

# Percent of AAP members who are women increases from 28%-63% over 30 years

from the **AAP Department of Research**

The U.S. AAP membership has experienced a dramatic shift in gender composition over the past 30 years, according to an analysis of Periodic Survey of Fellows data by the Department of Research.



The percent of AAP members who are women has increased from 28% in the late-1980s to 63% in recent years. The figure at right depicts population pyramids that show the shift in the demographic profile of AAP members from 1987-'89 to 2014-'16.

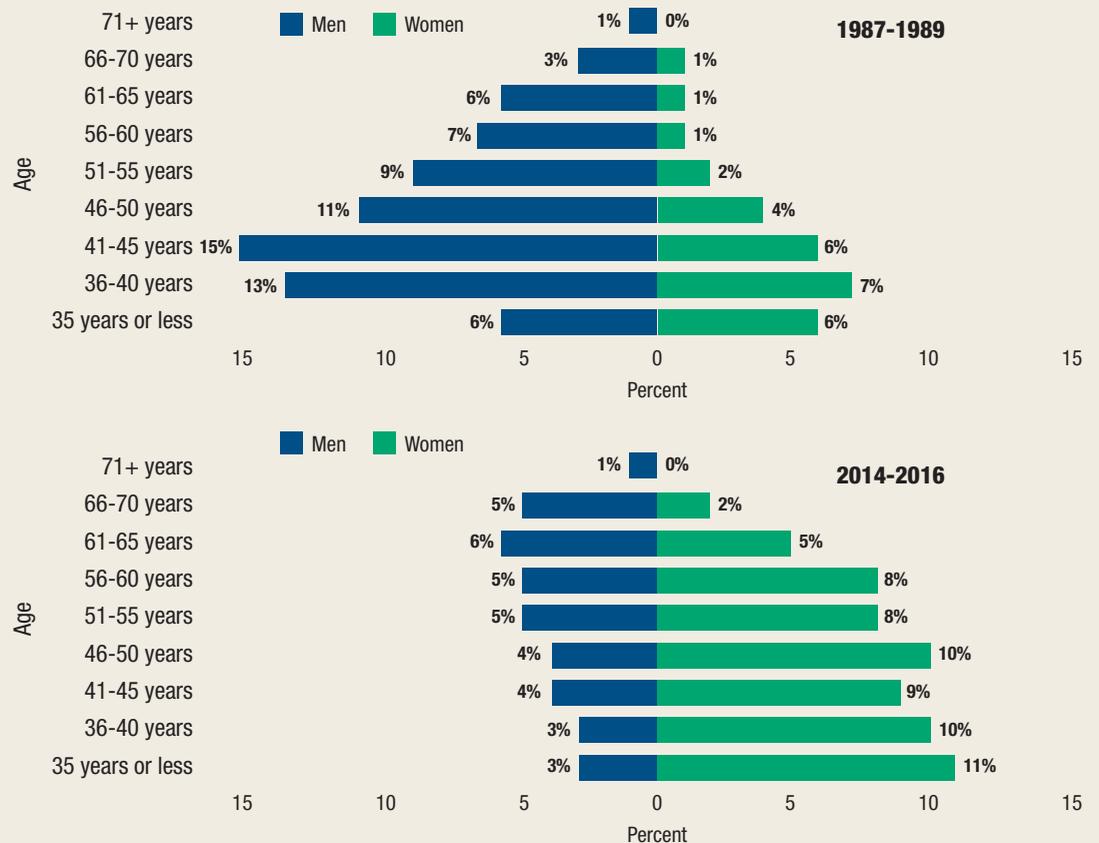
In the late-1980s, 54% of pediatricians were men ages 55 and below, but today that number is only 19%. Over the same timeframe, the percent of pediatricians who are women ages 55 or younger increased from 25% to 48%. In contrast to 30 years ago, young female pediatricians now represent a substantial share of total membership. Presently, 21% of AAP members are women ages 40 and below, while 6% of members are men in the same age range.

This shift in AAP membership reflects the extent to which the pediatric workforce has transitioned from being predominantly male to predominantly female over the past three decades. It also reflects the historical trend in medical school graduation; the Association of American Medical Colleges reports that 23% of medical school graduates were women in 1980, while 48% of graduates were women in 2015.

The Periodic Survey is celebrating 30 years, making it possible to track important trends in the profession. Since its launch in 1987, the Periodic Survey has collected more than 75,000 pediatrician responses on over 100 topics to inform the Academy's policy, education and advocacy initiatives.

"The Periodic Survey is a way for members to make their voices heard on critical issues and is a vital source of information for AAP leadership," said AAP CEO/Executive Vice President Karen Remley, M.D., M.B.A., M.P.H., FAAP. "The Academy is deeply committed to learning about priority issues that affect your practice, career and the ability for you to provide optimal care for all children. We highly value your response and your time, and we carefully listen to what the Periodic Survey tells us."

**Age and gender distribution of U.S. AAP members: 1987-1989 and 2014-2016**



Source: AAP Periodic Survey, 1987-1989 and 2014-2016  
Note: Residents excluded

## RESOURCE

For more information on this analysis and the Periodic Survey of Fellows, visit <http://www2.aap.org/research/periodicsurvey.htm> or contact Blake Sisk, in the AAP Division of Health Services Research, at 847-434-7630 or [bsisk@aap.org](mailto:bsisk@aap.org).

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