The Eastern Cape and the Northern Cape regions have recorded the least number of practitioners erased due to non payment of annual fees this year.

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The HPCSA recently erased 9 440 practitioners countrywide who failed to pay their annual dues. Council has 125 074 healthcare practitioners registered.

The Northern Cape lost only 215 of its healthcare practitioners and the Eastern Cape lost 564. Both regions have 2 823 and 7 470 registered practitioners respectively.

Gauteng and KwaZulu Natal were the hardest hit as they both had 2 850 and 1 933 practitioners respectively removed from the register for not paying annual fees.

Council is cognisant that the two regions have the highest number of practitioners registered. They both have 42 746 and 22 296 health care registered practitioners respectively.

Though 1 April of every year is the deadline for practitioners to pay, the HPCSA this year gave its practitioners three months grace period to pay before erasures were effected.

Realising the shortages of healthcare personnel being experienced, Council has embraced a more accommodating stance than a reactive one to give every practitioner room to pay up.

Erased practitioners can apply to restore their names to the roll of practitioners after paying the relevant penalties and the outstanding amounts.

DID YOU KNOW... Obsolete terminology

The term *skiagrapher* was used until about 1918 to mean radiographer. It was derived from Ancient Greek words for '*shadow*' and '*writer*'.

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New directed reading programmes (DRPs), covering a range of topics including education and research, are currently being compiled by experts.

As soon as copyrights have been obtained the new DRPs will be available from the Administrative Office, Society of Radiographers of SA, PO BOX 6014, Roggebaai 8012.

Contact Gail McLellan at sorsa.admin@iafrica.com or telephone 021 419 4857 to find out titles of new DRPs.

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