Access to Clinical Preventive Services

Health care providers

In 2015-2016 there were over 5,600 Oregonians for every full-time psychiatric or mental health care provider (Figure 1). The population-to-provider ratio for oral health care providers and primary care providers was 1,020 and 847, respectively.

There are significant disparities in population-to-provider ratios by geographic region within Oregon (Figure 2). While urban, rural and frontier counties have similar population-to-provider ratios for primary care providers, counties with the lowest density of population have fewer full-time oral and mental health care providers per person. Six rural or frontier counties (Crook, Gilliam, Harney, Lake, Sherman, Wheeler) have no psychiatric/mental health care providers and all. And, Sherman County has no oral health care providers.
Additional Resources: [Oregon's Primary Care Workforce](#), [Oregon's Dental Workforce](#), [Oregon’s Licensed Behavioral/Mental Health Care Workforce](#)

About the Data: Data source is the Oregon Health Authority Health Care Workforce Reporting Program (HWRP). HWRP collects workforce-related data directly from health care professionals as part of the license renewal process. Data represent a two-year license renewal period. Data on Oregon’s active health care workforce represent those licensees who reported a practice address in Oregon and who indicated they were employed in the field, self-employed in the field, a student or faculty member, a volunteer, or were retired but still practicing. To account for licensees not completing the online questionnaire or declining to respond, additional calculations were made to estimate active licensee counts by county.

Primary care physicians and physician assistants include those with practice specialties in family medicine/practice, general practice, geriatrics, pediatrics, adolescent medicine and (general) internal medicine. Also included are primary care nurse practitioners.

Psychiatric/mental health physicians and physician assistants include those with practice specialties in psychiatry, child and/or adolescent psychiatry, forensic psychiatry, geriatric psychiatry or psychoanalysis. Also included are nurse practitioners with a principal specialty of psychiatry/mental health. Licensed social workers, licensed counselors and therapists, registered nurses, and licensed psychologists are not included.

Oral health providers include dentists and dental hygienists.

An estimated direct patient care FTE for each occupation is calculated by multiplying the number of providers practicing in Oregon by the average patient care FTE. Population-to-

![Population-to-provider ratio by provider type and county rurality, Oregon, 2015–2016](image-url)
provider ratios are then calculated by dividing the total geographic population in the second year of the two-year license renewal period by the estimated direct patient care FTE. Population estimates are from the PSU Population Research Center.

Categorization of counties as urban, rural or frontier is from the Oregon Office of Rural Health.

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