

The Canadian Orthopaedic Association (COA) gathers graduate data from the 17 Canadian orthopaedic training program directors and administrators. Below are the most current statistics reflecting graduates from 2015 to 2025. The numbers reported are from fall 2025.

These insights contribute to:

- **Identifying Trends:** Graduate data reveals patterns in employment, specialty choices and geographic distribution. This helps identify areas with shortages or surpluses in the workforce.
- **Resource Allocation:** By understanding where graduates are practicing, healthcare systems can allocate resources more effectively, ensuring underserved regions and highly populated areas receive the support they need.

- **Planning for Future Workforce:** Tracking the career paths of graduates helps predict future workforce needs. This information is essential for designing training programs to meet anticipated demand.
- **Advocacy for Patient Care:** Data showing gaps in the workforce strengthens the case for increased funding, or policy changes to improve access to care.
- **Benchmarking and Accountability:** comparing graduate outcomes with workforce goals ensures that education programs align with national or regional needs.

The COA thanks all participating parties for their help in issuing data for this report.

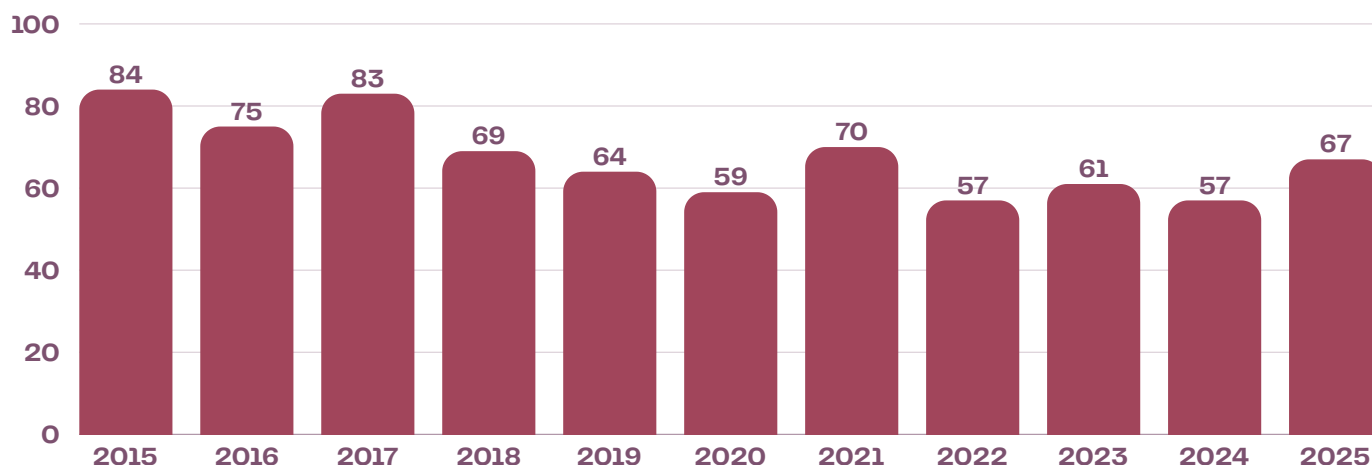
A special thank you to Dr. Broekhuysen, COA's Education Council Chair, Dr. David Yen, COA's Ethics Chair and our colleagues at CMPA.

## QUICK FACTS

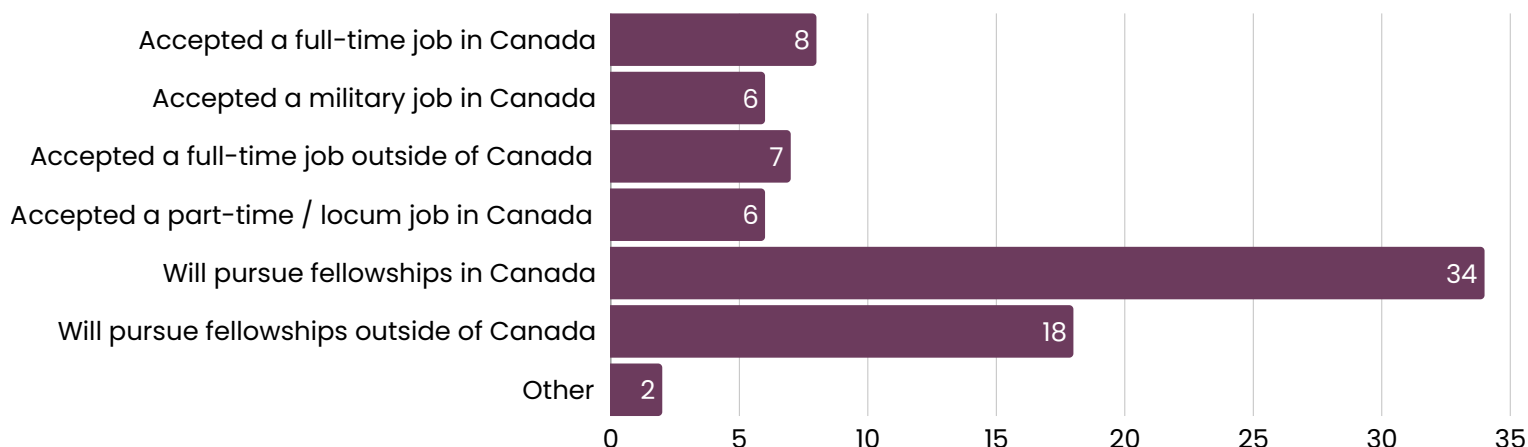
- From **2015 to 2025**, a total of **746 people** graduated from the 17 orthopaedic academic programs across Canada.
- The 2025 graduating class included **67 people** in total. **22 identified as female**, marking a record-breaking **32%**.
- **Most common** subspecialty the graduates will be specializing in: Arthroscopy and Sports (8)
- **Least common** subspecialty the graduates will be specializing in: Shoulder and Elbow (2)
- Program with graduates specializing in the **widest range** of subspecialties: Western (6)
- Subspecialty **not chosen**: Oncology
- Graduates pursuing Canadian fellowships: **34**.
- Graduates pursuing US fellowships: **18**.
- CMPA-reported data shows that Canada has **1,556 full-time orthopaedic surgeons**, averaging **3.73 per 100,000** people based on the 2025 Q3 Statistics Canada population estimate.
- To match countries with high orthopaedic surgeon density (e.g., Norway, Switzerland 6–8 per 100,000), Canada would need to **double its workforce and triple training** to reach 7 per 100,000 over the next decade.
- Based on CMPA data, a conservative estimate of **25–30% surgeons** are currently over the age of 58, which means 389–467 surgeons; or **a third** of the total number of surgeons in Canada will reach retirement age by **2030**.

## 2015-2025 Graduate Data Per Year

### Orthopaedic Program Graduates: 2015-2025



### How Many of the 2025 Graduates:



### Sex Comparision of Graduates Over the Last 10 Years

