

Oklahoma Physician Shortage Facts

THE PROBLEM

Physician supply lags patient demand nationally and across Oklahoma. As supply falls, patients wait longer to see a doctor, and doctors burn out.

BY 2030

The U.S. is projected to have **120,000 too few** doctors nationally.¹⁻³



- ▶ **Nearly 40% of American physicians** will reach retirement age.
- ▶ **32.7% of Oklahoma physicians** are within retirement range right now.

Oklahoma is projected to be **short 451 primary care providers**.⁴⁻⁶



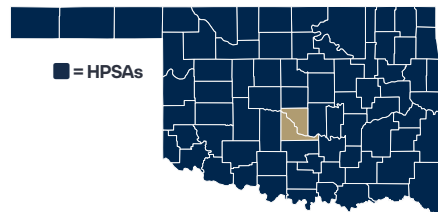
- ▶ There are only **195 residency slots** in Oklahoma for primary care each year.
- ▶ **45.2%** of those residents will practice out of state.

Overall, Oklahoma **ranks in the bottom half** of states for primary care and physician supply availability.

48th in total physician supply

46th in primary physicians

47th in general surgeons



75 of Oklahoma's 77 counties are health professional shortage areas (HPSA).⁷⁻⁹

- ▶ **Low-income citizens** are disproportionately affected by these shortages.
- ▶ HPSA designations indicate areas where there are **3,500 or more patients for every one provider**.
- ▶ **1,177,865 Oklahoma residents** live in a HPSA.

Oklahoma's physician-to-patient ratio is 39 percent worse than the national average.

83% worse in critical care

78% worse in dermatology

47% worse in emergency medicine

60% worse in neurology

65% worse in pediatrics

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