

THE AMERICAN GERIATRICS SOCIETY

CURRENT GERIATRICIAN SHORTFALL

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:

20,000 geriatricians are needed now to care for over 14 million older Americans. As of 2016, there were 7,293 certified geriatricians nationwide.^{2,3}

State	Population 65 and older (2015) ⁴	30% is Most Vulnerable	Number of Geriatricians Needed ⁵	Certified Geriatricians (2016) ²	+/- of Certified Geriatricians since 2014	Estimated Geriatrician Shortfall
Alabama	739,580	221,874	317	62	2	255
Alaska	75,023	22,507	32	11	-1	21
Arizona	1,181,358	354,407	506	117	-7	389
Arkansas	467,880	140,364	201	60	6	141
California	5,227,964	1,568,389	2,241	721	-34	1,520
Colorado	627,408	188,222	269	98	5	171
Connecticut	577,083	173,125	247	138	4	109
Delaware	148,682	44,605	64	19	1	45
DC	61,714	18,514	26	20	-1	6
Florida	4,133,945	1,240,184	1,772	408	-15	1,364
Georgia	1,187,576	356,273	509	141	6	368
Hawaii	226,189	67,857	97	75	3	22
Idaho	220,113	66,034	94	11	1	83
Illinois	1,777,487	533,246	762	300	-12	462
Indiana	906,361	271,908	388	78	-13	310
Iowa	494,565	148,370	212	45	-4	167
Kansas	419,748	125,924	180	48	2	132
Kentucky	637,351	191,205	273	56	1	217
Louisiana	663,788	199,136	284	48	-8	236
Maine	250,195	75,059	107	44	-4	63
Maryland	837,124	251,137	359	217	1	142
Massachusetts	1,025,448	307,634	439	268	8	171
Michigan	1,506,856	452,057	646	212	-10	434
Minnesota	774,390	232,317	332	144	-1	188
Mississippi	433,428	130,028	186	28	2	158
Missouri	922,418	276,725	395	126	-5	269
Montana	173,778	52,133	74	8	-1	66
Nebraska	271,379	81,414	116	23	-6	93
Nevada	421,719	126,516	181	42	0	139
New Hampshire	217,498	65,249	93	42	-4	51

State	Population 65 and older (2015) ⁴	30% is Most Vulnerable	Number of Geriatricians Needed ⁵	Certified Geriatricians (2016) ²	+/- of Certified Geriatricians since 2014	Estimated Geriatrician Shortfall
New Jersey	1,385,167	415,550	594	269	-14	325
New Mexico	343,622	103,087	147	47	-3	100
New York	2,943,496	883,049	1,261	727	-9	534
North Carolina	1,374,754	412,426	589	227	11	362
North Dakota	107,900	32,370	46	21	-3	25
Ohio	1,766,239	529,872	757	220	-7	537
Oklahoma	553,761	166,128	237	36	3	201
Oregon	590,784	177,235	253	90	4	163
Pennsylvania	2,148,982	644,695	921	466	-28	455
Rhode Island	175,242	52,573	75	35	0	40
South Carolina	729,179	218,754	313	87	-3	226
South Dakota	127,974	38,392	55	14	-4	41
Tennessee	968,919	290,676	415	73	-5	342
Texas	3,112,883	933,865	1,334	390	17	944
Utah	280,969	84,291	120	27	4	93
Vermont	113,487	34,046	49	16	-3	33
Virginia	1,193,453	358,036	511	187	2	324
Washington	965,506	289,652	414	153	3	261
West Virginia	329,775	98,933	141	33	-3	108
Wisconsin	881,745	264,524	378	139	-9	239
Wyoming	88,842	26,653	38	7	-1	31
Total	46,790,727	14,037,218	20,053	6,874*	-132	13,176

¹Fried, L. P. & Hall, W. J. (2008). Leading on Behalf of an Aging Society. *The Journal of the American Geriatrics Society*, 56(10), 1791-1795. doi: 10.1111/j.1532-5415.2008.01939.x

²2015-2016 ABMS Board Certification Report. (2016). Geographic Distribution of ABMS Member Board Diplomates by Subspecialty Certificate. Available at <http://www.abms.org/media/131568/2015-16-abmscertreport.pdf>

³Scheinthal, S., Kramer, J. & Morales-Egizi, L. (2016). Appendix 2: American Osteopathic Association Specialty Board Certification. *The Journal of the American Osteopathic Association*, 116 (4), 263-266.

⁴Administration on Aging. (2005). State Projections of Population Aged 65 and Over: July 1, 2005 to 2030. Retrieved from: http://www.aoa.gov/Aging_Statistics/future_growth/future_growth.aspx

⁵Based on 30% of 65 plus patient population will need geriatricians' care and each geriatrician can care for a patient panel of 700 adults.

*Please note that this number (6,874 total geriatricians based on the state-by-state data) does not include certified 2 geriatricians in the military, 52 geriatricians in U.S. external areas, or the 365 osteopathic certified geriatricians.

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