

BREASTSCREEN AOTEAROA RADIOLOGIST WORKFORCE SURVEY
Results for 2007

Question 1 <i>On average, over the last year, how many BSA mammograms have you read <u>per week</u>?</i>	0 - 99	100 - 199	200 - 299	300 - 399	400 - 499
	10	24	3	5	0
Question 2 <i>On average, over the last year, how many hours have you spent reading BSA mammograms <u>per week</u>?</i>	1-4 hrs	5-9 hrs	10-14 hrs	15-19 hrs	Other
	32	10	0	0	
<i>Of this time how much of this time is spent on third reads <u>per week</u>? (please state)</i>	0 – 14 min	15 – 29 mins	30 – 59 mins	>60	Not specified
	4	6	12	4	10
Question 3 <i>What hours do you work <u>per week within BreastScreen Aotearoa only</u>, in:</i> <i>Direct Patient Contact (including assessment, biopsy, ultrasound etc)?</i>	1-4 hrs	5-9 hrs	10-14 hrs	15-19 hrs	Other
	21	17	1	0	3
Question 4 <i>What hours do you work <u>per week within BreastScreen Aotearoa only</u> in:</i> <i>Multidisciplinary meetings (MDM) and quality assurance (QA)?</i>	1-4 hrs	5-9 hrs	10-14 hrs	Other	
	41	1	0	0	
Question 5 <i>Are you able and willing to increase your existing hours working with BreastScreen Aotearoa?</i>	Yes		No		Maybe
	7		25		10
Question 6 <i>If the answer to question 5 was 'yes' or 'maybe', how many extra hours per week?</i>	2 – 3 hrs	3 – 4 hrs	5 – 6 hrs	> 7 hrs	Not Sure
	5	2	4	1	0

Any further comments on any aspects of the BSA Programme or this questionnaire?

- Access/accreditation parameters for new radiologists to do mammography is too difficult to achieve and puts off radiologists
- This questionnaire cannot help to address the local issues: who has the contract for BSA, local manpower radiology issues, on call for hospital (often one in three first call) impact of tiredness on reading mammograms, recruitment difficulties for MRTs rather than radiologists to take the mammogram. Happy to fill out this questionnaire but the answers will not be giving you a true picture.
- No CME allowance for radiologists
- Contract price too low to provide service
- In my opinion, BSA is going to run into serious difficulties with recruitment of radiologists into the programme. Very few (if any) young radiologists are even slightly interested in mammography for all sorts of reasons. If mammography wasn't the poorest funded discipline in radiology, then things might start to improve.
- More likely to get responses if not sent just before Christmas
- Far too much emphasis on collection of irrelevant data
- What was the result of the last questionnaire?
- British trained and have worked with (and trained) extended role mammographers. BreastScreening is a field particularly suited to utilising role extension and assistant practitioners.

BreastScreen Aotearoa Radiologist Workforce Survey 2007

In December 2007, the annual BSA Radiologist Workforce Survey was distributed to 69 BSA radiologists through the eight Lead Provider Clinical Directors. The survey was identical to the 2005 survey and similar to the first 2004 workforce survey. Lead Provider Clinical Directors identified the number of BSA radiologists working within their region, including subcontractors.

The number of radiologists working in the Programme was stable (69) in 2007 compared with 2006 (67), after the significant increases in previous years (50 in 2004 and 2005.)

The NSU acknowledges the work of BSA Clinical Directors in distributing the surveys.

Screening Volumes

In the 24 months to June 2007 the BSA programme screened 326,674 women. That represented a 10.9% increase from the figure of 294, 421 in the two years prior to June 2006.

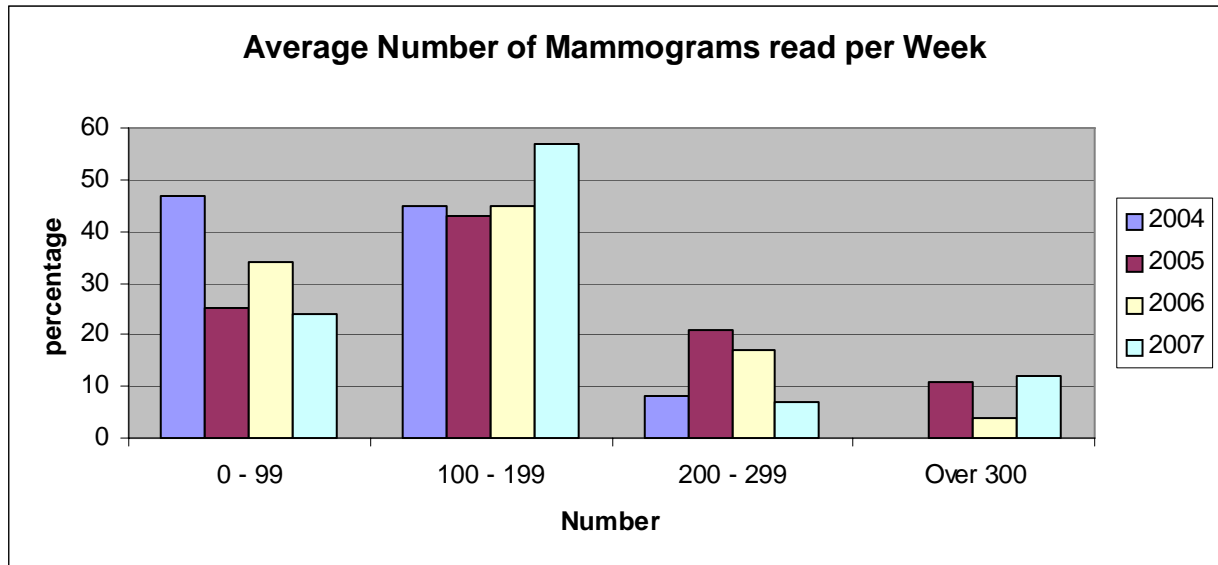
In the 24 months to June 2007, overall BSA coverage of women aged 50 to 69 constituted **61.2%**. Coverage of Maori women aged 50 to 69 was **43.5%** and that of Pacific women was **43.8%**. Coverage of Maori and Pacific women is significantly lower than overall BSA coverage of the general female population.

Survey Analyses

Total number of surveys sent was 69, and 42 surveys were returned, which equates to an 61% return rate which is consistent with the fluctuating trend of 81% in 2006, 56% return rate in 2005 and 72% in 2004.

The average number of BSA mammograms read per week remained relatively stable in 2007 (146 in 2007 from 135 in 2006). The number of radiologists reading between 100-199 mammograms per week increased from the previous three years, with a further 19% reading over 200 mammograms.

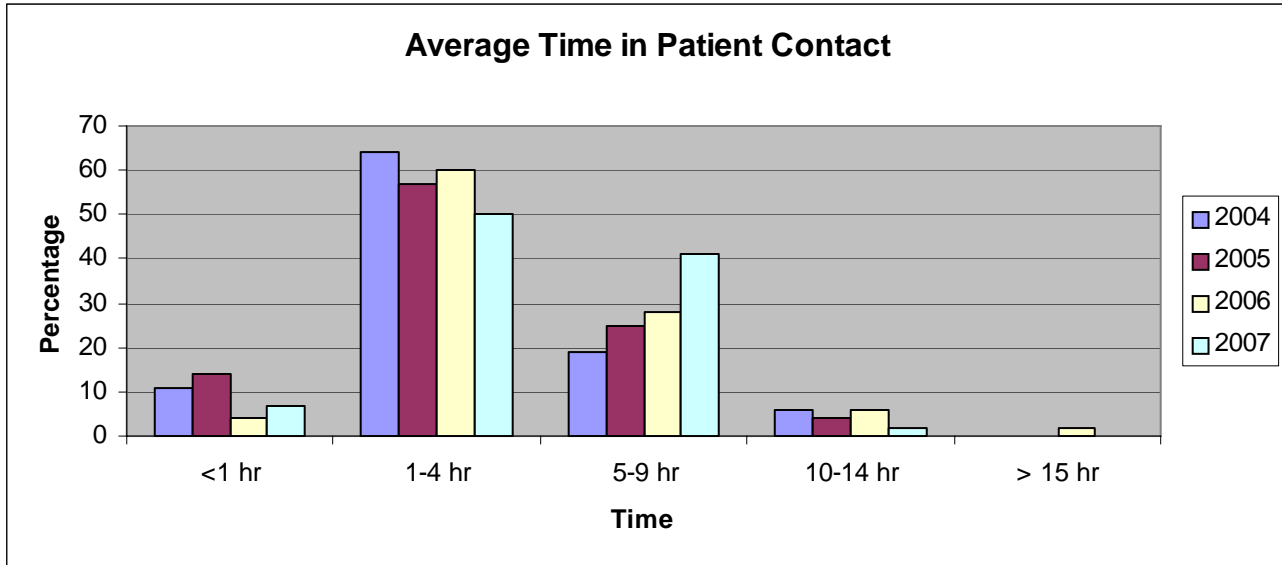
Number of Mammograms Read per Week (average)	2004 (%)	2005 (%)	2006 (%)	2007 (%)
0 - 99	47	25	34	24
100 - 199	45	43	45	57
200 - 299	8	21	17	7
Over 300	0	11	4	12



The majority of BSA radiologists, 76% (n=32/42), worked between one and four hours per week on average reading BSA mammograms. While this fluctuated last year, this result is congruent with previous years results. 24% of radiologists in 2007 read on average of between five to nine hours per week; an increase from the 13% result of 2006, but the same as years previous to that.

The amount of time radiologists spend in direct patient contact has increased, with the greatest percentage ever of radiologists indicating in 2007 they spend more than five hours in direct patient contact.

Number of Hours in Direct Patient Contact	2004 (%)	2005 (%)	2006 (%)	2007 (%)
Less than 1	11	14	4	7
1 - 4	64	57	60	50
5 - 9	19	25	28	41
10 - 14	6	4	6	2
> 15	0	0	2	0

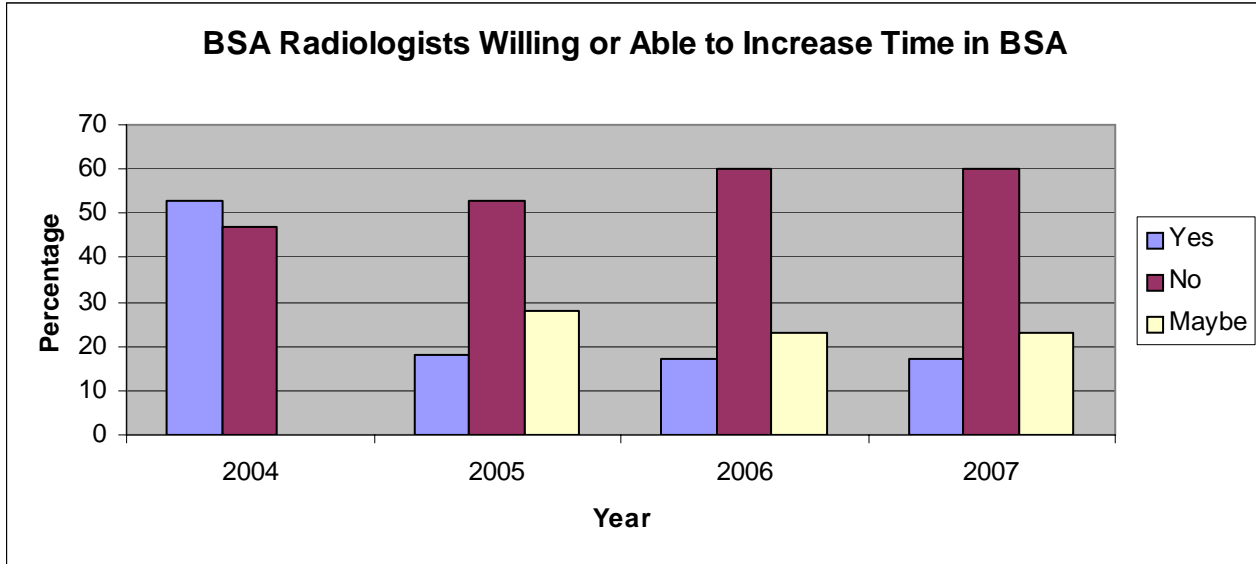


A large number of respondents did not indicate how long they spent on third mammography reads (n=10), but the numbers were similar to previous years indicating no change to time spent on discordant mammography reads.

All radiologist bar one indicated they spent between one to four hours on average in multidisciplinary meetings (MDM) and on quality assurance (QA) activities. These figures have been rising steadily since the inception of the survey.

In 2007, the percentage of radiologists who want to or able to increase their BSA hours remained unchanged from 2006. Of those who indicated they possibly could increase their BSA hours the majority (41%) stated the increase would likely be three or more hours per week.

Year	Yes (%)	No (%)	Maybe (%)
2004	53	47	0
2005	18	53	28
2006	17	60	23
2007	17	60	23



Radiologist Comments

Most of the comments centred on recruitment of radiologists to the programme and the associated remuneration issues. There was one comment related to recruitment around the standards required to become a BSA accredited radiologist.

A consistent theme from radiologist comments from 2004 to 2007 has been on MRT shortages with some commenting on the need for MRT role extension.

Some comments also related to the timing of the survey, the quality of information collected, the dissemination of results of previous surveys. These will need to be considered by the UDG prior to the distribution of the next survey, while considering the need for longitudinal data.