

Executive Summary

Key Dataset Facts

Dataset Name: **License Roster: Colorado Licensed Practical Nurses**

Publisher: State of Colorado, Department of Regulatory Agencies

Website: <https://apps.colorado.gov/dora/licensing/Lookup/GenerateRoster.aspx>

Unit of Analysis: Individual

Quality Metrics

Metric	Rating	Summary Explanation
Non-response	Excellent	Very few variables have significant amounts of missing data, and those variables (e.g., zip code) are of limited value for researchers.
Coverage	Excellent	By law, all practical nurses must be licensed. This dataset contains entries for all practical nurses.
Granularity	Good	There isn't a lot of variation in many of the data fields. However, dates and degrees reported are exact, as are addresses.
Consistency	N/A	No basis for comparison to other datasets.
Timeliness	Excellent	Since the data is used for public verification and enforcement, it is updated continuously.
Integrity	Good	It is theoretically possible that individuals may misrepresent data when reporting to the state. However, given the legal implications of falsifying data in the licensure process it is unlikely that this is a significant threat to the data's integrity.
Accessibility	Excellent	Comprehensive microdata can easily be retrieved from the Colorado DORA (Department of Regulatory Agencies) website.
Interoperability	Good	Theoretically, one could use individuals' names and addresses to link to other public records that may be of interest, as is commonly done by market research firms using these rosters.
Suitability for Longitudinal Research	Poor	One would need to have access to archived files (not published online) to see changes in the characteristics of the licensed population over time.
Overall Recommendation	Good	This is a high-quality source of information on licenses in specific occupation(s) that are part of the skilled technical workforce. However, use cases are likely to be limited (see below).

Relevance to Use Cases

Use Case	Rating	Summary Explanation
Analyze the Overall Prevalence of NDCs	Poor	This license roster only covers one specific occupation. In conjunction with other rosters it may allow us to get a clear view of the overall prevalence of licensure.

Identify Which NDCs are Associated with Highest Earnings	Poor	We are unable to say anything about the earnings of nurses using this dataset alone, or in conjunction with other datasets covered in this DQA.
Identify Patterns of Inequality in NDC Attainment	Fair	We may be able to analyze patterns of spatial inequality in the attainment of licensure using this dataset.
Enrichment of NTEWS Microdata	Fair	Name and address data could theoretically be cross-referenced with restricted-use NTEWS variables to validate self-reported data on licenses, or enrich such data (e.g., by importing license start and end dates).