

2006 AAPA Physician Assistant Census Report for Public Health

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 2006 AAPA Physician Assistant Census was conducted between February 23 and September 15, 2006. The 2006 Census was available online as well as on paper; 2006 was the first year that this survey was available to be completed online.

The online version of the survey was posted to the AAPA web site and an email with a link to the survey was sent on February 23, 2006 to 41,053 PAs for whom a valid email address was available. Reminder emails were sent to AAPA members with valid email addresses via AAPA's monthly E-News on March 1, April 5, May 3, June 8, and September 6, 2006.

The paper version of the survey was mailed on March 15, 2006 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, 2005 and for whom address information was available, but the paper version of the survey was not sent to individuals from whom an electronic response had been received prior to March 6, 2006, or to individuals who had indicated on a previous Census that they were retired or working as a physician. Paper surveys were mailed to 62,968 people.

In total, 65,681 PAs were invited to participate in the 2006 Census – accounting for 93.0 percent of the 70,612 individuals eligible to practice as PAs. Completed surveys were received from 23,436 people, representing 33.2 percent of all individuals eligible to practice as PAs and 35.7 percent of the PAs who were invited to participate. Of the 26,418 AAPA members invited to participate, 15,995 (60.5%) responded; of the 39,263 non-members who were invited to participate, 7,442 (19.0%) 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, 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 62 percent of the respondents to this year's census.

Ethnicity: White PAs comprise 88 percent of the respondents.

PA Education: Just under half (44%) of respondents hold a bachelor's level PA degree; 35 percent of respondents hold a master's level PA degree.

Age: The mean age of census respondents is 41 years (median = 40), the mean age at time of graduation from PA school was 31 years (median = 29), 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 (91%) are in clinical practice.

Current Profession: Four 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 22 percent are employed by hospitals and 13 percent are employed by solo physician offices.

Government Employment: About 9 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 just under two percent of this year's respondents.

Primary Work Setting: The most prevalent "primary" work setting, reported by 36 percent of respondents, is a hospital; the hospital departments cited most frequently as primary settings are hospital inpatient units (10%), hospital emergency rooms (9%), 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 9 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 (13%), 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 (34%), hospital emergency rooms (30%), single-specialty physician group practices (29%), hospital operating rooms (22%), hospital outpatient units (21%), and hospital intensive care/critical care units (22%).

Primary Specialty of Practice: While PAs practice in over 60 different specialty fields, 38 percent of this year's respondents reported that their primary specialty was one of the primary care fields: family/general medicine (27%), general internal medicine (7%), general pediatrics (3%), 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 (3%).

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 (8%), Texas (6%), Pennsylvania (6%), Florida (5%), North Carolina (5%), and Michigan (5%).

Metropolitan Status of Work Site: Sixteen 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 (60%) 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 (19%) reported supervising other clinical staff. More than one-third of respondents (36%) 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 (85%) 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 95. 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 64. Eleven percent of respondents report seeing patients who can not be classified as inpatients, outpatients, or nursing home patients, and six percent of full-time PAs reported seeing some nursing home patients in their primary job.

Taking Call: Four in ten respondents (40%) 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 (80%) reported receiving their base pay in the form of a salary; 18 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 or incentive pay based on the PA's productivity or performance, reported by 24 percent of respondents. Nineteen percent of respondents reported receiving a bonus based on something other than productivity or performance while 18 percent reported receiving

overtime pay. Almost half of those who reported receiving an incentive based on productivity or performance (44%) 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 \$80,356; the mean is \$84,396. The comparable figures for respondents who graduated in 2005 are \$69,517 and \$71,004, respectively.

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2006 AAPA Physician Assistant Census Report for PAs in Public Health

Section I: Characteristics of 2006 AAPA Census Respondents

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

	Count	Percent
Total	23436	100.0%
Public Health	38	.2%
All Others	23398	99.8%

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

	Public Health		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Total	37	100.0%	23181	100.0%	23218	100.0%
Male	15	40.5%	8729	37.7%	8744	37.7%
Female	22	59.5%	14452	62.3%	14474	62.3%

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

	Public Health		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Total	33	100.0%	21180	100.0%	21213	100.0%
Asian/Pacific Islander			748	3.5%	748	3.5%
Black (Not Hispanic)	2	6.1%	755	3.6%	757	3.6%
Hispanic/Latino Origin	1	3.0%	810	3.8%	811	3.8%
Amer Indian/Alaskan			168	.8%	168	.8%
White (Not Hispanic)	30	90.9%	18699	88.3%	18729	88.3%

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

	Public Health		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	36	100.0%	21642	100.0%	21678	100.0%
Certificate from PA school	15	41.7%	6554	30.3%	6569	30.3%
Associate's degree from PA school	1	2.8%	1436	6.6%	1437	6.6%
Bachelor's degree from PA school	18	50.0%	9519	44.0%	9537	44.0%
Master's degree from PA school	11	30.6%	7489	34.6%	7500	34.6%

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

Table 1.5: Summary Measures of Age for Census Respondents

	Public Health	All Others	Total
Count	38	23352	23390
Mean	46.4	41.3	41.3
Standard deviation	10.2	10.9	10.9
10th p-tile	32.9	28.0	28.0
25th p-tile	38.0	32.0	32.0
Median	46.0	40.0	40.0
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

	Public Health	All Others	Total
Count	38	23352	23390
Mean	32.7	30.6	30.6
Standard deviation	6.7	6.8	6.8
10th p-tile	25.9	24.0	24.0
25th p-tile	27.0	26.0	26.0
Median	31.5	29.0	29.0
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

	Public Health	All Others	Total
Count	38	23398	23436
Mean	13.7	10.7	10.7
Standard deviation	10.2	9.2	9.2
10th p-tile	1.9	2.0	2.0
25th p-tile	5.8	3.0	3.0
Median	10.5	7.0	7.0
75th p-tile	22.3	17.0	17.0
90th p-tile	31.1	26.0	26.0

Section II: Professional Status of Respondents

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

	Public Health		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Total	38	100.0%	23398	100.0%	23436	100.0%
In clinical practice	38	100.0%	21233	90.7%	21271	90.8%
Not in clinical practice			2165	9.3%	2165	9.2%

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

	Public Health		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	38	100.0%	23398	100.0%	23436	100.0%
Clinically practicing PA	38	100.0%	21233	90.7%	21271	90.8%
Clinically practicing physician or resident			26	.1%	26	.1%
Clinically practicing NP			185	.8%	185	.8%
Other clinically practicing provider			181	.8%	181	.8%
PA educator	1	2.6%	986	4.2%	987	4.2%
Other health professions educator	1	2.6%	297	1.3%	298	1.3%
Health care professional-administrator	1	2.6%	406	1.7%	407	1.7%
Health care professional-researcher			166	.7%	166	.7%
Health care professional-lawyer			11	.0%	11	.0%
Health care professional-public health	3	7.9%	57	.2%	60	.3%
Health care professional-other			425	1.8%	425	1.8%
Other non-health professional			245	1.0%	245	1.0%
Student in post-graduate PA program			123	.5%	123	.5%
Medical student			51	.2%	51	.2%
Other student			90	.4%	90	.4%
Not employed by choice			580	2.5%	580	2.5%
Employed, seeking PA job			81	.3%	81	.3%
Unemployed, seeking PA job			183	.8%	183	.8%
Unemployed, seeking non-PA job			35	.1%	35	.1%
Retired			187	.8%	187	.8%
Other			250	1.1%	250	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

	Public Health		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	38	100.0%	21233	100.0%	21271	100.0%
One	30	78.9%	18098	85.2%	18128	85.2%
Two	8	21.1%	2564	12.1%	2572	12.1%
Three			375	1.8%	375	1.8%
More than three			80	.4%	80	.4%
Self-employed w/mult contracts			116	.5%	116	.5%

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

	Public Health		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	37	100.0%	20888	100.0%	20925	100.0%
Self-employed	1	2.7%	544	2.6%	545	2.6%
Solo physician practice	1	2.7%	2696	12.9%	2697	12.9%
Single-specialty physician group			6591	31.6%	6591	31.5%
Multi-specialty physician group			2644	12.7%	2644	12.6%
University hospital			1652	7.9%	1652	7.9%
Other hospital	3	8.1%	3027	14.5%	3030	14.5%
Freestanding urgent care center			447	2.1%	447	2.1%
Freestanding surgical center			27	.1%	27	.1%
Nursing home or LTC facility			55	.3%	55	.3%
Home health agency			4	.0%	4	.0%
Hospice			2	.0%	2	.0%
HMO			437	2.1%	437	2.1%
Community health center	14	37.8%	1224	5.9%	1238	5.9%
Medical staffing agency			58	.3%	58	.3%
Physician practice mngmt org			284	1.4%	284	1.4%
Integrated health system			246	1.2%	246	1.2%
Corrections system	4	10.8%	213	1.0%	217	1.0%
Other	14	37.8%	737	3.5%	751	3.6%

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

	Public Health		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	37	100.0%	20663	100.0%	20700	100.0%
Not government employed	12	32.4%	18839	91.2%	18851	91.1%
Air Force			99	.5%	99	.5%
Army	5	13.5%	271	1.3%	276	1.3%
Navy			99	.5%	99	.5%
Coast Guard			12	.1%	12	.1%
Dept. of Veterans Affairs			480	2.3%	480	2.3%
Federal Bureau of Prisons/DOJ	2	5.4%	34	.2%	36	.2%
Indian Health Service			74	.4%	74	.4%
Federal Public Health Service	3	8.1%	76	.4%	79	.4%
Other Federal Government			96	.5%	96	.5%
State Government	3	8.1%	328	1.6%	331	1.6%
Local Government	12	32.4%	255	1.2%	267	1.3%

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

	Public Health		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	38	100.0%	20985	100.0%	21023	100.0%
Intensive/critical care unit of hospital			446	2.1%	446	2.1%
Inpatient unit of hospital (not ICU/CCU)			2059	9.8%	2059	9.8%
Outpatient unit of hospital	2	5.3%	1449	6.9%	1451	6.9%
Hospital emergency room			1982	9.4%	1982	9.4%
Hospital operating room			1408	6.7%	1408	6.7%
Other unit of hospital			291	1.4%	291	1.4%
Federally Qualified Rural Health Center	2	5.3%	772	3.7%	774	3.7%
Other FQHC	4	10.5%	405	1.9%	409	1.9%
Other community health center/facility	15	39.5%	497	2.4%	512	2.4%
Freestanding urgent care facility			613	2.9%	613	2.9%
Freestanding surgical facility			83	.4%	83	.4%
Solo practice physician office	1	2.6%	2645	12.6%	2646	12.6%
Single-specialty physician group practice			4617	22.0%	4617	22.0%
Multi-specialty physician group practice			1922	9.2%	1922	9.1%
HMO facility			339	1.6%	339	1.6%
Nursing home or LTC facility			163	.8%	163	.8%
University/college student health facility	1	2.6%	122	.6%	123	.6%
School-based health facility	1	2.6%	76	.4%	77	.4%
Other freestanding outpatient facility			388	1.8%	388	1.8%
Correctional facility	4	10.5%	227	1.1%	231	1.1%
Industrial facility/work site			100	.5%	100	.5%
Mobile health unit	2	5.3%	21	.1%	23	.1%
Patients' homes			27	.1%	27	.1%
Other	6	15.8%	333	1.6%	339	1.6%

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

	Public Health		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	38	100.0%	21005	100.0%	21043	100.0%
Intensive/critical care unit of hospital			4721	22.5%	4721	22.4%
Inpatient unit of hospital (not ICU/CCU)			7065	33.6%	7065	33.6%
Outpatient unit of hospital	2	5.3%	4347	20.7%	4349	20.7%
Hospital emergency room	1	2.6%	6294	30.0%	6295	29.9%
Hospital operating room			4628	22.0%	4628	22.0%
Other unit of hospital			1906	9.1%	1906	9.1%
Federally Qualified Rural Health Center	2	5.3%	1034	4.9%	1036	4.9%
Other FQHC	4	10.5%	587	2.8%	591	2.8%
Other community health center/facility	16	42.1%	780	3.7%	796	3.8%
Freestanding urgent care facility			1011	4.8%	1011	4.8%
Freestanding surgical facility			1068	5.1%	1068	5.1%
Solo practice physician office	1	2.6%	3046	14.5%	3047	14.5%
Single-specialty physician group practice			6070	28.9%	6070	28.8%
Multi-specialty physician group practice			2625	12.5%	2625	12.5%
HMO facility			499	2.4%	499	2.4%
Nursing home or LTC facility			1181	5.6%	1181	5.6%
University/college student health facility	1	2.6%	268	1.3%	269	1.3%
School-based health facility	1	2.6%	168	.8%	169	.8%
Other freestanding outpatient facility	2	5.3%	656	3.1%	658	3.1%
Correctional facility	5	13.2%	351	1.7%	356	1.7%
Industrial facility/work site			183	.9%	183	.9%
Mobile health unit	4	10.5%	83	.4%	87	.4%
Patients' homes	1	2.6%	353	1.7%	354	1.7%
Other	8	21.1%	554	2.6%	562	2.7%

*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

	Public Health		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	38	100.0%	20960	100.0%	20998	100.0%
Family/general medicine			5572	26.6%	5572	26.5%
General internal medicine			1497	7.1%	1497	7.1%
Emergency medicine			2045	9.8%	2045	9.7%
General pediatrics			516	2.5%	516	2.5%
General surgery			575	2.7%	575	2.7%
Internal medicine subspecialties			2336	11.1%	2336	11.1%
Pediatric subspecialties			324	1.5%	324	1.5%
Surgical subspecialties			4668	22.3%	4668	22.2%
Obstetrics and gynecology			485	2.3%	485	2.3%
Industrial/occupational medicine			495	2.4%	495	2.4%
Other	38	100.0%	2447	11.7%	2485	11.8%

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

	Public Health		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	38	100.0%	20960	100.0%	20998	100.0%
Addiction medicine			77	.4%	77	.4%
Allergy			121	.6%	121	.6%
Anesthesiology			56	.3%	56	.3%
Dermatology			693	3.3%	693	3.3%
Emergency medicine			2045	9.8%	2045	9.7%
Family practice w/o urgent care			3261	15.6%	3261	15.5%
Family practice wt urgent care			2311	11.0%	2311	11.0%
Genetics			4	.0%	4	.0%
Geriatrics			128	.6%	128	.6%
Obstetrics/gynecology			485	2.3%	485	2.3%
Occupational medicine			495	2.4%	495	2.4%
Ophthalmology			24	.1%	24	.1%
Pain management			223	1.1%	223	1.1%
Pathology			4	.0%	4	.0%
Physical med rehab			165	.8%	165	.8%
Psychiatry			201	1.0%	201	1.0%
Public health	38	100.0%			38	.2%
Radiation oncology			57	.3%	57	.3%
Radiology			71	.3%	71	.3%
Interventional radiology			112	.5%	112	.5%
Hospital medicine			239	1.1%	239	1.1%
General surgery			575	2.7%	575	2.7%
Surg: cardiovascular/cardiothoracic			681	3.2%	681	3.2%
Surg: colon & rectal			25	.1%	25	.1%
Surg: hand			51	.2%	51	.2%
Surg: neurology			518	2.5%	518	2.5%
Surg: oncology			61	.3%	61	.3%
Surg: orthopedics			2224	10.6%	2224	10.6%
Surg: otorhinolaryngology			190	.9%	190	.9%
Surg: pediatric			23	.1%	23	.1%
Surg: plastic			155	.7%	155	.7%
Surg: thoracic			35	.2%	35	.2%
Surg: transplant			43	.2%	43	.2%
Surg: trauma			102	.5%	102	.5%
Surg: urology			256	1.2%	256	1.2%
Surg: vascular			140	.7%	140	.7%
Surg: bariatric			52	.2%	52	.2%
Surg: other			112	.5%	112	.5%
General pediatrics			516	2.5%	516	2.5%
Ped: adolescent medicine			48	.2%	48	.2%
Ped: allergy			5	.0%	5	.0%
Ped: cardiology			18	.1%	18	.1%
Ped: critical care			21	.1%	21	.1%
Ped: endocrinology			11	.1%	11	.1%
Ped: gastroenterology			17	.1%	17	.1%
Ped: hematology/oncology			8	.0%	8	.0%
Ped: infectious disease			2	.0%	2	.0%
Ped: neonatal-perinatal			69	.3%	69	.3%
Ped: nephrology			2	.0%	2	.0%
Ped: neurology			18	.1%	18	.1%
Ped: pulmonology			8	.0%	8	.0%
Ped: rheumatology			4	.0%	4	.0%
Ped: oncology			18	.1%	18	.1%
Ped: other			75	.4%	75	.4%
General internal medicine			1497	7.1%	1497	7.1%
IM: cardiology			798	3.8%	798	3.8%
IM: critical care			82	.4%	82	.4%
IM: endocrinology			107	.5%	107	.5%
IM: gastroenterology			385	1.8%	385	1.8%
IM: hematology/oncology			43	.2%	43	.2%
IM: immunology			2	.0%	2	.0%
IM: infectious disease			110	.5%	110	.5%
IM: nephrology			127	.6%	127	.6%
IM: neurology			131	.6%	131	.6%
IM: pulmonology			87	.4%	87	.4%
IM: rheumatology			74	.4%	74	.4%
IM: oncology			294	1.4%	294	1.4%
IM: other			96	.5%	96	.5%
Other			272	1.3%	272	1.3%

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

	Public Health	All Others	Total
Respondents	38	21197	21235
Mean	13.1	9.4	9.4
Standard deviation	10.2	8.9	8.9
10th percentile	1.8	1.0	1.0
25th percentile	5.0	3.0	3.0
Median	10.0	6.0	6.0
75th percentile	22.0	14.0	14.0
90th percentile	31.0	25.0	25.0

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

	Public Health	All Others	Total
Respondents	37	20667	20704
Mean	6.8	4.9	4.9
Standard deviation	6.4	5.8	5.8
10th percentile	.0	.0	.0
25th percentile	1.5	1.0	1.0
Median	4.0	3.0	3.0
75th percentile	12.5	6.0	6.0
90th percentile	16.8	13.0	13.0

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

	Public Health	All Others	Total
Respondents	37	20170	20207
Mean	6.2	6.5	6.5
Standard deviation	6.4	7.2	7.2
10th percentile	.0	.0	.0
25th percentile	1.5	1.0	1.0
Median	4.0	4.0	4.0
75th percentile	8.5	9.0	9.0
90th percentile	16.8	18.0	18.0

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

	Public Health		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	35	100.0%	20604	100.0%	20639	100.0%
Northeast	10	28.6%	4682	22.7%	4692	22.7%
Southeast	12	34.3%	4887	23.7%	4899	23.7%
North Central	3	8.6%	4341	21.1%	4344	21.0%
South Central	4	11.4%	2764	13.4%	2768	13.4%
West	6	17.1%	3930	19.1%	3936	19.1%

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

	Public Health		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	35	100.0%	20604	100.0%	20639	100.0%
Alaska			123	.6%	123	.6%
Alabama			105	.5%	105	.5%
Arkansas			41	.2%	41	.2%
Arizona			505	2.5%	505	2.4%
California	4	11.4%	1609	7.8%	1613	7.8%
Colorado			572	2.8%	572	2.8%
Connecticut			452	2.2%	452	2.2%
District Of Columbia			57	.3%	57	.3%
Delaware			61	.3%	61	.3%
Florida			1112	5.4%	1112	5.4%
Georgia	1	2.9%	622	3.0%	623	3.0%
Guam			5	.0%	5	.0%
Hawaii			48	.2%	48	.2%
Iowa			309	1.5%	309	1.5%
Idaho			177	.9%	177	.9%
Illinois			594	2.9%	594	2.9%
Indiana			210	1.0%	210	1.0%
Kansas			282	1.4%	282	1.4%
Kentucky	1	2.9%	257	1.2%	258	1.3%
Louisiana			140	.7%	140	.7%
Massachusetts			478	2.3%	478	2.3%
Maryland			480	2.3%	480	2.3%
Maine			188	.9%	188	.9%
Michigan	1	2.9%	987	4.8%	988	4.8%
Minnesota			412	2.0%	412	2.0%
Missouri			208	1.0%	208	1.0%
Mississippi			29	.1%	29	.1%
Montana	1	2.9%	128	.6%	129	.6%
North Carolina	8	22.9%	1074	5.2%	1082	5.2%
North Dakota	1	2.9%	83	.4%	84	.4%
Nebraska			283	1.4%	283	1.4%
New Hampshire			141	.7%	141	.7%
New Jersey	1	2.9%	306	1.5%	307	1.5%
New Mexico	1	2.9%	140	.7%	141	.7%
Nevada			140	.7%	140	.7%
New York	8	22.9%	1702	8.3%	1710	8.3%
Ohio			515	2.5%	515	2.5%
Oklahoma	1	2.9%	298	1.4%	299	1.4%
Oregon			288	1.4%	288	1.4%
Pennsylvania	1	2.9%	1211	5.9%	1212	5.9%
Rhode Island			76	.4%	76	.4%
South Carolina			213	1.0%	213	1.0%
South Dakota			153	.7%	153	.7%
Tennessee			321	1.6%	321	1.6%
Texas	2	5.7%	1262	6.1%	1264	6.1%
Utah			218	1.1%	218	1.1%
Virginia	2	5.7%	465	2.3%	467	2.3%
Vermont			67	.3%	67	.3%
Washington	1	2.9%	616	3.0%	617	3.0%
Wisconsin	1	2.9%	587	2.8%	588	2.8%
West Virginia			181	.9%	181	.9%
Wyoming			73	.4%	73	.4%

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

		Public Health		All Others		Total	
		Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents		32	100.0%	19496	100.0%	19528	100.0%
Not metro	NonMetro, with urban pop >20K and adjacent to metro area	1	3.1%	919	4.7%	920	4.7%
	NonMetro, with urban pop >20K, not adjacent to metro area	2	6.3%	495	2.5%	497	2.5%
	NonMetro, with urban pop 2.5K-20K, adjacent to metro area			805	4.1%	805	4.1%
	NonMetro, with urban pop 2.5K-20K, not adjacent to metro area	1	3.1%	600	3.1%	601	3.1%
	NonMetro, with urban pop < 2,500, adjacent to metro area	1	3.1%	116	.6%	117	.6%
	NonMetro, with urban pop <2,500, not adjacent to metro area			220	1.1%	220	1.1%
	Metro	Metro, >1M Population	14	43.8%	9310	47.8%	9324
	Metro, 250K-1M Population	10	31.3%	4699	24.1%	4709	24.1%
	Metro, <250K Population	3	9.4%	2332	12.0%	2335	12.0%

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*

		Public Health		All Others		Total	
		Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents		37	100.0%	20733	100.0%	20770	100.0%
Minor surgical procedures		8	21.6%	12398	59.8%	12406	59.7%
First assisting at surgery				5039	24.3%	5039	24.3%
Manage the care of patients in an inpatient setting		1	2.7%	7811	37.7%	7812	37.6%
Serve on the quality assurance committee		12	32.4%	1671	8.1%	1683	8.1%
Serve on the utilization review committee		6	16.2%	641	3.1%	647	3.1%
Participate in the conduct of clinical trials		2	5.4%	2411	11.6%	2413	11.6%
Serve on formulary/pharmaceutical selection committee		6	16.2%	559	2.7%	565	2.7%
Decision making about procurement of medical/surgical equipment/supplies		11	29.7%	4059	19.6%	4070	19.6%
Supervisory/managerial responsibilities for other PAs		2	5.4%	1942	9.4%	1944	9.4%
Supervisory/managerial responsibilities for clinical staff other than PAs		13	35.1%	3886	18.7%	3899	18.8%
Supervisory/managerial responsibilities for non-clinical staff		7	18.9%	1776	8.6%	1783	8.6%
Precept PA students		10	27.0%	7411	35.7%	7421	35.7%
Precept students of other health professions		16	43.2%	5029	24.3%	5045	24.3%

*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

	Public Health		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	38	100.0%	21233	100.0%	21271	100.0%
32 or more hours	30	78.9%	18120	85.3%	18150	85.3%
Less than 32 hours	8	21.1%	2707	12.7%	2715	12.8%
Hours not reported			406	1.9%	406	1.9%

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*

	Public Health		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	22	100.0%	12444	100.0%	12466	100.0%
See some inpatients			5534	44.5%	5534	44.4%
See some outpatients	20	90.9%	10547	84.8%	10567	84.8%
See some nursing home patients			701	5.6%	701	5.6%
See some other patients**	4	18.2%	1360	10.9%	1364	10.9%

*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 outpatients, inpatients, or nursing home patients.

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

	Public Health	All Others	Total
Respondents	30	18120	18150
Mean	40.3	44.3	44.3
Standard deviation	3.1	8.0	8.0
10th percentile	38.0	36.0	36.0
25th percentile	40.0	40.0	40.0
Median	40.0	41.0	41.0
75th percentile	40.0	50.0	50.0
90th percentile	45.0	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*

	All Others	Total
Respondents	1154	1154
Mean	43.2	43.2
Standard deviation	7.3	7.3
10th percentile	35.0	35.0
25th percentile	40.0	40.0
Median	40.0	40.0
75th percentile	48.0	48.0
90th percentile	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

	All Others	Total
Respondents	1081	1081
Mean	63.7	63.7
Standard deviation	42.6	42.6
10th percentile	20.0	20.0
25th percentile	35.0	35.0
Median	50.0	50.0
75th percentile	90.0	90.0
90th percentile	110.0	110.0

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*

	Public Health	All Others	Total
Respondents	10	4771	4781
Mean	36.5	39.0	39.0
Standard deviation	3.1	5.4	5.4
10th percentile	32.0	33.0	33.0
25th percentile	33.5	35.0	35.0
Median	36.5	40.0	40.0
75th percentile	40.0	40.0	40.0
90th percentile	40.0	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

	Public Health	All Others	Total
Respondents	10	4708	4718
Mean	72.2	94.6	94.6
Standard deviation	28.0	39.9	39.9
10th percentile	31.0	50.0	50.0
25th percentile	47.5	70.0	70.0
Median	72.5	90.0	90.0
75th percentile	88.0	115.0	115.0
90th percentile	122.5	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

	Public Health		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	30	100.0%	17939	100.0%	17969	100.0%
Do not take call	26	86.7%	10743	59.9%	10769	59.9%
Take some call	2	6.7%	6162	34.3%	6164	34.3%
Take call, hours unknown	1	3.3%	138	.8%	139	.8%
Always on call	1	3.3%	896	5.0%	897	5.0%

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*

	Public Health		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	30	100.0%	17965	100.0%	17995	100.0%
Emergency department call			1919	10.7%	1919	10.7%
Surgical assisting call			2232	12.4%	2232	12.4%
In-house call			2216	12.3%	2216	12.3%
Other call	4	13.3%	3786	21.1%	3790	21.1%
Do not take call	26	86.7%	10743	59.8%	10769	59.8%
Call taken, type not indicated			51	.3%	51	.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*

	Public Health	All Others	Total
Respondents	2	6160	6162
Mean	52.0	94.1	94.1
Standard deviation	67.9	87.1	87.1
10th percentile	4.0	12.0	12.0
25th percentile	4.0	30.0	30.0
Median	52.0	72.0	72.0
75th percentile	.	130.0	130.0
90th percentile	.	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 Clinically Practicing Respondents by Types of Professional Liability Insurance Policies*

	Public Health		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	30	100.0%	17965	100.0%	17995	100.0%
Personal policy funded by employer	7	23.3%	6094	33.9%	6101	33.9%
Personal policy, self-funded	2	6.7%	517	2.9%	519	2.9%
Rider on employer's policy, funded by employer	11	36.7%	8854	49.3%	8865	49.3%
Rider on employer's policy, self-funded			176	1.0%	176	1.0%
Other type of liability insurance	6	20.0%	553	3.1%	559	3.1%
No professional liability insurance coverage	3	10.0%	429	2.4%	432	2.4%
Don't know	1	3.3%	2007	11.2%	2008	11.2%

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

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

	Public Health		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	29	100.0%	17062	100.0%	17091	100.0%
No base pay	1	3.4%	236	1.4%	237	1.4%
Salary	22	75.9%	13647	80.0%	13669	80.0%
Hourly wage	6	20.7%	3065	18.0%	3071	18.0%
Other base pay			114	.7%	114	.7%

*Excludes self-employed PAs.

Table 4.12: Number and Percent Distribution of Respondents Who Work at Least 32 Hours per Week at Primary Clinical Job by Types of Additional Compensation Received*

	Public Health		All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	24	100.0%	16485	100.0%	16509	100.0%
No additional pay	18	75.0%	5286	32.1%	5304	32.1%
Surgical assisting fees			332	2.0%	332	2.0%
Overtime pay	3	12.5%	2892	17.5%	2895	17.5%
Administrative pay			433	2.6%	433	2.6%
Pay for on-call availability			1448	8.8%	1448	8.8%
Pay for on-call services/events			1463	8.9%	1463	8.9%
Bonus not based on performance	3	12.5%	3069	18.6%	3072	18.6%
Bonus based on performance of practice			2206	13.4%	2206	13.4%
Bonus based on performance of PA			4034	24.5%	4034	24.4%
Bonus based on something else	1	4.2%	877	5.3%	878	5.3%

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

Table 4.13: 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*

	All Others		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents	5209	100.0%	5209	100.0%
Bonus based on charges	969	18.6%	969	18.6%
Bonus based on revenues	2289	43.9%	2289	43.9%
Bonus based on relative value units	759	14.6%	759	14.6%
Bonus based on profit	1312	25.2%	1312	25.2%
Bonus based on number of visits or panel size	982	18.9%	982	18.9%
Bonus based on quality of care	792	15.2%	792	15.2%
Bonus based on patient satisfaction	815	15.6%	815	15.6%
Bonus based on other factors	461	8.9%	461	8.9%

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

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

	Public Health	All Others	Total
Respondents	29	17317	17346
Mean	\$73,180	\$84,415	\$84,396
Standard deviation	\$20,009	\$21,974	\$21,975
10th percentile	\$48,508	\$62,491	\$62,472
25th percentile	\$61,235	\$70,027	\$70,016
Median	\$75,038	\$80,356	\$80,356
75th percentile	\$86,777	\$94,267	\$94,260
90th percentile	\$95,103	\$110,767	\$110,721

*Excludes self-employed PAs.

Table 4.15: Summary Measures of Total Annual Income from Primary Employer for Respondents Who Graduated in 2005 and Work at Least 32 Hours per Week at Primary Clinical Job*

	Public Health	All Others	Total
Respondents	1	1868	1869
Mean	.	\$71,011	\$71,004
Standard deviation	.	\$12,743	\$12,743
10th percentile	.	\$58,048	\$58,040
25th percentile	.	\$63,660	\$63,653
Median	.	\$69,517	\$69,517
75th percentile	.	\$76,417	\$76,416
90th percentile	.	\$85,383	\$85,375

*Excludes self-employed PAs.

Table 4.16: Number and Percent Distribution of Respondents Who Work at Least 32 Hours per Week at Primary Clinical Job by Source of Funds for Types of Insurance*

	Public Health		All Others		Total		
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	
Respondents	23	100.0%	16572	100.0%	16595	100.0%	
Professional Liability Insurance	Employer pays 95-100%	21	91.3%	16178	97.6%	16199	97.6%
	Employer pays 50-94%		99	.6%	99	.6%	
	Employer pays 1-49%	1	4.3%	32	.2%	33	.2%
	Employer pays 0%	1	4.3%	263	1.6%	264	1.6%
Individual Health Insurance	Employer pays 95-100%	18	66.7%	7347	48.0%	7365	48.1%
	Employer pays 50-94%	5	18.5%	5490	35.9%	5495	35.9%
	Employer pays 1-49%	2	7.4%	1075	7.0%	1077	7.0%
	Employer pays 0%	2	7.4%	1386	9.1%	1388	9.1%
Family Health Insurance	Employer pays 95-100%	10	47.6%	2849	24.5%	2859	24.6%
	Employer pays 50-94%	5	23.8%	4160	35.8%	4165	35.8%
	Employer pays 1-49%	3	14.3%	1235	10.6%	1238	10.6%
	Employer pays 0%	3	14.3%	3373	29.0%	3376	29.0%
Dental Insurance	Employer pays 95-100%	9	33.3%	4492	30.8%	4501	30.8%
	Employer pays 50-94%	11	40.7%	4574	31.3%	4585	31.4%
	Employer pays 1-49%	3	11.1%	1455	10.0%	1458	10.0%
	Employer pays 0%	4	14.8%	4077	27.9%	4081	27.9%
Disability Insurance	Employer pays 95-100%	4	19.0%	6268	43.8%	6272	43.8%
	Employer pays 50-94%	5	23.8%	2571	18.0%	2576	18.0%
	Employer pays 1-49%	4	19.0%	1071	7.5%	1075	7.5%
	Employer pays 0%	8	38.1%	4386	30.7%	4394	30.7%
Term Life Insurance	Employer pays 95-100%	6	27.3%	5531	40.7%	5537	40.7%
	Employer pays 50-94%	4	18.2%	1993	14.7%	1997	14.7%
	Employer pays 1-49%	3	13.6%	1322	9.7%	1325	9.7%
	Employer pays 0%	9	40.9%	4729	34.8%	4738	34.8%

*Excludes self-employed PAs.

Table 4.17: Number and Percent Distribution of Respondents Who Work at Least 32 Hours per Week at Primary Clinical Job by Source of Funds for Select Expenses*

		Public Health		All Others		Total	
		Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Respondents		26	100.0%	15053	100.0%	15079	100.0%
Pension/Retirement Fund	Employer pays 95-100%	7	26.9%	3521	23.4%	3528	23.4%
	Employer pays 50-94%	7	26.9%	3093	20.5%	3100	20.6%
	Employer pays 1-49%	9	34.6%	5816	38.6%	5825	38.6%
	Employer pays 0%	3	11.5%	2623	17.4%	2626	17.4%
DEA Registration Fees	Employer pays 95-100%	10	47.6%	10603	77.7%	10613	77.7%
	Employer pays 50-94%			189	1.4%	189	1.4%
	Employer pays 1-49%			92	.7%	92	.7%
	Employer pays 0%	11	52.4%	2762	20.2%	2773	20.3%
NCCPA Fees	Employer pays 95-100%	4	14.8%	10390	64.9%	10394	64.8%
	Employer pays 50-94%			287	1.8%	287	1.8%
	Employer pays 1-49%			140	.9%	140	.9%
	Employer pays 0%	23	85.2%	5199	32.5%	5222	32.6%
AAPA Dues	Employer pays 95-100%	2	7.7%	10111	64.1%	10113	64.0%
	Employer pays 50-94%			275	1.7%	275	1.7%
	Employer pays 1-49%			137	.9%	137	.9%
	Employer pays 0%	24	92.3%	5244	33.3%	5268	33.4%
State PA Chapter Dues	Employer pays 95-100%	1	4.2%	8200	56.9%	8201	56.8%
	Employer pays 50-94%			227	1.6%	227	1.6%
	Employer pays 1-49%			139	1.0%	139	1.0%
	Employer pays 0%	23	95.8%	5854	40.6%	5877	40.7%
Specialty Organization Dues	Employer pays 95-100%			5373	46.5%	5373	46.4%
	Employer pays 50-94%			229	2.0%	229	2.0%
	Employer pays 1-49%			130	1.1%	130	1.1%
	Employer pays 0%	22	100.0%	5817	50.4%	5839	50.5%
AAPA Annual Conference Registration Fees	Employer pays 95-100%	4	16.7%	7991	57.3%	7995	57.2%
	Employer pays 50-94%	3	12.5%	1139	8.2%	1142	8.2%
	Employer pays 1-49%			619	4.4%	619	4.4%
Credentialing Fees	Employer pays 0%	17	70.8%	4200	30.1%	4217	30.2%
	Employer pays 95-100%	8	34.8%	11543	75.5%	11551	75.4%
	Employer pays 50-94%			352	2.3%	352	2.3%
	Employer pays 1-49%			207	1.4%	207	1.4%
	Employer pays 0%	15	65.2%	3187	20.8%	3202	20.9%

*Excludes self-employed PAs.