

# THE AMERICAN GERIATRICS SOCIETY

## LOAN DEBT AND SALARY STATISTICS FOR GERIATRICS HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS

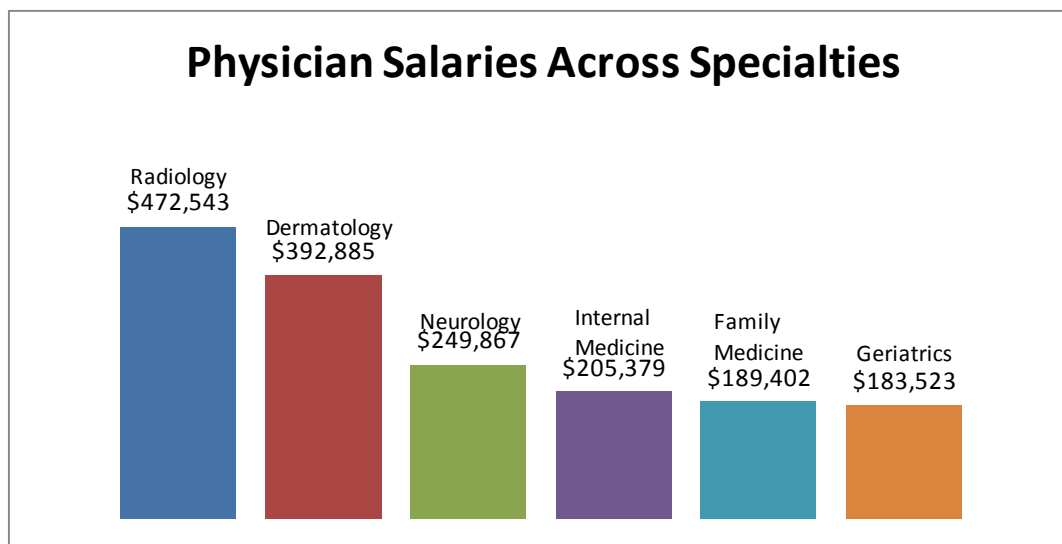
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### MEDICAL SCHOOL LOAN DEBT

- Increases in medical school tuition and high levels of graduating student indebtedness are a growing problem.
- According to 2011 AAMC data from the Medical Schools Graduation Questionnaire:
  - 86% of medical students carried educational debt
  - 59% owed more than \$150,000
  - From 2000 to 2010 average debt increased by 68% from \$94,674 to \$158,996.
- A career focused on caring for older adults can be particularly financially unattractive for physicians who carry increasingly large medical school loan debts.

### SALARY STATISTICS

- Physicians in internal medicine, family medicine – and geriatrics – earn significantly less and have less predictable work schedules than those in other medical and surgical specialties, especially disciplines such as dermatology, plastic surgery, otolaryngology, radiation oncology, and emergency medicine.
- The median salary for a geriatrician in private practice in 2010 was \$183,523 – significantly lower than that of most other medical and surgical specialties.



*Geriatrics Workforce Policy Studies – courtesy of the Medical Group Management Association. Physician Compensation and Production Survey, 2011 Report Based on 2010 Data.*