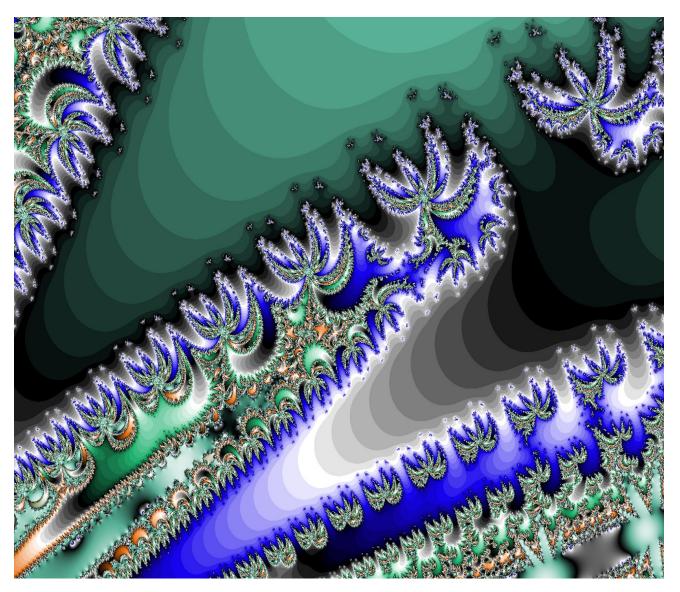
## Enrollment Snapshot of Radiography, Radiation Therapy and Nuclear Medicine Technology Programs — 2013

A Nationwide Survey of Program Directors Conducted by the American Society of Radiologic Technologists

December 2013



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Appendix A. Survey Instruments and Invitation Letter (Please contact the ASRT for a copy.) Appendix B. Verbatim responses (Please contact the ASRT for a copy.)

#### **Executive Summary**

In October 2013, an invitation to complete an online questionnaire was sent via e-mail to each of the 990 radiography, radiation therapy and nuclear medicine technology programs listed by the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT). At the close of the survey on November 4, 2013, a total of 501 responses had been received, yielding an overall response rate of 50.6%.

				Margin of
			Percent	Error at the
	Return	<b>Population</b>	Sampled	95% Level
R	374	741	50.5%	±3.3%
Т	67	121	55.4%	±7.3%
NMT	60	128	46.9%	±8.4%
Overall	501	990	50.6%	±2.8%

This report summarizes findings regarding radiologic sciences enrollment in ARRT-recognized programs based on the responses from program directors.

#### **Demographic Analysis**

- Respondents were most likely to work at two-year institutions: 40.1% of respondents characterized their program as a community college or two-year institution; 25.5% were associated with a university; 24.6% work at a medical center-based program; 6.6% work at technical colleges; and the remaining 3.2% work at for-profit schools.
- The majority of programs responding to the survey are in radiography (74.7%); radiation therapy made up 13.4% of respondents, and nuclear medicine technology programs made up the remaining 12.0% of respondents.
- The terminal degree granted by programs responding to the survey was most likely to be an associate degree (58.2% of respondents); another 23.0% grant a terminal certificate, and 18.6% grant a bachelor's degree.
- The vast majority of programs surveyed (94.9%) are located in the United States; 3.6% are in Canada, and 1.0% are in Australia.
  - Among those programs located in the United States, the regions with the highest proportion of programs responding are the South Atlantic region (20.0%) and the East North Central region (19.2%). The regions

with the fewest programs responding were the Pacific region (6.7%) and the Mountain region (5.2%).

#### **Enrollment Analysis**

- Based on the survey response, an average of 21.8 students entered radiography programs in 2013.
   This represents a slight increase of 0.9 students per program over the previous year; average enrollment in 2012 was 20.9 students. This produces an overall estimate of 16,154 students entering ARRT-certified radiography programs in 2013, up from 15,645 in 2012
- On average, 12.5 students entered radiation therapy programs in 2013. This represents an increase of 1.0 student per program from 2012, when on average, 11.5 students enrolled in each radiation therapy program. This produces an overall estimate of 1,513 students enrolling in ARRT-certified radiation therapy programs in 2013, up from 1,403 in 2012.
- An average of 10.0 students entered nuclear medicine technology programs in 2013. This represents a decrease of 0.5 students per program from 2012, when on average, 10.5 students enrolled in each nuclear medicine program. Overall, this produces an estimate of 1,280 students enrolling in nuclear medicine programs in 2013, down from 1,407 in 2012.

#### 2013 Student Capacity

- Asked whether their program is at full enrollment, 53.5% of radiography programs, 42.4% of radiation therapy programs, and 23.9% of nuclear medicine programs said that they are currently at capacity.
- Programs not at full enrollment were asked how many additional students their program could accommodate. On average, radiography programs said they could accommodate an additional 7.8 students, radiation therapy programs said they could accommodate an additional 5.7 students, and nuclear medicine programs said they could accommodate an additional 7.9 students.
  - This produces an estimate of 2,688 additional students across all radiography programs, 397 additional students across all radiation therapy programs, and 770 additional students in nuclear medicine.
- The mean number of qualified students turned away by radiography programs was 36.3; radiation therapy programs turned away an average of 17.1 qualified students, and nuclear medicine programs turned away an average of 7.8 qualified students.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> American Registry of Radiologic Technologists. ARRT-recognized educational programs. <a href="www.arrt.org/index.html?content=http://www.arrt.org/nd/listOfSchools.ndm/listSchools&iframe=yes">www.arrt.org/index.html?content=http://www.arrt.org/nd/listOfSchools.ndm/listSchools&iframe=yes</a>. Accessed September 2013.

 This produces an estimate of 14,391 qualified students turned away in radiography, 877 turned away by radiation therapy programs, and 239 turned down by nuclear medicine programs.

#### **Near-term Changes**

Most of the programs surveyed plan to maintain their current levels of enrollment; 86.8% of programs across disciplines plan to keep their enrollment at the same level, 6.7% of programs plan to increase enrollment and the remaining 6.5% plan to decrease their enrollment.

- In radiography, 87.7% of programs plan to maintain current enrollment, 6.5% plan to increase their enrollment and the remaining 5.7% of programs plan to decrease their enrollment.
- In radiation therapy, 86.2% of programs plan to keep their current enrollment level, 10.3% are planning a decrease and 3.4% plan to increase enrollment.
- In nuclear medicine technology, 81.8% of programs plan to leave their enrollment unchanged, 10.6% are planning an increase and 7.6% plan to decrease their enrollment.

The majority of programs across disciplines (73.5%) will definitely continue to operate; 23.1% will most likely continue operations; 2.2% are definitely planning to close; the remaining 1.2% will most likely close.

- In radiography, 77.7% of programs said they would definitely continue to operate, 19.8% will most likely continue operations, 1.4% will definitely be closing and 1.1% will likely close.
- In radiation therapy, 69.5% of programs will definitely continue to operate, 25.4% of programs will most likely continue operations, 3.4% will definitely close and 1.7% will likely close.
- In nuclear medicine, 53.7% of programs will definitely continue to operate, 38.8% will likely continue to operate, 6.0% will close and 1.5% will likely close.

#### **Job Placement of Graduates**

Asked whether graduates of their program were able to find employment in their primary discipline within 6 months of graduating:

- Respondents said that, from the class of 2012, 87.2% of graduates from radiography programs, 80.0% from radiation therapy programs and 65.0% of graduates of nuclear medicine programs were able to find employment in their field within 6 months.
- These placement rates represent an increase of 0.3% from 86.9% the previous year in radiography, a decline of 1.4% from 81.4% the previous year in radiation therapy and an increase of 1.4% from 63.6% the previous year in nuclear medicine.

 Respondents showed considerable diversity of opinion as to why those graduates unable to find work had been unable to do so. Overall, 29.2% of respondents blamed too many graduates in relation to the number of open positions, 25.5% cited facilities cutting back positions, 17.5% listed other reasons, 14.3% believed it was due to management not filling open positions and 12.6% believe that it is on account of the current workforce delaying retirement.

#### Comparing Canadian and U.S. programs

- In radiography, the mean entering class size was much larger in Canada than in the United States. On average, 57.9 students entered Canadian programs, compared with an average of 20.4 students entering programs in the United States; differences in entering class size were less pronounced in other disciplines. In radiation therapy, the average class size in Canada was 15.8 compared with 10.8 in the United States; in nuclear medicine, the average entering class size was 13.7 compared with 9.2 in the United States.
- Overall, based on the survey responses, the calculated mean entering class size and the total number of programs, the estimated total enrollment for each discipline is:

	<b>United States</b>	Canada
R	14,708	1,158
Т	1,145	237
NMT	1,132	69

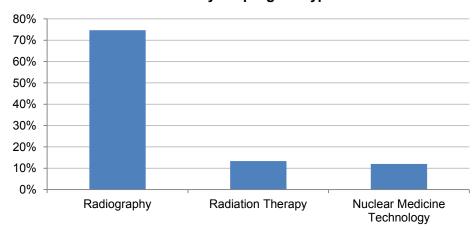
 Canadian programs were noticeably more likely to be at full enrollment than their U.S. counterparts. In radiography, 90.0% of Canadian programs were at full enrollment, compared with 52.1% of U.S. programs; in radiation therapy, 60.0% of Canadian programs were at full enrollment, compared with 38.5% of U.S. programs; and in nuclear medicine, 66.7% of Canadian programs were at capacity, compared with 19.4% of U.S. programs.

## **Demographics**

Indicate your program type.

	Frequency	Valid Percent	Population Distribution	Sample Return as Percent of Population
Radiography	374	74.7%	741	50.5%
Radiation Therapy	67	13.4%	121	55.4%
Nuclear Medicine Technology	60	12.0%	128	46.9%
Total	501	100.0%	990	50.6%

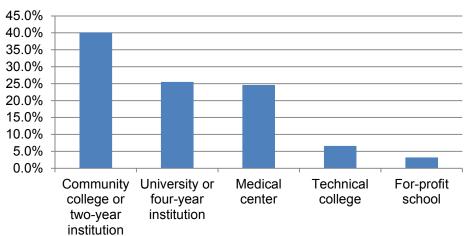
#### Indicate your program type.



What is your primary place of employment?

	Frequency	Valid Percent
Community college or two-year institution	201	40.1%
University or four-year institution	128	25.5%
Medical center	123	24.6%
Technical college	33	6.6%
For-profit school	16	3.2%
Total	501	100.0%

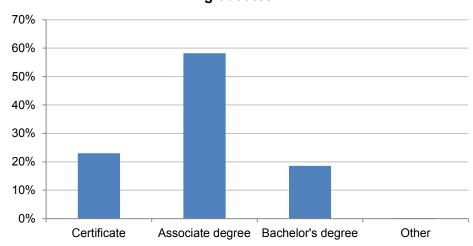
## What is your primary place of employment?



### What is the terminal degree earned by your graduates?

	Frequency	Valid Percent					
Certificate	116	23.0%					
Associate degree	294	58.2%					
Bachelor's degree	94	18.6%					
Other	1	0.2%					
Total	505	100.0%					

# What is the terminal degree earned by your graduates?

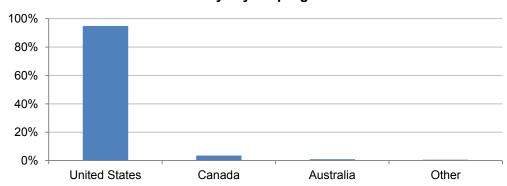


#### In what country is your program located?

		- J
	Frequency	Valid Percent
United States	480	94.9%
Canada	18	3.6%
Australia	5	1.0%
Other*	3	0.6%
Total	506	100.0%

<sup>\*</sup>Puerto Rico

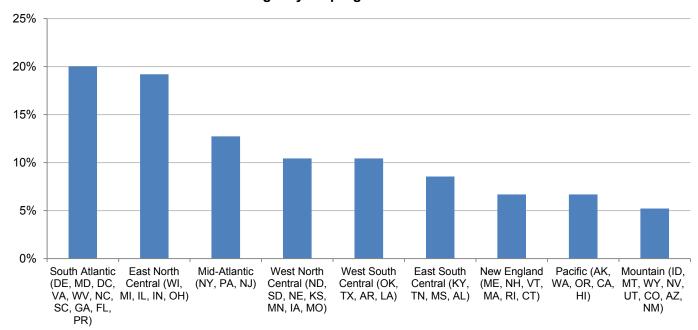
#### In what country is your program located?



If you chose the United States in the question above, please indicate in which region your program is located.

	Frequency	Valid Percent
South Atlantic (DE, MD, DC, VA, WV, NC, SC, GA, FL, PR)	96	20.0%
East North Central (WI, MI, IL, IN, OH)	92	19.2%
Mid-Atlantic (NY, PA, NJ)	61	12.7%
West North Central (ND, SD, NE, KS, MN, IA, MO)	50	10.4%
West South Central (OK, TX, AR, LA)	50	10.4%
East South Central (KY, TN, MS, AL)	41	8.6%
New England (ME, NH, VT, MA, RI, CT)	32	6.7%
Pacific (AK, WA, OR, CA, HI)	32	6.7%
Mountain (ID, MT, WY, NV, UT, CO, AZ, NM)	25	5.2%
Total	479	100.0%

## If you chose the United States in the question above, please indicate in which region your program is located.



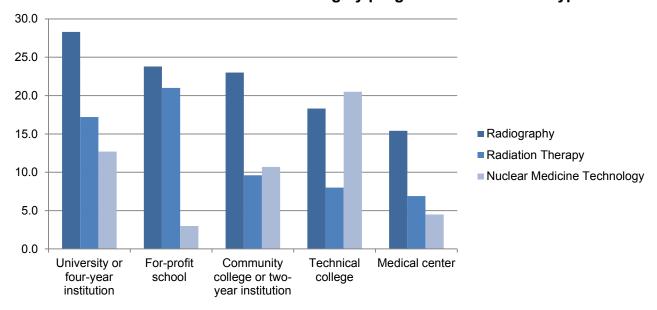


## 2013 Enrollment Analysis

Mean number of students entering by program and institution type

	Radiography			Radiation Therapy				ear Med echnolo		Overall		
	N	Mean	SD	Ν	Mean	SD	Ν	Mean	SD	N	Mean	SD
University or four-year institution	73	28.3	19.9	24	17.2	12.1	27	12.7	10.6	124	22.7	18.2
For-profit school		23.8	23.1	2	21.0	22.6	1	3.0		15	22.1	22.0
Community college or two-year institution	160	23.0	11.1	17	9.6	3.9	19	10.7	7.3	196	20.7	11.5
Technical college	29	18.3	6.5	1	8.0		2	20.5	10.6	32	18.2	6.7
Medical center	91	15.4	31.1	14	6.9	5.2	18	4.5	2.5	123	12.8	27.1
Total	365	21.8	20.3	58	12.5	10.1	67	10.0	8.8	490	19.1	18.7

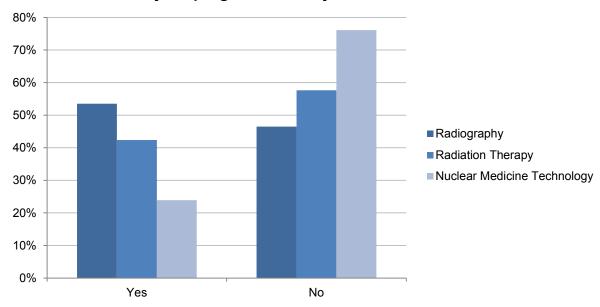
### Mean number of students entering by program and institution type



Is your program currently at full enrollment?

		Radiography	Radiation Therapy	Nuclear Medicine Technology	Overall
Yes	Count	198	25	16	239
162	%	53.5%	42.4%	23.9%	48.2%
No	Count	172	34	51	257
INO	%	46.5%	57.6%	76.1%	51.8%
Total	Count	370	59	67	496
Total	%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

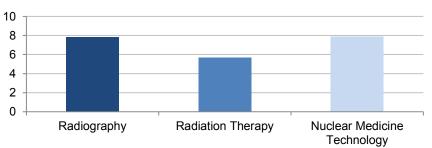
## Is your program currently at full enrollment?



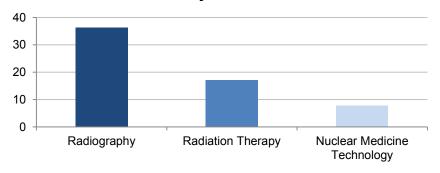


	Radiography			Radiation Therapy			N	uclear Med Technolo		Total		
	N Mean SD			Z	Mean	SD	Ν	Mean	SD	Z	Mean	SD
If you are not at full enrollment, how many additional	172	7.8	8.6	32	5.7	6.6	50	7.9	10.9	254	7.6	8.9
students could be accommodated by your program?												
How many qualified students did you turn away this	352	36.3	55.9	56	17.1	20.9	65	7.8	29.3	473	30.1	51.1
fall?												
Attrition Rate	341	27.9%	27.4%	55	21.8%	31.6%	58	23.8%	28.6%	454	26.6%	28.1%

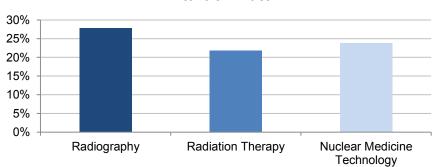
### How many additional students could be accommodated by your program?



#### How many qualified students did you turn away this fall?



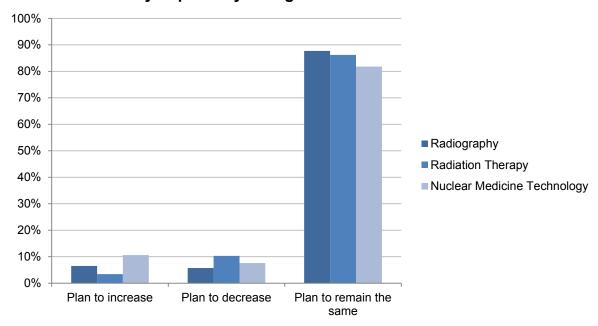
## **Attrition Rate**



Do you plan any changes related to enrollment?

		Radiography	Radiation Therapy	Nuclear Medicine Technology	Overall
Plan to increase	Count	24	2	7	33
Fian to increase	%	6.5%	3.4%	10.6%	6.7%
Plan to decrease	Count	21	6	5	32
Fian to decrease	%	5.7%	10.3%	7.6%	6.5%
Plan to remain the	Count	322	50	54	426
same	%	87.7%	86.2%	81.8%	86.8%
Total	Count	367	58	66	491
	%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

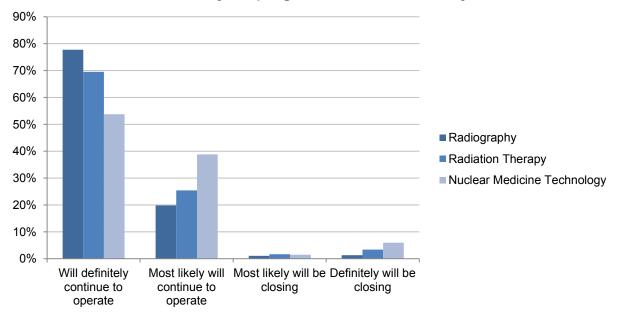
## Do you plan any changes related to enrollment?



How viable is your program over the next few years?

		Radiography	Radiation Therapy	Nuclear Medicine Technology	Overall
Will definitely	Count	286	41	36	363
continue to operate	%	77.7%	69.5%	53.7%	73.5%
Most likely will	Count	73	15	26	114
continue to operate	%	19.8%	25.4%	38.8%	23.1%
Most likely will be	Count	4	1	1	6
closing	%	1.1%	1.7%	1.5%	1.2%
Definitely will be	Count	5	2	4	11
closing	%	1.4%	3.4%	6.0%	2.2%
Total	Count	368	59	67	494
TOLAT	%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

### How viable is your program over the next few years?



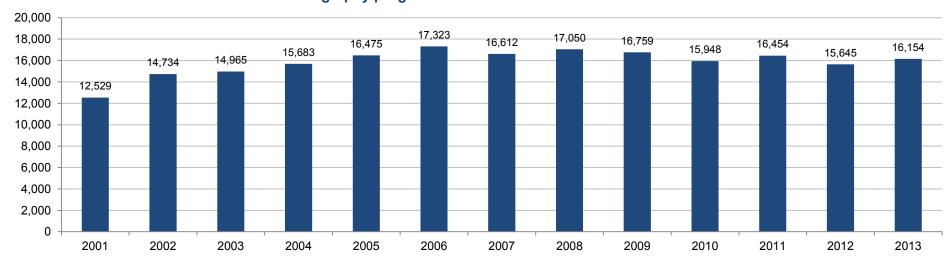


## **Longitudinal Enrollment Trends**

Radiography

	ARRT- recognized	Percent of programs responding to survey with	Mean number of students entering	Estimated total students enrolled for	Mean attrition	Percent of programs not at full	Mean additional students per program for those not at full	Estimated total additional students for programs not	Mean qualified students per program	Estimated total qualified students
Year	programs	enrollment data	classroom	all programs	rate	capacity	capacity	at full capacity	turned away	turned away
2001	590	75.4%	21.2	12,529	21.6%	50.2%				
2002	631	67.5%	23.4	14,734	23.6%	30.9%	8.7	1,688	31.6	13,766
2003	639	71.4%	23.4	14,965	21.6%	21.2%	5.8	741	46.8	23550
2004	684	68.7%	22.9	15,683	20.5%	21.7%	7.5	1,106	55.1	29,531
2005	715	65.5%	22.8	16,475	18.1%	20.9%	7.4	1,104	50.9	27,131
2006	723	73.7%	24.0	17,323	18.4%	22.6%	7.0	1,142	59.2	33,148
2007	729	67.9%	22.8	16,612	17.8%	30.2%	7.1	1,558	56.8	28,556
2008	742	70.1%	23.0	17,050	21.1%	33.3%	8.4	2,073	50.4	24,914
2009	746	60.1%	22.5	16,759	20.8%	40.0%	3.7	1,088	43.4	19,386
2010	751	64.8%	21.2	15,948	23.3%	43.7%	7.6	2,490	39.1	16,528
2011	751	57.7%	21.9	16,454	25.8%	46.2%	7.6	2,637	37.1	14,978
2012	750	62.8%	20.9	15,645	29.1%	44.9%	8.3	2,785	39.5	15,950
2013	741	50.5%	21.8	16,154	27.9%	46.5%	7.8	2,688	36.3	14,391

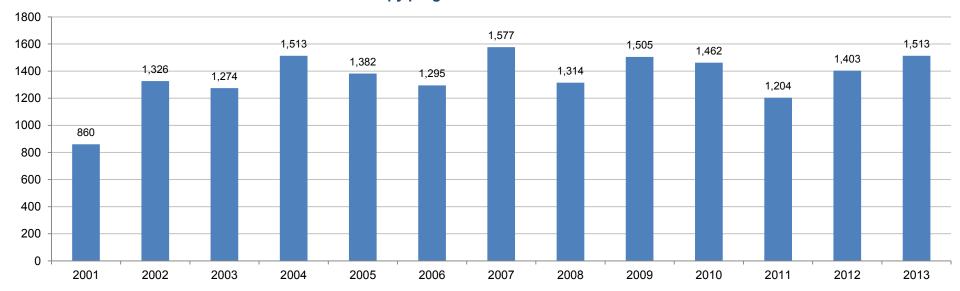
#### Estimated total students enrolled for all radiography programs



**Radiation Therapy** 

		Percent of programs	Mean number of	Estimated		Percent of	Mean additional students per	Estimated total additional	Mean gualified	Estimated total
	ARRT-	responding to	students	total students	Mean	programs	program for	students for	students	qualified
	recognized	survey with	entering	enrolled for	attrition	not at full	those not at full	programs not	per program	students
Year	programs	enrollment data	classroom	all programs	rate	capacity	capacity	at full capacity	turned away	turned away
2001	86	60.5%	10.0	860	18.1%	44.4%				
2002	95	59.9%	14.0	1,326	11.1%	48.0%	5.7	261	9.1	449
2003	101	57.4%	12.6	1,274	18.0%	44.6%	4.4	200	13.6	758
2004	105	55.2%	14.4	1,513	11.9%	30.5%	12.5	400	13.4	974
2005	113	56.6%	12.5	1,382	16.8%	32.1%	3.4	124	24.5	1,880
2006	118	67.8%	11.0	1,295	16.6%	49.3%	6.4	373	21.6	1,291
2007	122	54.1%	12.9	1,577	15.2%	51.5%	6.3	395	13.3	931
2008	125	49.6%	10.5	1,314	14.4%	58.6%	4.5	330	33.0	1,708
2009	122	49.2%	12.5	1,505	10.9%	55.5%	3.7	243	15.8	869
2010	122	57.4%	12.0	1,462	18.3%	49.3%	7.9	475	18.0	1,112
2011	123	44.1%	9.8	1,204	21.9%	51.9%	6.1	388	14.3	846
2012	122	48.4%	11.5	1,403	18.9%	53.4%	6.9	451	14.4	844
2013	121	55.4%	12.5	1,513	21.8%	57.6%	5.7	397	17.1	877

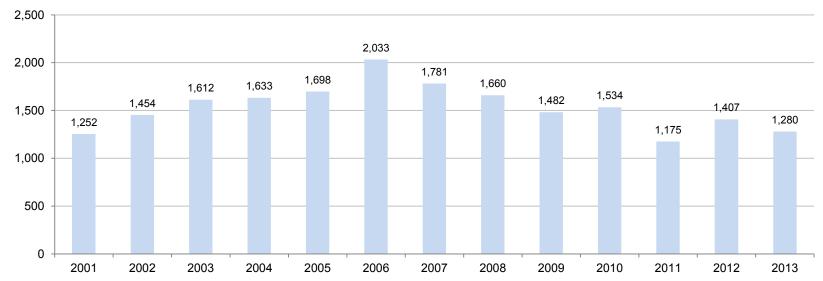
#### Estimated total students enrolled for all radiation therapy programs



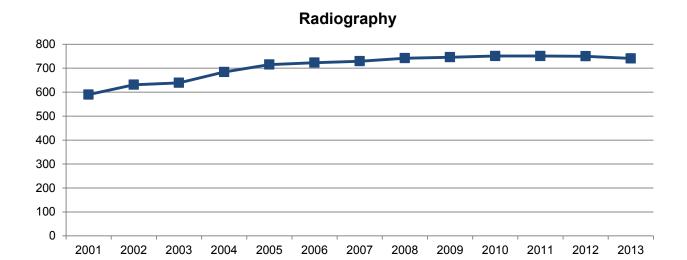
**Nuclear Medicine Technology** 

Year	ARRT- recognized programs	Percent of programs responding to survey with enrollment data	Mean number of students entering classroom	Estimated total students enrolled for all programs	Mean attrition rate	Percent of programs not at full capacity	Mean additional students per program for those not at full capacity	Estimated total additional students for programs not at full capacity	Mean qualified students per program turned away	Estimated total qualified students turned away
2001	101	62.4%	12.4	1,252	11.8%	53.2%				
2002	104	55.8%	14.0	1,454	8.0%	35.7%	6.7	251	19.7	1,381
2003	111	59.5%	14.5	1,612	7.1%	33.3%	2.7	180	32.1	2375
2004	117	58.1%	14.0	1,633	9.8%	20.9%	3.6	88	24.4	2,258
2005	122	51.6%	13.7	1,698	8.6%	30.6%	5.1	191	32.9	2,786
2006	131	71.8%	15.5	2,033	10.2%	31.8%	5.7	238	30.2	2,697
2007	132	55.3%	13.5	1,781	8.3%	39.7%	6.3	331	24.2	1,916
2008	136	59.5%	12.2	1,660	12.3%	58.4%	10.0	794	18.2	1,032
2009	136	47.5%	10.8	1,482	7.0%	63.0%	4.3	416	9.3	473
2010	136	47.1%	11.3	1,534	12.9%	78.8%	7.0	748	12.9	372
2011	134	45.7%	8.8	1,175	11.3%	82.5%	7.2	796	8.0	187
2012	134	56.7%	10.5	1,407	18.4%	73.0%	8.7	851	6.4	150
2013	128	46.9%	10.0	1,280	23.8%	76.1%	7.9	770	7.8	239

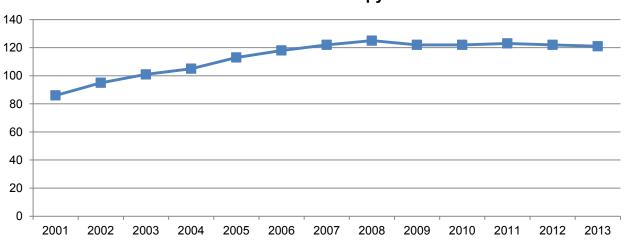
#### Estimated total students enrolled for all nuclear medicine technology programs



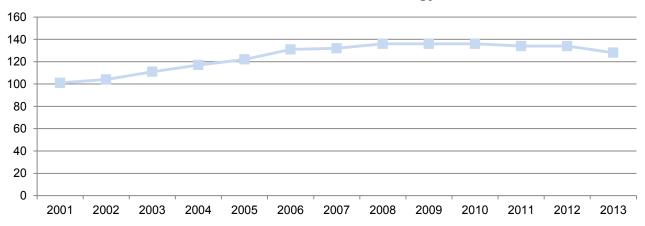
### **ARRT-recognized Programs**



## **Radiation Therapy**



### **Nuclear Medicine Technology**





## **2013 Comparison of U.S. and Canadian Programs**

Radiography

	ARRT- recognized programs	Number of programs responding to survey with enrollment data	Percent of programs responding to survey with enrollment data	Mean number of students entering classroom	Estimated total students enrolled for all programs	Mean attrition rate	Percent of programs not at full capacity	Mean additional students per program for those not at full capacity	Estimated total additional students for programs not at full capacity	Mean qualified students per program turned away	Estimated total qualified students turned away	Percent of New Graduates finding employment within 6 months of graduation
United States	721	358	49.7%	20.4	14,708	30.2%	47.9%	7.9	2,728	33.5	24,117	87.1%
Canada	20	10	50.0%	57.9	1,158	17.8%	10.0%	1.0	2	99.1	1,982	89.3%

**Radiation Therapy** 

	ARRT- recognized programs	Number of programs responding to survey with enrollment data	Percent of programs responding to survey with enrollment data	Mean number of students entering classroom	Estimated total students enrolled for all programs	Mean attrition rate	Percent of programs not at full capacity	Mean additional students per program for those not at full capacity	Estimated total additional students for programs not at full capacity	Mean qualified students per program turned away	Estimated total qualified students turned away	Percent of New Graduates finding employment within 6 months of graduation
United States	106	53	50.0%	10.8	1,145	27.8%	61.5%	5.9	385	14.02	1486	80.0%
Canada	15	5	33.3%	15.8	237	26.2%	40.0%	3.0	18	31.4	471	78.5%

**Nuclear Medicine Technology** 

	ARRT- recognized programs	Number of programs responding to survey with enrollment data	Percent of programs responding to survey with enrollment data	Mean number of students entering classroom	Estimated total students enrolled for all programs	Mean attrition rate	Percent of programs not at full capacity	Mean additional students per program for those not at full capacity	Estimated total additional students for programs not at full capacity	Mean qualified students per program turned away	Estimated total qualified students turned away	Percent of New Graduates finding employment within 6 months of graduation
Unites States	123	62	50.4%	9.2	1,132	21.9%	80.6%	8.0	793	2.6	315	65.0%
Canada	5	3	60.0%	13.7	69	25.0%	33.3%	3.0	5	65	325	42.0%



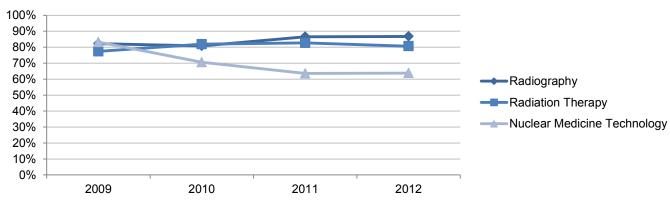
#### **Job Placement of Graduates**

What is the job placement percent rate of students finding employment in their discipline within six months of graduation

from your program?

irom your program?													
	New		East North	West North Central	South Atlantic	East	West	Mountain	Pacific				
		NA: al			(DE, MD,					1			
	England	Mid-	Central	(ND, SD,	DC, VA,	South	South	(ID, MT,	(AK,				
	(ME, NH,	Atlantic	(WI, MI,	NE, KS,	WV, NC,	Central	Central	WY, NV,	WA,	1			
	VT, MA,	(NY, PA,	IL, IN,	MN, IA,	SC, GA,	(KY, TN,	(OK, TX,	UT, CO,	OR,				
	RI, CT)	NJ)	OH)	MO)	FL, PR)	MS, AL)	AR, LA)	AZ, NM)	CA, HI)	Overall			
Radiography													
2009	86.2%	80.3%	81.1%	84.1%	82.7%	86.3%	84.5%	79.1%	77.8%	82.2%			
2010	82.1%	76.2%	80.8%	82.3%	80.1%	88.5%	85.6%	78.9%	74.2%	80.8%			
2011	85.9%	87.0%	87.7%	86.7%	84.0%	90.0%	93.0%	86.8%	81.0%	86.9%			
2012	86.1%	86.0%	88.2%	88.8%	85.6%	89.7%	92.8%	85.7%	79.4%	87.2%			
Radiation Therapy													
2009	84.2%	83.2%	70.4%	85.3%	70.5%	63.3%	79.8%		92.0%	77.4%			
2010	74.1%	78.5%	87.7%	79.0%	78.7%	78.3%	89.7%	•	93.3%	81.9%			
2011	87.5%	85.0%	77.3%	86.1%	68.6%	82.5%	85.0%	70.0%	96.0%	81.4%			
2012	94.0%	76.4%	78.5%	82.3%	79.3%	84.0%	84.7%	40.0%	95.3%	80.0%			
Nuclear Medicine Ted	chnology												
2009	83.8%	79.4%	76.7%	86.0%	80.0%	91.2%	90.1%	87.3%	83.9%	83.2%			
2010	63.8%	61.6%	63.6%	69.6%	72.4%	87.4%	77.0%	81.7%	76.7%	70.6%			
2011	48.8%	41.9%	48.9%	86.1%	70.5%	70.5%	77.3%	75.0%	92.3%	63.6%			
2012	58.3%	40.7%	57.8%	69.9%	73.4%	72.8%	77.0%	50.0%	88.3%	65.0%			

#### Overall mean placement rates for graduates





For those students who haven't been able to find employment after graduation, what do

vou believe is the primary reason?

				Nuclear Medicine	
		Radiography	Radiation Therapy	Technology	Overall
Too many graduates in relation to	Count	82	21	22	125
the number of open positions	%	26.0%	43.8%	33.8%	29.2%
Current workforce is delaying	Count	43	4	7	54
retirement	%	13.7%	8.3%	10.8%	12.6%
Management not filling open	Count	46	5	10	61
positions	%	14.6%	10.4%	15.4%	14.3%
Facilities cutting back positions	Count	88	9	12	109
	%	27.9%	18.8%	18.5%	25.5%
Hospital closings	Count	3	0	1	4
	%	1.0%	0.0%	1.5%	0.9%
Other (Please specify below)	Count	53	6	13	75
	%	16.8%	18.8%	20.0%	17.5%
Total	Count	315	48	65	428
Iotai	%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

#### For those students who haven't been able to find employment after graduation, what do you believe is the primary reason?

