Welcome to the fall 2014 issue of the AAP PLACES newsletter. This issue provides you with a first look at data highlights from the third year of PLACES. Thanks to your continued participation in PLACES and commitment to the project, PLACES received the American Association of Medical Society Executives Profile of Excellence award for membership! Check out page four for details.

We continue to be thrilled by the high participation rates of the PLACES pediatricians. Nine of ten PLACES participants completed the third annual spring survey (2014 survey). Thank you to all of you who took time from your busy lives to complete the survey and contribute to the success of this project!

We will continue to send you project updates and findings by sharing the “GOING PLACES” newsletter with you. For more information on PLACES and data that has been presented in previous newsletters and at conferences, visit www2.aap.org/research/places.htm.

ABOUT PLACES

PLACES is a longitudinal study that was launched in 2012 and tracks the experiences and opinions of 1,804 early career pediatricians over time:

- There are 2 important cohorts
  1) 2009-2011 Residency Graduates Cohort, n=903
     Most graduated residency in 2009-2011
  2) 2002-2004 Residency Graduates Cohort, n=901
     Most graduated residency in 2002-2004

- ~90% of PLACES participants completed the 3rd annual survey (2014)

- 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!
WHAT DO PLACES PEDIATRICIANS WANT ON THE NEXT SURVEY?

~ 90% of PLACES pediatricians completed the 2014 spring survey

We want to make sure that we include topics relevant to pediatricians on our surveys so we asked PLACES participants to tell us the topics most important to them at work and/or home (Figure 1)

![Figure 1. Frequency that places pediatricians endorsed topic as most important to them at work and/or home (Participants selected up to 3 topics)](chart)

- Maintenance of certification: 55% 64%
- Work-life balance: 50% 56%
- Electronic health records: 31% 42%
- Financial health: 25% 42%
- Own health and well-being: 28% 31%

Nearly 60% of all PLACES pediatricians indicated that maintenance of certification (MOC) requirements were important to them. In response, we included questions on the short, fall 2014 survey that ask about experiences with the American Board of Pediatrics MOC program and what MOC issues are important. Please share your thoughts and experiences with us by completing the fall survey!

We will include additional questions on the other important topics reported by PLACES pediatricians on future surveys and share related data with you in future articles.

Website: [http://www.aap.org/research/places.htm](http://www.aap.org/research/places.htm)  Email: places@aap.org  Phone: 1-800-433-9016 ext. 7664
PLACES participants report many life experiences that can have an important influence on work-life balance. Among the PLACES pediatricians who graduated from residency within the last five years, 67% started a new job, 56% moved to a new area, and 56% were expecting, had or adopted a baby from 2012-2014 (Figure 2).

**Figure 2. Major life events experienced by PLACES pediatricians (2009-2011 Residency Graduates Cohort) by survey year and ever in the last 3 survey years combined**

![Graph showing major life events](image)

- **Started new job**: 41% in 2012, 23% in 2013, 25% in 2014, 67% overall.
- **Moved to new area**: 30% in 2012, 23% in 2013, 23% in 2014, 56% overall.
- **Expecting, adopted or had baby**: 34% in 2012, 33% in 2013, 30% in 2014, 56% overall.

**PLACES Pediatrics and Other Life Events**

In the past 3 years, PLACES pediatricians in both cohorts report dealing with both positive and negative life experiences...

- One in 10 PLACES pediatricians got engaged or married
- 11% had a serious illness or injury
- 17% experienced financial difficulties
- 30% experienced the death of a family member or close friend

PLACES participants report they are generally succeeding in their efforts to balance work and personal responsibilities and most are satisfied with their life overall (Figure 3).

**Figure 3. PLACES pediatrician report of being very stressed in balancing work and personal responsibilities and very/completely satisfied with life**

![Graph showing satisfaction levels](image)

- **Very Stressed**: 12% in 2012, 13% in 2013, 14% in 2014, 24% overall.
- **Very Satisfied**: 71% in 2012, 70% in 2013, 69% in 2014, 84% overall.
PLACES received the American Association of Medical Society Executives (AAMSE) Profiles of Excellence Award in membership in August, 2014. Here’s what AAMSE said about PLACES:

The use of a longitudinal study, with measurable results, is brilliant. What motivates physicians better than cold hard facts, based in scientific research. Very impressed by the scope of this effort and the support and financial commitment of AAP.

This is a very ambitious project that appears to be well planned and executed. The information gathered will be extremely valuable and may apply to other specialties.

This project is the gift that keeps giving... giving insight into physicians. It has the possibility to help any medical society and will produce results relevant to any physicians.

One of PLACES highest priorities is to feed back data to pediatrician participants

How are data currently being distributed?

- GOING PLACES participant newsletters are distributed twice a year, with the spring and fall surveys
- Articles in AAP News are published at least once a year
- Articles in the Section on Young Physician newsletter are published at least once a year
- Abstracts are presented at academic conferences
- PLACES website is updated with new publications: [www2.aap.org/research/places.htm](http://www2.aap.org/research/places.htm)

Are participants satisfied with the data they have been receiving?

Yes! According to the spring 2014 survey, 95% of PLACES pediatricians feel like they have received as much data as they would like to receive

Are there any plans to publish PLACES data in scientific journals?

Yes, two papers have been written and will soon be submitted for journal review. We will keep you updated.

Whom do I contact if I have not been receiving PLACES publications or have ideas about other ways to share data?

Mary Pat Frintner: places@aap.org; 1-800-433-9016, ext. 7664

A Special Thanks to the PLACES Project Advisory Committee: Bobbi Byrne, MD, FAAP; Gary Freed, MD, MPH, FAAP; Shesha Kalyan Katakam, MD, MPH, FAAP; Laurel Leslie, MD, MPH, FAAP; Ashley Miller, MD, FAAP; Amy Starmer, MD, MPH, FAAP

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