



Alaska Board of Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy Board Meeting - October 2, 2025 - Day 1

Alaska Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing
Thursday, October 2, 2025 at 9:00 AM AKDT to 2:00 PM AKDT
Zoom

Meeting Details:

https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMsdOusrTkqGd1JvZF8gtGhMleD8l_3Fy4u

Note - Registration Required

Agenda

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

A. Roll Call

9:00 AM

Board members:

- Valerie Phelps, Chair – physical therapist
- Victoria "Tori" Daugherty, Secretary - occupational therapist
- Rebecca Dean, Public Member – public member
- Jonathan Gates – physical therapist
- Michelle Scott-Weber – occupational therapist
- Eliza Ellsworth – physical therapist

Staff members:

- Reid Bowman, Program Coordinator 2
- Shane Bannarbie, Program Coordinator I
- Sheri Ryan, Licensing Examiner 3

Alaska State Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy Mission Statement

The mission of the Alaska State Physical and Occupational Therapy Board is to promote healthy, independent, productive Alaskans. The board strives to do this by:

1. Adopting regulations necessary for the safe and efficient practice of Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy in the State of Alaska.
2. Reviewing and approving the qualification of applicants to ensure a competent and effective work force of therapists and assistants.
3. Issuing temporary permits and licenses to qualified persons.
4. Monitoring compliance with continuing education requirements.
5. Reviewing and acting on any report or documentation of any unsafe, unethical or unlawful actions of a licensee.

B. Ethics Reporting	9:05 AM
C. Review/Approval Agenda	9:15 AM
D. Statistics	9:20 AM
2. Public Comment	9:25 AM
3. Meeting Reports	
A. FSBPT Leadership Issues Forum - July, 2025	9:40 AM
4. Administrative Business	
A. SCRA Application Processing	9:55 AM
B. Random Audits - 2026	10:10 AM
C. FY2026 Annual Report	10:15 AM
D. Board Correspondence - information	10:30 AM
E. Tabled Items	
i. Tabled Correspondence	10:45 AM
ii. Tabled Applications	11:15 AM
• Foreign Educated OT by Examination - 12 AAC 54.610	
5. Lunch	11:45 AM
6. Investigative Report	12:15 PM
Presenter: Jasmin Bautista	
7. Board Recruitment	12:45 PM
8. Association Updates	
A. AKOTA	1:15 PM
Presenter: Brianne (Bri) Oswald, OTD, OTR/L, LSVT-BIG, CSCS	
B. APTA-AK	1:30 PM
Presenter: Alec Kay, MSPT, DMT, OCS, ATC, FAAOMPT - President	
9. Meeting Summary - Action Items	1:45 PM
10. Adjourn	2:00 PM



Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development

Virtual Meeting Code of Conduct

I understand that by participating in any virtual board meeting or event hosted by the Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development, **I am agreeing to the following code of conduct:**

Expected Behavior

- All board members, invited guests, members of the public, and staff will be treated with respect.
- Be considerate, respectful, and collaborative with fellow participants.
- Demonstrate understanding that the boards are following a business agenda and may reasonably change it to ensure meeting efficiency.
- Speak only when recognized by the Chair. When speaking, adhere to the topic and time limits.
- Recognize the Chair has the authority to manage the meeting, and staff may intercede to assist, if needed.
- All participants are subject to State and Federal laws.

Unacceptable Behavior

- Harassment, intimidation, stalking, or discrimination in any form is considered unacceptable behavior and is prohibited.
- Physical, verbal or non-verbal abuse, or threat of violence toward any board member, invited guest, member of the public, staff, or any other meeting guest/participant by any meeting participant is prohibited.
- Disruption of any meeting or hosted online session is prohibited. Public participants should mute their microphones and turn off video when not recognized by the chair.
- Examples of unacceptable behavior include:
 - Interrupting the meeting without being recognized by the Chair.
 - Making harassing comments or exhibiting other disruptive unprofessional behavior.
 - Comments related to gender, gender identity or expression, age, sexual orientation, disability, physical appearance, body size, race, religion, national origin, or political affiliation;
 - Sharing screen or presenting video without being recognized by the Chair;
 - Inappropriate use of nudity and/or sexual images in presentations;

- Use of music, noise, or background conversations as a disruption. While this may happen briefly or incidentally, prolonged or repeated incidents are prohibited.
- Shouting, badgering, or continued talking over the speaker who has been recognized by the Chair.

Reporting Unacceptable Behavior

If you or anyone else in the meeting is in immediate danger or threat of danger at any time, please contact local law enforcement by calling 911. All other reports should be made to a member of the management team.

Consequences

If the director of the division/agency hosting the meeting determines that a person has violated any part of this code of conduct, staff or board members may take any of the following actions against any individual or group found to be in repeated violation of the code of conduct:

Sanctions may include, but are not limited to:

- Verbal or written warnings;
- Limiting a participant's ability to engage in the meeting, including muting, stopping video, or expelling a participant from the meeting;
- Suspending attendance at a future meeting or event – both virtual and in-person;
- Reporting conduct to an appropriate state entity/organization;
- Reporting conduct to local law enforcement.

BOARD OF PHYSICAL AND OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY – REGULAR MEETING

THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, COMMUNITY, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, DIVISION OF CORPORATIONS, BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSING, HEREBY ANNOUNCES THE FORTHCOMING MEETING:

BOARD OF PHYSICAL AND OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY – REGULAR MEETING. October 2, 2025. 9:00am. Teleconference/videoconference to conduct a regular board meeting. Participants must register to attend. The Zoom link to attend is

https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMsdOusrTkqGd1JvZF8gtGhMleD8l_3Fy4u

For more information, visit:

www.commerce.alaska.gov/web/cbpl/ProfessionalLicensing/PhysicalTherapyOccupationalTherapy/BoardMeetingDatesAgenda

Individuals or groups of people with disabilities who require special accommodations, auxiliary aids or service, or alternative communication formats, call the Director of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing, (907) 465-2550, or TDD (907) 465-5437. Please provide advance notice in order for the Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development to accommodate your needs.

Attachments, History, Details

Attachments

None

Revision History

Created 9/15/2025 9:33:20 AM by KLCAMPBELL

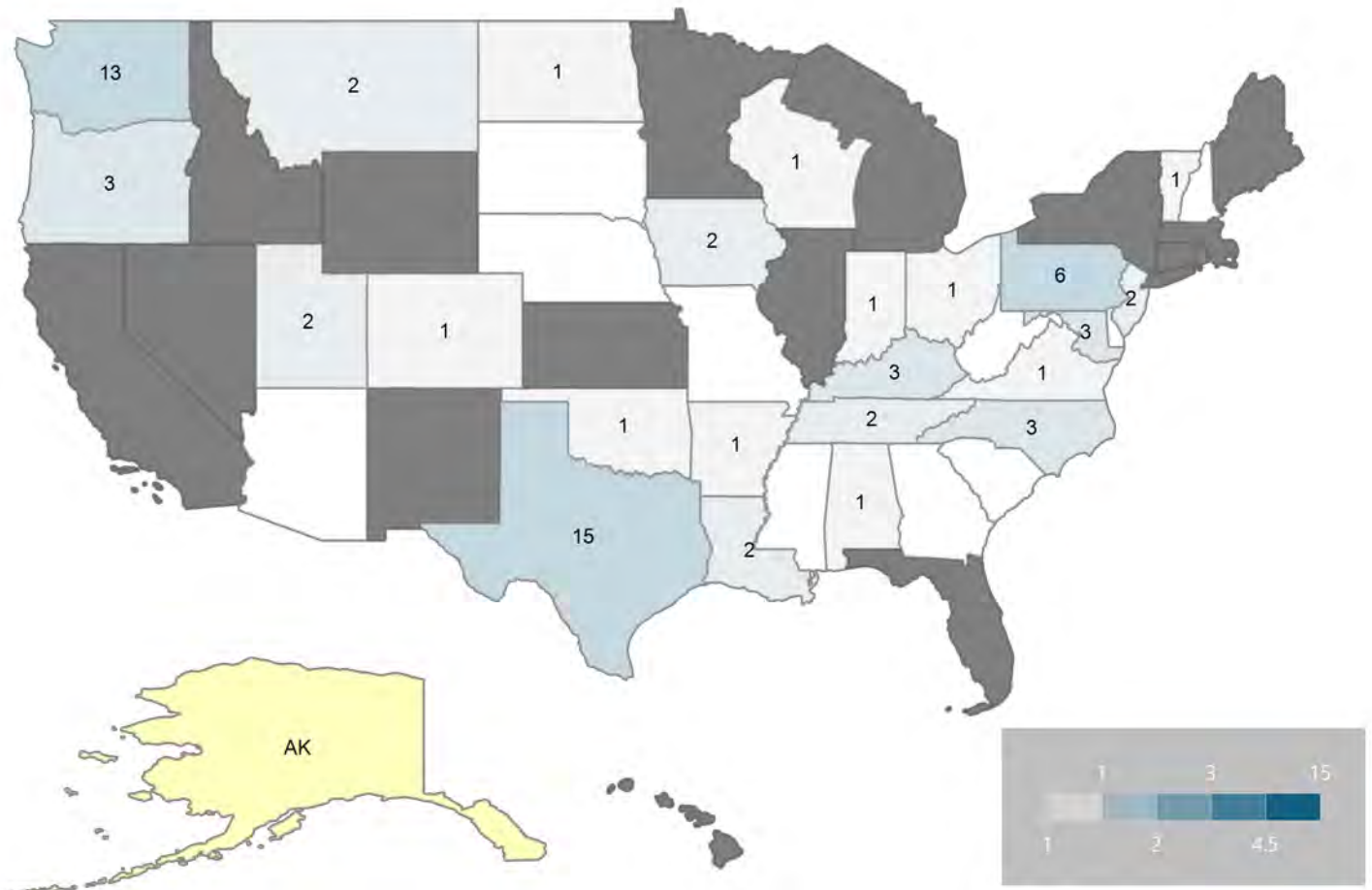
Details

Department:	Commerce, Community, and Economic Development
Category:	Boards and Commissions
Sub-Category:	Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy Board, State
Location(s):	Statewide, Teleconference, Videoconference
Project/Regulation #:	
Publish Date:	9/15/2025
Archive Date:	10/3/2025
Events/Deadlines:	

PT Compact ALASKA Status Report

October 1, 2025

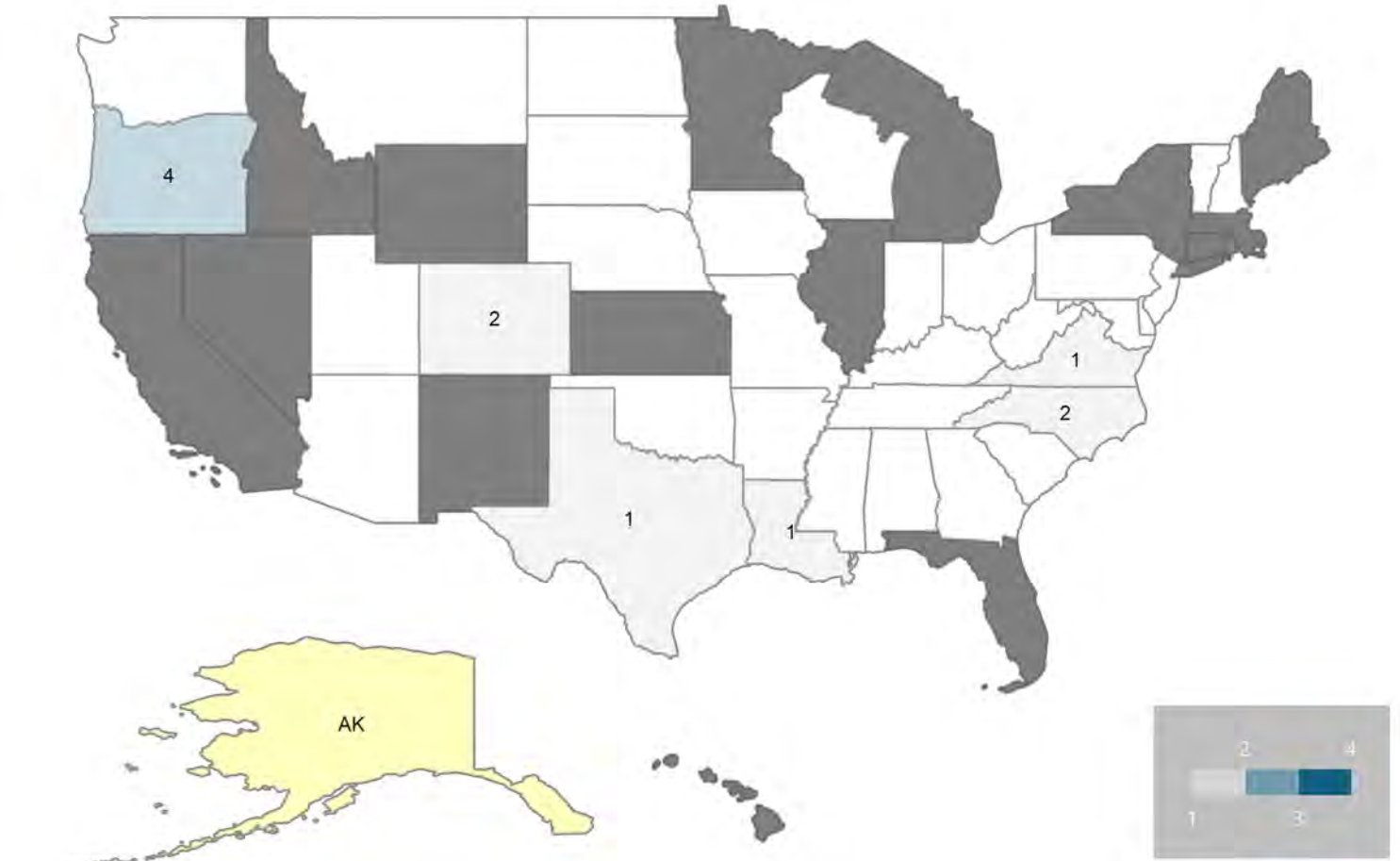
Where do individuals live that have a Compact Privilege for ALASKA? (Coming From)



Home State	Privilege State	Privilege PTs	Privilege PTAs	Privilege Totals
TX	AK	14 (22.95%)	1 (14.29%)	15 (22.06%)
WA	AK	10 (16.39%)	3 (42.86%)	13 (19.12%)
PA	AK	6 (9.84%)	0 (0.00%)	6 (8.82%)
OR	AK	3 (4.92%)	0 (0.00%)	3 (4.41%)
NC	AK	3 (4.92%)	0 (0.00%)	3 (4.41%)
KY	AK	2 (3.28%)	1 (14.29%)	3 (4.41%)
MD	AK	3 (4.92%)	0 (0.00%)	3 (4.41%)
MT	AK	1 (1.64%)	1 (14.29%)	2 (2.94%)
LA	AK	2 (3.28%)	0 (0.00%)	2 (2.94%)
IA	AK	2 (3.28%)	0 (0.00%)	2 (2.94%)
NJ	AK	2 (3.28%)	0 (0.00%)	2 (2.94%)
UT	AK	2 (3.28%)	0 (0.00%)	2 (2.94%)
TN	AK	2 (3.28%)	0 (0.00%)	2 (2.94%)
WI	AK	1 (1.64%)	0 (0.00%)	1 (1.47%)
VA	AK	1 (1.64%)	0 (0.00%)	1 (1.47%)

VT	AK	1 (1.64%)	0 (0.00%)	1 (1.47%)
OH	AK	1 (1.64%)	0 (0.00%)	1 (1.47%)
OK	AK	1 (1.64%)	0 (0.00%)	1 (1.47%)
ND	AK	1 (1.64%)	0 (0.00%)	1 (1.47%)
IN	AK	1 (1.64%)	0 (0.00%)	1 (1.47%)
AL	AK	1 (1.64%)	0 (0.00%)	1 (1.47%)
AR	AK	0 (0.00%)	1 (14.29%)	1 (1.47%)
CO	AK	1 (1.64%)	0 (0.00%)	1 (1.47%)
Totals		61	7	68

Where do ALASKA Licensees purchase Compact Privileges for? (Going To)



Home State	Privilege State	Privilege PTs	Privilege PTAs	Privilege Totals
AK	OR	3 (33.33%)	1 (50.00%)	4 (36.36%)
AK	CO	2 (22.22%)	0 (0.00%)	2 (18.18%)
AK	NC	1 (11.11%)	1 (50.00%)	2 (18.18%)
AK	LA	1 (11.11%)	0 (0.00%)	1 (9.09%)
AK	TX	1 (11.11%)	0 (0.00%)	1 (9.09%)
AK	VA	1 (11.11%)	0 (0.00%)	1 (9.09%)
Total		9	2	11

ALASKA Revenue Generated Through Compact Privilege Purchases Thru October 1, 2025

July 20, 2025

FSBPT Leadership Issues Forum (LIF)

July 19 – 20, 2025

Summary Report

(For quick summary of challenges and issues identified, see Key Points Power of Collaboration Challenges Reported)

Respectfully submitted: Rebecca S. Dean

Alaska Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy Licensing Board
Board Member
Voting Delegate

The purpose of the FSBPT LIF meeting is to develop jurisdiction leadership through regulation for the primary mission of protecting the Public. FSBPT stated objectives of the LIF Meeting are:

- Providing input to the FSBPT Board of Directors on initiatives and issues for decision making
- Discussing issues and getting input from FSBPT Leadership
- Sharing information and data on important issues that impact the regulation of physical therapy
- Providing information that participants can take back to their boards to strengthen the Board and protect the safety of the Public

The 2025 LIF meeting was attended by approximately 100 individuals in person and 11 virtual attendees. Each attendee was asked to identify at least one regulatory hurdle/challenge. In addition to FSBPT Board, Delegates, Member Board Representatives, Member Board Administrators, attendees included collaborating representatives of AAPT, APTA, ACAPT, CAPTE, FCCT and the PT Compact Commission.

The LIF meeting includes a pre meeting FSBPT Board Candidate Forum meeting prior to the LIF meeting. This pre meeting allows voting delegates the opportunity to interface with candidates at LIF for election voting decisions.

Key Points: FSBPT Board

Public protection objectives were critical discussion elements throughout the meeting with a focus on doing better things while doing things better. This included the power of collaboration among jurisdictions and the FSBPT accomplishing more when working collectively..... the power of synergy.

The FSBPT Board updates the Strategic Plan every five years, however, it reviews and adjusts annually. The Strategic Plan core focus:

Examinations
Education
Membership

Leadership

States's Rights, States Responsibilities

The core values include:

People Centric.... The mission has to be concentric to the protection of the public

Innovative

Service Oriented

Collaborative

Committed to Integrity

Note: The FSBPT in collaboration with APTA continue to address Title Protection for DPT by challenging the LifeTime Fitness attempt to trademark DPT acronym as "Dynamic Personal Trainer". Direct work and communications continue with the US Patent and Trademark Office. Initial complaint was filed July of 2023 and to date there is no resolution.

Bill Hatherill, FSBPT CEO will be retiring at the end of his contract in January 2026. An active search is being conducted both internally and externally by WittKieffer, Executive Search Firm.

The Council of Board Administrators has initiated a monthly Administrators Best Practices Collective (ABC) meeting and developed a list serve and a webinar series.

Key Points CAPTE

- 57 new DPT programs since 2017
- PTA programs are decreasing
- DPT enrollments are increasing while PTA enrollments are decreasing
- Initiatives are being implemented to streamline the education time to DPT completion.
- Average Cost of DPT Program
 - Public Education \$74,067.00
 - Estimated debt upon completion of DPT program = \$100,000. - \$150,000.
 - Private Education \$124,071.00
- Average Cost of PTA Program
 - Public Education \$13,039.00
 - Private Education \$43,147.00

Key Points The Power of Collaboration

Challenges reported by LIF Attendees

- Use of AI in healthcare and the ethical implications
- Regulation of AI in physical therapy and need for standardization of regulations
- Digital technologies and telehealth adaptation
- Impaired clinician vs impaired patients....the impact of cannabis
- Administrative Orders
 - WA Rules Development on Hold
 - AK Regulatory Development on Hold
- Competitive Providers (other disciplines) and restriction of direct access

- TOFEL Changes
- Informed consent and use of AI impact on patients
- Software upgrades and resulting delays to licensing processes
- Telehealth and supervision ratio of PT to PTA
- Companies/clinics staffed by PTAs only
- Need for FSBPT Disciplinary standardization tool
- Need for AI guidelines for practice development for data security
- Need to recruitment tool and process to move department to fill Board Vacancies
- Need for best practice tools for invasive procedures
- Deregulation and need tools to communicate to legislators and government entities the importance of regulation
- Quasi PT companies crossing jurisdictional boundaries (ex: Change Health)
- MPA update on how to develop language for AI interpretation in practice
- Direct Access timelines for transfer of authority.... Who is primary PT for patient
- Telehealth rules on evaluation process and use of PTA when PT is on monitor and not physically present.
- Clarification if imaging is within PT scope of practice
- Enhancing State Boards relationships with State Association
- Mental Health....How to help regulators communicate with licensees or public to discuss and find assistance resources
- Educating the workforce and legislators regarding supervision
- Assistance with re-entry and measuring competency
- International licensees and “substantially equivalent” measurements
- CAPTE Standards....how to apply updated standards and required changes

Key Points: Sexual Misconduct and Boundaries

Trend of texting issue on increase

Committee currently developing student educator module

Focus on the Power Dynamics between Provider and Patient

Search You Tube Videos (FSBPT) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=czHhmTUiyY0>

Key Points: Informed Consent

Resources now available:

<https://www.fsbpt.org/Free-Resources/Regulatory-Resources/Informed-Consent>

- Informed Consent Resource Document for Boards
- Informed Consent Guide for Physical Therapy
- Informed Consent Mnemonic (Quick Reference Guide)
- Student Education Module/Scenarios....under development

Key Points: PT Compact

- Currently 40 member states and anticipate additional by fall
- PT Compact Webinars coming soon
- Resource Packet available for Board Staff posted on CBA site
 - Includes communication templates

- Developing definition of Home State for Military Members and Spouses
- New update for PTCompact.org website available August 4, 2025
- Currently 14,700 active Compact privilege holders

Key Points: Ethics and Legislation Committee

- Committee currently researching publicly available licensure look up through ELDD
- Pre-1996 Test Scores continue to be big issue for Boards
- Regulatory Designator definition....the title or credential after the Provider's name

Key Points: NPTE Exam Development

New initiative this year....developing criteria for use of alternative reference materials. Materials have been limited to text books. Currently reviewing:

- Clinical practice guidelines
- Federal guidelines
- APTA guidelines
- YouTube videos will not be a reference material

Key Points: Model Practice Act

- Researching Legislative Change Matrix Tool
- Cross Walk Tool available for FSBPT MPA and Jurisdiction MPA

Key Points: HRRC Healthcare work force data base research

- Exploring Cross Professional Minimum Data Set (CPMDS) to support adoption of the Work Force Data Collection
- FSBPT recommends New Compact for health workforce data..... potentially multidisciplinary
 - Potential target audiences/partners
 - APTA, AARP, Salvation Army, Easter Seals, MDCR/MDCD, Government and Legislators, Licensing Groups, Nursing, Department of Health, Hospital Associations, Universities, Professional Liability insurance companies, parallel Rehab Providers and Systems, Payers, Rural Health Coops, Tribal Entities

LIF Meeting/Day Two

Key Points: FSBPT & APTA Collaboration

- APTA recently passed revised Code of Ethics (Ethics and the Profession)
 - Jurisdictions should check statute and regulatory language to determine if it references APTA and consider the impact of the change.
- APTA noted Power Differential Issue also showing up in meetings and conferences
 - APTA working on “how can everyone feel safe at conferences”
- APTA addressing AI language models and how does it impact clinical practice
- APTA researching how to help empower the AI users and purchasers and asking the critical question of where does all the data go.

- APTA and FSBPT focused on workforce issues.... Is the administrative burden what causes PT/PTAs to leave the workforce?
- APTA exploring scope of practice....should there be a PT specialization in primary care?
- APTA exploring PTs and Diagnosis, PTs ordering labs, PT prescriptive authority. (Noted that the military PTs have prescriptive authority). APTA to collaborate with military PT providers regarding prescriptive authority and over the counter medication recommendations.
- APTA exploring Physical Therapy collaborating with mental health providers as a service with impact on health, behavioral health and social well being.
- APTA initiative to contemporize language for Women's Pelvic Health....consider simply Pelvic Health to make it gender neutral.
- APTA discussing if evidence based practice or should be changed to evidence informed practice to make it contemporary.
- APTA considering project on disability data workforce (PT providers with disabilities in the work force).
- APTA invited FSBPT to participate in the APTA Scope of Practice Task Force
- APTA revising Code of Ethics. Name Change = Code of Ethics for Physical Therapy Profession. Includes both Enforceable and Aspirational Codes. Recommendation....check state statute and regulations. How is Code of Ethics referenced?

Consider adapting language to “most recent approved form”

Resource: Canadian Model from Canadian Alliance of Physiotherapy Regulators and Canadian Physical Therapy Association.

<https://alliancept.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/Code-of-Ethical-Conduct.pdf>

Key points: Model Practice Act Part 2

Model Practice Act (MPA)

- Consider Jurisdiction Board Strategic Initiative/Goal to review and update State MPA
- Review the MPA supplementary materials including MPA with commentary before starting review and use the FSBPT crosswalk tool
- Consider adding “any successive documents” into the statutory language
- FSBPT Crosswalk and a Legislative matrix will be available in FSBPT Resources

Key points: Animal Rehabilitation Models Rules

- Animal Rehabilitation Model now included in the FSBPT MPA
- Task Force is drafting regulation language related specifically to the niche practice of animal physical therapy. This final document will serve as a resource for jurisdictions, adding animal physical therapy to scope of practice.
 - Example draft: “Nothing in this Act shall prohibit a licensee (certificate holder) from providing physical therapy to animals for which the Licensee

(certificate holder) has completed the education and training as further established by rule”

- Considerations: State Statutes need to allow PTs to treat animals. Revise definitions of PT practice limited to humans or individuals..... adopt the MPA language change to Patient/Client.
- These privileges would not be for entry level practice. A list of additional educational competencies related to the practice of animal physical therapy must be included.
- Kirt Peck You Tube Video Animal Physical Therapy
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n5Va36eGzWA>

Key Points: Healthcare Regulatory Research Institute (HRR) Update

Nonprofit Research Institute funded by FSBPT

Key Initiatives currently proposed:

- Cross Professional Minimum Data Set Sharing and understanding with standardization of data across jurisdictions and other partners to better track workforce data and issues.
- Re-entry to Practice and ongoing establishment of competency
 - Investigating what is retained when you leave physical therapy practice and what does not return when you return to practice.
- Sexual Misconduct and Boundaries Board Tool How to recognize, identify and report substandard care/misconduct by practitioners.
 - https://d36ab082-c35a-4698-8fe2-8f4a987c0607.usrfiles.com/ugd/d36ab0_4d15b471e3ec494da68aade71ac8f170.pdf

HRR has additional six studies under way:

- Effects of Education on Prevention of Recidivism or bad habits. Behavior and disciplinary measures evaluate and measure the impact of regulatory board interventions, including remediation, on safe delivery of care and prevention of infractions and recidivisms.
- Turnover and Retention in Physical Therapy
- Understanding the internationally educated PT experience
- Linking Job Requirements to public safety....entry level and ongoing competency
- Board Structure Taxonomy
- Communicating about sexual misconduct: a website tool

Key Points: ELDD

Exam Licensure Discipline Data Base

- Available Grant funding for Data Entry Technology upgrades
- Can also apply for grant funding to develop work force data collection technology
- FSBPT investigating making ELDD forward facing to Public
 - Example: Federation of State Medical Boards Docinfo search
 - Docinfo Search = <https://www.docinfo.org>

- Comprehensive database of medical licensure and board actions available to public
- Nurses have search Nursys = www.nursys.com
- FSBPT could make public search available to public with no additional work to jurisdictions
- FSBPT consideration of State Comparison of disciplinary actions and process
- Consider privacy issues for substance abuse or mental health

Key Points: NPTE Testing Under Scrutiny

Suggestions are surfacing to move away from standardized testing

- FSBPT position....Exam is the most reliable pathway for almost all candidates
Changes to the Standard for Occupational English Test (OET) proposed. This would be change from Cambridge English Assessment for OTs and PTs.
- States need to be alert and pay attention to. May need to realign regs with measurement changes .
- Changes coming to TOEFL Exam that will change the scoring scale. Effective January 21, 2026 with a two year transition period. Current FSBPT TOEFL standard won't be applicable at end of the transition period.
- LIF attendees were alarmed at potential impact

Key Points: Healthy Practice Resource

- Continuing Competence Committee recommends recognizing as Professional Development Credits for participation and completion of the modules.
- Currently 9 modules active on website
- Completely confidential
- OTs might also be interested in using the modules for credit
- Time and calculations will be available
- Invite the Committee liaison to present at Board meeting for thorough vetting of consideration
- Consider changing continuing education model to professional development module.
- Explore the Healthy Practice Assessment and Modules at:
<https://healthypractice.hrri.org/>

Key Points: Enhancing Value of Regulators

Boards are facing scrutiny for consolidation and deregulation

- Boards need to continue to demonstrate the value of regulation and the advanced activities of the Board

These outlined items and discussions above will be considered for FSBPT Annual Education Meeting.

Annual Report Instructions and Checklist

This document serves as both the instructions and checklist for the 2026 annual reports. Save a copy to be completed for your program(s) in the specific program folder (within the (I:) drive for Juneau or the (J:) drive for Anchorage).

Purpose: The annual performance report is presented by each board in accordance with AS 08.01.070(10). The purpose is to report the accomplishments, activities, and the past and present needs of the licensing program from the board's perspective.

Timeframe: Annual reports must be reviewed and approved by each board and submitted to the division's publication specialist no later than June 30 each year. Boards and staff should plan to ensure an adequate amount of time to discuss, edit, and approve.

Upcoming Board Meeting Dates: _____

☐ Discussed with Board Date: _____

☐ Draft Completed by Board Date: _____

☐ Ready for Board Review Date: _____

Approval and Finalizing Process: *Do NOT send annual reports to the publication team without obtaining board approval first.* Official board approval should be recorded below in the "Board Approval" section. Once the board has approved the annual report content, the document should be emailed to the publications specialist for finalizing. After the document is finalized, it is posted online. The content is not altered during the finalizing process – a 2nd review and approval from the board is not required.

Personnel: It can be difficult to write a report by committee, so boards may wish to appoint a drafter and set forth a process and timeline for completion. Often, this is the board chair or a long-serving member. Boards may also assign sections to members to help allocate the responsibility.

Guidance: Only the content (i.e., informational board-specific text) should be modified by staff. **Do not add, remove or format the annual report yourself.**

- If additional pages, sections, etc. are needed, **contact the publications specialist** and ask for assistance.
- It is imperative that the changes to formatting (i.e., additional pages, etc.) are completed **ONLY** by the publications team - there are specific formatting aspects that must remain in place.
- If changes to formatting are made by staff, you will be asked to re-do the entire template after the publications team has made the formatting changes for you.

Remember this is a public document. Do not include information that may be confidential or create a liability for the board or its members.

Professional licensing staff may not write the report on behalf of the board. Staff may work with the division's administrative team to fill in staff/board information, statistics and other objective data.

Annual Report Instructions and Checklist (continued)

Board Review and Approval: As mentioned above, *do NOT send annual reports to the publication team prior to obtaining board approval*. Official board approval means a motion to approve the document as-is, with a quorum reached. No changes should be made to the document (outside of final formatting) after receiving board approval. Final formatting is to be completed by the publications specialist only.

☐ Approved

Date of Final Board Approval: _____

Comments: _____

Program Staff (Name): _____

This instruction/checklist page, with official board approval, must be submitted to the publications team with the approved annual report document. Annual reports submitted to the publications team without this sign-off will not be accepted.

Department of Commerce, Community
and Economic Development

Division of Corporations, Business
and Professional Licensing

Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy Board

Annual Report

Fiscal Year 2026



Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development
Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing

P.O. Box 110806
Juneau, Alaska 99811-0806
Email: License@Alaska.Gov

This report is required under Alaska Statute 08.01.070(10).

FY 2026 Annual Report

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**Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy Board
FY 2026 Annual Report**

Board Membership *(as of the Date This Report was Approved)*

Date of Final Board Approval: [Click or tap to enter a date.]

Valerie Phelps, Chair – Physical Therapist
Victoria Daugherty, Secretary – Occupational Therapist
Jonathan Gates – Physical Therapist
Michelle Scott-Weber – Occupational Therapist
Elisa Ellsworth – Physical Therapist
Rebecca Dean – Public member
Vacant – Occupational Therapist

**Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy Board
FY 2026 Annual Report**

Accomplishments

[Click or tap here to enter text. ("Accomplishments" include but are not limited to statutory or regulatory changes finalized, disciplinary matrices created, investigations conducted, public safety measures implemented, general descriptions of license actions taken for the sake of public safety, accomplishments by staff, accomplishments by board members, etc.)]

**Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy Board
FY 2026 Annual Report**

Activities

[Click or tap here to enter text. ("Activities" include but are not limited to board meetings, subcommittee or workgroup meetings, attendance at conferences, public speaking events, involvement in legislative hearings, in process statute or regulation changes, etc.)]

**Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy Board
FY 2026 Annual Report**

Needs

[Click or tap here to enter text. ("Needs" include but are not limited to changes to statutes, changes to regulations, trainings, board seats to be filled, executive administrator for the board, additional staff, travel to certain conferences, support, etc. Highly recommend also including the "why" for each listed need.)]

Satisfaction with Application Processing by State 2024

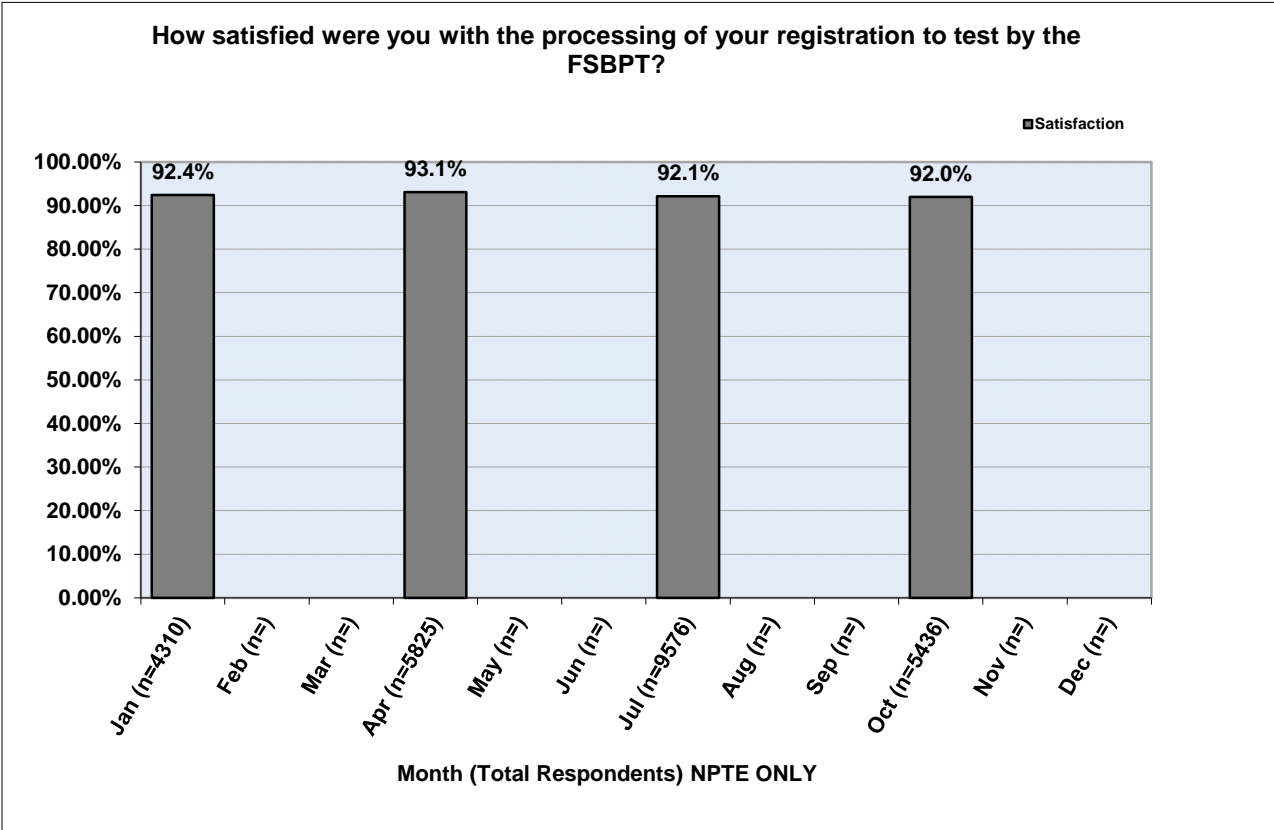
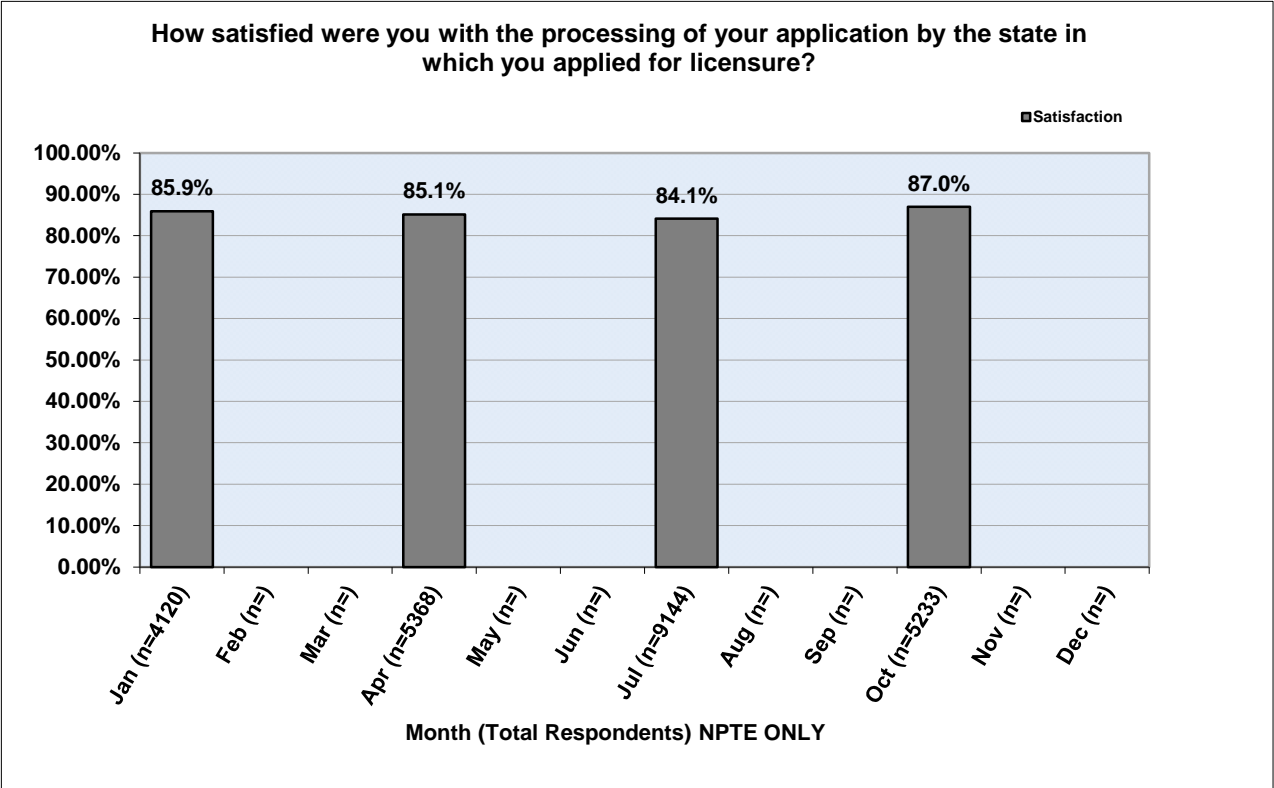
Through December 31, 2024, **23865** candidates completed the post-examination survey. The overall satisfaction rating for all jurisdictions on the question “How satisfied were you with the processing of your application by the state in which you applied for licensure?” is **85.53%**

The table below shows the satisfaction percentage by quarter for your jurisdiction on this question.

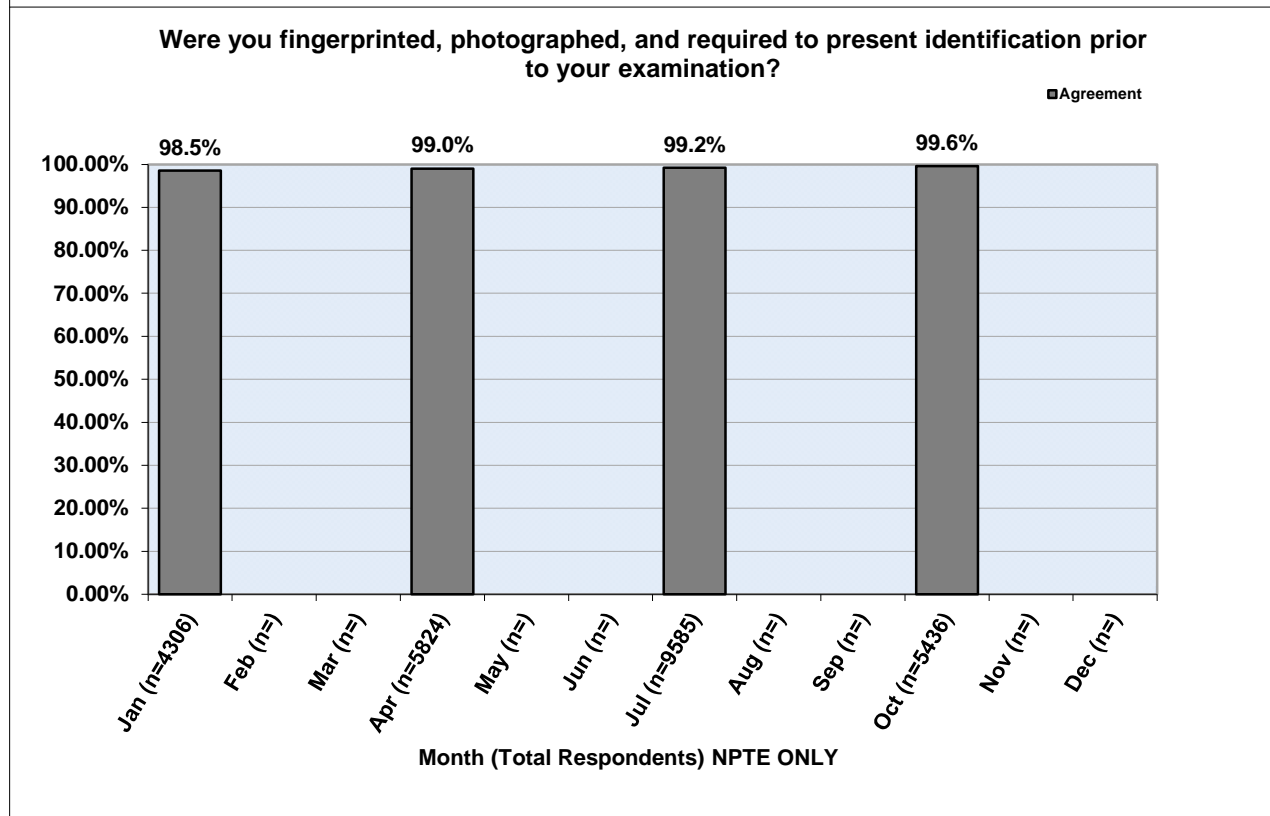
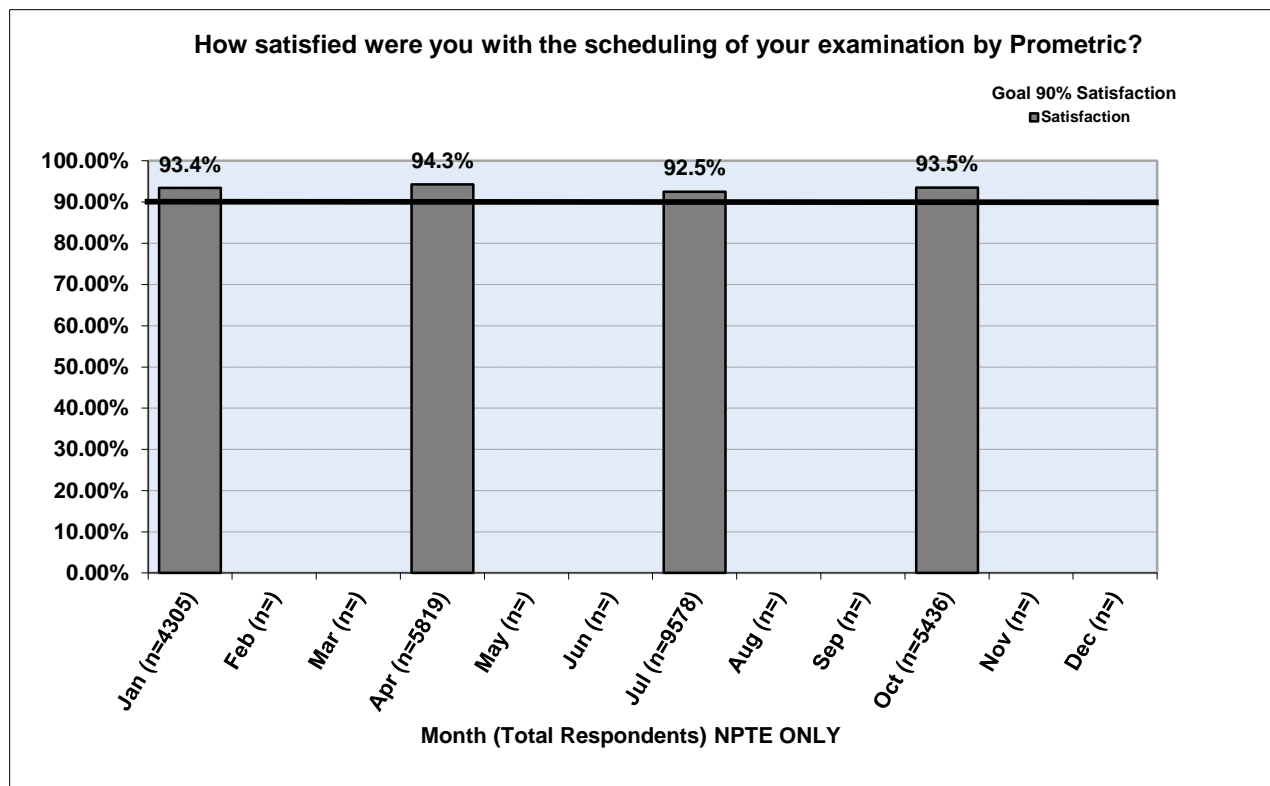
Satisfaction with Jurisdiction Registration Processing: AK

Quarter	Very Satisfied		Satisfied		Uncertain		Dissatisfied		Very Dissatisfied		I have not yet applied to my state/have not interacted with my state		Total	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
Q1 2024	6	42.86%	5	35.71%	1	7.14%		0.00%		0.00%	2	14.29%	14	100.00%
Q2 2024	4	44.44%	4	44.44%		0.00%		0.00%		0.00%	1	11.11%	9	100.00%
Q3 2024	2	33.33%	4	66.67%		0.00%		0.00%		0.00%		0.00%	6	100.00%
Q4 2024	1	33.33%	1	33.33%		0.00%		0.00%		0.00%	1	33.33%	3	100.00%

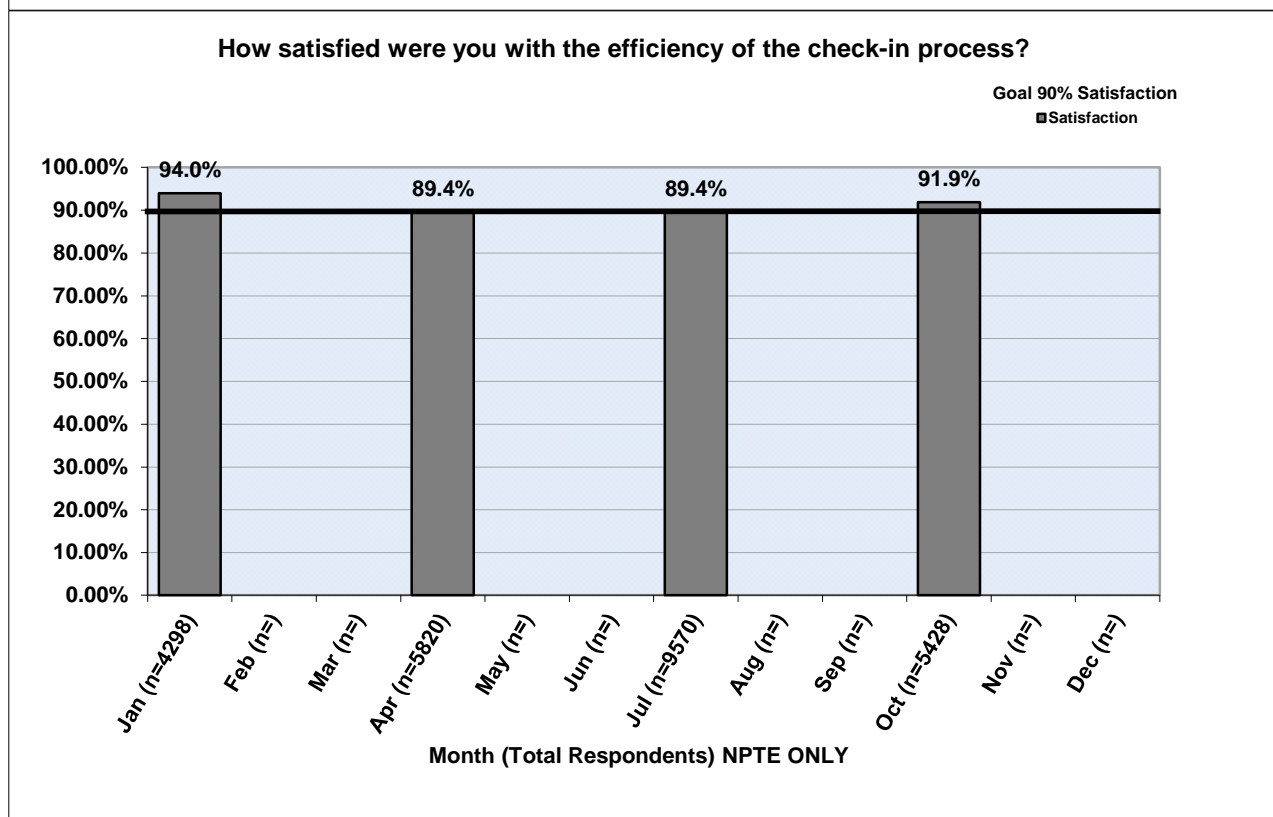
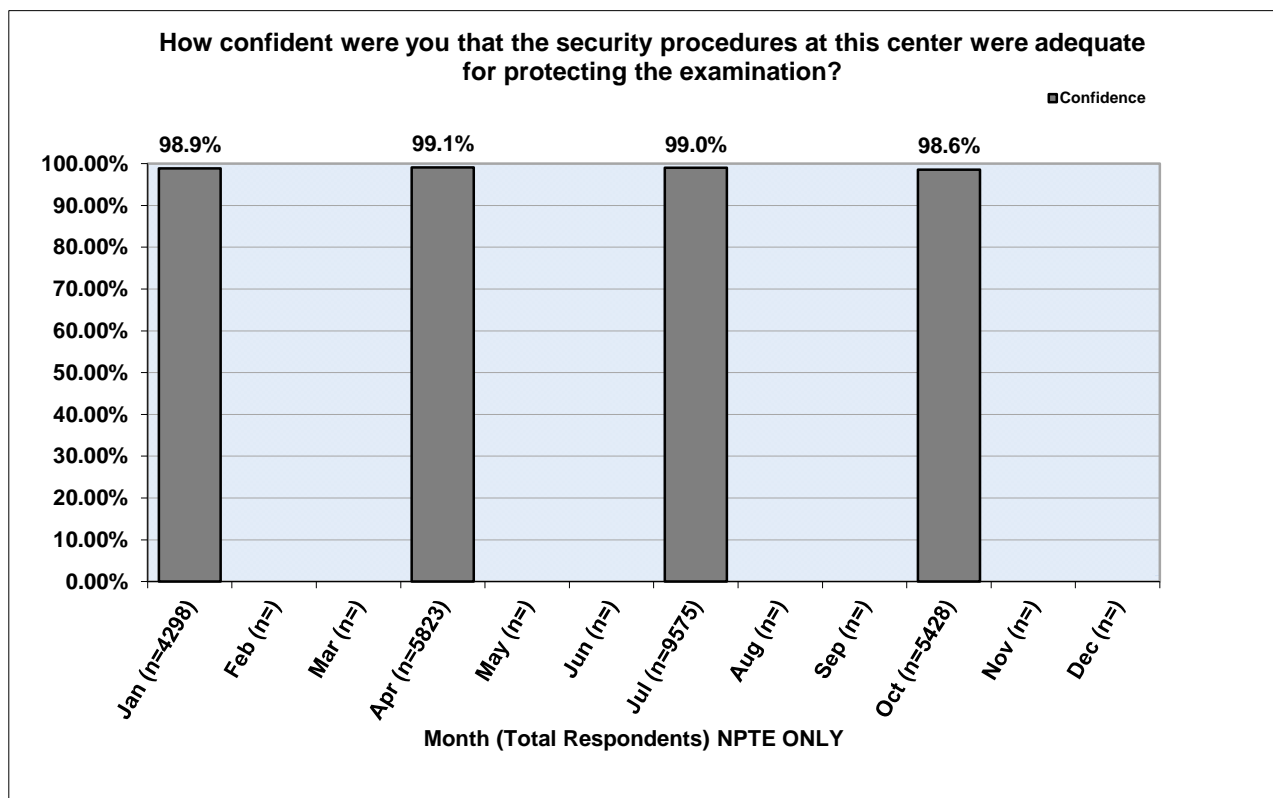
NPTE Survey Satisfaction By Month



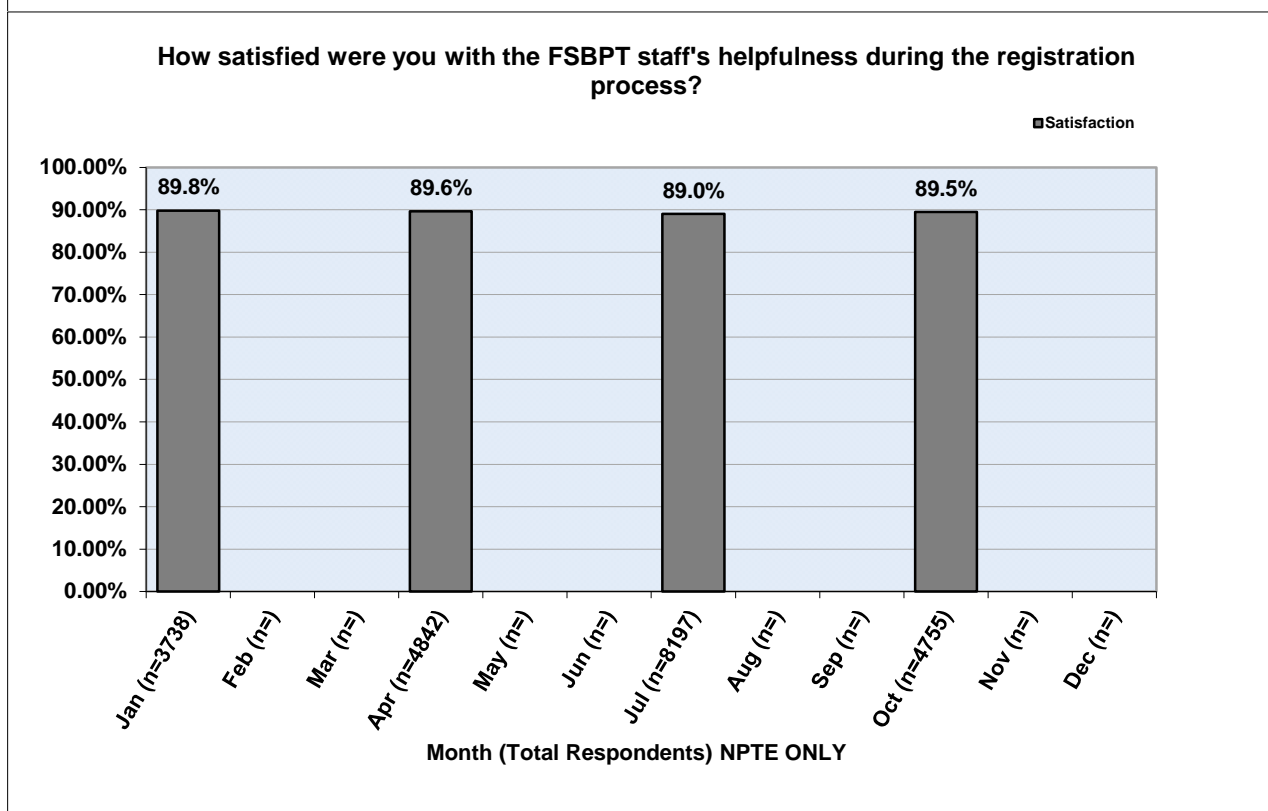
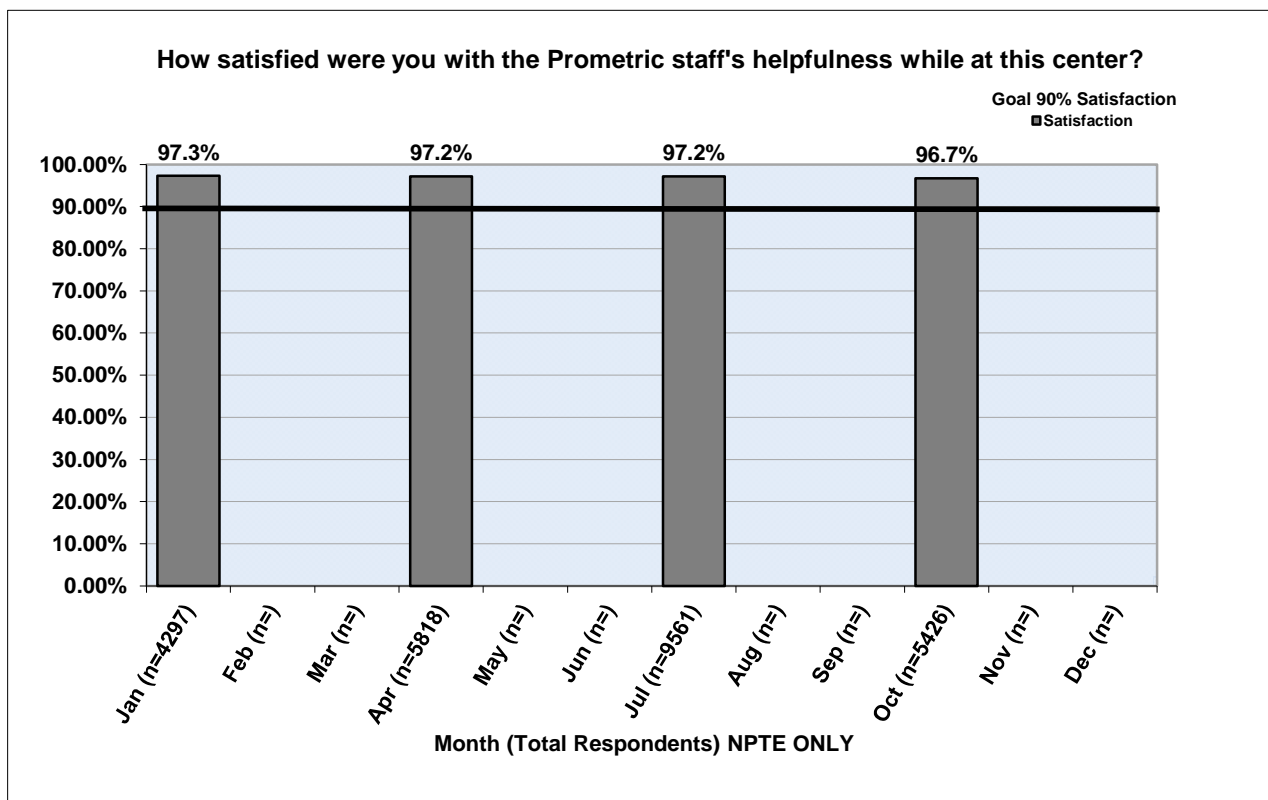
NPTE Survey Satisfaction By Month



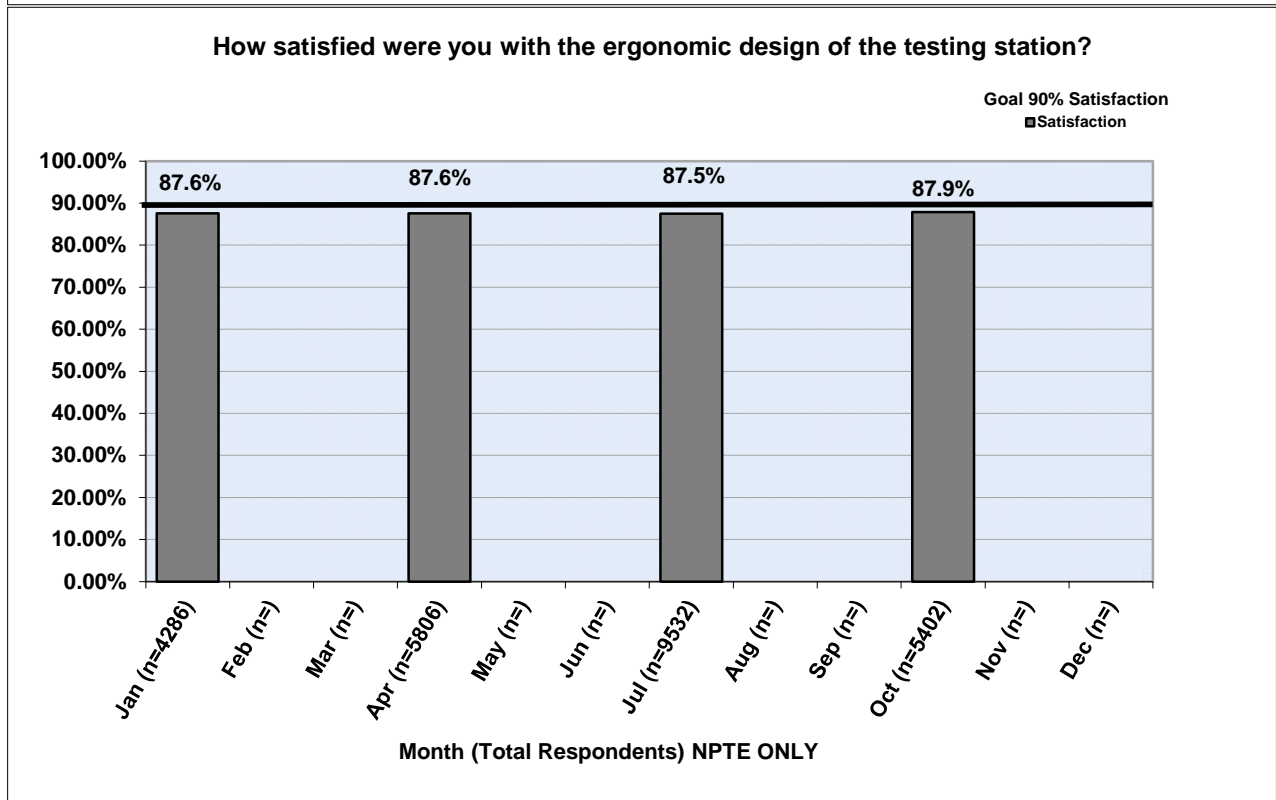
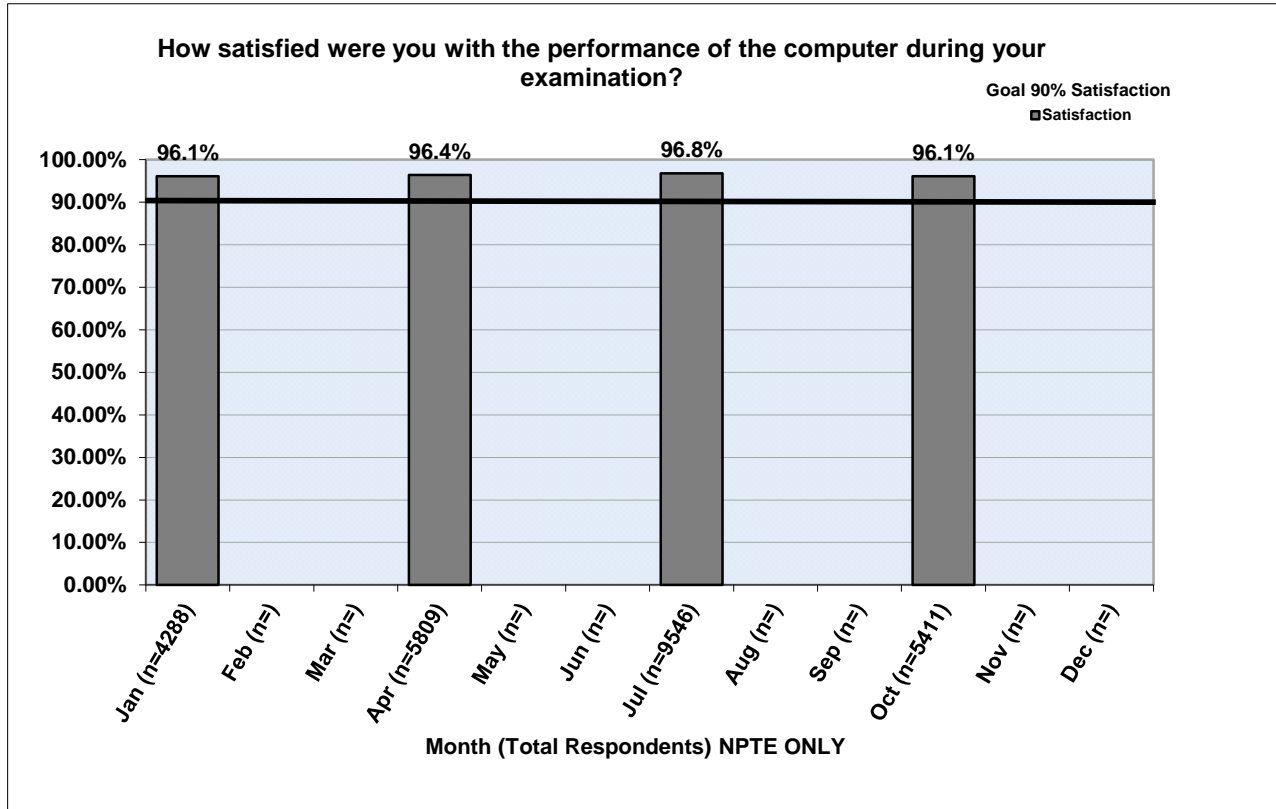
NPTE Survey Satisfaction By Month



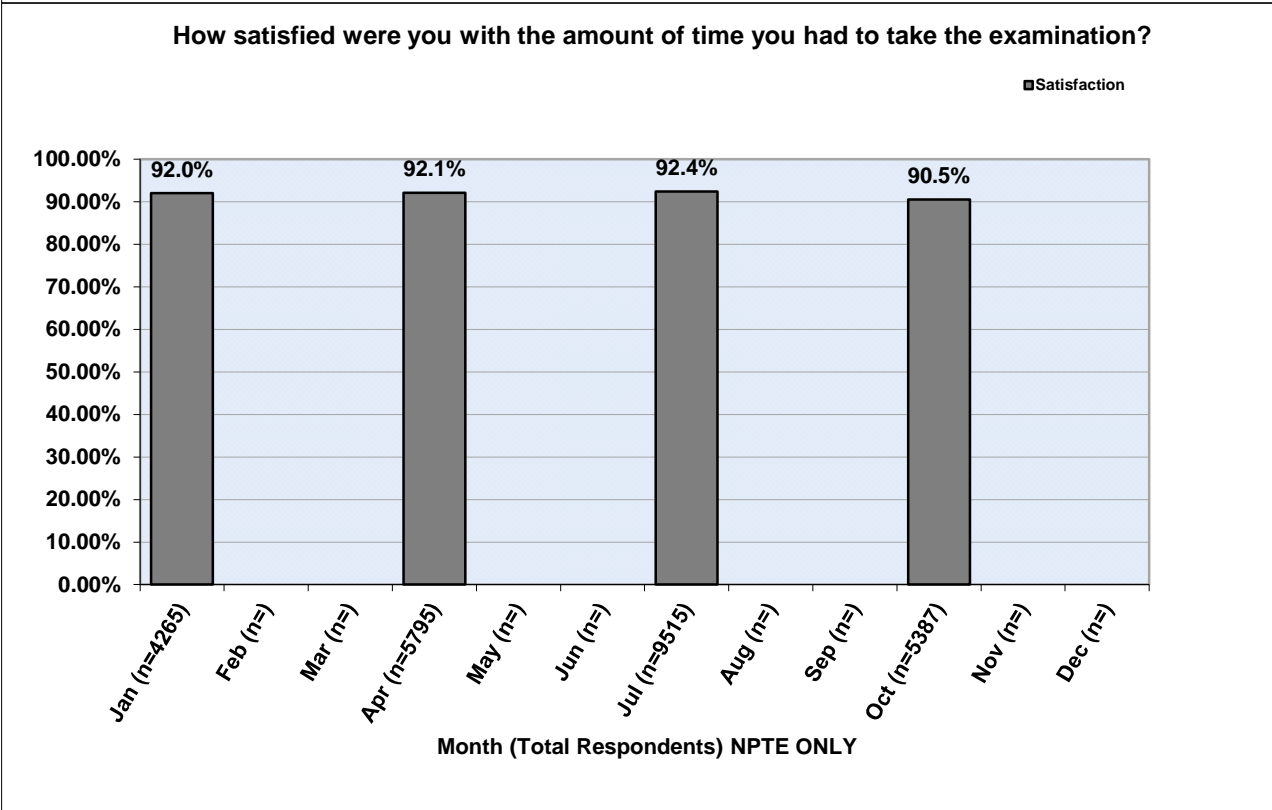
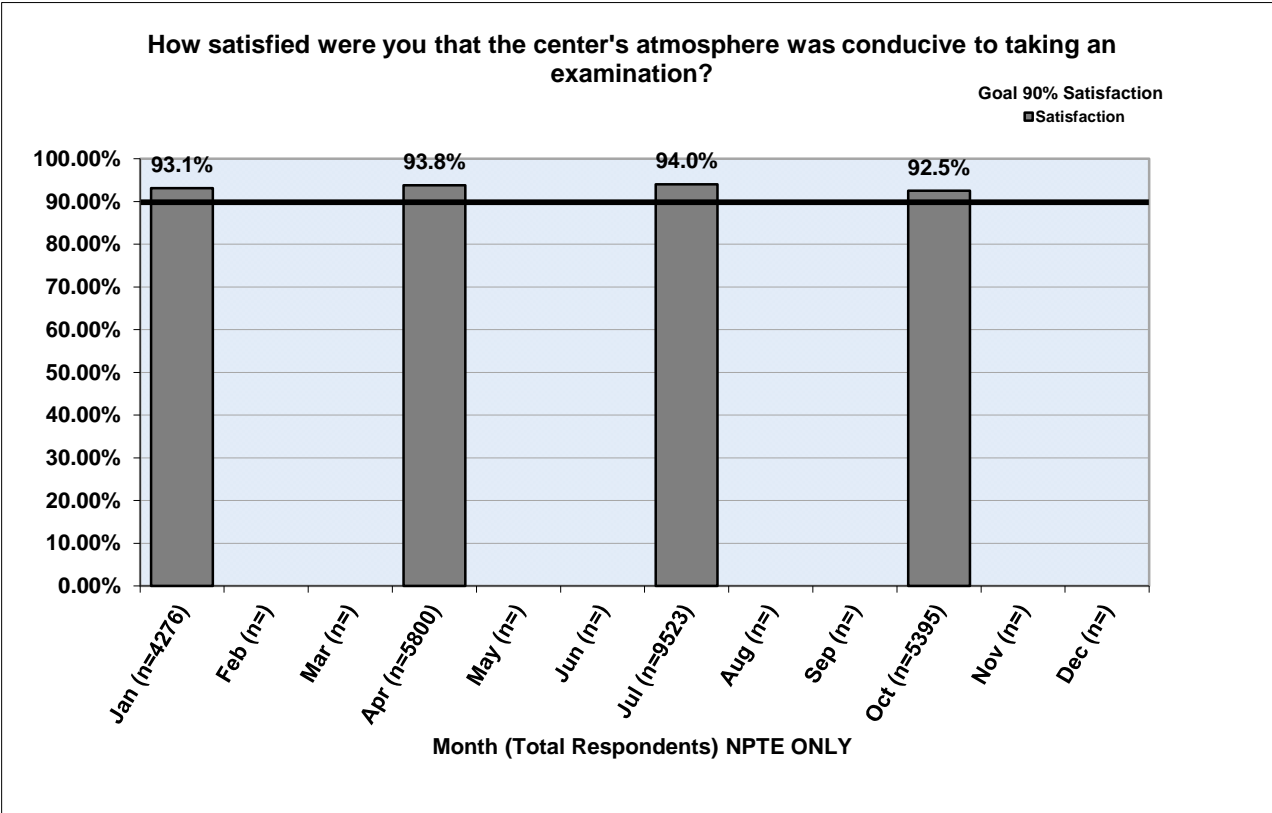
NPTE Survey Satisfaction By Month



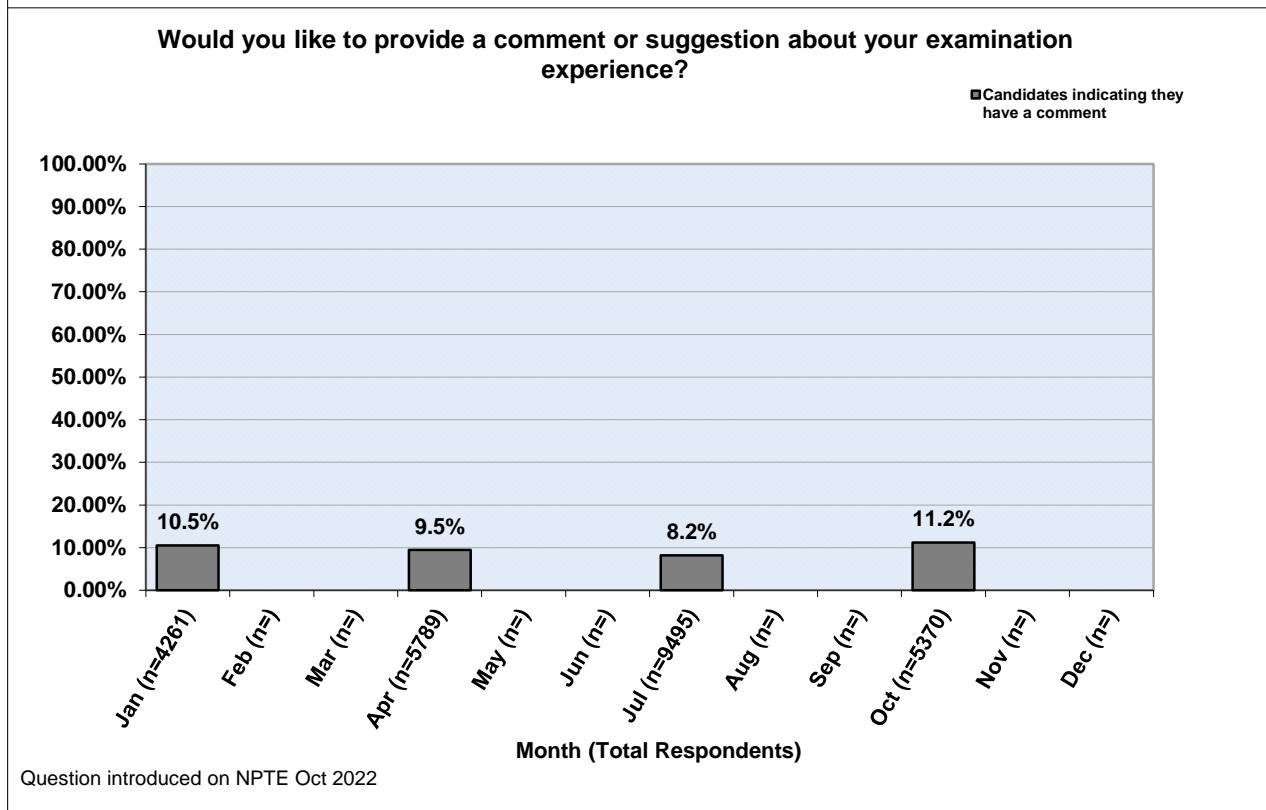
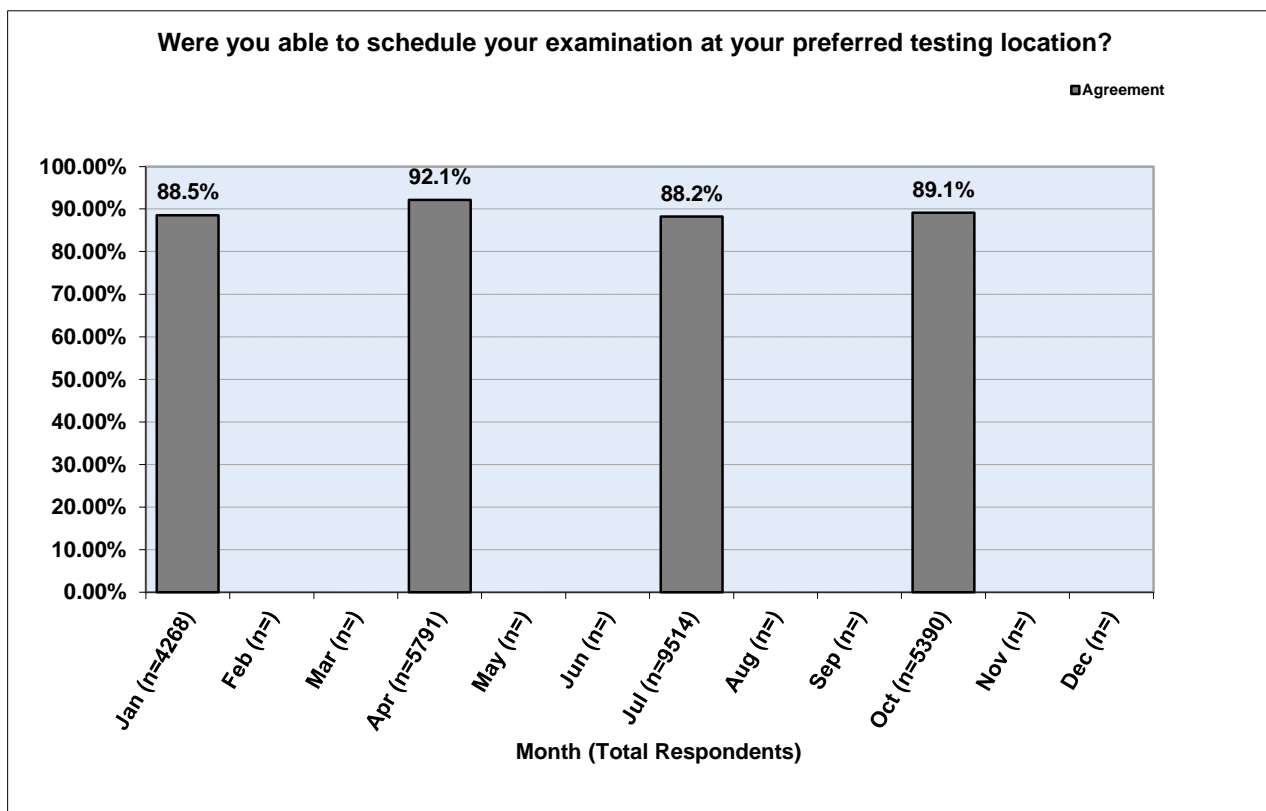
NPTE Survey Satisfaction By Month



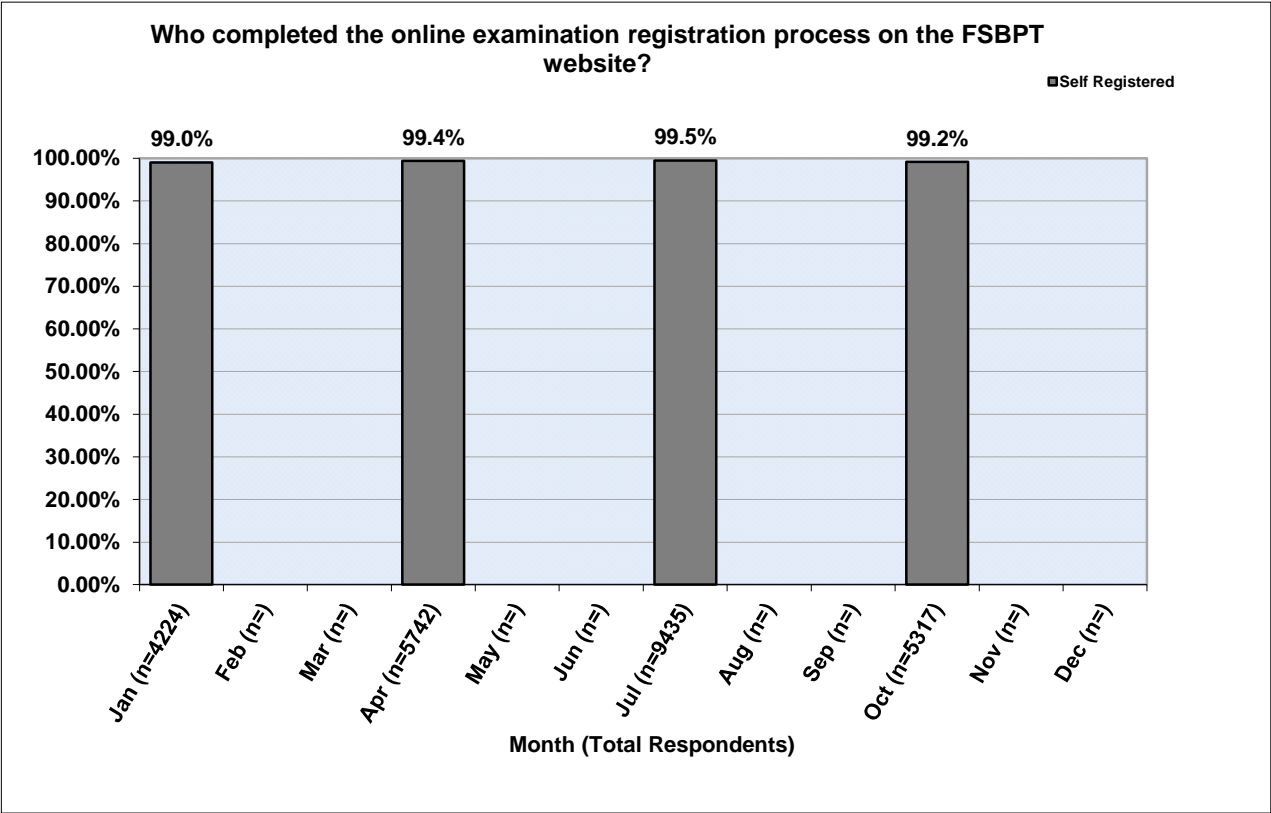
NPTE Survey Satisfaction By Month

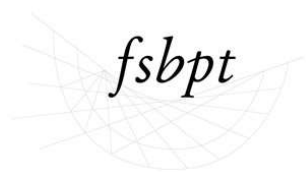


NPTE Survey Satisfaction By Month



NPTE Survey Satisfaction By Month





Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy

124 West Street South, 3rd Floor, Alexandria, Virginia, 22314

Phone: 703.299.3100 Fax: 703.299.3110

Website: www.fsbpt.org

Candidate Comments Report: NPTE January 2025

Candidates Seeking Licensure In:	Test Center (TC) #	TC City, State, Country	Exam	Candidate Name (Last, First)	Test Month	Test Year	Candidate Comment
Alaska	2703	ANCHORAGE, AK, USA	PTA	HEATH, JOEHANNA	January	2025	There should be more clear communication on where to check in and how to. Upon arrival there are no signs indicating what you should do, where you should stand/sit, or what the process is.
	2703	ANCHORAGE, AK, USA	PT	FLAMING, CORBIN	January	2025	Some images unclear. need better specifics about target in image.
	2703	ANCHORAGE, AK, USA	PTA	RYLAND, EVA	January	2025	The staff at this Prometric facility are professional, kind, courteous and excellent in every way. I am very pleased with the customer service and attention to security and procedures. Thank you for making this experience calm and streamlined and informative.

Satisfaction with Application Processing by State 2025

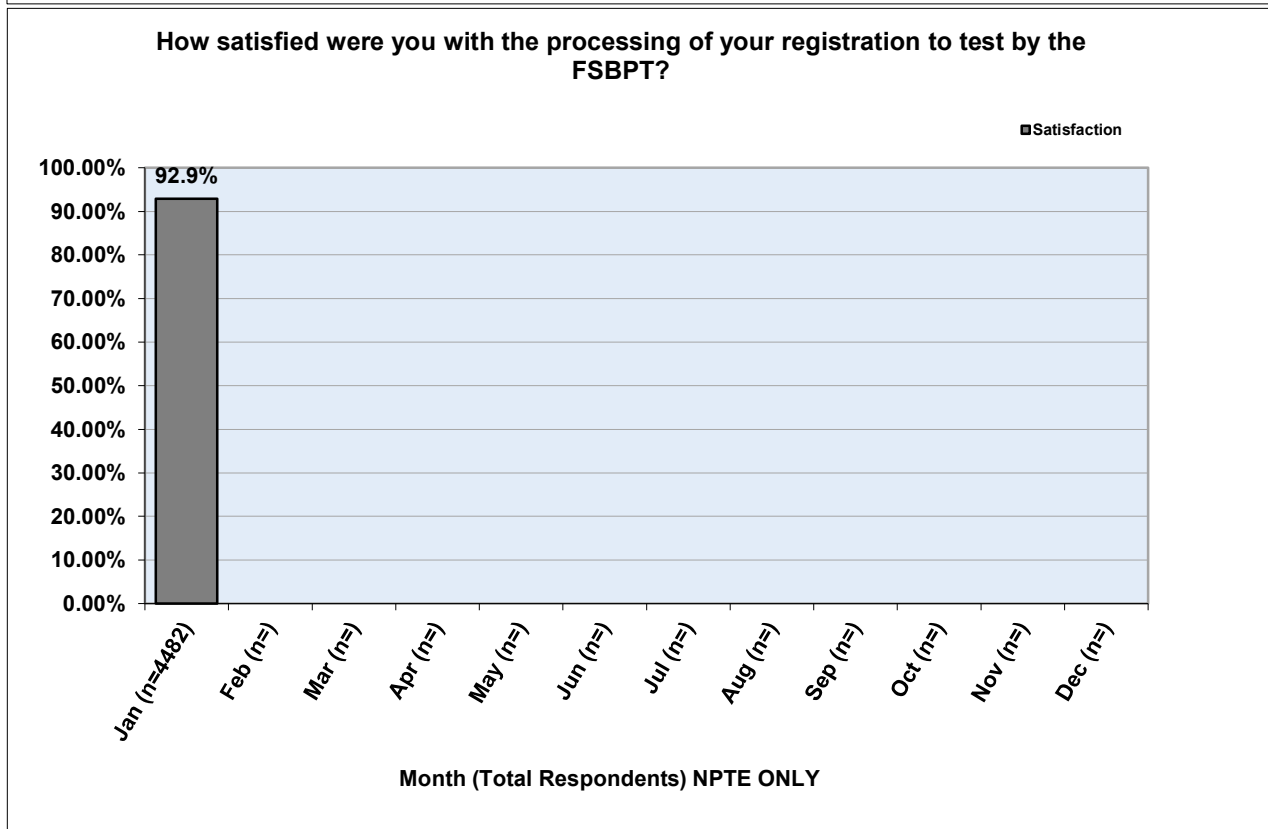
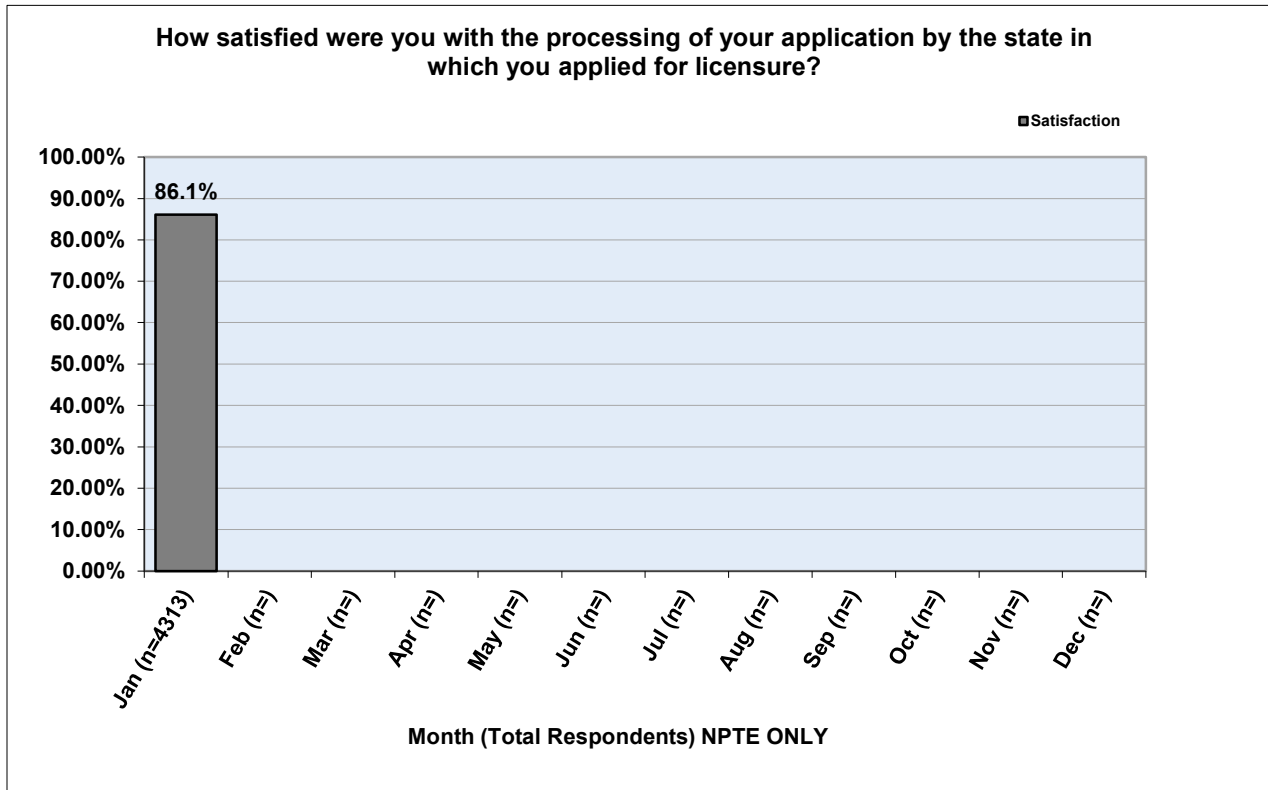
Through March 31, 2025, **4313** candidates completed the post-examination survey. The overall satisfaction rating for all jurisdictions on the question “How satisfied were you with the processing of your application by the state in which you applied for licensure?” is **86.10%**

The table below shows the satisfaction percentage by quarter for your jurisdiction on this question.

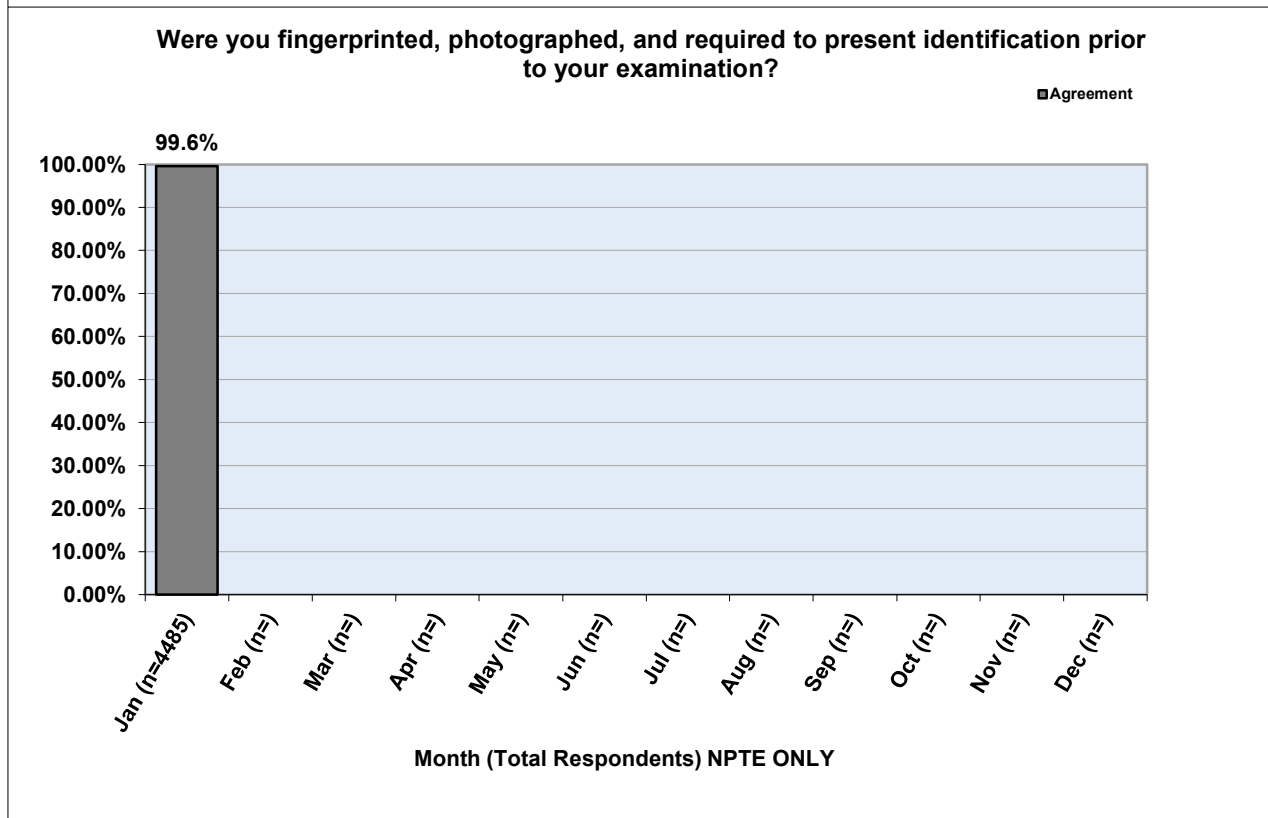
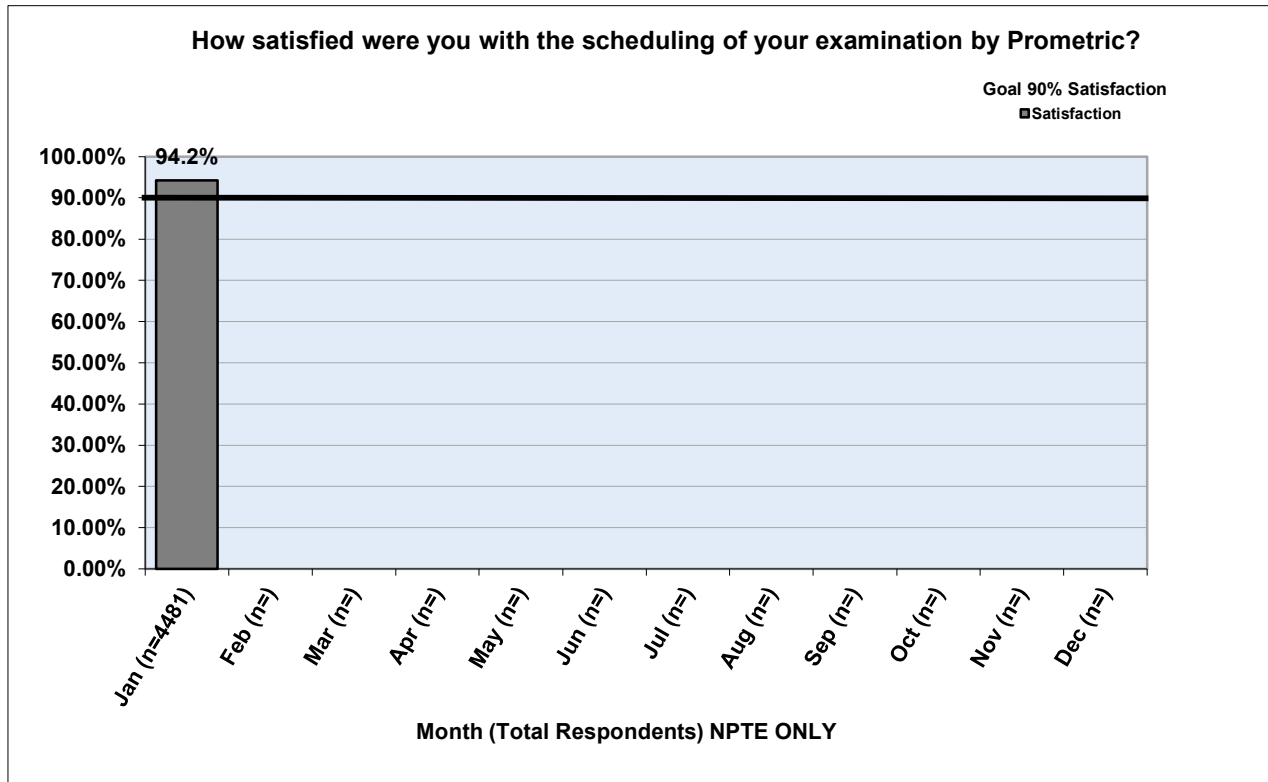
Satisfaction with Jurisdiction Registration Processing: AK

[illegible]

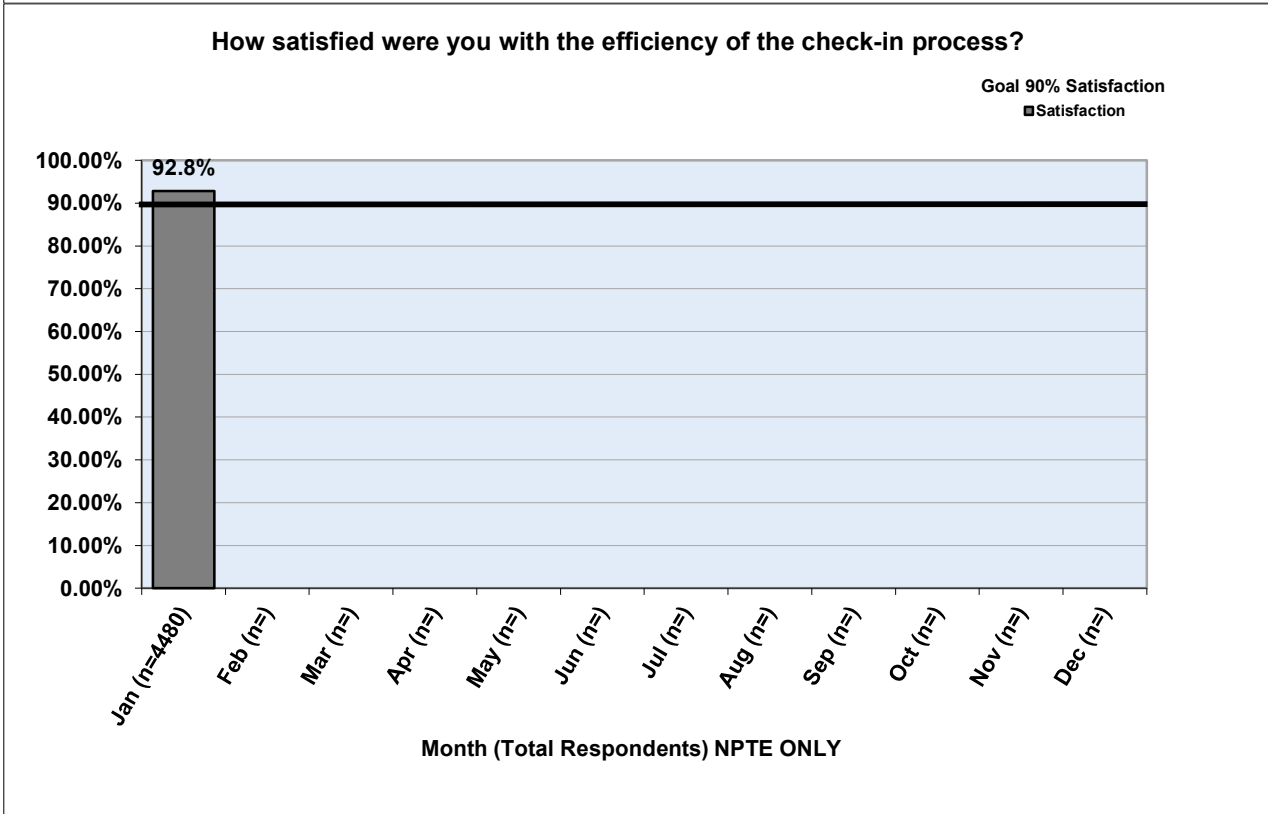
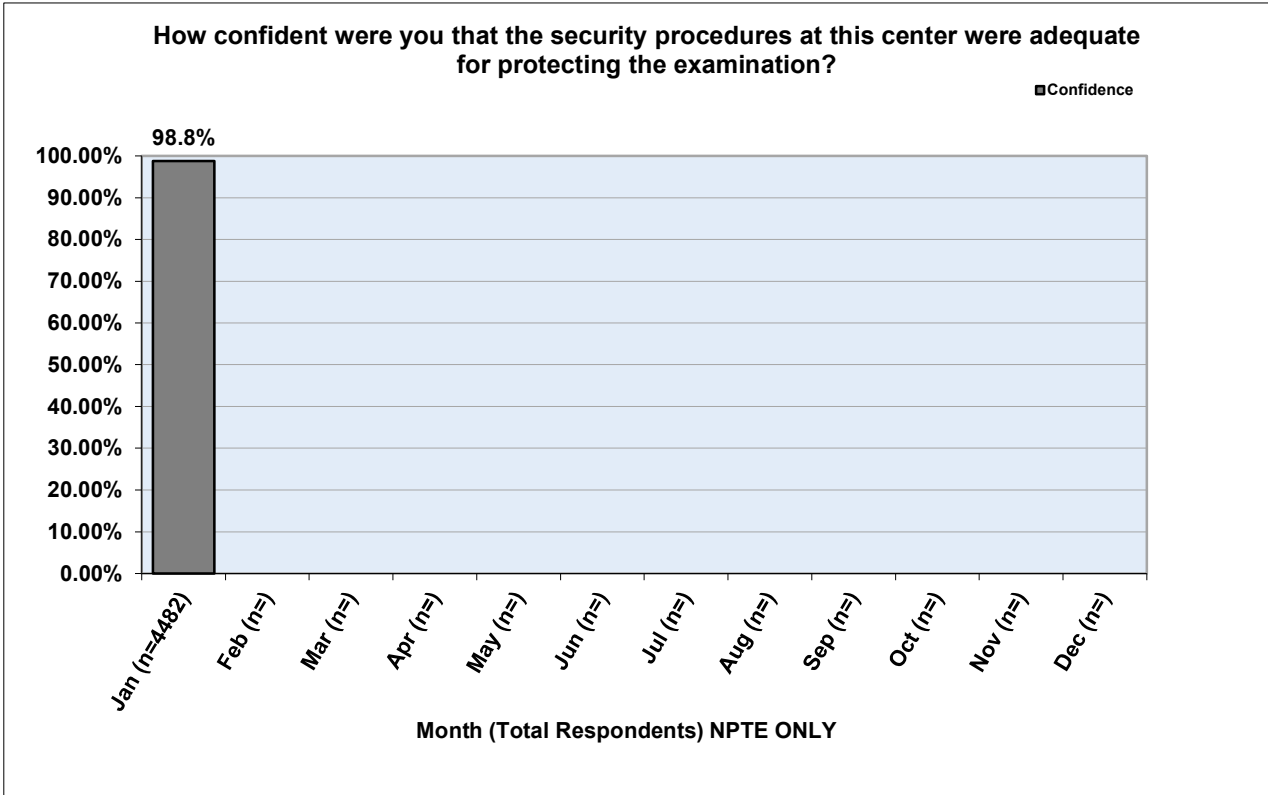
NPTE Survey Satisfaction By Month



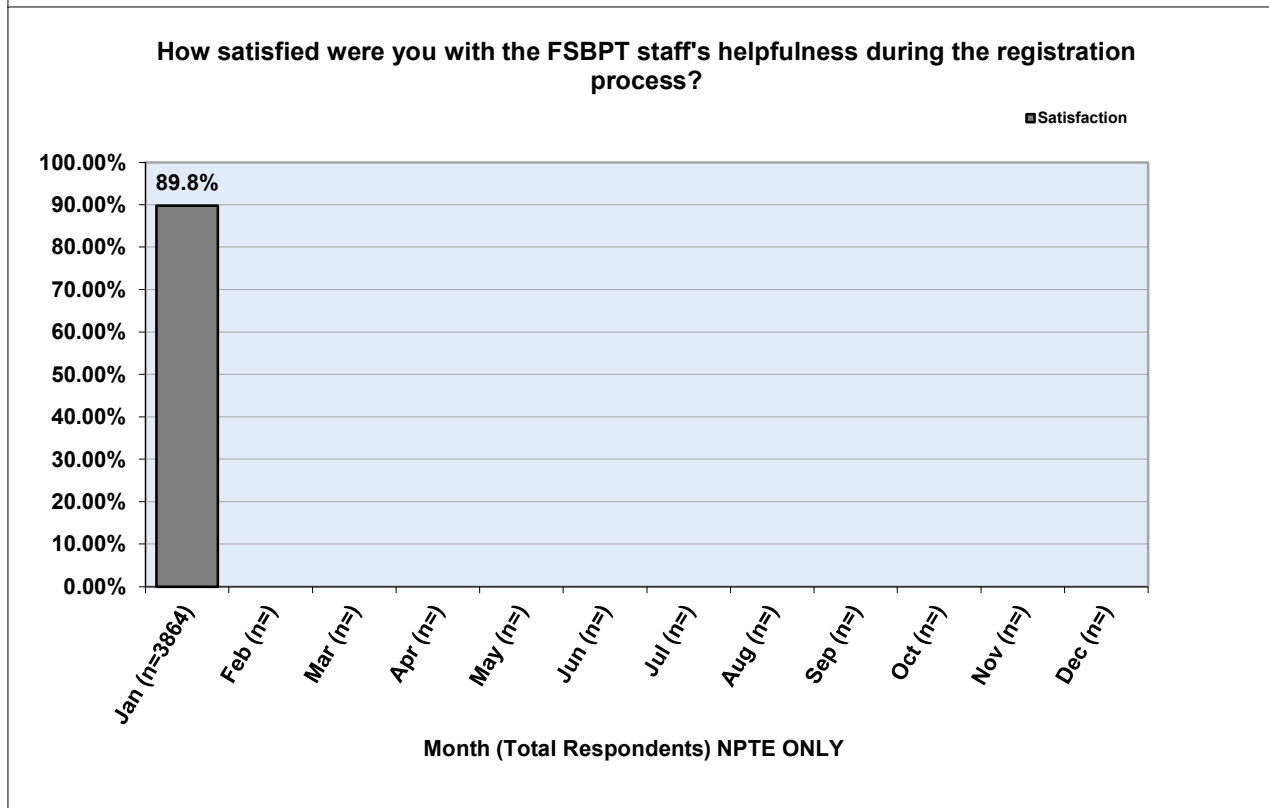
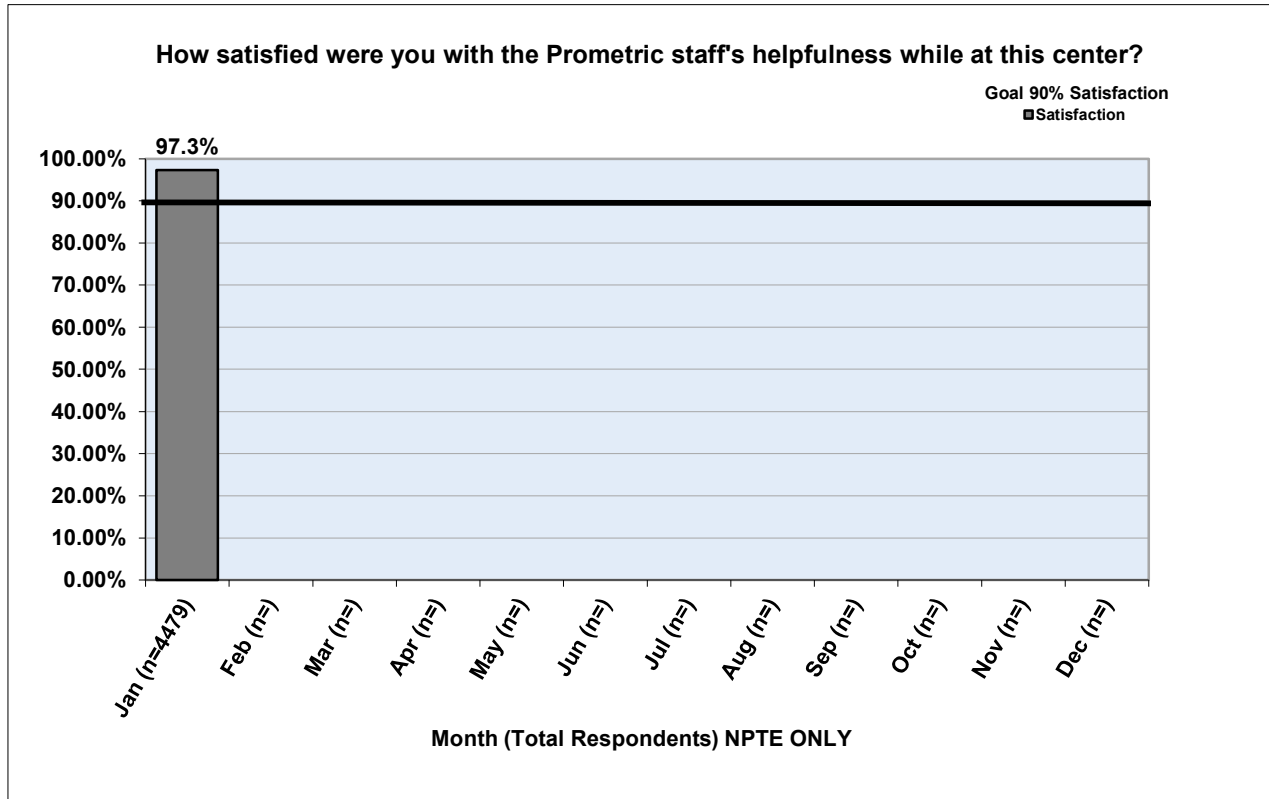
NPTE Survey Satisfaction By Month



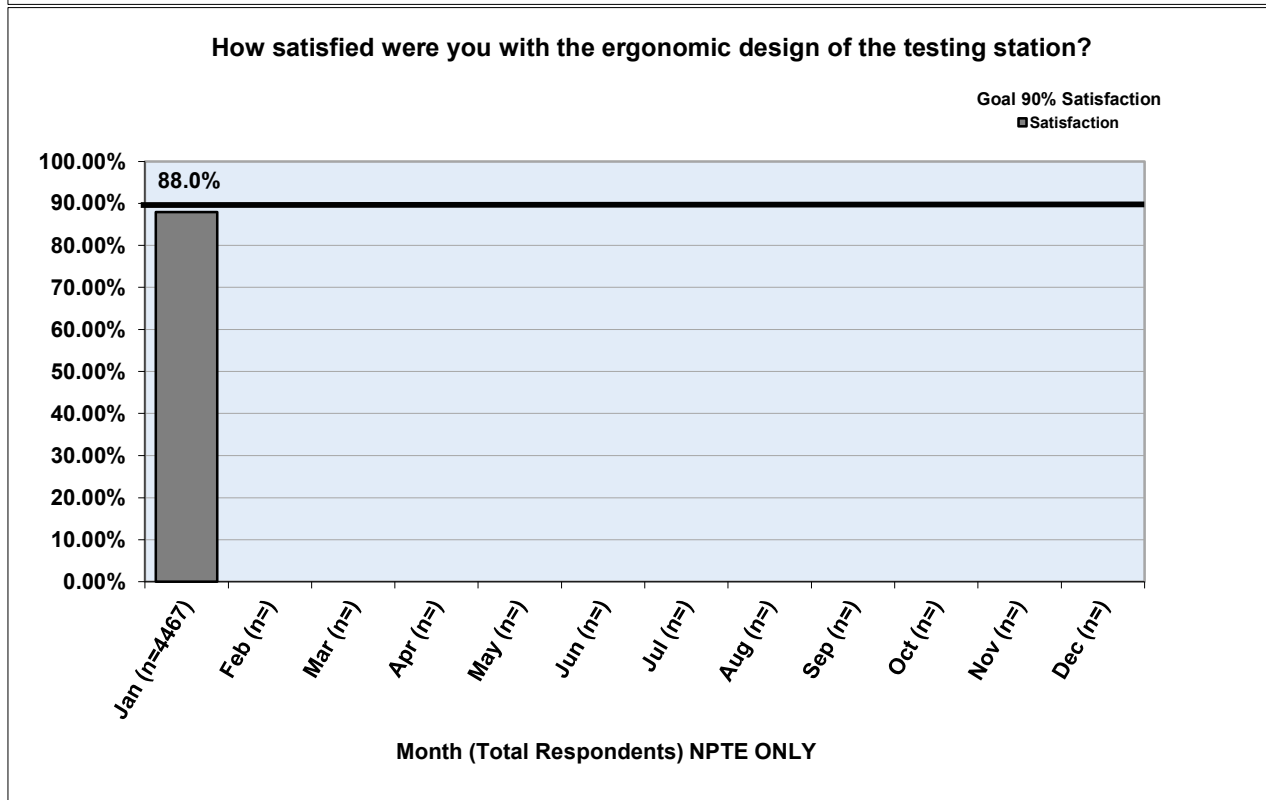
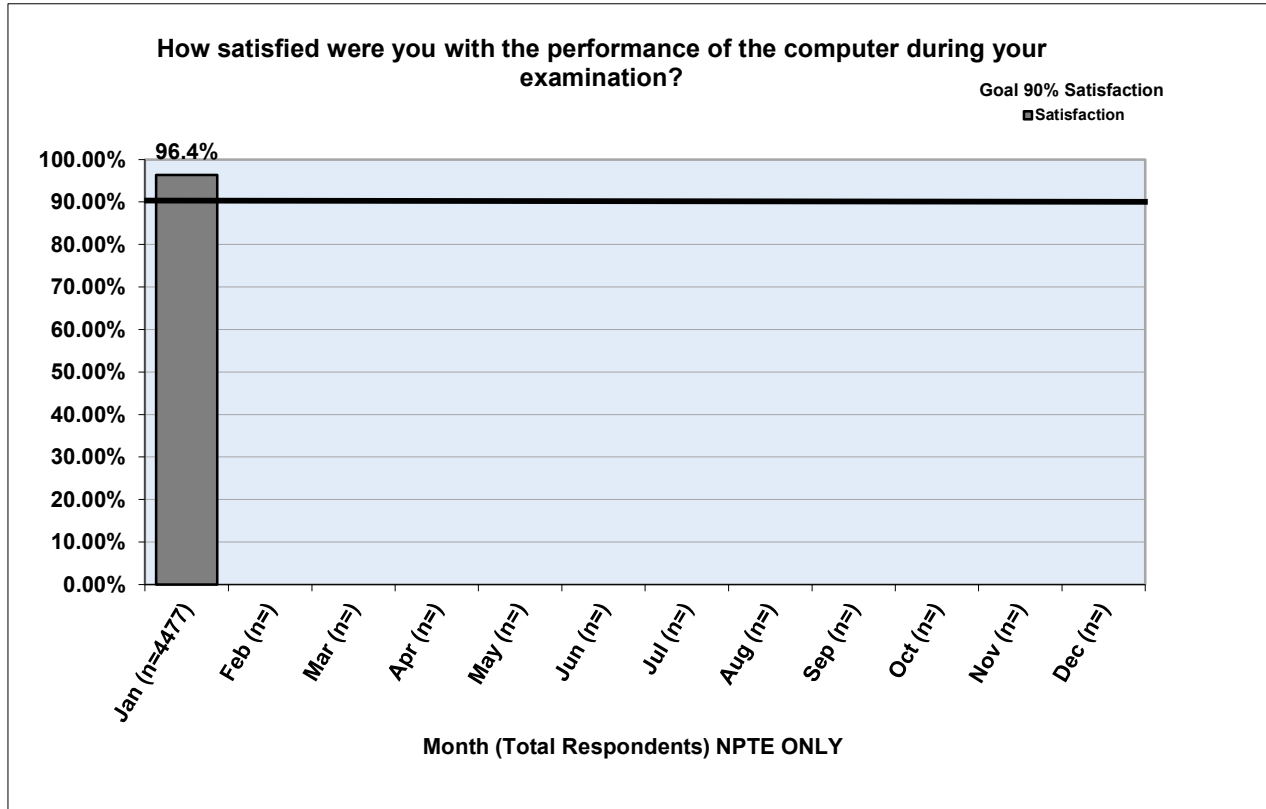
NPTE Survey Satisfaction By Month



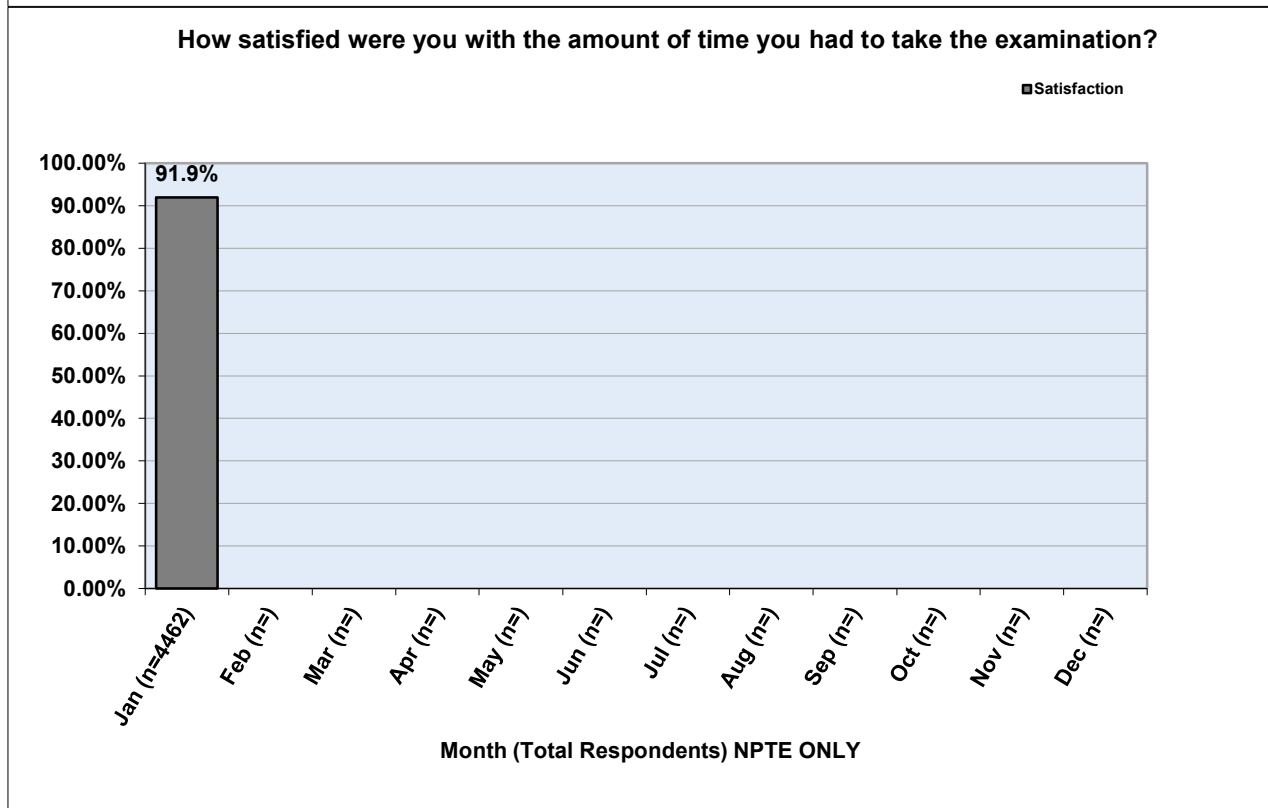
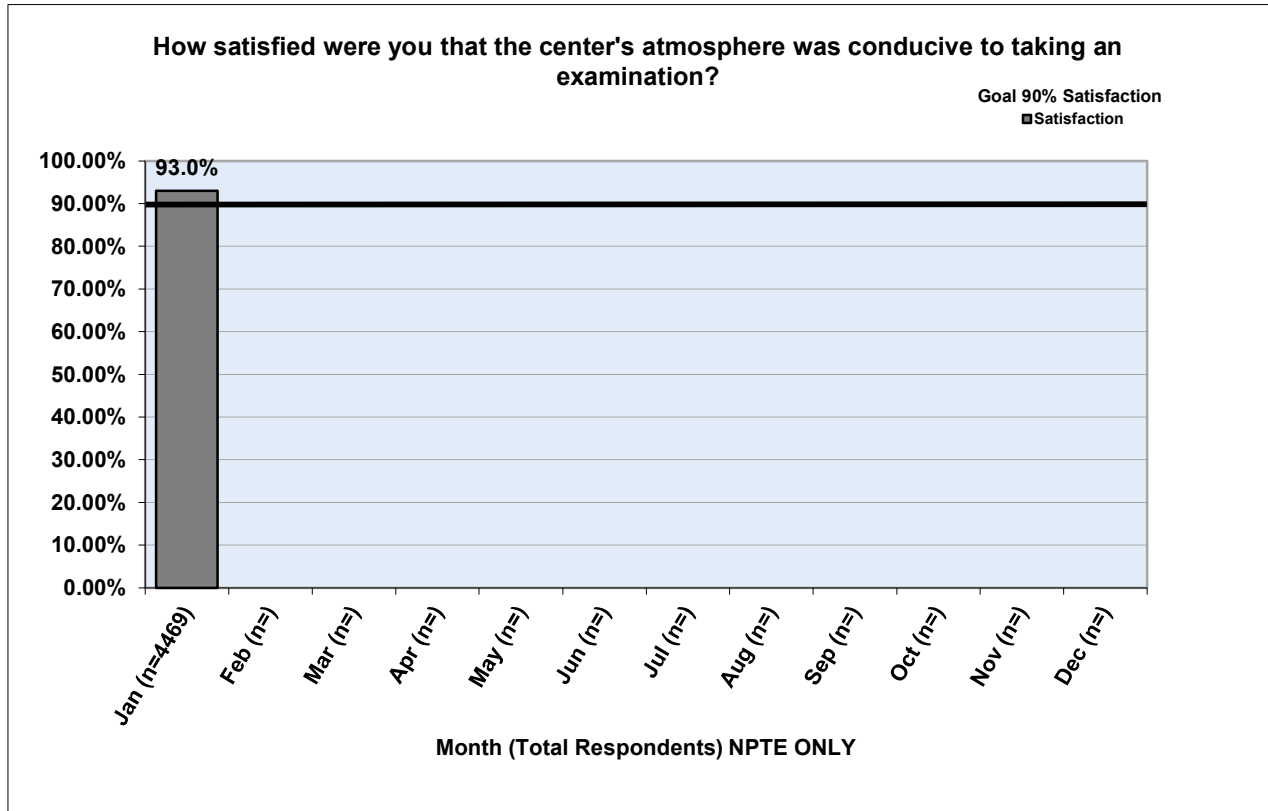
NPTE Survey Satisfaction By Month



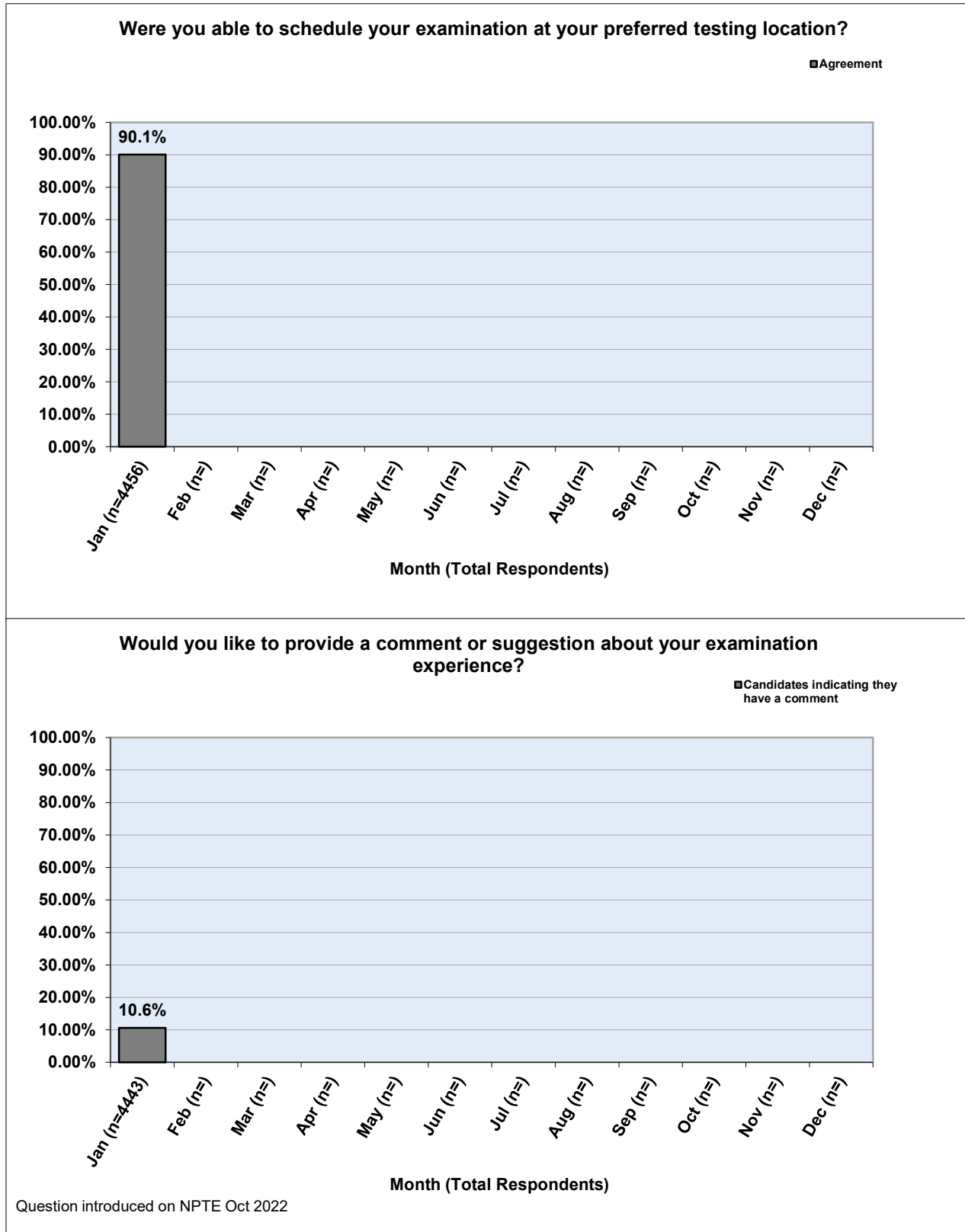
NPTE Survey Satisfaction By Month



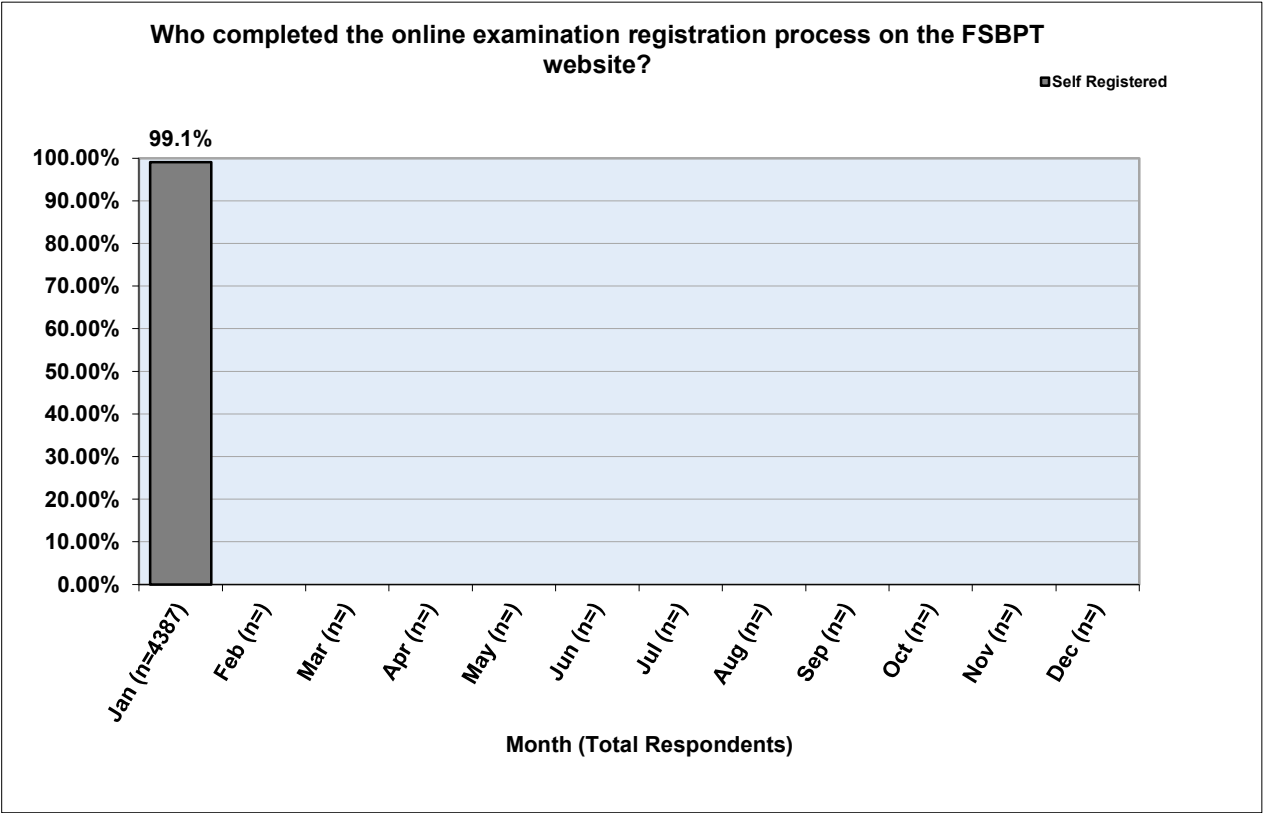
NPTE Survey Satisfaction By Month



NPTE Survey Satisfaction By Month



NPTE Survey Satisfaction By Month



Satisfaction with Application Processing by State 2025

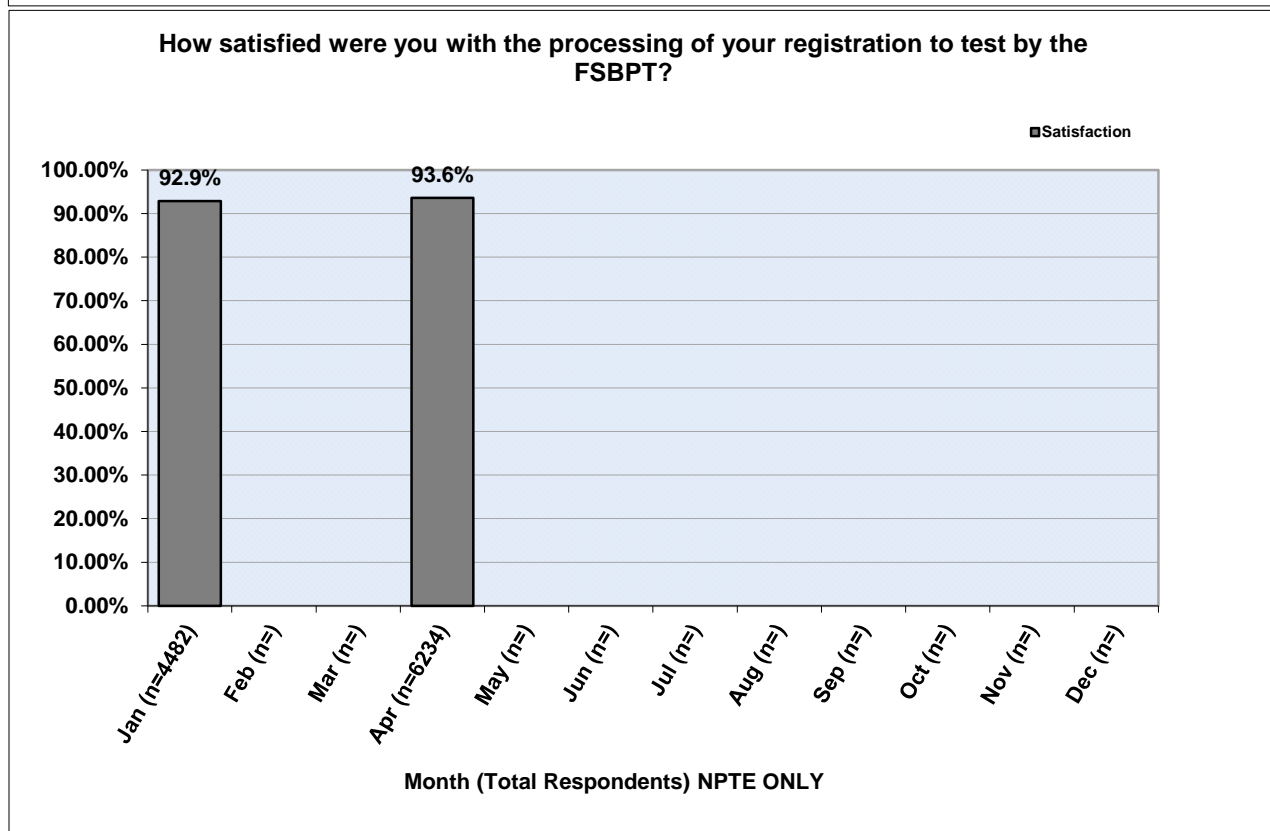
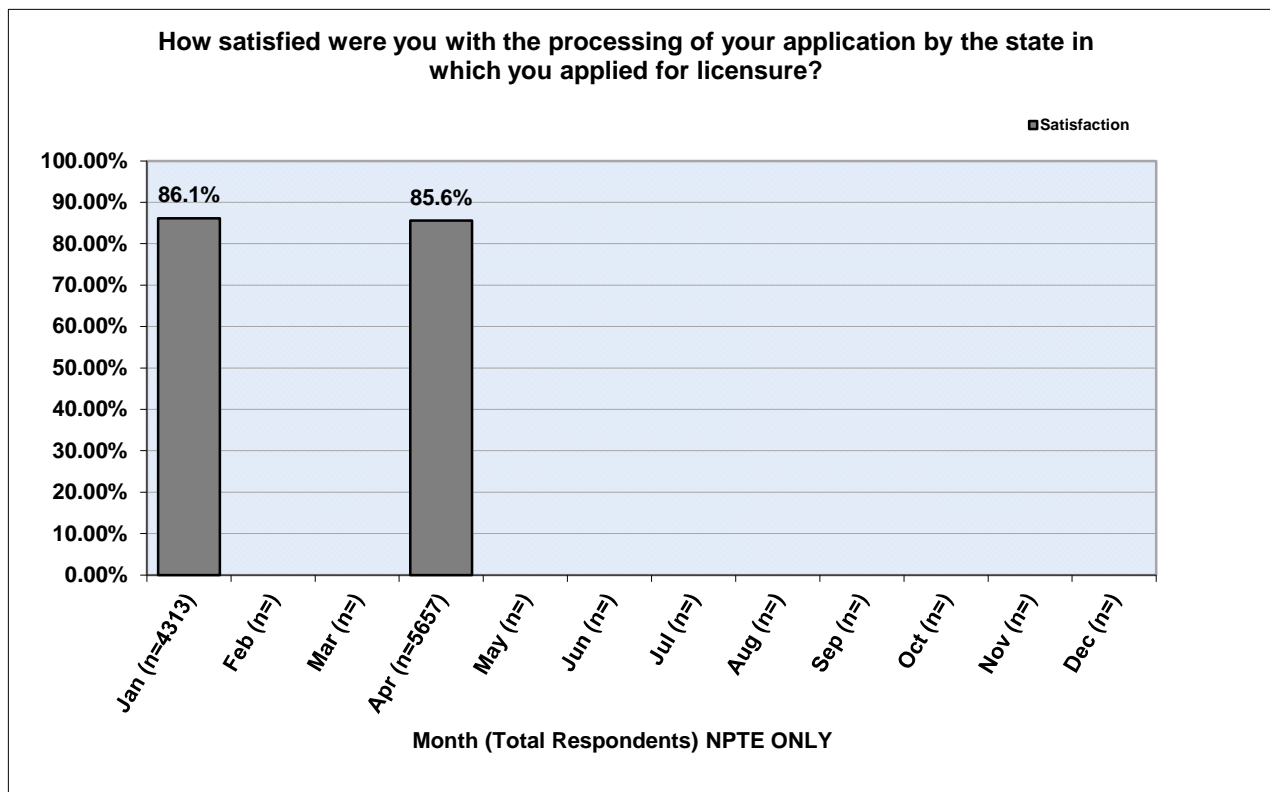
Through June 30, 2025, **9970** candidates completed the post-examination survey. The overall satisfaction rating for all jurisdictions on the question “How satisfied were you with the processing of your application by the state in which you applied for licensure?” is **85.85%**

The table below shows the satisfaction percentage by quarter for your jurisdiction on this question.

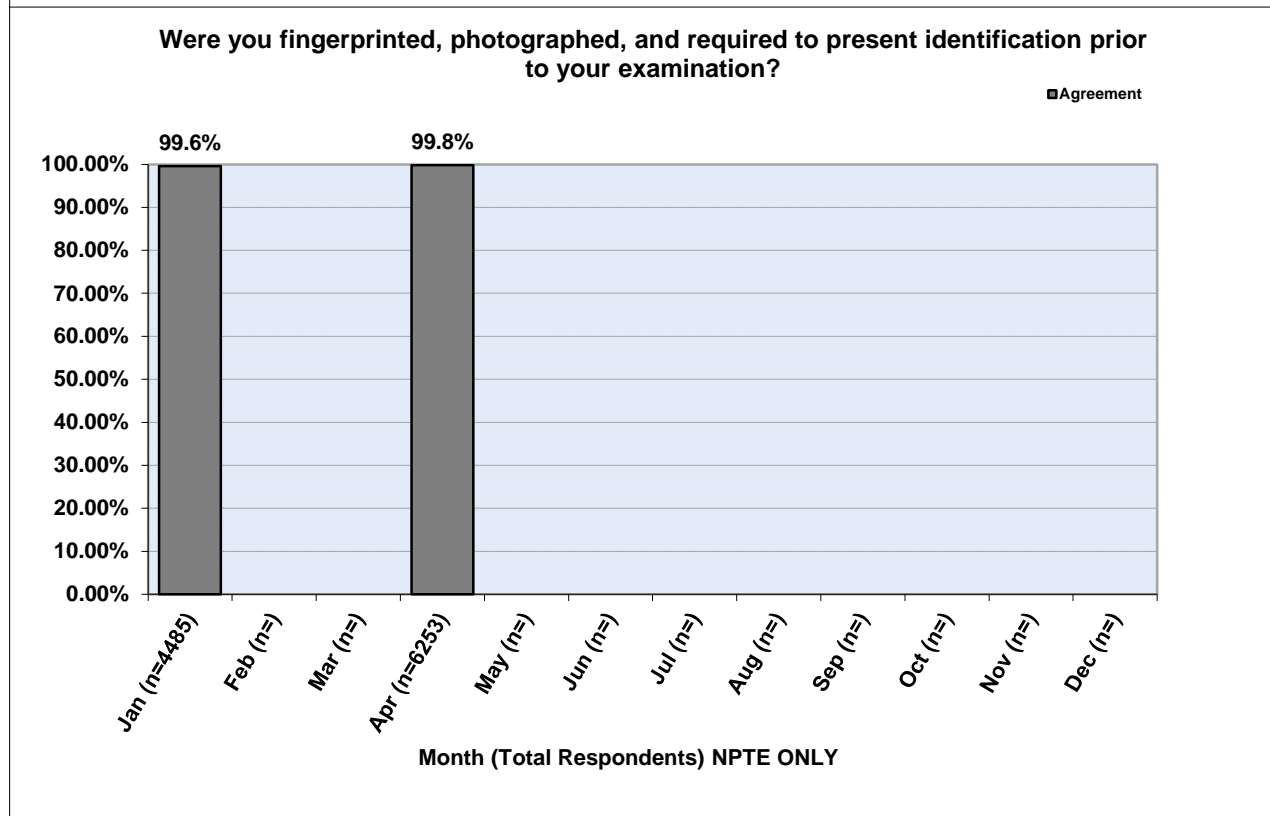
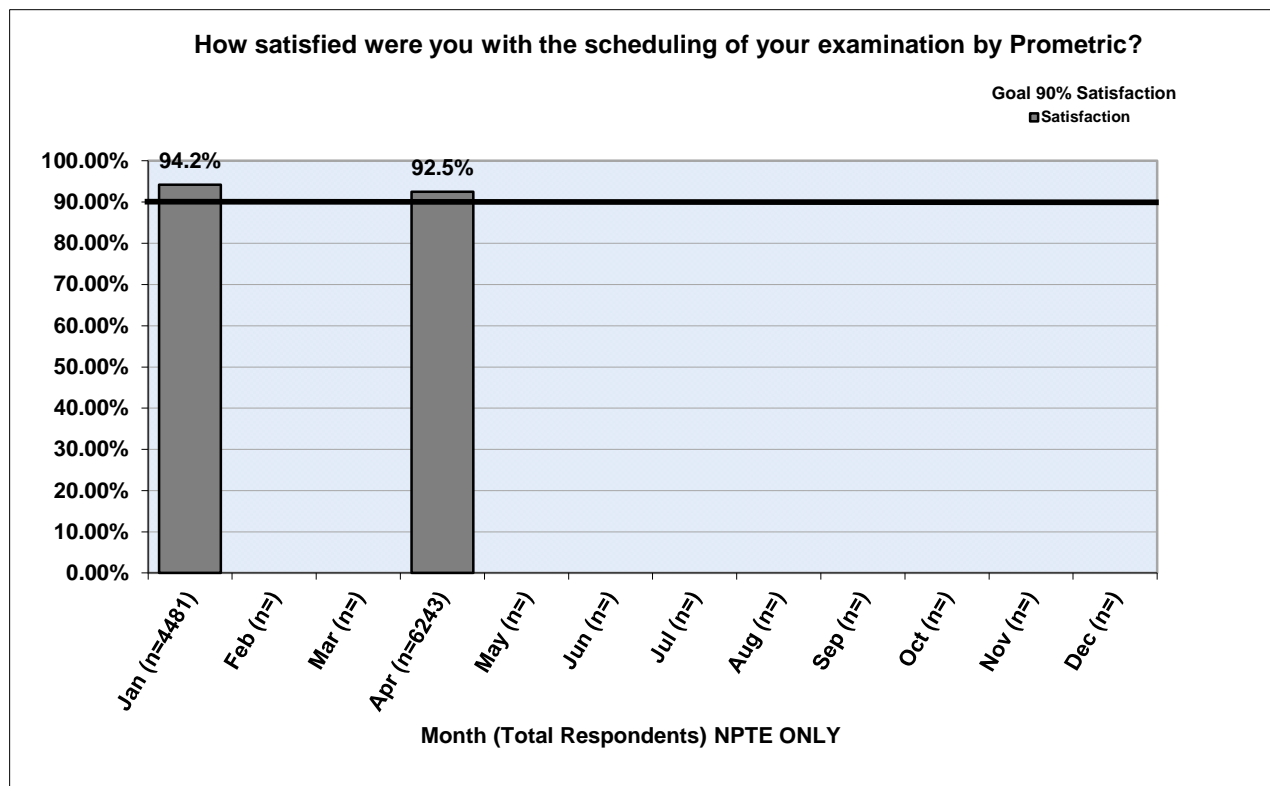
Satisfaction with Jurisdiction Registration Processing: AK

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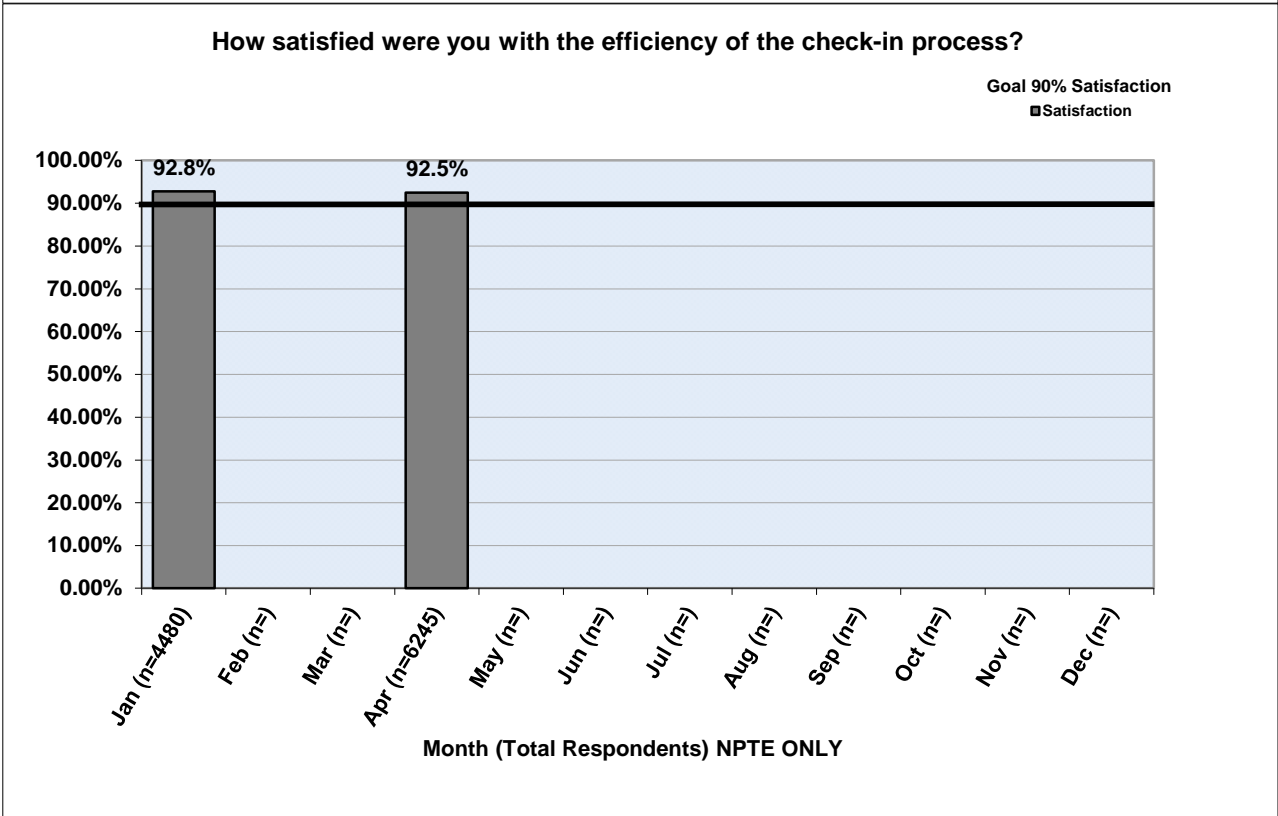
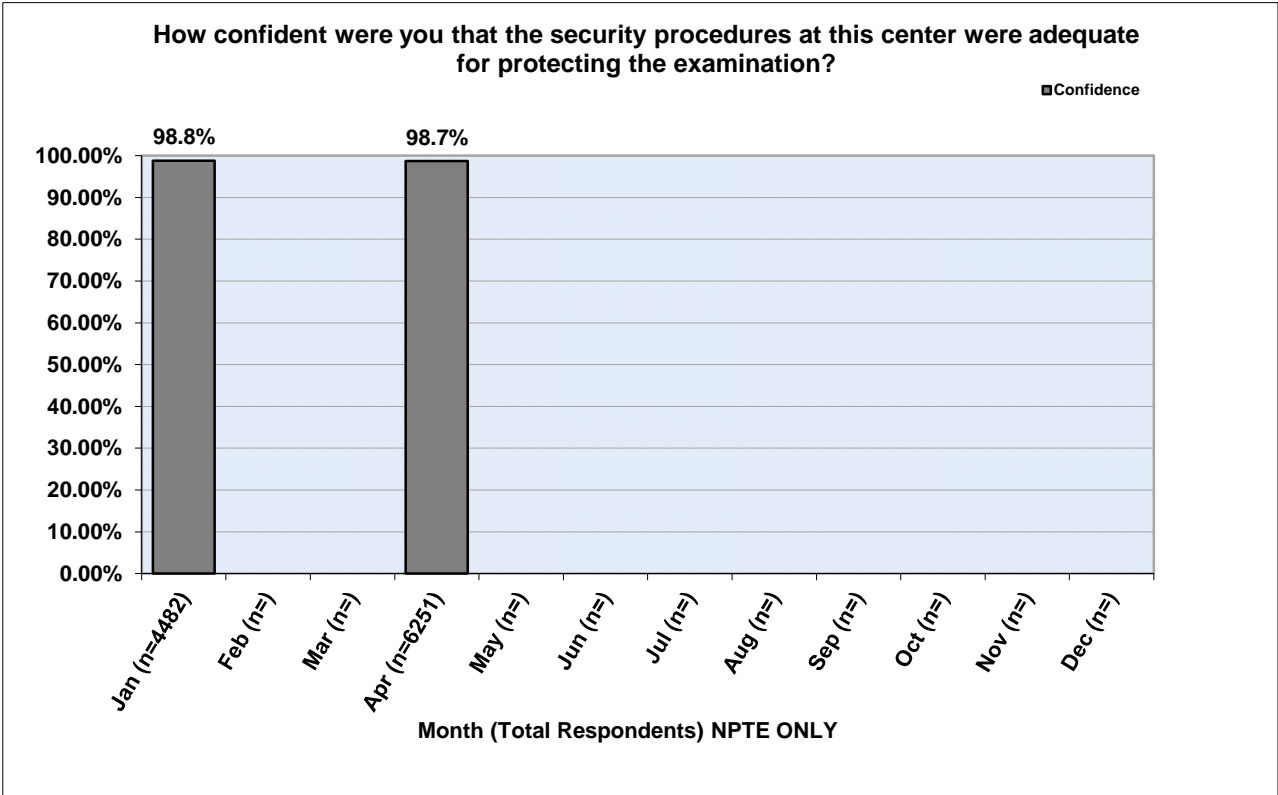
NPTE Survey Satisfaction By Month



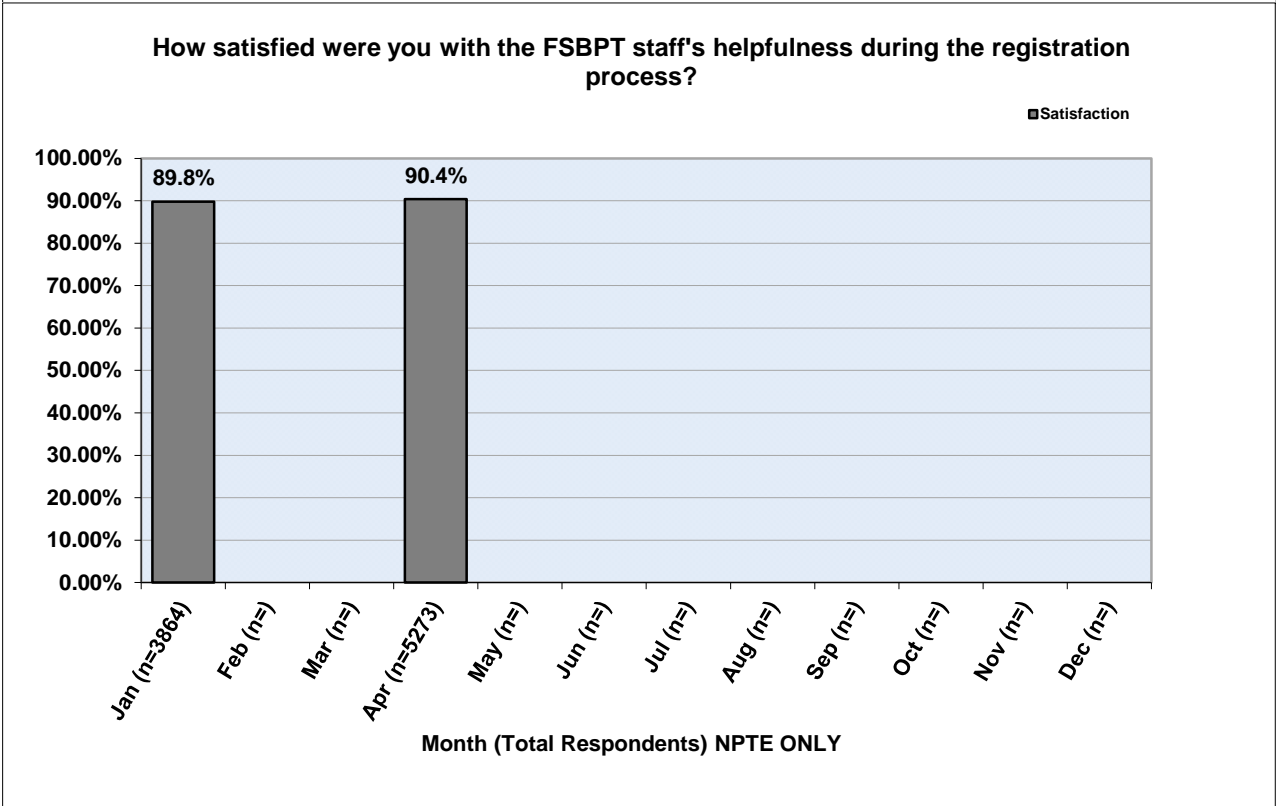
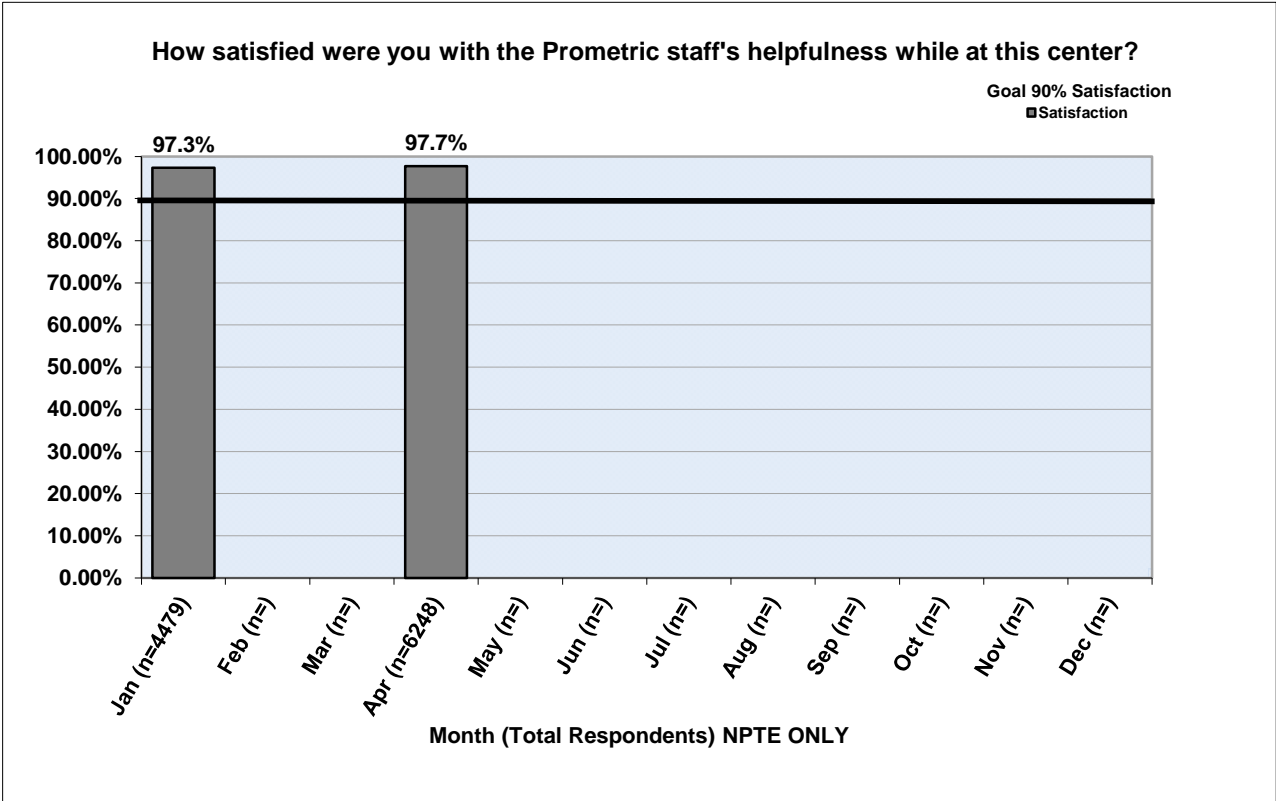
NPTE Survey Satisfaction By Month



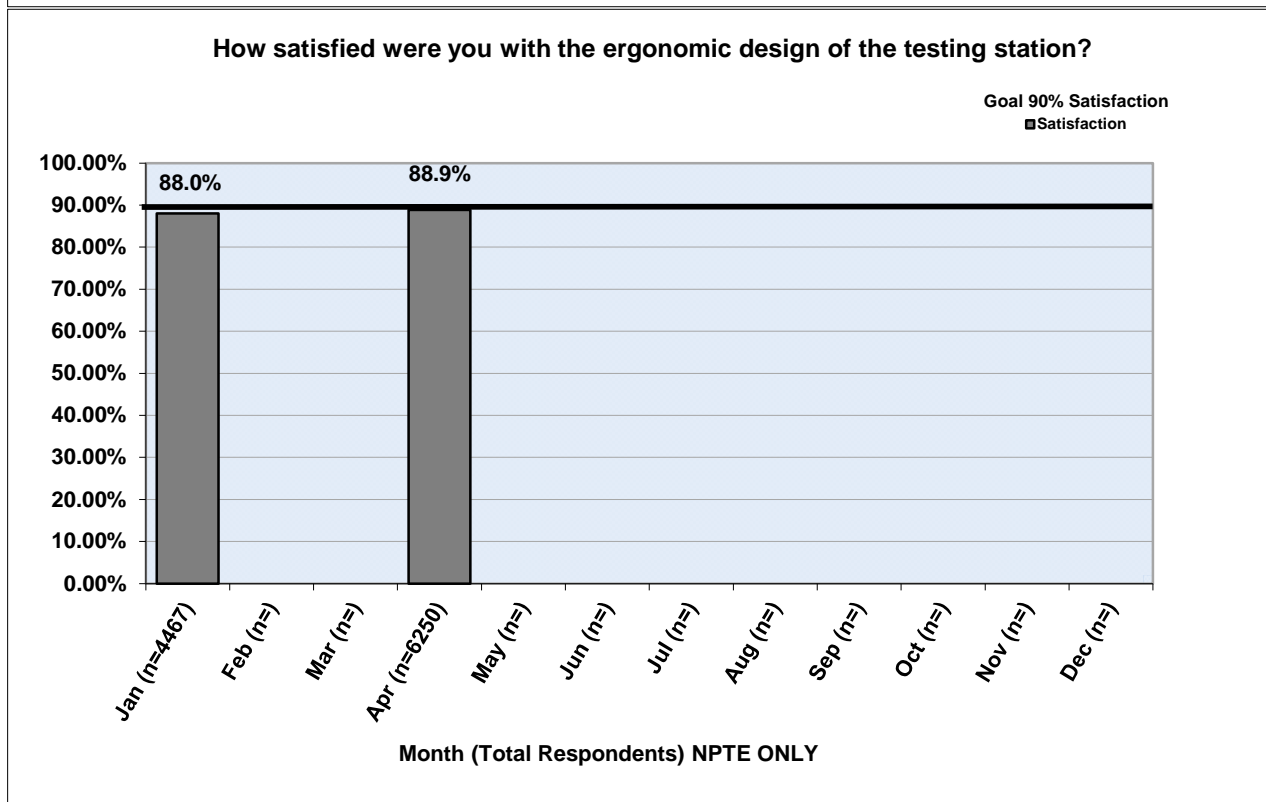
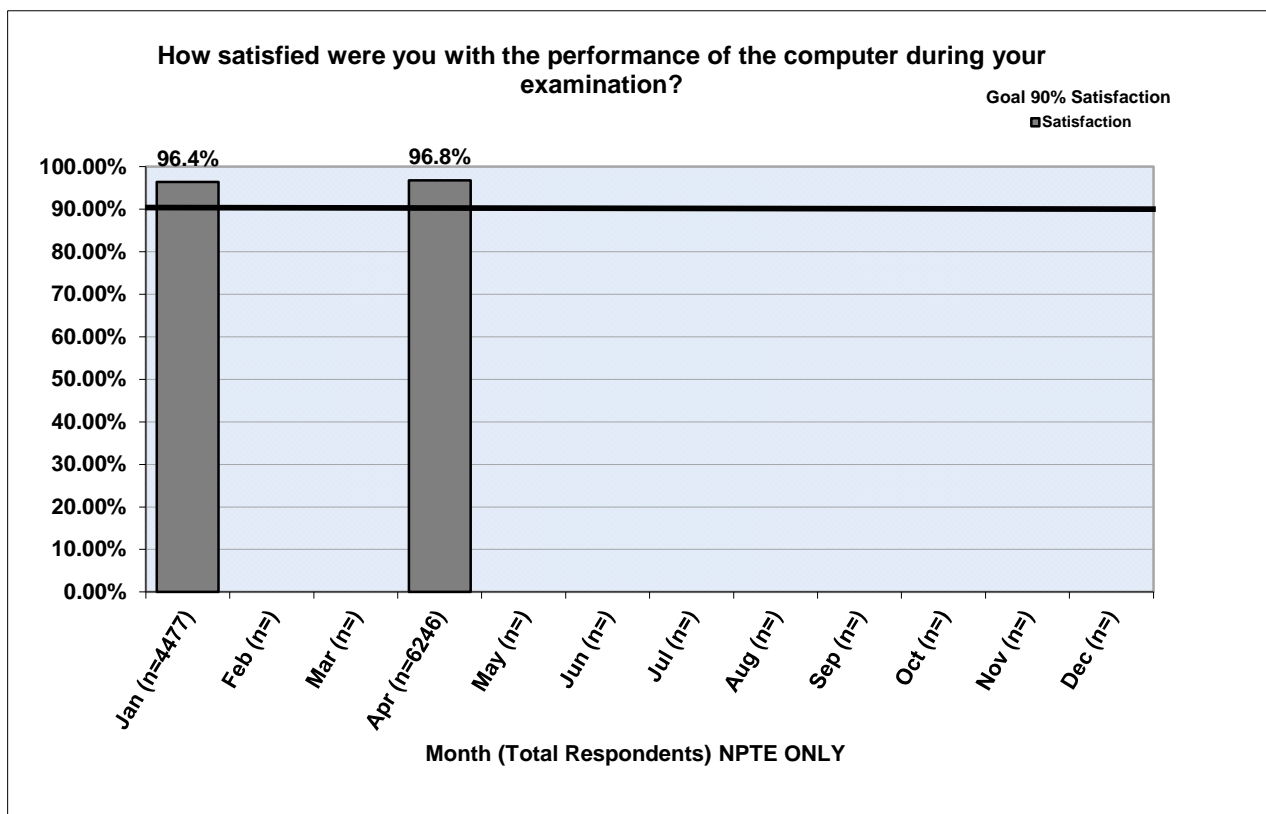
NPTE Survey Satisfaction By Month



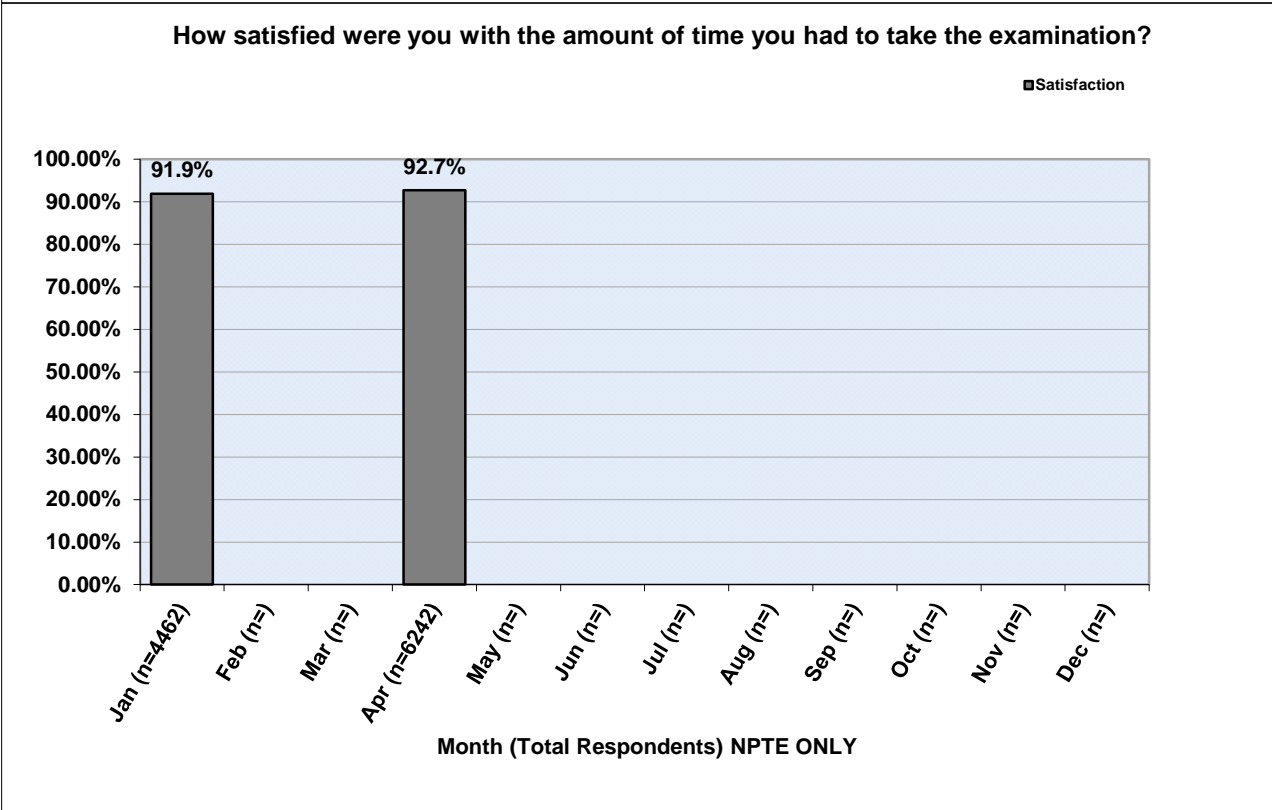
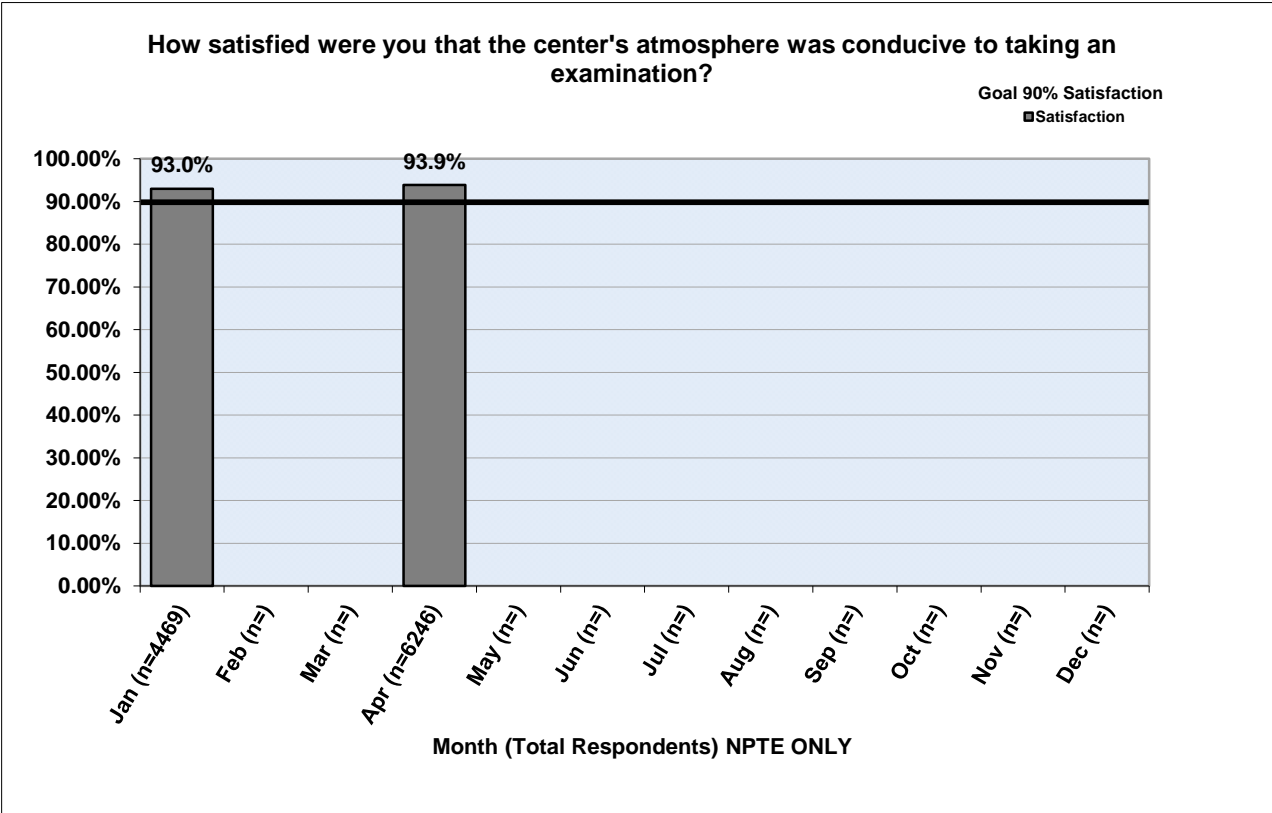
NPTE Survey Satisfaction By Month



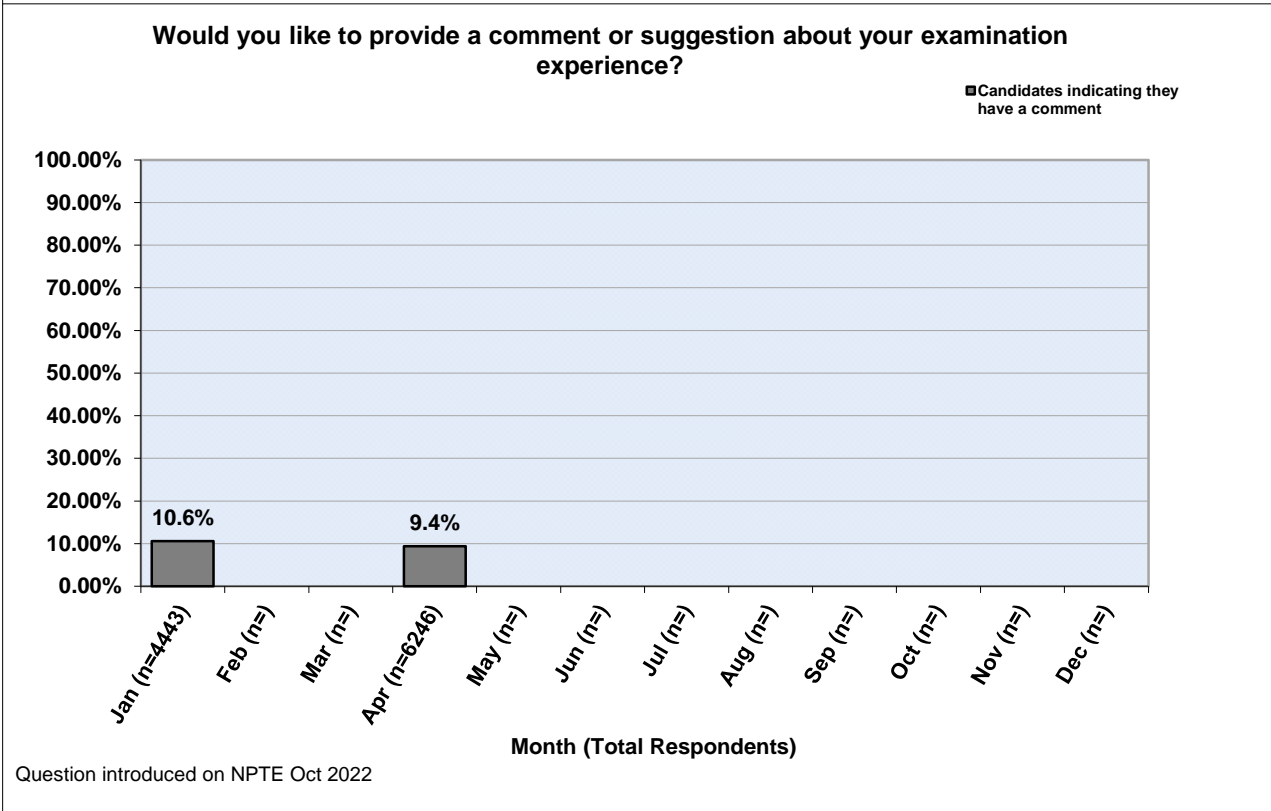
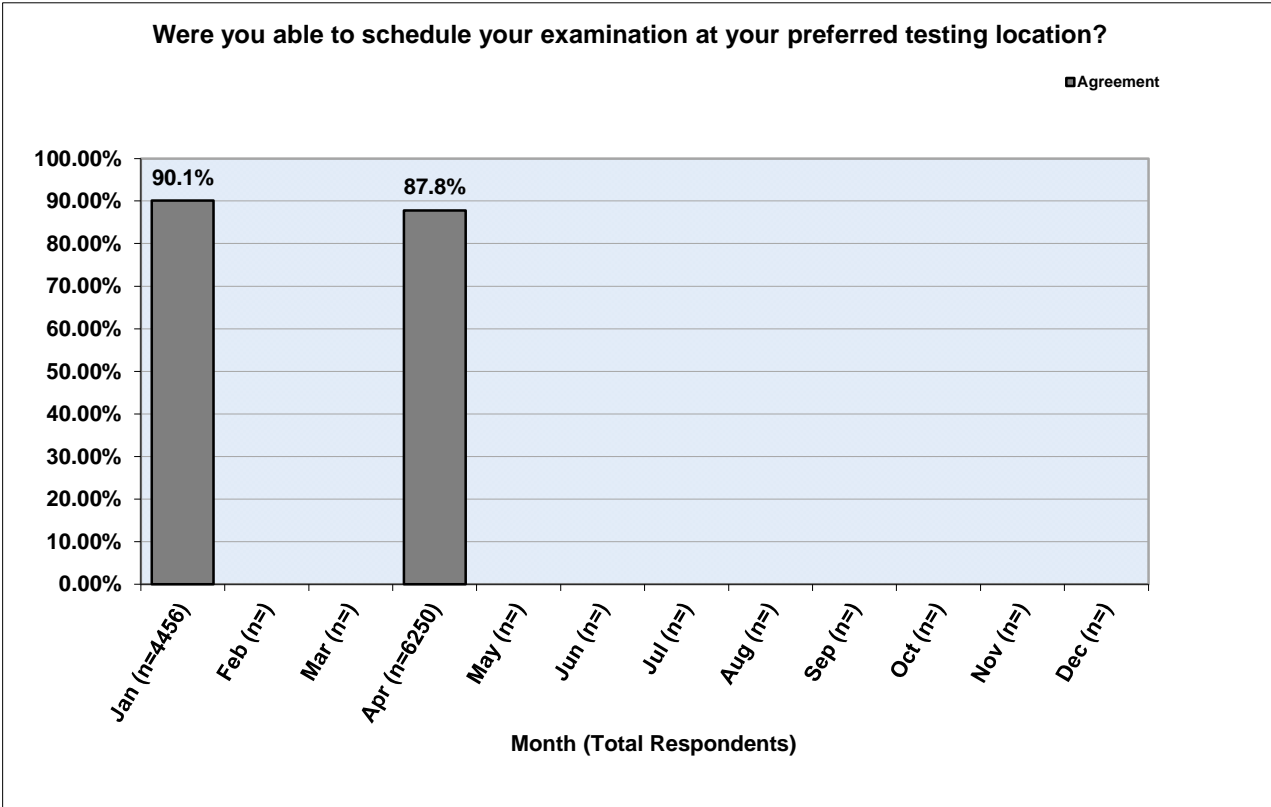
NPTE Survey Satisfaction By Month



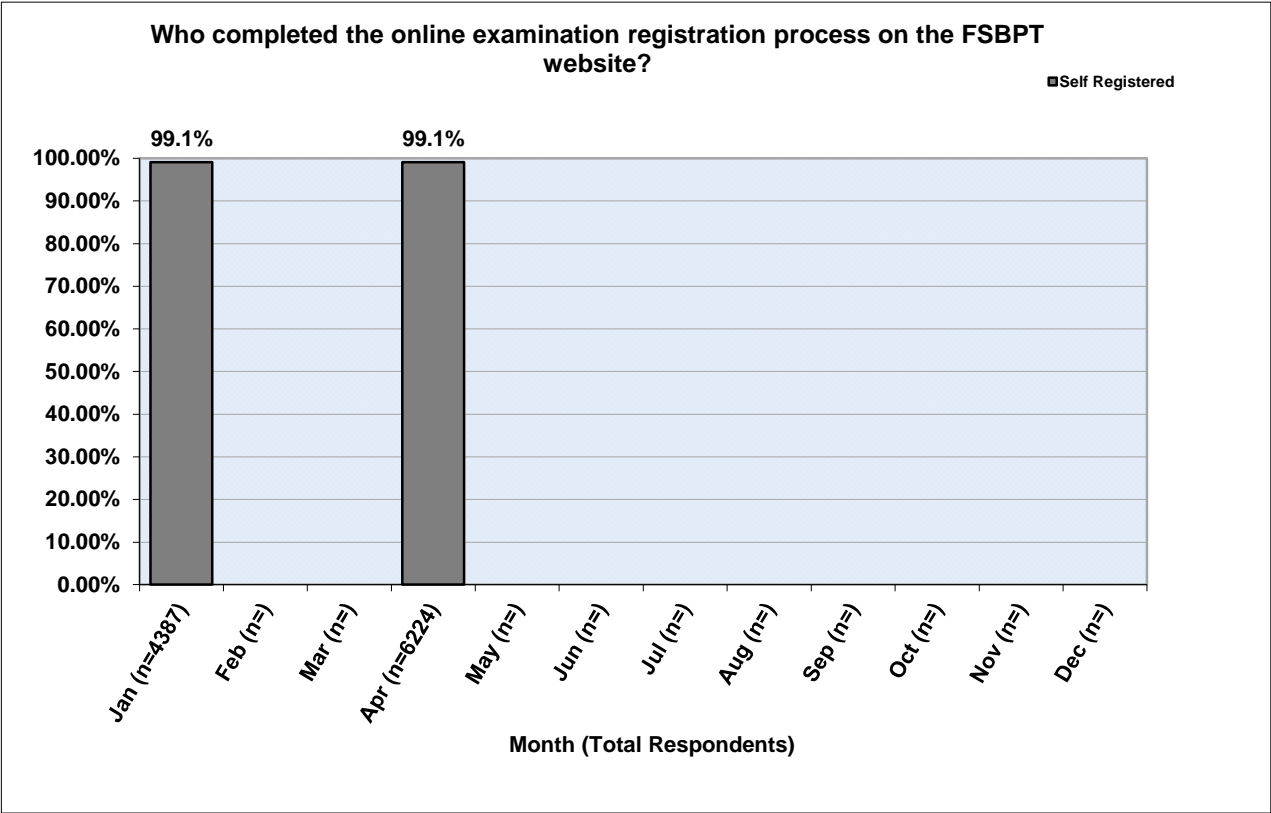
NPTE Survey Satisfaction By Month



NPTE Survey Satisfaction By Month



NPTE Survey Satisfaction By Month



From:
To: April 2025 ACOTE Actions
Monday, May 5, 2025 5:57:12 PM
[image003.png](#)
High

Cc:
Subject:
Date:
Attachments:
Importance:

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Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE®)
7501 Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 510E, Bethesda, MD
20814
Phone: (301) 652-6611 • Email: accred@aota.org

MEMORANDUM

The Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE®) is the recognized accrediting agency for occupational therapy education by the United States Department of Education (USDE) and the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA).

In accordance with USDE regulations requiring accrediting agencies to communicate program decisions, we are notifying you of accreditation decisions made by the ACOTE® at its April 5-6, 2025, meeting. Notification of the final accreditation actions is posted at:

<https://acoteonline.org/acote-news/accreditation-actions/>

Please contact the Accreditation department at accred@aota.org if any additional information is required.

Thank you,

Shannon Donnelly

Program Manager
Accreditation Department, AOTA



Visit www.acoteonline.org | **Email** accred@aota.org

Is the Accreditation Department meeting your needs? Take our [survey](#) and let us know.

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From: [Romanello, Mary](#)
Subject: Voluntary Program Closure
Date: Friday, August 1, 2025 11:26:43 AM

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The Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE) is recognized by the U.S. Department of Education and the Council for Higher Education as a specialized accreditor that accredits education programs preparing students for the field of physical therapy. Accredited and developing programs include professional doctoral programs for the physical therapist and associate degree programs for the physical therapist assistant.

In accordance with US Department of Education regulations, we are notifying other accrediting agencies of voluntary program closure of the following physical therapist assistant program at:

- Herzing University – Brookfield Campus. The university reports there are no active students in the program with the most recent cohort having graduated April 23, 2025. CAPTE received notification of the program closure on July 23, 2025.

Sincerely,

Mary

Mary L. Romanello
Director, Accreditation
American Physical Therapy Association
3030 Potomac Ave, Suite 100
Alexandria, VA 22305-3085

From: [Romanello, Mary](#)
Subject: Voluntary Withdraw
Date: Tuesday, August 5, 2025 9:02:30 AM

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The Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE) is recognized by the U.S. Department of Education and the Council for Higher Education as a specialized accreditor that accredits education programs preparing students for the field of physical therapy. Accredited and developing programs include professional doctoral programs for the physical therapist and associate degree programs for the physical therapist assistant.

In accordance with US Department of Education regulations, we are notifying other accrediting agencies of voluntary program closure of the following physical therapist assistant program at Mississippi Delta Community College. The college notified CAPTE on July 31, 2025 that the college was permanently closing the Physical Therapist Assistant program effective July 31, 2025.

Sincerely,

Mary L. Romanello

Director, Accreditation

American Physical Therapy Association

3030 Potomac Ave, Suite 100

Alexandria, VA 22305-3085

From: [Shannon Donnelly](#)
To: August 2025 ACOTE Actions
Thursday, September 4, 2025 5:12:47 AM
[image003.png](#)
High

Cc:
Subject:
Date:
Attachments:
Importance:

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Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE®)
7501 Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 510E, Bethesda, MD
20814
Phone: (301) 652-6611 • Email: accred@aota.org

MEMORANDUM

The Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE®) is the recognized accrediting agency for occupational therapy education by the United States Department of Education (USDE) and the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA).

In accordance with USDE regulations requiring accrediting agencies to communicate program decisions, we are notifying you of accreditation decisions made by the ACOTE® at its August 1-3, 2025, meeting. Notification of the final accreditation actions is posted at: <https://acoteonline.org/acote-news/accreditation-actions/>

Please contact the Accreditation department at accred@aota.org if any additional information is required.

Thank you,

Shannon Donnelly

Program Manager

Accreditation Department, AOTA



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From: [Monique Hertz](#)
To: [Board of Physical and Occupational Therapy \(CED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Request for Consideration of FCCPT CWT6 Report for PT Licensure
Date: Tuesday, May 20, 2025 8:20:47 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside the State of Alaska mail system. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Good Afternoon,

My name is Monique Hertz, and I am a foreign-educated physical therapist from Brazil. I earned my degree in 2009 and have extensive clinical experience in orthopedics and neurology. Since moving to the U.S., I've been working as a Pilates instructor in a physical therapy clinic, continuing to support clients with various rehabilitation needs.

I am in the process of applying for physical therapy licensure and have completed my credential evaluation through FCCPT using the most current version of the Coursework Tool, CWT6.

I understand that your requirements reference the use of CWT4 for applicants who graduated in my year. However, I would sincerely appreciate it if your board could consider accepting my evaluation under the CWT6 criteria, as it reflects the most updated and comprehensive standards established by FSBPT.

Please let me know if this might be possible or if you would need additional documentation from me or FCCPT.

Thank you very much for your time and consideration. I am very motivated to contribute to the physical therapy community in Alaska and would be grateful for your guidance on how best to proceed.

Warm regards,

Monique Hertz

From: [Board of Physical and Occupational Therapy \(CED sponsored\)](#)
To: [Halee Henderson](#)
Subject: RE: AK OT/PT Employment Verification Forms
Date: Wednesday, April 9, 2025 7:55:00 AM
Attachments:

Hello Halee,

This is an interesting dilemma and one I would need to discuss with the board at their next meeting in order to provide you with an accurate answer. Unfortunately, their next scheduled meeting is not until October 2-3, 2025 of this year.

We have many staffing agencies complete work experience verifications for therapists and this has not been a situation in the past. I would recommend for the time being, you list "Confidential" for the name so you are not violating any agreements you may have an include a notice to the board regarding why you as a staffing agency are unable to disclose. The more information we can provide to the board to assist the applicant in the endeavor for licensure, the better.

Please let me know if you have any further questions.

Best regards,



Sheri Ryan
Licensing Examiner 3 Advanced
Board of Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy
Board of Certified Direct-Entry Midwives
Athletic Trainers Program
Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing

sheri.ryan@alaska.gov
Office: 907-269-6425 | Fax: 907-465-2974
www.commerce.alaska.gov



From: Halee Henderson
Sent: Tuesday, March 18, 2025 8:40 AM
To: Board of Physical and Occupational Therapy (CED sponsored)

<physicalandoccupationaltherapy@alaska.gov>

Subject: AK OT/PT Employment Verification Forms

CAUTION: This email originated from outside the State of Alaska mail system. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

To whom it may concern,

We are a travel healthcare staffing agency helping provide temporary staff to facilities through the nation.

Since we are a staffing agency, we cannot provide names of the facilities we contract with. Is it acceptable if we put "Confidential" for the name of the facility and provide the city and state they are located in for the facility address in the 'Employer' section of the Employment Verification Form?

Thank you!

Halee Henderson
LICENSING SPECIALIST



Medical Solutions
FocusOne Solutions
Host Healthcare
Matchwell
WorldWide HealthStaff Solutions

From: [Board of Physical and Occupational Therapy \(CED sponsored\)](#)
To: [Maggie Hotch](#)
Subject: RE: Rural referral
Date: Tuesday, August 26, 2025 7:41:01 AM
Attachments:

Hello Maggie,

Thank you so much for getting back to me. I will make sure the board is aware of your request for clarification on both points.

Best regards,



Sheri Ryan
Licensing Examiner 3 Advanced
Board of Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy
Board of Certified Direct-Entry Midwives
Athletic Trainers Program
Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing

sher.ryan@alaska.gov
Office: 907-269-6425 | Fax: 907-465-2974
www.commerce.alaska.gov



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Effective May 1, 2025 – Physical Therapy Licensure Compact NOW OPERATIONAL through the [PT Compact Commission](#) for Alaska!

From: Maggie Hotch
Sent: Tuesday, August 26, 2025 7:25 AM
To: Board of Physical and Occupational Therapy (CED sponsored)
<physicalandoccupationaltherapy@alaska.gov>
Subject: Re: Rural referral

Thanks Sheri for this response. I am actually asking whether it is acceptable both to accept the referral AND to bill for services. I did explain the situation to SEARHC when we received the referral to give them the option to refer to their clinics and coordinate travel if the family chose to do so. I anticipate the response of the board after their meeting.

Thank you

Maggie

On Mon, Aug 25, 2025 at 3:26 PM Board of Physical and Occupational Therapy (CED sponsored) <physicalandoccupationaltherapy@alaska.gov> wrote:

Hello Maggie,

Thank you for regarding your situation. To verify, you are not asking for clarification on whether it is ethical (or not) for your clinic to accept and treat the extended family member; you are asking for clarification if it is ethical (or not) to bill for the services provided by another therapist at the clinic you own. Is this correct?

I will refer your request for clarification to the Board of Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy at their next meeting which is scheduled October 2-3, 2025. As soon as a response is available, it will be forwarded.

In the interim, The Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy Board [Principles of Practice – March 2015](#) provide the ethical and legal standards to which you must adhere. Principle 1:1, Principle 3:1; and Principle 6:1.

The Board normally does not provide instructions related to requirements by funding sources, including insurance reimbursement as it is not within their jurisdiction. AS 08.84 statutes and regulations 12 AAC 54 are silent on billing and employment practices. Please refer to the requirements as established by those entities for more direction. Your preferred provider contracts or provider liaison should be able to provide direction regarding billing. I would normally also refer you to your legal counsel but as you have already done so, it is not necessary.

Best regards,



Sheri Ryan
Licensing Examiner 3 Advanced
Board of Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy
Board of Certified Direct-Entry Midwives
Athletic Trainers Program
Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing

sheri.ryan@alaska.gov

Office: 907-269-6425 | Fax: 907-465-2974

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Effective May 1, 2025 – Physical Therapy Licensure Compact NOW OPERATIONAL through the [PT Compact Commission](#) for Alaska!

From: Maggie Hotch

Sent: Monday, August 25, 2025 2:42 PM

To: Board of Physical and Occupational Therapy (CED sponsored)
<physicalandoccupationaltherapy@alaska.gov>

Subject: Rural referral

CAUTION: This email originated from outside the State of Alaska mail system. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello there! I am writing because I have received a referral in my Haines clinic for a family member that is not blood related to me, but feels too close of a relation to bill for without checking with you all first.

The individual is the daughter of my stepdaughter and was referred by SEARHC for developmental concerns. She is a three years old and no longer eligible for Infant Learning Services, has been screened by the school district this spring where my practice is also the contracted provider locally (however we bill a daily rate to schools for any and all caseload students so charges are not tied to individual students in any way) and is likely to be evaluated and served through the district for educational needs, but the clinical referral lists support for motor skills generally and fall risk.

The closest facility she could receive other services would be a flight to Juneau and her pulmonary status is compromised so travel exposure seems risky. I reached out to my attorney for advice on this matter but he was at a loss on how to advise. Seems you all are the governing body that ensures providers are practicing in an ethical manner so I wanted to seek out your advice before we proceed. I am currently staffing my Juneau clinic so would be another clinician handling her case but I am the practice owner and that person's supervisor and it just seemed too close of a relation for me to not pursue a conversation about ethics with you all.

Please let me know your thoughts on how we should proceed. My cell is the best way to reach me currently. Thanks so much for your consideration.

Gunalcheesh

Maggie

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From: [Board of Physical and Occupational Therapy \(CED sponsored\)](#)
To: ["Emily Rogers"](#)
Subject: RE: Questions regarding PTAs
Date: Wednesday, September 10, 2025 4:14:00 PM
Attachments:

Hello Emily,

Thank you for reaching out for clarification on these questions! I love that your clinic providers are having these discussions to ensure patients receive appropriate care. I will forward your email to the Board of Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy for a response. Their next meeting is scheduled for October 2-3, 2025. Once a response is available, it will be forwarded. Please note, it can take additional time if research is required by the board.

In the interim, here are the statutes regarding Physical Therapist Assistants and regulations on Physical Therapist Assistant Supervision to assist with your discussions.

There are some finer nuances to the questions you are asking that the board is going to need to weigh in on. A functional capacity evaluation (FCE) is usually billed under CPT code 97750 which is not an evaluation and management E/M code. It's a physical performance or measurement CPT code. You are correct that a PTA cannot perform an "evaluation". In Physical Therapy statute [AS 08.84.190\(6\)](#), the definition of a "physical therapist assistant" specifically prohibits a PTA from performing an evaluation. Only a Physical Therapist can perform a physical therapy evaluation on a patient in Alaska. **The board will need to provide direction to you** on what elements of a FCE that a PTA can perform, the components that must be performed by the PT, and under what circumstances the FCE can be completed by the PTA (example – only under the direction and supervision of a PT and/or after an initial evaluation and part of written treatment plan).

Sec. 08.84.190. Definitions. In this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires,

- (1) "board" means the State Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy Board;
- (2) "occupational therapist" means a person who practices occupational therapy;
- (3) "occupational therapy" means, for compensation, the use of purposeful activity, evaluation, treatment, and consultation with human beings whose ability to cope with the tasks of daily living are threatened with, or impaired by developmental deficits, learning disabilities, aging, poverty, cultural differences, physical injury or illness, or psychological and social disabilities to maximize independence, prevent disability, and maintain health; "occupational therapy" includes
 - (A) developing daily living, play, leisure, social, and developmental skills;
 - (B) facilitating perceptual-motor and sensory integrative functioning;
 - (C) enhancing functional performance, prevocational skills, and work capabilities using specifically designed exercises, therapeutic activities and measure, manual intervention, and appliances;
 - (D) design, fabrication, and application of splints or selective adaptive equipment;
 - (E) administering and interpreting standardized and nonstandardized assessments, including sensory, manual muscle, and range of motion assessments, necessary for planning effective treatment; and
 - (F) adapting environments for the disabled;
- (4) "occupational therapy assistant" means a person who assists in the practice of occupational therapy under the supervision of an occupational therapist;
- (5) "physical therapist" means a person who practices physical therapy;
- (6) "physical therapist assistant" means a person who assists in the practice of physical therapy or an aspect of physical therapy as initiated, supervised, and terminated by a licensed physical therapist; **the responsibilities of a physical therapist assistant do not include evaluation;**
- (7) "physical therapy" means the examination, treatment and instruction of human beings to detect, assess, prevent, correct, alleviate and limit physical disability, bodily malfunction, pain from injury, disease and other bodily or mental conditions and includes the administration, interpretation and evaluation of tests and measurements of bodily functions and structures; the planning, administration, evaluation and modification of treatment and instruction including the use of physical measures, activities and devices for preventive and therapeutic purposes; the provision of consultative, educational and other advisory services for the purpose of reducing the incidence and severity of physical disability, bodily malfunction and pain; "physical therapy" does not include the use of roentgen rays and radioactive materials for diagnosis and therapeutic purposes, the use of electricity for surgical purposes, and the diagnosis of disease.

As to the sling/brace fittings on a patient who has **NOT** had an initial evaluation by a physical therapist. Regulation [12 AAC 54.510\(a\)](#) states that a PTA works under the supervision of a licensed PT – not independently. 12 AAC 54.510(b) states that the **Physical Therapist** is responsible for and must participate in *all* care of the patient – again supporting

that a PTA does **not** work independently. 12 AAC 54.510(d) states that the PTA is required to work from a written treatment plan that was created by the supervising PT when providing any care to any patient. And you are correct – PTAs must be competent (properly educated and trained) in any patient services provided. [Principles of Practice – Principle 1: Patient/Client Safety and Well Being](#).

12 AAC 54.510. SUPERVISION OF PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANTS. (a) A physical therapist assistant shall work under the supervision of a licensed physical therapist.
(b) A licensed physical therapist is responsible for and shall participate in a patient's care.
(c) Except as specified in 12 AAC 54.500(e), a physical therapist may supervise a maximum of three physical therapist assistants.
(d) A licensed physical therapist assistant shall have written treatment plans formulated by the licensed physical therapist in possession for each patient under the care of the physical therapist assistant. Treatment plans must be revised following periodic evaluations by the licensed physical therapist.
(e) At least once a month, a supervising physical therapist shall provide periodic supervision to a physical therapist assistant while the physical therapist assistant being supervised implements a treatment plan with a patient. Supervision shall be conducted on site or by video or teleconference when in-person supervision is not reasonably practicable. The supervising physical therapist shall be available for consultation with the physical therapist assistant by telephone, verbally, or in writing.
(f) Nothing in this chapter restricts public health service or military personnel engaged in the practice of physical therapy in programs administered by federal agencies.
(g) If a licensed physical therapist agrees to supervise a physical therapist assistant, the supervising physical therapist shall
(1) determine the frequency and manner of consultations with the physical therapist assistant, taking into consideration the treatment settings being used, patient rehabilitation status, and the competency of the physical therapist assistant;
(2) fully document the supervision provided, including a record of all consultations provided, and maintain those records at the physical therapist assistant's place of employment; and
(3) countersign the patient treatment record each time the supervising physical therapist is physically present and directly supervises or supervises by video or teleconference the treatment of a patient by the physical therapist assistant being supervised.

Authority: AS 08.84.010

As soon as the board's response to your clarification request is available, I will forward.

Best regards,



Sheri Ryan
Licensing Examiner 3 Advanced
Board of Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy
Board of Certified Direct-Entry Midwives
Athletic Trainers Program
Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing

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Effective May 1, 2025 – Physical Therapy Licensure Compact NOW OPERATIONAL through the [PT Compact Commission](#) for Alaska!

From: Emily Rogers
Sent: Tuesday, September 9, 2025 2:07 PM
To: Board of Physical and Occupational Therapy (CED sponsored) <physicalandoccupationaltherapy@alaska.gov>
Subject: Questions regarding PTAs

Hi. My clinic is having a discussion about whether PTAs can perform sling/brace fittings on a patient if they have not yet been evaluated by a PT. The same question has been posed about whether a PTA can perform a functional capacity evaluation. It is my understanding that a PTA can only perform a DME fitting if the patient has already been evaluated by a PT and the DME is included in the plan of care, assuming the PTA is proficient in properly fitting the patient for the device and is being generally supervised by the PT. With regards to an FCE , since this is technically an evaluation, I would assume a PTA cannot perform the evaluation, even if a PT signs the evaluation. Would you mind weighing in on the discussion?

Thanks,
Emily



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

Department of Commerce, Community,
and Economic Development

BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY AND
OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

P.O. Box 110806
Juneau, Alaska 99811-0806
Main: 907.269.6425
Fax: 907.465.2974

[DATE]

Angela Harter, OTR/L – aharter@sphosp.org

Hello Angela,

On [date] the Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy Board approved the following response to your request June 18, 2025 for clarification on what parts of a physician ordered Return to Work screen could be completed by a PTA or whether a Physical Therapist needs to complete those services instead.

Thank you for reaching out to the board with your question and for your patience as we come to a decision.

It is the position of the board that the initial response from Sheri Ryan is correct, as stated: "A "return-to-work screening" is an evaluation that may include a review of medical history, physical examination, and functional testing to assess the employee's physical health. Typically, a return to work "screening" or fit-for-duty examination is billed under the CPT code 99455 which is an evaluation code. In Physical Therapy statute AS 08.84.190(6), the definition of a "physical therapist assistant" specifically prohibits a PTA from performing an evaluation. Only a Physical Therapist can perform a physical therapy evaluation on a patient in Alaska.

Included below are a few additional references from our state statutes and regulations (1) and principles of practice (2), as well as a position statement from the APTA (3) to help in clarifying. The APTA position statement is included, as this is "national professional core values and ethical standards" that our state principles of practice refer to.

1) [Alaska Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy Statutes and Regulations](#) – March 2025

12 AAC 54.590. DEFINITIONS RELATED TO PHYSICAL THERAPY. (a) In 12 AAC 54.030 – 12 AAC 54.590,

(6) "supervision" means

(A) the licensed physical therapist will be present whenever a patient is evaluated, a treatment program is established, or a treatment program is changed; and

(B) the licensed physical therapist is present to personally review the diagnosis of the condition to be treated, to authorize the procedure, and before dismissal of the patient, to evaluate the performance of the treatment given.

Sec. 08.84.190. Definitions. In this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires, (6) “physical therapy” means the examination, treatment and instruction of human beings to detect, assess, prevent, correct, alleviate and limit physical disability, bodily malfunction, pain from injury, disease and other bodily or mental conditions and includes the administration, interpretation and evaluation of tests and measurements of bodily functions and structures; the planning, administration, evaluation and modification of treatment and instruction including the use of physical measures, activities and devices for preventive and therapeutic purposes; the provision of consultative, educational and other advisory services for the purpose of reducing the incidence and severity of physical disability, bodily malfunction and pain; “physical therapy” does not include the use of roentgen rays and radioactive materials for diagnosis and therapeutic purposes, the use of electricity for surgical purposes, and the diagnosis of disease.

(8) “physical therapist assistant” means a person who assists in the practice of physical therapy or an aspect of physical therapy as initiated, supervised, and terminated by a licensed physical therapist; the responsibilities of a physical therapist assistant do not include evaluation.

2) State PT and OT [Principles of Practice](#) – March 2015

Principle 1: Patient/Client Safety and Well Being:

1. Adhere to the respective national professional core values and ethical standards.
2. (omitted)
3. Provide services within practitioner’s level of competence as demonstrated by education, training and professional experience.

Principle 6: Comply with institutional rules, local, state, federal, and international laws applicable to the profession:

1. Comply with professionally applicable institutional, local, state, federal and international laws and regulations.

3) APTA Position Statement:

[INTERVENTIONS PERFORMED EXCLUSIVELY BY PHYSICAL THERAPISTS HOD P06-18-31-36](#) [Initial: HOD P06-00-30-36; Formerly Titled: Procedural Interventions Exclusively Performed by Physical Therapists] [Position]

Physical therapists' practice responsibility includes all elements of patient and client management: examination, evaluation, diagnosis, prognosis, intervention, and outcomes. The

entirety of evaluation, diagnosis, and prognosis, as well as components of examination, intervention, and outcomes, must be performed by the physical therapist exclusively due to the requirement for immediate and continuous examination, evaluation, or synthesis of information. Physical therapist assistants may be appropriately utilized in components of intervention and in collection of selected examination and outcomes data.

Selected interventions are performed exclusively by the physical therapist. Such interventions include, but are not limited to, spinal and peripheral joint mobilization/manipulation and dry needling, which are components of manual therapy; and sharp selective debridement, which is a component of wound management.

Explanation of Reference Numbers:

HOD P00-00-00-00 stands for House of Delegates/month/year/page/vote in the House of Delegates minutes; the "P" indicates that it is a position. For example, HOD P06-17-05-04 means that this position can be found in the June 2017 House of Delegates minutes on Page 5 and that it was Vote 4.

Please let us know if you have additional questions.

Sincerely,

Sheri Ryan
Licensing Examiner 3

From: [J.T](#)
To: [Board of Physical and Occupational Therapy \(CED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Re: OTA license renewal question
Date: Tuesday, July 29, 2025 6:52:49 PM
Attachments: [image002.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image001.png](#)

Good morning!

The AOTA exam prep course is the only one I could really find that might work under the criteria. It's an American Occupational Therapy Association national certification exam preparatory course. Here's the link:

<https://www.aota.org/education/exam-prep>

Best Regards,
Jessica Thomas

On Thu, Jul 24, 2025 at 2:46 PM Board of Physical and Occupational Therapy (CED sponsored) <physicalandoccupationaltherapy@alaska.gov> wrote:

Hello Jessica,

The Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy is not aware of any courses that meet the criteria of 12 AAC 54.705(a)(2)(C). There were courses at one time but are no longer available. The regulation is outdated and in need of update. They have requested that I reach out to you and ask for the specific name of the course you are looking at (AOTA exam prep course), who is providing it, and a web link for the course so that further research can be done on your request.

Best regards,

Sheri Ryan

Licensing Examiner 3 Advanced

Board of Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy
Board of Certified Direct-Entry Midwives
Athletic Trainers Program

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Effective May 1, 2025 – Physical Therapy Licensure Compact NOW OPERATIONAL through the [PT Compact Commission](#) for Alaska!

From: Board of Physical and Occupational Therapy (CED sponsored)

Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 8:53 AM

To: Thomas, Jessica D

Subject: RE: OTA license renewal question

Hello Jessica,

That's a great question and one I'm going to have to go to the Board of Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy for clarification regarding. The board shares your frustrations on the availability of review courses and the Continuing Competency Committee is working on modernizing the regulations so that they fit today's standards.

It may take a bit of time for me to be able to provide you with an answer as all discussions of the board have to be done in an actual meeting. As soon as I have a response, I will forward it.

Best regards,

Sheri Ryan

Licensing Examiner 3 Advanced

Board of Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy
Board of Certified Direct-Entry Midwives
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From: Thomas, Jessica D

Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2024 11:40 AM

To: Board of Physical and Occupational Therapy (CED sponsored)

<physicalandoccupationaltherapy@alaska.gov>

Subject: OTA license renewal question

CAUTION: This email originated from outside the State of Alaska mail system. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Good morning!

I have a question regarding OTA license renewals. If I haven't worked as an Occupational Therapy Assistant during my licensing period, would an AOTA exam prep course suffice for "a review course sponsored by a school of occupational therapy approved by the American Occupational Therapy Association" to renew my license? I'm having trouble finding any review courses put on by specific colleges, but I know that we did an AOTA prep course when I graduated from my OTA program.

Thank you for all information you can provide on this subject.

V/R

Jessica Thomas

From: [Occupational, License \(CED sponsored\)](#)
To: [Board of Physical and Occupational Therapy \(CED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: PHYP431
Date: Monday, September 22, 2025 1:54:20 PM

This email is set to reply to:

From: Corporations, Business & Professional Licensing <no.mail.dcced@alaska.gov>
Sent: Monday, September 22, 2025 1:53 PM
To: Occupational, License (CED sponsored) <license@alaska.gov>
Subject: CBPL Contact Form Submission

Applicant Name: Mary Margaret McCulley Sweetman

Contact Name: Marggie Sweetman

Contact Email:

License Number:

License Program:

Contact Reason: I have another question not listed here.

Additional Information: My AK PT License is due for renewal June 2026. Regulations require that I provide a minimum of 60 hours of skilled PT, either paid or volunteer within that two year licensing period. As primary care partner for a family member, I recently terminated my employment and would like to discuss with someone what qualifies as "volunteer". My daily caregiving responsibilities certainly bring me in way over the required 60 hours for skilled PT provided.. I want to clarify that it will count towards my hours.

Thank you, Marggie McCulley Sweetman, PT



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**

Department of Commerce, Community,
and Economic Development

DIVISION OF CORPORATIONS, BUSINESS AND
PROFESSIONAL LICENSING

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MEMORANDUM

DATE: September 23, 2025
TO: Board of Physical Therapy & Occupational Therapy
THRU: Erika Prieksat, Chief Investigator *EP*
FROM: Jasmin Bautista, Investigator
RE: Investigative Report for the October 03, 2025 Meeting

The following information was compiled as an investigative report to the Board for the period of January 25, 2025 thru September 23, 2025; this report includes cases, complaints, and intake matters handled since the last report.

Matters opened by the Paralegals in Anchorage and Juneau, regarding continuing education audits and license action resulting from those matters are covered in this report.

OPEN - 7

<u>Case Number</u>	<u>Violation Type</u>	<u>Case Status</u>	<u>Status Date</u>
PHYSICAL THERAPIST			
2025-000646	Standard of care	Intake	07/15/2025
2025-000321	License Application Review/Referral	Complaint	08/22/2025
2025-000356	License Application Review/Referral	Complaint	06/20/2025
2025-000440	License Application Review/Referral	Complaint	06/26/2025
2025-000568	Continuing education	Complaint	06/24/2025
2025-000572	Continuing education	Complaint	06/24/2025
PHYSICAL THERAPY ASSISTANT			
2025-000538	Substance abuse	Complaint	07/02/2025

Closed - 9

<u>Case #</u>	<u>Violation Type</u>	<u>Case Status</u>	<u>Closed</u>	<u>Closure</u>
OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST				
2025-000188	Unlicensed practice or activity	Closed-Intake	05/21/2025	Incomplete Complaint
2025-000189	Violating professional ethics	Closed-Intake	05/21/2025	Incomplete Complaint
2025-000690	Practice beyond scope	Closed-Intake	09/02/2025	Incomplete Complaint
2025-000728	Unlicensed practice or activity	Closed-Intake	09/05/2025	Incomplete Complaint
2024-001113	Unlicensed practice or activity	Closed-Complaint	04/10/2025	No Action - No Violation
2024-000748	License Application Review/Referral	Closed-Investigation	03/11/2025	License Action
PHYSICAL THERAPIST				
2025-000636	License Application Review/Referral	Closed-Intake	08/01/2025	No Action - Unfounded
2024-000881	Violating professional ethics	Closed-Complaint	04/14/2025	No Action - No Violation
2025-000242	License Application Problem	Closed-Complaint	05/05/2025	Application Withdrawn

END OF REPORT