



Physician Services Benefit Rates Report, Canada

2005–2006

H e a l t h H u m a n R e s o u r c e s



Canadian Institute
for Health Information

Institut canadien
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ISBN 978-1-55465-376-8 (PDF)

© 2008 Canadian Institute for Health Information

How to cite this document:

Canadian Institute for Health Information, *Physician Services Benefit Rates Report, Canada, 2005–2006* (Ottawa: CIHI, 2008).

Cette publication est aussi disponible en français sous le titre
Rapport sur les tarifs d'honoraires des médecins, Canada, 2005-2006.

ISBN 978-1-55465-377-5 (PDF)

Physician Services Benefit Rates Report, Canada, 2005–2006

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Acknowledgements

The Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI) wishes to acknowledge and thank the following individuals for their contribution to *Physician Services Benefit Rates Report, Canada, 2005–2006*:

- John David Stanway, Senior Analyst, Health Human Resources, CIHI
- Walter Feeney, Senior Analyst, Health Human Resources, CIHI
- Robert Kyte, Program Lead, Health Human Resources, CIHI

CIHI would also like to thank the representatives from the CIHI Advisory Group on Physician Databases and the National Physician Database (NPDB) Authorization Officers for their contributions to this report.

Preface

Previously produced reports in the *Physician Services Benefit Rates Report* series include:

- *Physician Services Benefit Rates Report, Canada, 2004–2005 (2007)*
- *Physician Services Benefit Rates Report, Canada, 2003–2004 (2006)*
- *Physician Services Benefit Rates Report, Canada, 2002–2003 (2005)*
- *Physician Services Benefit Rates Report, Canada, 2001–2002 (2004)*
- *Physician Services Benefit Rates Report, Canada, 2000–2001 (2003)*
- *Physician Services Benefit Rates Report, Canada, 1999/2000 (2002)*
- *Physician Services Benefit Rates Report, Canada, 1998/1999 (2001)*
- *Physician Services Benefit Rates Report, Canada, 1995/1996 (2000)*
- *Physician Services Benefit Rates Report, Canada, 1993/1994 (1998)*

Introduction

The National Physician Database (NPDB) has been used by the federal, provincial and territorial governments, medical stakeholder groups, various private organizations and researchers as a national data source for the service utilization patterns of physicians in Canada for program administration, evaluation and policy development.

The Physician Services Benefit Rate (PSBR) system provides interprovincial comparisons of fees paid for physicians' services. PSBR compares fees for ten service groupings, comprising most fee-for-service payments under the Canadian medicare system. Benefit indices are calculated for Family Medicine and each of sixteen physician specialties. In the previous years' versions of this report, results were calculated for all sixteen specialties, but starting in the 2005–2006 data (the current report) anesthesia's results have been suppressed due to uncertainties in the interprovincial comparability of the data, specifically the service counts. It is planned to have this data available in future reports.

PSBR serves two main purposes. The fee comparisons have been used historically by provincial governments and medical associations in the negotiation of physician fees. PSBR also provides a means to standardize expenditure data from each province for differences in fee levels, in order to measure real differences in the utilization of physicians' services.

PSBR is one of four fee-for-service indicators produced using data from the National Physician Database (NPDB), which is maintained by the Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI). The other indicators include the National Grouping System (NGS), the Average Payment per Physician and physician Full-Time Equivalence (FTE).

On August 1, 1995, the NPDB was transferred to the Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI). Prior to the transfer, Health Canada and representatives from the provinces carried out an extensive review of PSBR and developed recommendations for a number of methodology changes to enhance the usefulness and efficiency of the system.

Objectives defined in the course of the PSBR report review were:

1. To provide relevant information to inform fee negotiations between provinces and medical associations by comparing relative level of fees between provinces and among specialties within provinces.
2. To provide price indexes to facilitate the standardization of provincial fee levels in order to produce interprovincial comparisons of the utilization of physician services.
3. PSBR indices should have an acceptable degree of accuracy (recognizing that absolute precision is seldom possible in aggregate price indices).
4. PSBR should provide an appropriate level of detail, consistent with the objectives of relevancy and accuracy.

PSBR is not intended to measure price changes through time nor changes to physician income. Given this, comparing 2005–2006 results included in this report to those of previous PSBR reports should not be attempted.

CIHI has incorporated the results of the PSBR report review in the PSBR system.

Any questions regarding the publications or the NPDB should be directed to:

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Methodological Notes

Background

The Physician Services Benefit Rate (PSBR) is one of the indicators produced by the National Physician Database (NPDB). The NPDB contains data on the demographic characteristics and activity levels of fee-for-service physicians. Information on activity levels includes total payments, total services, average payment per physician and full-time equivalent physician counts. CIHI is working with the provincial and territorial ministries to also include data on clinical activities remunerated under alternative reimbursement plans (such as salaries, contracts and sessional fees) to provide comprehensive information on total remuneration to Canada's physicians.

The NPDB is used by governments, professional associations, consulting firms, pharmaceutical companies, researchers and the media for medical human resource planning and utilization analysis. The establishment of the database was approved in 1987 by the Conference of Deputy Ministers of Health upon the recommendation of the Advisory Committee on Health Human Resources (ACHHR).

On August 1, 1995, the NPDB was transferred to the Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI). CIHI assumed the responsibilities of Health Canada in maintaining the database. Previously, the NPDB was under the direction of the Working Group on Medical Care Statistics (WGMCS) which was disbanded when the database was transferred to CIHI. An Expert Group on Physician Databases was convened in April 1996 and advises CIHI on data quality, methodology and product development matters relating to the NPDB and Scott's Medical Database (SMDB; formerly the Southam Medical Database).

Data Sources and Collection

NPDB Data

Data are derived from physician fee-for-service claims submitted by provincial medical insurance programs to CIHI. The claims data and associated physician and patient demographic data are submitted in five files, as listed below. Data files are usually received within six months of the end of the quarter to which the data correspond. Any files that do not meet appropriate layouts, as defined in the *NPDB Data Submission Specifications Manual*, are returned to the provinces for correction and subsequent re-submission.

Files submitted include:

Title	Description
25 File	Dental services and other non-physician services file (not submitted by all provinces)
30 File	Reciprocal billing file*
35 File	Physician characteristics file
50 File	Utilization file (by fee-code, UPI, sex and age group of patient)
55 File	Changes to UPI file

* 30 File data is not applicable to the province of Quebec.

In addition to the NPDB data files described above, CIHI gathers annual, aggregate level, alternative payment information through a variety of information sources, including provincial representatives of CIHI’s Advisory Group on Physician Databases. A summary of this information is presented in Table 2 of the Payment Mode: Level of Fee-for-Service Coverage section.

For a complete description of NPDB record layouts, please see the *NPDB Data Submission Specifications Manual* available at www.cihi.ca. For further information regarding the NPDB, including alternative payments, please contact the Program Lead, NPDB, CIHI.

Physician Services Benefit Rates Figures

The Physician Services Benefit Rates (PSBR) figures are created using data from the Utilization File (by fee-code, UPI, sex and age group of patient). The Utilization File contains all direct payments for fee-for-service claims by physicians, laboratories and diagnostic facilities. In addition, it contains services received by medical care plan beneficiaries out-of-province but not processed through the reciprocal billing system (i.e. essentially services received out-of-Canada and in Quebec as well as services excluded from the reciprocal billing agreement) which will not be included in PSBR calculations.

Type of Data: Date of Service vs. Date of Payment

Generally, utilization data files are submitted on a date-of-payment basis for Newfoundland and Labrador, Manitoba and Saskatchewan and on a date-of-service basis for Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario, Alberta and British Columbia. Provinces submitting on a date-of-service basis wait six months or until 98% of services are captured before submitting data files for processing. Please see Table 1 for a yearly breakdown by province of the type of data file submission.

Table 1 NPDB File Submission: Date of Service (DOS) vs. Date of Payment (DOP)

Province	2005–2006	
	DOS	DOP
N.L.		✓
P.E.I.	✓	
N.S.	✓	
N.B.	✓	
Que.	✓	
Ont.	✓	
Man.		✓
Sask.		✓
Alta.	✓	
B.C.	✓	

Type of Data: Billing vs. Payment Data

All provinces, except Quebec, submit payment data. Billing data reflect the full amount the physician billed the provincial Medical Services Plan for a particular fee code item. Payment data reflect what was actually paid to the physician. The amount paid would be the billed amount less any adjustments applied due to threshold values being met, income capping or clawbacks.

Payments related to Ontario's fee codes starting with the letter J, X or Y and ending with the letter B, have been excluded from this publication in previous years because the payments were typically not paid directly to the physician. Starting in fiscal year 2005–2006, services and payments for these fee codes are included in physician services benefit rate calculations.

Payment Mode: Level of Fee-for-Service Coverage

The Physician Services Benefit Rates (PSBR) report results are based on fee-for-service billing and payment information only. A variety of alternative forms of payment, such as salary and sessional payments, are commonly used across provinces. Alternative forms of reimbursement are currently not submitted comprehensively to the NPDB and are, therefore, not included in the statistics presented in this report.

Table 2 gives current percent estimates of fee-for-service and alternative payments made across provinces. The alternative payment information shown in Table 2 is based on aggregate level data submitted to CIHI by provincial Ministries of Health on an annual basis. This information is not included in quarterly NPDB data submission files.

To enhance provincial comparability, the fee-for-service physician payments as a percentage of total payments from medical care plans displayed in Table 2 include reciprocal billing payments. Reciprocal billing payments, however, are not included in the PSBR calculations elsewhere in this report. Information on reciprocal billing payments can be found in CIHI's annual report, *Physicians in Canada: Fee-for-Service Utilization*.

Each province negotiates with its physician group whether a service should be paid under a fee-for-service plan payment or an alternative plan payment. Thus, one province may pay for a service through the fee-for-service plan, whereas, another province may pay for the same service within an alternative plan which would not be captured in this report. In addition, jurisdictions may vary with respect to how alternative payments are allocated to physicians. For example, alternative payments may represent a relatively small percentage of income for most physicians in one province, while in another province some physicians might be paid primarily through alternative plans with others paid primarily through fee-for-service arrangements.

It is important to note that the range of physician payment information submitted to the National Physician Database varies across provinces. In order to improve interprovincial comparison, only payments that are submitted by all provinces are included in PSBR calculations.

All other payment sources are excluded from PSBR calculations. Among the excluded NPDB payment categories are salary and sessional payments (New Brunswick), rural retention premiums (British Columbia), workers compensation board payments (Quebec and British Columbia), insurance board payments (British Columbia) and midwife referral claims (British Columbia).

Table 2 Percent Distribution of Physician Payments by Type of Payment and Province, Fiscal Year 2004–2005 and 2005–2006

	N.L.	P.E.I.	N.S.	N.B.	Que.	Ont.	Man.	Sask.	Alta.	B.C.	Total
2004–2005											
Fee-for-Service	58.8%	66.9%	58.5%	76.4%	76.1%	83.2%	70.4%	73.6%	89.2%	80.1%	79.5%
Alternative	41.2%	33.1%	41.5%	23.6%	23.9%	16.8%	29.6%	26.4%	10.8%	19.9%	20.5%
2005–2006											
Fee-for-Service	62.0%	64.2%	57.2%	74.7%	75.9%	81.6%	68.7%	74.1%	87.7%	79.6%	78.7%
Alternative	38.0%	35.8%	42.8%	25.3%	24.1%	18.4%	31.3%	25.9%	12.3%	20.4%	21.3%

Sources

Fee-for-service NPDB payments are based on data submitted to the National Physician Database, CIHI; alternative clinical payment information is gathered from provincial Ministries of Health.

Data Quality

Error/Validation Routines

The files submitted to CIHI are from provincial medical care plan administrative systems and edit checks are conducted by the jurisdiction on the data prior to processing the NPDB files. As CIHI has no control over provincial edit checks, all data files received by CIHI are also processed through NPDB error/validation routines. The error/validation routines are limited in scope because the data cannot be confirmed against the source. Error/validation routines include review of the total record counts, service counts and dollar amounts for each file, checking each value in the fields against acceptable values, checking for invalid fee codes, checking for Unique Physician Identifier (UPI) numbers in illogical formats and a logical review of the processed data. Any files that do not pass through the error/validation routines are returned to the data providers for correction and subsequent re-submission.

Additional Data Quality Checks

Physician Services Benefit Rates are validated against previous years' data and CIHI NPDB annual reports.

The NPDB annual reports are reviewed by the provincial medical insurance plan authorization officers prior to their publication. For a complete list of the provincial authorization officers, please see Appendix A.

Ontario Shadow Billing

CIHI receives shadow billing data included with NPDB data submissions. Shadow billing data track services delivered without the fee for service cost of providing that service. To avoid skewing the cost per service results by including service counts without the payments associated with them, CIHI has changed the remuneration for these records to exclude them from the fee-for-service analysis, starting in the 2004–2005 report. In fiscal year 2005–2006, there were 8,430,208 services submitted in the Ontario data that had the remuneration changed from fee-for-service due to shadow billing. The changed services account for 2.5% of the total services submitted by Ontario to CIHI for 2005–2006.

Data Definitions

Physician Services Benefit Rates

Physician Services Benefit Rates are average fees, in dollars, for physician services within each of the ten provinces. The fee-for-service benefit rate estimates presented in this report are based on simple cost per service calculations (i.e. total payments divided by total number of services). As such, the benefit rate estimates presented in tables 1-2 to 1-22 of the Data Tables section of this report reflect average fee prices paid to physicians. Benefit rates are reported for a variety of clinical service areas or “stratum.”

There are a number of differences between the benefit rate estimates presented in the Physician Services Benefit Rates (PSBR) report and the cost per service information given in CIHI’s annual report, *Physicians in Canada: Fee-for-Service Utilization*. The most notable difference is that PSBR methodologies use a national weight variable to calculate provincial benefit rate estimates. The use of this national weight variable is explained in the Computations section of this report.

Province of Practice

“Province of practice” is the province where the physician is registered and receives payment from the provincial medical care plan. Physicians may practise in more than one province in a given fiscal year. For example, the physician may move from one province to another during the fiscal year, or may provide services in two provinces on a regular basis (for example, a physician providing services in provincial border areas such as Ottawa-Gatineau). This can result in the double counting of physicians (except at the national level, where physician counts are not based on province of practice).

Specialty

Physician specialty designations in NPDB are assigned by the provincial medical care plans and grouped within the NPDB to a national equivalent. Of the two specialties, latest acquired certified specialty and plan payment specialty, the latter is used for the purposes of this report.

Internal medicine includes the sub-specialties such as cardiology, gastroenterology, hematology, rheumatology and medical oncology. Psychiatry includes neuropsychiatry. Neurology includes electro-encephalogram (EEG), and physical medicine includes electromyography. Specialists in the double specialty of ophthalmology/otolaryngology are included with ophthalmologists.

In some instances, jurisdictions have a unique way of grouping particular specialists. These unique groupings include:

- In Nova Scotia, Quebec, and British Columbia, data for public health specialists are reported in the family medicine figures.
- For all provinces and territories other than Ontario, community medicine specialists are grouped with family medicine specialists. In Ontario, community medicine, public health, occupational medicine and pediatric cardiology are grouped as internal medicine specialists.
- For all provinces and territories other than Newfoundland and Labrador, Saskatchewan and British Columbia, non-certified specialists are grouped with family medicine specialists. In these jurisdictions, non-certified specialists are reported under their respective non-certified specialties rather than family medicine.
- Additionally, plastic surgeons and urologists in Prince Edward Island are grouped into the general surgery category for privacy and confidentiality reasons.

Physicians in Quebec may have two different statuses which include two different specialties, one for in-province billings and one for billings outside of Quebec. These two different statuses appear on the 35 file (Physician Characteristics File) as two different records with the same Unique Physician Identifier which results in duplicate records on the file as far as individual physicians are concerned. Only the second record is retained on the NPDB system. This can result in incorrect specialty assignment for some payments.

For a complete listing of the specialty designations and their groupings, please see Appendix B.

The PSBR report presents weighted fee indices for Family Medicine and for each of sixteen specialties (Table 3). All fee-for-service specialties except anesthesia, radiology and pathology are included.

Table 3 Specialties Reported in the Physician Services Benefit Rates System

Family Medicine	Medical Specialties	Surgical Specialties
	Internal Medicine	General Surgery
	Neurology	Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery
	Psychiatry	Urology
	Pediatrics	Orthopedic Surgery
	Dermatology	Plastic Surgery
	Physical Medicine	Neurosurgery
	Anesthesia	Ophthalmology
		Otolaryngology
		Obstetrics and Gynecology

PSBR Strata

Benefit rates are calculated for 96 categories of service where applicable (see the Specialty Strata Profiles section for more details). The NGS categories are aggregated into ten logical groupings of services, known as *strata*, for reporting purposes (see Table 4). The service categories and strata are defined by the National Grouping System (NGS) used in NPDB. For more detailed documentation of the NGS categories, please see CIHI's annual report, *Physicians in Canada: Fee-for-Service Utilization*.

Table 4 PSBR Strata

Visit Services	Other Services
Consultations and Major Assessments	Major Surgery
Other Assessments	Minor Surgery
Hospital Care Days	Anesthesia
Special Calls	Obstetrical Services
Psychotherapy/Counselling	Diagnostic and Therapeutic Services

Consultations and Major Assessments

Consultations requested by other physicians and complete examinations (including eye exams). Surgical specialties in some provinces do not have fees for either consultations or major assessments, and therefore these services are aggregated into one stratum for the price comparisons.

Other Assessments

Office visits and hospital outpatient or inpatient visits that are not paid at daily rates. Detention fees are also included.

Hospital Care Days

Daily care of hospital in-patients. Services are usually billed at daily visit rates, but the rates often vary according to the length of stay (e.g. lower fees often apply after one month of hospitalization).

Special Calls

Emergency visits, home or institutional visits paid at premium rates.

Psychotherapy/Counselling

Individual and group psychotherapy and counselling services: benefit rates are calculated for services of one half-hour duration.

Major Surgery

Services were classified as major or minor surgery in 1988 based on a threshold fee of at least \$75 in the Ontario fee schedule that year. In subsequent years, new surgical procedures have been classified as major or minor depending on their classifications in provincial fee schedules.

Minor Surgery

See the major surgery definition above.

Anesthesia

Anesthesia fees for major surgery, minor surgery and diagnostic and therapeutic procedures. Starting in the 2005–2006 data (the current report) anesthesia's results have been suppressed due to uncertainties in the interprovincial comparability of the data, specifically the service counts. It is planned to have this data available in future reports.

Obstetrical Services

Normal and caesarean deliveries, therapeutic abortions and services to the mother in the hospital at the time of delivery (e.g., induction of labour and repair of lacerations).

Diagnostic/Therapeutic Services

Procedures of a diagnostic nature, such as allergy testing and electrocardiogram (ECG). Also includes services such as colonoscopy, which are used for treatment as well as diagnosis.

Unique Physician Identifier (UPI)

A unique identifier is created by the province using components of the physician's first and last names (scrambled using an algorithm), the physician's date of birth, gender and place of Medical Doctorate (M.D.) graduation.

Computations

How Are Physician Services Benefit Rates Calculated?

The purpose of the PSBR is to provide a means of comparing the relative cost per service among provinces i.e. if each physician specialty across the country provided the same mix of services, how would the cost for each specialty in each province differ from a national average.

The Physician Services Benefit Rate calculation is based on the sum of adjusted payments and services for each service group (NGS code) and National Physician Specialty (NPS strata) for a given province and year from the NPDB's NGS (for more information on adjusted payments, please see the section on Data Adjustments; for more detailed documentation on the NGS, please see CIHI's annual report, *Physicians in Canada: Fee-for-Service Utilization*). Therefore, the benefit rates reported in the Data Tables section of this report are calculated as follows:

Calculate the average cost per service. The average cost per service of the given service group and specialty is calculated for a given province. This is the average price computed as the sum of payments divided by the sum of services.

These average benefit rates are calculated as:

$$cb_i = e_i / q_i$$

where cb_i is the average category benefit rate for category i ;
 e and q are expenditure and quantity of services, respectively.

Calculate the national weight values. *National weight values* (NW; reported in the right most columns of tables 1-2 to 1-22) are calculated as the service totals, summed over all ten provinces, within the specialty and strata. In cases where there are no services for a particular fiscal year, province, specialty and strata combination, the national services value for that case is replaced by zero. The strata used for this report differ slightly from the NGS strata (for definitions of the strata used in this report, see the PSBR Strata section above).

Apply the national weight values to the cost per service. The national weight values are applied to cost per service in order to compute a weighted average of the province's cost per service (benefit rate) for the entire strata. This can be interpreted as the average cost per service for a given specialty and strata that a province would have if the service distribution among the service groups within the strata had matched the national average.

Calculate the strata benefit rates. *Strata benefit rates* (SBR) for each of ten defined strata in each province are then calculated by dividing the summed results of the previous step by total services. For each stratum, the *median benefit rate* (MBR; reported in the median column of tables 1-2 to 1-22) represents the mid-point of the provincial benefit rates.

The *strata benefit rates* are calculated as:

$$sb_j = \frac{\sum_i (cb_i \times wq_i)}{\sum_i wq_i}$$

where sb_j is the strata benefit rate;
 cb_i is the benefit rate from the previous equation for each service group; and
 wq_i is the national total of services for each service group
in the weighting system designated by w .

Calculate the summary benefit rates. The *All Services Benefit Rate*, *All Visits Benefit Rate* and *All Other Services Benefit Rate* for a specialty is calculated by multiplying the *strata benefit rates* by the number of services and dividing the summed result by total services. For strata with no services, the national average strata value for that specialty is used.

The *All Services Benefit Rate* for a specialty is calculated as:

$$Asb = \frac{\sum_j (sb_j \times sq_j)}{\sum_j sq_j}$$

where Asb is the *All Services Benefit Rate*;
 sb_j is the strata benefit rate from the previous equation; and
 sq_j is the national total of services in the strata,
as calculated in the denominator of the previous equation.

Calculate the summary benefit rates for *All Medical Specialties*, *Surgical Specialties* and *All Physicians*. The benefit rates for *All Medical Specialties*, *Surgical Specialties* and *All Physicians* are calculated as described in the above steps, except that payments and services are computed for the appropriate group of physicians.

How Are the Indices Calculated?

The *All Services Index* is the highest level of price comparison in the PSBR system. This allows for the comparison of strata benefit rates, by specialty, across jurisdictions. The *All Services Index* is a nationally-weighted average of the strata benefit rates calculated in the previous section. The result is a provincial value by specialty. These province-specific *All Services Indices* are derived by dividing each province's *All Services Benefit Rate* by the ten-province all services median benefit rateⁱ and then multiplying the result by 100. *All Services Indices* are calculated for each specialty, for all medical specialties combined, all surgical specialties and all physicians.

Medical specialty specific *All Service Index* values appear on the final lines of tables 1-2 to 1-22 in the Data Tables section of this report. This same information is summarized in Table 1-1.

Service Threshold and Missing Values

PSBR benefit rates are calculated for all categories with at least 100 services. If there are fewer than 100 services for a specialty in a province, or no utilization at all, the category is not used in calculation of the strata benefit rate for that specialty and province. The threshold of 100 services helps to avoid data errors or unusual values that can have a distorting effect when multiplied by all-province weights to calculate strata prices.

A stratum may be missing for a specific specialty in a province but present for that specialty in all-province weights. In these instances, an all-province benefit rate is used in place of a missing value when calculating the *All Services*, *All Visits* and *All Other Services* benefit rates. The *All Province Benefit Rate* is defined as total expenditure in the strata divided by total services. All-province weights for such specialty-strata combinations usually represent only a small proportion of services provided by the specialty. Imputed all-province benefit rates for missing strata are not shown in the PSBR report. If a specialty does not exist in a province then no benefit rate is calculated for that province-specialty combination and all-province comparisons are based on the provinces in which the specialty is present.

Annual Utilization Weights

The PSBR weighting system is based on services during the fiscal year for which the rates are calculated. The weighting system changes from year to year. Weights change as a result of a changing mix of services performed by physicians in a specialty, and a changing mix of specialty utilization in the case of the *All Specialties Benefit Rates*. As a result, the PSBR indices are not considered appropriate for measuring price changes over time.

Specialty Strata Profiles

Rates are calculated for all strata normally claimed by each specialty. Valid specialty-strata combinations are shown in Table 5 by a bullet in the specified table cell. Services for strata that are not normally claimed by particular specialties occasionally appear in the database as a result of patterns of practice that are unique to a minority of provinces or to individual physicians. These inappropriate specialty-strata combinations are excluded.

i. The median is the mid-point of values ranked from low to high, or the average of the fifth and sixth observation in the case of a ten province comparison

Table 5 Specialty and NGS Strata Combinations used for the Calculation of Benefit Rates (PSBR)

Family Medicine and Medical Specialties									
Strata	Family Medicine	Internal Medicine	Neurology	Psychiatry	Pediatrics	Dermatology	Physical Medicine	Anaesthesia*	All Medical
Consultations and Major Assessments	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•
Other Assessments	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•
Hospital Care Days	•	•	•	•	•		•		•
Special Calls	•	•	•		•				•
Psychotherapy/ Counselling	•	•		•	•				•
Major Surgery	•								
Minor Surgery	•					•			
Anaesthesia*									
Obstetrical Services	•								
Diagnostic and Therapeutic Services	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•

Continued on next page.

Table 5 Specialty and NGS Strata Combinations used for the Calculation of Benefit Rates (PSBR) (cont'd)

Strata	Surgical Specialties									
	General Surgery	Thoracic/ Cardiovascular Surgery	Urology	Orthopedic Surgery	Plastic Surgery	Neurosurgery	Ophthalmology	Otolaryngology	Obstetrics/ Gynecology	All Surgical Specialties
Consultations and Major Assessments	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Other Assessments	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Hospital Care Days	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•	•
Special Calls	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Psychotherapy/ Counselling										
Major Surgery	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Minor Surgery	•	•	•	•	•		•	•	•	•
Anaesthesia*										
Obstetrical Services									•	
Diagnostic and Therapeutic Services	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•

* Anesthesia services and anesthesia specialists are excluded.

Data Adjustments

Adjustments are included in expenditure or service counts for certain categories and specialties. These adjustments are intended to improve inter-provincial comparability and are detailed in the NGS documentation. The following situations are of interest when interpreting rates for specific strata.

Premium Fees and Surcharges

Premium fees and surcharges for after-hour visit services are normally included in the Special Calls stratum. Adjustments are made in NGS to capture the full amount paid for premium time services. For example, if a premium fee for a consultation is identified by a distinct fee schedule code, one consultation will be subtracted from the Consultations and Major Assessment strata and its value added to the Special Calls strata for every consultation premium fee paid. Premium fees for surgical procedures are added to the amount paid for the procedure.

Add-On Fee Adjustments

Some provinces permit physicians to claim more than one fee for certain types of encounter (e.g., an assessment fee with a surgical procedure). These situations are treated as separate services in the PSBR. The option to claim for supplementary services in addition to a visit or procedure is considered to be a preamble issue rather than a price issue in PSBR (see Payment Schedule Preamble Differences below).

Anesthesia

Anesthesia rates are based on average anesthesia payments for services in the major surgery, minor surgery and diagnostic and therapeutic strata. Starting in the 2005–2006 data (the current report) anesthesia's results have been suppressed due to uncertainties in the interprovincial comparability of the data, specifically the service counts. It is planned to have this data available in future reports.

Payment Schedule Preamble Differences

Provincial fee schedules contain preambles that detail billing rules, which are often the subject of government and medical association negotiations. Some preamble rules may place limitations on the frequency of specific services or the conditions under which services are or are not payable. It is beyond the scope of the PSBR system to measure the effects of all preamble rules on average reimbursement levels.

Provincial Holdbacks and Clawbacks

A number of provinces have implemented holdbacks or clawbacks during the 1990s to ensure that physician payments stayed within global budgets. The data submitted by most provinces includes the effects of these temporary adjustments and the PSBR rates reflect amounts actually paid.

Data Limitations

Data Exclusions

Medical services covered by third parties, such as hospital insurance and workers' compensation plans, are not included in this report. The data also exclude certain categories of persons, among them members of the Armed Forces and of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and inmates of federal penitentiaries who are covered under other public programs (these persons account for less than half of one percent of the total population).

Certain payments made directly by patients are also omitted; for example, amounts extra-billed or balance-billed by physicians and the costs of plastic surgery for cosmetic purposes.

The data exclude payments made through the Reciprocal Billing systems as well as payments made to out-of-province or out-of-province physicians not participating in Reciprocal Billing, e.g. Quebec and the United States.

De-Insured and De-Listed Services

Certain services within each province have been de-insured or de-listed. These services may differ across provinces or from year to year. The impact of these services could explain minor fluctuations over years or minor differences between provinces. For further information on de-insured and de-listed services please contact the Program Lead, NPDB, CIHI.

De-Insured Services

Services which, at some point in time, were defined as an insured service (i.e. covered by a provincial health plan), but are no longer covered.

De-Listed Services

Services which used to have an individual fee code assigned to them and have been included in another fee code.

Negative Numbers

Negative numbers may appear in the data tables as a result of data adjustments applied by CIHI or because data is submitted to CIHI with negative values. CIHI adjustments are applied to improve comparability across jurisdictions, but may also result in negative values. Negative value data submitted to CIHI by data providers may reflect retroactive claims adjustments, payment clawbacks or other accounting practices used within administrative payment systems.

Specialty Designations

Provinces are requested to provide two types of specialty information on the NPDB files—latest acquired certified specialty and payment plan specialty. The latest acquired certified specialty is the most recently acquired specialty designation from the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada, the Collège des médecins du Québec or the College of Family Physicians of Canada. The payment plan specialty may or may not be different from the latest certified specialty and should reflect the specialty area in which the physician provides the majority of their services. All provinces report physicians' plan payment specialty and all provinces, except for Newfoundland and Labrador and Prince Edward Island report physicians' latest certified specialty.

Any physician who practiced under more than one specialty during the fiscal year was assigned the specialty under which he/she received the majority of his/her payments.

CIHI National Grouping System Categories statistics may vary from provincial statistics because of differences in the way specialties are grouped. For example, CIHI groups Neuropsychiatry in with Psychiatry whereas Quebec groups it with Neurology. CIHI includes Electromyography with Physical Medicine whereas Quebec does not. The sub-specialties that constitute CIHI's Internal Medicine Specialty are reported on individually in the Régie de l'assurance-maladie du Québec annual statistics report. Please see Appendix B for CIHI specialty categories.

Radiology and Pathology (Laboratory) Physicians

Radiologists, pathologists and laboratory directors are excluded from this report. Payments for radiology and laboratory services performed by a physician, who is neither a radiologist, a pathologist nor a laboratory director, are included. Medical care plan fee payments to radiologists or pathologists are nil or very small in the four Atlantic provinces, relatively small in Quebec, but substantial in the other provinces. Omitting such payments in all provinces improves comparability. See Appendix C for information on the extent of fee-for-service payments for radiology and laboratory services that are included in the NPDB data files, but excluded from this report.

Privacy and Confidentiality

CIHI employs a variety of safeguards to protect the privacy and confidentiality of physician data. These include:

Unique Physician Identifier (UPI)

Physician names are not used on the provincial files. Instead, a Unique Physician Identifier (UPI) is generated by the province using components of the physician's name, their date of birth, gender and place of Medical Doctorate (M.D.) graduation. The name portion of the UPI is scrambled using an algorithm known only to the provinces. This algorithm is the same across jurisdictions. The UPI helps protect the privacy and confidentiality of the physician and allows for the tracking of the physician throughout their career in Canada.

NPDB Data Access/Release Policy

The Privacy Secretariat at CIHI has developed a set of guidelines to safeguard the privacy and confidentiality of data received by CIHI. The document *Privacy and Confidentiality of Health Information at CIHI: Principles and Policies for the Protection of Personal Health Information* may be obtained from the CIHI website (www.cihi.ca). In compliance with these guidelines, CIHI prevents residual disclosure by implementing cell suppression for cells with counts from 1 to 4. These policies ensure the privacy and confidentiality of all health care providers and recipients.

Products and Services

There are three types of products that are generated from the NPDB—ad hoc requests, publications and special projects. Ad hoc requests are generally short queries that do not require major programming resources. Services counts and dollars amounts by specific fee codes or procedures are the most common forms of ad hoc request. Most ad hoc requests can be handled through standard reports that are generated annually.

The following series of publications, among others, are currently available:

- *Physicians in Canada: Average Gross Fee-For-Service Payments* (formerly *Full-time Equivalent Physicians Report, Canada* and *Average Payment Per Physician Report, Canada*)
- *Physicians in Canada: Fee-for-Service Utilization* (formerly *National Grouping System Categories Report, Canada* and *Reciprocal Billing Report, Canada*)
- *Physicians in Canada: The Status of Alternative Payment Programs* (formerly *The Status of Alternative Payment Programs for Physicians in Canada*)

For details on publication years and reporting periods covered, please refer to the CIHI's website (www.cihi.ca).

Special projects require project planning and the commitment of extra resources. Please contact the Program Lead, NPDB at CIHI for costs associated with these products and services.

Data Tables

Data Table Overview

Table 1-1

Table 1-1 contains a summary of the All Services Index and Median values presented in tables 1-2 to 1-22.

Tables 1-2 to 1-22

Tables 1-2 through 1-22 present four basic types of information identified in the template table below: strata benefit rate estimates (SBR), median benefit rates (MBR), national weights (NW) and all services index values (ASI).

Table 1-X Nationally Weighted Benefit Rates, Medians and National Weights, by Specialty, Stratum and Province, 2004–2005—Physician Group

Stratum	Province											National Weight (000)	
	N.L.	P.E.I.	N.S.	N.B.	Que.	Ont.	Man.	Sask.	Alta.	B.C.	Median		
Consultations and Major Assessments	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	MBR	NW
Other Assessments	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	MBR	NW
Hospital Care Days	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	MBR	NW
Special Calls	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	MBR	NW
Psychotherapy/Counselling	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	MBR	NW
All Visits	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	MBR	NW
Major Surgery	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	MBR	NW
Minor Surgery	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	MBR	NW
Anesthesia	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	MBR	NW
Obstetrical Services	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	MBR	NW
Diagnostic/Therapeutic Services	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	MBR	NW
All Other Services	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	MBR	NW
All Services	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	SBR	MBR	NW
All Services Index	ASI	ASI	ASI	ASI	ASI	ASI	ASI	ASI	ASI	ASI	ASI	-	-

For further information on the following, please see the Methodological Notes section of this report.

Strata Benefit Rates (SBR): Strata Benefit Rates describe average fees, in dollars, for physician services within each of the ten provinces. Strata Benefit Rates are reported for a variety of clinical service areas or “stratum,” as well as at the summary levels of “all visits,” “all other services” and “all services.”

Median Benefit Rates (MBR): For each stratum median benefit rates represent the mid-point of the province specific benefit rates. Median benefit rate values are derived from the set of province specific benefit rate values that appear in the columns to the left of the *Median* column. Readers are cautioned that rounding errors may result in minor differences between median benefit rates published in this report and median benefit rates calculated from the data published in tables 1-2 to 1-22.

National Weights (NW): National weight values report the ten province sum of services within the clinical service area, or stratum, corresponding to the line of data being described within the table. The national weight values that appear within tables 1-2 to 1-22 are used to calculate province specific All Visits, All Other Services and All Services nationally-weighted benefit rates.

All Services Index (ASI): Province specific All Services Index values are derived by dividing each provinces’ All Services benefit rate by the ten province All Services median benefit rate and then multiplying the result by 100. Readers are cautioned that rounding errors may result in minor differences between All Services Index values published in this report and index values calculated from the data published in tables 1-2 to 1-22.

Table 1-1 Nationally Weighted All Services* Indices and All Services Medians, by Specialty and Province, 2005–2006

Specialty	Province										All Services Median
	N.L.	P.E.I.	N.S.	N.B.	Que.	Ont.	Man.	Sask.	Alta.	B.C.	
Family Medicine	92.18	81.70	100.68	106.96	84.74	90.24	114.56	101.92	99.32	111.08	33.08
Medical Specialists	90.62	86.02	115.50	102.64	64.94	99.26	89.00	106.62	100.74	111.18	61.58
Internal Medicine	83.10	80.94	112.74	97.16	69.04	105.86	94.08	102.84	104.58	108.48	59.92
Neurology	102.22	-	100.00	75.54	65.04	104.98	93.66	84.64	113.04	123.46	93.28
Psychiatry	92.18	109.76	103.66	112.44	54.96	91.86	85.52	103.32	96.68	121.72	75.10
Pediatrics	107.66	58.66	114.50	107.84	65.14	84.76	66.28	108.32	103.36	96.64	65.34
Dermatology	95.76	103.76	151.04	127.04	70.72	81.72	90.50	115.68	96.24	104.64	38.98
Physical Medicine	-	-	123.26	80.30	47.74	100.68	99.32	86.60	108.94	140.84	69.53
Anesthesia	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**
Surgical Specialists	96.82	92.24	100.62	103.16	77.34	89.96	100.26	99.74	114.94	109.72	79.59
General Surgery	86.66	85.90	103.96	110.14	75.76	92.36	96.04	111.46	123.58	110.72	95.58
Thoracic/Cardiovascular Surgery	70.20	.	60.40	102.22	69.70	99.98	100.00	116.48	124.36	109.20	216.79
Urology	97.86	51.84	94.66	102.14	68.12	81.50	104.44	107.00	111.56	102.80	78.55
Orthopedic Surgery	105.08	93.98	99.40	108.54	77.54	89.66	100.60	96.66	122.46	114.48	91.77
Plastic Surgery	85.62	-	109.70	111.88	69.72	81.14	102.06	99.14	109.64	100.00	90.69
Neurosurgery	100.00	-	108.04	97.12	68.78	120.04	100.58	89.46	99.62	141.42	176.59
Ophthalmology	113.90	98.32	101.68	90.18	70.70	77.90	106.44	82.38	107.74	111.60	70.96
Otolaryngology	82.60	82.78	103.64	96.36	65.66	113.34	104.28	81.84	107.76	107.86	59.66
Obstetrics/Gynecology	79.08	100.94	106.30	106.68	79.76	91.36	90.40	99.06	109.36	124.28	69.70
Total Specialists	98.60	91.86	103.90	101.40	72.32	98.04	97.12	104.14	110.48	112.32	67.06
Total Physicians	100.38	85.48	101.08	101.24	77.22	90.98	107.04	99.62	98.88	107.80	46.85

Source: National Physicians Database (NPDB), Canadian Institute for Health Information.

Notes

Blank cells are indicated by an " - ".

Indices are relative to the ten province median in the case of each individual specialty as well as for the Medical Specialists, Surgical Specialists, Total Specialists and Total Physicians groupings; that is the broad specialty indices are not weighted averages of the indices of each specialty. Consequently, it is possible that the index for Total Physicians does not fall between the index for Family Medicine and the index for Total Specialists in the case of some provinces. Similarly the index for Total Specialists may not lie between the Medical Specialists and Surgical Specialists indices.

* Excluding radiology and laboratory services.

** Anesthesia services and anesthesia specialists are excluded.

Table 1-2 Nationally Weighted Benefit Rates, Medians and National Weights, by Specialty, Stratum and Province, 2005–2006—Total Physicians

Stratum	Province											National Weight (000)
	N.L.	P.E.I.	N.S.	N.B.	Que.	Ont.	Man.	Sask.	Alta.	B.C.	Median	
Consultations and Major Assessments	67.52	57.20	78.96	69.42	53.78	69.48	77.10	77.26	78.92	84.18	73.29	34780.59
Other Assessments	35.96	28.60	28.60	31.56	24.94	26.92	36.14	30.06	25.58	32.02	29.33	122885.42
Hospital Care Days	24.34	19.74	29.70	23.36	27.96	23.66	22.92	25.46	26.94	24.12	24.23	10846.74
Special Calls	70.44	33.84	72.02	66.42	65.46	70.04	104.88	74.40	107.28	68.30	70.24	4760.87
Psychotherapy/Counselling	61.02	68.44	63.90	68.34	36.38	54.46	58.50	65.20	69.54	76.34	64.55	14241.16
All Visits	43.92	36.55	41.79	41.79	32.36	37.81	46.42	42.34	40.97	45.52	41.79	187515
Major Surgery	373.76	344.44	361.16	395.52	307.54	376.62	401.70	387.12	427.28	434.18	381.87	2673.41
Minor Surgery	42.74	55.08	53.96	54.88	33.18	32.88	48.04	49.00	58.84	62.76	51.48	2413
Anesthesia	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**
Obstetrical Services	266.36	430.20	333.44	341.32	262.88	222.84	233.98	410.86	239.58	448.42	299.90	747.29
Diagnostic/Therapeutic Services	32.96	24.70	46.52	43.96	30.74	39.40	38.36	34.82	40.34	37.28	37.82	31762.23
All Other Services	62.46	57.45	75.07	75.57	55.19	66.61	68.71	68.26	73.00	75.31	68.49	37596.05
All Services	47.02	40.04	47.35	47.43	36.17	42.62	50.14	46.67	46.32	50.50	46.85	225110.83
All Services Index*	100.38	85.48	101.08	101.24	77.22	90.98	107.04	99.62	98.88	107.80	-	-

Source: National Physician Database, Canadian Institute for Health Information.

Notes

Blank cells are indicated by an " - ".

* Ten-province median = 100.00.

** Anesthesia services and anesthesia specialists are excluded.

Table 1-3 Nationally Weighted Benefit Rates, Medians and National Weights, by Specialty, Stratum and Province, 2005–2006—Family Medicine

Stratum	Province											National Weight (000)
	N.L.	P.E.I.	N.S.	N.B.	Que.	Ont.	Man.	Sask.	Alta.	B.C.	Median	
Consultations and Major Assessments	49.04	36.30	54.88	46.20	54.06	52.06	53.84	58.28	59.74	68.20	53.95	9,858
Other Assessments	28.44	24.94	28.38	32.38	25.84	26.76	35.68	29.86	25.26	31.90	28.41	104,708
Hospital Care Days	22.18	19.28	29.52	24.34	17.92	22.52	26.82	24.44	29.22	23.08	23.71	5,223
Special Calls	69.86	34.18	71.10	68.30	54.82	61.68	66.26	60.56	106.14	59.10	63.97	3,892
Psychotherapy/Counselling	38.64	60.00	54.14	55.42	32.58	48.76	53.54	59.84	63.28	81.22	54.78	6,692
All Visits	31.51	27.65	33.03	35.36	28.87	30.67	38.53	34.25	32.39	37.63	32.71	130,372
Major Surgery	154.54	125.36	193.42	256.18	90.76	184.40	195.12	180.28	166.76	268.54	182.34	116
Minor Surgery	24.82	35.70	38.48	49.92	22.60	26.82	38.74	42.32	63.10	59.86	38.61	1,415
Anesthesia	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**
Obstetrical Services	311.98	-	378.06	566.88	204.64	267.88	232.68	341.42	240.48	320.22	311.98	250
Diagnostic/Therapeutic Services	9.84	11.30	25.82	17.98	12.96	12.02	23.02	16.32	27.80	12.44	14.64	10,154
All Other Services	19.36	20.11	36.34	35.60	18.88	20.82	30.96	27.82	37.80	27.01	27.42	11,935
All Services	30.49	27.02	33.30	35.38	28.03	29.85	37.89	33.71	32.85	36.74	33.08	142,307
All Services Index*	92.18	81.70	100.68	106.96	84.74	90.24	114.56	101.92	99.32	111.08	-	-

Source: National Physician Database, Canadian Institute for Health Information.

Notes

Blank cells are indicated by an " - ".

* Ten-province median = 100.00.

** Anesthesia services and anesthesia specialists are excluded.

Table 1-4 Nationally Weighted Benefit Rates, Medians and National Weights, by Specialty, Stratum and Province, 2005–2006—Medical Specialists

Stratum	Province											National Weight (000)
	N.L.	P.E.I.	N.S.	N.B.	Que.	Ont.	Man.	Sask.	Alta.	B.C.	Median	
Consultations and Major Assessments	89.50	85.74	105.22	97.50	60.88	89.14	96.02	106.20	98.58	115.32	96.76	13748
Other Assessments	32.90	27.56	29.88	34.00	21.64	29.68	29.86	44.04	38.58	33.34	31.39	8304.97
Hospital Care Days	32.42	37.52	31.08	23.36	28.92	24.70	20.02	22.90	34.64	25.48	27.20	4824.46
Special Calls	-	45.72	73.60	48.08	80.92	117.82	149.50	125.34	107.32	105.08	105.08	431.54
Psychotherapy/Counselling	67.56	83.72	72.04	79.98	40.46	60.54	58.54	74.00	75.12	75.42	73.02	7549.46
All Visits	63.67	64.27	69.43	67.70	42.93	60.22	62.28	73.12	70.46	74.59	65.99	34858
Major Surgery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Minor Surgery	43.82	24.70	44.14	68.12	14.72	25.82	43.96	53.90	35.74	63.28	43.89	379
Anesthesia	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**
Obstetrical Services	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diagnostic/Therapeutic Services	36.60	25.68	76.02	51.88	33.38	64.34	36.54	47.46	41.82	53.40	44.64	14044
All Other Services	36.79	25.65	75.18	52.31	32.89	63.33	36.73	47.63	41.66	53.66	44.65	14423
All Services	55.80	52.97	71.12	63.20	39.99	61.13	54.81	65.66	62.03	68.46	61.58	49281
All Services Index*	90.62	86.02	115.50	102.64	64.94	99.26	89.00	106.62	100.74	111.18	-	-

Source: National Physician Database, Canadian Institute for Health Information.

Notes

Blank cells are indicated by an “-”.

* Ten-province median = 100.00.

** Anesthesia services and anesthesia specialists are excluded.

Table 1-5 Nationally Weighted Benefit Rates, Medians and National Weights, by Specialty, Stratum and Province, 2005–2006—Surgical Specialists

Stratum	Province											National Weight (000)
	N.L.	P.E.I.	N.S.	N.B.	Que.	Ont.	Man.	Sask.	Alta.	B.C.	Median	
Consultations and Major Assessments	62.30	57.32	69.76	67.40	43.94	60.90	65.32	67.82	81.70	80.28	66.36	11,174
Other Assessments	35.94	36.02	30.40	28.96	27.90	23.86	26.02	32.62	31.98	28.48	29.68	9,873
Hospital Care Days	22.68	22.54	30.80	21.38	21.50	24.36	19.76	28.62	34.64	20.84	22.61	799
Special Calls	-	29.54	80.40	44.92	94.50	96.78	150.06	85.34	135.90	112.88	94.50	438
Psychotherapy/Counselling	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
All Visits	50.02	46.09	51.13	48.28	37.02	43.88	47.94	51.16	59.05	55.84	49.15	22,284
Major Surgery	379.16	345.18	362.88	399.08	312.42	384.42	407.26	393.74	456.42	440.54	389.08	2,557
Minor Surgery	59.10	69.22	81.30	58.60	64.50	50.72	73.24	65.66	70.74	76.46	67.44	620
Anesthesia	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**
Obstetrical Services	245.84	393.16	373.52	358.40	311.10	218.90	234.94	330.74	268.76	277.06	294.08	497
Diagnostic/Therapeutic Services	44.96	41.42	50.38	58.34	32.36	39.54	53.28	40.88	53.70	49.12	47.04	7,564
All Other Services	130.66	127.62	137.48	149.15	110.18	126.56	142.96	135.35	155.78	149.77	136.42	11,238
All Services	77.06	73.42	80.08	82.10	61.55	71.60	79.79	79.39	91.48	87.33	79.59	33,522
All Services Index*	96.82	92.24	100.62	103.16	77.34	89.96	100.26	99.74	114.94	109.72	-	-

Source: National Physician Database, Canadian Institute for Health Information.

Notes

Blank cells are indicated by an " - ".

* Ten-province median = 100.00.

** Anesthesia services and anesthesia specialists are excluded.

Table 1-6 Nationally Weighted Benefit Rates, Medians and National Weights, by Specialty, Stratum and Province, 2005–2006—Total Specialists

Stratum	Province											National Weight (000)
	N.L.	P.E.I.	N.S.	N.B.	Que.	Ont.	Man.	Sask.	Alta.	B.C.	Median	
Consultations and Major Assessments	71.20	64.22	83.80	78.30	54.94	76.58	82.04	84.32	91.84	97.38	80.17	24922
Other Assessments	50.06	49.50	30.12	27.70	20.08	26.84	28.62	43.36	35.14	31.54	30.83	18178
Hospital Care Days	30.60	21.94	30.72	23.02	28.42	24.64	20.00	23.68	34.64	24.80	24.72	5624
Special Calls	-	32.94	78.78	47.68	90.34	107.18	149.84	102.80	118.20	110.10	102.80	869
Psychotherapy/Counselling	67.56	83.72	72.04	79.98	40.46	60.54	58.54	74.00	75.12	75.42	73.02	7549
All Visits	60.57	57.48	59.87	56.52	39.87	53.99	56.87	64.24	66.37	66.58	58.68	57143
Major Surgery	379.16	345.18	362.88	399.08	312.42	384.42	407.26	393.74	456.42	440.54	389.08	2557
Minor Surgery	56.88	59.72	70.92	58.28	46.00	43.60	63.84	61.50	57.44	73.30	59.00	999
Anesthesia	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**
Obstetrical Services	245.84	393.16	373.52	358.40	311.10	218.90	234.94	330.74	268.76	277.06	294.08	497
Diagnostic/Therapeutic Services	40.02	31.40	53.84	52.94	34.14	56.60	42.60	40.68	45.52	50.60	44.06	21608.43
All Other Services	78.46	70.78	91.49	93.56	67.70	91.90	83.49	82.29	91.25	94.73	87.37	25661.11
All Services	66.11	61.60	69.67	68.00	48.49	65.74	65.12	69.83	74.08	75.31	67.06	82803.62
All Services Index*	98.60	91.86	103.90	101.40	72.32	98.04	97.12	104.14	110.48	112.32	-	-

Source: National Physician Database, Canadian Institute for Health Information.

Notes

Blank cells are indicated by an "-".

* Ten-province median = 100.00.

** Anesthesia services and anesthesia specialists are excluded.

Table 1-7 Nationally Weighted Benefit Rates, Medians and National Weights, by Specialty, Stratum and Province, 2005–2006—Internal Medicine

Stratum	Province											National Weight (000)
	N.L.	P.E.I.	N.S.	N.B.	Que.	Ont.	Man.	Sask.	Alta.	B.C.	Median	
Consultations and Major Assessments	89.16	102.48	104.16	94.04	67.06	98.98	115.76	106.46	114.28	119.28	103.32	7,250
Other Assessments	29.98	28.50	28.10	30.26	21.54	32.88	31.76	51.44	41.76	33.46	31.01	4,033
Hospital Care Days	34.70	37.26	29.62	22.94	28.56	25.36	19.38	23.20	34.64	23.16	26.96	3,609
Special Calls	-	45.72	53.32	43.22	63.58	119.70	158.02	125.92	116.38	98.28	98.28	292
Psychotherapy/Counselling	-	-	-	55.44	31.62	40.54	53.20	53.20	64.88	45.02	53.20	244
All Visits	60.01	65.82	64.86	59.16	45.53	63.95	71.07	72.13	75.95	72.79	65.34	15,428
Major Surgery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Minor Surgery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Anesthesia	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**
Obstetrical Services	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diagnostic/Therapeutic Services	36.50	26.00	71.04	57.00	35.96	62.76	37.28	47.96	45.40	54.88	46.68	11,875
All Other Services	36.50	26.00	71.04	57.00	35.96	62.76	37.28	47.96	45.40	54.88	46.68	11,875
All Services	49.79	48.50	67.55	58.22	41.37	63.43	56.37	61.62	62.66	65.00	59.92	27,303
All Services Index*	83.10	80.94	112.74	97.16	69.04	105.86	94.08	102.84	104.58	108.48	-	-

Source: National Physician Database, Canadian Institute for Health Information.

Notes

Blank cells are indicated by an " - ".

* Ten-province median = 100.00.

** Anesthesia services and anesthesia specialists are excluded.

Table 1-8 Nationally Weighted Benefit Rates, Medians and National Weights, by Specialty, Stratum and Province, 2005–2006—Neurology

Stratum	Province											National Weight (000)
	N.L.	P.E.I.	N.S.	N.B.	Que.	Ont.	Man.	Sask.	Alta.	B.C.	Median	
Consultations and Major Assessments	102.40	-	117.60	104.70	84.66	104.54	116.76	111.38	149.48	141.92	111.38	881
Other Assessments	32.88	-	29.28	44.64	27.78	32.76	35.92	53.80	42.32	36.60	35.92	268
Hospital Care Days	22.10	-	29.88	-	35.92	25.44	25.06	20.90	34.64	36.60	27.66	134
Special Calls	-	-	-	-	-	149.14	153.14	125.70	128.58	107.06	128.58	22
Psychotherapy/Counselling	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
All Visits	80.43	-	90.75	85.16	68.82	82.43	91.36	90.51	115.34	108.90	90.51	1305
Major Surgery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Minor Surgery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Anesthesia	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**
Obstetrical Services	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diagnostic/Therapeutic Services	137.54	-	100.42	28.94	37.60	141.68	76.12	46.32	77.48	132.88	77.48	462
All Other Services	137.54	-	100.42	28.94	37.60	141.68	76.12	46.32	77.48	132.88	77.48	462
All Services	95.36	-	93.28	70.46	60.66	97.92	87.37	78.96	105.44	115.17	93.28	1767
All Services Index*	102.22	-	100.00	75.54	65.04	104.98	93.66	84.64	113.04	123.46	-	-

Source: National Physician Database, Canadian Institute for Health Information.

Notes

Blank cells are indicated by an "-".

* Ten-province median = 100.00.

** Anesthesia services and anesthesia specialists are excluded.

Table 1-9 Nationally Weighted Benefit Rates, Medians and National Weights, by Specialty, Stratum and Province, 2005–2006—Psychiatry

Stratum	Province											National Weight (000)
	N.L.	P.E.I.	N.S.	N.B.	Que.	Ont.	Man.	Sask.	Alta.	B.C.	Median	
Consultations and Major Assessments	128.38	124.80	190.68	185.84	60.00	131.22	140.58	145.72	72.24	252.96	135.90	841
Other Assessments	44.84	26.18	29.00	16.90	21.84	29.92	28.80	37.46	31.50	30.96	29.46	209
Hospital Care Days	22.02	-	-	22.18	19.88	24.80	20.52	24.12	34.64	46.54	23.15	442
Special Calls	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Psychotherapy/Counselling	65.90	81.94	72.02	78.82	41.34	61.76	58.98	74.64	76.22	77.82	73.33	7053
All Visits	69.26	81.87	78.92	84.91	41.59	65.91	64.28	78.11	72.58	92.29	75.35	8545
Major Surgery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Minor Surgery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Anesthesia	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**
Obstetrical Services	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diagnostic/Therapeutic Services	66.96	-	-	50.26	18.64	293.04	59.36	39.66	74.40	27.32	54.81	117
All Other Services	66.96	123.12	-	50.26	18.64	293.04	59.36	39.66	74.40	27.32	59.36	117
All Services	69.23	82.43	77.85	84.44	41.28	68.98	64.22	77.59	72.61	91.41	75.10	8662
All Services Index*	92.18	109.76	103.66	112.44	54.96	91.86	85.52	103.32	96.68	121.72	-	-

Source: National Physician Database, Canadian Institute for Health Information.

Notes

Blank cells are indicated by an "-".

* Ten-province median = 100.00.

** Anesthesia services and anesthesia specialists are excluded.

Table 1-10 Nationally Weighted Benefit Rates, Medians and National Weights, by Specialty, Stratum and Province, 2005–2006—Pediatrics

Stratum	Province											National Weight (000)
	N.L.	P.E.I.	N.S.	N.B.	Que.	Ont.	Man.	Sask.	Alta.	B.C.	Median	
Consultations and Major Assessments	93.52	53.32	119.44	114.80	46.86	82.80	58.96	100.34	103.44	91.42	92.47	2746
Other Assessments	55.88	-	43.22	28.02	34.12	27.86	28.58	47.96	35.62	34.02	34.12	2448
Hospital Care Days	22.36	9.82	33.24	26.26	44.32	23.12	21.52	23.20	34.64	38.50	24.73	387
Special Calls	-	-	53.26	51.56	137.80	108.52	86.20	122.72	104.40	119.22	106.46	118
Psychotherapy/Counselling	83.54	-	-	99.16	30.04	52.30	60.00	-	71.98	61.76	61.76	252
All Visits	73.30	39.86	76.11	71.43	42.54	55.53	44.61	72.32	69.75	63.66	66.71	5951
Major Surgery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Minor Surgery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Anesthesia	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**
Obstetrical Services	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diagnostic/Therapeutic Services	17.90	10.94	51.72	53.22	42.90	52.70	20.14	43.22	28.16	53.84	43.06	334
All Other Services	17.90	10.94	51.72	53.22	42.90	52.70	20.14	43.22	28.16	53.84	43.06	334
All Services	70.35	38.33	74.81	70.46	42.56	55.38	43.31	70.78	67.54	63.14	65.34	6285
All Services Index*	107.66	58.66	114.50	107.84	65.14	84.76	66.28	108.32	103.36	96.64	-	-

Source: National Physician Database, Canadian Institute for Health Information.

Notes

Blank cells are indicated by an " - ".

* Ten-province median = 100.00.

** Anesthesia services and anesthesia specialists are excluded.

Table 1-11 Nationally Weighted Benefit Rates, Medians and National Weights, by Specialty, Stratum and Province, 2005–2006—Dermatology

Stratum	Province											National Weight (000)
	N.L.	P.E.I.	N.S.	N.B.	Que.	Ont.	Man.	Sask.	Alta.	B.C.	Median	
Consultations and Major Assessments	58.66	66.24	87.68	75.78	42.48	52.20	52.96	63.08	52.30	52.68	55.81	1756
Other Assessments	26.82	25.90	29.62	25.76	19.68	18.68	22.40	25.96	27.62	25.46	25.83	1229
Hospital Care Days	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Special Calls	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Psychotherapy/Counselling	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
All Visits	45.55	49.63	63.78	55.19	33.09	38.40	40.38	47.80	42.14	41.47	43.85	2985
Major Surgery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Minor Surgery	43.82	24.70	44.14	68.12	14.72	25.82	43.96	53.90	35.74	63.28	43.89	379
Anesthesia	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**
Obstetrical Services	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diagnostic/Therapeutic Services	9.34	-	49.48	24.68	15.50	13.98	16.10	33.28	23.90	29.80	23.90	967
All Other Services	19.05	20.03	47.98	36.91	15.28	17.31	23.94	39.08	27.23	39.23	25.59	1345
All Services	37.32	40.44	58.87	49.51	27.56	31.85	35.27	45.09	37.51	40.78	38.98	4330
All Services Index*	95.76	103.76	151.04	127.04	70.72	81.72	90.50	115.68	96.24	104.64	-	-

Source: National Physician Database, Canadian Institute for Health Information.

Notes

Blank cells are indicated by an " - ".

* Ten-province median = 100.00.

** Anesthesia services and anesthesia specialists are excluded.

Table 1-12 Nationally Weighted Benefit Rates, Medians and National Weights, by Specialty, Stratum and Province, 2005–2006—Physical Medicine

Stratum	Province											National Weight (000)
	N.L.	P.E.I.	N.S.	N.B.	Que.	Ont.	Man.	Sask.	Alta.	B.C.	Median	
Consultations and Major Assessments	-	-	114.28	128.34	65.76	109.58	131.88	117.14	125.32	151.32	121.23	274
Other Assessments	-	-	29.84	24.84	27.62	25.28	42.42	57.74	61.02	41.38	35.61	118
Hospital Care Days	-	-	29.30	-	-	20.46	20.48	15.48	34.64	53.84	24.89	253
Special Calls	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Psychotherapy/Counselling	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
All Visits	.	.	65.50	68.05	41.96	59.21	71.82	66.39	77.99	92.98	67.22	645
Major Surgery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Minor Surgery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Anesthesia	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**
Obstetrical Services	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diagnostic/Therapeutic Services	-	-	130.58	28.66	13.66	94.02	62.88	46.46	70.76	108.92	66.82	290
All Other Services	-	-	130.58	28.66	13.66	94.02	62.88	46.46	70.76	108.92	66.82	290
All Services	-	-	85.69	55.83	33.19	70.00	69.05	60.21	75.74	97.92	69.53	934
All Services Index*	-	-	123.26	80.30	47.74	100.68	99.32	86.60	108.94	140.84	-	-

Source: National Physician Database, Canadian Institute for Health Information.

Notes

Blank cells are indicated by an " - ".

* Ten-province median = 100.00.

** Anesthesia services and anesthesia specialists are excluded.

Table 1-13 Nationally Weighted Benefit Rates, Medians and National Weights, by Specialty, Stratum and Province, 2005–2006—Anesthesia

Stratum	Province											National Weight (000)
	N.L.	P.E.I.	N.S.	N.B.	Que.	Ont.	Man.	Sask.	Alta.	B.C.	Median	
Consultations and Major Assessments	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**
Other Assessments	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**
Hospital Care Days	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**
Special Calls	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**
Psychotherapy/Counselling	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**
All Visits	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**
Major Surgery	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**
Minor Surgery	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**
Anesthesia	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**
Obstetrical Services	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**
Diagnostic/Therapeutic Services	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**
All Other Services	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**
All Services	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**
All Services Index*	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**

Source: National Physician Database, Canadian Institute for Health Information.

Notes

Blank cells are indicated by an “ - ”.

* Ten-province median = 100.00.

** Anesthesia services and anesthesia specialists are excluded.

Table 1-14 Nationally Weighted Benefit Rates, Medians and National Weights, by Specialty, Stratum and Province, 2005–2006—General Surgery

Stratum	Province											National Weight (000)
	N.L.	P.E.I.	N.S.	N.B.	Que.	Ont.	Man.	Sask.	Alta.	B.C.	Median	
Consultations and Major Assessments	71.14	64.72	81.02	88.76	48.74	72.56	78.74	81.52	101.50	89.36	79.88	1782
Other Assessments	28.42	22.94	29.46	21.36	20.04	23.96	25.78	29.86	27.66	32.04	26.72	1438
Hospital Care Days	23.24	24.08	30.16	20.42	20.54	23.80	17.68	24.18	34.62	19.34	23.52	439
Special Calls	-	-	48.02	39.90	118.18	96.92	130.04	86.28	120.94	126.22	107.55	131
Psychotherapy/Counselling	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
All Visits	50.44	45.44	54.42	53.58	36.98	49.31	53.34	55.44	66.40	60.77	53.46	3790
Major Surgery	333.70	336.40	385.76	444.10	364.10	370.56	361.56	483.04	515.22	397.24	378.16	522
Minor Surgery	40.82	58.20	61.34	60.52	46.40	41.16	63.30	64.38	65.74	68.48	60.93	176
Anesthesia	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**
Obstetrical Services	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diagnostic/Therapeutic Services	81.84	94.42	131.94	137.18	56.48	98.48	103.54	111.88	115.58	135.72	107.71	844
All Other Services	162.47	172.26	209.87	232.40	159.53	184.11	186.35	232.18	245.26	216.64	198.11	1541
All Services	82.83	82.11	99.37	105.28	72.41	88.28	91.79	106.54	118.11	105.83	95.58	5331
All Services Index*	86.66	85.90	103.96	110.14	75.76	92.36	96.04	111.46	123.58	110.72	-	-

Source: National Physician Database, Canadian Institute for Health Information.

Notes

Blank cells are indicated by an " - ".

* Ten-province median = 100.00.

** Anesthesia services and anesthesia specialists are excluded.

**Table 1-15 Nationally Weighted Benefit Rates, Medians and National Weights, by Specialty, Stratum and Province, 2005–2006—
Thoracic/Cardiovascular Surgery**

Stratum	Province											National Weight (000)
	N.L.	P.E.I.	N.S.	N.B.	Que.	Ont.	Man.	Sask.	Alta.	B.C.	Median	
Consultations and Major Assessments	76.52	-	89.30	87.80	33.64	71.62	83.26	103.68	84.96	114.74	84.96	155.80
Other Assessments	29.08	-	32.02	21.02	12.74	28.64	29.76	30.88	26.64	21.62	28.64	141.30
Hospital Care Days	21.80	-	31.92	19.18	-	30.20	26.56	62.32	34.62	20.50	28.38	50.54
Special Calls	-	-	-	-	96.74	114.26	188.66	104.22	-	140.52	114.26	13.99
Psychotherapy/Counselling	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
All Visits	47.38	-	55.45	53.74	23.21	50.69	58.51	69.48	56.87	66.18	55.45	361.63
Major Surgery	637.08	-	436.74	984.76	769.82	1044.72	1021.88	1167.42	1312.26	1083.00	1021.88	86.80
Minor Surgery	42.60	-	-	-	36.48	34.02	-	-	-	62.08	39.54	5.38
Anesthesia	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**
Obstetrical Services	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diagnostic/Therapeutic Services	103.88	-	146.80	159.74	59.46	71.74	59.38	89.98	103.34	91.48	91.48	74.66
All Other Services	379.31	-	294.58	585.48	428.29	576.73	559.88	649.29	730.63	606.38	576.73	166.84
All Services	152.17	-	130.94	221.61	151.10	216.76	216.79	252.53	269.58	236.72	216.79	528.47
All Services Index*	70.20	-	60.40	102.22	69.70	99.98	100.00	116.48	124.36	109.20	-	-

Source: National Physician Database, Canadian Institute for Health Information.

Notes

Blank cells are indicated by an " - ".

* Ten-province median = 100.00.

** Anesthesia services and anesthesia specialists are excluded.

Table 1-16 Nationally Weighted Benefit Rates, Medians and National Weights, by Specialty, Stratum and Province, 2005–2006—Urology

Stratum	Province											National Weight (000)
	N.L.	P.E.I.	N.S.	N.B.	Que.	Ont.	Man.	Sask.	Alta.	B.C.	Median	
Consultations and Major Assessments	52.82	-	69.44	63.56	44.18	55.94	66.06	64.10	72.30	82.90	64.10	1087
Other Assessments	25.72	-	29.92	21.48	14.08	20.70	27.30	29.28	39.88	28.02	27.30	843
Hospital Care Days	23.20	-	30.36	20.88	.	24.38	24.18	39.34	34.62	22.02	24.28	65
Special Calls	-	-	-	30.72	115.42	82.12	118.52	87.00	113.30	107.32	107.32	35
Psychotherapy/Counselling	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
All Visits	39.70	28.43	52.10	44.15	32.30	40.75	49.53	49.25	58.34	58.59	46.70	2030
Major Surgery	317.22	-	308.86	427.86	321.42	339.60	411.24	449.86	424.36	318.84	339.60	168
Minor Surgery	-	-	73.14	52.58	98.96	41.84	81.88	67.42	77.76	87.58	75.45	6
Anesthesia	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**
Obstetrical Services	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diagnostic/Therapeutic Services	131.34	-	83.38	103.56	50.10	65.72	98.66	98.56	92.24	88.48	92.24	646
All Other Services	168.88	71.14	129.43	169.51	105.99	121.57	162.48	170.19	160.08	135.60	147.84	820
All Services	76.87	40.72	74.35	80.22	53.51	64.01	82.03	84.05	87.62	80.75	78.55	2850
All Services Index*	97.86	51.84	94.66	102.14	68.12	81.50	104.44	107.00	111.56	102.80	-	-

Source: National Physician Database, Canadian Institute for Health Information.

Notes

Blank cells are indicated by an "-".

* Ten-province median = 100.00.

** Anesthesia services and anesthesia specialists are excluded.

Table 1-17 Nationally Weighted Benefit Rates, Medians and National Weights, by Specialty, Stratum and Province, 2005–2006—Orthopedic Surgery

Stratum	Province											National Weight (000)
	N.L.	P.E.I.	N.S.	N.B.	Que.	Ont.	Man.	Sask.	Alta.	B.C.	Median	
Consultations and Major Assessments	77.54	64.70	79.26	77.04	41.90	58.28	77.68	69.14	84.02	85.00	77.29	1369
Other Assessments	32.94	23.14	30.60	20.52	16.86	19.80	23.20	30.82	24.46	28.44	23.83	1329
Hospital Care Days	22.02	-	29.78	22.80	-	22.98	24.98	57.52	34.64	18.20	23.98	82
Special Calls	-	-	-	-	106.24	98.02	157.26	95.66	127.50	112.36	109.30	61
Psychotherapy/Counselling	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
All Visits	55.72	45.00	55.67	49.69	30.35	40.11	52.37	51.44	55.66	57.20	51.91	2840
Major Surgery	396.78	383.50	331.76	459.76	326.20	384.16	390.24	358.28	497.62	449.56	387.20	468
Minor Surgery	80.62	76.98	107.88	57.96	205.56	59.20	59.88	92.60	66.36	79.88	78.43	76
Anesthesia	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**
Obstetrical Services	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diagnostic/Therapeutic Services	25.80	22.84	52.82	29.20	30.30	23.36	22.26	27.18	65.84	35.28	28.19	334
All Other Services	228.10	219.59	206.13	260.97	203.07	218.59	221.47	209.16	295.81	259.75	220.53	878
All Services	96.44	86.25	91.22	99.60	71.16	82.28	92.32	88.70	112.39	105.05	91.77	3718
All Services Index*	105.08	93.98	99.40	108.54	77.54	89.66	100.60	96.66	122.46	114.48	-	-

Source: National Physician Database, Canadian Institute for Health Information.

Notes

Blank cells are indicated by an " - ".

* Ten-province median = 100.00.

** Anesthesia services and anesthesia specialists are excluded.

Table 1-18 Nationally Weighted Benefit Rates, Medians and National Weights, by Specialty, Stratum and Province, 2005–2006—Plastic Surgery

Stratum	Province											National Weight (000)
	N.L.	P.E.I.	N.S.	N.B.	Que.	Ont.	Man.	Sask.	Alta.	B.C.	Median	
Consultations and Major Assessments	69.62	-	77.66	63.08	41.40	57.70	60.14	77.68	67.44	60.26	63.08	455
Other Assessments	29.20	-	30.80	23.20	20.54	18.78	23.58	30.34	26.92	26.26	26.26	463
Hospital Care Days	21.86	-	-	21.40	-	23.32	17.20	51.26	34.64	18.24	21.86	10
Special Calls	-	-	-	-	86.52	93.18	124.30	93.46	110.36	94.56	94.01	16
Psychotherapy/Counselling	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
All Visits	48.11	-	54.42	43.64	31.52	38.86	42.86	54.45	47.96	43.74	43.74	943
Major Surgery	200.92	-	294.92	349.28	197.36	229.20	297.16	249.08	325.96	284.22	284.22	251
Minor Surgery	75.56	-	54.54	61.92	45.08	38.08	71.14	57.98	54.58	73.82	57.98	96
Anesthesia	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**
Obstetrical Services	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diagnostic/Therapeutic Services	23.52	-	58.96	30.14	26.08	19.42	48.08	25.60	25.30	41.44	26.08	52
All Other Services	147.48	-	206.08	238.23	138.23	155.66	210.06	173.76	221.18	201.72	201.72	399
All Services	77.64	-	99.49	101.47	63.23	73.58	92.56	89.91	99.44	90.69	90.69	1342
All Services Index*	85.62	-	109.70	111.88	69.72	81.14	102.06	99.14	109.64	100.00	-	-

Source: National Physician Database, Canadian Institute for Health Information.

Notes

Blank cells are indicated by an " - ".

* Ten-province median = 100.00.

** Anesthesia services and anesthesia specialists are excluded.

Table 1-19 Nationally Weighted Benefit Rates, Medians and National Weights, by Specialty, Stratum and Province, 2005–2006—Neurosurgery

Stratum	Province											National Weight (000)
	N.L.	P.E.I.	N.S.	N.B.	Que.	Ont.	Man.	Sask.	Alta.	B.C.	Median	
Consultations and Major Assessments	94.60	-	86.80	-	33.66	96.68	162.14	79.88	-	146.92	94.60	84
Other Assessments	20.56	-	30.62	-	20.30	29.94	30.00	24.16	-	42.34	29.94	50
Hospital Care Days	21.92	-	-	-	-	23.90	-	28.40	-	26.54	25.22	37
Special Calls	-	-	-	-	115.00	124.82	179.14	81.10	-	165.08	124.82	9
Psychotherapy/Counselling	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
All Visits	54.37	-	60.82	40.29	27.11	64.62	98.29	53.91	45.58	94.07	54.37	180
Major Surgery	883.72	-	-	-	663.36	1055.96	651.00	758.76	-	1157.38	821.24	31
Minor Surgery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Anesthesia	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**
Obstetrical Services	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diagnostic/Therapeutic Services	-	-	-	-	111.60	216.20	19.94	-	-	-	111.60	4
All Other Services	802.42	-	856.26	843.41	604.57	966.48	583.76	690.77	843.41	1046.92	843.41	35
All Services	176.59	-	190.78	171.50	121.46	211.97	177.61	157.96	175.93	249.75	176.59	215
All Services Index*	100.00	-	108.04	97.12	68.78	120.04	100.58	89.46	99.62	141.42	-	-

Source: National Physician Database, Canadian Institute for Health Information.

Notes

Blank cells are indicated by an " - ".

* Ten-province median = 100.00.

** Anesthesia services and anesthesia specialists are excluded.

Table 1-20 Nationally Weighted Benefit Rates, Medians and National Weights, by Specialty, Stratum and Province, 2005–2006—Ophthalmology

Stratum	Province											National Weight (000)
	N.L.	P.E.I.	N.S.	N.B.	Que.	Ont.	Man.	Sask.	Alta.	B.C.	Median	
Consultations and Major Assessments	56.18	61.60	59.56	70.06	43.10	50.22	62.58	62.12	70.54	70.72	61.86	2638
Other Assessments	25.84	29.10	32.06	27.96	22.42	19.82	25.52	30.40	31.96	28.14	28.05	1731
Hospital Care Days	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Special Calls	-	-	-	-	106.90	89.70	100.42	77.04	155.40	95.98	98.20	23
Psychotherapy/Counselling	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
All Visits	44.41	48.95	48.89	53.58	35.29	38.45	48.17	49.70	55.78	54.07	48.92	4392
Major Surgery	467.98	396.86	483.78	366.98	251.04	359.62	414.92	327.28	431.70	456.28	405.89	680
Minor Surgery	39.94	-	52.84	31.48	32.84	37.70	33.64	37.44	59.46	61.78	37.70	59
Anesthesia	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**
Obstetrical Services	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diagnostic/Therapeutic Services	49.46	29.58	17.30	14.82	28.34	14.26	41.94	14.02	29.92	34.14	28.96	3224
All Other Services	121.17	92.82	97.92	75.53	66.64	73.90	105.85	68.15	99.34	107.03	95.37	3963
All Services	80.82	69.76	72.15	63.99	50.16	55.27	75.53	58.45	76.44	79.19	70.96	8355
All Services Index*	113.90	98.32	101.68	90.18	70.70	77.90	106.44	82.38	107.74	111.60	-	-

Source: National Physician Database, Canadian Institute for Health Information.

Notes

Blank cells are indicated by an "-".

* Ten-province median = 100.00.

** Anesthesia services and anesthesia specialists are excluded.

Table 1-21 Nationally Weighted Benefit Rates, Medians and National Weights, by Specialty, Stratum and Province, 2005–2006—Otolaryngology

Stratum	Province											National Weight (000)
	N.L.	P.E.I.	N.S.	N.B.	Que.	Ont.	Man.	Sask.	Alta.	B.C.	Median	
Consultations and Major Assessments	54.24	61.38	69.56	62.48	40.82	58.32	70.36	61.08	70.82	69.00	61.93	1391
Other Assessments	24.26	26.02	29.60	22.72	17.76	19.86	32.48	32.96	25.60	27.06	25.81	872
Hospital Care Days	22.06	-	29.48	20.80	42.54	23.94	26.70	45.96	34.62	21.46	26.70	21
Special Calls	-	-	-	-	110.04	90.72	118.92	77.30	-	99.84	99.84	17
Psychotherapy/Counselling	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
All Visits	42.18	47.90	54.21	47.24	32.61	43.67	55.96	50.40	53.50	52.89	49.15	2301
Major Surgery	278.18	-	203.72	206.00	208.82	253.34	390.90	233.34	284.78	352.56	253.34	178
Minor Surgery	62.70	77.26	96.12	59.90	38.64	63.22	85.60	56.90	73.72	95.98	68.47	177
Anesthesia	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**
Obstetrical Services	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diagnostic/Therapeutic Services	27.46	20.36	50.58	54.74	26.94	86.08	22.92	17.96	51.14	39.44	33.45	1232
All Other Services	59.57	51.53	72.87	72.32	48.69	102.33	71.27	46.51	79.92	80.94	71.80	1587
All Services	49.28	49.38	61.83	57.48	39.17	67.61	62.21	48.82	64.29	64.34	59.66	3889
All Services Index*	82.60	82.78	103.64	96.36	65.66	113.34	104.28	81.84	107.76	107.86	-	-

Source: National Physician Database, Canadian Institute for Health Information.

Notes

Blank cells are indicated by an “ - ”.

* Ten-province median = 100.00.

** Anesthesia services and anesthesia specialists are excluded.

Table 1-22 Nationally Weighted Benefit Rates, Medians and National Weights, by Specialty, Stratum and Province, 2005–2006—Obstetrics/Gynecology

Stratum	Province											National Weight (000)
	N.L.	P.E.I.	N.S.	N.B.	Que.	Ont.	Man.	Sask.	Alta.	B.C.	Median	
Consultations and Major Assessments	48.70	53.78	67.12	59.12	46.96	65.80	60.98	57.02	77.74	85.16	60.05	2214
Other Assessments	30.68	31.92	30.76	28.30	16.02	25.12	25.12	26.10	29.02	28.40	28.35	3006
Hospital Care Days	22.22	19.70	29.66	22.58	.	24.54	18.88	38.82	34.64	27.80	24.54	95
Special Calls	-	25.86	69.98	44.38	116.86	99.60	190.36	81.68	135.06	109.18	99.60	132
Psychotherapy/Counselling	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
All Visits	37.11	40.45	46.47	41.12	30.75	43.44	43.58	40.23	51.48	53.41	42.28	5446
Major Surgery	231.80	307.38	272.04	316.28	270.76	463.70	270.54	331.94	331.18	363.72	311.83	172
Minor Surgery	-	-	58.02	36.42	74.64	95.78	-	26.34	55.76	41.38	55.76	24
Anesthesia	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**
Obstetrical Services	245.84	393.16	373.52	358.40	311.10	218.90	234.94	330.74	268.76	277.06	294.08	497
Diagnostic/Therapeutic Services	31.34	37.22	46.36	73.64	30.32	32.02	49.60	54.02	72.52	121.04	47.98	1154
All Other Services	108.21	158.55	155.54	172.35	128.83	123.33	120.29	153.98	149.18	184.56	151.58	1847
All Services	55.12	70.36	74.09	74.35	55.59	63.68	63.01	69.04	76.23	86.63	69.70	7294
All Services Index*	79.08	100.94	106.30	106.68	79.76	91.36	90.40	99.06	109.36	124.28	-	-

Source: National Physician Database, Canadian Institute for Health Information.

Notes

Blank cells are indicated by an "-".

* Ten-province median = 100.00.

** Anesthesia services and anesthesia specialists are excluded.

Appendix A—NPDB Authorization Officers

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Appendix B—NPDB Physician Specialty Categories

- 01 **Family Medicine**
 - 010 Residency
 - 011 General Practice
 - 012 Family Practice
 - 013 Community Medicine/Public Health
 - 014 Emergency Medicine

Medical Specialists

- 02 **Internal Medicine**
 - 020 General Internal Medicine
 - 021 Cardiology
 - 022 Gastroenterology
 - 023 Respiratory Medicine
 - 024 Endocrinology
 - 025 Nephrology
 - 026 Hematology
 - 027 Rheumatology
 - 028 Clinical Immunology and Allergy
 - 030 Oncology
 - 031 Geriatrics
 - 032 Tropical Medicine
 - 035 Genetics

- 04 **Neurology**
 - 040 Neurology and EEG
 - 041 Neurology
 - 042 EEG

- 05 **Psychiatry**
 - 050 Psychiatry and Neuropsychiatry
 - 051 Psychiatry
 - 052 Neuropsychiatry

- 06 **Pediatrics**
 - 060 Pediatrics

- 07 **Dermatology**
 - 065 Dermatology

- 08 **Physical Medicine/Rehabilitation**
 - 070 Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
 - 071 Electromyography

- 09 **Anesthesia**
 - 075 Anesthesia

Surgical Specialists

- 10 **General Surgery**
 - 080 General Surgery

- 11 **Thoracic/Cardiovascular Surgery**
 - 086 Thoracic Surgery
 - 087 Cardiovascular Surgery
 - 088 Cardiovascular/Thoracic Surgery

- 12 **Urology**
 - 090 Urology

- 13 **Orthopedic Surgery**
 - 095 Orthopedic Surgery

- 14 **Plastic Surgery**
 - 100 Plastic Surgery

- 15 **Neurosurgery**
 - 110 Neurosurgery

- 16 **Ophthalmology**
 - 115 Ophthalmology
 - 116 Ophthalmology/Otolaryngology

- 17 **Otolaryngology**
 - 120 Otolaryngology

- 18 **Obstetrics/Gynecology**
 - 126 Obstetrics
 - 127 Gynecology
 - 128 Obstetrics/Gynecology

Note: Although Genetics is no longer a sub-specialty of Internal Medicine it is included in the Internal Medicine category because the number of physician records assigned this specialty is relatively small.

Appendix C—Fee-for-Service Radiology and Laboratory Coverage in NPDB

Radiology and laboratory services supplied to CIHI for use in NPDB are not uniform or complete. For this reason the data are not routinely used in the NPDB publications. The following notes were provided by the provincial medical insurance plans regarding the radiology and laboratory services included on the NPDB file submissions.

Newfoundland and Labrador

- No laboratory services data are supplied to NPDB as these services are paid through the hospital funding.
- Physicians can be paid on a fee-for-service basis for interpretation services on certain diagnostic services such as EEG, ECGs, etc. These services would be included in the NPDB file submissions.

Prince Edward Island

- No laboratory services data are supplied to NPDB as these services are paid through the hospital funding.
- Radiologists' interpretation fees are included in the NPDB file submissions.

Nova Scotia

- No laboratory services data are supplied to NPDB as these services are paid through the hospital funding.
- The majority of radiology billings are not included in NPDB file submissions. For Nova Scotia, the majority of radiology billings are not included in fee-for-service earnings.

New Brunswick

- No laboratory services data are supplied to NPDB as these services are paid through the hospital funding.
- All radiology services are excluded in the NPDB file submissions.

Quebec

- No laboratory services are included.
- Radiology services provided by physicians in private practice are included in the NPDB file submissions.

Ontario

- Approximately 50% of all laboratory services are funded through OHIP and therefore are included in the NPDB file submissions. The remaining 50% are funded via Public Health (1%) and Hospital global budgets (49%).
- Information on Radiology services was not available.

Manitoba

- Laboratory services provided in the NPDB file submissions are those provided by privately owned fee-for-service laboratories. Laboratory services provided in urban/rural facilities are not included in the NPDB file submissions.
- Radiology services submitted include all private radiology services and all urban facility radiology services. Rural facility radiology services, approximately 11% of the total dollar value for radiology services, are not included in NPDB file submissions.

Saskatchewan

- Since 1993–1994, the only laboratory services included in the NPDB file submissions are common in-office laboratory services provided by physicians other than pathologists. Responsibility for private laboratory services provided by specialists in pathology was transferred to District Health Boards in October 1993 and no longer funded on a fee-for-service basis.
- Facility-based radiology services which are funded through District Health Boards are excluded from the NPDB file submissions, as well as radiology services provided through the Screening Program for Breast Cancer.

Alberta

- Up to July 1, 1995 only non-hospital based laboratory services were included.
- Only non-facility based radiology services are included in NPDB file submissions.

British Columbia

- Laboratory and radiology services when performed on a fee-for-service outpatient basis are included in NPDB file submissions, but inpatient services are not included.