

# Are Bariatric Surgery Fellows Finding Jobs?

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**PRISMA**  
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- Ethicon
- Gore
- Twenty30 Health
- Boston Scientific

# Norman Regional weight loss clinic to abruptly close, blaming Ozempic popularity



**Dale Denwalt**

The Oklahoman

Published 3:07 p.m. CT July 11, 2024 | Updated 4:28 p.m. CT July 11, 2024



## WHO issues global alert on counterfeit Ozempic

The World Health Organization (WHO) has issued a global alert regarding counterfeit versions of Ozempic. *unbranded - Newsworthy*

"They think that there's no future in bariatric surgery because medications will replace what we do," said Nelson. "But the very difficult and frustrating thing is that they are not clinicians. They are administrators. They made these decisions based upon no conversations with the clinical staff who are actually there taking care of patients and seeing trends."

Lana Nelson, director of metabolic and bariatric surgery at Norman Regional, was one of several medical professionals who were told this week they'd be losing their jobs.



# Inpatient bariatric surgeries to decline 15% in 10 years: Vizient

Paige Twenter - Monday, June 10th, 2024



By 2034, the rate of inpatient bariatric surgeries will drop 15%, according to a June 10 [Vizient report](#).

Two leading factors are expected to drive this trend: More weight loss pharmaceuticals will enter the market and outpatient surgical volumes are projected to increase by 13%, according to analysts with the consulting firm.

Inpatient cases are typically reserved for higher acuity cases, but with the boom of GLP-1 weight loss drugs — such as Wegovy and Zepbound — those patients increasingly are seeking nonsurgical options to shed weight.

Los Angeles, Oct 31, 2023

## Medscape: Do New Weight Loss Meds Mean the End of Bariatric Surgery?

“That was a previous era; we are now in a new one,” Burch told Peters. “As a bariatric surgeon, we’re seeing a 20% to 30% reduction in volume since the advent of these medications. And it’s wonderful, in fact, to have the opportunity to serve so many patients with something other than just surgery.

# Report shows fewer Australians are having bariatric surgery

by [Monash University](#)

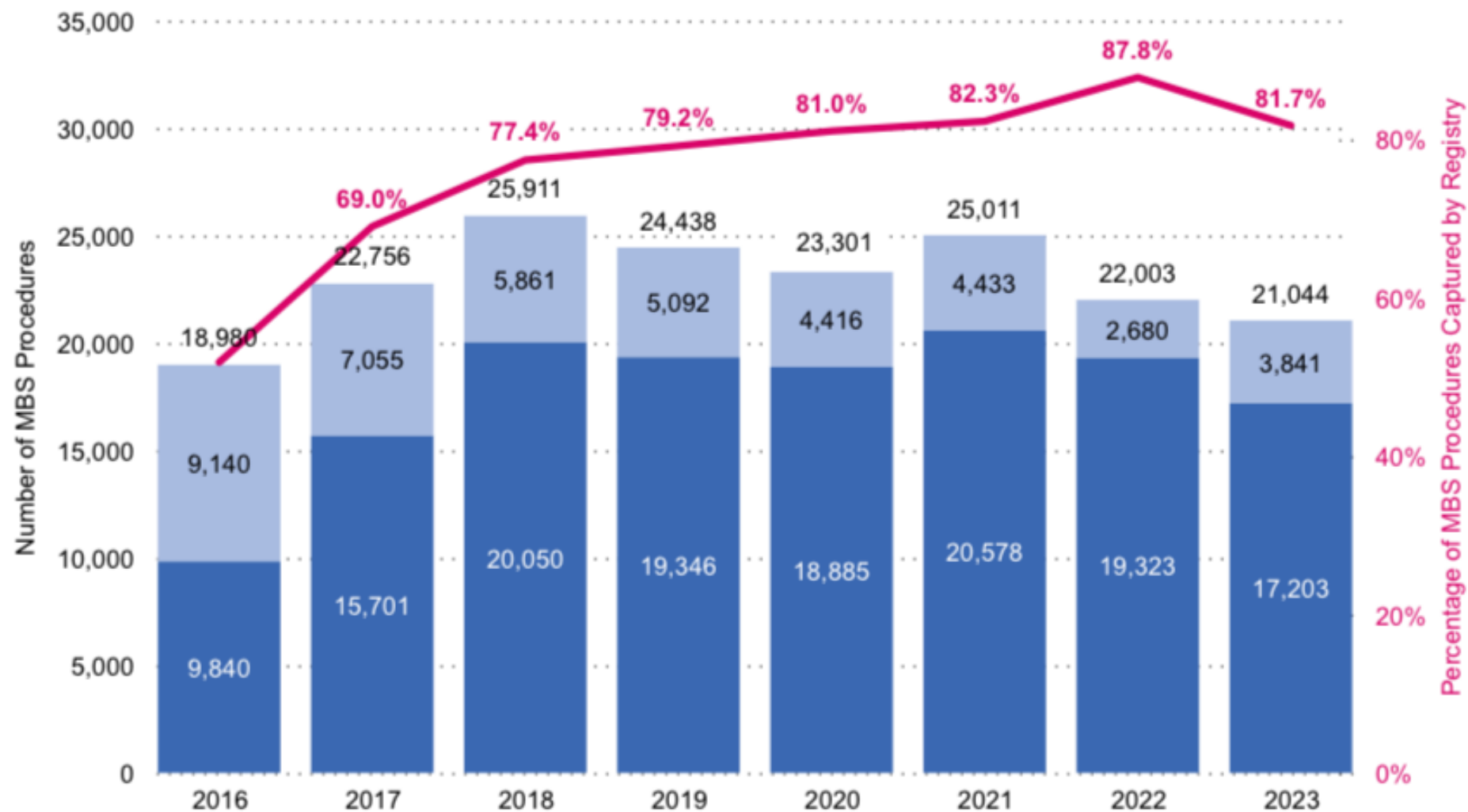


Credit: Unsplash/CC0 Public Domain

Fewer Australians are having bariatric surgery, and a new report shows the results for those who do are mostly positive, including significant weight loss and big improvements for those with diabetes.







**Figure 4 - MBS procedures by year and Registry capture rate, Australia**

Registry and MBS procedure numbers include only sleeve gastrectomy, gastric band, Roux-en-Y gastric bypass and one anastomosis gastric bypass procedures that were privately funded. Comparisons between datasets are a guide only as MBS data is an administrative data set and does not always match the Registry's data due to differences in reporting.

3 Bariatric Surgery Jobs

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2 bariatric surgery jobs

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## Postdoctoral Research Opportunity at UNC

Postdoctoral Research Opportunity at UNC  
Center for Surgical Health Services  
Research (USHER)  
We are inviting

## General Surgeon



The Department of Surgery at the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill, NC is seeking applications for a full-time ...

## Acute Care Trauma Surgeon/Intensivist



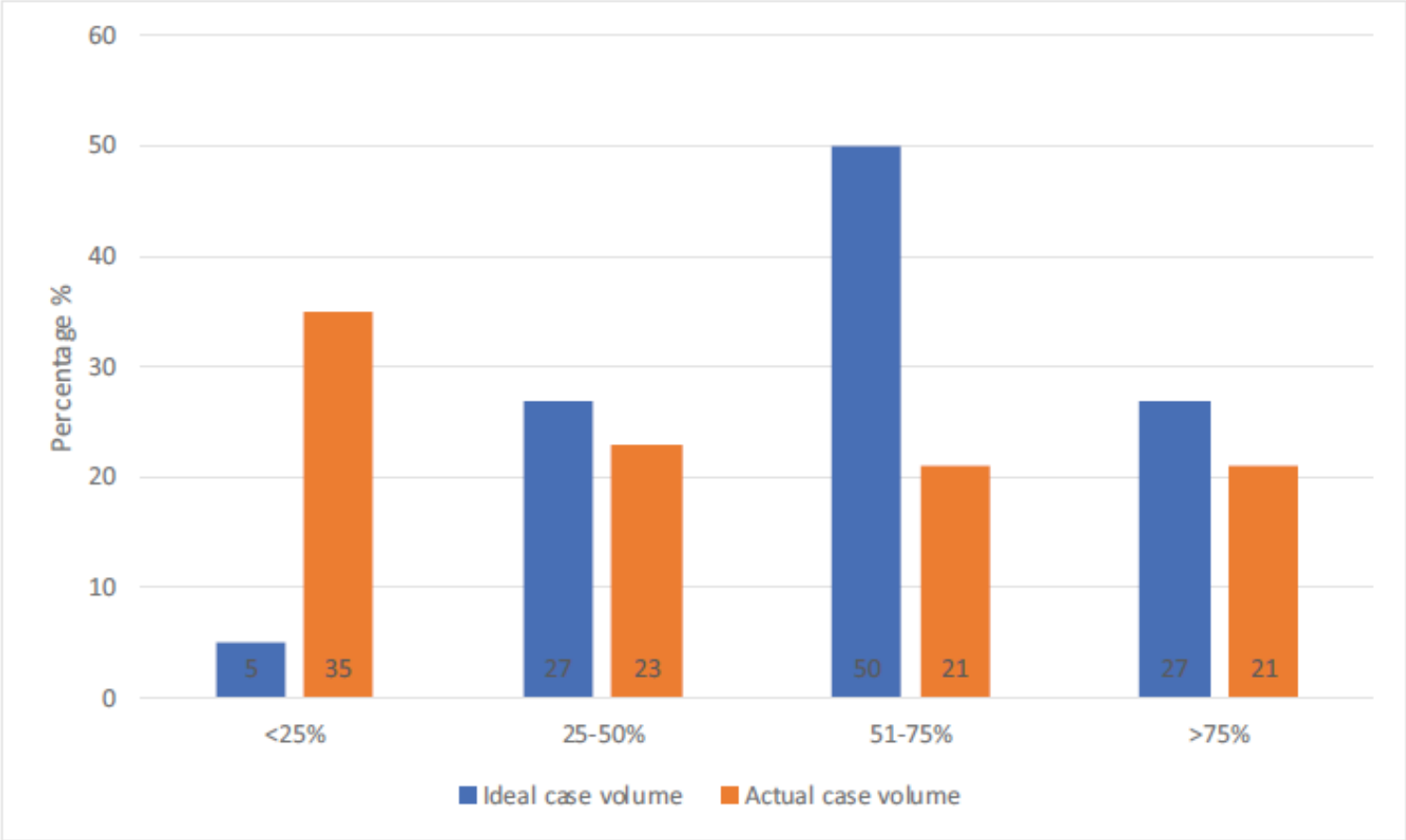
Acute Care Trauma Surgeon/Intensivist  
Align Your Passion with our Clinical Excellence and Compassion Job



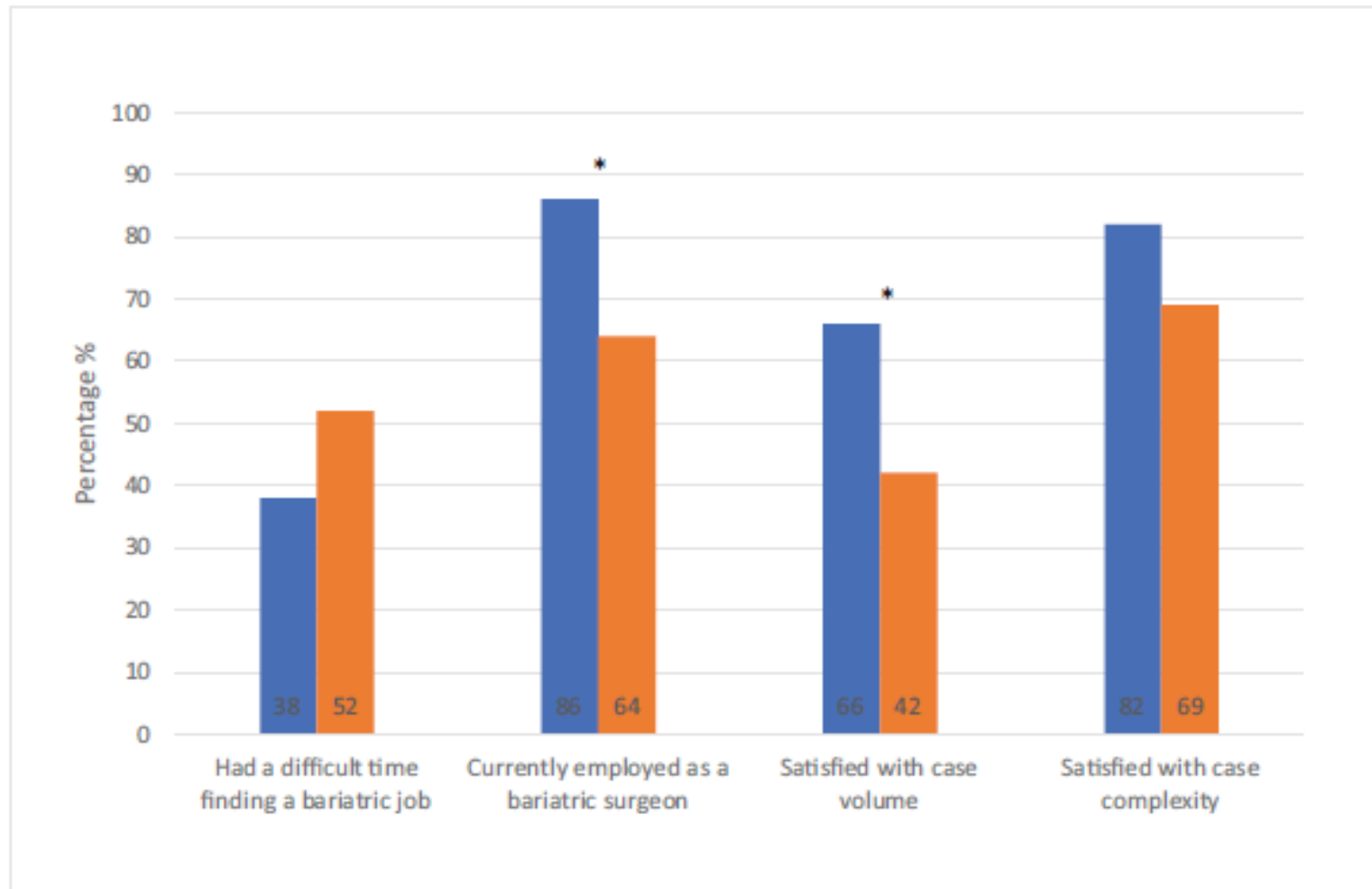
# Analysis of Early Job Market Experiences and Perceptions Among Bariatric Surgery Fellowship Graduates and Bariatric Surgery Program Directors

Yang Lu<sup>1</sup>  • Yen-Yi Juo<sup>2</sup> • Matthew J. Martin<sup>3</sup> • Adrian G. Dan<sup>4</sup> • Ambar Banerjee<sup>5</sup> • Daniel B. Jones<sup>6</sup> • Gregory F. Dakin<sup>7</sup> • Kunoor Jain-Spangler<sup>8</sup> • Yijun Chen<sup>1</sup>

# Comparison between ideal vs actual percentage of bariatric case volume in current practice



# Comparison of responses towards bariatric job search and current job satisfaction among earlier (2008-2016) and recent (2017-2019) graduates



# BT BARIATRIC TIMES

*Clinical Developments and Metabolic Insights in Total Bariatric Patient Care*

## **Are We Graduating Too Many Bariatric Surgeons?**

BT Online Editor | January 1, 2022

### **Guest Perspective**

by Kunoor Jain-Spangler, MD

*Bariatric Times 2022;19(1):8-9*

<https://bariatrictimes.com/graduating-too-many-bariatric-surgeons/>

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- Morbid obesity rates have surpassed 40 percent in the United States (US)
- More and more trainees are gravitating to bariatric surgery fellowships
- The bariatric surgery workforce has expanded, but the adoption of our highly effective surgical therapies has remained stagnant
- Trainees are not getting jobs performing as much bariatric surgery as they would like, but they are still satisfied with their jobs

*Bariatric Times 2022;19(1):8-9*

<https://bariatrictimes.com/graduating-too-many-bariatric-surgeons/>





# Fellowship Council – Designations

<u>DESIGNATION</u>	<u># OF PROGRAMS</u>
Advanced GI MIS	49
Advanced GI MIS/Bariatrics	43
Advanced GI MIS/Bariatrics/Comp Flex Endo/Foregut	1
Advanced GI MIS/Bariatrics/Foregut	8
Advanced GI MIS/Comprehensive Flexible Endoscopy	1
Advanced GI MIS/Foregut	5
Bariatrics	29
Bariatrics/Foregut	5
Complex GI	8
Complex GI/Foregut	2
Complex GI/Foregut/HPB	1
Comprehensive Flexible Endoscopy	2
Comprehensive Flexible Endoscopy/Foregut	1
Foregut	3
Hernia & Abdominal Wall	2
HPB	22
HPB Surgical Oncology	8
HPB Transplant	4
Advanced Colorectal	7
Advanced Thoracic	9
TOTAL	210



# Fellows

For the 2024 – 2025 Fellowship Year

Advanced GI Minimally Invasive Surgery (MIS):	55	Complex GI/Foregut/HPB	1
Advanced GI MIS/Bariatrics:	55	Comprehensive Flexible Endoscopy:	3
Advanced GI MIS/Bariatrics/Comprehensive Flexible Endoscopy/Foregut:	1	Foregut:	4
Advanced GI MIS/Bariatrics/Foregut	9	Hepatopancreatobiliary (HPB):	27
Advanced GI MIS/ Foregut:	8	HPB/Surgical Oncology:	10
Bariatrics	37	HPB Transplant:	7
Bariatrics/Foregut:	10	Hernia & Abdominal Wall:	2
Complex GI:	8	Non-ACGME Advanced Colorectal:	8
Complex GI/Foregut	3	Non-ACGME Advanced Thoracic:	9



# Main Matching Statistics

## 2025-2026 Matching Process Statistics

Program Statistics	Number	%
Programs	161	
Programs Filled	147	92%
Programs UnFilled	12	8%
Positions	205	
Positions filled	190	93%
Positions Unfilled	15	7%
Enrolled Applicants	309	
Certified Applicants	273	
Matched Applicants	190	70%
UnMatched Applicants	83	30%
Withdrew	20	

### Additional Info

309- Enrolled applicants (243- US; 21-Canada; 45 International)  
 172- US Matched Applicants (76%) and 54 Unmatched Applicants (24%)  
 13- Canadian Matched (81%) and 3 Unmatched Applicants (19%)  
 5- International Matched (16%) and 26 Unmatched Applicants (84%)

## 2024-2025 Matching Process Statistics

Program Statistics	Number	%
Programs	155	
Programs Filled	152	99%
Programs UnFilled	2	1%
Positions	201	
Positions filled	198	99%
Positions Unfilled	2	1%
Enrolled Applicants	381	
Certified Applicants	322	
Matched Applicants	198	61%
UnMatched Applicants	124	39%
Withdrew	10	

### Additional Info

381-Enrolled applicants (272- US; 29- Canada; 84 International)  
 173- US Matched applicants (70%) and 74- unmatched (30%)  
 19- Canadian Matched (76%) and 6- unmatched (24%)  
 8- International Matched (15%) and 46- unmatched (85%)



# ASMBS Certifications

- 2022-2023 = 101 approved applications for certification
- 2023- 2024 = 94 approved applications for certification

ASMBS Guidelines/Statements

## American Society for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery 2022 estimate of metabolic and bariatric procedures performed in the United States

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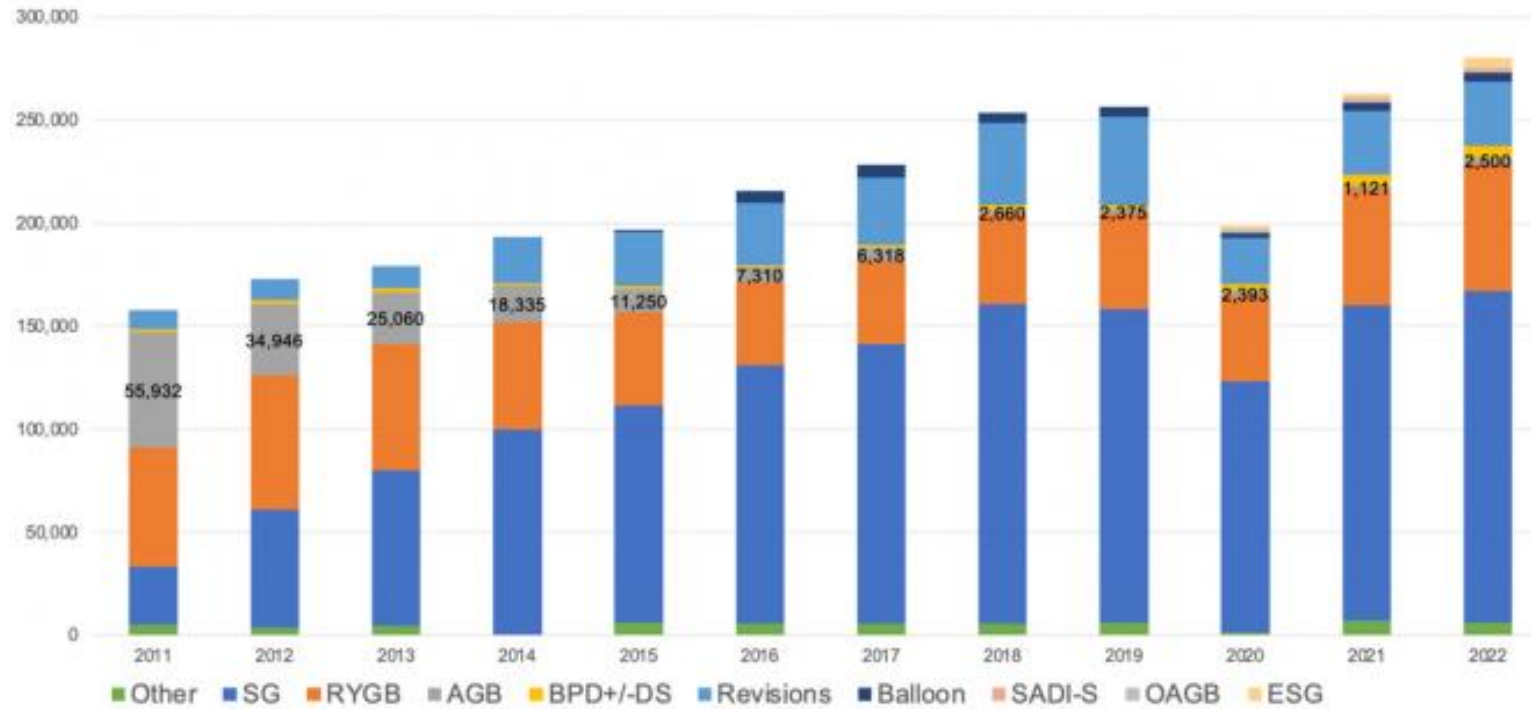


Fig. 1. Metabolic and bariatric surgery procedure trends: 2011–2022. AGB = adjustable gastric band; BPD-DS = biliopancreatic diversion with duodenal switch; ESG = endoscopic sleeve gastropasty; OAGB = one-anastomosis gastric bypass; RYGB = Roux-en-Y gastric bypass; SADI-S = single-anastomosis duodeno-ileostomy with sleeve; SG = sleeve gastrectomy.

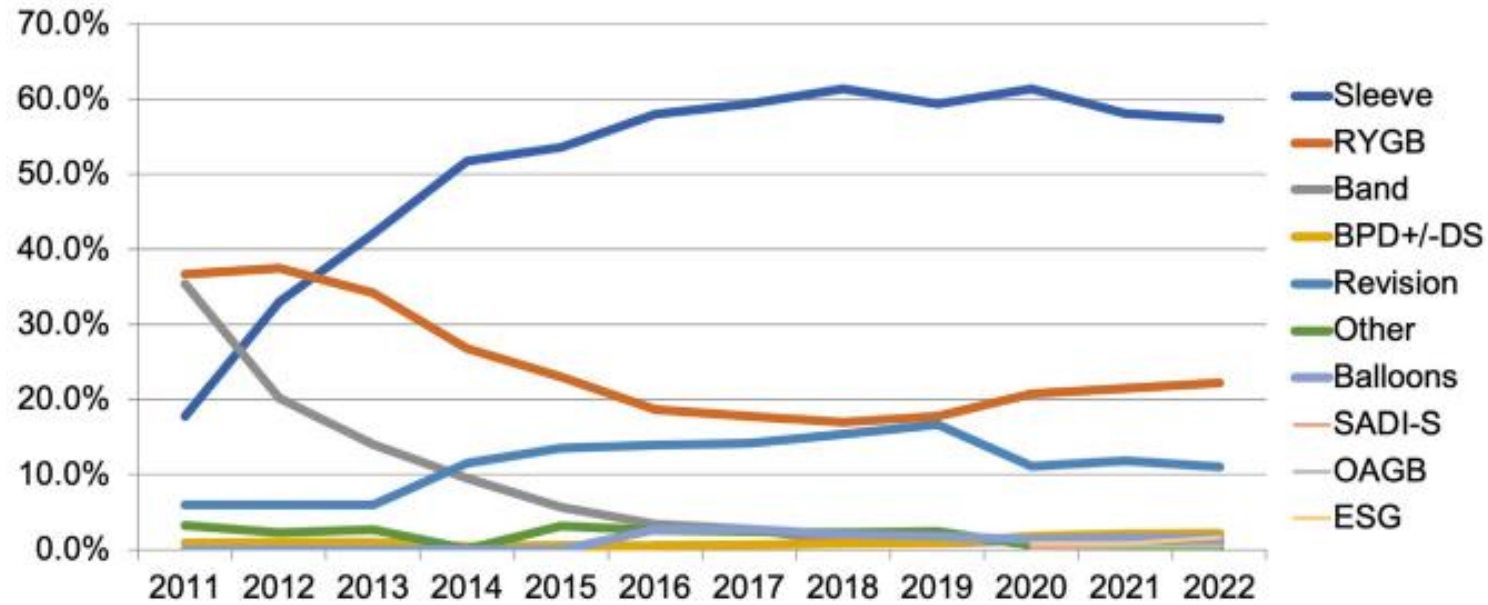


Fig. 2. Metabolic and bariatric surgery procedure percentage trends: 2011–2022. AGB = adjustable gastric band; BPD-DS = biliopancreatic diversion with duodenal switch; ESG = endoscopic sleeve gastroplasty; OAGB = one-anastomosis gastric bypass; RYGB = Roux-en-Y gastric bypass; SADI-S = single-anastomosis duodeno-ileostomy with sleeve; SG = sleeve gastrectomy.

# The Math

# of surgeries in U.S 280,000

# of ASMBS members 2500

112 cases per surgeon



# The Math

# of surgeries in U.S 280,000

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# of ASMBS members 2600

107 cases per surgeon

# Impact of the New guidelines for expanded coverage?

# Economic Value of Greater Access to Bariatric Procedures for Patients With Severe Obesity and Diabetes

David D. Kim, PhD,\* David E. Arterburn, MD, MPH,† Sean D. Sullivan, PhD,‡  
and Anirban Basu, PhD,‡§

2022 American Society for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery (ASMBS) and International Federation for the Surgery of Obesity and Metabolic Disorders (IFSO): Indications for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery

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~49 million Americans are eligible for bariatric (~15% of total population)

Previously this number was estimated to be to be 20-24 million

Adults 18+	Without Diabetes	With Diabetes	Total w and w/o Diab
BMI_3034	41,404,659	6,532,577	47,937,236
BMI_3539	18,196,195	3,658,243	21,854,438
BMI_4044	8,195,414	1,995,405	10,190,820
BMI_4549	3,016,863	1,140,232	4,157,094
BMI_over50	5,107,287	1,021,457	6,128,745

Data analysis from Medtronic

- Are there no jobs?
- Are the jobs in locations the fellows don't want to live/practice?
- Do the job requirements involve some general surgery and general surgery call?

- Will Focused Practice Designation impact the job market?
- Should the ASMBS “raise the bar”?

# Are Bariatric Fellows Finding Jobs?

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- Yes, but...

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