

Board of Physical Therapists and Athletic Trainers

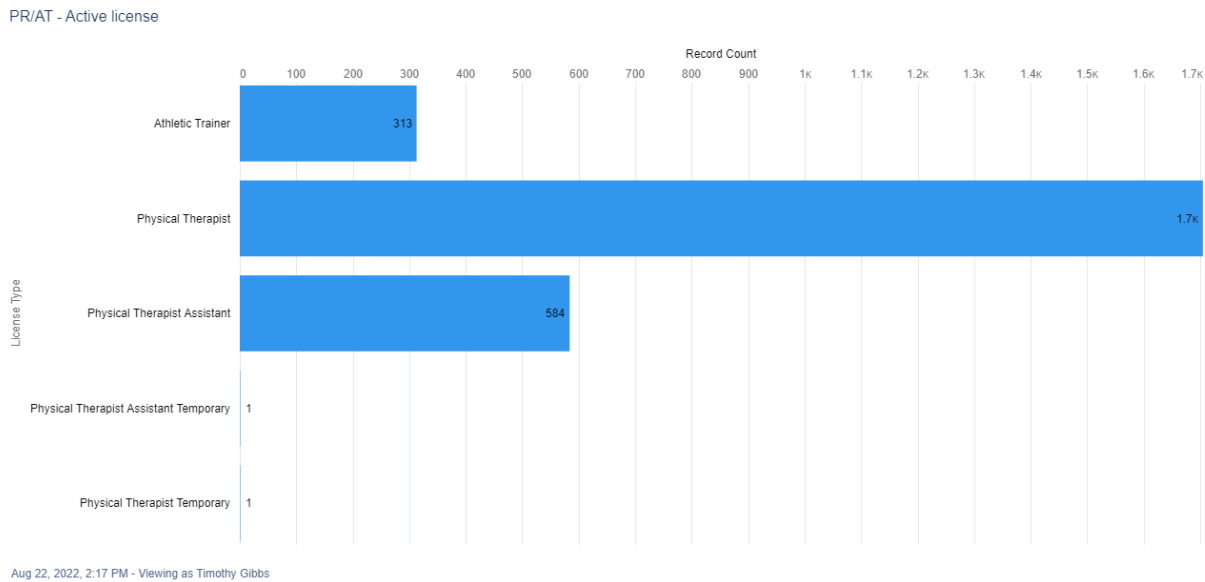
Delaware Health Force Team

The primary objective of the Delaware Examining Board of Physical Therapists and Athletic Trainers is to protect the public from unsafe practices and practices which tend to reduce competition or fix prices for services. The Board must also maintain standards of professional competence and service delivery. To meet these objectives, the Board

- develops standards for professional competency,
- promulgates rules and regulations,
- adjudicates complaints against professionals and, when necessary, imposes disciplinary sanctions.

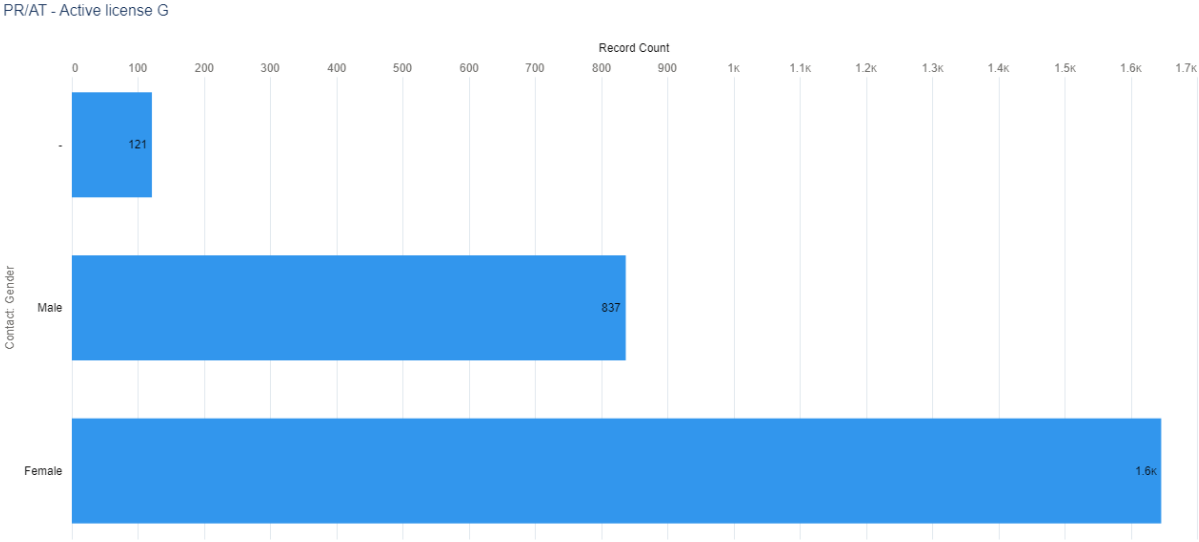
The Board issues licenses to physical therapists, physical therapist assistants and athletic trainers, including temporary licenses (see figures 1-3). The Board’s statutory authority is in [24 Del. C., Chapter 26](#).

Figure 1. Active License Physical Therapists and Athletic Trainers by Type*, N=2,604



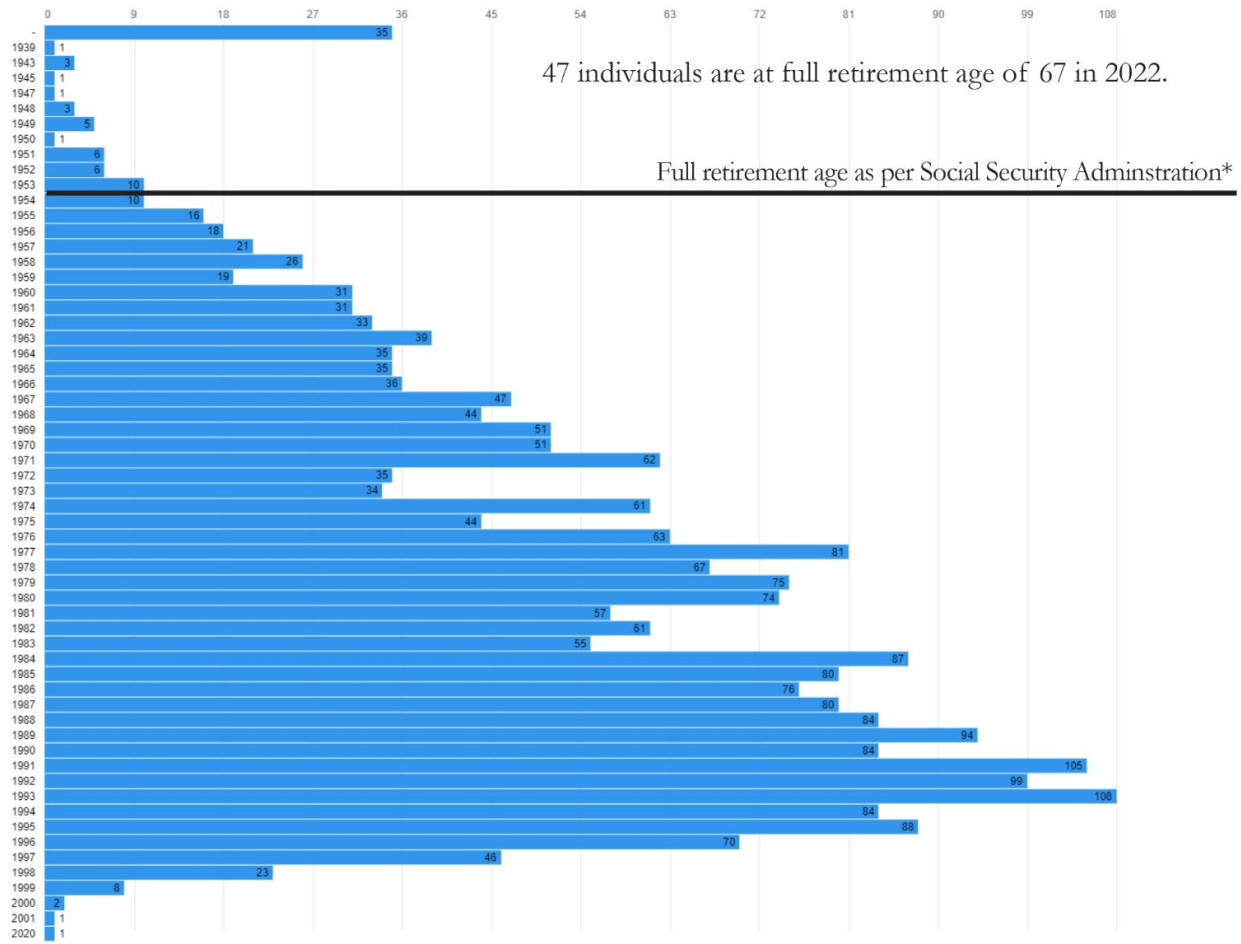
* an active license does not guarantee an individual is actively seeing patients.

Figure 2. Active License Physical Therapists and Athletic Trainers by Gender select license types (when reported)



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Figure 3. Active License Physical Therapists and Athletic Trainers by Birth Year



Note. 35 individuals did not provide a year of birth * According to the Social Security Administration “Full retirement age is the age when you can start receiving your full retirement

benefit amount. The full retirement age is 66 if you were born from 1943 to 1954. The full retirement age increases gradually if you were born from 1955 to 1960, until it reaches 67. For anyone born 1960 or later, full retirement benefits are payable at age 67.”

Athletic Trainer

Athletic trainers work with people of all ages and all skill levels, from young children to soldiers and professional athletes. Athletic trainers (see figures 4 & 5) are usually one of the first healthcare providers on the scene when injuries occur on the field. They work under the direction of a licensed physician and with other healthcare providers, often discussing specific injuries and treatment options or evaluating and treating patients, as directed by a physician. Some athletic trainers meet with a team physician or consulting physician regularly.¹

Figure 4. Numerical Distribution of Active License Athletic Trainers by ZIP code

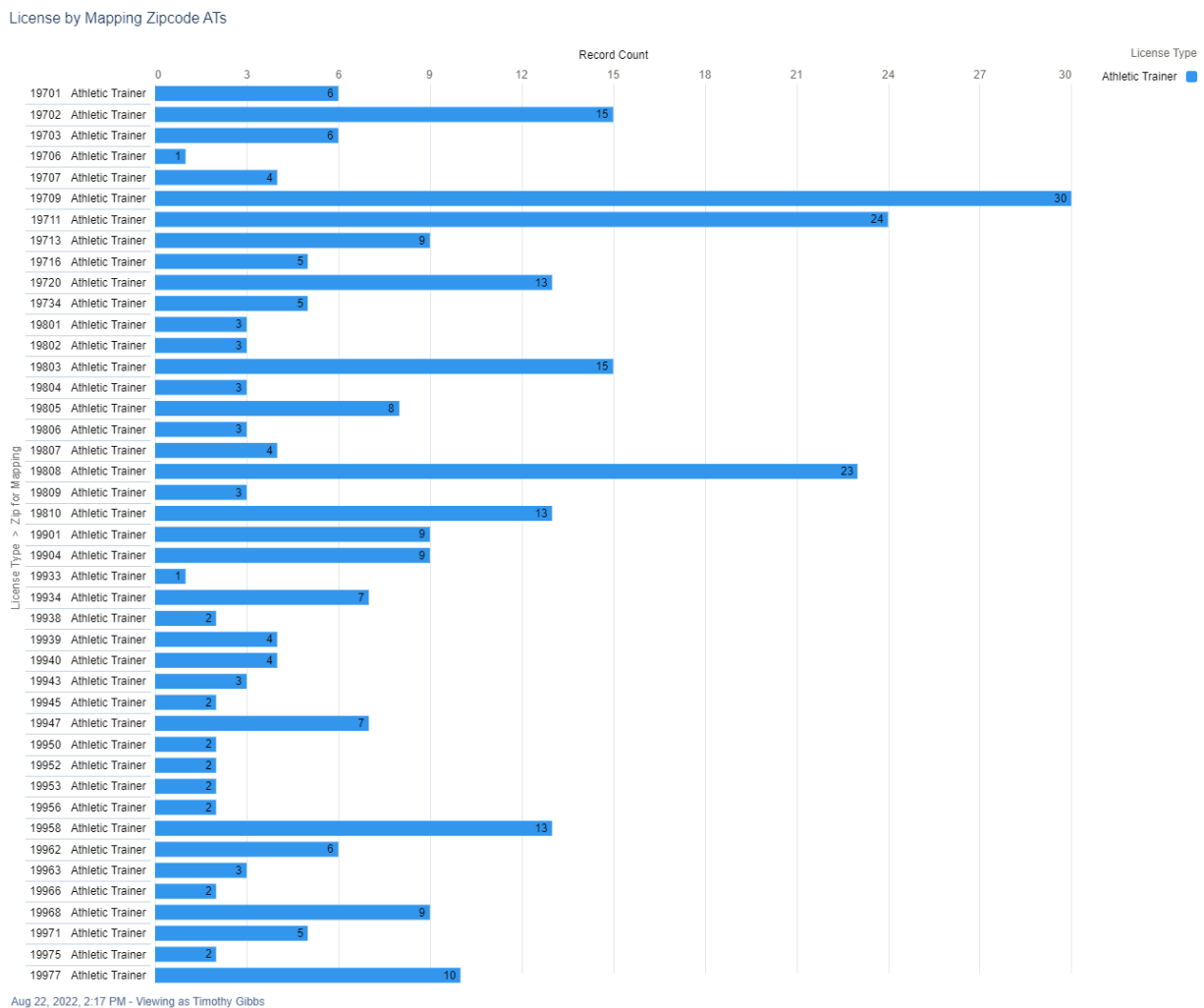
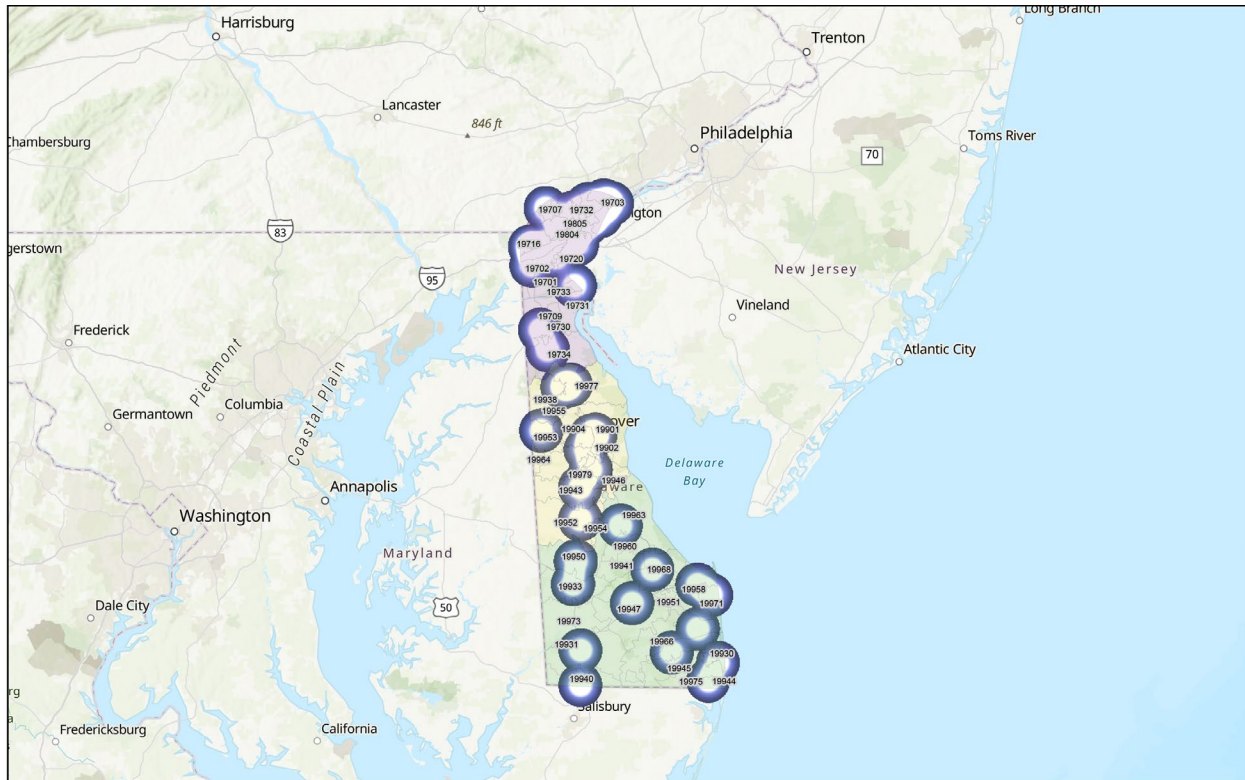


Figure 5 shows most, but not all, ZIP codes due to scaling limitations. Hot spots are employed to bring perspective to viewing the overall map and distribution of healthcare professionals and should not be interpreted as valuing value without referring to the numbers listed in the chart above.

Figure 5. Visual Distribution of Active License Athletic Trainers by ZIP code



Physical Therapist (and Temporary)

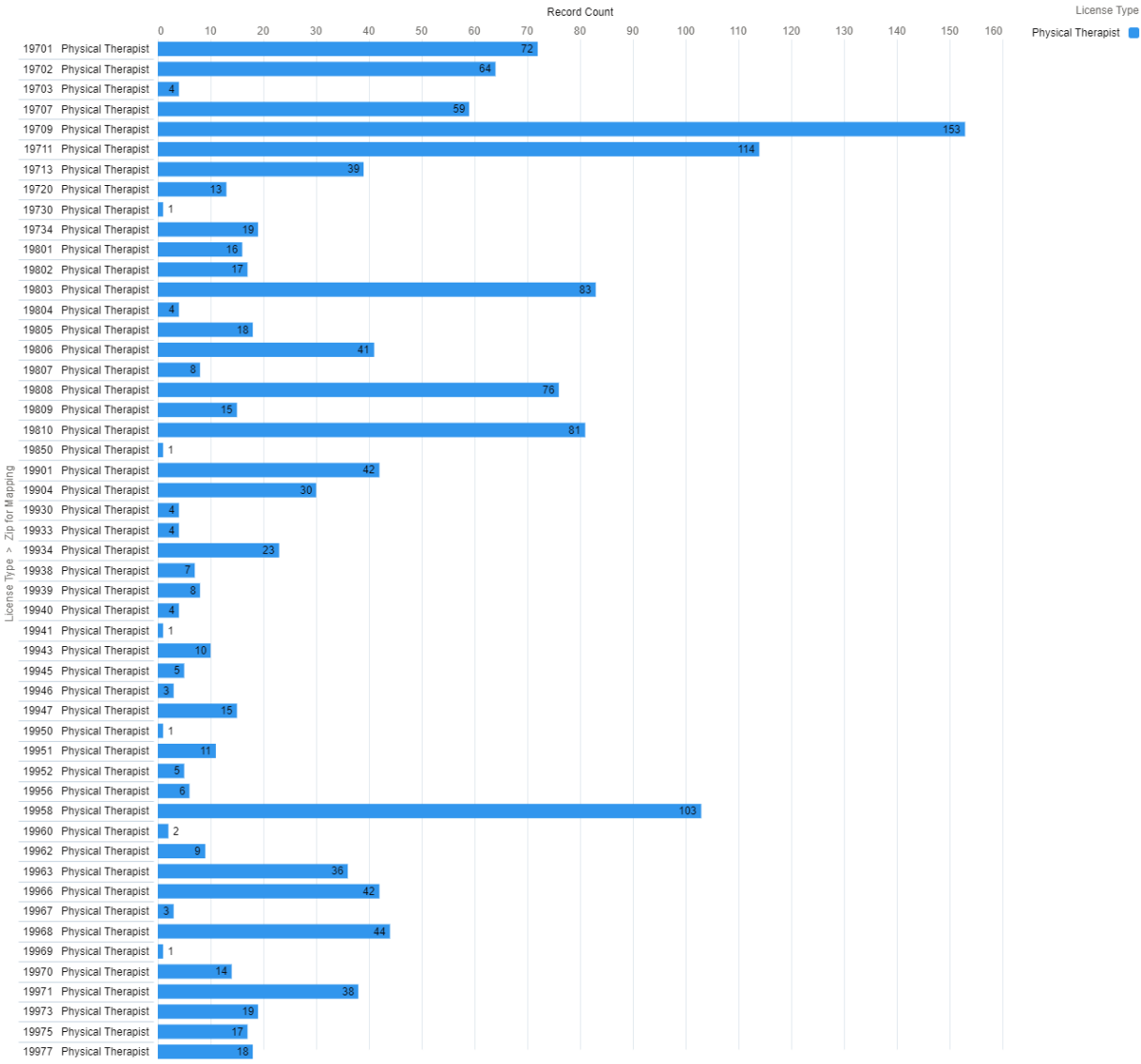
Physical therapists (see figures 6 & 7), sometimes called PTs, care for people of all ages who have functional problems resulting from back and neck injuries; sprains, strains, and fractures; arthritis; amputations; neurological disorders, such as stroke or cerebral palsy; injuries related to work and sports; and other conditions. Physical therapists use a variety of techniques to care for their patients. These techniques include exercises; training in functional movement, which may include the use of equipment such as canes, crutches, wheelchairs, and walkers; and special movements of joints, muscles, and other soft tissue to improve mobility and decrease pain.²

Physical Therapy Assistant (and Temporary)

Physical therapist assistants, sometimes called PTAs, and physical therapist aides work under the direction and supervision of physical therapists. They help patients who are recovering from injuries and illnesses to regain movement and manage pain. Physical therapist assistants are involved in the direct care of patients. Physical therapist aides often have tasks that are indirectly related to patient care, such as cleaning and setting up the treatment area, moving patients, and doing clerical duties.³

Figure 6. Numerical Distribution of Active License Physical Therapists by ZIP code

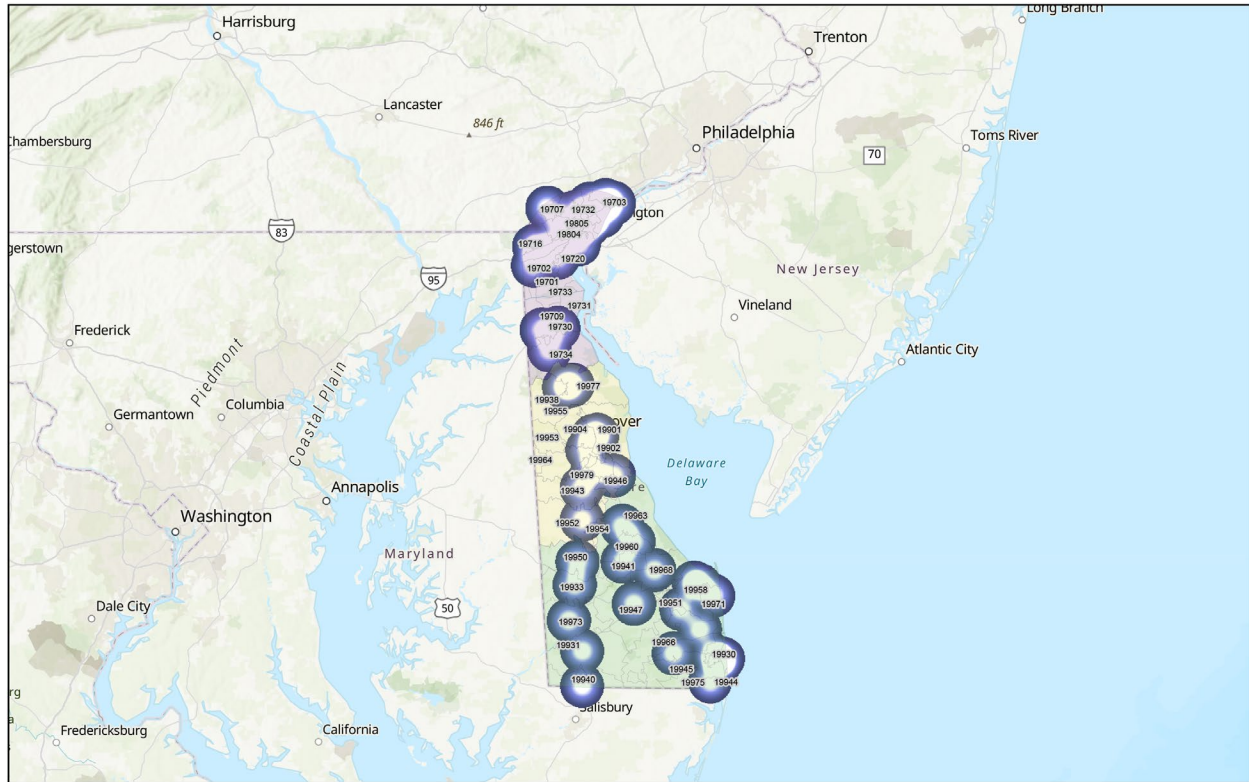
License by Mapping Zipcode PTs



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Figure 7 shows most, but not all, ZIP codes due to scaling limitations. Hot spots are employed to bring perspective to viewing the overall map and distribution of healthcare professionals and should not be interpreted as valuing value without referring to the numbers listed in the chart above.

Figure 7. Visual Distribution of Active License Physical Therapists by ZIP code



References

1. US Bureau of Labor Statistics. (2022, Aug). What athletic trainers do. Occupational Outlook Handbook Retrieved from: <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/athletic-trainers.htm#tab-2>
2. US Bureau of Labor Statistics. (2022, Aug). What physical therapists do. Occupational Outlook Handbook Retrieved from: <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/physical-therapists.htm#tab-2>
3. US Bureau of Labor Statistics. (2022, Aug). What physical therapist assistants and aides do. Occupational Outlook Handbook Retrieved from: <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/physical-therapist-assistants-and-aides.htm#tab-2>

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