

CWS Factsheet Series on Population Served: Psychologists Providing Services to the Rural Population

Key Findings

- **Male, White, heterosexual psychologists** were more likely to provide services to the rural population at higher frequencies.
- **Psychologists working in organized human services settings** (hospitals, community mental health centers, etc.), those **working more hours** per week, and those under **salaried employment or other employment arrangement** were also more likely to provide service to the rural population at higher frequencies.

Background

This factsheet presents an analysis of the characteristics of psychologists providing services to the rural population 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,

- 30% of psychologists **frequently or very frequently** provided services to the rural population, and
- 70% of psychologists **never, rarely, or occasionally** provided services to the rural population.

Findings

Psychologists with the following characteristics were more likely to provide services to the rural population:

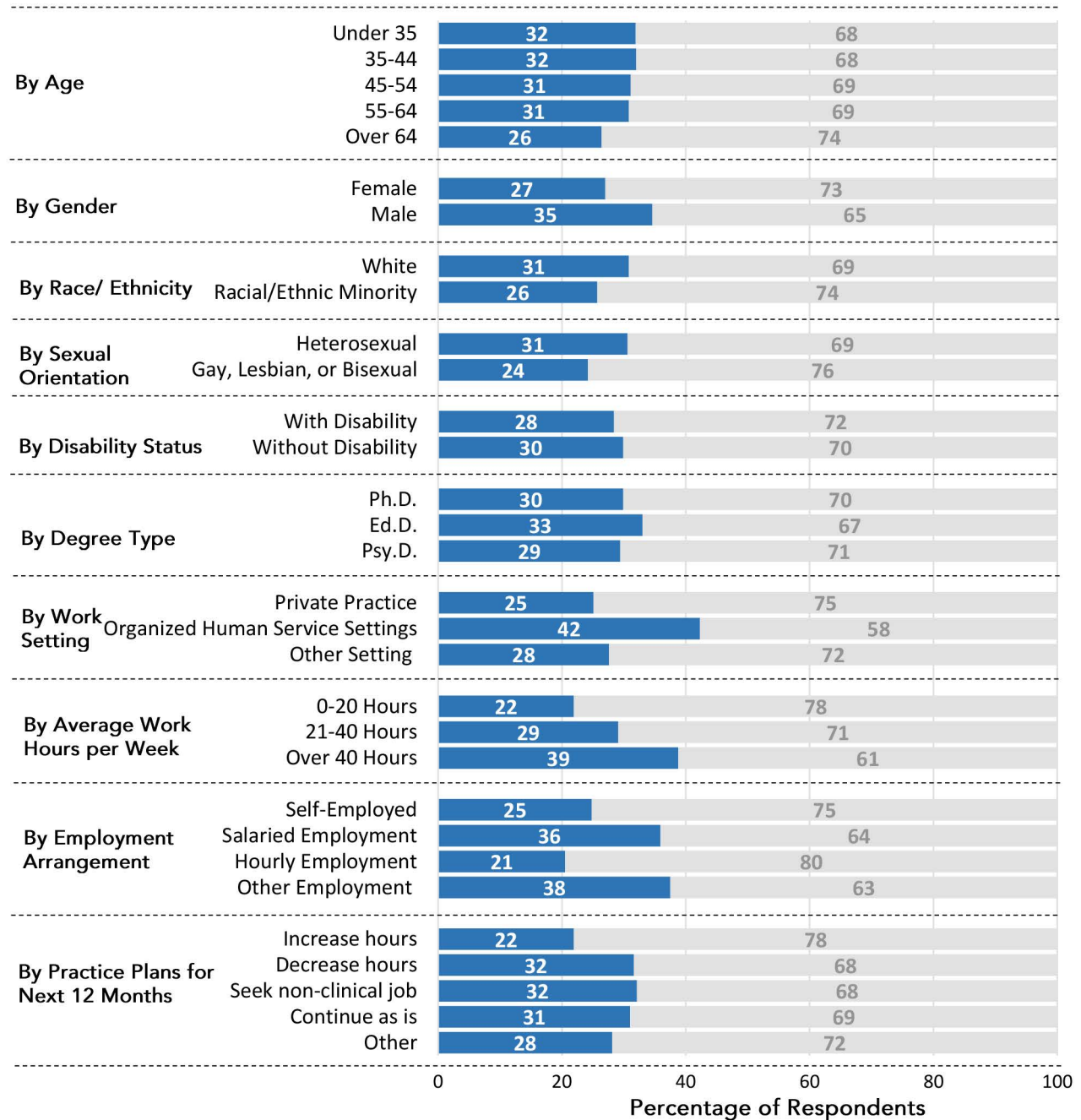
- **Male** – more male psychologists (35%) than female psychologists (27%) reported frequently or very frequently providing services to the rural population.
- **White** – more White psychologists (31%) than racial/ethnic minority psychologists (26%) reported frequently or very frequently providing services to the rural population.
- **Heterosexual** – 31% of psychologists who were heterosexual reported providing services to the rural population frequently or very frequently, whereas 24% of gay, lesbian, or bisexual psychologists reported the same.
- **Working in organized human services settings**, such as hospitals, community mental health centers, etc. – 42% of psychologists working in organized human service settings reported frequently or very frequently providing services to the rural population, more than those in private practices (25%) and other settings, i.e., business, government settings, universities (28%).
- **Working more hours per week** – 39% of psychologists who worked more than 40 hours per week reported frequently or very frequently providing services to the rural population, whereas only 22% of those who worked 20 hours per week or less reported the same.
- **Salaried or other employment** – 36% of psychologists under salaried employment and 38% of those under other employment arrangement reported frequently or very frequently providing services to the rural population, more than those self-employed (25%) or under hourly employment (21%).

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>

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Characteristics of Psychologists Providing Services to the Rural Population

Characteristics of Psychologists



Frequency of Providing Services to the Rural Population:
■ Frequently, Very Frequently
■ Never, Rarely, Occasionally

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