

# Statistical Brief

Geographic Distribution and Demographic  
Characteristics of Behavioral Health  
Providers in Nebraska 2010-2016:

## Region 1

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## Aim:

To describe the current distribution and demographic characteristics of behavioral health providers actively practicing in Behavioral Health Region 1 in Nebraska.

## Behavioral Health Region 1:

Region 1 includes the following counties: Banner, Box Butte, Cheyenne, Dawes, Deuel, Garden, Kimball, Morrill, Scotts Bluff, Sheridan, and Sioux.

## Behavioral Health Providers Included in this Brief:

- An “actively practicing” provider is one who is currently (at the time of data collection) practicing in and providing behavioral health services to the people of Nebraska.
- Psychiatrists: Physicians who are board-certified by the American Osteopathic Board of Neurology and Psychiatry or by the American Osteopathic Board of Neurology and Psychiatry and board-eligible.
- Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs) practicing psychiatry: APRNs who self-identified psychiatry as their practice specialty. Includes both those who are and are not board-certified in psychiatry.
- Physician Assistants (PAs) practicing psychiatry: PAs who self-identified psychiatry as their practice specialty.
- Psychologists: Individuals who hold a license to practice psychology.
- Licensed Independent Mental Health Practitioners (LIMHPs): Individuals who are licensed as an independent mental health practitioner. They provide assessment, treatment, and counseling with or without consultation with a qualified physician or licensed psychologist.
- Licensed Mental Health Practitioners (LMHPs): Individuals who are licensed as a mental health practitioner. They provide treatment, assessment, psychotherapy, counseling, or equivalent activities for behavioral, cognitive, social, mental, or emotional disorders.
- Licensed Alcohol and Drug Counselors (LADCs): Individuals who are licensed as an alcohol and drug counselor. Includes providers who may have a dual license i.e. LADC and Certified Disordered Gambling Counselor (CDGC).

## Data Source:

This study used the University of Nebraska Medical Center, College of Public Health, and Health Professions Tracking Service (HPTS) database over the span of 2010-2016.

## Overview of Behavioral Health Workforce Supply in 2016 (Table 1):

Table 1 compares the behavioral health workforce supply between 2014 and 2016. The total number of providers actively practicing in Region 1 slightly decreased from 71 in 2014 to 70 in 2016. The total number of psychiatric prescribers remained the same. The total number of non-prescribers decreased from 65 to 64. Tables 2 and 3 show the number of providers practicing in Region 1 based on their primary and satellite locations. These numbers do not add up to the numbers shown in Table 1 because some providers have multiple practice locations. Figures 1 and 2 display the geographic distributions of the psychiatric prescribers and non-prescribers in Region 1.

Table 1. Behavioral health providers actively practicing in Nebraska: 2014 & 2016<sup>1</sup>

Provider Type	2014 - Nebraska Behavioral Health Region <sup>2</sup>						Total
	1	2	3	4	5	6	
<b>Psychiatric Prescribers</b>							
Psychiatrists	2	5	10	4	32	103	156
APRNs Practicing Psychiatry	4	1	17	4	34	38	98
PAs Practicing Psychiatry	0	0	1	3	4	8	16
<b>Total</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>270</b>
<b>Non-Prescribers</b>							
Psychologists	12	5	28	24	140	162	371
LIMHPs	18	48	101	38	232	377	814
LMHPs	24	20	116	73	228	457	918
LADACs	11	5	15	14	54	44	143
<b>Total</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>260</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>654</b>	<b>1040</b>	<b>2246</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>288</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>724</b>	<b>1189</b>	<b>2516</b>
Provider Type	2016 - Nebraska Behavioral Health Region <sup>2</sup>						Total
	1	2	3	4	5	6	
<b>Psychiatric Prescribers</b>							
Psychiatrists	3	3	10	4	33	111	164
APRNs Practicing Psychiatry	3	1	16	10	38	45	113
PAs Practicing Psychiatry	0	0	0	3	5	7	15
<b>Total</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>163</b>	<b>292</b>
<b>Non-Prescribers</b>							
Psychologists	9	6	22	20	134	164	355
LIMHPs	23	55	136	62	291	467	1034
LMHPs	22	18	89	55	199	400	783
LADACs	10	3	11	13	39	29	105
<b>Total</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>258</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>663</b>	<b>1060</b>	<b>2277</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>284</b>	<b>167</b>	<b>739</b>	<b>1223</b>	<b>2569</b>

1. Providers may hold more than one license type. Individuals are counted only once in the highest level category.
2. If the provider practices in more than one location, the first Nebraska practice location county provided in the survey was used.

**Table 2. The number of behavioral health providers actively practicing in Region 1 based on primary locations: 2016**

County	Psychiatrists	APRNs Practicing Psychiatry	PAs Practicing Psychiatry	Psychologists	LIMHPs	LMHPs	LADCs	Total
Banner	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Box Butte	0	1	0	0	3	1	2	7
Cheyenne	0	0	0	0	3	2	1	6
Dawes	0	0	0	0	1	7	0	8
Scotts Bluff	3	2	0	8	16	11	6	46
Sheridan	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	3
Sioux	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Garden	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Morrill	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Deuel	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kimball	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>70</b>

**Table 3. The number of behavioral health providers actively practicing in Region 1 based on satellite locations: 2016**

County	Psychiatrists	APRNs Practicing Psychiatry	PAs Practicing Psychiatry	Psychologists	LIMHPs	LMHPs	LADCs	Total
Banner	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Box Butte	0	0	0	2	1	2	0	5
Cheyenne	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dawes	0	1	0	2	0	0	1	4
Scotts Bluff	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sheridan	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Sioux	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Garden	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Morrill	0	2	0	4	3	2	0	11
Deuel	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	2
Kimball	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>24</b>

Figure 1. Primary and satellite locations of psychiatric prescribers in Region 1: 2016

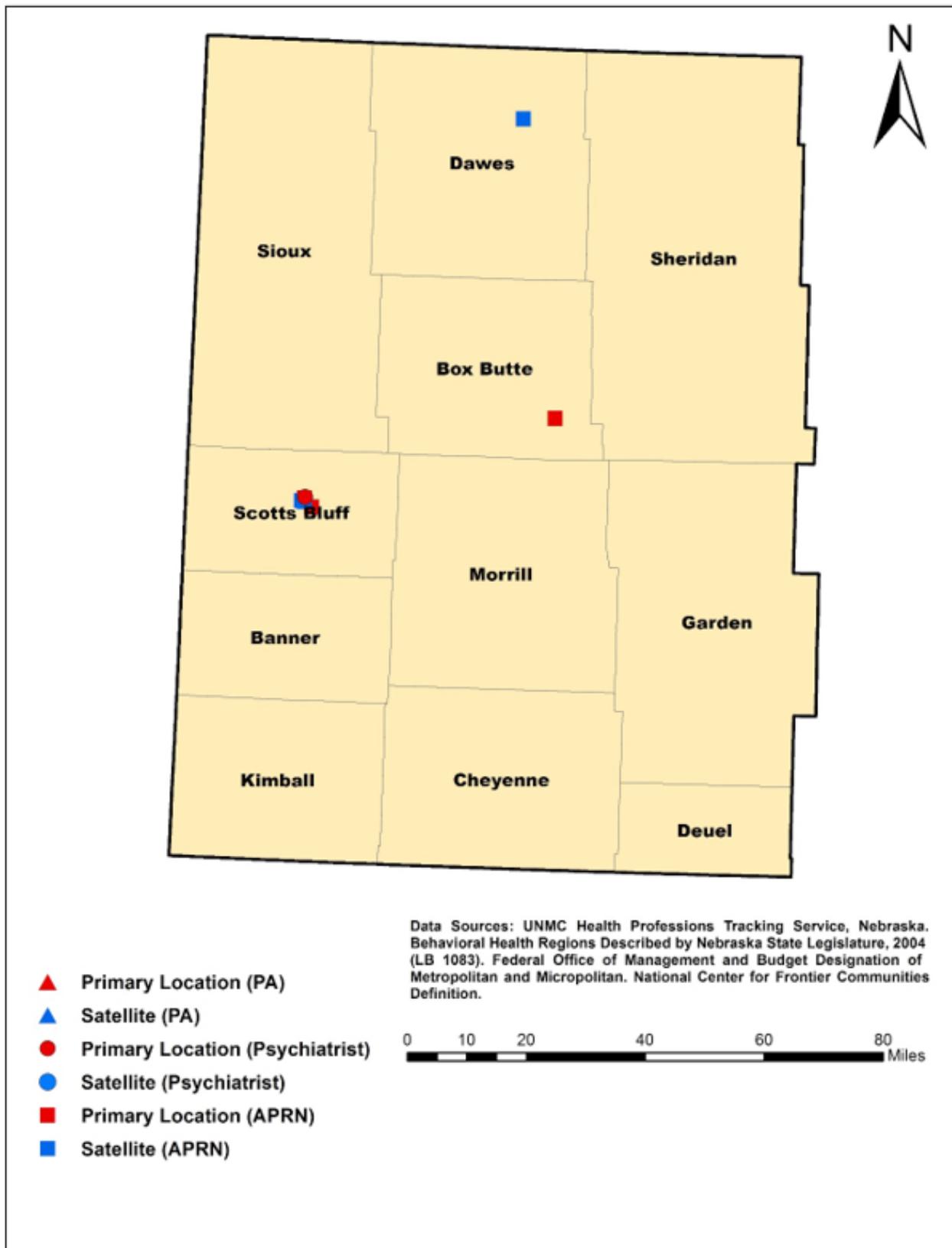
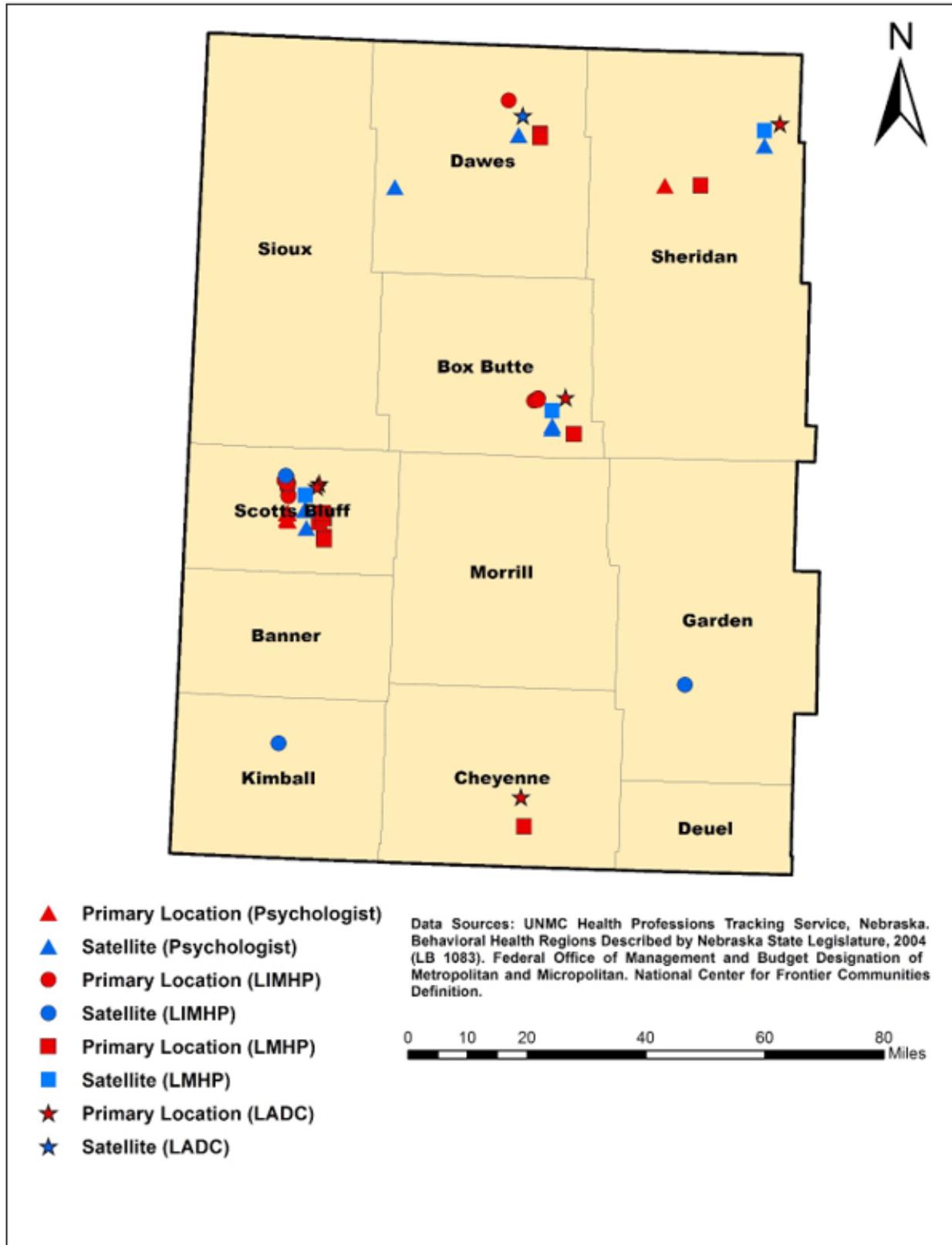


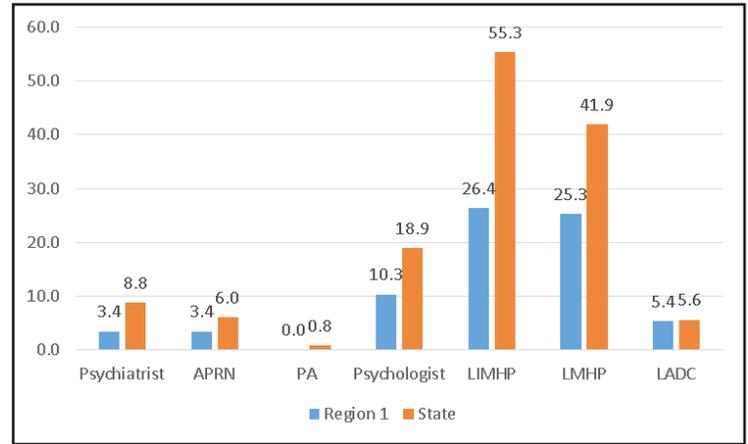
Figure 2. Primary and satellite locations of non-prescribers in Region 1: 2016



## The Number of Providers per 100,000 Residents (Figure 3):

With the exception of LADCs, the number of providers per 100,000 population was much lower in Region 1 compared to the state average. For example, Region 1 had only 3.4 psychiatrists per 100,000 residents compared to the state average of 8.8 per 100,000. Similarly, the number of providers per 100,000 residents was much lower for LIMHPs (26.4 vs. 55.3) and LMHPs (25.3 vs. 41.9).

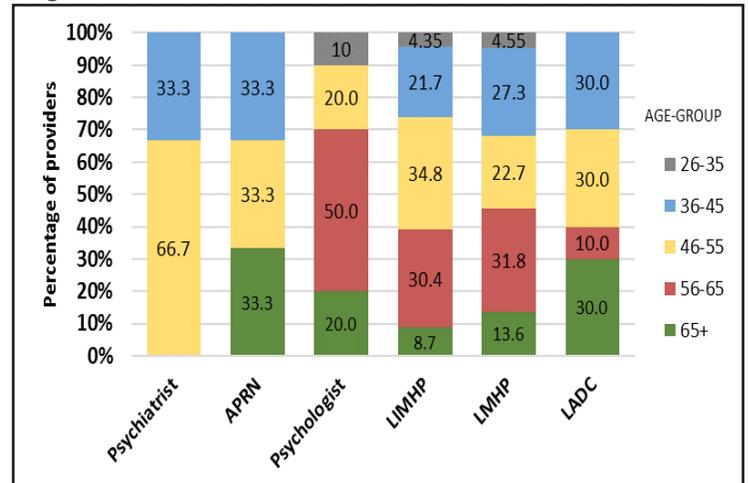
Figure 3. Number of Providers per 100,000 Population Region 1 and Nebraska Overall 2016



## Age of Providers (Figure 4):

The aging behavioral health workforce is an issue in Nebraska and in the US overall. 70% of psychologists, 45.4% of LIMHPs, and 40% of LADCs actively practicing in Region 1 in 2016 were 56 years or older.

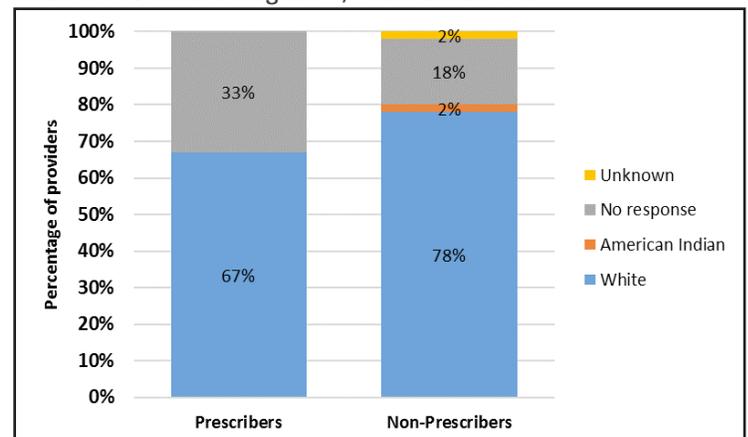
Figure 4. Age Distribution of Behavioral Health Providers Region 1, Nebraska 2016



## Race and Ethnicity of Providers (Figure 5):

67% of prescribers (psychiatrists and APRNs) actively practicing in Region 1 in 2016 self-identified as white. 78% of non-prescribers (psychologists, LIMHPs, LMHPs, and LADCs) actively practicing in Region 1 in 2016 self-identified as white and 2% as American Indian.

Figure 5. Race & Ethnicity Distribution of Behavioral Health Providers Region 1, Nebraska 2016



## Patient Age (Figure 6):

The HPTS survey asks the providers to indicate the age group(s) of patients they see. Note that providers can indicate more than one age categories.

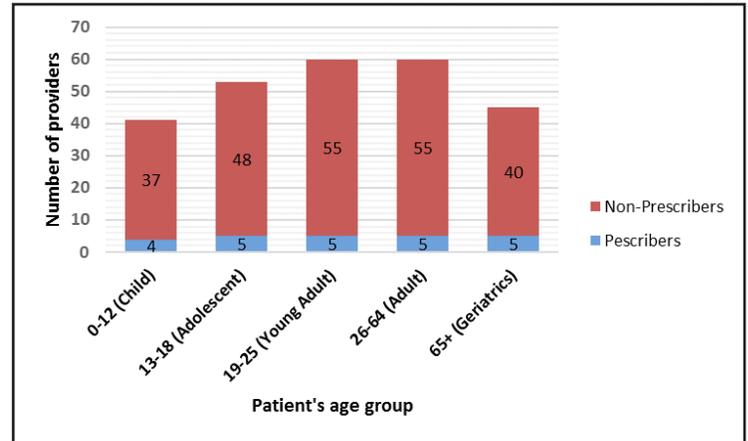
## Language Services (Figure 7):

In 2016, 2 prescribers reported serving people who spoke languages other than English. Both of them were serving clients who spoke Spanish. Of those two prescribers, one spoke the language (Spanish) and the other used an in-person interpreter.

In 2016, 23 non-prescribers reported serving people who spoke languages other than English.

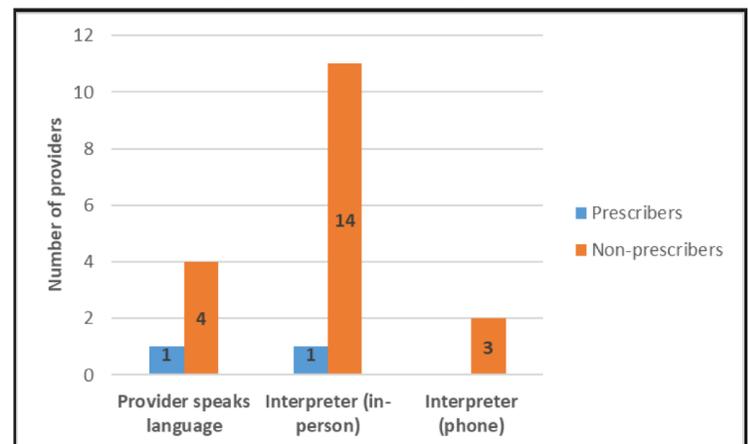
Of those, 4 indicated that they spoke the language, 14 used an in-person interpreter, and 3 used a phone interpreter service. Of the 23 non-prescribers who reported serving people who spoke languages other than English, 16 providers were serving clients who spoke Spanish.

Figure 6. Age Distribution of Patients Seen by Behavioral Health Providers in Region 1, Nebraska 2016



Providers can choose more than one age group  
Includes only those who responded to the questions

Figure 7. Language Service Use Region 1, Nebraska 2016



Providers can choose more than one mode  
Includes only those who responded to the questions