CMA Physician Workforce Survey 2019

The Canadian Medical Association (CMA) conducts a biennial survey to determine the size and characteristics of the physician workforce in Canada. The survey provides insight into the availability and distribution of physicians across the country, which is critical for the planning and development of health care services.

The survey data is analyzed to identify trends and challenges facing the physician workforce. This information is used to inform policy decisions, resource allocation, and workforce planning in the health care sector.

Here are some key findings from the 2019 survey:

- A significant proportion of physicians report work-life balance issues, with burnout and stress being common challenges.
- There is a growing interest in primary care, with many physicians expressing a desire to work in this area.
- The distribution of physicians across the country varies, with some regions experiencing shortages.
- The survey also highlights the importance of continuing medical education and professional development.

For more detailed information, please refer to the full report and data available on the CMA website.
Q02. Satisfaction (professional life, balance)
https://surveys.cma.ca/link/survey89

SURVEY DATE
2019

FULL QUESTION
Q02. Rate your satisfaction with each of the following: Very dissatisfied Dissatisfied Neutral Satisfied Very satisfied

TOPIC
Satisfaction
Hours of work and workload

KEYWORDS
Work-life balance
doctor satisfaction
Physician satisfaction

RESPONSE CHOICES
Your professional life
The balance between your personal and professional commitments

Documents
Q03. Gender
https://surveys.cma.ca/link/survey92

SURVEY DATE 2019
FULL QUESTION Q03. Gender
KEYWORDS Sex
Gender
Female
Male
Non-binary
Trans
RESPONSE CHOICES Woman
Man
I do not identify within the binary system. I identify as (please specify if you wish):
I prefer not to specify

Documents
Q04. Age
https://surveys.cma.ca/link/survey108

SURVEY DATE 2019
FULL QUESTION Q04. Year of birth (Age):
KEYWORDS Age
Age group
Over 55
Over 65
Under 55

Documents
Q05. Broad specialty
https://surveys.cma.ca/link/survey95

SURVEY DATE 2019
FULL QUESTION Q05. Would you describe yourself as a:
KEYWORDS FP
GP
Family medicine
General practitioner
General practice
Specialist
Specialty
RESPONSE CHOICES Family physician
Family physician with a focused practice (e.g. emergency medicine, sport and exercise medicine)
Other specialty physician (medicine or surgery) Please specify:
Q06. Province(s)/territory(ies) of licensure
https://surveys.cma.ca/link/survey73

SURVEY DATE 2019
FULL QUESTION Q06. In which Canadian jurisdiction(s) do you currently hold an active medical practice licence?
TOPIC National licensure
KEYWORDS Province
Territory
License
Licensure
Practice
Work
Portability
RESPONSE CHOICES
British Columbia
Alberta
Saskatchewan
Manitoba
Ontario
Quebec
New Brunswick
Nova Scotia
Prince Edward Island
Newfoundland & Labrador
Northwest Territories
Yukon
Nunavut

Documents
Q07. Main province/territory of practice
https://surveys.cma.ca/link/survey75

SURVEY DATE 2019
FULL QUESTION Q07. In what province/territory do you primarily work?
TOPIC National licensure
KEYWORDS Province, Territory, Practice, Work
RESPONSE CHOICES British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, Newfoundland & Labrador, Northwest Territories, Yukon, Nunavut

Documents
Q08. Medical education
https://surveys.cma.ca/link/survey96

SURVEY DATE 2019
FULL QUESTION Q08. Where did you complete your undergraduate medical training?
TOPIC International medical graduates
KEYWORDS IMG
International medical graduate
Canadian
American
Graduated
RESPONSE CHOICES Canada
USA
Other country

Documents
Q09. Applying for licensure in another jurisdiction
https://surveys.cma.ca/link/survey77

SURVEY DATE 2019

FULL QUESTION Q09. Have you ever applied for a licence to practise medicine with a Canadian medical regulatory authority in a province or territory other than where you were first licensed to practise in Canada?

TOPIC Access to services
National licensure

KEYWORDS License
Licensure

RESPONSE CHOICES Yes
No

Documents
Q10. Obstacles to applying for licensure
https://surveys.cma.ca/link/survey79

SURVEY DATE 2019

FULL QUESTION Q10. What factors did you consider significant obstacles with respect to applying for licensure in another province or territory?

TOPIC Access to services
National licensure

KEYWORDS License
Licensure
Barriers
Practice obstacles

RESPONSE CHOICES
Obtaining credential verification for or from the provincial/territorial regulatory authority
Obtaining letter(s) of good standing from the provincial/territorial regulatory authority
Obtaining reference or character letters
Obtaining police record check
Cost of getting licensed in the other province or territory
Length of the process to obtain a licence in the other province or territory
The overall complexity of the process to obtain a licence
Other, please specify:
There were no significant obstacles

Documents
Q11. Support for national licensure
https://surveys.cma.ca/link/survey82

SURVEY DATE 2019
FULL QUESTION Q11. How supportive would you be of the implementation of national licensure that would enable practice in all Canadian provinces/territories?
TOPIC Access to services
National licensure
KEYWORDS License
Licensure
RESPONSE CHOICES Not at all supportive
Not very supportive
No opinion
Somewhat supportive
Very supportive

Documents
Q12. Impact of national licensure on physician practices
https://surveys.cma.ca/link/survey83

SURVEY DATE 2019

FULL QUESTION Q12. If a national licensure system were implemented today, how likely would you be to: Highly unlikely Somewhat unlikely Unsure Somewhat likely Highly likely

TOPIC Access to services
National licensure
Patient care

KEYWORDS License
Licensure
Changes
Portability
Locum
Virtual care
Rural practice
Access

RESPONSE CHOICES Seek out locum opportunities in other provinces/territories
Practise in multiple provinces/territories on an ongoing basis
Provide virtual care (e.g., telemedicine) to patients in other provinces/territories
Practise temporarily in rural/remote areas in other provinces/territories
Participate in further training in another province or territory

Documents
Q13. Agreement that national licensure will improve access
https://surveys.cma.ca/link/survey85

SURVEY DATE 2019
FULL QUESTION Q13. To what extent do you agree that national licensure will improve access to care for Canadians?
TOPIC Access to services
National licensure
Patient care
KEYWORDS License
Licensure
Better
Patients
Access
RESPONSE CHOICES Strongly disagree
Somewhat disagree
Neither agree nor disagree
Somewhat agree
Strongly agree

Documents
Q14. Provision of patient/clinical care
https://surveys.cma.ca/link/survey99

SURVEY DATE 2019

FULL QUESTION Q14. Do you provide patient/clinical care (either direct or indirect)?

TOPIC Access to services
Patient care

KEYWORDS Patients
Clinical care
Direct clinical care
Indirect clinical care

RESPONSE CHOICES Yes
No

Documents
Q15. Work Setting
https://surveys.cma.ca/link/survey100

SURVEY DATE 2019
FULL QUESTION Q15. Which of the following is your primary work setting?
TOPIC Hospital setting
Work setting
KEYWORDS Where do physicians work?
Location
Work setting
Physician setting
RESPONSE CHOICES Private office/clinic (excluding free standing walk-in clinics)
Community clinic/Community health centre
Free-standing walk-in clinic
Academic health sciences centre (AHSC)
Non-AHSC teaching hospital
Community hospital
Other hospital
Emergency department (in community hospital or AHSC)
Nursing home/ Long term care facility / Seniors’ residence
University
Research Unit
Free-standing lab/diagnostic clinic
Administrative office / Corporate Office
Other

Documents
Q16. Electronic tools used by physicians
https://surveys.cma.ca/link/survey103

SURVEY DATE 2019

FULL QUESTION Q16. Please indicate which of the following electronic tools you use in the care of your patients

TOPIC Patient care
Electronic records and tools

KEYWORDS Electronic medical records
EMR
Electronic health record
EHR
Patient notes

RESPONSE CHOICES Reminders for patient care
Ordering lab tests
Ordering diagnostic tests
Receipt of hospital visit and discharge information
Clinical decision support tool
Access to list of medications taken by a patient
Warnings for drug interactions
Interface to pharmacy/pharmacist
Access to lab test/diagnostic results
Referral to other physicians
Secure transfer of patient information
Access to provincial/territorial patient information systems
Interface to non-doctor health professionals
An Artificial Intelligence (AI)
None of the above

Documents
Q17. Electronic tools used by patients
https://surveys.cma.ca/link/survey88

SURVEY DATE 2019
FULL QUESTION Q17. Which of the following can patients in your practice do?
TOPIC Patient care
Electronic records and tools
KEYWORDS Electronic medical records
EMR
Electronic health record
EHR
Patient notes
Virtual care
Visit
Consult
e-scheduling
Online records
Online prescriptions
email
RESPONSE CHOICES Request appointments online (i.e. advance access e-scheduling)
Request prescription renewals online
View information from their health record online (e.g. lab test results or immunization history)
Electronically add measurements (e.g. blood pressure readings) to their electronic record
Electronically add text and/or other documentation to their electronic record
Visit with you virtually (i.e. online by video)
Consult with you via email or text message
None of the above
N/A (e.g. hospital practice only)
Q18. Providing on-call
https://surveys.cma.ca/link/survey104

SURVEY DATE 2019

FULL QUESTION Q18. Do you provide on-call services?

TOPIC Hours of work and workload
On-call activities
Access to services
Patient care
Oncall

KEYWORDS On-call service
Workload
Oncall activities
Oncall

RESPONSE CHOICES Yes
No

Documents