

Appendix B

HEALTH WORKFORCE DATA

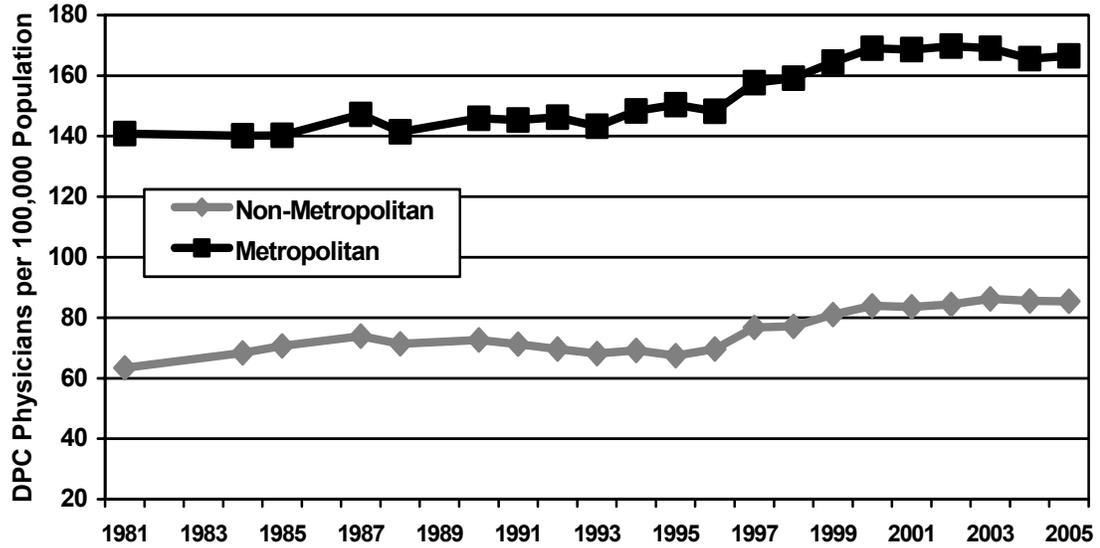


2007-2008

TEXAS STATE HEALTH PLAN UPDATE

APPENDIX B-1
 Direct Patient Care Physicians

DPC Physicians per 100,000 Population, Metropolitan and Non-Metropolitan Counties, Texas, 1981–2005



Source: Texas Medical Board
 Source for *metropolitan–non-metropolitan* definition: Office of Management and Budget
 Figures include all licensed, active, non-federal, non-resident in training physicians

2005 Texas Direct Patient Care Physician Facts:

White	67.8%	Male	76.2%	Median Age Male	49
Black	4.3%	Female	23.8%	Median Age Female	42
Hispanic	11.2%				
Other	16.7%				

Number of counties with no direct patient care physicians – 23

Providers/100,000 Population

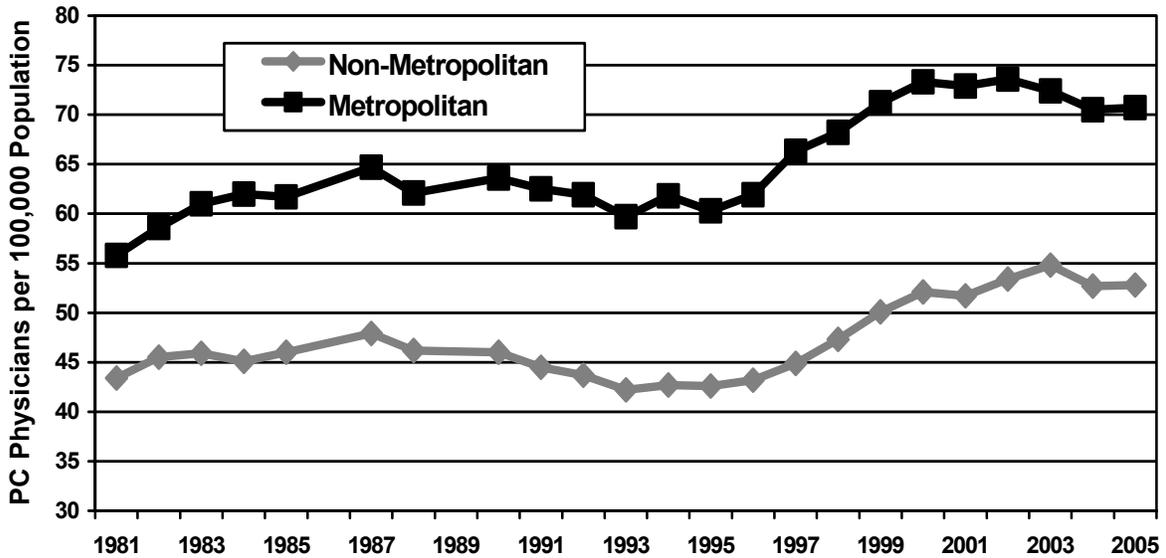
Border Metropolitan	146.3
Non-Border Metropolitan	171.6
Border Non-Metropolitan	74.1
Non-Border Non-Metropolitan	87.6

Trends:

Year	Number	Providers/100,000 Population
1990	22,711	133.7
1995	25,683	137.2
2000	31,769	156.2
2005	35,811	155.7

APPENDIX B-2
 Primary Care Physicians

PC Physicians per 100,000 Population, Metropolitan and Non-Metropolitan Counties, Texas, 1981–2005



Source: Texas Medical Board
 Source for *metropolitan–non-metropolitan* definition: Office of Management and Budget
 Figures include all licensed, active, non-federal, non-resident in training physicians

2005 Texas Primary Care Physician Facts:

White	61.4%	Male	66.9%	Median Age Male	49
Black	5.8%	Female	33.1%	Median Age Female	41
Hispanic	13.7%				
Other	19.1%				

Number of counties with no primary care physicians – 27

Providers/100,000 Population

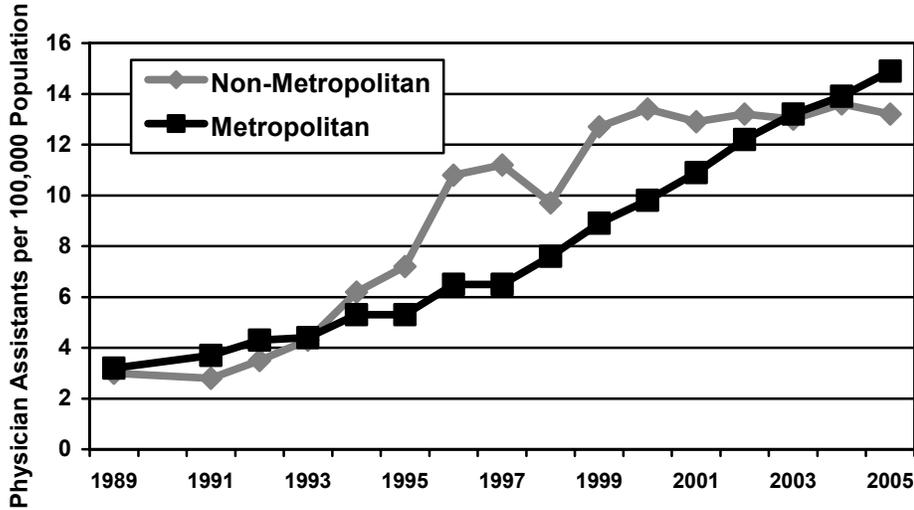
Border Metropolitan	64.7
Non-Border Metropolitan	72.2
Border Non-Metropolitan	45.0
Non-Border Non-Metropolitan	54.4

Trends:

Year	Number	Providers/100,000 Population
1990	10,308	60.7
1995	10,763	57.5
2000	14,268	70.1
2005	15,718	68.3

APPENDIX B-3
Physician Assistants

Physician Assistants per 100,000 Population, Metropolitan and Non-Metropolitan Counties, Texas, 1989–2005



Source: Texas Medical Board
Source for *metropolitan–non-metropolitan* definition: Office of Management and Budget
Figures include all licensed, active, in-state physician assistants

2005 Texas Physician Assistant Facts:

White	76.0%	Male	45.4%	Median Age Male	45
Black	5.3%	Female	54.6%	Median Age Female	36
Hispanic	12.7%				
Other	6.0%				

Number of counties with no physician assistants – 58

Providers/100,000 Population

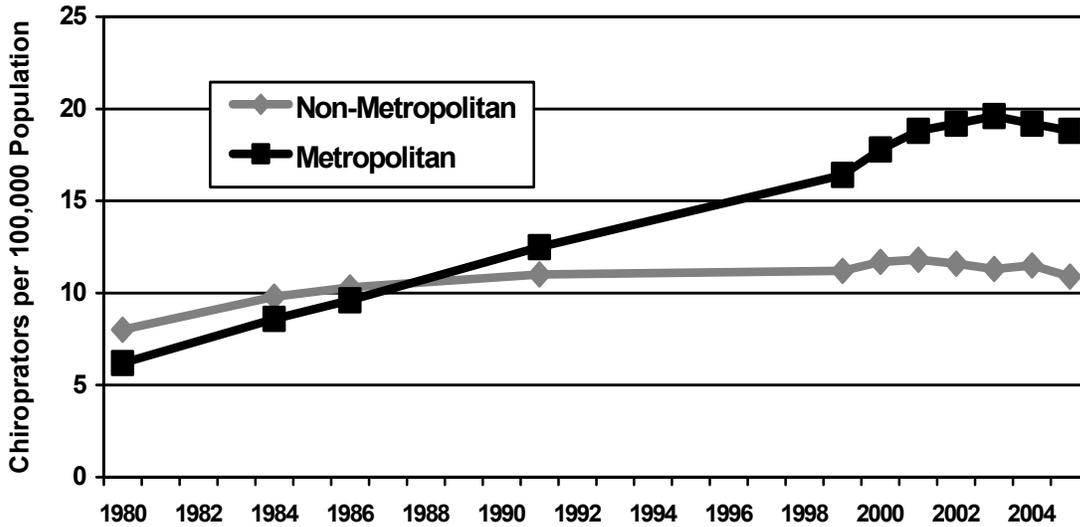
Border Metropolitan	15.5
Non-Border Metropolitan	14.8
Border Non-Metropolitan	15.4
Non-Border Non-Metropolitan	12.7

Trends:

Year	Number	Providers/100,000 Population
1991	622	3.6
1995	1,052	5.6
2000	2,106	10.4
2005	3,375	14.7

**APPENDIX B-4
 Chiropractors**

Chiropractors per 100,000 Population, Metropolitan and Non-Metropolitan Counties, Texas, 1980–2005



Source: Texas Board of Chiropractic Examiners
 Source for *metropolitan–non-metropolitan* definition: Office of Management and Budget
 Figures include all licensed, active, in-state chiropractors

2005 Texas Chiropractor Facts:

Race-ethnicity data not available

Date of birth and gender data were not available

Number of counties with no chiropractors – 79

Providers/100,000 Population

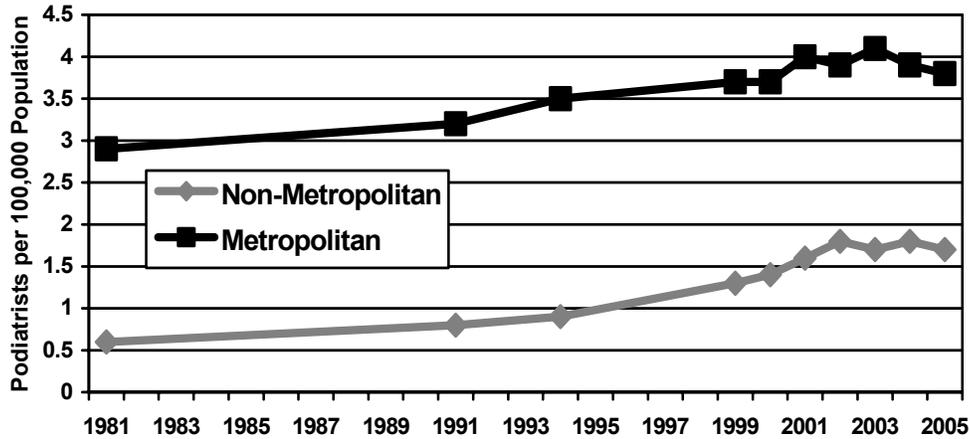
Border Metropolitan	10.8
Non-Border Metropolitan	20.9
Border Non-Metropolitan	6.5
Non-Border Non-Metropolitan	11.8

Trends:

Year	Number	Providers/100,000 Population
1990	1,972	11.6
1994	2,325	12.7
2000	3,426	16.8
2005	4,091	17.8

APPENDIX B-5
 Podiatrists

Podiatrists per 100,000 Population, Metropolitan and Non-Metropolitan Counties, Texas, 1981–2005



Source: Texas State Board of Podiatric Examiners
 Source for *metropolitan–non-metropolitan* definition: Office of Management and Budget
 Figures include all licensed, active, in-state podiatrists

2005 Texas Podiatrists Facts:

White	80.6%	Male	82.1%	Median Age Male	46
Black	8.3%	Female	17.9%	Median Age Female	37
Hispanic	4.7%				
Other	6.3%				

Number of counties with no podiatrists – 167

Providers/100,000 Population

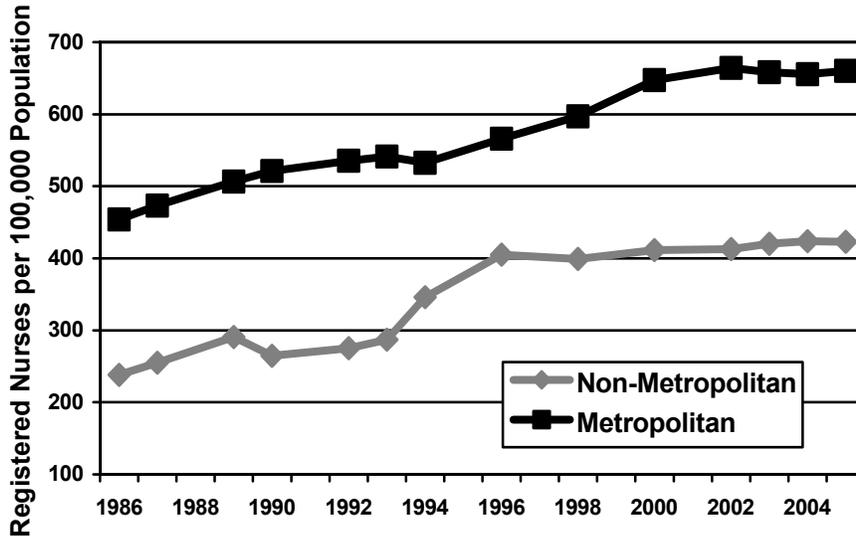
Border Metropolitan	4.0
Non-Border Metropolitan	3.8
Border Non-Metropolitan	2.0
Non-Border Non-Metropolitan	1.7

Trends:

Year	Number	Providers/100,000 Population
1991	496	2.9
1994	567	3.1
2000	682	3.4
2005	814	3.5

APPENDIX B-6
Registered Nurses

Registered Nurses per 100,000 Population, Metropolitan and Non-Metropolitan Counties, Texas, 1986–2005



Source: Texas Board of Nurse Examiners
Source for *metropolitan–non-metropolitan* definition: Office of Management and Budget
Figures include all licensed, active, in-state registered nurses

2005 Texas Registered Nurse Facts:

White	74.6%	Male	9.5%	Median Age Male	43
Black	7.6%	Female	90.5%	Median Age Female	47
Hispanic	8.5%				
Other	9.3%				

Number of counties with no registered nurses – 4

Providers/100,000 Population

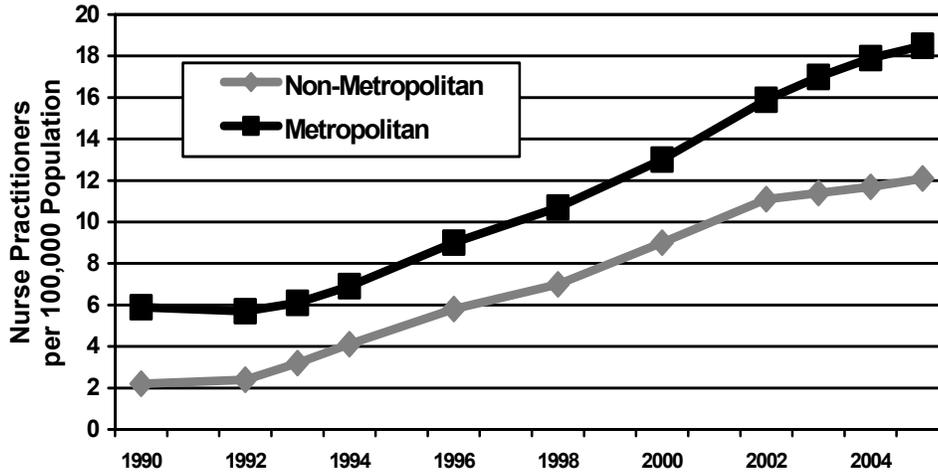
Border Metropolitan	606.6
Non-Border Metropolitan	673.7
Border Non-Metropolitan	308.6
Non-Border Non-Metropolitan	446.0

Trends:

Year	Number	Providers/100,000 Population
1990	81,320	478.7
1996	103,358	540.3
2000	124,495	611.9
2005	144,602	628.6

APPENDIX B-7
 Nurse Practitioners

Nurse Practitioners per 100,000 Population, Metropolitan and Non-Metropolitan Counties, Texas, 1990–2005



Source: Texas Board of Nurse Examiners
 Source for *metropolitan–non-metropolitan* definition: Office of Management and Budget
 Figures include all licensed, active, in-state nurse practitioners

2005 Texas Nurse Practitioner Facts:

White	83.3%	Male	8.1%	Median Age Male	43
Black	4.8%	Female	91.9%	Median Age Female	48
Hispanic	7.4%				
Other	4.5%				

Number of counties with no nurse practitioners – 66

Providers/100,000 Population

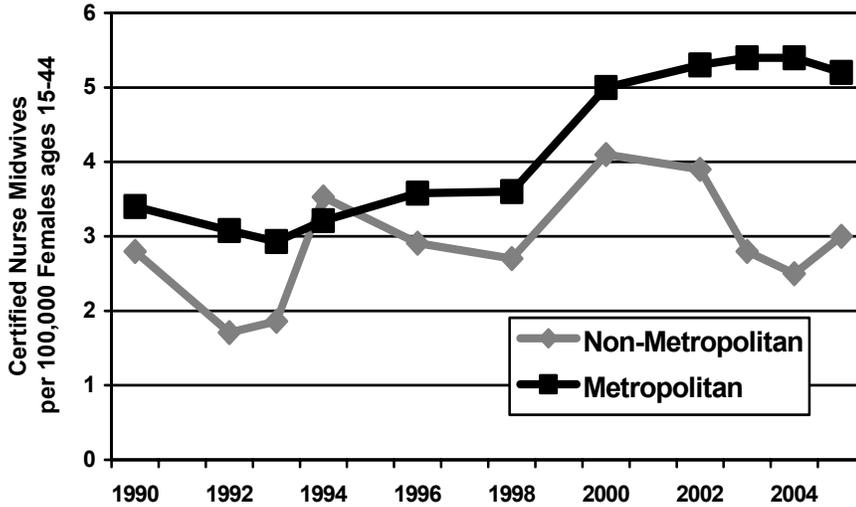
Border Metropolitan	14.5
Non-Border Metropolitan	19.6
Border Non-Metropolitan	9.4
Non-Border Non-Metropolitan	12.6

Trends:

Year	Number	Providers/100,000 Population
1991	964	5.6
1996	1,633	8.6
2000	2,517	12.4
2005	4,066	17.7

APPENDIX B-8
 Certified Nurse Midwives

Certified Nurse Midwives per 100,000 Females ages 15–44, Metropolitan and Non-Metropolitan Counties, Texas, 1990–2005



Source: Texas Board of Nurse Examiners
 Source for *metropolitan–non-metropolitan* definition: Office of Management and Budget
 Figures include all licensed, active, in-state certified nurse midwives

2005 Texas Certified Nurse Midwife Facts:

White	89.3%	Male	0.4%	Median Age Male	51
Black	6.1%	Female	99.6%	Median Age Female	49
Hispanic	2.9%				
Other	1.6%				

Number of counties with no certified nurse midwives – 214

Providers/100,000 Females Ages 15–44

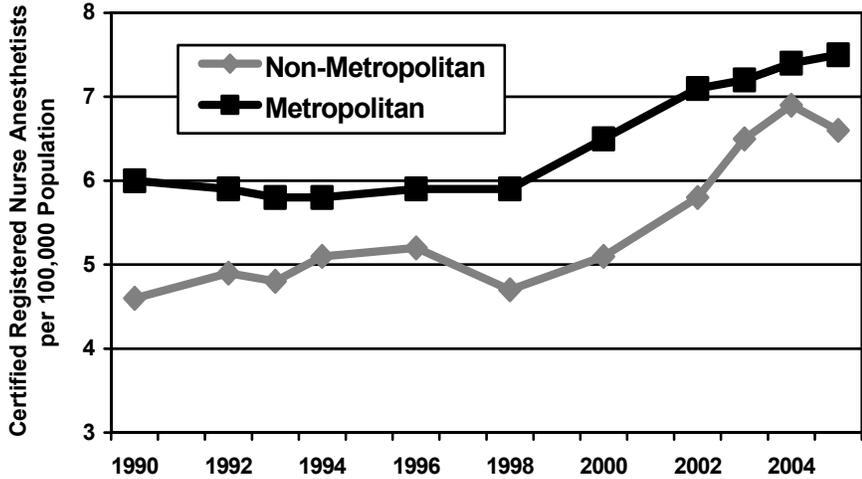
Border Metropolitan	5.0
Non-Border Metropolitan	5.3
Border Non-Metropolitan	3.9
Non-Border Non-Metropolitan	2.8

Trends:

Year	Number	Providers/100,000 Females Ages 15–44
1990	135	3.3
1996	155	3.5
2000	231	4.9
2005	244	5.0

APPENDIX B-9
Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists

Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists per 100,000 Population, Metropolitan and Non-Metropolitan Counties, Texas, 1990–2005



Source: Texas Board of Nurse Examiners
Source for *metropolitan–non-metropolitan* definition: Office of Management and Budget
Figures include all licensed, active, in-state certified nurse anesthetists

2005 Texas Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist Facts:

White	89.7%	Male	45.6%	Median Age Male	51
Black	3.6%	Female	54.4%	Median Age Female	49
Hispanic	3.2%				
Other	3.5%				

Number of counties with no certified registered nurse anesthetists – 124

Providers/100,000 Population

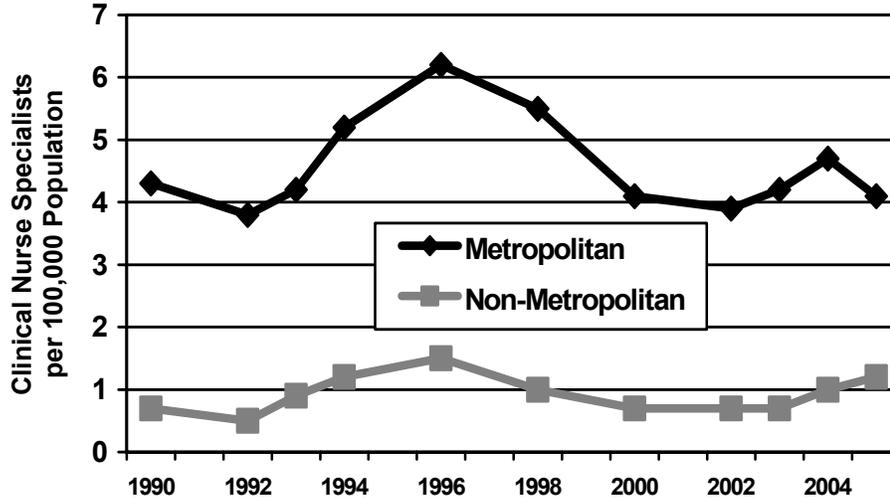
Border Metropolitan	5.8
Non-Border Metropolitan	7.9
Border Non-Metropolitan	4.7
Non-Border Non-Metropolitan	7.0

Trends:

Year	Number	Providers/100,000 Population
1990	983	5.8
1996	1,108	5.8
2000	1,274	6.2
2005	1,701	7.4

APPENDIX B-10
 Clinical Nurse Specialists

Clinical Nurse Specialists per 100,000 Population, Metropolitan and Non-Metropolitan Counties, Texas, 1990–2005



Source: Texas Board of Nurse Examiners
 Source for *metropolitan–non-metropolitan* definition: Office of Management and Budget
 Figures include all licensed, active, in-state clinical nurse specialists

2005 Texas Clinical Nurse Specialist Facts:

White	82.8%	Male	10.3%	Median Age Male	49
Black	6.1%	Female	99.7%	Median Age Female	51
Hispanic	6.9%				
Other	4.2%				

Number of counties with no clinical nurse specialists – 185

Providers/100,000 Population

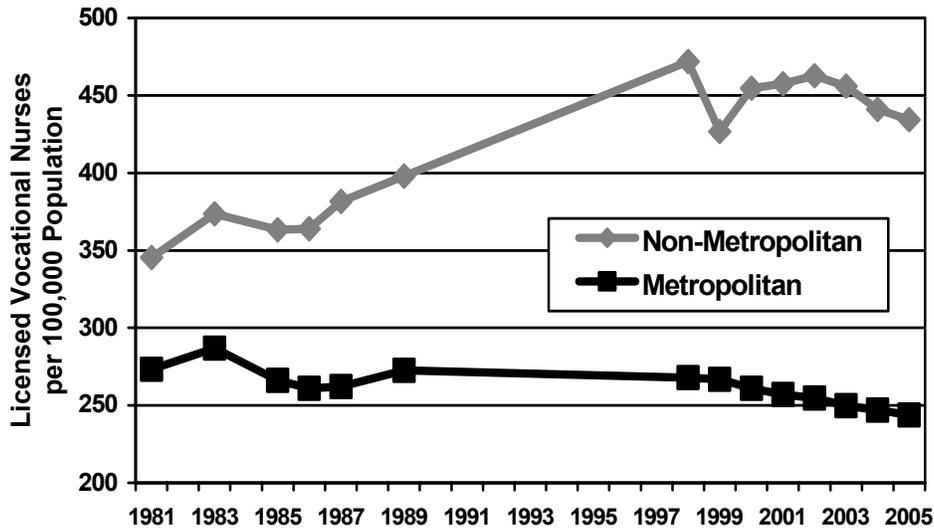
Border Metropolitan	4.2
Non-Border Metropolitan	4.1
Border Non-Metropolitan	1.6
Non-Border Non-Metropolitan	1.1

Trends:

Year	Number	Providers/100,000 Population
1990	631	3.7
1996	1,055	5.5
2000	724	3.6
2005	864	3.8

APPENDIX B-11
Licensed Vocational Nurses

Licensed Vocational Nurses per 100,000 Population, Metropolitan and Non-Metropolitan Counties, Texas, 1981–2005



Source: Texas Board of Nurse Examiners
Source for *metropolitan–non-metropolitan* definition: Office of Management and Budget
Figures include all licensed, active, in-state licensed vocational nurses

2005 Texas Licensed Vocational Nurse Facts:

White	59.8%	Male	9.1%	Median Age Male	42
Black	18.9%	Female	90.9%	Median Age Female	46
Hispanic	18.6%				
Other	2.7%				

Number of counties with no licensed vocational nurses – 7

Providers/100,000 Population

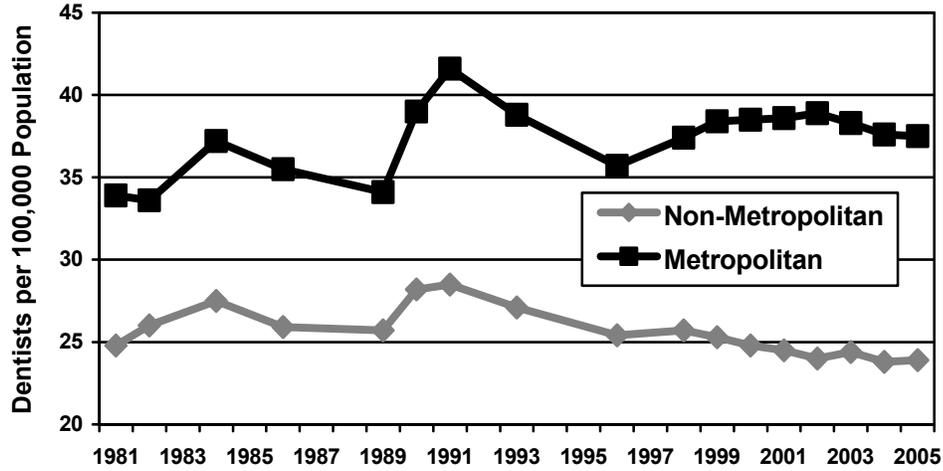
Border Metropolitan	269.8
Non-Border Metropolitan	237.0
Border Non-Metropolitan	365.5
Non-Border Non-Metropolitan	448.3

Trends:

Year	Number	Providers/100,000 Population
1989	49,389	293.9
1998	58,795	299.2
2000	59,034	290.2
2005	61,886	269.0

APPENDIX B-12
Dentists

Dentists per 100,000 Population, Metropolitan and Non-Metropolitan Counties, Texas, 1981–2005



Source: Texas State Board of Dental Examiners
Source for *metropolitan–non-metropolitan* definition: Office of Management and Budget
Figures include all licensed, active, in-state, non-federal dentists

2005 Texas Dentist Facts:

Race-ethnicity data not available

Male	76.9%	Median Age Male	50
Female	23.1%	Median Age Female	39

Number of counties with no dentists – 49

Providers/100,000 Population

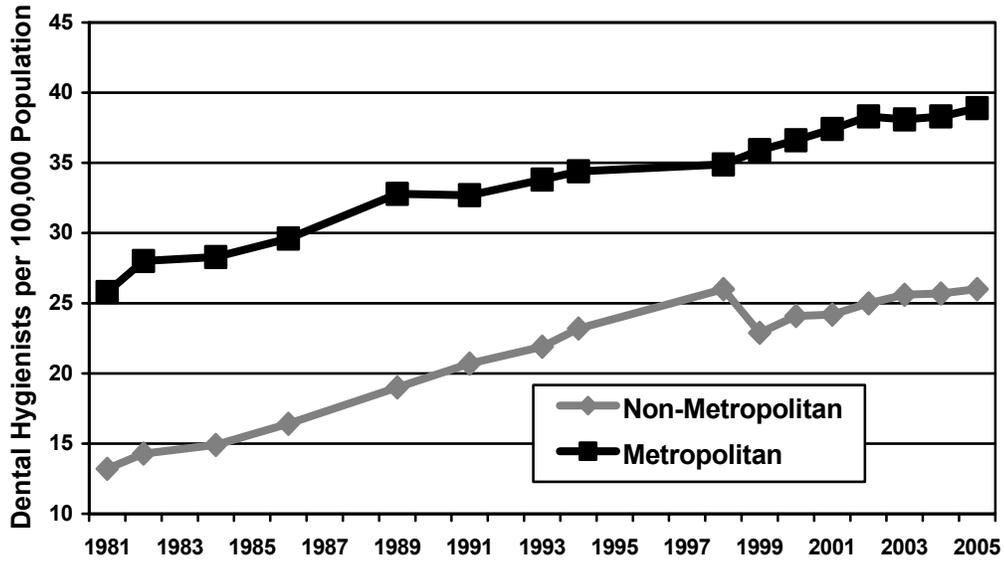
Border Metropolitan	27.6
Non-Border Metropolitan	40.0
Border Non-Metropolitan	16.6
Non-Border Non-Metropolitan	25.3

Trends:

Year	Number	Providers/100,000 Population
1990	6,320	37.2
1996	6,518	34.1
2000	7,417	36.5
2005	8,213	35.7

APPENDIX B-13
 Dental Hygienists

Dental Hygienists per 100,000 Population, Metropolitan and Non-Metropolitan Counties, Texas, 1981–2005



Source: Texas State Board of Dental Examiners
 Source for *metropolitan–non-metropolitan* definition: Office of Management and Budget
 Figures include all licensed, active, in-state, dental hygienists

2005 Texas Dental Hygienist Facts:

Race-ethnicity data not available

Male	1.5%	Median Age Male	37
Female	98.5%	Median Age Female	41

Number of counties with no dental hygienists – **58**

Providers/100,000 Population

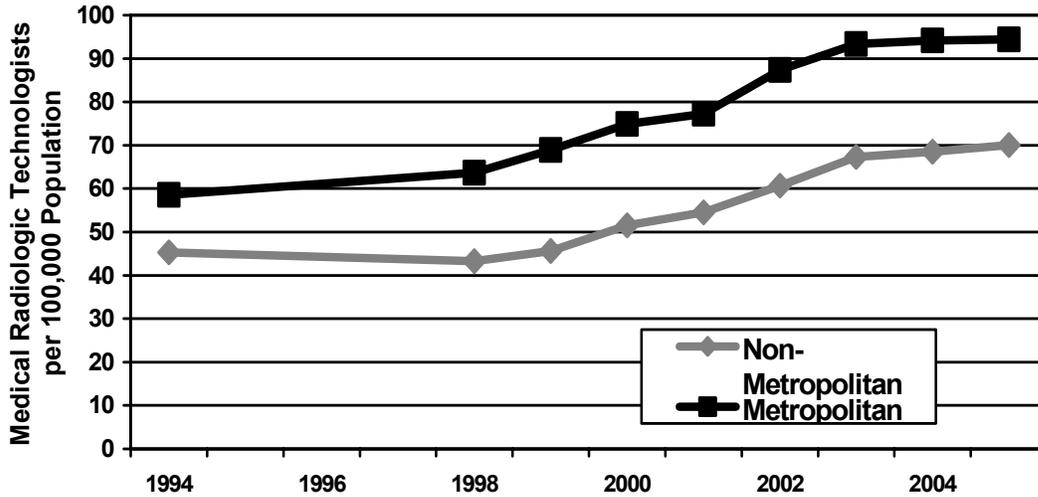
Border Metropolitan	29.1
Non-Border Metropolitan	41.4
Border Non-Metropolitan	15.3
Non-Border Non-Metropolitan	28.1

Trends:

Year	Number	Providers/100,000 Population
1991	5,338	30.8
1994	5,987	32.6
2000	7,057	34.7
2005	8,548	37.2

APPENDIX B-14
Medical Radiologic Technologists

Medical Radiologic Technologists per 100,000 Population, Metropolitan and Non-Metropolitan Counties, Texas, 1994–2005



Source: Professional Licensing and Certification Unit, DSHS
 Source for *metropolitan–non-metropolitan* definition: Office of Management and Budget
 Figures include all licensed, active, in-state medical radiologic technologists

2005 Texas Medical Radiologic Technologists Facts:

Race-ethnicity and gender data not available

Median Age 43

Number of counties with no medical radiologic technologists – 34

Providers/100,000 Population

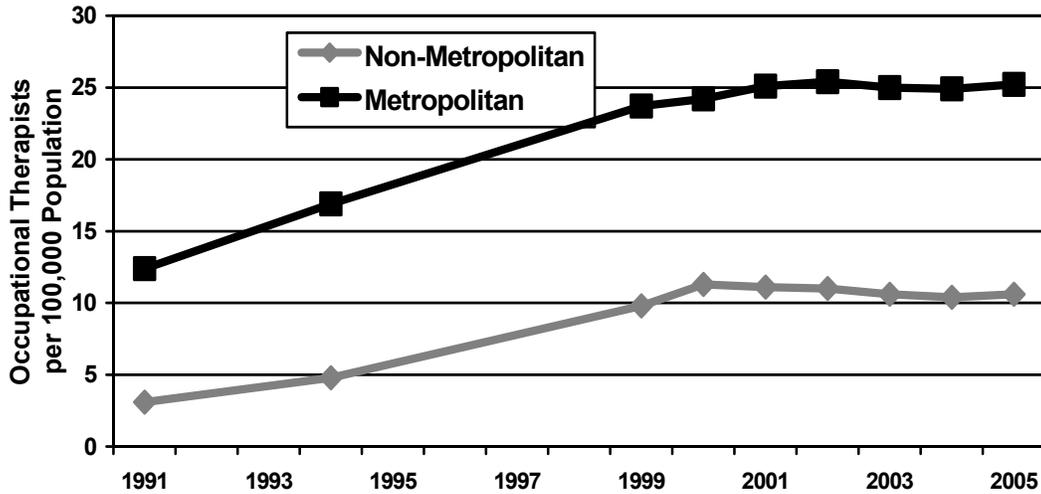
Border Metropolitan	93.1
Non-Border Metropolitan	94.7
Border Non-Metropolitan	50.5
Non-Border Non-Metropolitan	74.0

Trends:

Year	Number	Providers/100,000 Population
1994	10,385	56.5
1998	11,907	60.6
2000	14,517	71.4
2005	20,972	91.2

APPENDIX B-15
 Occupational Therapists

Occupational Therapists per 100,000 Population, Metropolitan and Non-Metropolitan Counties, Texas, 1991–2005



Source: The Executive Council of Physical Therapy & Occupational Therapy Examiners
 Source for *metropolitan–non-metropolitan* definition: Office of Management and Budget
 Figures include all licensed, active, in-state occupational therapists

2005 Texas Occupational Therapist Facts:

White	75.0%	Male	12.0%	Median Age Male	38
Black	4.3%	Female	88.0%	Median Age Female	39
Hispanic	12.2%				
Other	8.5%				

Number of counties with no occupational therapists – 95

Providers/100,000 Population

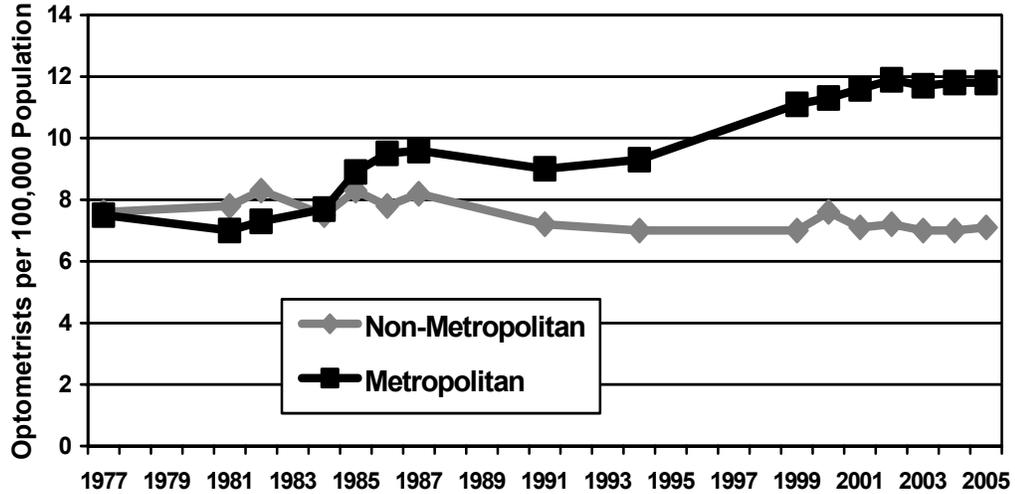
Border Metropolitan	21.5
Non-Border Metropolitan	26.2
Border Non-Metropolitan	8.0
Non-Border Non-Metropolitan	11.1

Trends:

Year	Number	Providers/100,000 Population
1991	1,894	10.9
1994	2,756	15.0
2000	4,526	22.2
2005	5,354	23.3

APPENDIX B-16
 Optometrists

Optometrists per 100,000 Population, Metropolitan and Non-Metropolitan Counties, Texas, 1977–2005



Source: Texas Optometry Board
 Source for *metropolitan–non-metropolitan* definition: Office of Management and Budget
 Figures include all licensed, active, in-state optometrists

2005 Texas Optometrist Facts:

White	69.4%	Male	62.3%	Median Age Male	48
Black	2.6%	Female	37.7%	Median Age Female	35
Hispanic	8.5%				
Other	19.4%				

Number of counties with no optometrists – 103

Providers/100,000 Population

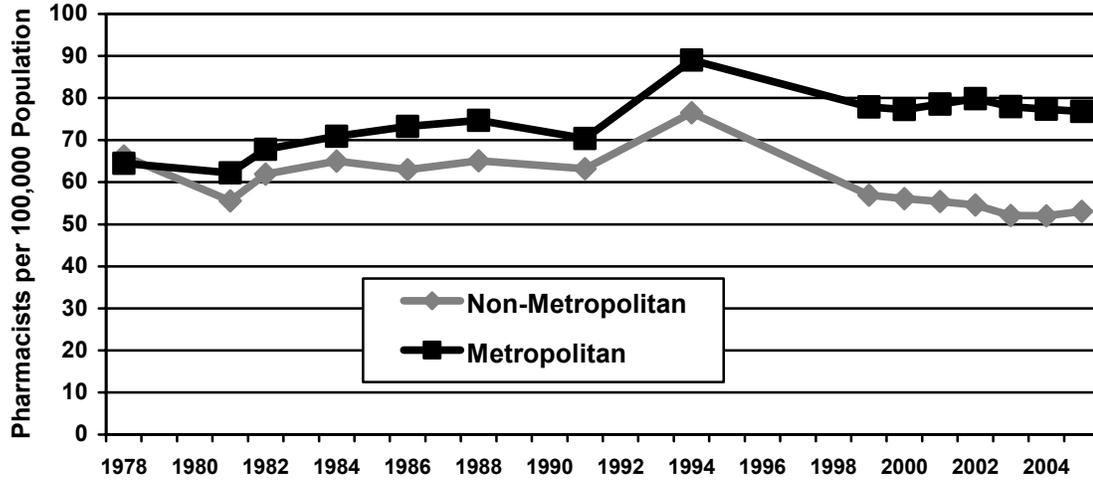
Border Metropolitan	8.7
Non-Border Metropolitan	12.6
Border Non-Metropolitan	6.1
Non-Border Non-Metropolitan	7.3

Trends:

Year	Number	Providers/100,000 Population
1991	1,513	8.7
1994	1,644	8.9
2000	2,177	10.7
2005	2,577	11.2

APPENDIX B-17
Pharmacists

Pharmacists per 100,000 Population, Metropolitan and Non-Metropolitan Counties, Texas, 1978–2005



Source: Texas State Board of Pharmacy
Source for *metropolitan–non-metropolitan* definition: Office of Management and Budget
Figures include all licensed, active, in-state pharmacists

2005 Texas Pharmacist Facts:

White	63.4%	Male	52.7%	Median Age Male	52
Black	12.7%	Female	47.3%	Median Age Female	40
Hispanic	8.7%				
Other	15.2%				

Number of counties with no pharmacists – 23

Providers/100,000 Population

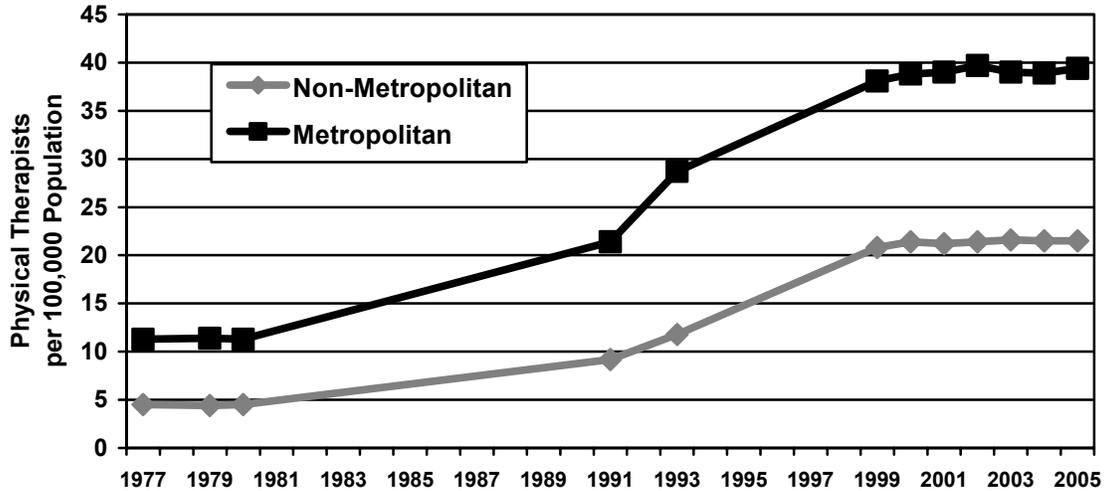
Border Metropolitan	60.1
Non-Border Metropolitan	81.0
Border Non-Metropolitan	41.5
Non-Border Non-Metropolitan	55.4

Trends:

Year	Number	Providers/100,000 Population
1991	12,020	69.2
1999	14,931	74.7
2000	15,071	74.1
2005	16,944	73.7

APPENDIX B-18
 Physical Therapists

Physical Therapists per 100,000 Population, Metropolitan and Non-Metropolitan Counties, Texas, 1977–2005



Source: The Executive Council of Physical Therapy & Occupational Therapy Examiners
 Source for *metropolitan–non-metropolitan* definition: Office of Management and Budget
 Figures include all licensed, active, in-state physical therapists

2005 Texas Physical Therapist Facts:

White	78.7%	Male	28.8%	Median Age Male	39
Black	2.6%	Female	71.2%	Median Age Female	39
Hispanic	5.8%				
Other	12.9%				

Number of counties with no physical therapists – 59

Providers/100,000 Population

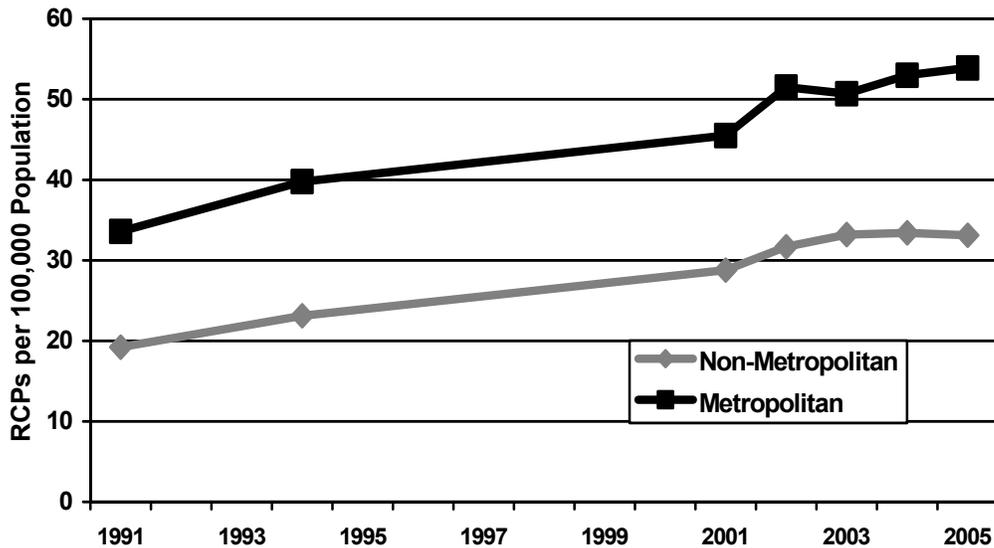
Border Metropolitan	31.0
Non-Border Metropolitan	41.5
Border Non-Metropolitan	18.8
Non-Border Non-Metropolitan	22.0

Trends:

Year	Number	Providers/100,000 Population
1991	3,373	19.4
1993	4,681	26.0
2000	7,358	36.2
2005	8,511	37.0

APPENDIX B-19
 Respiratory Care Practitioners

Respiratory Care Practitioners (RCPs) per 100,000 Population, Metropolitan and Non-Metropolitan Counties, Texas, 1981–2005



Source: Texas Department of State Health Services, Professional Licensing and Certification Unit
 Source for *metropolitan–non-metropolitan* definition: Office of Management and Budget
 Figures include all licensed, active, in-state respiratory care practitioners

2005 Texas Respiratory Care Practitioner Facts:

Race-ethnicity and gender data not available

Median Age 45

Number of counties with no respiratory care practitioners – 69

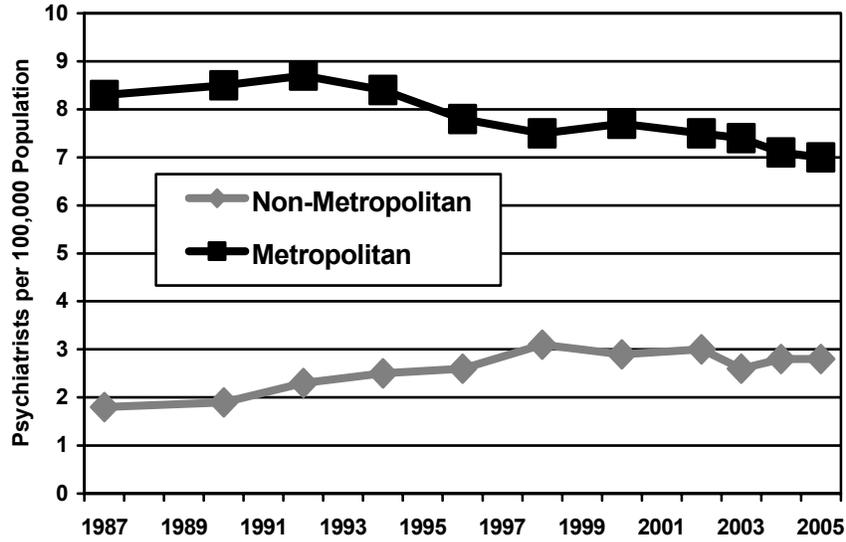
	Providers/100,000 Population
Border Metropolitan	53.5
Non-Border Metropolitan	54.0
Border Non-Metropolitan	19.8
Non-Border Non-Metropolitan	35.5

Trends:

Year	Number	Providers/100,000 Population
1991	5,446	31.4
1994	6,854	37.3
2001	8,941	43.2
2005	11,768	51.2

APPENDIX B-20
 Psychiatrists

Psychiatrists per 100,000 Population, Metropolitan and Non-Metropolitan Counties, Texas, 1987–2005



Source: Texas Medical Board
 Source for *metropolitan–non-metropolitan* definition: Office of Management and Budget
 Figures include all licensed, active, non-federal, non-resident in training psychiatrists and child psychiatrists

2005 Texas Psychiatrists Facts:

White	68.4%	Male	67.0%	Median Age Male	54
Black	3.8%	Female	33.0%	Median Age Female	47
Hispanic	12.8%				
Other	15.0%				

Number of counties with no psychiatrists – 179

Providers/100,000 Population

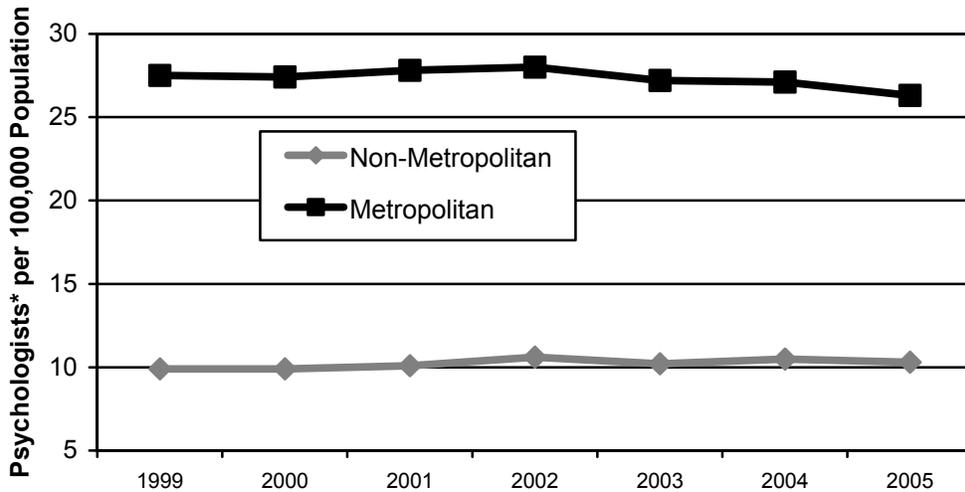
Border Metropolitan	6.2
Non-Border Metropolitan	7.2
Border Non-Metropolitan	4.1
Non-Border Non-Metropolitan	2.5

Trends:

Year	Number	Providers/100,000 Population
1990	1,264	7.4
1996	1,336	7.0
2000	1,422	7.0
2005	1,488	6.5

APPENDIX B-21
Psychologists

Psychologists per 100,000 Population, Metropolitan and Non-Metropolitan Counties, Texas, 1999–2005



Source: Texas State Board of Examiners of Psychologists
Source for *metropolitan–non-metropolitan* definition: Office of Management and Budget
Figures include all licensed, active, in-state psychologists

2005 Texas Licensed Psychologist Facts:

Race-ethnicity, age, and gender data not available

Number of counties with no licensed psychologists – 112

	Providers/100,000 Population
Border Metropolitan	20.4
Non-Border Metropolitan	27.8
Border Non-Metropolitan	9.0
Non-Border Non-Metropolitan	10.6

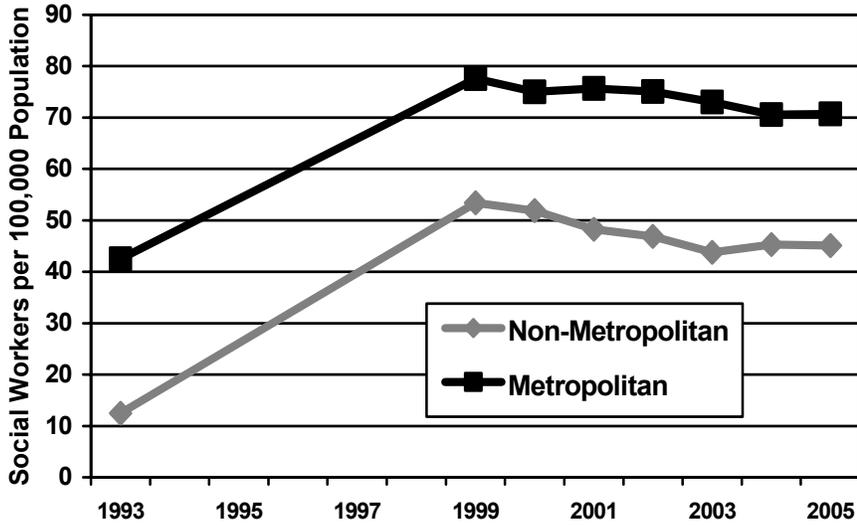
Trends:

Year	Number	Providers/100,000 Population
1999	4,955	24.8
2001	5,229	25.2
2003	5,432	24.9
2005	5,567	24.2

Note: There are four types of Psychologists in Texas: Licensed Psychologists (LP), Provisionally Licensed Psychologists (PLP), Licensed Psychological Associates (LPA), and Licensed Specialists in School Psychology (LSSP). An LP, PLP, or LPA may also be an LSSP. The data above were derived from an unduplicated count of the sum of all four professions.

APPENDIX B-22
 Social Workers

Social Workers per 100,000 Population, Metropolitan and Non-Metropolitan Counties, Texas, 1993–2005



Source: Professional Licensing and Certification Unit, DSHS
 Source for *metropolitan–non-metropolitan* definition: Office of Management and Budget
 Figures include all licensed, active, in-state social workers

2005 Texas Social Worker Facts:

Race-ethnicity and gender data not available

Median Age 47

Number of counties with no social workers – 46

Providers/100,000 Population

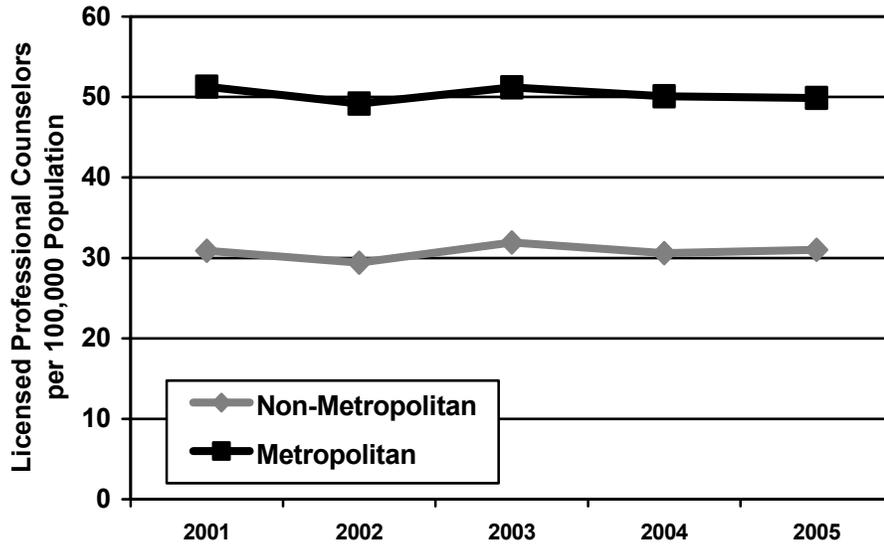
Border Metropolitan	64.3
Non-Border Metropolitan	73.6
Border Non-Metropolitan	34.8
Non-Border Non-Metropolitan	47.1

Trends:

Year	Number	Providers/100,000 Population
1993	6,783	37.6
2000	14,549	71.5
2003	15,003	68.7
2005	15,687	68.2

APPENDIX B-23
 Licensed Professional Counselors

Licensed Professional Counselors per 100,000 Population, Metropolitan and Non-Metropolitan Counties, Texas, 2001–2005



Source: Professional Licensing and Certification Unit, DSHS
 Source for *metropolitan–non-metropolitan* definition: Office of Management and Budget
 Figures include all licensed, active, in-state licensed professional counselors

2005 Texas Licensed Professional Counselor Facts:

Race-ethnicity and gender data not available

Median Age 54

Number of counties with no licensed professional counselors – 54

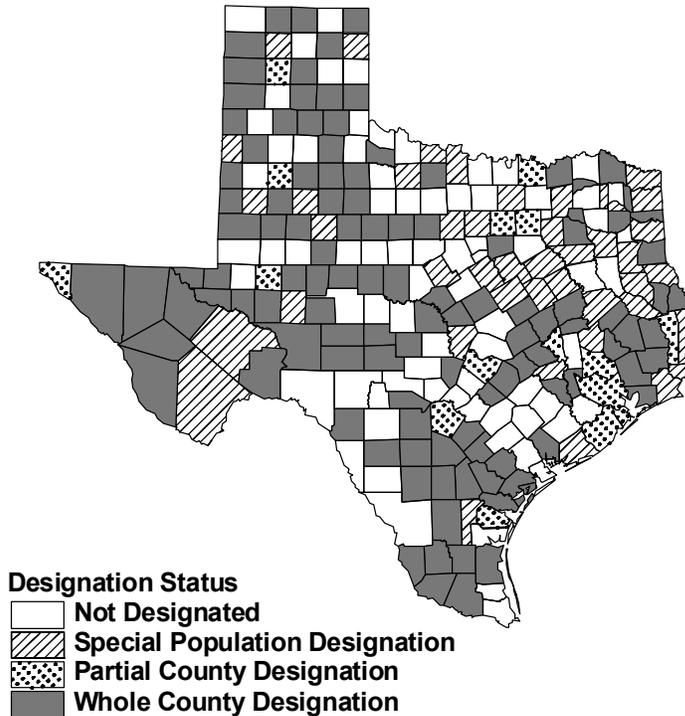
	Providers/100,000 Population
Border Metropolitan	42.8
Non-Border Metropolitan	51.7
Border Non-Metropolitan	24.2
Non-Border Non-Metropolitan	32.4

Trends:

Year	Number	Providers/100,000 Population
2001	10,036	48.5
2003	10,596	48.5
2005	10,896	47.4

APPENDIX B-24

Federally Designated Primary Care Health Professional Shortage Areas in Texas,
February 2006

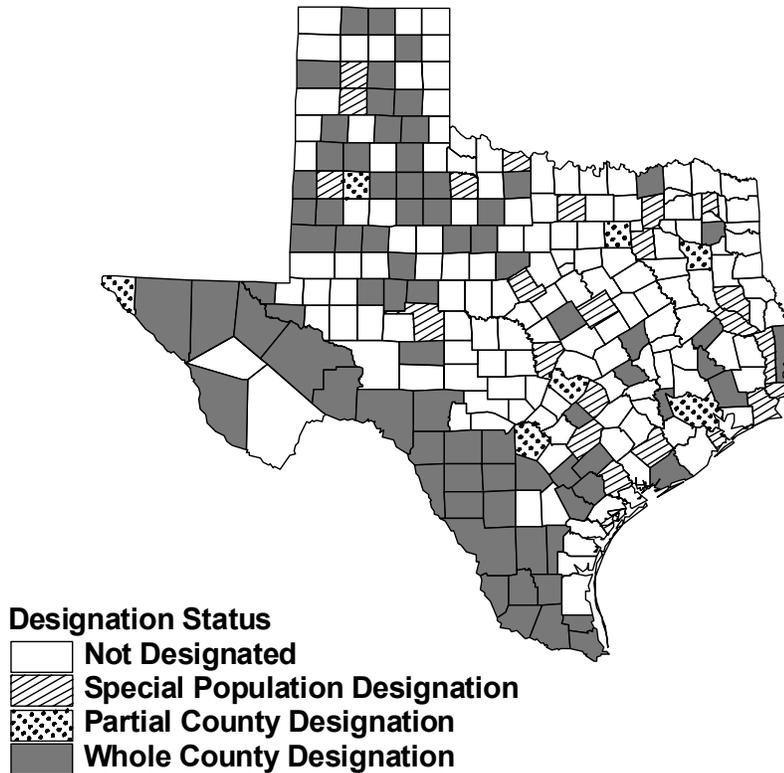


Prepared by:
Health Professions Resource Center
Center for Health Statistics
Texas Department of State Health Services
Data Source:
Shortage Designation Branch
United States Department of Health and Human Services
February 2006

Federal “Primary Medical Care” Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSAs)

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services HPSA designation program is administered in conjunction with the Health Professions Resource Center. The designation program uses population-to-PC physician ratios to identify counties having shortages of PC physicians. In February 2006, 69.7 percent of the counties in Texas (117 whole counties; 60 partial counties/special populations) had either whole or partial-county/special population HPSA designations. Seventy-five percent of the 117 “whole county” HPSAs were rural counties, and 22 percent were border counties. In addition to these designations, the HPSA designation program also provides for the designation of facilities under certain circumstances.

APPENDIX B-25
Federally Designated Dental Health Professional Shortage Areas in Texas,
February 2006



Prepared by:
Health Professions Resource Center
Center for Health Statistics
Texas Department of State Health Services
Data Source:
Shortage Designation Branch
United States Department of Health and Human Services
February 2006

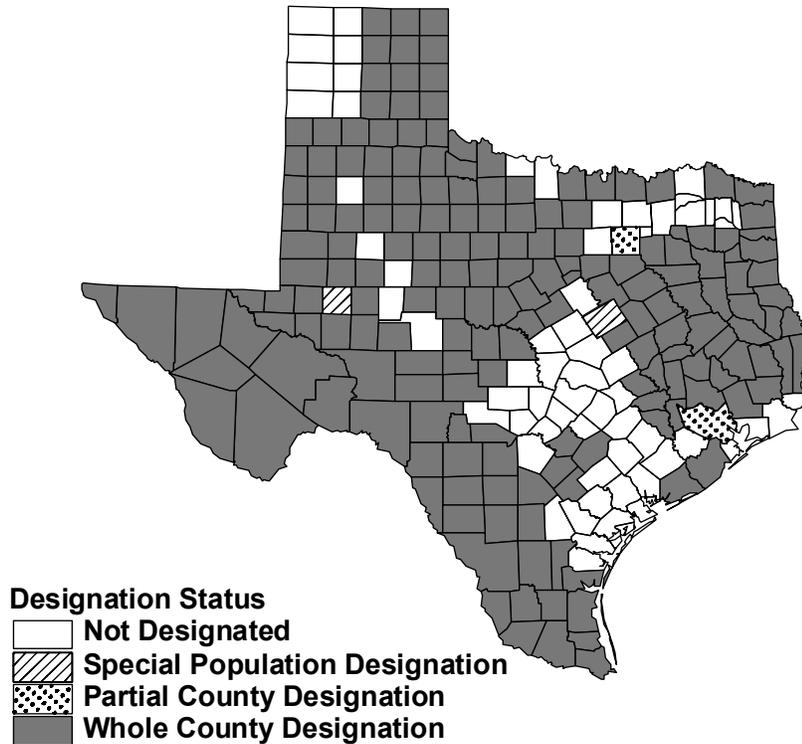
Federal Dental Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSAs)

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services HPSA designation program uses population-to-general dentist ratios to identify counties with a shortage of dentists. In addition to geographic area designations, the HPSA designation program also provides for the designation of special population groups within geographic areas and for the designation of facilities under certain circumstances.

In January 2006, 110 counties in Texas had some type of designation by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services as experiencing a shortage of dentists. Seventy-nine of these designations were for whole counties.

APPENDIX B-26

Federally Designated Mental Health Professional Shortage Areas in Texas, January 2006



Prepared by:
Health Professions Resource Center
Center for Health Statistics
Texas Department of State Health Services
Data Source:
Shortage Designation Branch
United States Department of Health and Human Services
January 2006

Mental Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSAs)

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Health Professional Shortage Area designation program uses population-to-psychiatrist ratios to identify counties with a shortage of psychiatrists. In addition to geographic area designations, the HPSA designation program also provides for the designation of special population groups within geographic areas and for the designation of facilities under certain circumstances. In January 2006, there were 184 counties designated by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services as whole-county mental-health HPSAs in Texas, two counties designated as partial-county mental-health HPSAs, and two counties designated as HPSAs for the low-income population.