

Question on Notice

No. 1221

Asked on 16 October 2025

HON M BAILEY ASKED MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND AMBULANCE SERVICES
(HON T NICHOLLS)—

QUESTION

Will the Minister advise (a) the vacancy rate for mammographers, radiographers and radiologists employed by BreastScreen Queensland to the closest reportable date and (b) the vacancy rate for mammographers/radiographers and radiologists employed by BreastScreen Queensland in 2024?

ANSWER

I am advised that the breast imaging workforce in BreastScreen Queensland is comprised of radiographers, sonographers and dual trained radiographer-sonographers.

As at the 12 October 2025 pay period, the unfilled FTE of the breast imaging workforce was 7.34 FTE. I am advised that in 2024, the vacant FTE across BreastScreen Queensland for the breast imaging workforce was 10.41 FTE.

Workforce shortages, particularly in the breast imaging workforce, is of serious concern. In July 2025, I wrote to the Commonwealth Minister for Health and Ageing about the urgent need for the Commonwealth Government to pull more levers to address workforce shortages in medical imaging, particularly breast screening. I have urged the Commonwealth to consider increasing Medicare rebates to reflect the time and complexity of breast imaging examinations and promote parity between gender-specific medical imaging services and reduce significant out of pocket expenses as a barrier to accessing medical imaging services.