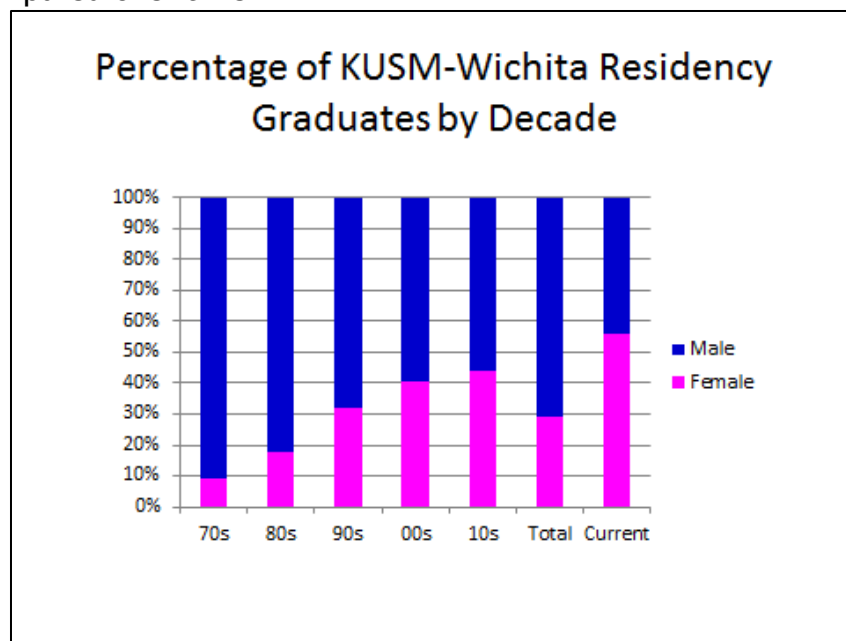


Trends in Gender of KUSM-Wichita Family Medicine Residency Graduates Over Four Decades

In 2007, for the first time in the history of the school, the University of Kansas School of Medicine matriculated more women than men. Similarly, changes in the gender distribution of practicing family physicians in Kansas and resident-physicians has changed over the last four decades.

Freeman¹ discusses how women have always constituted a majority of patients in family medicine (and of most health care disciplines), and that the increased number and percent of women family physicians has led to a greater awareness, of the health problems that women face, as well as an interest in and ability to provide more effective health care. Another consideration in distribution of family physicians is that women physicians gravitate to larger cities and urban areas.² Sixty percent of female graduates of family medicine residency programs sponsored by the KUSM-Wichita in Kansas, practice in urban areas and compared with 48% of male graduates and 29% practice in rural areas compared to 37% for men. The remainder practice in midsize communities.

The gender of graduates from the three family medicine residency programs sponsored by the University of Kansas School of Medicine – Wichita as well as the gender distribution of current residents was compared over time.



In 2013, 44% of the 93 residents at the three family medicine residency programs sponsored by the KUSM-Wichita are women. There has been a steady increase in the percentage of women family medicine residency graduates over the last four decades. In 2013, 54% of residents in family medicine residencies across the U.S. were women according to the American Academy of Family Physicians.³

1. Freeman J. Women in family medicine: gender diversity and beyond. *Fam Med*. 2011 Mar;43(3):153-4.
2. Renucci A. From Past to Present: The Changing Demographics of Women in Medicine. American Academy of Ophthalmology Web Site <http://www.aao.org/yo/newsletter/200806/article04.cfm>
3. Selected Statistics for Family Medicine Residency Programs (as of July 2013) <http://www.aafp.org/about/the-aafp/family-medicine-facts/table-20.html> accessed 1/6/2014