

INDIANA PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT WORKFORCE BRIEF

BOWEN CENTER FOR HEALTH WORKFORCE RESEARCH AND POLICY // JUNE 2019



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INDIANA PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT WORKFORCE

Fact Sheet

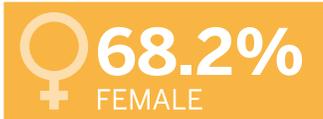


1,004
Physician Assistants

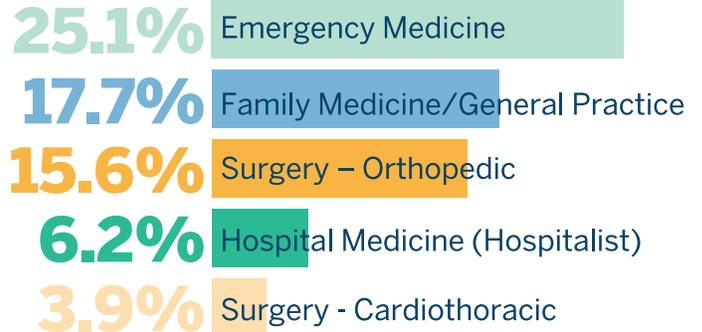
who hold an active license address in Indiana and responded to survey in 2018



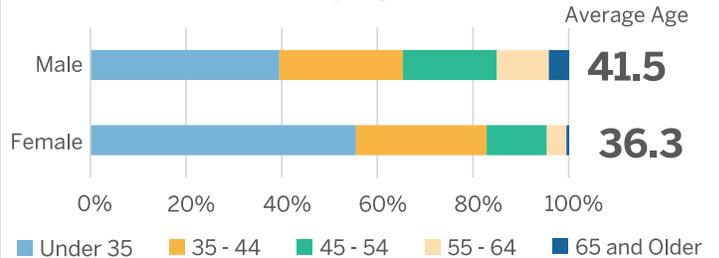
Indiana Physician Assistants by Gender



Top five supervising physician specialties reported by PAs



Indiana Physician Assistant Workforce by Age and Gender



only **3.8%** of Indiana PAs reported engaging in the delivery of telemedicine services



96.0% Almost all of Indiana PAs reported their primary field is in patient care/documentation

Where did Indiana PAs complete their qualifying education?



62.8%

Indiana



15.8%

Indiana's Contiguous States



20.6%

Other States



0.0%

Another Country



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SENATE ENROLLED ACT 223 (2018)

DATA SOURCES

1. **License:** collected at time of initial license application and updated at renewal

Data points include:

License status, license address, demographic characteristics (selected, varies by profession), initial license data, license expiration date

2. **Survey:** collected during online license renewal

Data points include:

Demographic characteristics, educational characteristics, practice characteristics

KEY INFORMATION

Until 2019, license renewal surveys were voluntary (meaning key information has not been/is not available for non-respondents).³

Beginning in 2019, Senate Enrolled Act 223 (2018) will be implemented in Indiana and licensees will be required to provide certain information on the online renewal survey (meaning Indiana will have more comprehensive, high-quality data on the licensed health workforce than was previously available).⁴

Inclusion/Exclusion Criteria

License renewals in Indiana^{1,2}

1,679

Hold an active license

1,633

Responded to survey

1,333

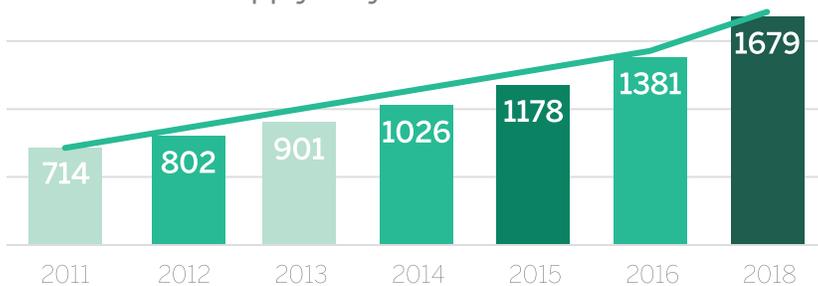
Reported actively practicing

1,262

Had a valid Indiana license address^{1,2}

1,004

Data in this report is based on the 1,004 physician assistants that responded to the survey and had a confirmed Indiana license address in 2018.

Trends in Supply: Physician Assistant Licenses⁴

DID YOU KNOW?

Over the last 7 years, the PA workforce in Indiana has more than **doubled!**

EMPLOYMENT & DEMOGRAPHICS

EMPLOYMENT CHARACTERISTICS

The majority of Indiana PAs have no planned changes in their employment (88.4%).

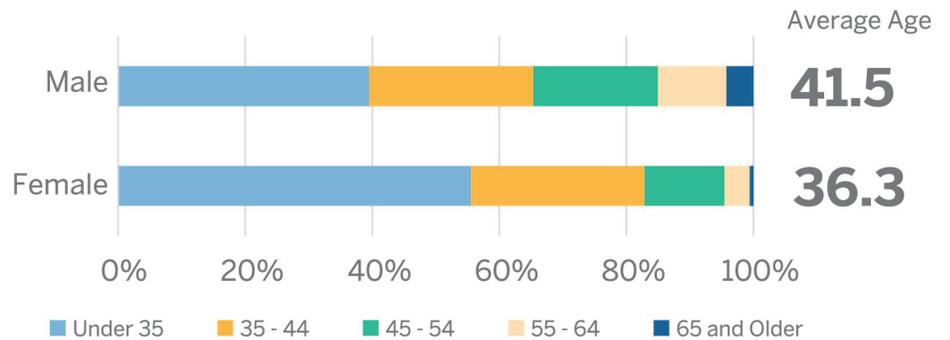
7.9% are hoping to increase their hours in the physician assistant field.



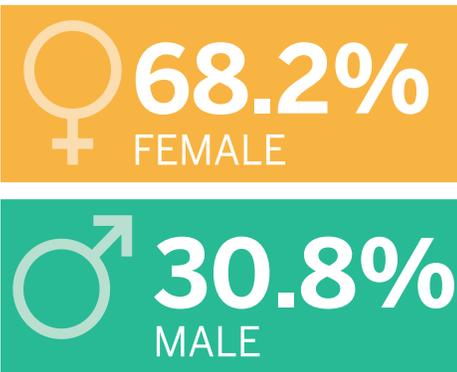
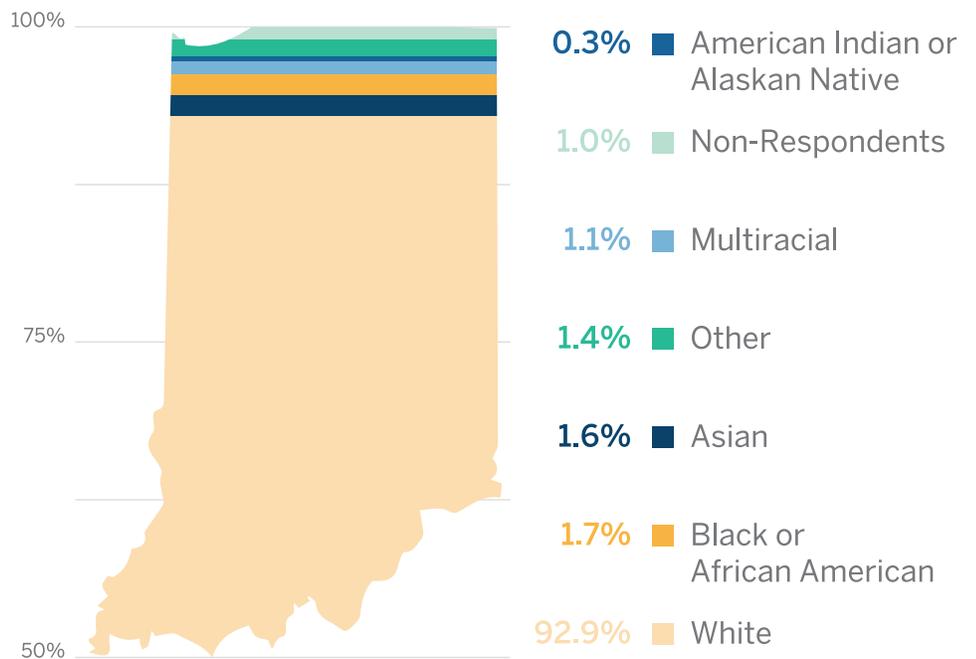
WORKFORCE DEMOGRAPHICS

Understanding the current makeup of Indiana's physician assistant workforce is critical to informing PA-related policies. Indiana's PA workforce is majority female. The majority of PAs identify as non-Hispanic white. The average age of a PA in Indiana is 38 years old (females are slightly younger than males – 36.3 years vs. 41.5). This indicates workforce growth, as 50.0% of the workforce is under the age of 35.

2018 Indiana Physician Assistants by Age and Gender



Racial Composition of the Indiana PA Workforce

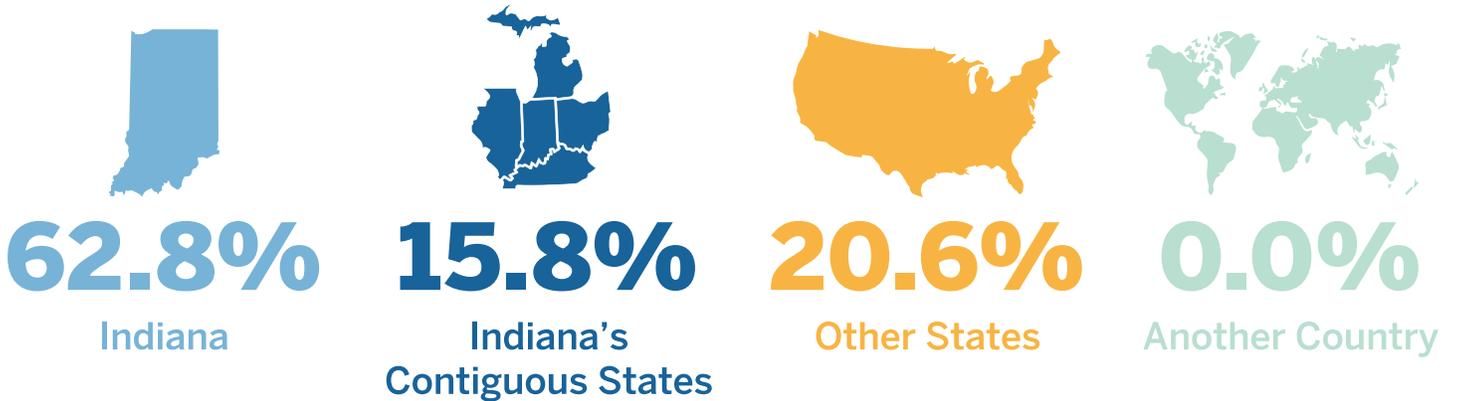


EDUCATIONAL & PRACTICE CHARACTERISTICS

EDUCATIONAL CHARACTERISTICS

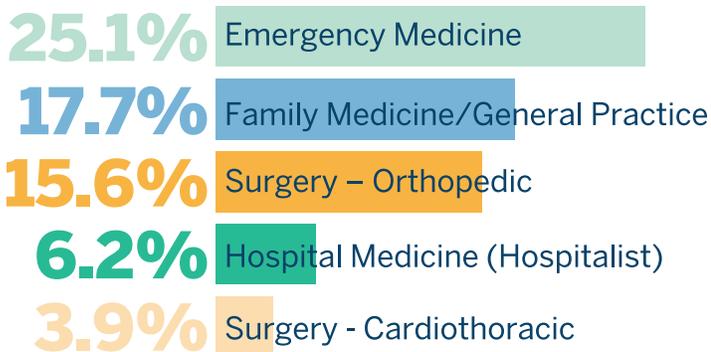


Where did Indiana PAs complete their qualifying education?



PRACTICE CHARACTERISTICS

Top five supervising physician specialties reported by PAs



only **3.8%** of Indiana PAs reported engaging in the delivery of telemedicine services



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Practice Setting

46.0%

report working in an office/clinic



40.0%

report working in hospitals



PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT WORKFORCE CAPACITY

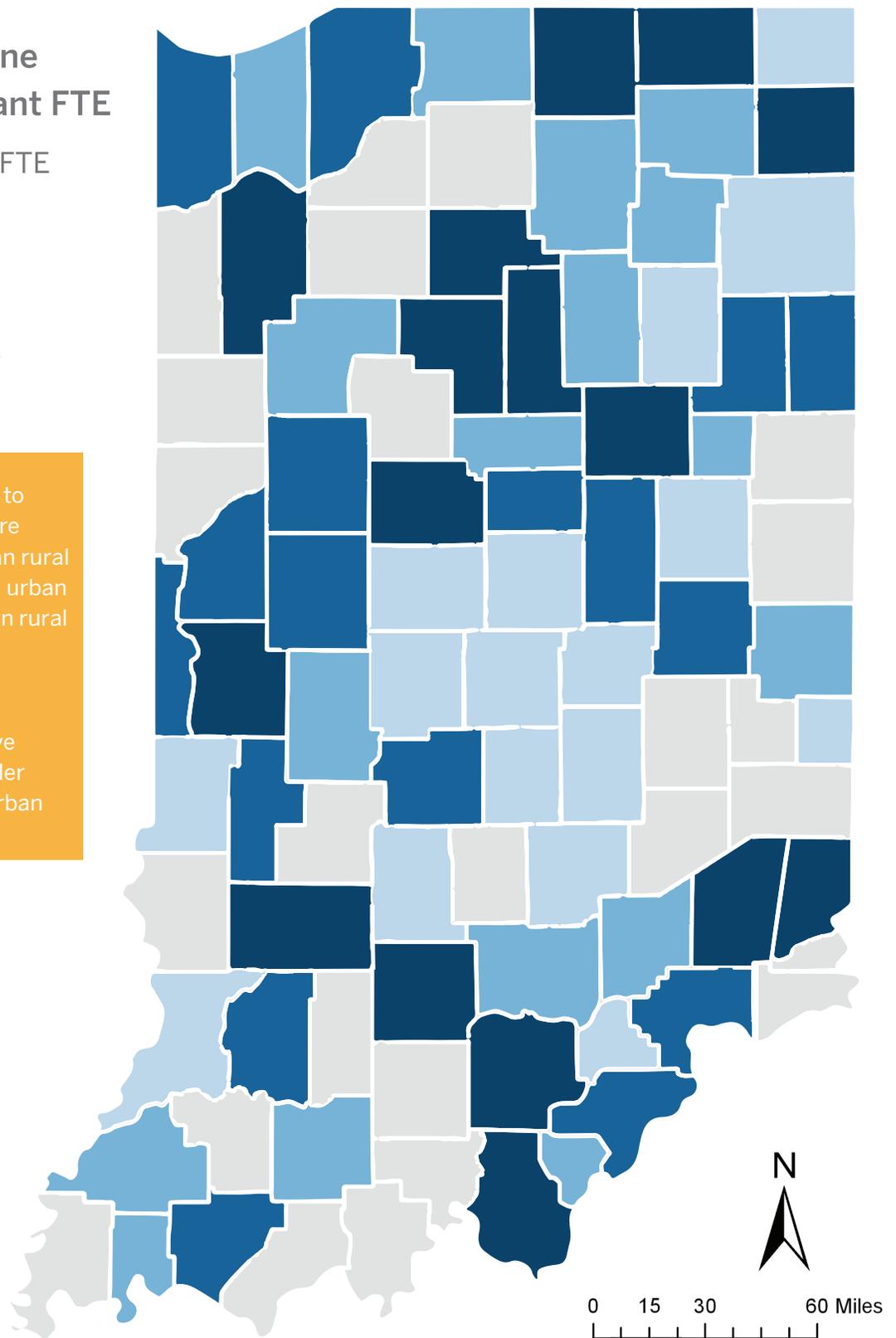
Population per One Physician Assistant FTE

- No Reported PA FTE
- 2,075 - 8,822
- 9,249 - 15,595
- 15,860 - 26,686
- 27,930 - 165,596



Urban counties were found to have around nine times more physician assistant FTE than rural counties (713.4 total FTE in urban counties vs. 81.5 total FTE in rural counties).

As a result, rural counties were generally found to have higher population-to-provider ratios when compared to urban counties.



Source: Indiana Physician Assistant Re-Licensure Survey, 2018; American Community Survey, 2015 5-year Estimate.
 Notes: Population to provider FTE ratios cannot be calculated for counties with no reported PA FTE

UPDATES IN INDIANA PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT WORKFORCE POLICY

HB
1248
2019

PHARMACISTS & PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS⁵

AUTHOR: REP. DAVISSON

Summary: Changes references from “supervising” physician to “collaborating” physician. Defines “collaboration” as a physician that is 1) physically present where services are delivered or 2) immediately available through telecommunication and able to see the patient within an appropriate timeframe. Changes requirements for chart review in first year of practice from 25% to 10%.

Implications for physician assistants: Allows practice of physician assistants in collaboration with physicians on-site or remotely (given the collaborating physician is available through other means). Changes requirements for collaborating physician chart review in physician assistants’ first year of practice.

REFERENCES

1. See Data Report: 2018 Indiana Physician Assistant Licensure Survey for full inclusion/exclusion criteria and survey methodology. Available at: <https://scholarworks.iupui.edu/bitstream/handle/1805/19670/2018%20PA%20Data%20Report%20FINAL.pdf?sequence=5&isAllowed=y>
2. What does this mean for this report? The information contained in this fact sheet is representative of the sample of physician assistants that renewed their Indiana license in 2018 and responded to the voluntary survey that they were actively practicing as a physician assistant in Indiana. Future reports will contain a more complete picture of the physician assistant workforce.
3. Senate Enrolled Act 223 (2018) <http://iga.in.gov/static-documents/b/0/6/0/b0603ddf/SB0223.06.ENRH.pdf>
4. Data for years 2011-2016 available from Professional Licensing Presentation at: https://www.in.gov/dwd/files/GHWC_Powerpoint_2_29.pdf. Information for 2018 available within Data Report: 2018 Indiana Physician Assistant Licensure Survey.
5. 2019 House Enrolled Act 1248. Available at: <http://iga.in.gov/legislative/2019/bills/house/1248#document-091a0a5d>

QUESTIONS?

For inquiries or feedback on this report, please email the Bowen Center for Health Workforce Research and Policy at bowenctr@iu.edu

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