

2007 AAPA Physician Assistant Census Report for the Air Force Chapter

Introduction

The American Academy of Physician Assistants (AAPA) was founded in 1968 and is the only national organization representing physician assistants (PAs) in all medical specialties. The Academy educates the general public about the PA profession, assures competency of PAs through active involvement in the accreditation of PA programs, provides continuing education, and conducts PA-related research. The Academy works to promote quality, cost-effective health care, and the professional and personal growth of PAs.

From 1990 to 1995, the AAPA conducted a census survey of its members. Beginning in 1996, the census survey was expanded to include those PAs who were not members of AAPA. While the survey instrument and the data collection process have undergone some revisions since the inception of the census, the general approach and data elements have remained much the same.

The data collection effort for the 2007 AAPA Physician Assistant Census was conducted between February 20 and September 15, 2007. The 2007 Census was available online as well as on paper; 2007 was the second year that this survey was available to be completed online.

A link to the online version of the survey was posted on the home page of the AAPA web site and an email with a link to the survey was sent between February 20 and March 1, 2007 to the 46,967 PAs for whom a valid email address was available. Between May 18 and May 24, 2007, reminder emails were sent to the 31,250 individuals who had not responded by May 16 (and for whom email address was available). Finally, reminder messages with a link to the online survey were sent to AAPA members with valid email addresses via AAPA's monthly E-News in March and June.

The paper version of the survey was mailed on March 20, 2007 to all individuals, both AAPA members and non-members, who were believed to be eligible to practice as PAs in the United States as of December 31, 2006 and for whom address information was available, but the paper version of the survey was not sent to individuals from whom an online response had been received prior to March 12, 2007, or to individuals who had indicated on a previous Census that they were retired or working as a physician. Paper surveys were mailed to 61,883 people. A second copy of the paper survey was mailed on June 19, 2007, to 47,542 individuals who had not completed a survey, either online or paper, prior to June 13.

In total, 69,473 PAs were invited to participate in the 2007 Census – accounting for 92.7 percent of the 75,260 individuals eligible to practice as PAs. Completed surveys were received from 26,192 people, representing 34.8 percent of all individuals eligible to practice as PAs and 37.7 percent of the PAs who were invited to participate. Of the 28,439 AAPA members invited to participate, 17,480 (61.5%) responded; of the 41,034 non-members who were invited to participate, 8,712 (21.2%) responded.

This document presents the responses received on the Census survey and also includes certain static information derived from the AAPA Masterfile, such as sex, race, educational attainment, and age. It should be noted that these data have not been weighted or adjusted to account for non-response, the number of usable responses for each item varies due to item non-response, and that the percentages displayed may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

To facilitate locating specific items of interest, an index of the subjects addressed by the tables is provided in addition to a list of tables.

Highlights of National Statistics

Section I. Characteristics of Respondents and Non-Respondents

Sex: Females accounted for 64 percent of the respondents to this year's census.

Ethnicity: White PAs comprise 88 percent of the respondents.

PA Education: Just under half (42%) of respondents hold a bachelor's level PA degree; 39 percent of respondents hold a master's level PA degree.

Age: The mean age of census respondents is 41 years (median = 39), the mean age at time of graduation from PA school was 31 years (median = 28), and the mean number of years since graduation from PA school for census respondents is 11 (median = 7).

Section II. Professional Status of Respondents

Practice Status: The vast majority of respondents (92%) are in clinical practice.

Current Profession: Five percent of respondents reported working as a PA educator. This was the most common professional activity other than providing clinical services as a PA.

Section III: Information about Respondents in Clinical Practice

Number of Clinical PA Jobs: Eighty-five percent of respondents reported working exactly one clinical PA job; 15 percent work more than one clinical PA job concurrently.

Employer Type: More than four in ten respondents (44%) are employed by a single or multi-specialty physician group practice while 23 percent are employed by hospitals and 13 percent are employed by solo physician offices.

Government Employment: About nine percent of respondents work for some type of government agency. The Department of Veterans' Affairs is the single largest government employer of PAs accounting for about two percent of respondents; state governments collectively employ three percent of this year's respondents.

Primary Work Setting: The most prevalent "primary" work setting, reported by 38 percent of respondents, is a hospital; the hospital departments cited most frequently as primary settings are hospital inpatient units (10%), hospital emergency rooms (10%), hospital outpatient units (7%), and hospital operating rooms (7%). Physician group practices are the primary work setting for 31 percent of respondents; 22 percent report working in a single-specialty group practice and nine percent report working in a multi-specialty group practice. Other settings reported as the primary work setting by large numbers of PAs include solo-practice physician offices (12%), and Federally Qualified Health Centers or community health facilities (8%).

Work Settings where Clinical Services are Provided over the Course of a Typical Month:

Respondents were asked to indicate all of the settings where they provide clinical services for their primary clinical employer over the course of a typical month. The specific work settings reported by at least 20 percent of respondents are hospital inpatient units (35%), hospital emergency rooms (31%), single-specialty physician group practices (29%), hospital intensive care/critical care units (23%), hospital operating rooms (22%), and hospital outpatient units (21%).

Primary Specialty of Practice: While PAs practice in over 60 different specialty fields, 37 percent of this year's respondents reported that their primary specialty was one of the primary care fields: family/general medicine (25%), general internal medicine (7%), general pediatrics (2%), and obstetrics/gynecology (2%). Other prevalent specialties for PAs include general surgery/surgical subspecialties (25%), emergency medicine (10%), the subspecialties of internal medicine (11%) and dermatology (4%).

Years in Clinical Practice, Years in Position, and Years in Specialty: The mean number of years respondents have been in clinical practice is 9 (median = 6), the mean number of years respondents have worked in their current position is 5 (median = 3), and the mean number of years respondents have worked in their current specialty is 7 (median = 4).

Geographic Distribution: The states with the largest numbers of clinically practicing respondents are: New York (8%), California (7%), Texas (6%), Pennsylvania (6%), Florida (6%), North Carolina (5%), and Michigan (5%).

Metropolitan Status of Work Site: Fifteen percent of respondents work in counties that are non-metropolitan.

Functions and Responsibilities: PAs can perform a variety of functions for their primary employers. More than half (59%) reported performing minor surgical procedures, thirty-eight percent of respondents reported that they manage the care of patients in an inpatient setting and about one-quarter (24%) reported first-assisting at surgery. Nine percent of respondents reported supervising other PAs, and one in five (18%) reported supervising other clinical staff. More than one-third of respondents (35%) indicated that they precept PA students; one-fourth (24%) reported precepting students of other health professions.

Work Status: The majority of clinically practicing respondents (85%) work full-time, defined as more than 32 hours per week, for their primary clinical employer.

Section IV. Information about Respondents in Clinical Practice Who Work at Least 32 Hours per Week at Their Primary Clinical Job

Hours Worked: The mean number of hours worked by the respondents who work more than 32 hours in a typical week is 44 the median is 41 hours.

Patient Visits/Encounters: Due to the variety of work settings and specialty fields in which PAs practice, the types of patients PAs treat are quite varied. The vast majority (86%) of census respondents who work full-time see some outpatients in their primary job; the mean number of patient visits provided per week by PAs who see outpatients exclusively is 93. Over one-third of respondents who work full-time (44%) see some inpatients in their primary job; the mean number of patient encounters provided per week by respondents who see inpatients exclusively is 62. Six percent of respondents report seeing patients who can not be classified as inpatients or outpatients.

Taking Call: Four in ten respondents (39%) reported taking call for their primary employer. The mean number of hours on call per month for those PAs who reported taking some call but who were not always on call is 94.

Base Pay: The majority of respondents (81%) reported receiving their base pay in the form of a salary; 17 percent indicated that they receive an hourly wage.

Compensation: Respondents reported receiving several additional forms of compensation from their primary employer. The most common form of additional compensation was a bonus not based on performance or productivity, reported by 21 percent of respondents. Nineteen percent of respondents reported receiving a bonus based on their own productivity or performance while 14 percent reported receiving overtime pay. Just under half (42%) of those who reported receiving incentive pay based on productivity or performance indicated that the incentive was based on revenue.

Annual Income: The median total annual income from primary employer for respondents who work at least 32 hours per week for their primary employer and who are not self-employed is \$82,223; the mean is \$86,214. The comparable figures for respondents who graduated in 2006 are \$71,825 and \$73,013, respectively.

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Section I: Characteristics of 2007 AAPA Census Respondents

Table 1.1: Number and Percent Distribution of Census Respondents by Criteria Used to Define Subpopulations

	Count	Percent
Total	26192	100.0%
In Chapter	176	.7%
Other Target	101	.4%
All Others	25915	98.9%

Table 1.2: Number and Percent Distribution of Census Respondents by Sex

	In Chapter		Other Target		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Total	175	100.0%	100	100.0%	25682	100.0%	25957	100.0%
Male	151	86.3%	66	66.0%	9143	35.6%	9360	36.1%
Female	24	13.7%	34	34.0%	16539	64.4%	16597	63.9%

Table 1.3: Number and Percent Distribution of Census Respondents by Race

	In Chapter		Other Target		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Total	162	100.0%	81	100.0%	23555	100.0%	23798	100.0%
Asian/Pacific Islander	4	2.5%	3	3.7%	910	3.9%	917	3.9%
Black (Not Hispanic)	7	4.3%	7	8.6%	888	3.8%	902	3.8%
Hispanic/Latino Origin	4	2.5%	2	2.5%	933	4.0%	939	3.9%
Amer Indian/Alaskan	4	2.5%	1	1.2%	157	.7%	162	.7%
White (Not Hispanic)	143	88.3%	68	84.0%	20667	87.7%	20878	87.7%

Table 1.4: Number and Percent Distribution of Census Respondents by PA Degrees Held

	In Chapter		Other Target		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Total	168	100.0%	82	100.0%	24025	100.0%	24275	100.0%
Certificate from PA school	17	10.1%	10	12.2%	6858	28.5%	6885	28.4%
Associate's degree from PA school	2	1.2%	6	7.3%	1446	6.0%	1454	6.0%
Bachelor's degree from PA school	156	92.9%	54	65.9%	10006	41.6%	10216	42.1%
Master's degree from PA school	49	29.2%	33	40.2%	9435	39.3%	9517	39.2%

*Percentages sum to more than 100 because some PAs received multiple degree types.

Table 1.5: Summary Measures of Age for Census Respondents

	In Chapter	Other Target	All Others	Total
Count	176	100	25866	26142
Mean	50.8	40.6	41.1	41.2
Standard deviation	7.1	9.7	11.0	11.0
10th p-tile	42.0	29.1	28.0	28.0
25th p-tile	45.0	34.0	32.0	32.0
Median	50.0	39.0	39.0	39.0
75th p-tile	56.0	45.0	50.0	50.0
90th p-tile	61.0	56.0	57.0	57.0

Table 1.6: Summary Measures of Age During Year of Graduation from PA School for Census Respondents

	In Chapter	Other Target	All Others	Total
Count	176	100	25867	26143
Mean	30.5	31.8	30.5	30.5
Standard deviation	3.2	5.6	6.8	6.8
10th p-tile	27.0	26.0	24.0	24.0
25th p-tile	28.0	28.0	25.0	26.0
Median	31.0	31.0	28.0	28.0
75th p-tile	32.0	34.0	34.0	34.0
90th p-tile	34.0	37.0	41.0	41.0

Table 1.7: Summary Measures of Years since Graduation from PA School for Census Respondents

	In Chapter	Other Target	All Others	Total
Count	176	101	25915	26192
Mean	20.2	8.8	10.6	10.7
Standard deviation	7.6	7.8	9.2	9.2
10th p-tile	11.0	1.2	2.0	2.0
25th p-tile	14.0	3.0	3.0	3.0
Median	21.0	7.0	7.0	7.0
75th p-tile	27.0	12.0	16.0	16.0
90th p-tile	30.0	20.6	26.0	26.0

Section II: Professional Status of Respondents

Table 2.1: Number and Percent Distribution of Respondents by Clinical Practice Status

	In Chapter		Other Target		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Total	176	100.0%	101	100.0%	25915	100.0%	26192	100.0%
In clinical practice	156	88.6%	101	100.0%	23717	91.5%	23974	91.5%
Not in clinical practice	20	11.4%			2198	8.5%	2218	8.5%

Table 2.2: Number and Percent Distribution of Respondents by Current Professional Status*

	In Chapter		Other Target		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	176	100.0%	101	100.0%	25915	100.0%	26192	100.0%
Clinically practicing PA	156	88.6%	101	100.0%	23717	91.5%	23974	91.5%
Clinically practicing physician or resident					23	.1%	23	.1%
Clinically practicing NP					174	.7%	174	.7%
Other clinically practicing provider			1	1.0%	191	.7%	192	.7%
PA educator	20	11.4%	9	8.9%	1173	4.5%	1202	4.6%
Other health professions educator	4	2.3%	3	3.0%	351	1.4%	358	1.4%
Health care professional-administrator	7	4.0%	1	1.0%	486	1.9%	494	1.9%
Health care professional-researcher	1	.6%			248	1.0%	249	1.0%
Health care professional-forensics					35	.1%	35	.1%
Health care professional-public health			1	1.0%	97	.4%	98	.4%
Health care professional-other	6	3.4%			460	1.8%	466	1.8%
Other non-health professional	3	1.7%	1	1.0%	234	.9%	238	.9%
Student in post-graduate PA program					127	.5%	127	.5%
Medical student					39	.2%	39	.1%
Other student	1	.6%			64	.2%	65	.2%
Not employed by choice	2	1.1%			575	2.2%	577	2.2%
Employed, seeking PA job					88	.3%	88	.3%
Unemployed, seeking PA job	1	.6%			222	.9%	223	.9%
Unemployed, seeking non-PA job					36	.1%	36	.1%
Retired	6	3.4%			159	.6%	165	.6%
Other			3	3.0%	282	1.1%	285	1.1%

*Percentages sum to more than 100 because respondents were instructed to mark all that apply.

Section III: Information about Respondents in Clinical Practice

Table 3.1: Number and Percent Distribution of Clinically Practicing Respondents by Number of Concurrent PA Jobs

	In Chapter		Other Target		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	156	100.0%	101	100.0%	23702	100.0%	23959	100.0%
One	129	82.7%	89	88.1%	20039	84.5%	20257	84.5%
Two	22	14.1%	8	7.9%	2945	12.4%	2975	12.4%
Three	1	.6%	3	3.0%	447	1.9%	451	1.9%
More than three	1	.6%			122	.5%	123	.5%
Self-employed w/mult contracts	3	1.9%	1	1.0%	149	.6%	153	.6%

Table 3.2: Number and Percent Distribution of Clinically Practicing Respondents by Type of Primary Employer

	In Chapter		Other Target		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	155	100.0%	100	100.0%	23434	100.0%	23689	100.0%
Self-employed	8	5.2%	11	11.0%	657	2.8%	676	2.9%
Solo physician practice	13	8.4%			2969	12.7%	2982	12.6%
Single-specialty physician group	31	20.0%	9	9.0%	7312	31.2%	7352	31.0%
Multi-specialty physician group	27	17.4%	8	8.0%	3031	12.9%	3066	12.9%
University hospital					2045	8.7%	2045	8.6%
Other hospital	38	24.5%	58	58.0%	3260	13.9%	3356	14.2%
Freestanding urgent care center	4	2.6%	1	1.0%	437	1.9%	442	1.9%
Freestanding surgical center	1	.6%			18	.1%	19	.1%
Nursing home or LTC facility					53	.2%	53	.2%
Home health agency					7	.0%	7	.0%
Hospice					2	.0%	2	.0%
HMO	4	2.6%	2	2.0%	433	1.8%	439	1.9%
Community health center	9	5.8%	4	4.0%	1357	5.8%	1370	5.8%
Medical staffing agency	3	1.9%			75	.3%	78	.3%
Physician practice mngmt org	4	2.6%			417	1.8%	421	1.8%
Integrated health system	3	1.9%	1	1.0%	338	1.4%	342	1.4%
Corrections system	3	1.9%			204	.9%	207	.9%
Other	7	4.5%	6	6.0%	819	3.5%	832	3.5%

Table 3.3: Number and Percent Distribution of Clinically Practicing Respondents by Primary Employer's Government Affiliation

	In Chapter		Other Target		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	152	100.0%	101	100.0%	23232	100.0%	23485	100.0%
Not government employed	100	65.8%			21243	91.4%	21343	90.9%
Air Force	29	19.1%	101	100.0%			130	.6%
Army	3	2.0%			313	1.3%	316	1.3%
Navy					91	.4%	91	.4%
Coast Guard					18	.1%	18	.1%
Dept. of Veterans Affairs	11	7.2%			480	2.1%	491	2.1%
Federal Bureau of Prisons/DOJ					31	.1%	31	.1%
Indian Health Service					93	.4%	93	.4%
Federal Public Health Service					105	.5%	105	.4%
Other Federal Government	5	3.3%			102	.4%	107	.5%
State Government	4	2.6%			516	2.2%	520	2.2%
Local Government					240	1.0%	240	1.0%

Table 3.4: Number and Percent Distribution of Clinically Practicing Respondents by Primary Work Setting

	In Chapter		Other Target		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	156	100.0%	98	100.0%	23270	100.0%	23524	100.0%
Intensive/critical care unit of hospital	1	.6%			523	2.2%	524	2.2%
Inpatient unit of hospital (not ICU/CCU)			3	3.1%	2420	10.4%	2423	10.3%
Outpatient unit of hospital	27	17.3%	33	33.7%	1691	7.3%	1751	7.4%
Hospital emergency room	10	6.4%	9	9.2%	2348	10.1%	2367	10.1%
Hospital operating room	3	1.9%			1526	6.6%	1529	6.5%
Other unit of hospital					323	1.4%	323	1.4%
Federally Qualified Rural Health Center	6	3.8%			829	3.6%	835	3.5%
Other FQHC	5	3.2%	8	8.2%	444	1.9%	457	1.9%
Other community health center/facility	4	2.6%	3	3.1%	540	2.3%	547	2.3%
Freestanding urgent care facility	8	5.1%	5	5.1%	659	2.8%	672	2.9%
Freestanding surgical facility	1	.6%			82	.4%	83	.4%
Solo practice physician office	13	8.3%			2783	12.0%	2796	11.9%
Single-specialty physician group practice	29	18.6%	8	8.2%	5178	22.3%	5215	22.2%
Multi-specialty physician group practice	21	13.5%	9	9.2%	2165	9.3%	2195	9.3%
HMO facility	3	1.9%	4	4.1%	310	1.3%	317	1.3%
Nursing home or LTC facility	4	2.6%			195	.8%	199	.8%
University/college student health facility	1	.6%			137	.6%	138	.6%
School-based health facility					84	.4%	84	.4%
Other freestanding outpatient facility	8	5.1%	12	12.2%	431	1.9%	451	1.9%
Correctional facility	4	2.6%			224	1.0%	228	1.0%
Industrial facility/work site					119	.5%	119	.5%
Retail Outlet					39	.2%	39	.2%
Mobile health unit					28	.1%	28	.1%
Patients' homes	2	1.3%			33	.1%	35	.1%
Other	6	3.8%	4	4.1%	159	.7%	169	.7%

Table 3.5: Number and Percent Distribution of Clinically Practicing Respondents by Types of Practice Settings where Time is Spent For Primary Employer*

	In Chapter		Other Target		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	153	98.1%	95	95.0%	23202	99.0%	23450	99.0%
Intensive/critical care unit of hospital	17	10.9%	5	5.0%	5302	22.6%	5324	22.5%
Inpatient unit of hospital (not ICU/CCU)	30	19.2%	9	9.0%	8152	34.8%	8191	34.6%
Outpatient unit of hospital	35	22.4%	39	39.0%	4893	20.9%	4967	21.0%
Hospital emergency room	33	21.2%	16	16.0%	7200	30.7%	7249	30.6%
Hospital operating room	23	14.7%	5	5.0%	5176	22.1%	5204	22.0%
Other unit of hospital	1	.6%	5	5.0%	2005	8.6%	2011	8.5%
Federally Qualified Rural Health Center	7	4.5%	1	1.0%	1107	4.7%	1115	4.7%
Other FQHC	7	4.5%	9	9.0%	626	2.7%	642	2.7%
Other community health center/facility	5	3.2%	5	5.0%	838	3.6%	848	3.6%
Freestanding urgent care facility	11	7.1%	5	5.0%	1083	4.6%	1099	4.6%
Freestanding surgical facility	7	4.5%			1134	4.8%	1141	4.8%
Solo practice physician office	15	9.6%	1	1.0%	3180	13.6%	3196	13.5%
Single-specialty physician group practice	35	22.4%	10	10.0%	6731	28.7%	6776	28.6%
Multi-specialty physician group practice	26	16.7%	12	12.0%	2966	12.7%	3004	12.7%
HMO facility	3	1.9%	4	4.0%	454	1.9%	461	1.9%
Nursing home or LTC facility	8	5.1%			1171	5.0%	1179	5.0%
University/college student health facility	1	.6%			256	1.1%	257	1.1%
School-based health facility	2	1.3%			197	.8%	199	.8%
Other freestanding outpatient facility	12	7.7%	12	12.0%	758	3.2%	782	3.3%
Correctional facility	4	2.6%			366	1.6%	370	1.6%
Industrial facility/work site					219	.9%	219	.9%
Retail Outlet					46	.2%	46	.2%
Mobile health unit					91	.4%	91	.4%
Patients' homes	4	2.6%	1	1.0%	330	1.4%	335	1.4%
Other	6	3.8%	7	7.0%	558	2.4%	571	2.4%

*Percentages sum to more than 100 because respondents were instructed to mark all that apply.

Table 3.6: Number and Percent Distribution of Clinically Practicing Respondents by General Specialty Practiced for Primary Employer

	In Chapter		Other Target		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	155	100.0%	101	100.0%	23559	100.0%	23815	100.0%
Family/general medicine	55	35.5%	75	74.3%	5802	24.6%	5932	24.9%
General internal medicine	13	8.4%	1	1.0%	1629	6.9%	1643	6.9%
Emergency medicine	12	7.7%	10	9.9%	2428	10.3%	2450	10.3%
General pediatrics	3	1.9%			576	2.4%	579	2.4%
General surgery	4	2.6%			650	2.8%	654	2.7%
Internal medicine subspecialties	10	6.5%	4	4.0%	2684	11.4%	2698	11.3%
Pediatric subspecialties					372	1.6%	372	1.6%
Surgical subspecialties	28	18.1%	6	5.9%	5261	22.3%	5295	22.2%
Obstetrics and gynecology	1	.6%			560	2.4%	561	2.4%
Occupational medicine	6	3.9%	3	3.0%	565	2.4%	574	2.4%
Other	23	14.8%	2	2.0%	3032	12.9%	3057	12.8%

Table 3.7: Number and Percent Distribution of Clinically Practicing Respondents by Specialty Practiced for Primary Employer

	In Chapter		Other Target		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	155	100.0%	101	100.0%	23559	100.0%	23815	100.0%
Addiction medicine					66	.3%	66	.3%
Allergy					127	.5%	127	.5%
Anesthesiology			1	1.0%	59	.3%	60	.3%
Dermatology	6	3.9%			821	3.5%	827	3.5%
Emergency medicine	12	7.7%	10	9.9%	2428	10.3%	2450	10.3%
Family practice w/o urgent care	32	20.6%	56	55.4%	3492	14.8%	3580	15.0%
Family practice wt urgent care	23	14.8%	19	18.8%	2310	9.8%	2352	9.9%
Genetics					7	.0%	7	.0%
Geriatrics	4	2.6%			155	.7%	159	.7%
Obstetrics/gynecology	1	.6%			560	2.4%	561	2.4%
Occupational medicine	6	3.9%	3	3.0%	565	2.4%	574	2.4%
Ophthalmology					23	.1%	23	.1%
Pain management	2	1.3%			273	1.2%	275	1.2%
Pathology					4	.0%	4	.0%
Physical med rehab					170	.7%	170	.7%
Psychiatry	1	.6%			242	1.0%	243	1.0%
Public health			1	1.0%	48	.2%	49	.2%
Radiation oncology					57	.2%	57	.2%
Radiology					36	.2%	36	.2%
Interventional radiology					195	.8%	195	.8%
Hospital medicine					233	1.0%	233	1.0%
General surgery	4	2.6%			650	2.8%	654	2.7%
Surg: cardiovascular/cardiothoracic					748	3.2%	748	3.1%
Surg: colon & rectal					26	.1%	26	.1%
Surg: hand					54	.2%	54	.2%
Surg: neurology	3	1.9%			570	2.4%	573	2.4%
Surg: oncology			1	1.0%	57	.2%	58	.2%
Surg: orthopedics	20	12.9%	5	5.0%	2386	10.1%	2411	10.1%
Surg: otorhinolaryngology	5	3.2%			227	1.0%	232	1.0%
Surg: pediatric					31	.1%	31	.1%
Surg: plastic					184	.8%	184	.8%
Surg: thoracic					38	.2%	38	.2%
Surg: transplant					67	.3%	67	.3%
Surg: trauma					106	.4%	106	.4%
Surg: urology					285	1.2%	285	1.2%
Surg: vascular					144	.6%	144	.6%
Surg: bariatric					62	.3%	62	.3%
Surg: spine					172	.7%	172	.7%
Surg: other					104	.4%	104	.4%
General pediatrics	3	1.9%			576	2.4%	579	2.4%
Ped: adolescent medicine					53	.2%	53	.2%
Ped: allergy					9	.0%	9	.0%
Ped: cardiology					19	.1%	19	.1%
Ped: critical care					22	.1%	22	.1%
Ped: endocrinology					10	.0%	10	.0%
Ped: gastroenterology					18	.1%	18	.1%
Ped: hematology/oncology					7	.0%	7	.0%
Ped: infectious disease					5	.0%	5	.0%
Ped: neonatal-perinatal					91	.4%	91	.4%
Ped: nephrology					1	.0%	1	.0%
Ped: neurology					18	.1%	18	.1%
Ped: pulmonology					14	.1%	14	.1%
Ped: rheumatology					2	.0%	2	.0%
Ped: oncology					23	.1%	23	.1%
Ped: other					80	.3%	80	.3%
General internal medicine	13	8.4%	1	1.0%	1629	6.9%	1643	6.9%
IM: cardiology	2	1.3%	3	3.0%	911	3.9%	916	3.8%
IM: critical care					105	.4%	105	.4%
IM: endocrinology	2	1.3%			130	.6%	132	.6%
IM: gastroenterology	2	1.3%			404	1.7%	406	1.7%
IM: hematology/oncology	1	.6%			55	.2%	56	.2%
IM: immunology					4	.0%	4	.0%
IM: infectious disease					123	.5%	123	.5%
IM: nephrology	3	1.9%			140	.6%	143	.6%
IM: neurology					143	.6%	143	.6%
IM: pulmonology					122	.5%	122	.5%
IM: rheumatology					74	.3%	74	.3%
IM: oncology			1	1.0%	404	1.7%	405	1.7%
IM: other					69	.3%	69	.3%
Other	10	6.5%			516	2.2%	526	2.2%

Table 3.8: Summary Measures of Years in Clinical Practice as PA for Clinically Practicing Respondents

	In Chapter	Other Target	All Others	Total
Respondents	153	101	23499	23753
Mean	19.1	8.3	9.3	9.4
Standard deviation	7.6	7.8	8.8	8.9
10th percentile	9.4	1.0	.0	.0
25th percentile	13.0	3.0	3.0	3.0
Median	16.0	6.0	6.0	6.0
75th percentile	25.0	11.5	13.0	14.0
90th percentile	30.0	19.6	25.0	25.0

Table 3.9: Summary Measures of Years in Current Position for Clinically Practicing Respondents

	In Chapter	Other Target	All Others	Total
Respondents	153	101	23295	23549
Mean	6.8	5.2	4.8	4.8
Standard deviation	6.7	4.4	5.8	5.8
10th percentile	.0	.0	.0	.0
25th percentile	2.0	1.5	1.0	1.0
Median	5.0	4.0	3.0	3.0
75th percentile	10.5	8.0	6.0	6.0
90th percentile	14.6	12.0	12.0	12.0

Table 3.10: Summary Measures of Years in Current Specialty for Clinically Practicing Respondents

	In Chapter	Other Target	All Others	Total
Respondents	150	100	23276	23526
Mean	11.3	6.3	6.5	6.6
Standard deviation	9.1	5.9	7.2	7.3
10th percentile	1.0	1.0	.0	.0
25th percentile	4.0	2.0	1.0	1.0
Median	9.0	4.5	4.0	4.0
75th percentile	16.0	8.0	9.0	9.0
90th percentile	26.9	15.0	17.0	17.0

Table 3.11: Number and Percent Distribution of Clinically Practicing Respondents by AAPA Region in Which Employed

	In Chapter		Other Target		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	149	100.0%	96	100.0%	23123	100.0%	23368	100.0%
Northeast	3	2.0%	10	10.4%	5385	23.3%	5398	23.1%
Southeast	45	30.2%	28	29.2%	5544	24.0%	5617	24.0%
North Central	22	14.8%	11	11.5%	4893	21.2%	4926	21.1%
South Central	47	31.5%	29	30.2%	3066	13.3%	3142	13.4%
West	32	21.5%	18	18.8%	4235	18.3%	4285	18.3%

Table 3.12: Number and Percent Distribution of Clinically Practicing Respondents by State/Geographic Location in Which Employed

	In Chapter		Other Target		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	149	100.0%	96	100.0%	23123	100.0%	23368	100.0%
Alaska	5	3.4%	3	3.1%	133	.6%	141	.6%
Alabama	1	.7%	1	1.0%	140	.6%	142	.6%
Arkansas	1	.7%	2	2.1%	34	.1%	37	.2%
Arizona	1	.7%	1	1.0%	565	2.4%	567	2.4%
California	6	4.0%	8	8.3%	1698	7.3%	1712	7.3%
Colorado	11	7.4%	5	5.2%	612	2.6%	628	2.7%
Connecticut			2	2.1%	496	2.1%	498	2.1%
District Of Columbia	1	.7%			82	.4%	83	.4%
Delaware			1	1.0%	83	.4%	84	.4%
Florida	21	14.1%	9	9.4%	1276	5.5%	1306	5.6%
Georgia	2	1.3%	2	2.1%	727	3.1%	731	3.1%
Guam			1	1.0%	6	.0%	7	.0%
Hawaii	2	1.3%			57	.2%	59	.3%
Iowa					339	1.5%	339	1.5%
Idaho	2	1.3%			166	.7%	168	.7%
Illinois	3	2.0%	2	2.1%	710	3.1%	715	3.1%
Indiana					257	1.1%	257	1.1%
Kansas	2	1.3%			293	1.3%	295	1.3%
Kentucky	2	1.3%			270	1.2%	272	1.2%
Louisiana	1	.7%	1	1.0%	167	.7%	169	.7%
Massachusetts	3	2.0%	2	2.1%	551	2.4%	556	2.4%
Maryland	4	2.7%	5	5.2%	534	2.3%	543	2.3%
Maine					203	.9%	203	.9%
Michigan	4	2.7%			1091	4.7%	1095	4.7%
Minnesota	2	1.3%			486	2.1%	488	2.1%
Missouri	3	2.0%			218	.9%	221	.9%
Mississippi	1	.7%			33	.1%	34	.1%
Montana	1	.7%	1	1.0%	146	.6%	148	.6%
North Carolina	2	1.3%	2	2.1%	1154	5.0%	1158	5.0%
North Dakota			1	1.0%	86	.4%	87	.4%
Nebraska	2	1.3%	1	1.0%	303	1.3%	306	1.3%
New Hampshire					155	.7%	155	.7%
New Jersey			3	3.1%	356	1.5%	359	1.5%
New Mexico			3	3.1%	153	.7%	156	.7%
Nevada	8	5.4%	1	1.0%	159	.7%	168	.7%
New York					1951	8.4%	1951	8.3%
Ohio	4	2.7%	6	6.3%	571	2.5%	581	2.5%
Oklahoma			4	4.2%	358	1.5%	362	1.5%
Oregon	1	.7%			312	1.3%	313	1.3%
Pennsylvania			2	2.1%	1418	6.1%	1420	6.1%
Rhode Island					93	.4%	93	.4%
South Carolina	3	2.0%	4	4.2%	254	1.1%	261	1.1%
South Dakota	2	1.3%	1	1.0%	172	.7%	175	.7%
Tennessee	3	2.0%			358	1.5%	361	1.5%
Texas	31	20.8%	14	14.6%	1416	6.1%	1461	6.3%
Utah	2	1.3%			234	1.0%	236	1.0%
Virginia	3	2.0%	4	4.2%	543	2.3%	550	2.4%
Vermont					79	.3%	79	.3%
Washington	2	1.3%	3	3.1%	680	2.9%	685	2.9%
Wisconsin	2	1.3%			660	2.9%	662	2.8%
West Virginia	3	2.0%	1	1.0%	206	.9%	210	.9%
Wyoming	2	1.3%			79	.3%	81	.3%

Table 3.13: Number and Percent Distribution of Clinically Practicing Respondents by Metropolitan Status and Degree of Rurality of County of Primary Work Site*

	In Chapter		Other Target		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	146	100.0%	87	100.0%	22321	100.0%	22554	100.0%
Not metro								
NonMetro, with urban pop >20K and adjacent to metro area	4	2.7%	4	4.6%	981	4.4%	989	4.4%
NonMetro, with urban pop >20K, not adjacent to metro area	1	.7%			546	2.4%	547	2.4%
NonMetro, with urban pop 2.5K-20K, adjacent to metro area	6	4.1%			836	3.7%	842	3.7%
NonMetro, with urban pop 2.5K-20K, not adjacent to metro area	6	4.1%			653	2.9%	659	2.9%
NonMetro, with urban pop < 2,500, adjacent to metro area	1	.7%			136	.6%	137	.6%
NonMetro, with urban pop <2,500, not adjacent to metro area					233	1.0%	233	1.0%
Metro								
Metro, >1M Population	55	37.7%	36	41.4%	10801	48.4%	10892	48.3%
Metro, 250K-1M Population	49	33.6%	27	31.0%	5497	24.6%	5573	24.7%
Metro, <250K Population	24	16.4%	20	23.0%	2638	11.8%	2682	11.9%

Zip Code of primary work site was linked to County Rural-Urban Continuum Code from the Area Resource File obtained through the Bureau of Health Professions, US-DHHS.

Table 3.14: Number and Percent Distribution of Clinically Practicing Respondents Who Perform Select Functions at Primary Clinical Job*

	In Chapter		Other Target		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	153	100.0%	101	100.0%	23536	100.0%	23790	100.0%
Minor surgical procedures	100	65.4%	78	77.2%	13772	58.5%	13950	58.6%
First assisting at surgery	27	17.6%	6	5.9%	5637	24.0%	5670	23.8%
Manage the care of patients in an inpatient setting	37	24.2%	13	12.9%	8997	38.2%	9047	38.0%
Serve on the quality assurance committee	18	11.8%	13	12.9%	1882	8.0%	1913	8.0%
Serve on the utilization review committee	8	5.2%	8	7.9%	742	3.2%	758	3.2%
Participate in the conduct of clinical trials	17	11.1%	2	2.0%	2728	11.6%	2747	11.5%
Serve on formulary/pharmaceutical selection committee	15	9.8%	13	12.9%	574	2.4%	602	2.5%
Decision making about procurement of medical/surgical equipment/supplies	46	30.1%	18	17.8%	4498	19.1%	4562	19.2%
Supervisory/managerial responsibilities for other PAs	19	12.4%	15	14.9%	2156	9.2%	2190	9.2%
Supervisory/managerial responsibilities for clinical staff other than PAs	42	27.5%	34	33.7%	4198	17.8%	4274	18.0%
Supervisory/managerial responsibilities for non-clinical staff	29	19.0%	17	16.8%	1980	8.4%	2026	8.5%
Precept PA students	50	32.7%	15	14.9%	8340	35.4%	8405	35.3%
Precept students of other health professions	47	30.7%	25	24.8%	5675	24.1%	5747	24.2%

*Percentages sum to more than 100 because respondents were instructed to mark all that apply.

Table 3.15: Number and Percent Distribution of Clinically Practicing Respondents by Hours Worked per Week at Primary Clinical Job

	In Chapter		Other Target		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	156	100.0%	101	100.0%	23702	100.0%	23959	100.0%
32 or more hours	136	87.2%	95	94.1%	20192	85.2%	20423	85.2%
Less than 32 hours	18	11.5%	5	5.0%	3038	12.8%	3061	12.8%
Hours not reported	2	1.3%	1	1.0%	472	2.0%	475	2.0%

Section IV: Information about Respondents Who Work at Least 32 Hours per Week at Their Primary Clinical Job

Table 4.1: Number and Percent Distribution of Respondents Who Work at Least 32 Hours per Week at Primary Clinical Job by Types of Patients Treated*

	In Chapter		Other Target		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	100	100.0%	70	100.0%	13468	100.0%	13638	100.0%
See some inpatients	24	24.0%	9	12.9%	5985	44.4%	6018	44.1%
See some outpatients	96	96.0%	70	100.0%	11569	85.9%	11735	86.0%
See some other patients**	6	6.0%	2	2.9%	820	6.1%	828	6.1%

*Data represent only respondents who reported complete information about both hours and visits for all patient types. Percentages sum to more than 100 because respondents may see multiple types of patients.

**Other patients are those who were not classified as either inpatients or outpatients.

Table 4.2: Summary Measures of Total Hours Worked per Week for Primary Clinical Employer by Respondents Who Work at Least 32 Hours per Week at Primary Clinical Job

	In Chapter	Other Target	All Others	Total
Respondents	136	95	20192	20423
Mean	45.7	50.9	44.3	44.3
Standard deviation	10.4	9.7	8.2	8.2
10th percentile	40.0	40.0	36.0	36.0
25th percentile	40.0	45.0	40.0	40.0
Median	42.0	50.0	41.0	41.0
75th percentile	50.0	60.0	50.0	50.0
90th percentile	55.0	60.0	55.0	55.0

Table 4.3: Summary Measures of Hours Providing Direct Inpatient Care per Week for Respondents Who See Inpatients Exclusively for a Minimum of 32 Hours per Week at Primary Clinical Job*

	In Chapter	All Others	Total
Respondents	2	1364	1366
Mean	40.0	43.0	43.0
Standard deviation	.0	7.7	7.7
10th percentile	40.0	35.0	35.0
25th percentile	40.0	40.0	40.0
Median	40.0	40.0	40.0
75th percentile	40.0	45.0	45.0
90th percentile	40.0	50.0	50.0

*Excludes time spent performing tasks other than providing direct patient care to inpatients.

Table 4.4: Summary Measures of Inpatient Encounters per Week for Respondents Who See Inpatients Exclusively for a Minimum of 32 Hours per Week at Primary Clinical Job

	In Chapter	All Others	Total
Respondents	2	1364	1366
Mean	52.5	62.1	62.1
Standard deviation	31.8	40.9	40.9
10th percentile	30.0	20.0	20.0
25th percentile	30.0	35.0	35.0
Median	52.5	50.0	50.0
75th percentile	.	80.0	80.0
90th percentile	.	100.0	100.0

Table 4.5: Summary Measures of Hours Providing Direct Outpatient Care per Week for Respondents Who See Outpatients Exclusively for a Minimum of 32 Hours per Week at Primary Clinical Job*

	In Chapter	Other Target	All Others	Total
Respondents	60	53	5524	5637
Mean	39.5	43.0	38.8	38.9
Standard deviation	4.5	7.1	5.3	5.3
10th percentile	35.0	35.0	33.0	33.0
25th percentile	36.0	40.0	35.0	35.0
Median	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0
75th percentile	40.0	45.0	40.0	40.0
90th percentile	46.7	58.0	45.0	45.0

*Excludes time spent performing tasks other than providing direct patient care to outpatients.

Table 4.6: Summary Measures of Outpatient Visits per Week for Respondents Who See Outpatients Exclusively for a Minimum of 32 Hours per Week at Primary Clinical Job

	In Chapter	Other Target	All Others	Total
Respondents	60	53	5524	5637
Mean	103.6	109.0	93.0	93.3
Standard deviation	41.9	30.4	39.5	39.5
10th percentile	50.5	77.0	50.0	50.0
25th percentile	75.0	100.0	70.0	70.0
Median	100.0	105.0	90.0	90.0
75th percentile	125.0	125.0	110.0	110.0
90th percentile	150.0	150.0	140.0	140.0

Table 4.7 Number and Percent Distribution of Respondents Who Work at Least 32 Hours per Week at Primary Clinical Job by Whether Call is Taken

	In Chapter		Other Target		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	134	100.0%	95	100.0%	20099	100.0%	20328	100.0%
Do not take call	84	62.7%	40	42.1%	12355	61.5%	12479	61.4%
Take some call	39	29.1%	49	51.6%	6581	32.7%	6669	32.8%
Take call, hours unknown			1	1.1%	95	.5%	96	.5%
Always on call	11	8.2%	5	5.3%	1068	5.3%	1084	5.3%

Table 4.8 Number and Percent Distribution of Respondents Who Work at Least 32 Hours per Week at Primary Clinical Job by Types of Call Taken for Those Who Take Call and Reported Type*

	In Chapter		Other Target		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	21	15.7%	28	29.5%	4492	22.3%	4541	22.3%
Emergency department call	5	3.7%	4	4.2%	1122	5.6%	1131	5.6%
Surgical assisting call	5	3.7%	2	2.1%	1341	6.7%	1348	6.6%
In-house call	6	4.5%	4	4.2%	1450	7.2%	1460	7.2%
Other call	13	9.7%	21	22.1%	2335	11.6%	2369	11.7%
Do not take call	84	62.7%	40	42.1%	12355	61.5%	12479	61.4%
Call taken, type not indicated	29	21.6%	27	28.4%	3252	16.2%	3308	16.3%

*Percentages sum to more than 100 because respondents were instructed to mark all that apply.

Table 4.9: Summary Measures of Call Hours per Month for Respondents Who Work at Least 32 Hours per Week at Primary Clinical Job*

	In Chapter	Other Target	All Others	Total
Respondents	39	49	6581	6669
Mean	90.4	95.0	94.4	94.4
Standard deviation	96.8	66.2	86.1	86.0
10th percentile	10.0	18.0	12.0	12.0
25th percentile	40.0	40.0	32.0	32.0
Median	56.0	80.0	72.0	72.0
75th percentile	108.0	168.0	125.0	125.0
90th percentile	240.0	168.0	200.0	200.0

*Includes only PAs who report taking call, but are not always on call.

Table 4.10: Number and Percent Distribution of Respondents Who Work at Least 32 Hours per Week at Primary Clinical Job by Type of Base Pay Received*

	In Chapter		Other Target		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	126	100.0%	81	100.0%	19222	100.0%	19429	100.0%
Salary	97	77.0%	71	87.7%	15509	80.7%	15677	80.7%
Hourly wage	22	17.5%	8	9.9%	3346	17.4%	3376	17.4%
Other type of base pay	3	2.4%	1	1.2%	219	1.1%	223	1.1%
Do not receive base pay	4	3.2%	1	1.2%	148	.8%	153	.8%

*Excludes self-employed PAs.

Table 4.11: Number and Percent Distribution of Respondents Who Work at Least 32 Hours per Week at Primary Clinical Job by Types of Compensation Received*

	In Chapter		Other Target		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	123	100.0%	80	100.0%	18823	100.0%	19026	100.0%
Base Pay	120	97.6%	79	98.8%	18557	98.6%	18756	98.6%
Surgical assisting fees	1	.8%			389	2.1%	390	2.0%
Overtime pay	15	12.2%	7	8.8%	2714	14.4%	2736	14.4%
Shift differential	1	.8%	1	1.3%	948	5.0%	950	5.0%
Administrative pay	3	2.4%	2	2.5%	480	2.6%	485	2.5%
Pay for on-call availability	5	4.1%			1261	6.7%	1266	6.7%
Pay for on-call services/events	4	3.3%	2	2.5%	1146	6.1%	1152	6.1%
Bonus not based on productivity/performance	20	16.3%	15	18.8%	3882	20.6%	3917	20.6%
Bonus based on productivity of practice	10	8.1%	2	2.5%	2219	11.8%	2231	11.7%
Bonus based on own productivity/performance	24	19.5%			3564	18.9%	3588	18.9%

*Excludes self-employed PAs. Percentages sum to more than 100 because respondents were instructed to mark all that apply.

Table 4.12: Number and Percent Distribution of Respondents Who Work at Least 32 Hours per Week at Primary Clinical Job and Receive Incentive Pay Based on Productivity or Performance by Measures on Which Incentive is Based*

	In Chapter		Other Target		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	32	100.0%	3	100.0%	5663	100.0%	5698	100.0%
Bonus based on charges	8	25.0%	1	33.3%	1340	23.7%	1349	23.7%
Bonus based on revenues	17	53.1%	1	33.3%	2349	41.5%	2367	41.5%
Bonus based on relative value units	9	28.1%	1	33.3%	1121	19.8%	1131	19.8%
Bonus based on profit	4	12.5%	3	100.0%	1293	22.8%	1300	22.8%
Bonus based on number of visits or panel size	5	15.6%	1	33.3%	1099	19.4%	1105	19.4%
Bonus based on quality of care	3	9.4%			820	14.5%	823	14.4%
Bonus based on patient satisfaction	3	9.4%			963	17.0%	966	17.0%
Bonus based on other factors	6	18.8%			818	14.4%	824	14.5%

*Excludes self-employed PAs. Percentages sum to more than 100 because respondents were instructed to mark all that apply.

Table 4.13: Summary Measures of Total Annual Income from Primary Employer for Respondents Who Work at Least 32 Hours per Week at Primary Clinical Job*

	In Chapter	Other Target	All Others	Total
Respondents	126	81	19321	19528
Mean	\$93,511	\$78,197	\$86,200	\$86,214
Standard deviation	\$23,905	\$16,944	\$21,893	\$21,901
10th percentile	\$70,428	\$60,053	\$64,364	\$64,374
25th percentile	\$77,189	\$66,234	\$71,899	\$71,908
Median	\$86,933	\$75,387	\$82,208	\$82,223
75th percentile	\$103,715	\$85,983	\$95,992	\$96,010
90th percentile	\$122,567	\$99,083	\$112,862	\$112,889

*Excludes self-employed PAs.

Table 4.14: Summary Measures of Total Annual Income from Primary Employer for Respondents Who Graduated in 2006 and Work at Least 32 Hours per Week at Primary Clinical Job*

	Other Target	All Others	Total
Respondents	7	2133	2140
Mean		\$73,035	\$73,013
Standard deviation		\$13,006	\$13,015
10th percentile		\$60,151	\$60,136
25th percentile		\$65,668	\$65,663
Median		\$71,839	\$71,825
75th percentile		\$79,038	\$79,044
90th percentile		\$88,783	\$88,821

*Excludes self-employed PAs.

Due to federal regulations, income data for cohorts with fewer than 10 respondents have been omitted.