

Vermont Department of Health

Physician Assistants

2002 Survey

Statistical Report

2002 Physician Assistants Survey

Statistical Report

State of Vermont
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Agency of Human Services
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Department of Health
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We also wish to express our appreciation to all the physician assistants who took the time and effort to complete our survey.

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Introduction

Since the health of Vermonters depends, in part, on access to health care, we need to identify and address problems related to the supply of health care providers, including their distribution by geography and specialty. In this report we present detailed profiles of physician assistants practicing in Vermont as of the beginning of the year 2002; these data, along with data on other health care providers, can be used as the basis for policy analysis, shortage area designations, and recruitment and retention activities.

Data Collection: This report includes physician assistants who renewed their license as of the end of January, 2002. In cooperation with the Vermont Board of Medical Practice, the Department of Health included a survey with the relicensing renewal form in the fall of 2001. A copy of this survey is included in the Appendix. The surveys that were returned were compared against a list of all physician assistants who were relicensed. Follow-up mailings and phone calls were then made to those physician assistants residing in Vermont, or a neighboring state, who did not return a survey to determine if they were seeing patients in Vermont, and if so, to complete the survey.

Included in this report are physician assistants who provide patient care in Vermont. A number of physician assistants maintain Vermont licenses even though they do not practice in Vermont. These physician assistants are excluded from this report.

This is the third survey of physician assistants. Information on PAs who practice in Vermont will be updated every two years. Results from the 2000 survey are also currently available. Similar data are collected from some additional health professionals, including physicians and advanced practice nurses. Results from some of these surveys are available on the Department of Health web site, <http://www.healthyvermonters.info> – look under “publications”.

Limitations: One PA refused to respond to the survey. This should not affect results such as demographics, educational training, etc. However, the analysis of full time equivalents may be a slight undercount.

The surveys were reviewed for accuracy and consistency during the data entry and processing phases. Missing and/or inconsistent data items were evaluated as to their importance. For those data items that were determined to be essential, such as specialty or number of patient care hours, follow-up by phone and/or mail was conducted. Other data are reported as missing. In general, however, the information for this report was self-reported and was not further verified. Data in this report are, therefore, subject to the limitations associated with the use of mailed surveys. The possibility of misinterpretation of survey items is always present, and it is possible that a small number of inconsistencies have arisen from such occurrences.

Detailed notes and definitions are included in the Appendices. Please contact us if you have any questions about the survey or the report. Call or write the Department of Health, Public Health Statistics, P.O. Box 70, Burlington, VT 05402, tel. (802) 863-7300.

Summary

- This report includes data reported by 130 physician assistants providing patient care in Vermont.
- 69 (53%) of the physician assistants work mainly in primary care including:
 - 53 Family Practice Medicine
 - 8 Obstetrics and Gynecology
 - 7 Primary Care Internal Medicine
 - 1 Pediatric Primary Care
- 61 physician assistants provide mainly specialty care including:
 - 33 Emergency Medicine
 - 12 Surgery (8 orthopedic, 1 general, 3 other)
 - 3 Anesthesiology
 - 1 Psychiatry
 - 1 Specialty Internal Medicine
 - 11 other specialties
- The 130 Physician Assistants represent the equivalent of 109.1 full-time providers (FTEs, defined as 40 or more hours of patient care per week). This includes 54.3 FTEs in primary care and 54.8 FTEs in specialty care.
- Eleven of the 130 PAs are over age 55, and two of those are over 60.
- Seventy-seven, or 59%, of the 130 physician assistants are women.
- 65% of the women practice primary care, while 36% of the men practice primary care.
- 66% of all physician assistants work in an office or clinic setting
 - 53% of men, 75% of women
- 30% work in a hospital setting
 - 45% of men, 19% of women
- 50% of all physician assistants work full-time (40 hours per week or more)
 - 38% of primary care provider, 64% of specialty care providers
 - 64% of men, 40% of women
- 24% have hospital admitting privileges
- 89% were University trained, 89% have taken the NCCPA Certification Exam

Vermont Physician Assistants

Demographic Characteristics

Table 1 -- VT Physician Assistants, 2002
Summary of Active Physician Assistants

TOTAL	130	(100%)
Age groups:		
younger than 35	24	(18%)
35 - 44	36	(28%)
45 - 54	59	(45%)
55 - 64	10	(8%)
65 and older	1	(1%)
Gender:		
Male	53	(41%)
Female	77	(59%)
Patient care hours:		
40 or more hours/week	65	(50%)
30 to 39 hours/week	35	(27%)
less than 30 hours/week	30	(23%)
Main specialty:		
Primary Care Total	69	(53%)
Family Practice	53	(41%)
Primary Care Internal Medicine	7	(5%)
Pediatric Primary Care	1	(1%)
Obstetrics and Gynecology	8	(6%)
Specialty Care Total	61	(47%)
Anesthesiology	3	(2%)
Emergency Medicine	33	(25%)
Internal Medicine Specialties	1	(1%)
General Surgery	1	(1%)
Orthopedic Surgery	8	(6%)
Other Surgery	3	(2%)
Psychiatry	1	(1%)
Other Specialties	11	(8%)
Number of supervising physicians:		
One	2	(2%)
Two	33	(26%)
Three	17	(14%)
Four or more	73	(58%)
unknown	5	
Number of practice sites:		
One	96	(74%)
Two	25	(19%)
Three	6	(5%)
Four or more	3	(2%)

Table 2 -- VT Physician Assistants, 2002
Age by Specialty and by Gender

	Total	Number in Age Group						Age 60+
		<35	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	65+	(%)
TOTAL	130	24	36	59	9	1	1	2%
MALES	53	6	13	28	5	1	.	2%
FEMALES	77	18	23	31	4	.	1	1%
PRIMARY CARE	69	14	17	31	6	.	1	1%
Family Practice	53	14	17	18	3	.	1	2%
Internal Medicine	7	.	.	6	1	.	.	.
Pediatrics	1	.	.	.	1	.	.	.
Ob/Gyn	8	.	.	7	1	.	.	.
SPECIALTY CARE	61	10	19	28	3	1	.	2%
Anesthesiology	3	.	2	1	.	.	.	.
Emergency Medicine	33	6	11	14	1	1	.	3%
Internal Medicine	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.
General Surgery	1	.	.	1	.	.	.	.
Orthopedic Surgery	8	1	1	6	.	.	.	.
Other Surgery	3	.	2	1	.	.	.	.
Psychiatry	1	.	.	.	1	.	.	.
Other Specialties	11	3	2	5	1	.	.	.
	Total	Percent in Age Group						Age 60+
		<35	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	65+	(%)
TOTAL	100%	18%	28%	45%	7%	1%	1%	2%
MALES	100%	11%	25%	53%	9%	2%	.	2%
FEMALES	100%	23%	30%	40%	5%	.	1%	1%
PRIMARY CARE	100%	20%	25%	45%	9%	.	1%	1%
SPECIALTY CARE	100%	16%	31%	46%	5%	2%	.	2%

See Note 1 for description of the calculation of age.

Table 3 -- VT Physician Assistants, 2002
Age by Specialty for Each Gender

Specialty	Total	Number in Age Group						Age 60+ (%)
		<35	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	65+	
TOTAL	130	24	36	59	9	1	1	2%
MALES	53	6	13	28	5	1	.	2%
PRIMARY CARE	19	4	2	10	3	.	.	.
Family Practice	17	4	2	8	3	.	.	.
Internal Medicine	2	.	.	2	.	.	.	.
SPECIALTY CARE	34	2	11	18	2	1	.	3%
Anesthesiology	2	.	1	1	.	.	.	.
Emergency Medicine	18	2	7	7	1	1	.	6%
General Surgery	1	.	.	1	.	.	.	.
Orthopedic Surgery	5	.	1	4	.	.	.	.
Other Surgery	3	.	2	1	.	.	.	.
Psychiatry	1	.	.	.	1	.	.	.
Other Specialties	4	.	.	4	.	.	.	.
FEMALES	77	18	23	31	4	.	1	1%
PRIMARY CARE	50	10	15	21	3	.	1	2%
Family Practice	36	10	15	10	.	.	1	3%
Internal Medicine	5	.	.	4	1	.	.	.
Pediatrics	1	.	.	.	1	.	.	.
Ob/Gyn	8	.	.	7	1	.	.	.
SPECIALTY CARE	27	8	8	10	1	.	.	.
Anesthesiology	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.
Emergency Medicine	15	4	4	7	.	.	.	.
Internal Medicine	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.
Orthopedic Surgery	3	1	.	2	.	.	.	.
Other Specialties	7	3	2	1	1	.	.	.

See Note 1 for description of the calculation of age.

Table 4 -- VT Physician Assistants, 2002
Age by County

County	Total	Number in Age Group						Age 60+ (%)
		<35	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	65+	
STATEWIDE TOTAL								
Total	130	24	36	59	9	1	1	2%
Primary Care	69	14	17	31	6	.	1	1%
Specialists	61	10	19	28	3	1	.	2%
Addison County								
Primary Care	3	1	1	1	.	.	.	.
Specialists	0	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Bennington County								
Primary Care	4	1	.	2	.	.	1	25%
Specialists	7	2	1	3	1	.	.	.
Caledonia County								
Primary Care	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.
Specialists	1	.	.	1	.	.	.	.
Chittenden County								
Primary Care	23	4	7	10	2	.	.	.
Specialists	23	5	9	8	1	.	.	.
Essex County								
Primary Care	1	.	.	1	.	.	.	.
Specialists	0	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Franklin County								
Primary Care	2	.	.	1	1	.	.	.
Specialists	3	2	.	1	.	.	.	.
Grand Isle County								
Primary Care	0	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Specialists	0	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Lamoille County								
Primary Care	1	.	.	1	.	.	.	.
Specialists	1	.	.	1	.	.	.	.
Orange County								
Primary Care	2	.	.	2	.	.	.	.
Specialists	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.
Orleans County								
Primary Care	2	.	1	1	.	.	.	.
Specialists	0	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Rutland County								
Primary Care	7	2	2	3	.	.	.	.
Specialists	6	1	2	3	.	.	.	.
Washington County								
Primary Care	9	3	3	2	1	.	.	.
Specialists	8	.	2	6	.	.	.	.
Windham County								
Primary Care	5	.	1	3	1	.	.	.
Specialists	2	.	.	2	.	.	.	.
Windsor County								
Primary Care	9	3	1	4	1	.	.	.
Specialists	9	.	4	3	1	1	.	11%

Each provider is counted once in this table, in their main specialty group, and, independently, in their main county of practice (see Note 2).

See Note 1 for description of the calculation of age.

Table 5 -- VT Physician Assistants, 2002
Gender by County

County	Total	Males	Females
STATEWIDE TOTAL			
Total	130	53 (41%)	77 (59%)
Primary Care	69	19 (28%)	50 (72%)
Specialists	61	34 (56%)	27 (44%)
Addison County			
Primary Care	3	0 (0%)	3 (100%)
Specialists	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Bennington County			
Primary Care	4	2 (50%)	2 (50%)
Specialists	7	3 (43%)	4 (57%)
Caledonia County			
Primary Care	1	0 (0%)	1 (100%)
Specialists	1	1 (100%)	0 (0%)
Chittenden County			
Primary Care	23	5 (22%)	18 (78%)
Specialists	23	11 (48%)	12 (52%)
Essex County			
Primary Care	1	1 (100%)	0 (0%)
Specialists	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Franklin County			
Primary Care	2	2 (100%)	0 (0%)
Specialists	3	1 (33%)	2 (67%)
Grand Isle County			
Primary Care	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Specialists	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Lamoille County			
Primary Care	1	0 (0%)	1 (100%)
Specialists	1	0 (0%)	1 (100%)
Orange County			
Primary Care	2	0 (0%)	2 (100%)
Specialists	1	0 (0%)	1 (100%)
Orleans County			
Primary Care	2	0 (0%)	2 (100%)
Specialists	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Rutland County			
Primary Care	7	4 (57%)	3 (43%)
Specialists	6	3 (50%)	3 (50%)
Washington County			
Primary Care	9	2 (22%)	7 (78%)
Specialists	8	6 (75%)	2 (25%)
Windham County			
Primary Care	5	1 (20%)	4 (80%)
Specialists	2	2 (100%)	0 (0%)
Windsor County			
Primary Care	9	2 (22%)	7 (78%)
Specialists	9	7 (78%)	2 (22%)

Each provider is counted once in this table, in their main specialty group, and, independently, in their main county of practice (see Note 2).

Table 6 -- VT Physician Assistants, 2002
Years in Clinical Practice

In Clinical Practice	Total	In Vermont
less than a year	5 (4%)	7 (5%)
1 or 2 years	11 (8%)	22 (17%)
3 or 4 years	14 (11%)	19 (15%)
5 to 9 years	29 (22%)	32 (25%)
10 to 14 years	10 (8%)	16 (12%)
15 to 19 years	23 (18%)	9 (7%)
20 years or more	35 (27%)	22 (17%)
Unknown	3 (2%)	3 (2%)
Total	130 (100%)	130 (100%)

Vermont Physician Assistants
Distribution of Full Time Equivalents (FTEs)

Table 7 -- VT Physician Assistants, 2002
Full Time Equivalents (FTEs) by Age and Gender by Specialty

	Total	FTEs in Age Group						Age 60+
		<35	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	65+	(%)
TOTAL	109.1	21.7	30.4	48.5	7.2	1.0	.4	1%
MALES	49.3	5.4	12.8	25.4	4.6	1.0	.	2%
FEMALES	59.8	16.2	17.6	23.1	2.6	.	.4	1%
PRIMARY CARE	54.3	11.5	12.8	25.0	4.6	.	.4	1%
Family Practice	43.6	11.5	12.6	16.1	3.0	.	.4	1%
Internal Medicine	5.3	.	.2	4.1	.9	.	.	0%
Pediatrics	1.0	.	.	.5	.5	.	.	0%
Ob/Gyn	4.5	.	.	4.3	.2	.	.	0%
SPECIALTY CARE	54.8	10.2	17.5	23.5	2.6	1.0	.	2%
Anesthesiology	2.9	.	1.9	1.0	.	.	.	0%
Emergency Medicine	29.4	6.4	9.4	11.7	1.0	1.0	.	3%
Internal Medicine	1.0	.	1.0	.	.	.	.	0%
General Surgery	.9	.	.2	.7	.	.	.	0%
Orthopedic Surgery	7.5	1.0	1.0	5.5	.	.	.	0%
Other Surgery	3.2	.	2.0	1.2	.	.	.	0%
Psychiatry	.6	.	.	.	.6	.	.	0%
Other Specialties	9.4	2.8	2.1	3.6	1.0	<.05	.	0%
	Total	% of total FTEs in Age Group						Age 60+
		<35	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	65+	(%)
TOTAL	100%	20%	28%	44%	7%	1%	0%	1%
MALES	100%	11%	26%	52%	9%	2%	.	2%
FEMALES	100%	27%	29%	39%	4%	.	1	1%
PRIMARY CARE	100%	21%	24%	46%	8%	.	1%	1%
SPECIALTY CARE	100%	19%	32%	43%	5%	2%	.	2%

See Note 1 for description of the calculation of age.
Pathologists are excluded from this table (see Note 3).

Table 8 -- VT Physician Assistants, 2002
Full Time Equivalents (FTEs) by Age by County

County	Total	FTEs in Age Group						Age 60+
		<35	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	65+	(%)
STATEWIDE TOTAL								
Total	109.1	21.7	30.4	48.5	7.2	1.0	.4	1%
Primary Care	54.3	11.5	12.8	25.0	4.6	.	.4	1%
Specialists	54.8	10.2	17.5	23.5	2.6	1.0	.	2%
Addison County								
Primary Care	2.6	1.0	.6	1.0	.	.	.	0%
Specialists	.1	.1	.	.1	.	.	.	0%
Bennington County								
Primary Care	3.3	1.0	.	1.9	.	.	.4	11%
Specialists	5.7	1.8	1.1	1.8	1.0	.	.	0%
Caledonia County								
Primary Care	.8	.	.8	.	.	.	.	0%
Specialists	1.0	.	.	1.0	.	.	.	0%
Chittenden County								
Primary Care	17.2	3.1	4.3	8.8	1.1	.	.	0%
Specialists	21.5	5.5	8.1	7.2	.6	.	.	0%
Essex County								
Primary Care	1.0	.	.	1.0	.	.	.	0%
Specialists	<.05	.	.	.	.	.	.	0%
Franklin County								
Primary Care	2.0	.	.	1.0	1.0	.	.	0%
Specialists	2.7	1.9	.	.8	.	.	.	0%
Grand Isle County								
Primary Care	<.05	.	.	.	.	.	.	0%
Specialists	<.05	.	.	.	.	.	.	0%
Lamoille County								
Primary Care	.2	.	.	.2	.	.	.	0%
Specialists	.5	.	.	.5	.	.	.	0%
Orange County								
Primary Care	1.4	.	.2	1.2	.	.	.	0%
Specialists	.8	.	.8	.	.	.	.	0%
Orleans County								
Primary Care	2.0	.	1.0	1.0	.	.	.	0%
Specialists	<.05	.	.	.	.	.	.	0%
Rutland County								
Primary Care	6.0	1.8	1.5	2.7	.	.	.	0%
Specialists	4.7	.8	1.7	2.1	.	.	.	0%
Washington County								
Primary Care	8.0	2.4	2.4	2.3	1.0	.	.	0%
Specialists	7.1	.	1.9	5.1	.	.	.	0%
Windham County								
Primary Care	3.2	.	1.0	1.7	.5	.	.	0%
Specialists	2.5	.	.5	2.0	.	<.05	.	0%
Windsor County								
Primary Care	6.6	2.2	1.1	2.3	1.0	.	.	0%
Specialists	8.3	.	3.5	2.9	1.0	1.0	.	12%

See Note 1 for description of the calculation of age.
Pathologists are excluded from this table (see Note 3).

Table 9 -- VT Physician Assistants, 2002
Numbers of Providers, Full Time Equivalents (FTEs),
and Total Weekly Patient Care Hours, by County

Count FTEs Hours	TOTAL	PRIMARY CARE TOTAL	SPECIALTY CARE TOTAL
STATEWIDE TOTAL	130 109.1 4733	73 54.3 2248	66 54.8 2484
Addison County	5 2.8 113	3 2.6 107	2 .1 7
Bennington County	12 9.0 385	4 3.3 131	8 5.7 254
Caledonia County	2 1.8 80	1 .8 32	1 1.0 48
Chittenden County	50 38.7 1667	25 17.2 701	26 21.5 966
Essex County	1 1.0 38	1 1.0 38	.. ..
Franklin County	6 4.7 228	2 2.0 86	5 2.7 143
Grand Isle County	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
Lamoille County	2 .6 28	1 .2 6	1 .5 22
Orange County	4 2.3 101	3 1.4 68	1 .8 33
Orleans County	2 2.0 79	2 2.0 79	.. ..
Rutland County	16 10.6 486	7 6.0 247	10 4.7 239
Washington County	19 15.1 653	11 8.0 339	9 7.1 314
Windham County	10 5.6 235	7 3.2 131	6 2.5 104
Windsor County	20 14.9 638	11 6.6 281	10 8.3 357

Pathologists are excluded from this table (see Note 3).
In this table providers may be counted more than once (Note 4).
Similar town-level data are available on request.

Table 10 -- VT Physician Assistants, 2002
Numbers of Primary Care Providers, Full Time Equivalents (FTEs),
and Total Weekly Patient Care Hours, by County

Count	PRIMARY	NON-	OB/GYN					
FTEs	CARE	OB/GYN	FAMILY	INTERNAL	PEDIATRIC	CARE	GYNECOL	OB /
Hours	TOTAL	TOTAL				TOTAL	ONLY	GYN
<hr/>								
STATEWIDE TOTAL	73	65	58	9	2	9	7	2
	54.3	49.8	43.6	5.3	1.0	4.5	3.1	1.3
	2248	2070	1818	212	39	179	126	52
Addison County	3	3	3	1	.	.	.	.
	2.6	2.6	2.4	.2	.	.	.	.
	107	107	99	8	.	.	.	.
Bennington County	4	4	4	.	.	.	.	.
	3.3	3.3	3.3	.	.	.	.	.
	131	131	131	.	.	.	.	.
Caledonia County	1	1	1	.	.	.	.	.
	.8	.8	.8	.	.	.	.	.
	32	32	32	.	.	.	.	.
Chittenden County	25	19	18	1	.	6	5	1
	17.2	13.4	12.5	.9	.	3.8	2.9	.9
	701	549	512	38	.	152	116	36
Essex County	1	1	.	1	1	.	.	.
	1.0	1.0	.	.5	.5	.	.	.
	38	38	.	19	19	.	.	.
Franklin County	2	2	2	.	.	.	.	.
	2.0	2.0	2.0	.	.	.	.	.
	86	86	86	.	.	.	.	.
Grand Isle County	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.

Lamoille County	1	.	.	.	.	1	1	.
	.2	.	.	.	.	.2	.2	.
	6	.	.	.	.	6	6	.
Orange County	3	2	1	1	.	1	.	1
	1.4	1.2	1.0	.2	.	.2	.	.2
	68	59	50	9	.	10	.	10
Orleans County	2	2	2	.	.	.	.	.
	2.0	2.0	2.0	.	.	.	.	.
	79	79	79	.	.	.	.	.
Rutland County	7	7	7	.	.	.	.	.
	6.0	6.0	6.0	.	.	.	.	.
	247	247	247	.	.	.	.	.
Washington County	11	9	9	.	.	2	1	1
	8.0	7.8	7.8	.	.	.3	.1	.2
	339	329	329	.	.	11	4	7
Windham County	7	7	5	2	1	.	.	.
	3.2	3.2	1.4	1.3	.5	.	.	.
	131	131	61	51	20	.	.	.
Windsor County	11	11	8	3	.	.	.	.
	6.6	6.6	4.4	2.2	.	.	.	.
	281	281	193	88	.	.	.	.

In this table providers may be counted more than once (Note 4).
See Note 6 for description of OB/GYN classification.
Similar town-level data are available on request.

Table 11 -- VT Physician Assistants, 2002
Numbers of Specialty Care Providers, Full Time Equivalents (FTEs),
and Total Weekly Patient Care Hours, by County

Count	SPECIALTY									
FTEs	CARE	INTERN.	GEN.	ORTHO.	OTHER		RADIO-	EMERG.		
Hours	TOTAL	MEDIC.	SURG.	SURG.	SURG.	ANESTH.	LOGY	MED.	PSYCH.	OTHER
<hr/>										
STATEWIDE TOTAL	66	1	2	8	4	3	.	40	1	17
	54.8	1.0	.9	7.5	3.2	2.9	.	29.4	.6	9.4
	2484	87	41	328	178	127	.	1283	25	417
Addison County	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	1
	.1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.1	.	.1
	7	.	.	.	.	.	.	3	.	4
Bennington County	8	.	.	2	.	.	.	4	.	2
	5.7	.	.	1.8	.	.	.	2.0	.	2.0
	254	.	.	79	.	.	.	82	.	93
Caledonia County	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	1	.	.
	1.0	.	.7	.	.	.	.	.3	.	.
	48	.	33	.	.	.	.	15	.	.
Chittenden County	26	.	.	2	3	3	.	12	1	7
	21.5	.	.	1.8	3.0	2.9	.	8.2	.6	5.0
	966	.	.	75	170	127	.	350	25	219
Essex County	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.

Franklin County	5	.	.	1	.	.	.	3	.	1
	2.7	.	.	1.0	.	.	.	1.6	.	.1
	143	.	.	52	.	.	.	83	.	8
Grand Isle County	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.

Lamoille County	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.
	.5	.	.	.	.	.	.	.5	.	.
	22	.	.	.	.	.	.	22	.	.
Orange County	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.
	.8	.	.	.	.	.	.	.8	.	.
	33	.	.	.	.	.	.	33	.	.
Orleans County	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.

Rutland County	10	1	.	1	.	.	.	6	.	2
	4.7	1.0	.	1.0	.	.	.	1.8	.	.8
	239	87	.	43	.	.	.	76	.	33
Washington County	9	.	1	.	1	.	.	7	.	4
	7.1	.	.2	.	.2	.	.	5.4	.	1.3
	314	.	9	.	8	.	.	242	.	55
Windham County	6	.	.	1	.	.	.	4	.	2
	2.5	.	.	1.0	.	.	.	1.4	.	.1
	104	.	.	39	.	.	.	60	.	5
Windsor County	10	.	.	1	.	.	.	9	.	.
	8.3	.	.	1.0	.	.	.	7.3	.	.
	357	.	.	39	.	.	.	318	.	.

Pathologists are excluded from this table (see Note 3).
In this table providers may be counted more than once (see Note 4).
Similar town-level data are available on request.

Table 12 -- VT Physician Assistants, 2002
Primary Care Provider FTE to Population Ratios by County

County	FTEs	Population	FTEs per 100,000	Population per FTE
STATEWIDE TOTAL	54.30	615,611	8.82	11,338
Addison County	2.63	36,550	7.18	13,924
Bennington County	3.28	37,245	8.80	11,362
Caledonia County	.81	29,977	2.70	36,990
Chittenden County	17.25	148,273	11.63	8,598
Essex County	.96	6,482	14.78	6,764
Franklin County	2.00	46,359	4.30	23,234
Grand Isle County	.00	7,195	--	--
Lamoille County	.16	23,840	--	--
Orange County	1.44	28,568	5.05	19,787
Orleans County	1.98	26,649	7.43	13,465
Rutland County	6.00	63,516	9.44	10,592
Washington County	8.05	58,328	13.80	7,246
Windham County	3.18	44,542	7.14	14,006
Windsor County	6.58	58,087	11.32	8,832

Only primary care providers are included in this table.
One FTE is 40 (or more) hours per week, 48 weeks per year or more.

The FTEs are rounded to two digits for display only - the ratios were calculated using the unrounded values, then rounded in turn to two digits for display.

Pathologists are excluded from this table (see Note 3).
See Note 4 regarding calculation of FTEs by county.
Population data is for 2002 (see note 7).

Table 13 -- VT Physician Assistants, 2002
Total FTEs by Practice Setting by Specialty

Care Setting	FTEs in Primary Care Specialty			
	Family	Internal	Pediatric	Ob/Gyn
TOTAL, all settings	43.6	5.3	1.0	4.5
solo practice	2.3	1.3	.	.
group practice	21.3	3.1	.5	2.4
commun health ctr	12.5	.5	.5	2.0
hosp outpat clinic	5.0	.2	.	.
school/college	1.9	.	.	.
business/worksites	.5	.	.	.1
hosp emergency room	.	.	.	.
hosp inpatient	<.05	.	.	.
ext care facility	<.05	.2	.	.

Care Setting	FTEs in Specialty							
	Anes	Emerg	Intern	Gen Surg	Orth Surg	Other Surg	Psych	Other Spec
TOTAL, all settings	2.9	29.4	1.0	.9	7.5	3.2	.6	9.4
solo practice	.	.	.	.	.	.1	.	2.1
group practice	.	.	.	.7	6.7	.	.6	4.1
commun health ctr	.	1.4	.	.	.	.	.	.1
hosp outpat clinic	.1	.9	1.0	.	.8	.	.	1.1
school/college	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
business/worksites	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1.0
hosp emergency room	.	27.1	.	.2	.	.1	.	.1
hosp inpatient	2.8	.	.	.	.	3.0	.	.9
ext care facility	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.

All worksites of each provider are counted in this table.

Pathologists are excluded from this table (see Note 3).

See Table 16 for a similar tabulation by counts rather than FTEs.

Table 14 -- VT Physician Assistants, 2002
Detailed Specialty List

SPECIALTY GROUP Specialty	Count of PAs Working in Specialty		
	As Main Specialty	As Secondary Specialty	FTE
TOTAL	130		
FAMILY PRACTICE			
Family Practice	49	4	40.3
General Practice	4	1	3.2
Geriatric Family Medicine	0	1	<.05
INTERNAL MEDICINE (PRIMARY)			
Geriatric Internal Medicine	0	1	.2
Internal Medicine	7	1	5.1
PEDIATRICS (PRIMARY)			
Adolescent Medicine (Pediatrics)	0	1	.1
Pediatrics (general)	1	1	.9
OB/GYN			
Gynecology	6	1	3.1
Obstetrics & Gynecology	2	0	1.3
ANESTHESIOLOGY			
Anesthesiology	3	0	2.9
EMERGENCY MEDICINE			
Emergency Medicine	33	7	29.4
INTERNAL MEDICINE (SPECIALTY)			
Hematology (Internal Medicine)	1	0	.5
Medical Oncology	0	1	.5
GENERAL SURGERY	1	1	.9
ORTHOPEDIC SURGERY			
Orthopedic Surgery	7	0	6.7
Orthopedic Surgery: Sports	1	0	.8
OTHER SURGERY			
Cardiovascular Surgery	1	0	1.0
General Vascular Surgery	0	1	.2
Thoracic Surgery	2	0	2.0
PSYCHIATRY			
Psychiatry	1	0	.6
OTHER SPECIALTIES			
Dermatology	2	1	2.0
Family Practice (subspecialty)	1	0	.1
Internal Medicine: Sports	0	1	.1
Neurology	1	0	1.0
Occupational Medicine	3	3	3.3
Urology	4	0	3.0
Unspecified Specialty	0	1	<.05

Vermont Physician Assistants' Training

Table 15 -- VT Physician Assistants, 2002
Basis for Certification

Basis for VT Certification	TOTAL	Certification Examination			
		NCCPA	STATE	OTHER	UNKNOWN
Apprenticeship	7	2	2	3	0
University	116	112	1	3	1
unknown	7	2	0	0	5
TOTAL	130	116	3	6	6

Note: some PAs have taken more than one type of examination

Vermont Physician Assistants

Practice Characteristics

Table 16 -- VT Physician Assistants, 2002
Practice Setting by Specialty

Care Setting	Number in Primary Care Specialty			
	Family	Internal	Pediatric	Ob/Gyn
TOTAL, all settings	53	7	1	8
solo practice	2	2	.	.
group practice	25	4	1	3
commun health ctr	17	1	.	5
hosp outpat clinic	6	.	.	.
school/college	3	.	.	.
business/worksites	.	.	.	.
hosp emergency room	.	.	.	.
hosp inpatient	.	.	.	.

Care Setting	Number in Specialty							
	Anes	Emerg	Intern	Gen Surg	Orth Surg	Other Surg	Psych	Other Spec
TOTAL, all settings	3	33	1	1	8	3	1	11
solo practice	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	3
group practice	.	.	.	1	7	.	1	4
commun health ctr	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.
hosp outpat clinic	.	.	1	.	1	.	.	1
school/college	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
business/worksites	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	1
hosp emergency room	.	31	.	.	.	.	.	1
hosp inpatient	3	.	.	.	.	3	.	1

Each provider is counted once in this table, in their main specialty group, and, independently, in their main practice setting (see note 8).

See Table 13 for a similar tabulation by FTEs rather than counts.

Table 17 -- VT Physician Assistants, 2002
Practice Setting by Age

Care Setting	Total		Number in Age Group					
			<35	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	65+
TOTAL, all settings	130	(100%)	24	36	59	9	1	1
solo practice	7	(5%)	1	1	3	2	.	.
group practice	46	(35%)	10	9	23	4	.	.
commun health ctr	24	(18%)	4	7	11	2	.	.
hosp outpat clinic	9	(7%)	3	3	3	.	.	.
school/college	3	(2%)	.	1	1	.	.	1
business/worksites	2	(2%)	.	.	2	.	.	.
hosp emergency room	32	(25%)	6	11	13	1	1	.
hosp inpatient	7	(5%)	.	4	3	.	.	.

Each provider is counted once in this table,
in their main practice setting.

See Note 1 for description of the calculation of age.

Table 18 -- VT Physician Assistants, 2002
Practice Setting by Gender

Care Setting	Total	Males		Females	
TOTAL, all settings	130	53	(100%)	77	(100%)
solo practice	7	3	(6%)	4	(5%)
group practice	46	16	(30%)	30	(39%)
commun health ctr	24	6	(11%)	18	(23%)
hosp outpat clinic	9	3	(6%)	6	(8%)
school/college	3	1	(2%)	2	(3%)
business/worksites	2	0	(0%)	2	(3%)
hosp emergency room	32	18	(34%)	14	(18%)
hosp inpatient	7	6	(11%)	1	(1%)

Each provider is counted once in this table,
in their main practice setting.

Percentages are based on column totals.

Table 19 -- VT Physician Assistants, 2002
Average Patient Care Hours per Week,
by Provider Specialty and Age

Main Specialty	Total	Average Patient Care Hours per Week				% Working Full Time
		All Ages	Age < 45	Age 45-54	Age 55+	(%)
ALL SPECIALTIES	130	36	38	35	35	50%
PRIMARY CARE	69	33	33	33	32	38%
Family Practice	53	35	33	37	39	49%
Internal Medicine	7	31	.	30	38	0%
Pediatrics	1	20	.	.	20	0%
Ob/Gyn	8	22	.	24	7	0%
SPECIALTY CARE	61	41	43	39	40	64%
Anesthesiology	3	42	38	50	.	67%
Emergency Medicine	33	39	41	38	41	64%
Internal Medicine	1	87	87	.	.	100%
General Surgery	1	48	.	48	.	100%
Orthopedic Surgery	8	42	49	39	.	50%
Other Surgery	3	57	55	60	.	100%
Psychiatry	1	25	.	.	25	0%
Other Specialties	11	36	38	31	52	64%

'Full Time' is 40 (or more) hours of direct patient care per week in Vermont, 48 weeks per year (see Note 22).

See Note 1 for description of the calculation of age.

Pathologists are excluded from this table (see Note 3).

Table 20 -- VT Physician Assistants, 2002
Average Patient Care Hours per Week,
by Provider Gender, Specialty and Age

Main Specialty	Total	Average Patient Care Hours per Week				% Working Full Time
		All Ages	Age < 45	Age 45-54	Age 55+	(%)
MALES:						
ALL SPECIALTIES	53	41	42	41	41	64%
PRIMARY CARE	19	40	39	39	47	58%
Family Practice	17	41	39	40	47	65%
Internal Medicine	2	34	.	34	.	0%
SPECIALTY CARE	34	42	44	42	36	68%
Anesthesiology	2	46	42	50	.	100%
Emergency Medicine	18	43	42	45	41	67%
General Surgery	1	48	.	48	.	100%
Orthopedic Surgery	5	42	45	42	.	60%
Other Surgery	3	57	55	60	.	100%
Psychiatry	1	25	.	.	25	0%
Other Specialties	4	28	.	28	.	50%
FEMALES:						
ALL SPECIALTIES	77	33	36	31	26	40%
PRIMARY CARE	50	30	31	30	20	30%
Family Practice	36	32	31	34	15	42%
Internal Medicine	5	30	.	28	38	0%
Pediatrics	1	20	.	.	20	0%
Ob/Gyn	8	22	.	24	7	0%
SPECIALTY CARE	27	39	43	33	52	59%
Anesthesiology	1	35	35	.	.	0%
Emergency Medicine	15	36	39	31	.	60%
Internal Medicine	1	87	87	.	.	100%
Orthopedic Surgery	3	40	52	35	.	33%
Other Specialties	7	41	38	43	52	71%

'Full Time' is 40 (or more) hours of direct patient care per week in Vermont, 48 weeks per year (see Note 22).

See Note 1 for description of the calculation of age.

Pathologists are excluded from this table (see Note 3).

Table 21 -- VT Physician Assistants, 2002
Average Patient Care Hours per Week,
by Provider Age, by County

County	Total	Average Patient Care Hours per Week				% Working Full Time (%)
		All Ages	Age < 45	Age 45-54	Age 55+	
STATEWIDE TOTAL						
Primary Care	69	33	33	33	32	38%
Specialists	61	41	43	39	40	64%
Addison County						
Primary Care	3	38	37	40	.	67%
Specialists	0	.	.	.	.	.
Bennington County						
Primary Care	4	33	40	38	15	25%
Specialists	7	36	39	27	52	57%
Caledonia County						
Primary Care	1	32	32	.	.	0%
Specialists	1	48	.	48	.	100%
Chittenden County						
Primary Care	23	30	28	34	22	26%
Specialists	23	41	41	42	25	70%
Essex County						
Primary Care	1	38	.	38	.	0%
Specialists	0	.	.	.	.	.
Franklin County						
Primary Care	2	43	.	40	46	100%
Specialists	3	53	50	61	.	100%
Grand Isle County						
Primary Care	0	.	.	.	.	.
Specialists	0	.	.	.	.	.
Lamoille County						
Primary Care	1	6	.	6	.	0%
Specialists	1	45	.	45	.	100%
Orange County						
Primary Care	2	33	.	33	.	50%
Specialists	1	33	33	.	.	0%
Orleans County						
Primary Care	2	40	39	40	.	50%
Specialists	0	.	.	.	.	.
Rutland County						
Primary Care	7	37	36	38	.	43%
Specialists	6	40	53	27	.	50%
Washington County						
Primary Care	9	37	34	42	42	67%
Specialists	8	39	42	38	.	50%
Windham County						
Primary Care	5	26	43	23	20	20%
Specialists	2	41	.	41	.	50%
Windsor County						
Primary Care	9	31	33	23	54	33%
Specialists	9	43	45	40	41	67%

'Full Time' is 40 (or more) hours of direct patient care per week in Vermont, 48 weeks per year (see Note 22). Each provider is counted once in this table, in their main specialty group, and, independently, in their main county of practice (see Note 2). See Note 1 for description of the calculation of age. Pathologists are excluded from this table (see Note 3).

Table 22 -- VT Physician Assistants, 2002
Hospital Admitting Privileges by Specialties

Specialty	Total PA's	Number of PA's with Hospital Privileges	
TOTAL	130	29	(24%)
PRIMARY CARE	69	8	(12%)
Family Practice	53	5	(10%)
Internal Medicine	7	2	(29%)
Pediatrics	1	1	(100%)
Ob/Gyn	8	0	(0%)
SPECIALTY CARE	61	21	(39%)
Anesthesiology	3	0	(0%)
Emergency Medicine	33	9	(32%)
Internal Medicine	1	1	(100%)
General Surgery	1	0	(0%)
Orthopedic Surgery	8	5	(63%)
Other Surgery	3	2	(67%)
Psychiatry	1	0	(0%)
Other Specialties	11	4	(36%)

Providers are only counted once in the last column, even if they have privileges at multiple hospitals. The hospital privileges of 8 provider(s) are unknown, they are counted in the "Total" column, but excluded from the calculation of the percentage.

Table 23 -- VT Physician Assistants, 2002
Practice Availability by Specialty

Specialty	Offices	Plan to Continue Practice	Accept New Patients	Accept New Medicaid Patients	Accept New Medicare Patients
		(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)
TOTAL	105	98%	94%	85%	84%
PRIMARY CARE	79	97%	92%	86%	86%
Family Practice	60	96%	89%	82%	84%
Internal Medicine	8	100%	100%	100%	88%
Pediatrics	1	100%	100%	100%	n.a.
Ob/Gyn	10	100%	100%	100%	100%
SPECIALTY CARE	26	100%	100%	78%	78%
Anesthesiology	2	100%	100%	100%	100%
Internal Medicine	1	100%	100%	100%	100%
General Surgery	1	.	.	.	.
Orthopedic Surgery	8	100%	100%	100%	100%
Other Surgery	1	100%	100%	100%	100%
Psychiatry	1	100%	100%	0%	0%
Other Specialties	12	100%	100%	60%	60%

Only office-based settings are included (see Note 11).

Each site a provider practices in is counted separately (see Note 10).

'Plan to Continue Practice' is for 12 months following the survey.

Denominators for percentages do not include unknowns.

Pathologists are excluded from this table (see Note 3).

Table 24 -- VT Physician Assistants, 2002
Practice Availability by County

County	Offices	Plan to Continue Practice	Accept New Patients	Accept New Medicaid Patients	Accept New Medicare Patients
		(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)
STATEWIDE TOTAL					
Primary Care	79	97%	92%	86%	86%
Specialists	26	100%	100%	78%	78%
Addison County					
Primary Care	3	100%	100%	100%	100%
Specialists	0	.	.	.	.
Bennington County					
Primary Care	3	100%	100%	100%	100%
Specialists	4	100%	100%	100%	100%
Caledonia County					
Primary Care	1	100%	100%	100%	100%
Specialists	1	.	.	.	.
Chittenden County					
Primary Care	24	100%	81%	81%	81%
Specialists	9	100%	100%	56%	56%
Essex County					
Primary Care	1	100%	100%	100%	100%
Specialists	0	.	.	.	.
Franklin County					
Primary Care	3	100%	100%	100%	100%
Specialists	2	100%	100%	100%	100%
Grand Isle County					
Primary Care	0	.	.	.	.
Specialists	0	.	.	.	.
Lamoille County					
Primary Care	1	100%	100%	100%	100%
Specialists	0	.	.	.	.
Orange County					
Primary Care	4	100%	100%	100%	100%
Specialists	0	.	.	.	.
Orleans County					
Primary Care	2	100%	100%	100%	100%
Specialists	0	.	.	.	.
Rutland County					
Primary Care	7	86%	100%	57%	86%
Specialists	3	100%	100%	100%	100%
Washington County					
Primary Care	11	100%	80%	80%	80%
Specialists	4	100%	100%	67%	67%
Windham County					
Primary Care	8	100%	100%	100%	86%
Specialists	2	100%	100%	100%	100%
Windsor County					
Primary Care	11	91%	100%	91%	82%
Specialists	1	100%	100%	100%	100%

Only office-based settings are included (see Note 11).
Each site a provider practices in is counted separately (see Note 10).
'Plan to Continue Practice' is for 12 months following the survey.
Denominators for percentages do not include unknowns.
Pathologists are excluded from this table (see Note 3).

Table 25 -- VT Physician Assistants, 2002
Providers Planning To Retire Or Reduce Hours

TOTAL	5	(100%)
Age groups:		
younger than 35	2	(40%)
35 - 44	2	(40%)
45 - 54	0	(0%)
55 - 64	1	(20%)
65 and older	0	(0%)
Gender:		
Male	0	(0%)
Female	5	(100%)
Current Patient care hours:		
40 or more hours/week	2	(40%)
30 to 39 hours/week	2	(40%)
less than 30 hours/week	1	(20%)
Main specialty:		
Primary Care Total	4	(80%)
Family Practice	3	(60%)
Primary Care Internal Medicine	1	(20%)
Specialty Care Total	1	(20%)
Emergency Medicine	1	(20%)

Vermont Physician Assistants by Health Care Areas

Table 26 -- VT Physician Assistants, 2002
 Numbers of Providers, Full Time Equivalents (FTEs),
 and Total Weekly Patient Care Hours, by Health Care Area

Count FTEs Hours	TOTAL	PRIMARY CARE TOTAL	SPECIALTY CARE TOTAL
STATEWIDE TOTAL	130 109.1 4733	73 54.3 2248	66 54.8 2484
Central Vermont	19 15.1 653	11 8.0 339	9 7.1 314
Chittenden	50 38.7 1667	25 17.2 701	26 21.5 966
Copley	2 .6 28	1 .2 6	1 .5 22
Gifford	4 3.1 136	3 2.2 103	1 .8 33
North Country	3 2.9 118	3 2.9 118	.. ..
Northeastern	2 1.8 80	1 .8 32	1 1.0 48
Northwestern	6 4.7 228	2 2.0 86	5 2.7 143
Porter	5 2.8 113	3 2.6 107	2 .1 7
Rutland	16 10.6 486	7 6.0 247	10 4.7 239
Southwestern	12 9.2 395	5 3.4 136	8 5.8 259
Springfield	18 13.6 583	10 5.9 253	11 7.7 330
Upper Conn Valley	5 3.2 134	2 1.2 47	3 2.0 87
Windham	4 2.8 112	3 1.8 73	1 1.0 39

Pathologists are excluded from this table (see Note 3).
 In this table providers may be counted more than once (Note 4).

Table 27 -- VT Physician Assistants, 2002
Numbers of Primary Care Providers, Full Time Equivalents (FTEs),
and Total Weekly Patient Care Hours, by Health Care Area

Count	PRIMARY	NON-	OB/GYN					
FTEs	CARE	OB/GYN	FAMILY	INTERNAL	PEDIATRIC	CARE	GYNECOL	OB /
Hours	TOTAL	TOTAL				TOTAL	ONLY	GYN
STATEWIDE TOTAL	73	65	58	9	2	9	7	2
	54.3	49.8	43.6	5.3	1.0	4.5	3.1	1.3
	2248	2070	1818	212	39	179	126	52
Central Vermont	11	9	9	.	.	2	1	1
	8.0	7.8	7.8	.	.	.3	.1	.2
	339	329	329	.	.	11	4	7
Chittenden	25	19	18	1	.	6	5	1
	17.2	13.4	12.5	.9	.	3.8	2.9	.9
	701	549	512	38	.	152	116	36
Copley	1	.	.	.	.	1	1	.
	.2	.	.	.	.	.2	.2	.
	6	.	.	.	.	6	6	.
Gifford	3	2	2	1	.	1	.	1
	2.2	2.0	1.8	.2	.	.2	.	.2
	103	93	85	9	.	10	.	10
North Country	3	3	2	1	1	.	.	.
	2.9	2.9	2.0	.5	.5	.	.	.
	118	118	79	19	19	.	.	.
Northeastern	1	1	1	.	.	.	.	.
	.8	.8	.8	.	.	.	.	.
	32	32	32	.	.	.	.	.
Northwestern	2	2	2	.	.	.	.	.
	2.0	2.0	2.0	.	.	.	.	.
	86	86	86	.	.	.	.	.
Porter	3	3	3	1	.	.	.	.
	2.6	2.6	2.4	.2	.	.	.	.
	107	107	99	8	.	.	.	.
Rutland	7	7	7	.	.	.	.	.
	6.0	6.0	6.0	.	.	.	.	.
	247	247	247	.	.	.	.	.
Southwestern	5	5	5	.	.	.	.	.
	3.4	3.4	3.4	.	.	.	.	.
	136	136	136	.	.	.	.	.
Springfield	10	10	7	3	.	.	.	.
	5.9	5.9	3.7	2.2	.	.	.	.
	253	253	165	88	.	.	.	.
Upper Conn Valley	2	2	2	.	.	.	.	.
	1.2	1.2	1.2	.	.	.	.	.
	47	47	47	.	.	.	.	.
Windham	3	3	1	2	1	.	.	.
	1.8	1.8	.1	1.3	.5	.	.	.
	73	73	2	51	20	.	.	.

In this table providers may be counted more than once (Note 4).
See Note 6 for description of OB/GYN classification.

Table 28 -- VT Physician Assistants, 2002
Numbers of Specialty Care Providers, Full Time Equivalents (FTEs),
and Total Weekly Patient Care Hours, by Health Care Area

Count	SPECIALTY									
FTEs	CARE	INTERN.	GEN.	ORTHO.	OTHER		RADIO-	EMERG.		
Hours	TOTAL	MEDIC.	SURG.	SURG.	SURG.	ANESTH.	LOGY	MED.	PSYCH.	OTHER
STATEWIDE TOTAL	66	1	2	8	4	3	.	40	1	17
	54.8	1.0	.9	7.5	3.2	2.9	.	29.4	.6	9.4
	2484	87	41	328	178	127	.	1283	25	417
Central Vermont	9	.	1	.	1	.	.	7	.	4
	7.1	.	.2	.	.2	.	.	5.4	.	1.3
	314	.	9	.	8	.	.	242	.	55
Chittenden	26	.	.	2	3	3	.	12	1	7
	21.5	.	.	1.8	3.0	2.9	.	8.2	.6	5.0
	966	.	.	75	170	127	.	350	25	219
Copley	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.
	.5	.	.	.	.	.	.	.5	.	.
	22	.	.	.	.	.	.	22	.	.
Gifford	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.
	.8	.	.	.	.	.	.	.8	.	.
	33	.	.	.	.	.	.	33	.	.
Northeastern	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	1	.	.
	1.0	.	.7	.	.	.	.	.3	.	.
	48	.	33	.	.	.	.	15	.	.
Northwestern	5	.	.	1	.	.	.	3	.	1
	2.7	.	.	1.0	.	.	.	1.6	.	.1
	143	.	.	52	.	.	.	83	.	8
Porter	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	1
	.1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.1	.	.1
	7	.	.	.	.	.	.	3	.	4
Rutland	10	1	.	1	.	.	.	6	.	2
	4.7	1.0	.	1.0	.	.	.	1.8	.	.8
	239	87	.	43	.	.	.	76	.	33
Southwestern	8	.	.	2	.	.	.	4	.	3
	5.8	.	.	1.8	.	.	.	2.0	.	2.1
	259	.	.	79	.	.	.	82	.	98
Springfield	11	.	.	1	.	.	.	10	.	1
	7.7	.	.	1.0	.	.	.	6.7	.	<.05
	330	.	.	39	.	.	.	291	.	0
Upper Conn Valley	3	.	.	.	.	.	.	3	.	.
	2.0	.	.	.	.	.	.	2.0	.	.
	87	.	.	.	.	.	.	87	.	.
Windham	1	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.
	1.0	.	.	1.0	.	.	.	.	.	.
	39	.	.	39	.	.	.	.	.	.

Pathologists are excluded from this table (see Note 3).
In this table providers may be counted more than once (Note 4).

Table 29 -- VT Physician Assistants, 2002
Primary Care Provider FTE to Population Ratios
by Health Care Area

HCA	FTEs	Population	FTEs per 100,000	Population per FTE
STATEWIDE TOTAL	54.30	615611	8.82	11338
Central Vermont	8.05	67326	11.96	8364
Chittenden	17.25	166850	10.34	9675
Copley	.16	25925	.60	165920
Gifford	2.24	18469	12.15	8231
North Country	2.94	27792	10.57	9461
Northeastern	.81	29979	2.70	36992
Northwestern	2.00	43654	4.57	21878
Porter	2.63	28231	9.30	10755
Rutland	6.00	64303	9.33	10723
Southwestern	3.37	40947	8.24	12137
Springfield	5.87	26151	22.44	4457
Upper Conn Valley	1.18	43754	2.69	37237
Windham	1.82	32230	5.64	17721

Only primary care providers are included in this table.
One FTE is 40 (or more) hours per week, 48 weeks per year or more.

The FTEs are rounded to two digits for display only - the ratios were calculated using the unrounded values, then rounded in turn to two digits for display.

Population data is from estimates for 2002 (see note 7).
Pathologists are excluded from this table (see Note 3).
See Note 4 regarding calculation of FTEs by areas.

Vermont Physician Assistants by Area Health Education Center (AHEC) Regions

Table 30 -- VT Physician Assistants, 2002
 Numbers of Providers, Full Time Equivalents (FTEs),
 and Total Weekly Patient Care Hours, by AHEC region

Count FTEs Hours	TOTAL	PRIMARY CARE TOTAL	SPECIALTY CARE TOTAL
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
STATEWIDE TOTAL	130	73	66
	109.1	54.3	54.8
	4733	2248	2484
Champlain Valley	56	29	29
	46.2	21.9	24.3
	2008	893	1115
Northeast VT	28	18	11
	22.7	13.4	9.3
	979	564	415
Southern VT	50	28	27
	40.2	19.0	21.1
	1745	791	954

Pathologists are excluded from this table (see Note 3).
 In this table providers may be counted more than once (Note 4).

Table 31 -- VT Physician Assistants, 2002
Numbers of Primary Care Providers, Full Time Equivalents (FTEs),
and Total Weekly Patient Care Hours, by AHEC Region

Count	PRIMARY	NON-				OB/GYN		
FTEs	CARE	OB/GYN	FAMILY	INTERNAL	PEDIATRIC	CARE	GYNECOL	OB /
Hours	TOTAL	TOTAL				TOTAL	ONLY	GYN
<hr/>								
STATEWIDE TOTAL	73	65	58	9	2	9	7	2
	54.3	49.8	43.6	5.3	1.0	4.5	3.1	1.3
	2248	2070	1818	212	39	179	126	52
Champlain Valley	29	23	22	2	.	6	5	1
	21.9	18.1	16.9	1.1	.	3.8	2.9	.9
	893	742	696	46	.	152	116	36
Northeast VT	18	15	13	2	1	3	2	1
	13.4	12.7	11.6	.7	.5	.7	.3	.4
	564	537	490	28	19	27	11	16
Southern VT	28	28	23	5	1	.	.	.
	19.0	19.0	15.1	3.5	.5	.	.	.
	791	791	632	139	20	.	.	.

In this table providers may be counted more than once (Note 4).
See Note 6 for description of OB/GYN classification.

Table 32 -- VT Physician Assistants, 2002
 Numbers of Specialty Care Providers, Full Time Equivalents (FTEs),
 and Total Weekly Patient Care Hours, by AHEC Region

Count	SPECIALTY									
FTEs	CARE	INTERN.	GEN.	ORTHO.	OTHER		RADIO-	EMERG.		
Hours	TOTAL	MEDIC.	SURG.	SURG.	SURG.	ANESTH.	LOGY	MED.	PSYCH.	OTHER
STATEWIDE TOTAL	66	1	2	8	4	3	.	40	1	17
	54.8	1.0	.9	7.5	3.2	2.9	.	29.4	.6	9.4
	2484	87	41	328	178	127	.	1283	25	417
Champlain Valley	29	.	.	3	3	3	.	14	1	7
	24.3	.	.	2.8	3.0	2.9	.	9.8	.6	5.2
	1115	.	.	127	170	127	.	436	25	231
Northeast VT	11	.	2	.	1	.	.	10	.	4
	9.3	.	.9	.	.2	.	.	7.0	.	1.3
	415	.	41	.	8	.	.	311	.	55
Southern VT	27	1	.	5	.	.	.	17	.	6
	21.1	1.0	.	4.7	.	.	.	12.5	.	2.9
	954	87	.	200	.	.	.	536	.	131

Pathologists are excluded from this table (see Note 3).
 In this table providers may be counted more than once (Note 4).

Table 33 -- VT Physician Assistants, 2002
Primary Care Provider FTE to Population Ratios
by AHEC Region

AHEC region	FTEs	Population	FTEs per 100,000	Population per FTE
STATEWIDE TOTAL	54.30	615611	8.82	11338
Champlain Valley	21.87	238377	9.17	10902
Northeast VT	13.40	173844	7.71	12976
Southern VT	19.03	203390	9.36	10687

Only primary care providers are included in this table.

One FTE is 40 (or more) hours per week, 48 weeks per year or more.

The FTEs are rounded to two digits for display only - the ratios were calculated using the unrounded values, then rounded in turn to two digits for display.

Population data is from estimates for 2002 (see note 7).

Pathologists are excluded from this table (see Note 3).

See Note 4 regarding calculation of FTEs by areas.

Vermont Physician Assistants

Comparison Between 2000 and 2002

Table 34 -- VT PAs, 2000 and 2002
Changes in Number of PAs, Patient Care Hours
and Specialties, between 2000 and 2002

	2000	2002	Change	
TOTAL	117	130	+13	+11%
Age groups:				
younger than 35	19	24	+5	+26%
35 - 44	38	36	-2	-5%
45 - 54	52	59	+7	+13%
55 - 64	7	10	+3	+43%
65 and older	1	1	0	0%
Gender:				
Male	51	53	+2	+4%
Female	66	77	+11	+17%
Patient care hours:				
40 or more hours/week	56	65	+9	+16%
30 to under 40 hours/week	29	35	+6	+21%
less than 30 hours/week	32	30	-2	-6%
Main specialty:				
Primary Care Total	70	69	-1	-1%
Family Practice	51	53	+2	+4%
Internal Medicine	7	7	0	0%
Pediatrics	3	1	-2	-67%
Ob/Gyn	9	8	-1	-11%
Specialty Care Total	47	61	+14	+30%
Anesthesiology	2	3	+1	+50%
Emergency Medicine	25	33	+8	+32%
Internal Medicine	1	1	0	0%
General Surgery	2	1	-1	-50%
Orthopedic Surgery	5	8	+3	+60%
Other Surgery	2	3	+1	+50%
Psychiatry	2	1	-1	-50%
Other Specialties	8	11	+3	+38%

Table 35 -- VT PAs, 2000 and 2002
Full Time Equivalents (FTEs) by County

PRIMARY CARE:

	2000	2002	Change
STATE TOTAL	50.9	54.3	+3.4
Addison County	1.5	2.6	+1.1
Bennington County	3.1	3.3	+.2
Caledonia County	.8	.8	.
Chittenden County	18.4	17.2	-1.2
Essex County	.9	1.0	+.1
Franklin County	2.5	2.0	-.5
Grand Isle County	<.05	.	.
Lamoille County	<.05	.2	+.2
Orange County	1.3	1.4	+.1
Orleans County	2.7	2.0	-.7
Rutland County	3.3	6.0	+2.7
Washington County	7.9	8.0	+.1
Windham County	3.2	3.2	.
Windsor County	5.1	6.6	+1.5

SPECIALTY CARE:

	2000	2002	Change
STATE TOTAL	42.1	54.8	+12.7
Addison County	.	.1	.
Bennington County	5.1	5.7	+.6
Caledonia County	1.1	1.0	-.1
Chittenden County	16.7	21.5	+4.8
Essex County	.	.	.
Franklin County	.4	2.7	+2.3
Grand Isle County	.	.	.
Lamoille County	.3	.5	+.2
Orange County	1.0	.8	-.2
Orleans County	.	.	.
Rutland County	5.1	4.7	-.4
Washington County	6.2	7.1	+.9
Windham County	1.1	2.5	+1.4
Windsor County	5.2	8.3	+3.1

Appendices

Appendix A. General Notes and Terms

Definition of Active Physician Assistant

A PA who was licensed or relicensed for the period 2002-2003 in Vermont, and who provided patient care hours in Vermont (not as locum tenens) as reported in the survey, is considered an active physician assistant.

Physician assistants not represented in these tables

Only *active* PAs are reported. Those who hold a Vermont license but are not actively in practice are excluded from all tables.

Specialties

Physician assistants reported their specialties using a list of predefined codes that was provided along with the survey form (see Appendix D). For the purposes of these tables the detailed specialties were grouped in the following way:

Primary Care

- Family Practice includes general practice, family practice, and geriatric medicine.
- Internal Medicine includes general internal medicine and geriatric internal medicine.
- Pediatrics includes pediatric primary care as well as adolescent medicine.
- Obstetrics and Gynecology (Ob/Gyn) includes physician assistants who reported a solely gynecological practice or a solely obstetrical practice, along with those who reported both obstetrics and gynecology.

Specialty Care

- Anesthesiology
- Emergency Medicine
- Internal Medicine includes several internal medicine subspecialties, and also general internal medicine and geriatric internal medicine (which would otherwise be considered primary care) if the PA practiced *only* in an inpatient setting.
- General Surgery
- Orthopedic Surgery
- Other Surgery includes most other (non-orthopedic) surgical specialties, such as general vascular surgery, abdominal surgery, cardiovascular surgery, colon and rectal surgery, neurological surgery, oral and maxillofacial surgery, pediatric surgery, surgical critical care, thoracic surgery, and traumatic surgery.
- Psychiatry
- Radiology
- Pathology
- Other Specialties includes all specific specialties that are not included in the above specialty groups, plus primary care specialties that were reported as being practiced in a non-primary care setting (e.g., family practice in the emergency department of a hospital), except for general internal medicine (see Internal Medicine above).

Determination of a physician assistant's main specialty

A PA's "main" specialty is the specialty group in which the PA works the most hours. In case of a tie (equal hours reported in two specialties), the specialty group listed first in the above list is chosen. This has the effect of choosing primary care over specialty care, and more specific specialties over the "other specialties" category, in case of a tie.

Main setting

Main setting is the practice setting in which the physician assistant provides the greatest number of patient care hours. The practice setting is the context in which patient care is given, and was reported in the site-by-site section of the survey (see Appendix C).

Physician assistants who practice exclusively in hospital settings

If **all** of a PA's patient care settings at all sites are "hospital inpatient", then the PA is considered to be a specialist, even if primary care specialties are reported. In that case, general internal medicine is considered to be "specialty care internal medicine", and all other primary care specialties are considered to belong in the "other specialties" category.

However, if **some** of the PA's primary care patient care is in the inpatient setting, and some is in the outpatient setting, then both are considered to be primary care, *including* their work in the inpatient setting.

Definition of Full Time Equivalent (FTE)

Reported hours per week were prorated based on the number of work weeks per year. Full time is defined as 40 patient care hours per week or more, for 48 weeks per year. Reported hours per week were adjusted to an annual average, based on a standard of 48 weeks per year. E.g., if 52 weeks were reported, the hours were multiplied by 52/48. A physician reporting more than 40 (adjusted) hours per week is defined as *one* FTE regardless of the number of hours. See the following examples:

		<u>Weeks</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>FTE</u>
Example 1:	Primary Care	48	10	0.25
	Specialty Care	48	10	0.25
	Total		20	0.50
Example 2:	Primary Care	52	10	0.27
	Specialty Care	52	10	0.27
	Total		20	0.54
Example 3:	Primary Care	52	20	0.50
	Specialty Care	52	20	0.50
	Total		40	1.00
Example 4:	Primary Care	48	35	0.50
	Specialty Care	24	70	0.50
	Total		70	1.00

In the first example, the physician assistant works half-time and has hours split equally between primary and specialty care. The second example is similar except for the number of weeks being more than 48 so the FTEs are adjusted upwards. The pattern is the same in Example 3, except the hours total 40 for 1.0 FTE, and the adjustment for 52 weeks does not matter since the total FTE is never more than 1.0. In the fourth example the physician assistant spends an average of 70 hours per week in patient care: 35 hours of primary care every week, and 70 hours of specialty care in each of only 24 weeks per year. This is calculated as 1.0 FTE total, and 0.5 FTE for each of primary care and specialty care.

Main County

Main county is the county in which the physician assistant practices the greatest number of patient care hours.

Numerical precision

Most numbers are displayed in finite precision in that they are individually rounded. Thus, some rows or columns of numbers may not add exactly to the displayed total (to the last, rightmost digit). This applies to FTEs, percentages and hours, for example, whether the numerals displayed are decimal or whole numbers. Counts of physician assistants are exact integers, however, and should add up to displayed totals.

Tables displaying each physician assistant in a single cell vs. multiple-count tables

Most of the tables contain information that is individual-based (e.g., age, sex, and board certification). Each PA is represented in only one cell in the table. Those with more than one specialty, or more than one practice site or setting, are counted only in the row and column representing their main specialty, main setting, or main practice location.

Other tables count some PAs in more than one row or column, e.g., in every county the PA works in, and thus the numbers in the “total” row or column may be less than the sum of the rows or columns. Wherever this is the case, it is stated in the notes specific to that table.

Appendix B.

Footnotes for specific tables

1. **Calculation of Age**

Ages are calculated as of 1/31/2002, based on the date of birth. For example, a person born during January 1960, or on any date in 1959 after January, is considered 42 years old. Tables that refer to age in 2000 are based on ages as of 1/31/2000.

2. **“Main” Specialty and “Main” County determined independently**

Each physician assistant’s main practice specialty, and main county of practice, are determined independently, and used to determine the row and column in the table in which this physician assistant will be counted. Secondary specialties and counties are ignored. A physician assistant may practice their main specialty primarily in a county other than their main overall county, but that is ignored in this table.

3. **Table Excludes Pathologists**

Pathology specialties are excluded from this table. Their hours in active practice are not part of our definition of direct patient care, and are not included in any table quantifying patient care. But note that some practitioners whose main specialty is pathology also provide some other kind of care that is counted as direct patient care.

4. **Notes regarding tables listing physician assistant Full Time Equivalents (FTE) and Hours by County or by other geographical areas:**

These tables count each physician assistant who provides primary and/or specialty care in that county or area. The same physician assistant may be counted in more than one town, more than one area, and in both the “primary” and “specialty” columns.

Because of this inclusive approach taken in tallying physician assistant across many practice locations, the numbers in the “Total” rows and “Total” columns will generally be less than the sum of the individual rows and columns. This applies to the area totals which sum the town-level physician assistant counts, the state totals which sum the area-level counts, and the “Total” of primary and secondary care combined. Unlike the totals for the counts of physician assistants, however, the numbers listed in the “Total” rows and “Total” columns for the “FTE” and “Hours” statistics *do* equal the sums of the individual items (except for rounding error).

The above notes regarding totals apply as well to the “OB/Gyn Care Total” in the primary care tables.

See also Note 22 regarding the calculation of weekly hours and FTEs.

(note index 5 skipped intentionally)

6. **Obstetrics, Gynecology, and Obstetrics and Gynecology**
“Gynecology Only” was listed separately from “OB/Gyn” so that physician assistants not providing Obstetric services could be accounted for. “OB/Gyn Care Total” is the combined total of “Gynecology only” and “OB/Gyn”.
7. **Population Estimates**
Population estimates are for 2002 and were provided by Claritas, Inc.
8. **“Main” Setting and “Main” Specialty determined independently**
Each physician assistant’s main practice setting and their main specialty, are determined independently, and used to determine the row and column in the table in which this physician assistant will be counted. Secondary settings and specialties are ignored. A physician assistant may practice their main specialty primarily in a setting other than their main overall setting, but that is ignored in this table.
9. **“Main” Setting, “Main” Specialty, “Main” County determined independently**
Each physician assistant’s main specialty, main practice setting, and main county of practice, are determined independently, and used to determine the row and column in the table in which this physician assistant will be counted. Secondary specialties, settings and counties are ignored. A physician assistant may practice in their main setting primarily in a county other than their main overall county, but that is ignored in this table.
10. **Notes regarding Availability of Care**
The survey form allowed the physician assistant to answer the “availability” questions (e.g., whether they accept new patients) separately for each site. Therefore, in the tables about availability of care, the unit of counting is neither the physician assistant nor the site, but rather the physician assistant - site association. More than one response per physician assistant is tabulated if that physician assistant reported working at more than one site, or providing care in more than one setting within the site (and therefore filled in two site sections, see the survey instrument, Appendix C). Each response is tabulated under the specialty reported, whether or not that is the physician assistant’s main specialty.

The following specialties are excluded from the “accept Medicare patients” statistic (both numerator and denominator): all pediatric specialties (including adolescent medicine), maternal and fetal medicine, reproductive endocrinology, and child and adolescent psychiatry.

11. **Office settings only**

Only office settings are counted. Included are private practices (both solo and group), community health centers, and hospital outpatient clinics. Emergency medicine reported as done in an office setting is not counted.

(note indices 12 through 21 skipped intentionally)

22. **Patient Care Hours**

"Full Time" is defined here as 40 (or more) hours of direct patient care per week, for 48 or more weeks per year, in Vermont. Average weekly hours (and FTEs), based on 48 weeks per year, were computed for providers who reported working more or less than 48 weeks per year. This results in fractional hours, and rounding errors may affect the displayed hours. Thus, in some cases the hours in the "total" columns differ, usually by one hour, from the totals of the hours displayed in the detail columns. Some providers provide additional patient care outside Vermont (not listed), or do some other types of work besides direct patient care.



PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT SURVEY - 2002

1

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60873





60873

VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT SURVEY - 2002

2

For each location in Vermont where you provide patient care please answer questions 1-5 below. Please select the specialty codes from the yellow sheet, and enter the average hours per week you spend providing DIRECT PATIENT CARE. Include both AMBULATORY care and HOSPITAL care of patients who originate from this site. Please exclude on-call hours.

Vermont License Number

0 5 5 -

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

(Please re-enter your license number for scanning purposes)

Please print legibly in uppercase using a dark blue or black pen.

☐ Scans well

Please fill in check boxes completely using a dark blue or black pen.

☐ Does not scan well

SITE ONE 1. Enter the town name for a Vermont work location

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

2. Fill in one practice setting:

- ☐ Solo Practice
☐ Group Practice
☐ Community Health Center/Clinic
☐ Hospital Outpatient Clinic
☐ School or College Health Center
☐ Business or Work Site
☐ Hospital Emergency Room
☐ Hospital Inpatient
☐ Extended Care/Nursing Home

3. Please answer every question:

- ☐ Yes ☐ No I plan to continue here for the next 12 months
☐ Yes ☐ No I will accept new patients here
☐ Yes ☐ No I will accept new Medicaid patients here
☐ Yes ☐ No I will accept new Medicare patients here
☐ Yes ☐ No I work as a locum tenens here

4. Enter the number of weeks you spend providing direct patient care here in a year.

--	--

Weeks Per Year

5. Enter specialty, hours/week.

First Specialty

Hours

--	--	--	--

--	--

Second Specialty

Hours

--	--	--	--

--	--

SITE TWO 1. Enter the town name for a second Vermont work location

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

2. Fill in one practice setting:

- ☐ Solo Practice
☐ Group Practice
☐ Community Health Center/Clinic
☐ Hospital Outpatient Clinic
☐ School or College Health Center
☐ Business or Work Site
☐ Hospital Emergency Room
☐ Hospital Inpatient
☐ Extended Care/Nursing Home

3. Please answer every question:

- ☐ Yes ☐ No I plan to continue here for the next 12 months
☐ Yes ☐ No I will accept new patients here
☐ Yes ☐ No I will accept new Medicaid patients here
☐ Yes ☐ No I will accept new Medicare patients here
☐ Yes ☐ No I work as a locum tenens here

4. Enter the number of weeks you spend providing direct patient care here in a year.

--	--

Weeks Per Year

5. Enter specialty, hours/week.

First Specialty

Hours

--	--	--	--

--	--

Second Specialty

Hours

--	--	--	--

--	--

Please continue on third page. Return all 3 pages. Thank you.

60873



SPECIALTY CODES

(primary care specialties in boldface)

0101 Allergy and Immunology	1001 Nuclear Medicine
0102 Clinical & Laboratory Immunology	
	1101 Obstetrics & Gynecology
0201 Anesthesiology	1102 Critical Care Medicine
0202 Critical Care Medicine	1103 Gynecologic Oncology
0203 Pain Management	1104 Maternal & Fetal Medicine
	1105 Reproductive Endocrinology
0301 Colon & Rectal Surgery	
	1201 Ophthalmology
0401 Dermatology	
0402 Dermatopathology	1301 Orthopaedic Surgery
0403 Clinical & Laboratory Dermatology	1302 Hand Surgery
0404 Dermatological Immunology	
	1401 Otolaryngology
0501 Emergency Medicine	1402 Otology/Neurotology
0502 Medical Toxicology	1403 Pediatric Otolaryngology
0503 Pediatric Emergency Medicine	
0504 Sports Medicine	1501 Anatomic & Clinical Pathology
	1502 Anatomic Pathology
0601 Family Practice	1503 Clinical Pathology
0602 Geriatric Medicine	1504 Blood Banking/Transfusion Medicine
0603 Sports Medicine	1505 Chemical Pathology
	1506 Cytopathology
0701 Internal Medicine	1507 Dermatopathology
0702 Adolescent Medicine	1508 Forensic Pathology
0703 Cardiac Electrophysiology	1509 Hematology
0704 Cardiovascular Disease	1510 Immunopathology
0705 Critical Care Medicine	1511 Medical Microbiology
0706 Clinical & Laboratory Immunology	1512 Neuropathology
0707 Endocrinology Diabetes & Metabolism	1513 Pediatric Pathology
0708 Gastroenterology	
0709 Geriatric Medicine	1601 Pediatrics
0710 Hematology	1602 Adolescent Medicine
0711 Infectious Disease	1603 Clinical & Laboratory Immunology
0712 Medical Oncology	1604 Medical Toxicology
0713 Nephrology	1605 Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine
0714 Pulmonary Disease	1606 Pediatric Cardiology
0715 Rheumatology	1607 Pediatric Critical Care Medicine
0716 Sports Medicine	1608 Pediatric Emergency Medicine
	1609 Pediatric Endocrinology
0801 Medical Genetics	1610 Pediatric Gastroenterology
0802 Clinical Biochemical Genetics	1611 Pediatric Hematology-Oncology
0803 Clinical Biochemical/Molecular Genetics	1612 Pediatric Infectious Disease
0804 Clinical Cytogenetics	1613 Pediatric Nephrology
0805 Clinical Genetics (Md)	1614 Pediatric Pulmonology
0806 Clinical Molecular Genetics	1615 Pediatric Rheumatology
	1616 Pediatric Sports Medicine
0901 Neurological Surgery	1617 Children With Special Health Needs
0902 Critical Care Medicine	

CODES CONTINUED ON BACK

SPECIALTY CODES

(primary care specialties in boldface)

1701 Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation	4001 Abdominal Surgery
1801 Plastic Surgery	4002 Acupuncture
1802 Hand Surgery	4003 Addiction Medicine
	4004 Adult Reconstructive Orthopedics
	4005 Allergy
1901 Preventive Medicine	
1902 Aerospace Medicine	4006 Cardiovascular Surgery
1903 Occupational Medicine	4007 Clinical Pharmacology
1904 Public Health & General Preventive	4008 Diabetes
1905 Medical Toxicology	
1906 Underseas Medicine	4009 Facial Plastic Surgery
Psychiatry & Neurology	4010 General Practice
(Board Name - Not A Specialty)	4011 Gynecology
2001 Psychiatry	
2002 Neurology	4012 Head & Neck Surgery
2003 Neurology With Special Qualifications	4013 Hepatology
In Child Neurology	4014 Homeopathic Medicine
2004 Addiction Psychiatry	4015 Immunology
2005 Child & Adolescent Psychiatry	
2006 Forensic Psychiatry	4016 Legal Medicine
2007 Geriatric Psychiatry	4017 Musculoskeletal Oncology
2008 Clinical Neurophysiology	4018 Neuroradiology
	4019 Nutrition
2101 Radiology	4020 Obstetrics
2102 Diagnostic Radiology	
2103 Radiation Oncology	4021 Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery
2104 Radiological Physics	4022 Orthopedic Surgery Of The Spine
2105 Nuclear Radiology	4023 Orthopedic Trauma
2106 Pediatric Radiology	4024 Pain Medicine
2107 Vascular & Interventional Radiology	4025 Pediatric Allergy
2201 Surgery	
2202 Surgery Of The Hand	4026 Pediatric Ophthalmology
2203 Pediatric Surgery	4027 Pediatric Orthopedics
2204 Surgical Critical Care	4028 Pediatric Surgery (Neurology)
2205 General Vascular Surgery	4029 Pediatric Urology
	4030 Psychoanalysis
2301 Thoracic Surgery	
2401 Urology	4031 Radioisotopic Pathology
	4032 Sports Medicine (Orthopedic Surgery)
3201 General Osteopathic Medicine	4033 Traumatic Surgery
	4034 Sleep Medicine
	9001 Rotating Internship (Residency)
	9999 Other - Please Specify

CODES CONTINUED ON FRONT