

CWS Factsheet Series on Population Served: Psychologists Providing Services to Older Adults

Key Findings

- **Older, White psychologists** were more likely to provide services to older adults (over age 64) at higher frequencies.
- **Psychologists working in organized human services settings** (hospitals, community mental health centers, etc.), those **self-employed**, and those **planning to decrease hours providing services** were also more likely to provide service to older adults at higher frequencies.

Background

This factsheet presents an analysis of the characteristics of psychologists providing services to **older adults** (over age 64) based on responses from approximately 3,800 **doctoral-level licensed psychologists** in the 2015 **APA Survey of Psychology Health Service Providers**.¹ In a typical week,

- 37% of psychologists **frequently or very frequently** provided services to older adults, and
- 63% of psychologists **never, rarely, or occasionally** provided services to older adults.

Findings

Psychologists with the following characteristics were more likely to provide services to older adults:

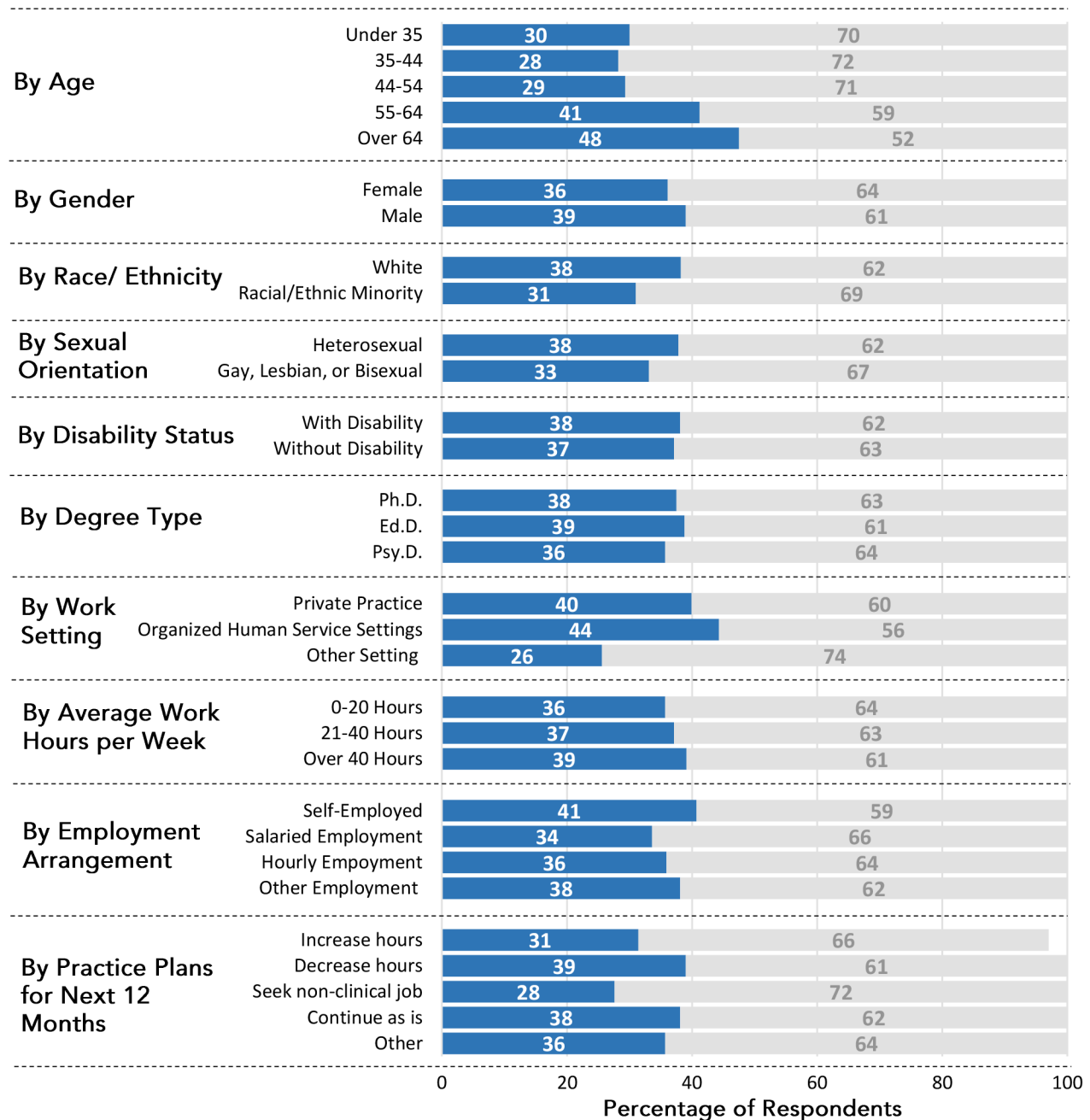
- **Older** – 48% of psychologists over age 64 reported frequently or very frequently providing services to older adults, more than those ages under 35 (30%), 35-44 (28%), 45-54 (29%), and 55-64 (41%).
- **White** – more White psychologists (38%) than racial/ethnic minority psychologists (31%) reported frequently or very frequently providing services to older adults.
- **Working in organized human services settings**, such as hospitals, community mental health centers, etc. – 44% of psychologists working in organized human service settings reported frequently or very frequently providing services to older adults, more than those in private practices (40%) and other settings, i.e., business, government settings, universities (26%).
- **Self-employed** – 41% of self-employed psychologists reported providing services to older adults frequently or very frequently, more than those in salaried employment (34%), hourly employment (36%), and other employment (38%).
- **Planning to decrease hours providing services** – 39% of psychologists planning to decrease hours providing services reported frequently or very frequently providing services to older adults, more than those planning to increase hours (31%), seek non-clinical job (28%), continue as is (38%), or other plans (36%).

1. All statements in this factsheet are based on χ^2 test results. For more information about χ^2 test results, please refer to the documentation file for this factsheet series. For more information about other findings of the survey or the survey methodology, please refer to the report: American Psychological Association. (2016). 2015 survey of psychology health service providers. Washington, DC: Author. Retrieved from <http://www.apa.org/workforce/publications/15-health-service-providers/index.aspx>

Suggested citation for this factsheet: American Psychological Association. (2017). *CWS Factsheet Series: Psychologists providing services to older adults*. Washington, DC: Author.

Characteristics of Psychologists Providing Services to Older Adults

Characteristics of Psychologists



Frequency of Providing Services to Older Adults: ■ Frequently, Very Frequently ■ Never, Rarely, Occasionally

Note: Missing values were excluded prior to analysis.
Source: 2015 APA Survey of Psychology Health Service Providers.