



Information Update

Sharing data to enhance your knowledge of the PA profession

Income Reported By PAs Who Graduated In 2002

Overview

Results of the 2003 AAPA Physician Assistant Census Survey indicate the mean total income for clinically practicing PAs who work full-time (32 or more hours per week) for their primary employer and who graduated in 2002 is \$64,565 (standard deviation of \$12,562); the median is \$63,437. A summary of the personal and practice characteristics of the new graduate respondents and a set of tables showing summary measures of their incomes in total, by region of the country, and by area of general specialty are presented below.

Personal Characteristics

Sex: Sixty-eight percent of these new graduate respondents were female.

Race/Ethnicity: Eighty-four percent reported that they were White/Not Hispanic, six percent reported that they were Asian, four percent reported that they were Hispanic/Latino, three percent reported that they were Black (Not Hispanic), and another three percent reported multiple races.

Age: The mean age of these respondents was 32 years; the median age was 29. The youngest ten percent were twenty-five years or younger; the oldest ten percent were 42 years or older.

Practice Characteristics

Employer Type: A single or multi-specialty physician group practice employed 41 percent of these respondents. Twenty-one percent of the respondents were employed by hospitals, and 16 percent were employed by a solo physician practice.

Work Setting: The predominant work setting for the respondents was a solo or group practice office (48%). More than one-third of the respondents (37%) worked in a hospital, and another seven percent worked in some type of Federally Qualified Health Center or community health facility.

Hours Worked: The mean hours worked per week by the respondents who reported full-time employment was 45.8; the median was 45 hours per week.

Call: Thirty-nine percent of these respondents reported taking call. The mean hours on call per month for those who reported taking call was 108; the median was 90.

Income

Table 1. Summary Measures of Total Annual Income from Primary Employer for Respondents Who Graduated in 2002 and Work at Least 32 Hours per Week at their Primary Clinical Job*

	Total
Respondents	1,549
Mean	\$64,565
Std Deviation	\$12,562
10th percentile	\$51,493
25th percentile	\$56,968
Median	\$63,437
75th percentile	\$69,953
90th percentile	\$79,302

*Excludes self-employed PAs and part-time PAs.

Table 2. Summary Measures of Total Annual Income from Primary Clinical Job for Respondents Who Graduated in 2002, by Region *

	Northeast	Southeast	North Central	South Central	West	Total
Respondents	381	332	353	196	243	1,549
Mean	\$62,844	\$64,286	\$63,920	\$66,688	\$67,243	\$64,565
Std Deviation	\$12,762	\$12,229	\$11,238	\$13,382	\$13,073	\$12,562
10th percentile	\$49,469	\$51,142	\$53,431	\$53,835	\$51,682	\$51,493
25th percentile	\$54,854	\$56,671	\$57,910	\$57,974	\$59,768	\$56,968
Median	\$61,860	\$63,049	\$63,294	\$65,486	\$65,634	\$63,437
75th percentile	\$68,566	\$69,723	\$68,714	\$71,144	\$74,954	\$69,953
90th percentile	\$77,825	\$78,044	\$74,248	\$83,580	\$84,200	\$79,302

*Excludes self-employed PAs and part-time PAs.

Table 3. Summary Measures of Total Annual Income from Primary Employer at Primary Clinical Job for Respondents Who Graduated in 2002, by Area of General Specialty*

	n	Mean	Std Dev	10th percentile	25th percentile	Median	75th percentile	90th percentile
Family/general medicine	374	\$60,627	\$11,601	\$47,253	\$53,806	\$59,691	\$66,432	\$74,025
General internal medicine	129	\$60,833	\$10,705	\$50,107	\$54,625	\$60,921	\$64,817	\$69,859
Emergency medicine	135	\$71,702	\$14,693	\$58,026	\$62,938	\$68,678	\$77,446	\$91,630
General pediatrics	35	\$62,090	\$14,399	\$44,423	\$53,790	\$59,631	\$71,010	\$83,519
General surgery	52	\$63,359	\$11,728	\$52,449	\$58,138	\$63,582	\$69,703	\$75,970
Internal medicine subspecialties	178	\$63,723	\$11,413	\$52,637	\$57,673	\$63,451	\$67,426	\$73,712
Pediatric subspecialties	12	\$61,319	\$6,828	\$55,494	\$55,835	\$60,383	\$63,493	\$75,800
Surgical subspecialties	428	\$68,024	\$11,584	\$55,384	\$61,070	\$66,498	\$73,462	\$82,848
Obstetrics and gynecology	38	\$61,287	\$10,238	\$50,042	\$53,335	\$62,015	\$67,237	\$76,053
Other	153	\$64,628	\$14,023	\$50,270	\$56,756	\$62,204	\$69,893	\$81,874
Total	1549	\$64,565	\$12,562	\$51,493	\$56,968	\$63,437	\$69,953	\$79,302

*Excludes self-employed PAs and part-time PAs.