

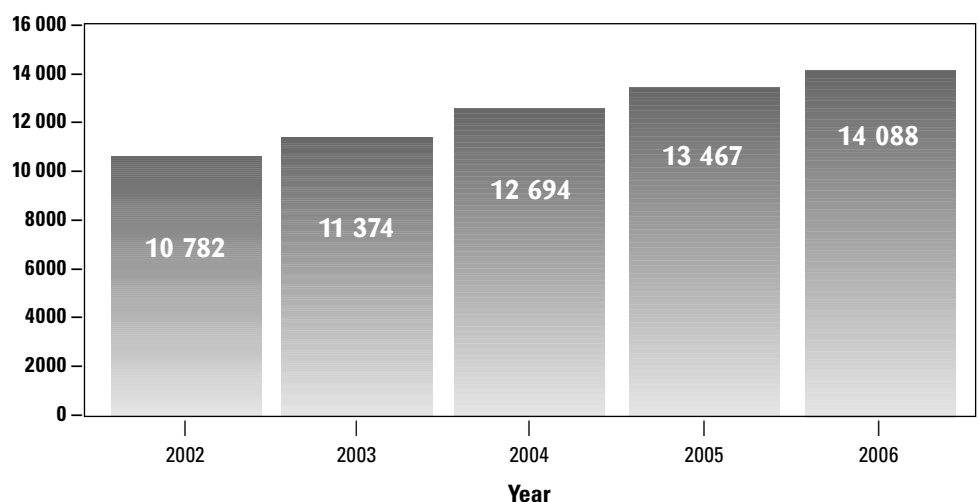
CERTIFICATION STATISTICS FOR 2006

The CNA Certification Program is important to nurses, the nursing profession, employers and the general public. By achieving CNA certification, nurses commit to a national standard of professional competence that demonstrates a comprehensive understanding of their specialty and a commitment to continuing competence. Specialty certification is a voluntary process reserved for nurses who meet rigorous practice, continuous learning and testing requirements.

Currently, registered nurses in Canada can become certified in 17 different specialties through the program, which has grown each year since it began with one specialty in 1991. Over the last five years CNA certification numbers have consistently increased to reach a total of 14,088 valid CNA certifications in 2006.

Figure 1.
Number of RNs with Valid
CNA Certification by Year
(All Specialties), 2002-2006

*Source: Canadian Nurses Association,
Department of Regulatory Policy*



CERTIFICATION SPECIALTIES

The total number of valid CNA certifications in 2006 in Canada increased by 5 % from the previous year. The Critical Care – Pediatric specialty has demonstrated the greatest growth with a 54% increase in 2006. Three new nursing specialties joined the CNA Certification Program in 2006: Community Health, Orthopaedic and Rehabilitation Nursing. The three specialties met expectations with a strong contingent of candidates writing the inaugural administration of their respective CNA Certification exams.

In 2005, Gerontological Nursing became the specialty with the highest number of valid CNA certifications and it maintains this position in 2006 with an impressive 6.1% increase. Perioperative and Psychiatric/Mental Health Nursing follow to round off the top three nursing specialties with the overall highest number of valid CNA certifications. The Cardiovascular specialty does not have the most certifications, but over the last five years has demonstrated more progress than any other specialty. From 2002 to 2006, the number of Cardiovascular certifications has increased by 139%.

Table 1.

Number of Valid CNA
Certifications by Year and
Specialty, 2002-2006

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Cardiovascular	298	415	546	660	713
Community Health	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	148
Critical Care	1126	1154	1235	1263	1223
Critical Care – Pediatrics	N/A	34	46	61	94
Emergency	1233	1292	1305	1353	1307
Gastroenterology	N/A	N/A	87	147	171
Gerontology	1180	1411	1628	1822	1937
Hospice and Palliative Care	N/A	N/A	491	756	916
Nephrology	828	877	921	963	1019
Neuroscience	171	163	192	207	223
Occupational Health	1013	1000	988	952	926
Oncology	1028	1081	1137	1231	1332
Orthopaedic	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	73
Perinatal	414	488	578	619	621
Perioperative	1845	1772	1777	1672	1585
Psychiatric/Mental Health	1646	1687	1763	1761	1729
Rehabilitation	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	71
TOTAL	10782	11374	12694	13467	14088

Source: Canadian Nurses Association,
Department of Regulatory Policy

N/A: Not Applicable since the
specialty certification was
not available at the time

SNAPSHOT OF CNA CERTIFICATION IN CANADA

Table 2 gives a breakdown by specialty and province or territory of the number of valid CNA certifications. This table includes all certifications and re-certifications from 2002 to 2006.

Table 2. Number of Valid CNA Certifications by Specialty and Province/Territory, 2006

2006	AB	BC	MB	NB	NL	NT	NS	ON	PEI	QC	SK	YT & NU	TOTAL
Cardiovascular	65	144	**	56	24	0	45	281	*	36	41	0	713
Community Health	14	*	*	*	30	0	12	77	0	*	6	*	148
Critical Care	89	121	26	24	43	**	44	738	10	74	48	*	1223
Critical Care – Pediatrics	19	21	*	0	0	0	8	34	0	5	*	0	94
Emergency	79	167	50	71	42	20	84	718	14	25	31	6	1307
Gastroenterology	27	31	*	*	*	*	5	80	*	7	11	0	171
Gerontology	328	615	113	51	48	*	100	587	44	33	**	0	1937
Hospice Palliative Care	118	205	78	32	*	0	49	375	*	34	16	*	916
Nephrology	95	127	37	19	27	*	37	605	*	45	23	0	1019
Neuroscience	34	19	13	6	*	0	19	86	0	32	12	*	223
Occupational Health	102	50	23	22	28	0	47	615	*	**	23	0	926
Oncology	101	86	68	39	33	*	45	772	**	132	43	0	1332
Orthopaedic	26	**	*	18	0	0	5	12	0	0	*	0	73
Perinatal	34	93	28	36	8	10	32	337	15	16	12	0	621
Perioperative	235	216	102	64	87	**	70	714	12	51	28	*	1585
Psychiatric/Mental Health	45	117	14	56	36	6	92	1308	24	26	*	*	1729
Rehabilitation	6	10	0	*	0	0	7	37	*	*	*	0	71
TOTAL	1417	2033	582	500	413	54	701	7376	144	533	322	13	14088

Source: Canadian Nurses Association,
Department of Regulatory Policy

*Information suppressed to protect privacy (1 to 4 records)
**Information suppressed to protect privacy (5 or more records)

To prevent calculation of the suppressed number (*) by using other data in the table,
another number (usually the next lowest number) is suppressed.

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