



To: PA Program Directors and Faculty

From: Dawn Morton-Rias, Ed. D., PA-C, ICE-CCP, FACHE, NCCPA CEO/President

Date: July 31, 2023

Re: Additional Information on PANCE Performance

Greetings! Please allow me to start by extending my sincere thanks to each of you for your commitment to providing quality education to the next generation of PAs.

At NCCPA, we strive to provide you with data that may be beneficial in your ongoing program evaluation. We endeavor to provide the most meaningful data in keeping with our legal and ethical responsibilities as a certifying organization. We have been contacted in the past by several Program Directors requesting the first-time taker mean score and standard deviation for PANCE. Until we revise the format of the standard reports to include this information, we wanted to proactively provide that data to all programs. Programs interested in information about all takers and counts can visit [our website](#) for more information.

YEAR	MEAN SCORE	STANDARD DEVIATION	PASS RATE
2022	454.04	77.53	92%
2021	464.55	80.29	93%
2020	473.12	79.05	95%
2019	464.45	77.08	93%

During 2022 and 2023, the PANCE content blueprint underwent review during a practice analysis, which is an analysis of the various diseases and disorders PAs encounter and the skills they use in practice. Practice analysis activities are followed by a process called standard setting. During a standard setting, a panel of PA content experts establish the performance required to pass an examination. Learn more about practice analysis, blueprints, performance standards, and scoring on our website ([Exam Development and Scoring](#); [PANCE Performance Guide](#)). Changes to both the blueprint and the passing standard are very decidedly minor, and both will go into effect in January of 2025. More information regarding changes will be provided in the coming months.

We hope this information will be helpful to you as you continue to evaluate your program. If you have any questions regarding this information or other information in your program performance reports, please feel free to reach out to our Manager of Psychometrics, Drew Dallas, PhD, at drewd@nccpa.net.

Thank you for your dedication to your students and providing quality education to the next generation of PAs! Best wishes for a successful academic year!