



News Articles, Research Update

Nearly all pediatric residents find job after graduation

by from the AAP Department of Research

Data from the last 15 years of the AAP Annual Survey of Graduating Residents highlight that graduates have little difficulty finding a primary care position and prioritize geographic location and family in their job search.

Nearly all survey respondents accepted a position to practice or enter fellowship training when they graduated, and the percent without a position has decreased from 8% in 2003-'05 to 2% in 2015-'17.

Among respondents with a position, 34% who graduated in 2015-'17 accepted a primary care position, slightly fewer residents than in 2003-'05 (38%).

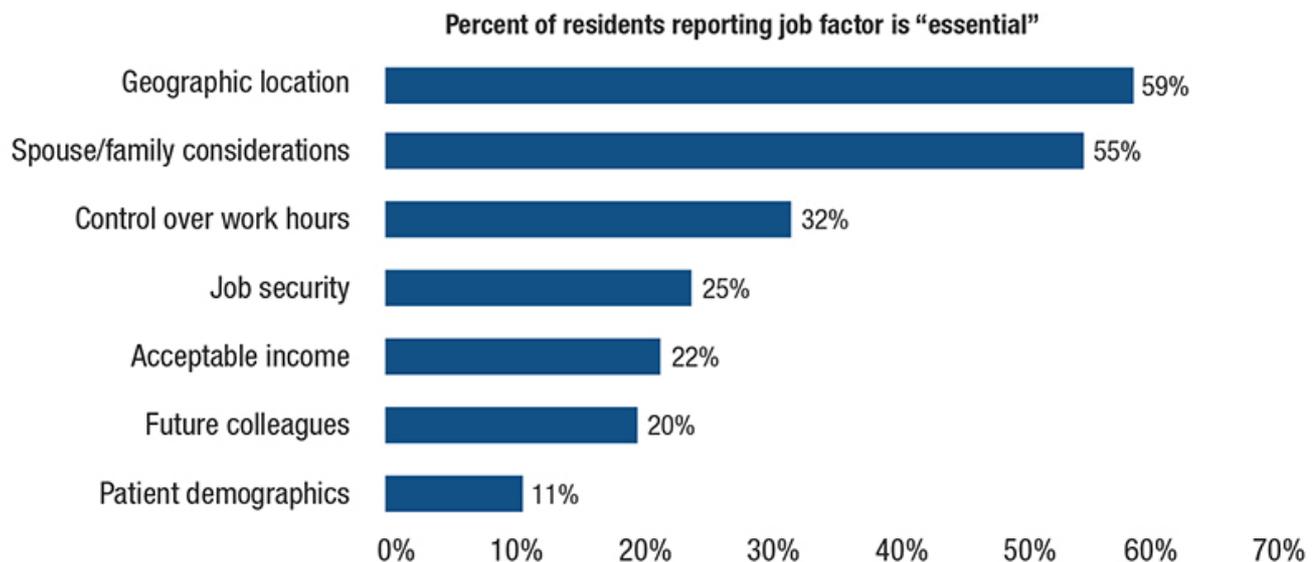
Among residents going into a primary care career, the following trends have emerged:

- Very few reported they had considerable difficulty in their search for a job, and this percent decreased across years from 10% in 2003-'05 to 3% in 2015-'17.
- In 2015-'17, over half of residents (56%) accepted a primary care job in the same state as their residency, which is unchanged since 2003-'05 (60%).
- Three-quarters are married, which is unchanged since 2003-'05.
- Among 2015-'17 graduates, 36% had children, down from 42% in 2003-'05.
- The most important factors for both females and males in selecting their first position are geographic location and spouse and family considerations (see figure).
- The importance of geographic location increased over time for females; 46% of females graduating in 2003-'05 and 62% of 2015-'17 graduates reported that the location of their first job was essential.



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Priorities for graduating pediatric residents choosing primary care careers, 2015-'17 (n=528)



Source: AAP Annual Survey of Graduating Residents, 2015-'17

"Academy leadership values what we learn from graduating residents and appreciates the time they take from their busy schedules to respond to the resident survey," said Kimberly M.R. White, M.D., M.S., a member of the AAP Section on Pediatric Trainees. "I am encouraged to learn that most graduates have a job when they leave residency, without much difficulty finding one. The knowledge that many residents prioritize location and family informs important pediatric workforce discussions."

For over 20 years, the Annual Survey of Graduating Residents has been 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 2003-'17 ranged from 53% to 64%.

Resources

- [The AAP Career Center features a job board as well as professional and career development articles.](#)
- [The 2018 AAP Virtual Career Fair will be held on May 16 and 17. Sign up at http://aapcareerfair.org.](http://aapcareerfair.org)
- [For more information on the Annual Survey of Graduating Residents, visit http://www2.aap.org/research/graduatingsurvey.htm](http://www2.aap.org/research/graduatingsurvey.htm) or contact Mary Pat Frintner, in the AAP Division of Health Services Research, at 630-626-6664 or mfrintner@aap.org.