

Research Update

Study examines factors associated with resident choice to enter hospitalist workforce

from the [AAP Department of Research](#)

New research based on 10 years of data from the AAP Annual Survey of Graduating Residents indicates that factors related to residents' choice to enter the hospitalist workforce include gender, educational debt and family situation (Leyenaar J, Frintner MP. *Acad Pediatr.* 2018;18:200-207).

The authors report data on hospitalists that were collected prior to the approval of pediatric hospital medicine as the newest American Board of Pediatrics subspecialty in October 2016.

On average, 10% of residents graduating from U.S. pediatric programs from 2006 to 2015 accepted positions as pediatric hospitalists, and this percentage was stable across the 10-year period (8% in 2006 and 10% in 2015). Other positions that residents accepted included pediatric subspecialty fellowship (34%), general pediatric practice (34%), chief residency (12%) and other (6%); 4% reported not having a position at the time of the survey.

Seventy-one percent of residents who accepted hospitalist positions reported that hospital medicine was their career goal. In contrast, 97% of residents who accepted subspecialty fellowship positions reported subspecialty care practice as their career goal.

Among residents accepting pediatric hospitalist positions, 61% will be working at a tertiary-care hospital (medical school or teaching hospital) and 34% will be at a community hospital.

Residents who accepted hospitalist positions were more likely than those accepting subspecialty fellowship positions to be female (79% vs. 67%), U.S. medical school graduates (84% vs. 73%) and have higher educational debt. Over half (56%) of residents accepting hospitalist positions and 41% of those accepting fellowships reported their family situation limited their job selection.

Residents who accepted hospitalist positions were more likely than those accepting subspecialty fellowship positions to report geographic location was very important in their job choice (see figure). They were less likely to report job security and research opportunities were very important in their choice.

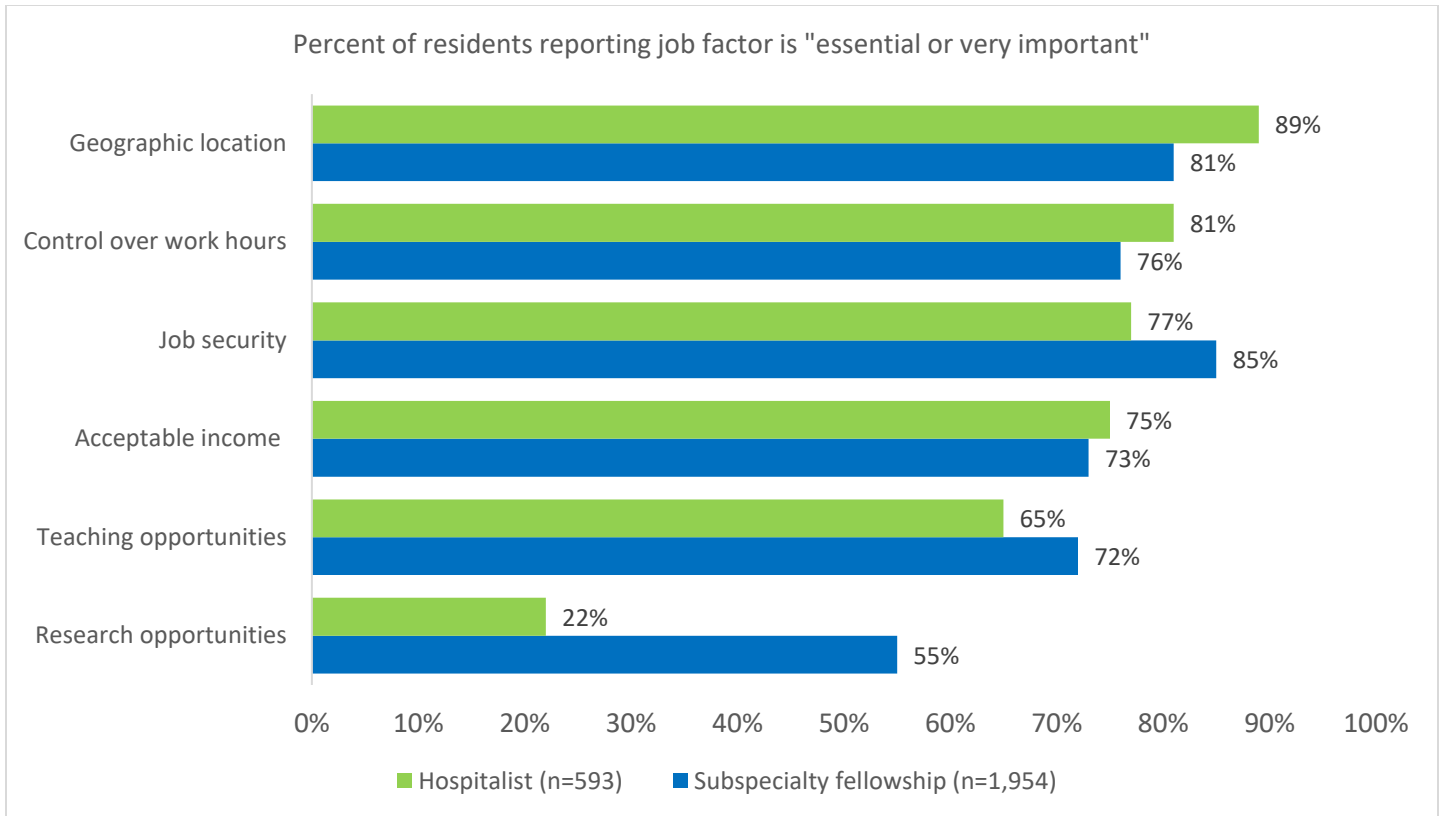


The Annual Survey of Graduating Residents is sent to a nationally representative sample of residents graduating from U.S. pediatric programs to gather key information on residency training, career choice and job search experiences. The survey is conducted each year from May to August. Surveys are mailed and emailed to a random sample of 1,000 graduating pediatric residents. Response rates for 2006-'15 ranged from 56% to 64%.

RESOURCES

- The AAP Section on Hospital Medicine serves as a forum for members with a special interest and commitment to general inpatient pediatric care. It also is considered the "home" for pediatric hospitalists at the Academy. For more information, visit www.aaphospmed.org.
- For more information on the Annual Survey of Graduating Residents, visit <http://www2.aap.org/research/graduatingressurvey.htm> or contact Mary Pat Frintner, in the AAP Division of Health Services Research, at 630-626-6664 or mfrintner@aap.org.

Priorities for graduating pediatric residents accepting hospitalist and subspecialty fellowship positions, 2006-'15



Source: Leyenaar JK, Frintner MP. *Acad Pediatr.* 2018;18:200-207.