

The Vermont Department of Health

2006 PHYSICIAN SURVEY SUMMARY REPORT

Guidance • Support • Prevention • Protection

November, 2007

 VERMONT
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

SURVEY DESCRIPTION

Mailed to physicians along with the license renewal forms in the fall of 2006

Followed up via mail and phone calls

The final response rate was 99.8%

SUMMARY

- There were 1730 physicians providing patient care in Vermont (1680 MDs and 50 DOs).
- 29% (496) of the physicians were female.
- 44% (726) have worked in Vermont less than 10 years, and 26% (435) have worked in Vermont 20 or more years.
- 35% attended medical school or completed residency training at the University of Vermont.

PRIMARY CARE

- 37% (640) worked mainly in primary care, including:
 - 17% (291) in family practice
 - 10% (174) in internal medicine
 - 4% (67) in obstetrics and gynecology
 - 6% (108) in pediatric primary care
- There were 80.7 primary care FTEs per 100,000 population statewide

SPECIALTY CARE

- 63% (1090) worked mainly in specialty care:
 - 5% (79) in anesthesiology
 - 6% (96) in emergency medicine
 - 11% (183) in specialty internal medicine
 - 10% (169) in psychiatry
 - 6% (106) in radiology (including tele-radiology)
 - 9% (153) in surgery (49 general, 65 orthopedic)
 - 18% (304) other specialties (37 neurology, 41 ophthalmology, 56 pathology, 26 urology)

AGE OF PHYSICIANS

- Ages ranged from 28 to 91, with a median age of 50.
- In 5 of 14 counties, 20% or more of the primary care physicians are over age 60
- 17% of specialists are over age 60, including:
 - 29% of ophthalmologists
 - 27% of neurologists
 - 27% of psychiatrists
 - 25% of pathologists
 - 24% of general surgeons

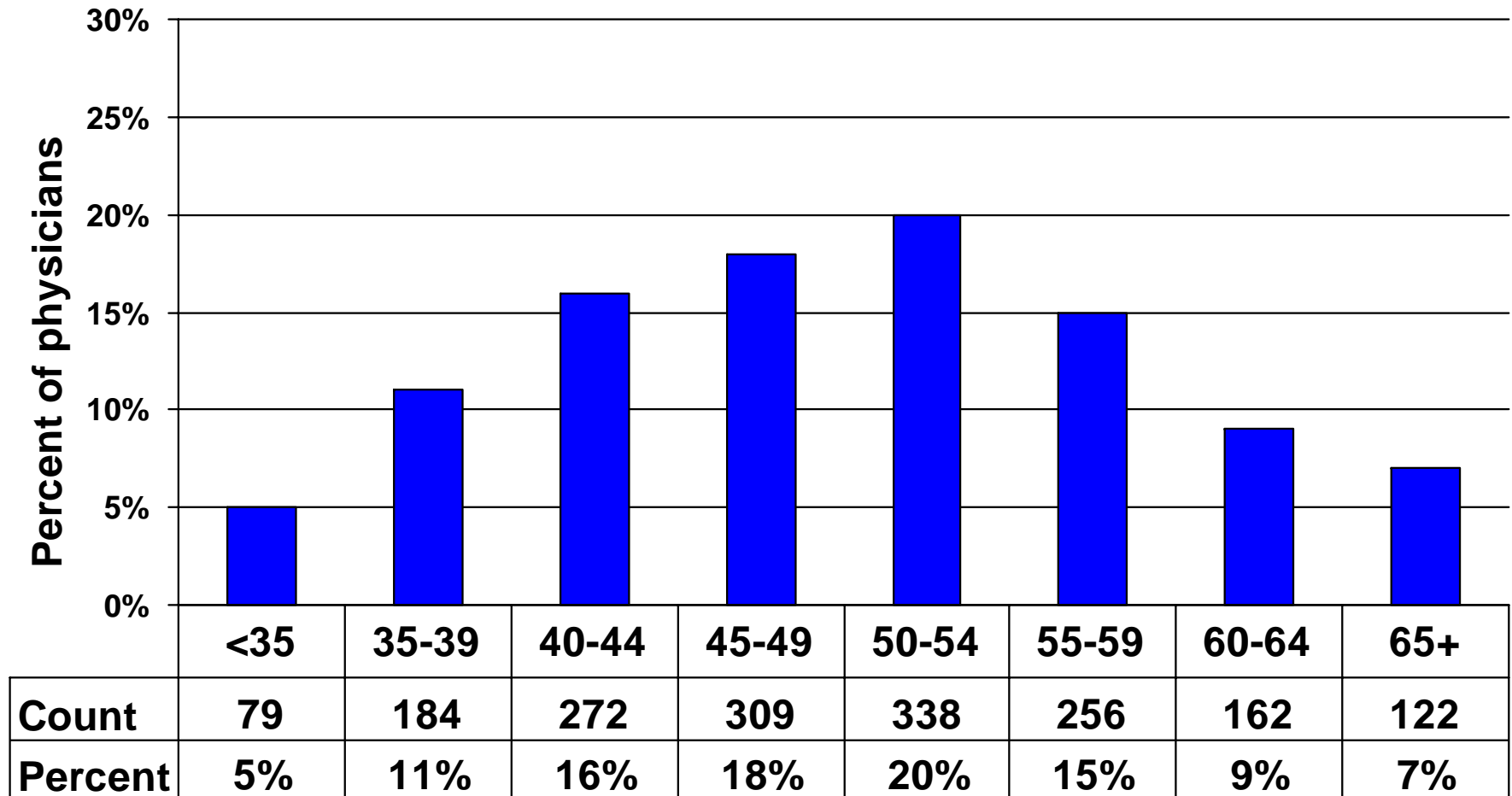
CHANGES OVER TIME: PRIMARY CARE

- As compared with the year 2000:
 - There are 55 more primary care physicians (31.4 additional FTEs).
 - Only 1.2 FTEs added in primary care internal medicine.
 - Primary care FTEs per 100,000 population increased from 77.6 to 80.7 statewide.
- In Orange County primary care FTEs per 100,000 population dropped from 61.5 in 2004 to 46.8 in 2006.

CHANGES OVER TIME: SPECIALTY CARE

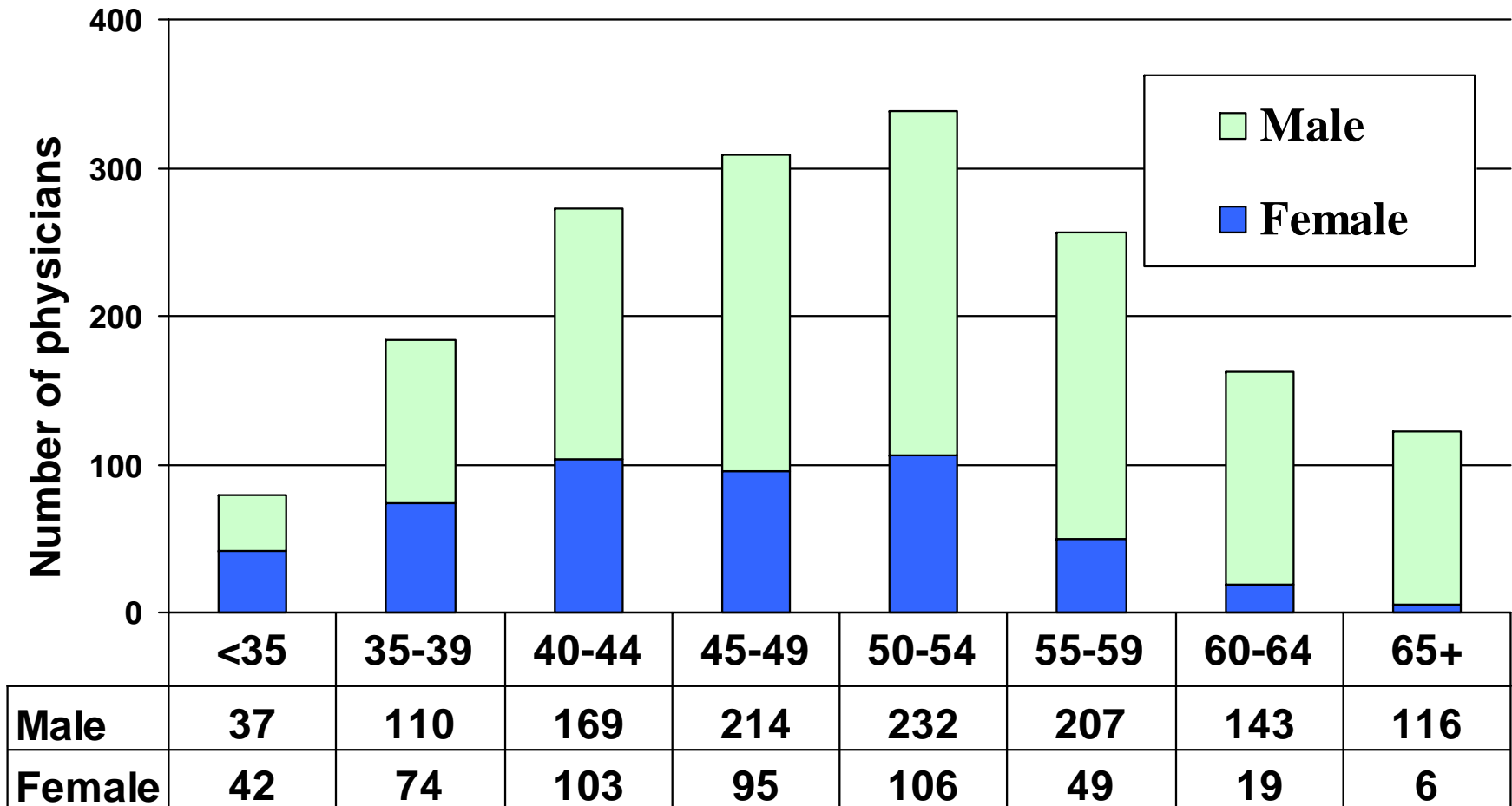
- As compared with the year 2000:
 - There are 195 more specialty care physicians.
 - There are 114.7 more specialty care FTEs.
 - FTE increases were especially large in anesthesiology & specialty internal medicine.

Age Distribution



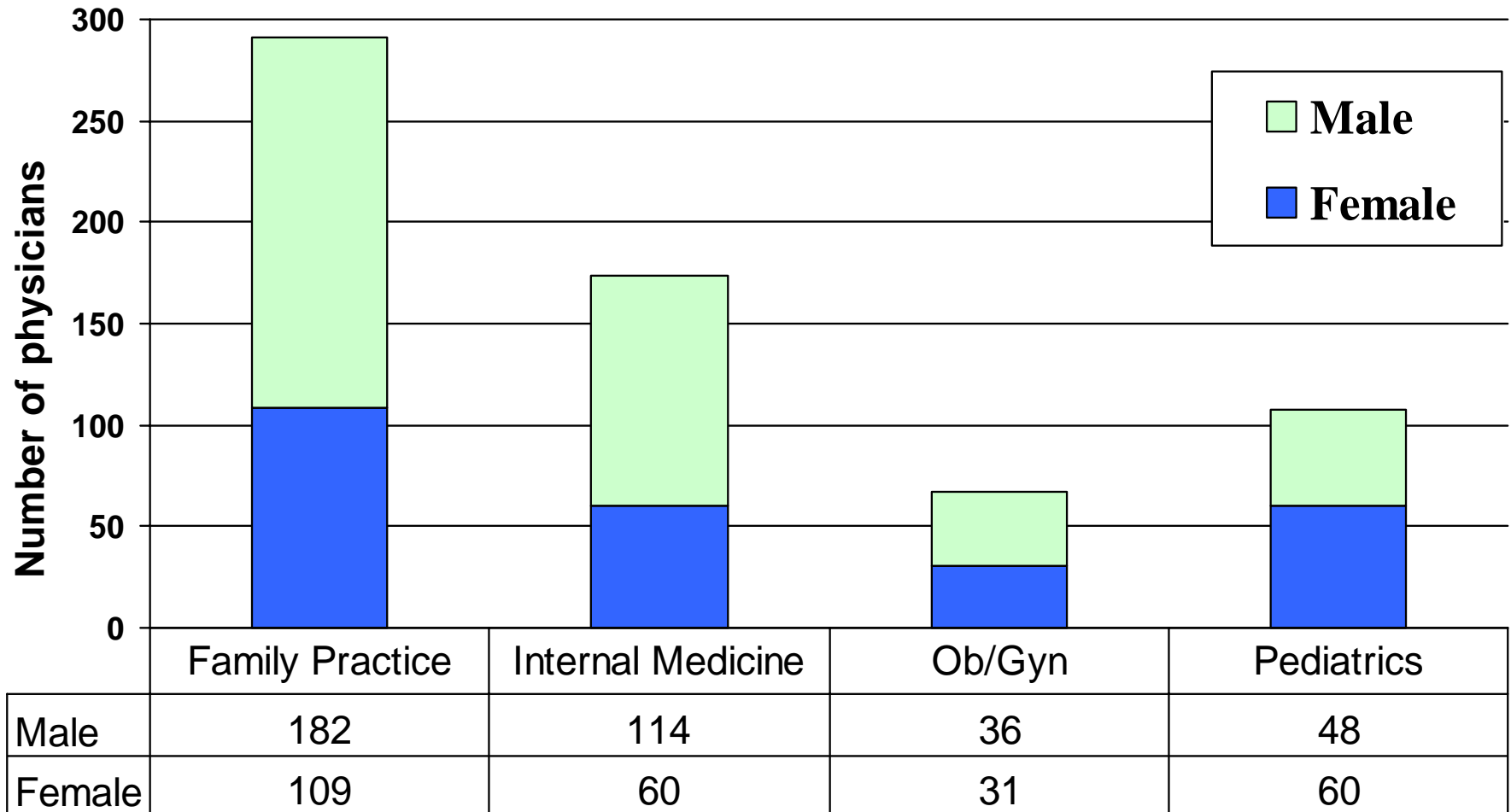
16% of all physicians are over age 60

Age Distribution by Gender



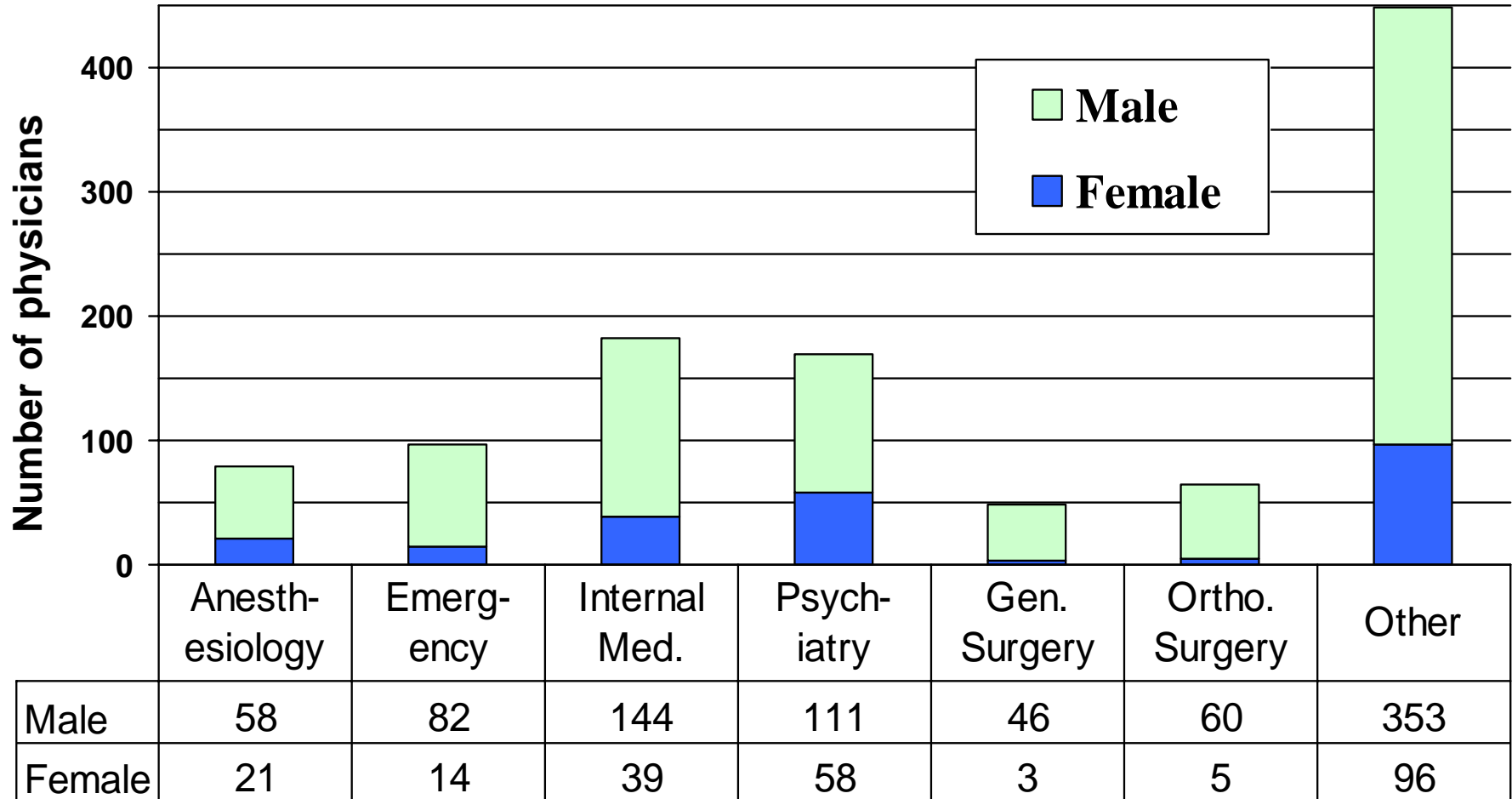
86% of physicians over age 55 are male

Primary Care by Gender



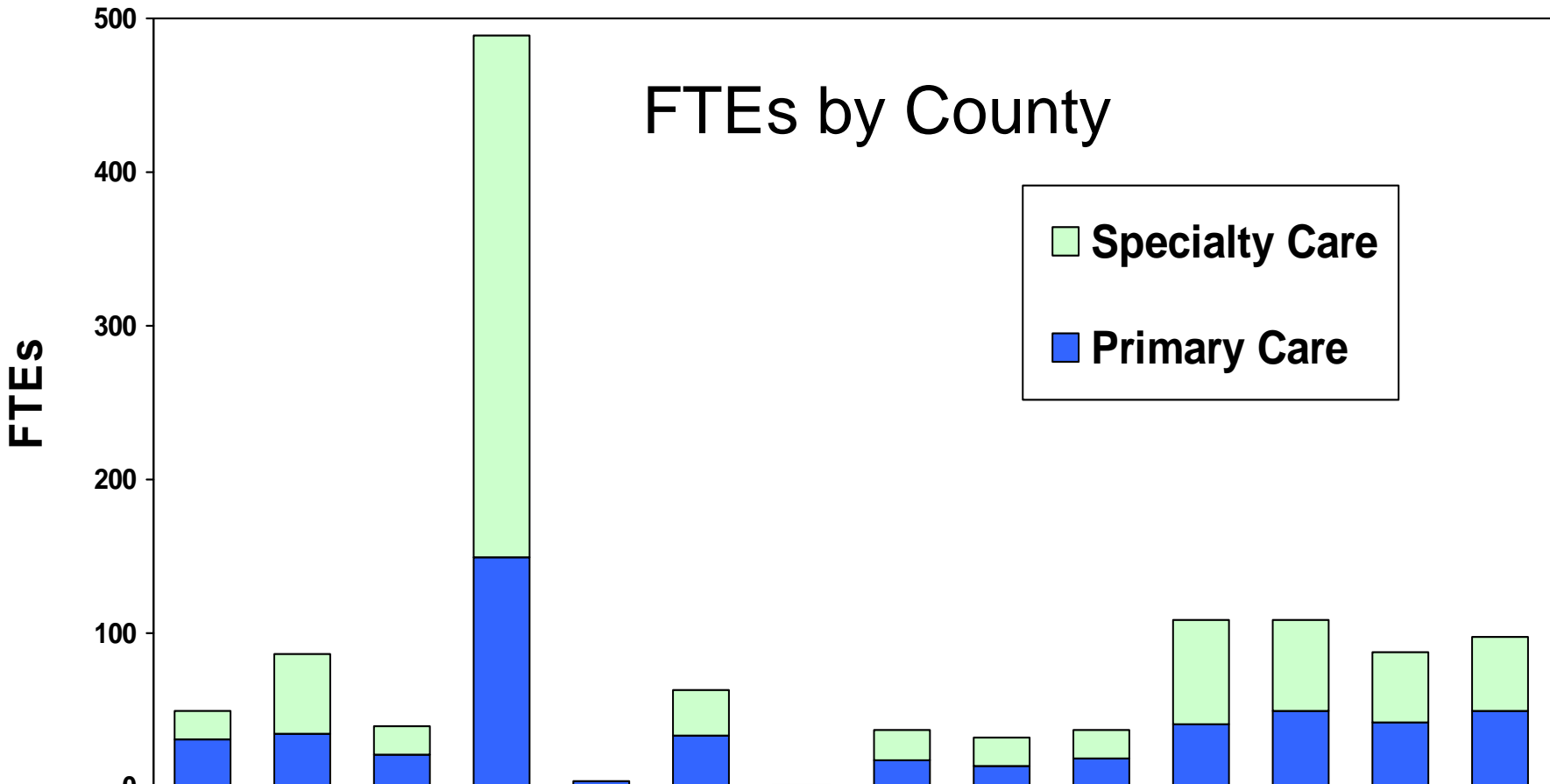
56% of pediatricians and 46% of OB/GYNs are female

Specialty Care by Gender



Most specialty care physicians are male

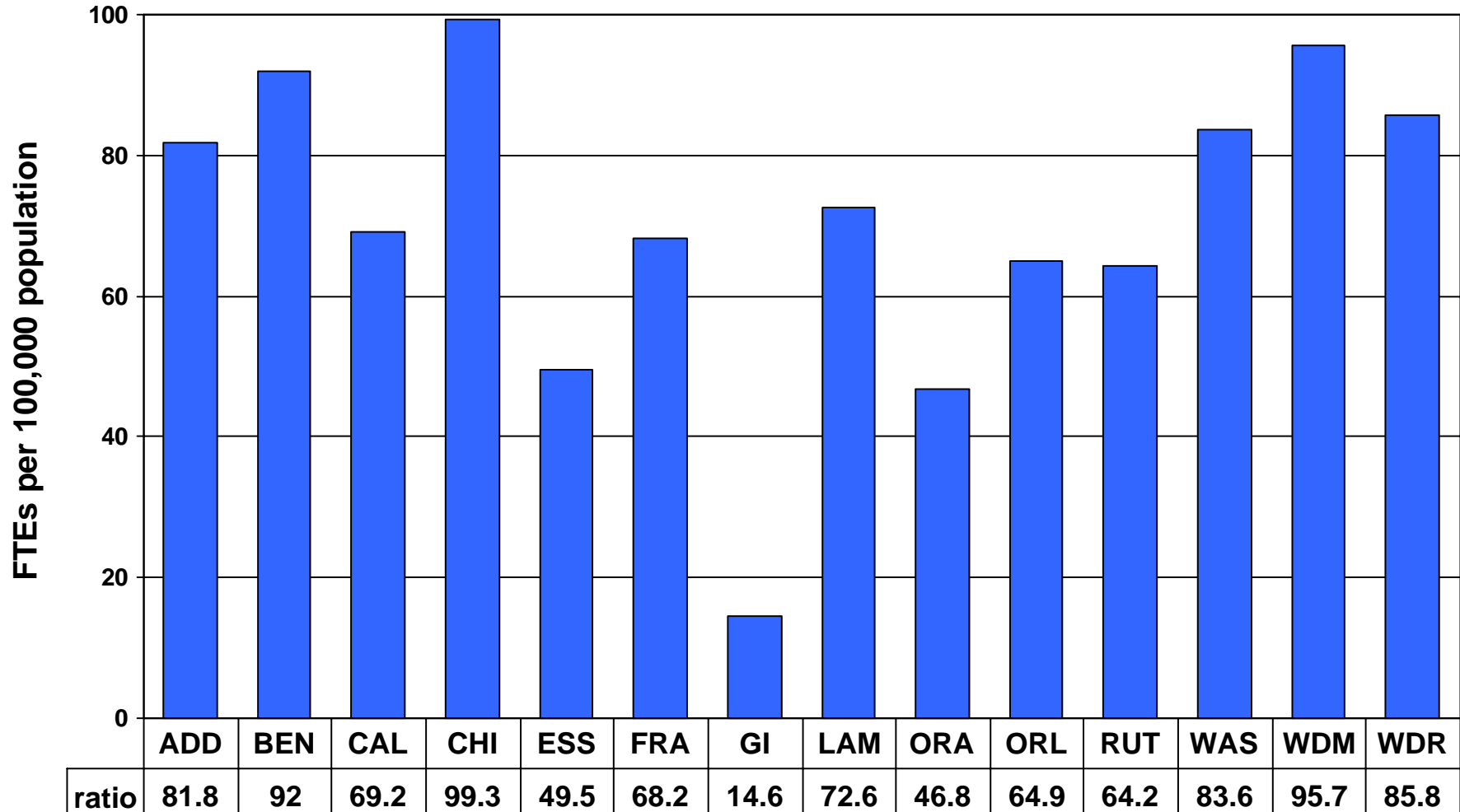
FTEs by County



	ADD	BEN	CAL	CHI	ESS	FRA	GI	LAM	ORA	ORL	RUT	WAS	WDM	WDR
Specialty Care	19.2	52.6	18.5	339.4	0	29.5	0	18.8	18.9	18.7	67.4	58.7	45.8	48.4
Primary Care	30.3	34	21.3	149	3.2	32.9	1.1	17.9	13.8	18	40.8	49.8	42	49.5

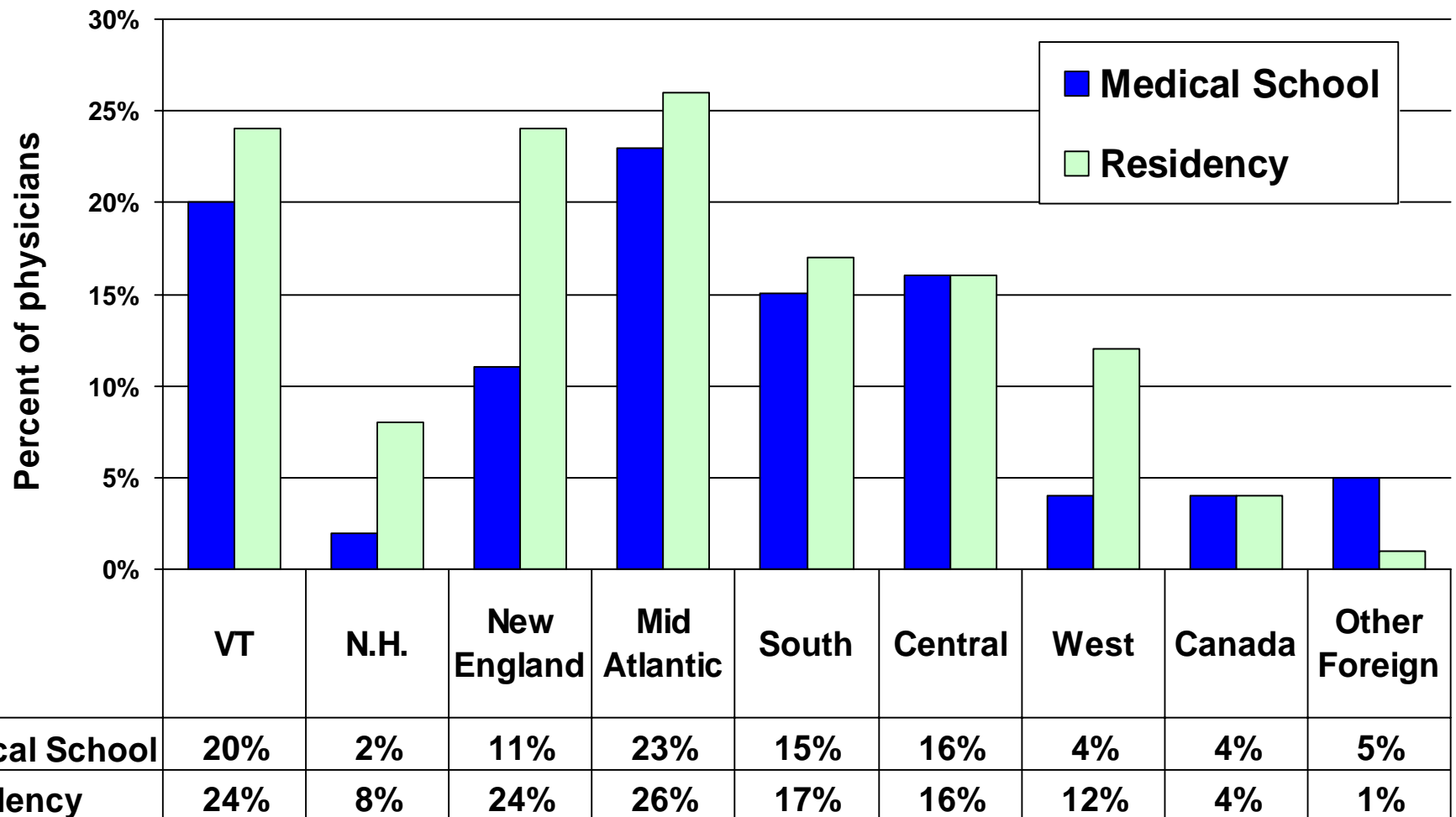
Physicians are highly concentrated in Chittenden County

Primary Care FTE to Population Ratios by County



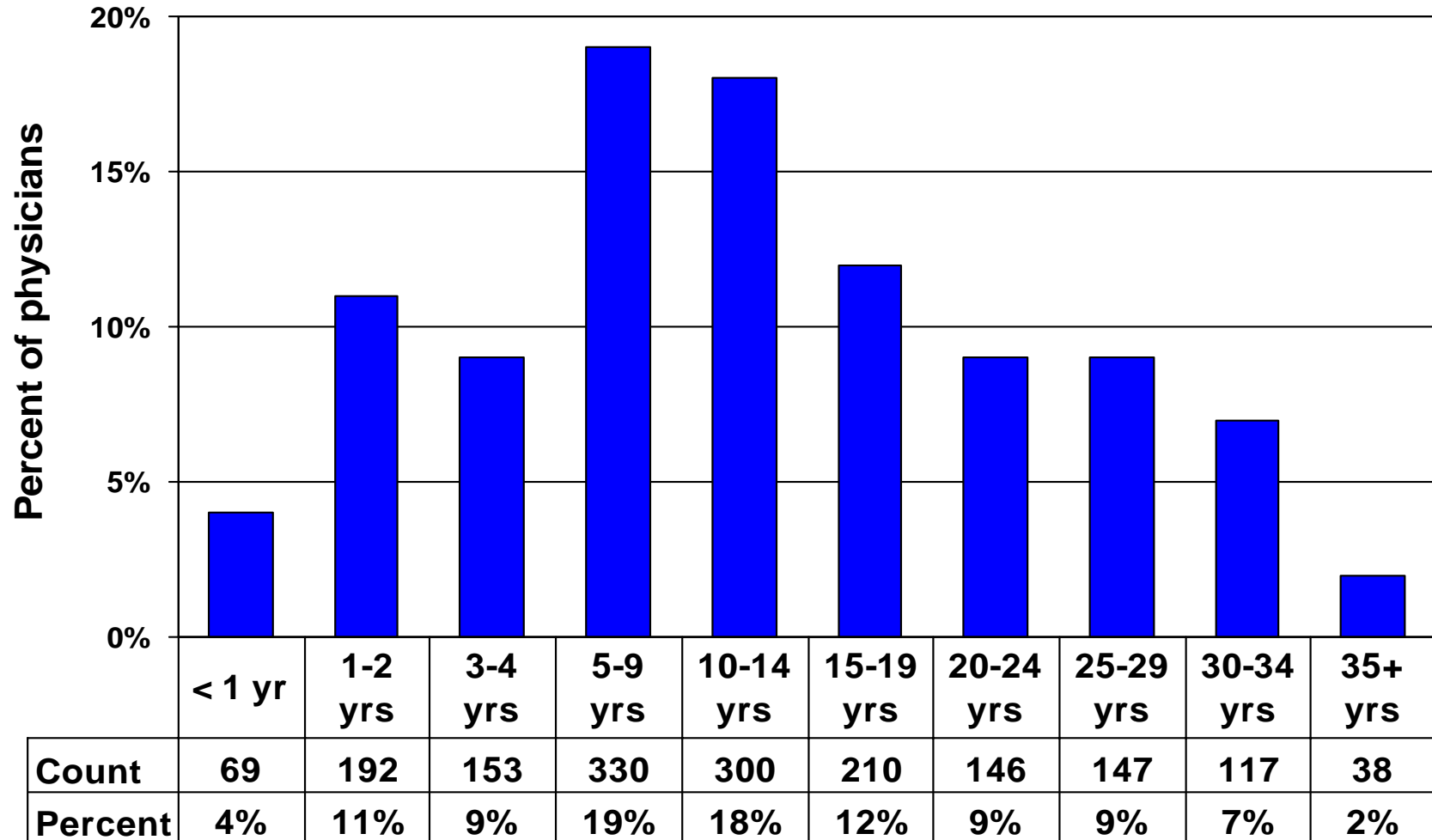
Several counties have few primary care physicians relative to their population

Location of Training



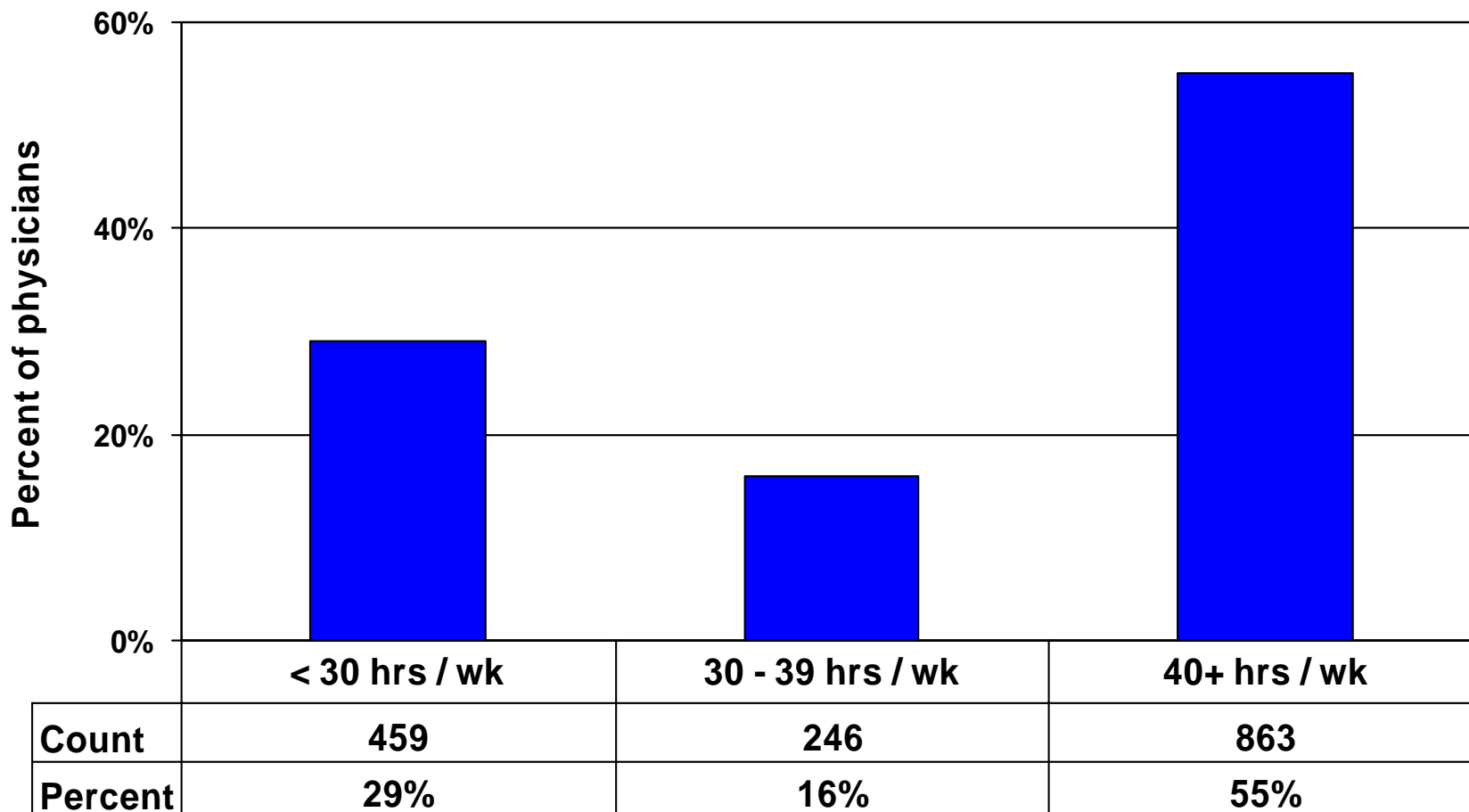
35% of physicians attended medical school or completed residency training at UVM

Years Worked in Vermont



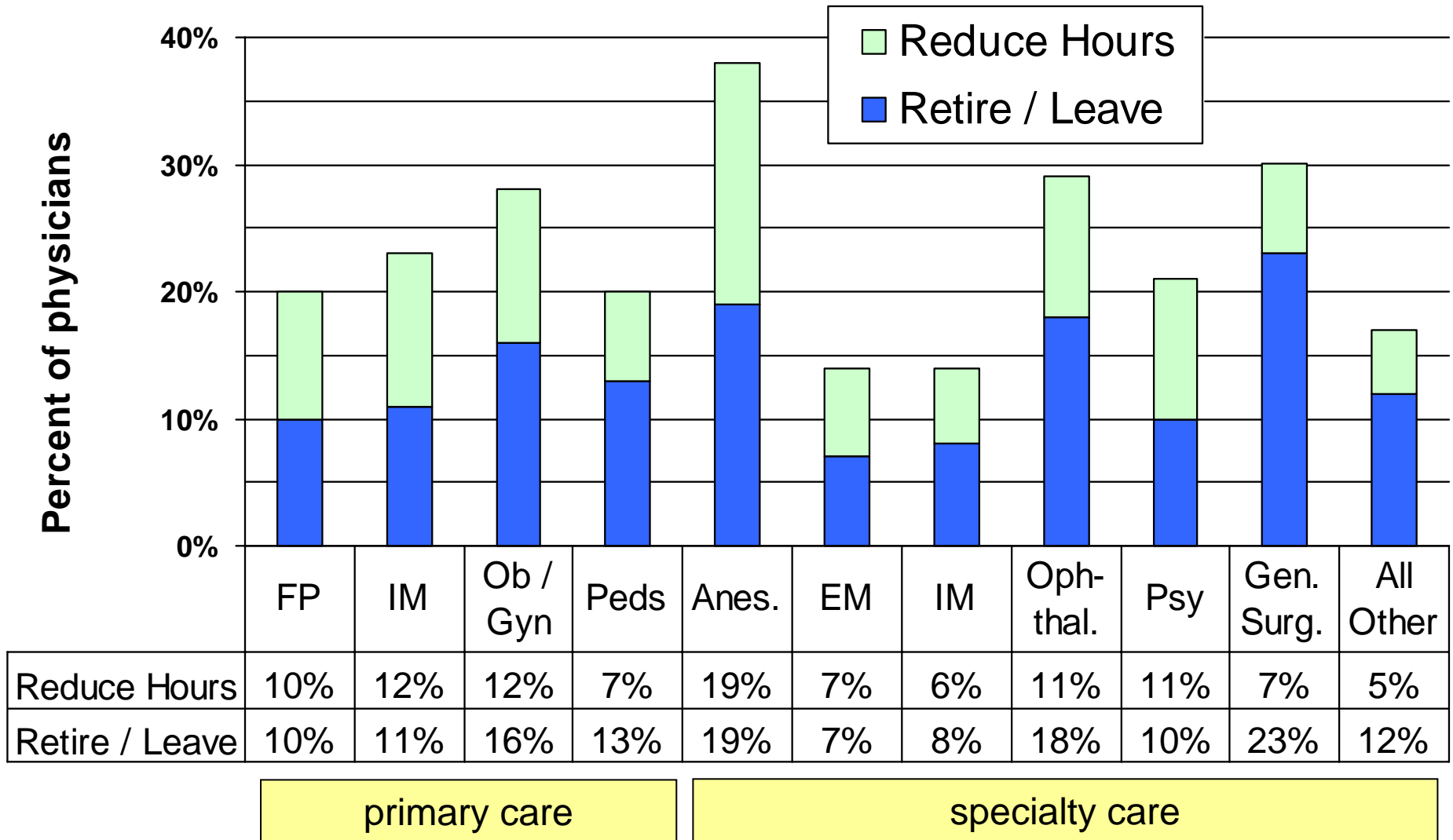
A quarter of the physicians have worked in Vermont more than 20 years

Hours Worked Per Week

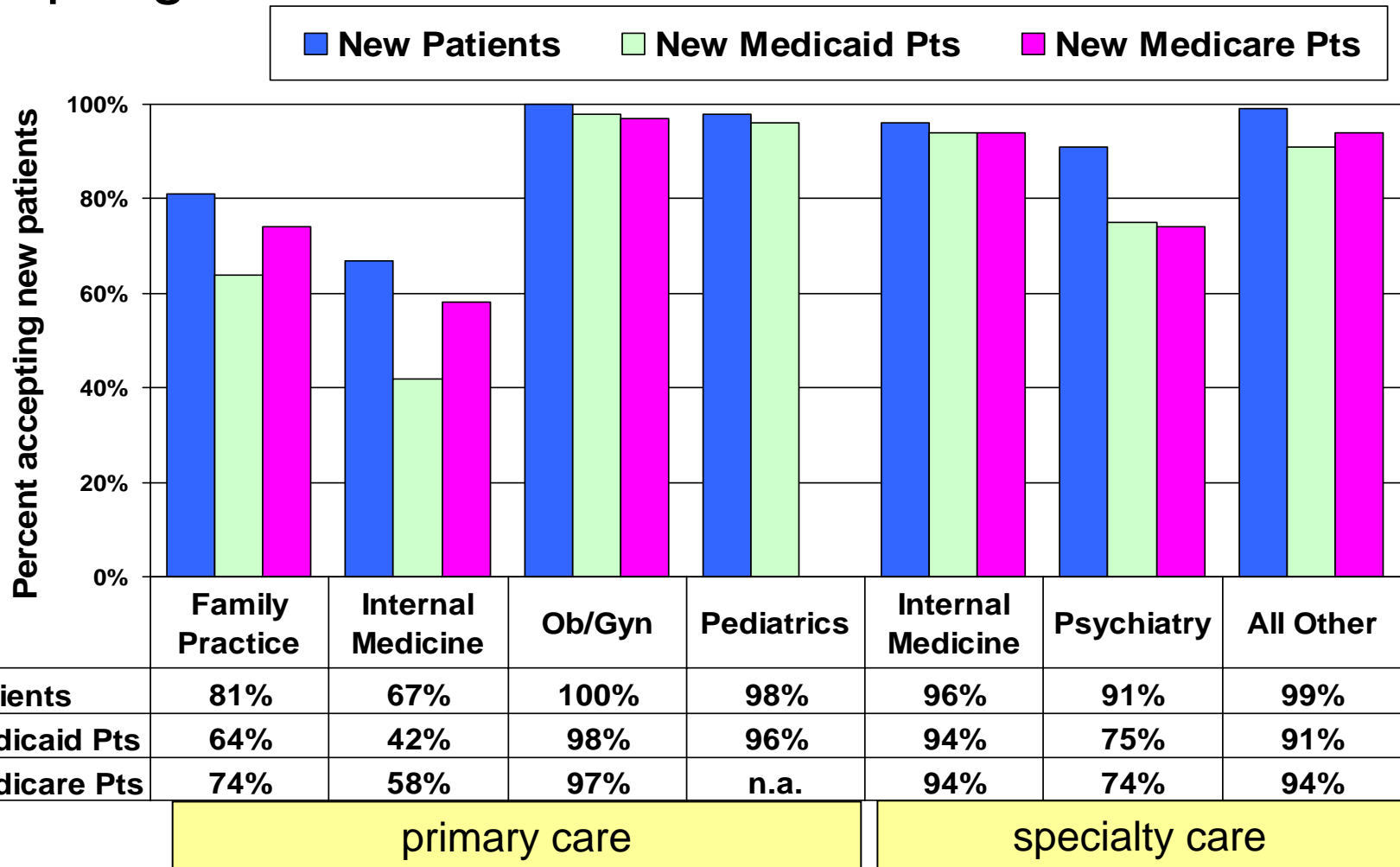


Average patient care hours per week: 37 overall, 27 for ages 65 and older. 61% of males, but only 41% of females, provide patient care 40+ hours per week.

Planning to reduce hours worked in Vermont within 5 years



Accepting New Patients



90% accepted new patients overall, 78% accepted new Medicaid, 82% new Medicare patients. Emergency Medicine, Pathology and Radiology excluded.

Comparison of Selected Physician Data, 1996-2006

	1996	2000	2006
Total active * physicians	1384	1480	1730
Percent female	24%	26%	29%
Primary care physicians	535	585	640
% accepting new patients	92%	80%	82%
accepting new Medicaid patients	86%	72%	68%
accepting new Medicare patients	87%	73%	71%
Primary care physician FTEs	438.2	472.2	503.6
FTEs per 100,000 Population	73.4	77.6	80.7
Specialist physicians	849	895	1090
Specialist physician FTEs **	573.2	621.3	736.0
% of FTEs in Chittenden County	42%	43%	46%

* providing patient care in Vermont

** FTEs not computed for pathology and radiology