

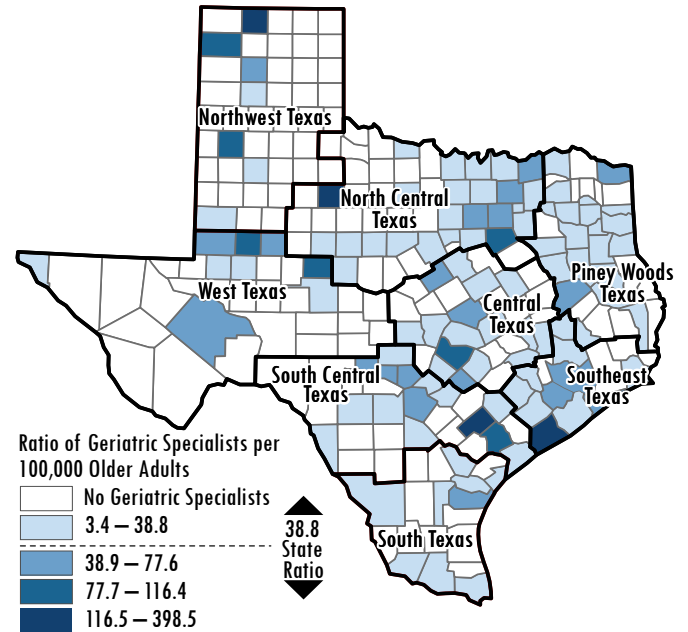
As people age, they are disproportionately affected by chronic health conditions.¹ Physicians and certified nurse practitioners (NPs) trained in geriatrics provide primary and mental health care to older adults, those 65 and older.

Geriatric Specialists by County

In 2024, there were 691 geriatric physicians and 1,085 geriatric NPs in Texas². Figure 1 shows the ratio of geriatric specialists per 100,000 older adults in Texas in 2024 by county.²

- In 2024, the state ratio of geriatric specialists to older adults was 38.8 per 100,000.
- Of counties with geriatric specialists, 81 had a ratio below the state average.
- 142 counties (55.9%) had no geriatric specialists.
- A projected 396,989 older adults (8.7% of the older adult population) lived in a county without a geriatric specialist.

Figure 1. Ratio of Geriatric Specialists per 100,000 Older Adults, 2024



Geriatric Specialists and Geriatric Population by Public Health Region

Table 1. Ratio of Geriatric Specialists per 100,000 Adults 65 and Older vs. Percent of Population 65 and Older by Public Health Region, 2024

Public Health Region (PHR)	Ratio of Geriatric Specialists	Percent of Older Adults in Population
Northwest Texas (PHR 1)	15.0	15.9%
North Central Texas (PHR 2/3)	41.5	14.2%
Piney Woods Texas (PHR 4/5N)	18.4	20.6%
Southeast Texas (PHR 6/5S)	47.2	13.3%
Central Texas (PHR 7)	45.2	14.2%
South Central Texas (PHR 8)	41.3	15.3%
West Texas (PHR 9/10)	18.8	13.9%
South Texas (PHR 11)	29.9	14.3%
Texas Total	38.8	14.4%

Table 1 shows the ratio of geriatric specialists per 100,000 older adults and the percentage of older adults in the population by public health region in 2024.

- Southeast Texas had the highest supply ratio of geriatric specialists at 47.2, and the lowest percentage of older adults at 13.3%.
- Piney Woods Texas had the highest percentage of older adults at 20.6% and a supply ratio of 18.4.
- Northwest Texas had the lowest supply ratio of geriatric specialists at 15.0.

¹ Jones, C. H., & Dolsten, M. (2024). Healthcare on the brink: Navigating the challenges of an aging society in the United States. *Npj Aging*, 10(1). <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41514-024-00148-2>

² Geriatric physicians include physicians with an active Texas medical license with a practice address (or mailing address, if practice address is not available) in Texas, who reported any of the following primary or secondary specialties: Geriatrics, Geriatric Medicine, Geriatrics - Internal Medicine, Geriatrics - Family Medicine, Geriatrics - General Practice, and Geriatric Psychiatry. Geriatric NPs include nurse practitioners with an active Texas nursing license with a practice address (or mailing address, if practice address is not available) in Texas, who reported a specialty of Geriatric/Gerontology.

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

⁴ Texas Department of State Health Services, Health Professions Resource Center (HPRC). 2024 Texas Medical Board and Texas Board of Nursing Licensure Data as Geocoded and Processed by HPRC, 2025. www.dshs.texas.gov/healthprofessions