

### PEDIATRICIAN LIFE AND CAREER EXPERIENCE STUDY (PLACES)

#### MESSAGE FROM THE AAP PRESIDENT



Dear participants,

It has been my honor as AAP President to meet so many young pediatricians like you. Your talents as clinicians and commitment to children are inspiring. *The future of pediatrics is in excellent hands!*

Thank you so much for joining PLACES. I am excited that over 900 pediatricians have been recruited for your cohort so we can continue to hear from those just starting their career as pediatricians.

At the American Academy of Pediatrics our focus is the future, and how we can effectively support pediatricians to provide the best care for children. Through PLACES I want you to know the voice of pediatricians in their 30s and 40s are at the table as we develop and refine policy and programs.

PLACES participants in your cohort told us that on the next survey we should ask about gains and sacrifices you make in your personal lives for your careers.

The fall survey is now underway. The survey is much shorter than the survey you completed in the spring and includes questions on your gains and sacrifices.

Thank you for making PLACES a continued success. I look forward to hearing what we learn from you. It is making a difference. You are making a difference!

Kyle E. Yasuda, MD, FAAP  
President, American Academy of Pediatrics



A program of the American Academy of Pediatrics

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#### ABOUT PLACES

PLACES is a longitudinal study that tracks experiences and opinions of pediatricians over time.

- There are 3 important cohorts:
  - 1) 2002-2004 Residency Graduates Cohort, n=898  
Most graduated in 2002-2004
  - 2) 2009-2011 Residency Graduates Cohort, n=900  
Most graduated in 2009-2011
  - 3) 2016-2018 Residency Graduates Cohort, n=918  
Most graduated in 2016-2018
- Participants complete 2 surveys each year:
  - Annual updates on core issues, such as career satisfaction and work-life balance, in the spring.
  - Short survey in the fall that focuses on a high priority topic identified by participants. The short fall 2019 survey is currently underway.
- Strengths of PLACES:
  - Longitudinal design
  - Inclusion of both AAP members and non-members
  - Range of content (work, satisfaction, personal dimension)
  - **Commitment of participants, like you!**
- For more information and all publications, visit [www.aap.org/places](http://www.aap.org/places).

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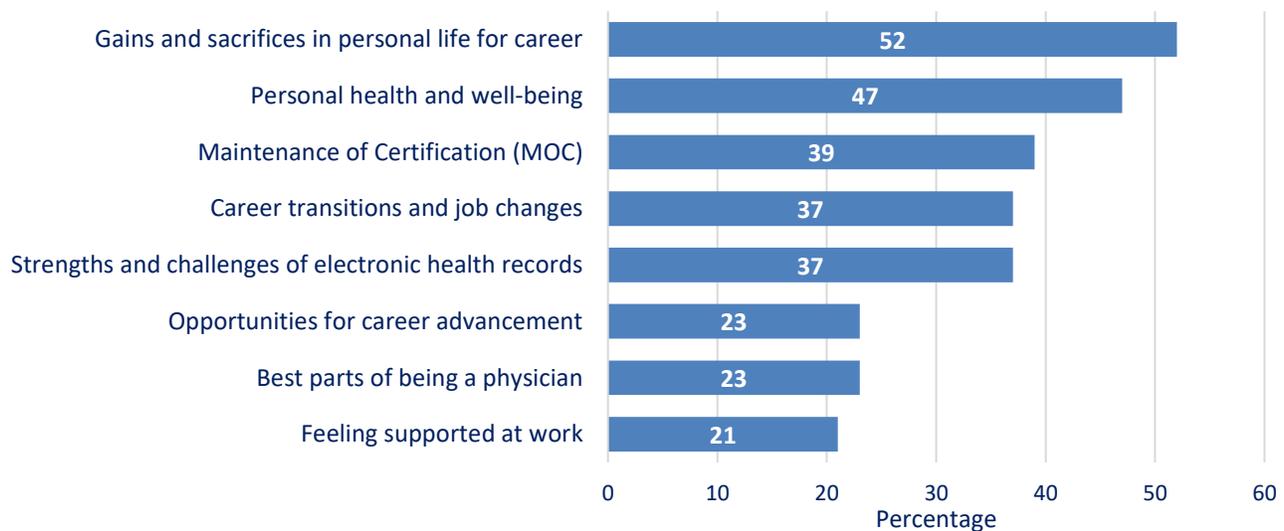
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## WHAT DO PLACES PARTICIPANTS WANT ON THE NEXT SURVEY?

We want to make sure we include topics relevant to pediatricians on our surveys so we asked PLACES participants in the spring to tell us the topics that are a high priority (Figure 1)

**Figure 1. Frequency that PLACES pediatricians in your cohort endorsed topic as being a high priority to ask on future surveys (participants selected up to 3 topics), n=909**



**The most commonly selected topic was gains and sacrifices in personal life for career, Figure 1.**

Over half of PLACES participants in your cohort selected gains and sacrifices. In response, we included questions on this topic on the fall survey.

- The fall survey is **MUCH** shorter than the survey you completed in the spring.
- It should only take 5-10 minutes to complete.

**Please share your thoughts and experiences with us on the gains and sacrifices you have made for your career by completing the short fall survey!** We will share the data with you in a future newsletter so you can see how other PLACES pediatricians responded.

## What we learned from you in 2019

Pediatricians in your cohort are busy building their careers and families and highly satisfied being physicians (Figure 2):

- Many are in fellowship training (39%), working an average of 55 hours/week.
- Among the post-training pediatricians, nearly all (92%) are employees, not owners, working an average of 43 hours/week.
- 8 in 10 are married or partnered, and 40% have children.
- Among those married or partnered, 81% of their spouses/partners are working full-time and 7% part-time.
- Nearly all strongly agree (49%) or agree (45%) their relationships with their patients and families are rewarding.

Figure 2. Careers, work-life balance, and satisfaction of PLACES participants in your cohort



## PLACES Pediatricians' Major Life Events

PLACES pediatricians report many life experiences that can have an important influence on work-life balance (Figure 3).

In the last 12 months, pediatricians in your cohort report dealing with both positive and negative life events:

- 43% started a new job.
- 24% were expecting, adopted or had a baby.
- 16% experienced the death of a family member or close friend.
- 13% experienced financial difficulties.

Figure 3. Major life events experienced by PLACES pediatricians in last 12 months



**Thanks to you and participants in the other PLACES cohorts, we continue to disseminate new information about early career pediatricians!**

- PLACES results are being used by Academy leadership and disseminated widely in the *AAP News* magazine, at conferences, and in peer-reviewed journals.

### Recent journal articles

- [Gender differences in earnings of early and mid-career pediatricians](#)
- [Gender discrepancies related to pediatrician work-life balance and household responsibilities](#)
- [Work experiences and satisfaction of international medical school graduates](#)
- [Longitudinal analyses of pediatrician burnout](#)

For a list of other PLACES publications, visit [www.aap.org/places](http://www.aap.org/places) or contact Mary Pat Frintner at 630/626-6664 or [places@aap.org](mailto:places@aap.org).

## KEY PLACES GOAL – DATA SHARING

**One of PLACES highest priorities is to feed back data to PLACES pediatricians**

*How are data currently being distributed?*

- *GOING PLACES* participant newsletters are distributed twice a year, with spring and fall surveys.
- Articles about PLACES in *AAP News Research Update* are published at least annually.
- Data are presented at academic conferences, including the AAP National Conference and Exhibition and Pediatric Academic Societies Annual Meeting.
- PLACES website is updated monthly: [www.aap.org/places](http://www.aap.org/places).



AAP PLACES Project Advisory Committee and researchers at 2019 PLACES annual meeting