

of the questionnaire, more than 11,800 responses had been received. Of these, 11,603 were satisfactory for data processing and tabulation: 3,200 from general practitioners, 1,784 from internists, 1,005 from surgeons, 710 from pediatricians, 380 from orthopedic surgeons, 70 from physiatrists, and 4,454 from physicians of other specialties (Table 4).

Almost all responders, classified according to their specialty or primary type of practice, are represented in about the same proportion in the survey as in the national distribution of the physician population (Table 4). Among the general practitioners, 89.1% reported treating patients with rheumatoid arthritis, among the internists 90%, among the physiatrists 90%, and among the orthopedic surgeons 82.9%.

**Table 5. Regional distribution of physicians replying to questionnaire and of all physicians in the United States**

| Region         | Physicians replying to questionnaire |              | All physicians in U.S.* |
|----------------|--------------------------------------|--------------|-------------------------|
|                | Number                               | Percent      | Percent                 |
| New England    | 722                                  | 6.2          | 6.6                     |
| Mid-East       | 2,291                                | 19.7         | 23.0                    |
| South Atlantic | 1,413                                | 12.2         | 12.7                    |
| Great Lakes    | 1,816                                | 15.7         | 18.0                    |
| Mid-South      | 481                                  | 4.1          | 4.8                     |
| Plains         | 955                                  | 8.2          | 7.2                     |
| Southwest      | 856                                  | 7.4          | 7.9                     |
| Rocky Mountain | 549                                  | 4.7          | 3.8                     |
| Far West       | 1,793                                | 15.5         | 15.5                    |
| Pacific        | 55                                   | 0.5          | 0.5                     |
| Unknown        | 672                                  | 5.8          | —                       |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>11,603</b>                        | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b>            |

\*Source: Buckley Dement