

Family physicians are residency-trained, primary care specialists dedicated to treating the whole person. With a focus on prevention, primary care, and overall care coordination, family physicians provide a wide variety of clinical services, and, when necessary, refer their patients to a specialist, while continuing to advocate for that patient's care.

Family Physicians in the U.S. Health Care System

More Americans depend on family physicians than on any other medical specialty. AAFP members are the main source of primary health care for the Medicare population and see a large proportion of new Medicaid beneficiaries.¹

91%
participate in Medicare

83%
accept new Medicare patients

69%
accept new Medicaid patients

Family Physicians^{2,3,4} in Massachusetts

2,049 AAFP members

5 family medicine residency programs

1 teaching health center program

Physician Shortage in Massachusetts

Due to an aging, growing, and increasingly insured population, addressing both physician shortages and geographic maldistribution of primary care physicians requires analysis and action on both the federal and state level.^{5,6}

7.9% of residents live in a health professional shortage area

46 medically underserved areas

12% increase (725 physicians) needed by 2030

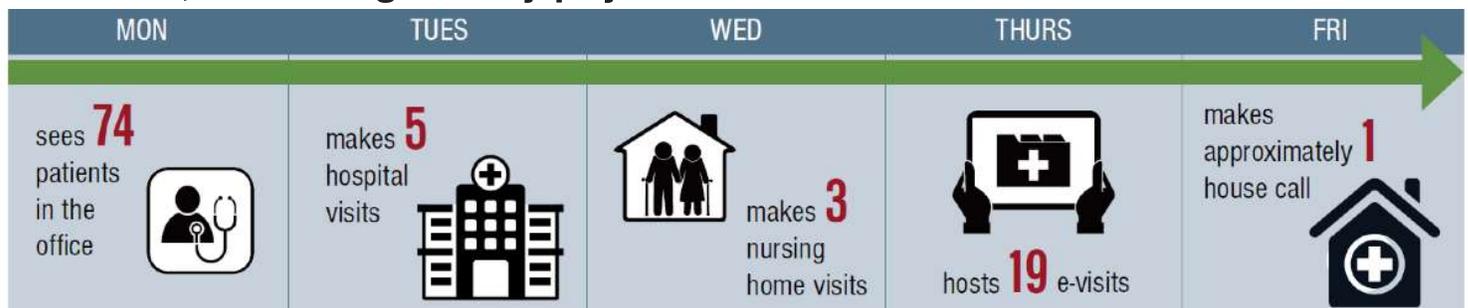
Family Medicine's Contributions to the Economy⁷ in Massachusetts

\$3.3 billion in direct and indirect economic output

19,352 jobs direct and indirect positions

\$2.1 billion in direct and indirect wages and benefits

In a week, the average family physician:



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Retrieved from <https://www.aafp.org/about/the-aafp/family-medicine-facts.html>
2. AAFP. (April 2018). American Academy of Family Physicians: Member Count by Chapter and Type.
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4. HRSA. (April 2017). Teaching Health Center Graduate Medical Education Awardees.
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5. AAFP. Resources for Policymakers.
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6. Robert Graham Center. (September 2013). Workforce.
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