



April 8, 2020

**Association of
American Medical Colleges**
655 K Street, NW, Suite 100, Washington, DC 20001-2399
T 202 828 0400
aamc.org

The Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC)'s National Sample Survey of Physicians (NSSP) was conducted for the AAMC by an external firm that recruited active physicians from their own and their partners' proprietary panels of healthcare professionals to obtain a sample of 6,000. Participants received a cash incentive for survey completion.¹

A total of 86,951 qualified physicians were invited to participate in the survey in February 2019, and the survey was closed in March 2019 once the desired sample of 6000 participants was reached,² with minimum sample sizes required by specialty group, gender and age group. The sampling error for the survey is +/- 1.3% at a 95% confidence level using a point estimate of 50%.

The physician respondents were asked about their personal characteristics, practice characteristics, work hours, retirement plans, job satisfaction and well-being, medical education debt, academic affiliations, as well as continuing medical education. The data were weighted to be representative of all practicing physicians in the U.S. in terms of specialty group, gender, age group and International Medical Graduate (IMG) status using data from American Medical Association's Physician Masterfile 2018.

It is important to note that the target matrix was based on data from the American Medical Association, which treats gender as binary. The NSSP does not treat gender as binary. Therefore, there are in some cases slight differences between the weighting data and the profile, because respondents who did not choose Male or Female for Gender could not be weighted on the Gender variable (but were weighted on other variables).

¹ Participants for our survey received cash honoraria in the amounts of \$25 (Primary Care) or \$35 (specialists.)

² After initial examination, 415 and 225 participants were added in June and September, respectively, to replace invalid surveys.