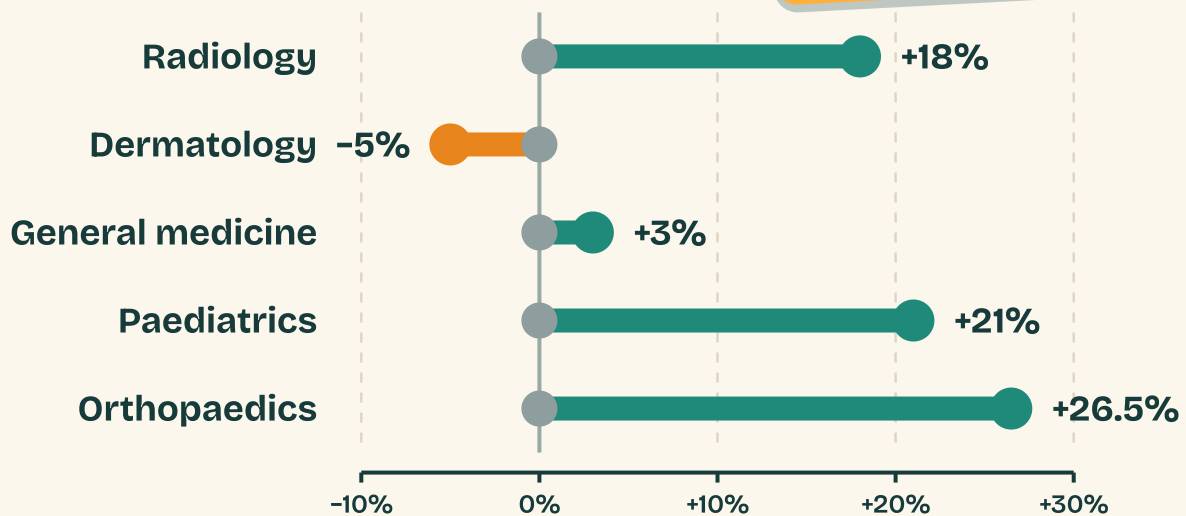


ROUND 1 ANALYSIS

2025 vs 2026 · matched cutoffs

Read your college, not the branch.

RADIOLOGY +18%



Typical (median) change in the Round 1 closing rank, matched seats

A companion guide to the Cortex film **NEET PG 2026 Cutoffs: Read Your College, Not the Branch**. Official MCC data, college by college, with a worksheet for your Round 2 list.



CORTEX

EVERYTHING SIMPLIFIED

October 2026 · 12 pages

Can you add 18% to last year's cutoff?

Radiology's typical Round 1 closing rank moved about 18% later from 2025 to 2026. Does that number hold at your dream college? This guide reads MCC Round 1, 2025 against 2026, college by college, and ends with a worksheet to build your Round 2 list from your own department's numbers.

31 of 89

radiology colleges closed at an **earlier** rank, even though the branch headline is +18% later

80 / 71

general medicine: 80 colleges relaxed and 71 got tighter, so the headline **+3%** hides a split

-5% vs +16%

dermatology: the middle college moved 5% earlier while the simple average says 16% later (45 colleges)

+10%

listed seats rose from about 28,700 to 31,700; Round 1 allotments grew about 7%

14 · 9 · 41

typical % relaxation in All India, DNB and deemed paid seats

11-13%

closing ranks still relaxed where the seat count stayed the same: 6,000+ departments, ~1,200 institutions

How to read the numbers

Closing rank	The largest rank allotted to a group in Round 1.
Later = relaxed	A larger closing-rank number: more candidates fit in.
Earlier = tighter	A smaller number: fewer candidates fit in.
Matched seats	The same college and branch had an Open seat allotted in Round 1 of both years.
Typical (median)	Line up all colleges from tightest to most relaxed; the one in the middle.
Change	$(2026 \text{ rank} - 2025 \text{ rank}) \div 2025 \text{ rank} \times 100$.

Inside

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2	One college is not the branch	p. 4
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5	Seats and the pool	p. 7
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THE SHORT ANSWER

Use the branch headline to decide where to look, and your college's own two rows (2025 and 2026) to decide what to do.

WHO THIS GUIDE IS FOR

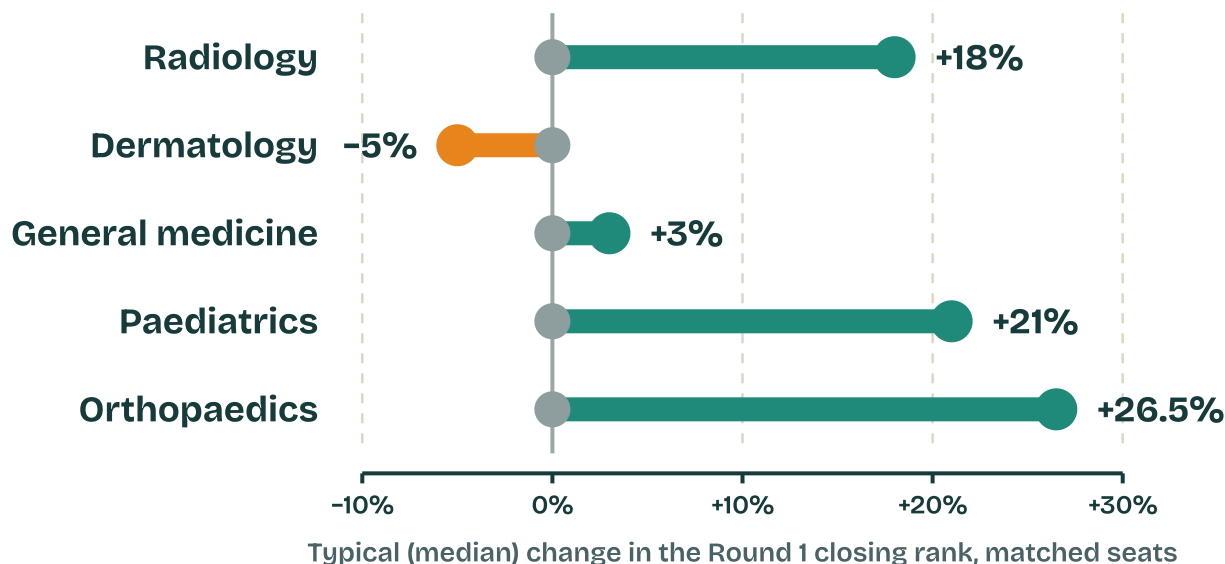
NEET PG candidates filling Round 2 choices who want to know why a national branch trend is a loose rule for one college, and what to check instead.

SOURCE MCC Round 1 results 2025 and 2026 and the PG seat matrices, matched Open All India Quota MD/MS seats, PwD excluded. Method and documents: page 12.



Five branches, five different moves

The typical closing rank shifted about 18% later for radiology and about 5% earlier for dermatology. General medicine moved later by around 3%, paediatrics by 21% and orthopaedics by 26.5%.



Branch	Typical move	Colleges that closed earlier	Read it as
Radiology	+18%	31 of 89	Wide spread: check your college
Dermatology	-5%	25 of 45	Split, and two averages (page 6)
General medicine	+3%	71 of 151	Split: about half moved each way
Paediatrics	+21%	about 1 in 4	Steady wave: most moved later
Orthopaedics	+26.5%	fewer than 1 in 5	Steady wave: most moved later

What the headline tells you

It shows how the market moved in each branch. Every figure is the middle college of the branch, so half the colleges moved by more and half by less.

All the figures in this chart use matched Open All India Quota MD and MS seats, with PwD reservations excluded. Matched means the same college and branch had an Open seat allotted in Round 1 of both years.

What it leaves for you to check

A national branch trend is like a standard drug dose: a sound starting point, and the patient's own vitals decide the final prescription. Your seat is a single department, so its own numbers matter most.

The next pages open each headline into its colleges: radiology first, because its +18% looks like a rule you could apply to any college.

IN ONE LINE

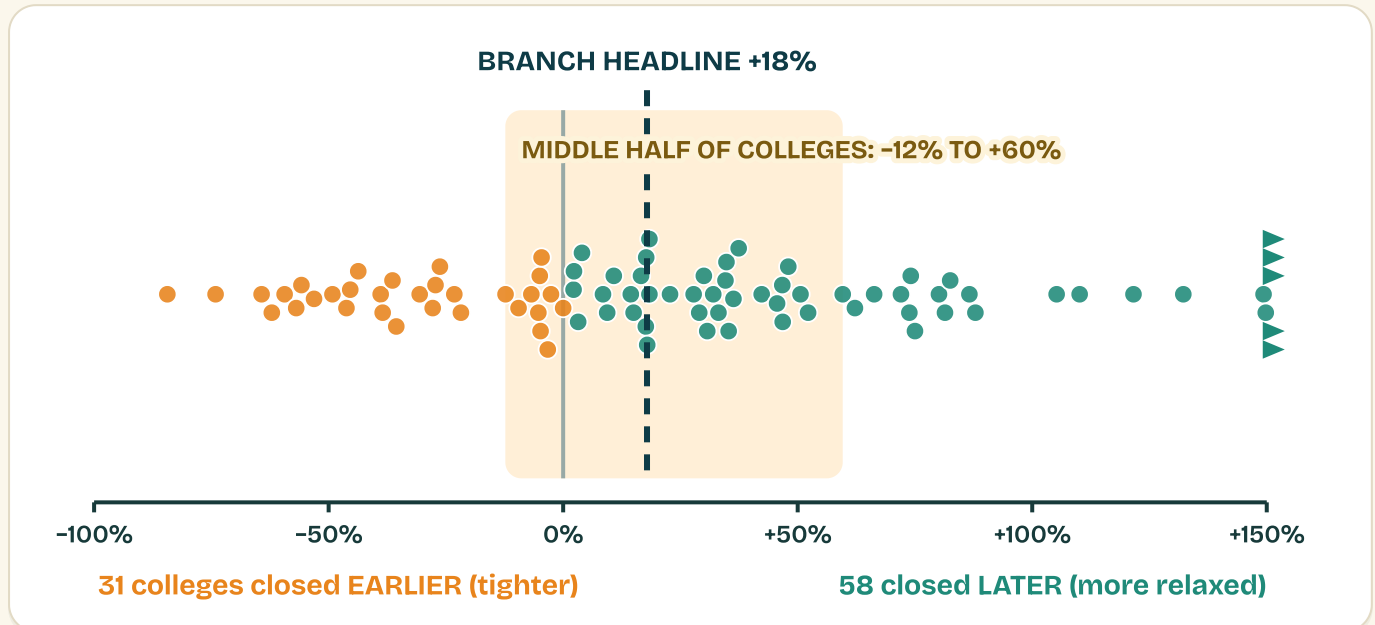
The branch headline shows the market. Your Round 2 list is built from your college's own rows.

SOURCE MCC Round 1 results 2025 and 2026 and the PG seat matrices, matched Open All India Quota MD/MS seats, PwD excluded. Method and documents: page 12.



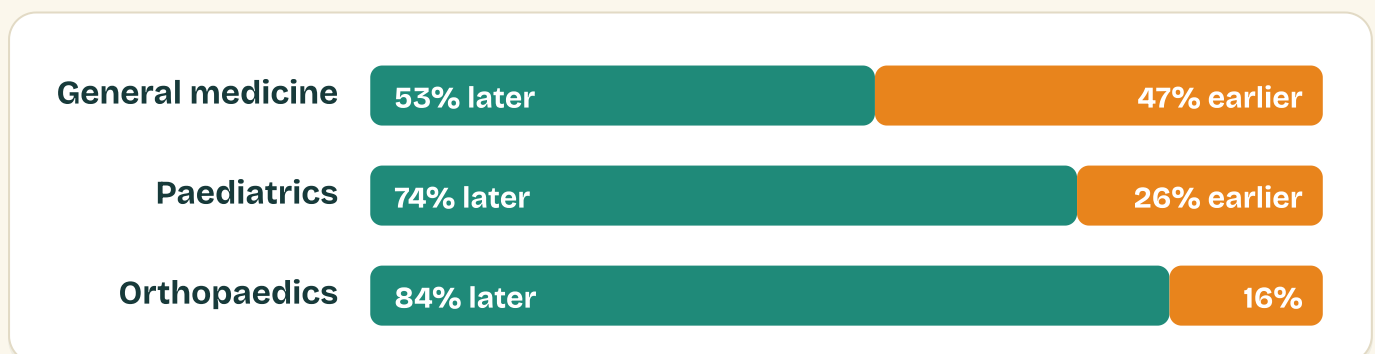
Radiology: 89 colleges, one headline

Each dot below is one radiology college that could be matched across both years. The dashed line is the branch headline, +18%. Thirty-one colleges closed at an earlier rank, and the middle half of colleges spread from 12% tighter to 60% more relaxed.



General medicine, orthopaedics and paediatrics

General medicine's +3% looks like barely any movement. The colleges tell a different story: of 151 matched colleges, 80 relaxed and 71 got tighter, and the two groups cancelled each other out in the headline. Orthopaedics and paediatrics were steadier: more than four in five orthopaedics departments and roughly three quarters of paediatrics departments closed at later ranks.



■ closed later (more relaxed) ■ closed earlier (tighter)

STEADY WAVE

Orthopaedics and paediatrics: most colleges moved the same way, so the branch headline is a closer guide.

FIFTY-FIFTY SPLIT

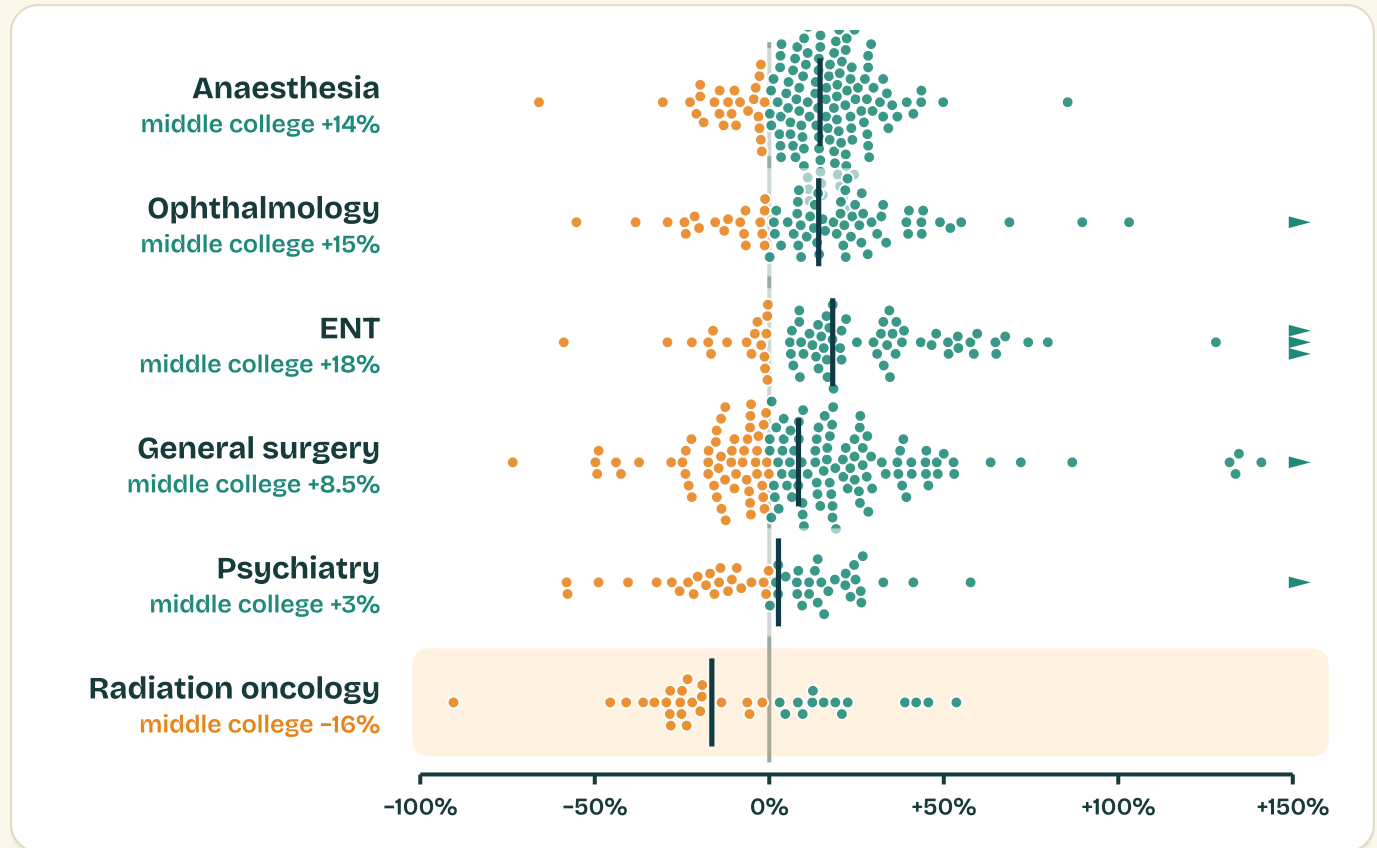
General medicine: about half moved each way, so your own college's numbers decide.

SOURCE MCC Round 1 results 2025 and 2026 and the PG seat matrices, matched Open All India Quota MD/MS seats, PwD excluded. Method and documents: page 12.



Six more branches, college by college

Cutoffs relaxed by roughly 14% in anaesthesia, 15% in ophthalmology, 18% in ENT and 8.5% in general surgery. Psychiatry stayed close to general medicine, at about 3%. Radiation oncology tightened by about 16%.



How to read the strips

Each dot is one matched college, placed by its change in closing rank. Teal dots closed later, orange dots closed earlier. The dark tick marks the middle college of the branch; dots beyond +150% sit at the right edge as arrows.

Anaesthesia, ophthalmology and ENT lean to the right: most of their colleges relaxed. Psychiatry and general surgery spread around a smaller middle.

Radiation oncology moved the other way

Twenty-two of the 36 matched colleges closed at an earlier rank, and the branch's middle college tightened by about 16%. It is the one branch in this set where the typical move was towards tighter cutoffs, which is why it is highlighted.

Whatever the branch, the strip shows the same lesson: the spread of colleges is wide, so check your own.

TAKE WITH YOU

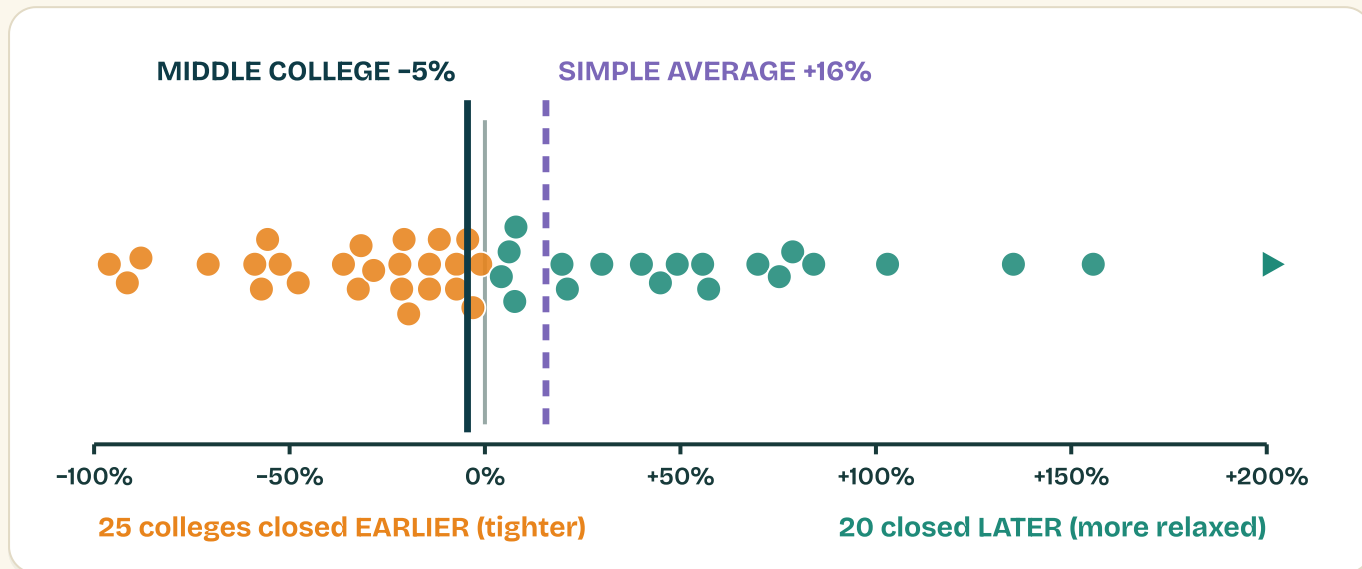
Every branch has colleges on both sides of its headline. Look for the dot that is your college.

SOURCE MCC Round 1 results 2025 and 2026 and the PG seat matrices, matched Open All India Quota MD/MS seats, PwD excluded. Method and documents: page 12.



Dermatology: two averages, two answers

Of the 45 dermatology colleges that could be matched, 25 got tighter and 20 relaxed. Line all 45 up from tightest to most relaxed and the college in the middle shifted 5% earlier. Add the 45 changes together and divide, and dermatology looks 16% more relaxed.



Why the two numbers differ

A few colleges relaxed by very large margins, and those big jumps pulled the simple average up. It works like one very high earner walking into a doctors' lounge: the room's average income rises, while the typical doctor's income stays where it was.

The middle college (the median) stays with the typical case. That is why every branch headline in this guide uses the median, and why each chart also shows how many colleges moved in each direction.

Use this whenever you read a cutoff table

1. Find out whether the number is a median or a simple average.
2. Look for the count of colleges that moved each way.
3. Look for the spread: the middle half of colleges tells you how far apart they sit.
4. Then look up your own college's two rows.

45

dermatology colleges matched across both years

25 / 20

colleges that closed earlier (tighter) / later (more relaxed)

-5% vs +16%

middle college against simple average

IN ONE LINE

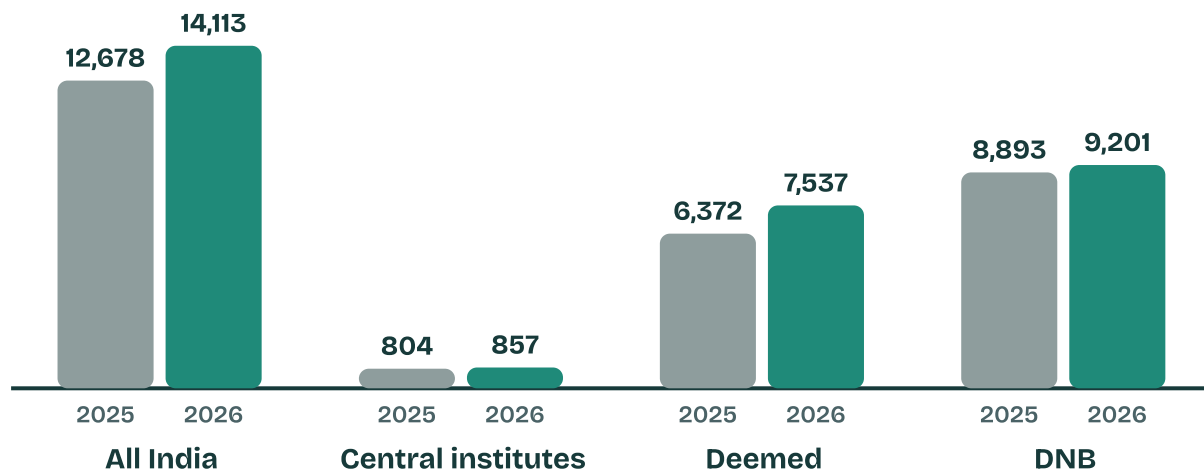
Dermatology's middle college moved -5% while its simple average says +16%. Ask which one a table is showing.

SOURCE MCC Round 1 results 2025 and 2026 and the PG seat matrices, matched Open All India Quota MD/MS seats, PwD excluded. Method and documents: page 12.



The seat pool grew about 10%

While closing ranks shifted, the total pool grew. Listed capacity across All India, central institutes, deemed universities and DNB rose from roughly 28,700 seats to 31,700.



28,747 → 31,708

seats listed in the four Round 1 seat matrices, 2025 and 2026

+10%

growth in listed capacity (about 3,000 more seats)

+7%

growth in Round 1 allotments (26,889 in 2025, 28,723 in 2026)

Where the new seats came

Most of the additional seats came in the All India and deemed quotas. DNB and the central institutes grew by smaller amounts. If you are comparing colleges, the quota of your seat shapes how much extra room exists.

Listed seats and allotted seats

Capacity is what the seat matrices list; allotments are the seats actually allotted in Round 1. Allotments grew about 7%, a little less than the listed capacity.

Seats listed, quota by quota

Seat matrix	Seats 2025	Seats 2026	Seats added	Share of the added seats
All India Quota	12,678	14,113	+1,435	48%
Central institutes	804	857	+53	2%
Deemed universities	6,372	7,537	+1,165	39%
DNB	8,893	9,201	+308	10%
All four	28,747	31,708	+2,961	100%

WHY IT MATTERS

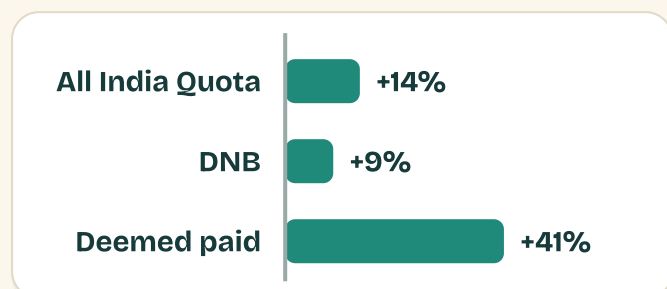
More seats can mean more room at the same college, and some departments added none. Chapter 7 tests how much of the movement is explained by seats.

SOURCE MCC PG seat matrices 2025 and 2026 (All India, central institutes, deemed, DNB); MCC Round 1 results 2025 and 2026. Method and documents: page 12.

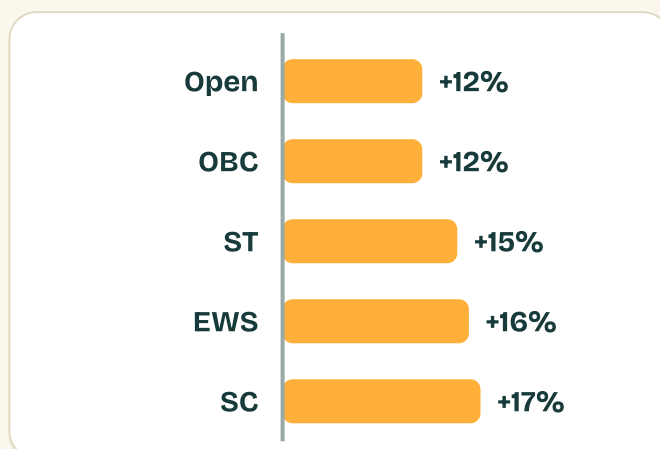


Your quota changes the picture

Typical cutoffs relaxed by about 14% in the All India Quota, 9% in DNB (which includes diplomas and six-year courses) and a large 41% in deemed paid seats.

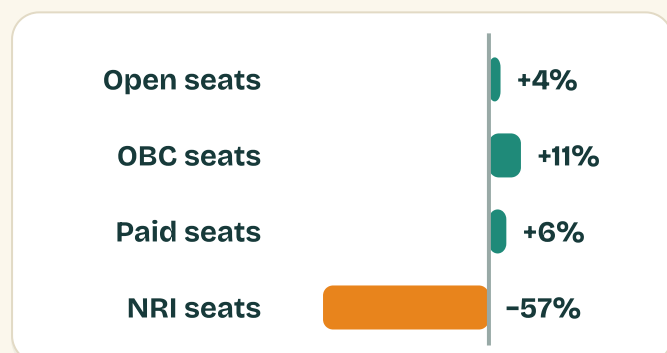


Typical change in closing rank by quota



Typical change in closing rank by seat category

Allotments moved too



Change in Round 1 allotments, 2025 to 2026

Paid seats: allotments grew about 6%, from 4,863 to 5,158.

NRI seats: allotments dropped 57%, from 466 to 200.

Open and OBC seats: Open allotments grew about 4% and OBC allotments about 11%.

A counting note: in 2026, 737 OBC candidates secured Open merit seats in the All India quota. Those are counted under Open seats, where they were actually allotted, so personal category and seat category stay separate.

Three habits for reading these tables

- Match your quota.** All India, DNB and deemed paid seats each have their own rows for the same college.
- Match the allotted category.** A candidate's personal category and the seat category can differ, as with the 737 OBC candidates on Open seats.
- Compare like with like.** Take the 2025 row and the 2026 row of the same college, branch, quota and seat category.

TAKE WITH YOU

Read cutoffs by the quota and seat category you will apply under: the same college can move differently in each.

SOURCE MCC Round 1 results 2025 and 2026, all matched groups of each quota and seat category (non-PwD). Method and documents: page 12.



The same-seat test

To check whether cutoffs relaxed only because seats were added, the data was filtered to departments whose seat count stayed exactly the same in both years. That is more than 6,000 departments in nearly 1,200 institutions.

11%

typical relaxation, institution view (1,213 institutions)

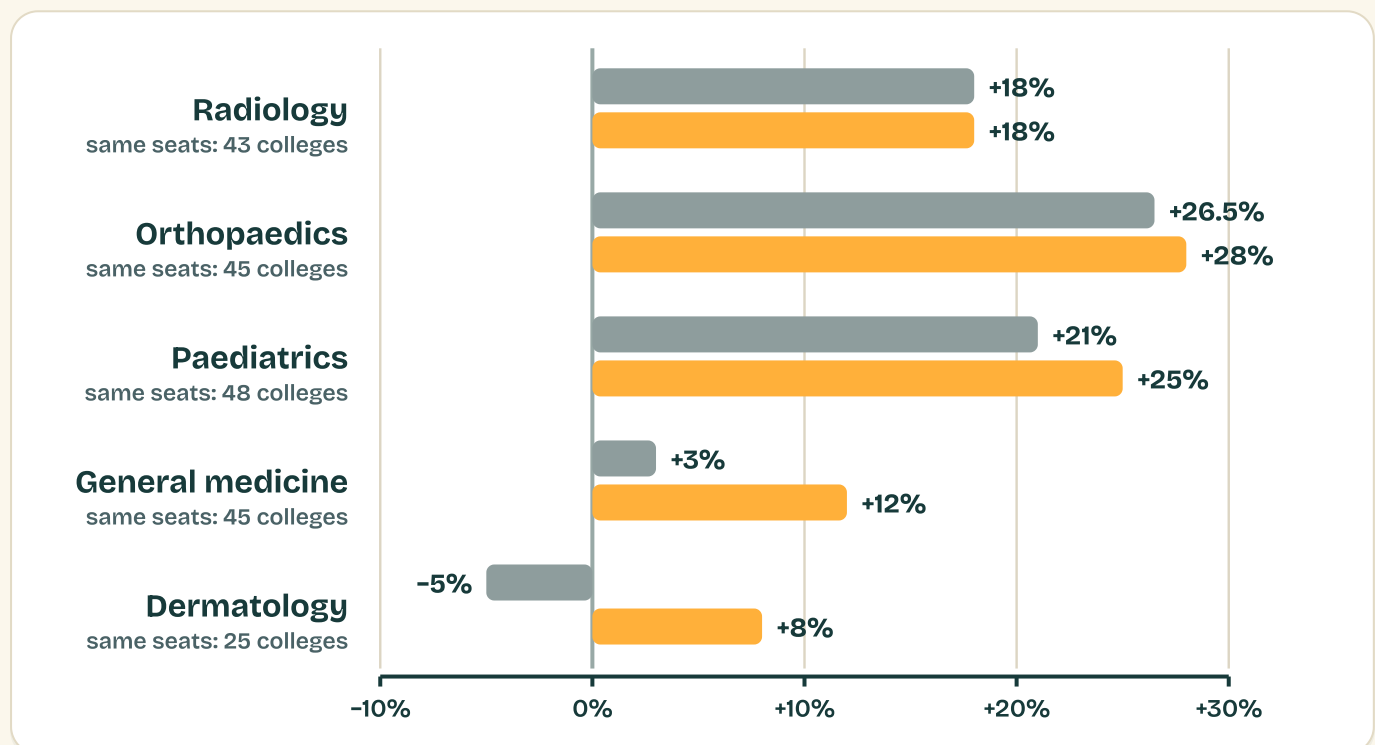
13%

typical relaxation, department view (6,465 departments)

still later

closing ranks relaxed even where the seat count did not change

Branch by branch, with the seat count unchanged



■ all matched colleges ■ colleges whose seat count stayed the same

What stays the same

Radiology still relaxed by 18%, orthopaedics by 28% and paediatrics by 25% among colleges with unchanged seats.

What changes

General medicine moves from about 3% to 12% later. Dermatology flips direction: among its 25 colleges whose seat count stayed exactly the same, cutoffs relaxed by 8% instead of tightening by 5%.

IN ONE LINE

Seats are part of the story, and cutoffs relaxed where seats stayed put. Check your department's seat count (Check 2 on the next page).

SOURCE MCC Round 1 results 2025 and 2026 and all eight seat matrices (seat counts); groups with equal seat count in both years. Method and documents: page 12.



Three checks for your Round 2 list

National trends tell you how the market moved. Your seat comes down to a single department. These three checks turn the analysis into numbers for your own list.

1

Match the exact row in both years

Find your target college and branch in the MCC Round 1 result list of 2025 and of 2026. Match the college, the branch, the **quota** and the **allotted category**, then note the closing rank (the last rank allotted) in each year. Work out the change: $(2026 - 2025) \div 2025 \times 100$.

You get: your college's own move, to set beside the branch headline.

2

Check the seat matrix

Open the 2025 and 2026 seat matrices and find the same department. Note whether it added seats, lost seats or kept the same number. Local capacity changes the game: a department that added seats has more room, and the same-seat test (page 9) shows what happens where the count stayed fixed.

You get: whether your college's move came with more room or with the same room.

3

Look at the group of comparable colleges

List the colleges you are comparing for the same branch and quota and look at how each of them moved. If most moved the same way, you are seeing a steady wave like orthopaedics. If they split about half and half, you are seeing a fifty-fifty branch like general medicine, and each college's own row carries more weight.

You get: whether the branch headline is a close guide for your shortlist or only a loose one.

USE THE NUMBERS AS HISTORY

These are past closing ranks from official lists. They help you order your choices; they do not forecast any rank in Round 2.

NEXT

The worksheet on page 11 gives you a row for each college and the same three checks, ready to fill in.

A two-by-two way to read your row

Put your college's change beside the branch headline (Check 1) and its seat count (Check 2).

	Change above the branch headline	Change below the branch headline
Seat count grew	More room and a later close than the typical college. Part of the move may be capacity, so look at the group (Check 3).	More room, and your college still closed tighter than the typical college. It moved against its branch trend, so its own row matters most.
Seat count stayed the same	Same room and a later close: this fits the same-seat pattern of chapter 7.	Same room and a smaller move, or a tighter close, than the typical college. Compare it with the group before ordering your list.

SOURCE MCC Round 1 result lists 2025 and 2026; MCC PG seat matrices 2025 and 2026 (mcc.nic.in). Check mcc.nic.in for the latest notices.



Round 2 college check

Print this page and fill one row per college on your shortlist. Take the closing ranks from the official Round 1 lists and the seat counts from the seat matrices.

College	Branch	Quota	Seat category	2025 closing rank	2026 closing rank	Change %	Seats 2025	Seats 2026	Group moved

CHANGE %

$(2026 \text{ closing rank} - 2025 \text{ closing rank}) \div 2025 \text{ closing rank} \times 100$. A positive number is later (more relaxed); a negative number is earlier (tighter).

GROUP MOVED

Write later, earlier or split after looking at how the comparable colleges in your shortlist moved.

Reading your row

Change % above the branch headline	Your college relaxed more than the typical college of the branch, or tightened less. Check whether its seat count grew.
Change % below the branch headline	Your college relaxed less than the typical college, or tightened. Compare it with its group before ordering your list.
Seats stayed the same	Its move belongs to the same-seat pattern of chapter 7: the seat count is not what moved it.
Group split	Give your college's own row more weight than the branch headline.

☐ Rows matched on college, branch, quota and allotted category

☐ Seat matrices checked for both years

☐ Group of comparable colleges reviewed

SOURCE Fill from the MCC Round 1 result lists 2025 and 2026 and the PG seat matrices 2025 and 2026 (mcc.nic.in).



How the numbers were made

Scope

Branch figures use **Round 1, All India Quota, Open seats** (PwD excluded), **MD and MS**. A college counts as **matched** when the same institute and course had an Open seat allotted in Round 1 of both years. Quota and category figures use every matched group (institute, course, quota, allotted category; non-PwD) of that quota or seat category.

The change

Change = (2026 closing rank - 2025 closing rank) ÷ 2025 closing rank. A positive change is a later (more relaxed) cutoff. "Typical" is the median; the middle half is the first to the third quartile (linear interpolation).

Matching

The allotment lists name institutes with their address and carry no code, so each row is matched to the longest same-year seat-matrix name it starts with, and the seat-matrix codes join the two years. A different matching rule can add or drop a college or two in a branch; the direction and size of every finding stay the same.

Same-seat groups

Groups whose seat count (institute, course, quota, category) is equal in both years' seat matrices.

Checked

All 56 figures spoken in the film were recomputed from the official documents and match within rounding.

Official documents (Medical Counselling Committee, mcc.nic.in)

S-R1-2025	Final Result of Round 1, PG Counselling 2025 Final_Result_of_Round_1_for_PG_Counselling_2025.pdf
S-R1-2026	Final Allotment Result, PG Counselling Round 1, dated 24.10.2026 Final_Allotment_Result_for_PG_Counselling_Round_1_dated_24.10.2026.pdf
S-AIQ-2025 / 2026	All India <u>Quota</u> seat matrices, PG 2025 and PG 2026 (MD/MS) ALL_INDIA_QUOTA_SEATS_MATRIX_PG_2025_COUNSELLING.pdf; FINAL_ALL_INDIA_QUOTA_SEATS_MATRIX_PG_2026_COUNSELLING_(MD_MS).pdf
S-CIQ-2025 / 2026	Central Internal <u>Quota</u> seat matrices, 2025 and 2026 CENTRAL_INTERNAL_QUOTA_SEATS_MATRIX_PG_2025_COUNSELLING.pdf; FINAL_CENTRAL_INTERNAL_QUOTA_SEATS_MATRIX_PG_COUNSELLING_2026_(MD_MS).pdf
S-DEEMED-2025 / 2026	Deemed seat matrices, 2025 and 2026 20251119_UPDATED_SEATS_MATRIX_DEEMED_PG_2025_19.11.2025.pdf; FINAL_DEEMED_SEATS_MATRIX_PG_COUNSELLING_2026_(MD_MS).pdf
S-DNB-2025 / 2026	DNB seat matrices, 2025 and 2026 20251119_UPDATED_SEATS_MATRIX_DNB_PG_2025_19.11.2025.pdf; FINAL_SEATS_MATRIX_DNB_PG_COUNSELLING_2026.pdf

Please note

Figures cover MCC counselling only; state counselling follows its own rules. Closing ranks are history from the official lists and do not predict any future rank. Check mcc.nic.in for the latest notices.

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