



2025
COUNSELING
REGULATORY BOARDS
ANNUAL SUMMIT
CCE ■ NBCC
AUSTIN, TEXAS

Regulation & Workforce Expansion in Texas

Robert Romig
*Texas Behavioral Health
Executive Council*

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Welcome to Texas!

I have said that Texas is a state of mind, but I think it is more than that. It is a mystique closely approximating a religion.

John Steinbeck

Some folks look at me and see a certain swagger, which in Texas is called “walking.”

President George W. Bush

You may all go to hell, and I will go to Texas.

Davy Crockett

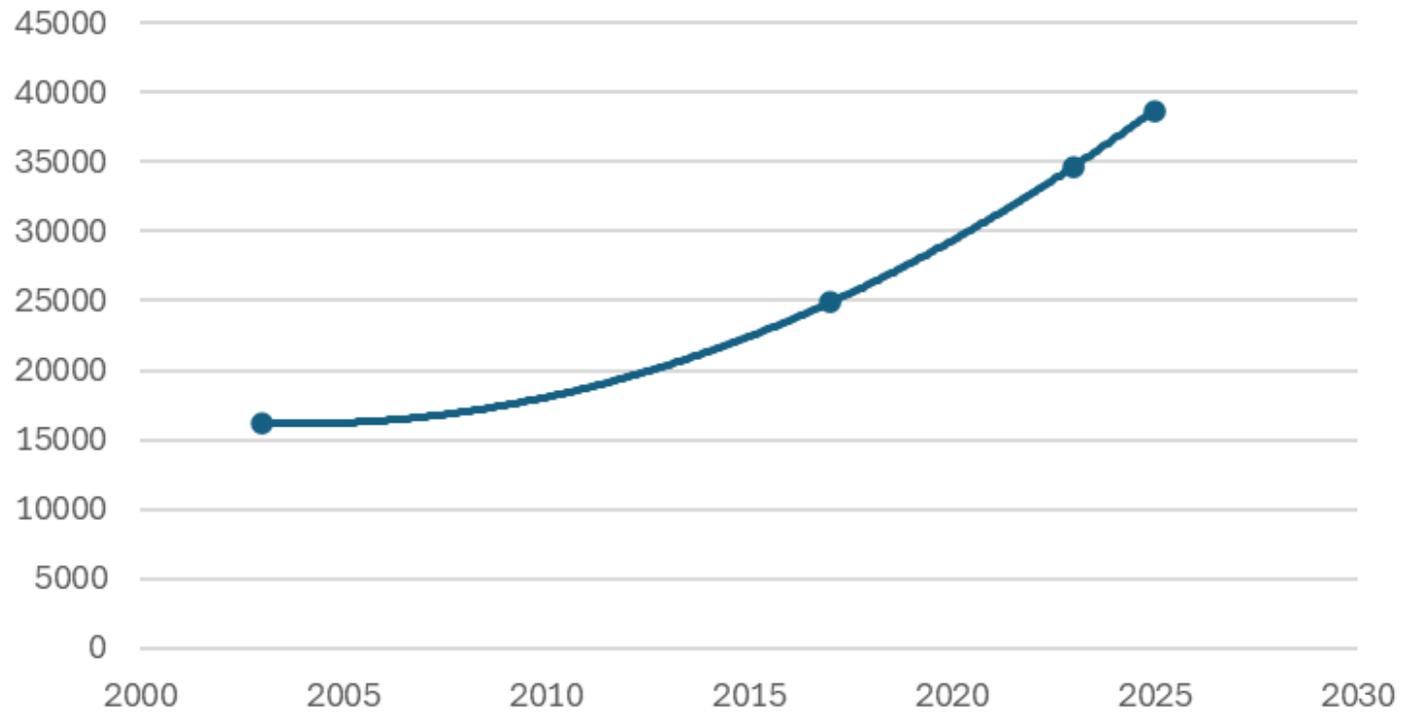
2025



By the Numbers



Total Professional Counseling Licenses in Texas



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Behavioral Health Executive Council

✓ Licensing Staff

17 licensing staff, with 5 dedicated to the LPC program and several cross-trained

Separate staff for renewals, CE, compliance, and administrative assistants

✓ Enforcement Staff

15 enforcement investigators, with separate staff for criminal background checks and administrative assistants

5 attorneys, with one dedicated to the LPC program, as well as a paralegal

✓ Applications

Year-to-Date: 32,575 applications

- *14,600 renewals*
- *3,070 LPC associates*
- *2,250 Upgrades to LPC*
- *918 Supervisor apps*
- *1,500 license prints*
- *1,400 state verifications*

✓ Complaints/Discipline

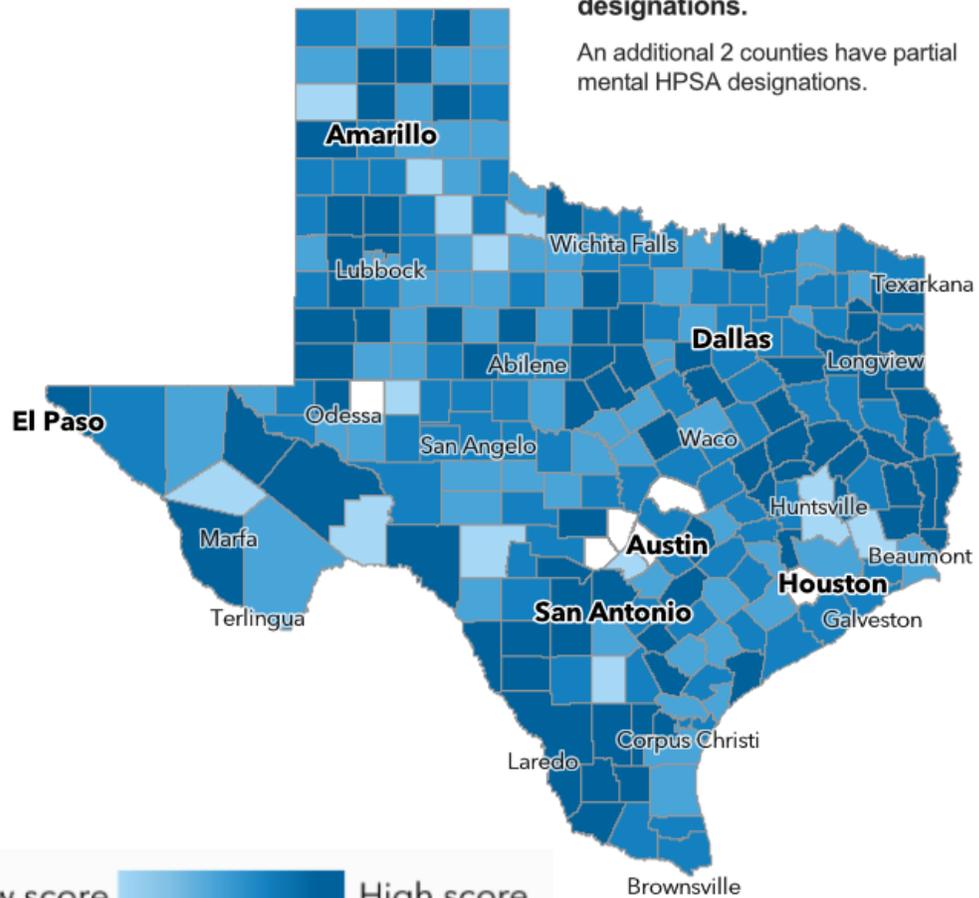
Year-to-Date: 409 complaints received

- *353 complaints resolved*
- *9% received disciplinary action*
- *13 resigned licenses, 1 revocation*
- *12 probated suspensions*
- *11 reprimands*



246 counties have mental HPSA designations.

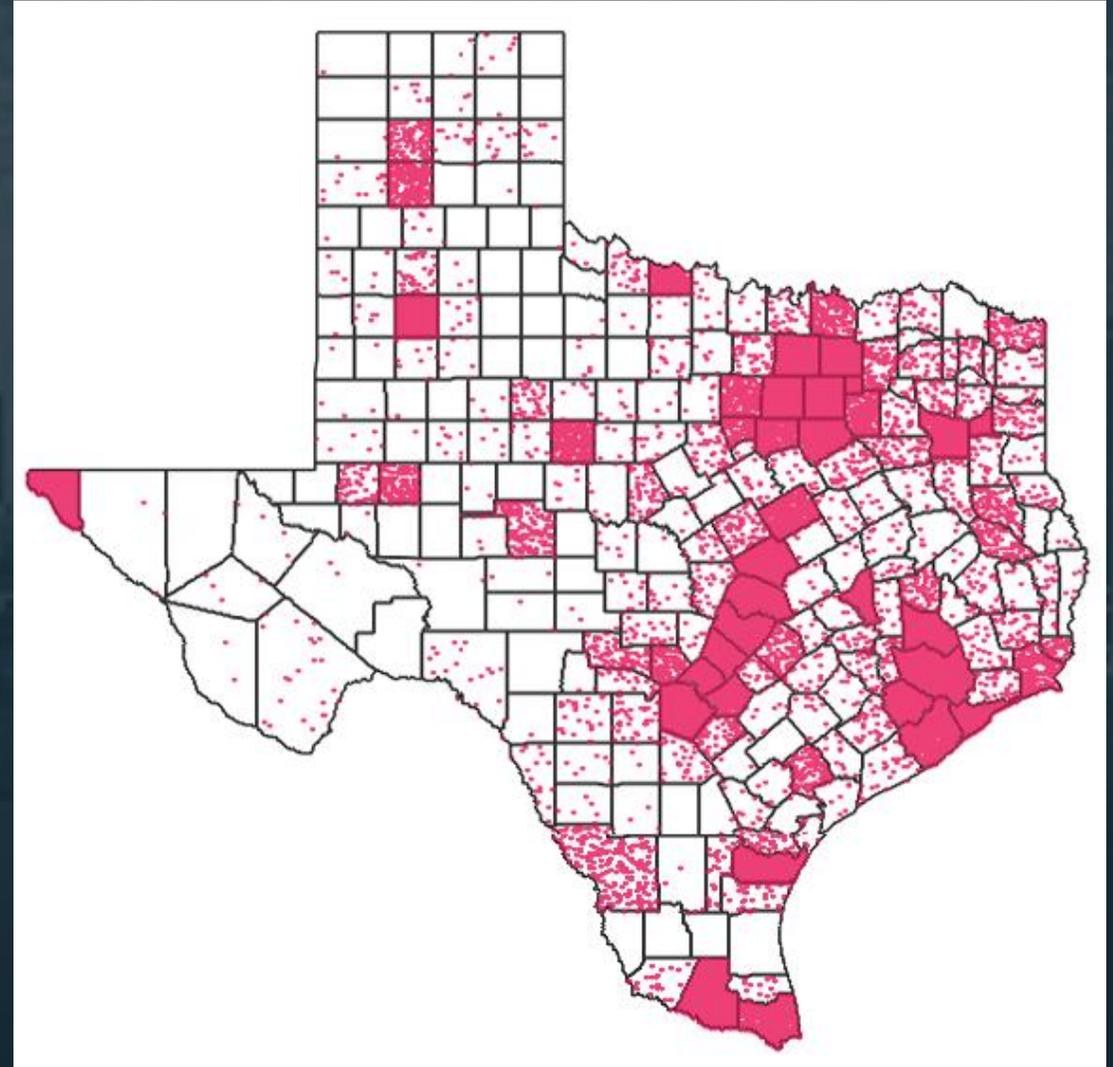
An additional 2 counties have partial mental HPSA designations.



Mental Health Shortage Areas

246 out of the state's 254 counties have been designated as Mental Health Professional Shortage Areas

Geographic distribution of Texas LPCs



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University Programs

26 CACREP-accredited Master's programs

8 CACREP-accredited Doctoral programs

Numerous non-CACREP accredited Master's counseling programs, online and on-campus



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Evolving Degree Programs



Accepted for Licensure

- Counseling
- Addictions Counseling
- Counseling and Human Development
- Counseling and Psychology
- Clinical Mental Health Counseling
- Guidance Counseling
- Biblical Counseling



Not Accepted for Licensure

- Human Resources
- Sociology
- Public Health
- Theology
- IO Psychology



Evaluation Required:

- Art Therapy
- Counseling Education
- Family Therapy
- Human Services Counseling
- Pastoral Counseling
- School Psychology
- Social Work

Hot Topics in Regulation



2025



Mobility

- ❖ *State-to-State migration*
- ❖ *Virtual Practice*
- ❖ *Compacts*



Associate pay / fees

- ❖ *Fee for supervision*
- ❖ *Medicaid Reimbursement*
- ❖ *Individual vs. Group, In-person vs. Virtual supervision*



Emerging practices

- ❖ *Virtual services*
- ❖ *AI and generative technologies*
- ❖ *Ketamine and psychedelic assisted therapy*

THANK YOU!



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