



# National Distribution of Certified Peer Support Specialists in the United States by State, District, and Territory

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## Section 1.0

### Snapshot of Number of Certified Peer Support Specialists

The following table presents the number of certified substance use and mental health peer support specialists across each state, district, and territory in the United States as reported on the date listed in Column 4 of the table. Data sources for the report include state approved certifying entities and state behavioral health agencies as listed in Column 5.

State, districts, and territories may offer separate certifications for substance use (SU) peer specialists and mental health (MH) peer specialists, or they may offer one certification (Integrated) for both peer specialists and mental health peer specialists. Column 2 indicates which type of certification is available in each state, district, and territory. See the January 2023 [Requirements for Peer Support Specialist Training and Certification in the U.S.](#) report by the Peer Recovery Center of Excellence for more information.

The information in the table is listed alphabetically by state, district, and territory.

\*Denotes numbers that were reported as cumulative (total certifications granted) rather than current count (current active certifications).

#### Data Collection

Data was collected between August 2023 through July 2024 from state approved certifying entities and state behavioral health agency websites where available. When online data was not available, staff at the Peer Recovery Center of Excellence contacted representatives of the state approved certifying entities and state behavioral health agency websites via email to obtain data. Data is valid as of the date indicated in Column 4.

Gathering this data posed significant challenges due to the variability in certification bodies between states and the infrequent availability of up-to-date information. Additionally, the number of certified peer support specialists is continually evolving as more individuals achieve certification.

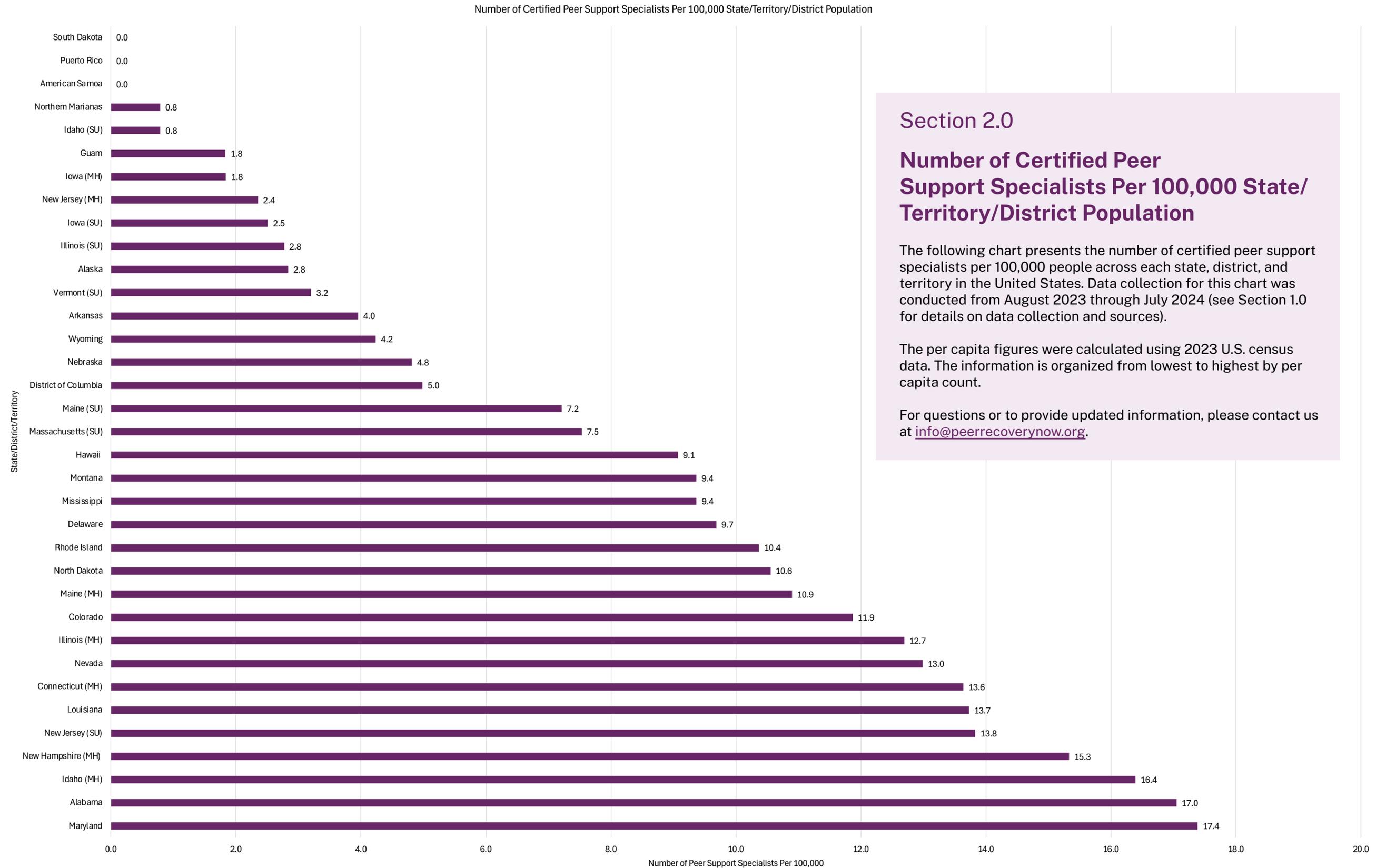
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State/District/Territory	Type of Certification (SU, MH, or Integrated)	Number of Certified Peer Support Specialists	Date Reported	Data Source
Alabama	Integrated	539	8/3/23	<a href="#">Office of Peer Programs, Alabama Department of Mental Health</a>
Alaska	Integrated	100+	4/9/24	<a href="#">The Alaska Commission for Behavioral Health Certification</a>
American Samoa	SU	State-endorsed certification in progress	5/15/24	<a href="#">Copeland Center for Wellness and Recovery</a>
Arizona	Integrated	1218+	4/15/23	<a href="#">Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System</a>
Arkansas	SU & MH (separate)	130	8/7/23	<a href="#">Arkansas Department of Human Services, Division of Aging, Adult, and Behavioral Health Services</a>
California	Integrated	3534	7/2/24	<a href="#">California Mental Health Services Authority (Cal-MHSA)</a>
Colorado	Integrated	283	9/25/23	<a href="#">Colorado Providers Association</a>
Connecticut	SU	376	8/21/23	<a href="#">Connecticut Certification Board</a>
Connecticut*	MH	1500	8/21/23	<a href="#">Advocacy Unlimited A Peer-Led Recovery Organization</a>
Delaware	Integrated	222	7/14/24	<a href="#">Delaware Certification Board</a>
District of Columbia	Integrated	154	4/3/24	<a href="#">Consumer and Family Affairs Administration, District of Columbia Department of Behavioral Health</a>
Florida	Integrated	894	10/2/23	<a href="#">Florida Certification Board</a>
Georgia	SU	1033	8/21/23	<a href="#">Georgia Council for Recovery</a>
Georgia	MH	2,000+	8/21/23	<a href="#">Georgia Mental Health Consumer Network</a>
Guam	Integrated	40	3/19/24	<a href="#">TOHGE, Inc.</a>
Hawaii	MH + Co-Occurring	197	8/21/23	<a href="#">Hawaii Department of Health, Adult Mental Health Division</a>
Idaho	SU	36	4/19/24	<a href="#">Idaho Board of Alcohol/Drug Counselor Certification</a>
Idaho	MH	481	8/25/23	<a href="#">BPA Health</a>

State/District/Territory	Type of Certification (SU, MH, or Integrated)	Number of Certified Peer Support Specialists	Date Reported	Data Source
Illinois	SU + Co-Occurring	99	4/19/24	<a href="#">Illinois Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Professional Certification Association</a>
Illinois	MH + Co-Occurring	130	4/19/24	<a href="#">Illinois Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Professional Certification Association</a>
Indiana	Integrated	1272	8/25/23	<a href="#">ICAADA, subsidiary of Mental Health America of Indiana</a>
Iowa	SU	91	7/12/24	<a href="#">Iowa Board of Certification</a>
Iowa	MH	59	7/12/24	<a href="#">Iowa Board of Certification</a>
Kansas	SU & MH (separate)	2256	4/22/24	<a href="#">Kansas Behavioral Health Services</a>
Kentucky	Integrated	8430	4/3/24	<a href="#">Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services, Department for Behavioral Health, Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities</a>
Louisiana	Integrated	443	4/3/24	<a href="#">Louisiana Office of Behavioral Health, Mental Health Services</a>
Maine	SU	193	9/29/23	<a href="#">Maine Recovery Coach Certification Board</a>
Maine	MH	280	1/2/24	<a href="#">Maine Office of Behavioral Health, Department of Health and Human Services</a>
Maryland	Integrated	579	10/9/23	<a href="#">Maryland Addiction &amp; Behavioral-Health Professionals Certification Board</a>
Massachusetts	SU	194	1/10/24	<a href="#">Massachusetts Board of Substance Abuse Counselor Certification</a>
Massachusetts	MH	1406	9/1/23	<a href="#">Kiva Centers</a>
Michigan	SU	1191	3/6/24	<a href="#">Michigan Department of Health &amp; Human Services</a>
Michigan	MH	2327	3/6/24	<a href="#">Michigan Department of Health &amp; Human Services</a>
Minnesota	SU	1484	1/2/24	<a href="#">Minnesota Certification Board</a>
Minnesota*	MH	1900	4/19/24	<a href="#">Minnesota Department of Human Services</a>
Mississippi	Integrated	212	9/7/23	<a href="#">Mississippi Department of Mental Health Services, Division of Professional Licensure and Certification (PLACE)</a>

State/District/Territory	Type of Certification (SU, MH, or Integrated)	Number of Certified Peer Support Specialists	Date Reported	Data Source
Missouri	Integrated	1921	4/3/24	<a href="#">Missouri Credentialing Board</a>
Montana	Integrated	198	7/12/24	<a href="#">Montana Department of Labor &amp; Industry, Business Standards Division</a>
Nebraska	Integrated	149	9/1/23	<a href="#">Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Behavioral Health, Office of Consumer Affairs</a>
Nevada	Integrated	348	4/19/24	<a href="#">Nevada Certification Board</a>
New Hampshire	SU	880	9/20/23	<a href="#">New Hampshire Office of Professional Licensure and Certification, Board of Licensing for Alcohol and Other Drug Use Professionals</a>
New Hampshire	MH	475	4/19/24	<a href="#">New Hampshire Office of Professional Licensure and Certification, Board of Licensing for Alcohol and Other Drug Use Professionals</a>
New Jersey	SU	463	10/1/23	<a href="#">New Jersey Department of Human Services, Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services</a>
New Jersey	MH	73	1/9/24	<a href="#">New Jersey Department of Human Services, Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services</a>
New Mexico	Integrated	763+	7/19/23	<a href="#">New Mexico Office of Peer Recovery and Engagement (OPRE)</a>
New York	SU	3000	9/8/23	<a href="#">New York Certification Board, a project of the Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Providers of New York State (ASAP)</a>
New York	MH	3977	9/11/23	<a href="#">New York Peer Specialist Certification Board</a>
North Carolina	Integrated	5130	6/29/24	<a href="#">North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Use Services</a>
North Dakota	Integrated	242	9/11/23	<a href="#">North Dakota Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Behavioral Health</a>
Northern Marianas	Integrated	21 +	4/3/24	<a href="#">Guam Behavioral Health and Wellness Center</a>
Ohio	Integrated	2709	9/8/23	<a href="#">Ohio Department of Mental Health &amp; Addiction Services</a>
Oklahoma	Integrated	1550	6/1/23	<a href="#">Oklahoma Department of Mental Health &amp; Substance Abuse Services</a>
Oregon	Integrated	5047	7/12/24	<a href="#">Oregon Health Authority, Office of Equity and Inclusion, Health Systems Division</a>
Pennsylvania	SU	1683	1/4/24	<a href="#">Pennsylvania Certification Board</a>

State/District/Territory	Type of Certification (SU, MH, or Integrated)	Number of Certified Peer Support Specialists	Date Reported	Data Source
Pennsylvania	MH + Co-Occurring	2486	1/4/24	<a href="#">Pennsylvania Certification Board</a>
Puerto Rico	N/A	No State Certification	5/15/24	<a href="#">Administración de Servicios de Salud Mental y Contra la Adicción (ASSMCA)</a>
Rhode Island	Integrated	227	9/11/23	<a href="#">Rhode Island Certification Board</a>
South Carolina	Integrated	916	9/15/23	<a href="#">Addiction Professionals of South Carolina (APSC)</a>
South Dakota	N/A	No State Certification	5/15/24	<a href="#">Recovery Communities of South Dakota</a>
Tennessee	Integrated	1239	5/1/24	<a href="#">Tennessee Department of Mental Health &amp; Substance Abuse Services, Office of Consumer Affairs and Peer Recovery Services</a>
Texas	SU	977	9/21/23	<a href="#">Texas Certification Board</a>
Texas	MH	766	9/21/23	<a href="#">Texas Certification Board</a>
Utah	Integrated	903	12/3/23	<a href="#">Utah Department of Health &amp; Human Services, Integrated Healthcare, Office of Substance Use and Mental Health</a>
Vermont	SU	116	4/3/24	<a href="#">Recovery Vermont</a>
Virginia	Integrated	1106	9/11/23	<a href="#">Virginia Certification Board</a>
Washington	Integrated	7400	9/12/23	<a href="#">Washington State Health Care Authority</a>
West Virginia	Integrated	739	4/19/24	<a href="#">West Virginia Certification Board of Addiction &amp; Prevention Professionals</a>
Wisconsin	Integrated	1354	9/12/23	<a href="#">Wisconsin Peer Specialists</a>
Wyoming	Integrated	145	1/3/24	<a href="#">Recovery Wyoming</a>



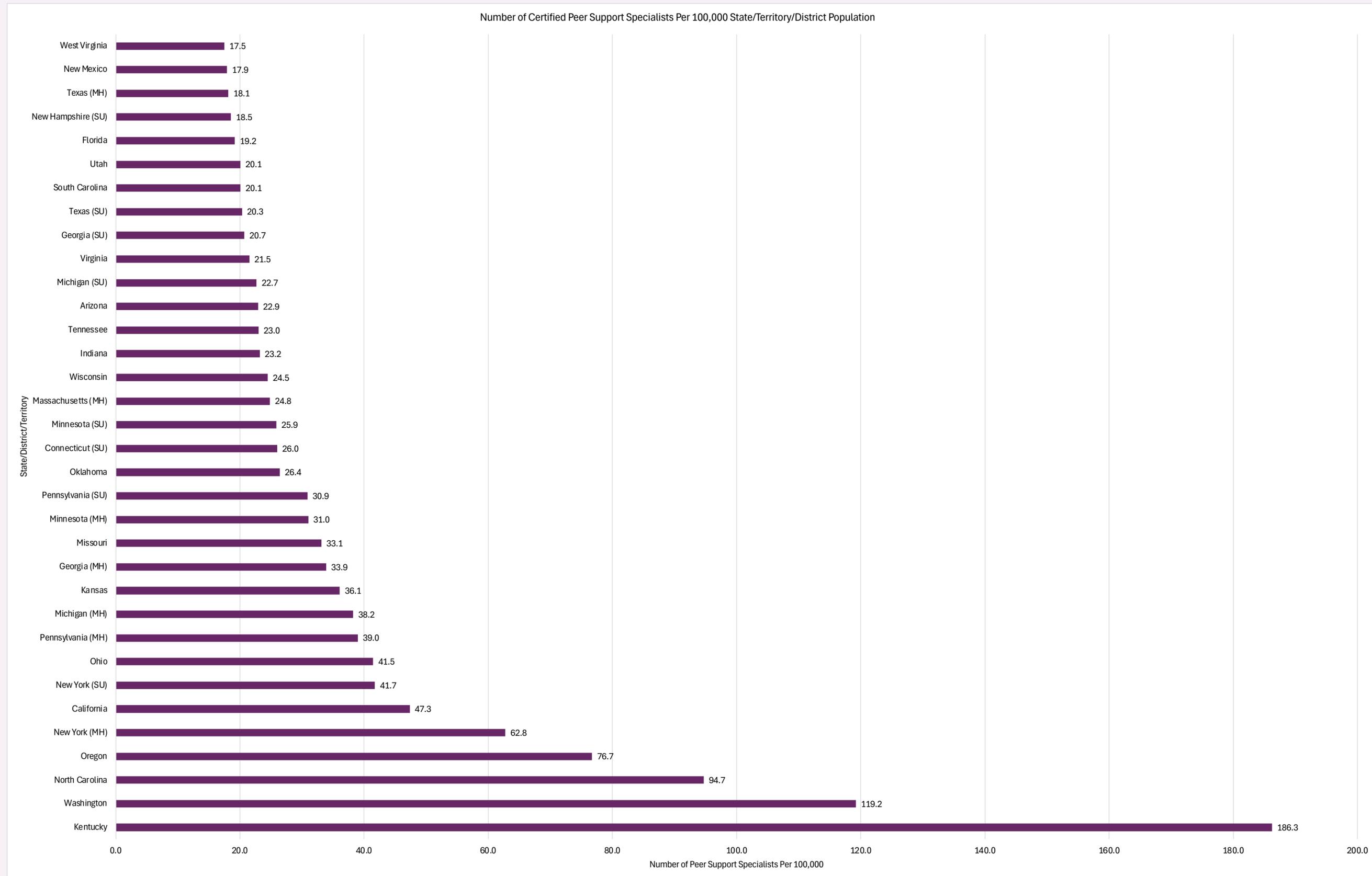
## Section 2.0

### Number of Certified Peer Support Specialists Per 100,000 State/Territory/District Population

The following chart presents the number of certified peer support specialists per 100,000 people across each state, district, and territory in the United States. Data collection for this chart was conducted from August 2023 through July 2024 (see Section 1.0 for details on data collection and sources).

The per capita figures were calculated using 2023 U.S. census data. The information is organized from lowest to highest by per capita count.

For questions or to provide updated information, please contact us at [info@peerrecoverynow.org](mailto:info@peerrecoverynow.org).



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