For the most part, broad specialty proportional trends in Canadian postgraduate medical education have stayed fairly constant over the years. However, the graph below shows that family medicine has gradually increased from 23% to 25% of all ministry funded postgraduate trainees (i.e., excludes visa trainees) over the last two decades. Medical specialists have also increased slightly to just over half (52%). Decreases occurred in surgical specialties from 23% to 19% and laboratory specialties fluctuated between 3% and 4%.

Some individual specialties have shown greater or lesser increases than others. The graph below of postgraduate year one (PGY1) trainees (excluding visas) illustrates that general surgery has decreased by 11% in the last decade whereas dermatology has experienced a three fold increase. Plastic surgery first year trainees have doubled and family medicine is similar with a 91% increase between 2004 and 2014.