



Tomorrow's Doctors, Tomorrow's Cures

Association of American Medical Colleges

Matriculating Student Questionnaire (MSQ)

2008

All Schools Summary Report

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Note: Some counts may change slightly from year to year as duplicate records were consolidated.

Executive Summary

2008 MSQ Content Changes and Notable Findings

The following All Schools Summary Report presents national data from the 2008 AAMC Matriculating Student Questionnaire (MSQ) and, where applicable, comparable data from 2007 and 2006. Thanks to the efforts of admissions and student affairs personnel at the medical schools the response rate topped 70 percent for the first time in several years. The number of respondents surpassed 13,000 for the first time since 2001.

The content of the 2008 MSQ was almost identical to the 2007 MSQ, which had been greatly modified from prior years' questionnaires. There were no new questions added in 2008. Only one question was changed from 2007: in report Question 24 (p.18), respondents were asked where they hope to locate their practice in the future. The response options, listing each U.S. state and other choices, were a return to options presented in 2006 and prior years.

We note that this Report now includes data from a question that was added (but not reported) in 2007 and asked again in 2008. Report Question 12b. (p.10) shows how matriculants answered a question about the racial and ethnic compositions of three environments: the neighborhood in which they grew up, the college from which they graduated, and their circle of friends in college. This question is now added to the MSQ Reports to better understand and document the experiences and educational benefits of diversity.

Each school will, understandably, eye their institution's MSQ report through a particular lens fashioned by local priorities and needs. And each school will need to set both the local and the national reports in their respective interpretive frameworks, ones appropriate to local or national concerns. With that qualification, we offer below just a few observations, distilled from the national report, that seem particularly relevant to current discussions about the health of the nation's medical schools and future physician workforce.

Preparatory Curricula. We note that, over the past several years, more matriculants have been indicating that they took a college Statistics course with the understanding that it was a medical school prerequisite (Report Q-10, p.8). The percentage indicating such has doubled: from 6.8 percent, when the question was introduced in 1997, to a new high in 2008 of 13.4 percent. This represents nearly a 2-point jump in the past year. In another curricular area, in recent years fewer matriculants have been stating that they took Introductory Organic Chemistry because they perceived it to be a medical school prerequisite (Q-10, p.7). And yet, interestingly, the same cannot be said about those students who took Advanced Organic Chemistry; a steady proportion of those taking such a course has continued to indicate they believed Advanced Organic Chemistry was a requirement for medical school.

Research. The 2008 entering class of aspiring doctors has a greater expectation of participating in research during the course of undergraduate medical education, even if students are not planning to pursue research as their primary career. An increasing number of matriculating students indicated that "Research experience/opportunity" and the "Research reputation of the school" were "Positive" or "Very Positive" factors in their choice of medical schools (Q-14, pp.11,13). Also, 70.6 percent of 2008 matriculants stated they expect to participate in research during medical school, up from 67.5 percent in 2007 (Q-20, p.16).

Executive Summary (continued)

Diversity. New medical students have, for three straight years, increasingly indicated that their own views were changed when diverse perspectives were brought into their undergraduate coursework (Q-13, p.10). Also, in 2008 more students cited “Programs for minority and/or disadvantaged students,” “Diversity of the student body,” and “Diversity of the faculty” as “Positive” or “Very Positive” factors in their choice of medical school (Q-14, pp.12-13). And 2008 matriculants were more likely to “Strongly Agree” that they expect diversity to positively influence their knowledge, training, and professional growth during medical school (Q-19, pp.15-16).

The Attraction of Medicine as a Career. 2008 news stories frequently rehearsed the obstacles faced by anyone wishing to become a physician, especially a primary care physician. As concerns about increased tuition, educational debt, anticipated salaries, and work/life balance became front-section news, it will be worth looking at the ways 2008 matriculants weighed these factors in their decision to study medicine (Q-5, p.5). Because the news of the severity of the current economic turndown came after most respondents had completed the 2008 MSQ, we will be especially interested in observing how matriculants respond to these same questions in 2009.

Finally, we note that the number of matriculants expecting to remain linked in to their online social networks during medical school has grown over the past year (Q-21, p.17). To those who may not participate in such networks, the data can seem astonishing. But to anyone who is already ‘linked in,’ the data are probably unremarkable. (In the spirit of transparency, we admit that we, too, have become more cyber-connected this past year.) At any rate, whatever your particular threshold of online connectivity may be, we hope you will link us in to the ways your schools and other groups are using your MSQ data. So whether by snail-mail, e-mail, or even (dare we imagine?) instant message, we are ready and eager to hear about the meaningful stories or questions your MSQ data are illuminating.

Anything MSQ-related can be sent to msq@aamc.org. Alternatively, you may contact David Matthew, PhD, Senior Research Analyst, Student and Applicant Studies (dmatthew@aamc.org), or Gwen Garrison, PhD, Director of Student and Applicant Studies (ggarrison@aamc.org), Association of American Medical Colleges.

NOTE REGARDING 2008 SURVEY INSTRUMENTS: Students at five programs took the 2008 MSQ survey on a piloted platform that differed from the one used by students at all other programs. Two survey errors in the piloted survey have affected some data. First, the piloted survey mistakenly prevented respondents from being able to “check all that apply” in response to the Pre-Medical Education question, “Indicate the reason(s) you enrolled in the following courses” (Report Q-10). Affected respondents (N=333) were able to select only one response in each row rather than as many as applied. Second, the piloted survey mistakenly listed three discrete and separately listed Asian race response options-“Filipino,” “Japanese,” and “Korean” (Report Q-3)-as one conflated option: “Filipino Japanese Korean.” Affected respondents totaled 16; in the reports, each selection is accounted to all three categories. The five programs affected were: Florida State University College of Medicine, Meharry Medical College School of Medicine, Morehouse School of Medicine, University of California San Francisco, and University of California San Francisco-University of California Berkeley Joint Medical Program.

		All Schools		
		2006	2007	2008
Total number of students who responded to the questionnaire:		11,675	12,325	13,056
1. Gender:		<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>
	Male	49.5	50.4	51.0
	Female	50.5	49.6	49.0
		<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>
	Number of respondents	11,675	12,325	13,056
2. Age at matriculation:		<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>
	Under 20	0.3	0.3	0.3
	20 through 22	45.1	46.0	44.2
	23 through 25	39.6	39.7	40.4
	26 through 28	9.5	8.7	9.8
	Over 28	5.5	5.4	5.3
		<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>
	Number of respondents	11,675	12,325	13,056
	Mean age	23.5	23.5	23.6
3. What is your race/ethnicity? Note: Percentages may not sum to 100% as multiple responses are allowed. [Note: see information regarding 2008 survey instruments at end of Executive Summary].		<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>
	Alaska Native	0.1	0.1	0.1
	American Indian	1.4	1.6	1.5
	Black or African-American	7.2	7.5	7.6
	White	72.6	71.3	71.3
	Other race/ethnicity	2.9	2.3	2.4
	Asian			
	Indian	7.5	8.1	8.2
	Pakistani	0.8	1.0	1.0
	Chinese	6.9	7.4	7.0
	Filipino	1.5	1.1	1.4
	Japanese	1.3	1.0	1.3
	Korean	2.4	2.6	2.2
	Vietnamese	1.5	1.6	1.6
	SE Asian, Non-Vietnamese	0.6	0.5	0.4
	Other Asian	1.7	1.9	2.0
	Asian: [all]	22.2	23.5	23.3
	Pacific Islander			
	Native Hawaiian	0.2	0.1	0.2
	Guamanian or Chamorro	0.1	0.1	0.0
	Samoan	0.1	0.1	0.1
	Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.1	0.1
	Pacific Islander: [all]	0.3	0.3	0.3
	Number of respondents	11,161	11,915	12,546

		All Schools		
		2006	2007	2008
6.	If you had not been accepted into a U.S. medical school, what other option would you most likely have chosen?	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>
	Other medical training school in the U.S. (e.g., dentistry, osteopathic, veterinary, nursing, physician's assistant, chiropractor)	n/a	27.9	28.6
	Allopathic medical training outside the U.S. (off-shore or foreign)	n/a	9.1	9.7
	Graduate degree (Master's, Ph.D.) in science, technology, or math	n/a	32.0	32.6
	Professional degree (e.g., law, M.B.A., teaching, higher ed, public admin)	n/a	12.3	10.9
	Graduate degree in social sciences (psychology, sociology, etc.)	n/a	3.9	3.5
	Graduate degree in other humanities (history, English, etc.)	n/a	2.2	1.9
	Other	n/a	12.6	12.9
		n/a	100	100
	Number of respondents		12,220	12,973
7.	How many times did you take the MCAT prior to getting accepted into medical school?	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>
	Once	n/a	71.7	68.0
	Twice	n/a	22.3	25.2
	Three or more times	n/a	6.0	6.9
		n/a	100	100
	Number of respondents		12,225	12,994
8.	If your scores improved after retaking the MCAT, what was the major cause of the improvement?	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>
	Taking online MCAT practice exams	n/a	9.0	19.6
	Taking an MCAT preparation course	n/a	17.4	13.4
	Taking additional course work	n/a	9.0	7.3
	Private tutoring	n/a	1.4	1.8
	Changing my personal study habits	n/a	48.3	43.5
	Getting specific advice from a health advisor or other mentor	n/a	1.7	2.1
	My scores did not improve	n/a	13.2	12.4
		n/a	100	100
	Number of respondents		3,440	4,151
9.	In exploring your career in the medical profession, did you use any career exploration tools?	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>
	Yes	21.3	18.2	18.1
	No	78.7	81.8	81.9
		100	100	100
	Number of respondents	11,659	12,299	13,034

10. Indicate the reason(s) you enrolled in the following courses. Note: The figures below are percentages. The divisor in computing percentages is the count of students who responded for the particular course. Percentages may not sum to 100% due to multiple responses. [Note: see information regarding 2008 survey instruments at end of Executive Summary]

		Reasons					Count
		Did Not Take Course	Personal Interest/Other	MCAT Preparation	Medical School Requirement	Undergraduate Requirement	
Biology, Introductory Level							
All Schools	2008	3.9%	39.4 %	31.8%	66.4 %	64.7%	13,024
All Schools	2007	3.9	41.1	34.8	66.9	65.0	12,302
All Schools	2006	4.6	39.8	40.6	70.2	66.6	11,653
Biology, Advanced Level							
All Schools	2008	8.4%	49.7 %	28.3%	46.7 %	58.8%	13,012
All Schools	2007	8.8	51.5	31.0	46.9	58.2	12,288
All Schools	2006	9.9	47.4	35.3	49.6	60.5	11,623
General Chemistry, Introductory Level							
All Schools	2008	3.0%	25.6 %	33.0%	67.1 %	67.8%	13,020
All Schools	2007	3.3	26.6	35.8	67.8	67.7	12,297
All Schools	2006	3.5	26.1	41.8	71.4	69.4	11,647
General Chemistry, Advanced Level							
All Schools	2008	29.1%	21.4 %	21.2%	41.7 %	48.5%	12,996
All Schools	2007	29.2	22.0	23.5	42.3	48.2	12,255
All Schools	2006	30.5	20.7	26.8	43.3	49.2	11,568
Organic Chemistry, Introductory Level							
All Schools	2008	1.4%	23.8 %	35.7%	73.6 %	62.3%	13,015
All Schools	2007	1.6	24.4	38.8	74.2	62.0	12,296
All Schools	2006	1.9	24.1	45.3	77.1	63.4	11,649
Organic Chemistry, Advanced Level							
All Schools	2008	34.8%	18.2 %	20.7%	43.0 %	39.8%	12,976
All Schools	2007	35.5	18.5	22.6	42.6	39.9	12,244
All Schools	2006	36.1	17.6	26.4	44.5	40.3	11,533
Physics, Introductory Level							
All Schools	2008	1.9%	21.7 %	35.5%	70.2 %	64.3%	13,015
All Schools	2007	2.0	21.8	38.2	71.3	63.6	12,300
All Schools	2006	2.4	21.5	44.3	73.9	65.5	11,640
Physics, Advanced Level							
All Schools	2008	43.4%	35.1 %	17.2%	34.8 %	14.7%	12,958
All Schools	2007	43.9	35.5	18.4	35.2	13.9	12,220
All Schools	2006	44.9	13.3	21.4	35.7	35.7	11,505
Biochemistry							
All Schools	2008	16.5%	40.8 %	22.2%	31.6 %	46.8%	13,014
All Schools	2007	17.2	41.2	23.6	32.0	46.5	12,292
All Schools	2006	18.6	40.0	26.3	32.4	46.8	11,633
Genetics							
All Schools	2008	27.4%	36.0 %	19.2%	19.5 %	48.4%	12,988
All Schools	2007	27.5	37.4	21.6	19.9	48.3	12,273
All Schools	2006	27.3	36.1	24.9	21.1	49.9	11,607
Physiology							
All Schools	2008	37.0%	40.6 %	19.3%	12.0 %	32.4%	12,988
All Schools	2007	38.0	40.7	20.6	12.2	32.0	12,261
All Schools	2006	37.8	38.8	22.1	13.3	35.0	11,576
Zoology							
All Schools	2008	81.9%	8.2 %	2.4%	3.2 %	11.8%	12,923
All Schools	2007	81.2	8.6	2.9	3.6	12.7	12,206
All Schools	2006	80.8	8.8	3.5	4.2	13.6	11,502

10. Indicate the reason(s) you enrolled in the following courses. Note: The figures below are percentages. The divisor in computing percentages is the count of students who responded for the particular course. Percentages may not sum to 100% due to multiple responses. [Note: see information regarding 2008 survey instruments at end of Executive Summary]. (Continued)

		Reasons					Count
		Did Not Take Course	Personal Interest/Other	MCAT Preparation	Medical School Requirement	Undergraduate Requirement	
Calculus							
All Schools	2008	8.1%	28.0 %	4.1%	33.7 %	67.5%	12,999
All Schools	2007	7.6	28.5	4.6	34.3	68.1	12,281
All Schools	2006	7.9	27.5	5.9	36.3	70.0	11,616
Statistics							
All Schools	2008	32.9%	22.8 %	2.0%	13.4 %	47.3%	12,978
All Schools	2007	35.9	22.1	1.9	11.6	45.5	12,254
All Schools	2006	34.5	21.4	2.2	12.1	48.2	11,559
Psychology							
All Schools	2008	29.1%	50.4 %	1.0%	6.6 %	34.1%	12,978
All Schools	2007	28.5	51.2	1.2	6.8	34.5	12,255
All Schools	2006	28.3	51.1	1.1	6.3	36.9	11,585
Social Sciences, Other Than Psychology							
All Schools	2008	11.2%	62.4 %	1.1%	6.2 %	48.4%	12,991
All Schools	2007	10.3	64.5	1.1	6.4	49.1	12,265
All Schools	2006	11.0	63.3	1.1	6.1	51.8	11,596
English Composition/Writing							
All Schools	2008	7.5%	28.2 %	5.5%	27.6 %	78.6%	13,009
All Schools	2007	7.3	28.2	5.4	28.5	79.2	12,288
All Schools	2006	6.9	28.0	6.4	29.7	81.5	11,647
English Literature							
All Schools	2008	20.5%	32.2 %	2.7%	17.2 %	58.7%	12,988
All Schools	2007	19.9	32.9	2.8	17.9	59.5	12,260
All Schools	2006	20.5	33.2	3.1	18.4	60.2	11,597
Humanities, Other Than English							
All Schools	2008	4.5%	61.2 %	1.7%	7.6 %	62.5%	12,996
All Schools	2007	4.4	61.9	1.5	8.2	63.3	12,278
All Schools	2006	5.3	60.5	1.7	7.9	65.4	11,624

All Schools

2006 2007 2008

11. Indicate any programs you participated in to prepare for a career in medicine or science.

	Percent	Percent	Percent
Magnet science/health science high school	7.7	7.1	7.3
Summer laboratory research apprenticeship for high school students	12.2	12.0	11.6
Classroom-based summer, after-school, or Saturday program for high school students	8.0	7.4	7.4
Laboratory research apprenticeship for college students	54.3	54.0	54.7
Summer academic enrichment program for college students	13.5	13.1	12.9
MCAT preparation course	72.5	69.6	68.5
Non-degree post baccalaureate program to complete premedical requirements	9.1	9.2	8.3
Volunteered or worked in the healthcare field	91.3	92.1	91.5

12. Before coming to medical school, how much interaction did you have with people in each of the following groups? (Scale: None = 0, Substantial = 3)

		Ratings				Mean	Count
		None	Little	Some	Substantial		
Asians							
All Schools	2008	1.6%	12.9%	31.7%	53.9 %	2.4	13,000
All Schools	2007	1.3	13.2	31.6	53.9	2.4	12,277
All Schools	2006	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Blacks/African-Americans							
All Schools	2008	1.3%	17.5%	41.7%	39.5 %	2.2	13,001
All Schools	2007	1.1	18.2	41.7	39.0	2.2	12,279
All Schools	2006	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Native Americans/American Indians							
All Schools	2008	29.1%	45.8%	18.3%	6.8 %	1.0	12,997
All Schools	2007	29.6	46.0	17.6	6.7	1.0	12,278
All Schools	2006	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Hispanics/Latinos							
All Schools	2008	2.5%	19.9%	35.5%	42.2 %	2.2	13,002
All Schools	2007	2.4	20.5	35.5	41.7	2.2	12,280
All Schools	2006	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Whites/Caucasians							
All Schools	2008	0.2%	0.7%	6.2%	92.9 %	2.9	13,003
All Schools	2007	0.1	0.6	5.9	93.4	2.9	12,280
All Schools	2006	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
People with different religious beliefs							
All Schools	2008	0.3%	4.2%	25.5%	70.1 %	2.7	13,002
All Schools	2007	0.3	3.9	25.0	70.7	2.7	12,279
All Schools	2006	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Gay, lesbian, or bisexual individuals							
All Schools	2008	3.6%	23.4%	39.7%	33.3 %	2.0	13,000
All Schools	2007	3.9	24.4	39.3	32.3	2.0	12,278
All Schools	2006	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Individuals with disabilities							
All Schools	2008	4.0%	35.1%	41.1%	19.8 %	1.8	13,000
All Schools	2007	4.2	36.0	40.7	19.1	1.7	12,277
All Schools	2006	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

14. In choosing the medical school you now attend, what were the key positive and negative factors you weighed? (Continued)

		Ratings					Mean	Count
		V. Positive Factor	Positive Factor	Not a Factor Either Way	Negative Factor	V. Negative Factor		
Other Educational Factors								
Ability of school to place students in particular residency programs								
All Schools	2008	31.9 %	43.5 %	23.2 %	1.3 %	0.1 %	3.1	12,983
All Schools	2007	31.7	44.2	22.6	1.4	0.1	3.1	12,249
All Schools	2006	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

15. For each of the following persons, please rate how helpful their advice was regarding the medical school application process. (Scale: 3 = Very Helpful to 0 = Unhelpful or Misleading)

		Ratings				Mean	Count
		Very Helpful	Somewhat Helpful	Neither Helpful Nor Unhelpful, Or I Did Not Seek Their Advice	Gave Unhelpful, Confusing, Or Misleading Advice		
Premedical advisor							
All Schools	2008	29.1 %	30.5 %	27.7 %	12.6 %	1.8	12,986
All Schools	2007	29.5	30.4	27.5	12.5	1.8	12,264
All Schools	2006	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Faculty member							
All Schools	2008	23.9 %	38.7 %	36.1 %	1.3 %	1.9	12,974
All Schools	2007	23.5	38.8	36.4	1.4	1.8	12,255
All Schools	2006	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Physician							
All Schools	2008	26.3 %	36.3 %	36.5 %	0.9 %	1.9	12,978
All Schools	2007	25.4	35.8	38.1	0.7	1.9	12,253
All Schools	2006	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Family member							
All Schools	2008	28.8 %	36.5 %	33.1 %	1.6 %	1.9	12,973
All Schools	2007	28.4	36.9	33.3	1.4	1.9	12,250
All Schools	2006	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Another student or medical student							
All Schools	2008	48.2 %	39.2 %	12.0 %	0.6 %	2.4	12,982
All Schools	2007	48.0	39.4	12.0	0.6	2.3	12,256
All Schools	2006	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Career/guidance counselor							
All Schools	2008	5.7 %	16.4 %	73.8 %	4.2 %	1.2	12,959
All Schools	2007	5.4	15.9	75.2	3.6	1.2	12,230
All Schools	2006	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Medical school admissions official							
All Schools	2008	20.2 %	35.0 %	43.7 %	1.2 %	1.7	12,975
All Schools	2007	19.2	35.1	44.3	1.4	1.7	12,251
All Schools	2006	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

19. Please indicate your expectations about the impact of diversity on your medical education. (Continued)

		Ratings					Mean	Count
		Strongly Agree	Agree	No Opinion	Disagree	Strongly Disagree		
I expect to be trained to care for individuals whose racial and ethnic backgrounds are different from my own.								
All Schools	2008	64.8 %	30.5 %	4.3 %	0.3 %	0.1 %	3.6	12,973
All Schools	2007	64.0	31.2	4.4	0.3	0.1	3.6	12,245
All Schools	2006	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
I expect my knowledge or opinion will be influenced or changed by becoming more aware of the perspectives of individuals whose racial and ethnic backgrounds are different from my own.								
All Schools	2008	47.7 %	40.9 %	9.6 %	1.4 %	0.4 %	3.3	12,962
All Schools	2007	47.1	41.3	9.7	1.5	0.5	3.3	12,236
All Schools	2006	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

All Schools

2006 2007 2008

20. What types of non-classroom experiences do you expect to participate in during the time you are also a medical student?

	Percent	Percent	Percent
Global health education or service	n/a	62.5	63.7
Research	n/a	67.5	70.6
Talking to students in schools about science/health education and careers	n/a	52.5	53.4
Community service/activism	n/a	87.3	88.0
Medical student organization(s)	n/a	83.6	82.6
Other	n/a	3.7	3.5

21. Do you expect to use the following resources during medical school?

		Ratings				Mean	Count
		Expect to Use Often	Expect to Use Some	Not Sure	Don't Expect To Use		
Child care services							
All Schools	2008	2.3%	2.6%	10.7%	84.4 %	3.8	12,966
All Schools	2007	2.4	2.7	10.0	84.9	3.8	12,224
All Schools	2006	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Counseling or mentoring services							
All Schools	2008	9.4%	34.6%	31.7%	24.3 %	2.7	12,980
All Schools	2007	8.4	34.5	32.4	24.7	2.7	12,236
All Schools	2006	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Spousal support group							
All Schools	2008	1.9%	6.8%	15.8%	75.5 %	3.6	12,958
All Schools	2007	1.9	6.8	15.2	76.0	3.7	12,222
All Schools	2006	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Medical specialty organization/society							
All Schools	2008	26.7%	54.0%	15.7%	3.6 %	2.0	12,978
All Schools	2007	25.9	55.5	14.9	3.7	2.0	12,238
All Schools	2006	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

21. Do you expect to use the following resources during medical school? (Continued)

		Ratings				Mean	Count
		Expect to Use Often	Expect to Use Some	Not Sure	Don't Expect To Use		
Careers in Medicine online career planning tool							
All Schools	2008	14.1%	41.0%	36.0%	8.9%	2.4	12,965
All Schools	2007	14.0	41.3	35.3	9.5	2.4	12,228
All Schools	2006	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Financial planner (other than school financial aid office)							
All Schools	2008	11.7%	31.5%	37.7%	19.1%	2.6	12,966
All Schools	2007	11.1	29.8	38.1	21.1	2.7	12,233
All Schools	2006	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Online social network (e.g., Facebook, MySpace, AspiringDocs.org)							
All Schools	2008	42.8%	38.6%	11.5%	7.1%	1.8	12,977
All Schools	2007	41.4	36.8	12.1	9.7	1.9	12,242
All Schools	2006	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

All Schools

2006 2007 2008

22. Which of the following medical practice areas do you plan to enter after medical school?

	Percent	Percent	Percent
Generalist (fam prac, internal med, pediatrics)	n/a	23.5	24.1
Medical Specialty (allgy/imm, derm, genetics, prev med, neuro, psych)	n/a	30.4	31.3
Surgical (ob-gyn, neuro surg, ortho, ophth, plastic, thoracic, urology)	n/a	33.1	31.9
Support (anesth, emerg med, nucl med, pathology, rehab, radiology)	n/a	12.9	12.7
	n/a	100	100
Number of respondents		12,181	12,942

23. Indicate your career intentions:

	Percent	Percent	Percent
Full-time academic faculty (teaching, research)	n/a	9.4	9.6
Full-time clinical practice (non-academic)	n/a	61.3	61.0
Other	n/a	7.9	8.1
Undecided	n/a	21.3	21.3
	n/a	100	100
Number of respondents		12,286	12,996

	All Schools		
	2006	2007	2008
24. Where do you hope to work after completing your residency/fellowship?	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Alabama	1.2	n/a	1.6
Alaska	0.2	n/a	0.3
Arizona	0.5	n/a	0.7
Arkansas	0.5	n/a	0.5
California	13.0	n/a	16.4
Colorado	1.6	n/a	2.6
Connecticut	0.5	n/a	0.7
Delaware	0.1	n/a	0.1
District of Columbia	0.8	n/a	1.8
Florida	3.4	n/a	3.6
Georgia	2.4	n/a	3.1
Hawaii	0.7	n/a	0.7
Idaho	0.3	n/a	0.3
Illinois	3.9	n/a	5.3
Indiana	0.1	n/a	0.1
Iowa	0.3	n/a	0.4
Kansas	0.8	n/a	1.0
Kentucky	0.9	n/a	1.2
Louisiana	0.6	n/a	1.3
Maine	0.1	n/a	0.2
Maryland	1.4	n/a	2.0
Massachusetts	3.0	n/a	4.4
Michigan	1.8	n/a	2.2
Minnesota	1.6	n/a	1.7
Mississippi	0.6	n/a	0.6
Missouri	0.8	n/a	1.1
Montana	0.4	n/a	0.5
Nebraska	0.5	n/a	0.6
Nevada	0.3	n/a	0.4
New Hampshire	0.1	n/a	0.1
New Jersey	1.0	n/a	1.2
New Mexico	0.3	n/a	0.5
New York	7.5	n/a	9.6
North Carolina	2.4	n/a	3.2
North Dakota	0.2	n/a	0.2
Ohio	1.7	n/a	2.8
Oklahoma	0.7	n/a	0.8
Oregon	1.2	n/a	1.4
Pennsylvania	2.6	n/a	3.2
Puerto Rico	0.7	n/a	1.3
Rhode Island	0.1	n/a	0.2
South Carolina	0.8	n/a	0.9
South Dakota	0.3	n/a	0.4
Tennessee	1.3	n/a	1.5
Texas	5.0	n/a	5.4
Utah	0.8	n/a	0.8
Vermont	0.3	n/a	0.4

All Schools			
	2006	2007	2008
24. Where do you hope to work after completing your residency/fellowship? (Continued)			
	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Virginia	1.2	n/a	1.5
Washington	1.9	n/a	2.4
West Virginia	0.5	n/a	0.6
Wisconsin	1.0	n/a	1.4
Wyoming	0.2	n/a	0.2
US Territories / Possessions	0.0	n/a	0.1
Canada	0.1	n/a	0.4
Other Foreign Country	2.4	n/a	3.8
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	100	n/a	100
Number of respondents	11,458		12,476
25. Please indicate the setting in which you plan to work after the completion of your medical education:			
	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Large city (population 500,000 or more)	30.3	30.9	32.7
Suburb of a large city	13.3	12.4	13.3
City of moderate size (population 50,000 to 500,000)	17.4	17.4	19.1
Suburb of a moderate size city	5.0	4.8	5.1
Small city (population 10,000 to 50,000--other than suburb)	4.8	4.3	4.9
Town (population 2,500 to 10,000--other than suburb)	2.5	2.1	2.2
Small town (population less than 2,500)	1.1	1.1	1.1
Rural/unincorporated area	2.2	1.8	2.3
Undecided or no preference	23.4	25.3	19.5
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	100	100	100
Number of respondents	11,561	12,257	12,953
26a. Do you plan to locate your practice in an underserved area?			
	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Yes	24.4	22.4	23.8
No	21.4	17.2	16.7
Undecided	54.2	60.4	59.6
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	100	100	100
Number of respondents	11,604	12,269	12,987
26b. If yes, indicate the likely location. Note: The divisor used in computing percentages is the count of Yes responses to Question 26a above.			
	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Rural community	32.5	34.5	33.8
Inner-city community	51.7	56.0	57.9
Other	15.7	9.3	8.1
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	100	100	100
Number of respondents	2,832	2,737	3,079

	All Schools		
	2006	2007	2008
27a. Regardless of location, do you plan to work primarily with minority populations?			
	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Yes	15.2	13.7	14.3
No	32.5	28.5	28.3
Undecided	52.3	57.8	57.4
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	100	100	100
Number of respondents	11,593	12,267	12,983
27b. If yes, indicate the minority population(s). Note: The divisor in computing percentages is the count of Yes responses in Question 27a above. Percentages prior to 2007 may not sum up to 100% as multiple responses were allowed.			
	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Black/African American	44.5	32.9	33.0
Hispanic/Latino	57.6	41.4	40.8
Native American	13.3	2.9	2.8
Asian	19.4	8.7	11.1
Other	11.5	12.9	11.9
28. Please describe your level of fluency in the English language.			
	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>
English is my first language, learned in infancy and still spoken.	n/a	78.3	77.9
English is my first language, but I also have another first language.	n/a	10.3	10.9
I became fluent in English after infancy but before age 18.	n/a	10.2	10.0
I became fluent in English after the age of 18.	n/a	1.1	1.0
I am not yet fully fluent in English.	n/a	0.1	0.2
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	n/a	100	100
Number of respondents		12,276	12,989
29. Please indicate your current marital status:			
	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Never married	82.5	83.5	84.0
Separated	0.2	0.1	0.1
Divorced	0.7	0.5	0.5
Widowed	0.0	0.0	0.0
Engaged	4.7	4.2	4.5
Married/Domestic Partner	11.9	11.6	10.8
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	100	100	100
Number of respondents	11,610	12,276	12,992

All Schools

	2006	2007	2008
30. Regardless of your dependency status, please indicate your parents' combined gross income for last year:			
	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Less than \$10,000	1.0	1.1	1.0
\$10,000 - \$19,999	2.6	2.0	2.2
\$20,000 - \$29,999	2.9	2.9	3.2
\$30,000 - \$39,999	4.0	3.9	5.2
\$40,000 - \$49,999	4.6	4.4	4.0
\$50,000 - \$74,999	15.6	14.3	12.9
\$75,000 - \$99,999	12.8	11.6	10.8
\$100,000 - \$249,999	41.9	43.2	42.5
\$250,000 - \$499,999	10.2	11.3	12.9
\$500,000 or more	4.3	5.4	5.3
	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>
Average income of parents:	\$149,779	\$163,800	\$164,483
31. The above figure represents the income of:			
	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Father only	18.7	20.4	20.2
Mother only	10.0	9.6	10.3
Both parents	69.6	68.2	68.1
Other	1.8	1.8	1.5
	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>
Number of respondents	10,875	11,601	12,649
32. Do you have any outstanding educational loans for your college/premedical education that you are legally required to repay?			
	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Yes	38.5	37.3	37.6
No	61.5	62.7	62.4
	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>
Number of respondents	11,551	12,208	12,961
Premedical debt amount:			
	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>
No debt (\$0)	61.6	62.9	61.2
\$1 to \$4,999	2.6	2.8	3.6
\$5,000 to \$9,999	5.1	4.5	4.4
\$10,000 to \$14,999	6.3	6.0	5.9
\$15,000 to \$19,999	6.6	6.2	5.8
\$20,000 to \$24,999	4.9	4.7	4.7
\$25,000 to \$29,999	2.4	2.1	2.2
\$30,000 to \$49,999	5.8	5.7	5.9
\$50,000 to \$74,999	2.9	3.2	3.5
\$75,000 to \$99,999	1.0	1.1	1.4
\$100,000 or more	0.7	0.9	1.3
	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>
Average premedical debt	\$24,281	\$25,721	\$27,742

All Schools

2006 2007 2008

34. How were your college/premedical costs paid? Please enter a percentage for each applicable category to total 100%. Note: The percentage is the average of the percentages for the category.

	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Scholarships or awards	35.0	35.3	34.7
Loans	15.3	14.3	14.5
Work-study program	1.3	1.2	1.3
Personal income and savings	6.2	6.0	5.9
Money from parents or family	40.4	41.3	40.2
Money earned by spouse	0.4	0.4	0.4
Other	1.5	1.4	1.3

35. How do you plan to finance your medical school education? Please enter a percentage for each applicable category to total 100%. Note: The percentage is the average of the percentages for the category.

	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Scholarships or awards	15.3	15.6	16.2
Loans	62.1	60.9	60.0
Work-study program	0.3	0.3	0.5
Personal income and savings	3.9	4.0	3.6
Money from parents or family	15.9	16.6	15.9
Money earned by spouse	1.0	1.1	1.1
Other	1.5	1.4	1.2

36a. Do you have any non-educational, consumer debt that you are legally required to repay?

	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Yes	21.3	21.4	21.2
No	78.7	78.6	78.8
	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>

Number of respondents 11,504 12,112 12,916

Non-educational debt amount:

	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>
No debt (\$0)	78.9	78.7	78.9
\$1 to \$4,999	8.5	10.5	10.9
\$5,000 to \$9,999	4.9	4.2	3.8
\$10,000 to \$14,999	2.8	2.6	2.4
\$15,000 to \$19,999	1.4	1.6	1.5
\$20,000 to \$24,999	0.9	0.9	1.0
\$25,000 to \$29,999	0.4	0.5	0.5
\$30,000 to \$49,999	0.7	0.8	0.7
\$50,000 to \$74,999	0.2	0.1	0.1
\$75,000 to \$99,999	0.2	0.0	0.0
\$100,000 or more	1.1	0.1	0.2
	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>

Average non-educational debt \$17,927 \$9,150 \$1,905

36b. Type of non-educational, consumer debt (average debt)

Credit Card(s)	\$3,829	\$791
Car Loans	\$6,025	\$928
Other Consumer Loans	\$3,805	\$437

		All Schools		
		2006	2007	2008
37. Control of medical school:		<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>
	Private	41.6	40.7	41.0
	Public	58.4	59.3	59.0
		<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>
	Number of respondents	11,675	12,325	13,037
38. Region of medical school:		<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>
	Northeast	30.5	30.6	30.1
	South	31.7	31.1	31.4
	Midwest	25.9	27.5	26.5
	West	11.9	10.7	12.0
		<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>
	Number of respondents	11,675	12,325	13,048
39. Consent to have personally identifiable information released to my medical school:		<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>
	Yes, I do consent	64.8	64.3	68.3
	No, I do not consent	35.2	35.7	31.7
		<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>
	Number of respondents	11,628	12,273	12,958
40. Voluntary participation in AAMC student recruitment registries based on personal interests and characteristics:		<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>
	Yes, I want to be included	49.7	49.5	49.9
	No, I do not want to be included	50.3	50.5	50.1
		<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>
	Number of respondents	11,628	12,273	12,957