

Financial Wellness in Anesthesia: A Fair Isaac Corporation (FICO) Score Cross-Sectional Analysis of United States Anesthesia Trainees and Attending

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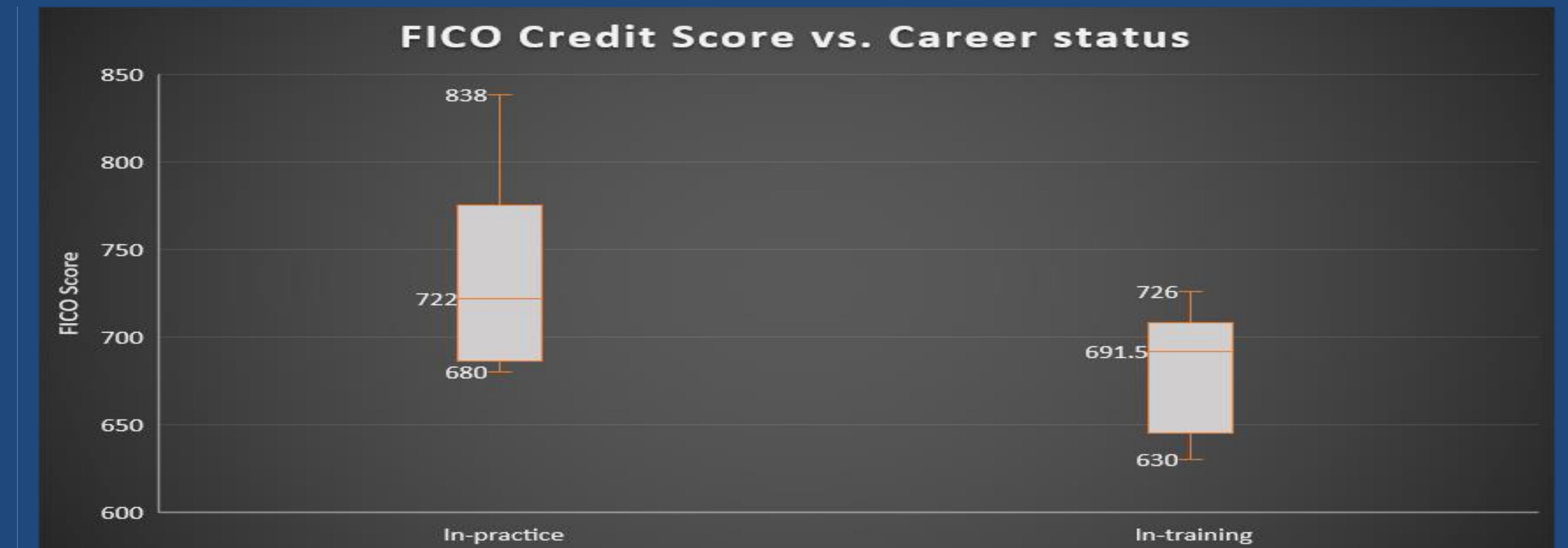
Background / aims

- Cost of US medical school > \$275,000 (avg tuition, fees, living expenses)
- Anesthesia = medical school + residency +/- fellowship(s) at a fraction of projected income
- Virtually no data exists on the credit profiles of anesthesiology borrowers and the reasons for their borrowing

Methods

- Pooled FICO scores from 293 anesthesiology trainee and attending borrowers
- Privately held physician and dentist financial services company in compliance with the Equal Credit Opportunity Act (ECOA)
- Borrowers applied for loans 10/01/2019 – 05/31/2023

Geographic Division	Trainee		Attending	
	Median FICO Score (IQR)	N (147)	Median FICO Score (IQR)	N (146)
Pacific	711.5 (97.8)	22	749.0 (84.0)	19
West South Central	708.5 (78.5)	8	710.0 (116.0)	27
Middle Atlantic	698.0 (77.5)	33	697.5 (109.8)	24
South Atlantic	692.0 (91.0)	19	751.0 (105.5)	32
East North Central	683.0 (93.0)	27	706 (109.0)	11
New England	679.0 (53.0)	23	726.0 (57.0)	5
East South Central	675.0 (n/a)	1	759 (127.0)	11
Mountain	667.5 (115.5)	8	702.0 (49.0)	11
West North Central	651.5 (33.5)	6	733.5 (153.8)	6



Results

- Trainee FICO scores showed more consistency across geographical regions than those of attendings
- Most common reason for requesting a loan for both groups was credit card debt consolidation

Discussion

- Despite the increasing burden of medical school debt, decreasing reimbursements not matching inflation, and increased workload, anesthesiologists appear to be a lower financial risk population for lenders than typically presumed.

