



MICHIGAN ACADEMY of PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS



MichiganPA.org

What is a PA? "Practice as a Physician Assistant" means the Practice of Medicine with a Participating Physician under a Practice Agreement. -MCL 333.17001(1)(B)(k)

#1 Fastest Growing Job in Medicine

U.S. Bureau of Labor, April 2019

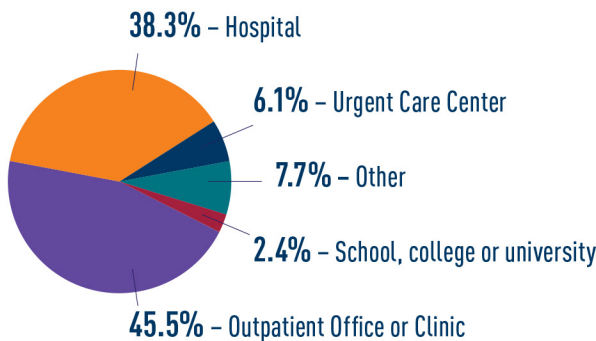
#5 Fastest Growing Occupation in America

#7 on Forbes List of 25 Highest Paying Jobs in America

Forbes, 2018



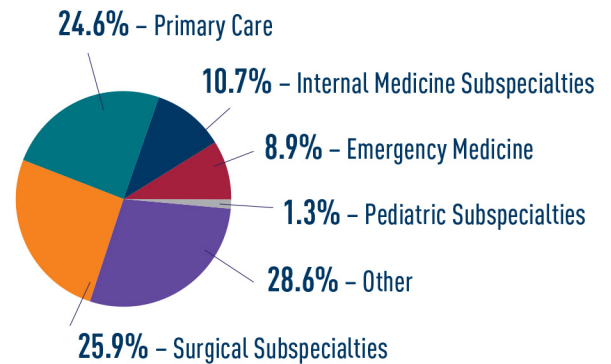
PA's practice in every work setting



2017 AAPA Salary Survey



PA's practice medicine in all specialties



2017 AAPA Salary Survey

Behavioral Health Needs in Michigan



▲ **1.8 Million** Michiganders experienced mental illness in the past year

- 17.7% of the population
- Rates are highest among adolescents, women, the uninsured and those with Medicaid
- Most common conditions were Depression, Anxiety Disorders, and ADHD

Current Unmet Need for Mental Illness



▲ **640,000** Michiganders experienced a substance use disorder

- 6.4% of the population
- Rates are highest among men and younger adults

Current Unmet Need for SUD



The Issue: **Michigan residents face challenges accessing mental health care, which PAs are well qualified to address.**

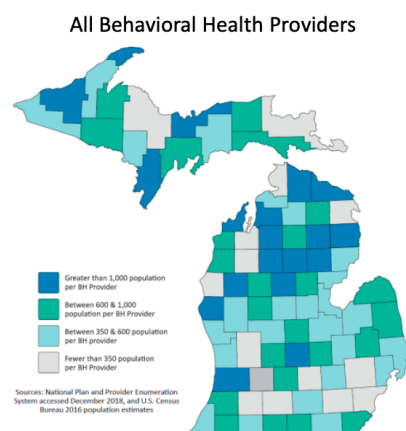
The Facts:

- *Psychiatric Medicine is part of every PA's curriculum and clinically training.*
- *PAs practice in every type of psychiatric medicine/behavioral health/mental health setting in Michigan.*

The Solution: Here are three primary solutions to improve mental health access for Michigan residents by amending the Mental Health Code (MHC) in Michigan Law.

- 1) **Define PAs as Mental Health Professionals in the MHC.** The MHC currently defines “Mental Health Professional” as a physician, psychologist, RN, MSW, licensed professional counselor, or a licensed marriage and family therapist.
- 2) **Include PAs in the MHC as providers able to initiate safety restraints.** This barrier only exists for patients receiving care in a psychiatric setting. PAs can protect their patients (and other providers) by issuing safety restraints in every other medical setting.
- 3) **Include PAs in the MHC as providers able to issue initial certification for a temporary emergency hold and transfer to a psychiatric facility.** PAs and NPs can provide this critically important care in most states.

BH Provider Shortages are Common in Michigan



SENATE BILL 826 SUPPORT BY:

- ✓ Michigan Academy of **Physician Assistants (PAs)**
- ✓ Michigan Council of **Nurse Practitioners (NPs)**
- ✓ Michigan **Osteopathic Association (DOs)**
- ✓ Michigan Health & **Hospitals Association (MHA)**
- ✓ Michigan Academy of **Family Physicians (MAFP)**
- ✓ Michigan Society of **Addiction Medicine** (addiction physicians)
- ✓ Michigan **Psychological Association** (psychologists)
- ✓ American **Nurses Association** (Michigan Chapter)
- ✓ American **Psychiatric Nurses Association** (Michigan Chapter)
- ✓ Michigan Association of **Social Workers (NASW)**
- ✓ Michigan **Mental Health Counselors Association (MHCA)**
- ✓ Economic **Alliance of Michigan (EAM)**
- ✓ Dr. Michelle Reid, Psychiatrist, Past-President, **Michigan Psychiatric Society**
- ✓ Dr. Laura Hirshbein, Board Member, **Michigan Psychiatric Society**
- ✓ Cosponsored by every **Senate Health Policy Committee Member**
- ✓ Unanimous Support by the **Michigan Senate**

Watch: Senate Health Policy Testimony, June 4

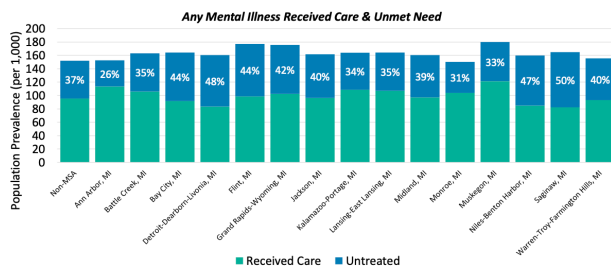


Watch: Senate Health Policy Testimony, June 11



Behavioral Health Needs in Michigan

▲ Unmet need for behavioral health services exists across the entire State of Michigan



Study Recommendations

Key Recommendations to Improve Access to Behavioral Health Care in Michigan

- | | |
|---|---|
| Increase the Effective Supply of Providers | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Increase retention of behavioral health providers in Michigan 2) Remove restrictions on scope of practice to fully leverage all members of the health care team 3) Use telemedicine to extend the reach of the behavioral health workforce 4) Promote the use of trained lay providers |
| Address Affordability | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Maintain and fully enforce current coverage, including Healthy Michigan, Essential Benefits, and Mental Health Pa 2) Encourage insurance plan design that lowers patient costs |
| Increase Willingness to Seek Treatment | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Increase Public Awareness of local behavioral health resources 2) Improve access to non-emergency medical transportation (NEMT) 3) Support patient self-care and technology-assisted treatment |