

Table 1.4 Projection on Future Number of Geriatricians in the United States. May 2011

Year	Number of Geriatricians	Population 75 and older	Population 75 and older/10,000	Geriatricians/10,000 population 75 and older
2000	7,762	16,600,767	1,660	4.7
2010	6,756	18,766,113	1,877	3.6
2020	7,560	22,492,284	2,249	3.4
2030	8,363	33,307,590	3,331	2.5
2040	7,380	44,343,168	4,434	1.7
2050	7,264	48,434,336	4,843	1.5

2000 and 2010 data are actual numbers, while the remaining years are estimates. A significant increase or decrease in physicians entering the field could change the projections considerably.

Future estimates are based on the following criteria:

- 290 new geriatricians per year based on the average of newly certified physicians for the past five years.
- The estimated rate of first time recertification is 58% based upon recertification rates in 2008, 2009, and 2010 of 59%, 58%, and 58% respectively.
- The estimated rate of second time recertification is 22% through the 1998 cohort, and 50% beginning with the 1999 cohort.
- The estimated rate of third time recertification is 40% for physicians under the age of 72, and 4% for physician 72 years of age and older. This is based upon ages of geriatricians from the 2010 AMA Masterfile.
- The estimated rate of fourth time recertification is 3% for physicians under the age of 72, and 2% for physicians 72 years of age and older.
- The estimated rate of fifth time recertification is 2% for physicians under the age of 82.
- We do not estimate that physicians over the age of 82 will recertify.

Source: Census data from the Administration on Aging Table on Projected Future Growth of the Older Population: 1900 to 2050 accessed 5/26/11 from http://www.aoa.gov/AoARoot/Aging_Statistics/future_growth/future_growth.aspx#age.

Note: If there were 1 geriatrician/2000 citizens aged 75 and over you would need 5 geriatricians/10,000 population aged 75 and older.

Date compiled by the Geriatrics Workforce Policy Studies Center