

MECON Policy Paper Series

Supply and Demand of Physicians in Nevada — 1997 to Projected 2014

**John Packham, PhD and Tabor Griswold, MS
University of Nevada School of Medicine**

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**Medical Education Council of Nevada (MECON)
Center for Education and Health Service
University of Nevada School of Medicine
Reno, Nevada 89503
(775)784-4841 / Fax: (775)784-1137
<http://www.unr.edu/med/dept/cehso/mecon.html>**

The Medical Education Council of Nevada (MECON) was established by the Nevada Legislature in 2003 to ensure that Nevada has an adequate, well-trained workforce to meet the needs of the residents of Nevada. MECON has been charged by the Nevada Legislature to:

- Determine the workforce needs for the provision of health care services in Nevada;
- Determine the number and types of positions of employment for which money appropriated to MECON may be used;
- Investigate and make recommendations to the University of Nevada School of Medicine and legislature on the status and need of health practitioners, other providers of health care, and other personnel of health care facilities or programs in Nevada;
- Determine methods for reimbursing institutions that sponsor practitioners, other providers of health care, or other personnel of health care facilities or programs; and
- Pursue mechanisms of receiving and dispersing funds for graduate medical education expenses.

The purpose of the MECON Policy Paper Series is to provide decision makers in Nevada with timely and objective health workforce information and analysis.

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Correspondence regarding this document should be send to:

John Packham, PhD
University of Nevada School of Medicine
Mailstop 348
Reno, Nevada 89503
(775)784-1235
jfp@unr.edu

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Overview

This *MECON Policy Paper* provides estimates of the supply and demand of physicians in Nevada from 1997 to 2014. The analysis focuses on the changes in the number and projected number of medical doctors (MDs) with an active license from the State of Nevada residing in Nevada. The analysis utilizes the most current licensure data available from the American Medical Association (2006) and the Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners (2006). The analysis excludes licensed doctors of osteopathy (DO) due to gaps and inconsistencies in licensure data for the period 1997 to 2004. The estimates and projections contained in this report indicate a significant and growing shortage of physicians in Nevada over the next decade across most specialties and regions of the state.

Trends and Projections in the Nevada Physician Workforce – 1997 to 2014

Utilizing data from the American Medical Association's (AMA) annual report on physician characteristics and distribution in the United States (2006), Table 1 highlights the specialty distribution of all licensed MDs in Nevada and the subset of those MDs in Nevada who are actively licensed. Approximately 87.8% or 4,333 physicians who reside in Nevada possess an active license; conversely, 601 or 12.2% possess an inactive license. Among the actively licensed MD population, 548 or 12.6% report a primary specialty in general practice or family medicine; 1,500 or 34.6% in medical specialties such as internal medicine and pediatrics; 900 or 20.8% in surgical specialties; and the remaining 1,385 or 32% of actively licensed MDs are in other specialties such as anesthesiology or emergency medicine, or unclassified specialties. The same AMA data indicates that approximately 4 of 5 (81.2%) of licensed physicians residing in Nevada in 2004 report direct patient care as their primary type of practice, while 1 of 5 (18.7%) report that their primary type of practice is not direct patient care.

Table 2 highlights differences and similarities in the specialty distribution of physicians with an active license among Nevada, eight states in the western mountain region including Nevada, and the entire US. The percent distribution or specialty mix of licensed MDs in Nevada is remarkably similar to that of the region and the nation across most medical specialties, including the major primary care specialties of family medicine, general practice, and internal medicine. In most specialties, the difference between Nevada and the rest of the country are less than one percent and in a couple of surprising instances (family medicine, obstetrics/gynecology, emergency medicine) slightly higher than that of the region and nation. Again, in terms of specialty mix, Table 2 underscores a considerable degree of similarity between Nevada and the US.

Tables 3 and 4 tell a very different story. These tables indicate that the per capita distribution of MDs in Nevada – as measured by the number and percent distribution of licensed MDs per 100,000 population – is substantially lower in Nevada as compared to the mountain region and the US. In 2004, there were approximately 211 licensed physicians per 100,000 population in

Nevada, 250 per 100,000 population in the mountain region, and 297 per 100,000 population in the entire country. In other words, the number of physicians per 100,000 population is approximately 84.4% of regional and 71.0% of the national number per 100,000 population

Moreover, across nearly every medical specialty the number of licensed MDs per 100,000 population is lower than that of the region and the nation. In fact, of the 39 specialty areas listed in Tables 3 and 4, only six specialty areas possess a higher number of licensed MDs per 100,000 population in Nevada than that of the region (cardiovascular disease, internal medicine, thoracic surgery, anesthesiology, physical medicine and rehabilitation, and forensic medicine) and, nationally, only two of 39 specialty areas in Nevada possess a higher ratio than that of the US (anesthesiology and forensic medicine). Table 4 underscores the proportion of physicians to population across most specialties is well below regional and national averages – across most specialty areas the number of licensed MDs per 100,000 population is 50% to 80% of regional and national ratios for the same specialty area.

Figure 1 presents a model of the estimated supply and demand for physicians in Nevada from 1997 to projected 2014. The model utilizes licensure data collected by the Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners (2006) and economic data from the Bureau of Economic Analysis (2006). While many factors influence the demand for physicians, recent research demonstrates that economic expansion, as measured by changes in the nation's gross domestic product (GDP), is a powerful predictor of the economic demand and utilization of physicians (Cooper 2004; Cooper, Getzen, and Laud 2003; Cooper, *et al* 2002). Employing similar logic, the demand for physicians with an active license in Nevada was estimated for the period 1997 to 2014 by applying the annual rate of change in Nevada's gross state product from 1997 to 2004 (8.0%) to the number of MDs with an active license in 1997. The model then compares estimated demand against changes in the supply of MDs in Nevada with an active license. The projected supply of MDs from 2004 to 2014 is based on the annual rate of change in the number of MDs with an active license from 1999 to 2004 (4.6%).¹

¹The physician supply-demand model contained in this report makes a couple of major assumptions. First, it assumes that supply and demand were in equilibrium in 1997 and thus the number of MDs with an active license in 1997 (2,760) is an appropriate point from which to calculate estimated demand through 2014. The analysis conservatively assumes that 1997 is an appropriate point even though anecdotal and press reports during that time indicated a presence of an already-emerging physician shortage in the state. Second, the model assumes that the economy will grow at the same annual rate from 2004 to 2014 as it has since 1997. An annual rate of change in GSP of 8.0% is possibly unsustainable for the next eight years, yet was chosen based on economic change in Nevada over the past decade, the absence of statewide economic forecasts on gross state product, and the important predictive value of GDP and change in GDP in the research literature. It is worth noting that the 8.0% used in our analysis is well below the annual rate of change in public expenditures on health care (9.6%) and overall personal health care expenditures (10.1%) in Nevada from 1997 to 2004. Third, the model assumes, all things being equal, that the number of MDs will grow at the same rate through 2014 that it has since 1997 (4.6%). Fourth, the model is premised on gauging economic *demand* for physicians, per se, versus the state's *need* for physicians, i.e., it is modeling the degree to which the state's economy will support a given level of employment of MDs with an active license rather than the overall physician and health care needs of the state, the latter is always greater than what the market and public are willing to support. Finally, the analysis unfortunately excludes DOs or licensed doctors of osteopathy due to gaps and inconsistencies in licensure data for the period 1997 to 2004. A complete analysis of the physician workforce must include an examination of both the MD and DO workforce.

The data presented in Figure 1 indicates a growing gap between the supply and demand for MDs with an active license in Nevada through 2014. Between 2004 and 2014, statewide demand for physicians is projected to grow by 5,886 or 116.9%. Our analysis indicates that the growth of Nevada's physician supply has simply not kept pace with the growth of the state's economy and capacity to employ physicians, much less the growth in total personal health care expenditures over the past decade, which have grown at an annual rate in excess of 10%, and the abundant health care needs of the state indicated in every report on population health status in Nevada. In 2004, physician demand exceeded supply by an estimated 1,157 MDs with an active license. The shortage is expected to grow to 4,871 by 2014, or an estimated demand of 10,922 in excess of the estimated supply of 6,051 MDs with an active license in Nevada.

Table 5 highlights the current and projected demand for actively licensed physicians in Nevada by specialty through 2014 utilizing the current (2004) distribution of actively licensed MDs reported to the AMA. These figures conservatively assume that there will be no change in the specialty mix of physicians over the next decade. Nonetheless, by any measure, the magnitude of physician shortages in numerous primary-care, medical, and surgical specialty areas will be substantial – that is, shortages in the hundreds and thousands in some specialties – if the projected rate of change in the state's physician supply remains constant.

Tables 6 and 7 document the number and per capita distribution of licensed physicians by county and region for 2004. Only three Nevada counties (Carson City, Douglas and Washoe Counties) possess physician-to-population ratios equal to or greater than the state average of 211 licensed physicians per 100,000 population. Only two counties (Douglas and Washoe Counties) exceed the national average of 297 licensed physicians per 100,000 population. Excluding counties with no licensed physicians (Eureka and Storey Counties), ratios range from 26.2 physicians per 100,000 population in Lincoln County to 314.0 physicians per 100,000 in Washoe County. While Clark County had 71.2% of the state's population in 2004, it possessed only 67.1% of the state's licensed physicians or 192.8 physicians per 100,000 population.

Table 8 highlights the current and projected demand for actively licensed physicians by county and region in Nevada through 2014 utilizing the current (2004) distribution of actively licensed MDs reported to the AMA. These figures conservatively assume that there will be no change in the geographic distribution of physicians over the next decade, even though population growth in southern Nevada is expected to exceed that of northern and rural areas for the next decade. Nonetheless, all things being equal, the magnitude of physician shortages across all regions of the state will be substantial if the projected rate of change in the state's physician supply remains constant. For example, holding all other factors (e.g., population growth, increased demand for health care, more retirees moving to Las Vegas) the demand for physicians in Clark County alone is projected to increase by nearly 4,000.

Conclusions and Discussion

The data and analysis contained in this paper provide a current snapshot of the specialty mix and geographic distribution of the licensed physician population who reside and practice medicine in Nevada. While the specialty mix actively-licensed physicians is comparable to the region and

nation, the per capita distribution of physicians in Nevada is well below that of the region and US. Moreover, comparatively low physician-to-population disparities exist for nearly every specialty care area, including the major primary-care, medical, and surgical specialties. The paper also presents a model of the projected supply and demand for physicians with an active licensed MDs who reside and practice in Nevada through 2014. The model indicates a significant and growing shortage of physicians through the year 2014 – a shortage fueled by projected demand of approximately 117% against a supply projected to grow by only 60% between 2004 and 2014.

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**Table 1: Specialty Distribution of Licensed Physicians (MD) and Physicians
with an Active License in Nevada – 2004**

Specialty	Licensed Physicians (MD) in Nevada		
	Number	Percent of Actively and Inactively Licensed Physicians	Percent of Actively Licensed Physicians
<i>Total – Nevada</i>	4,934	100%	N/A
<i>GP/FM Practice</i>	548	11.1%	12.6%
Family Medicine	484	9.8%	11.2%
General Practice	64	1.3%	1.5%
<i>Medical Specialties</i>	1,500	30.4%	34.6%
Allergy & Immunology	17	0.3%	0.4%
Cardiovascular Disease	139	2.8%	3.2%
Dermatology	49	1.0%	1.1%
Gastroenterology	59	1.2%	1.4%
Internal Medicine	858	17.4%	19.8%
Pediatrics	320	6.5%	7.4%
Pediatric Cardiology	7	0.1%	0.2%
Pulmonary Disease	51	1.0%	1.2%
<i>Surgical Specialties</i>	900	18.2%	20.8%
Colon & Rectal Surgery	5	0.1%	0.1%
General Surgery	200	4.1%	4.6%
Neurological Surgery	29	0.6%	0.7%
Obstetrics & Gynecology	264	5.4%	6.1%
Ophthalmology	100	2.0%	2.3%
Orthopedic Surgery	128	2.6%	3.0%
Otolaryngology	47	1.0%	1.1%
Plastic Surgery	41	0.8%	0.9%
Thoracic Surgery	31	0.6%	0.7%
Urology Surgery	55	1.1%	1.3%

Specialty	Licensed Physicians (MD) in Nevada		
	Number	Percent of Actively and Inactively Licensed Physicians	Percent of Actively Licensed Physicians
<i>Other Specialties</i>	<i>1,200</i>	<i>24.3%</i>	<i>27.7%</i>
Aerospace Medicine	2	0.0%	0.0%
Anesthesiology	317	6.4%	7.3%
Child & Adolescent Psychiatry	23	0.5%	0.5%
Diagnostic Radiology	148	3.0%	3.4%
Emergency Medicine	180	3.6%	4.2%
Forensic Medicine	7	0.1%	0.2%
General Preventive Medicine	7	0.1%	0.2%
Medical Genetics	1	0.0%	0.0%
Neurology	56	1.1%	1.3%
Nuclear Medicine	5	0.1%	0.1%
Occupational Medicine	15	0.3%	0.3%
Psychiatry	158	3.2%	3.6%
Public Health & General Preventive Medicine	5	0.1%	0.1%
Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation	51	1.0%	1.2%
Anatomic/Clinical Pathology	89	1.8%	2.1%
Radiology	54	1.1%	1.2%
Radiation Oncology	24	0.5%	0.6%
Transplant Surgery	0	0.0%	0.0%
Other	41	0.8%	0.9%
Unspecified	17	0.3%	0.4%
Vascular Medicine	0	0.0%	0.0%
<i>Not Classified</i>	<i>185</i>	<i>3.7%</i>	<i>4.3%</i>
Subtotal – Active License	4,333	87.8%	100%
Subtotal – Inactive License	601	12.2%	N/A

Source: American Medical Association (2006).

**Table 2: Specialty Distribution of Licensed Physicians (MD)
in Nevada, Mountain Region, and United States – 2004***

Specialty	Licensed Physicians (MD)					
	Nevada		Mountain Region		United States	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	4,934	100%	49,422	100%	884,974	100%
GP/FM Practice	548	11.1%	6,480	13.1%	91,991	10.4%
Family Medicine	484	9.8%	5,926	12.0%	80,327	9.1%
General Practice	64	1.3%	554	1.1%	11,664	1.3%
<i>Medical Specialties</i>	<i>1,500</i>	<i>30.4%</i>	<i>13,695</i>	<i>27.7%</i>	<i>281,036</i>	<i>31.8%</i>
Allergy & Immunology	17	0.3%	226	0.5%	4,106	0.5%
Cardiovascular Disease	139	2.8%	1,033	2.1%	22,114	2.5%
Dermatology	49	1.0%	579	1.2%	10,441	1.2%
Gastroenterology	59	1.2%	604	1.2%	11,728	1.3%
Internal Medicine	858	17.4%	7,113	14.4%	150,933	17.1%
Pediatrics	320	6.5%	3,461	7.0%	70,151	7.9%
Pediatric Cardiology	7	0.1%	81	0.2%	1,756	0.2%
Pulmonary Disease	51	1.0%	598	1.2%	9,807	1.1%
<i>Surgical Specialties</i>	<i>900</i>	<i>18.2%</i>	<i>9,113</i>	<i>18.4%</i>	<i>160,813</i>	<i>18.2%</i>
Colon & Rectal Surgery	5	0.1%	48	0.1%	1,265	0.1%
General Surgery	200	4.1%	2,037	4.1%	37,502	4.2%
Neurological Surgery	29	0.6%	329	0.7%	5,288	0.6%
Obstetrics & Gynecology	264	5.4%	2,349	4.8%	42,059	4.8%
Ophthalmology	100	2.0%	1,014	2.1%	18,706	2.1%
Orthopedic Surgery	128	2.6%	1,560	3.2%	23,796	2.7%
Otolaryngology	47	1.0%	537	1.1%	9,861	1.1%
Plastic Surgery	41	0.8%	411	0.8%	6,852	0.8%
Thoracic Surgery	31	0.6%	245	0.5%	4,916	0.6%
Urology Surgery	55	1.1%	583	1.2%	10,568	1.2%

Specialty	Licensed Physicians (MD)					
	Nevada		Mountain Region		United States	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
<i>Other Specialties</i>	<i>1,200</i>	<i>24.3%</i>	<i>12,145</i>	<i>24.6%</i>	<i>210,303</i>	<i>23.8%</i>
Aerospace Medicine	2	0.0%	44	0.1%	475	0.1%
Anesthesiology	317	6.4%	2,612	5.3%	38,822	4.4%
Child & Adolescent Psychiatry	23	0.5%	384	0.8%	6,848	0.8%
Diagnostic Radiology	148	3.0%	1,358	2.7%	23,653	2.7%
Emergency Medicine	180	3.6%	2,000	4.0%	27,864	3.1%
Forensic Medicine	7	0.1%	39	0.1%	620	0.1%
General Preventive Medicine	7	0.1%	112	0.2%	2,048	0.2%
Medical Genetics	1	0.0%	28	0.1%	476	0.1%
Neurology	56	1.1%	662	1.3%	13,662	1.5%
Nuclear Medicine	5	0.1%	46	0.1%	1,447	0.2%
Occupational Medicine	15	0.3%	189	0.4%	2,674	0.3%
Psychiatry	158	3.2%	1,944	3.9%	40,292	4.6%
Public Health & General Preventive Medicine	5	0.1%	75	0.2%	1,555	0.2%
Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation	51	1.0%	415	0.8%	7,290	0.8%
Anatomic/Clinical Pathology	89	1.8%	978	2.0%	18,560	2.1%
Radiology	54	1.1%	505	1.0%	8,735	1.0%
Radiation Oncology	24	0.5%	223	0.5%	4,288	0.5%
Transplant Surgery	0	0.0%	2	0.0%	104	0.0%
Other	41	0.8%	323	0.7%	5,335	0.6%
Unspecified	17	0.3%	206	0.4%	5,533	0.6%
Vascular Medicine	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	22	0.0%
<i>Not Classified</i>	<i>185</i>	<i>3.7%</i>	<i>1,694</i>	<i>3.4%</i>	<i>48,011</i>	<i>5.4%</i>
<i>Subtotal – Active Licensed</i>	<i>4,333</i>	<i>88.0%</i>	<i>43,127</i>	<i>87.3%</i>	<i>792,154</i>	<i>89.5%</i>
<i>Subtotal – Inactive Licensed</i>	<i>601</i>	<i>12.2%</i>	<i>6,295</i>	<i>12.7%</i>	<i>92,323</i>	<i>10.4%</i>
<i>Address Unknown</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0.0%</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>497</i>	<i>0.0%</i>

*Notes and sources: Mountain Region includes Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming. All licensure figures and distributions are from the American Medical Association (2006).

Table 3: Number of Licensed Physicians (MD) in Nevada, Mountain Region, and United States per 100,000 Population – 2004*

Specialty	Number of Licensed Physicians (MD) per 100,000 Population		
	Nevada	Mountain Region	United States
<i>Total – All Physicians</i>	211	250	297
<i>GP/FM Practice</i>	23.5	32.7	31.3
Family Medicine	20.7	29.9	27.4
General Practice	2.7	2.8	4.0
<i>Medical Specialties</i>	64.2	69.2	95.7
Allergy & Immunology	0.7	1.1	1.4
Cardiovascular Disease	6.0	5.2	7.5
Dermatology	2.1	2.9	3.6
Gastroenterology	2.5	3.1	4.0
Internal Medicine	36.7	35.9	51.4
Pediatrics	13.7	17.5	23.9
Pediatric Cardiology	0.3	0.4	0.6
Pulmonary Disease	2.2	3.0	3.3
<i>Surgical Specialties</i>	38.5	46.0	54.8
Colon & Rectal Surgery	0.2	0.2	0.4
General Surgery	8.6	10.3	12.8
Neurological Surgery	1.2	1.4	1.8
Obstetrics & Gynecology	11.3	11.9	14.3
Ophthalmology	4.3	5.1	6.4
Orthopedic Surgery	5.5	7.9	8.1
Otolaryngology	2.0	2.7	3.4
Plastic Surgery	1.8	2.1	2.3
Thoracic Surgery	1.3	1.2	1.7
Urology Surgery	2.4	2.9	3.6

Specialty	Number of Licensed Physicians (MD) per 100,000 Population		
	Nevada	Mountain Region	United States
<i>Other Specialties</i>	<i>51.4</i>	<i>61.3</i>	<i>71.6</i>
Aerospace Medicine	0.1	0.2	0.2
Anesthesiology	13.6	13.2	13.2
Child & Adolescent Psychiatry	1.0	1.9	2.3
Diagnostic Radiology	6.3	6.9	8.1
Emergency Medicine	7.7	10.1	9.5
Forensic Medicine	0.3	0.2	0.2
General Preventive Medicine	0.3	0.6	0.7
Medical Genetics	0.0	0.1	0.2
Neurology	2.4	3.0	4.7
Nuclear Medicine	0.2	0.2	0.5
Occupational Medicine	0.6	1.0	0.9
Psychiatry	6.8	9.8	13.7
Public Health & General Preventive Medicine	0.2	0.4	0.5
Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation	2.2	2.1	2.5
Anatomic/Clinical Pathology	3.8	4.9	6.3
Radiology	2.3	2.6	3.0
Radiation Oncology	1.0	1.1	1.5
Transplant Surgery	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other	1.8	1.6	1.8
Unspecified	0.7	1.0	1.9
Vascular Medicine	0.0	0.0	0.0

*Notes and source: Specialty-level ratios were based on licensure data and population data for 2004 compiled by the American Medical Association (2006).

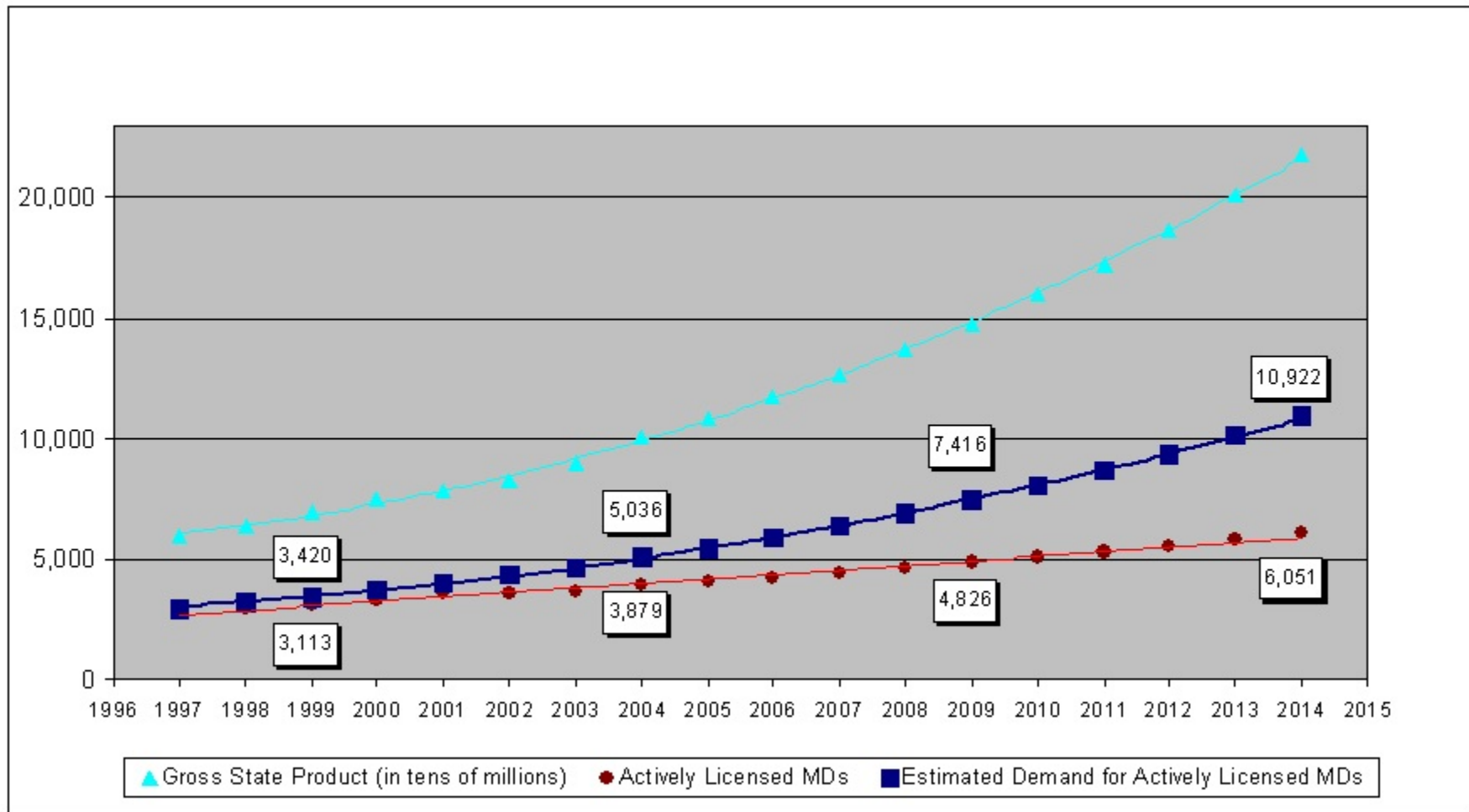
Table 4: Number of Licensed Physicians (MD) in Nevada per 100,000 Population and Percent of Mountain Region and United States Ratio – 2004

Specialty	Licensed Physicians (MD) per 100,000 Population in Nevada		
	Number per 100,000 Population	Percent of Mountain Region Ratio	Percent of United States Ratio
<i>Total – All Physicians</i>	<i>211.3</i>	<i>84.4%</i>	<i>71.0%</i>
<i>GP/FM Practice</i>	<i>23.5</i>	<i>71.9%</i>	<i>75.1%</i>
Family Medicine	20.7	69.2%	75.5%
General Practice	2.7	96.4%	67.5%
<i>Medical Specialties</i>	<i>64.2</i>	<i>92.8%</i>	<i>67.1%</i>
Allergy & Immunology	0.7	63.6%	50.0%
Cardiovascular Disease	6.0	115.4%	80.0%
Dermatology	2.1	72.4%	58.3%
Gastroenterology	2.5	80.6%	62.5%
Internal Medicine	36.7	102.2%	71.4%
Pediatrics	13.7	78.3%	57.3%
Pediatric Cardiology	0.3	75.0%	50.0%
Pulmonary Disease	2.2	73.3%	66.7%
<i>Surgical Specialties</i>	<i>38.5</i>	<i>83.7%</i>	<i>70.3%</i>
Colon & Rectal Surgery	0.2	100.0%	50.0%
General Surgery	8.6	83.5%	67.2%
Neurological Surgery	1.2	85.7%	66.7%
Obstetrics & Gynecology	11.3	95.0%	79.0%
Ophthalmology	4.3	84.3%	67.2%
Orthopedic Surgery	5.5	67.2%	67.9%
Otolaryngology	2.0	74.1%	58.8%
Plastic Surgery	1.8	85.7%	78.3%
Thoracic Surgery	1.3	108.3%	76.5%
Urology Surgery	2.4	82.8%	66.7%

Specialty	Licensed Physicians (MD) per 100,000 Population in Nevada		
	Number per 100,000 Population	Percent of Mountain Region Ratio	Percent of United States Ratio
<i>Other Specialties</i>	51.4	83.8%	71.8%
Aerospace Medicine	0.1	50.0%	50.0%
Anesthesiology	13.6	103.0%	103.0%
Child & Adolescent Psychiatry	1.0	52.6%	43.5%
Diagnostic Radiology	6.3	91.3%	77.8%
Emergency Medicine	7.7	76.2%	81.1%
Forensic Medicine	0.3	150.0%	150.0%
General Preventive Medicine	0.3	50.0%	42.9%
Medical Genetics	0.0	0.0%	0.0%
Neurology	2.4	80.0%	51.1%
Nuclear Medicine	0.2	100.0%	40.0%
Occupational Medicine	0.6	60.0%	66.7%
Psychiatry	6.8	69.4%	49.6%
Public Health & Gen Prev Medicine	0.2	50.0%	40.0%
Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation	2.2	104.8%	88.0%
Anatomic/Clinical Pathology	3.8	77.6%	60.3%
Radiology	2.3	88.5%	76.7%
Radiation Oncology	1.0	90.9%	66.7%
Transplant Surgery	0.0	0.0%	0.0%
Other	1.8	112.5%	100.0%
Unspecified	0.7	70.0%	36.8%
Vascular Medicine	0.0	0.0%	0.0%

Source: American Medical Association (2006).

Figure 1: Supply and Demand of Physicians (MD) in Nevada – 1997 to Projected 2014*



*Notes and sources: The data and trends in this figure represent MDs with an Active License in Nevada and who reside in Nevada, thus excluding Doctors of Osteopathy (DOs), and MDs with an inactive license and/or MDs with an active license who reside outside of Nevada. Licensure data from 1997 to 2004 (supply data) utilizes licensure data collected by the Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners (2006).

**Table 5: Current Number and Projected Demand for Actively Licensed Physicians (MD)
by Specialty in Nevada – 2004 to Projected 2014***

Specialty	Actively Licensed Physicians (MD) in Nevada					
	Number 2004	Percent 2004	Estimated Demand 2004	Projected Demand 2009	Projected Demand 2014	Change – 2004 to 2014
<i>Total Active Licensed – Nevada</i>	4,333	100%	5,036	7,416	10,922	5,886
<i>GP/FM Practice</i>	548	12.6%	637	938	1,381	744
Family Medicine	484	11.2%	563	828	1,220	657
General Practice	64	1.5%	74	110	161	87
<i>Medical Specialties</i>	1,500	34.6%	1,743	2,567	3,781	2,038
Allergy & Immunology	17	0.4%	20	29	43	23
Cardiovascular Disease	139	3.2%	162	238	350	189
Dermatology	49	1.1%	57	84	124	67
Gastroenterology	59	1.4%	69	101	149	80
Internal Medicine	858	19.8%	997	1,468	2,163	1,166
Pediatrics	320	7.4%	372	548	807	435
Pediatric Cardiology	7	0.2%	8	12	18	10
Pulmonary Disease	51	1.2%	59	87	129	69
<i>Surgical Specialties</i>	900	20.8%	1,046	1,540	2,269	1,223
Colon & Rectal Surgery	5	0.1%	6	9	13	7
General Surgery	200	4.6%	232	342	504	272
Neurological Surgery	29	0.7%	34	50	73	39
Obstetrics & Gynecology	264	6.1%	307	452	665	359
Ophthalmology	100	2.3%	116	171	252	136
Orthopedic Surgery	128	3.0%	149	219	323	174
Otolaryngology	47	1.1%	55	80	118	64
Plastic Surgery	41	0.9%	48	70	103	56
Thoracic Surgery	31	0.7%	36	53	78	42
Urology Surgery	55	1.3%	64	94	139	75

Specialty	Actively Licensed Physicians (MD) in Nevada					
	Number 2004	Percent 2004	Estimated Demand 2004	Projected Demand 2009	Projected Demand 2014	Change – 2004 to 2014
<i>Other Specialties</i>	<i>1,200</i>	<i>27.7%</i>	<i>1,395</i>	<i>2,054</i>	<i>3,025</i>	<i>1,630</i>
Aerospace Medicine	2	0.0%	2	3	5	3
Anesthesiology	317	7.3%	368	543	799	431
Child & Adolescent Psychiatry	23	0.5%	27	39	58	31
Diagnostic Radiology	148	3.4%	172	253	373	201
Emergency Medicine	180	4.2%	209	308	454	245
Forensic Medicine	7	0.2%	8	12	18	10
General Preventive Medicine	7	0.2%	8	12	18	10
Medical Genetics	1	0.0%	1	2	3	1
Neurology	56	1.3%	65	96	141	76
Nuclear Medicine	5	0.1%	6	9	13	7
Occupational Medicine	15	0.3%	17	26	38	20
Psychiatry	158	3.6%	184	270	398	215
Public Health & Gen Prev Medicine	5	0.1%	6	9	13	7
Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation	51	1.2%	59	87	129	69
Anatomic/Clinical Pathology	89	2.1%	103	152	224	121
Radiology	54	1.2%	63	92	136	73
Radiation Oncology	24	0.6%	28	41	60	33
Transplant Surgery	0	0.0%	0	0	0	0
Other	41	0.9%	48	70	103	56
Unspecified	17	0.4%	20	29	43	23
Vascular Medicine	0	0.0%	0	0	0	0
Not Classified	185	3.7%	186	274	404	218

*Notes and sources: Demand projections utilize 2004 Nevada MD licensure and specialty distribution figures from the American Medical Association (2006) thus resulting in slight differences between licensure data from the Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners (2006) for 2004

**Table 6: Geographic Distribution of Licensed Physicians (MD) and
Actively Licensed Physicians in Nevada – 2004**

County and Region	Licensed Physicians (MD)		Actively Licensed Physicians (MD)	
	Number	Percent of Licensed Physicians	Number	Percent of Actively Licensed Physicians
<i>Total</i>	<i>4,934</i>	<i>100.0%</i>	<i>4,333</i>	<i>100.0%</i>
<i>Southern Nevada</i>				
	<i>3,308</i>	<i>67.0%</i>	<i>2,916</i>	<i>67.3%</i>
Clark	3,308	67.0%	2,916	67.3%
<i>Northern Nevada</i>				
	<i>1,462</i>	<i>29.6%</i>	<i>1,277</i>	<i>29.5%</i>
Carson City	157	3.2%	145	3.3%
Douglas	101	2.0%	77	1.8%
Storey	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Washoe	1,204	24.4%	1,055	24.3%
<i>Rural and Frontier Nevada</i>				
	<i>163</i>	<i>3.3%</i>	<i>137</i>	<i>3.2%</i>
Churchill	33	0.7%	32	0.7%
Elko	49	1.0%	43	1.0%
Esmeralda	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Eureka	1	0.0%	1	0.0%
Humboldt	8	0.2%	7	0.2%
Lander	3	0.1%	3	0.1%
Lincoln	1	0.0%	1	0.0%
Lyon	18	0.4%	13	0.3%
Mineral	3	0.1%	2	0.0%
Nye	29	0.6%	21	0.5%
Pershing	3	0.1%	2	0.0%
White Pine	15	0.3%	13	0.3%

Source: American Medical Association (2006).

**Table 7: Number and Per Capita Geographic Distribution of
Licensed Physicians (MD) in Nevada – 2004**

County	Licensed Physicians(MD)		Population		Per Capita Distribution of Licensed Physicians (MD)	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent of State Population	Number of Physicians per 100,000 Population	Resident Population per Physician
<i>Total – Nevada</i>	<i>4,934</i>	<i>100%</i>	<i>2,410,768</i>	<i>100%</i>	<i>204.7</i>	<i>489</i>
<i>Southern Nevada</i>	<i>3,308</i>	<i>67.1%</i>	<i>1,715,337</i>	<i>71.2%</i>	<i>192.8</i>	<i>519</i>
Clark	3,308	67.1%	1,715,337	71.2%	192.8	519
<i>Northern Nevada</i>	<i>1,462</i>	<i>29.6%</i>	<i>491,199</i>	<i>20.4%</i>	<i>297.6</i>	<i>336</i>
Carson City	157	3.2%	56,146	2.3%	297.6	358
Douglas	101	2.0%	47,803	2.0%	211.3	473
Storey	0	0.0%	3,797	0.2%	0.0	0
Washoe	1,204	24.4%	383,453	15.9%	314.0	319
<i>Rural and Frontier Nevada</i>	<i>163</i>	<i>3.3%</i>	<i>204,233</i>	<i>8.5%</i>	<i>79.8</i>	<i>1,253</i>
Churchill	33	0.7%	26,106	1.1%	126.4	791
Elko	49	1.0%	46,499	1.9%	105.4	949
Esmeralda	0	0.0%	1,176	0.0%	0.0	0
Eureka	1	0.0%	1,484	0.1%	67.4	1,484
Humboldt	8	0.2%	16,692	0.7%	47.9	2,087
Lander	3	0.1%	5,357	0.2%	56.0	1,786
Lincoln	1	0.0%	3,822	0.2%	26.2	3,822
Lyon	18	0.4%	44,646	1.9%	40.3	2,480
Mineral	3	0.1%	4,673	0.2%	64.2	1,558
Nye	29	0.6%	38,181	1.6%	76.0	1,317
Pershing	3	0.1%	6,631	0.3%	45.2	2,210
White Pine	15	0.3%	8,966	0.4%	167.3	598

*Notes and sources: This table utilizes licensure data from the American Medical Association (2006) and county-level population estimates from the Nevada State Demographers Office (2005) resulting in a statewide physician to population ratio of 204.7 which differs slightly from AMA estimate of 211 physicians per 100,000 population for 2004 presented elsewhere in this report.

**Table 8: Current Number and Projected Demand for Actively Licensed Physicians (MD)
by County and Region in Nevada – 2004 to Projected 2014***

County and Region	Actively Licensed Physicians (MD) in Nevada					
	Number 2004	Percent 2004	Estimated Demand 2004	Projected Demand 2009	Projected Demand 2014	Change – 2004 to 2014
<i>Total – Nevada</i>	4,333	100%	5,036	7,416	10,922	5,886
<i>Southern Nevada</i>	2,916	67.3%	3,389	4,991	7,350	3,961
Clark	2,916	67.3%	3,389	4,991	7,350	3,961
<i>Northern Nevada</i>	1,277	29.5%	1,484	2,186	3,219	1,735
Carson City	145	3.3%	169	248	365	197
Douglas	77	1.8%	89	132	194	105
Storey	0	0.0%	0	0	0	0
Washoe	1,055	24.3%	1,226	1,806	2,659	1,433
<i>Rural and Frontier Nevada</i>	139	3.2%	160	235	346	187
Churchill	32	0.7%	37	55	81	43
Elko	43	1.0%	50	74	108	58
Esmeralda	0	0.0%	0	0	0	0
Eureka	1	0.0%	1	2	2	1
Humboldt	7	0.2%	8	12	18	10
Lander	3	0.1%	3	5	7	4
Lincoln	1	0.0%	1	2	2	1
Lyon	13	0.3%	15	22	33	18
Mineral	2	0.0%	2	3	5	3
Nye	21	0.5%	24	36	53	29
Pershing	2	0.0%	2	3	5	3
White Pine	13	0.3%	15	22	33	18

*Notes and sources: Projections utilize Nevada MD licensure data from the American Medical Association (2006).

