



Neurology Profile

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General information

Neurology is the branch of medicine concerned with the study of the nervous system in health and disease. Neurologists diagnose and treat nervous system disorders involving the brain and spinal cord and other nerve and muscular conditions. Many neurological problems are characterized by pain and are chronic, debilitating and untreatable. Neurologists are increasingly involved in rehabilitation and in the psychological and social aspects of patient care. A large portion of neurology practice is consultative.

Neurology requires that a physician be able to demonstrate diagnostic and therapeutic skills for ethical and effective patient care, access and apply relevant information to clinical practice. Neurologists are required to provide effective consultation services with respect to patient care, education and legal opinions.

General information

A competent neurologist must be able to do the following:

- provide scientifically-based, comprehensive and effective diagnosis and management for patients with neurological disorders;
- communicate effectively with patients, their families and medical colleagues (particularly referring physicians), and other health care professionals;
- counsel patients and others on aspects of prevention of neurological disorders, including risk factors, and genetic and environmental concerns;
- effectively coordinate the work of the health care team;
- educate other physicians (including medical students and house officers), other health care personnel and patients;
- demonstrate personal and professional attitudes consistent with a consultant physician role;

General information

- be proficient in professional and technical skills related to the specialty;
- maintain complete and accurate medical records;
- be willing and able to appraise accurately their own professional performance;
- assess the literature as it relates to diagnosis, investigation and management;
- be able to participate in clinical or basic science studies as a member of a research team.

Once undergraduate medical school is completed, a resident may choose to become certified as either an adult or pediatric neurologist.

General information

To become certified as an adult neurologist it requires 5 years of approved residency training. This period must include:

- 1 year of basic clinical training;
- a minimum of 1 year of Royal College-approved residency training in internal medicine (2 years are preferable);
- and a minimum of 3 years of Royal College-approved residency training in neurology.

To become certified as a pediatric neurologist requires 5 years of Royal College-approved residency training. This period must include:

- 1 year of basic clinical training;
- a minimum of 1 year of Royal College-approved residency training in pediatrics (2 years are preferable);
- and a minimum of 3 years of Royal College-approved residency training in neurology.

General information

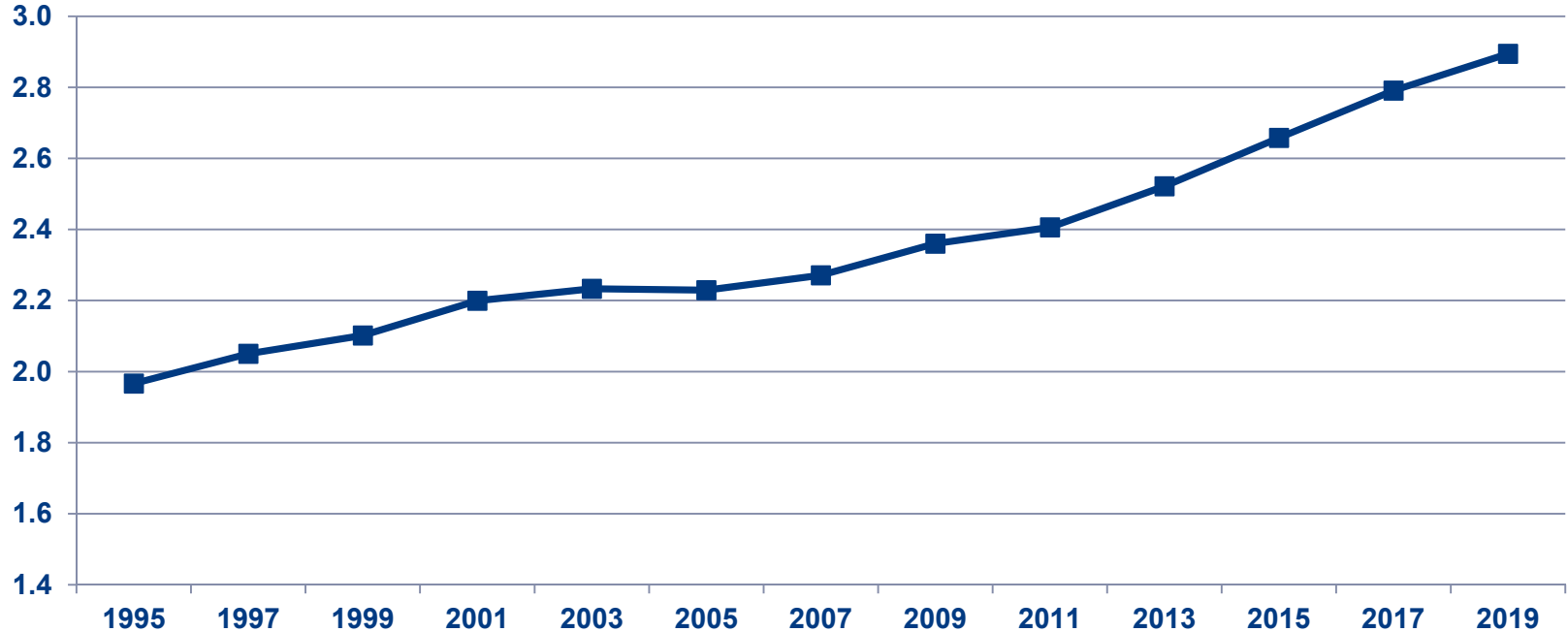
The Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada have created a reciprocity program that accepts the credentials of applicants to each other's examinations.

For further details on training requirements go to:
[Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada](#)
[Canadian Neurological Society](#)

Total number & number/100,000 population by province, 2019

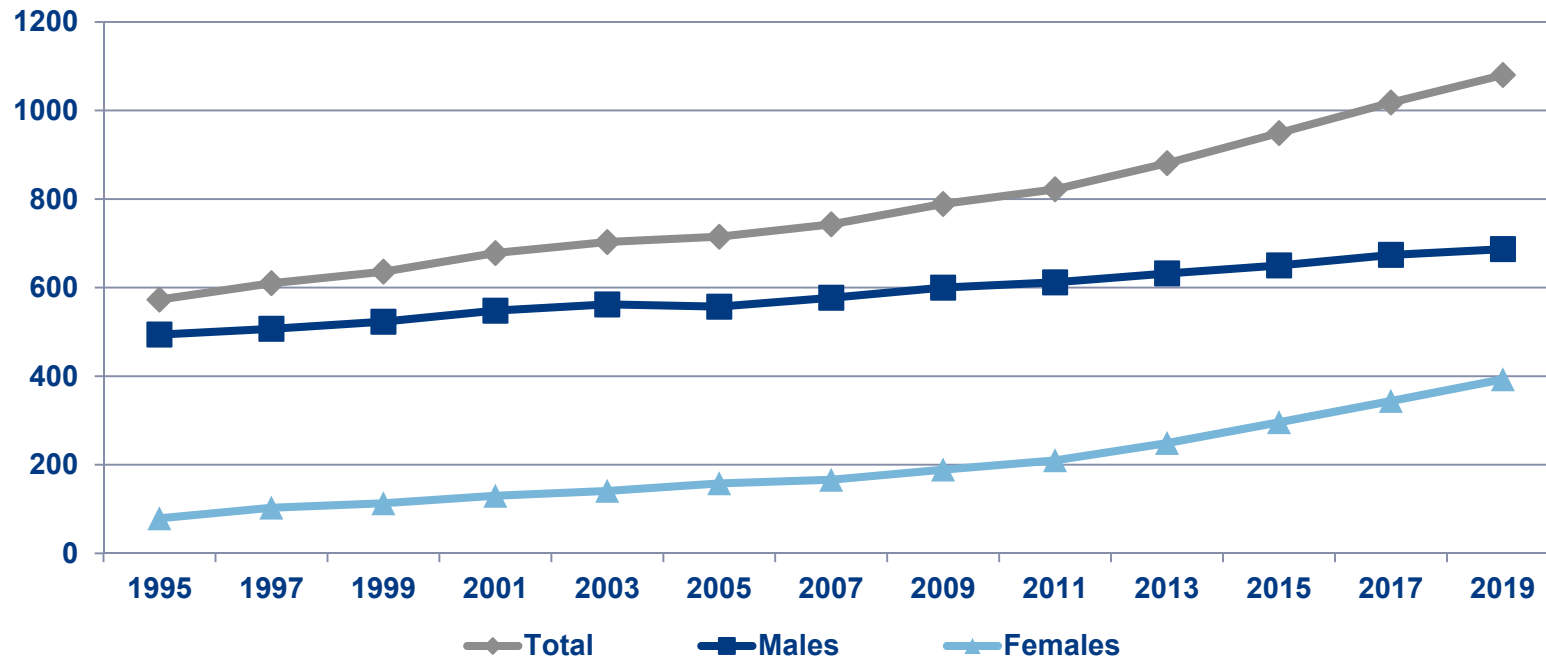
Province/Territory	Physicians	Phys/100k pop'n
Newfoundland/Labrador	13	2.5
Prince Edward Island	2	1.3
Nova Scotia	24	2.5
New Brunswick	8	1.0
Quebec	311	3.7
Ontario	380	2.6
Manitoba	28	2.1
Saskatchewan	22	1.9
Alberta	151	3.5
British Columbia	141	2.8
Territories	0	0.0
CANADA	1080	2.9

Number/100,000 population, 1995 to 2019



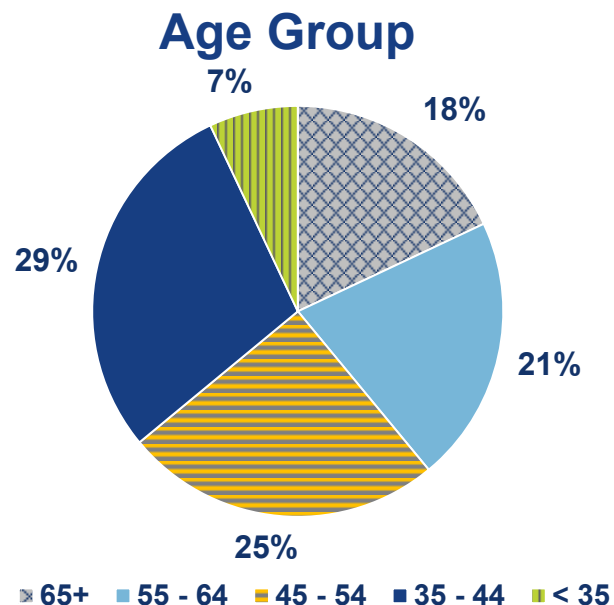
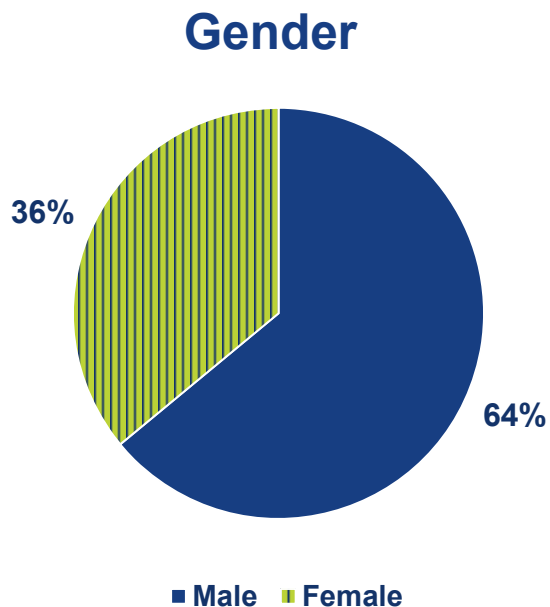
Source: 1995-2019 CMA Masterfiles

Number by gender & year, 1995 to 2019



Source: 1995-2019 CMA Masterfiles

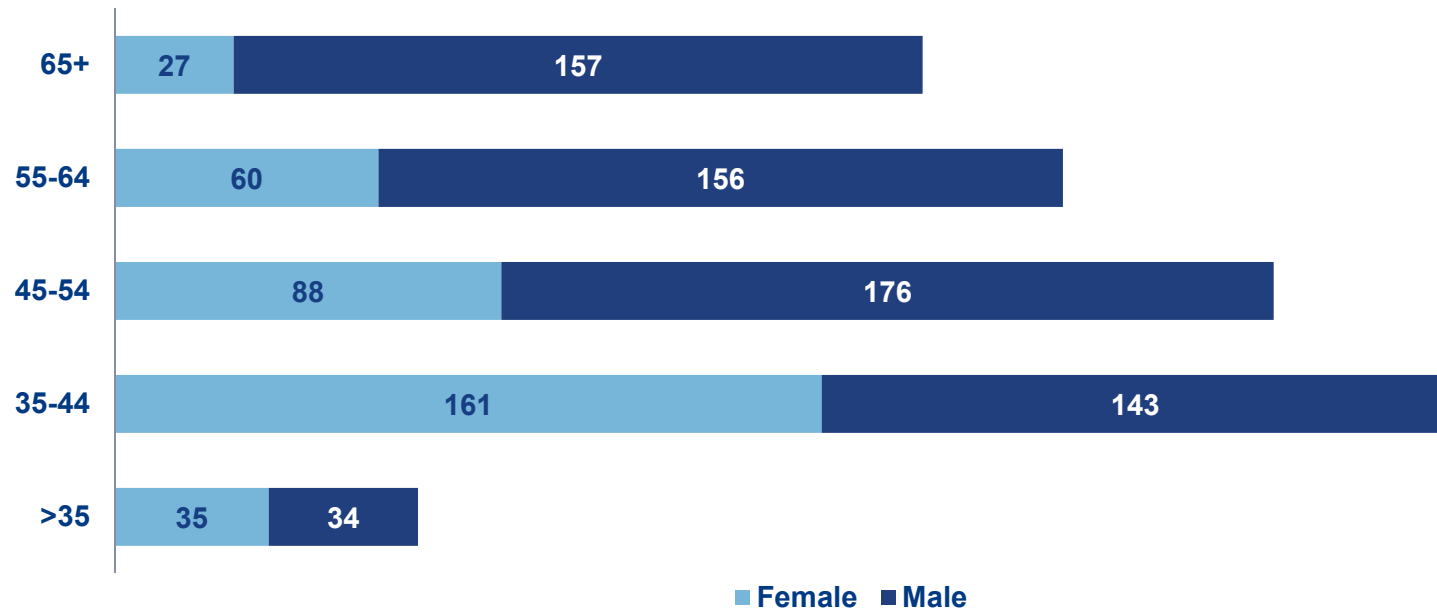
Percentage by gender & age, 2019



Excludes those where gender or age is unknown.

Source: 2019 CMA Masterfile

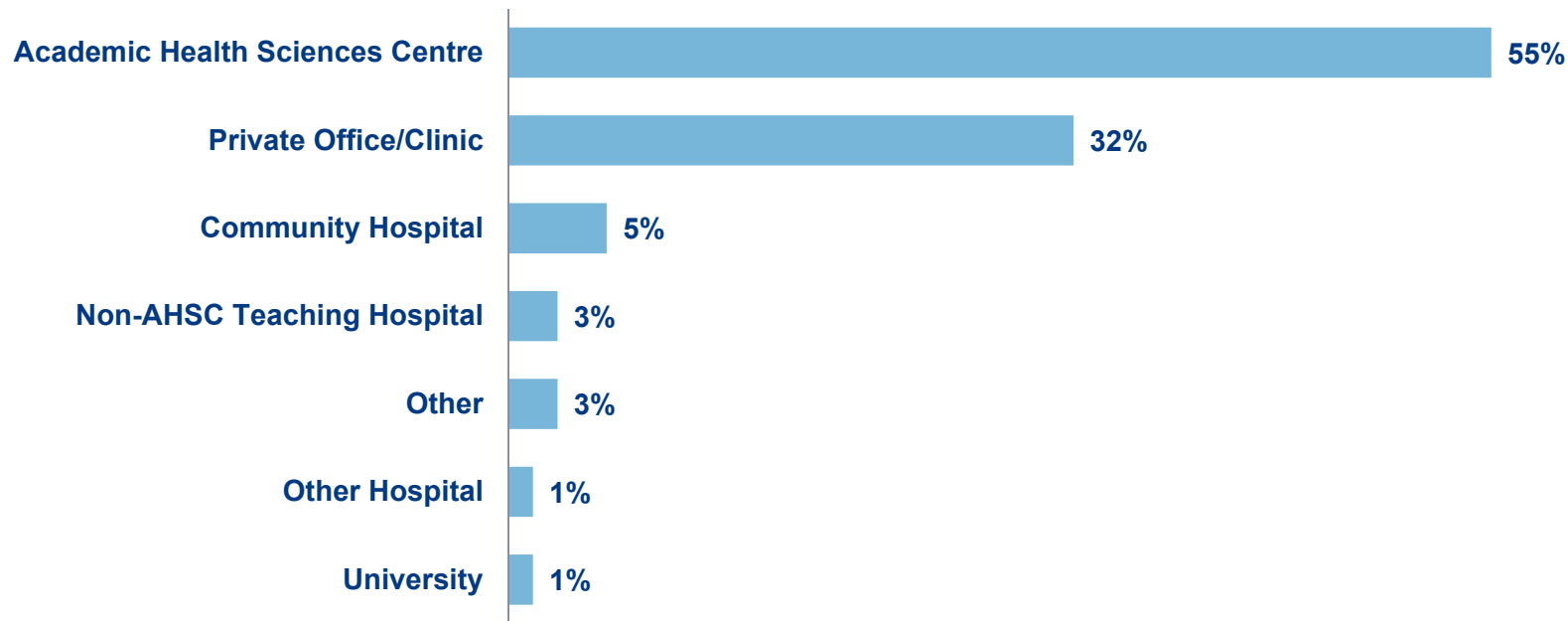
Number by gender & age, 2019



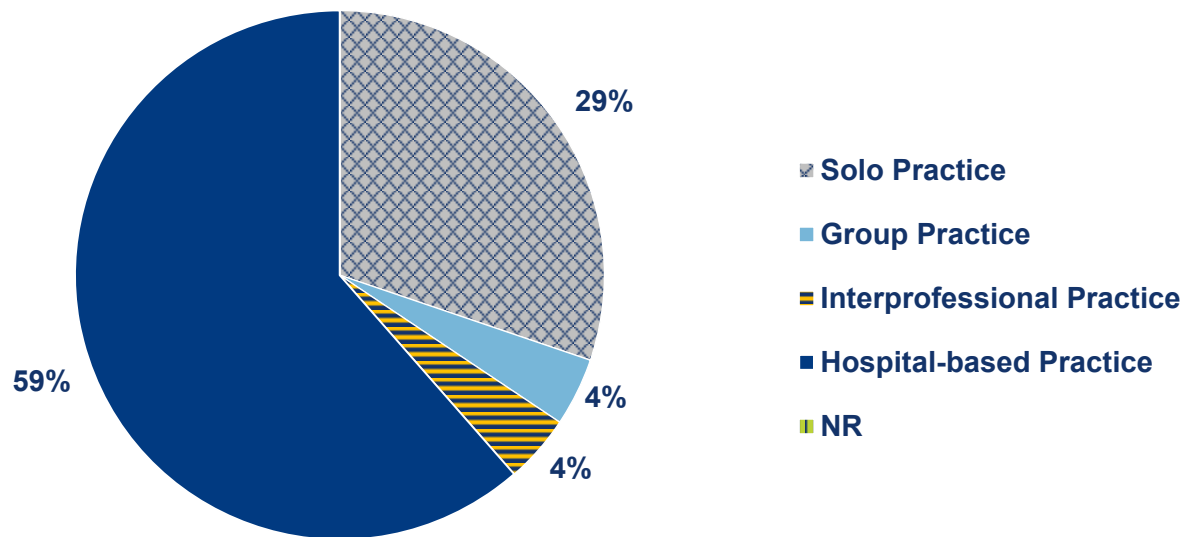
Excludes those where gender or age is unknown.

Source: 2019 CMA Masterfile

Percentage by main work setting, 2019



Percentage by practice organization, 2017*



*Most recent available data for this specialty

Source: 2017 CMA Workforce Survey. Canadian Medical Association



Hours worked per week (excluding on-call), 2019

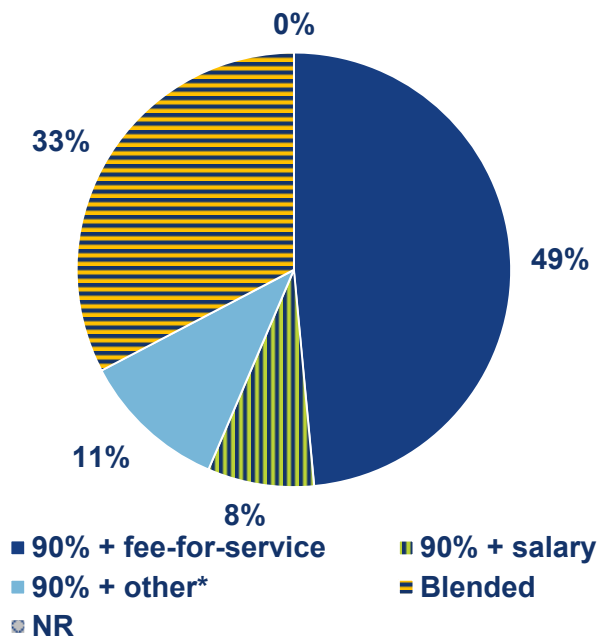
Activity	Hours worked per week
Direct patient care without teaching component	21.2
Direct patient care with teaching component	8.1
Teaching without patient care	1.9
Indirect patient care	7.8
Health facility committees	1.4
Administration	3.2
Research	5.5
Managing practice	1.3
Continued professional development	3.0
Other	0.7
TOTAL HOURS PER WEEK	54.0

On-call duty hours per month, 2019

- 73% provide on-call services
- On-call hours = 103 hours/month
- On-call hours spent in direct patient care = 44 hours/month

Percentage by remuneration method

Primary payment method¹ in 2017



Average gross payment per physician for Neurology in 2017/18 (those earning at least \$60,000) = \$333,065²

Average percent overhead reported by Neurologists in 2017 = 24%³

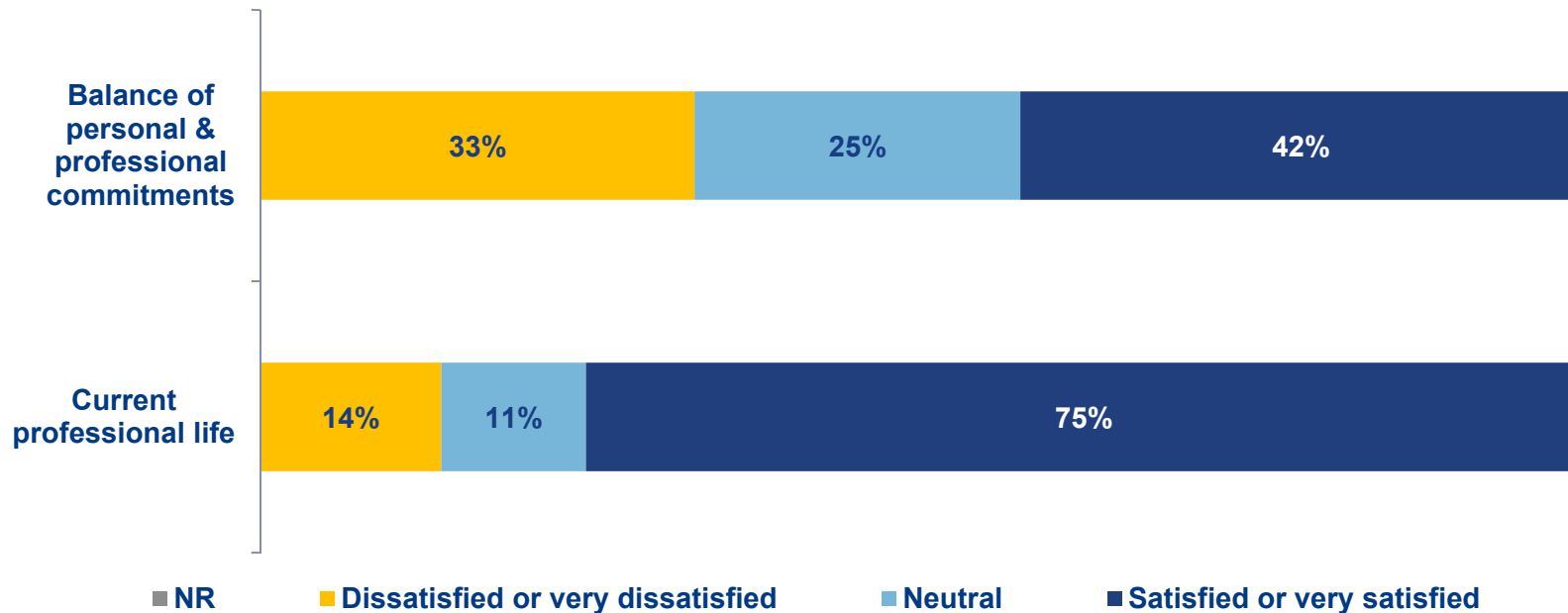
*Other includes capitation, sessional, contract and other methods

¹ Source: 2017 CMA Workforce Survey. Canadian Medical Association

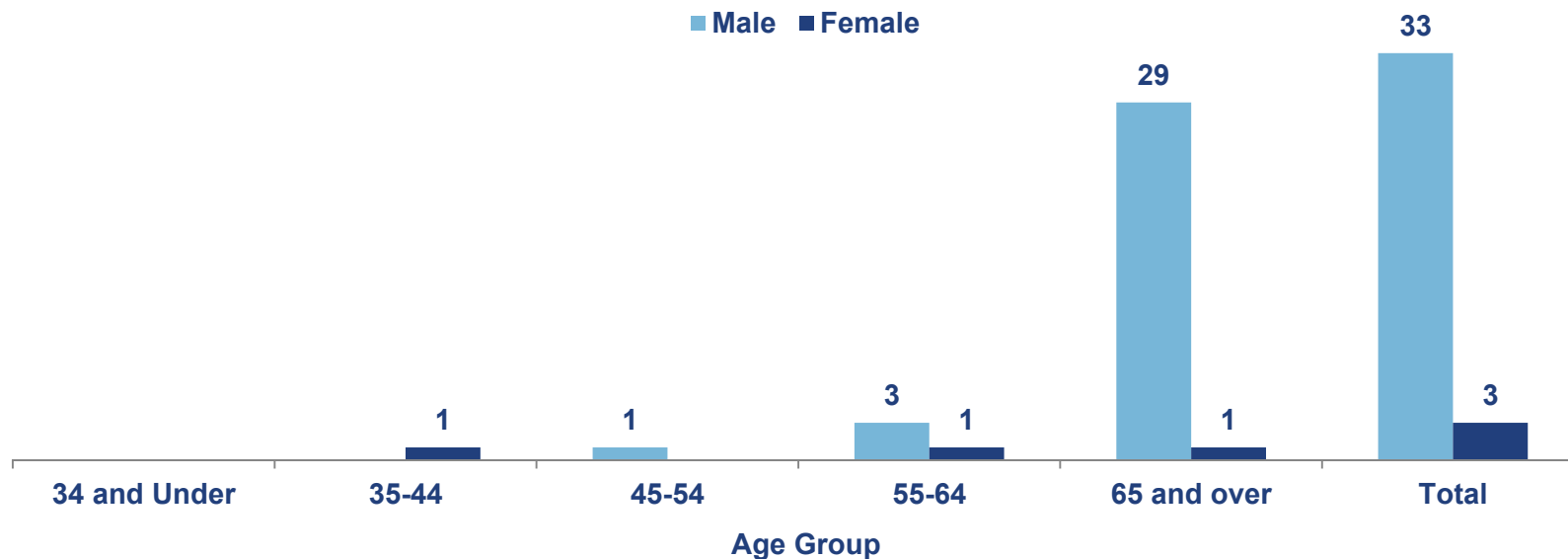
² National Physician Database, 2017/18, CIHI

³ Source: 2017 CMA Workforce Survey. Canadian Medical Association

Professional & work-life balance satisfaction, 2019



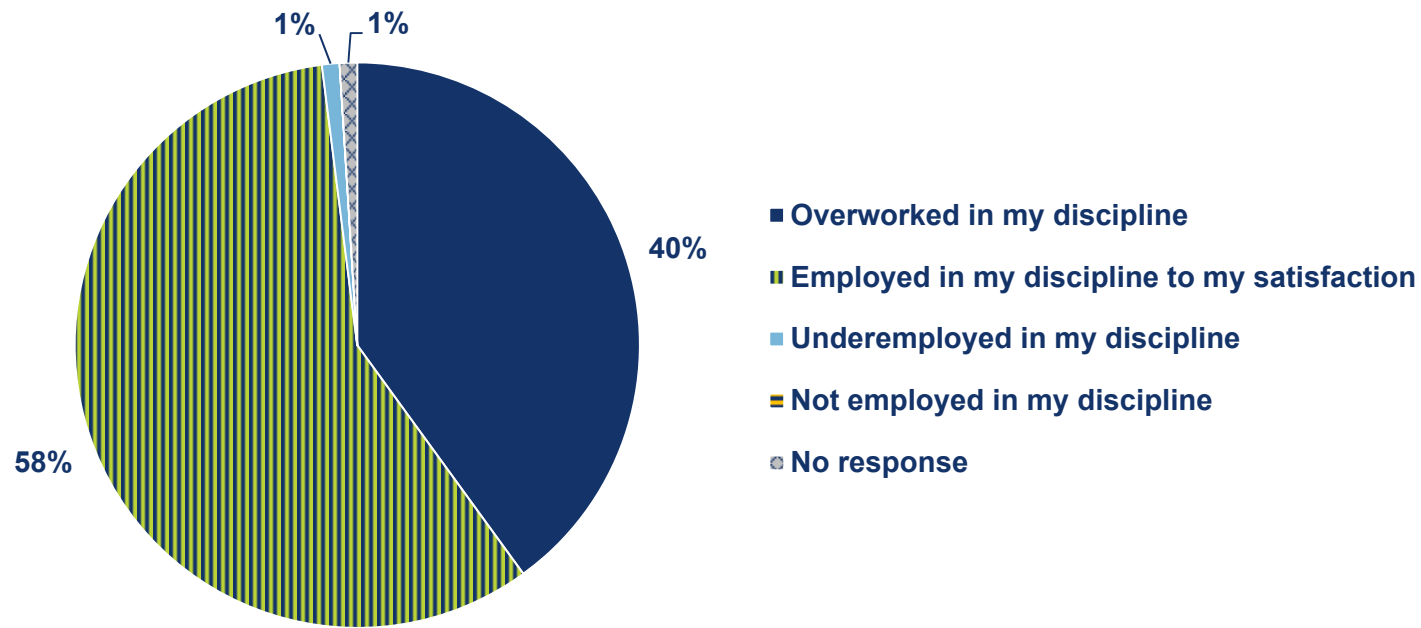
Number of retirees during the three year period of 2016-2018



Source: CMA Masterfile – year over year comparisons

Note: “Retired” is based on giving up licence and therefore excludes those who have retired from clinical practice but are still licensed; those younger than 45 may include physicians who have temporarily given up their licence but return to practice at a later date.

Employment situation, 2017



Source: 2017 CMA Workforce Survey. Canadian Medical Association

Links to additional resources

- [Association of Faculties of Medicine of Canada](#)
- [Canadian Institute for Health Information](#)
- [Canadian Medical Association's Physician Data Centre](#)
- [Canadian Post-MD Education Registry \(CAPER\)](#)
- [College of Family Physicians of Canada](#)
- [National Physician Survey \(2004-2014\)](#)
- [Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada](#)



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