



American
Occupational Therapy
Association

Academic Leadership Councils

April 18, 2023

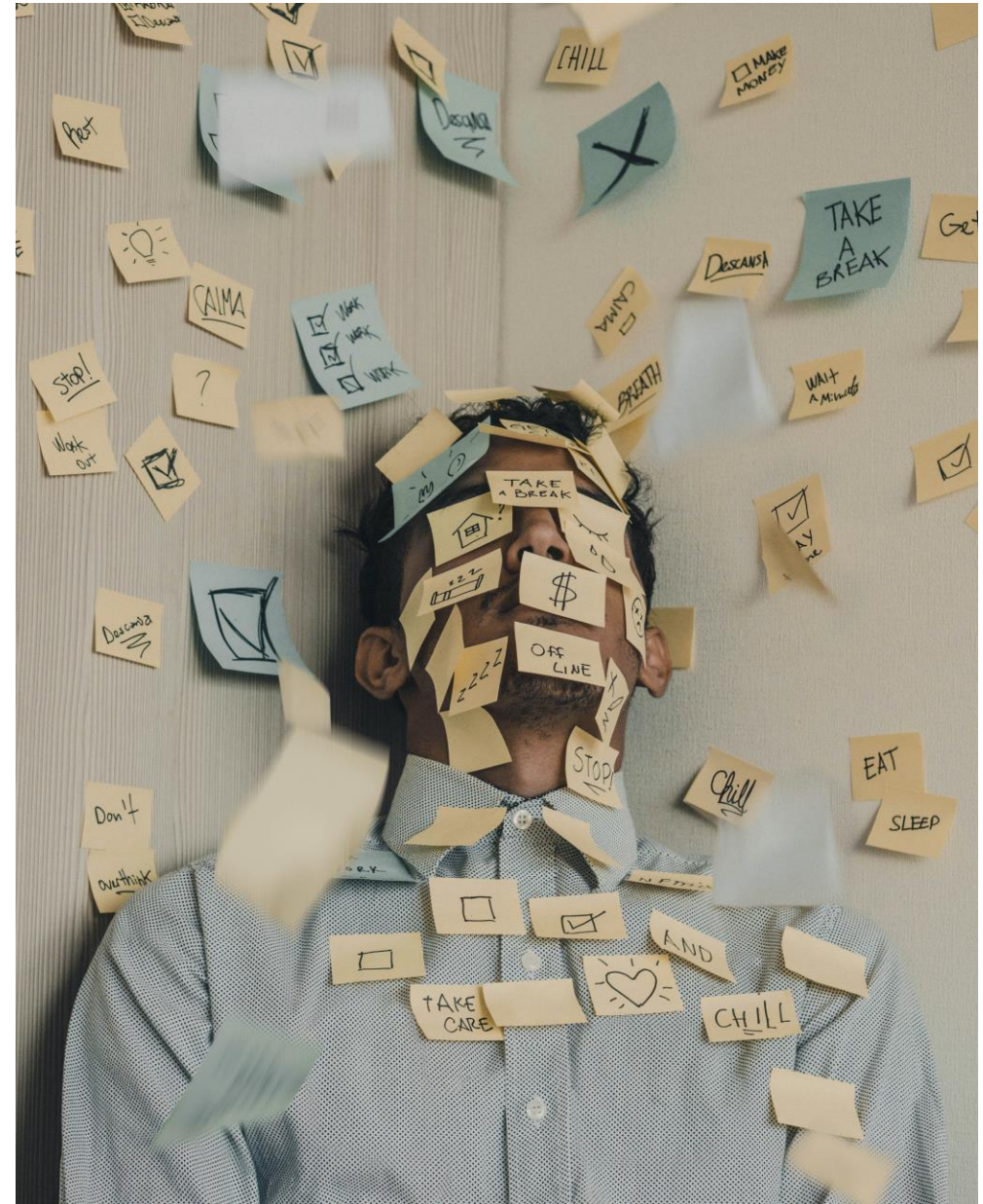
Neil Harvison, PhD, OTR, FNAP, FAOTA



Objectives

- Provide an overview of **national trends in applicants and enrollments in higher education.**
- Provide an overview of **national trends in applicants and enrollments in OTA and OT** entry level programs.
- Understand some of the **factors determining the variation in impact** on different programs.

Declining Enrollment



Big Picture



Declining undergraduate enrollment nationally

GREATEST decline in community college sector

Up until this year graduate enrollment was the only growth sector


Up until this year health programs had higher enrollment

Big Picture

Struggling
undergraduate
numbers

Rapid increase
in new health
(OT/OTA)
programs

Biggest growth
at graduate
(OT) level



2022-23 OTA / OT Data

Applications and Applicants

Applications

Reported in annual data survey and reflects total number of applications received across the country.

Applicants

Only available in CAS system for OT programs. Number of individuals who averaged 3-4 applications each in 2022.



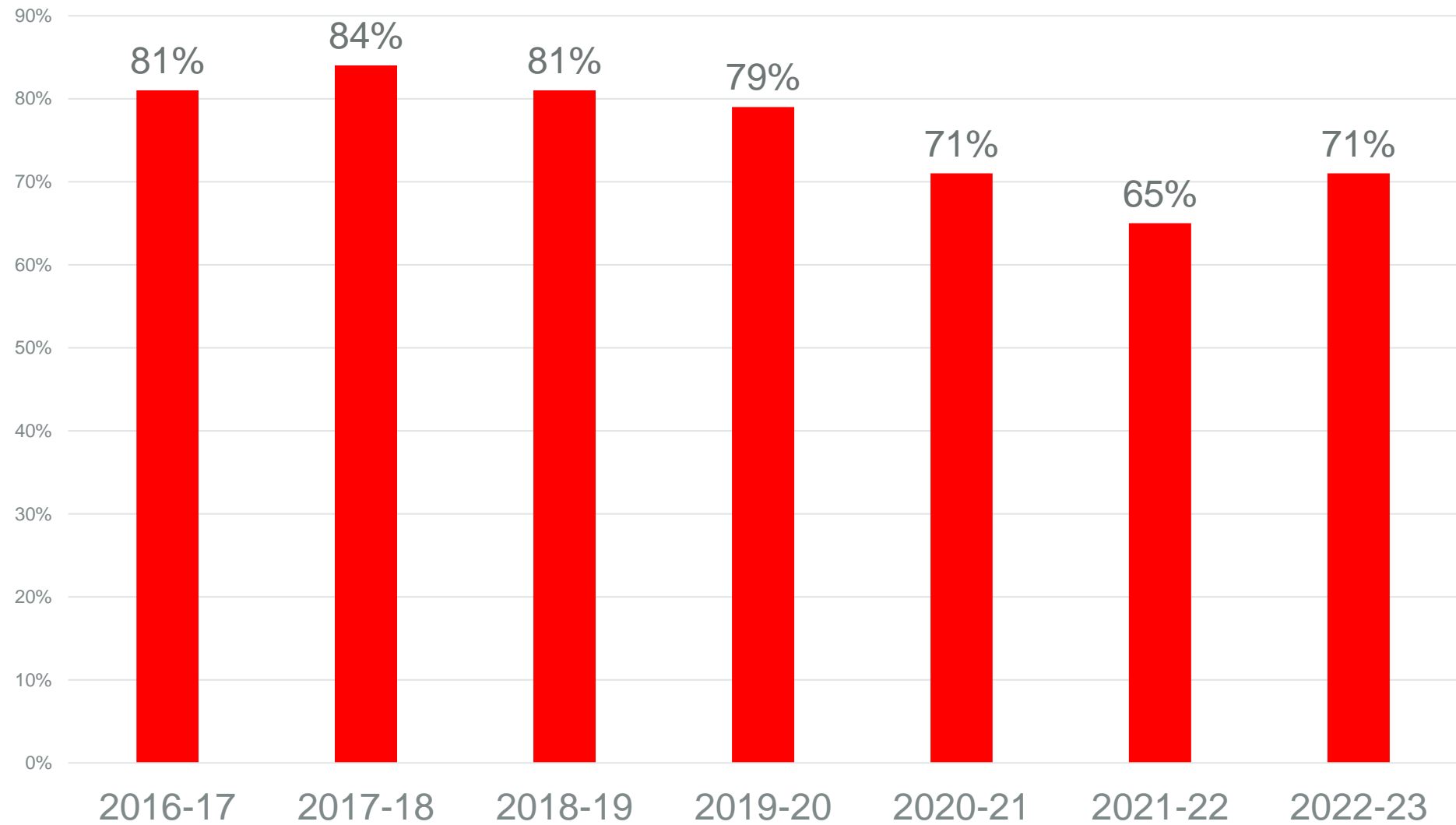
OTA

OTA –Application Data.

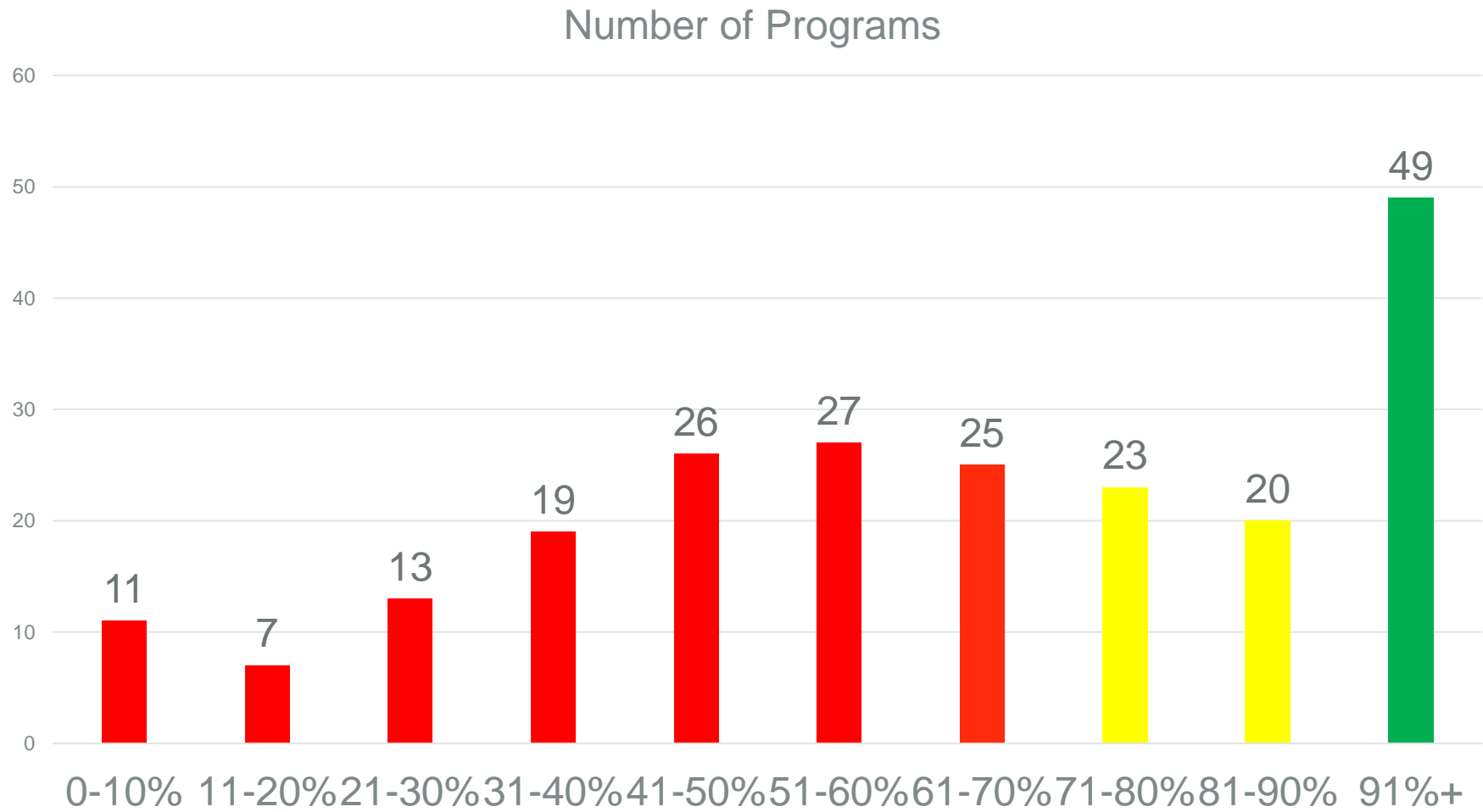
.

SEATS	APPLICATIONS	ADMITTED	% SEATS FILLED
7,217	9,894	5,135	71%

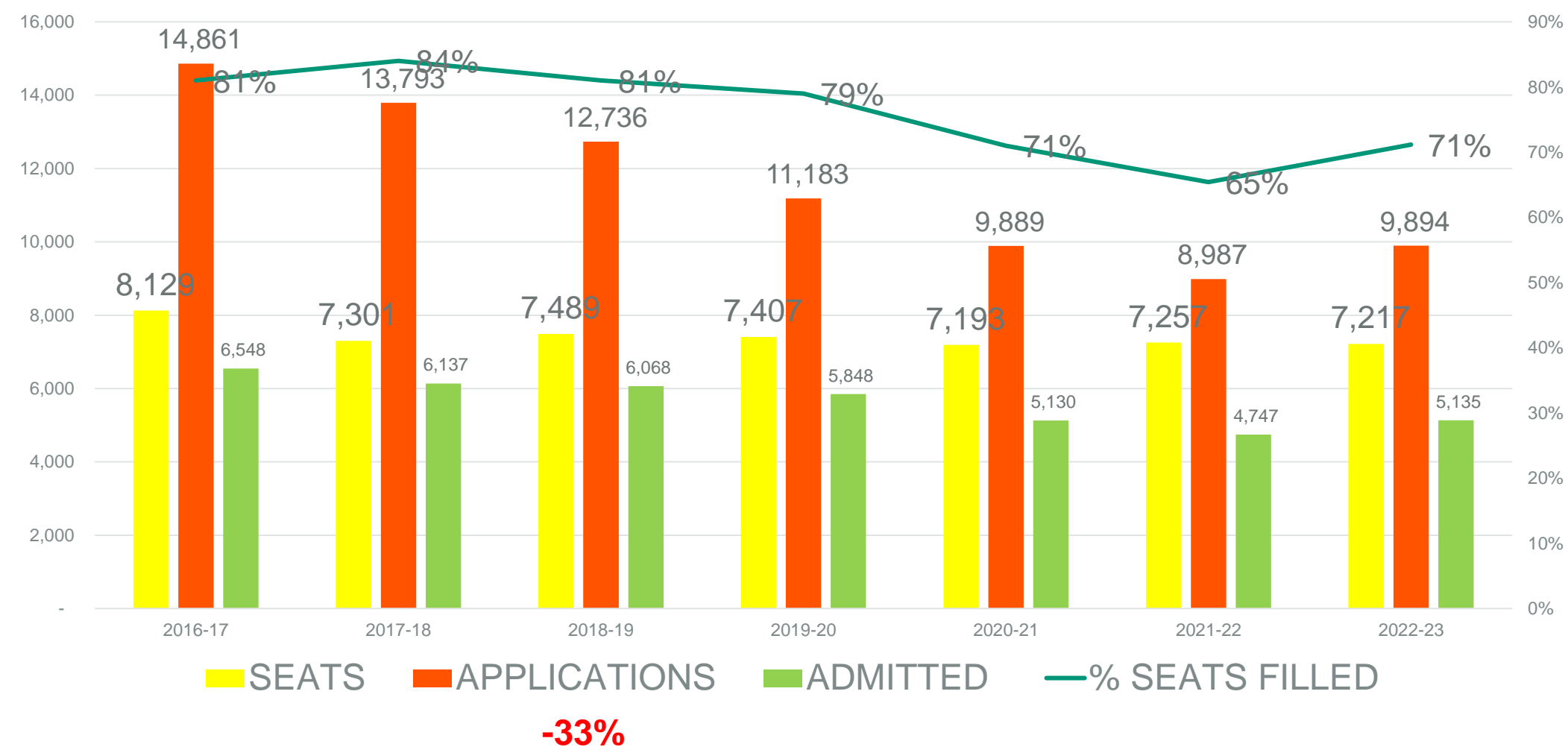
OTA - % of Seats Filled



OTA - % of Seats Filled



Trend data



A group of diverse young people are sitting outdoors, smiling and laughing. The image is split by a diagonal line. On the left, a Black man in a grey hoodie and a white woman in a grey sweater are visible. On the right, a Black woman in a blue sweater and a white woman in a light green jacket are visible. A large, bold, purple 'OT' is overlaid on the right side of the image.

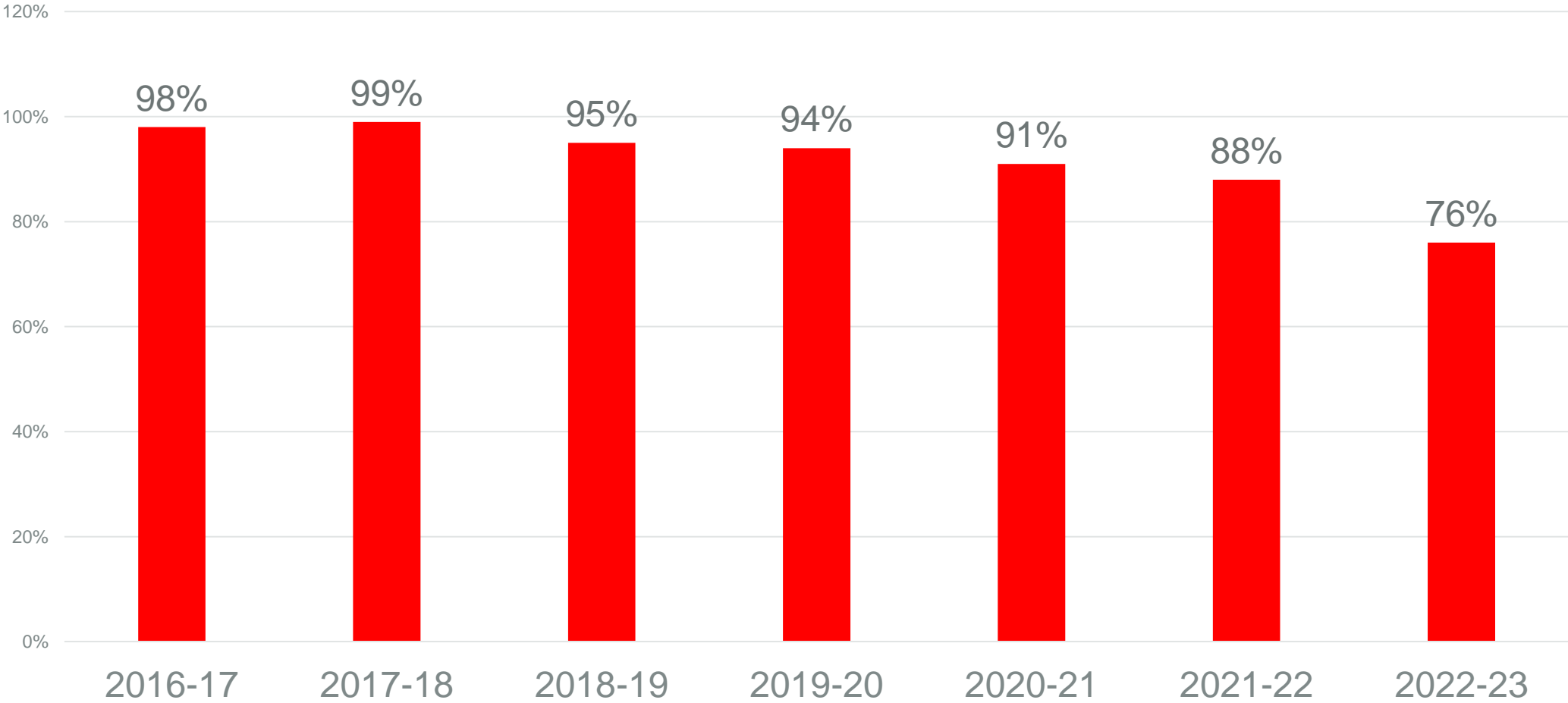
OT

OT – Application Data

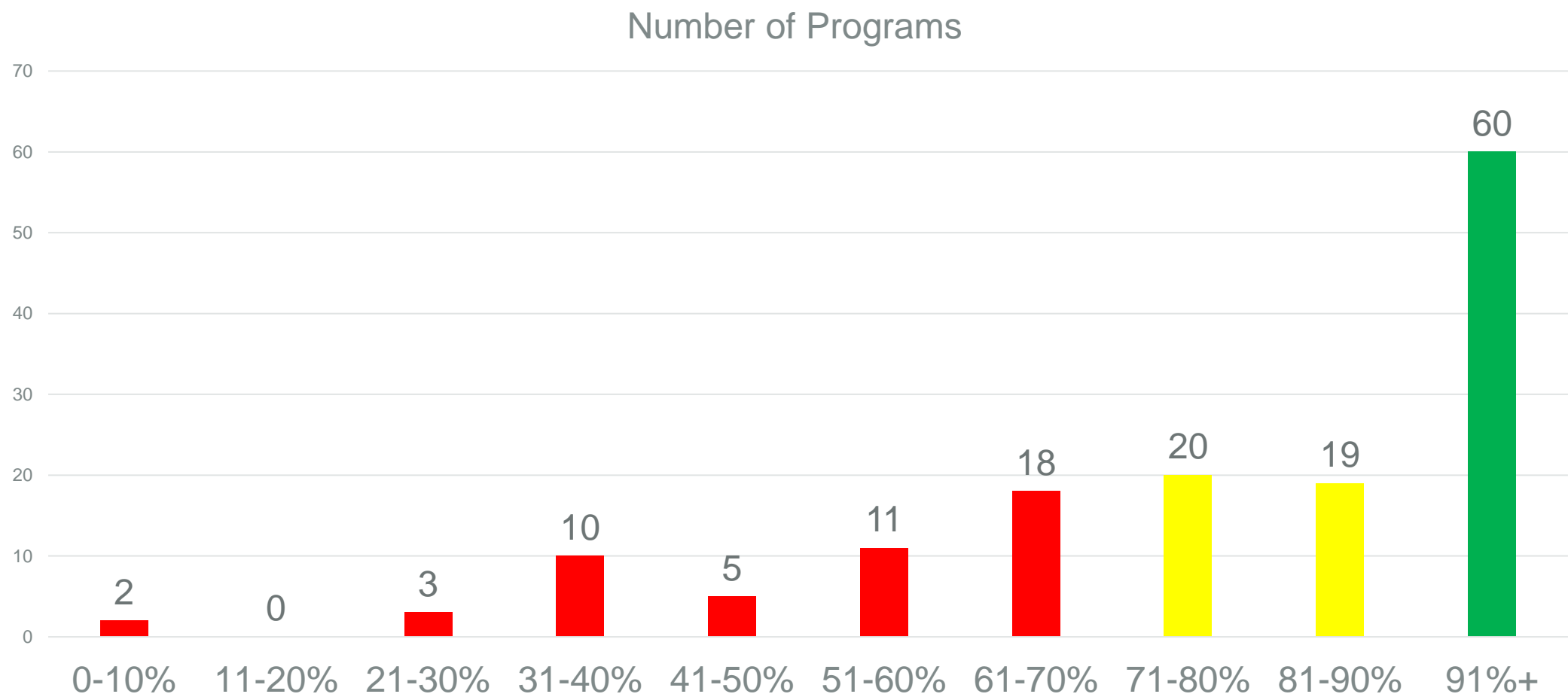
Masters Degree Level

SEATS	APPLICATIONS	ADMITTED	% SEATS FILLED
6,794	18,674	5,182	76%

Masters- % of Seats Filled



Masters- % of Seats Filled

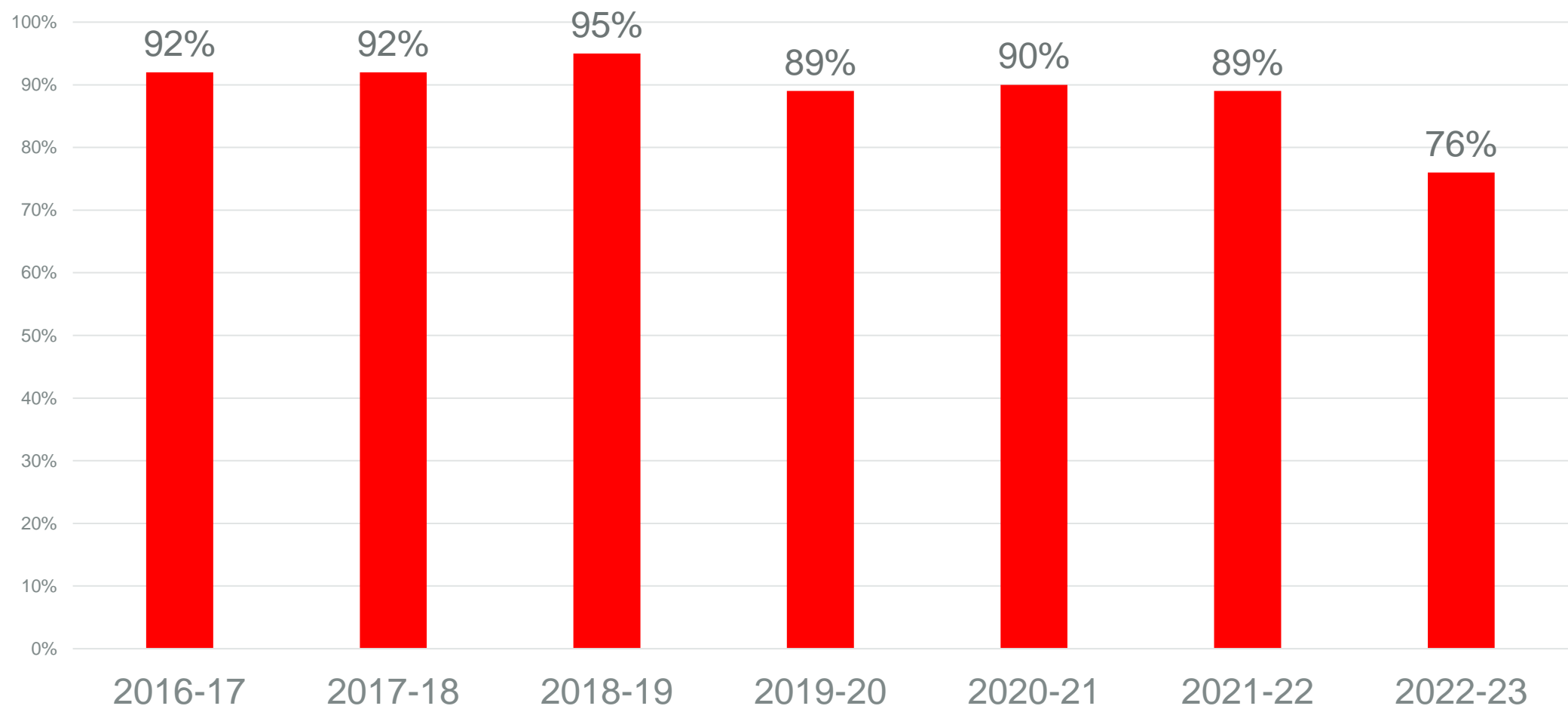


OT – Application Data

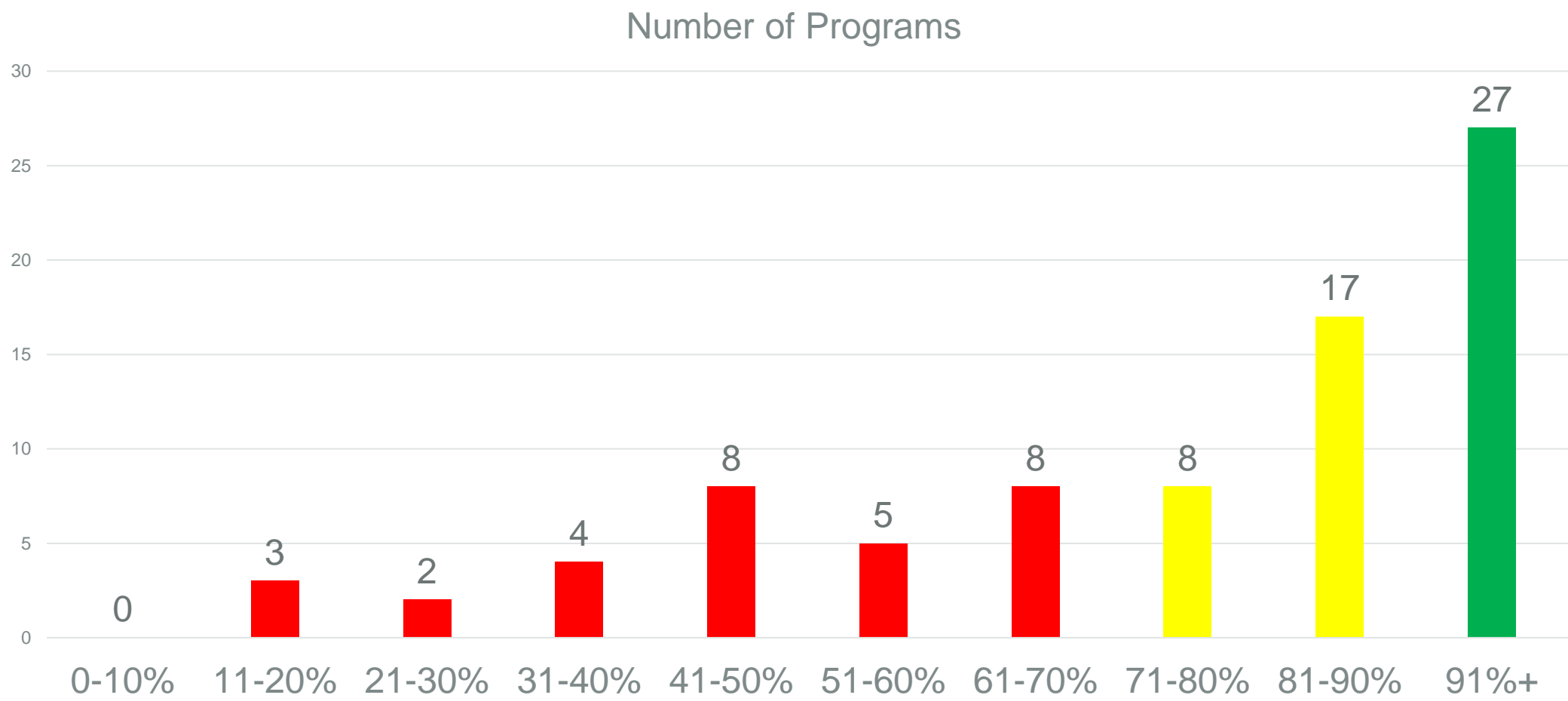
Doctoral Degree Level

SEATS	APPLICATIONS	ADMITTED	% SEATS FILLED
3,698	11,991	2,800	76%

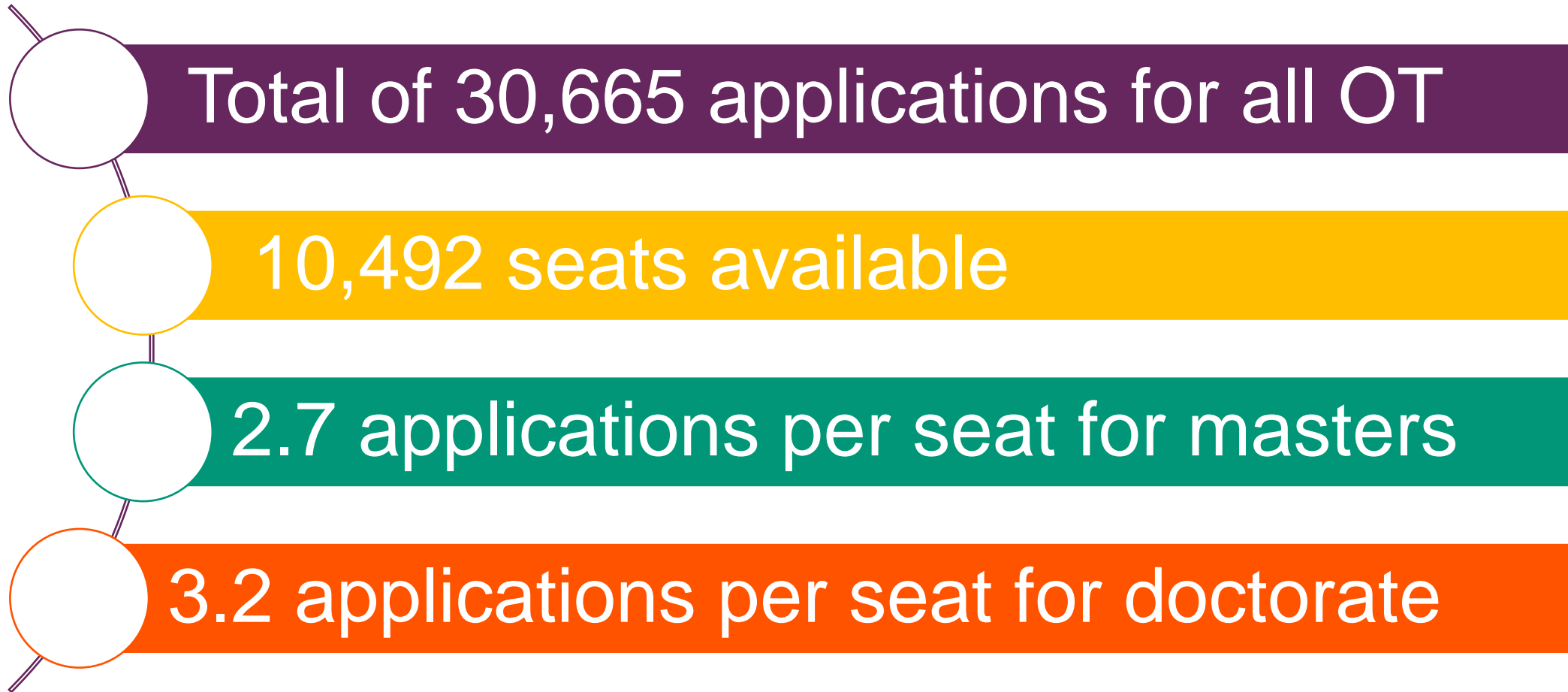
Doctoral- % Seats Filled



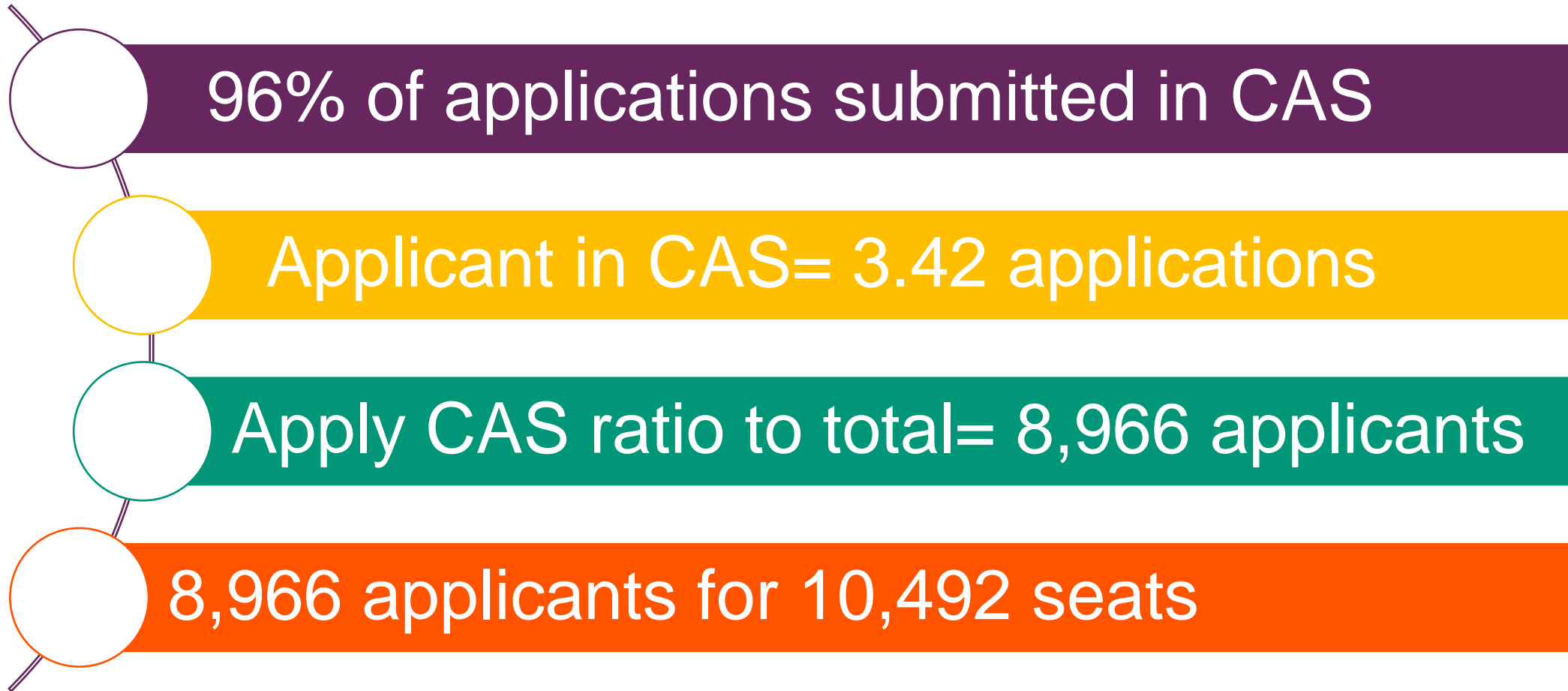
Doctoral- % Seats Filled



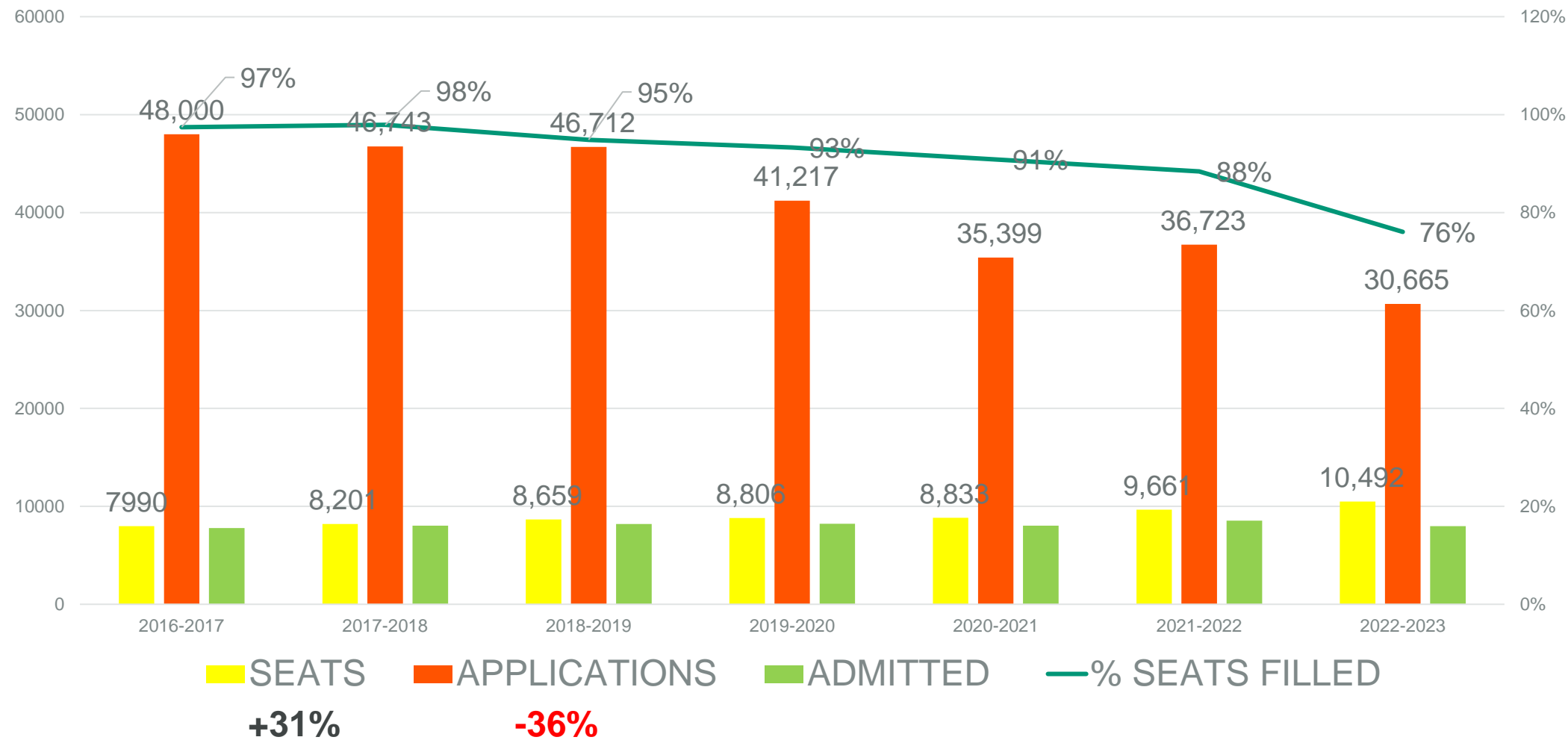
Big Picture



Big Picture



Trend data...





Next steps

The full picture...

- A recorded webinar with a further breakdown of the data using variables including:
 - Region
 - Host institution mission
 - How long the programs has been established
 - Delivery models
 - Etc....
- The webinar will be shared on the ALC resource page of the AOTA website.

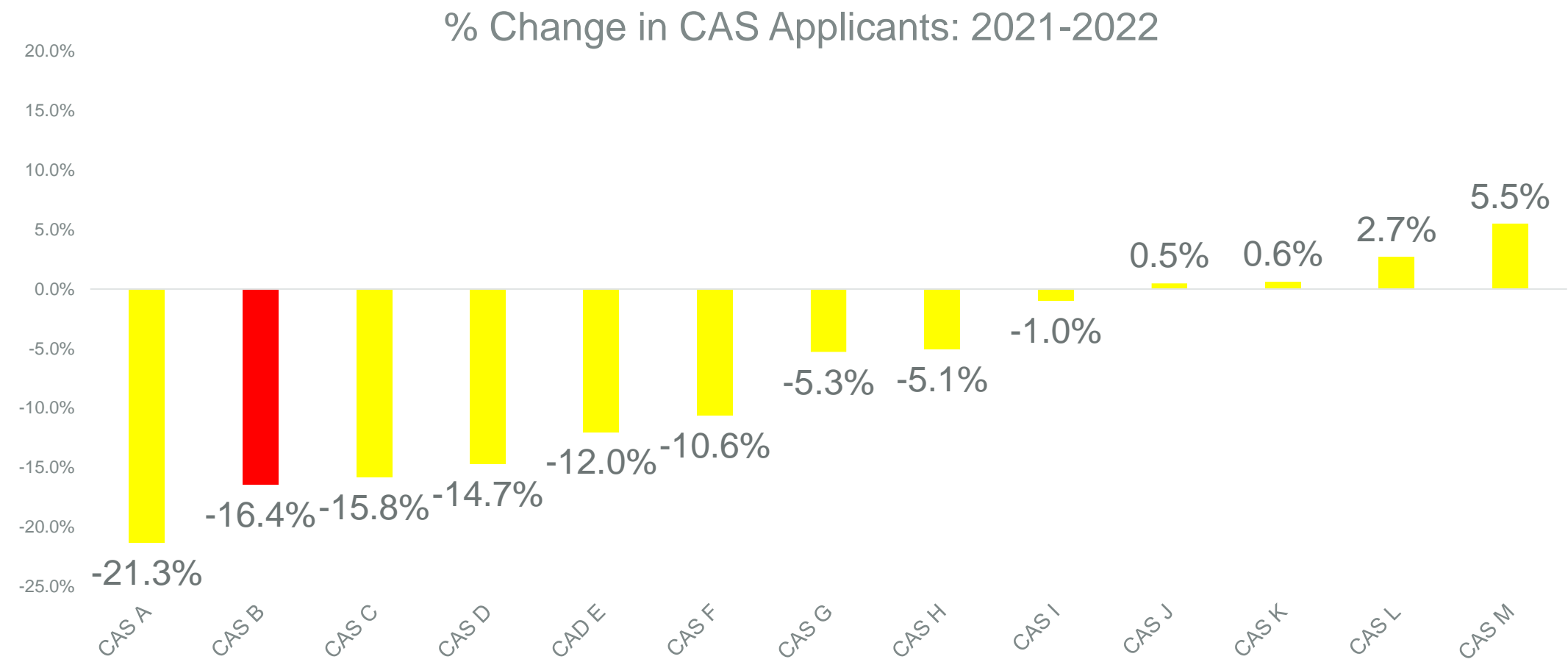
A group of diverse young women are sitting outdoors, laughing and talking. The image is split into two parts by a diagonal line. The left part shows three women in a close embrace, laughing. The right part shows a woman in a wheelchair laughing, with another woman standing next to her. The background is a bright, sunny outdoor setting with trees and a building.

A comparison

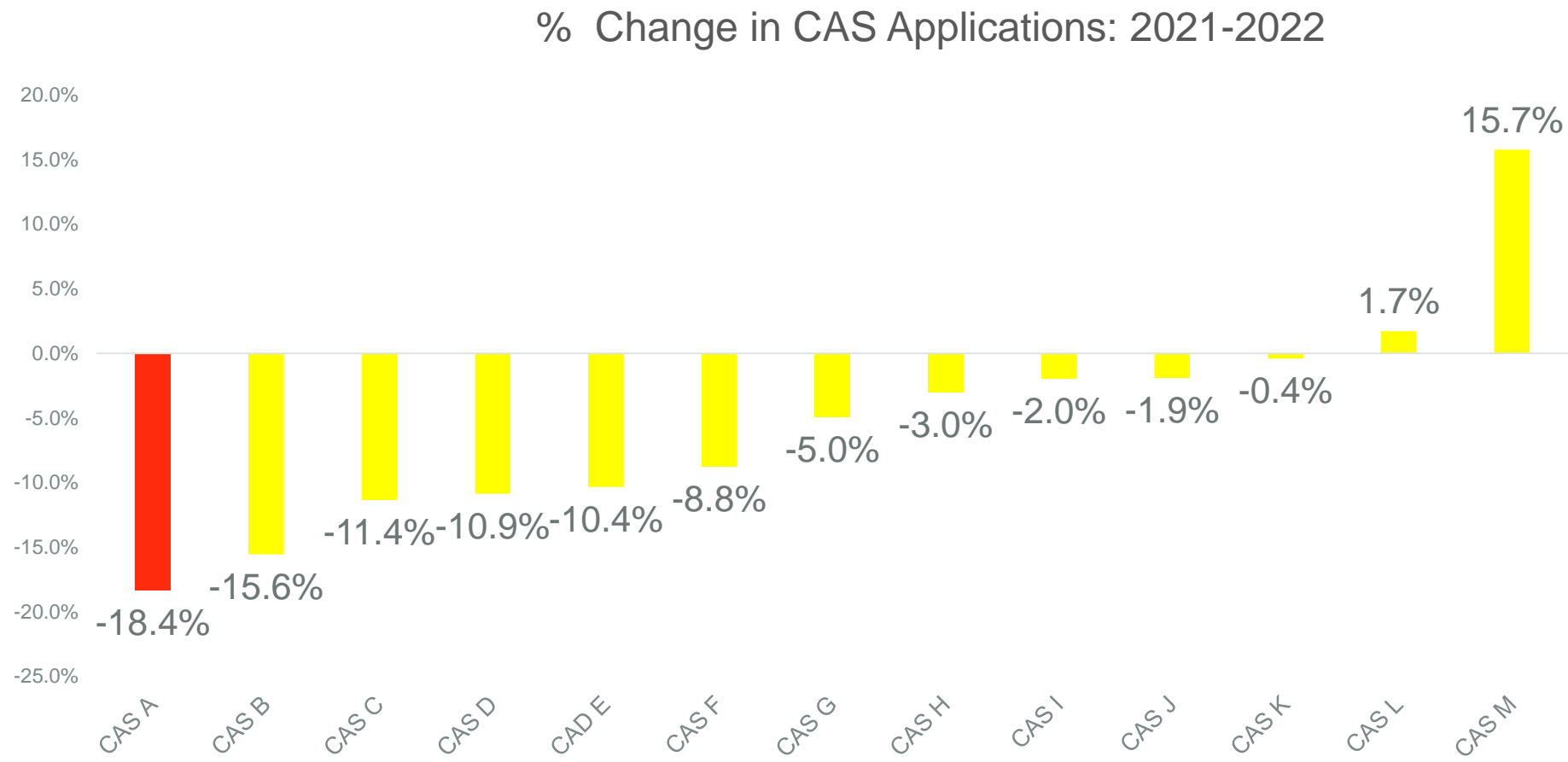
CAS Systems

- Allopathic Medicine
- Communication Disorders
- Dentistry
- Occupational Therapy
- Optometry
- Osteopathic Medicine
- Pharmacy
- Pharmacy
- Physical Therapy
- Physician Assistant
- Podiatry
- Psychology
- Public Health
- Veterinary Medicine

Health Professions: CAS 2021-22



Health Professions: CAS 2021-22





Demand for OT

Demand for OT



Trends in Medicare Part B therapy services from 2009-2021

Number of beneficiaries accessing therapy services increased by 31%

For OT the number of beneficiaries increased by 48%

Compared to 28% for PT and 14% for SLP



Thank you!



American
Occupational Therapy
Association