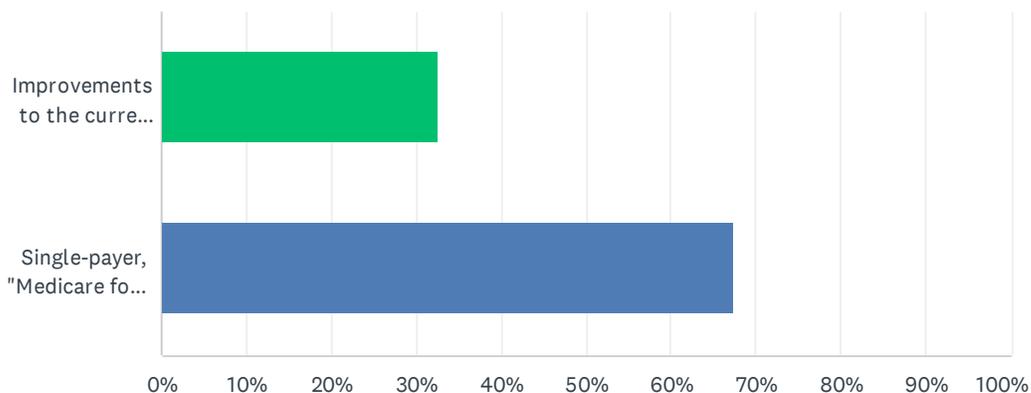


Q1 When considering the topic of health care reform, would you prefer to make improvements to the current public/private system or a single-payer system, such as a “Medicare for all” approach? (Note: the MMA has asked this precise question several times since 2008, so we are asking the same question for comparison purposes).

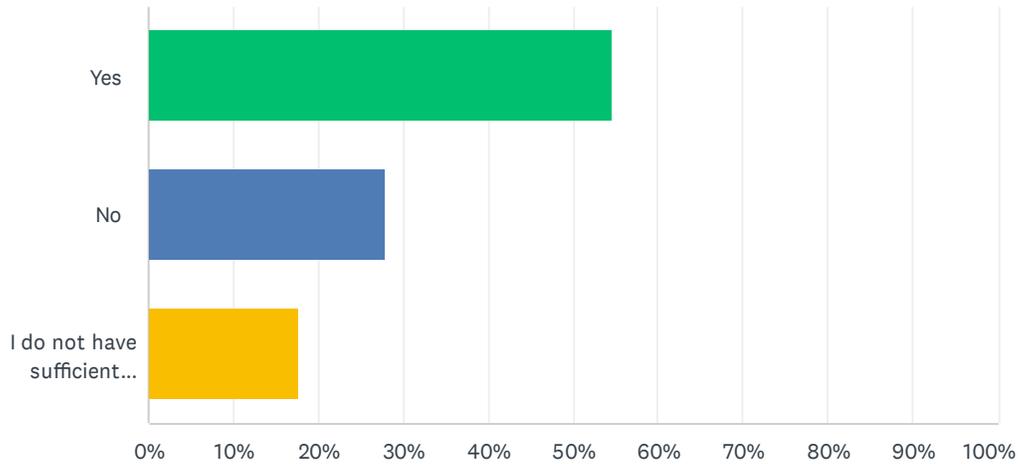
Answered: 313 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Improvements to the current public/private system	32.59%	102
Single-payer, "Medicare for all" approach	67.41%	211
TOTAL		313

Q2 Do you believe that if there is no action on comprehensive health care reform at the federal level, it would be reasonable for Maine to develop a single-payer plan for comprehensive health care reform as an independent state?

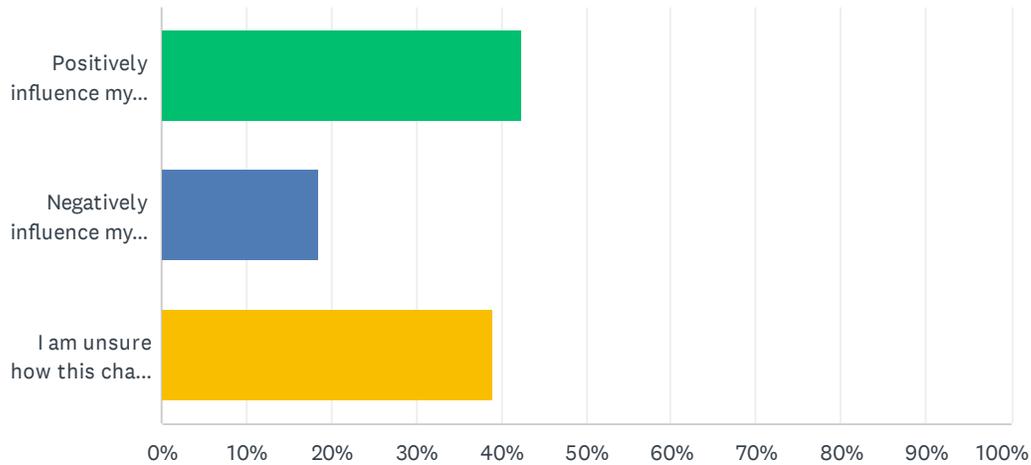
Answered: 312 Skipped: 1



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	54.49%	170
No	27.88%	87
I do not have sufficient knowledge to answer the question	17.63%	55
TOTAL		312

Q3 If Maine implemented a state-run, single payer health care system, how would your desire to practice medicine in the State of Maine be affected?

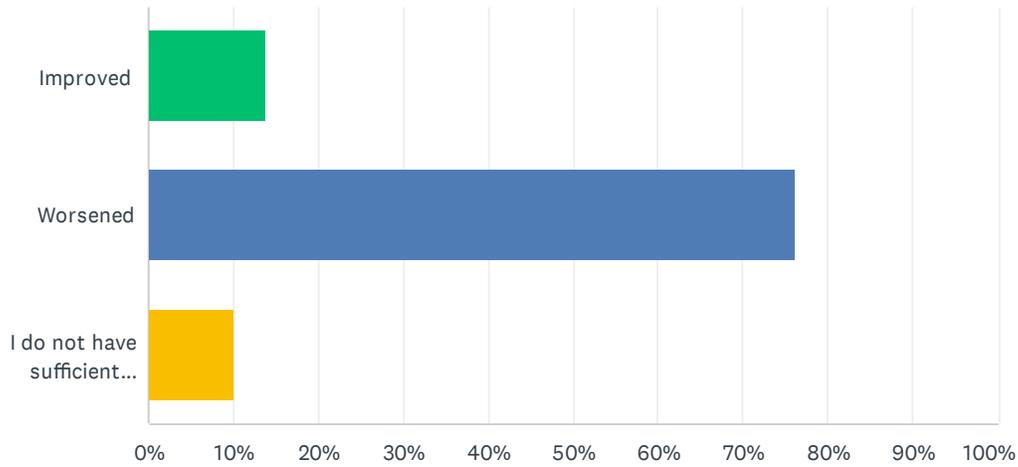
Answered: 308 Skipped: 5



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Positively influence my desire to continue practicing medicine in Maine.	42.53%	131
Negatively influence my desire to continue practicing medicine in Maine.	18.51%	57
I am unsure how this change would affect me, so I would need more information in order to answer the question.	38.96%	120
TOTAL		308

Q4 Do you believe that the profit motive as it has operated in the U.S. health care system has, overall, improved or worsened the health of Americans?

Answered: 311 Skipped: 2



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Improved	13.83%	43
Worsened	76.21%	237
I do not have sufficient knowledge to answer the question	9.97%	31
TOTAL		311

Q5 Please share any comments you wish about the topic of health care reform in Maine or at the national level

Answered: 149 Skipped: 164

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	I share the frustration of many physicians and health professionals with the current system of for-profit health care companies. I would strongly welcome Medicare for All for the people of Maine.	12/3/2021 8:15 AM
2	Profit off of health care and withholding health care for money to people who need it is just wrong and overall bad for our nation. Everyone needs basic coverage	11/29/2021 4:52 PM
3	As a physician I pay over \$7,000 per year out of pocket for maintenance of a chronic health care issue. The maintenance therapy I require enables me to work without calling out sick and continue to contribute to my health care system. Every year I meet my deductible just in time for my insurance to reset and I start paying all over again. The medication I require does not fall within a class of medications my insurance has deemed worthy of coverage despite it being commonly used and is considered standard of care. If I were not a physician I can not imagine how this would be financially feasible. The morbidity that has resulted from large deductibles in insurance plans can not be measured, but as physicians we see it every day. Patients are not seeking care until they are very sick, which is not only more devastating for them, but also costing our health care system far more than if they sought early care. They are distressed by the financial repercussions of requiring care. They are losing trust in their doctors.	11/17/2021 3:44 PM
4	Health care should be a right. If you're wealthy, you can pay for "Cadillac" coverage	11/17/2021 7:28 AM
5	I really think we need a national or state single payer	11/16/2021 9:11 PM
6	We could be a Saskatchewan, the province that started the health care for all, government in Saskatchewan introduced a province-wide public hospital insurance plan. Within a few years, this program was sufficiently popular that the other provinces adopted similar schemes.	11/16/2021 5:25 PM
7	None	11/12/2021 4:55 PM
8	I teach and Maine Medical Center and am regulary embarrassed when having to orient learners who come from Massachusetts based training such as Tufts, Harvard, BU, Mass General and so on when I explain about Maine's patchwork health system and how much time and effort is required to help a patient secure needed treatment and assistance with the cost of care.	11/12/2021 9:45 AM
9	I believe that the state should assure excellent preventive and basic primary health care as well as catastrophic insurance for all residents.	11/11/2021 6:43 PM
10	As a PCP, I intend to continue to practice, but cost of care and uneven availability of care are certainly affecting the experience of providing (and receiving) care. We can do better	11/11/2021 10:48 AM
11	We need massive reform of our health system; prior states (VT) have trialed single-payer so I hope we could, too.	11/11/2021 9:26 AM
12	My concern about Medicare for all is that it will limit the ability for doctors to offer private practice options including Direct Primary Care. I do support an option for a Medicare plan for people to opt in to .	11/11/2021 8:48 AM
13	In the US, we spend more and get less than the rest of the world largely because of the dysfunctional patchwork of private and largely for-profit payers. We can do better. Adopting a single payer plan will lower costs and improve outcomes. Please move this proposal forward	11/11/2021 8:42 AM
14	I think single payer is part of the issue but what is really key is eliminating perverse incentives. If single payer continues with fee for service in managing chronic disease and wellness it will be less effective	11/10/2021 10:40 AM
15	I want medicare for all, but acknowledge that politically this will not pass without protection of	11/9/2021 8:00 PM

Health Care Reform Survey for Physicians

	the option for private insurance which is fine.	
16	It is a quagmire without engaged leadership at any level of elected officials.	11/9/2021 1:48 PM
17	#4 comment: profit motive can drive innovation, improve access to care, increase cost transparency, & improve quality of care. Profit motive MUST be separated from predatory capitalism, monopolizing, price fixing, and corruption, which I believe would get worse in a single payer system.	11/9/2021 1:00 PM
18	Thank you so much for working on this!	11/9/2021 12:43 PM
19	Read this: https://www.forbes.com/sites/theapothecary/2014/12/21/6-reasons-why-vermonts-single-payer-health-plan-was-doomed-from-the-start/?sh=33ea887d4850	11/9/2021 12:27 PM
20	Single payer would be an unmitigated disaster. Vermont tried it and failed and I think we have even fewer resources. It will destroy physician incomes and drive them from our state.	11/9/2021 11:35 AM
21	I find that trying to 'explain' to patients the contortions required to get certain medications covered, certain tests ordered distracts from the TIME I have to do HEALTH and MEDICAL care with them.	11/9/2021 10:47 AM
22	I do believe a single payer healthcare system can still incorporate existing insurance agencies. The Medicare vantage program is an example of this that has advantages and disadvantage is. In my mind the key is covering all individuals because I do believe that healthcare is a right and not a privilege.	11/9/2021 6:23 AM
23	not financially feasible in our state with minimal large business to go this alone without the feds.	11/8/2021 12:50 PM
24	I have no hope for the future of american healthcare. My opinions are irrelevant and unheard because my colleagues and i are overworked and unorganized. The fact that interest rates for graduate education (including medical school) remain around 7% while the fed has given innumerable billionaires and corporations bailouts, zero% interest loans and any number of other financial benefits without ANY of the professional societies that are supposed to represent me making a peep shows me how much my opinion is valued. These days, i just plan for the worst as a housing crisis combined with an aging crisis combined with climate change moves inexorably towards calamity. Single payer would have been better. I doubt i will see it in my lifetime and even if i do, the corporate hegemony and their powerful lobbies on both sides of the political aisle will preserve as much profit for themselves as possible thus negating any meaningful development from said policy. Thank you for trying but i dont have the energy to pretend like trying is enough anymore.	11/8/2021 11:57 AM
25	We need more generalists in rural Maine. Today the specialty societies have too much control over the credentialing boards	11/8/2021 11:43 AM
26	I have extensive family experience with the British system and it is inferior in all respects. I would not be in favor of a similar system for the US.	11/8/2021 11:21 AM
27	The US continues to have the most expensive healthcare, with middling quality results	11/8/2021 5:05 AM
28	Single payer, "Medicare for all" is long overdue	11/7/2021 6:48 PM
29	Time to move away from corporate medicine	11/7/2021 2:41 PM
30	It's essential. It's been clear that the profit motive and business approach have been destructive. The pandemic has made that much clearer.	11/7/2021 2:34 PM
31	I am all for single-payer for high-cost items, ie hospitalization, and necessary treatments for chronic diseases such as Crohn's disease and other autoimmune conditions. I'm concerned that such a system, without effective price control, will be an undue tax burden. Hospitals will need to be held accountable for the significant price inflation for most of their services. The public should not be held accountable to paying grossly inflated hospital prices. The only way for this to be feasible would be true price transparency at every level. Additionally, it is vital that individual physicians be given an option to opt out of this system. MIPS and MACRA are a reason cited by small primary care offices as the reason they finally threw in the towel, and sold out to large hospital owned systems. The decreasing number of small practices is deeply concerning, reducing options for patients, and forcing them into a system that is increasingly profit-driven and impersonal. Cash rates for everything from medications, to DME, to	11/7/2021 1:47 PM

Health Care Reform Survey for Physicians

procedures are often significantly less than the inflated rates hospital-owned practices charge, and patients suffer the consequences.

32	The current bureaucratic morass, both on a state and federal level, is ruining the healthcare system of the country. Big pharma, with obscene profits to be made, the regulatory billing monstrosity of CMS is just a federal power grab. The healthcare system has destroyed itself as each component fights among itself for its piece of the pie. Glad to be done with it as I have retired from practice. Your following question re: gender is an example of the futility of this survey: if you are in healthcare, there are only 2 genders, XX and XY.	11/7/2021 10:12 AM
33	We need less government involvement in medicine, not more.	11/7/2021 10:10 AM
34	The hospital centric nature of healthcare regional systems is what drives up costs. hospitals are inefficient and bureaucracy heavy institutions with high overhead which translates into higher costs for everything done in them. A system that emphasizes care outside of hospitals and removes doctors from hospital employment is the best solution. Single payer healthcare is noble, but decreasing reimbursement without reforming the system does nothing to retain physicians. Why bother? Most of us will move on or retire.	11/7/2021 9:19 AM
35	So proud of Maine coverme.gov program. We need to have a much more efficient system than main care but this is doable. Bureaucracy not helpful but if we could augment the system by having the wealthy pay for their own frills ex not medically necessary mri We would have enough to get the basics for everyone	11/7/2021 8:40 AM
36	Our health care system is messed up. To get good reimbursement as an individual recipient you pay slot. Medicaid package in state of Maine is very good. If you do not have long waits on a universal system , it would be beneficial to have universal care	11/7/2021 6:35 AM
37	I very strongly support moving toward a single payer system. The current system based on profits negatively impacts my patients every day.	11/6/2021 8:05 PM
38	I worry about the impact of access for patients if we pursued a single payer system, so I would want to see how it is done in other places that implemented this and how we can have adequate access to care, avoid provider burnout, etc	11/6/2021 3:11 PM
39	If Maine were to be the first to model a single payer system, it may help attract like-minded and much needed practioners to the State, ie. those who want to be a part of such a transformative healthcare culture. We cannot be competitive by straight payscale, but this just might work. AND, a student loan forgiveness program would be an essential component.	11/6/2021 10:20 AM
40	Payment reform is critical to the upstream drivers that plague our healthcare system. Patients are unable to access General care due to the high costs of healthcare and when they do often are paying exorbitant costs. Any effort to stem this and return to a patient centered and not profit centered health care system would go a long way.	11/6/2021 5:57 AM
41	It is, in my opinion, a tragedy that everyone in this country is not adequately covered by healthcare. I encounter the problems every day in my practice.	11/5/2021 9:31 PM
42	Above option of state based single payer seemed to fall on its face when Vermont tried it. As an interval step, could we lobby for trial of a public option/allowing people to buy into Mainecare through the market place?	11/5/2021 7:30 PM
43	I feel very strongly that the best way to improve our broken system is through local or federal single payer	11/5/2021 6:11 PM
44	Socialized medicine has never worked anywhere it has ever been tried!	11/5/2021 5:55 PM
45	need an active system for system improvements	11/5/2021 5:20 PM
46	too much for this small box.	11/5/2021 2:53 PM
47	The insurance companies have far too much power. They are charging extremely high premiums, yet the patients are required to foot most of the bill due to ridiculously high deductibles. The cost of health insurance should be affordable and provide adequate and reasonable coverage. From a physician standpoint, private practice is not an option due to the low reimbursement for non-hospital based practices. Hospital-based practices do not always provide more efficient or higher quality care than a small private practice. By not allowing for competition, the two main healthcare systems in the state have too much power. Also,	11/5/2021 1:47 PM

Health Care Reform Survey for Physicians

physicians are powerless when faced with dealing with the insurers, especially those in private practice.

48	The time for universal access to health care came years ago. Let's do it NOW.	11/5/2021 11:43 AM
49	Administrative costs of our present health care "non-system" are outrageous and could be significantly reduced by a single-payer system.	11/5/2021 11:33 AM
50	I am very tired of having to curtail or not be able to order recommended medications or medical care due to financial reasons. This happens daily in my practice in Portland.	11/5/2021 10:45 AM
51	If there was a single payor system with reduced bureaucracy (I know, a big if), I would reconsider retirement and reconsider a private practice. I loved my private practice, but I could not make enough to afford the staff I would have needed to deal with all the insurance headaches. If a single payer system could simplify that part of practice, I could work part time (I am just retired, still occ. do per diem) PER Question 7--I think you left out a range. I've worked in Maine more that 20 years but less than 30. That wasn't a choice.	11/5/2021 10:43 AM
52	Single payer is the right thing to do for our country and our patients. It's bad for my/our pocketbooks, as doctors, but that's not why we went into medicine.	11/5/2021 10:24 AM
53	I am very strongly against a single payor system for Maine. I (and many others I know) would undoubtedly leave the state and practice elsewhere.	11/5/2021 10:11 AM
54	I came from Vermont and saw this play out there for a while. I doubt that Maine could pull it off if Vermont couldn't find the political cohesion to do so. I do find the concept of having your insurance tied directly to employment to be suboptimal, but I really don't trust the government to administer a healthcare system with any real effectiveness. It will just become an even bigger political bargaining chip than it is now. I would like to see the state focus more efforts on things that would reduce the overall need for healthcare by its citizens. Unfortunately, a lot of Mainers have very unhealth behaviors. Better public health efforts would are better at dealing with those issues than the emergency room.	11/5/2021 9:32 AM
55	Maine is becoming a tougher place to be a physician. There is a strong push to eliminate/limit Physician Led care or involved care. Instead of developing a low paying , medicare system, that will likely drive more Physicians away, Maine should be the first state in the US to say that: All Citizens of Maine Deserve Physician Led/Involved/Directed Healthcare!	11/5/2021 9:11 AM
56	I am growing increasingly intolerant of the fact that while everyone else (lawyers, government, lobbyists, big pharma, insurance, Private equity / Wall Street, CEOS, etc) make loads of money off the backs of those actually providing the healthcare. The more you that group of people --the doctors, nurses, technologists become disenfranchised, the more you are going to drive them out of medicine altogether (a tread that has become an acute problem exacerbated by Covid). Patients better be prepared to realize that none of that fringe group (the lawyers, big pharma, insurance companies, lobbyists, etc) can take care of them when they are sick and dying. I wonder if physicians / providers will finally unionize. The compensation in Maine (compared to other parts of the country) coupled with the rate of taxation has made recruiting good providers harder than ever. It is the people of Maine who will feel the consequences of decisions that further add stress, more responsibility, greater inefficiency on (already burned out) healthcare providers.	11/5/2021 8:50 AM
57	Maine government payor reimbursement is not competitive enough to encourage talented physicians to relocate here.	11/5/2021 8:44 AM
58	As the former leader of the Cleveland Clinic observed a few years ago, private systems are becoming more public, and public systems more private - it's quite easy to find individuals in the UK frustrated with the NHS...	11/5/2021 8:40 AM
59	While I support a single payer system for basic health care coverage, I would support a single paper system as well. One form, one set of rules, one process for approvals regardless of payer. In addition the definition of basic health care needs to be defined prior to the discussion of changing to a single payer system. In a single payer system if individuals or employers which to purchase available supplemental insurance, that should be an option.	11/5/2021 8:37 AM
60	Health care costs and utilization will increase over time as median age increases. E.g. cancer patients are surviving much longer but have increased healthcare costs. A single-payer system will eventually lead to decreasing reimbursement for medical services due to budgetary constraints. This will force many medical providers to either relocate to a different state or quit	11/5/2021 8:33 AM

Health Care Reform Survey for Physicians

practice altogether. Rather than a single-payer system there needs to be more regulation of current private and public payers, healthcare administration, pharmaceutical companies, and medical device manufacturers to bring down costs.

61	See Vermont attempt at state level, must use fed money	11/5/2021 8:27 AM
62	I support a public/private partnership for health care insurance in Maine and our nation. I also support developing quality metrics to incentivize "value" (better quality being delivered in more efficient manner) generation in healthcare.	11/5/2021 5:36 AM
63	The current system is failing badly as evidenced by the COVID response. Clinical staff reduction is not a reasonable cost reduction strategy. There is more to provision of medical care than the bottom line. Nursing and medical staff are not interchangeable cogs in the system. Could give other comments if given more space for explanation.	11/4/2021 10:45 PM
64	I don't think we can have a conversation about single payer without discussing the problem of inflated costs. Maine has very little competition and the large hospital systems are beginning to form monopolies. Without competition, cost of care is a barrier for Mainers. There are several options to consider that can bring costs down and increase quality of care especially in the primary care space. Our system as it is doesn't work and this was proven during COVID. Direct primary care offered continuous affordable and accessible services during the pandemic and this model should be considered and embraced if we truly want to lower the cost of care. Most conversations about single-payer ask the question of cost before considering options that are obviously better quality at lower cost. Everyday expected costs in medicine like primary care don't need to be included in insurance, they just need to be affordable to all Mainers. Please engage DPC leaders in this conversation to discuss quality primary care and decreasing burnout in our exhausted physician workforce.	11/4/2021 9:33 PM
65	The current health care system has only accentuated the disparities in care due to race and socioeconomic factors. In addition to payment reform I strongly believe that physicians should spend time in underserved areas through expansion of the National Health Service Scholarship Program. It worked very well to get well trained physicians into shortage areas and has been badly neglected more recently.	11/4/2021 8:55 PM
66	Medicare for all would worsen the health of Maine citizens. I have been practicing in Maine for over 20 years and have found that I have had more success with improving patients health in the last year (as a dpc practice) than I ever done when I worked within the constraints of Corp. health care. I am also reaching people that could not get care secondary to deductibles, co-pays or simply don't have insurance. I also have many insured patients that decide to get there care without using there insurance because often it is cheaper and they are sick of all the red tape that insurance offers. Medicare for all will just make it even more frustrating for patients. patients are willing to pay for health care if it is reasonable and easy to access. the proof is clear in my practice.	11/4/2021 8:39 PM
67	Start with foundation of universal primary care . If we can agree on that, we can build on it. Trying to create a full system without universal primary care will be impossible.	11/4/2021 8:37 PM
68	I'm now retired, but I've been a supporter and member of PNHP since at least the early 80's.	11/4/2021 8:32 PM
69	There needs to be more robust free market solutions which can only occur with the elimination of "Certificate of Need". By way of example, I, as a solo physician, using free market principles, am able to offer 75-90% savings on medications and lab testing. That is making medical care affordable. Patient deserve choice, full transparency in pricing and options.	11/4/2021 7:40 PM
70	Our current system is on the verge of imploding. It is too expensive, is an administrative mess and leaves out way to many Americans. A system of universal coverage is needed and I feel a single payer solution is the only viable way forward.	11/4/2021 7:31 PM
71	Payment continues to promote procedures over maintaining health and wellness. Will never fix it if we don't adjust the motivators behind what gets priority in healthcare.	11/4/2021 5:57 PM
72	Medicine cannot continue in where expenses are capitalistic and reimbursements are socialistic. There simply will not be enough providers to care for patients. Or care will significantly be rationed on our current path.	11/4/2021 5:55 PM
73	Agree meaningful reform will probably have to happen as state level "experiments"	11/4/2021 5:49 PM
74	Escalation of do everything medicine is killing the system. No limits. No expense spared and defensive medicine all the time. Also some pay tons and others could care less about the bill	11/4/2021 5:47 PM

Health Care Reform Survey for Physicians

bc they know they will not pat a dime. Absurd!

75	Current system puts profits above lives and affects the disadvantaged disproportionately	11/4/2021 5:32 PM
76	While I believe the profit motive for physicians creates challenges, the profit motive created by large institutions (hospitals, insurance companies, etc) has perversely dehumanized and worsened care quality	11/4/2021 4:41 PM
77	As a physician I am deeply embarrassed that in our nation we have yet to extend health care to all of our population.	11/4/2021 4:36 PM
78	Canada and the UK have single-payer healthcare. In both countries, healthcare is worse than in the US. Single-payer is not the answer. We should learn from the mistakes of others.	11/4/2021 4:13 PM
79	State sponsored health care for all is the most efficient management plan as demonstrated by Canada, most of Europe, Taiwan ...	11/4/2021 4:09 PM
80	The corporatization of medicine has changed medicine into a business, but it is a service. Health care is a right. We need the Ford of health care for everyone, and insurance companies can still offer the Cadillac.	11/4/2021 3:46 PM
81	The fact that Maine has some of the most costly care. Needs to be addressed	11/4/2021 3:41 PM
82	further research the state based option	11/4/2021 3:39 PM
83	Maryland biggest single state success, price setting	11/4/2021 3:29 PM
84	Universal healthcare, preferably single payer	11/4/2021 3:29 PM
85	Some changes needed but not a complete overall.	11/4/2021 3:25 PM
86	Low/no profit solutions are not advanced in current system	11/4/2021 3:09 PM
87	Nothing will substantively change until it is completely broken.	11/4/2021 3:06 PM
88	competition drives improvement and reform	11/4/2021 3:05 PM
89	For the past 35 years I have and continue to work across the State with multiple organizations and multiple practitioners in the arena of high risk pregnancies. Sadly I have seen a decline in health care which has as its cause multiple factors at multiple levels. Clearly there are geographic barriers exacerbated by declining services available at rural access hospital systems, inequities in terms of distribution of health care dollars between rich and poor, rural and suburban areas, and preferential treatment given to certain specialties over other specialties. From my view and in my own arena I can see many areas where better care can be given at a more affordable cost. It is however a system corrupted by money.	11/4/2021 2:51 PM
90	Re: #4, just take a look at the 2021 Commonwealth Fund survey.	11/4/2021 2:40 PM
91	I mean that profit motive of the INSURANCE INDUSTRY has worsened health.	11/4/2021 2:36 PM
92	Question 7 has no option for practice 21 to 29 years which is where I fall.	11/4/2021 2:19 PM
93	Though there have been states who have flirted with single payer systems, I don't think that Maine has sufficient population or resources to make it work alone. Also, by the time that Maine actually implemented changes, my guess is that I will have retired.	11/4/2021 2:01 PM
94	Presently do not have a Healthcare System, we have a Sick System that does not work well for most patients	11/4/2021 1:53 PM
95	Im tired of having patients who work two jobs and cant affod healthcare pay for others who are able bodied who wont work	11/4/2021 1:24 PM
96	I continue to see uninsured patients, recently an otherwise healthy 41 yo who suddenly needed triple bypass surgery. Will he be bankrupted and financially ruined for the rest of his life? This is crazy!!	11/4/2021 1:22 PM
97	The system has been badly broken by the growing influence of corporate, "free-market" (sic) orthodoxy.	11/4/2021 1:19 PM
98	We need to push for importation of medicines from Canada.	11/4/2021 1:16 PM
99	There is no doubt that the current healthcare system results in inequities in access to care,	11/4/2021 1:07 PM

Health Care Reform Survey for Physicians

worse outcomes than would otherwise be possible, and the consumption of extraordinary resources on processes that bring no value to the health of our population. Single payer healthcare, although not a panacea, would be a first step towards a more equitable, efficient, and effective system.

100	I support a national policy on universal health care. My daughter lives in Massachusetts and they seem to have enacted a system that covers the majority of people and works well. .	11/4/2021 1:06 PM
101	People who desperately need health care are not getting it. I am tired and burned out fighting to get people the care they need. A single payor system would cover everyone, and would reduce huge administrative burdens for docs, which is what I spend most of my time doing. If things continue on the same track I will retire in 1-2 years. If we have a single payor system that is equitable for all, I will work another 10 years. I just cannot take the insurance bureaucracy any more.	11/4/2021 1:03 PM
102	It's too easy in the U.S. to get a spinal fusion and not easy enough to see a physician who'll practice the state-of-the-art for back pain.	11/4/2021 12:55 PM
103	Having practiced in the VA system for a number of years, it is clear to me that centralized control of healthcare will decrease quality and increase cost.	11/4/2021 12:37 PM
104	These questions and offered answers do not allow good answers private sector has provided capital, resources, and innovation europe has developed models that expand on that while providing Govt initiatives and care for all at reasonable pricing	11/4/2021 12:32 PM
105	I strongly support universal publicly funded healthcare in Maine	11/4/2021 12:32 PM
106	A single-payer universal safety net system at the state level would be absolutely possible in our state! Consolidation has already happened (i.e. around MaineHealth, Northern Light) who could be leaders in the transition to a true universal system that would be an example for the rest of the nation!	11/4/2021 12:31 PM
107	The need for universal healthcare is one of the most important issues facing the country	11/4/2021 12:30 PM
108	Trained in Canada	11/4/2021 12:26 PM
109	To me, all the issues in health reform are secondary to cost control. No system will be affordable if the cost growth of the last 30 years continues. I am skeptical, given the experience of Medicare, that a single payer system could achieve those cost controls. I am still open to the idea as long as the implementation is somehow different from Medicare.	11/4/2021 12:11 PM
110	With the current state of lobbying power of all the affected parties, meaningful national reform is very unlikely. Any single payer Maine system proposal would need to take into account how that would affect our ability to attract physicians to practice in Maine	11/4/2021 12:10 PM
111	What really needs to be addressed is the "corporate practice of medicine" that is now pervasive in our medical system. The quality of medical care in the US health system is being degraded significantly due to the ongoing push for higher profits by insurance companies and corporate medical groups combined, at the expense of the general population who are patients.	11/4/2021 12:09 PM
112	Unless we eliminate business based decisions and lobbyists, there is no hope for a truly effective healthcare reform.	11/4/2021 12:08 PM
113	Your last question (#4) is poorly worded and judgmental.	11/4/2021 11:56 AM
114	Urgently needed.	11/4/2021 11:56 AM
115	in many communities hospitals are in effect single payers	11/4/2021 11:55 AM
116	There are tremendous inefficiencies created by the multi-payer system. Bureaucratic delays and other barriers that exist only because we are not a fully integrated single payer system. A good example would be insurance companies managing costs by limiting hospital, rehab or skilled nursing utilization. These approaches often limit the cost to the insurer but INCREASE the cost to the system as a whole through inefficient use of acute care beds as patients await "approval" of rehab or skilled nursing. Time they would otherwise spend getting care. This is just one example of many inefficiencies that a single payer system or a move towards government funded healthcare could help resolve. Ultimately, the administrative spending in healthcare is excessive and reallocating these funds towards actual medical care would help improve the quality and value of the care we provide our patients.	11/4/2021 11:54 AM

Health Care Reform Survey for Physicians

117	While I commend the effort to look at this, I think it will be very difficult for a state the size of Maine to pull off single payer, as much as I support a simply more comprehensive coverage for all plan.	11/4/2021 11:53 AM
118	It is the cost of DRUGS way more than physician fees, plus the games that insurance companies play that ruins the system.	11/4/2021 11:46 AM
119	Health care reform must address a better public health system	11/4/2021 11:37 AM
120	Emphasis needs to be on public and personal health, not institution/ business/practice integrity.	11/4/2021 11:37 AM
121	Healthcare has become a corporate "money game" and has lost its stature as a calling and a "noble profession". It is no longer run by physicians, guided by strict ethical principles with the primary goal to provide comfort and health care to all comers, regardless of their ability to pay. We as physicians have become pawns to the insurance companies, pharmaceutical industry and the trial lawyers, eliminating our ability to control our profession or our mission. The complexity of our current reimbursement system has forced most physicians to become employees of hospitals or health systems, restricting our ability to meet our patients' personal needs. These hospitals and HC systems have in turn merged and expanded to control much of the medical profession with administrative personnel. The salaries of the lead administrators often dwarf those of the leading physicians.	11/4/2021 11:37 AM
122	here i no reason we cannot have everyone in tis country insured. primary care should be the back bone of the system and the investments will need to be mad in enhancing the primary care practice environment.	11/4/2021 11:36 AM
123	Let's get this done!	11/4/2021 11:33 AM
124	It's simple. Study the data. Horrible return on our massive investment. Poor outcomes, huge cost.	11/4/2021 11:26 AM
125	National Health Care is a MUST	11/4/2021 11:15 AM
126	As a retired physician who trained in both the US and Canada and worked as a teacher in the medical residency at MMC for many years I have seen up front the inequity and waste of both human and financial resources as our system has evolved. I will work until I can't anymore to achieve universal coverage that rewards good outcomes. I believe that the ACP and AOA have proposed systems that would do that. I have done both private and hospital based practice and worked as an insurance medical director.	11/4/2021 11:13 AM
127	The problem with the healthcare financing & delivery system is that it is neither a free market nor a command economy. Prices do not reflect either supply or demand, and in fact no one really knows what the prices are. Due to limits on residency slots, there's no elasticity in supply of physicians (on the whole or by specialty). Anything we can do it improve the pricing/supply/demand signals in the healthcare sector will help. I suggest that Maine mandates that all health insurance be sold to individuals and put an end to employer-sponsored healthcare. This would help move the system closer to the requirements for a more free and efficient marketplace.	11/4/2021 11:09 AM
128	public health care will lead to a private layer on top of it. As long as the public program is decent and has a public health perspective, let the wealthy spend their money.	11/4/2021 11:05 AM
129	Multipayor system controls too much. People are taken advantage of by medicare advantage plans with promises of lower copays and than crappy payment of hospital care	11/4/2021 11:05 AM
130	Health care reform has to focus on prevention of chronic disease, not treatment of advanced disease. We have it backwards in this county. Socialized systems of care focusing on nutrition, physical activity, mental health and support of women and young children is most needed to improve population health.	11/4/2021 11:04 AM
131	"Medicare for all?" Not without Medicare reform. And important to protect the health care system from the political process	11/4/2021 11:04 AM
132	having one payer is much more streamlined but the system would need to be designed so it is not co-opted by money'ed interests and bureaucratic process	11/4/2021 11:04 AM
133	i believe in universal state or govt sponsored health insurance for all	11/4/2021 10:57 AM
134	I worry about those people who do not qualify for mainecare or medicare - and cant afford	11/4/2021 10:53 AM

Health Care Reform Survey for Physicians

	health insurance.	
135	I think it's important to separate out simple "profit motive," which can help with innovation and can be a reward for hard work, with unrestrained private equity profit that is disconnected from patient interests. I also believe it is very important to specify in these conversations whether the single payor system will allow patients to maintain access to physicians or whether they will be forced to receive care from non-physician practitioners, who provide healthcare not medical care. Answer to question #3 is "no effect"; was not an option.	11/4/2021 10:46 AM
136	you should keep a profit motive but institute the other side of the equation public disclosure of true quality Direct dx rate, infection rates, wrong treatment rates. Treatment done incorrectly rate. vomiting rates. cure rates, and many many more should all be easily accessible. Then physicians and hospitals would be motivated to stop the third largest cause of death. They would not be motivated to allow errors that send patients to the ICU to make more profit. The profit system is very very warped because it totally removes the customer. The board of medicine should be totally reorganized. IT goes after physicians for treating family very very unscientific NO NO data to support this but you do nothing about a surgeon with a great reputation (based on beside manner and non disruptive practice. but his hernia failure rate is 2% and his infection rate is 1.5% Both of which are terrible rates compared to top tier published good rates. and the surgeon who is killing patients still practices. IMMORAL TO THE Nth degree. The 30 year failed gate keeper theory developed by the largest group of unboarded physicians should be abolished. IT has not hint of proof of benefit. It promotes misdiagnosis and miss treatment. It inflates the cost of medicine. You should double the size of the medical school immediately. and promote policies to attract physicians including the promise of very good pay if they practice excellent medicine as defined by the customer based on real outcome data (meaningful data infection rates- not hand washing crap) profit motives good action. Group pay deflates it. monopolies destroy it Single payor is a monopoly run by detached low denominator people. The Stark rules should be enforced they are totally forgotten and warped. MD's run by hospital and health care systems should never dx and RX customers. Start with enforcing the ban on the use of patient. " a person who will sit quietly and not complain". This is a seemingly minor thing but it would make the point of who is in charge and set a different tone. The customer is in charge Single payor reinforces the point that we now have that the customer is not in charge.	11/4/2021 10:42 AM
137	I would prefer not to have a government run universal system but I'm concerned that the private sector is not invested in truly improving the delivery model and reducing bureaucratic burden. I don't trust the US or state govt to do that, either	11/4/2021 10:41 AM
138	There is plenty of experience in other countries that is positive so it can no longer be termed experimental. Maine going it alone might be risky only because there are so many vested interests with lots of lobbying dollars. It would be great if enough covered lives could be garnered to make it successful, however. I would be willing to help in any way.	11/4/2021 10:40 AM
139	the amount of waste created by insurance companies, their dictation of medical care decisions by trained providers, their callous mistreatment of serious medical conditions, and the exorbitant cost of prescription drugs have resulted in: an opioid epidemic, the worst infant mortality rate among comparable countries, and days wasted in the hospital for those awaiting placement. The current system is not survivable as our population ages. Having trained in Canada, I can tell you, our sparkly building do not provide better care and often bankrupt our patients.	11/4/2021 10:39 AM
140	Medicare for All is the only way to remedy the cost and inequitable access problems plaguing our present system.	11/4/2021 10:37 AM
141	I collected signatures on Election Day for Maine Healthcare Action and support MaineAllcare. I am retired, so would not be affected by any economic changes.	11/4/2021 10:35 AM
142	The current hybrid model of government (Medicare, MaineCare, VA, Tricare etc.) plus commercial insurance, plus uncompensated care creates enormous costs and frictions while diminishing quality. We can and must do better.	11/4/2021 10:33 AM
143	There is actually very little point no one does anything there's an enormous disconnect between policymakers and woodworking physicians need primary care which include pediatricians is continually badgered to death by the care impeding policies of the hospitals and the outrageous amounts of paperwork IGN Antonucci have personally suggested several actionable message to improve the life of primary care and no one takes any action for instants when a breast cancer patient needs radiation therapy I have to write a referral this is	11/4/2021 10:32 AM

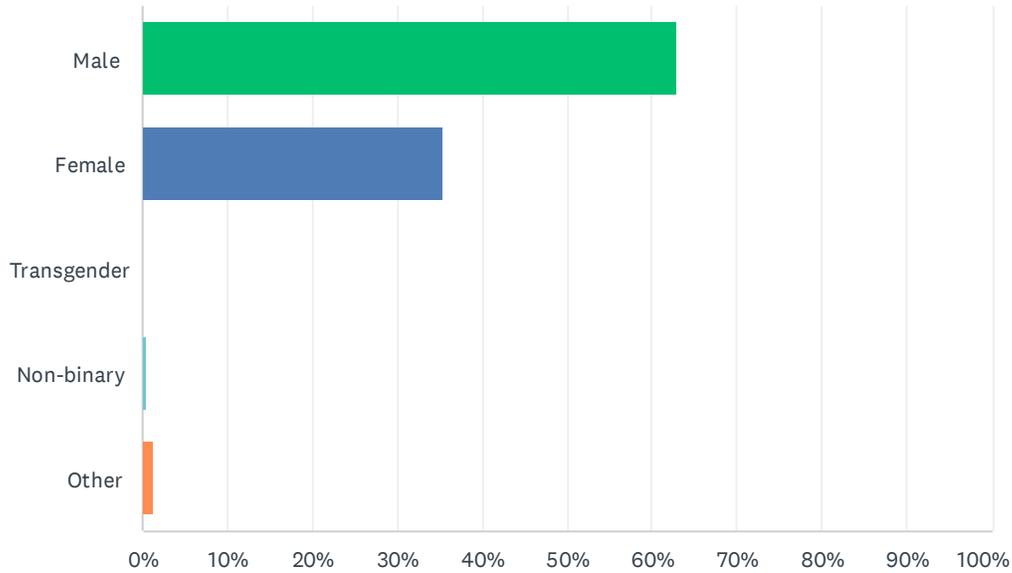
Health Care Reform Survey for Physicians

definitely for answering which is huge and sometimes others I can't keep that it I in primary care and in fact getting over paid radiation therapy paid on my dime why doesn't anyone get this there are many examples of things that would change the life of primary care no one is listening there is no hope I could go on and on I am having a hard time make this go backwards and I dictated it so I apologize for any typos I don't care about this statement I care that we do action will things for primary care most employed physicians as I am now absolutely unable to see what's going on there is no hope there is no hope with the current senior policy analyst in the DHHS office in Maine who has severely damaged primary care and wasted millions of dollars we have the same old people running things who don't know even what it's like to order vaccines in the state to disconnect is horrendous thank you for asking I'd like the MMA but there's no hope

144	I generally favor a single payor but worry that it will result in widespread undercompensation. Patients rate their health care based on how good the food is and how quickly cnas answer the call bell, which are the first areas to be cut when money is tight.	11/4/2021 10:29 AM
145	Whatever happens, if physician salaries go down there will be a mass exodus of doctors out of the state	11/4/2021 10:24 AM
146	This can be done. It needs to be done.	11/4/2021 10:23 AM
147	I am very much in favor of single payer like VA system.The VA seems to treat their doctors well. If we had similar system I would prefer to practice here.	11/4/2021 10:23 AM
148	current system influenced my decision to retire earlier than I might otherwise have done	11/4/2021 10:22 AM
149	Professional fee reimbursement for many specialties with Medicare and/or Medicaid falls far, far short of where it should be and does not match facility fees or even inflation. In my specialty, we could not pay the bills without private payers. That is why I oppose a single payer.	11/4/2021 10:21 AM

Q6 Please tell us how you identify your gender

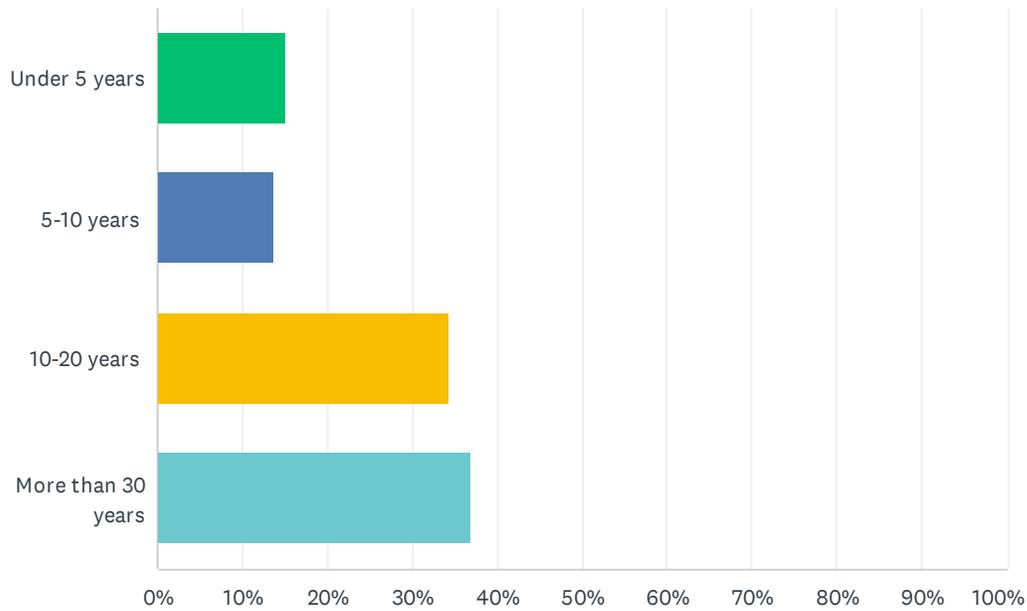
Answered: 308 Skipped: 5



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Male	62.99%	194
Female	35.39%	109
Transgender	0.00%	0
Non-binary	0.32%	1
Other	1.30%	4
TOTAL		308

Q7 Please tell us how long you have been practicing in medicine in Maine

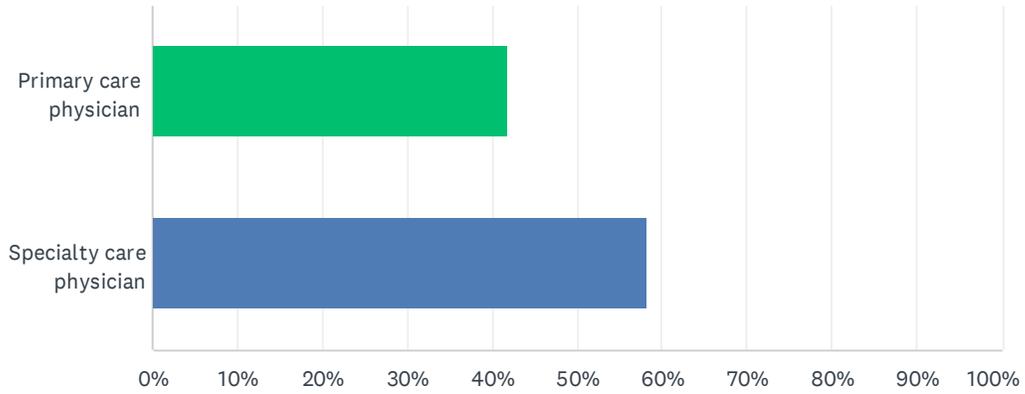
Answered: 309 Skipped: 4



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Under 5 years	15.21% 47
5-10 years	13.59% 42
10-20 years	34.30% 106
More than 30 years	36.89% 114
TOTAL	309

Q8 Please tell us how you characterize your professional role.

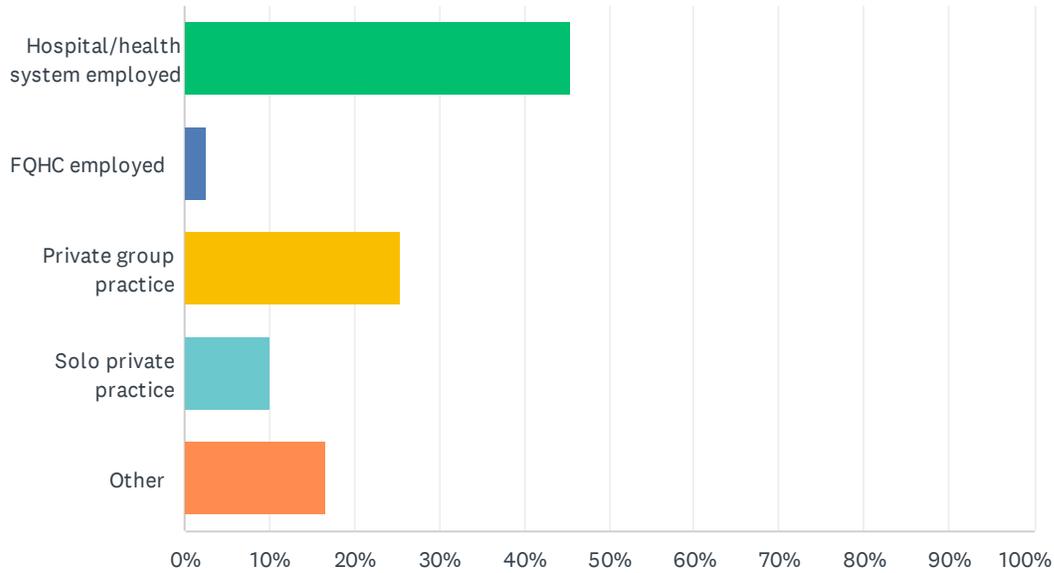
Answered: 311 Skipped: 2



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Primary care physician	41.80%	130
Specialty care physician	58.20%	181
TOTAL		311

Q9 Please tell us your practice setting

Answered: 312 Skipped: 1



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Hospital/health system employed	45.51%	142
FQHC employed	2.56%	8
Private group practice	25.32%	79
Solo private practice	9.94%	31
Other	16.67%	52
TOTAL		312