%**  
Success Rate

National Average:  
**56%**

## LICENSURE

70%  
Reciprocal  
Licenses

30%  
Resident  
Licenses

**2,155**  
Total Licenses

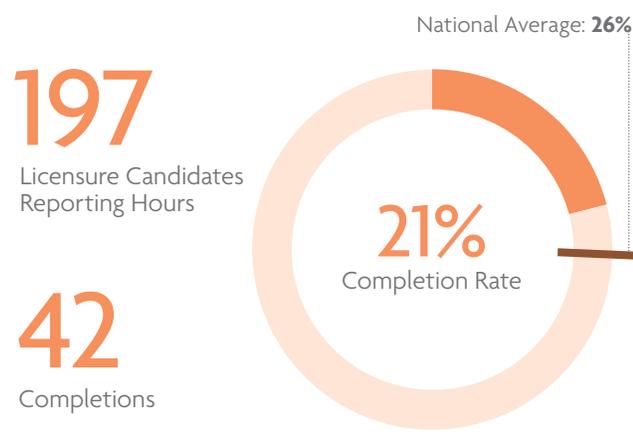
National Averages:  
**Reciprocal 52%** | **Resident 48%**

5

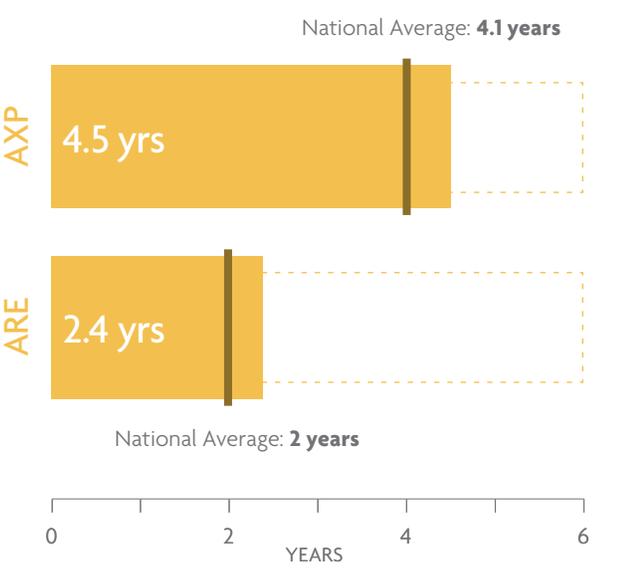
Disciplinary Actions Reported

# Kansas

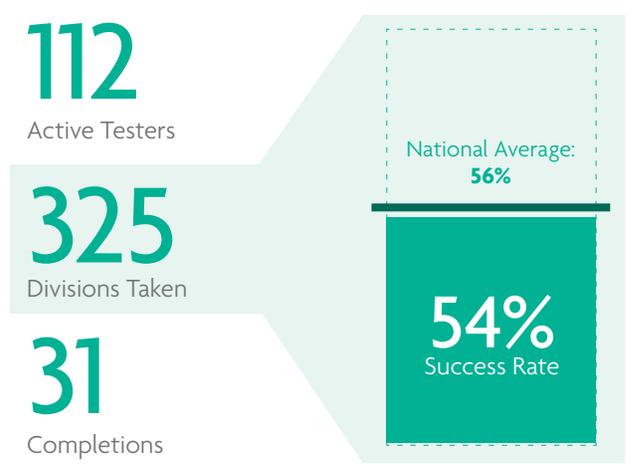
## AXP



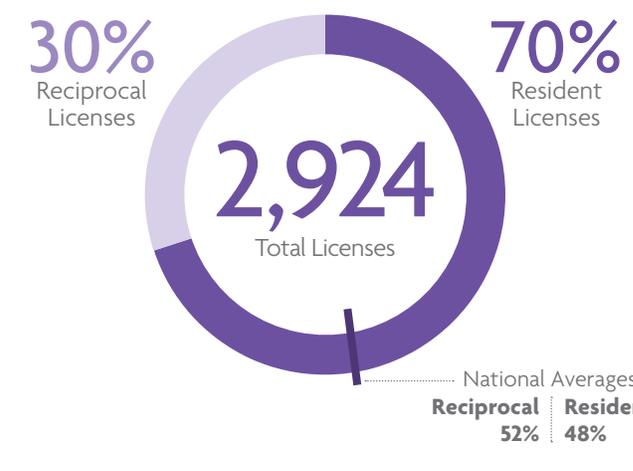
## COMPLETION TIMELINE



## ARE



## LICENSURE



## 1 Disciplinary Action Reported

# Kentucky

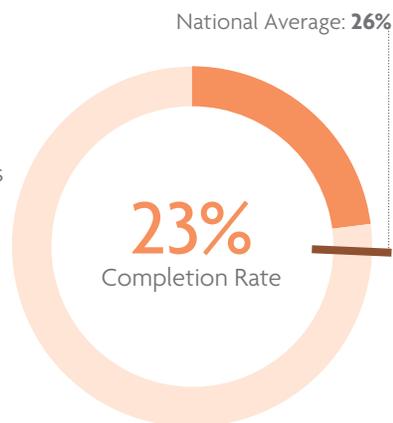
## AXP

150

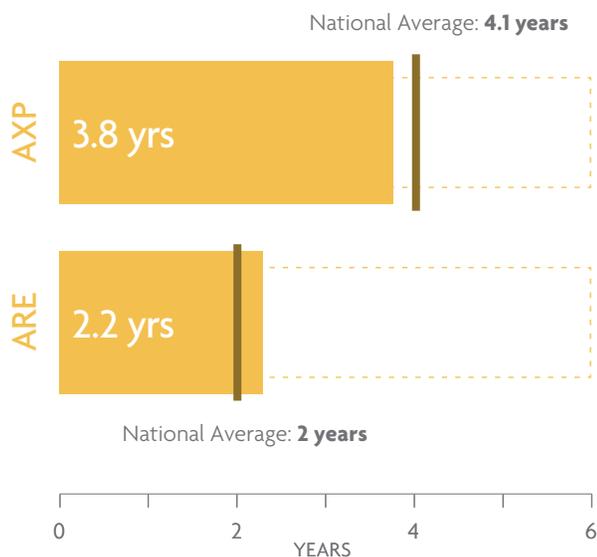
Licensure Candidates Reporting Hours

34

Completions



## COMPLETION TIMELINE



## ARE

84

Active Testers

242

Divisions Taken

24

Completions

60%  
Success Rate

National Average:  
56%

## LICENSURE

73%  
Reciprocal  
Licenses

27%  
Resident  
Licenses

2,664  
Total Licenses

National Averages:  
Reciprocal 52% Resident 48%

0

No Data Reported

# Louisiana

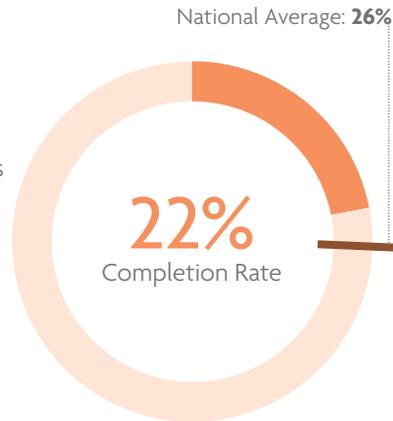
## AXP

257

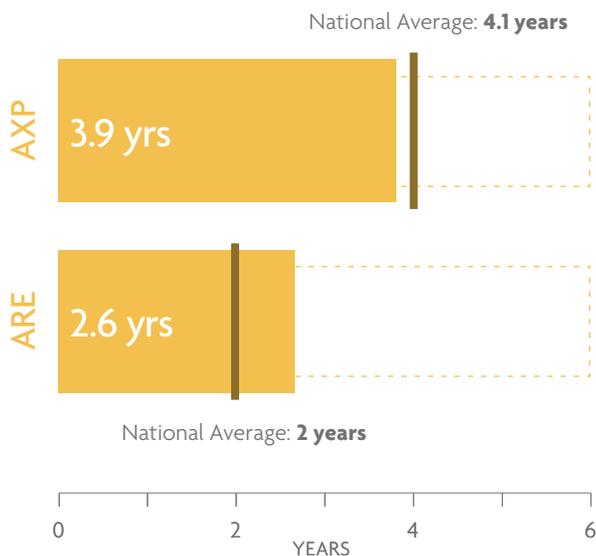
Licensure Candidates  
Reporting Hours

57

Completions



## COMPLETION TIMELINE



## ARE

255

Active Testers

668

Divisions Taken

74

Completions

62%  
Success Rate

National Average:  
56%

## LICENSURE

61%  
Reciprocal  
Licenses

39%  
Resident  
Licenses

3,380  
Total Licenses

National Averages:  
Reciprocal 52% Resident 48%

0

No Data Reported

# Maine

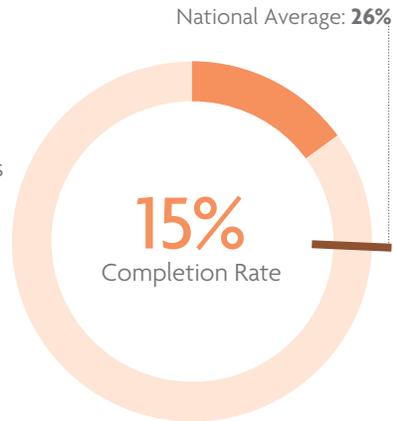
## AXP

65

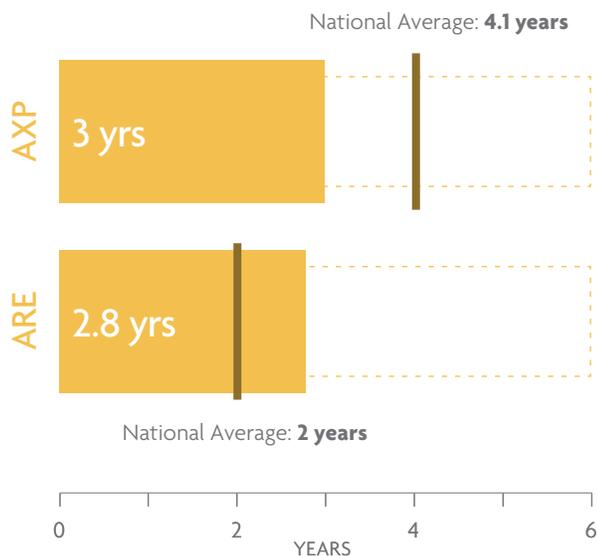
Licensure Candidates Reporting Hours

10

Completions



## COMPLETION TIMELINE



## ARE

35

Active Testers

103

Divisions Taken

7

Completions

60%  
Success Rate

National Average:  
56%

## LICENSURE

72%  
Reciprocal  
Licenses

28%  
Resident  
Licenses

1,653  
Total Licenses

National Averages:  
Reciprocal 52% Resident 48%

6

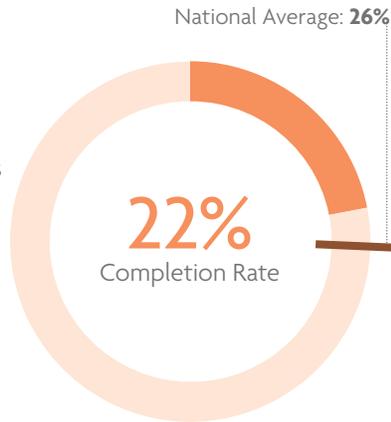
Disciplinary Actions Reported

# Maryland

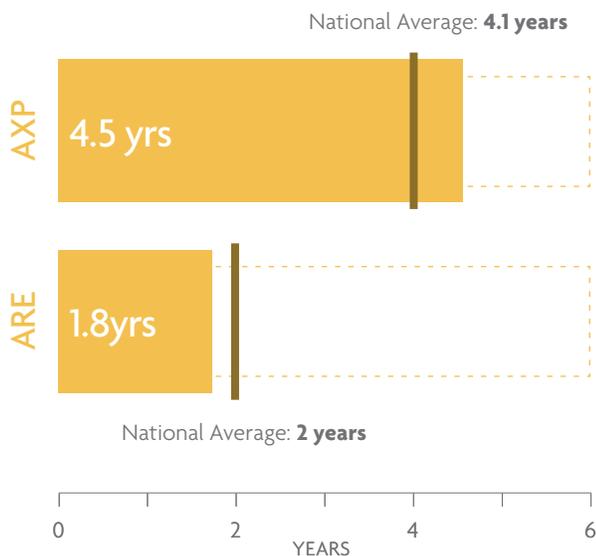
## AXP

**556**  
Licensure Candidates Reporting Hours

**125**  
Completions



## COMPLETION TIMELINE



## ARE

**386**  
Active Testers

**1,113**  
Divisions Taken

**107**  
Completions

**58%**  
Success Rate

National Average: **56%**

## LICENSURE

**65%**  
Reciprocal Licenses

**35%**  
Resident Licenses

**6,313**  
Total Licenses

National Averages:  
**Reciprocal** 52% **Resident** 48%

**1**

Disciplinary Action Reported

# Massachusetts

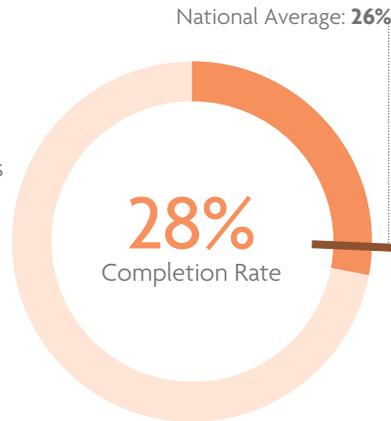
## AXP

1,034

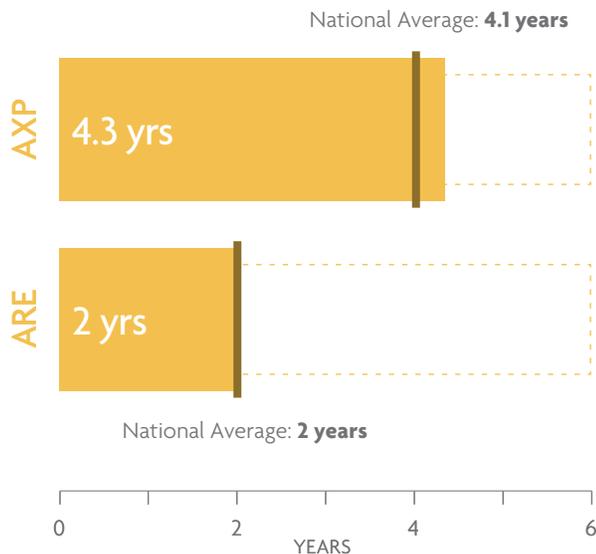
Licensure Candidates  
Reporting Hours

285

Completions



## COMPLETION TIMELINE



## ARE

907

Active Testers

2,436

Divisions Taken

236

Completions

**61%**  
Success Rate

National Average:  
**56%**

## LICENSURE

34%  
Reciprocal  
Licenses

66%  
Resident  
Licenses

7,350  
Total Licenses

National Averages:  
**Reciprocal** | **Resident**  
52% | 48%

7

Disciplinary Actions Reported

# Michigan

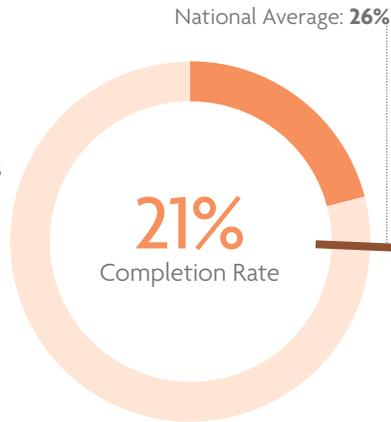
## AXP

476

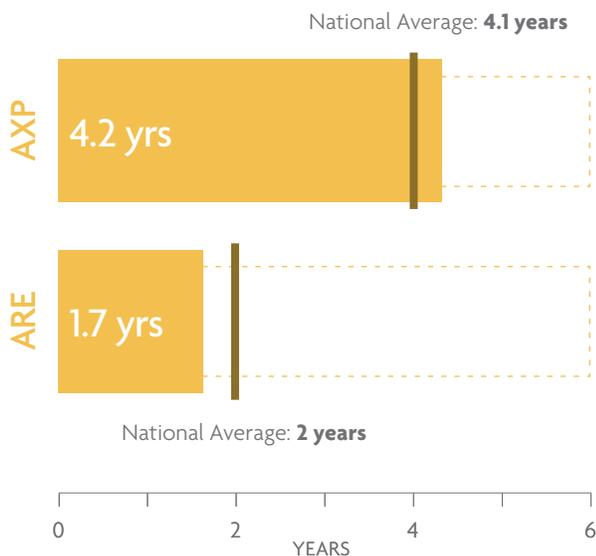
Licensure Candidates Reporting Hours

98

Completions



## COMPLETION TIMELINE



## ARE

313

Active Testers

821

Divisions Taken

84

Completions

61% Success Rate

National Average: 56%

## LICENSURE

57% Reciprocal Licenses

43% Resident Licenses

5,361

Total Licenses

National Averages:  
Reciprocal 52% Resident 48%

0 No Data Reported

# Minnesota

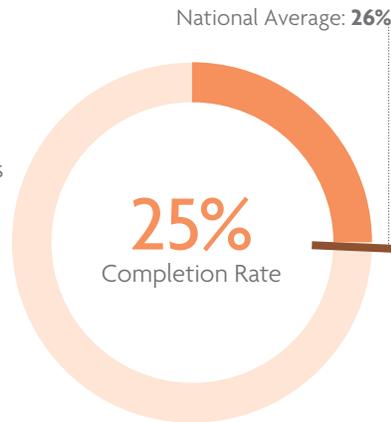
## AXP

432

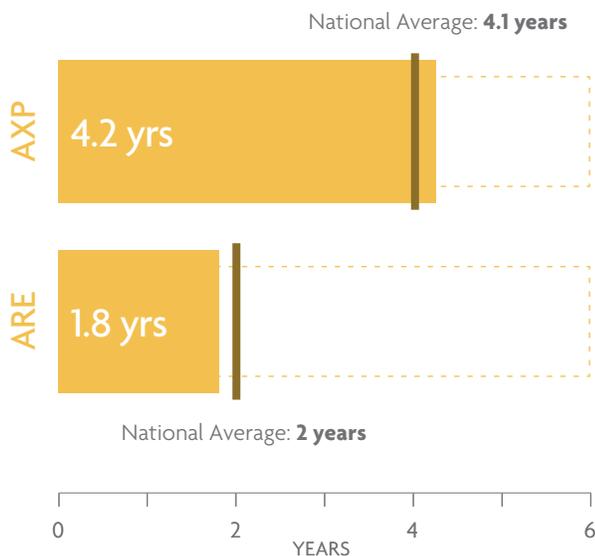
Licensure Candidates  
Reporting Hours

107

Completions



## COMPLETION TIMELINE



## ARE

306

Active Testers

784

Divisions Taken

95

Completions

68%  
Success Rate

National Average:  
56%

## LICENSURE

46%  
Reciprocal  
Licenses

54%  
Resident  
Licenses

3,834  
Total Licenses

National Averages:  
Reciprocal 52% Resident 48%

2

Disciplinary Actions Reported

# Mississippi

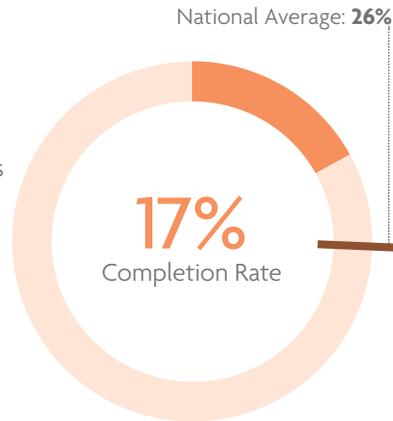
## AXP

58

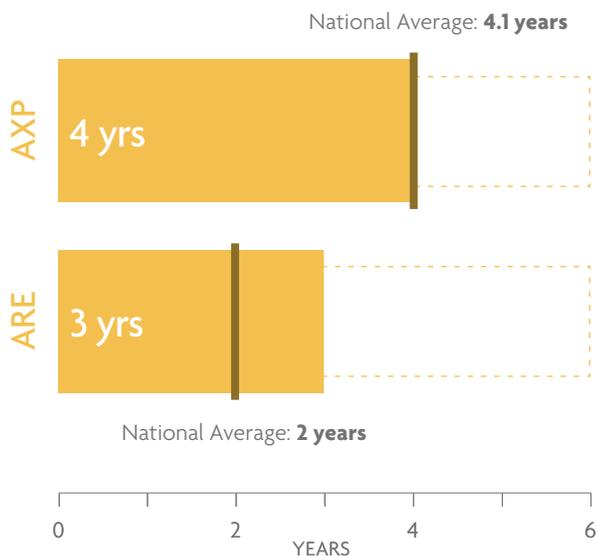
Licensure Candidates Reporting Hours

10

Completions



## COMPLETION TIMELINE



## ARE

57

Active Testers

157

Divisions Taken

22

Completions

66% Success Rate

National Average: 56%

## LICENSURE

79% Reciprocal Licenses

21% Resident Licenses

1,677 Total Licenses

National Averages:  
Reciprocal 52% Resident 48%

0

No Data Reported

# Missouri

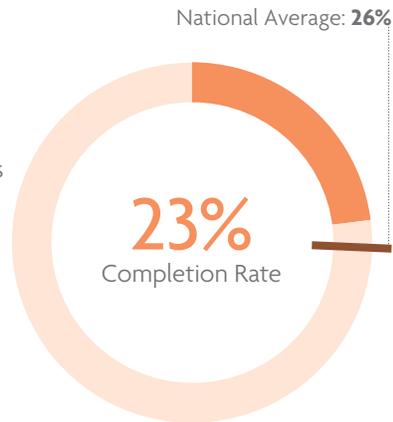
## AXP

438

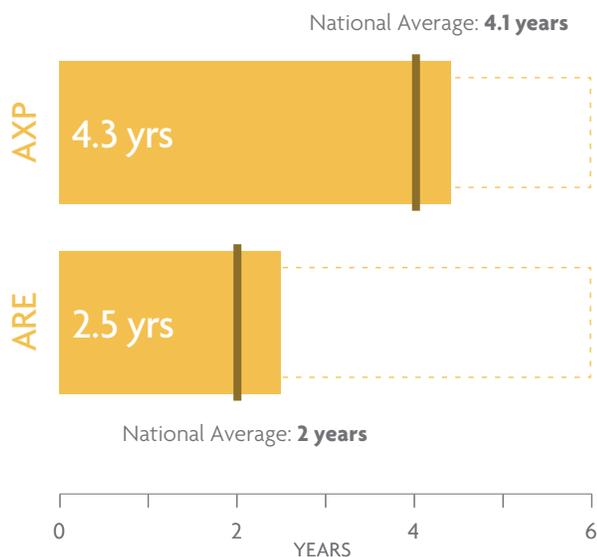
Licensure Candidates  
Reporting Hours

101

Completions



## COMPLETION TIMELINE



## ARE

401

Active Testers

1,071

Divisions Taken

92

Completions

National Average:  
**56%**

**55%**  
Success Rate

## LICENSURE

60%  
Reciprocal  
Licenses

40%  
Resident  
Licenses

5,430  
Total Licenses

National Averages:  
**Reciprocal 52%** | **Resident 48%**

1

Disciplinary Action Reported

# Montana

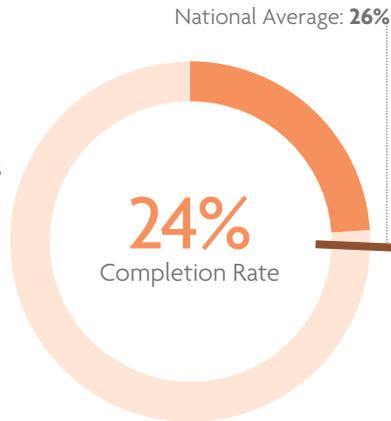
## AXP

123

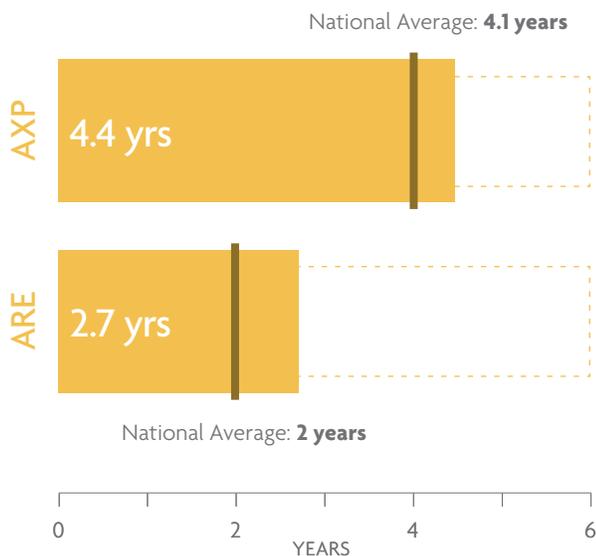
Licensure Candidates Reporting Hours

29

Completions



## COMPLETION TIMELINE



## ARE

77

Active Testers

205

Divisions Taken

22

Completions

**61%**  
Success Rate

National Average:  
**56%**

## LICENSURE

**70%**  
Reciprocal Licenses

**30%**  
Resident Licenses

**1,445**  
Total Licenses

National Averages:  
**Reciprocal 52%** | **Resident 48%**

0

No Data Reported

# Nebraska

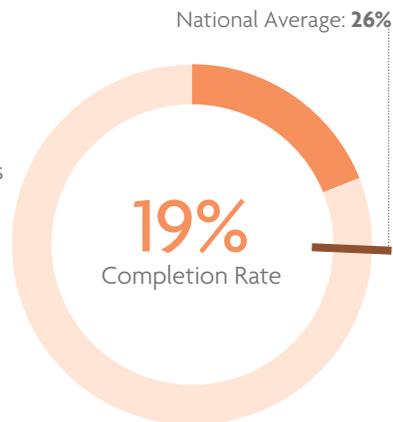
## AXP

124

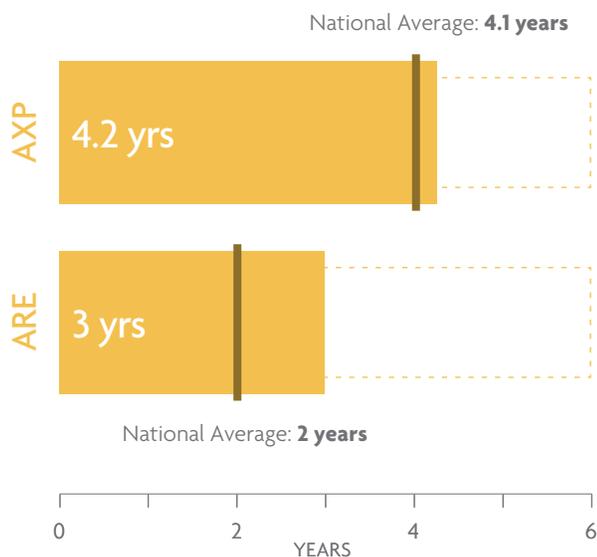
Licensure Candidates Reporting Hours

23

Completions



## COMPLETION TIMELINE



## ARE

68

Active Testers

192

Divisions Taken

21

Completions

**60%**  
Success Rate

National Average:  
**56%**

## LICENSURE

**69%**  
Reciprocal Licenses

**31%**  
Resident Licenses

**1,840**  
Total Licenses

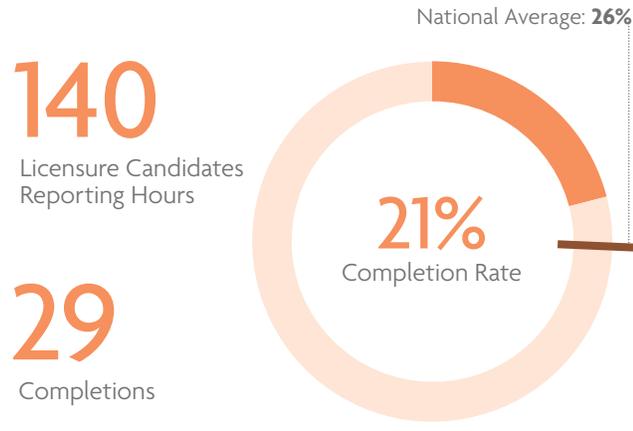
National Averages:  
**Reciprocal 52%** | **Resident 48%**

4

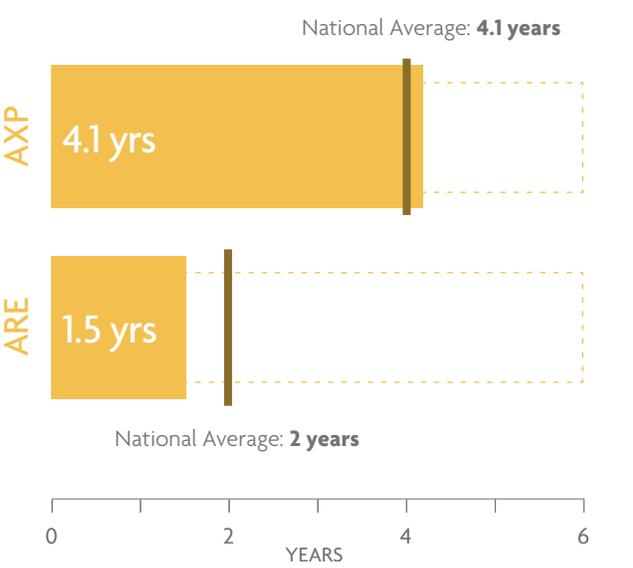
Disciplinary Actions Reported

# Nevada

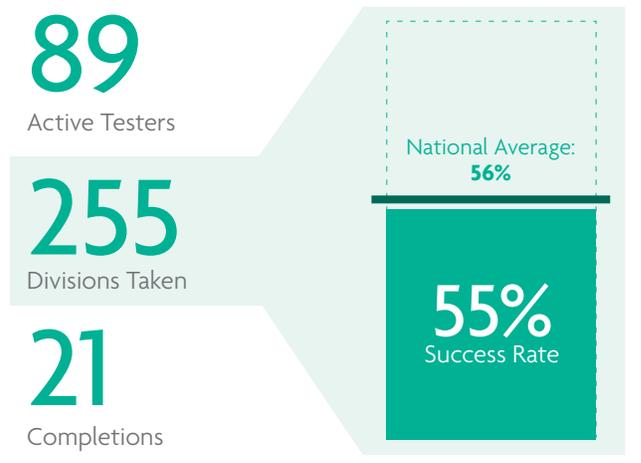
## AXP



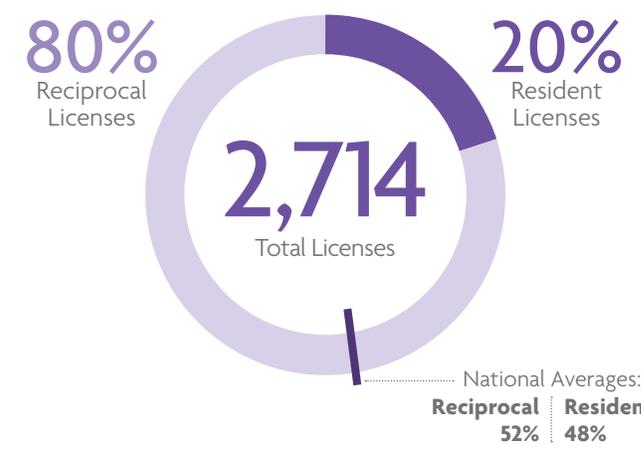
## COMPLETION TIMELINE



## ARE



## LICENSURE



## 26 Disciplinary Actions Reported

# New Hampshire

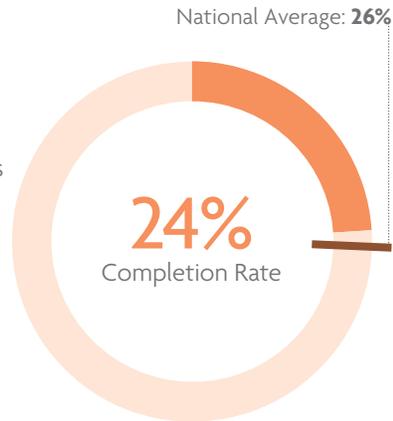
## AXP

85

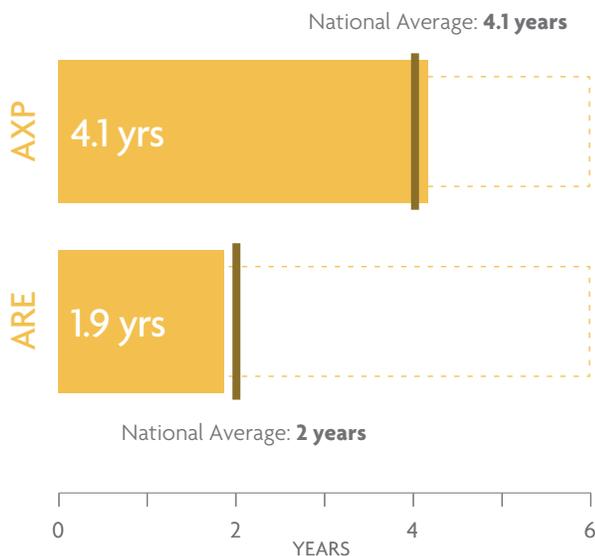
Licensure Candidates  
Reporting Hours

20

Completions



## COMPLETION TIMELINE



## ARE

29

Active Testers

68

Divisions Taken

6

Completions

**63%**  
Success Rate

National Average:  
**56%**

## LICENSURE

**84%**  
Reciprocal  
Licenses

**16%**  
Resident  
Licenses

**1,814**  
Total Licenses

National Averages:  
**Reciprocal 52%** | **Resident 48%**

0

No Data Reported

# New Jersey

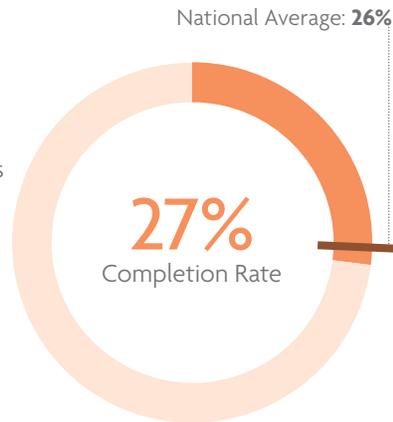
## AXP

899

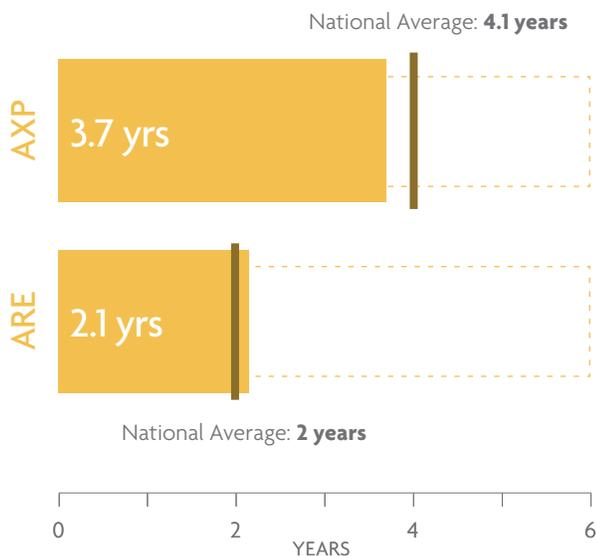
Licensure Candidates  
Reporting Hours

239

Completions



## COMPLETION TIMELINE



## ARE

202

Active Testers

542

Divisions Taken

41

Completions

National Average:  
**56%**

**52%**  
Success Rate

## LICENSURE

60%  
Reciprocal  
Licenses

40%  
Resident  
Licenses

**7,676**  
Total Licenses

National Averages:  
**Reciprocal** | **Resident**  
**52%** | **48%**

0

No Data Reported

# New Mexico

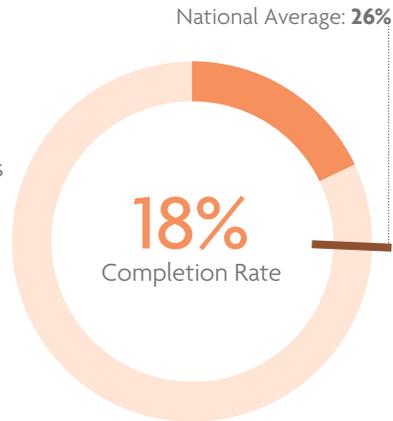
## AXP

94

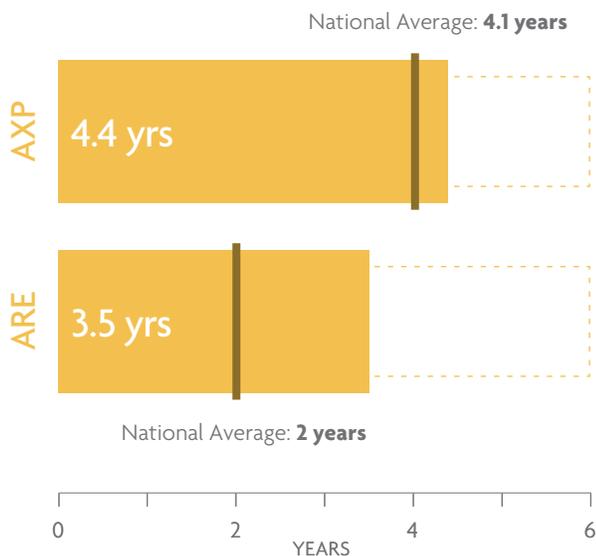
Licensure Candidates Reporting Hours

17

Completions



## COMPLETION TIMELINE



## ARE

74

Active Testers

230

Divisions Taken

19

Completions

National Average:  
**56%**

**51%**  
Success Rate

## LICENSURE

66%  
Reciprocal  
Licenses

34%  
Resident  
Licenses

2,090  
Total Licenses

National Averages:  
**Reciprocal** | **Resident**  
52% | 48%

3

Disciplinary Actions Reported

# New York

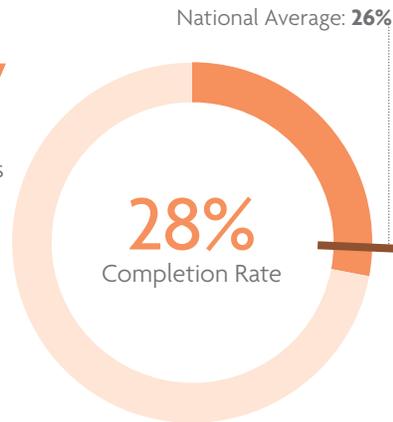
## AXP

3,207

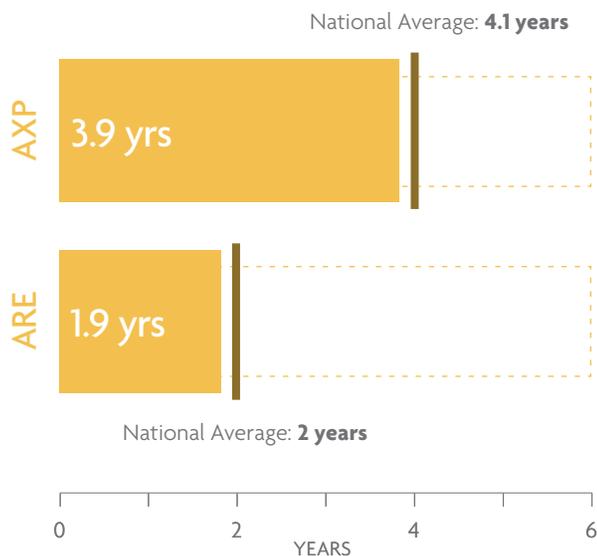
Licensure Candidates  
Reporting Hours

895

Completions



## COMPLETION TIMELINE



## ARE

3,528

Active Testers

9,743

Divisions Taken

847

Completions

National Average:  
**56%**

**54%**  
Success Rate

## LICENSURE

42%  
Reciprocal  
Licenses

58%  
Resident  
Licenses

18,989

Total Licenses

National Averages:  
**Reciprocal** 52% **Resident** 48%

0

No Data Reported

# North Carolina

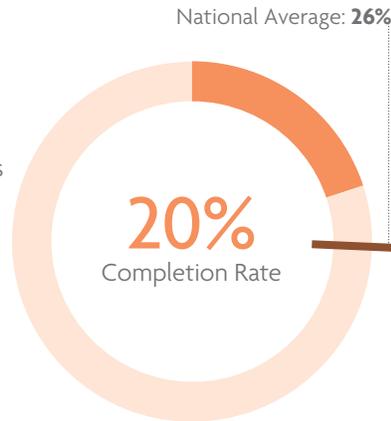
## AXP

496

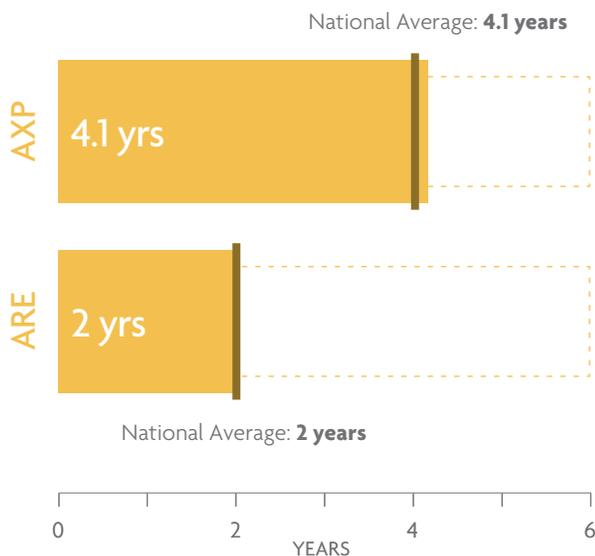
Licensure Candidates  
Reporting Hours

100

Completions



## COMPLETION TIMELINE



## ARE

348

Active Testers

993

Divisions Taken

119

Completions

**67%**  
Success Rate

National Average:  
**56%**

## LICENSURE

**58%**  
Reciprocal  
Licenses

**42%**  
Resident  
Licenses

**6,087**  
Total Licenses

National Averages:  
**Reciprocal 52%** | **Resident 48%**

3

Disciplinary Actions Reported

# North Dakota

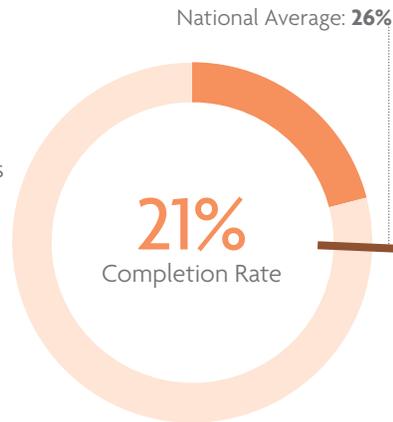
## AXP

52

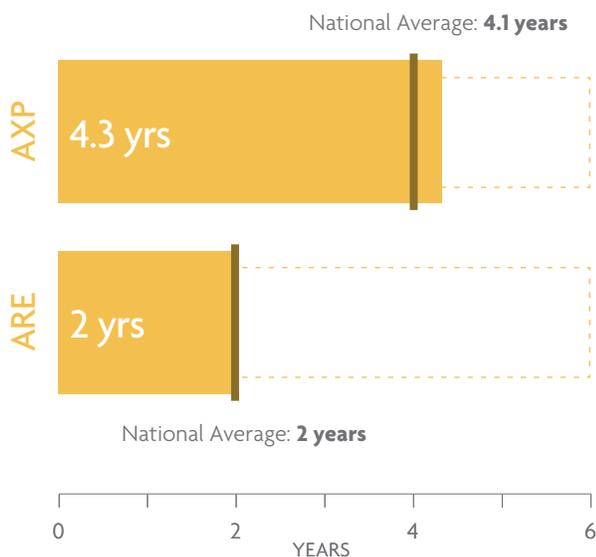
Licensure Candidates Reporting Hours

11

Completions



## COMPLETION TIMELINE



## ARE

46

Active Testers

122

Divisions Taken

11

Completions

57%  
Success Rate

National Average:  
56%

## LICENSURE

84%  
Reciprocal  
Licenses

16%  
Resident  
Licenses

1,145  
Total Licenses

National Averages:  
**Reciprocal** 52% **Resident** 48%

0

No Data Reported

# Ohio

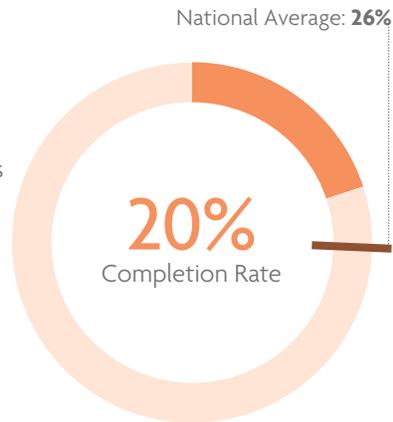
## AXP

734

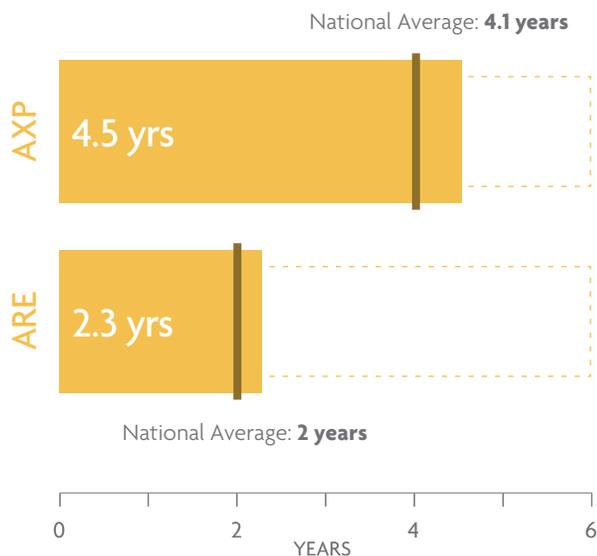
Licensure Candidates  
Reporting Hours

146

Completions



## COMPLETION TIMELINE



## ARE

414

Active Testers

1,073

Divisions Taken

119

Completions

66%  
Success Rate

National Average:  
56%

## LICENSURE

48%  
Reciprocal  
Licenses

52%  
Resident  
Licenses

6,129  
Total Licenses

National Averages:  
Reciprocal 52% Resident 48%

2

Disciplinary Actions Reported

# Oklahoma

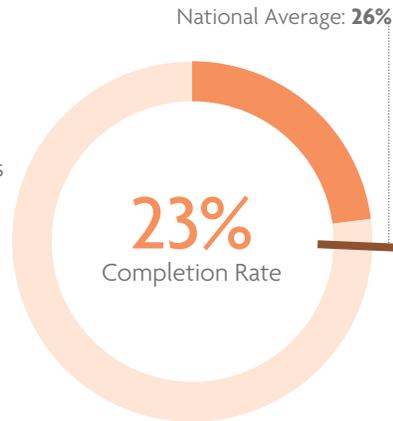
## AXP

161

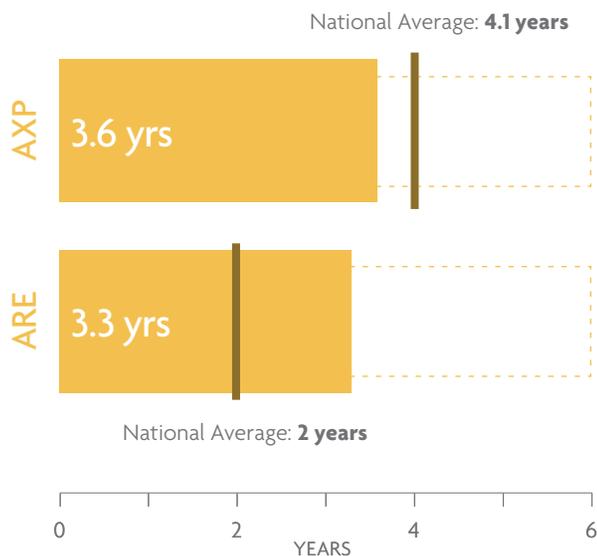
Licensure Candidates  
Reporting Hours

37

Completions



## COMPLETION TIMELINE



## ARE

151

Active Testers

417

Divisions Taken

34

Completions

National Average:  
**56%**

54%  
Success Rate

## LICENSURE

65%  
Reciprocal  
Licenses

35%  
Resident  
Licenses

2,280  
Total Licenses

National Averages:  
**Reciprocal 52%** | **Resident 48%**

0

No Data Reported

# Oregon

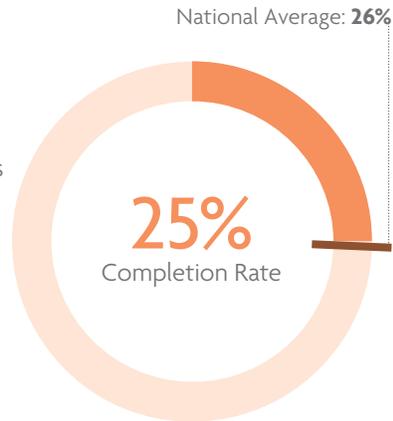
## AXP

427

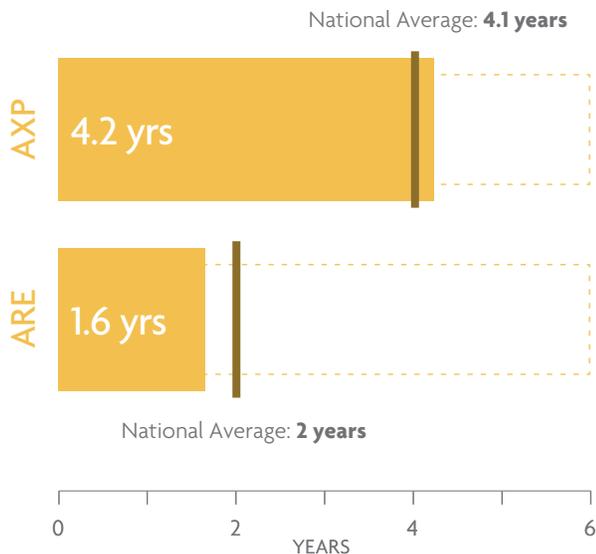
Licensure Candidates  
Reporting Hours

107

Completions



## COMPLETION TIMELINE



## ARE

286

Active Testers

768

Divisions Taken

90

Completions

69%  
Success Rate

National Average:  
56%

## LICENSURE

44%  
Reciprocal  
Licenses

56%  
Resident  
Licenses

3,363  
Total Licenses

National Averages:  
Reciprocal 52% Resident 48%

10

Disciplinary Actions Reported

# Pennsylvania

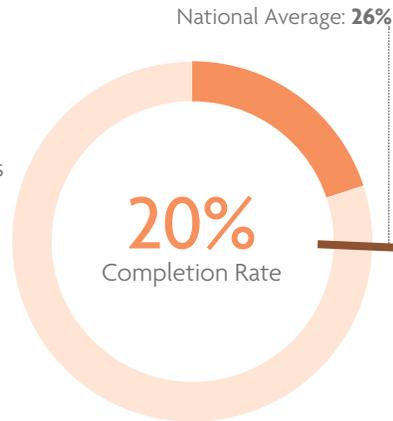
## AXP

900

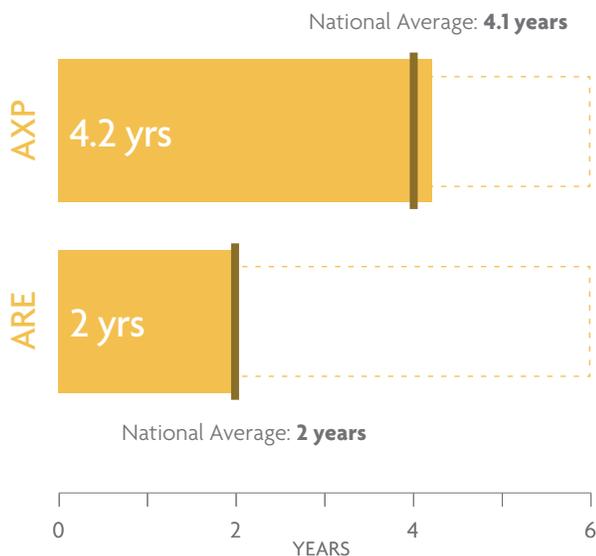
Licensure Candidates  
Reporting Hours

181

Completions



## COMPLETION TIMELINE



## ARE

717

Active Testers

1,837

Divisions Taken

209

Completions

64%  
Success Rate

National Average:  
56%

## LICENSURE

53%  
Reciprocal  
Licenses

47%  
Resident  
Licenses

8,741

Total Licenses

National Averages:  
**Reciprocal** 52% **Resident** 48%

0

No Data Reported

# Puerto Rico

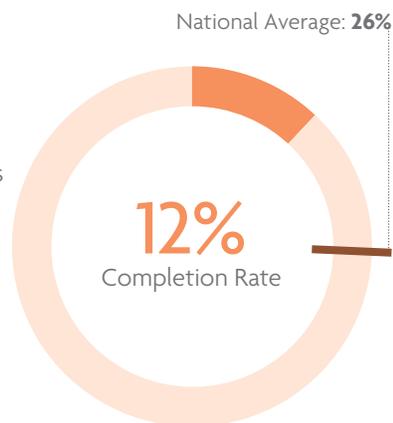
## AXP

135

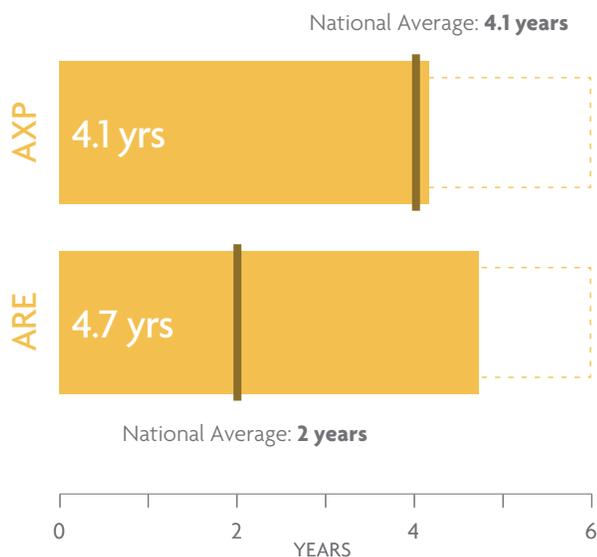
Licensure Candidates Reporting Hours

16

Completions



## COMPLETION TIMELINE



## ARE

125

Active Testers

240

Divisions Taken

8

Completions

National Average:  
**56%**

**34%**  
Success Rate

## LICENSURE

8%  
Reciprocal  
Licenses

92%  
Resident  
Licenses

**887**  
Total Licenses

National Averages:  
**Reciprocal** | **Resident**  
**52%** | **48%**

0

No Data Reported

# Rhode Island

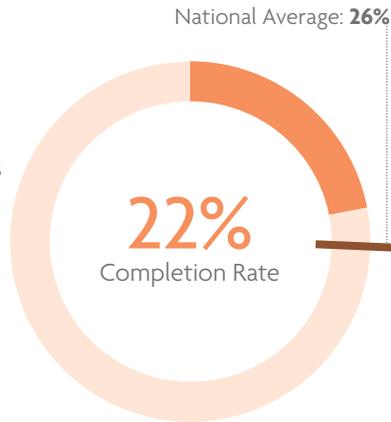
## AXP

89

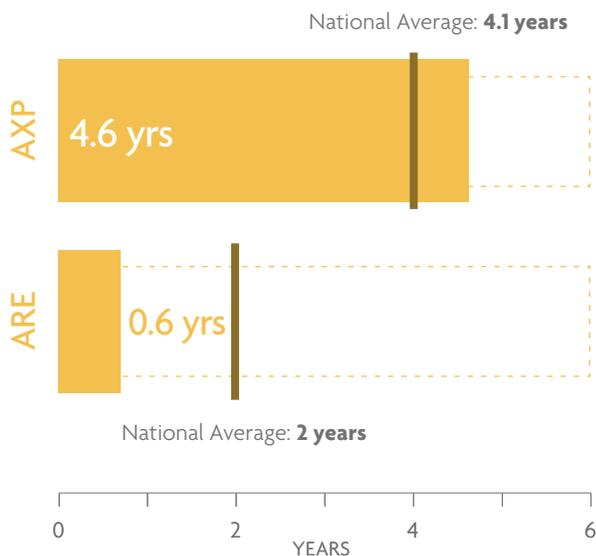
Licensure Candidates Reporting Hours

20

Completions



## COMPLETION TIMELINE



## ARE

52

Active Testers

140

Divisions Taken

5

Completions

**58%**  
Success Rate

National Average:  
**56%**

## LICENSURE

**81%**  
Reciprocal  
Licenses

**19%**  
Resident  
Licenses

**1,632**  
Total Licenses

National Averages:  
**Reciprocal 52%** | **Resident 48%**

0

No Data Reported

# South Carolina

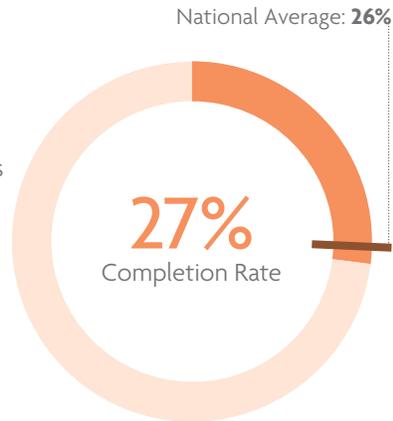
## AXP

208

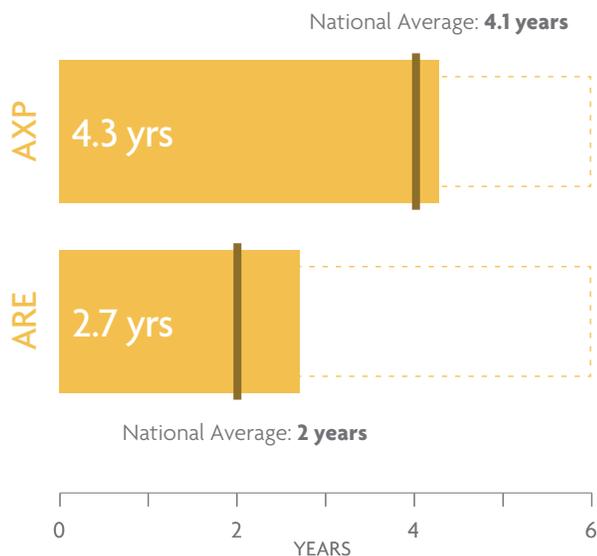
Licensure Candidates  
Reporting Hours

56

Completions



## COMPLETION TIMELINE



## ARE

136

Active Testers

405

Divisions Taken

53

Completions

**63%**  
Success Rate

National Average:  
**56%**

## LICENSURE

**72%**  
Reciprocal  
Licenses

**28%**  
Resident  
Licenses

**4,083**  
Total Licenses

National Averages:  
**Reciprocal 52%** | **Resident 48%**

0

No Data Reported

# South Dakota

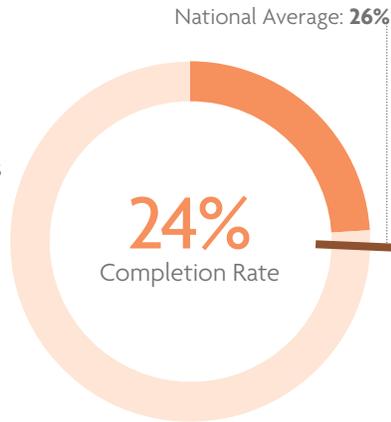
## AXP

41

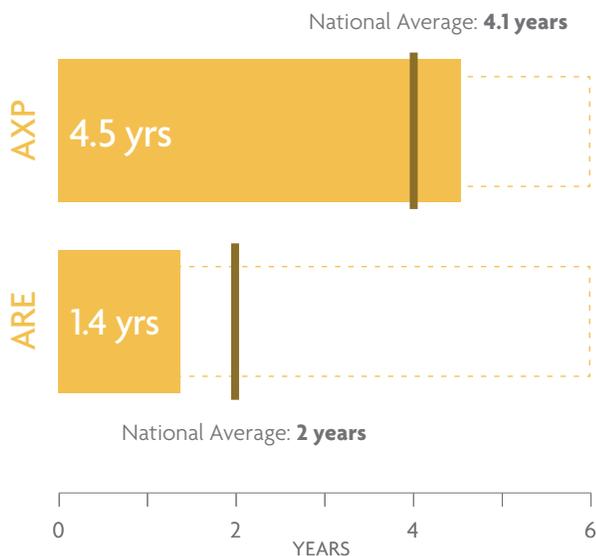
Licensure Candidates Reporting Hours

10

Completions



## COMPLETION TIMELINE



## ARE

19

Active Testers

47

Divisions Taken

5

Completions

**70%**  
Success Rate

National Average: **56%**

## LICENSURE

**86%**  
Reciprocal Licenses

**14%**  
Resident Licenses

**896**

Total Licenses

National Averages:  
**Reciprocal 52%** | **Resident 48%**

0

No Data Reported

# Tennessee

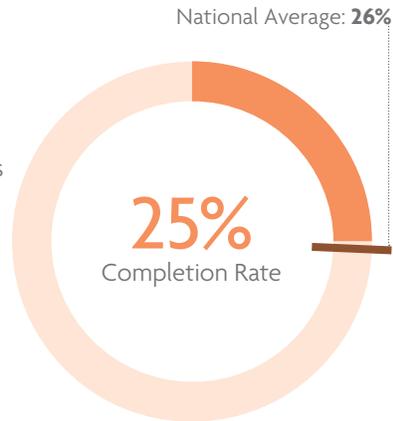
## AXP

293

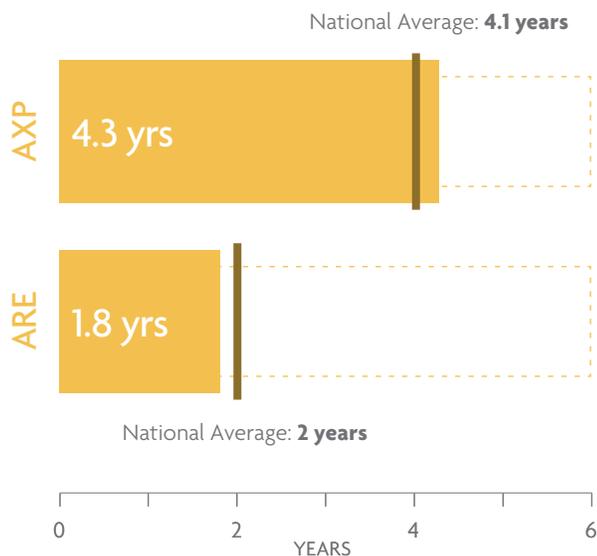
Licensure Candidates  
Reporting Hours

73

Completions



## COMPLETION TIMELINE



## ARE

209

Active Testers

526

Divisions Taken

54

Completions

61%  
Success Rate

National Average:  
56%

## LICENSURE

59%  
Reciprocal  
Licenses

41%  
Resident  
Licenses

3,311  
Total Licenses

National Averages:  
Reciprocal 52% Resident 48%

0

No Data Reported

# Texas

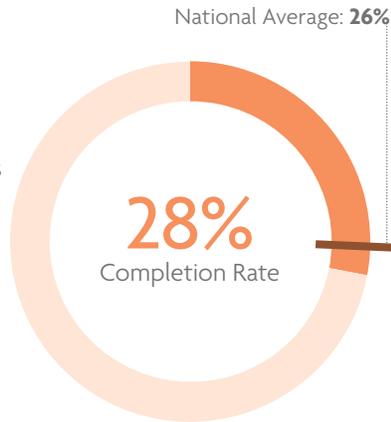
## AXP

1,955

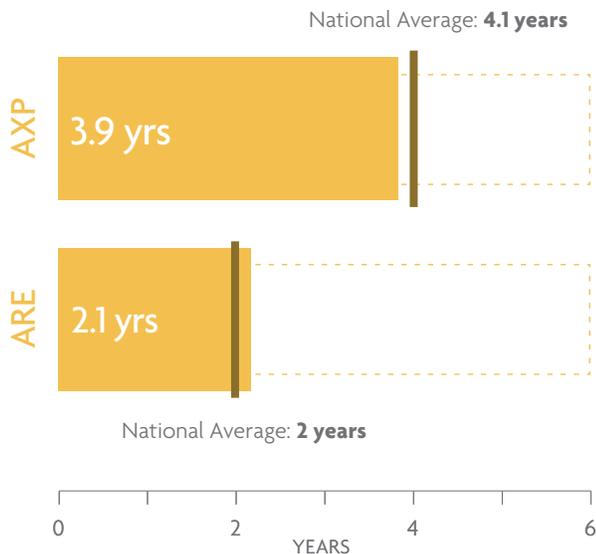
Licensure Candidates Reporting Hours

547

Completions



## COMPLETION TIMELINE



## ARE

1,701

Active Testers

4,708

Divisions Taken

384

Completions

National Average: **56%**

**53%**  
Success Rate

## LICENSURE

35%  
Reciprocal  
Licenses

65%  
Resident  
Licenses

12,589  
Total Licenses

National Averages:  
**Reciprocal** 52% | **Resident** 48%

7

Disciplinary Actions Reported

# Utah

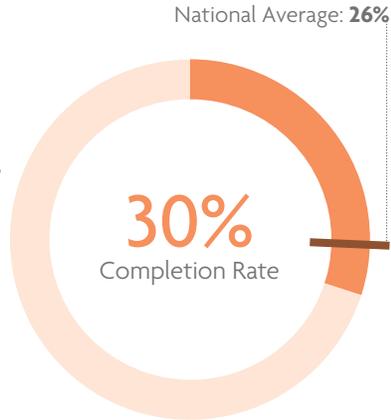
## AXP

182

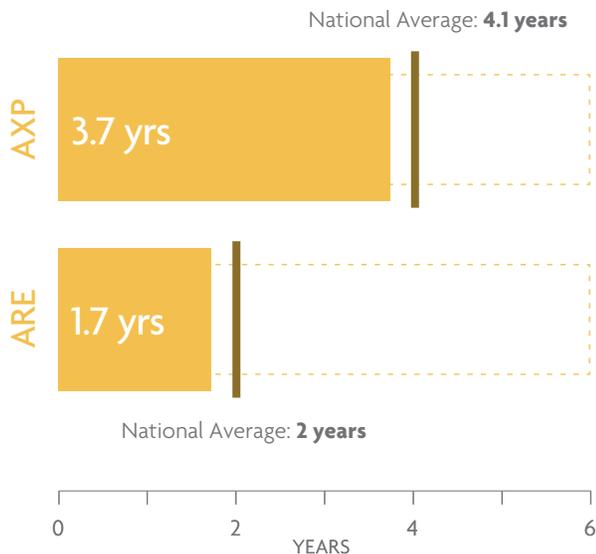
Licensure Candidates Reporting Hours

54

Completions



## COMPLETION TIMELINE



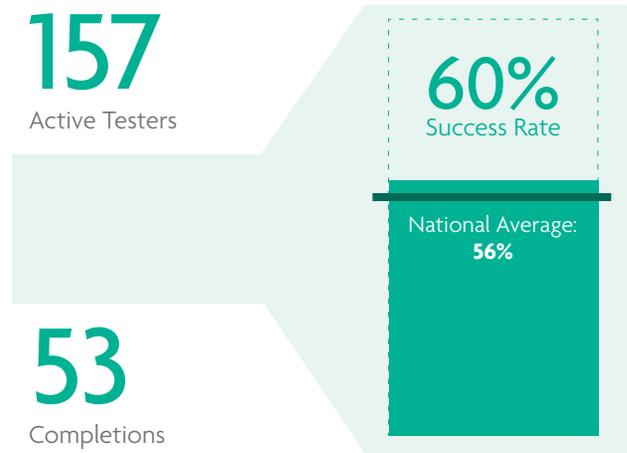
## ARE

157

Active Testers

53

Completions



## LICENSURE

65%  
Reciprocal  
Licenses

35%  
Resident  
Licenses

2,675  
Total Licenses

National Averages:  
Reciprocal 52% Resident 48%

0

No Data Reported

# Vermont

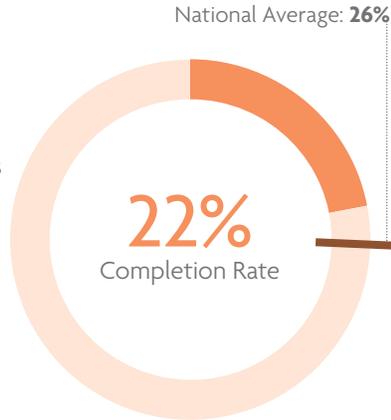
## AXP

49

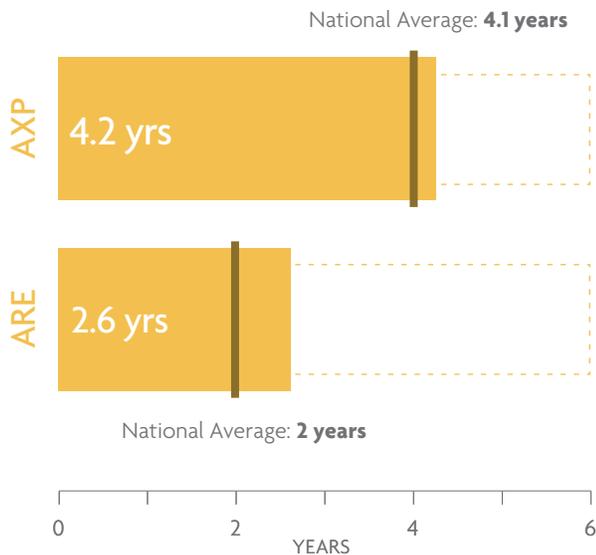
Licensure Candidates Reporting Hours

11

Completions



## COMPLETION TIMELINE



## ARE

37

Active Testers

104

Divisions Taken

13

Completions

**75%**  
Success Rate

National Average:  
**56%**

## LICENSURE

**79%**  
Reciprocal  
Licenses

**21%**  
Resident  
Licenses

**1,200**  
Total Licenses

National Averages:  
**Reciprocal 52%** | **Resident 48%**

0

No Data Reported

# U.S. Virgin Islands

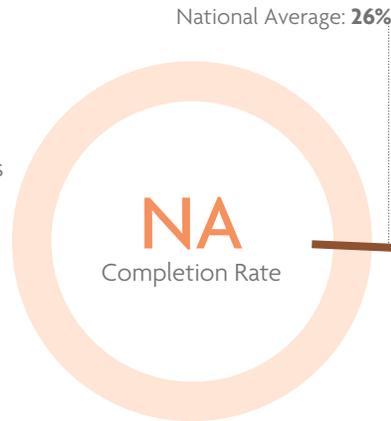
## AXP

1

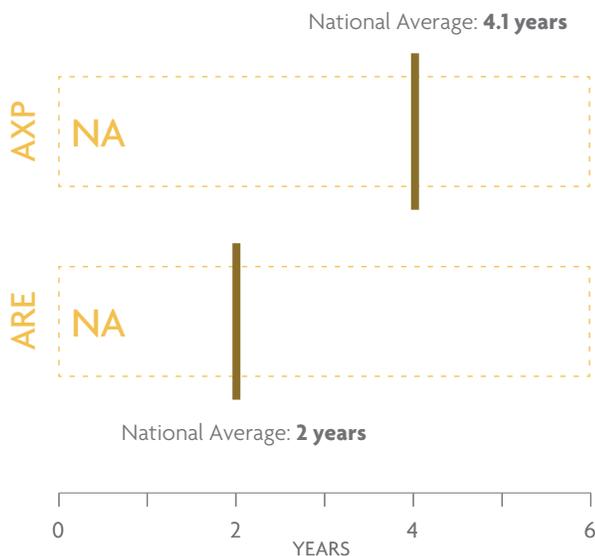
Licensure Candidates Reporting Hours

NA

Completions



## COMPLETION TIMELINE



## ARE

2

Active Testers

3

Divisions Taken

NA

Completions

National Average:  
56%

33%  
Success Rate

## LICENSURE

85%  
Reciprocal  
Licenses

15%  
Resident  
Licenses

1,111  
Total Licenses

National Averages:  
Reciprocal 52% Resident 48%

0

No Data Reported

# Virginia

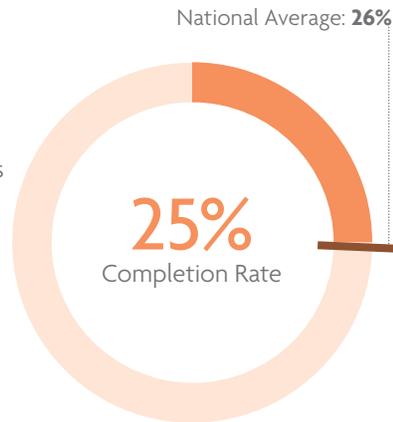
## AXP

600

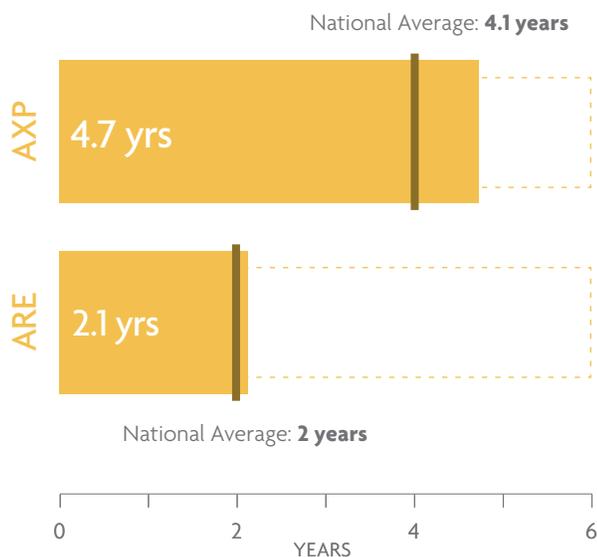
Licensure Candidates  
Reporting Hours

148

Completions



## COMPLETION TIMELINE



## ARE

247

Active Testers

679

Divisions Taken

81

Completions

66%  
Success Rate

National Average:  
**56%**

## LICENSURE

60%  
Reciprocal  
Licenses

40%  
Resident  
Licenses

7,346  
Total Licenses

National Averages:  
**Reciprocal 52%** | **Resident 48%**

0

No Data Reported

# Washington

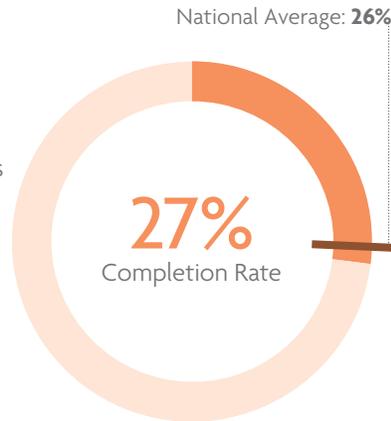
## AXP

838

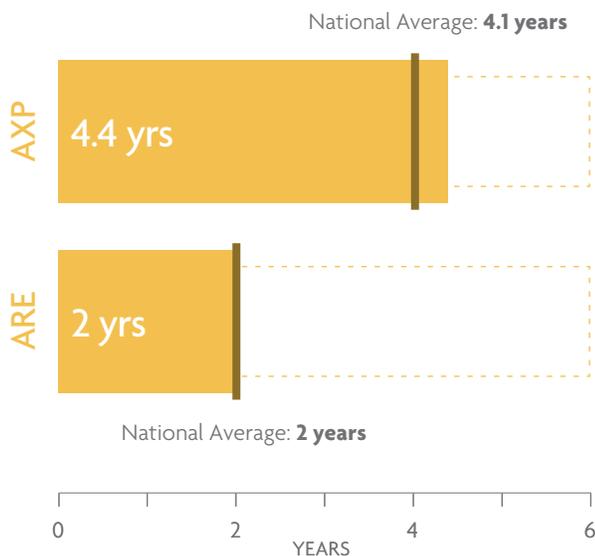
Licensure Candidates  
Reporting Hours

228

Completions



## COMPLETION TIMELINE



## ARE

649

Active Testers

1,713

Divisions Taken

210

Completions

67%  
Success Rate

National Average:  
56%

## LICENSURE

40%  
Reciprocal  
Licenses

60%  
Resident  
Licenses

6,678  
Total Licenses

National Averages:  
Reciprocal 52% Resident 48%

0

No Data Reported

# West Virginia

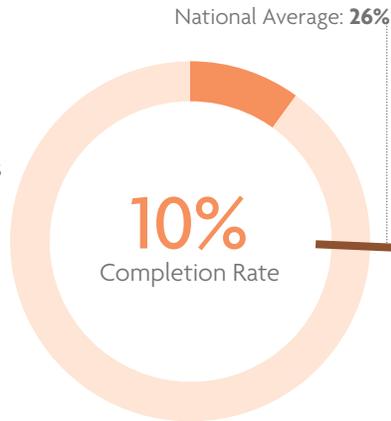
## AXP

21

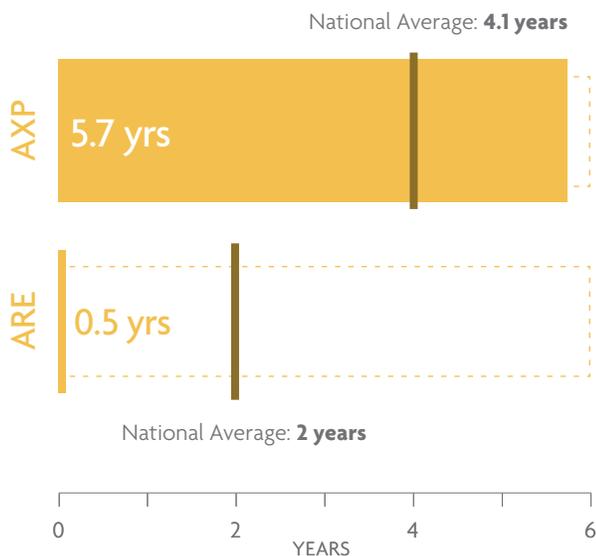
Licensure Candidates Reporting Hours

2

Completions



## COMPLETION TIMELINE



## ARE

7

Active Testers

16

Divisions Taken

1

Completions

**56%**  
Success Rate

National Average: **56%**

## LICENSURE

**90%**  
Reciprocal Licenses

**10%**  
Resident Licenses

**1,224**  
Total Licenses

National Averages:  
**Reciprocal 52%** | **Resident 48%**

1

Disciplinary Action Reported

# Wisconsin

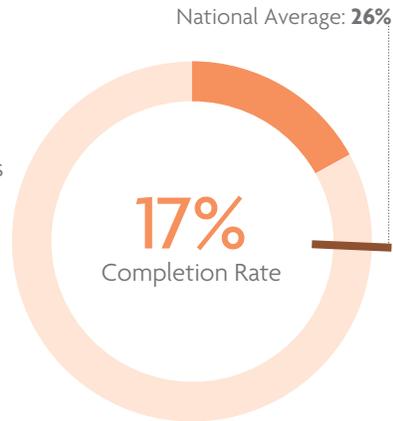
## AXP

381

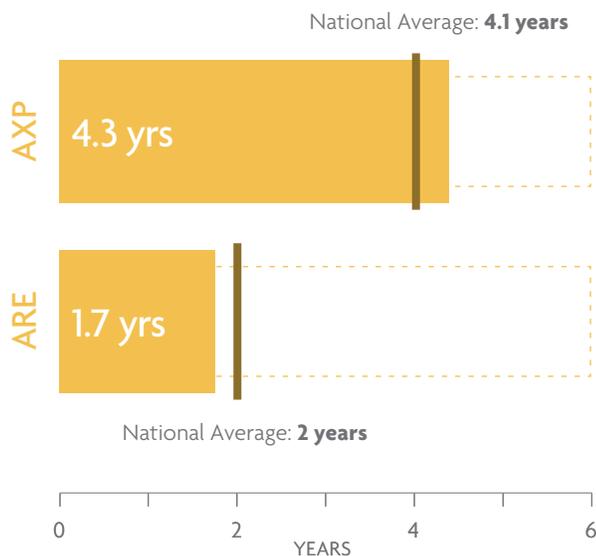
Licensure Candidates  
Reporting Hours

63

Completions



## COMPLETION TIMELINE



## ARE

519

Active Testers

1,383

Divisions Taken

118

Completions

**60%**  
Success Rate

National Average:  
**56%**

## LICENSURE

**67%**  
Reciprocal  
Licenses

**33%**  
Resident  
Licenses

**4,873**  
Total Licenses

National Averages:  
**Reciprocal** 52% **Resident** 48%

0

No Data Reported

# Wyoming

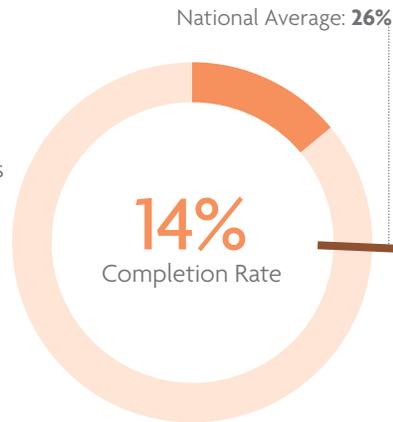
## AXP

22

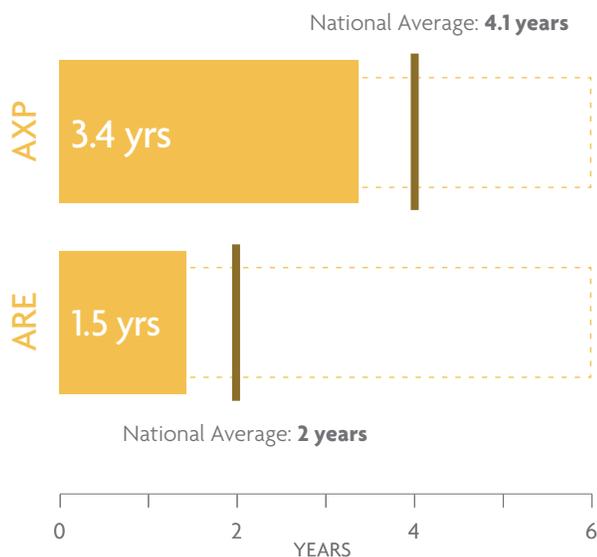
Licensure Candidates  
Reporting Hours

3

Completions



## COMPLETION TIMELINE



## ARE

15

Active Testers

46

Divisions Taken

6

Completions

65%  
Success Rate

National Average:  
56%

## LICENSURE

89%  
Reciprocal  
Licenses

11%  
Resident  
Licenses

1,209  
Total Licenses

National Averages:  
**Reciprocal** 52% | **Resident** 48%

0

No Data Reported

## About This Report

This report is based on data collected by the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards (NCARB) during the 2017 calendar year, providing insight on the path to licensure.

NCARB maintains a database on 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 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.

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*Note: 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.*

## 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, 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, and New Zealand.

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For more information visit [www.ncarb.org](http://www.ncarb.org)

# Glossary

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

**ARE:** Developed by NCARB, the Architect Registration Examination® (ARE®) is used to assess a candidate's knowledge and skills, and 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.

**Core Requirements 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.

**Core Requirements Complete:** This data point is triggered when a licensure candidate completes their final core requirement, whether that is the AXP or the ARE.

**Disciplinary Actions Reported:** Disciplinary measures taken against a licensure candidate or architect by a jurisdictional licensing board that have been reported to NCARB. Not all boards report disciplinary action to NCARB.

**Early Eligibility:** The ability to take the ARE before completing the AXP. Fifty of the 54 jurisdictions currently allow this overlap.

**AXP:** The Architectural Experience Program® (AXP™)—previously called the Intern Development Program (IDP)—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, and New Zealand.

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

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LET'S GO FURTHER

National Council of Architectural Registration Boards.  
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202/783-6500  
[www.NCARB.org](http://www.NCARB.org)