



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

## LICENSED PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATES

**709**

**Total Licensed Psychological Associates**  
Active Practice

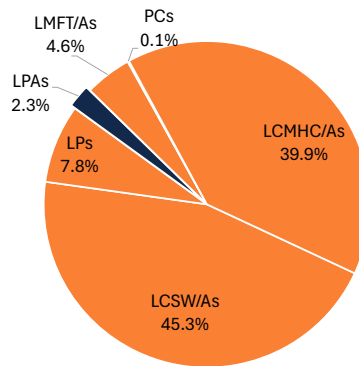
**431**

**Clinical LPAs**  
Licensed Psychological Associates, Clinical Specialty

**278**

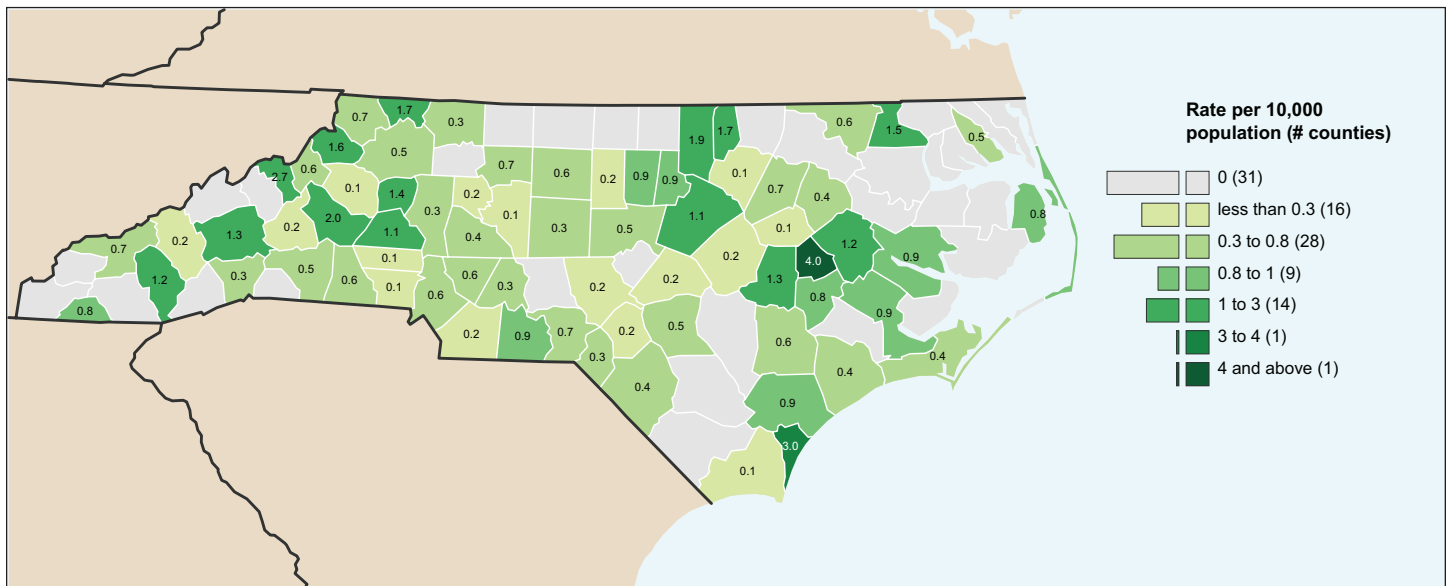
**Other LPAs**  
Licensed Psychological Associates, Other Specialties

- The average rate for LPAs in-state was **0.65 per 10,000** population.
- The rate of LPAs per 10,000 decreased since 2014 (0.84).
- LPAs comprised **2.3%** of the entire graduate-level workforce across North Carolina.
- LPAs were composed of specialties: **Clinical (60.8%)**, School (19.5%), Counseling (6.6%), and Other/None (13.1%).

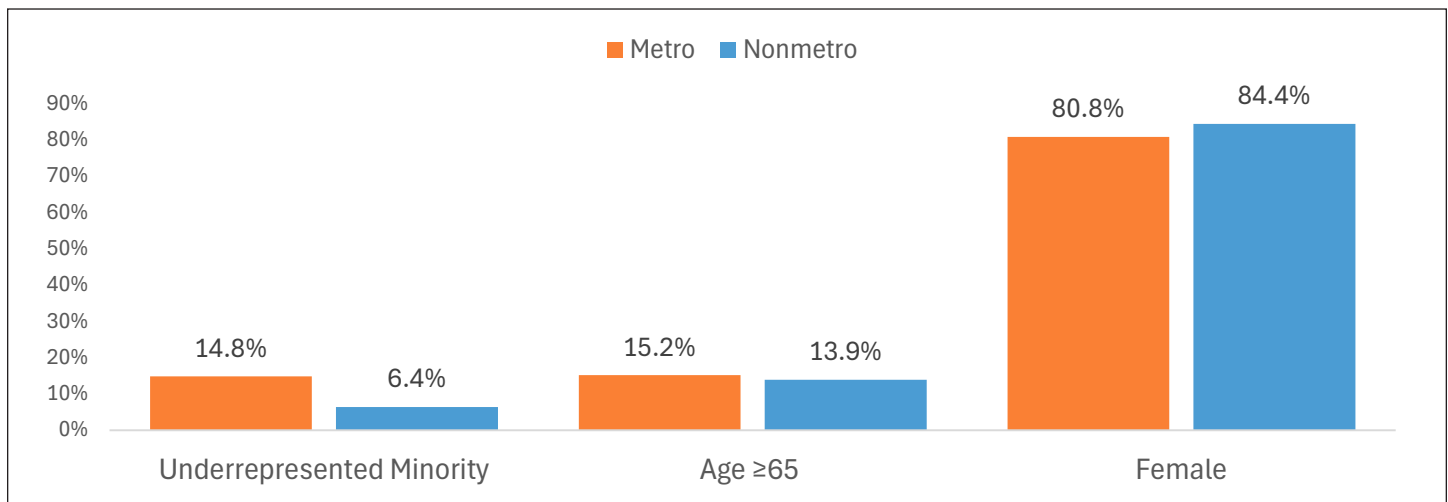


- LP = Licensed Psychologist
- LMFT = Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists
- LMFTA = Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists Associate
- PC = Pastoral Counselor
- LCMHC = Licensed Clinical Mental Health Counselor
- LCMHCA = Licensed Clinical Mental Health Counselor Associate
- LCSW = Licensed Clinical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

### Licensed Psychological Associates per 10,000 Population by County, North Carolina, 2024



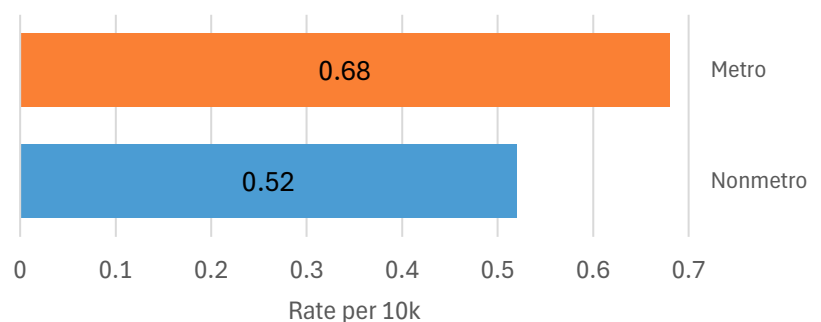
## Licensed Psychological Associates Workforce Demographics by Urbanicity, 2024



## Education

- **51.3% of LPAs** were educated in-state in 2024 compared to 58.0% in 2014
- 90.5% of LPAs held a Master's degree
- 9.5% of LPAs held a Doctorate

### LPAs in Metro and Nonmetro Counties, 2024



## KEY TAKEAWAYS

- The state average was **0.65 LPAs per 10,000 population**, with uneven distribution throughout the state
- Almost a third of counties (**31**) had **0 LPAs** per 10,000 population. 81 counties had a rate per 10k below the state average.
- **Metro and nonmetro counties had somewhat similar rates** (0.68 metro vs 0.52 nonmetro).
- The workforce size declined 15% from 2014 to 2024 and **lowered in rate per 10k from 0.84 to 0.65**.
- Differences between LPAs in metro and nonmetro counties are seen in the proportion of underrepresented minorities. Overall, LPAs were 81.4% female, 17.2% ≥65, and 13.3% identified as underrepresented minorities.



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

**SHEPS HEALTH  
WORKFORCE NC**

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

