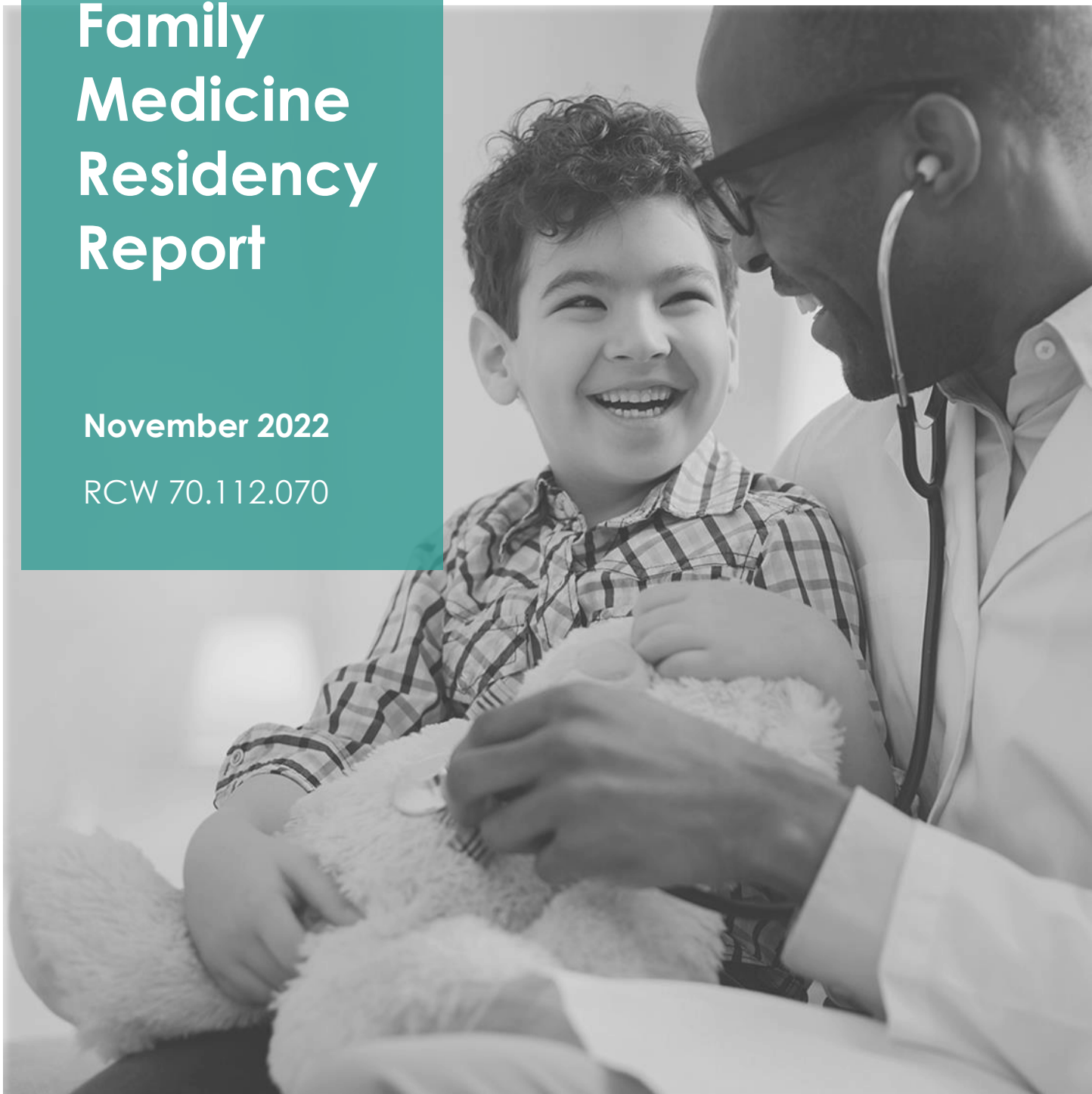


Report to the Legislature

Family Medicine Residency Report

November 2022

RCW 70.112.070



Prepared by
Office of Community Health Systems
Health Systems Quality Assurance



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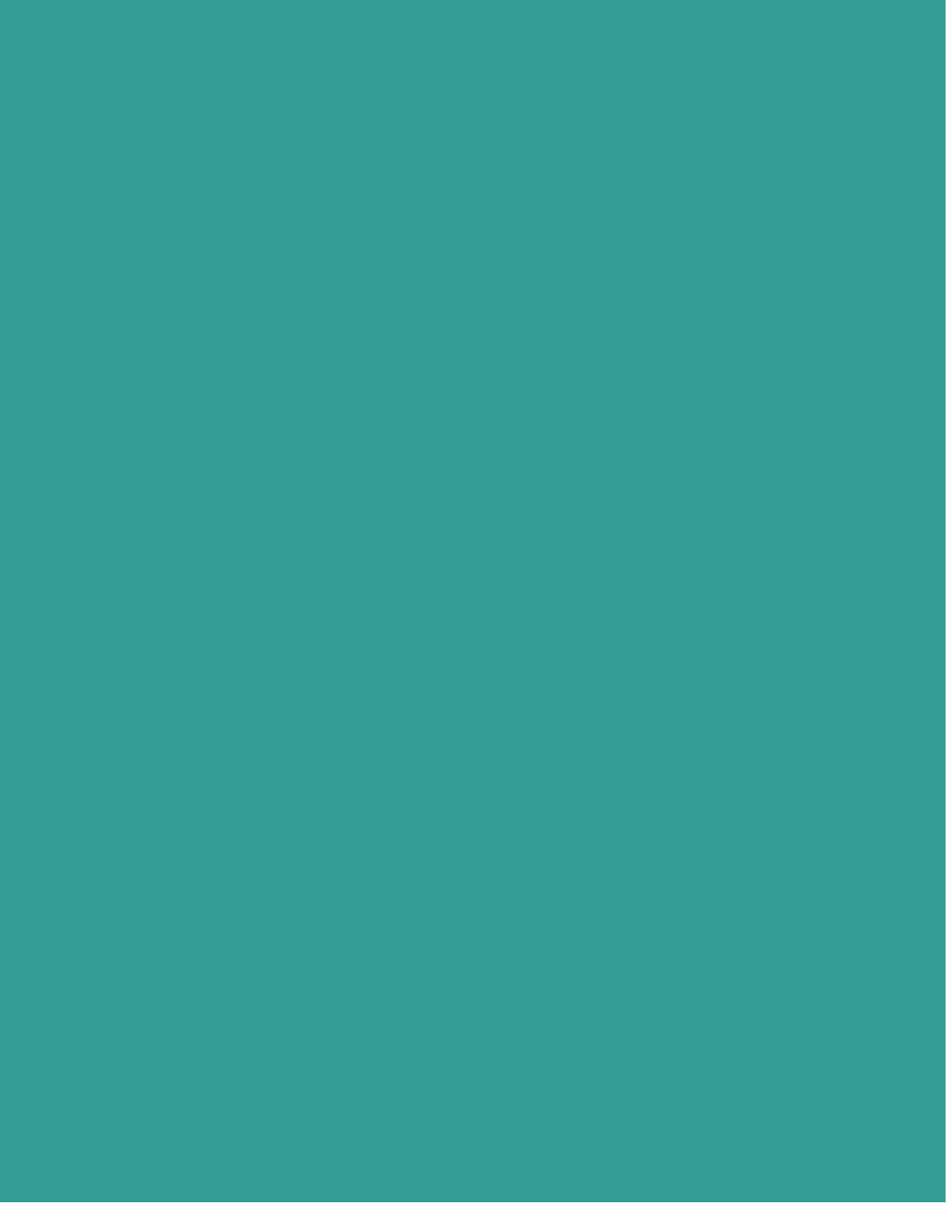
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Executive Summary

Family medicine residencies are three-year programs that prepare allopathic and osteopathic medical school graduates to practice as primary care physicians. [RCW 70.112.070](#) requires each family medicine residency program to annually report data to the Department of Health (department) on:

- The location of the residency program and whether located in a Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA)¹
- The number of residents in the program who attended in-state versus out-of-state medical schools
- The number of graduates of the residency program who work within HPSAs

The statute requires the department to aggregate the information received from the residency programs, including information on geographic distributions of programs as they change over time, and compare the number of residents in family medicine and specialty practice. The department has been required to report this information to the legislature every even year since November 1, 2016.

Washington is increasing its capacity to train family medicine physicians to encourage more physicians to choose family medicine as their specialty. The total number of residency programs has increased from 20 in 2014 to 26 in 2022. Family practice residency programs have increased the number of annual new residents from 120 in 2014 (Class of 2017) to 161 in 2022 (Class of 2025). Though there has been an increase in training programs, the additional programs are in urban, rather than rural areas of the state.

¹ HPSAs are federal designations based on physician workforce data and other measures correlated with health care access challenges.

Background

This report provides information required by [RCW 70.112.070](#) about family medicine residency programs in Washington. The department partnered with the University of Washington (UW) Family Medicine Residency Network to collect and report the following:

- The location of each family medicine residency program and whether all or part is located in a designated HPSA
- Number of residents in each program and whether they attended an in-state medical school
- Number of graduates from each program who work within HPSAs

The report must also include information on changes in the geographic distribution of family residency programs over time and, if information on the number of residents in specialty areas is readily available, a comparison of the number of residents in family medicine versus specialty areas. The department includes in the report the location of programs and graduates in counties designated as rural by the Office of Financial Management (OFM).

The information in this report covers fiscal year 2021, the period between July 1, 2020, through June 30, 2021, and fiscal year 2022, covering the period July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022.

Graduate Medical Education in Family Medicine

Family medicine residencies are three-year programs that prepare allopathic and osteopathic medical school graduates to practice as primary care physicians. Medical students interested in attending a residency program enroll in the National Resident Matching Program (NRMP) during their fourth year of school. The NRMP, also known as “The Match,” is a private, nonprofit organization that oversees the process by which applicants find positions at graduate medical education programs. Potential residents and family medicine residency program administrators are not able to directly determine which residents attend which programs.

During the Match process, students interview at multiple programs, typically in many different places, and rank their preferences. The residency programs then rank the residents who interview with them, both sides submit their lists to the allopathic and osteopathic matching programs, and a computer algorithm pairs residents with a training program.

The state's 26 current civilian family medicine residency programs² accept graduates from in-state, out-of-state, and international medical schools. Washington has three medical schools that train family practice residents. The UW School of Medicine and the Washington State University Elson S. Floyd College of Medicine are allopathic medical schools conferring the medical doctor (MD) degree upon graduation. The Pacific Northwest University of Health Sciences confers the doctor of osteopathy (DO) degree upon graduation.

For the purposes of this report, residents were considered as attending a Washington medical school if they graduated from the UW's School of Medicine, the Pacific Northwest University of Health Sciences, or Washington State University's Elson S. Floyd College of Medicine. The number of residents who attended in-state programs is broken out by residency program in the appendix starting on page 14.

Health Professional Shortage Areas

HPSAs are a federal designation for communities that lack access to certain types of health care professionals, including primary care, mental health, and dental. HPSAs are used by state and federal programs to determine eligibility for payment enhancements and workforce incentive programs. The department works in partnership with the federal government to identify geographic areas, populations, and facilities experiencing a shortage of health care services.

HPSA designations are based on the analysis of survey data collected from providers and standardized national data sets. There are three main types of HPSAs depending on whether access is difficult for an entire group of people within a defined geographic area; limited to a specific group of people within a defined geographic area; or a qualifying organization that serves a population or geographic area with a shortage of providers. HPSA scores are determined based on a calculation of the ratio of population per provider.

The department updated all HPSA designations in 2017, resulting in the expansion of HPSA boundaries. This change resulted in very little territory undesignated, allowing for more communities to qualify for assistance.

² There is one military family medicine residency program at Madigan Army Medical Center. Information about the military program is not included in this report because it does not accept civilian physicians.

Location of Washington Family Practice Residency Programs

Based on the 2017 HPSA designations, 24 of the 26 (92%) residency programs in Washington are currently located within a HPSA. The current family medicine residency programs operating in Washington have main and satellite sites in 16 counties. Ten of the residency programs are in rural counties, according to the Office of Financial Management’s definition of “rural”.

The majority of residents are trained in King and Pierce counties. Several training programs in King and Pierce counties are connected with community health centers that serve low-income urban populations. Washington has six family medicine residency programs either entirely hosted by or operated in partnership with community health centers, and one program hosted by a tribe.

Table 1 below shows the location of each residency program and the number of family practice residents trained by each program for the years 2020-2022.

Table 1: Location of training programs and number of residents

| | Location | 2020 (Class of 2023) | 2021 (Class of 2024) | 2022 (Class of 2025) | TOTAL |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|-------|
| Central Washington Family Medicine | Yakima | 8 | 10 | 9 | 27 |
| Central Washington Family Medicine - Rural Training Track | Ellensburg | 2 | 2 | 2 | 6 |
| Community Health Care Family Medicine Residency | Tacoma | 6 | 6 | 8 | 20 |
| East Pierce Family Medicine | Puyallup | 6 | 6 | 6 | 18 |
| Family Medicine of Southwest Washington | Vancouver | 8 | 8 | 8 | 24 |
| Family Medicine Spokane | Spokane | 11 | 10 | 10 | 31 |
| Family Medicine Spokane - Rural Training Track | Colville | 2 | 2 | 2 | 6 |
| Group Health/Kaiser Permanente Family Medicine Residency | Seattle | 6 | 6 | 6 | 18 |
| HealthPoint/The Wright Center Family Medicine Residency | Auburn | 4 | 4 | 4 | 12 |
| Kadlec Family Medicine Residency | Richland | 8 | 8 | 8 | 24 |
| Northwest Washington Family Medicine Residency | Bremerton | 8 | 8 | 8 | 24 |
| Providence Medical Group: St. Peter Family Medicine | Olympia | 7 | 7 | 7 | 21 |
| Providence/St. Peter - Rural Training Track | Chehalis | 3 | 3 | 3 | 9 |
| Providence/St. Peter - Rural Training Track | Elma | 2 | 2 | 2 | 6 |
| Puyallup Takoid Family Medicine | Tacoma | 4 | 4 | 4 | 12 |
| SeaMar Marysville Family Medicine Residency | Marysville | 8 | 10 | 10 | 28 |

| | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Skagit Valley Hospital | Mount Vernon | 0 | 4 | 4 | 8 |
| Sollus Northwest Family Medicine Residency | Grandview | 4 | 4 | 4 | 12 |
| Swedish Family Medicine Residency - First Hill | Seattle | 11 | 11 | 11 | 33 |
| Swedish Family Medicine Residency Program Cherry Hill | Seattle | 12 | 12 | 12 | 36 |
| Swedish Family Medicine Cherry Hill - Rural Training Track | Port Angeles | 2 | 3 | 3 | 8 |
| Tacoma Family Medicine | Tacoma | 8 | 8 | 8 | 24 |
| Trios Health Family Medicine Residency | Kennewick | 0 | 4 | 4 | 8 |
| University of Washington Family Medicine Residency | Seattle | 8 | 8 | 8 | 24 |
| University of Washington Family Medicine Residency - Rural Training Track | Chelan | 2 | 2 | 2 | 6 |
| Valley Family Medicine | Renton | 8 | 8 | 8 | 24 |
| Total | | 148 | 160 | 161 | 469 |

OFM publishes a rural county definition based on [RCW 82.14.370](#). A county is defined as rural if it has a population density of fewer than 100 people per square mile or is smaller than 225 square miles. Counties are designated as follows:

Eastside rural counties: Adams, Asotin, Chelan, Columbia, Douglas, Ferry, Franklin, Garfield, Grant, Kittitas, Klickitat, Lincoln, Okanogan, Pend Oreille, Stevens, Walla Walla, Whitman, and Yakima

Westside rural counties: Clallam, Cowlitz, Grays Harbor, Island, Jefferson, Lewis, Mason, Pacific, San Juan, Skagit, Skamania, and Wahkiakum

Eastside urban counties: Benton and Spokane

Westside urban counties: Clark, King, Kitsap, Pierce, Snohomish, Thurston, and Whatcom

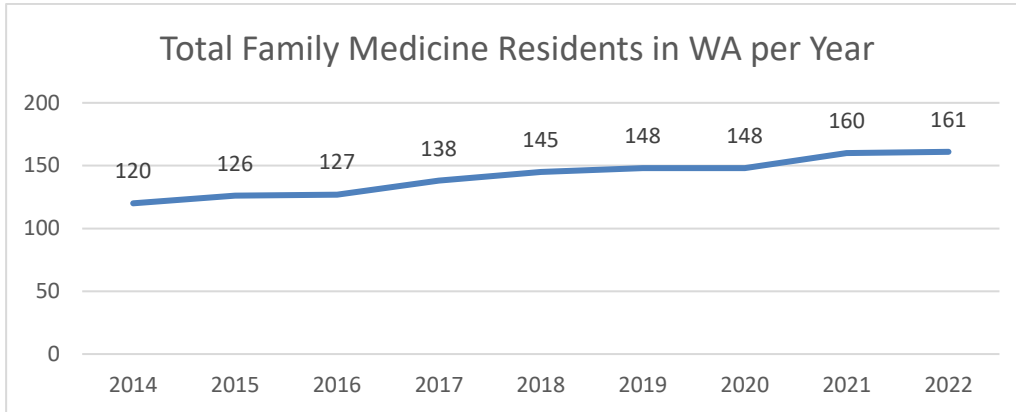
Washington has six Family Residency Rural Training Track programs that train residents specifically to work in rural communities. In 2014, Washington only had three of these rural-focused training programs. Additional programs were added in 2017, 2019, and 2020. However, out of the 496 residents in training in 2020-2022, only 41 (8%) were trained in a Rural Training Track.

Additional information on each of Washington’s family medicine residency programs, including whether it is in a designated HPSA, is included in the Appendix.

Number of Residents/Number Attended In-State Versus Out-of-State

In 2022, 161 new family medicine residents began training in the state. Figure 1 below shows the total number of new family practice residents in Washington by year (2014-2022).

Figure 1: Total Family Medicine Residents in WA per Year



The family residency programs in Washington rely heavily on graduates of non-Washington medical schools to fill their residency openings. Figure 2 below shows the medical school attendance for residents in Washington for each year 2014 through 2022. Figure 3 indicates the percentage of total residents (2014-2022) by medical school attendance.

Figure 2: Location of Medical School for WA Family Medicine Residents

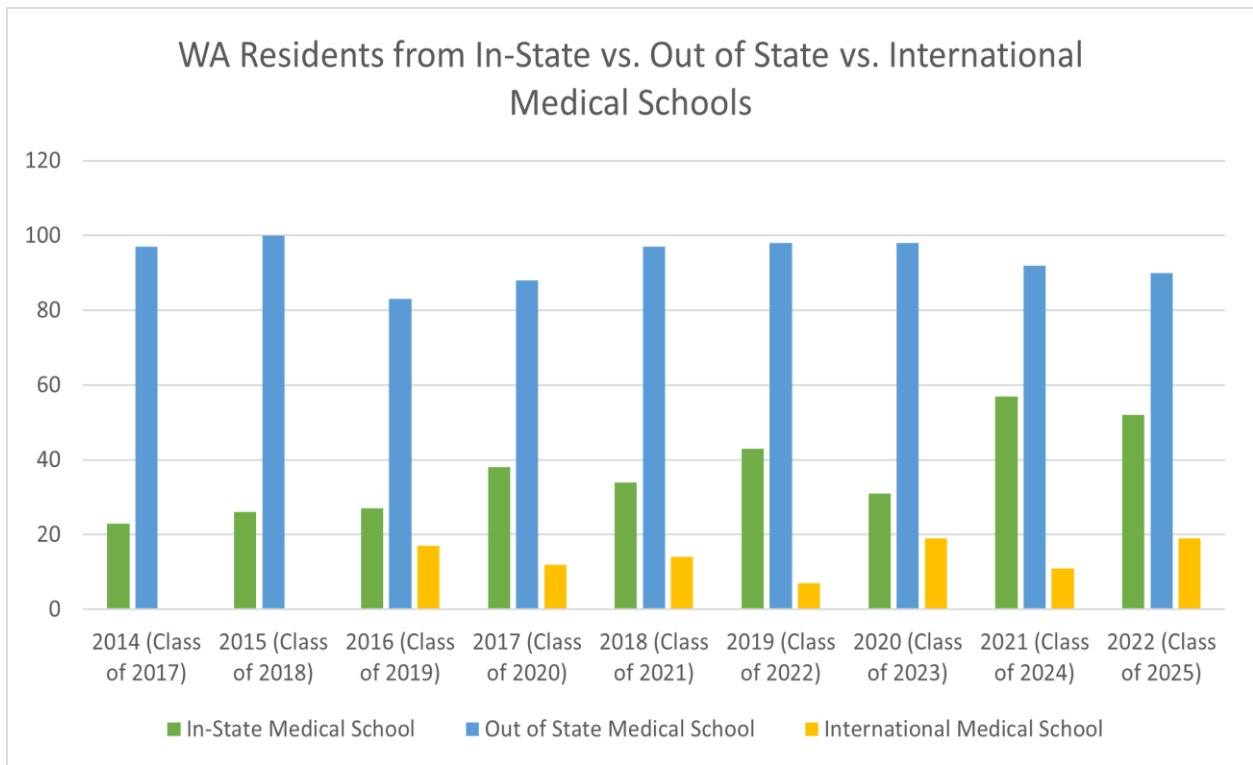
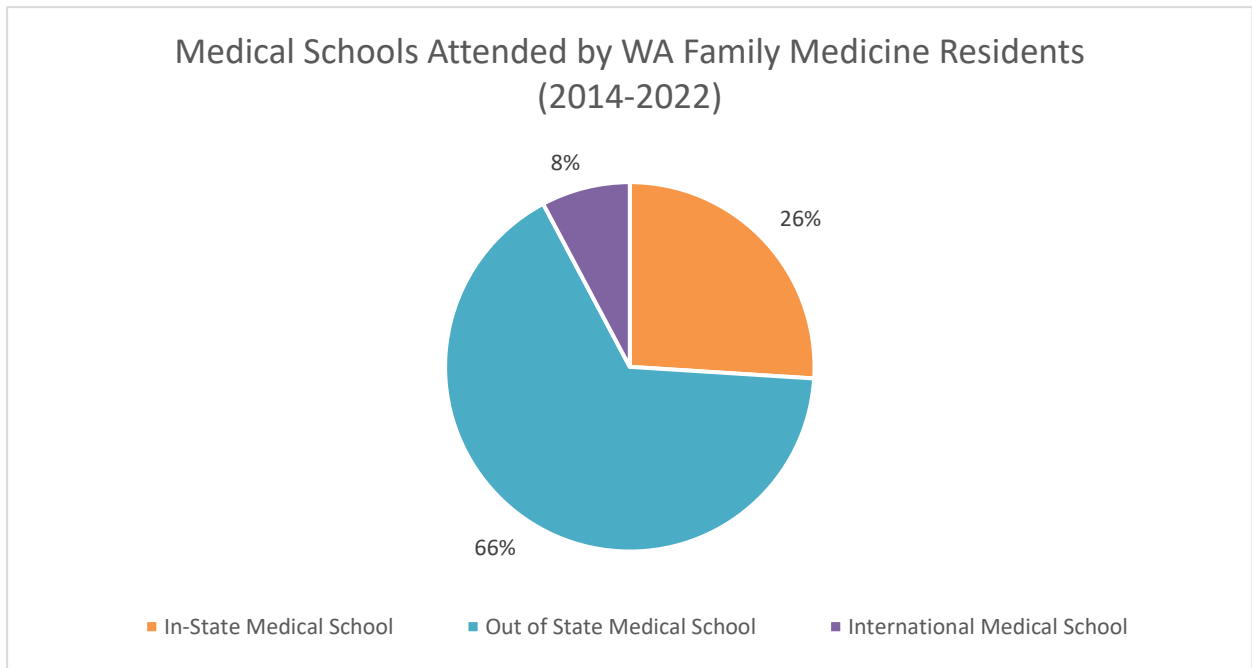


Figure 3: Distribution of Medical Schools of WA Residents



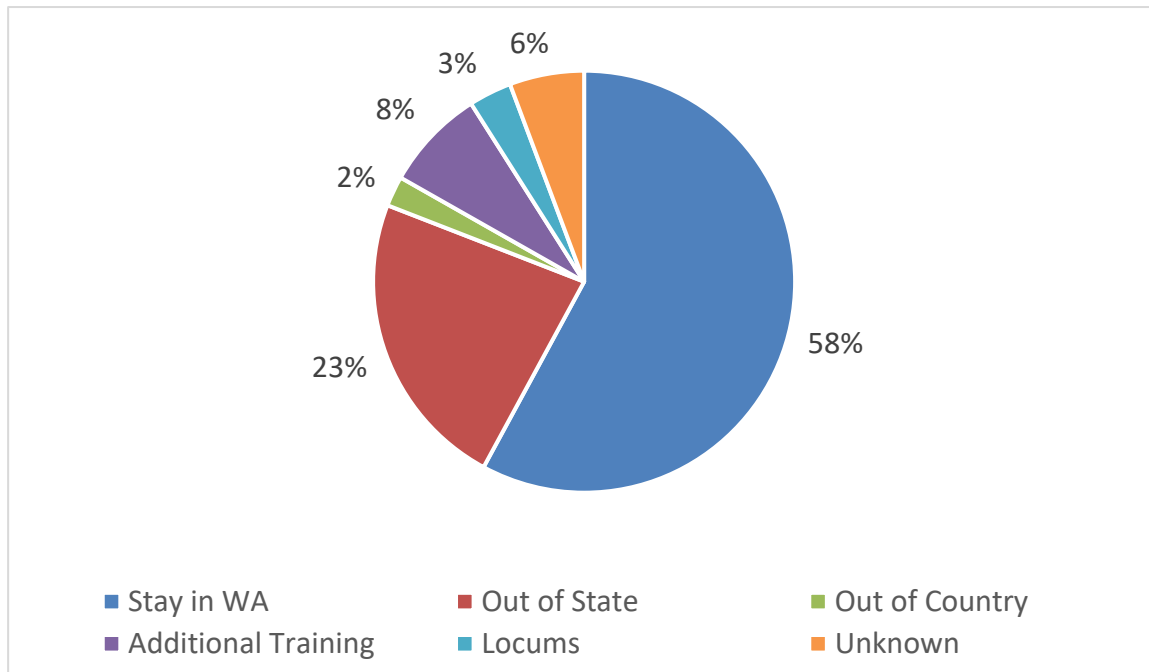
Number of Graduates Who Work Within HPSAs

Family residency programs track and report data to the department on the practice location of their residents one-year post graduation. Since 2015, 476 graduates (58%) remained in Washington post-residency, while 23% moved out of state. See Figure 4 below.

Of those residency graduates that stay to practice in Washington, 71% practice in a HPSA-designated location. Of the 476 graduates practicing in Washington, only 88 (18%) are working in rural counties, as defined by OFM. Figure 5 shows the number of residents working in rural counties by year.

Family medicine physician recruitment for rural areas and underserved urban communities remains challenging. Retention of the new family medicine physicians in their initial practice locations over the long term is unknown. Addressing this practitioner gap will require Washington medical schools to continue to increase participation in family medical residency programs.

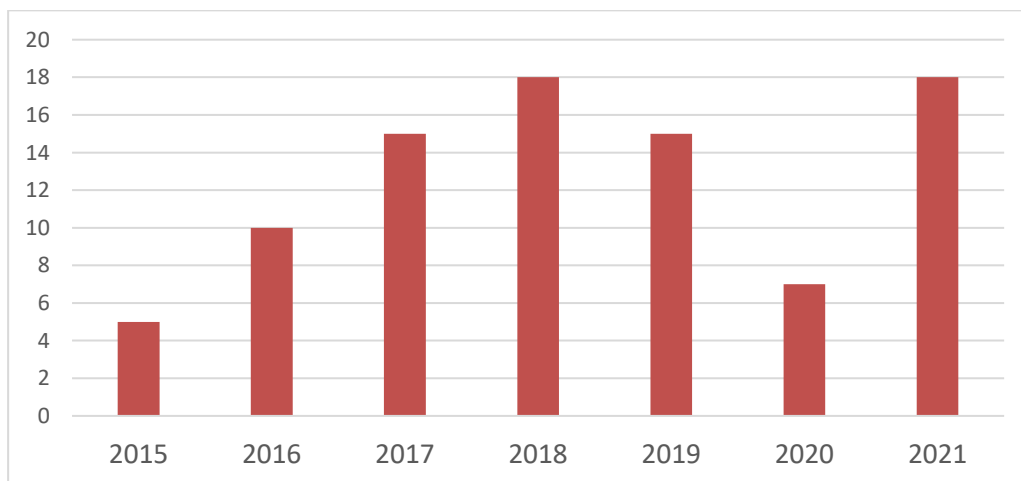
Figure 4: Practice Location of Graduates 1-Year Post Residency 2015-2021



* It is not unusual for a program graduate to seek additional training following completion of the family medicine residency. Several graduates are completing one-year fellowships to gain more experience in areas such as obstetrical care and sports medicine.

** Locum tenens describes physicians working in a position on a temporary basis, typically weeks to months.

Figure 5: Residents Working in Rural Counties 1-Year Post Residency



Specialty Residency Programs

[RCW 70.112.070](#) directed the department to provide information about the number of residents in family medicine versus specialty areas, if information on the number of residents in specialty areas is readily available. Specialty residency programs are not required to report this data to the department and the available data is not comparable. For example, the U.S Department of Health and Human Services and the Washington Student Achievement Council include internal medicine, general pediatrics, general psychiatry, and obstetrics/gynecology in their primary care definitions, rather than specialty care.

Changes in Geographic Distribution of Programs Over Time

The number of family medicine residency programs in Washington has increased since 2014, and we are graduating more family medicine residents over time. More family medicine residents are training outside the state's major urban areas in King and Pierce counties. There is also an increase in rural training tracks and opportunities for residents to train in rural communities.

Appendix

Family Medicine Residency Programs

The department is required to aggregate the information provided by each family medicine residency program ([RCW 70.112.070](#)). The information is detailed by program in the table below.

Program location is given by community. Programs with sites in multiple communities are identified. The HPSA status of the community or training facility is given.

The number of physicians working in Washington HPSAs from classes 2020 and 2021, if known, is given.

Central Washington Family Medicine & Rural Training Track

| Program locations | Located in a HPSA | Total new residents in training | New residents graduating from WA medical schools (MD or DO) | Physicians working in WA HPSA a year after graduation |
|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| Yakima | Yes | 2021: 12 2022: 11 | 2021: 7 2022: 1 | Class of 2020: 5 of 10 Class of 2021: 5 of 10 |

Community Health Care Family Medicine Residency

| Program location | Located in a HPSA | Total new residents in training | New residents graduating from WA medical schools (MD or DO) | Physicians working in WA HPSA a year after graduation |
|------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| Tacoma | Yes | 2021: 6 2022: 8 | 2021: 1 2022: 1 | Class of 2020: 3 of 6 Class of 2021: 1 of 6 |

East Pierce Family Medicine

| Program location | Located in a HPSA | Total new residents in training | New residents graduating from WA medical schools (MD or DO) | Physicians working in WA HPSA a year after graduation |
|------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| Puyallup | Yes | 2021: 6 2022: 6 | 2021: 5 2022: 4 | Class of 2020: 1 of 6 Class of 2021: 4 of 6 |

Family Medicine of Southwest Washington

| Program location | Located in a HPSA | Total new residents in training | New residents graduating from WA medical schools (MD or DO) | Physicians working in WA HPSA a year after graduation |
|------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| Vancouver | Yes | 2021: 8 2022: 8 | 2021: 1 2022: 1 | Class of 2020: 6 of 8 Class of 2021: 5 of 8 |

Family Medicine Spokane & Rural Training Track

| Program location | Located in a HPSA | Total new residents in training | New residents graduating from WA medical schools (MD or DO) | Physicians working in WA HPSA a year after graduation |
|------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| Spokane, | Yes | 2021: 12 | | |
| Colville | | 2022: 12 | 2021: 8 2022: 6 | Class of 2020: 6 of 10 Class of 2021: 6 of 9 |

Kaiser Permanente WA Family Medicine Residency (Formerly Group Health)

| Program location | Located in a HPSA | Total new residents in training | New residents graduating from WA medical schools (MD or DO) | Physicians working in WA HPSA a year after graduation |
|------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| Seattle | No | 2021: 6 2022: 6 | 2021: 2 2022: 5 | Class of 2020: 3 of 6 Class of 2021: 3 of 5 |

HealthPoint/The Wright Center Family Medicine Residency

| Program location | Located in a HPSA | Total new residents in training | New residents graduating from WA medical schools (MD or DO) | Physicians working in WA HPSA a year after graduation |
|------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| Auburn | Yes | 2021: 4 2022: 4 | 2021: 1 2022: 1 | Class of 2020: 3 of 4 Class of 2021: 0 of 4 |

Kadlec Family Medicine Residency

| Program location | Located in a HPSA | Total new residents in training | New residents graduating from WA medical schools (MD or DO) | Physicians working in WA HPSA a year after graduation |
|------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| Richland | Yes | 2021: 8 2022: 8 | 2021: 2 2022: 1 | Class of 2020: 2 of 5 Class of 2021: 3 of 6 |

Northwest Washington Family Medicine Residency

| Program location | Located in a HPSA | Total new residents in training | New residents graduating from WA medical schools (MD or DO) | Physicians working in WA HPSA a year after graduation |
|------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| Bremerton | Yes | 2021: 8 2022: 8 | 2021: 3 2022: 3 | Class of 2021: N/A Class of 2022: 6 of 7 |

Providence Medical Group St. Peter Family Medicine & Rural Training Track

| Program location | Located in a HPSA | Total new residents in training | New residents graduating from WA medical schools (MD or DO) | Physicians working in WA HPSA a year after graduation |
|-----------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| Olympia, | Yes | 2021: 12 | | |
| Chehalis, Elma (2020) | | 2022: 12 | 2021: 4 2022: 3 | Class of 2020: 6 of 10 Class of 2021: 7 of 8 |

Puyallup Takopid Family Medicine

| Program location | Located in a HPSA | Total new residents in training | New residents graduating from WA medical schools (MD or DO) | Physicians working in WA HPSA a year after graduation |
|------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| Tacoma | Yes | 2021: 4 2022: 4 | 2021: 1 2022: 0 | Class of 2020: 4 of 4 Class of 2021: 2 of 3 |

Sea Mar Marysville Family Medicine Residency

| Program location | Located in a HPSA | Total new residents in training | New residents graduating from WA medical schools (MD or DO) | Physicians working in WA HPSA a year after graduation |
|------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| Marysville | No | 2021: 10 2022: 10 | 2021: 4 2022: 2 | Class of 2020: 3 of 6 Class of 2021: 1 of 6 |

Skagit Valley Hospital Family Medicine Residency

| Program location | Located in a HPSA | Total new residents in training | New residents graduating from WA medical schools (MD or DO) | Physicians working in WA HPSA a year after graduation |
|------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| Mount | Yes | 2021: 4 | | |
| Vernon | | 2022: 4 | 2021: 2 2022: 2 | Class of 2020: 2 of 4 Class of 2021: 4 of 4 |

Sollus Northwest Family Medicine Residency

| Program location | Located in a HPSA | Total new residents in training | New residents graduating from WA medical schools (MD or DO) | Physicians working in WA HPSA a year after graduation |
|------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| Grandview | Yes | 2021: 4 2022: 4 | 2021: 1 2022: 1 | Class of 2020: N/A Class of 2021: N/A |

Swedish Family Medicine Residency – Cherry Hill & Rural Training Track

| Program locations | Located in a HPSA | Total new residents in training | New residents graduating from WA medical schools (MD or DO) | Physicians working in WA HPSA a year after graduation |
|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| Seattle, | Yes | | | |
| Port Angeles | | 2021: 15 2022: 15 | 2021: 3 2022: 5 | Class of 2020: 9 of 14 Class of 2021: 7 of 13 |

Swedish Family Medicine Residency – First Hill

| Program locations | Located in a HPSA | Total new residents in training | New residents graduating from WA medical schools (MD or DO) | Physicians working in WA HPSA a year after graduation |
|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| Seattle | Yes | 2021: 11 2022: 11 | 2021: 3 2022: 2 | Class of 2020: 8 of 12 Class of 2021: 6 of 11 |

Tacoma Family Medicine

| Program location | Located in a HPSA | Total new residents in training | New residents graduating from WA medical schools (MD or DO) | Physicians working in WA HPSA a year after graduation |
|------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| Tacoma | Yes | 2021: 8 2022: 8 | 2021: 1 2022: 4 | Class of 2020: 3 of 8 Class of 2021: 3 of 8 |

Trios Health Family Medicine Residency

| Program location | Located in a HPSA | Total new residents in training | New residents graduating from WA medical schools (MD or DO) | Physicians working in WA HPSA a year after graduation |
|------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| Kennewick | Yes | 2021: 4 2022: 4 | 2021: 2 2022: 2 | Class of 2020: 1 of 2 Class of 2021: 4 of 5 |

UW Family Medicine Residency & Rural Training Track

| Program location | Located in a HPSA | Total new residents in training | New residents graduating from WA medical schools (MD or DO) | Physicians working in WA HPSA a year after graduation |
|------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| Seattle, | Yes | 2021: 10 | 2021: 3 | Class of 2020: 5 of 9 |
| Chelan | | 2022: 10 | 2022: 3 | Class of 2021: 1 of 7 |

Valley Family Medicine

| Program location | Located in a HPSA | Total new residents in training | New residents graduating from WA medical schools (MD or DO) | Physicians working in WA HPSA a year after graduation |
|------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| Renton | Yes | 2021: 8 | 2021: 3 | Class of 2020: 5 of 8 |
| | | 2022: 8 | 2022: 5 | Class of 2021: 3 of 8 |

