

Iowa Health Professions Tracking Center, Office of Statewide Clinical Education
Programs, University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine

2024 Iowa Physician Assistant Tracking System

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Iowa Physician Assistant Tracking System Advisory Committee Iowa Health Professions Tracking Center

Advisory Committee

David Asprey, PhD, PA-C Chair & DEO, Physician Assistant Studies & Services University of Iowa

Jill Van Otterloo, PA-C, MSPA
Program Director, Physician Assistant Program
Northwestern College

Tina Patterson, PA-C
Representative, Iowa Physician Assistant Society

Suzanne Peppers, DMSc, MMS PA-C
Director of the Master of Physician Assistant Studies program,
Professor of Physician Assistant Studies
St Ambrose University

Holland Taylor, DMSc, PA-C
Program Director and Department Chair, Associate Professor,
Master of Science in Physician Assistant Studies Program
Des Moines University

Natalie Weber, PA-C, DMSc
Program Director, Physician Assistant Program
University of Dubuque

Office of Statewide Clinical Education Programs Iowa Health Professions Tracking Center

Jack McGrane
Data Analyst

Greg Nelson, MA, RN
Assistant Dean for Clinical Education Programs

Teri Thomann
Interim Assistant Director

Austin Snyder
Data Analyst

Kaitlyn Stick-Mueller, MS
Data Analyst

Amy Kerr
Admin Services Coordinator

Introduction

IHPTC Data Collection Methods



**Direct Worksite
Contact**



**Online
Research**



**Automated
Scanning**

Iowa Health Professions Tracking Center Rural/Urban County Designation

11 urban-designated counties:

- Black Hawk
- Dallas
- Dubuque
- Johnson
- Linn
- Polk
- Pottawattamie
- Scott
- Story
- Warren
- Woodbury

IHPTC uses the definition of rural from the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy (FORHP). FORHP would use this definition to determine rural areas that can apply for rural health grants. The Federal Office of Rural Health Policy (FORHP) is contained within Health Resources & Services Administration (HRSA). HRSA is one of the agencies of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. FORHP defines **rural** as **non-metropolitan areas or isolated metro tracts with rural commuting patterns, low density, large size, or difficult terrain indicating limited health care access**. This definition blends the best from multiple other definitions to address access to health care.

Annual Benchmarks

IOWA PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS (PAs) Annual Inventory 2024

<u>Date</u>	<u>PAs</u>
• December 31, 2024	1,258
• December 31, 2023	<u>-1,210</u>
Gain	+48 (+3%)

Prior 10-year average = 40

PA_s ENTERING vs LEAVING IOWA PRACTICE

	<u>2024</u>	<u>Prior Year</u>	<u>Prior Ten-Year Average</u>
PA_s Entering	117	125	104
PA_s Leaving	<u>-69</u>	<u>-87</u>	<u>-64</u>
Net Gain/Loss	+48	+38	+40

PA SPECIALTIES*

2024

	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Family Practice	463	37%
Orthopaedic Surgery	153	12
Emergency Medicine	126	10
Dermatology	64	5
Psychiatry	59	5
General Surgery	42	3
General Internal Medicine	42	3
Hematology/Medical Oncology	38	3
Otolaryngology	22	2
Obstetrics/Gynecology	22	2
Cardiology	19	2
Urology	17	1
Thoracic Surgery	16	1
Gastroenterology	15	1
Plastic Surgery	14	1
Neurological Surgery	13	1
Occupational Medicine	13	1
Other	<u>120</u>	<u>10</u>
Total	1,258	100%

* Those specialties in double digits.

PA PRINCIPAL PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY

Employment Settings

2024

	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
1. Private Practice	870	69.2%
2. State Institutions	119	9.5
3. Urgent Care	105	8.4
4. Federal	38	3.0
5. Public/Community Health	35	2.8
6. Teaching/Practice (Allopathic)	32	2.5
7. Hospital Medicine	30	2.4
8. Teaching/Practice (Osteopathic)	9	0.7
9. Student Health	8	0.6
10. Bariatrics/Weight Management	5	0.4
11. Wound Care	4	0.3
12. Occupational Medicine	2	0.1
13. Administration	<u>1</u>	<u>0.1</u>
Total	1,258	100%

PA PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

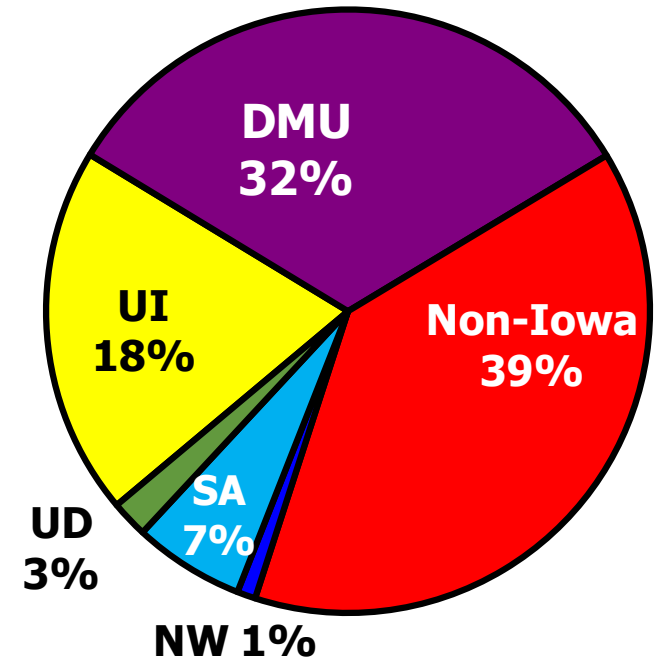
Iowa PA School Graduates

2024

	<u>DMU</u>	<u>UI</u>	<u>SA</u>	<u>UD</u>	<u>NW</u>
1. Private Practice(Clinic/Outpatient)	311	109	70	31	13
2. Urgent Care	33	15	6	6	0
3. State Institution	16	56	5	0	0
4. Public Health	14	4	1	0	0
5. Hospital Medicine	9	5	3	1	0
6. Federal	8	13	2	0	0
7. Academic Practice (Osteopathic)	5	2	0	0	0
8. Academic Practice (Allopathic)	5	12	1	0	0
9. Student Health	1	2	1	0	0
10. Wound Care	1	1	0	0	0
11. Administration	0	0	0	0	0
12. Bariatric/Weight Management	<u>1</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Total	404	222	89	38	13

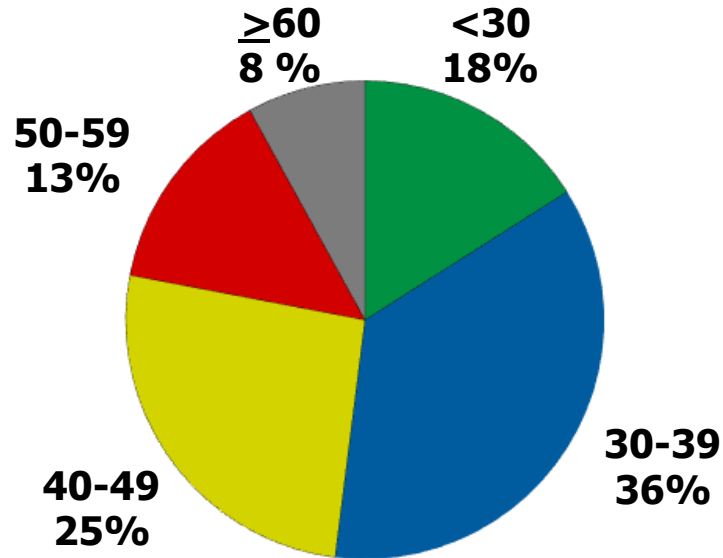
PA EDUCATION/TRAINING Iowa vs. Non-Iowa Schools 2024

• Des Moines University	404
• University of Iowa	222
• St. Ambrose	89
• University of Dubuque	38
• Northwestern Iowa	13
• Non-IA	<u>492</u>
Total	1,258



AGE DISTRIBUTION OF PAS 2024

<u>Age Category</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>Cumulative %</u>
< 30	223	18%	18%
30-39	458	36	54
40-49	314	25	79
50-59	161	13	92
≥ 60	<u>102</u>	<u>8</u>	100%
Total	1,258	100%	

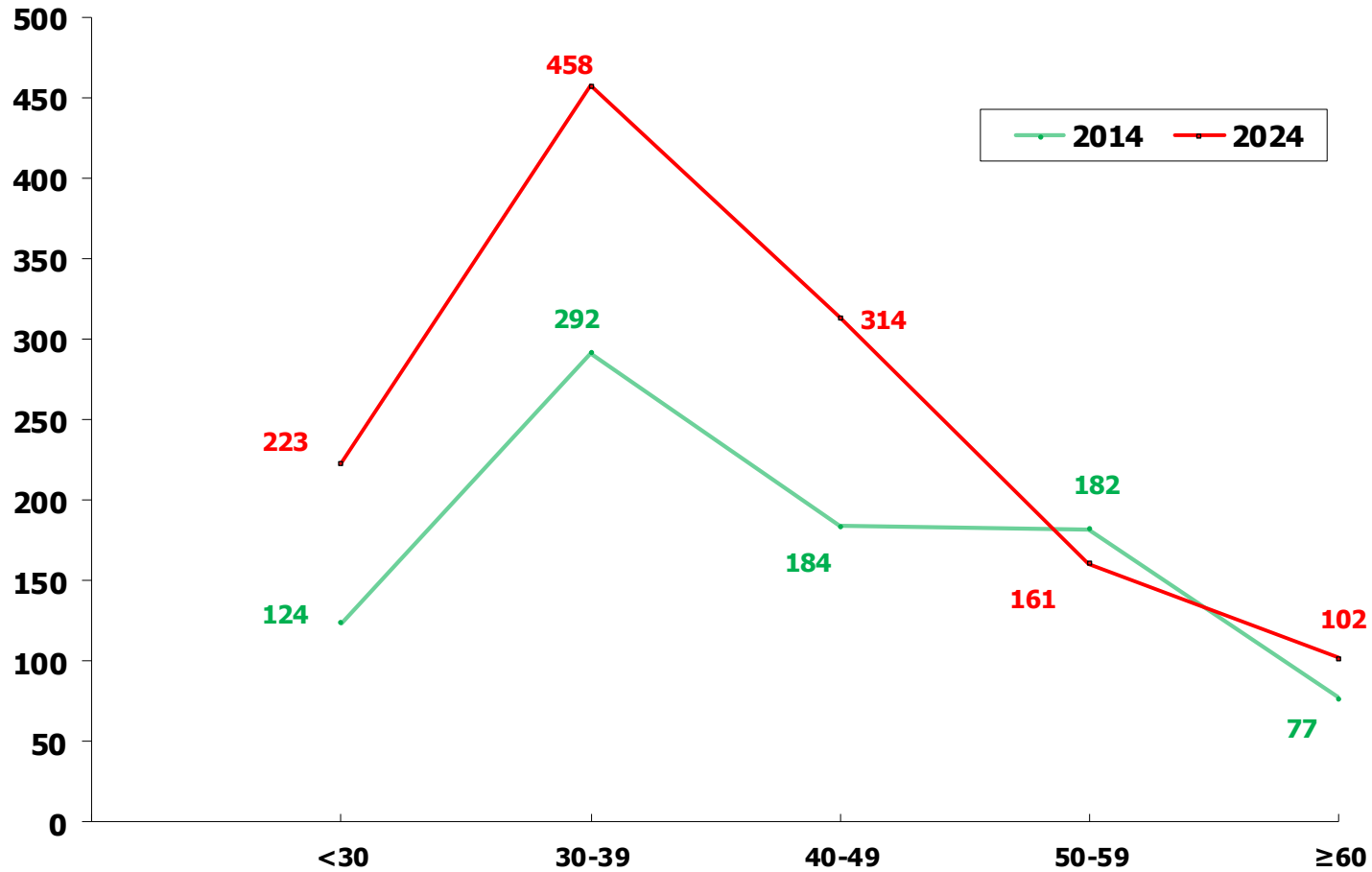


Mean: 41
Median: 42

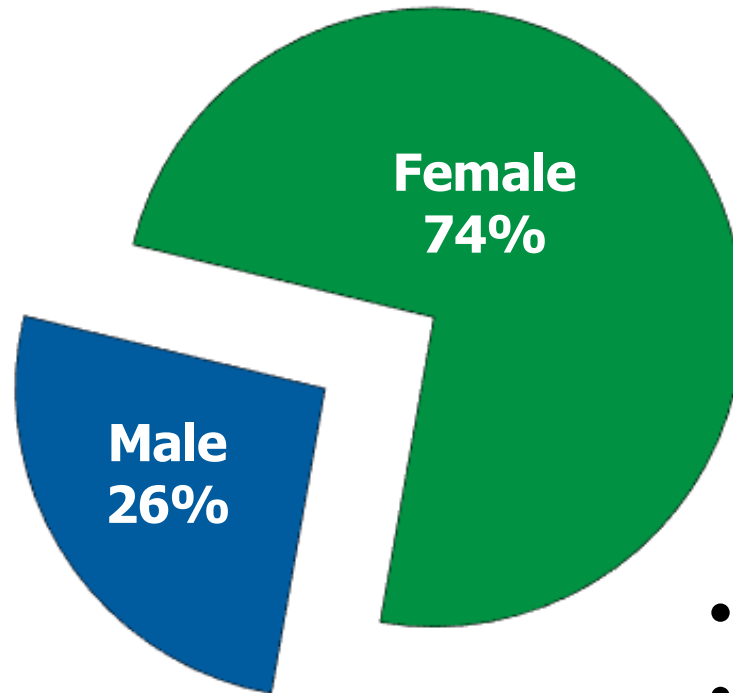
PA AGE COMPARISON 2014 vs. 2024

<u>Age</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>%</u>
< 30	124	15%	223	18%
30-39	292	34%	458	36%
40-49	184	21%	314	25%
50-59	182	21%	161	13%
≥ 60	<u>77</u>	<u>9%</u>	<u>102</u>	<u>8%</u>
Total	859	100%	1,258	100%

PA AGE COMPARISON 2014 vs. 2024

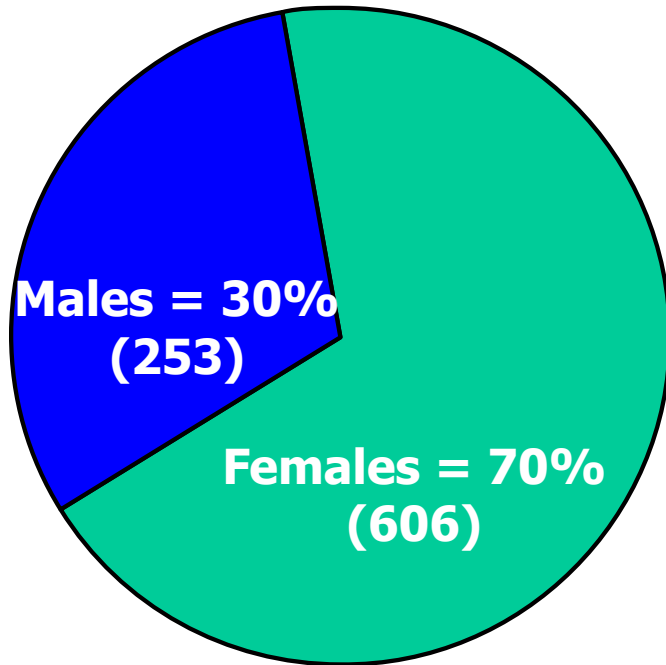


PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT MALE/FEMALE DISTRIBUTION 2024

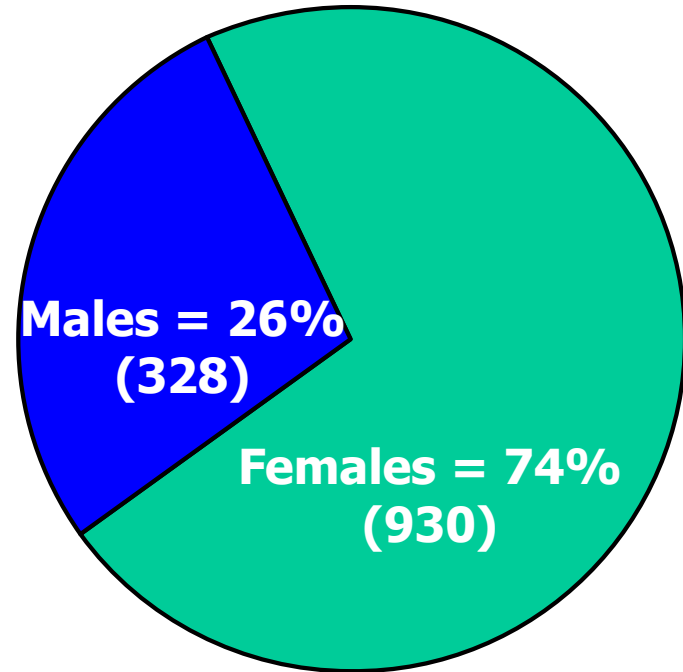


• Female	930
• Male	<u>328</u>
Total	1,258

PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT MALE/FEMALE COMPARISON 2014 vs. 2024



2014 Total = 859



2024 Total = 1,258

DISTRIBUTION OF IOWA PAs By Population of County 2014 vs. 2024

<u>County Population</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>Change in No. of PAs</u>	<u>Percent of Change Since 2014</u>
< 10,000	34 (4%)	35 (3%)	+1	+ 3%
10,000-24,999	159 (19%)	156 (12%)	-3	- 2%
25,000-49,999	114 (13%)	139 (11%)	+25	+ 22%
50,000-99,999	90 (10%)	159 (13%)	+69	+ 77%
≥ 100,000	<u>462</u> (54%)	<u>769</u> (61%)	<u>+307</u>	<u>+ 66%</u>
Totals	859 (100%)	1,258 (100%)	+399	+ 49%

DISTRIBUTION OF PAs By City Population Ranges 2024

<u>Population</u>	<u>Cities in Iowa</u>	<u>% of population*</u>	<u># of Cities with PAs</u>	<u># of PAs</u>	<u>Percent of PAs</u>	<u>Cumulative Percent of PAs</u>
< 5,000	943 (incl 86 CDP)**	25%	87	153	12%	12%
5,000-9,999	43	11%	31	108	9%	21%
10,000-24,999	24	15%	24	149	12%	33%
25,000-49,999	7	10%	7	114	9%	42%
50,000-99,999	8	21%	8	456	36%	78%
100,000 ≥	<u>3</u>	<u>18%</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>278</u>	<u>22%</u>	100.0%
Totals	1028	100%	161	1,258	100%	

67% of Iowa's PAs are in the 18 cities with > 25,000 residents.

*Population Source: US Census City Population Estimates 2020

**CDP: census designated place, 86 included in 1030 total cities

Source: Iowa Health Professions Tracking Center, Office of Statewide Clinical Education Programs, UI Carver College of Medicine, March 2025

PAs FULL TIME vs. PART TIME* 2024

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Full Time	323 <small>(26%)</small>	883 <small>(70%)</small>	1,206	96%
Part Time	<u>5</u> <small>(.3%)</small>	<u>47</u> <small>(4%)</small>	<u>52</u>	<u>4%</u>
Total	328	930	1,258	100%

***PT = < 32 hours/week**

DISTRIBUTION OF PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS

Rural/Urban Summary

2014 vs. 2024

<u>Year</u>	<u>Rural</u>	<u>Urban</u>	<u>Total</u>
2014	307 36%	552 64%	859 100%
2024	330 26%	928 74%	1,258 100%
Change	+23 8%	+376 68%	+399 46%

DISTRIBUTION OF PAs

By City Population Ranges with Condensed Cities* 2024

<u>Population</u>	<u>Cities in Iowa</u>	<u>% of population*</u>	<u># of Cities with PAs</u>	<u># of PAs</u>	<u>Percent of PAs</u>	<u>Cumulative Percent of PAs</u>
< 5,000	942 (incl 86 CDP)**	25%	87	153	12%	12%
5,000-9,999	41	11%	32	108	9%	21%
10,000-24,999	16	9%	24	149	12%	33%
25,000-49,999	4	4%	7	114	9%	42%
50,000-99,999	2	5%	8	456	36%	78%
100,000 ≥	<u>7</u>	<u>46%</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>278</u>	<u>22%</u>	100.0%
Totals	1012	100%	161	1186	100%	

- **Condensed: Cities are grouped together when geographically proximal**
- **74% of Iowa's PAs are in the 18 cities with > 25,000 residents.**

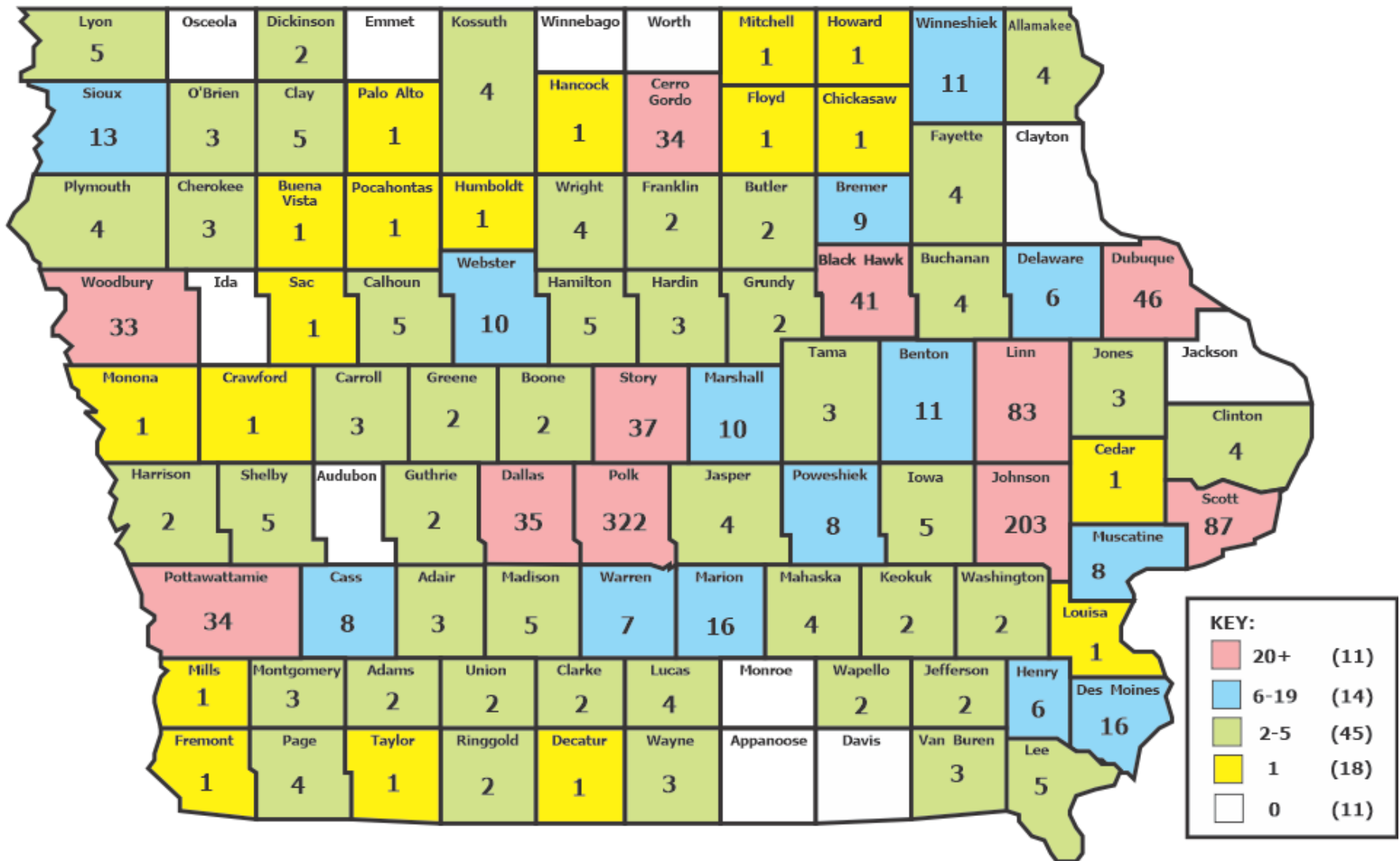
*Population Source: US Census City Population Estimates 2020

**CDP: census designated place, 86 included in 1030 total cities

Source: Iowa Health Professions Tracking Center, Office of Statewide Clinical Education Programs, UI Carver College of Medicine, March 2025

Geographic Distribution

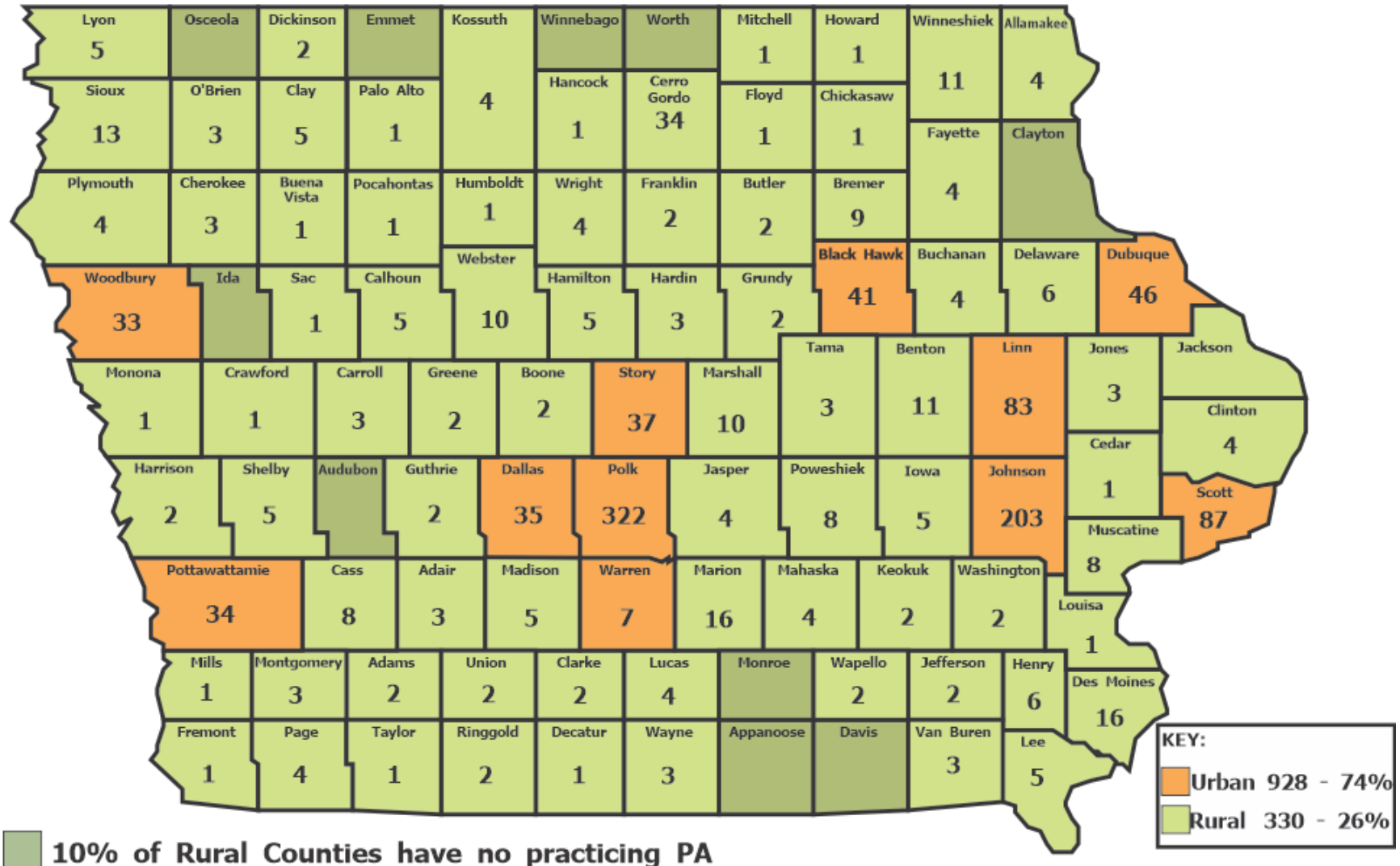
DISTRIBUTION OF PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS (1,258) 2024



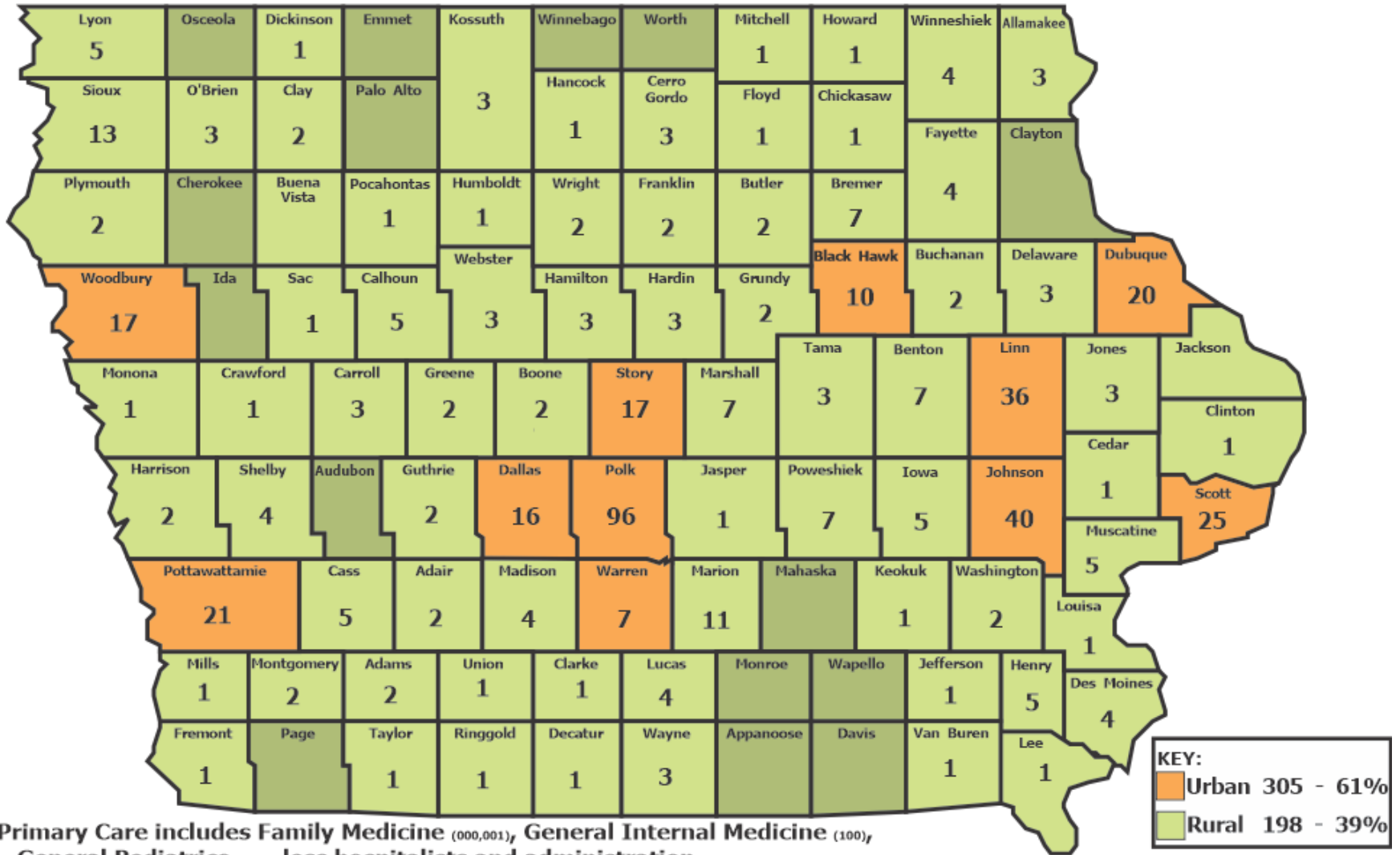
Source: Iowa Health Professions Tracking Center, Office of Statewide Clinical Education Programs, UI Carver College of Medicine, March 2025

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DISTRIBUTION OF ALL PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS (1,258) By Rural vs. Urban 2024



DISTRIBUTION OF PRIMARY CARE PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS (503) By Rural vs. Urban 2024

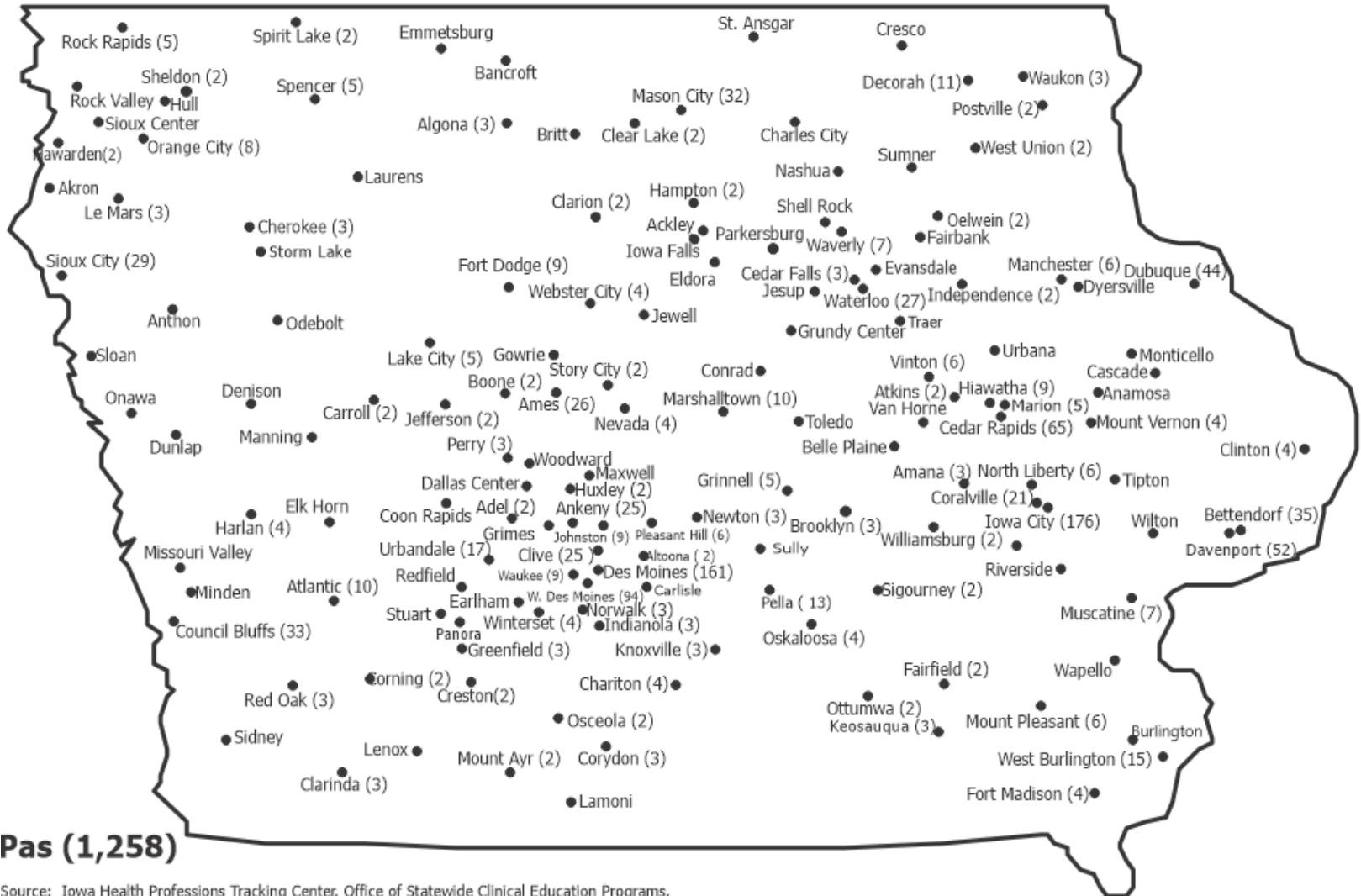


Primary Care includes Family Medicine (000,001), General Internal Medicine (100),
General Pediatrics (400), less hospitalists and administration

Source: Iowa Health Professions Tracking Center, Office of Statewide Clinical Education Programs,
UI Carver College of Medicine, March 2025

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COMMUNITIES WITH PAs (160) 2024

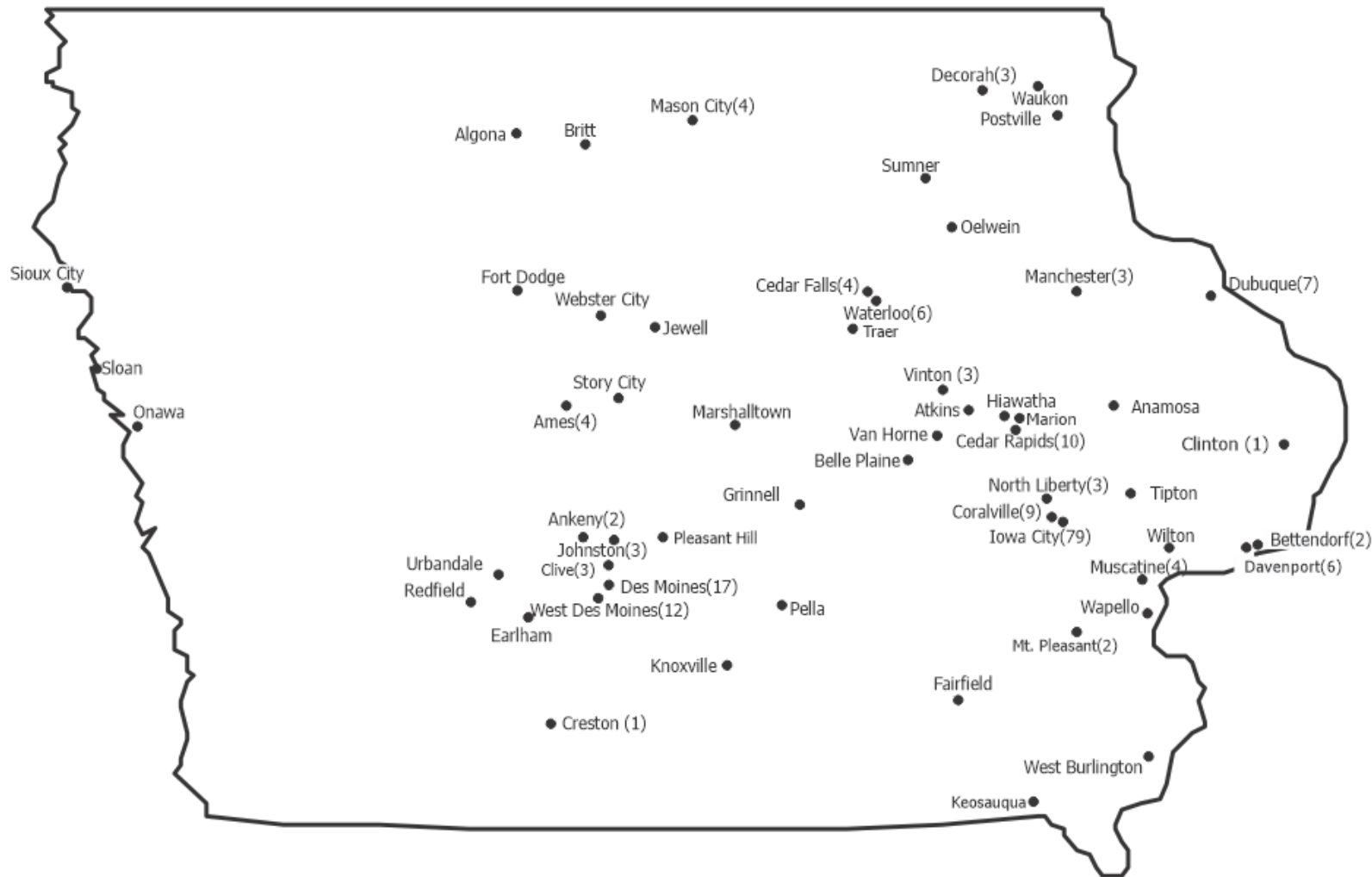


Source: Iowa Health Professions Tracking Center, Office of Statewide Clinical Education Programs, UI Carver College of Medicine, October 2025

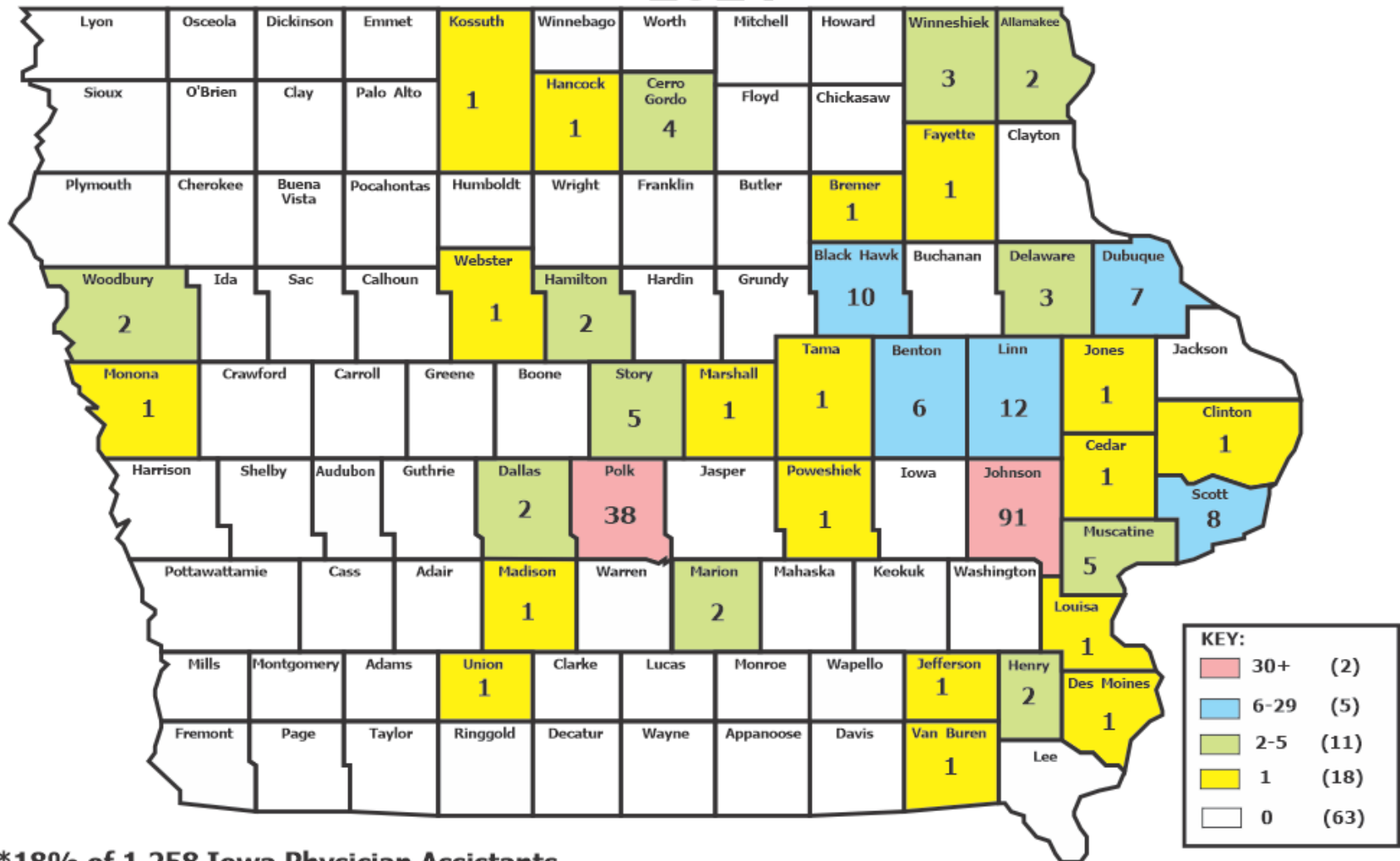
IOWA COMMUNITIES (60)

University of Iowa Physician Assistant Graduates (222)

2024



IOWA PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS University of Iowa Graduates (222)* 2024

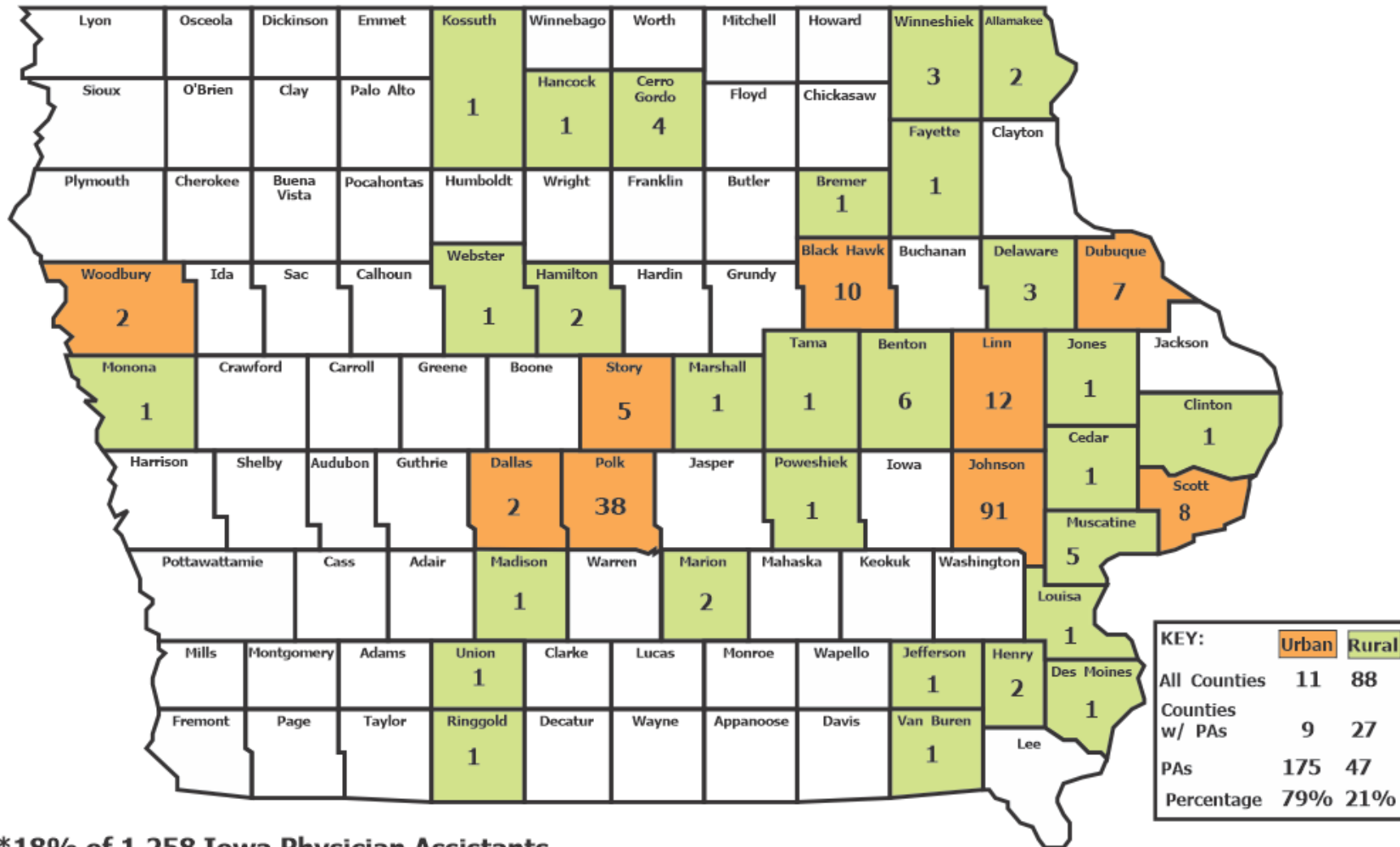


***18% of 1,258 Iowa Physician Assistants**

Source: Iowa Health Professions Tracking Center, Office of Statewide Clinical Education Programs, UI Carver College of Medicine, March 2025

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IOWA PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS UI Graduates (222)* 2024

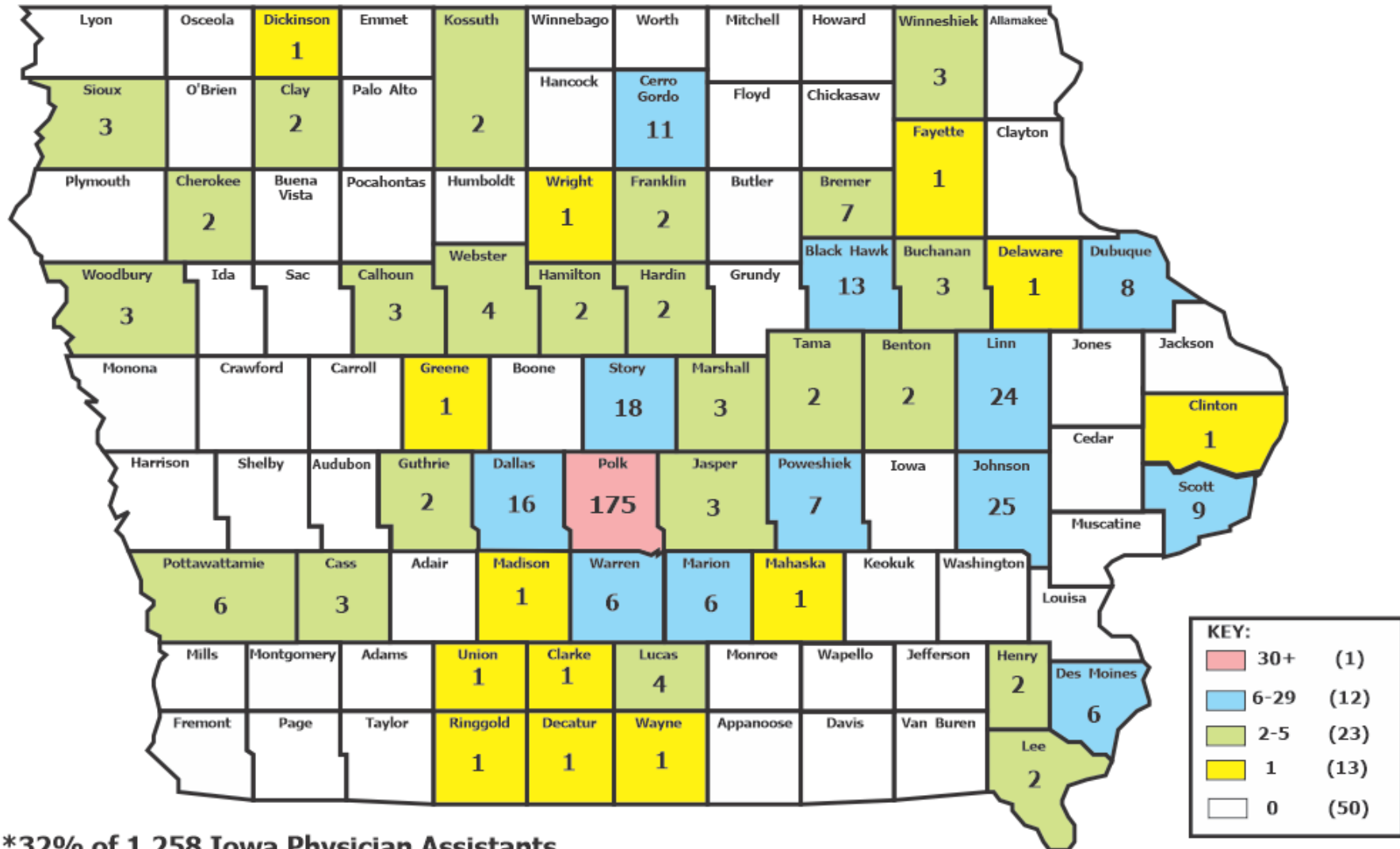


*18% of 1,258 Iowa Physician Assistants

Source: Iowa Health Professions Tracking Center, Office of Statewide Clinical Education Programs, UI Carver College of Medicine, March 2025

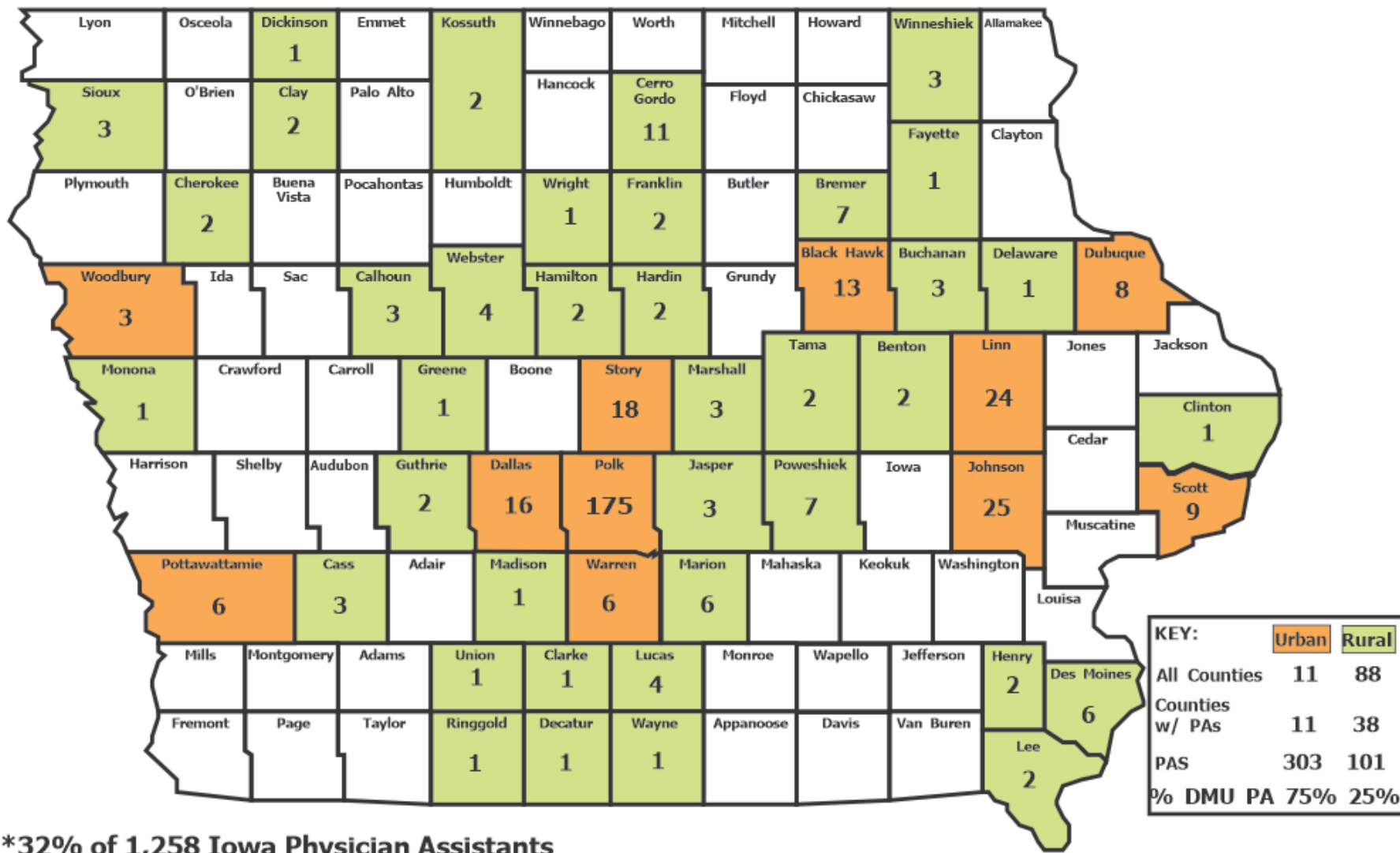
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IOWA PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS Des Moines University Graduates (404)* 2024



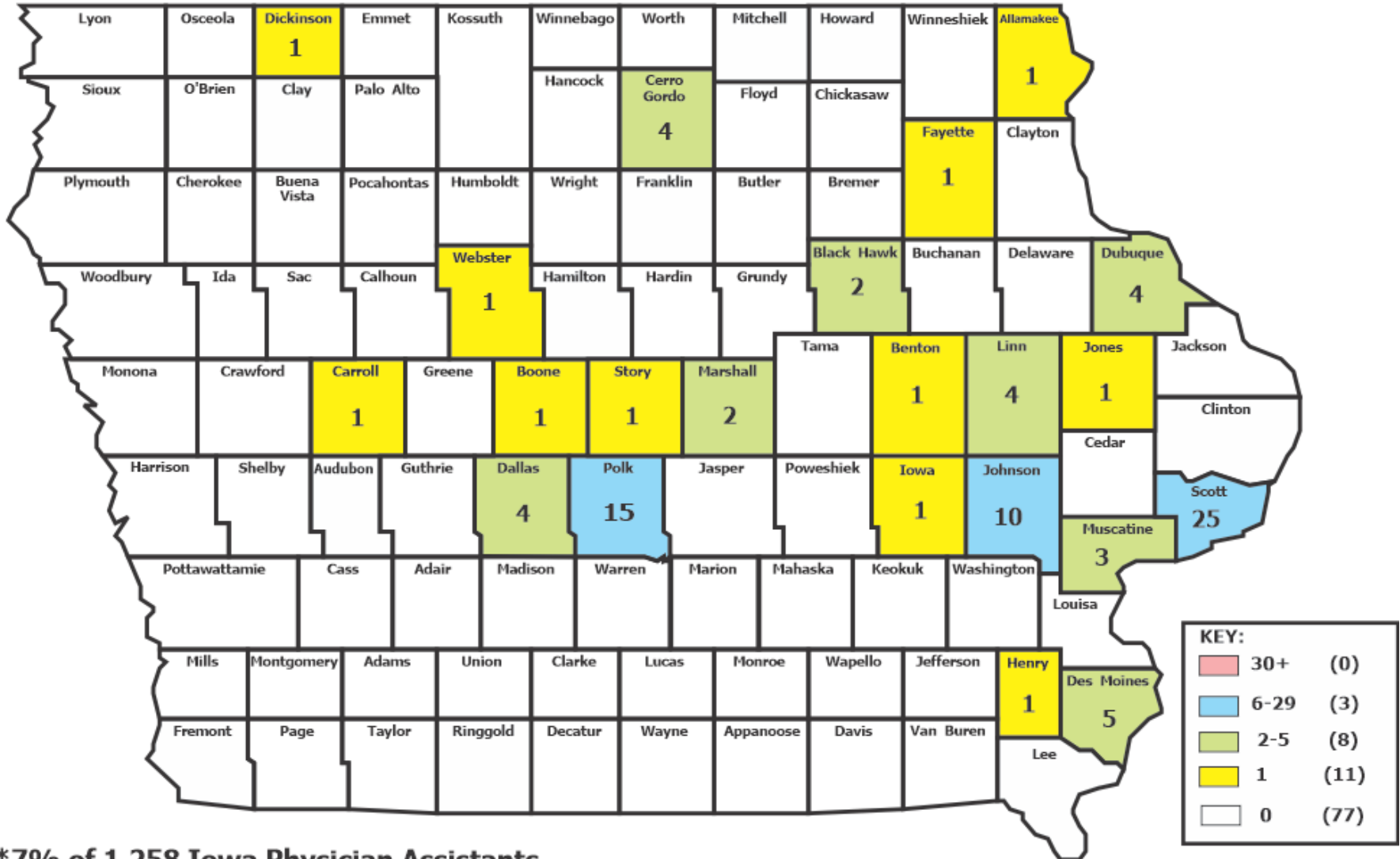
***32% of 1,258 Iowa Physician Assistants**

IOWA PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS Des Moines University Graduates (404)* 2024



***32% of 1,258 Iowa Physician Assistants**

IOWA PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS St. Ambrose University Graduates (89)* 2024

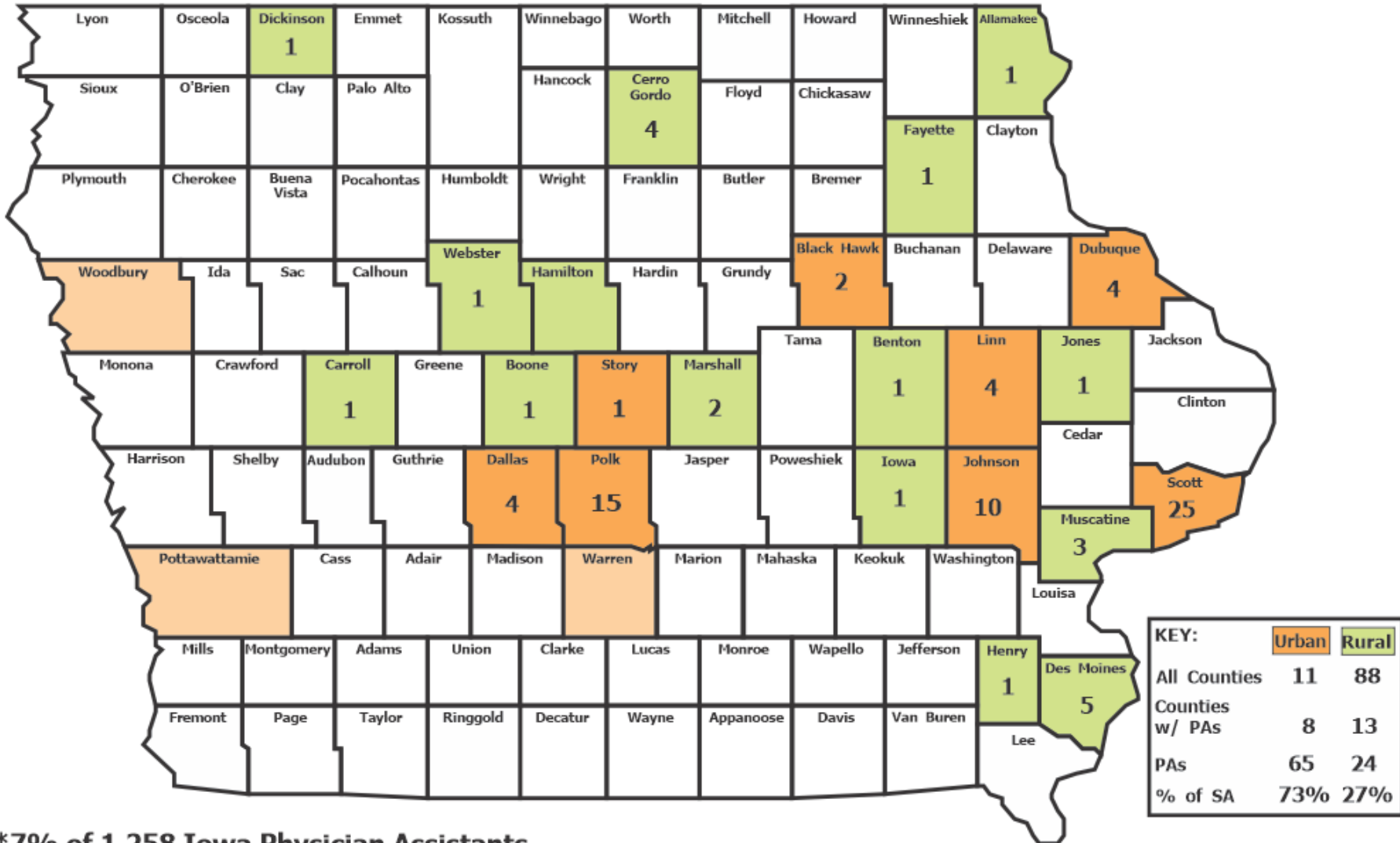


*7% of 1,258 Iowa Physician Assistants

Source: Iowa Health Professions Tracking Center, Office of Statewide Clinical Education Programs, UI Carver College of Medicine, March 2025

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IOWA PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS St. Ambrose University Graduates (89)* 2024

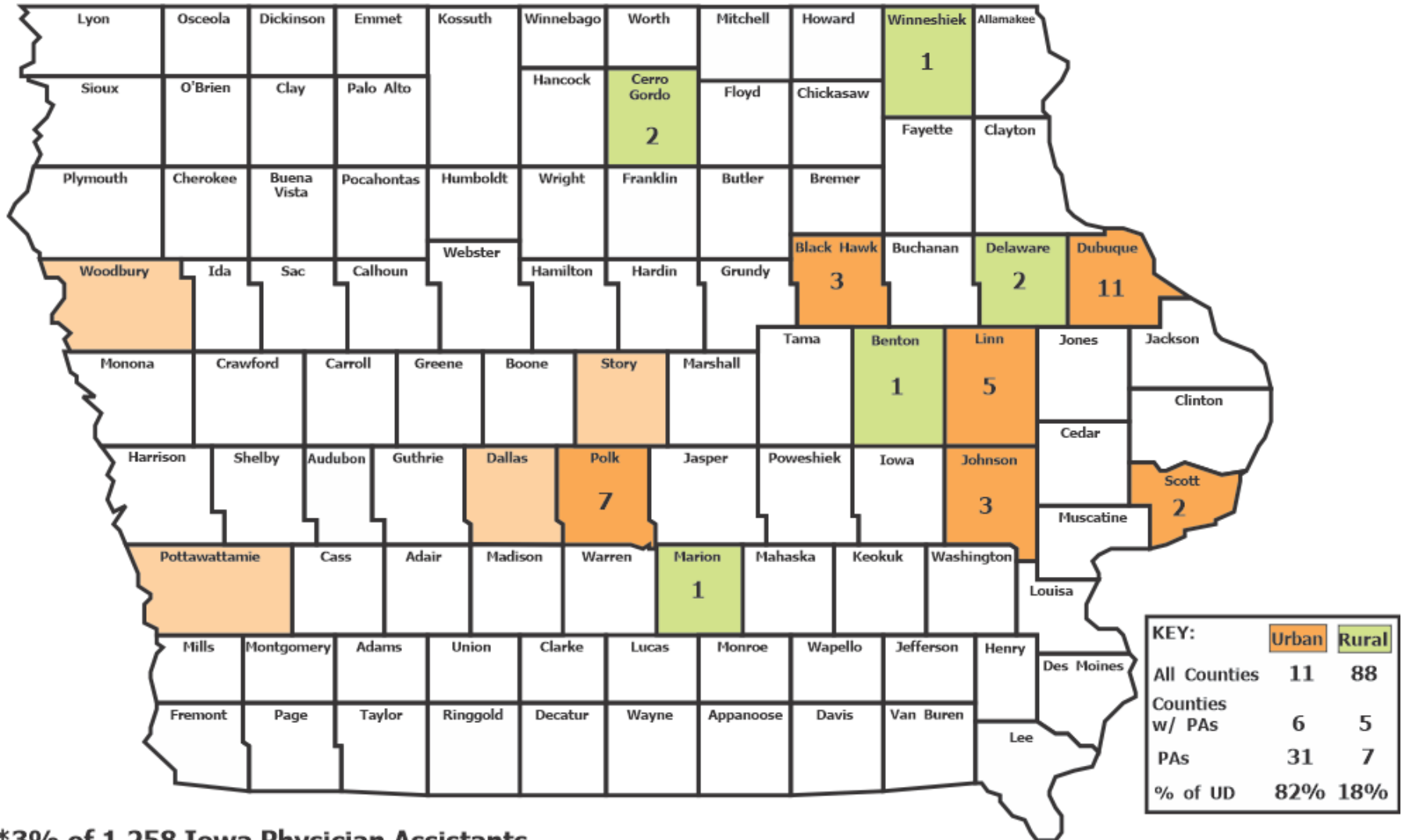


*7% of 1,258 Iowa Physician Assistants

Source: Iowa Health Professions Tracking Center, Office of Statewide Clinical Education Programs, UI Carver College of Medicine, March 2025

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IOWA PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS University of Dubuque Graduates (38)* 2024

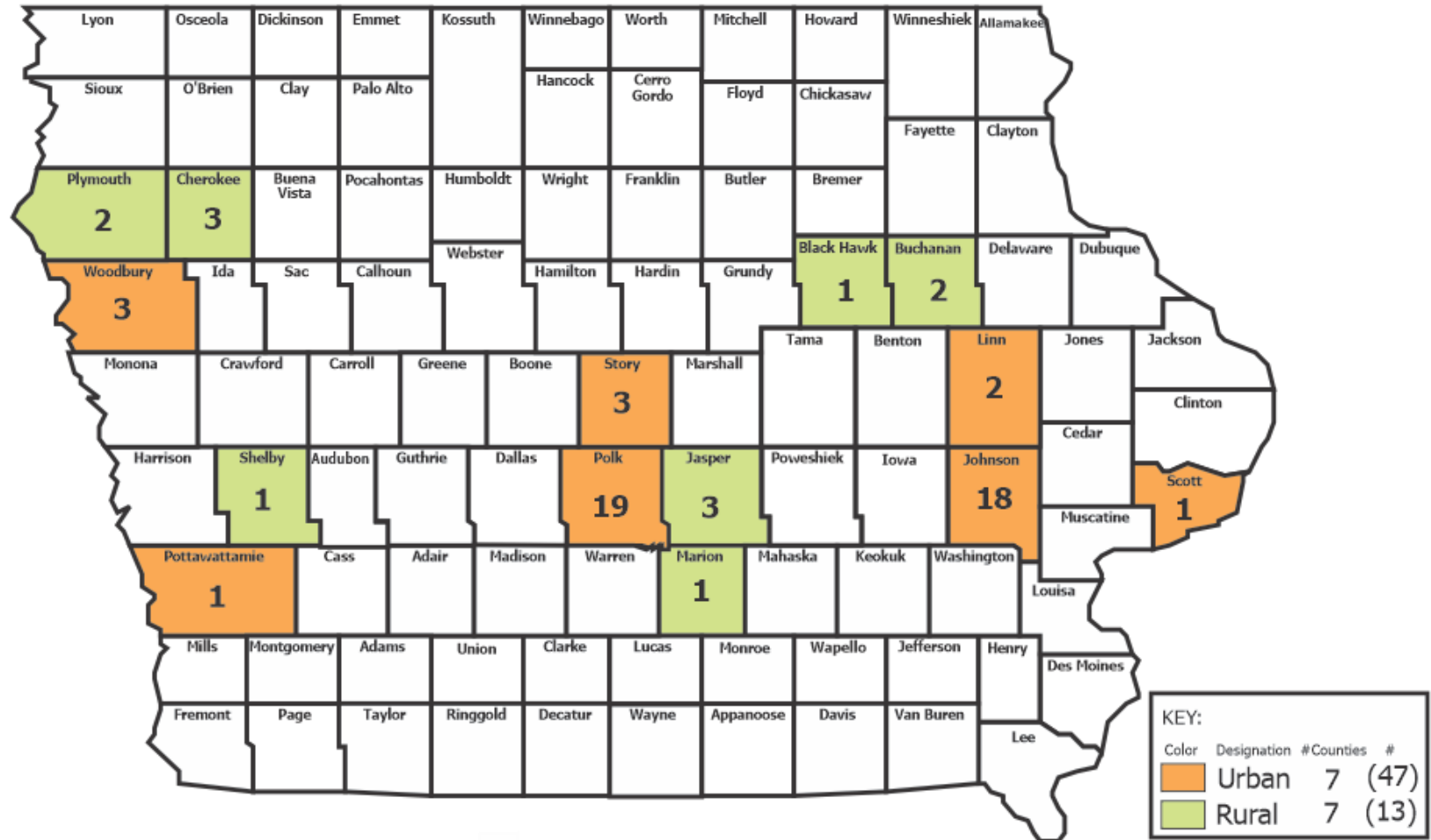


***3% of 1,258 Iowa Physician Assistants**

Source: Iowa Health Professions Tracking Center, Office of Statewide Clinical Education Programs, UI Carver College of Medicine, March 2025

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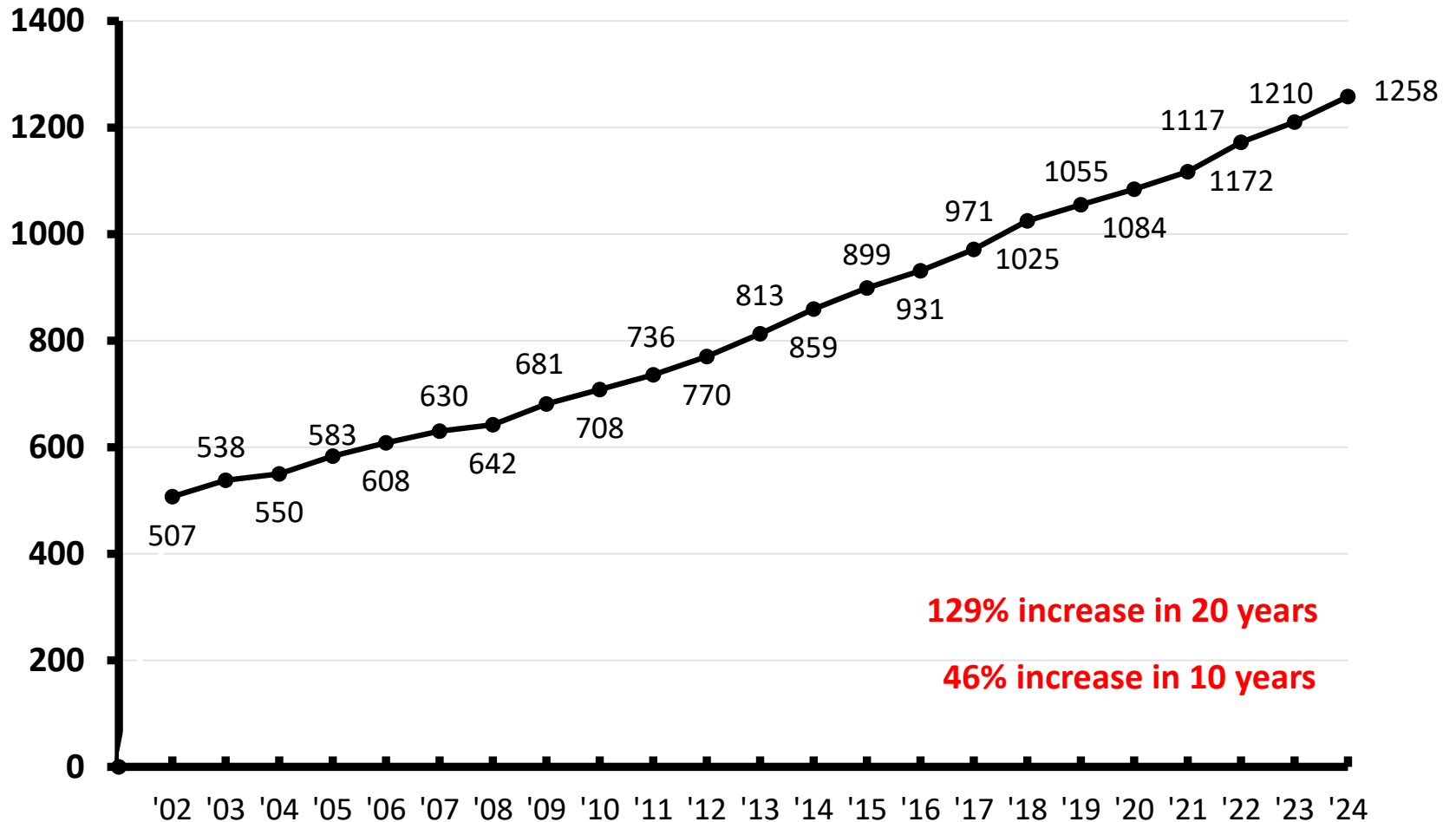
DISTRIBUTION OF IOWA PAs Psychiatry (60)* 2024



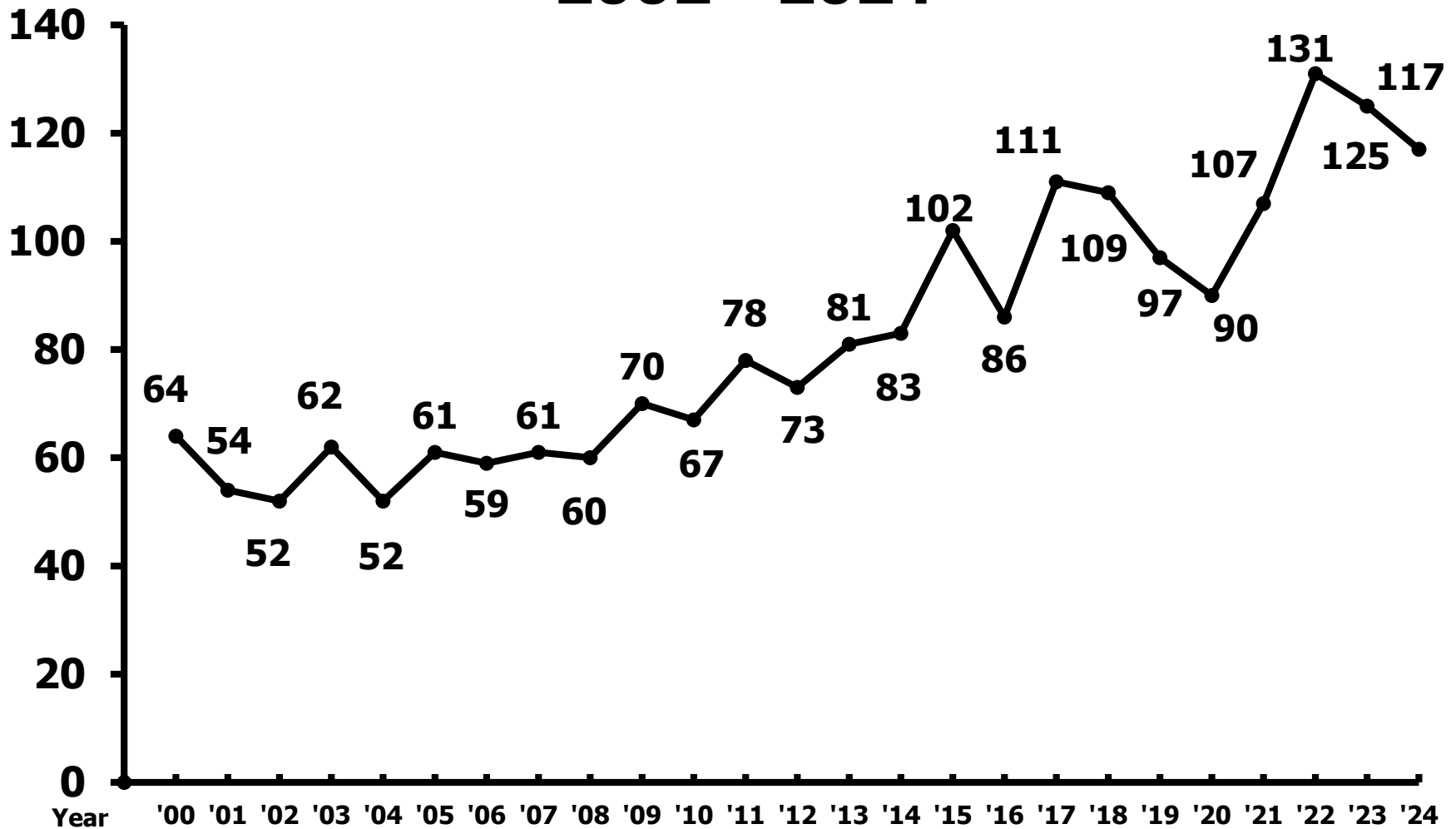
* Includes all psychiatry sub-specialties

Trends

Active Physician Assistants in Iowa 2002 - 2024



PA's ENTERING IOWA PRACTICES 2002 - 2024



Average # of PAs entering practice for all years = 82

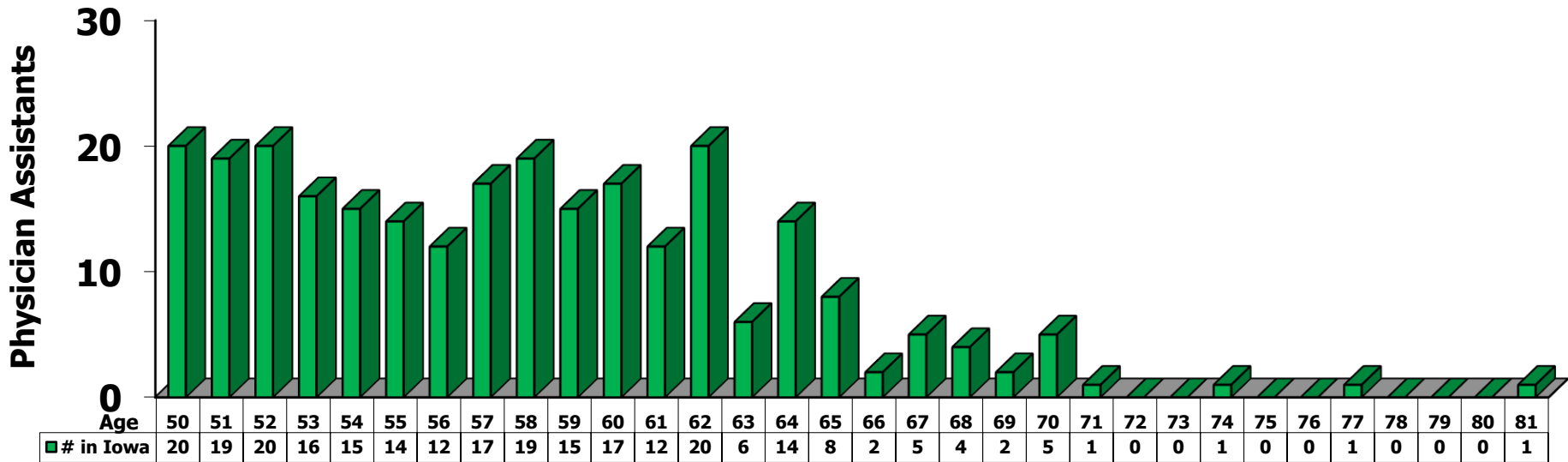
Average # of PAs entering practice for last five years = 114

Source: Iowa Health Professions Tracking Center, Office of Statewide Clinical Education Programs,
UI Carver College of Medicine, March 2025

NET GAIN/LOSS IN PAs-1995-2024

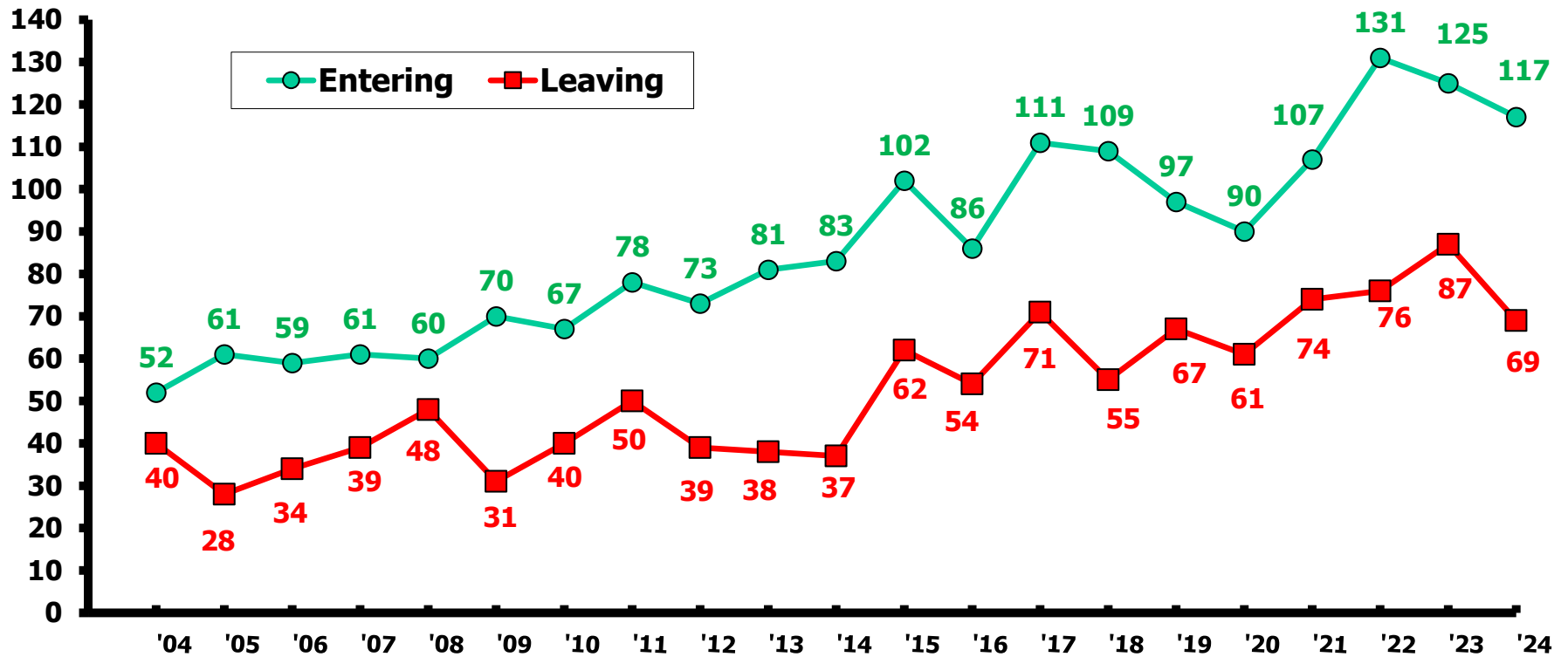
	<u>Entered</u>	<u>Left</u>	<u>Gain/Loss</u>
1995	55	3	52
1996	59	5	54
1997	82	10	72
1998	43	25	18
1999	60	20	40
2000	64	23	41
2001	54	41	13
2002	52	25	27
2003	62	31	31
2004	52	40	12
2005	61	28	33
2006	59	34	25
2007	61	39	22
2008	60	48	12
2009	70	31	39
2010	67	40	27
2011	78	50	28
2012	73	39	34
2013	81	38	43
2014	83	37	46
2015	102	62	39
2016	86	54	33
2017	111	71	40
2018	109	55	51
2019	97	67	30
2020	90	61	28
2021	107	74	33
2022	131	76	50
2023	125	87	38
2024	<u>117</u>	<u>69</u>	<u>48</u>
Total	2351	1283	1068
Average	30	30	34

PA AGE DETAIL OF ≥ 50 2023



Total number of PAs 50 years of age and older = 266 (22%)

PA's Entering vs. Leaving 2002 - 2024

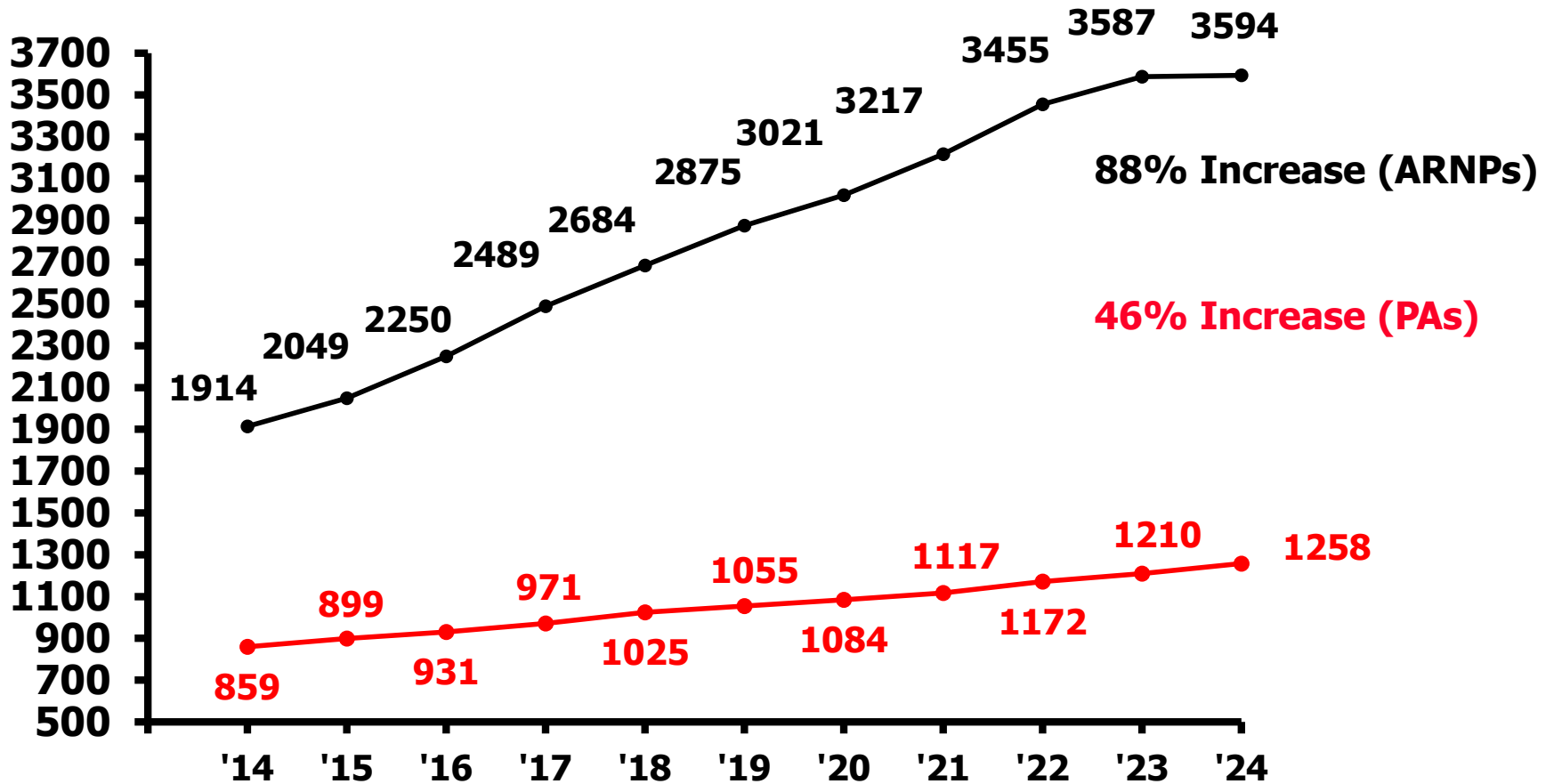


IOWA PA ENTRY & EXIT SUMMARY

2013 - 2023

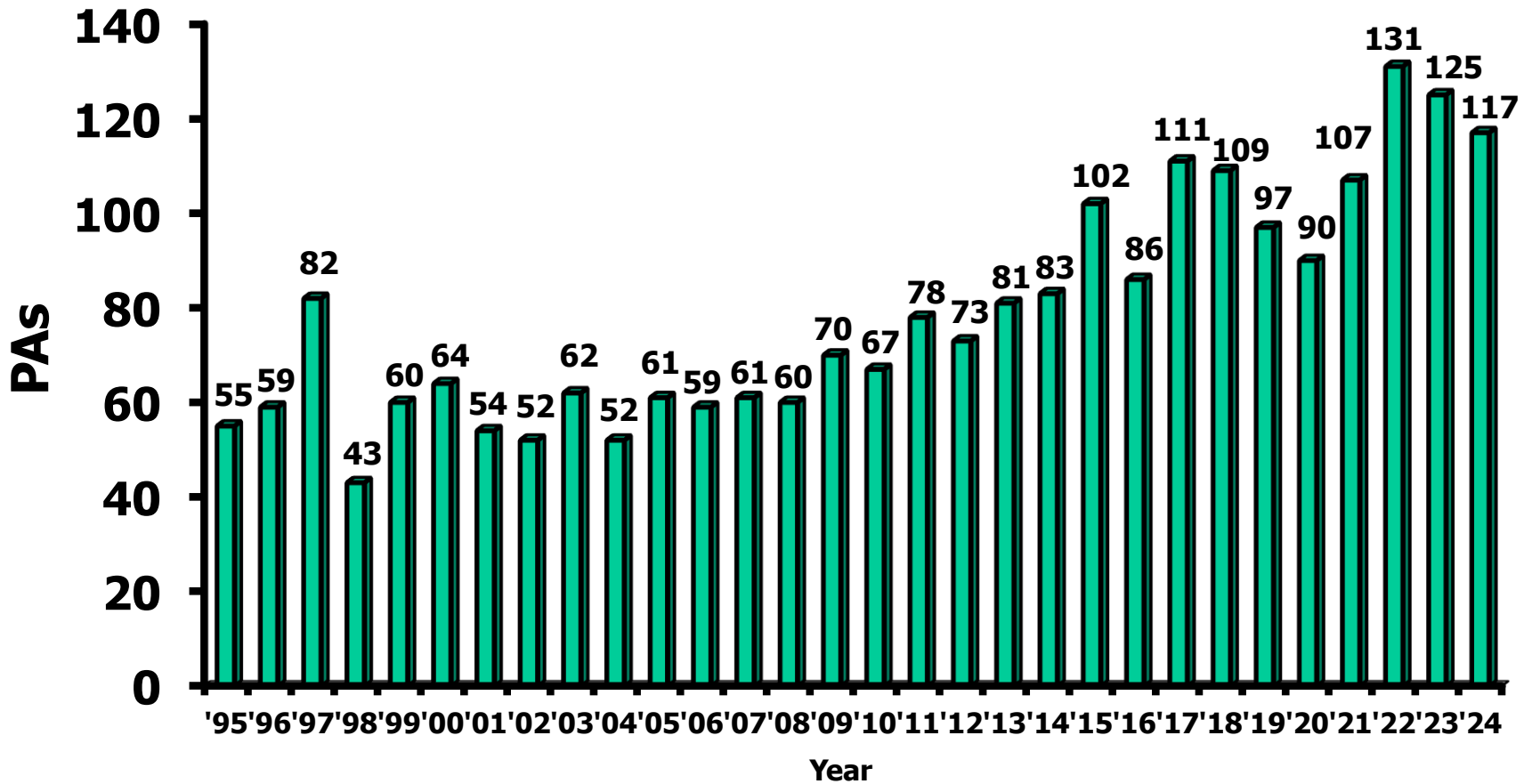
	<u>Entry</u>	<u>Exit</u>	<u>Gain</u>
2014	83	37	46
2015	102	62	40
2016	86	54	32
2017	111	71	40
2018	109	55	55
2019	97	67	30
2020	90	61	29
2021	107	74	33
2022	131	76	55
2023	125	87	38
2024	<u>117</u>	<u>69</u>	<u>48</u>
TOTAL	1158	713	446
Prior 10-yr. Average	104	64	40
10-yr. Average	108	68	40

IOWA SUPPLY OF ARNPs/PAs 2013 - 2024



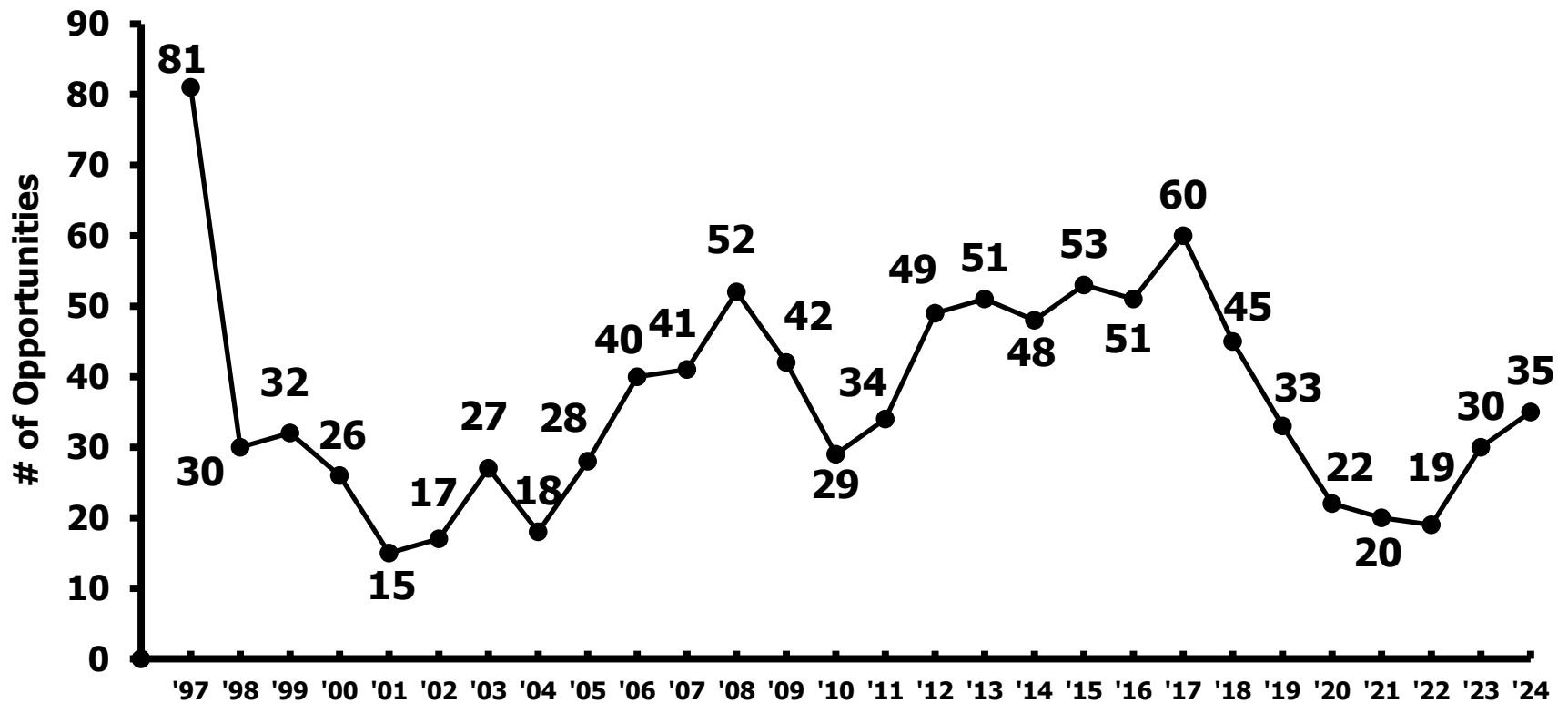
ARNPs comprise CRNAs, NMs, NPs, and CNSs

PAs ENTERING IOWA PRACTICE 1995 - 2024



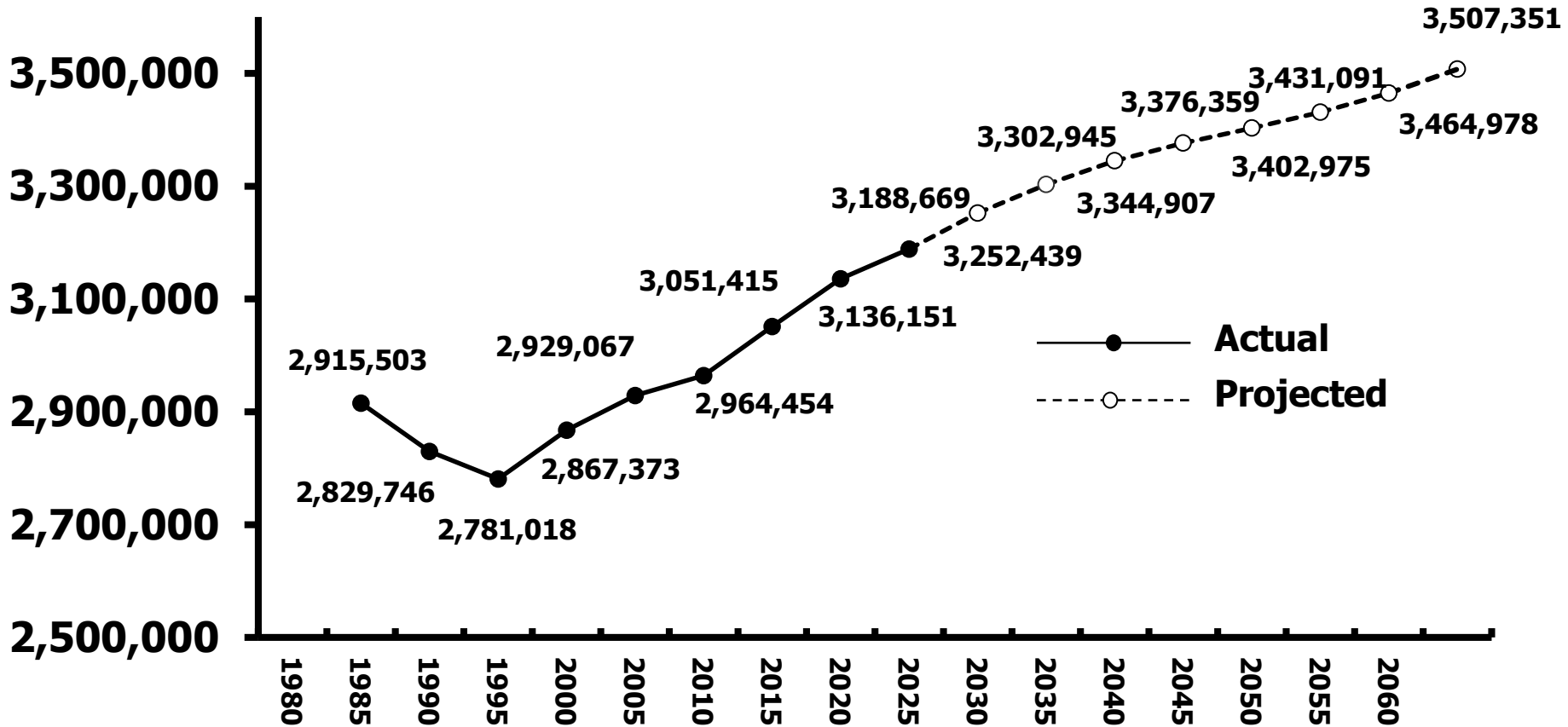
IOWA PA JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Primary Care/Private Practice*



*Family Medicine, General Internal Medicine, General Pediatrics; PA or PA/NP opportunities

PROJECTION: IOWA POPULATION 1980 - 2060



Workforce Summary

RETIREMENT SUMMARY OF PAs

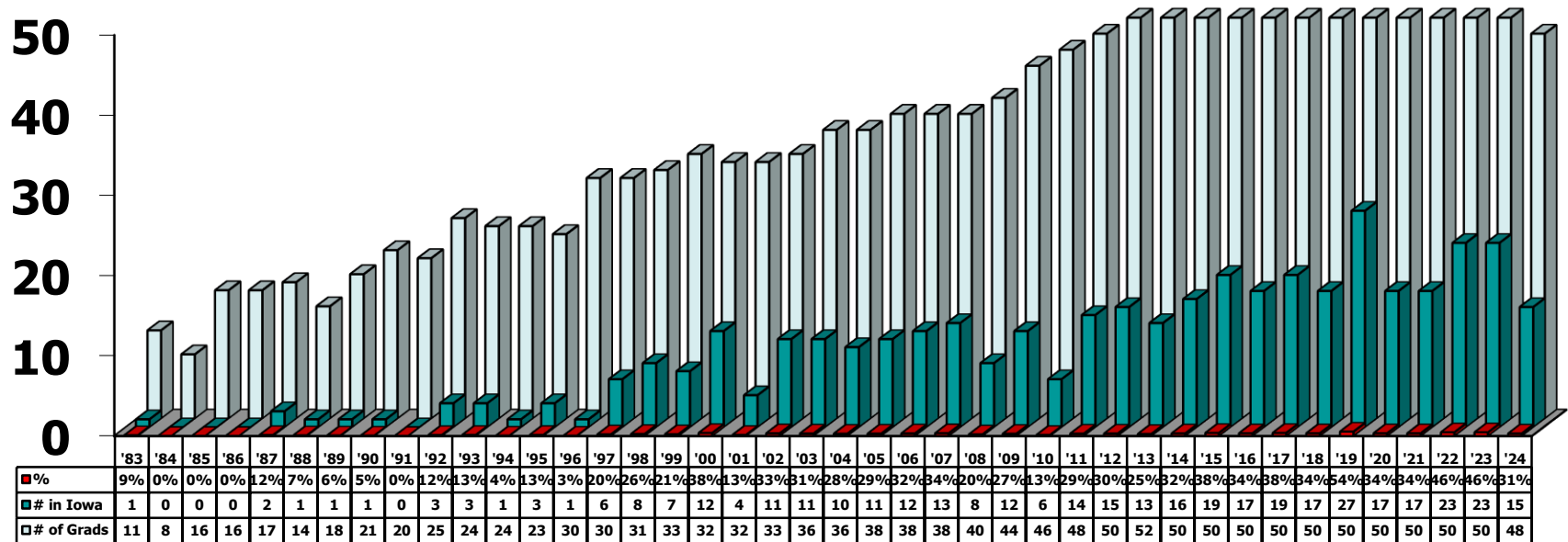
	<u>2024</u>	<u>Prior 5-Year Average</u>
Retirements	10	16
Mean age	68	65
Median age	66	65

IOWA PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS (PAs) School Summary 2024

<u>School</u>	<u>Class Size</u>	<u>1st Grad Class</u>	<u>Months Duration</u>
• University of Iowa	22	1974	28
• DMU	48	1981	26
• St. Ambrose	28	2016	29
• University of Dubuque	25	2018	27
• Northwestern College	<u>29</u>	2022	27
Total	152		

DMU PA GRADUATES NOW IN IOWA

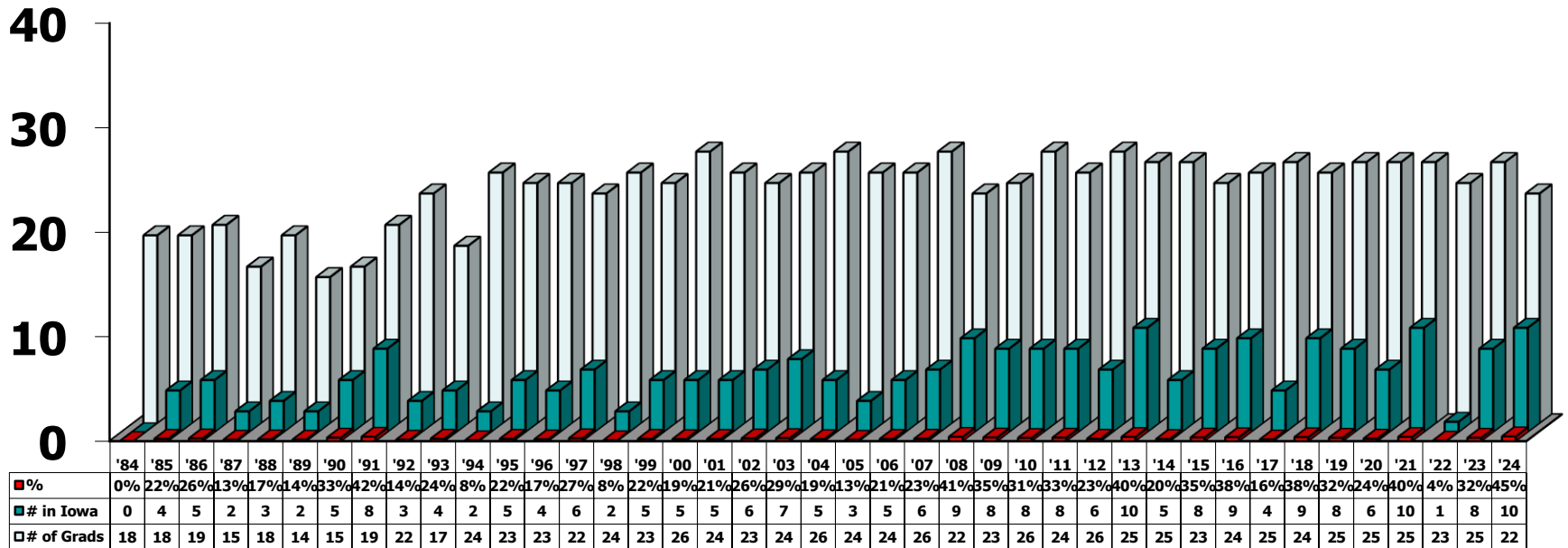
Graduate Classes 1983 – 2024



Annual Average = 23%

UI PA GRADUATES NOW IN IOWA

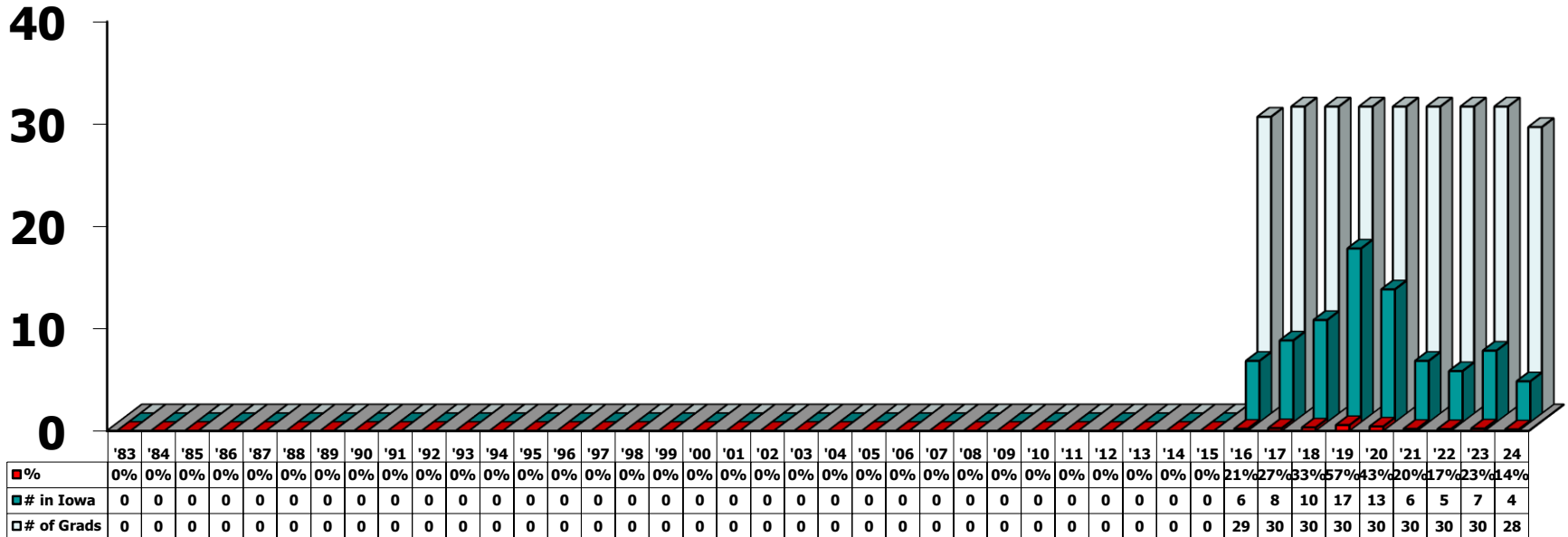
Graduate Classes 1983 – 2024



Annual Average = 24%

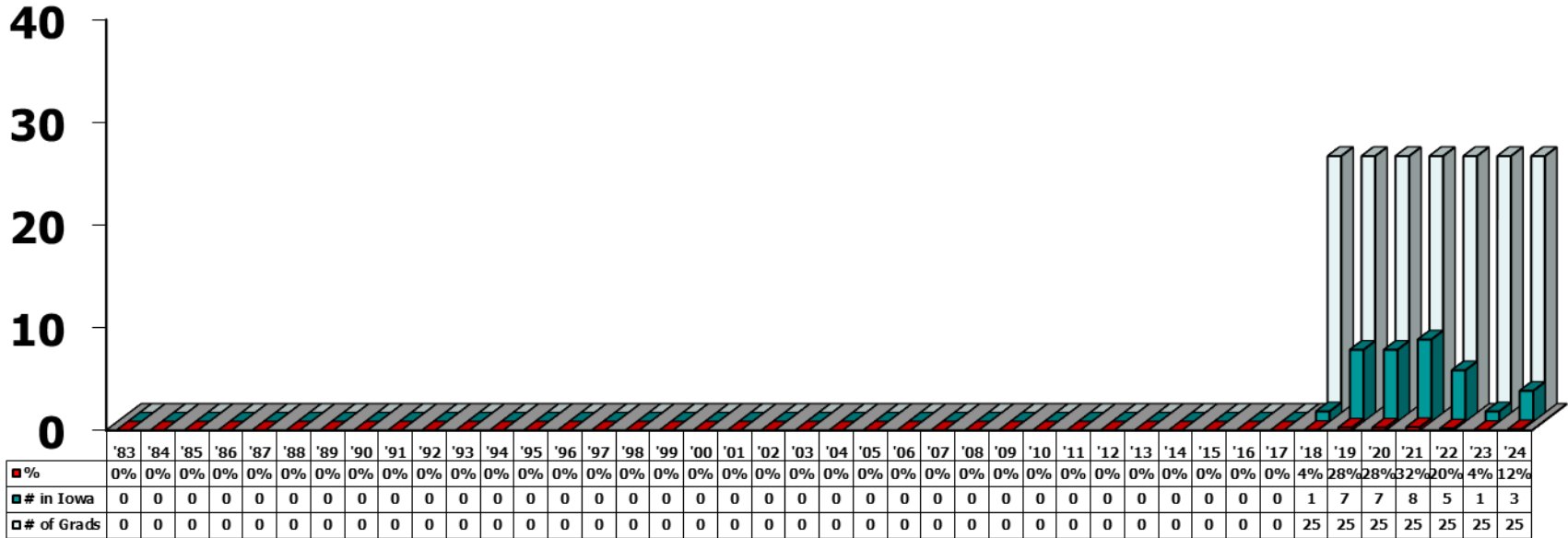
ST. AMBROSE PA GRADUATES NOW IN IOWA

Graduate Classes 2016 - 2024



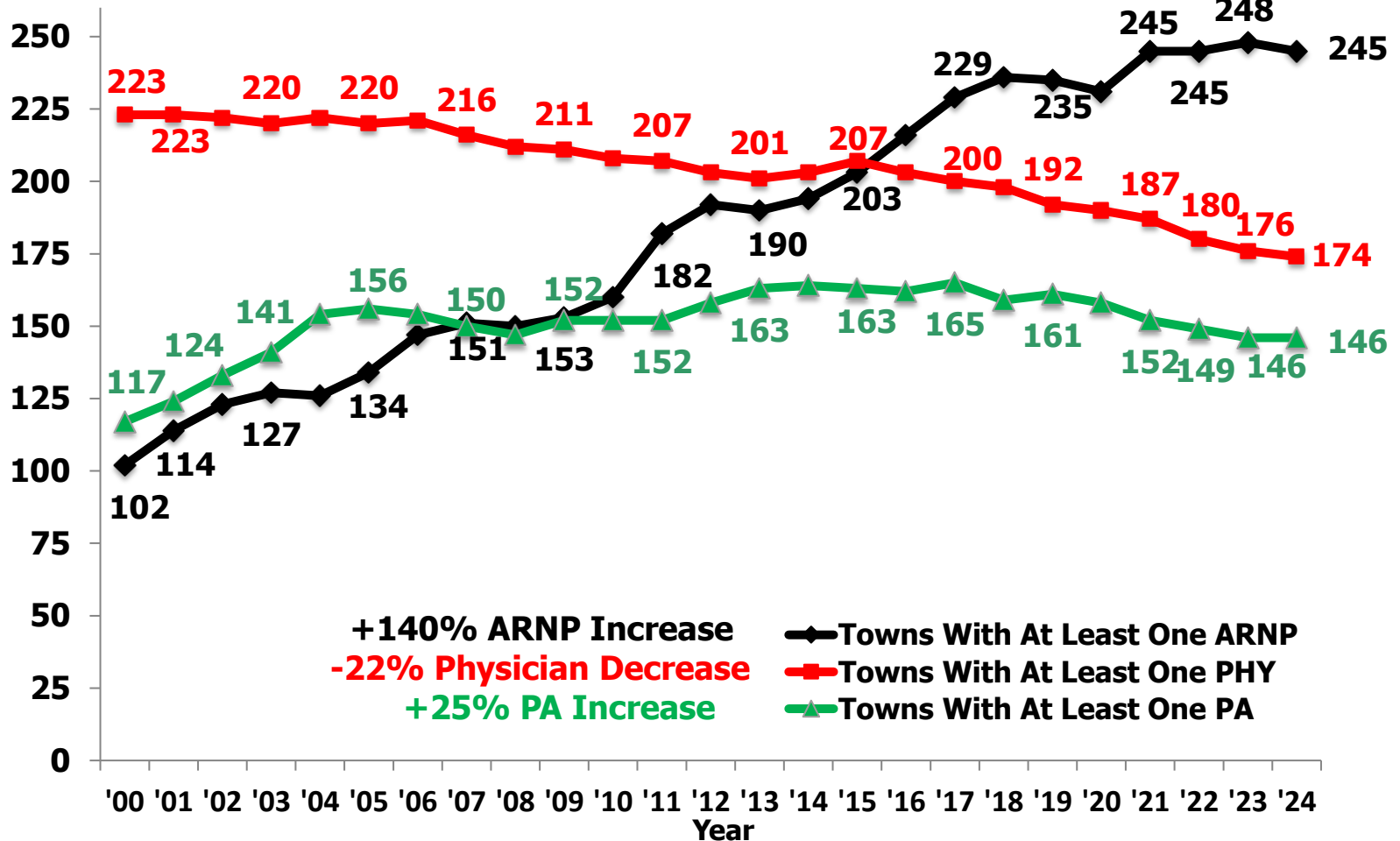
Annual Average = 28%

UNIVERSITY OF DUBUQUE PA GRADUATES NOW IN IOWA Graduate Classes 2018 - 2024



Annual Average = 18%

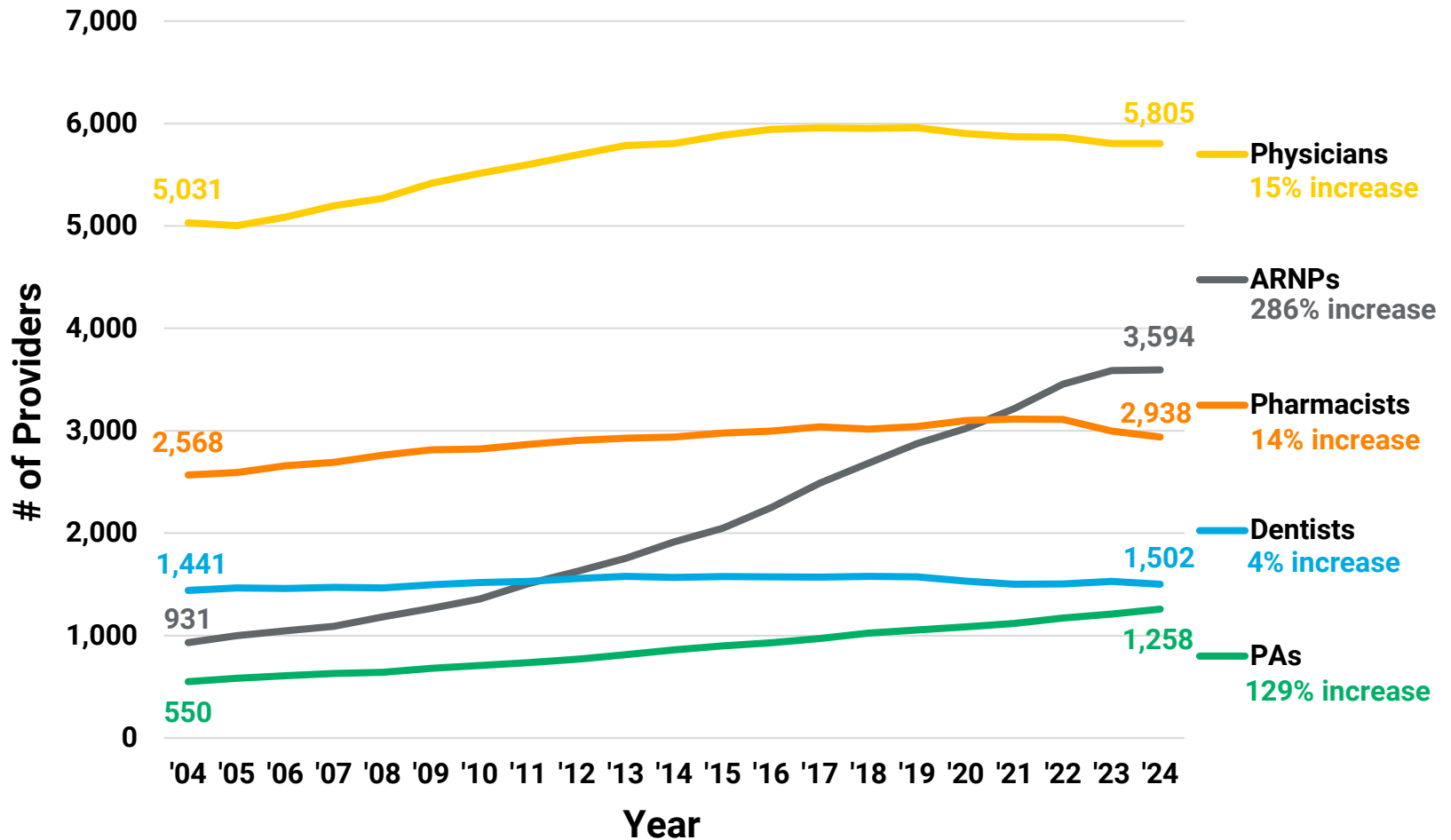
COMMUNITIES WITH PA, ARNP, or PHYSICIAN Family Medicine* 2000 – 2024



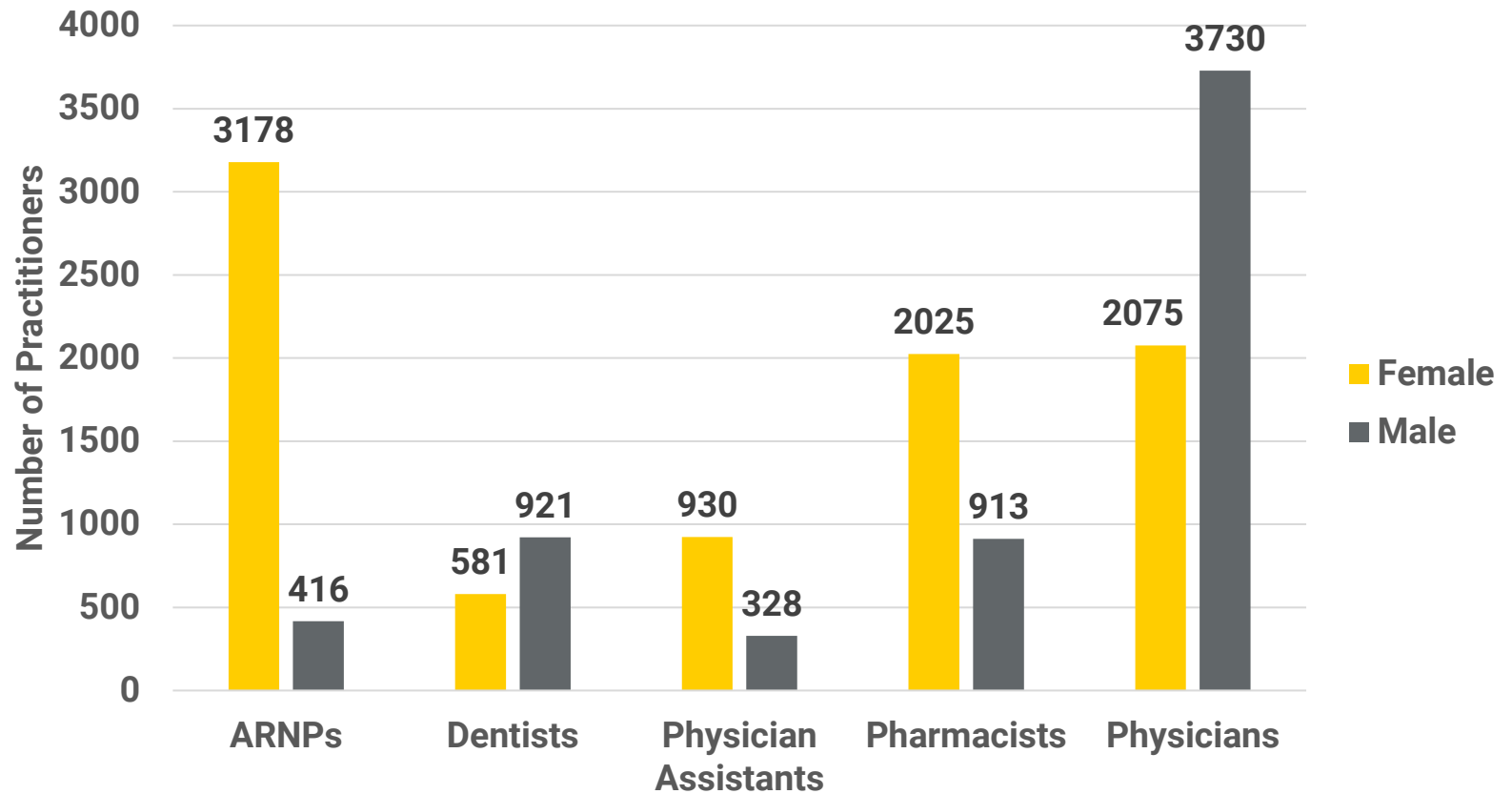
* Family Medicine (000, 005) less activities of administration & hospitalist

2024 Iowa Health Professions Inventory

Composition of Workforce: 2004-2024



Health Professionals Male and Female Distribution – Year 2024



2024 Iowa ARNPs In Summary



**1,258 total
PAs in 2024**



**46%
increase in
last 10 years**



**36% work in
the 88 rural
counties**



**503 total
Primary
Care PA's**