



Urology Profile

Updated
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General information

Urology is a surgical subspecialty that focuses on the medical and surgical treatment of disorders and diseases of the female urinary tract and the male urogenital system. It involves diagnosis, endoscopy, surgery and lithotripsy. The most common clinical encounters involve prostate disease, renal dysfunction particular to surgical management (colic, stones), bladder dysfunction and urinary tract infections.

A urologist must understand the normal function and the pathological processes and diseases that affect the adrenal gland, the kidneys, ureters, bladder, urethra in the male and female, and the prostate and external genitalia of the male. This includes an understanding, appropriate to the practice of urology of normal development and embryology, biochemistry and pharmacology, physiology, anatomy, and gross and microscopic pathology of the genito-urinary tract. Emergency care is less often a feature of urology compared to other surgical specialties. Excellent surgical skills, manual dexterity and good hand-eye coordination are important to this specialty.

General information

Upon completion of medical school, to become certified in urology requires a minimum of 5 years of Royal College-approved training. This period must include:

- 2 years of core training in surgery;
- 3 years of approved residency training in urology, 1 year of which must be in a senior residency position. Senior residency is defined as a year in which the resident is regularly entrusted with the responsibility for pre-operative, operative and post-operative care, including the most difficult problems in urology. The senior resident shall be in charge of a urological unit: no other resident shall intervene between the senior resident and the attending staff urologist;
- Three clinical years in urology are required to allow residents to become proficient in both open and endoscopic procedures;
- Experience at a community-based teaching unit should be undertaken during the residency.

General information

For further details on training requirements please go to:

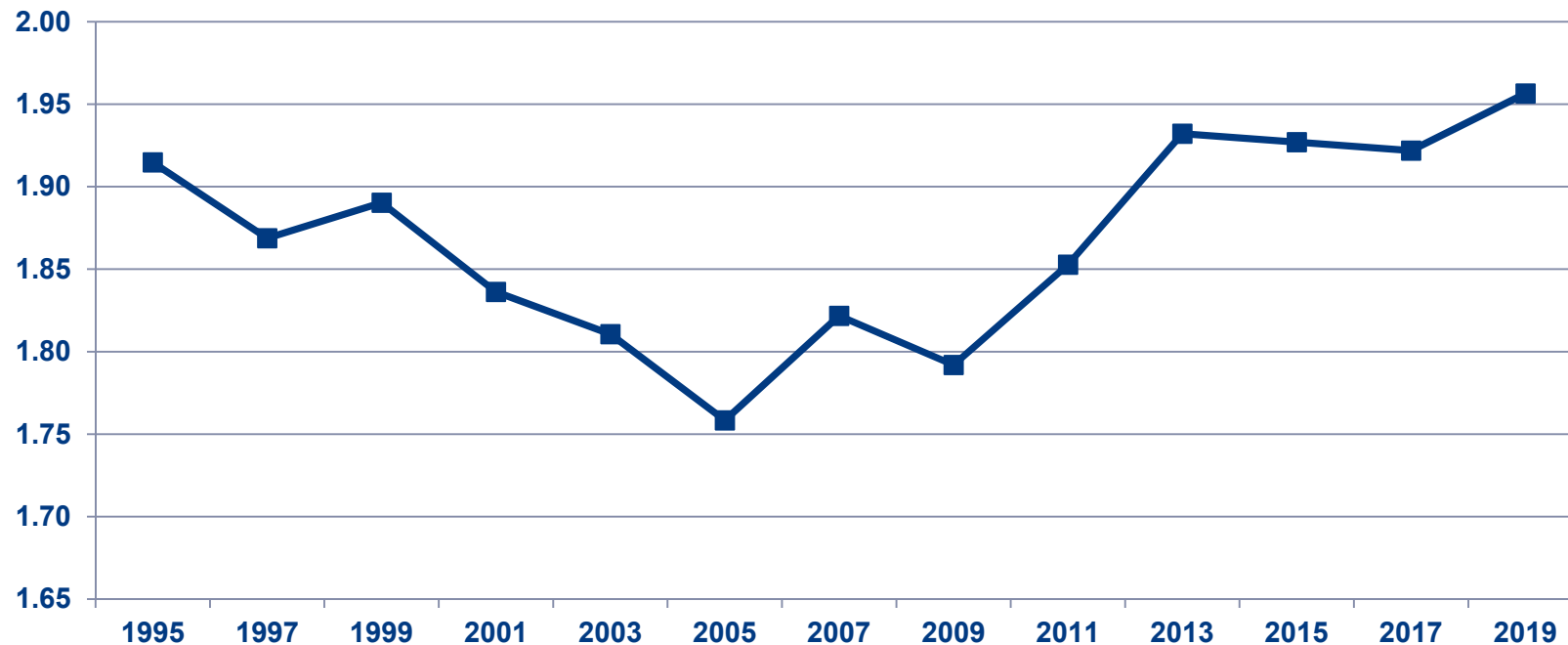
[Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada](#)

[Canadian Urological Association](#)

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

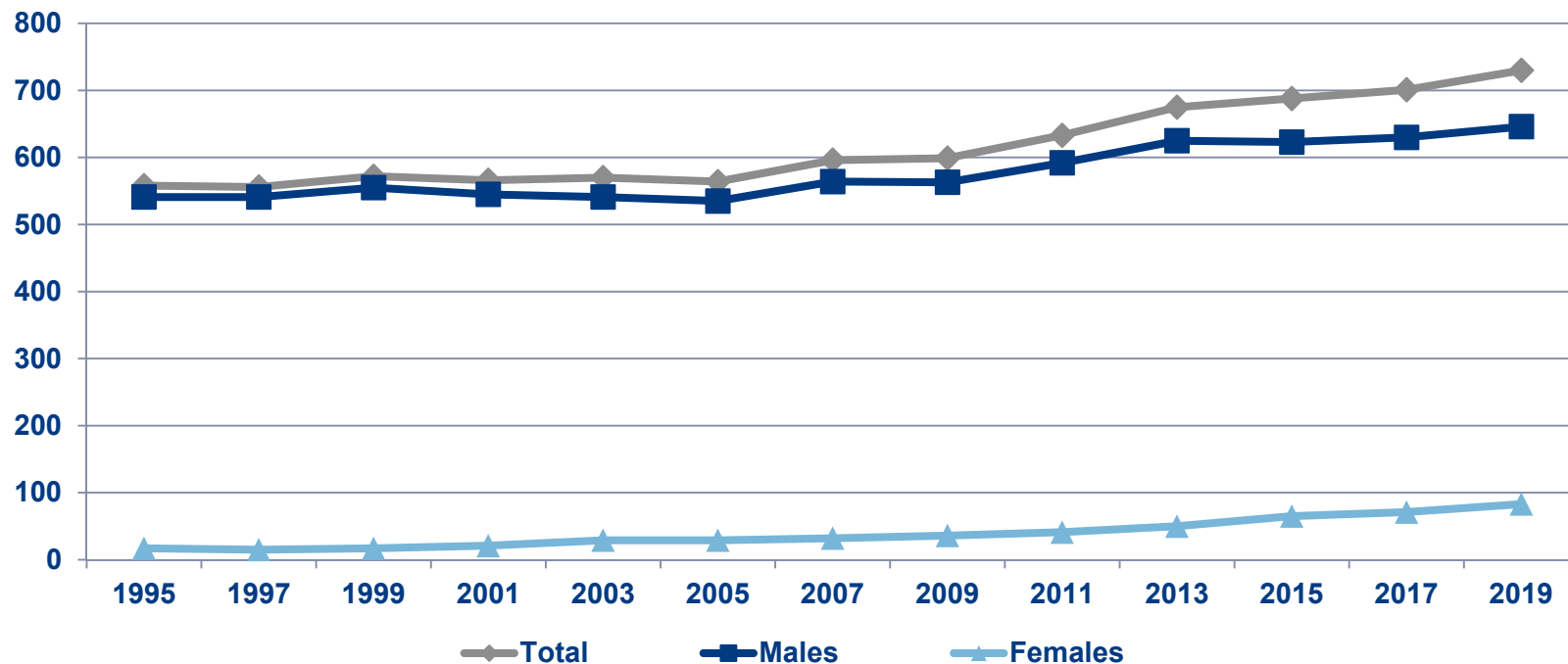
Province/Territory	Physicians	Phys/100k pop'n
Newfoundland/Labrador	11	2.1
Prince Edward Island	2	1.3
Nova Scotia	26	2.7
New Brunswick	22	2.8
Quebec	202	2.4
Ontario	271	1.9
Manitoba	24	1.8
Saskatchewan	16	1.4
Alberta	63	1.5
British Columbia	93	1.8
Territories	0	0.0
CANADA	730	2.0

Number/100,000 population, 1995 to 2019



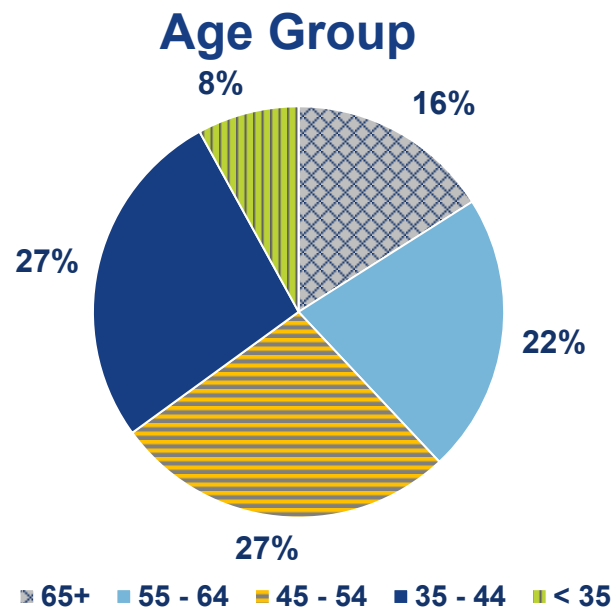
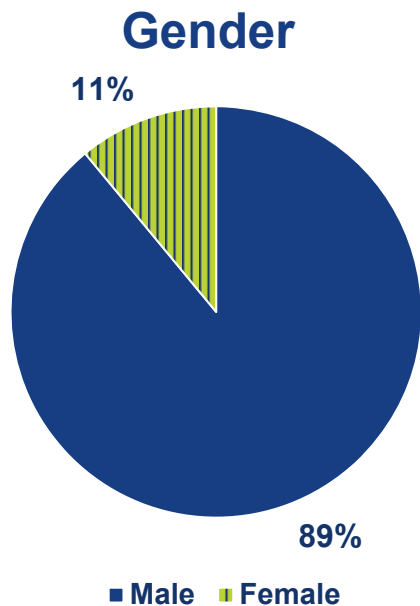
Source: 1995-2019 CMA Masterfiles

Number by gender & year, 1995 to 2019



Source: 1995-2019 CMA Masterfiles

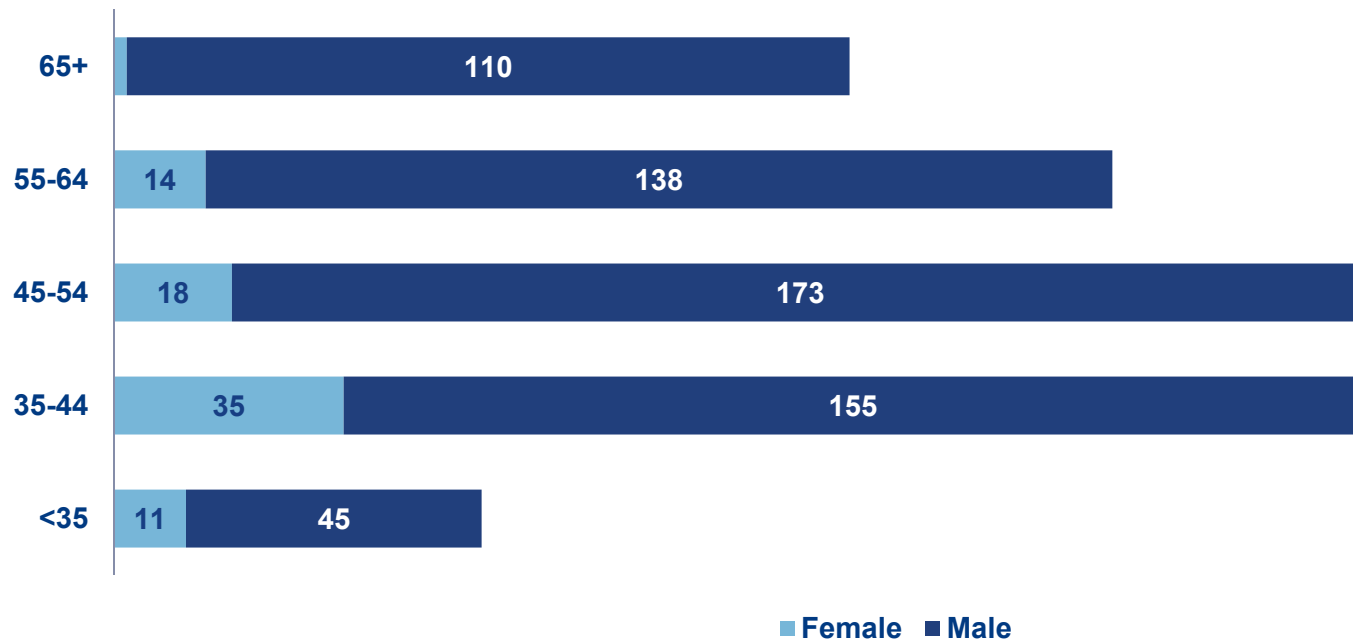
Percentage by gender & age, 2019



Excludes those where gender or age is unknown.

Source: 2019 CMA Masterfile

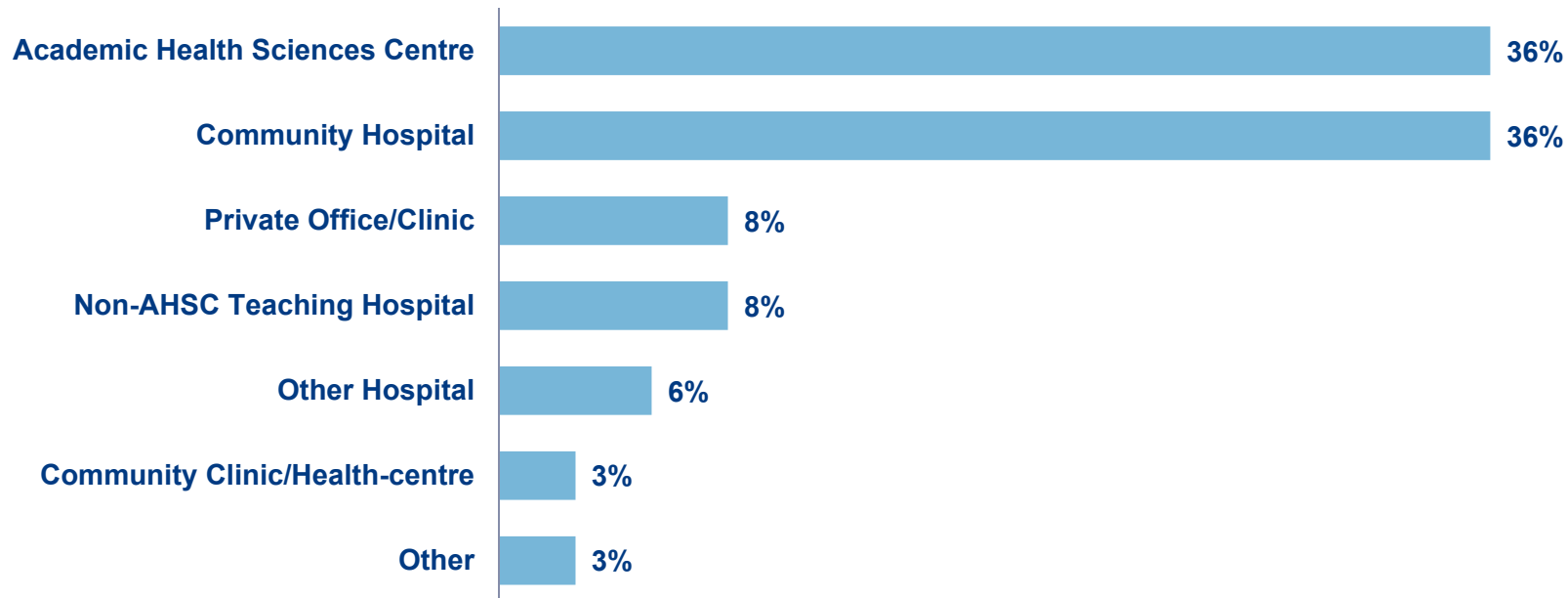
Number by gender & age, 2019



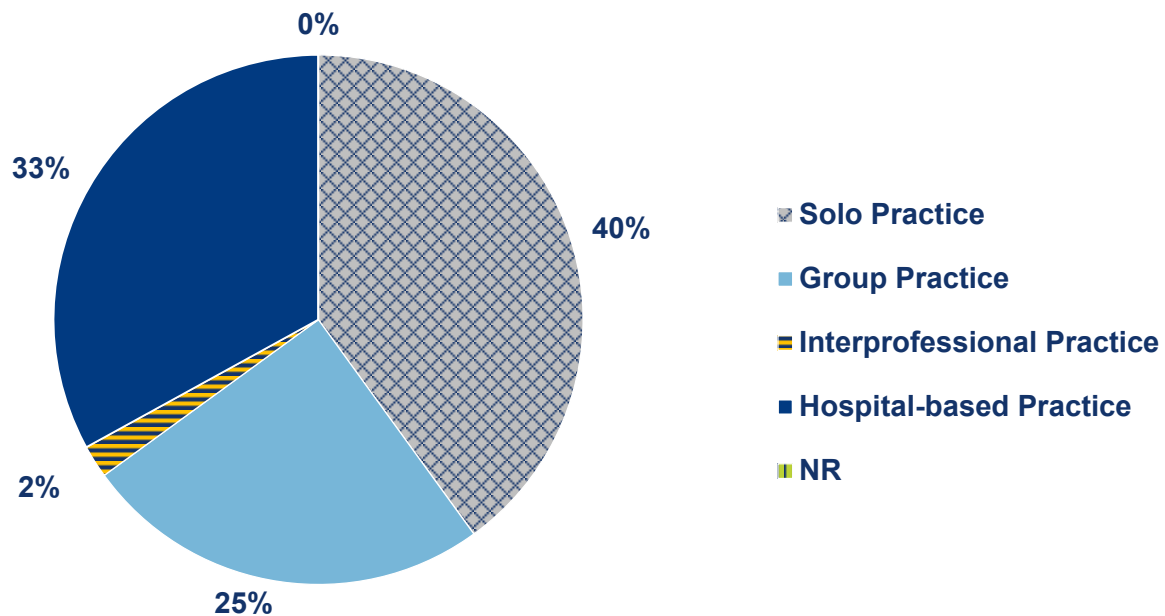
Excludes those where gender or age is unknown.

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

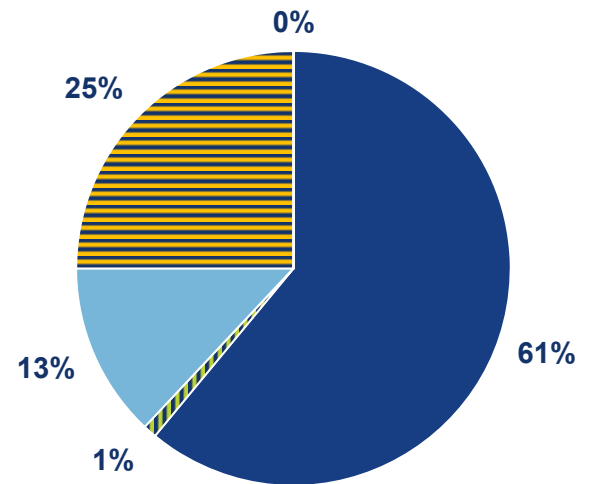
Activity	Hours worked per week
Direct patient care without teaching component	30.3
Direct patient care with teaching component	11.4
Teaching without patient care	1.7
Indirect patient care	9.5
Health facility committees	1.4
Administration	1.5
Research	3.3
Managing practice	1.8
Continued professional development	2.0
Other	0.8
TOTAL HOURS PER WEEK	63.6

On-call duty hours per month, 2019

- 92% provide on-call services
- On-call hours = 185 hrs./month
- On-call hours spent in direct patient care = 50 hrs./month

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 Urology in 2017/18 (those earning at least \$60,000) = \$502,712²

Average percent overhead reported by Urologists in 2017 = 25%³

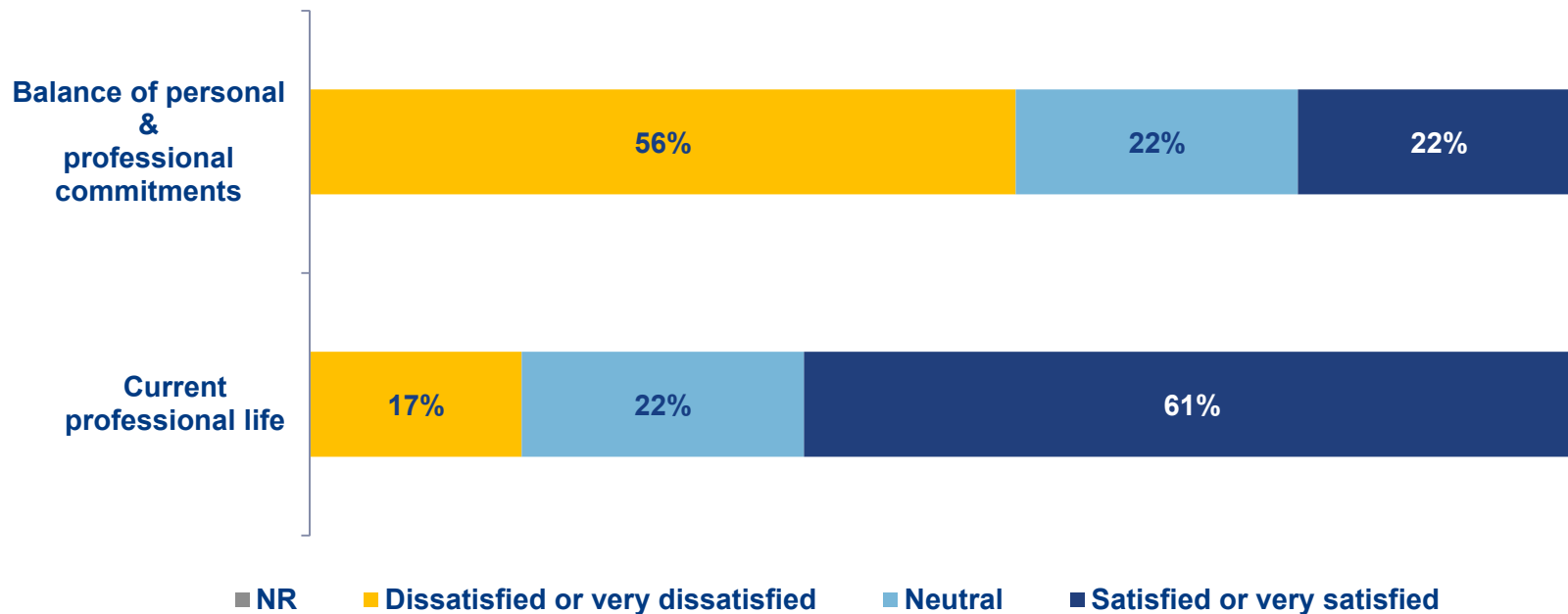
*Other includes capitation, sessional, contract and other methods

¹ 2017 CMA Workforce Survey. Canadian Medical Association

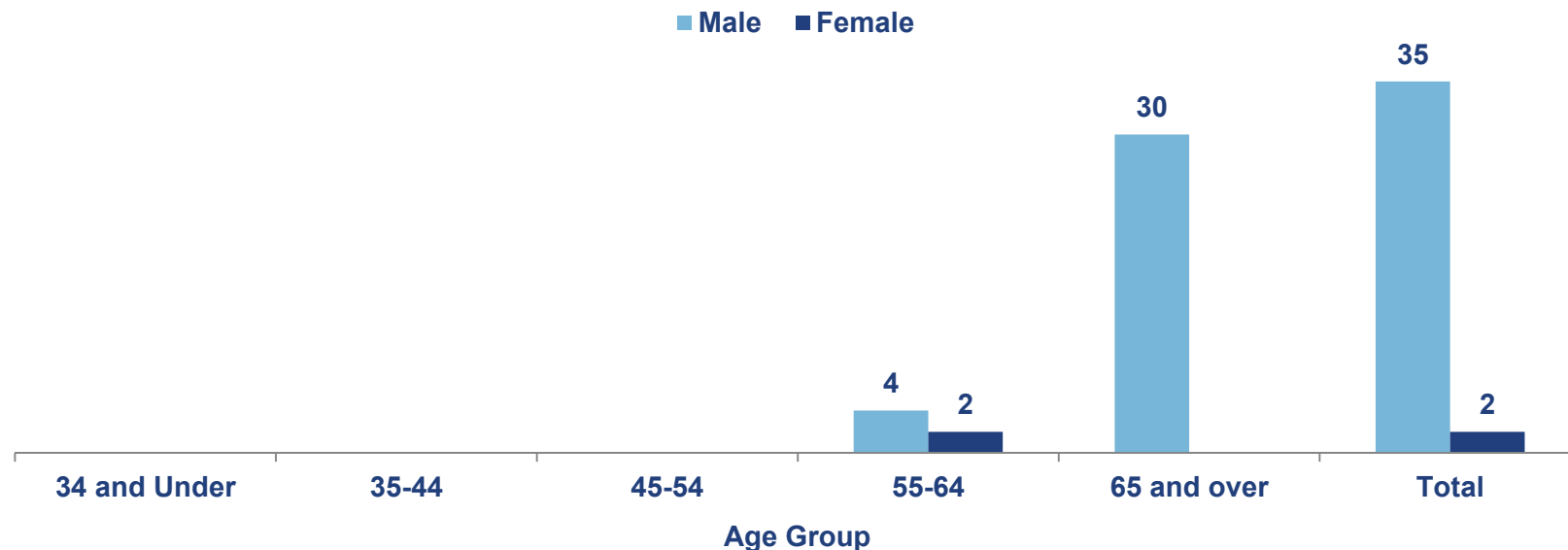
² National Physician Database, 2017/18, CIHI

³ 2017 CMA Workforce Survey. Canadian Medical Association

Professional & work-life balance satisfaction, 2019



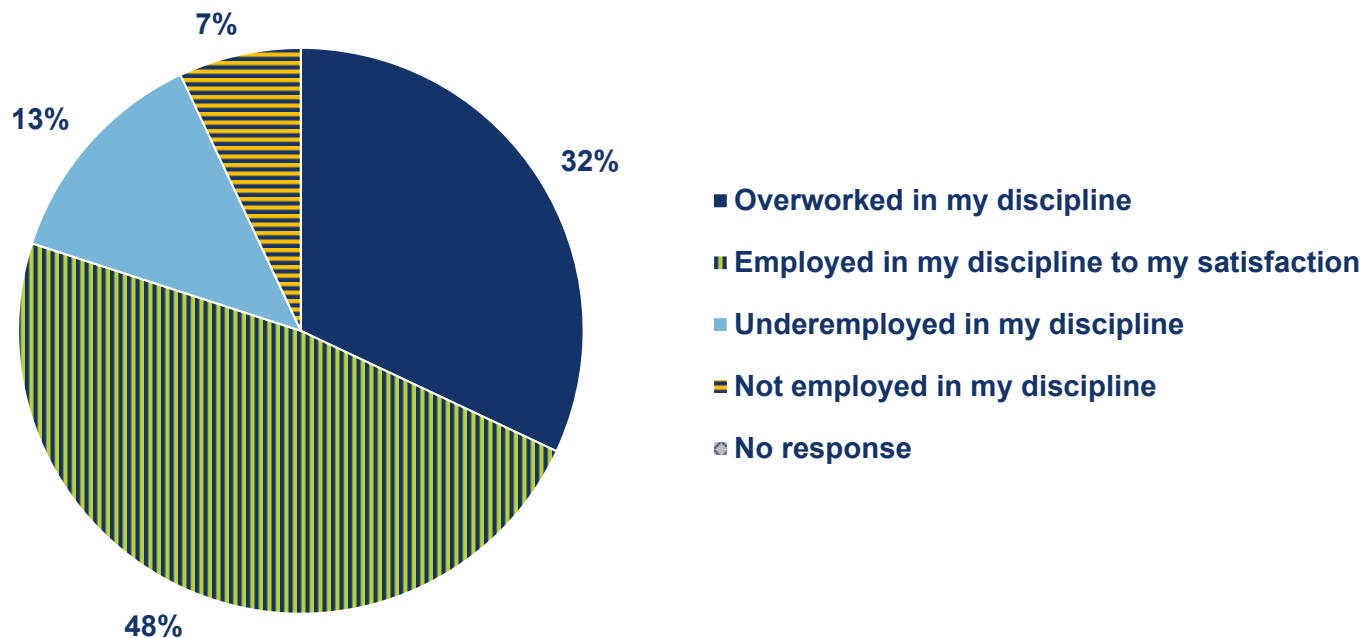
Number of retirees during the three year period of 2016-2018



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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