

2007 AAPA Physician Assistant Census Report for Family Medicine

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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2007 AAPA Physician Assistant Census Report for Family/General Medicine PAs

Section I: Characteristics of 2007 AAPA Census Respondents

Table 1.1: Number and Percent Distribution of Census Respondents by whether in Family/General Medicine

	Count	Percent
Total	26192	100.0%
Family/General Medicine	5932	22.6%
All Others	20260	77.4%

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

	Family/General Medicine		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Total	5875	100.0%	20082	100.0%	25957	100.0%
Male	2140	36.4%	7220	36.0%	9360	36.1%
Female	3735	63.6%	12862	64.0%	16597	63.9%

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

	Family/General Medicine		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Total	5404	100.0%	18394	100.0%	23798	100.0%
Asian/Pacific Islander	158	2.9%	759	4.1%	917	3.9%
Black (Not Hispanic)	186	3.4%	716	3.9%	902	3.8%
Hispanic/Latino Origin	259	4.8%	680	3.7%	939	3.9%
Amer Indian/Alaskan	62	1.1%	100	.5%	162	.7%
White (Not Hispanic)	4739	87.7%	16139	87.7%	20878	87.7%

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

	Family/General Medicine		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Total	5560	100.0%	18715	100.0%	24275	100.0%
Certificate from PA school	1696	30.5%	5189	27.7%	6885	28.4%
Associate's degree from PA school	308	5.5%	1146	6.1%	1454	6.0%
Bachelor's degree from PA school	2379	42.8%	7837	41.9%	10216	42.1%
Master's degree from PA school	1980	35.6%	7537	40.3%	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

	Family/General Medicine	All Others	Total
Count	5927	20215	26142
Mean	42.5	40.8	41.2
Standard deviation	11.2	10.9	11.0
10th p-tile	28.0	28.0	28.0
25th p-tile	33.0	31.0	32.0
Median	41.0	39.0	39.0
75th p-tile	52.0	50.0	50.0
90th p-tile	58.0	57.0	57.0

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

	Family/General Medicine	All Others	Total
Count	5927	20216	26143
Mean	31.3	30.3	30.5
Standard deviation	7.2	6.7	6.8
10th p-tile	24.0	24.0	24.0
25th p-tile	26.0	25.0	26.0
Median	29.0	28.0	28.0
75th p-tile	35.0	33.0	34.0
90th p-tile	42.0	40.0	41.0

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

	Family/General Medicine	All Others	Total
Count	5932	20260	26192
Mean	11.2	10.5	10.7
Standard deviation	9.3	9.2	9.2
10th p-tile	2.0	2.0	2.0
25th p-tile	4.0	3.0	3.0
Median	8.0	7.0	7.0
75th p-tile	16.0	16.0	16.0
90th p-tile	27.0	26.0	26.0

Section II: Professional Status of Respondents

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

	Family/General Medicine		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Total	5932	100.0%	20260	100.0%	26192	100.0%
In clinical practice	5932	100.0%	18042	89.1%	23974	91.5%
Not in clinical practice			2218	10.9%	2218	8.5%

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

	Family/General Medicine		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	5932	100.0%	20260	100.0%	26192	100.0%
Clinically practicing PA	5932	100.0%	18042	89.1%	23974	91.5%
Clinically practicing physician or resident			23	.1%	23	.1%
Clinically practicing NP	40	.7%	134	.7%	174	.7%
Other clinically practicing provider	30	.5%	162	.8%	192	.7%
PA educator	257	4.3%	945	4.7%	1202	4.6%
Other health professions educator	83	1.4%	275	1.4%	358	1.4%
Health care professional-administrator	112	1.9%	382	1.9%	494	1.9%
Health care professional-researcher	13	.2%	236	1.2%	249	1.0%
Health care professional-forensics	6	.1%	29	.1%	35	.1%
Health care professional-public health	26	.4%	72	.4%	98	.4%
Health care professional-other	72	1.2%	394	1.9%	466	1.8%
Other non-health professional	26	.4%	212	1.0%	238	.9%
Student in post-graduate PA program	17	.3%	110	.5%	127	.5%
Medical student	8	.1%	31	.2%	39	.1%
Other student	12	.2%	53	.3%	65	.2%
Not employed by choice			577	2.8%	577	2.2%
Employed, seeking PA job	1	.0%	87	.4%	88	.3%
Unemployed, seeking PA job			223	1.1%	223	.9%
Unemployed, seeking non-PA job			36	.2%	36	.1%
Retired			165	.8%	165	.6%
Other	24	.4%	261	1.3%	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

	Family/General Medicine		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	5932	100.0%	18027	100.0%	23959	100.0%
One	5042	85.0%	15215	84.4%	20257	84.5%
Two	709	12.0%	2266	12.6%	2975	12.4%
Three	104	1.8%	347	1.9%	451	1.9%
More than three	29	.5%	94	.5%	123	.5%
Self-employed w/mult contracts	48	.8%	105	.6%	153	.6%

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

	Family/General Medicine		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	5872	100.0%	17817	100.0%	23689	100.0%
Self-employed	212	3.6%	464	2.6%	676	2.9%
Solo physician practice	944	16.1%	2038	11.4%	2982	12.6%
Single-specialty physician group	1375	23.4%	5977	33.5%	7352	31.0%
Multi-specialty physician group	898	15.3%	2168	12.2%	3066	12.9%
University hospital	50	.9%	1995	11.2%	2045	8.6%
Other hospital	422	7.2%	2934	16.5%	3356	14.2%
Freestanding urgent care center	315	5.4%	127	.7%	442	1.9%
Freestanding surgical center	1	.0%	18	.1%	19	.1%
Nursing home or LTC facility			53	.3%	53	.2%
Home health agency	2	.0%	5	.0%	7	.0%
Hospice			2	.0%	2	.0%
HMO	142	2.4%	297	1.7%	439	1.9%
Community health center	953	16.2%	417	2.3%	1370	5.8%
Medical staffing agency	12	.2%	66	.4%	78	.3%
Physician practice mngmt org	76	1.3%	345	1.9%	421	1.8%
Integrated health system	118	2.0%	224	1.3%	342	1.4%
Corrections system	55	.9%	152	.9%	207	.9%
Other	297	5.1%	535	3.0%	832	3.5%

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

	Family/General Medicine		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	5829	100.0%	17656	100.0%	23485	100.0%
Not government employed	5098	87.5%	16245	92.0%	21343	90.9%
Air Force	90	1.5%	40	.2%	130	.6%
Army	189	3.2%	127	.7%	316	1.3%
Navy	51	.9%	40	.2%	91	.4%
Coast Guard	18	.3%			18	.1%
Dept. of Veterans Affairs	29	.5%	462	2.6%	491	2.1%
Federal Bureau of Prisons/DOJ	14	.2%	17	.1%	31	.1%
Indian Health Service	67	1.1%	26	.1%	93	.4%
Federal Public Health Service	65	1.1%	40	.2%	105	.4%
Other Federal Government	58	1.0%	49	.3%	107	.5%
State Government	90	1.5%	430	2.4%	520	2.2%
Local Government	60	1.0%	180	1.0%	240	1.0%

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

	Family/General Medicine		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	5826	100.0%	17698	100.0%	23524	100.0%
Intensive/critical care unit of hospital	1	.0%	523	3.0%	524	2.2%
Inpatient unit of hospital (not ICU/CCU)	19	.3%	2404	13.6%	2423	10.3%
Outpatient unit of hospital	230	3.9%	1521	8.6%	1751	7.4%
Hospital emergency room	21	.4%	2346	13.3%	2367	10.1%
Hospital operating room			1529	8.6%	1529	6.5%
Other unit of hospital	19	.3%	304	1.7%	323	1.4%
Federally Qualified Rural Health Center	747	12.8%	88	.5%	835	3.5%
Other FQHC	325	5.6%	132	.7%	457	1.9%
Other community health center/facility	312	5.4%	235	1.3%	547	2.3%
Freestanding urgent care facility	471	8.1%	201	1.1%	672	2.9%
Freestanding surgical facility			83	.5%	83	.4%
Solo practice physician office	984	16.9%	1812	10.2%	2796	11.9%
Single-specialty physician group practice	1346	23.1%	3869	21.9%	5215	22.2%
Multi-specialty physician group practice	767	13.2%	1428	8.1%	2195	9.3%
HMO facility	140	2.4%	177	1.0%	317	1.3%
Nursing home or LTC facility	16	.3%	183	1.0%	199	.8%
University/college student health facility	68	1.2%	70	.4%	138	.6%
School-based health facility	33	.6%	51	.3%	84	.4%
Other freestanding outpatient facility	152	2.6%	299	1.7%	451	1.9%
Correctional facility	64	1.1%	164	.9%	228	1.0%
Industrial facility/work site	17	.3%	102	.6%	119	.5%
Retail Outlet	30	.5%	9	.1%	39	.2%
Mobile health unit	13	.2%	15	.1%	28	.1%
Patients' homes	7	.1%	28	.2%	35	.1%
Other	44	.8%	125	.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*

	Family/General Medicine		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	5806	98.9%	17644	99.0%	23450	99.0%
Intensive/critical care unit of hospital	143	2.4%	5181	29.1%	5324	22.5%
Inpatient unit of hospital (not ICU/CCU)	428	7.3%	7763	43.6%	8191	34.6%
Outpatient unit of hospital	409	7.0%	4558	25.6%	4967	21.0%
Hospital emergency room	389	6.6%	6860	38.5%	7249	30.6%
Hospital operating room	96	1.6%	5108	28.7%	5204	22.0%
Other unit of hospital	80	1.4%	1931	10.8%	2011	8.5%
Federally Qualified Rural Health Center	907	15.5%	208	1.2%	1115	4.7%
Other FQHC	415	7.1%	227	1.3%	642	2.7%
Other community health center/facility	422	7.2%	426	2.4%	848	3.6%
Freestanding urgent care facility	656	11.2%	443	2.5%	1099	4.6%
Freestanding surgical facility	5	.1%	1136	6.4%	1141	4.8%
Solo practice physician office	1068	18.2%	2128	11.9%	3196	13.5%
Single-specialty physician group practice	1496	25.5%	5280	29.6%	6776	28.6%
Multi-specialty physician group practice	896	15.3%	2108	11.8%	3004	12.7%
HMO facility	174	3.0%	287	1.6%	461	1.9%
Nursing home or LTC facility	494	8.4%	685	3.8%	1179	5.0%
University/college student health facility	100	1.7%	157	.9%	257	1.1%
School-based health facility	82	1.4%	117	.7%	199	.8%
Other freestanding outpatient facility	234	4.0%	548	3.1%	782	3.3%
Correctional facility	121	2.1%	249	1.4%	370	1.6%
Industrial facility/work site	45	.8%	174	1.0%	219	.9%
Retail Outlet	36	.6%	10	.1%	46	.2%
Mobile health unit	47	.8%	44	.2%	91	.4%
Patients' homes	184	3.1%	151	.8%	335	1.4%
Other	155	2.6%	416	2.3%	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

	Family/General Medicine		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	5932	100.0%	17883	100.0%	23815	100.0%
Family/general medicine	5932	100.0%			5932	24.9%
General internal medicine			1643	9.2%	1643	6.9%
Emergency medicine			2450	13.7%	2450	10.3%
General pediatrics			579	3.2%	579	2.4%
General surgery			654	3.7%	654	2.7%
Internal medicine subspecialties			2698	15.1%	2698	11.3%
Pediatric subspecialties			372	2.1%	372	1.6%
Surgical subspecialties			5295	29.6%	5295	22.2%
Obstetrics and gynecology			561	3.1%	561	2.4%
Occupational medicine			574	3.2%	574	2.4%
Other			3057	17.1%	3057	12.8%

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

	Family/General Medicine		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	5932	100.0%	17883	100.0%	23815	100.0%
Addiction medicine			66	.4%	66	.3%
Allergy			127	.7%	127	.5%
Anesthesiology			60	.3%	60	.3%
Dermatology			827	4.6%	827	3.5%
Emergency medicine			2450	13.7%	2450	10.3%
Family practice w/o urgent care	3580	60.4%			3580	15.0%
Family practice wt urgent care	2352	39.6%			2352	9.9%
Genetics			7	.0%	7	.0%
Geriatrics			159	.9%	159	.7%
Obstetrics/gynecology			561	3.1%	561	2.4%
Occupational medicine			574	3.2%	574	2.4%
Ophthalmology			23	.1%	23	.1%
Pain management			275	1.5%	275	1.2%
Pathology			4	.0%	4	.0%
Physical med rehab			170	1.0%	170	.7%
Psychiatry			243	1.4%	243	1.0%
Public health			49	.3%	49	.2%
Radiation oncology			57	.3%	57	.2%
Radiology			36	.2%	36	.2%
Interventional radiology			195	1.1%	195	.8%
Hospital medicine			233	1.3%	233	1.0%
General surgery			654	3.7%	654	2.7%
Surg: cardiovascular/cardiothoracic			748	4.2%	748	3.1%
Surg: colon & rectal			26	.1%	26	.1%
Surg: hand			54	.3%	54	.2%
Surg: neurology			573	3.2%	573	2.4%
Surg: oncology			58	.3%	58	.2%
Surg: orthopedics			2411	13.5%	2411	10.1%
Surg: otorhinolaryngology			232	1.3%	232	1.0%
Surg: pediatric			31	.2%	31	.1%
Surg: plastic			184	1.0%	184	.8%
Surg: thoracic			38	.2%	38	.2%
Surg: transplant			67	.4%	67	.3%
Surg: trauma			106	.6%	106	.4%
Surg: urology			285	1.6%	285	1.2%
Surg: vascular			144	.8%	144	.6%
Surg: bariatric			62	.3%	62	.3%
Surg: spine			172	1.0%	172	.7%
Surg: other			104	.6%	104	.4%
General pediatrics			579	3.2%	579	2.4%
Ped: adolescent medicine			53	.3%	53	.2%
Ped: allergy			9	.1%	9	.0%
Ped: cardiology			19	.1%	19	.1%
Ped: critical care			22	.1%	22	.1%
Ped: endocrinology			10	.1%	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	.5%	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	.4%	80	.3%
General internal medicine			1643	9.2%	1643	6.9%
IM: cardiology			916	5.1%	916	3.8%
IM: critical care			105	.6%	105	.4%
IM: endocrinology			132	.7%	132	.6%
IM: gastroenterology			406	2.3%	406	1.7%
IM: hematology/oncology			56	.3%	56	.2%
IM: immunology			4	.0%	4	.0%
IM: infectious disease			123	.7%	123	.5%
IM: nephrology			143	.8%	143	.6%
IM: neurology			143	.8%	143	.6%
IM: pulmonology			122	.7%	122	.5%
IM: rheumatology			74	.4%	74	.3%
IM: oncology			405	2.3%	405	1.7%
IM: other			69	.4%	69	.3%
Other			526	2.9%	526	2.2%

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

	Family/General Medicine	All Others	Total
Respondents	5893	17860	23753
Mean	10.5	9.0	9.4
Standard deviation	9.3	8.7	8.9
10th percentile	1.0	.0	.0
25th percentile	3.0	3.0	3.0
Median	8.0	6.0	6.0
75th percentile	15.0	13.0	14.0
90th percentile	26.0	24.0	25.0

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

	Family/General Medicine	All Others	Total
Respondents	5849	17700	23549
Mean	5.5	4.6	4.8
Standard deviation	6.3	5.6	5.8
10th percentile	.0	.0	.0
25th percentile	1.0	1.0	1.0
Median	3.0	3.0	3.0
75th percentile	8.0	6.0	6.0
90th percentile	14.0	12.0	12.0

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

	Family/General Medicine	All Others	Total
Respondents	5828	17698	23526
Mean	8.7	5.8	6.6
Standard deviation	8.5	6.6	7.3
10th percentile	.0	.0	.0
25th percentile	2.0	1.0	1.0
Median	6.0	4.0	4.0
75th percentile	12.0	8.0	9.0
90th percentile	23.0	16.0	17.0

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

	Family/General Medicine		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	5773	100.0%	17595	100.0%	23368	100.0%
Northeast	749	13.0%	4649	26.4%	5398	23.1%
Southeast	1221	21.2%	4396	25.0%	5617	24.0%
North Central	1340	23.2%	3586	20.4%	4926	21.1%
South Central	995	17.2%	2147	12.2%	3142	13.4%
West	1468	25.4%	2817	16.0%	4285	18.3%

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

	Family/General Medicine		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	5773	100.0%	17595	100.0%	23368	100.0%
Alaska	84	1.5%	57	.3%	141	.6%
Alabama	14	.2%	128	.7%	142	.6%
Arkansas	11	.2%	26	.1%	37	.2%
Arizona	172	3.0%	395	2.2%	567	2.4%
California	542	9.4%	1170	6.6%	1712	7.3%
Colorado	203	3.5%	425	2.4%	628	2.7%
Connecticut	35	.6%	463	2.6%	498	2.1%
District Of Columbia	6	.1%	77	.4%	83	.4%
Delaware	9	.2%	75	.4%	84	.4%
Florida	217	3.8%	1089	6.2%	1306	5.6%
Georgia	139	2.4%	592	3.4%	731	3.1%
Guam	5	.1%	2	.0%	7	.0%
Hawaii	16	.3%	43	.2%	59	.3%
Iowa	163	2.8%	176	1.0%	339	1.5%
Idaho	65	1.1%	103	.6%	168	.7%
Illinois	155	2.7%	560	3.2%	715	3.1%
Indiana	48	.8%	209	1.2%	257	1.1%
Kansas	116	2.0%	179	1.0%	295	1.3%
Kentucky	68	1.2%	204	1.2%	272	1.2%
Louisiana	24	.4%	145	.8%	169	.7%
Massachusetts	41	.7%	515	2.9%	556	2.4%
Maryland	61	1.1%	482	2.7%	543	2.3%
Maine	62	1.1%	141	.8%	203	.9%
Michigan	262	4.5%	833	4.7%	1095	4.7%
Minnesota	187	3.2%	301	1.7%	488	2.1%
Missouri	40	.7%	181	1.0%	221	.9%
Mississippi	9	.2%	25	.1%	34	.1%
Montana	64	1.1%	84	.5%	148	.6%
North Carolina	330	5.7%	828	4.7%	1158	5.0%
North Dakota	31	.5%	56	.3%	87	.4%
Nebraska	118	2.0%	188	1.1%	306	1.3%
New Hampshire	37	.6%	118	.7%	155	.7%
New Jersey	56	1.0%	303	1.7%	359	1.5%
New Mexico	57	1.0%	99	.6%	156	.7%
Nevada	57	1.0%	111	.6%	168	.7%
New York	245	4.2%	1706	9.7%	1951	8.3%
Ohio	63	1.1%	518	2.9%	581	2.5%
Oklahoma	132	2.3%	230	1.3%	362	1.5%
Oregon	102	1.8%	211	1.2%	313	1.3%
Pennsylvania	236	4.1%	1184	6.7%	1420	6.1%
Rhode Island	7	.1%	86	.5%	93	.4%
South Carolina	70	1.2%	191	1.1%	261	1.1%
South Dakota	88	1.5%	87	.5%	175	.7%
Tennessee	115	2.0%	246	1.4%	361	1.5%
Texas	443	7.7%	1018	5.8%	1461	6.3%
Utah	85	1.5%	151	.9%	236	1.0%
Virginia	127	2.2%	423	2.4%	550	2.4%
Vermont	21	.4%	58	.3%	79	.3%
Washington	230	4.0%	455	2.6%	685	2.9%
Wisconsin	185	3.2%	477	2.7%	662	2.8%
West Virginia	74	1.3%	136	.8%	210	.9%
Wyoming	46	.8%	35	.2%	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*

		Family/General Medicine		All Others		Total	
		Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents		5632	100.0%	16922	100.0%	22554	100.0%
Not metro	NonMetro, with urban pop >20K and adjacent to metro area	360	6.4%	629	3.7%	989	4.4%
	NonMetro, with urban pop >20K, not adjacent to metro area	189	3.4%	358	2.1%	547	2.4%
	NonMetro, with urban pop 2.5K-20K, adjacent to metro area	471	8.4%	371	2.2%	842	3.7%
	NonMetro, with urban pop 2.5K-20K, not adjacent to metro area	372	6.6%	287	1.7%	659	2.9%
	NonMetro, with urban pop < 2,500, adjacent to metro area	113	2.0%	24	.1%	137	.6%
	NonMetro, with urban pop <2,500, not adjacent to metro area	180	3.2%	53	.3%	233	1.0%
	Metro	Metro, >1M Population	1906	33.8%	8986	53.1%	10892
	Metro, 250K-1M Population	1296	23.0%	4277	25.3%	5573	24.7%
	Metro, <250K Population	745	13.2%	1937	11.4%	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*

	Family/General Medicine		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	5905	100.0%	17885	100.0%	23790	100.0%
Minor surgical procedures	4504	76.3%	9446	52.8%	13950	58.6%
First assisting at surgery	119	2.0%	5551	31.0%	5670	23.8%
Manage the care of patients in an inpatient setting	642	10.9%	8405	47.0%	9047	38.0%
Serve on the quality assurance committee	644	10.9%	1269	7.1%	1913	8.0%
Serve on the utilization review committee	248	4.2%	510	2.9%	758	3.2%
Participate in the conduct of clinical trials	257	4.4%	2490	13.9%	2747	11.5%
Serve on formulary/pharmaceutical selection committee	295	5.0%	307	1.7%	602	2.5%
Decision making about procurement of medical/surgical equipment/supplies	1487	25.2%	3075	17.2%	4562	19.2%
Supervisory/managerial responsibilities for other PAs	394	6.7%	1796	10.0%	2190	9.2%
Supervisory/managerial responsibilities for clinical staff other than PAs	1452	24.6%	2822	15.8%	4274	18.0%
Supervisory/managerial responsibilities for non-clinical staff	736	12.5%	1290	7.2%	2026	8.5%
Precept PA students	1995	33.8%	6410	35.8%	8405	35.3%
Precept students of other health professions	1475	25.0%	4272	23.9%	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

	Family/General Medicine		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	5932	100.0%	18027	100.0%	23959	100.0%
32 or more hours	4849	81.7%	15574	86.4%	20423	85.2%
Less than 32 hours	983	16.6%	2078	11.5%	3061	12.8%
Hours not reported	100	1.7%	375	2.1%	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*

	Family/General Medicine		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	3442	100.0%	10196	100.0%	13638	100.0%
See some inpatients	236	6.9%	5782	56.7%	6018	44.1%
See some outpatients	3364	97.7%	8371	82.1%	11735	86.0%
See some other patients**	240	7.0%	588	5.8%	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

	Family/General Medicine	All Others	Total
Respondents	4849	15574	20423
Mean	42.9	44.8	44.3
Standard deviation	7.8	8.3	8.2
10th percentile	36.0	36.0	36.0
25th percentile	40.0	40.0	40.0
Median	40.0	43.0	41.0
75th percentile	45.0	50.0	50.0
90th percentile	50.0	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*

	Family/General Medicine	All Others	Total
Respondents	26	1340	1366
Mean	39.7	43.1	43.0
Standard deviation	4.4	7.8	7.7
10th percentile	35.0	35.0	35.0
25th percentile	36.0	40.0	40.0
Median	40.0	40.0	40.0
75th percentile	40.0	45.0	45.0
90th percentile	48.6	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

	Family/General Medicine	All Others	Total
Respondents	26	1340	1366
Mean	112.1	61.1	62.1
Standard deviation	57.3	39.9	40.9
10th percentile	53.5	20.0	20.0
25th percentile	80.0	35.0	35.0
Median	100.0	50.0	50.0
75th percentile	126.3	80.0	80.0
90th percentile	179.0	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*

	Family/General Medicine	All Others	Total
Respondents	2507	3130	5637
Mean	38.7	39.0	38.9
Standard deviation	5.4	5.2	5.3
10th percentile	33.0	33.0	33.0
25th percentile	35.0	35.0	35.0
Median	40.0	40.0	40.0
75th percentile	40.0	40.0	40.0
90th percentile	45.0	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

	Family/General Medicine	All Others	Total
Respondents	2507	3130	5637
Mean	96.8	90.5	93.3
Standard deviation	35.8	42.0	39.5
10th percentile	60.0	45.0	50.0
25th percentile	75.0	60.0	70.0
Median	100.0	85.0	90.0
75th percentile	111.0	110.0	110.0
90th percentile	140.0	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

	Family/General Medicine		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	4831	100.0%	15497	100.0%	20328	100.0%
Do not take call	3056	63.3%	9423	60.8%	12479	61.4%
Take some call	1517	31.4%	5152	33.2%	6669	32.8%
Take call, hours unknown	25	.5%	71	.5%	96	.5%
Always on call	233	4.8%	851	5.5%	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*

	Family/General Medicine		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	1079	22.3%	3462	22.3%	4541	22.3%
Emergency department call	205	4.2%	926	6.0%	1131	5.6%
Surgical assisting call	17	.4%	1331	8.6%	1348	6.6%
In-house call	242	5.0%	1218	7.9%	1460	7.2%
Other call	752	15.6%	1617	10.4%	2369	11.7%
Do not take call	3056	63.3%	9423	60.8%	12479	61.4%
Call taken, type not indicated	696	14.4%	2612	16.9%	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*

	Family/General Medicine	All Others	Total
Respondents	1517	5152	6669
Mean	95.2	94.1	94.4
Standard deviation	83.8	86.7	86.0
10th percentile	12.0	12.0	12.0
25th percentile	36.0	32.0	32.0
Median	72.0	72.0	72.0
75th percentile	128.0	125.0	125.0
90th percentile	192.0	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*

	Family/General Medicine		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	4573	100.0%	14856	100.0%	19429	100.0%
Salary	3630	79.4%	12047	81.1%	15677	80.7%
Hourly wage	779	17.0%	2597	17.5%	3376	17.4%
Other type of base pay	89	1.9%	134	.9%	223	1.1%
Do not receive base pay	75	1.6%	78	.5%	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*

	Family/General Medicine		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	4484	100.0%	14542	100.0%	19026	100.0%
Base Pay	4382	97.7%	14374	98.8%	18756	98.6%
Surgical assisting fees	28	.6%	362	2.5%	390	2.0%
Overtime pay	418	9.3%	2318	15.9%	2736	14.4%
Shift differential	94	2.1%	856	5.9%	950	5.0%
Administrative pay	101	2.3%	384	2.6%	485	2.5%
Pay for on-call availability	205	4.6%	1061	7.3%	1266	6.7%
Pay for on-call services/events	191	4.3%	961	6.6%	1152	6.1%
Bonus not based on productivity/performance	704	15.7%	3213	22.1%	3917	20.6%
Bonus based on productivity of practice	531	11.8%	1700	11.7%	2231	11.7%
Bonus based on own productivity/performance	1146	25.6%	2442	16.8%	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*

	Family/General Medicine		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	1688	100.0%	4010	100.0%	5698	100.0%
Bonus based on charges	481	28.5%	868	21.6%	1349	23.7%
Bonus based on revenues	639	37.9%	1728	43.1%	2367	41.5%
Bonus based on relative value units	353	20.9%	778	19.4%	1131	19.8%
Bonus based on profit	346	20.5%	954	23.8%	1300	22.8%
Bonus based on number of visits or panel size	353	20.9%	752	18.8%	1105	19.4%
Bonus based on quality of care	187	11.1%	636	15.9%	823	14.4%
Bonus based on patient satisfaction	236	14.0%	730	18.2%	966	17.0%
Bonus based on other factors	217	12.9%	607	15.1%	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*

	Family/General Medicine	All Others	Total
Respondents	4593	14935	19528
Mean	\$80,534	\$87,961	\$86,214
Standard deviation	\$19,497	\$22,301	\$21,901
10th percentile	\$60,933	\$65,834	\$64,374
25th percentile	\$68,178	\$73,144	\$71,908
Median	\$77,516	\$83,668	\$82,223
75th percentile	\$89,069	\$98,230	\$96,010
90th percentile	\$103,392	\$115,533	\$112,889

*Excludes self-employed PAs.

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

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*

	Family/General Medicine	All Others	Total
Respondents	441	1699	2140
Mean	\$69,733	\$73,864	\$73,013
Standard deviation	\$12,363	\$13,048	\$13,015
10th percentile	\$56,823	\$60,660	\$60,136
25th percentile	\$62,908	\$66,553	\$65,663
Median	\$68,976	\$72,461	\$71,825
75th percentile	\$74,769	\$79,757	\$79,044
90th percentile	\$82,567	\$89,663	\$88,821

*Excludes self-employed PAs.

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