

March 2026
BPC Staff Recommendation
Puget Sound Pilotage District
Authorized Number of Pilots:

60 Licensed Pilots

1

Previous recommendation August 2024 was the same as the current recommendation.

Sixty licensed pilots is the necessary number of pilots for 7134 to 7491 assignments at 100% TAL to 105% TAL per pilot, after subtracting 1 pilot president and 1 pilot NFFD.

These slides will show why the BPC staff recommendation is focused on that range.

2

Assignment ranges (95% to 105% TAL) for a given number of pilots moving ships*

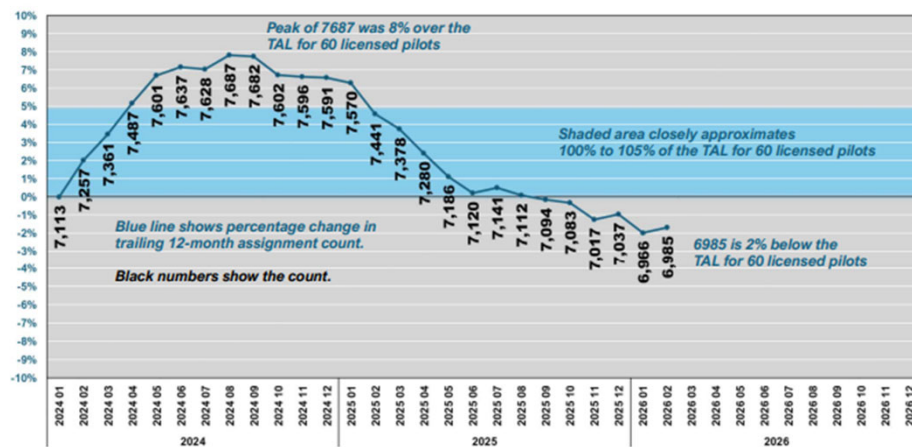
*Authorized number of pilots must additionally include 1 pilot president & 1 pilot NFFD.

Number of Pilots	TAL	Pro Forma Capacity Minus 5%	Pro Forma Assignment Capacity	Pro Forma Capacity Plus 5%
56	123	6,544	6,888	7,232
57	123	6,660	7,011	7,362
58	123	6,777	7,134	7,491
59	123	6,894	7,257	7,620
60	123	7,011	7,380	7,749

Table provided by BPC Commissioner Tim Farrell, in January 2026
(does not include president and NFFD)
(circle added by BPC staff to highlight range)

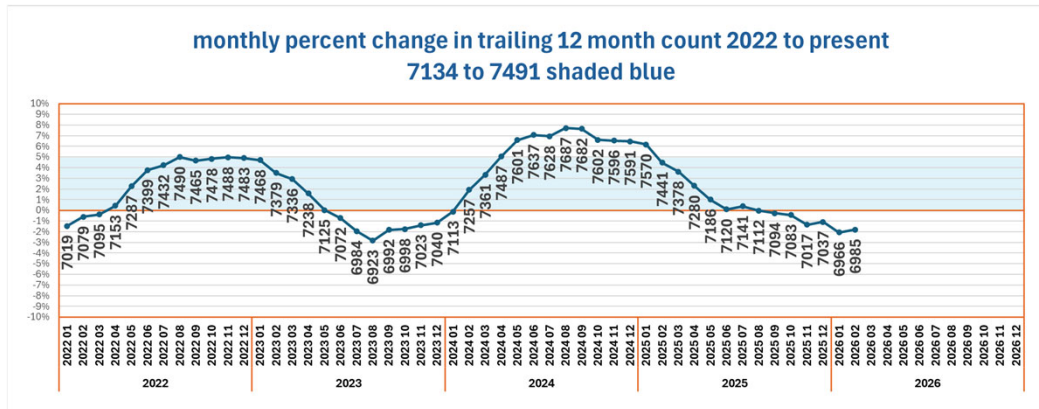
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2024 and 2025 trailing 12 assignments – the count went UP before it went DOWN



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This is the normal variation in assignment levels – up, down, up, down, etc.



5

Aug 2022 to July 2024:

minimum = 6923

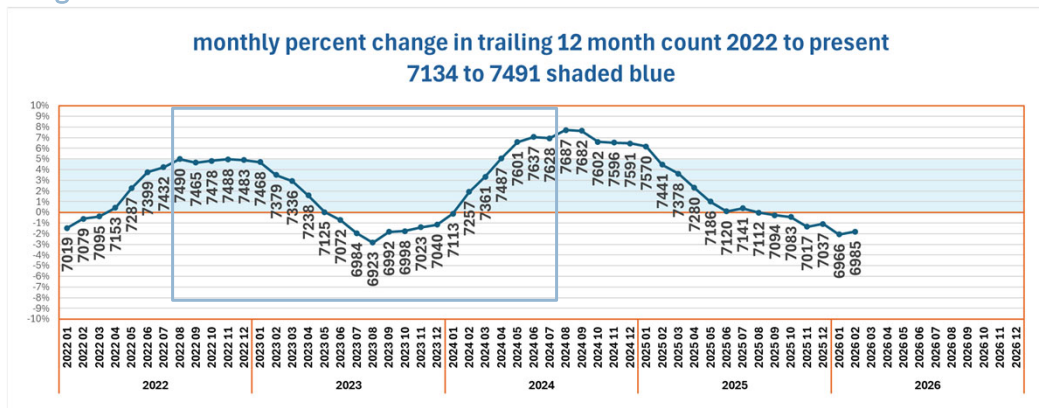
25th percentile = 7064

50th (median) = 7349

75th percentile = 7484

maximum = 7637

range min to max = 714



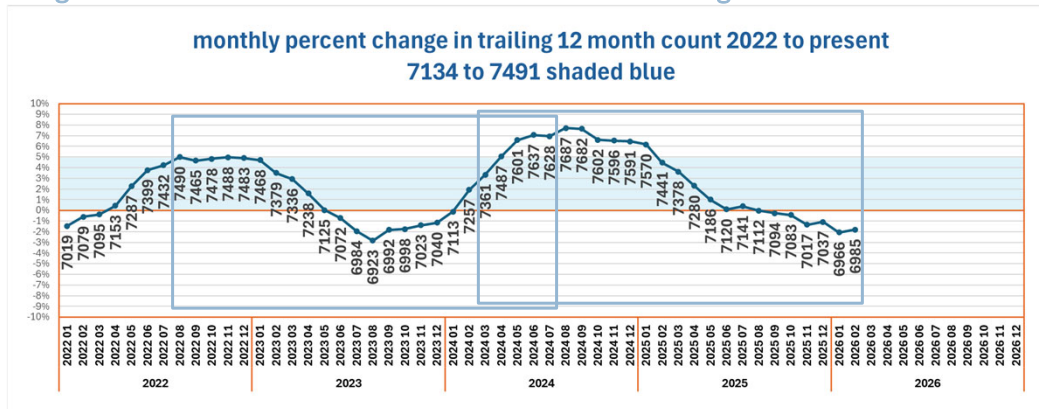
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Aug 2022 to July 2024:

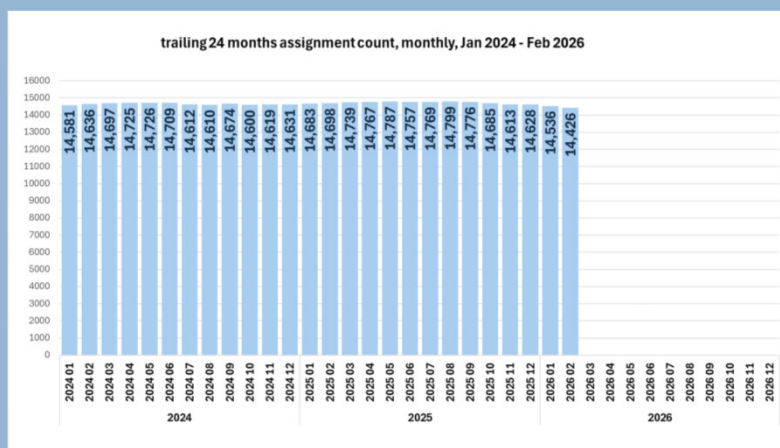
minimum = 6923
 25th percentile = 7064
 50th (median) = 7349
 75th percentile = 7484
 maximum = 7637
 range min to max = 714

March 2024 to Feb 2026:

minimum = 6966 43 higher
 25th percentile = 7108 44 higher
 50th (median) = 7370 21 higher
 75th percentile = 7597 113 higher
 maximum = 7687 50 higher
 range min to max = 721



7



This normal variation in assignment levels is why the trailing 24-month count is so steady. And why BPC staff are again recommending 60 licensed pilots.

8