

**West Virginia Higher Education Report Card
Health Sciences and Rural Health
Education Partnerships,
2003**

WEST VIRGINIA HIGHER EDUCATION POLICY COMMISSION
Health Sciences and Rural Health Education Partnerships

J. Michael Mullen, Chancellor

Policy Commission

J. Thomas Jones, Chair
Mary Clare Eros, Esq., Vice Chair
Elliot G. Hicks, Esq., Secretary
Kay H. Goodwin
R. Ken Hall
John R. Hoblitzell, Esq.
Terry R. Sammons, Esq.
Dr. David L. Stewart
Shawn R. Williams

West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission

Health Sciences

Alicia Tyler
Program Coordinator

Marilyn Bowe
Secretary

Rural Health Education Partnerships

West Virginia University Office of Rural Health
Hilda R. Heady
Executive Director

**1018 Kanawha Boulevard, East
Suite 700
Charleston, West Virginia 25301
Telephone: (304) 558-0530
FAX: (304) 558-0532
<http://www.hepc.wvnet.edu>**

Table of Contents

Health Sciences

Medical School Enrollment

West Virginia University Health Sciences Center	1
Marshall University School Of Medicine.....	2
West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine	3

Medical School Graduates

Performance on Medical Licensure Exams	
Primary Care Trends.....	4

Retention

WV Medical School Graduates, 1993-98, by School	5
WV Medical School Graduates: 6-Year Cohorts.....	6
WV Medical Graduates, 1993-98, all Specialties	7
WV Medical Graduates, 1993-98, in Primary Care	8
WV Medical Graduates, 1993-98, in Non-Urban Areas	9
WV Medical Graduates Completing Primary Care Residencies	10
Health Sciences Graduates, 1998-2003	11

Medical Student Indebtedness	12
------------------------------------	----

Scholarships and Loans	13
------------------------------	----

Health Career Pathway	14
-----------------------------	----

Rural Health Education Partnerships

Rural Health Education Partnerships Map.....	15
--	----

Field Faculty and Training Sites	16
--	----

Training Consortia Infrastructure	17-18
---	-------

Student Rotations	
Rotations by Year	19
Rotations by Year/Discipline	20
Rotations by County	21
Rotations by School/Discipline.....	22
Community Service Contacts	
Contacts by Year	23
Contacts by Consortia.....	24
Recruitment	
Health Professionals Recruited to Rural Areas.....	25
WV Medical Graduates Practicing in Rural Areas.....	26
Recruitment to Areas of Need	
Rural Physician Placements in HPSAs	27
Rural Physician Placements by County Poverty Level	28
Rural Physician Placements by County Medicaid Eligibility	29
Rural Physician Placements by County Hypertension Prevalence	30
Rural Physician Placements by County Medicare Eligibility.....	31
Work-in-Progress.....	32

Medical School Enrollment

West Virginia University Health Sciences Center

1998-99 1999-00 2000-01 2001-02 2002-03

Applicants

In-State	314	291	284	241	223
Total	1,146	998	834	787	736

Acceptances Issued

In-State	107	101	120	104	108
Total	112	104	126	119	130

First Year New Enrollment

In-State	84	83	87	81	87
Total	88	83	90	90	99

Total Medical Students

356	356	358	349	375
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

Entering Class Data

Mean GPA	3.7	3.7	3.6	3.7	3.7
----------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

Mean MCAT Scores

Biology/Biological Science	9.7	9.1	9.2	9.5	8.8
Physics/Physical Science	9.2	8.9	8.6	9.2	8.9
Reading/Verbal Reasoning	9.1	9.0	8.9	9.0	9.4
Median Writing Sample	O	P	O	O	N

Average scores for the Medical College Admission test (MCAT) are reported as 'means' for the multiple-choice sections and 'medians' for the Writing Sample. Test scores on the multiple-choice sections are on a scale of 1-15 and, on the Writing Sample, from J-T. The national averages for students entering allopathic medical schools in 2002-03 were:

Biological Science 10.2
Physical Science 10.0
Verbal Reasoning 9.5
Writing Sample O

The national mean GPA was 3.61.

Source: Association of American Medical Colleges.

Medical School Enrollment

Marshall University School of Medicine

1998-99 1999-00 2000-01 2001-02 2002-03

Applicants

In-State	310	293	259	228	197
Total	1,141	941	893	786	696

Acceptances Issued

In-State	73	74	70	86	93
Total	78	77	72	95	101

First Year New Enrollment

In-State	45	47	46	45	45
Total	48	48	48	48	48

Total Medical Students

204	209	207	198	194
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

Entering Class Data

Mean GPA	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.6
----------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

Mean MCAT Scores

Biology/Biological Science	9.1	9.3	9.2	8.8	9.2
Physics/Physical Science	8.5	8.7	8.4	8.6	8.4
Reading/Verbal Reasoning	9.0	9.2	9.2	9.5	8.9
Median Writing Sample	O	O	P	P	P

Average scores for the Medical College Admission test (MCAT) are reported as 'means' for the multiple-choice sections and 'medians' for the Writing Sample.

Test scores on the multiple-choice sections are on a scale of 1-15 and, on the Writing Sample, from J-T. The national averages for students entering allopathic medical schools in 2002-03 were:

Biological Science 10.2
Physical Science 10.0
Verbal Reasoning 9.5
Writing Sample O

The national mean GPA was 3.61.

Source: Association of American Medical Colleges.

Medical School Enrollment

West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine

1998-99 1999-00 2000-01 2001-02 2002-03

Applicants

In-State	193	182	184	121	146
Total	1,630	1,493	1,553	1,408	1,372

Acceptances Issued

In-State	60	68	69	68	66
Total	100	157	155	149	179

First Year New Enrollment

In-State	45	50	53	54	51
Total	65	75	77	80	81

Total Medical Students

261	274	285	296	306
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

Entering Class Data

Mean GPA	3.4	3.4	3.5	3.5	3.5
----------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

Mean MCAT Scores

Biology/Biological Science	7.3	7.2	7.4	7.4	7.4
Physics/Physical Science	6.9	7.0	7.2	7	6.8
Reading/Verbal Reasoning	7.9	7.9	7.9	7.9	7.8
Median Writing Sample	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

Average scores for the Medical College Admission test (MCAT) are reported as 'means' for the multiple-choice sections and 'medians' for the Writing Sample. Test scores on the multiple-choice sections are on a scale of 1-15 and, on the Writing Sample, from J-T. The national averages for students entering osteopathic medical schools in 2002-03 were:

Biological Science 8.50
Physical Science 7.97
Verbal Reasoning 8.06
Writing Sample 0

Source: The American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine.

Medical School Graduates

Number of Examinees/Number Passing USMLE Step 3

	1997-98	1998-99	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03
West Virginia University	76/76 (100%)	74/74 (100%)	76/76 (100%)	83/81 (98%)	65/65 (100%)	69/65 (94%)
Marshall University	43/40 (93%)	44/41 (95%)	51/50 (98%)	43/40 (93%)	50/47 (94%)	39/33 (85%)

All data are for first-time test takers. Data for MD students are based on the US Medical Licensing Exam (USMLE), Step 3. Data for MD students become available two years after graduation, i.e., results for 2000 graduates are shown in 2002-03.

Number of Examinees/Number Passing COMLEX-Level 3

WV School of Osteopathic Medicine	60/48 (80%)	58/54 (93%)	70/61 (87%)	59/54 (92%)	56/55 (98%)	51/50 (98%)
-----------------------------------	-------------	-------------	-------------	-------------	-------------	-------------

Data for DO students are based on the Comprehensive Osteopathic Medicine Licensing Examination (COMLEX), Level 3. Results are for 2003 graduates.

Medical School Graduates Choosing Primary Care Residencies*

	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
West Virginia University	60 (66%)	47 (57%)	51 (63%)	54 (58%)	39 (48%)	46 (48%)
Marshall University	31 (63%)	24 (51%)	32 (74%)	34 (67%)	34 (72%)	32 (68%)
WV School of Osteopathic Medicine	32 (51%)	40 (69%)	44 (71%)	39 (64%)	40 (63%)	NA**
TOTAL	123	111	127	127	106	

In 2003, 46 (48%) of WVU medical graduates and 32 (68%) of MU medical graduates chose primary care residencies, compared to a national average of 50% for all allopathic (MD) graduates.

*Primary care includes family medicine, internal medicine, pediatrics, internal medicine/pediatrics, and obstetrics/gynecology.

**Osteopathic students enter a one-year rotating internship after graduation. Thus, their data lags one year behind the allopathic graduates. In 2003, 40 (63%) of WVSOM 2002 graduates chose primary care residencies. The national average is not available.

Retention

In tracking the retention of graduates, this report factors in the additional 3 to 5 years of residency training that physicians complete in their specialty before beginning practice. The table, chart, and maps on pages 5-9 present data on graduates from 1993-98; 94% of these graduates have completed training and begun practice.

Medical School Graduates in West Virginia (MD and DO) 1993 through 1998

	Total Number of Graduates	Graduates with Completed Training			
		Total Number	Number in Practice in WV	Number in Primary Care in WV*	Number in Practice in Non-Urban Areas in WV **
West Virginia University	472	444	161 (36.3%)	95 (21.4%)	23 (5.2%)
Marshall University	288	257	112 (43.6%)	75 (29.2%)	24 (9.3%)
WV School of Osteopathic Medicine@	302	302	113 (37.4%)	93 (30.8%)	54 (17.9%)
TOTAL	1,062	1,003	386 (38.5%)	263 (26.2%)	101 (10.1%)

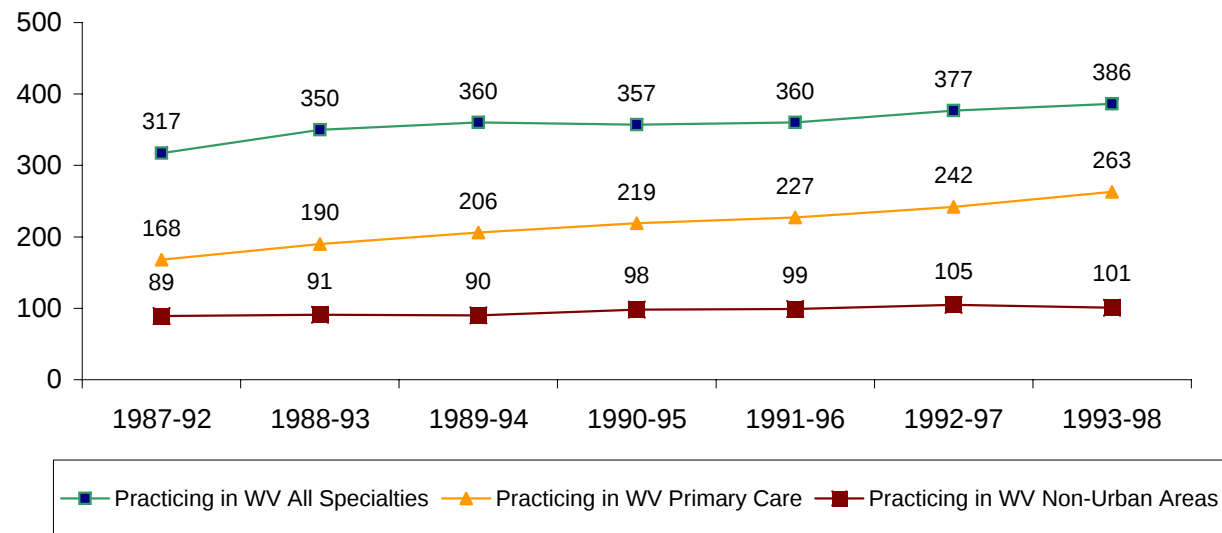
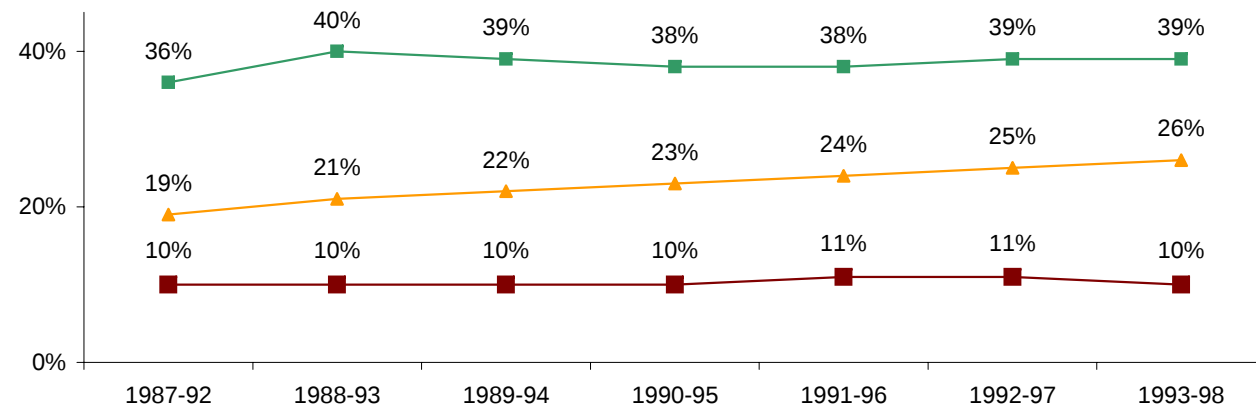
@ Excludes SREB contract students who have a contractual obligation to return to their home state following graduation.

* Primary Care is defined as family medicine, internal medicine, pediatrics, internal medicine/pediatrics, and obstetrics/gynecology.

** Non-urban areas exclude graduates practicing in: Beckley, Charleston (including South Charleston, Dunbar, Nitro, Institute, etc.), Clarksburg, Fairmont, Huntington (including Barboursville), Hurricane (added in 2003), Martinsburg, Morgantown (including Star City and Westover), Parkersburg (including Vienna), Weirton, and Wheeling.

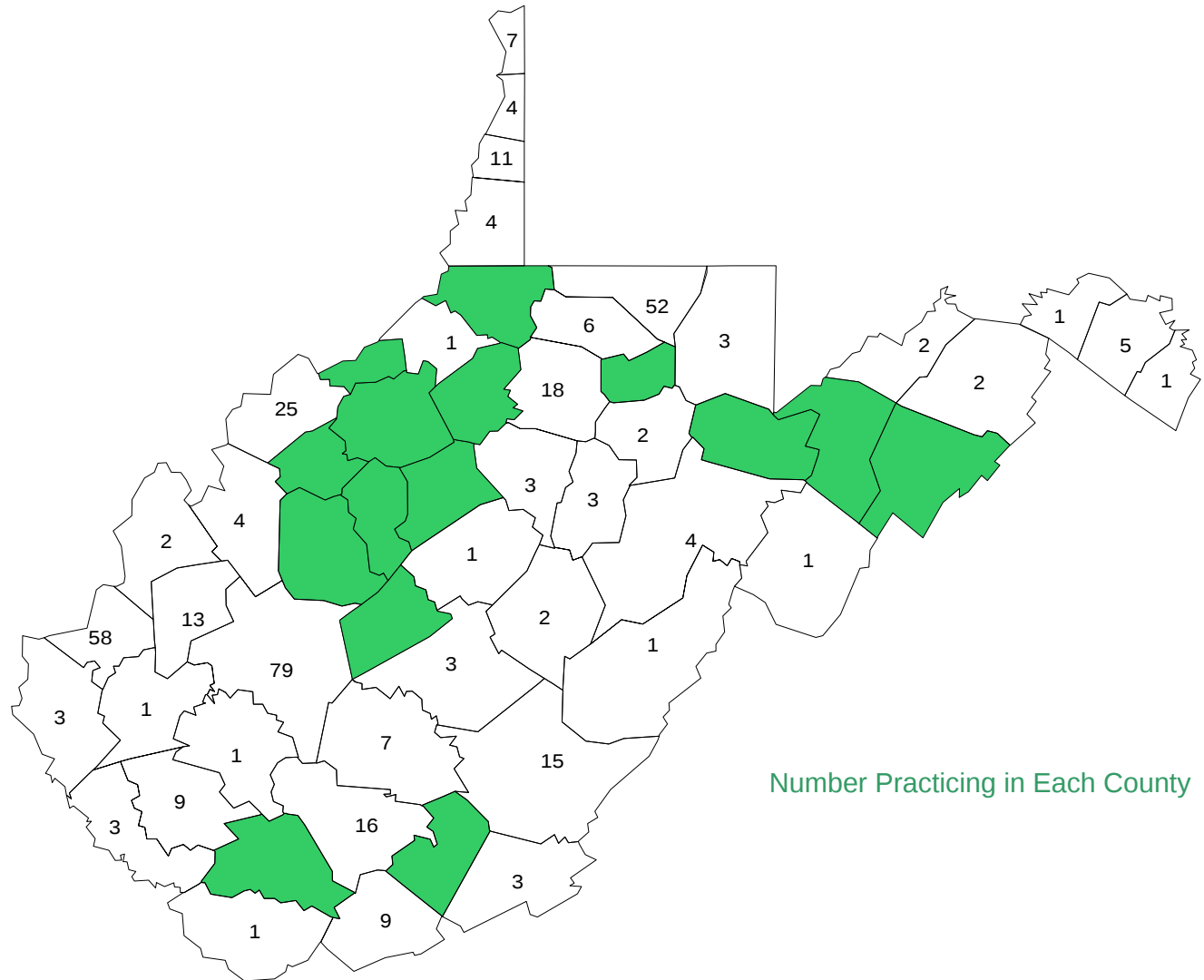
Retention

West Virginia Medical School Graduates



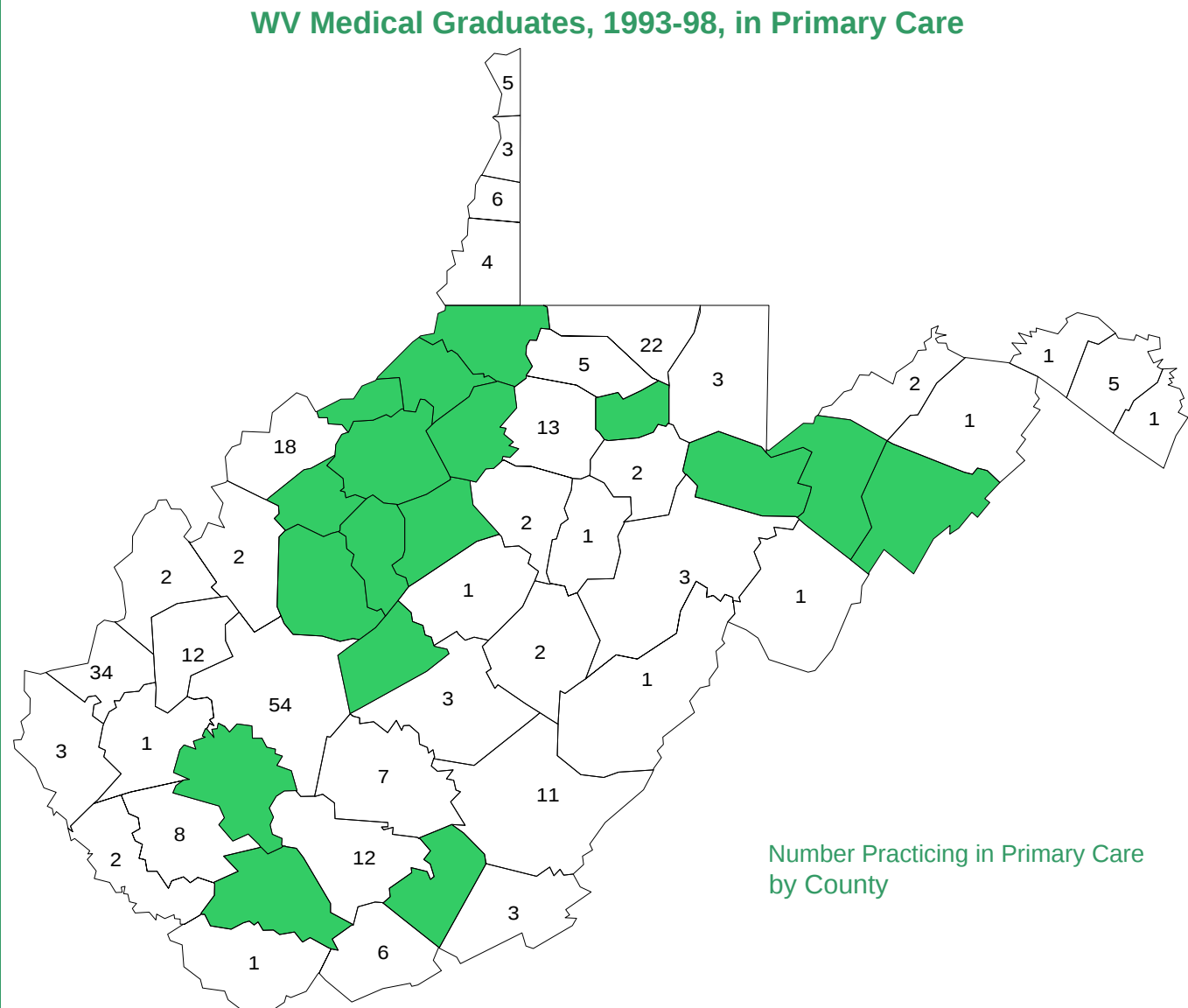
Retention

WV Medical Graduates, 1993-98, in All Specialties



Retention

Primary care is defined as family medicine, internal medicine, pediatrics, and obstetrics/gynecology.



Retention

WV Medical Graduates, 1993-98, in Non-Urban Areas

Number Practicing in Non-Urban Areas

County	Number Practicing in Non-Urban Areas
Allegany	1
Cesar E. Chavez	3
Calhoun	4
Conaway	1
Crawford	2
DeWitt	3
Doddridge	1
Fayette	2
Franklin	3
Gallatin	2
Gallia	1
Grant	2
Greene	1
Harrison	2
Jefferson	1
Lincoln	3
Mingo	1
Monroe	2
Monongalia	1
Morgan	3
Nettelbladt	1
Putnam	2
Robert C. Byrd	1
Sanderson	1
Shelby	2
St. Albans	1
Taylor	3
Tucker	1
Upshur	2
Wayne	1
West Lincoln	1
Wood	1
Yelp	1

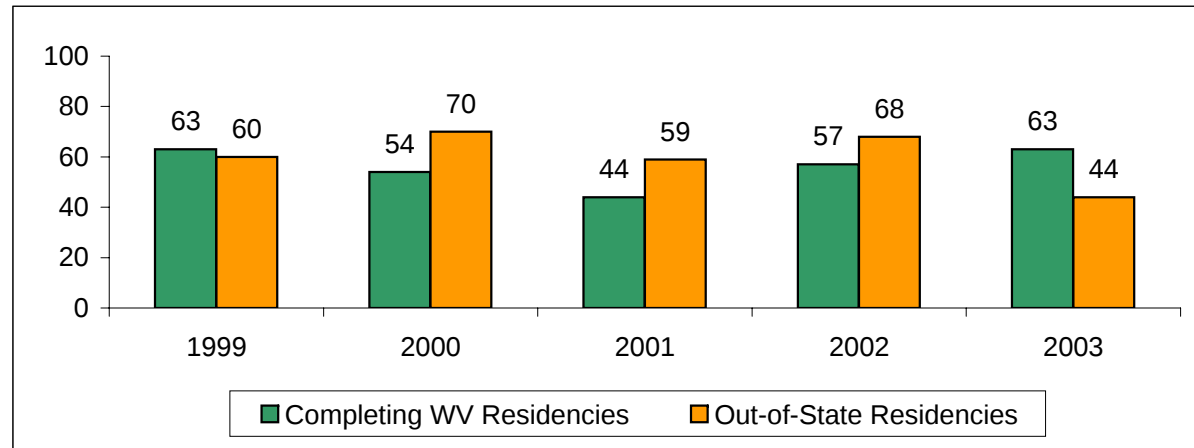
The map excludes graduates practicing in Beckley, Charleston (including South Charleston, Dunbar, Nitro, Institute, etc.), Clarksburg, Fairmont, Huntington (including Barboursville), Hurricane (added in 2003), Martinsburg, Morgantown, (including Star City and Westover), Parkersburg (including Vienna), Weirton, and Wheeling.

Number Practicing in Non-Urban Areas

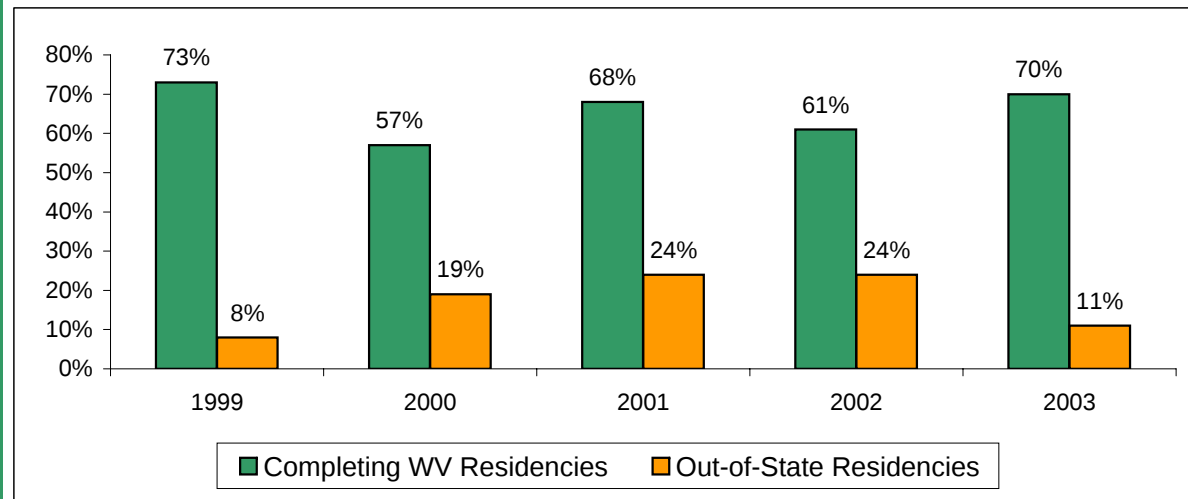
Retention

Today's medical school graduates begin practice after completing 3 to 5 years of residency training in a given specialty. Two factors are important in tracking the retention of these graduates: (1) specialty choice, because primary care fields are most needed in rural areas of the state; and (2) location of the residency, because graduates who complete residencies in West Virginia are more likely to practice in the state.

WV Medical Graduates Completing Primary Care Residencies



Percentage Practicing in West Virginia



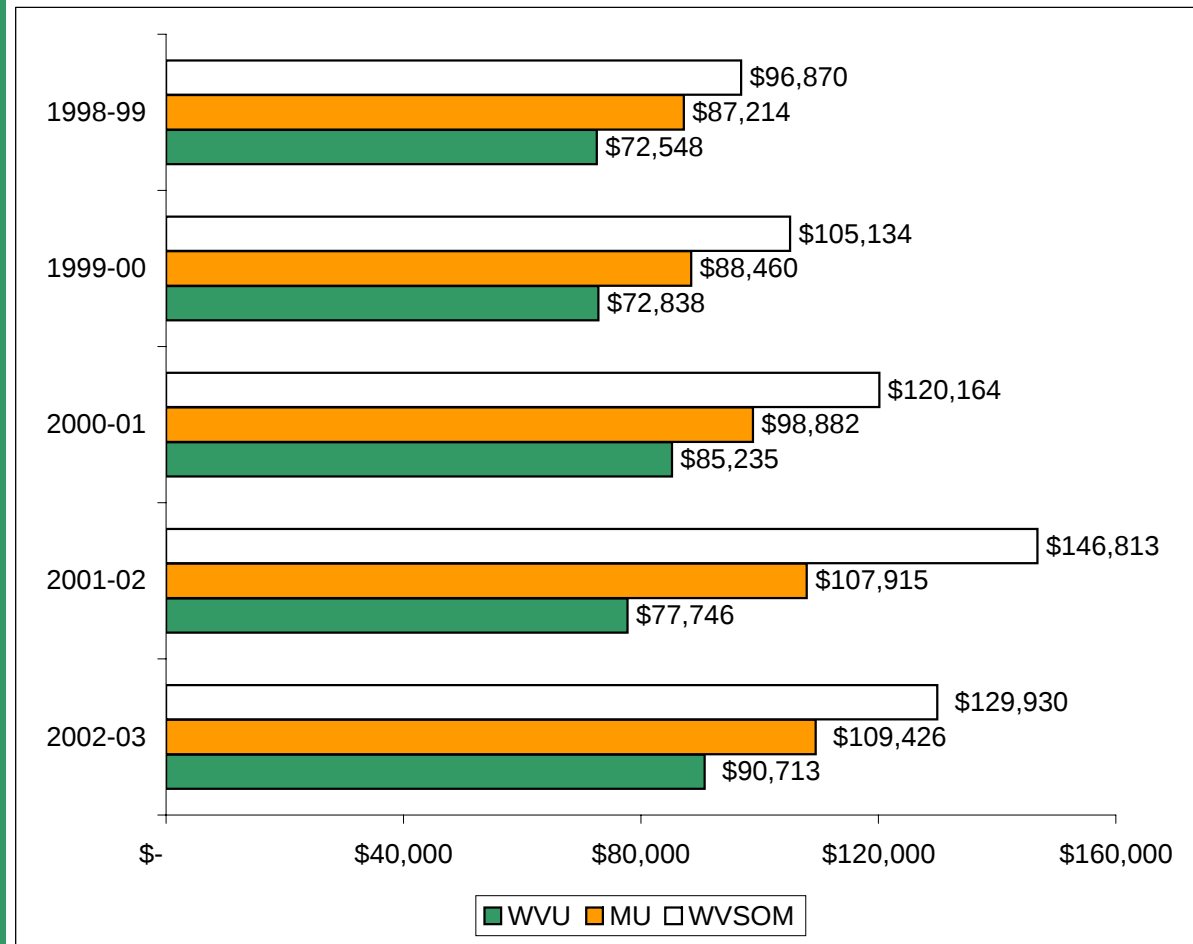
Retention

Health Sciences Graduates, 1998-2003

	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
West Virginia University						
Dental Practicing in WV	36 16 (44%)	32 11 (34%)	37 16 (43%)	40 27 (68%)	37 17 (46%)	34 28 (82%)
Pharmacy Practicing in WV	87 58 (67%)	66 44 (67%)	46 30 (65%)	49 31 (63%)	60 40 (67%)	74 53 (72%)
Nurse Practitioner Practicing in WV	33 23 (70%)	29 10 (66%)	30 26 (87%)	26 24 (92%)	17 15 (88%)	12 10 (83%)
Marshall University						
Nurse Practitioner Practicing in WV	17 9 (53%)	16 14 (88%)	16 12 (81%)	15 11 (73%)	11 9 (82%)	11 10 (91%)

Medical Student Indebtedness

The chart shows the average indebtedness of final year medical students.

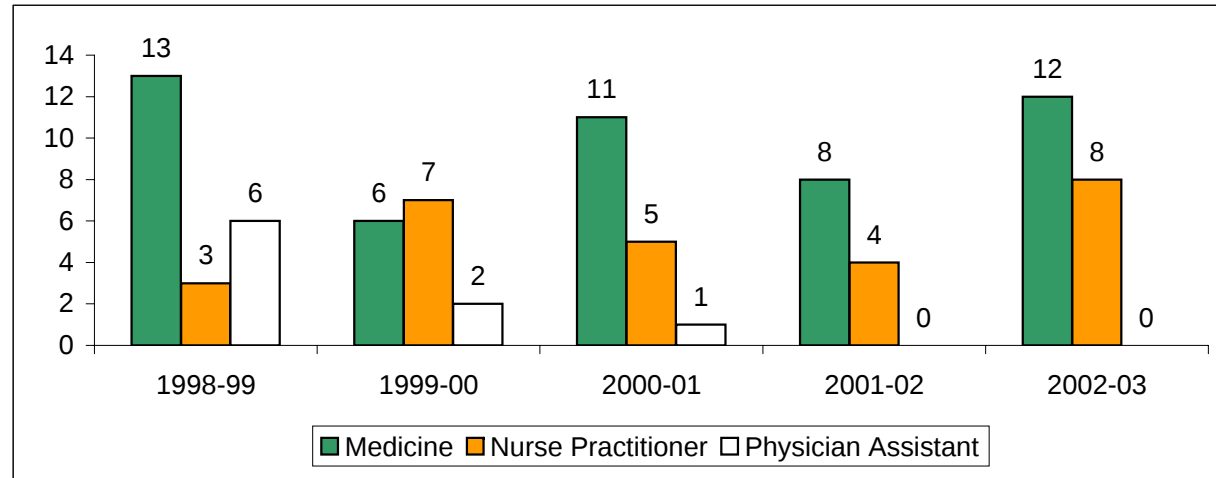


Scholarships and Loans

The Health Sciences Scholarship Program provides an incentive for students to practice in underserved areas of West Virginia. Medical students receive a \$20,000 award for a two-year service commitment. Other disciplines, including nurse educators, receive a \$10,000 award. In 2002, two nurse practitioners accepted faculty positions at community colleges to meet their service commitment.

The Health Education Student Loan Program was established in 1991 as a need-based program to assist state medical students. Awards are made from the Medical Student Loan Program component of the program, which is funded by a portion of the medical education fee paid by medical students. Borrowers may earn loan forgiveness for practicing in an underserved area or in a medical shortage field.

Health Sciences Scholarship Awards Accepted



Health Education Student Loan Program

	1998-99	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03
Loans Awarded	201	258	370	282	289
Loan Forgiveness	13	19	10	20	13

Health Career Pathway

Health Sciences and Technology Academy

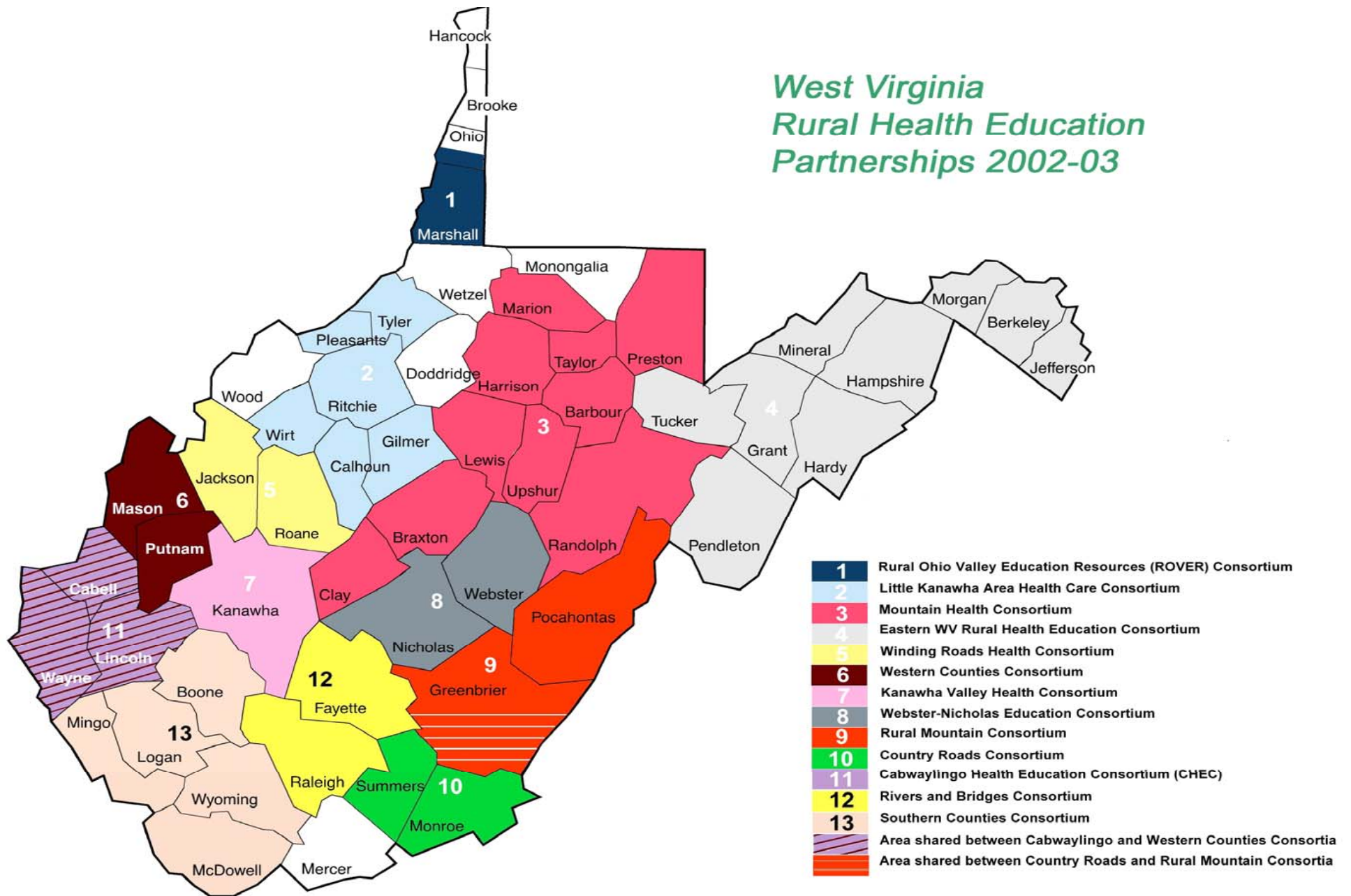
Number of Students Currently Served	Number of Teachers Participating	Number of High School Graduates to Date, 1998-2003	Percentage of High School Graduates to Enter College	Percent to major in Health Sciences & Technology in College
742	74	466	92%	59%

The Health Sciences and Technology Academy (HSTA) reaches out to minority and disadvantaged students in 26 counties and helps them prepare for higher education and health careers. Students from the 9th - 12th grade progress through 4 years of training with local teachers and campus-based faculty.

Program Outcomes

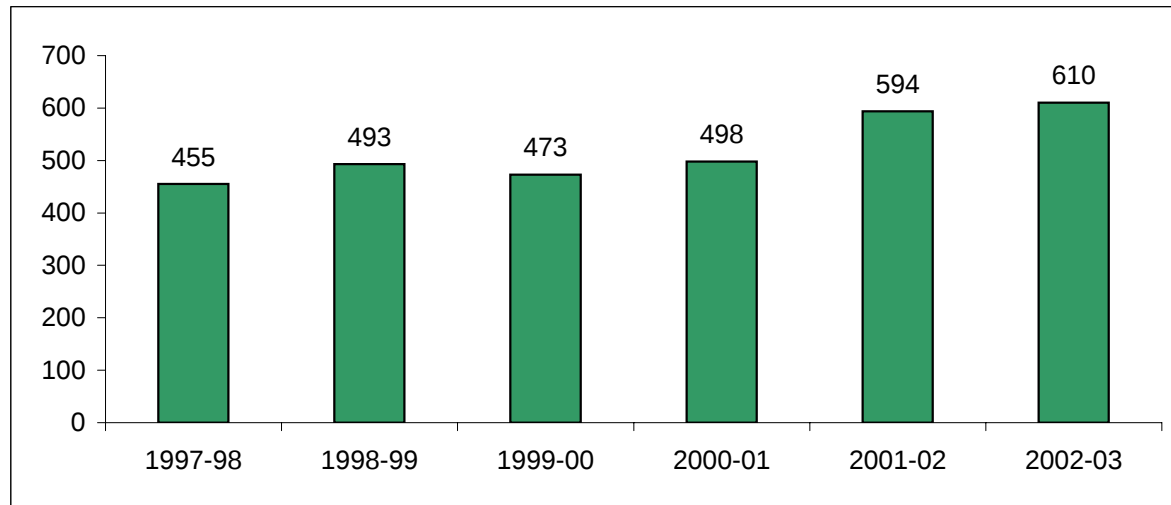
- 1,850 students have been served by HSTA since 1994.
- 100 HSTA students have graduated from college; 11 (10%) are enrolled in health sciences graduate programs or professional schools.
- Five HSTA students are currently in medical school.

West Virginia Rural Health Education Partnerships 2002-03

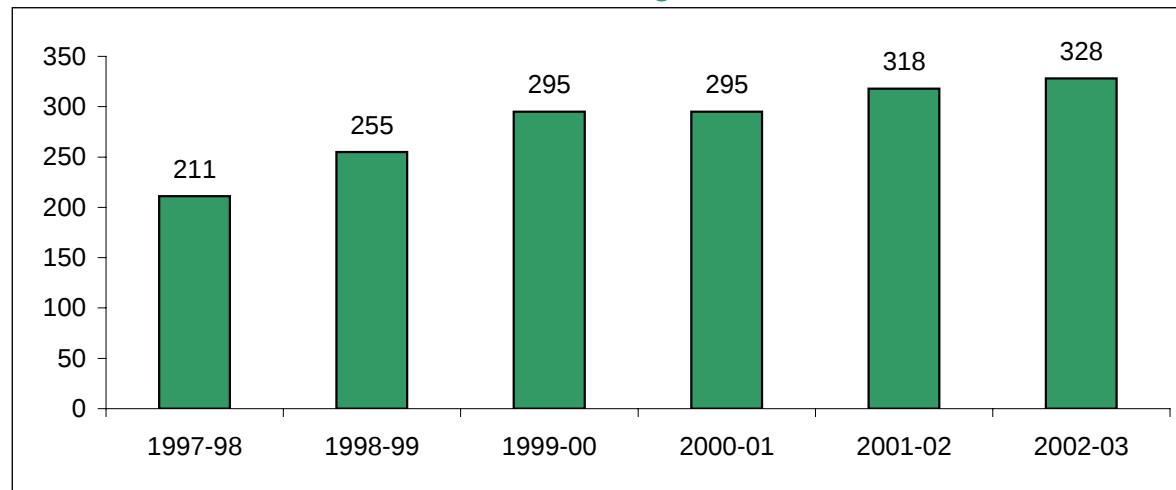


Field Faculty and Training Sites

RHEP Field Faculty



RHEP Training Sites



Training Consortia Infrastructure

The RHEP infrastructure covers the most underserved area of 47 counties and includes the following:

Thirteen training consortia, with local boards of directors, linking 328 training sites; Over 600 rural health care professionals serving as field faculty; and Learning resource centers at 17 locations, 9 of which are connected to statewide educational programs through MDTV.

Training sites include rural hospitals; health centers; private physicians, dentists, and pharmacies; public health departments; human service agencies, mental health centers; schools; other health care organizations (e.g., home health); and community agencies.

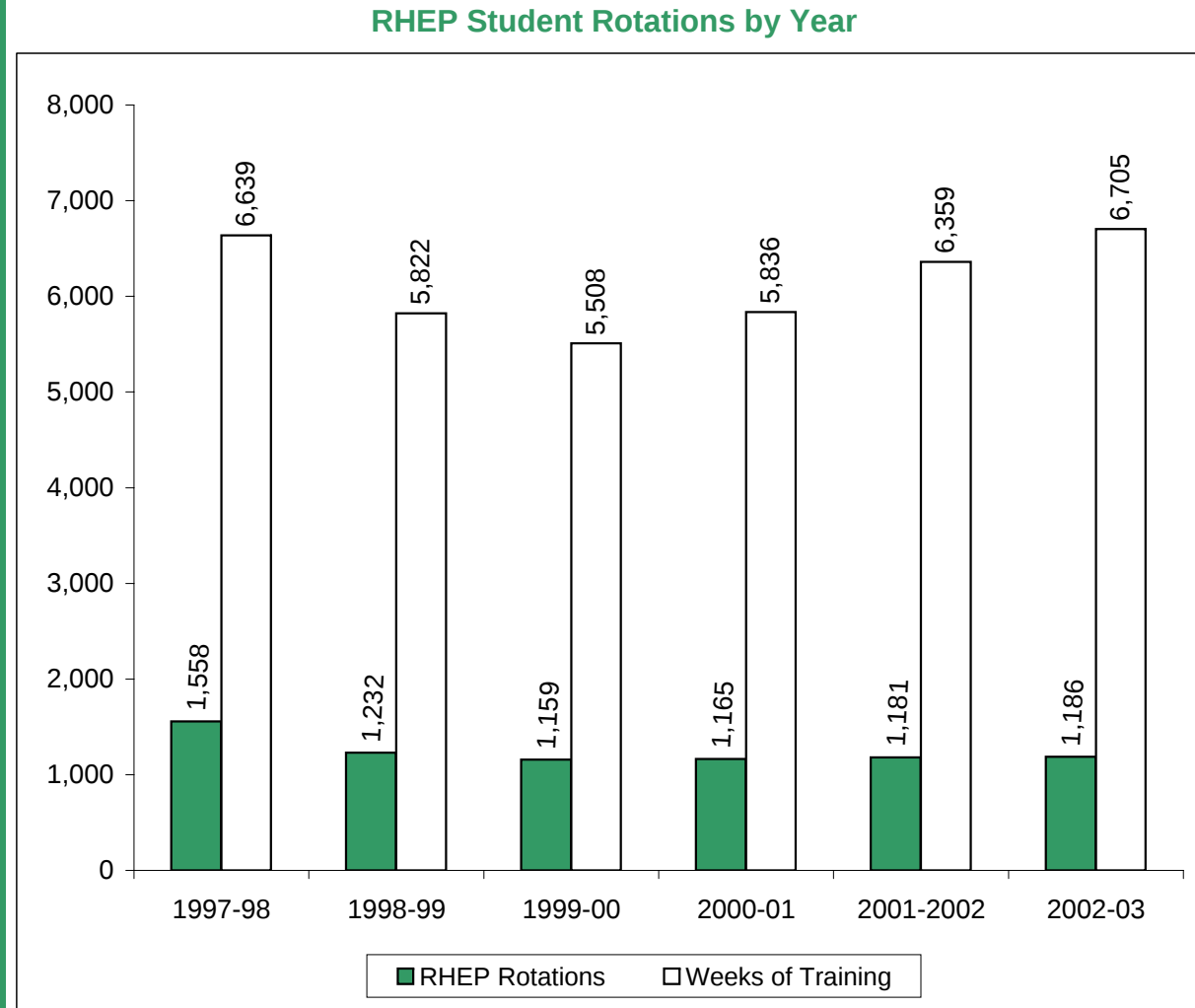
Consortium Lead Agency and Sub sites	Counties	Training Sites*	Number of Field Faculty			
Kanawha Valley Health Consortium <i>Cabin Creek Health Center</i>	Underserved areas of Kanawha	12	10 2	Medicine Dental	10 3	Nursing Pharmacy
Cabwaylingo Health Education Consortium <i>Ft. Gay Family Health Center</i>	Cabell, Wayne, and Lincoln	10	17 3	Medicine Dental	4 1	Nursing Pharmacy
Country Roads Consortium <i>Monroe Health Center</i>	Monroe, Greenbrier, and Summers	12	26 1 1 1	Medicine Dental Physician Assistant Social Work	2 5 1	Nursing Pharmacy Physical Therapy
Eastern WV Rural Health Education Consortium <i>Grant Memorial Hospital</i>	Grant, Hardy, Hampshire, Mineral, Pendleton, and Tucker	26	29 1 1 1 2	Medicine Dental Physician Assistant Occupational Therapy Psychology	1 16 8 4 1	Midwifery Nursing Pharmacy Physical Therapy Social Work
<i>City Hospital</i>	Berkeley, Jefferson, and Morgan	17	42 3 6	Medicine Dental Nursing	10 4	Pharmacy Physical Therapy
Little Kanawha Area Consortium	Calhoun, Ritchie, Gilmer, Pleasants, Tyler, and Wirt	16	9 1 3	Medicine Dental Physician Assistant	4 5	Nursing Pharmacy
Mountain Health Partners Consortium <i>Tri-County Health Clinic, Inc.</i>	Barbour, Lewis, Randolph, and Upshur	37	31 3 1 1	Medicine Dental Occupational Therapy Medical Technology	8 10 9	Nursing Pharmacy Physical Therapy
<i>Braxton County Memorial Hospital</i>	Braxton and Clay	15	7 2 1 1	Medicine Dental Physician Assistant Medical Technology	7 1 1	Nursing Pharmacy Physical Therapy
<i>Grafton City Hospital</i>	Taylor, Harrison, Preston, and Marion	63	29 5 2 1 1 2	Medicine Dental Physician Assistant Occupational Therapy Psychology Medical Technology	1 26 7 17 1	Midwifery Nursing Pharmacy Physical Therapy Social Work

Training Consortia Infrastructure

RHEP field faculty are rural practitioners who also teach students. In 2003, the Faculty Development Conference was held jointly with Area Health Education Centers; the theme was "Professionalism in Clinical Teaching." About 120 field faculty members attended.

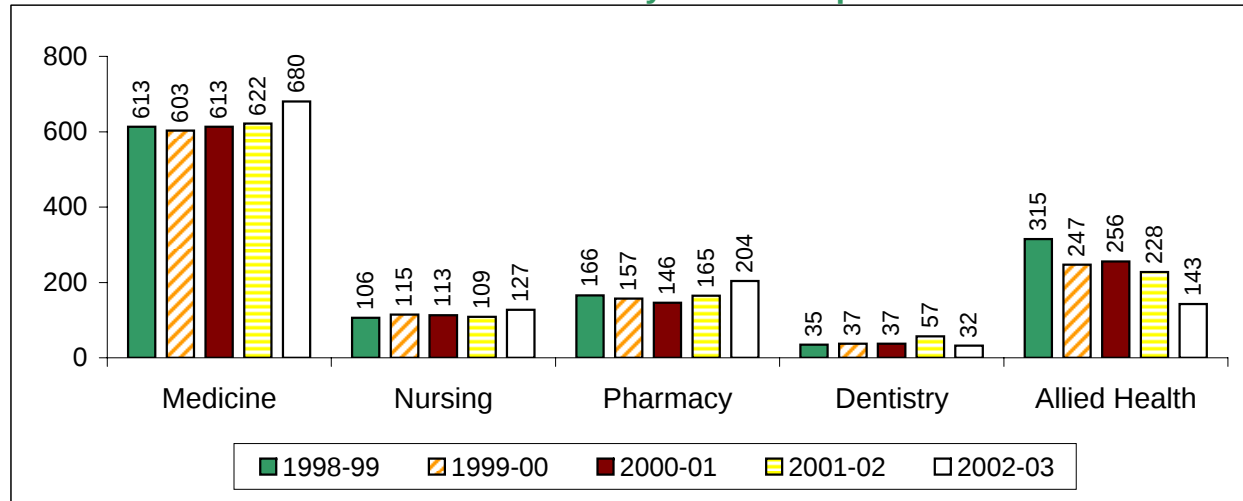
Consortium Lead Agency and Subsites	Counties	Number of Training Sites*	Number of Field Faculty			
Rivers and Bridges Consortium <i>New River Health Association, Inc.</i>	Fayette and Raleigh	11	14	Medicine	2	Midwifery
			2	Dental	3	Nursing
			4	Physician Assistant	4	Pharmacy
Rural Mountain Consortium <i>Rainelle Medical Center, Inc.</i>	Greenbrier and Pocahontas	23	16	Medicine	1	Pharmacy
			1	Dental	5	Physical Therapy
			2	Nursing		
Rural Ohio Valley Education Resources (ROVER) Consortium <i>Carmon Community Health Center</i>	Marshall and Ohio	11	5	Medicine	2	Physical Therapy
			3	Nursing		
			2	Pharmacy		
Southern Counties Consortium	Boone and Logan, McDowell, Mingo, and Wyoming	18	25	Medicine	6	Nursing
			1	Dental	2	Pharmacy
			1	Physician Assistant	1	Physical Therapy
Webster-Nicholas Education Consortium <i>Camden-on-Gauley Medical Center</i>	Webster and Nicholas	10	12	Medicine	1	Nursing
			1	Dental	3	Pharmacy
			10	Physician Assistant	3	Physical Therapy
Western Counties Consortium <i>Pleasant Valley Hospital</i>	Lincoln, Mason, Putnam, Wayne, and rural portions of Cabell	35	31	Medicine	1	Nursing
			2	Dental	6	Physical Therapy
			2	Pharmacy		
Winding Roads Health Science Consortium <i>Roane County Family Health Care</i>	Roane and Jackson	12	11	Medicine	6	Pharmacy
			3	Dental	2	Physical Therapy
			1	Nursing		
	Total Training Sites	328	314	Medicine	70	Pharmacy
			31	Dental	55	Physical Therapy
			23	Physician Assistant	3	Occupational Therapy
			100	Nursing	4	Midwifery
			4	Medical Technology	3	Social Work
			3	Psychology		
			Total Field Faculty:		610	

Student Rotations

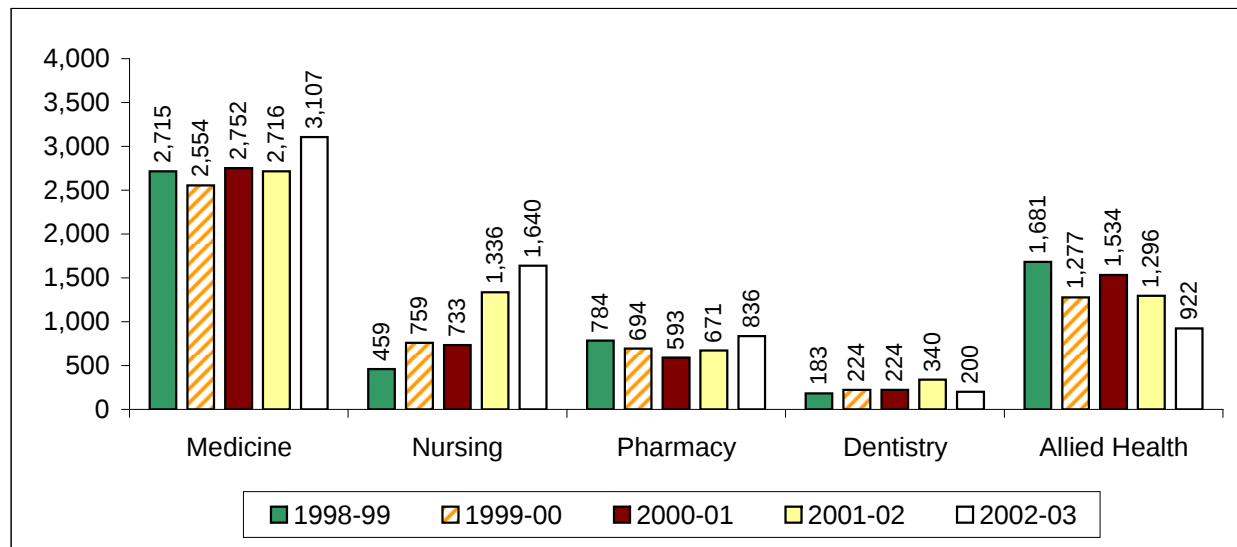


Student Rotations

RHEP Rotations by Year/Discipline



RHEP Student Weeks by Year/Discipline



Student Rotations

Rotations by County: June 1, 2002-May 31, 2003

County	RHEP Student Rotation	Student Weeks	Other Rural Sites Student Rotation	Student Weeks	County	RHEP Student Rotation	Student Weeks	Other Rural Sites Student Rotation	Student Weeks
Barbour	6	35			Mingo	2	11		
Berkeley	56	275	2	5	Monroe	8	44	2	14
Boone	28	179	1	10	Monongalia			4	58
Braxton	22	157			Morgan	15	81		
Brooke	1	4			Nicholas	20	108	4	10
Cabell	20	96	3	23	Ohio	7	37		
Calhoun	4	17			Pendleton	2	8		
Clay	3	41			Pleasants	4	30		
Doddridge					Pocahontas	1	8		
Fayette	38	216	1	4	Preston	57	444		
Gilmer	1	4			Putnam	65	376	4	17
Grant	36	200			Raleigh	15	61	35	131
Greenbrier	139	704	71	279	Randolph	50	246	2	16
Hampshire	8	48			Ritchie	4	34		
Hancock					Roane	32	162		
Hardy	4	35			Summers	4	27		
Harrison	37	195	7	29	Taylor	53	324	1	4
Jackson	15	76			Tucker	1	6		
Jefferson	42	175			Tyler	3	29		
Kanawha	60	463			Upshur	53	261		
Lewis	36	199			Wayne	52	241	1	16
Lincoln	6	24	3	30	Webster	15	98		
Logan	14	79	34	135	Wetzel				
Marion	39	251	3	12	Wirt				
Marshall	35	200	3	19	Wood			2	19
Mason	42	209			Wyoming	17	100	4	27
McDowell	6	41							
Mercer			65	251	Out of State	68	364		
Mineral	8	46							
					Total (Does not include Out of State Schools)	1,186	6,705	252	1,109

Students in state-supported health sciences schools must complete mandatory three-month rotations in rural communities. Dental students, because of unique curricular requirements, complete two-month rotations. This year, students from ten disciplines completed over 1,400 rotations in RHEP sites and in other rural settings. The ten disciplines include: clinical psychology, dentistry, dental hygiene, medical technology, medicine, nursing, pharmacy, physician assistant, social work, and physical therapy.

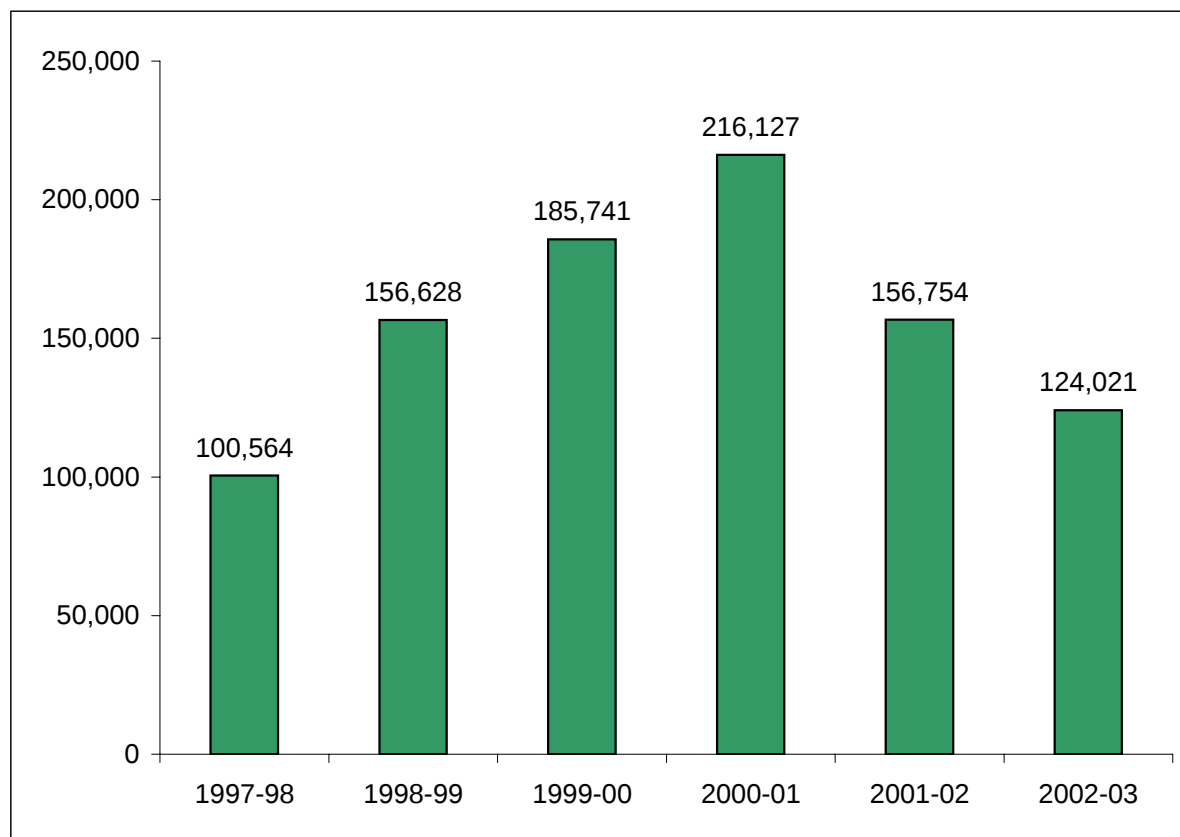
Student Rotations

Rotations by School/Discipline: June 1, 2002 - May 31, 2003

School/Discipline:	RHEP		Other Rural Sites	
	Student Rotations	Student Weeks	Student Rotations	Student Weeks
Alderson-Broaddus				
Nursing				
Physician Assistant	66	264		
Mountain State University				
Physician Assistant	28	141		
Nurse Practitioner	7	64		
Marshall University				
Medicine	131	515	5	20
Nursing	17	136	4	42
West Liberty				
Dental Hygiene				
WV School of Osteopathic Medicine				
Medicine	284	1,480	226	919
Medical Resident	2	12		
West Virginia University				
Nursing	58	801	4	58
Nursing-Charleston	8	140	1	16
Physical Therapy	29	348	1	12
Dentistry	32	200		
Dental Hygiene	15	90		
Medicine	176	735	10	38
Medicine-Charleston	80	336	1	4
Medical Resident	7	29		
Other	2	12		
Pharmacy	204	836		
Social Work	1	17		
Psychology	1	49		
West Virginia University Institute of Technology				
Nursing	37	499		
Dental Hygiene	1	1		
Out of State School	68	364		
Total In-State Schools	1,186	6,705	252	1,109

Community Service Contacts

Community Service Contacts by Year



RHEP provides a wide variety of community services, such as:

- Health Fairs
- Screening (blood pressure, glucose, etc.)
- Diabetic Cookbook Classes
- Energy Express
- Flood Relief Clinics
- Tobacco Awareness
- High-risk Pregnancy Programs
- Recycled Medical Equipment
- Habitat for Humanity
- Osteoporosis Clinic
- Playground Safety
- Diabetic Foot Screening
- Sports Physicals
- Oral Hygiene in Childcare Facilities
- Be Smart, Eat Smart

Community Service Contacts

June 1, 2002 - May 31, 2003

RHEP students, faculty, and staff provided an average of 10,335 community service contacts each month - totaling more than 124,000 for the entire year.

RHEP dental and dental hygiene students performed 8,696 clinical procedures for 3,100 patients. Also, students and faculty participated in 175 outreach activities serving more than 15,000 West Virginians. RHEP dental sites provided \$861,200 in uncompensated care.

The CARDIAC (Coronary Artery Detection in Appalachian Communities) program expanded to include 40 counties and screened almost 6,000 school children.

Consortium	Prevention and Education for General Public	Prevention and Education for Adults	Prevention and Education for Children	Total
Kanawha Valley Health Consortium	1,704	1,432	4,761	7,897
Cabwaylingo Health Education Consortium	2,220	12	242	2,474
County Roads Consortium	652	1,317	1,692	3,661
Eastern WV Rural Health Education Consortium				
Grant Memorial Hospital	4,123	1,716	8,713	14,552
City Hospital, Martinsburg	4,169	1,318	2,665	8,152
Little Kanawha Area Consortium	1,438	734	3,999	6,171
Mountain Health Consortium				
St. Joseph's Hospital	2,408	1,389	4,068	7,865
Braxton County Memorial Hospital	3,085	234	5,306	8,625
Grafton City Hospital	10,115	1,126	6,787	18,028
Rivers and Bridges Consortium	1,465	1,513	4,119	7,097
Rural Mountain Consortium	2,539	427	916	3,882
Rural Ohio Valley Education Resources (ROVER) Consortium	404	2,329	5,430	8,163
Southern Counties Consortium	664	129	631	1,424
Webster-Nicholas Education Consortium	188	99	722	1,009
Western Counties Consortium	5,344	1,328	4,684	11,356
Winding Roads Health Consortium	6,051	2,726	4,888	13,665
Totals	46,569	17,829	59,623	124,021

Recruitment

The RHEP Recruitment and Retention Committee coordinates state recruitment efforts, including financial incentives, as a companion strategy to rural training.

The Center for Rural Health Development has supported a Coordinated Placement project through the WV Rural Health Access Program. Placement coordinators at each medical school provide information to students and residents on rural practice opportunities and financial incentives. The Robert W. Johnson Foundation and the Benedum Foundation have funded this effort.

The National Health Service Corps SEARCH program, administered jointly by the WVU Office of Rural Health and the Bureau for Public Health, provides stipends to students and residents for training in RHEP sites. Last year, \$88,000 in stipends was awarded to 38 trainees.

West Virginia Trained Health Professionals Recruited to Rural Areas of the State

Discipline	Number in Rural Practice	Number who Received Financial Incentives
Physicians (1991-2000 graduates)	142	58 (41%)
Nurse Practitioners	59	28 (47%)
Nurse-Midwives	2	1 (50%)
Physician Assistants	60	37 (62%)
Dentists	65	-
Dental Hygienists	18	-
Pharmacists	110	-
Physical Therapists	31	-
Occupational Therapists	1	-
TOTAL	488	124 (25%) *

Methodology: Data on physicians include graduates from 1991-2000 who have completed residency training. Data on all other disciplines include graduates from 1991-2003

*Recruitment of these 124 Rural Practitioners was aided by the targeting of 175 incentive awards:

West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission

Health Sciences Scholarship Program - 55 awards

WV Rural Health Education Partnerships

SEARCH Training Stipends - 34 awards

Community Scholarship Program - 8 awards

Bureau for Public Health, Division of Recruitment

Recruitment & Retention Community Project - 61 awards

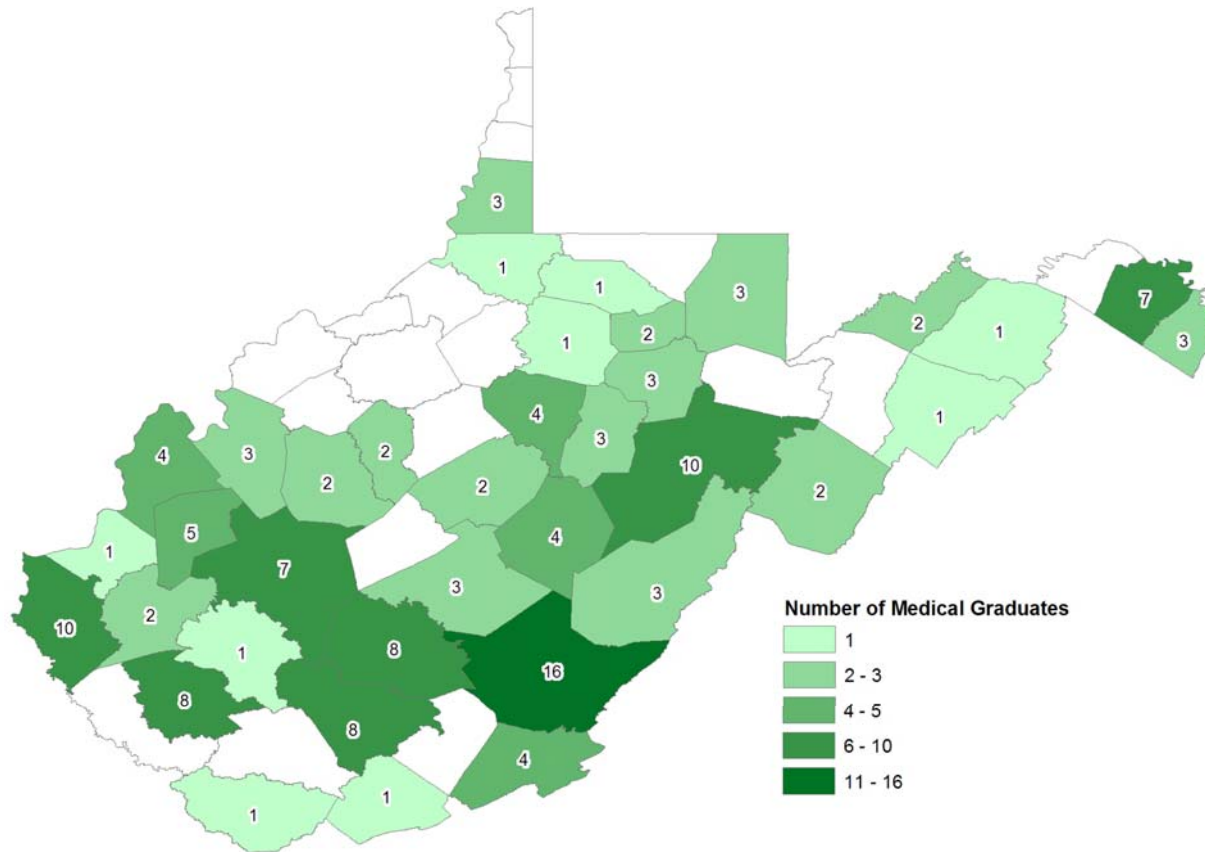
State Loan Repayment Program - 17 awards

Recruitment

142 WV trained physicians
were practicing in rural
areas of the state in 2003.
They include graduates
from 1991-2000.

58 (41%) of these physicians received state financial incentives.

Recent WV Medical Graduates Practicing in Rural Areas in 2003



Source: HEPC, WVDHHR, medical schools, and RHEP staff.

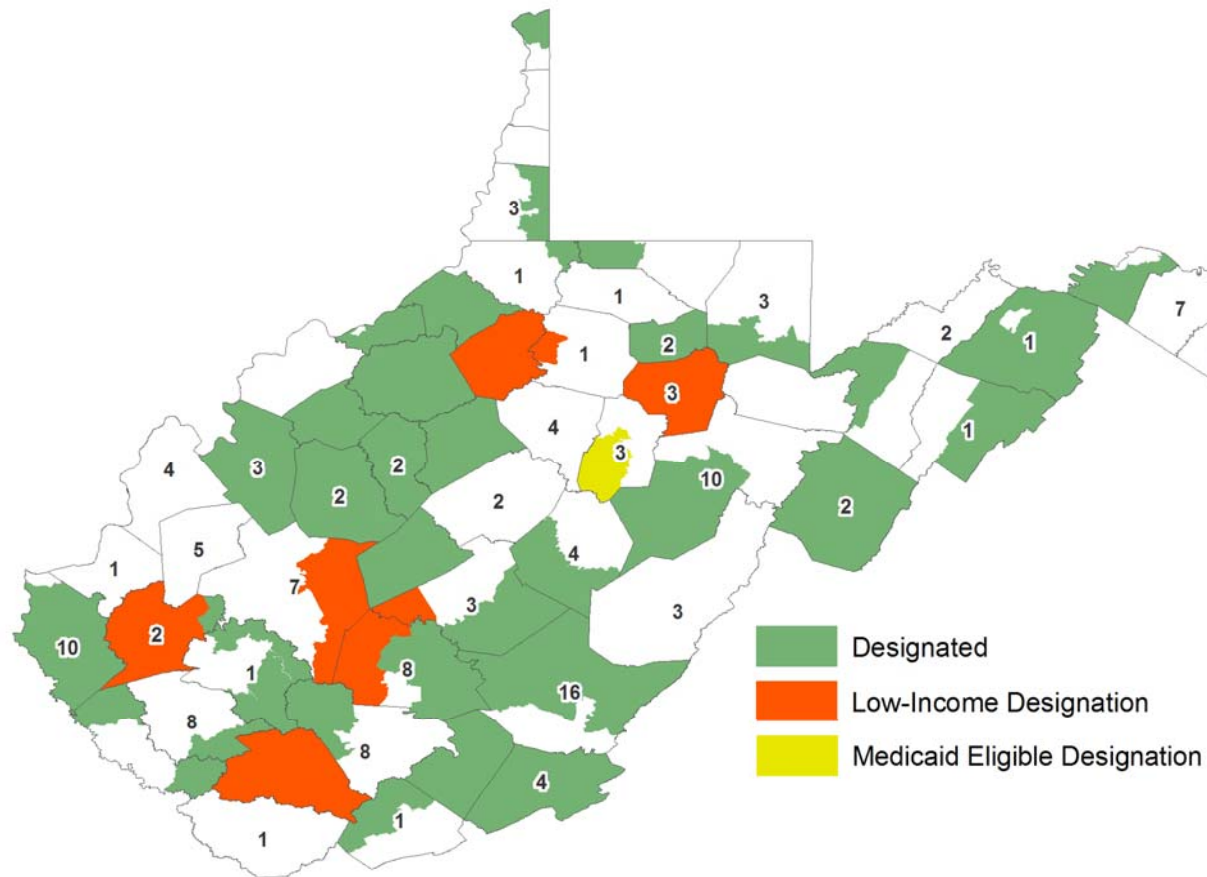
Recruitment to Areas of Need

Rural Physician Placements in
Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSAs)

Numbers on map show WV medical graduates, 1991-2000, practicing in rural areas by county.

Placements in HPSAs qualify for federally funded programs such as State Loan Repayment.

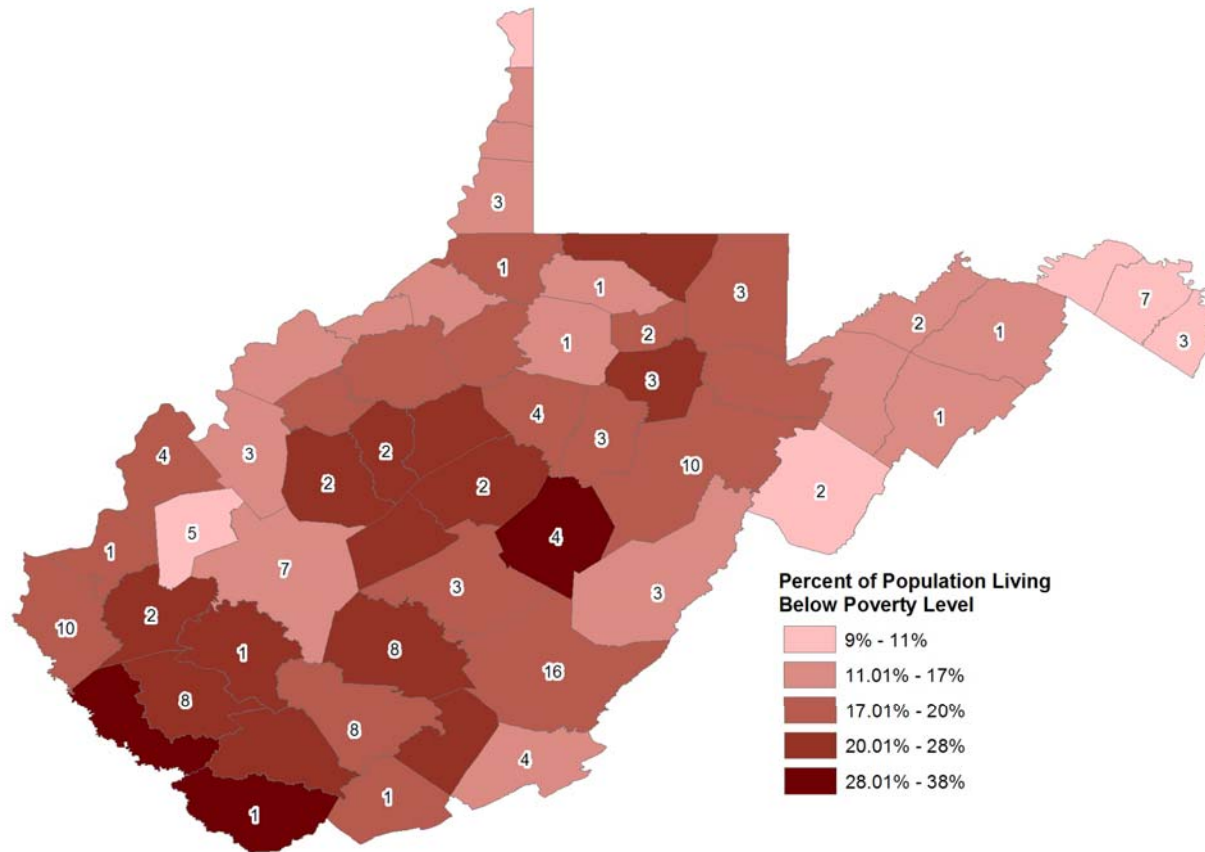
State funded programs provide incentives for practice in HPSAs and other underserved areas.



Source: Division of Recruitment, Bureau of Public Health, WVDHHR, 2003

Recruitment to Areas of Need

Rural Physician Placements by County Poverty Level



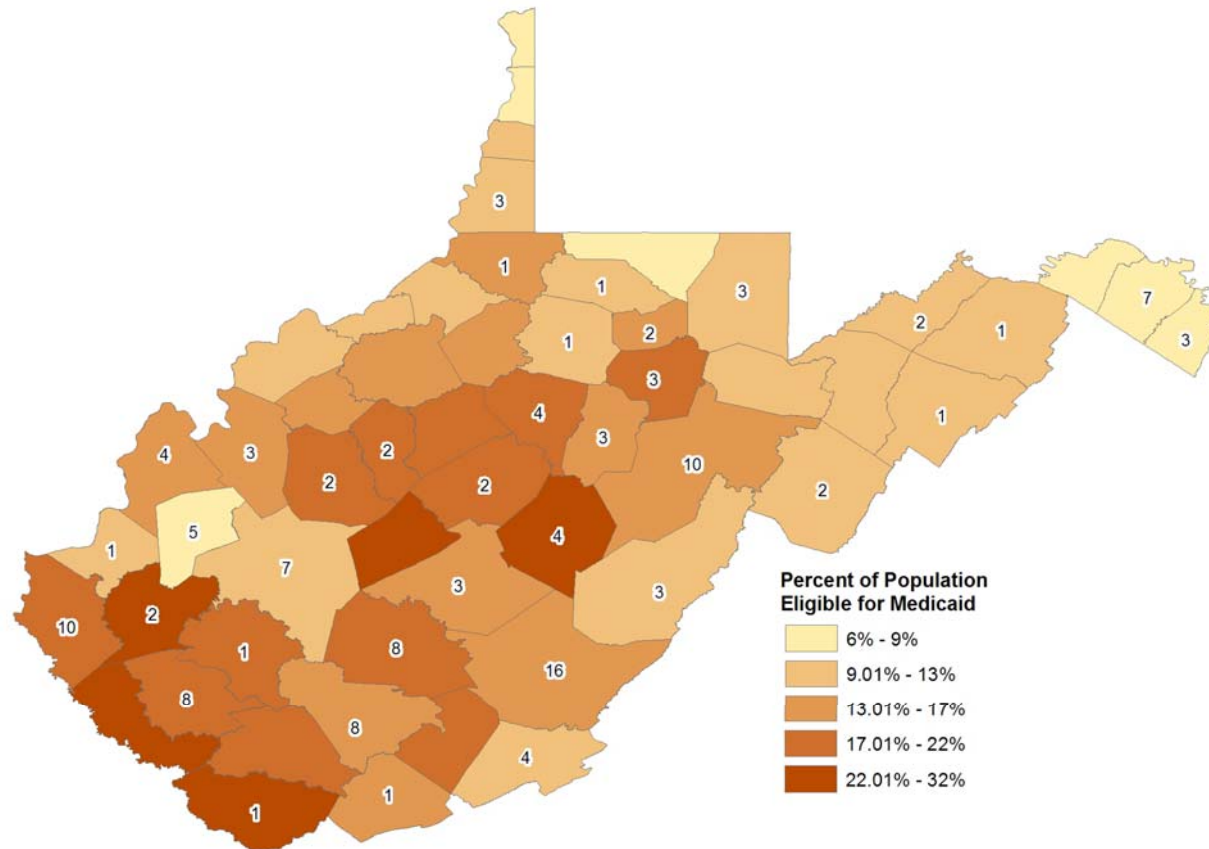
Numbers on map show WV medical graduates, 1991-2000, practicing in rural areas by county.

In West Virginia, 17.9% of the population live below the federal poverty level, compared to a national rate of 12.4%.

Source: US Bureau of the Census, 2000

Recruitment to Areas of Need

Rural Physician Placements by County Medicaid Eligibility



Source: WVDHHR, Bureau for Public Health, Health Statistics Center Brief 2, 2003

Recruitment to Areas of Need

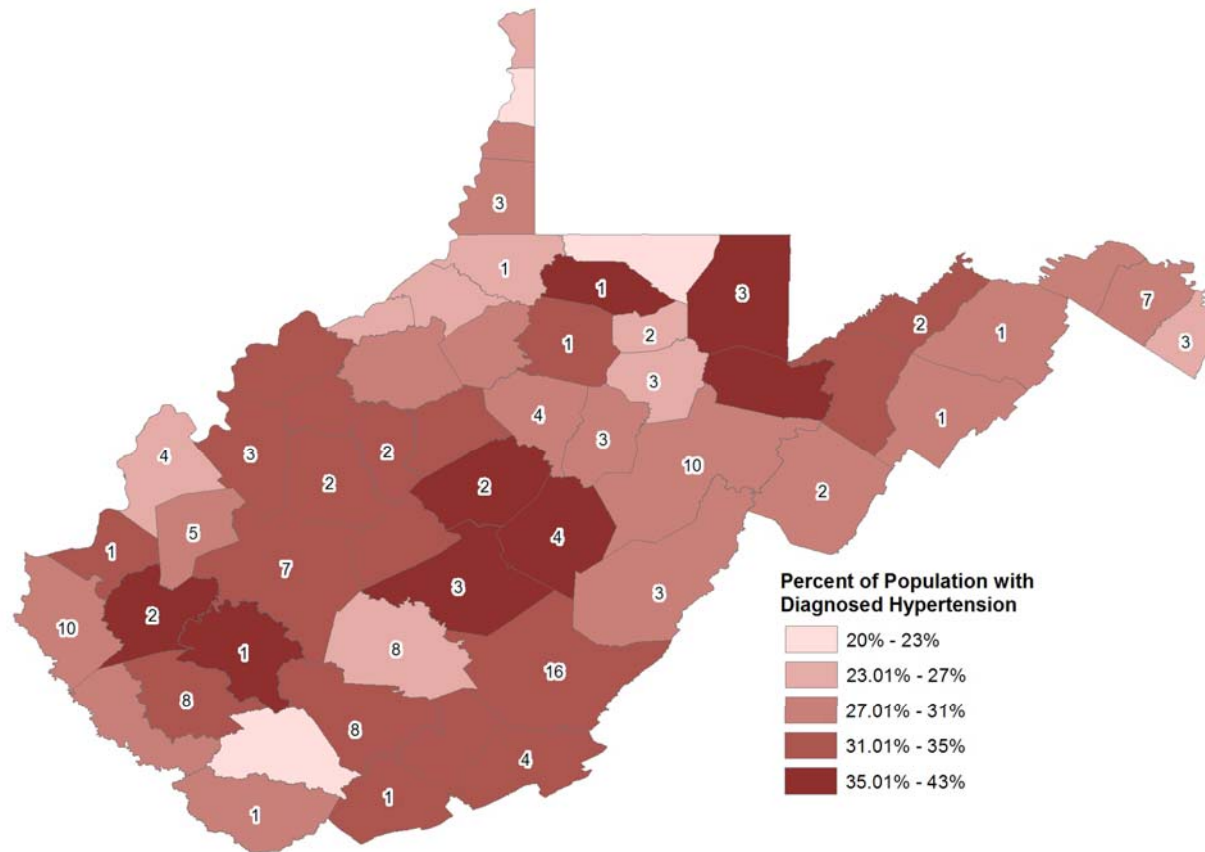
Rural Physician Placements by County Hypertension Prevalence

Numbers on map show WV medical graduates, 1991-2000, practicing in rural areas by county.

High blood pressure is an important measure of health status. Untreated, it increases the risk of strokes and heart disease.

31.6% of West Virginian's reported a diagnosis of hypertension, significantly higher than 24.5% for the US.

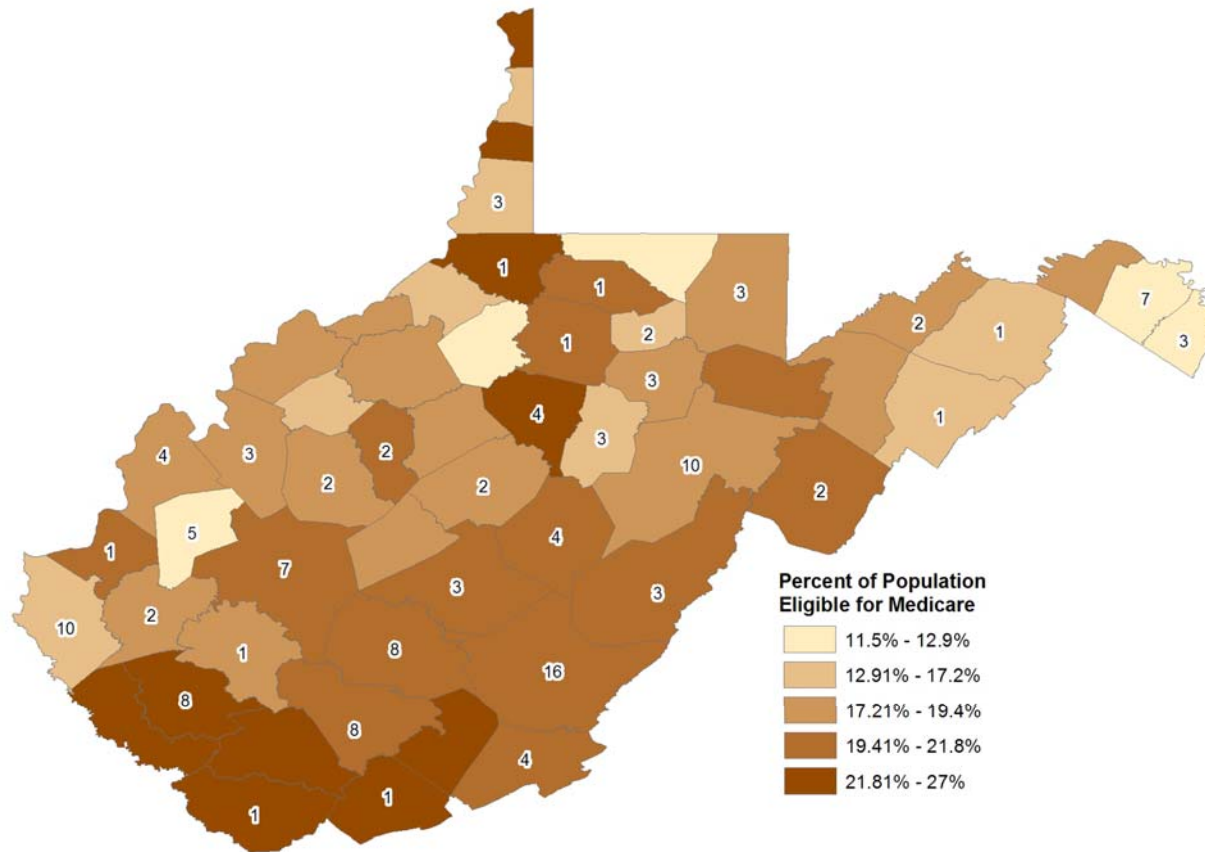
27 WV counties have rates significantly higher than the US rate.



Source: WVDHHR, BPH, Office of Epidemiology & Health Promotion, 2001, Behavioral Risk Factor Survey, Rates calculated from 1997-2001.

Recruitment to Areas of Need

Rural Physician Placements by County Medicare Eligibility



Numbers on map show WV medical graduates, 1991-2000, practicing in rural areas by county.

In West Virginia, 19% of the population was eligible for Medicare in 2002, compared to 14.1% in the US.

Medicare eligibility is a good indicator of need because as the elderly population increases, more acute and chronic health services are needed.

Source: WVDHHR, Bureau for Public Health, Health Statistics Center Brief 2, 2003

Work - in - Progress

The Rural Health Education Partnership has reached a promising stage of development marked by new federal funds through the Area Health Education Center (AHEC) program, increased accountability, and improved program evaluation.

- In 2003, the West Virginia AHEC added two more AHEC centers; the Southwestern AHEC affiliated with Marshall University and the Southeastern AHEC affiliated with the West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine. In addition, the Northern West Virginia Rural Health Education Center has been incorporated and the new board will be launched in January 2004. Cost share dollars from RHEP have secured the federal funding for one more year. The state is eligible for an additional three years of funding beginning in late 2004.

- The State Advisory Panel's Finance Committee continued work on moving to a zero-based budgeting system. This year, the Committee implemented the fiscal policies and recommendations from the previous year's program audit and guided the consortia through a beta test of new guidelines for fixed and variable costs. The Finance Committee spent many hours of discussion and planning to deal with the impact of current budget cuts on program outcomes and the budgeting process.

- In 2003, data fields were added to TRACKER© to assist in evaluating the student community service-learning activities. These additions now allow sites to record health promotion and disease prevention activities by the State Healthy People 2010 objectives. By tracking data in this manner, the contribution of RHEP to meeting these objectives can be demonstrated.