



## GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION FUNDING IN CALIFORNIA

# Who's Training Whom?

**G**raduate medical education (GME) programs are administered by sponsoring institutions — organizations that assume ultimate financial and academic responsibility for GME programs. Types of sponsoring institutions include, for example, teaching hospitals, schools of medicine, consortiums, and Teaching Health Centers. Each sponsoring institution must be accredited by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME).

In 2015, California had 74 GME sponsoring institutions. This number varies slightly from year to year based on small programs opening or closing, but it has remained fairly consistent over the past decade.<sup>1</sup> The 10 largest GME sponsoring institutions in California produce 68.4% of the GME graduates in California (see Table 1, page 2). The public university system (University of California) alone produces nearly half of California's GME graduates. In 2015, public and private universities combined accounted for 72.3% of all GME graduates (see Figure 1, page 2).

1. Diane Rittenhouse et al., *A Guide to Graduate Medical Education Funding in California*, California Health Care Foundation, September 2018, [www.chcf.org](http://www.chcf.org).

**The public university system (University of California) alone produces nearly half of California's GME graduates.**

### ABOUT THIS SERIES

Graduate medical education (GME) — also known as residency and/or fellowship — is the final training that physicians undergo after graduation from allopathic or osteopathic medical school, domestically or internationally. GME, and how it is funded, determines the number and specialty types of practicing physicians in the workforce.

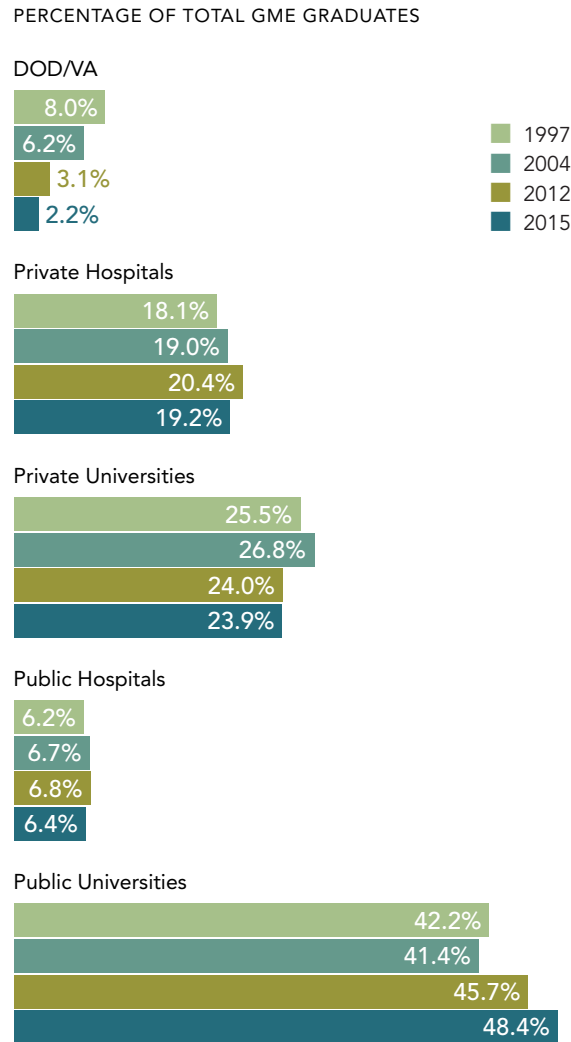
See the entire *Graduate Medical Education Funding in California* series at [www.chcf.org](http://www.chcf.org).

**Table 1. 20 Largest GME Sponsoring Institutions in California, 2015**

INSTITUTION	NUMBER OF GME GRADUATES
UCSF	403
Stanford Hospital and Clinics	319
UCLA David Geffen School of Medicine	296
University of Southern California (USC)	281
UC San Diego	251
UC Irvine	222
UC Davis	220
Los Angeles County-Harbor-UCLA	168
Cedars-Sinai Medical Center	146
Loma Linda University Medical Center	135
Kaiser Permanente – Southern California	115
Kaiser Permanente Medical Group	84
UCSF Fresno Medical Education Program	70
Children’s Hospital Los Angeles	67
Santa Clara Valley Medical Center	51
Loma Linda-Inland Empire Consortium	49
California Pacific Medical Center	46
Alameda County Medical Center	41
Olive View/UCLA Medical Center	40
UCSF Benioff Children’s Hospital Oakland	39

Source: American Medical Association (AMA) Masterfile Historical Residency File, 2017.

**Figure 1. California GME Graduates by Type of Sponsoring Institution 1997–2015, Selected Years**



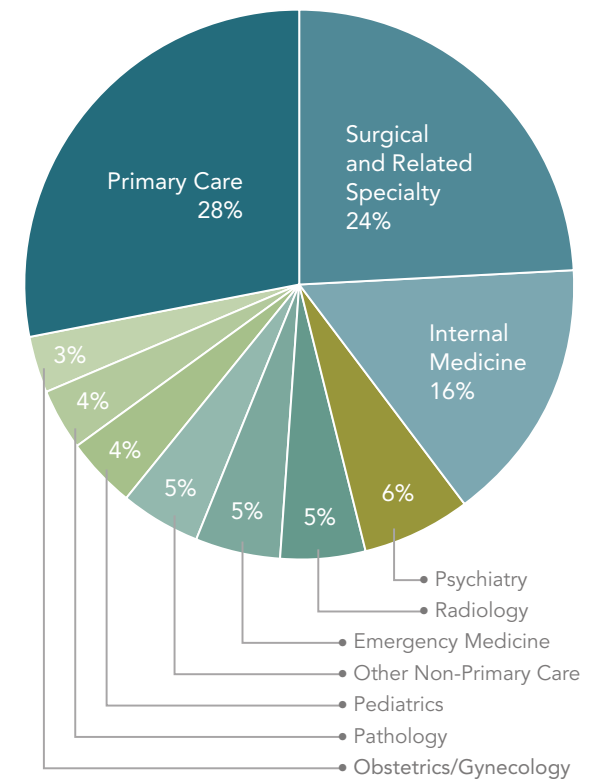
Notes: DOD is Department of Defense; VA is Department of Veterans Affairs.

FIGURES 1 AND 2:

Source: American Medical Association (AMA) Masterfile Historical Residency File, 2017.

Sponsoring institutions decide how many and which type of medical specialties they train. Many factors — such as facility capacity, size and type of patient population, and institutional finances — determine which specialties to train. Knowing which sponsoring institutions train which specialties can help with future health care workforce planning. Figure 2 represents the breakdown of California GME graduates by specialty in 2015.

**Figure 2. California GME Graduates, by Specialty, 2015**



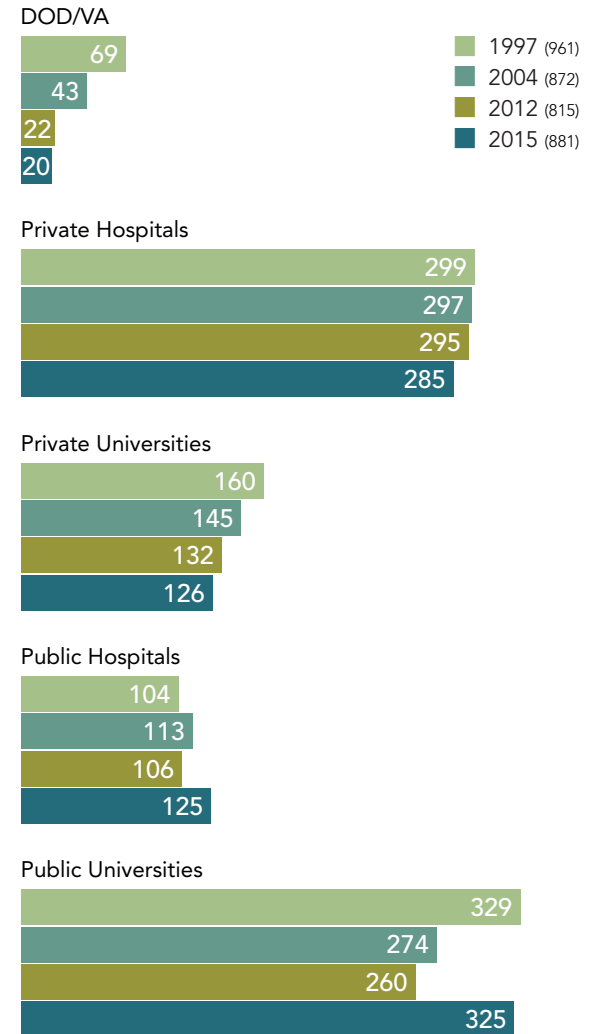
For comparison, programs have been categorized into four main groups: public universities (e.g. UCLA), private universities (e.g., Stanford), public hospitals (e.g., Alameda County Medical Center), and private hospitals, (e.g. Cedars-Sinai Medical Center). The significant size differences between the programs should be noted when making comparisons. For example, in 2015 UCSF graduated 112 physicians in primary care, accounting for 21.8% of UCSF GME graduates. In comparison, all public hospitals combined graduated a total of 112 physicians that same year (see Table 2).

In 2015, primary care accounted for 24.7% of total GME graduates in California. The University of California produces roughly one-third of primary care GME graduates, and private hospitals produce another third (see Table 2 and Figure 3). Private universities in California vary substantially in the number of primary care GME graduates they produce. There is roughly an even split in number of primary care GME graduates between public and private entities.

**Table 2. California Primary Care GME Graduates, 2015**

CATEGORY/ INSTITUTION	TOTAL GME GRADS (A)	PRIMARY CARE (PC) GME GRADUATES		
		NUMBER (B)	AS % OF TOTAL GME (B/A)	AS % OF ALL PC GME (B/881)
<b>DOD/VA</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>26.0%</b>	<b>2.3%</b>
<b>Private hospitals</b>	<b>702</b>	<b>298</b>	<b>42.5%</b>	<b>33.8%</b>
Adventist HealthCare	44	31	70.5%	3.5%
Dignity Health	67	49	73.1%	5.6%
Kaiser Permanente	199	94	47.2%	10.7%
Large (>5 GME grads)	225	63	28.0%	7.2%
Scripps Health	69	23	33.3%	2.6%
Small (≤5 GME grads)	34	8	23.5%	0.9%
Sutter Health	64	30	46.9%	3.4%
<b>Private universities</b>	<b>851</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>14.8%</b>	<b>14.3%</b>
Loma Linda	184	53	28.8%	6.0%
Stanford	319	4	1.3%	0.5%
USC	348	69	19.8%	7.8%
<b>Public hospitals</b>	<b>211</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>53.1%</b>	<b>12.7%</b>
Large (>5 GME grads)	194	104	53.6%	11.8%
Small (≤5 GME grads)	17	8	47.1%	0.9%
<b>Public universities</b>	<b>1,727</b>	<b>325</b>	<b>18.8%</b>	<b>36.9%</b>
UC Davis	221	44	19.9%	5.0%
UC Irvine	223	37	16.6%	4.2%
UC Riverside	15	12	80.0%	1.4%
UC San Diego	251	40	15.9%	4.5%
UCLA	504	80	15.9%	9.1%
UCSF	513	112	21.8%	12.7%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>3,568</b>	<b>881</b>	<b>24.7%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

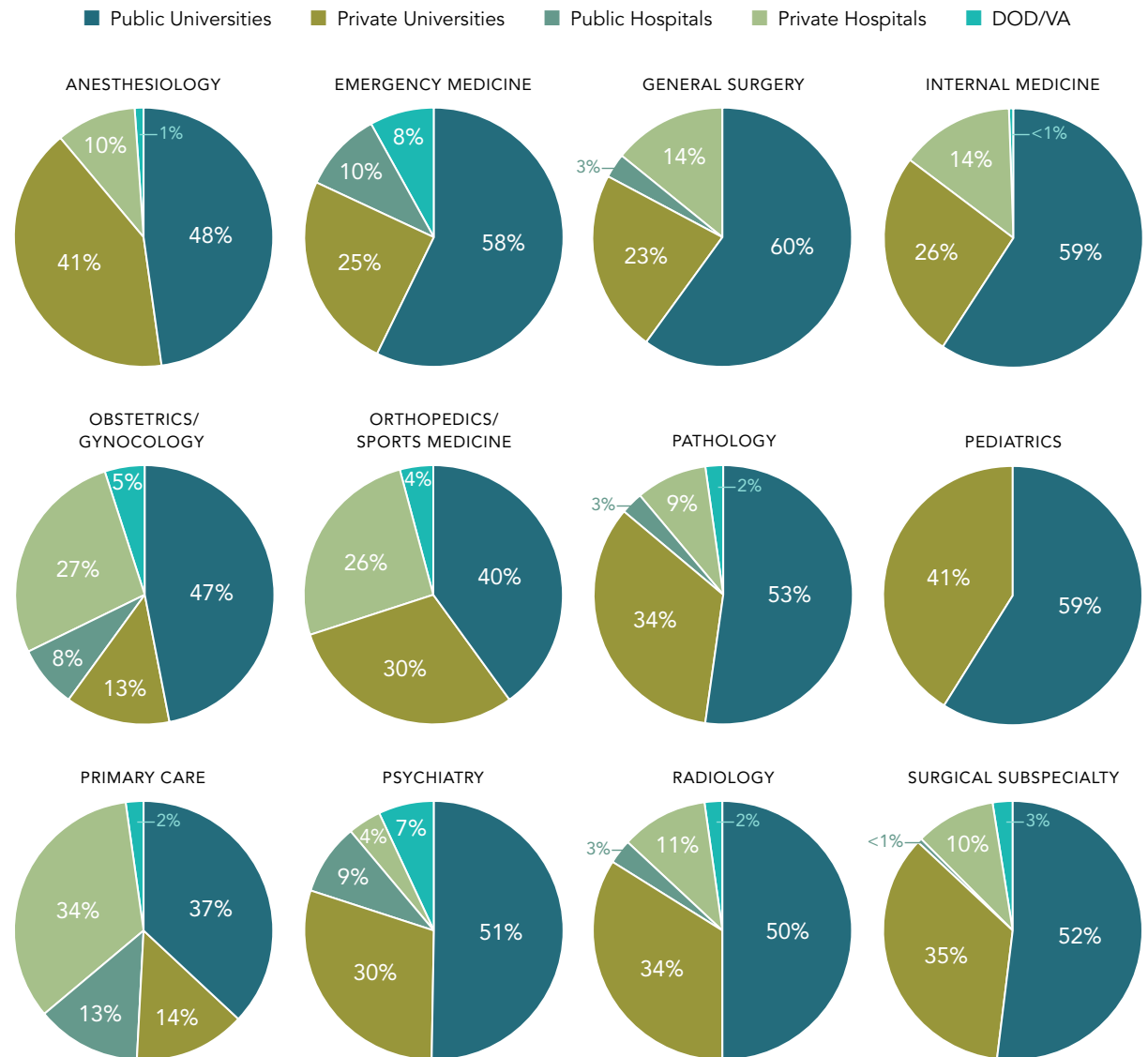
**Figure 3. California Primary Care GME Graduates by Type of Sponsoring Institution 1997–2015, Selected Years**



DOD is Department of Defense; VA is Department of Veterans Affairs. Source: American Medical Association (AMA) Masterfile Historical Residency File, 2017.

Non-primary care specialties accounted for 75.31% of the California GME graduates in 2015. There are over a hundred medical specialties; for the purposes of this analysis, we have grouped them into larger categories (see Figure 4). Public and private universities train the vast majority of non-primary care specialists. With the exception of obstetrics/gynecology, which is sometimes considered primary care, public and private universities graduate between 80% and 100% of non-primary care specialists. Public and private universities graduate 60% of obstetrics/gynecology specialists and 51% of primary care specialists.

Figure 4. GME Graduates in California, by Specialty and Type of Sponsoring Institution, 2015



Notes: DOD is Department of Defense; VA is Department of Veterans Affairs. Segments may not total 100% due to rounding.  
 Source: American Medical Association (AMA) Masterfile Historical Residency File, 2017.

## The Authors

This paper was authored by Diane Rittenhouse, MD, MPH, Alexandra Ament, and Kevin Grumbach, MD, of the University of California, San Francisco, and Stephen Petterson, PhD, and Andrew Bazemore, MD, MPH, of the Robert Graham Center.

## About the Foundation

The California Health Care Foundation is dedicated to advancing meaningful, measurable improvements in the way the health care delivery system provides care to the people of California, particularly those with low incomes and those whose needs are not well served by the status quo. We work to ensure that people have access to the care they need, when they need it, at a price they can afford.

CHCF informs policymakers and industry leaders, invests in ideas and innovations, and connects with changemakers to create a more responsive, patient-centered health care system.

For more information, visit [www.chcf.org](http://www.chcf.org).