



# Additional Information About Payment Distributions

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## I. Introduction

The Relativity 101 document contained some information on payment distributions, particularly the frequency and distribution of physicians with high annual claims. This raised further questions of how services provided may vary between different billing groups (e.g.; high versus low billers). The summary below outlines some of these characteristics.

The charts below are based on a dataset of 2015-16 pure FFS billers (i.e., no ARP payments). Furthermore, the physicians in the dataset must bill a minimum of \$100,000 annually and have 100 days with at least \$200 in daily billings.

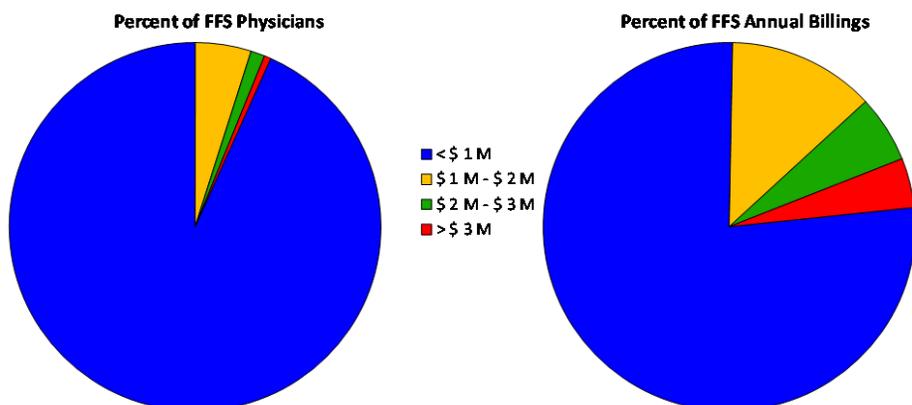
The material below is based on an analysis of all physicians. A more refined view could be obtained by doing the analysis within sections, which could help with sections' own relativity efforts.

## II. Distribution of High Billers and Their Percentage of All Services Billed

As shown in Figure 1, physicians with annual billing in excess of \$2 million account for 1.8% of the group of core FFS physicians but they bill 10.2% of FFS billings for the core group. In total, the 109 physicians who billed more than \$2M per year, were paid \$313.3 in FFS claims.

**Figure 1: How much is billed by annual billing outliers**

Physician Annual Billing Range	Physicians		Total Annual Billings	
	Count	%	\$ 000,000	%
< \$ 1 M	5,680	93.4%	\$2,358.1	77.0%
\$ 1 M - \$ 2 M	295	4.8%	\$392.8	12.8%
\$ 2 M - \$ 3 M	74	1.2%	\$180.2	5.9%
> \$ 3 M	35	0.6%	\$133.1	4.3%



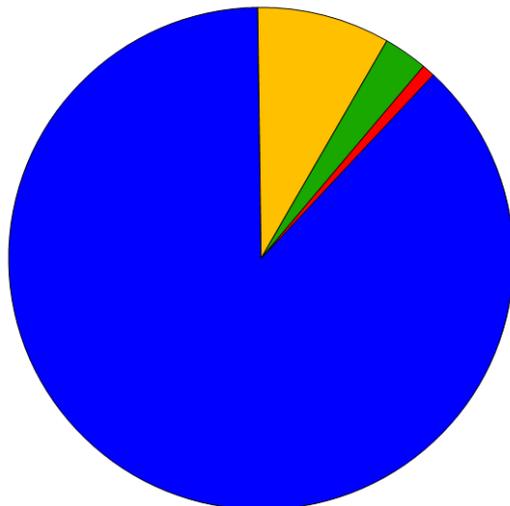
Source: 2015-16 Physician Claims File (certain data excluded)

High billing can also be looked at from a daily billing perspective. Figure 2 shows that high billers (>\$20,000/day) comprise 0.8 percent of physician billing days but account for 5.9% of expenditures. Only physician days with  $\geq$ \$1,500 in billing are included in this table. In total, \$155.7 million was billed on the 6,380 high billing days.

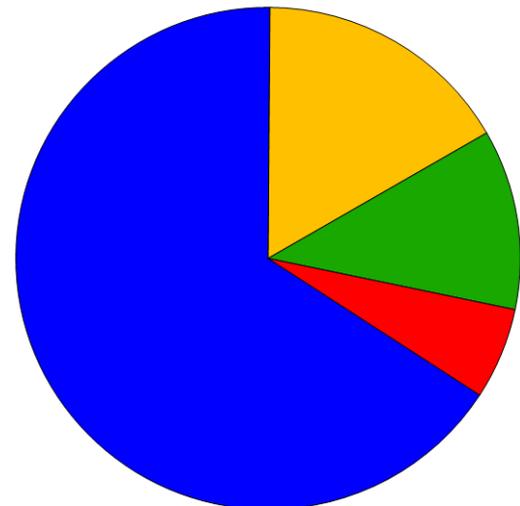
**Figure 2: How much is billed by daily billing outliers**

Physician Daily Billing Range	Physician Days		Total Daily Billings	
	Count	%	\$ 000,000	%
\$1.5-5 K	682,876	87.8%	\$1,744.0	65.9%
\$5-10 K	66,241	8.5%	\$437.7	16.6%
\$10-20 K	21,922	2.8%	\$307.0	11.6%
$\geq$ 20 K	6,380	0.8%	\$155.7	5.9%

**Percent of FFS Physician Days**



**Percent of FFS Daily Billings**



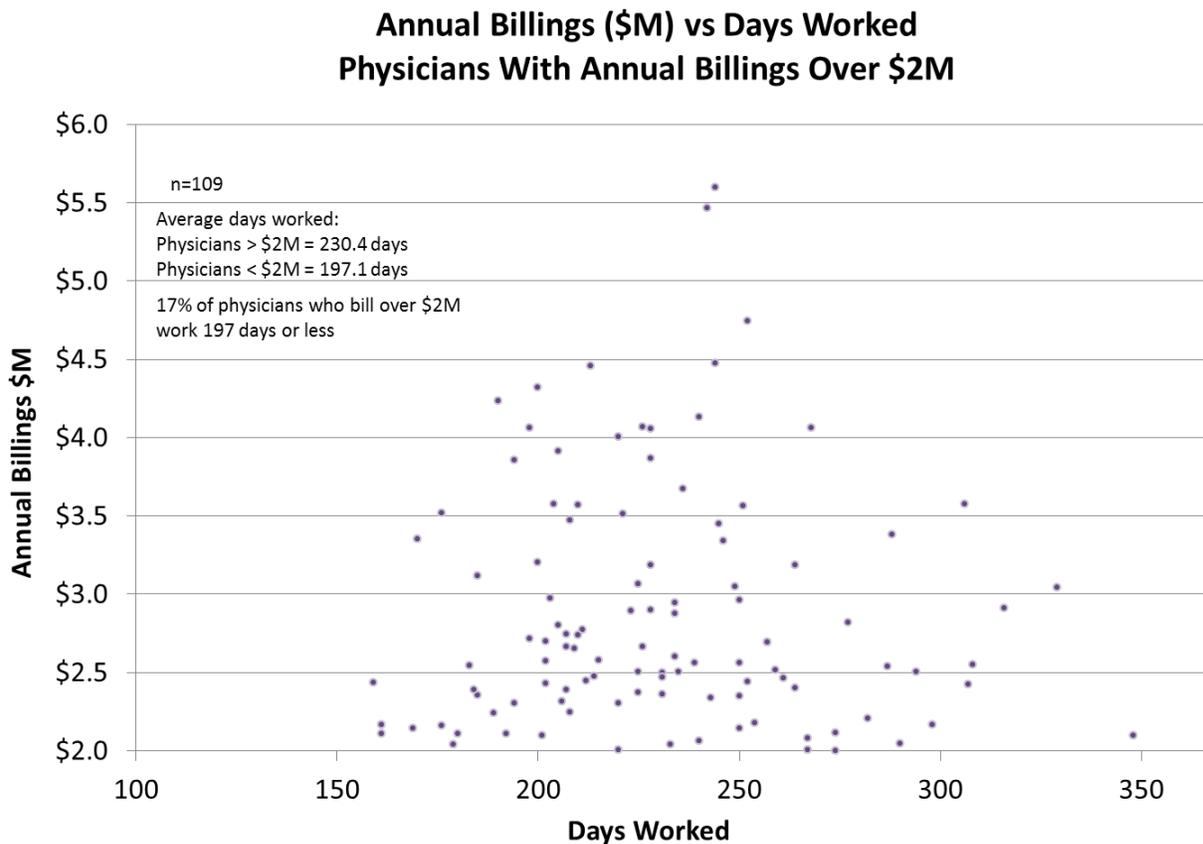
- \$1.5-5 K
- \$5-10 K
- \$10-20 K
- $\geq$  20 K

Source: 2015-16 Physician Claims File (certain data excluded)

### III. Days Worked by High Earners

Additional details on days worked for high annual billers are presented in Figure 3. This shows individual data points of days worked plotted against annual FFS billings. There is not a strong statistical relationship between annual billings and days worked for these billers. Days worked range from 159 to 348 days with the highest biller working 244 days. It is worth noting that physicians with annual claims under \$2 million worked an average of 197.1 days and 17% of this group worked 197 days or less.

Figure 3: Annual days worked by individual high billers

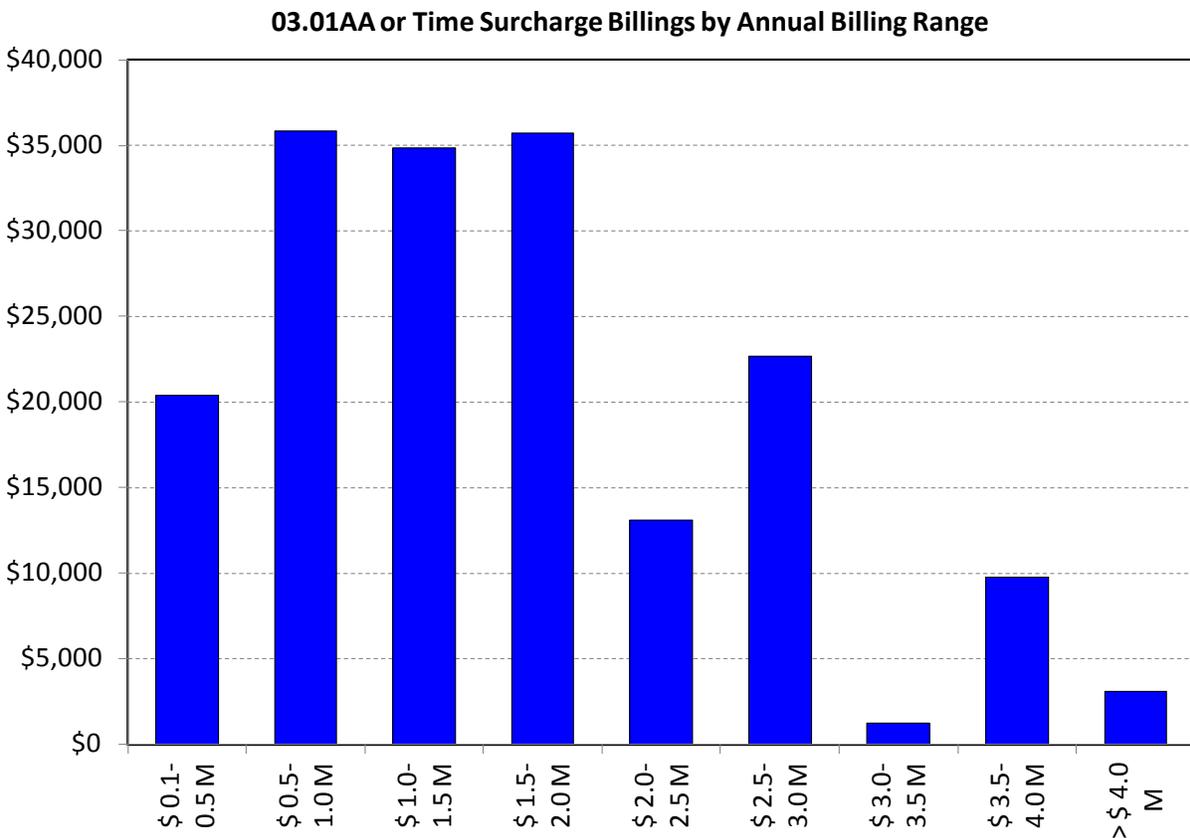


Source: 2015/16 Physicians Claims File (certain data excluded)

## IV. After Hours Work by High Billers

Figure 4 shows payments for after-hours time premium 03.01AA and time surcharges by annual billing range (shown in \$0.5M increments). The 03.01AA and time surcharges are the highest billed after-hours payments and account for 96% of total after-hours payments. Physicians with annual claims between \$0.5 million and \$2.0 million have the highest average after-hours payments (approximately \$35,000 per physician), whereas the three highest billing ranges have the lowest annual after-hour payments. Physicians billing under \$0.5 million have the largest percentage of payments in after-hours fees (6.6%) whereas average after-hours payments comprise less than 1% of annual billings in billing ranges over \$2 million.

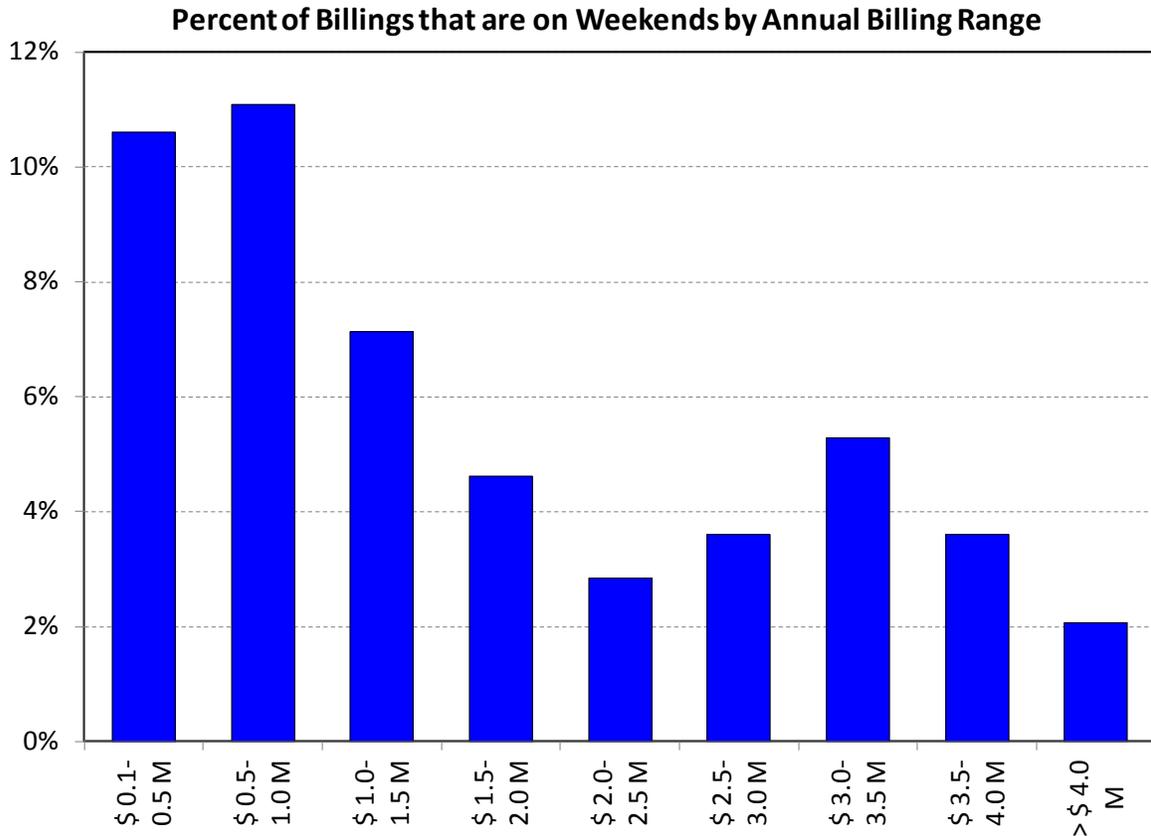
**Figure 4: Average annual after-hours payments by annual billing range**



Source: 2015-16 Physician Claims File (certain data excluded)

A limitation of after-hours claims comparisons is that these services are not payable in the community. A comparison of weekend payments provides supplementary information on after-hours workloads. Figure 5 shows the percentage of billings for services delivered on weekends by annual billing range. Weekend services account for more than 10% of total payments for physicians billing less than \$1 million annually but only 2% of payments for the highest billing group.

**Figure 5: Percentage of billings on weekends by annual billing range**

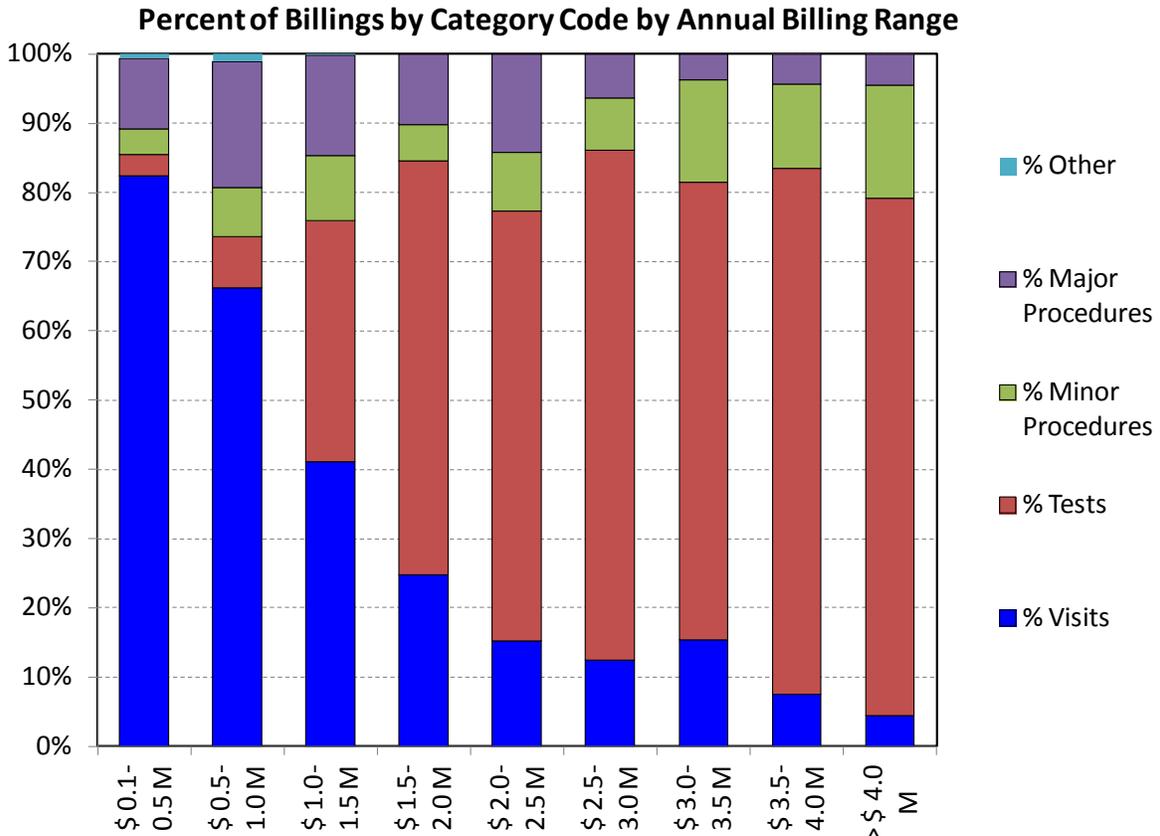


Source: 2015-16 Physician Claims File (certain data excluded)

## IV. Type of Work by High Billers

Figure 6 shows the relationship between annual billing range and the type of services billed using the category code identified on each claims record. In the lower billing ranges, visits constitute the majority of services, whereas tests are the dominant codes in the highest billing ranges. The percentage of major procedures claims peaks in the mid-billing ranges, whereas the percentage of minor procedures claims peaks in the highest billing range.

**Figure 6: Distribution of type of billing by annual billing range**



Source: 2015-16 Physician Claims File (certain data excluded)