

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:

Approximately 20,000 geriatricians are needed now to care for over 14 million older Americans. As of 2014, there were 7,428 certified geriatricians nationwide.²

State	Population 65 and older (2015) ³	30% is Most Vulnerable	Number of Geriatricians Needed ⁴	Certified Geriatricians (2014) ⁵	+/- of Certified Geriatricians since 2012	Estimated Geriatrician Shortfall
Alabama	739,580	221,874	317	60	-6	257
Alaska	75,023	22,507	32	12	1	20
Arizona	1,181,358	354,407	506	124	-8	382
Arkansas	467,880	140,364	201	54	0	147
California	5,227,964	1,568,389	2,241	755	-5	1,486
Colorado	627,408	188,222	269	93	9	176
Connecticut	577,083	173,125	247	134	5	113
Delaware	148,682	44,605	64	18	0	46
DC	61,714	18,514	26	21	1	5
Florida	4,133,945	1,240,184	1,772	423	-11	1,349
Georgia	1,187,576	356,273	509	135	8	374
Hawaii	226,189	67,857	97	72	-1	25
Idaho	220,113	66,034	94	10	2	84
Illinois	1,777,487	533,246	762	312	-10	450
Indiana	906,361	271,908	388	91	-4	297
Iowa	494,565	148,370	212	49	-4	163
Kansas	419,748	125,924	180	46	-4	134
Kentucky	637,351	191,205	273	55	-6	218
Louisiana	663,788	199,136	284	56	-5	228
Maine	250,195	75,059	107	48	-5	59
Maryland	837,124	251,137	359	216	-3	143
Massachusetts	1,025,448	307,634	439	260	9	179
Michigan	1,506,856	452,057	646	222	-6	424
Minnesota	774,390	232,317	332	145	-8	187
Mississippi	433,428	130,028	186	26	4	160
Missouri	922,418	276,725	395	131	-19	264
Montana	173,778	52,133	74	9	1	65
Nebraska	271,379	81,414	116	29	2	87
Nevada	421,719	126,516	181	42	5	139
New Hampshire	217,498	65,249	93	46	-4	47

State	Population 65 and older (2015) ³	30% is Most Vulnerable	Number of Geriatricians Needed ⁴	Certified Geriatricians (2014) ⁵	+/- of Certified Geriatricians since 2012	Estimated Geriatrician Shortfall
New Jersey	1,385,167	415,550	594	283	-9	311
New Mexico	343,622	103,087	147	50	-1	97
New York	2,943,496	883,049	1,261	736	8	525
North Carolina	1,374,754	412,426	589	216	10	373
North Dakota	107,900	32,370	46	24	2	22
Ohio	1,766,239	529,872	757	227	-13	530
Oklahoma	553,761	166,128	237	33	0	204
Oregon	590,784	177,235	253	86	9	167
Pennsylvania	2,148,982	644,695	921	494	-11	427
Rhode Island	175,242	52,573	75	35	2	40
South Carolina	729,179	218,754	313	90	0	223
South Dakota	127,974	38,392	55	18	5	37
Tennessee	968,919	290,676	415	78	-11	337
Texas	3,112,883	933,865	1,334	373	1	961
Utah	280,969	84,291	120	23	-1	97
Vermont	113,487	34,046	49	19	-3	30
Virginia	1,193,453	358,036	511	185	17	326
Washington	965,506	289,652	414	150	-10	264
West Virginia	329,775	98,933	141	36	-4	105
Wisconsin	881,745	264,524	378	148	-9	230
Wyoming	88,842	26,653	38	8	0	30
Total	46,790,727	14,037,218	20,053	7,006*	-80	13,047

¹ Fried, 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

² Scheinthal, 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.

³ Administration 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

⁴ Based on 30% of 65 plus patient population will need geriatricians' care and each geriatrician can care for a patient panel of 700 adults.

⁵ 2013-2014 ABMS Board Certification Report. (2014). Geographic Distribution of ABMS Member Board Diplomates by Subspecialty Certificate. Available at <https://shopping.abms.org/>

*Please note that this number (7,006 total geriatricians based on the state-by-state data) does not include certified 3 geriatricians in the military, 54 geriatricians in U.S. external areas, or the 365 osteopathic certified geriatricians.

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