

International Medical Graduates in Canada: From Post-M.D. Training to Practice

CAPER Fact Sheet | April 2026 Edition

International Medical Graduates (IMGs), physicians who received their undergraduate medical education outside of Canada, play a significant role in Canada’s Post-M.D. medical education system and physician workforce. Using data from CAPER’s [Annual Census of Post-M.D. Trainees](#) and the [National IMG Database](#), this fact sheet provides a high-level snapshot of IMGs in Canadian Post-M.D. training and their transition to medical practice.

IMGs in Canadian Post-M.D. Training

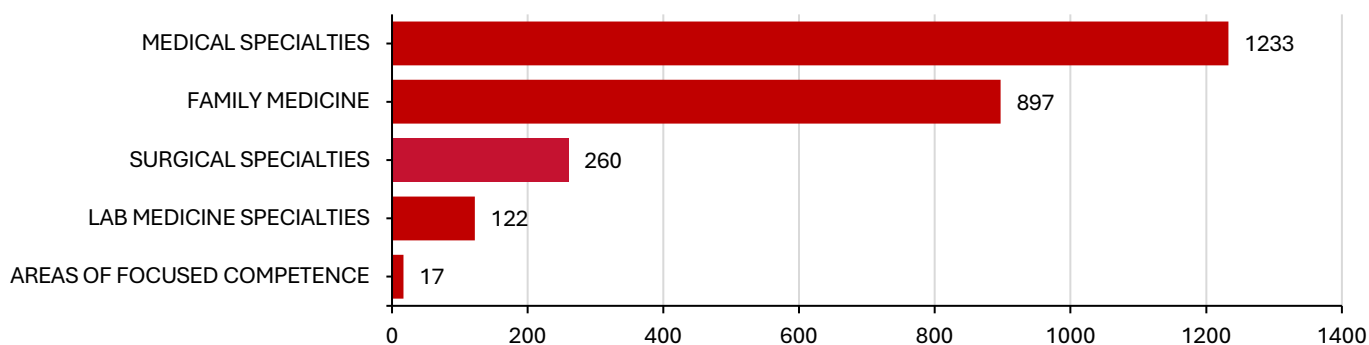
CAPER tracks IMGs enrolled in Canadian Post-M.D. training (i.e., residencies and fellowships) to provide a national overview of training participation and distribution across broad specialties.

Key snapshot (2024–2025):

- **2,529** International Medical Graduates (IMGs) who are Canadian Citizens or Permanent Residents (CC/PR) in Post-M.D. training
- **17%** of all Post-M.D. trainees in Canada

The figures below show how IMGs are distributed across broad specialties in Post-M.D. training in Canada.

Distribution of IMGs Across Broad Specialties in Post-M.D. Training (CC/PR)



This chart illustrates how IMGs are distributed across major areas of postgraduate training in Canada.

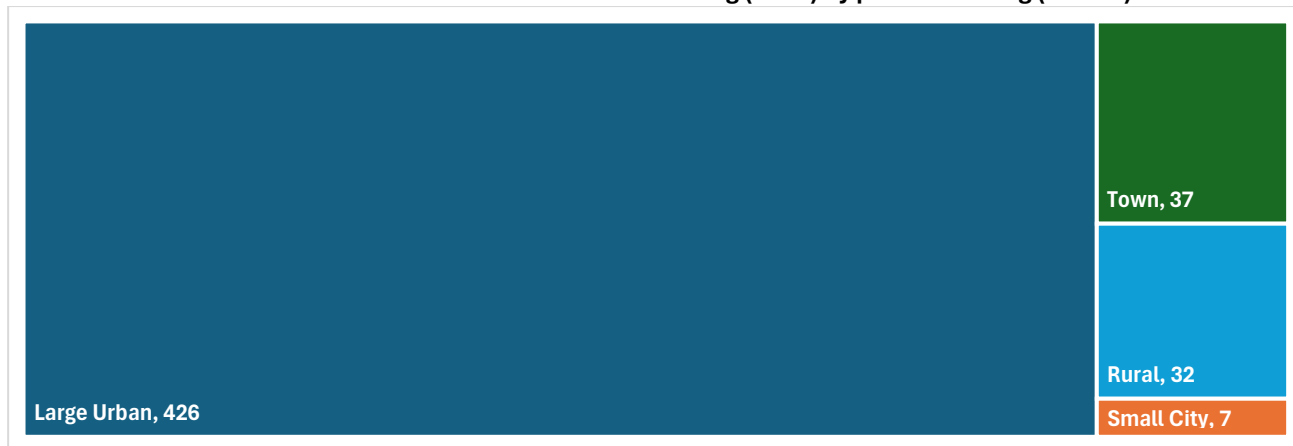
Transition from Training to Practice

CAPER tracks IMGs following completion of Canadian Post-M.D. medical education to better understand national practice patterns.

IMG Retention in Canada

In total, **76.3%** of IMGs who exited Post-M.D. training in 2023 were confirmed to be practicing in Canada **two years later (2025)**. The remaining **23.7%** were **not located** in available data sources, reflecting limitations in confirming practice location rather than confirmed absence from the Canadian workforce.

Practice Location of IMGs Two Years Post-Training (2025) by practice setting (CC/PR)



Practice location data for 2025 are not yet published; figures reflect the most recent practice setting data available at the time of analysis. Practice Setting classifications are based on Statistics Canada geographic definitions.

Why This Matters

Understanding where IMGs train and practice informs **physician workforce planning, postgraduate training capacity discussions, and national and provincial policy analysis**. CAPER supports these discussions by providing **consistent, longitudinal data** for contextual analysis, **without attribution or interpretation**.