

Physical Therapist Assistants Growth Trends

This fact sheet is an overview of the trends, distribution, and demographics of physical therapist assistants (PTAs) in Texas. In 2022, there were 10,252 actively licensed PTAs in Texas.

- This number represented a 19.0% increase since 2017 and a 67.8% increase since 2012 (Figure 1).
- The ratio of the Texas population per one PTA in 2012 was 4,280:1 and in 2022 it was 2,991:1. The ratio of population to PTA has decreased by 30.1% (Figure 2).¹

Figure 1. Total Texas PTAs

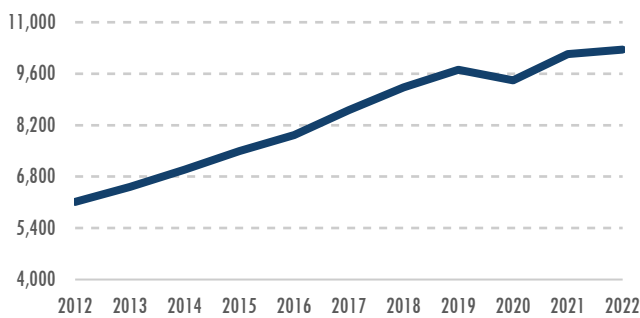
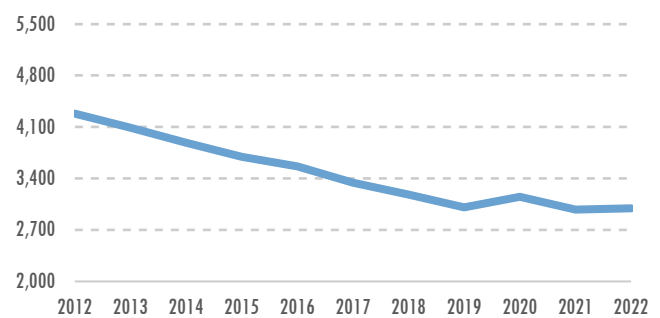


Figure 2. Ratio of Texas Population to PTA¹



Geographic Distribution of Physical Therapist Assistants

Figure 3. Ratio of Texas Population to PTA by County¹

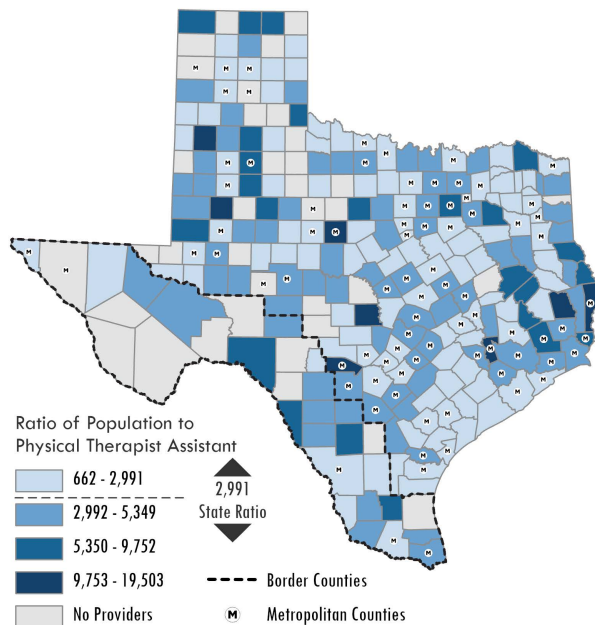


Table 1. Ratio of Texas Population to PTA by Geographic Designation¹

| Geographic Designation | Ratio of Population to PTA |
|------------------------|----------------------------|
| Metropolitan | 3,039:1 |
| Non-metropolitan | 2,627:1 |
| Border | 2,677:1 |
| Non-border | 3,028:1 |
| Texas | 2,991:1 |

- The ratio of the Texas population to one PTA was higher in non-metropolitan counties compared to metropolitan counties.
- The ratio of the Texas population to one PTA was higher in non-border counties compared to border counties.
- 36 counties had no PTAs (Figure 3).

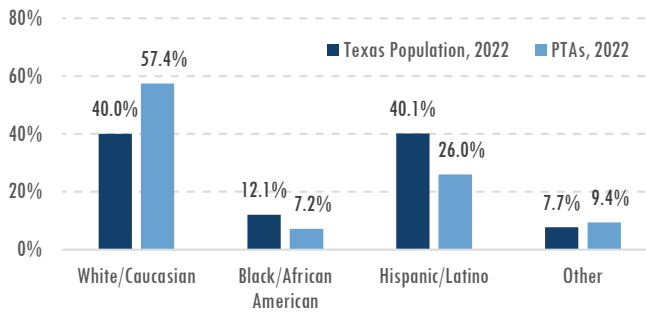
¹ Population numbers are sourced from the Texas Demographic Center (previously the Texas State Data Center). The center regularly updates the demographic projections therefore, population numbers for a particular year may differ depending on the date the data was retrieved.

Demographics of Physical Therapist Assistants

Race/Ethnicity

Black/African American and Hispanic/Latino PTAs were underrepresented when compared to the Texas population (Figure 4).² Race/ethnicity data were available for 10,251 of 10,252 PTAs.

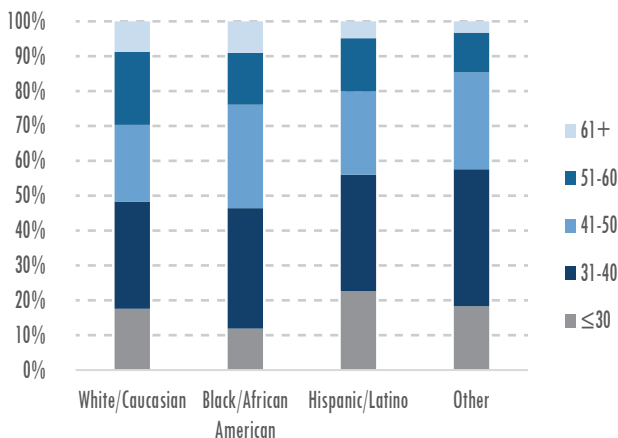
Figure 4. Race/Ethnicity of Texas Population and PTAs



Age Distribution by Race/Ethnicity

- 8.7% of White/Caucasian PTAs were 61 years of age or over, while 48.3% were aged 40 years or under (Figure 5).
- 29.7% of Black/African American PTAs were between 41 and 50 years of age, and 46.4% were aged 40 years or under (Figure 5).
- 23.9% of Hispanic/Latino PTAs were between 41 and 50 years of age, and 55.9% were aged 40 years or under (Figure 5).

Figure 5. Age Distribution of PTAs by Race/Ethnicity



Age

Within 10 years, 15.0% of the current Texas PTA workforce will be over 65 years of age.

- 2.5% of active PTAs in Texas were over 65 years of age in 2022.

Gender

- In 2022, 66.6% of PTAs were female and 33.4% were male. Gender data were available for 10,225 of 10,252 PTAs (99.7%) in 2022.
- In 2012, 71.0% of PTAs were female and 29.0% were male. Gender data were available for 6,107 of 6,109 PTAs in 2012.

Age Distribution by Gender

- Among PTAs over 55 years of age, males comprised 28.8% of the PTA workforce.
- Among PTAs aged 40 years or under in 2022, 66.2% were female and 33.8% were male.

Table 2. Age Distribution of PTAs by Gender

| Age Group | Female | Male | Total |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|
| ≤30 | 1,294 | 597 | 1,891 |
| 31-35 | 1,138 | 650 | 1,788 |
| 36-40 | 1,018 | 512 | 1,530 |
| 41-45 | 865 | 464 | 1,329 |
| 46-50 | 686 | 400 | 1,086 |
| 51-55 | 718 | 352 | 1,070 |
| 56-60 | 556 | 231 | 787 |
| 61-65 | 366 | 126 | 492 |
| >65 | 168 | 84 | 252 |
| Total | 6,809 | 3,416 | 10,225 |

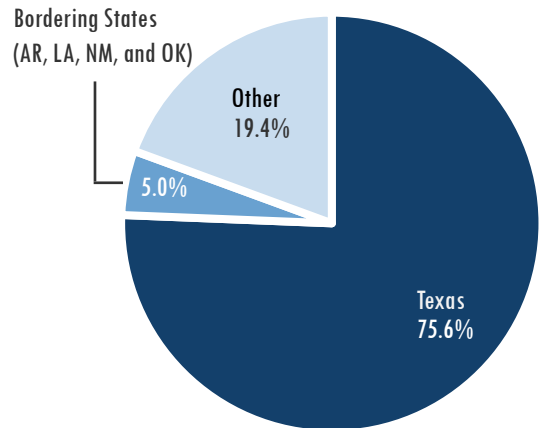
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Education of Physical Therapist Assistants

- As seen in Figure 6, 75.6% of PTAs trained in Texas.
- 5.0% of PTAs trained in states bordering Texas (Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, and Oklahoma).
- The remaining 19.4% of PTAs trained in states other than Texas and those bordering Texas.
- Training data were available for 4,436 of 10,252 PTAs (43.3%).

Figure 6. PTA Training by State



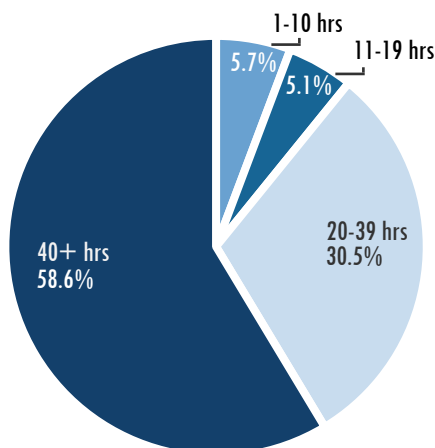
Employment Characteristics of Physical Therapist Assistants

- As seen in Figure 7, 58.6% of PTAs reported practicing for 40 or more hours.
- Primary practice hours data were available for 6,621 of 10,252 PTAs (64.6%).
- In 2022, the top three primary specialties for PTAs were home health (33.3%), skilled nursing, extended care or subacute care facility (inpatient)(24.0%), and an outpatient clinic or office (21.9%).
- Primary specialty data were available for 8,078 of 10,252 PTAs (78.8%).

Table 3. Primary Specialty of PTAs

| Specialty | Number of PTAs |
|--|----------------|
| Home health | 2,693 |
| Skilled nursing, extended care or subacute care facility (inpatient) | 1,941 |
| Outpatient clinic or office | 1,772 |
| Hospital (critical, intensive, acute, subacute care) | 843 |
| Rehabilitation facility | 501 |
| School (preschool, primary, secondary) | 130 |
| College or university research institution | 22 |
| Early childhood setting | 21 |
| Mental health facility | 10 |
| Fitness or sports center | 5 |
| Industrial, workplace, or other occupational environment | 5 |
| Athletic facility (university, amateur, professional) | 3 |
| Hospice | 2 |
| Other | 130 |
| Total | 8,078 |

Figure 7. Primary Practice Hours of PTAs



- In 2022, the top three primary practice settings for PTAs were geriatrics (57.7%), orthopedics (19.2%), and an "other" setting (13.0%).
- Primary practice setting data were available for 6,658 of 10,252 PTAs (64.9%).

Table 4. Primary Practice Setting of PTAs

| Setting | Number of PTAs |
|-----------------------|----------------|
| Geriatrics | 3,843 |
| Orthopedics | 1,280 |
| Pediatrics | 470 |
| Manual Therapy | 50 |
| Cardiopulmonary | 39 |
| Sports | 34 |
| Wound Care/Management | 34 |
| Healthcare Compliance | 23 |
| Health Information | 8 |
| Assistive Technology | 5 |
| Vocational Evaluation | 3 |
| Hand | 2 |
| Ergonomics | 1 |
| Other | 866 |
| Total | 6,658 |

