Oregon’s Social Work Workforce
Based on data collected during 2016 and 2017

These fact sheets provide a snapshot of the state’s social work workforce using data collected by the Oregon Health Authority in collaboration with the Oregon Board of Licensed Social Workers.

The mission of the Oregon Board of Licensed Social Workers is to protect the citizens of Oregon through the licensing and regulation of social workers.

Clinical social work means a specialty within the practice of master’s social work that requires the application of specialized clinical knowledge and advance clinical skills to the assessment, diagnosis or treatment of mental, emotional or behavioral disorders or conditions including but not limited to those identified in the DSM. Clinical license types include clinical social work associate (CSWA), temporary CSWA, and licensed clinical social worker (LCSW). Non-clinical license types include registered baccalaureate social worker (RBSW) and licensed master of social work (LMSW).

Workforce data were collected for clinical social work associates (CSWA), licensed clinical social workers (LCSW) and non-clinical social workers (LMSW/RBSW) and are presented as individual occupational profiles. For this report, license holders with both a clinical and non-clinical license were grouped with the clinical license category.

If you would like more information about the Oregon Board of Licensed Social Workers, please visit: https://www.oregon.gov/blsw

Estimated direct patient care FTE by county
(includes all occupations within this fact sheet)
Licensed clinical social workers (LCSW)

Oregon’s LCSW supply

4,215
Licensed LCSWs

3,678
Estimated working LCSWs

1,811
Estimated LCSW direct patient care FTE

Workforce demographics

Age

Gender

Race and ethnicity — workforce compared with population†

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race and ethnicity</th>
<th>Workforce</th>
<th>Population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic/Latino</td>
<td>3.6%</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black/African American</td>
<td>1.3%</td>
<td>14.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Indian/Alaska Native</td>
<td>0.7%</td>
<td>0.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>1.7%</td>
<td>6.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander</td>
<td>0.2%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other race</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multi-racial</td>
<td>2.4%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

8.2% of workforce declined to answer or data is missing for race and ethnicity.

All subsequent data presented are from LCSWs who held an active license as of January 2018 and were actively practicing in Oregon at the time of Health Care Workforce Survey completion (n=3,240).
Licensed clinical social workers (LCSW)

Workforce supply

LCSWs work an average of 32.4 hours per week. 53.9% of LCSWs work at least 40 hours each week.

Number of years licensed in Oregon

- 37.2% <6
- 20.7% 6-10
- 23.4% 11-20
- 13.8% 21-30
- 4.9% 31+

How LCSWs spend their time

On average, LCSWs spend 61.7% of their time in direct patient care.

Practice plans in the next two years

- Maintain practice hours as is 74.9%
- Reduce practice hours 7.0%
- Increase practice hours 6.4%
- Move to another practice location in OR 4.5%
- Leave the OR workforce 4.4%
- Other 2.8%

Practice settings and specialties

Top 5 practice settings

- Private outpatient practice/clinic, 35.8%
- Hospital/inpatient, 8.9%
- Hospital/outpatient, 8.4%
- Community/school-based health center, 8.3%
- Home health/hospice, 6.5%

Top 5 specialties

- Mental health, 39.0%
- Children, adolescents and young adults, 10.0%
- Administration/supervision, 7.3%
- Anxiety disorders, 5.9%
- Depression and other mood disorders, 5.8%
Clinical social work associates (CSWA)

Oregon’s CSWA supply

- **908** Licensed CSWAs
- **856** Estimated working CSWAs
- **506** Estimated CSWA direct patient care FTE

All subsequent data presented are from CSWAs who held an active license as of January 2018 and were actively practicing in Oregon at the time of Health Care Workforce Survey completion (n=538).

**Workforce demographics**

**Age**
- <35: 42.9%
- 35-54: 49.3%
- 55-64: 6.7%
- 65+: 1.1%

**Gender**
- Male: 15.5%
- Female: 84.5%

**Race and ethnicity — workforce compared with population**

- Hispanic/Latino: 10.6%
- Black/African American: 3.7%
- American Indian/Alaska Native: 0.4%
- Asian: 3.1%
- Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander: 0.2%
- Other race: 1.8%
- Multi-racial: 4.3%

9.1% of workforce declined to answer or data is missing for race and ethnicity.
Clinical social work associates (CSWA)

Workforce supply

CSWAs work an average of 36.7 hours per week. 71.7% of CSWAs work at least 40 hours each week.

Number of years licensed in Oregon

- 99.4% <6 years
- 0.4% 6-10 years
- 0.2% 11-20 years

Practice settings and specialties

Top 5 practice settings

- Community/school-based health center, 23.6%
- Hospital/inpatient, 13.2%
- Private outpatient practice/clinic, 12.6%
- Home health/hospice, 10.6%
- Hospital/outpatient, 6.5%

Top 5 specialties

- Mental health, 42.2%
- Children, adolescents and young adults, 12.6%
- Case management, 8.9%
- Aging, 6.9%
- Adult health, 5.4%

How CSWAs spend their time

On average, CSWAs spend 63.6% of their time in direct patient care.

Practice plans in the next two years

- Maintain practice hours as is 75.8%
- Increase practice hours 9.7%
- Move to another practice location in OR 8.7%
- Reduce practice hours 3.2%
- Other 1.9%
- Leave the OR workforce 0.7%
Non-clinical social workers (LMSW/RBSW)

Oregon’s LMSW/RBSW supply

293 Licensed LMSW/RBSWs
195 Estimated working LMSW/RBSWs
66 Estimated LMSW/RBSW direct patient care FTE

All subsequent data presented are from NCSWs who held an active license as of January 2018 and were actively practicing in Oregon at the time of Health Care Workforce Survey completion (n=143).

Workforce demographics

Age

Gender

Race and ethnicity — workforce compared with population

8.4% of workforce declined to answer or data is missing for race and ethnicity.
Non-clinical social workers (LMSW/RBSW)

Workforce supply

LMSW/RBSWs work an average of 33.8 hours per week. 63.6% of LMSW/RBSWs work at least 40 hours each week.

Number of years licensed in Oregon:

- 78.2% in <6 years
- 21.8% in 6-10 years

How LMSW/RBSWs spend their time

- Direct patient care: 42.0%
- Management: 27.1%
- Teaching: 10.9%
- Research: 3.0%
- Other: 16.9%

On average, LMSW/RBSWs spend 42.0% of their time in direct patient care.

Practice plans in the next two years

- Maintain practice hours as is: 78.3%
- Leave the OR workforce: 6.3%
- Increase practice hours: 5.6%
- Reduce practice hours: 3.5%
- Move to another practice location in OR: 2.8%
- Other: 2.8%

Practice settings and specialties

Top 5 practice settings

- Home health/hospice, 18.9%
- Educational or research institution, 12.6%
- Hospital/inpatient, 7.7%
- Private outpatient practice/clinic, 3.5%
- Hospital/outpatient, 3.5%

Top 5 specialties

- Case management, 19.6%
- Home health/long term care/nursing home care, 17.5%
- Administration/supervision, 16.1%
- Child welfare, 14.7%
- Aging, 11.2%
Footnotes:

* Ratio based on total estimated direct patient care FTE in county.
† Licensees who did not report race and ethnicity data are excluded from the charts. Racial categories exclude Hispanic.
‡ Leave the Oregon workforce includes those planning to retire, move to practice out of state, or leave the occupation.
§ LCSW license was initially voluntary in the 1980s. In 2011, the LCSW license was transitioned to a mandatory practice license while RBSW and LMSW licenses were created as voluntary. CSWA licenses are intended to be held during a period of supervision around 3 to 5 years and generally lead to the independent practice LCSW license, but occasionally some CSWAs continue practicing beyond the 5 years.

Accessibility:

You can get this document in other languages, large print, braille, or a format you prefer. Contact the Oregon Health Authority Director's Office at 503-947-2340 or OHA.DirectorsOffice@state.or.us.

About these fact sheets:

The Health Care Workforce Reporting Program (HWRP) collects workforce-related information directly from health care professionals via a questionnaire embedded in the license renewal process. Data reported in this fact sheet were collected during a two-year period (2016-2017). Health care professionals with a completed survey during this time period and an active license in January 2018 were included in this report. Please refer to the HWRP’s General Methods documentation on the website for further details.

For more information about methodology and results, visit:
https://www.oregon.gov/oha/hpa/analytics/Pages/Health-Care-Workforce-Reporting.aspx

For questions about this report, contact:

Health Care Workforce Reporting Program
Research and Data
Oregon Health Authority
WkfcAdmin@dhsoha.state.or.us
971-283-8792
Additional data sources:


Suggested Citation:

### Appendix A: Estimated count, FTE in direct patient care, and population-to-provider FTE ratio by county

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>Population</th>
<th>Licensed clinical social workers</th>
<th>Clinical social work associates</th>
<th>Non-clinical social workers</th>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>Estimated Count</td>
<td>Est. Patient Care FTE</td>
<td>Pop-to-Prov Ratio</td>
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<tr>
<td>POLK</td>
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<td>27</td>
<td>13.9</td>
<td>5,843</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SHERMAN</td>
<td>1,800</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TILLAMOOK</td>
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<td>23</td>
<td>11.8</td>
<td>2,210</td>
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<tr>
<td>UMATILLA</td>
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<td>32</td>
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<tr>
<td>UNION</td>
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<td>28</td>
<td>10.0</td>
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<td>YAMHILL</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Note: Circles indicate whether county has no providers (red) or is above (yellow) or below (green) the statewide ratio by 50%. Population-to-provider ratios are based on the estimated patient care FTE in the county. Values greater than the county population are due to less than 1.0 FTE in county.