

Physician Resources in Alberta

Quarterly Update:
Apr 01, 2020 to Jun 30, 2020

Quarterly Update on Physician Resources

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Quarterly Update on Physician Resources for the three months, and year, ended Jun 30, 2020

HIGHLIGHTS

Registers:

- At the **end of June 2020** there were **10905** physicians registered on the in-province registers. This figure reflects an **increase of 93 from the last quarter**, and an **increase of 306 from the same period in 2019**.
- During the **second quarter** of 2020, an increase of 90 physicians was noted on the General Register with the Provisional Register increase by 3.
- Within the **year-to-year** comparison there was an increase of 382 on the General Register, and a decrease of 76 on the Provisional Register.
- To put this in prospective, report 4 (Summary of Inflows and Outflows) reflects an inflow of 116 physicians during the first quarter. Offsetting the overall inflow of physicians was an outflow of 21 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 decrease of 44 males** and a **net increase of 49 females**.
- The **year-to-year** change reflected a net gain of **103 males** and **203 females**.

Specialists / Non-Specialists:

- Over the **last quarter**, there was a **net increase of 97 specialists** and a **net decrease of 4 non-specialists**.
- The **year-to-year** change reflected an increase of **386 specialists** and a net decrease of **80 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 2020 To 30 Jun 2020

	Current Period	Last Period	#	Change %	Same Prd Last Year	#	Change %	Change
Fully-Registered Physicians in Alberta:								
General Register	10151	10061	90	0.9	9769	382	3.9	
Provisional Register Conditional	754	751	3	0.4	830	-76	-9.2	
Total in Alberta	10905	10812	93	0.9	10599	306	2.9	
Sex:								
Female	4445	4396	49	1.1	4242	203	4.8	
Male	6460	6416	44	0.7	6357	103	1.6	
Specialists/Non-Specialists:								
Specialist	9324	9227	97	1.1	8938	386	4.3	
Non-Specialist	1581	1585	-4	-0.3	1661	-80	-4.8	
Location:								
Airdrie	67	69	-2	-2.9	66	1	1.5	
Brooks	21	21			22	-1	-4.5	
Calgary	4493	4449	44	1	4338	155	3.6	
Camrose	52	51	1	2	47	5	10.6	
Drumheller	19	19			18	1	5.6	
Edmonton	3562	3536	26	0.7	3477	85	2.4	
Fort McMurray	92	91	1	1.1	85	7	8.2	
Fort Saskatchewan	34	35	-1	-2.9	35	-1	-2.9	
Grande Prairie	145	143	2	1.4	140	5	3.6	
Leduc	51	50	1	2	48	3	6.3	
Lethbridge	307	304	3	1	294	13	4.4	
Lloydminster	47	46	1	2.2	44	3	6.8	
Medicine Hat	177	175	2	1.1	184	-7	-3.8	
Red Deer	297	294	3	1	281	16	5.7	
Sherwood Park	136	136			136			
Spruce Grove	56	56			53	3	5.7	
St. Albert	173	172	1	0.6	169	4	2.4	
Wetaskiwin	46	46			43	3	7	
Other Locations	1130	1119	11	1	1119	11	1	
Place of Graduation:								
U OF A	2752	2743	9	0.3	2700	52	1.9	
U OF C	1578	1563	15	1	1509	69	4.6	
Other Canadian	2868	2832	36	1.3	2788	80	2.9	
U.S.A.	92	93	-1	-1.1	94	-2	-2.1	
Other Locations	3615	3581	34	0.9	3508	107	3.1	
Other Categories of Licensure:								
General Register, out-of-province	510	493	17	3.4	500	10	2	
Provisional Register Postgrad. Training	1618	1567	51	3.3	1686	-68	-4	
Student Register	958	1136	-178	-15.7	817	141	17.3	
Total, All Registers	13991	14008	-17	-0.1	13602	389	2.9	
Retired, out-of-province								
Retired, out-of-province	134	134			130	4	3.1	
Retired, in-province	1230	1225	5	0.4	1087	143	13.2	
Total Retired	1364	1359	5	0.4	1217	147	12.1	

Report 2

Physician Resources by AHS Zone For the Period 01 Apr 2020 To 30 Jun 2020

Code	Health Region	<u>Current Period</u>			<u>Same Period Last Year</u>			#Change	%Change
		Specialists	Non-Specialists	Total	Specialists	Non-Specialists	Total		
1	Z1 - South Zone	491	117	608	476	128	604	4	0.7
2	Z2 - Calgary Zone	4403	484	4887	4231	506	4737	150	3.2
3	Z3 - Central Zone	512	253	765	470	259	729	36	4.9
4	Z4 - Edmonton Zone	3580	503	4083	3451	539	3990	93	2.3
5	Z5 - North Zone	330	222	552	301	228	529	23	4.3
	Totals	9316	1579	10895	8929	1660	10589	306	2.9

Report 3

Changes in Physician Resources by Specialty For the Period 01 Apr 2020 To 30 Jun 2020

Specialty	Total This Period Last Year	Inflow New Reg	Inflow New Cert	Outflow Left Prov	Outflow Other	Net Change	Total This Period
Addiction Medicine			1				1
Adolescent Medicine	1						1
Anatomical Pathology	158	9		1	5	3	161
Anesthesiology	436	28	1	3	18	8	444
Cardiac Surgery	19						19
Cardiology	179	6	7	3	7	3	182
Cardiovascular & Thoracic Surgery	8						8
Child and Adolescent Psychiatry	23	2	4			6	29
Clinical Immunology & Allergy	22	2			1	1	23
Clinical Pharmacology	1						1
Colorectal Surgery	2	1				1	3
Community Medicine	20	2				2	22
Critical Care Medicine	128	3	4	1	2	4	132
Dermatology	64	7			1	6	70
Developmental Pediatrics	5						5
Diagnostic Radiology	399	32		2	11	19	418
Emergency Medicine	188	13	3		6	10	198
Endocrinology & Metabolism	62	1	4		3	2	64
Family Medicine	3354	230	48	19	104	155	3509
Family Medicine (Addiction Medicine)			6				6
Family Medicine (Care of the Elderly)	11		1		1		11
Family Medicine (Emergency Medicine)	171	4	15		1	18	189
Family Medicine (Family Practice Anesthesia)	9	1	2			3	12
Family Medicine (Palliative Care)	11		2		2		11
Family Medicine (Sport and Exercise Medicine)	3		3			3	6
Forensic Pathology	3						3
Forensic Psychiatry	14		1			1	15
Gastroenterology	113	4	2		4	2	115
General Internal Medicine	10	1			1		10
General Surgery	176	16		1	9	6	182
General Surgical Oncology	1		1			1	2
Geriatric Medicine	20	1	1			2	22

Report 3 Continued

**Changes in Physician Resources by Specialty
For the Period 01 Apr 2020 To 30 Jun 2020**

Specialty	Total This Period Last Year	Inflow New Reg	Inflow New Cert	Outflow Left Prov	Outflow Other	Net Change	Total This Period
Geriatric Psychiatry	12	2	1		1	2	14
Gynecologic Oncology	3						3
Gynecologic Reproductive Endocrinology & Infertility	10		1	1			10
Hematological Pathology	17			1		-1	16
Hematology	46	1	2		2	1	47
Infectious Diseases	62	1	6		3	4	66
Internal Medicine	407	73		3	54	15	422
Interventional Radiology	1						1
Maternal-Fetal Medicine	10						10
Medical Biochemistry							
Medical Genetics	18	3			1	2	20
Medical Microbiology	27	1		1	1	-1	26
Medical Oncology	59	2	1		2	1	60
Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine	43	3	1		1	3	46
Nephrology	88		5		2	3	91
Neurology	156				156		
Neurology (Adult and Pediatric)		17	155		6		166
Neuropathology	11	1			1		11
Neuroradiology	3						3
Neurosurgery	38	2			1	1	39
Nuclear Medicine	28		1			1	29
Obstetrics & Gynecology	247	20		1	10	9	256
Occupational Medicine	18	1	1		1	1	19
Ophthalmology	134	8	1	1	3	5	139
Orthopedic Surgery	191	10		1	5	4	195
Otolaryngology - Head and Neck Surgery	74	6		1	4	1	75
Pain Medicine	1						1
Palliative Medicine	4		2		1	1	5
Pathology, General	51	3			3		51
Pediatric Cardiology	20				1	-1	19
Pediatric Emergency Medicine	15		1			1	16
Pediatric Endocrinology	2						2

Report 3 continued

**Changes in Physician Resources by Specialty
For the Period 01 Apr 2020 To 30 Jun 2020**

Specialty	Total This Period Last Year	Inflow New Reg	Inflow New Cert	Outflow Left Prov	Outflow Other	Net Change	Total This Period
Pediatric Gastroenterology	9				1	-1	8
Pediatric Hematology & Oncology	9				1	-1	8
Pediatric Nephrology	2						2
Pediatric Neurology	13		1		3	-2	11
Pediatric Oncology	1				1		
Pediatric Palliative Medicine		1					1
Pediatric Radiology	1						1
Pediatric Respiriology	3	2				2	5
Pediatric Surgery	10		1			1	11
Pediatric Urology	1						1
Pediatrics	436	37			26	10	446
Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation	84	12	1			13	97
Plastic Surgery	71	4		1	3		71
Psychiatry	554	42		4	21	17	571
Public Health and Preventive Medicine	21	6	1		1	6	27
Radiation Oncology	58	3	1		2	2	60
Respirology	108	6	6		1	11	119
Rheumatology	57		3		3		57
Sleep Medicine							
Sport and Exercise Medicine	2	1				1	3
Thoracic Surgery	14						14
Urology	59	6			4	2	61
Vascular Surgery	18						18
Total, Specialist	8938	637	298	45	502	386	9324
Total, Non-Specialist	1661	52	3	5	130	-80	1581
Total, Overall	10599	689	301	50	632	306	10905

Report 4

Summary of Inflows and Outflows For the Period 01 Apr 2020 To 30 Jun 2020

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	226	366	44	47	6	689	50	96	76	9	149	1	381	308
Quarter 2 2020	31	66	7	9	3	116	2	3	3	2	11	0	21	95
Quarter 1 2020	30	80	16	3	3	132	12	82	62	5	106	1	268	-136
Quarter 4 2019	20	58	10	25	0	113	31	9	8	1	22	0	71	42
Quarter 3 2019	145	162	11	10	0	328	5	2	3	1	10	0	21	307
Quarter 2 2019	41	54	6	1	1	103	6	1	6	0	10	0	23	80

Report 5

Inflows and Outflows by Place of Graduation For the Period 01 Apr 2020 To 30 Jun 2020

Place of Graduation	New	Returned To Restored	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	3				3								3	-2	1
Alberta U OF C				1	1								1		1
British Columbia	1				1								1		1
Manitoba					0										
Newfoundland					0										
Nova Scotia					0									-1	-1
Ontario					0									1	1
Quebec					0										
Saskatchewan					0										
Foreign	5	2	1		8			1		3		4	4	-11	-7
USA					0										
Total, Non-Specialists	9	2	1	1	13			1		3		4	9	-13	-4
Specialists															

Alberta U OF A	14		1	1	16		2		1	6		9	7	6	13
Alberta U OF C	14	2	1		17	1				1		2	15	3	18
British Columbia	6		1		7								7	1	8
Manitoba	2	1			3								3	1	4
Newfoundland	2				2								2		2
Nova Scotia					0									1	1
Ontario	13	1	2		16			1				1	15	4	19
Quebec	2		1	1	4								4	1	5
Saskatchewan	4				4								4	1	5
Foreign	31	1	2		34	1	1	1		1		4	30	15	45
USA					0				1			1	-1		-1
Total, Specialists	88	5	8	2	103	2	3	2	2	8		17	86	33	119
Total, Overall	97	7	9	3	116	2	3	3	2	11		21	95	20	115

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.

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 4, 2019, is compared to Quarter 4, 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 CPSA 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 CPSA 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:

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