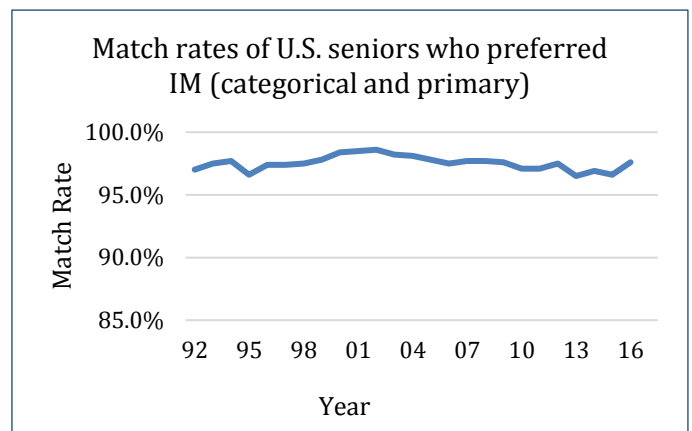


The Bottom Line

- Every year, medical students are applying to an increasing number of IM residency programs.
- The data do **NOT** support that US senior medical students are less successful in the NRMP Main Residency Match or that the Match is becoming more competitive over time.
- In the 2016 Match, IM programs needed to rank more applicants per position available in the Match than ever before to fill their spots (6.7 ranked applicants per position).ⁱ
- The match rate for U.S. senior categorical and primary care applicants who prefer IM has approached 100% since at least 1992. IM preferred applicants are defined by ranking IM as the first specialty.ⁱⁱ



Tips for Residency Program Directors

- Make minimum application requirements and characteristics of invited and matched applicants readily accessible and transparent on your website. Programs are highly encouraged to supply data for national databases such as FREIDA Online and ERAS.
- Do not extend more interview invitations than the number of interview positions available.
- Clearly communicate the expectation that an applicant must respond to an interview offer within two to three business days or risk the interview spot being given away.
- Inform applicants of their status (invited, on hold, rejected) once a decision is made.
- Do not require a supplemental application or charge any type of additional fee.

Tips for Medical Schools and Student Advisors

- Compile application, interview, and match data on recent graduates from your medical school. Share this data to facilitate meaningful comparisons based on graduates with similar characteristics.
- Facilitate a shift towards holistic review (rather than relying on USMLE scores) by developing well-defined and universally accepted descriptive terms on MSPE and letters of recommendation to communicate fair and honest evaluations of students' abilities.

i. NRMP data come from: <http://www.nrmp.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/Main-Match-Results-and-Data-2016.pdf>

ii. Based on NRMP data request