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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Iowa's physician workforce increases

DES MOINES, IA – Iowa's active physician workforce increased 6 percent over the past five years, according to a new report that also shows the state's ranking improving from 41st to 40th in the nation in the number of active physicians per 100,000 population.

The 2011 State Physician Data Book lists Iowa with 6,294 active physicians in 2010, or 208.2 physicians per 100,000 population. This compares with a national average of 258.7, ranging from a high of 415.5 in Massachusetts to a low of 176.4 in Mississippi.

The report, prepared by the Association of American Medical Colleges, is an analysis of 2010 data of the U.S. physician supply, medical school enrollment and graduate medical education. This is AAMC's third such report on the physician workforce.

In the 2009 report (2008 data), Iowa had 6,134 active physicians, ranking at 41st with 204.3 active physicians per 100,000 population. In the 2007 report (2006 data), Iowa had 5,937 active physicians, ranking at 41st with 199.1 active physicians per 100,000 population.

The new report shows that Iowa trails these Midwest states in the number of active physicians per 100,000 population: **Illinois** – 259.5, 19th; **Indiana** – 215.7, 38th; **Kansas** – 213.2, 39th; **Michigan** – 265.1, 15th; **Minnesota** – 269.6, 13th; **Missouri** – 246.6, 24th; **Nebraska** – 219.8, 34th; **North Dakota** – 238.3, 28th; **Ohio** – 264.3, 16th; **South Dakota** – 216.9, 36th; and **Wisconsin** – 252.6, 23rd.

The report distinguishes between *active physicians* (those from all specialty areas of medicine, including administration, direct patient care, medical research, medical teaching, or other non-patient care activities) and *active patient-care physicians* (those whose self-reported type of practice is direct patient care).

Iowa ranked 40th with 180.6 active patient-care physicians per 100,000 population in 2010. The report reveals that 33.6 percent of these Iowa practitioners were osteopathic physicians, double the national average.

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Nationally, there were 219.5 active patient-care physicians per 100,000 population; 15.5 percent of these practitioners were osteopathic physicians.

Other demographics of Iowa's active physician workforce in AAMC's latest report include:

- 26 percent were female physicians in 2010. Massachusetts had the highest percentage (36.6 percent) and Idaho had the lowest (21 percent). Nationally, 30.4 percent of the physicians were female.
- 61.4 percent who obtained their medical education and residency training in Iowa ended up practicing in the state. This compares with a national average of 66.6 percent of physicians who remained in the states where they obtained their medical education and residencies.
- 17.4 percent graduated from an international medical school. This compares with 24 percent nationally, a high of 39.1 percent in New Jersey, and a low of 4 percent in Idaho.
- 64.3 percent graduated from U.S. medical schools and 17.3 percent graduated from U.S. osteopathic medical schools. The national averages are 67.8 percent and 6.9 percent, respectively.
- 22.9 percent were age 60 or older in 2010. This compares with a national average of 26.2 percent, a high of 30.8 percent in New Mexico and a low of 20.7 percent in North Carolina.
- 18.9 percent were under age 40 in 2010. This compares with a national average of 17.6 percent, a high of 20.3 percent in Nebraska and a low of 10.6 percent in Montana.

To access the full AAMC report, please go to:

<https://www.aamc.org/newsroom/newsreleases/2011/268244/aamcreleases2011statephysicianworkforcedatabook.html>

Iowans seeking physicians active in patient care can use the Board of Medicine's "find a physician" database at www.medicalboard.iowa.gov Users can search for Iowa physicians by name, specialty and community.

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