2014 Georgia Medical School Graduate Survey Report

GEORGIA BOARD FOR PHYSICIAN WORKFORCE

JUNE 2014

2 PEACHTREE STREET, NW, 36TH FLOOR, ATLANTA, GA 30303
PHONE (404) 232-7972 / FAX (404) 656-2596

Cherri Tucker, Executive Director, Cheryl Ewell and
G.E. Alan Dever, M.D., Ph.D., contributors
www.gbpw.georgia.gov

2014 Georgia Medical School Graduate Survey Report

Table of Contents

Executive Summary and Key Findings 3-4
Table 1: Specialty matched during PGY 1 year 5
Table 2: Specialty distribution declared by graduates 6-7
Table 3: When decision was made regarding specialty choice 8
Table 4: Factors which influenced specialty choice 9
Table 5: GME match information 10
Table 6: GME match information-location 10
Table 7: Georgia GME match information 11
Table 8: Georgia GME match information-number of programs 11
Table 9: Top three choices of Georgia programs 12
Table 10: Georgia medical school graduates that ranked GA programs in top three 13
Table 11: Percentage of graduates that matched to GA or out-of-state program 14
Map 1: Location where graduates matched 14
Table 12: Primary reason for choosing an out-of-state program 15
Table 13: Factors influencing selection of residency program 16
Table 14: Plans to practice in an underserved area 17
Table 15: Underserved area location 17
Map 2 : Location where graduates plan to practice 18

2014 Georgia Medical School Graduate Survey Report

Executive Summary and Key Findings

The Georgia Board for Physician Workforce (GBPW) has conducted an annual survey of graduating medical school students from each of Georgia's medical schools since 2008. The purpose of this survey is to inform policy makers, medical school administrators, graduate medical education administrators, and other government and non-government agencies about the medical school pipeline. It also serves to give insight on why medical students choose a specialty and residency site, and how many intend to ultimately practice in Georgia when their training is complete. This year, 488 graduates completed the survey for a response rate of 86.4%. Responses are collected from each of Georgia's five medical schools. They are:

- Emory University School of Medicine
- Medical College of Georgia at Georgia Regents University
- Mercer University School of Medicine
- Morehouse School of Medicine
- Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine–Georgia campus

Key Findings from the 2014 Survey:

Geography:

- 49.7% intend to practice in an underserved area
- 27.3% intend to practice in a rural community
- 47.4% intend to practice in Georgia
- 7.9% intend to practice in a state contiguous to Georgia (AL, FL, NC, SC, TN)
- 30.6% are still undecided on practice location

Specialty:

- The greatest declared specialty was pediatrics with 12.9%. In 2013, it was internal medicine.
- 29.6% declared a primary care specialty (defined as family medicine, internal medicine, pediatrics and OB/GYN)
- 12.3% declared a core specialty (defined as emergency medicine and general surgery)
- Morehouse had the highest percentage of their graduates (52.4%) say they intended to pursue a primary care specialty, followed by PCOM with 45.3%, Mercer with 44.9%, Emory with 38.8% and MCG with 28.9%.
- Lifestyle, mentor/role model influence, options for fellowship training, and future earning potential were all important factors for Georgia graduates in determining specialty.

Executive Summary and Key Findings

Georgia Residency Programs:

- 24.1% matched to a Georgia graduate medical education program (GME)
- 40.0% ranked a Georgia GME program among their top three choices during the match, and of those, more than half ranked an Emory GME program. Emory had 39.3% of the PGY-1 positions in 2013/2014.
- 189 respondents indicated they ranked one or more of Georgia's 504 PGY-1 ACGME approved residency positions as a top three choice.
- Of those going to an out-of-state residency program, 40.9% said they preferred a highly reputable out-of-state program.
- Other reasons for choosing an out-of-state program:
  - Family reasons 23.0%
  - Desire to stay in Georgia, but did not match 15.3%
  - Quality of Georgia residency programs 8.6%
  - Lack of osteopathic residencies 4.8%
  - Specialty not offered in Georgia 3.2%
  - Military obligation 2.9%
  - Higher resident salary 1.3%
- As a percentage of their class, Mercer respondents had the highest percentage matching to a Georgia program with 33.7%. The lowest was Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine (PCOM) with 14.0%.

Practice Plans:

- Mercer had the highest percentage (92.3%) of their graduates say they intended to practice in Georgia after they completed residency training. Emory had the lowest percentage, with 30.6%.
- Of the graduates that plan to practice in Georgia, Mercer had the highest percentage (71.9%) that intend to practice in a rural area. Emory had the lowest percentage, with 0.0%.
- Of the graduates that plan to practice in Georgia, Morehouse had the highest percentage (60.0%) that intend to practice in an inner-city community. PCOM had the lowest percentage with 19.0%.

Table 1: Specialty matched to in PGY 1 year

	Specialty	Number	Percent
PRIMARY CARE	Family Medicine	36	7.6
	Internal Medicine*	113	23.8
	OB/GYN	36	7.6
	Pediatrics	71	15.0
SPECIALISTS	Anesthesiology	14	3.0
	Dermatology	1	0.2
	Emergency Medicine	40	8.4
	Emergency Medicine/Family Medicine	1	0.2
	General Surgery	39	8.2
	Internal Medicine/Psychiatry	1	0.2
	Med-Peds	4	0.8
	Neurological Surgery	3	0.6
	Neurology	5	1.1
	Orthopedic Surgery	15	3.2
	Orthopedics	7	1.5
	Otolaryngology	7	1.5
	Pathology	6	1.3
	Pediatric Neurology	2	0.4
	Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation	1	0.2
	Plastic Surgery	1	0.2
	Psychiatry	7	1.5
	Radiation Oncology	3	0.6
	Radiology	5	1.1
	Urology	4	0.8
	Transitional	33	7.0
	Preliminary Medicine	15	3.2
	Preliminary Surgery	4	0.8
	Total	474	100.0

* Two respondents indicated they were on an Internal Medicine-Primary Care track

Table 2: Specialty distribution declared by graduates

	Specialty	Number	Percent
PRIMARY CARE	Family Medicine	35	7.3
	Internal Medicine	55	11.5
	OB/GYN	38	7.9
	Pediatrics	62	12.9
SPECIALISTS	Anesthesiology	20	4.2
	Breast Surgery	1	0.2
	Cardiology	15	3.1
	Critical Care Medicine	6	1.3
	Dermatology	8	1.7
	Diagnostic Radiology	1	0.2
	Emergency Medicine	40	8.3
	Emergency Medicine/Family Medicine	1	0.2
	Epidemiology	1	0.2
	Gastroenterology	10	2.1
	General Surgery	19	4.0
	Hematology/Oncology	9	1.9
	Hospitalist	1	0.2
	Infectious Disease	7	1.5
	Interventional Radiology	1	0.2
	Med-Peds	4	0.8
	Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine	2	0.4
	Nephrology	2	0.4

(Continued on page 7)

Table 2: Specialty distribution declared by graduates

	Specialty	Number	Percent
SPECIALISTS	Neurological Surgery	4	0.8
	Neurology	10	2.1
	Ophthalmology	8	1.7
	Orthopedic Surgery	17	3.5
	Orthopaedics	8	1.7
	Otolaryngology	9	1.9
	Pathology	6	1.3
	Pediatric Cardiology	1	0.2
	Pediatric Emergency Medicine	1	0.2
	Pediatric Neurology	2	0.4
	Pediatric Surgery	2	0.4
	Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation	7	1.5
	Plastic Surgery	3	0.6
	Psychiatry	10	2.1
	Public Health	1	0.2
	Pulmonology	1	0.2
	Radiation Oncology	5	1.0
	Radiology	17	3.5
	Rheumatology	2	0.4
	Thoracic Surgery	1	0.2
	Traumatic Surgery	1	0.2
	Urology	8	1.7
	Vascular Surgery	2	0.4
	Undecided	16	3.3
	Total	480	100.0

Table 3: When did you make the decision about what specialty to pursue?

Time Frame	Number	Percent*
1st year of medical school	24	4.9
2nd year of medical school	24	4.9
3rd year of medical school	245	50.3
4th year of medical school	74	15.2
During/after college	65	13.3
Not certain	11	2.3
Prior to entering college	44	9.0
Total	487	100.0

**Total may not add up to 100% due to rounding*

- Over one-half of the medical school graduates (50.3%) chose their specialty during the third year of medical school. This has been consistent since 2008 (the first year the survey was conducted).

Table 4: Factors which influenced specialty choice*:

	Lifestyle (%)	Competitiveness of specialty (%)	Mentor/role model influence (%)	Options for fellowship training (%)	Future earning potential (%)	Length of residency training (%)	Family expectations (%)	Medical education debt (%)
Minor to No Influence	15.6	50.5	19.6	24.3	41.6	49.5	59.7	65.3
Moderate to Strong Influence	84.4	49.5	76.4	65.7	58.4	50.4	40.4	34.7

**Total may not add up to 100% due to rounding*

- Medical Education Debt had the highest percentage of graduates say it had a minor or no influence on specialty choice with 65.3%
- Lifestyle was the strongest influence chosen when rating specialty choice. 84.4% said it had a moderate to strong influence on specialty choice, followed by Mentor/Role Model Influence with 76.4%
- The majority of graduates said that family expectations (59.7%) and competitiveness of specialty (50.5%) had minor to no influence on specialty choice

Table 5: Did you match with a GME Program?

	Number	Percent
Yes	447	93.1
No	33	6.9
Total	480	100.0

Table 6: If yes, did you match to . . .

	Number	Percent
Georgia Program	109	24.1
Out-of-State	344	75.9
Total	453	100.0

Table 7: Were any Georgia GME programs among your top three choices during the match?

	Number	Percent
Yes	189	40.0
No	284	60.0
Total	473	100.0

Table 8: If yes, how many Georgia GME programs were among your top three choices during the match?

	Number	Percent*
1	146	77.2
2	36	19.0
3	7	3.7
Total	189	100.0

**Total may not add up to 100% due to rounding*

- 40.0% of Georgia's medical school graduates ranked a Georgia GME Program in the National Resident Matching Program, down from 41.5% in 2013 and 47.8% in 2012.
- 189 respondents indicated they ranked a Georgia program among their top three choices during the match.
  - ◊ In 2012/2013, there were 504 PGY-1 approved residency positions in Georgia and 499 (99.0%) of these positions were filled.

Table 9: Which programs were among your top three choices?

Georgia GME Programs	Number	Percent
Emory University	120	51.9
Medical College of Georgia	44	19.0
Medical Center of Central Georgia	17	7.4
Memorial Health University Medical Center	17	7.4
Morehouse School of Medicine	11	4.8
Atlanta Medical Center	9	3.9
The Medical Center, Inc. (Columbus)	6	2.6
Floyd Medical Center	3	1.3
Phoebe Putney Memorial Hospital	2	0.9
Houston Medical Center	1	0.4
The Mayo Clinic (Waycross)	1	0.4
Total	231	100.0

- Emory University has over one-half (51.5%) of the GME slots in Georgia.

Table 10: Georgia medical school graduates who ranked Georgia residency programs by their top three choices, by number and percent

Medical School	Georgia Graduate Medical Education Program																						
	AMC		Emory		Floyd		Houston		MCG		MSM		MCCG		The Mayo Clinic		TMC		MHUMC		Phoebe		Total
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	
Emory	2	2.9	61	89.7	1	1.5	0	0.0	1	1.5	1	1.5	1	1.5	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	1.5	0	0.0	**68**
MCG	2	3.5	25	43.9	2	3.5	0	0.0	22	38.6	2	3.5	1	1.8	0	0.0	0	0.0	3	5.3	0	0.0	**57**
Mercer	3	5.6	15	27.8	0	0.0	0	0.0	8	14.8	0	0.0	13	24.1	1	1.9	2	3.7	11	20.4	1	1.9	**54**
MSM	1	4.5	10	45.5	0	0.0	0	0.0	4	18.2	5	22.7	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	9.1	0	0.0	**22**
PCOM	1	3.4	8	27.6	0	0.0	1	3.4	9	31.0	3	10.3	2	6.9	0	0.0	4	13.8	0	0.0	1	3.4	**29**
Total	**9**	**3.9**	**119**	**51.7**	**3**	**1.3**	**1**	**0.4**	**44**	**19.1**	**11**	**4.8**	**17**	**7.4**	**1**	**0.4**	**6**	**2.6**	**17**	**7.4**	**2**	**0.9**	**230**

- Of the Georgia medical students that ranked a Georgia GME program among their top three choices, 51.7% ranked Emory in their top three.
- 89.7% of Emory Medical School graduates ranked an Emory GME program among their top three choices.

Table 11: Percent of graduates that matched to a Georgia or out-of-state program

Georgia Medical School	GA Program (%)	Out-of-State Program (%)
Emory University School of Medicine	30.3	69.7
Medical College of Georgia	19.1	80.9
Mercer University School of Medicine	33.7	66.3
Morehouse School of Medicine	19.0	81.0
Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine (GA Campus)	14.1	85.9

States where Georgia Medical School Graduates
Matched for GME, 2014

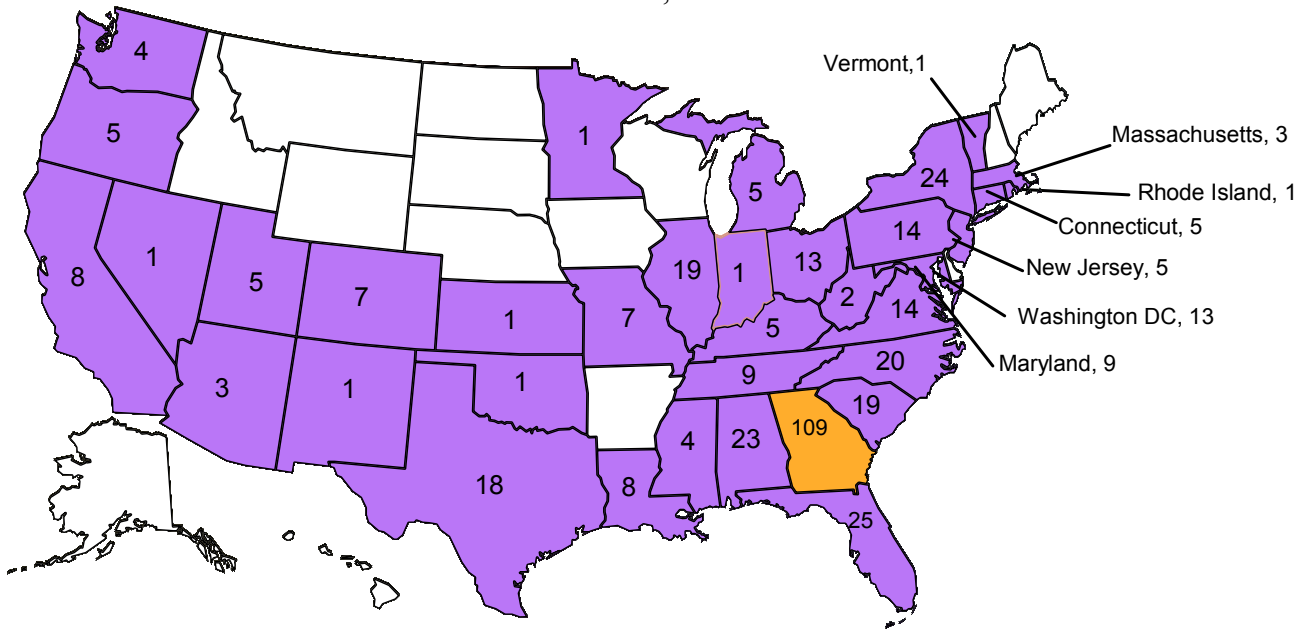


Table 12: If you are going out-of-state for residency training, what is your primary reason for leaving?

Reason for Leaving	Number	Percent
Preferred a highly reputable program	128	40.9
Family reasons	72	23.0
Desire to stay in Georgia, but did not match	48	15.3
Quality of Georgia residency programs	27	8.6
Lack of osteopathic residencies	15	4.8
Specialty not offered in Georgia	10	3.2
Military obligation	9	2.9
Higher resident salary	4	1.3
Total	313	100.0

- The most common reason for choosing an out-of-state residency program was that graduates preferred a highly reputable program, followed by family reasons.
- Resident salary was the least common factor when choosing a residency site out-of-state.

Table 13: What factors had the most influence in the selection of your residency program?

	Family (%)	Location (%)	Reputation of residency program (%)	Fellowship Opportunities	Availability of residence positions in desired specialty (%)	Resident salary (%)
Minor to No Influence	26.2	9.0	7.2	27.0	38.9	76.6
Moderate to Strong Influence	73.8	90.9	92.8	72.9	61.1	23.4

**Total may not add up to 100% due to rounding*

- Resident salary had the least influence in selection of a residency program. 76.6% said salary had little to no influence on their selection of program.
- Reputation of the residency program was the greatest influence. 92.8% said reputation of the residency program had a moderate to strong influence.
- Location of the residency program was also a great influence in selecting a residency program, with 90.9% saying it had a moderate to strong influence.

Table 14: Do you plan to locate your practice in a underserved area?

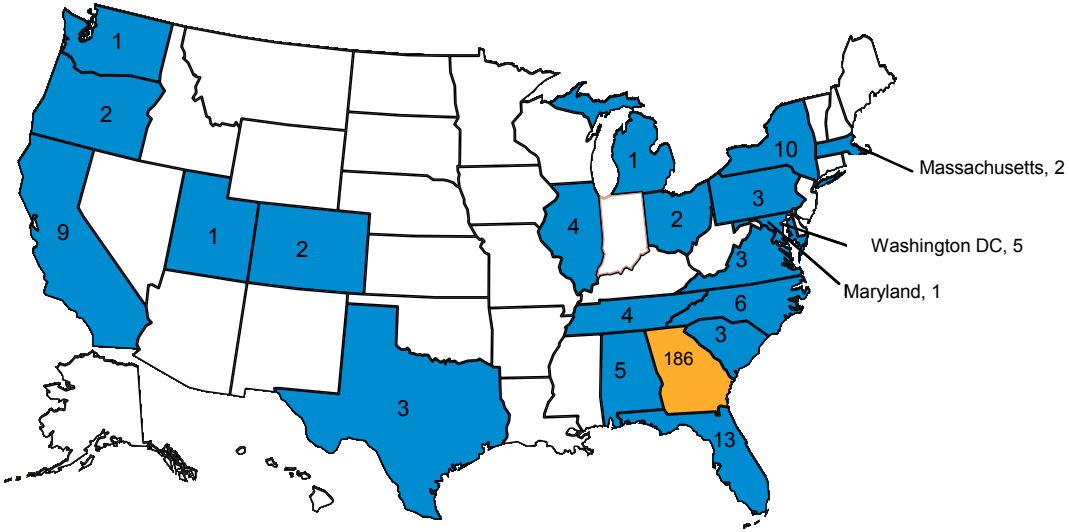
	Number	Percent
Yes	232	49.7
No	235	50.3
Total	467	100.0

Table 15: If yes, indicate the location:

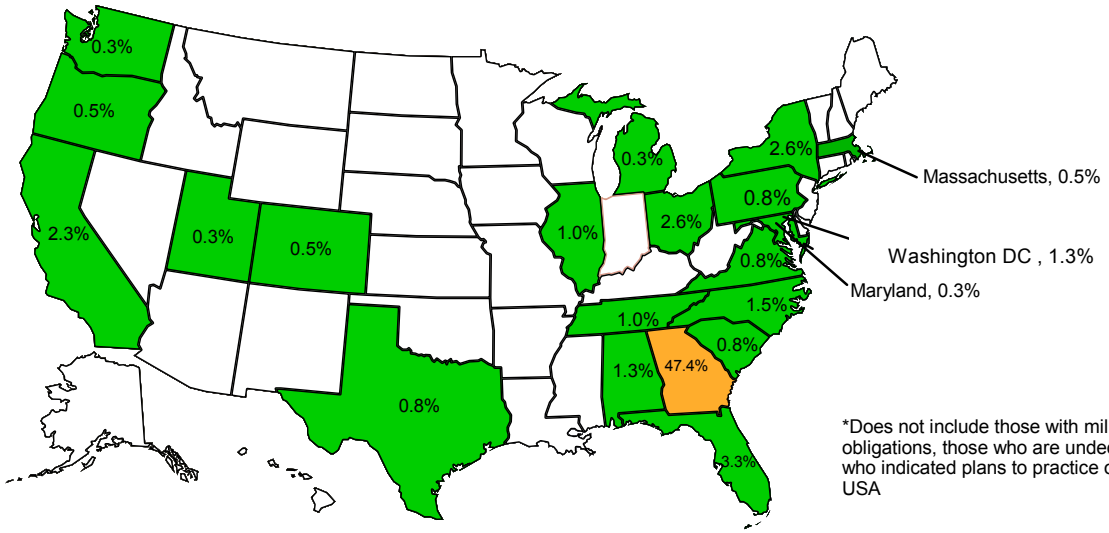
	Number	Percent
Inner-City Community	127	55.7
Rural Community	101	44.3
Total	228	100.0

2014 Georgia Medical School Graduate Survey Report

States where Georgia Medical School Graduates
Plan to Practice following Residency, by Number, 2014



States where Georgia Medical School Graduates
Plan to Practice following Residency, by Percent, 2014



*Does not include those with military obligations, those who are undecided, or those who indicated plans to practice outside of the USA