

Match Day 2020

Texas residency programs did well, but clouds loom

by SEAN PRICE

With a one huge caveat, Match Day 2020 was great for Texas medicine.

It was great because the number of first-year residency positions offered – 2,159 – was not only a record high, it was the 10th consecutive record high, according to data compiled by the Texas Medical Association Medical Education Department. And a record 2,015 of those positions filled. Research shows that medical students tend to set up practice where they do their training, so more residencies should lead to more Texas physicians.

The high number also keeps the state well above its target of having a 1.1-to-1 ratio of first-year residency slots to graduating fourth-year medical students. The target is designed to

ensure the state always has enough residency positions for the number of graduates and a slight overage for recruitment. Since there were 2,159 po-

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sitions and 1,839 projected graduates, the 2020 ratio is a healthy 1.17-to-1.

The number of medical school graduates is expected to grow, thanks to larger medical school classes and

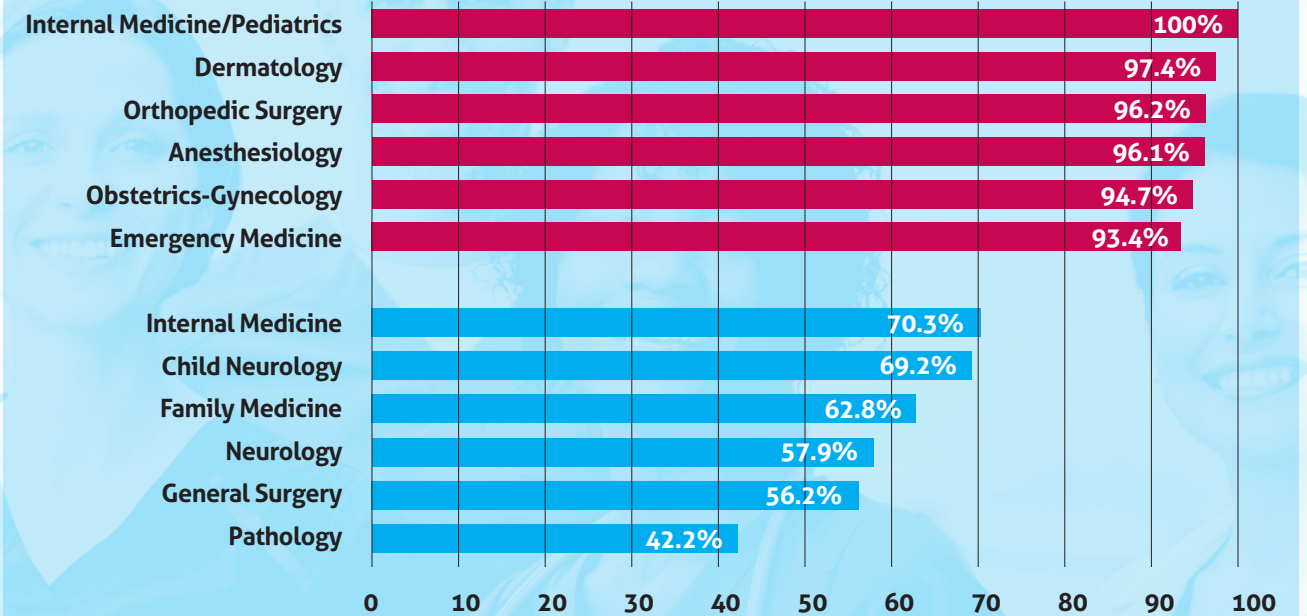
the addition of three new medical schools. If the number of residency positions remains unchanged, TMA projects that the surplus of positions compared with graduates will hold until 2024.

That's where that huge caveat comes in. Residency positions typically are funded by hospitals with some assistance through state funding. Since March, Texas' economy has been hit hard by collapsing oil prices and the COVID-19 lockdown. Both factors already have caused projected budget shortfalls at hospitals and for the state, making residency positions vulnerable to cutbacks.

TMA continues to advocate for improved residency opportunities to ensure that Texas medical school graduates remain in Texas.

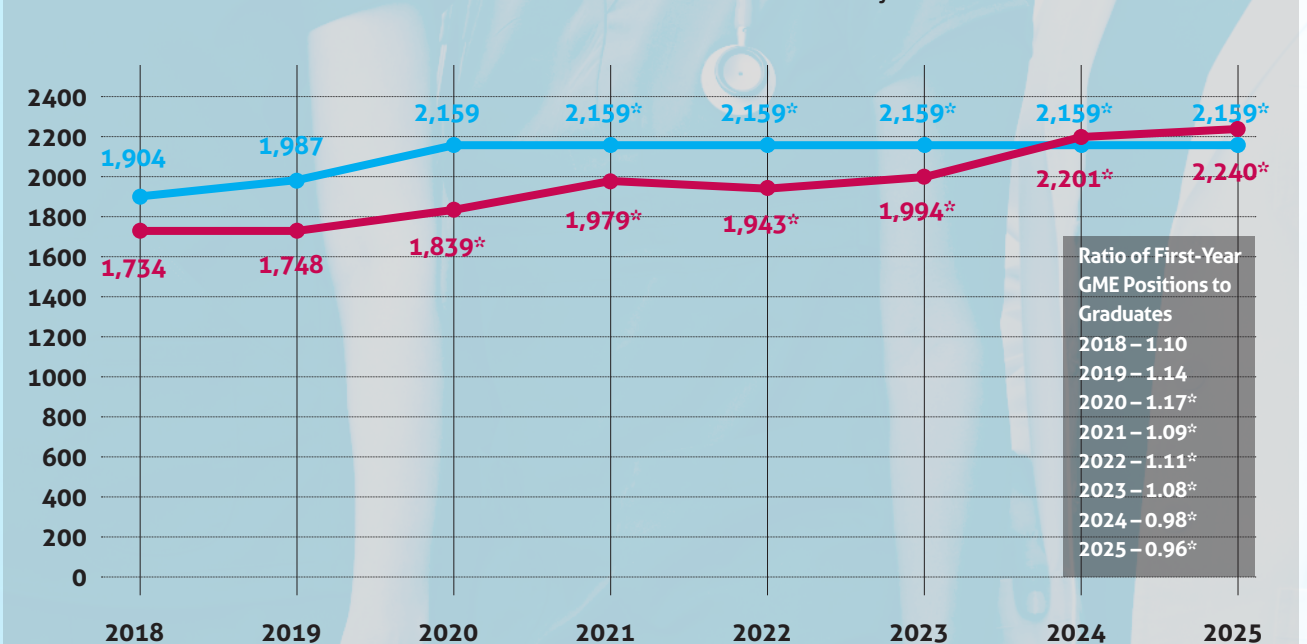
Texas' 2020 Match Rates by Specialty

(Positions offered and filled by U.S. 4th-year medical students)



Sources: National Resident Matching Program, Texas Medical Association analysis

Texas Match Data (2018-2025)

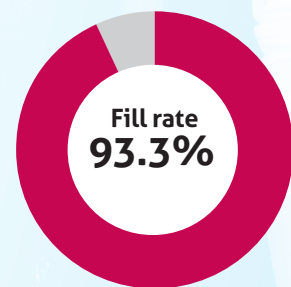
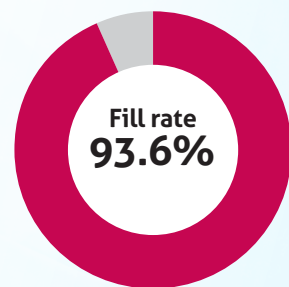


*Projected. Ratios of first-year graduate medical education (GME) positions per graduate from 2020 to 2025 are calculated to demonstrate the projected shortage of GME positions (beginning in 2024) without commensurate growth.

Sources: Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, University of the Incarnate Word School of Osteopathic Medicine, TCU and UNTHSC School of Medicine; projected graduates calculated by the Texas Medical Association Medical Education Department based on projected matriculants and Texas' 10-year graduation rate of 96.5% for medical schools from 2010 to 2019.

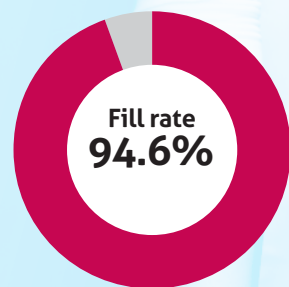
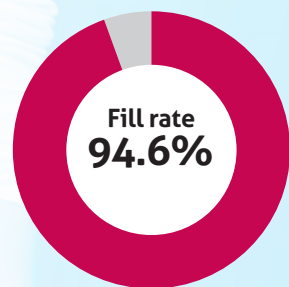
2020 Texas Match Day Results

Total positions: 2,332, up 178 (8.3%)*
Total positions filled: 2,182, up 120 (5.8%)*
First-year positions: 2,159, up 172 (8.7%)*
First-year positions filled: 2,015 up 113 (5.9%)*



2020 National Match Day Results

Total positions: 37,256, up 2,071 (5.9%)*
Total positions filled: 35,258, up 1,841 (5.5%)*
First-year positions: 34,266, up 2,072 (6.4%)*
First-year positions filled: 32,399, up 1,849 (6.1%)*



*Indicates a record high. Record highs are due in part to 100% of osteopathic programs joining the Main Residency Match for the first time in 2019. This is the last year of a five-year gradual transition to a single accreditation system for residency programs.

Sources: National Resident Matching Program, with analysis by the Texas Medical Association; American Osteopathic Association Match statistics