

Table 101. Doctors of medicine, by place of medical education and activity: United States and outlying U.S. areas, selected years 1975–2010

[Data are based on reporting by physicians]

Place of medical education and activity	1975	1985	1995	2000	2005	2007	2008	2009	2010
Number of doctors of medicine									
Total doctors of medicine	393,742	552,716	720,325	813,770	902,053	941,304	954,224	972,376	985,375
Active doctors of medicine ¹	340,280	497,140	625,443	692,368	762,438	776,554	784,199	792,805	794,862
Place of medical education:									
U.S. medical graduates	---	392,007	481,137	527,931	571,798	580,336	586,421	591,835	595,908
International medical graduates ²	---	105,133	144,306	164,437	190,640	196,218	197,778	200,970	198,954
Activity:									
Patient care ^{3,4}	287,837	431,527	564,074	631,431	718,473	732,234	740,867	749,566	752,572
Office-based practice	213,334	329,041	427,275	490,398	563,225	562,897	556,818	560,381	565,024
General and family practice	46,347	53,862	59,932	67,534	74,999	75,952	75,443	76,514	77,098
Cardiovascular diseases	5,046	9,054	13,739	16,300	17,519	17,504	17,352	17,443	17,454
Dermatology	3,442	5,325	6,959	7,969	8,795	9,036	9,066	9,192	9,272
Gastroenterology	1,696	4,135	7,300	8,515	9,742	10,042	10,119	10,293	10,466
Internal medicine	28,188	52,712	72,612	88,699	107,028	108,552	107,943	109,305	110,612
Pediatrics	12,687	22,392	33,890	42,215	51,854	52,095	51,719	52,420	53,054
Pulmonary diseases	1,166	3,035	4,964	6,095	7,321	7,490	7,535	7,677	7,846
General surgery	19,710	24,708	24,086	24,475	26,079	25,434	24,640	24,536	24,327
Obstetrics and gynecology	15,613	23,525	29,111	31,726	34,659	34,405	33,968	34,092	34,083
Ophthalmology	8,795	12,212	14,596	15,598	16,580	15,852	15,656	15,731	15,723
Orthopedic surgery	8,148	13,033	17,136	17,367	19,115	19,299	19,110	19,205	19,325
Otolaryngology	4,297	5,751	7,139	7,581	8,206	8,177	8,034	8,025	7,964
Plastic surgery	1,706	3,299	4,612	5,308	6,011	6,100	6,093	6,110	6,180
Urological surgery	5,025	7,081	7,991	8,460	8,955	8,796	8,656	8,678	8,606
Anesthesiology	8,970	15,285	23,770	27,624	31,887	31,617	31,389	31,294	31,819
Diagnostic radiology	1,978	7,735	12,751	14,622	17,618	17,327	17,197	17,100	17,503
Emergency medicine	---	---	11,700	14,541	20,173	20,036	19,965	19,978	20,654
Neurology	1,862	4,691	7,623	8,559	10,400	10,476	10,386	10,433	10,547
Pathology, anatomical/clinical	4,195	6,877	9,031	10,267	11,747	11,191	10,738	10,554	10,688
Psychiatry	12,173	18,521	23,334	24,955	27,638	27,492	26,521	26,235	25,690
Radiology	6,970	7,355	5,994	6,674	7,049	6,913	6,809	6,837	7,032
Other specialty	15,320	28,453	29,005	35,314	39,850	39,111	38,479	38,729	39,081
Hospital-based practice	74,503	102,486	136,799	141,033	155,248	169,337	184,049	189,185	187,548
Residents and interns ⁵	53,527	72,159	93,650	95,125	95,391	98,688	108,073	109,065	108,142
Full-time hospital staff	20,976	30,327	43,149	45,908	59,857	70,649	75,976	80,120	79,406
Other professional activity ⁶	24,252	44,046	40,290	41,556	43,965	44,320	43,332	43,239	42,290
Inactive	21,449	38,646	72,326	75,168	99,823	111,551	119,239	121,704	125,928
Not classified	26,145	13,950	20,579	45,136	39,304	52,740	50,347	57,427	64,153
Unknown address	5,868	2,980	1,977	1,098	488	459	439	440	432

--- Data not available.

¹Doctors of medicine who are inactive, have unknown address, or primary specialty not classified are excluded. See [Appendix II, Physician](#).

²International medical graduates received their medical education in schools outside the United States and Canada.

³Specialty information is based on the physician's self-designated primary area of practice. Categories include generalists and specialists. See [Appendix II, Physician specialty](#).

⁴Starting with 2003 data, estimates include federal and nonfederal doctors of medicine. Prior to 2003, estimates were for nonfederal doctors of medicine only. See [Health, United States, 2004](#), Table 103, for data on federal doctors of medicine.

⁵Starting with 1990 data, clinical fellows are included in this category. In prior years, clinical fellows were included in the other professional activity category.

⁶Includes medical teaching, administration, research, and other. Prior to 1990, this category also included clinical fellows.

NOTES: Data for doctors of medicine are as of December 31, except for 1990–1994 data, which are as of January 1. Outlying areas include Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the Pacific islands of Canton, Caroline, Guam, Mariana, Marshall, American Samoa, and Wake.

SOURCE: American Medical Association (AMA). Distribution of physicians in the United States, 1970; Physician distribution and medical licensure in the U.S., 1975; Physician characteristics and distribution in the U.S., 1981, 1986, 1989, 1990, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995–1996, 1996–1997, 1997–1998, 1999, 2000–2001, 2001–2002, 2002–2003, 2003–2004, 2004–2012 editions, Department of Physician Practice and Communications Information, Division of Survey and Data Resources, AMA. (Copyright 1971, 1976, 1982, 1986, 1989, 1990, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1996, 1997, 1997, 1982, 1986, 1989, 1990, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1996–2012: Used with the permission of the AMA.) See [Appendix I, American Medical Association \(AMA\) Physician Masterfile](#).