ASPR IN-HOUSE PHYSICIAN RECRUITMENT BENCHMARKING REPORT

ASPR is pleased to announce that the 2015 ASPR In-House Physician Recruitment Benchmarking Report is now available. The newly published Report is an annual survey conducted by the Association of Staff Physician Recruiters (ASPR), a professional organization exclusively for in-house physician recruitment professionals. ASPR is the leading authority on physician recruitment, onboarding, and retention. ASPR is comprised of approximately 1,500 in-house physician recruitment professionals employed directly by hospitals, clinics, physician practices, academic medical centers, and managed care organizations from across the United States and Canada.

The 2015 ASPR In-House Physician Recruitment Benchmarking Report is designed to provide easy-to-comprehend statistics in order to help in-house physician recruitment professionals compare their recruitment data against industry norms. Benchmarks are critical for our industry as we constantly strive for improved processes and results within our organizations to meet the healthcare needs within our communities.

The purpose of the survey is to collect and distribute credible industry data that may be utilized to meet these objectives.

Demographics

The geographical distribution of participating organizations was relatively balanced with 35.7% in the Midwest, 31.8% in Eastern states, 19.8% in Southern states, and 12.7% in Western states. Regarding population size of the organization’s primary location, 37.6% of reporting organization’s primary location was in a Metropolitan area of 100,001 to 250,000 people, 28.0% were located in a Metropolitan area of more than 500,000 people.

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people, 9.6% were located in an area with a population of 50,001 to 100,000 people, 16% were located in an area with a population of 10,001 to 50,000 and 8.8% were located in an area with 10,000 or less people.

As in previous years, the typical2 reporting organization is located in a Metropolitan area of 100,000 to 250,000 people, and the most common region is the Midwest, which gives residence to 36% of the responding organizations. A new question was added this year regarding the chapters and regional groups to which recruiters belong. The chapter, “Onboarding and Retention (OAR)” reportedly has members among 30% of responding organizations. Approximately 83% of organizations’ recruiters belong to one or more chapters or regional groups.

The typical responding organization performed 35 active searches during 2014. This is an increase from the 26 searches that were reported for 2013, and it continues a trend of increases in recent years, spanning from 20 during 2012 to 26 in 2013 and now 35 during 2014. Respondents employed a median of 2 in-house physician recruiters (3 on average), which was essentially unchanged from 2013. The number of active searches per recruiter has climbed from 13.3 in 2010 to 19.5 in 2014. Following the trends of these metrics helps explain the increase in the typical recruiter’s workload over the past several years.

Searches

The Searches section relays key statistics about 4,926 searches, more than 40% of which was to replace a departing provider. Approximately 52% of active searches were filled by year-end; 39% remained open; 6% were cancelled; and 3% were put on hold. Approximately 8% of all active searches in 2014 used Locum Tenens. This percentage has remained nearly unchanged over the past 4 years. Approximately 85% of the reported searches were for practices owned by Hospitals/Integrated Delivery Systems and 7% were for practices owned by physicians.

The top five overall searches conducted were Family Medicine (12%), Nurse Practitioner (10%), Hospital Medicine (8%), Physician Assistant (7%), and Internal Medicine (6%). The top five physician searches were Family Medicine (12%), Hospital Medicine (7%), Pediatrics — General and Non-Surgical combined (7%), Internal Medicine (6%), and Emergency Medicine (4%). Nearly 70% of responding organizations searched for a Family Medicine provider. This represents the most common search for an organization, followed by Hospital Medicine (searched by 54%) and Internal Medicine (searched by 53%). All of these findings are very consistent with search statistics of recent years.

In an effort to further examine the days to fill results, specialties were again grouped into four main divisions: Advanced Practice, Primary Care, Specialty Care, and Surgery. Of these divisions, Advanced Practice searches were filled in 95 days, while Surgery specialties required 163 days. Primary Care and Specialty Care positions tended to be filled in 124 and 150 days, respectively.

Recruiter Profile & Compensation

The Profile and Compensation section reports data on 345 in-house physician recruitment professionals from 109 organizations. As in past studies, the most frequently cited position title was “Physician Recruiter.” In addition to a physician recruiter, 26% of organizations also employ a “Physician Recruitment Coordinator/Assistant.” The typical recruiter has 8 years of recruitment experience and spends 90% or more of their time on recruitment activities. Approximately 24% supervise staff, 47% have provider onboarding responsibilities, and 32% have provider retention responsibilities.

As similarly reported in previous studies, 79% of individuals involved in in-house physician recruiting hold a Bachelor’s
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degree or higher (24% hold a Master’s degree or higher). More than one third of in-house physician recruiters are certified as a Fellow of ASPR or have obtained designations towards certification.

All compensation values were reported and validated directly by a member of the organization’s Human Resources department. Compensation varies by title with the title of Director of Physician Recruitment being the most highly compensated. Nearly half of all in-house physician recruiters were eligible to receive a bonus in 2014 with a median bonus of $9,000. Those with higher titles were more likely to receive bonuses.

As expected, a correlation exists between years of experience and total compensation. The highest income earners are more likely to have ASPR certification/designation, advanced degrees, responsibilities for supervising staff, and more years of experience.

**Expenses**

The Expenses section captures data within four categories: Candidate Expenses, Search Firm Fees, Marketing Expenses, and Departmental Expenses. Seventy-six organizations provided their expense data for this year’s survey.

The typical organization reported an annual recruitment budget of $410,000 ($620,000 on average). Budgets varied considerably, based on the number of searches the organization conducted. This range spanned from $100,000 for those with fewer than 10 searches to $862,000 for those with more than 50 searches. Budgets also showed significant variations based on the geographic regions and surrounding population sizes.

Approximately 2/3 of participating organizations paid fees to a search firm during the year. Use of external search firms by in-house recruiters appears to be limited to roughly 1 in 7 searches based on a reported median search firm expense of $2,986 per search (search firm fee $20,000 ÷ $2,986). For organizations conducting 50 or more searches per year and having a median of 5 recruiters, the average per search expense was $726 indicating a recruitment firm utilization rate of 1 in 28 searches. This data indicates less reliance on search firms for organizations with additional staffing and potential efficiencies of larger departments.

**Access The Full Report And Searchable Data**

Access to the full Report and Searchable Data may be obtained at www.aspr.org/benchmarking. Survey participants receive free access to the Report and Searchable Data as well as an Organizational Benchmarking Report that compares their data to national data. Those that did not participate in the survey may purchase access to the Report and Searchable Data. Discounts are available to purchase prior year’s Reports.

*Throughout this report, the term “typical” indicates the median response.*

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**WHAT’S NEW AT NEJM GROUP?**

**New Primary Care Career Guide**

Recruiting primary care physicians can prove to be challenging. This year, the NEJM CareerCenter is debuting, a second Career Guide: Primary Care, publishing in June. This Career Guide is sent to over 30,000 new and practicing primary care physicians.

The deadline to participate in this new Career Guide: Primary Care will be June 10. See back of this issue for more details or contact us at (800) 635-6991 or email ads@nejmcareercenter.org for a quote.

**NEJM Catalyst**

This past December NEJM Group announced the launch of NEJM Catalyst — an online resource that provides health care executives and clinicians with innovative ideas and practical applications for enhancing the value of health care delivery.

Among the offerings are compelling original articles and case studies from experts and thought leaders, live web events, and engaging multimedia. Take a look! See more at catalyst.nejm.org.
PROMOTIONAL NOTES/NEWS

Getting in front of the class of 2017 physicians and practicing primary care physicians.

The upcoming physician NEJM CareerCenter Career Guides will focus on two highly sought after physicians groups for recruiters: final-year residents and fellows and primary care physicians.

Career Guide: MD Career Path edition
Research shows final-year residents and fellows start their job searches earlier than ever. We’ve designed our Career Guide: MD Career Path to reach this group very early on. This Career Guide is sent to the entire 2017 graduating class of physicians just as they may be starting to look for a job. As an added bonus we also send copies of the career guides to program directors who help advise these new physician on their job search.

Career Guide: Primary Care edition
New to the Career Guide line up this year is the June Primary Care issue. The Career Guide: Primary Care edition is directly sent to over 30,000 primary care physicians in practice up to three years.

To take advantage of either or both of these special Career Guides, simply place an ad in the corresponding NEJM issue listed below and you’ll automatically be included in the Career Guide at no additional cost.

This package will get your physician job opening out to a diverse number of channels:

Online:
• A job posting on NEJMCareerCenter.org
• Targeted (by specialty) exposure on clinical websites NEJM.org and JWatch.org via the Physician Jobs Widget

In Print:
• A print ad in the New England Journal of Medicine (see below)
• The same print ad will appear in the corresponding Career Guide

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