Nevada NCEES PE exam pass rate results Oct 2005 through Apr 2011 – Comparing <4 year and 4+ year examinee pass rates

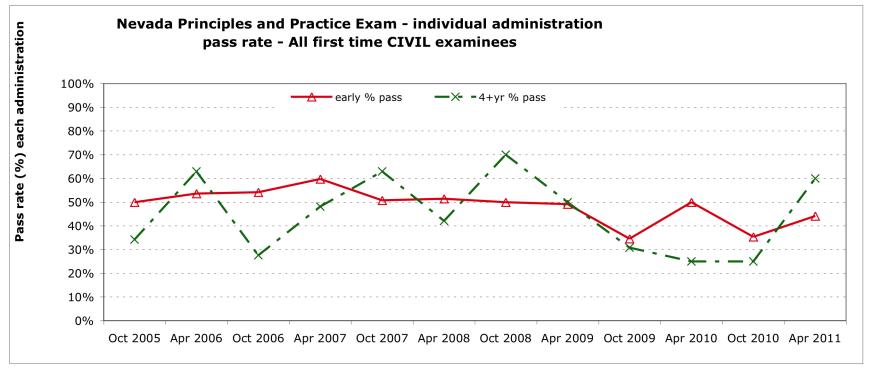


Figure 1: Civil engineering examinees

Early (< 4 year) first-time examinees have passed at a higher rate than 4+ year first-time examinees in 7 of 12 administrations of the examination. Averaging the % pass rates for individual administrations, the average early pass rate is  $49\% \pm 7\%$ . The average 4+ year pass rate is  $45\% \pm 16\%$  The difference IS NOT statistically significant at the p < .05 level.

The cumulative pass rate for all 12 administrations, calculated as (cumulative number first-time examinees passing/cumulative number first-time examinees) is 50% for early examinees and 46% for 4+ year examinees. A determination of significance can't be made.

The data set size is 723 early civil examinees with 363 early examinees passing, and 239 4+ year civil examinees with 110 passing. Total: 962 civil examinees.

4+year civil first-time pass rates (green dashed line) vary a lot more than early civil first-time pass rates (red solid line). 4+year first time pass rates declined steadily from April 2009 through Oct 2010(4 consecutive administrations) and then increased for Apr 2011.

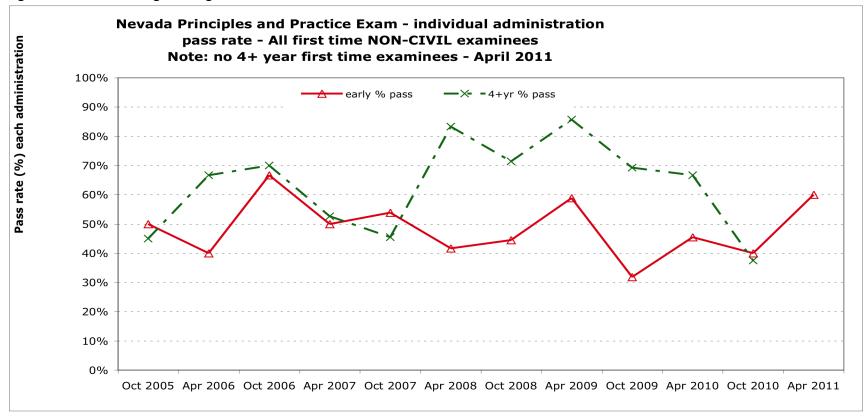


Figure 2: Non-Civil Engineering examinees

Early (< 4 year) non-civil first-time examinees have passed at a higher rate than 4+ year first-time examinees in 3 of 11 administrations of the examination where paired data are available. Averaging the % pass rates for individual administrations, the average early pass rate is  $49\% \pm 10\%$ . The average 4+ year pass rate is  $63\% \pm 16\%$ . The difference IS statistically significant at the p < .05 level. There were no (0) 4+ year first-time non-civil examinees in Nevada during the April 2011 examination administration.

The cumulative non-civil pass rate for all 12 administrations, calculated as (cumulative number first-time examinees passing/cumulative number first-time examinees) is 50% for early examinees and 61% for 4+ year examinees. A determination of significance can't be made.

The data set size is 189 non-civil early examinees with 94 early examinees passing, and 132 non-civil 4+ year examinees with 80 passing. Total: 321 non-civil examinees.

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Non-civil first-time early and 4+ year pass rates were fairly similar Oct 2005 thru Oct 2007, then dramatically diverged for April 2008 through April 2010. Non-civil early and 4+ year pass rates were identical in October 2010, the first time since Oct 2007. Non-civil 4+year first-time pass rates declined continually from in Oct 2009 through Oct 2010 (3 consecutive administrations).