

SoR Ultrasound census 2024

About you

1. Your details

Name *

Email address *

Job Title *

2. Which healthcare organisation are you responding for? *

3. Are you responding for all ultrasound sites at your organisation? *

- Yes
- No

4. You have indicated you are not responding for all ultrasound sites at your organisation. Which sites are you responding for? (Please fill out up to 5) *

(untitled)

5. Which of the following best describes your organisation? *

- NHS Trust or Health Board
- NHS community diagnostic centre
- Independent community diagnostic centre
- Independent provider / private hospital
- Charitable healthcare provider
- Self -employed / small company
- Other - Please specify

6. In which geographical area is your organisation? *

- East of England
- Isle of Man or Channel Islands
- London
- Northern Ireland
- Midlands
- North West
- North East and Yorkshire
- Scotland
- South East
- South West
- Wales
- UK Wide

7. Does your organisation undertake NHS work? *

- Yes
- No

Staffing

Page description:

Whole Time Equivalent (WTE) terminology is also commonly referred to as Full Time Equivalent (FTE).

8. What is your current establishment (the number of funded posts) for WTE sonographers in your organisation? *

9. How many WTE qualified sonographers are actually employed in your organisation? *

10. How many WTE sonographer posts are currently unfilled?

*

Vacant as post frozen for more than 3 months

Vacant as waiting for trainee to qualify

Vacant as unable to recruit suitable applicant

Vacant for other reasons

Not able to recruit because applicants do not have the required statuses (type X into the comment box)

If you answered 'Vacant for other reason' in the previous question. Please specify the reason(s) in the text box below.

11. How many sonographers currently in post are absent due to the following reasons?

Note: For this question, long-term sickness absence is defined as any continuous period of 28 calendar days or longer.

Long term sickness, not work related?

Maternity or Paternity leave?

Work related musculoskeletal disorder (WRMSD)?

Work related stress

Other

If you selected "Other" in the previous question, please specify below.

(untitled)

12. How many sonographers in established posts are employed in terms of headcount? (Enter whole numbers of sonographers)

Work pattern (hours per week)

	Both non-obstetric and obstetric ultrasound	Non- obstetric ultrasound only	Obstetric ultrasound only
Full time (37.5 + hrs)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Part time (30.1 to 37.4 hrs)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Part time (20.1 to 30 hrs)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Part time (10.1 to 20 hrs)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Part time (10 hours or less)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

13. What is the age distribution of your sonographers in terms of headcount? (Enter whole numbers)

< 30 years	<input type="text"/>
31 - 40 years	<input type="text"/>
41 - 50 years	<input type="text"/>
51 - 60 years	<input type="text"/>
Over 60 years	<input type="text"/>

14. Number of sonographers due to retire in the coming 12 months in terms of headcount. (Enter a whole number) *

15. Please give numbers of sonographers in each Agenda for Change (AfC) banding in terms of headcount. (Enter whole numbers)

8d

8c

8b

8a

7

6

5

Not applicable as do not follow AfC structure (type X into the comment box)

16. What were the reasons that sonographers have left their posts in the last 12 months? (Tick all that apply.) *

- Promotion within organisation
- Promotion in another organisation
- Retirement
- Left profession but still working in health services
- To undertake work as an agency sonographer
- Education
- Personal reasons
- Due to higher salary elsewhere for the same role
- Due to organisational culture
- Due to workload pressures
- Because of work related musculoskeletal disorder (WRMSD)
- Other (please specify in the text box below)

You selected "Other" in the previous question. Please use this text box to provide further details.

Comments (please specify if the leavers are early, mid, or late career, if possible)

17. Do you employ agency or locum sonographers?

*

- No, not at all
- Rarely (on less than one day a month)
- Occasionally (on one or two days a month)
- Frequently (on more than two days but less than ten days a month)
- Regularly (on more than ten days per month)

18. Do your sonographers work additional hours (above contractual hours) to meet demand?

- No, not at all
- Rarely (on less than one day a month)
- Occasionally (on one or two days a month)
- Frequently (on more than two days but less than ten days a month)
- Regularly (on more than ten days per month)

19. Do you provide extended working day / weekend working? (Tick all that apply.)

- No - Core working hours between 8am and 5.30pm
- Yes - Evening working after 5.30pm
- Yes - Early mornings - start time between 7am and 7.59am
- Yes - Saturdays
- Yes - Sundays
- Yes - Bank holidays
- Other - (please specify in the relevant box)

*

If you provide core working hours only, what is the reason for this?

Education and training

20. Please give the qualifications of sonographers in each category (Enter whole number)

UK CASE accredited qualification

UK qualification that is not CASE-accredited

International ultrasound qualification

21. How many trainee sonographers on CASE accredited programmes are likely to qualify and enter the workforce in the next 12 months in your organisation? (Enter a whole number)

22. How many trainee sonographers are planned to start training with you in the next 12 months on a CASE accredited programme? (Enter whole numbers).

	PgC/PgD	BSc (Hons)	BSc(Hons) apprenticeship	Other (please specify)
Number (provisional)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Number (confirmed)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Capacity to train (number of additional trainees you could support)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Please use this text box for any additional comments related to the previous question.

23. Would your organisation support training sonographers coming via direct education and training route (who would not be eligible for HCPC registration)?

- Yes MSc and BSc
- Yes MSc level only
- Yes BSc level only
- No

Please use this textbox to give an explanation for your reasoning.

24. Please give any additional comments on your local circumstances with respect to sonographer recruitment, education and training.

25. How many sonographers in your organisation are registered with a statutory regulator or a voluntary register (enter a whole number).

N.B If more than one register for a sonographer, please select the one linked to their primary profession e.g. a radiographer sonographer on the HCPC and RCT register, select HCPC.

*

	HCPC	NMC	RCT (Register of Clinical Technologists)	None	Other (please specify in the box below)
Number who have a CASE accredited award	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Number without a CASE accredited qualification	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

26. If you have sonographers that are NOT registered with a statutory regulatory body (e.g. HCPC, NMC) what type of contract do they hold? (Tick all that apply) *

- Permanent contract
- Agency staff / locum
- Locum / Bank staff
- Other (please give details)

*

- Not applicable (all are on a statutory register)

27. Please select one of the following statements. *

- All our sonographers hold statutory registration and our organisation requires this as an essential criteria for employment.
- All our sonographers hold statutory registration but our organisation does not require this as an essential criteria for employment.
- All our sonographers hold statutory or voluntary registration and our organisation requires this as an essential criteria for employment.
- All our sonographers hold statutory or voluntary registration and our organisation does not require this as an essential criteria for employment.
- Not all our sonographers hold statutory or voluntary registration

Other questions

28. Please give details of any ultrasound examinations, interventions or other activities your department undertakes that you feel extends the scope of practice of sonographers or that you would like to bring to the attention of others (e.g. sonographer-led services, interventional procedures, advanced communication, fetal medicine services).

29. When issues arise in the department such as serious untoward incidents, staff shortages, poor quality equipment, are these reported ?

*

- Yes, always
- Sometimes
- Only if affecting an individual patient
- Rarely
- Never

Which system do you use to report such incidents? (tick all that apply)

*

- Datix
- Local risk register
- Other (please specify)

If all issues negatively affecting the service are not reported, please give reasons for this in the comments. This will help us with negotiations with the DHSC.

30. Are there any comments you would like to make about sonographer recruitment and retention or sonographer workforce issues in general?

31. Following a report by the Professional Standards Authority, we continue to put forward the case for sonographer regulation. It is important that we have as much evidence as possible to help with this.

a.) Do you have any comments about sonographer regulation in general to support with policy development? *

b.) Do you agree that the SoR should continue to lobby for statutory regulation of sonographers/

*

- Yes
- No
- I don't know

c.) Do you have any evidence that can be used to inform the case for statutory regulation of sonographers?

*

Yes

No

32. d.) If you answered 'yes' to the previous question, do you consent to being contacted by Gill Harrison? *

Yes

No