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NASBA Releases Official CPA Population Statistic

NASHVILLE, Tenn., May 24, 2016 – For the first time in history, the National Association of State Boards of Accountancy ([NASBA](http://NASBA.org)) has released a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) population statistic that represents the total number of individual, U.S. licensed CPAs. As of April 22, 2016, there are 664,532 actively licensed CPAs.

This new statistic is derived from NASBA’s Accountancy Licensee Database (ALD), the national database of CPAs comprised of official Board of Accountancy data that is currently aggregated from 51 of the 55 CPA licensing jurisdictions. It represents the total number of individual CPAs that are considered to be in an “Active” status by their respective boards, a majority of which can be matched across state lines to assure licensees who are licensed in multiple states are only counted once. Before the existence of the ALD, this ability to eliminate the duplicate licensees across state lines when calculating the total CPA population was not possible.

"NASBA has one of the most accelerated data-sharing programs among state-regulated professions because of the amount of data being contributed by the participating boards," said Maria Caldwell, Chief Legal Officer and Director of Compliance Services for NASBA. "Without the ongoing efforts of the state boards and their willingness to collaborate and preserve the CPA designation, there would not be the unprecedented degree of data that is currently shared between state boards." About 98% of the world’s CPA licensee information is housed in the public database.

The database has a public-facing version, CPAverify.org, which is a free service available to the public to verify if a person or firm is licensed to practice public accounting and if there is any enforcement history on the record. License numbers, issue dates, license status, a flag of existing enforcement history, and other details are included for all records.

"*CPAverify.org* enables consumers of financial services to verify the licensure and disciplinary history of CPAs, which not only provides incredible protection to the public, but also promotes the CPA designation while dissuading fraudulent use," explained ALD and CPAverify Manager, Elizabeth

Stanton. “Everyone from individual CPA clients to background check companies to Human Resources personnel can benefit from using the site.”

The new CPA population statistic will be updated quarterly and made available on NASBA’s [website](#).

About NASBA

Celebrating more than 100 years of service, the National Association of State Boards of Accountancy (NASBA) serves as a forum for the nation’s Boards of Accountancy, which administer the Uniform CPA Examination, regulate more than 700,000 certified public accountants and oversee the practice of public accountancy in the United States.

NASBA’s mission is to enhance the effectiveness and advance the common interests of the Boards of Accountancy in meeting their regulatory responsibilities. The Association promotes the exchange of information among accountancy boards, serving the needs of the 55 U.S. jurisdictions.

NASBA headquarters is located in Nashville, TN, with satellite offices in New York, NY, and San Juan, PR, and an International Computer Testing and Call Center in Guam. To learn more about NASBA, visit www.nasba.org.

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