2020

The State of the Urology Workforce and Practice in the United States



American Urological Association (AUA)

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Preface

Recognizing the lack of creditable data regarding the urologic workforce and practice patterns, the AUA's Board of Directors approved the implementation of an annual specialty-wide census in February 2014. The inaugural AUA Annual Census was launched at the AUA Annual Meeting in Orlando, FL, in May of 2014. The AUA Annual Census is a complex survey designed to systematically collect reliable data surrounding the practical details of the urologic workforce from multiple perspectives worldwide and serves as one of many data components that make up AUA's urologic data repository used to support decision-making, policy development, and evidence-based research.

2020 marks the seventh consecutive year of Census data collection. Structured to support both crosssectional and longitudinal studies, the AUA Annual Census is a two-part survey. Base questions are designed to track trends on fundamental workforce factors such as geographical location, demographic characteristics, education and training, and urology practice patterns. While base questions are repeated each year, a set of new questions focusing on yearly priority topics identified by the AUA are added to each annual Census. In 2020, the priority areas were the adoption of patient-reported outcomes, utilization of telemedicine, patient access to care, and patient communication and education. The data collected in 2020 were analyzed and reported in this annual report, *The State of the Urology Workforce and Practice in the United States - 2020*.

Urologic care providers, researchers, and all who are interested in exploring the urologic workforce and practice patterns are encouraged to use the information in this report and that of previous years' publications. Interested parties are also urged to utilize AUA's public-use Census data to conduct studies directly. The AUA Annual Census provides irrefutable information to fill the knowledge gaps surrounding the urologic profession. Its findings serve as a valuable source to inform clinical practice, public policy, and fuel scientific research.

Continuing the tradition, the 2021 AUA Annual Census will be launched in May as an online survey and remain open through the end of September 2021. All urologic community members are encouraged to participate to ensure that the AUA Annual Census remains representative and beneficial for AUA members.

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Chair, AUA Science and Quality Council The Paul V. Hamilton, M.D. and Virginia E. Howd Chair in Urologic Oncology Professor of Urologic Surgery and Medicine Vanderbilt University Medical Center The American Urological Association would like to thank all the members of the urology community for their continued support and participation in the Annual Census.

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The American Urological Association (AUA) is committed to providing the urologic community with the education, research, advocacy and data required to address the increasing number of challenges and opportunities presented to the profession as the demand for urologic care grows. Data relating to the urology workforce and practice patterns play an important role in generating knowledge to inform urologic care and workforce policy.

Data collection for the 2020 AUA Annual Census began online in May 2020 and continued until the end of September 2020. A total of 4,030 urologists and other urologic care professionals, representing 91 countries and regions throughout the world, completed the 2020 AUA Annual Census. The results on U.S. practicing urologists were adjusted for non-responses and are reported in this annual publication.

The AUA Annual Census is a primary data source to explore the profession of urology from multiple angles through the collection of information from practicing urologists and other professionals worldwide. The data collected assist in filling knowledge gaps and meeting research needs while, ultimately, improving patient care.

Definition of the Urologist Population

Practicing urologists are defined as those with valid medical licenses reported in the National Provider Identifier (NPI) file as either urologists or pediatric urologists. Those who were reported as either surgeons or specialists in the NPI file and those who did not report a medical degree (MD or DO) were checked against the American Board of Urology (ABU) certification records maintained by the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) and the American Osteopathic Board of Surgery (AOBS) certification records listed on the American Osteopathic Association (AOA) website. Urologists in residency training were excluded from this report; however, their results will be published in a separate report at a later time.

The 2020 U.S. urologist population consists of a total of 13,352 practicing urologists, an increase of 2.4 percent from 13,044 practicing urologists in 2019.

Data Collection and Justification for Non-Response

The 2020 AUA Annual Census was in the field during the peak of the COVID-19 pandemic and therefore affected by temporary office closures. Nevertheless, a total of 4,030 respondents completed the 2020 AUA Annual Census–3,004 of whom were from the United States. Of these, 1,972 Census respondents were validated to be practicing urologists in the United States and formed the Census sample data for analysis. In answering many questions, respondents were asked to report on pre-pandemic business operations. However, it is inevitable many responses are a reflection of the actual business operations during the pandemic.

The population file and the Census survey sample file were linked using post-stratification factors (i.e., gender, location, certification status, years since initial certification) to adjust for the non-response bias in a Census survey by the assigned proper sample weight.

KEY FINDINGS

In 2020, **13,352 urologists** who provided direct patient care were identified as "practicing urologists" in the U.S. Of those practicing urologists, 85.7 percent are "actively" practicing, meaning they devote at least 25 hours per week to clinical activities (TABLE 1-1).

- Both the number of urologists and the urologist-topopulation ratio in the U.S. continued to increase from 2015 to 2020 (FIGURE 1-1). Among the 50 U.S. states, Rhode Island has the highest urologist-to-population ratio, while Nevada continues to have the lowest ratio (TABLE 1-2).
- Of the practicing urologists in the U.S., 10.5 percent maintain their primary practice locations in nonmetropolitan areas (TABLE 1-5) in comparison to roughly 20 percent of Americans living there, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. The likelihood of practicing urologists maintaining their primary practice locations in non-metropolitan areas increases with the age of the urologists (FIGURE 1-6).
- There was a significant increase in the number of women in the urology workforce from 897 in 2014 to 1,375 in 2020 (FIGURE 2-1). The average annual growth rate was 8.9 percent per year for women compared to 1.8 percent per year for men. For the first time in history, women urologists surpassed 10 percent of the workforce in 2020 (TABLE 2-2).
- The number of urologists self-identifying as African American/Black increased by 8.9 percent compared to a year ago, while the number of urologists selfidentifying as Hispanic ethnicity remains unchanged

(TABLE 2-3 and TABLE 2-4).

- More than 90 percent of urologists are married (TABLE 2-5).
- Approximately 89 percent of practicing urologists in the U.S. attended medical school in the U.S. (TABLE 3-1).
- Slightly more than 39 percent of urologists have completed at least one fellowship program during their career (TABLE 3-3). The three top areas of fellowship are Oncology (12.5 percent), Pediatrics (8.3 percent) and Robotic Surgery (7.3 percent) (TABLE 3-4).
- Nearly 81 percent of practicing urologists in the U.S. are certified by the American Board of Urology (TABLE 3-6).
- There were 4,223 urologic care practices in the U.S., comprised of 1,199 solo practices, 1,425 private groups, 469 academic medical centers, 919 non-academic hospitals, and 211 practices in other clinical settings (TABLE 4-1).
- Approximately 51 percent of practicing urologists in the U.S. are in private practices (TABLE 4-3), which decreased by nearly 2.3 percent per year since 2015 (FIGURE 4-1). Young urologists are less likely to work in private groups (FIGURE 4-2), while female urologists more likely to work in academic medical centers (TABLE 4-4).
- The percentage of practicing urologists who work in practices with more than one location increased from 54.2 percent in 2015 to 65.3 percent in 2020 (TABLE 4-5).
- Most practicing urologists (76.6 percent) work more than 40 hours in a typical week, while nearly 31 percent of urologists work more than 60 hours a week (TABLE 5-1).
- Male urologists see more patients per week (median number: 65) than their female counterparts (median number: 60) (TABLE 5-7), while male urologists spend less time with patients in a typical office visit (16.5 minutes) than female urologists do (19.2 minutes) (FIGURE 5-2).
- Nearly 78 percent of urologists are on call for at least one night in a typical week (TABLE 5-8).
- The number of urologists per practice has increased

each year over the previous year, as shown in Figure 1-1. The percentage of urologists who work in practices with ten or more urologists has increased from 23.8 percent in 2015 to 36.2 percent in 2020 (TABLE 6-1).

- On average, urologists' ratios to APPs are 3.5 urologists to 1 PA; 4.0 urologists to 1 NP; 4.5 urologists to 1 APN and overall 2.0 urologists to 1 APP within the practice or medical team (TABLE 6-6).
- The top three benefits to urologists working with APPs are reduced patient waiting times (75.9 percent), improved overall productivity of care (68.8 percent) and improved patient education (63.5 percent) (TABLE 6-7).
- In 2020, 23.3 percent of practices were hiring or anticipated hiring at least one urologist, regionally higher in the Northeastern Section (40.4 percent) and lower in the Western Section (20.6 percent) (TABLE 7-1). Nearly 68 percent of urologists reported the need to hire general urologists (TABLE 7-4), and 41.7 percent of urologists reported fellowship training is preferred when considering a candidate (TABLE 7-5).
- Approximately 66 percent of practicing urologists reported having a contract or salary guarantee for their current job (TABLE 7-6), and 91 percent reported their income increased or was about the same the year following the initial income guarantee (TABLE 7-9).
- Individual relative value units (RVUs) were most commonly reported as a compensation determination factor by 56.4 percent of practicing urologists (TABLE 7-10).
- Of the urologists in the U.S., 43 percent collect patient-reported outcome (PRO) information (TABLE 8-1), of which 57.7 percent utilized paper surveys administered in the office as the most common collection method (TABLE 8-2).
- Customarily, urologists utilize PRO Information to access postoperative outcomes (65.9 percent), assess the current status of a chronic condition (43.5 percent) and inform patients of treatment options (38.1 percent) (TABLE 8-4).
- Telemedicine programs are normally utilized by 71.5 percent of urologists (TABLE 8-5), a significant increase from 11.9 percent a year ago. The top two compensated telemedicine services are video visits or conferencing with patients (93.9 percent) and

telephone calls with patients (77.3 percent) (TABLE 8-6).

- Approximately 63 percent of practicing urologists utilize electronic portal systems to communicate with patients outside of the in-office visit (TABLE 9-3). The top three benefits reported by those urologists who use electronic portals are reduction of telephone calls received for medical questions (65.4 percent), enhancement of care coordination (37.6 percent) and facilitation of patient education (37.0 percent) (TABLE 9-4).
- The wait time for new patient appointments is less than three weeks for approximately 65 percent of practicing urologists, whereas 23.4 percent of urologists reported at least a 4-week wait time. (TABLE 9-6).
- Emergency room visits (80.9 percent), leaving a message on the practice answering machine for oncall physicians (67.3 percent) and visiting an urgent care facility (54 percent) are the top alternatives to accessing care after normal office hours, as reported by practicing urologists (TABLE 9-8).

CONCLUSION

The AUA Annual Census provides the urology community with a reliable and sustainable mechanism to describe practicing urologists in the United States, understand their medical training and scope of practice, and identify cross-sectional and longitudinal variations across the specialty. This mechanism not only generates a unique data source to explore the profession of urology but can be adapted to all medical specialties as well. The results are being used to inform health care policy and prepare for the future urologic care workforce.

The AUA strongly encourages all members to complete the Census each year, anytime between May and September at AUAnet.org/TakeCensus.



About the American Urological Association (AUA)

THE ORGANIZATION

Founded in 1902, the AUA is a premier urologic association, providing invaluable support to the urologic community.

AUA MISSION

The AUA mission is to promote the highest standards of urological clinical care through education, research and the formulation of health care policy.

AUA VISION

The AUA vision is to be the premier professional association for the advancement of professional urologic patient care.

About the AUA Annual Census

The AUA supports the generation and dissemination of urologic knowledge through a sophisticated statistical approach. The AUA's Annual Census is a systematically designed, specialty-representative survey of urology (similar to the U.S. Census). The results of the AUA's Annual Census are weighted to adjust for non-response bias to accurately represent the entire specialty and address the broad landscape of urology.

This publication serves as a primary source of information for the urology workforce in its effort to convey the needs and demands of the urologic community effectively. The findings also depict current clinical practice, including the use of EHRs, mechanisms to report quality measures and medications, along with procedures to treat urologic conditions. The results from this publication provide an array of information that can bridge knowledge gaps, provide data to meet increasing research needs and, ultimately, improve patient care. Besides publications on practicing urologists in the United States, publications on practicing urologists and urology residents across the globe are also available.

Definition of Terms

PRACTICE STATUS

To understand how this report classifies urologists, a Definition of Terms is provided:

- UROLOGISTS: Physicians and surgeons who are specially trained for the diagnosis and treatment of genitourinary and adrenal gland diseases in patients of any age and of either sex
- **PRACTICING UROLOGISTS:** Urologists who maintain current medical licensures and treat patients with urologic conditions
- **PRACTICING UROLOGISTS IN THE UNITED STATES:** Practicing urologists with primary practice locations in at least one of the 50 U.S. states or the District of Columbia
- ACTIVE PRACTICING UROLOGISTS: Practicing urologists who treat patients with urologic conditions and who work at least 25 clinical hours per week
- **CERTIFIED UROLOGISTS:** Urologists who are certified either by the ABU or AOBS

LEVEL OF RURALITY

The zip code of each practicing urologist's primary practice location was converted to a rural-urban commuting area (RUCA) code based on RUCA3.10ⁱ (developed collaboratively by the Health Resources and Service Administration's Office of Rural Health Policy [ORHP], the United States Department of Agriculture's Economic Research Service [ERS], the WWAMI Rural Health Research Center [RHRC] based on 2010 United States Census work-commuting data and 2012 United States Census Bureau revised urban area definition based on 2010 Census data and 2013 ZIP codes).

RUCA3.10 codes were grouped into four levels of rurality. An area with a population size $\geq 50,000$ was defined as a Metropolitan Area. An area with a population size < 50,000 was defined as a Non-Metropolitan Area. The Non-Metropolitan Area was further classified: Micropolitan Area (population = 10,000-49,999), Small Town (population = 2,500-9,999) and Rural Area (population < 2,500).

Glossary

90% CI	90 Percent Confidence Interval
90% MOE	Margin of Error at 90 Percent Confidence Level
ABMS	American Board of Medical Specialties
ABU	American Board of Urology
AOA	American Osteopathic Association
AOBS	American Osteopathic Board of Surgery
APN	Advanced Practice Nurse
APP	Advanced Practice Provider
AUA	American Urological Association
СМЕ	Continuing Medical Education
DO	Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine
EHR	Electronic Health Record
нмо	Health Maintenance Organization
MD	Medical Doctor
NP	Nurse Practitioner
NPI	National Provider Identifier
PA	Physician Assistant
PRO	Patient-Reported Outcomes
RUCA	Rural-Urban Commuting Area
VA	Veteran Affairs

Methodology

Data in the AUA Annual Census were collected and analyzed using the survey methodology developed by Groves et al.ⁱⁱ Two data files were established. One file was a population file containing basic demographic, geographic and certification information for all practicing urologists in the United States in 2020. The other file was a sample data file containing a broad range of information collected from the Census. The population file and the Census survey sample file were linked through post-stratification factors to adjust for non-responses and each respondent's contribution in a Census survey by assigned sample weight.

PRACTICING UROLOGIST POPULATION

Practicing urologists were identified jointly from the NPI file (which includes all physicians in the United States who hold valid medical licenses), ABU certification records maintained by the ABMS and AOBS certification records from the AOA website if the following criteria were met:

- Either urology or pediatric urology was listed as the medical specialty.
- A provider was listed as a surgeon or a specialist and matched to either the 2020 ABU certification records as a urologist or the AOBS certification records as a urological surgeon. Manual checks of all individual urologists' and urologic surgeons' websites were performed to confirm that these physicians provided urologic care in 2020.
- Urologists in residency training were excluded from this report.
- Additionally, urologists who were identified as certified by the ABU and/or AOBS but not listed in the NPI file were excluded in order to ensure the inclusion of only currently practicing urologists.

ORGANIZATION OF QUESTIONS

The Census consists of "base" and "supplemental" questions. Base questions that target the entire urology specialty will be asked annually in order to identify cross-sectional and longitudinal patterns. Examples of base question topics include practice status, clinical practice setting, primary and secondary subspecialties, patient encounters and employment status. Supplemental questions will vary each year and focus on emerging issues; these questions may be distributed to all participants or a random subset of participants.

CENSUS TIMELINE

The AUA Annual Census officially launches in May and is available online to respondents through September of that same year. Census data are analyzed and reported in the annual publication *The State of the Urology Workforce and Practice in the United States*, which is available in the spring of the following year.

CENSUS DATA COLLECTION

Data collection for the 2020 AUA Annual Census began on May 14, 2020, and ended on September 30, 2020. Each respondent was assigned an identification number prior to the submission of responses to the Census questions. This step ensured the results could be linked to the population file and no respondent could take the survey more than once. The 2020 Census was conducted entirely online due to the COVID-19 worldwide pandemic and the resulting cancelation of the in-person AUA Annual Meeting. Answers to questions might be affected by the pandemic, although in some circumstances, respondents were asked to report their pre-pandemic business operations.

A total of 4,030 respondents completed the 2020 AUA Annual Census–1,972 of whom were practicing urologists in the United States. Those who self-reported as practicing urologists were checked against the practicing urologist population file and removed if there were no matches found. Those urologists who were either practicing outside the United States or in residency training were removed from this study. The responses from the practicing urologists outside the United States were analyzed and reported separately at a later time.

SAMPLE WEIGHTING

In order to adjust for non-responses and resulting biases in the 2020 AUA Census sample, a standard post-stratification weighting techniqueⁱⁱⁱ was used to identify post-stratification factors. Identified factors include gender, geographic location, certification status and years since initial certification. These factors are used to develop stratification cells for calculating sample weights.

CENSUS REPORTING WITH STATISTICAL CONFIDENCE

Results were based on either weighted Census samples or the practicing urologist population data described earlier in this report. Reported statistics based on the population data were preferred, given the lack of sampling bias. In contrast, when reported findings were based on weighted Census samples, error estimates were reported in the form of either a margin of error (MOE) or a confidence interval (CI), with an estimation of measurement precision at a 90 percent level of confidence.

DATA ANALYSIS

After the post-stratification weighting adjustment, the Census data were analyzed with IBM-SPSS Complex Samples 22.0.

MARGIN OF ERROR (MOE)

Estimates of characteristics of the practicing urologists from the AUA Census sample data can differ from those that would be obtained if all practicing urologists were surveyed. MOE values at the 90 percent confidence level were used to measure and report the precision of each estimate. The MOE is the difference between an estimate and its upper or lower confidence bounds. ^{iv} The AUA reports both estimates and their associated MOE values in alignment with the U.S. Census Bureau in reporting the U.S. Census/American Community Survey.

CONFIDENCE INTERVALS (CI)

Estimates based on the AUA Census samples can differ from those that would be obtained if all practicing urologists were surveyed. A 90 percent confidence interval (90% CI) was used to mark the upper or lower confidence bounds of the estimated parameter by Census samples with 90 percent statistical confidence.

MOVING AVERAGE

The moving average analysis technique consists of a series of averages calculated from subsets of the complete

data. The averages are created by identifying the mean of the initial fixed subset. The subset is then adjusted forward by excluding the first number of the initial series and including the next value in the full dataset until all data values are exhausted. Such analyses help forecast long-term trends.

LIMITATIONS

The results of the AUA Annual Census are subject to the following limitations:

- As a population-based and weighted survey, the AUA Annual Census data analysis relied on the absolute number of responses to report statistics for small geographic, demographic and clinical categories. Racial/ethnic minority groups were not well represented in the urologist population and, therefore, were difficult to analyze.
- AOBS certification of osteopathic doctors was obtained via the AOA's online urologic surgeon list without direct verification by the AOBS. Information contained in the AOA's "DO Directory" (public list) is not the primary source for verification of physician credentials.
- The AUA Annual Census is subject to sampling and estimate errors. Thus, the MOE is the appropriate tool when comparing two groups.
- The practicing urologist population in the United States was based on the assumption that urologists who maintain their medical licenses in the Census year are considered practicing urologists.
- Geographic classifications, such as rurality levels and state, were determined based on the primary office location in the NPI file. The actual geographic coverage for each practicing urologist may be beyond the area reported.
- Census data are self-reported, non-validated and subject to bias or misrepresentation.

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FIGURE 6-3: Percentage of Practicing Urologists Who Work Directly with APNs (by Practice Setting)

FIGURE 6-4: Percentage of Practicing Urologists Who Work Directly with at least One APP (by Practice Setting)

FIGURE 6-5: Percentage of Practicing Urologists Who Work Directly with at least One APP (by Rurality Level)

FIGURE 9-1: Wait Time for Scheduling First Appointment for New Patients Is Four Weeks or Longer (by Rurality Level)

PRACTICING UROLOGISTS in the United States



Section 1: Geographic Distribution

Primary Observations

- In 2020, 13,352 urologists who provided direct patient care were identified as "practicing urologists" in the U.S. Of those practicing urologists, 85.7 percent are "actively" practicing, meaning they devote at least 25 hours per week to clinical activities (TABLE 1-1).
- Both the number of urologists and the urologist-topopulation ratio in the U.S. continued to increase from 2015 to 2020 (FIGURE 1-1). Among the 50 U.S. states, Rhode Island has the highest urologist-to-population ratio, while Nevada continues to have the lowest ratio (TABLE 1-2).
- Of the practicing urologists in the U.S., 10.5 percent maintain their primary practice locations in nonmetropolitan areas (TABLE 1-5) in comparison to roughly 20 percent of Americans living there, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. The likelihood of practicing urologists maintaining their primary practice locations in non-metropolitan areas increases with the age of the urologists (FIGURE 1-6).

TABLE 1-1

Practicing Status

	Practicing Urologists Represented		
Practicing Status	Number	Percent (%)	+/- MOE (%)
Total Practicing Urologists	13,352	100.0	N/A
Active Practicing Urologists	11,444	85.7	1.6

(Data sources: National Provider Identifier 09/2020 file, ABU certification records from the ABMS Directory of Board Certified Medical Specialists, AOA DO Directory, AUA 2020 Annual Census.) Active practicing urologists are defined as those who work 25 or more clinical hours per week.

TABLE 1-2

Urologist-to-Population Ratio (by State of Primary Practice Location) (Ranked from Highest to Lowest)

State	Number of Practicing Urologists*	Urologist-to-Population Ratio^	Relative Position
U.S. (50 States & D.C^^)	13,352	4.07	National Average
Rhode Island	60	5.66	
New Hampshire	74	5.44	
South Dakota	48	5.43	
New York	1,049	5.39	
Vermont	33	5.29	High
Massachusetts	364	5.28	High
Pennsylvania	627	4.90	
Montana	52	4.87	
Connecticut	170	4.77	
Maryland	288	4.76	
New Jersey	418	4.71	
Maine	62	4.61	
Louisiana	214	4.60	
Hawaii	65	4.59	
West Virginia	81	4.52	Medium High
Oregon	188	4.46	Mediani nigh
Tennessee	302	4.42	
Ohio	516	4.41	
Delaware	42	4.31	
Florida	925	4.31	
Wisconsin	250	4.29	
Illinois	537	4.24	
North Carolina	442	4.21	
Minnesota	237	4.20	
Washington	316	4.15	Medium
Michigan	406	4.07	meanan
Alaska	29	3.96	
Missouri	241	3.93	
South Carolina	202	3.92	
Virginia	332	3.89	

TABLE 1-2

Urologist-to-Population Ratio (by State of Primary Practice Location) (Ranked from Highest to Lowest) (Continued)

State	Number of Practicing Urologists*	Urologist-to-Population Ratio^	Relative Position
Indiana	260	3.86	
Kentucky	170	3.81	
Colorado	216	3.75	
North Dakota	28	3.67	
Alabama	179	3.65	Madium Law
Kansas	106	3.64	Medium Low
California	1,428	3.61	
Arizona	262	3.60	
Oklahoma	142	3.59	
Iowa	112	3.55	
Nebraska	67	3.46	
Wyoming	20	3.46	
Georgia	362	3.41	
Arkansas	96	3.18	
Mississippi	93	3.12	Low
Texas	888	3.06	LOW
Idaho	54	3.02	
New Mexico	63	3.00	
Utah	89	2.78	
Nevada	78	2.53	

(Data sources: National Provider Identifier 09/2020 file, ABU certification records from the ABMS Directory of Board Certified Medical Specialists, AOA DO Directory.) *In reporting results from the 2020 AUA Census, states with fewer than 50 reported urologists were manually checked against these urologists' websites. ^Urologist-to-population ratio is per 100,000 population. ^^ The District of Columbia was not listed separately due to its incomparability with other U.S. states.

Number of Practicing Urologists and Urologist-to-Population Ratio (per 100,000 Population) from 2015 to 2020



Blue: Number of practicing urologists; Green: Urologist-to-population ratio (per 100,000 population)

(Data sources: National Provider Identifier 09/2020 file, ABU certification records from the ABMS Directory of Board Certified Medical Specialists, AOA DO Directory and U.S. Census Bureau U.S. population files.)

FIGURE 1-2

Number of Practicing Urologists (by State of Primary Practice Location)



(Data sources: National Provider Identifier 09/2020 file, ABU certification records from the ABMS Directory of Board Certified Medical Specialists, AOA DO Directory.)

Practicing Urologist-to-Population Ratio (by State of Primary Practice Location)



(Data sources: National Provider Identifier 09/2020 file, ABU certification records from the ABMS Directory of Board Certified Medical Specialists, AOA DO Directory.)

TABLE 1-3

AUA Sections (United States Only)*

AUA Section	Number of Practicing Urologists	Percent (%)
Southeastern	2,796	20.9
Western	2,581	19.3
North Central	2,392	17.9
South Central	1,912	14.3
Mid-Atlantic	1,377	10.3
New York	1,026	7.7
New England	763	5.7
Northeastern	505	3.8
Total	13,352	100.0

(Data sources: National Provider Identifier 09/2020 file, ABU certification records from the ABMS Directory of Board Certified Medical Specialists, AOA DO Directory.) *Some AUA Sections have non-U.S. members who were not included in this report due to a lack of urologist population files in those countries. Percentages may not add up to 100% due to intrinsic rounding errors.

Number of Practicing Urologists (by AUA Section Based on Primary Practice Location) (U.S. Only)*



(Data sources: National Provider Identifier 09/2020 file, ABU certification records from the ABMS Directory of Board Certified Medical Specialists, AOA DO Directory.) *Some AUA Sections have non-U.S. members who were not included in this report due to a lack of urologist population files in those countries.

TABLE 1-4

County of Primary Practice Location

Supply of Practicing Urologists	Count of Counties	Percent (%)
Counties with Zero Urologists	1,948	62.0
Counties with at least 1 Urologist	1,196	38.0
Counties with 1 Urologist	299	9.5
Counties with 2-3 Urologists	303	9.6
Counties with 4-8 Urologists	264	8.4
Counties with 9 or more Urologists	330	10.5
Total	3,144	100.0

(Data sources: National Provider Identifier 09/2020 file, ABU certification records from the ABMS Directory of Board Certified Medical Specialists, AOA DO Directory.)

Number of Practicing Urologists (by County) (Based on Primary Practice Location)



(Data sources: National Provider Identifier 09/2020 file, 2010 U.S. Census.)

TABLE 1-5

Rurality Level of Primary Practice Location

Rurality Level	Number of Practicing Urologists	Percent (%)
Metropolitan Areas^	11,944	89.5
Non-Metropolitan Areas	1,408	10.5
Micropolitan	1,122	8.4
Small Town	226	1.7
Rural	60	0.4
Total	13,352	100.0

(Data sources: National Provider Identifier 09/2020 file, Rural-Urban Commuting Area Codes Data from RUCA3.10.) ^Metropolitan areas are comprised of at least one urban area and the adjacent counties, or county equivalents, with a population of 50,000 or more.

Percentage of Practicing Urologists Whose Primary Practice Locations are in Non-Metropolitan Areas (by Age)*



(Data sources: National Provider Identifier 09/2020 file, weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census and Rural-Urban Commuting Area Codes Data from RUCA3.10.)

*Bold numbers are point estimates. The dashed bars represent upper and lower 90% confidence limits.

Section 2: Demographic And Family Characteristics

Primary Observations

- There was a significant increase in the number of women in the urology workforce from 897 in 2014 to 1,375 in 2020 (FIGURE 2-1). The average annual growth rate was 8.9 percent per year for women compared to 1.8 percent per year for men. For the first time in history, women urologists surpassed 10 percent of the workforce in 2020 (TABLE 2-2).
- The number of urologists self-identifying as African American/Black increased by 8.9 percent compared to a year ago, while the number of urologists selfidentifying as Hispanic ethnicity remains unchanged (TABLE 2-3 and TABLE 2-4).
- More than 90 percent of urologists are married (TABLE 2-5).

TABLE 2-1

Age

	Practicing Urologists Represented		
Age Groups	Number	Percent (%)	+/- MOE (%)
≤ 34	715	5.4	1.0
35-44	3,282	24.6	1.3
45-54	2,673	20.0	1.0
55-64	2,662	19.9	1.0
≥ 65	4,020	30.1	1.0
Total	13,352	100.0	

(Data source: Weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census. The median age is 55.)

TABLE 2-2

Gender

	Practicing Urologists Represented		
Gender	Number	Percent (%)	
Male	11,977	89.7	
Female	1,375	10.3	
Total	13,352	100.0	

(Data source: National Provider Identifier 09/2020 file.)

FIGURE 2-1

Total Number of Practicing Urologists and Percentage of Female Practicing Urologists in the Workforce from 2014 to 2020



Blue: Total number of practicing urologists; Green: Percentage of female practicing urologists (Data sources: National Provider Identifier files and weighted samples from the AUA Annual Census from 2014 - 2020.)

FIGURE 2-2

Percentage of Female Practicing Urologists in the Workforce (by Age)*



(Data sources: National Provider Identifier 09/2020 file and weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census.) Each percentage within the bar represents the proportion of women in the workforce within the specified age groups. For example, among practicing urologists under 45 years of age, 21.3 percent are women. *Bold numbers are point estimates. The dashed bars represent upper and lower 90% confidence limits.

TABLE 2-3 Hispanic Ethnicity

	Practicing Urologists Represented			
Hispanic Ethnicity	Number	Percent (%)	+/- MOE (
Hispanic	497	3.8	0.9	
Non-Hispanic	12,603	96.2	0.9	
Total Reported	13,100	100.0		
Not Reported	252			
Total	13,352			

(Data source: Weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census.)

FIGURE 2-3

Hispanic/Latino Practicing Urologists in the Workforce (Three-Year Moving Average)



Blue: Total number of Hispanic/Latino practicing urologists; Green: Percentage of Hispanic/Latino practicing urologists

(Data Sources: Weighted samples from the AUA Annual Census from 2014 - 2020.)

A three-year moving average is a series of averages calculated from subsets of the complete data. For example, the 2015 numbers shown in the figure above were calculated by averaging 2014, 2015 and 2016 data; the 2016 numbers were calculated by averaging 2015, 2016 and 2017 data, etc.

TABLE 2-4

Race

	Practicing Urologists Represented		
Race	Number	Percent (%)	+/- MOE (%)
White	10,784	84.7	1.5
Asian	1,472	11.6	1.3
African American/Black	268	2.1	0.6
Other Races (Including Multiple Races)	209	1.6	*
Total Reported	12,733	100.0	
Not Reported	619		
Total	13,352		

(Data source: Weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census.) * The estimated value should be used with caution due to small samples.

FIGURE 2-4

African American/Black Urologists in the Workforce (Three-Year Moving Average)



Blue: Total number of African American/Black practicing urologists; Green: Percentage of African American/Black practicing urologists

(Data sources: Weighted samples from the AUA Annual Census from 2015 - 2020.)

A three-year moving average is a series of averages calculated from subsets of the complete data. For example, the 2015 numbers shown in the figure above were calculated by averaging 2014, 2015 and 2016 data; the 2016 numbers were calculated by averaging 2015, 2016 and 2017 data, etc.

TABLE 2-5 Relationship Status

	Practicing Urologists Represented		
Relationship Status	Number	Percent (%)	+/- MOE (%)
Married / Partnered	11,881	92.3	1.2
Married Without a Previous Marriage	9,726	75.6	1.9
Remarried After Divorce or Widowhood	1,928	15.0	1.6
Partnered	227	1.8	0.6
Divorced/Separated/ Widowed	541	4.2	0.9
Single	444	3.4	0.7
Total Reported	12,866	100.0	
Not Reported	486		
Total	13,352		

(Data source: Weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census.)

Section 3: Professional Preparation, Credentialing, Experience and Planned Retirement

Primary Observations

- Approximately 89 percent of practicing urologists in the U.S. attended medical school in the U.S. (TABLE 3-1).
- Slightly more than 39 percent of urologists have completed at least one fellowship program during their career (TABLE 3-3). The three top areas of fellowship are Oncology (12.5 percent), Pediatrics (8.3 percent) and Robotic Surgery (7.3 percent) (TABLE 3-4).
- Nearly 81 percent of practicing urologists in the U.S. are certified by the American Board of Urology (TABLE 3-6).

TABLE 3-1

Medical School Location

Medical School	Practicing Urologists Represented		
Location	Number	Percent (%)	+/- MOE (%)
Within the U.S.	11,890	89.0	1.5
Outside the U.S.	1,462	11.0	1.5
Asia	629	4.7	1.1
North and South America	539	4.0	0.9
Europe	178	1.3	0.5
Africa	116	0.9	*
Total	13,352	100.0	

(Data source: Weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census.) Sums from numbers and percentages may contrast with calculated totals due to intrinsic rounding errors. *The estimated value should be used with caution due to small samples.

TABLE 3-2

Age at Completion of Residency

	Practicing Urologists Represented		
Age	Number	Percent (%)	+/- MOE (%)
≤ 30	1,050	7.9	1.3
31	2,527	18.9	1.7
32	3,603	27.0	1.9
33	2,687	20.1	1.7
34	1,275	9.5	1.3
35	828	6.2	1.1
≥ 36	1,383	10.4	1.2
Total	13,352	100.0	

(Data source: Weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census.) The median age at completion of residency is 32. Sums from numbers and percentages may contrast with calculated totals due to intrinsic rounding errors.

TABLE 3-3

Completion of Fellowship Training

	Practicing Urologists Represented		
Fellowship Status	Number	Percent (%)	+/- MOE (%)
No Fellowship Training	8,100	60.7	1.9
Fellowship Trained	5,252	39.3	1.8
One	3,321	24.9	1.4
Two or More	1,931	14.5	1.9
Total	13,352	100.0	

(Data source: Weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census.) Fellowship training is defined as participation in a fellowship program with a duration of one year or longer. Sums from numbers and percentages may contrast with calculated totals due to intrinsic rounding errors.

FIGURE 3-1

Percentage of Practicing Urologists with Completed Fellowship Training (by Gender and Age)*



(Data source: Weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census.) Fellowship training is defined as participation in a fellowship program with a duration of one year or longer. *Bold numbers are point estimates. The dashed bars represent upper and lower 90% confidence limits.

TABLE 3-4

Fellowship Areas

	Practicing Urologists Represented		
Fellowship Areas	Number	Percent (%)	+/- MOE (%)
Oncology	1,668	12.5	1.4
Pediatrics	1,113	8.3	1.1
Robotic Surgery	975	7.3	1.0
Endourology/Stone Disease	914	6.8	1.0
Female Pelvic Medicine and Reconstructive Surgery	625	4.7	0.7
Male Genitourinary Reconstruction	595	4.5	0.9
Erectile Dysfunction	486	3.6	0.8
Male Infertility	458	3.4	0.7
Laparoscopic Surgery	413	3.1	0.7
Renal Transplantation	253	1.9	0.7

(Data source: Weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census.) Fellowship experience was reported on programs with a duration of one year or longer. The respondents could select more than one answer, so the total number of counts may differ from the total number of practicing urologists.

TABLE 3-5

Number of State Medical Licenses

	Practicing Urologists Represented		
Number of Licenses	Number	Percent (%)	
1	10,472	78.5	
2	2,327	17.4	
3	437	3.3	
4	108	0.8	
Total Reported	13,344	100.0	
Not Reported	8		
Total	13,352		

(Data source: National Provider Identifier 09/2020 file.)

TABLE 3-6

American Board of Urology (ABU) Certification Status

	Practicing Urologists Represented		
Certification Status	Number	Percent (%)	
Certified by ABU	10,793	80.8	
Not Certified by ABU	2,559	19.2	
Total Reported	13,352	100.0	

(Data source: National Provider Identifier 09/2020 file.)

Section 4: Characteristics of the Urology Practice

Primary Observations

- There were 4,223 urologic care practices in the U.S., comprised of 1,199 solo practices, 1,425 private groups, 469 academic medical centers, 919 non-academic hospitals, and 211 practices in other clinical settings (TABLE 4-1).
- Approximately 51 percent of practicing urologists in the U.S. are in private practices (TABLE 4-3), which decreased by nearly 2.3 percent per year since 2015 (FIGURE 4-1). Young urologists are less likely to work in private groups (FIGURE 4-2), while female urologists more likely to work in academic medical centers (TABLE 4-4).
- The percentage of practicing urologists who work in practices with more than one location increased from 54.2 percent in 2015 to 65.3 percent in 2020 (TABLE 4-5).

TABLE 4-1

Distribution of Urologic Care Practices in the U.S. (by Setting)

	Urologic Care Practices Represented	
Primary Practice Setting	Number	90% CI
Solo Practices (Practices with One Urologist)	1,199	n/a
Private Groups (Private Groups with Two or More Urologists)	1,425	1,329 - 1,520
Academic Medical Centers / Medical Schools	469	426 - 511
Public and Private Hospitals	919	835 - 1,004
Other Clinical Settings	211	161 - 260
Total	4,223	4,020 - 4,426

(Data source: Weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census.) The 25 urologists who work for industry or government agencies were excluded in determining the number of practices in the U.S. The number of practices was calculated based on the total number of practices per urologist and then aggregated within the same type of practice setting. For example, if there are two urologists in one practice, the number of practices per urologist is 0.5.
Distribution of Urologic Care Practices in the U.S. (by AUA Section)*

	Urologic Care Practices Represented		
AUA Sections	Number	90% CI	
Mid-Atlantic	325	265 - 386	
New England	219	176 - 261	
New York	352	290 - 415	
North Central	750	657 - 843	
Northeastern	157	109 - 204	
South Central	655	582 - 727	
Southeastern	932	844 - 1,020	
Western	833	744 - 922	
Total	4,223	4,020 - 4,426	

(Data source: Weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census.) The 25 urologists who work for industry or government agencies were excluded in determining the number of practices in the U.S. The number of practices was calculated based on the number of practices per urologist and then aggregated within the same type of practice setting. *Some AUA Sections have non-U.S. members who were not included in this report due to a lack of urologist population files in those countries.

Primary Practice Setting

	Practicing Urologists Represented		
Primary Practice Setting	Number	Percent (%)	+/- MOE (%)
Private Practices	6,859	51.4	2.1
Solo Practices	1,199	9.0	1.3
Single Urology Groups	3,651	27.3	1.9
Multispecialty Groups	2,009	15.0	1.4
Institutional Settings	6,302	47.2	2.1
Academic Medical Centers	3,841	28.8	1.9
Public or Private Hospitals	2,107	15.8	1.7
Private Hospital	957	7.2	1.1
Veteran Affairs (VA) and Non-VA Military Hospitals	650	4.9	1.1
Other Public Hospitals	500	3.7	0.9
Community Health Centers/HMOs/ Managed Care Organizations/Nursing Homes	354	2.6	0.7
Other Settings^	191	1.4	*
Total	13,352	100.0	

(Data source: Weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census.) Sums from numbers and percentages may contrast with calculated totals due to intrinsic rounding errors. *The estimated value should be used with caution due to small samples. ^ Other settings include federal, state or local government, industry (pharmaceuticals, EHR vendors, device manufacturers, etc.)

Primary Practice	Male Practicing Urologists Represented		Female Practicing Urologists Represented			
Setting	Number	Percent (%)	+/- MOE (%)	Number	Percent (%)	+/- MOE (%)
Private Practices	6,359	53.1	2.3	501	36.4	4.8
Size < 5 Urologists	3,672	30.7	2.2	266	19.3	4.2
Size \geq 5 Urologists	2,686	22.4	1.9	235	17.1	3.7
Academic Medical Centers	3,271	27.3	2.0	570	41.5	4.8
Public and Private Hospitals	1,871	15.6	1.8	236	17.2	3.9
Other Settings	477	4.0	1.0	68	5.0	2.1
Total	11,977	100.0		1,375	100.0	

(Data source: Weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census.) Sums from numbers and percentages may contrast with calculated totals due to intrinsic rounding errors.

FIGURE 4-1

Percentage of Practicing Urologists in Private Practice from 2015 to 2020*



(Data source: Weighted samples from the AUA Annual Census from 2015 to 2020.) *Bold numbers are point estimates. The dashed bars represent upper and lower 90% confidence limits.

FIGURE 4-2

Percentage of Practicing Urologists in Private Practice (by Gender and Age)*



(Data source: Weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census.) *Bold numbers are point estimates. The dashed bars represent upper and lower 90% confidence limits.

TABLE 4-5

Number of Office Locations per Practice

Number of Office	Practicing Urologists Represented			
Locations	Number	Percent (%)	+/- MOE (%)	
1	4,629	34.7	2.1	
2	2,333	17.5	1.6	
3	1,715	12.8	1.4	
4	1,131	8.5	1.1	
≥ 5	3,544	26.5	1.8	
Total	13,352	100.0		

(Data source: Weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census.) The median number of office locations per practice is 2.

Primary Subspecialty Areas

	Practicing Urologists Represented		
Primary Subspecialty Areas	Number	Percent (%)	+/- MOE (%)
General Without Subspecialty	7,767	58.2	2.1
Oncology	1,619	12.1	1.5
Pediatrics	1,015	7.6	1.0
Endourology/Stone Disease	633	4.7	0.8
Female Pelvic Medicine and Reconstruction	568	4.3	0.7
Robotic Surgery	495	3.7	0.7
Erectile Dysfunction	375	2.8	0.8
Male Genitourinary Reconstruction	344	2.6	0.7
Male Infertility	266	2.0	0.7
Laparoscopic Surgery/Renal Transplantation	122	0.9	*
Other Subspecialty	149	1.1	*
Total	13,352	100.0	

(Data source: Weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census.) Sums from numbers and percentages may contrast with calculated totals due to intrinsic rounding errors. *The estimated value should be used with caution due to small samples.

Any Subspecialty Areas

	Practicing Urologists Represented		
Subspecialty Areas	Number	Percent (%)	+/- MOE (%)
Endourology/Stone Disease	8,546	64.0	2.1
Oncology	8,483	63.5	2.0
Erectile Dysfunction	7,157	53.6	2.1
Robotic Surgery	5,005	37.5	1.7
Laparoscopic Surgery/Renal Transplantation	4,724	35.4	1.9
Female Pelvic Medicine and Reconstruction	4,024	30.1	1.9
Male Infertility	3,815	28.6	2.0
Pediatrics	2,862	21.4	1.8
Male Genitourinary Reconstruction	1,524	11.4	1.3

(Data source: Weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census.) The respondents could select more than one answer, so the total number of counts may be more than the total number of practicing urologists.

TABLE 4-8

Employment Status

	Practicing Urologists Represented		
Employment Status	Number	Percent (%)	+/- MOE (%)
I Am The Sole Owner of My Practice	1,186	8.9	1.3
I Am a Partner in My Practice	3,185	23.9	1.6
I Am an Employee of My Practice	8,602	64.4	2.0
A Combination of the Above	379	2.8	0.8
Total	13,352	100.0	

(Data source: Weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census.)

FIGURE 4-3



Percentage of Employed Practicing Urologists from 2015 to 2020*

(Data source: Weighted samples from the AUA Annual Census from 2015 to 2020.) *Bold numbers are point estimates. The dashed bars represent upper and lower 90% confidence limits.

FIGURE 4-4

Percentage of Employed Practicing Urologists (by Gender and Age)*



(Data source: Weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census.) *Bold numbers are point estimates. The dashed bars represent upper and lower 90% confidence limits.

Section 5: Volume, Scope, Location and Duration of Work

Primary Observations

- Most practicing urologists (76.6 percent) work more than 40 hours in a typical week, while nearly 31 percent of urologists work more than 60 hours a week (TABLE 5-1).
- Male urologists see more patients per week (median number: 65) than their female counterparts (median number: 60) (TABLE 5-7), while male urologists spend less time with patients in a typical office visit (16.5 minutes) than female urologists do (19.2 minutes) (FIGURE 5-2).
- Nearly 78 percent of urologists are on call for at least one night in a typical week (TABLE 5-8).

Volume of Work

TABLE 5-1

Total Number of Hours Worked in a Typical Week

	Practicing Urologists Represented			
Work Hours	Number	Percent (%)	+/- MOE (%)	
≤ 35	2,146	16.1	1.6	
36 - 40	961	7.2	1.2	
41 - 45	1,127	8.4	1.2	
46 - 50	1,614	12.1	1.3	
51 - 55	1,512	11.3	1.2	
56 - 60	1,862	13.9	1.4	
≥ 61	4,131	30.9	1.9	
Total	13,352	100.0		

(Data source: Weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census.) The total numbers depicted were derived from the responses received from two separate questions about clinical and non-clinical work hours. The median number of work hours per week is 54. Sums from numbers and percentages may contrast with calculated totals due to intrinsic rounding errors.





(Data source: Weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census.) The total number of work hours include both clinical and non-clinical hours. To avoid outliers, practicing urologists who reported the lowest 1 percent and highest 1 percent of the total number of hours were excluded from the analysis. *Bold numbers are point estimates. The dashed bars represent upper and lower 90% confidence limits.

TABLE 5-2

Number of Clinical Hours Directly Related to Patient Care in a Typical Week

	Practicing Urologists Represented		
Clinical Hours	Number	Percent (%)	+/- MOE (%)
< 25	1,908	14.3	1.6
≥ 25	11,444	85.7	1.6
25-30	1,106	8.3	1.3
31-35	751	5.6	1.0
36-40	2,270	17.0	1.6
41-45	910	6.8	1.0
46-50	2,090	15.7	1.4
51-55	664	5.0	0.8
56-60	2,118	15.9	1.5
≥ 61	1,534	11.5	1.3
Total	13,352	100.0	

(Data source: Weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census.) The median number of clinical hours directly related to patient care per week is 45. Sums from numbers and percentages may contrast with calculated totals due to intrinsic rounding errors.

TABLE 5-3

Number of Minutes Spent with a Patient in a Typical Office Visit

	Practicing Urologists Represented		
Minutes Spent with Patients	Number	Percent (%)	+/- MOE (%)
≤ 10	2,876	21.5	1.7
11-14	745	5.6	0.9
15-19	5,331	39.9	2.1
≥ 20	4,401	33.0	2.0
Total	13,352	100.0	

(Data source: Weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census). The median number of minutes spent with a patient during a typical office visit is 15. Sums from numbers and percentages may contrast with calculated totals due to intrinsic rounding errors.

FIGURE 5-2

Average Number of Minutes Spent with a Patient in a Typical Office Visit (by Urologist's Gender)*



(Data source: Weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census.) *Bold numbers are point estimates. The dashed bars represent upper and lower 90% confidence limits.

TABLE 5-4

Number of Non-Clinical Hours (Administration, Teaching, Research, etc.) Worked in a Typical Week

Number of	Practicing Urologists Represented			
per Week	Number	Percent (%)	+/- MOE (%)	
≤ 1	2,121	15.9	1.7	
2-5	4,718	35.3	1.7	
6-10	3,570	26.7	0.7	
11-15	1,125	8.4	0.7	
16-20	1,017	7.6	1.3	
≥ 21	801	6.0	0.6	
Total	13,352	100.0		

(Data source: Weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census.) The median number of non-clinical hours per week is 5. Sums from numbers and percentages may contrast with calculated totals due to intrinsic rounding errors.

TABLE 5-5

Mean Number of Work Hours per Week ((by Gender)
--------------------------------------	-------------

	Male Pract Rep	ticing Urologists presented		Female Practicing Urologists Represented		Total Practicing Urologists Represented			
Work Hours	Number of Urologists	Mean Number of Hours	+/- MOE	Number of Urologists	Mean Number of Hours	+/- MOE	Number of Urologists	Mean Number of Hours	+/- MOE
Clinical Hours		44.4	0.8		43.6	1.6		44.3	0.8
Non-Clinical Hours	11,473	8.9	0.3	1,268	9.1	0.7	12,742	8.9	0.3
Total Hours		52.7	0.9		52.5	1.8		52.7	0.8

(Data source: Weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census.) To avoid outliers, practicing urologists who reported the lowest 1 percent and highest 1 percent of the total number of hours were excluded from the analysis.

TABLE 5-6

Number of Patient Visits/Encounters in a Typical Week

Patient Visits/	Practici	ng Urologists Represent	gists Represented			
Encounters	Number	Percent (%)	+/- MOE (%)			
≤ 50	5,075	38.0	2.1			
51-75	3,198	24.0	1.8			
76-100	3,374	25.3	1.8			
≥ 101	1,705	12.8	1.3			
Total	13,352	100				

(Data source: Weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census.) The median number of patient visits/encounters per week is 60. Sums from numbers and percentages may contrast with calculated totals due to intrinsic rounding errors.

TABLE 5-7

Number of Patient Visits/Encounters in a Typical Week (by Gender)

Patient Visits/	Ma Practicing Urolog	ale jists Represented	Female s Represented Practicing Urologists R		
Encounters	Percent (%)	+/- MOE (%)	Percent (%)	+/- MOE (%)	
≤ 50	37.3	2.3	44.0	4.8	
51-75	23.1	2.0	31.6	4.4	
76-100	26.1	2.0	17.7	4.1	
> 100	13.5	1.5	6.7	2.6	
Total	100.0		100.0		

(Data source: Weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census.) The median number of males is 65. The median number of females is 60.

FIGURE 5-3

Percentage of Practicing Urologists with More Than 100 Patient Visits/Encounters in a Typical Week (by Urologist's Gender and Age)*



(Data source: Weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census.)

*Bold numbers are point estimates. The dashed bars represent upper and lower 90% confidence limits.

TABLE 5-8

Number of Nights on Call in a Typical Week

	Practicing Urologists Represented					
Nights on Call	Number	Percent (%)	+/- MOE (%)			
0	2,960	22.2	1.8			
1	4,730	35.4	1.8			
2	2,434	18.2	1.6			
3	1,228	9.2	1.2			
≥ 4	2,000	15.0	1.6			
Total	13,352	100.0				

(Data source: Weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census.)

Scope of Work

TABLE 5-9

Number of Practicing Urologists Performing Major Inpatient Operative Procedures (by Age)

	Practicing Urologists Represented			
Age	Number	Percent (%)	+/- MOE (%)	
All Ages	10,515	78.8	1.8	
<45	3,732	93.4	1.8	
45-54	2,422	90.6	2.2	
55-64	2,163	81.2	3.1	
≥65	2,199	54.7	4.9	

(Data source: Weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census.) Sums from numbers and percentages may contrast with calculated totals due to intrinsic rounding errors.

FIGURE 5-4

Percentage of Practicing Urologists Who Reported Performing Major Inpatient Operative Procedures (by Gender and Age)*



(Data source: Weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census.)

*Bold numbers are point estimates. The dashed bars represent upper and lower 90% confidence limits.

TABLE 5-10

Number of Major Inpatient Operative Procedures Performed in a Typical Month

	Practicing Urologists Represented					
Number of Procedures	Number	Percent (%)	+/- MOE (%)			
None	2,837	21.2	1.8			
1 - 4	3,926	29.4	1.9			
5 - 9	2,981	22.3	1.7			
≥ 10	3,608	27.0	1.8			
Total	13,352	100.0				

(Data source: Weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census.) Sums from numbers and percentages may contrast with calculated totals due to intrinsic rounding errors.

TABLE 5-11

Other Professional Roles

	Practicing Urologists Represented					
Professional Roles	Number	Percent (%)	+/- MOE (%)			
Educator	1,461	10.9	1.3			
Researcher	1,283	9.6	1.2			
Administrator/Medical Officer/ Practice Manager	576	4.3	0.8			

(Data source: Weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census.) The respondents could select more than one answer, so the total number of counts may be more than the total number of practicing urologists.

Duration of Career

TABLE 5-12

Total Number of Years of Practicing Urology Since Completion of Residency

	Practicing Urologists Represented					
Number of Years of Practice	Number	Percent (%)	+/- MOE (%)			
1 - 5	2,610	19.5	1.2			
6 - 10	1,519	11.4	1.0			
11 - 20	2,572	19.3	0.9			
21 - 30	2,467	18.5	1.0			
> 30	4,184	31.3	1.0			
Total	13,352	100.0				

(Data source: Weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census.) The median number of years practicing urology since completion of residency is 20.

TABLE 5-13

Planned Full Retirement Age

		Practicing Urologists Represented					
Planned Re	etirement Age	Number	Percent (%)	+/- MOE (%)			
< 60		726	5.4	0.8			
60-65		5,080	38.0	1.6			
66-70		3,540	26.5	1.6			
71-75		2,086	15.6	1.6			
> 75		1,920	14.4	1.5			
Total		13,352	100.0				

(Data source: Weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census.) The median age at planned full retirement from practice is 67. Sums from numbers and percentages may contrast with calculated totals due to intrinsic rounding errors.

TABLE 5-14

Planned Full Retirement Age (by Gender)

	Male F	Practicing Urol Represented	ogists	Female Practicing Urologists Represented			
Planned Retirement Age	Number	Percent (%)	+/- MOE (%)	Number	Percent (%)	+/- MOE (%)	
< 60	539	4.5	0.8	187	13.6	3.5	
60-64	1,577	13.2	1.3	373	27.1	4.4	
65^	2,680	22.4	1.6	450	32.7	4.8	
66-70	3,220	26.9	1.6	320	23.3	4.3	
≥ 71	3,961	33.1	1.5	45	3.3	*	
Total	11,977	100.0		1,375	100.0		

(Data source: Weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census.) Sums from numbers and percentages may contrast with calculated totals due to intrinsic rounding errors. ^65 was listed as a separate category because a large number of urologists plan to retire at that age. *The estimated value should be used with caution due to small samples.

Section 6: Medical Team Composition

Primary Observations

- The number of urologists per practice has increased each year over the previous year, as shown in Figure 1-1. The percentage of urologists who work in practices with ten or more urologists has increased from 23.8 percent in 2015 to 36.2 percent in 2020 (TABLE 6-1).
- On average, urologists' ratios to APPs are 3.5 urologists to 1 PA; 4.0 urologists to 1 NP; 4.5 urologists to 1 APN and overall 2.0 urologists to 1 APP within the practice or medical team (TABLE 6-6).
- The top three benefits to urologists working with APPs are reduced patient waiting times (75.9 percent), improved overall productivity of care (68.8 percent) and improved patient education (63.5 percent) (TABLE 6-7).

TABLE 6-1

Number of Practicing Urologists per Practice (by Practice Setting)

	Practicing Urologists Represented		
Number of Practicing Urologists	Number	Percent (%)	+/- MOE (%)
Total			
1	2,308	17.3	1.7
2	1,145	8.6	1.3
3	1,083	8.1	1.2
4	1,002	7.5	1.1
5-9	2,984	22.4	1.8
10-15	1,896	14.2	1.5
> 15	2,933	22.0	1.7
Total	13,352	100.0	
Institutions (Academic Medical Centers, Hospitals and Health Care Systems)			
1	620	9.8	2.1
2-5	1,603	25.5	2.7
6-9	1,081	17.2	2.3
≥ 10	2,994	47.5	3.2
Total	6,297	100.0	

TABLE 6-1

Number of Practicing Urologists per Practice (by Practice Setting) (Continued)

	Practicing Urologists Represented		
Number of Practicing Urologists	Number	Percent (%)	+/- MOE (%)
Private Practices (Solo, Single-Specialty, and Multispecialty)			
1	1,599	23.3	2.7
2-5	2,339	34.1	2.8
6-9	1,103	16.1	2.2
≥ 10	1,818	26.5	2.5
Total	6,859	100.0	
Other Settings (Community Health Center/ HMO/Managed Care Organization, and Federal, State or Local Government)			
1	89	45.4	*
> 1	107	54.6	*
Total	196	100.0	

(Data source: Weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census.) Sums from numbers and percentages may contrast with calculated totals due to intrinsic rounding errors. *The estimated value should be used with caution due to small samples.

TABLE 6-2

Practicing Urologists Who Work Directly with Physician Assistants (PAs)

	Practicing Urologists Represented		
Number of Physician Assistants	Number	Percent (%)	+/- MOE (%)
None	5,510	42.7	2.1
1	2,232	17.3	1.6
2	1,583	12.3	1.4
≥ 3	3,591	27.8	1.9
Total Reported	12,916	100.0	
Not Reported	436		
Total	13,352		

(Data source: Weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census.) Working directly with PAs means working with PAs in the urologists' primary practices or medical teams. Sums from numbers and percentages may contrast with calculated totals due to intrinsic rounding errors.



Percentage of Practicing Urologists Who Work Directly with PAs (by Practice Setting)*

(Data source: Weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census.) ^ Other Settings include federal, state and local government; industry (pharmaceuticals, EHR vendors, device manufacturers, etc.) *Bold numbers are point estimates. The dashed bars represent upper and lower 90% confidence limits. Working directly with PAs means working with PAs in the urologists' primary practices or medical teams.

TABLE 6-3

Practicing Urologists Who Work Directly with Nurse Practitioners (NPs)

	Practicing Urologists Represented		
Number of Nurse Practitioners	Number	Percent (%)	+/- MOE (%)
None	5,987	46.5	2.1
1	2,199	17.1	1.6
2	1,680	13.1	1.5
≥ 3	2,998	23.3	1.8
Total Reported	12,865	100.0	
Not Reported	487		
Total	13,352		

(Data source: Weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census.) Working directly with NPs means working with NPs in the urologists' primary practices or medical teams.

Percentage of Practicing Urologists Who Work Directly with NPs (by Practice Setting)*



(Data source: Weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census.) ^ Other settings include federal, state and local government; industry (pharmaceuticals, EHR vendors, device manufacturers, etc. *Bold numbers are point estimates. The dashed bars represent upper and lower 90% confidence limits. Working directly with NPs means working with NPs in the urologists' primary practices or medical teams.

TABLE 6-4

Practicing Urologists Who Work Directly with Advanced Practice Nurses (APNs)

	Practicing Urologists Represented		
Number of APNs	Number	Percent (%)	+/- MOE (%)
None	9,257	81.1	1.8
1	786	6.9	1.2
2	569	5.0	1.0
≥ 3	808	7.1	1.2
Total Reported	11,420	100.0	
Not Reported	1,932		
Total	13,352		

(Data source: Weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census.) Working directly with APNs means working with APNs in the urologists' primary practices or medical teams. Sums from numbers and percentages may contrast with calculated totals due to intrinsic rounding errors.

Percentage of Practicing Urologists Who Work Directly with APNs (by Practice Setting)*



(Data source: Weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census.) ^Other settings include federal, state and local government; industry (pharmaceuticals, EHR vendors, device manufacturers, etc.) *Bold numbers are point estimates. The dashed bars represent upper and lower 90% confidence limits. Working directly with APNs means working with APNs in the urologists' primary practices or medical teams.

TABLE 6-5

Practicing Urologists Who Work Directly with at least One Advanced Practice Provider (APP)

	Practicing Urologists Represented			Practicing Urologists Represented
Number of PAs, NPs and APNs	Number	Percent (%)	+/- MOE (%)	
None	3,337	25.6	2.0	
1 - 2	3,434	26.4	2.0	
3 - 4	1,956	15.0	1.5	
5 - 9	2,657	20.4	1.8	
≥ 10	1,638	12.6	1.4	
Total Reported	13,022	100.0		
Not Reported	330			
Total	13,352			

(Data source: Weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census.) Working directly with APPs means working with at least one PA, NP or APN in the urologists' primary practices or medical teams.

Percentage of Practicing Urologists Who Work Directly with at Least One APP (by Practice Setting)*



(Data source: Weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census.) ^ Other settings include federal, state and local government; industry (pharmaceuticals, EHR vendors, device manufacturers, etc.) *Bold numbers are point estimates. The dashed bars represent upper and lower 90% confidence limits. Working directly with APPs means working with at least one PA, NP or APN in the urologists' primary practices or medical teams.

TABLE 6-6

Ratios of Median Number of Urologists to Median Number of Advanced Practice Providers (by APP Types)

	Practicing Urologists Represented		
Urologist to APP Ratios	Number of Urologists	Median Ratio	
Ratio of Urologist to APPs (PAs, NPs and APNs)	9,685	2.0 Urologists : 1 APP	
Ratio of Urologist to PAs	7,406	3.5 Urologists : 1 PA	
Ratio of Urologist to NPs	6,877	4.0 Urologists : 1 NP	
Ratio of Urologist to APNs	2,163	4.5 Urologists : 1 APN	
Urologists Who Do Not Work with APPs at All	3,546	N/A	

(Data source: Weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census.) A urologist-to-APP ratio is defined as the median value of urologists' ratios to APPs (PAs, NPs and APNs) within a practice.

TABLE 6-7

Urologists' Perspective Towards Collaboration with Advanced Practice Providers (APPs)

	Practicing Urologists Who Support The Statement		
Perspective	Number	Percent (%)	+/- MOE (%)
Helps Reduce Patient Wait Times	10,131	75.9	2.6
Helps Improve Overall Productivity of Care	9,186	68.8	2.7
Helps Improve Patient Education	8,474	63.5	2.8
Helps Improve Patient Satisfaction	7,188	53.8	3.0
Helps Lower Provider Costs	5,946	44.5	2.9

(Data source: Weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census.) Respondents could select more than one answer, so the total of counts may be more than the total number of practicing urologists.

FIGURE 6-5

Percentage of Practicing Urologists Who Work Directly with at least One APP (by Rurality Level)*



(Data source: Weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census.) *Bold numbers are point estimates. The dashed bars represent upper and lower 90% confidence limits. Working directly with APPs means working with at least one PA, NP or APN in the urologists' primary practices or medical teams.

Section 7: Urologist Recruitment, Compensation, Resources and Professional Support

Primary Observations

- In 2020, 23.3 percent of practices were hiring or anticipated hiring at least one urologist, regionally higher in the Northeastern Section (40.4 percent) and lower in the Western Section (20.6 percent) (TABLE 7-1). Nearly 68 percent of urologists reported the need to hire general urologists (TABLE 7-4), and 41.7 percent of urologists reported fellowship training is preferred when considering a candidate (TABLE 7-5).
- Approximately 66 percent of practicing urologists reported having a contract or salary guarantee for their current job (TABLE 7-6), and 91 percent reported their income increased or was about the same the year following the initial income guarantee (TABLE 7-9).
- Individual relative value units (RVUs) were most commonly reported as a compensation determination factor by 56.4 percent of practicing urologists (TABLE 7-10).

Recruitment

TABLE 7-1

Practices That Are Currently Hiring or Anticipating Hiring at Least One Additional Urologist (by AUA Section)*

	Urology Practices Represented				
AUA Sections	Number of Practices	Number of Practices That Are Hiring or Anticipating Hiring	Percent of Hiring Practices (%)		
Mid-Atlantic	325	88	27.2		
New England	219	72	32.8		
New York	352	81	23.1		
North Central	750	163	21.8		
Northeastern	157	63	40.4		
South Central	655	137	20.9		
Southeastern	932	210	22.5		
Western	833	172	20.6		
Total	4,223	983	23.3		

(Data source: Weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census.) The 25 urologists who work for industry or government agencies were excluded in determining the number of practices in the U.S. The number of practices was calculated based on the number of practices per urologist and then aggregated within the same type of practice setting. For example, if there are two urologists in one practice, the number of practices per urologist is 0.5. *Some AUA Sections have non-U.S. members who were not included in this report due to a lack of urologist population files in those countries.

Practices That Are Currently Hiring or Anticipating Hiring at Least One Additional Urologist (by Setting)

	Urology Practices Represented			
Practice Settings	Number of Practices	Number of Practices That Are Hiring or Anticipating Hiring	Percent of Hiring Practices (%)	
Solo Practices (with One Urologist Only)	1,199	94	7.8	
Private Groups (with Two or More Urologists)	1,425	470	33.0	
Academic Medical Centers/Medical Schools	469	220	46.9	
Private and Public Hospitals	919	202	22.0	
Others	211	17	7.9	
Total	4,223	983	23.3	

(Data source: Weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census.) The 25 urologists who work for industry or government agencies were excluded in determining the number of practices in the U.S. The number of practices was calculated based on the number of practices per urologist and then aggregated within the same type of practice setting. For example, if there are two urologists in one practice, the number of practices per urologist is 0.5.

TABLE 7-3

Practicing Urologists Whose Practices Are Currently Hiring or Anticipating Hiring at Least One Additional Urologist in 2020

	Practicing Urologists Represented			
Hire Urologist(s)	Number	Percent (%)	+/- MOE (%)	
No	6,107	52.9	3.0	
Yes	5,429	47.1	3.0	
Currently Hiring	3,626	31.4	2.7	
Anticipated Hiring	1,803	15.6	2.1	
Total Reported	11,536	100.0		
Not Reported	1,816			
Total	13,352			

(Data source: Weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census.)

Specialty Area of Urologists to Hire

	Practicing Urologists Represented		
Specialty Area	Number	Percent (%)	+/- MOE (%)
General	3,673	67.7	4.0
Oncology	1,384	25.5	3.6
Female Urology	1,196	22.0	3.7
Robotic Surgery	714	13.1	2.3
Endourology/Stone Disease	690	12.7	2.6
Men's Health	589	10.8	2.4
Pediatrics	585	10.8	2.5
Others	231	4.3	*

(Data source: Weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census.) Respondents could select more than one answer, so the total of counts may be more than the total number of practicing urologists. *The estimated value should be used with caution due to small samples.

TABLE 7-5

Consideration of Fellowship Training in Selecting a Candidate to Fill a Urologist Position

	Practicing Urologists Represented		
Fellowship Training Considerations	Number	Percent (%)	+/- MOE (%)
Fellowship Training Is Not Considered	1,978	36.4	3.8
Fellowship Training Is Preferred	2,265	41.7	4.6
Fellowship Training is Required	968	17.8	3.5
l Do Not Know	218	4.0	*
Total	5,429	100.0	

(Data source: Weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census.) Reported respondents represent the 5,429 urologists whose practices anticipate hiring at least one urologist in 2020. * The estimated value should be used with caution due to small samples.

Compensation

TABLE 7-6

Practicing Urologists Who Have a Contract or Salary Guarantee for Their Current Job (by Type of Practice Setting and Years of Practicing Urology)

	Practicing Urologists Represented						
Contract or Salary Guarantee	Total Number of Urologists	Urologists with a Contract or Salary Guarantee	Percent of Urologists with a Contract or Salary Guarantee (%)	+/- MOE (%)			
Type of Practice							
Private Group Practices (>1 Urologist)	5,305	2,456	40.6	3.8			
Academic Centers/Medical Schools	3,793	3,469	23.2	3.6			
Private and Public Hospitals	2,236	1,982	28.7	3.4			
Number of Years of Practicing Urology After Residency							
≤10 Years	4,022	3,317	82.5	4.0			
11 to 30 Years	4,772	2,634	55.2	4.2			
>30 Year	4,129	2,601	63.0	6.4			
Total Reported	12,923	8,552	66.2	2.8			

(Data source: Weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census.)

Benchmark Data Used in Contract Negotiation

	Practicing Urologists Represented				
Benchmark Data Sources	Number	Percent (%)	+/- MOE (%)		
Medical Group Management Association (MGMA)	3,473	40.6	3.5		
American Medical Group Association (AMGA)	872	10.2	2.3		
Merritt Hawkins	321	3.8	1.2		
Sullivan Cotter	317	3.7	1.2		
Other	629	7.4	2.1		
None	3,987	46.6	3.7		

(Data source: Weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census.) Reported respondents represent the 8,552 urologists who have a contract or salary guarantee for their current job. Respondents could select more than one answer, so the total of counts may be more than the total number of practicing urologists.

Length of the Initial Contract for Current Job (by Type of Practice Setting)

	Practicing Urologists Represented			
Initial Contract Term	Number	Percent (%)	+/- MOE (%)	
1 Year	1,956	22.9	3.5	
2 Years	1,874	21.9	2.8	
3 or More Years	2,652	31.0	3.6	
No Fixed Term	2,069	24.2	3.4	
Total	8,552	100.0		
Private Group Practices				
1 Year	548	20.4	6.2	
2 Years	762	28.4	6.0	
3 or More Years	737	27.4	5.8	
No Fixed Term	638	23.8	5.7	
Group Total	2,685	100.0		
Universities and Hospitals				
1 Year	1,390	25.5	4.5	
2 Years	1,084	19.9	3.6	
3 or More Years	1,855	34.0	4.6	
No Fixed Term	1,123	20.6	4.2	
Group Total	5,451	100.0		

(Data source: Weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census.) Reported respondents represent the 8,552 urologists who have a contract or salary guarantee for their current job.

Income Change the Year Following Initial Income Guarantee (by Type of Practice Setting)

	Practicing Urologists Represented			
Income Changes	Number	Percent (%)	+/- MOE (%)	
Decreased	579	9.0	2.6	
About the Same	2,998	46.4	4.3	
Increased by <10%	1,058	16.4	3.4	
Increased by ≥10%	1,826	28.3	3.8	
Total Reported	6,461	100.0		
Not Reported	2,091			
Total	8,552			
Private Group Practices				
About the Same	1,011	47.9	7.5	
Increased	794	37.6	7.3	
Decreased	306	14.5	*	
Group Reported	2,111	100.0		
Not Reported	574			
Group Total	2,685			
Universities and Hospitals				
About the Same	1,893	46.5	5.5	
Increased	1,920	47.1	5.4	
Decreased	262	6.4	*	
Group Reported	4,075	100.0		
Not Reported	1,376			
Group Total	5,451			

(Data source: Weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census.) Respondents represent the 8,552 urologists who have a contract or salary guarantee for their current job. * The estimated value should be used with caution due to small samples.

Compensation Determination Factors

	Practicing Urologists Represented				
Compensation Factors	Number	Percent (%)	+/- MOE (%)		
Individual Relative Value Units (RVUs)	7,529	56.4	3.1		
Group/Practice RVUs	2,368	17.7	2.2		
Administrative Work that Contributes to the Overall Success of the Practice	2,259	16.9	2.3		
Patient Satisfaction Scores	1,857	13.9	2.0		
Research Productivity	1,310	9.8	1.7		
Equipment/Real Estate Ownership	505	3.8	1.0		
Others	2,757	20.6	2.5		

(Data source: Weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census.) Respondents could select more than one answer, so the total of counts may be more than the total number of practicing urologists.

Resources And Professional Support

TABLE 7-11

Resources Available and Utilized to Support Urologic Care Practices

Resources to Support Urologic	Practicing Urologists Represented				
Care Practices	Number	Percent (%)	+/- MOE (%)		
Electronic Health Record Education					
Available	11,168	83.6	2.3		
Actually Utilized	8,407	63.0	2.9		
Not Utilized	2,761	20.7	2.5		
Unavailable	2,184	16.4	2.3		
Total	13,352	100.0			
Coding Assistance					
Available	10,047	75.2	2.7		
Actually Utilized	6,895	51.6	3.1		
Not Utilized	3,152	23.6	2.7		
Unavailable	3,305	24.8	2.7		
Total	13,352	100.0			

Resources Available and Utilized to Support Urologic Care Practices (Continued)

Resources to Support Uralogic	Practicing Urologists Represented				
Care Practices	Number	Percent (%)	+/- MOE (%)		
Assistance with Federal Regulations					
Available	8,779	65.8	2.8		
Actually Utilized	4,041	30.3	2.8		
Not Utilized	4,738	35.5	3.0		
Unavailable	4,573	34.3	2.8		
Total	13,352	100.0			
Life Coaching for Improving Quality of Life (QOL)					
Available	5,900	44.2	3.1		
Actually Utilized	1,404	10.5	2.0		
Not Utilized	4,496	33.7	2.9		
Unavailable	7,451	55.8	3.1		
Total	13,352	100.0			
Business Education on Effective Office Management					
Available	5,212	39.0	3.0		
Actually Utilized	2,114	15.8	2.4		
Not Utilized	3,098	23.2	2.6		
Not available	8,140	61.0	3.0		
Total	13,352	100.0			

(Data source: Weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census.)

Accessing the AUA Clinical Guidelines

	Practicing Urologists Represented				
AUA Guidelines Access	Number	Percent (%)	+/- MOE (%)		
AUA Website	11,350	85.0	2.4		
AUA Guidelines Mobile App	5,943	44.5	2.9		
Journal of Urology	3,613	27.1	2.9		
AUA Guidelines-At-A-Glance Compendium Book (Pocket Guide)	3,117	23.3	2.8		

(Data source: Weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census.) Respondents could select more than one answer, so the total of counts may be more than the total number of practicing urologists.

TABLE 7-13

Urologists Who Have Received Some Education/Training on Medical Billing and Coding

Medical Billing and Coding	Practicing Urologists Represented				
Education/Training	Number	Percent (%)	+/- MOE (%)		
l Have Received Medical Billing/Coding Education or Training	11,375	85.2	2.3		
Only Received Informal Training on Medical Billing and Coding through Coaching	5,507	41.2	3.0		
Attended an AUA Course on Medical Billing and Coding	3,140	23.5	2.6		
Received Training from Sources Other Than the AUA and the Practicing Institution	3,077	23.0	2.6		
Attended an Institutional Course on Medical Billing and Coding	2,901	21.7	2.6		
Others	478	3.6	1.2		
l Have Never Received any Medical Billing/Coding Education or Training	1,977	14.8	2.3		

(Data source: Weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census.) Respondents could select more than one answer, so the total of counts may be more than the total number of practicing urologists.

Barriers with the Greatest Impact on Professional Success (by Gender)

	Male Urologists Represented		Female U	rologists Repre	sented	
Barriers to Professional Success	Number	Percent (%)	+/- MOE (%)	Number	Percent (%)	+/- MOE (%)
Barriers Reported	8,016	74.5	3.2	1,057	92.7	4.4
Lack of Time	3,626	33.7	3.2	285	25.0	6.4
Lack of Control Over Staffing Decisions or Scheduling	2,593	24.1	3.0	527	46.2	7.4
Other Barriers	1,797	16.7	2.6	245	21.5	6.4
No Barriers Reported	2,740	25.5	3.2	83	7.3	*
Total Reported	10,756	100.0		1,140	100.0	

(Data source: Weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census.) Data were collected during COVID-19 office closures. Respondents were asked to consider usual (non-COVID) processes when answering. *The estimated value should be used with caution due to small samples.

Barriers with the Greatest Impact on Professional Success (by Type of Practice Setting)

	Practicing Urologists Represented			
Barriers to Professional Success	Number	Percent (%)	+/- MOE (%)	
All Practice Settings				
Reported Barriers				
Lack of Time	3,911	32.9	3.0	
Lack of Autonomy, Education & Others	2,042	17.2	2.7	
Lack of Control Over Scheduling	1,894	15.9	2.4	
Lack of Control Over Staffing Decisions	1,226	10.3	1.8	
No Barriers Reported	2,823	23.7	2.9	
Total Reported	11,897	100.0		
Private Practices				
Reported Barriers				
Lack of Time	2,221	37.4	4.4	
Lack of Autonomy, Education and Others	1,115	18.8	4.0	
Lack of Control Over Scheduling	558	9.4	2.6	
Lack of Control Over Staffing Decisions	551	9.3	2.5	
No Barriers Reported	1,486	25.1	4.2	
Total Reported	5,885	100.0		
Universities and Hospitals				
Reported Barriers				
Lack of Time	1,654	30.0	4.4	
Lack of Control Over Scheduling	1,195	21.6	4.2	
Lack of Autonomy, Education and Others	851	15.4	3.6	
Lack of Control Over Staffing Decisions	614	11.1	2.6	
No Barriers Reported	1,205	21.8	4.2	
Total Reported	5,519	100.0		

(Data source: Weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census.) Data were collected during COVID-19 office closures. Respondents were asked to consider usual (non-COVID) processes when answering. Sums from numbers and percentages may contrast with calculated totals due to intrinsic rounding errors.
TABLE 7-16

Annual Malpractice Premiums

	Practicing Urologists Represent		
Malpractice Premiums per Physician	Number	Percent (%)	+/- MOE (%)
I Pay Annual Malpractice Premium	4,936	38.4	3.0
≤\$20,000	2,251	17.5	2.2
>\$20,000	1,727	13.4	2.2
Don't Remember the Amount	958	7.4	1.7
Malpractice Coverage Is Provided by Employer	7,927	61.6	3.0
Total Reported	12,862	100.0	
Not Reported	490		
Total	13,352		

(Data source: Weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census.)

Section 8: Patient-Reported Outcomes (PRO) and Telemedicine Utilization

Primary Observations

- Of the urologists in the U.S., 43 percent collect patient-reported outcome (PRO) information (TABLE 8-1), of which 57.7 percent utilized paper surveys administered in the office as the most common collection method (TABLE 8-2).
- Customarily, urologists utilize PRO Information to access postoperative outcomes (65.9 percent), assess the current status of a chronic condition (43.5 percent) and inform patients of treatment options (38.1 percent) (TABLE 8-4).
- Telemedicine programs are normally utilized by 71.5 percent of urologists (TABLE 8-5), a significant increase from 11.9 percent a year ago. The top two compensated telemedicine services are video visits or conferencing with patients (93.9 percent) and telephone calls with patients (77.3 percent) (TABLE 8-6).

Patient-Reported Outcomes

A patient-reported outcome is any report that comes directly from a patient about how they function or feel in relation to a health condition. In the AUA Census, collecting PRO is commonly considered a survey distributed to patients who respond online, in person, through email, mail or telephone. In some institutions, PRO may be collected by the institutions rather than by individual urologists.

TABLE 8-1

Practicing Urologists Who Collect Patient-Reported Outcomes (by Practice Setting)

	Practicing Urologists Represented				
Practice Setting	Total Number of Urologists	Urologists Who Collect PRO	Percent (%)	+/- MOE (%)	
Private Practices	6,859	2,614	38.1	2.9	
Institutions	6,302	3,102	49.3	3.2	
Other Settings	191	30	15.7	*	
Total	13,352	5,746	43.0	2.1	

(Data source: Weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census.) *The estimated value should be used with caution due to small samples. A total of 5,746 urologists reported their practices collected patient-reported outcomes, which is 43 percent of the total number of practicing urologists in the U.S.

TABLE 8-2

Methods to Collect Patient-Reported Outcomes

	Practicing Urologists Represented			
PRO Collection Methods	Number of Urologists Who Collect PROs	Number of Urologists Who Use the Methods to Collect PRO	Percent (%)	+/- MOE (%)
Paper Survey, Administered in the Office		3,315	57.7	3.2
Online Survey		2,133	37.1	3.1
Paper Survey, Mailed to Patients	E 746	1,247	21.7	2.6
Telephone Interview	5,746	1,196	20.8	2.7
Survey by Email		1,134	19.7	2.6
Other		418	7.3	1.7

(Data source: Weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census.) Respondents could select more than one answer, so the total of counts may be more than the total number of practicing urologists.

TABLE 8-3

Urologic Disease Areas for Patient-Reported Outcome Collection

	Practicing Urologists Represented			
Urologic Disease Areas	Number of Urologists Who Collect PROs	Number of Urologists Who Collect PRO in The Area	Percent (%)	+/- MOE (%)
Prostate Cancer		3,505	61.0	2.8
Benign Prostatic Hyperplasia (BPH)		3,401	59.2	3.1
Overactive Bladder (OAB)	E 746	2,091	36.4	3.0
Bladder Cancer	5,740	2,001	34.8	2.9
Urinary Stones		1,837	32.0	2.8
Stress Urinary Incontinence (SUI)		1,714	29.8	3.0
Other Urologic Diseases		1,491	25.9	2.8

(Data source: Weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census.) Respondents could select more than one answer, so the total of counts may be more than the total number of practicing urologists.

TABLE 8-4

Utilization of Patient-Reported Outcome Information in Routine Clinical Practice

	Practicing Urologists Represented					
Utilization of PRO Information	Number of Urologists Who Collect PROs	Number of Urologists Utilizing Collected PRO Information	Percent (%)	+/- MOE (%)		
Assess Postoperative Outcomes		3,789	65.9	3.0		
Assess the Current Status of A Chronic Condition				2,501	43.5	3.3
Inform Patients of Treatment Options	5,746	2,188	38.1	3.2		
Diagnose Reported Health Concern		1,447	25.2	2.8		
Collected PRO information Was Not Used		1,051	18.3	2.6		
Use for Other Clinical Purposes		360	6.3	1.5		

(Data source: Weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census.) Respondents could select more than one answer, so the total of counts may be more than the total number of practicing urologists.

Telemedicine

TABLE 8-5

Participation in Telemedicine Programs (by Practice Setting)

	Practicing Urologists Represented				
Practice Setting	Total Number of Urologists	Urologists Participating in Telemedicine	Percent (%)	+/- MOE (%)	
Private Practices	6,859	4,701	68.5	2.9	
Institutions	6,301	4,803	76.2	2.8	
Other Settings	191	41	21.3	*	
Total	13,352	9,545	71.5	2.0	

(Data source: Weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census.) * The estimated value should be used with caution due to small samples. A total of 9,545 urologists reported their practices utilized telemedicine programs, which is 71.5 percent of the total number of practicing urologists in the U.S.

TABLE 8-6

Telemedicine Services for Which Practicing Urologists Receive Compensation

	Practicing Urologists Represented				
Compensated Telemedicine Services	Number of Urologists Participating in Telemedicine	Compensated Urologists in The Area	Percent (%)	+/- MOE (%)	
Video visits/conferencing with patients		8,964	93.9	1.2	
Telephone calls with patients	9,545	7,382	77.3	2.1	
E-consults (using store and forward technology rather than live discussion)		1,013	10.6	1.4	
Telephone calls as consultant to other providers		857	9.0	1.4	
Video visits/conferencing with other providers		568	5.9	1.1	
Text messages		531	5.6	1.1	
Services for a commercial telemedicine provider		156	1.6	0.7	

(Data source: Weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census.) Respondents could select more than one answer, so the total of counts may be more than the total number of practicing urologists.

TABLE 8-7

Patient Consultation Topics for Which Practicing Urologists Utilize Telemedicine

	Total Number of Urologists Utilizing	Urologists Wł New Pa	no Utilize Teleme tients in the Top	edicine to See bic Area
Telemedicine Consultation Topics	Telemedicine to See Patients in the Topic Area	Number	Percent (%)	+/- MOE (%)
Voiding dysfunction	7,720	4,702	60.9	2.7
ВРН	7,653	4,550	59.5	2.7
Recurrent UTIs	7,503	4,376	58.5	2.7
Stone disease	7,469	4,809	64.4	2.6
Elevated PSA/PSA Screening	7,407	4,438	59.9	2.8
Oncology	7,047	3,715	52.7	2.9
Erectile dysfunction	6,820	4,096	60.1	2.8
Hematuria	6,625	4,392	66.3	2.7
Infertility	2,790	1,714	61.4	4.4

(Data source: Weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census.) Respondents could select more than one answer, so the total of counts may be more than the total number of practicing urologists.

Section 9: Patient Communication, Care and Education

Primary Observations

- Approximately 63 percent of practicing urologists utilize electronic portal systems to communicate with patients outside of the in-office visit (TABLE 9-3). The top three benefits reported by those urologists who use electronic portals are reduction of telephone calls received for medical questions (65.4 percent), enhancement of care coordination (37.6 percent) and facilitation of patient education (37.0 percent) (TABLE 9-4).
- The wait time for new patient appointments is less than three weeks for approximately 65 percent of practicing urologists, whereas 23.4 percent of urologists reported at least a 4-week wait time. (TABLE 9-6).
- Emergency room visits (80.9 percent), leaving a message on the practice answering machine for oncall physicians (67.3 percent) and visiting an urgent care facility (54 percent) are the top alternatives to accessing care after normal office hours, as reported by practicing urologists (TABLE 9-8).

Patient Communication

TABLE 9-1

Usual Response Time to Patient Questions Received via Phone During Regular Office Hours

	Practicing Urologists Represented				
Phone Call Response Time	Number	Percent (%)	+/- MOE (%)		
<1 Hour	2,545	20.4	2.6		
1 - 2 Hours	3,471	27.8	2.8		
3 - 4 Hours	3,170	25.4	2.7		
5 - 8 Hours	1,454	11.6	1.9		
9 - 24 Hours	1,162	9.3	1.7		
≥25 Hours	691	5.5	1.4		
Total Reported	12,494	100.0			
l do not know	858				
Total	13,352				

(Data source: Weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census.) Data were collected during COVID-19 office closures. Respondents were asked to consider usual (non-COVID) processes when answering. Sums from numbers and percentages may contrast with calculated totals due to intrinsic rounding errors.

Primary Point Person for Patient Communication Outside of the In-Office Visit

Patient Communication Contact	Practicing Urologists Represented			
Outside Office Visit	Number	Percent (%)	+/- MOE (%)	
Nurse (LPN/RN)	5,648	42.3	2.8	
Medical Assistant	3,753	28.1	2.6	
Physician (MD/DO)	1,667	12.5	2.1	
Non-Clinical Staff	1,280	9.6	1.7	
PA/NP/APRN/APN/CNS	1,004	7.5	1.6	
Total	13,352	100.0		

(Data source: Weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census.)

TABLE 9-3

Utilization of Electronic Portals to Communicate with Patients Outside of the In-Office Visit

	Practicing Urologists Represented				
Electronic Portal Usage	Number	Percent (%)	+/- MOE (%)		
Yes	8,351	63.1	2.9		
No	4,876	36.9	2.9		
Total Reported	13,227	100.0			
I Do Not Know	125				
Total	13,352				

(Data source: Weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census.)

Impact of Communicating with Patients Using Electronic Portals on Practices

	Practicing Urologists Represented				
Impact on Practice	Number	Percent (%)	+/- MOE (%)		
Reduces Telephone Calls for Medical Questions	5,459	65.4	3.3		
Creates Extra Work	4,558	54.6	3.4		
Enhances Care Coordination	3,141	37.6	3.6		
Facilitates Patient Education	3,092	37.0	3.6		
Increases Overall Efficiency	2,882	34.5	3.5		
Reduces Number of In-person Appointments	2,782	33.3	3.3		
Helps Patients with Online Registration	1,124	13.5	2.4		
Makes the Completion of PRO Surveys Easier	389	4.7	1.5		
Others	298	3.6	1.3		

(Data source: Weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census.) Respondents could select more than one answer, so the total of counts may be more than the total number of practicing urologists.

TABLE 9-5

Usual Response Time to Questions Received via Electronic Portals during Ordinary Business Circumstances

	Practicing Urologists Represented		
Electronic Portal Response Time	Number	Percent (%)	+/- MOE (%)
≤24 Hours	4,412	53.8	3.2
1-2 Days	3,195	39.0	3.3
≥3 Days	588	7.2	1.8
Total Reported	8,196	100.0	
Not Reported	155		
Total	8,351		

(Data source: Weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census.) Data were collected during COVID-19 office closures. Respondents were asked to consider usual (non-COVID) processes when answering. Reported respondents represent the 8,351 urologists who use electronic portal systems.

Patient Access To Care

TABLE 9-6

Wait Time for Scheduling First Appointment for New Patients

	Practicing Urologists Represented		
Wait Time	Number	Percent (%)	+/- MOE (%)
<1 Week	2,397	18.9	2.6
1 Week	2,132	16.8	2.3
2 Weeks	3,721	29.4	2.9
3 Weeks	1,462	11.5	1.8
4 Weeks	1,204	9.5	1.8
>4 Weeks	1,756	13.9	1.8
Total Reported	12,671	100.0	
I Do Not Accept New Patients	242		
I Do Not Know	439		
Total	13,352		

(Data source: Weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census.) Data were collected during COVID-19 office closures. Respondents were asked to consider usual (non-COVID) processes when answering. Sums from numbers and percentages may contrast with calculated totals due to intrinsic rounding errors.

FIGURE 9-1

Wait Time for Scheduling First Appointment for New Patients Is Four Weeks or Longer (by Rurality Level)*



(Data source: Weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census.) Data were collected during COVID-19 office closures. Respondents were asked to consider usual (non-COVID) processes when answering. *Bold numbers are point estimates. The dashed bars represent upper and lower 90% confidence limits.

Processes in Place to Reduce Appointment Wait Time That Is Longer than 4 Weeks

	Practicing	g Urologists Rep	presented
Processes to Reduce Wait Time	Number	Percent (%)	+/- MOE (%)
Yes	1,656	94.3	3.2
Overbook Patients	1,296	73.8	5.8
Offer Patients an Appointment with Other Available Urologists	990	56.4	5.6
Offer Patients an Appointment with Advanced Practice Providers	913	52.0	6.5
Refer Patients to Telehealth/ Telemedicine/Teledoc Appointment Services	383	21.8	4.5
We Use Other Ways	105	6.0	*
No	100	5.7	*

(Data source: Weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census.) Respondents in this table were those who reported wait time for scheduling first appointment for new patients were longer than four weeks. Data were collected during COVID-19 office closures. Respondents were asked to consider usual (non-COVID) processes when answering. Respondents could select more than one answer, so the total of counts may be more than the total number of practicing urologists. *The estimated value should be used with caution due to small samples.

Accessing Urologic Care After Normal Office Hours

	Practicing Urologists Represented		
Urologic Care Options	Number	Percent (%)	+/- MOE (%)
Visit Emergency Room	10,795	80.9	2.5
Leave Message on Practice Answering Service for on-call Physician	8,991	67.3	2.8
Visit Urgent Care Facility	7,216	54.0	2.9
See Cross-Covering Partners	5,152	38.6	2.8
See Residents	3,350	25.1	2.6
Send Questions/Concerns via Email	2,986	22.4	2.4
Send Questions/Concerns via Mobile App	2,258	16.9	2.0
Participate in Telehealth/Telemedicine/ Teledoc Appointment	1,830	13.7	2.0
Others	833	6.2	1.5
I Do Not Know	129	1.0	*

(Data source: Weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census.) Data were collected during COVID-19 office closures. Respondents were asked to consider usual (non-COVID) processes when answering. Respondents could select more than one answer, so the total of counts may be more than the total number of practicing urologists. *The estimated value should be used with caution due to small samples.

Patient Utilization of Online Urologic Services for Men Outside of Clinical Encounters

Utilization of Online Urologic	Practicing Urologists Represented		
Services	Number	Percent (%)	+/- MOE (%)
My Patients Do Not Utilize Online Urologic Services for Men	3,662	77.5	4.2
My Patients Utilize Online Urologic Services for Men	1,066	22.5	4.2
Total Reported	4,728	100.0	
I Do Not Know	7,427		
Not Applicable to My Patients	1,197		
Total	13,352		

(Data source: Weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census.) Examples of online urologic services for men are Roman and Hims.

TABLE 9-10

Types of Treatments Received through Online Urologic Services for Men

	Practicing Urologists Represented		
Online Urologic Treatments	Number	Percent (%)	+/- MOE (%)
PDE5i	809	75.9	9.4
Testosterone	329	30.9	8.3
5 Alpha Reductase Inhibitor	254	23.9	8.0
Prostaglandin or Combination Injections	149	14.0	*
Alpha Blockers	115	10.8	*
Aromatase Inhibitor	87	8.2	*
Clomiphene Citrate	63	5.9	*
SSRI Inhibitor	47	4.4	*
Anticholinergic/Mybetriq	21	2.0	*
l Do Not Know	72	6.7	*

(Data source: Weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census.) Respondents could select more than one answer, so the total of counts may be more than the total number of practicing urologists. *The estimated value should be used with caution due to small samples.

Listed Reasons by Urologists Whose Patients Utilize Online Urologic Services

	Practicing Urologists Represented		
Reasons	Number	Percent (%)	+/- MOE (%)
Anonymity/Privacy	645	60.5	7.8
More Rapid Access to Therapy Than with Primary Care Physicians or Urologists	392	36.8	9.5
Unaware of Access to These Services through Primary Care Physicians or Urologists	260	24.4	6.6
Unaware of Insurance Coverage for These Services	232	21.7	6.0
Others	93	8.7	*
l Do Not Know	184	17.2	5.2

(Data source: Weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census.) Data were collected during COVID-19 office closures. Respondents were asked to consider usual (non-COVID) processes when answering. Respondents could select more than one answer, so the total of counts may be more than the total number of practicing urologists. *The estimated value should be used with caution due to small samples.

Special Patient Care

TABLE 9-12

Palliative Care Discussions with Patients Who Are Experiencing Advanced Urologic Disease

	Practicing	g Urologists Rep	oresented
Palliative Care Discussions	Number	Percent (%)	+/- MOE (%)
Yes	7,598	56.9	3.1
No	5,754	43.1	3.1
I Refer Them to Others	3,139	23.5	2.6
l Do Not Treat Patients with Advanced Urologic Disease	2,369	17.7	2.3
I Do Not Feel I Am Qualified or Other Reasons	413	3.1	0.9

(Data source: Weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census.) Respondents could select more than one answer, so the total of counts may be more than the total number of practicing urologists.

Pain Assessments Routinely Performed for Patients with Advanced Urologic Disease

	Practicing Urologists Represented		
Routinely Perform Pain Assessments	Number	Percent (%)	+/- MOE (%)
Yes	6,374	47.7	3.1
No	4,147	31.1	2.8
l Do Not Treat Patients with Advanced Urologic Disease	2,832	21.2	2.4
Total	13,352	100.0	

(Data source: Weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census.)

TABLE 9-14

Routine Screening of Depression or Other Mental Health Condition for Patients with Advanced Urologic Disease

	Practicing Urologists Represented		
Mental Health Screening	Number	Percent (%)	+/- MOE (%)
Yes	3,455	32.9	3.4
No	7,055	67.1	3.4
Total Reported	10,510	100.0	
I Do Not Treat Patients with Advanced Urologic Disease	2,842		
Total	13,352		

(Data source: Weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census.)

Patient Education

TABLE 9-15

Patient Education Sources Commonly Utilized by Practicing Urologists

	Practicing Urologists Represented		
Patient Education Sources	Number	Percent (%)	+/- MOE (%)
My Practice/Organization	10,504	78.7	2.5
Urology Care Foundation (UCF)	5,793	43.4	3.0
Commercially Available Information	5,053	37.8	2.8
Prepared by Other Foundations	2,511	18.8	2.3
American Cancer Society	2,368	17.7	2.4
Prepared by Other Universities	1,400	10.5	1.8
Prepared by Other Hospitals	949	7.1	1.8
Others	890	6.7	1.7
I Do Not Use Patient Education Materials	417	3.1	*

(Data source: Weighted samples from the 2020 AUA Annual Census.) Respondents could select more than one answer, so the total of counts may be more than the total number of practicing urologists. * The estimated value should be used with caution due to small samples.

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