

2004 PHYSICIAN SURVEY



Vermont Department of Health
Agency of Human Services

SURVEY DESCRIPTION

Mailed to physicians along with the license renewal forms in the fall of 2004

Followed up via mail and phone calls

The final response rate was 99.4%

SUMMARY

- There were 1612 physicians providing patient care in Vermont (1569 MDs and 43 DOs).
- 29% (461) of the physicians were female.
- 47% (741) of respondents have worked in Vermont 9 years or less, and 25% (388) have worked in Vermont 20 or more years.
- 35% attended medical school or completed residency training at the University of Vermont.

PRIMARY CARE

- 39% (634) worked mainly in primary care, including:
 - 17% (280) in family practice
 - 11% (177) in internal medicine
 - 4% (70) in obstetrics and gynecology
 - 7% (107) in pediatric primary care
- There were 77.0 primary care FTEs per 100,000 population

SPECIALTY CARE

- 61% (978) worked mainly in specialty care:
 - 5% (78) in anesthesiology
 - 5% (84) in emergency medicine
 - 10% (157) in specialty internal medicine
 - 10% (160) in psychiatry
 - 4% (71) in radiology
 - 9% (139) in surgery (46 general, 57 orthopedic)
 - 18% (289) other specialties (35 neurology, 46 ophthalmology, 47 pathology, 27 urology)

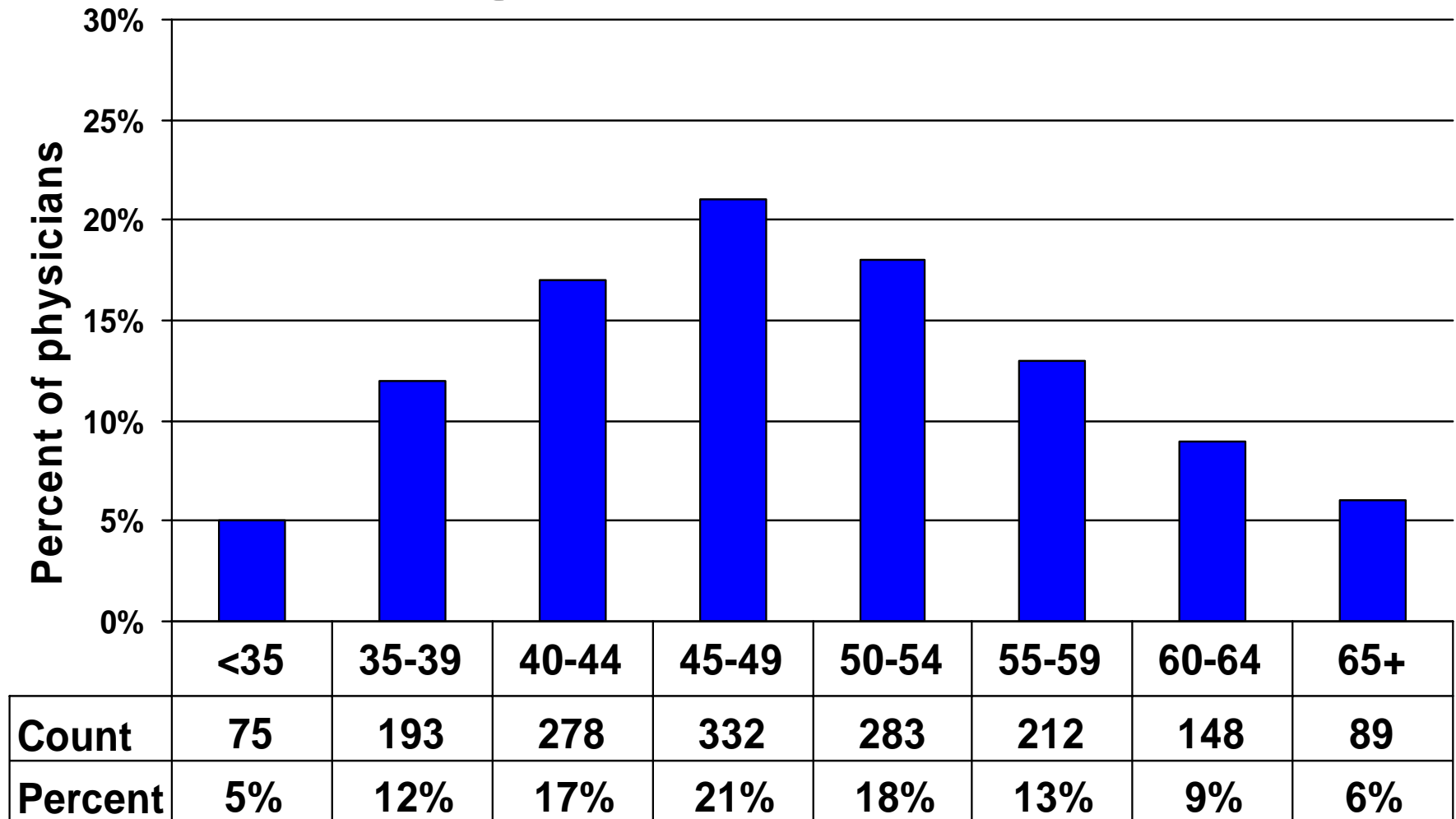
AGE OF PHYSICIANS

- Ages ranged from 29 to 92, with a median age of 49.
- In 9 of 14 counties, 10% or more of the primary care physicians are over age 60
- 16% of specialists are over age 60, including:
 - 29% of neurologists
 - 28% of ophthalmologists
 - 22% of psychiatrists
 - 21% of pathologists

CHANGES OVER TIME

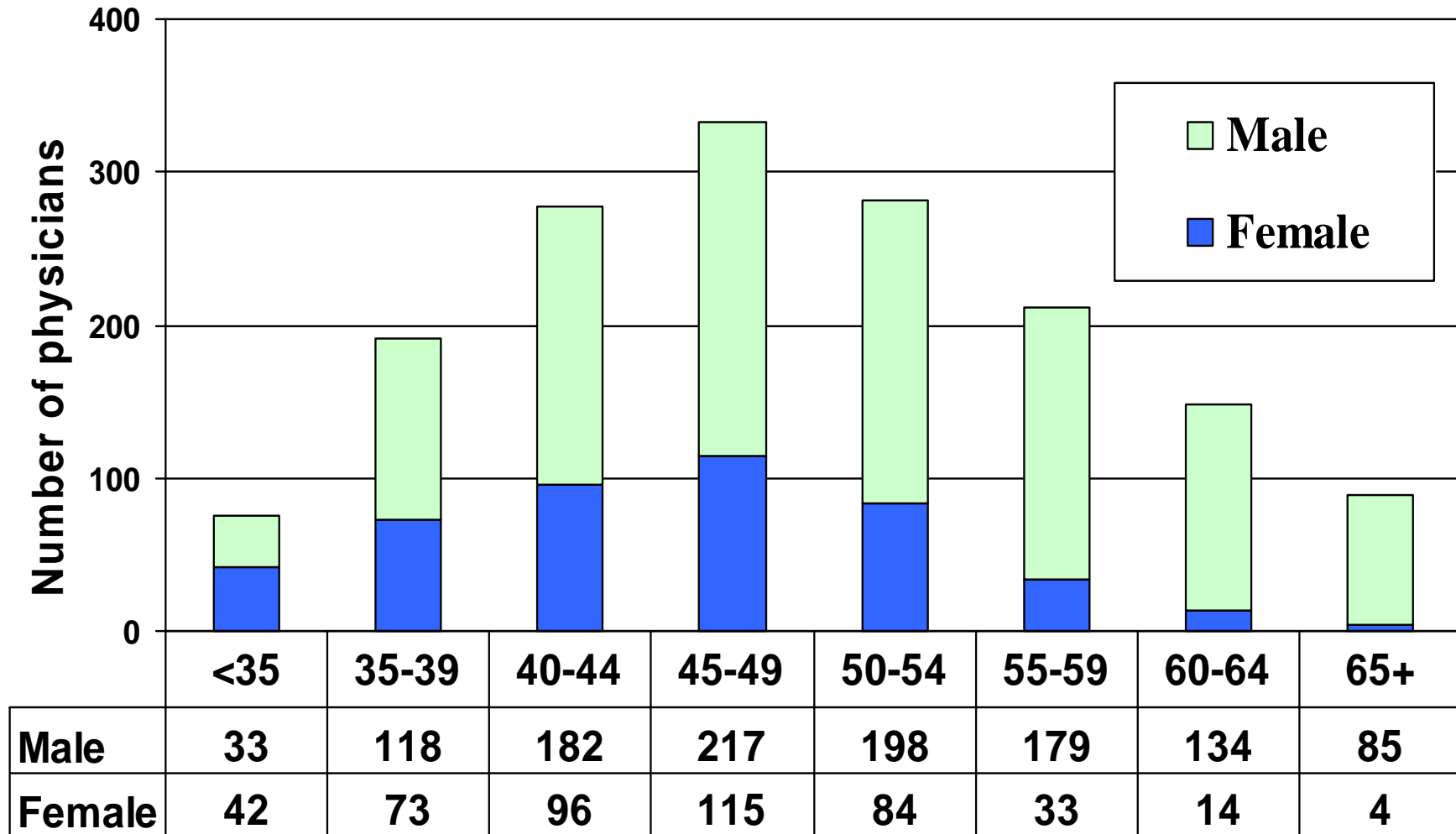
- As compared with 2000:
 - There are 49 more primary care physicians (6.5 additional FTEs).
 - There are 83 more specialty care physicians (33.0 FTEs). FTE increases were especially large in anesthesiology & internal medicine.
 - Primary care FTEs per 100,000 population were similar. But FTEs in 2004 may be underestimated by up to 4%.

Age Distribution



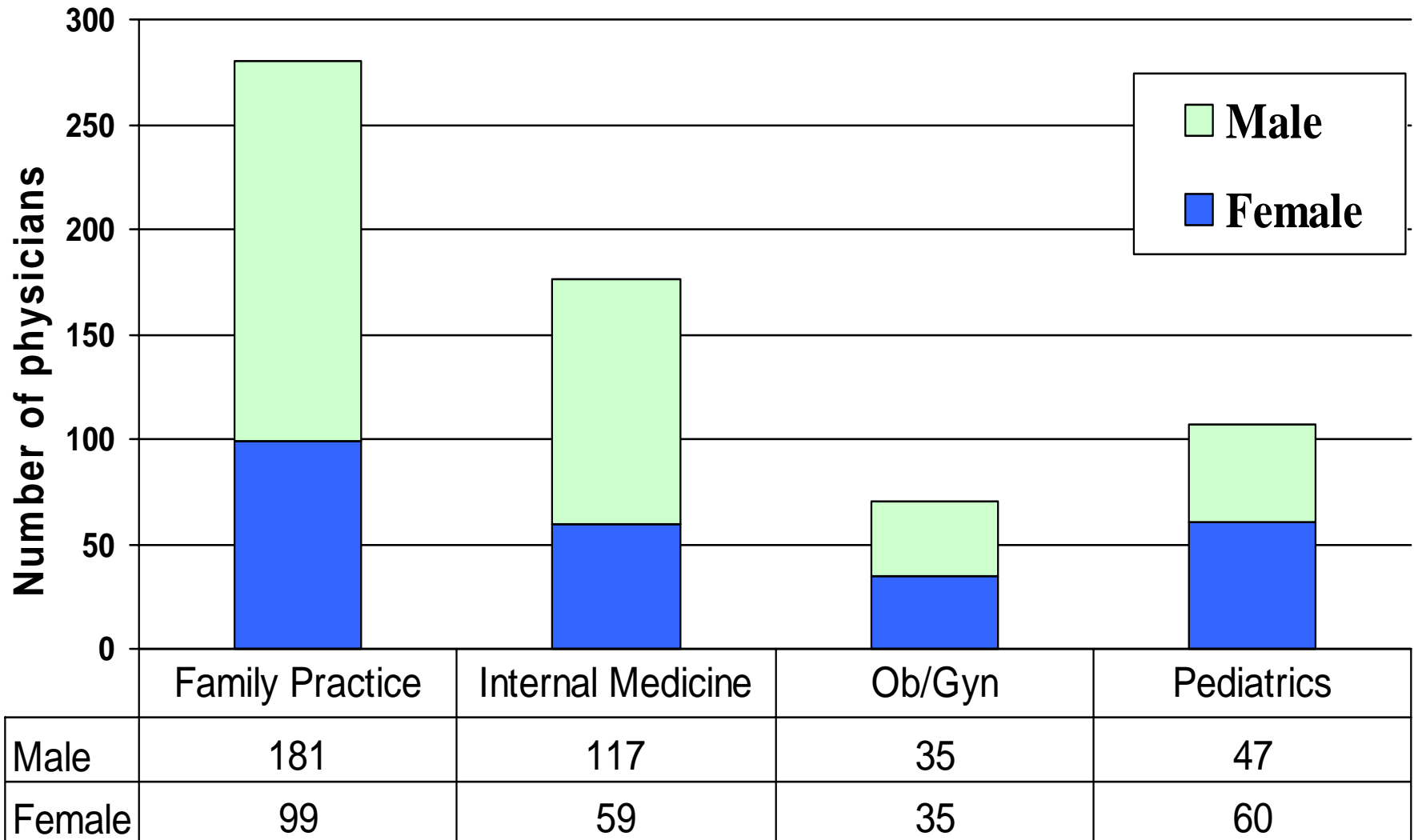
15% of all physicians are over age 60

Age Distribution by Gender



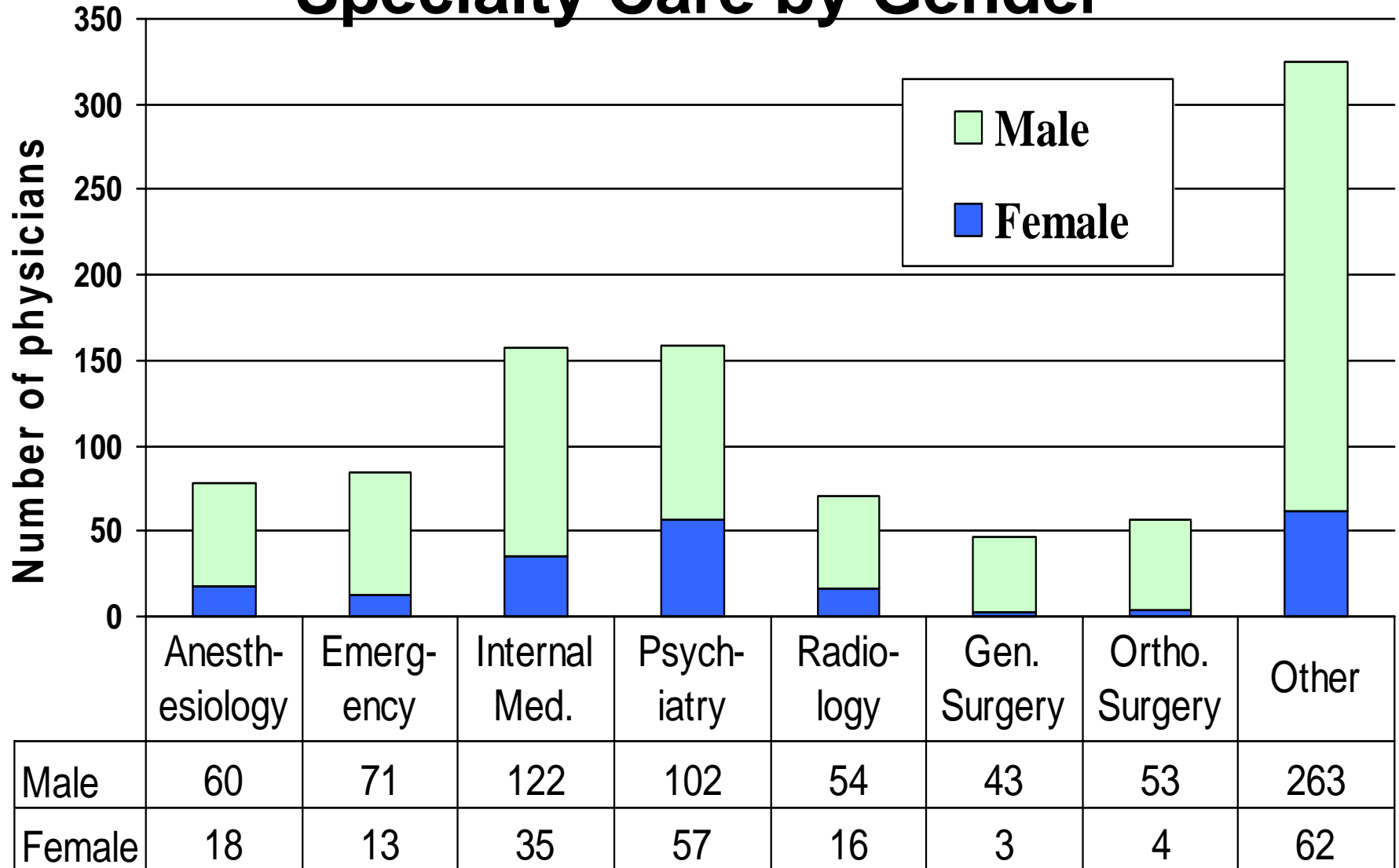
Most of the older physicians are male (89% of those over 55)

Primary Care by Gender



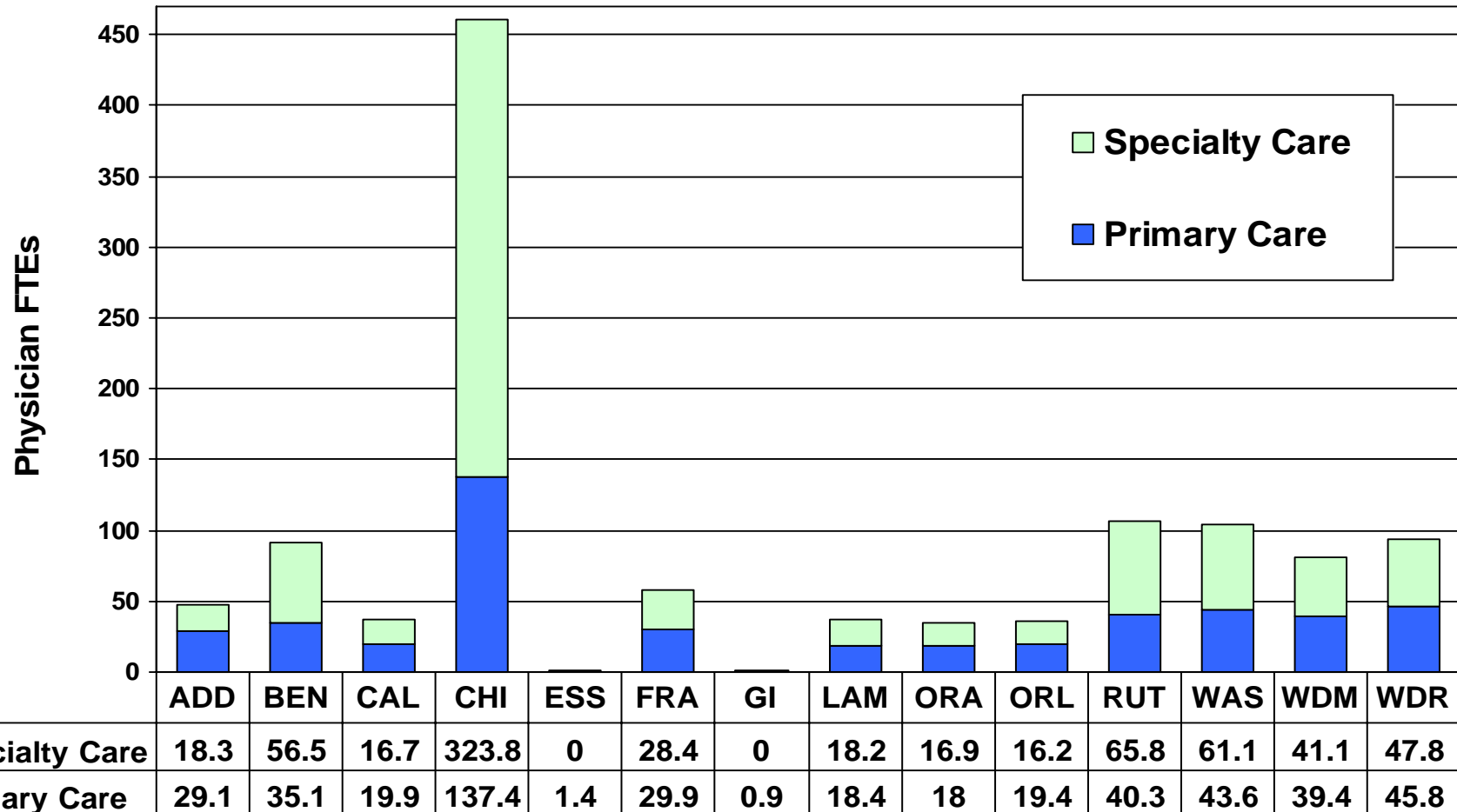
Shown for each specialty are the numbers of physicians who work mainly in that specialty

Specialty Care by Gender



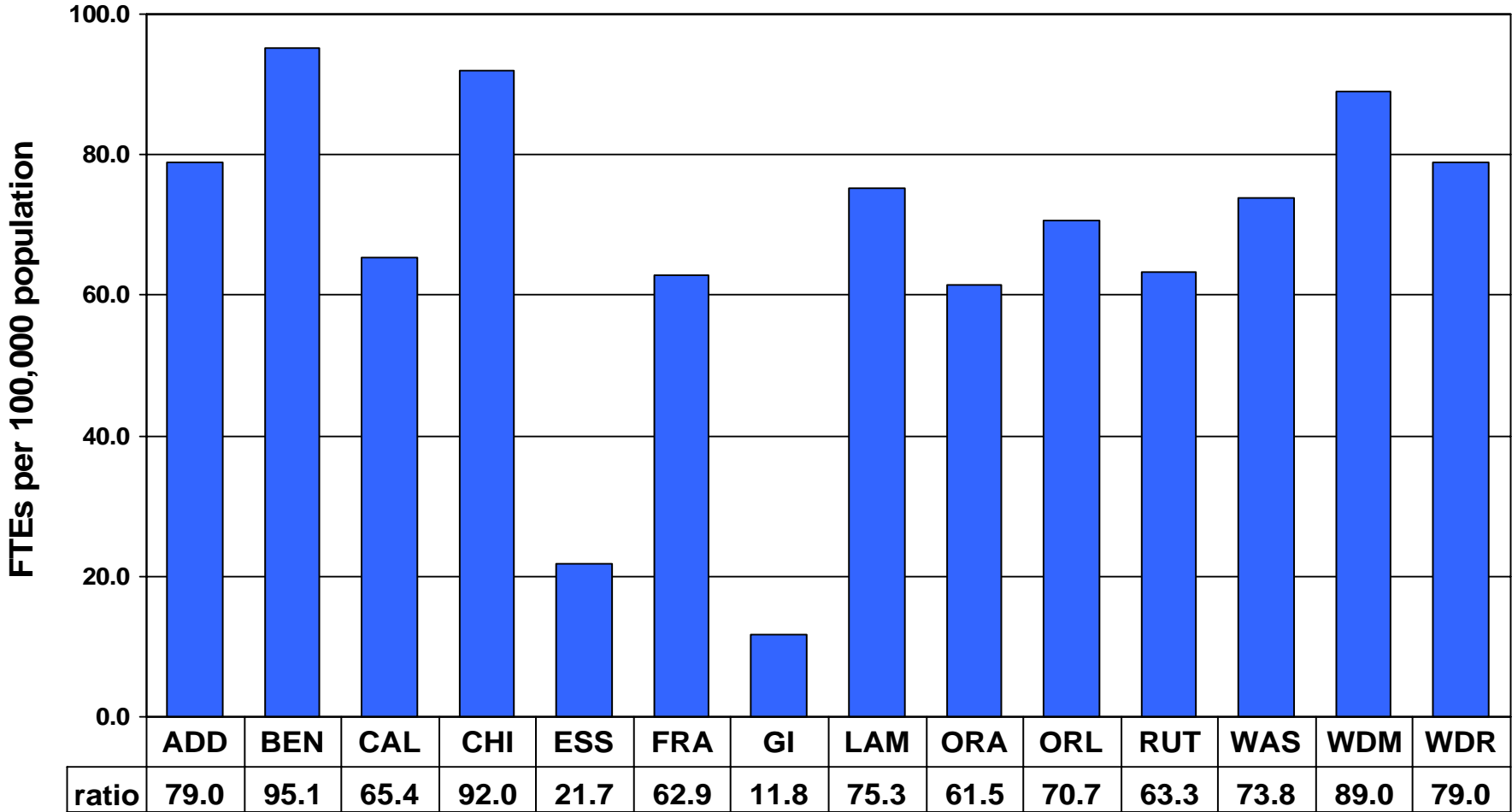
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Number of FTEs by County



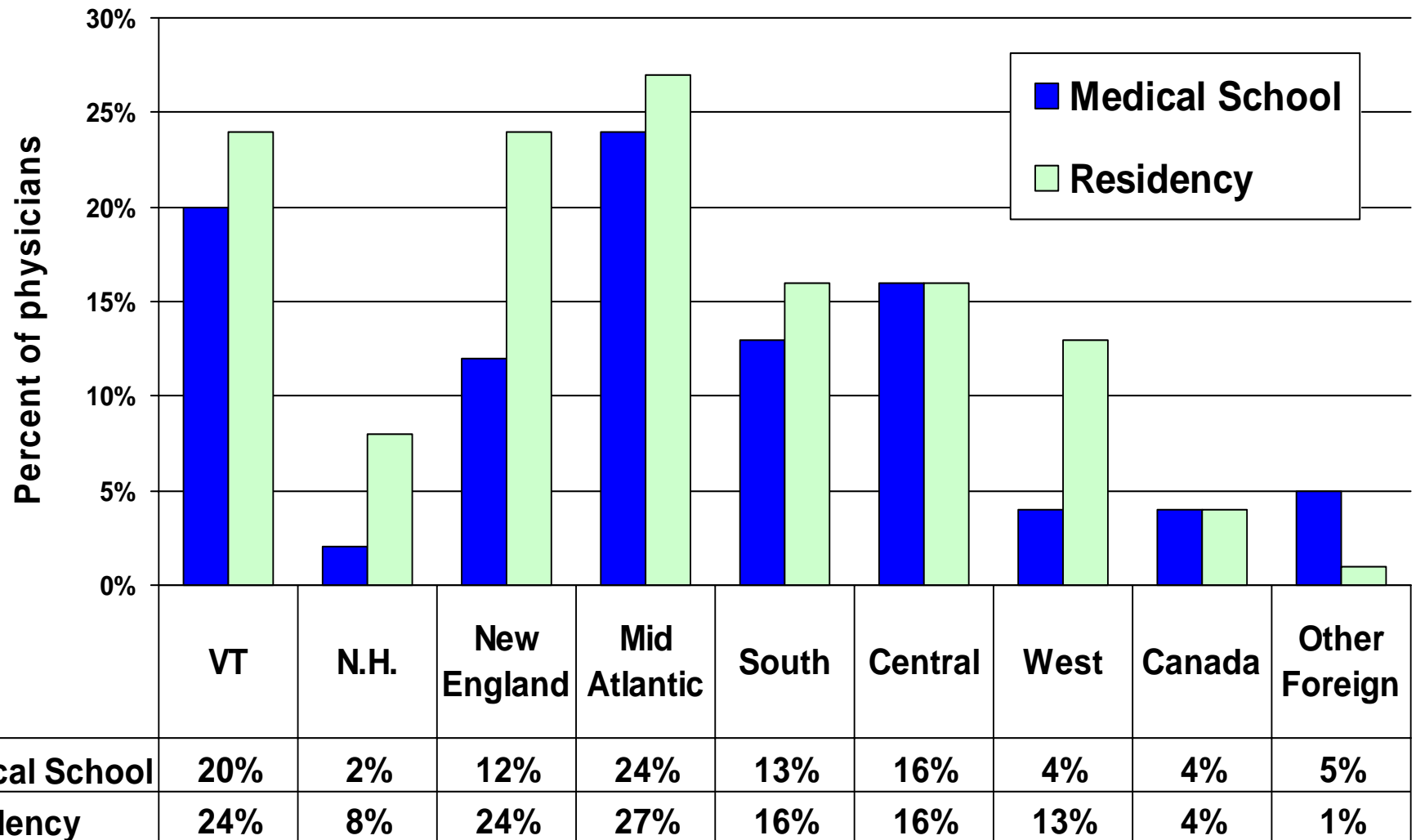
All sites and specialties of each physician are counted here.
 One FTE is defined as 40 or more hours per week.
 FTEs in 2004 may be underestimated by up to 4%.

Primary Care FTE to Population Ratios by County



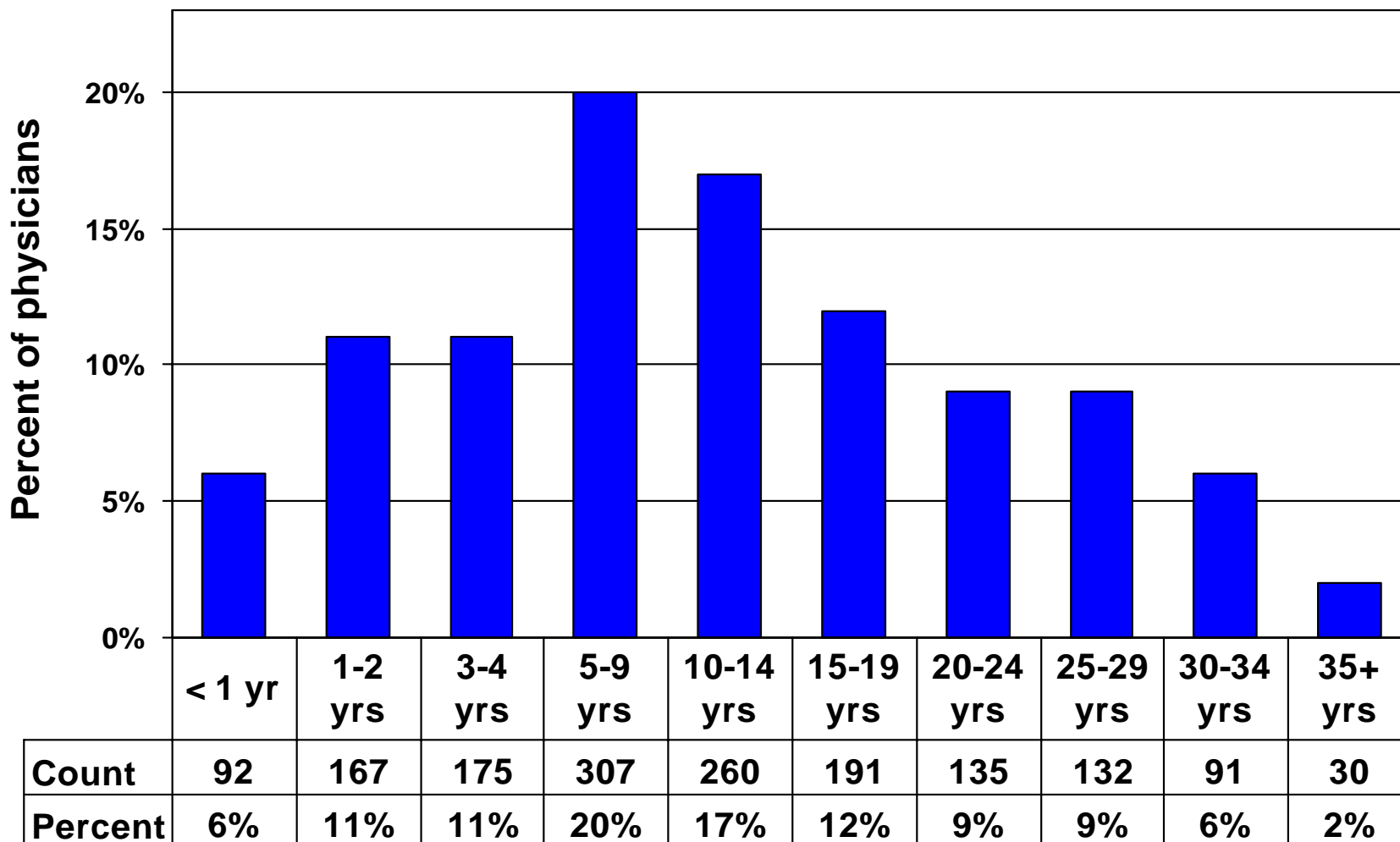
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Location of Training



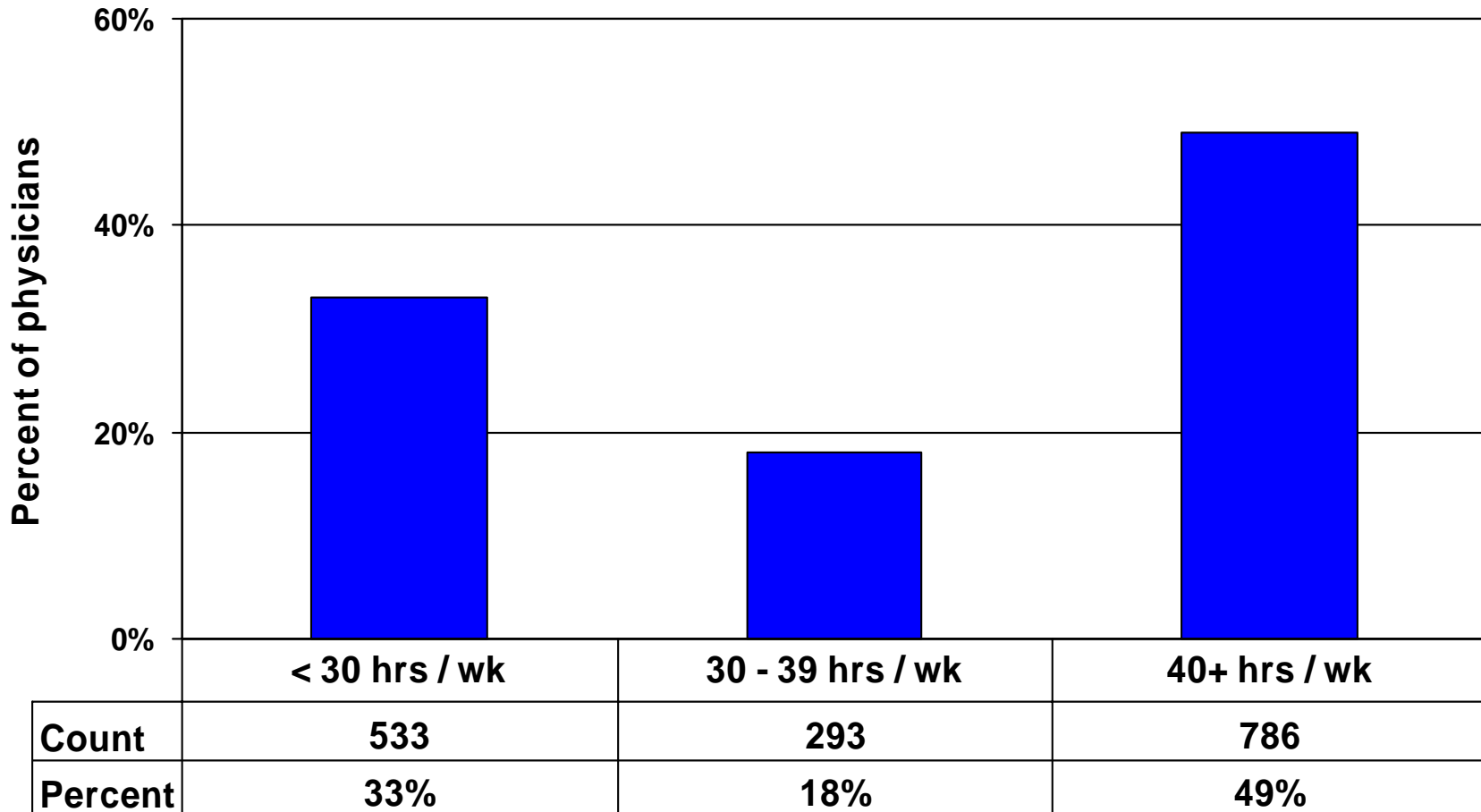
Depicted are: only first medical school, but any residency in region (thus more than 100% total)

Years Worked in Vermont



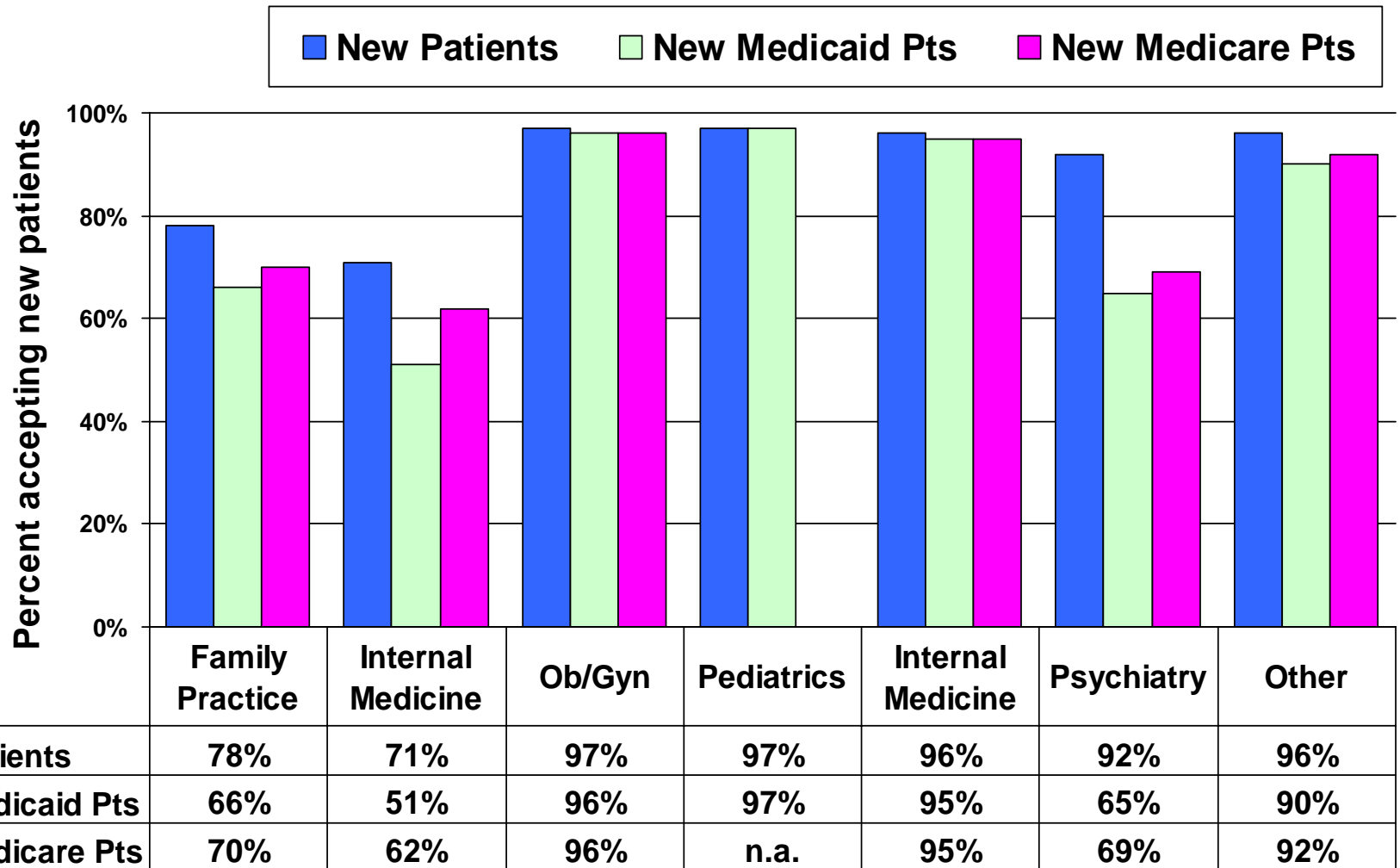
Years worked in Vermont was unknown for 32 physicians

Hours Worked Per Week



Average patient care hours per week: 35 overall, 23 for ages 65 and older.
 53% of males, but only 36% of females, provide patient care 40+ hours per week.
 Hours per week in 2004 may be underestimated by up to 4%.

Accepting New Patients



88% accepted new patients overall, 78% accepted new Medicaid patients, 80% new Medicare patients. Emergency Medicine and Pathology excluded.

Comparison of Selected Physician Data, 1994-2004

	1994	2000	2004 †
Total active * physicians	1204	1480	1612
Percent female	22%	26%	29%
Primary care physicians	493	585	634
% accepting new patients	88%	80%	81%
accepting new medicaid patients	82%	72%	70%
accepting new medicare patients	81%	73%	71%
Primary care physician FTEs	407.3	472.2	478.7
FTEs per 100,000 Population	69.6	77.6	77.0
Specialist physicians	711	895	978
Specialist physician FTEs **	555.7	677.5	710.5
% of FTEs in Chittenden County	43%	43%	46%

* providing patient care in Vermont

** FTEs not computed for pathology

† FTEs in 2004 may be underestimated by up to 4%.