Every two years, The Physicians Foundation attempts to find out what the country’s doctors are thinking about their profession. This year, 44 percent described their feelings about medicine as positive, an increase from 32 percent in 2012. Younger physicians, female physicians, employed physicians and primary care physicians were more positive about the current medical practice environment than older physicians, male physicians, medical specialists and physicians who owned practices. The 2014 Survey of America’s Physicians was emailed to 650,000 individuals. About 20,000 completed it (3.3% were from Minnesota).

Here are some other highlights:

**On workload**

81 PERCENT of physicians describe themselves as either overextended or at full capacity, up from 75 percent in 2012. Only 19 percent have time to see more patients.

44 PERCENT plan to take steps to reduce patient access such as cutting back on the number of patients seen, retire, work part time or close their practice.

72 PERCENT believe there is a physician shortage.

**On practice setting**

35 PERCENT of physicians describe themselves as owning an independent practice, down from 49 percent in 2012.

53 PERCENT describe themselves as being employed by a hospital or medical group, up from 44 percent.

17 PERCENT say they are in solo practice, down from 25 percent.

**On medicine as a profession**

29 PERCENT of respondents say they would not choose medicine if they had to do it over, a decrease from 35 percent two years earlier.

50 PERCENT say they would recommend medicine as a career to their children, an increase from 42 percent.

**On health care reform**

46 PERCENT of physicians give the Affordable Care Act a grade of D or F, while 25 percent give it an A or B, and 29 percent would give it a C.

85 PERCENT have adopted an electronic medical record (EMR) system, up from 69 percent in 2012. However, 46 percent indicate the EMR has decreased their efficiency, while only 24 percent say it has improved their efficiency.