LocumTenens.com conducted its Annual Compensation and Employment Survey in the summer of 2013. Survey respondents represent physicians who practice on a locum tenens basis as well as those with permanent salaries.

In this year's Your Voice Matters section, we asked physicians to weigh in on expected changes from Healthcare Reform.

This report includes compensation and employment statistics for the field of general surgery.

**Respondent Demographics:**

- **Career choices**
  - 58% different career (non-healthcare)
  - 17% different career in healthcare
  - 17% different specialty
  - 4% change nothing/the same career path
  - 4% Other

- **By region**
  - 31% Northeast
  - 16% Southeast
  - 16% Midwest
  - 14% Southwest
  - 16% West

- **Years in practice**
  - 23% 5 or less years
  - 15% 6–12 years
  - 20% 13–20 years
  - 20% 21–30 years
  - 24% more than 30 years

- **Employment status**
  - 43% salaried
  - 30% owner or partner of practice/group
  - 16% locum tenens or independent contractor exclusively
  - 16% resident/fellow
  - 2% retired
  - 1% unemployed

- **Next job change**
  - 39% in the next 6 months
  - 18% 6 months–1 year
  - 16% 1–2 years
  - 16% 2–3 years
  - 11% no plans at this time

- **2013 average annual general surgeon salary:** $301,264

85% board certified; 11% board eligible
89% male; 11% female
39% hospital employed; 33% group practice
32% have worked on a locum tenens basis
62% have not but may consider locum tenens in the future
We asked general surgeons to weigh in on the changes they anticipate happening as a result of the enrollment of millions of previously uninsured patients starting January 1, 2014.

Top 3 changes that general surgeons anticipate:
#1 Refer/see more patients with neglected conditions
#2 Receive more referrals
#3 Refer/see more acute cases

Invitations for the survey were emailed to a database totaling 97,743, which included physicians and CRNAs who have been placed by LocumTenens.com and those who have not. Respondents to all surveys were self-selected and spanned all 50 states and medical/surgical specialties. The survey yielded 3,848 respondents. The error range for this survey was +/- 2.4 percent at a 95 percent confidence level.

Methodology:
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About LocumTenens.com:
LocumTenens.com is a full-service staffing firm serving physicians, CRNAs, NPs and PAs searching for locum tenens and permanent job opportunities, as well as healthcare facilities looking to solve employment shortages. Experienced recruiters focus on the following high-demand specialty areas: anesthesia, emergency medicine, obstetrics and gynecology, neurology, psychiatry, primary care (internal medicine, family practice, pediatrics and hospitalist), radiology, medical oncology, radiation oncology, urology, surgery and most surgical sub-specialties. The operator of the largest internet job board for the locum tenens industry, LocumTenens.com provides job-seeking providers direct access to thousands of jobs, in all specialties, posted directly by facilities and agencies nationwide. Whether you want to work with an agency recruiter, or conduct your own online search, LocumTenens.com is obsessively dedicated to assisting with your search.