

MAINE PHYSICIANS: 2000

Data are from the
MAINE COOPERATIVE HEALTH MANPOWER RESOURCE SYSTEM

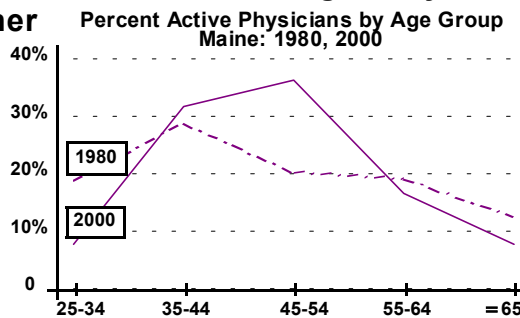
- ➔ In 2000, 2,843 physicians worked in Maine: 2,494 allopathic physicians (MDs) and 349 osteopathic physicians (DOs) - a 60% increase over the number of physicians working in Maine in 1980 (1,771).
- ➔ This resulted in a ratio of 1 physician for every 450 Maine residents in 2000, a ratio significantly smaller than in 1980 when there was 1 physician for every 635 residents.
- ➔ Although there were more physicians working in Maine in 2000 than in 1980, Maine still had fewer physicians for its population than the US (there was 1 physician for 375 residents nationwide¹).

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|--------------|-----|-------------|-----|
| Cumberland | 280 | Waldo | 626 |
| Penobscot | 383 | Hancock | 632 |
| Kennebec | 390 | Lincoln | 634 |
| Androscoggin | 412 | Piscataquis | 689 |
| Knox | 477 | York | 747 |
| Aroostook | 532 | Sagadahoc | 838 |
| Franklin | 536 | Somerset | 848 |
| Washington | 575 | Oxford | 961 |

Indicates a statistically significant increase in the number of physicians to county population.

- ➔ Taken together, primary care specialists (physicians specializing in general practice, family practice, obstetrics, gynecology, internal medicine, pediatrics) accounted for 1,227 Maine physicians in 2000 - 43% of practicing physicians - a proportion that has been unchanged over the past 20 years. In 1996, the most recent year for which data are available, the national percentage was 40%².
- ➔ The most frequently reported specialty in 2000 was family/general practice accounting for 583 physicians.

- ➔ The age composition of Maine's physician population changed during the past 20 years. While the profession as a whole grew by 60%, the proportion of physicians at either end of the age spectrum decreased - by 60% for those younger than 35 years old, and by nearly 40% for those 65 years old and older. The proportion of physicians 45 - 54 years old increased by 75%; all other age groups remained relatively unchanged.



- ➔ The average age of Maine physicians was 49 years old in 2000, an average that is 2 years older than it was in 1980.

Notes: Differences in rates and percentages are statistically significant unless noted, i.e., they could not be accounted for by chance alone.

¹ Health, United States, 2001. ² Bureau of Health Professions. Full citations are available upon request.

For further data on this topic, please contact:

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