

THE AMERICAN GERIATRICS SOCIETY

CURRENT GERIATRICIAN SHORTFALL

July 2011

The American Geriatrics Society's Geriatrics Workforce Policy Studies Center (GWPS) has compiled the following data on our nation's current geriatrician shortfall. It's projected that approximately 30% of the 65 plus patient population will need to be cared for by a geriatrician and that each geriatrician can care for a patient panel of 700 older adults.¹ Based on these numbers, approximately:

17,000 geriatricians are needed now to care for about 12 million older Americans. As of 2010, there were 7,029 certified geriatricians nationwide.²

State	Population 65 and older (2010) ³	30% is Most Vulnerable ⁴	Number of Geriatricians Needed ⁴	Certified Geriatricians (2010) ²	-/+ of Certified Geriatricians since 2009	Estimated Geriatrician Shortfall
Alabama	657,792	197,338	282	64	2	218
Alaska	54,938	16,481	24	10	-2	14
Arizona	881,831	264,549	378	128	3	250
Arkansas	419,981	125,994	180	58	-2	122
California	4,246,514	1,273,954	1,820	741	30	1,079
Colorado	549,625	164,888	236	87	1	149
Connecticut	506,559	151,968	217	134	7	83
Delaware	129,277	38,783	55	17	0	38
DC	68,809	20,643	29	21	1	8
Florida	3,259,602	977,881	1,397	434	16	963
Georgia	1,032,035	309,611	442	122	9	320
Hawaii	195,138	58,541	84	66	1	18
Idaho	194,668	58,400	83	9	-3	74
Illinois	1,609,213	482,764	690	343	-7	347
Indiana	841,108	252,332	360	97	-2	263
Iowa	452,888	135,866	194	60	-2	134
Kansas	376,116	112,835	161	49	2	112
Kentucky	578,227	173,468	248	54	-9	194
Louisiana	557,857	167,357	239	61	0	178
Maine	211,080	63,324	90	49	3	41
Maryland	707,642	212,293	303	217	2	86
Massachusetts	902,724	270,817	387	232	21	155
Michigan	1,361,530	408,459	584	227	-3	357
Minnesota	683,121	204,936	293	160	-9	133
Mississippi	380,407	114,122	163	23	-4	140
Missouri	838,294	251,488	359	139	8	220
Montana	146,742	44,023	63	9	2	54
Nebraska	246,677	74,003	106	32	0	74
Nevada	324,359	97,308	139	40	-1	99
New Hampshire	178,268	53,480	76	47	4	29
New Jersey	1,185,993	355,798	508	294	7	214

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New Mexico	272,255	81,677	117	53	5	64
New York	2,617,943	785,383	1,122	727	10	395
North Carolina	1,234,079	370,224	529	188	6	341
North Dakota	97,477	29,243	42	21	0	21
Ohio	1,622,015	486,605	695	241	-2	454
Oklahoma	506,714	152,014	217	40	0	177
Oregon	533,533	160,060	229	84	5	145
Pennsylvania	1,959,307	587,792	840	533	1	307
Rhode Island	151,881	45,564	65	38	2	27
South Carolina	631,874	189,562	271	83	3	188
South Dakota	116,581	34,974	50	11	-1	39
Tennessee	853,462	256,039	366	78	-1	288
Texas	2,601,886	780,566	1,115	347	25	768
Utah	249,462	74,839	107	22	-2	85
Vermont	91,078	27,323	39	18	3	21
Virginia	976,937	293,081	419	164	5	255
Washington	827,677	248,303	355	161	13	194
West Virginia	297,404	89,221	127	43	1	84
Wisconsin	777,314	233,194	333	147	10	186
Wyoming	70,090	21,027	30	6	1	24
Total	40,267,984	12,080,395	17,258	7,029	159	10,229

¹Source: Fried, L. P. & Hall, W. J. (2008). Leading on Behalf of an Aging Society. *The Journal of the American Geriatrics Society*, 56, 1791-1795.

²Geographic Distribution of Diplomates by States from ABMS. Dated July 2010. Available at ABMS.org/Statistics.asp.

³ US Census Bureau, 2010 Census. Population for States by Age Group: April 1, 2010. Table compiled by US Administration on Aging

⁴Based on 30% of 65 plus patient population will need geriatricians' care and each geriatrician can care for a patient panel of 700 adults.