

2007 National Physician Survey (NPS): DEMOGRAPHICS FOR SURGICAL SPECIALISTS

Source of Data:

The 2007 National Physician Survey (NPS) was carried out as a self-reported survey, sent to all licensed physicians in Canada. [Note: all 2nd year medical residents and all medical students in Canada were surveyed as well and these results will be reported separately]. The mail and email contact lists were generated from the NPS Masterfile. The NPS Masterfile was populated with information from the CMA Membership System, the CFPC membership database, and the RCPSC membership database. The CMA Membership System was used as the template as it included all physicians in Canada holding a medical license and is compiled and updated on a daily basis with information received from provincial licensing bodies, associations, CFPC and RCPSC membership listings, and individual physicians. The information provided by CFPC and RCPSC added additional information (e.g. email addresses, more recently updated mailing addresses) to the content already supplied by the CMA Membership System.

A separate database pertaining to all eligible survey respondents was developed in order to assess the comparability and representativeness of the survey respondents to the total physician population, and to develop statistical weights to be applied to each strata and age grouping within the 2007 survey results. From the NPS Masterfile, physician age, sex, province, language, and year of MD graduation were captured, along with an indication of whether or not the individual completed the questionnaire. No names or addresses were contained in this separate database.

Release of NPS results by specialty:

To ensure the release of valid and stable results that protect respondent confidentiality, results will only be released where the group/cohort of interest has a minimum of 30 respondents.

Physician Demographics by Specialty:

	Response Rate (%)	NPS Respondents (n)	Total Population (N)	95% Confidence Interval*
Surgical Specialists				
Cardio-vascular/Thoracic Surgeons	24.22%	70	289	11.71%
General Surgeons	28.71%	478	1665	4.48%
Neurosurgeons	30.94%	69	223	11.80%
Obstetricians/Gynecologists	31.08%	491	1580	4.42%
Ophthalmologists	29.38%	300	1021	5.66%
Orthopedic Surgeons	28.11%	325	1156	5.44%
Otolaryngologists	26.68%	151	566	7.98%
Plastic Surgeons	26.52%	122	460	8.87%
Urologists	27.10%	145	535	8.14%

* 95% Confidence Interval = estimates are considered accurate within +/-x%, 19 times out of 20.