ARC-PA

Accreditation Review Commission on Education
for the Physician Assistant, Inc.

ANNUAL PUBLICATION

2023

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Message from the Executive Director

On behalf of the Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant (ARC-PA), we are pleased to share our annual report, a comprehensive resource designed to provide valuable insights into the current landscape of PA education. This report is filled with key data and trends that we hope will support your program's ongoing efforts in achieving excellence in the education of students, accreditation outcomes, and faculty development.

The information within this report offers a broad perspective on essential areas such as faculty composition, program budgets, and accreditation results. By understanding where your program aligns within these benchmarks, we hope you gain meaningful context for decision-making, strategic planning, and fostering continuous improvement. As the PA profession continues to grow and evolve, our shared commitment to quality education remains at the heart of advancing patient care.

We extend our gratitude for your dedication to PA education and your continued collaboration with ARC-PA. Together, we can ensure that PA programs remain strong, adaptive, and well-equipped to meet the needs of our students and the healthcare communities in which they will serve.

Sharon Luke, EdD, PA-C

Executive Director

ARC-PA

About

The Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant (ARC-PA) is the accrediting agency that protects the interests of the public and the Physician Assistant/Physician Associate (PA) profession by defining the standards for PA education and evaluating PA educational programs within the territorial United States to ensure their compliance with those standards.

The ARC-PA is an independent accrediting body authorized to accredit qualified PA educational programs leading to the professional credential, PA. Accreditation is a process of quality assurance that determines whether the program meets established standards for function, structure and performance. The ARC-PA does not accredit any academic degree awarded by the sponsoring institution of the PA program.

The ARC-PA encourages excellence in PA education through its accreditation process by establishing and maintaining standards of quality for educational programs. It awards accreditation to programs through a peer review process that includes documentation and periodic site visit evaluation to substantiate compliance with the Accreditation Standards for Physician Assistant Education. The accreditation process is designed to encourage sound educational practices and innovation by programs and to stimulate continuous self-study and improvement.

In addition to establishing educational standards and fostering excellence in PA programs, the ARC-PA provides information and guidance to individuals and organizations regarding PA program accreditation.

The ARC-PA is recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA). The CHEA scope of recognition is for programs preparing individuals for entry into PA practice located in institutions in the U.S. that are accredited by recognized regional accrediting bodies. The CHEA scope does not cover the accreditation of clinical postgraduate PA programs.

Geographic Scope

The ARC-PA only accredits qualified PA programs offered by, or located within, institutions chartered by, and physically located within, the United States, and where students are geographically located within the United States for their education. (The United States are defined as "the fifty States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, the Virgin Islands, American Samoa, Wake Island, the Midway Islands, Kingman Reef, and Johnston Island." A program may satisfy the requirement of *supervised clinical practice experiences* through medical facilities located in the *United States* and through a limited number of medical facilities that are accredited by the United States Joint Commission and operated by the American government under a signed Status of Forces Agreement with the host nation.)

The ARC-PA does not accredit educational programs leading to the PA credential in institutions that are chartered outside the United States or programs provided in foreign countries by ARC-PA accredited U.S. PA programs.

Data Collection and Methodology

Introduction

ARC-PA has consistently collected data on PA programs that have applied and wish to continue with being accredited as part of the necessary steps for programs to obtain and maintain accreditation. In 2021, ARC-PA took steps to enhance data analysis and reporting efforts in response to the need for more transparency and increased communication between ARC-PA and the programs it accredits. This report extends this goal with data compiled from 2023. The data is gathered through data input into the secure portal within ARC-PA's website, from required site visits for accreditation purposes, and reviews completed at commission meetings.

Data Analysis

The information reflected in this report includes aggregated data collected from the required annual submission of program information from accredited PA programs and ARC-PA commission meetings. Entry Level Program commission meetings occurred in March, June, and September of 2023. Post-Graduate commission meetings occurred in February, June, and September of 2023. Eligible programs were required to submit their annual report by 15 December 2023 (n=302). Entry Level Programs that were awarded provisional accreditation in the June and September commission meetings are not required to submit a report (at that date) and thus are not included in the aggregate analysis. Post-graduate programs awarded provisional accreditation have not been required to submit an annual report, thus the data presented is limited to information ascertained from the Post-Graduate commission meetings and reported data in the Portal.

The data was examined for consistency, potential errors, and in certain cases, absence of data. Some information requested is not required to be shared or applicable to certain programs. Therefore, for programs with obvious error, inconclusive data, or lack of a data point, the data was not included in the final analysis, and the number of programs in each data set may vary.

Entry Level Programs

Geographic Distribution

Distribution of Accredited Programs by State (n=306)

2023 # of Programs

0   14.5   29
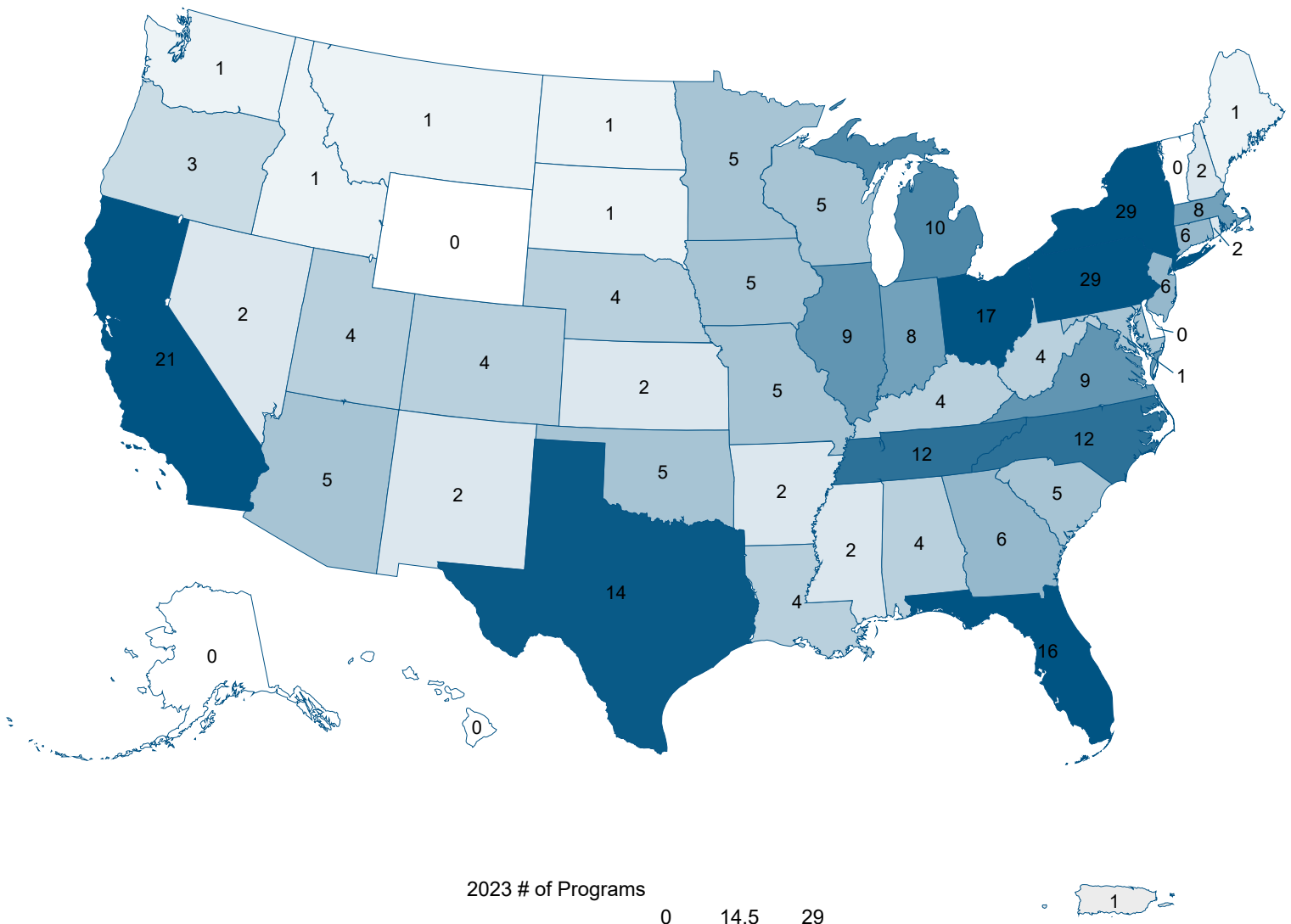
Look out for this symbol throughout the publication for extra data or insights!

Entry Level Programs

Geographic Distribution

Region	Division	State	N	% Total	New	% Change
Midwest			**72**	**23.53%**	**1**	**1.41%**
	East North Central		**49**	**16.01%**	**0**	**0.00%**
		IL	9	2.94%	0	0.00%
		IN	8	2.61%	0	0.00%
		MI	10	3.27%	0	0.00%
		OH	17	5.56%	0	0.00%
		WI	5	1.63%	0	0.00%
	West North Central		**23**	**7.52%**	**1**	**4.55%**
		IA	5	1.63%	0	0.00%
		KS	2	0.65%	0	0.00%
		MN	5	1.63%	0	0.00%
		MO	5	1.63%	1	25.00%
		ND	1	0.33%	0	0.00%
		NE	4	1.31%	0	0.00%
		SD	1	0.33%	0	0.00%
Northeast			**83**	27.12%	**0**	**0.00%**
	Middle Atlantic		**64**	**20.92%**	**0**	**0.00%**
		NJ	6	1.96%	0	0.00%
		NY	29	9.48%	0	0.00%
		PA	29	9.48%	0	0.00%
	New England		**19**	**6.21%**	**0**	**0.00%**
		CT	6	1.96%	0	0.00%
		MA	8	2.61%	0	0.00%
		ME	1	0.33%	0	0.00%
		NH	2	0.65%	0	0.00%
		RI	2	0.65%	0	0.00%

Entry Level Programs

Geographic Distribution

Region	Division	State	N	% Total	New	% Change
South			106	34.64%	3	2.91%
	East South Central		22	7.19%	0	0.00%
		AL	4	1.31%	0	0.00%
		KY	4	1.31%	0	0.00%
		MS	2	0.65%	0	0.00%
		TN	12	3.92%	0	0.00%
	South Atlantic		59	19.28%	1	1.72%
		DC	2	0.65%	1	100.00%
		FL	16	5.23%	0	0.00%
		GA	6	1.96%	0	0.00%
		MD	5	1.63%	1	25.00%
		NC	12	3.92%	0	0.00%
		SC	5	1.63%	0	0.00%
		VA	9	2.94%	0	0.00%
		WV	4	1.31%	-1	-20.00%
	West South Central		25	8.17%	2	8.70%
		AR	2	0.65%	0	0.00%
		LA	4	1.31%	0	0.00%
		OK	5	1.63%	0	0.00%
		TX	14	4.58%	2	16.67%

Entry Level Programs

Geographic Distribution

| Region	Division	State	N	% Total	New	% Change
West			**44**	**14.38%**	**2**	**4.76%**
	Mountain		**19**	**6.21%**	**1**	**5.56%**
		AZ	5	1.63%	1	25.00%
		CO	4	1.31%	0	0.00%
		ID	1	0.33%	0	0.00%
		MT	1	0.33%	0	0.00%
		NM	2	0.65%	0	0.00%
		NV	2	0.65%	0	0.00%
		UT	4	1.31%	0	0.00%
	Pacific		**25**	**8.17%**	**1**	**4.17%**
		CA	21	6.86%	1	5.00%
		OR	3	0.98%	0	0.00%
		WA	1	0.33%	0	0.00%
US Territory			**1**	**0.33%**	**0**	**0.00%**
		PR	1	0.33%	0	0.00%
TOTAL			**306**		**6**	**2.00%**

Entry Level Programs

Accreditation Demographics

Cumulative Accredited Programs
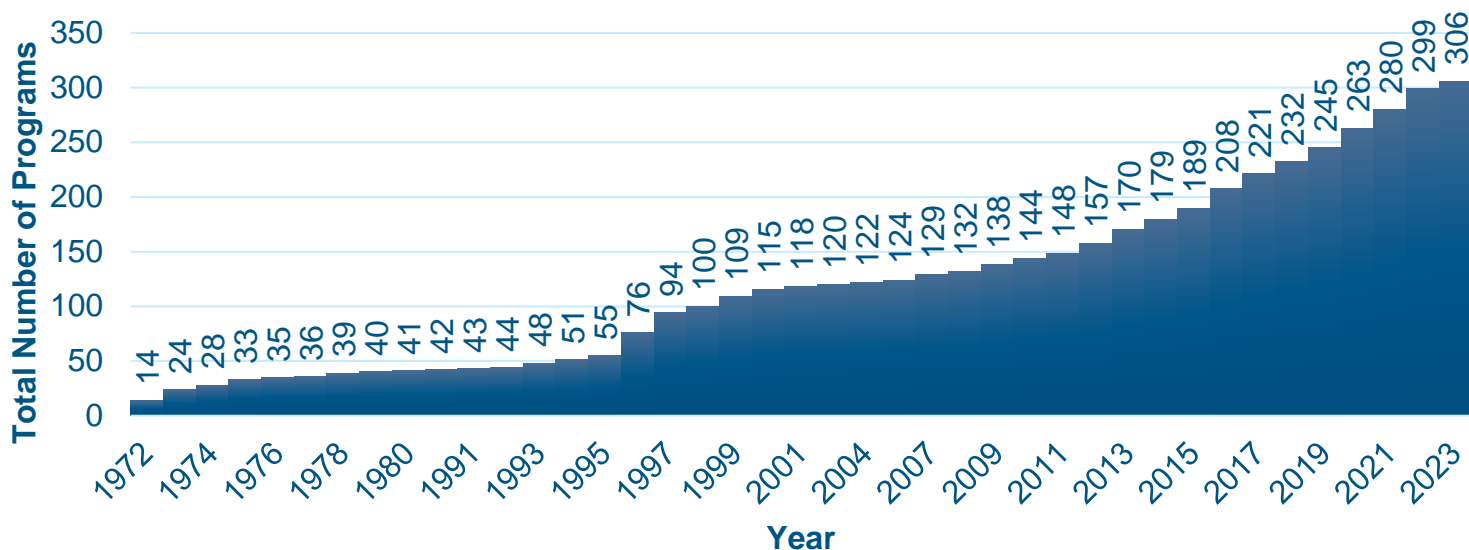
2023 Accreditation*
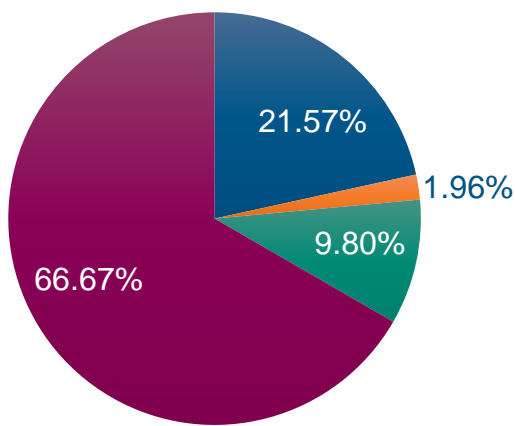
Accreditation	Number	Percent
Provisional	66	21.57%
Provisional+Probation*	6	1.96%
Probation	30	9.80%
Continued	204	66.67%

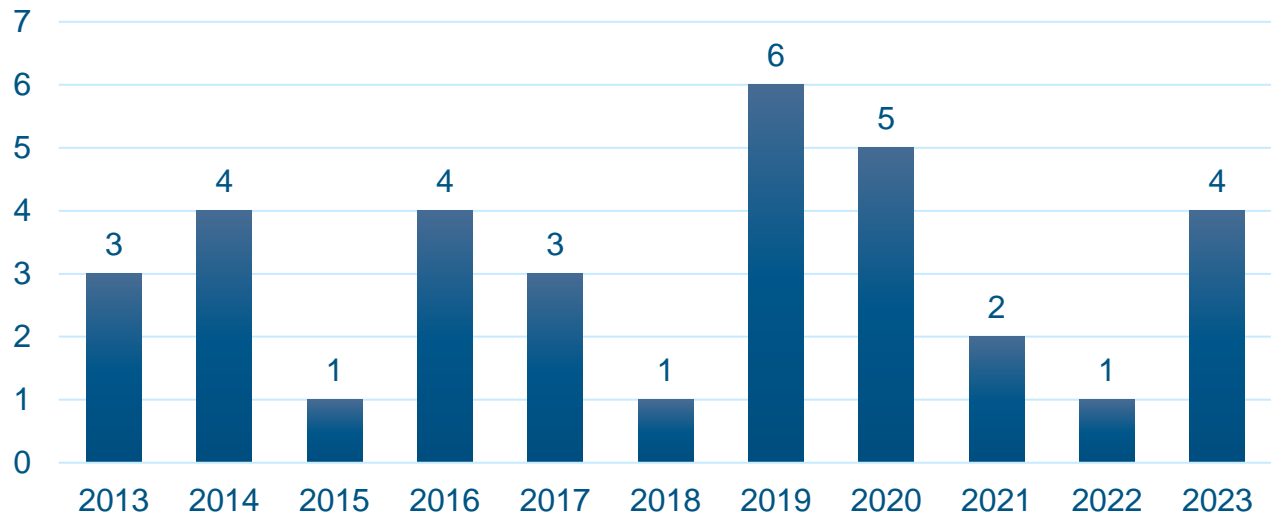■ Provisional ■ Provisional+Probation ■ Probation ■ Continued

There have been **74** newly accredited PA Programs in the past 5 years.

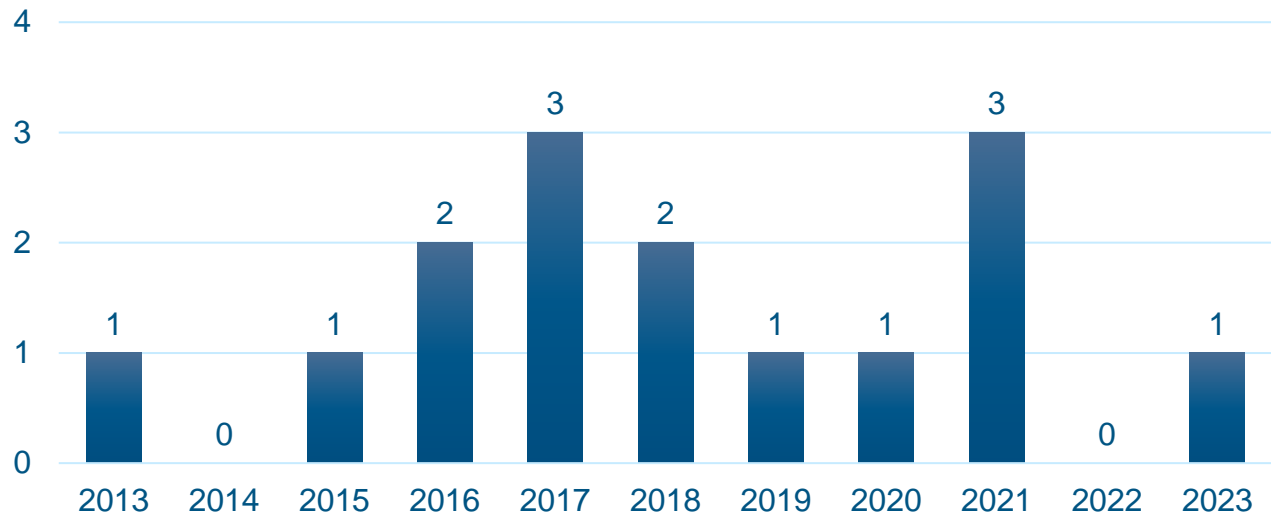*See glossary on page 83 for definition of Provisional+Probation

Entry Level Programs

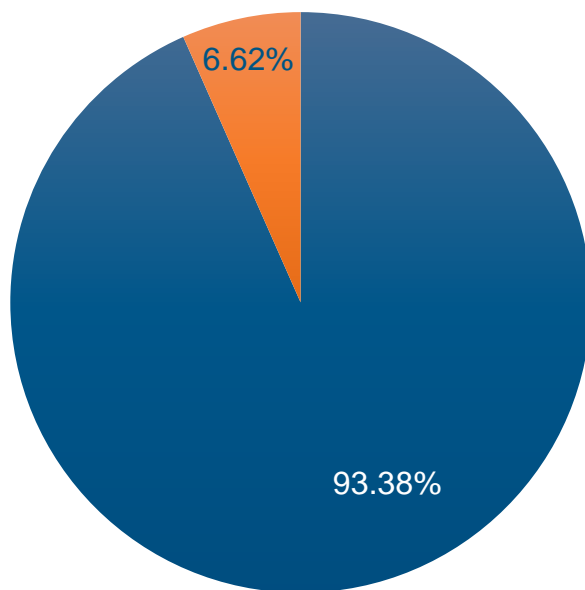## Accreditation Demographics

Withheld Programs Over Time

Year	Value
2013	3
2014	4
2015	1
2016	4
2017	3
2018	1
2019	6
2020	5
2021	2
2022	1
2023	4

Closed Programs Over Time

Year	Value
2013	1
2014	0
2015	1
2016	2
2017	3
2018	2
2019	1
2020	1
2021	3
2022	0
2023	1

Entry Level Programs

Institutional Details (n=302)

Organization Type

- Not For Profit
- For Profit

Organization Type	Number	Percent
Not for Profit	282	93.38%
For Profit	20	6.62%

Institution Type
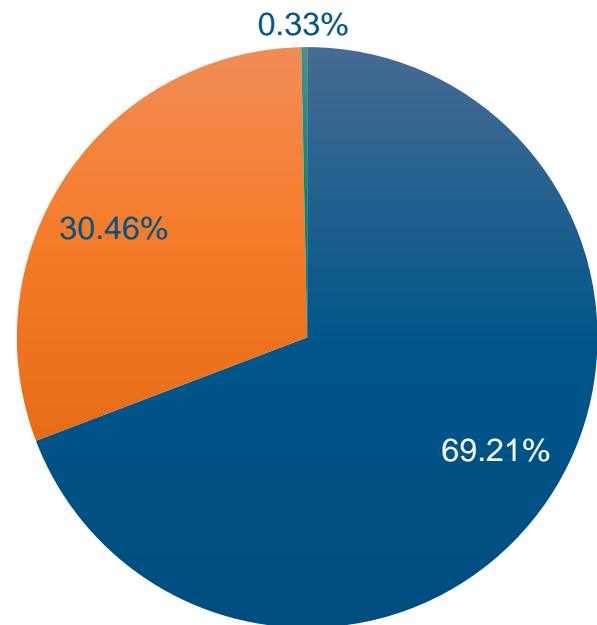
- Private
- Public
- Military

Institution Type	Number	Percent
Private	206	69.21%
Public	92	30.46%
Military	1	0.33%

Organization/Institution	Private	Public	Military
Not for Profit	64.24%	28.81%	0.33%
For Profit	4.97%	1.66%	0.00%

Entry Level Programs

Institutional Details (n=302)

Description

Category	Value
4yr - College/University	239
Medical School	51
2yr - Community College	2
4yr - College/University - Medical School	1
College/University of Graduate Studies	3
Academic Health Science Center	1
Graduate Studies	1
Health Science Center	1
Medical Education Facility of the Federal…	1
Medical School/University Health Sciences…	1
Private Health Care University	1

(x-axis: 0, 50, 100, 150, 200, 250, 300)

Regional Accreditation

Category	Value
Higher Learning Commission (HLC)	94
Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC)	83
Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE)	73
WASC Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC)	21
New England Commission of Higher Education (NECHE)	20
Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU)	11

(x-axis: 0, 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90, 100)

Entry Level Programs

Program Details (n=302)

Matriculation Date

Month	Value
January	77
February	1
March	1
April	1
May	61
June	32
July	18
August	85
September	21
October	6
November	1
December	1

Graduation Date

Month	Value
January	32
February	6
March	2
April	24
May	55
June	18
July	7
August	67
September	23
October	7
November	36
December	28
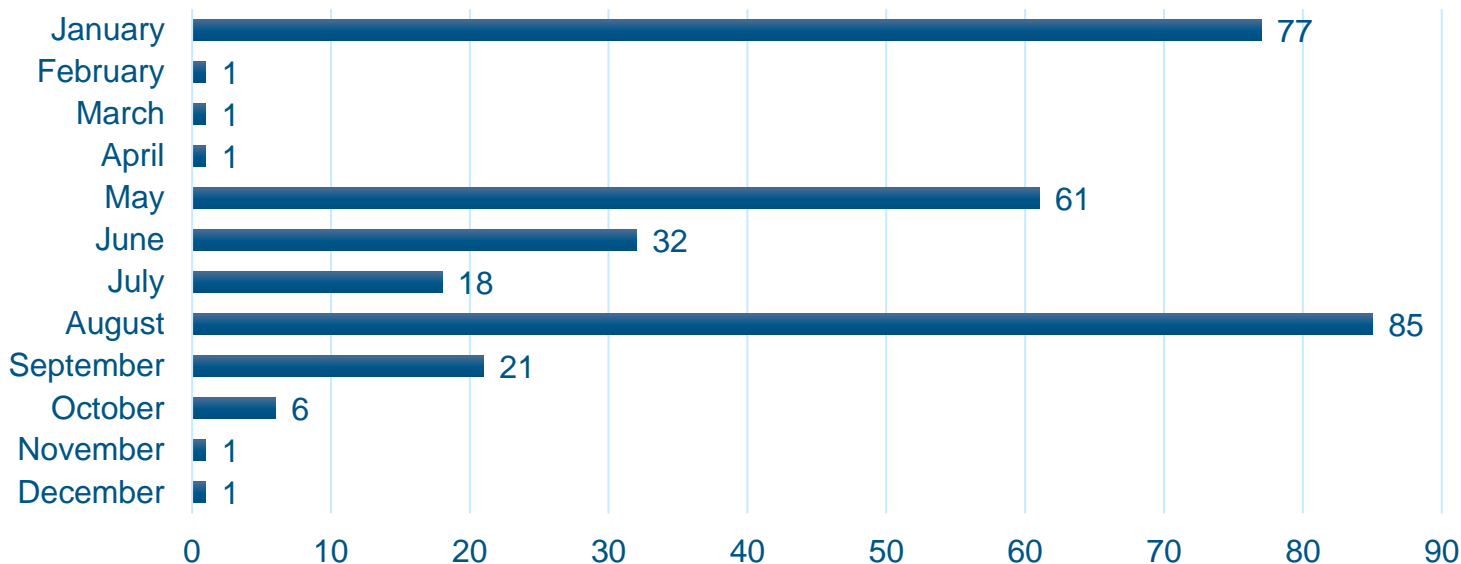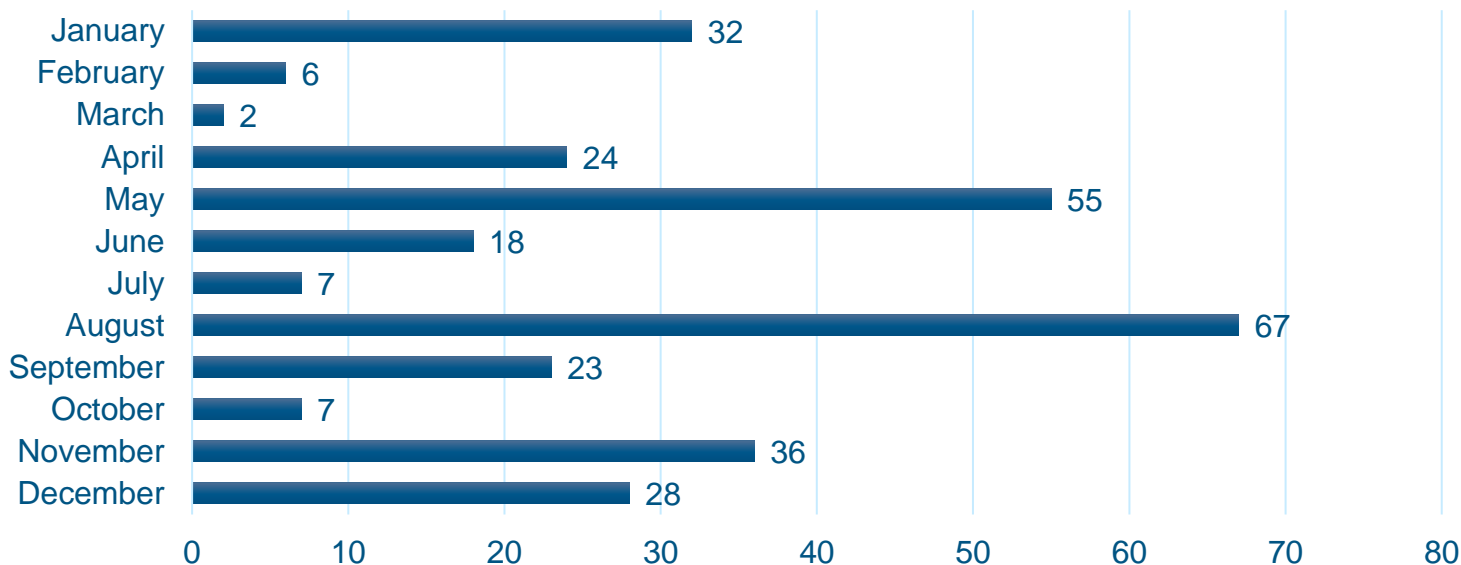
2023 had two programs with more than one cohort offered per year. One program offered two cohorts per year and the other offered three.

Entry Level Programs

Program Details (n=302)

Max Number of Students/Cohort

Number of Students

Max Number of Students/Program
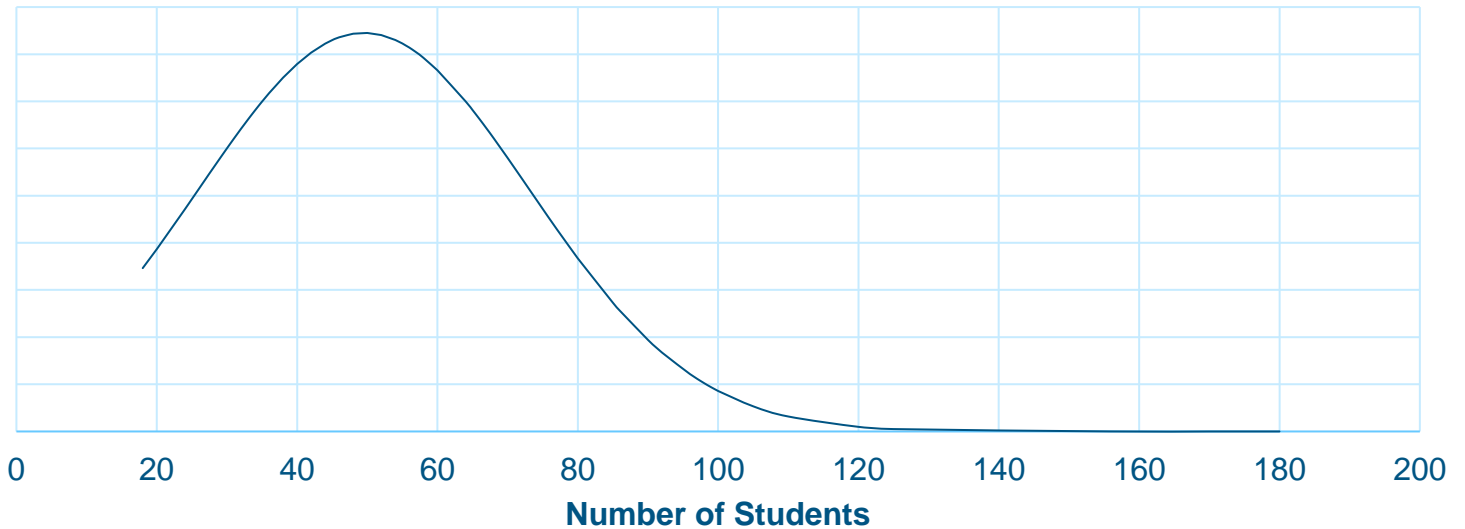
Number of Students / Number of Programs
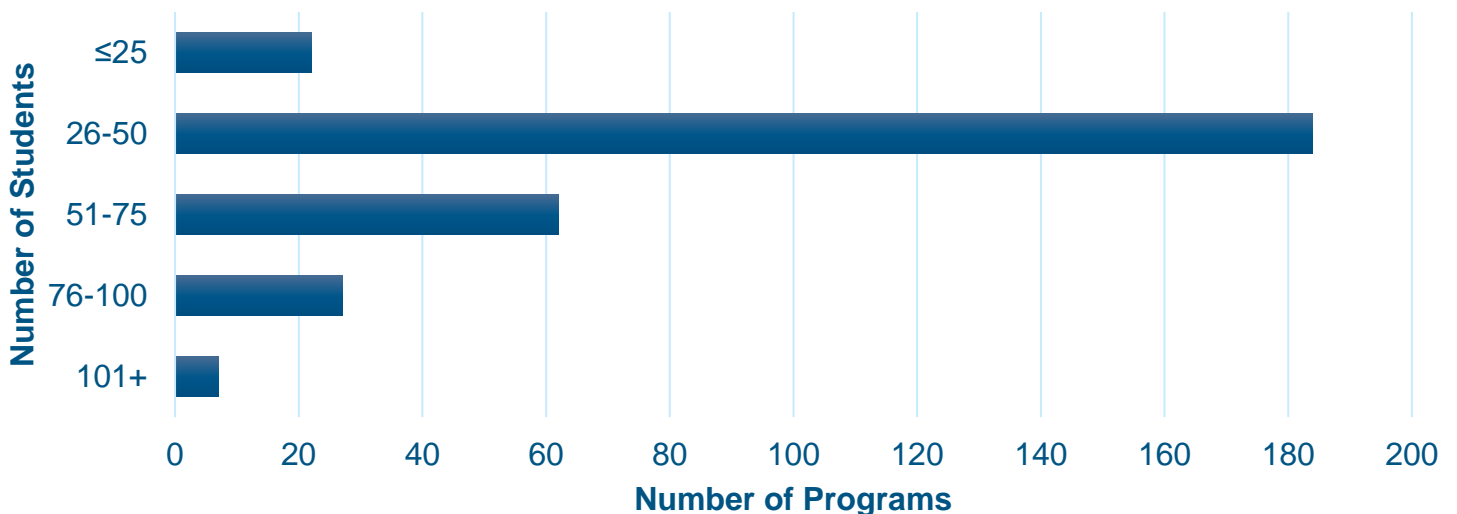
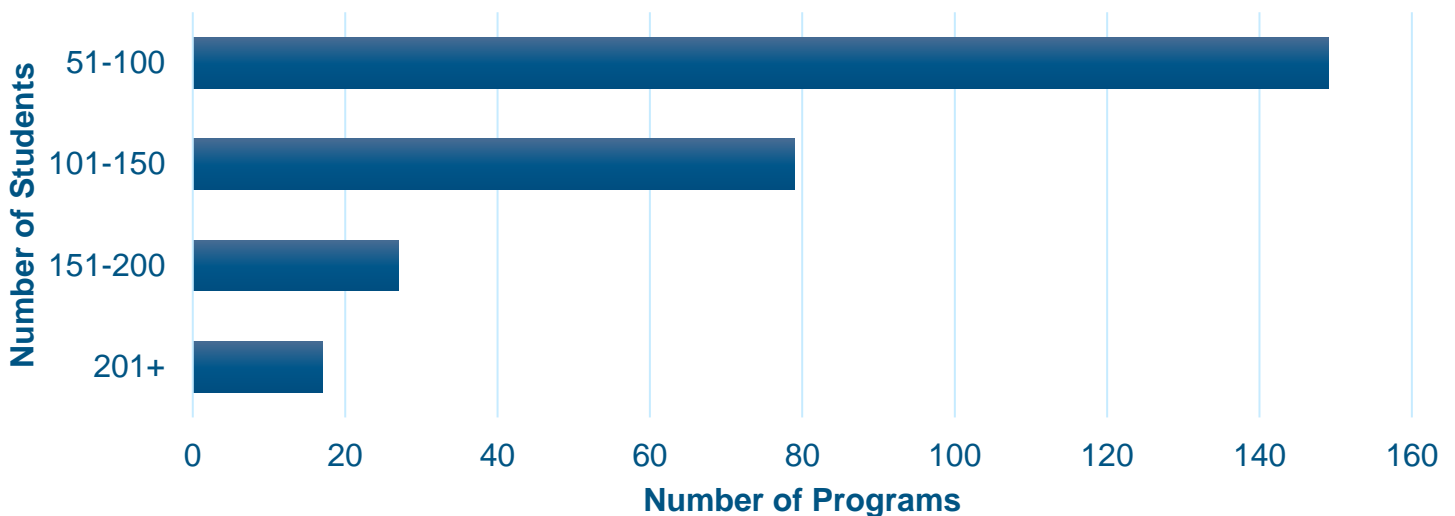The PA programs in 2023 had an average of 49.5 students per class and a median of 43 students per class.

Entry Level Programs

Program Details (n=302)
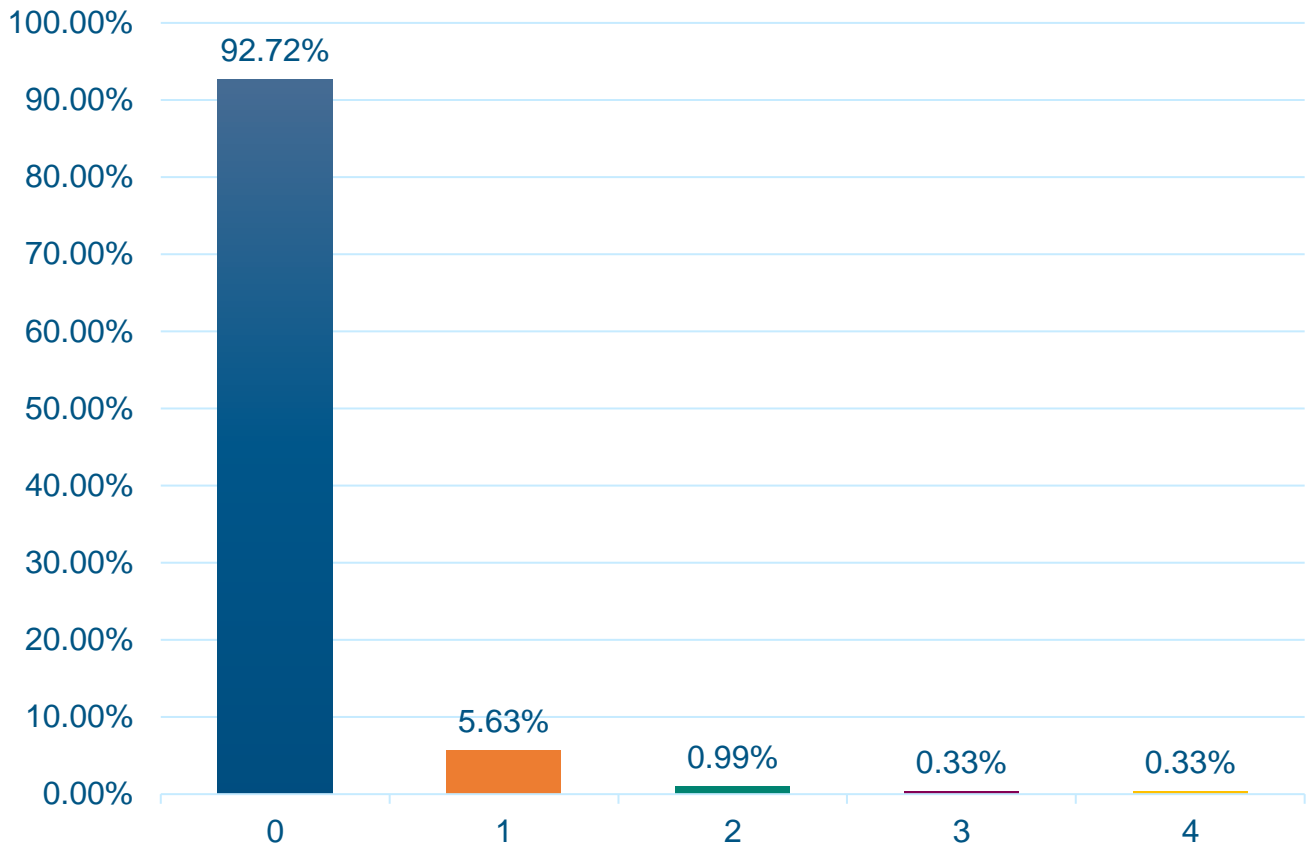
Aggregate Enrollment
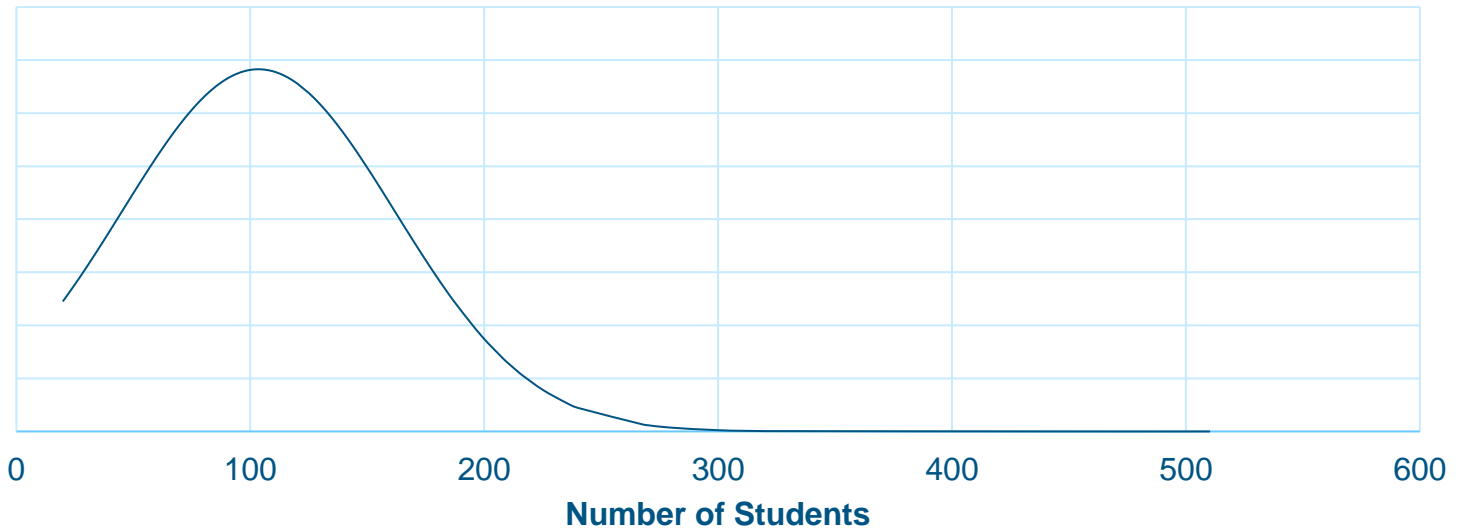
Number of Students

Aggregate Number of Students/Program

Number of Programs

The PA programs in 2023 had an average of 103.5 total students and a median of 93 total students enrolled in a program.

Entry Level Programs

Program Details (n=302)

Distant Campus

Number of Distant Campuses	Number of Programs	Percent
0	280	92.72%
1	17	5.63%
2	3	0.99%
3	1	0.33%
4	1	0.33%

22 programs have an accredited distant campus.

5 of those programs have 2 or more accredited distant campuses.

Entry Level Programs

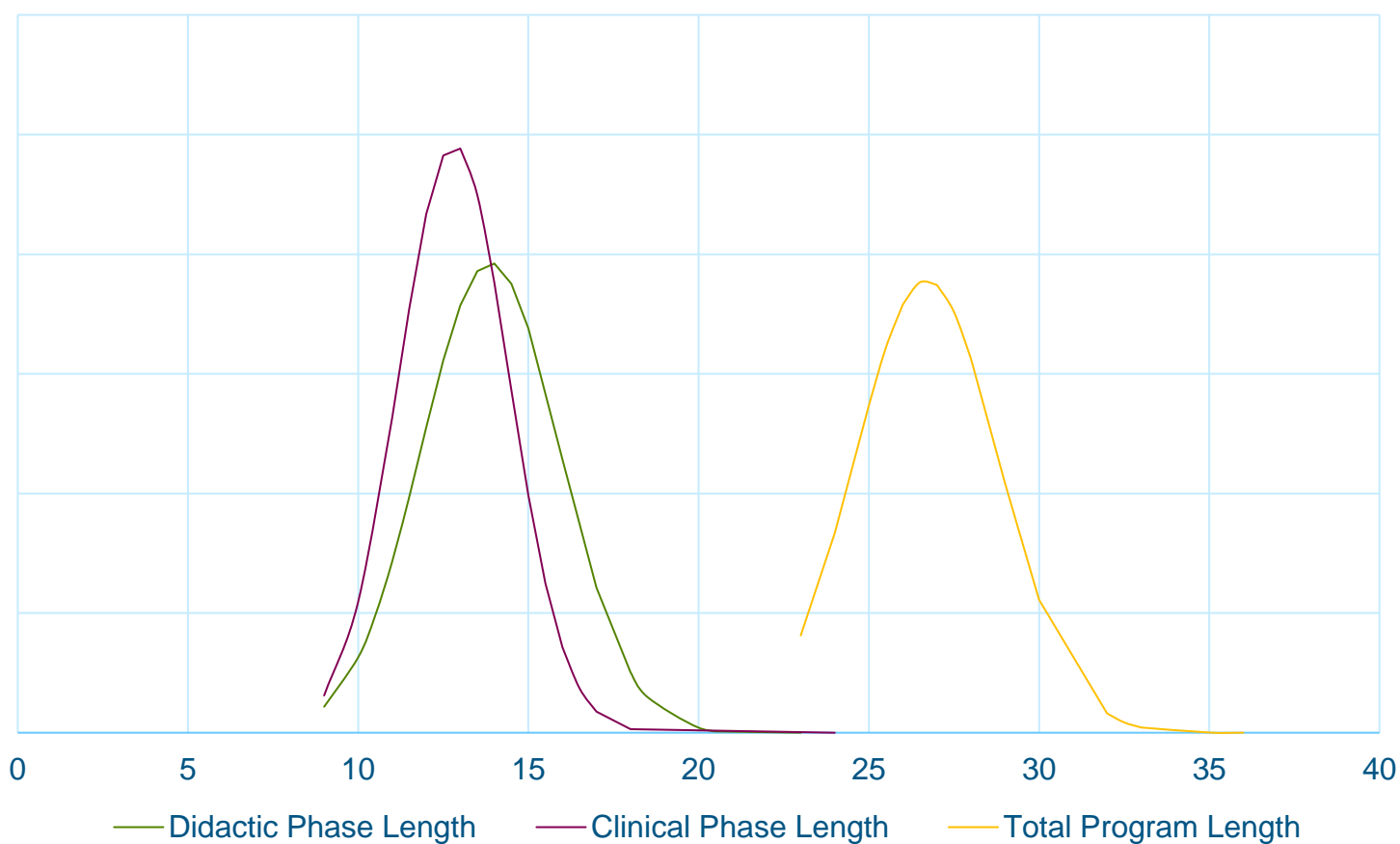## Program Details (n=302)

Semester Hour Credits

Number of Credits
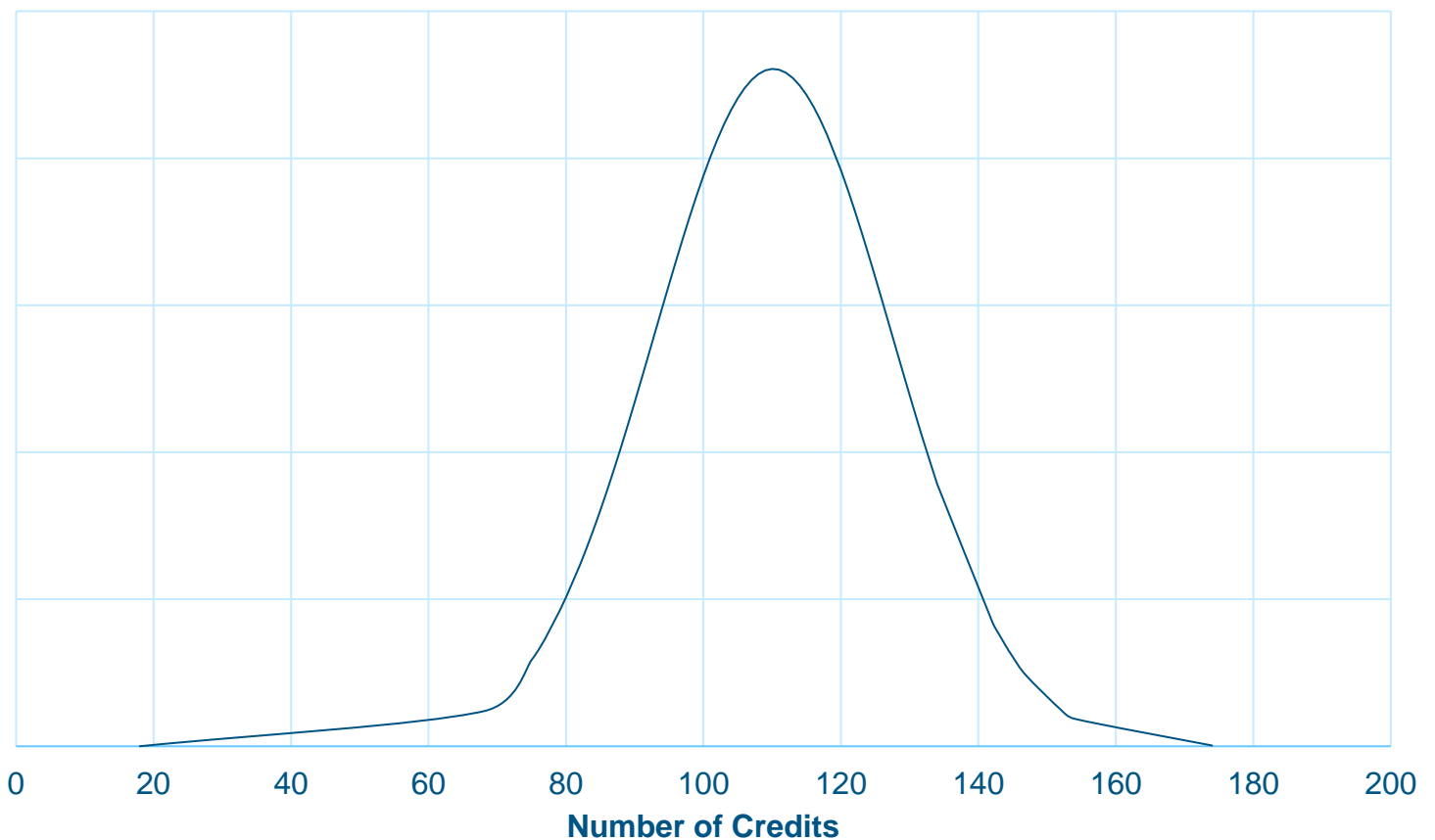
PA Programs in 2023 required an average of 110 semester hours to complete the program.

The range of semester credit hours was 68 to 174 hours as self-reported.

Entry Level Programs
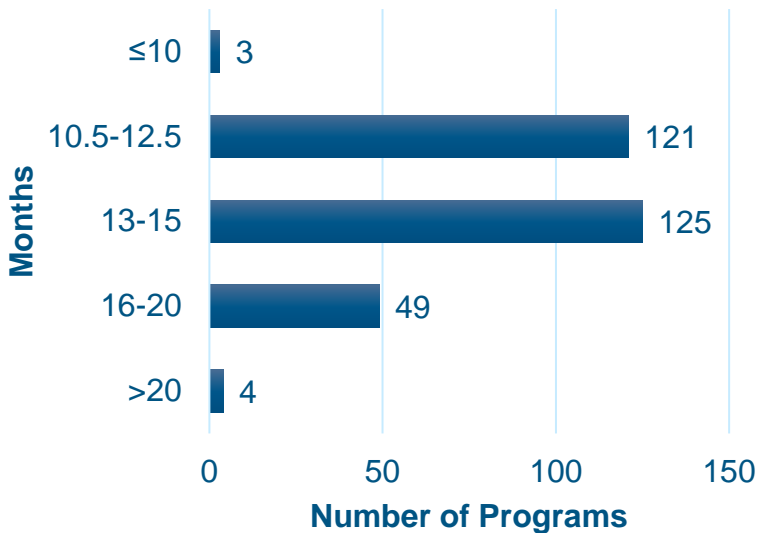
Program Details (n=302)

Program Length

Legend: Didactic Phase Length — Clinical Phase Length — Total Program Length

💡 Didactic instruction averaged 14 months to complete and clinical instruction averaged 13 months, for an average total program length of 27 months.
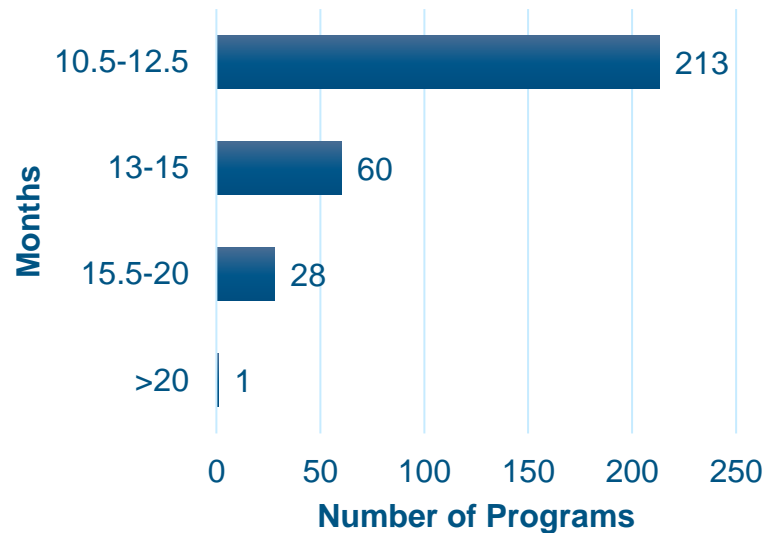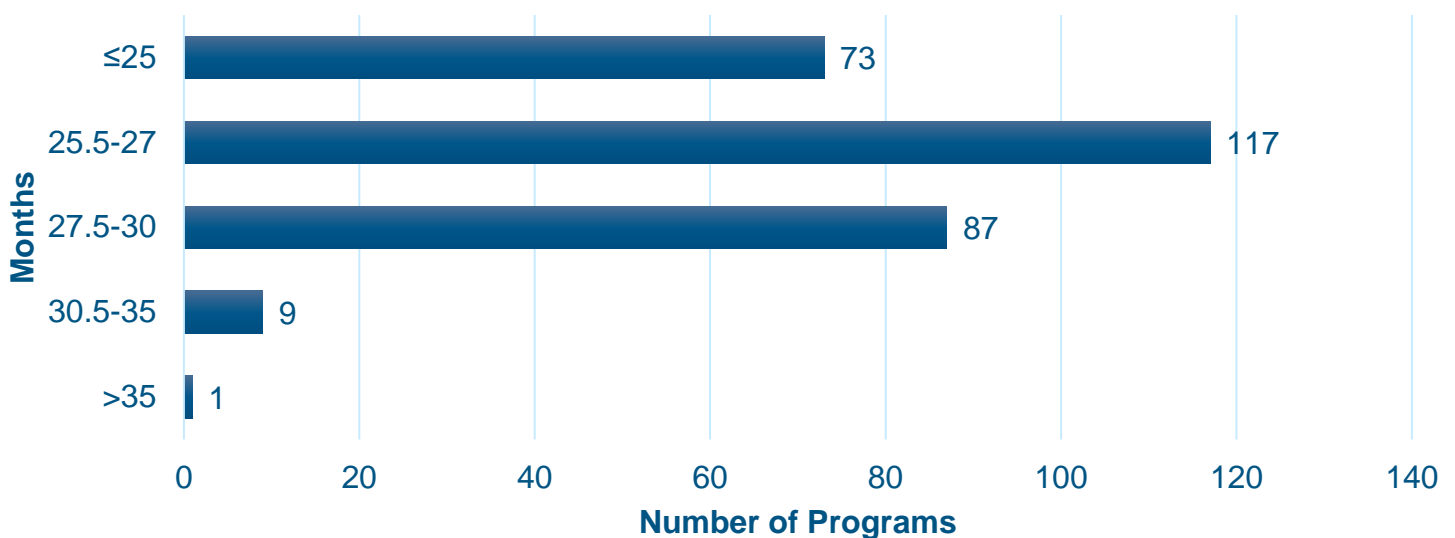
Entry Level Programs

Program Details (n=302)

Didactic Program Length

Months (y-axis) vs Number of Programs (x-axis):
- ≤10: 3
- 10.5-12.5: 121
- 13-15: 125
- 16-20: 49
- >20: 4

Clinical Program Length

Months (y-axis) vs Number of Programs (x-axis):
- 10.5-12.5: 213
- 13-15: 60
- 15.5-20: 28
- >20: 1

Total Program Length

Months (y-axis) vs Number of Programs (x-axis):
- ≤25: 73
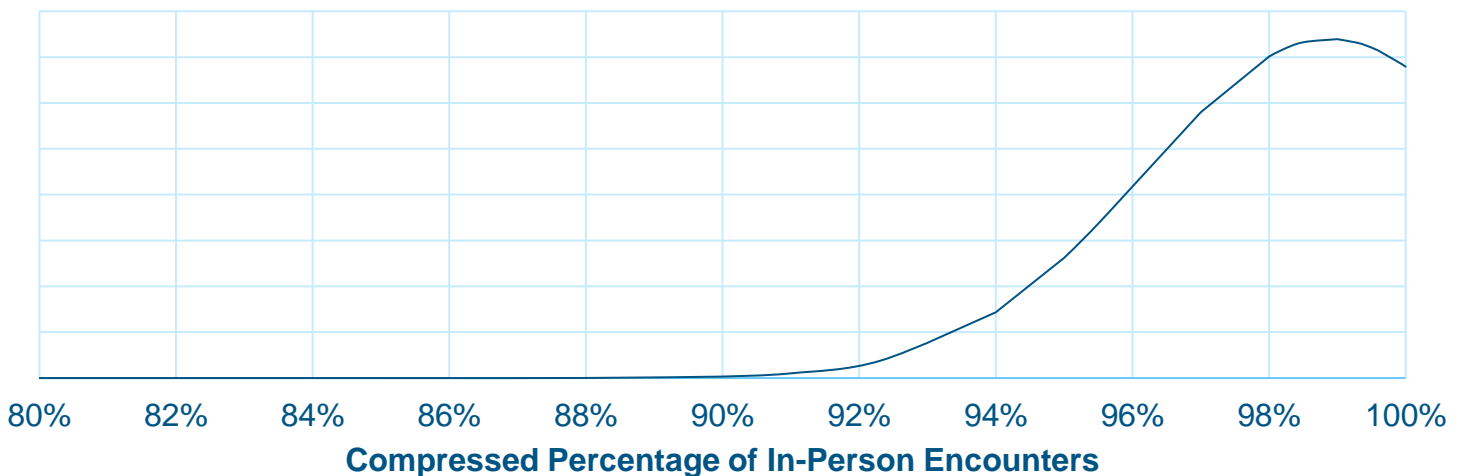- 25.5-27: 117
- 27.5-30: 87
- 30.5-35: 9
- >35: 1

32.8% of PA programs are 27 months long, the average length of all programs.
Median Total Length – 27 months, Median Didactic – 14 months, Median Clinical – 12 month
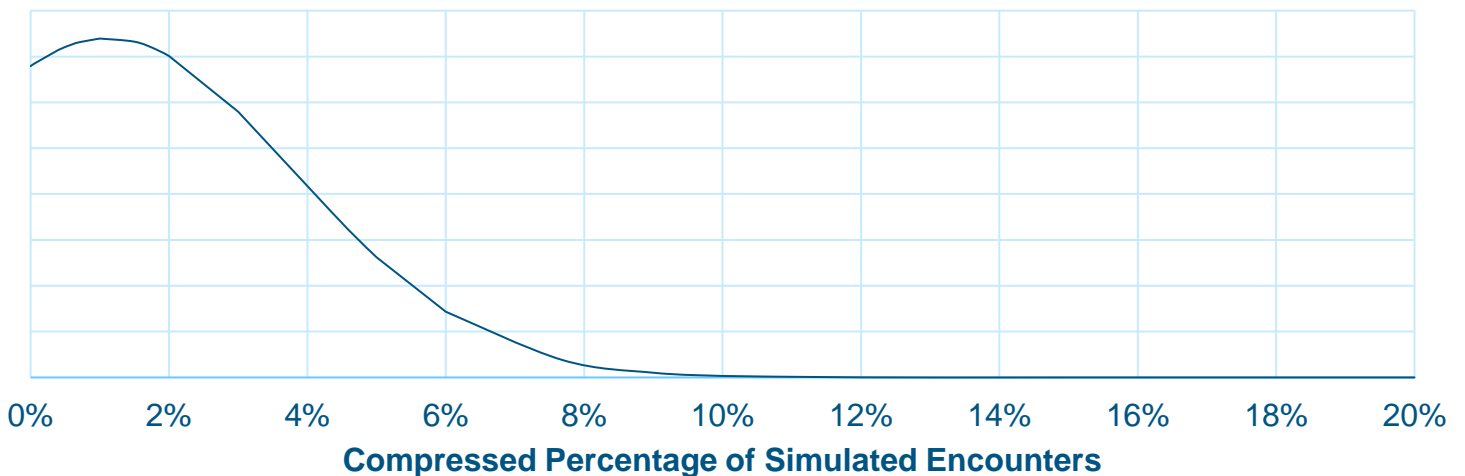
Entry Level Programs

Program Details (n=302)

Clinical Curriculum

% SCPE* Encounters with Patients

80%   82%   84%   86%   88%   90%   92%   94%   96%   98%   100%

Compressed Percentage of In-Person Encounters

% Simulated Patient Encounters

0%   2%   4%   6%   8%   10%   12%   14%   16%   18%   20%

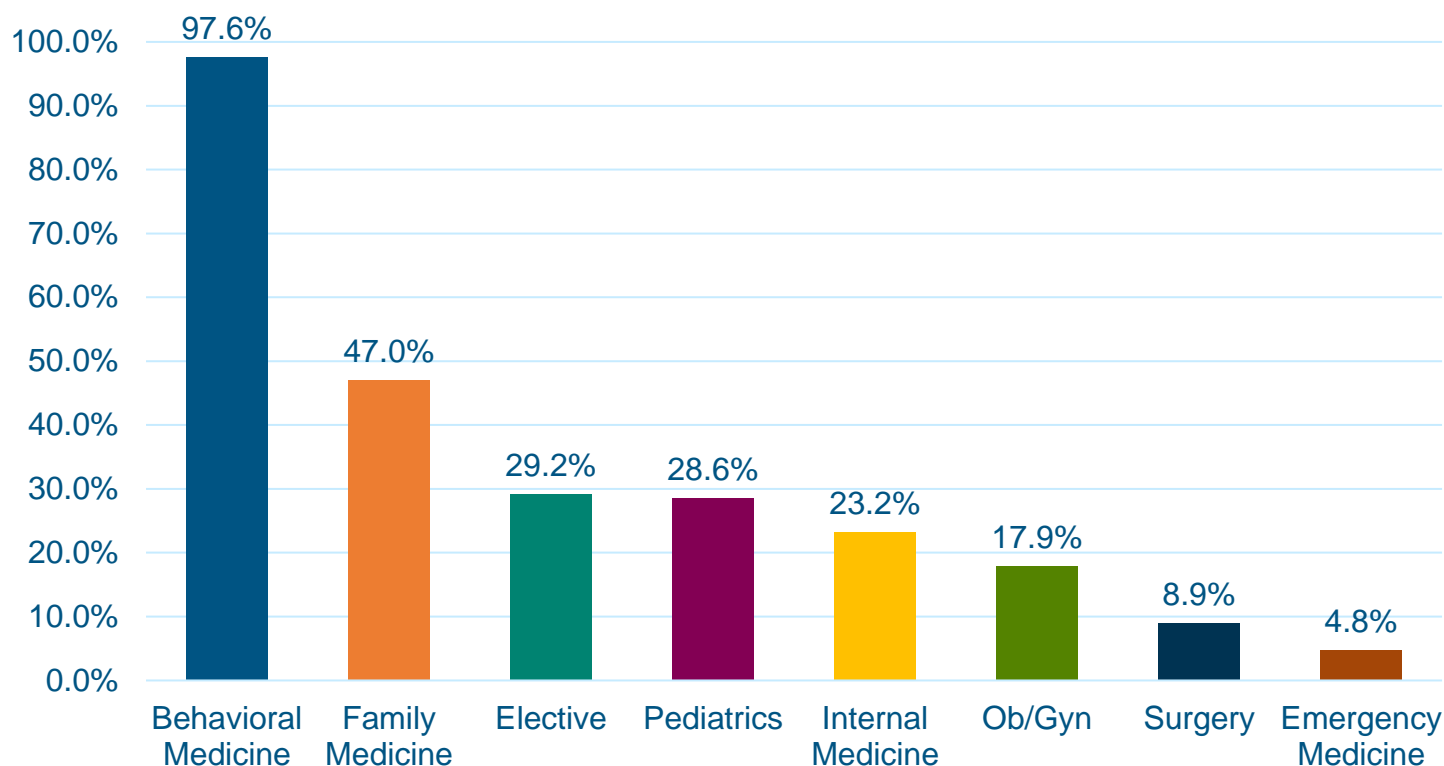**Compressed Percentage of Simulated Encounters**

An average of 99% of SCPE Encounters occur directly with patients. Conversely, an average 1% of SCPE Encounters used simulations as a learning component.
definition in glossary on page 83

Entry Level Programs

Program Details (n=168)

Telemedicine/Telehealth SCPEs

| Clinical Experience	Number of Programs	Percent of Total Programs
Behavioral Medicine	164	97.6%
Family Medicine	79	47.0%
Elective	49	29.2%
Pediatrics	48	28.6%
Internal Medicine	39	23.2%
Ob/Gyn	30	17.9%
Surgery	15	8.9%
Emergency Medicine	8	4.8%

Program Question: Are students participating in telemedicine/telehealth encounters during the clinical year? Check all that apply.

Entry Level Programs

Program Details (n=302)

SCPE Settings
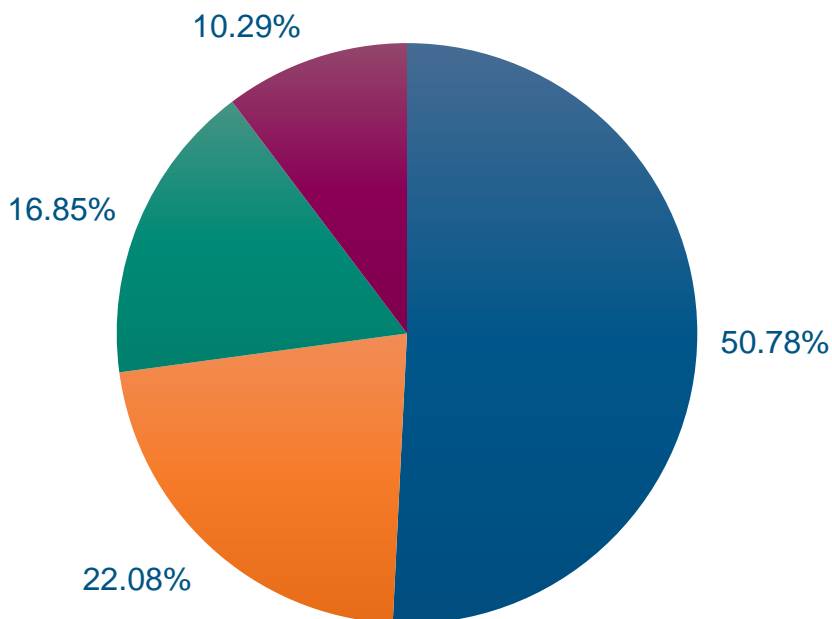
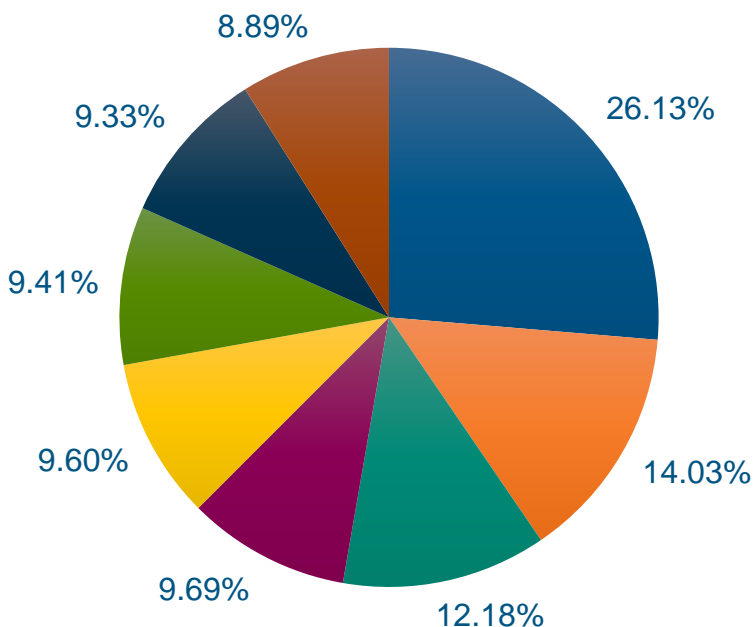| SCPE Setting	Number of Active Clinical Settings	Percent
Outpatient	31970	50.78%
Inpatient	13898	22.08%
Operating Room	10610	16.85%
Emergency Department	6477	10.29%

Half of all supervised clinical practice experience (SCPE) settings consist of outpatient settings.

Entry Level Programs

Program Details (n=302)

Available Clinical Sites

Legend:
- Elective
- Family Medicine
- Internal Medicine
- Surgery
- Behavior & Mental
- Emergency
- Pediatrics
- Women's Health

Req. Clinical Experience	Avg. Rotation Slots/Program	Percent
Elective	228	26.13%
Family Medicine	123	14.03%
Internal Medicine	106	12.18%
Surgery	85	9.69%
Behavior & Mental Health	84	9.60%
Emergency	82	9.41%
Pediatrics	82	9.33%
Women's Health	78	8.89%

After Elective SCPEs, the most reported available clinical experience placements are in Family Medicine.

Entry Level Programs

Program Details – Budget (n=299)

Total Budget

Budget ($ Millions)

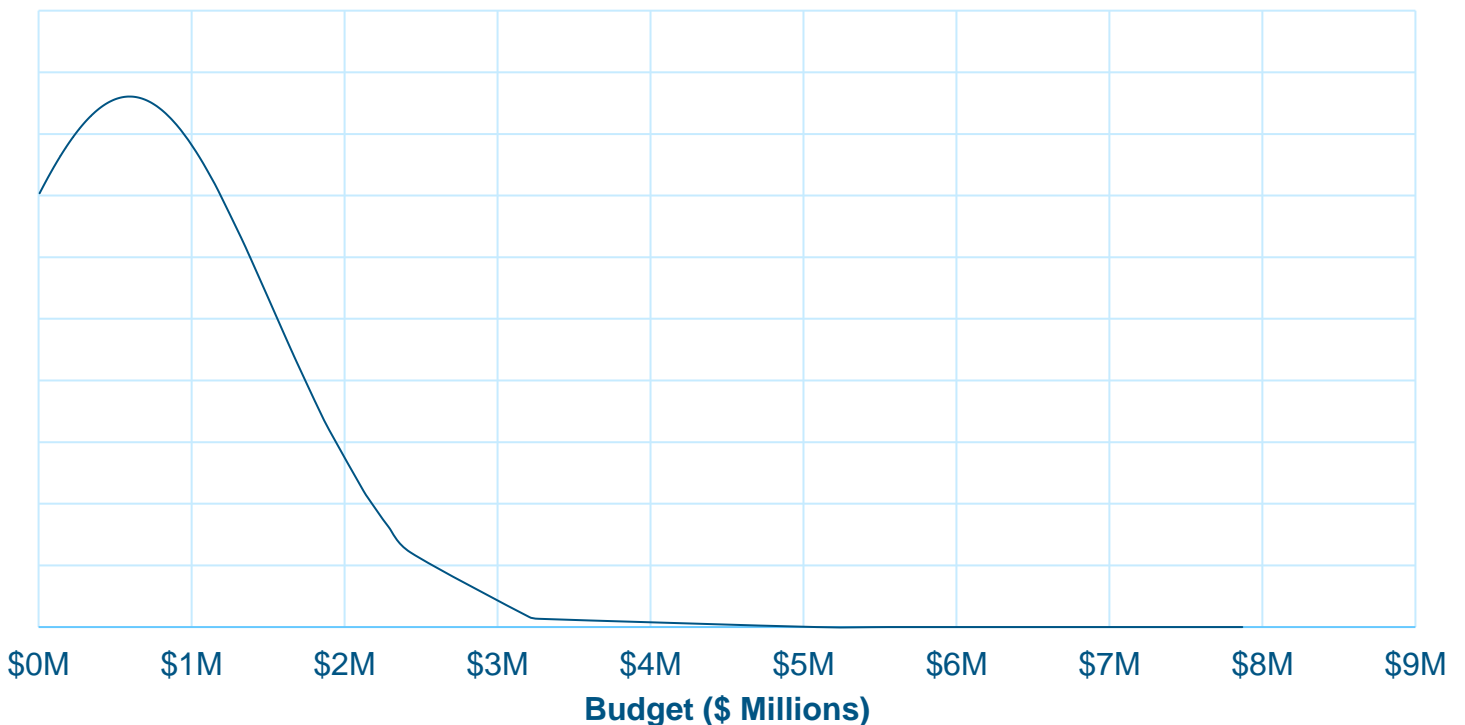$0M $5M $10M $15M $20M
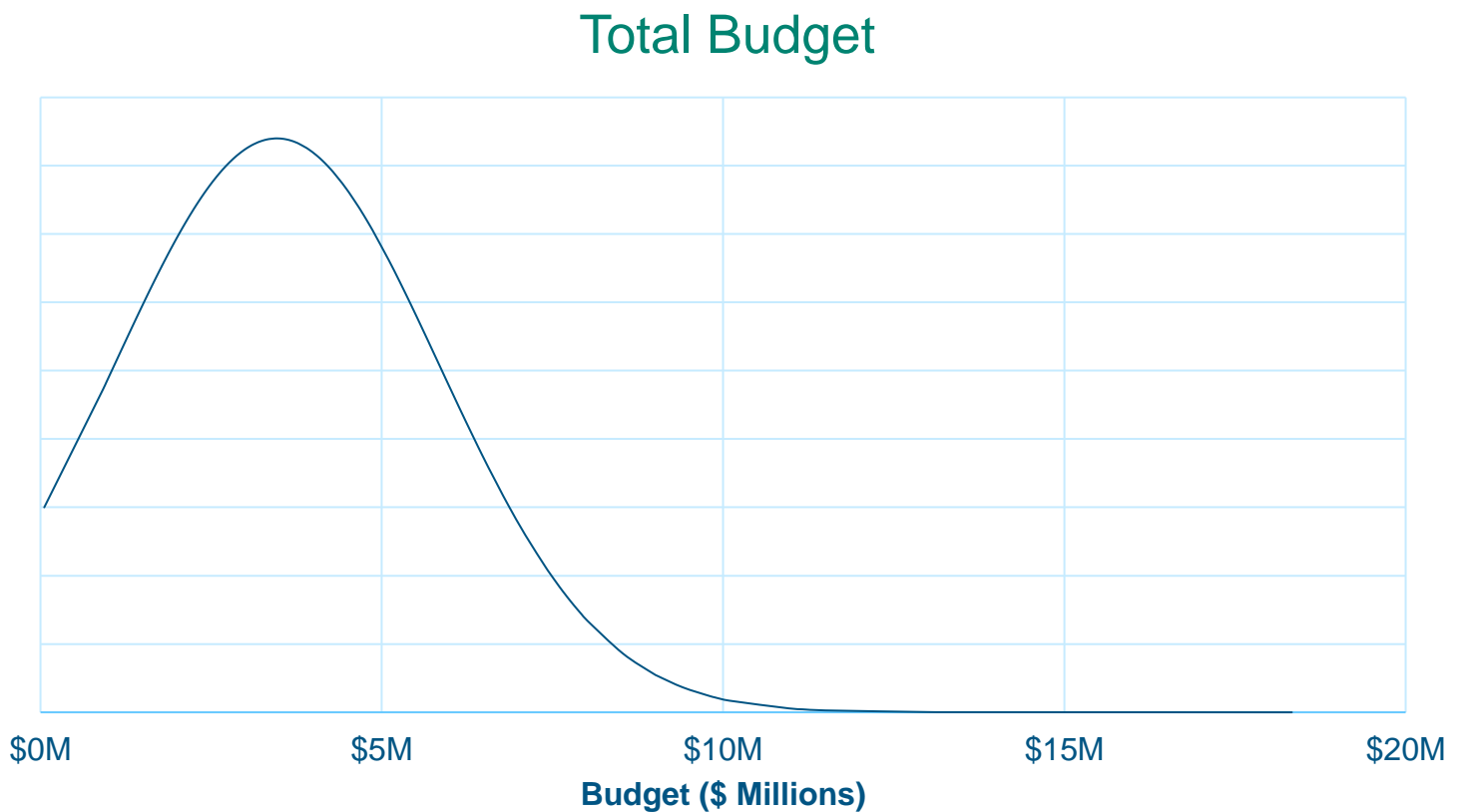
💡 For all Programs:
- $3.46 Million *average*, $2.72 Million *median* Total Budget (combined all revenue and expenditures)

Entry Level Programs

Program Details – Budget (n=279)

Total Operations

Budget ($ Millions)

For all Programs:
- $595,000 *average*, $339,000 *median* Operational Budget

Program Details – Budget (n=65)

Provisional Total Budget

Budget ($ Millions)

For Provisional Programs:
- $3.07 Million *average*, $3.32 Million *median* Total Budget

Entry Level Programs

Program Details – Budget (n=65)

Provisional Operations Budget
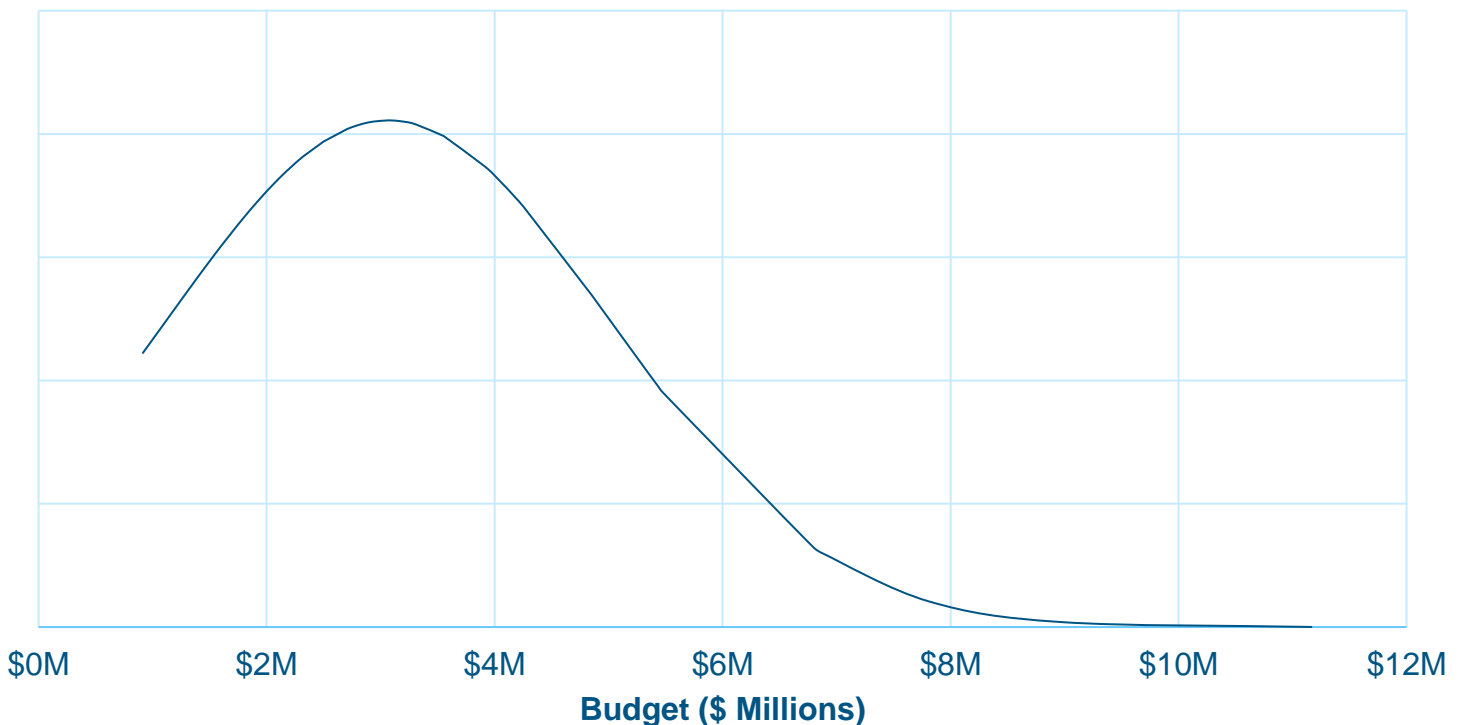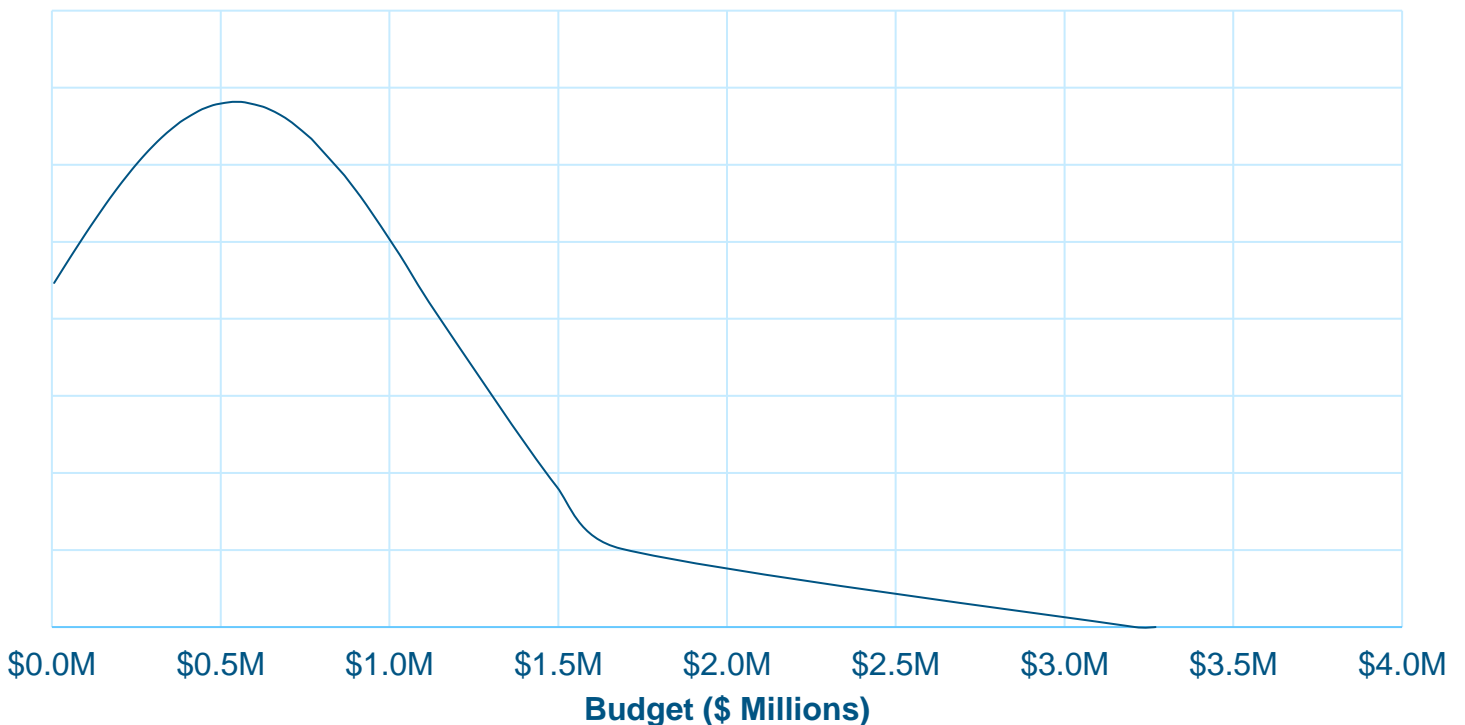

Budget ($ Millions)

For Provisional Programs:
- $545,000 *average*, $339,000 *median* Operations Budget

Entry Level Programs

Program Details – Budget (n=35)

Probation Total Budget

Budget ($ Millions)

For Probation Programs:
- $3.70 Million *average*, $2.94 Million *median* Total Budget

Entry Level Programs

Program Details – Budget (n=29)
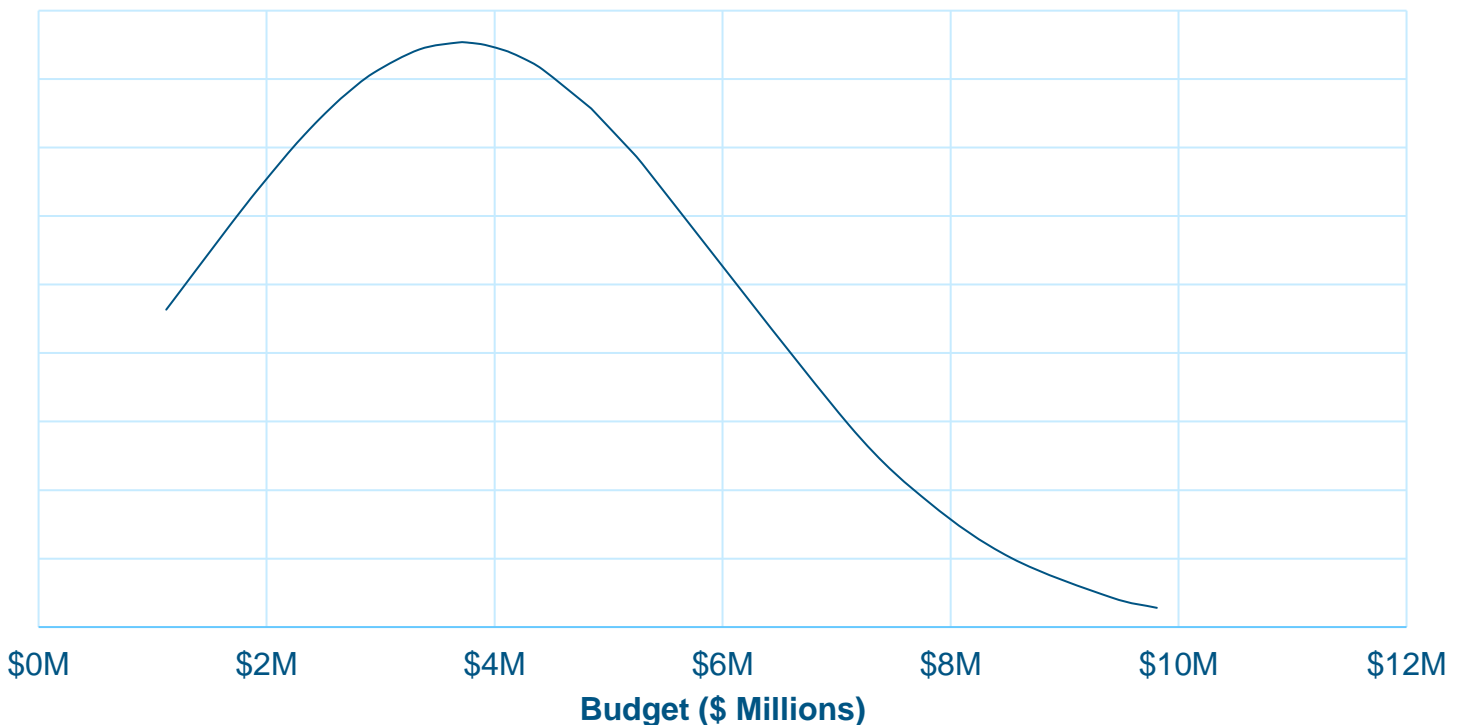
Probation Operations Budget

Budget ($ Millions)

For Probation Programs:
- $490,000 *average*, $322,000 *median* Operations Budget

Entry Level Programs

Program Details – Budget (n=212)
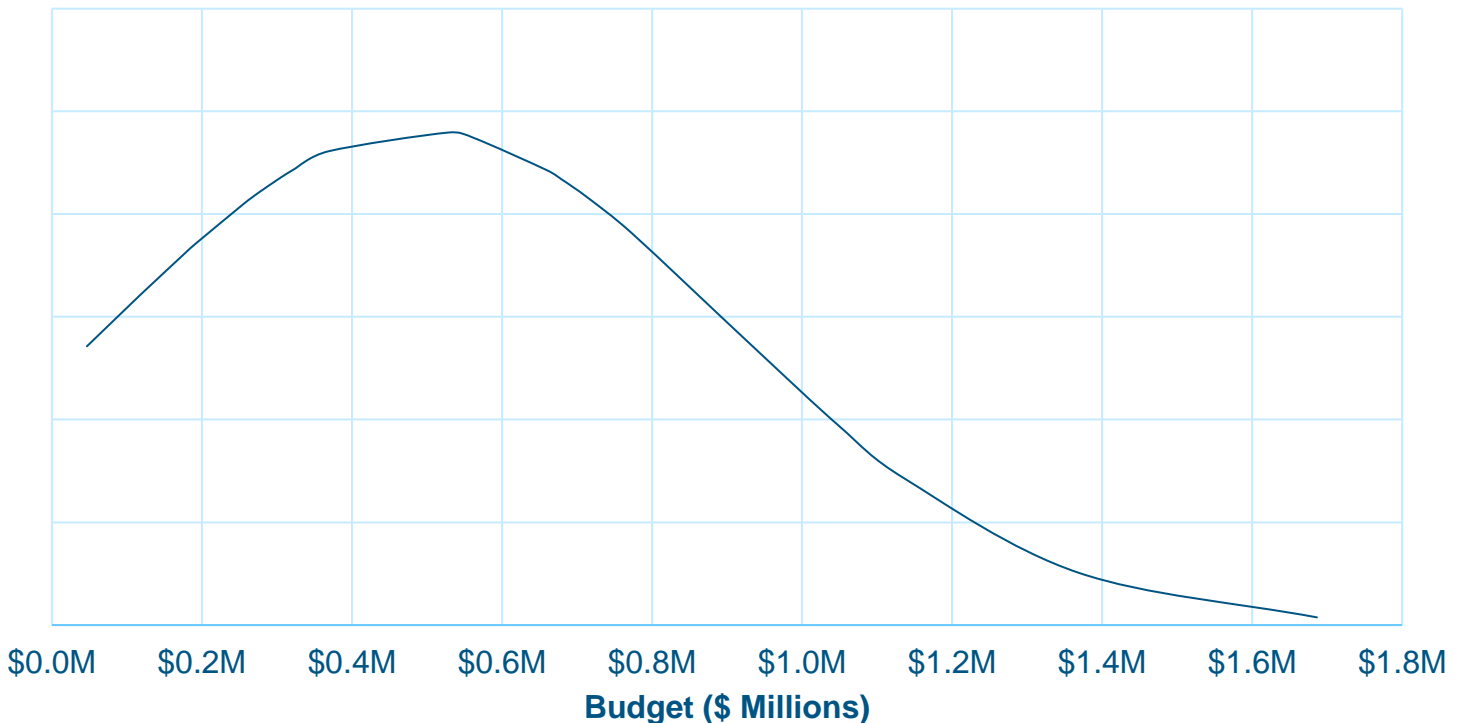
Continued Total Programs
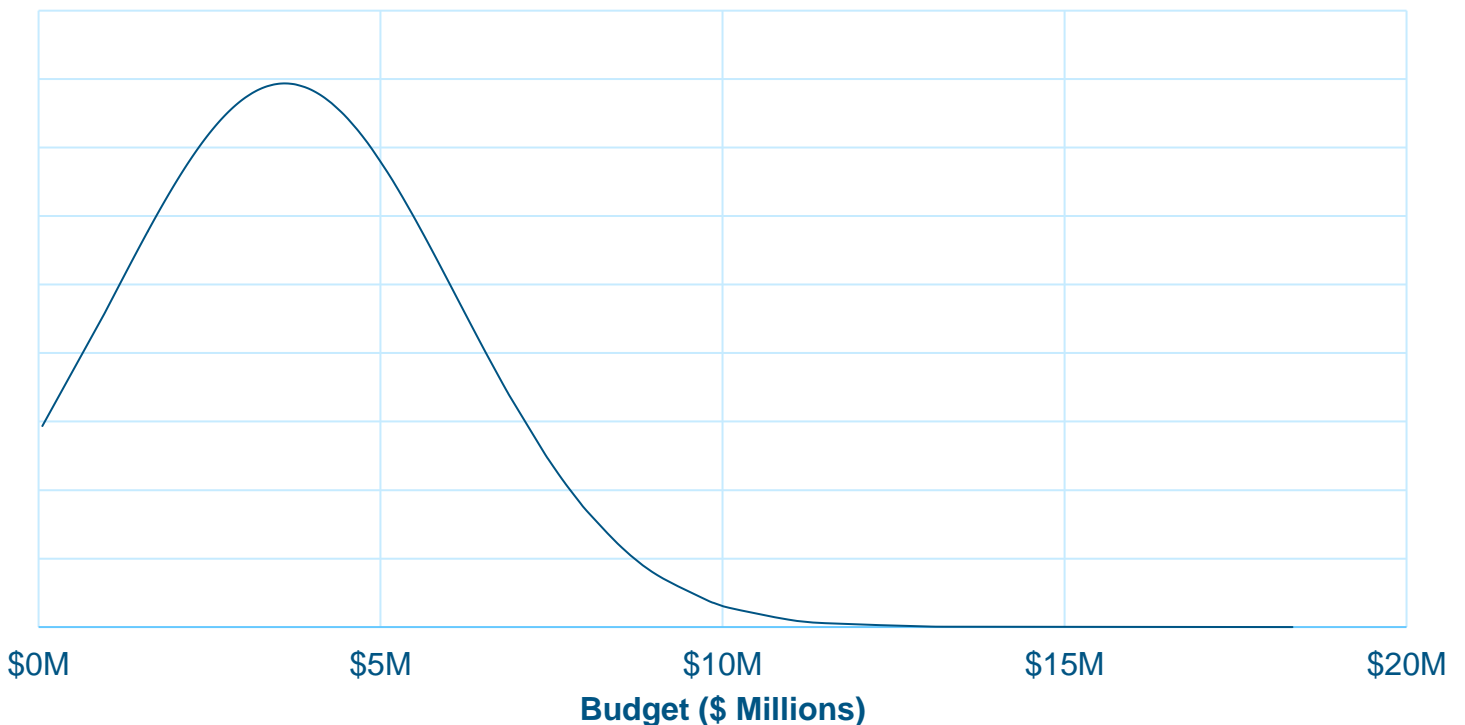
Budget ($ Millions)

For Continued Programs:
- $3.60 Million *average*, $2.78 Million *median* Total Budget

Program Details – Budget (n=186)

Continued Operations Budget

Budget ($ Millions)

x-axis labels: $0.0M $0.2M $0.4M $0.6M $0.8M $1.0M $1.2M $1.4M $1.6M $1.8M
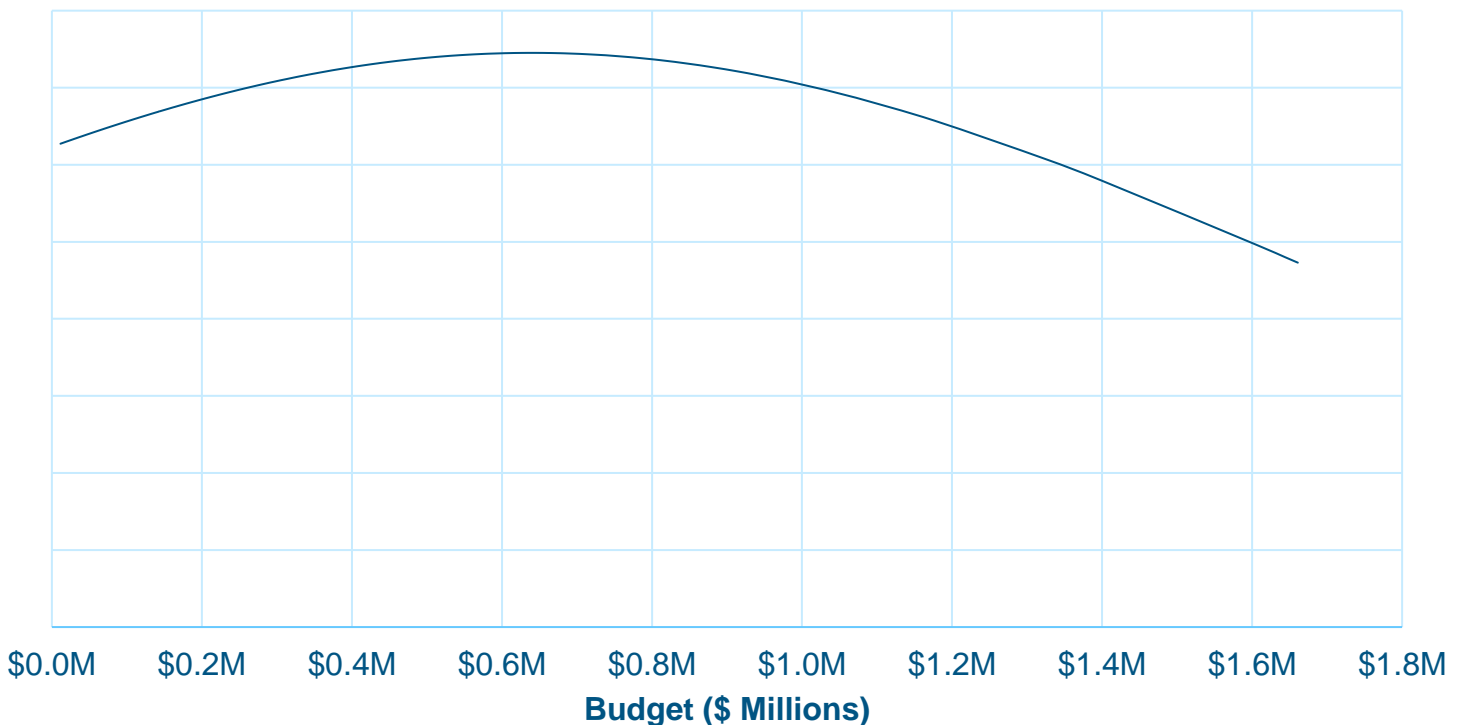
For Continued Programs:
- $640,000 *average*, $360,000 *median* Operations Budget

Entry Level Programs

Program Details – Faculty/Staff (n=301)

Total Program Personnel

Role	Average Number of People/Program/Role
Program Director	1.00
Medical Director	1.03
PA-C Principal Faculty	6.68
Non-PA Principal Faculty	1.02
Administrative Support Staff	3.95
No Standards Role	0.49

Average Number of People/Program/Role

Entry Level Programs

Program Details – Faculty/Staff (n=301)

FTE Personnel/Program

Role	Average Total FTE/Program
Program Director	0.99
Medical Director	0.30
PA-C Principal Faculty	6.29
Non-PA Principal Faculty	0.88
Administrative Support Staff	3.45
No Standards Role	0.17

Average Total FTE/Program

Entry Level Programs

Program Details – Faculty/Staff (n=301)

Leadership

Role	Number of People
Program Director	285
Interim Program Director	16
Medical Director	310
Interim Medical Director	0

Number of People
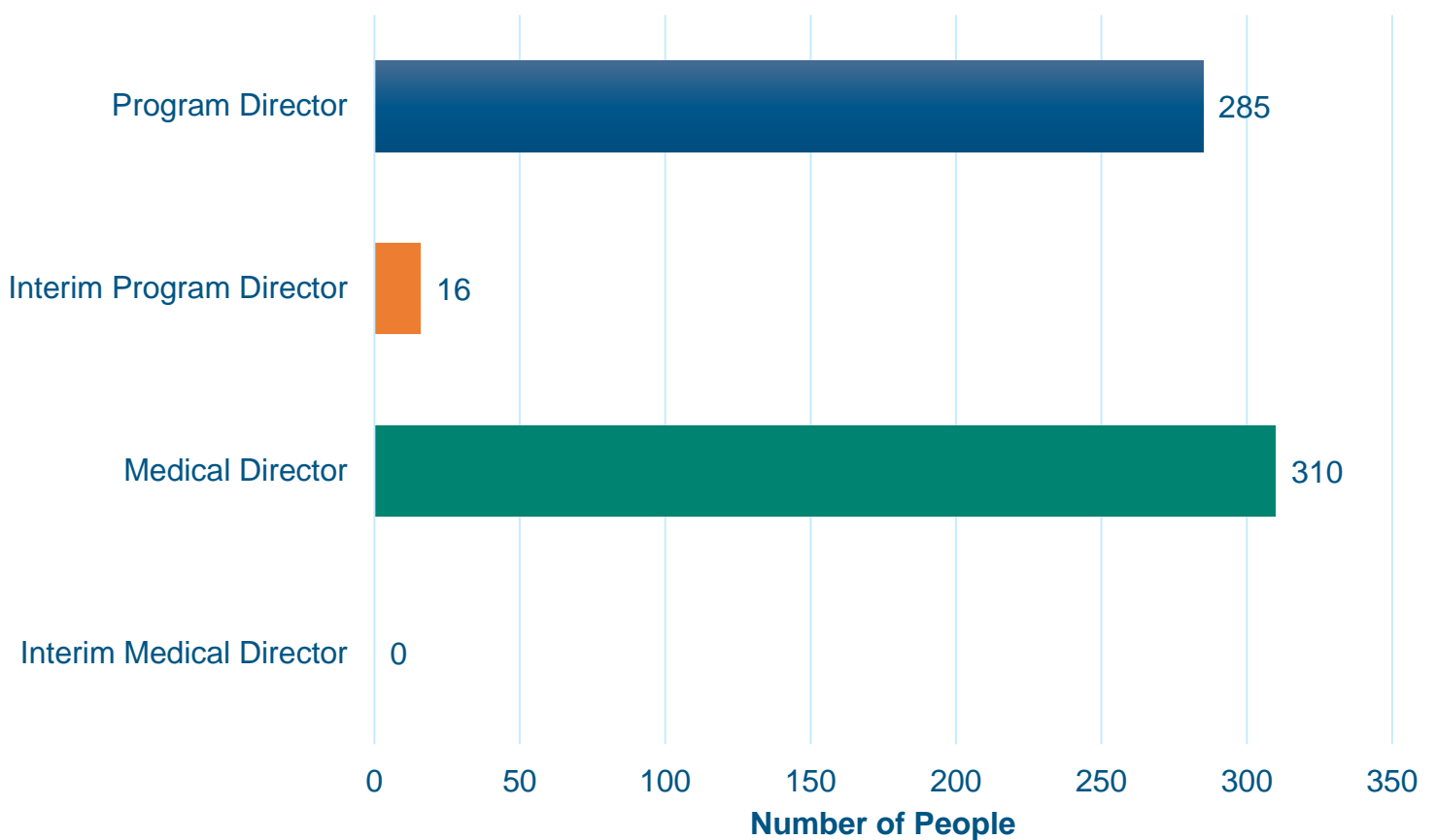
9 PA programs have two Medical Directors. One PA program has three Medical Directors.

Entry Level Programs

Program Details – Faculty/Staff (n=301)

PD Highest Academic Credential

Bar chart showing number of Program Directors by highest academic credential:
- Masters: 161
- Doctorate: 131
- Medical Doctorate: 9

Number of Program Directors

PD License Type

Pie chart:
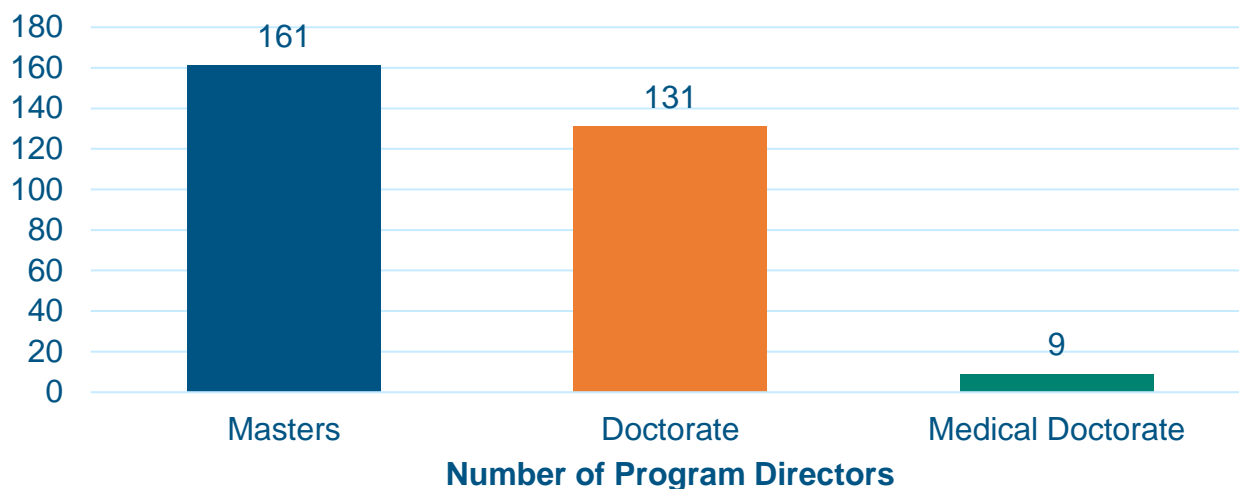- 97.68% Current NCCPA Certification
- 2.32% Currently Licensed Physician
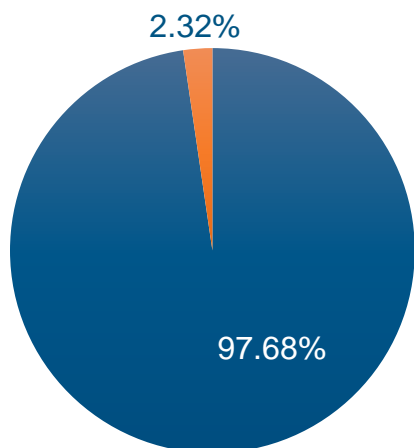
Program Director License Type	Number	Percent
Current NCCPA Certification	295	97.68%
Currently Licensed Physician	7	2.32%

■ Current NCCPA Certification
■ Currently Licensed Physician

97% of Program Directors are certified PAs.
2 Program Directors with Medical Doctorates are also currently NCCPA Certified

Entry Level Programs

Program Details – Faculty/Staff (n=301)

Program Director FTE

Legend: ■ 0.80-0.89 ■ 0.90-0.99 ■ 1

Full Time Equivalent	Number	Percent
0.80-0.89	10	3.32%
0.9-0.99	4	1.33%
1.00	287	95.35%

Medical Director FTE*
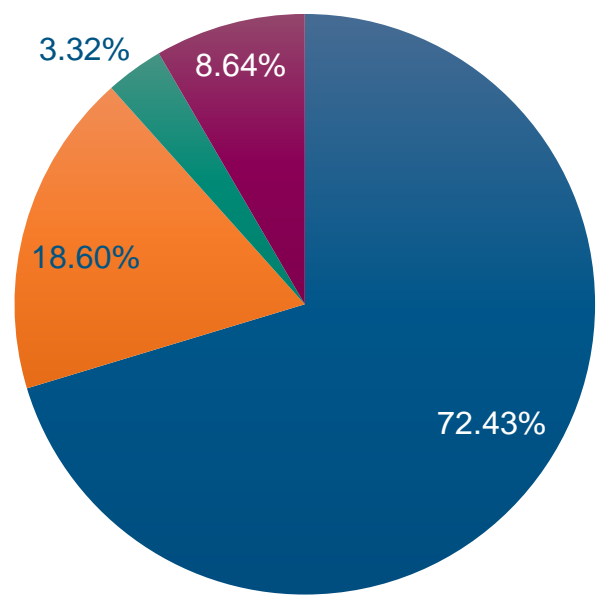
Legend: ■ ≤0.25 ■ 0.26 - 0.50 ■ 0.51 - 0.75 ■ 0.76 - 1.00

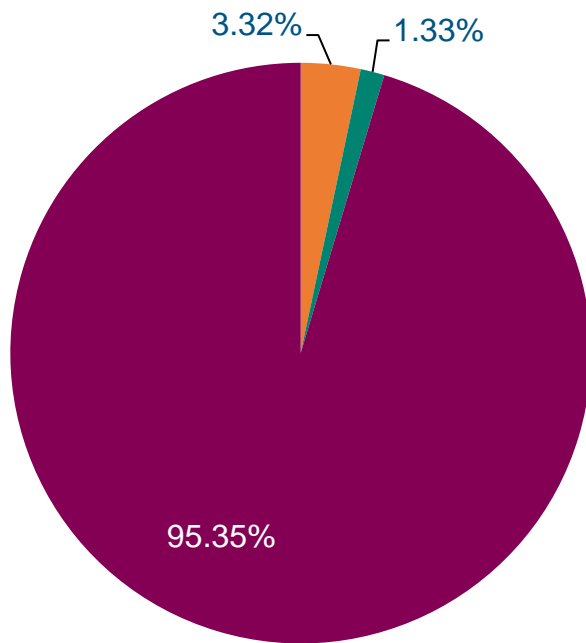| Full Time Equivalent	Number	Percent
≤0.25	218	72.43%
0.26 - 0.50	56	18.60%
0.51 - 0.75	10	3.32%
0.76 - 1.00	26	8.64%

*Includes Co-directorships for Program Total FTE.

Entry Level Programs

Program Details – Faculty/Staff (n=301)

Principal Faculty* Highest Academic Credential

Credential	Number of Personnel
Associates	3
Baccalaureate	4
Masters	1680
Doctorate	731
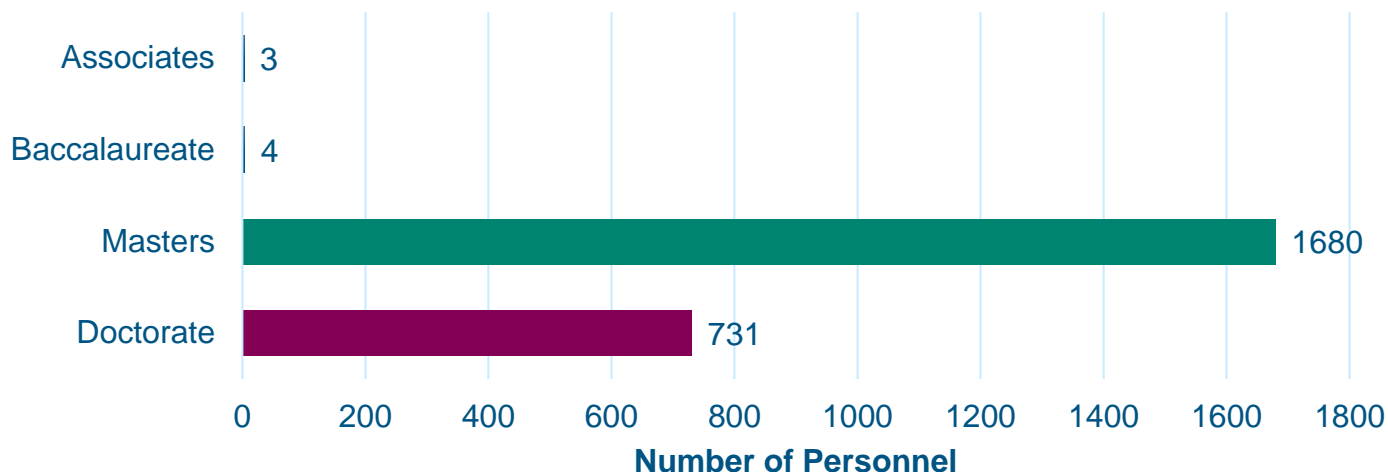
Principal Faculty* FTE
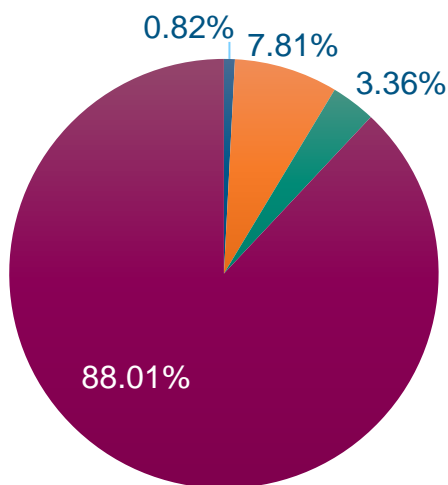
Full Time Equivalent	Number	Percent
≤0.25	19	0.82%
0.26 - 0.50	181	7.81%
0.51 - 0.75	78	3.36%
0.76 - 1.00	2040	88.01%

Pie chart values: 0.82%, 7.81%, 3.36%, 88.01%

Legend: ■ ≤0.25 ■ 0.26 - 0.50 ■ 0.51 - 0.75 ■ 0.76 - 1.00

Principal faculty Includes PA-C, Non-PA.

Entry Level Programs***

Program Details – Faculty/Staff (n=302)

% Principal Faculty Attrition

11%

0%   10%   20%   30%   40%   50%   60%   70%   80%   90%   100%

% Attrition

% Administrative Staff Attrition

13%

0%   10%   20%   30%   40%   50%   60%   70%   80%   90%   100%
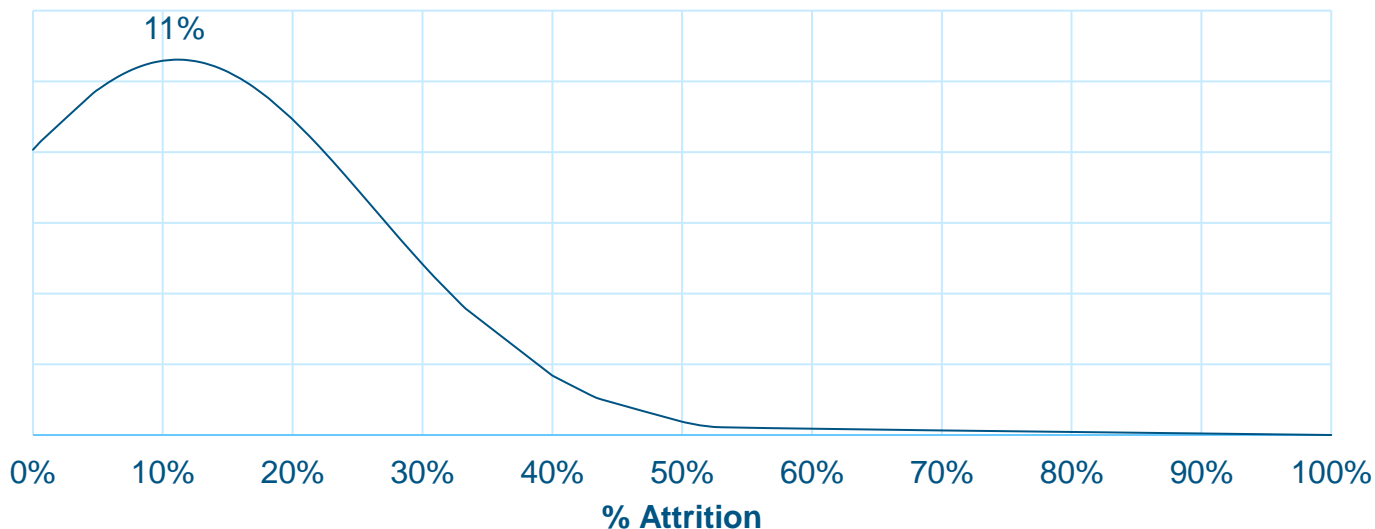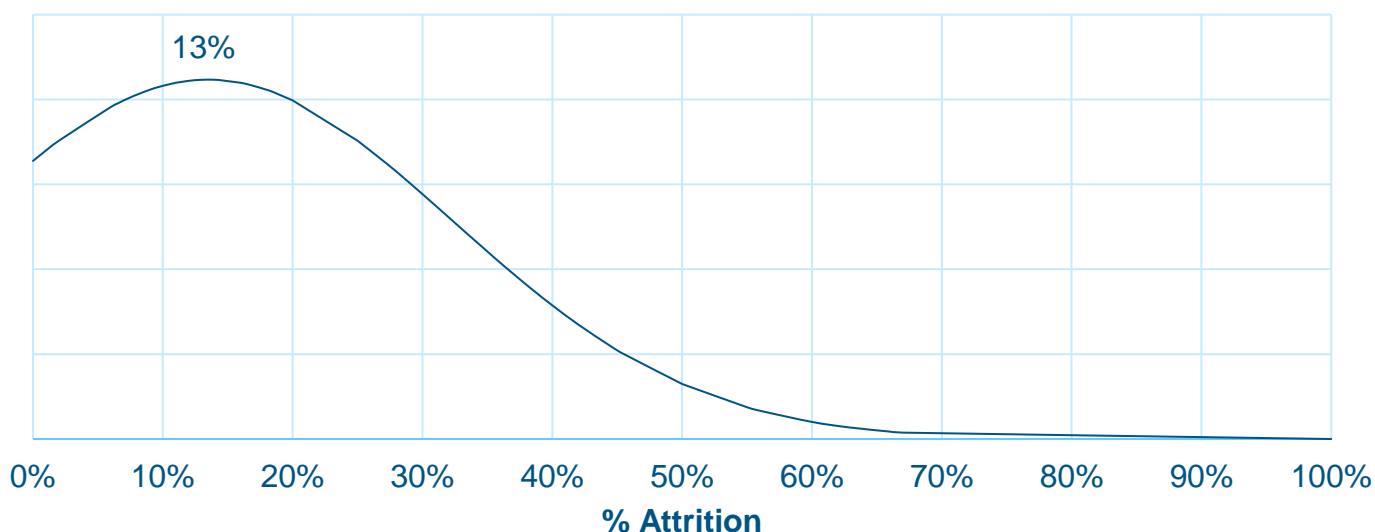
% Attrition

Principal Faculty Attrition: Average – 11%, Median – 7%

Administrative Staff Attrition: Average – 13%, Median – 0%

Principal faculty includes PA-C and Non-PA faculty

Entry Level Programs

Program Details – Students* (n=302)

Students

Category	Percentage
Graduation Rate	93.37%
Student Attrition	6.63%

Percentage (%)
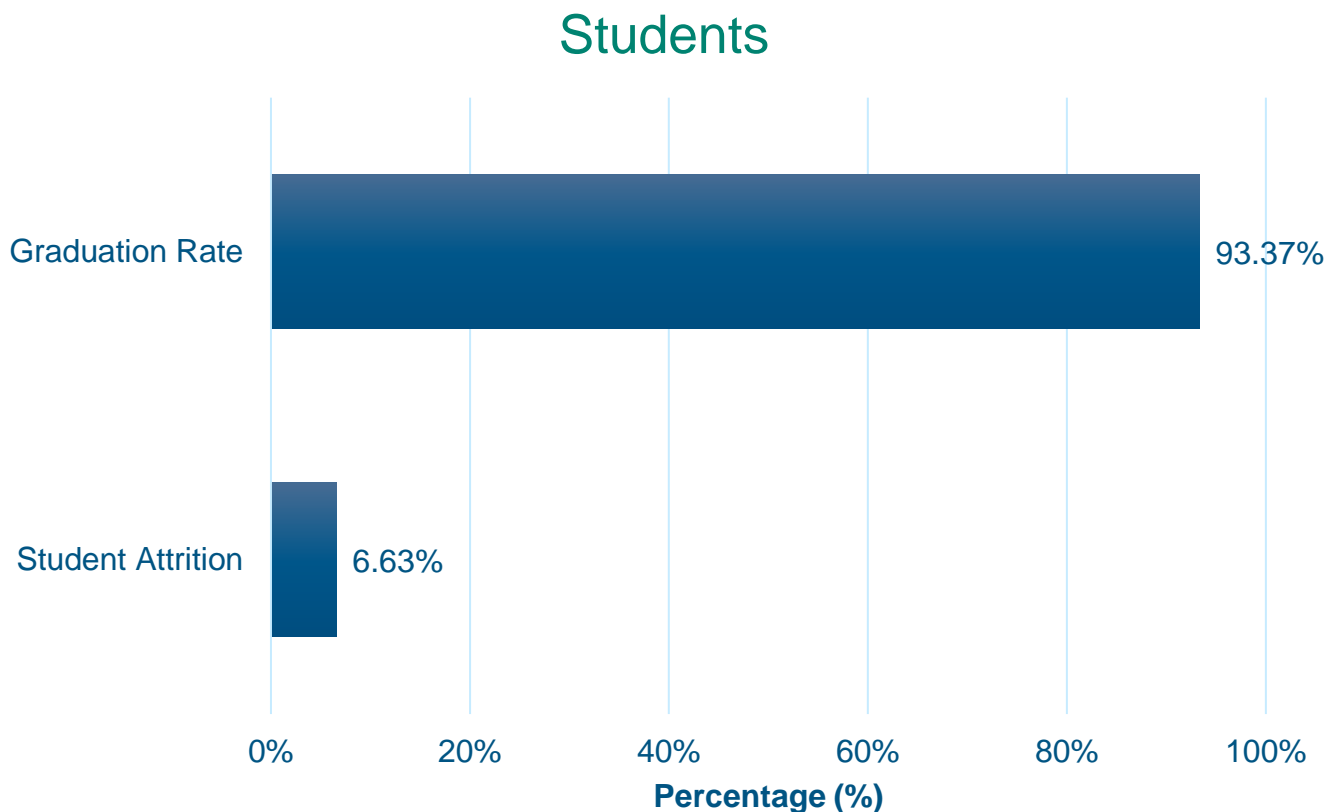
In 2023, Programs had:
- An average entering class size of 46 students
- 11590 total graduates

*Reported statistics of students at the time of the Annual Report (12.23)

Entry Level Programs

Program Details – Students* (n=255)
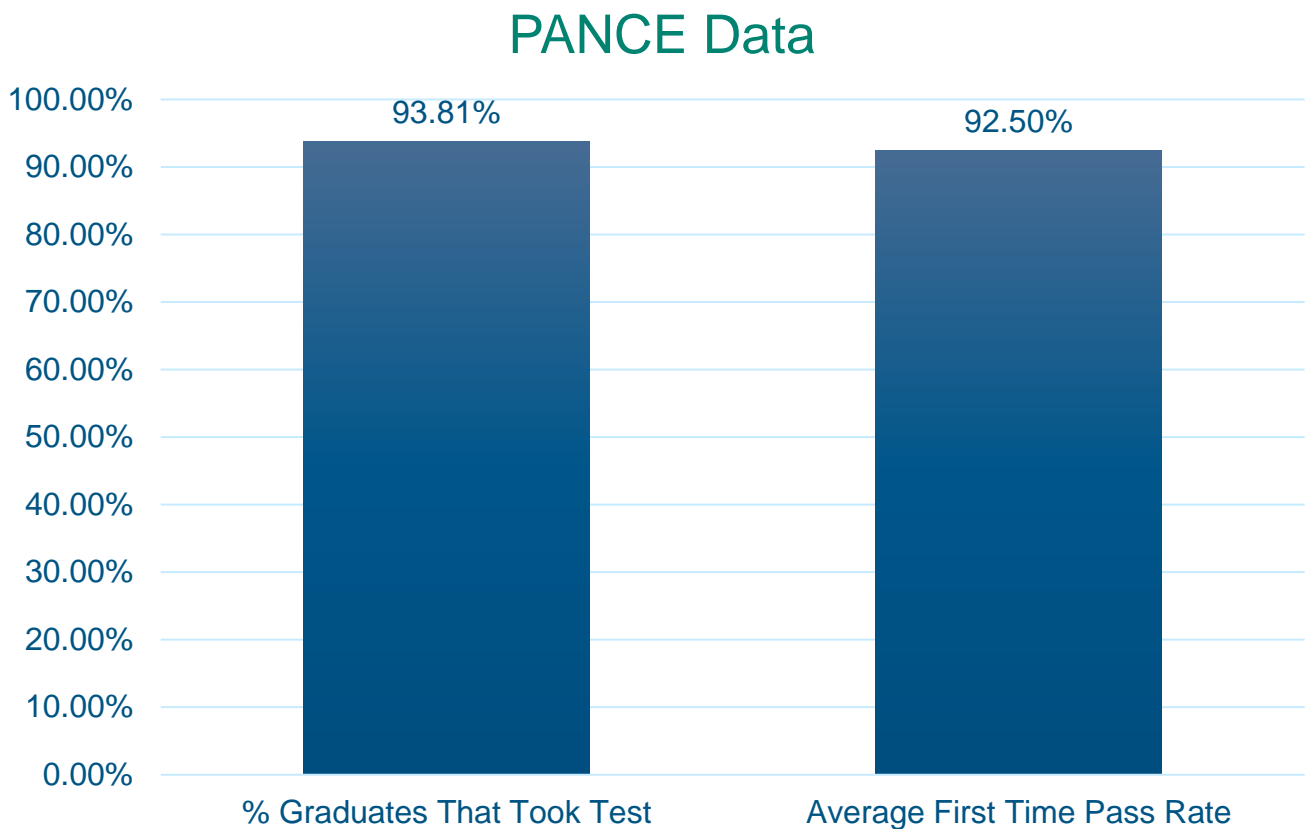
PANCE Data

Reported statistics of students at the time of the Annual Report (12.23)

Entry Level Programs

2023 Programs In Review

2023 Site Visit Breakdown
(76 Programs)

Bar chart showing 2023 Site Visit Breakdown:
- Continuing: 25
- Focused Visit: 12
- Probation - Focused Visit: 4
- Final Provisional: 12
- Provisional Monitoring: 10
- Provisional: 10
- Post-Graduate: 3
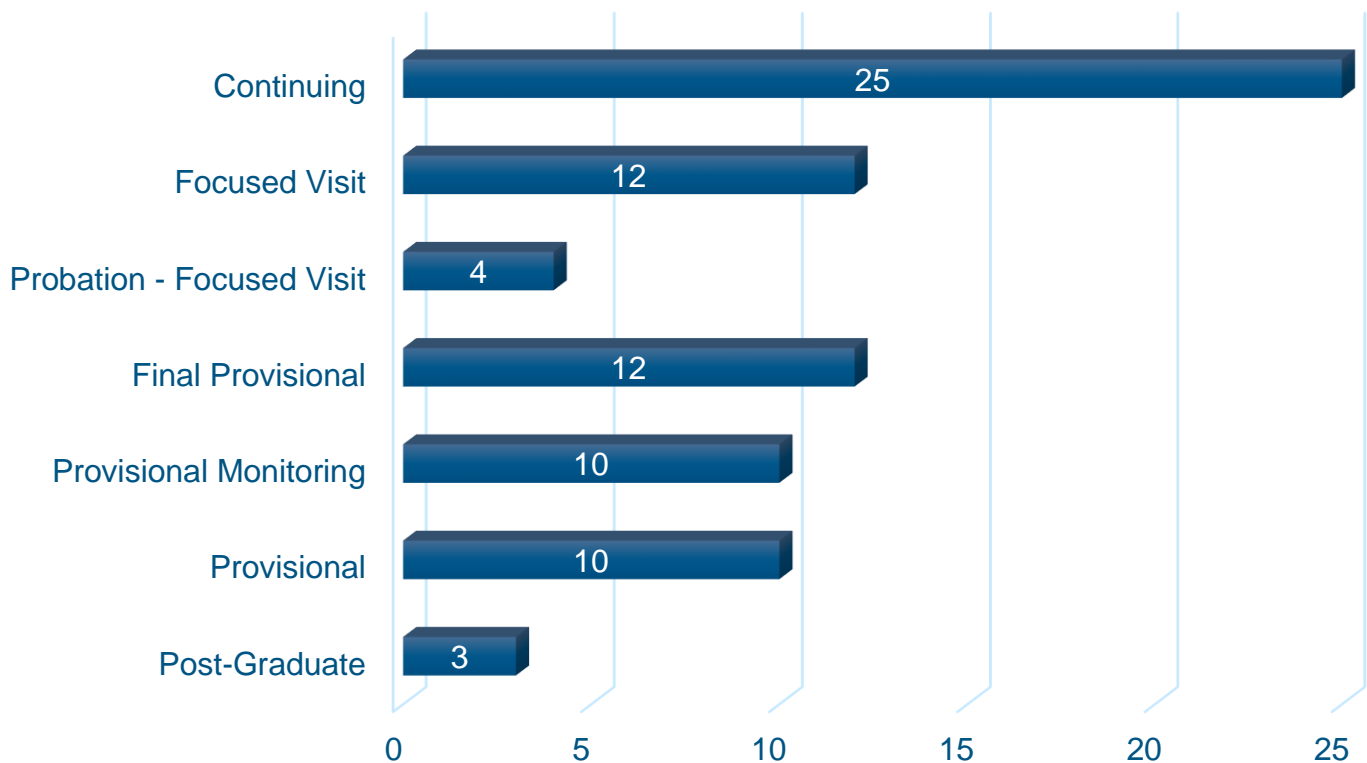
Site visits in 2023 were conducted both virtually and in-person

*Refer to Appendix A

Entry Level Programs

2023 Programs In Review

Commission Meeting Review Actions

See glossary on page 81 for definition of expedited review and informational item.

Entry Level Programs

2023 Programs In Review

2023 Commission Decisions (87 Programs)

	Applicant	Withheld	Provisional	Provisional+Probation	Probation	Continued	Withdrawn
Pre-Meeting	12		28	7	5	35	
Post-Meeting		4	23	7	20	27	6

■ Applicant ■ Withheld ■ Provisional ■ Provisional+Probation ■ Probation ■ Continued ■ Withdrawn

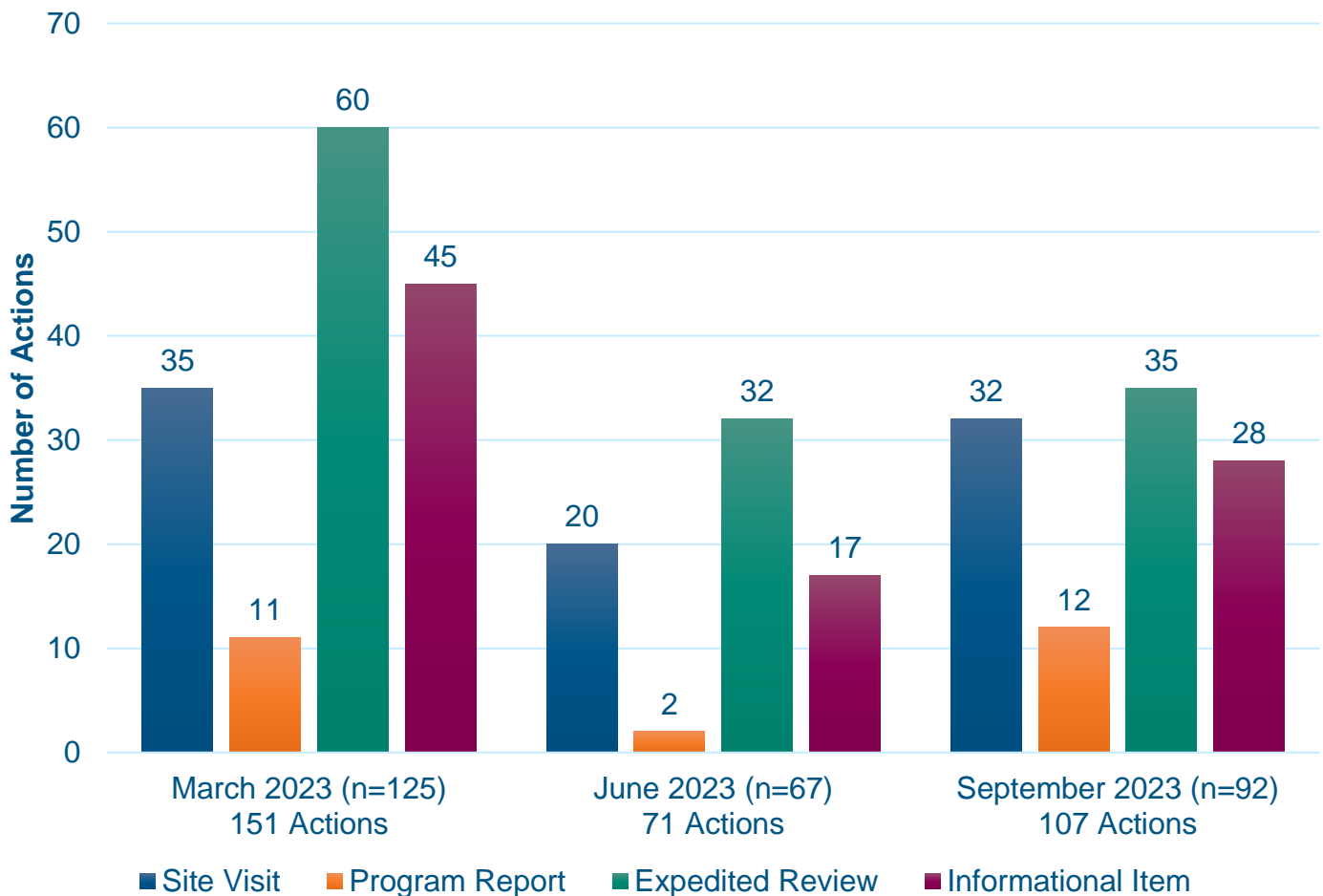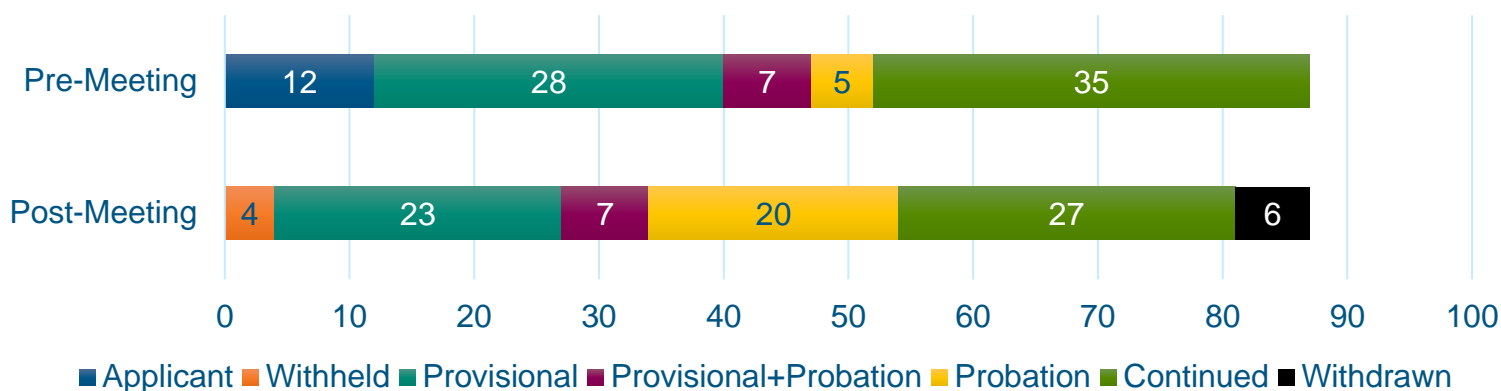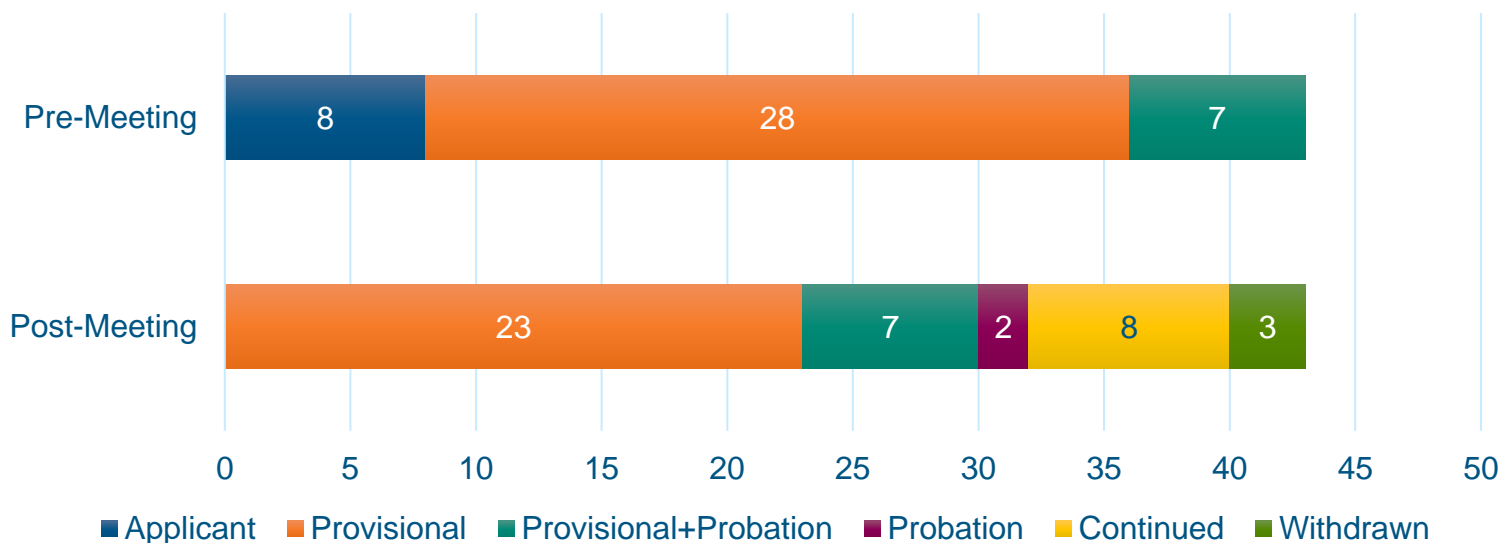| Section	Avg. # Citations per Program	Total # of Citations per Section	% of Total Citations	Most Cited Standard	n = # of Programs Receiving Citation	% Programs Receiving Citation	% of Section Citation
A. Administration	5.06	440	26.03%	A1.02a A1.02d A2.09d	23 21 26	26.44% 24.14% 29.89%	5.23% 4.77% 5.91%
B. Curriculum and Instruction	4.11	358	31.49%	B3.06a B4.01a B4.01b	29 35 44	33.33% 40.23% 50.57%	8.10% 9.78% 12.29%
C. Evaluation	3.07	267	23.48%	C1.02b C1.02ci C1.03	29 31 50	35.33% 35.63% 57.47%	10.86% 11.61% 18.73%
D. Provisional Accreditation	0.17	15	1.32%	D1.03 D1.04e D1.04g	3 each	3.45%	20.00%
E. Accreditation Maintenance	0.66	57	5.01%	E1.03	49	56.32%	85.96%

💡 Pre-meeting is the accreditation status a program held before the commission meeting. Post-meeting is the accreditation status of a program after the meeting as determined by the commission.

Entry Level Programs

2023 Programs In Review

Provisional Status (35 Pre-/30 Post-Meeting)

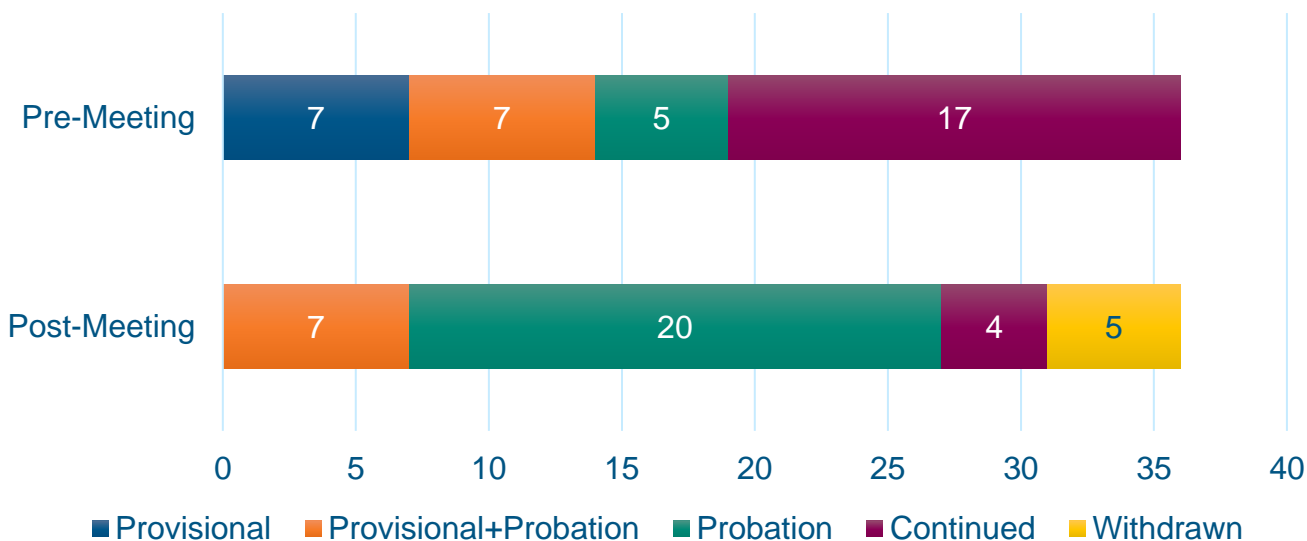| Section	Avg. # Citations per Program	Total # of Citations per Section	% of Total Citations	Most Cited Standard	n = # of Programs Receiving Citation	% Programs Receiving Citation	% of Section Citation
A. Administration	4.74	147	12.93%	A1.02a A2.09c	7 each	22.58%	1.59%
B. Curriculum and Instruction	3.10	96	8.44%	B4.01a B4.01b	11 each	35.48%	3.07%
C. Evaluation	2.42	75	21.74%	C1.03	12	38.71%	4.49%
D. Provisional Accreditation	0.10	3	0.26%	3 separate	1 each	3.23%	6.67%
E. Accreditation Maintenance	0.81	25	2.20%	E1.03	21	67.74%	36.84%

The most cited standards for **Provisionally** accredited programs reviewed were *B4.01a* and *B4.01b* which assess student learning.

Entry Level Programs

2023 Programs In Review

Probation Status (12 Pre-/27 Post-Meeting)

	Provisional	Provisional+Probation	Probation	Continued	Withdrawn
Pre-Meeting	7	7	5	17	
Post-Meeting		7	20	4	5

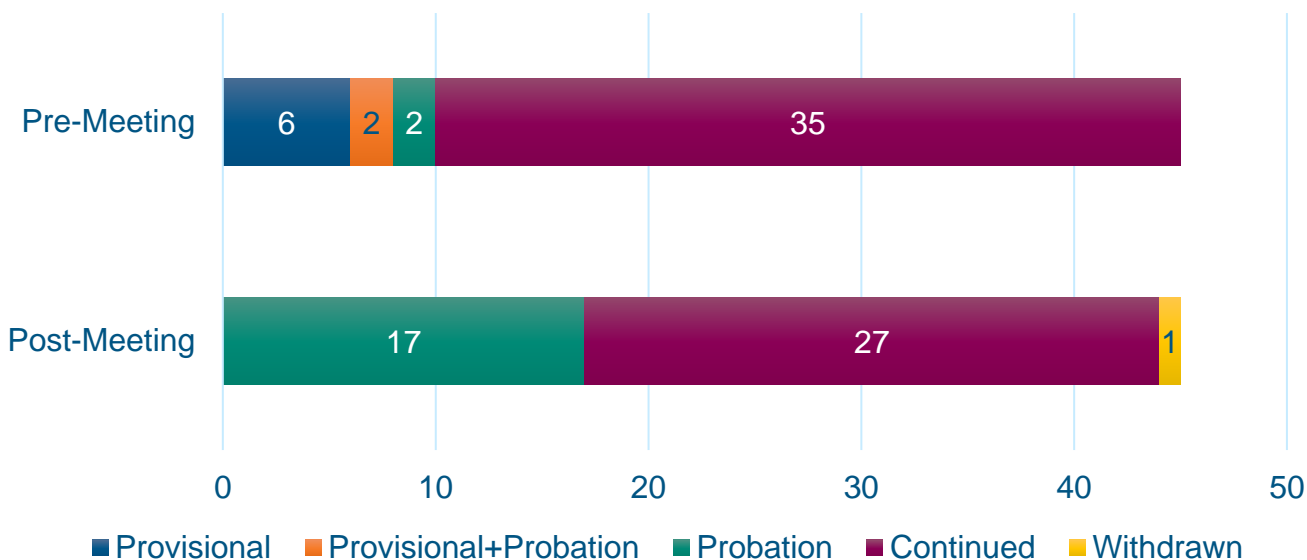| Section	Avg. # Citations per Program	Total # of Citations per Section	% of Total Citations	Most Cited Standard	n = # of Programs Receiving Citation	% Programs Receiving Citation	% of Section Citation
A. Administration	11.54	300	26.39%	A2.09d	20	76.92%	4.55%
B. Curriculum and Instruction	8.62	224	19.70%	B4.01b	18	69.23%	5.03%
C. Evaluation	7.08	184	53.33%	C1.03	23	88.46%	8.61%
D. Provisional Accreditation	0	0	0.00%	N/A	0	0.00%	0.00%
E. Accreditation Maintenance	0.92	24	2.11%	E1.03	18	69.23%	31.58%

The most cited standard for programs on accreditation **Probation** was *C1.03* which requires programs prepare a self-study report that accurately and succinctly documents the process, application and results of ongoing program self-assessment.

Entry Level Programs

2023 Programs In Review

Continued Status (35 Pre-/27 Post-Meeting)

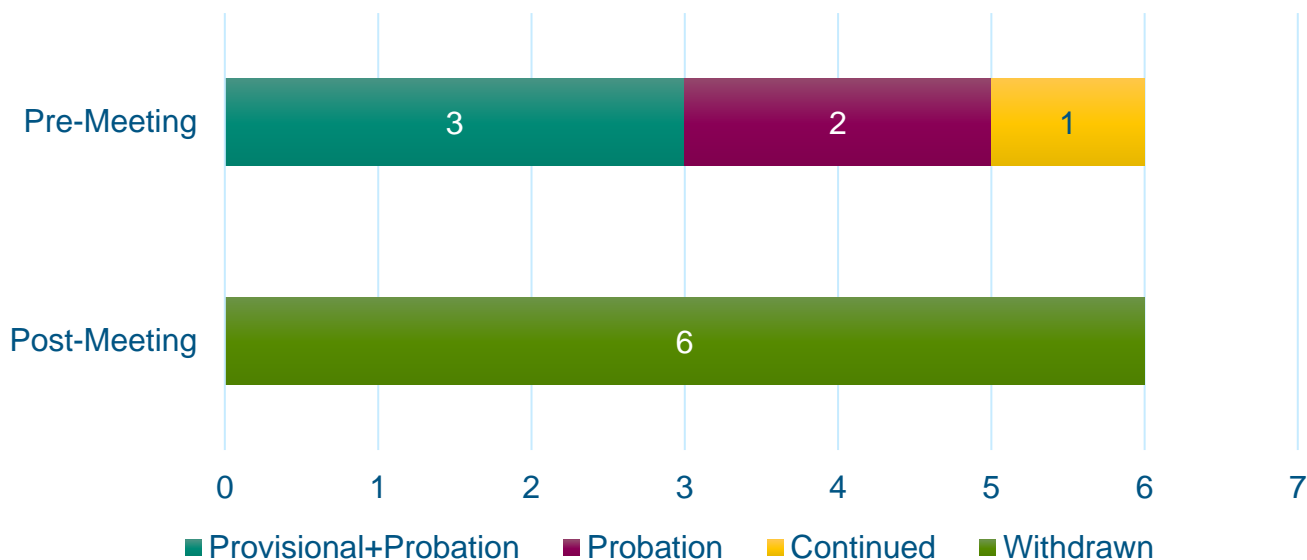| Section	Avg. # Citations per Program	Total # of Citations per Section	% of Total Citations	Most Cited Standard	n = # of Programs Receiving Citation	% Programs Receiving Citation	% of Section Citation
A. Administration	1.26	34	2.99%	A3.12b	4	14.81%	0.91%
B. Curriculum and Instruction	1.85	50	4.40%	B4.01b	13	48.15%	3.63%
C. Evaluation	1.00	27	7.83%	C1.03	15	55.56%	5.62%
D. Provisional Accreditation	0	0	0.00%	N/A	0	0.00%	0.00%
E. Accreditation Maintenance	0.41	11	0.97%	E1.03	11	40.47%	19.30%

Of the 35 programs with Accreditation-Continued status prior to the meeting, 17 programs were placed on Accreditation-Probation, 17 maintained Accreditation-Continued status, and 1 had its accreditation withdrawn.

Entry Level Programs

2023 Programs In Review

Withdrawn Status (6 Programs)

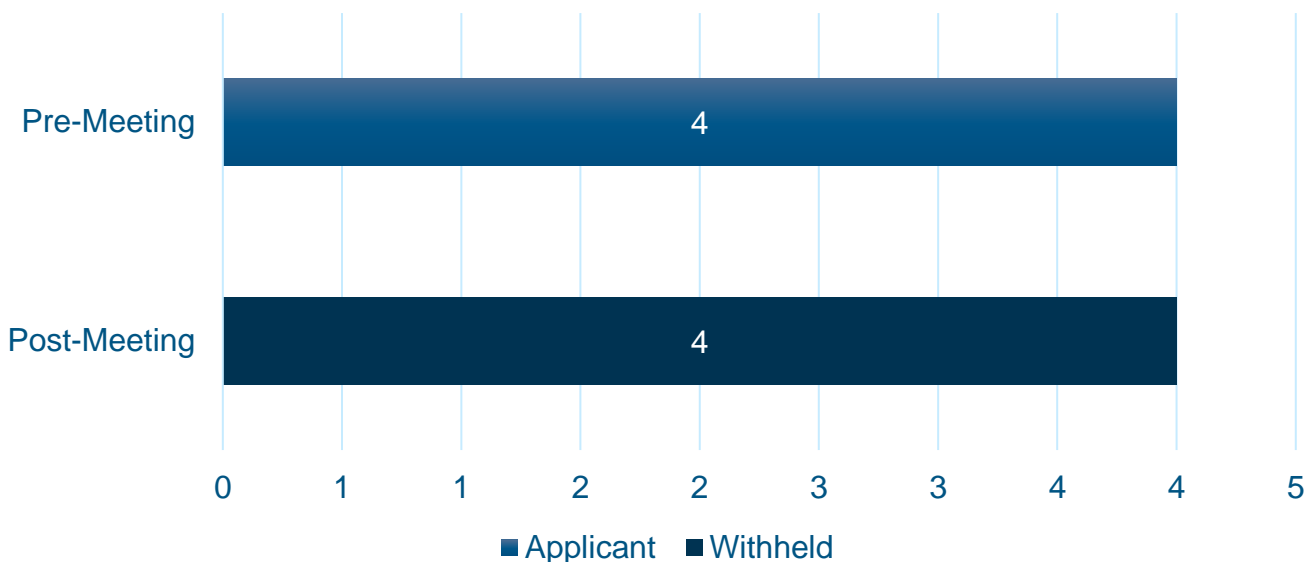| Section	Avg. # Citations per Program	Total # of Citations per Section	% of Total Citations	Most Cited Standard	n = # of Programs Receiving Citation	% Programs Receiving Citation	% of Section Citation
A. Administration	6.67	40	3.52%	A2.09d	4	66.67%	0.91%
B. Curriculum and Instruction	3.00	18	1.58%	B4.01a B4.01b	3 each	50.00%	0.84%
C. Evaluation	3.67	22	6.38%	C1.02b C1.02ci C1.03	5 each	83.33%	1.87%
D. Provisional Accreditation	0	0	0.00%	N/A	0	0.00%	0.00%
E. Accreditation Maintenance	1.00	6	0.53%	E1.03	4	66.67%	7.02%

The program that had their accreditation **Withdrawn** had the most citations in the Administrative section of the standards.

Entry Level Programs

2023 Programs In Review

Withheld Status (4 Programs)

Section	Avg. # Citations per Program	Total # of Citations per Section	% of Total Citations	Most Cited Standard	n = # of Programs Receiving Citation	% Programs Receiving Citation	% of Section Citation
A. Administration	4.25	17	1.50%	17 separate	1	25.00%	0.23%
B. Curriculum and Instruction	7.00	28	2.46%	4 separate	3	75.00%	0.84%
C. Evaluation	0	0	0.00%	N/A	0	0.00%	0.00%
D. Provisional Accreditation	3.00	12	1.06%	4 separate	2	50.00%	13.33%
E. Accreditation Maintenance	0	0	0.00%	N/A	0	0.00%	0.00%

The program that had their accreditation **Withheld** had the most citations in the curriculum and instruction section of the standards.

Entry Level Programs

2023 Programs In Review – Citations

Section Citations/Program
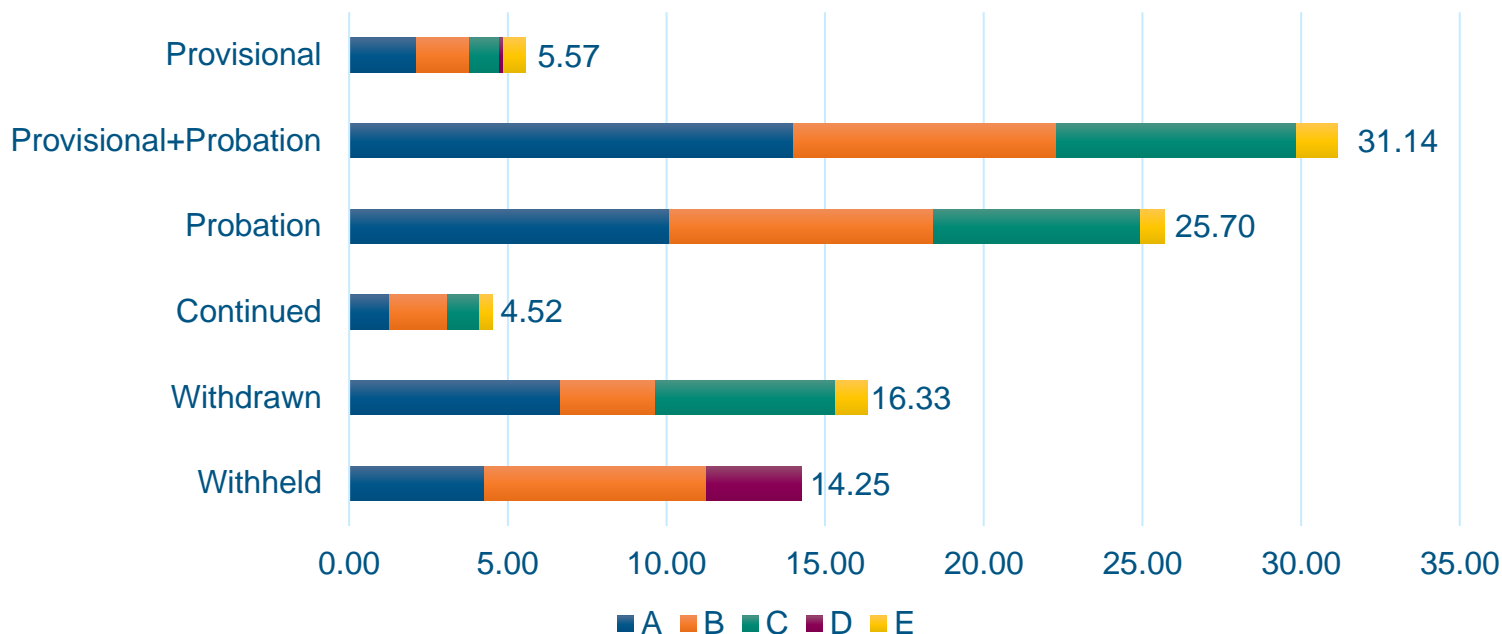
Status	A. Admin	B. Curr & Inst	C. Eval	D. Prov Acc	E. Acc Main
Provisional	2.13	1.65	0.96	0.13	0.70
Provisional/Probation	14.00	8.29	7.57	0.00	1.29
Probation	10.10	8.30	6.55	0.00	0.75
Continued	1.26	1.85	1.00	0.00	0.41
Withdrawn	6.67	3.00	5.67	0.00	1.00
Withheld	4.25	7.00	0.00	3.00	0.00

Citations per program by accreditation status awarded after commission meeting review.

Entry Level Programs
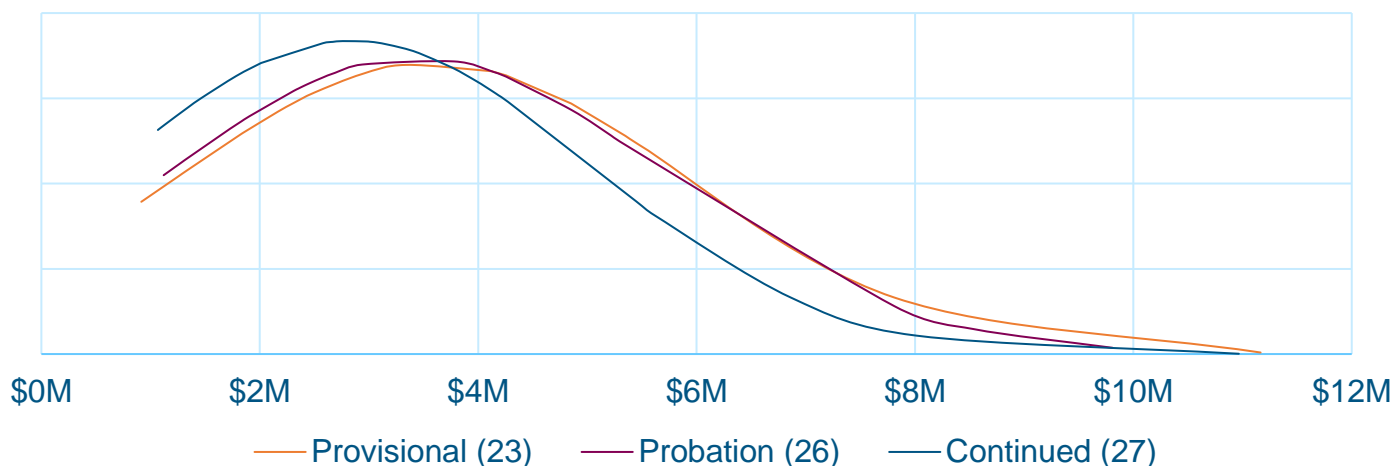
2023 Programs In Review – Budget

Total Budget (n=70)

$0M $2M $4M $6M $8M $10M $12M

—— Provisional (23)   —— Probation (26)   —— Continued (27)

Operations Budget (n=67)

$0M $1M $1M $2M $2M

—— Provisional (24)   —— Probation (25)   —— Continued (25)
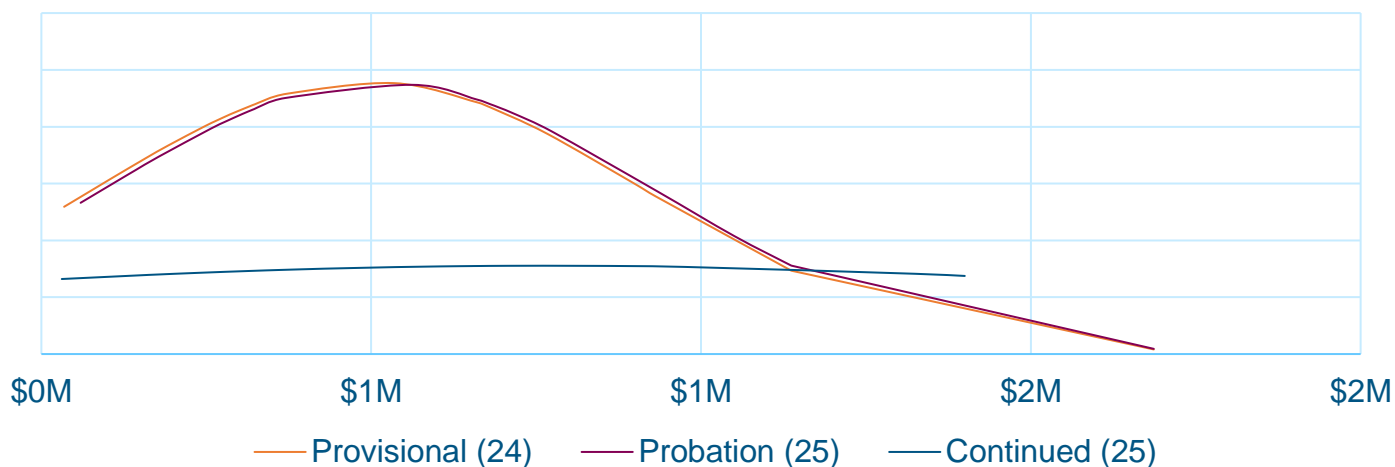
Budget Type	Avg/Med Prov	Avg/Med Prob	Avg/Med Cont
Total	$3.58/2.94M	$3.43/2.52M	$2.84/3.39M
Operational	$496/321K	$511/325K	$764/429K

Provisionally accredited programs have *smaller* total and operational budgets. Programs on **Continued** have the *largest* total and operational budgets of all the programs.

Entry Level Programs

2023 Programs In Review – Faculty/Staff
% Personnel Makeup

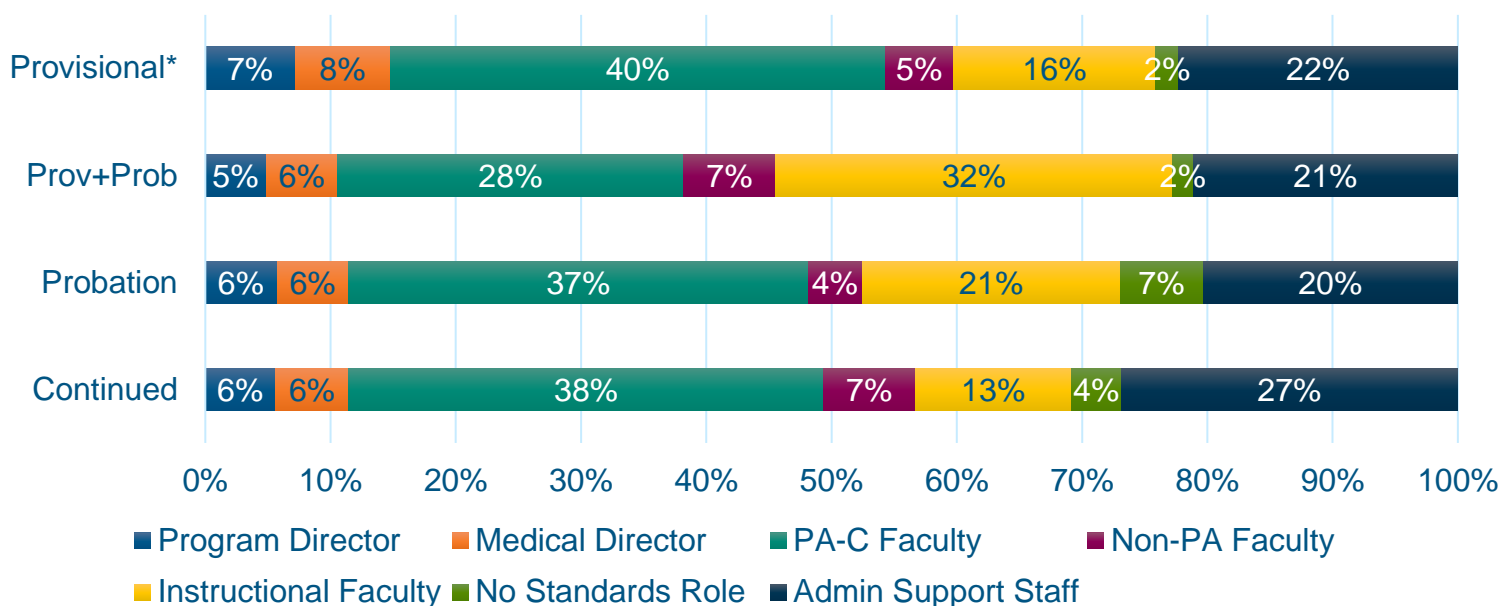|	Program Director	Medical Director	PA-C Faculty	Non-PA Faculty	Instructional Faculty	No Standards Role	Admin Support Staff
Provisional*	7%	8%	40%	5%	16%	2%	22%
Prov+Prob	5%	6%	28%	7%	32%	2%	21%
Probation	6%	6%	37%	4%	21%	7%	20%
Continued	6%	6%	38%	7%	13%	4%	27%

Average Personnel/Program

Provisional*	Prov+Prob	Probation	Continued
13.90	17.57	17.45	17.78
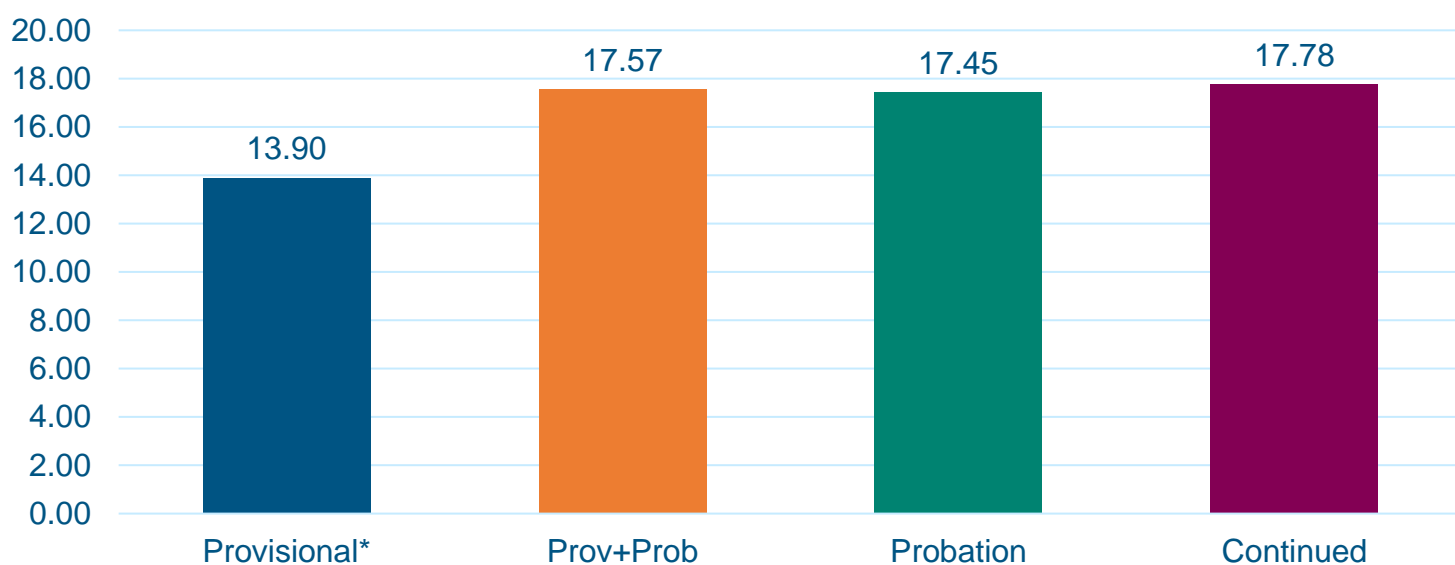
There are *no* significant differences in program composition. **Provisionally** accredited programs have the least personnel per program.
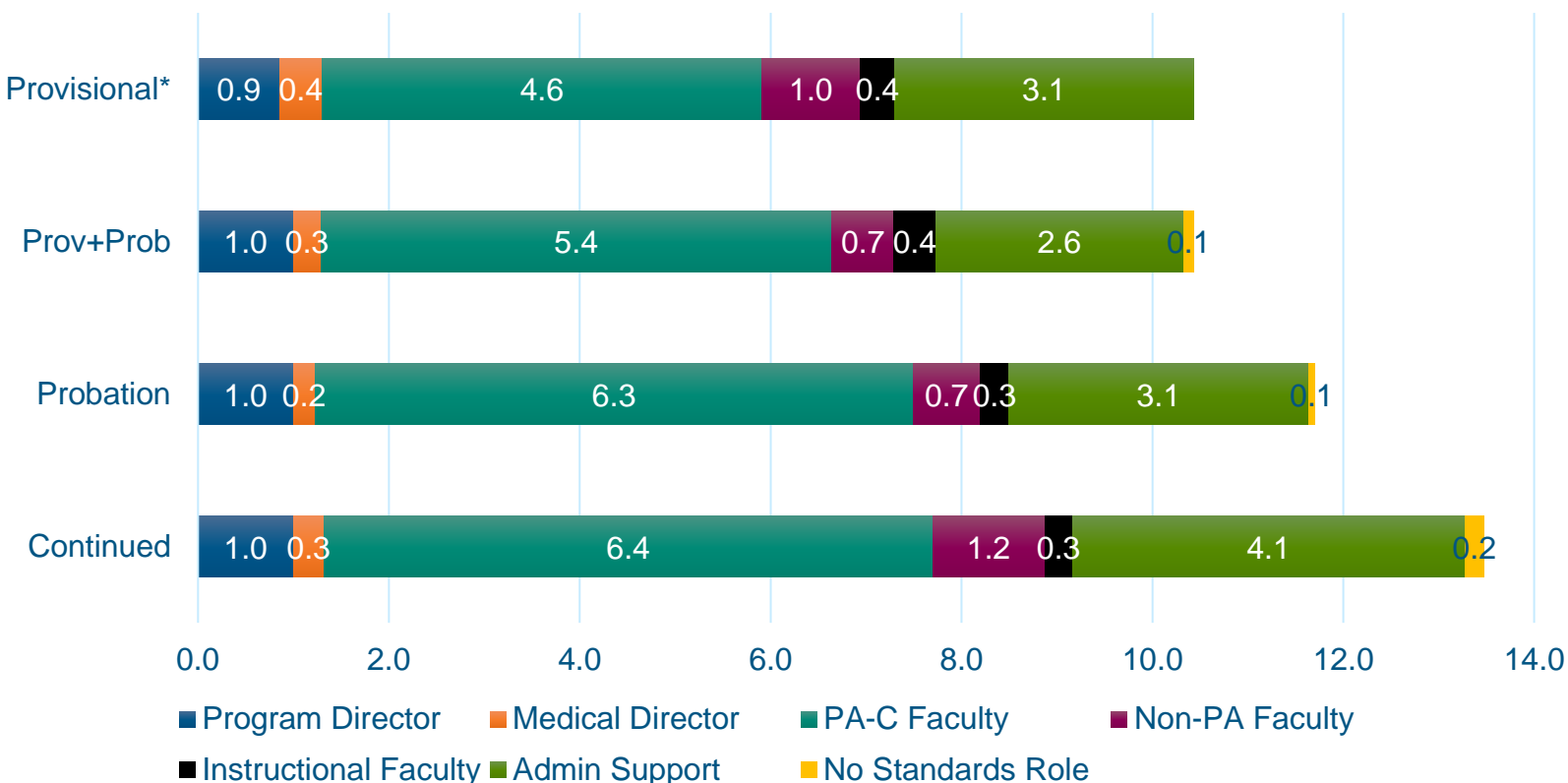*Provisional June & Sept Applicant Program data is not included*

Entry Level Programs

2023 Programs In Review – Faculty/Staff

Average FTE/Program

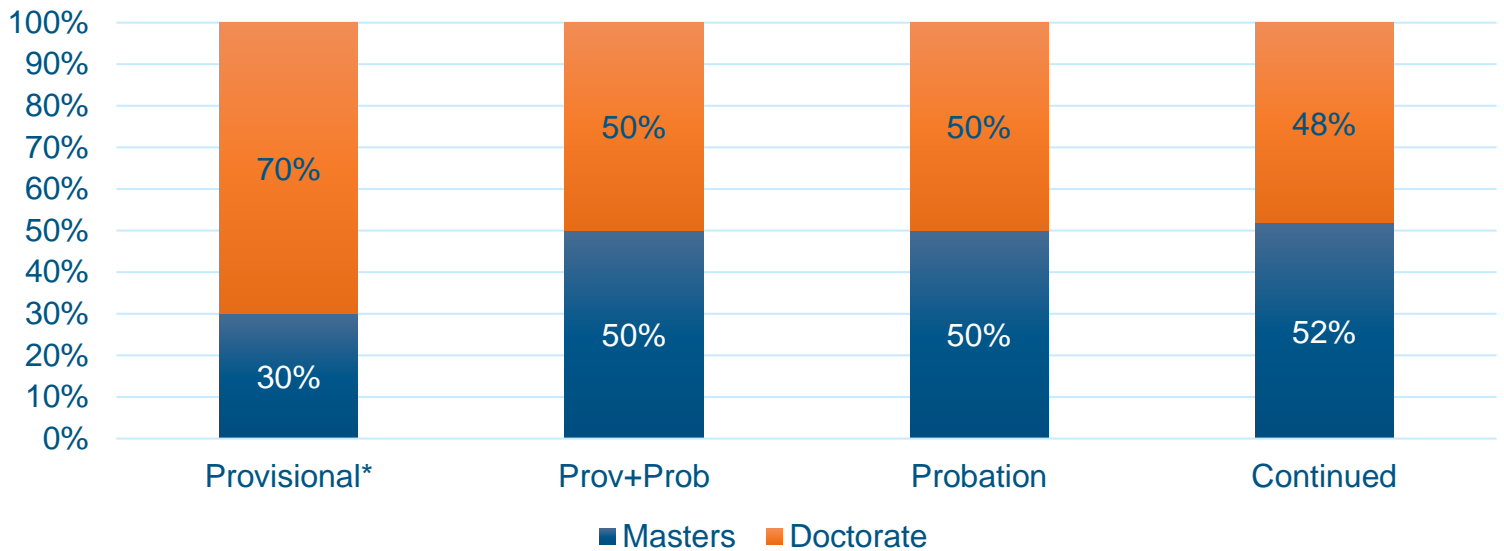| Faculty Type	Prov*	Prov+Prob	Prob	Cont
Program Director	0.86	1.00	1.00	1.00
Medical Director	0.44	0.29	0.23	0.32
PA-C Principal Faculty	4.61	5.36	6.27	6.38
Non-PA Principal Faculty	1.03	0.65	0.70	1.17
Instructional Faculty	0.36	0.44	0.30	0.29
Administrative Support Staff	3.13	2.60	3.14	4.11
No Standards Role	0.00	0.11	0.07	0.20
Total	10.43	10.43	11.70	13.47

Continuing accredited programs have the *highest* average FTE/program with between 2-3 more FTE than other programs.

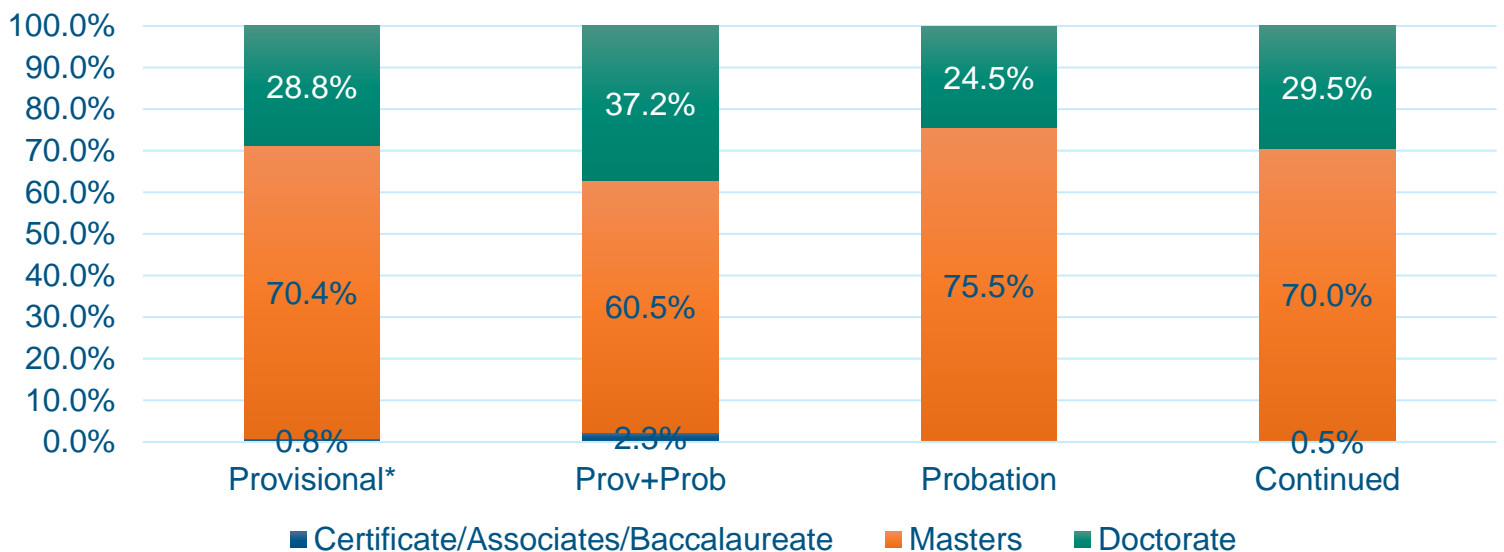*Provisional June & Sept Applicant Program data is not included*

Entry Level Programs

2023 Programs In Review – Faculty/Staff

% Highest Academic Credential PD

	Provisional*	Prov+Prob	Probation	Continued
Doctorate	70%	50%	50%	48%
Masters	30%	50%	50%	52%

Legend: ■ Masters ■ Doctorate

% Highest Academic Credential Faculty**

	Provisional*	Prov+Prob	Probation	Continued
Doctorate	28.8%	37.2%	24.5%	29.5%
Masters	70.4%	60.5%	75.5%	70.0%
Certificate/Associates/Baccalaureate	0.8%	2.3%		0.5%

Legend: ■ Certificate/Associates/Baccalaureate ■ Masters ■ Doctorate

There were a similar number of program directors and faculty with doctoral versus master's degrees.
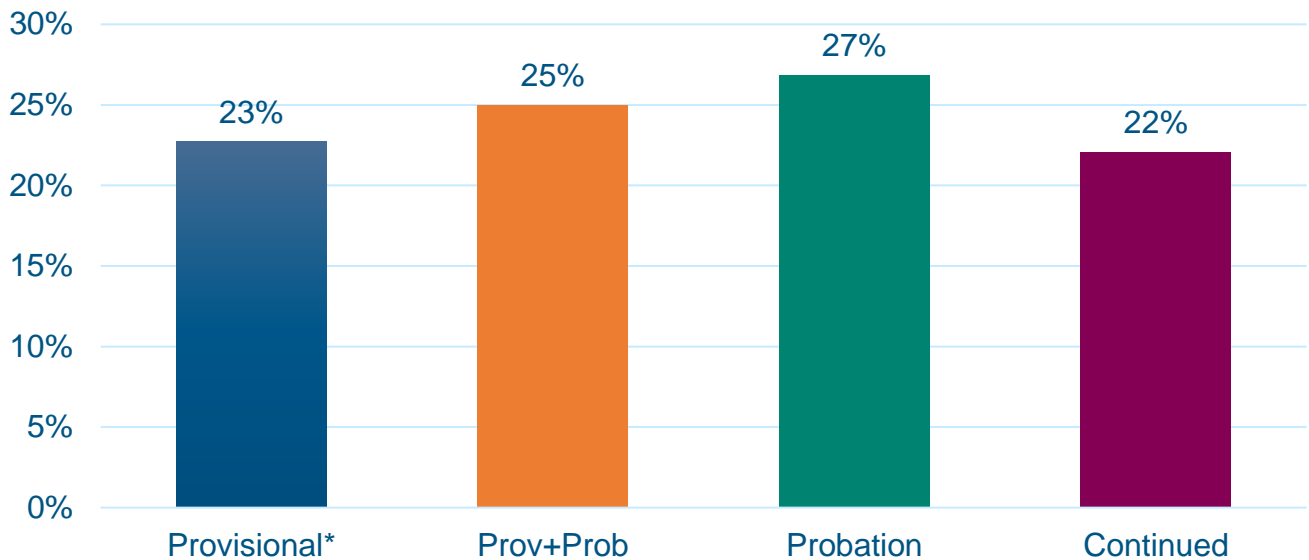*Provisional June & Sept Applicant Programs are not included
**Includes PA-C and Non-PA

Entry Level Programs

2023 Programs In Review – Faculty/Staff

% Administrative Staff Attrition

Category	Value
Provisional*	23%
Prov+Prob	25%
Probation	27%
Continued	22%

Principal Faculty Attrition

Category	Value
Provisional*	18%
Prov+Prob	38%
Probation	8%
Continued	11%
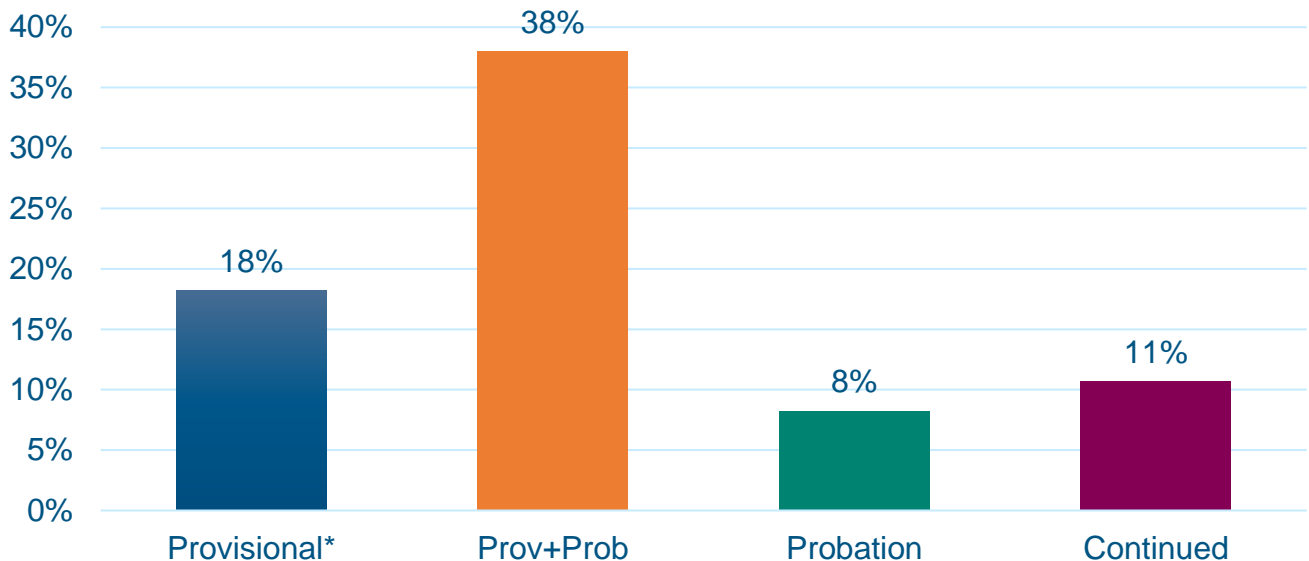
ARC-PA monitors attrition of staff and faculty, as it can be an indicator for instability in a program.

Provisional June & Sept Applicant Programs are not included

Entry Level Programs

2023 Programs In Review – Students

Most Recent Graduates

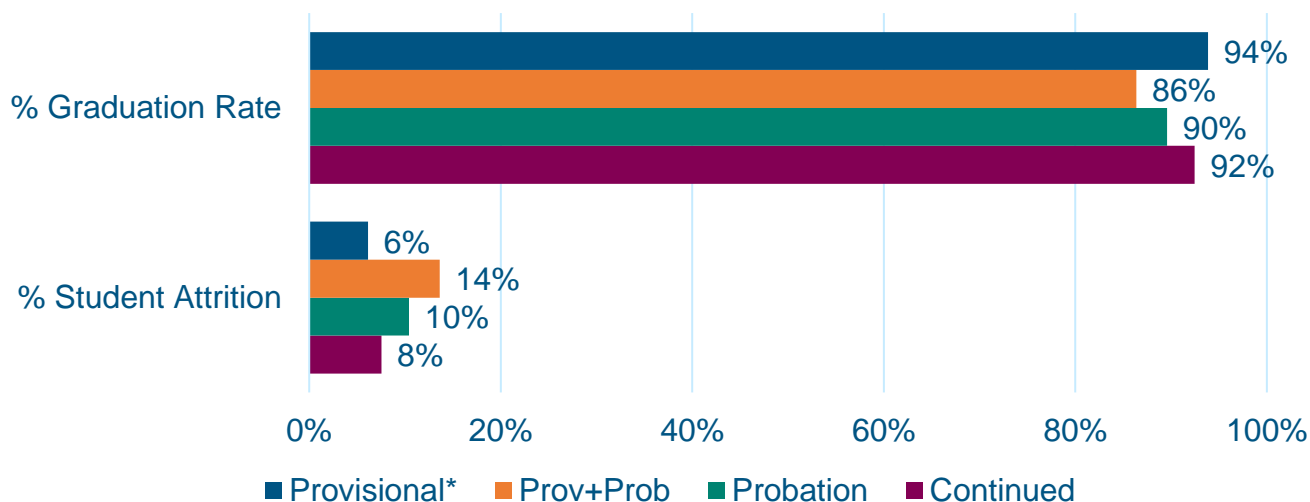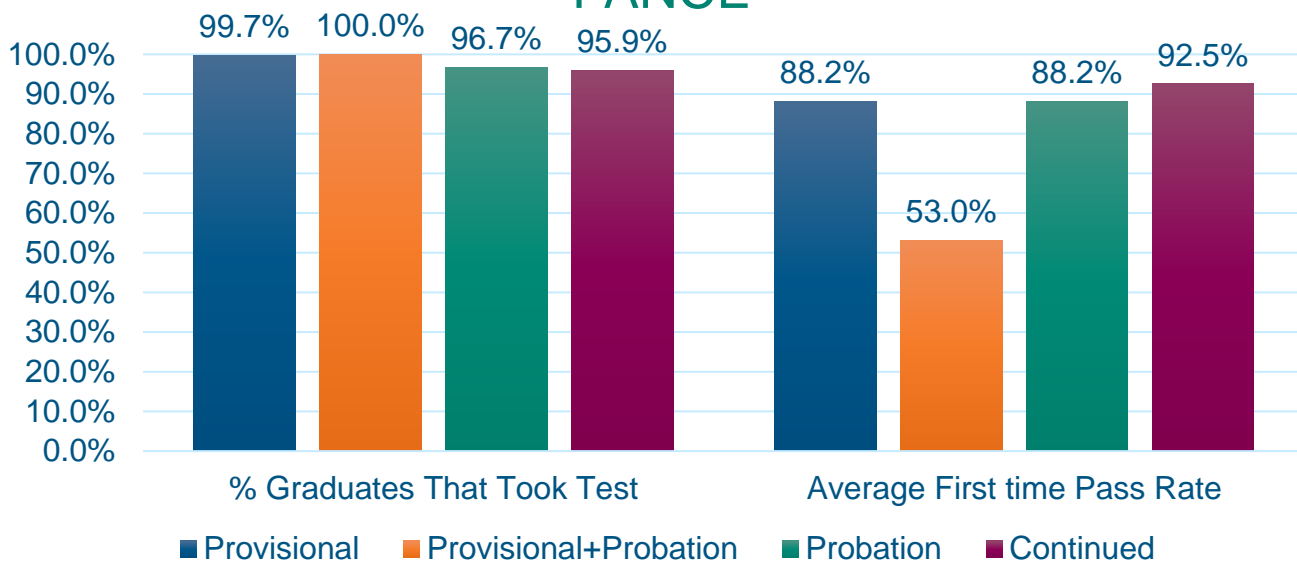Horizontal bar chart showing:

% Graduation Rate
- Provisional*: 94%
- Prov+Prob: 86%
- Probation: 90%
- Continued: 92%

% Student Attrition
- Provisional*: 6%
- Prov+Prob: 14%
- Probation: 10%
- Continued: 8%

Legend: Provisional* | Prov+Prob | Probation | Continued

PANCE

Bar chart showing:

% Graduates That Took Test
- Provisional: 99.7%
- Provisional+Probation: 100.0%
- Probation: 96.7%
- Continued: 95.9%

Average First time Pass Rate
- Provisional: 88.2%
- Provisional+Probation: 53.0%
- Probation: 88.2%
- Continued: 92.5%

Legend: Provisional | Provisional+Probation | Probation | Continued
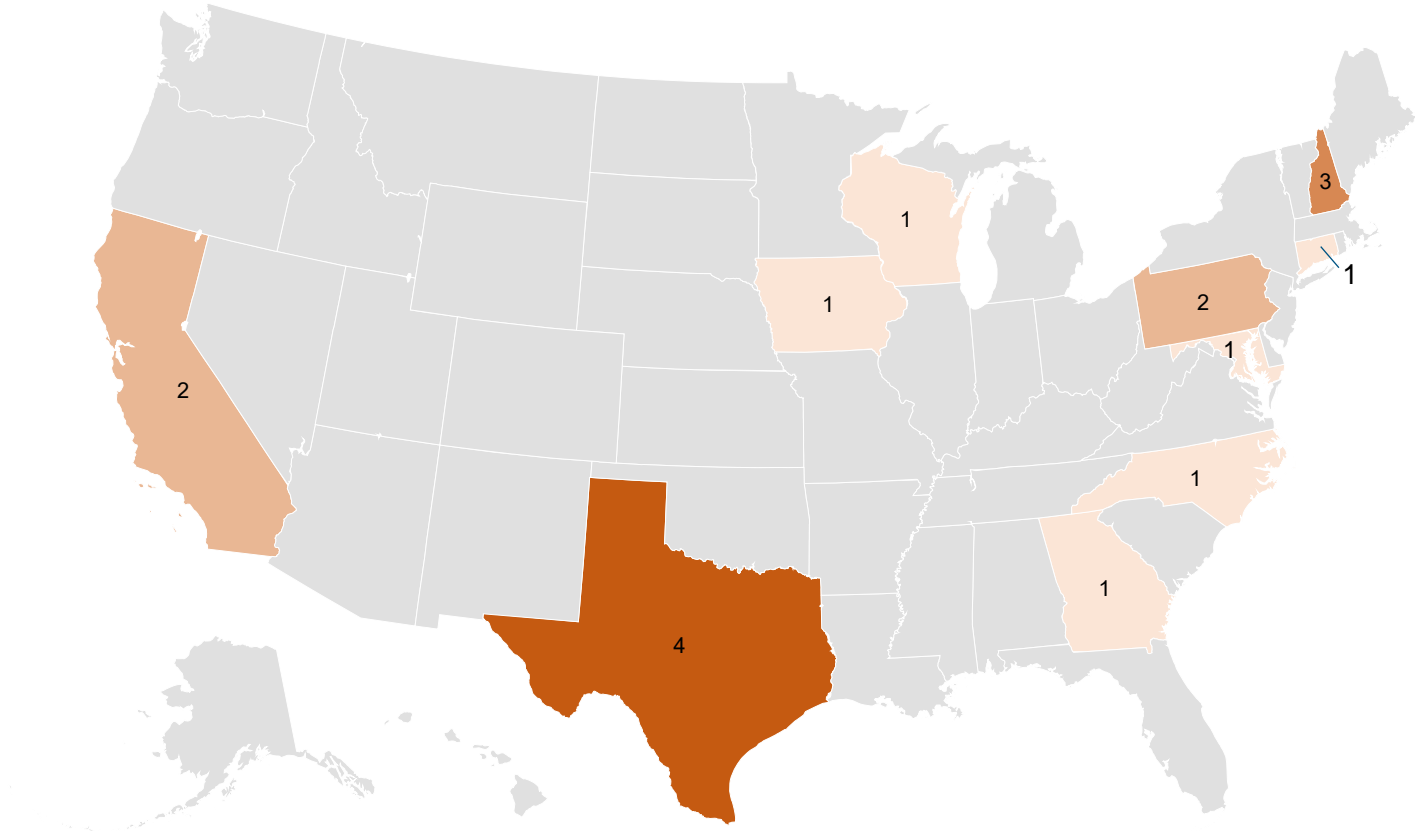
Note: Programs that have not yet graduated a cohort are not included whether they have had student attrition or not.
Note: Provisional programs with no PANCE data were not included.

Clinical Post-Graduate (PG) PA Programs

Geographic Distribution

Postgraduate Accreditation (n=17)

2023 # of Programs

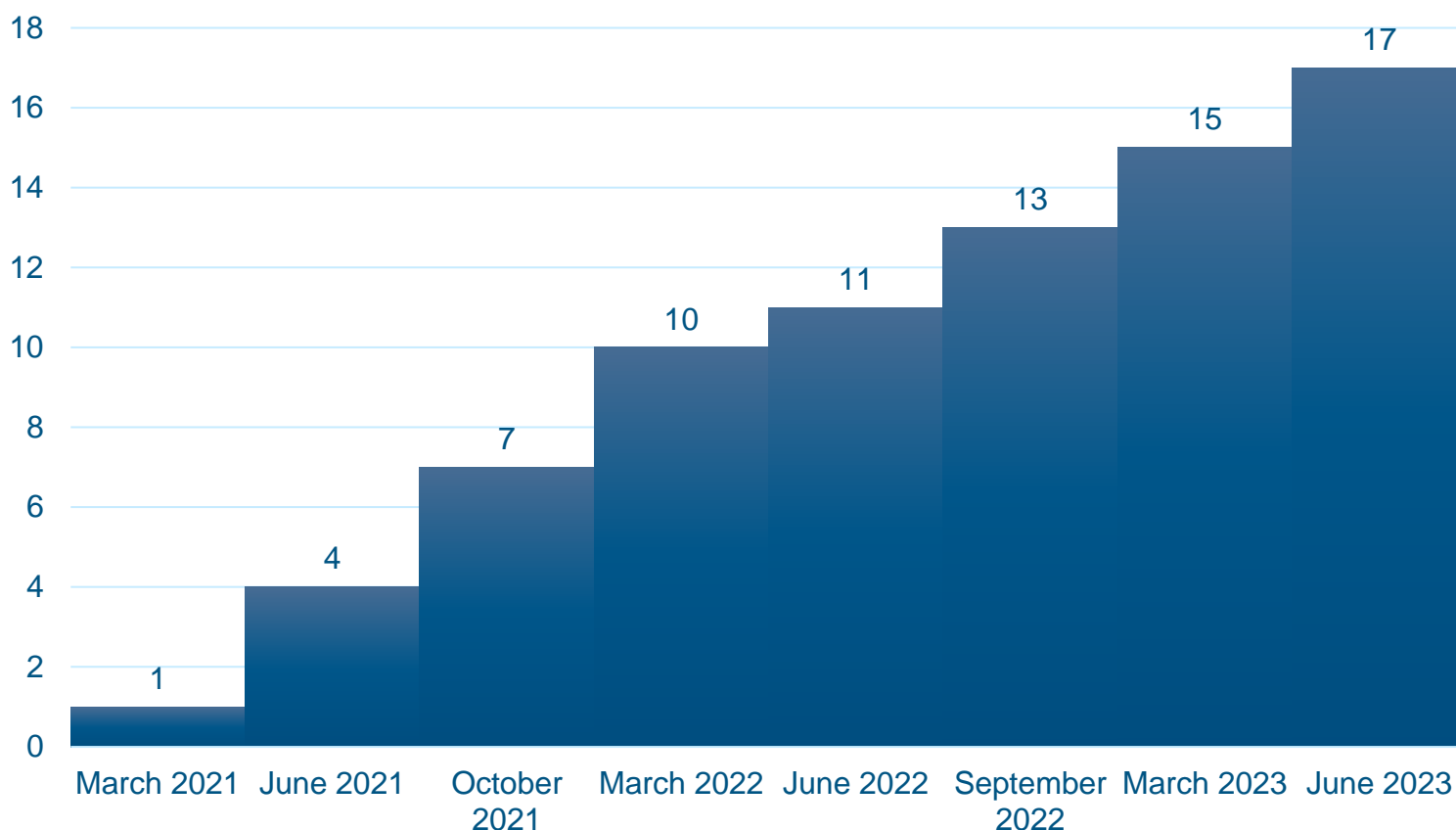1   4

Clinical PG PA Programs

Geographic Distribution

Region	Division	State	N	% Total	New	% Change
Midwest			**2**	11.76%	**1**	**100.00%**
	East North		**1**	5.88%	**1**	**100.00%**
		WI	1	5.88%	1	100.00%
	West North Central		**1**	**5.88%**	**0**	**0.00%**
		IA	1	5.88%	0	0.00%
Northeast			**5**	29.41%	**2**	**66.67%**
	Middle Atlantic		**1**	5.88%	**1**	**100.00%**
		PA	1	5.88%	1	100.00%
	New England		**4**	**23.53%**	**1**	**33.33%**
		CT	1	5.88%	0	0.00%
		NH	3	17.65%	1	50.00%
South			**7**	**41.18%**	**0**	**0.00%**
	South Atlantic		**3**	**17.65%**	**0**	**0.00%**
		GA	1	5.88%	0	0.00%
		MD	1	5.88%	0	0.00%
		NC	1	5.88%	0	0.00%
	West South Central		**4**	**23.53%**	**0**	**0.00%**
		TX	4	23.53%	0	0.00%
West			**1**	**5.88%**	**0**	**0.00%**
	Pacific		**2**	**11.76%**	**1**	**100.00%**
		CA	2	11.76%	1	100.00%
Total			**17**	**100.00%**	**5**	**41.67%**

Clinical PG PA Programs

Accreditation Demographics

Cumulative Accredited Programs

| Date	Cumulative Accredited Programs
March 2021	1
June 2021	4
October 2021	7
March 2022	10
June 2022	11
September 2022	13
March 2023	15
June 2023	17

All Clinical Post Graduate PA Programs are Provisionally Accredited.

2023 was the third year ARC-PA accredited Clinical Post-Graduate PA programs under the new process and standards initiated in 2019.

Clinical PG PA Programs
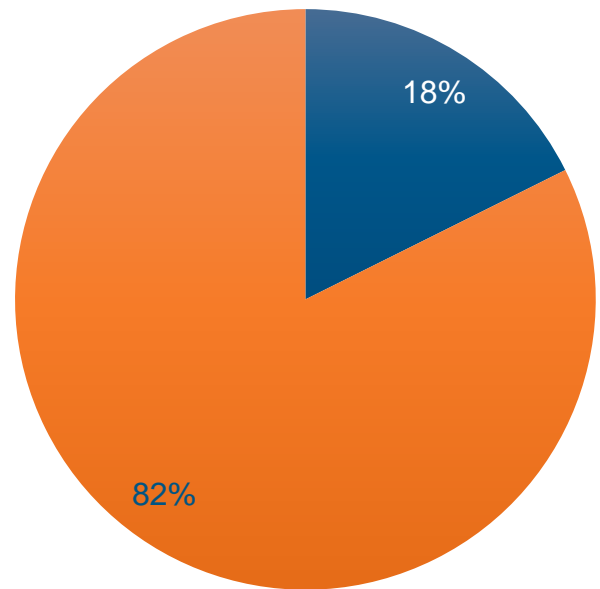
Institutional Details (n=17)

Organization Type

47% Not For Profit
53% For Profit

■ Not For Profit ■ For Profit

Institution Type
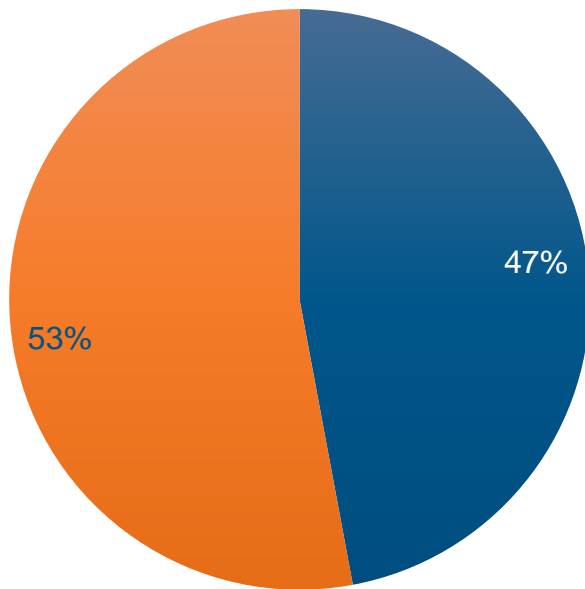
18% Private
82% Public

■ Private ■ Public

Organization Type	Number	Percent
Not for Profit	8	47%
For Profit	9	53%

Institution Type	Number	Percent
Private	3	18%
Public	14	82%

Organization/Institution	Private	Public
Not for Profit	12%	41%
For Profit	6%	41%

Clinical PG PA Programs

Institutional Details (n=17)

Description

Description	Number of Programs
Hospital	7
Medical Center	5
HealthCare System	4
Clinic	1

Number of Programs

Accreditation Body

Joint Commission as a hospital/medical center or ambulatory clinic: 17
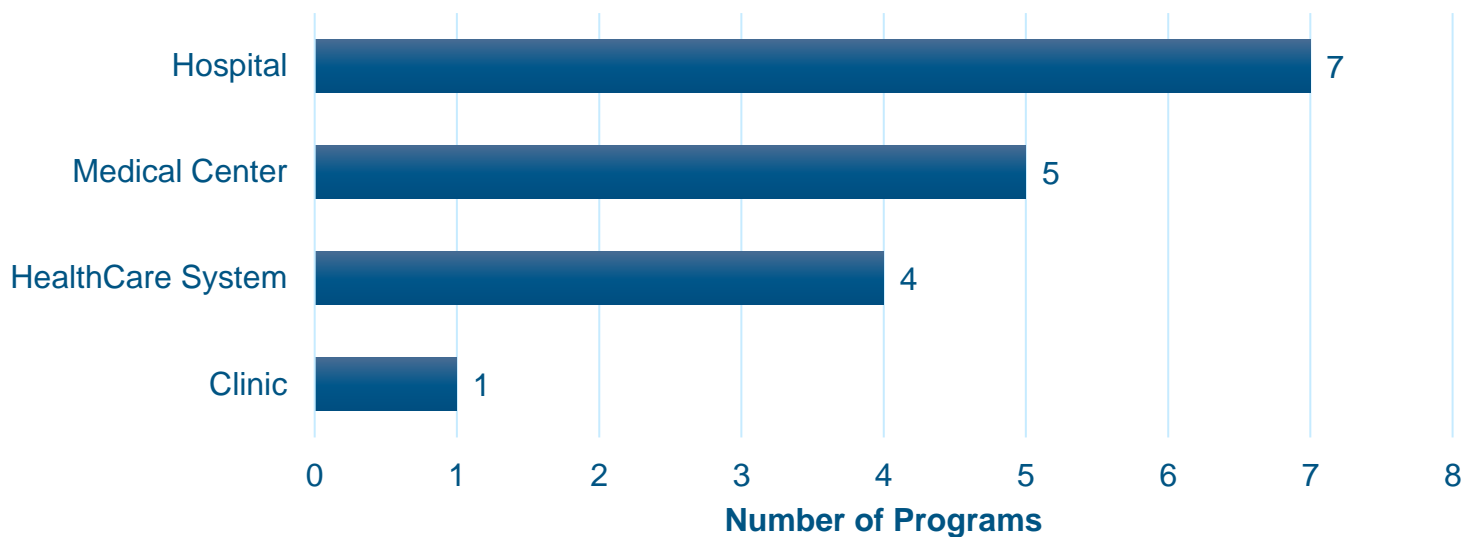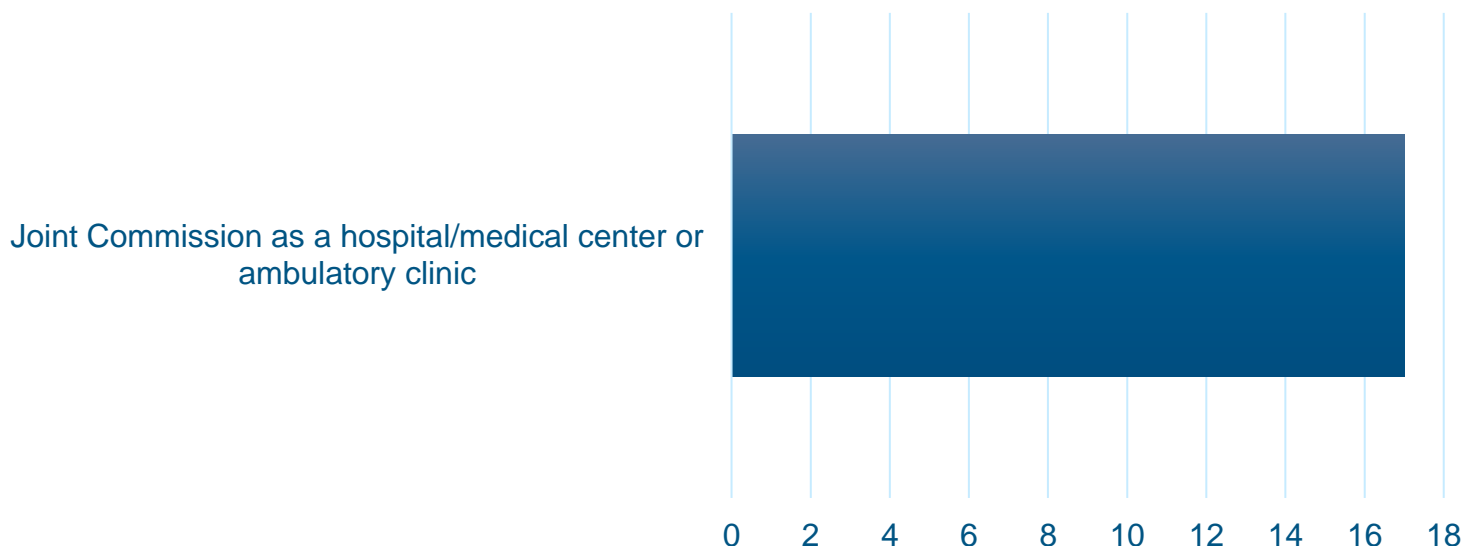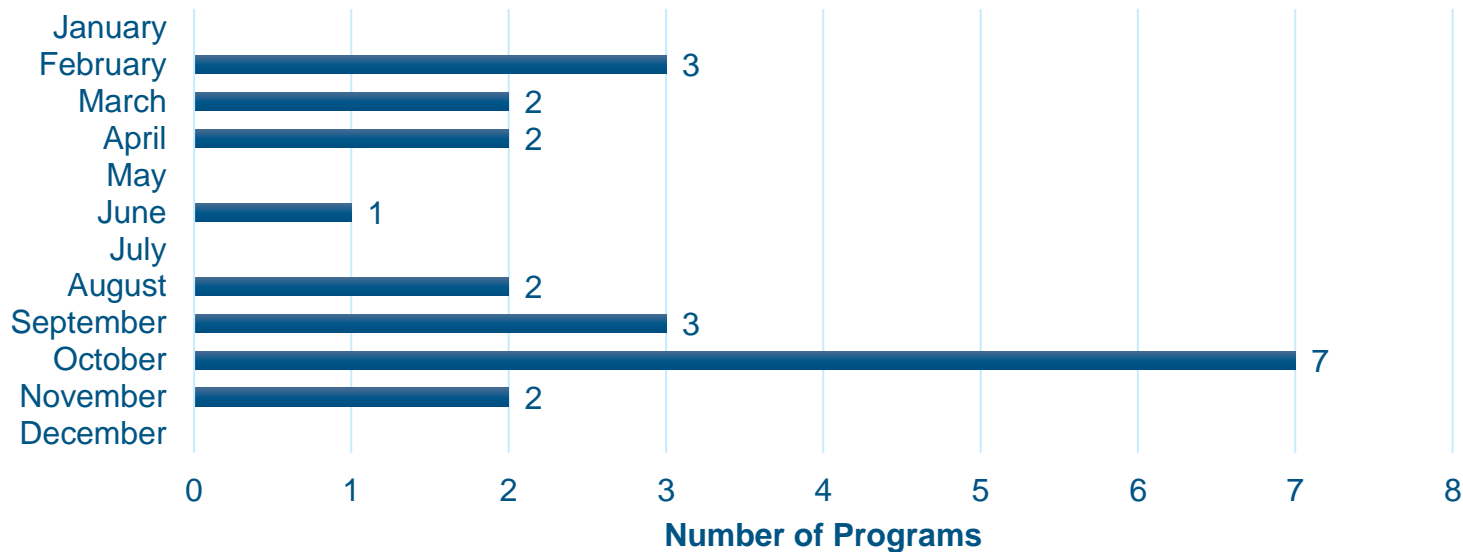
All programs are accredited by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO) as a Hospital/Medical Center or Ambulatory Clinic.
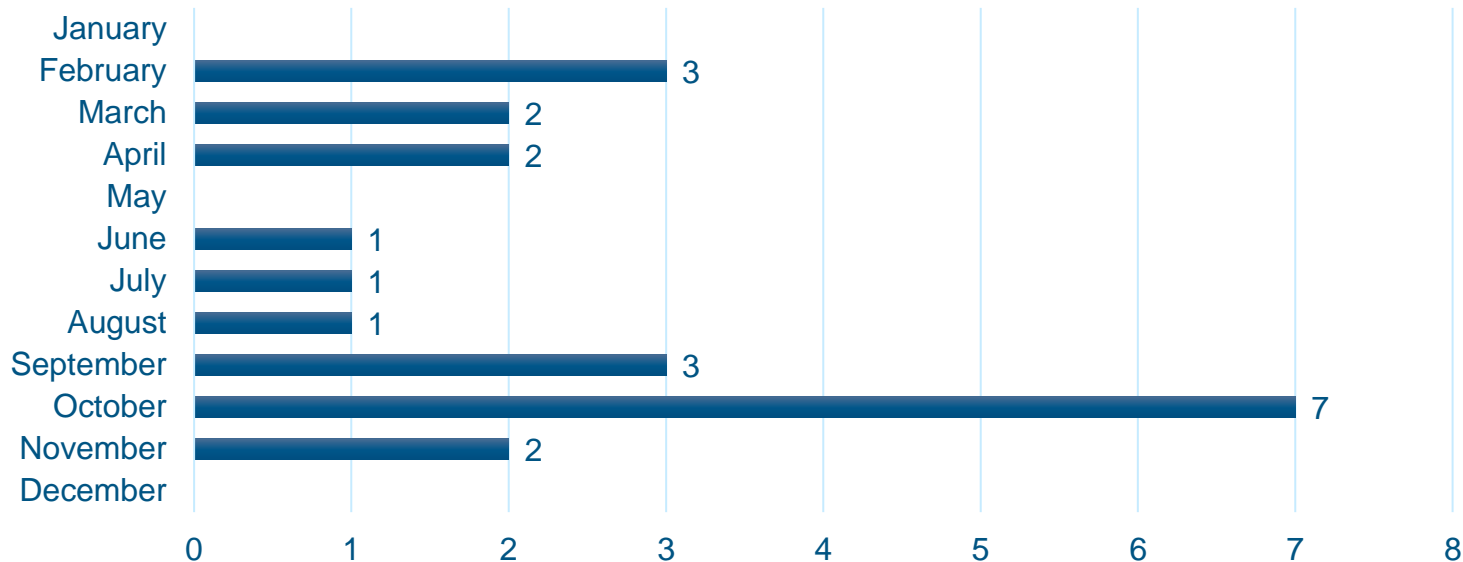
Clinical PG PA Programs

Institutional Details (n=17)

Matriculation Date

Month	Number of Programs
January	
February	3
March	2
April	2
May	
June	1
July	
August	2
September	3
October	7
November	2
December	

Number of Programs

Graduation Date

Month	Number of Programs
January	
February	3
March	2
April	2
May	
June	1
July	1
August	1
September	3
October	7
November	2
December	

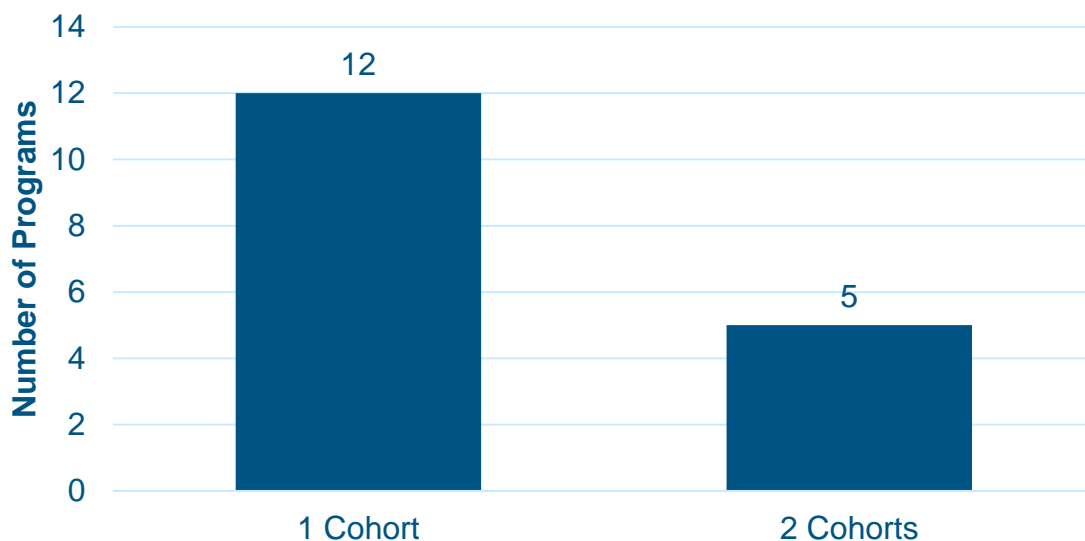Five programs offered two cohorts in a single year.

Clinical PG PA Programs

Program Details (n=11)
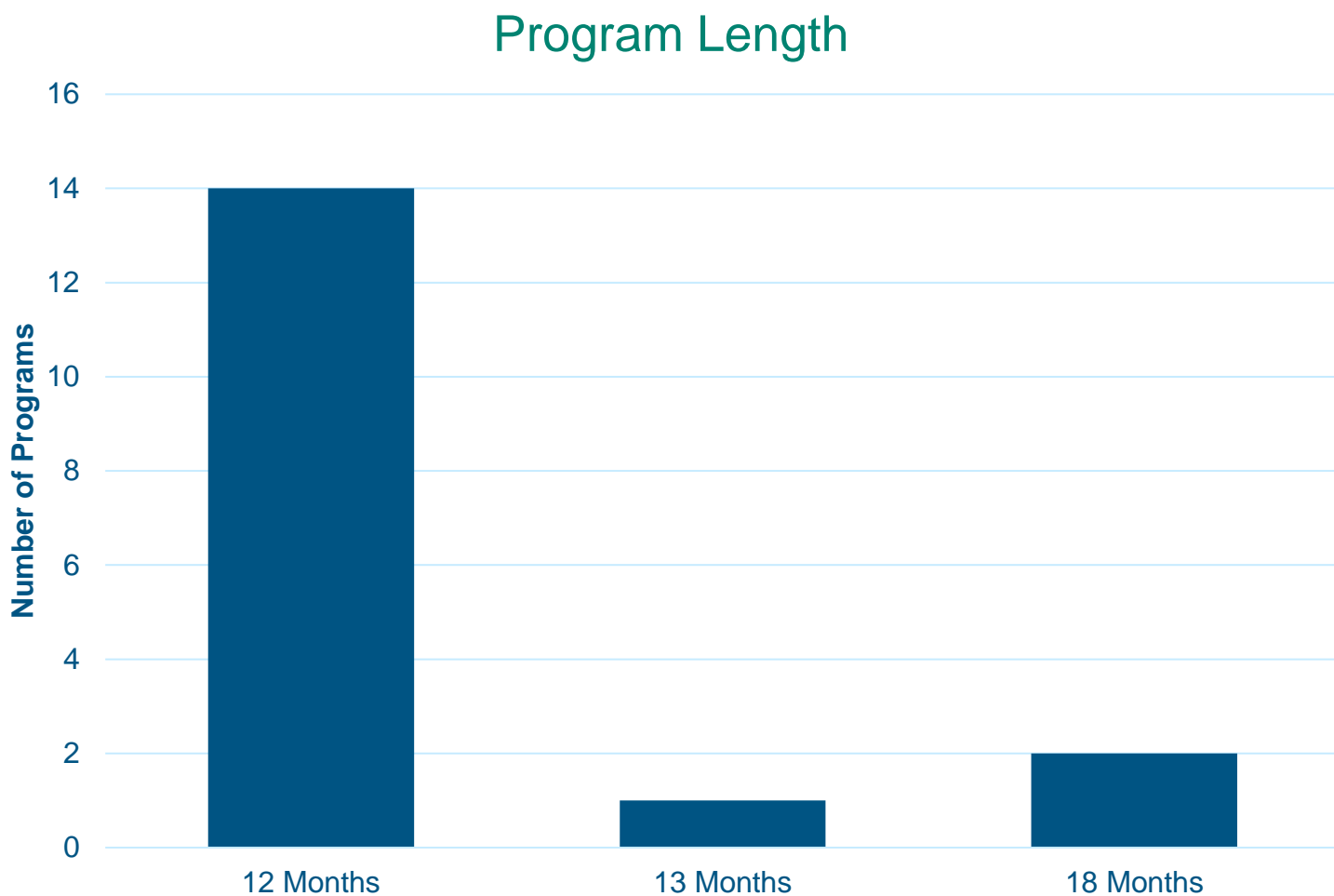
Max Number of Trainees/Cohort
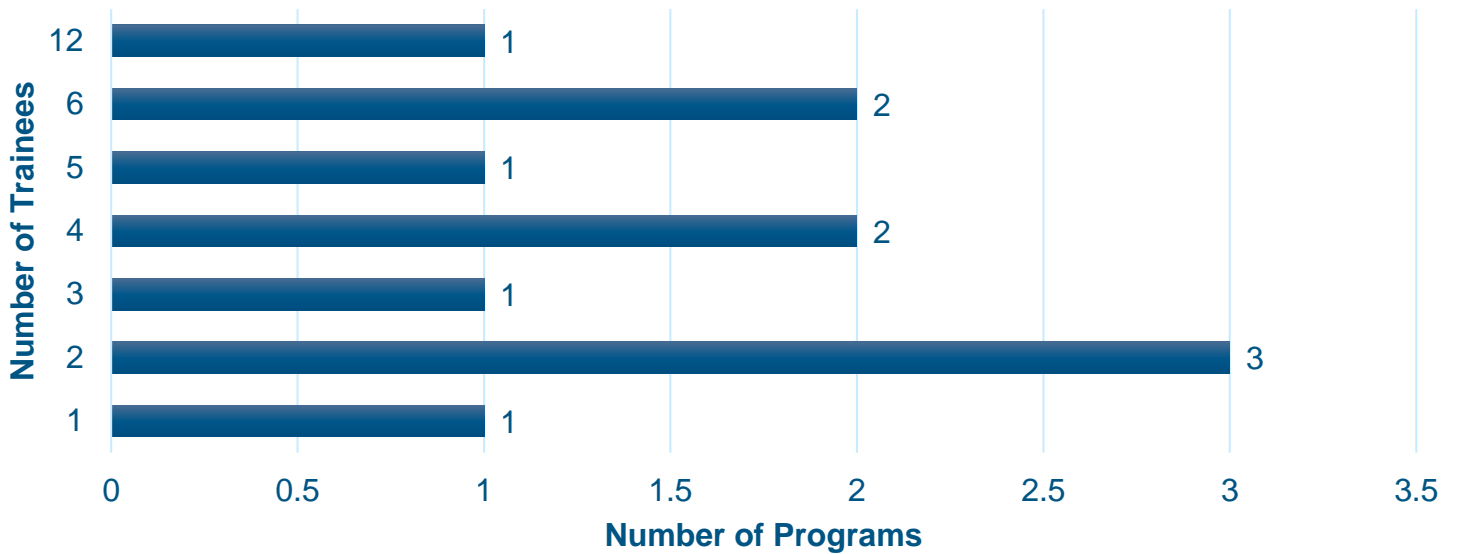
Max Number of Cohorts/Year

Across the 11 programs that reported enrollment data, showing a total of 47 trainees were enrolled in 2023.
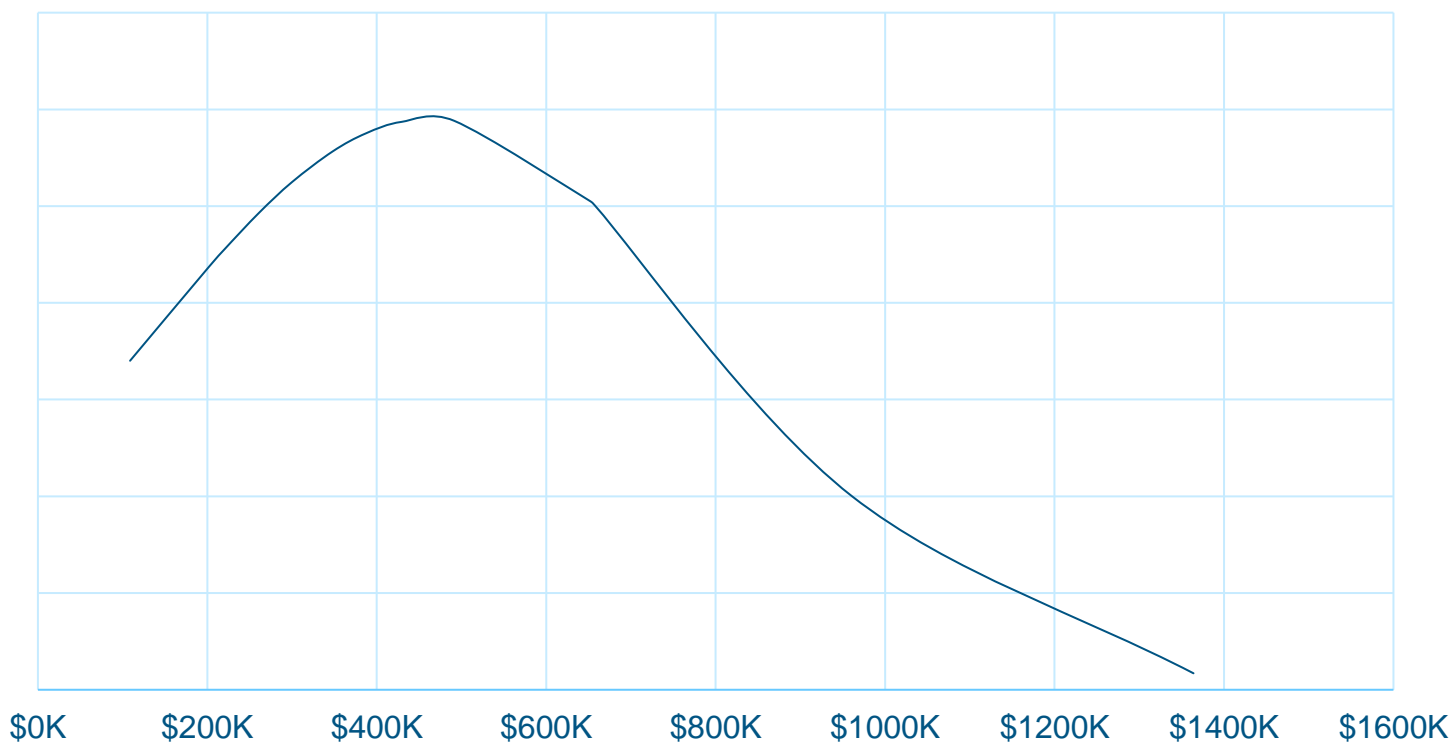
Clinical PG PA Programs

Program Details (n=17)

Program Length

A bar chart titled "Program Length" with the y-axis labeled "Number of Programs" ranging from 0 to 16. The bars show:
- 12 Months: 14
- 13 Months: 1
- 18 Months: 2

Clinical PG PA Programs

Program Details – Budget (n=14)

Total Budget

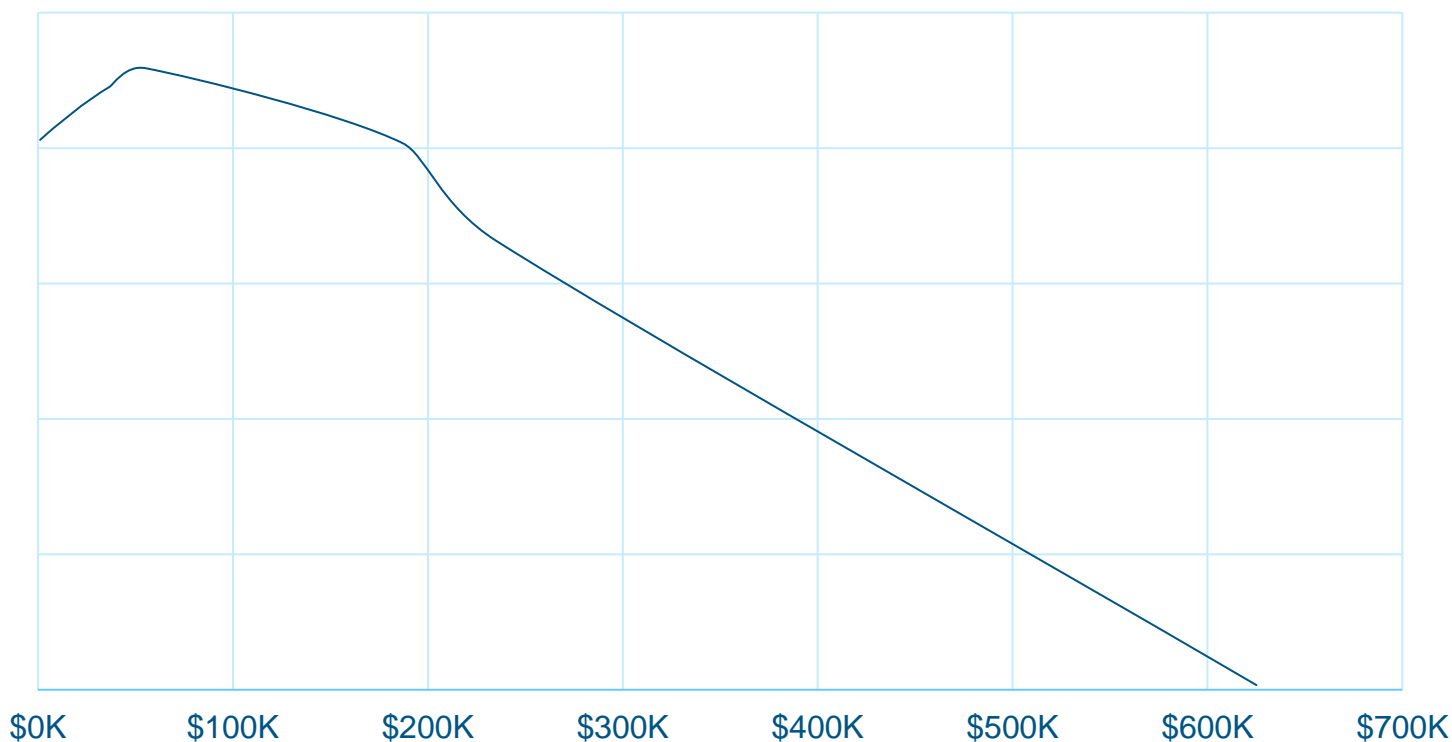$0K $200K $400K $600K $800K $1000K $1200K $1400K $1600K

For all Programs:
- $464,000 *average*, $367,000 *median* Total Budget (combined all revenue and expenditures)

Clinical PG PA Programs
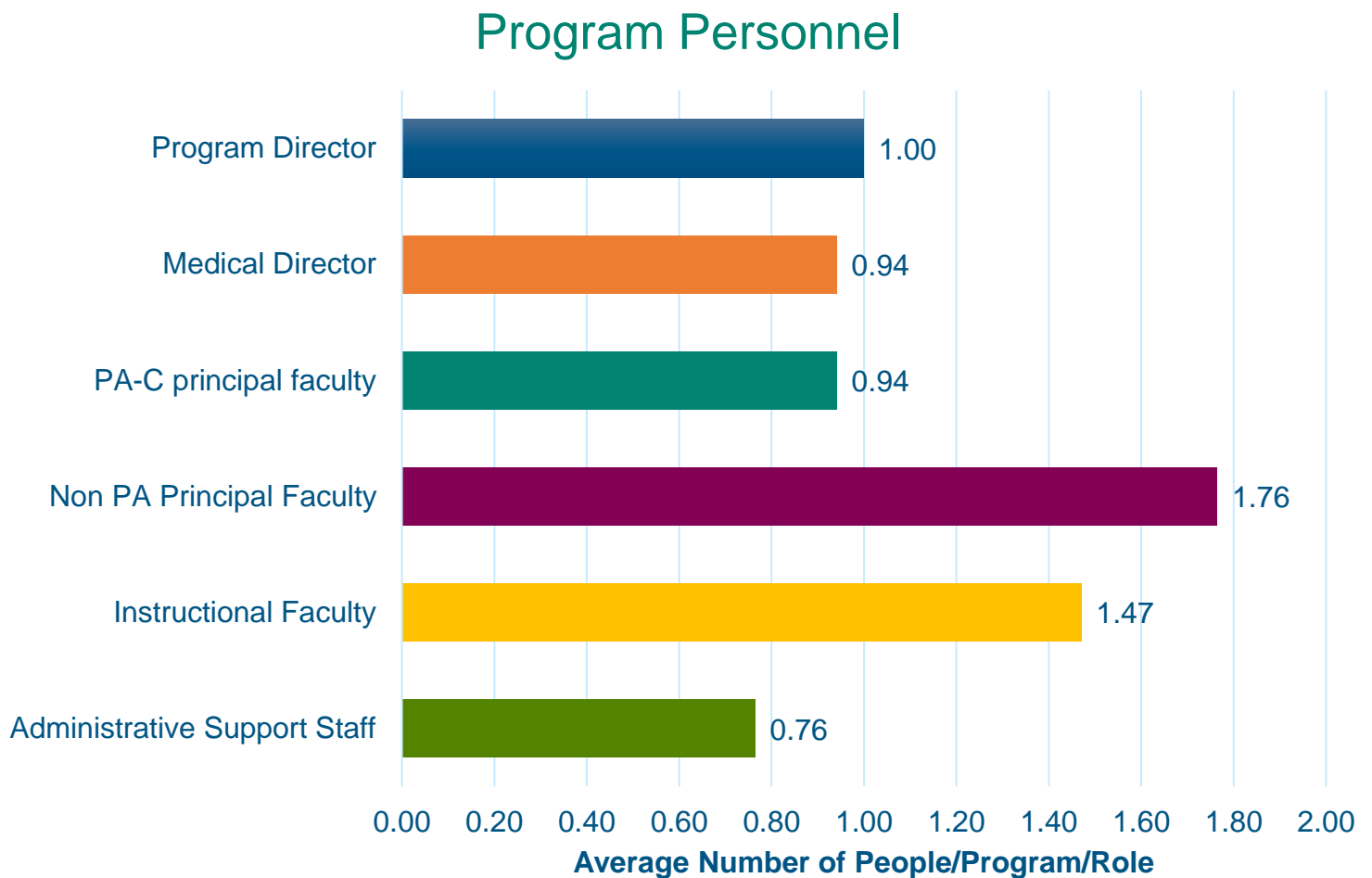
Program Details – Budget (n=13)

Operations Budget

$0K $100K $200K $300K $400K $500K $600K $700K

For all Programs:
- $93,000 *average*, $21,000 *median* Operational Budget

Clinical PG PA Programs

Program Details – Faculty/Staff (n=17)

Program Personnel

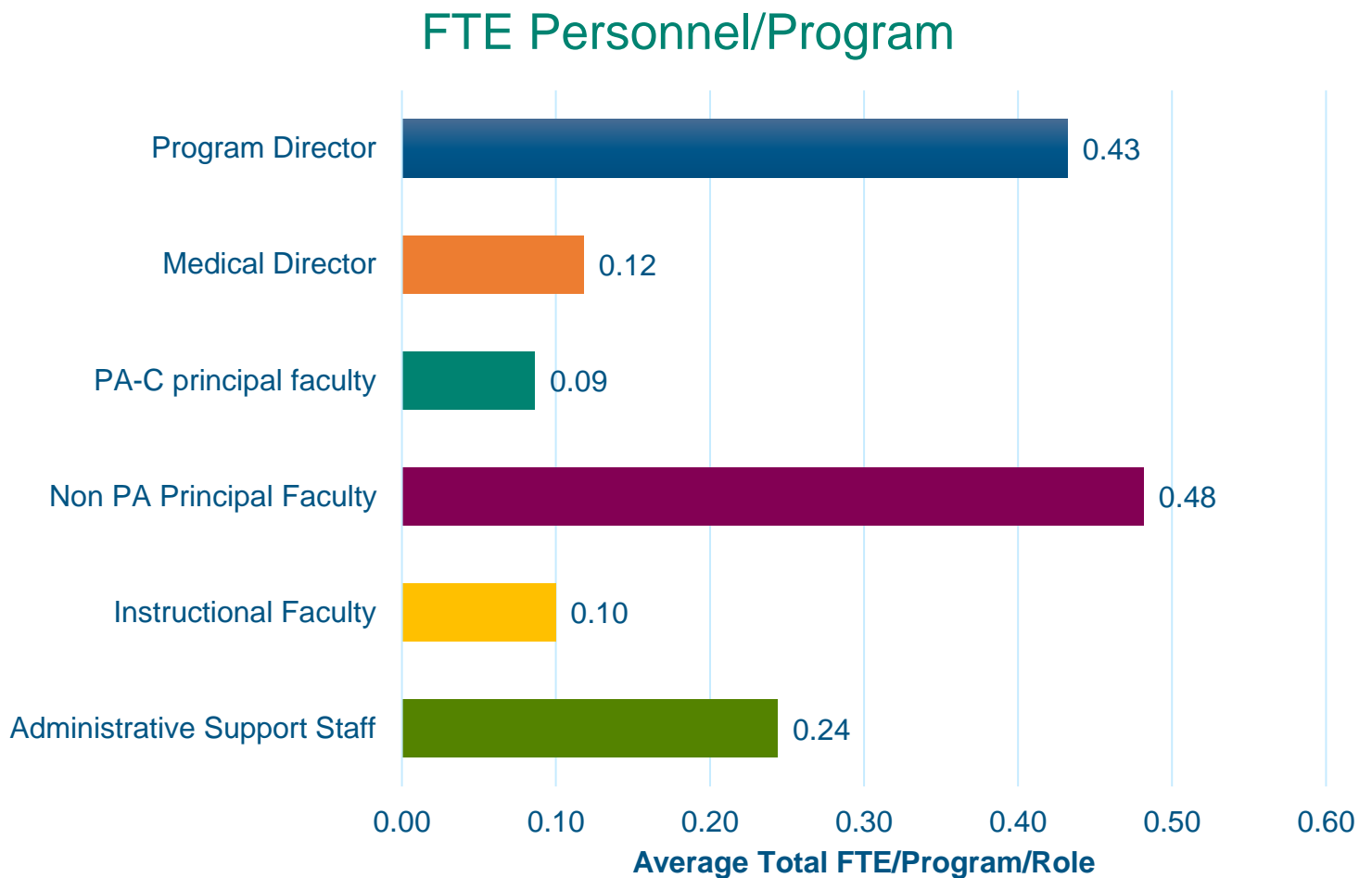| Role	Average Number of People/Program/Role
Program Director	1.00
Medical Director	0.94
PA-C principal faculty	0.94
Non PA Principal Faculty	1.76
Instructional Faculty	1.47
Administrative Support Staff	0.76

All program directors are Currently NCCPA Certified PAs.

Clinical PG PA Programs

Program Details – Faculty/Staff (n=17)

FTE Personnel/Program

Role	Average Total FTE/Program/Role
Program Director	0.43
Medical Director	0.12
PA-C principal faculty	0.09
Non PA Principal Faculty	0.48
Instructional Faculty	0.10
Administrative Support Staff	0.24

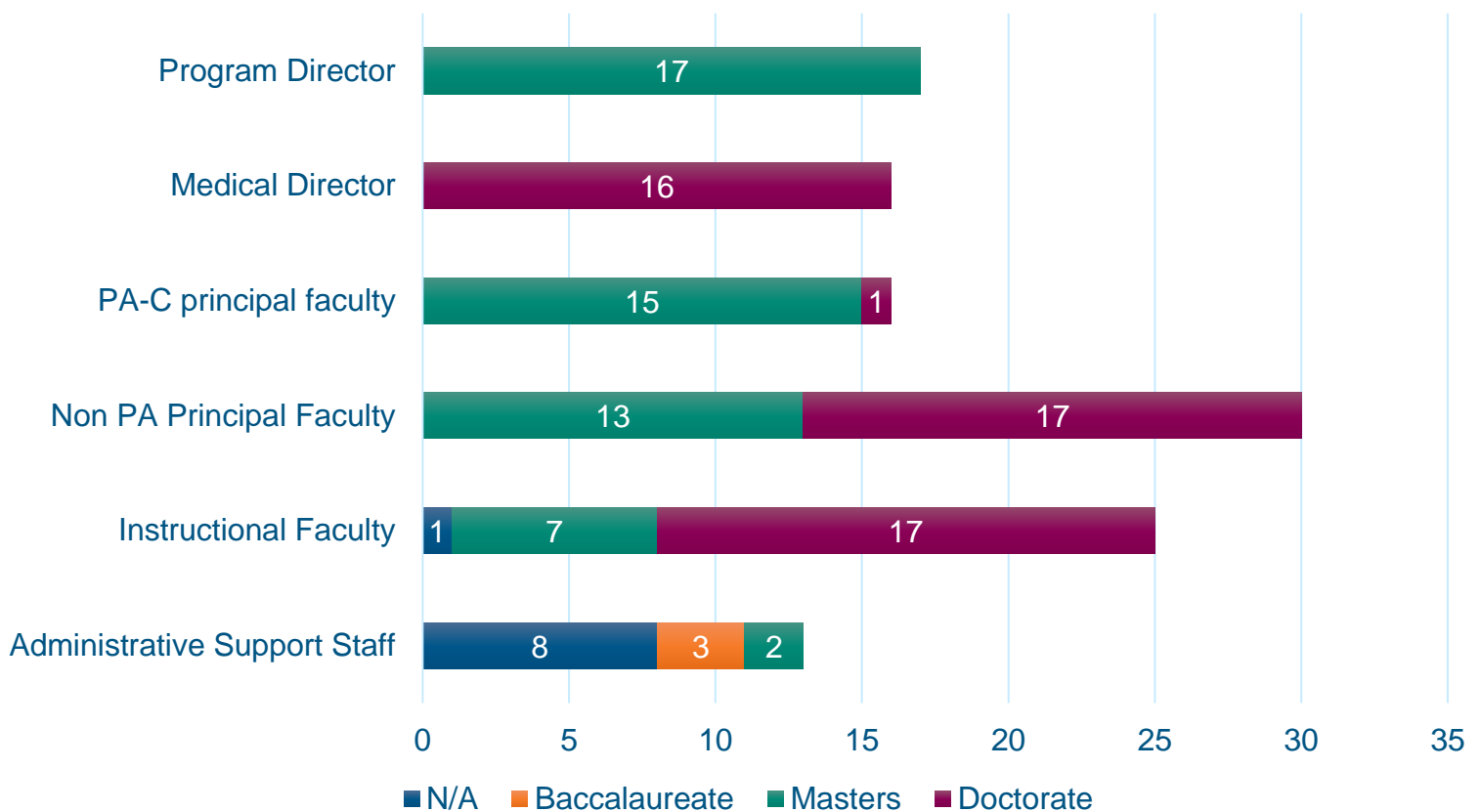**Average Total FTE/Program/Role**

Clinical Post-Graduate PA Programs had an average of 6.88 people working at 1.46 FTE.

Clinical PG PA Programs
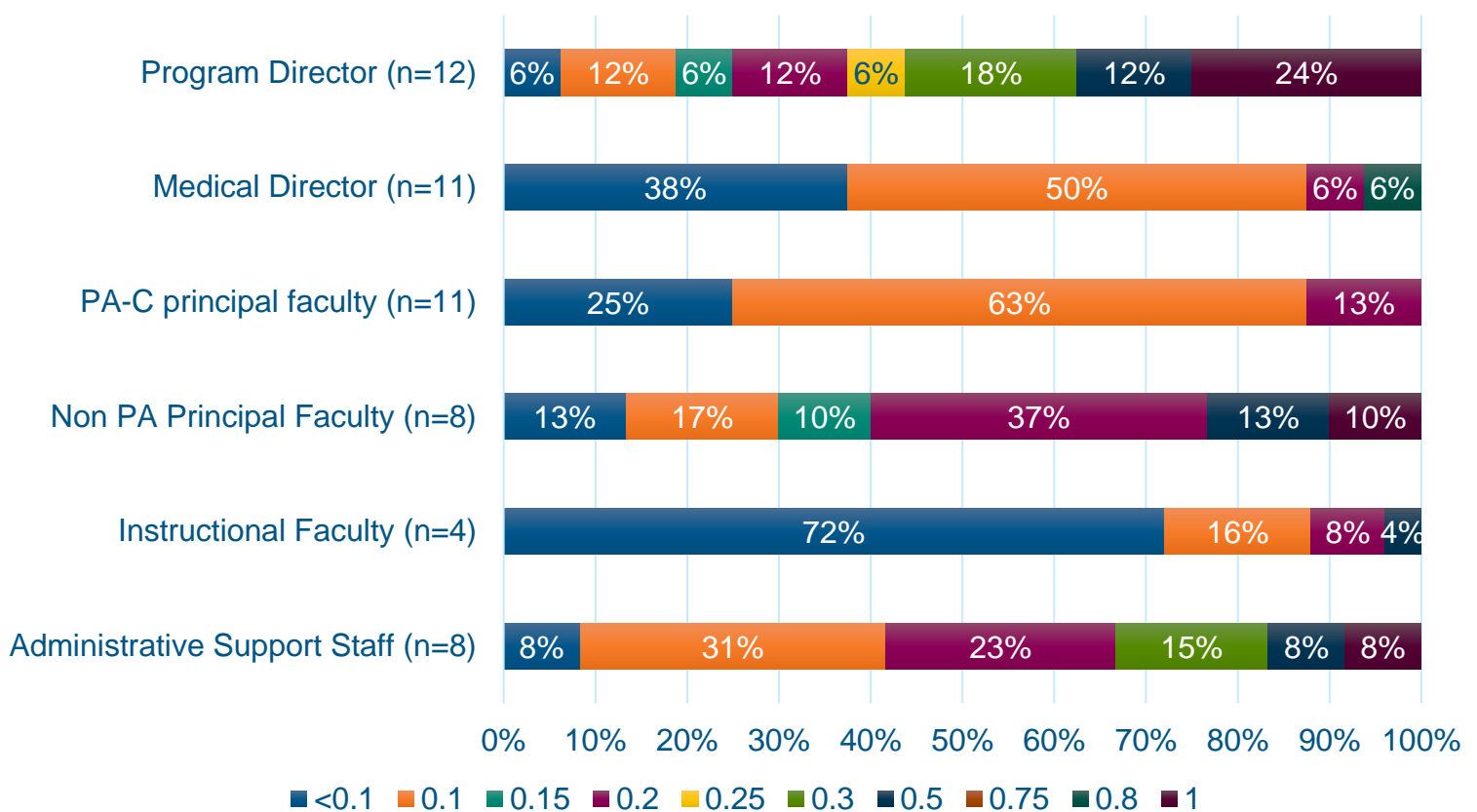
Program Details – Faculty/Staff (n=17)

Highest Academic Credential

Category	N/A	Baccalaureate	Masters	Doctorate
Program Director			17	
Medical Director				16
PA-C principal faculty			15	1
Non PA Principal Faculty			13	17
Instructional Faculty	1		7	17
Administrative Support Staff	8	3	2	

Legend: ■ N/A ■ Baccalaureate ■ Masters ■ Doctorate

Clinical PG PA Programs

Program Details – Faculty/Staff (n=17)

%FTE/Standards Role

Program Director (n=12): 6% | 12% | 6% | 12% | 6% | 18% | 12% | 24%

Medical Director (n=11): 38% | 50% | 6% | 6%

PA-C principal faculty (n=11): 25% | 63% | 13%

Non PA Principal Faculty (n=8): 13% | 17% | 10% | 37% | 13% | 10%

Instructional Faculty (n=4): 72% | 16% | 8% | 4%

Administrative Support Staff (n=8): 8% | 31% | 23% | 15% | 8% | 8%

Legend: <0.1 | 0.1 | 0.15 | 0.2 | 0.25 | 0.3 | 0.5 | 0.75 | 0.8 | 1

Clinical PG PA Programs

2023 Programs In Review
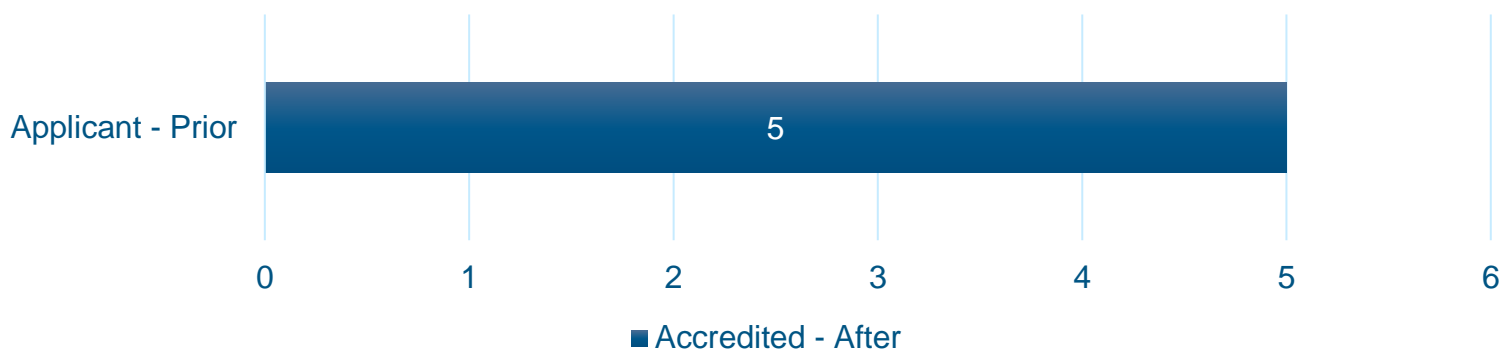
2023 Commission Meeting Review Actions
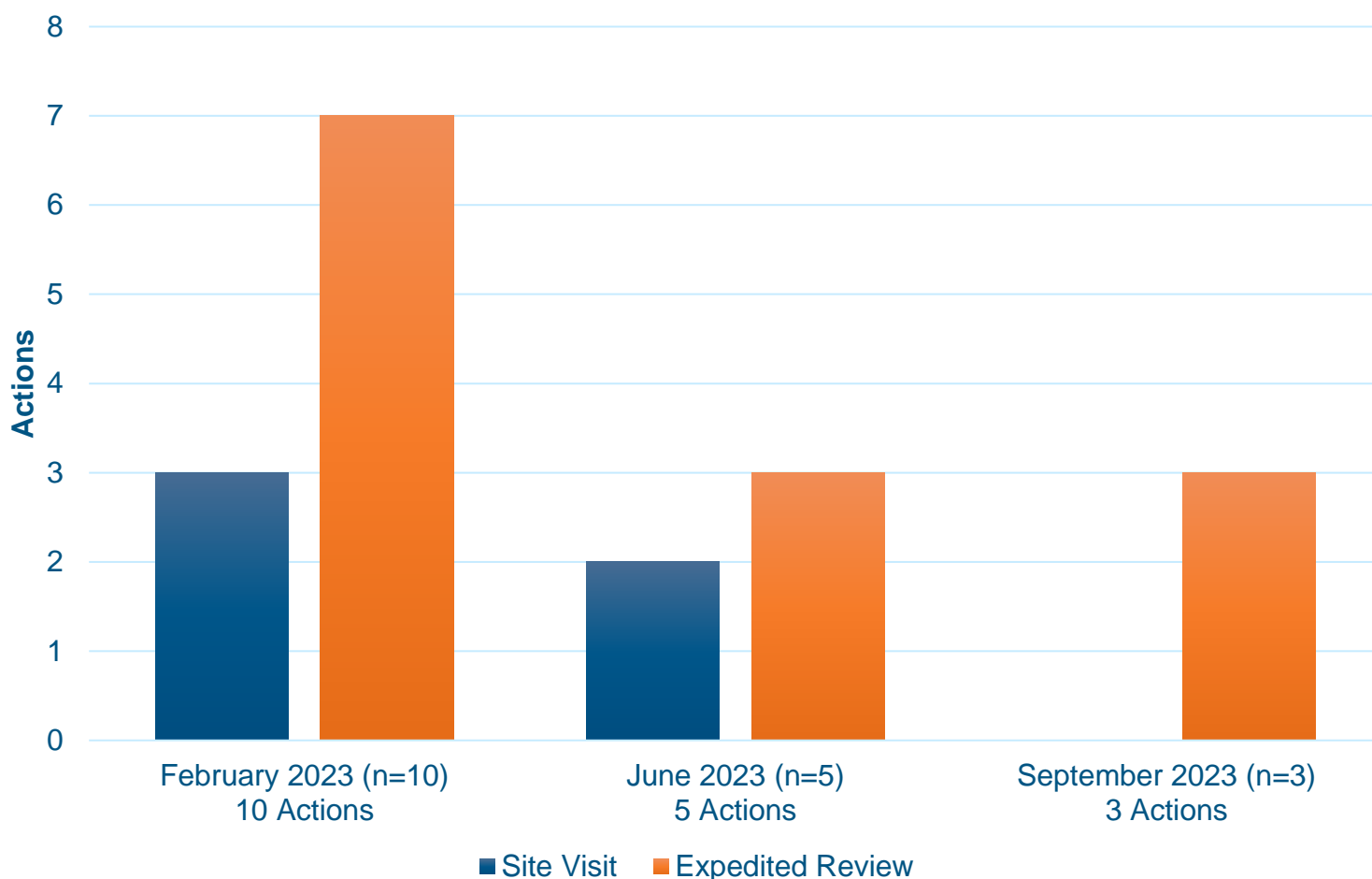
There were 36 standards cited in 2023 over five programs or approximately 7.2 citations/program.

Clinical PG PA Programs

2023 Programs In Review

2023 Post-Graduate Programs (n=5)

Applicant - Prior | **5**

0   1   2   3   4   5   6

■ Accredited - After

| Section	Avg. # Citations per Program	Total # of Citations per Section	% of Total Citations	Specific Standard	n = # of Programs Receiving Citation	% Programs Receiving Citation	% of Section Citation
A. Administration	5.00	25	75.76%	A4.06	3	60.00%	12.00%
B. Curriculum	1.40	7	21.21%	B1.09	3	60.00%	42.86%
C. Evaluation	0.6	3	9.09%	3 separate	1 each	20.00%	33.33%
D. PA Trainee Services	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
E. Accreditation Maintenance	0.20	1	3.03%	E1.04	1	20.00%	100.00%

The most cited standards for programs reviewed in 2023 were A4.06, clearly defining and publish the admission requirements and practices, and B1.09, related to the assurance of volume & variety of SCPEs for number & distribution of experiences for each trainee to meet LOs.

Appendix A

Entry Level Site Visit Survey

Site Visit Type

N=71

- Initial Provisional
- Provisional Monitoring
- Final Provisional
- Focus Visit
- Continued
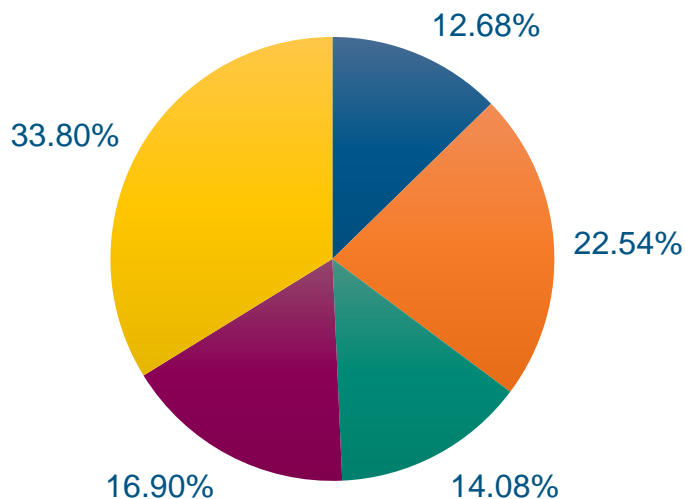
Accreditation	Number	Percent
Initial Provisional	9	12.68%
Provisional Monitoring	16	22.54%
Final Provisional	10	14.08%
Focus Visit	12	16.90%
Continuing	24	33.80%

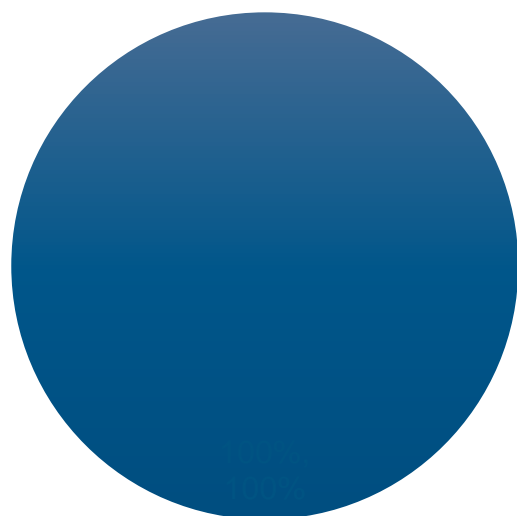| Question Group	Question	Response Rate	Average Score(1-3)*
Site Visit Arrangements	Overall arrangements	97%	2.94
	Availability of staff	96%	3.00
	Communication from staff	97%	2.97
	Support from staff	97%	2.97
Site Visitor	Professional demeanor	100%	2.91
	Knowledge of program	100%	2.73
	Objectivity of Standards	100%	2.71
	Interaction with program	100%	2.91
	Interaction with personnel	100%	2.90
Value of Review Process	Process	100%	2.71
	Report	100%	2.59
	Site Visit	100%	2.66
Overall	Overall Process	100%	2.54

* Scale defined on page 84

Appendix B

Post-Graduate Site Visit Survey

N=3

Site Visit Type

■ Post-Graduate

Accreditation	Number	Percent
Provisional	3	100.00%

Question Group	Question	Response Rate	Average Score(1-3)*
SV Arrangements	Overall arrangements	100%	3.00
	Availability of staff	100%	3.00
	Communication from staff	100%	3.00
	Support from staff	100%	2.67
Site Visitor	Professional demeanor	100%	2.67
	Knowledge of program	100%	2.67
	Objectivity of Standards	100%	2.67
	Interaction with program	100%	2.67
	Interaction with personnel	100%	2.37
Value of Review Process	Process	100%	2.67
	Feasibility Study	100%	2.33
	Application Completion	100%	2.33
Overall	Overall Process	100%	2.67

* Scale defined on page 84

Appendix C

Accreditation & You Workshop

N=40

Question Group	Question	Response Rate	Average Score (1-4)*
Detail	Content presented	100%	3.95
	Learning objectives stated	100%	3.70
	Knowledgeable facilitators	100%	3.90
	Positive learning environment	100%	3.90
	Resources useful during	100%	3.73
	Length of time was appropriate	100%	3.38
Result	Understand ARC-PA Structure and accreditation components	100%	3.93
	Better navigate 5th edition standards	100%	3.83
	Evaluate common oversights for frequent citations	100%	3.75
	Apply SSA process for improvement	100%	3.55
	Better prepared for a site visit	100%	3.60
	Recognize availability of support resources	100%	3.83
Workshop Topics	Explanation of Standards	100%	3.74
	Standard Cases	100%	3.39
	Program Self-Assessment	100%	3.58
	Self-Assessment Exercises	100%	3.34
	Preparing for site visit	100%	3.59
Overall	Overall Rating	100%	3.38

* Scale defined on page 84

Appendix D

Self-Study Workshop

N=33

Question Group	Question	Response Rate	Average Score (1-4)*
Detail	Content presented	100%	3.85
	Learning objectives stated	100%	3.61
	Knowledgeable facilitators	100%	3.88
	Positive learning environment	100%	3.91
	Resources useful during	100%	3.70
	Length of time was appropriate	100%	3.42
Result	Explain essential components	100%	3.67
	Establish collection of data	100%	3.64
	Apply data analysis to conclusions	100%	3.48
	Identify common errors	100%	3.45
	More confident in drafting an SSR	100%	3.61
Workshop Topics	Pre-Workshop Exercises	100%	3.00
	Self-Assessment Process	100%	3.67
	Process Exercises	100%	3.59
	Data Collection	100%	3.61
	Data Collection Exercises	100%	3.56
	Analysis of Data	100%	3.64
	Analysis Exercises	100%	3.55
	Writing the Narrative	100%	3.55
	Self-Reflection Exercises	100%	3.17
Overall	Overall Rating	100%	3.76

* Scale defined on page 84

Appendix E

Provisional Conference

N=6

Question Group	Question	Response Rate	Average Score (1-4)*
Detail	Knowledgeable facilitators	100%	3.83
	Positive learning environment	100%	3.67
	Small group activities useful	100%	3.33
	Resources useful during	100%	3.50
	Resources useful later	100%	3.67
	Length of time was appropriate	100%	3.67
Workshop Topics	ARC-PA Mission, Role, and Work + Data Overview	100%	3.33
	Provisional Accreditation Process Overview	100%	3.67
	Institution Eligibility and Timing	100%	3.67
	Provisional Application: Overview	100%	3.50
	Site Visit: Overview	100%	3.33
	Standards: Format, Definitions, Standards Frequently Cited	100%	3.50
	Standards Section D	100%	3.50
	Standards Section A	100%	3.50
	Standards Section B	100%	3.50
	Standards Section C, Ongoing Program Self-Assessment, SSR	100%	3.50
	Standards Section E	100%	3.50
	Portal, ARC-PA Web Site, Accreditation Fees	100%	3.33
	Introduction to PAEA	100%	3.17
Overall	Overall Rating	100%	3.83

* Scale defined on page 84

Appendix F

Changes/Additions to 2023 Report

ARC-PA refined the requested information on simulated versus in-person SCPE patient encounters.
See Portal screen shots below for more detail.

Curriculum By Type

ℹ Most recent graduating cohort:

2023

Didactic

Program Campus Type:

Select

Clinical

Please provide the percentage of clinical encounters within the clinical phase of the program that utilizes the following to meet program defined learning outcomes:

ℹ SCPE Encounters with Patients:

0%

ℹ Simulated Patient Encounters:

0%

Glossary

Term	Definition
Administrative Support Staff	Those individuals providing administrative, secretarial, or clerical help to the program. Administrative support staff do not include other staff working in or with the program who are assigned a traditional faculty role or those who function to provide technical assistance for instructional technology or data analysis/
Attrition	A reduction in number. Student attrition: the permanent loss of a matriculated student from the course of study in a PA program. Faculty attrition: the loss of a faculty member from a position assigned to a PA program
Clinical Education	The component of the PA educational program that provides for supervised, competency-based, clinical education and experience.
Commissioner	Commissioners are elected by the ARC-PA from a slate of nominees submitted by the ARC-PA collaborating organizations. Commissioners initially serve a 3-year term and are eligible for reappointment for a second 3-year term. Commissioners begin their service January 1 and complete their terms December 31 of the years involved. At Large commissioners are elected for a single 3-year term and are not eligible for re-election.
Continued	Accreditation-Continued: Accreditation status granted 1) when a currently accredited program follows the Standards, 2) in the case of a program holding Accreditation-Probation when the program has demonstrated that it is once again in compliance with the Standards, or 3) when a program holding Accreditation-Provisional demonstrates compliance with the Standards after completion of the provisional review process. Accreditation-continued status remains in effect until the program closes or withdraws from the accreditation process or until accreditation is withdrawn for failure to comply with the Standards.
Didactic Education	The component of the PA educational program that provides formal instruction with specific objectives and methods for assessing the student's progress from entry-level competency.
Distance Education	Distance education is using technology (e.g., internet, audio/video conferencing, pre-recorded materials) to deliver instruction to students who are separated from the instructor, either synchronously or asynchronously..
Distant Campus	A campus geographically separate from the main program at with didactic, preclinical, or clinical instruction occurs for all or some of the students matriculated to that campus.
Elective Rotation	Supervised clinical practice experiences that may differ by student, and which allow students to gain exposure to or deeper understanding of medical specialties related to their clinical or academic areas of interest.

Glossary

Term	Definition
Entry Level Program	Entry Level accreditation is provided to programs designed to train PA students in acquiring the knowledge and skills needed to enter the PA profession. Entry level PA programs are located within a recognized regionally accredited post-secondary institution authorized to confer upon graduates of the PA program a graduate degree.
Expedited Review	To provide timely review and streamline the workload of the commission, certain documents that need commission review may be processed through Expedited Review. Those documents include Program Progress report, Report due as defined by the ARC-PA, and Program Change as defined by the Standards.
Final Provisional Visit	Conducted 18-24 months following the second provisional review by the commission. This visit verifies the institutions and program's demonstration of compliance with the Standards including their ability to incorporate and report the findings of a robust self-assessment process as required by the ARC-PA.
Focused Visit	May be conducted at any time to evaluate a specific Standards related problem(s) identified by a site visit team, the ARC-PA, or in response to a concern received by the ARC-PA. Details about requirements for the focused visit are conveyed to the program in writing prior to the visit. Focused visits usually are conducted by specialist visitor(s), who must include commissioner(s) of the ARC-PA or ARC-PA staff.
Informational Item	Documents provided by a program that is purely informational in content.
Initial Provisional Visit	Conducted to a new developing program that is within six to 12 months of matriculation of students. This visit verifies an institution's ability to begin a program in compliance with the Standards, and the program's readiness to matriculate students.
Instructional Faculty	Individuals providing instruction or supervision during the didactic and/or clinical phases of the program, regardless of length of time of instruction, faculty status, or rank.
Medical Director	Physician assigned to the PA program an who reports to the program director. Supports the program in ensuring that didactic and clinical instruction meet current practice standards as they relate to the role of the PA in providing patient care.
NCCPA	National Commission on the Certification of Physician Assistants.
No Standards Role	Individuals working at a PA program whose role is not defined by ARC-PA standards.
PANCE	Physician Assistant National Certification Exam administered by NCCPA.

Glossary

Term	Definition
Physician Assistant/Physician Associate	Licensed medical professional that is academically and clinically prepared to provide health care services as a member of collaborative health care teams. PAs make clinical decisions and provide a broad range of diagnostic, therapeutic, preventive, and health maintenance services. The clinical role of PAs includes primary and specialty care in medical and surgical practice settings. PA practice is centered on patient care and may include educational, research, and administrative activities.
Post-Graduate Program	Accreditation-Clinical Postgraduate Program is the status of accreditation granted when a new or currently accredited clinical postgraduate program is in compliance with the Standards for Clinical Postgraduate Programs. Accreditation-clinical postgraduate program remains in effect until the program closes or withdraws from the accreditation process or until accreditation is withdrawn for failure to comply with the Standards, ARC-PA requirements or procedures.
Post-Graduate Provisional	If the program is awarded Provisional Accreditation, the program will be scheduled for a more thorough review and determination of Continued Accreditation status. This subsequent review will include an additional application, self-study report and site visit. The information obtained through this process will be reviewed by the subcommission and an accreditation determination will be made.
Preceptor	Entry Level: Any instructional faculty member who provides student supervision during supervised clinical practice experiences. Post-Graduate: A licensed and appropriately credentialed physician (MD or DO) or other licensed medical professional serving to supervise the patient care activities of the PA trainee, which can include didactic and clinical instruction.
Principal Faculty	Those faculty working at least 50% FTE with primary academic responsibility assigned to the PA program who report to the program director.
Probation	Accreditation-Probation is a temporary accreditation status initially of not less than two years. However, that period may be extended by the ARC-PA for up to an additional two years if the ARCPA finds that the program is making substantial progress toward meeting all applicable Standards but requires additional time to come into full compliance. Probation accreditation status is granted, at the sole discretion of the ARC-PA, when a program holding an accreditation status of Accreditation – Provisional or Accreditation – Continued does not, in the judgment of the ARC-PA, meet the Standards or when the capability of the program to provide an acceptable educational experience for its students is threatened. Once placed on probation, a program that fails to comply with accreditation requirements in a timely manner, as specified by the ARC-PA, may be scheduled for a focused site visit and is subject to having its accreditation withdrawn.

Glossary

Term	Definition
Probation Visits	Conducted near the end of a period of probation to programs with an accreditation status of Accreditation-Probation. Details about requirements for these visits are conveyed to the program in writing prior to the visit. Probation visits usually are conducted by specialist visitor(s), who may include commissioner(s) of the ARC-PA or ARC-PA staff.
Program Director	A Physician Assistant responsible for the program, and for the timely and accurate completion of all required elements
Program Report	Documents required to be provided by a program that require a full review by the commission.
Provisional	Accreditation – Provisional is an accreditation status granted when the plans and resource allocation, if fully implemented as planned, of a proposed program that has not yet enrolled students appear to demonstrate the program's ability to meet the ARC-PA Standards or when a program holding accreditation-provisional status appears to demonstrate continued progress in complying with the Standards as it prepares for the graduation of the first class (cohort) of students. Accreditation – Provisional does not ensure any subsequent accreditation status. Accreditation – Provisional is limited to no more than five years from matriculation of the first class. Accreditation-provisional remains in effect until the program achieves accreditation-continued after its third review, closes or withdraws from the accreditation process, or until accreditation is withdrawn for failure to comply with the Standards.
Provisional Monitoring Visit	Conducted within six months of graduation of the first cohort of students. This visit verifies the sponsoring institutions and provisionally accredited program's progress in delivering the program in compliance with the Standards and their ability to continue to do so.
Provisional+Probation	Programs that have a combined accreditation status of Accreditation-Provisional AND are on Accreditation-Probation
Site Visit	The purpose of the site visit is to verify, validate, and clarify, if necessary, the information supplied by the program in its application materials as evidence of its compliance with the Standards. The visit focuses on the program self study and how the program's self-identified concerns and problems are being addressed in relation to the Standards. A site visit team can conduct a thorough and accurate assessment of the proposed educational program for physician assistants within two days or less. Site visits should provide the site visit team members information on the planning and progress of the program and should provide the team the opportunity to meet and discuss the program with its administration, faculty, staff and preceptors.
Supervised Clinical Practice Experiences (SCPE)	Supervised student encounters with patients that include comprehensive patient assessment and involvement in patient care decision making and which result in a detailed plan for patient management.

Glossary

Term	Definition
Telemedicine/Telehealth	The use of electronic information and telecommunications technologies to support long-distance clinical health care, professional health-related education, public health, and health administration.
Total Budget	Include major sources of financial support AND expenditures for the Entire Program
Trainee Clinical Experience	Supervised clinical practice experiences involving direct patient care provided by a PA trainee. At the discretion of the program or sponsoring institution, this term may be recognized as rotations or clerkships.
Withdrawn/Withheld	Accreditation Withheld is a status granted when a PA program, seeking accreditation-provisional, or a clinical postgraduate PA program seeking accreditation-clinical postgraduate program, is not in compliance with the Standards. The program receiving this accreditation status may voluntarily withdraw from the accreditation process within the 30-day appeal timeframe. Accreditation Withdrawn is a status granted when an established program is determined no longer to be in compliance with the Standards and is no longer capable of providing an acceptable educational experience for its students, or when the program has failed to comply with ARC-PA accreditation requirements, actions or procedures. The program may voluntarily withdraw from the accreditation process within the 30-day appeal timeframe.
1-3 Scale	1 – Poor, 2 – Satisfactory, 3 – Excellent/Good (Appendix A & B)
1-4 Scale	1- Strongly Disagree, 2- Disagree, 3- Agree, 4 Strongly Agree 1- Poor, 2- Average, 3- Good, 4- Exceptional (Appendix C)

ABOUT THIS REPORT??

RECOMMENDED CITATION

Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant, Inc. (ARC-PA), Annual Report Publication. Suwanee, GA. ARC-PA; 2023. doi: