

## GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF PEDIATRICIANS IN TEXAS

Pediatricians play a vital role in the prevention, detection, and management of physical, mental, and developmental health issues in children. In 2024, there were 4,899 pediatricians<sup>1,4</sup> providing direct patient care in Texas.

### Ratio of Pediatricians per 100,000 Children

Figure 1 shows the ratio of pediatricians per 100,000 children<sup>2,3</sup> in 2024 by county.

- In 2024, the state ratio of pediatricians to children was 62.5.
- Of counties with pediatricians, 88 (34.6%) had a ratio that was less than the state ratio.
- Of counties with pediatricians, 23 (9.1%) had a ratio that was greater than the state ratio.
- 143 counties had no practicing pediatricians.
- A projected 385,249 children (2.5% of the pediatric population) lived in a county without a pediatrician.

**Table 1. Ratio of Pediatricians per 100,000 Children by Public Health Region, 2015 and 2024**

Public Health Region (PHR)	2015	2024	Percent Change
Northwest Texas (PHR 1)	39.9	38.6	-3.1%
North Central Texas (PHR 2/3)	56.3	63.5	12.7%
Piney Woods Texas (PHR 4/5N)	37.7	37.5	-0.4%
Southeast Texas (PHR 6/5S)	61.7	73.0	18.3%
Central Texas (PHR 7)	65.4	76.4	16.8%
South Central Texas (PHR 8)	54.6	58.3	6.7%
West Texas (PHR 9/10)	44.3	38.0	-14.1%
South Texas (PHR 11)	46.1	49.4	7.0%
Texas Total	55.5	62.5	12.5%

### Counties with Zero Pediatricians

Table 2 shows the percentage of counties in each public health region with zero pediatricians.

- 81.8% of counties in West Texas did not have a pediatrician in 2015 and 2024.

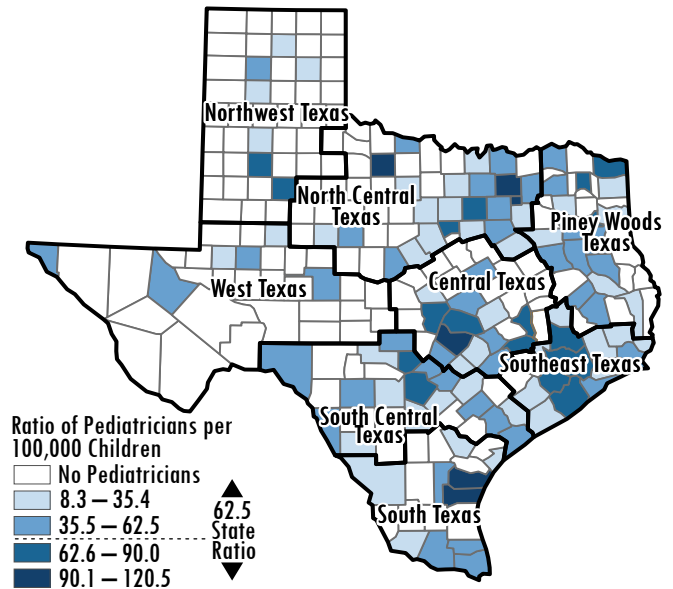
<sup>1</sup>Pediatricians include physicians with an active license, a practice address (or mailing address, if practice not provided) in Texas, and a primary specialty in Pediatrics, Internal Medicine - Pediatrics, Adolescent Medicine - Pediatrics, Adolescent Medicine - Internal Medicine, Adolescent Medicine - General Practice, or Adolescent & Young Adult Medicine - Family Practice.

<sup>2</sup>Children includes those between the ages of 0-17.

<sup>3</sup>2015 and 2024 Texas Population Projections from the Texas Demographic Center (2018). Population for 2010-2050 for State of Texas and Counties, 2020-2060. <https://demographics.texas.gov/Projections/2018/>.

<sup>4</sup>Texas Department of State Health Services, Health Providers Resource Center (HPRC). 2015-2024 Licensure Data from the Texas Medical Board as Geocoded and Processed by HPRC, 2015-2024. [www.dshs.texas.gov/healthprofessions](http://www.dshs.texas.gov/healthprofessions).

**Figure 1. Ratio of Pediatricians per 100,000 Children, 2024**



### Pediatricians per Public Health Region

Table 1 shows the ratio of pediatricians per 100,000 children by public health region in 2015 and 2024.

- Between 2015 and 2024, the supply of pediatricians increased by 23.2% (from 3,975 in 2015) and the Texas ratio of pediatricians per 100,000 children increased by 12.5%.

**Table 2. Percent of Counties in Each Public Health Region with Zero Pediatricians, 2015 and 2024**

Public Health Region (PHR)	2015	2024
Northwest Texas (PHR 1)	79.5%	84.1%
North Central Texas (PHR 2/3)	46.9%	51.0%
Piney Woods Texas (PHR 4/5N)	48.6%	48.6%
Southeast Texas (PHR 6/5S)	6.3%	12.5%
Central Texas (PHR 7)	60.0%	53.3%
South Central Texas (PHR 8)	35.7%	35.7%
West Texas (PHR 9/10)	81.8%	81.8%
South Texas (PHR 11)	31.6%	47.4%