Global ultrasound unit shipments grew 9% from 2016 to 2017 and totaled 218,767 in 2017.

Traditional ultrasound segment

Traditional ultrasound unit shipments totaled 149,013 and accounted for 68% of the total ultrasound market in 2017.

Segment growth was driven by strong demand for traditional equipment in China, and in emerging markets in Asia Pacific, Latin America, and the Middle East.

In the developed markets of North America and Western Europe, cardiology equipment sales drove growth for traditional segment unit shipments.

non-traditional ultrasound segment

The non-traditional ultrasound segment, which includes interventional radiology, surgery, veterinary, and other emerging ultrasound applications, comprised 17% of global ultrasound unit shipments in 2017.

Veterinary ultrasound accounted for the most unit shipments in the non-traditional segment, but interventional cardiology, surgery, and interventional radiology unit shipments grew the most year-over-year.

The increasing number of minimally invasive procedures and mounting pressure to reduce surgical costs while improving patient outcomes drove demand for interventional cardiology and interventional radiology systems in 2017.

Point-of-care ultrasound

Point-of-care ultrasound, which consists of anesthesia, critical care, emergency medicine, musculoskeletal, and primary care applications, was the smallest ultrasound segment in unit shipment terms in 2017.

However, point-of-care unit shipments grew 14% from 2016 to 2017—the highest year-over-year growth rate of all three ultrasound segments.

Anesthesia is the most established point-of-care ultrasound application and this application remained the largest in the point-of-care segment, but the primary care market drove segment growth due to increased awareness of this emerging clinical application.
Global market for ultrasound unit shipments, 2017

- Cardiology 2D: 17%
- Cardiology 3D/4D: 11%
- OB/GYN 2D: 11%
- OB/GYN 3D/4D: 2%
- Radiology: 9%
- Non-traditional: 9%
- Point-of-care: 2%

Global market for ultrasound clinical applications, 2017

- Cardiology 2D: 35%
- Cardiology 3D/4D: 15%
- OB/GYN 2D: 17%
- OB/GYN 3D/4D: 17%
- Radiology: 15%
- Non-traditional: 11%
- Point-of-care: 11%

Learn More

Holley Lewis
Senior Analyst
Healthcare Technology
E holley.lewis@ihsmarkit.com

IHS Markit Technology - Healthcare Technology
End-to-end global data and analysis on medical devices and healthcare information technology.
technology.ihs.com

@IHSMarkitTech