

Registered Nurse
Graduate Survey



Department of Nursing Education
Joliet Junior College

Nursing Graduates of Fall 2021 (6 - 9 month follow-up)

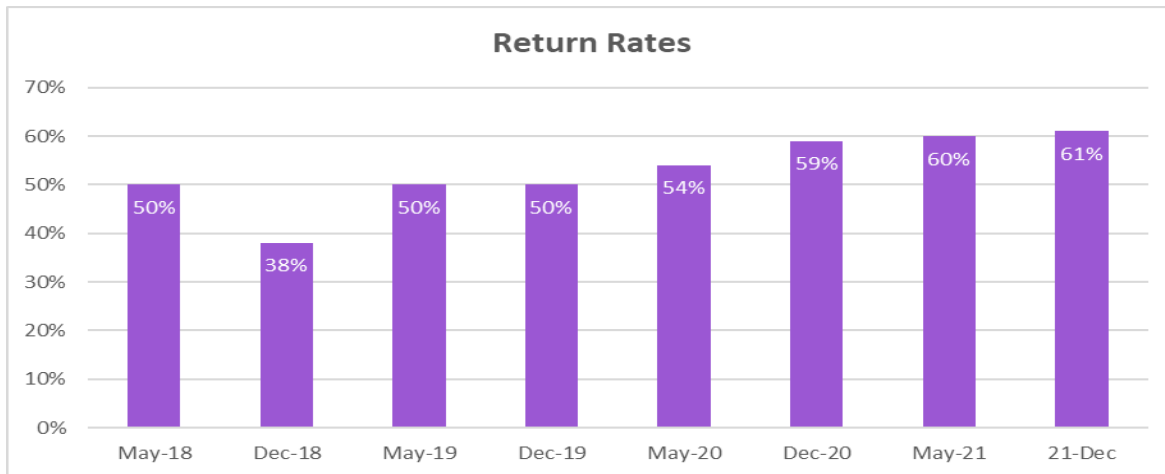


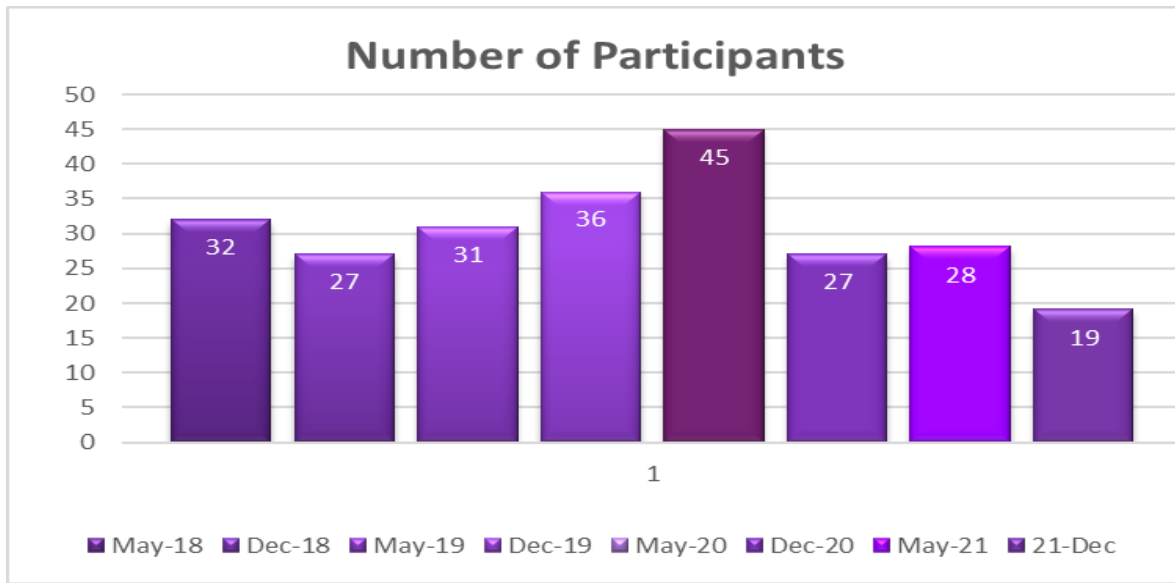
Introduction

Graduate surveys (obtained via Survey Monkey) are sent approximately six (6) months to nine (9) months after the student graduates, which made the target date in June 2021 for the graduating class of Fall 2021. The survey was sent out on June 12, 2022 to thirty one (31) graduates who provided their personal emails prior to graduation . By June 21, 2022 nine (9) graduates replied. A reminder was sent out on this date. On June 28, 2022 a final reminder was sent to indicate a closing date of July 7, 2022. This resulted in another ten (10) responses. On July 11, 2022 the survey was closed with nineteen (19) graduates participating. The overall response rate for this survey group was 61%.

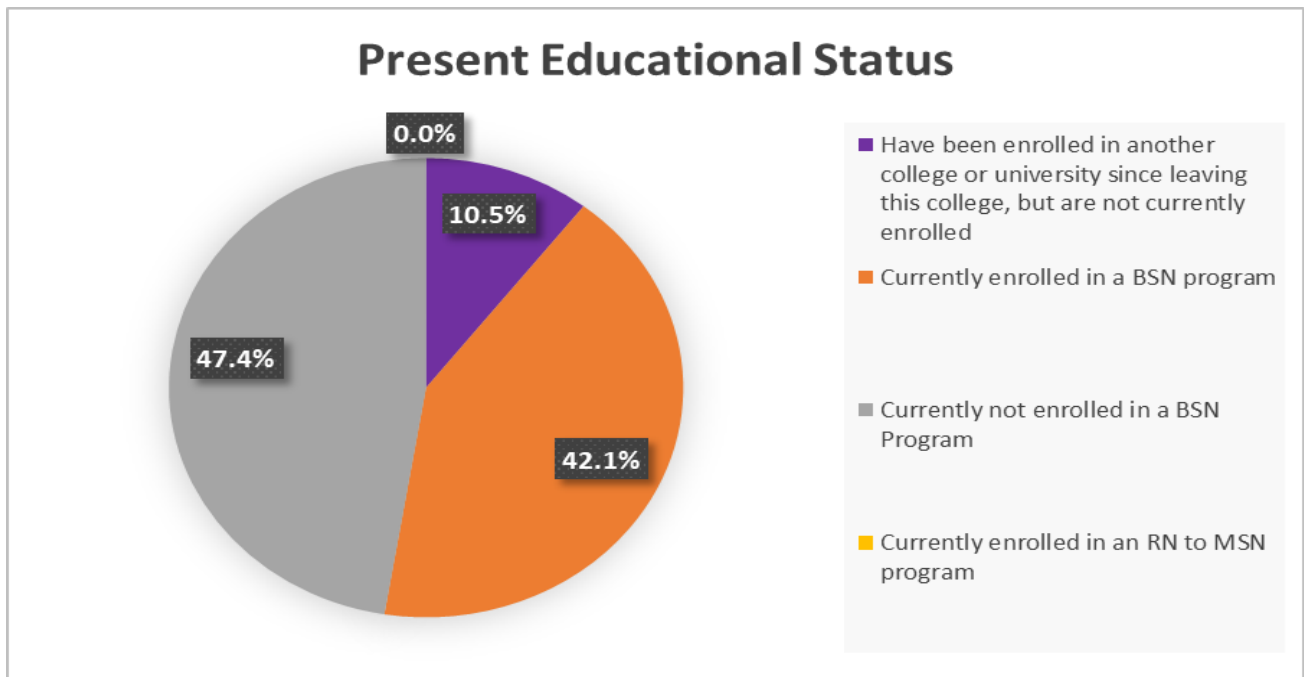
Please Note: graduate responses in italics are reprinted as they appeared on the survey, including spelling and grammatical errors.

Historical Data Trends:





Educational status (19 out of 19 responded): 42.1% (n=8) indicated that they are enrolled in a BSN program, 47.4% (n=9) are not enrolled in a BSN program, none of responding graduates are currently enrolled in a RN-MSN program and 10.5% (n=2) have been enrolled in another college or university since leaving this college, but not currently enrolled.

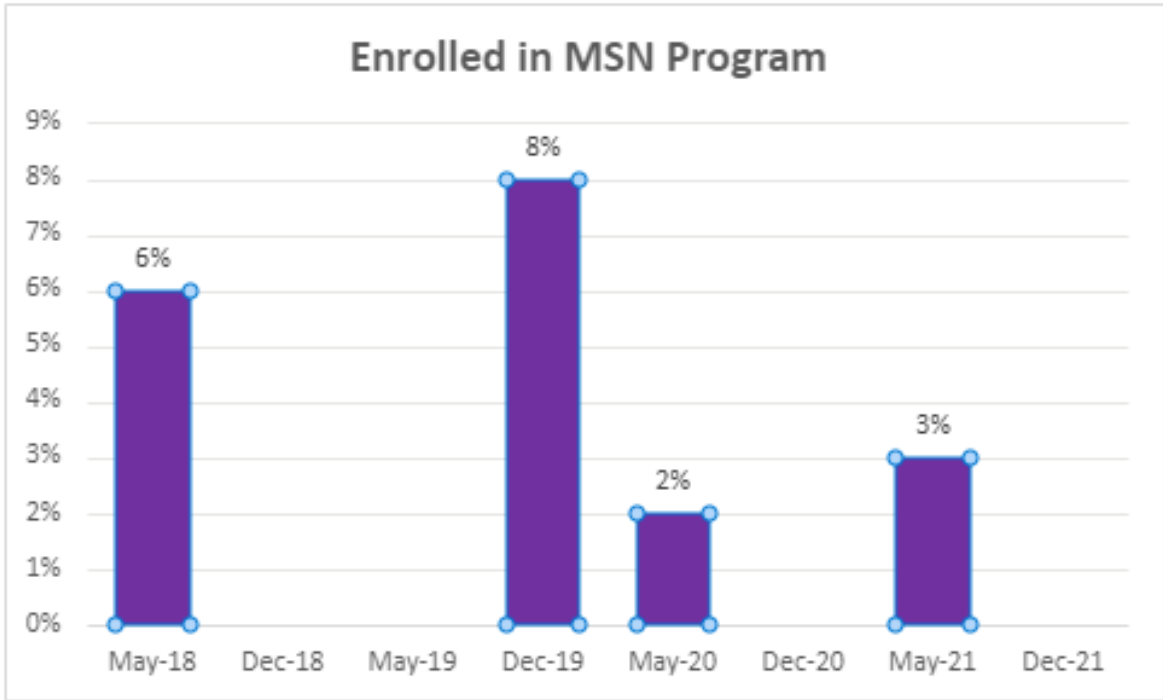
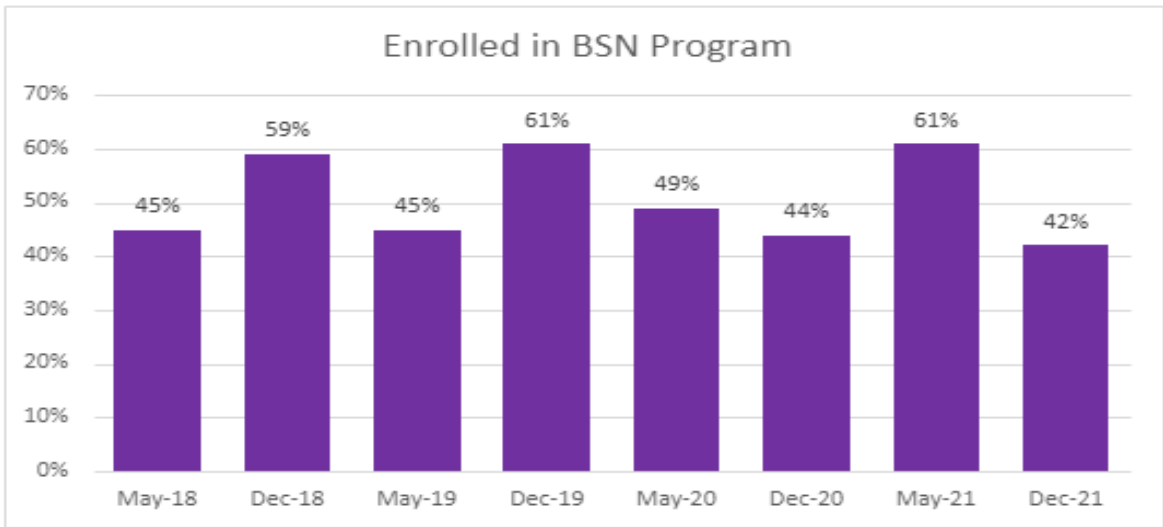


Educational Institution: Enrollment in a BSN program or RN-MSN by educational institution (8 out of 8 enrolled responded): 25% (n=2) enrolled at University of of Illinois at Chicago; 12.5% (n=1) enrolled at Purdue University-Northwest; 12.5% (n=1) enrolled at Capella University; 12.5% (n=1) enrolled at University of St. Francis; and 37.5% (n=3) enrolled at University of Phoenix.

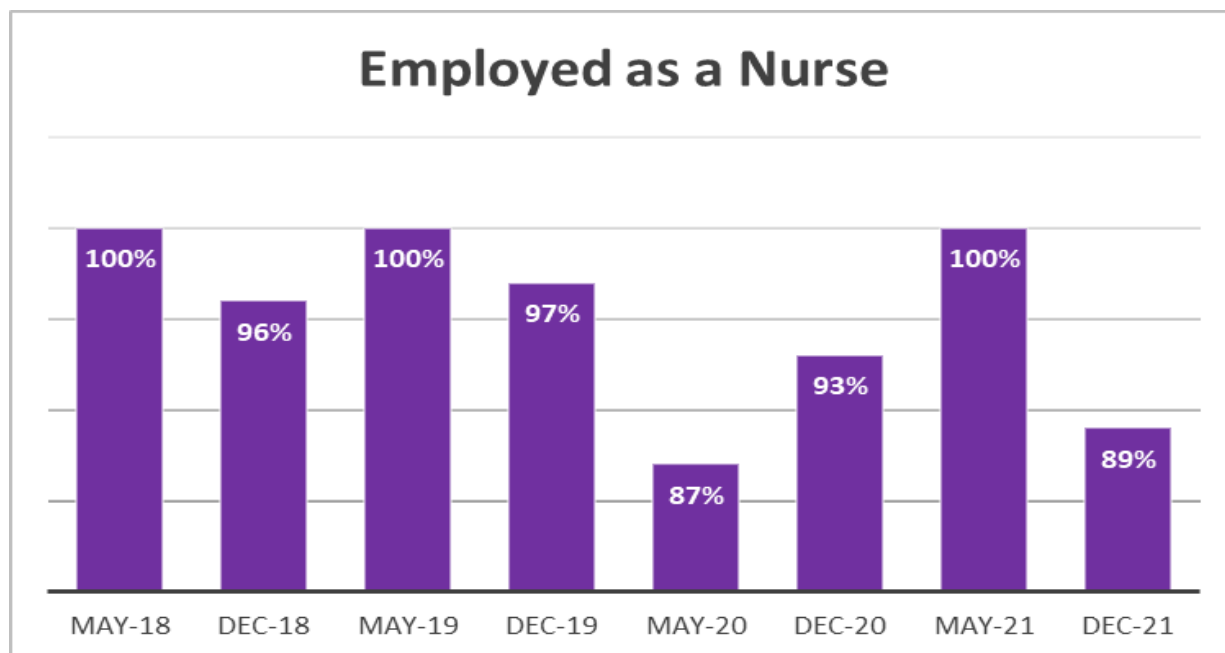
When asked why they were not enrolled in a BSN program, eleven (11) graduates responded. Approximately 36% (n=4) cite too many family responsibilities; 36% (n=4) cannot afford school right now 28% (n=3) indicate that it is not required by their employer; Other comments directly quoted from the survey are included below:

- *I have a bachelor's and masters degree already. I need a small break from classes as I have been taking college courses for 8+ years straight.*
- *Waiting to get into better schedule after training for work.*
- *I am enrolling this upcoming year.*
- *I had to work for this summer to pay for my BSN.*
- *I am starting my bsn January 2023.*
- *I graduated with my BSN in May 2022. Planning on taking a pause from education to focus on my career and certifications.*
- *as I am a new grad in the ER I am taking time off school for at least a year to avoid overwhelming myself with BSN courses & familiarize myself with new RN role. But will pursue BSN in the future want to obtain a masters degree.*

Historical Data Trends:



Employment status (19 out of 19 responded): 89% (n=17) of the graduates were employed as a nurse, and 11% (n=2) were employed in a non-nursing area.

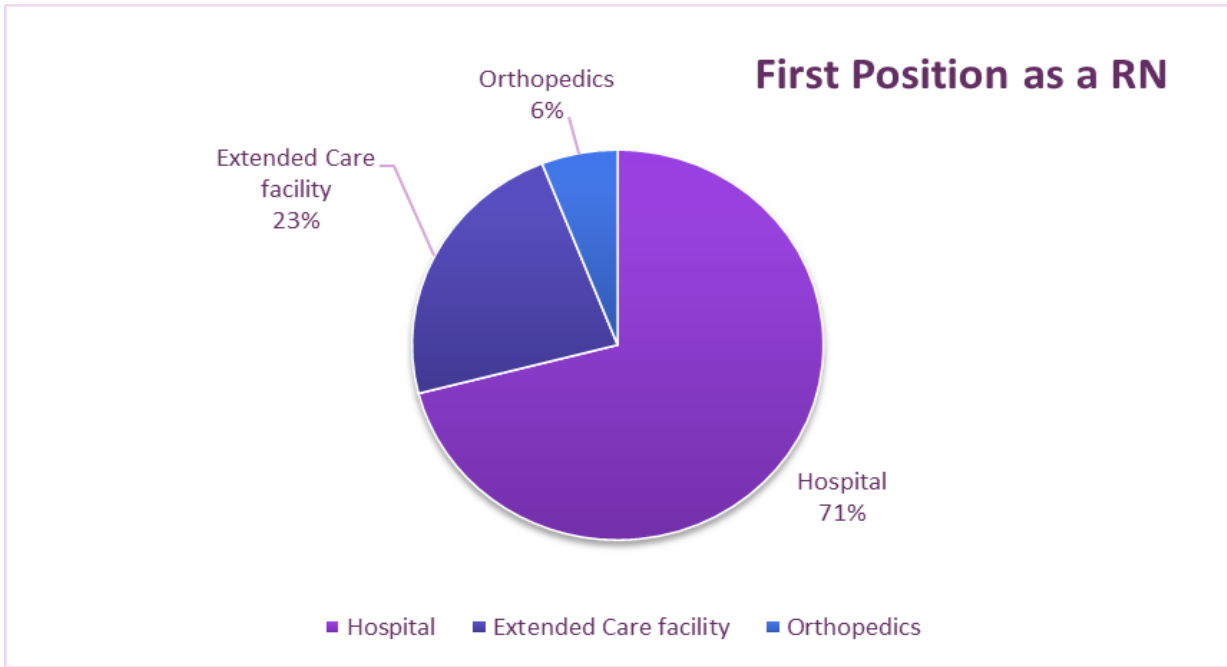


Did COVID have an impact on finding employment as a nurse?

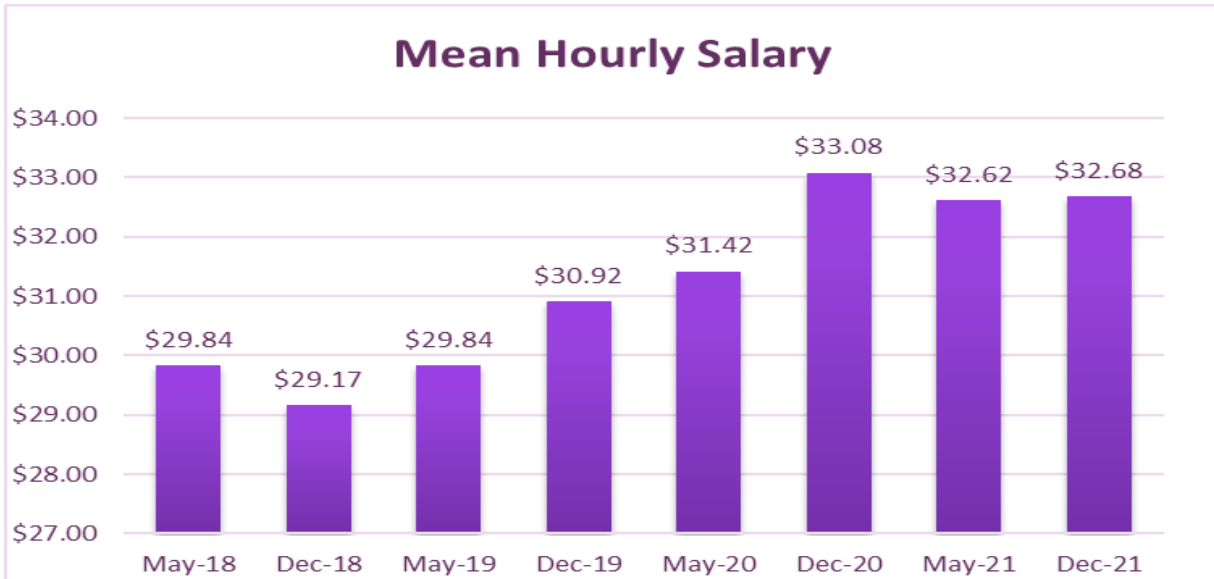
One out of 19 responded. 5% (n=1) said “yes” and 95% (n=18) skipped this question. Here is the one comment including any spelling errors:

- *Some facilities did not have someone to train me for the position.*

First position as a nurse: Of the seventeen students employed as an RN 100% (17 out of 17) of graduates answered this question. Each area is compiled as answered by the student: 71% (n=12) obtained their first RN job in the hospital, 24% (n=4) in extended living, 5% (n=1) in an orthopedics environment.



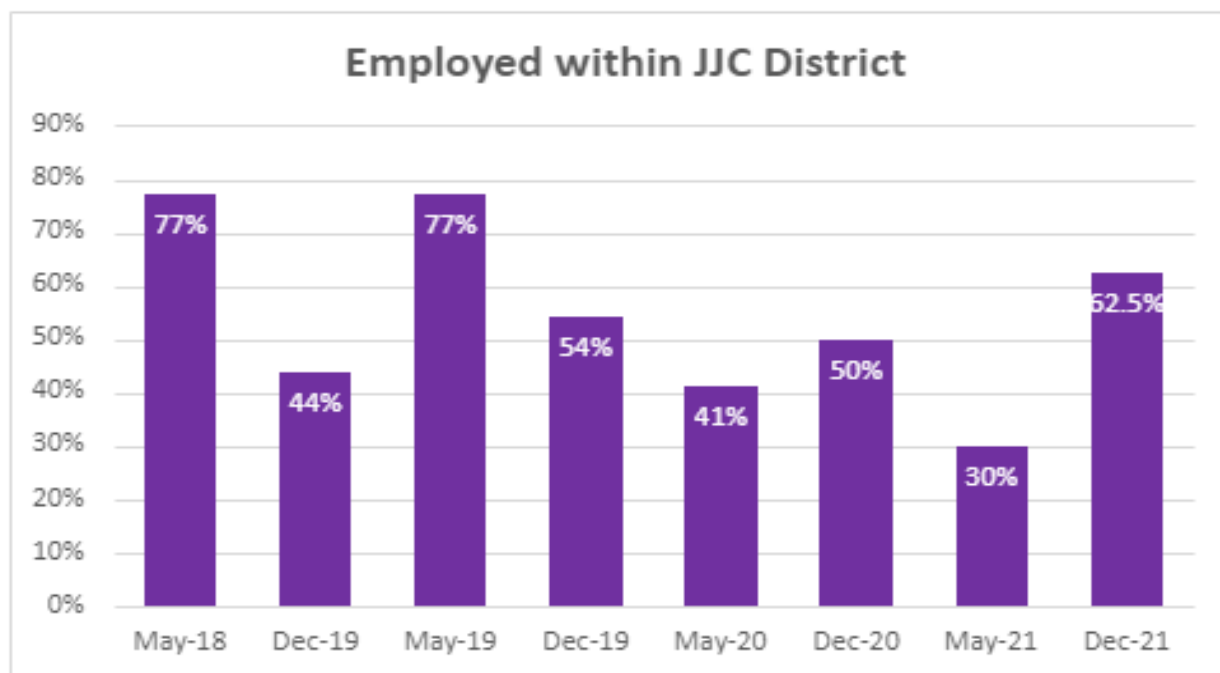
Hourly salary 100% (17 of 17) graduates who are employed as a RN responded: Salaries are reported before deductions (does not include overtime). Range of responses: \$29.42 to \$40.00 per hour, with an average of \$32.68 per hour.



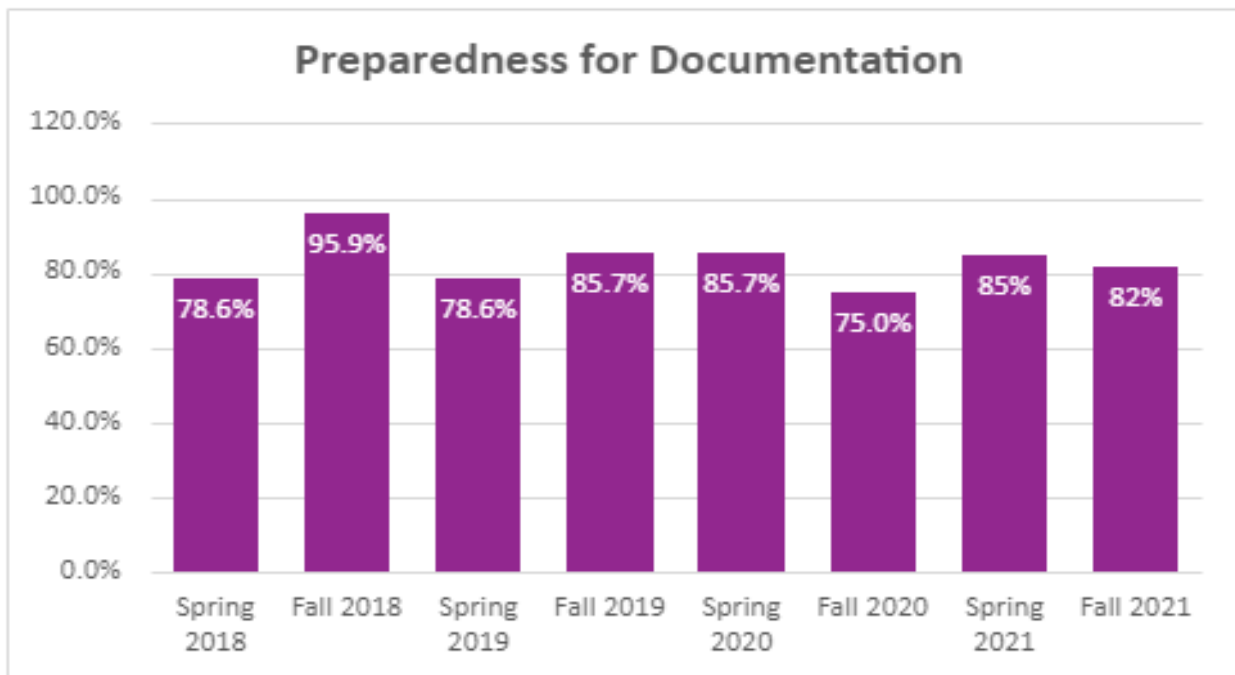
JJC Community 94% (16 of 77) students employed responded: employment within the JJC community district:

62.5% (n=10) and 37.5% (n=6) outside the JJC community district. Previously, we asked the graduates if they worked in or out of district. Since the in-district numbers were decreasing, the nursing faculty decided to just ask what city they are employed. The faculty felt that some students may not be fully aware of how large the JJC district really is, thus they may had thought that they worked out of district if they did not work in the immediate Joliet area. This began in May 2016, which has demonstrated a larger percentage of our students are working in district. Over the last few years, the number of student working inside and outside the district fluctuates.

Historical Data Trends:



How well prepared were you in your job as a registered nurse related to documentation? 100% (17 out of 17 employed responded). The nursing faculty identified in recent graduate surveys (3 out of the last 8) that documentation had scored at or below our expected level of achievement (ELA) of 80%. The nursing program does provide practice documentation in each semester, but the faculty were not sure why the students rated this area as “somewhat unprepared” or “very unprepared”. Thus, the faculty decided to ask a specific question about documentation and provide a commentary section to find out more specific needs/concerns beginning with the Dec 2015 graduates in order to make changes in the program regarding documentation.



Comments regarding documentation (including spelling errors):

- *Need more practice.*
- *Jjcs program provided documentation prep.*
- *Never actually got hands on experience.*
- *Not much time was spent on documentation.*
- *Everything was new so computer wise I am lacking skills.*
- *There is no chance to learn/practice time management which is the most difficult part of completing documentation. Also every hospital uses a different system so it's not something you can fully learn until on the job.*
- *I think I focused more on learning my skills. Since School was closed down it was more important for me to view video skills.*
- *We did not do documentation or charting in the clinical setting.*
- *I need to learn how to use the EMR at my new job. It was pretty simple after a few days.*
- *Not a lot of practice documenting at clinicals and preceptorship. But was taught how to document and write documentation notes.*
- *Epic use and very little in the use of nurse notes.*
- *The system is new to me.*
- *We did not have many charting opportunities in school.*

How well prepared were you in your job as a registered nurse related to the following?

December 2021 Graduate Survey

Of those graduates who are employed as a nurse 100% (17 out of 17) responded: Expected level of achievement (ELA) is 80% for each line item for responses “Very Prepared & Somewhat Prepared”. We reached our ELA for each line item for FALL 2021.

	Very Prepared	Somewhat Prepared	Somewhat Unprepared	Very Unprepared	Rating of Very Prepared & Somewhat Prepared
Nursing Skills (catheterization, IV, IM, suctioning, etc)	5	10	2	0	88%
Utilization of the nursing process	12	5	0	0	100%
Delegation skills	7	10	0	0	100%
Patient/family physical assessment skills	11	4	2	0	88%
Patient/family psychosocial assessment skills	7	7	3	0	82%
Nursing care prioritization	11	5	1	0	94%
Cultural competence	11	6	0	0	100%
Using evidenced based practice in patient care	9	7	1	0	94%
Critical thinking skills	10	7	0	0	100%
Patient communication skills	12	3	2	0	88%
Legal/ethical issues	5	12	0	0	100%
Clinical decision-making skills	7	9	1	0	94%
Patient/family teaching skills	10	6	1	0	94%
Collaboration with other healthcare members	7	10	0	0	100%
Medication knowledge/skills	9	8	0	0	100%
Patient safety issues	12	5	0	0	100%

Comments from graduates on preparedness (including spelling errors):

- *We only had 3 days of an actual hospital setting clinical. I did not feel confident in many skills when starting with my preceptor.*
- *There were very few opportunities to practice skills on live people. Let alone being able to access the skills lab when campus was closed for a lot of our nursing program.*

What impact if any, has COVID made on your first position as a RN? (17 of 17 responded).

Comments from graduates (including spelling errors):

- *None.*
- *Clinical experience.*
- *Thank goodness for my experience in my job, because I wouldn't have had any hands on without it. Jjc does their students and injustice by discouraging them from working while in school.*
- *Made it easier to get hired into critical care position.*
- *No impact justin working in PPE takes time.*
- *n/a*
- *I feel it took away a lot of in person leaning and clinical learning opportunities. As a nurse now COVID does not affect my job. It's simply another condition/patient to care for.*
- *At times certain jobs wanted someone with experience to fill positions quickly, and some positions did not have someone who would be able to train me in the particular job.*
- *I am in a New Grad Program offered by the hospital. I think think program facilities and enforces learning which makes me feel more competent at work.*
- *I feel like I have very limited clinical experience because we were not in clinical.*
- *Covid had a great impact on my first RN position. Covid made things hard. We had to test twice a week and wear full PPE everyday from goggles, gowns, gloves to n95 mask with surgical mask on top. It was very difficult.*
- *Vaccine mandates were an impact.*
- *I have a lot of COVID patients and most of the previous nurses quit, retired, or transferred because of COVID.*
- *In made me have low confidence in my nursing skills.*

Did COVID have an impact on taking the NCLEX exam or getting results. (19 of 19 responded)

- *No. (18 respondents)*
- *Yes. Studying was more complicated and time consuming since teachers and tools were not as available.*

Comments made by graduates that have not been addressed in the survey are noted below (19 of 19 responded) Spelling errors are directly quoted.

- *None. (Thirteen respondents)*
- *Overall loved the program. It did prepare me well for my position.*
- *The online simulations are great as a supplemental tool for extra practice but definitely do not replace in person learning and practice.*
- *Never do an asynchronous semester again. That was the worst idea the college ever had.*
- *I enjoyed my experience at JJC, the faculty was very helpful and encouraging. I felt ready to start my career after I graduated.*
- *No comments or suggestions. Maybe instructors should start using Mark Klimek as a tool to help students learn. I've never understood material as well as I have after watching his videos and listening to his tips.*
- *JJC has an excellent nursing program with great tools and resources. Unfortunately, this was not all available to the students in the graduating class of Fall 2021. Clinical hours/experience, practice equipment (simulation room, labor/delivery mannequin, study rooms etc), timely communication/understanding with instructors, and other invaluable resources were not available to the students but the same standard/dead lines were kept in place. This made nursing school so much more stressful and anxiety filled. Not impossible, but much more strenuous. Also, all students had to buy a large bag full of nursing practice equipment (IV bags, syringes, vials, etc.) when this equipment was already included with our original payment for the classes. I am proud to have my associates degree in nursing from JJC; I just wish I had attended another year/semester and bypassed all the adverse shortcomings this particular semester came with.*