

Medical Physicist Growth Trends

This fact sheet is an overview of the trends, distribution, and demographics of medical physicists in Texas. In 2020, there were 430 actively licensed medical physicists in Texas.

- This number represented a 0.9% decrease since 2015 and a 4.6% increase since 2010.
- Relative to population growth, the size of the medical physicist workforce has declined by 11.8% over the past 10 years.

Figure 1. Total Medical Physicists

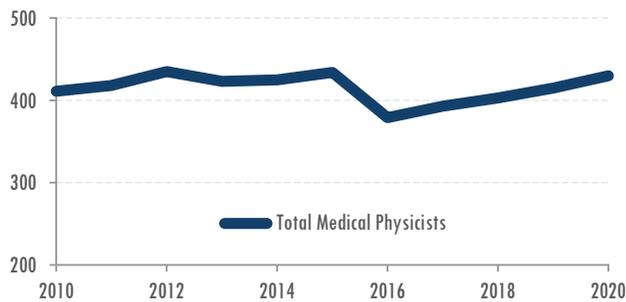
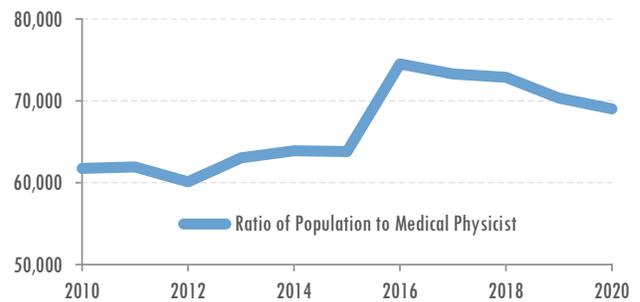


Figure 2. Ratio of Population to Medical Physicist



Geographic Distribution of Medical Physicists

Figure 3. Ratio of Texas Population to Medical Physicist by County

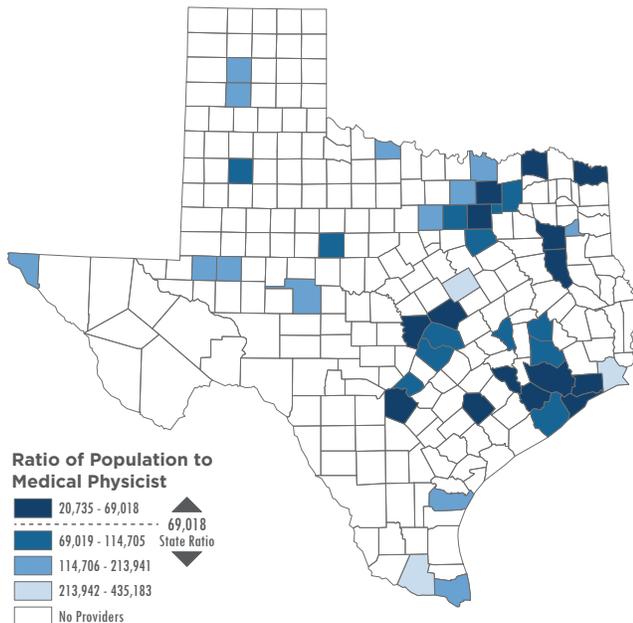


Table 1. Ratio of Texas Population to Medical Physicist by Geographic Designation

Geographic Designation	Ratio of Population to Medical Physicist
Metropolitan	62,641
Non-metropolitan	519,676
Border	283,939
Non-border	63,901
Texas	69,018

Medical physicists were not evenly distributed throughout the state.

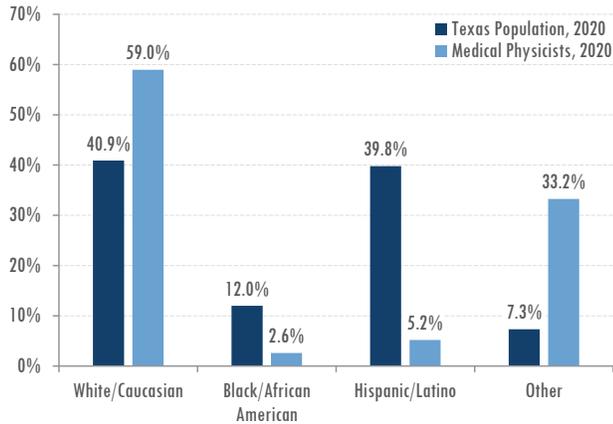
- Per capita, metropolitan counties had 8.3 times as many medical physicists as non-metropolitan counties.
- Per capita, non-border counties had 4.4 times as many medical physicists as border counties.

Demographics of Medical Physicists

Race/Ethnicity of Medical Physicists

Black/African American and Hispanic/Latino medical physicists were underrepresented when compared to the Texas population.¹

Figure 4. Race/Ethnicity of Texas Population and Medical Physicists



Age Distribution of Medical Physicists

Within 10 years, 37.7% of the current Texas medical physicist workforce will be over 65 years of age.²

- 14.2% of active medical physicists in Texas were over 65 years of age in 2020.
- 23.5% were between the ages of 56 and 65.

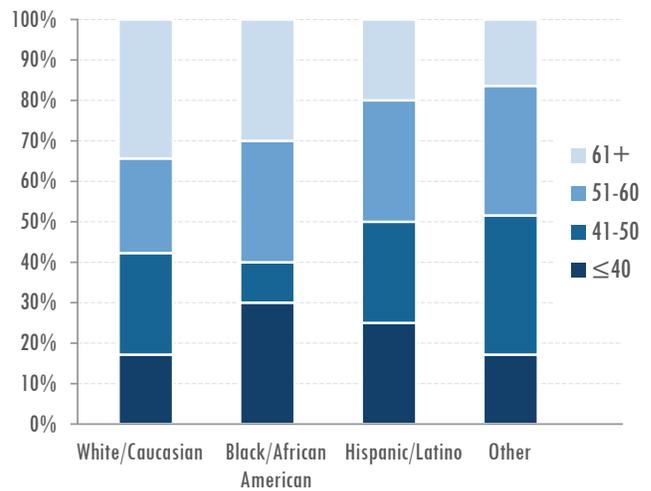
Table 2. Age Distribution of Medical Physicists

Age Group	Number	Percent
≤30	7	1.6%
31-35	27	6.3%
36-40	66	15.3%
41-45	72	16.7%
46-50	47	10.9%
51-55	49	11.4%
56-60	55	12.8%
61-65	46	10.7%
>65	61	14.2%
Total	430	100.0%

Age Distribution of Medical Physicists by Race/Ethnicity

- 34.4% of white/Caucasian medical physicists were 61 years of age or over, while 17.2% were aged 40 years or under.
- 30.0% of black/African American medical physicists were aged 40 years or under, and 30.0% were 61 years of age or over.
- 30.0% of Hispanic/Latino medical physicists were between 51 and 60 years of age, and 25.0% were aged 40 years or under.

Figure 5. Age Distribution of Medical Physicists by Race/Ethnicity



¹ Race/ethnicity data were available for 385 of 430 medical physicists.

² The earliest retirement age for social security is 62.



Employment Characteristics of Medical Physicists

Table 3. Primary Practice Setting of Medical Physicists

Setting	Number of Medical Physicists
Hospital Based	167
Partnership or Group	52
Medical School Faculty	41
Solo	33
Direct Medical Care	12
Veterans Affairs	6
Research	5
Public Health Service	4
Military	3
Other	31
Total	354³

Figure 6. Primary Specialty of Medical Physicists

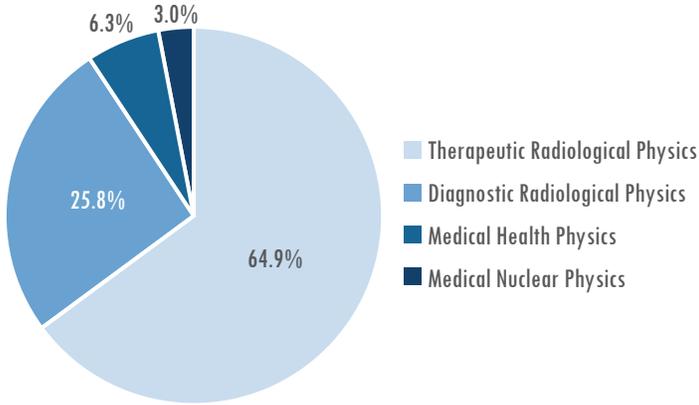
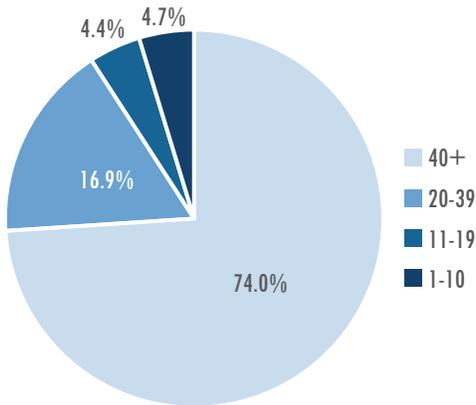


Figure 7. Primary Practice Hours of Medical Physicists⁴



³ Primary practice setting data were available for 354 of 430 medical physicists.

⁴ Primary practice hours data were available for 361 of 430 medical physicists.