



Medical Diagnostic Radiographer

ANZSCO 2512-11

South Australia
June 2019

Current labour market rating: Shortage

There is a shortage of Medical Diagnostic Radiographers in South Australia. Employers stated a proportion of applicants lack either experience in the occupation, or the specific experience and skills they require.

Key research findings

- Employers surveyed in South Australia were advertising vacancies in public hospitals and private imaging practices.
- Most employers stated recruitment is difficult because the radiography industry is small in South Australia, and private and public employers seek to recruit from a small population of experienced radiographers.
- All employers required applicants with degree level qualifications and registration with the Medical Radiation Practice Board of Australia.
- In 2019, 40 per cent of vacancies were filled, this was a decrease compared to the last survey in 2017 (75 per cent).
- There was an average of 3.0 applicants per vacancy in 2019, which was a decrease compared to 2017 (4.0).
- The average number of suitable applicants per vacancy decreased in 2019, with 0.6 suitable applicants per vacancy.
- There was an average of 1.0 qualified applicants per vacancy in 2019.
- Around 40 per cent of the qualified applicants were determined unsuitable.
 - some employers stated qualified applicants were unsuitable because they lacked an appropriate level of skill and experience in magnetic resonance imaging, mammography and ultrasound
 - recent graduates were determined unsuitable by most employers because they did not have sufficient skill and experience in the occupation.
- Most employers advised good communication and problem solving skills, and being a team player were essential criteria.

2019 Survey Results¹



Demand and supply

- Rising demand for health care services, combined with new and expanding medical imaging techniques has led to an increase in demand for diagnostic imaging.
- There were 1.9 million diagnostic imaging services provided in South Australia in the year to March 2019.
 - In the five years to March 2019, there was a 21.8 per cent increase in diagnostic imaging services. This indicates the increasing demand for Radiographers.²
- The number of registered, practicing radiographers in South Australia increased by around 11 per cent in the five years to 2019. This includes a 5 per cent increase from 2018 to 2019.³
- South Australian undergraduate radiography completions have increased since 2015, but remain relatively low. There were 69 completions in 2017.

¹ The methodology underpinning this research is outlined at [Skill Shortage Research Methodology](#)

² Medicare, Quarterly Medical Statistics, March 2019, health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/Quarterly-Medicare-Statistics

³ Medical Radiation Practice Board of Australia/About Us/Statistics