

Appendix A**TGPHNSS Taskforce Membership****Chair**

- Cindy Zolnierek, PhD, RN - Executive Director, Texas Nurses Association

Members

- Lisa Campbell, DNP, RN, APHN-BC - Founder, Population Health Consultants
- Linda M. Kaufman, MSN, RN, APHN-BC - Public Health Nursing Supervisor, San Antonio Metropolitan Health District, Public Health Emergency Preparedness
- Lou Kreidler, RN, BSN - Director of Health, Wichita County Public Health District
- Lisette K. Osborne, RN-BC, MSN, CHEP - Preparedness Branch Manager, Health Emergency Preparedness and Response Section, Texas Department of State Health Services
- Martha Payne, APRN - Community Health Manager, Texas Department of Health Services, Health Services Region 7

**Texas Governmental Public Health Nurse Staffing Survey
(TGPHNSS)
Survey Instrument**



Texas Center for Nursing Workforce Studies

Department of State Health Services



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Welcome to the 2017 Texas Governmental Public Health Nurse Staffing Survey (TGNPHSS)

Purpose: The primary purpose of this survey is to assess nurse staffing and related issues in Texas governmental public health agencies. The information in this survey will serve as a guide for the development of policy recommendations by the Texas Center for Nursing Workforce Studies Advisory Committee. The data you provide will also be instrumental in developing projections for the number of nurses needed in Texas. Your participation in this study is completely voluntary but highly encouraged.

Due Date: Your completed survey is due by **Friday, May 12th, 2017**.

Confidentiality Agreement: Your responses are completely confidential. We will report aggregate findings (statewide and regional results) only.

If you have questions at any time about the survey or the procedures, you may contact Timothy Hawkins by phone at [512-776-6561](tel:512-776-6561) or by email at TCNWS@dshs.texas.gov.

1. Please provide the following information about your division/section/agency.

Official agency name:

Main office city:

Main office zip code:

Name of person submitting survey:

Title of person submitting survey:

Email of person submitting survey:

Phone # of person submitting survey (xxx-xxx-xxxx):

2. Which of the following best characterizes your division/section/agency? Select all that apply.

- Local health department - city
- Local health department - county
- Local health department - health district
- DSHS - health service region
- DSHS - central office in Austin
- Texas Health and Human Services
- Other, please specify:

3. Please list the counties served by your division/section/agency. If you provide service statewide, please list "Texas."

4. Does your division/section/agency have a position designated with overall administrative responsibility for nursing services?

- Yes
- No

5. Is the person with overall administrative responsibility for nursing services a registered nurse?

- Yes
- No

6. What types of nurses are used to staff programs in your division/section/agency? Select all that apply.

- LVNs
- RNs
- APRNs

7. The Institute of Medicine’s (IOM) report, The Future of Nursing: Leading Change, Advancing Health, recommends preparing and enabling nurses to lead change to advance health, including representation on boards and other key leadership positions. In order to track this indicator for our state, please answer the following question.

Does your organization’s board have any RN members?

- No
- Yes, and they have voting privileges
- Yes, but they do not have voting privileges
- Not applicable or unknown

8. For each of the following categories, how many people are currently employed by your division/section/agency? Please do NOT include contract or temporary staff. Please report this as a headcount by full- and part-time employees.

	Full-time headcount	Part-time headcount
Total number of employees		
Number of licensed vocational nurses (LVNs)		
Number of registered nurses (RNs)		
Number of advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs)		
Number of positions that <u>require</u> an LVN, RN, or APRN license		

9. How many nurses currently employed by your division/section/agency have a public health nurse (PHN) certification? Please report this as a headcount.

	Number of nurses with a PHN certification
RN	
APRN	

10. Please select the type of nurses that are currently used to staff the following program areas within your division/section/agency. See 2017 TGPHNSS Operational Definitions for program area definitions.

Strategy	Staffed by LVNs	Staffed by RNs	Staffed by APRNs	Have program area but not staffed with nurses	Agency does not have this program area
Access to Care/Health Systems	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ambulatory Services (Primary Care)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Case Management/Care Coordination (including home visits)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Chronic Disease Services/Prevention	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Correctional Health	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Emergency Preparedness	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Environmental Health	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Epidemiology	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Family Planning Services (Clinical)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
General Administration	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Home Health Care	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Immunization Programs/Services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Inspections (Daycares, Nursing homes, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Maternal/Child Health Programs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Men’s Health	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Refugee Health	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Strategy	Staffed by LVNs	Staffed by RNs	Staffed by APRNs	Have program area but not staffed with nurses	Agency does not have this program area
School Health	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sexually Transmitted Disease (STD)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Substance Abuse/Tobacco Prevention	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tuberculosis Control	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Women, Infant, Children Supplemental Nutrition Program (WIC)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other, please specify:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

11. For each of the following functions or activities, please select the types of nurses who do them as part of their primary role or function.

	LVNs	RNs	APRNs
Administration/Staff Supervision	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Community Engagement	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Clinic-based Care	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Population-level Prevention	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Quality Improvement Activities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Workforce Development/ Training	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Regulatory/Compliance Monitoring	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Policy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Outreach Activities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other, please specify:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

12. Please provide the total number of full-time equivalent (FTE) positions in your division/section/agency as of January 27, 2017 for each type of nurse as indicated in the table below. Please enter "0" if your division/section/agency does not employ a particular type of nurse.

	Total number of FTE positions occupied on 01/27/2017	Total number of vacant FTEs being recruited on 01/27/2017	Total number of vacant FTEs on hold/frozen on 01/27/2017
LVNs			
RNs			
APRNs			

13. Please provide the total number of temporary nurse full-time equivalents (FTEs) for each type of nurses used by your division/section/agency on January 27, 2017. Please enter "0" if your agency does not employ a particular type of nurse.

	Number of temporary nurse FTEs such as contract or staffing agency nurses employed on 01/27/2017
LVNs	
RNs	
APRNs	

14. Please provide the total number of nurses employed by your division/section/agency on 1/1/2016 and 12/31/2016 for each type of nurse as indicated in the table below. Do not include contract or staffing agency nurses in this section. Please enter "0" if your division/section/agency does not employ a particular type of nurse. Please note that you are to report a head count in this question.

	Headcount of full-time nurses on 1/1/16	Headcount of full-time nurses on 12/31/16	Headcount of part-time nurses on 1/1/16	Headcount of part-time nurses on 12/31/16
LVNs				
All RNs				
Newly Licensed RNs				
APRNs				

15. Please provide the total number of separations during January 1, 2016 - December 31, 2016 for each type of nurse as indicated in the table below. Do not include contract or staffing agency nurses in this section. Please enter "0" if your division/section/agency does not employ a particular type of nurse. Please note that you are to report a headcount in this question.

	Total headcount of <u>separations</u> during January 1, 2016 - December 31, 2016
LVNs	
All RNs	
Newly Licensed RNs	
APRNs	

16. Once a vacant nursing position is posted, how many days does it typically take to fill that position?

	1-30 days	31-60 days	61-90 days	91 days or more	N/A
LVN positions	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
RN positions	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
APRN positions	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

17. Please describe the issues your division/section/agency faces in filling vacant nursing positions.

18. Please describe any issues resulting from vacant nursing positions in your division/section/agency.

19. Please indicate the methods of interim staffing used by your division/section/agency to fill in for vacant or absent nurse staff positions. Select all that apply.

- We do not use these methods of interim staffing
- Voluntary overtime
- Increased workload (but not work hours) of existing staff
- Identified other providers of services in the community for client referrals
- In-house staffing pool/per diem
- Temporary nurses such as contract or staffing agency nurses
- Other interim staffing methods (please specify):

20. Please provide the number of additional full-time equivalent (FTE) positions by type of nurses your division/section/agency expects to budget for the next fiscal year.

	<u>Additional</u> number of FTE positions you expect to budget next fiscal year
LVNs	
RNs	
APRNs	

21. Please indicate the type of change, if any, in the number of budgeted nurse FTEs on staff in the past two years, for each type of nurse.

	Increased	Decreased	No change
LVN	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
RN	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
APRN	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

22. Please indicate the reasons your division/section/agency has increased budgeted positions for each type of nurse during the past two years. Select all that apply.

	Opening of new programs or departments	Increase in funding	Changes in policy	Other
LVN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
RN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
APRN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

23. If "Other", please specify the reasons your division/section/agency has increased budgeted nurse positions.

24. Please indicate the reasons your division/section/agency has decreased budgeted positions for each type of nurse during the past two years. Select all that apply.

	Closing of programs or departments	Reduced funding	Changes in policy	Inability to fill existing nurse positions	Other
LVN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
RN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
APRN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

25. If "Other", please specify the reasons your division/section/agency has decreased budgeted nurse positions.

26. Has your division/section/agency replaced budgeted positions for RNs with budgeted positions for LVNs in the last fiscal year?

- Yes
- No

27. How many budgeted positions for RNs were replaced with budgeted positions for LVNs in the last fiscal year?

28. Please explain why your division/section/agency replaced budgeted positions for RNs with budgeted positions for LVNs in the last fiscal year.

29. Please provide the following information regarding nurse informaticists (registered nurses whose main job function is to process and manage data and information to support nursing practice, administration, education, research, and the expansion of nursing knowledge) within your division/section/agency on January 27, 2017. Enter "0" where applicable.

Number of nurse informaticists employed on January 27, 2017	
Number of vacant nurse informaticist positions on January 27, 2017	

30. Which of these nursing staff recruitment and retention strategies are used by your division/section/agency? Select all that apply.

Strategy	Full-time employees	Part-time employees
NONE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Health insurance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Retirement plan	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Paid vacation days	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Employee recognition programs (employee of the month, staff dinners/luncheons, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reimbursement for workshops/conferences	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sign-on bonus	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bonus for recruiting nursing staff to the organization	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Flexible scheduling or job sharing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Merit bonus	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tuition (reimbursement or direct payment for employees/new hires)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Financial assistance in receiving certifications or further education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Payback for unused sick/vacation time	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other, please specify:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

31. Where do you currently focus your RN recruitment efforts? Select all that apply.

- We don't actively recruit employees
- Within Texas
- In states outside of Texas
- Internationally

32. If you focus your RN recruitment efforts outside of Texas, please describe why.

33. In your opinion, what interventions would have the greatest impact on retention of nurses in your organization? Select all that apply.

- Pay increase
- Employee recognition
- Adequate staffing
- Other (Please specify):

34. What consequences has your organization experienced in the past year as a result of an inadequate supply of nursing personnel? Select all that apply.

- NONE - We had an adequate supply of nursing personnel.
- Increased workloads
- Low nursing staff morale
- Inability to expand services
- Increase in voluntary overtime
- Wage increases
- Increased nursing staff turnover
- Increased use of temporary/agency nurses
- Increased patient/family complaints
- Increased absenteeism
- Increased number of incident reports
- Difficulty completing required documentation on time
- Other (Please specify):

35. Please indicate the number of newly licensed RNs, by degree, that were hired by your organization during your organization's last fiscal year, and the total number of RNs, by degree, employed by your organization during the last fiscal year. Newly licensed RNs are those who have been licensed for less than 1 year.

	Number of newly licensed RN applicants hired	Number of all RNs employed
Diploma		
ADN		
BSN		
MSN Alternate Entry		

Transition to Practice

The Institute of Medicine's Future of Nursing: Leading Change, Advancing Health report made 8 recommendations for the field of nursing. Recommendation 3 from this report is "Implement nurse residency programs." In response to this recommendation, the Texas Center for Nursing Workforce Studies and its Advisory Committee are gathering information on transition to practice programs in nurse employment settings. For the purpose of this survey, transition to practice programs are defined as formal programs of active learning for:

- newly licensed registered nurses (RNs) and licensed vocational nurses (VNs) designed to support their progression from education to practice
- experienced nurses who transition to a new practice setting or specialty
- newly licensed advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs) transitioning to a new practice setting, specialty, or role.

Nurse residency – a series of learning sessions and work experiences that occurs continuously over a predetermined period of time and is designed to assist new employees as they transition to their first professional nursing role. For the purpose of this survey, nurse residency programs are geared toward newly licensed nurses, or nurses licensed for less than one year.

Nurse fellowship – a series of learning sessions and work experiences that occurs continuously over a predetermined period of time and is designed to assist experienced nurses to master new clinical settings or newly certified or licensed advanced practice nurses to master new settings, specialties, or roles.

Student Nurse internship/externship – a training program designed for upper-level nursing students to further develop nursing skills and assist in the successful transfer from educational to clinical settings.

Preceptorship/Mentorship – a formal, one-on-one teaching-learning relationship of predetermined length between a competent preceptor or mentor and a newly licensed nurse that facilitates transition to practice.

Please tell us about your transition to practice program by answering the following questions.

36. Does your division/section/agency have a transition to practice program for nurses? Please note that we are not asking about new job orientation programs that all staff must complete.

- Yes
- No

37. If your division/section/agency has a transition to practice program for nurses, please describe it below.

Additional Comments and Suggestions

Please use this space to make any comments or suggestions regarding this survey.

You have reached the end of the 2017 Texas Governmental Public Health Nurse Staffing Survey! Thank you for your participation. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Timothy Hawkins at (512) 776-6561 or by email at TCNWS@dshs.texas.gov.

**Texas Governmental Public Health Nurse Staffing Survey
(TGPHNSS)
Operational Definitions**



2017 Texas Governmental Public Health Nurse Staffing Study Operational Definitions

Administrator - The person who is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the local health department.

Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) – a registered nurse approved by the Texas Board of Nursing (BON) to practice as an advanced practice nurse based on completing an advanced educational program acceptable to the BON. The term includes a nurse practitioner, nurse-midwife, nurse anesthetist, and a clinical nurse specialist. The advanced practice nurse is prepared to practice in an expanded role to provide health care to individuals, families, and/or groups in a variety of settings including but not limited to homes, hospitals, institutions, offices, industry, schools, community agencies, public and private clinics, and private practice. The advanced practice nurse acts independently and/or in collaboration with other health care professionals in the delivery of health care services (Texas BON).

Full-Time – an employee who works a full work week and full work year, as defined by the employer.

Full-Time Equivalent (FTEs) - the equivalent of one (1) full-time employee working for one year or a staff position budgeted for 2,080 hours per year. This is generally calculated as 40 hours per week for 52 weeks (or other variations such as 80 hours in a 14 day time frame), for a total of 2,080 paid hours per year. This includes both productive and non-productive (vacation, sick, holiday, education, etc.) time. Two employees each working 20 hours per week for one year would be the same as one FTE.

Health Services Regions - eight regions designated by DSHS in Texas that provide preventive, protective, regulatory, and preparedness health services in areas without local health departments. Additionally, each region carries out required state governmental functions and assists local health departments (Texas DSHS).

Licensed Vocational Nurse (LVN) - an individual who holds a current license to practice as a practical or vocational nurse in Texas or a compact state (Texas BON).

Local Health Department (LHD) – a governmental body serving a jurisdiction or group of jurisdictions geographically smaller than a health region or state and recognized as having the primary statutory authority to promote and protect the public's health and prevent disease in humans. This authority is defined by the state's constitution, statute, or regulations or established by local ordinance or through formal local cooperative agreement or mutual aid. (Public Health Accreditation Board. *Guide to National Public Health Department Accreditation*. Alexandria, VA. May 2011).

Nurse Informaticist – a registered nurse whose main job function is to process and manage data and information to support nursing practice, administration, education, research, and the expansion of nursing knowledge.

Part-Time – an employee who works less than full-time, as defined by the employer.

Per Diem – an arrangement wherein a nurse is employed directly on an as needed basis and usually has no benefits.



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Public Health Nursing (PHN) – the practice of promoting and protecting the health of populations using knowledge from nursing, social, and public health science (American Public Health Association, Public Health Nursing Section, 1996).

Registered Nurse (RN) - an individual who holds a current license to practice within the scope of professional nursing in Texas or a compact state (Texas BON).

Separations - the number of people (head count) who left your organization in the specified time frame. Include voluntary and involuntary terminations or separations. Do NOT count contract/temporary labor, students in training, travelers or separations due to illness or death in the termination or separation numbers. Do not include within-organization transfers.

Program Areas

Access to Care/Health Systems – promotes strategies to improve access to healthcare services. The ability to obtain wanted or needed services may be influenced by many factors, including travel, distance, waiting time, available financial resources, and availability of a regular source of care. Access to care also refers to the extent to which a public health service is readily available to the community's individuals in need. (Turnock, BJ. *Public Health: What It Is and How It Works*. Jones and Bartlett. 2009).

Ambulatory Services (Primary Care) - focuses on cost-effective ways to maximize wellness, prevent illness, and manages acute and chronic diseases to affect the most attainable positive health status over the patient's life span up to and including a peaceful death. (Laughlin, C.B. (Ed.) (2006). *AAACN Core Curriculum for Ambulatory Care Nursing*, p. 4. Pitman, NJ: American Academy of Ambulatory Care Nursing).

Case Management/Care Coordination (including home visits) – maintains primary accountability for a patient case load in order to ensure organization of the costs, use, and quality of the health care system (ICONS).

Chronic Disease Services/Prevention - provides information, education, resources, and assistance to the individual and community to ensure healthy life choices, reduce the human and economic impact of chronic poor health, reduce the incidence of premature death and disability, and promote healthy communities (Texas DSHS).

Correctional Health - provides nursing practice in prisons, jails, juvenile detention centers, and other restrictive settings.

Emergency Preparedness - plans for and responds to disasters and assist communities in recovery. Also provides emergency response preparation education (ACHNE. (2008). *Disaster Preparedness White Paper*. p.3).



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Environmental Health - develops environmental health educational tools and resources, including online webcasts, environmental health curricula, pocket guides, and websites, and implements environmental health training programs (The Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, CDC).

Epidemiology - studies the distribution and determinants of health-related states or events in specified populations, and applies

Family Planning Services (Clinical) - provides comprehensive, low-cost, and easily accessible reproductive health care to women and men. Services may include physical exams, birth control method counseling, natural family planning, emergency contraception provision, lab tests and medications for sexually transmitted diseases, pregnancy testing, pre-conception counseling, and infertility counseling, delivered in a family planning setting (Texas DSHS).

General Administration - executes administrative tasks such as policy making, scheduling, planning, and budgeting. Administration may also include staff management, hiring, and training.

Human Immunodeficiency Virus - provides education, prevention counseling, screening and testing, partner elicitation and notification, and the provision of medical and social services to prevent the spread of HIV (Texas DSHS).

Home Health Care - provides skilled nursing services in the patient's home. Examples of skilled nursing care include: giving IV drugs, injections, or tube feedings; changing dressings; and teaching about prescription drugs or diabetes care (US Dept. of Health & Human Services, Centers for Medicaid & Medicare Services, *Medicare and Home Health Care*, p.8).

Immunization Programs/Services - provides immunizations to children and adults of all ages in order to prevent vaccine preventable diseases within the community. Oversees the proper storage, handling, and administration of vaccines (Texas DSHS).

Inspections (Daycares, Nursing homes, etc.) - conducts onsite inspections to determine whether nursing homes, daycares, etc. meet the minimum funding and/or regulatory quality and performance standards (Department of Aging and Disability Services).

Maternal/Child Health Programs - conducts programming focused on improving the physical and mental health, safety, and well-being of women, infants, children, and adolescents (other than Women, Infant, and Children Supplemental Nutrition Program (WIC)) (HRSA, *Maternal and Child Health*, 2013).

Men's Health - conducts programming focused on identifying, preventing, and treating conditions that are most common or specific to men (Men's Health Network).

Refugee Health - provides refugee clients with culturally and linguistically appropriate comprehensive health assessments, including follow-up and referrals for health conditions identified in the assessment process (CDC, 2011).



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School Health - oversees school health policies and programs, provides expertise and oversight for the provision of school health services and promotion of health education, provides health care to students and/or staff, performs health screenings and coordinates referrals to the medical and dental home or private healthcare provider (National Association of School Nurses, 2011).

Sexually Transmitted Disease - provides education, prevention counseling, screening and testing, partner elicitation and notification, and the provision of medical and social services to prevent the spread of STDs other than HIV (Texas DSHS)

Substance Abuse/Tobacco Prevention - provides health education and/or cessation services to prevent tobacco and substance use (Texas DSHS).

Tuberculosis Control - provides a range of services to control, prevent, and eliminate tuberculosis (Texas DSHS).

Women, Infant, Children Supplemental Nutrition Program (WIC) - provides nutrition education and counseling, nutritious foods, and help accessing health care to eligible women, infants, and children (Texas DSHS).

Texas County and TGPHNSS Designations

Texas County Designation – Metropolitan

This study designates each of the 254 Texas counties as “Metropolitan” or “Non-metropolitan.”

Metropolitan statistical areas are defined by the United States Office of Management and Budget (OMB) according to published standards applied to 2000 Census Bureau data. Conceptually, a metropolitan statistical area is a core area containing a substantial population nucleus, together with adjacent communities having a high degree of economic and social integration with that core.

Each metropolitan statistical area must have at least one urbanized area of 50,000 or more inhabitants.

The Metropolitan and Non-metropolitan Statistical Area Standards do not equate to an urban-rural classification; all counties included in Metropolitan and Non-metropolitan Statistical Areas and many other counties contain both urban and rural territory and populations.

Texas has 77 Metropolitan and 177 Non-Metropolitan counties based on this designation.

Texas County Designation – Border

This study uses the Border/Non-border designation for Texas counties defined by the “La Paz Agreement,” which states that the border region is 100 kilometers north and south of the U.S. – Mexico border.

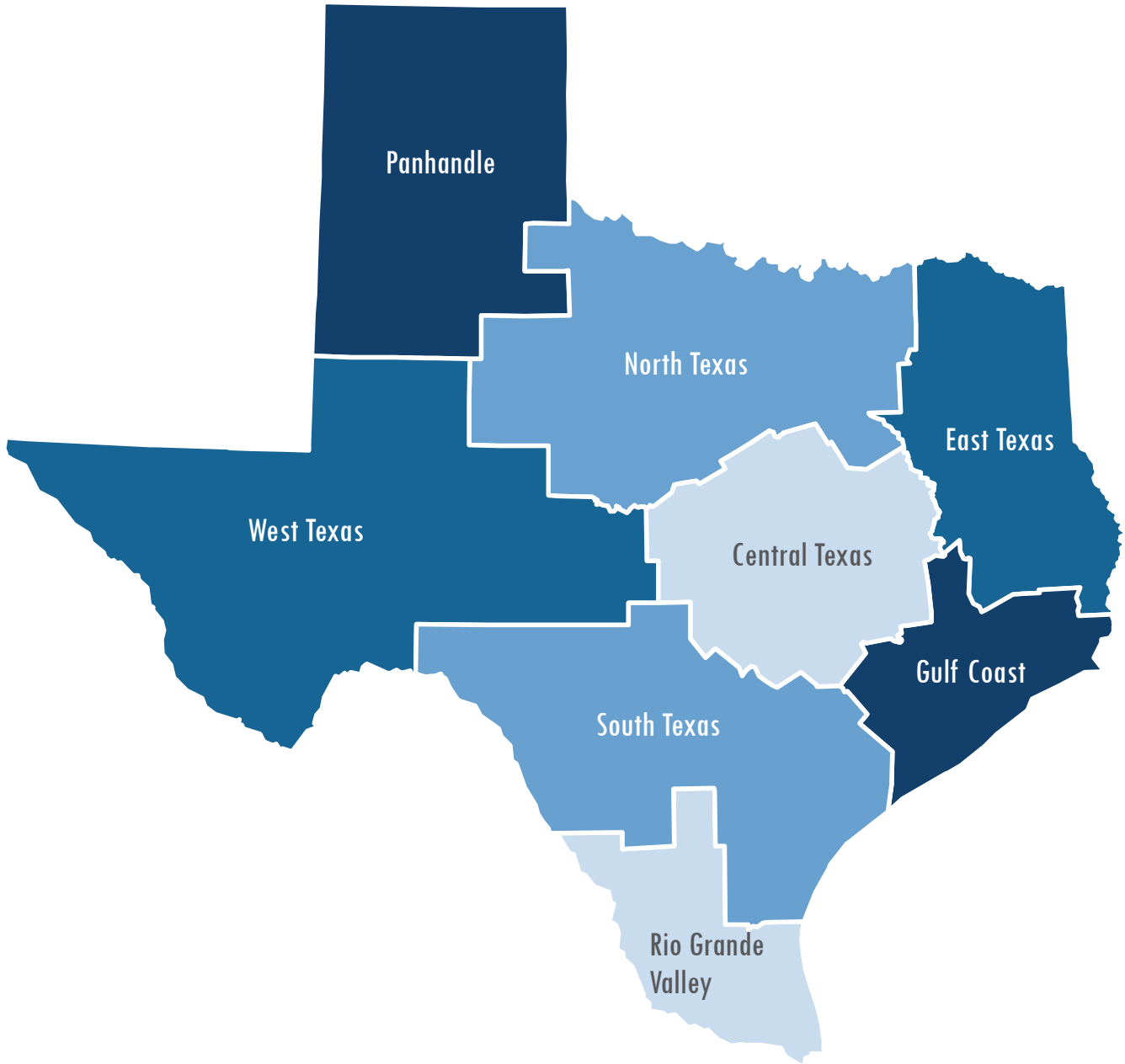
This border designation includes 32 Texas counties:

Brewster, Brooks, Cameron, Crockett, Culberson, Dimmit, Duval, Edwards, El Paso, Frio, Hidalgo, Hudspeth, Jeff Davis, Jim Hogg, Kenedy, Kinney, La Salle, Maverick, McMullen, Pecos, Presidio, Real, Reeves, Starr, Sutton, Terrell, Uvalde, Val Verde, Webb, Willacy, Zapata, and Zavala.

The remaining 222 counties are Non-Border.

Four of the 32 border counties are designated as Metropolitan.

TGPHNSS Region Map



2017 Texas Counties, Alphabetical Order

County Name	TGPHNSS Region	Metropolitan Status	Border Status
Anderson	East Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Andrews	West Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Angelina	East Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Aransas	Rio Grande Valley	Metro	Non-Border
Archer	North Texas	Metro	Non-Border
Armstrong	Panhandle	Metro	Non-Border
Atascosa	South Texas	Metro	Non-Border
Austin	Gulf Coast	Metro	Non-Border
Bailey	Panhandle	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Bandera	South Texas	Metro	Non-Border
Bastrop	Central Texas	Metro	Non-Border
Baylor	North Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Bee	Rio Grande Valley	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Bell	Central Texas	Metro	Non-Border
Bexar	South Texas	Metro	Non-Border
Blanco	Central Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Borden	West Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Bosque	Central Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Bowie	East Texas	Metro	Non-Border
Brazoria	Gulf Coast	Metro	Non-Border
Brazos	Central Texas	Metro	Non-Border
Brewster	West Texas	Non-Metro	Border
Briscoe	Panhandle	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Brooks	Rio Grande Valley	Non-Metro	Border
Brown	North Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Burleson	Central Texas	Metro	Non-Border
Burnet	Central Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Caldwell	Central Texas	Metro	Non-Border
Calhoun	South Texas	Metro	Non-Border
Callahan	North Texas	Metro	Non-Border
Cameron	Rio Grande Valley	Metro	Border
Camp	East Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Carson	Panhandle	Metro	Non-Border
Cass	East Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Castro	Panhandle	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Chambers	Gulf Coast	Metro	Non-Border
Cherokee	East Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Childress	Panhandle	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Clay	North Texas	Metro	Non-Border
Cochran	Panhandle	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Coke	West Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Coleman	North Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Collin	North Texas	Metro	Non-Border
Collingsworth	Panhandle	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Colorado	Gulf Coast	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Comal	South Texas	Metro	Non-Border
Comanche	North Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border

County Name	TGPHNSS Region	Metropolitan Status	Border Status
Concho	West Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Cooke	North Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Coryell	Central Texas	Metro	Non-Border
Cottle	North Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Crane	West Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Crockett	West Texas	Non-Metro	Border
Crosby	Panhandle	Metro Non-	Border
Culberson	West Texas	Non-Metro	Border
Dallam	Panhandle	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Dallas	North Texas	Metro	Non-Border
Dawson	West Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Deaf Smith	Panhandle	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Delta	East Texas	Metro	Non-Border
Denton	North Texas	Metro	Non-Border
DeWitt	South Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Dickens	Panhandle	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Dimmit	South Texas	Non-Metro	Border
Donley	Panhandle	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Duval	Rio Grande Valley	Non-Metro	Border
Eastland	North Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Ector	West Texas	Metro	Non-Border
Edwards	South Texas	Non-Metro	Border
Ellis	North Texas	Metro	Non-Border
El Paso	West Texas	Metro	Border
Erath	North Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Falls	Central Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Fannin	North Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Fayette	Central Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Fisher	North Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Floyd	Panhandle	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Foard	North Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Fort Bend	Gulf Coast	Metro	Non-Border
Franklin	East Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Freestone	Central Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Frio	South Texas	Non-Metro	Border
Gaines	West Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Galveston	Gulf Coast	Metro	Non-Border
Garza	Panhandle	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Gillespie	South Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Glasscock	West Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Goliad	South Texas	Metro	Non-Border
Gonzales	South Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Gray	Panhandle	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Grayson	North Texas	Metro	Non-Border
Gregg	East Texas	Metro	Non-Border
Grimes	Central Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Guadalupe	South Texas	Metro	Non-Border



County Name	TGPHNSS Region	Metropolitan Status	Border Status
Hale	Panhandle	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Hall	Panhandle	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Hamilton	Central Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Hansford	Panhandle	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Hardeman	North Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Hardin	Gulf Coast	Metro	Non-Border
Harris	Gulf Coast	Metro	Non-Border
Harrison	East Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Hartley	Panhandle	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Haskell	North Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Hays	Central Texas	Metro	Non-Border
Hemphill	Panhandle	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Henderson	East Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Hidalgo	Rio Grande Valley	Metro	Border
Hill	Central Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Hockley	Panhandle	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Hood	North Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Hopkins	East Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Houston	East Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Howard	West Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Hudspeth	West Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Metro
Hunt	North Texas	Metro	Non-Border
Hutchinson	Panhandle	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Irion	West Texas	Metro	Non-Border
Jack	North Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Jackson	South Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Jasper	East Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Jeff Davis	West Texas	Non-Metro	Border
Jefferson	Gulf Coast	Metro	Non-Border
Jim Hogg	Rio Grande Valley	Non-Metro	Border
Jim Wells	Rio Grande Valley	Valley	Non-Metro
Johnson	North Texas	Metro	Non-Border
Jones	North Texas	Metro	Non-Border
Karnes	South Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Kaufman	North Texas	Metro	Non-Border
Kendall	South Texas	Metro	Non-Border
Kenedy	Rio Grande Valley	Non-Metro	Border
Kent	North Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Kerr	South Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Kimble	West Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
King	Panhandle	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Kinney	South Texas	Non-Metro	Border
Kleberg	Rio Grande Valley	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Knox	North Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Lamar	East Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Lamb	Panhandle	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Lampasas	Central Texas	Metro	Non-Border
La Salle	South Texas	Non-Metro	Border

County Name	TGPHNSS Region	Metropolitan Status	Border Status
Lavaca	South Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Lee	Central Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Leon	Central Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Liberty	Gulf Coast	Metro	Non-Border
Limestone	Central Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Lipscomb	Panhandle	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Live Oak	Rio Grande Valley	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Llano	Central Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Loving	West Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Lubbock	Panhandle	Metro	Non-Border
Lynn	Panhandle	Non-Metro	Non-Border
McCulloch	West Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
McLennan	Central Texas	Metro	Non-Border
McMullen	Rio Grande Valley	Non-Metro	Border
Madison	Central Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Marion	East Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Martin	West Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Mason	West Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Matagorda	Gulf Coast	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Maverick	South Texas	Non-Metro	Border
Medina	South Texas	Metro	Non-Border
Menard	West Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Midland	West Texas	Metro	Non-Border
Milam	Central Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Mills	Central Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Mitchell	North Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Montague	North Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Montgomery	Gulf Coast	Metro	Non-Border
Moore	Panhandle	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Morris	East Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Motley	Panhandle	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Nacogdoches	East Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Navarro	North Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Newton	East Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Nolan	North Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Nueces	Rio Grande Valley	Metro	Non-Border
Ochiltree	Panhandle	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Oldham	Panhandle	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Orange	Gulf Coast	Metro	Non-Border
Palo Pinto	North Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Panola	East Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Parker	North Texas	Metro	Non-Border
Parmer	Panhandle	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Pecos	West Texas	Non-Metro	Border
Polk	East Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Potter	Panhandle	Metro	Non-Border
Presidio	West Texas	Non-Metro	Border
Rains	East Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border



County Name	TGPHNSS Region	Metropolitan Status	Border Status
Randall	Panhandle	Metro	Non-Border
Reagan	West Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Real	South Texas	Non-Metro	Border
Red River	East Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Reeves	West Texas	Non-Metro	Border
Refugio	Rio Grande Valley	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Roberts	Panhandle	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Robertson	Central Texas	Metro	Non-Border
Rockwall	North Texas	Metro	Non-Border
Runnels	North Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Rusk	East Texas	Metro	Non-Border
Sabine	East Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
San Augustine	East Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
San Jacinto	East Texas	Metro	Non-Border
San Patricio	Rio Grande Valley	Metro	Non-Border
San Saba	Central Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Schleicher	West Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Scurry	North Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Shackelford	North Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Shelby	East Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Sherman	Panhandle	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Smith	East Texas	Metro	Non-Border
Somervell	North Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Starr	Rio Grande Valley	Non-Metro	Border
Stephens	North Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Sterling	West Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Stonewall	North Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Sutton	West Texas	Non-Metro	Border
Swisher	Panhandle	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Tarrant	North Texas	Metro	Non-Border
Taylor	North Texas	Metro	Non-Border
Terrell	West Texas	Non-Metro	Border
Terry	Panhandle	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Throckmorton	North Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Titus	East Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Tom Green	West Texas	Metro	Non-Border
Travis	Central Texas	Metro	Non-Border
Trinity	East Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Tyler	East Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Upshur	East Texas	Metro	Non-Border
Upton	West Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Uvalde	South Texas	Non-Metro	Border
Wilbarger	North Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Willacy	Rio Grande Valley	Non-Metro	Border
Williamson	Central Texas	Metro	Non-Border
Wilson	South Texas	Metro	Non-Border
Winkler	West Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Wise	North Texas	Metro	Non-Border

County Name	TGPHNSS Region	Metropolitan Status	Border Status
Wood	East Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Yoakum	Panhandle	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Young	North Texas	Non-Metro	Non-Border
Zapata	Rio Grande Valley	Non-Metro	Border
Zavala	South Texas	Non-Metro	Border

