



Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Profile

Updated
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General information

Physical medicine & rehabilitation (also known as physiatry) is concerned with the comprehensive diagnosis, medical management and rehabilitation of people of all ages with neuromusculoskeletal disorders and associated disabilities.

Physical medicine & rehabilitation (PM & R) requires expertise in many areas and offers good research opportunities. It is a broad, team-oriented field with a variety of practices to choose from including pediatric rehabilitation, orthopedic rehabilitation, electrodiagnosis and sports medicine.

These physicians treat the “whole” person by considering the physical and psychosocial aspects of a patient’s diagnosis, basing evaluations on both neurological and musculoskeletal factors. A high degree of patient contact and long-term care are common.

General information

To be a competent specialist in PM & R, a physician must be capable of assuming a consultant's role in the specialty. The physician must acquire a working knowledge of the specialty, including its foundations in the basic medical sciences and research.

Upon completing medical school, in order to become certified in PM & R requires a further 5 years of Royal College-approved residency training. This period must include:

- 1 year of basic clinical training to be completed within the first 18 months of residency consisting of: 6 months in internal medicine, which must include at least 3 months of general internal medicine (clinical teaching unit (CTU) or its equivalent); 2 months in surgery consisting of 1 month in two of the following: general surgery, neurosurgery, orthopedic surgery, plastic surgery, urology or vascular surgery; 4 months training consisting of 1 month in four of the following: anesthesiology, critical care medicine, diagnostic radiology, elective, emergency medicine, family medicine, geriatrics, palliative care, pediatrics, and psychiatry;

General information

- 9 months residency training to include 3 months each of rheumatology, neurology and orthopedic surgery;
- 36 months residency training in core physical medicine & rehabilitation including time in cardiac and/or respiratory rehabilitation and residency training in each of the rehabilitation of persons with amputation (including prosthetics and orthotics), cerebrovascular disease, spinal cord disorders and acquired brain disorders.

For further details on training requirements please go to:

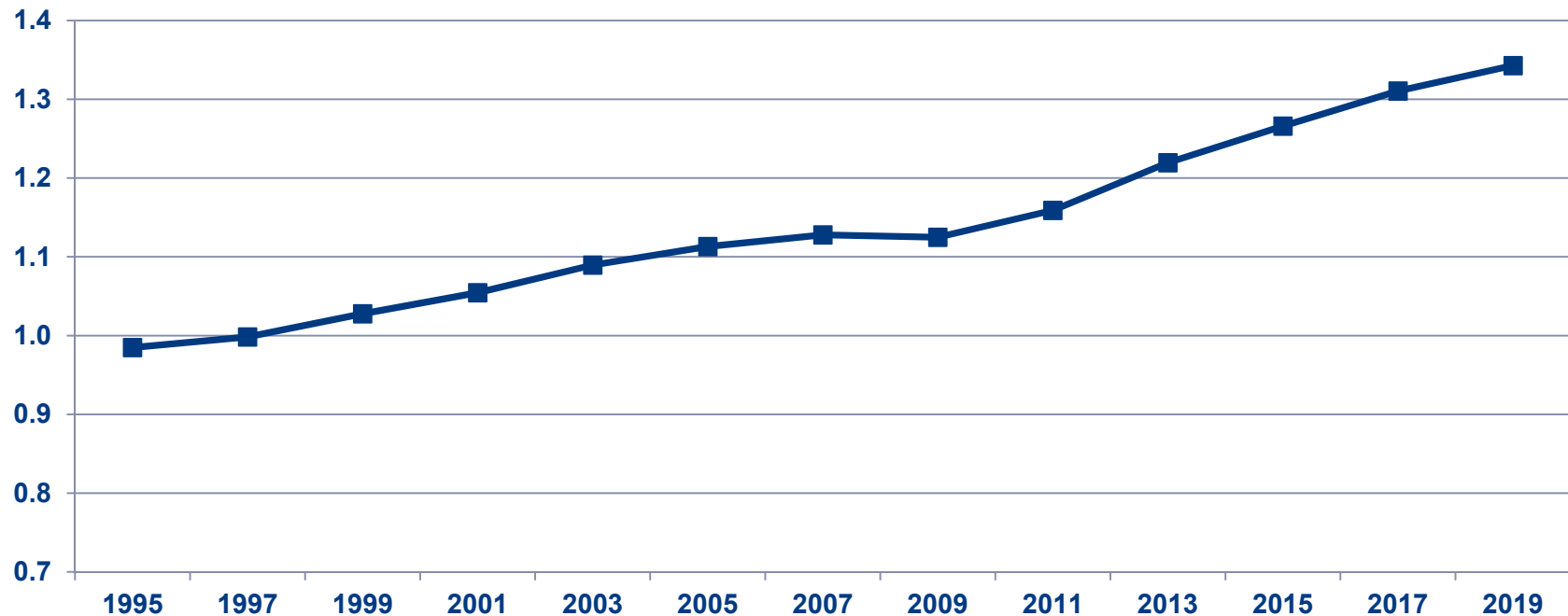
[Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada](#)

[Canadian Association of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation](#)

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

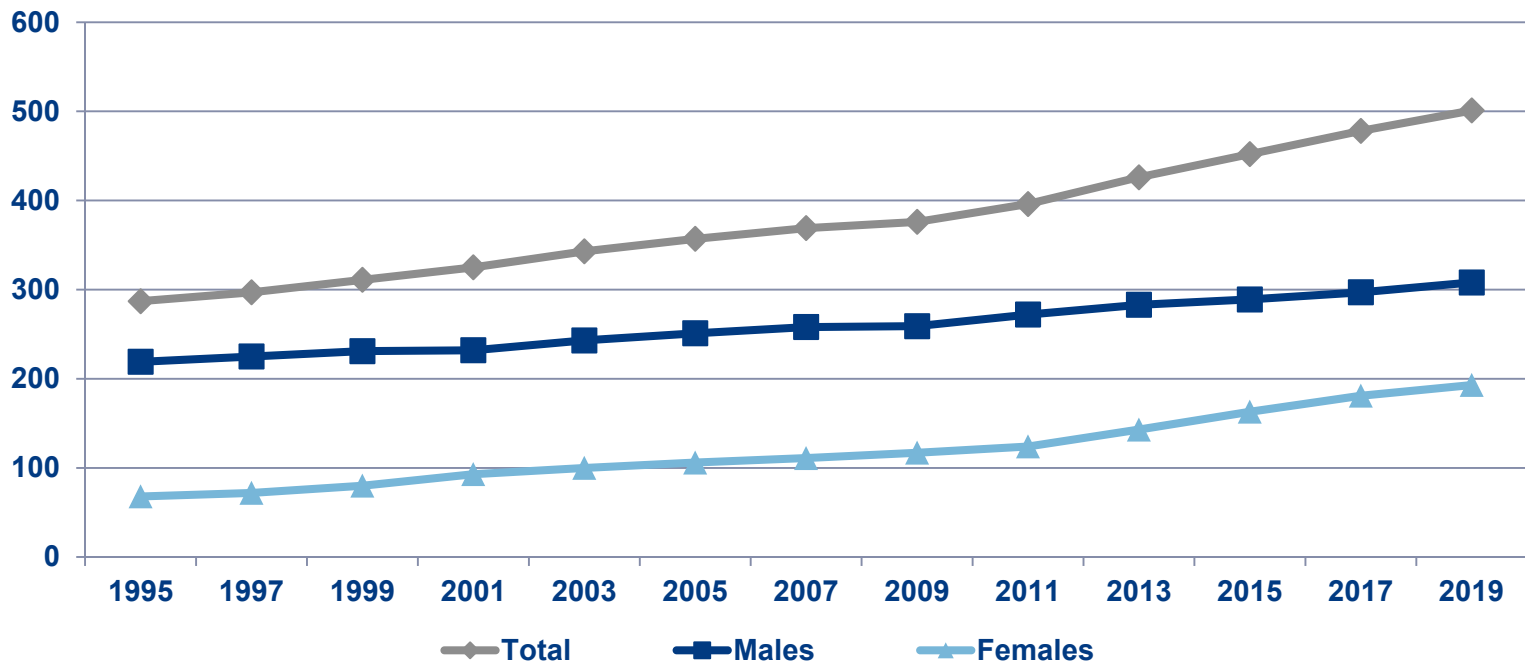
Province/Territory	Physicians	Phys/100k pop'n
Newfoundland/Labrador	2	0.4
Prince Edward Island	1	0.6
Nova Scotia	14	1.5
New Brunswick	13	1.7
Quebec	88	1.0
Ontario	202	1.4
Manitoba	14	1.0
Saskatchewan	13	1.1
Alberta	74	1.7
British Columbia	80	1.6
Territories	0	0.0
CANADA	501	1.3

Number/100,000 population, 1995 to 2019



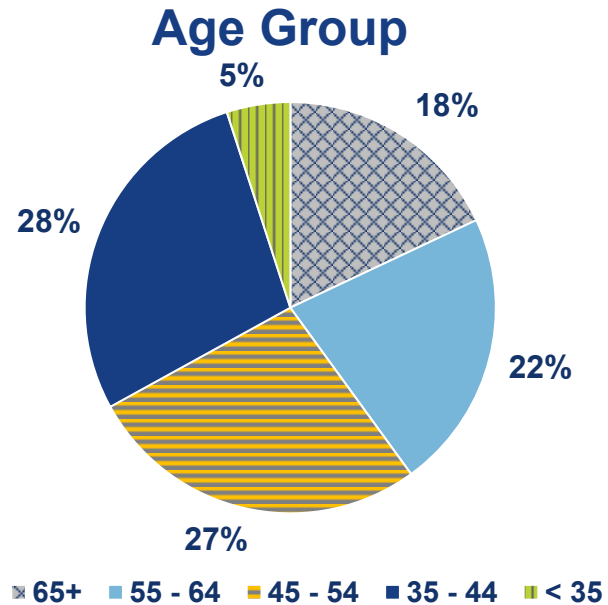
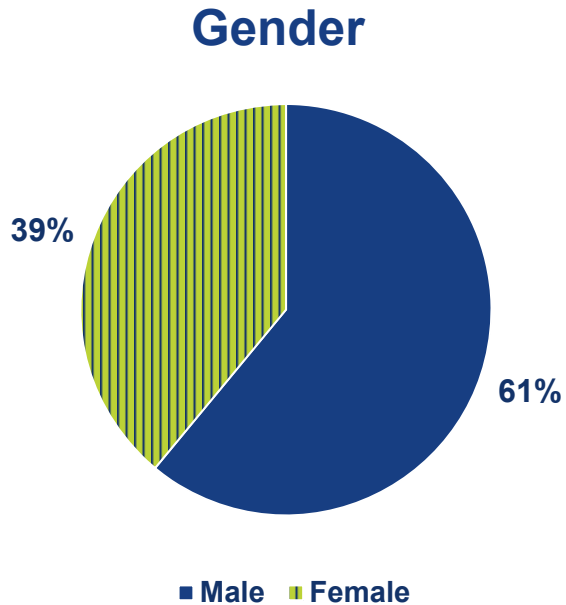
Source: 1995-2019 CMA Masterfiles

Number by gender & year, 1995 to 2019



Source: 1995-2019 CMA Masterfiles

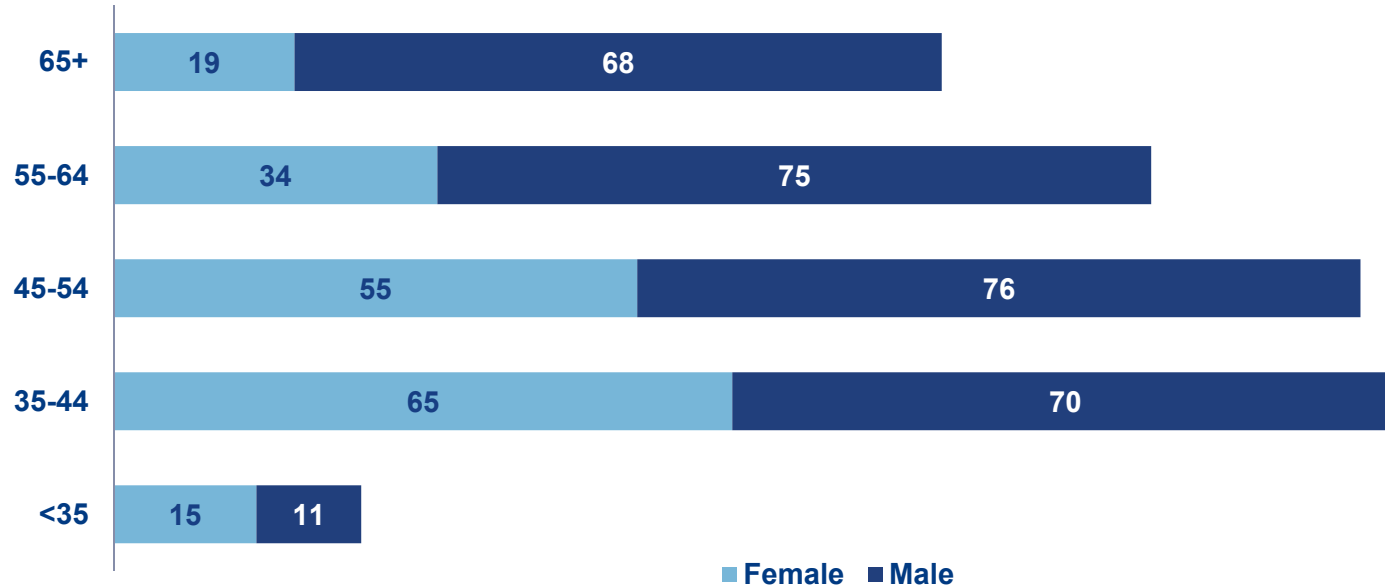
Percentage by gender & age, 2019



Excludes those where gender or age is unknown.

Source: 2019 CMA Masterfile

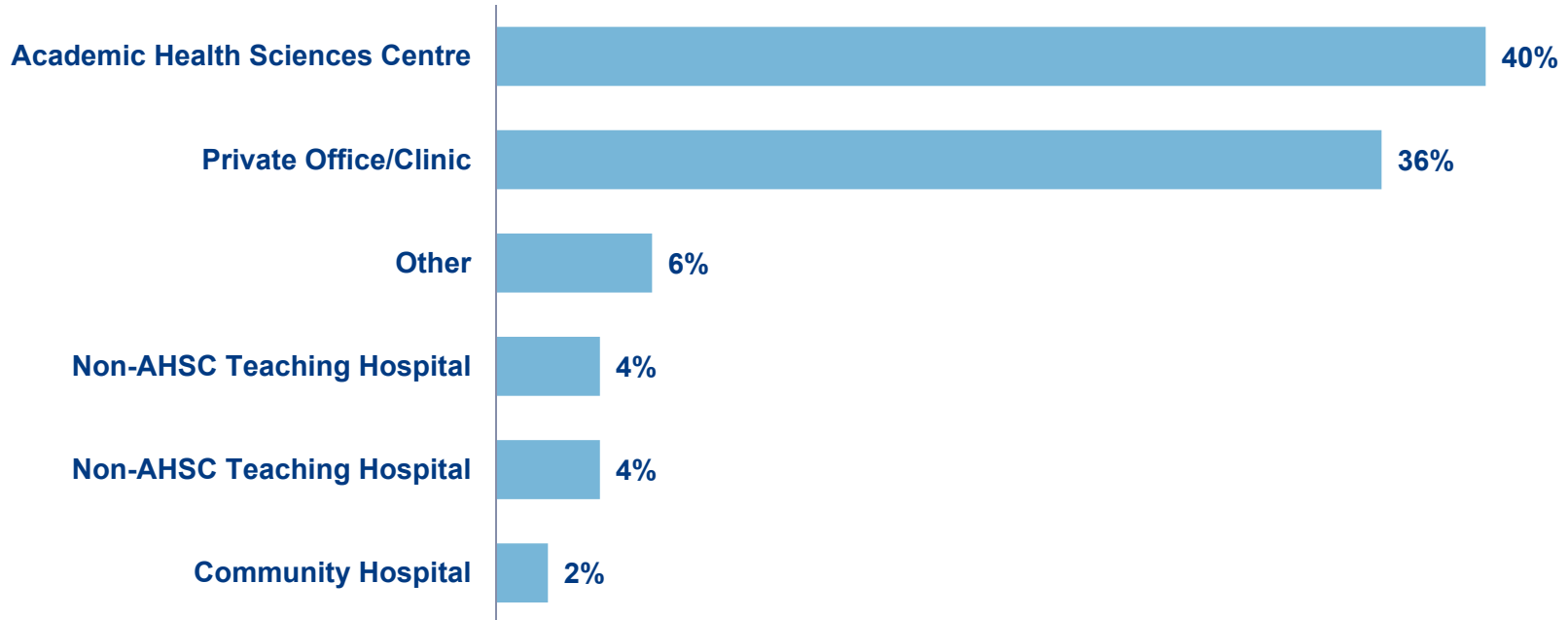
Number by gender & age, 2019



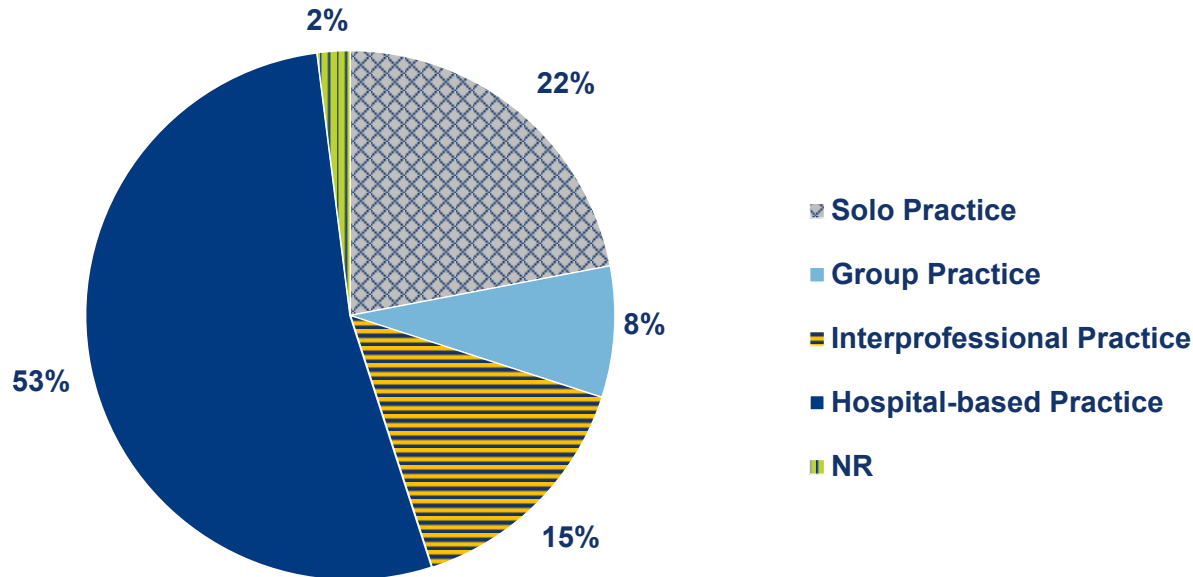
Excludes those where gender or age is unknown.

Source: 2019 CMA Masterfile

Percentage by main work setting, 2019



Percentage by practice organization, 2017*



*Most recent available data for this specialty

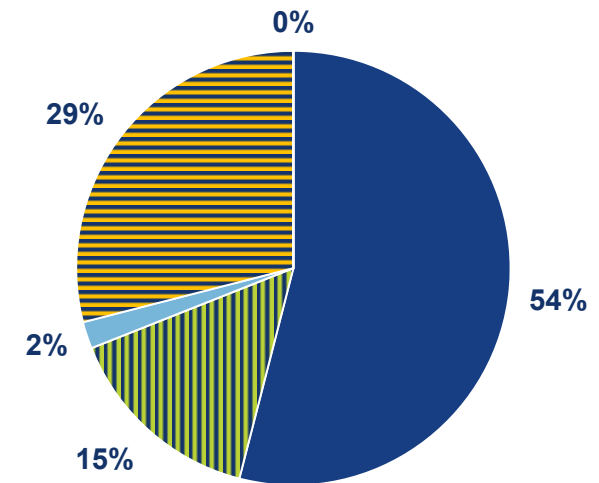
Source: 2017 CMA Workforce Survey. Canadian Medical Association

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

Activity	Hours worked per week
Direct patient care without teaching component	19.6
Direct patient care with teaching component	8.2
Teaching without patient care	1.8
Indirect patient care	7.8
Health facility committees	1.6
Administration	6.4
Research	2.2
Managing practice	1.9
Continued professional development	2.4
Other	0.1
TOTAL HOURS PER WEEK	52.2

Percentage by remuneration method

Primary payment method¹ in 2017



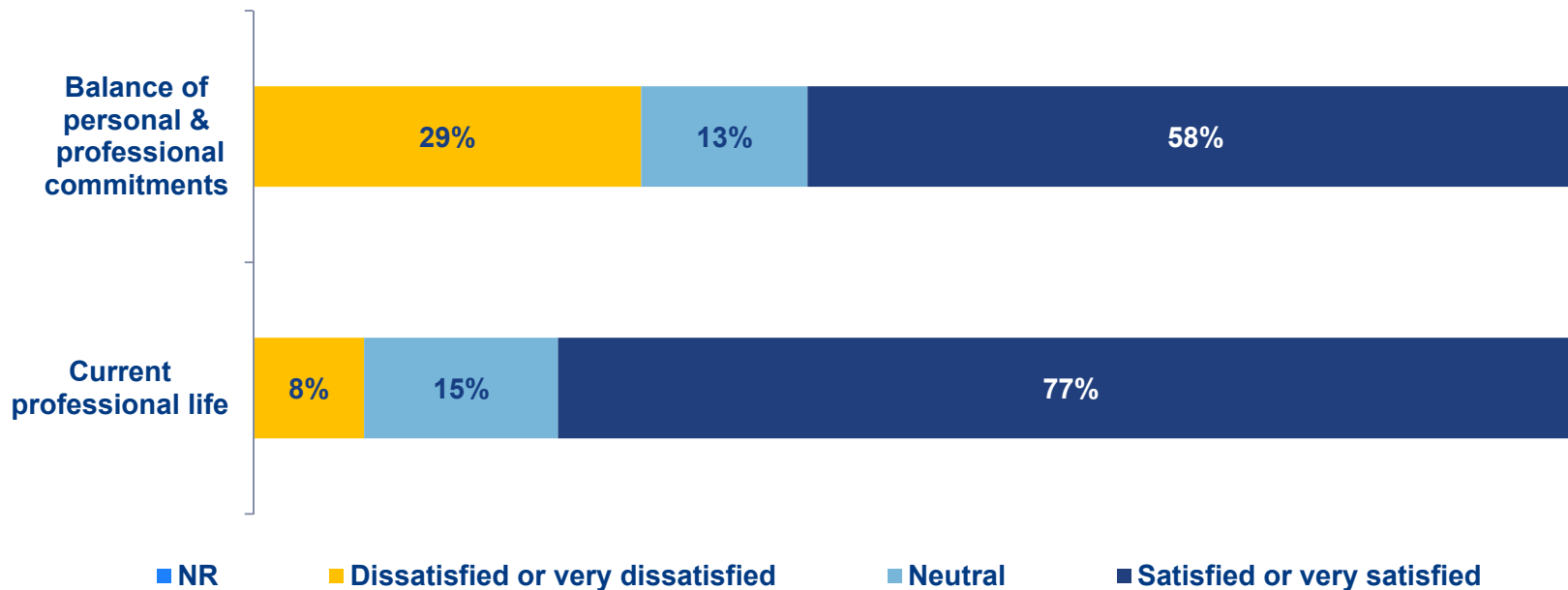
- 90% + fee-for-service
- 90% + salary
- 90% + other*
- Blended
- NR

Average gross payment per physician for Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation in 2017/18 (those earning at least \$60,000) = \$318,631²

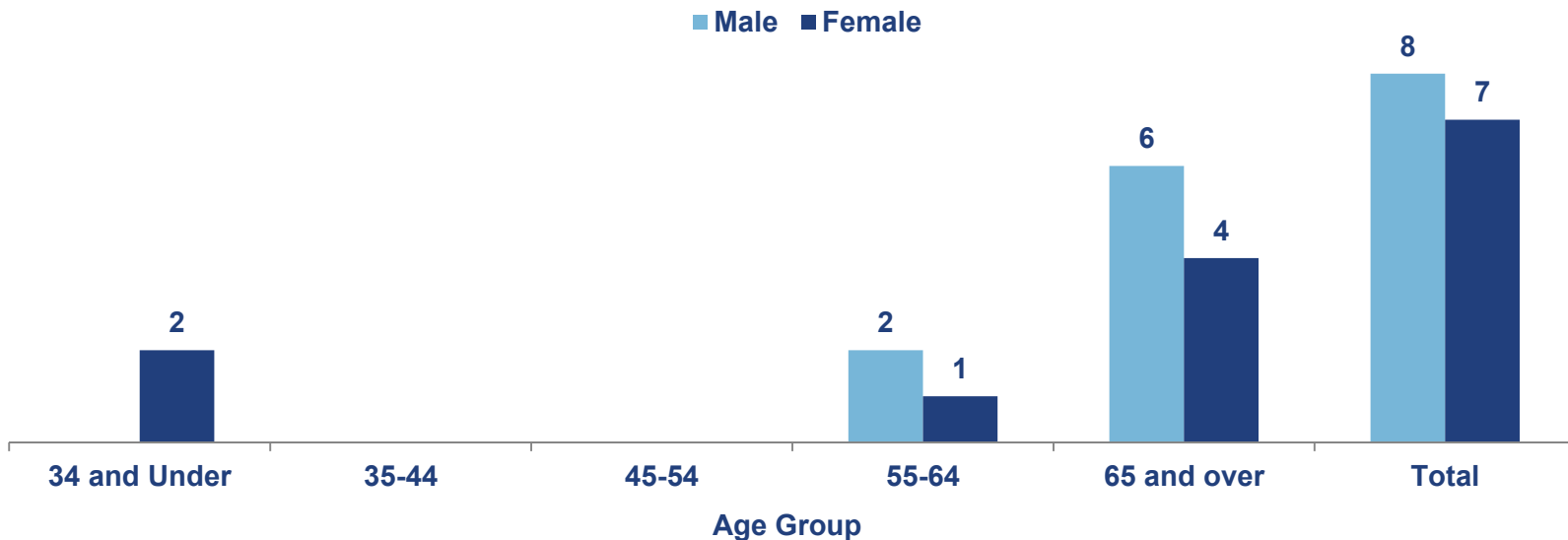
Average percent overhead reported by Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation specialists in 2017 = 19%³

*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



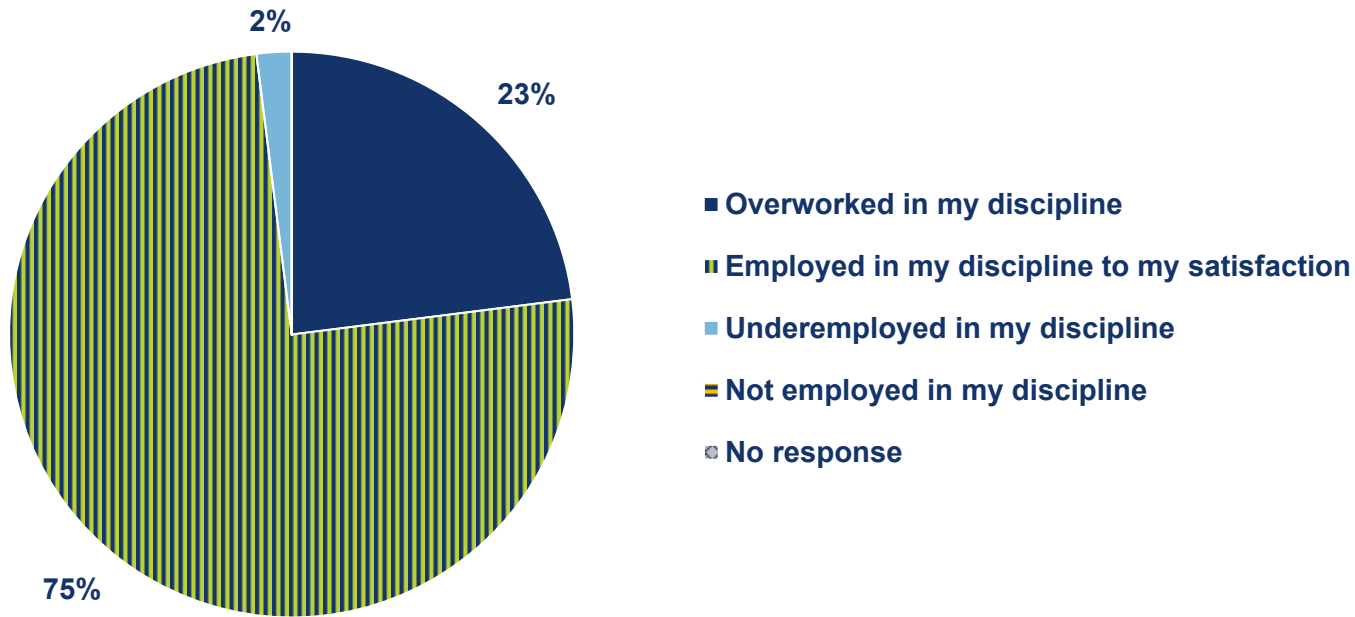
Number of retirees during the three year period of 2016-2018



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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