American Academy of Pediatrics
Delaware Chapter

Committee on Pediatric Workforce State Pediatrician Workforce Survey

The AAP Committee on Pediatric Workforce (COPW) over a year ago launched the State Physician Workforce Survey through AAP chapters. In addition to learning more about workforce issues at the local level, the COPW hoped to identify state and regional trends that can be compared with national trends to get a better understanding of specific issues as well as the pediatrician workforce overall. The COPW has reviewed and assembled the most relevant and robust responses for your chapter. We hope these results will provide valuable information that can assist you in your efforts to advocate for the pediatric physician workforce and help ensure that children in your communities have access to pediatricians, pediatric medical subspecialists, and pediatric surgical specialists.

Hours Spent in Direct Patient Care

In a typical work week, Delaware respondents spent over 75% of their time in direct patient care. Nearly 55% said that the number of patient care hours had remained the same over the past 3 years. Approximately 25% had decreased their patient care hours, while just under 25% had increased the number of hours devoted to direct patient care.

Location of Residency Training

The majority of the state’s physicians completed their residency training out of state.

Typical Waiting Time for a Non-Emergency Appointment

Approximately 45% of respondents said that they could see an established patient for a non-emergency appointment the same day. About 10% said that the wait time would be 1-2 days, and less than 25% said that the wait time could be 3-6 days. Approximately 48% of respondents reported that the wait time had remained about the same over the past 3 years, while just under 25% said it was shorter and just under 10% said the wait time was now longer than it had been 3 years ago. For new patients, wait times were longer. Only about 25% of practices reported that a new patient could be seen on the same day, and nearly 20% reported that a new patient could be seen in 1-2 days. Approximately 10% reported that the wait time for new patients was longer than it had been 3 years ago.

Location of Medical School

The majority of the state’s physicians completed their medical education out of state.
Practice Type

Over 93% of respondents said that they are currently in clinical practice, and the average number of years that they have been in practice is just under 20. Almost 33% of respondents are in a single specialty group practice. The next highest categories were hospital outpatient ambulatory site and hospital inpatient. Each was reported by approximately 21% of respondents.

Effect of Technology (e.g., Use of Optimized EHR) on Practice

Survey participants were asked to consider what changes they might make if a new office system, such as the use of optimized electronic health records, increased their practice efficiency. They were given a range of options, such as changing their work hours, seeing more patients, or hiring additional staff. Close to 40% of respondents reported that they would be “very likely” or “somewhat likely” to reduce their hours, and approximately 45% said they would be “very likely” or “somewhat likely” to see more patients. Just over 22% reported that they would be “very likely” or “somewhat likely” to hire nurse practitioners, and approximately 42% reported that they would hire more support staff.

Additional Resources:
AAP Child Health Mapping Project.
Providing national and state-specific data on pediatric health care delivery.
http://www.aap.org/en-us/professional-resources/Research/research-resources/Pages/Mapping-Health-Care-Delivery-for-Americas-Children.aspx

Association of American Medical Colleges, Center for Workforce Studies.  2013 State Physician Workforce Data Book
A biennial report on physician supply, medical school enrollment, and GME for each state, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico.

Current data available about the physician workforce across specialties in a series of figures and tables.
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Committee on Pediatric Workforce State Pediatrician Workforce Survey

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Hours Spent in Direct Patient Care

In a typical work week, District of Columbia respondents spent over 60% of their time in direct patient care. Nearly 30% said that the number of patient care hours had remained the same over the past 3 years. Approximately 53% had decreased their patient care hours, while just under 20% had increased the number of hours devoted to direct patient care.

Location of Medical School

The majority of the state’s physicians completed their medical education out of state.

Location of Residency Training

Distribution of Workforce

Typical Waiting Time for a Non-Emergency Appointment

Approximately 25% of respondents said that they could see an established patient for a non-emergency appointment the same day. About 25% said that the wait time would be 1-2 days, and less than 15% said that the wait time could be 3-6 days. Approximately 30% of respondents reported that the wait time had remained about the same over the past 3 years, while just under 35% said it was shorter and just over 10% said the wait time was now longer than it had been 3 years ago. For new patients, wait times were longer. Only about 10% of practices reported that a new patient could be seen on the same day, and nearly 18% reported that a new patient could be seen in 1-2 days. Approximately 15% reported that the wait time for new patients was longer than it had been 3 years ago.
Practice Type

Over 95% of respondents said that they are currently in clinical practice, and the average number of years that they have been in practice is just under 16. Almost 55% of respondents are in a hospital outpatient ambulatory site. The next highest categories were hospital inpatient and Federally Qualified Health Center. Each was reported by approximately 19% of respondents.

Effect of Technology (e.g., Use of Optimized EHR) on Practice

Survey participants were asked to consider what changes they might make if a new office system, such as the use of optimized electronic health records, increased their practice efficiency. They were given a range of options, such as changing their work hours, seeing more patients, or hiring additional staff. Close to 50% of respondents reported that they would be “very likely” or “somewhat likely” to reduce their hours, and approximately 55% said they would be “very likely” or “somewhat likely” to hire nurse practitioners, and approximately 35% reported that they would hire more support staff.

Experiences Referring Patients to Medical Subspecialists/Surgical Specialists over the Past Year

Approximately 18% of respondents rated the current number of pediatric medical subspecialists/surgical specialists in their area as “fair” or “poor.” Nearly 30% of respondents rated the current number as “good,” and the remainder rated the current number as “very good” or “excellent.” However, just under 25% rated wait times as “very good” or “excellent,” and about 65% rated wait times as “poor” or “fair.”

Additional Resources:
AAP Child Health Mapping Project.
Providing national and state-specific data on pediatric health care delivery.
http://www.aap.org/en-us/professional-resources/Research/research-resources/Pages/Mapping-Health-Care-Delivery-for-Americas-Children.aspx

Association of American Medical Colleges, Center for Workforce Studies. 2013 State Physician Workforce Data Book
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**Hours Spent in Direct Patient Care**

In a typical work week, respondents of Maryland spent over 70% of their time in direct patient care. Nearly 70% said that the number of patient care hours had remained the same over the past 3 years. Approximately 18% had decreased their patient care hours, while just under 17% had increased the number of hours devoted to direct patient care.

**Location of Residency Training**

The majority of the state's physicians completed their residency training out of state.

- Maryland
- Massachusetts
- New York
- North Carolina
- Pennsylvania
- District of Columbia

**Location of Medical School**

The majority of the state's physicians completed their medical education out of state.

- Maryland
- District of Columbia
- Pennsylvania
- Virginia
- New York

**Typical Waiting Time for a Non-Emergency Appointment**

Approximately 35% of respondents said that they could see an established patient for a non-emergency appointment the same day. About 20% said that the wait time would be 1-2 days, and less than 10% said that the wait time could be 3-6 days. Approximately 55% of respondents reported that the wait time had remained about the same over the past 3 years, while just under 20% said it was shorter and just over 10% said the wait time was now longer than it had been 3 years ago. For new patients, wait times were longer. Only about 20% of practices reported that a new patient could be seen on the same day, and nearly 25% reported that a new patient could be seen in 1-2 days. Approximately 15% reported that the wait time for new patients was longer than it had been 3 years ago.
Practice Type

Over 80% of respondents said that they are currently in clinical practice, and the average number of years that they have been in practice is just under 22. Almost 40% of respondents are in a single specialty group practice. The next highest categories were hospital outpatient ambulatory site, reported by approximately 22% of respondents, followed by multispecialty group practice and hospital inpatient, each of which was reported by approximately 12% of respondents.

Experiences Referring Patients to Medical Subspecialists/Surgical Specialists over the Past Year

Approximately 30% of respondents rated the current number of pediatric medical subspecialists/surgical specialists in their area as “fair” or “poor.” Nearly 28% of respondents rated the current number as “good,” and the remainder rated the current number as “very good” or “excellent.” However, just under 15% rated wait times as “very good” or “excellent,” and about 65% rated wait times as “poor” or “fair.”

Effect of Technology (e.g., Use of Optimized EHR) on Practice

Survey participants were asked to consider what changes they might make if a new office system, such as the use of optimized electronic health records, increased their practice efficiency. They were given a range of options, such as changing their work hours, seeing more patients, or hiring additional staff. Close to 38% of respondents reported that they would be “very likely” or “somewhat likely” to reduce their hours, and approximately 45% said they would be “very likely” or “somewhat likely” to see more patients. Just under 22% reported that they would be “very likely” or “somewhat likely” to hire nurse practitioners, and approximately 32% reported that they would hire more support staff.

Additional Resources:
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**Hours Spent in Direct Patient Care**

In a typical work week, New Jersey respondents spent over 78% of their time in direct patient care. Nearly 60% said that the number of patient care hours had remained the same over the past 3 years. Approximately 18% had decreased their patient care hours, while just under 30% had increased the number of hours devoted to direct patient care.

**Location of Medical School**

The majority of the state’s physicians completed their medical education out of state.

- New Jersey
- Connecticut
- Pennsylvania
- Other

**Distribution of Workforce**

- Rural
- Suburban
- Urban, not inner city
- Urban, inner city

**Typical Waiting Time for a Non-Emergency Appointment**

Approximately 42% of respondents said that they could see an established patient for a non-emergency appointment the same day. About 15% said that the wait time would be 1-2 days, and less than 12% said that the wait time could be 3-6 days. Approximately 60% of the respondents reported that the wait time had remained about the same over the past 3 years, while just over 10% said it was shorter and just under 12% said the wait time was now longer than it had been 3 years ago. For new patients, the wait times were longer. Only about 26% of practices reported that a new patient could be seen on the same day, and nearly 26% reported that a new patient could be seen in 1-2 days. Approximately 15% reported that the wait time for new patients was longer than it had been 3 years ago.
Practice Type

Over 95% of respondents said that they are currently in clinical practice, and the average number of years that they have been in practice is just under 24. Almost 48% of the respondents are in a single specialty group practice. The next highest categories were self-employed solo practice and hospital outpatient/ambulatory site. Each was reported by approximately 15% of respondents.

Experiences Referring Patients to Medical Subspecialists/Surgical Specialists over the Past Year

Approximately 22% of the respondents rated the current number of pediatric medical subspecialists/surgical specialists in their area as “fair” or “poor.” Nearly 30% of the respondents rated the current number as “good,” and the remainder rated the current number as “very good” or “excellent.” However, just under 12% rated wait times as “very good” or “excellent,” and about 60% rated wait times as “poor” or “fair.”

Effect of Technology (e.g., Use of Optimized EHR) on Practice

Survey participants were asked to consider what changes they might make if a new office system, such as the use of optimized electronic health records, increased their practice efficiency. They were given a range of options, such as changing their work hours, seeing more patients, or hiring additional staff. Close to 40% of respondents reported that they would be “very likely” or “somewhat likely” to reduce their hours, and approximately 45% said they would be “very likely” or “somewhat likely” to see more patients. Just over 15% reported that they would be “very likely” or “somewhat likely” to hire nurse practitioners, and approximately 35% reported that they would hire more support staff.

Additional Resources:
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American Academy of Pediatrics
Pennsylvania Chapter

Committee on Pediatric Workforce State Pediatrician Workforce Survey

The AAP Committee on Pediatric Workforce (COPW) over a year ago launched the State Physician Workforce Survey through AAP chapters. In addition to learning more about workforce issues at the local level, the COPW hoped to identify state and regional trends that can be compared with national trends to get a better understanding of specific issues as well as the pediatrician workforce overall. The COPW has reviewed and assembled the most relevant and robust responses for your chapter. We hope these results will provide valuable information that can assist you in your efforts to advocate for the pediatric physician workforce and help ensure that children in your communities have access to pediatricians, pediatric medical subspecialists, and pediatric surgical specialists.

Hours Spent in Direct Patient Care

In a typical work week, Pennsylvania respondents spent over 75% of their time in direct patient care. Nearly 63% said that the number of patient care hours had remained the same over the past 3 years. Approximately 23% had decreased their patient care hours, while just under 23% had increased the number of hours devoted to direct patient care.

Location of Medical School

Typical Waiting Time for a Non-Emergency Appointment

Approximately 35% of respondents said that they could see an established patient for a non-emergency appointment the same day. About 20% said that the wait time would be 1-2 days, and less than 15% said that the wait time could be 3-6 days. Approximately 58% of the respondents reported that the wait time had remained about the same over the past 3 years, while just under 15% said it was shorter and just under 15% said the wait time was now longer than it had been 3 years ago. For new patients, the wait times were longer. Only about 20% of practices reported that a new patient could be seen on the same day, and nearly 20% reported that a new patient could be seen in 1-2 days. Approximately 15% reported that the wait time for new patients was longer than it had been 3 years ago.
Practice Type

Over 90% of respondents said that they are currently in clinical practice, and the average number of years that they have been in practice is just under 20. Almost 45% of the respondents are in a single specialty group practice. The next highest categories were hospital inpatient and hospital outpatient/ambulatory site. Each was reported by approximately 23% of respondents.

Experiences Referring Patients to Medical Subspecialists/Surgical Specialists over the Past Year

Approximately 20% of the respondents rated the current number of pediatric medical subspecialists/surgical specialists in their area as “fair” or “poor.” Nearly 25% of the respondents rated the current number as “good,” and the remainder rated the current number as “very good” or “excellent.” However, just over 20% rated wait times as “very good” or “excellent,” and about 50% rated wait times as “poor” or “fair.”

Effect of Technology (e.g., Use of Optimized EHR) on Practice

Survey participants were asked to consider what changes they might make if a new office system, such as the use of optimized electronic health records, increased their practice efficiency. They were given a range of options, such as changing their work hours, seeing more patients, or hiring additional staff. Close to 40% of respondents reported that they would be “very likely” or “somewhat likely” to reduce their hours, and approximately 40% said they would be “very likely” or “somewhat likely” to see more patients. Just over 25% reported that they would be “very likely” or “somewhat likely” to hire nurse practitioners, and approximately 35% reported that they would hire more support staff.

Additional Resources:
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**Hours Spent in Direct Patient Care**

In a typical work week, West Virginia respondents spent over 70% of their time in direct patient care. Nearly 60% said that the number of patient care hours had remained the same over the past 3 years. Approximately 10% had decreased their patient care hours, while just under 35% had increased the number of hours devoted to direct patient care.

**Typical Waiting Time for a Non-Emergency Appointment**

Approximately 40% of respondents said that they could see an established patient for a non-emergency appointment the same day. About 20% said that the wait time would be 1-2 days, and about 20% said that the wait time could be 3-6 days. Approximately 40% of respondents reported that the wait time had remained about the same over the past 3 years, while just over 15% said it was shorter and just under 10% said the wait time was now longer than it had been 3 years ago. For new patients, the wait times were longer. Only about 10% of practices reported that a new patient could be seen on the same day, and nearly 30% reported that a new patient could be seen in 1-2 days. Approximately 10% reported that the wait time for new patients was longer than it had been 3 years ago.
Practice Type

Just over 90% of respondents said that they are currently in clinical practice, and the average number of years that they have been in practice is 21. Close to 40% of respondents are in a multispecialty group practice. The next highest categories were self-employed solo practice, single specialty group practice, and Federally Qualified Health Center. Each was reported by almost 20% of respondents.

Effect of Technology (e.g., Use of Optimized EHR) on Practice

Survey participants were asked to consider what changes they might make if a new office system, such as the use of optimized electronic health records, increased their practice efficiency. They were given a range of options, such as changing their work hours, seeing more patients, or hiring additional staff. Close to 40% of respondents reported that they would be “very likely” or “somewhat likely” to reduce their hours, and approximately 60% said they would be “very likely” or “somewhat likely” to see more patients. Just over 15% reported that they would be “very likely” or “somewhat likely” to hire nurse practitioners, and approximately 30% reported that they would hire more support staff.

Experiences Referring Patients to Medical Subspecialists/Surgical Specialists over the Past Year

Approximately 65% of respondents rated the current number of pediatric medical subspecialists/surgical specialists in their area as “fair” or “poor.” Nearly 20% of respondents rated the current number as “good,” and the remainder rated the current number as “very good” or “excellent.” However, just over 2% rated wait times as “very good” or “excellent,” and about 70% rated wait times as “poor” or “fair.”

Additional Resources:
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http://www.aap.org/en-us/professional-resources/Research/research-resources/Pages/Mapping-Health-Care-Delivery-for-Americas-Children.aspx

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