GASTROENTEROLOGY PROFILE

GENERAL INFORMATION
(Sources: Pathway Evaluation Program, Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons, The Hormone Foundation)

Gastroenterology is a subspecialty of internal medicine and/or pediatrics dealing with the diagnosis and treatment of diseases and disorders related to the digestive system including the esophagus, stomach, small intestine and large intestine (colon), gallbladder, pancreas and liver. It is a procedures-oriented specialty that requires some manual dexterity and the ability to analyze problems and data.

The gastroenterologist is generally not the primary-care physician, but instead, part of a health care team that provides a diagnostic and therapeutic function in patient care. Gastroenterologists treat a broad range of conditions, including, but not limited to:

- abdominal pain
- abnormal x-ray findings
- colon cancer
- colon polyps
- colon screening exams
- constipation
- Crohn's Disease
- diarrhea
- hepatitis
- hiatal hernia
- indigestion
- Irritable Bowel Syndrome
- jaundice
- liver disease
- malabsorption
- nausea diarrhea
- difficulty swallowing
- Diverticulosis
- esophageal reflux
- gastritis
- GERD
- heartburn
- Hemorrhoids

- post-operative colon tests
- rectal bleeding
- spastic colon
- ulcers
- Ulcerative Colitis
- unexplained weight loss
- vomiting

Gastroenterologists do not perform surgery; however, they do perform procedures such as liver biopsies, endoscopic ("scope") examinations of the esophagus, stomach, small and large bowel. Gastroenterologists frequently work with surgeons in helping them select the best operation for a particular patient.

After completing medical school, to become a gastroenterologist requires a further 6 years of training in Royal College-approved programs. Physicians must first successfully complete either a 4 year residency in internal medicine or paediatrics, followed by an additional 1-2 years training in gastroenterology.

For more detailed information on the specialty training requirements please go to:
http://www.royalcollege.ca/portal/page/portal/rc/credentials/start/routes/traditional_route

Canadian Association of Gastroenterology
http://www.cag-acg.org/
## Number of physicians and physicians/100,000 population in Gastroenterology in Canada, 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Province/Territory</th>
<th>Physicians</th>
<th>Phys/100k pop'n</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Newfoundland/Labrador</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>2.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prince Edward Island</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nova Scotia</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>2.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Brunswick</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>1.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quebec</td>
<td>224</td>
<td>2.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ontario</td>
<td>272</td>
<td>2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manitoba</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>1.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saskatchewan</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>1.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alberta</td>
<td>118</td>
<td>2.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>British Columbia</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Territories</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CANADA</strong></td>
<td><strong>765</strong></td>
<td><strong>2.1</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: 2015 CMA Masterfile
Physicians/100,000 population in Gastroenterology in Canada, 1995 to 2015

Source: CMA Masterfile
Gastroenterologists by gender and year in Canada, 1995 to 2015

Source: CMA Masterfile
Gastroenterologists by age and gender in Canada, 2015

Gender
- Male: 71%
- Female: 29%

Age Group
- 34 and under: 10%
- 35 - 44: 37%
- 45 - 54: 21%
- 55 - 64: 20%
- 65 and over: 12%

Source: 2015 CMA Masterfile
## Gastroenterologists by age and gender in Canada, 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Male</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>65 and over</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55-64</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>128</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45-54</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>112</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35-44</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>170</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34 and Under</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Source:** 2015 CMA Masterfile
Main work setting of **Gastroenterologists** in Canada, 2014

- **Private Office/Clinic**: 39%
- **Academic Health Sciences Centre**: 30%
- **Non-AHSC Teaching Hospital**: 13%
- **Community Hospital**: 9%
- **Research Unit**: 3%
- **Nursing home/long term care facility/seniors’ residence**: 3%
- **University**: 3%

Source: 2014 National Physician Survey. CFPC, CMA, Royal College
Practice organization for **Gastroenterologists** in Canada, 2014

Source: 2014 National Physician Survey. CFPC, CMA, Royal College
Hours worked per week (excluding on-call) by Gastroenterologists in Canada, 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Hours worked per week</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Direct patient care without teaching component</td>
<td>28.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Direct patient care with teaching component</td>
<td>5.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teaching without patient care</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indirect patient care</td>
<td>6.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health facility committees</td>
<td>0.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>1.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research</td>
<td>1.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Managing practice</td>
<td>1.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Continued professional development</td>
<td>2.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL HOURS PER WEEK</strong></td>
<td><strong>49.3</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: 2014 National Physician Survey. CFPC, CMA, Royal College
Time spent on call in direct patient care = 43 hrs./month

Source: 2014 National Physician Survey. CFPC, CMA, Royal College
Remuneration for **Gastroenterologists** in Canada

### Primary payment method in 2013

- **59%**: Blended
- **20%**: 90% + fee-for-service
- **7%**: 90% + salary
- **9%**: 90% + other*
- **6%**: NR

* Other includes capitation, sessional, contract and other methods

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**Average gross clinical earnings for Int Med & subspecialties in 2013/14 (those earning at least $60,000) = $396,105**

**Average percent overhead reported by Internal Medicine specialists in 2010 = 22%**

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1. National Physician Survey, 2013, CFPC, CMA, Royal College
2. National Physician Database, 2013/14, CIHI
Satisfaction among Gastroenterologists in Canada, 2013

Balance of personal & professional commitments

- Very dissatisfied: 6%
- Dissatisfied: 6%
- Neutral: 22%
- Satisfied: 20%
- Very satisfied: 37%
- NR: 11%

Current professional life

- Very dissatisfied: 6%
- Dissatisfied: 8%
- Neutral: 19%
- Satisfied: 49%
- Very satisfied: 18%

Source: 2013 National Physician Survey. CFPC, CMA, Royal College
Gastroenterologists who are Royal College, CFPC or CMQ certified in Canada, 2014

Note: Physicians could indicate more than one certification body.

Source: 2014 National Physician Survey. CFPC, CMA, Royal College
Number of Gastroenterologists who retired during the THREE year period of 2012 to 2014

Source: CMA Masterfile – year over year comparisons

Note: “Retired” is based on giving up licence and is therefore excludes those who have retired from clinical practice but are still licensed; it includes physicians who have temporarily given up their licence but may return to practice at a later date.
## Total and Ministry funded postgraduate MD trainees in 2014/15 – **Gastroenterology***

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Faculty of Medicine</th>
<th>Ministry funded</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Faculty of Medicine</th>
<th>Ministry funded</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Memorial U N&amp;L</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>McMaster U</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dalhousie U</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>UWO</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U Laval</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>NOSM</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U Sherbrooke</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>U Manitoba</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U Montréal</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>U Sask</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McGill U</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>U Alberta</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U Ottawa</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>U Calgary</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Queens U</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>UBC</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U Toronto</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>175</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Includes Gastroenterology (Int Med) and Gastroenterology (Ped)

Source: 2014/15 Annual Census of Post-MD Trainees, CAPER
PGY-4 and exiting postgraduate-MD trainees in 2014/15 – Gastroenterology

Source: 2014/15 Annual Census of Post-MD Trainees, CAPER
Postgraduate-MD trainees in 2014/15 – Gastroenterology

• Total of 42 PGY-4 Gastroenterology trainees representing 50% of all Gastroenterology trainees.

• Total of 84 Gastroenterology trainees representing 0.7% of all Ministry funded trainees.

• Total of 61 visa trainees in Gastroenterology.

• Total of 53 Gastroenterology trainees completed postgraduate training in 2014.

Source: 2014/15 Annual Census of Post-MD Trainees, CAPER
Of the 53 exits in 2013, 42 (79%) were known to be practising in Canada

Source: 2014/15 Annual Census of Post-MD Trainees, CAPER
Stress associated with finding employment at end of residency

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>NR/NA</th>
<th>Not stressful</th>
<th>Somewhat stressful</th>
<th>Very stressful</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>FM resident</strong></td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Other spec res</strong></td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: 2012 National Physician Survey of residents. CFPC, CMA, Royal College
Links to the organizations supplying information for this document

National Physician Survey
http://www.nationalphysiciansurvey.ca

Canadian Medical Association
http://www.cma.ca/pdc

Association of Faculties of Medicine of Canada
http://www.caper.ca/

Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada
http://www.royalcollege.ca/portal/page/portal/rc/credentials/start/routes/traditional_route

College of Family Physicians of Canada
http://www.cfpc.ca

Canadian Institute for Health Information
http://www.cihi.ca