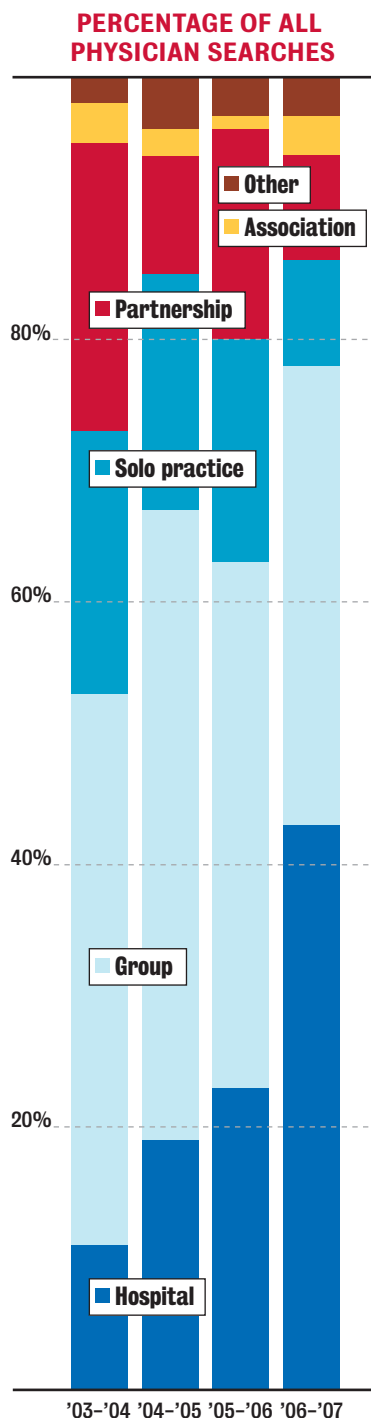


HOSPITAL RECRUITMENT SOARING

A survey released in July by the national search firm Merritt, Hawkins & Associates finds a marked increase in recruiting by hospitals, much of it at the expense of smaller groups. The firm says it's not just places that employ physicians looking for doctors — it's also doctors seeking work at places that employ physicians. The findings show trends highlighted in a Center for Studying Health System Change survey covering 1996-2005 are not abating.

SOURCE: MERRITT, HAWKINS & ASSOCIATES
14TH ANNUAL REVIEW OF SEARCH AND CONSULTING ASSIGNMENTS CONDUCTED ON BEHALF OF ITS OWN CLIENTS

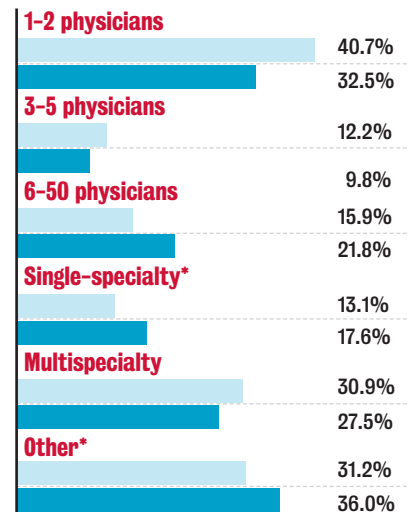


WHERE PHYSICIANS ARE HEADING

More physicians are joining larger, single-specialty groups or other salaried settings.

Percentage in practice setting

1996-1997 2004-2005



* "SINGLE-SPECIALTY" INCLUDES GROUPS OF 6-50 DOCTORS. "OTHER" INCLUDES PHYSICIANS EMPLOYED BY MEDICAL SCHOOLS, HMOs, HOSPITALS (INCLUDING OFFICE-BASED PRACTICES), COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS, FREESTANDING CLINICS AND OTHER SETTINGS, AND INDEPENDENT CONTRACTORS.

SOURCE: CENTER FOR STUDYING HEALTH SYSTEM CHANGE