Michigan Department of Community Health
Survey of Physician Assistants
Frequency Report by School[1]

INTRODUCTION

Since 2007, the Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) has conducted annual surveys of licensed physician assistants (PAs) to gather information about their employment characteristics, education, and work environment. The MDCH contracted with Public Sector Consultants Inc. (PSC) for development, implementation, and analysis of the survey of physician assistants, which was designed in collaboration with the MDCH and the Michigan Academy of Physician Assistants.

The survey contains questions about employment status, education, location and setting of main clinical practice site, percentage of time spent with supervising physician, specialty, use of computer technology, professional satisfaction, and plans to continue practicing, as well as a number of demographic questions (age, gender, race/ethnicity).

In the survey, the MDCH asks PAs whether they received their highest physician assistant degree in Michigan and, if so, from which school. Five universities in Michigan have physician assistant programs: Central Michigan University (CMU), Grand Valley State University (GVSU), University of Detroit–Mercy (U-D Mercy), Wayne State University (WSU), and Western Michigan University (WMU). The MDCH asked PSC to prepare a frequency report of survey responses from Michigan graduates disaggregated by school. The MDCH also asked PSC to provide maps of PA practice sites by ZIP Code disaggregated by school.

PAs are required to renew their license every two years from the first year of licensure, thus dividing the universe of PAs into two cohorts of roughly equal size. To conduct this analysis, PSC combined the responses from the 2009 and 2010 surveys, which provides a larger sample size than a single year of data.

The frequency report and maps are based on responses from 803 physician assistants who received their highest PA degree from a school in Michigan. Another 302 PAs who are licensed in Michigan are not represented in the report below because they indicated receiving their highest PA degree from a school outside of Michigan. The total number of responses received from graduates of each school in Michigan varies considerably. The number of respondents for each question is noted in the tables.

It is important to note that margins of error for the response frequencies for each school are relatively large due to the smaller sample sizes created by disaggregating the data by school (see Exhibit 1). For a few questions, which are noted in the report, the margins of error are even larger because filters have been applied to the responses. The frequency report is below, followed by the maps.

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[1] Unless otherwise noted, all frequencies are for "active" physician assistants. Active physician assistants are those who are working in PA practice or a related area in Michigan.

EXHIBIT 1. Margins of Error by School

School	Sample Size (*n*)	Margin of Error with 95 percent confidence
Central Michigan University	138	8%
Grand Valley State University	89	10
University of Detroit—Mercy	238	6
Wayne State University	142	8
Western Michigan University	212	6

NOTE: The margin of error provides the range within which the universe of possible responses is likely to fall. For example, when the margin of error is 8 percent with 95 percent confidence, if the answer to a survey question is 60 percent "Yes," the margin of error and confidence level mean that if this question were asked 100 times, in 95 occurrences the answer of the entire universe of possible respondents would be between 52 percent and 68 percent.

SURVEY FREQUENCIES

1. In what year were you born?

Age	CMU (n=131)	GVSU (n=85)	U-D Mercy (n=220)	WSU (n=135)	WMU (n=192)
<25	0.8%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
25–34	48.9	57.6	14.5	57.0	25.5
35–44	32.1	34.1	22.7	29.6	19.3
45–54	13.0	4.7	30.9	11.1	31.3
55–64	4.6	3.5	28.2	1.5	21.9
65+	0.8	0.0	3.6	0.7	2.1

2. What is your current employment status? (Mark **one.**)

	Percentage of all physician assistants					Percentage of active physician assistants in Michigan				
	CMU (n=137)	GVSU (n=89)	U-D Mercy (n=237)	WSU (n=142)	WMU (n=212)	CMU (n=132)	GVSU (n=83)	U-D Mercy (n=222)	WSU (n=136)	WMU (n=195)
a. 32 or more hours per week in PA practice or related area	89.8%	87.6%	81.9%	86.6%	82.1%	90.2%	91.6%	84.7%	86.8%	85.6%
b. Less than 32 hours per week in PA practice or related area	10.2	7.9	14.3	12.7	14.2	9.8	8.4	15.3	13.2	14.4
c. Employed but not as a PA	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.5	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
d. Not employed and seeking employment as a PA or in a related area	0.0	2.2	1.3	0.7	1.4	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

	Percentage of all physician assistants					Percentage of active physician assistants in Michigan				
	CMU (n=137)	GVSU (n=89)	U-D Mercy (n=237)	WSU (n=142)	WMU (n=212)	CMU (n=132)	GVSU (n=83)	U-D Mercy (n=222)	WSU (n=136)	WMU (n=195)
e. Not employed and seeking employment outside of PA practice or related area	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
f. Temporarily not working and not looking for a job	0.0	2.2	1.7	0.0	0.9	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
g. Retired, with no plans to return to work	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.9	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

3. What is your gender?

	CMU (n=131)	GVSU (n=83)	U-D Mercy (n=221)	WSU (n=136)	WMU (n=195)
a. Female	72.5%	73.5%	70.6%	85.3%	62.6%
b. Male	27.5	26.5	29.4	14.7	37.4

4. What is your race/ethnicity?

	CMU (n=132)	GVSU (n=83)	U-D Mercy (n=221)	WSU (n=135)	WMU (n=194)
a. American Indian, Alaskan Native	0.0%	0.0%	1.4%	0.0%	0.0%
b. Asian or Pacific Islander	1.5	3.6	3.6	3.0	1.0
c. Black, Non-Hispanic	0.8	1.2	5.4	2.2	0.5
d. Hispanic	0.8	0.0	0.9	3.0	0.5
e. Multiracial	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.7	1.5
f. White, Non-Hispanic	96.2	95.2	88.7	89.6	93.8
g. Other/Unknown	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.5	2.6

5. Where do you live? (Mark **one**)

	Percentage of all licensed physician assistants				
	CMU (n=138)	GVSU (n=89)	U-D Mercy (n=237)	WSU (n=141)	WMU (n=211)
a. Michigan	95.7%	100.0%	97.5%	97.9%	97.2%
b. Other U.S. state	4.3	0.0	2.1	1.4	2.8
c. Canada	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.7	0.0
d. Other country	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

6. Where is your primary place of employment?

	Percentage of all licensed physician assistants				
	CMU (n=138)	**GVSU** (n=88)	**U-D Mercy** (n=234)	**WSU** (n=141)	**WMU** (n=209)
a. Michigan	96.4%	100.0%	98.3%	97.2%	97.6%
b. Other U.S. state	3.6	0.0	1.3	2.8	2.4
c. Canada	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.0
d. Other country	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

7. Please indicate the ZIP Code for your main clinical practice site. _____

8. Do you work for more than one employer?

	CMU (n=131)	**GVSU** (n=83)	**U-D Mercy** (n=221)	**WSU** (n=135)	**WMU** (n=192)
a. Yes	17.6%	20.5%	19.5%	18.5%	17.2%
b. No	82.4	79.5	80.5	81.5	82.8

9. Do you practice at more than one site for your main employer?

	CMU (n=132)	**GVSU** (n=82)	**U-D Mercy** (n=222)	**WSU** (n=136)	**WMU** (n=193)
a. Yes	42.4%	40.2%	30.2%	33.8%	35.2%
b. No	57.6	59.8	69.8	66.2	64.8

10. Approximately what percentage of the time is your supervising physician at your main clinical practice site when you are?

	CMU (n=130)	**GVSU** (n=83)	**U-D Mercy** (n=221)	**WSU** (n=134)	**WMU** (n=193)
a. 0–25 percent	14.6%	13.3%	16.3%	14.2%	12.4%
b. 26–50 percent	7.7	10.8	14.0	14.2	10.4
c. 51–75 percent	14.6	15.7	13.1	18.7	16.6
d. 76–100 percent	63.1	60.2	56.6	53.0	60.6

11. Is your main clinical practice an outpatient or inpatient site?

	CMU (n=128)	**GVSU** (n=83)	**U-D Mercy** (n=220)	**WSU** (n=134)	**WMU** (n=193)
a. Outpatient	75.8%	66.3%	61.4%	54.5%	76.7%
b. Inpatient	22.7	31.3	36.4	44.0	22.3
c. Not applicable	1.6	2.4	2.3	1.5	1.0

12. Identify your current employment setting(s). (Mark **all** that apply.)

	CMU (n=132)	GVSU (n=85)	U-D Mercy (n=222)	WSU (n=136)	WMU (n=198)
a. Hospital inpatient	37.9%	37.3%	41.0%	52.2%	34.9%
b. Hospital outpatient	28.8	19.3	31.1	24.3	20.5
c. Physician's office	68.9	59.0	41.0	42.6	63.1
d. Nursing home/long-term care facility	3.0	4.8	5.0	9.6	2.6
e. Home health care	0.8	0.0	2.7	2.2	1.0
f. Public/community health	3.8	7.2	3.2	1.5	5.1
g. Hospice	1.5	0.0	0.0	0.7	0.0
h. PA education program	1.5	1.2	0.9	1.5	1.0
i. Other	5.3	4.8	11.3	1.5	11.3
j. None or not active as a physician assistant	6.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

13. How many *hours per week* do you spend providing direct patient care?

	CMU (n=127)	GVSU (n=80)	U-D Mercy (n=218)	WSU (n=132)	WMU (n=189)
Mean in hours	37.1	39.8	35.7	37.1	35.5

14. Overall, how would you rate your professional satisfaction as a physician assistant?

	CMU (n=132)	GVSU (n=83)	U-D Mercy (n=221)	WSU (n=135)	WMU (n=194)
a. Extremely satisfied	65.9%	69.9%	73.8%	82.2%	66.5%
b. Somewhat satisfied	31.1	28.9	22.6	17.0	28.9
c. Neutral	2.3	1.2	2.7	0.7	3.1
d. Somewhat dissatisfied	0.8	0.0	0.5	0.0	1.5
e. Extremely dissatisfied	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.0

15. What is the highest physician assistant degree you have achieved? (Mark **one.**)

	CMU (n=132)	GVSU (n=82)	U-D Mercy (n=222)	WSU (n=136)	WMU (n=193)
a. Associate's degree in Physician Assistant (PA) Studies	0.0%	0.0%	0.9%	0.7%	0.0%
b. Bachelor's degree in PA Studies	0.8	0.0	32.4	0.0	54.4
c. Master's degree in PA Studies	99.2	98.8	66.2	99.3	45.1
d. Other PA training	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.5

16. Are you involved in any of the following professional activities? (Mark **all** that apply.)

	CMU (n=45)	GVSU (n=35)	U-D Mercy (n=105)	WSU (n=54)	WMU (n=70)
a. Research	4.5%	1.2%	11.3%	7.4%	7.2%
b. Teaching	28.8	33.7	33.8	29.4	28.2
c. Administration in a private practice	3.0	8.4	9.0	5.1	4.6
d. Administration in a PA education program, hospital, health plan, nursing home, or clinic	3.8	8.4	5.9	3.7	4.6

17. Are you currently providing care to…

	CMU (n=131)	GVSU (n=81)	U-D Mercy (n=212)	WSU (n=132)	WMU (n=191)
a. Medicaid patients?	97.0%	89.2%	82.4%	83.8%	88.7%
b. New Medicaid patients?	74.2	77.1	66.7	70.6	65.1
c. Medicare patients?	93.9	90.4	88.7	95.6	87.7
d. New Medicare patients?	72.7	79.5	70.7	80.1	72.8
e. Patients from other publicly funded programs?	63.6	61.4	49.5	50.0	57.9

18. Mark the practice specialty(ies) in which you spend most of your professional time. Mark **ONE primary** and, if applicable, **ONE secondary** specialty.

	Specialty									
	Primary					Secondary				
	CMU (n=130)	GVSU (n=83)	U-D Mercy (n=216)	WSU (n=135)	WMU (n=191)	CMU (n=41)	GVSU (n=33)	U-D Mercy (n=91)	WSU (n=57)	WMU (n=67)
1. Allergy & Immunology	0.0%	2.4%	0.0%	0.0%	1.0%	4.9%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
2. Anesthesiology	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
3. Cardiovascular Disease	6.2	1.2	5.6	8.9	4.7	2.4	0.0	4.4	3.5	4.5
4. Critical Care Medicine	0.0	0.0	0.5	3.7	0.5	2.4	3.0	3.3	5.3	3.0
5. Dermatology	1.5	2.4	3.7	7.4	3.7	0.0	6.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
6. Emergency Medicine	17.7	8.4	10.2	14.8	7.9	9.8	18.2	8.8	7.0	7.5
7. Endocrinology	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.8	1.5
8. Family Practice	26.2	26.5	13.9	11.9	29.3	9.8	6.1	7.7	7.0	20.9
9. Gastroenterology	2.3	0.0	0.5	1.5	1.0	0.0	0.0	1.1	3.5	3.0
10. General Medicine	4.6	4.8	4.2	0.0	2.6	0.0	0.0	1.1	3.5	4.5
11. Geriatrics	0.0	0.0	0.5	1.5	1.0	0.0	9.1	5.5	10.5	3.0
12. Hospitalist	0.0	4.8	4.2	1.5	2.6	7.3	0.0	4.4	0.0	4.5

	Specialty									
	Primary					Secondary				
	CMU (n=130)	GVSU (n=83)	U-D Mercy (n=216)	WSU (n=135)	WMU (n=191)	CMU (n=41)	GVSU (n=33)	U-D Mercy (n=91)	WSU (n=57)	WMU (n=67)
13. Infectious Disease	0.0%	0.0%	0.5%	0.0%	0.5%	0.0%	0.0%	1.1%	0.0%	0.0%
14. Internal Medicine (General)	9.2	8.4	10.6	17.0	5.2	12.2	9.1	26.4	24.6	13.4
15. Nephrology	0.0	0.0	1.4	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
16. Neurology	0.0	0.0	0.9	1.5	0.5	0.0	0.0	1.1	0.0	0.0
17. Neurological Surgery	3.8	3.6	0.9	2.2	1.0	0.0	0.0	1.1	0.0	0.0
18. Obstetrics & Gynecology	0.8	2.4	2.8	2.2	1.6	0.0	0.0	1.1	3.5	4.5
19. Occupational Medicine	0.0	2.4	3.2	0.7	1.6	2.4	6.1	5.5	0.0	4.5
20. Oncology/ Hematology	1.5	0.0	5.6	3.7	1.0	0.0	0.0	1.1	1.8	0.0
21. Orthopedic Surgery	6.9	8.4	6.5	5.2	11.5	0.0	0.0	4.4	1.8	0.0
22. Otolaryngology	1.5	1.2	0.9	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
23. Pediatrics	4.6	1.2	1.9	0.7	5.2	12.2	12.1	2.2	3.5	3.0
24. Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation	0.8	1.2	2.8	2.2	0.5	0.0	0.0	1.1	1.8	0.0
25. Plastic Surgery	0.0	0.0	1.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
26. Preventive Medicine	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.9	0.0	0.0	1.8	1.5
27. Psychiatry	1.5	2.4	2.3	0.0	0.5	2.4	3.0	3.3	0.0	1.5
28. Pulmonary Disease	0.8	0.0	0.9	0.0	0.0	2.4	0.0	2.2	0.0	3.0
29. Radiology	0.0	0.0	1.9	4.4	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.5
30. Rheumatology	0.0	1.2	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
31. Sports Medicine	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.9	9.1	2.2	5.3	3.0
32. Surgery (General)	4.6	3.6	4.2	4.4	2.6	4.9	3.0	0.0	5.3	1.5
33. Thoracic Surgery	1.5	2.4	1.4	0.7	0.0	2.4	0.0	0.0	3.5	1.5
34. Urology	0.8	1.2	0.9	1.5	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
35. Vascular Surgery	1.5	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.0	4.9	0.0	2.2	0.0	3.0
36. Other	1.5	9.6	5.1	2.2	8.4	9.8	15.2	8.8	5.3	6.0

19. In your practice, does someone use a computer or computer-like device (e.g., PDA) to receive or transmit… (Mark **all** that apply)

	CMU (n=132)	GVSU (n=85)	U-D Mercy (n=223)	WSU (n=136)	WMU (n=199)
a. lab results, x-rays, or hospital records?	79.5%	64.7%	74.4%	77.2%	75.4%
b. prescriptions?	54.5	50.6	58.3	62.5	60.3

	CMU (n=132)	GVSU (n=85)	U-D Mercy (n=223)	WSU (n=136)	WMU (n=199)
c. claims information?	40.2%	32.9%	38.1%	33.8%	53.3%
d. electronic health records?	59.8	56.5	57.8	64.0	60.8
e. communication with your patients	17.4	20.0	23.3	26.5	21.1
f. information about treatment alternatives	28.0	32.9	35.9	35.3	33.7
g. continuing medical education (CME) credits?	72.0	75.3	58.7	62.5	62.8

20. How would you describe the area where you grew up? (Please mark an answer in **both** sections A & B.)

SECTION A

	CMU (n=129)	GVSU (n=82)	U-D Mercy (n=217)	WSU (n=135)	WMU (n=192)
a. Rural/small town	65.1%	48.8%	20.7%	19.3%	51.6%
b. Suburban	31.0	36.6	56.7	72.6	35.9
c. Urban	3.9	14.6	22.6	8.1	12.5

SECTION B

	CMU (n=120)	GVSU (n=79)	U-D Mercy (n=203)	WSU (n=126)	WMU (n=180)
a. Michigan	96.7%	94.9%	91.1%	90.5%	82.2%
b. Other U.S. state	3.3	3.8	5.9	6.3	16.7
c. Other country	0.0	1.3	3.0	3.2	1.1

21. How would you describe the area of your primary practice?

	CMU (n=129)	GVSU (n=80)	U-D Mercy (n=218)	WSU (n=134)	WMU (n=194)
a. Rural/small town	52.7%	32.5%	14.7%	3.7%	33.0%
b. Suburban	23.3	30.0	53.2	64.9	40.7
c. Urban	24.0	37.5	32.1	31.3	26.3

22. A. Please indicate where you received your highest physician assistant degree.

	CMU (n=132)	GVSU (n=83)	U-D Mercy (n=222)	WSU (n=136)	WMU (n=195)
a. Michigan	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
b. Other U.S. state	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
c. Other country	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

B. If in Michigan, please specify the school.

	CMU (n=132)	GVSU (n=83)	U-D Mercy (n=222)	WSU (n=136)	WMU (n=195)
a. Central Michigan University	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
b. Grand Valley State University	0.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

	CMU (n=132)	GVSU (n=83)	U-D Mercy (n=222)	WSU (n=136)	WMU (n=195)
c. University of Detroit Mercy	0.0	0.0	100.0	0.0	0.0
d. Wayne State University	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	0.0
e. Western Michigan University	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0

23. Are you enrolled in or have you completed a postgraduate physician assistant residency program?

	CMU (n=130)	GVSU (n=83)	U-D Mercy (n=222)	WSU (n=135)	WMU (n=195)
a. Yes	3.1%	8.4%	3.6%	0.7%	3.1%
b. No	96.9	91.6	96.4	99.3	96.9

24. Have you voluntarily left a physician assistant position within the last two years?

	Percentage of all licensed PAs				
	CMU (n=136)	GVSU (n=88)	U-D Mercy (n=236)	WSU (n=140)	WMU (n=206)
a. Yes	22.1%	23.9%	18.2%	30.0%	20.9%
b. No	77.9	76.1	81.8	70.0	79.1

25. If you voluntarily left a physician assistant position within the last two years, was it to… (Mark **one.**)

	Percentage of licensed PAs who voluntarily left a PA position within the last two years				
	CMU (n=30)	GVSU (n=21)	U-D Mercy (n=42)	WSU (n=42)	WMU (n=40)
a. take another PA position within the same organization?	6.7%	4.8%	2.4%	14.3	2.5%
b. take another PA position with a different organization?	93.3	95.2	83.3	85.7	90.0
c. take a position outside of PA practice?	0.0	0.0	2.4	0.0	2.5
d. retire from PA practice?	0.0	0.0	11.9	0.0	5.0

NOTE: The percentages in this table represent only those respondents who answered "Yes" to question 24. Due to the very small sample size, caution should be used in interpreting the results.

26. If you voluntarily left a physician assistant (PA) position within the last two years to take another PA position, did you…

	Percentage of licensed PAs who left a PA position to take another PA position				
	CMU (n=30)	GVSU (n=20)	U-D Mercy (n=35)	WSU (n=41)	WMU (n=37)
a. leave a primary care position to take a specialty position?	20.0%	15.0%	14.3%	17.1%	21.6%
b. leave a primary care position to take another primary care	20.0	45.0	37.1	24.4	32.4

	Percentage of licensed PAs who left a PA position to take another PA position				
	CMU (n=30)	**GVSU** (n=20)	**U-D Mercy** (n=35)	**WSU** (n=41)	**WMU** (n=37)
position?					
c. leave a specialty position to take another specialty position?	36.7%	30.0%	40.0%	43.9%	32.4%
d. leave a specialty position to take a primary care position?	23.3	10.0	8.6	14.6	13.5

NOTE: The percentages in this table represent only those respondents who answered either "a" or "b" to question 25. Due to the very small sample size, caution should be used in interpreting the results.

27. In the next three years, I plan to… (Mark **all** that apply)

	CMU (n=121)	**GVSU** (n=84)	**U-D Mercy** (n=221)	**WSU** (n=135)	**WMU** (n=199)
a. maintain the number of patient care hours I currently work.	81.1%	83.1%	82.0%	81.6%	86.7%
b. increase patient care hours.	10.6	14.5	14.0	6.6	7.7
c. significantly reduce patient care hours.	6.1	7.2	4.1	11.0	5.1
d. relocate to another Michigan location.	7.6	3.6	2.7	2.2	1.5
e. relocate to another state.	5.3	2.4	2.7	6.6	5.6
f. retire.	6.8	0	2.3	0	1.5

28. If you are retiring or reducing your patient care hours, what are the factors that led to this decision? (Mark **all** that apply.)

	CMU (n=11)	**GVSU** (n=7)	**U-D Mercy** (n=20)	**WSU** (n=16)	**WMU** (n=21)
a. Age	12.5%	0%	61.5%	6.7%	53.8%
b. General lack of job satisfaction	0.0	0.0	15.4	13.3%	7.7
c. Childbearing/childrearing	75.0	66.7	7.7	86.7	30.8
d. Lifestyle changes	25.0	16.7	46.2	20.0	30.8
e. Inadequate salary/wages	0.0	0.0	7.7	0.0	7.7
f. Personal or family health concerns	12.5	0.0	7.7	0.0	7.7
g. Increasing administrative/regulatory burden	0.0	0.0	23.1	0.0	23.1
h. Employer/employee conflict	0.0	0.0	7.7	0.0	0.0
i. Inadequate reimbursement for services from insurers	0.0	0.0	7.7	0.0	15.4
j. Moved to management/ consulting/ teaching/ research	12.5	0.0	0.0	6.7	0.0
k. Other	25.0	16.7	7.7	6.7	7.7

NOTE: The percentages in this table represent only those respondents who answered either "c" or "f" to question 27. Due to the very small sample size, caution should be used in interpreting the results.

Distribution of Active
Physician Assistants in Michigan

The maps below show the approximate distribution of physician assistants who received their highest PA degrees from each of the five Michigan PA schools. While these maps are based on two years of survey data, representing a full cohort of physician assistants, it is important to note that not every licensed PA responded to the surveys. These maps, therefore, may not accurately represent the distribution of the PAs who graduated from each school or the extent to which those PAs practice in counties that have either full or partial health professional shortage areas (HPSAs). Among those who responded to the surveys, Western Michigan University graduates are the least likely to practice in counties with HPSAs (50 percent), and graduates of Grand Valley State University are the most likely to practice in counties with HPSAs (79 percent) (See Exhibit 2).

EXHIBIT 2. Active Physician Assistants Practicing in HPSA Counties, by School

Physician Assistant School	Active PAs practicing in a HPSA county	
	Number	Percentage
Central Michigan University	86	62%
Grand Valley State University	70	79%
University of Detroit – Mercy	143	60%
Wayne State University	88	62%
Western Michigan University	105	50%

SOURCE: MDCH Survey of Licensed Physician Assistants, 2009 and 2010.

EXHIBIT 3. Distribution of Main Clinical Practice Sites of PAs Who Received their Highest PA Degree from Central Michigan University

Legend:
- Central Michigan University
- Full-county HPSA
- Partial-county HPSA

SOURCE: MDCH Survey of Licensed Physician Assistants, 2009 and 2010.
NOTE: Each dot on the map represents a single physician assistant. The dots overlap, however, which makes it impossible to see all of them.

EXHIBIT 4. Distribution of Main Clinical Practice Sites of PAs Who Received their Highest PA Degree from Grand Valley State University

Legend:
- ○ Grand Valley State University
- ■ Full-county HPSA
- ■ Partial-county HPSA

SOURCE: MDCH Survey of Licensed Physician Assistants, 2009 and 2010.
NOTE: Each dot on the map represents a single physician assistant. The dots overlap, however, which makes it impossible to see all of them.

EXHIBIT 5. Distribution of Main Clinical Practice Sites of PAs Who Received their Highest PA Degree from the University of Detroit–Mercy

Legend:
- ○ University of Detroit—Mercy
- Full-county HPSA
- Partial-county HPSA

SOURCE: MDCH Survey of Licensed Physician Assistants, 2009 and 2010.
NOTE: Each dot on the map represents a single physician assistant. The dots overlap, however, which makes it impossible to see all of them.
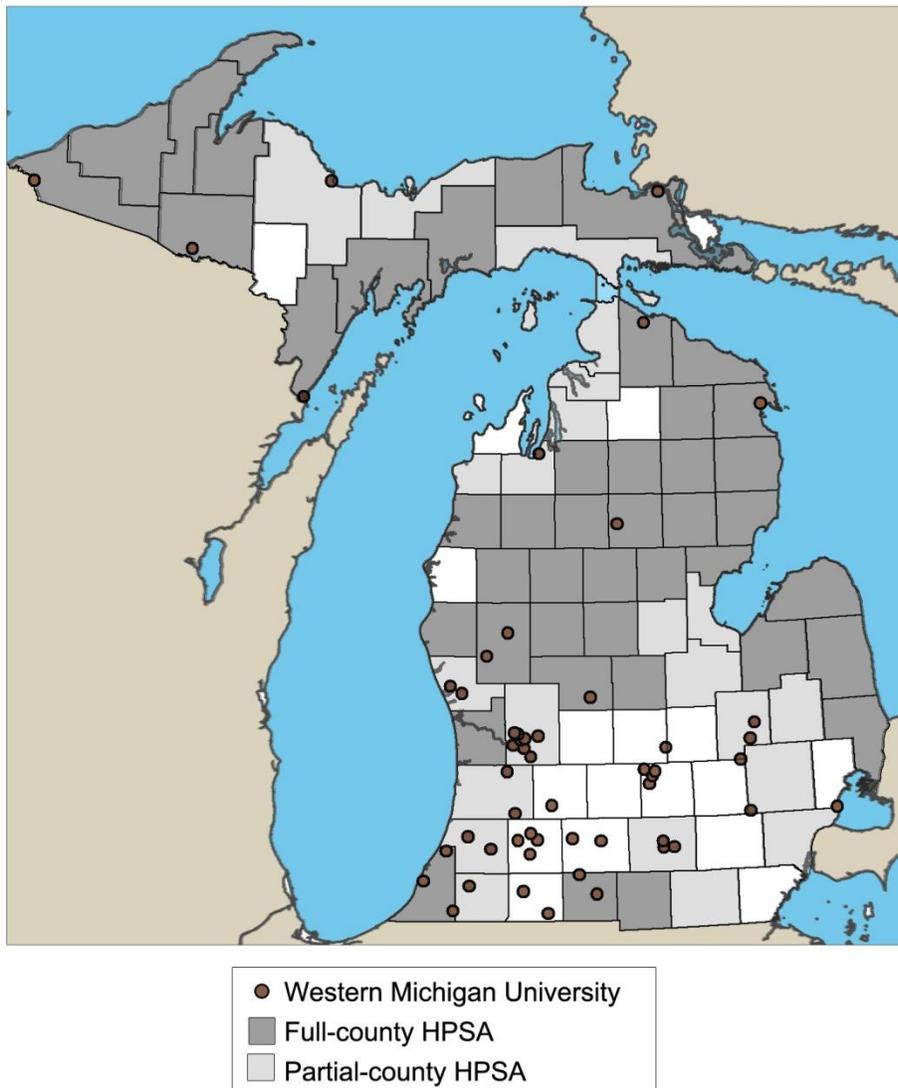
EXHIBIT 6. Distribution of Main Clinical Practice Sites of PAs Who Received their Highest PA Degree from Wayne State University

Legend:
- ● Wayne State University
- Ful-county HPSA
- Partial-county HPSA

SOURCE: MDCH Survey of Licensed Physician Assistants, 2009 and 2010.
NOTE: Each dot on the map represents a single physician assistant. The dots overlap, however, which makes it impossible to see all of them.

EXHIBIT 7. Distribution of Main Clinical Practice Sites of PAs Who Received their Highest PA Degree from Western Michigan University

Legend:
- ● Western Michigan University
- ▆ Full-county HPSA
- ▢ Partial-county HPSA

SOURCE: MDCH Survey of Licensed Physician Assistants, 2009 and 2010.
NOTE: Each dot on the map represents a single physician assistant. The dots overlap, however, which makes it impossible to see all of them.