

2007 AAPA Physician Assistant Census Report for Geriatrics

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 Geriatric PAs

Section I: Characteristics of 2007 AAPA Census Respondents

Table 1.1: Number and Percent Distribution of Census Respondents by whether in Geriatrics

	Count	Percent
Total	26192	100.0%
Geriatrics	159	.6%
All Others	26033	99.4%

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

	Geriatrics		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Total	158	100.0%	25799	100.0%	25957	100.0%
Male	46	29.1%	9314	36.1%	9360	36.1%
Female	112	70.9%	16485	63.9%	16597	63.9%

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

	Geriatrics		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Total	144	100.0%	23654	100.0%	23798	100.0%
Asian/Pacific Islander	5	3.5%	912	3.9%	917	3.9%
Black (Not Hispanic)	2	1.4%	900	3.8%	902	3.8%
Hispanic/Latino Origin	7	4.9%	932	3.9%	939	3.9%
Amer Indian/Alaskan			162	.7%	162	.7%
White (Not Hispanic)	130	90.3%	20748	87.7%	20878	87.7%

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

	Geriatrics		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Total	150	100.0%	24125	100.0%	24275	100.0%
Certificate from PA school	46	30.7%	6839	28.3%	6885	28.4%
Associate's degree from PA school	16	10.7%	1438	6.0%	1454	6.0%
Bachelor's degree from PA school	71	47.3%	10145	42.1%	10216	42.1%
Master's degree from PA school	45	30.0%	9472	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

	Geriatrics	All Others	Total
Count	158	25984	26142
Mean	46.7	41.1	41.2
Standard deviation	11.2	11.0	11.0
10th p-tile	31.0	28.0	28.0
25th p-tile	37.8	32.0	32.0
Median	49.0	39.0	39.0
75th p-tile	55.0	50.0	50.0
90th p-tile	59.0	57.0	57.0

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

	Geriatrics	All Others	Total
Count	158	25985	26143
Mean	31.6	30.5	30.5
Standard deviation	7.7	6.8	6.8
10th p-tile	24.0	24.0	24.0
25th p-tile	25.0	26.0	26.0
Median	29.0	28.0	28.0
75th p-tile	37.0	34.0	34.0
90th p-tile	43.1	41.0	41.0

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

	Geriatrics	All Others	Total
Count	159	26033	26192
Mean	15.2	10.6	10.7
Standard deviation	10.6	9.2	9.2
10th p-tile	2.0	2.0	2.0
25th p-tile	5.0	3.0	3.0
Median	14.0	7.0	7.0
75th p-tile	25.0	16.0	16.0
90th p-tile	31.0	26.0	26.0

Section II: Professional Status of Respondents

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

	Geriatrics		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Total	159	100.0%	26033	100.0%	26192	100.0%
In clinical practice	159	100.0%	23815	91.5%	23974	91.5%
Not in clinical practice			2218	8.5%	2218	8.5%

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

	Geriatrics		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	159	100.0%	26033	100.0%	26192	100.0%
Clinically practicing PA	159	100.0%	23815	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			192	.7%	192	.7%
PA educator	15	9.4%	1187	4.6%	1202	4.6%
Other health professions educator	3	1.9%	355	1.4%	358	1.4%
Health care professional-administrator	4	2.5%	490	1.9%	494	1.9%
Health care professional-researcher	2	1.3%	247	.9%	249	1.0%
Health care professional-forensics			35	.1%	35	.1%
Health care professional-public health			98	.4%	98	.4%
Health care professional-other	1	.6%	465	1.8%	466	1.8%
Other non-health professional	2	1.3%	236	.9%	238	.9%
Student in post-graduate PA program	2	1.3%	125	.5%	127	.5%
Medical student			39	.1%	39	.1%
Other student	1	.6%	64	.2%	65	.2%
Not employed by choice			577	2.2%	577	2.2%
Employed, seeking PA job			88	.3%	88	.3%
Unemployed, seeking PA job			223	.9%	223	.9%
Unemployed, seeking non-PA job			36	.1%	36	.1%
Retired			165	.6%	165	.6%
Other	1	.6%	284	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

	Geriatrics		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	159	100.0%	23800	100.0%	23959	100.0%
One	138	86.8%	20119	84.5%	20257	84.5%
Two	15	9.4%	2960	12.4%	2975	12.4%
Three	2	1.3%	449	1.9%	451	1.9%
More than three	2	1.3%	121	.5%	123	.5%
Self-employed w/mult contracts	2	1.3%	151	.6%	153	.6%

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

	Geriatrics		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	157	100.0%	23532	100.0%	23689	100.0%
Self-employed	8	5.1%	668	2.8%	676	2.9%
Solo physician practice	16	10.2%	2966	12.6%	2982	12.6%
Single-specialty physician group	25	15.9%	7327	31.1%	7352	31.0%
Multi-specialty physician group	14	8.9%	3052	13.0%	3066	12.9%
University hospital	8	5.1%	2037	8.7%	2045	8.6%
Other hospital	31	19.7%	3325	14.1%	3356	14.2%
Freestanding urgent care center			442	1.9%	442	1.9%
Freestanding surgical center			19	.1%	19	.1%
Nursing home or LTC facility	33	21.0%	20	.1%	53	.2%
Home health agency	1	.6%	6	.0%	7	.0%
Hospice			2	.0%	2	.0%
HMO	7	4.5%	432	1.8%	439	1.9%
Community health center	3	1.9%	1367	5.8%	1370	5.8%
Medical staffing agency			78	.3%	78	.3%
Physician practice mngmt org	3	1.9%	418	1.8%	421	1.8%
Integrated health system	2	1.3%	340	1.4%	342	1.4%
Corrections system			207	.9%	207	.9%
Other	6	3.8%	826	3.5%	832	3.5%

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

	Geriatrics		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	156	100.0%	23329	100.0%	23485	100.0%
Not government employed	124	79.5%	21219	91.0%	21343	90.9%
Air Force			130	.6%	130	.6%
Army			316	1.4%	316	1.3%
Navy			91	.4%	91	.4%
Coast Guard			18	.1%	18	.1%
Dept. of Veterans Affairs	23	14.7%	468	2.0%	491	2.1%
Federal Bureau of Prisons/DOJ			31	.1%	31	.1%
Indian Health Service			93	.4%	93	.4%
Federal Public Health Service	1	.6%	104	.4%	105	.4%
Other Federal Government			107	.5%	107	.5%
State Government	6	3.8%	514	2.2%	520	2.2%
Local Government	2	1.3%	238	1.0%	240	1.0%

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

	Geriatrics		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	156	100.0%	23368	100.0%	23524	100.0%
Intensive/critical care unit of hospital			524	2.2%	524	2.2%
Inpatient unit of hospital (not ICU/CCU)	8	5.1%	2415	10.3%	2423	10.3%
Outpatient unit of hospital	11	7.1%	1740	7.4%	1751	7.4%
Hospital emergency room			2367	10.1%	2367	10.1%
Hospital operating room			1529	6.5%	1529	6.5%
Other unit of hospital	1	.6%	322	1.4%	323	1.4%
Federally Qualified Rural Health Center	1	.6%	834	3.6%	835	3.5%
Other FQHC	1	.6%	456	2.0%	457	1.9%
Other community health center/facility	3	1.9%	544	2.3%	547	2.3%
Freestanding urgent care facility			672	2.9%	672	2.9%
Freestanding surgical facility			83	.4%	83	.4%
Solo practice physician office	3	1.9%	2793	12.0%	2796	11.9%
Single-specialty physician group practice	5	3.2%	5210	22.3%	5215	22.2%
Multi-specialty physician group practice	2	1.3%	2193	9.4%	2195	9.3%
HMO facility			317	1.4%	317	1.3%
Nursing home or LTC facility	105	67.3%	94	.4%	199	.8%
University/college student health facility			138	.6%	138	.6%
School-based health facility			84	.4%	84	.4%
Other freestanding outpatient facility			451	1.9%	451	1.9%
Correctional facility			228	1.0%	228	1.0%
Industrial facility/work site			119	.5%	119	.5%
Retail Outlet			39	.2%	39	.2%
Mobile health unit	1	.6%	27	.1%	28	.1%
Patients' homes	15	9.6%	20	.1%	35	.1%
Other			169	.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*

	Geriatrics		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	156	99.4%	23294	99.0%	23450	99.0%
Intensive/critical care unit of hospital	3	1.9%	5321	22.6%	5324	22.5%
Inpatient unit of hospital (not ICU/CCU)	24	15.3%	8167	34.7%	8191	34.6%
Outpatient unit of hospital	21	13.4%	4946	21.0%	4967	21.0%
Hospital emergency room	2	1.3%	7247	30.8%	7249	30.6%
Hospital operating room			5204	22.1%	5204	22.0%
Other unit of hospital	1	.6%	2010	8.5%	2011	8.5%
Federally Qualified Rural Health Center	2	1.3%	1113	4.7%	1115	4.7%
Other FQHC	3	1.9%	639	2.7%	642	2.7%
Other community health center/facility	3	1.9%	845	3.6%	848	3.6%
Freestanding urgent care facility	1	.6%	1098	4.7%	1099	4.6%
Freestanding surgical facility			1141	4.8%	1141	4.8%
Solo practice physician office	9	5.7%	3187	13.5%	3196	13.5%
Single-specialty physician group practice	18	11.5%	6758	28.7%	6776	28.6%
Multi-specialty physician group practice	5	3.2%	2999	12.7%	3004	12.7%
HMO facility	1	.6%	460	2.0%	461	1.9%
Nursing home or LTC facility	117	74.5%	1062	4.5%	1179	5.0%
University/college student health facility	1	.6%	256	1.1%	257	1.1%
School-based health facility			199	.8%	199	.8%
Other freestanding outpatient facility			782	3.3%	782	3.3%
Correctional facility			370	1.6%	370	1.6%
Industrial facility/work site			219	.9%	219	.9%
Retail Outlet			46	.2%	46	.2%
Mobile health unit	2	1.3%	89	.4%	91	.4%
Patients' homes	28	17.8%	307	1.3%	335	1.4%
Other	7	4.5%	564	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

	Geriatrics		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	159	100.0%	23656	100.0%	23815	100.0%
Family/general medicine			5932	25.1%	5932	24.9%
General internal medicine			1643	6.9%	1643	6.9%
Emergency medicine			2450	10.4%	2450	10.3%
General pediatrics			579	2.4%	579	2.4%
General surgery			654	2.8%	654	2.7%
Internal medicine subspecialties			2698	11.4%	2698	11.3%
Pediatric subspecialties			372	1.6%	372	1.6%
Surgical subspecialties			5295	22.4%	5295	22.2%
Obstetrics and gynecology			561	2.4%	561	2.4%
Occupational medicine			574	2.4%	574	2.4%
Other	159	100.0%	2898	12.3%	3057	12.8%

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

	Geriatrics		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	159	100.0%	23656	100.0%	23815	100.0%
Addiction medicine			66	.3%	66	.3%
Allergy			127	.5%	127	.5%
Anesthesiology			60	.3%	60	.3%
Dermatology			827	3.5%	827	3.5%
Emergency medicine			2450	10.4%	2450	10.3%
Family practice w/o urgent care			3580	15.1%	3580	15.0%
Family practice wt urgent care			2352	9.9%	2352	9.9%
Genetics			7	.0%	7	.0%
Geriatrics	159	100.0%			159	.7%
Obstetrics/gynecology			561	2.4%	561	2.4%
Occupational medicine			574	2.4%	574	2.4%
Ophthalmology			23	.1%	23	.1%
Pain management			275	1.2%	275	1.2%
Pathology			4	.0%	4	.0%
Physical med rehab			170	.7%	170	.7%
Psychiatry			243	1.0%	243	1.0%
Public health			49	.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			654	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			573	2.4%	573	2.4%
Surg: oncology			58	.2%	58	.2%
Surg: orthopedics			2411	10.2%	2411	10.1%
Surg: otorhinolaryngology			232	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			579	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			1643	6.9%	1643	6.9%
IM: cardiology			916	3.9%	916	3.8%
IM: critical care			105	.4%	105	.4%
IM: endocrinology			132	.6%	132	.6%
IM: gastroenterology			406	1.7%	406	1.7%
IM: hematology/oncology			56	.2%	56	.2%
IM: immunology			4	.0%	4	.0%
IM: infectious disease			123	.5%	123	.5%
IM: nephrology			143	.6%	143	.6%
IM: neurology			143	.6%	143	.6%
IM: pulmonology			122	.5%	122	.5%
IM: rheumatology			74	.3%	74	.3%
IM: oncology			405	1.7%	405	1.7%
IM: other			69	.3%	69	.3%
Other			526	2.2%	526	2.2%

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

	Geriatrics	All Others	Total
Respondents	158	23595	23753
Mean	14.4	9.4	9.4
Standard deviation	10.7	8.8	8.9
10th percentile	1.0	.0	.0
25th percentile	4.0	3.0	3.0
Median	13.5	6.0	6.0
75th percentile	24.0	13.0	14.0
90th percentile	30.0	25.0	25.0

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

	Geriatrics	All Others	Total
Respondents	156	23393	23549
Mean	6.5	4.8	4.8
Standard deviation	7.8	5.8	5.8
10th percentile	.0	.0	.0
25th percentile	1.0	1.0	1.0
Median	3.0	3.0	3.0
75th percentile	9.0	6.0	6.0
90th percentile	19.0	12.0	12.0

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

	Geriatrics	All Others	Total
Respondents	158	23368	23526
Mean	7.5	6.5	6.6
Standard deviation	7.3	7.3	7.3
10th percentile	.0	.0	.0
25th percentile	1.0	1.0	1.0
Median	5.0	4.0	4.0
75th percentile	13.3	9.0	9.0
90th percentile	19.0	17.0	17.0

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

	Geriatrics		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	158	100.0%	23210	100.0%	23368	100.0%
Northeast	44	27.8%	5354	23.1%	5398	23.1%
Southeast	44	27.8%	5573	24.0%	5617	24.0%
North Central	28	17.7%	4898	21.1%	4926	21.1%
South Central	25	15.8%	3117	13.4%	3142	13.4%
West	17	10.8%	4268	18.4%	4285	18.3%

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

	Geriatrics		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	158	100.0%	23210	100.0%	23368	100.0%
Alaska			141	.6%	141	.6%
Alabama			142	.6%	142	.6%
Arkansas	1	.6%	36	.2%	37	.2%
Arizona	4	2.5%	563	2.4%	567	2.4%
California	8	5.1%	1704	7.3%	1712	7.3%
Colorado	8	5.1%	620	2.7%	628	2.7%
Connecticut	2	1.3%	496	2.1%	498	2.1%
District Of Columbia	1	.6%	82	.4%	83	.4%
Delaware			84	.4%	84	.4%
Florida	12	7.6%	1294	5.6%	1306	5.6%
Georgia	4	2.5%	727	3.1%	731	3.1%
Guam			7	.0%	7	.0%
Hawaii			59	.3%	59	.3%
Iowa	4	2.5%	335	1.4%	339	1.5%
Idaho			168	.7%	168	.7%
Illinois	7	4.4%	708	3.1%	715	3.1%
Indiana			257	1.1%	257	1.1%
Kansas			295	1.3%	295	1.3%
Kentucky	2	1.3%	270	1.2%	272	1.2%
Louisiana			169	.7%	169	.7%
Massachusetts	10	6.3%	546	2.4%	556	2.4%
Maryland	6	3.8%	537	2.3%	543	2.3%
Maine	1	.6%	202	.9%	203	.9%
Michigan	9	5.7%	1086	4.7%	1095	4.7%
Minnesota			488	2.1%	488	2.1%
Missouri			221	1.0%	221	.9%
Mississippi			34	.1%	34	.1%
Montana	1	.6%	147	.6%	148	.6%
North Carolina	10	6.3%	1148	4.9%	1158	5.0%
North Dakota	2	1.3%	85	.4%	87	.4%
Nebraska			306	1.3%	306	1.3%
New Hampshire			155	.7%	155	.7%
New Jersey	5	3.2%	354	1.5%	359	1.5%
New Mexico	1	.6%	155	.7%	156	.7%
Nevada	2	1.3%	166	.7%	168	.7%
New York	14	8.9%	1937	8.3%	1951	8.3%
Ohio	6	3.8%	575	2.5%	581	2.5%
Oklahoma	3	1.9%	359	1.5%	362	1.5%
Oregon			313	1.3%	313	1.3%
Pennsylvania	11	7.0%	1409	6.1%	1420	6.1%
Rhode Island	1	.6%	92	.4%	93	.4%
South Carolina	1	.6%	260	1.1%	261	1.1%
South Dakota			175	.8%	175	.7%
Tennessee	3	1.9%	358	1.5%	361	1.5%
Texas	12	7.6%	1449	6.2%	1461	6.3%
Utah			236	1.0%	236	1.0%
Virginia	4	2.5%	546	2.4%	550	2.4%
Vermont			79	.3%	79	.3%
Washington	2	1.3%	683	2.9%	685	2.9%
Wisconsin			662	2.9%	662	2.8%
West Virginia	1	.6%	209	.9%	210	.9%
Wyoming			81	.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*

		Geriatrics		All Others		Total	
		Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents		153	100.0%	22401	100.0%	22554	100.0%
Not metro	NonMetro, with urban pop >20K and adjacent to metro area	6	3.9%	983	4.4%	989	4.4%
	NonMetro, with urban pop >20K, not adjacent to metro area	4	2.6%	543	2.4%	547	2.4%
	NonMetro, with urban pop 2.5K-20K, adjacent to metro area	2	1.3%	840	3.7%	842	3.7%
	NonMetro, with urban pop 2.5K-20K, not adjacent to metro area	1	.7%	658	2.9%	659	2.9%
	NonMetro, with urban pop < 2,500, adjacent to metro area			137	.6%	137	.6%
	NonMetro, with urban pop <2,500, not adjacent to metro area	1	.7%	232	1.0%	233	1.0%
	Metro	Metro, >1M Population	94	61.4%	10798	48.2%	10892
	Metro, 250K-1M Population	35	22.9%	5538	24.7%	5573	24.7%
	Metro, <250K Population	10	6.5%	2672	11.9%	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*

		Geriatrics		All Others		Total	
		Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents		159	100.0%	23631	100.0%	23790	100.0%
Minor surgical procedures		38	23.9%	13912	58.9%	13950	58.6%
First assisting at surgery				5670	24.0%	5670	23.8%
Manage the care of patients in an inpatient setting		84	52.8%	8963	37.9%	9047	38.0%
Serve on the quality assurance committee		21	13.2%	1892	8.0%	1913	8.0%
Serve on the utilization review committee		9	5.7%	749	3.2%	758	3.2%
Participate in the conduct of clinical trials		7	4.4%	2740	11.6%	2747	11.5%
Serve on formulary/pharmaceutical selection committee		8	5.0%	594	2.5%	602	2.5%
Decision making about procurement of medical/surgical equipment/supplies		20	12.6%	4542	19.2%	4562	19.2%
Supervisory/managerial responsibilities for other PAs		21	13.2%	2169	9.2%	2190	9.2%
Supervisory/managerial responsibilities for clinical staff other than PAs		19	11.9%	4255	18.0%	4274	18.0%
Supervisory/managerial responsibilities for non-clinical staff		10	6.3%	2016	8.5%	2026	8.5%
Precept PA students		54	34.0%	8351	35.3%	8405	35.3%
Precept students of other health professions		36	22.6%	5711	24.2%	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

	Geriatrics		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	159	100.0%	23800	100.0%	23959	100.0%
32 or more hours	131	82.4%	20292	85.3%	20423	85.2%
Less than 32 hours	24	15.1%	3037	12.8%	3061	12.8%
Hours not reported	4	2.5%	471	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*

	Geriatrics		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	86	100.0%	13552	100.0%	13638	100.0%
See some inpatients	29	33.7%	5989	44.2%	6018	44.1%
See some outpatients	21	24.4%	11714	86.4%	11735	86.0%
See some other patients**	52	60.5%	776	5.7%	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

	Geriatrics	All Others	Total
Respondents	131	20292	20423
Mean	44.4	44.3	44.3
Standard deviation	7.6	8.2	8.2
10th percentile	36.4	36.0	36.0
25th percentile	40.0	40.0	40.0
Median	40.0	41.0	41.0
75th percentile	50.0	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*

	Geriatrics	All Others	Total
Respondents	20	1346	1366
Mean	39.0	43.0	43.0
Standard deviation	4.1	7.8	7.7
10th percentile	35.0	35.0	35.0
25th percentile	35.0	40.0	40.0
Median	40.0	40.0	40.0
75th percentile	40.0	45.0	45.0
90th percentile	47.2	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

	Geriatrics	All Others	Total
Respondents	20	1346	1366
Mean	82.3	61.8	62.1
Standard deviation	44.9	40.8	40.9
10th percentile	30.0	20.0	20.0
25th percentile	50.0	35.0	35.0
Median	69.0	50.0	50.0
75th percentile	111.3	80.0	80.0
90th percentile	148.5	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*

	Geriatrics	All Others	Total
Respondents	4	5633	5637
Mean	38.0	38.9	38.9
Standard deviation	3.6	5.3	5.3
10th percentile	35.0	33.0	33.0
25th percentile	35.0	35.0	35.0
Median	37.5	40.0	40.0
75th percentile	41.5	40.0	40.0
90th percentile	.	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

	Geriatrics	All Others	Total
Respondents	4	5633	5637
Mean	81.3	93.3	93.3
Standard deviation	23.2	39.5	39.5
10th percentile	60.0	50.0	50.0
25th percentile	61.3	70.0	70.0
Median	77.5	90.0	90.0
75th percentile	105.0	110.0	110.0
90th percentile	.	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

	Geriatrics		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	131	100.0%	20197	100.0%	20328	100.0%
Do not take call	55	42.0%	12424	61.5%	12479	61.4%
Take some call	64	48.9%	6605	32.7%	6669	32.8%
Take call, hours unknown	1	.8%	95	.5%	96	.5%
Always on call	11	8.4%	1073	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*

	Geriatrics		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	39	29.8%	4502	22.3%	4541	22.3%
Emergency department call	1	.8%	1130	5.6%	1131	5.6%
Surgical assisting call			1348	6.7%	1348	6.6%
In-house call	12	9.2%	1448	7.2%	1460	7.2%
Other call	29	22.1%	2340	11.6%	2369	11.7%
Do not take call	55	42.0%	12424	61.5%	12479	61.4%
Call taken, type not indicated	37	28.2%	3271	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*

	Geriatrics	All Others	Total
Respondents	64	6605	6669
Mean	122.3	94.1	94.4
Standard deviation	118.4	85.6	86.0
10th percentile	15.5	12.0	12.0
25th percentile	28.5	32.0	32.0
Median	86.0	72.0	72.0
75th percentile	182.3	125.0	125.0
90th percentile	312.0	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*

	Geriatrics		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	119	100.0%	19310	100.0%	19429	100.0%
Salary	98	82.4%	15579	80.7%	15677	80.7%
Hourly wage	14	11.8%	3362	17.4%	3376	17.4%
Other type of base pay	2	1.7%	221	1.1%	223	1.1%
Do not receive base pay	5	4.2%	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*

	Geriatrics		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	115	100.0%	18911	100.0%	19026	100.0%
Base Pay	109	94.8%	18647	98.6%	18756	98.6%
Surgical assisting fees			390	2.1%	390	2.0%
Overtime pay	12	10.4%	2724	14.4%	2736	14.4%
Shift differential	1	.9%	949	5.0%	950	5.0%
Administrative pay	3	2.6%	482	2.5%	485	2.5%
Pay for on-call availability	7	6.1%	1259	6.7%	1266	6.7%
Pay for on-call services/events	11	9.6%	1141	6.0%	1152	6.1%
Bonus not based on productivity/performance	15	13.0%	3902	20.6%	3917	20.6%
Bonus based on productivity of practice	15	13.0%	2216	11.7%	2231	11.7%
Bonus based on own productivity/performance	26	22.6%	3562	18.8%	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*

	Geriatrics		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	40	100.0%	5658	100.0%	5698	100.0%
Bonus based on charges	9	22.5%	1340	23.7%	1349	23.7%
Bonus based on revenues	12	30.0%	2355	41.6%	2367	41.5%
Bonus based on relative value units	9	22.5%	1122	19.8%	1131	19.8%
Bonus based on profit	11	27.5%	1289	22.8%	1300	22.8%
Bonus based on number of visits or panel size	11	27.5%	1094	19.3%	1105	19.4%
Bonus based on quality of care	10	25.0%	813	14.4%	823	14.4%
Bonus based on patient satisfaction	8	20.0%	958	16.9%	966	17.0%
Bonus based on other factors	6	15.0%	818	14.5%	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*

	Geriatrics	All Others	Total
Respondents	119	19409	19528
Mean	\$81,231	\$86,245	\$86,214
Standard deviation	\$21,588	\$21,900	\$21,901
10th percentile	\$58,694	\$64,402	\$64,374
25th percentile	\$69,532	\$71,913	\$71,908
Median	\$78,130	\$82,249	\$82,223
75th percentile	\$87,851	\$96,038	\$96,010
90th percentile	\$104,318	\$112,950	\$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*

	Geriatrics	All Others	Total
Respondents	5	2135	2140
Mean		\$73,010	\$73,013
Standard deviation		\$13,028	\$13,015
10th percentile		\$60,134	\$60,136
25th percentile		\$65,645	\$65,663
Median		\$71,822	\$71,825
75th percentile		\$79,050	\$79,044
90th percentile		\$88,851	\$88,821

*Excludes self-employed PAs.

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