Virginia's Licensed Master's Social Worker Survey: 2023

Healthcare Workforce Data Center

August 2023

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Follow us on Tumblr: *www.vahwdc.tumblr.com* Get a copy of this report from: *http://www.dhp.virginia.gov/PublicResources/HealthcareWorkforceDataCenter/ProfessionReports/* More than 800 Licensed Master's Social Workers voluntarily participated in this survey. Without their efforts, the work of the center would not be possible. The Department of Health Professions, the Healthcare Workforce Data Center, and the Board of Social Work express our sincerest appreciation for their ongoing cooperation.

Thank You!

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The Licensed Master's Social Worker Survey At a Glance:

Licensees

Licensees:	1,301
Virginia's Workforce:	879
FTEs:	830

Survey Response Rate

All Licensees:64%Renewing Practitioners:93%

Age

Median Age:	3
% Under 40:	5
% 55 and Over:	1

Work Location

Northern VA:43%Central VA:26%Hampton Roads:16%

Supervision

Supervised:61%Supervisor w/ LCSW:52%

Macro

39

52%

5%

Macro Concentration:23%Work at Agency:73%Pursuing LCSW:57%

Source: Va. Healthcare Workforce Data Center

<u>Micro</u>

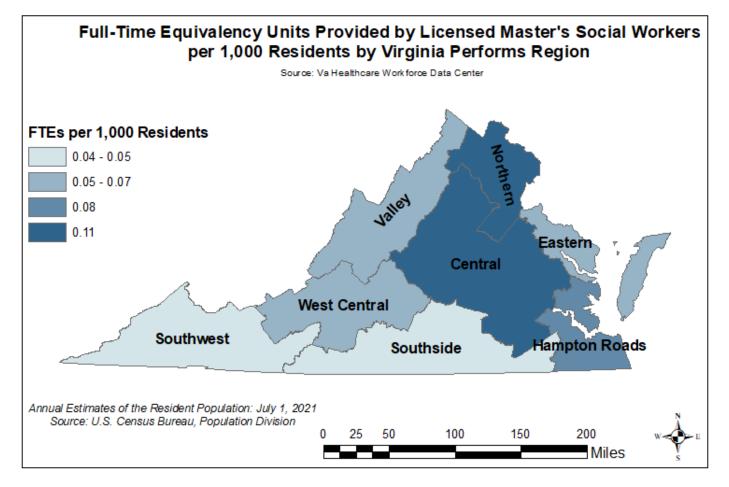
CSW Concentration:	67%
Work at Agency:	73%
Pursuing LCSW:	77%

Job Turnover

New Location:	39%
Employed Over 2 Yrs.:	37%

Time Allocation

Clinical Work:41%-50%Administration:11%-20%Clinical Work Role:41%



This report contains the results of the 2023 Licensed Master's Social Worker (LMSW) Survey. Among all LMSWs, 833 voluntarily participated in this survey, an increase of 16% compared to the 717 LMSWs who participated in the 2022 survey. The Virginia Department of Health Professions' Healthcare Workforce Data Center (HWDC) administers this survey during the license renewal process, which takes place every June for LMSWs. Over the past year, the total number of licensees in Virginia's LMSW workforce has increased by 13% from 1,154 to 1,301. At the same time, the overall survey response rate among all licensees has increased from 62% to 64%. On the other hand, the survey response rate among practitioners has fallen from 95% to 93%.

The HWDC estimates that 879 LMSWs participated in Virginia's workforce during the survey period. For the purposes of this survey, the LMSW workforce is defined as those LMSWs who worked at least a portion of the year in the state, but it does not include LMSWs who live in the state and intend to work as an LMSW at some point in the future. Over the past year, Virginia's LMSW workforce provided 830 "full-time equivalency units," which the HWDC defines simply as working 2,000 hours per year.

Nearly one-quarter of all LMSWs pursed a Master's in Social Work with a macro concentration, and nearly threequarters of LMSWs with a macro concentration work at an agency. Among the group of LMSWs with a macro concentration who work at an agency, two-thirds provide clinical social work services through their employment at that agency, 30% of which are exempt from licensing requirements. More than two out of every five LMSWs provide case management services at their agency, while another 24% offer assessment services. Nearly three out of every five LMSWs with a macro concentration intend to eventually pursue licensure as a clinical social worker. More than onequarter of all LMSWs with a macro concentration are registered as a supervisee in social work.

Two-thirds of all LMSWs pursued a Master's in Social Work with a micro concentration, and nearly three-quarters of LMSWs with a micro concentration work at an agency. Among the group of LMSWs with a micro concentration who work at an agency, 82% provide clinical social work services through their employment at that agency, 13% of which are exempt from licensing requirements. Nearly two out of every five LMSWs provide treatment services at their agency, while another 25% offer assessment services. More than three-quarters of all LMSWs with a micro concentration intend to eventually pursue licensure as a clinical social worker. More than half of all LMSWs with a micro concentration are registered as a supervisee in social work.

The median age of the LMSW workforce is 39. More than half of this workforce is under the age of 40, while 15% of LMSWs are age 55 or over. Among all LMSWs who have a primary work location in Virginia, 96% work in a metro area, 3% work in an urban area, and 2% work in a rural area. More than two out of every five LMSWs obtained a LMSW license because they believed it to be a prerequisite for licensure as a clinical social worker. More than three out of every five LMSWs have a supervisor on site, and 52% of all supervisors are LCSWs.

LMSWs spend approximately half of their time performing clinical work, and 41% of LMSWs fill a clinical work role, defined as spending at least 60% of their time in clinical work activities. Another 7% of LMSWs fill a macro work role, while 6% of LMSWs fill an administrative role. Nearly two out of every five LMSWs have started work at either a new primary or secondary work location at some point in the past year. Meanwhile, 37% of LMSWs have worked at their primary work location for more than two years. More than two out of every five LMSWs have a primary work location in Northern Virginia, while another 26% have a primary work location in Central Virginia.

Licensees		
License Status	#	%
Renewing Practitioners	770	59%
New Licensees	322	25%
Non-Renewals	209	16%
All Licensees	1,301	100%

Source: Va. Healthcare Workforce Data Center

HWDC surveys tend to achieve very high response rates. Among all renewing LMSWs, 93% submitted a survey. These represent 64% of the 1,301 LMSWs who held a license at some point during the survey period.

Response Rates			
Statistic	Non Respondents	Respondents	Response Rate
By Age			
Under 30	81	105	57%
30 to 34	106	142	57%
35 to 39	73	153	68%
40 to 44	55	120	69%
45 to 49	52	92	64%
50 to 54	37	81	69%
55 to 59	28	63	69%
60 and Over	36	77	68%
Total	468	833	64%
New Licenses			
Issued in Past Year	204	118	37%
Metro Status			
Non-Metro	21	40	66%
Metro	280	586	68%
Not in Virginia	167	207	55%

Source: Va. Healthcare Workforce Data Center

Definitions

- The Survey Period: The survey was conducted in June 2023.
- Target Population: All LMSWs who held a Virginia license at some point between July 2022 and June 2023.
- 3. Survey Population: The survey was available to LMSWs who renewed their licenses online. It was not available to those who did not renew, including LMSWs newly licensed in 2023.

Response Rates	
Completed Surveys	833
Response Rate, All Licensees	64%
Response Rate, Renewals	93%

Source: Va. Healthcare Workforce Data Center

At a Glance:

Licensed LMSWs

Number:	1,301
New:	25%
Not Renewed:	16%
<u>Response Rates</u>	
	C 40/

All Licensees:	64%
Renewing Practitioners:	93%

At a Glance:	
Workforce	
Virginia's LMSW Workforce:	879
FTES:	830
Utilization Ratios	
Licensees in VA Workforce:	68%
Licensees per FTE:	1.57
Workers per FTE:	1.06

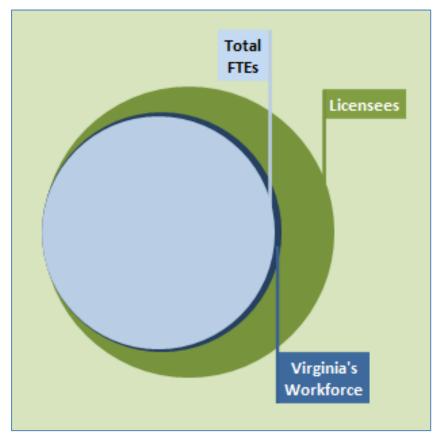
Virginia's LMSW Workforce		
Status	#	
Virginia's Workforce	879	
Total FTEs	830	
Licensees	1,301	

Source: Va. Healthcare Workforce Data Center

Weighting is used to estimate the figures in this report. Unless otherwise noted, figures refer to the Virginia Workforce only. For more information on the HWDC's methodology, visit: https://www.dhp.virginia.gov/ PublicResources/HealthcareW orkforceDataCenter/

Definitions

- 1. Virginia's Workforce: A licensee with a primary or secondary work site in Virginia at any time in the past year. It does not include those who intend to return to Virginia's workforce at any point in the future.
- Full-Time Equivalency Unit (FTE): The HWDC uses 2,000 (40 hours for 50 weeks) as its baseline measure for FTEs.
- **3.** Licensees in VA Workforce: The proportion of licensees in Virginia's workforce.
- 4. Licensees per FTE: An indication of the number of licensees needed to create 1 FTE. Higher numbers indicate lower licensee participation.
- 5. Workers per FTE: An indication of the number of workers in Virginia's workforce needed to create 1 FTE. Higher numbers indicate lower utilization of available workers.



Source: Va. Healthcare Workforce Data Center

Age			
Age	#	%	
Under 30	128	15%	
30 to 34	184	21%	
35 to 39	146	17%	
40 to 44	117	13%	
45 to 49	92	10%	
50 to 54	80	9%	
55 to 59	55	6%	
60 and Over	78	9%	
Total	880	100%	

Source: Va. Healthcare Workforce Data Center

The median age of the LMSW workforce is 39. Among all LMSWs, 52% are under the age of 40, while 15% are age 55 or over.

At a Glance:

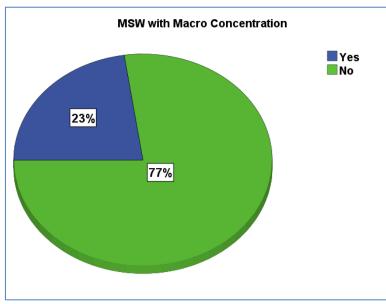
39 52% 15%
15%
96%
3%
2%

USDA Rural/Urban Continuum				
Area	#	%		
Metro Counties				
Metro, 1 Million+	697	84%		
Metro, 250,000 to 1 Million	30	4%		
Metro, 250,000 or Less	64	8%		
Non-Metro Counties				
Urban, Pop. 20,000+, Metro Adjacent	5	1%		
Urban, Pop. 2,500-19,999, Metro Adjacent	6	1%		
Urban, Pop. 2,500-19,999, Non- Adjacent	11	1%		
Rural, Metro Adjacent	9	1%		
Rural, Non-Adjacent	4	0%		
Total	826	100%		

Among all LMSWs who have a primary work location in Virginia, 96% work in a metro area. Another 2% of LMSWs have a primary work location in a rural area.

Source: Va. Healthcare Workforce Data Center

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At a Glance:		
<u>Macro</u> % Concentration:	23%	
<u>Licensure</u>		
Future LCSW:	57%	
Supervisee:	27%	
Source: Va. Healthcare Workforce	Data Center	

Source: Va. Healthcare Workforce Data Center

Macro Concentration				
Response # %				
Yes	198	23%		
No	676	77%		
Total 874 100%				

Source: Va. Healthcare Workforce Data Center

Nearly three out of every five LMSWs with a macro concentration intend to eventually pursue licensure as a clinical social worker. Nearly one out of every four LMSWs pursued a MSW with a macro concentration.

Intention to Pursue LCSW		
Response	#	%
Yes	110	57%
No	84	43%
Total	194	100%

Source: Va. Healthcare Workforce Data Center

Registered as a Supervisee		
Response	#	%
Yes	53	27%
No	141	73%
Total	194	100%

Source: Va. Healthcare Workforce Data Center

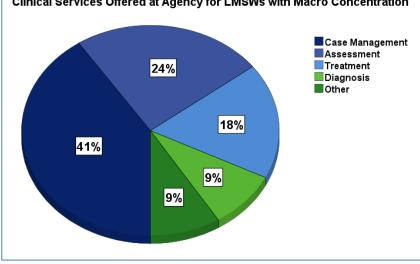
More than one-quarter of all LMSWs with a macro concentration are registered with the Board as a supervisee in Social Work.

Agency Employment for LMSWs with Macro Concentration

At a Glance	2:
Agency	
Work at Agency:	73%
% CSW Services:	66%
<u>Services</u>	
Case Management:	41%
Assessment:	24%
Treatment:	18%

Provisioning of CSW Services			
Response	#	%	
Yes	95	66%	
No	50	34%	
Total	145	100%	
Courses Va. Healthears Markforse Data Contor			

Source: Va. Healthcare Workforce Data Center



Source: Va. Healthcare Workforce Data Center

Three out of every ten LMSWs with a macro concentration who perform clinical social work services are employed at an agency that is exempt from licensure.

Works at Agency					
Response # %					
Yes	145	73%			
No 53 27%					
Total 198 100%					

Source: Va. Healthcare Workforce Data Center

Nearly three out of every four LMSWs with a macro concentration work at an agency.

Clinical Services Offered			
Service	#	%	
Case Management	39	41%	
Assessment	23	24%	
Treatment	17	18%	
Diagnosis	8	9%	
Other	8	9%	
Total	95	100%	

Source: Va. Healthcare Workforce Data Center

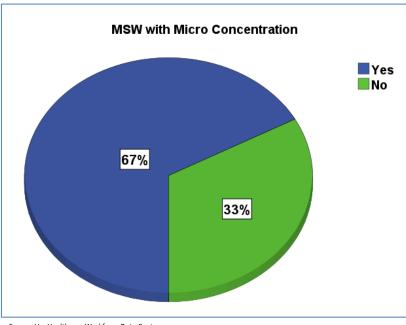
Two-thirds of all LMSWs who work at an agency provide clinical social work services through their employment at their agency.

Licensure Exemption		
Response	#	%
Yes	27	30%
No	63	70%
Total	90	100%

Source: Va. Healthcare Workforce Data Center

Clinical Services Offered at Agency for LMSWs with Macro Concentration

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At a Glanc	e:
<u>Micro</u>	
% Concentration:	67%
<u>Licensure</u>	
uture LCSW:	77%
upervisee:	53%
Source: Va. Healthcare Workforc	e Data Center

Source: Va. Healthcare Workforce Data Center

Micro Con	centrat	ion
Response	#	%
Yes	573	67%
No	282	33%
Total	855	100%

Source: Va. Healthcare Workforce Data Center

More than three out of every four LMSWs with a micro concentration intend to eventually pursue licensure as a clinical social worker.

Registered as a Supervisee		
Response	#	%
Yes	288	53%
No	256	47%
Total	544	100%

Source: Va. Healthcare Workforce Data Center

Two-thirds of all LMSWs pursued a MSW with a micro concentration.

Intention to Pursue LCSW		
Response	#	%
Yes	417	77%
No	126	23%
Total	543	100%

Source: Va. Healthcare Workforce Data Center

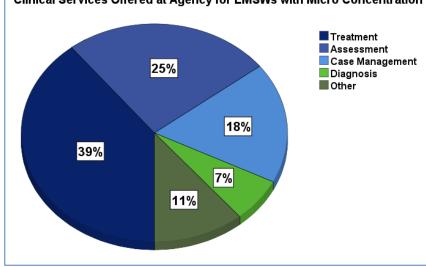
More than one-quarter of LMSWs with a micro concentration are registered with the Board as a supervisee in Social Work.

Agency Employment for LMSWs with Micro Concentration

At a Glance	2:
Agency	
Work at Agency:	73%
% CSW Services:	82%
<u>Services</u>	
Treatment:	39%
Assessment:	25%
Case Management:	18%

Provisioning of CSW Services		
Response	#	%
Yes	337	82%
No	75	18%
Total	412	100%
Source: Va. Healthcare Workforce D	ata Contor	

Source:	Va.	Healthcare	Workforce	Data	Center



Source: Va. Healthcare Workforce Data Center

More than one out of every ten LMSWs with a micro concentration who perform clinical social work services are employed at an agency that is exempt from licensure.

Works a	t Agenc	y
Response	#	%
Yes	415	73%
No	151	27%
Total	566	100%

Source: Va. Healthcare Workforce Data Center

Nearly three out of every four LMSWs with a micro concentration are employed at an agency.

Clinical Services Offered		
Service	#	%
Treatment	130	39%
Assessment	83	25%
Case Management	59	18%
Diagnosis	21	7%
Other	37	11%
Total	330	100%

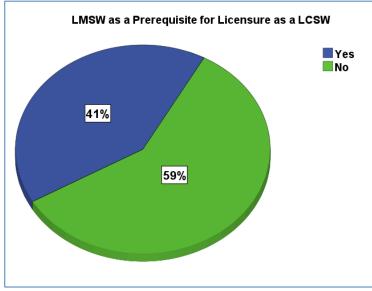
Source: Va. Healthcare Workforce Data Center

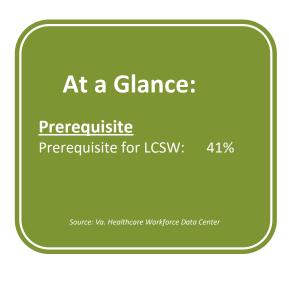
More than four out of every five LMSWs with a micro concentration who work at an agency provide clinical social work services through their employment at their agency.

Licensure Exemption		
Response	#	%
Yes	44	13%
No	282	87%
Total	326	100%

Source: Va. Healthcare Workforce Data Center

Clinical Services Offered at Agency for LMSWs with Micro Concentration





Source: Va. Healthcare Workforce Data Center

LMSW as a Pr for LCS		te
Response	#	%
Yes	355	41%
No	504	59%
Total	859	100%

Source: Va. Healthcare Workforce Data Center

More than two out of every five LMSWs pursued a MSW because they believed that it was a prerequisite for licensure as a clinical social worker.

At a Glanc	e:
Supervision	C10/
Supervisor on Site:	61%
Credential of Supe	ervisor
LCSW:	52%
RN:	14%
LMSW:	7%
Source: Va. Healthcare Workforc	e Data Center

More than half of all LMSWs have a supervisor with a LCSW. Of those who reported "Other" as their supervisor's profession or credential, 15% of supervisors were in the education field, and 13% held an MSW.

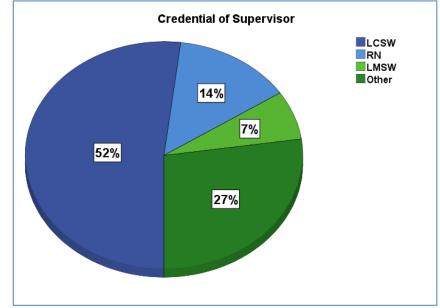
Credential of Supervisor					
Credential	#	%			
LCSW	426	52%			
RN	113	14%			
LMSW	57	7%			
LPC	26	3%			
MD	6	1%			
LCP	1	0%			
Other	191	23%			
Total	820	100%			

A Closer Look:

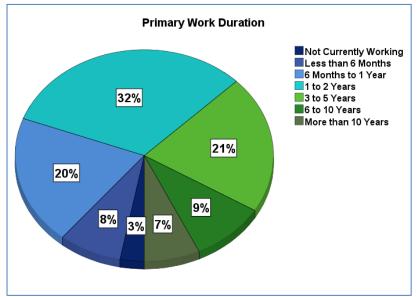
Supervisor on Site					
Response # %					
Yes	496	61%			
No	311	39%			
Total	807	100%			

Source: Va. Healthcare Workforce Data Center

More than three out of every five LMSWs have a supervisor on site at their place of employment.



Source: Va. Healthcare Workforce Data Center



At a Glance:

<u>Turnover & Tenure</u>	
New Location:	39%
Over 2 Years:	37%
Over 2 Yrs., 2 nd Location:	31%

Source: Va. Healthcare Workforce Data Center

Source: Va. Healthcare Workforce Data Center

More than one-third of all
LMSWs have worked at their
primary work location for more
than two years.

Location Tenure					
Tenure	Prir	nary	Secondary		
	#	%	#	%	
Not Currently Working at This Location	26	3%	37	10%	
Less than 6 Months	68	8%	45	13%	
6 Months to 1 Year	171	20%	57	16%	
1 to 2 Years	276	32%	108	30%	
3 to 5 Years	182	21%	60	17%	
6 to 10 Years	81	9%	34	9%	
More than 10 Years	60	7%	18	5%	
Subtotal	865	100%	360	100%	
Did Not Have Location	0		499		
Item Missing	13		19		
Total	879		879	-	

Át a Glance	e:
Concentration	
Top Region:	43%
Top 3 Regions:	86%
Lowest Region:	1%
Locations	
2 or More (Now*):	36%
Source: Va. Healthcare Workforce D	hata Center

Nearly nine out of every ten LMSWs in the state work in Northern Virginia, Central Virginia, or Hampton Roads.

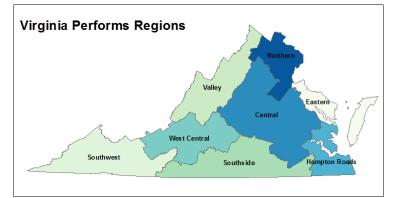
Number of Work Locations			
Locations	Work Locations Now*		
Locations	#	%	
0	31	4%	
1	531	60%	
2	272	31%	
3	34	4%	
4	7	1%	
5	0	0%	
6 or More	4	1%	
Total	879	100%	

*At the time of survey completion, June 2023. Source: Va. Healthcare Workforce Data Center

A Closer Look:

Regional Distribution of Work Locations						
Virginia Performs		mary ation	Secondary Location			
Region	#	%	#	%		
Central	223	26%	78	21%		
Eastern	10	1%	7	2%		
Hampton Roads	136	16%	68	18%		
Northern	365	43%	136	37%		
Southside	10	1%	1	0%		
Southwest	17	2%	14	4%		
Valley	32	4%	13	4%		
West Central	32	4%	14	4%		
Virginia Border State/D.C.	14	2%	8	2%		
Other U.S. State	7	1%	30	8%		
Outside of the U.S.	0	0%	2	1%		
Total	846	100%	371	100%		
Item Missing	31		9			

Source: Va. Healthcare Workforce Data Center



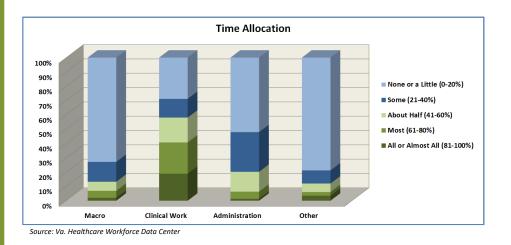
Source: Va. Healthcare Workforce Data Center

More than one-third of all LMSWs currently have multiple work locations.

Time Allocation

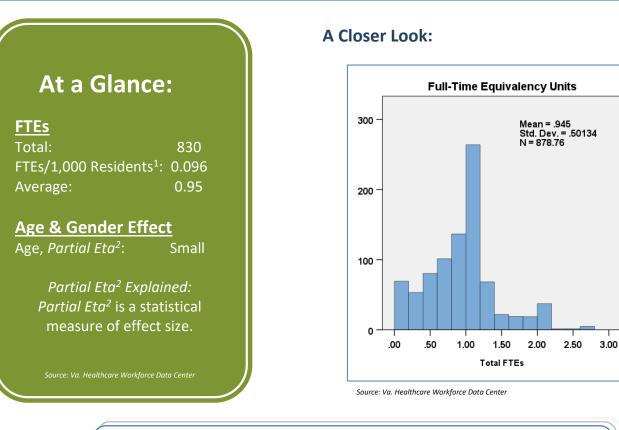
At a Glance: (Primary Locations)				
Typical Time All	ocation			
Macro:	0%-10%			
Clinical Work:	41%-50%			
Administration:	11%-20%			
Other:	0%-10%			
<mark>Roles</mark> Macro: Clinical Work:	7% 41%			
Administration:	6%			
Other:	6%			
Source: Va. Healthcare Workforce Data Center				

A Closer Look:



LMSWs spend approximately half of their time performing clinical work. In fact, 41% of all LMSWs fill a clinical work role, defined as spending more than 60% of their time on clinical work activities.

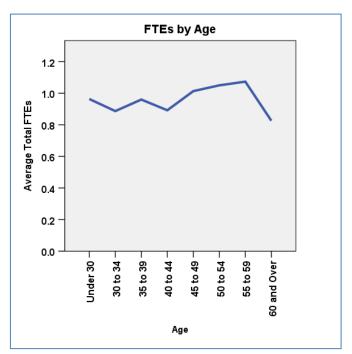
Time Allocation						
Time Spent	Macro	Clinical Work	Admin.	Other		
All or Almost All (81-100%)	2%	19%	1%	4%		
Most (61-80%)	5%	22%	5%	3%		
About Half (41-60%)	6%	17%	14%	6%		
Some (21-40%)	14%	13%	28%	9%		
None or a Little (0-20%)	73%	29%	52%	79%		



The typical (median) LMSW provided 0.99 FTEs over the past year, or approximately 40 hours per week for 50 weeks. Statistical tests indicate that FTEs vary by age.

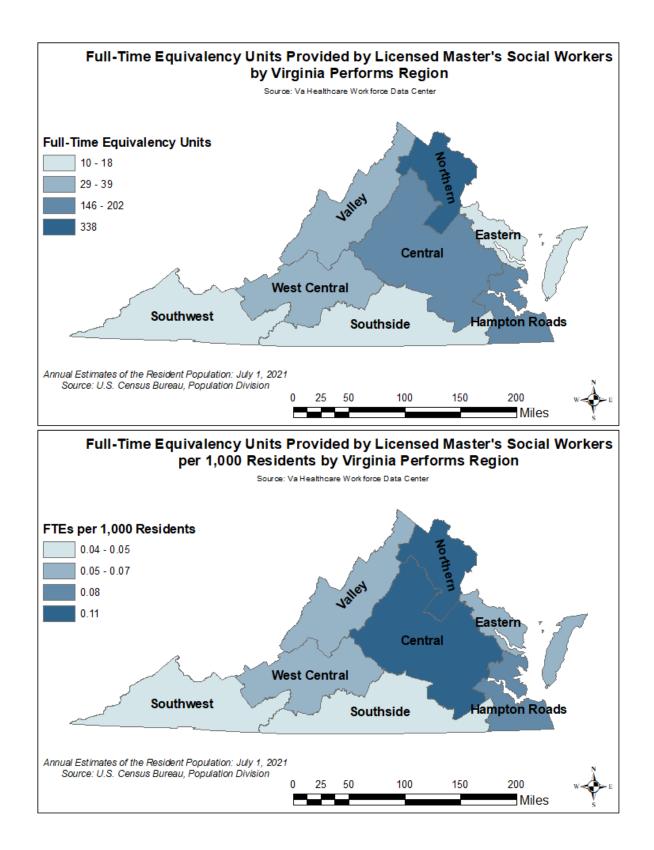
Full-Time Equivalency Units					
Age	Average Media				
	Age				
Under 30	0.96	1.00			
30 to 34	0.89	0.96			
35 to 39	0.96	0.97			
40 to 44	0.89	0.95			
45 to 49	1.01	1.05			
50 to 54	1.05	1.05			
55 to 59	1.07	1.09			
60 and Over	0.83	0.83			

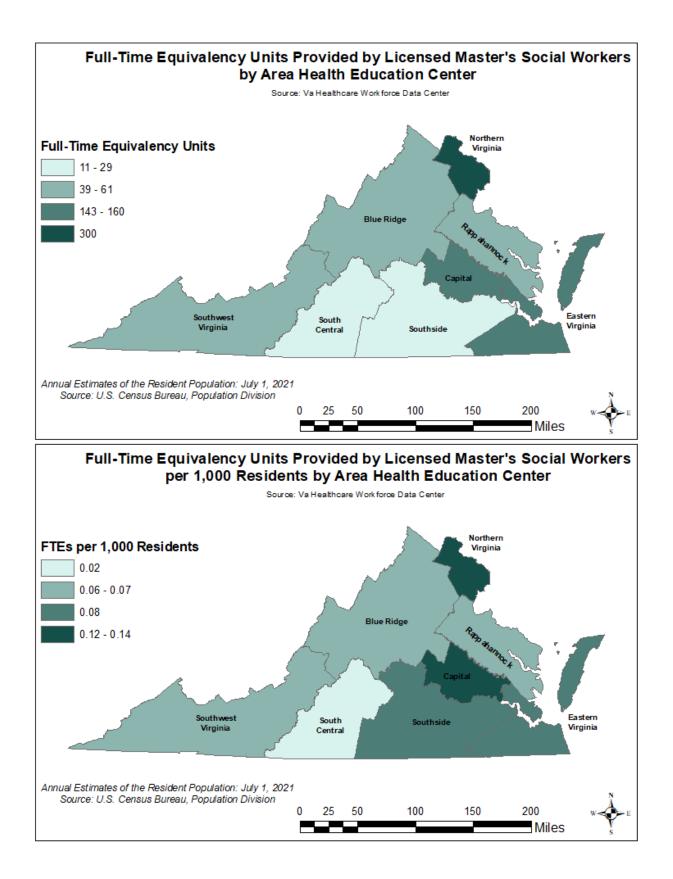
Source: Va. Healthcare Workforce Data Center

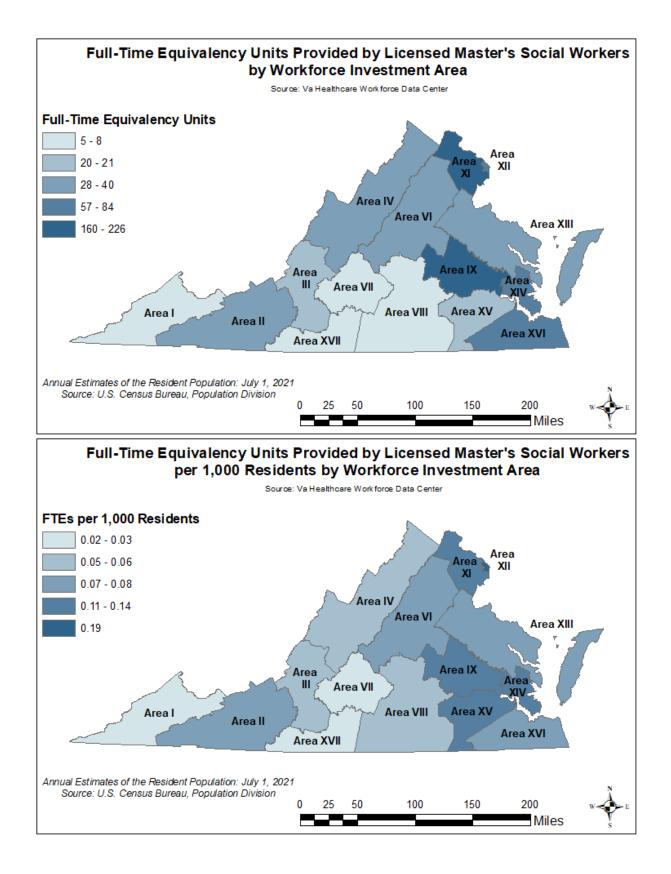


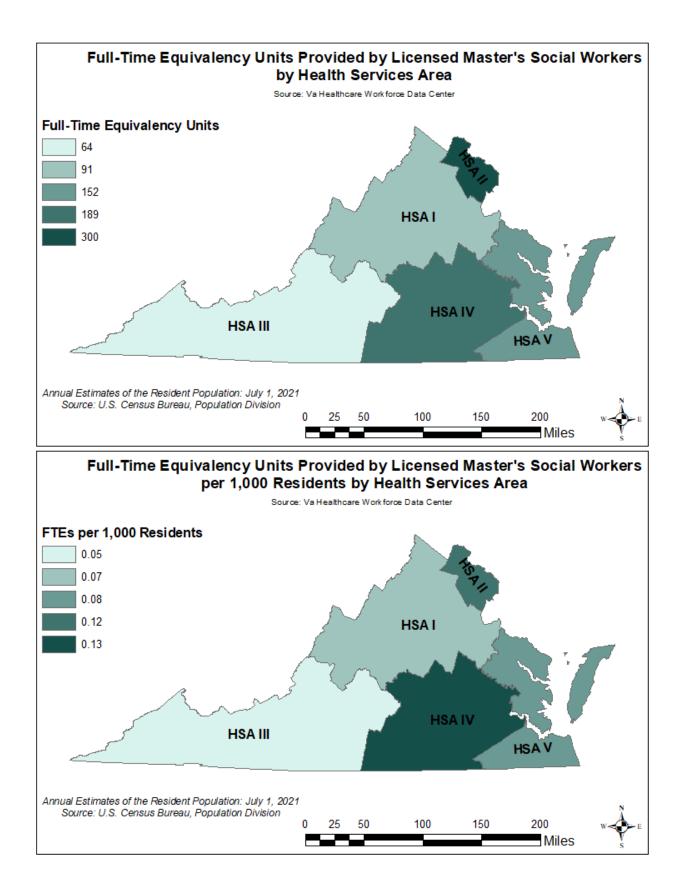
Source: Va. Healthcare Workforce Data Center

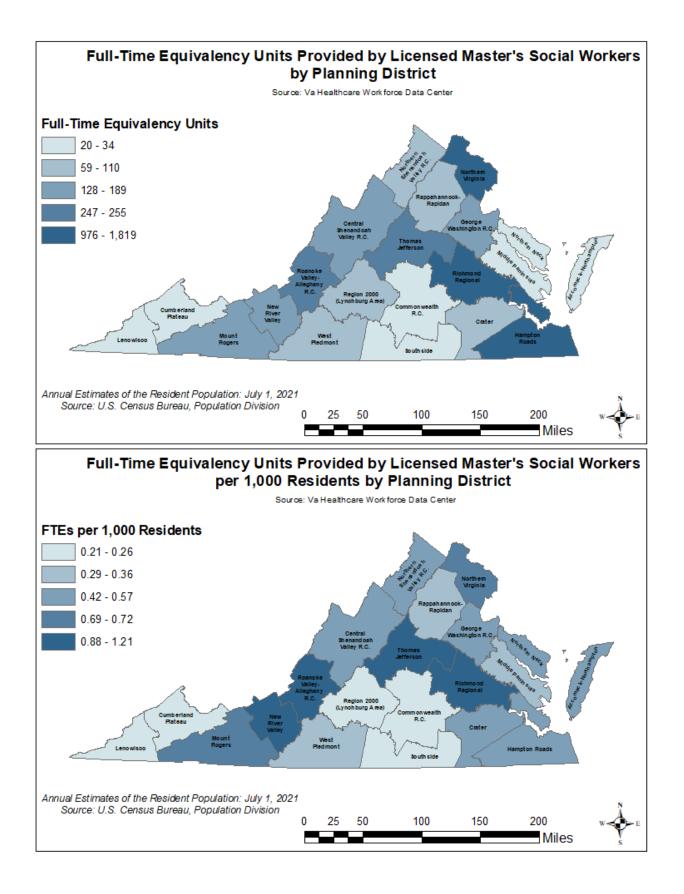
¹ Number of residents in 2021 was used as the denominator.











Appendices

Appendix A: Weights

Durrel Cheture	Location Weight			Total Weight	
Rural Status	#	Rate	Weight	Min.	Max.
Metro, 1 Million+	762	67.06%	1.491	1.379	1.691
Metro, 250,000 to 1 Million	42	78.57%	1.273	1.177	1.444
Metro, 250,000 or Less	62	67.74%	1.476	1.365	1.674
Urban, Pop. 20,000+, Metro Adj.	5	80.00%	1.250	1.166	1.418
Urban, Pop. 20,000+, Non- Adj.	0	NA	NA	NA	NA
Urban, Pop. 2,500-19,999, Metro Adj.	19	68.42%	1.462	1.352	1.658
Urban, Pop. 2,500-19,999, Non-Adj.	12	58.33%	1.714	1.585	1.944
Rural, Metro Adj.	22	59.09%	1.692	1.565	1.919
Rural, Non-Adj.	3	100.00%	1.000	0.933	1.002
Virginia Border State/D.C.	184	59.24%	1.688	1.561	1.915
Other U.S. State	190	51.58%	1.939	1.793	2.199

Source: Va. Healthcare Workforce Data Center

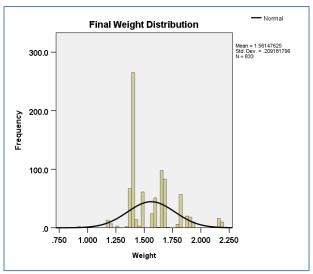
Age	Age Weight			Total Weight	
	#	Rate	Weight	Min.	Max.
Under 30	186	56.45%	1.771	1.418	2.199
30 to 34	248	57.26%	1.746	1.423	2.168
35 to 39	226	67.70%	1.477	1.204	1.834
40 to 44	175	68.57%	1.458	0.934	1.810
45 to 49	144	63.89%	1.565	1.002	1.943
50 to 54	118	68.64%	1.457	0.933	1.808
55 to 59	91	69.23%	1.444	1.177	1.793
60 and Over	113	68.14%	1.468	1.175	1.822

See the Methods section on the HWDC website for details on HWDC methods: <u>https://www.dhp.virginia.gov/PublicResources/He</u> <u>althcareWorkforceDataCenter/</u>

Final weights are calculated by multiplying the two weights and the overall response rate:

Age Weight x Rural Weight x Response Rate = Final Weight.

Overall Response Rate: 0.640277



Source: Va. Healthcare Workforce Data Center