

## 2007 AAPA Physician Assistant Census Report for Colorado

### 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, 9,473 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 Whether Work State or State of Preferred Mailing Address was Colorado

	Count	Percent
Total	26192	100.0%
Colorado	698	2.7%
All Others	25494	97.3%

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

	Colorado		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Total	694	100.0%	25263	100.0%	25957	100.0%
Male	189	27.2%	9171	36.3%	9360	36.1%
Female	505	72.8%	16092	63.7%	16597	63.9%

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

	Colorado		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Total	635	100.0%	23163	100.0%	23798	100.0%
Asian/Pacific Islander	13	2.0%	904	3.9%	917	3.9%
Black (Not Hispanic)	5	.8%	897	3.9%	902	3.8%
Hispanic/Latino Origin	20	3.1%	919	4.0%	939	3.9%
Amer Indian/Alaskan	2	.3%	160	.7%	162	.7%
White (Not Hispanic)	595	93.7%	20283	87.6%	20878	87.7%

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

	Colorado		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Total	651	100.0%	23624	100.0%	24275	100.0%
Certificate from PA school	293	45.0%	6592	27.9%	6885	28.4%
Associate's degree from PA school	22	3.4%	1432	6.1%	1454	6.0%
Bachelor's degree from PA school	186	28.6%	10030	42.5%	10216	42.1%
Master's degree from PA school	285	43.8%	9232	39.1%	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**

	Colorado	All Others	Total
Count	698	25444	26142
Mean	41.2	41.2	41.2
Standard deviation	10.4	11.0	11.0
10th p-tile	29.0	28.0	28.0
25th p-tile	32.0	32.0	32.0
Median	39.0	39.0	39.0
75th p-tile	50.0	50.0	50.0
90th p-tile	56.0	57.0	57.0

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

	Colorado	All Others	Total
Count	698	25445	26143
Mean	30.8	30.5	30.5
Standard deviation	6.2	6.8	6.8
10th p-tile	25.0	24.0	24.0
25th p-tile	26.0	25.0	26.0
Median	29.0	28.0	28.0
75th p-tile	34.0	34.0	34.0
90th p-tile	40.0	41.0	41.0

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

	Colorado	All Others	Total
Count	698	25494	26192
Mean	10.4	10.7	10.7
Standard deviation	8.9	9.2	9.2
10th p-tile	2.0	2.0	2.0
25th p-tile	4.0	3.0	3.0
Median	7.0	7.0	7.0
75th p-tile	15.0	16.0	16.0
90th p-tile	26.0	26.0	26.0

**Section II: Professional Status of Respondents**

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

	Colorado		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Total	698	100.0%	25494	100.0%	26192	100.0%
In clinical practice	638	91.4%	23336	91.5%	23974	91.5%
Not in clinical practice	60	8.6%	2158	8.5%	2218	8.5%

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

	Colorado		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	698	100.0%	25494	100.0%	26192	100.0%
Clinically practicing PA	638	91.4%	23336	91.5%	23974	91.5%
Clinically practicing physician or resident	1	.1%	22	.1%	23	.1%
Clinically practicing NP	1	.1%	173	.7%	174	.7%
Other clinically practicing provider	4	.6%	188	.7%	192	.7%
PA educator	19	2.7%	1183	4.6%	1202	4.6%
Other health professions educator	7	1.0%	351	1.4%	358	1.4%
Health care professional-administrator	10	1.4%	484	1.9%	494	1.9%
Health care professional-researcher	8	1.1%	241	.9%	249	1.0%
Health care professional-forensics	2	.3%	33	.1%	35	.1%
Health care professional-public health	3	.4%	95	.4%	98	.4%
Health care professional-other	14	2.0%	452	1.8%	466	1.8%
Other non-health professional	5	.7%	233	.9%	238	.9%
Student in post-graduate PA program	1	.1%	126	.5%	127	.5%
Medical student	1	.1%	38	.1%	39	.1%
Other student	1	.1%	64	.3%	65	.2%
Not employed by choice	17	2.4%	560	2.2%	577	2.2%
Employed, seeking PA job	5	.7%	83	.3%	88	.3%
Unemployed, seeking PA job	10	1.4%	213	.8%	223	.9%
Unemployed, seeking non-PA job	2	.3%	34	.1%	36	.1%
Retired	6	.9%	159	.6%	165	.6%
Other	2	.3%	283	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**

	Colorado		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	638	100.0%	23321	100.0%	23959	100.0%
One	573	89.8%	19684	84.4%	20257	84.5%
Two	55	8.6%	2920	12.5%	2975	12.4%
Three	8	1.3%	443	1.9%	451	1.9%
More than three	2	.3%	121	.5%	123	.5%
Self-employed w/mult contracts			153	.7%	153	.6%

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

	Colorado		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	635	100.0%	23054	100.0%	23689	100.0%
Self-employed	12	1.9%	664	2.9%	676	2.9%
Solo physician practice	85	13.4%	2897	12.6%	2982	12.6%
Single-specialty physician group	270	42.5%	7082	30.7%	7352	31.0%
Multi-specialty physician group	53	8.3%	3013	13.1%	3066	12.9%
University hospital	17	2.7%	2028	8.8%	2045	8.6%
Other hospital	48	7.6%	3308	14.3%	3356	14.2%
Freestanding urgent care center	7	1.1%	435	1.9%	442	1.9%
Freestanding surgical center			19	.1%	19	.1%
Nursing home or LTC facility	1	.2%	52	.2%	53	.2%
Home health agency			7	.0%	7	.0%
Hospice	1	.2%	1	.0%	2	.0%
HMO	41	6.5%	398	1.7%	439	1.9%
Community health center	58	9.1%	1312	5.7%	1370	5.8%
Medical staffing agency	2	.3%	76	.3%	78	.3%
Physician practice mngmt org	8	1.3%	413	1.8%	421	1.8%
Integrated health system	7	1.1%	335	1.5%	342	1.4%
Corrections system	7	1.1%	200	.9%	207	.9%
Other	18	2.8%	814	3.5%	832	3.5%

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

	Colorado		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	631	100.0%	22854	100.0%	23485	100.0%
Not government employed	579	91.8%	20764	90.9%	21343	90.9%
Air Force	6	1.0%	124	.5%	130	.6%
Army	13	2.1%	303	1.3%	316	1.3%
Navy			91	.4%	91	.4%
Coast Guard			18	.1%	18	.1%
Dept. of Veterans Affairs	6	1.0%	485	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	5	.8%	100	.4%	105	.4%
Other Federal Government			107	.5%	107	.5%
State Government	17	2.7%	503	2.2%	520	2.2%
Local Government	5	.8%	235	1.0%	240	1.0%

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

	Colorado		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	633	100.0%	22891	100.0%	23524	100.0%
Intensive/critical care unit of hospital	5	.8%	519	2.3%	524	2.2%
Inpatient unit of hospital (not ICU/CCU)	31	4.9%	2392	10.4%	2423	10.3%
Outpatient unit of hospital	35	5.5%	1716	7.5%	1751	7.4%
Hospital emergency room	44	7.0%	2323	10.1%	2367	10.1%
Hospital operating room	20	3.2%	1509	6.6%	1529	6.5%
Other unit of hospital	6	.9%	317	1.4%	323	1.4%
Federally Qualified Rural Health Center	20	3.2%	815	3.6%	835	3.5%
Other FQHC	26	4.1%	431	1.9%	457	1.9%
Other community health center/facility	26	4.1%	521	2.3%	547	2.3%
Freestanding urgent care facility	11	1.7%	661	2.9%	672	2.9%
Freestanding surgical facility	2	.3%	81	.4%	83	.4%
Solo practice physician office	82	13.0%	2714	11.9%	2796	11.9%
Single-specialty physician group practice	221	34.9%	4994	21.8%	5215	22.2%
Multi-specialty physician group practice	36	5.7%	2159	9.4%	2195	9.3%
HMO facility	31	4.9%	286	1.2%	317	1.3%
Nursing home or LTC facility	8	1.3%	191	.8%	199	.8%
University/college student health facility	5	.8%	133	.6%	138	.6%
School-based health facility	4	.6%	80	.3%	84	.4%
Other freestanding outpatient facility	8	1.3%	443	1.9%	451	1.9%
Correctional facility	6	.9%	222	1.0%	228	1.0%
Industrial facility/work site	1	.2%	118	.5%	119	.5%
Retail Outlet			39	.2%	39	.2%
Mobile health unit			28	.1%	28	.1%
Patients' homes	1	.2%	34	.1%	35	.1%
Other	4	.6%	165	.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\***

	Colorado		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	631	99.4%	22819	99.0%	23450	99.0%
Intensive/critical care unit of hospital	90	14.2%	5234	22.7%	5324	22.5%
Inpatient unit of hospital (not ICU/CCU)	175	27.6%	8016	34.8%	8191	34.6%
Outpatient unit of hospital	101	15.9%	4866	21.1%	4967	21.0%
Hospital emergency room	149	23.5%	7100	30.8%	7249	30.6%
Hospital operating room	102	16.1%	5102	22.1%	5204	22.0%
Other unit of hospital	28	4.4%	1983	8.6%	2011	8.5%
Federally Qualified Rural Health Center	22	3.5%	1093	4.7%	1115	4.7%
Other FQHC	36	5.7%	606	2.6%	642	2.7%
Other community health center/facility	30	4.7%	818	3.5%	848	3.6%
Freestanding urgent care facility	19	3.0%	1080	4.7%	1099	4.6%
Freestanding surgical facility	34	5.4%	1107	4.8%	1141	4.8%
Solo practice physician office	89	14.0%	3107	13.5%	3196	13.5%
Single-specialty physician group practice	252	39.7%	6524	28.3%	6776	28.6%
Multi-specialty physician group practice	57	9.0%	2947	12.8%	3004	12.7%
HMO facility	36	5.7%	425	1.8%	461	1.9%
Nursing home or LTC facility	24	3.8%	1155	5.0%	1179	5.0%
University/college student health facility	6	.9%	251	1.1%	257	1.1%
School-based health facility	10	1.6%	189	.8%	199	.8%
Other freestanding outpatient facility	16	2.5%	766	3.3%	782	3.3%
Correctional facility	11	1.7%	359	1.6%	370	1.6%
Industrial facility/work site	1	.2%	218	.9%	219	.9%
Retail Outlet			46	.2%	46	.2%
Mobile health unit	6	.9%	85	.4%	91	.4%
Patients' homes	10	1.6%	325	1.4%	335	1.4%
Other	9	1.4%	562	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**

	Colorado		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	637	100.0%	23178	100.0%	23815	100.0%
Family/general medicine	209	32.8%	5723	24.7%	5932	24.9%
General internal medicine	33	5.2%	1610	6.9%	1643	6.9%
Emergency medicine	51	8.0%	2399	10.4%	2450	10.3%
General pediatrics	61	9.6%	518	2.2%	579	2.4%
General surgery	7	1.1%	647	2.8%	654	2.7%
Internal medicine subspecialties	37	5.8%	2661	11.5%	2698	11.3%
Pediatric subspecialties	23	3.6%	349	1.5%	372	1.6%
Surgical subspecialties	106	16.6%	5189	22.4%	5295	22.2%
Obstetrics and gynecology	10	1.6%	551	2.4%	561	2.4%
Occupational medicine	15	2.4%	559	2.4%	574	2.4%
Other	85	13.3%	2972	12.8%	3057	12.8%

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

	Colorado		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	637	100.0%	23178	100.0%	23815	100.0%
Addiction medicine			66	.3%	66	.3%
Allergy	13	2.0%	114	.5%	127	.5%
Anesthesiology			60	.3%	60	.3%
Dermatology	19	3.0%	808	3.5%	827	3.5%
Emergency medicine	51	8.0%	2399	10.4%	2450	10.3%
Family practice w/o urgent care	135	21.2%	3445	14.9%	3580	15.0%
Family practice wt urgent care	74	11.6%	2278	9.8%	2352	9.9%
Genetics			7	.0%	7	.0%
Geriatrics	8	1.3%	151	.7%	159	.7%
Obstetrics/gynecology	10	1.6%	551	2.4%	561	2.4%
Occupational medicine	15	2.4%	559	2.4%	574	2.4%
Ophthalmology	1	.2%	22	.1%	23	.1%
Pain management	11	1.7%	264	1.1%	275	1.2%
Pathology			4	.0%	4	.0%
Physical med rehab	10	1.6%	160	.7%	170	.7%
Psychiatry	5	.8%	238	1.0%	243	1.0%
Public health			49	.2%	49	.2%
Radiation oncology			57	.2%	57	.2%
Radiology			36	.2%	36	.2%
Interventional radiology	5	.8%	190	.8%	195	.8%
Hospital medicine	4	.6%	229	1.0%	233	1.0%
General surgery	7	1.1%	647	2.8%	654	2.7%
Surg: cardiovascular/cardiothoracic	5	.8%	743	3.2%	748	3.1%
Surg: colon & rectal			26	.1%	26	.1%
Surg: hand			54	.2%	54	.2%
Surg: neurology	18	2.8%	555	2.4%	573	2.4%
Surg: oncology			58	.3%	58	.2%
Surg: orthopedics	67	10.5%	2344	10.1%	2411	10.1%
Surg: otorhinolaryngology	7	1.1%	225	1.0%	232	1.0%
Surg: pediatric			31	.1%	31	.1%
Surg: plastic	3	.5%	181	.8%	184	.8%
Surg: thoracic			38	.2%	38	.2%
Surg: transplant			67	.3%	67	.3%
Surg: trauma			106	.5%	106	.4%
Surg: urology	2	.3%	283	1.2%	285	1.2%
Surg: vascular			144	.6%	144	.6%
Surg: bariatric	1	.2%	61	.3%	62	.3%
Surg: spine	3	.5%	169	.7%	172	.7%
Surg: other			104	.4%	104	.4%
General pediatrics	61	9.6%	518	2.2%	579	2.4%
Ped: adolescent medicine	6	.9%	47	.2%	53	.2%
Ped: allergy	4	.6%	5	.0%	9	.0%
Ped: cardiology	2	.3%	17	.1%	19	.1%
Ped: critical care			22	.1%	22	.1%
Ped: endocrinology	1	.2%	9	.0%	10	.0%
Ped: gastroenterology	3	.5%	15	.1%	18	.1%
Ped: hematology/oncology	1	.2%	6	.0%	7	.0%
Ped: infectious disease			5	.0%	5	.0%
Ped: neonatal-perinatal	1	.2%	90	.4%	91	.4%
Ped: nephrology			1	.0%	1	.0%
Ped: neurology			18	.1%	18	.1%
Ped: pulmonology	1	.2%	13	.1%	14	.1%
Ped: rheumatology			2	.0%	2	.0%
Ped: oncology	1	.2%	22	.1%	23	.1%
Ped: other	3	.5%	77	.3%	80	.3%
General internal medicine	33	5.2%	1610	6.9%	1643	6.9%
IM: cardiology	7	1.1%	909	3.9%	916	3.8%
IM: critical care	1	.2%	104	.4%	105	.4%
IM: endocrinology	4	.6%	128	.6%	132	.6%
IM: gastroenterology	8	1.3%	398	1.7%	406	1.7%
IM: hematology/oncology			56	.2%	56	.2%
IM: immunology			4	.0%	4	.0%
IM: infectious disease	1	.2%	122	.5%	123	.5%
IM: nephrology	2	.3%	141	.6%	143	.6%
IM: neurology	3	.5%	140	.6%	143	.6%
IM: pulmonology	2	.3%	120	.5%	122	.5%
IM: rheumatology	1	.2%	73	.3%	74	.3%
IM: oncology	7	1.1%	398	1.7%	405	1.7%
IM: other	1	.2%	68	.3%	69	.3%
Other	9	1.4%	517	2.2%	526	2.2%

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

	Colorado	All Others	Total
Respondents	637	23116	23753
Mean	9.3	9.4	9.4
Standard deviation	8.6	8.9	8.9
10th percentile	.0	.0	.0
25th percentile	3.0	3.0	3.0
Median	6.0	6.0	6.0
75th percentile	14.0	14.0	14.0
90th percentile	24.0	25.0	25.0

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

	Colorado	All Others	Total
Respondents	633	22916	23549
Mean	4.7	4.8	4.8
Standard deviation	5.5	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	6.0	6.0	6.0
90th percentile	12.0	12.0	12.0

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

	Colorado	All Others	Total
Respondents	631	22895	23526
Mean	6.7	6.5	6.6
Standard deviation	7.3	7.3	7.3
10th percentile	.0	.0	.0
25th percentile	2.0	1.0	1.0
Median	4.0	4.0	4.0
75th percentile	10.0	9.0	9.0
90th percentile	17.0	17.0	17.0

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

	Colorado		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	628	100.0%	22740	100.0%	23368	100.0%
Northeast			5398	23.7%	5398	23.1%
Southeast			5617	24.7%	5617	24.0%
North Central			4926	21.7%	4926	21.1%
South Central	628	100.0%	2514	11.1%	3142	13.4%
West			4285	18.8%	4285	18.3%

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

	Colorado		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	628	100.0%	22740	100.0%	23368	100.0%
Alaska			141	.6%	141	.6%
Alabama			142	.6%	142	.6%
Arkansas			37	.2%	37	.2%
Arizona			567	2.5%	567	2.4%
California			1712	7.5%	1712	7.3%
Colorado	628	100.0%			628	2.7%
Connecticut			498	2.2%	498	2.1%
District Of Columbia			83	.4%	83	.4%
Delaware			84	.4%	84	.4%
Florida			1306	5.7%	1306	5.6%
Georgia			731	3.2%	731	3.1%
Guam			7	.0%	7	.0%
Hawaii			59	.3%	59	.3%
Iowa			339	1.5%	339	1.5%
Idaho			168	.7%	168	.7%
Illinois			715	3.1%	715	3.1%
Indiana			257	1.1%	257	1.1%
Kansas			295	1.3%	295	1.3%
Kentucky			272	1.2%	272	1.2%
Louisiana			169	.7%	169	.7%
Massachusetts			556	2.4%	556	2.4%
Maryland			543	2.4%	543	2.3%
Maine			203	.9%	203	.9%
Michigan			1095	4.8%	1095	4.7%
Minnesota			488	2.1%	488	2.1%
Missouri			221	1.0%	221	.9%
Mississippi			34	.1%	34	.1%
Montana			148	.7%	148	.6%
North Carolina			1158	5.1%	1158	5.0%
North Dakota			87	.4%	87	.4%
Nebraska			306	1.3%	306	1.3%
New Hampshire			155	.7%	155	.7%
New Jersey			359	1.6%	359	1.5%
New Mexico			156	.7%	156	.7%
Nevada			168	.7%	168	.7%
New York			1951	8.6%	1951	8.3%
Ohio			581	2.6%	581	2.5%
Oklahoma			362	1.6%	362	1.5%
Oregon			313	1.4%	313	1.3%
Pennsylvania			1420	6.2%	1420	6.1%
Rhode Island			93	.4%	93	.4%
South Carolina			261	1.1%	261	1.1%
South Dakota			175	.8%	175	.7%
Tennessee			361	1.6%	361	1.5%
Texas			1461	6.4%	1461	6.3%
Utah			236	1.0%	236	1.0%
Virginia			550	2.4%	550	2.4%
Vermont			79	.3%	79	.3%
Washington			685	3.0%	685	2.9%
Wisconsin			662	2.9%	662	2.8%
West Virginia			210	.9%	210	.9%
Wyoming			81	.4%	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\***

		Colorado		All Others		Total	
		Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents		607	100.0%	21947	100.0%	22554	100.0%
Not metro	NonMetro, with urban pop >20K and adjacent to metro area	8	1.3%	981	4.5%	989	4.4%
	NonMetro, with urban pop >20K, not adjacent to metro area	13	2.1%	534	2.4%	547	2.4%
	NonMetro, with urban pop 2.5K-20K, adjacent to metro area	14	2.3%	828	3.8%	842	3.7%
	NonMetro, with urban pop 2.5K-20K, not adjacent to metro area	35	5.8%	624	2.8%	659	2.9%
	NonMetro, with urban pop < 2,500, adjacent to metro area	2	.3%	135	.6%	137	.6%
	NonMetro, with urban pop <2,500, not adjacent to metro area	5	.8%	228	1.0%	233	1.0%
	Metro	Metro, >1M Population	321	52.9%	10571	48.2%	10892
	Metro, 250K-1M Population	150	24.7%	5423	24.7%	5573	24.7%
	Metro, <250K Population	59	9.7%	2623	12.0%	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\***

		Colorado		All Others		Total	
		Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents		636	100.0%	23154	100.0%	23790	100.0%
Minor surgical procedures		370	58.2%	13580	58.7%	13950	58.6%
First assisting at surgery		120	18.9%	5550	24.0%	5670	23.8%
Manage the care of patients in an inpatient setting		191	30.0%	8856	38.2%	9047	38.0%
Serve on the quality assurance committee		50	7.9%	1863	8.0%	1913	8.0%
Serve on the utilization review committee		21	3.3%	737	3.2%	758	3.2%
Participate in the conduct of clinical trials		87	13.7%	2660	11.5%	2747	11.5%
Serve on formulary/pharmaceutical selection committee		23	3.6%	579	2.5%	602	2.5%
Decision making about procurement of medical/surgical equipment/supplies		122	19.2%	4440	19.2%	4562	19.2%
Supervisory/managerial responsibilities for other PAs		41	6.4%	2149	9.3%	2190	9.2%
Supervisory/managerial responsibilities for clinical staff other than PAs		109	17.1%	4165	18.0%	4274	18.0%
Supervisory/managerial responsibilities for non-clinical staff		50	7.9%	1976	8.5%	2026	8.5%
Precept PA students		303	47.6%	8102	35.0%	8405	35.3%
Precept students of other health professions		187	29.4%	5560	24.0%	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**

	Colorado		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	638	100.0%	23321	100.0%	23959	100.0%
32 or more hours	506	79.3%	19917	85.4%	20423	85.2%
Less than 32 hours	122	19.1%	2939	12.6%	3061	12.8%
Hours not reported	10	1.6%	465	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\***

	Colorado		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	363	100.0%	13275	100.0%	13638	100.0%
See some inpatients	122	33.6%	5896	44.4%	6018	44.1%
See some outpatients	334	92.0%	11401	85.9%	11735	86.0%
See some other patients**	23	6.3%	805	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**

	Colorado	All Others	Total
Respondents	506	19917	20423
Mean	42.9	44.4	44.3
Standard deviation	7.6	8.2	8.2
10th percentile	33.0	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	52.0	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\***

	Colorado	All Others	Total
Respondents	16	1350	1366
Mean	42.3	43.0	43.0
Standard deviation	8.8	7.7	7.7
10th percentile	32.0	35.0	35.0
25th percentile	40.0	40.0	40.0
Median	40.0	40.0	40.0
75th percentile	44.3	45.0	45.0
90th percentile	56.0	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**

	Colorado	All Others	Total
Respondents	16	1350	1366
Mean	54.4	62.2	62.1
Standard deviation	26.3	41.0	40.9
10th percentile	16.4	20.0	20.0
25th percentile	34.0	35.0	35.0
Median	59.5	50.0	50.0
75th percentile	65.0	80.0	80.0
90th percentile	92.0	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\***

	Colorado	All Others	Total
Respondents	157	5480	5637
Mean	37.9	38.9	38.9
Standard deviation	4.4	5.3	5.3
10th percentile	32.0	33.0	33.0
25th percentile	35.0	35.0	35.0
Median	38.0	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**

	Colorado	All Others	Total
Respondents	157	5480	5637
Mean	85.7	93.5	93.3
Standard deviation	26.4	39.8	39.5
10th percentile	50.0	50.0	50.0
25th percentile	70.0	70.0	70.0
Median	80.0	90.0	90.0
75th percentile	100.0	110.0	110.0
90th percentile	120.0	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**

	Colorado		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	505	100.0%	19823	100.0%	20328	100.0%
Do not take call	290	57.4%	12189	61.5%	12479	61.4%
Take some call	198	39.2%	6471	32.6%	6669	32.8%
Take call, hours unknown	2	.4%	94	.5%	96	.5%
Always on call	15	3.0%	1069	5.4%	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\***

	Colorado		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	129	100.0%	4412	100.0%	4541	100.0%
Emergency department call	28	21.7%	1103	25.0%	1131	24.9%
Surgical assisting call	28	21.7%	1320	29.9%	1348	29.7%
In-house call	27	20.9%	1433	32.5%	1460	32.2%
Other call	92	71.3%	2277	51.6%	2369	52.2%

\*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\***

	Colorado	All Others	Total
Respondents	198	6471	6669
Mean	89.6	94.5	94.4
Standard deviation	85.4	86.0	86.0
10th percentile	12.0	12.0	12.0
25th percentile	30.0	32.0	32.0
Median	60.0	72.0	72.0
75th percentile	120.0	125.0	125.0
90th percentile	180.0	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\***

	Colorado		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	495	100.0%	18934	100.0%	19429	100.0%
Salary	380	76.8%	15297	80.8%	15677	80.7%
Hourly wage	104	21.0%	3272	17.3%	3376	17.4%
Other type of base pay	7	1.4%	216	1.1%	223	1.1%
Do not receive base pay	4	.8%	149	.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\***

	Colorado		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	487	100.0%	18539	100.0%	19026	100.0%
Base Pay	479	98.4%	18277	98.6%	18756	98.6%
Surgical assisting fees	11	2.3%	379	2.0%	390	2.0%
Overtime pay	51	10.5%	2685	14.5%	2736	14.4%
Shift differential	22	4.5%	928	5.0%	950	5.0%
Administrative pay	10	2.1%	475	2.6%	485	2.5%
Pay for on-call availability	20	4.1%	1246	6.7%	1266	6.7%
Pay for on-call services/events	20	4.1%	1132	6.1%	1152	6.1%
Bonus not based on productivity/performance	125	25.7%	3792	20.5%	3917	20.6%
Bonus based on productivity of practice	79	16.2%	2152	11.6%	2231	11.7%
Bonus based on own productivity/performance	106	21.8%	3482	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\***

	Colorado		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	186	100.0%	5512	100.0%	5698	100.0%
Bonus based on charges	52	28.0%	1297	23.5%	1349	23.7%
Bonus based on revenues	86	46.2%	2281	41.4%	2367	41.5%
Bonus based on relative value units	38	20.4%	1093	19.8%	1131	19.8%
Bonus based on profit	44	23.7%	1256	22.8%	1300	22.8%
Bonus based on number of visits or panel size	31	16.7%	1074	19.5%	1105	19.4%
Bonus based on quality of care	27	14.5%	796	14.4%	823	14.4%
Bonus based on patient satisfaction	41	22.0%	925	16.8%	966	17.0%
Bonus based on other factors	21	11.3%	803	14.6%	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\***

	Colorado	All Others	Total
Respondents	498	19030	19528
Mean	\$78,671	\$86,412	\$86,214
Standard deviation	\$18,728	\$21,944	\$21,901
10th percentile	\$60,350	\$64,547	\$64,374
25th percentile	\$67,151	\$72,057	\$71,908
Median	\$75,759	\$82,369	\$82,223
75th percentile	\$87,126	\$96,254	\$96,010
90th percentile	\$100,199	\$113,145	\$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\***

	Colorado	All Others	Total
Respondents	50	2090	2140
Mean	\$67,408	\$73,147	\$73,013
Standard deviation	\$10,514	\$13,042	\$13,015
10th percentile	\$53,705	\$60,225	\$60,136
25th percentile	\$60,577	\$65,818	\$65,663
Median	\$67,713	\$71,896	\$71,825
75th percentile	\$75,044	\$79,124	\$79,044
90th percentile	\$82,410	\$88,954	\$88,821

\*Excludes self-employed PAs.

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