

NC School Psychology Infographic

Supporting Details/Talking Points

1) Graduate training at the 6th year level:

- a. Of the professional educator licenses issued by the NC State Board of Education, school psychology licensure has the highest education/training requirement.
- b. LEA leaders can maximize these well-trained resources in order to support student performance
- c. Employing more of these individuals has a cost benefit, given the amount of education/training that school psychologists receive

2) Areas covered in school psychology training programs:

- a. The pie chart is intended to convey a quick snapshot of the types of training that school psychologist receive – more in-depth information is found in NASP's professional training standards
- b. Intent is to debunk myths that the work of the school psychologist should be limited to special education evaluations

3) Staffing ratio:

- a. Illustrates that NC's staffing ratio is 3x the NASP recommendation for comprehensive service delivery; yet NC Professional School Psychology Standards are based on a comprehensive model of service delivery.

4) NC by the Numbers (2016-2017):

- a. 65 vacancies reported
- b. 12 LEAs that have no school psychologist
- c. Decrease in workforce over past 3 years, while student population continues to increase

5) Solutions:

- a. FIRST - Close the employment gap (fill supply gap)
- b. THEN – Improve staffing ratio to align with model for comprehensive service delivery (address demand)
 - i. Incrementally, this would mean a 1:1400 would require ~1,100 school psychologists in the NC workforce
 - ii. ...a 1:700 would require ~2,205 school psychologists in the NC workforce (this would, essentially be flipping the current script → from the current ratio of ~1:2100 to workforce numbers improving to ~2,200 working in NC public schools
 - iii. More realistically, a 1:1000 ratio (which is what ~20 LEAs have been able to accomplish) would require ~1543 school psychologists in the NC workforce

*Additional information on salary comparisons with neighboring states:

- Regional comparisons are difficult to draw b/c at least 2 neighboring states (TN, SC) do not have a state salary schedule; salaries are established at the local (district) level
- Anecdotal information collected suggests districts that neighbor NC's border in SC and VA offer higher salaries than NC