

Press Release

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Number of U.S. Architects Holds Steady, While Professional Mobility Increases

New data from NCARB reveals that while the number of architects remains consistent, practitioners are looking to get licensed in multiple states.

Orlando, FL—There are 109,748 architects in the United States, according to the 2016 Survey of Architectural Registration Boards. While this represents a minimal drop from the previous year (roughly .4 percent), the survey also reveals that architects increasingly hold licenses in multiple states. In fact, U.S. architects now have 126,554 reciprocal (out-of-state) licenses, a 3 percent increase from 2015.

Conducted annually by the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards (NCARB), the survey provides exclusive insight into the number of U.S. architects and reciprocal licenses.

The pool of emerging professionals working toward licensure also held steady in 2016, with more than 41,400 candidates taking the [Architect Registration Examination®](#) (ARE®) and/or reporting [Architectural Experience Program™](#) (AXP™) hours.

“Our data confirms that the economy is generating strong demand for initial and reciprocal licensees,” said NCARB CEO Michael J. Armstrong. “We’re also seeing continued growth in the number of architects who hold an NCARB Certificate, which facilitates reciprocal licensure across the U.S. and several countries.”

Additional data on the path to licensure will be available in July’s 2017 edition of *NCARB by the Numbers*.

NCARB collects data on resident and reciprocal licenses from its 54 Member Boards, which include the 50 states, the District of Columbia, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. The survey reflects registration data from January to December 2016.

To learn more about NCARB’s data and the Survey of Architectural Registration Boards, visit www.ncarb.org.

Press Release

Jurisdiction	Resident	Reciprocal	Total
Alabama	833	1,945	2,778
Alaska	250	354	604
Arizona	2,366	4,336	6,702
Arkansas	555	1,079	1,634
California	17,241	4,106	21,347
Colorado	3,406	3,902	7,308
Connecticut	1,250	2,918	4,168
Delaware	111	1,477	1,588
District of Columbia	739	2,603	3,342
Florida	5,010	4,696	9,706
Georgia	2,514	3,268	5,782
Guam	33	77	110
Hawaii	1,012	1,374	2,386
Idaho	499	1,254	1,753
Illinois	5,618	3,621	9,239
Indiana	1,014	2,381	3,395
Iowa	573	1,510	2,083
Kansas	850	1,983	2,833
Kentucky	724	1,906	2,630
Louisiana	1,298	2,060	3,358
Maine	442	1,168	1,610
Maryland	2,133	3,996	6,129
Massachusetts	4,668	2,395	7,063
Michigan	2,381	2,993	5,374
Minnesota	1,974	1,599	3,573
Mississippi	362	1,456	1,818
Missouri	2,092	3,069	5,161

Jurisdiction	Resident	Reciprocal	Total
Montana	415	989	1,404
Nebraska	565	1,317	1,887
Nevada	527	2,167	2,694
New Hampshire	322	1,616	1,938
New Jersey	3,129	4,826	7,955
New Mexico	690	1,470	2,160
New York	10,734	7,601	18,335
North Carolina	2,478	3,397	5,875
North Dakota	189	1,047	1,236
Ohio	2,673	3,762	6,435
Oklahoma	821	1,599	2,420
Oregon	1,729	1,397	3,126
Pennsylvania	4,127	4,614	8,741
Puerto Rico	597	102	699
Rhode Island	311	1,419	1,734
South Carolina	1,110	3,081	4,191
South Dakota	116	756	872
Tennessee	1,525	2,309	3,834
Texas	7,941	4,177	12,118
U.S. Virgin Islands*	163	948	1,111
Utah	843	1,606	2,449
Vermont	201	903	1,104
Virginia	2,921	4,409	7,330
Washington	3,910	2,501	6,411
West Virginia	111	1,022	1,244
Wisconsin	1,515	2,952	4,467
Wyoming	137	1,041	1,178

Total Architects:
109,748

Total Reciprocal Registrations:
126,554

Total Registrations:
236,422

* Counts from 2015 Survey.

Press Release

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About NCARB

The National Council of Architectural Registration Boards' membership is made up of the architectural registration boards of all 50 states as well as those of the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. NCARB assists its member registration boards in carrying out their duties and provides a certification program for individual architects.

NCARB protects the public health, safety, and welfare by leading the regulation of the practice of architecture through the development and application of standards for licensure and credentialing of architects. In order to achieve these goals, the Council develops and recommends standards to be required of an applicant for architectural registration; develops and recommends standards regulating the practice of architecture; provides to Member Boards a process for certifying the qualifications of an architect for registration; and represents the interests of Member Boards before public and private agencies. NCARB has established reciprocal registration for architects in the United States and Canada.

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