



Trends in Demand for New Physicians, 2012-2016
A Summary of Demand Indicators for 34 Physician Specialties



School of Public Health
University at Albany, State University of New York

Trends in Demand for New Physicians, 2012-2016

A Summary of Demand Indicators for 34 Physician Specialties

December 2017



Center for Health Workforce Studies
School of Public Health, University at Albany
State University of New York
1 University Place, Suite 220
Rensselaer, NY 12144-3445

Phone: (518) 402-0250
Web: www.chwsny.org
Email: info@chwsny.org

PREFACE

This data book presents profiles for 34 specialties. Each specialty profile summarizes trends in 5 key areas related to physician supply and demand: starting income, job offers, having to change plans due to limited practice opportunities, relative demand, and numbers of graduates. Data on starting income, job offers, having to change plans, and relative demand are based on responses to the Resident Exit Survey in New York (for the years 2012 to 2016).

This report was prepared by the Center for Health Workforce Studies (CHWS) staff, David Armstrong, Yuhao Liu, and Gaetano Forte, with layout design by Leanne Keough. Funding for this report was provided by the New York State Department of Health.

Established in 1996, CHWS is an academic research organization, based at the School of Public Health, University at Albany, State University of New York (SUNY). The mission of CHWS is to provide timely, accurate data and conduct policy relevant research about the health workforce. The research conducted by CHWS supports and promotes health workforce planning and policymaking at local, regional, state, and national levels. Today, CHWS has established itself as a national leader in the field of health workforce studies.

The views expressed in this report are those of CHWS and do not necessarily represent positions or policies of the School of Public Health, University at Albany, SUNY, or the New York State Department of Health.

December 2017

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The authors would like to express their appreciation to the GME administrators and directors at participating teaching hospitals for their efforts to ensure a high response rate to the Resident Exit Survey each year. Without their assistance, this important data collection effort would not be possible.

Suggested citation:

Armstrong DP, Liu Y, Forte GJ. *Trends in Demand for New Physicians, 2012-2016: A Summary of Demand Indicators for 34 Physician Specialties*. Rensselaer, NY: Center for Health Workforce Studies, School of Public Health, SUNY Albany; December 2017.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

BACKGROUND.....	1
KEY FINDINGS.....	3
SPECIALTIES.....	5
<i>Family Medicine</i>	6
<i>General Internal Medicine</i>	7
<i>General Pediatrics</i>	8
<i>Internal Medicine and Pediatrics (Combined)</i>	9
<i>Obstetrics/Gynecology</i>	10
<i>Cardiology</i>	11
<i>Critical Care Medicine</i>	12
<i>Endocrinology and Metabolism</i>	13
<i>Gastroenterology</i>	14
<i>Geriatrics</i>	15
<i>Hematology/Oncology</i>	16
<i>Infectious Disease</i>	17
<i>Nephrology</i>	18
<i>Pulmonary Disease</i>	19
<i>Rheumatology</i>	20
<i>General Surgery</i>	21
<i>Neurosurgery</i>	22
<i>Ophthalmology</i>	23
<i>Orthopedic Surgery</i>	24
<i>Otolaryngology</i>	25
<i>Cardio-Thoracic Surgery</i>	26
<i>Urology</i>	27
<i>Anesthesiology</i>	28
<i>Pain Management</i>	29
<i>Pathology</i>	30
<i>Radiology</i>	31
<i>Adult Psychiatry</i>	32
<i>Child and Adolescent Psychiatry</i>	33
<i>Allergy and Immunology</i>	34
<i>Dermatology</i>	35
<i>Emergency Medicine</i>	36
<i>Neurology</i>	37
<i>Pediatric Subspecialties</i>	38
<i>Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation</i>	39
APPENDIX A.....	41
APPENDIX B.....	47
APPENDIX C.....	49

BACKGROUND

The Center for Health Workforce Studies (CHWS) conducts an annual survey of all physicians in New York completing a residency or fellowship training program (the Exit Survey). The goal is to provide the medical education community with useful information about the outcomes of training and the demand for new physicians. The survey instrument (Appendix C) was developed by CHWS in consultation with the state's teaching hospitals and other key stakeholders.

Each year in the spring, CHWS distributes the Exit Survey to GME administrators at teaching hospitals in New York. The Survey is then forwarded to individual programs where graduating residents and fellows are asked to complete a 31-item questionnaire in the weeks prior to finishing their program. Completed questionnaires are returned to CHWS for data entry and analysis. In 2016, with the excellent participation of teaching hospitals, a total of 3,084 of the estimated 5,225 physicians finishing a residency or fellowship training program completed the Exit Survey (59% response rate). Over the 17 years the survey has been conducted (1998-2003, 2005, 2007-2016), 50,989 of 83,810 graduates have completed the survey (61% cumulative response rate).

This data book presents profiles for 34 specialties. Each specialty profile summarizes trends in 5 key areas related to physician supply and demand: starting income, job offers, having to change plans due to limited practice opportunities, relative demand, and numbers of graduates. Data on starting income, job offers, having to change plans, and relative demand are based on responses to the Resident Exit Survey in New York (for the years 2012 to 2016). Data on GME graduates are from the annual medical education issues of the *Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA)*, and summarize the numbers of residents (or fellows) completing allopathic GME training programs in the specialty in the US from 2006 to 2015.

Definitions of the 5 areas are as follows:

- **Starting income:** The median starting income of survey respondents with confirmed plans to enter patient care/clinical practice in the US following completion of their training program. Starting incomes included respondents' base salaries plus their expected incentive/bonus

income. Starting incomes in the years 2012–2016 were adjusted for inflation to reflect 2016 dollars and are reported in \$1,000s.

- **Job offers:** The mean number of job offers for employment/practice positions of survey respondents who had actively searched for a practice position, excluding international medical graduates (IMGs) on temporary visas. Respondents with temporary citizenship status were excluded from this analysis because they were much more likely to experience difficulty in finding practice positions due to visa restrictions.
- **Having to change plans due to limited practice opportunities:** The percentage of respondents who had actively searched for a job (excluding IMGs on temporary visas) and who had to change their plans due to limited practice opportunities.
- **Relative demand:** Using several questions pertaining to the job market experiences and perceptions of survey respondents who had actively searched for a practice position (excluding IMGs on temporary visas), a composite score was computed to assign an overall rank (or relative demand score) for each specialty in each year that the survey was conducted. The percentages presented are the percentile rank of the specialty amongst all specialties in a given year. A percentile rank of 100% identifies the specialty highest in demand, and the lowest percentile rank would correspond to the specialty with the lowest relative demand score. Appendix A provides a detailed explanation of the methodology used to assess relative demand.
- **Numbers of graduates of allopathic GME training programs in the US:** The American Medical Association's (AMA) data on the number of residents completing training was compiled to observe how the number of new entrants to the physician marketplace has changed over time.

Important Note:

For each specialty, the number of responses by year is listed at the bottom of the page in the report. Care should be taken when interpreting outcomes based on small samples because the measures may fluctuate greatly from year to year.

KEY FINDINGS

Demand for primary care physicians* is stronger than the demand for non-primary care physicians.

Prior to 2008, the Exit Survey showed that demand for primary care physicians was lower compared to demand for non-primary care physicians. Since 2008 the demand for primary care physicians has been greater than the demand for non-primary care physicians. In 2016, primary care physicians received more job offers than specialists and were less likely to have to change plans due to limited practice opportunities.

There are important differences in the job market experiences and assessments for different specialties.

Although the overall marketplace appears relatively good for new graduates, there exist important differences in demand for individual specialties. In New York, specialties experiencing the strongest and weakest relative demand were as follows:

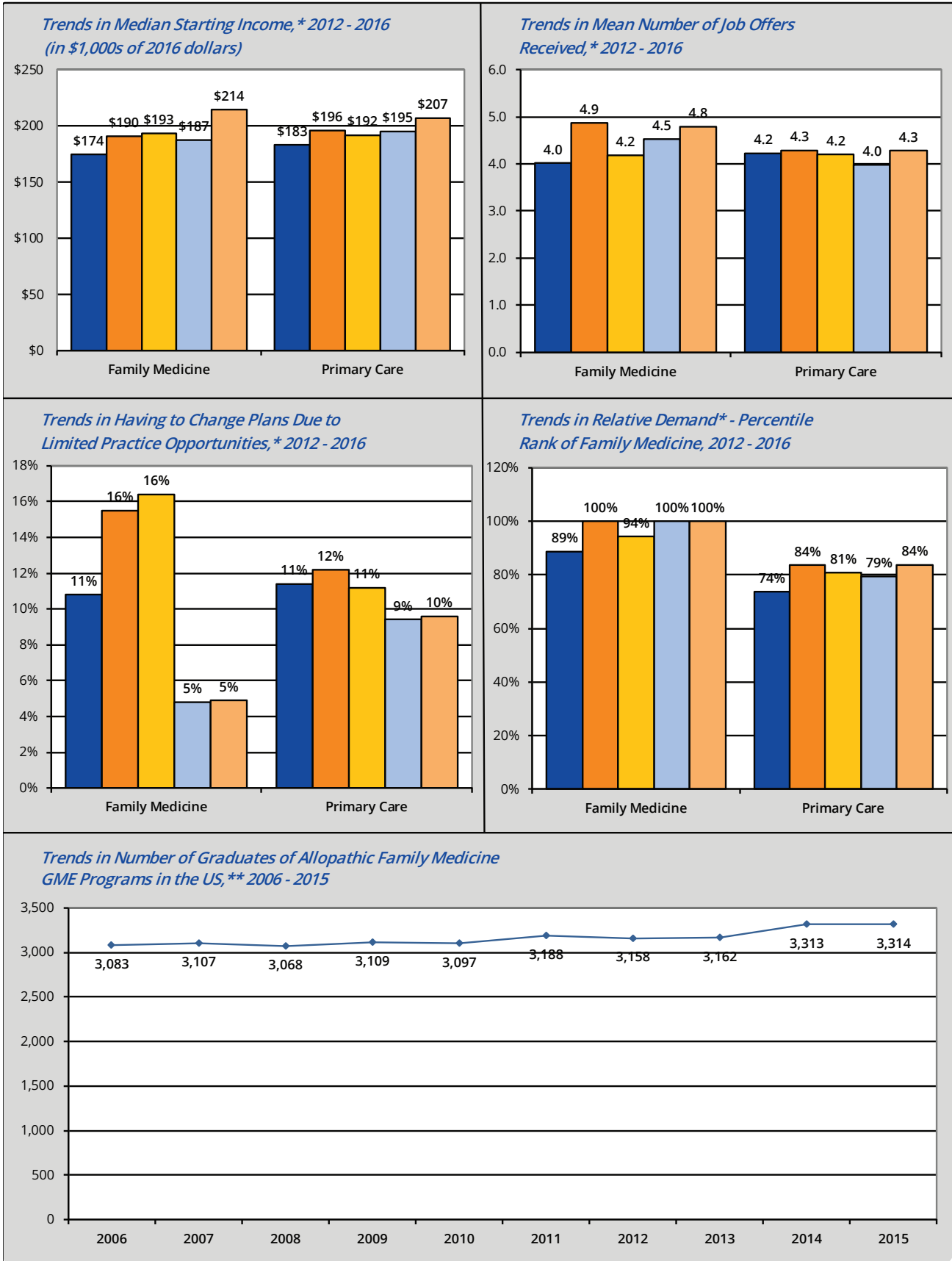
- *Strongest relative demand:* family medicine, emergency medicine, general internal medicine, adult psychiatry, dermatology, and neurology.
- *Weakest relative demand:* pathology, radiology, pediatric subspecialties, anesthesiology, infectious disease, and cardiology.

* Primary care specialties include family medicine, general internal medicine, general pediatrics, and internal medicine and pediatrics (combined).



Specialty: Family Medicine

Legend: 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016



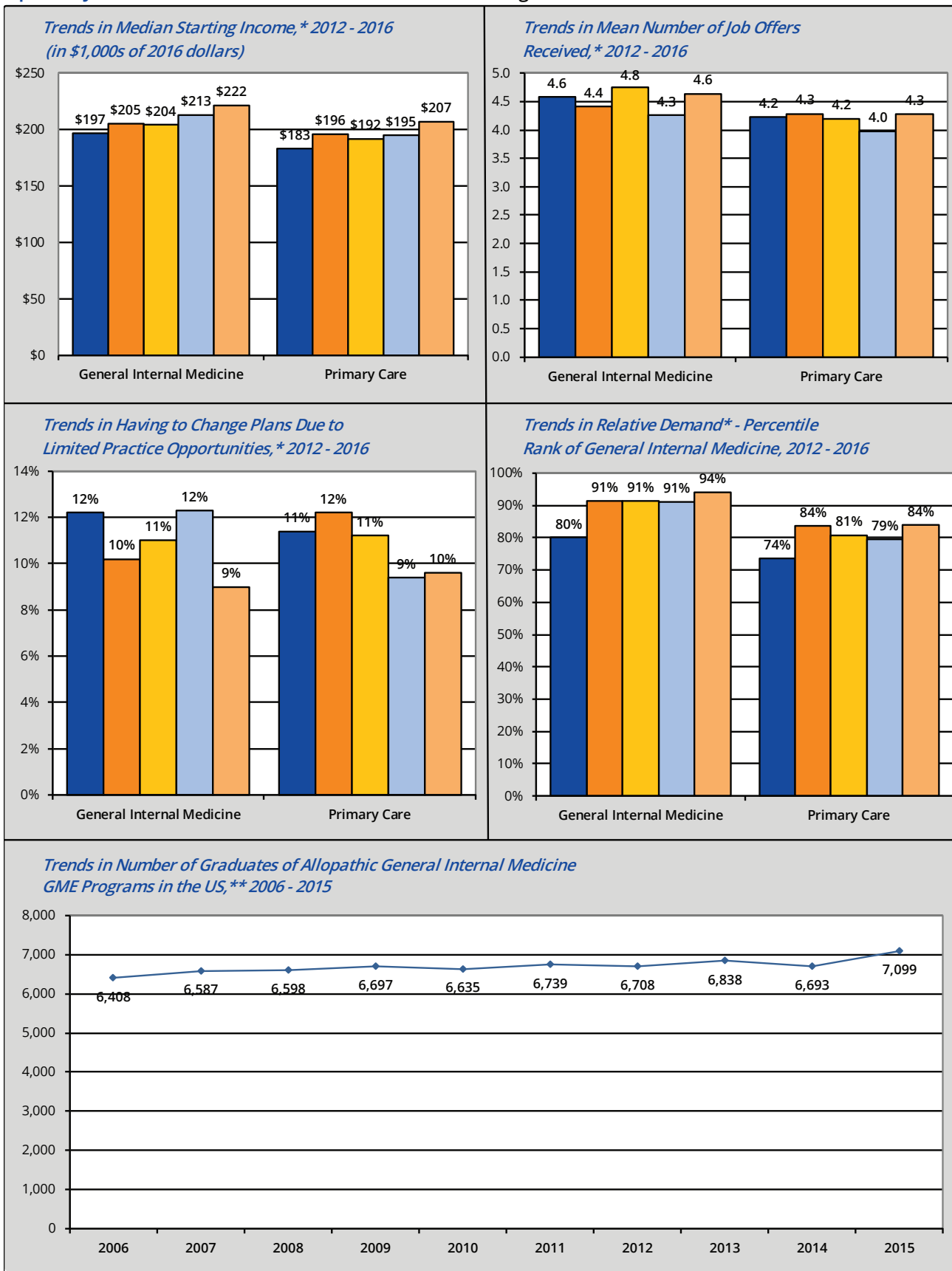
Number of responses: 2012: n = 76, 2013: n = 72, 2014: n = 70, 2015: n = 92, 2016: n = 92.

*Source: CHWS, Survey of Residents Completing Training in New York, 2012 - 2016.

**Source: JAMA Medical Education Issues, 2006 - 2015.

Specialty: General Internal Medicine

Legend: 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016



Number of responses: 2012: n = 222, 2013: n = 237, 2014: n = 292, 2015: n = 219, 2016: n = 259.

*Source: CHWS, Survey of Residents Completing Training in New York, 2012 - 2016.

**Source: JAMA Medical Education Issues, 2006 - 2015.

Specialty: General Pediatrics

Legend: 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016



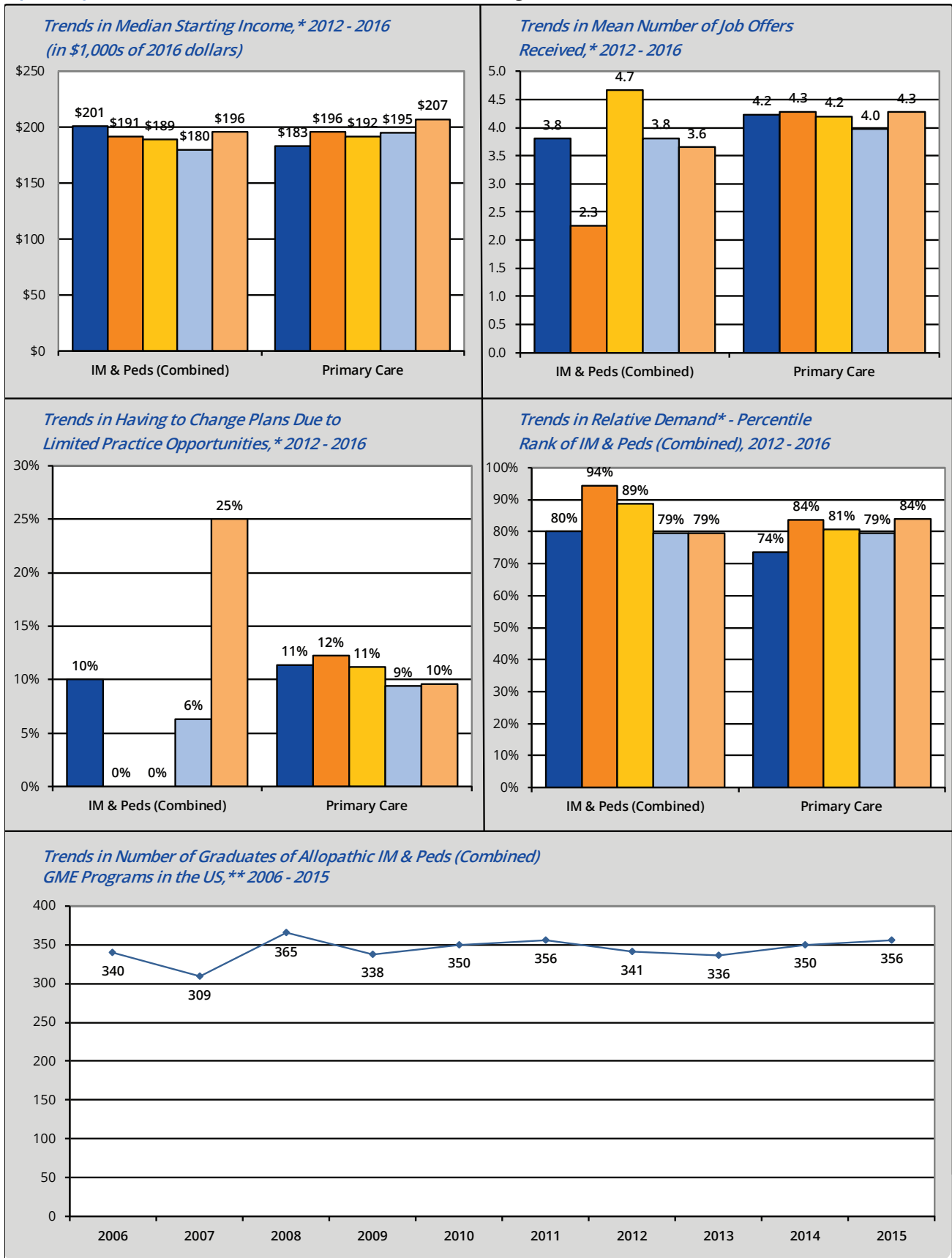
Number of responses: 2012: n = 79, 2013: n = 84, 2014: n = 95, 2015: n = 87, 2016: n = 96.

*Source: CHWS, Survey of Residents Completing Training in New York, 2012 - 2016.

**Source: JAMA Medical Education Issues, 2006 - 2015.

Specialty: IM & Peds (Combined)

Legend: 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016



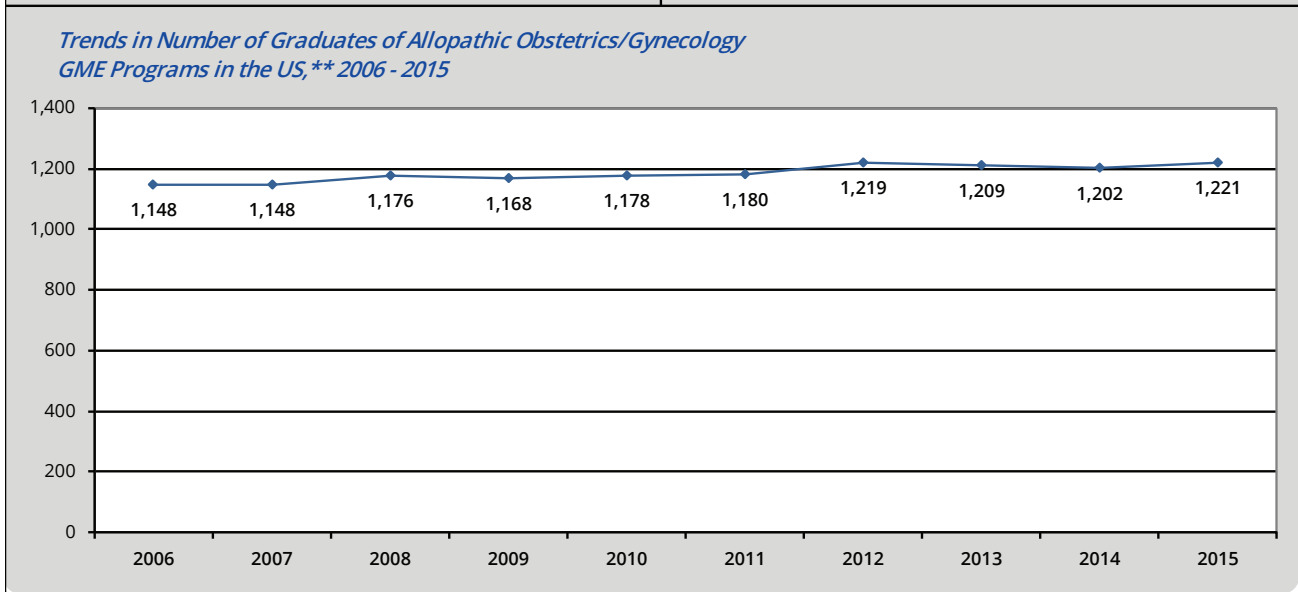
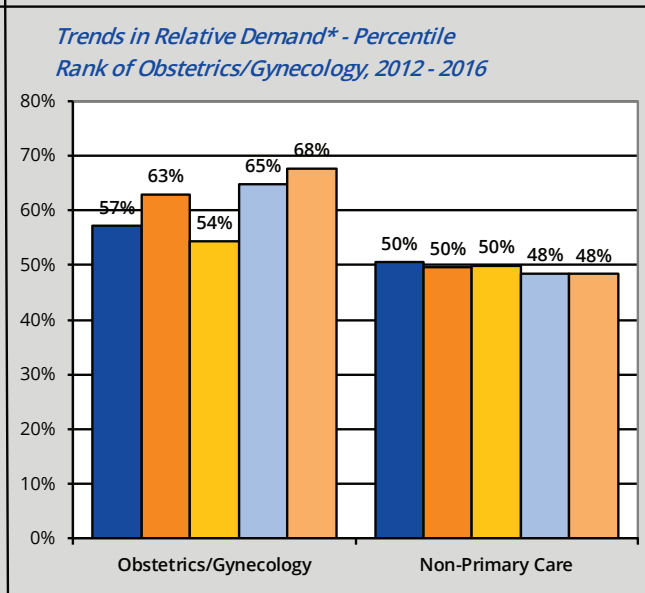
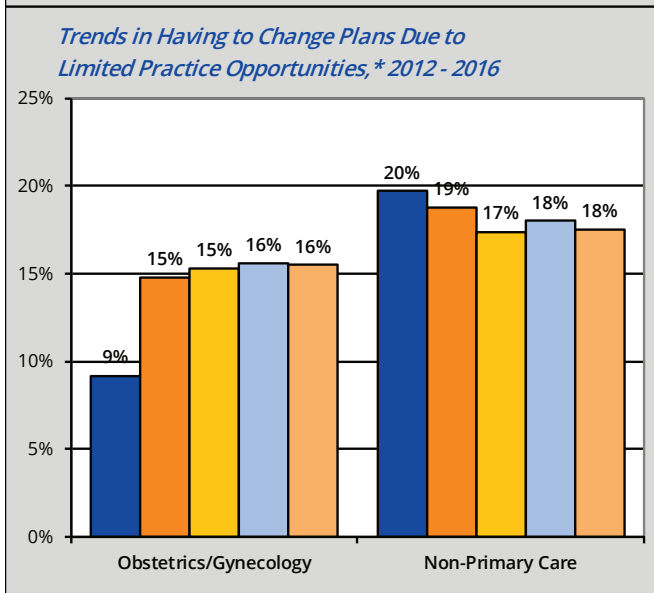
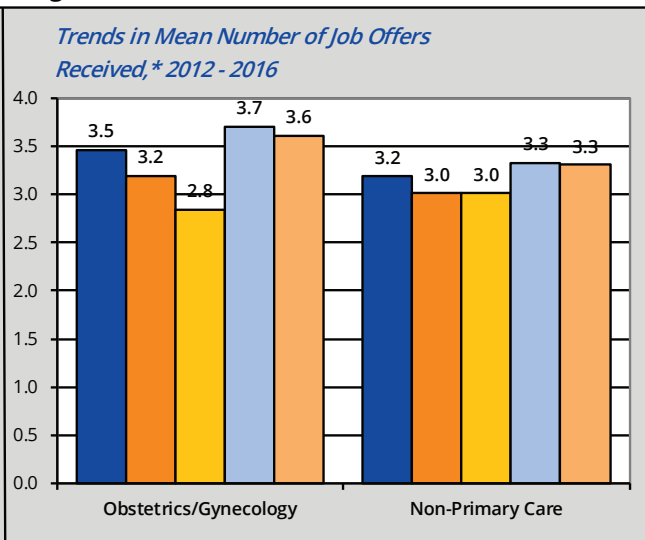
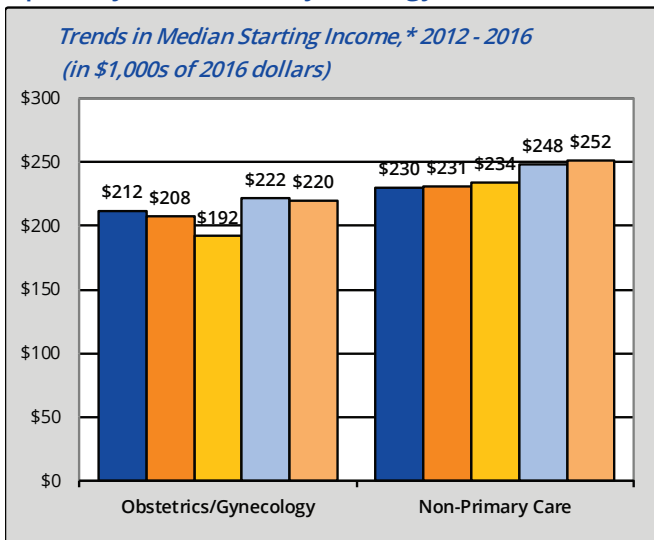
Number of responses: 2012: n = 10, 2013: n = 5, 2014: n = 3, 2015: n = 16, 2016: n = 17.

*Source: CHWS, Survey of Residents Completing Training in New York, 2012 - 2016.

**Source: JAMA Medical Education Issues, 2006 - 2015.

Specialty: Obstetrics/Gynecology

Legend: 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016



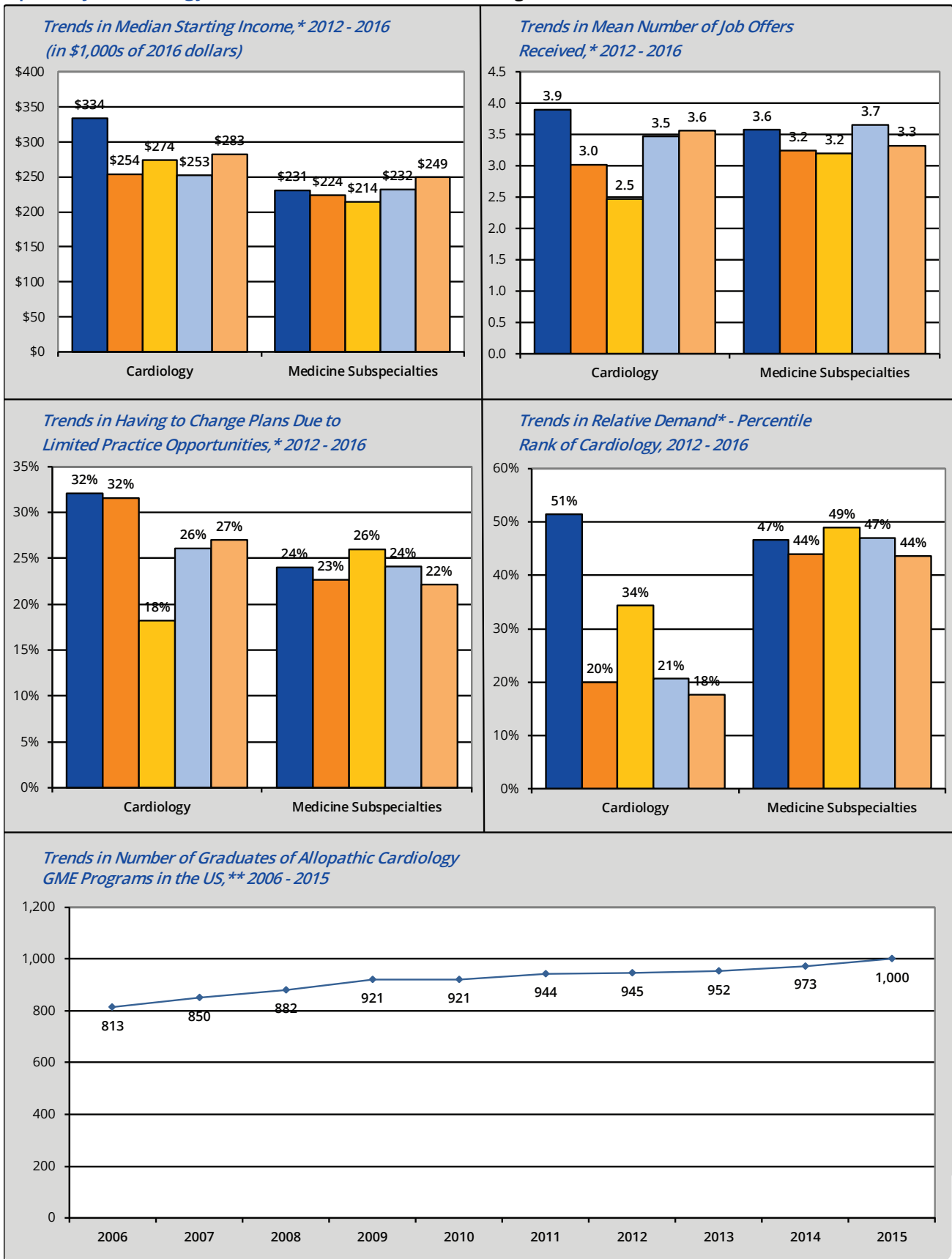
Number of responses: 2012: n = 82, 2013: n = 67, 2014: n = 79, 2015: n = 71, 2016: n = 85.

*Source: CHWS, Survey of Residents Completing Training in New York, 2012 - 2016.

**Source: JAMA Medical Education Issues, 2006 - 2015.

Specialty: Cardiology

Legend: 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016



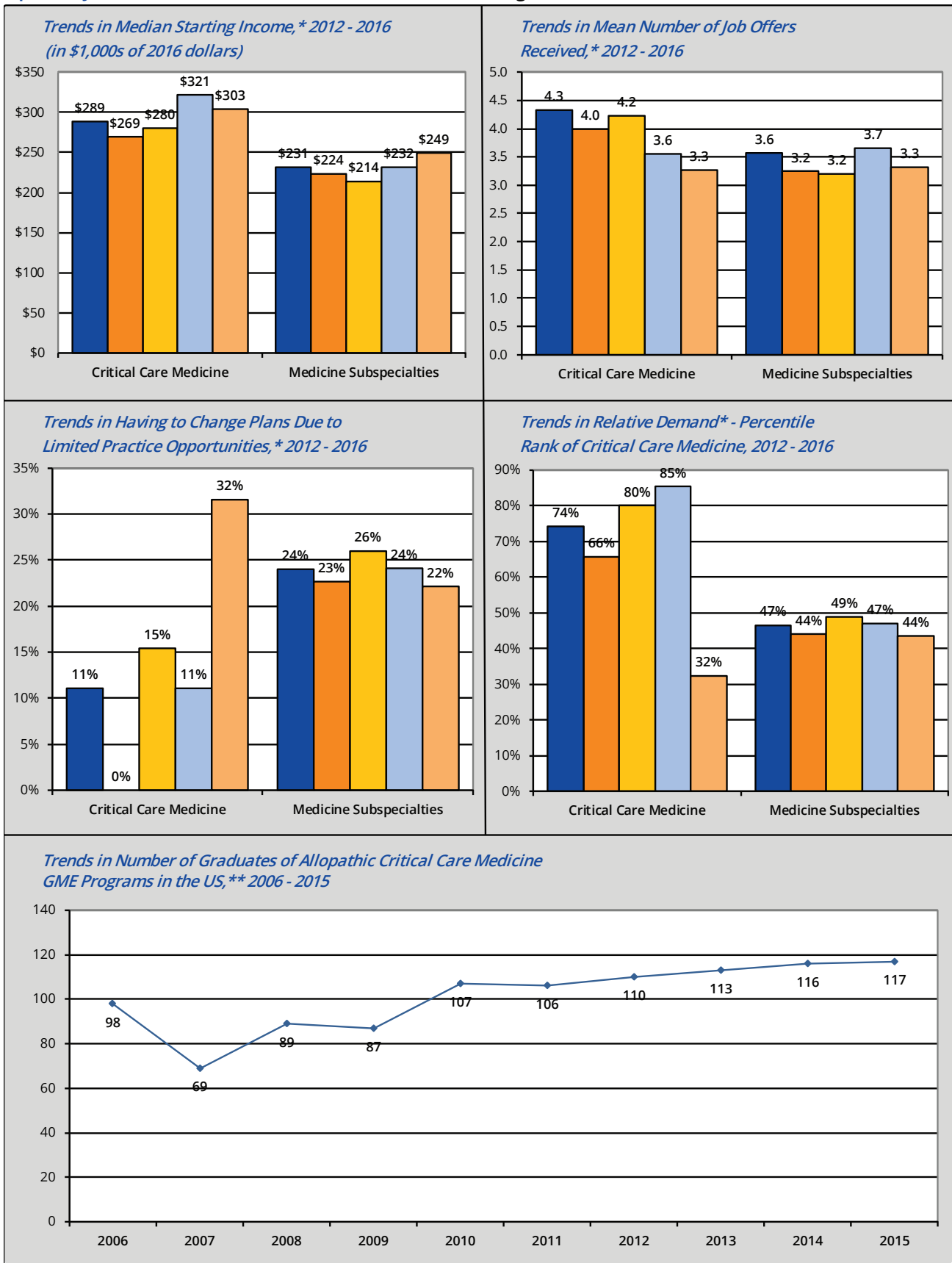
Number of responses: 2012: n = 61, 2013: n = 61, 2014: n = 44, 2015: n = 50, 2016: n = 48.

*Source: CHWS, Survey of Residents Completing Training in New York, 2012 - 2016.

**Source: JAMA Medical Education Issues, 2006 - 2015.

Specialty: Critical Care Medicine

Legend: ■ 2012 ■ 2013 ■ 2014 ■ 2015 ■ 2016



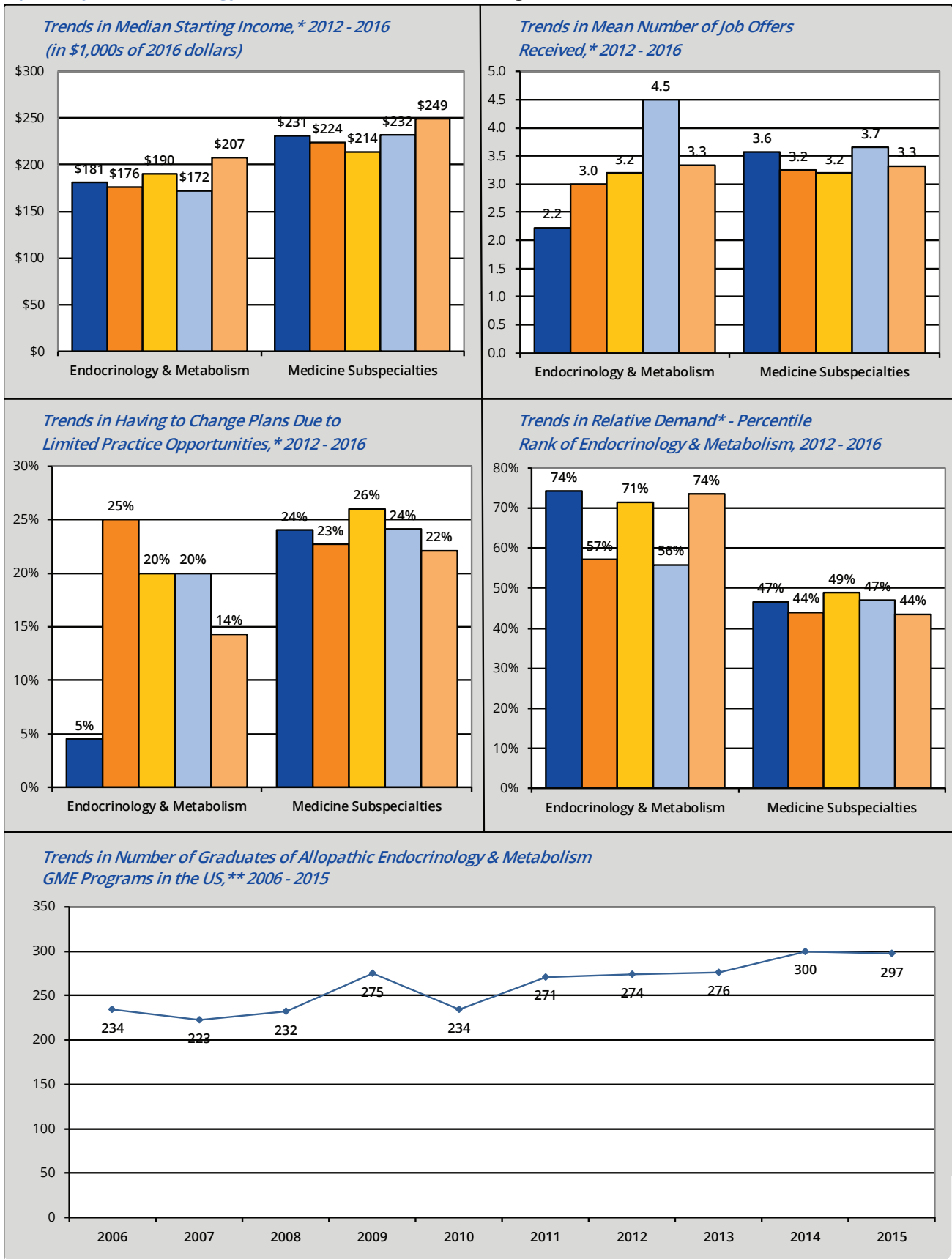
Number of responses: 2012: n = 9, 2013: n = 12, 2014: n = 13, 2015: n = 9, 2016: n = 19.

*Source: CHWS, Survey of Residents Completing Training in New York, 2012 - 2016.

**Source: JAMA Medical Education Issues, 2006 - 2015.

Specialty: Endocrinology & Metabolism

Legend: ■ 2012 ■ 2013 ■ 2014 ■ 2015 ■ 2016



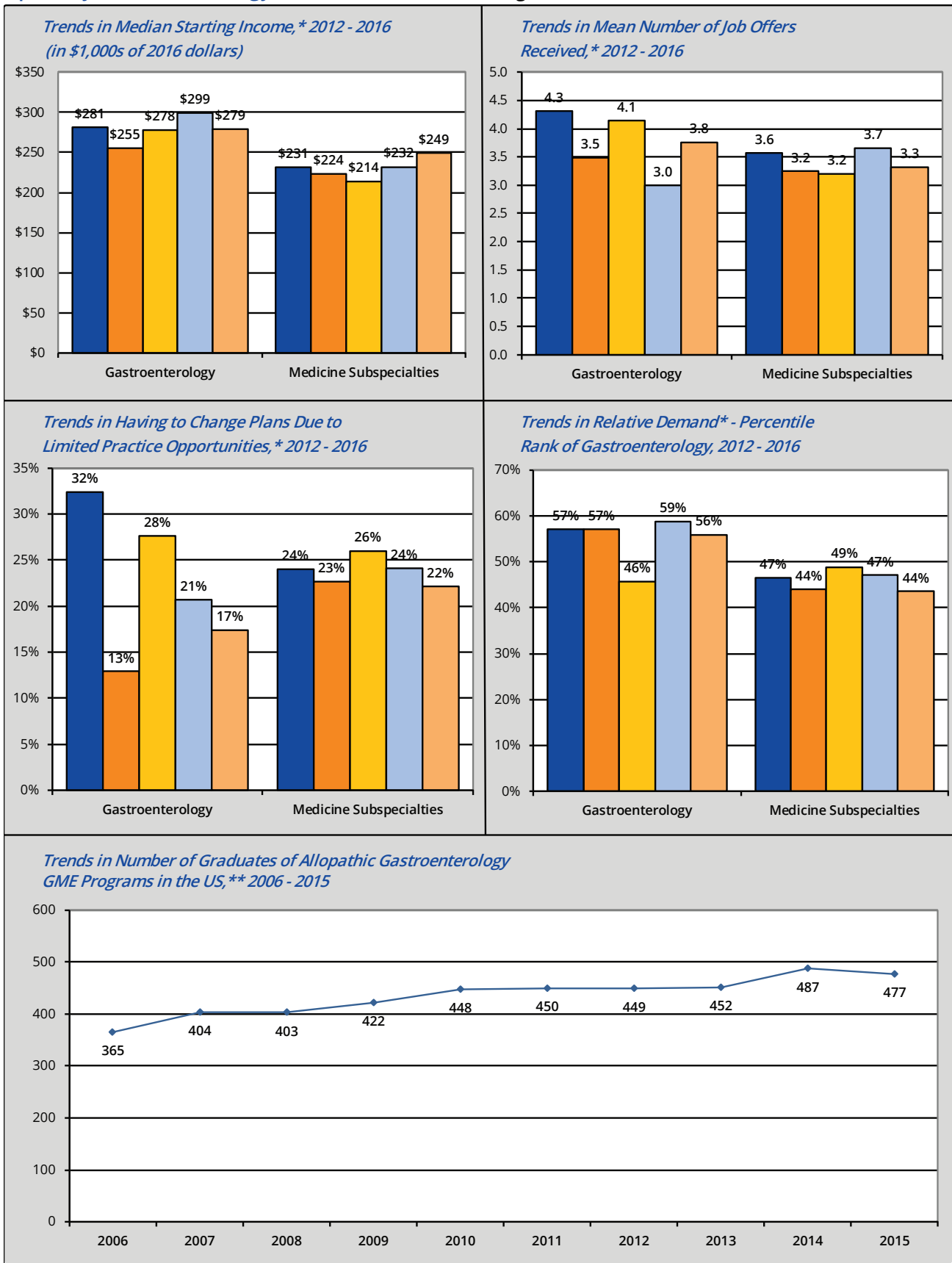
Number of responses: 2012: n = 23, 2013: n = 17, 2014: n = 15, 2015: n = 20, 2016: n = 25.

*Source: CHWS, Survey of Residents Completing Training in New York, 2012 - 2016.

**Source: JAMA Medical Education Issues, 2006 - 2015.

Specialty: Gastroenterology

Legend: 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016



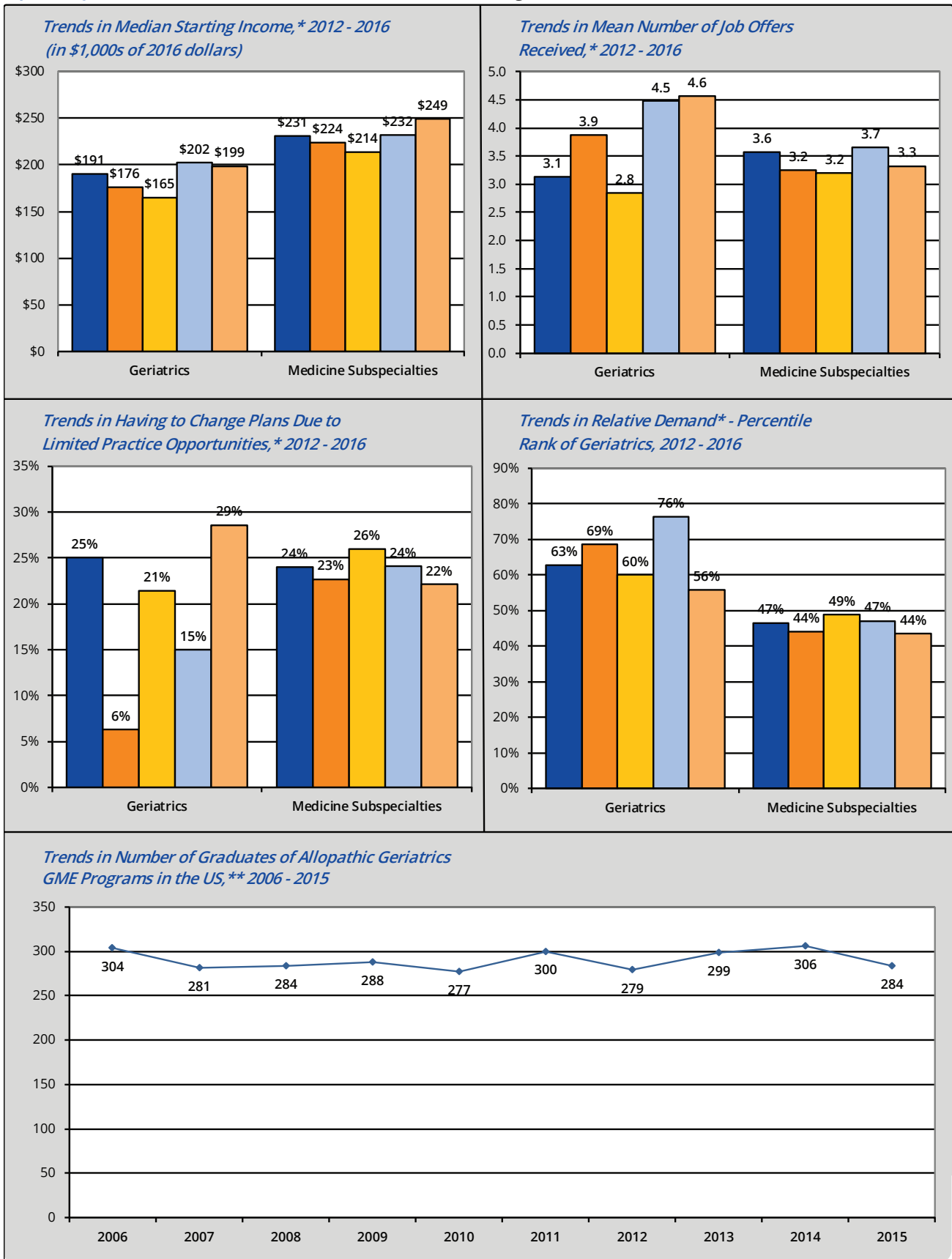
Number of responses: 2012: n = 36, 2013: n = 33, 2014: n = 30, 2015: n = 31, 2016: n = 34.

*Source: CHWS, Survey of Residents Completing Training in New York, 2012 - 2016.

**Source: JAMA Medical Education Issues, 2006 - 2015.

Specialty: Geriatrics

Legend: ■ 2012 ■ 2013 ■ 2014 ■ 2015 ■ 2016



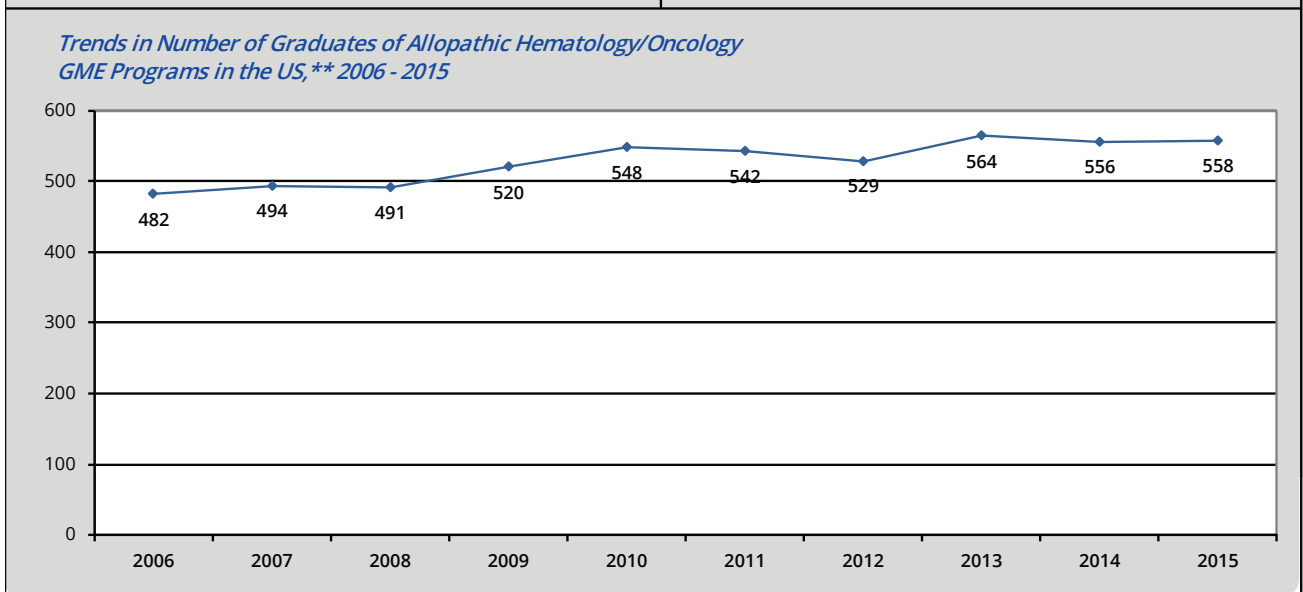
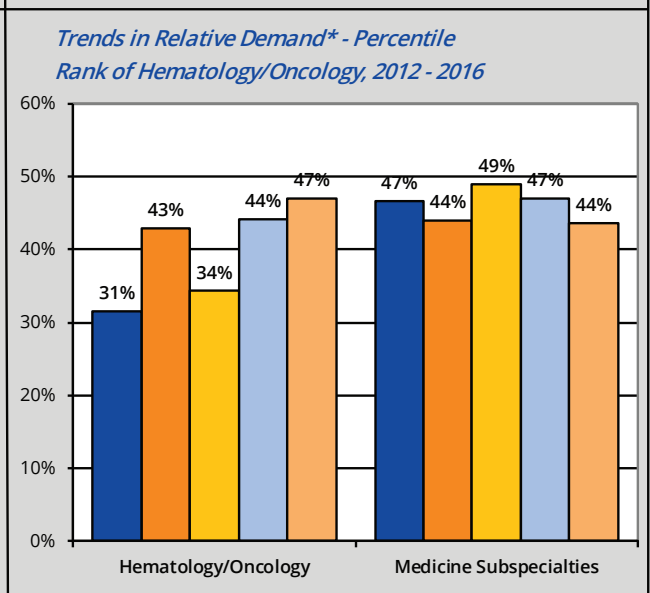
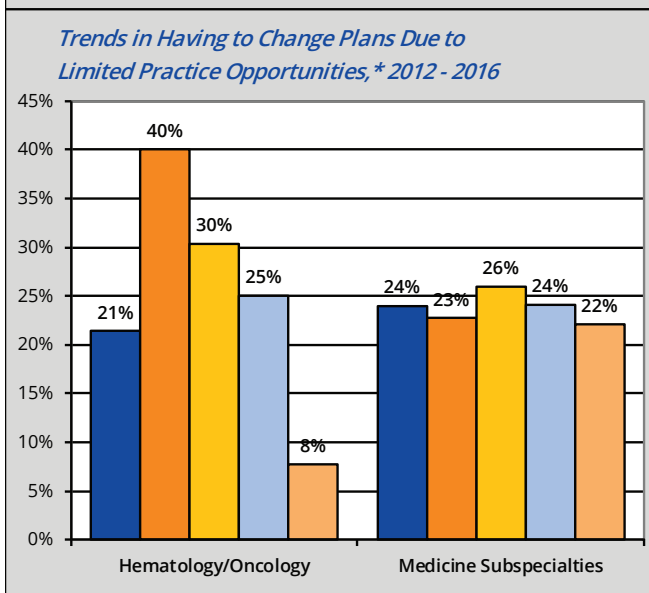
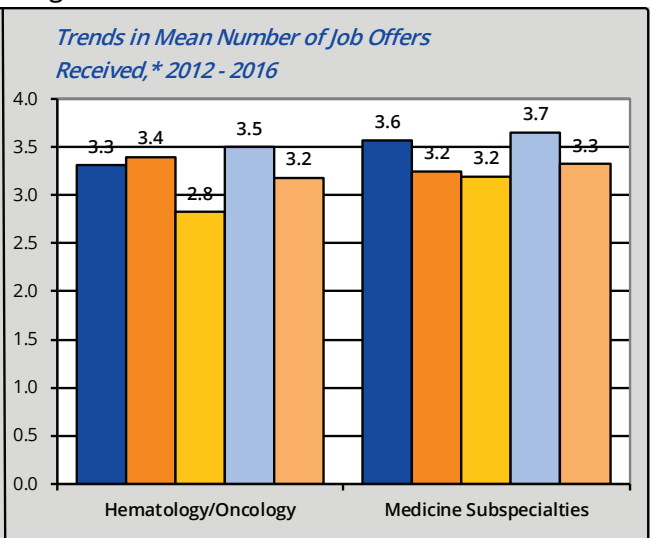
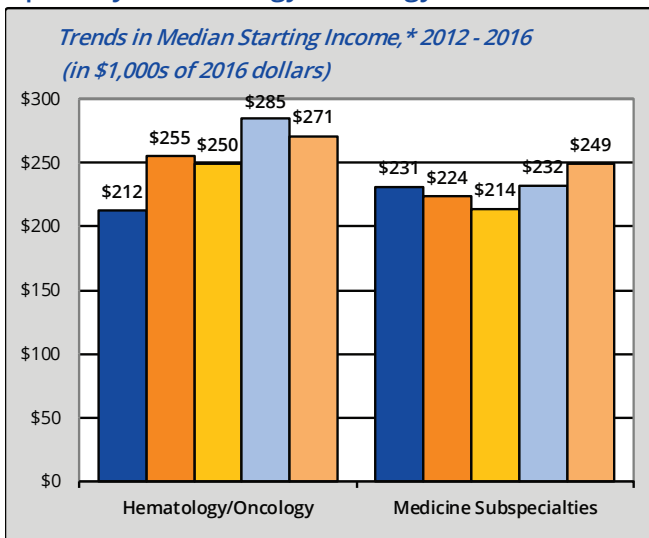
Number of responses: 2012: n = 9, 2013: n = 17, 2014: n = 15, 2015: n = 20, 2016: n = 18.

*Source: CHWS, Survey of Residents Completing Training in New York, 2012 - 2016.

**Source: JAMA Medical Education Issues, 2006 - 2015.

Specialty: Hematology/Oncology

Legend: ■ 2012 ■ 2013 ■ 2014 ■ 2015 ■ 2016



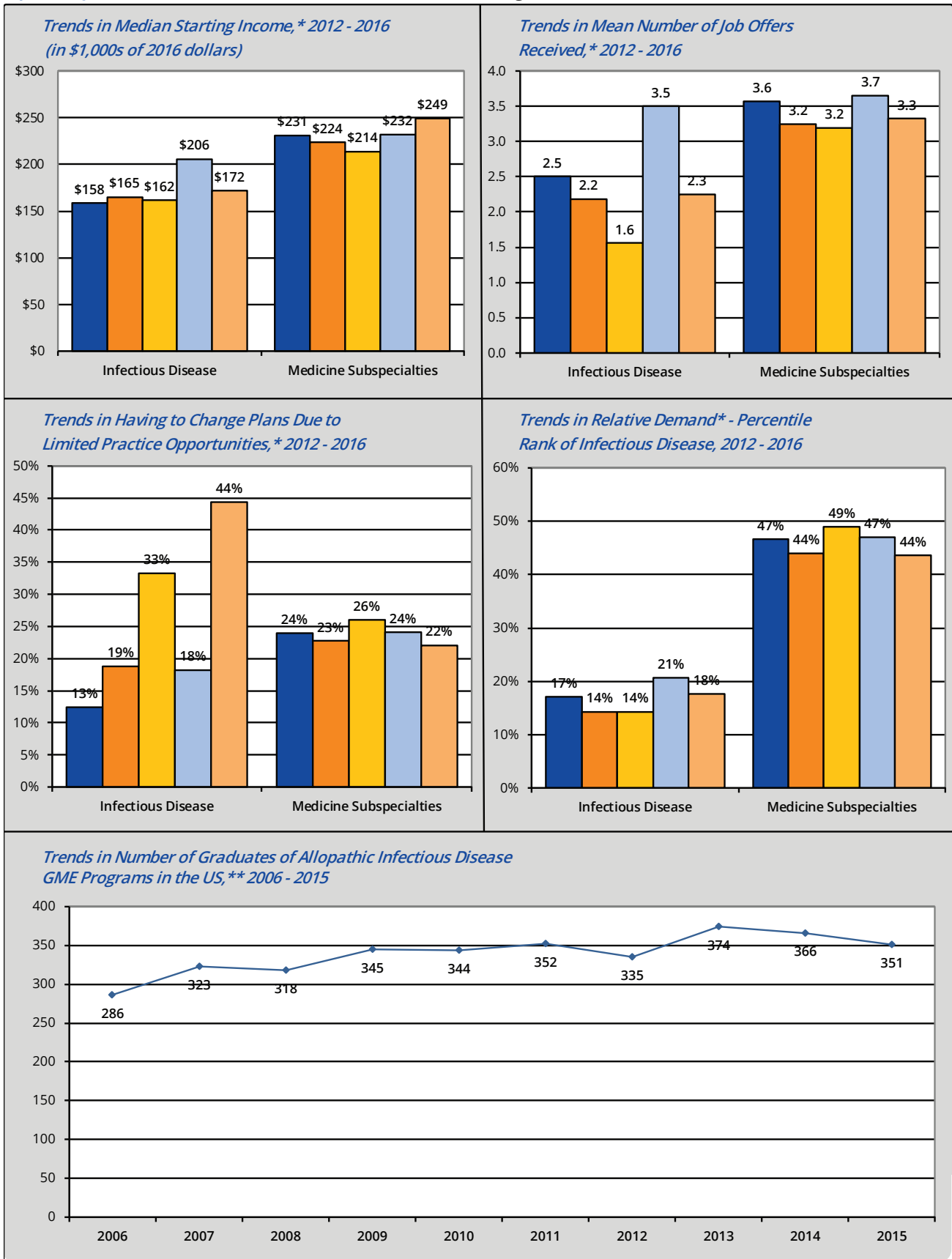
Number of responses: 2012: n = 34, 2013: n = 26, 2014: n = 24, 2015: n = 17, 2016: n = 38.

*Source: CHWS, Survey of Residents Completing Training in New York, 2012 - 2016.

**Source: JAMA Medical Education Issues, 2006 - 2015.

Specialty: Infectious Disease

Legend: ■ 2012 ■ 2013 ■ 2014 ■ 2015 ■ 2016



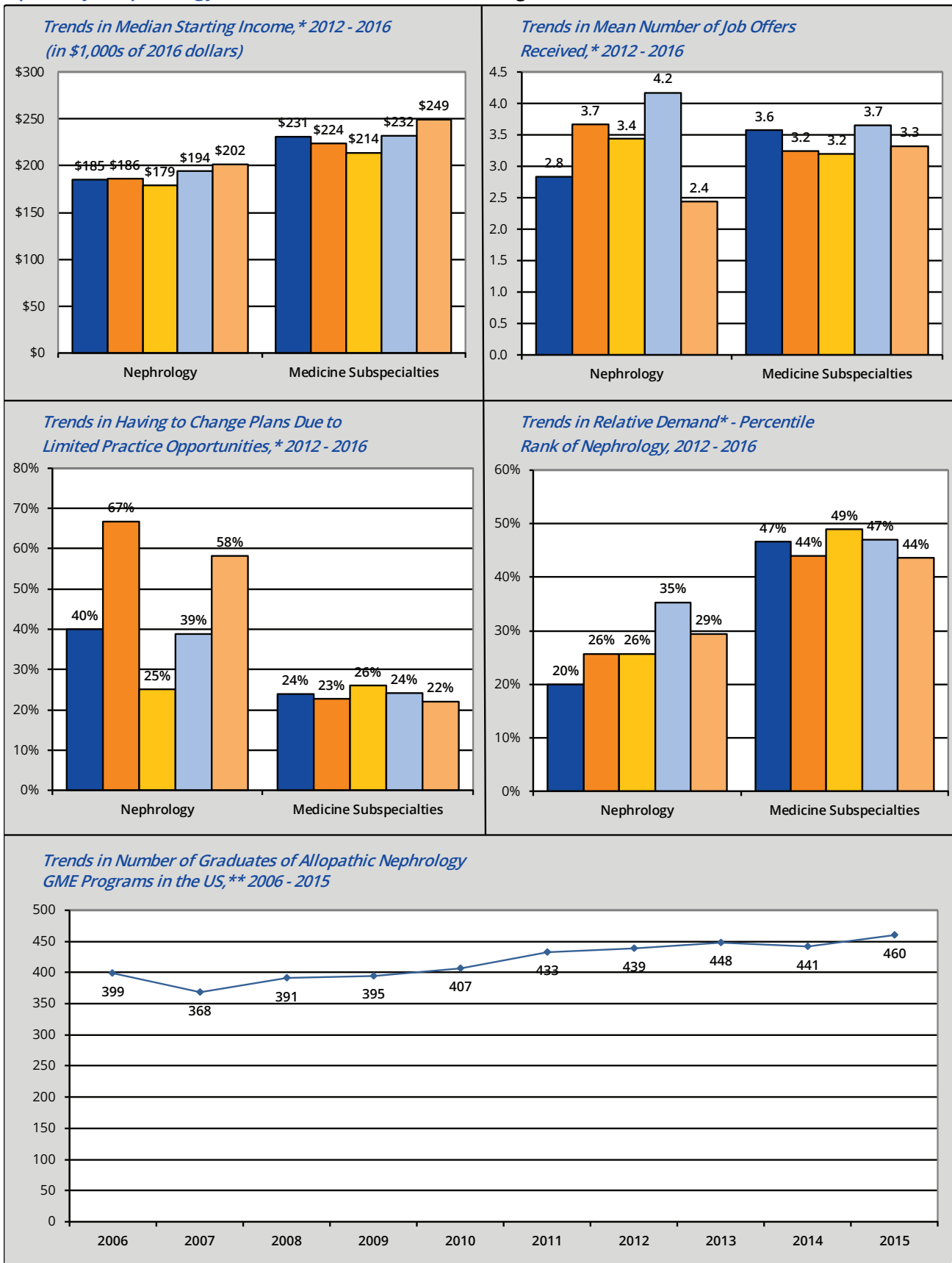
Number of responses: 2012: n = 17, 2013: n = 17, 2014: n = 10, 2015: n = 12, 2016: n = 12.

*Source: CHWS, Survey of Residents Completing Training in New York, 2012 - 2016.

**Source: JAMA Medical Education Issues, 2006 - 2015.

Specialty: Nephrology

Legend: 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016



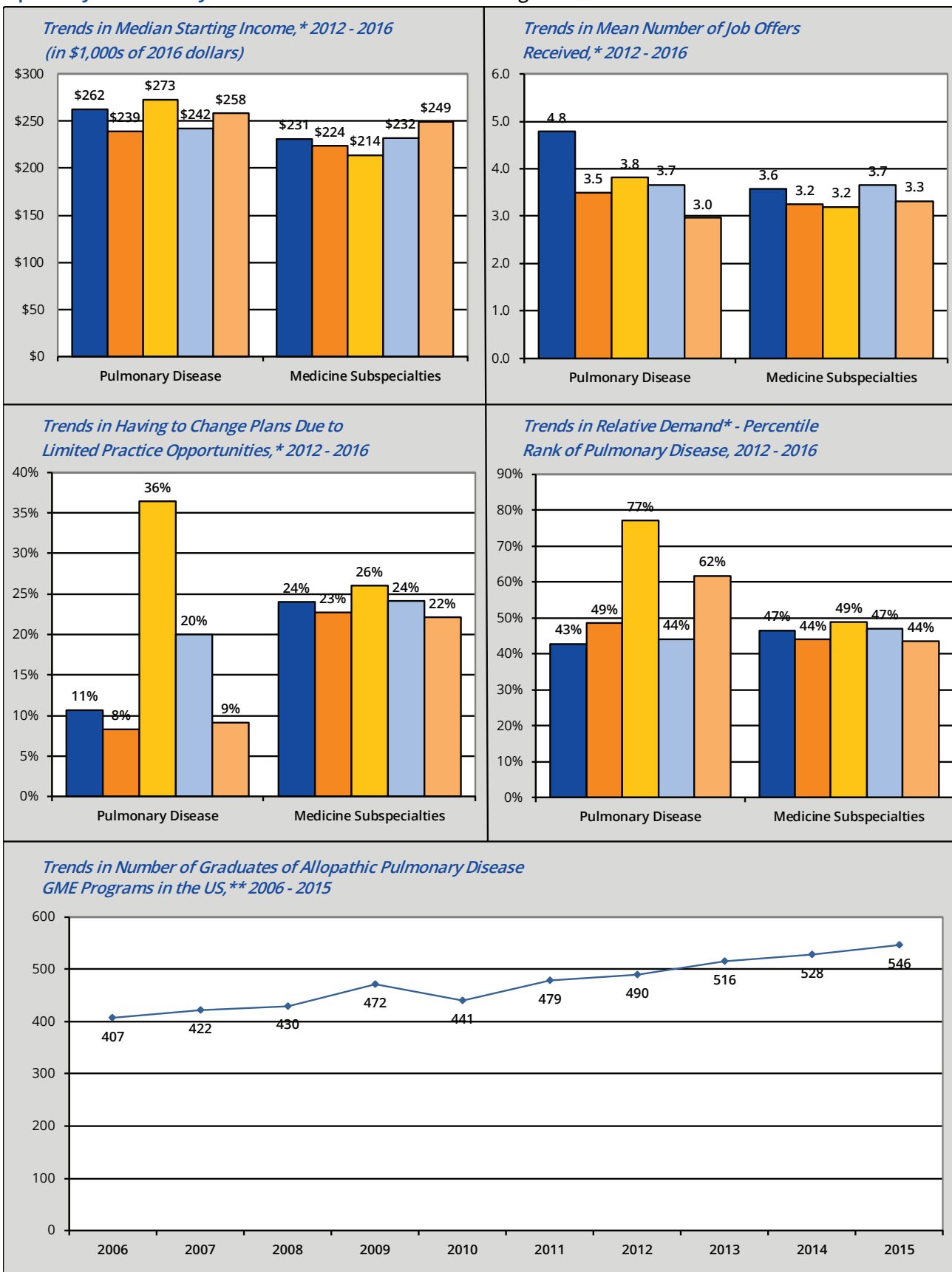
Number of responses: 2012: n = 27, 2013: n = 10, 2014: n = 16, 2015: n = 19, 2016: n = 18.

*Source: CHWS, Survey of Residents Completing Training in New York, 2012 - 2016.

**Source: JAMA Medical Education Issues, 2006 - 2015.

Specialty: Pulmonary Disease

Legend: 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016



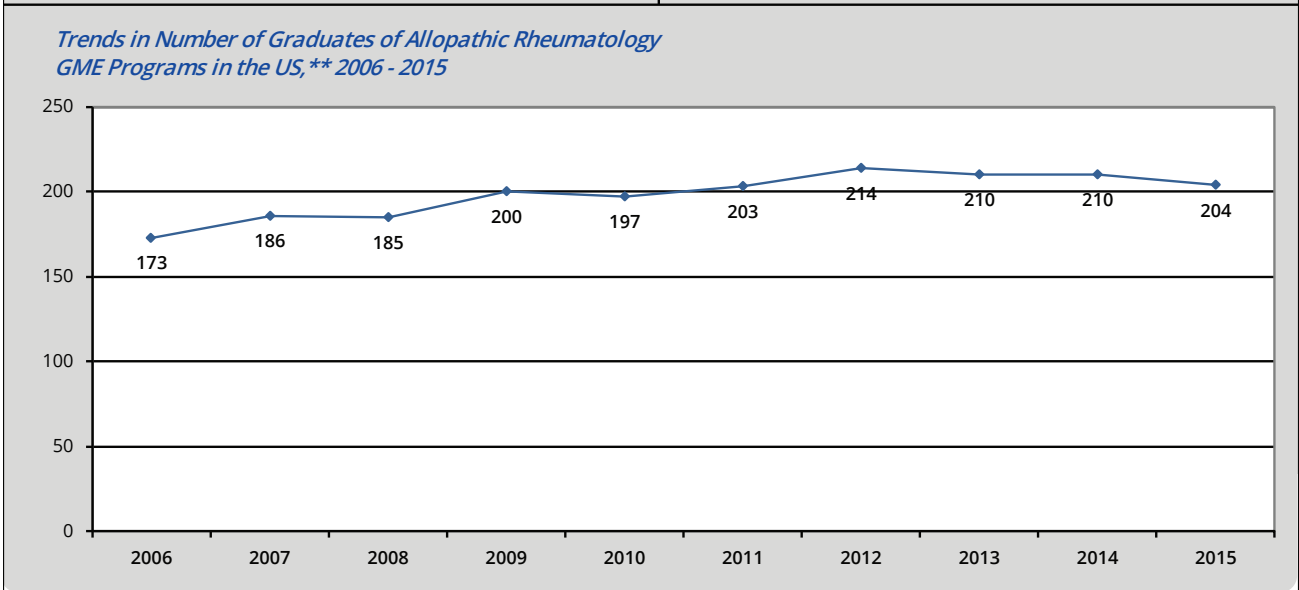
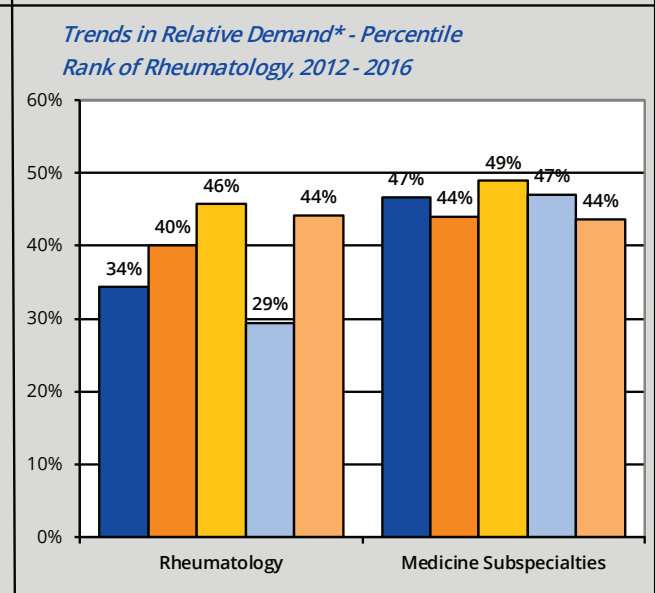
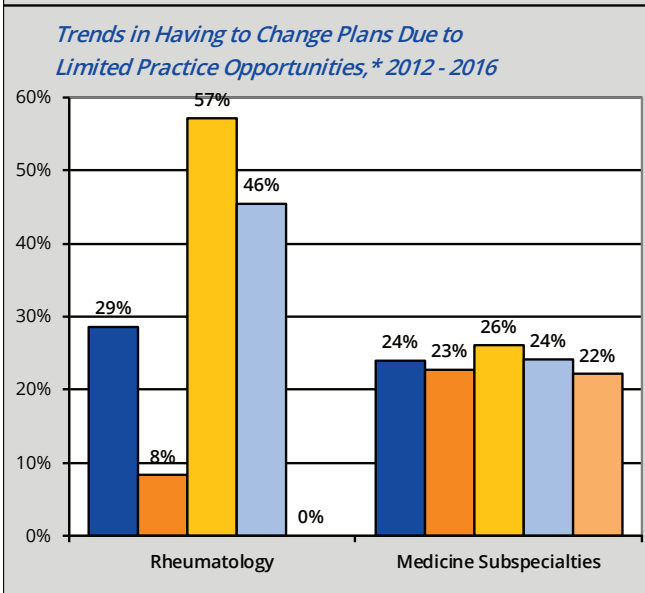
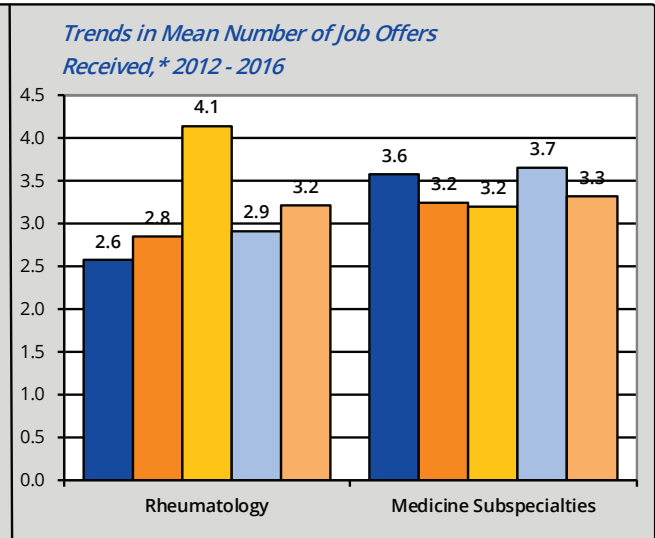
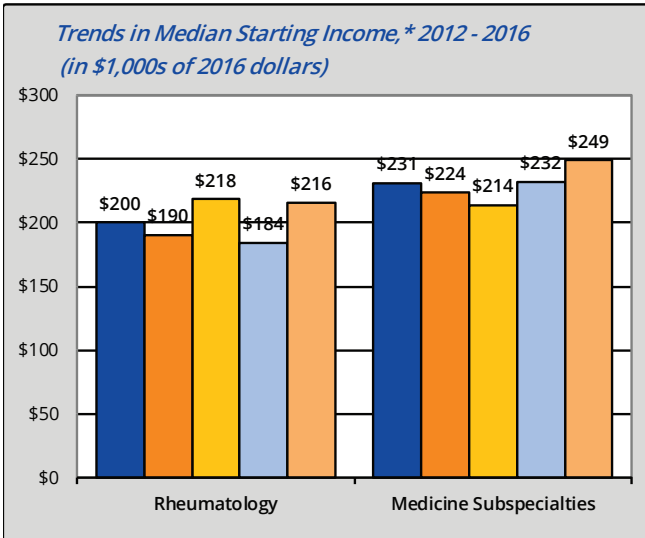
Number of responses: 2012: n = 30, 2013: n = 25, 2014: n = 23, 2015: n = 15, 2016: n = 26.

*Source: CHWS, Survey of Residents Completing Training in New York, 2012 - 2016.

**Source: JAMA Medical Education Issues, 2006 - 2015.

Specialty: Rheumatology

Legend: 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016



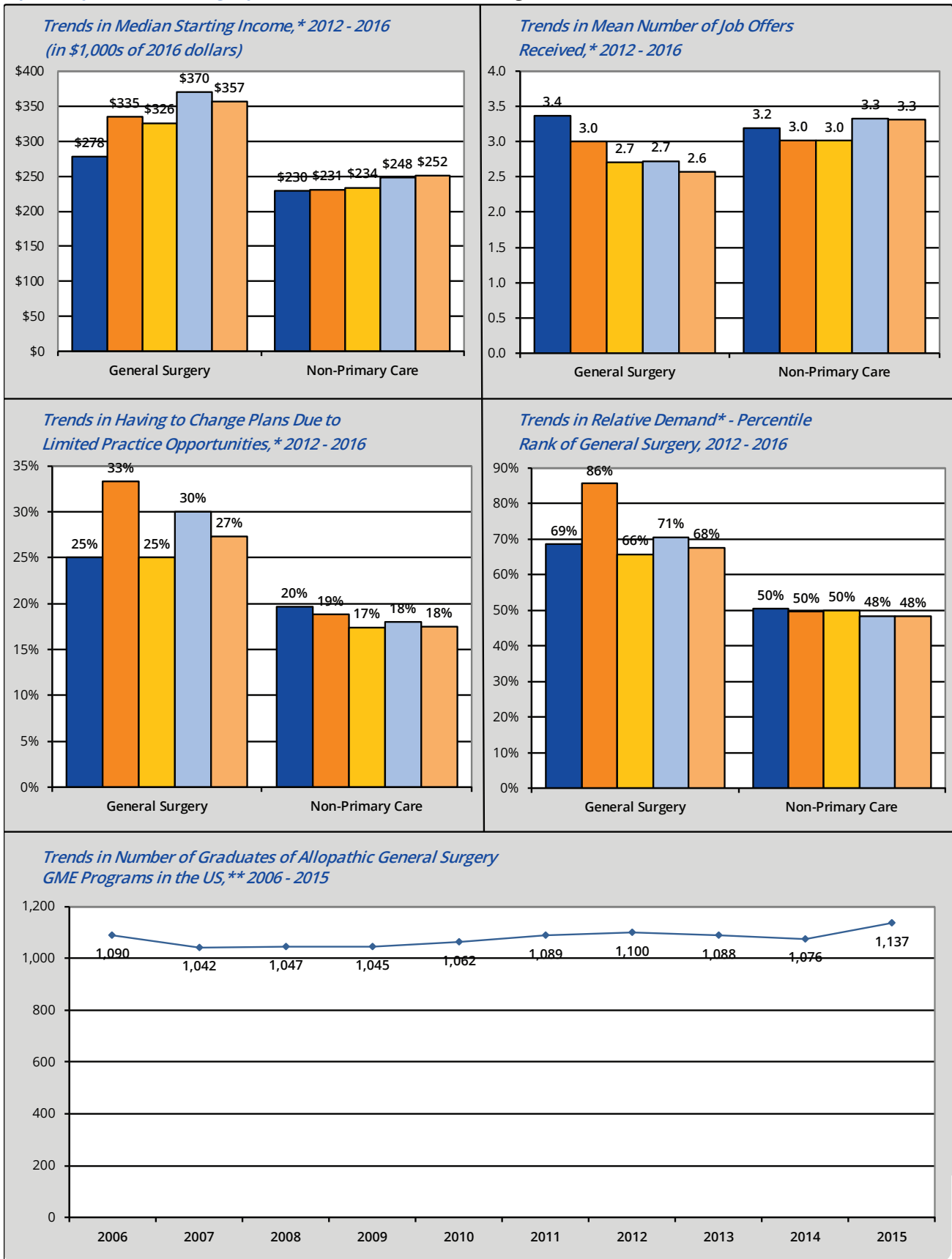
Number of responses: 2012: n = 8, 2013: n = 13, 2014: n = 7, 2015: n = 14, 2016: n = 15.

*Source: CHWS, Survey of Residents Completing Training in New York, 2012 - 2016.

**Source: JAMA Medical Education Issues, 2006 - 2015.

Specialty: General Surgery

Legend: 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016



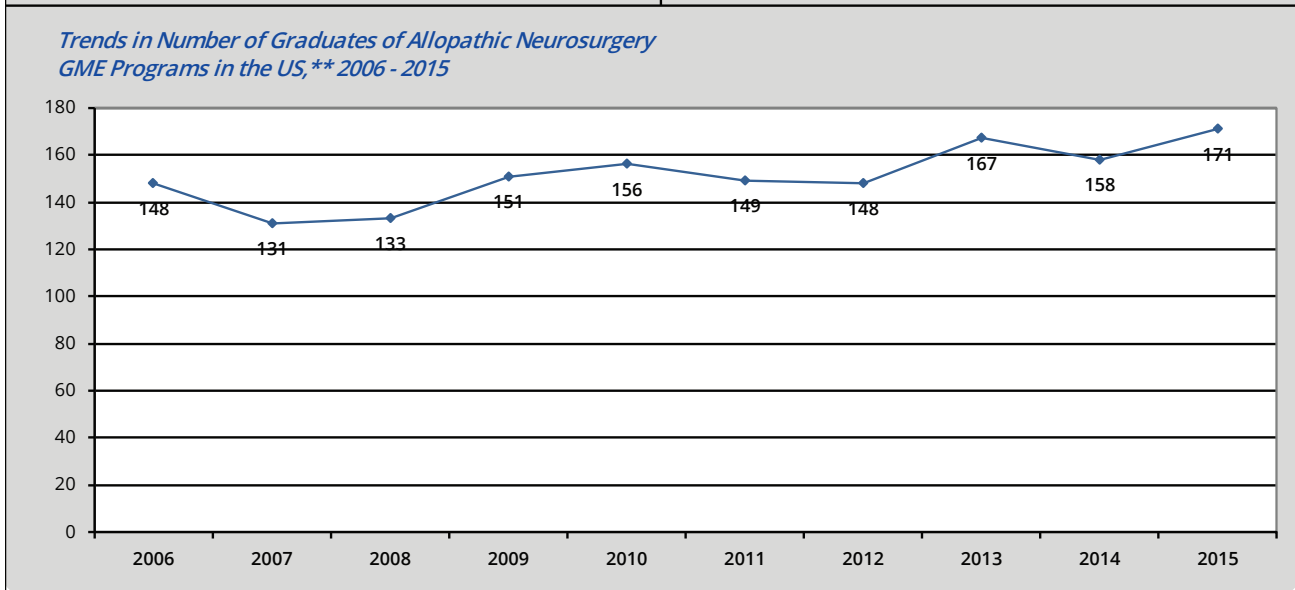
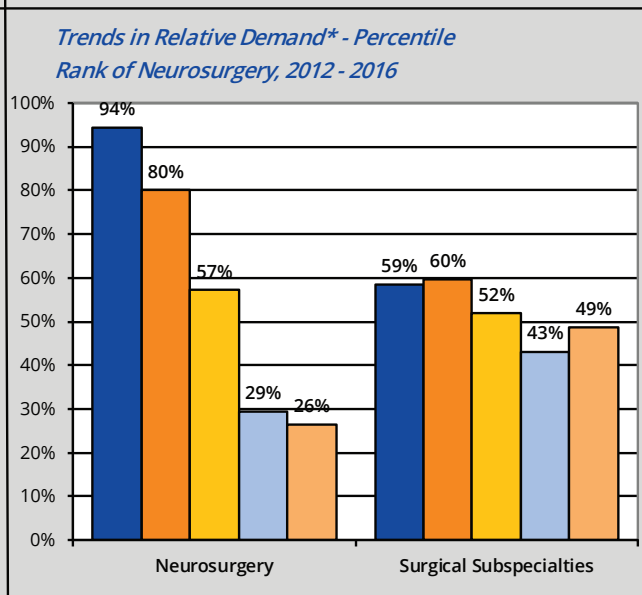
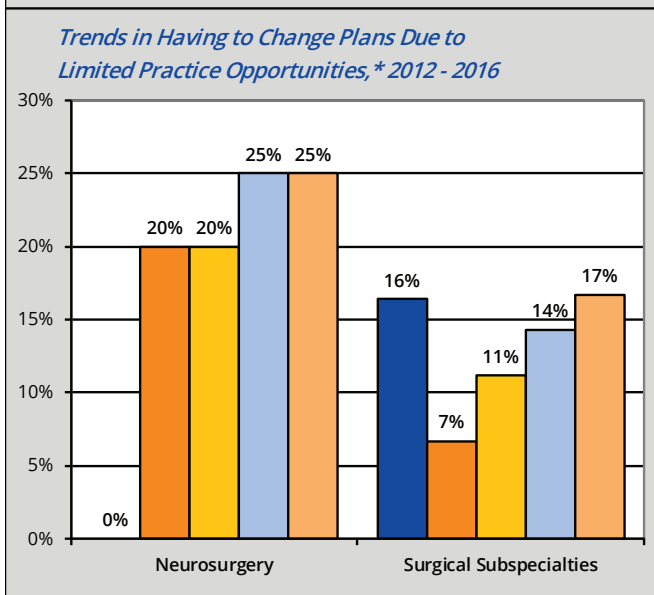
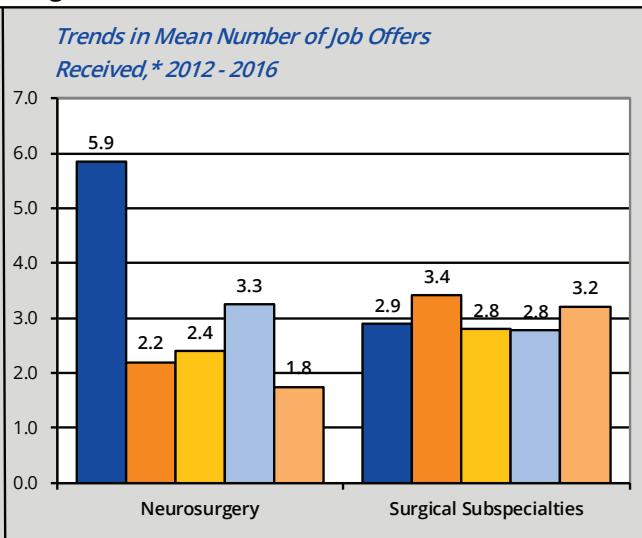
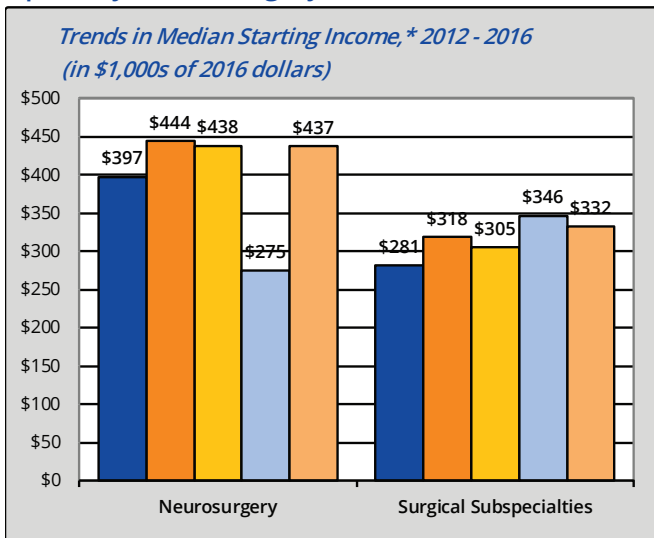
Number of responses: 2012: n = 9, 2013: n = 9, 2014: n = 18, 2015: n = 14, 2016: n = 15.

*Source: CHWS, Survey of Residents Completing Training in New York, 2012 - 2016.

**Source: JAMA Medical Education Issues, 2006 - 2015.

Specialty: Neurosurgery

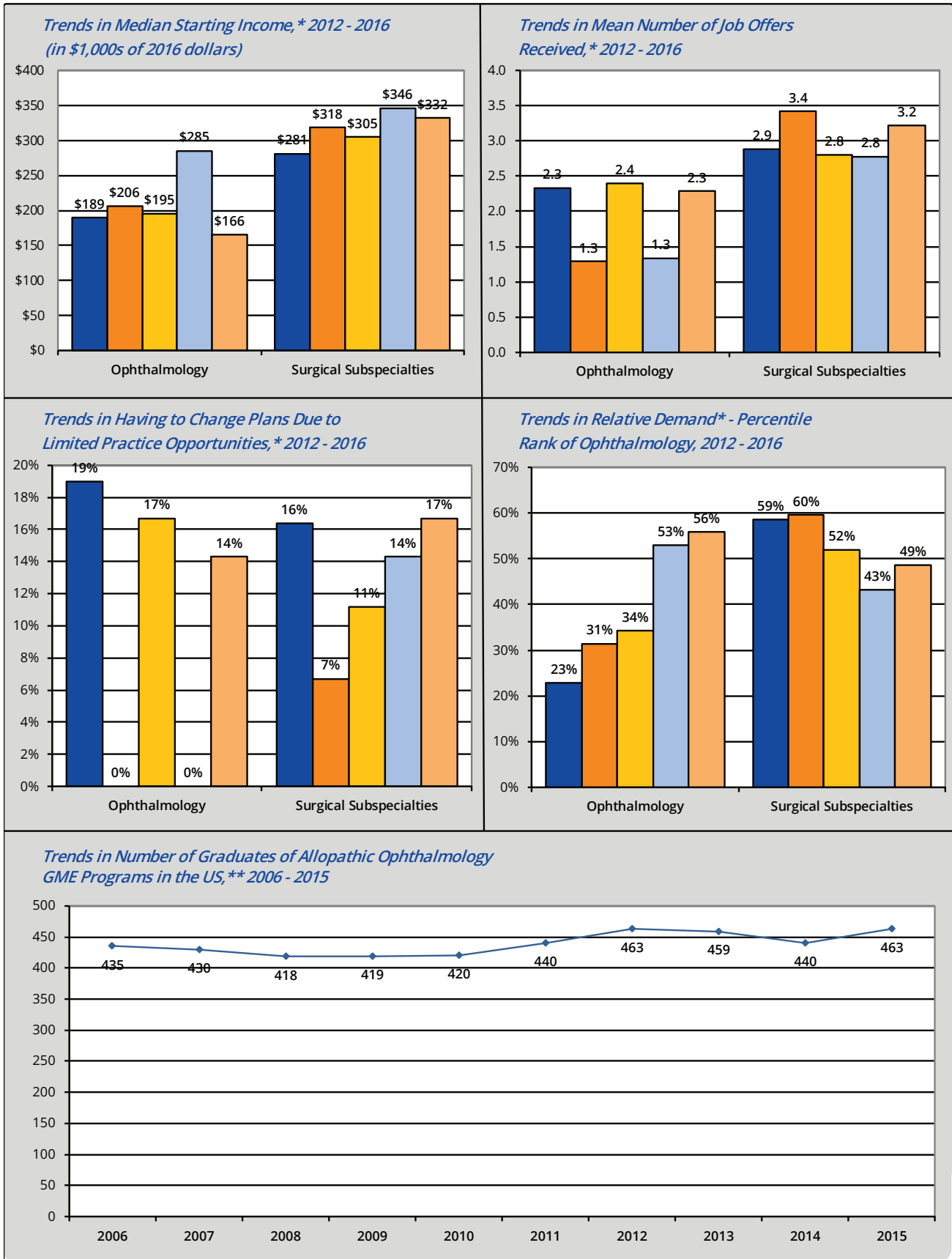
Legend: ■ 2012 ■ 2013 ■ 2014 ■ 2015 ■ 2016



Number of responses: 2012: n = 7, 2013: n = 6, 2014: n = 5, 2015: n = 5, 2016: n = 6.
 *Source: CHWS, Survey of Residents Completing Training in New York, 2012 - 2016.
 **Source: JAMA Medical Education Issues, 2006 - 2015.

Specialty: Ophthalmology

Legend: ■ 2012 ■ 2013 ■ 2014 ■ 2015 ■ 2016



Number of responses: 2012: n = 23, 2013: n = 9, 2014: n = 14, 2015: n = 3, 2016: n = 8.

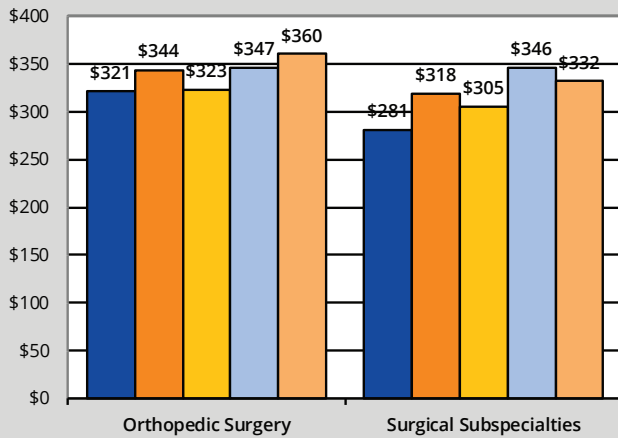
*Source: CHWS, Survey of Residents Completing Training in New York, 2012 - 2016.

**Source: JAMA Medical Education Issues, 2006 - 2015.

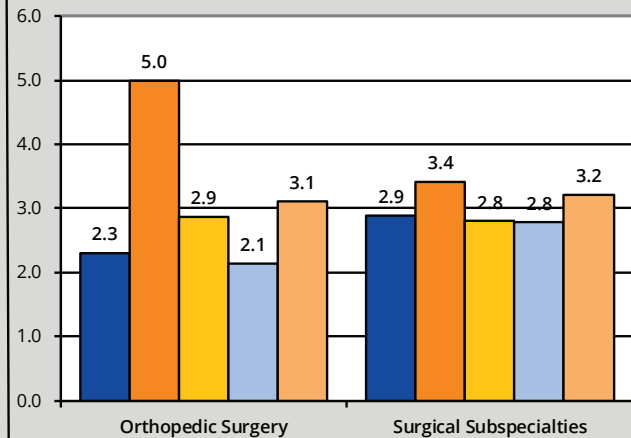
Specialty: Orthopedic Surgery

Legend: 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016

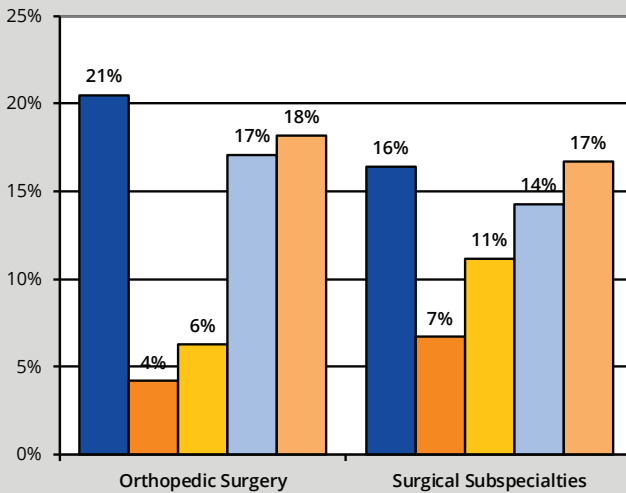
Trends in Median Starting Income, 2012 - 2016
(in \$1,000s of 2016 dollars)*



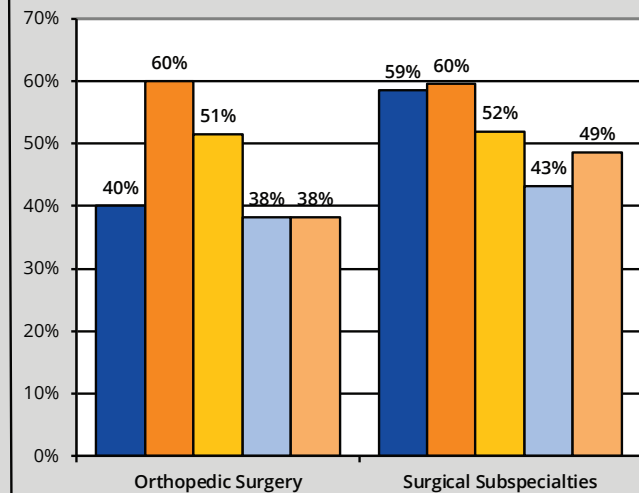
Trends in Mean Number of Job Offers Received, 2012 - 2016*



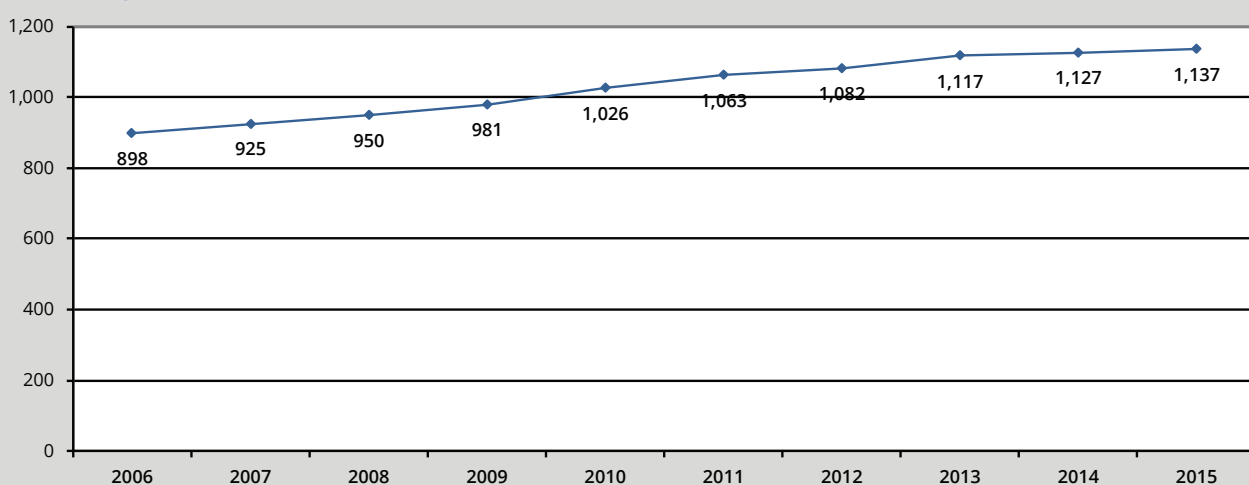
Trends in Having to Change Plans Due to Limited Practice Opportunities, 2012 - 2016*



Trends in Relative Demand - Percentile Rank of Orthopedic Surgery, 2012 - 2016*



*Trends in Number of Graduates of Allopathic Orthopedic Surgery GME Programs in the US,** 2006 - 2015*



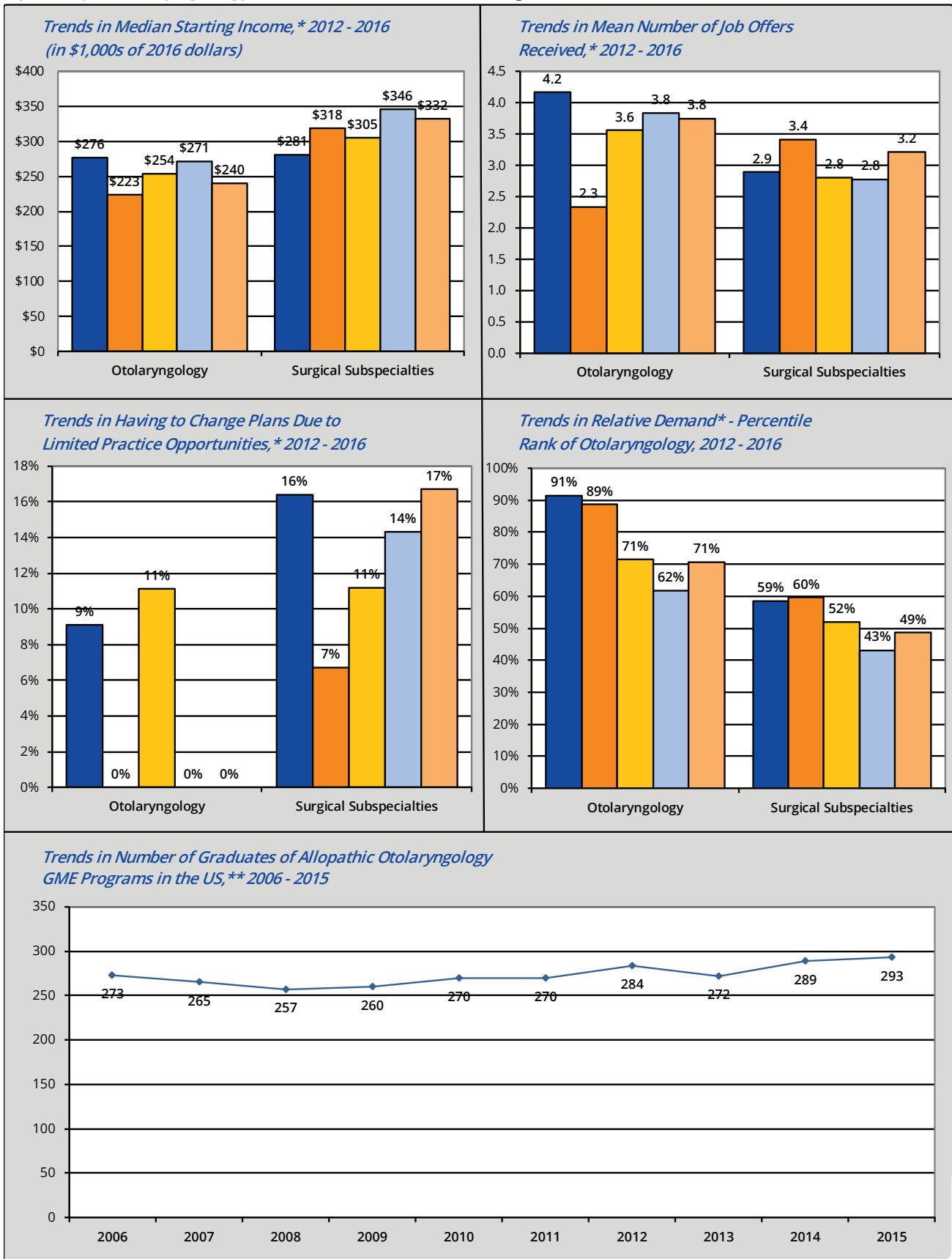
Number of responses: 2012: n = 42, 2013: n = 24, 2014: n = 35, 2015: n = 35, 2016: n = 50.

*Source: CHWS, Survey of Residents Completing Training in New York, 2012 - 2016.

**Source: JAMA Medical Education Issues, 2006 - 2015.

Specialty: Otolaryngology

Legend: ■ 2012 ■ 2013 ■ 2014 ■ 2015 ■ 2016



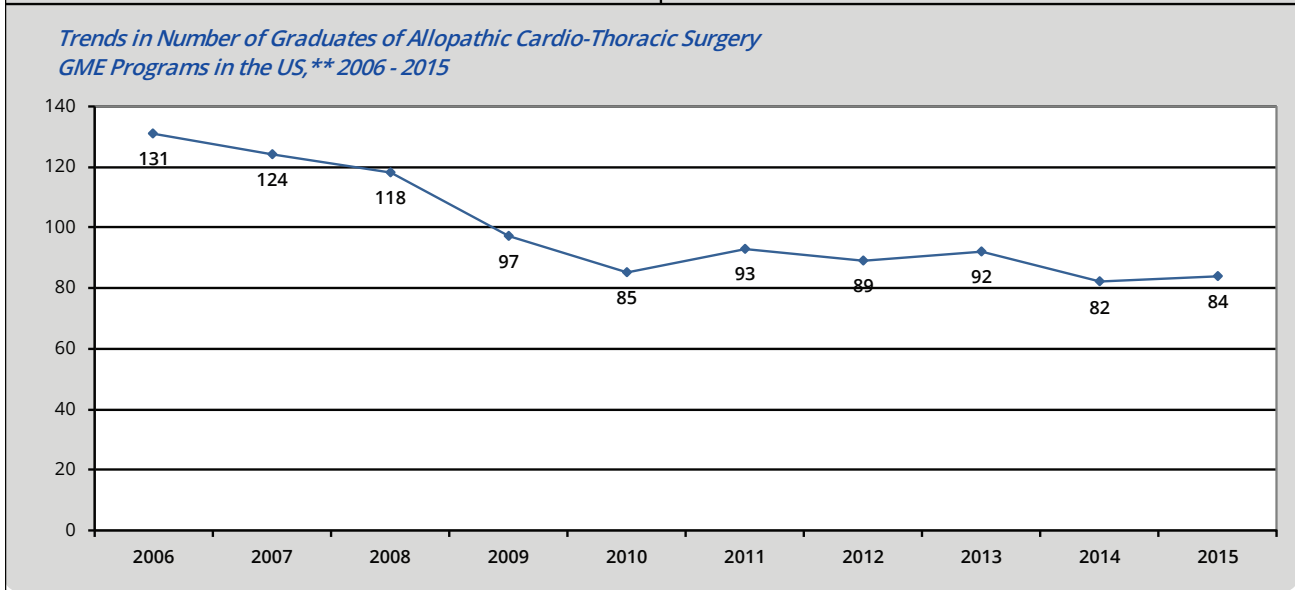
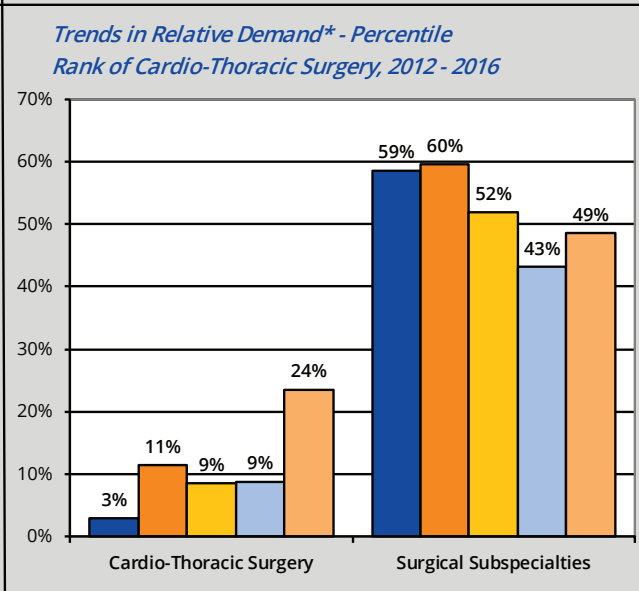
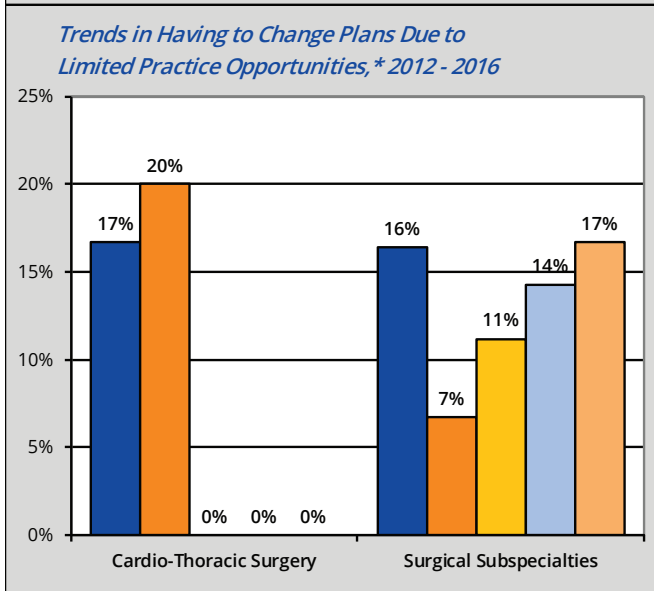
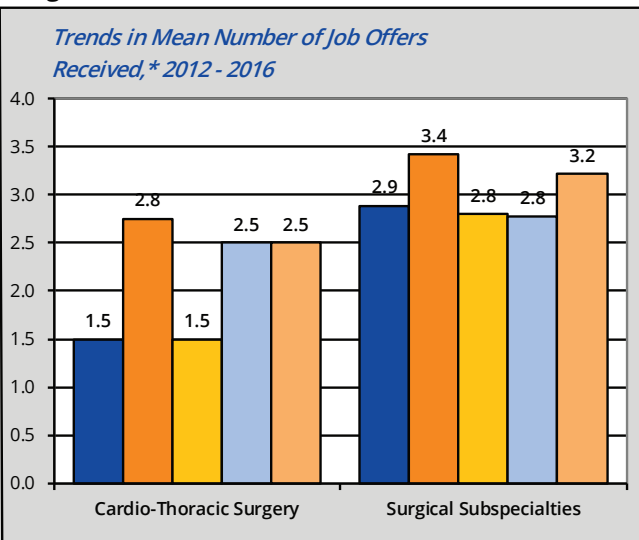
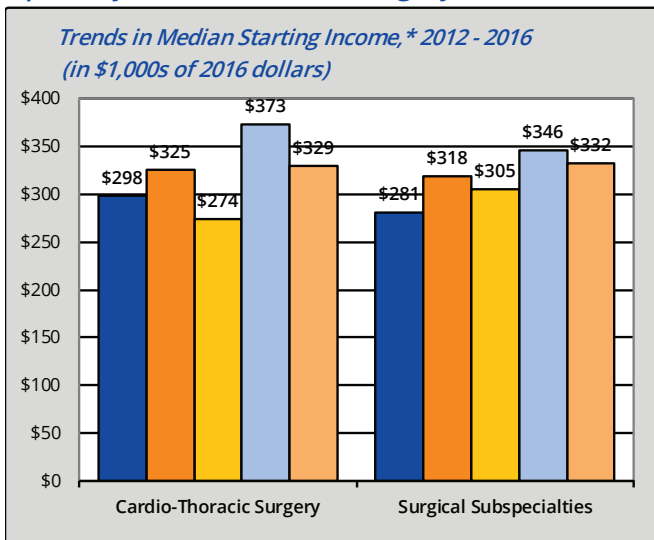
Number of responses: 2012: n = 13, 2013: n = 9, 2014: n = 10, 2015: n = 6, 2016: n = 4.

*Source: CHWS, Survey of Residents Completing Training in New York, 2012 - 2016.

**Source: JAMA Medical Education Issues, 2006 - 2015.

Specialty: Cardio-Thoracic Surgery

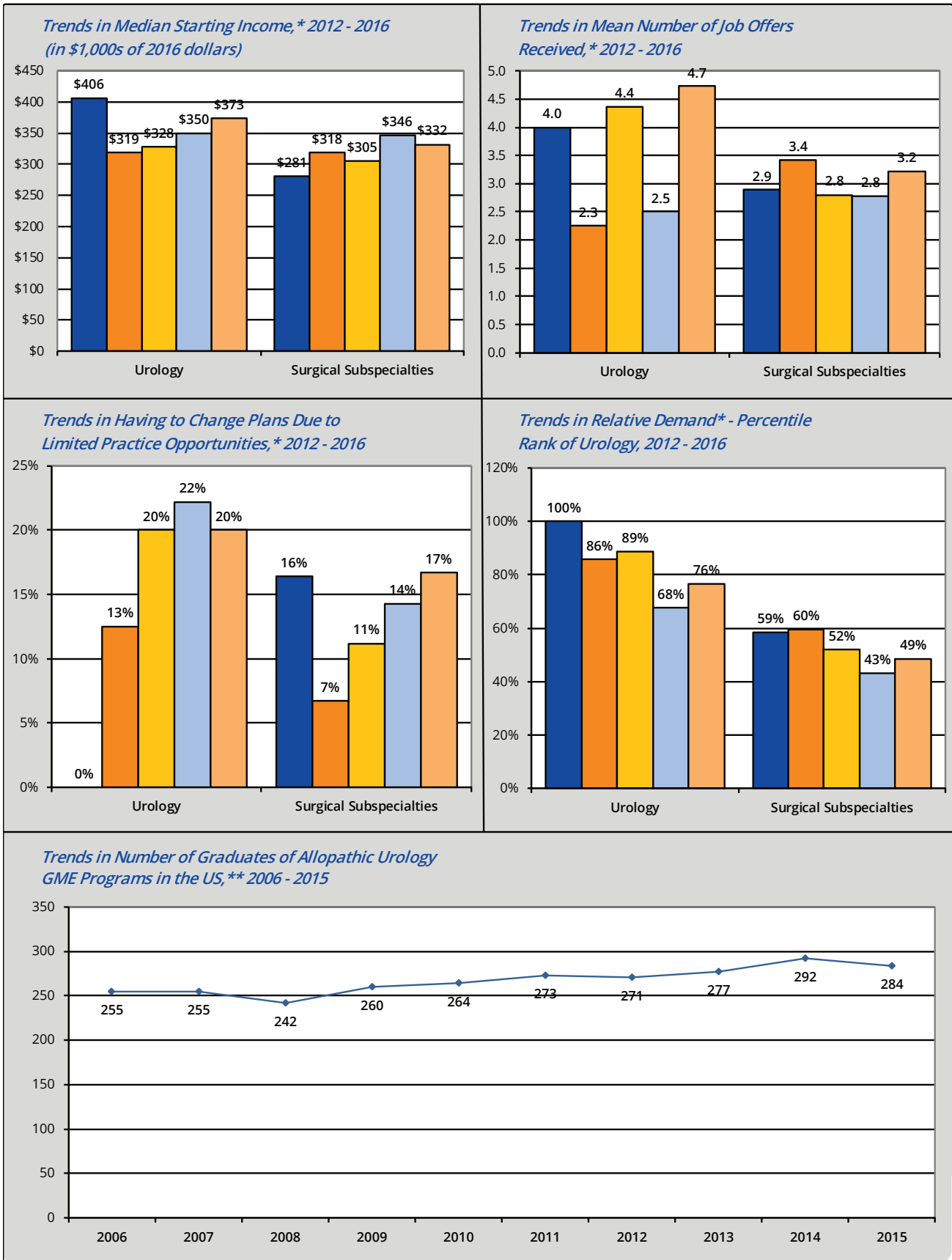
Legend: 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016



Number of responses: 2012: n = 6, 2013: n = 5, 2014: n = 3, 2015: n = 3, 2016: n = 2.
 *Source: CHWS, Survey of Residents Completing Training in New York, 2012 - 2016.
 **Source: JAMA Medical Education Issues, 2006 - 2015.

Specialty: Urology

Legend: ■ 2012 ■ 2013 ■ 2014 ■ 2015 ■ 2016



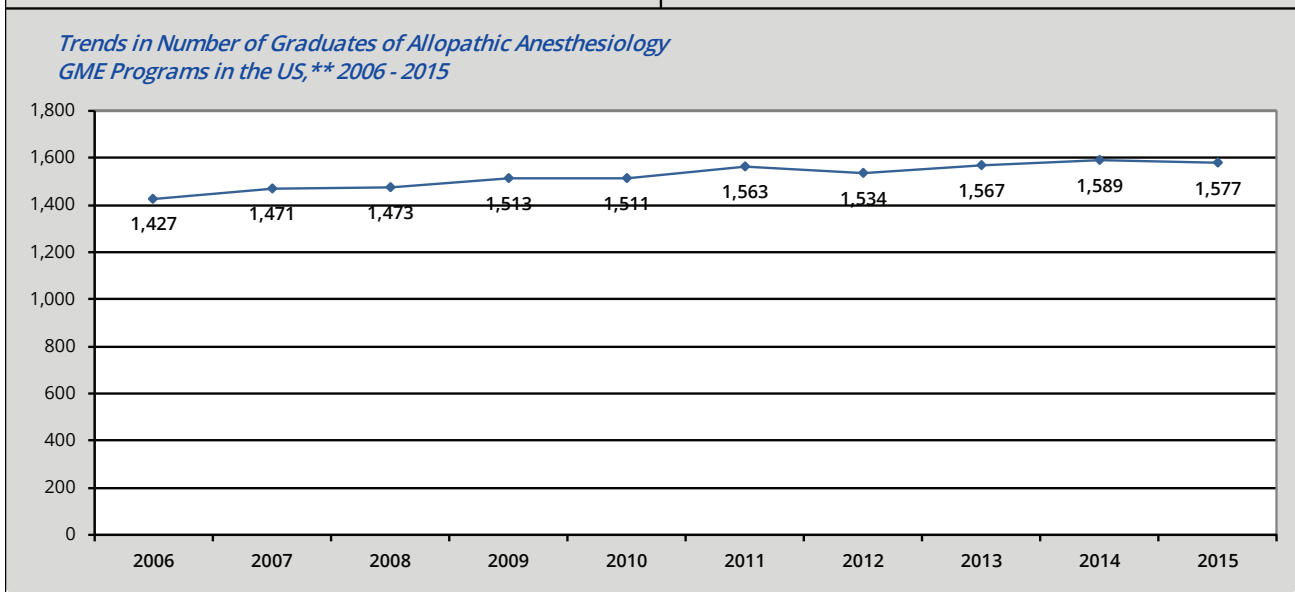
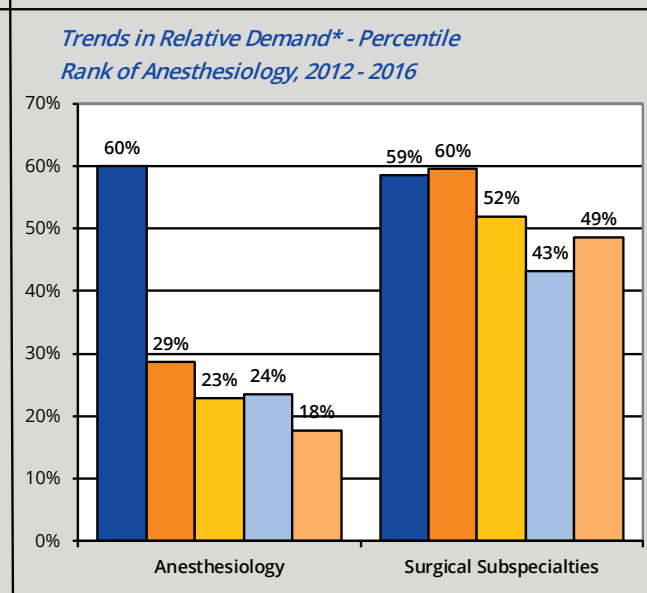
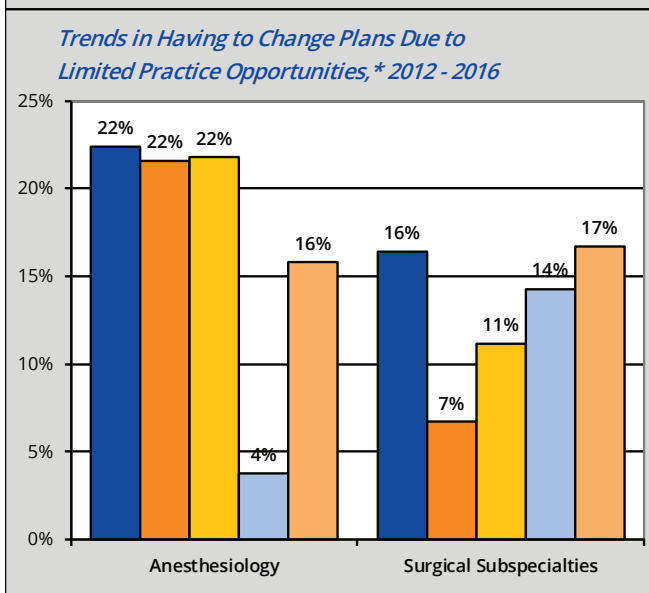
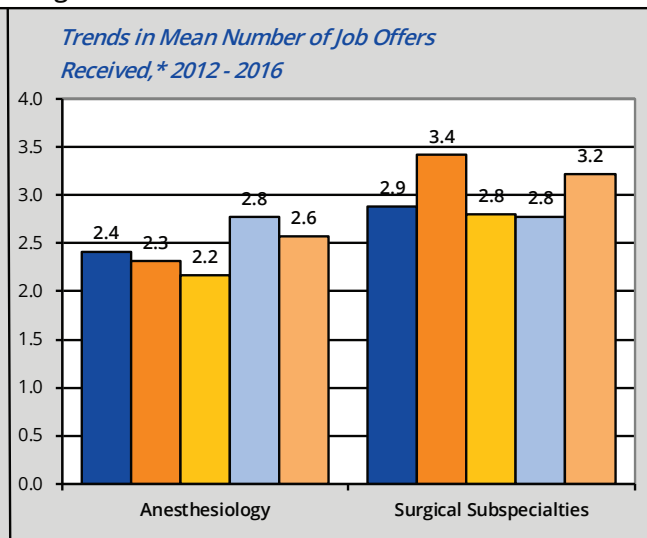
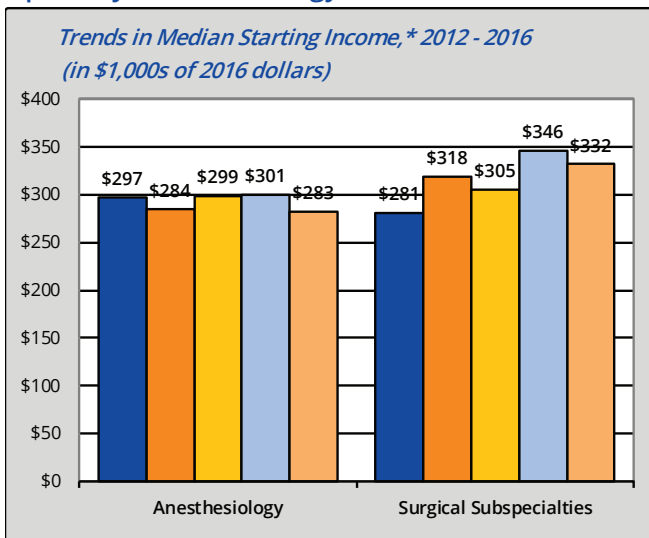
Number of responses: 2012: n = 13, 2013: n = 8, 2014: n = 11, 2015: n = 10, 2016: n = 13.

*Source: CHWS, Survey of Residents Completing Training in New York, 2012 - 2016.

**Source: JAMA Medical Education Issues, 2006 - 2015.

Specialty: Anesthesiology

Legend: 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016



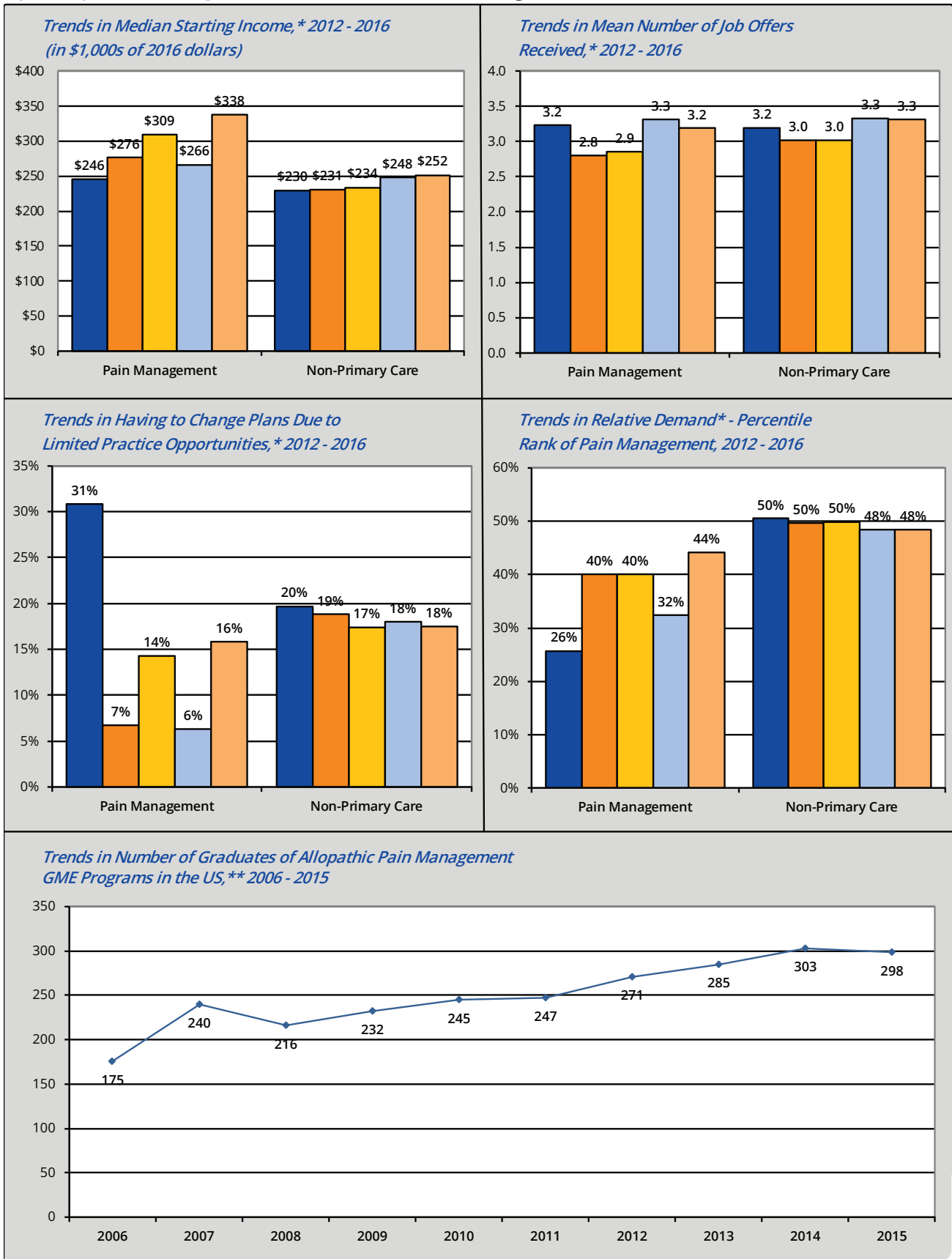
Number of responses: 2012: n = 60, 2013: n = 41, 2014: n = 56, 2015: n = 28, 2016: n = 44.

*Source: CHWS, Survey of Residents Completing Training in New York, 2012 - 2016.

**Source: JAMA Medical Education Issues, 2006 - 2015.

Specialty: Pain Management

Legend: ■ 2012 ■ 2013 ■ 2014 ■ 2015 ■ 2016



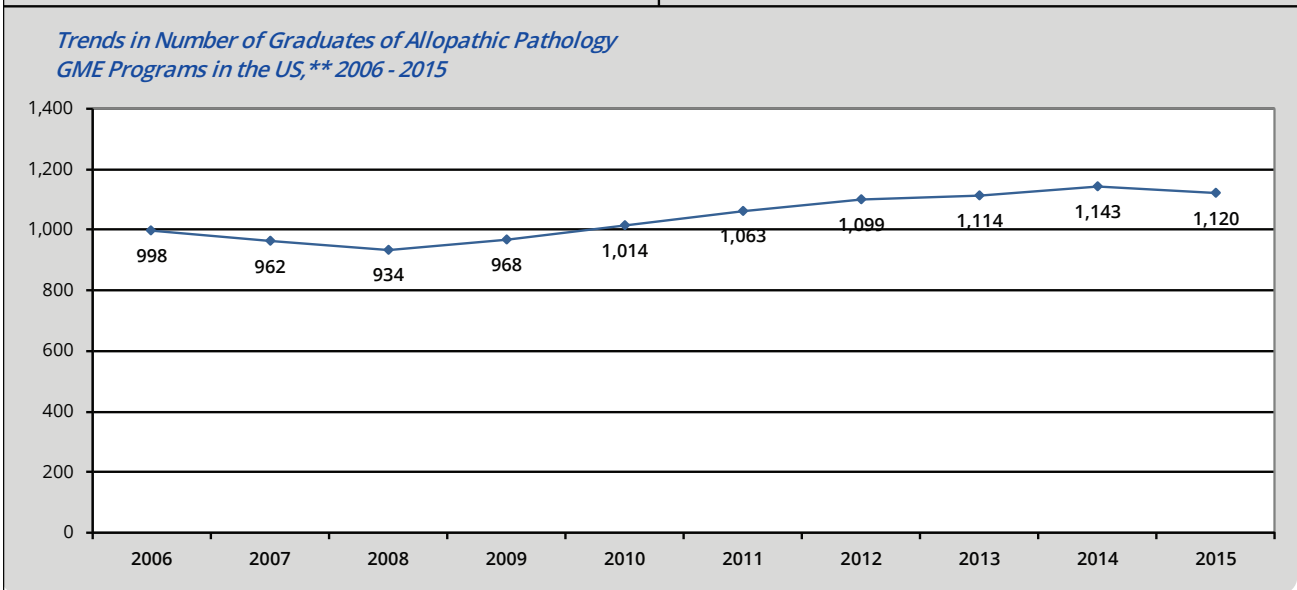
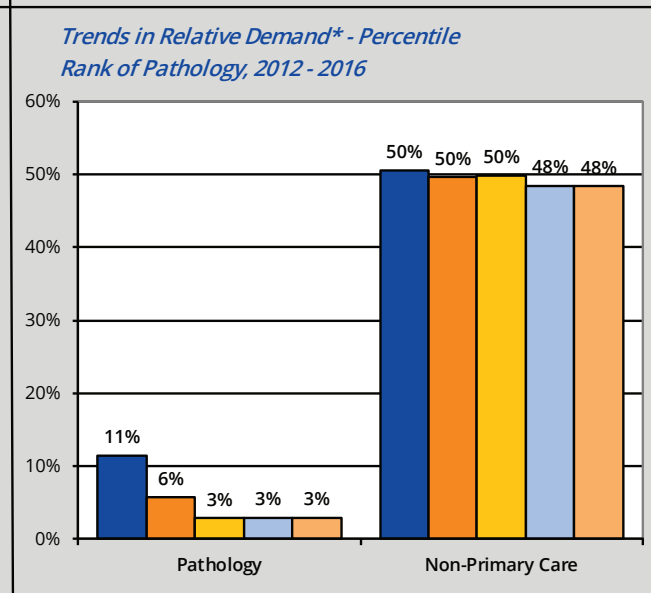
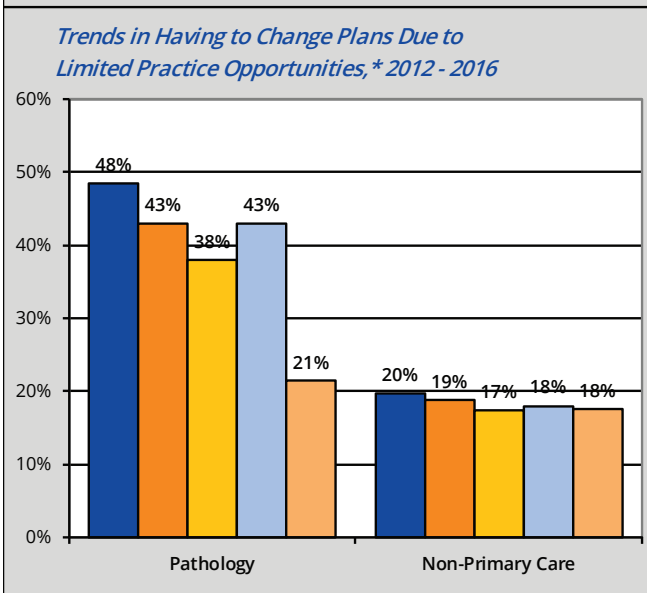
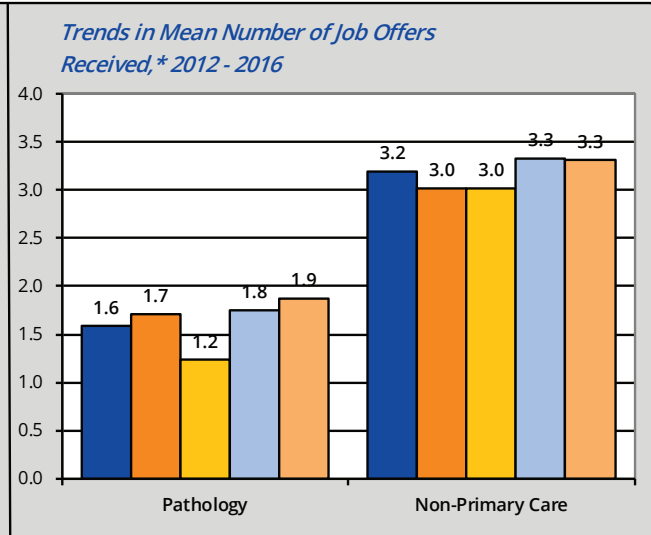
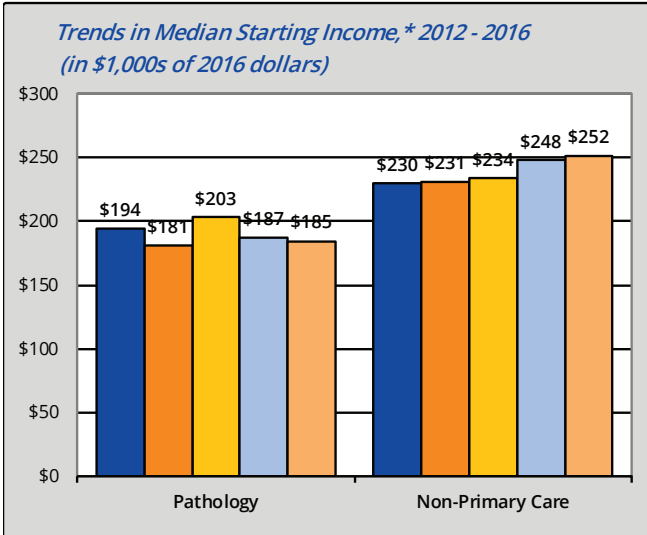
Number of responses: 2012: n = 13, 2013: n = 15, 2014: n = 22, 2015: n = 16, 2016: n = 22.

*Source: CHWS, Survey of Residents Completing Training in New York, 2012 - 2016.

**Source: JAMA Medical Education Issues, 2006 - 2015.

Specialty: Pathology

Legend: 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016



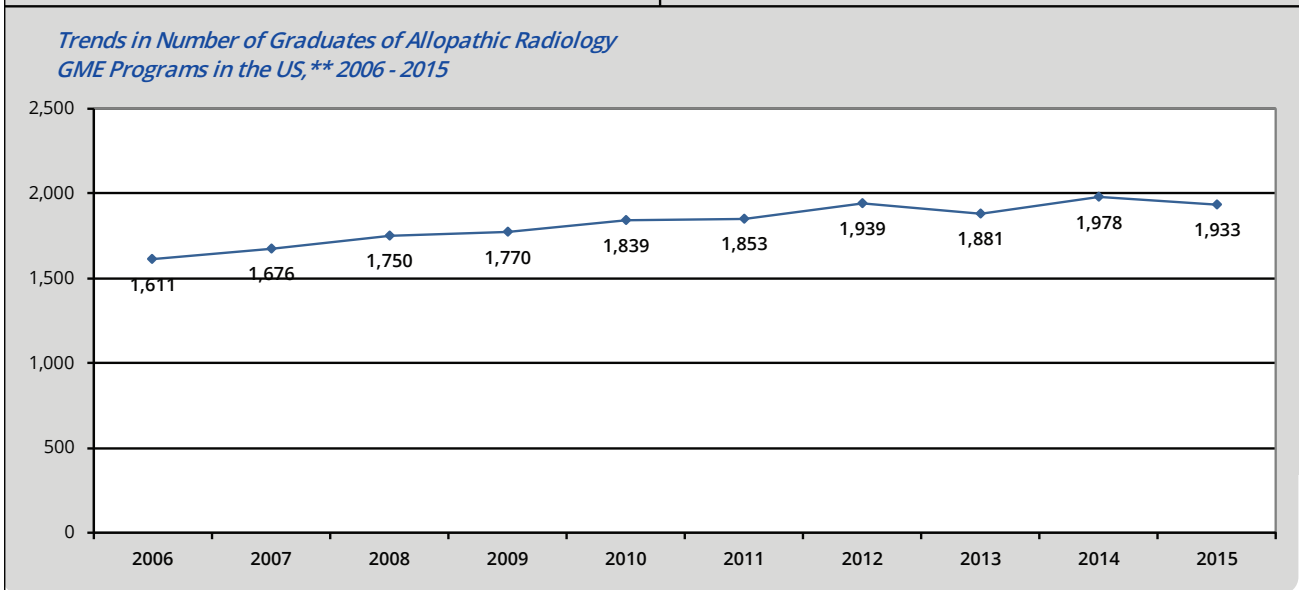
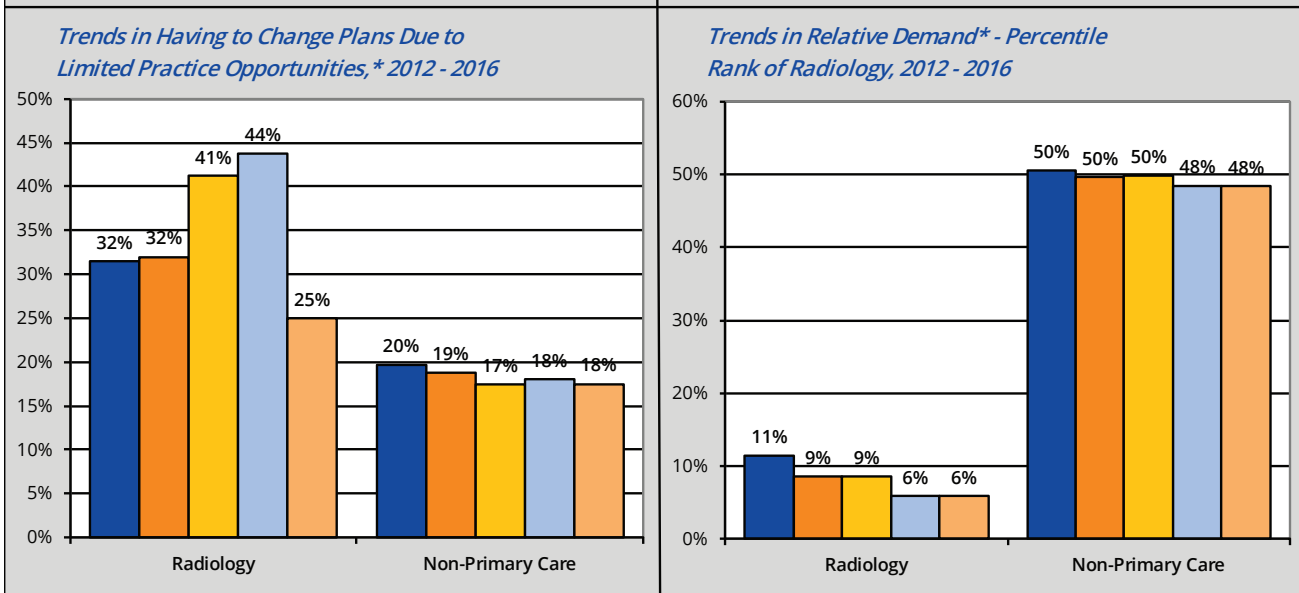
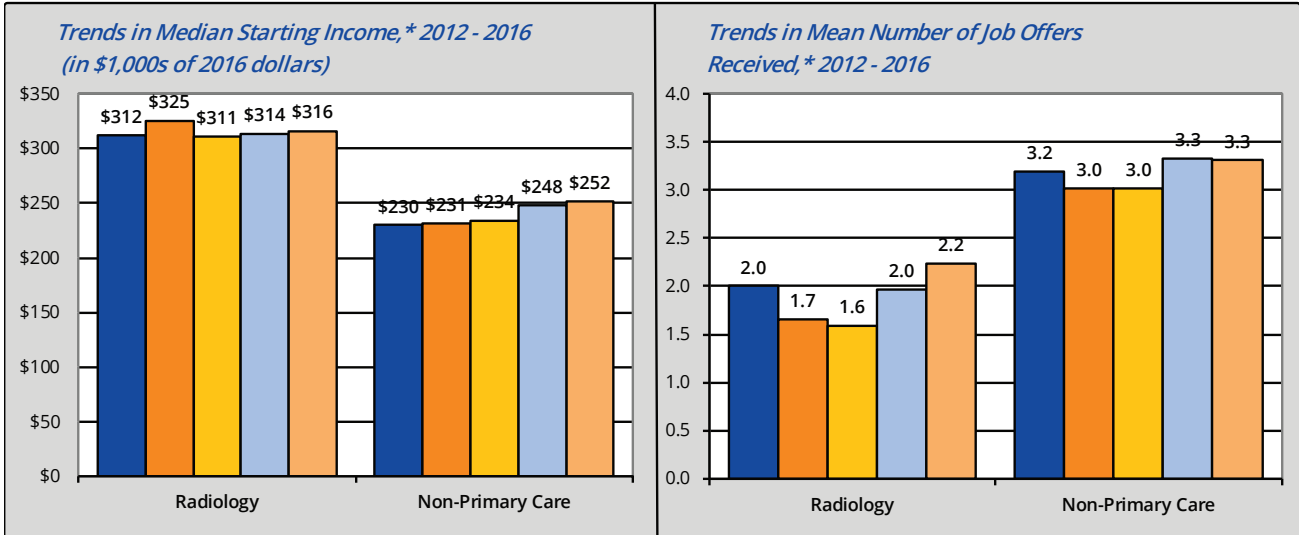
Number of responses: 2012: n = 32, 2013: n = 35, 2014: n = 33, 2015: n = 22, 2016: n = 18.

*Source: CHWS, Survey of Residents Completing Training in New York, 2012 - 2016.

**Source: JAMA Medical Education Issues, 2006 - 2015.

Specialty: Radiology

Legend: ■ 2012 ■ 2013 ■ 2014 ■ 2015 ■ 2016



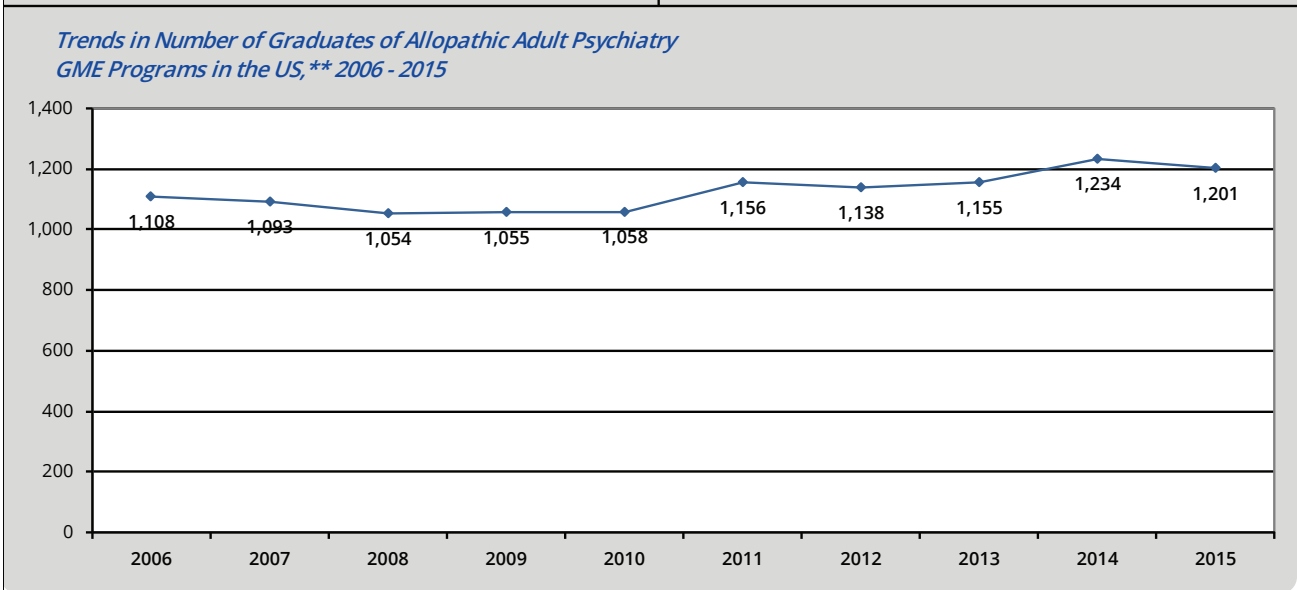
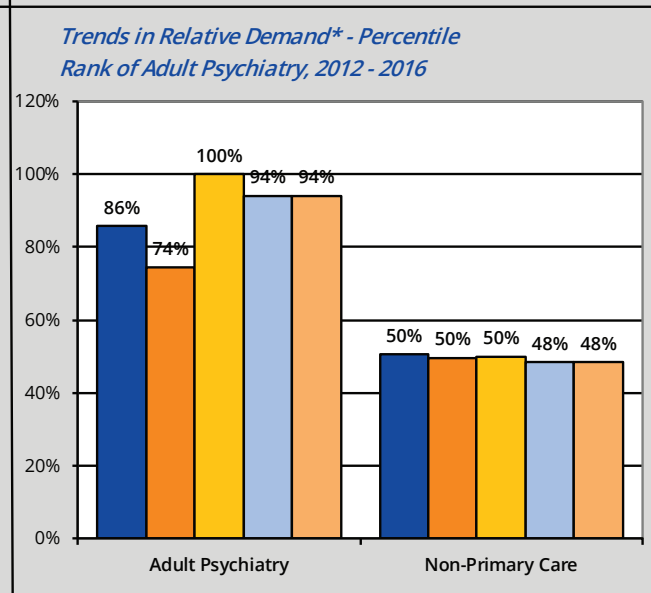
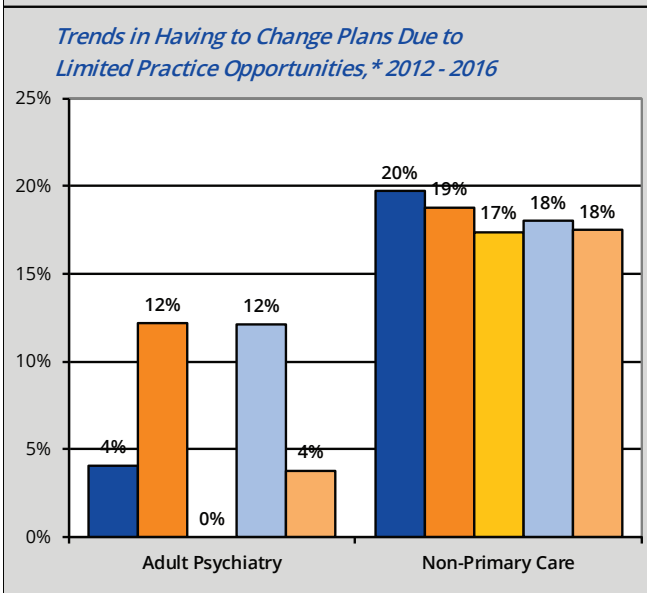
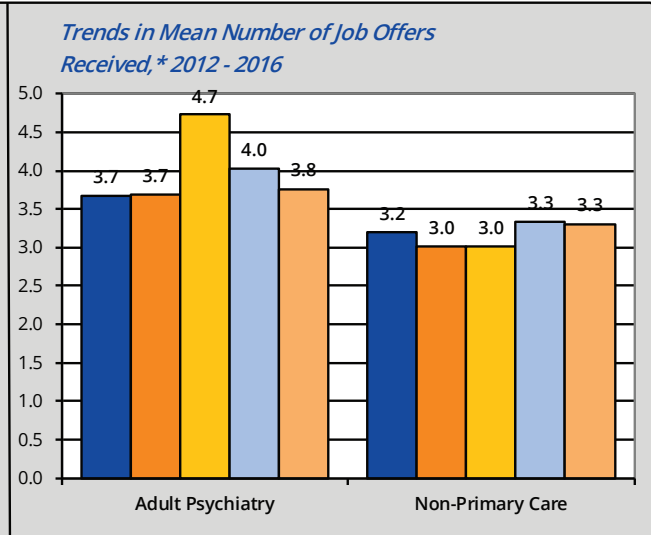
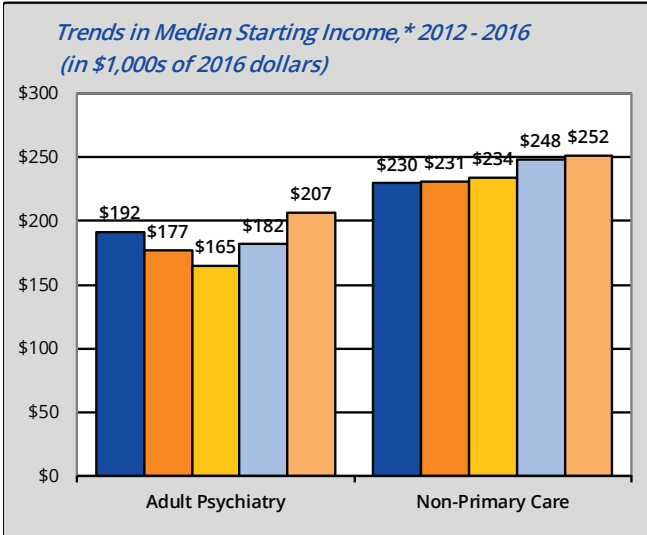
Number of responses: 2012: n = 57, 2013: n = 54, 2014: n = 39, 2015: n = 35, 2016: n = 51.

*Source: CHWS, Survey of Residents Completing Training in New York, 2012 - 2016.

**Source: JAMA Medical Education Issues, 2006 - 2015.

Specialty: Adult Psychiatry

Legend: 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016



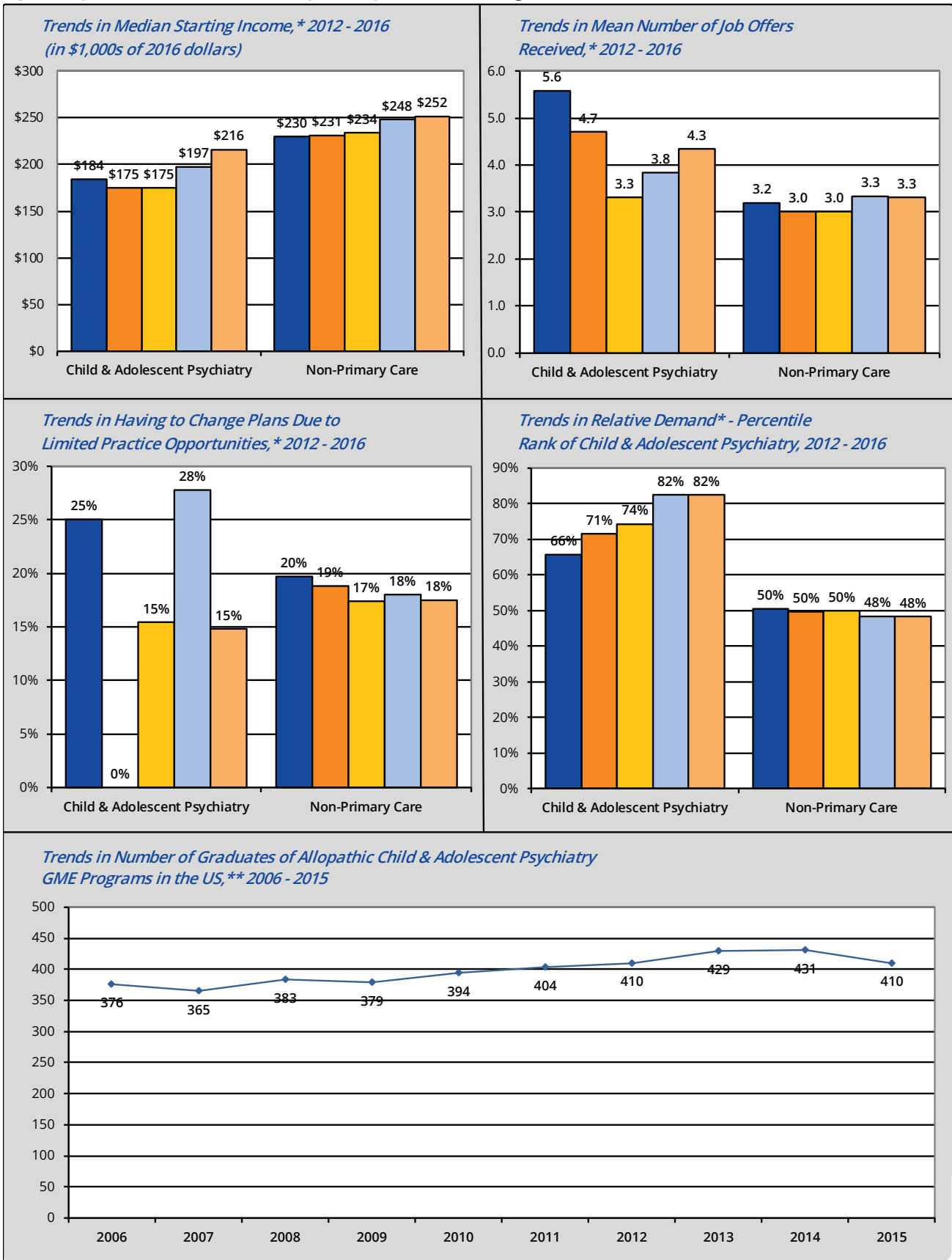
Number of responses: 2012: n = 56, 2013: n = 44, 2014: n = 40, 2015: n = 38, 2016: n = 58.

*Source: CHWS, Survey of Residents Completing Training in New York, 2012 - 2016.

**Source: JAMA Medical Education Issues, 2006 - 2015.

Specialty: Child & Adolescent Psychiatry

Legend: 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016



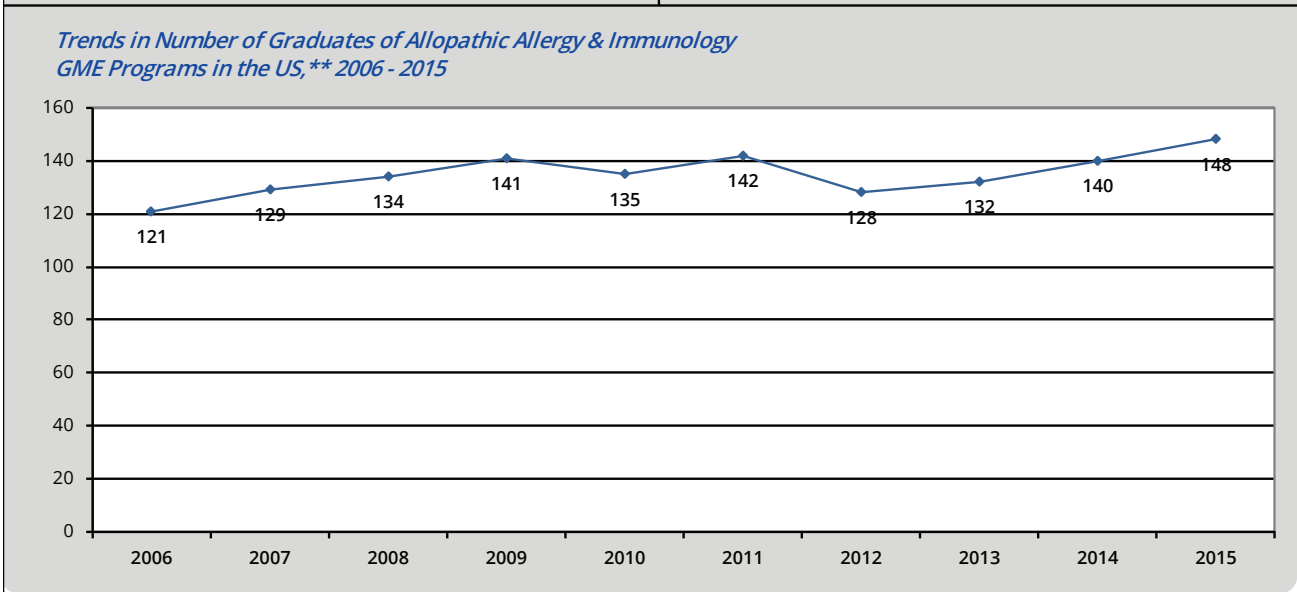
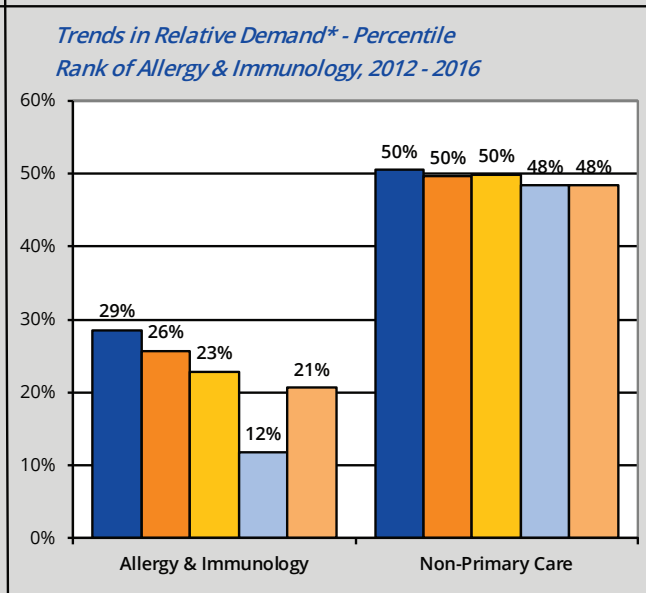
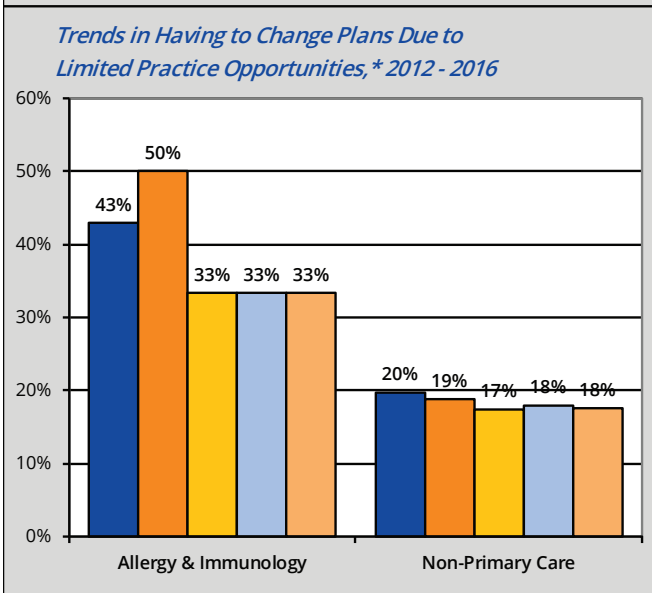
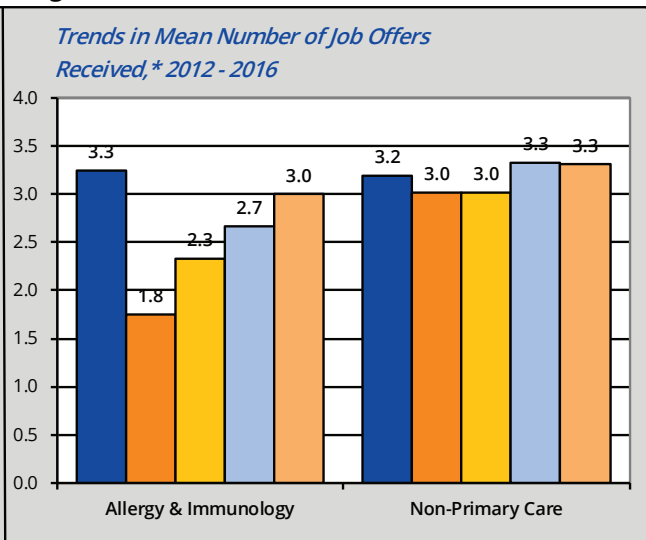
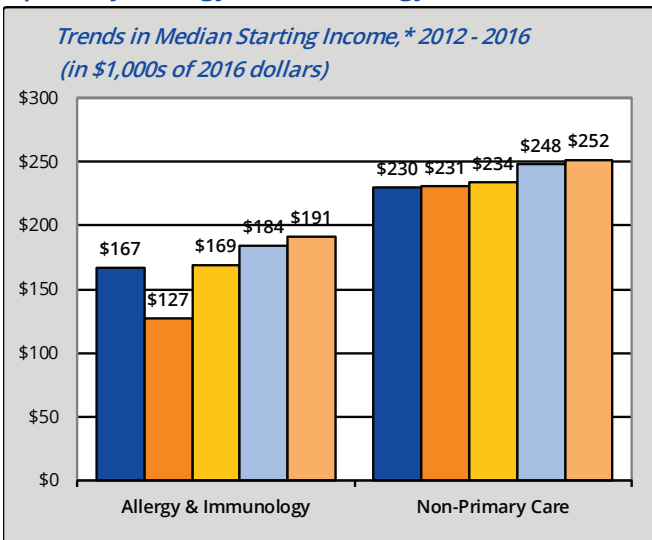
Number of responses: 2012: n = 15, 2013: n = 11, 2014: n = 29, 2015: n = 20, 2016: n = 31.

*Source: CHWS, Survey of Residents Completing Training in New York, 2012 - 2016.

**Source: JAMA Medical Education Issues, 2006 - 2015.

Specialty: Allergy & Immunology

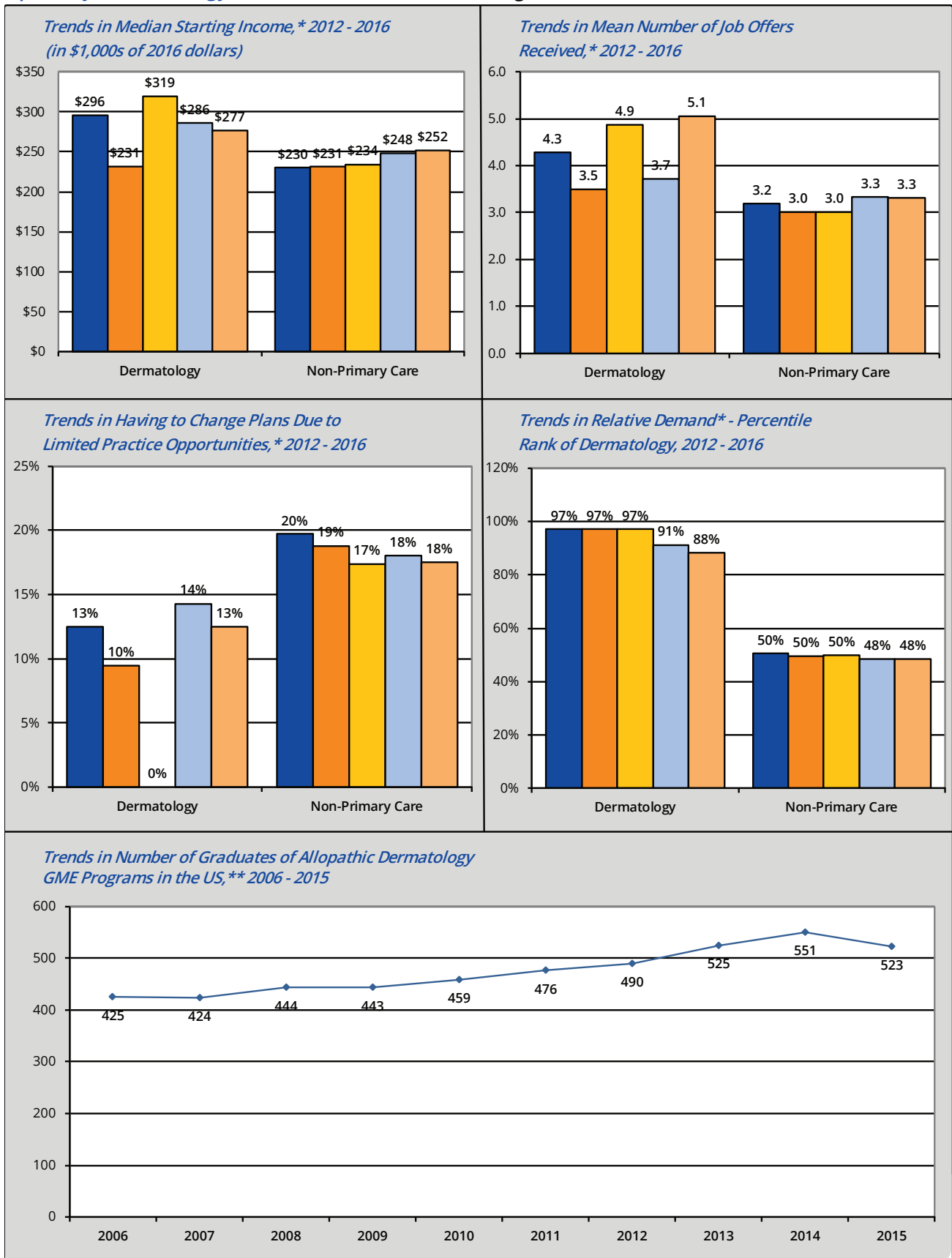
Legend: 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016



Number of responses: 2012: n = 9, 2013: n = 4, 2014: n = 6, 2015: n = 6, 2016: n = 9.
 *Source: CHWS, Survey of Residents Completing Training in New York, 2012 - 2016.
 **Source: JAMA Medical Education Issues, 2006 - 2015.

Specialty: Dermatology

Legend: ■ 2012 ■ 2013 ■ 2014 ■ 2015 ■ 2016



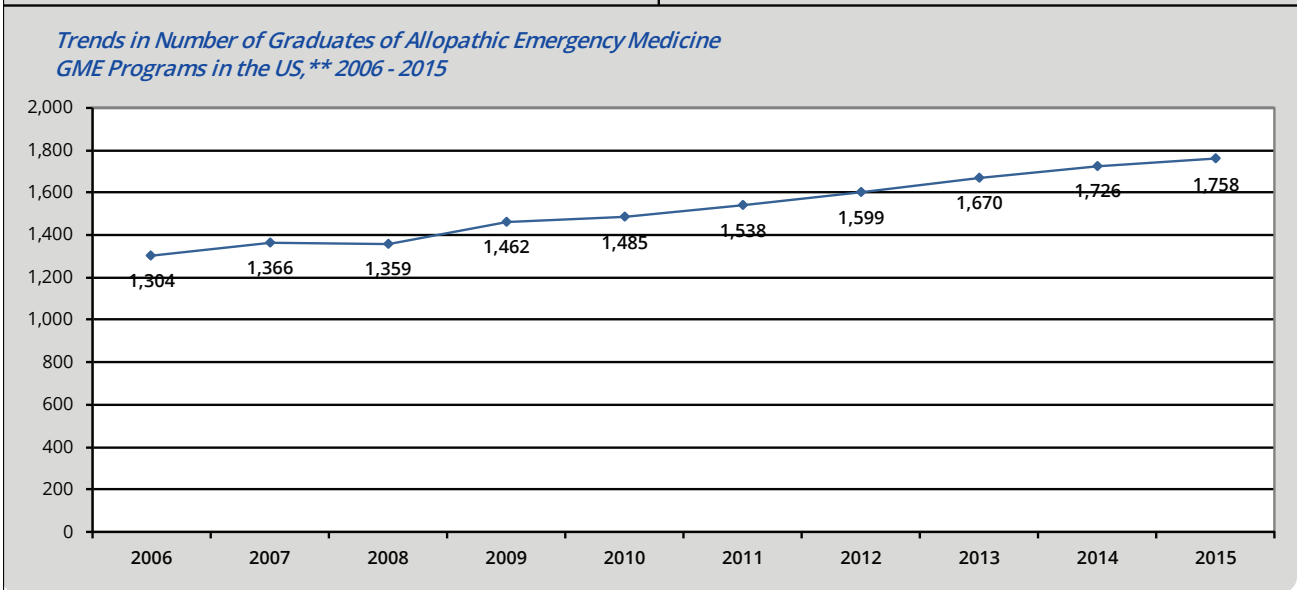
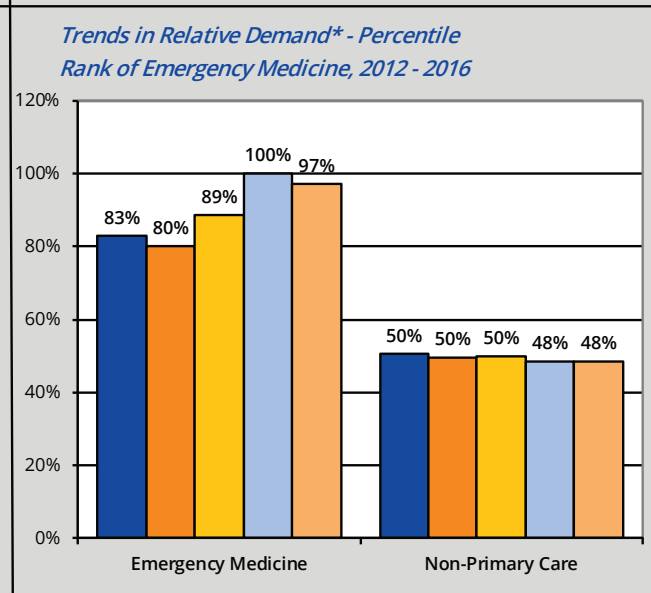
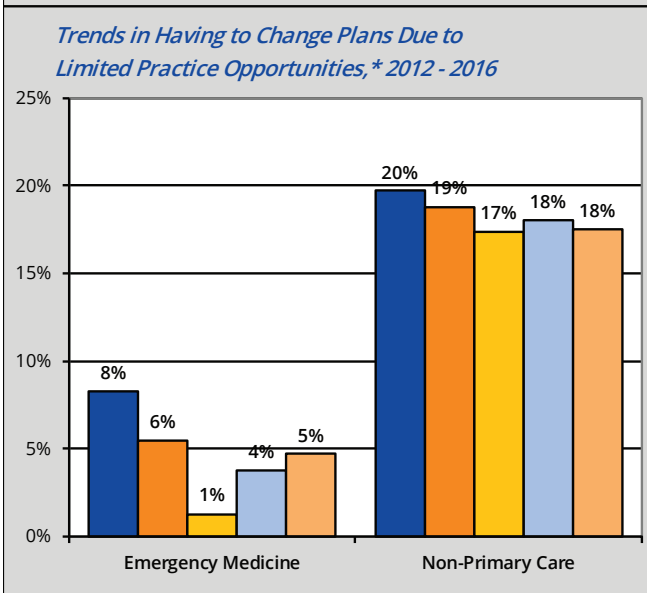
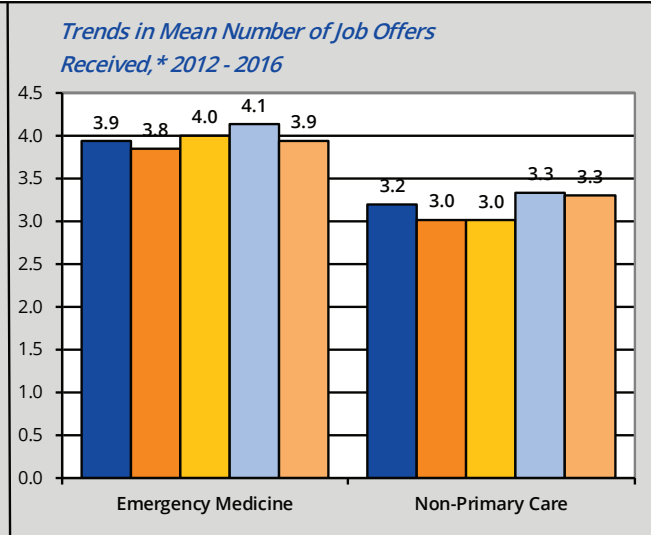
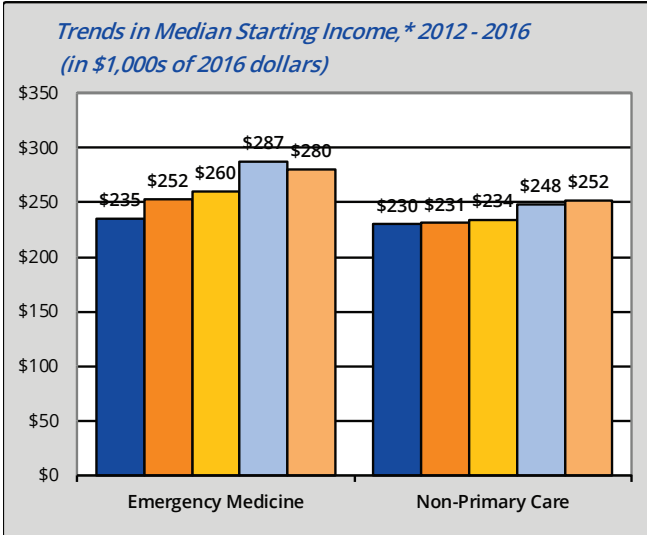
Number of responses: 2012: n = 17, 2013: n = 21, 2014: n = 19, 2015: n = 14, 2016: n = 18.

*Source: CHWS, Survey of Residents Completing Training in New York, 2012 - 2016.

**Source: JAMA Medical Education Issues, 2006 - 2015.

Specialty: Emergency Medicine

Legend: 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016



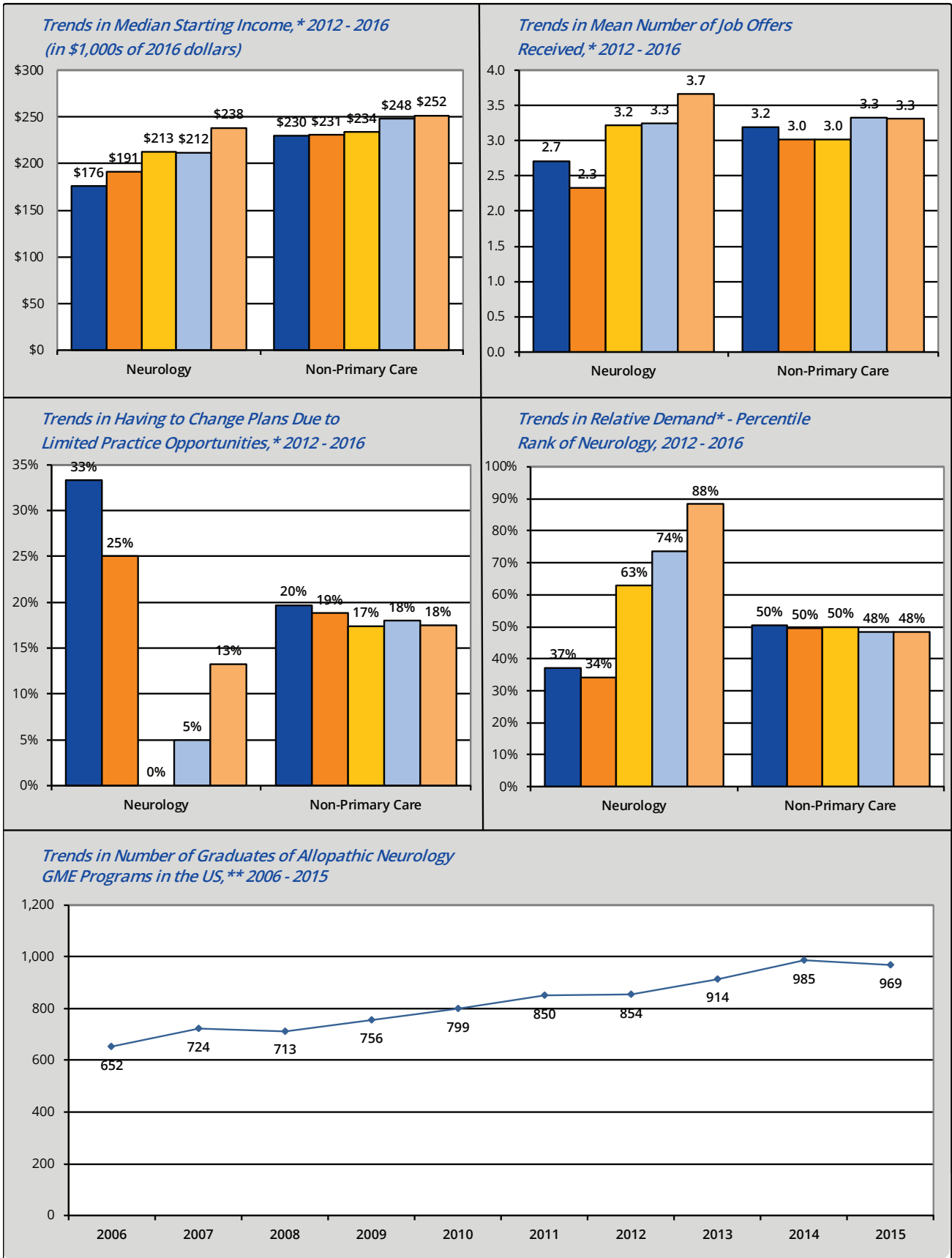
Number of responses: 2012: n = 119, 2013: n = 99, 2014: n = 88, 2015: n = 138, 2016: n = 135.

*Source: CHWS, Survey of Residents Completing Training in New York, 2012 - 2016.

**Source: JAMA Medical Education Issues, 2006 - 2015.

Specialty: Neurology

Legend: ■ 2012 ■ 2013 ■ 2014 ■ 2015 ■ 2016



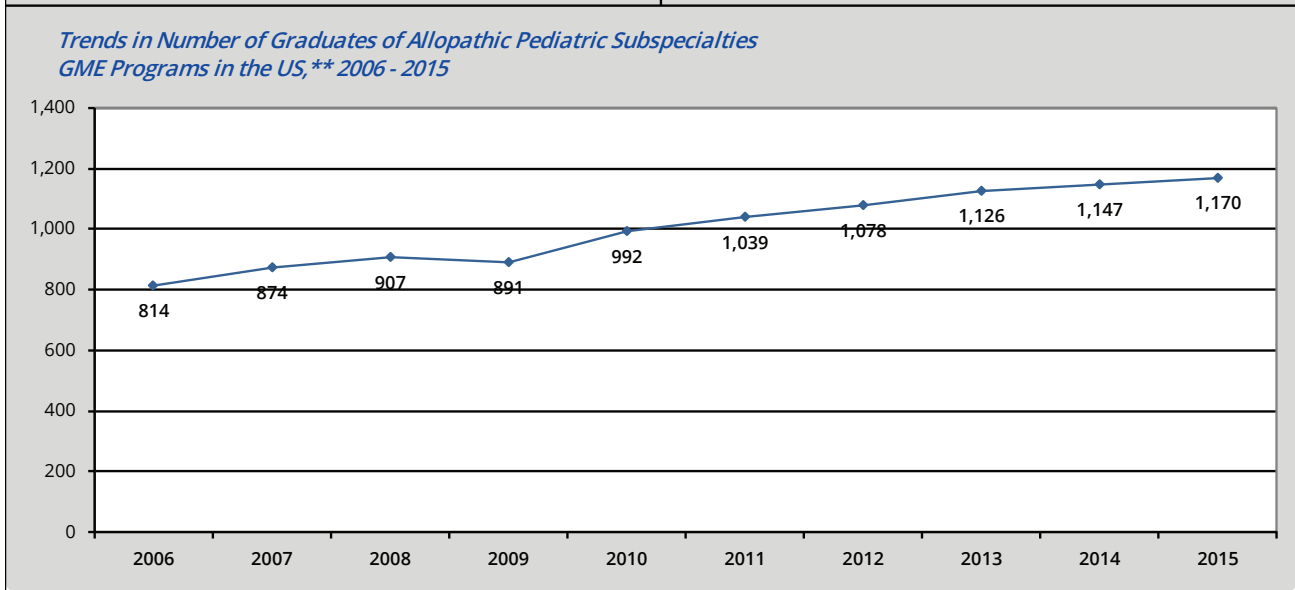
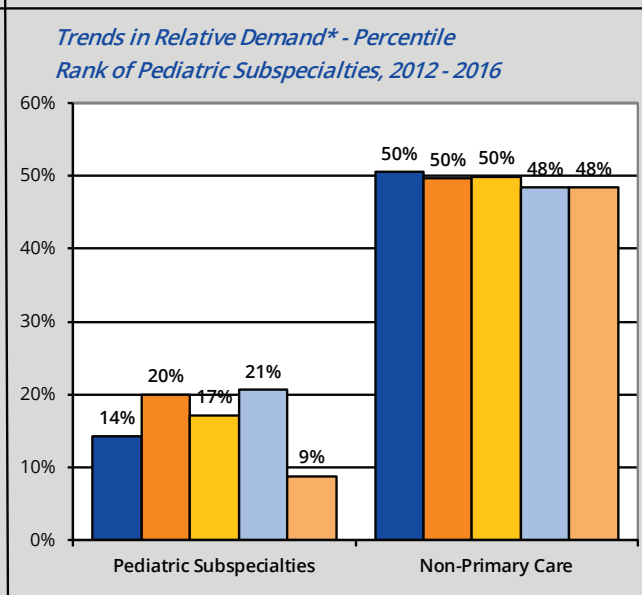
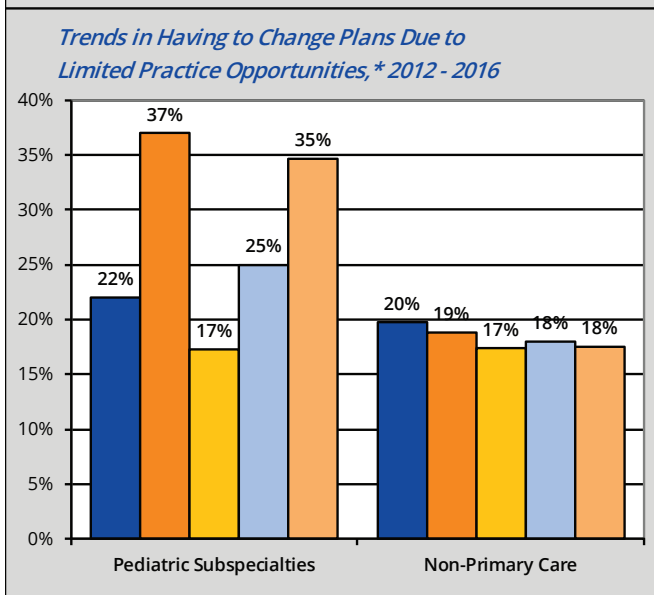
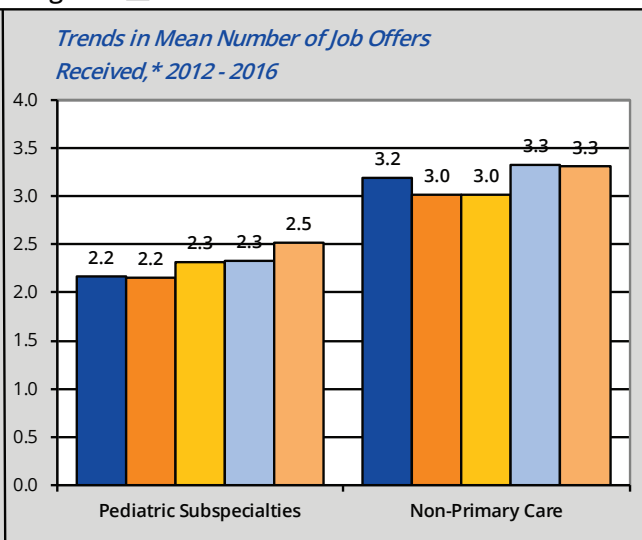
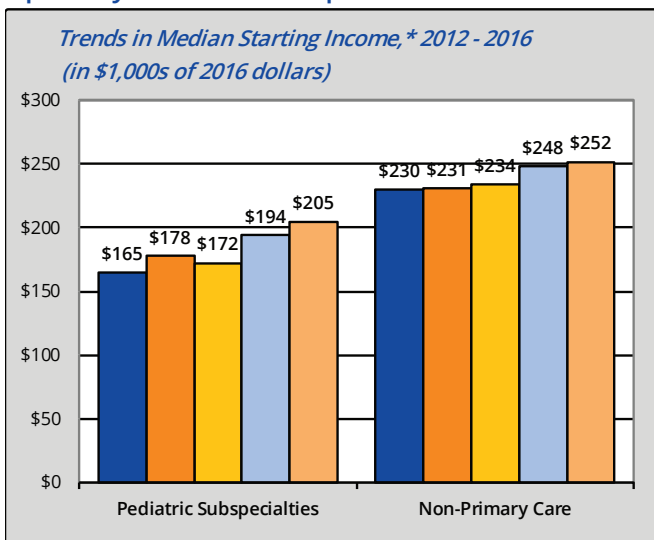
Number of responses: 2012: n = 17, 2013: n = 11, 2014: n = 14, 2015: n = 22, 2016: n = 18.

*Source: CHWS, Survey of Residents Completing Training in New York, 2012 - 2016.

**Source: JAMA Medical Education Issues, 2006 - 2015.

Specialty: Pediatric Subspecialties

Legend: ■ 2012 ■ 2013 ■ 2014 ■ 2015 ■ 2016



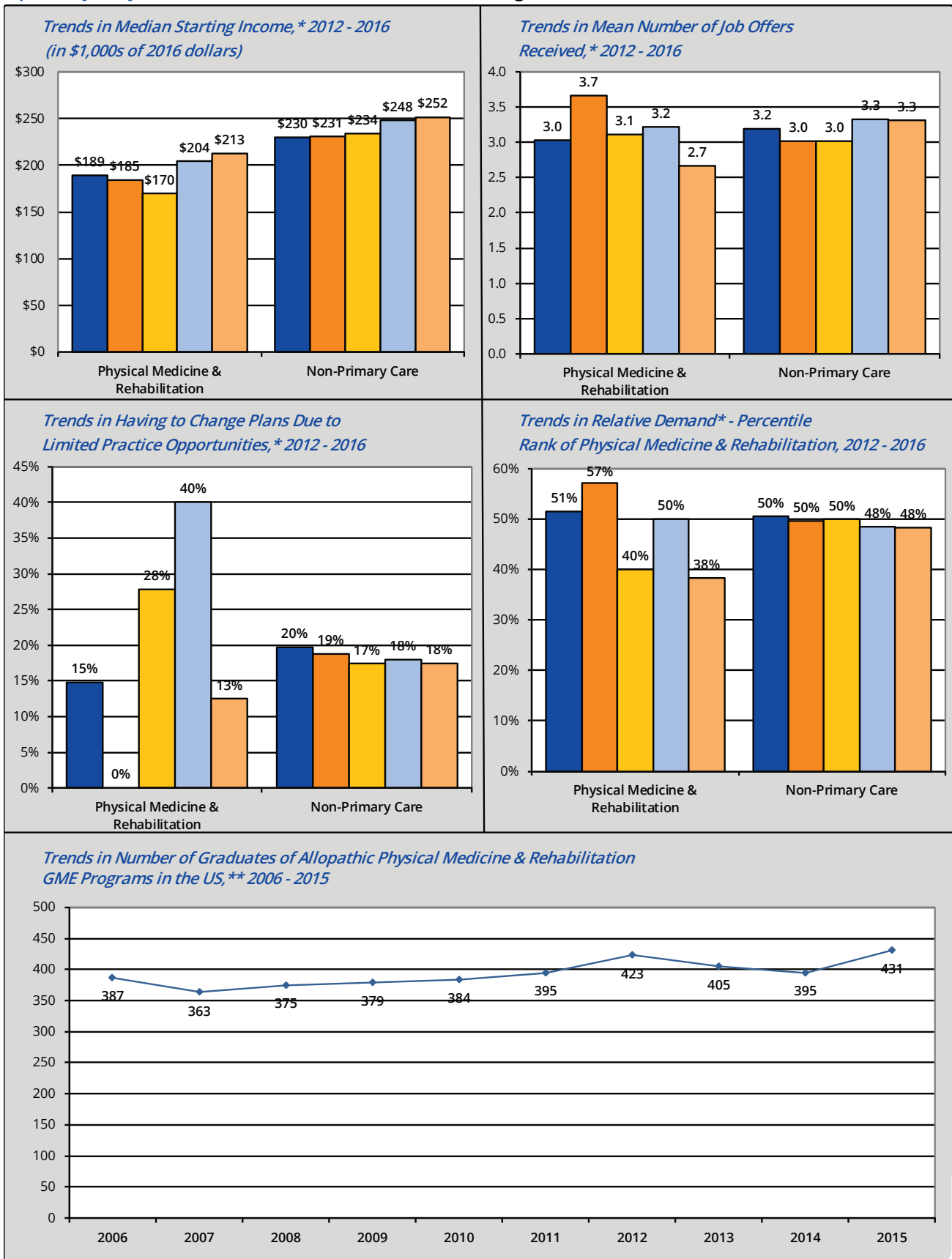
Number of responses: 2012: n = 46, 2013: n = 50, 2014: n = 54, 2015: n = 56, 2016: n = 58.

*Source: CHWS, Survey of Residents Completing Training in New York, 2012 - 2016.

**Source: JAMA Medical Education Issues, 2006 - 2015.

Specialty: Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation

Legend: ■ 2012 ■ 2013 ■ 2014 ■ 2015 ■ 2016



Number of responses: 2012: n = 28, 2013: n = 16, 2014: n = 19, 2015: n = 15, 2016: n = 21.

*Source: CHWS, Survey of Residents Completing Training in New York, 2012 - 2016.

**Source: JAMA Medical Education Issues, 2006 - 2015.



Appendix A

METHODOLOGY USED TO MEASURE RELATIVE DEMAND

The Resident Exit Survey cannot be used to determine *absolute* demand for new physicians in different specialties (ie, it cannot be used to determine the number of physicians necessary to serve a given population). However, by analyzing several questions pertaining to job market experiences and perceptions of new physicians and comparing responses over time, in different geographical locations, and between specialties, it is possible to assess whether respondents from certain specialties or in certain locations are finding more or fewer practice opportunities (ie, it measures *relative* demand).

The implication is that while a specialty, such as pathology, may be in low demand relative to other specialties in an absolute sense, there may still be good opportunities for pathologists, but not as good or as many as another specialist that is seeing higher demand (such as child and adolescent psychiatry). In addition, it is not possible to measure the magnitude of the difference in demand between different specialties. So, if the percentile rank of general internal medicine in New York in 2016 was 94% (ie, general internal medicine had a relative rank equal to or better than 94% of the 34 specialties that were ranked), and the percentile rank of pain management was 44%, this *does not* imply that demand for general internal medicine was more than twice as strong as for pain management. The scale is at the ordinal level of measurement.

To measure demand for a given year, a composite score was computed by taking the median of the ranks (ie, where each specialty stood relative to all 34 specialties) scored by each specialty on each of the demand indicators for data from the previous 4 years of the survey. Data from more recent years of the survey received a greater weight than data from earlier years. For example, when calculating the demand score for 2016, data from 2016 were weighted .40, data from 2015 were weighted .30, data from 2014 were weighted .20, and data from 2013 were weighted .10. The following variables were used as indicators of demand:

- Percentage of respondents having difficulty finding a satisfactory practice position
- Percentage of respondents having to change plans due to limited practice opportunities
- Mean number of job offers received by respondents
- Respondents' mean Likert score summarizing their assessment of the regional job market
- Respondents' mean Likert score summarizing their assessment of the national job market
- Trend (ie, average annual change) in median starting income

None of these indicators used alone will provide a perfect picture of demand. However, considered together, they provide a good picture of relative demand by specialty. There was a high degree of correlation between the “percentage of respondents with difficulty finding a satisfactory practice position” variable and the “percentage of respondents having to change plans due to limited practice opportunities” variable (ie, a respondent reporting “difficulty...” was much more likely to also report “having to change plans...”). There was also a high degree of correlation between respondents’ assessments of the “regional job market” and the “national job market.” To compensate for these observed correlations, the “job offers” variable and the “trends in starting income” variable were each double weighted in computing a composite demand score.

Table 1 summarizes the rank of each specialty (ranked among 34 specialties) on each demand indicator. The variables are:

- **Difficulty:** Rank of each specialty based on the percentage of respondents reporting difficulty finding a satisfactory practice position → eg, the specialty with the lowest percentage of respondents reporting difficulty (emergency medicine) ranked #1 and the specialty with the highest percentage of respondents reporting difficulty (pathology) ranked #34.
- **Change Plans:** Rank of each specialty based on the percentage of respondents that had to change plans due to practice opportunities → eg, the specialty with the lowest percentage of respondents having to change plans (adult psychiatry) ranked #1 and the specialty with the highest percentage of respondents reporting difficulty (pathology) ranked #34.
- **Job Offers:** Rank of each specialty in terms of the mean number of job offers received by respondents (this variable was double weighted in computing the overall demand score) → eg, the specialty with the most job offers (general internal medicine) ranked #1 and the specialty with the fewest job offers (plastic surgery) ranked #34.
- **Regional Market:** Rank of each specialty in terms of the mean Likert score summarizing respondents’ assessments of the regional job market for their specialty → eg, the specialty with the most positive assessment of the regional job market (emergency medicine) ranked #1 and the specialty with the least positive assessment of the regional job market (pathology) ranked #34.
- **National Market:** Rank of each specialty in terms of the mean Likert score summarizing respondents’ assessments of the national job market for their specialty → eg, the specialty with the most positive assessment of the national job market (adult psychology) ranked #1 and the specialty with the least positive assessment of the national job market (pathology) ranked #34.

- **Income Trend:** Rank of each specialty in terms the average annual change (or trend) in median starting income levels of respondents from each specialty → eg, the specialty with the strongest trend in median starting income (general surgery) ranked #1 and the specialty with the weakest trend in median starting income (cardio-thoracic) ranked #34.

Table 1. Summary of Ranks and Demand Indicators

Specialty	Difficulty	Change Plans	Job Offers ^a	Regional Market	National Market	Income Trends ^a	Median Rank	Overall Rank	Percentile Rank ^b
Family Medicine	9	5	1	2	3	7	4.0	1.0	100%
General Internal Medicine	5	9	2	6	5	16	5.5	3.0	94%
General Pediatrics	12	8	24	9	14	18	16.0	14.0	62%
Internal Medicine and Pediatrics (Combined)	1	12	9	8	22	29	10.5	8.0	79%
Ob/Gyn	13	14	14	10	13	24	14.0	12.0	68%
Cardiology	25	26	18	29	29	34	27.5	29.0	18%
Critical Care Med	23	23	12	23	16	23	23.0	24.0	32%
Endocrinology and Metabolism	17	18	10	13	18	12	12.5	10.0	74%
Gastroenterology	20	22	11	16	12	28	18.0	16.0	56%
Geriatrics	21	21	4	14	15	22	18.0	16.0	56%
Hematology/Oncology	26	19	19	25	17	5	19.0	19.0	47%
Infectious Disease	29	30	27	28	32	14	27.5	29.0	18%
Nephrology	31	34	17	27	31	20	23.5	25.0	29%
Pulmonary Disease	16	16	16	24	8	27	16.0	14.0	62%
Rheumatology	18	27	20	20	24	17	20.0	20.0	44%
General Surgery	7	28	26	21	6	4	14.0	12.0	68%
Neurosurgery	24	25	30	31	21	3	24.5	26.0	26%
Ophthalmology	4	10	32	15	11	21	18.0	16.0	56%
Orthopedic	19	13	23	22	25	15	20.5	22.0	38%
Otolaryngology	14	1	13	11	20	33	13.5	11.0	71%
Cardio-Thoracic Surg	27	3	31	30	23	10	25.0	27.0	24%
Urology	8	20	8	12	10	32	11.0	9.0	76%
Anesthesiology	10	15	28	17	27	31	27.5	29.0	18%
Pain Management	22	11	21	19	26	1	20.0	20.0	44%
Pathology	34	33	34	34	34	30	34.0	34.0	3%
Radiology	30	31	33	32	33	26	31.5	33.0	6%
Adult Psychiatry	3	4	7	1	1	19	5.5	3.0	94%
Child and Adolescent Psychiatry	15	17	5	4	7	11	9.0	7.0	82%
Allergy and Immunology	33	32	25	26	28	8	25.5	28.0	21%
Dermatology	6	7	3	5	9	25	6.5	5.0	88%
Emergency Medicine	2	2	6	3	4	9	5.0	2.0	97%
Neurology	11	6	15	7	2	2	6.5	5.0	88%
Pediatric Subspecialties	28	29	29	33	30	6	29.0	32.0	9%
Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation	32	24	22	18	19	13	20.5	22.0	38%

^a The job offers variable and the income trend variable were each double weighted in computing the median rank.

^b The percentile rank is the percentage of all 34 specialties with a median demand rank equal to or lower than each specialty.

The following example illustrates how the demand score was calculated for General Internal Medicine in New York in 2016:

Median Rank_{GIM} = median (difficulty, change plans, job offers, job offers, regional market, national market, income trends, income trends)

$$\text{Median Rank}_{\text{GIM}} = \text{median} (5, 9, 2, 2, 6, 5, 16, 16)$$

$$\text{Median Rank}_{\text{GIM}} = \mathbf{5.5}$$

With a median rank of 5.5, General Internal Medicine ranked 3rd out of 34 specialties.

The *percentile rank* is computed as:

$$\% \text{rank}_{\text{GIM}} = \{ 1 - (\text{RankGIM} / \#\text{Specs}) + (1 / \#\text{Specs}) \}$$

"#Specs" = the number of specialties being ranked

In New York in 2016, there were 34 specialties being ranked, so the percentile rank of General Internal Medicine is:

$$\% \text{rank}_{\text{GIM}} = \{ 1 - (5.5 / 34) + (1 / 34) \} = \mathbf{94\%}.$$



Appendix B

SPECIALTY COMPARISON GROUPS

Specialty	Comparison Group ^a
Family Medicine	Primary Care
General Internal Medicine	Primary Care
General Pediatrics	Primary Care
Internal Medicine and Pediatrics (Combined)	Primary Care
Obstetrics/Gynecology	Non-Primary Care
Cardiology	Medicine Subspecialties
Critical Care Medicine	Medicine Subspecialties
Endocrinology and Metabolism	Medicine Subspecialties
Gastroenterology	Medicine Subspecialties
Geriatrics	Medicine Subspecialties
Hematology/Oncology	Medicine Subspecialties
Infectious Disease	Medicine Subspecialties
Nephrology	Medicine Subspecialties
Pulmonary Disease	Medicine Subspecialties
Rheumatology	Medicine Subspecialties
General Surgery	Non-Primary Care
Neurosurgery	Surgical Subspecialties
Ophthalmology	Surgical Subspecialties
Orthopedic Surgery	Surgical Subspecialties
Otolaryngology	Surgical Subspecialties
Cardio-Thoracic Surgery	Surgical Subspecialties
Urology	Surgical Subspecialties
Anesthesiology	Non-Primary Care
Pain Management	Non-Primary Care
Pathology	Non-Primary Care
Radiology	Non-Primary Care
Adult Psychiatry	Non-Primary Care
Child and Adolescent Psychiatry	Non-Primary Care
Allergy and Immunology	Non-Primary Care
Dermatology	Non-Primary Care
Emergency Medicine	Non-Primary Care
Neurology	Non-Primary Care
Pediatric Subspecialties	Non-Primary Care
Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation	Non-Primary Care

^a In each specialty profile, statistics for the specialty are presented next to the average of all specialties in the group to which the specialty belongs (ie, the comparison group). As an example, the starting median of family practice is compared to the median starting income of all primary care. Likewise, the relative demand (or percentile rank) of cardiology is compared against the average percentile rank of all medicine subspecialties.

NY RESIDENT EXIT SURVEY INSTRUMENT

12. Specialty you are COMPLETING in 2016

(select only one)

- Allergy and Immunology
- Anesthesiology (General)
- Anesthesiology–Pain Management
- Other Anesthesiology Subspecialty–specify: _____
- Dermatology
- Emergency Medicine
- Family Medicine
- Internal Medicine (General)
- Cardiology
- Critical Care Medicine
- Endocrinology and Metabolism
- Gastroenterology
- Geriatrics
- Hematology/Oncology
- Infectious Disease
- Nephrology
- Pulmonary Disease/CCM
- Rheumatology
- Other Internal Medicine Subspecialty–specify: _____
- Internal Medicine and Pediatrics (Combined)
- Neurology
- Nuclear Medicine
- Obstetrics and Gynecology (General)
- Obstetrics and Gynecology (Subspecialty)–specify: _____
- Pathology (General)
- Pathology (Subspecialty)–specify: _____
- Pediatrics (General)
- Pediatrics (Subspecialty)–specify: _____
- Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
- Preventive Medicine/Public Health/Occupational Medicine
- Psychiatry
- Child and Adolescent Psychiatry
- Other Psychiatry Subspecialty–specify: _____
- Radiology (Diagnostic)
- Radiology (Therapeutic)
- Surgery (General)
- Cardio-Thoracic Surgery
- Neurological Surgery
- Ophthalmology
- Orthopedic Surgery
- Otolaryngology
- Plastic Surgery
- Urology
- Other Surgical Subspecialty–specify: _____
- Other–specify: _____

13. What do you expect to be doing after completion of your current training program?

Primary Activity (mark only one)

- Patient care/clinical practice (in non-training position)
- Additional subspecialty training or fellowship (specify specialty): _____
- Chief resident
- Teaching/research (in non-training position)
- Temporarily out of medicine
- Other (specify): _____
- Undecided/don't know yet

C. FUTURE PLANS

14. If you are going on for additional training/fellowship, please answer the following:

A. Why are you subspecializing/continuing training? (mark all that apply)

- To further your medical education
- Unable to find a job you are happy with
- Unable to find any job
- To stay in the U.S. (i.e., due to visa status)
- Other (specify): _____
- Always intended to subspecialize
- Question does not apply

B. If you are leaving NY to continue your training, do you plan to return to NY to practice when your training is complete?

- Yes
- Don't know yet
- No
- Question does not apply

15. In your upcoming position, how many hours per week do you expect to spend in each of the following activities?

	None	1-9	10-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60+
Direct patient care	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Research	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Teaching	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Administration	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Volunteering/Community service	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

16. Where is the location of your primary activity after completing your current training position?

- Same city/county as current training
- Same region within NY, but different city/county
- Other area within NY
- Other state
- Outside the U.S.
- Don't know yet

17. Do you have an obligation or visa requirement to work in a federally designated Health Professional Shortage Area?

- Yes
- No

22. How many years do you expect to be at your principal practice?
 1 2 3 4 5 or more

23. Which best describes the demographics of the area in which you will be practicing?
 Inner city
 Other area within major city
 Suburban
 Small city (population less than 50,000)
 Rural

24. A. Please identify all of the incentives you received for accepting this practice position (mark all that apply). Also, please indicate the most influential incentive in your decision to accept this practice position (mark only one).

	Incentives Received	Most Influential Incentive
H-1 visa sponsorship	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
J-1 visa waiver	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Sign-on bonus	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Income guarantees	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
On-call payments	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Relocation allowances	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Spouse/Partner job transition assistance	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Support for maintenance of certification and continuing medical education	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Career development opportunities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Educational loan repayment	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other, specify: _____	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
None	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

B. If you received any incentives, how important were they in your decision to accept this practice position?
 Not at all important Important
 Of little importance Very important

25. Expected gross income during first year of practice:

A. Base Salary/Income	B. Anticipated Additional Incentive Income
<input type="radio"/> Less than \$75,000	<input type="radio"/> None
<input type="radio"/> \$75,000–\$99,999	<input type="radio"/> Less than \$5,000
<input type="radio"/> \$100,000–\$124,999	<input type="radio"/> \$5,000–\$9,999
<input type="radio"/> \$125,000–\$149,999	<input type="radio"/> \$10,000–\$14,999
<input type="radio"/> \$150,000–\$174,999	<input type="radio"/> \$15,000–\$19,999
<input type="radio"/> \$175,000–\$199,999	<input type="radio"/> \$20,000–\$24,999
<input type="radio"/> \$200,000–\$224,999	<input type="radio"/> \$25,000–\$29,999
<input type="radio"/> \$225,000–\$249,999	<input type="radio"/> \$30,000–\$34,999
<input type="radio"/> \$250,000–\$274,999	<input type="radio"/> \$35,000–\$39,999
<input type="radio"/> \$275,000–\$299,999	<input type="radio"/> \$40,000–\$44,999
<input type="radio"/> \$300,000–\$324,999	<input type="radio"/> \$45,000–\$49,999
<input type="radio"/> \$325,000–\$349,999	<input type="radio"/> \$50,000–\$54,999
<input type="radio"/> \$350,000–\$374,999	<input type="radio"/> \$55,000–\$59,999
<input type="radio"/> \$375,000 and over	<input type="radio"/> \$60,000 and over

26. What is your level of satisfaction with your salary/compensation?
 Very dissatisfied Somewhat satisfied
 Somewhat dissatisfied Very satisfied

E. EXPERIENCE IN JOB MARKET
 (If you are going into patient care or have considered going into patient care, please complete the following.)

27. A. Did you have difficulty finding a practice position you were satisfied with?
 Yes No Haven't looked yet
 (Skip to Question #30)

B. If Yes, what would you say was the main reason? (mark only one)
 Overall lack of jobs/practice opportunities
 Lack of jobs/practice opportunities that meet visa status requirements
 Lack of jobs/practice opportunities in desired locations
 Lack of jobs/practice opportunities in desired practice setting (e.g., hospital, group practice, etc.)
 Inadequate salary/compensation offered
 Lack of employment opportunities for spouse/partner
 Other (specify): _____

28. Did you have to change your plans because of limited practice opportunities?
 Yes No Haven't looked yet
 (Skip to Question #30)

29. How many offers for practice positions did you receive (excluding fellowships, chief residency, and other training positions)?
 None 1 2 3
 4 5 6–10 Over 10

30. What is your overall assessment of practice opportunities in your specialty, and within 50 miles of the site where you trained?
 No jobs Some jobs
 Very few jobs Many jobs
 Few jobs Unknown

31. What is your overall assessment of practice opportunities in your specialty nationally?
 No jobs Some jobs
 Very few jobs Many jobs
 Few jobs Unknown

THANK YOU FOR COMPLETING THIS IMPORTANT SURVEY.



About the Authors



David Armstrong, PhD

Project Director, Center for Health Workforce Studies

Dr. Armstrong oversees CHWS projects which monitor the supply and distribution of the health workforce in New York and other states. In collaboration with professional health organizations in the state, he also administers provider recruitment and retention surveys to monitor health workforce demand. Dr. Armstrong also is the director of the Health Workforce Technical Assistance Center, which provides technical assistance to individuals, hospitals, and various states and organizations.



Yuhao Liu, MPA

Research Associate, Center for Health Workforce Studies

Mr. Liu specializes in data collection, analysis, and visualization, as well as relational database management, public policy research, and financial analysis. He holds an MPA with concentrations in Statistics and Information Strategy and Management from the University at Albany, SUNY.



Gaetano J. Forte

Director of Center Operations, Center for Health Workforce Studies

Mr. Forte is a veteran health services researcher having spent nearly 2 decades studying the health workforce. As Director of Operations, Mr. Forte oversees all research projects at CHWS, working with the project directors to ensure that research is conducted at the highest level of quality, in a timely manner, and in accordance with the agreements between CHWS and its funders.



School of Public Health | University at Albany, SUNY
1 University Place, Suite 220 | Rensselaer, NY 12144-3445

www.chwsny.org