

Workforce Loan Repayment Opportunities

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Physicians and Primary Care Physicians (PCPs)



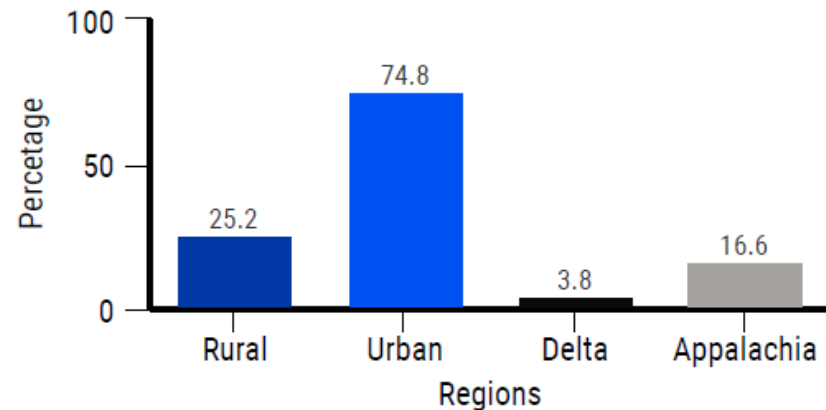
Primary care physicians were calculated using the following parameters:

- Active status
- Working in KY
- Hospital Based
- Private practice based
- Adolescent medicine
- Family medicine
- General medicine
- Internal medicine
- Pediatrics

Physicians and PCPs

- **10,002 physicians are practicing in Kentucky.**
- Most physicians practice in Urban counties (74.8%; n=7,481 total) as compared to Rural (25.2%; n=2,521).
- 16.2% of physicians are practicing in Appalachian counties (n=1,663)
- 3.6% of Kentucky physicians practice in the Delta region (n=378 total).

Physician Total by Geographic Designation



Physicians and PCPs

The United States Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) defines a Health Provider Shortage Area (HPSA) as a ratio of provider to population that is greater than 1:3,500 (KFF, 2022). There are three types of HPSA designations, however, for the scope of this report, county-level HPSAs will be examined.

The provider-to-population ratio reflects the number of PCPs to populations in each county or region. For example, 1:331 means that for every 1 PCP there are 331 residents in the urban region, or for every 331 individuals, there is one provider.

Region	Physician Ratio	PCP Ratio
Urban	1:331	1:1500
Rural	1:714	1:1935
Appalachia	1:678	1:1860
Delta	1:515	1:1726

Physicians and PCPs

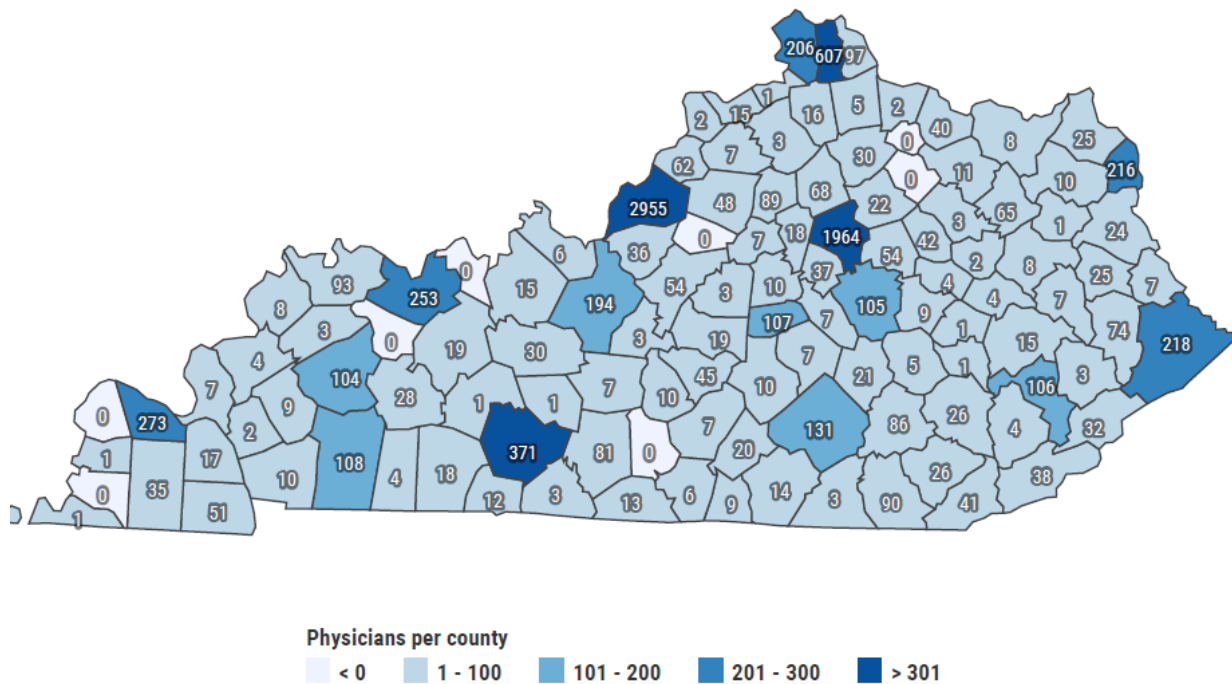
Kentucky Physicians: Total Years Licensed

Years Licensed as a Physician	Number of Physicians	%
<1-5	333	3.3%
6-10	1,377	13.8%
11-20	2,683	26.8%
21-30	2,372	23.7%
31-40	2,092	20.9%
41-50	946	9.5%
51+	189	1.9%

- Most physicians practicing in Kentucky have been licensed between 11 and 20 years (26.8%).
- Almost a third of Kentucky physicians have been licensed between 31 and 50+ years (32.3%).
- Only 17.1% of Kentucky physicians have been licensed for 10 years or less.

Physicians and PCPs

Distribution of Physicians By County



Physicians and PCPs

The following table illustrates physician data tracked over a five-year period. The year 2021 was omitted due to inaccurate data due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Year	Physician Count	Physician Year Change	PCP Count	PCP Year Change
2016	10,260		2,696	
2017	11,012	+752	2,750	+54
2018	11,437	+425	2,825	+75
2019	10,592	-845	2,772	-53
2020	10,072	-520	2,734	-38
2022	10,002	-70	2,729	-8

- The largest tracked increase was between the years 2016 and 2017.
- The largest tracked decrease was between the years 2018 and 2019.
- Across the six-year span, a net *loss* of 258 physicians and a net *gain* of 30 PCPs occurred.

Registered Nurses (RNs) and Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs) 2023

- 69,102 RNs
- 2,403 APRNs



Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs)

- Work setting
 - 44.1% work in office clinic
 - 27.1% hospital inpatient
 - 10.2% ambulating care
- Population Foci
 - 64.9% family medicine
 - 12.1% anesthetist
 - 5.4% family psych/ mental health

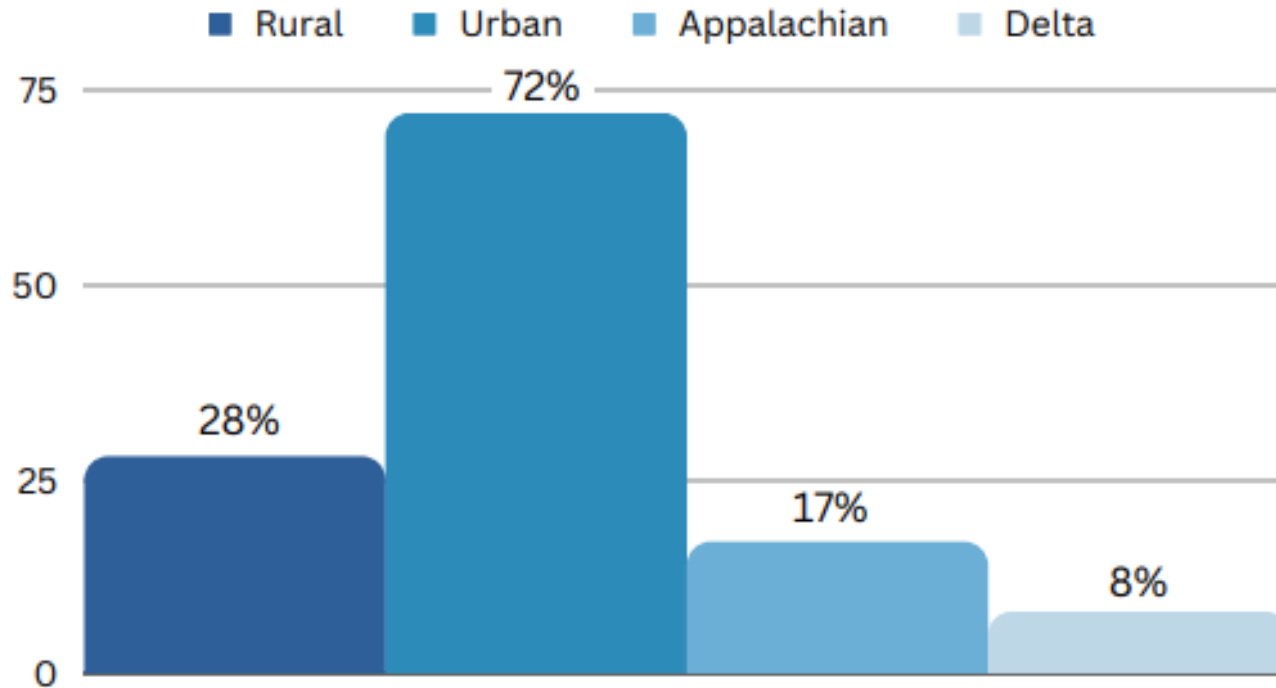
Registered Nurses (RNs) and Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs)

	RN	APRN
Rural (%)	38.5%	38%
Urban (%)	61.5%	62%
Appalachian (%)	24.1%	25.5%
Delta (%)	10.8%	10.2%

Dentists

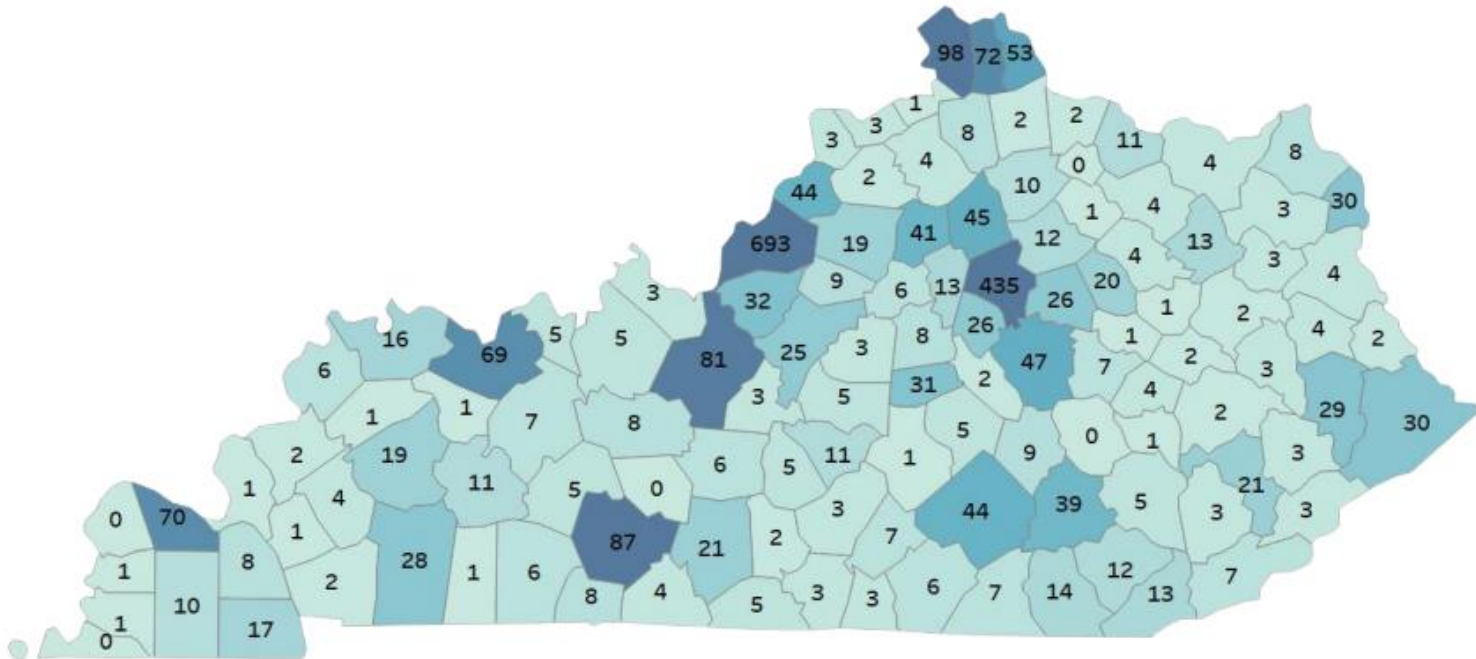
- 2,546 dentists practicing in Kentucky.
- The majority of dentists are located within urban counties.
- Most counties with dentist provider shortages are in rural counties.
 - Five Kentucky counties have no practicing dentists (Ballard, Edmonson, Fulton, Jackson, and Robertson). All five counties are rural, excluding Edmonson.

Dentists



134 Kentucky dentists reported practicing in multiple counties; one dentist reported practicing in nine counties.

Dentists



- 75 of 120 Kentucky counties (63%) have between one and 10 dentists.
- 41% of all Kentucky dentists practice in Fayette County (16%) and in Jefferson County (25%).

Loan Repayment Opportunities

- The UK CERH administers the Healthcare Worker Loan Relief Program of the Commonwealth (HWLRPC), funded by the Commonwealth of Kentucky (2022-present)
- The Kentucky State Loan Repayment Program (KSLRP) is administered by the KORH and is funded by the federal government (HRSA) and public/nonprofit organizations. (2003-present)

Federal and State Loan Repayment Opportunities for Kentucky Providers

Program Name

Funding & Administration

Healthcare Professional Eligibility

Practice Site Eligibility

Award & Service Commitment

Application Details & Contact Information

Kentucky State Loan Repayment Program (KSLRP)

Funded by the federal government (HRSA) and public/nonprofit organizations, and administered by the Kentucky Office of Rural Health.

Primary Care Clinicians: MD/DO, PA, NP, CNM, RN
Dental Care Clinicians: DDS/DMD, RDH
Behavioral/Mental Health Clinicians: MD/DO, LCSW, LPCC, HSP, MFT, NP, PA, PNS
Alcohol/Substance Use Clinicians: Counselors
Pharmacy Clinicians: RPh/PharmD

Public or nonprofit private health care facilities located in a health professional shortage area in Kentucky.

Up to \$10,000-\$40,000 in loan repayment assistance each year, for a total of two years in exchange for two years of full-time service.

Application window opens for one month each year: generally September 1 to September 30. With a special call for Kentucky Behavioral Health Workforce Initiative (KBHWI) applications August 1 to August 31.

Additional details and application materials can be found at: <http://kyruralhealth.org/KSLRP>.

For Questions, Contact Janice Vance
(KSLRP@uky.edu; (606)439-3557

Healthcare Worker Loan Relief Program of the Commonwealth (HWLRPC)

Funded by the Commonwealth of Kentucky and administered by the UK Center of Excellence in Rural Health.

Primary Care Clinicians: MD/DO, PA, NP, CNM, RN
Dental Care Clinicians: DDS/DMD, RDH
Behavioral/Mental Health Clinicians: MD/DO, LCSW, LPCC, HSP, MFT, NP, PA, PNS
Alcohol/Substance Use Clinicians: Counselors
Pharmacy Clinicians: RPh/PharmD
Optometrists: OD
Ophthalmologists: MD/DO
Audiologists: Au. D
Other Specialties Considered

Public or nonprofit private health care facilities located in a health professional shortage area in Kentucky.

The process for determining award amounts, will be tiered based on provider type, student loan debt level, and other factors. Awardees will in exchange sign a two to three year service commitment.

Applications are accepted throughout each year and cycles are rolling with biannual consideration.

Additional details and application materials can be found at: www.kyruralhealth.org

For Questions, Contact Sierra Williams
(SIwi258@uky.edu; (606)439-3557)

Challenges to Noteworthy Achievements

- Navigating the federal and state guidelines to stretch the funding of both programs to recruit and retain as many providers as possible.
- Time to get the program set up
- Reporting process of federal and state programs
- Application process
 - Alignment for the call of applications
 - Identifying the entities who can not afford to pay the match
 - Incomplete applications

Noteworthy Achievements

Now covered under the new funding

- Optometrists: OD
- Ophthalmologists: MD/DO
- Audiologists: Au. D
- Other Specialties Considered

Additional openings to submit applications through out the year.

The Kentucky State Loan Repayment Program (KSLRP) 2003- 2022

169 providers within Healthcare Professional Shortage Areas (HSPA) throughout Kentucky.

- **65** Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs), **1** Certified Nurse Midwife, and **4** Registered Nurses (RNs)
- **45** Medical Doctors (MDs), **18** Doctors of Osteopathic Medicine (DOs), and **3** Physician Assistants (PAs)
- **14** Dentists and **5** Registered Dental Hygienists
- **8** Pharmacists
- **2** Licensed Professional Clinical Counselors (LPCCs), **2** Licensed Clinical Social Workers (LCSWs), and **2** Licensed Professional Counselors (LPC)

The Kentucky State Loan Repayment Program (KSLRP) 2023

- 25 providers within Healthcare Professional Shortage Areas (HSPA) throughout Kentucky.
- 7 APRNs
- 2 PAs
- 3 DOs
- 1 Health Service Psychologist 3 LCSW
- 9 RNs
- Currently there are 6 providers in review to be awarded at the end of the 2023-2024 award year. Those providers include: 1 DO, 2 MDs, 2 PharmDs, 1 RN and 1 NP.

Healthcare Worker Loan Relief Program of the Commonwealth (HWLRPC) 2023

- An additional 17 providers have received student loan repayment funding through The HWLRPC, a newly funded program that began in 2023.
- 3 APRNs
- 1 Dentist
- 2 LPCCs
- 3 LCSWs
- 1 Licensed Psychological Associate 1 LPC
- 3 Optometrists
- 2 Pharmacists
- 1 RN
- Currently there are 3 providers in review to be awarded at the end of 2023-2024 award year. Those providers include: 1 OD, 1 DO and 1 LMFT. A new cycle for the HWLRPC will open on Jan. 1, 2024.

KSLRP AND HWLRPC 2023-2024



The map above illustrates the partnership between KSLRP and HWLRPC. A total of 15 providers are currently within the review process to receive additional funding, to meet the 1:1 match component for KSLRP. The HWLRPC will provide that additional funding in order to help those potential awardees meet the 1:1 match component.

Future Plans

- Continue provider workforce studies to identify need
- Simplify the application process
- Targeted call for applications
 - By region
 - By provider-type
- Survey Evaluation
 - Collaborating with the Primary Care Office (National Health Service Corps) to survey participants for all loan relief programs
 - Tracking recruitment and retention

Questions



Kentucky State Loan Repayment Program

The Kentucky State Loan Repayment Program (KSLRP) offers financial assistance to health care professionals **providing outpatient, primary care services** in rural and underserved communities throughout the Commonwealth. Program participants receive loan repayment awards — to help repay their student loans — in exchange for two years of service at an eligible site (public or nonprofit private health care facility) located in a health professional shortage area.

Applicants must be from one of the following disciplines:

Primary Care: Physician • Physician Assistant • Nurse Practitioner • Certified Nurse-Midwife • Registered Nurse

Dental Care: Dentist • Registered Dental Hygienist

Alcohol and Substance Use: Alcohol and Substance Use Disorder Counselors

Behavioral and Mental Health: Physician • Physician Assistant • Nurse Practitioner • Psychiatric Nurse Specialist • Licensed Clinical Social Worker • Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor • Health Service Psychologist • Marriage and Family Therapist

Pharmacy: Pharmacist

KSLRP is administered by the Kentucky Office of Rural Health and is funded by the National Health Service Corps, a program of the federal Bureau of Health Workforce in the Health Resources and Services Administration, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, and individual participants' sponsors (employers, private foundations, community organizations), who are required to match federal funding for participants on a 1:1 basis.

ELIGIBILITY

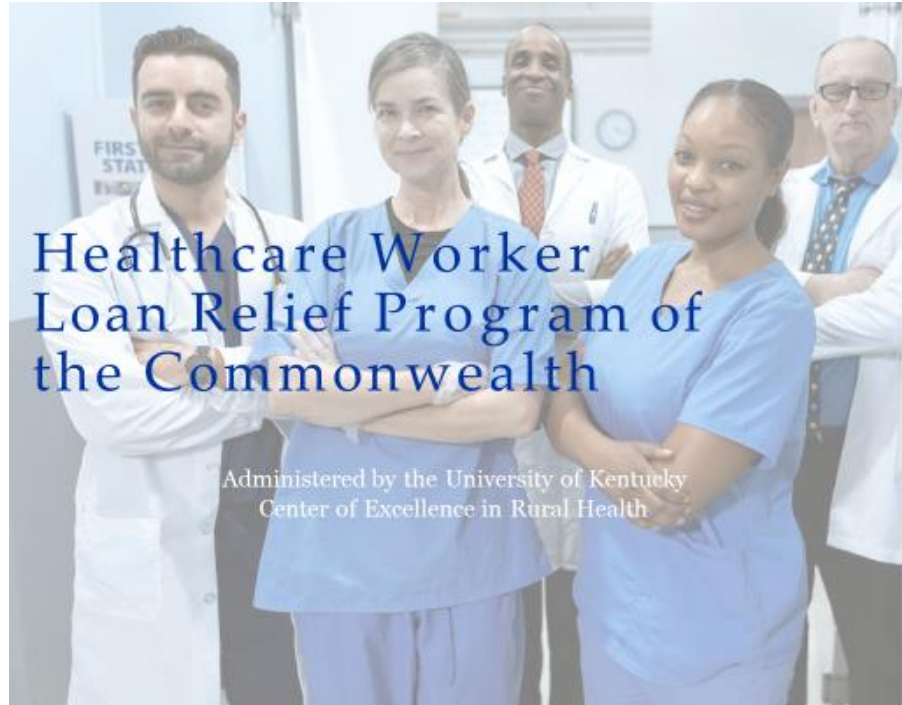
U.S. citizen or U.S. national working in Kentucky
Trained and licensed to provide direct patient care in an eligible discipline and specialty
Currently employed (or will be employed by January) at an eligible site
Work full time (40 or more hours a week, 45 weeks per year) providing primary care services
Have no existing service obligations

MAXIMUM LOAN REPAYMENT AMOUNTS

Awards range from \$20,000-\$50,000 a year, depending on provider type, level of loan indebtedness and sponsor commitment level

APPLICATION WINDOW

Applications are accepted each year from September 1 to September 30.



Healthcare Worker Loan Relief Program of the Commonwealth

Administered by the University of Kentucky
Center of Excellence in Rural Health

Follow the link below to learn about eligibility and requirements. For additional information, please email:

HWLRPCCommonwealth@uky.edu


Or Contact:

Sierra Williams, MS
Rural Project Manager
UK Center of Excellence in Rural Health
Phone: (606)439-3557
Email: slwi258@uky.edu

Visit www.kyruralhealth.org



APPLY TODAY

 Center of Excellence
in Rural Health

PROGRAM CONTACT INFORMATION

 KSLRP@uky.edu
 606-439-3557
 kslrp.kyruralhealth.org


Kentucky Office of Rural Health

Citations and Links to Full Reports



2023 KBD Report

Howard, S.P. & Feltner, F. (2023). Kentucky dental workforce report [Report].



2023 KBML Report

Howard, S.P., Boots, K., & Feltner, F. (2023). Kentucky physician report 2022 [Report].

2023 KBN Report

coming soon