

Arizona Center for Rural Health • Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health • The University of Arizona

Fast Facts: Arizona Rural Health Workforce Research and Analysis

Education, training, retention, and support for the rural health workforce is a key element of the mission of the Arizona Center for Rural Health (AzCRH). Health workforce research is essential to making data-driven decision on policies and programs aimed to support pathways into health careers. AzCRH has published multiple reports on the health workforce since 2007.

If you are interested in summary workforce data for grants or other efforts we may be able to assist. You can review our current reports here and the data visualizations here. Please use the following form to tell us a little more about your interest and one of our team will follow-up directly with you!

The Arizona Health Workforce Data System (AZHWDS)

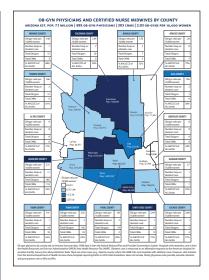
In 2018 AzCRH began work on a new project that builds on the history of workforce research conducted by the Center. The Arizona Health Workforce Data System (AzHWDS) aims to provide timely and accurate reports to the public, policy-makers, and public health and healthcare stakeholders. This project will:

- Build a data warehouse system that supports the compilation, synthesis and analysis of publicly available health workforce data
- Create an online data visualization platform so the public and stakeholders can access healthcare workforce data to answer questions and inform programs and policy decisions
- Create annual reports that add important context and data to existing efforts to document healthcare workforce shortages by the Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS)

The standardized collection and reporting of healthcare workforce data will support AzCRH and other stakeholders to answer questions regarding healthcare workforce:

- Supply
- Demand
- Distribution
- · Recruitment and Retention
- Influence of social and demographic factors on workforce needs

AzCRH also supports efforts at the state level to establish the collection of health workforce data under a Minimum Data Set (MDS) model. The MDS model "provides basic, consistent guidelines for fundamental health workforce questionnaires. These questions can be used by anyone who wants to collect data on the supply of health workers, whether through the licensure process or surveys, and can be adapted for additional professions." MDS data can be collected at time of licensure and supplement the basic licensure data with additional data relevant to health workforce research and analysis.



Due to the ongoing transformation of the healthcare delivery system in the U.S., it is important for states to collect, compile, analyze and report on the health workforce. It is especially important to provide datadriven solutions to the existing maldistribution of the health workforce that plays a role in shortages and constrained access to care for population based on geography or demographic factors.

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