

NEW HAMPSHIRE JURISPRUDENCE ASSESSMENT MODULE (NH JAM) 2023 ANNUAL REPORT



FEDERATION OF STATE BOARDS OF PHYSICAL THERAPY

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I. About the New Hampshire Jurisprudence Assessment Module (NH JAM)

The principal mission of the New Hampshire Physical Therapy Governing Board (Board) is to safeguard the public health, safety, welfare, environment and the public trust of the citizens of the State of New Hampshire. One way the Board accomplishes this mission is by ensuring that physical therapy is performed in compliance with state law.

The NH JAM, developed and delivered by FSBPT, assists the Board in meeting its public protection mission. The NH JAM is a learning tool that must be passed by all applicants for initial licensure in New Hampshire and by all licensees who are renewing their New Hampshire license in years ending in 0 and 5. The NH JAM is also required for all applicants purchasing or renewing a compact privilege in New Hampshire.

NH JAM Structure:

- 50 question assessment
- “Open book” – applicants and licensees have access to resource documents
- 90 minutes to complete
- Passing score is answering 80% of the questions correctly
- Optional for licensees to use to earn three units of continuing competency credit for license renewal

In addition to this Annual Report, FSBPT also completes an annual report that provides a summary of the administrations of the NH JAM, including pass rates and psychometric analysis of examinee responses. That report may be useful to determine whether the NH JAM is performing as intended by the Board, and to give some information that may be relevant to the Board’s plans to update or revise the NH JAM.

II. Content of NH JAM

Table 1 outlines the content outline for the NH JAM. The content outline was adopted by the Board on January 14, 2015.

Table 1. NH JAM Content Outline

Category	Target % of Items
Legislative Intent & Definitions (1000)	4%
Board Powers & Duties (2000)	4%
Licensure & Examination (3000)	30%
Patient Care Management (4000)	32%
Disciplinary Actions & Unlawful Practice (5000)	26%
Consumer Advocacy (6000)	4%

All items on the NH JAM are based on the following resources:

- Physical Therapy Practice Act: Chapter 328-A of the New Hampshire Revised Statutes (RSA)
- NH Physical Therapy Rules: Title Phy of the New Hampshire Code of Administrative Rules

- NH Office of Professional Licensure and Certification Rules: Title Plc of the New Hampshire Code of Administrative Rules
- APTA Code of Ethics for the Physical Therapist
- APTA Standards of Ethical Conduct for the Physical Therapist Assistant

III. Number of NH JAM’s Purchased/Completed

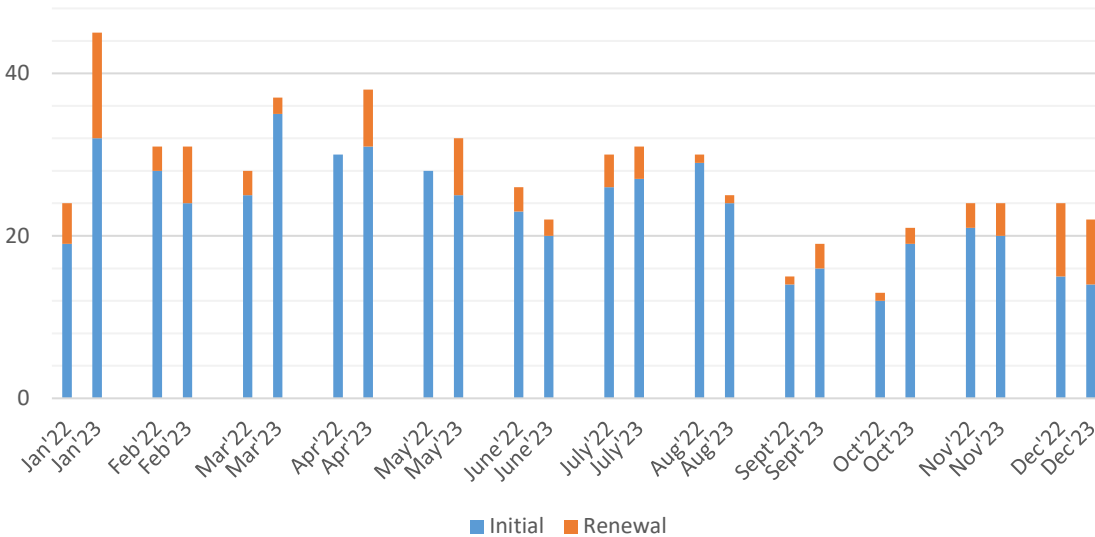
Table 2 compares the total NH JAM’s purchased in 2023 to 2022. Since some individuals completed the NH JAM more than once, the number of NH JAM’s purchased is greater than the number of individuals who completed the NH JAM.

Table 2. Number of NH JAM’s Purchased

Type	2022	2023	Increase/(Decrease)
Initial	270	287	17
Renewal	33	60	27
TOTAL	303	347	44

Chart 1 lists the number of NH JAM’s purchased by month, broken down by initial licensure vs. renewal.

Chart 1. NH JAM's Purchased, by Month



IV. Attempts Needed to Pass NH JAM

Table 3 illustrates the total number of individuals who attempted the NH JAM at least one time for both 2022 and 2023.

Table 3. Attempts Needed to Pass NH JAM

# of Attempts	2022				2023			
	Initial		Renewal		Initial		Renewal	
	Total Individuals	% of Total	Total Individuals	% of Total	Total Individuals	% of Total	Total Individuals	% of Total
1 attempt	244	94.9%	28	93.3%	285	99.7%	57	100.0%
2 attempts	13	5.1%	2	6.7%	1	0.3%	0	0.0%
Did Not Pass	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
TOTAL # of Individuals	257	100.0%	30	100.0%	286	100.0%	57	100.0%

- 100% of individuals passed on the first two attempts
- 99.7% of individuals taking the NH JAM for initial licensure or compact privilege passed on the first attempt. The remaining candidate passed on the second attempt.

V. Past & Future Maintenance and Other Discussion Items

- FSBPT will continue to monitor customer performance on the NH JAM
- FSBPT will work with the Board to review the current content outline to determine if changes are needed
 - Any requested changes might result in need for additional items to ensure appropriate distribution available in the item bank
- FSBPT will update the reference documents, and any NH JAM item, if needed, to reflect changes made to the laws and/or rules.
 - In 2023, updates were made due to the amendments to Phy 400 and the amendments to RSA 328-A:3, 328-A:4, 328-A:7, 328-A:9, 329-A:15 and the repeal of 328-A:12 and 328-A:13.
- FSBPT will evaluate whether additional forms should be developed to be rolled out next year.

Appendix I

Summary of Psychometric Analyses

- The purpose of the appendix is to provide a summary of the psychometric analyses of items on the exam forms of the New Hampshire Jurisprudence Assessment Module (NH JAM). It may be useful to determine whether the NH JAM items are performing as intended by the New Hampshire State Board of Physical Therapy Examiners (New Hampshire Board), and to give some information that may be relevant to the New Hampshire Board’s plans to update or revise the NH JAM examination.
- There are currently two live NH JAM forms, each with 50 scored items. The two live forms are NHJ003 and NHJ004.
- Twenty-four scored items were identified for review across the two forms.
- Data was based on the responses of 345 candidates (303 PT level candidates and 42 PTA candidates), all candidates who took the most recent NH JAM exam forms from November 2, 2022, to November 2, 2023.
- Item analyses for classical test theory (CTT) and item response theory (IRT) only include data from candidates who graduated from U.S. programs and took the NPTE no more than two times.
- One common way to examine the psychometric quality of an examination is through reliability analyses. We report three reliability indexes here.
 - KR20 is an internal consistency measure of proportion of score differences that can be attributed to differences among examinees as opposed to differences within persons among questions on the examination. This is a common index used in reliability analysis for examinations with multiple-choice items with dichotomous scoring, and therefore is reported here, but it better suited to tests where examinees are rank-ordered as opposed to assessments with a cut score. The KR20 ranged from 0.64 to 0.68 across the two forms.
 - The Standard Error of Measurement (SEM), which is a measure of the expected variation in the number of questions a candidate is expected to answer correctly on any given form of the assessment. The SEM ranges from 2.47 to 2.75 across the two forms.
 - Livingston’s Kappa (K^2) is an estimate of the consistency of decisions based on the assessment, which is more appropriate than KR20 for assessments with a passing score. K^2 ranges from .89 to .91 across the two forms.
 - These values are included in Table 4 below.

Table 4. Test Reliability

Form	KR20	SEM	K^2
NHJ003	0.64	2.47	0.91
NHJ004	0.68	2.75	0.89

- It might be possible to improve the reliability of the assessment by revising items that are very easy, very difficult, or for which higher scoring candidates tend to answer incorrectly. See the Item Analysis section for these recommendations.
- Item Analysis

- The item analysis examined response patterns associated with each item to determine if the item had statistical performance issues and could be improved.
- The item analysis generally identifies one of the five reasons listed below to indicate than an item should be reviewed:
 1. Proportion of candidates correctly answering the items is above 99%, indicating the item might not have plausible distractors.
 2. Proportion of candidates correctly answering the items is below 20%, indicating the item might be confusing, miskeyed, or out-of-date.
 3. Item-total correlation less than 0.06, indicating that answering the item correctly does not correlate with scores on the rest of the test and the item might be vague or miskeyed.
 4. Proportion of candidates choosing a specific distractor is greater than 10% and item-total correlation of this distractor is greater than 0.05, indicating that the item might be miskeyed or have more than one correct answer.
 5. Items with a large change in item difficulty from the previous year ($|\Delta| > .50$ on the standardized theta difficulty scale).
- Items can be flagged for review based on more than one of these criteria.
- Twenty-four scored items were identified for review across the two forms. Those twenty-four flagged items are listed in Table 5 below.
- FSBPT staff are available to review these items with the jurisdiction to determine if changes are necessary.

Table 5. Items Identified for Review Based on Statistical Performance

Item #	Form	2023 Item Difficulty	2022 Item Difficulty	Difficulty Change from 2022 to 2023	2023 Proportion Correct	Point-biserial Correlation	Reason(s)
NHJ000010	NHJ004	3.10	3.19		16%	0.33	2
NHJ000014	NHJ003	0.86	0.08	0.78	51%	0.28	5
NHJ000021	NHJ003	-2.55	-1.99	-0.56	96%	0.11	5
NHJ000030	NHJ003	-0.03	0.59	-0.63	70%	0.18	5
NHJ000032	NHJ003	2.86	3.06		11%	0.30	2
NHJ000034	NHJ003	-4.19	-3.91		99%	0.03	1, 3
NHJ000043	NHJ003	2.49	2.49		16%	0.38	2
NHJ000044	NHJ003	0.85	-0.67	1.51	51%	0.36	5
NHJ000049	NHJ003	-1.19	-1.38		88%	0.03	3
NHJ000055	NHJ003	-2.43	-2.50		96%	-0.01	3
NHJ000056	NHJ004	-0.30	-1.07	0.77	77%	0.10	5
NHJ000061	NHJ003	-0.35	-0.45		81%	0.02	3
NHJ000065	NHJ003	-4.18	-3.50	-0.68	99%	0.03	1, 3, 5
NHJ000067	NHJ003	2.88	2.84		17%	0.25	2, 4 (4)
NHJ000068	NHJ003	-4.18	-2.71	-1.48	99%	0.05	1, 3, 5

NHJ000069	NHJ004	-2.19	-1.91		95%	0.04	3
NHJ000075	NHJ004	4.02	3.47	0.56	6%	0.04	2, 3, 5
NHJ000077	NHJ004	2.39	2.47		17%	0.37	2
NHJ000081	NHJ004	3.10	2.69		13%	0.35	2, 4 (3)
NHJ000083	NHJ004	-0.49	-1.99	1.50	80%	0.22	5
NHJ000087	NHJ004	-0.68	-0.68		85%	0.09	4 (4)
NHJ000090	NHJ004	-1.02	-1.77	0.74	87%	0.25	5
NHJ000091	NHJ003	1.10	0.93		57%	0.02	3
NHJ000098	NHJ004	-2.38	-3.29	0.92	96%	0.22	5

The item statistics flagged for statistics outside of the desired specifications are in bold and the reason number is indicated in the column titled "Reason(s)"

1. *Too easy: 99% or more candidates answered the item correctly*
2. *Too hard: less than 20% of candidates answered the item correctly*
3. *Low item-total correlation: Item-total correlation less than 0.06*
4. *Possible correct distractor: More than 10% of candidates choose a specific distractor and the item-total correlation of this distractor is greater than 0.05. The flagged distractor(s) are listed in parentheses.*
5. *Difficulty change: Difficulty is $|>.50|$ from the previous year*