



2022

Survey of Physician Appointment Wait Times and Medicare and Medicaid Acceptance Rates

A survey examining the time needed to schedule a new patient physician appointment in 15 major metropolitan areas, as well as the rates of physician Medicare and Medicaid acceptance in these areas.



Overview

AMN Healthcare is the leader and innovator in total talent solutions for healthcare organizations across the nation. AMN Healthcare's physician recruiting division, Merritt Hawkins, is a national healthcare search and consulting firm specializing in the recruitment of physicians in all medical specialties, physician executives, nurse practitioners (NPs), physician assistants (PAs) and other advanced practice professionals.

AMN/Merritt Hawkins conducts an ongoing series of surveys on a wide range of physician workforce topics, including physician recruiting incentives, physician practice patterns, physician revenue generation and related subjects. AMN/Merritt Hawkins' surveys are conducted on both a proprietary basis through AMN Healthcare's Research Institute and on behalf of third parties that partner with AMN/Merritt Hawkins on various survey or analysis projects.

Organizations that AMN/Merritt Hawkins has completed surveys or other research initiatives for include the Indian Health Service, The Physicians Foundation, the American Academy of Physician Assistants, MedChi: The Maryland State Medical Society, Trinity University, the Texas Hospital Trustees, the North Texas Regional Extension Center/Office of the National Coordinator of Health Information Technology, the American Academy of Surgical Administrators, and the Associations of Managers of Gynecology and Obstetrics. Merritt Hawkins also has submitted oral and written testimony before Subcommittees of the Congress of the United States.

This report summarizes the results of AMN/Merritt Hawkins' *2022 Survey of Physician Appointment Wait Times* and includes results of similar surveys Merritt Hawkins has conducted in prior years.

The *2022 Survey of Physician Appointment Wait Times* was conducted to determine the average time new patients must wait before they can see a physician in 15 large metropolitan markets.

The survey also indicates the percentage of physicians willing or able to schedule Medicaid and Medicare patients in these markets.

The survey is intended to gauge patient access to medical services and may be taken by healthcare professionals, policy makers, journalists, academics and the public as one indicator of the current state of physician supply and demand in select markets and in select medical specialties. This is fifth time AMN/Merritt Hawkins has conducted this survey. The first *Survey of Physician Appointment Wait Times* was released in 2004, the second in 2009, the third in 2014 and the fourth in 2017.



Methodology

From March, 2022 through mid-May, 2022 research specialists working for AMN/Merritt Hawkins called physician offices in 15 major metropolitan areas with the purpose of scheduling a new patient appointment. In some cases, researchers accessed the practices' online scheduling calendar to determine the first available appointment. The survey focused on five medical specialties: cardiology, dermatology, obstetrics-gynecology, orthopedic surgery and family medicine. Names of physicians were selected at random from internet-based physician office listings such as the online Yellow Pages or Healthgrades, or through search engines such as Google.

AMN/Merritt Hawkins research associates were tasked with contacting a minimum of 10 separate physician offices per specialty per large metropolitan area, if possible, and a maximum of 20 offices, with 20 being the preferred goal. First appointment times were obtained from a total of 1,034 distinct physician offices.

In each call, research associates asked to be told the first available time for a new patient appointment. If asked, and depending on the specialty at issue, they indicated a hypothetical reason for the appointment, as follows:

Cardiology: A heart check-up

Dermatology: A skin exam to detect possible carcinomas/ melanomas

Orthopedic Surgery: Injury or pain in the knee

Obstetrics/Gynecology: A "well-woman" gynecological exam

Family Practice: A physical

It should be noted that researchers called seeking appointments for non-emergent medical conditions such as exams (though in the case of orthopedic surgery, researchers called seeking appointments for injury or pain to the knee). The survey therefore does not measure physician availability in cases of urgent care or medical emergency.

Research associates also asked if the physician accepts Medicare or Medicaid as a form of payment.

AMN/Merritt Hawkins' goal was to replicate the experience of someone new to a community seeking to schedule a non-emergent physician appointment through a generally accessible source, such as the internet. Research was conducted during a roughly 10-week period in the Spring of 2022. Therefore, results are a snapshot of physician accessibility at a particular time and in particular places. A change in timing, location or approach could yield different results.

AMN/Merritt Hawkins completed similar surveys in 2004, 2009, 2014, and 2017, and comparisons are made in this survey to results of prior surveys. It should be noted, however, that no attempt was made in 2022 to contact the same practices that were contacted in previous years. In addition, in 2009, family medicine was added to the variety of specialties included in the survey, and therefore no comparisons are made in this specialty to survey results completed in 2004.

Rates of physician Medicaid acceptance were included in the survey in 2004, 2009, 2014 and 2017, while 2014 marked the first year physician Medicare acceptance rates were included in the survey. It should be further noted that in cases where research associates found that a particular physician was "booked out" and no longer taking new patients, the average appointment wait time was designated as 365 days.

Major metropolitan service areas in which surveys were conducted: Atlanta, Boston, Dallas, Denver, Detroit, Houston, Los Angeles, Miami, Minneapolis, New York, Philadelphia, Portland, San Diego, Seattle, Washington, D.C.

When survey was conducted: March, 2022 to mid-May, 2022

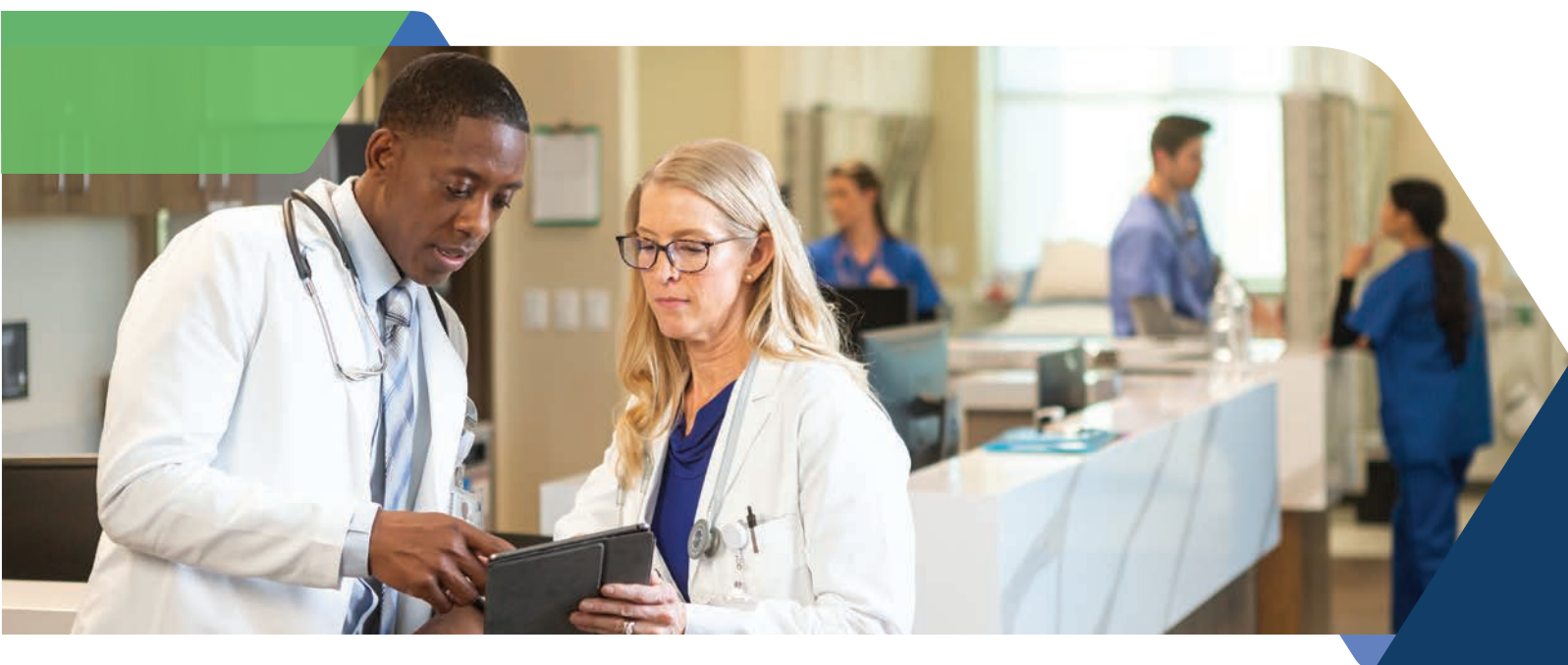
Medical specialties surveyed: Cardiology, Dermatology, Obstetrics-Gynecology, Orthopedic Surgery, Family Medicine

Total number of medical offices surveyed: 1,034

Key Findings

Following are selected key findings from AMN/Merritt Hawkins' 2022 *Survey of Physician Appointment Wait Times and Medicare and Medicaid Acceptance Rates*:

- **Average physician appointment wait times have increased significantly since the survey was last conducted in 2017 and first conducted in 2004. The average wait time for a physician appointment for the 15 large metro markets surveyed in 2022 is 26.0 days, up from 24.1 days in 2017, an 8% increase, and up from 20.9 days in 2004, a 24% increase.**
- The average wait time to see an obstetrician-gynecologist is 31.4 days, up from 26.4 days in 2017, a 19% increase. Average wait times to see an OB/GYN range from a high of 59 days in Philadelphia to a low of 19 days in New York.
- The average wait time to see a dermatologist is 34.5 days, up from 32.3 days in 2017, a 7% increase. Average wait times to see a dermatologist range from a high of 72 days in Minneapolis to a low of nine days in Philadelphia.
- The average wait time to see a cardiologist is 26.6 days, up from 21.1 days in 2017, a 26% increase. Average wait times to see a cardiologist range from a high of 49 days in Portland, Oregon to a low of 13 days in Dallas.
- The average wait time to see an orthopedic surgeon is 16.9 days, up from 11.4 days in 2017, a 48% increase. Average wait times to see an orthopedic surgeon range from a high of 55 days in San Diego to a low of 5 days in Washington, D.C.
- The average wait time to see a family medicine physician is 20.6 days, down from 29.3 days in 2017, a decrease of 30%. Average wait times to see a family medicine physician range from a high of 44 days in Portland, Oregon to a low of 8 days in Washington, D.C.
- **At 45.6 days, Portland, Oregon has the highest average new patient physician appointment wait time across all five specialties of the 15 large metro markets surveyed.**
- At 17.4 days, New York has the lowest average physician appointment wait time across all five specialties of the 15 major markets surveyed.
- The average rate of physician Medicare acceptance is 82.4% for all 15 metropolitan areas, down from 84.5% in 2017, a decrease of 4%.
- The average rate of physician Medicaid acceptance is 54.1% in all 15 metropolitan areas, up from 53% in 2017, an increase of 2%.



15 Major Metropolitan Areas

Following is a listing of physician appointment wait times and physician Medicare and Medicaid acceptance rates by specialty for 15 major metropolitan markets in five medical specialties:

Responses By Specialty

Cardiology

| CITY | TOTAL OFFICES | SHORTEST TIME TO APPT. | LONGEST TIME TO APPT. | AVERAGE TIME TO APPT. | ACCEPT MEDICAID? YES (%) | ACCEPT MEDICARE? YES (%) |
|------------------------------|---------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Portland 2022 | 10 | 1 Day | 80 Days | 49 Days | 80 | 90 |
| Portland 2017 | 20 | 6 Days | 180 Days | 32 Days | 100 | 95 |
| Portland 2013 | 16 | 1 Day | 20 Days | 12 Days | 88 | 94 |
| Portland 2009 | 11 | 3 Days | 14 Days | 11 Days | 100 | N/A |
| Portland 2004 | 20 | 2 Days | 128 Days | 25 Days | 100 | N/A |
| Washington, D.C. 2022 | 10 | 3 Days | 102 Days | 36 Days | 70 | 100 |
| Washington, D.C. 2017 | 16 | 1 Day | 68 Days | 18 Days | 94 | 100 |
| Washington, D.C. 2013 | 16 | 4 Days | 186 Days | 32 Days | 63 | 94 |
| Washington, D.C. 2009 | 10 | 4 Days | 37 Days | 18 Days | 100 | N/A |
| Washington, D.C. 2004 | 16 | Same Day | 23 Days | 12 Days | 100 | N/A |
| Denver 2022 | 10 | 7 Days | 99 Days | 33 Days | 100 | 100 |
| Denver 2017 | 12 | 6 Days | 84 Days | 22 Days | 83 | 92 |
| Denver 2013 | 10 | 5 Days | 78 Days | 28 Days | 50 | 80 |
| Denver 2009 | 17 | 1 Day | 47 Days | 12 Days | 86 | N/A |
| Denver 2004 | 20 | 2 Days | 128 Days | 23 Days | 20 | N/A |
| Miami 2022 | 10 | 2 Days | 124 Days | 32 Days | 80 | 100 |
| Miami 2017 | 20 | 5 Days | 34 Days | 14 Days | 80 | 100 |
| Miami 2013 | 17 | 4 Days | 70 Days | 18 Days | 71 | 82 |
| Miami,2009 | 14 | 4 Days | 200 Days | 29 Days | 64 | N/A |
| Miami 2004 | 15 | 3 Days | 45 Days | 21 Days | 40 | N/A |
| Boston 2022 | 20 | 1 Day | 86 Days | 29 Days | 55 | 90 |
| Boston 2017 | 17 | 1 Day | 365 Days | 45 Days | 100 | 100 |
| Boston 2013 | 20 | 1 Day | 133 Days | 27 Days | 85 | 100 |
| Boston 2009 | 17 | 5 Days | 64 Days | 21 Days | 100 | N/A |
| Boston 2004 | 18 | 7 Days | 120 Days | 37 Days | 11 | N/A |
| Philadelphia 2022 | 10 | 1 Day | 119 Days | 29 Days | 100 | 100 |
| Philadelphia 2017 | 17 | 1 Day | 245 Days | 28 Days | 94 | 100 |
| Philadelphia 2013 | 15 | 1 Day | 21 Days | 6 Days | 47 | 87 |
| Philadelphia 2009 | 12 | 1 Day | 21 Days | 11 Days | 8 | N/A |
| Philadelphia 2004 | 20 | 1 Day | 136 Days | 27 Days | 80 | N/A |
| Seattle 2022 | 10 | 1 Day | 117 Days | 29 Days | 60 | 90 |
| Seattle 2017 | 13 | 4 Days | 48 Days | 16 Days | 77 | 100 |
| Seattle 2013 | 20 | 3 Days | 21 Days | 9 Days | 70 | 100 |
| Seattle 2009 | 14 | 1 Day | 21 Days | 8 Days | 86 | N/A |
| Seattle 2004 | 18 | 1 Day | 24 Days | 9 Days | 0 | N/A |

| CITY | TOTAL OFFICES | SHORTEST TIME TO APPT. | LONGEST TIME TO APPT. | AVERAGE TIME TO APPT. | ACCEPT MEDICAID? YES (%) | ACCEPT MEDICARE? YES (%) |
|-------------------------|---------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| New York 2022 | 24 | 2 Days | 206 Days | 28 Days | 38 | 88 |
| New York 2017 | 20 | 3 Days | 47 Days | 15 Days | 50 | 90 |
| New York 2013 | 20 | 1 Day | 29 Days | 15 Days | 70 | 75 |
| New York 2009 | 11 | 1 Day | 33 Days | 14 Days | 100 | N/A |
| New York 2004 | 20 | 3 Days | 26 Days | 22 Days | 0 | N/A |
| Atlanta 2022 | 20 | 1 Day | 125 Days | 26 Days | 75 | 80 |
| Atlanta 2017 | 20 | 1 Day | 180 Days | 16 Days | 85 | 100 |
| Atlanta 2013 | 20 | 1 Day | 78 Days | 11 Days | 90 | 95 |
| Atlanta 2009 | 20 | 1 Day | 9 Days | 5 Days | 100 | N/A |
| Atlanta 2004 | 20 | 3 Days | 28 Days | 17 Days | 80 | N/A |
| Houston 2022 | 16 | 2 Days | 105 Days | 23 Days | 69 | 94 |
| Houston 2017 | 20 | 2 Days | 43 Days | 12 Days | 65 | 95 |
| Houston 2013 | 20 | 1 Day | 26 Days | 11 Days | 65 | 75 |
| Houston 2009 | 19 | 1 Day | 25 Days | 10 Days | 84 | N/A |
| Houston 2004 | 20 | 2 Days | 43 Days | 11 Days | 85 | N/A |
| Los Angeles 2022 | 19 | 1 Da | 66 Days | 22 Days | 68 | 89 |
| Los Angeles 2017 | 15 | 2 Days | 50 Days | 20 Days | 67 | 100 |
| Los Angeles 2013 | 16 | 3 Days | 29 Days | 12 Days | 44 | 100 |
| Los Angeles 2009 | 13 | 1 Day | 30 Days | 11 Days | 100 | N/A |
| Los Angeles 2004 | 18 | 1 Day | 23 Days | 14 Days | 22 | N/A |
| Minneapolis 2022 | 11 | 1 Day | 49 Days | 20 Days | 55 | 91 |
| Minneapolis 2017 | 12 | 3 Days | 90 Days | 22 Days | 100 | 100 |
| Minneapolis 2013 | 14 | 6 Days | 27 Days | 15 Days | 7 | 36 |
| Minneapolis 2009 | 14 | 5 Days | 110 Days | 47 Days | 100 | N/A |
| Minneapolis 2004 | 20 | 2 Days | 105 Days | 15 Days | 80 | N/A |
| San Diego 2022 | 11 | 1 Day | 90 Days | 17 Days | 18 | 82 |
| San Diego 2017 | 17 | 3 Days | 90 Days | 30 Days | 47 | 100 |
| San Diego 2013 | 20 | 1 Day | 132 Days | 28 Days | 55 | 85 |
| San Diego 2009 | 18 | 2 Days | 90 Days | 22 Days | 100 | N/A |
| San Diego 2004 | 19 | 9 Days | 72 Days | 17 Days | 68 | N/A |
| Detroit 2022 | 10 | 1 Day | 30 Days | 13 Days | 100 | 100 |
| Detroit 2017 | 20 | 1 Day | 46 Days | 14 Days | 100 | 100 |
| Detroit 2013 | 18 | 3 Days | 52 Days | 17 Days | 83 | 100 |
| Detroit 2009 | 14 | 4 Days | 14 Days | 8 Days | 100 | N/A |
| Detroit 2004 | 17 | 7 Days | 42 Days | 20 Days | 65 | N/A |
| Dallas 2022 | 20 | 5 Days | 34 Days | 13 Days | 55 | 85 |
| Dallas 2017 | 20 | 1 Day | 49 Days | 12 Days | 15 | 85 |
| Dallas 2013 | 20 | 1 Day | 84 Days | 11 Days | 30 | 80 |
| Dallas 2009 | 12 | 2 Days | 14 Days | 8 Days | 8 | N/A |
| Dallas 2004 | 17 | 2 Days | 16 Days | 10 Days | 0 | N/A |
| Total 2022 | 211 | 2.0 Days | 95.5 Days | 26.6 Days | 68 | 92 |
| Total 2017 | 259 | 2.7 Days | 107.9 Days | 21.1 Days | 77 | 97 |
| Total 2013 | 262 | 2.4 Days | 65.7 Days | 16.8 Days | 61 | 86 |
| Total 2009 | 216 | 2.4 Days | 48.6 Days | 15.5 Days | 82 | N/A |
| Total 2004 | 278 | 3.0 Days | 65.8 Days | 18.8 Days | 50 | N/A |

Dermatology

| CITY | TOTAL OFFICES | SHORTEST TIME TO APPT. | LONGEST TIME TO APPT. | AVERAGE TIME TO APPT. | ACCEPT MEDICAID? YES (%) | ACCEPT MEDICARE? YES (%) |
|-------------------------|---------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Portland 2022 | 10 | 21 days | 215 days | 84 days | 70 | 90 |
| Portland 2017 | 20 | 1 day | 121 days | 30 days | 60 | 85 |
| Portland 2013 | 20 | 3 days | 199 days | 27 days | 45 | 85 |
| Portland 2009 | 11 | 1 day | 57 days | 25 days | 28 | N/A |
| Portland 2004 | 20 | 3 days | 50 days | 30 days | 100 | N/A |
| Minneapolis 2022 | 10 | 5 days | 147 days | 72 days | 80 | 90 |
| Minneapolis 2017 | 20 | 4 days | 90 days | 30 days | 85 | 100 |
| Minneapolis 2013 | 20 | 5 days | 256 days | 56 days | 15 | 30 |
| Minneapolis 2009 | 15 | 3 days | 48 days | 16 days | 87 | N/A |
| Minneapolis 2004 | 19 | 9 days | 231 days | 43 days | 100 | N/A |
| Boston 2022 | 20 | 1 day | 175 days | 50 days | 65 | 90 |
| Boston 2017 | 20 | 2 days | 133 days | 52 days | 70 | 100 |
| Boston 2013 | 20 | 3 days | 181 days | 72 days | 55 | 100 |
| Boston 2009 | 18 | 3 days | 365 days | 54 days | 67 | N/A |
| Boston 2004 | 18 | 7 days | 120 days | 50 days | 17 | N/A |
| Seattle 2022 | 10 | 4 days | 127 days | 45 days | 10 | 80 |
| Seattle 2017 | 20 | 1 day | 365 days | 42 days | 10 | 90 |
| Seattle 2013 | 20 | 3 days | 122 days | 32 days | 35 | 75 |
| Seattle 2009 | 10 | 1 day | 41 days | 11 days | 60 | N/A |
| Seattle 2004 | 15 | 2 days | 117 days | 27 days | 27 | N/A |
| Miami 2022 | 12 | 2 days | 187 days | 45 days | 42 | 92 |
| Miami 2017 | 20 | 1 day | 39 days | 11 days | 25 | 100 |
| Miami 2013 | 20 | 3 days | 129 days | 16 days | 45 | 55 |
| Miami 2009 | 20 | 1 day | 57 days | 12 days | 70 | N/A |
| Miami 2004 | 14 | 1 day | 55 days | 17 days | 71 | N/A |
| Dallas 2022 | 22 | 3 days | 71 days | 34 days | 9 | 55 |
| Dallas 2017 | 20 | 1 day | 104 days | 22 days | 10 | 90 |
| Dallas 2013 | 20 | 1 day | 46 days | 17 days | 0 | 85 |
| Dallas 2009 | 20 | 1 day | 68 days | 18 days | 15 | N/A |
| Dallas 2004 | 14 | 10 days | 70 days | 34 days | 0 | N/A |
| Detroit 2022 | 10 | 1 day | 104 days | 29 days | 50 | 80 |
| Detroit 2017 | 20 | 5 days | 180 days | 27 days | 25 | 85 |
| Detroit 2013 | 20 | 1 day | 105 days | 22 days | 45 | 100 |
| Detroit 2009 | 16 | 1 day | 31 days | 11 days | 67 | N/A |
| Detroit 2004 | 20 | 5 days | 68 days | 25 days | 25 | N/A |
| Denver 2022 | 10 | 1 day | 66 days | 27 days | 50 | 90 |
| Denver 2017 | 20 | 1 day | 365 days | 51 days | 35 | 100 |
| Denver 2013 | 20 | 7 days | 180 days | 37 days | 30 | 85 |
| Denver 2009 | 14 | 3 days | 97 days | 40 days | 29 | N/A |
| Denver 2004 | 20 | Same day | 60 days | 21 days | 20 | N/A |

| CITY | TOTAL OFFICES | SHORTEST TIME TO APPT. | LONGEST TIME TO APPT. | AVERAGE TIME TO APPT. | ACCEPT MEDICAID? YES (%) | ACCEPT MEDICARE? YES (%) |
|------------------------------|---------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Atlanta 2022 | 20 | 2 days | 153 days | 26 days | 25 | 80 |
| Atlanta 2017 | 20 | 2 days | 60 days | 13 days | 15 | 100 |
| Atlanta 2013 | 20 | 2 days | 83 days | 14 days | 15 | 100 |
| Atlanta 2009 | 21 | 1 day | 71 days | 15 days | 0 | N/A |
| Atlanta 2004 | 20 | 2 days | 68 days | 21 days | 100 | N/A |
| Houston 2022 | 21 | 1 day | 78 days | 25 days | 10 | 76 |
| Houston 2017 | 20 | 1 day | 75 days | 28 days | 10 | 60 |
| Houston 2013 | 20 | 4 days | 120 days | 21 days | 40 | 80 |
| Houston 2009 | 20 | 1 day | 200 days | 31 days | 0 | N/A |
| Houston, 2004 | 20 | 2 days | 91 days | 13 days | 0 | N/A |
| New York 2022 | 11 | 5 days | 158 days | 23 days | 27 | 55 |
| New York 2017 | 20 | 1 day | 35 days | 15 days | 25 | 90 |
| New York 2013 | 20 | 4 days | 157 days | 24 days | 30 | 50 |
| New York 2009 | 17 | 1 day | 45 days | 11 days | 12 | N/A |
| New York 2004 | 20 | Same day | 17 days | 9 days | 0 | N/A |
| San Diego 2022 | 14 | 1 day | 81 days | 22 days | 29 | 79 |
| San Diego 2017 | 17 | 3 days | 90 days | 30 days | 47 | 100 |
| San Diego 2013 | 20 | 1 day | 102 days | 14 days | 10 | 65 |
| San Diego 2009 | 21 | 1 day | 51 days | 10 days | 100 | N/A |
| San Diego 2004 | 18 | 2 days | 43 days | 12 days | 33 | N/A |
| Los Angeles 2022 | 17 | 1 day | 93 days | 15 days | 59 | 88 |
| Los Angeles 2017 | 14 | 1 day | 365 days | 35 days | 30 | 95 |
| Los Angeles 2013 | 14 | 1 day | 31 days | 14 days | 7 | 79 |
| Los Angeles 2009 | 12 | 1 day | 56 days | 13 days | 58 | N/A |
| Los Angeles 2004 | 16 | Same day | 36 days | 14 days | 50 | N/A |
| Washington, D.C. 2022 | 11 | 3 days | 32 days | 12 days | 27 | 73 |
| Washington, D.C. 2017 | 20 | 1 day | 210 days | 20 days | 10 | 80 |
| Washington, D.C. 2013 | 20 | 1 day | 39 days | 17 days | 15 | 85 |
| Washington, D.C. 2009 | 13 | 1 day | 34 days | 16 days | 28 | N/A |
| Washington, D.C. 2004 | 15 | Same day | 32 days | 15 days | 87 | N/A |
| Philadelphia 2022 | 10 | 4 days | 30 days | 9 days | 20 | 90 |
| Philadelphia 2017 | 15 | 1 day | 253 days | 78 days | 40 | 87 |
| Philadelphia 2013 | 20 | 7 days | 108 days | 49 days | 15 | 100 |
| Philadelphia 2009 | 20 | 3 days | 365 days | 47 days | 60 | N/A |
| Philadelphia 2004 | 20 | 6 days | 140 days | 33 days | 15 | N/A |
| Total 2022 | 208 | 3.7 days | 114.5 days | 34.5 days | 38 | 80 |
| Total 2017 | 286 | 1.7 days | 165.7 days | 32.3 days | 33 | 91 |
| Total 2013 | 294 | 3.1 days | 123.9 days | 28.8 days | 27 | 78 |
| Total 2009 | 233 | 3.4 days | 104.4 days | 22.1 days | 44 | N/A |
| Total, 2004 | 269 | 3.3 days | 80.9 days | 24.3 days | 43 | N/A |

Obstetrics-Gynecology

| CITY | TOTAL OFFICES | SHORTEST TIME TO APPT. | LONGEST TIME TO APPT. | AVERAGE TIME TO APPT. | ACCEPT MEDICAID? YES (%) | ACCEPT MEDICARE? YES (%) |
|------------------------------|---------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Philadelphia 2022 | 10 | 4 days | 147 das | 59 days | 90 | 90 |
| Philadelphia 2017 | 20 | 1 day | 180 days | 51 days | 85 | 90 |
| Philadelphia 2013 | 16 | 4 days | 95 days | 22 days | 85 | 81 |
| Philadelphia 2009 | 15 | 1 day | 161 days | 46 days | N/A | N/A |
| Philadelphia 2004 | 17 | 8 days | 72 days | 28 days | N/A | N/A |
| Miami 2022 | 11 | 1 day | 124 days | 46 days | 27 | 100 |
| Miami 2017 | 20 | 4 days | 55 days | 17 days | 25 | 70 |
| Miami 2013 | 20 | 4 days | 38 days | 13 days | 40 | 55 |
| Miami 2009 | 18 | 1 day | 60 days | 22 days | 28 | N/A |
| Miami 2004 | 12 | 3 days | 12 days | 10 days | 50 | N/A |
| Denver 2022 | 14 | 5 days | 89 days | 39 days | 79 | 79 |
| Denver 2017 | 20 | 5 days | 55 days | 23 days | 85 | 60 |
| Denver 2013 | 20 | 3 days | 90 days | 22 days | 100 | 55 |
| Denver 2009 | 15 | 5 days | 56 days | 15 days | N/A | N/A |
| Denver 2004 | 20 | 1 day | 33 days | 23 days | N/A | N/A |
| San Diego 2022 | 12 | 1 day | 69 days | 38 days | 17 | 83 |
| San Diego 2017 | 16 | 1 days | 39 days | 16 days | 56 | 88 |
| San Diego 2013 | 20 | 6 days | 41 days | 14 days | 45 | 55 |
| San Diego 2009 | 20 | 1 day | 200 days | 35 days | 15 | N/A |
| San Diego 2004 | 15 | 2 days | 96 days | 31 days | 80 | N/A |
| Boston 2022 | 21 | 1 day | 150 days | 35 days | 90 | 81 |
| Boston 2017 | 20 | 8 days | 116 days | 45 days | 100 | 100 |
| Boston 2013 | 20 | 5 days | 103 days | 46 days | 100 | 100 |
| Boston 2009 | 10 | 14 days | 200 days | 70 days | N/A | N/A |
| Boston 2004 | 16 | 3 days | 126 days | 45 days | N/A | N/A |
| Dallas 2020 | 20 | 1 day | 108 days | 32 days | 30 | 50 |
| Dallas 2017 | 20 | 3 days | 70 days | 18 days | 15 | 55 |
| Dallas 2013 | 20 | 1 day | 18 days | 10 days | 30 | 65 |
| Dallas 2009 | 21 | 1 day | 65 days | 17 days | 14 | N/A |
| Dallas 2004 | 15 | 1 day | 60 days | 17 days | 100 | N/A |
| Houston 2022 | 12 | 3 days | 114 days | 30 days | 55 | 83 |
| Houston 2017 | 20 | 1 day | 103 days | 27 days | 90 | 55 |
| Houston 2013 | 17 | 2 days | 39 days | 14 days | 85 | 47 |
| Houston 2009 | 20 | 1 day | 137 days | 41 days | N/A | N/A |
| Houston 2004 | 18 | 5 days | 69 days | 20 days | N/A | N/A |
| Washington, D.C. 2022 | 10 | 1 day | 67 days | 29 days | 20 | 40 |
| Washington, D.C. 2017 | 20 | 2 days | 54 days | 17 days | 40 | 65 |
| Washington, D.C. 2013 | 20 | 1 day | 39 days | 15 days | 35 | 80 |
| Washington, D.C. 2009 | 8 | 6 days | 69 days | 33 days | 38 | N/A |
| Washington, D.C. 2004 | 20 | 2 days | 22 days | 11 days | 100 | N/A |

| CITY | TOTAL OFFICES | SHORTEST TIME TO APPT. | LONGEST TIME TO APPT. | AVERAGE TIME TO APPT. | ACCEPT MEDICAID? YES (%) | ACCEPT MEDICARE? YES (%) |
|-------------------------|---------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Los Angeles 2022 | 11 | 1 day | 104 days | 28 days | 36 | 73 |
| Los Angeles 2017 | 20 | 1 day | 35 days | 12 days | 55 | 85 |
| Los Angeles 2013 | 14 | 1 day | 26 days | 8 days | 36 | 86 |
| Los Angeles 2009 | 14 | 1 day | 116 days | 26 days | 57 | N/A |
| Los Angeles 2004 | 16 | 1 day | 52 days | 19 days | 69 | N/A |
| Detroit 2022 | 10 | 1 day | 44 days | 26 days | 90 | 90 |
| Detroit 2017 | 20 | 4 days | 70 days | 23 days | 100 | 80 |
| Detroit 2013 | 20 | 4 days | 84 days | 16 days | 85 | 95 |
| Detroit 2009 | 14 | 1 day | 50 days | 15 days | N/A | N/A |
| Detroit 2004 | 20 | 8 days | 90 days | 39 days | N/A | N/A |
| Atlanta 2022 | 20 | 1 day | 167 days | 25 days | 80 | 40 |
| Atlanta 2017 | 20 | 2 days | 365 days | 39 days | 90 | 25 |
| Atlanta 2013 | 20 | 3 days | 56 days | 15 days | 75 | 60 |
| Atlanta 2009 | 16 | 1 day | 41 days | 17 days | N/A | N/A |
| Atlanta 2004 | 20 | 3 days | 57 days | 24 days | N/A | N/A |
| Portland 2022 | 11 | 4 day | 61 days | 23 days | 92 | 100 |
| Portland 2017 | 18 | 1 day | 150 days | 28 days | 100 | 94 |
| Portland 2013 | 20 | 3 days | 136 days | 35 days | 55 | 90 |
| Portland 2009 | 14 | 1 day | 58 days | 19 days | N/A | N/A |
| Portland 2004 | 20 | 1 day | 79 days | 30 days | N/A | N/A |
| Seattle 2022 | 13 | 1 day | 62 days | 22 days | 90 | 92 |
| Seattle 2017 | 14 | 5 days | 365 days | 49 days | 100 | 9 |
| Seattle 2013 | 20 | 3 days | 38 days | 10 days | 30 | 75 |
| Seattle 2009 | 14 | 1 day | 200 days | 39 days | N/A | N/A |
| Seattle 2004 | 17 | 1 day | 153 days | 26 days | N/A | N/A |
| Minneapolis 2022 | 10 | 4 days | 50 days | 21 days | 80 | 80 |
| Minneapolis 2017 | 18 | 3 days | 66 days | 12 days | 100 | 100 |
| Minneapolis 2013 | 20 | 3 days | 28 days | 10 days | 40 | 40 |
| Minneapolis 2009 | 15 | 1 day | 14 days | 5 days | 47 | N/A |
| Minneapolis 2004 | 15 | 6 days | 61 days | 20 days | 80 | N/A |
| New York 2022 | 11 | 4 day | 42 days | 19 days | 9 | 27 |
| New York 2017 | 20 | 1 day | 117 days | 19 days | 20 | 35 |
| New York 2013 | 17 | 1 day | 35 days | 10 days | 24 | 24 |
| New York 2009 | 14 | 1 day | 53 days | 13 days | 14 | N/A |
| New York 2004 | 20 | 1 day | 29 days | 14 days | 5 | N/A |
| Total 2022 | 196 | 2.2 days | 93.2 days | 31.4 days | 52 | 74 |
| Total 2017 | 286 | 2.8 days | 122.7 days | 26.4 days | 55 | 72 |
| Total 2013 | 284 | 2.9 days | 57.7 days | 17.3 days | 47 | 67 |
| Total 2009 | 228 | 2.5 days | 98.7 days | 27.5 days | 41 | N/A |
| Total 2004 | 261 | 3.0 days | 65.1 days | 23.3 days | 60 | N/A |

Orthopedic Surgery

| CITY | TOTAL OFFICES | SHORTEST TIME TO APPT. | LONGEST TIME TO APPT. | AVERAGE TIME TO APPT. | ACCEPT MEDICAID? YES (%) | ACCEPT MEDICARE? YES (%) |
|-------------------------|---------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| San Diego 2022 | 10 | 3 days | 241 days | 55 days | 50 | 90 |
| San Diego 2017 | 17 | 3 days | 45 days | 19 days | 59 | 88 |
| San Diego 2013 | 20 | 7 days | 63 days | 18 days | 15 | 55 |
| San Diego 2009 | 14 | 3 days | 33 days | 10 days | 14 | N/A |
| San Diego 2004 | 14 | 5 days | 36 days | 13 days | 0 | N/A |
| Los Angeles 2022 | 10 | 2 days | 161 days | 31 days | 40 | 100 |
| Los Angeles 2017 | 20 | 1 day | 36 days | 12 days | 15 | 85 |
| Los Angeles 2013 | 17 | 3 days | 31 days | 7 days | 35 | 88 |
| Los Angeles 2009 | 11 | 3 days | 45 days | 12 days | 45 | N/A |
| Los Angeles 2004 | 14 | 1 day | 112 days | 43 days | 0 | N/A |
| Portland 2022 | 10 | 7 days | 56 days | 28 days | 40 | 70 |
| Portland 2017 | 20 | 1 day | 39 days | 11 days | 55 | 75 |
| Portland 2013 | 17 | 1 day | 28 days | 10 days | 53 | 76 |
| Portland 2009 | 19 | 1 day | 17 days | 9 days | 100 | N/A |
| Portland 2004 | 20 | Same day | 26 days | 19 days | 100 | N/A |
| Seattle 2022 | 10 | 3 days | 54 days | 21 days | 50 | 80 |
| Seattle 2017 | 20 | 1 day | 14 days | 7 days | 55 | 75 |
| Seattle 2013 | 18 | 1 day | 18 days | 6 days | 28 | 83 |
| Seattle 2009 | 20 | 1 day | 19 days | 5 days | 15 | N/A |
| Seattle 2004 | 14 | 3 days | 27 days | 12 days | 79 | N/A |
| Minneapolis 2022 | 11 | 1 day | 54 days | 16 days | 55 | 73 |
| Minneapolis 2017 | 20 | 1 day | 180 days | 15 days | 100 | 100 |
| Minneapolis 2013 | 18 | 1 day | 11 days | 5 days | 17 | 33 |
| Minneapolis 2009 | 14 | 10 days | 42 days | 20 days | 93 | N/A |
| Minneapolis 2004 | 14 | 7 days | 93 days | 19 days | 79 | N/A |
| Boston 2022 | 20 | 1 day | 74 days | 15 days | 75 | 95 |
| Boston 2017 | 20 | 1 day | 48 days | 11 days | 75 | 100 |
| Boston 2013 | 20 | 4 days | 48 days | 16 days | 70 | 95 |
| Boston 2009 | 9 | 5 days | 79 days | 40 days | 44 | N/A |
| Boston 2004 | 16 | 1 day | 60 days | 24 days | 88 | N/A |
| Denver 2022 | 10 | 4 days | 46 days | 14 days | 60 | 100 |
| Denver 2017 | 20 | 1 day | 44 days | 10 days | 35 | 90 |
| Denver 2013 | 20 | 1 day | 68 days | 15 days | 45 | 100 |
| Denver 2009 | 11 | 1 day | 56 days | 15 days | 45 | N/A |
| Denver 2004 | 20 | 2 days | 36 days | 23 days | 40 | N/A |
| Miami 2022 | 14 | 1 day | 21 days | 13 days | 50 | 79 |
| Miami 2017 | 20 | 1 day | 67 days | 12 days | 15 | 95 |
| Miami 2013 | 20 | 1 day | 30 days | 9 days | 60 | 75 |
| Miami 2009 | 14 | 2 days | 19 days | 7 days | 36 | N/A |
| Miami 2004 | 14 | 7 days | 21 days | 11 days | 14 | N/A |

| CITY | TOTAL OFFICES | SHORTEST TIME TO APPT. | LONGEST TIME TO APPT. | AVERAGE TIME TO APPT. | ACCEPT MEDICAID? YES (%) | ACCEPT MEDICARE? YES (%) |
|------------------------------|---------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Houston 2022 | 10 | 1 day | 44 days | 11 days | 50 | 90 |
| Houston 2017 | 20 | 1 day | 30 days | 10 days | 45 | 70 |
| Houston 2013 | 18 | 1 day | 13 days | 5 days | 78 | 94 |
| Houston 2009 | 11 | 1 day | 35 days | 17 days | 45 | N/A |
| Houston 2004 | 20 | 5 days | 38 days | 15 days | 30 | N/A |
| Detroit 2022 | 13 | 3 days | 35 days | 10 days | 100 | 100 |
| Detroit 2017 | 20 | 3 days | 180 days | 19 days | 45 | 100 |
| Detroit 2013 | 18 | 4 days | 46 days | 18 days | 72 | 94 |
| Detroit 2009 | 3 | 6 days | 19 days | 11 days | 33 | N/A |
| Detroit 2004 | 18 | 5 days | 48 days | 18 days | 22 | N/A |
| Philadelphia 2022 | 12 | 1 day | 26 days | 10 days | 67 | 83 |
| Philadelphia 2017 | 16 | 1 day | 37 days | 10 days | 81 | 88 |
| Philadelphia 2013 | 18 | 1 day | 8 days | 5 days | 50 | 72 |
| Philadelphia 2009 | 8 | 1 day | 60 days | 22 days | 63 | N/A |
| Philadelphia 2004 | 16 | 4 days | 76 days | 18 days | 25 | N/A |
| Dallas 2022 | 20 | 7 days | 56 days | 9 days | 40 | 70 |
| Dallas 2017 | 20 | 1 day | 32 days | 10 days | 20 | 80 |
| Dallas 2013 | 20 | 1 day | 21 days | 8 days | 25 | 85 |
| Dallas 2009 | 20 | 1 day | 365 days | 45 days | 20 | N/A |
| Dallas 2004 | 14 | 2 days | 18 days | 10 days | 43 | N/A |
| Atlanta 2022 | 22 | 1 day | 30 days | 8 days | 55 | 64 |
| Atlanta 2017 | 20 | 1 day | 42 days | 7 days | 25 | 85 |
| Atlanta 2013 | 20 | 1 day | 38 days | 6 days | 20 | 75 |
| Atlanta 2009 | 13 | 1 day | 19 days | 10 days | 46 | N/A |
| Atlanta 2004 | 20 | Same day | 12 days | 8 days | 100 | N/A |
| New York 2022 | 10 | 1 day | 20 days | 8 days | 30 | 50 |
| New York 2017 | 20 | 1 day | 24 days | 10 days | 20 | 80 |
| New York 2013 | 20 | 3 days | 20 days | 9 days | 40 | 50 |
| New York 2009 | 17 | 3 days | 47 days | 15 days | 24 | N/A |
| New York 2004 | 20 | 2 days | 39 days | 16 days | 10 | N/A |
| Washington, D.C. 2022 | 15 | 1 day | 30 days | 5 days | 60 | 87 |
| Washington, D.C. 2017 | 20 | 1 day | 26 days | 8 days | 30 | 100 |
| Washington, D.C. 2013 | 18 | 1 day | 34 days | 11 days | 44 | 83 |
| Washington, D.C. 2009 | 8 | 5 days | 43 days | 16 days | 37 | N/A |
| Washington, D.C. 2004 | 20 | 1 day | 25 days | 8 days | 20 | N/A |
| Total 2022 | 197 | 2.1 days | 61.5 days | 16.9 days | 53 | 83 |
| Total 2017 | 293 | 1.3 days | 56.3 days | 11.4 days | 45 | 87 |
| Total 2013 | 282 | 2.1 days | 31.8 days | 9.9 days | 43 | 77 |
| Total 2009 | 192 | 2.9 days | 59.9 days | 16.8 days | 44 | N/A |
| Total 2004 | 254 | 2.8 days | 43.0 days | 16.9 days | 44 | N/A |

Family Medicine

| CITY | TOTAL OFFICES | SHORTEST TIME TO APPT. | LONGEST TIME TO APPT. | AVERAGE TIME TO APPT. | ACCEPT MEDICAID? YES (%) | ACCEPT MEDICARE? YES (%) |
|--------------------------|---------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Portland 2022 | 7 | 7 days | 121 days | 44 days | 40 | 90 |
| Portland 2017 | 20 | 1 day | 240 days | 39 days | 55 | 60 |
| Portland 2013 | 20 | 3 days | 45 days | 13 days | 60 | 85 |
| Portland 2009 | 19 | 3 days | 16 days | 8 days | 79 | N/A |
| Boston 2022 | 20 | 1 day | 136 days | 40 days | 65 | 85 |
| Boston 2017 | 18 | 3 days | 365 days | 109 days | 78 | 100 |
| Boston 2013 | 20 | 12 days | 152 days | 66 days | 65 | 95 |
| Boston 2009 | 17 | 6 days | 365 days | 63 days | 53 | N/A |
| Philadelphia 2022 | 11 | 4 days | 90 days | 34 days | 73 | 83 |
| Philadelphia 2017 | 16 | 1 day | 47 days | 17 days | 88 | 100 |
| Philadelphia 2013 | 18 | 1 day | 98 days | 21 days | 67 | 89 |
| Philadelphia 2009 | 18 | 3 days | 15 days | 9 days | 72 | N/A |
| Minneapolis 2022 | 10 | 4 days | 67 days | 25 days | 90 | 100 |
| Minneapolis 2017 | 18 | 1 day | 39 days | 8 days | 100 | 100 |
| Minneapolis 2013 | 17 | 1 day | 30 days | 10 days | 35 | 53 |
| Minneapolis 2009 | 20 | 2 days | 23 days | 10 days | 85 | N/A |
| Seattle 2022 | 12 | 1 day | 87 days | 24 days | 67 | 83 |
| Seattle 2017 | 17 | 1 day | 180 days | 26 days | 71 | 47 |
| Seattle 2013 | 20 | 3 days | 129 days | 23 days | 55 | 100 |
| Seattle 2009 | 20 | 2 days | 14 days | 8 days | 80 | N/A |
| Denver 2022 | 20 | 1 day | 77 days | 21 days | 70 | 80 |
| Denver 2017 | 20 | 4 days | 180 days | 27 days | 20 | 40 |
| Denver 2013 | 20 | 1 day | 62 days | 16 days | 20 | 55 |
| Denver 2009 | 16 | 1 day | 45 days | 14 days | 94 | N/A |
| San Diego 2022 | 10 | 1 day | 66 days | 19 days | 70 | 80 |
| San Diego 2017 | 12 | 4 days | 41 days | 13 days | 33 | 75 |
| San Diego 2013 | 14 | 1 day | 17 days | 7 days | 86 | 100 |
| San Diego 2009 | 20 | 1 day | 92 days | 24 days | 80 | N/A |
| Dallas 2022 | 20 | 1 day | 100 days | 17 days | 35 | 75 |
| Dallas 2017 | 20 | 1 day | 111 days | 12 days | 25 | 50 |
| Dallas 2013 | 20 | 1 day | 10 days | 5 days | 30 | 55 |
| Dallas 2009 | 20 | 1 day | 27 days | 8 days | 50 | N/A |
| Atlanta 2022 | 21 | 1 day | 46 days | 16 days | 62 | 100 |
| Atlanta 2017 | 20 | 1 day | 169 days | 27 days | 35 | 80 |
| Atlanta 2013 | 20 | 1 day | 112 days | 24 days | 40 | 80 |
| Atlanta 2009 | 18 | 3 days | 21 days | 9 days | 67 | N/A |
| Detroit 2022 | 14 | 1 day | 56 days | 16 days | 93 | 93 |
| Detroit 2017 | 17 | 1 day | 112 days | 27 days | 71 | 88 |
| Detroit 2013 | 20 | 1 day | 74 days | 16 days | 50 | 90 |
| Detroit 2009 | 17 | 3 days | 31 days | 14 days | 59 | N/A |

| CITY | TOTAL OFFICES | SHORTEST TIME TO APPT. | LONGEST TIME TO APPT. | AVERAGE TIME TO APPT. | ACCEPT MEDICAID? YES (%) | ACCEPT MEDICARE? YES (%) |
|------------------------------|---------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Los Angeles 2022 | 14 | 1 day | 71 days | 15 days | 64 | 93 |
| Los Angeles 2017 | 20 | 1 day | 365 days | 42 days | 45 | 85 |
| Los Angeles 2013 | 19 | 1 day | 126 days | 20 days | 53 | 79 |
| Los Angeles 2009 | 20 | 1 day | 365 days | 59 days | 30 | N/A |
| Houston 2022 | 23 | 1 day | 94 days | 12 days | 26 | 65 |
| Houston 2017 | 20 | 1 day | 180 days | 21 days | 30 | 65 |
| Houston 2013 | 20 | 1 day | 178 days | 19 days | 55 | 70 |
| Houston 2009 | 20 | 1 day | 29 days | 17 days | 50 | N/A |
| Miami 2022 | 10 | 1 day | 39 days | 10 days | 40 | 80 |
| Miami 2017 | 20 | 3 days | 180 days | 28 days | 40 | 80 |
| Miami 2013 | 16 | 1 day | 56 days | 12 days | 56 | 81 |
| Miami 2009 | 15 | 1 day | 25 days | 7 days | 40 | N/A |
| New York 2022 | 16 | 1 day | 30 days | 9 days | 50 | 69 |
| New York 2017 | 20 | 1 day | 365 days | 26 days | 80 | 85 |
| New York 2013 | 19 | 14 days | 38 days | 26 days | 32 | 42 |
| New York 2009 | 19 | 6 days | 61 days | 24 days | 79 | N/A |
| Washington, D.C. 2022 | 11 | 1 day | 41 days | 8 days | 36 | 55 |
| Washington, D.C. 2017 | 15 | 1 day | 62 days | 17 days | 53 | 80 |
| Washington, D.C. 2013 | 14 | 1 day | 62 days | 14 days | 71 | 93 |
| Washington, D.C. 2009 | 19 | 3 days | 365 days | 30 days | 63 | N/A |
| Total 2022 | 222 | 1.8 days | 74.7 days | 20.6 days | 59 | 82 |
| Total 2017 | 273 | 1.7 days | 175.7 days | 29.3 days | 55 | 76 |
| Total 2013 | 277 | 2.9 days | 79.3 days | 19.5 days | 51 | 77 |
| Total 2009 | 278 | 2.5 days | 99.6 days | 20.3 days | 65 | N/A |

Average Wait Times By Metropolitan Area

| CITY | CARDIOLOGY | DERMATOLOGY | OB/GYN | ORTHOPEDIC SURGERY | FAMILY MEDICINE |
|-------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| Atlanta 2022 | 26 days | 26 days | 25 days | 8 days | 16 days |
| Atlanta 2017 | 16 days | 13 days | 39 days | 7 days | 27 days |
| Atlanta 2013 | 11 days | 14 days | 15 days | 6 days | 24 days |
| Atlanta 2009 | 5 days | 15 days | 17 days | 10 days | 9 days |
| Atlanta 2004 | 17 days | 21 days | 24 days | 8 days | N/A |
| Boston 2022 | 29 days | 50 days | 35 days | 15 days | 40 days |
| Boston 2017 | 45 days | 52 days | 45 days | 11 days | 109 days |
| Boston 2013 | 27 days | 72 days | 46 days | 16 days | 66 days |
| Boston 2009 | 21 days | 54 days | 70 days | 40 days | 63 days |
| Boston 2004 | 37 days | 50 days | 45 days | 24 days | N/A |
| Dallas 2022 | 13 days | 34 days | 32 days | 9days | 17 days |
| Dallas 2017 | 12 days | 22 days | 18 days | 10 days | 12 days |
| Dallas 2013 | 11 days | 17 days | 10 days | 8 days | 5 days |
| Dallas 2009 | 8 days | 18 days | 17 days | 45 days | 8 days |
| Dallas 2004 | 10 days | 34 days | 17 days | 10 days | N/A |
| Denver 2022 | 33 days | 27 days | 39 days | 14 days | 21 days |
| Denver 2017 | 22 days | 51 days | 23 days | 10 days | 27 days |
| Denver 2013 | 28 days | 37 days | 22 days | 15 days | 16 days |
| Denver 2009 | 12 days | 40 days | 15 days | 15 days | 14 days |
| Denver 2004 | 23 days | 21 days | 23 days | 23 days | N/A |
| Detroit 2022 | 13 days | 29 days | 26 days | 10 days | 16 days |
| Detroit 2017 | 14 days | 27 days | 23 days | 19 days | 27 days |
| Detroit 2013 | 17 days | 22 days | 16 days | 18 days | 16 days |
| Detroit 2009 | 7.5 days | 12 days | 15 days | 11 days | 14 days |
| Detroit 2004 | 20 days | 25 days | 39 days | 18 days | N/A |
| Houston 2022 | 23 days | 25 days | 30 days | 11 days | 12 days |
| Houston 2017 | 12 days | 28 days | 27 days | 10 days | 21 days |
| Houston 2013 | 11 days | 21 days | 14 days | 5 days | 19 days |
| Houston 2009 | 11 days | 31 days | 41 days | 17 days | 17 days |
| Houston 2004 | 11 days | 13 days | 20 days | 15 days | N/A |
| Los Angeles 2022 | 22 days | 15 days | 28 days | 31 days | 15 days |
| Los Angeles 2017 | 20 days | 35 days | 12 days | 12 days | 42 days |
| Los Angeles 2013 | 12 days | 14 days | 8 days | 7 days | 20 days |
| Los Angeles 2009 | 11 days | 13 days | 26 days | 12 days | 59 days |
| Los Angeles,2004 | 14 days | 14 days | 19 days | 43 days | N/A |
| Miami 2022 | 32 days | 45 days | 46 days | 13 days | 10 days |
| Miami 2017 | 14 days | 11 days | 17 days | 12 days | 28 days |
| Miami 2013 | 18 days | 16 days | 13 days | 9 days | 12 days |
| Miami 2009 | 29 days | 12 days | 22 days | 7 days | 7 days |
| Miami 2004 | 21 days | 17 days | 10 days | 11 days | N/A |

| CITY | CARDIOLOGY | DERMATOLOGY | OB/GYN | ORTHOPEDIC SURGERY | FAMILY MEDICINE |
|------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| Minneapolis 2022 | 20 days | 72 days | 21 days | 16 days | 25 days |
| Minneapolis 2017 | 22 days | 30 days | 12 days | 15 days | 8 days |
| Minneapolis 2013 | 15 days | 56 days | 10 days | 5 days | 10 days |
| Minneapolis 2009 | 47 days | 17 days | 5 days | 20 days | 10 days |
| Minneapolis 2004 | 15 days | 43 days | 20 days | 19 days | N/A |
| New York 2022 | 28 days | 23 days | 19 days | 8 days | 9 days |
| New York 2017 | 15 days | 15 days | 19 days | 10 days | 26 days |
| New York 2013 | 15 days | 24 days | 10 days | 9 days | 26 days |
| New York 2009 | 14 days | 11 days | 13 days | 15 days | 24 days |
| New York 2004 | 22 days | 9 days | 14 days | 16 days | N/A |
| Philadelphia 2022 | 29 days | 9 days | 59 days | 10 days | 34 days |
| Philadelphia 2017 | 28 days | 78 days | 51 days | 10 days | 17 days |
| Philadelphia 2013 | 6 days | 49 days | 22 days | 5 days | 21 days |
| Philadelphia 2009 | 11 days | 47 days | 46 days | 22 days | 9 days |
| Philadelphia 2004 | 27 days | 33 days | 28 days | 18 days | N/A |
| Portland 2022 | 49 days | 84 days | 23 days | 28 days | 44 days |
| Portland 2017 | 32 days | 30 days | 28 days | 11 days | 39 days |
| Portland 2013 | 12 days | 27 days | 35 days | 10 days | 13 days |
| Portland 2009 | 11 days | 25 days | 19 days | 9 days | 8 days |
| Portland 2004 | 25 days | 30 days | 30 days | 19 days | N/A |
| San Diego 2022 | 17 days | 22 days | 38 days | 22 days | 19 days |
| San Diego 2017 | 30 days | 17 days | 16 days | 19 days | 13 days |
| San Diego 2013 | 28 days | 14 days | 14 days | 18 days | 7 days |
| San Diego 2009 | 22 days | 10 days | 35 days | 10 days | 24 days |
| San Diego 2004 | 17 days | 12 days | 31 days | 13 days | N/A |
| Seattle 2022 | 29 days | 45 days | 22 days | 21 days | 24 days |
| Seattle 2017 | 16 days | 42 days | 49 days | 7 days | 26 days |
| Seattle 2013 | 9 days | 32 days | 10 days | 6 days | 23 days |
| Seattle 2009 | 8 days | 11 days | 39 days | 5 days | 8 days |
| Seattle 2004 | 9 days | 27 days | 26 days | 12 days | N/A |
| Washington, D.C. 2022 | 26 days | 12 days | 29 days | 5 days | 8 days |
| Washington, D.C. 2017 | 18 days | 20 days | 17 days | 8 days | 17 days |
| Washington, D.C. 2013 | 32 days | 17 days | 15 days | 11 days | 14 days |
| Washington, D.C. 2009 | 18 days | 16 days | 33 days | 16 days | 30 days |
| Washington, D.C. 2004 | 12 days | 15 days | 11 days | 8 days | N/A |

Medicaid Acceptance Rate By Metropolitan Area

| CITY | CARDIOLOGY (%) | DERMATOLOGY (%) | OB/GYN (%) | ORTHOPEDIC SURGERY (%) | FAMILY MEDICINE (%) |
|-------------------------|----------------|-----------------|------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| Atlanta 2022 | 75 | 25 | 55 | 55 | 62 |
| Atlanta 2017 | 85 | 15 | 35 | 25 | 35 |
| Atlanta 2013 | 90 | 15 | 20 | 20 | 40 |
| Atlanta 2009 | 100 | 0 | 62 | 46 | 67 |
| Atlanta 2004 | 80 | 100 | 25 | 100 | N/A |
| Boston 2022 | 55 | 65 | 57 | 75 | 65 |
| Boston 2017 | 100 | 70 | 100 | 75 | 78 |
| Boston 2013 | 85 | 55 | 90 | 70 | 65 |
| Boston 2009 | 100 | 67 | 77 | 44 | 53 |
| Boston 2004 | 11 | 17 | 56 | 88 | N/A |
| Dallas 2022 | 55 | 9 | 30 | 20 | 35 |
| Dallas 2017 | 15 | 10 | 15 | 20 | 25 |
| Dallas 2013 | 30 | 0 | 30 | 25 | 30 |
| Dallas 2009 | 8 | 15 | 14 | 20 | 50 |
| Dallas 2004 | 0 | 0 | 100 | 43 | N/A |
| Denver 2022 | 100 | 50 | 79 | 60 | 70 |
| Denver 2017 | 83 | 35 | 50 | 35 | 20 |
| Denver 2013 | 50 | 30 | 35 | 45 | 20 |
| Denver 2009 | 86 | 29 | 33 | 45 | 94 |
| Denver 2004 | 20 | 20 | 20 | 40 | N/A |
| Detroit 2022 | 100 | 50 | 70 | 100 | 93 |
| Detroit 2017 | 100 | 25 | 45 | 45 | 71 |
| Detroit 2013 | 83 | 45 | 70 | 72 | 50 |
| Detroit 2009 | 100 | 67 | 50 | 33 | 59 |
| Detroit 2004 | 65 | 25 | 40 | 22 | N/A |
| Houston 2022 | 69 | 10 | 67 | 50 | 26 |
| Houston 2017 | 65 | 10 | 35 | 45 | 30 |
| Houston 2013 | 65 | 40 | 41 | 78 | 55 |
| Houston 2009 | 84 | 0 | 60 | 45 | 50 |
| Houston 2004 | 85 | 30 | 72 | 30 | N/A |
| Los Angeles 2022 | 68 | 59 | 36 | 40 | 64 |
| Los Angeles 2017 | 67 | 30 | 55 | 15 | 45 |
| Los Angeles 2013 | 44 | 7 | 36 | 35 | 53 |
| Los Angeles 2009 | 100 | 58 | 57 | 45 | 30 |
| Los Angeles 2004 | 22 | 50 | 29 | 14 | N/A |
| Miami 2022 | 80 | 42 | 27 | 50 | 40 |
| Miami 2017 | 80 | 25 | 25 | 15 | 40 |
| Miami 2013 | 71 | 45 | 40 | 60 | 56 |
| Miami 2009 | 64 | 70 | 28 | 36 | 40 |
| Miami 2004 | 40 | 71 | 50 | 14 | N/A |

| CITY | CARDIOLOGY (%) | DERMATOLOGY (%) | OB/GYN (%) | ORTHOPEDIC SURGERY (%) | FAMILY MEDICINE (%) |
|------------------------------|----------------|-----------------|------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| Minneapolis 2022 | 55 | 80 | 80 | 55 | 90 |
| Minneapolis 2017 | 100 | 85 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Minneapolis 2013 | 7 | 15 | 40 | 17 | 35 |
| Minneapolis 2009 | 100 | 87 | 47 | 93 | 85 |
| Minneapolis 2004 | 80 | 100 | 83 | 79 | N/A |
| New York 2022 | 38 | 27 | 9 | 30 | 50 |
| New York 2017 | 50 | 25 | 20 | 20 | 80 |
| New York 2013 | 70 | 30 | 24 | 40 | 32 |
| New York 2009 | 100 | 12 | 14 | 24 | 79 |
| New York 2004 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 10 | N/A |
| Philadelphia 2022 | 100 | 20 | 70 | 67 | 73 |
| Philadelphia 2017 | 94 | 40 | 80 | 81 | 88 |
| Philadelphia 2013 | 47 | 15 | 63 | 50 | 67 |
| Philadelphia 2009 | 8 | 60 | 27 | 63 | 72 |
| Philadelphia 2004 | 80 | 15 | 24 | 75 | N/A |
| Portland 2022 | 80 | 70 | 91 | 40 | 40 |
| Portland 2017 | 100 | 60 | 94 | 55 | 55 |
| Portland 2013 | 88 | 45 | 75 | 53 | 60 |
| Portland 2009 | 100 | 28 | 100 | 100 | 79 |
| Portland 2004 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | N/A |
| San Diego 2022 | 18 | 29 | 17 | 50 | 70 |
| San Diego 2017 | 47 | 50 | 56 | 59 | 33 |
| San Diego 2013 | 55 | 10 | 45 | 15 | 86 |
| San Diego 2009 | 100 | 100 | 15 | 14 | 80 |
| San Diego 2004 | 68 | 33 | 80 | 0 | N/A |
| Seattle 2022 | 60 | 10 | 69 | 50 | 67 |
| Seattle 2017 | 77 | 10 | 71 | 55 | 71 |
| Seattle 2013 | 70 | 35 | 50 | 28 | 55 |
| Seattle 2009 | 86 | 60 | 50 | 15 | 80 |
| Seattle 2004 | 0 | 27 | 70 | 79 | N/A |
| Washington, D.C. 2022 | 70 | 27 | 20 | 60 | 36 |
| Washington, D.C. 2017 | 94 | 10 | 40 | 30 | 53 |
| Washington, D.C. 2013 | 63 | 15 | 35 | 44 | 71 |
| Washington, D.C. 2009 | 100 | 28 | 38 | 37 | 63 |
| Washington, D.C. 2004 | 100 | 87 | 100 | 20 | N/A |

Medicare Acceptance Rate By Metropolitan Area

(Question first asked in 2014 – no data for 2009 & 2004 available)

| CITY | CARDIOLOGY (%) | DERMATOLOGY (%) | OB/GYN (%) | ORTHOPEDIC SURGERY (%) | FAMILY MEDICINE (%) |
|-------------------------|----------------|-----------------|------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| Atlanta 2022 | 80 | 80 | 40 | 64 | 100 |
| Atlanta 2017 | 100 | 100 | 25 | 85 | 80 |
| Atlanta,2014 | 95 | 100 | 60 | 75 | 80 |
| Boston 2022 | 90 | 90 | 81 | 95 | 85 |
| Boston 2017 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Boston 2014 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 95 | 95 |
| Dallas 2022 | 85 | 55 | 50 | 90 | 75 |
| Dallas 2017 | 85 | 90 | 55 | 80 | 50 |
| Dallas 2014 | 80 | 85 | 65 | 85 | 55 |
| Denver 2022 | 100 | 90 | 79 | 100 | 80 |
| Denver 2017 | 92 | 100 | 60 | 90 | 40 |
| Denver 2014 | 80 | 85 | 55 | 100 | 55 |
| Detroit 2022 | 100 | 80 | 90 | 100 | 93 |
| Detroit 2017 | 100 | 85 | 80 | 100 | 88 |
| Detroit 2014 | 100 | 100 | 95 | 94 | 90 |
| Houston 2022 | 94 | 76 | 83 | 90 | 65 |
| Houston 2017 | 95 | 60 | 55 | 70 | 65 |
| Houston 2014 | 75 | 80 | 47 | 94 | 70 |
| Los Angeles 2022 | 89 | 88 | 73 | 100 | 93 |
| Los Angeles 2017 | 100 | 95 | 85 | 85 | 85 |
| Los Angeles 2014 | 100 | 79 | 86 | 88 | 79 |
| Miami 2022 | 100 | 92 | 100 | 79 | 80 |
| Miami,2017 | 100 | 100 | 70 | 95 | 80 |
| Miami 2014 | 82 | 55 | 55 | 75 | 81 |
| Minneapolis 2022 | 91 | 90 | 80 | 73 | 100 |
| Minneapolis 2017 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Minneapolis 2014 | 36 | 30 | 40 | 33 | 53 |
| New York 2022 | 88 | 55 | 27 | 50 | 69 |
| New York 2017 | 90 | 90 | 35 | 80 | 85 |
| New York 2014 | 75 | 50 | 24 | 50 | 42 |

| CITY | CARDIOLOGY (%) | DERMATOLOGY (%) | OB/GYN (%) | ORTHOPEDIC SURGERY (%) | FAMILY MEDICINE (%) |
|------------------------------|----------------|-----------------|------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| Philadelphia 2022 | 100 | 90 | 90 | 83 | 82 |
| Philadelphia 2017 | 100 | 87 | 90 | 88 | 100 |
| Philadelphia 2014 | 87 | 100 | 81 | 72 | 89 |
| Portland 2022 | 90 | 90 | 100 | 70 | 90 |
| Portland 2017 | 95 | 85 | 94 | 75 | 60 |
| Portland 2014 | 94 | 85 | 90 | 76 | 85 |
| San Diego 2022 | 82 | 79 | 83 | 90 | 80 |
| San Diego 2017 | 100 | 88 | 88 | 88 | 75 |
| San Diego 2014 | 85 | 65 | 55 | 55 | 100 |
| Seattle 2022 | 90 | 80 | 92 | 80 | 83 |
| Seattle 2017 | 100 | 90 | 79 | 75 | 47 |
| Seattle 2014 | 100 | 75 | 70 | 83 | 100 |
| Washington, D.C. 2022 | 100 | 73 | 40 | 87 | 55 |
| Washington, D.C. 2017 | 100 | 80 | 65 | 100 | 80 |
| Washington, D.C. 2014 | 94 | 85 | 80 | 83 | 93 |



A Practical Focus

AMN/Merritt Hawkins' 2022 *Survey of Physician Appointment Wait Times and Medicare and Medicaid Acceptance Rates* is intended to present a snapshot of physician availability in five medical specialties in 15 major metropolitan areas nationwide.

It should be noted that physician-to-population ratios in the 15 major metropolitan areas are historically some of the highest in the country. If access to physicians in metropolitan areas with a large number of physicians per capita is limited, it may be reasonable to infer that physician access could be more problematic in areas with fewer physicians per capita.

In so far as it was possible, AMN/Merritt Hawkins attempted to duplicate the experience of a person seeking to make a new patient appointment with a physician for a non-emergent medical problem in one of 15 major metropolitan markets. A secondary goal was to determine the number of physician practices in various metropolitan settings willing or able to see Medicare and Medicaid patients.

The 2022 *Survey of Physician Appointment Wait Times* is an attempt to bring the physician supply discussion, which often deals in abstract projections of hypothetical physician need, into practical focus by tracking the time it takes patients to schedule physician appointments under real world conditions.

Growing Physician Shortages, Longer Appointment Wait Times

According to a June, 2021 report from the Association of American Medical Colleges, the U.S. faces a deficit of up to 124,000 physicians by 2034 (*The Complexities of Physician Supply and Demand: Projections From 2019 to 2034. AAMC, June 2021*). Factors driving the shortage include:

- **A growing population.** The U.S. Census Bureau projects that the nation's population will grow from 332 million people today to 423 million by 2050, given a low level of immigration, and to 458 million people given a high level of immigration.
- **An aging population.** By 2034, there will be more seniors aged 65 and older in the U.S. (77 million) than children 17 and younger (76.5 million), the first time in our nation's history this demographic imbalance will have occurred, according to the Census Bureau. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) those 65 and older generate 498 physician office visits per 100 people per year, compared to 213 per 100 for children 1–17 and 190 visits per 100 for those 18–44 (*Characteristics of Office-Based Physicians, 2016. CDC*).
- **An aging physician workforce.** Over 30% of physicians in active patient care in the U.S. are 60 or older, according to American Medical Association (AMA) data, and a growing rate of physician retirements can be expected.
- **Physician burnout.** Physicians may accelerate their retirement plans due to pervasive burnout. In 2019, prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health identified physician burnout as a public health crisis (*Leading healthcare organizations declare physician burnout as "public health crisis." Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health press release, January 17, 2019*). The pandemic has greatly exacerbated this problem.
- **Pervasive ill-health.** 4 in 10 U.S. adults have two or more chronic conditions, according to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), amplifying demand for physicians (*Chronic Diseases in America. cdc.gov/chronicdiseases/resources/*).
- **A limited number of new physicians.** In 1997, Congress placed a cap on funding for physician training, limiting the number of new physicians entering practice each year. The cap was lifted in 2021, but funding was provided for only 1,000 new training positions, far short of what is needed.
- **Changing physician practice styles.** More physicians are choosing to work as employees rather than as independent practice owners. According to the 2018 *Survey of America's Physicians*, conducted by Merritt Hawkins on behalf of The Physicians Foundation, employed physicians see 12% fewer patients on average than independent physicians.

The long-term trends driving physician shortages were temporarily abated by COVID-19. During the height of the pandemic, many hospitals and other healthcare facilities reduced or eliminated elective procedures, and many patients avoided entering a medical setting. Consequently, demand for physicians was inhibited. By June of 2020, Merritt Hawkins saw the number of physician recruitment engagements it conducts drop by 30% year-over-year.

Healthcare facilities and patients have since adjusted to COVID-19, and patient backlogs created by the pandemic have accelerated demand for physicians. In the fourth quarter of 2021, AMN/Merritt Hawkins received more physician search engagement requests than in any other quarter in our 35-year history.

As the impact of longstanding demographic and other trends driving the physician shortage continues to grow, physician appointment wait times noted in this survey continue to lengthen, from an average of 20.9 days for all specialties surveyed in 2004, the first year the survey was conducted, to an average of 26.0 days in 2022, an increase of 24%.

Medical Offices Difficult to Reach

It was observed by researchers during the data gathering process that it often can be difficult to reach physician offices to schedule an appointment.

In some cases, researchers could not break through the various automated telephone sequences needed to reach a person able to schedule an appointment. In other cases, researchers encountered answering machines indicating the office was temporarily not taking phone calls. In such cases, researchers moved on to other medical offices. By doing so, researchers attempted to duplicate the experience of a patient new to a community “dialing through” various medical offices in search of an appointment.

Researchers contacted 4,208 separate physician offices nationwide in order to determine the first available appointment time at a total of 1,034 offices. Since 2017, the last year the survey was conducted, many physician offices have transitioned to online scheduling, and researchers were directed to physician office web sites in order to determine the first available appointment. This may pose an access barrier to those patients unfamiliar or uncomfortable with navigating the internet.

Physician Practice Consolidation

An additional change that has taken place since the survey was last conducted in 2017 is the growing consolidation of physician practices.

According to the AMA, the ongoing shift toward larger physician practice size accelerated between 2018 and 2020. The share of physicians in practices with at least 50 physicians increased from 14.7% in 2018 to 17.2% in 2020, the largest two-year change measured by the AMA survey since 2012. (*AMA analysis shows most physicians work outside of private practice. AMA press release, May 5, 2021*). Large medical groups today, such as The Permanente Group, Mayo Clinic Physicians, and the Cleveland Clinic employ thousands of physicians.

COVID-19 likely contributed to this trend, as some smaller physician practices were unable to sustain financial losses caused by the pandemic and merged with larger practices or were purchased by hospitals or investor groups. The number of hospital-owned physician practices increased by 8% from July, 2020 to January, 2022, from 61,900 practices to 66,700 – with fastest growth occurring at the beginning of the pandemic (*3 of 4 Physicians Employed by Health Systems, Hospitals or Corporate Entities. Christopher Cheney. HealthLeaders. April 25, 2022.*)

As a result, there may be fewer medical groups to contact in each of the 15 metro markets examined in the survey than there have been in the past. For example, what may have been four cardiology groups with three cardiologists each in 2017 may be one cardiology group with 12 cardiologists today. That is one reason survey researchers reached only 1,034 distinct physician offices in 2022 compared to 1,397 in 2017.

Clinical Effect of Appointment Wait Times

AMN/Merritt Hawkins' 2022 Survey of Physician Appointment Wait Times reflects the ability of patients with non-emergent medical needs to access physicians in 15 large metropolitan markets. As non-clinicians, AMN/Merritt Hawkins is unable to comment on the clinical effect the appointment wait times indicated in the survey may have on patients reporting non-emergent problems similar to the hypothetical ones stated by its research associates. However, it is generally accepted that prompt attention to medical concerns is preferable to delayed attention.

Timely access to care is 1 of the 6 dimensions of health care quality identified by the Institute of Medicine's report, *Crossing the Quality Chasm (Institute of Medicine. Washington, DC: National Academies Press; 2001. Crossing the Quality Chasm: A New Health System for the 21st Century)*. The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality cites improvements in morbidity, mortality, and cost savings as benefits of timeliness (*National Health Care Quality Report. 2004. [June 26, 2005]. at: <http://www.qualitytools.ahrq.gov/qualityreport/browse/browse.aspx?id=5077>*)

Following is a discussion of wait times for each of the five medical specialties included in the survey.

Cardiology

The average time to schedule a cardiology appointment across all 15 markets increased in 2022 relative to 2017 and relative all other years the survey was conducted. The average wait time of 26.6 days is an increase of 26% over 2017 and an increase of 41% over 2004.

Demand for cardiologists and many other specialists is driven by population aging, as older people require specialists to care for ailing organs, bones and impaired mental health or capacity. Pervasive poor cardio health is an additional factor. Cardiovascular disease (CVD) remains the leading cause of death in the United States and the world. Between 2012 and 2030, the prevalence of heart failure is projected to increase 46% in the U.S.. Similarly, the prevalence of atrial fibrillation is expected to increase between two and four-fold (*J Am Coll Cardiology. October 11, 2016*). More than 70% of adults in the U.S. have at least one of the following behaviors or conditions: smoking, excessive drinking, insufficient sleep, physical inactivity or obesity (*America's Health Rankings, United Health Foundation*), all of which can be triggering factors for CVD.

Supply and demand considerations in cardiology are explored in more detail in the Merritt Hawkins' white paper *Supply, Demand and Recruiting Trends in Cardiology*.

| Average Cardiology Appointment Wait Times, All Markets | |
|--|-------------|
| YEAR | DAYS |
| 2022 | 26.6 |
| 2017 | 21.1 |
| 2013 | 16.8 |
| 2009 | 15.5 |
| 2004 | 18.8 |

Dermatology

The average wait time to schedule a dermatology appointment across all 15 markets increased in 2022 relative to 2017 and relative to all other years the survey was conducted. The average wait time of 34.5 days is a 7% increase from 2017 and a 42% increase from 2004.

Skin cancer is the most commonly diagnosed form on cancer in the U.S. and its incidence is expected to rise:

- Each year, 5.4 million cases of non-melanoma skin cancer are detected.
- More new cases of skin cancer are detected every year than the combined cases of breast, prostate, lung and colon cancer.
- Approximately 87,110 cases of invasive melanoma were diagnosed in 2017 (*Skin Cancer Foundation*).

| Average Dermatology Appointment Wait Times, All Markets | |
|---|-------------|
| YEAR | DAYS |
| 2022 | 34.5 |
| 2017 | 32.3 |
| 2013 | 28.8 |
| 2009 | 22.1 |
| 2004 | 24.3 |

Demand for dermatologists also has increased due to the growing number of cosmetic procedures and treatments that dermatologists perform (derm abrasions, laser hair removal, etc.), some of which did not exist or were rarely performed 20 years ago, but which are very much in demand today

Supply and demand considerations in dermatology are explored in more detail in the Merritt Hawkins' white paper *Dermatology: Supply, Demand and Recruiting Trends*.

Obstetrics-Gynecology

The average wait time to schedule an obstetrics-gynecology appointment across all 15 markets increased in 2022 relative to 2017 and relative to all other years the survey was conducted. The average wait time of 31.4 days is a 19% increase from 2017 and a 35% increase from 2004.

The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) reported in 2017 that half of U.S. counties lack a single obstetrician-gynecologist. In 2020, there were up to 8,000 fewer OB-GYNs than needed, according to ACOG, and the number may rise to 22,000 by mid-century.

Supply and demand considerations in obstetrics-gynecology are explored in more detail in the Merritt Hawkins' white paper *Obstetrics/Gynecology: Supply, Demand and Recruiting Trends*.

Average Obstetrics-Gynecology Appointment Wait Times, All Markets

| YEAR | DAYS |
|-------------|-------------|
| 2022 | 31.4 |
| 2017 | 26.4 |
| 2013 | 17.3 |
| 2009 | 27.5 |
| 2004 | 23.3 |

Orthopedic Surgery

The average wait time to schedule an orthopedic appointment across all 15 markets increased in 2022 relative to 2017 and was comparable to numbers tracked in 2009 and 2004. The average wait time of 16.9 days is a 48% increase from 2017 and is unchanged from 2004.

It should be noted that orthopedic surgery was the one specialty where researchers indicated they were calling about a condition involving active physical pain and where longer wait times to see a physician could be particularly problematic.

As in many specialties, the supply of orthopedic surgeons remains limited while demand for orthopedic surgery services is increasing, driven largely by population aging. The effect of population aging on demand for orthopedic surgery is reflected in the fact that the number of hip replacements among inpatients 45 and older increased from 2000 to 2010, from 138,700 to 310,800, and from a rate of 142.2 per 100,000 people to 257.0 per 100,000 people, while demand for knee arthroplasties is projected to jump by 673% by 2030 (*Centers for Disease Control and Prevention/Association of American Medical Colleges*).

Supply and demand considerations in orthopedic surgery are explored in more detail in the Merritt Hawkins' white paper *Orthopedic Surgery: Supply, Demand, Compensation and Recruiting Trends*.

Average Orthopedic Surgery Appointment Wait Times, All Markets

| YEAR | DAYS |
|-------------|-------------|
| 2022 | 16.9 |
| 2017 | 11.4 |
| 2013 | 9.9 |
| 2009 | 16.8 |
| 2004 | 16.9 |

Family Medicine

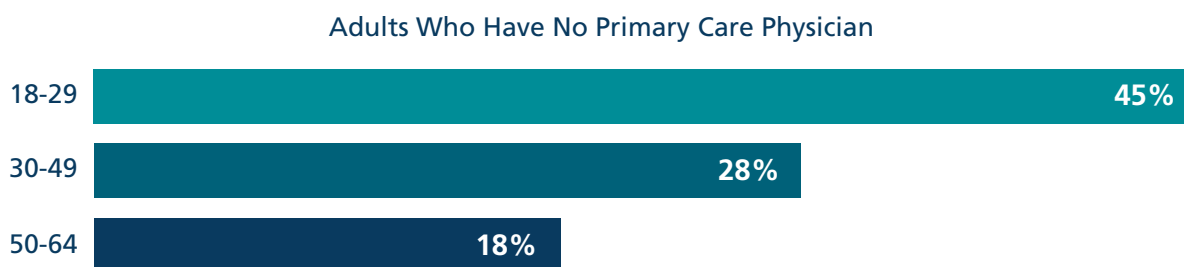
The average wait time to schedule a family medicine appointment across all 15 markets decreased in 2022 relative to 2017 and was comparable to numbers tracked in 2014 and 2009 (family medicine was not included in the 2004 survey). The average wait time of 20.6 days is a 30% decrease from 2017 and a 2% increase from 2009.

Family medicine was the only specialty of the five tracked in the survey in which average appointment wait times decreased relative to 2017. Despite the fact that the average wait time for family medicine declined 30% from 2017, the average wait time for all five specialties increased by 8% from 2017, indicating significant increases in average wait times for the other four specialties.

The reduction in average wait time for family medicine reflects significant changes that have taken place in the healthcare market in recent years. Both traditional and non-traditional players have engaged in a concerted strategy to shift consumer access to healthcare to the “convenient care model” and away from the traditional primary care physician office model, creating a new gateway to the healthcare system.

Instead of relying on a regular primary care physician as their gatekeeper who directs them to additional services, such as diagnostic tests, surgery, and therapy, more patients are using urgent care centers, retail clinics and telemedicine as the first stop on their path to care.

According to a November 2018 report from the Health Care Cost Institute, visits to primary care physicians dropped by 18% between 2012 and 2016. In 2012, 51% of office visits for patients under 65 were to primary care physicians. That number declined to 43% in 2016, according to the report. Young people, in particular, appear less inclined to see a primary care physician (see chart below):



Source: Health Care Cost Institute/Kaiser Health News/Washington Post. 10/8/2018

There was a corresponding 129% increase in office visits to nurse practitioners (NPs) and physician assistants (PAs) from 2012 to 2016, according to the report, indicating that the manner in which patients access the healthcare system is evolving.

For the last two years, Merritt Hawkins has received more requests for NPs than for any other type of provider. Prior to that time, family medicine was Merritt Hawkins' most requested type of provider for 14 consecutive years. While there is still a robust demand for family medicine physicians and other primary care physicians, demographic and other trends are creating even greater demand for specialists whose roles do not overlap with those of NPs and PAs to the same extent as primary care physicians. As NPs and PAs take on a greater percentage of primary care appointments, appointment wait times for family physicians may continue to decline.

Supply and demand considerations in family medicine are explored in more detail in the Merritt Hawkins' white paper *Family Medicine Recruiting Trends and Recommendations*.

| Average Family Medicine Appointment Wait Times, All Markets | |
|---|-------------|
| YEAR | DAYS |
| 2022 | 20.6 |
| 2017 | 29.3 |
| 2013 | 19.5 |
| 2009 | 20.3 |

Physician Appointment Wait Times by Market

Average appointment wait times for the 15 metropolitan markets and average appointment wait times for the five medical specialties included in the survey rank as follows:

2022 Average Wait Time in Days

| METRO AREA | ALL DAYS PER 5 SPECIALTIES | AVERAGE PER 5 SPECIALTIES |
|-----------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Portland | 228 | 45.6 |
| Boston | 169 | 33.8 |
| Minneapolis | 154 | 30.8 |
| San Diego | 151 | 30.2 |
| Miami | 146 | 29.2 |
| Philadelphia | 141 | 28.2 |
| Seattle | 141 | 28.2 |
| Denver | 134 | 26.8 |
| Los Angeles | 111 | 22.2 |
| Dallas | 105 | 21.0 |
| Atlanta | 101 | 20.2 |
| Houston | 101 | 20.2 |
| Detroit | 94 | 18.8 |
| Washington, D.C | 90 | 18.0 |
| New York | 87 | 17.4 |
| Total | 130.2 | 26.0 |

2017 Average Wait Time in Days

| METRO AREA | ALL DAYS PER 5 SPECIALTIES | AVERAGE PER 5 SPECIALTIES |
|-----------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Boston | 262 | 52.4 |
| Philadelphia | 184 | 36.8 |
| Portland | 140 | 28.0 |
| Seattle | 140 | 28.0 |
| Denver | 133 | 26.6 |
| Los Angeles | 121 | 24.2 |
| Detroit | 110 | 22.0 |
| San Diego | 108 | 21.6 |
| Atlanta | 102 | 20.4 |
| Houston | 98 | 19.6 |
| Minneapolis | 87 | 17.4 |
| New York | 85 | 17.0 |
| Miami | 82 | 16.4 |
| Washington, D.C | 80 | 16.0 |
| Dallas | 74 | 14.8 |
| Total | 120.4 | 24.1 |

2014 Average Wait Time in Days

| METRO AREA | ALL DAYS PER 5 SPECIALTIES | AVERAGE PER 5 SPECIALTIES |
|------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Boston | 227 | 45.4 |
| Denver | 118 | 23.6 |
| Philadelphia | 103 | 20.6 |
| Portland | 97 | 19.4 |
| Minneapolis | 96 | 19.2 |
| Detroit | 89 | 17.8 |
| Washington, D.C. | 89 | 17.8 |
| New York | 84 | 16.8 |
| San Diego | 81 | 16.2 |
| Seattle | 80 | 16.0 |
| Atlanta | 70 | 14.0 |
| Houston | 70 | 14.0 |
| Miami | 68 | 13.6 |
| Los Angeles | 61 | 12.2 |
| Dallas | 51 | 10.2 |
| Total | 92.3 | 18.5 |

2009 Average Wait Time in Days

| METRO AREA | ALL DAYS PER 5 SPECIALTIES | AVERAGE PER 5 SPECIALTIES |
|------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Boston | 248 | 49.6 |
| Philadelphia | 135 | 27.0 |
| Los Angeles | 121 | 24.2 |
| Houston | 117 | 23.4 |
| Washington, D.C. | 113 | 22.6 |
| San Diego | 101 | 20.2 |
| Minneapolis | 99 | 19.8 |
| Dallas | 96 | 19.2 |
| New York | 96 | 19.2 |
| Denver | 77 | 15.4 |
| Miami | 77 | 15.4 |
| Portland | 72 | 14.4 |
| Seattle | 71 | 14.2 |
| Detroit | 60 | 12.0 |
| Atlanta | 56 | 11.2 |
| Total | 102.6 | 20.5 |

As these numbers indicate, Portland experienced the longest average wait time (45.6 days) in 2022 of any of the 15 metropolitan markets. In all prior surveys, Boston ranked first in average appointment wait times, but ranked second in 2022. New York experienced the shortest average wait time (17.4 days) of the 15 metro areas.

Ten of the metro areas (Portland, Minneapolis, San Diego, Miami, Seattle, Houston, Detroit, Washington, D.C., New York, and Denver) experienced longer wait times relative to 2017, while five (Boston, Detroit, Philadelphia, Atlanta and Los Angeles) experienced shorter wait times relative to 2017.

Access to physicians in different markets is a function of a variety of factors, including the number of physicians available per population, patient demographics, disease incidence, income levels, lifestyle choices, rates of insurance coverage, physician practice patterns and others. A relatively high number of physicians per capita does not always ensure ready access to physicians. For example, Massachusetts has the highest physician-to-population ratio of any state, yet appointment wait times in Boston are comparatively long. This may be in part a result of the fact that a relatively large number of physicians in Boston focus on academics rather than on direct patient care.

Because conditions can vary greatly from one market to another, access to physicians also varies, sometimes within the same market based on the medical specialties at issue. For example, the average wait time to schedule a cardiology appointment in Washington, D.C. as tracked in the 2022 survey is a comparatively long 36 days, while the average wait time to schedule a dermatology appointment is a relatively short 12 days.

2004 Average Wait Time in Days

| METRO AREA | ALL DAYS PER 4 SPECIALTIES | AVERAGE PER 4 SPECIALTIES |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Boston | 156 | 39.0 |
| Philadelphia | 106 | 26.5 |
| Portland | 104 | 26.0 |
| Detroit | 102 | 25.5 |
| Minneapolis | 97 | 24.3 |
| Denver | 90 | 22.5 |
| Los Angeles | 90 | 22.5 |
| Seattle | 74 | 18.5 |
| San Diego | 73 | 18.3 |
| Dallas | 71 | 17.8 |
| Atlanta | 70 | 17.5 |
| New York | 61 | 15.3 |
| Houston | 59 | 14.8 |
| Miami | 59 | 14.8 |
| Washington, D.C. | 46 | 11.5 |
| Total | 83.9 | 20.9 |



Medicaid Rates of Acceptance

Average Medicaid acceptance rates in the 15 large metropolitan markets for the five medical specialties surveyed are as follows:

2022 Average Medicaid Acceptance

| METRO AREA | RATE FOR 5 SPECIALTIES (%) |
|------------------|----------------------------|
| Detroit | 83.0 |
| Minneapolis | 72.0 |
| Denver | 72.0 |
| Philadelphia | 66.0 |
| Portland | 64.0 |
| Boston | 63.0 |
| Los Angeles | 54.0 |
| Atlanta | 54.0 |
| Seattle | 51.0 |
| Miami | 48.0 |
| Houston | 44.0 |
| Washington, D.C. | 43.0 |
| San Diego | 37.0 |
| New York | 31.0 |
| Dallas | 30.0 |
| Total | 54.1 |

2017 Average Medicaid Acceptance

| METRO AREA | RATE FOR 5 SPECIALTIES (%) |
|------------------|----------------------------|
| Minneapolis | 97.0 |
| Boston | 84.6 |
| Philadelphia | 76.6 |
| Portland | 72.8 |
| Detroit | 57.2 |
| Seattle | 56.8 |
| San Diego | 49.0 |
| Washington, D.C. | 45.4 |
| Denver | 44.6 |
| Los Angeles | 42.4 |
| New York | 39.0 |
| Atlanta | 39.0 |
| Houston | 37.0 |
| Miami | 37.0 |
| Dallas | 17.0 |
| Total | 53.0 |

2014 Average Medicaid Acceptance

| METRO AREA | RATE FOR 5 SPECIALTIES (%) |
|------------------|----------------------------|
| Boston | 73.3 |
| Portland | 63.5 |
| Detroit | 63.4 |
| Houston | 55.8 |
| Miami | 53.8 |
| Seattle | 48.0 |
| Philadelphia | 47.3 |
| Washington, D.C. | 43.1 |
| New York | 39.8 |
| San Diego | 39.4 |
| Atlanta | 37.0 |
| Los Angeles | 36.4 |
| Denver | 34.4 |
| Minneapolis | 23.6 |
| Dallas | 23.0 |
| Total | 45.7 |

2009 Average Medicaid Acceptance

| METRO AREA | RATE FOR 5 SPECIALTIES (%) |
|------------------|----------------------------|
| Minneapolis | 82.4 |
| Portland | 81.4 |
| Boston | 68.2 |
| San Diego | 61.8 |
| Seattle | 58.2 |
| Denver | 57.4 |
| Atlanta | 55.0 |
| Detroit | 53.4 |
| Houston | 47.8 |
| Miami | 47.6 |
| Washington, D.C. | 47.6 |
| Philadelphia | 46.0 |
| New York | 45.8 |
| Los Angeles | 40.2 |
| Dallas | 38.6 |
| Total | 55.4 |

2004 Average Medicaid Acceptance

| METRO AREA | RATE FOR 4 SPECIALTIES (%) |
|------------------|----------------------------|
| Portland | 100.0 |
| Minneapolis | 86.0 |
| Atlanta | 76.3 |
| Washington, D.C. | 74.7 |
| Houston | 53.8 |
| Philadelphia | 48.1 |
| San Diego | 46.8 |
| Miami | 43.5 |
| Seattle | 42.2 |
| Boston | 41.3 |
| Detroit | 37.3 |
| Dallas | 35.0 |
| Los Angeles | 29.0 |
| Denver | 25.0 |
| New York | 3.8 |
| Total | 49.9 |

The 2022 Survey of Physician Appointment Wait Times indicates that, on average, 54% of physicians in the 15 large metro markets examined accept Medicaid patients, up from 53% in 2017, a 2% increase. Rates of Medicaid acceptance vary from a high of 83% in Detroit to a low of 30% in Dallas. In six of the markets examined in the 2022 survey (San Diego, Washington, D.C., New York, Houston, Miami and Dallas), the average physician Medicaid acceptance rate is below 50%. In six of the markets (Minneapolis, Boston, Philadelphia, Portland, Detroit and Denver) the average physician Medicaid acceptance rate is above 60%

The rate at which physicians accept Medicaid can vary for a number of reasons. In some cases, reimbursement rates provided by Medicaid to particular specialists may be below their cost of providing services. If not actually below costs, Medicaid reimbursement often is relatively low compared to that offered by other payers, and busy physicians may have no economic incentive to see Medicaid patients. In other cases, the process of billing for and receiving Medicaid payment can be problematic and some physicians choose to avoid it.

Some physicians are on employment contracts that stipulate that they see all patients regardless of insurance status or ability to pay (such as those working for community health centers) and these physicians generally will see Medicaid patients. Other physicians may be compensated on volume or work units (known as "RVUs"), a payment model in which the insurance status of the patient may not taken into account, and they also may see Medicaid patients.

Medicare Rates of Acceptance

Average Medicare physician acceptance rates in the 15 large metropolitan markets for the five medical specialties surveyed are as follows:

2022 Average Medicare Acceptance

| METRO AREA | RATE FOR 5 SPECIALTIES (%) |
|------------------|----------------------------|
| Detroit | 93.0 |
| Miami | 90.0 |
| Denver | 90.0 |
| Philadelphia | 89.0 |
| Los Angeles | 89.0 |
| Boston | 88.0 |
| Portland | 88.0 |
| Minneapolis | 87.0 |
| Seattle | 85.0 |
| San Diego | 83.0 |
| Houston | 82.0 |
| Atlanta | 73.0 |
| Washington, D.C. | 71.0 |
| Dallas | 71.0 |
| New York | 58.0 |
| Total | 82.4 |

2017 Average Medicare Acceptance

| METRO AREA | RATE FOR 5 SPECIALTIES (%) |
|------------------|----------------------------|
| Boston | 100.0 |
| Minneapolis | 100.0 |
| Philadelphia | 93.0 |
| Detroit | 90.6 |
| Los Angeles | 90.0 |
| Miami | 89.0 |
| San Diego | 87.8 |
| Washington, D.C. | 85.0 |
| Portland | 81.8 |
| Seattle | 78.2 |
| Atlanta | 78.0 |
| Denver | 76.4 |
| New York | 76.0 |
| Dallas | 72.0 |
| Houston | 69.0 |
| Total | 84.5 |

2014 Average Medicare Acceptance

| METRO AREA | RATE FOR 5 SPECIALTIES (%) |
|------------------|----------------------------|
| Boston | 98.0 |
| Detroit | 95.8 |
| Washington, D.C. | 86.4 |
| Los Angeles | 86.3 |
| Philadelphia | 86.2 |
| Portland | 86.0 |
| Seattle | 85.7 |
| Atlanta | 82.0 |
| Denver | 74.4 |
| Dallas | 74.0 |
| Houston | 73.6 |
| San Diego | 70.2 |
| Miami | 68.7 |
| New York | 49.0 |
| Minneapolis | 38.2 |
| Total | 77.0 |

The *2022 Survey of Physician Appointment Wait Times* indicates the average rate of Medicare acceptance among physicians in the 15 major metro markets examined is 82.4%, down from 84.5% in 2017, a decrease 4%. Detroit has the highest rate of physician Medicare acceptance at 93%, while New York has the lowest at 58%. Physician Medicare acceptance rates were 71% or higher for all metro areas other than New York.

Rates of physician Medicare acceptance are considerably higher than those of Medicaid acceptance because Medicare typically reimburses physicians at a higher rate than Medicaid. In addition, Medicare is the default insurance of most patients 65 or older, who comprise a relatively high number of patients, particularly of patients seeking specialty services such as orthopedic surgery, dermatology and cardiology. Many physicians, specialists in particular, are therefore locked into accepting this form of insurance.

Conclusion

AMN/Merritt Hawkins' *2022 Survey of Physician Appointment Wait Times and Medicare and Medicaid Acceptance Rates* offers a snapshot of physician availability in five medical specialties in 15 large metropolitan markets.

Despite having a high number of physicians per capita, the average wait time for a new patient appointment in the 15 metropolitan markets included in the survey is approaching one month. It may be inferred that if areas with a relatively high number of physicians per population are experiencing extended physician appointment wait times, areas with lower per capita concentrations of physicians may be experiencing even longer appointment wait times.

Average physician appointment wait times in the 15 large metro markets have increased by 8% since the survey was last conducted in 2017 and by 24% since the survey was first conducted in 2004. Increasing physician appointment wait times may be attributed to a physician shortage driven by an aging population, a limited supply of new physicians and a variety of other factors.

The survey also indicates that the average physician Medicaid acceptance rate in the 15 major metropolitan markets included in the survey is 54.1%, suggesting that access to physicians by Medicaid patients in these areas may be problematic in some instances.

The average physician Medicare acceptance rate in the 15 metropolitan markets is 82.4%, suggesting that physicians in these areas generally are accessible to Medicare patients.

For this and other thought leadership resources provided by AMN Healthcare and Merritt Hawkins, please contact:



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