

**Annual Report of
Life Insurance Examinations
Calendar Year 2009**

OVERVIEW

This report was prepared according to the provisions of section 626.2415, Florida Statutes, and is published annually using data from the current contracted testing vendor.

626.2415 Annual report of results of life insurance examinations.—

- (1) No later than May 1 of each year, the department or a person designated by the department shall prepare, publicly announce, and publish a report that summarizes statistical information relating to life insurance agent examinations administered during the preceding calendar year.

The demographic information contained in this report was voluntarily submitted by applicants for the life and variable annuity insurance agent license. The purpose of this report is to aid the Department in improving the quality and fairness of the insurance examinations.

SCOPE OF WORK

This report was developed for the Florida Department of Financial Services. The report summarizes demographic statistical data, voluntarily self-reported by the applicants, relating to the life and variable annuity insurance exams administered in 2009 by Pearson VUE. The report also includes summary statistical information relating to each life and variable annuity test form.

METHODS

The data included in this report are for exams administered from January through December 2009. Forms were published on February 1, 2009, so two sets of test forms (forms K, M, N, O and P administered from January 1 through January 31, and forms Q, R, S, T, and U administered from February 1 through December 31) are covered by this report. A total of 5,190 candidates tested in 2009.

Table 1 includes the following information for all examinees – combined and separately – by race or ethnicity, gender, race or ethnicity within gender, education level, native language, race or ethnicity within education level, and gender within education level:

1. The total number of examinees.
2. The percentage and number of examinees who passed.
3. The mean scaled score on the examination.
4. Standard deviation of scaled scores on the examination.

Table 2 shows the number of candidates who tested, the correct answer rates, and point-biserial correlations for all candidates. It also shows African American examinees, White examinees, American Indian examinees, Asian examinees, Hispanic examinees, and Other examinees for each separate test form.

CONCLUSIONS

There are differences in pass rates for several of the groups reported in Table 1. Candidates who self-identify as African American, Hispanic, Asian and Other have a pass rate lower than the mean, while White candidates have a pass rate higher than the mean. Male candidates have a pass rate slightly higher than the mean, while female candidates have a pass rate slightly lower than the mean. As education level increases, the percent passing the test also increases. Native English speakers showed pass rates above the mean, while native speakers of Spanish or Other languages showed pass rates below the mean. Education level and native language have many more missing responses than gender and race/ethnicity.

NOTE: Sample sizes of less than 50 should not be interpreted, while sample sizes between 50 and 100 should be interpreted cautiously.

Table 1. All Life and Variable Annuity Examinees

NOTE: Sample sizes of less than 50 should not be interpreted, while sample sizes between 50 and 100 should be interpreted cautiously.

		Total	Passing Candidates		Scaled Score	
			%	N	Mean	SD
All Candidates		5190	42.5	2206	66.25	12.232
Race or Ethnicity						
	African American	1523	32.4	493	63.40	12.243
	White	1703	58.8	1002	71.12	10.93
	American Indian	7	42.9	3	69.00	9.13
	Asian	114	39.5	45	65.49	12.12
	Hispanic	1618	35.6	576	63.88	12.54
	Other	216	38.9	84	66.24	11.41
	No Response	9	33.3	3	61.22	18.48
Gender						
	Male	2853	43.8	1250	66.71	12.12
	Female	2307	41.0	945	65.70	12.35
	No Response	30	36.7	11	64.73	12.29
Race or Ethnicity within Gender						
Male						
	African American	807	30.9	249	62.99	12.29
	White	967	60.9	589	71.84	10.24
	American Indian	5	40.0	2	68.00	9.19
	Asian	44	47.7	21	64.89	13.58
	Hispanic	918	37.3	342	64.67	12.00
	Other	107	41.1	44	66.69	11.30
	No Response	5	60.0	3	66.60	20.07
Female						
	African American	708	33.9	240	63.83	12.18
	White	734	56.0	411	70.18	10.54
	American Indian	2	50.0	1	71.50	12.02
	Asian	69	34.8	24	65.91	11.27
	Hispanic	685	33.6	230	62.86	13.13
	Other	107	36.4	39	65.74	11.64
	No Response	2	0	0	42.50	14.85
No Response						
	African American	8	50.0	4	67.25	12.21
	White	2	100.0	2	73.00	4.24
	Asian	1	0	0	63.00	.
	Hispanic	15	26.7	4	61.60	14.40
	Other	2	50.0	1	69.00	5.66
	No Response	2	0	0	66.50	.71

		Total	Passing Candidates		Scaled Score	
			%	N	Mean	SD
Education Level						
	Some High School	64	25.0	16	62.45	10.98
	High School Degree	981	30.3	297	63.03	11.70
	Some College	2434	39.7	967	65.70	11.70
	College Degree	1140	53.1	605	68.56	12.80
	Graduate Degree	318	56.9	181	70.14	12.77
	No Response	253	55.3	140	69.68	12.21
Native Language						
	English	3493	45.9	1603	67.60	11.49
	Spanish	1008	32.5	328	62.60	13.11
	Other	366	29.0	106	61.13	13.39
	No Response	323	52.3	169	68.89	11.80
Race or Ethnicity Within Education Level						
Some High School	African American	14	7.1	1	59.14	8.37
	White	21	28.6	6	63.71	12.00
	American Indian					
	Asian					
	Hispanic	29	31.0	9	63.14	11.34
	Other					
	No Response					
High School Degree	African American	292	19.5	57	59.74	12.03
	White	358	43.6	156	67.18	10.59
	American Indian	1	100.0	1	79.00	
	Asian	8	37.5	3	59.88	13.57
	Hispanic	281	24.9	70	61.19	11.08
	Other	38	26.3	10	64.34	11.09
	No Response	3	0	0	47.33	13.43
Some College	African American	739	29.5	218	62.80	11.65
	White	781	56.7	443	70.88	9.45
	American Indian	5	20.0	1	64.80	6.91
	Asian	45	33.3	15	63.00	13.22
	Hispanic	762	33.3	254	63.45	12.12
	Other	100	34.0	34	64.88	10.73
	No Response	2	100.0	2	84.00	4.24
College Degree	African American	293	42.7	125	65.97	12.63
	White	376	72.9	274	74.10	10.12
	American Indian					
	Asian	50	42	21	66.94	9.84
	Hispanic	378	43.7	165	65.56	13.88
	Other	41	46.3	19	66.63	12.30

		Total	Passing Candidates		Scaled Score	
			%	N	Mean	SD
	No Response	2	50.0	1	54.00	24.04
Graduate Degree	African American	92	54.3	50	68.84	11.84
	White	77	79.2	61	77.42	10.38
	American Indian	1	100.0	1	80.00	.
	Asian	11	54.5	6	73.18	12.63
	Hispanic	129	46.5	60	66.53	13.27
	Other	8	37.5	3	67.88	8.24
	No Response					
No Response	African American	93	45.2	42	66.89	12.89
	White	90	68.9	62	72.88	11.26
	American Indian					
	Asian					
	Hispanic	39	46.2	18	67.08	11.27
	Other	29	62.1	18	72.41	12.04
	No Response	2	0	0	66.50	.71
Gender Within Education Level						
Some High School	Male	43	27.9	12	62.28	12.24
	Female	21	19.0	4	62.81	8.04
	No Response					
High School Degree	Male	531	30.7	163	63.64	11.33
	Female	443	29.8	132	62.32	12.10
	No Response	7	28.6	2	62.00	12.71
Some College	Male	1350	40.7	550	65.88	11.82
	Female	1072	38.4	412	65.48	11.53
	No Response	12	41.7	5	66.17	13.29
College Degree	Male	625	57.0	356	69.79	12.09
	Female	508	48.4	246	67.09	13.50
	No Response	7	42.9	3	65.86	12.84
Graduate Degree	Male	153	60.1	92	71.85	12.84
	Female	165	53.9	89	68.55	12.54
	No Response					
No Response	Male	151	51.0	77	68.30	12.31
	Female	98	63.3	62	72.06	11.78
	No Response	4	25.0	1	63.25	11.27

Table 2. Life and Variable Annuity Examination Performance by Form

NOTE: Sample sizes of less than 50 should not be interpreted, while sample sizes between 50 and 100 should be interpreted cautiously.

		Forms										
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Total
All Candidates	N	78	60	66	60	68	932	977	991	986	972	5190
	Correct Answer Rate ¹	65.4	69.2	66.1	66.1	65.1	66.0	66.9	66.1	66.2	66.0	65.4
	Correlation ²	0.23	0.25	0.21	0.24	0.23	0.23	0.24	0.24	0.24	0.26	0.24
African American	N	11	14	19	17	19	278	297	293	280	295	1523
	Correct Answer Rate ¹	66.1	70.5	61.2	62.5	65.2	62.6	64.7	63.1	62.8	63.4	64.2
	Correlation ²	0.07	0.28	0.22	0.20	0.22	0.24	0.24	0.22	0.23	0.26	.24
White	N	35	19	26	22	24	288	315	341	327	306	1703
	Correct Answer Rate ¹	69.7	73.2	72.8	68.1	65.9	70.4	70.8	71.2	72.3	71.3	70.6
	Correlation ²	0.21	0.24	0.15	0.21	0.29	0.18	0.21	0.19	0.20	0.23	0.20
American Indian	N						3	1	1	1	1	7
	Correct Answer Rate ¹						69					69
	Correlation ²						0.26					0.26
Asian	N	4	2				24	21	23	18	22	114
	Correct Answer Rate ¹	61.8	68.5				66.5	66.7	64.0	63.7	66.5	45.8
	Correlation ²	0.27	0.14				0.22	0.28	0.23	0.23	0.27	0.24
Hispanic	N	24	20	17	17	21	300	304	290	317	308	1618
	Correct Answer Rate ¹	59.5	65.7	61.6	65.7	64.1	64.6	65.4	63.3	63.3	63.1	63.6

		Forms										
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Total
	Correlation ²	0.25	0.17	0.17	0.31	0.22	0.23	0.25	0.26	0.24	0.24	0.25
Other	N	3	2	4	4	4	38	39	42	42	38	216
	Correct Answer Rate ¹	74.7	68.0	64.8	72.0	65.3	68.8	64.5	66.0	65.8	65.1	67.5
	Correlation ²	0.26	0.20	0.23	0.39	0.16	0.17	0.26	.021	0.24	0.24	0.23
No Response	N	1	3				1		1	1	2	9
	Correct Answer Rate ¹	37	62				66		53	57	76	58.5
	Correlation ²		0.64								0.31	0.42

Note: ¹ Average percent correct for items on exam; ² Average point-biserial correlation for items on exam