

APA Fact Sheet Series on Psychologist Supply and Demand Projections 2015-2030:

Demand within the Black/African American Population

Key Findings

- In 2030, there is a projected demand within the Black/African American population in the United States for **11,870 FTE** (full-time equivalent) psychologists, an increase of **1,140 FTEs** from 2015.
- Between 2015 and 2030, the largest demand increases within the Black/African American population are among age groups **75 years and older** (an increase of 430 FTEs) and **65 to 74 years** (an increase of 390 FTEs).
- States with the highest projected demand for psychologists within the Black/African American population in 2030 include **Texas** (1,030 FTEs), **Florida** (1,000 FTEs), **Georgia** (920 FTEs), **New York** (790 FTEs), and **California** (730 FTEs).

Background

Workforce projections¹ examine current and future psychologist supply and demand in the United States from 2015 to 2030. Supply is determined on the basis of the number of licensed psychologists active in the workforce,² new entrants, and workforce participation patterns, whereas demand is determined on the basis of current patterns of service utilization and projected demographic changes of the U.S. population.

The projections are described in terms of full-time equivalent (FTE) psychologists. An FTE is defined as a licensed, doctoral-level psychologist who works 39 hours per week.

Findings

From 2015 to 2030, the national demand for psychologists is projected to increase to 101,120 FTEs. That is an increase of 5,940 FTEs (6%) from the demand level in 2015.

Within the Black/African American population,³ demand is projected to be 11,870 FTE psychologists in 2030, an increase of 1,140 FTEs from 2015. Approximately 6,360 FTEs of the projected demand are from Black/African American women and 5,510 FTEs are from Black/African American men. In 2030, age groups with the largest projected demand are 45 to 64 (3,140 FTEs) and 18 to 34 (2,320 FTEs). Between 2015 and 2030, the largest percent increases in demand are projected to occur in age groups 75 years and older (an increase of 100%) and 65 to 74 years (an increase of 72%).

Projected demand for psychologists within the Black/African American population in 2030 is highest along the coastal areas and in the South. States with the highest projected demand for psychologists within the Black/African American population in 2030 include Texas (1,030 FTEs), Florida (1,000 FTEs), Georgia (920 FTEs), New York (790 FTEs), and California (730 FTEs).

Limitations

Workforce projections are based on available data that reflect current patterns. Several limitations are worth noting. Demand is based on service utilization rather than need. It is likely that the need for psychological services exceeds current utilization levels. While the projections include psychology specialties, available data do not enable separate projections by specialty. Workload definitions for psychologists in federal data sources emphasize mental health services, rather than health services more broadly. It is likely that the projections underestimate psychologists' provision of physical health-related services. Therefore, demand for health services may be higher than estimated here.

¹ IHS Markit. (2018). *Psychologist workforce projections for 2015-2030: Addressing supply and demand*. Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.

² Includes licensed psychologists actively working in a position that requires a psychology license, or in a position that does not require a psychology license but uses clinical skills and/or training as a psychologist.

³ Terminologies of racial/ethnic groups are those used within federal data sources.

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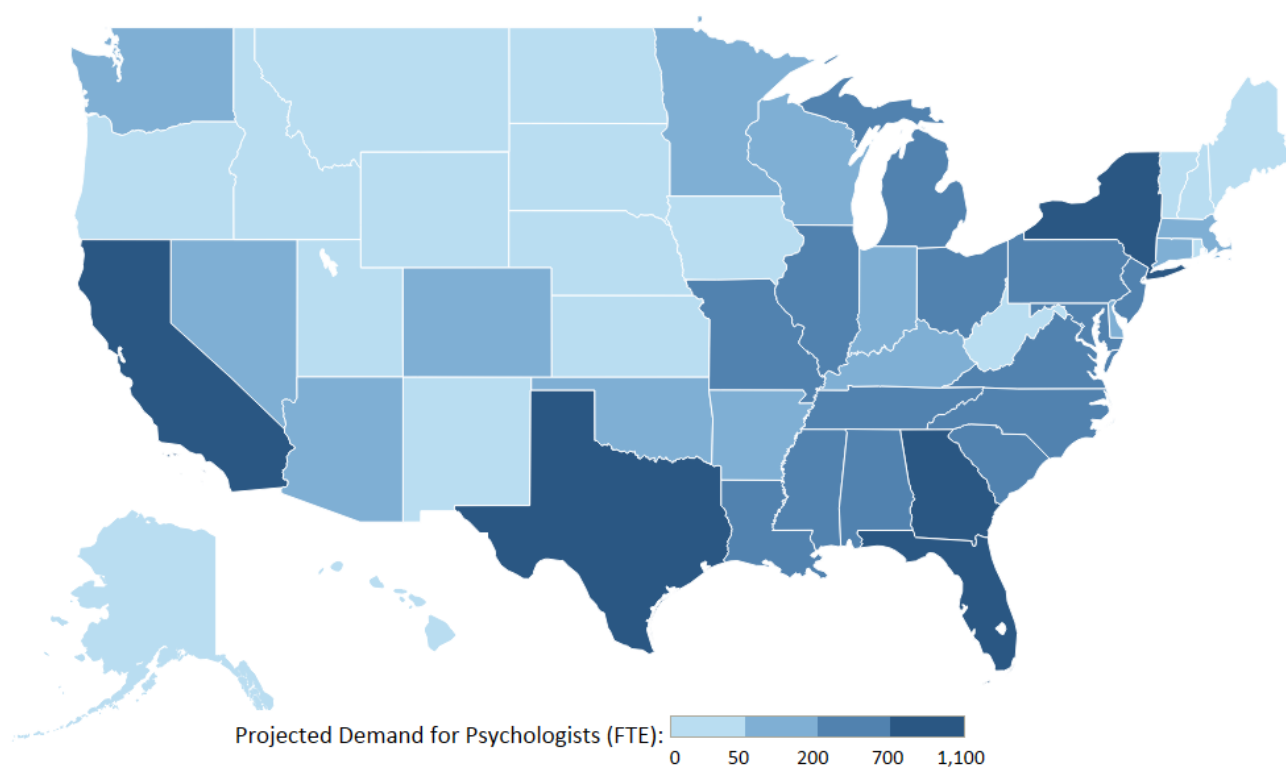
Projected Demand for Psychologists within the Black/African American Population, 2015-2030

Population Groups		2015 Demand (FTEs)	2030 Demand (FTEs)	FTE Change	Percent Change
All Black/African Americans		10,730	11,870	1,140	11%
By Gender	Men	4,950	5,510	560	11%
	Women	5,770	6,360	590	10%
By Age	0 to 5 years	220	240	20	9%
	6 to 12 years	1,750	1,800	60	3%
	13 to 17 years	1,410	1,360	-50	-4%
	18 to 34 years	2,330	2,320	-20	-1%
	35 to 44 years	960	1,220	260	27%
	45 to 64 years	3,080	3,140	60	2%
	65 to 74 years	540	930	390	72%
	75 years and older	430	850	430	100%

Note: This table summarizes projected demand for psychologists based on current utilization patterns and projected demographic changes. FTE Change = 2030 Demand – 2015 Demand; Percent Change = FTE Change / 2015 Demand. Projected FTEs were rounded to the nearest ten. Details may not sum to totals due to rounding.

Source: IHS Markit, *Psychologist workforce projections for 2015-2030: Addressing supply and demand* (2018).

Projected Demand for Psychologists within the Black/African American Population by State, 2030



Source: IHS Markit, *Psychologist workforce projections for 2015-2030: Addressing supply and demand* (2018).