

Table 3 Rankings in the second and third Delphi rounds about which degree programmes at Shiraz University of Medical Sciences should increase their number of students

Rank	Degree	Subject	Round 2 (n = 102)	Round 3 (n = 62)
			Mean (SD)	Mean (SD)
1	MSc	Haematology	7.9 (2.0)	9.7 (1.4)
2	Fellowship	Ophthalmology	8.8 (1.0)	9.6 (0.7)
3	Fellowship	Infertility	9.1 (0.4)	9.5 (0.3)
4	Subspecialty	Gastroenterology	8.2 (1.2)	9.4(1.0)
5	Subspecialty	Plastic surgery	8.5 (1.9)	9.4(0.8)
6	Subspecialty	Nephrology	8.0 (0.3)	9.3 (0.1)
7	Fellowship	Cardiac anaesthesia	8.5 (0.8)	9.2 (0.5)
8	Subspecialty	Rheumatology	9.1 (0.6)	9.1 (0.4)
9	Subspecialty	Cardiology	7.4 (0.8)	9.0 (0.9)
10	Subspecialty	Endocrinology	8.3 (0.9)	8.8(0.6)
11	Subspecialty	Pulmonology	6.9 (1.9)	8.8 (0.8)
12	Subspecialty	Cardiac surgery	8.3 (2.0)	8.8 (1.1)
13	PhD	Physiology	8.1 (1.0)	8.3 (0.7)
14	BSc	Occupational health	6.5(1.3)	8.1 (0.4)
15	Subspecialty	Haematology	7.3 (0.7)	8.0 (0.5)
16	Fellowship	Ocular pathology	7.3 (1.1)	7.8 (0.7)
17	BSc	Medical records	6.3 (0.8)	7.7 (0.1)
18	BSc	Environmental health	7.3 (2.0)	7.6 (1.0)
19	PhD	Biostatistics	7.0 (0.9)	7.5 (0.2)
20	BSc	Health services management	7.0 (1.0)	7.3 (0.7)
21	Subspecialty	Paediatric surgery	6.5 (2.0)	7.2 (1.4)
22	Subspecialty	Paediatric haematology	6.0 (0.9)	7.1 (0.5)
23	PhD	Biochemistry	6.2 (0.7)	7.0 (0.8)
24	PhD	Pharmacology	6.2 (1.9)	7.0 (1.4)
25	PhD	Immunology	6.5 (2.4)	7.0 (1.8)
26	Subspecialty	Paediatric endocrinology	5.8 (1.6)	7.0 (0.7)
27	PhD	Anatomy	6.2 (1.1)	6.5 (0.6)
28	PhD	Parasitology	6.0 (1.0)	6.4 (0.1)
29	Subspecialty	Paediatric haematology & oncology	6.1 (1.9)	6.3 (0.8)
30	BSc	Radiology	6.9(2.4)	6.3 (1.5)
31	BSc	Anaesthesiology	6.1 (1.3)	6.3 (0.9)
32	BSc	Laboratory sciences	6.1(0.9)	6.2 (0.5)
33	Subspecialty	Paediatric gastroenterology	5.2 (1.2)	6.1 (0.7)
34	Fellowship	Anaesthesia for intraabdominal organ transplantation	5.4 (2.4)	6.1 (1.1)
35	Subspecialty	Paediatric infectious diseases	5.9 (0.7)	6.1 (0.5)
36	BSc	Operating room	5.2 (2.4)	6.1 (1.2)
37	PhD	Bacteriology	5.2 (0.8)	6.0 (0.9)
38	Subspecialty	Paediatric immunology	6.1 (0.9)	6.0 (0.3)
39	Subspecialty	Paediatric nephrology	5.6 (0.8)	5.8 (0.4)
40	PhD	Medical chemistry	5.3 (0.7)	5.7 (0.5)
41	Subspecialty	Paediatric cardiology	– (–)	5.7 (0.9)
42	BSc	Medical emergencies	5.5 (2.1)	5.7 (1.8)
43	PhD	Virology	5.2 (0.9)	5.3 (0.3)
44	BSc	Radiology	5.1 (2.2)	5.2 (2.0)
45	PhD	Pharmaceutics	5.1 (0.9)	5.2 (0.3)
46	Subspecialty	Paediatric neonatology	5.2 (2.6)	5.1 (1.5)
47	Subspecialty	Internal medicine	6.0 (0.5)	5.1 (0.3)

Means and standard deviation (SD) show participants' level of agreement on a 10-point scale ranging from completely disagree to completely agree.