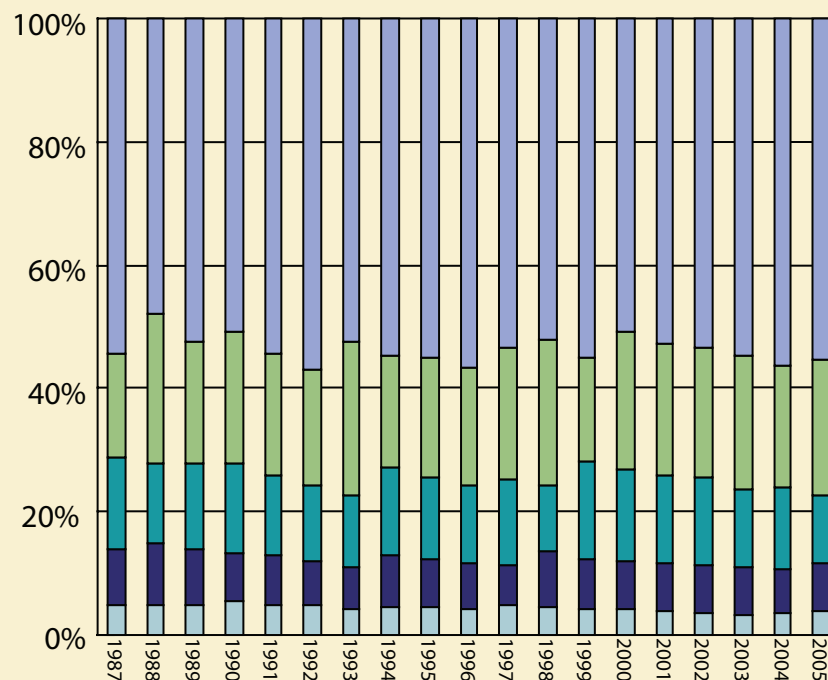


NATIONAL TRENDS

Diversity of medical students by parental income

The American Association of Medical Colleges reported a recent rise in the number of medical school graduates who come from families with incomes in the highest quintile. The organization's January 2008 Analysis in Brief reported that, with medical school debt increasing much more rapidly than physician incomes, a continuation of the trends "would be a warning that medical education is becoming increasingly out of reach for applicants of modest means."



FAST FACTS

The median family income reported to AAMC by students entering medical school has increased from \$50,000 in 1987 to \$100,000 in 2006.

The percentage of students from the highest quintile of family income has never been less than 48.1% or more than 56.9%. The fraction of students from the lowest quintile has never exceeded 5.5%.

In 2000, 50.8% of students entering medical school came from the top quintile. In 2005, 55.2% came from the top quintile and more than three-quarters from the top two quintiles.

In 2007, medical school graduates reported a median educational debt of \$140,000.

Source: Paul Jolly, "Diversity of U.S. Medical Students by Parental Income," Association of American Medical Colleges (2008). www.aamc.org/data/aib/aibissues/aibvol8_no1.pdf.