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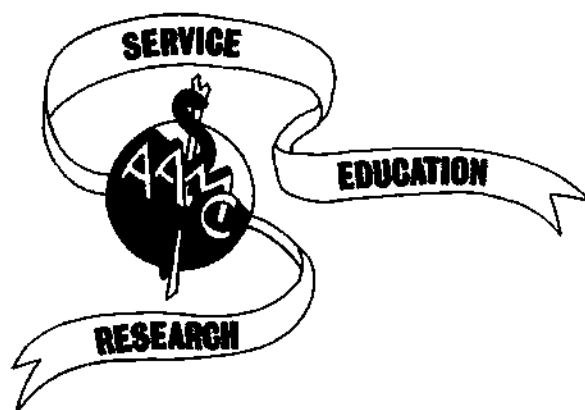
ABSTRACT

This report provides statistical information and commentary about 53,554 medical students who were enrolled in the 114 U.S. medical schools during the school year 1974-75. It is the product of a comprehensive national study that is focused specifically on describing in detail the characteristics of enrolled medical students in all U.S. medical schools during a given academic year. Two approaches for analyzing and presenting the data were employed: (1) by class level, and (2) by control of medical school (i.e., public or private). Tables cover the distribution of medical students by: (1) school, sex, and class level; (2) racial/ethnic self-identity; (3) geographic origin (for foreign medical students); (4) family income; (5) father's occupation in comparison with occupational distribution of employed males 40 years old and over. (Author/KE)

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DESCRIPTIVE STUDY OF  
ENROLLED MEDICAL STUDENTS, 1974-75



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## AAMC Division of Student Studies

## Descriptive Study of Enrolled Medical Students, 1974-75

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## A. INTRODUCTION

The AAMC has produced annual studies of applicants since 1926 (1, 2), has published a number of recent Datagrams about enrolled students (3, 4), and has conducted several special surveys (5, 6) that have included descriptive information about medical students as a group. A new venture, however, is the production of a comprehensive national study that is focused specifically on describing in detail the characteristics of enrolled medical students in all U.S. medical schools during a given academic year.

This initial report provides key statistical information and commentary about the 53,554 medical students who were enrolled in the 114 U.S. medical schools during the school year, 1974-75.

Two major approaches for analyzing and presenting the data were employed: (1) by class level (i.e., first year, intermediate years, and final year) and (2) by control of medical school (i.e., public or private). Primary sources of information for the tables in this report were (a) the 1974-75 AAMC Fall Enrollment Questionnaires and (b) the 1974-75 AAMC Survey of How Medical Students Finance Their Education.

The enrollment questionnaires were completed in the fall of 1974 by the registrars or comparable administrative officials

at each medical school and were summarized by the AAMC Division of Student Studies. These reports provided grouped data on all medical student enrollees. Most of this information is presented in Tables 1 through 7 of this report.

The Student Financing Survey, conducted cooperatively in the spring of 1975 by the AAMC Divisions of Student Services and of Student Studies, is based on individual responses from a representative sample of all U.S. medical students enrolled in 1974-75. Data in Tables 8 through 11 of this report are derived from a national sample of 7,261 of these students, representing 15 percent of the enrollment of each of the 110 schools that participated in the survey.

During 1975, a comprehensive parallel analysis of student characteristics, based on the individual records of all 1974-75 students in the AAMC's Medical Student Information System (MSIS), was also initiated. Based on that analysis, which is now nearing completion, an even more extensive report of the characteristics of all medical students enrolled during 1974-75 will soon be completed.

B. TABLES AND COMMENTARY



Table 1  
 Distribution of Medical Students by School,  
 Sex, and Class Level, 1974-75\*

Medical School	All Years			First Year		
	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
Grand Totals	53,554	43,893	9,661	14,763	11,488	3,275
Alabama	499	429	70	119	99	20
Alabama, South	153	125	28	64	47	17
Albany	428	353	75	110	79	31
Albert Einstein	579	439	140	182	132	50
Arizona	277	213	64	96	70	26
Arkansas	468	414	54	122	107	15
Baylor	577	484	93	168	133	35
Boston University	504	380	124	138	101	37
Bowman Gray	347	300	47	90	69	21
Brown†	239	180	59	61 <sup>a</sup>	48	13
California—Davis	404	304	100	100	66	34
California—Irvine	281	224	57	79	58	21
California—Los Angeles	601	510	91	147	123	24
California—San Diego	275	221	54	96	75	21
California—San Francisco	576	421	155	147	95	52
California, Southern	472	379	93	130	99	31
Case Western Reserve	570	444	126	147	109	38
Chicago Medical	382	353	29	107	95	12
Chicago—Pritzker	453	381	72	105	84	21
Cincinnati	556	477	79	198	161	37
Colorado	521	417	104	127	91	36
Columbia	576	434	142	148	105	43
Connecticut	226	181	45	64	52	12
Cornell	414	322	92	104	71	33
Creighton	439	393	46	112	95	17
Dartmouth	159	124	35	67	50	17
Duke	462	367	95	122	88	34
Emory	421	367	54	105	93	12
Florida (including FSU)	385	319	66	111	83	28
Florida, South	145	122	23	64	54	10
Georgetown	811	673	138	208	167	41
George Washington	582	466	116	151	112	39
Georgia	653	571	82	180	153	27
Hahnemann	627	529	98	174	138	36
Harvard	669	497	172	165	111	54
Hawaii	271	227	44	69	51	18
Howard	479	343	136	137	90	47
Illinois	1,159	986	173	341	281	60
Illinois, Southern	128	112	16	60	49	11
Indiana	1,169	982	187	305	246	59
Iowa	650	551	99	175	147	28
Jefferson	891	758	133	232	190	42
Johns Hopkins	476	385	91	121	95	26
Kansas	568	467	101	168	132	36
Kentucky	413	345	68	111	88	23
Loma Linda	586	505	81	154	125	29
Louisiana—New Orleans	587	510	77	149	124	25
Louisiana—Shreveport	168	157	11	42	38	4
Louisville	530	446	84	138	106	32
Loyola—Stitch	517	425	92	134	107	27
Maryland	620	501	119	169	122	47
Massachusetts	152	112	40	64	50	14
Mayo	120	98	22	40	31	9
McHARRY	410	306	104	120	83	37

Table 1 (Continued)  
 Distribution of Medical Students by School,  
 Sex, and Class Level, 1974-75\*

Medical School	All Years			First Year		
	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
Miami	562	496	66	131	112	19
Michigan State	376	255	121	106	66	40
Michigan, University of	949	764	185	249	187	62
Minnesota - Duluth	59	47	12	36	29	7
Minnesota - Minneapolis	966	815	151	247	205	42
Mississippi	490	424	66	154	129	25
Missouri - Columbia	435	366	69	111	90	21
Missouri - Kansas City	161	119	42	71	52	19
Mount Sinai	282	213	69	81	62	19
Nebraska	534	465	69	159	131	28
Nevada - Reno†	96	79	17	49	37	12
New Jersey:						
CMDNJ - New Jersey Medical	473	372	101	120	85	35
CMDNJ - Rutgers	290	213	77	108	83	25
New Mexico	265	204	61	72	48	24
New York Medical	646	516	130	174	130	44
New York University	658	524	134	175	135	40
New York:						
SUNY - Buffalo	540	422	118	136	105	31
SUNY - Downstate	862	699	163	226	164	62
SUNY - Stony Brook	117	68	49	48	21	27
SUNY - Upstate	479	396	83	123	94	29
North Carolina (including ECU)	494	401	93	131	102	29
North Dakota†	172	149	23	67	56	11
Northwestern	683	554	129	173	135	38
Ohio, Medical College of	199	160	39	81	63	18
Ohio State	729	614	115	239	197	42
Oklahoma	595	513	82	162	130	32
Oregon	440	378	62	115	93	22
Pennsylvania, Medical College of	360	119	241	92	24	69
Pennsylvania State	328	267	61	96	78	18
Pennsylvania, University of	656	526	130	160	112	48
Pittsburgh	514	404	110	138	101	37
Puerto Rico	454	336	118	118	83	35
Rochester	395	328	67	97	72	25
Rush	284	223	61	90	70	20
Saint Louis	599	519	81	151	119	32
South Carolina	645	572	73	165	141	24
South Dakota†	128	110	18	65	52	13
Stanford	388	296	92	94	65	29
Temple	718	578	140	186	139	47
Tennessee	606	543	63	208	184	24
Texas - Galveston	735	609	126	209	161	48
Texas - Houston	148	130	18	52	46	6
Texas - San Antonio	473	399	74	122	97	25
Texas - Southwestern (Dallas)	627	549	78	202	175	27
Texas Tech	131	104	27	43	30	13
Tufts	606	475	131	152	123	20
Tulane	593	508	85	151	127	24
Utah	399	357	42	101	85	16
Vanderbilt	326	291	35	83	70	13
Vermont	322	270	52	83	59	24
Virginia, Eastern	57	46	11	21	18	3
Virginia, Medical College of	578	492	86	168	139	29
Virginia, University of	478	422	56	136	114	22

Table 1 (Continued)  
Distribution of Medical Students by School,  
Sex, and Class Level, 1974-75\*

Medical School	All Years			First Year		
	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
Washington University—St. Louis	541	436	105	126	90	36
Washington, University of	495	397	98	135	105	30
Wayne State	968	819	149	265	220	45
West Virginia	335	297	38	84	72	12
Wisconsin, Medical College of	487	427	60	123	105	18
Wisconsin, University of	584	464	120	164	128	36
Yale	419	326	93	102	75	27

\*Data provided from AAMC Fall 1974 Enrollment Questionnaire.

†In process of establishing a full M.D. degree program.

‡Two-Year basic science school.

§Forty-eight of these students were admitted under the school's former six-year Program in Medical Science prior to implementation of the present seven-year M.D. degree-granting program.

Commentary on Table 1

In the 1974-75 academic year, 53,554 students attended 114 U.S. medical schools with enrollments ranging from less than 100 for three developing schools (Minnesota--Duluth, Nevada, and Eastern Virginia) to a high of over 1,000 for two schools with multiple campus programs (Indiana and Illinois). Three additional schools reported almost 1,000 each (Wayne State, 968; Minnesota--Minneapolis, 966; and University of Michigan, 949). Forty-one schools matriculated between 500 and 900 medical students each and 65 schools had less than 500 but more than 100.

Of the 46 states and areas with medical schools, the four states enrolling more than 3,000 medical students each were New York (12 schools), 5,976; Illinois (7 schools), 3,606; Pennsylvania (7 schools), 4,094; and California (8 schools), 3,583. Six states had no medical schools in 1974-75: Alaska, Delaware, Idaho, Maine, Montana, and Wyoming.

Women students constituted at least 10 percent of the total enrollments in all but two schools. In the first-year class, however, no schools had less than 10 percent women in 1974-75. Moreover, 41 schools reported 10 to 19 percent women in their first-year classes, 59 schools had 20 to 29 percent, and 13 enrolled from 30 to 56 percent women. The Medical College of Pennsylvania reported 74 percent women students.

By state of enrollment, women medical students ranged from 10.5 percent for Utah to 24, 25, and 26 percent respectively for Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Puerto Rico.

**Table 2**  
**Distribution of Medical Students by Sex and**  
**Medical School Class Level, 1974-75**

Sex	<u>All Students</u>		<u>Class Level</u>						<u>Difference Between</u>	
	<u>Total</u>		<u>First Year</u>		<u>Intermed. Years</u>		<u>Final Year</u>		<u>First &amp; Final Years</u>	
	<u>No.</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
<u>Breakdown</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>(Col. 4-8)</u>	<u>(Col. 10/8)</u>
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)
Total	53,554	100	14,763	100	26,038	100	12,753	100	2,010	15.8
Men	43,893	82	11,488	78	21,365	82	11,040	87	448	4.1
Women	9,661	18	3,275	22	4,673	18	1,713	13	1,562	91.2

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Commentary on Table 2

Of the more than fifty-three thousand 1974-75 U.S. medical school enrollees, 14,763 (27.6 percent) were freshmen, 26,038 (48.6 percent) were in intermediate class levels, and 12,753 (23.8 percent) were seniors. The difference in class size between the first year and the final year amounted to approximately 2,000 or 16 percent. Although this difference is due mainly to the enlargement of recent entering classes, the variation would have been even greater were it not for growing advanced standing admissions and minimum attrition rates.

Particularly striking are the changing proportions in the sex distribution of medical students. While the total student population as well as the intermediate classes consisted of 82 percent men and 18 percent women, these proportions changed in favor of women to 22 percent in the 1974-75 first-year class. These changes are emphasized even more dramatically upon comparing the class composition of the first year with that of the final year. Their differences show increases of four percent for men students but 91.2 percent for women students.

Table 3

Distribution of Medical Students by Sex  
and Control of Medical School, 1974-75

<u>Sex Breakdown</u> (1)	<u>All Schools</u> N-114		<u>Public Schools</u> N-70		<u>Private Schools</u> N-44		<u>Difference Between Public and Private</u>	
	<u>No.</u> (2)	<u>%</u> (3)	<u>No.</u> (4)	<u>%</u> (5)	<u>No.</u> (6)	<u>%</u> (7)	<u>Number</u> (Col. 4-6) (8)	<u>Percent</u> (Col. 8/6) (9)
All	53,554	100	31,308	100	22,246	100	9,062	40.74%
Men	43,893	82	25,982	83.0	17,911	80.5	8,071	45.06%
Women	9,661	18	5,326	17.0	4,335	19.5	991	22.86%



Commentary on Table 3

Of the 53,554 students enrolled in the 114 U.S. medical schools, 58.5 percent were in 68 publicly supported and 41.5 percent in 46 privately supported medical schools. The majority of both men (59 percent) and women (55 percent) were attending the public schools.

Comparative differences between the size of public and private school enrollments also favored the former since 45 percent more men and 23 percent more women were present in the public schools. Looked at from another perspective, private schools enrolled a 2.5 percent higher proportion of women (19.5 percent) than the public schools (17.0 percent); and the public schools showed a corresponding 2.5 percent higher proportion of men students.

Table 4

Distribution of Medical Students by Racial/Ethnic Self-Identification,  
Sex and Medical School Class Level, 1974-75

Racial/Ethnic Self-Identification (1)	Class Level												Difference Between First & Final Years		
	All Classes				First Year			Intermed. Years			Final Year			Number	Percent
	Men (2)	Women (3)	Total (4)	% (5)	Men/ Women (6)	Total (7)	% (8)	Men/ Women (9)	Total (10)	% (11)	Men/ Women (12)	Total (13)	% (14)	(Col. 7-13) (15)	(Col. 15/13) (16)
Total	43,893	9,661	53,554	100.0	$\frac{11,488}{3,275}$	14,763	100.0	$\frac{21,365}{4,673}$	26,038	100.0	$\frac{11,040}{1,713}$	12,753	100.0	2,010	15.8
Black American	2,333	1,022	3,355	6.3	$\frac{729}{377}$	1,106	7.5	$\frac{1,121}{488}$	1,609	6.2	$\frac{483}{157}$	640	5.0	466	72.8
American Indian	121	38	159	.3	$\frac{54}{17}$	71	.5	$\frac{48}{16}$	64	.2	$\frac{19}{5}$	24	.2	47	195.8
Mexican American	525	113	638	1.2	$\frac{179}{48}$	227	1.5	$\frac{240}{57}$	297	1.1	$\frac{106}{8}$	114	.9	113	99.1
Puerto Rican-Mainland	138	34	172	.3	$\frac{49}{20}$	69	.5	$\frac{65}{12}$	77	.3	$\frac{24}{2}$	26	.2	43	165.4
Subtotal	(3,117)	(1,207)	(4,324)	(8.1)	$\left(\frac{1,011}{462}\right)$	(1,473)	(10.0)	$\left(\frac{1,474}{573}\right)$	(2,047)	(7.9)	$\left(\frac{632}{172}\right)$	(804)	(6.3)	(669)	(83.2)
Oriental	742	217	959	1.8	$\frac{197}{78}$	275	1.9	$\frac{376}{103}$	479	1.8	$\frac{162}{36}$	205	1.6	70	34.1
Other* (incl. 118 U.S. Cubans)	210	67	277	.5	$\frac{68}{23}$	91	.6	$\frac{100}{30}$	130	.5	$\frac{42}{14}$	56	.4	35	62.5
Subtotal			(1,236)			(366)			(609)			(261)		(105)	(40.2)
Puerto Rican-Island	307	107	414	.8	$\frac{80}{30}$	110	.7	$\frac{155}{53}$	208	.8	$\frac{72}{24}$	96	.8	14	14.6
Foreign (incl. 42 Non-U.S. Cubans)	659	160	819	1.5	$\frac{165}{54}$	219	1.5	$\frac{328}{73}$	401	1.5	$\frac{166}{33}$	199	1.6	20	10.1
Caucasian	38,858	7,903	46,761	87.3	$\frac{9,967}{2,628}$	12,595	85.3	$\frac{18,932}{3,841}$	22,773	87.5	$\frac{9,959}{1,434}$	11,393	89.3	1,202	10.6

\*incl. some  
Puerto Rican-Island

Commentary on Table 4

Of the 53,554 medical students enrolled in the 1974-75 academic year, 12.7 percent described themselves as other than Caucasians. This non-Caucasian group comprised 4,324 (8.1 percent) of "underrepresented minorities"; 1,236 (2.3 percent) Oriental Americans and "Other" minorities; 414 (.8 percent) of Island Puerto Ricans; and 819 (1.5 percent) foreign students.

A comparison of the class levels in Table 4 confirms that the largest proportionate representation of the 1974-75 minority students occurred in the first year. Of the 1,473 underrepresented minority students, 1,106 black Americans enrolled in 104 schools (195 were at Howard and Meharry); 71 American Indians at 33 schools; 227 Mexican Americans at 44 schools; and 69 Mainland Puerto Ricans at 31 schools.

In order to assess the progressive increases, the differences between the first year and the final year must be considered for each category. The greatest numeric strides were made by black Americans and Mexican Americans whose respective differences were 466 (73 percent) and 113 (99 percent) between their representation in the senior and freshmen classes. The highest percentage gains, although the totals were modest, were achieved by American Indians (196%) and by Mainland Puerto Ricans (165%). The totals for "Other" minorities included 118 Cuban Americans

Commentary on Table 4 (Continued)

(36 first-year, 58 intermediate, and 24 final), while foreign student totals included 42 non-U.S. Cubans (14 first-year, 20 intermediate, and 8 final), many of whom are "permanent residents".

Table 5

Distribution of Medical Students by Racial/Ethnic Self-Identification  
and Control of Medical School, 1974-75

Racial/Ethnic Self-Identification (1)	All Schools				Public Schools				Private Schools				Difference Between Public & Private	
	Men (2)	Women (3)	Total (4)	% (5)	Men (6)	Women (7)	Total (8)	% (9)	Men (10)	Women (11)	Total (12)	% (13)	Number (Col. 8-12) (14)	Percent (Col. 14/12) (15)
Total	43,893	9,661	53,554	100.0	25,982	5,326	31,308	100.0	17,911	4,335	22,246	100.0	9,062	40.7
Black American	2,333	1,022	3,355	6.3	1,071	472	1,543	4.9	1,262	550	1,812	8.1	-269	-14.8
American Indian	121	38	159	.3	91	25	116	.4	30	13	43	.2	73	169.8
Mexican American	525	113	638	1.2	387	83	470	1.5	138	30	168	.8	302	179.8
Puerto Rican-Mainland	138	34	172	.3	64	10	74	.3	74	24	98	.4	-24	-24.5
Subtotal. underrepresented	(3,117)	(1,207)	(4,324)	(8.1)	(1,613)	(590)	(2,203)	(7.0)	(1,504)	(617)	(2,121)	(9.5)	(82)	(3.9)
Oriental	742	217	959	1.8	447	118	565	1.8	295	99	394	1.8	171	43.4
Other* (incl. 118 U.S.Cubans)	210	67	277	.5	120	35	155	.5	90	32	122	.5	33	27.0
Puerto Rican-Island	307	107	414	.8	307	107	414	1.3	-	-	-	-	414	100.0
Foreign (incl. 42 Non-U.S.Cubans)	659	160	819	1.5	229	58	287	.9	430	102	532	2.4	-245	-46.1
Caucasian	38,858	7,903	46,761	87.3	23,266	4,418	27,684	88.4	15,592	3,485	19,077	85.8	8,607	45.1

\*Incl. some  
Puerto Rican-Island

Commentary on Table 5

Analysis of public versus private medical school enrollments by racial/ethnic background confirms general anticipations but also yields some unexpected findings. Since there are 22 more public than private schools, it is not surprising that more than half (59 percent) of all Caucasians were reported by public schools. For black Americans, on the other hand, the larger portion (54 percent) was recorded by private schools. This is undoubtedly due to the 695 black Americans enrolled during 1974-75 at Howard and Meharry--both officially classified as privately supported schools. This phenomenon was also responsible for the nearly even distribution of underrepresented minorities--2,203 at public schools and 2,121 at private schools. As a proportion of all their enrollees, however, the underrepresented minority group students accounted for only 7 percent of the public school and 10 percent of the private school matriculants.

Comparative differences between public and private schools were largest for Mexican Americans of whom 302 (180 percent) more were present in public than in private schools. This was followed by 73 (170 percent) more American Indians in public schools but contrasted with the 24 or 25 percent more Mainland Puerto Ricans who were enrolled in private schools.

Commentary on Table 5 (Continued)

American Orientals and "Other" minorities were more strongly represented in public schools with respective differences of 43 percent and 27 percent. There is a 100 percent representation of Island Puerto Ricans in public schools since they are all enrolled at the University of Puerto Rico which is publicly supported.

Foreign students predominate in private schools by 46 percent which may be ascribed to the stringent residency requirements enforced by public schools. More details concerning foreign student enrollments are given in the commentary for Tables 6 and 7.

Table 6

Distribution of Foreign Medical Students by Geographic Origin, Sex,  
and Medical School Class Level, 1974-75

Geographic Origin	Class Level												Difference Between First & Final Years	
	All Students				First Year		Intermed. Years		Final Year		Difference Between First & Final Years			
	Men/ Women	Total No.	%	Men/ Women	All First Yr. No.	%	Men/ Women	All Intermed. No.	%	Men/ Women	All Final No.	%	Number (Col. 6-12)	Percent (Col. 14/12)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)
Total	659/160	819	100.0	165/54	219	100.0	228/73	401	100.0	166/33	199	100.0	20	10.0
Africa	115/16	131	16.0	36/06	42	19.2	51/08	59	14.7	28/02	30	15.1	12	40.0
Asia	215/44	259	31.6	50/10	60	27.4	103/23	126	31.4	62/11	73	36.7	-13	-17.8
North America	53/12	65	7.9	11/05	16	7.3	30/04	34	8.5	12/03	15	7.5	1	6.7
Middle America	151/50	201	24.5	40/18	58	26.5	69/24	93	23.2	42/08	50	25.1	8	16.0
South America	31/05	36	4.4	7/05	12	5.5	22/	22	5.5	2/	2	1.0	10	500.0
Europe	57/28	85	10.4	14/08	22	10.0	29/11	40	10.0	14/09	23	11.6	-1	-4.3
Middle East	30/	30	3.7	6/	6	2.7	19/	19	4.7	5/	5	2.5	1	20.0
Oceania	6/3	9	1.1	1/1	2	.9	4/02	6	1.5	1/	1	.5	1	100.0
Stateless	1/2	3	.4	0/1	1	.5	1/01	2	.5	-	-	-	1	100.0



Commentary on Table 6

The overall situation of foreign nationals in U.S. medical schools seems fairly stable since the 819 students involved represented only about 1.5 percent of the total medical school population at each class level. Of the total, 219 (27 percent) were in freshman classes, 401 (49 percent) at intermediate levels, and 199 (24 percent) in the final year.

Because of the small numbers, countries of origin were summarized by geographic areas for the data presentation. The three leading areas were Asia, 259 (32 percent); Central America, 201 (25 percent); and Africa, 131 (16 percent). North America (Canada), Europe, and the Middle East comprised 10, 8, and 4 percent respectively; only one percent came from Oceania.

A comparison of the final year with the first year yields some changes that appear impressive in percentages but are not of any serious consequence in numbers. For example, there were 12 or 40 percent more Africans and 10 or 500 percent more South Americans in the freshman class than in the senior class. In contrast, first-year enrollments of Asians was less than that of seniors by 13 (or 18 percent). Of particular interest is the finding that there were 21 more foreign women in the first year, an increase of 64 percent over their representation in the final-year class.

Commentary on Table 6 (Continued)

Specific countries of origin with prominent representation were Nigeria and Ghana for Africa; Hong Kong, Republic of China, India, and Malaysia for Asia; Cuba, Jamaica, and the British West Indies for Central America; Guyana for South America; the United Kingdom for Europe; Iran for the Middle East; and Australia for Oceania.

Table 7

Distribution of Foreign Medical Students by Geographic Origin  
and Control of Medical School, 1974-1975

Geographic Origin	All Schools				Public Schools			Private Schools			Differences Between Public and Private	
	Men	Women	Total	Percent	Men/Women	Total	Percent	Men/Women	Total	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	659	160	819	100.0	229/58	287	100.0	430/102	532	100.0	-245	-46.1
Africa	115	16	131	16.0	46/6	52	18.1	69/10	79	14.8	-27	-34.2
Asia	215	44	259	31.6	88/17	105	36.6	127/27	154	28.9	-49	-31.8
North America	53	12	65	7.9	6/3	9	3.1	47/9	56	10.5	-47	-83.9
Middle America	151	50	201	24.5	45/19	64	22.3	106/31	137	25.8	-73	-53.3
South America	31	5	36	4.4	11/1	12	4.2	20/4	24	4.5	-12	-50.0
Europe	57	28	85	10.4	19/9	28	9.8	38/19	57	10.7	-29	-50.9
Middle East	30		30	3.7	11/	11	3.8	191/	19	3.6	-8	-42.1
Oceania	6	3	9	1.1	3/3	6	2.1	3/	3	.6	3	100.0
Stateless	1	2	3	.4	- -	-	-	1/2	3	.6	-3	-100.0

Commentary on Table 7

Of the 819 foreign students enrolled in 87 of the 114 medical schools, 287 (35 percent) were in 45 public schools, while the majority, 532 (65 percent) attended 42 private schools. Foreign women students paralleled this distribution since 36 percent of the 160 total women were enrolled in public schools and 64 percent in private schools.

Strong concentrations of foreign nationals from Asia were evident in both public and private schools constituting 37 percent and 29 percent respectively of their total foreign students. Students from the central Americas constituted 22 percent of all foreign students in public schools and 26 percent in private schools. In third place were students from African nations with 18 percent in public and 15 percent in private schools. The largest numbers of women students in all schools hailed from the Central Americas and from Asia. Two-thirds of the European women, on the other hand, attended private schools.

The most striking differences between public and private schools are apparent for the 65 North Americans or Canadians whose private school enrollments outweighed public schools by 84 percent. In the 50 percent difference range were the private school totals recorded for Central Americans, South Americans, and Europeans, while private school percentages for Middle Easterners and Africans were 42 and 34 percent higher than their counterparts for public schools.

Table 8

Distribution of Medical Students by Family Income  
and Medical School Class,  
1974-75

Family Income	All Classes	Medical School Class		
		First Year	Intermediate	Final Year
Total <sup>1</sup>	100%	100%	100%	100%
Less than \$5000	6	5	6	6
\$5000 - \$9999	11	10	11	10
\$10,000 - \$14,999	18	16	18	20
\$15,000 - \$19,999	15	15	15	15
\$20,000 - \$24,999	13	14	13	12
\$25,000 - \$49,999	24	26	24	23
\$50,000 or more	13	14	13	14
Estimated median	\$20,249	21,333	19,880	19,553

<sup>1</sup> Based on students who supplied data on family income.

Commentary on Table 8

Differences between classes of 1974-75 enrolled students with respect to their parental income were generally small, but families of students in the earlier years tended to have slightly higher incomes than families of students in the upper years. As indicated in Table 8, the estimated median gross family incomes during 1974 was \$21,333 for the first-year students, \$19,880 for those in the intermediate years of medical school, and \$19,553 for the seniors.

Between 5 and 6 percent of the students in each class came from families with gross incomes of less than \$5,000 per year. Annual family incomes of less than \$15,000 were reported by 31 percent of the first-year students and by 36 percent of the students in their final year, whereas family incomes greater than \$25,000 were reported by 40 percent of the first-year students and by 37 percent of final-year students.

Table 9

Distribution of Medical Students by Family Income  
and Control of Medical School,  
1974-75

Family Income	All Schools	Public Schools	Private Schools	All U.S. Families 1974 <sup>2</sup>
Total <sup>1</sup>	100%	100%	100%	100%
Less than \$5000	6	6	5	13
\$5000 - \$9999	11	11	10	23
\$10,000 - \$14,999	18	19	16	24
\$15,000 - \$19,999	15	16	14	18
\$20,000 - \$24,999	13	14	13	10
\$25,000 - \$49,999	24	23	26	} 12
\$50,000 or more	13	11	16	
Estimated Median	\$20,249	\$19,315	\$21,972	\$12,836

<sup>1</sup> Based on students who supplied data on family income.

<sup>2</sup> Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Money Income and Poverty Status of Families and Persons in the United States:1974, Series P-60, No. 99, July 1975.

Commentary on Table 9

Seventeen percent of the students in the 1974-75 survey sample came from families with gross annual incomes in 1974 of less than \$10,000 per year and 37 percent came from families with incomes of \$25,000 or more. Shown in Table 9, the income of families of medical students in private schools was generally higher than that of students in public schools. Estimated median income was \$19,315 for families of students in public schools and \$21,972 for families of students in private schools. The comparable figure for all families in the United States during 1974 was \$12,836.



Table 10

Distribution of Medical Students in Public and Private Schools, 1974-75,  
by Father's Occupation in Comparison with Occupational  
Distribution of Employed Males 40 Years Old and Over  
in the United States

Occupation	Medical Students' Fathers			Employed Males 40 Years Old and Over, 1970 <sup>1</sup>
	All Schools	Public Schools	Private Schools	
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%
Physician	14	12	17	1
Medical and other health worker	5	5	6	1
Other professional and technical	29	29	28	11
Owner, manager, administrator	23	23	23	14
Clerical	3	3	3	7
Sales	7	7	6	7
Craftsman, skilled worker	9	10	8	22
Unskilled worker	7	7	7	31
Farmer, farm worker	4	4	2	6

<sup>1</sup> Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Social and Economic Statistics Administration, Bureau of the Census, Occupational Characteristics, 1970 Census of Population, PC(2)-7A.

Commentary on Table 10

Distribution of medical students by father's occupation in 1974-75 was similar to the results of an earlier survey conducted in 1970-71 for the U.S. Public Health Service (7). Fourteen percent of the students' fathers were physicians and an additional 5 percent worked in other medical and health occupations.

Twenty-nine percent of the fathers of medical students in both public and private schools worked in other professional and technical occupations, representing a small increase of about one percent from 1971.

Greatest changes from 1970-71 to 1974-75 occurred in the categories of "owner, manager, administrator," which showed an increase of approximately 3 percent and clerical worker which showed a decrease of 2 percent.

Table 11

Distribution of Medical Students in Public and Private Schools, 1974-75,  
by Educational Level of Father in Comparison with  
Educational Level of Males 40 Years Old and Over  
in the United States

Educational Level	Medical Students' Fathers			U.S. Males 40 Years Old and Over, 1970 <sup>1</sup>
	All Schools	Public Schools	Private Schools	
All Levels	100%	100%	100%	100%
Eighth Grade or less	7	8	6	38
Some High School	5	5	6	19
Completed High School	15	16	13	23
Specialized Technical Training	5	5	5	2
Some College	13	13	12	9
Completed College	17	17	16	6
Graduate or Professional	38	36	42	5

<sup>1</sup> Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Detailed Characteristics, United States Summary, 1970 Census of Population, PC(1)-D1.

<sup>2</sup> Category not reported separately.

Commentary on Table 11

Thirty-eight percent of all medical students enrolled during 1974-75 came from families in which the father had received graduate or professional training beyond college. The comparable figure for students in 1971 was 35 percent (7).

Fifty-five percent of the fathers had completed college, representing an increase of 6 percentage points from 1971. Corresponding figures for all U.S. males over 40 (in 1970) are 5 percent with graduate or professional training and a total of 11 percent having completed college.

Fathers of students enrolled in private medical schools during 1974-75 tended to have more advanced training than did fathers of students in public schools. In private medical schools 42 percent of the students' fathers had graduate or professional training, as compared to 36 percent of students in public medical schools.

### C. SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

Based on the detailed data presented in this report, the following descriptive picture can be drawn of the 53,554 medical students who were enrolled during 1974-75 in this nation's 114 colleges of medicine:

1. School enrollments ranged in size from less than 100 to more than 1,000.
2. Women constituted at least 10 percent of the students in all but two schools and accounted for more than 30 percent of the student body in 14 medical colleges.
3. Women comprised an even larger portion of the first-year class (22 percent) than of the intermediate years (18 percent) or the final-year class (13 percent).
4. Women were more prevalent at the privately controlled medical schools (20 percent) than at the publicly controlled schools (13 percent).
5. Underrepresented minority group students were, likewise, better represented in the first year (10 percent) than in the intermediate years (8 percent) or in the final year (6 percent).

6. Largely because Howard and Meharry are both classified as privately controlled medical schools, underrepresented minority group students also accounted for a larger portion of the student body at private schools (10 percent) than at public schools (7 percent).
7. First-year medical students in 1974-75 came from families with slightly higher median family incomes (\$21,333) than did students in their intermediate years (\$19,880) or in their final year (\$19,553).
8. Students attending private schools had parents with higher combined median gross incomes (\$21,972) than did their counterparts attending public schools (\$19,315).
9. Consistent with the above findings, the fathers of students enrolled in privately supported medical schools had slightly higher occupational and educational backgrounds than the fathers of students in the publicly controlled schools.
10. Compared with the general population of the U.S., most of the medical students enrolled during 1974-75 came from relatively high socio-economic family backgrounds, regardless of their type of medical school or their proximity to graduation.

It may be concluded, therefore, that while these data show some progress towards the enrolling of more medical students from diverse socio-economic backgrounds, the need exists to study this phenomenon in more detail and over a longer period of time. This will be accomplished in not only the expanded report on 1974-75 enrollees that is planned for early 1976 but also in subsequent studies on the 1975-76 and the 1976-77 enrollees that are contemplated for future years.

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