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# **I. INTRODUCTION**

## **Background**

In August of 2005, Radiology Business Management Association (“RBMA”) members were invited to submit data relative to the operations of their imaging centers to LarsonAllen for anonymous inclusion in the RBMA 2005 Imaging Center Operations Survey. The 2005 Imaging Center Operations Survey is based on the respondents’ 2004 operating data. A total of 72 responses were received. A copy of the complete survey instrument is included as an Appendix to this report.

The RBMA has collected similar information in previous surveys (the 2004 Survey based upon 2003 operating data and the 2002 Survey based upon 2001 operating data). A total of 106 responses were received in 2004 and 73 responses were received in 2002. The results of the 2004 and 2002 Surveys are included in this report for comparative purposes.

The purpose of this Survey is to develop statistics related to various operational aspects of imaging centers in the United States and to begin to define measurements of efficiency that can lead to establishing benchmarks of superior performance.

## **Participant Characteristics**

The respondents were asked to report the RBMA region and the size of the community within six strata. Almost half of the respondents to the 2005 Survey are from the West while only 10 percent of the respondents are from the East. The number of respondents from the West and the South comprise 68% of the total respondents in 2005 compared with 71% in 2004. This may or may not yield reliable comparative results for imaging centers that are in different geographical locations from those comprising the majority of respondents. There were no respondents to the 2005 Survey from the smallest communities (25,000 or less in population) while more than one-third of the respondents were from communities with a population of more than 1 million.

The Survey also requested information on the ownership makeup of the imaging centers that participated in the 2005 Survey. Of the 72 respondents, almost two-thirds indicated sole ownership by a radiology group practice.

In addition, approximately 86 percent of all respondents to the 2005 Survey indicated their imaging centers billed a global fee encompassing both technical and professional components of their services.