

BOARD OF PHARMACY ANNOTATIONS TO SURVEY QUESTIONS

Questions 5 and 6. The Board of Pharmacy's fiscal year runs October 1 through September 30 of each year. Census data is tallied and reported at the end of each fiscal year. Accordingly, the census reported here reflects the number of licensees as of September 30, 2013. The number as of June 30, 2014 is almost certainly slightly higher.

Questions 7 and 8. The Board of Pharmacy's fiscal year runs October 1 through September 30 of each year. Fiscal year 2013-14 does not end until September 30, 2014. The census data reflected in questions 7 and 8 therefore reflects data for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2013.

Question 12. The Pharmacy Technician Certification Board ("PTCB") provides an exam-based pharmacy technician certification credential. By statute (NCGS § 90-85.15A), pharmacy technicians are not required to obtain this (or any other) certification as a prerequisite to registration. PTCB certification does, however, expand somewhat the types of duties that a pharmacy technician may perform. Approximately 30% of pharmacy technicians registered in North Carolina hold PTCB certification. There is no "national certification entity" for pharmacists and pharmacies.

Question 13. All states as well as all United States territories require licensure of prescription drug and device dispensers.

Question 14. The North Carolina Board of Pharmacy and all other states except California permit a pharmacist to apply for a reciprocal license. While this process eliminates the need for the applicant to retake the NAPLEX licensure exam (the clinical knowledge assessment) as a condition of licensure, the applicant (in North Carolina and every other state) must take the state-specific pharmacy jurisprudence exam and meet other conditions of licensure.

Question 22. NCGS § 90-85.7(a) specifies that Board of Pharmacy members may not serve more than two "consecutive" five-year terms.

Question 29. The NAPLEX examination of pharmacy and clinical knowledge is used by every state as part of the pharmacist licensure process.

Questions 34 and 39. Per direction from Mr. Hefren, since the Board of Pharmacy's fiscal year runs October 1 to September 30, total expenditures and revenues for FY 2013-14 are not reported. The Board's FY 2013-14 ends September 30, 2014. If desired, Board staff can provide unaudited expenditure and revenue figures for the first three quarters of FY 2013-14.

Question 40. The Board of Pharmacy’s fiscal year runs October 1 to September 30. Accordingly, the figure reported for question 40 reflects the audited net position as of September 30, 2013.

Question 41. As confirmed by Mr. Hefren, some cases closed fall into more than one category. For instance, if the Board of Pharmacy revokes a license to practice pharmacy after a hearing, that case is “closed with disciplinary action,” “closed with license suspension/revocation/surrender,” and “closed with an administrative hearing.” Each case closed by the Board of Pharmacy has been placed into every category into which it fits.

Question 42. The numbers reported for unlicensed individuals or entities includes any adverse action taken against an unlicensed pharmacist, pharmacy, pharmacy technician, or other registrant – *e.g.*, cease and desist request, injunctive action, or denial of a licensure/permit/registration application – based on findings of non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

Question 43. The Board of Pharmacy contracts only a portion of its information technology services. MiraComp is the Board’s vendor for programming and database development services. All other information technology services are handled in house.

Question 44. The survey instrument asks that a “number of outputs” be reported for various categories of administrative activities. Board staff consulted with its financial auditors on an appropriate output unit for accounting services, human resource management, information technology services, and purchasing services. The auditors advised that no output unit is identifiable for those categories.

Board staff conducts criminal background assessments of licensure applicants. That cost, however, cannot be separated from the overall cost of new license application processing.

Question 49. The number of investigative outputs reported include all cases opened, closed, or in process of investigation between July 1, 2013 and June 30, 2014. Because the Board of Pharmacy’s fiscal year runs October 1 to September 30, total direct costs are reported for the year ending September 30, 2013. While the periods do not overlap perfectly, based on Board staff experience, direct costs and outputs are substantially similar throughout the entire time period.

As discussed in the annotation accompanying question 44, some direct costs and outputs fall into more than one category. For instance, if the Board of Pharmacy revoked a license to practice pharmacy after a hearing, then the costs and outputs are related to both a “disciplinary action”

and an “administrative hearing.” Each cost and output has been placed into every category into which it fits.