

**Recommendation is:**

Recommend a comprehensive center be established to track the number of medical providers in the state.

**The purposes are:**

Provide data to help determine possible programs to retain and recruit providers  
Track data to better predict negative changes in provider licensure  
Provide data to help determine areas of the state with lower medical provider census

**The rationale for this proposed recommendation:**

NM has seen a reduction in medical providers in recent years (data in the next section) Improved tracking would better inform these funding decisions since funding is based on the data in the NM Healthcare Workforce Report.

**The data supporting this recommendation:**

There are security concerns about the current system therefore we need a new system based on the reporting structure.

A data breach of the information collected by RLD is a prime example.

**Current Statute**

According to Section NMSA 1978 24-14C-2E, of the "Work Force Data Collection, Analysis and Policy Act (WFDCAPA):

"New Mexico center for health care workforce analysis" means a state entity that collects, analyzes and reports data regarding the state's health care work force and collaborates with the federal national center for health care workforce analysis pursuant to Section 5103 of the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act." (Emphasis added).

In summary, according to the terms and provisions of the WFDCAPA, in no way is HSC prohibited from the collection and evaluation of workforce data related to integrative medicine providers, such as chiropractic physicians, doctors of oriental medicine, etc. In fact, citing this same language, an argument can be made that such data already falls within the purview of the data to be collected, since such providers are already considered to be a part of the current healthcare workforce.