



**Quarterly Update
Physician Resources in Alberta
April 01, 2019 to June 30, 2019**

Quarterly Update on Physician Resources

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Quarterly Update on Physician Resources for the three months, and year, ended 30 June, 2019

HIGHLIGHTS

Registers:

- At the **end of June 2019** there were **10599** physicians registered on the in-province registers. This figure reflects an **increase of 80 from the last quarter**, and an **increase of 248 (2.4%) from the same period in 2018**.
- During the **second quarter** of 2019, an increase of 84 physicians was noted on the General Register with the Provisional Register decrease by 4.
- Within the **year-to-year** comparison there was an increase of 322 on the General Register, and a decrease of 74 on the Provisional Register.
- To put this in prospective, report 4 (Summary of Inflows and Outflows) reflects an inflow of 103 physicians during the second quarter. Offsetting the overall inflow of physicians was an outflow of 23 physicians. Please refer to Report 4 for further explanation on the inflows and outflows that occurred during this quarter.

Gender:

- Over the last quarter, there was a **net increase of 36 males** and a **net crease of 44 females**.
- The **year-to-year** change reflected a net gain of **101 males** and **147 females**.

Specialists / Non-Specialists:

- Over the **last quarter**, there was a **net increase of 79 specialists** and a **net increase of 1 non-specialists**.
- The **year-to-year** change reflected an increase of **295 specialists** and a net decrease of **47 non-specialists**.
- Report 3 (Changes of Physician Resources by Specialty) outlines changes in numbers for each specialty over the past year. For information pertinent to all specialties please refer to Report 3.

Location by Region:

- The year-to-year comparison continues to indicate the majority of Regional Zones experienced an increase in physician resources.

Report 1

Summary of Changes in Physician Resources Report For the Period 01 Apr 2019 to 30 Jun 2019

	Current Period	Last Period	# Change	% Change	Same Prd Last	# Change	% Change
Fully-Registered Physicians in Alberta:							
General Register	9769	9685	84	0.9	9447	322	3.4
Provisional Register Conditional	830	834	-4	-0.5	904	-74	-8.2
Total in Alberta	10599	1051	80	0.8	10351	248	2.4
Sex:							
Female	4242	4198	44	1	4095	147	3.6
Male	6357	6321	36	0.6	6256	101	1.6
Specialists/Non-Specialists:							
Specialist	8938	8859	79	0.9	8643	295	3.4
Non-Specialist	1661	1660	1	0.1	1708	-47	-2.8
Location:							
Airdrie	66	67	-1	-1.5	64	2	3.1
Brooks	22	22			24	-2	-8.3
Calgary	4338	4308	30	0.7	4214	124	2.9
Camrose	47	47			47		
Drumheller	18	18			19	-1	-5.3
Edmonton	3477	3453	24	0.7	3436	41	1.2
Fort McMurray	85	85			82	3	3.7
Fort Saskatchewan	35	35			36	-1	-2.8
Grande Prairie	140	141	-1	-0.7	144	-4	-2.8
Leduc	48	47	1	2.1	45	3	6.7
Lethbridge	294	291	3	1	281	13	4.6
Lloydminster	44	44			44		
Medicine Hat	184	185	-1	-0.5	180	4	2.2
Red Deer	281	278	3	1.1	279	2	0.7
Sherwood Park	136	133	3	2.3	122	14	11.5
Spruce Grove	53	53			51	2	3.9
St. Albert	169	169			161	8	5
Wetaskiwin	43	42	1	2.4	36	7	19.4
Other Locations	1119	1101	18	1.6	1086	33	3
Place of Graduation:							
U OF A	2700	2677	23	0.9	2644	56	2.1
U OF C	1509	1493	16	1.1	1441	68	4.7
Other Canadian	2788	2767	21	0.8	2732	56	2
U.S.A.	94	91	3	3.3	93	1	1.1
Other Locations	3508	3491	17	0.5	3441	67	1.9
Other Categories of Licensure:							
General Register, out-of-province	500	478	22	4.6	488	12	2.5
Provisional Register Postgrad. Training	1686	1572	114	7.3	1676	10	0.6
Student Register	817	1150	-333	-29	827	-10	-1.2
Total, All Registers	13602	1371	-117	-0.9	13342	260	1.9
Retired, out-of-province							
Retired, out-of-province	130	130			123	7	5.7
Retired, in-province	1087	1079	8	0.7	955	132	13.8
Total Retired	1217	1209	8	0.7	1078	139	12.9

Report 2

Physician Resources by AHS Zone For the Period 01 Apr 2019 to 30 Jun 2019

Code	Health Region	<u>Current Period</u>			<u>Same Period Last Year</u>			#Change	%Change
		Specialists	Non-Specialists	Total	Specialists	Non-Specialists	Total		
1Z1	- South Zone	476	128	604	459	125	584	20	3.4
2Z2	- Calgary Zone	4231	506	4737	4068	533	4601	136	3.0
3Z3	- Central Zone	470	259	729	453	249	702	27	3.8
4Z4	- Edmonton Zone	3451	539	3990	3353	570	3923	67	1.7
5Z5	- North Zone	301	228	529	302	231	533	-4	-0.8
	Totals	8929	1660	10589	8635	1708	10343	246	2.4

Report 3

Changes in Physician Resources by Specialty For the Period 01 Apr 2019 to 30 Jun 2019

Specialty	Total This Period Last Year	Inflow New Reg	Inflow New Cert	Outflow Left Prov	Outflow Other	Net Change	Total This Period
Adolescent Medicine	1						1
Anatomical Pathology	155	12		5	4	3	158
Anesthesiology	433	27	1	4	21	3	436
Cardiac Surgery	16	4			1	3	19
Cardiology	176	7	4	1	7	3	179
Cardiovascular & Thoracic Surgery	9				1	-1	8
Child and Adolescent Psychiatry	9		14			14	23
Clinical Immunology & Allergy	22		2		2		22
Clinical Pharmacology	1						1
Colorectal Surgery	2						2
Community Medicine	21	1			2	-1	20
Critical Care Medicine	119	4	6		1	9	128
Dermatology	56	9			1	8	64
Developmental Pediatrics	4		1			1	5
Diagnostic Radiology	398	24	1	4	20	1	399
Emergency Medicine	179	13			4	9	188
Endocrinology & Metabolism	60	1	2		1	2	62
Family Medicine	3192	221	45	13	90	162	3354
Family Medicine (Care of the Elderly)	10		1			1	11
Family Medicine (Emergency Medicine)	170	2	6		7	1	171
Family Medicine (Family Practice Anesthesia)	5		4			4	9
Family Medicine (Palliative Care)	9		3		1	2	11
Family Medicine (Sport and Exercise Medicine)	2		1			1	3
Forensic Pathology	5	1		1	2	-2	3
Forensic Psychiatry	13	1				1	14
Gastroenterology	113	1	5	1	5		113
General Internal Medicine	8	1	1			2	10
General Surgery	168	17			9	8	176
General Surgical Oncology	1						1
Geriatric Medicine	20	1			1		20
Geriatric Psychiatry	10	2				2	12
Gynecologic Oncology	3						3

Report 3

Changes in Physician Resources by Specialty For the Period 01 Apr 2019 to 30 Jun 2019

Specialty	Total This Period Last Year	Inflow New Reg	Inflow New Cert	Outflow Left Prov	Outflow Other	Net Change	Total This Period
Gynecologic Reproductive Endocrinology & Hematological Pathology	8	1	1			2	10
Hematology	16	3	2		3	2	46
Infectious Diseases	44	2	1		4	-1	62
Internal Medicine	63	51	1	4	46	2	407
Interventional Radiology	405	1					1
Maternal-Fetal Medicine	8		2			2	10
Medical Biochemistry							
Medical Genetics	18	1			1		18
Medical Microbiology	26	1				1	27
Medical Oncology	59	4			4		59
Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine	42	2			1	1	43
Nephrology	86	2	3		3	2	88
Neurology	154	10		1	7	2	156
Neuropathology	12			1		-1	11
Neuroradiology	1	1	1			2	3
Neurosurgery	37	2		1		1	38
Nuclear Medicine	28	1	1		2		28
Obstetrics & Gynecology	244	15		1	11	3	247
Occupational Medicine	19				1	-1	18
Ophthalmology	137	5		2	6	-3	134
Orthopedic Surgery	193	10		3	9	-2	191
Otolaryngology - Head and Neck Surgery	69	7			2	5	74
Pain Medicine	1						1
Palliative Medicine	1	1	2			3	4
Pathology, General	53	3		1	4	-2	51
Pediatric Cardiology	20						20
Pediatric Emergency Medicine	13	1	2	1		2	15
Pediatric Endocrinology	2						2
Pediatric Gastroenterology	11				2	-2	9
Pediatric Hematology & Oncology	8	1				1	9
Pediatric Nephrology	3				1	-1	2

Report 3

Changes in Physician Resources by Specialty For the Period 01 Apr 2019 to 30 Jun 2019

Specialty	Total This Period Last Year	Inflow New Reg	Inflow New Cert	Outflow Left Prov	Outflow Other	Net Change	Total This Period
Pediatric Neurology	12		1			1	13
Pediatric Oncology		1					1
Pediatric Radiology	1						1
Pediatric Respiriology	3						3
Pediatric Surgery	10		1		1		10
Pediatric Urology	1						1
Pediatrics	428	30		4	18	8	436
Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation	76	8				8	84
Plastic Surgery	68	7			4	3	71
Psychiatry	543	37		3	23	11	554
Public Health and Preventive Medicine	22	1			2	-1	21
Radiation Oncology	56	5			3	2	58
Respirology	107	5	3	3	4	1	108
Rheumatology	57	1	2	1	2		57
Sleep Medicine							
Sport and Exercise Medicine	1		1			1	2
Thoracic Surgery	14						14
Urology	56	5			2	3	59
Vascular Surgery	17		1			1	18
Total, Specialist	8643	574	123	55	346	295	8938
Total, Non-Specialist	1708	62		4	105	-47	1661
Total, Overall	10351	636	123	59	451	248	10599

Report 4

Summary of Inflows and Outflows For the Period 01 Apr 2019 to 30 Jun 2019

Quarter	Alberta Trained	New Other	Restored	Returned To Prov	Retired To Full	Total Inflow	Left Prov	Vol Erase	Removed	Deceased	Retired	Full to Educ	Total Outflow	Net Change
Total for the Four Most Recent	229	337	30	35	5	636	59	97	90	4	136	1	387	249
Quarter 2 2019	41	54	6	1	1	103	6	1	6	0	10	0	23	80
Quarter 1 2019	31	61	10	7	4	113	12	86	72	1	96	1	268	-155
Quarter 4 2018	22	62	8	22	0	114	36	5	8	1	20	0	70	44
Quarter 3 2018	135	160	6	5	0	306	5	5	4	2	10	0	26	280
Quarter 2 2018	27	59	9	3	2	100	2	0	8	2	11	0	23	77

Report 5

Inflows and Outflows by Place of Graduation For the Period 01 Apr 2019 to 30 Jun 2019

Place of Graduation	New	Restored	Returned To Prov	Retired To Full	Inflow Total	Left Prov	Vol Erase	Removed	Deceased	Retired	Full to Educ	Outflow Total	Net Change	New Cert	Total Change
Non-Specialists															

Alberta U OF A	1				1					1		1		-1	-1
Alberta U OF C	1				1			1				1			
British Columbia	1				1								1		1
Manitoba					0										
Newfoundland					0										
Nova Scotia					0			1				1	-1		-1
Ontario					0										
Quebec					0										
Saskatchewan					0										
Foreign	10				10	1				3		4	6	-4	2
USA					0										
Total, Non-Specialists	13				13	1		2		4		7	6	-5	1
Specialists															

Alberta U OF A	22	1			23								23	4	27
Alberta U OF C	17	1			18			2				2	16	5	21
British Columbia	3				3					2		2	1	1	2
Manitoba	6				6								6		6
Newfoundland	1				1								1		1
Nova Scotia	1				1		1					1		1	1
Ontario	14	2		1	17	2		1		2		5	12	4	16
Quebec	1				1								1	1	2
Saskatchewan	1	1			2	1				1		2			
Foreign	13	1	1		15	2		1		1		4	11	11	22
USA	3				3								3		3
Total, Specialists	82	6	1	1	90	5	1	4		6		16	74	27	101
Total, Overall	95	6	1	1	103	6	1	6		10		23	80	22	102

Quarterly Update on Physician Resources Report Methodology

Report 1- Summary of Changes in Physician Resources

This report provides an overall count of the number of physicians who are registered with the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Alberta by taking into account all categories of licensure.

'Current Quarter to Last Quarter' and 'Current Quarter to Same Quarter Last Year' comparisons, which are further broken down by number and percent, provide a clear outline of the changes in Physician Resources.

Distribution by gender, specialty, location and place of graduation are also included. A similar breakdown is not offered in respect of: 1) physicians on the General Register who reside out-of-province, 2) physicians on the Education Register, and 3) retired physicians.

Limitations:

Counts: The numbers reflect the physicians who maintained an active *license* within the applicable quarter; it cannot be interpreted as those who are actively *practicing*.

Location: The location counts are based on the physician's practice location, where available. Otherwise the physician's home address is used for location purposes.

Definitions:

Fully-Registered Physicians in Alberta:

General Register: contains the names of all physicians and osteopaths who are responsible and accountable for their medical practice, without supervision by another physician or the College of Physicians & Surgeons of Alberta.

Provisional Register: contains the names of physicians and osteopaths who do not meet the criteria for the General Register but are in a process that once successfully completed, will qualify for the General Register.

Limited Practice Register: contains the names of physicians and osteopaths who are restricted to limited practice activities under the supervision of another physician, and are not the most responsible physician in the care of patients.

Courtesy Register: physicians on the Courtesy Register involved primarily in research (but with a defined clinical component), or teaching. Very few physicians are offered this form of licensure.

Other Categories of Licensure:

Emergency Register - physicians and osteopaths who are practicing medicine in Alberta on a temporary basis during a medical emergency or crisis

Telemedicine Register - physicians and osteopaths located outside Alberta who are practicing telemedicine pertaining to patients in Alberta.

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Student Register: those undergraduates enrolled in a faculty of medicine in Alberta or enrolled in another medical school who are undertaking undergraduate medical education at a university in Alberta

Retired (In/Out of Province): Physicians who have retired from the practice of medicine in Alberta. Note: Retired status is not a form of licensure.

Understanding Report 1:

Col. 1: “*Current Quarter*” represents the tally at the end of the quarter.

Col. 2-4: “*Last Quarter*” reflects the numbers at the end of the previous quarter, “*# Change*” is the net change between the two quarters represented, and “*% Change*” is the same measure, in percent. Please refer to Report 4 for the sources of this change.

Col. 5-7: Makes the same comparisons as columns 2-4, except compares the current quarter to the equivalent quarter last year (i.e., Quarter 2, 2019, is compared to Quarter 2, 2018).

Report 2 - Physician Resources By Zone

This report provides net changes by Zone for those physicians fully licensed in Alberta. Broken down to reflect both specialists and non-specialists, the report compares the current quarter to the equivalent quarter last year, resulting in a net change applicable to each Zone.

Col. 1: Alberta Health Services Zone name. The ‘Other’ category displayed represents fully-registered physicians who are resident in Alberta but at the time of reporting an Alberta address was not available.

Col. 2-4: “*Current Quarter*” reflects the number of specialists and non-specialists as well as a combined total by Zone.

Col. 5-7: “*Same Quarter Last Year*” reflects the same information as columns 2-4, with the exception that the information displayed is for the same quarter last year.

Col. 8-9: “*Changes*” compares the current quarter numbers to the equivalent quarter figures last year, “*# change*” is the net change between the quarters represented, and “*% change*” is the same measure, in percent.

Report 3 - Changes in Physician Resources by Specialty

This report provides a year to year comparison of the inflows and outflows and illustrates how the changes documented in report 4 (Summary of Inflows/Outflows) affect the composition of specialists and non-specialists. Physicians are categorized by their most recently recognized specialty.

The numbers can be affected in one of two ways: a non-specialist can become a specialist, or a specialist can obtain a new certification. In the first instance, the non-specialist category is reduced by one, and the applicable specialty is increased. In the second instance, the physician's initial specialty is reduced by one, and the new specialty is increased by one.

Limitation:

These counts do not necessarily reflect physicians' functional area of practice, or even if they have an active clinical practice.

Definitions:

Total, This Period Last Year: The count of physicians in each specialty during the same quarter last year.

Inflow – New Registration: Includes all of the new specialists/non-specialists resulting from the inflows detailed in report 4 (new, restored, returned, etc.).

Inflow – New Certification: Physicians who were registered at the beginning of the quarter and received a new certification within this quarter.

Outflow - Left Province: (see report 4).

Outflow - Other: (all other outflows as recorded in Report 4).

Net Change – The difference between the Inflows and Outflows.

Total This Period – The count of physicians in each specialty for the current quarter.

Report 4 - Summary of Inflows and Outflows

This report indicates the *sources* of change in the total number of licensed physicians in Alberta.

Report 4 also provides a quarter-to-quarter comparison of inflows and outflows, extending back to the same quarter for the previous year. This allows us to make two analyses:

- By comparing the current quarter with the same quarter for the previous year, we assess if the change is typical for that time of year.
- We can confirm that the *sum of the net changes* for the last four quarters equals the *difference* between the number of physicians in Alberta this year and the number in Alberta last year (refer to column 6 in report 1).

NOTE: The largest swings in the numbers of physicians registered occur in the first and third quarter of each year. The first quarter (actually, January 1) is when the College finds out how many physicians are not planning to renew their licenses. Typically, these physicians have already left the province at some point during the year, but have waited until renewal time to inform the College of their departure. The third quarter (actually, July 1) is when most physicians complete their postgraduate training programs and become eligible for full licenses.

Definitions:

Inflows:

New - Alberta Trained: Newly licensed physicians whose last year of training was in Alberta.

New - Other: Physicians newly licensed in Alberta, excluding the above.

Restored: Physicians whose names were re-instated on the Register. Typically, these Physicians were voluntarily erased from the General Register or temporarily registered on the Provisional Register.

Return to Province: Physicians who maintained licensure while residing out of province, and have since returned to Alberta.

Retired to Full: Physicians who were on the Retired List and have now re-entered active practice.

Total Inflow: The sum of all inflows.

Outflows:

Left Province: Physicians who have maintained their license, but relocated out of province.

Voluntarily Erase: Physicians who no longer required their Alberta license.

Removed: Physicians who were suspended or were licensed for a limited period of time and have since been removed from the Register.

Deceased: (falls in the quarter in which we were notified, rather than the date of death).

Retired: Physicians who have retired or otherwise fully withdrawn from the practice of medicine in Alberta.

Full to Educational: Physicians who were fully-licensed, but chose not to maintain their license while they undertook additional training.

Total Outflow: The sum of all outflows

Report 5 - Inflows and Outflows by Physicians' Place of Graduation

This report reflects the inflows and outflows by the location physicians received their medical diplomas.

Place of graduation is broken down by non-specialist (GPs/family physicians) and specialist. The Alberta medical schools are represented individually, with the remaining Canadian medical schools represented by province. "Foreign" refers to medical schools outside Canada or the United States.

Categories: The category "New" includes both "New - Alberta Trained" and "New - Other" discussed under report 4.

For further information:

Contact Bruce Leisen, Director, Registration, at the College of Physicians & Surgeons of Alberta, bruce.leisen@cpsa.ab.ca.