



MINUTES

The Board of Trustees of the Public Employees Retirement Association met in a regular session in the Association offices, 60 Empire Drive, Room 117, Saint Paul, Minnesota, on Thursday, February 12, 2026, at 9:30 a.m., with notice given three days prior thereto by the Secretary.

The following members were present:

Thomas Stanley, President

Julie Blaha/Ramona Advani (Remote)
Paul Bourgeois
Denny Flaherty
Paul Ford

Barbara Johnson
Jenni Konigsburg
David Minke

Constituting quorum.

Excused: Thomas Thornberg

Attorney General Representative: Frank Langan

Staff members present: Doug Anderson, Executive Director; Amy Streng, Legislative Policy Coordinator; Don Haller, Chief Operations Officer; Mark Sauceman, Chief Information Officer; Tracy Gebhard, Chief Financial Officer; Heather Schoenberger, Account Information Management Manager; Patty Heminover, Human Resources Director; Susanne Franklin, Accounting Director; Gladys Rodriguez, Executive Assistant.

Others present: Wade Laszlo, Minnesota Correctional Officer Retirement Association; Harry Grigsby, State AFL/CIO Retiree Council; Owen Wirth, League of MN Cities; Bonnie Wurst, Gabriel, Roeder, Smith & Company; Sherri Christensen, Gabriel, Roeder, Smith & Company; Alex Hassel, Lockridge Grindal Nauen, PLLP; Mike LeDoux, Law Enforcement Labor Services; Holly Dayton, Teachers Retirement Association; Peter Marincel, Education Minnesota PERA; Nathan Jesson, Minnesota Inter-County Association; Matt Hilgart, Association of Minnesota Counties.

1. Call to Order

President Stanley called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. The meeting was held in person and remotely via interactive technology as permitted in Minnesota Statutes Section 13D.015. Roll call was taken to establish quorum.

Johnson moved to adopt the agenda. The motion was seconded by Minke and passed unanimously by roll call vote.

The agenda was taken in the following order.

2. Approval of Consent Calendar

- December 11, 2025, Regular Board Meeting Minutes
- Operational Data Report

Ford moved to approve the Consent Calendar as presented. The motion was seconded by Konigsburg and passed unanimously by roll call vote.

Konigsburg complimented the legislative agenda section in the minutes, noting that it was well-written, particularly regarding the updates on the Minnesota Paid Leave changes. She also acknowledged the operations data report, expressing satisfaction with the performance of employer programs from January through March. She commended the staff for offering a session on the impact of the new Paid Family and Medical Leave.

3. Building Security Assessment Update

Flaherty provided an update on the building security assessment. Following a prior Facilities Management Committee (FMC) discussion, a subcommittee was authorized to hire a firm to conduct a security audit in the building. A state required RFP process was conducted, resulting in seven proposals. The subcommittee, including a representative from each of the pension funds, reviewed and scored the proposals. Flaherty recused himself from evaluating one of the proposals due to a prior professional relationship with one of the respondents. The list was narrowed to three finalists, who were interviewed, and The Axtell Group of Saint Paul was selected.

The building assessment led by Todd Axtell, focuses on the building's lower level, points of entry and exit, and visitor movement throughout the building. The consultant will meet with executive directors to discuss any individual office needs. Any additional work within each suite will be funded by the respective plan, while the primary audit cost for the building will be covered by the building's budget. Work is underway, with a report expected in March, after which recommendations will be presented to the Board.

4. Approval of Executive Director Search Firm Request for Proposals

Reference was made to a memo from Doug Anderson dated February 12, 2026, the Draft Request for Proposal, and the RFP draft timeline.

Director Anderson informed the Board at its December meeting of his intention to retire. The Board proceeded to form a subcommittee to initiate a search for a new Executive Director. The subcommittee consists of Trustees Stanley, Flaherty, Konigsburg, and Minke.

Trustee Stanley reported that the subcommittee met by phone in January and agreed to recommend that the Board hire an executive search firm to assist with the recruitment process. The committee recommends issuing an RFP in accordance with standard State contracting procedures, reviewing and scoring the proposals, and then presenting the selected finalist to the Board for approval.

Heminover, PERA HR Director, addressed the Board to outline the RFP process and proposed timeline.

Following discussion, Johnson moved that the PERA Board of Trustees approves the use of an executive search firm to assist the Board in identifying potential candidates to serve as PERA's next executive director. PERA staff and the Executive Director search subcommittee will work with the State to issue an Executive Director search Request for Proposals (RFP), similar in form and content to the draft RFP provided to the Board, in accordance with State contracting procedures. The Executive Director search subcommittee will work with the appropriate PERA and/or State personnel to evaluate and score the responses to the RFP, select an appropriate vendor, work with the vendor on the Executive Director search, evaluate candidates, and identify the top candidate(s) to present to the Board for further deliberations and/or interviews. The Board will appoint an Executive Director on the basis of education, experience in the retirement field, ability to manage and lead system staff, and ability to assist the board in setting a vision for the system, as indicated in Minn. Stat. Sec. 353.03, Subd. 3a. The motion was seconded by Ford and passed unanimously by roll call vote.

5. Accounting Position Addition Request

Reference was made to a memo from Doug Anderson dated February 12, 2026.

Anderson reported that the accounting team's workload has increased significantly over the past year due to growth in the SVF plan, which now includes more than 300 fire departments and over 80 new plans added in the past two years. Recent legislation affecting the SVF Defined Contribution Plan, including provisions allowing conversion from a Defined Benefit Plan to a Defined Contribution Plan, has required additional resources. Additional staffing is also needed to strengthen internal controls and enhance procedure documentation in preparation for the modernization efforts.

The estimated compensation range for the two positions is \$140,000 to \$180,000. PERA remains well under its FY26 payroll budget, and adding these positions will not exceed the budget. Given the immediate need, the request is being brought forward now instead of waiting until the annual budget request in May.

Flaherty expressed concern regarding the current administrative fees collected from SVF membership. SVF plans are currently charged \$60 per member. Staff indicated plans to increase the per-member rate to better align SVF administrative costs with the fees collected.

Konigsburg also noted concern regarding the off-cycle request, expressing a preference to consider it as part of the regular FY27 budget process in May.

Gebhard, PERA CFO, emphasized the importance and urgency of adding accounting resources to ensure compliance with accounting standards, as well as to develop, implement, and monitor internal controls.

Ford moved that the PERA Board of Trustees approve the addition of two Accounting positions effective immediately. The motion was seconded by Flaherty and passed with a roll call vote of 7 in favor and 1 against (Konigsburg).

6. Correction of Errors Report

Reference was made to a memo from Doug Anderson and Amy Strenge dated February 12, 2026, and Corrections of Error Report dated January 30, 2026.

Strenge provided an overview of Minnesota Statute § 356.636, subdivision 2, which authorizes statewide retirement plans to correct certain errors to maintain their tax-qualified status. Under this authority, PERA's Executive Director may take actions such as distributions, asset transfers, or recovery of overpayments to restore the plan and affected members to their proper positions, without regard to statutory time limits.

For calendar year 2025, PERA corrected six errors related to the Defined Contribution Plan and member leave purchases. In accordance with Minnesota Statute § 356.636, subdivision 3, these corrections were reported to the Executive Director and the Chair of the LCPR. The annual report was issued to the LCPR on January 30, 2026.

Strenge clarified that this information was presented to the Board for informational purposes only.

7. 2026 PERA Legislative Agenda

Reference was made to a memo from Doug Anderson and Amy Strenge dated February 12, 2026.

Strenge noted that the 2026 legislative session begins on February 17, 2026, and presented two legislative initiatives for the Board's approval.

Correctional Plan

Strenge noted that the Plan is currently 105 percent funded, with a 4.8 percent sufficiency, serving approximately 2,100 retirees, 4,100 active members, and 4,800 deferred members. Contributions are set under a 60/40 employer-employee split, currently 10.25 percent for employers and 6.83 percent for members. The post-retirement adjustment formula provides 100 percent of CPI with a 1 percent minimum and 2.5 percent maximum.

Staff recommended modifying the post-retirement adjustment formula to increase the maximum to 3 percent and reducing contribution rates while maintaining the 60/40 split: 9 percent for employers and 6 percent for members. Under the proposed changes, the Plan remains fully funded at 102 percent, with a 1.44 percent sufficiency. Actuarial assumptions are considered reasonable, and FY2026 investment returns as of December 31, 2025, exceed assumptions.

The goal of these changes is to reduce contributions for both members and employers while improving post-retirement inflation protection for current and future retirees. The initiative is supported by MNCORA, MNPEA, LELS, AFSCME, MICA, and AMC, with MNCORA submitting a formal letter of support.

Minke made a motion that the PERA Board of Trustees direct staff to seek legislation modifying the post-retirement formula and decreasing the employer and employee contributions for the PERA Correctional Plan. The motion was seconded by Bourgeois and passed unanimously by roll call vote.

Statewide Volunteer Firefighter (SVF) Plan Advisory Board Recommendations

The SVF Advisory Board met on January 20 and unanimously supported internal administrative changes and legislative recommendations. The staff recommendations cover deadlines and consequences, administrative changes requiring legislative action, and proposed policy modifications.

Deadlines and Consequences – The proposed legislation establishes deadlines for coverage transfers, benefit increases, and termination of participation. Entities that fail to meet the applicable deadlines would be unable to complete the action but may do so in the following calendar year.

Administrative Changes – Proposed changes clarify definitions, benefit level selections, Defined Contribution plan processes, funding report requirements, authorized disbursements, cost analysis, and allows for proxy participation on the SVF Advisory Board.

Policy Changes – Due to the complexity of administering monthly plans, such plans will no longer be eligible to join the SVF. Additionally, the SVF Advisory Board recommended that Defined Contribution plans within the SVF cannot convert to Defined Benefit plans given that there is no mechanism for conversion.

Flaherty reiterated his concern about the current administrative fees collected from SVF members and requested that staff conduct an analysis to ensure the fees are covering costs and not being subsidized by other plans.

Konigsburg made a motion that the PERA Board of Trustees direct staff to seek legislation incorporating the SVF Advisory Board recommendations. The motion was seconded by Johnson and passed unanimously by roll call vote.

8. 2026 Stakeholder Legislative Initiatives

Reference was made to a memo from Doug Anderson and Amy Strenge dated February 12, 2026.

Staff has engaged with stakeholders on several potential initiatives. While no specific initiatives are being proposed at this time, staff is aware of the following items that the PERA Board may consider for a decision in March:

Police & Fire Plan – Modify the rules for working after retirement.

Correctional Plan – Modify the PERA Board to designate one of the existing seats for an active Correctional Plan member.

New Plan for Probation Officers and Public Safety Telecommunicators – Establish a new plan for probation officers and public safety telecommunicators.

All Plans – Consideration of a COLA (Cost-of-Living Adjustment) increase.

9. Election of PERA Board of Trustees Officers

Reference was made to PERA's Governance Manual – Section 2.1, Board of Trustees, PERA Board Organization.

Minke motioned for Stanley to serve another year as President of the Board of Trustees. Konigsburg seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

Stanley then motioned for Flaherty to serve another year as Vice President of the Board of Trustees. Ford seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

10. Trustee Education Reporting

Trustee Johnson attended the IFEBP 71st Annual Employee Benefits Conference in the fall of 2025. The conference covered topics on trends in benefits administration, including best practices, solutions, and innovations.

11. Board Recognition for Retiring PERA Staff: Amy Brandenburg

The Board recognized retiring PERA staff member for her dedicated service and contributions. President Stanley read the following statement into the record:

Presented to Amy Brandenburg

In sincere gratitude for your dedication, guidance, and outstanding leadership at the Public Employees Retirement Association.

With more than 12 years of dedicated service, your institutional knowledge, curiosity, and unwavering commitment have made a lasting impact. Your journey through DMS, Claims, and Calculations, and your leadership in helping launch MNRise, reflect a career defined by service, growth, and integrity.

As you retire on February 10, please accept our deepest thanks and warmest wishes for a joyful, fulfilling, and well-earned retirement.

Presented by the PERA Board of Trustees- February 12, 2026

12. Attorney General Litigation Update

Flaherty moved to close the meeting under Minnesota Statutes, section 13D.05, subdivision 3(b), to receive an update on the Minnesota Duty Disabled Association lawsuit. Johnson seconded the motion and passed unanimously by roll call vote.

Assistant Attorney General Langan provided an update related to the Minnesota Duty Disabled Association v. PERA, Court File No. 62-cv-23-5420.

Johnson made a motion to open the meeting. Minke seconded the motion and passed unanimously by roll call vote.

13. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held Thursday, March 12, starting at 9:30 a.m. in the Board Room 117 of the Retirement Systems of Minnesota Building.

14. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the PERA Board, Bourgeois made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Konigsburg, and it was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

Meeting adjourned at 11:36 a.m.



Doug Anderson, Executive Director



Date: March 12, 2026
To: PERA Board of Trustees
From: Don Haller, Heather Schoenberger, Tim Knippenberg, Sarah Fischer, Afiya Krueger, and Stacey Salvinski
Subject: Operational Data Report

This memo includes PERA statistical data for the following areas:

- Active membership data for PERA’s plans
- Recipient data for retirement, survivor and disability benefits
- Application data for retirement, survivor, and disability benefits
- Refund payments processed
- Education initiatives for members and employers

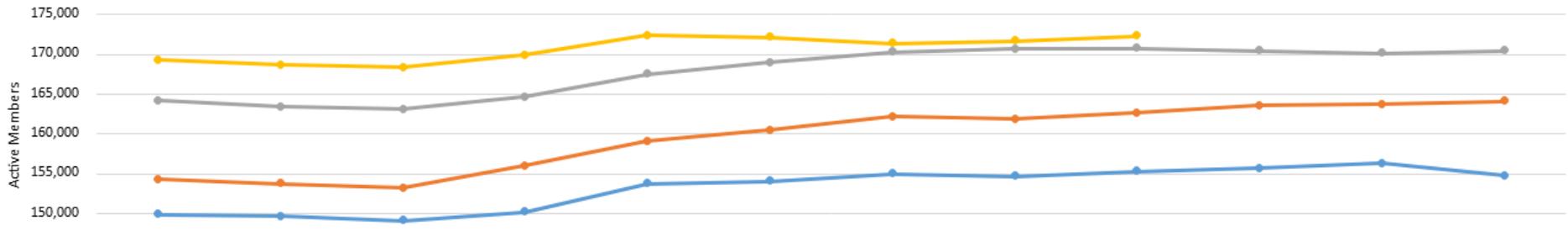
Active Membership Data (monthly)

This section provides membership data for each plan as of the first of the month, based on active status.

Coordinated

From July 2025 to March 2026, membership increased by 1.7% (3,004 members).

Coordinated

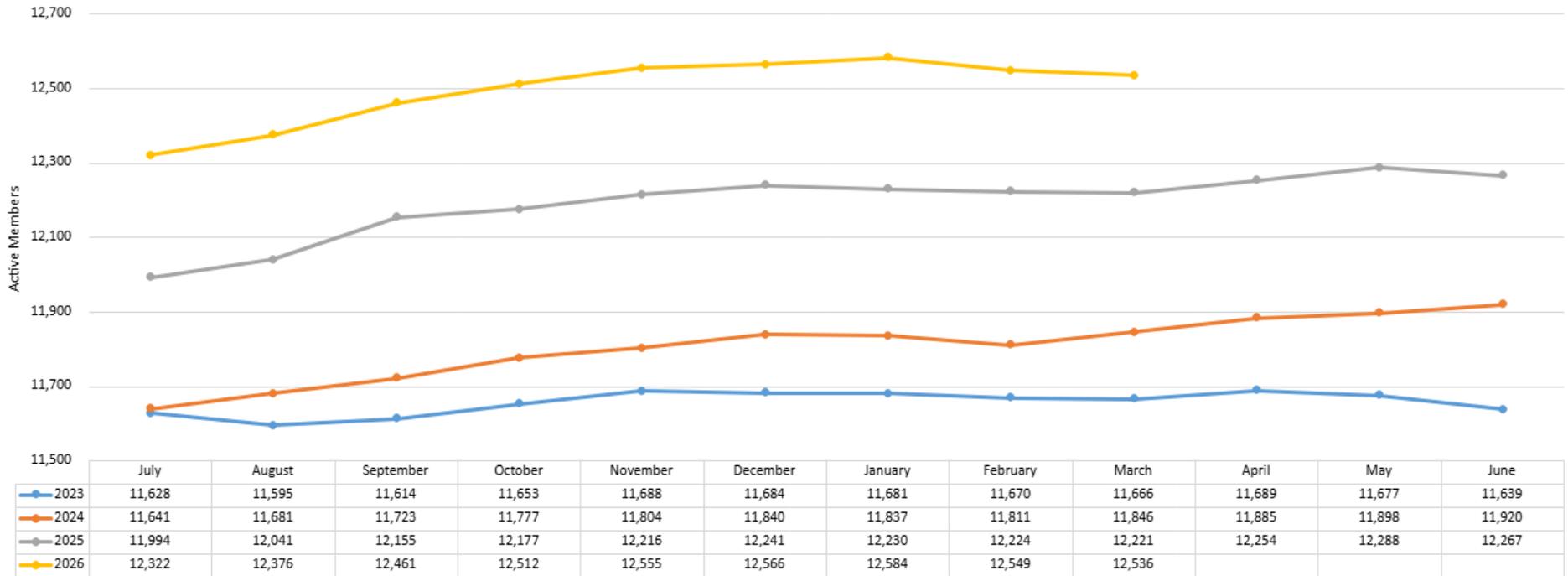


	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June
2023	149,882	149,634	149,102	150,177	153,789	154,085	154,969	154,718	155,271	155,717	156,331	154,786
2024	154,270	153,727	153,223	155,991	159,069	160,479	162,162	161,840	162,647	163,586	163,770	164,134
2025	164,223	163,437	163,127	164,691	167,517	168,989	170,323	170,696	170,746	170,428	170,194	170,430
2026	169,303	168,706	168,361	169,887	172,401	172,197	171,379	171,669	172,307			

Police & Fire

From July 2025 to March 2026, membership increased by 1.7% (214 members).

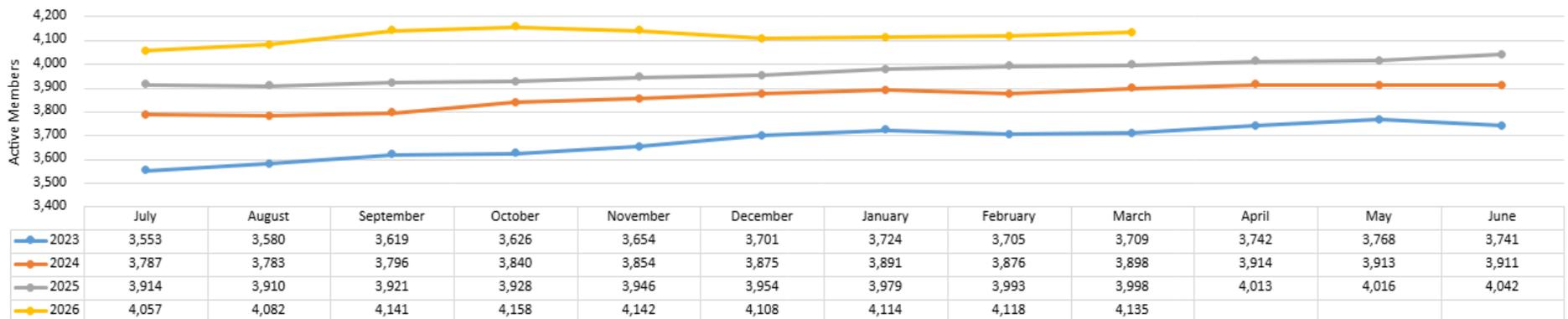
Police & Fire



Correctional

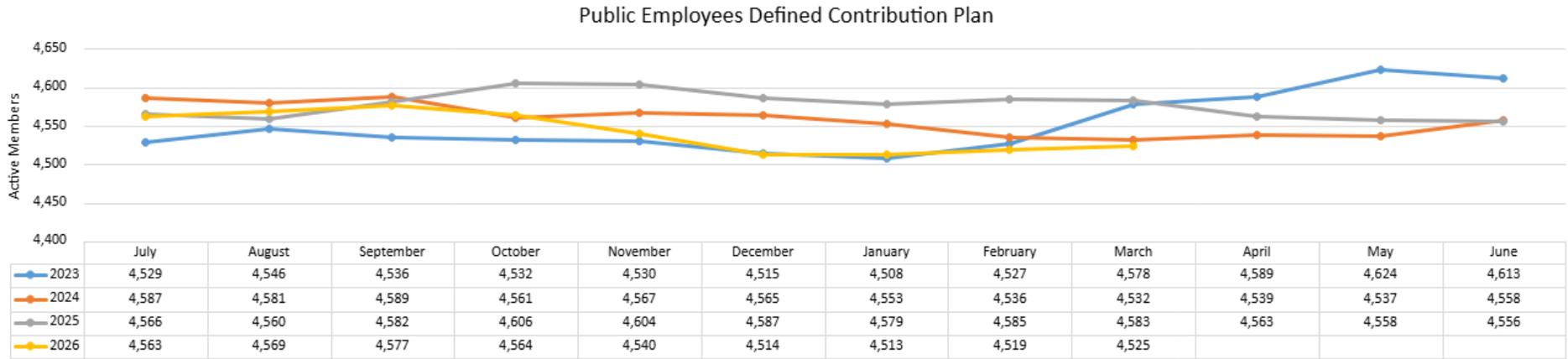
From July 2025 to March 2026, membership increased by 1.9% (78 members).

Correctional



Public Employees Defined Contribution Plan

From July 2025 to March 2026, membership decreased by 1.0% (38 members).



Summary

Membership counts are summarized below as of the first of the month for February and March 2026.

Active Membership Counts – Defined Benefit Plans	February 2026	March 2026
Coordinated Plan	171,669	172,307
Police & Fire Plan	12,549	12,536
Correctional Plan	4,118	4,135
Privatization	1,613	1,613
MERF	1	1
Basic Plan	0	0
Exempt Plan	4,871	4,877
SVF DBP (Monthly Benefits)	38	39
SVF DBP (Lump-Sum Benefits)	5,879	5,972
Total	200,738	201,480
Active Membership Counts – Defined Contribution Plans		
DCP	4,513	4,525
SVF DCP (Lump-Sum Benefits)	121	125
Total	4,634	4,650

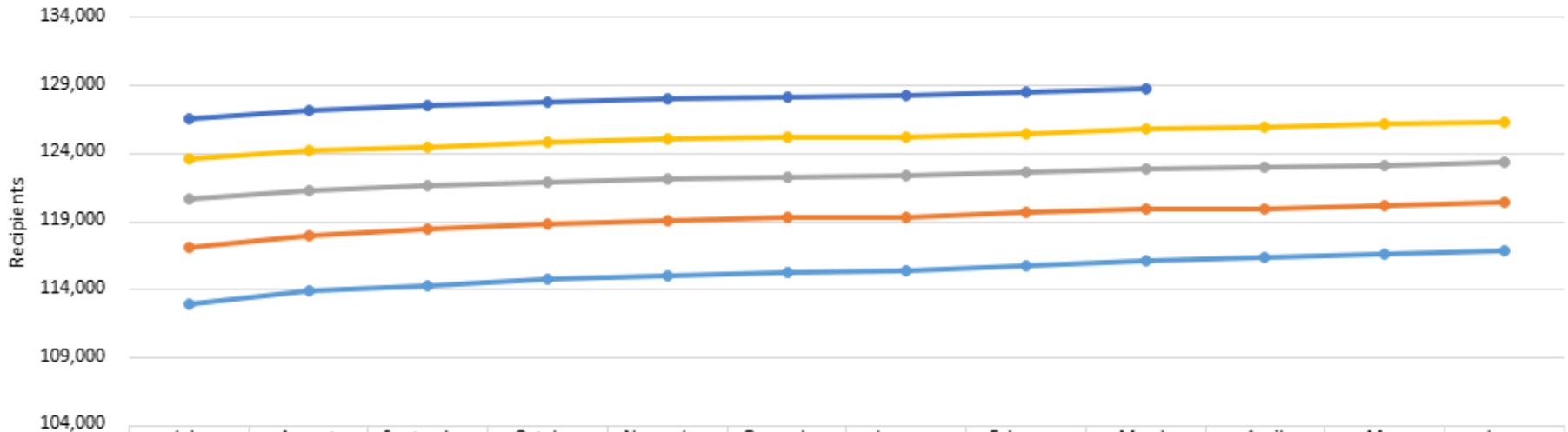
Benefit Recipients (monthly)

This section provides benefit recipient data for each benefit type, as of the first of the month.

Retirement

Recipients increased by 1.8% (2,258 members) from July 2025 to March 2026.

Retirement Recipients

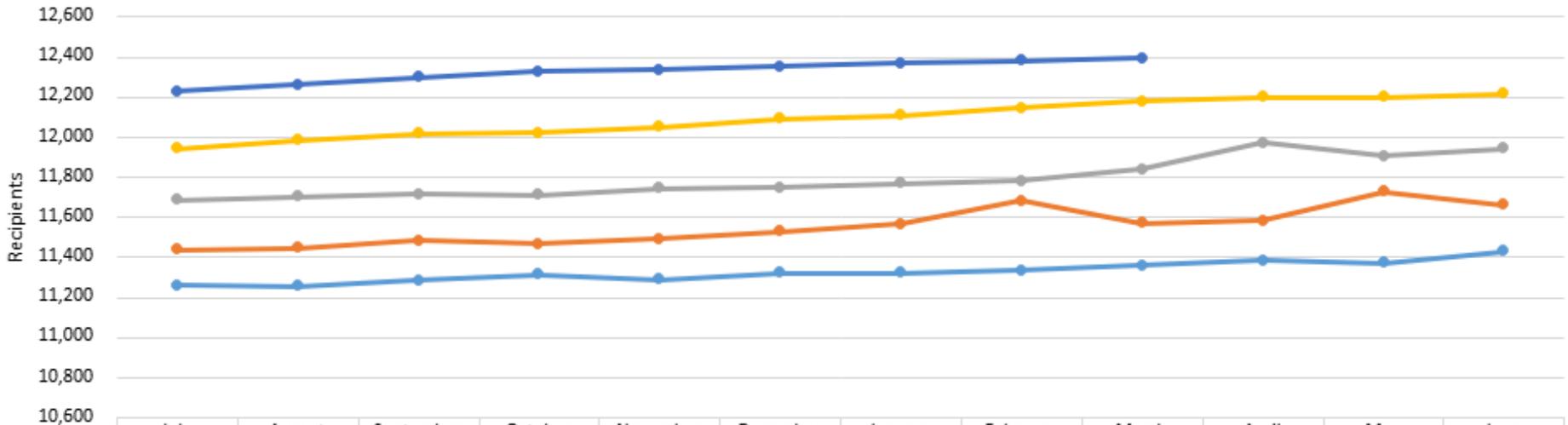


	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June
2022	112,985	113,892	114,274	114,712	114,974	115,311	115,396	115,775	116,152	116,379	116,555	116,829
2023	117,126	117,972	118,473	118,793	119,063	119,260	119,369	119,628	119,905	119,924	120,217	120,402
2024	120,620	121,309	121,685	121,920	122,186	122,254	122,359	122,571	122,838	122,999	123,173	123,352
2025	123,662	124,192	124,526	124,838	125,036	125,186	125,250	125,504	125,781	125,970	126,145	126,353
2026	126,552	127,166	127,512	127,800	128,023	128,190	128,283	128,550	128,810			

Survivor

Recipients increased by 1.3% (167 members) from July 2025 to March 2026.

Survivor Recipients

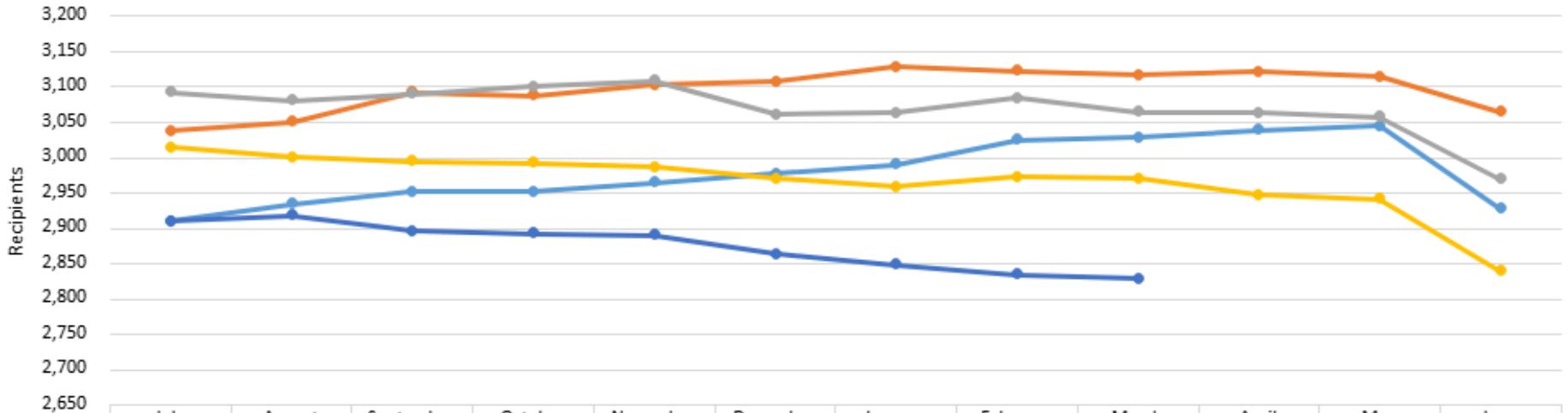


	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June
2022	11,263	11,258	11,285	11,314	11,291	11,323	11,323	11,337	11,361	11,384	11,372	11,430
2023	11,439	11,446	11,483	11,470	11,492	11,529	11,566	11,684	11,571	11,583	11,727	11,661
2024	11,687	11,704	11,718	11,713	11,745	11,749	11,770	11,782	11,839	11,971	11,908	11,943
2025	11,942	11,987	12,018	12,023	12,052	12,091	12,110	12,147	12,180	12,199	12,200	12,217
2026	12,229	12,263	12,299	12,327	12,336	12,354	12,369	12,382	12,396			

Disability

Recipients decreased by 2.9% (81 members) from July 2025 to March 2026.

Disability Recipients



	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June
2022	2,910	2,934	2,952	2,952	2,965	2,977	2,990	3,025	3,029	3,039	3,045	2,928
2023	3,038	3,051	3,092	3,088	3,103	3,108	3,128	3,123	3,117	3,121	3,115	3,064
2024	3,093	3,081	3,090	3,100	3,109	3,061	3,063	3,084	3,064	3,063	3,058	2,969
2025	3,014	3,001	2,995	2,992	2,987	2,971	2,959	2,973	2,970	2,947	2,941	2,839
2026	2,910	2,918	2,896	2,893	2,890	2,863	2,849	2,835	2,829			

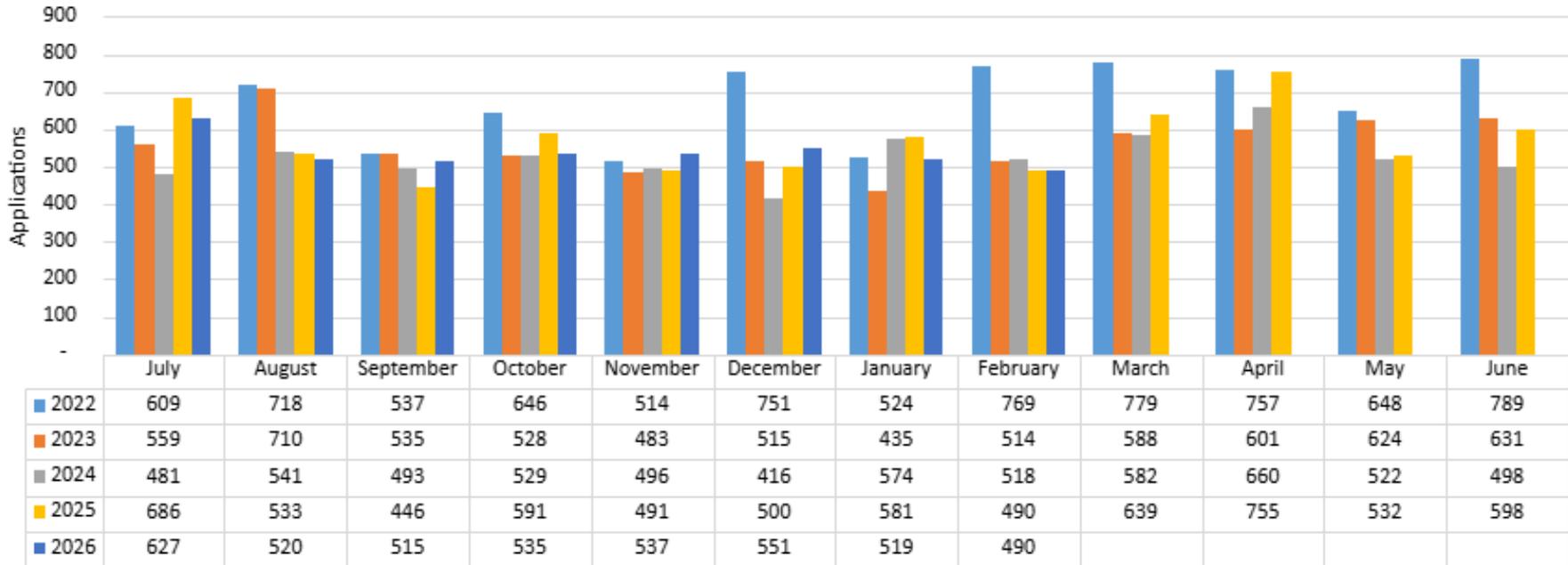
Benefit Applications Received (monthly)

This section provides the monthly benefit application data for each benefit type.

Retirement

From July 2025 to February 2026, applications averaged 537 per month.

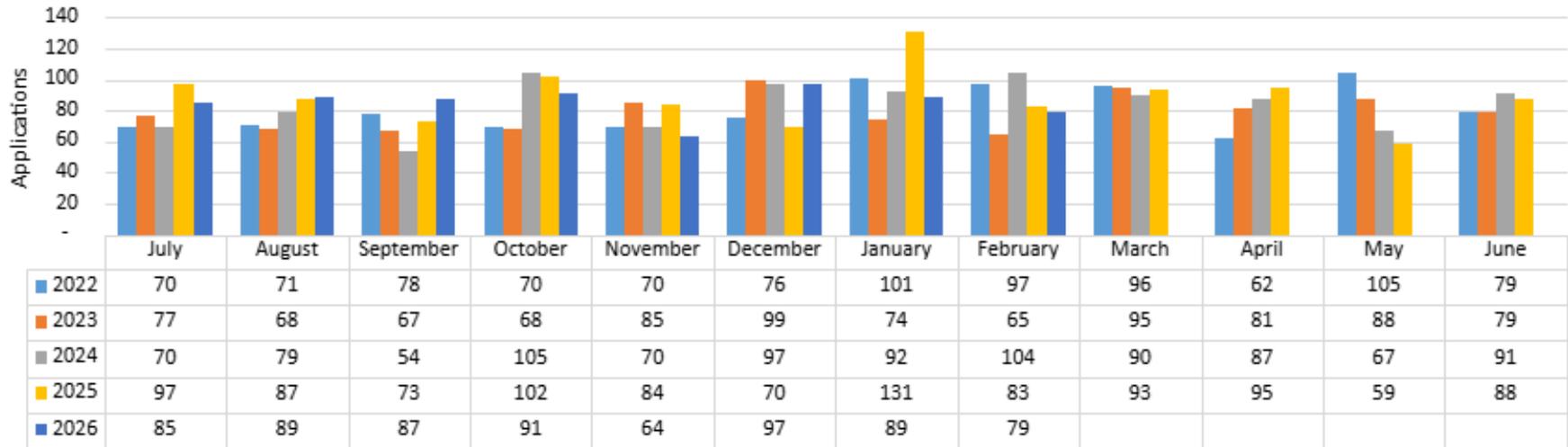
Retirement Applications



Survivor

From July 2025 to February 2026, applications averaged 85 per month.

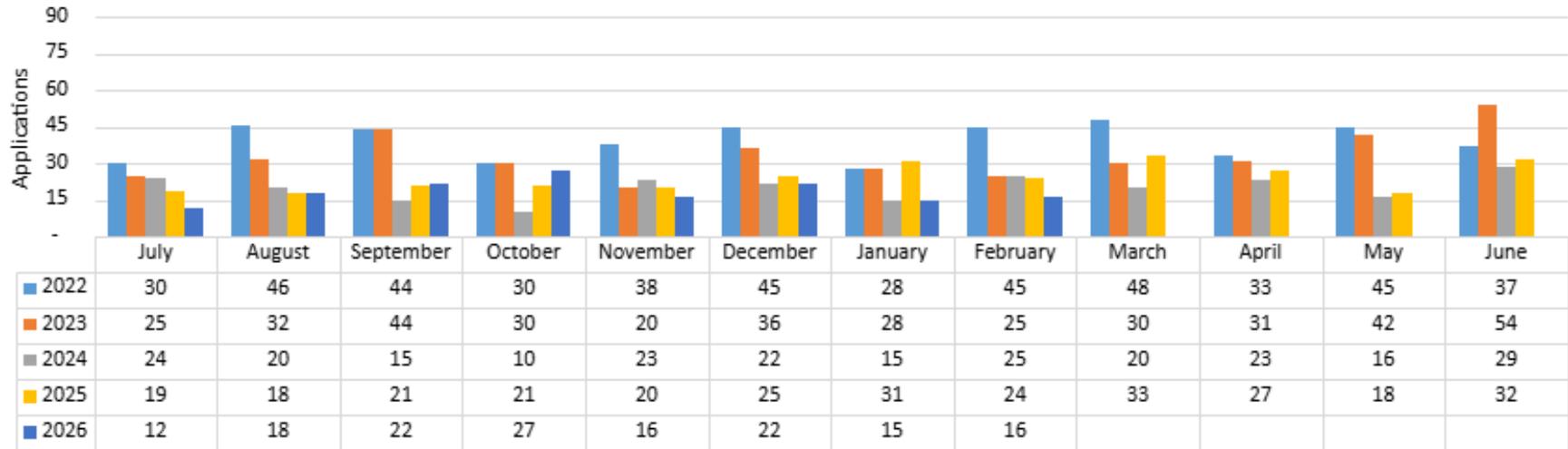
Survivor Applications



Disability

From July 2025 to February 2026, applications averaged 19 per month.

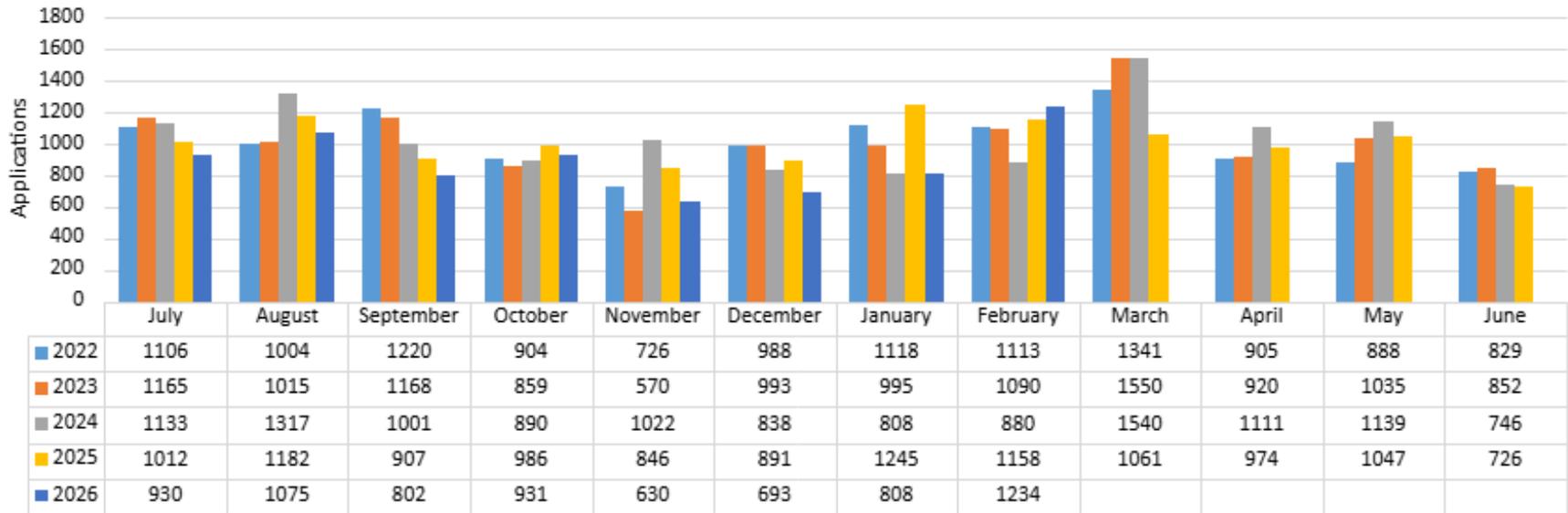
Disability Applications



Refunds Payments (monthly)

From July 2025 to February 2026, applications averaged 888 per month.

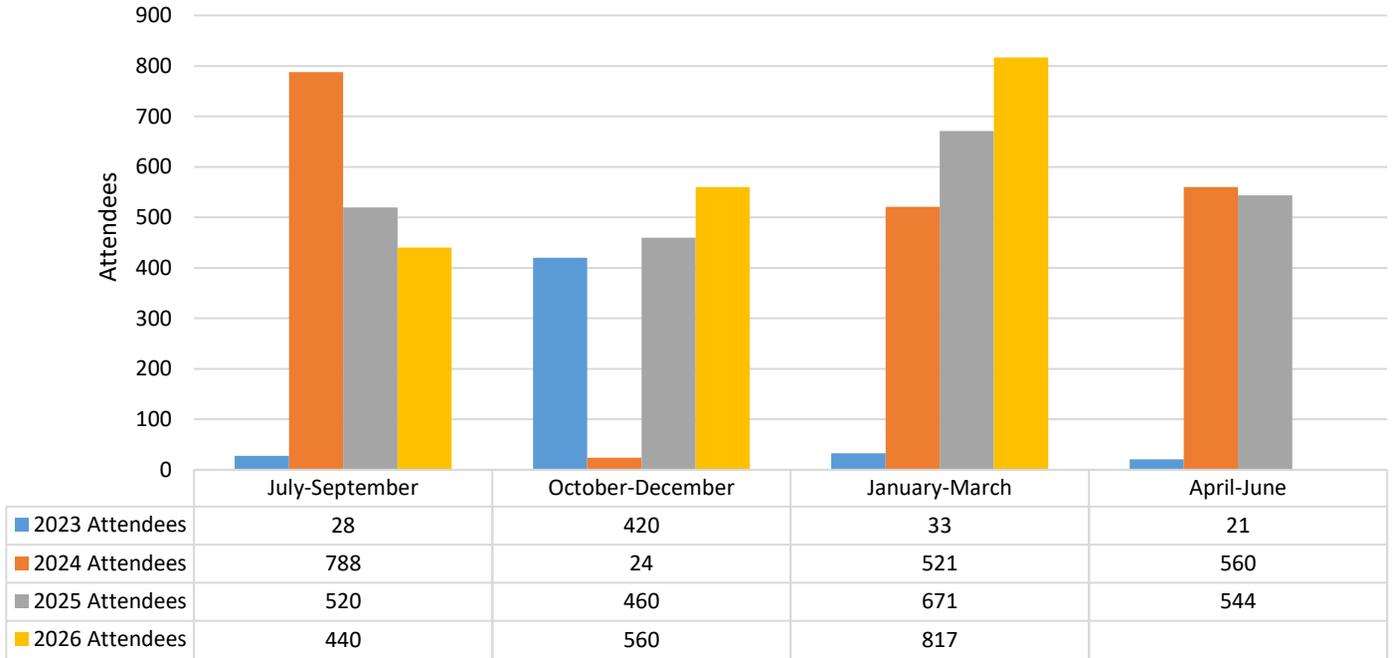
Refunds



Employer Education (quarterly)

In January, we presented Public Official Eligibility training to 201 employers. We also hosted a live Q&A session about the impact of Minnesota's new Paid Family and Medical Leave with PERA to 616 employers. Our next training is planned in March about pay reporting.

Employer Programs

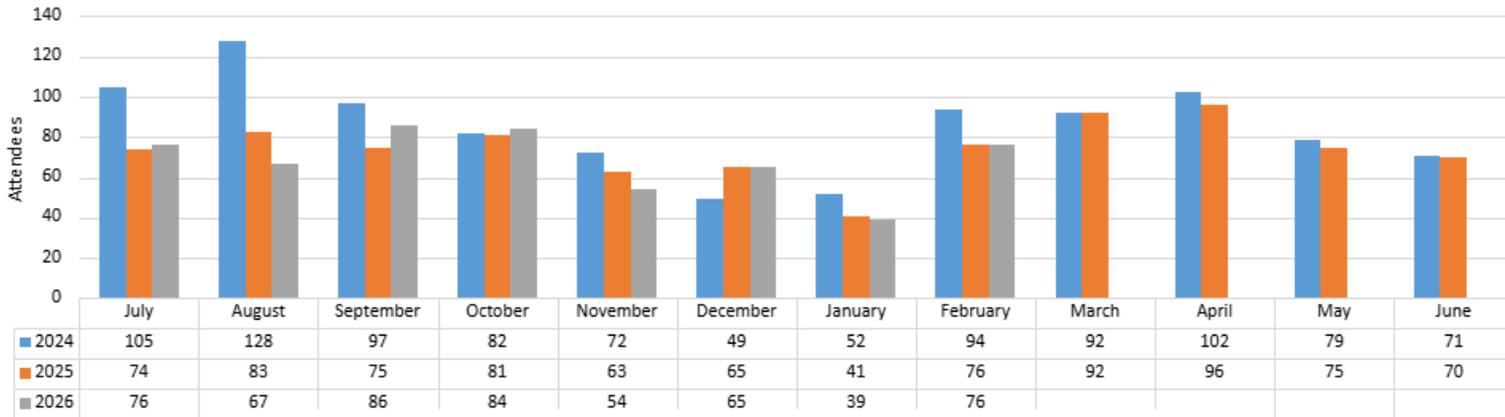


Member Education (per month)

Individual Counseling

Individual sessions averaged about 68 per month during fiscal year 2026. We offer in-person and phone options for individual meetings.

Member Individual Counseling



Group Programs

December and January are our slowest months for group programs. We expect attendance to increase this spring as members prepare for summer retirements.

Member Programs

