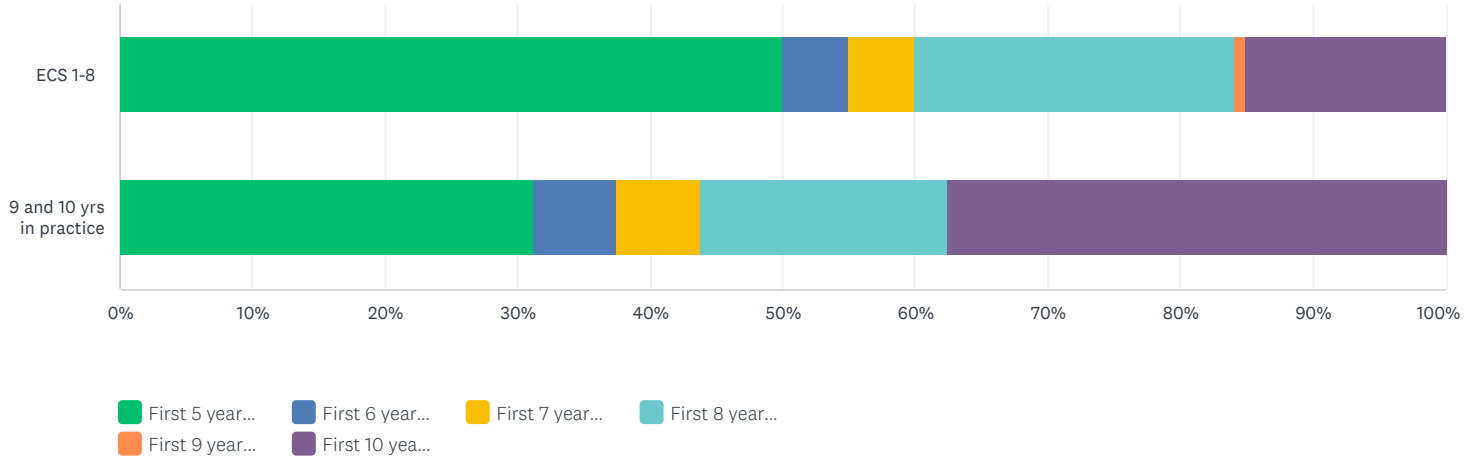
Q1 What should the cutoff point be for defining an early career?

Answered: 116 Skipped: 0



	FIRST 5 YEARS OF PRACTICE	FIRST 6 YEARS OF PRACTICE	FIRST 7 YEARS OF PRACTICE	FIRST 8 YEARS OF PRACTICE	FIRST 9 YEARS OF PRACTICE	FIRST 10 YEARS OF PRACTICE	TOTAL
ECS 1-8	50.00% 50	5.00% 5	5.00% 5	24.00% 24	1.00% 1	15.00% 15	86.21% 100
9 and 10 yrs in practice	31.25% 5	6.25% 1	6.25% 1	18.75% 3	0.00% 0	37.50% 6	13.79% 16
Total Respondents	55	6	6	27	1	21	116

Q2 Please share any additional comments, rationale, or factors that should be considered in shaping how early career is defined.

Answered: 28 Skipped: 88

	PLEASE SHARE ANY ADDITIONAL COMMENTS, RATIONALE, OR FACTORS THAT SHOULD BE CONSIDERED IN SHAPING HOW EARLY CAREER IS DEFINED.	TOTAL
ECS 1-8	100.00% 23	82.14% 23
9 and 10 yrs in practice	100.00% 5	17.86% 5
Total Respondents	28	28

#	ECS 1-8	DATE
1	Early career could be more case based as experience will vary significantly from small clinics to academic centers. Im active duty military and stationed at a low volume center, so at times i still feel ‘early’ in my career.	6/21/2026 9:00 PM
2	I’m at 4 and I feel like I get it	6/21/2026 5:08 PM
3	I would expect a physician to be fully established after 5-7 years of practice. ECS should focus on serving and providing resources to physicians who are starting out and learn how to practice independently and build their professional relationships.	6/21/2026 1:36 PM
4	ACR, AMA use this same number	6/21/2026 11:08 AM
5	Agree it is difficult to define. Early career would be assistant professor at our institution, which would be ~8 years. You would be able to ask for help from associate or full professors.	6/21/2026 10:21 AM
6	Academic: faculty rank, on average. How many IR have already been promoted academically by year x (6-8 yrs). How many have already served in administrative role (departmental, local, national) and looking to serve as lead (5-10 yrs experience) General considerations: time to establish reputation locally and nationally, time to establish private reputation or OBL practice (4-8 years) - What local, state, national societies award grants based on definition of early career? Does SIR suggestion of early career impact internal and other organizational policies regarding early career physicians?	6/21/2026 10:17 AM
7	Early middle late should be based on experience not time	6/21/2026 10:00 AM
8	Practice integration consummate with experience probably gives the most degree of experience and establishment for new opportunities. Folks who migrate from job to job may not quite achieve such establishment at that same rate. This plus service (and broader, research, education) leads to such establishment	6/21/2026 9:54 AM
9	Early first 5. Mid next 15. Late after 20 years of practice.	6/21/2026 9:39 AM
10	If the average IR works for about 25-30 years, I think 0-8 should be early career.	6/21/2026 9:27 AM
11	Follows AMA guidelines	6/19/2026 12:10 PM
12	I would say that if the average career is somewhere between 25-30 years, I would define ‘early’ as something like 8-10 years. I am 5 years into practice myself and I certainly don’t feel like I have graduated out of ‘early’ status!	6/17/2026 8:23 PM
13	To me, early career is the first five years post-training where you establish your in your practice and community and build a presence and clinical practice. You are mid career years 6-10 where you are an experienced IR and start exploring possible leaderships positions within your section/department and institution. 11 years and beyond, you are a senior IR assuming an average 20-25 year career span of practice.	6/17/2026 6:02 AM
14	% of IR in practice should also be considered in determining. 3 years of full time IR and 10 years of doing IR 33% of the time are probably more comparable than 3 years of 100% & 3 years of 33%.	6/16/2026 11:57 PM
15	I just feel that after 5 years we are pretty well established. 8 years is almost half a career for those that work ~20 years and retire around 55.	6/16/2026 1:31 PM
16	Without the context, this is kind of an arbitrary and silly question/survey. I would follow suit with what other societies define as early/young career (I.e. AMA, ACR, SCAI, OEIS, ACS, and SVS)	6/16/2026 1:04 PM
17	it will vary by operator, some are still really bad a 5-10 years, either judgment technical, admin, or practice building	6/16/2026 12:48 PM
18	In the academic side - ~4-5 years seems to be the interval before consideration for associate professor promotion.	6/16/2026 12:21 PM
19	You know what you're doing by 5 years.	6/16/2026 11:27 AM
20	I think there is a focus on building and mastering. Not that you don’t learn new skills later but I think foundationally the first 3 years are critical and then the following 2 are solidifying. After 5 years I’m either thinking about promotion, new skill sets, administration, etc. Just a new phase rather than trying to perfect clinic practice.	6/16/2026 10:04 AM
21	0-9 early career. 10+ can be mid career.	6/16/2026 10:02 AM

22	Depends on the practice, ex: large academic centers usually have more growth and leadership potentials when compared small practices and private practices.	6/16/2026 10:01 AM
23	would use the amount of time academic centers wait for the transition from assistant to associate as a defining timepoint	6/16/2026 9:58 AM
#	**9 AND 10 YRS IN PRACTICE**	**DATE**
1	Research suggests it takes 10 years of post training experience to begin performing near an individuals peak. I am just now completing my 10th year and while I feel seasoned for most routine work, I personally still feel I have plenty of growth and learning ahead. So, I would agree early career is at least up to first 10 years post training.	6/16/2026 7:08 PM
2	Typical work history for IR is 30 years, makes sense to divide in thirds. Early, mid and late career.	6/16/2026 5:20 PM
3	There can be a large learning curve as an attending physician. In addition, the 1st ten years can be filled with starting a new family and, for at least half of new attendings, career changes, such as changing practices and career focus. These are particularly relavent for women physicians. Especially in academics, these career and life events can delay promotion with an attending may being designated as an instructor or assitant professor but considered as a mid career physician by shorter early career definitions. This can further limit opportunities since more resources and opportunities exist for early career physicians compared to mid career physicians.	6/16/2026 3:35 PM
4	Take the average career of an interventionalist, 1/5 is early career, 3/5 is mid career, 1/5 is late career. I assume that most will work for 30 years.	6/16/2026 2:20 PM
5	Job opportunities sky rocket after you have 2 years experience. Within 5 years of practice you may find yourself as section chief or IR dept head, even program director. After 10 years in practice you are bullet proof and can handle any conceivable scenario. After 20 years you are salty and jaded but can’t retire yet. If you’re still working after 30 years then you have gambling debts to payoff or in your 3rd wife.	6/16/2026 1:12 PM