

APTA PTA Advanced Proficiency Pathways Program

Aggregate Program Data

2025 APTA PTA Advanced Proficiency Pathways Program Fact Sheet



Aggregate Program Data



Introduction

This fact sheet is designed to provide the education community with current and historical information about Advanced Proficiency Pathways program of the American Physical Therapy Association. The data included in this fact sheet is taken from enrollment application and enrollment portfolio submissions from physical therapist assistants participating in the program.

Published August 12, 2026

Last Updated August 2026

This publication is only available online. To download, view, and print the report as a PDF file, go to the Advanced Proficiency Pathways Home Page linked below.

[PTA Advanced Proficiency Pathways Home Page](#)

CONTACT:

[Ian Hunter](#)

Table of Contents

Enrollment Application Data	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Final Program Portfolio Submission Data	5
2025 Enrollment Application Demographic Profile	10

Glossary

The following terms are provided to support interpretation of data presented in this report. For additional definitions, refer to the [APTA Master Glossary of Terms Related to Certification and Assessment](#).

Advanced Proficiency Pathways (APP)

A structured professional development program for physical therapist assistants (PTAs) designed to recognize advanced clinical knowledge, skills, and experience in a defined practice area.

Aggregate Data

Data compiled from multiple participants, practice areas, or reporting periods and presented in summary form.

Enrollment Application

A submitted request by a PTA to enter an Advanced Proficiency Pathway within a given year; may include multiple applications across pathways or years.

Enrollment Year

The designated year in which a participant applies to and begins participation in an Advanced Proficiency Pathway.

Final Portfolio Submission

The comprehensive documentation submitted by a participant demonstrating completion of pathway requirements, including evidence of advanced proficiency.

Portfolio Approved

A final portfolio that has been reviewed and accepted as meeting all requirements of the Advanced Proficiency Pathway.

Pathway (Specialty Area)

A defined area of clinical focus within the APP program (e.g., Acute Care, Orthopedics, Neurology) through which PTAs complete advanced proficiency requirements.

Participant

A physical therapist assistant enrolled in an Advanced Proficiency Pathway.

Completed a Pathway

A participant who has successfully met all program requirements, including approval of the final portfolio, and is recognized as having achieved advanced proficiency in that pathway.

Applications (Total Applications)

The total number of enrollment applications submitted across all pathways within a reporting year; may exceed the number of unique participants.

Unknown (Data Category)

A designation used in demographic or employment tables when information is not reported or unavailable for a given participant.

Enrollment Application Data

Enrollment Application Numbers

Figure 1. Number of Enrollment Applications by Year Across All Eight Pathways

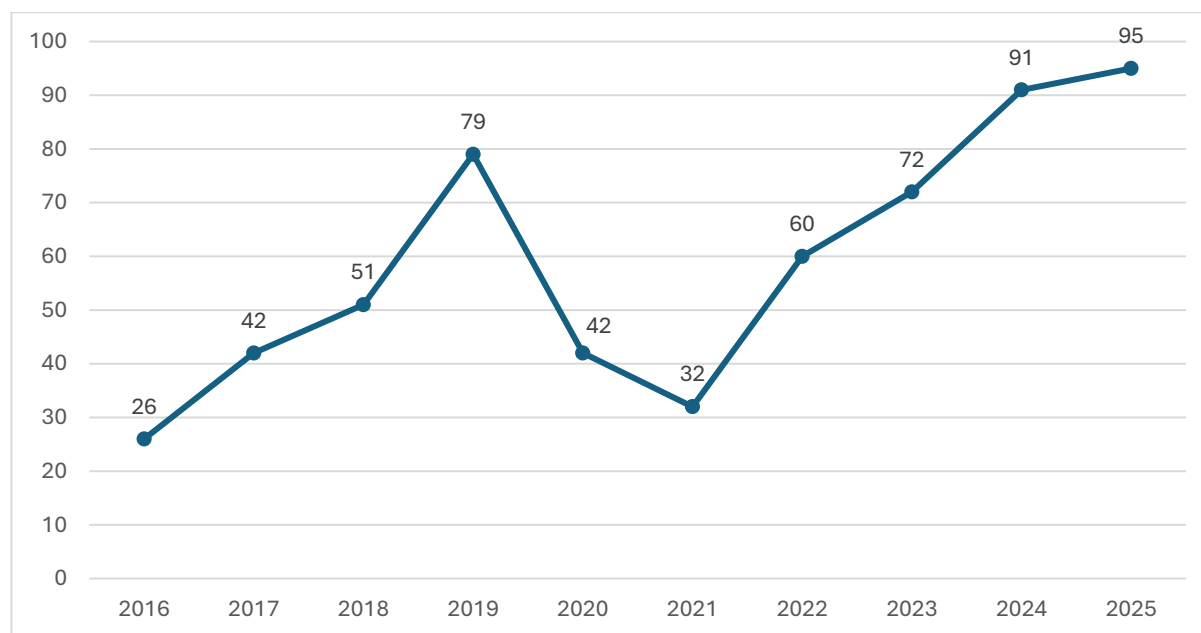


Figure 2. Number of Acute Care Enrollment Applications by Year

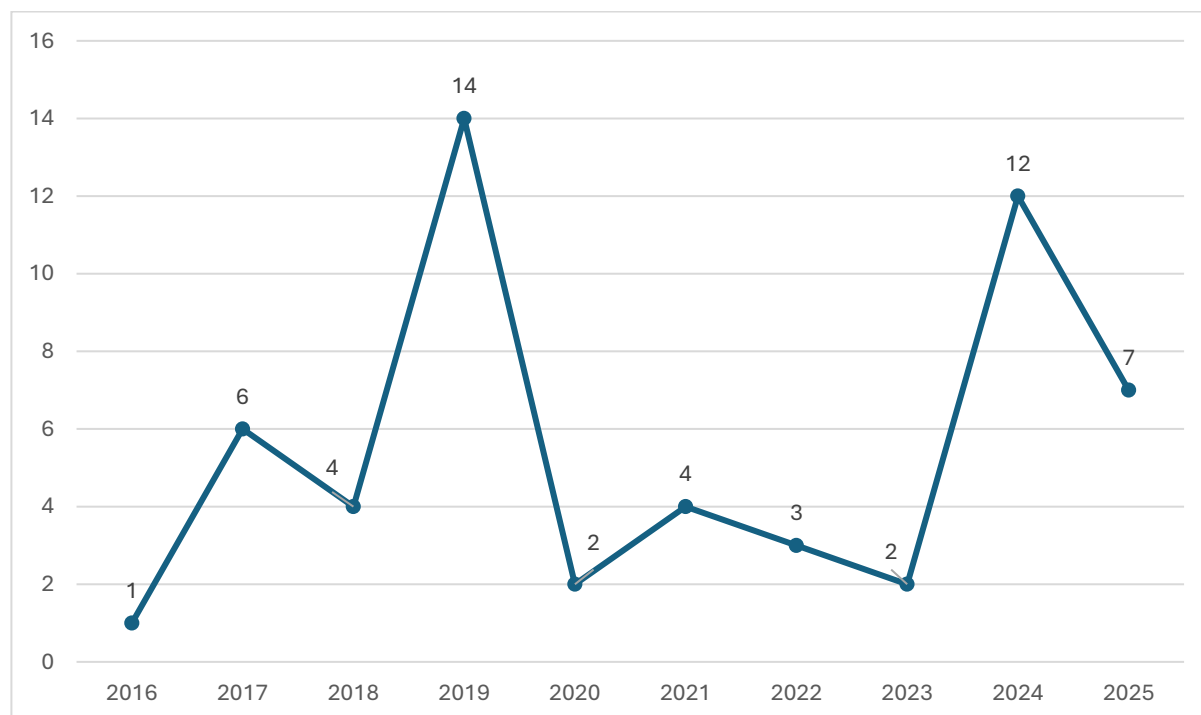


Figure 3. Number of Cardiovascular and Pulmonary Enrollment Applications by Year

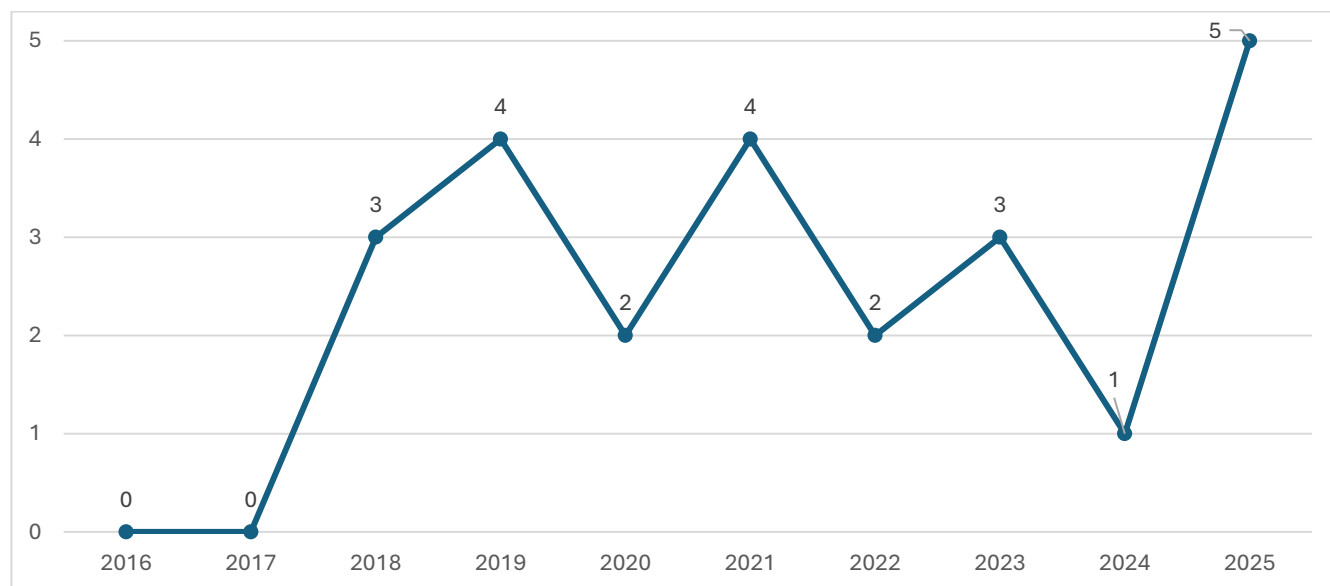


Figure 4. Number of Geriatric Enrollment Applications by Year

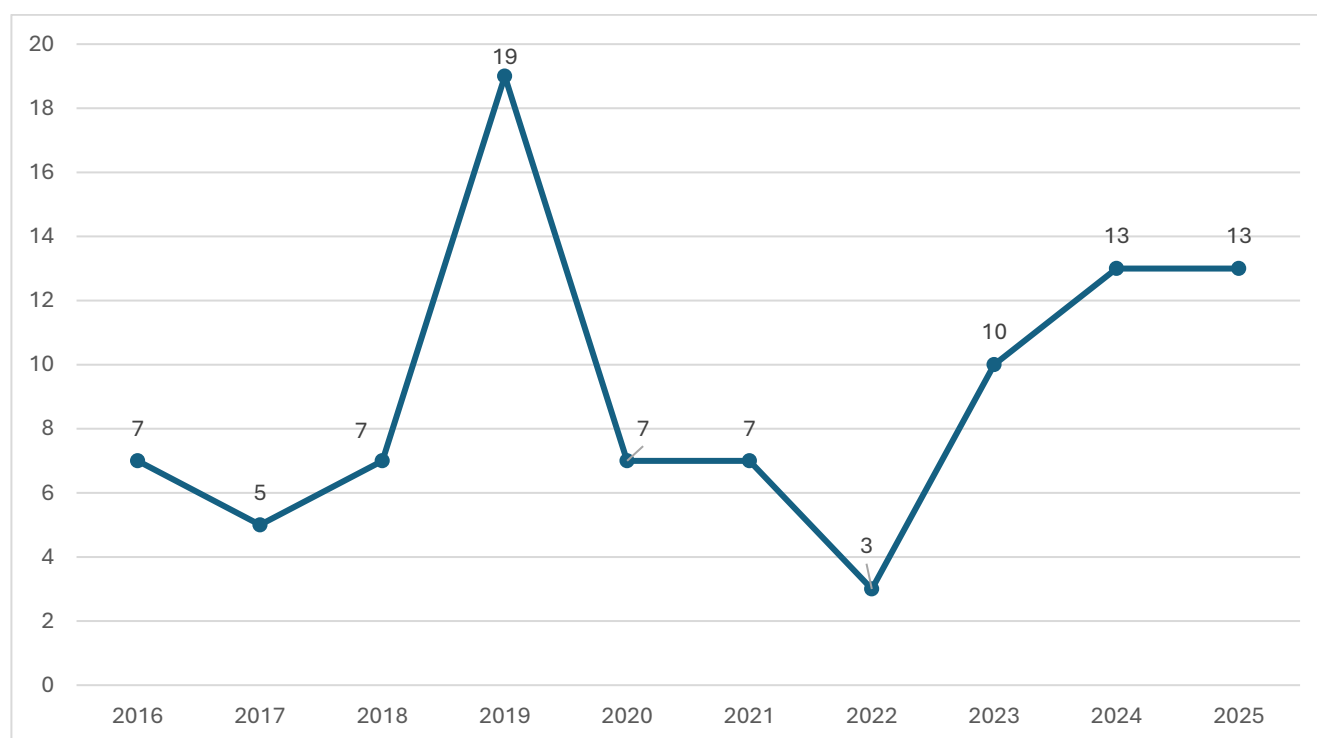


Figure 5. Number of Neurology Enrollment Applications by Year

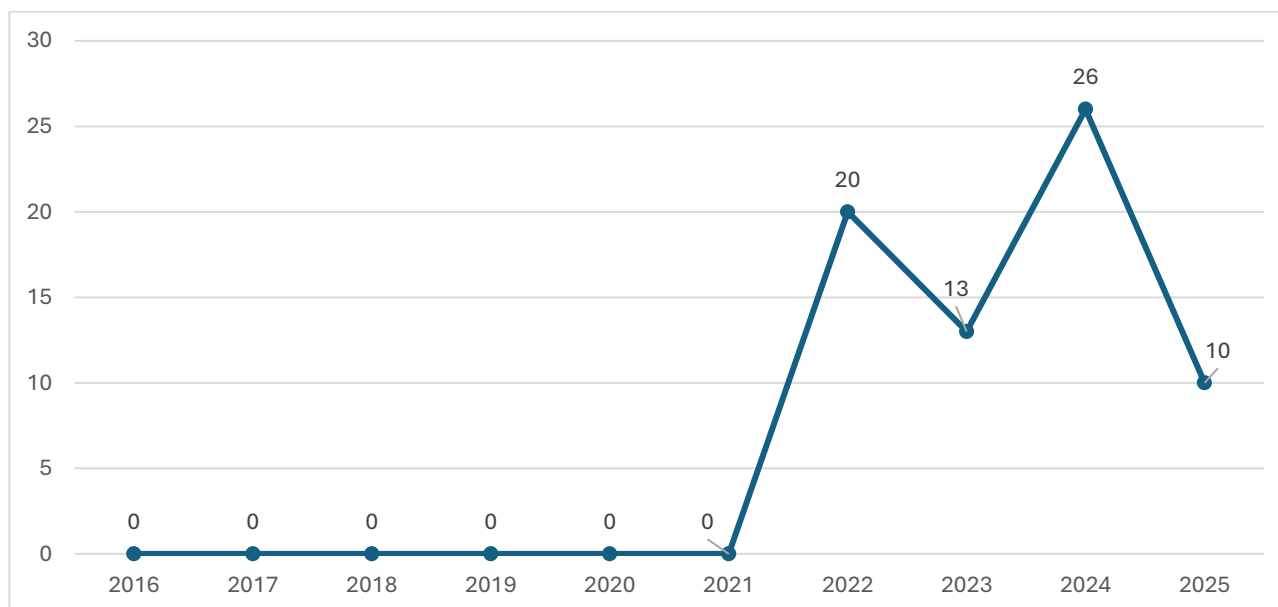


Figure 6. Number of Oncology Enrollment Applications by Year

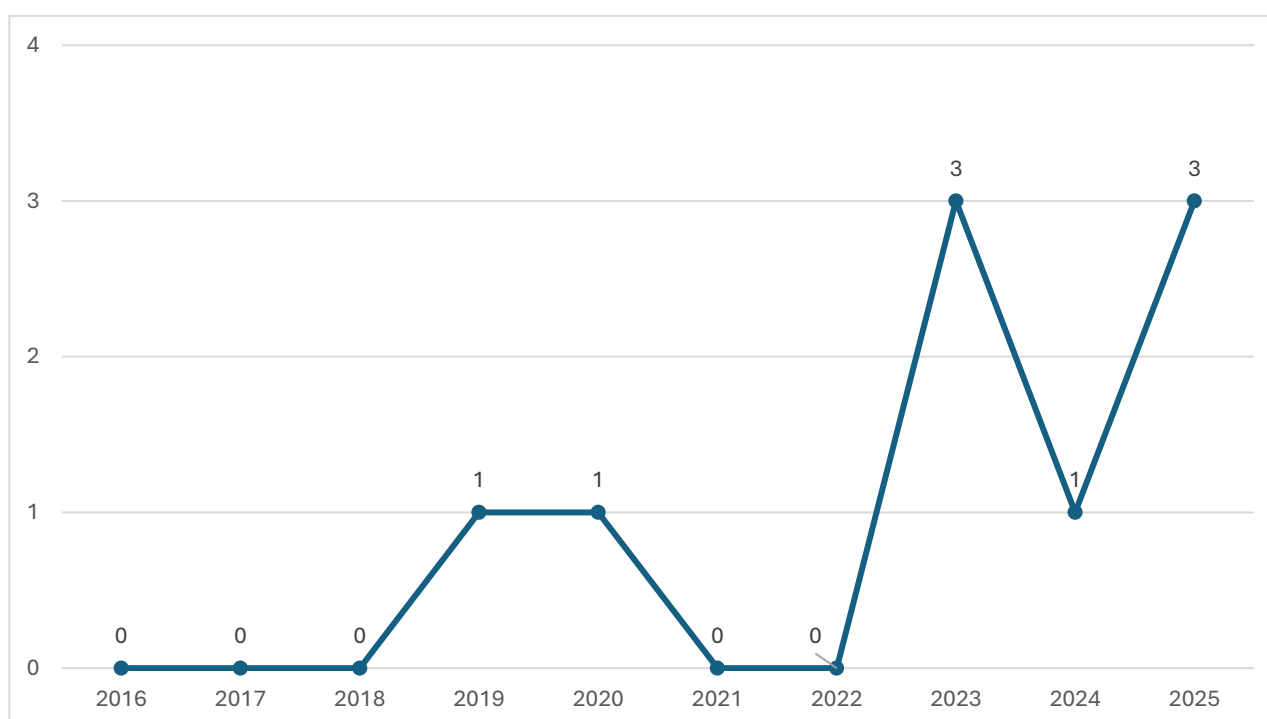


Figure 7. Number of Orthopedics Enrollment Applications by Year

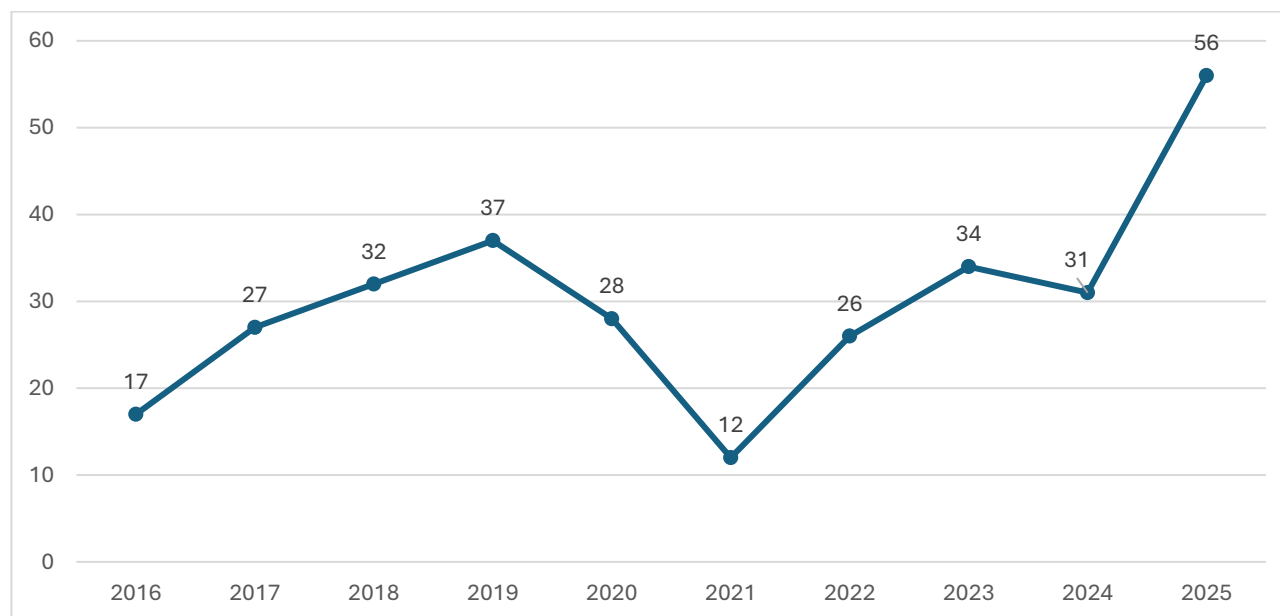


Figure 8. Number of Pediatrics Enrollment Applications by Year

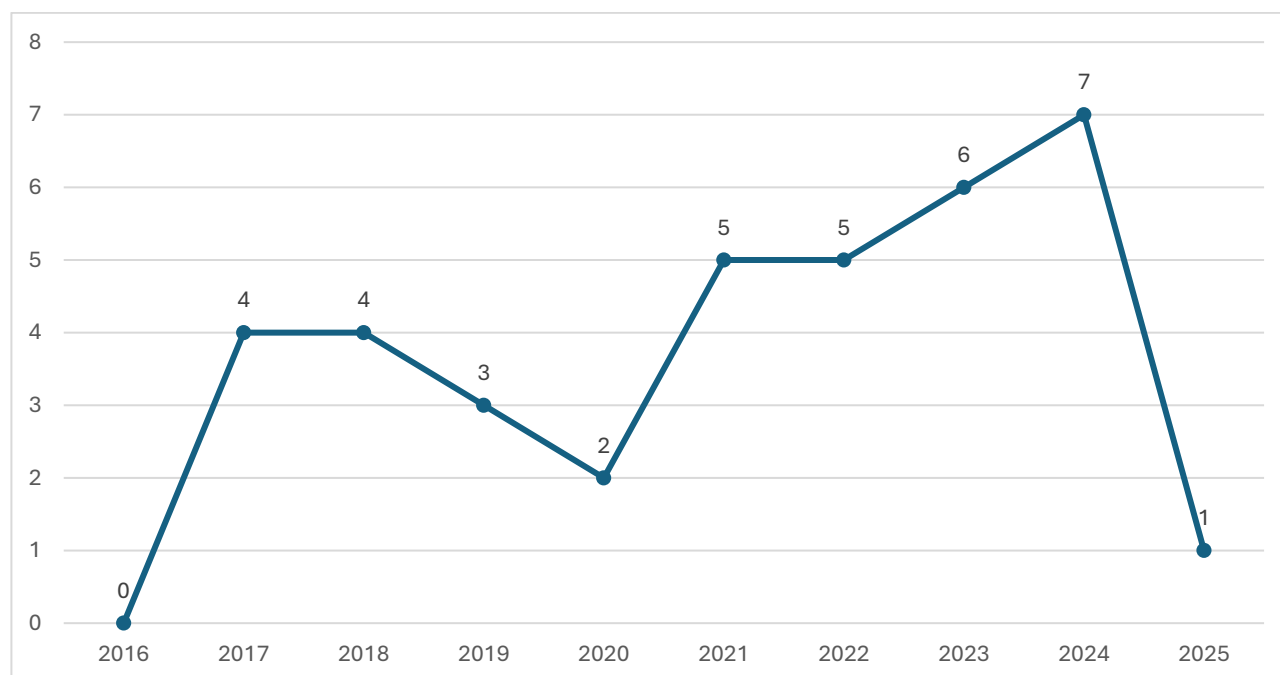
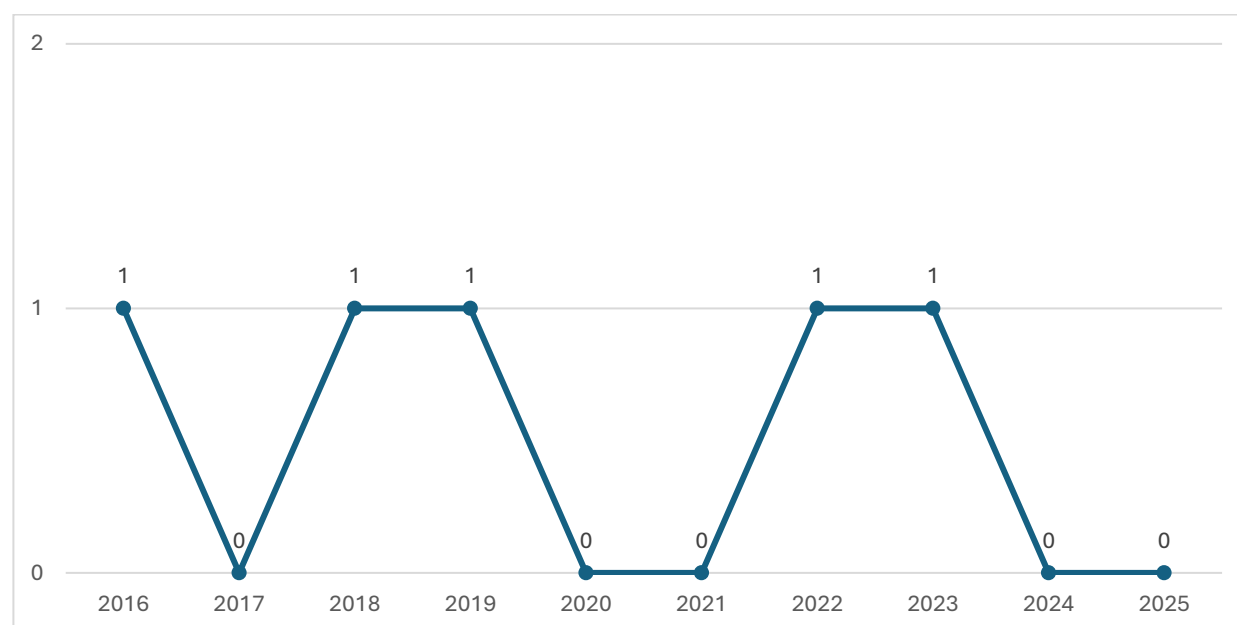


Figure 9. Number of Wound Management Enrollment Applications by Year



Final Program Portfolio Submission Data

Final Portfolio Submission Numbers

Figure 10. Number of Portfolios Approved by Year Across All Eight Pathways

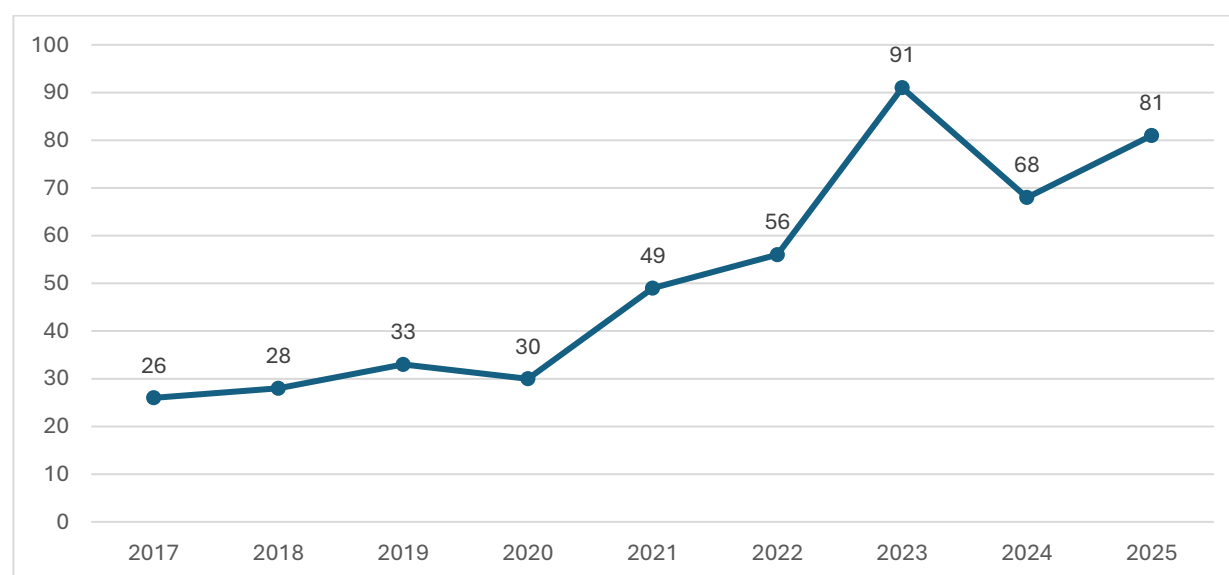


Figure 11. Number of Acute Care Portfolios Approved by Year

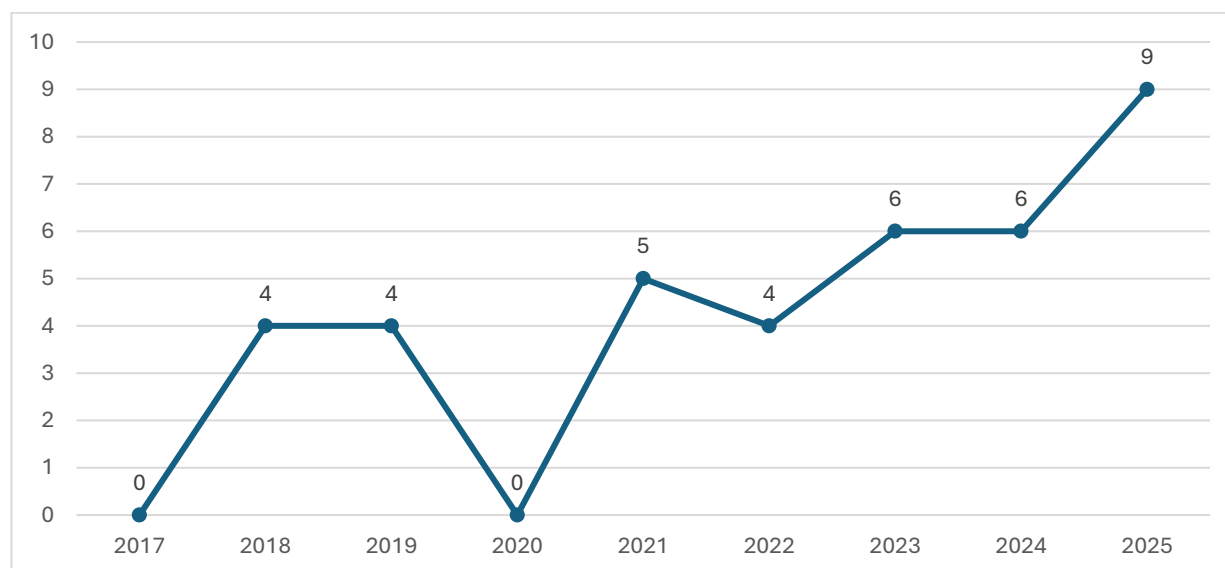


Figure 12. Number of Cardiovascular and Pulmonary Portfolios Approved by Year

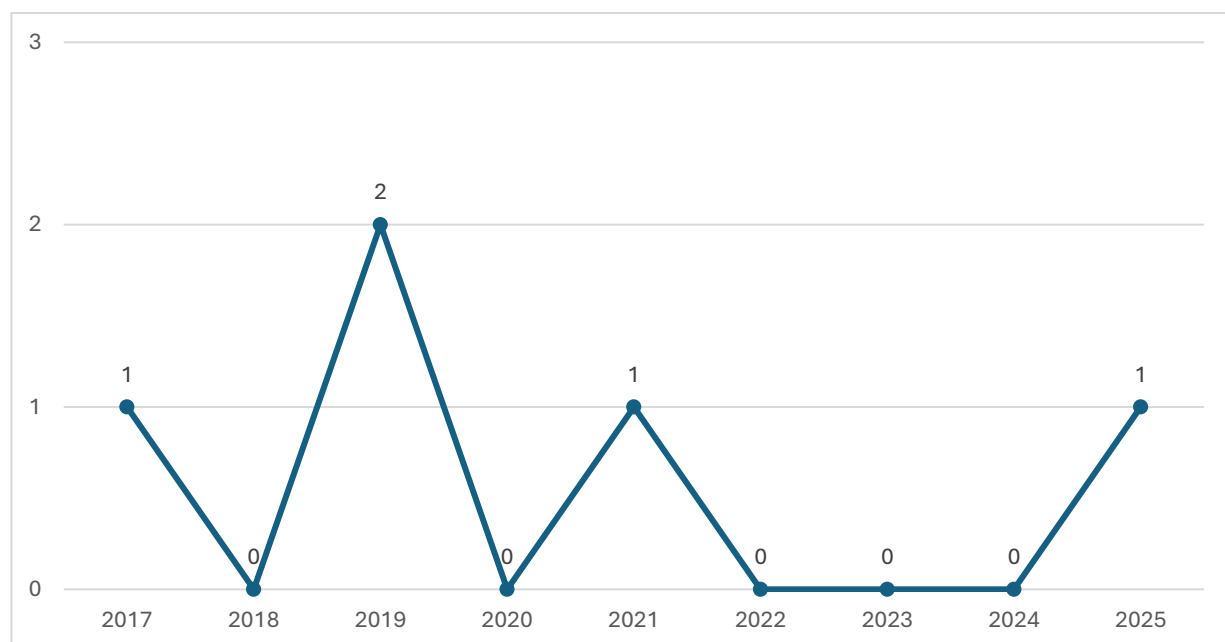


Figure 13. Number of Geriatrics Portfolios Approved by Year

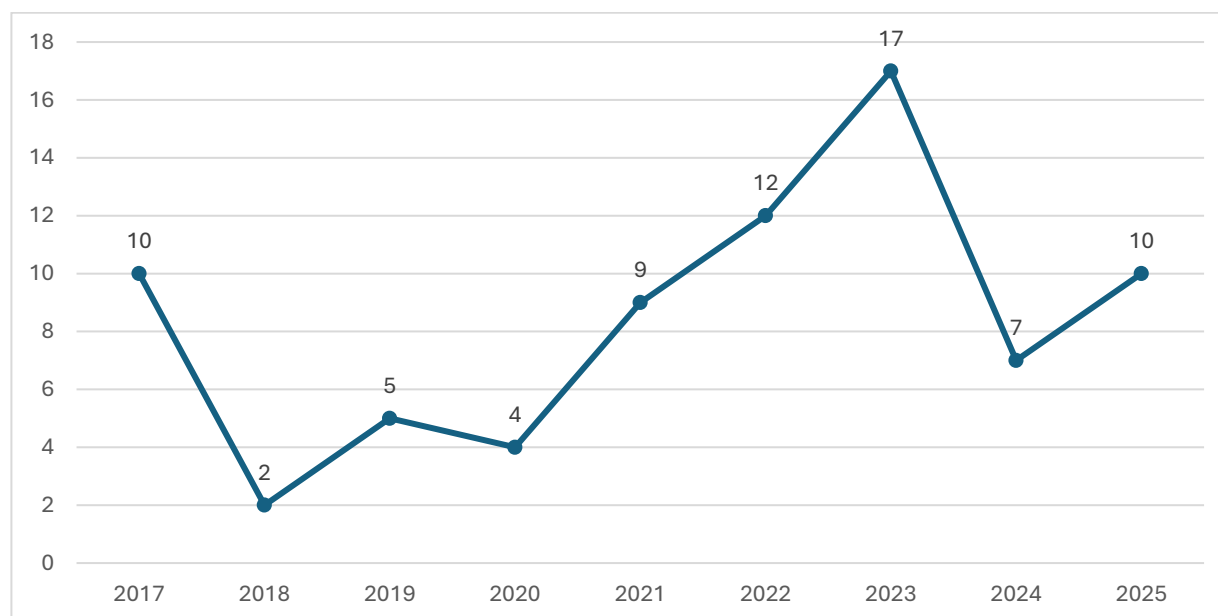


Figure 14. Number of Neurology Portfolios Approved by Year

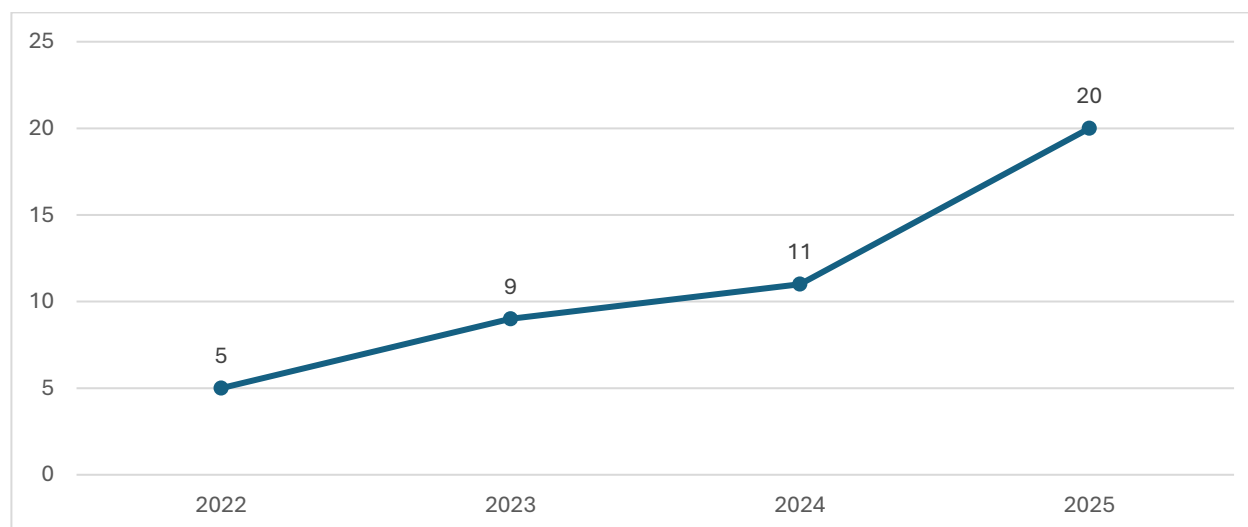


Figure 15. Number of Oncology Portfolios Approved by Year

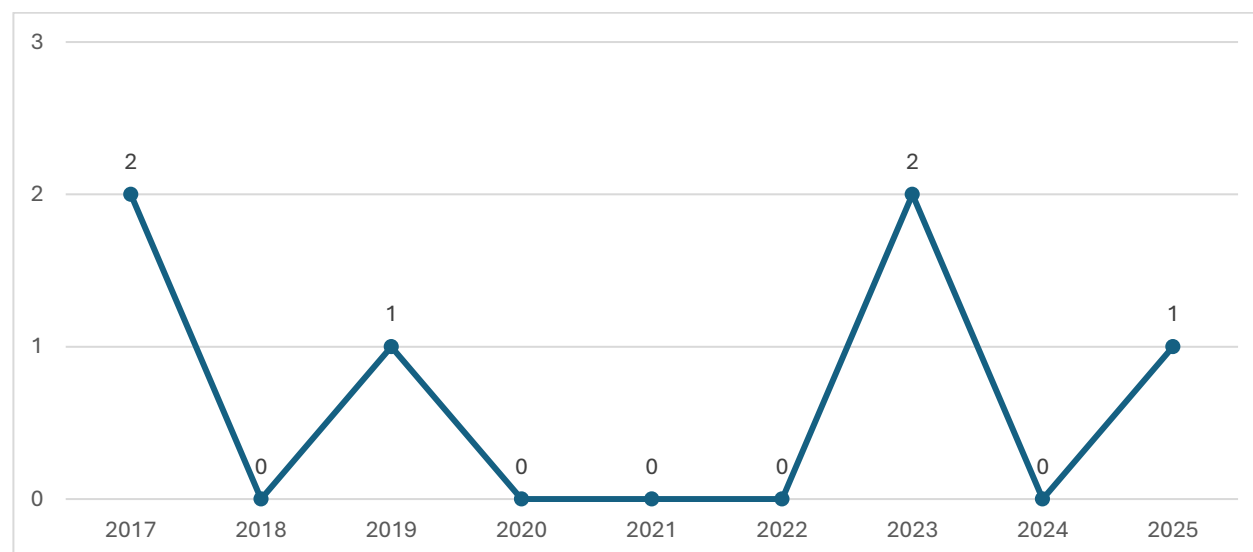


Figure 16. Number of Orthopedics Portfolios Approved by Year

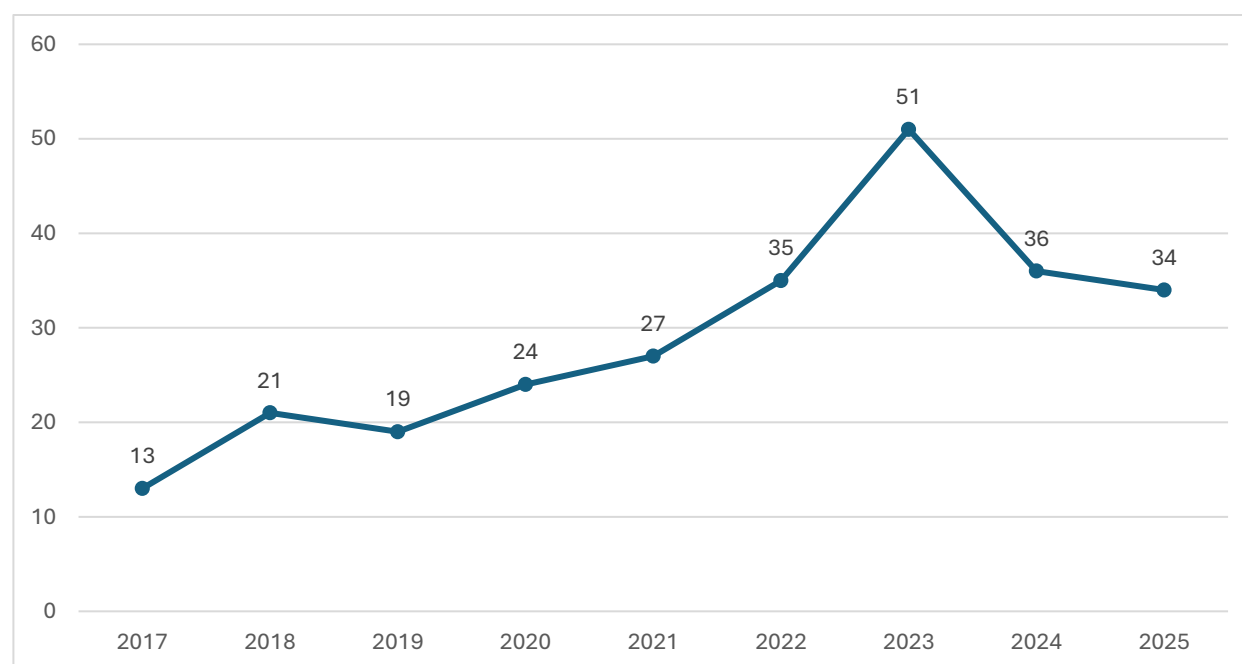


Figure 17. Number of Pediatrics Portfolios Approved by Year

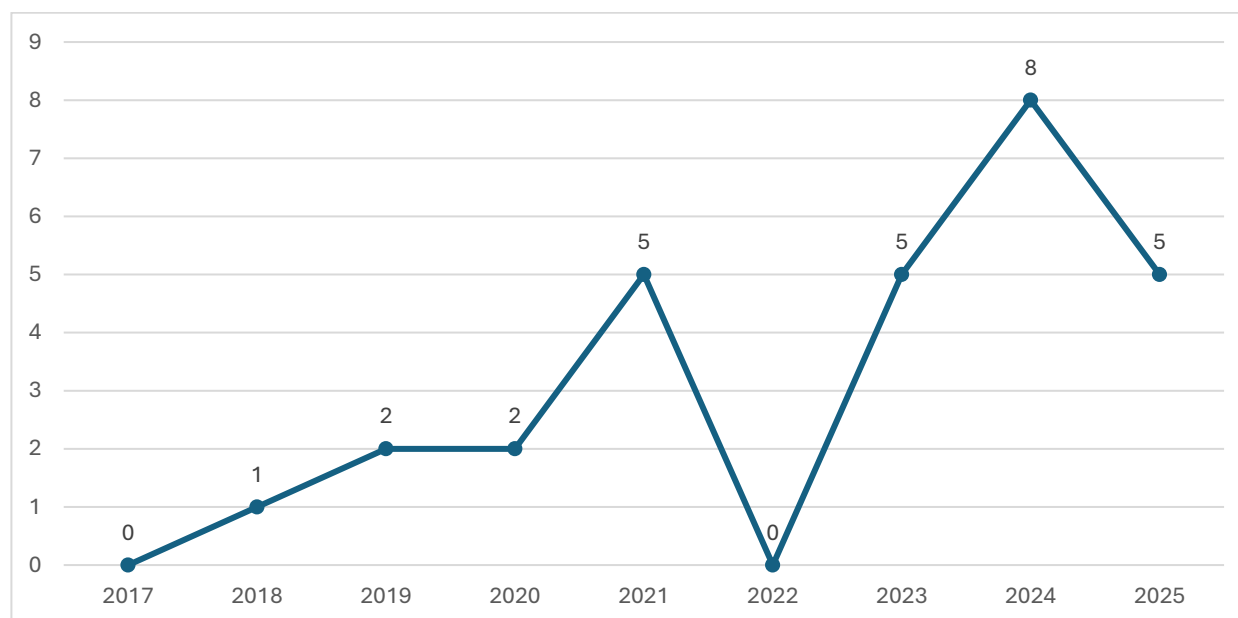
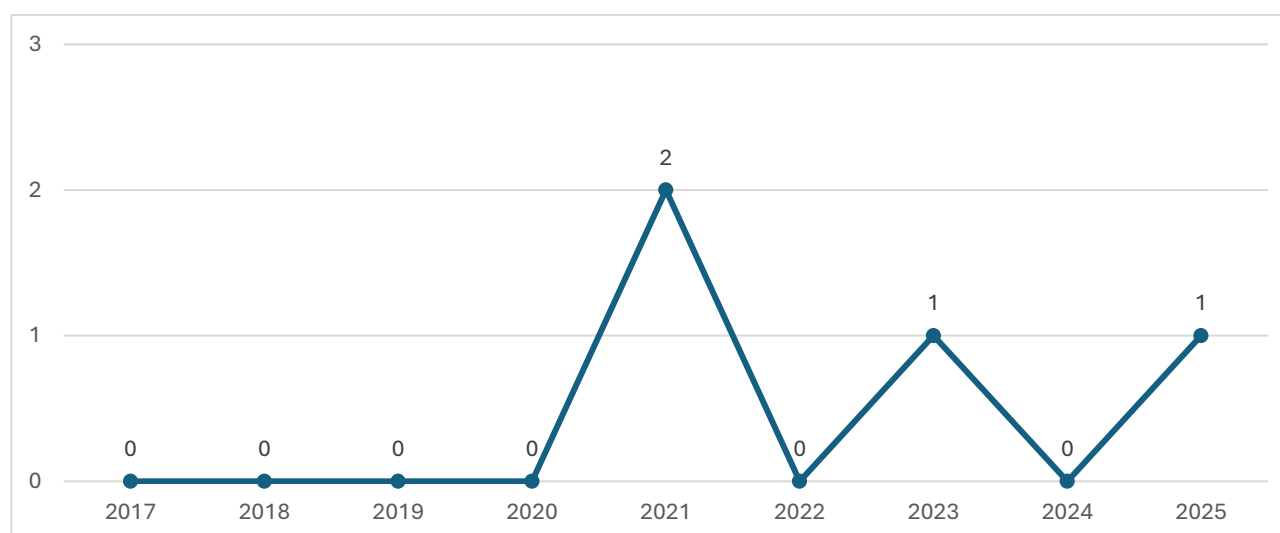


Figure 18. Number of Wound Management Portfolios Approved by Year.



2025 Enrollment Application Demographic Profile

Figure 19. Gender (N=95)

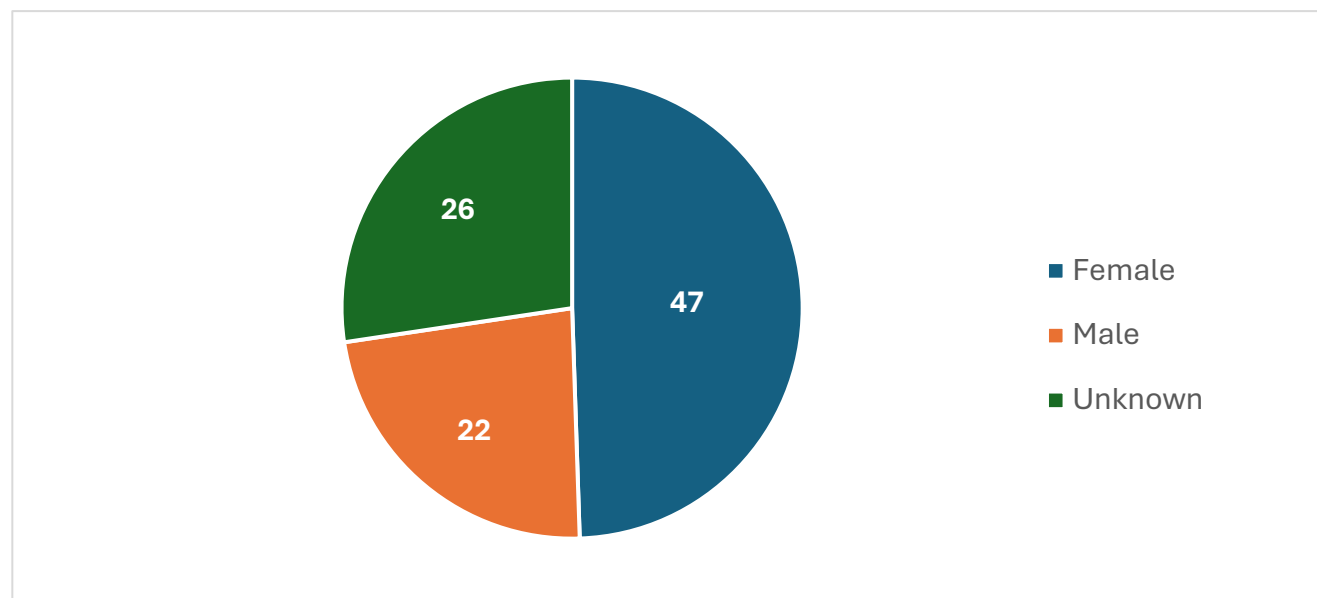


Table 1. Race/Ethnicity (N=95)

Race/Ethnicity	Number (Percentage)
American Indian/Alaska Native	0.00%
Asian	4.21%
Black or African American	1.05%
Hispanic/Latino	10.53%
Pacific Islander or Native Hawaiian	0.00%
White	53.68%
Other	1.05%
Unknown	29.47%

Table 2. Generation (N=117)

Generation	Number (Percentage)
Baby boomers (1946-1964)	2.11%
Generation X (1965-1981)	17.89%
Millennials (1982-2001)	55.79%
Unknown	24.21%

Table 3. Employment Status (N=117)

Employment Status	Number (Percentage)
Full-time hourly	63.16%
Part-time hourly	2.11%
Full-time salaried	16.84%
Part-time salaried	0.00%
Full-time self-employed	0.00%
Part-time self-employed	0.00%
Unemployed/not seeking work	0.00%
Unemployed/seeking FT employment	0.00%
Unemployed/seeking PT employment	0.00%
Retired	0.00%
Unknown	17.89%

Table 4. Employment Setting (N=95)

Employment Setting	Number (Percentage)
Acute care hospital	20.00%
Industry	0.00%
Inpatient rehab facility	2.11%
Hospital-based outpatient facility or clinic	24.21%
Private outpatient office or group practice	23.16%
Skilled nursing facility/long-term care	6.32%
Patient's home/home care	2.11%
School system (preschool/primary/secondary)	1.05%
Academic institution (postsecondary)	0.00%
Health and wellness facility	2.11%
Other	0.00%
Unknown	18.95%

Table 5. Total Number of PTAs Who Have Completed a Pathway by Specialty as of Dec. 31, 2025

Specialty Area	Number
Acute Care	41
Cardiovascular and Pulmonary	7
Geriatrics	82
Neurology	51
Oncology	6
Orthopedics	272
Pediatrics	28
Wound Management	4
Total	491

Last Updated: 8/10/2026

Contact: ptaapps@apta.org