

GEORGIA MEDICAL SCHOOL GRADUATES: TRENDS IN GRADUATES ENTERING PRIMARY CARE & OTHER NEEDED CORE SPECIALTY RESIDENCY PROGRAMS* 1999-2009 GEORGIA BOARD FOR PHYSICIAN WORKFORCE September 2009

According to surveys conducted by the Georgia Board for Physician Workforce (GBPW), medical students tend to make the decision about what specialty to pursue during their 3rd year of medical school. This fact sheet examines trends in the percentage of medical school graduates entering family medicine, internal medicine, pediatrics, obstetrics/gynecology, and general surgery.

Family Medicine

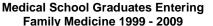
The rate of Georgia medical school graduates entering family medicine has significantly declined from an average of 20% in 1999 (for all schools combined) to an average of 4% in 2009.

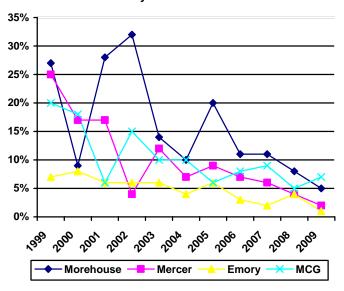
Morehouse had the highest percentage of graduates entering family medicine for all but two years. The lowest rate was 5% and the highest was 32%.

Mercer's rate ranged from a low of 2% to a high of 25%.

Emory had the lowest overall percentage of graduates entering family medicine. The rate ranged from a low of 1% to a high of 8%.

MCG's rate ranged from 5% to 20% of graduates entering family medicine.





The rate of Georgia medical school graduates entering internal medicine has increased slightly from an average of 23% in 1999 (for all schools combined) to an average of 25% in 2009.

Since the figures are a snapshot of graduates' plans for the first year of residency training, it's unknown whether these graduates went on to practice general internal medicine or if they subspecialized.

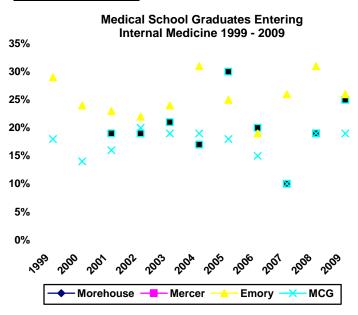
In 2004, Morehouse had the fewest graduates entering internal medicine at 8%, but was among the highest in 2009 at 31%.

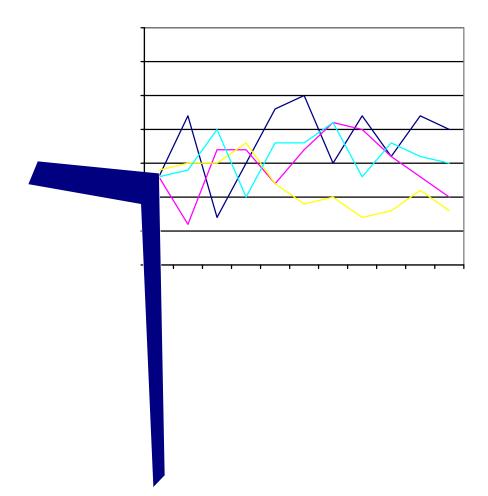
Mercer's rate ranged from 10% to 30%.

Emory's rate ranged from 19% to 31%.

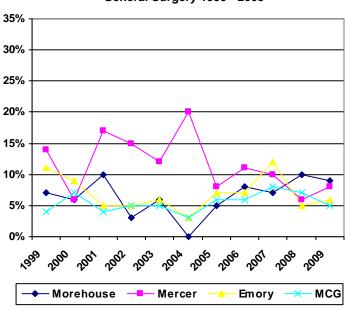
MCG's percentages ranged fromTjTT9 20%.

Internal Medicine*





General Surgery



Medical School Graduates Entering General Surgery 1999 - 2009 The rate of Georgia medical school graduates entering general surgery has decreased slightly from an average of 9% in 1999 (for all schools combined) to an average of 7% in 2009.

Morehouse, Emory, and MCG fell to their lowest percentage of graduates entering general surgery in 2004. However, Mercer had its highest rate in 2004 when 20% of graduates entering general surgery residency programs.

Morehouse had no graduates enter general surgery in 2004 and reached the highest percentage of 10% in 2008.

Mercer's rate of graduates entering general surgery ranged from a low of 6% to a high of 20%.

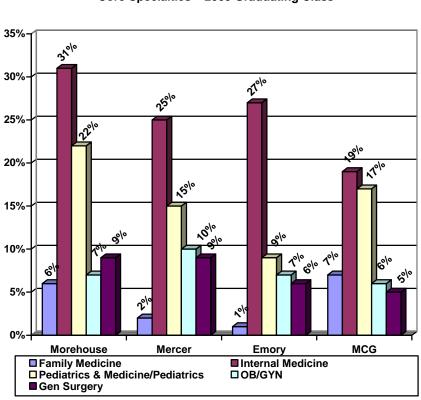
Emory's rate ranged from a low of 3% to a high of 12% and MCG's rate was between 4% and 8% each year (with the exception of 2004 when the rate dropped to 3%).

Summary - 2009 Graduates Entering Core Specialties

First year residency selections for the most recent graduating class of medical students indicate internal medicine is the most popular primary care/core specialty, followed by pediatrics, OB/GYN, general surgery and family medicine.

Morehouse and Mercer have maintained a primary care-oriented focus since their inception in the early 1980's. Accordingly, these two medical schools have the highest percentage of graduates entering primary care or core specialty residency programs.

In 2009, 75% of Morehouse graduates entered core specialty residency programs. Mercer's rate was 61%, Emory's rate was 50% and MCG's rate was 54%.



Medical School Graduates Entering Core Specialties – 2009 Graduating Class

* Data is provided by the medical schools after the NRMP Match results are announced in March of each year. Information provided to the GBPW denotes medical specialty for the graduates' first year of residency. Graduates were not counted under Internal Medicine if a preliminary year was noted and/or if the graduate had already matched to a second year sub-specialty residency program (e.g., Radiology).

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