



**Accreditation Council**<sup>™</sup>  
for Continuing Medical Education

*learn well*



## **ACCME Data Report**

**Rising to the Challenge in Accredited  
Continuing Education – 2020**

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# ACCME™

*ACCME Data Report:  
Rising to the Challenge in Accredited Continuing Education – 2020*  
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## Message from the ACCME President and CEO

### A Resilient, Innovative, and Dedicated Community of Educators

As I reviewed this data, I reflected on the spirit, resilience, perseverance, and creativity of the accredited education community. Although facing unprecedented challenges, educators adapted rapidly and efficiently, offering critical training to help clinicians and teams respond to the public health crisis. In my career as a physician and an educator, I have never felt prouder of our community—at a pivotal time in our history, you demonstrated strength and compassion.



Despite substantial economic losses and a large reduction in the number of available activities, accredited providers not only retained but increased engagement with physicians and other healthcare professionals. The number of learner interactions increased by 22% from 2019, demonstrating the value of providing accredited education in an ever-evolving healthcare ecosystem. Almost half of all providers, representing all organization types, offered education addressing the pandemic; this education comprised more than 3 million learner interactions, illustrating the remarkable capacity of our community to be part of the solution.

I also recognize that the pandemic has taken a toll on our community. Many of you suffered personal illness and grieved the loss of loved ones and colleagues, while contending with enormous stress and change in work environments. As we pause and reflect on this painful time, I hope that you will take note of your ability to rise to the challenges we faced and that we continue to face. We leveraged teamwork to endure these difficult experiences and we will meet the upcoming challenges together with the same spirit of community.

As we emerge from the pandemic, accredited education will be an essential resource for physicians and teams. We at ACCME want to do everything we can to support you as you support your learners in adapting to the post-pandemic world. I look forward to continuing to work together to evolve our educational approaches to effectively address ongoing challenges, including vaccine hesitancy, medical misinformation, distrust of science, post-pandemic physician burnout, and health equity and disparities.

My colleagues at the ACCME and I want to thank you for showing us the power of education to make the world a better, healthier place. I am hoping for a year of recovery and renewal for all of you and your loved ones.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Graham". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping initial "G" and a horizontal line underneath.

Graham McMahon, MD, MMSc  
President and Chief Executive Officer  
Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME®)

# ACCME Data Report

## Rising to the Challenge in Accredited Continuing Education – 2020

### Executive Summary

Each year, accredited providers within the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME®) System submit data describing their accredited education activities and overall education programs. The ACCME aggregates this information to give a view of the year as well as long-range trends. The 2020 Data Report marks the 23rd year we have published this report as a service to our accredited education community and other healthcare stakeholders.

#### Key Takeaways—A Resilient, Responsive Community

Despite the unprecedented challenges created by the COVID-19 pandemic, accredited providers adapted nimbly, redesigning learning environments to offer critically needed skills and support to physicians and teams. Even with severe economic losses and a reduction in the number of activities, providers retained and even increased engagement by physicians and other healthcare professional learners. This was accomplished by rapidly shifting to online and virtual learning environments. The ability to be so responsive reflects on the strength and capacity of the accredited education community.

- Approximately 1,680 accredited education providers offered over 170,000 educational activities in 2020.
- This education comprised more than 1 million hours of instruction and over 45 million interactions with healthcare professionals.
- Approximately half of all providers, representing all organization types, offered education addressing the pandemic; this education comprised more than 3 million learner interactions.
- Since 2019, the number of learner interactions increased by 22%, while the number of educational events decreased by 9%, and hours of instruction decreased by 18%.
- The activity types that engaged the most learners shifted in 2020 from live courses and regularly scheduled series, the dominant activity types in preceding years, to online activities.
- Increasingly, providers are offering blended, new, or other approaches that do not fall into one of the established activity types. These are identified as *other*. While the number of activities reported as *other* is relatively small (628), this represents an increase from the 409 *other* activities reported in 2019.
- This is the third year in a row that other learner interactions have surpassed physician interactions. (Other learners include nonphysician healthcare professionals such as nurses and pharmacists.)

### **New This Year: Education Related to COVID-19**

This data report includes a special section with analysis about the scope of accredited education activities related to the pandemic. Activities were identified as pertaining to the COVID-19 pandemic if they included the following keywords in the activity title: COVID, coronavirus, SARS-CoV-2, or pandemic. In 2020, accredited providers offered 6,417 activities addressing topics related to the COVID-19 pandemic, predominantly in Internet-based formats. Approximately half of providers offered education addressing topics related to COVID-19, comprising more than 3 million learner interactions.

### **New This Year: Expanded Data about Interprofessional Continuing Education**

In support of our strategic goal to advance data systems, the Joint Accreditation Program and Activity Reporting System (JA-PARS) has been modified to enable jointly accredited providers to report learner data by more professions. In addition to the data about physicians, nurses, pharmacists, pharmacy technicians, optometrists, physician assistants (PAs), psychologists, and social workers, this data report includes, for the first time, the number of learner interactions with dentists and allied dental staff.

### **About the CME Provider Community**

The ACCME Data Report 2020 features information on 1,680 accredited education providers in the ACCME System. This includes:

- ACCME-accredited providers: Organizations that offer continuing medical education (CME) primarily to national or international audiences.
- State-accredited providers: Organizations that offer CME primarily to learners from their state or contiguous states. These providers are accredited by [ACCME Recognized Accreditors](#) (state and territory medical societies).
- Jointly accredited providers: Organizations that focus on continuing education by and for healthcare teams. These providers are accredited by [Joint Accreditation for Interprofessional Continuing Education™](#).

Accredited providers represent a range of organizations from large international institutions to small rural hospitals. Some specialize in local, community-based health issues, others focus on national and international health priorities, and others advance interprofessional continuing education (IPCE) and team-based care. The ACCME and Joint Accreditation accredit organizations within and outside the US, and this report includes data from providers located in other countries in addition to US provider data. The geographic distribution and diversity of accredited education providers means that physicians and teams have access to high-quality education where they live and work that addresses local, national, and international healthcare priorities.

Supplemental Data: This report features data aggregated from all the accredited providers in the ACCME System. We have also published a supplement which includes separate data sets about the accredited education offered by ACCME-accredited providers, state-accredited providers, and jointly accredited providers. Download the supplement [here](#).

### **Accredited Education Design and Evaluation**

Accredited providers offer a diverse range of online and face-to-face activities to meet learners' educational needs and preferences. Accreditation requirements ensure that the education is based on practice-relevant, valid content that is independent of commercial interests.

Promoting Change: The Accreditation Criteria require providers to produce educational activities that are designed to create change and to analyze the changes that were achieved as a result of the activities. The report shows that 98% of accredited education activities are designed for changes in competence (teaching skills and strategies for translating new knowledge into action); 55% are designed to change performance (improving what healthcare professionals actually do in practice); and 28% are designed to change patient outcomes.

### **Investment in Accredited Education**

Accredited providers reported approximately \$2.2 billion in investment in education from a variety of sources in 2020, a decrease of almost 27% from 2019. The majority of income (56%) came from participant registration fees. Commercial support accounted for 32%, advertising and exhibits for 10%, and private donations and government grants for the remainder. The vast majority of accredited education activities (91%) did not receive commercial support, accounting for 88% of learner interactions.

### **About the ACCME Data Report**

Data Report Preparation: The aggregated information published in this annual report is based upon self-reporting by accredited providers and is available for audit by ACCME per requirements. The ACCME does not provide full verification of the accuracy of all reported information but does follow-up on outliers or major changes from previous years. We also investigate if it appears that providers have reported activity data that does not conform to the ACCME's definitions and reporting instructions.

Glossary: For more information about the terms used in the data report, please see the [ACCME/AMA Glossary of Terms and Definitions](#).

**CME Presented by Providers Accredited in the ACCME System**  
**Table 1. Activities Addressing the COVID-19 Pandemic<sup>1</sup>—2020**

	<b>Activities</b>	<b>Hours of instruction</b>	<b>Physician interactions<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>Other learner interactions<sup>2</sup></b>
Courses	1,064	2,060	33,882	27,078
Regularly scheduled series	254	4,800	189,980	286,969
Internet (live)	2,438	3,605	192,885	225,620
Test-item writing	-	-	-	-
Committee learning	4	57	70	58
Performance improvement	3	80	152	5
Internet searching and learning	3	5	44	31
Internet enduring materials	2,230	2,505	530,592	1,503,738
Enduring materials (other)	260	357	81,959	57,354
Learning from teaching	-	-	-	-
Journal CME	76	102	6,039	1,655
Manuscript review	-	-	-	-
Other	85	2,436	24,024	13,001
<b>Number of providers</b>				
<b>Grand total</b>	<b>786</b>	<b>6,417</b>	<b>16,007</b>	<b>1,059,627</b>
			<b>1,059,627</b>	<b>2,115,509</b>

<sup>1</sup>Activities were identified as pertaining to the COVID-19 pandemic if they included the following keywords in the activity title: COVID, coronavirus, SARS-CoV-2, or pandemic.

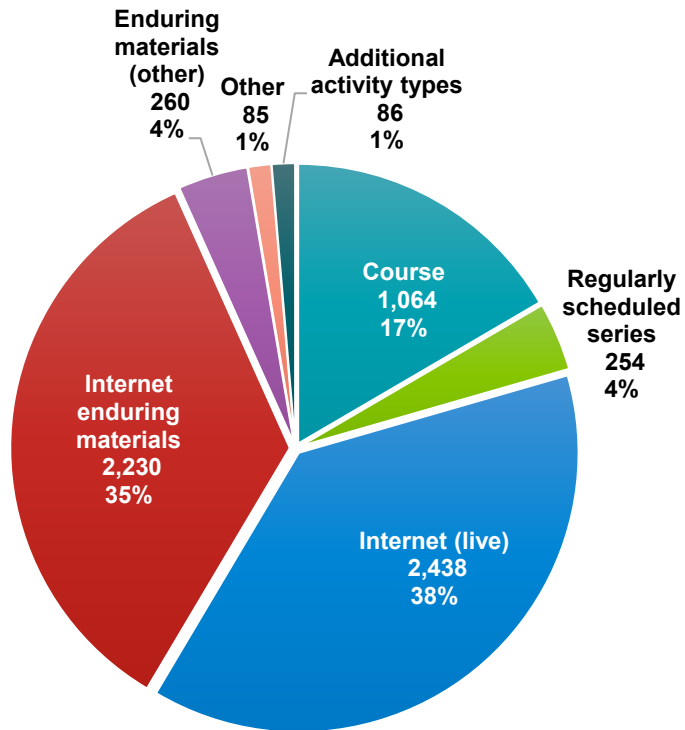
<sup>2</sup>Accredited providers report the number of participants at each activity. In this report, the participant numbers are referred to as interactions. The data represents aggregate numbers of interactions and not the number of unique participants. Participants attending multiple activities are counted multiple times.



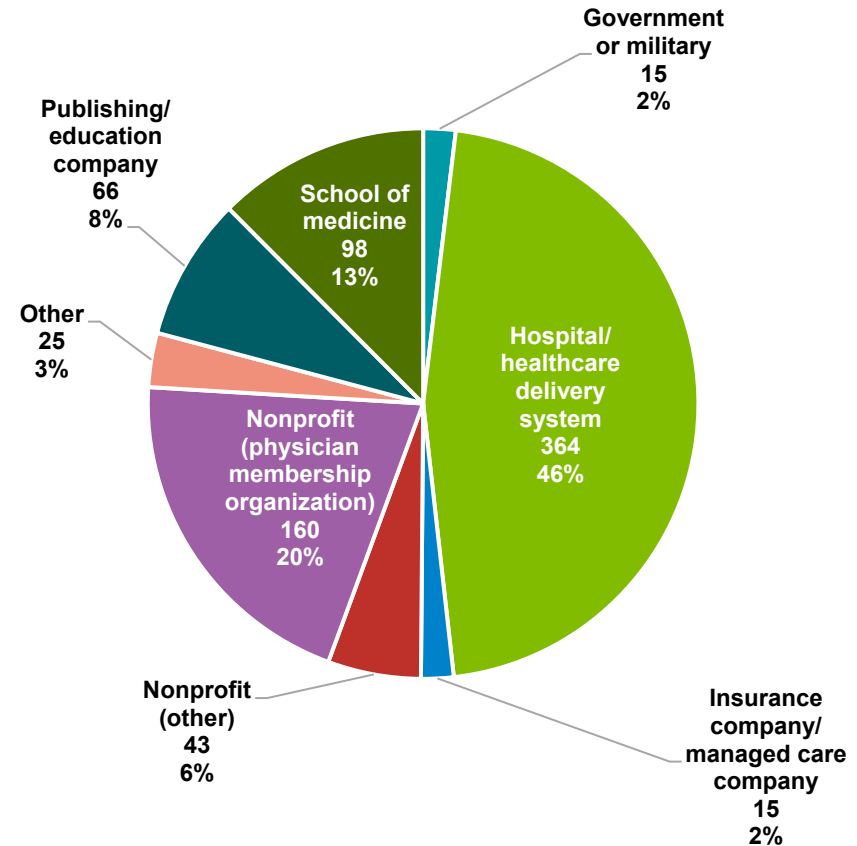
## CME Presented by Providers Accredited in the ACCME System

### Figure 1-2. Activities Addressing the COVID-19 Pandemic

**Activity Counts by Activity Type**  
Total activities = 6,417



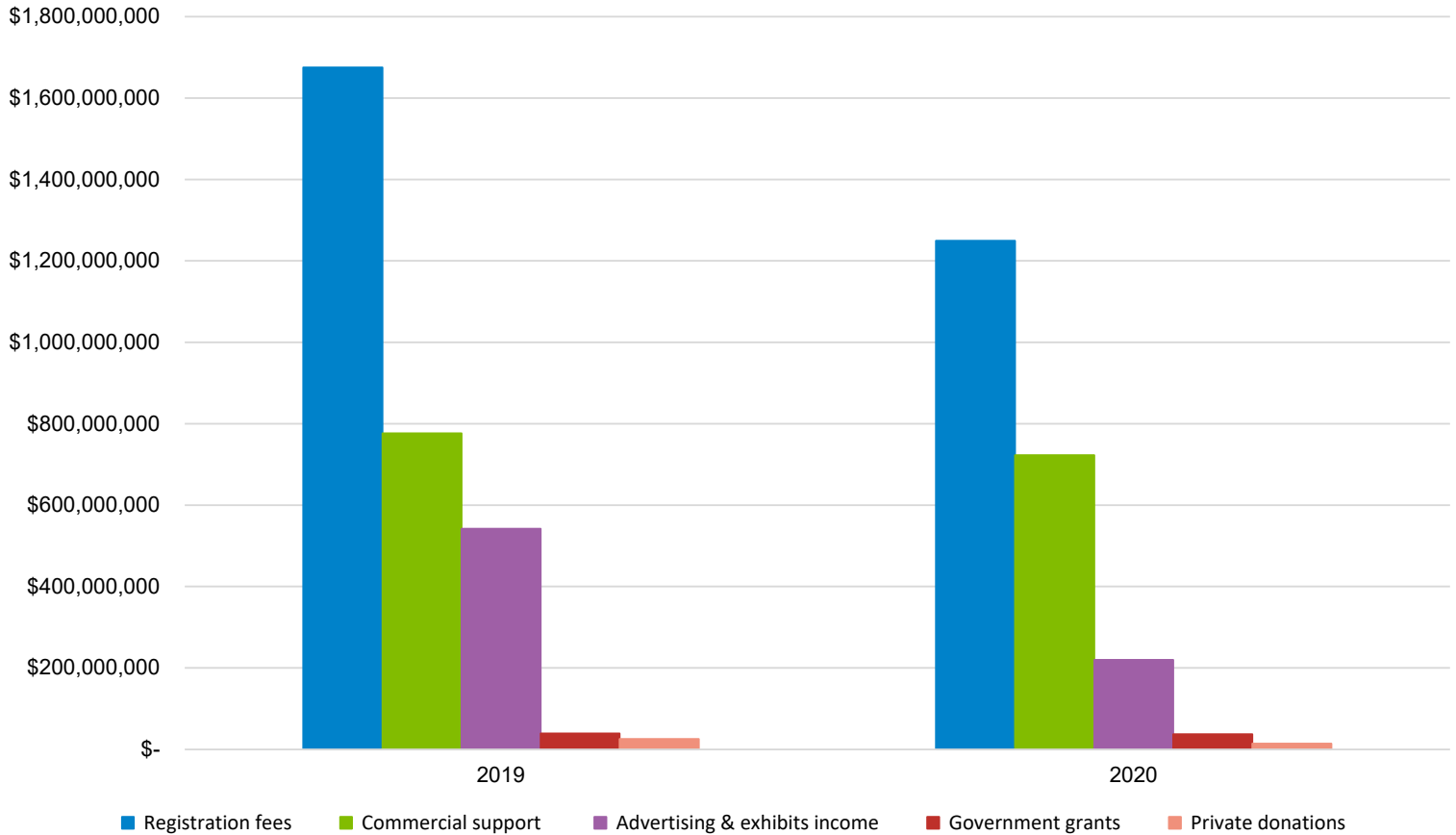
**Number of Providers by Organization Type**  
Total organizations = 786



In 2020, accredited providers offered 6,417 activities addressing topics related to the COVID-19 pandemic. These activities represented a range of activity types, with Internet-based formats being the most popular. Almost half of all providers in the ACCME system offered education addressing topics related to COVID-19. All organization types developed education regarding this topic.

## CME Presented by Providers Accredited in the ACCME System

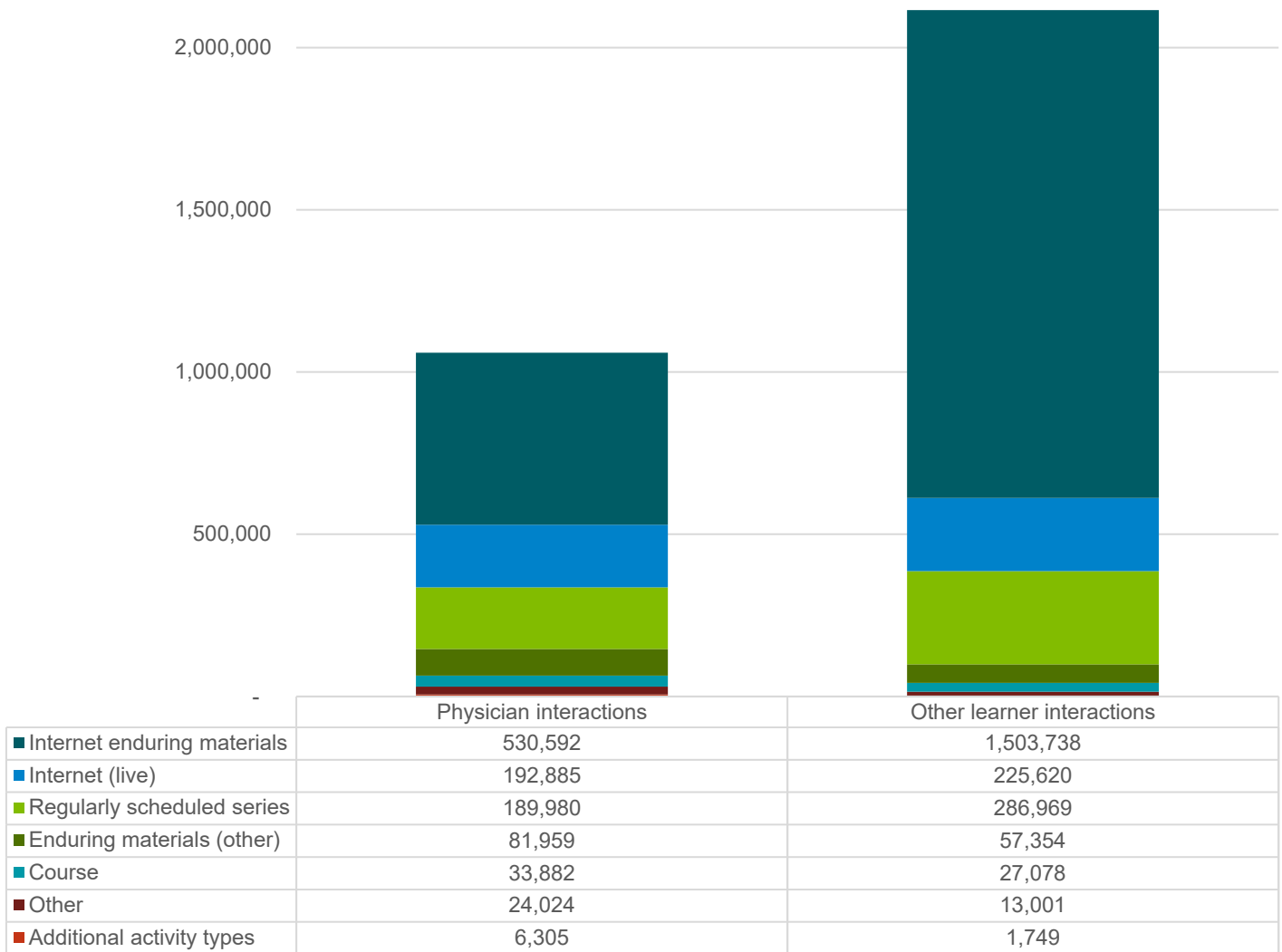
### Figure 3. Impact of COVID-19 on Income



Total income for 2020 decreased by about 27% compared to 2019. While all income categories decreased, advertising and exhibits income showed the greatest percent change, down by 59%, and registration fees decreased by the greatest amount (~\$426 million). Although we did not ask providers for rationale behind the declines, we infer from the data and our discussions with providers that the decreases are due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

# CME Presented by Providers Accredited in the ACCME System

## Figure 4. Activities Addressing the COVID-19 Pandemic Learner Interactions by Activity Type



Over 3 million learner interactions were reported for activities addressing the COVID-19 pandemic. The majority of these interactions occurred in Internet-based activities.

## CME Presented by Providers Accredited in the ACCME System

### Table 2. Size of the CME Enterprise—2020

Total providers = 1,680

	Activities	Hours of instruction	Physician interactions <sup>1</sup>	Other learner interactions <sup>1</sup>
Courses	39,379	244,516	571,509	780,642
Regularly scheduled series	24,256	491,347	5,023,069	2,477,052
Internet (live)	28,703	101,684	968,524	1,607,917
Test-item writing	132	1,295	2,030	453
Committee learning	196	1,062	5,705	5,495
Performance improvement	426	8,303	143,686	5,284
Internet searching and learning	69	1,337	2,820,914	116,786
Internet enduring materials	61,393	148,865	6,319,777	19,152,322
Enduring materials (other)	10,631	42,442	997,129	2,576,903
Learning from teaching	41	319	4,173	367
Journal CME	5,905	10,493	1,117,678	268,435
Manuscript review	153	821	82,598	9,055
Other	628	12,125	191,828	91,816
<b>Number of providers</b>				
<b>Grand total 2020</b>	<b>1,680</b>	<b>171,912</b>	<b>1,064,608</b>	<b>18,248,620</b>
Grand total 2019 <sup>2</sup>	1,724	188,992	1,309,167	17,318,795
Grand total 2018 <sup>3</sup>	1,763	179,158	1,231,670	15,457,998
Grand total 2017	1,794	162,965	1,178,562	15,601,498
Grand total 2016	1,833	158,707	1,129,833	15,164,072
Grand total 2015	1,876	148,227	1,039,479	14,231,863
Grand total 2014	1,908	147,024	1,033,615	13,599,687
Grand total 2013	1,950	138,196	1,010,301	13,764,896
Grand total 2012	2,000	133,620	988,208	14,319,688
Grand total 2011	2,079	132,768	952,736	13,741,621
Grand total 2010	2,144	127,880	954,204	13,814,368
Grand total 2009	2,225	143,274	989,613	13,263,920
Grand total 2008	2,329	150,370	1,091,851	13,230,102
Grand total 2007	2,399	162,869	1,085,567	11,378,052
Grand total 2006	2,413	149,884	1,061,859	11,391,627
Grand total 2005	2,322	134,721	1,036,930	10,354,460

<sup>1</sup>Accredited providers report the number of participants at each activity. In this report, the participant numbers are referred to as interactions. The data represents aggregate numbers of interactions and not the number of unique participants. Participants attending multiple activities are counted multiple times.

<sup>2</sup>Five accredited organizations were unable to complete their 2019 report. 2018 data was carried forward for these organizations. The data carried forward accounts for <0.1% of activity data.

<sup>3</sup>In 2018, the launch of the Joint Accreditation Program and Activity Reporting System (JA-PARS) enabled jointly accredited providers to report program and activity data, including uni-professional and interprofessional continuing education (IPCE) activities, into a single, unified repository. Before 2018, jointly accredited providers reported data into multiple accreditors' data systems. This change accounts for the increase in other learner interactions.

**CME Presented by Providers Accredited in the ACCME System**  
**Table 3. Activities by Organization and Activity Type—2020**

<b>Organization type</b>	<b>Government or military</b>	<b>Hospital/ healthcare delivery System</b>	<b>Insurance company/managed-care company</b>	<b>Nonprofit (other)</b>	<b>Nonprofit (physician membership organization)</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Publishing/ education company</b>	<b>School of medicine</b>	<b>Grand total</b>
<b>Number of providers</b>	33	846	25	102	317	56	152	149	<b>1,680</b>
Courses	7,868	14,443	483	791	5,829	675	2,920	6,370	<b>39,379</b>
Regularly scheduled series	721	13,387	1	347	249	174	95	9,282	<b>24,256</b>
Internet (live)	2,384	5,856	369	2,115	8,380	584	4,549	4,466	<b>28,703</b>
Test-item writing	-	-	-	-	73	5	-	54	<b>132</b>
Committee learning	10	129	30	-	9	3	-	15	<b>196</b>
Performance improvement	-	227	7	11	129	14	12	26	<b>426</b>
Internet searching and learning	-	12	1	1	7	-	39	9	<b>69</b>
Internet enduring materials	2,206	6,001	1,383	1,778	11,727	1,620	29,022	7,656	<b>61,393</b>
Enduring materials (other)	103	1,852	67	581	1,745	204	5,264	815	<b>10,631</b>
Learning from teaching	-	18	-	6	-	-	8	9	<b>41</b>
Journal CME	1	450	-	48	3,652	357	1,221	176	<b>5,905</b>
Manuscript review	1	3	-	2	91	2	45	9	<b>153</b>
Other	-	216	1	28	253	5	36	89	<b>628</b>
<b>Grand total</b>	<b>13,294</b>	<b>42,594</b>	<b>2,342</b>	<b>5,708</b>	<b>32,144</b>	<b>3,643</b>	<b>43,211</b>	<b>28,976</b>	<b>171,912</b>

**CME Presented by Providers Accredited in the ACCME System**  
**Table 4. Hours of Instruction by Organization and Activity Type—2020**

<b>Organization type</b>	<b>Government or military</b>	<b>Hospital/ healthcare delivery System</b>	<b>Insurance company/ managed-care company</b>	<b>Nonprofit (other)</b>	<b>Nonprofit (physician membership organization)</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Publishing/ education company</b>	<b>School of medicine</b>	<b>Grand total</b>
<b>Number of providers</b>	33	846	25	102	317	56	152	149	<b>1,680</b>
Courses	43,022	65,236	974	4,559	52,207	4,098	25,520	48,901	<b>244,516</b>
Regularly scheduled series	14,160	225,363	4	5,574	4,473	3,679	1,545	236,550	<b>491,347</b>
Internet (live)	8,647	16,349	672	6,856	22,400	2,140	22,267	22,353	<b>101,684</b>
Test-item writing	-	-	-	-	785	6	-	504	<b>1,295</b>
Committee learning	107	649	69	-	41	3	-	193	<b>1,062</b>
Performance improvement	-	4,494	140	10	2,914	5	191	550	<b>8,303</b>
Internet searching and learning	-	167	1	0	4	-	1,141	24	<b>1,337</b>
Internet enduring materials	3,640	7,210	1,385	5,035	45,230	3,363	64,108	18,896	<b>148,865</b>
Enduring materials (other)	535	4,469	223	1,124	9,397	1,566	21,128	3,999	<b>42,442</b>
Learning from teaching	-	81	-	20	-	-	22	197	<b>319</b>
Journal CME	1	774	-	54	6,254	357	2,837	217	<b>10,493</b>
Manuscript review	15	9	-	13	594	6	135	49	<b>821</b>
Other	-	1,995	10	734	6,169	68	1,290	1,860	<b>12,125</b>
<b>Grand total</b>	<b>70,126</b>	<b>326,795</b>	<b>3,476</b>	<b>23,978</b>	<b>150,467</b>	<b>15,291</b>	<b>140,183</b>	<b>334,292</b>	<b>1,064,608</b>

**CME Presented by Providers Accredited in the ACCME System**  
**Table 5. Physician Interactions by Organization and Activity Type—2020**

<b>Organization type</b>	<b>Government or military</b>	<b>Hospital/ healthcare delivery System</b>	<b>Insurance company/ managed-care company</b>	<b>Nonprofit (other)</b>	<b>Nonprofit (physician membership organization)</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Publishing/ education company</b>	<b>School of medicine</b>	<b>Grand total</b>
<b>Number of providers</b>	33	846	25	102	317	56	152	149	<b>1,680</b>
Courses	22,938	174,150	6,204	15,278	153,247	8,374	50,446	140,872	<b>571,509</b>
Regularly scheduled series	165,960	2,171,826	30	54,577	71,942	30,122	20,055	2,508,557	<b>5,023,069</b>
Internet (live)	22,902	177,276	10,113	56,529	298,389	16,744	266,437	120,134	<b>968,524</b>
Test-item writing	-	-	-	-	1,426	26	-	578	<b>2,030</b>
Committee learning	67	4,301	332	-	164	11	-	830	<b>5,705</b>
Performance improvement	-	3,305	380	419	139,032	56	12	482	<b>143,686</b>
Internet searching and learning	-	1,940	232	38	4,791	-	2,661,801	152,112	<b>2,820,914</b>
Internet enduring materials	140,891	185,683	312,166	379,879	1,521,710	115,574	3,169,438	494,436	<b>6,319,777</b>
Enduring materials (other)	4,391	126,952	9,510	22,676	348,039	3,029	451,640	30,892	<b>997,129</b>
Learning from teaching	-	560	-	689	-	-	2,767	157	<b>4,173</b>
Journal CME	1	51,059	-	819	944,742	427	109,795	10,835	<b>1,117,678</b>
Manuscript review	18	561	-	87	34,468	133	46,607	724	<b>82,598</b>
Other	-	10,273	19	880	153,267	796	7,865	18,728	<b>191,828</b>
<b>Grand total</b>	<b>357,168</b>	<b>2,907,886</b>	<b>338,986</b>	<b>531,871</b>	<b>3,671,217</b>	<b>175,292</b>	<b>6,786,863</b>	<b>3,479,337</b>	<b>18,248,620</b>

**CME Presented by Providers Accredited in the ACCME System**  
**Table 6. Other Learner Interactions by Organization and Activity Type—2020**

<b>Organization type</b>	<b>Government or military</b>	<b>Hospital/ healthcare delivery System</b>	<b>Insurance company/ managed-care company</b>	<b>Nonprofit (other)</b>	<b>Nonprofit (physician membership organization)</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Publishing/ education company</b>	<b>School of medicine</b>	<b>Grand total</b>
<b>Number of providers</b>	33	846	25	102	317	56	152	149	<b>1,680</b>
Courses	153,321	254,864	4,091	17,277	88,098	10,971	64,627	187,393	<b>780,642</b>
Regularly scheduled series	260,106	1,146,268	213	21,675	35,140	8,695	10,985	993,970	<b>2,477,052</b>
Internet (live)	175,712	191,686	6,624	116,383	261,625	39,357	643,390	173,140	<b>1,607,917</b>
Test-item writing	-	-	-	-	294	126	-	33	<b>453</b>
Committee learning	-	4,714	-	-	43	45	-	693	<b>5,495</b>
Performance improvement	-	2,463	137	-	2,052	199	19	414	<b>5,284</b>
Internet searching and learning	-	389	397	27	9	-	20,441	95,523	<b>116,786</b>
Internet enduring materials	1,372,841	362,968	88,459	1,398,624	1,423,213	399,842	13,437,929	668,446	<b>19,152,322</b>
Enduring materials (other)	17,927	121,093	4,957	288,690	64,181	3,281	2,030,189	46,585	<b>2,576,903</b>
Learning from teaching	-	178	-	129	-	-	58	2	<b>367</b>
Journal CME	2	17,900	-	3,589	107,012	1,350	137,272	1,310	<b>268,435</b>
Manuscript review	-	168	-	-	6,088	16	2,769	14	<b>9,055</b>
Other	-	15,596	-	81	66,017	1,598	2,128	6,396	<b>91,816</b>
<b>Grand total</b>	<b>1,979,909</b>	<b>2,118,287</b>	<b>104,878</b>	<b>1,846,475</b>	<b>2,053,772</b>	<b>465,480</b>	<b>16,349,807</b>	<b>2,173,919</b>	<b>27,092,527</b>



**CME Presented by Providers Accredited in the ACCME System**  
**Table 7. Income—2020**  
**Total Providers =1,680**

	<b>Total reported income</b>	<b>Registration fees</b>	<b>Total commercial support</b>	<b>Advertising and exhibits income</b>	<b>Private donations</b>	<b>Government grants</b>
Average	\$ 1,335,492	\$ 743,572	\$ 430,223	\$ 130,761	\$ 8,666	\$ 22,271
First quartile <sup>1</sup>	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Second quartile (median) <sup>1</sup>	\$ 11,500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Third quartile <sup>1</sup>	\$ 280,603	\$ 80,000	\$ 6,197	\$ 15,000	\$ -	\$ -
Total	\$ 2,243,627,062	\$ 1,249,200,596	\$ 722,774,042	\$ 219,679,012	\$ 14,558,799	\$ 37,414,614
Providers reporting data > \$0	971	788	476	567	265	131

<sup>1</sup>The percentage of providers reporting data for some of the financial categories is less than needed to report some of the quartile values.

**CME Presented by Providers Accredited in the ACCME System**  
**Table 8. Income by Organization Type—2020**

	Number of providers	Total reported income	Registration fees	Total commercial support	Advertising and exhibits income	Private donations	Government grants
Government or military	33	\$ 2,335,705	\$ 384,600	\$ 10,990	\$ 65,800	\$ 37,500	\$ 1,836,815
Hospital/healthcare delivery System	846	\$ 55,667,279	\$ 19,363,064	\$ 20,949,393	\$ 11,091,924	\$ 1,942,994	\$ 2,319,904
Insurance company/managed-care company	25	\$ 4,415,879	\$ 498,760	\$ 3,907,891	\$ -	\$ 8,000	\$ 1,228
Nonprofit (other)	102	\$ 64,443,462	\$ 25,219,052	\$ 29,046,910	\$ 3,609,314	\$ 2,121,318	\$ 4,446,868
Nonprofit (physician membership organization)	317	\$ 583,284,906	\$ 355,987,724	\$ 76,773,896	\$ 128,454,844	\$ 5,832,932	\$ 16,235,509
Other	56	\$ 25,303,444	\$ 18,667,694	\$ 1,777,853	\$ 2,944,947	\$ 192,705	\$ 1,720,245
Publishing/education company	152	\$ 1,274,879,044	\$ 733,490,732	\$ 504,716,513	\$ 33,550,688	\$ 641,334	\$ 2,479,775
School of medicine	149	\$ 233,297,343	\$ 95,588,970	\$ 85,590,594	\$ 39,961,494	\$ 3,782,016	\$ 8,374,269
<b>Grand total 2020</b>	<b>1,680</b>	<b>\$ 2,243,627,062</b>	<b>\$ 1,249,200,596</b>	<b>\$ 722,774,042</b>	<b>\$ 219,679,012</b>	<b>\$ 14,558,799</b>	<b>\$ 37,414,614</b>
Grand total 2019	1,724	\$ 3,058,907,317	\$ 1,675,099,910	\$ 776,597,793	\$ 542,056,113	\$ 25,773,624	\$ 39,379,877
Grand total 2018	1,763	\$ 2,833,569,300	\$ 1,527,559,796	\$ 748,302,064	\$ 499,052,494	\$ 26,744,928	\$ 31,910,017
Grand total 2017	1,794	\$ 2,682,821,566	\$ 1,449,460,937	\$ 739,331,934	\$ 434,718,810	\$ 30,517,214	\$ 28,792,671
Grand total 2016	1,833	\$ 2,515,804,249	\$ 1,342,942,668	\$ 704,132,877	\$ 411,220,086	\$ 33,148,454	\$ 24,360,164
Grand total 2015	1,876	\$ 2,464,326,269	\$ 1,309,421,232	\$ 693,786,396	\$ 389,961,753	\$ 36,371,537	\$ 34,785,352

Note: Grand totals may differ slightly due to rounding.

**CME Presented by Providers Accredited in the ACCME System**

**Table 9. CME Activities and Interactions with and without Commercial Support—2020**

	Activities		Physician interactions		Other learner interactions	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
<b>No commercial support</b>	156,096	91%	15,951,033	87%	24,138,335	89%
<i>ACCME-accredited providers</i>	75,753		10,784,229		6,625,438	
<i>Jointly accredited providers</i>	52,029		3,522,323		16,289,517	
<i>State-accredited providers</i>	28,314		1,644,481		1,223,380	
<b>Commercial support</b>	15,816	9%	2,297,587	13%	2,954,192	11%
<i>ACCME-accredited providers</i>	10,176		1,195,292		1,056,204	
<i>Jointly accredited providers</i>	5,460		1,088,383		1,885,550	
<i>State-accredited providers</i>	180		13,912		12,438	
<b>Total</b>	<b>171,912</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>18,248,620</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>27,092,527</b>	<b>100%</b>

In 2020, the majority of CME activities (91%) did not receive commercial support, accounting for 87% of physician interactions, and 89% of other learner interactions. Nine percent of CME activities received commercial support, accounting for 13% of physician interactions and 11% of other learner interactions.

**CME Presented by Providers Accredited in the ACCME System**  
**Table 10. Total Numbers of Activities, Hours, and Interactions—2020**

	<b>Activities</b>	<b>Hours of instruction</b>	<b>Physician interactions</b>	<b>Other learner interactions</b>
Course	39,379	244,516	571,509	780,642
Regularly scheduled series	24,256	491,347	5,023,069	2,477,052
Internet live course	28,703	101,684	968,524	1,607,917
Test item writing	132	1,295	2,030	453
Committee learning	196	1,062	5,705	5,495
Performance improvement	426	8,303	143,686	5,284
Internet searching and learning	69	1,337	2,820,914	116,786
Internet activity enduring material	61,393	148,865	6,319,777	19,152,322
Enduring material	10,631	42,442	997,129	2,576,903
Learning from teaching	41	319	4,173	367
Journal-based CME	5,905	10,493	1,117,678	268,435
Manuscript review	153	821	82,598	9,055
Other	628	12,125	191,828	91,816
<b>Total</b>	<b>171,912</b>	<b>1,064,608</b>	<b>18,248,620</b>	<b>27,092,527</b>

**CME Presented by Providers Accredited in the ACCME System**  
**Table 11. Numbers of Activities, Hours, and Interactions *without* Commercial Support—2020**

	<b>Activities</b>	<b>Hours of instruction</b>	<b>Physician interactions</b>	<b>Other learner interactions</b>
Course	37,194	228,158	436,205	666,700
Regularly scheduled series	24,155	489,415	4,988,151	2,451,538
Internet live course	24,656	89,281	640,122	1,235,535
Test item writing	131	1,261	1,873	295
Committee learning	196	1,062	5,705	5,495
Performance improvement	418	8,155	143,557	5,232
Internet searching and learning	68	1,336	2,820,913	116,786
Internet activity enduring material	52,783	138,776	4,790,316	16,889,234
Enduring material	9,900	41,161	826,151	2,429,145
Learning from teaching	41	319	4,173	367
Journal-based CME	5,833	10,345	1,104,901	263,677
Manuscript review	153	821	82,598	9,055
Other	568	9,840	106,368	65,276
<b>Total</b>	<b>156,096</b>	<b>1,019,930</b>	<b>15,951,033</b>	<b>24,138,335</b>

**CME Presented by Providers Accredited in the ACCME System**  
**Table 12. Numbers of Activities, Hours, and Interactions *with* Commercial Support—2020**

	<b>Activities</b>	<b>Hours of instruction</b>	<b>Physician interactions</b>	<b>Other learner interactions</b>
Course	2,185	16,358	135,304	113,942
Regularly scheduled series	101	1,932	34,918	25,514
Internet live course	4,047	12,402	328,402	372,382
Test item writing	1	35	157	158
Committee learning	-	-	-	-
Performance improvement	8	148	129	52
Internet searching and learning	1	1	1	-
Internet activity enduring material	8,610	10,088	1,529,461	2,263,088
Enduring material	731	1,281	170,978	147,758
Learning from teaching	-	-	-	-
Journal-based CME	72	149	12,777	4,758
Manuscript review	-	-	-	-
Other	60	2,286	85,460	26,540
<b>Total</b>	<b>15,816</b>	<b>44,678</b>	<b>2,297,587</b>	<b>2,954,192</b>

**CME Presented by Providers Accredited in the ACCME System**

**Table 13. Activity by Organization Type—2020**

Organization type	Government or military	Hospital/healthcare delivery System	Insurance company/managed-care company	Nonprofit (other)	Nonprofit (physician membership organization)	Other	Publishing/education company	School of medicine	All providers
<b>Number of providers</b>	33	846	25	102	317	56	152	149	<b>1,680</b>
Average	403	50	94	56	101	65	284	194	<b>102</b>
First quartile	4	6	6	6	4	4	19	40	<b>7</b>
Second quartile (median)	16	16	16	16	22	25	55	100	<b>21</b>
Third quartile	96	44	55	55	81	66	191	279	<b>79</b>
<b>Grand total</b>	<b>13,294</b>	<b>42,594</b>	<b>2,342</b>	<b>5,708</b>	<b>32,144</b>	<b>3,643</b>	<b>43,211</b>	<b>28,976</b>	<b>171,912</b>

**CME Presented by Providers Accredited in the ACCME System**

**Table 14. Hours of Instruction by Organization Type—2020**

Organization type	Government or military	Hospital/healthcare delivery System	Insurance company/managed-care company	Nonprofit (other)	Nonprofit (physician membership organization)	Other	Publishing/education company	School of medicine	All providers
<b>Number of providers</b>	33	846	25	102	317	56	152	149	<b>1,680</b>
Average	2,125	386	139	235	475	273	922	2,244	<b>634</b>
First quartile	14	35	23	31	29	13	50	421	<b>37</b>
Second quartile (median)	38	116	41	95	108	66	227	1,579	<b>131</b>
Third quartile	432	333	176	306	365	290	736	3,140	<b>501</b>
<b>Grand total</b>	<b>70,126</b>	<b>326,795</b>	<b>3,476</b>	<b>23,978</b>	<b>150,467</b>	<b>15,291</b>	<b>140,183</b>	<b>334,292</b>	<b>1,064,608</b>

**CME Presented by Providers Accredited in the ACCME System**

**Table 15. Physician Interactions by Organization Type—2020**

Organization type	Government or military	Hospital/healthcare delivery System	Insurance company/managed-care company	Nonprofit (other)	Nonprofit (physician membership organization)	Other	Publishing/education company	School of medicine	All providers
<b>Number of providers</b>	33	846	25	102	317	56	152	149	<b>1,680</b>
Average	10,823	3,437	13,559	5,214	11,581	3,130	44,650	23,351	<b>10,862</b>
First quartile	74	295	231	78	270	53	438	3,173	<b>267</b>
Second quartile (median)	496	960	1,214	501	1,321	330	2,989	15,226	<b>1,140</b>
Third quartile	2,709	3,118	7,595	1,455	5,462	1,514	13,499	31,524	<b>5,121</b>
<b>Grand total</b>	<b>357,168</b>	<b>2,907,886</b>	<b>338,986</b>	<b>531,871</b>	<b>3,671,217</b>	<b>175,292</b>	<b>6,786,863</b>	<b>3,479,337</b>	<b>18,248,620</b>

**CME Presented by Providers Accredited in the ACCME System**

**Table 16. Other Learner Interactions by Organization Type—2020**

Organization type	Government or military	Hospital/healthcare delivery System	Insurance company/managed-care company	Nonprofit (other)	Nonprofit (physician membership organization)	Other	Publishing/education company	School of medicine	All providers
<b>Number of providers</b>	33	846	25	102	317	56	152	149	<b>1,680</b>
Average	59,997	2,504	4,195	18,103	6,479	8,312	107,565	14,590	<b>16,127</b>
First quartile	81	158	116	95	25	66	233	2,358	<b>144</b>
Second quartile (median)	809	532	490	601	417	531	1,873	7,121	<b>669</b>
Third quartile	3,686	1,708	2,053	2,283	2,553	3,074	17,198	17,514	<b>3,232</b>
<b>Grand total</b>	<b>1,979,909</b>	<b>2,118,287</b>	<b>104,878</b>	<b>1,846,475</b>	<b>2,053,772</b>	<b>465,480</b>	<b>16,349,807</b>	<b>2,173,919</b>	<b>27,092,527</b>

**CME Presented by Providers Accredited in the ACCME System  
Table 17. Registration Fee by Organization Type—2020**

Organization type	Government or military	Hospital/healthcare delivery System	Insurance company/managed-care company	Nonprofit (other)	Nonprofit (physician membership organization)	Other	Publishing/education company	School of medicine	All providers
<b>Number of providers</b>	33	846	25	102	317	56	152	149	<b>1,680</b>
Average	\$ 11,655	\$ 22,888	\$ 19,950	\$ 247,246	\$ 1,122,990	\$ 333,352	\$ 4,825,597	\$ 641,537	<b>\$ 743,572</b>
First quartile <sup>1</sup>	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 13,522	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,175	-
Second quartile (median) <sup>1</sup>	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 7,179	\$ 152,975	\$ 175	\$ 58,858	\$ 93,826	-
Third quartile <sup>1</sup>	\$ -	\$ 188	\$ -	\$ 80,900	\$ 754,639	\$ 51,904	\$ 739,738	\$ 365,971	<b>\$ 80,000</b>
<b>Grand total</b>	<b>\$ 384,600</b>	<b>\$ 19,363,064</b>	<b>\$ 498,760</b>	<b>\$ 25,219,052</b>	<b>\$ 355,987,724</b>	<b>\$ 18,667,694</b>	<b>\$ 733,490,732</b>	<b>\$ 95,588,970</b>	<b>\$ 1,249,200,596</b>

**CME Presented by Providers Accredited in the ACCME System  
Table 18. Commerical Support by Organization Type—2020**

Organization type	Government or military	Hospital/healthcare delivery System	Insurance company/managed-care company	Nonprofit (other)	Nonprofit (physician membership organization)	Other	Publishing/education company	School of medicine	All providers
<b>Number of providers</b>	33	846	25	102	317	56	152	149	<b>1,680</b>
Average	\$ 333	\$ 24,763	\$ 156,316	\$ 284,774	\$ 242,189	\$ 31,747	\$ 3,320,503	\$ 574,434	<b>\$ 430,223</b>
First quartile <sup>1</sup>	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-
Second quartile (median) <sup>1</sup>	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 19,833	-
Third quartile <sup>1</sup>	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,000	\$ 117,750	\$ -	\$ 1,291,716	\$ 330,716	<b>\$ 6,197</b>
<b>Grand total</b>	<b>\$ 10,990</b>	<b>\$ 20,949,393</b>	<b>\$ 3,907,891</b>	<b>\$ 29,046,910</b>	<b>\$ 76,773,896</b>	<b>\$ 1,777,853</b>	<b>\$ 504,716,513</b>	<b>\$ 85,590,594</b>	<b>\$ 722,774,042</b>

**CME Presented by Providers Accredited in the ACCME System  
Table 19. Advertising and Exhibit Income by Organization Type—2020**

Organization type	Government or military	Hospital/healthcare delivery System	Insurance company/managed-care company	Nonprofit (other)	Nonprofit (physician membership organization)	Other	Publishing/education company	School of medicine	All providers
<b>Number of providers</b>	33	846	25	102	317	56	152	149	<b>1,680</b>
Average	\$ 1,994	\$ 13,111	\$ -	\$ 35,385	\$ 405,220	\$ 52,588	\$ 220,728	\$ 268,198	<b>\$ 130,761</b>
First quartile <sup>1</sup>	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-
Second quartile (median) <sup>1</sup>	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 34,325	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 42,500	-
Third quartile <sup>1</sup>	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6,665	\$ 248,503	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 180,159	<b>\$ 15,000</b>
<b>Grand total</b>	<b>\$ 65,800</b>	<b>\$ 11,091,924</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 3,609,314</b>	<b>\$ 128,454,844</b>	<b>\$ 2,944,947</b>	<b>\$ 33,550,688</b>	<b>\$ 39,961,494</b>	<b>\$ 219,679,012</b>

<sup>1</sup>The percentage of providers reporting data for some of the financial categories is less than needed to report some of the quartile values.

**CME Presented by Providers Accredited in the ACCME System  
Table 20. Private Donation Income by Organization Type—2020**

Organization type	Government or military	Hospital/healthcare delivery System	Insurance company/managed-care company	Nonprofit (other)	Nonprofit (physician membership organization)	Other	Publishing/education company	School of medicine	All providers
<b>Number of providers</b>	33	846	25	102	317	56	152	149	<b>1,680</b>
Average	\$ 1,136	\$ 2,297	\$ 320	\$ 20,797	\$ 18,400	\$ 3,441	\$ 4,219	\$ 25,383	<b>\$ 8,666</b>
First quartile <sup>1</sup>	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-
Second quartile (median) <sup>1</sup>	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-
Third quartile <sup>1</sup>	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 8,208	-
<b>Grand total</b>	<b>\$ 37,500</b>	<b>\$ 1,942,994</b>	<b>\$ 8,000</b>	<b>\$ 2,121,318</b>	<b>\$ 5,832,932</b>	<b>\$ 192,705</b>	<b>\$ 641,334</b>	<b>\$ 3,782,016</b>	<b>\$ 14,558,799</b>

**CME Presented by Providers Accredited in the ACCME System  
Table 21. Government Grant Income by Organization Type—2020**

Organization type	Government or military	Hospital/healthcare delivery System	Insurance company/managed-care company	Nonprofit (other)	Nonprofit (physician membership organization)	Other	Publishing/education company	School of medicine	All providers
<b>Number of providers</b>	33	846	25	102	317	56	152	149	<b>1,680</b>
Average	\$ 55,661	\$ 2,742	\$ 49	\$ 43,597	\$ 51,216	\$ 30,719	\$ 16,314	\$ 56,203	<b>\$ 22,271</b>
First quartile <sup>1</sup>	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-
Second quartile (median) <sup>1</sup>	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-
Third quartile <sup>1</sup>	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,349	-
<b>Grand total</b>	<b>\$ 1,836,815</b>	<b>\$ 2,319,904</b>	<b>\$ 1,228</b>	<b>\$ 4,446,868</b>	<b>\$ 16,235,509</b>	<b>\$ 1,720,245</b>	<b>\$ 2,479,775</b>	<b>\$ 8,374,269</b>	<b>\$ 37,414,614</b>

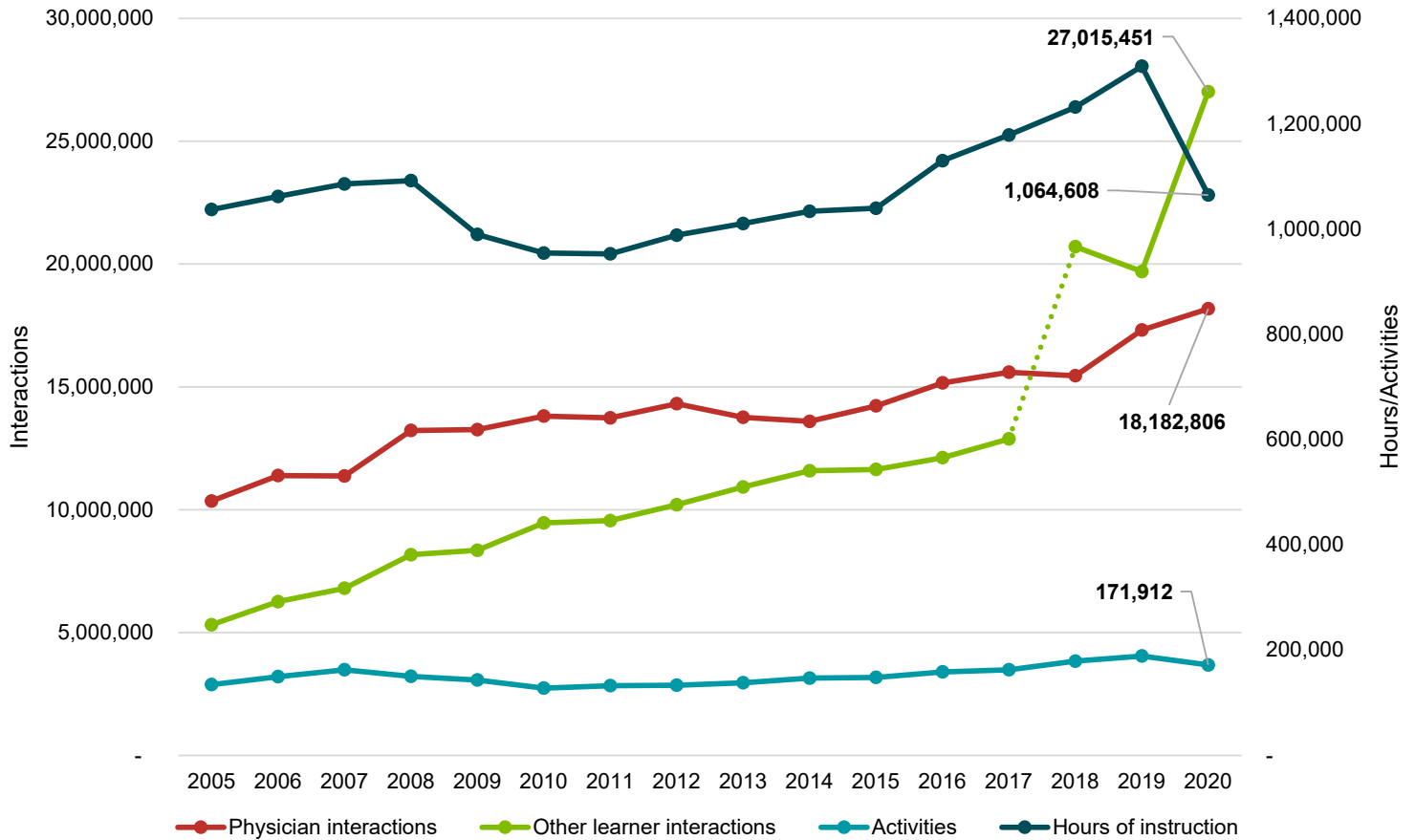
**CME Presented by Providers Accredited in the ACCME System  
Table 22. Total Reported Income by Organization Type—2020**

Organization type	Government or military	Hospital/healthcare delivery System	Insurance company/managed-care company	Nonprofit (other)	Nonprofit (physician membership organization)	Other	Publishing/education company	School of medicine	All providers
<b>Number of providers</b>	33	846	25	102	317	56	152	149	<b>1,680</b>
Average	\$ 70,779	\$ 65,801	\$ 176,635	\$ 631,799	\$ 1,840,015	\$ 451,847	\$ 8,387,362	\$ 1,565,754	<b>\$ 1,335,492</b>
First quartile <sup>1</sup>	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 40,297	\$ -	\$ 128,502	\$ 44,192	-
Second quartile (median) <sup>1</sup>	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 62,179	\$ 392,841	\$ 9,105	\$ 849,874	\$ 294,910	<b>\$ 11,500</b>
Third quartile <sup>1</sup>	\$ 5,000	\$ 12,563	\$ 2,564	\$ 278,097	\$ 1,613,102	\$ 189,998	\$ 4,415,981	\$ 1,249,066	<b>\$ 280,603</b>
<b>Grand total</b>	<b>\$ 2,335,705</b>	<b>\$ 55,667,279</b>	<b>\$ 4,415,879</b>	<b>\$ 64,443,462</b>	<b>\$ 583,284,906</b>	<b>\$ 25,303,444</b>	<b>\$ 1,274,879,044</b>	<b>\$ 233,297,343</b>	<b>\$ 2,243,627,062</b>

<sup>1</sup>The percentage of providers reporting data for some of the financial categories is less than needed to report some of the quartile values.

## CME Presented by Providers Accredited in the ACCME System

### Figure 5. Activities, Hours, and Interactions—2005–2020



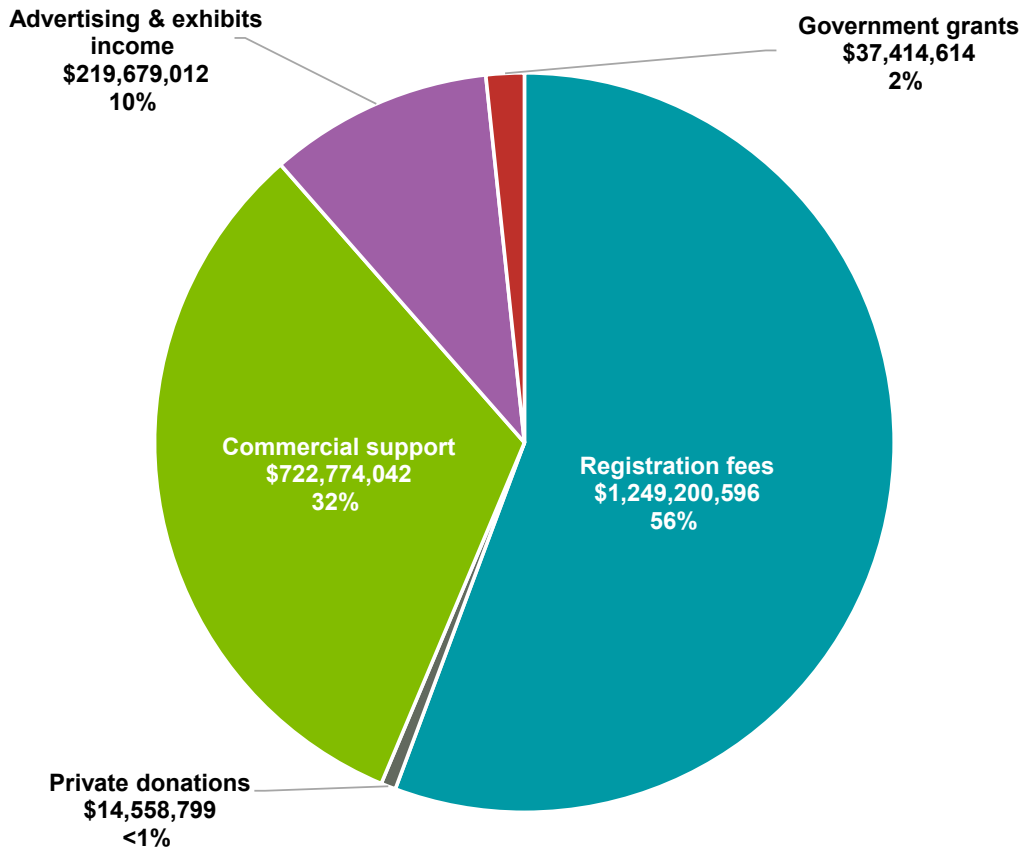
The accredited CME system saw a number of changes in 2020 due to the impact of COVID-19. While activities and hours of instruction decreased due to cancelled live activities, physician and other learner interactions both saw increases. Learners continued to engage in accredited education throughout the year, shifting their participation to online activities.

The breaks in the line for other learner interactions in 2018 indicates a change in data collection. In 2018, the launch of the Joint Accreditation Program and Activity Reporting System (JA-PARS) enabled jointly accredited providers to report program and activity data, including uni-professional and interprofessional continuing education (IPCE) activities, into a single, unified repository. This change accounts for the increase in other learner interactions.



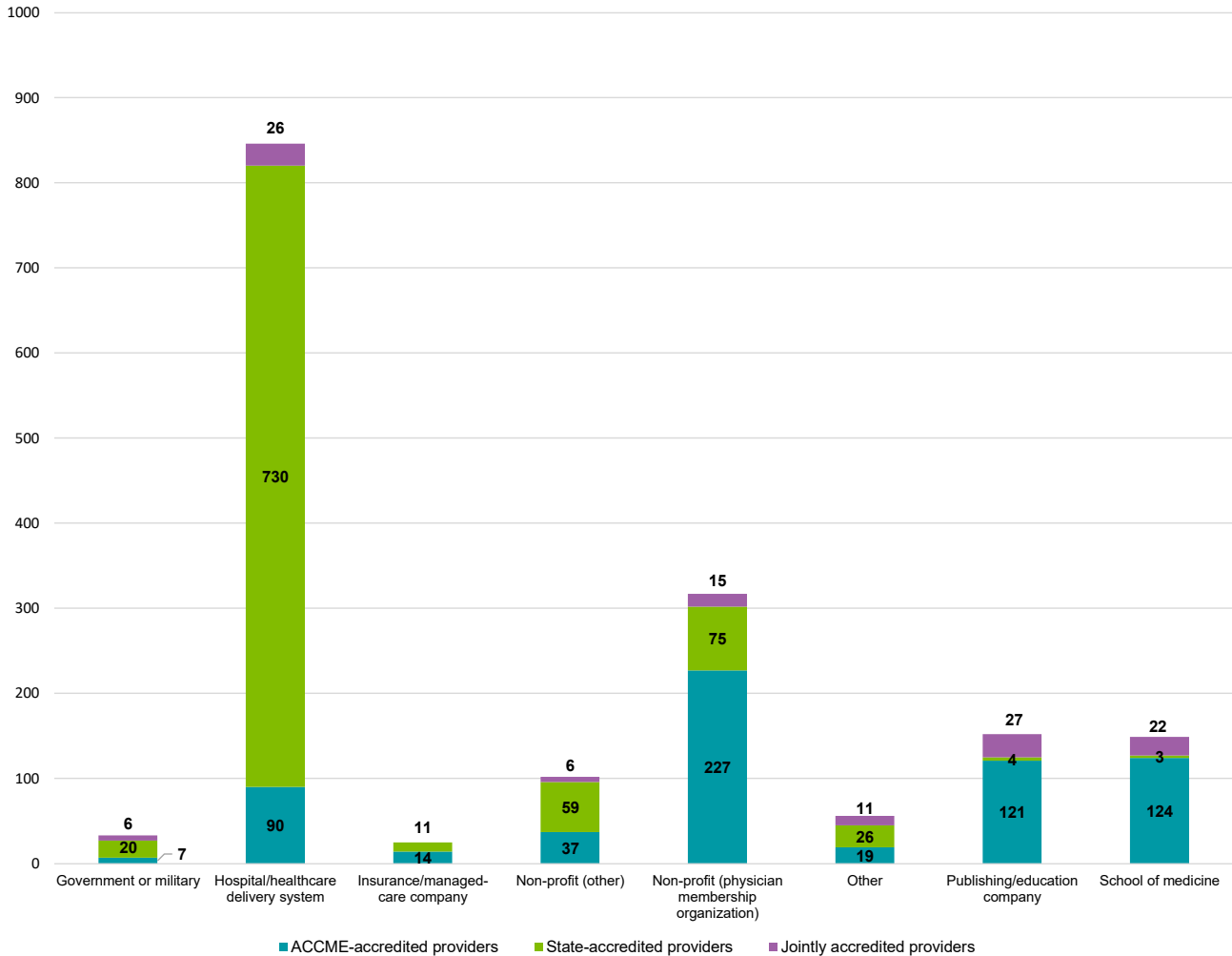
# CME Presented by Providers Accredited in the ACCME System

Figure 6. Income—2020  
Total income is \$2,243,627,062



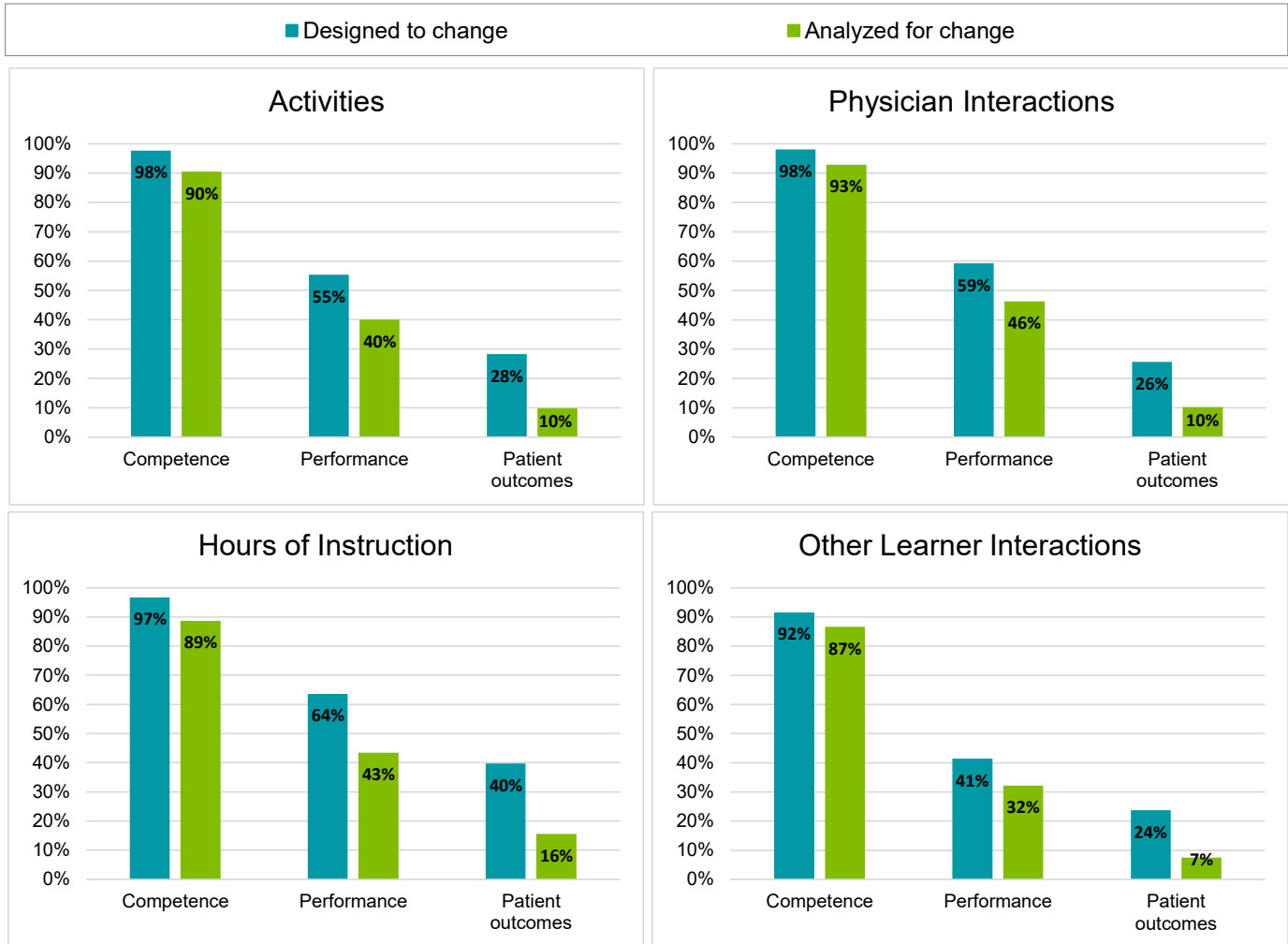
In 2020, registration fees made up 56% of reported income. Commercial support accounted for 32%, advertising and exhibits income for 10%, government grants for 2%, and private donations for less than 1%.

**Providers Accredited in the ACCME System**  
**Figure 7. Accredited Providers by Provider Type—2020**



There were 1,680 CME providers in 2020. Of these, 928 providers were state-accredited, 639 providers were ACCME-accredited, and 113 providers were accredited by Joint Accreditation for Interprofessional Continuing Education. State and territory medical societies are recognized as accreditors by the ACCME; they accredit organizations that offer CME primarily to learners from their state or contiguous states. More than 80% of state-accredited providers are hospital/healthcare delivery systems serving regional areas. The ACCME accredits organizations that offer CME primarily to national or international audiences. Most publishing/education companies have a national reach and are thus accredited by the ACCME. Schools of medicine that are accredited by the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME) are eligible to be accredited by the ACCME or Joint Accreditation for Interprofessional Continuing Education accredits organizations that focus on continuing education by and for healthcare teams.

**CME Presented by Providers Accredited in the ACCME System**  
**Figure 8. Percentage of CME Designed/Analyzed for Change in**  
**Competence, Performance, or Patient Outcomes—2020**



The Accreditation Criteria require providers to produce educational activities that are designed to change learners' competence, performance, or patient outcomes. Providers are then required to analyze the changes that were achieved as a result of the activities.

Figure 8 illustrates the percentage of CME provided in 2020 that was designed and/or analyzed for changes in competence, performance, and/or patient outcomes.

## CME Presented by Providers Accredited in the ACCME System

### Figure 9. Physician Learner Interactions by Activity Type—2019-2020

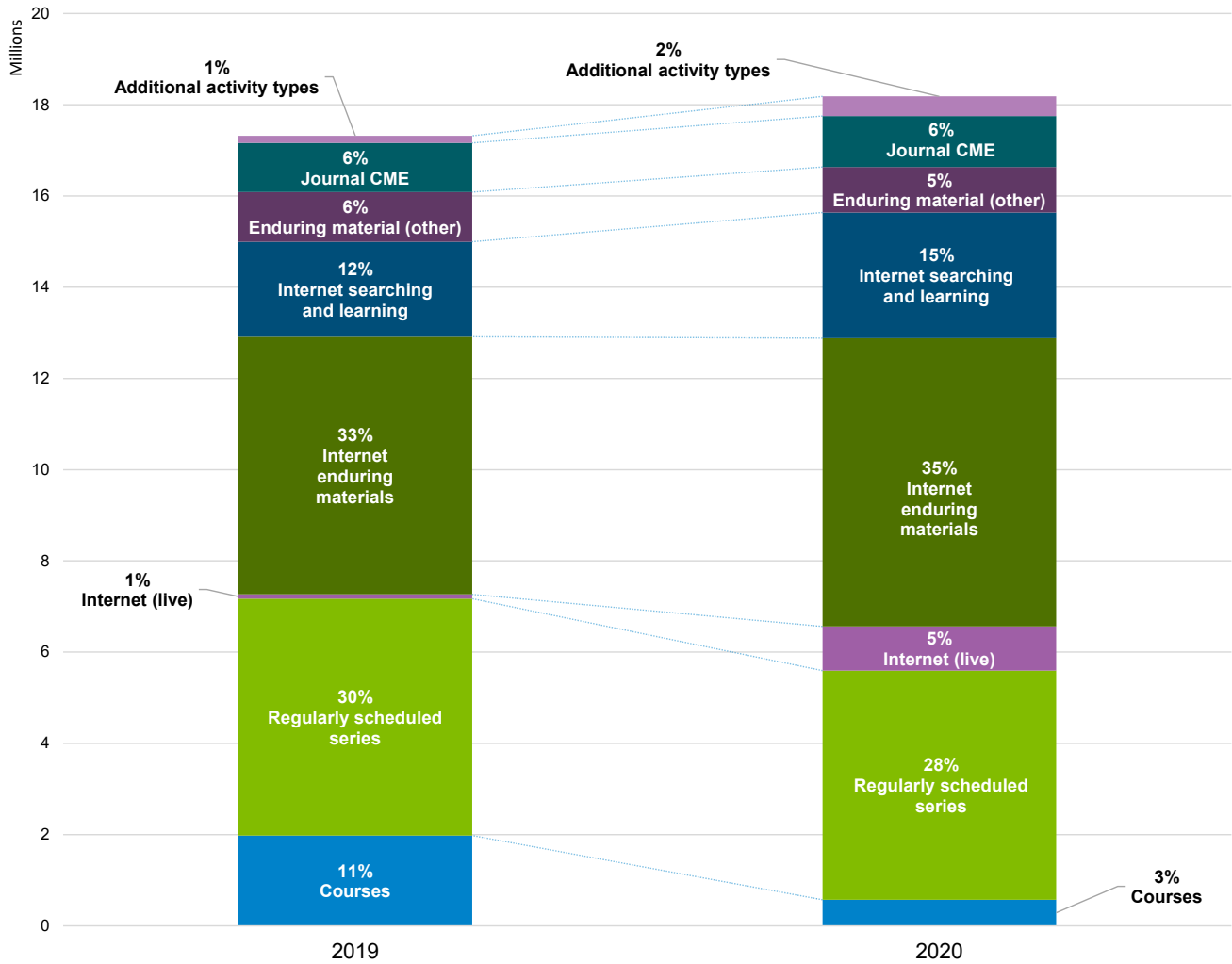


Figure 9 shows physician learner interactions by activity type and year. The activity types with few total interactions have been grouped together under "additional activity types." A complete list of activity types can be found in Table 1. Physician interactions increased in 2020 compared to 2019. Fewer physicians participated in live activities, while more physicians chose to engage in online activities.

## CME Presented by Providers Accredited in the ACCME System Figure 10. Other Learner Interactions by Activity Type—2019-2020

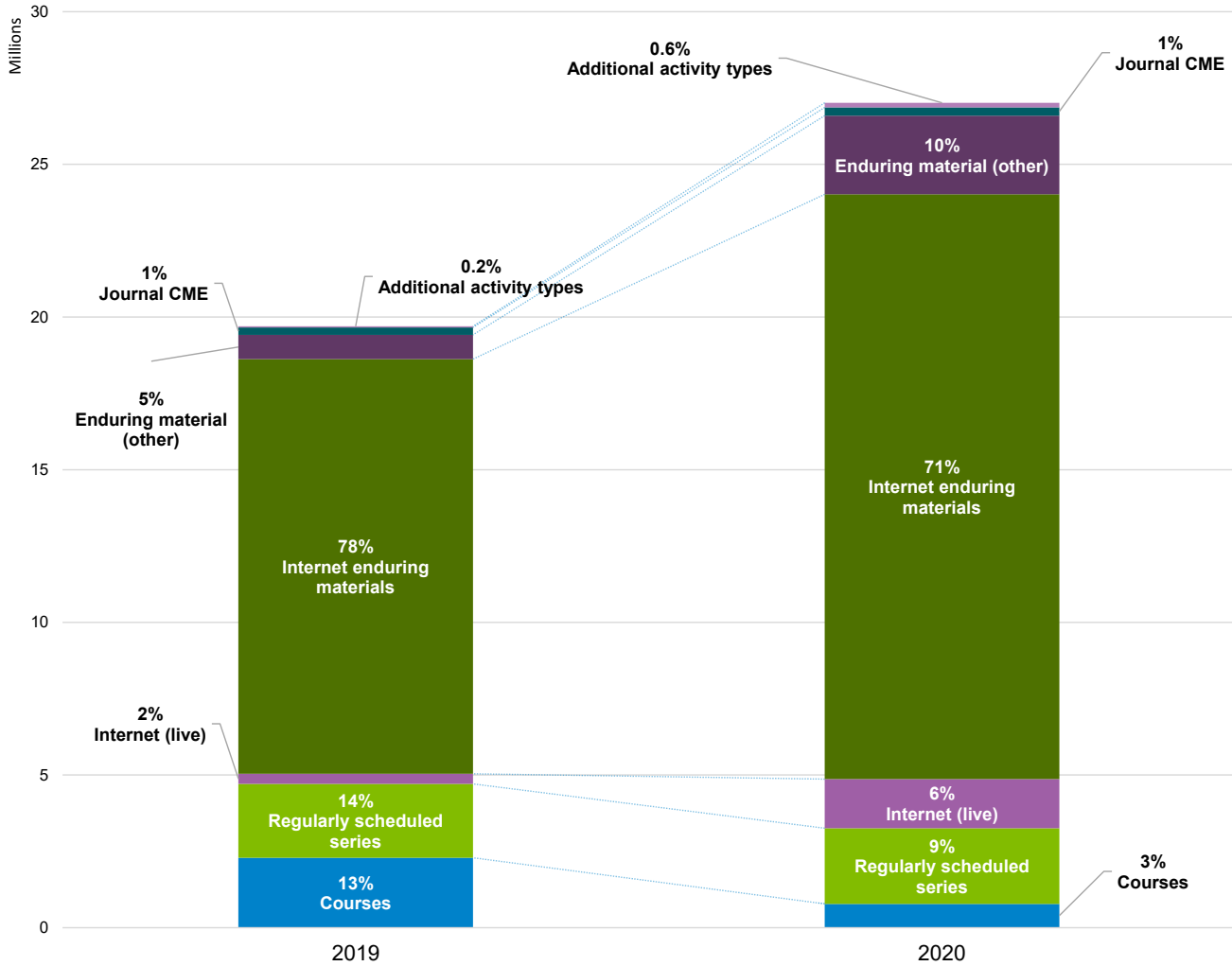


Figure 10 shows other learner interactions by activity type and year. The activity types with few total interactions have been grouped together under "additional activity types." A complete list of activity types can be found in Table 1. Other learner interactions increased substantially in 2020 compared to 2019. The majority of other learners chose to engage in Internet-based activities.

## CME Presented by Providers Accredited in the ACCME System

### Figure 11. Activity Counts by Activity Type—2010-2020

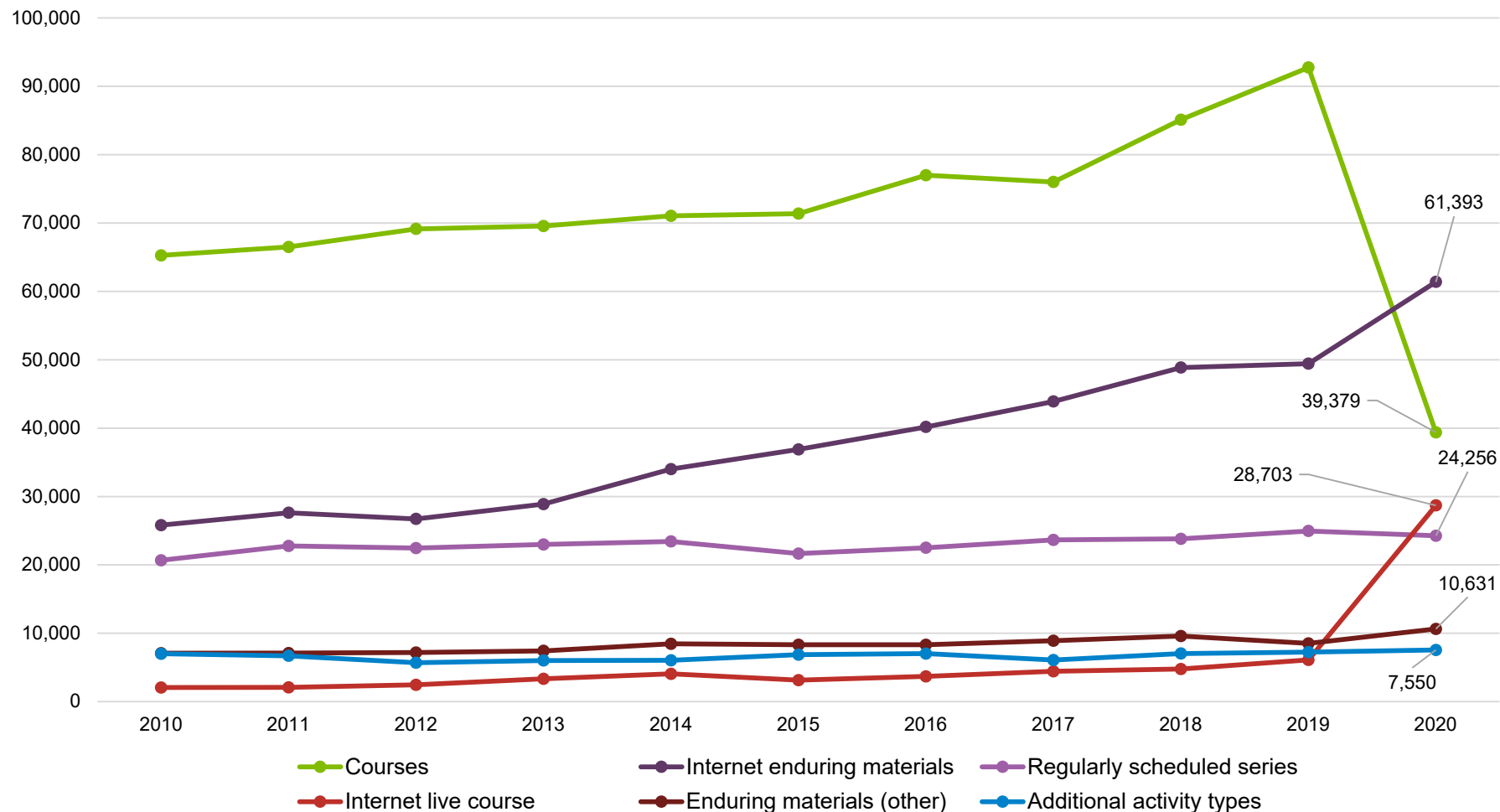


Figure 11 shows the trend in total activity counts by activity type. Those activity types with a small overall count are combined under "additional activity types." A complete list of activity types can be found in Table 1. Live courses decreased significantly in 2020, while Internet-based activities, such as Internet live courses and Internet enduring materials, increased.

## CME Presented by Providers Accredited in the ACCME System

### Figure 12. Hours of Instruction—2010-2020

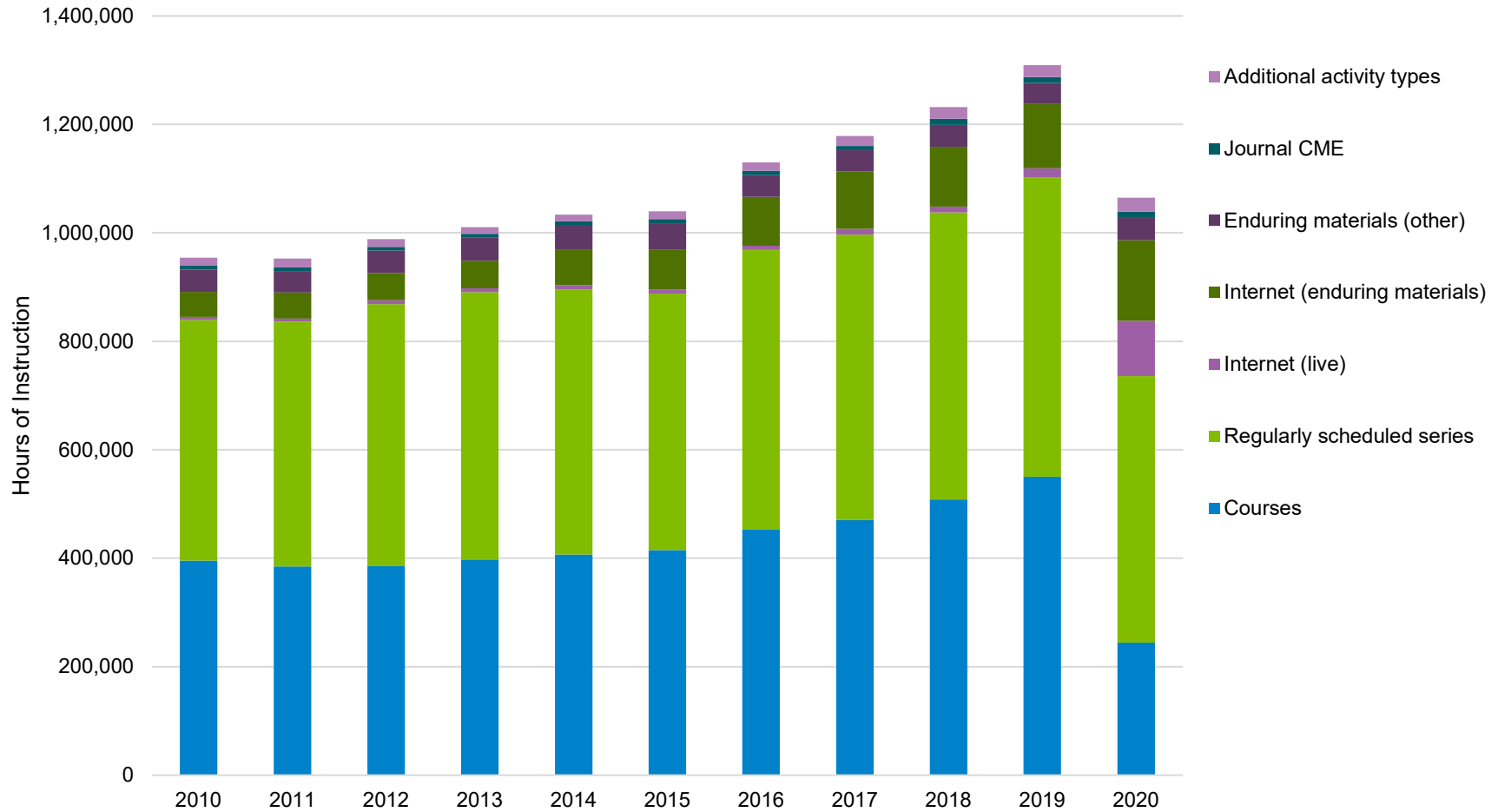


Figure 12 shows hours of instruction by activity type over time. Those activity types with few hours of instruction overall are combined under "additional activity types." A complete list of activity types can be found in Table 1.