



Georgia Board for Physician Workforce

2017 Georgia Medical School Graduate Survey



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Georgia Board for Physician Workforce

2017 Georgia Medical School Graduate Survey

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Executive Summary and Key Findings

The Georgia Board for Physician Workforce (GBPWF) has conducted an annual survey of graduating medical school students from each of Georgia’s medical schools since 2008. The purpose of this survey is to inform policy makers, medical school administrators, graduate medical education administrators, and other government and non-government agencies about the medical school pipeline. Also, it serves to give insight on why medical students chose a specialty and residency site and how many intend to ultimately practice in Georgia, when their training is complete. The data in this report is an aggregate of survey responses collected from each of Georgia’s five medical schools. The medical schools that contributed to this report are as follows:

- ▶ Emory University School of Medicine
- ▶ Medical College of Georgia at Augusta University
- ▶ Mercer University School of Medicine
- ▶ Morehouse School of Medicine
- ▶ Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine (PCOM)-Georgia Campus

Table 1: Number of responses from each medical school

Medical School	Number of Medical School Graduates	Number of Graduates that Completed the Survey	Percentage of Graduates in Survey
Emory University School of Medicine	131	111	84.7%
Medical College of Georgia @Augusta University	211	199	94.3%
Mercer University School of Medicine	108	95	88.0%
Morehouse School of Medicine	57	56	98.2%
Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine (GA Campus)	114	95	83.3%
TOTAL	621	556	89.5%

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Key Findings from the 2017 Survey:

Demographic:

- ▶ 51.5% of respondents are female and 48.5% are male.
- ▶ 81.2% of respondents are between the ages of 25-29 and 12.2% are ages 30-33.
- ▶ 95.8% of respondents are U.S. citizens and 0.4% are not.
- ▶ 58.8% of respondents are white, 21.0% are Asian, 13.0% are black and 3.8% are other.

Geography:

- ▶ 79.0% intend to practice in Georgia.
- ▶ 11.1% intend to practice in states contiguous to Georgia (AL, FL, NC, SC, and TN).
- ▶ 35.0% intend to practice in a rural community.
- ▶ 65.0% intend to practice in the inner city.

Specialty:

- ▶ The greatest declared PGY-1 specialty was internal medicine with 15.5%.
- ▶ 60.5% declared a primary care/core specialty (family medicine, internal medicine, pediatrics, and OB/GYN).
- ▶ 74.4 % matched to a primary care/core specialty in their PGY-1 year.
- ▶ 'Lifestyle', 'Mentor/Role Model influence', 'Options for Fellowship Training', and 'Future Earnings' continue to have the greatest influence when respondents choose their specialty.

Practice Plans:

- ▶ MCG had the highest percent of respondents say they intend to practice in Georgia after they complete residency training (**31.6%**). PCOM had the lowest, with (**14.5%**).
- ▶ MCG had the highest percent of respondents say they intend to practice in Georgia and in an inner city (**26.6%**). PCOM had the lowest at (**5.8%**).
- ▶ MCG had the highest percent of respondents say they intend to practice in a rural community (**36.0%**). Emory had the lowest at (**2.0%**).

Georgia Residency Programs

- ▶ **44.4%** of respondents ranked a Georgia GME program among their top three choices before the Match.
- ▶ Top 3 choices for Georgia GME programs
 - Emory at **36.1%**
 - MCG at **17.0%**
 - WellStar at **9.0%**
- ▶ **25.5%** of respondents indicated they matched to a Georgia graduate medical education (GME) program.

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All Specialties

Table 2: What is your gender?

Medical School	Female		Male		Totals	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Emory University School of Medicine	68	61.8%	42	38.2%	110	100.0%
Medical College of Georgia @Augusta University	89	45.9%	105	54.1%	194	100.0%
Mercer University School of Medicine	39	42.9%	52	57.1%	91	100.0%
Morehouse School of Medicine	39	69.6%	17	30.4%	56	100.0%
Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine (GA Campus)	46	48.4%	49	51.6%	95	100.0%

Table 3: What is your age?

Age	Number	Percent
24 and Under	8	1.5%
25 - 29	427	81.2%
30 - 33	64	12.2%
34 - 39	15	2.9%
40 and Above	12	2.3%
Total	526	100.0%

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Table 4: What is your citizenship status?

Medical School	U. S. Citizen		Other	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Emory University School of Medicine	107	96.4%	4	3.6%
Medical College of Georgia @Augusta University	190	95.5%	9	4.5%
Mercer University School of Medicine	88	92.6%	7	7.4%
Morehouse School of Medicine	55	98.2%	1	1.8%
Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine (GA Campus)	93	97.9%	2	2.1%

Table 5: What is your race/ethnicity?

School	White		Asian		Black		Multi-Race		Other		Total	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Emory University School of Medicine	69	62.2%	27	24.3%	7	6.3%	4	3.6%	4	3.6%	111	100.0%
Medical College of Georgia @Augusta University	125	64.8%	33	17.1%	12	6.2%	10	5.2%	13	6.7%	193	100.0%
Mercer University School of Medicine	75	79.8%	10	10.6%	5	5.3%	2	2.1%	2	2.1%	94	100.0%
Morehouse School of Medicine	5	8.9%	11	19.6%	37	66.1%	1	1.8%	2	3.6%	56	100.0%
Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine (GA Campus)	48	51.1%	34	36.2%	10	10.6%	2	2.1%	0	0.0%	94	100.0%
Total and Percent of all Respondents	322	58.8%	115	21.0%	71	13.0%	19	3.5%	21	3.8%	548	100.0%

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Table 6: Specialty matched to in PGY 1 Year.

	Specialty	Number	Percent
Primary Care/Core	Family Medicine	58	11.0%
	Internal Medicine	150	28.4%
	OB/GYN	34	6.4%
	Pediatrics	60	11.4%
	Emergency Medicine	44	8.3%
	General Surgery	47	8.9%
Primary Care/Core		393	74.4%
Specialties	Anesthesiology	13	2.5%
	ENT	1	0.2%
	Gastroenterology	1	0.2%
	Neurology	19	3.6%
	Ophthalmology	3	0.6%
	Orthopedic	18	3.4%
	Otolaryngology	8	1.5%
	Pathology	5	0.9%

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Table 6: Specialty matched to in PGY 1 Year, cont.

	Specialty	Number	Percent
Specialties	Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation	3	0.6%
	Plastic Surgery	3	0.6%
	Psychiatry	21	4.0%
	Radiology	3	0.6%
	Urology	4	0.8%
	Transitional Year	27	5.1%
	Preliminary Medicine	6	1.1%
Specialties Total		135	25.6%
Total All		528	100.0%

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Table 7: Specialty distribution declared by graduates.

	Specialty	Number	Percent
Primary Care / Core	Family Medicine	55	10.7%
	Internal Medicine	80	15.5%
	OB/GYN	41	7.9%
	Pediatrics	65	12.6%
	Emergency Medicine	47	9.1%
	General Surgery	24	4.7%
Primary Care/Core Total		312	60.5%
Specialties	Anesthesiology	20	3.9%
	Cardiology	23	4.5%
	Critical Care	4	0.8%
	Dermatology	7	1.4%
	ENT	1	0.2%
	Geriatrics	2	0.4%
	Hematology	3	0.6%
	Hospital Medicine	7	1.4%
	Nephrology	1	0.2%
	Neurology	21	4.1%
	Oncology	3	0.6%

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Table 7: Specialty distribution declared by graduates, cont.

	Specialty	Number	Percent
Specialties	Ophthalmology	13	2.5%
	Orthopaedic	18	3.5%
	Otolaryngology	7	1.4%
	Pathology	5	1.0%
	Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation	5	1.0%
	Plastic Surgery	3	0.6%
	Preventive Medicine / Public Health	3	0.6%
	Psychiatry	23	4.5%
	Pulm/Critical Care	4	0.8%
	Radiology	23	4.5%
	Rheumatology	1	0.2%
Urology	7	1.4%	
Specialties Total		204	39.5%
Total All		516	100.0%

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Table 8: When did you make the decision about what specialty to pursue?

Time Frame	Number	Percent
1 ST Year	44	8.1%
2 nd Year	22	4.1%
3 rd Year	306	56.5%
4 th Year	61	11.3%
During/after college	49	9.0%
Not certain	20	3.7%
Prior to entering college	40	7.4%
TOTAL	542	100.0%

Most Medical School Graduates determined what specialty to pursue in their 3rd year of Medical School.

Table 9: How important were these factors in determining choice of specialty?

Importance	Lifestyle	Mentor Role Model	Options for Fellowship Training	Future Earning Potential	Length of Residency Training	Competitiveness of Specialty	Medical Education Debt	Family Expectations
Strong to Moderate Influence	72.7%	55.7%	54.3%	50.1%	49.9%	46.7%	44.5%	40.9%
Minor to No Influence	27.3%	44.3%	45.7%	49.9%	50.1%	53.3%	55.5%	59.1%

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Table 10: Which Georgia GME programs were among your top three choices?

GA GME Programs	Number	Percent
Emory University School of Medicine	121	36.1%
Medical College of Georgia at Augusta University	57	17.0%
Wellstar - Kennestone Regional Medical Center	30	9.0%
Memorial Health University Medical Center	20	6.0%
Wellstar - Atlanta Medical Center	19	5.7%
Morehouse School of Medicine	18	5.4%
Navicent Health (formerly Medical Center of Central Georgia)	18	5.4%
Gwinnett Medical Center	16	4.8%
AU/UGA Medical Partnership - St. Mary's HCS	12	3.6%
Floyd Medical Center	5	1.5%
Piedmont - Athens Regional Medical Center	4	1.2%
Coliseum Medical Center	4	1.2%
Midtown Medical Center, Columbus Regional Health	4	1.2%
Colquitt Regional Medical Center	3	0.9%
Phoebe Putney Memorial Hospital	2	0.6%
Redmond Regional Medical Center	2	0.6%
Totals	335*	100.0%

Note: *Represents multiple choices.

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Table 11: Did you match to a program in-state or out-of-state?

Matched In State or Out of State	Number	Percent
Georgia	123	25.5%
Out of State	359	74.5%
Total	482	100.0%

Table 12: Did you match to your first choice program?

Matched to First Choice	Number	Percent
Yes	286	53.2%
No	252	46.8%
Total	538	100.0%

Table 13: How many Georgia programs did you list in your top three?

Number of Georgia GME's in Top Three	Number	Percent
Zero	223	47.9%
One	162	34.8%
Two	53	11.4%
Three	28	6.0%
Total	466	100.0%

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Table 14: What is your primary reason for leaving Georgia?

Reason for Leaving Georgia	Number	Percent
Preferred a highly reputable program out-of-state in specialty area	131	25.6%
Desire to stay in Georgia, but did not match to a Georgia program	58	11.3%
Family Reasons	52	10.2%
Military obligation	43	8.4%
Quality of Georgia residency programs	25	4.9%
Specialty not offered in Georgia	20	3.9%
Lack of osteopathic residencies	18	3.5%
Higher resident salary	3	0.6%
Best fit	1	0.2%
Just wanted something different	1	0.2%
Scramble	1	0.2%
Significant other	1	0.2%
Wanted a new experience	1	0.2%
Not Applicable	157	30.7%
Total	512	100.0%

Table 15: What is your perception of Georgia GME programs in your specialty?

Perception of Georgia GME Programs in Specialty	Number	Percent
Very Positive	312	64.3%
Neutral	166	34.2%
Very Negative	7	1.4%
Total	485	100.0%

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Table 16: What is your perception of the quality of Georgia’s GME programs in your specialty area?

Perception of quality in specialty	Number	Percent
High Quality	368	68.8%
Neutral	153	28.6%
Low Quality	14	2.6%
Total	535	100.0%

Table 17: To what degree do the factors influenced choice of residency program?

	Family		Location		Reputation of GME program?		Fellowship Option		Availability of GME Slots in Desired Specialty		Resident Salary	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Minor to No Influence	151	28.1%	62	11.5%	65	12.1%	188	34.9%	267	55.6%	276	69.3%
Moderate to Strong Influence	386	71.9%	477	88.5%	474	87.9%	350	65.1%	213	44.4%	122	30.7%

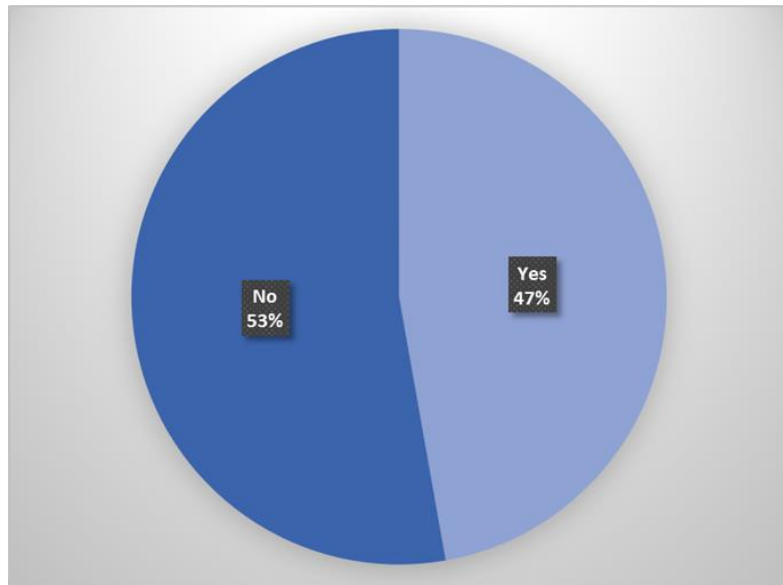
- ▶ Location of the residency program was the greatest influence, 88.5% indicated that location has a moderate to strong influence.
- ▶ Reputation of the residency program also had a great influence, 87.9% indicated that reputation has a moderate to strong influence.
- ▶ Resident Salary has the least influence in selection of a residency program, 69.3% said salary has little to no influence on their program selection.

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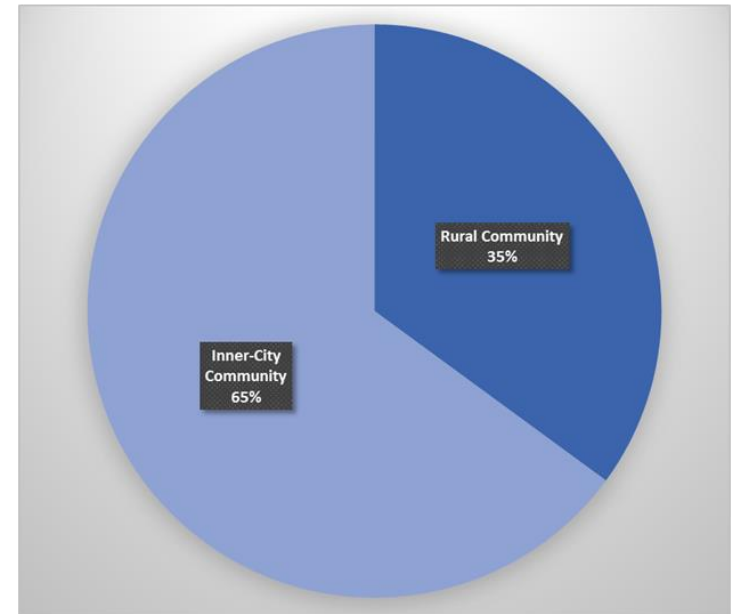
Do you plan to practice in an underserved area?

Chart 1



In what type of underserved area do you plan to practice?

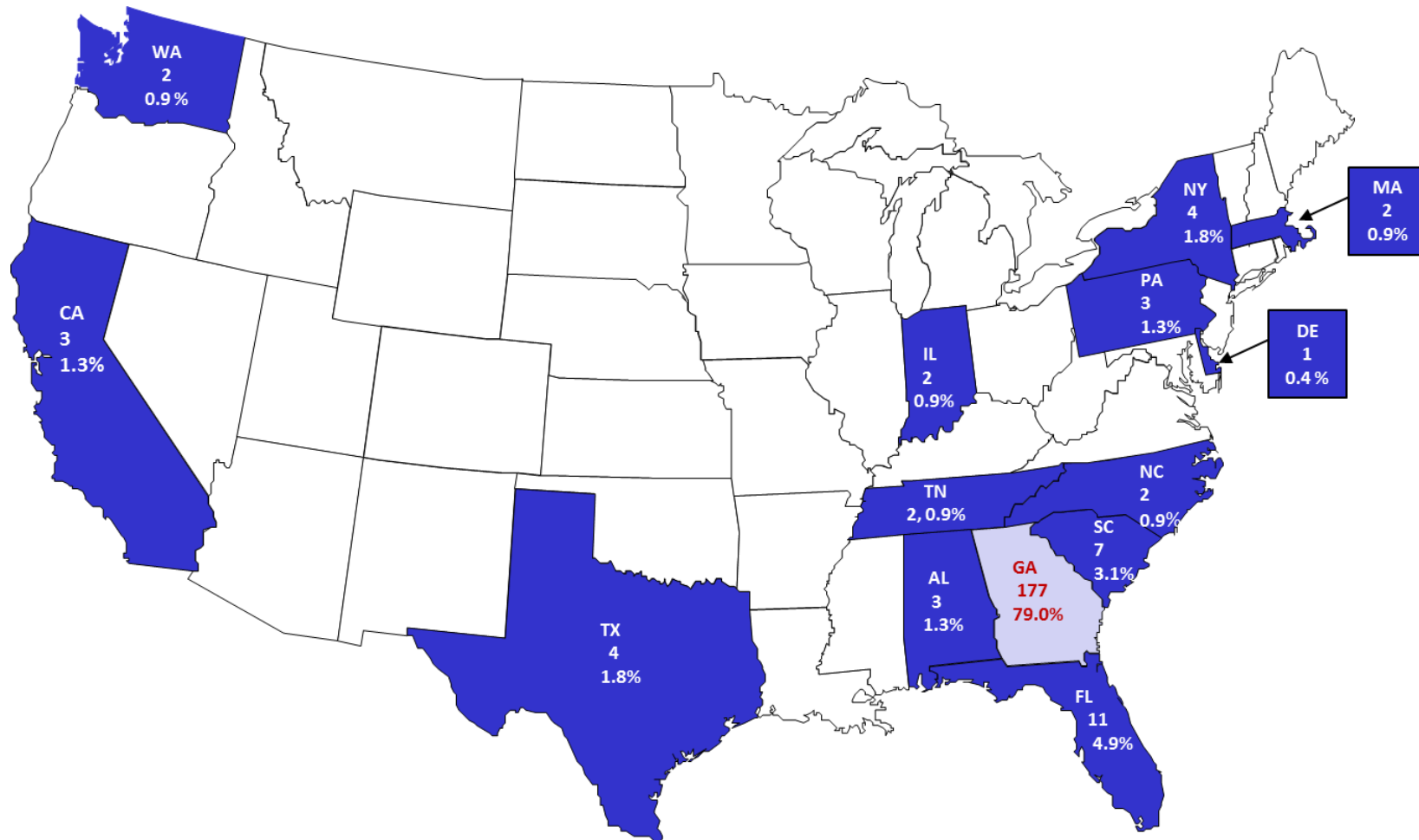
Chart 2



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Map 1: States where Georgia Medical School Graduates plan to practice following residency*



*Does not include those with military obligations, those who are undecided, or those who indicated plans to practice outside the U.S.

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The 2017 Georgia Medical School Graduate Survey report can be viewed and downloaded on the internet at gbpw.georgia.gov.

The Georgia Board for Physician Workforce welcomes comments and suggestions for future editions of this report. Please send comments to gbpw@dch.ga.gov.