



# PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS 2004

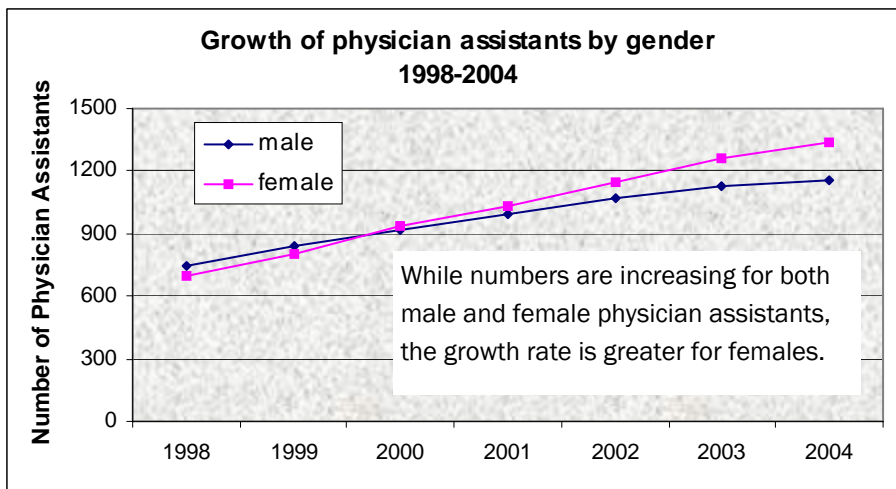
## TRENDS IN PROFESSIONAL SUPPLY

In 2004 the overall physician assistant (PA) supply increased by 4.5% (+108). Forty-three counties expanded their PA supply with Chatham county doubling its numbers. Yancey, having lost its two providers in 2003, regained one in 2004. Forty-one counties experienced no change in their PA supply, including 5 counties that had no PAs in 2003 (Avery, Camden, Currituck, Hyde, and Mitchell). A total of 16 counties lost physician assistants.

### STATE TOTAL

There were 2,498 licensed, active, in-state physician assistants in NC in 2004.

## PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT STATISTICS



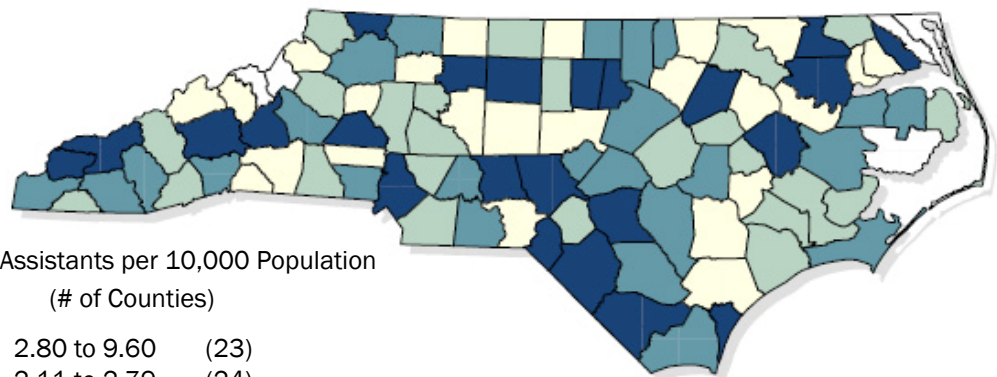
**RACE**

• White/Non-Hispanic	81%
• Black/Non-Hispanic	4.5%
• American Indian/Alaskan Native	1%
• Asian/Pacific Islander	1%
• Hispanic	2%
• Other	2%
• Unknown	10%

**AGE**

• <31	19%
• 31-40	33%
• 41-50	28%
• 51-60	17%
• 61-70	2%
• >70	<1%

## PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS PER 10,000



Physician Assistants per 10,000 Population  
(# of Counties)

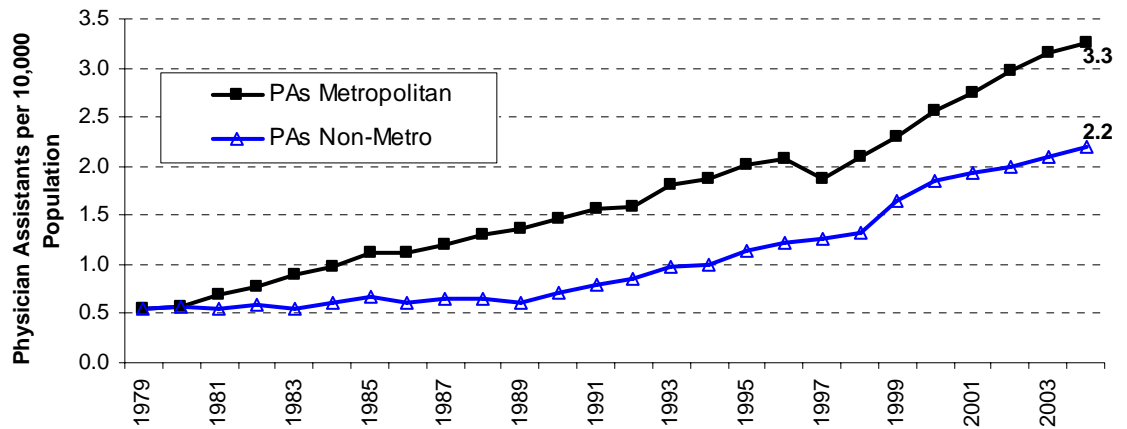
■ 2.80 to 9.60	(23)
■ 2.11 to 2.79	(24)
■ 1.45 to 2.10	(24)
■ 0.01 to 1.44	(24)
□ No Active PAs	(5)

The average age of physician assistants is 40 years

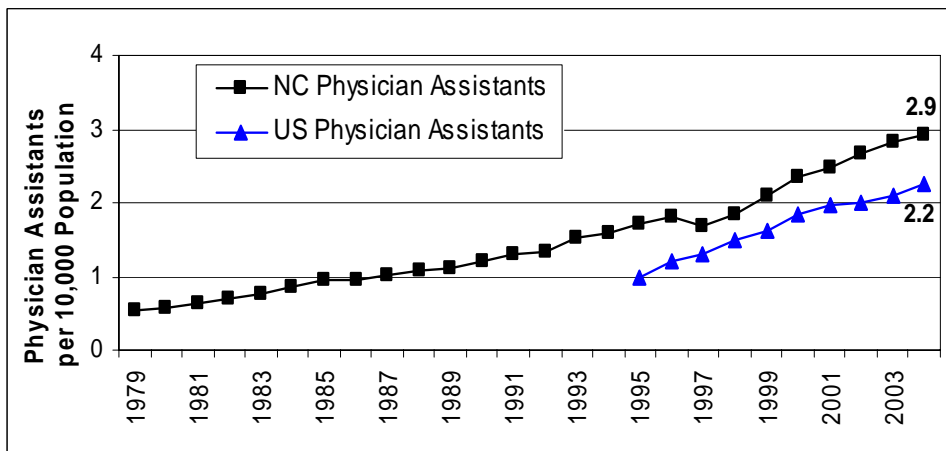
**Sources:** North Carolina Health Professions Data System and the Southeast Regional Center for Health Workforce Studies, 1979-2004 with data derived from the North Carolina Medical Board. Source for Metropolitan-Non-metropolitan definition: Office of Management and Budget, 1999. Source for Health Professional Shortage Areas: Area Resource File, HRSA, Department of Health and Human Services, 1998. Figures include all licensed active in-state registered physician assistants.

**PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS : NC METRO/NON-METRO COUNTIES**

In NC in 2004 there were 3.3 PAs per 10,000 population in metropolitan counties and 2.2 PAs per 10,000 population in non-metropolitan counties.



**PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS PER 10,000 POPULATION: US AND NC**

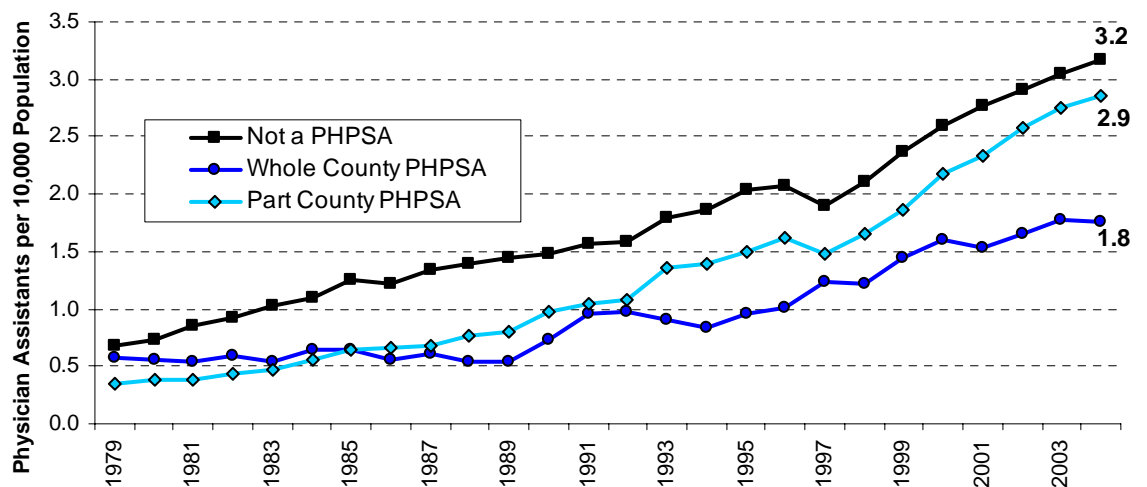


In 2004 there were 2.9 physician assistants per 10,000 population in North Carolina. Nationally, there were 2.2 physician assistants per 10,000 U.S. population.

Source for national data: 2005 AAPA Physician Assistant Census Report, which uses data as of December 31, 2004: <http://www.aapa.org/research/05census-intro.html>

**PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS PER 10,000 POPULATION BY PERSISTENT HEALTH PROFESSIONAL SHORTAGE AREAS, 1979-2004**

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. Funding for the HPDS comes from the NC Area Health Education Centers Program (AHEC) and the UNC-Chapel Hill Office of the Provost (Health Affairs).