

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

## MENTAL HEALTH & SUBSTANCE USE SERVICES NURSE PRACTITIONERS



**3,605**

**MH/SU Prescribers**

Active Practice, Mental Health & Substance Use Services Prescribers

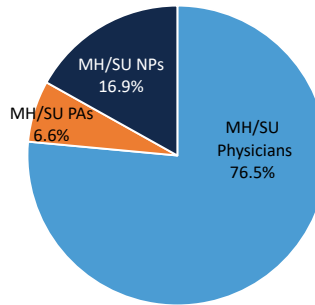
**1,461**

**MH/SU NPs**

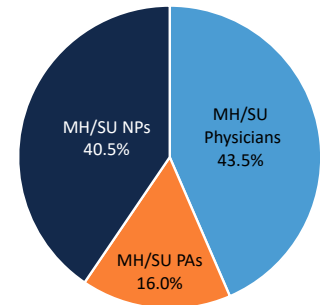
Mental Health & Substance Use Services Nurse Practitioners

- The average rate for MH/SU NPs in-state was **1.33 per 10,000** population.
- MH/SU NP supply **increased notably**, from 0.28 per 10,000 population in 2014.
- MH/SU NPs comprised **40.5% of the MH/SU prescriber group** in North Carolina in 2024.

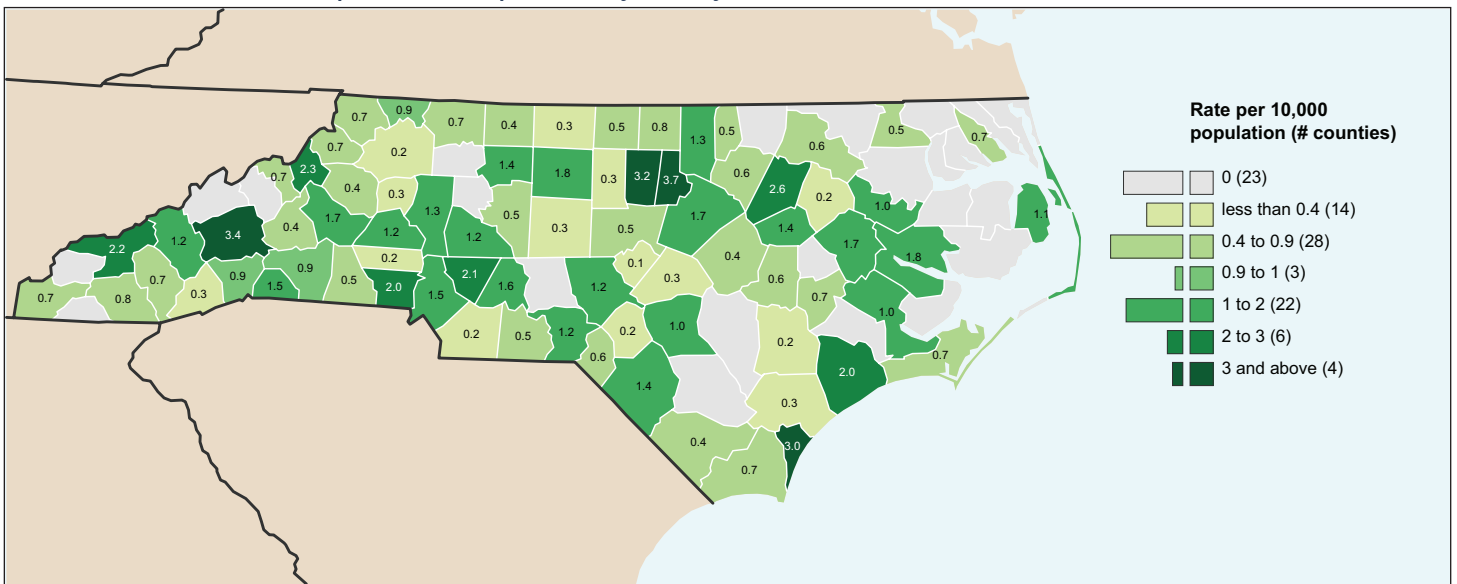
2014



2024

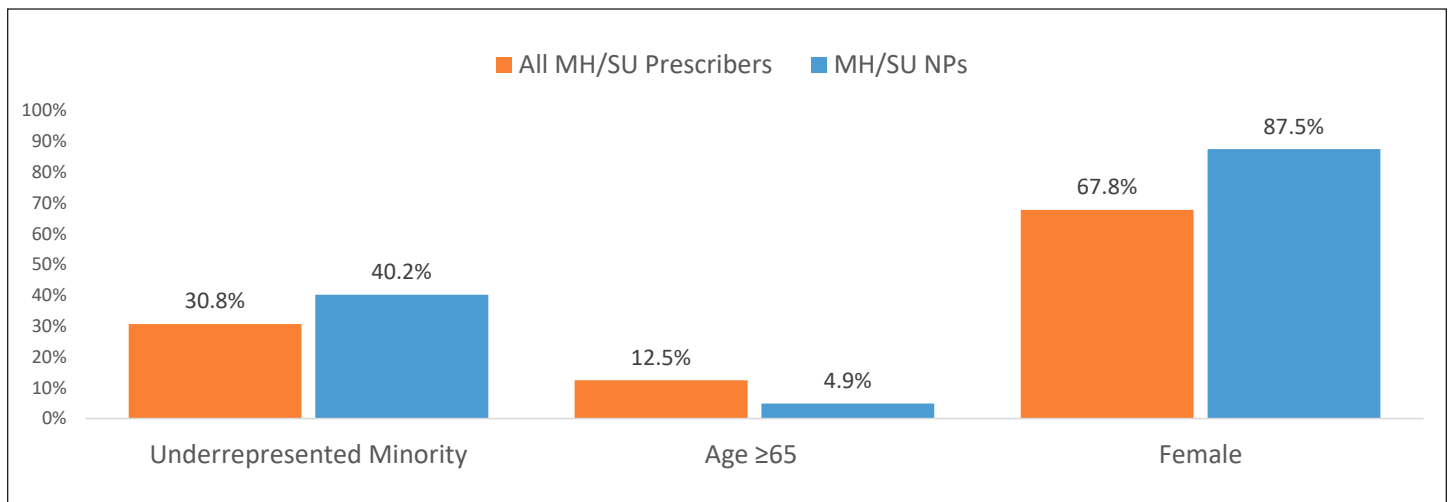


MH/SU Nurse Practitioners per 10,000 Population by County, North Carolina, 2024



Source: NC BON Licensure Data.

## Demographics of MH/SU Prescribers, MH/SU NPs, and MH/SU Registered Nurses (RNs)

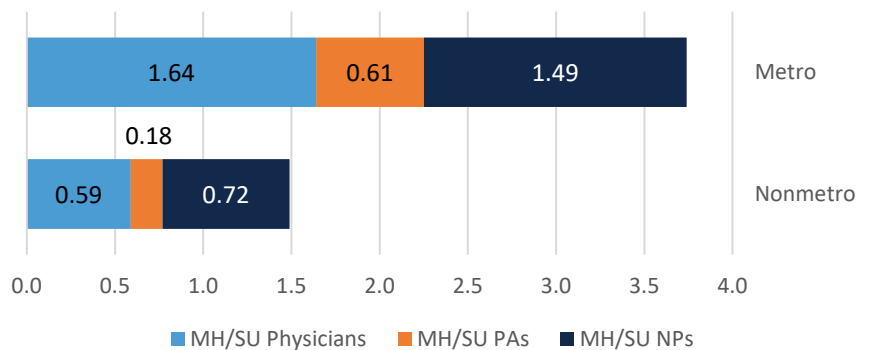


## Demographics, 2024

### MH/SU Nurse Practitioners:

- 87.5% female
- 4.9% ≥ 65 years
- 40.2% underrepresented minority

MH/SU Prescribers, MH/SU PAs, and MH/SU NPs Rate per 10k in Metro and Nonmetro Counties, 2024



## KEY TAKEAWAYS

- The state average was **1.33 MH/SU NPs per 10,000 population** with wide variability across counties.
- 23 counties had **no MH/SU NPs**. More than **75% of counties were lower** than the state average.
- **Metro counties had double the rate of MH/SU NPs** vs nonmetro counties: 1.49 vs 0.72 per 10,000.
- The supply of MH/SU NPs in NC increased since 2014 and became similar in size to the MH/SU physician workforce in 2024.
- MH/SU NPs had a higher representation of females and underrepresented minorities than the other MH/SU prescriber types.



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://nchealthworkforce.unc.edu/projects/mhsu-workforce/>

