
The National Competition for Physicians

Overview Today

1. Extent of US and Iowa Physician Shortage - Dr. Clancy
2. Update on Progress Implementing HF 516 and some Initial Results – Dr. Cho and Dr. Stier
3. Brief Overview of Study of Physician Workforce Trends and Opportunities to Improve – Dr. Clancy

The National Competition for Physicians

Association of American Medical Colleges

US Physician Shortage

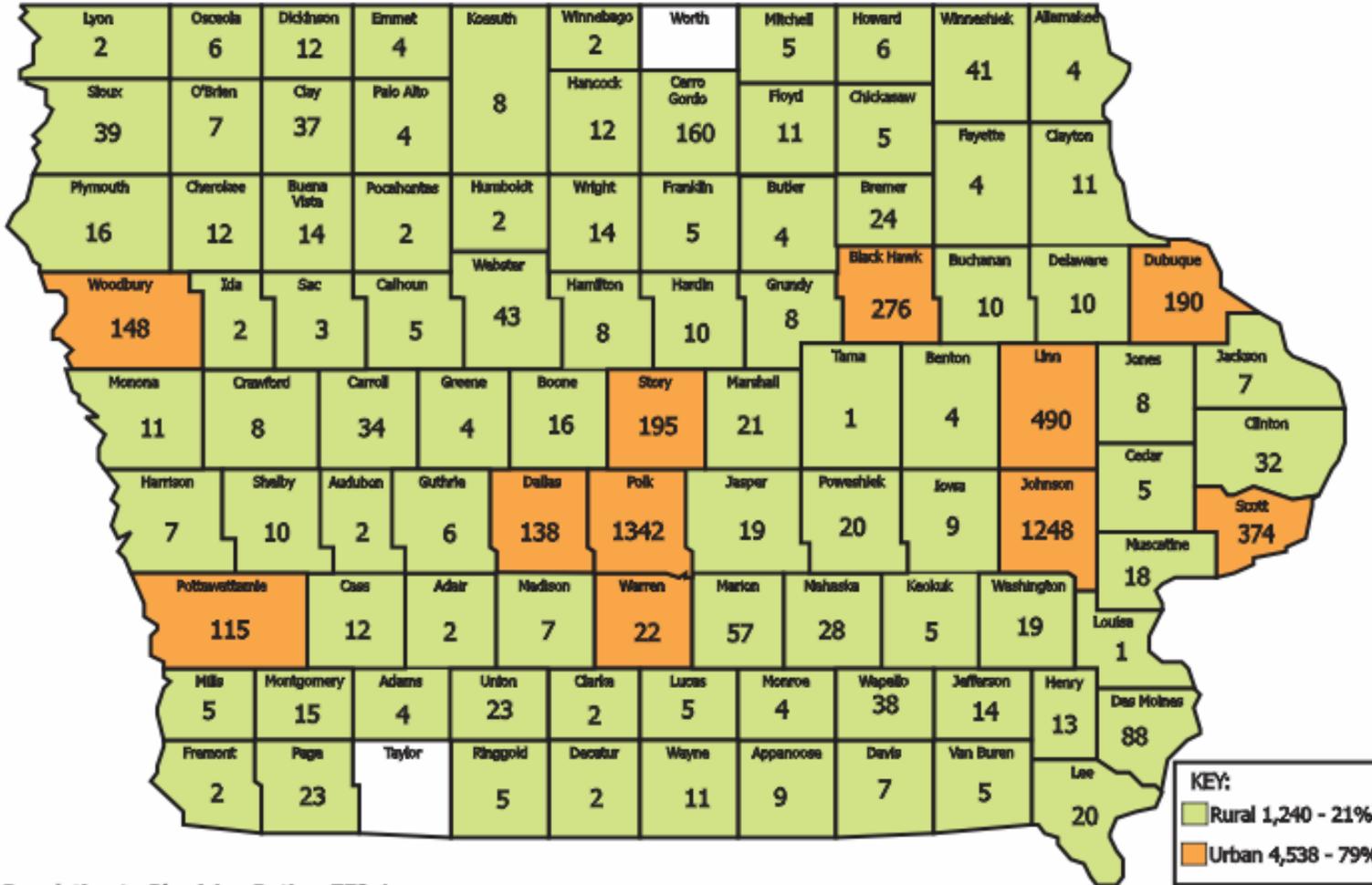
- 2026 64,000 physicians
- 2036 86,000 physicians

Iowa

- 44th in physicians per capita

DISTRIBUTION OF PHYSICIANS

All MDs/DOs (5,778)



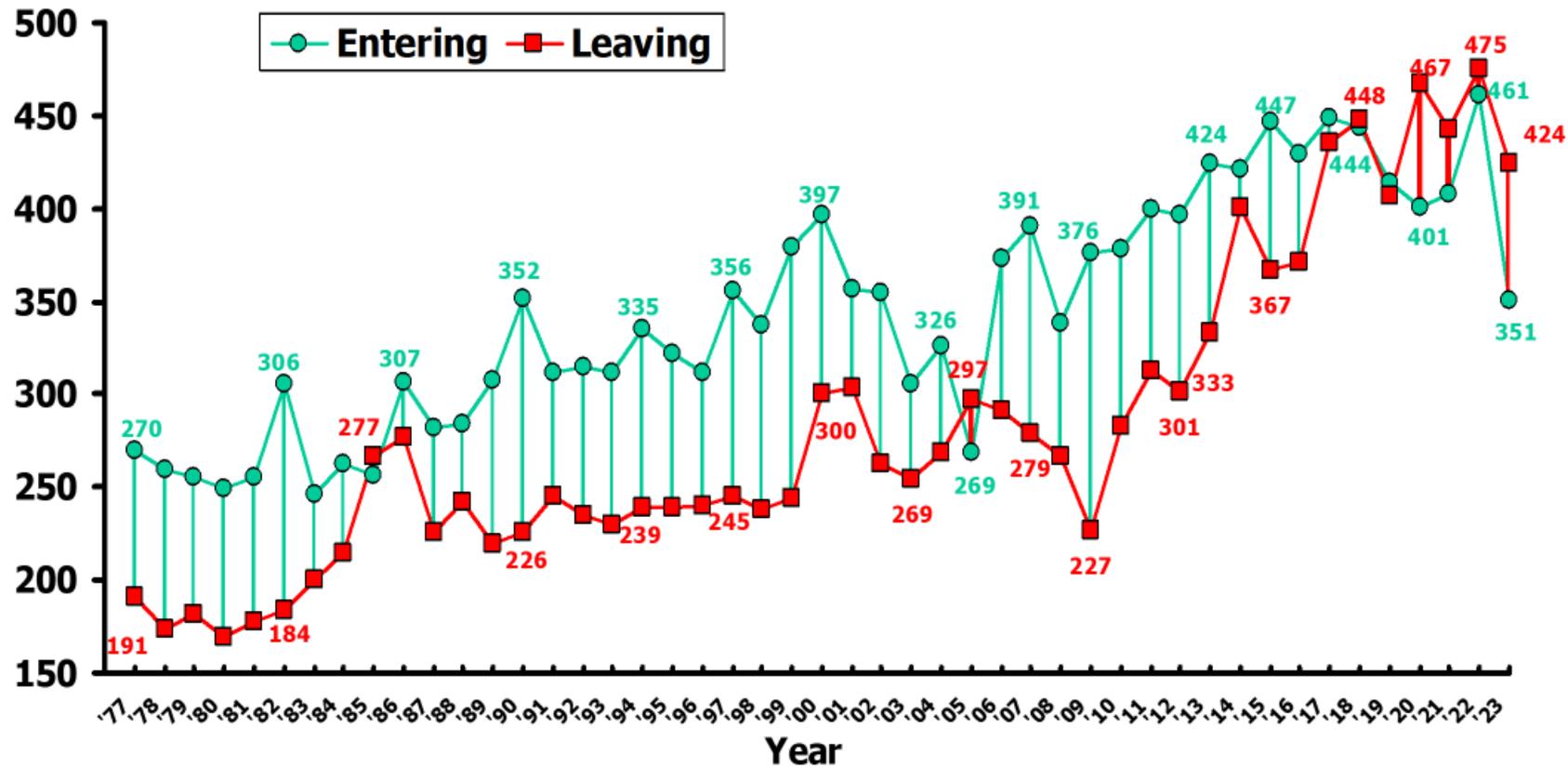
~ 50% of Iowa's Physicians trained at UI

Iowa's 99 Counties:

- 2 with no physicians
- 2 with 1 physician
- 10 with 2 physicians
- 14 with 2 or fewer physicians

Population to Physician Ratio: 553:1

NET GAIN/LOSS IN IOWA PHYSICIANS 1977 – 2023



About 450 physicians stop practicing in Iowa / year;

- 35% to retirement
- 46% relocate out-of-state to new practices, often with higher income guarantees

Net Gain: 79 86 73 80 77 122 46 49 -11 30 56 42 88 126 67 80 82 96 83 72 111 99 135 97 53 92 52 57 -28 82 112 71 149 95 87 96 91 20 80 58 13 -4 7 -60 -35 -14 -73

US Physician Pipeline

Medical Boards passed in 3 Steps to be able to obtain Medical License

Specialty Boards passed to be able to be credentialed to practice in that specialty

4-Year Pre-Med Bachelor's

Medical School
4 Years ~ 80% Iowa affiliated

Residency / Fellowship
3 to 7 years

Practicing Physician

Semi-Retired Physician

Retired Physician

National Residency Match Program:

200 new residents and fellows come to UIHC each year through this "Match"

- #1, UI medical students
- #2, DMU medical students

Applicant Data – College of Medicine (medical students) [option 1]

	2025* – IA	2025* – non-IA	2026** – IA	2026** – non-IA
Applications	296	3,974	406	3,337
Secondary applications	245	2,687	337	2,839
Interviewed	241	442	317	313
Offered	118	133	-	-
Matriculated	111 (78%)*	31	-	-

*Pre-HF 516

**Post-HF 516

Applicant Data – College of Medicine (medical students) [option 2]

	2025* – IA	2025* – non-IA	2026** – IA	2026** – non-IA
Completed applications	245	2,687	337	2,839
Interviewed	241	442	317	313
Offered	118	133	-	-
Matriculated	111 (78%)*	31	-	-

*Pre-HF 516

**Post-HF 516

Applicant Data – College of Dentistry and Dental Clinics (dental students)

	2025* – IA	2025* – non-IA	2026** – IA	2026** – non-IA
Applications	134	1,140	189	1,591
Offered	63		-	-
Matriculated	61 (77%)*	18	-	-

*Pre-HF 516

**Post-HF 516

Applicant Data – GME Fellowships (to date)

	2025* – IA	2025* – non-IA	2026** – IA	2026** – non-IA
Applications	-	-	80	3,083
Survey completed	-	-	75	1,145
Interviewed	-	-	58 (73%)	800
Matched/accepted	-	-	13 (18%)	60

*Pre-HF 516

**Post-HF 516

Applicant Data – Cardiovascular Fellowship

	2025* – IA	2025* – non-IA	2026** – IA	2026** – non-IA
Applications	-	-	6	680
Survey completed	-	-	-	-
Interviewed	-	-	6 (100%)	91
Matched/accepted	-	-	0	7

*Pre-HF 516

**Post-HF 516

(program sent survey separately due to timing)

Applicant Data – GME Residencies pending

	2025* – IA	2025* – non-IA	2026** – IA	2026** – non-IA
Applications	344	13,327	-	-
Survey completed	-	-	-	-
Interviewed	273 (80%)	2131	-	-
Matched/accepted	42 (24%)	134	-	-

*Pre-HF 516

**Post-HF 516

IA applicant for 2025 data defined as graduate of DMU or CCOM

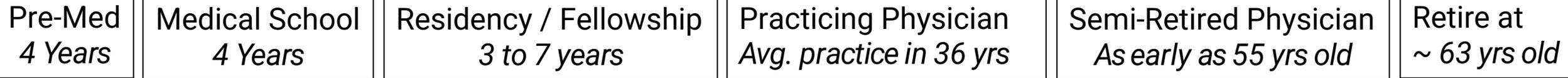
“Leaks” in Iowa’s Physician Pipeline

UI has a successful but small rural medical student training program

US resident physician’s average \$227,000 in school debt.

National physician shortage;
 - 2024 = 64,000
 - 2036 = 86,000
 US physicians can get a job anywhere.

Retired Iowans pay no State income tax.



Pre-med interest in medicine was dropping in Iowa. Too long of road. Costs too much. Improved in 2026

Iowa has ~110 more medical school graduates per year than 1st year residency positions.

~ 47% of Iowa’s resident physicians stay on and practice in Iowa.

~ 450 Iowa physicians stop practicing each year. 46% of that loss is to relocation out of Iowa. Iowa physician compensation is low.

30-year stock market growth has increased physician retirement accounts, allowing earlier retirement.

Taking Action on Iowa's Physician Pipeline

Legislation on:

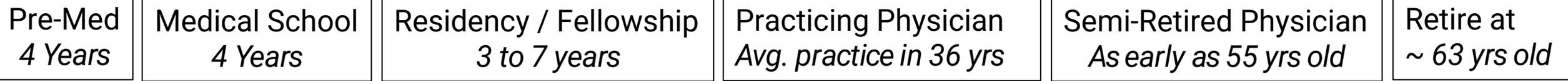
- 80% Iowa Affiliated Accepted Medical Students
- Student Applicant Surveys

Legislation on:

- Rural OB/ Gyn Residency
- Rural Psychiatry Residency
- Family Med/ OB Fellowships
- Resident Applicant Surveys
- Iowa Affiliated Preference

Legislation on:

- Prior Authorization Reform
- Tort Reform
- Rural Health Bill, Health Care Worker Safety
- Expanded Loan Payback Funds
- Streamline Licensing, CME, Training



- Improving Pre-med advising across Iowa
- New UI Rural Pre-med Outreach
- New UI Rural Pre-med Summer Programs

- Study / Plan for 3-year Accelerated Medical Student Track
- Plan to Expand Rural Medical Student Track
- DMU 4th year student rotations at UIHC

- New All-Iowa Job Fair for UI Residents
- Filled UI Rural Psychiatry Residency Program
- Filled UI Rural Psychiatry Residency Program
- Family Med / Ob Fellowship

- Comprehensive Planning on Clinician:
- Well-being
 - Safety
 - Burnout
 - Retention