2004
PHYSICIAN SURVEY
Vermont Department of Health
Agency of Human Services
SURVEY DESCRIPTION

Mailed to physicians along with the license renewal forms in the fall of 2004

Followed up via mail and phone calls

The final response rate was 99.4%
SUMMARY

• There were 1612 physicians providing patient care in Vermont (1569 MDs and 43 DOs).
• 29% (461) of the physicians were female.
• 47% (741) of respondents have worked in Vermont 9 years or less, and 25% (388) have worked in Vermont 20 or more years.
• 35% attended medical school or completed residency training at the University of Vermont.
PRIMARY CARE

• 39% (634) worked mainly in primary care, including:
  17% (280) in family practice
  11% (177) in internal medicine
  4%  (70) in obstetrics and gynecology
  7% (107) in pediatric primary care

• There were 77.0 primary care FTEs per 100,000 population
SPECIALTY CARE

• 61% (978) worked mainly in specialty care:
  5% (78) in anesthesiology
  5% (84) in emergency medicine
  10% (157) in specialty internal medicine
  10% (160) in psychiatry
  4% (71) in radiology
  9% (139) in surgery (46 general, 57 orthopedic)
  18% (289) other specialties (35 neurology, 46 ophthalmology, 47 pathology, 27 urology)
AGE OF PHYSICIANS

• Ages ranged from 29 to 92, with a median age of 49.

• In 9 of 14 counties, 10% or more of the primary care physicians are over age 60

• 16% of specialists are over age 60, including:
  29% of neurologists
  28% of ophthalmologists
  22% of psychiatrists
  21% of pathologists
CHANGES OVER TIME

• As compared with 2000:

  • There are 49 more primary care physicians (6.5 additional FTEs).
  
  • There are 83 more specialty care physicians (33.0 FTEs). FTE increases were especially large in anesthesiology & internal medicine.
  
  • Primary care FTEs per 100,000 population were similar. But FTEs in 2004 may be underestimated by up to 4%.
Age Distribution

15% of all physicians are over age 60
Age Distribution by Gender

Most of the older physicians are male (89% of those over 55)

2004 Physician Survey
## Primary Care by Gender

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Specialty</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Number of Physicians</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Family Practice</td>
<td>181</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>280</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Internal Medicine</td>
<td>117</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>176</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ob/Gyn</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pediatrics</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>107</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Shown for each specialty are the numbers of physicians who work mainly in that specialty.

2004 Physician Survey
Shown for each specialty are the numbers of physicians who work mainly in that specialty.
All sites and specialties of each physician are counted here.
One FTE is defined as 40 or more hours per week.
FTEs in 2004 may be underestimated by up to 4%.
Primary Care FTE to Population Ratios by County

All sites and specialties of each physician are counted here. One FTE is defined as 40 or more hours per week. FTEs in 2004 may be underestimated by up to 4%.
Location of Training

![Graph showing the percent of physicians' medical school and residency location.]

- **Medical School**:
  - VT: 20%
  - N.H.: 2%
  - New England: 12%
  - Mid Atlantic: 24%
  - South: 13%
  - Central: 16%
  - West: 4%
  - Canada: 4%
  - Other Foreign: 5%

- **Residency**:
  - VT: 24%
  - N.H.: 8%
  - New England: 24%
  - Mid Atlantic: 27%
  - South: 16%
  - Central: 16%
  - West: 13%
  - Canada: 4%
  - Other Foreign: 1%

*Depicted are: only first medical school, but any residency in region (thus more than 100% total)*

2004 Physician Survey
Years Worked in Vermont

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Years Worked in Vermont</th>
<th>Count</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&lt; 1 yr</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-2 yrs</td>
<td>167</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3-4 yrs</td>
<td>175</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5-9 yrs</td>
<td>307</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10-14 yrs</td>
<td>260</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15-19 yrs</td>
<td>191</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-24 yrs</td>
<td>135</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25-29 yrs</td>
<td>132</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30-34 yrs</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35+ yrs</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Years worked in Vermont was unknown for 32 physicians.

2004 Physician Survey
Hours Worked Per Week

Average patient care hours per week: 35 overall, 23 for ages 65 and older. 53% of males, but only 36% of females, provide patient care 40+ hours per week. Hours per week in 2004 may be underestimated by up to 4%.
Accepting New Patients

88% accepted new patients overall, 78% accepted new Medicaid patients, 80% new Medicare patients. Emergency Medicine and Pathology excluded.

2004 Physician Survey
### Comparison of Selected Physician Data, 1994-2004

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1994</th>
<th>2000</th>
<th>2004 †</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total active * physicians</td>
<td>1204</td>
<td>1480</td>
<td>1612</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent female</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary care physicians</td>
<td>493</td>
<td>585</td>
<td>634</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% accepting new patients</td>
<td>88%</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>81%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>accepting new medicaid patients</td>
<td>82%</td>
<td>72%</td>
<td>70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>accepting new medicare patients</td>
<td>81%</td>
<td>73%</td>
<td>71%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary care physician FTEs</td>
<td>407.3</td>
<td>472.2</td>
<td>478.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FTEs per 100,000 Population</td>
<td>69.6</td>
<td>77.6</td>
<td>77.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Specialist physicians</td>
<td>711</td>
<td>895</td>
<td>978</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Specialist physician FTEs **</td>
<td>555.7</td>
<td>677.5</td>
<td>710.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% of FTEs in Chittenden County</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>46%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* providing patient care in Vermont  
** FTEs not computed for pathology  
† FTEs in 2004 may be underestimated by up to 4%.