



# North Carolina Mental Health & Substance Use Services Workforce Data 2024 Snapshot:

## GRADUATE-LEVEL MH/SU SERVICES CLINICIANS

**30,804**  
All Graduate-Level Clinicians  
Active Practice

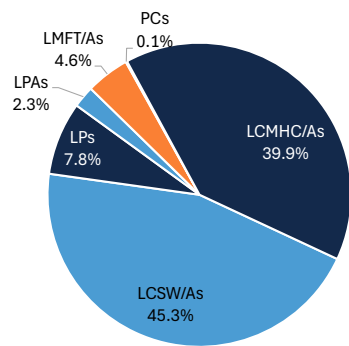
**13,945**  
Social Workers  
LCSWs + LCSWAs

**12,280**  
Mental Health Counselors  
LCMHC + LCMHCAs

**4,579**  
Other Graduate Clinicians  
LP/As, LMFT/As, PCs

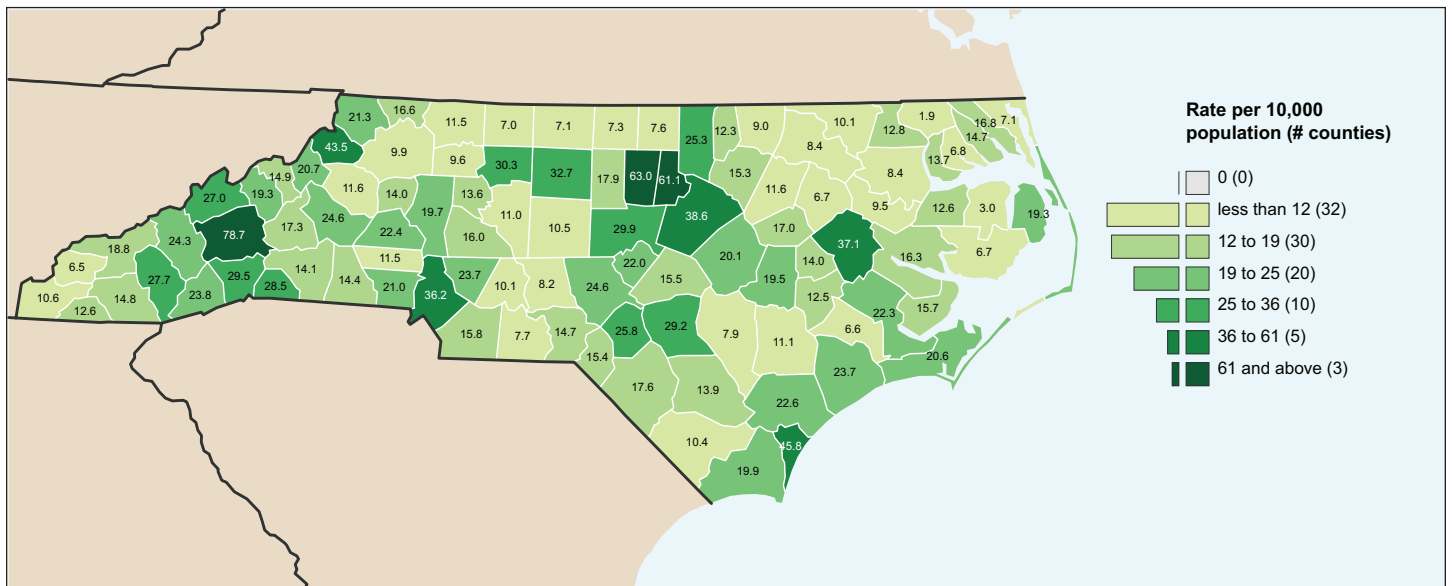
The composition of graduate-level clinicians ranged from a **high of 45.3% for LCSW/LCSWAs** and a **low of 0.1% for Pastoral Counselors**.

The average rate for all graduate-level clinicians in-state was **28.0 per 10,000 population**.



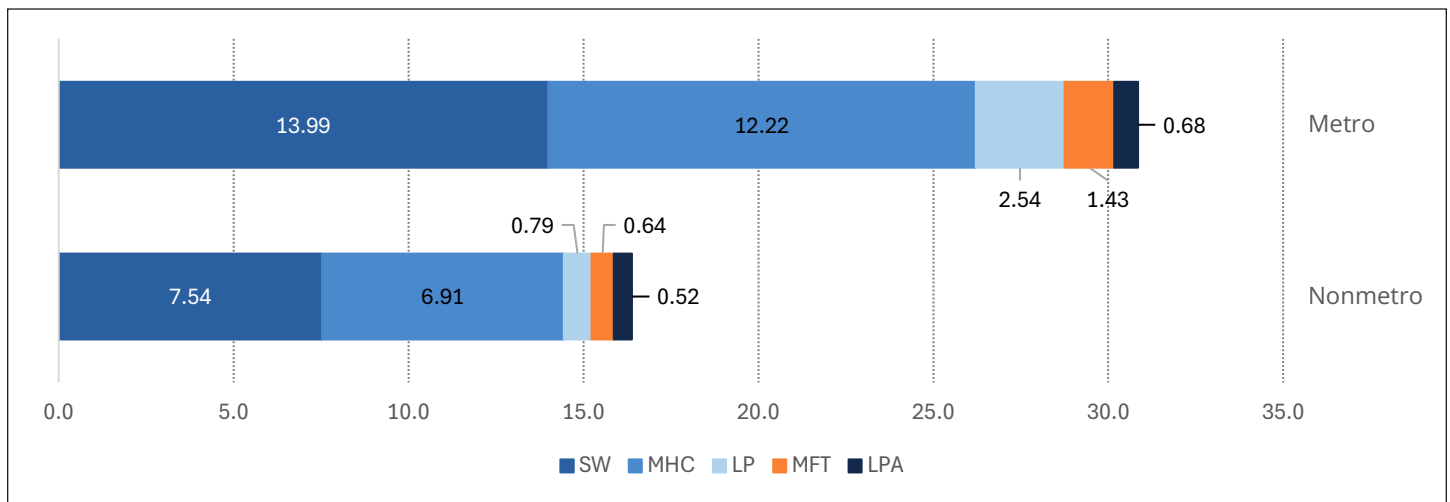
- LP = Licensed Psychologist
- LPA = Licensed Psychological Associate
- LMFT = Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist
- LMFTA = Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist Associate
- PC = Pastoral Counselor
- LCMHC = Licensed Clinical Mental Health Counselor
- LCMHCA = Licensed Clinical Mental Health Counselor Associate
- LCSW = Licensed Clinical Social Worker
- LCSWA = Licensed Clinical Social Worker Associate

### Graduate-Level Clinicians per 10,000 Population by County, North Carolina, 2024



Source: NCPB, NCMFTLB, NCBLCMHC, NCSWCLB, & NC Pastoral Counseling Board Licensure Data.

## Metro and Nonmetro County Rate per 10k by Licensure Type, 2024

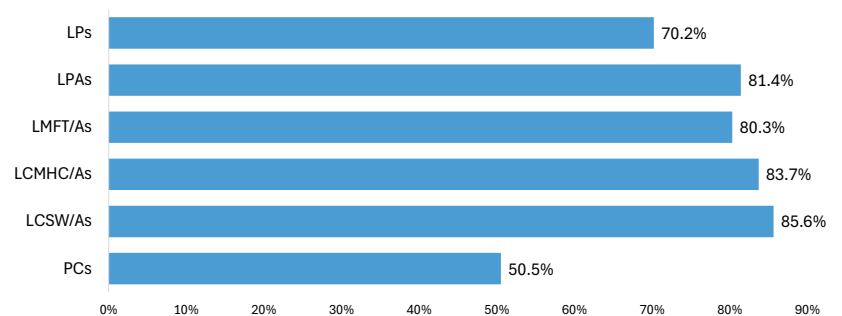


## Coverage by County

Graduate-level clinicians were in every North Carolina county in 2024. The number of counties with no coverage within each individual occupational group were:

- LPs: 29
- LPAs: 31
- LMFT/As: 23
- LCMHC/As: 2
- LCSW/As: 2

## Percent Female by Licensure Type, 2024



Source: NPPES & NCPB Licensure data.

## KEY TAKEAWAYS

- **Social workers and mental health counselors were the largest occupational groups**, combined making up 85.2% of the entire graduate-level clinician workforce.
- **Metro counties had nearly double the rate of graduate-level clinicians vs nonmetro counties: 30.9 vs 16.4 per 10k.**
- Every graduate-level occupational group had metro rates per 10k higher than the state average and nonmetro rates per 10k lower than the state average.



NC DEPARTMENT OF  
**HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**  
Division of Mental Health,  
Developmental Disabilities and  
Substance Use Services

**SHEPS HEALTH  
WORKFORCE NC**

This project was supported by the NC Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Substance Use Services (DMHDDSUS). The information, content and conclusions are those of the authors and should not be construed as the official position or policy of, nor should any endorsements be inferred by DMHDDSUS.

For more information, please find the full report at: <https://nchealthworkforce.unc.edu/projects/mhsu-workforce/>

