

2007 State Physician Workforce Data

The Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) release its “2007 State Physician Workforce Data Book” examining active physician supply for each state, current medical school enrollment, physicians in graduate medical education (GME) programs, and in-state retention rates.

Some highlights from the report are:

- Massachusetts has the most active physicians and the most active primary care physicians by degree type (M.D.’s and D.O.’s) per 100,000 population, while Mississippi has the fewest active physicians and active primary care physicians.
- New Jersey has the highest percentage of active international medical school physician graduates.
- Alaska has the most active physicians who have completed their GME in the state and remain in the state per 100,000 population.
- Nineteen states are above the U.S. average for the amount of students enrolled in medical or osteopathic school for the 2007-08 academic year per 100,000 population with Vermont topping the list with the most enrolled.
- Twenty-four states are above U.S. average for students enrolled in *public* medical or osteopathic school for the 2007-08 academic year per 100,000 population with Vermont again averaging higher than the other states.
- Arkansas has the highest proportion of new medical students that matriculated to an in-state medical school for the 2006-07 academic year.
- Thirteen states, with New York, leading the way are above the U.S. average with physicians in ACGME-accredited residencies and fellowships per 100,000 population.
- Sixteen states are above the U.S. average with Residents/Fellows in ACGME-accredited programs who are international medical graduates (IMG). North Dakota has the highest percentage.
- California has the highest percentage of active physicians age 60 and older and Minnesota has the lowest percentage of active physicians age 60 and older.
- Illinois has the highest percentage of active physicians under age 40.

The report provides good data to show how some states are facing significant physician shortages that may affect access to care. The ACP is advocating for passage of legislation that promotes more primary care physicians moving into states facing shortages through student debt relief and higher physician reimbursement.

To read the entire report, please visit the Association of American Medical Colleges’ website at: <http://www.aamc.org/workforce/statedatabooknov2007.pdf>.

If you have any questions on these or other topics, please contact Shuan Tomlinson at 800-338-2746 ext. 4547 or by email at stomlinson@acponline.org.

To access recent and past state health policy reports go to the State Health Policy section on the Chapter Leadership Network (CLN) website or click on: http://www.acponline.org/cln/health_policy.htm.

December 7, 2007