

MAINE PHYSICIANS: 2000

Data are from the
MAINE COOPERATIVE HEALTH MANPOWER RESOURCE SYSTEM

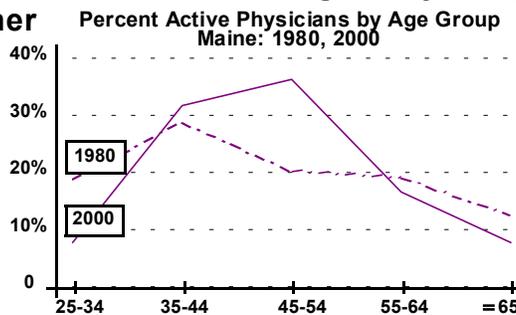
- ➔ In 2000, 2,843 physicians worked in Maine: 2,494 allopathic physicians (MDs) and 349 osteopathic physicians (DOs) - a 60% increase over the number of physicians working in Maine in 1980 (1,771).
- ➔ This resulted in a ratio of 1 physician for every 450 Maine residents in 2000, a ratio significantly 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).

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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