



# Sonographer

## ANZSCO 2512-14

South Australia  
June 2019

### Current labour market rating: No Shortage

There is no shortage of sonographers in South Australia. Employers filled most advertised vacancies in 2019.

### Key research findings

- Employers surveyed in South Australia (SA) were advertising vacancies in public hospitals and private imaging practices.
- Employers sought applicants with degree level qualifications and registration with the Australian Sonographer Accreditation Registry.
- Around 80 per cent of the advertised vacancies were filled, which was an increase from 2017 (57 per cent).
- There was an average of 1.6 applicants per vacancy, which was an increase compared to 2017 (0.7).
- The average number of suitable applicants per vacancy (0.8) was slightly higher than in 2017 (0.6 per vacancy).
- All applicants were qualified.
  - Around half of the qualified applicants were considered unsuitable. The most common reasons for unsuitability included lacking either experience in the occupation, or the specific experience and skills employers required.
- Employers identified candidates must have excellent communication skills, and be a team player.
- The University of South Australia offers a number of post-graduate courses including a Graduate Diploma in Medical Sonography, Master of Medical Sonography and Graduate Certificate in Breast Imaging.
  - Some employers reported there is an inadequate supply of clinical training places for graduates in South Australia.

### 2019 Survey Results<sup>1</sup>



### 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 carried out in the year to March 2019 in SA.
  - Over the five years to March 2019, there was a 21.8 per cent increase in diagnostic imaging services. This indicates the increasing demand for Sonographers in the private and public sectors.<sup>2</sup>
- Most Sonographers work in Pathology and Diagnostic Imaging Services, Hospitals and Specialist Medical Services industries.<sup>3</sup>
- South Australian advertised internet vacancies for medical imaging professionals increased by around a third between April 2018 and May 2019.<sup>4</sup>

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

<sup>2</sup> Medicare, Quarterly Medical Statistics, March 2019, [health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/Quarterly-Medicare-Statistics](http://health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/Quarterly-Medicare-Statistics)

<sup>3</sup> ABS Census of Population and Housing 2016, customised tables.

<sup>4</sup> Department of Employment, Skills, Small and Family Business, Internet Vacancy Index, May 2019.