In 2003, the supply of pharmacists grew in forty-two counties. Buncombe experienced the largest raw number increase (+16, 6.7%) in pharmacists while Currituck had the largest positive percentage change (50%) with the addition of one pharmacist.

Camden and Hyde were the only counties without a pharmacist claiming it as a practice location.

Thirty-eight counties lost pharmacists; the largest reduction in numbers occurred in Durham (-38, -5.8%) and Pitt (-10, -5.2%). Alleghany lost two of its five pharmacists for the largest percentage decrease (-40%).

Twenty counties had no change.

**Pharmacist demographics in N.C.**

- **Race**
  - White: 71%
  - Black: 2%
  - American Indian: <0.5%
  - Asian: 2%
  - Spanish origin: <0.5%
  - Unknown: 24%

- **Gender**
  - The pharmacist workforce is 52% female and 48% male.

- **Age**
  - <31: 23%
  - 31-40: 37%
  - 41-50: 23%
  - 51-60: 11%
  - 61-70: 1%
  - >70: <0.5%
  - Unknown: 4%

**Pharmacists per 10,000 Population**

- 7.80 to 26.2: 25
- 6.28 to 7.79: 25
- 4.25 to 6.27: 24
- 0.01 to 4.24: 24
- No Active Pharmacists: 2

**Sources:** North Carolina Health Professions Data System, 1979 to 2003 with data derived from the North Carolina Board of Pharmacy. Population data are smoothed figures based on 1980, 1990 and 2000 census enumerations. Source for Metropolitan-Non-metropolitan definition: Office of Management and Budget, 1999. Figures include all licensed, active, in-state pharmacists.
In 2003, there were 8.5 pharmacists per 10,000 population in North Carolina. In 2000, the last year for which national figures are available, there were 7.1 pharmacists per 10,000 population for the United States.

**Form of Employment**

The majority (55%) of pharmacists in NC are Staff Pharmacists. An additional 29% are Pharmacy Managers or Employees and a small percentage (3%) work in Clinical Pharmacy. For 13% of the workforce the form of employment is unknown or "other."

**Pharmacists per 10,000 Population, US and NC, 1979-2003**

**Metro/Non-Metro Counties**

In 2003 there were 9.3 pharmacists per 10,000 population in metropolitan counties and 6.7 pharmacists per 10,000 population in non-metropolitan counties.

**Employment Setting**

- Unknown: 3.9%
- Chain: 38.4%
- Government: 0.2%
- Health Department: 0.6%
- Hospital: 23.3%
- Independent industry: 16.6%
- Manufacturing: 1.6%
- Nursing home: 2.2%
- Other: 11.0%
- Research: 1.0%
- Sales: 0.6%
- Teaching: 0.7%

In 2003, there were 8.5 pharmacists per 10,000 population in North Carolina.

In 2000, the last year for which national figures are available, there were 7.1 pharmacists per 10,000 population for the United States.

**Pharmacists per 10,000 Population by Persistent Health Professional Shortage Areas, NC, 1979-2003**

Persistent HPSAs are those designated as HPSAs by HRSA from 1993 through 1997, or in 6 of the last 7 releases of HPSA definitions.


The data for the N.C. Health Professions Data System are provided to the respective licensing boards by health professionals at the time of initial licensure or renewal. The data are tabulated by the Sheps Center but at all times remain the property of the boards.