Summary of findings from 2019 Survey of the Veterinary Profession
RESPONSE RATE
31.8% of profession completed survey
42.6% including partial completes

GENDER
42% MALE
58% FEMALE

AVERAGE AGE
51 MALE
40 FEMALE

SEXUAL ORIENTATION
89.4% heterosexual/straight
2.6% bisexual
2% gay men
0.9% gay women
0.6% self-describe
5.5% prefer not to say

PLACE OF QUALIFICATION (TOP 5)
63.9%
4.7%
21.8%
2.9%
2.8%
**SOCIAL MOBILITY**

- 37.9% attended non-selective state schools
- 31.4% attended independent/fee-paying schools
- 28.5% attended selective state schools

**FULL-TIME EMPLOYMENT**

- 68% MALE
- 61% FEMALE

**PART-TIME EMPLOYMENT**

- 13.6% MALE
- 30.5% FEMALE

**ETHNIC BACKGROUND**

Respondents from Black and Minority Ethnic backgrounds

- **NOW:** 3.5%
- **2014:** 2%

**AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS FOR THOSE WORKING FULL TIME**

- **42.3 HOURS**

**HIGHEST AVERAGES**

- EQUINE: **50.5 HOURS**
- MIXED: **44.2 HOURS**
- VETERINARY SCHOOL: **43.1 HOURS**
**MAIN AREA OF WORK (TOP 10)**

- 52.6% Small animal practice
- 11.7% Mixed practice
- 6.4% Referral/consulting
- 5.5% Equine practice
- 4.7% Vet school
- 3.2% Farm practice
- 2.9% Commerce/industry
- 2.8% Government or government agency
- 1.9% Charities and trusts
- 1.2% Meat hygiene/official controls
- 1.2% Other university or educational establishment

**OF THOSE IN CLINICAL PRACTICE...**

- 41.6% worked in fully independent, stand-alone practices
- 35.5% of respondents worked in a practice that was corporate owned
- 6.4% worked in an independent practice with some shared centralised function
- 4.6% worked in a practice in a joint venture with a corporate group

**LOCATION OF WORK IN THE UK**

**CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT (CPD)**

**RESPONDENTS USING AN RCVS PLATFORM TO RECORD CPD**

- NOW: 71%
- 2014: 44%

**WHO IS PAYING FOR CPD?**

- EMPLOYER-FUNDED 51%
- SELF-FUNDED 33%
WOULD YOU DO IT AGAIN?

48% of respondents would still choose to become vets

23% would not

39% undecided

RESPONDENTS IDENTIFIED BEST THINGS ABOUT BEING A VET AS:
- Working with animals
- Job satisfaction
- Challenge/stimulus

THE THREE BIGGEST CHALLENGES:
- Client expectations
- Stress levels
- Changing structures in practice ownership

VIEWS OF THE RCVS:
asked to rate the RCVS between 1 and 10
the average rating was 6.58 with 34% of respondents being very positive

NEW GRADUATES
(RESPONDENTS WHO GRADUATED FROM 2016 ONWARDS):

71% straight into clinical practice compared to 52% in 2014

65% felt totally or adequately supported in transition to practice

35% not at all or inadequately supported in transition to practice

97% of new graduates aware of the Professional Development Phase with a completion rate of 60%