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Title

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Authors

Guzman Perez, Diana

Ponzini, Matthew

Wilson, Machel

et al.

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Demographics of U.S. Medical Students Retaining, Gaining, or Losing Interest in OBGYN

Diana Guzman Perez, MS¹ Matthew D. Ponzini MS¹ Machel D. Wilson PhD¹ Melody Y. Hou, MD MPH^{1,2}

¹ University of California, Davis School of Medicine, Sacramento, CA

² University of California, Davis Medical Center Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology

BACKGROUND

- 36% of U.S. counties are considered maternity care deserts, where demand for maternity care is greater than the supply of OBGYNs, but OBGYN makes up only 4% of ACGME residency positions each year.
- The Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) surveys medical students at matriculation and graduation about various aspects, including career interests.
- Determining the demographic and financial associations for medical student recruitment and retention to OBGYN can help efforts to improve access, particularly for patients of color.

OBJECTIVE

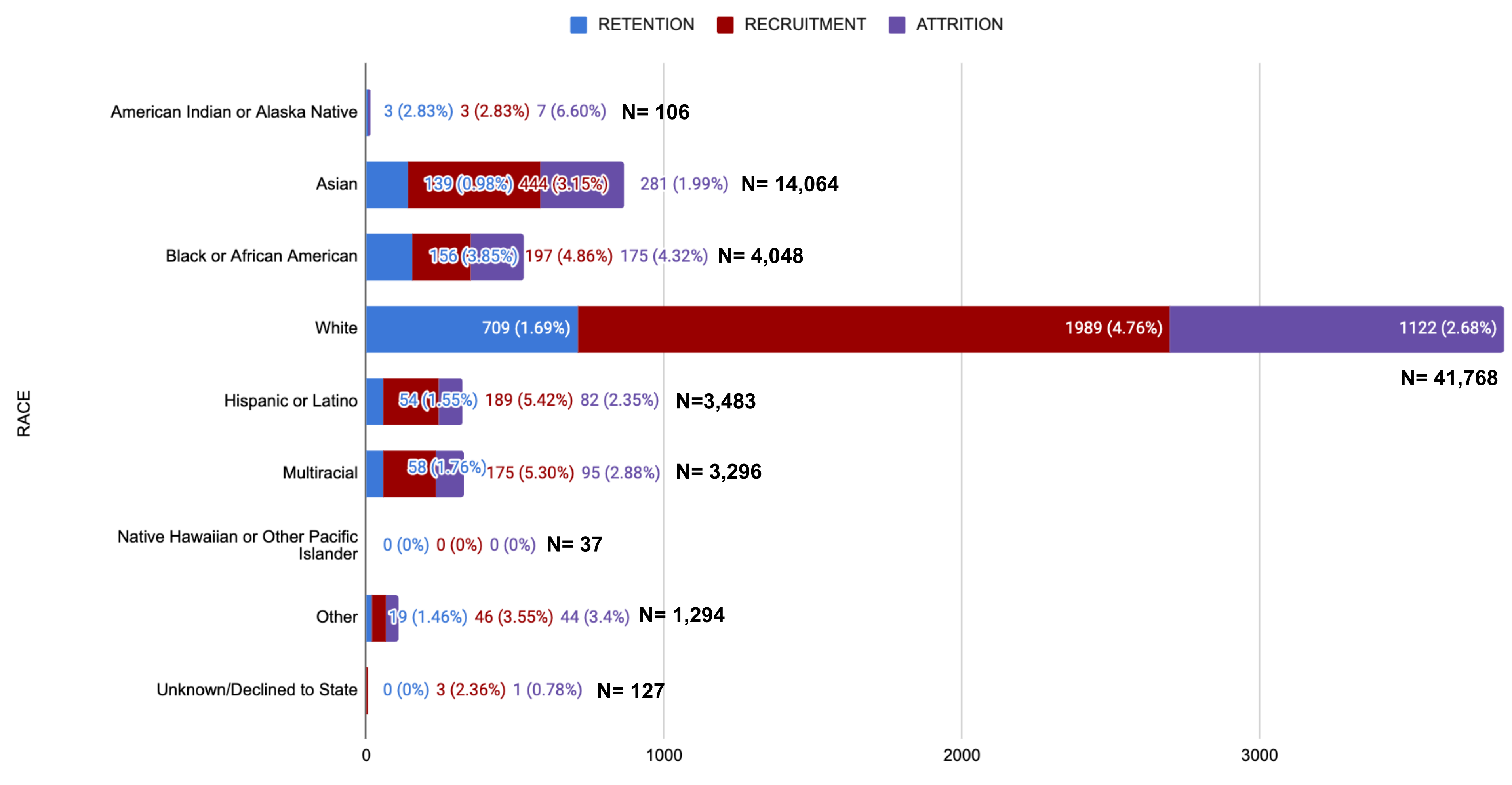
- To describe the race and ethnicity, gender, and financial status of students who remain interested in (retention), become interested in (recruitment), or lose interest in (attrition) OBGYN from matriculation to graduation.

METHODS

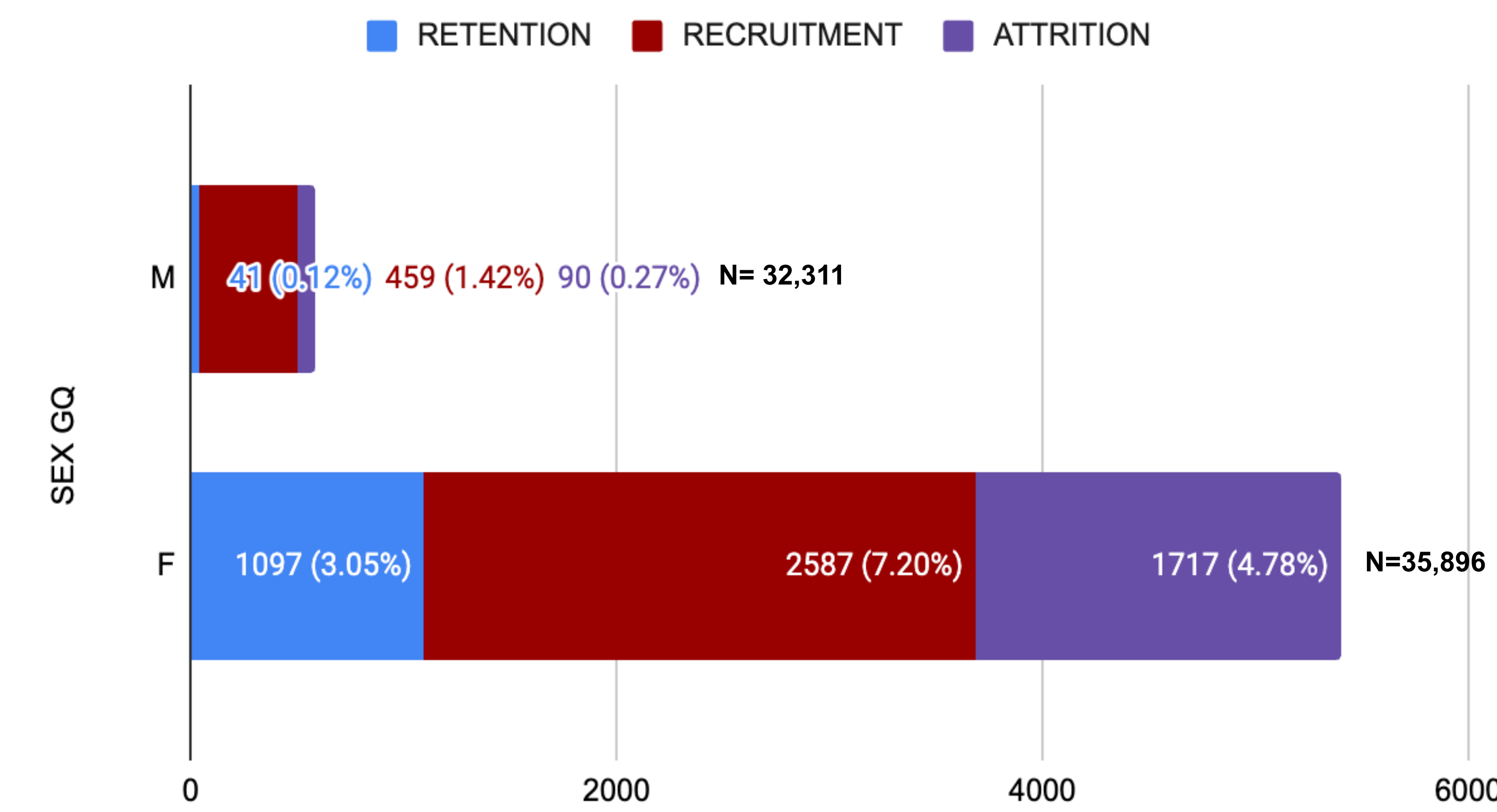
- Obtained de-identified data from AAMC of all students who completed the MSQ from 2013-2021 and GQ from 2017-2022.
- Used descriptive statistics regarding the retention, recruitment and attrition groups.

RESULTS

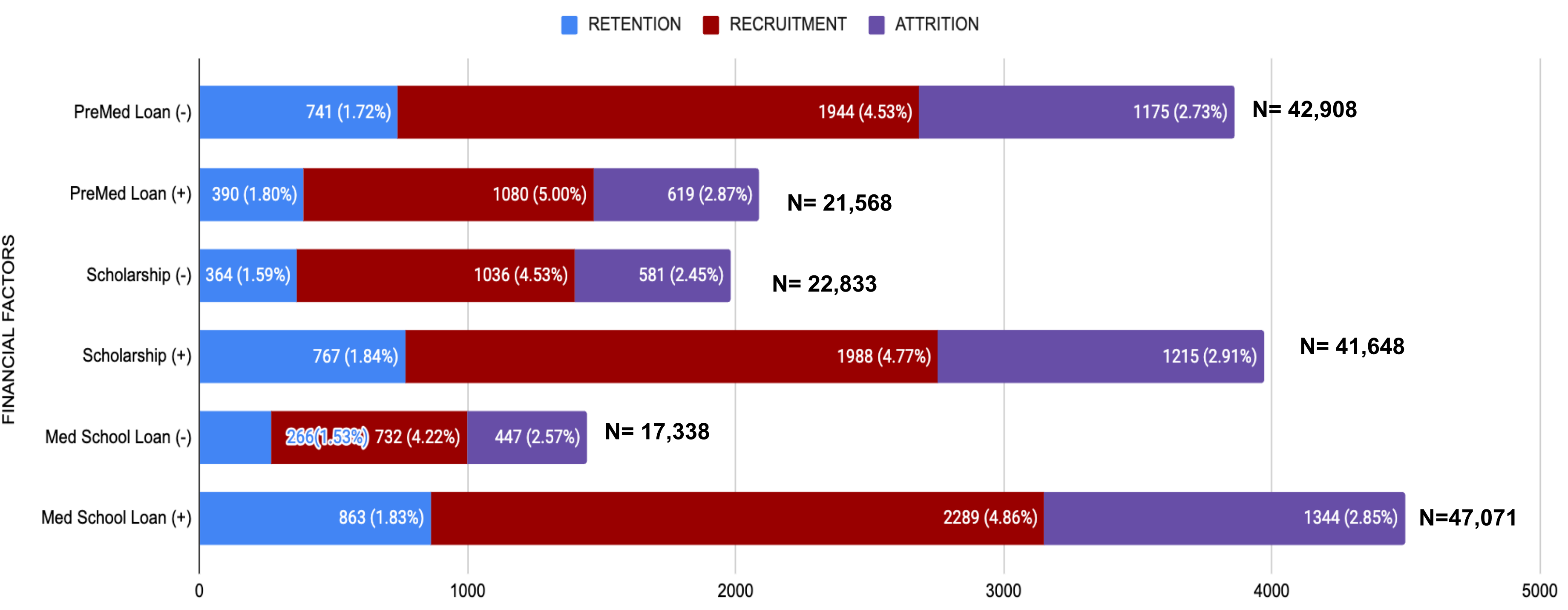
Retention, Recruitment, Attrition Data Based on Race



Retention, Recruitment, Attrition Data Based on Sex



Retention, Recruitment, Attrition Data Based on Financial Factors



Pre-Med Debt - Average



Ns listed are all students answering MSQ and GQ. Graphs do not include students who did not indicate OBGYN as a specialty preference at any point or did not mark any specialty preference on MSQ or GQ.

DISCUSSION

- Unlike students from other racial groups, a higher proportion of students identifying as American Indian or Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian attrited than were recruited into OBGYN.
- More than half of medical students who were retained or recruited did not have pre-medical loans.
- Demographics of those who completed both MSQ and GQ provide some insight as to who is interested in OBGYN at different time points in medical school. Analysis is still in progress.

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

- Physician diversity plays a significant role in shaping patient health outcomes and care quality.
- Given the existing disparities in maternal morbidity and mortality, particularly impacting Black women, enhancing the diversity within the field of OBGYN has the potential to mitigate these disparities.
- Further analysis will explore the varying factors affecting the recruitment, retention, and attrition of medical students interested in pursuing a career in the field of OBGYN.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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REFERENCES

Available Upon Request.