

State of the Kentucky Physician Workforce and the Impacts of Covid

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KY Physician Workforce

Year	Physician Count	Physician Year Change
2019	10,592	-
2022	10,002	-590

Source: KY Office of Rural Health, 2022 Kentucky Physician Report

KY Physician Economic Impact

- 94,338+ Kentucky jobs supported by physicians
- \$1.9M average economic impact of each physician
- Decrease of 590 physicians = Over \$1B in economic impact lost

Source: The Economic Impact of Physicians in Kentucky, IQVIA, American Medical Association

Physician Wellbeing

44% Experiencing more stress now than before the pandemic, but it is manageable and does not affect their quality of life

23% Experiencing stress and having a difficult time managing and/or is impacting their professional satisfaction

Major Causes of Stress:

- ➔ **Too many administrative burdens at work (43%)**
- ➔ Problems with work/personal life balance (30%)
- ➔ Not enough clinical support (27%)
- ➔ Not enough administrative support (26%)

Prior Authorization

- 81% said prior authorization delays access to necessary care for patients sometimes (24%), often (43%), or always (14%)
- 61% cited prior authorization for **medications** as the main administrative burden.
 - 47% cited **imaging**
 - 30% cited **procedures**
- *“Patient died of a hypoglycemic event and drowning while he was waiting on a PA for a continuous glucose sensor.”*

Solutions

- Reform prior authorization and help to reduce the number of administrative burdens put on physicians
- Continue to support physician wellness
- Maintain support for the Kentucky State Loan Repayment Program
- Invest in state-based graduate medical education

Questions?
