

# Five Recent Findings about the Psychology Workforce

**1. The supply of active licensed psychologists** is projected to be **sufficient to meet the demand** for psychologists by 2030 on a national level. However, the supply of psychologists may not be adequate in certain geographic areas such as **rural areas**, and for **racial/ethnic minority** populations.<sup>1</sup>

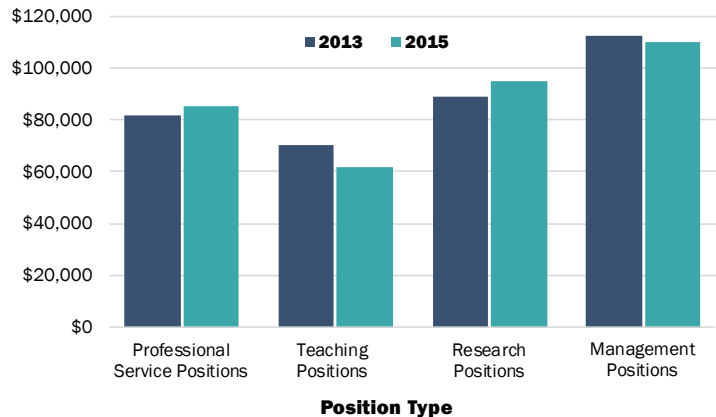
**2. In 2015, psychology doctorates had a median salary of \$85,000.** Higher salary levels were found for those in **management** or **research positions** than those in **professional service** or **teaching** positions.<sup>2</sup>

**3. Recipients of a psychology research doctorate are most likely to work in an academic setting.** In the last two decades, the number of jobs held by psychology doctorates has increased by **48 percent**.<sup>3</sup>

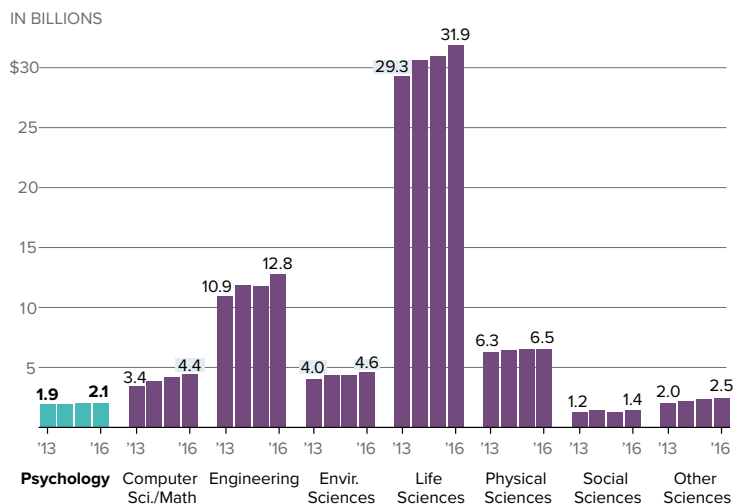
**4. In 2016, 3.2 percent of the nation's \$66.2 billion in federal research funding went to psychological research (approximately \$2.1 billion).**<sup>4</sup>

**5. Although licensed psychologists worked across many different employment settings, nearly half (45 percent) worked in private practice, and most (86 percent) were actively working in license-required positions.**<sup>5</sup>

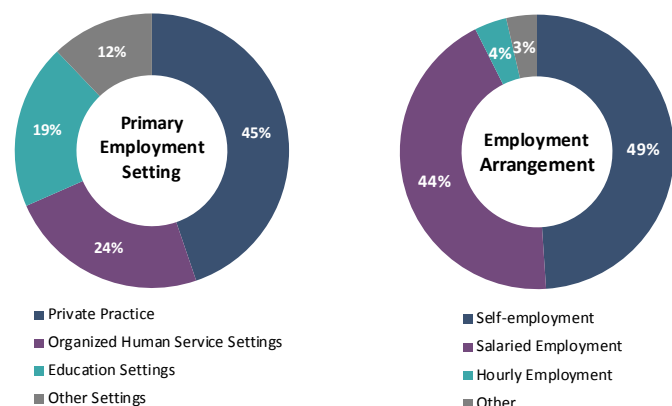
## Median Salaries for Psychology Doctorates



## Federal Research Funding by Field and Fiscal Year



## Employment for Doctoral-Level Licensed Psychologists



Source:  
<sup>1</sup> IHS Markit, American Psychological Association. (2017). *An investigation of psychologist supply and demand: Projections from 2015 to 2030*. [Work in Progress]. Washington DC: Author.  
<sup>2</sup> American Psychological Association. (2017). *Salaries in psychology: findings from the National Science Foundation's 2015 National Survey of College Graduates*. Retrieved from <http://www.apa.org/workforce/publications/2015-salaries/index.aspx>  
<sup>3</sup> Christidis, P., Lin, L., & Stamm, K. (May 2017). *Which sectors employ the most psychology research doctorates?* Monitor on Psychology, 48(5), 16. Retrieved from <http://www.apa.org/monitor/2017/05/datapoint.aspx>  
<sup>4</sup> Stamm, K., Christidis, P., & Lin, L. (2017). *How much federal funding is directed to research in psychology?* Monitor on Psychology, 48(4), 15. Retrieved from <http://www.apa.org/monitor/2017/04/datapoint.aspx>  
<sup>5</sup> American Psychological Association. (2016). *2015 survey of psychology health service providers*. Retrieved from <http://www.apa.org/workforce/publications/15-health-service-providers/index.aspx>

# Three Things to Know About the Center for Workforce Studies

## 1. What we do!

The Center for Workforce Studies (CWS) collects, analyzes, and disseminates information relevant to the **psychology workforce and education system**.

## 2. Where our data come from!

Our own data sources include: APA Member profiles, Graduate Study in Psychology, and CWS surveys.

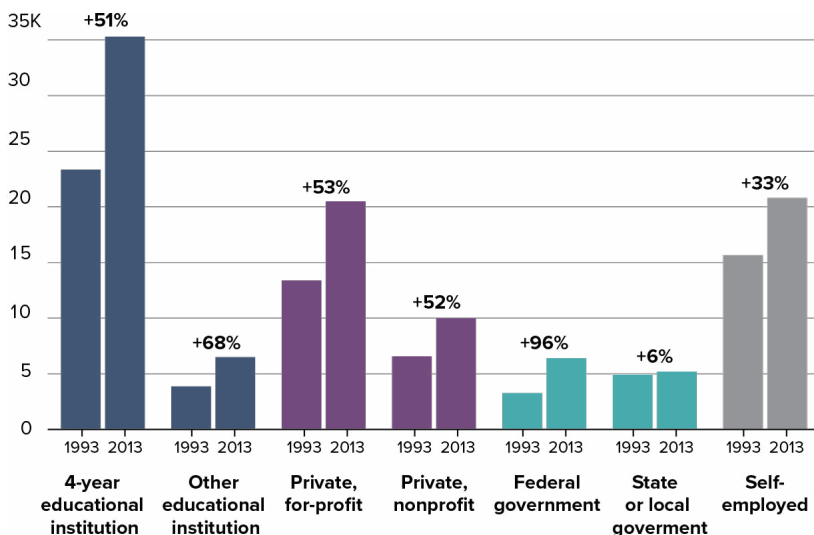
We also use **administrative data sources** including state licensure board lists, and **federal data sources** including the National Science Foundation, the National Center for Education Statistics, the Census Bureau, Bureau of Labor Statistics, etc.

## 3. What we publish!

We publish monthly **Datapoint** fact sheets in the *APA Monitor on Psychology*, which highlight specific trends in the psychology workforce and education pipeline.

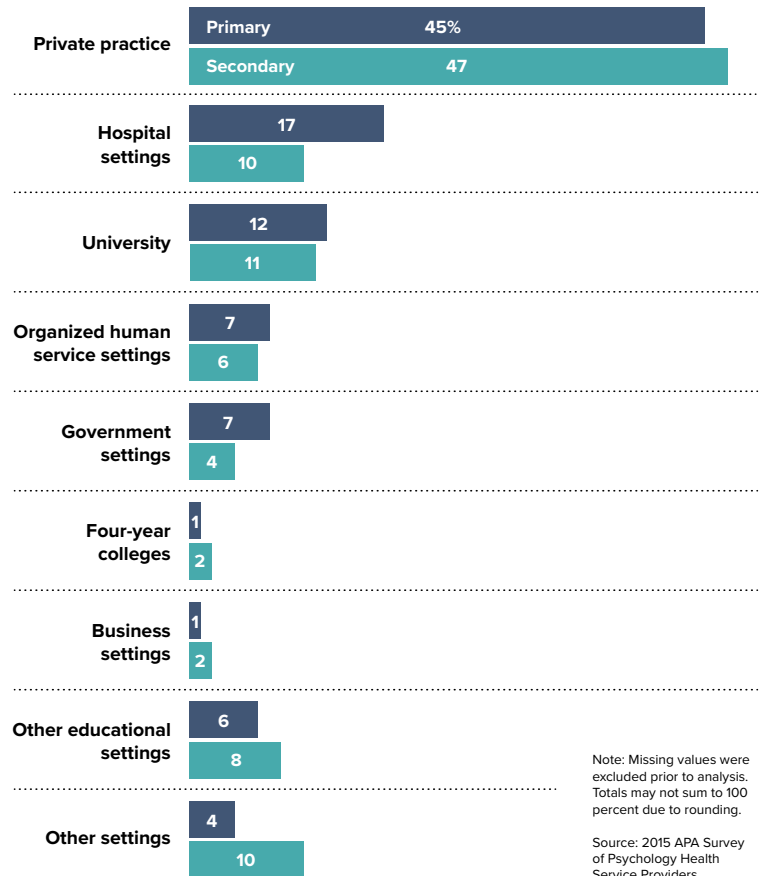
We also publish **reports** providing information about the profession of psychology, including its scientific and educational communities, practitioners, and psychologists working in the public interest.

## Growth in Psychology Doctorate Employment by Sector, 1993 to 2013



## Health service psychologists' work settings

Private practice continues to be the primary work setting



Note: Missing values were excluded prior to analysis. Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding.

Source: 2015 APA Survey of Psychology Health Service Providers

Check out our publications at:  
[www.apa.org/workforce](http://www.apa.org/workforce)

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