
Among the PLACES participants, who were four to 13 years past residency when surveyed in 2015, 19% graduated from a medical school outside the United States and Canada (international school). The results highlight differences in demographic characteristics, job and financial characteristics, and satisfaction between physicians who graduated from an international school and grew up outside the U.S. (international graduates) and those from U.S. medical schools (U.S. graduates).

Three-quarters of international graduates and 29% of U.S. graduates are non-white (see figure). International graduates were more likely than U.S. graduates to report proficiency communicating with patients in languages other than English (73% vs. 31%).

Strong majorities of both groups reported overall job satisfaction. International graduates were less likely than U.S. graduates to report satisfaction (71% vs. 88%). Other differences between the two groups also were found:

- 58% of international graduates and 41% of U.S. graduates reported at least half of their patients are covered by public insurance;
- 79% of international graduates and 91% of U.S. graduates agree their physician colleagues value their work; and
- 58% of international graduates and 70% of U.S. graduates agree their physician colleagues are an important source of personal support.

International graduates are far less likely than U.S. graduates to have educational debt at residency graduation (17% vs. 83%). They also are less likely to own rather than rent their home (76% vs. 86%). The two groups report similar salaries; 33% of international and 38% of U.S. graduates reported earning $200,000 or more in 2015.

“International graduates bring diverse backgrounds and experiences to the pediatric workforce,” said Rana Chakraborty, M.D., M.Sc., Ph.D., FAAP, co-author of the study and chair of the AAP Section on International Medical Graduates Executive Committee. “They also face many challenges in the workplace and may feel less connected to their colleagues and to organized medicine.”

Launched in 2012, PLACES is an ongoing study of early to mid-career pediatricians who completed residency in 2002-'04 and 2009-'11. The project includes both AAP members and nonmembers and general pediatricians, subspecialists and hospitalists. A new cohort is being recruited in 2019 (graduated residency in 2016-'18), so the AAP can continue to gather the perspectives of pediatricians starting their career.

**Race and ethnic background of early and mid-career pediatricians (average age=40), n=1,375**

- **U.S. medical school graduates**
  - White, non-Hispanic: 71%
  - Asian or Pacific Islander: 15%
  - Hispanic: 7%
  - Black: 5%
  - Other: 2%

- **International medical school graduates**
  - White, non-Hispanic: 26%
  - Asian or Pacific Islander: 42%
  - Hispanic: 20%
  - Black: 8%
  - Other: 4%

*Graduated from a medical school outside the U.S. and Canada and grew up outside the U.S.

Source: AAP PLACES, Annual Survey, 2015. Data are weighted to adjust for differences between PLACES pediatricians and the target sample of pediatricians.