

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

#### MESSAGE FROM THE PLACES RESEARCH TEAM

Welcome to the third issue of the AAP PLACES newsletter. This issue provides you, PLACES participants, with a first look at data highlights from the second year of PLACES. Thanks for your continued participation in the study! For more information on PLACES and data that has been presented in newsletters and conferences, visit [www2.aap.org/research/places.htm](http://www2.aap.org/research/places.htm).

**Nine out of ten PLACES participants** completed the second annual spring survey (2013 survey) – thank you to all of you who took time from your busy schedules to complete the survey and contribute to the success of this project!

We learned from participants in the 2012 fall survey that a project newsletter is the preferred way to receive project updates and findings so we will continue to send you the “GOING PLACES” newsletter. We hope you find this feedback valuable.



A program of the American Academy of Pediatrics

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#### ABOUT PLACES

PLACES is a longitudinal study that tracks the experiences and opinions of early career pediatricians over time

- There are 1,804 participants in two important cohorts
  - 1) Recent Residency Graduates (n=903)  
Most graduated in 2009-2011
  - 2) Early Career (n=901)  
Most graduated in 2002-2004
- 1,658 of the PLACES participants completed the second annual survey in 2013 (92%)
- Strengths of PLACES
  - ✓ longitudinal design
  - ✓ inclusion of both AAP members and non-members
  - ✓ range of content (work, satisfaction, personal dimension)
  - ✓ **YOU** and other pediatricians who complete the PLACES surveys each year

American Academy of Pediatrics

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# PEDIATRICIANS' DIVERSE ORIGINS

OCTOBER/2013

## PRELIMINARY RESULTS FROM YEAR 1 (2012) AND YEAR 2 (2013) OF PLACES

Figure 1- Parents' National Origin

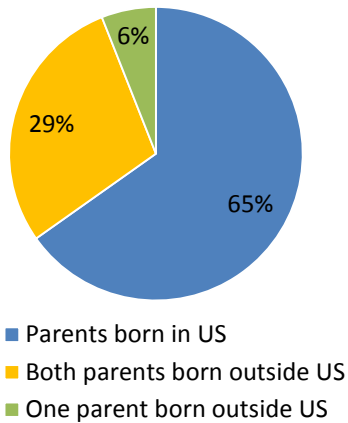


Figure 2- Participant's National Origin

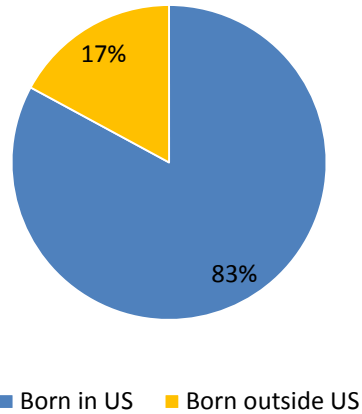
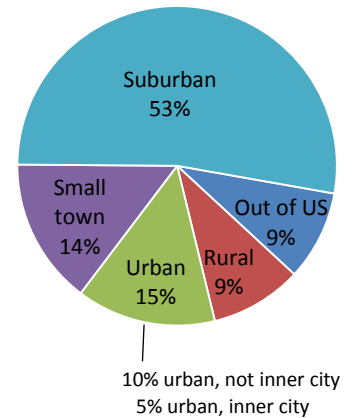


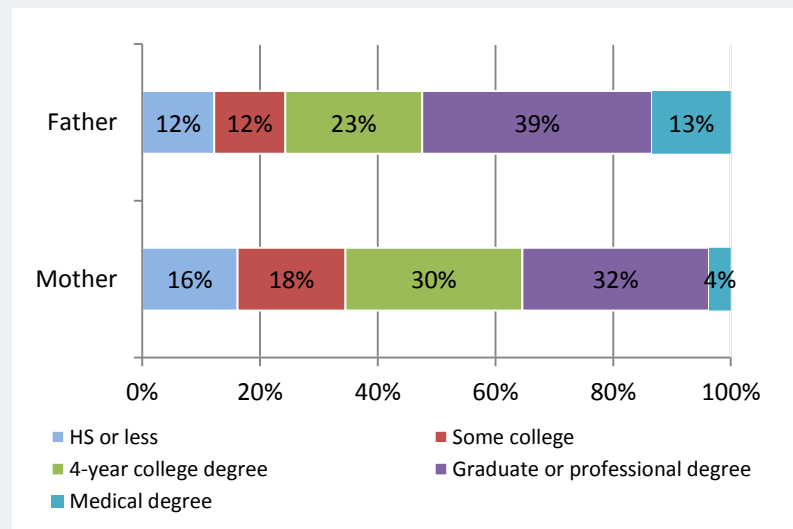
Figure 3- Participant's Childhood



### PLACES participants come from diverse social and economic backgrounds

- Approximately 66% of participants identified their race as white, non-Hispanic, 18% Asian, 8% Hispanic, 6% African American or black, and 3% other
- Over one-third (36%) are proficient in a language other than English
- Over one-third have immigrant parents: 29% reported both parents and 6% reported one parent who was born outside the US (Figure 1)
- Most participants were born in the US (Figure 2)
- While almost one in ten participants grew up (spent most of childhood) outside the US, those growing up in the US came from various areas (Figure 3)

Figure 4. Education attained by participants' parents



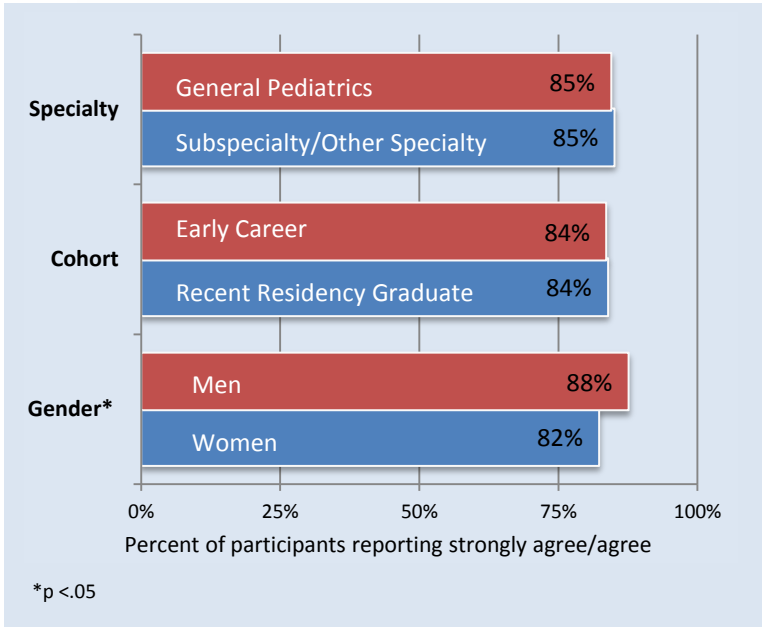
- The parents of participants had various educational experiences (Figure 4), though most attained a 4-year college degree or higher education.

# HIGH SATISFACTION WITH CAREERS AMIDST BALANCING RESPONSIBILITIES

PRELIMINARY RESULTS FROM YEAR 2 (2013) OF PLACES

OCTOBER/2013

**Figure 5. Participant satisfaction with career as a physician by gender, study cohort, and specialty, N=1,565**



## Participants express very high levels of satisfaction with their career choices

- 84% agree that “all things considered, I am satisfied with my career as a physician” (Figure 5)
- Satisfaction was equally high across both cohorts and those in general pediatrics (primary care and hospitalist) and subspecialty practice or training
- Men report higher levels of satisfaction (88%) than women (82%)

Most participants also report high satisfaction with their current work (Figure 6), regardless of gender, study cohort, or specialty. Though satisfied, many encounter challenges in balancing their work and personal responsibilities, as conveyed in the following descriptive data and comments from participants:

### Professionally

- 44% are stressed at work
- 43% work at a somewhat hectic or chaotic setting
- 34% feel that they work too much

*“I am very satisfied with my life as a general pediatrician working in clinic and not very satisfied with my life during overnight and weekend calls”*

*“I am currently satisfied with my medical practice. I am currently very dissatisfied with the computer work that we need to do that takes away from patient care”*

*“Love kids. Pediatrics probably gives the best balance between family and kids.”*

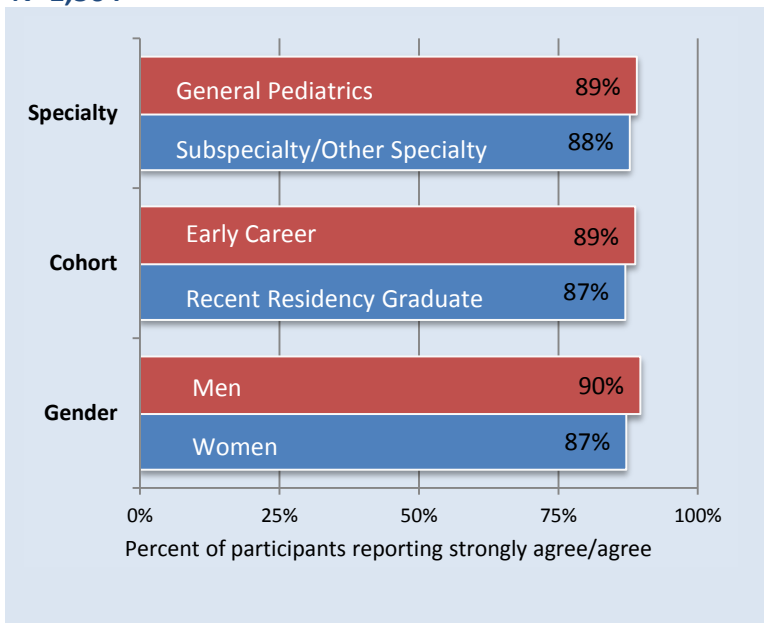
### Personally

- 48% are stressed in their efforts to balance work and personal responsibilities
- Less than half are satisfied with time they spend with their spouse or significant other (46%) or friends (37%)
- 67% have current educational debt

*“I had a second child just 1.5 years after my first so life has been crazy trying to care for two very young kids and balance a very demanding clinical load.”*

*“I love being a pediatrician and would recommend this field of medicine to anyone. My toughest challenge is finding balance.”*

**Figure 6. Participant satisfaction with their current job, N=1,564**



*As a PLACES participant, how many surveys do I need to complete each year?*

Each year, we will ask you to complete two surveys: 1) Main, longer survey in the spring so we can examine changes over time in the careers and lives of pediatricians, 2) Shorter survey (usually two pages) in the fall.

*Where can I see data from the project?*

You can find the *GOING PLACES* newsletters, conference presentations, and other PLACES information on the project website: [www2.aap.org/research/places.htm](http://www2.aap.org/research/places.htm)

Twice a year, we send PLACES participants a newsletter to give you and the other participants a first look at the interesting results. [found on the PLACES website](#)

*Whom do I contact if I have questions about PLACES, didn't receive a gift card for completing the spring survey, or have a new email or mailing address?*

Mary Pat Frintner: [mfrintner@aap.org](mailto:mfrintner@aap.org); 1-800-433-9016, ext. 7664

## Pediatrician Life and Career Experience Study (PLACES) Project Advisory Committee (PAC)

### WHAT IS THE PLACES PAC?

The PLACES PAC includes six pediatricians with varying work and life experiences, including research experts and pediatricians representative of PLACES participants:

**Bobbi Byrne, MD; Gary Freed, MD, MPH; Shesha Kalyan Katakam, MD, MPH; Laurel Leslie, MD, MPH; Ashley Miller, MD; and, Amy Starmer, MD, MPH**

The PAC was formed in the spring of 2011 to provide feedback concerning the study design and survey instruments. The PAC reviews data, provides input, and will be instrumental in publishing PLACES data in peer-reviewed journals.



Several members of the PLACES PAC and AAP Researchers and Staff at the July, 2013 meeting. Front row: Lynn Olson, PhD; Bobbi Byrne, MD; Laurel Leslie, MD, MPH; Amy Starmer, MD, MPH; Back row: Holly Mulvey, MA; Mary Pat Frintner, MSPH; Ashley Miller, MD; Bill Cull, PhD; Ken Slaw, PhD