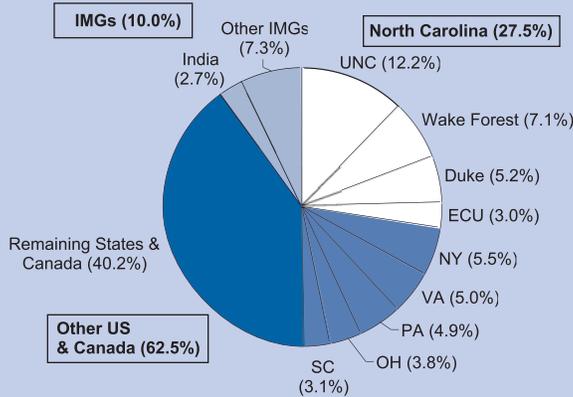


1999 NORTH CAROLINA PHYSICIANS: MEDICAL SCHOOL TRAINING

North Carolina, Other U.S. & Canada, and International Medical Graduates

The medical school background of the 15,470¹ North Carolina (N.C.) physicians licensed in 1999 is highlighted in this profile. Nearly 28% (4,244) of the state's physicians graduated from a North Carolina medical school. The majority of physicians, 62.5% (9,648), completed medical school elsewhere in the U.S. or Canada. Ten percent (10.0%; 1,538) of the physicians are international medical graduates (IMGs) who completed their medical school training outside the U.S. and Canada. See Figure 1 and notes for details. ◀

Figure 1: Medical School Location of Active Licensed North Carolina Physicians, 1999



¹Medical school data was missing for 40 physicians; percentages are based on the 15,430 physicians for whom medical school information was available.

Location

In North Carolina, a larger percentage of IMGs (29.2%) list a primary practice location in a nonmetropolitan county than physicians who graduated from U.S. or Canadian schools (21.5%) or North Carolina schools (20.6%). Just over seven percent (7.2%) of IMGs locate in whole county Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSAs) compared to 2.8% of the U.S. and Canadian graduates and 4.0% of the N.C. graduates.

Hours

U.S. and Canadian graduates indicate that they work an average of 40.9 total clinical care hours per week, compared to 41.2 hours for N.C. graduates, and 42.6 for IMGs.

Age & Gender

The average age of physicians shows little variation by medical school location. Graduates from N.C. schools average 46.2 years of age compared to 46.4 for IMGs and 44.8 for graduates from other U.S. states and Canada. The gender distribution is also similar across groups: 20.9% of other U.S. and Canadian graduates and 21.5% of N.C. graduates are women, compared to 21.4% of IMGs.

Specialty

Physicians who graduate from a North Carolina medical school (45.5%) are more likely to choose a primary care specialty than other U.S. and Canadian graduates (38.1%), but less likely than IMGs (47.7%). See Figure 2. ▶ (See notes for definition of primary care.)

Figure 2: Specialty Choice of Active N.C. Physicians by Medical School Location

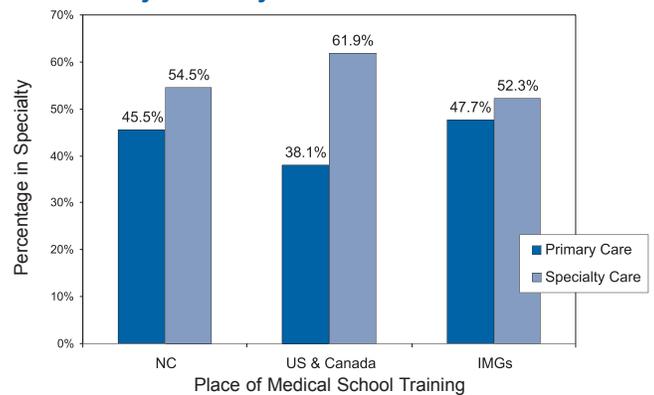
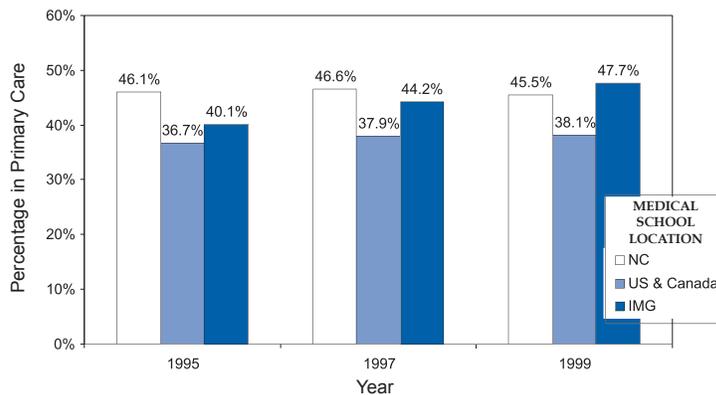


Figure 3: Percent in Primary Care by Medical School Location, 1995, 1997, and 1999



Primary Care Trend

The percentage of physicians who report practicing in primary care, when broken down by location of medical school training, has changed little since 1995. Between 1995 and 1999, the percentage of U.S. and Canadian graduates reporting a primary care specialty increased from 36.7% to 38.1%. IMGs have the largest increase in percentages, up from 40.1% in 1995 to 47.7% in 1999. Graduates of N.C. medical schools have seen slight fluctuations in the percentage practicing in primary care, declining slightly from 46.1% to 45.5% between 1995 and 1999, after rising to 46.6% in 1997. See Figure 3. ◀

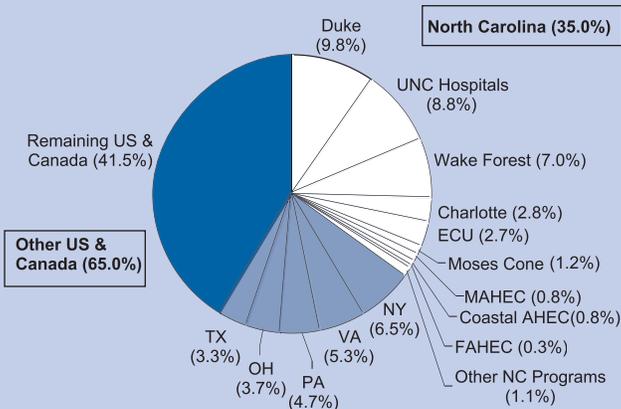
NOTES: Physicians are active, in-state, non-federal, nonresident-in-training physicians licensed by the N.C. Medical Board as of October, 1999. Primary care includes a primary specialty of family practice, general practice, internal medicine, obstetrics/gynecology, or pediatrics. Forty (40) physicians missing medical school information were not included in this profile. The 174 Canadian graduates were grouped with the U.S. graduates because of their similar training background. This fact sheet was compiled by the N.C. Health Professions Data System at the Cecil G. Sheps Center for Health Services Research, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, May 2001. This work was supported by the North Carolina Area Health Education Centers (NC AHEC) Program and the University of North Carolina Office of the Provost (Health Affairs).

1999 NORTH CAROLINA PHYSICIANS: RESIDENCY TRAINING

North Carolina and Other U.S. & Canadian Trained Physicians

The postgraduate or residency training background of the 15,470² North Carolina (N.C.) physicians licensed in 1999 is highlighted in this profile. Thirty-five percent of physicians completed their residency training in the state (5,293). Of the ten locations with accredited residency training

Figure 4: Location of Residency Training Programs for N.C. Licensed Physicians, 1999



programs, Wake Forest University Baptist, Duke, and UNC-Chapel Hill account for 73.1% of the N.C. trained physicians. The majority of licensed physicians (9,832) completed their graduate medical education (GME) training in other U.S. states or Canada. A total of 45 physicians reported training in another country and are not included in this analysis. See Figure 4 and notes for details. ◀

²Residency school data was missing for 300 physicians, and 45 internationally trained physicians were not included in this analysis; percentages are based on total of 15,125 physicians.

Location

In North Carolina, 16.0% of the N.C. residency trained physicians work in nonmetropolitan counties, less than their U.S. and Canadian (25.1%) trained counterparts. In addition, a slightly smaller percentage of the N.C. trained physicians (49.2%) work in counties that are designated as partial or whole county Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSAs) than U.S. or Canadian trained physicians (50.1%). Just over three percent (3.1%) of the N.C. trained physicians and just under four percent (3.8%) of the U.S. or Canadian trained physicians practice in whole county HPSAs.

Hours

U.S. and Canadian trained physicians spend an average of 41.6 total hours a week in clinical care, slightly more time than their N.C. trained counterparts (40.3).

Age & Gender

The average age of physicians trained in N.C. and practicing in the state is 44.9, compared to 45.7 years of age for U.S. and Canadian trained physicians. A total of 25.7% of the N.C. trained physicians are women, compared to 18.5% of the physicians trained in other states or Canada.

Specialty

Approximately 42.8% of the physicians who completed a residency in N.C. indicate a primary care specialty, compared to 39.8% of physicians who trained out of state. See Figure 5 and notes for definition of primary care. ▶

Figure 5: Reported Specialty of Active N.C. Physicians by Residency Training Location

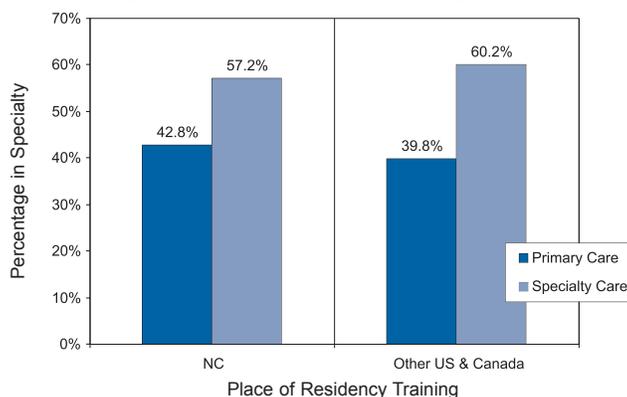
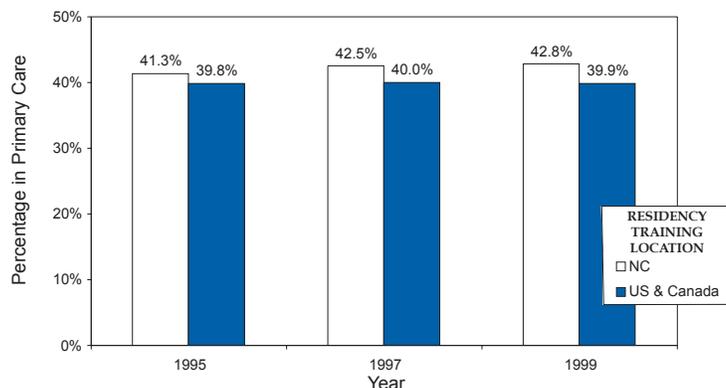


Figure 6: Percent in Primary Care by Residency Training Location, 1995, 1997, and 1999



Primary Care Trend

Graduates of North Carolina medical schools list a primary care specialty more often in 1999 (42.8%) than in 1995 (41.3%). U.S. and Canadian trained physicians have shown very little variation in choice of primary care specialties for the same years. See Figure 6. ◀

NOTES: Physicians are active, in-state, non-federal, nonresident-in-training physicians licensed by the N.C. Medical Board as of October, 1999. Primary care includes a primary specialty of family practice, general practice, internal medicine, obstetrics/gynecology, or pediatrics. The 89 physicians who completed training in Canada were grouped with U.S. trained physicians because of their similar training background. Internship data were substituted for 1,489 physicians with no residency data. For 309 North Carolina medical school graduates missing residency information, Association of American Medical Colleges residency data were used. The remaining 300 with missing residency and internship data were not included in this profile. The internationally-trained physicians were not included in this analysis because of the small sample size (45). This fact sheet was compiled by the N.C. Health Professions Data System at the Cecil G. Sheps Center for Health Services Research, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, May 2001. This work was supported by the North Carolina Area Health Education Centers (NC AHEC) Program and the University of North Carolina Office of the Provost (Health Affairs).