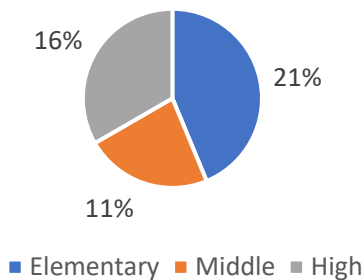


# Statewide Scan of Local Agencies Providing Clinical Mental Health Services in Schools

Local agencies often partner with schools and districts by ensuring a mental health clinician is placed in schools to provide individual, group, family therapy & crisis intervention services. These providers help advance equity in access to resources and opportunity for students and families. In addition, by offering rapid crisis and intervention services they help to reduce exclusionary discipline practices. To understand the landscape of these therapeutic supports more fully across Oregon, a statewide scan was conducted during July and August of 2022.

The purpose of the project was to assist efforts to understand the continuum of mental health services in K-12 public schools scanning use of community-employed mental health clinicians, regardless of how these positions are funded, and identify the various funding sources that support the positions.

**Percentage of Oregon Schools with Community-Employed Mental Health Clinicians**

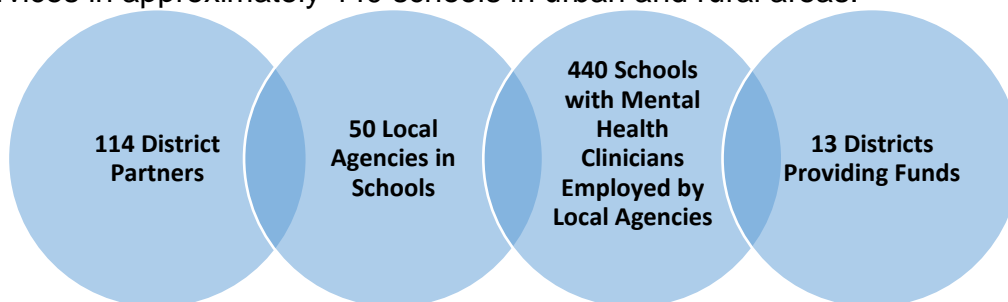


The term “community-employed mental health clinician” is used to describe those staff working in schools providing therapy services, employed by a local agency.

The term “local agencies” is used to broadly describe community-mental health agencies, local mental health authorities, and community-based organizations.

The figure below highlights the data captured from this statewide scan.<sup>1</sup>

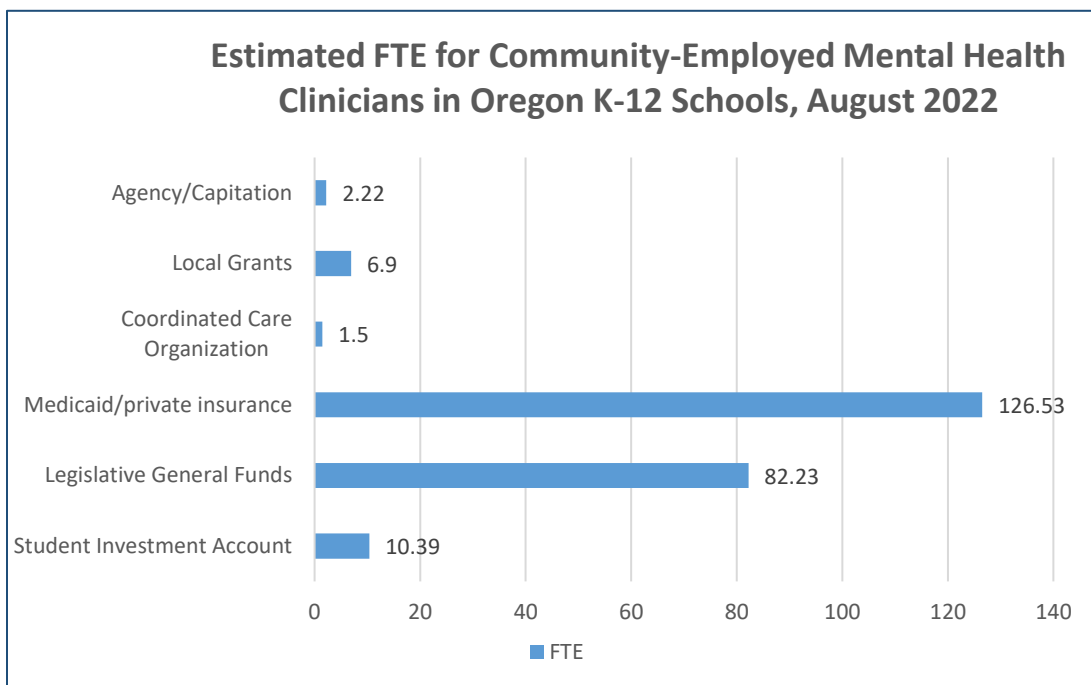
- ▶ Approximately 50 local agencies across Oregon currently partner with 114 School Districts.
- ▶ These agencies employ mental health clinicians to provide therapy and crisis intervention services in approximately 440 schools in urban and rural areas.



<sup>1</sup> Note: due to the time-limited nature of this scan, there is a small amount of missing data.

## How Positions Are Funded

This statewide scan revealed that billing of Oregon Health Plan (OHP) and private insurance was the primary mechanism to support community-employed mental health clinicians' positions, followed by legislative investments dedicated to [School-Based Health Centers](#) and [school-based mental health partnerships](#).



## Considerations and Next Steps

More information is needed to fully understand the scope and impact of community-based therapy services in schools across our state. Future scans may be repeated provided resource availability.

For example:

- ▶ Parent and caregiver engagement is essential to helping students thrive. Further review of partnerships could be expanded to include families.
- ▶ Review of how partnerships maximize service delivery through integrated trauma informed and culturally and linguistically responsive practices.

Further examination of the following groups is also needed to understand the full continuum of mental health services in schools:

- ▶ School-employed clinicians
- ▶ Youth and family peers,
- ▶ Traditional health workers,
- ▶ Skill building professionals

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