



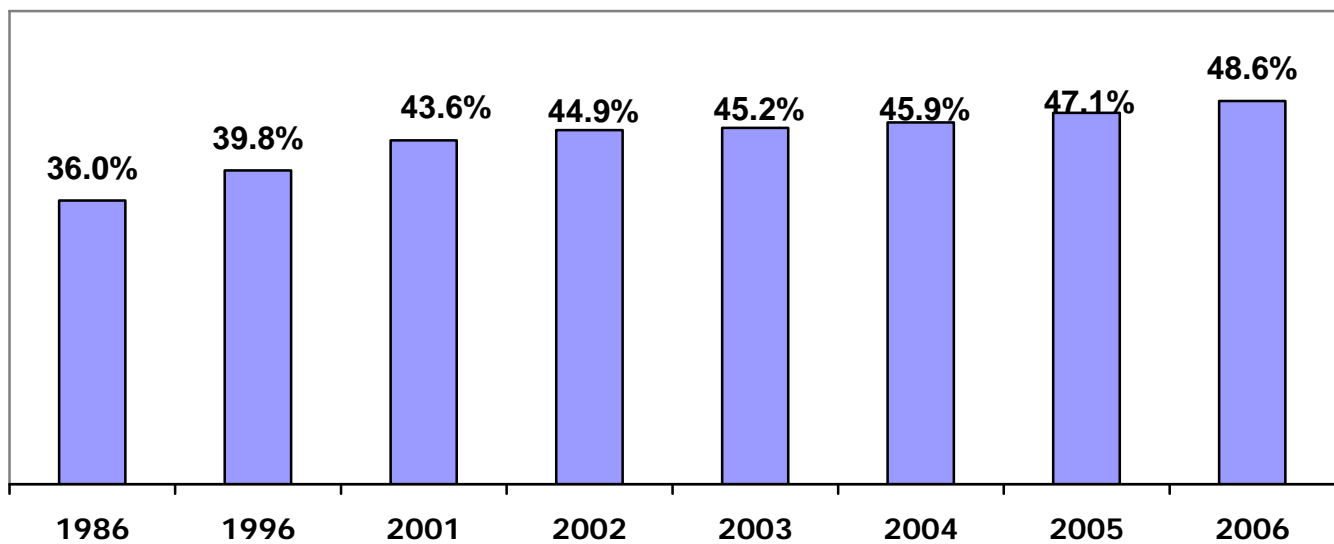
QUICK TAKES • Women in Medicine

WOMEN IN U.S. MEDICINE

EDUCATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT

- In the U.S., women were 48.7% of all first year medical school students in 2005-2006.¹

Women as Percent of US Medical School Graduates¹



WOMEN PHYSICIANS

- 21.2% of physicians are women.²
- Women were 69.9% of all medical and health services managers.³
- Between 1980 and 2005, the total number of physicians increased by 92.9%.²
- The total number of women physicians has increased 351.2% between 1980 to 2005, from 54,284 to 244,913.²
- In 2005, there were 10 specialties with more than 5,000 female physicians (listed in descending order):²
 - Internal medicine
 - Pediatrics
 - General/Family Medicine

- Obstetrics/Gynecology
- Psychiatry
- Anesthesiology
- Pathology
- Emergency Medicine
- General Surgery
- Diagnostic Radiology

WOMEN SURGEONS

- Women are 14.4% of all general surgeons.²
- Women are 5.9% of all specialty surgeons.^{2, 4}

WOMEN IN ACADEMIC MEDICINE

- In U.S. medical schools, women are 31.5% of the 113,928 medical faculty members. Women make up 15.0% of full professors, 27.3% of associate professors, 37.7% of assistant professors, and 49.1% of instructors/other faculty rank.⁵
- In 2004, women were 36% of promotions to associate professor positions, and 25% of promotions to full professor.⁵
- In 2004-2005, women represented 11% of department chairs. Only 10% of U.S. medical school deans were women.⁵
- Nancy Edwards was named the Dean of Duke's Medical School in 2007, making her the first woman to lead any of the top 10 medical schools in the US.⁶

WOMEN OF COLOR IN MEDICINE

- Of female physicians whose race/ethnicity is known, 33.3% are women of color physicians.²
- Women of color are 8.0% of all physicians whose race/ethnicity is known.²

WOMEN IN MEDICINE WORLDWIDE

- In Canada, women are 32.5% of all physicians and 18.7% of all surgical specialists. In addition, women are only 3% of all medical scientists.⁷
- Although women are currently more than half of all medical students in New Zealand, women comprised only 34.5% of the doctors.⁸
- Women are 39.4% of doctors in the UK.⁹

- 40% of all physicians in Norway are women.¹⁰

WOMEN NOBEL PRIZE WINNERS

Since 1901, only seven women have won the Nobel Prize in Physiology and Medicine:

- Gerty Radnitz Cori (1947)¹¹
- Rosalyn Sussman Yalow (1977)¹¹
- Barbara McClintock (1983)¹¹
- Rita Levi-Montalcini (1986)¹¹
- Gertrude Elion (1988)¹¹
- Christiane Nusslein-Volhard (1995)¹¹
- Linda B. Buck (2004)¹¹

Sources

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