

School Counselors

COLLEGE AND CAREER READINESS BUREAU

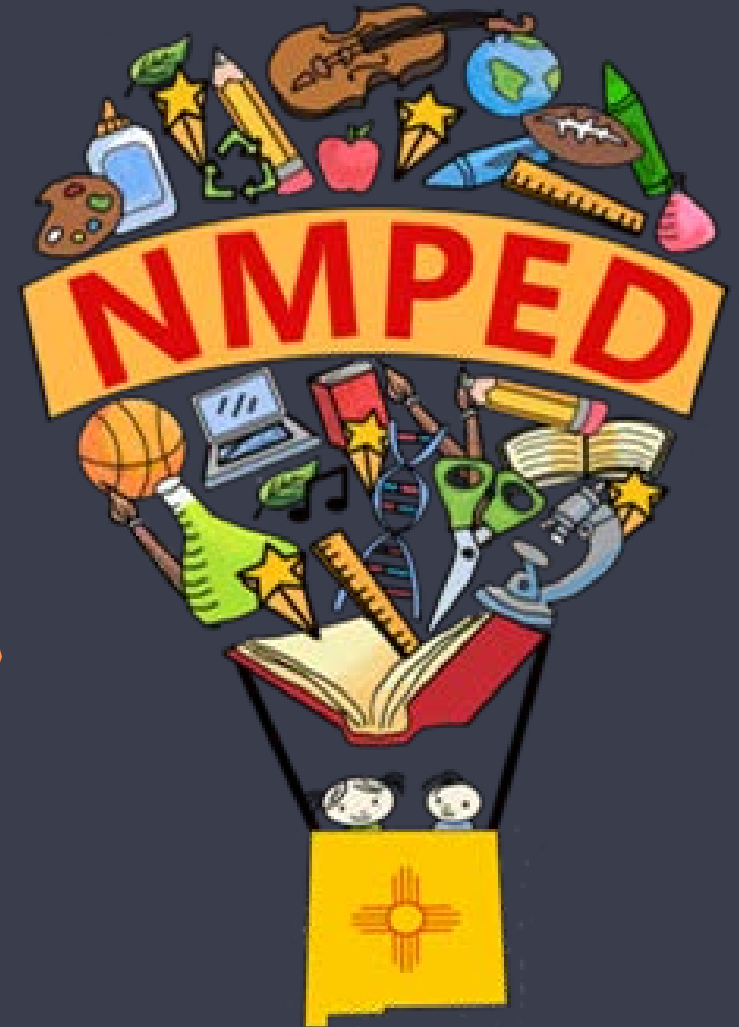
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Investing for tomorrow, delivering today.



School Based Counseling Services

License Options

- [School Counselor \(PreK-12\)](#)
- [School Behavioral Health Counselor \(PreK-12\)](#)
- [Rehabilitation Counselor \(PreK-12\)](#)
- [Alcohol, Drug and Substance Abuse Counselor \(PreK-12\)](#)



School Counselor (PreK-12)



- A school counseling license authorizes a qualified individual to provide a school-level guidance program based on the American School Counseling Association's national standards and focused on the physical, social, intellectual, emotional, and vocational growth of each student.
- Pathways:
 - Master's Degree
 - Licensed Mental Health Counselor (LMHC) or Licensed Professional Clinical Mental Health Counselor (LPCC)
 - National Certified School Counselor credential

School Behavioral Health Counselor (PreK-12)

- Behavioral Health Counselors are mental health professionals who support students with mental health, behavioral issues, or addiction. Their license allows them to see students or clients in a therapeutic setting in schools.
 1. Department issued license for school counseling or rehabilitation counseling.
 2. Department issued license for school social workers.
 3. Department issued license for school psychologists.
 4. Nationally certified counselor credential issued by the national board for certified counselors
 5. Certified by the NM Counseling and Therapy Practice Board as one of the following types of therapists of counselors.



Alcohol, Drug, and Substance Abuse Counselor (PreK-12)



- Instructional Support Provider is anyone who provides services for a public school or state institution as an:
 - educational assistant, school counselor, school social worker, school nurse, speech-language pathologist, psychologist, physical therapist, physical therapy assistant, occupational therapist, marriage and family therapist, occupational therapy assistant, recreational therapist, signed language interpreter, educational, alcohol and drug abuse counselor, substance abuse associate
- Alcohol Drug and Substance Abuse Counselors support students and families who are struggling with addiction to drugs or alcohol
- REQUIREMENT:
 - Copy of valid certification from the NM Counseling and Therapy Practices Board.

Rehabilitation Counselor (PreK-12)

Rehabilitation counselors are health care workers who provide support to people with disabilities so they can reach their full potential.

PATHWAYS:

1. Baccalaureate degree
2. Master's or doctoral degree
3. Certificate as a rehabilitation counselor



Other Related Support Providers

- **School Social Workers:** Primarily hired through the school special education department and carry a caseload of students on an Individualized Education Plan (IEP).
- **School Psychologist:** Work in the special education department to determine student eligibility for special education services and work with a caseload of students on an IEP.
- **Student Success Advisors:** Hold a nonrenewable, 5-year alternative license, granted to allow time for completion of a School Counseling program. This is not a school counseling license and SSAs are not allowed to provide mental health counseling



School Counselors NOT Guidance Counselors

- "Guidance" Counselor is outdated
- Refers to "Vocational Counselor"
- School Counselor reflects the role of these professionals in schools today
- School Counselors are proactive, data-driven, school leaders, and mental health professionals

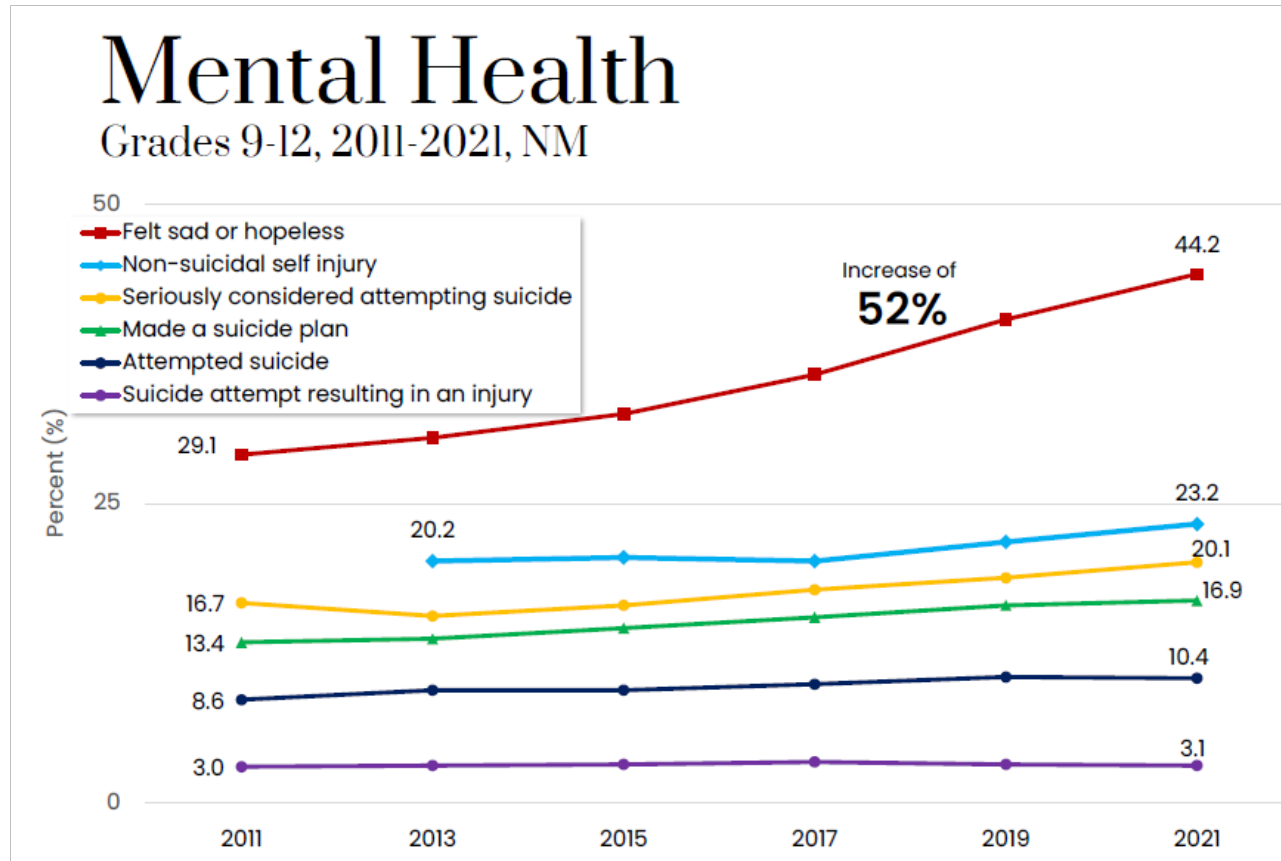


ASCA National Model

- **The American School Counselors Association provides a framework for school counselors to build data driven school counseling programs that improve student outcomes and school cultures.**
 - Needs Assessments (community and school wide)
 - Grade level appropriate school counseling curriculum informed by local needs assessment
 - Provide students with personal, social, college and career counseling one on one and in small groups
 - Consult, collaborate, and refer to appropriate community or school based providers for issues outside of the scope of practice



Student Self Reported Mental Health Data



Data courtesy of: NM Youth Risk and Resiliency Survey 2011-2021

Where do we go from here

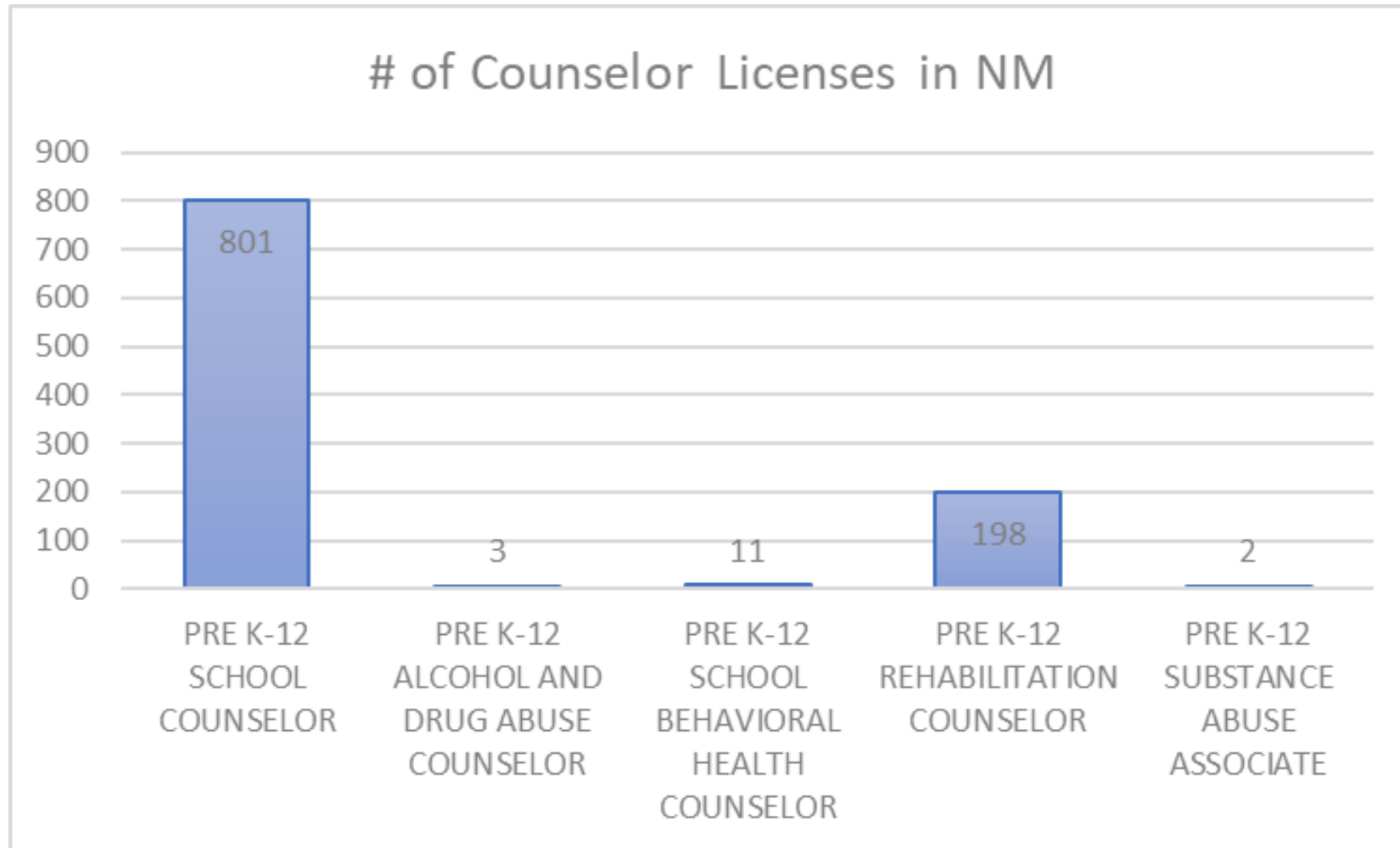
The goal is to make school-based counseling and mental health resources more accessible to students throughout New Mexico

- The ASCA National Model recommends a ratio of 250 students to every 1 school counselor
- As our students and communities continue to change and grow, the need for more focused college and career counseling increases

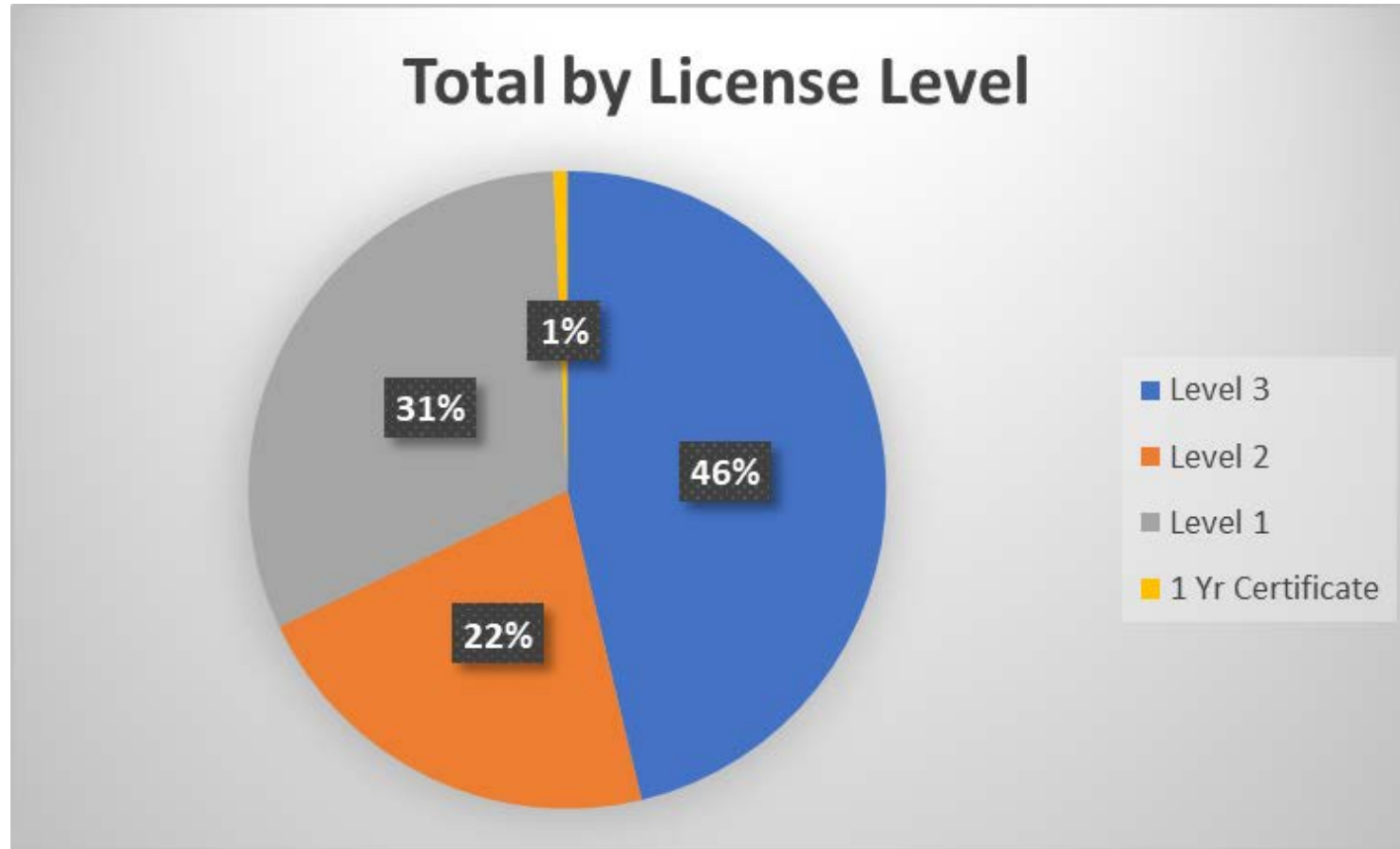
Additional School Counselor Responsibilities

- Next Step Plans
- Registration
- Scheduling
- Transcript Audits
- Crisis Counseling
- Threat Assessments
- Career Interest Inventories
- Master Scheduling
- McKinney-Vento Liaison
- Dual Credit Liaison
- College Fairs
- Career Fairs
- Graduation Requirements
- Scholarships
- Financial Aid
- Letters of Recommendation
- Grade Audits
- Multi Layered Systems of Support (MLSS) Chair

Counselor Licensure Data



Counselor Licensure Data



Potential Resource or Policy Needs

- Reduce caseload of counselors to 200
 - Inclusion of school counselors in the Teacher Cost Index (TCI) as part of the funding formula in the State Equalization Guarantee (SEG).
 - Levels 1, 2, and 3 licensed and alternative licensed teachers with a *14XX series job class, are paid from the 11000 - Operational Fund, 25147 - Indian Set-Aside Fund for the federal Impact Aid program, 15100 - Impact Aid Operational Fund, and 15200 - Local Revenue Operational Fund. Counselors fall in the support staff category and therefore are not included in the funding formula.
 - **Current caseload averages are 350-400 to 1.**

**The 14XX job= the object code used for the funding source.*

Questions

NMPED - College and Career Readiness Bureau

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