Health Care Reform and the Emerging Majority

National Medical Association
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President
Blacks comprised 5.6% of all physicians and surgeons in 2007.

Percentage of Physicians by Race/Ethnicity, 2006

White = 71.4%
Asian = 15.8%
Hispanic = 6.4%
Black = 4.5%
Other = 1.9%

## Physicians by Race/Ethnicity, 2006

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race/Ethnicity</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>514,254</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>113,585</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>46,214</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black</td>
<td>32,452</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Indian /Alaskan Native</td>
<td>1,444</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>12,572</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>201,383</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL PHYSICIANS IN THE U.S.</strong></td>
<td>921,904</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Percentage of Black Physicians by Gender, 2004

Percentage of Black Physicians by Gender, 2004

- Men: 52.60%
- Women: 47.40%

N=30,598

Number of Black Physicians by Gender & Graduation Year, 1950-2004

In 2004, black women made up 62% of all black graduates.

Percentage of Black Physicians by Age, 2004

Applicants and Matriculates to U.S. Medical Schools, 2008

- Black applicants to medical school in 2008: 3,342
- Black matriculates to medical school in 2008: 1,293

Source: Association of American Medical Colleges
Physicians by Race/Ethnicity & Graduation Year, 1980-2004

Percentage of Black Physicians in Primary Care vs. Non-Primary Care Specialties, 2004

42% Non-Primary Care
58% Primary Care

N= 27,178

Primary care defined here as family medicine, general practice, internal medicine, obstetrics and gynecology, and pediatrics.

# Professional Activity of Black Physicians, 2004

- **Patient Care**
  - Office Based Practice – **64.7% (19,052)**
  - Hospital Based Practice – **23.7% (6,981)**

- **Other Professional Activity**
  - Medical Teaching – **1.0% (281)**
  - Research – **0.9% (252)**
  - Administration – **1.8% (540)**
  - Other – **8.0% (2,356)**

Figure 22: Distribution of Black U.S. Physicians by State, 2004

#1 California #2 New York #3 Georgia

Physician Shortage

Figure 1. Baseline Physician FTE Supply and Demand Projections, 2006 - 2025

Data indicates the need to:

- Increase residency slots in ALL specialties, not just primary care
- Cultural Competency and Linguistically appropriate approach to our diverse communities
- True Partnerships with ALL health care professionals
- Encourage work with Community workers
To Change the Health Care System, we must:

- Implement the new HCR legislation
- **AND** improve the health professional pipeline
- Increase high school and college graduation in the minority community. Stem the tide on HIV/AIDS rates; especially in Black women
- Impact the social determinants of health
Health Care Reform and the Emerging Majority

- We must tackle the issue of Chronic Disease in the minority community.
- Increase the number of health care workers that look like the community they serve and EVERYONE should be culturally aware and linguistically appropriate in the approach to minority communities that will emerge as the majority.