



INTERVENTIONS

Availability of Psychologists

INDICATOR

Rate of psychologists per 100,000 residents.

Numerator	Number of psychologists
Denominator	Number of residents, per 100,000

DESCRIPTION

This measure uses Bureau of Labor Statistics data to calculate the ratio of psychologists to the general population. This is not a measure specific to child psychologists.

IMPORTANCE

Psychologists frequently provide mental health services to children and families including behavioral assessments and providing therapy. According to the Kaiser Family Foundation, Wisconsin ranks among the ten worst states for meeting the mental health needs of the population; only 25% of those needing mental health treatment in Wisconsin are able to receive it. (KFF, 2017). Psychologists are one type of practitioner who may be able to support children and families.

LIMITATIONS

- This is not a measure specific to child psychologists.
- This is a statewide estimate and does not account for regional variations or scarcity in rural areas.
- Tracking the availability of psychologists does not provide information about the number of providers who are taking new patients, or who take patients with various types of insurance, such as Medicaid.
- These occupational employment numbers are estimates calculated with data collected from employers, not direct counts of providers.

ADDITIONAL ANALYSES

Wisconsin Analyses

No additional data available.

National Analyses

YEAR:		2016	
WI	US	Best	Worst
37.5*	33.9	72.2	11.6
	per 100,000	MA	AL
PAST YEAR:		2015	
WI	US		
34.5	33.5		

* Indicates a statistically significant difference from the US value at $p < 0.05$.

SOURCE

Bureau of Labor Statistics. (2016). Occupational Employment Statistics, State Occupational Employment and Wage Estimates, Wisconsin. Retrieved from http://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes_wi.htm#29-0000.

KFF. (2017). Mental Health Care Professional Shortage. Retrieved 12/21/2017 from <https://www.kff.org/other/state-indicator/mental-health-care-health-professional-shortage-areas-hpsas/>