



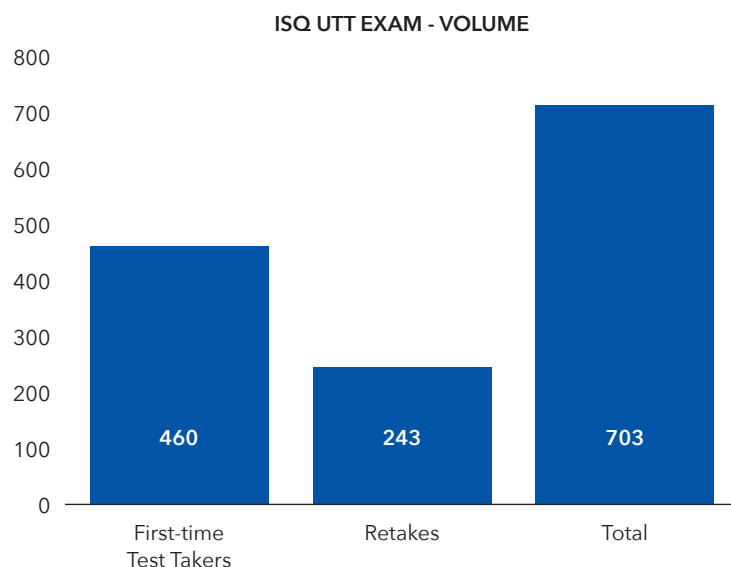
# ISQ UTT Exam Industry Feedback, Gap Assessment & FAQ's

**EXAM STATISTICS COLLECTED FROM  
JUNE 1, 2019, TO JANUARY 1, 2022.**

**DATE: 03/10/2022**

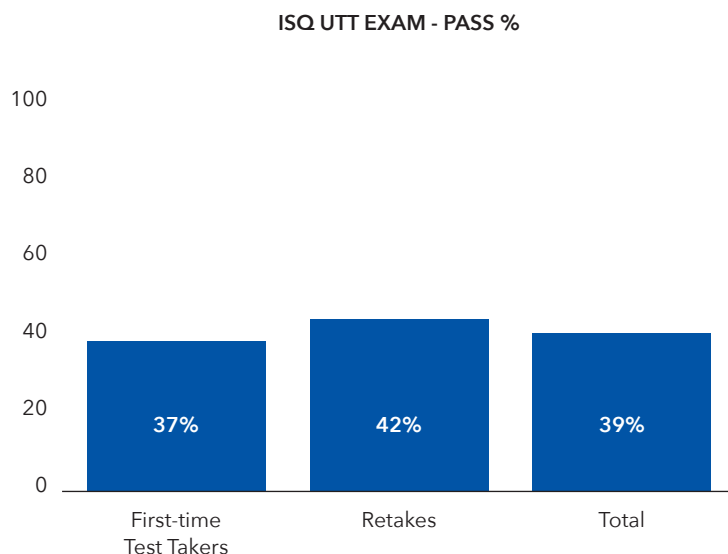
## 1.0 EXAMINATION VOLUME

- **460** - The total number of candidates taking the examination for the 1st time.
- **243** - The total number of candidates that have retaken the exam.
- **703** - Total number of exams.



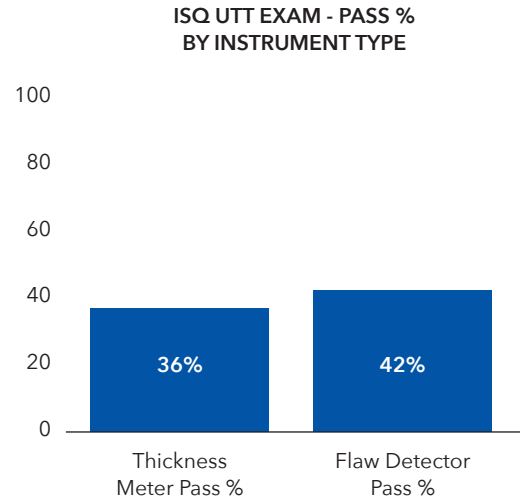
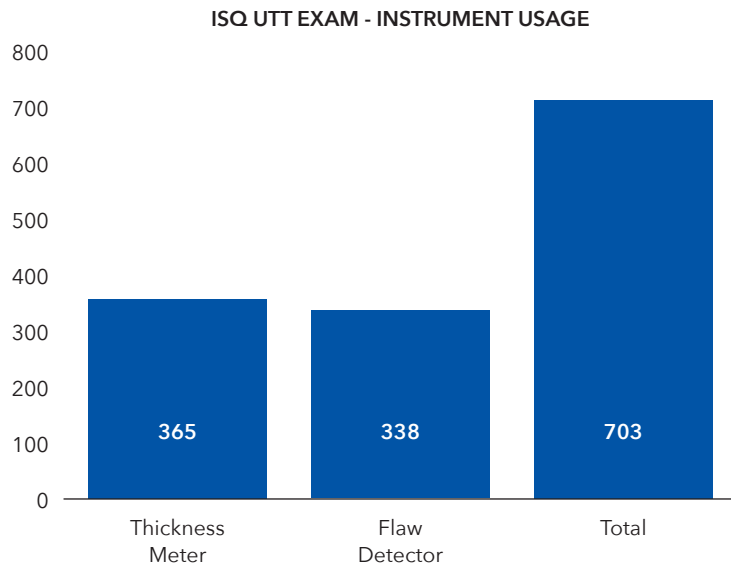
## 2.0 EXAMINATION RESULTS

- **37%** - Percentage of passing grades for candidates taking the examination for the 1st time.
- **42%** - Percentage of passing grades for candidates retaking the examination.
- **39%** - Percentage of passing grades for all candidates.



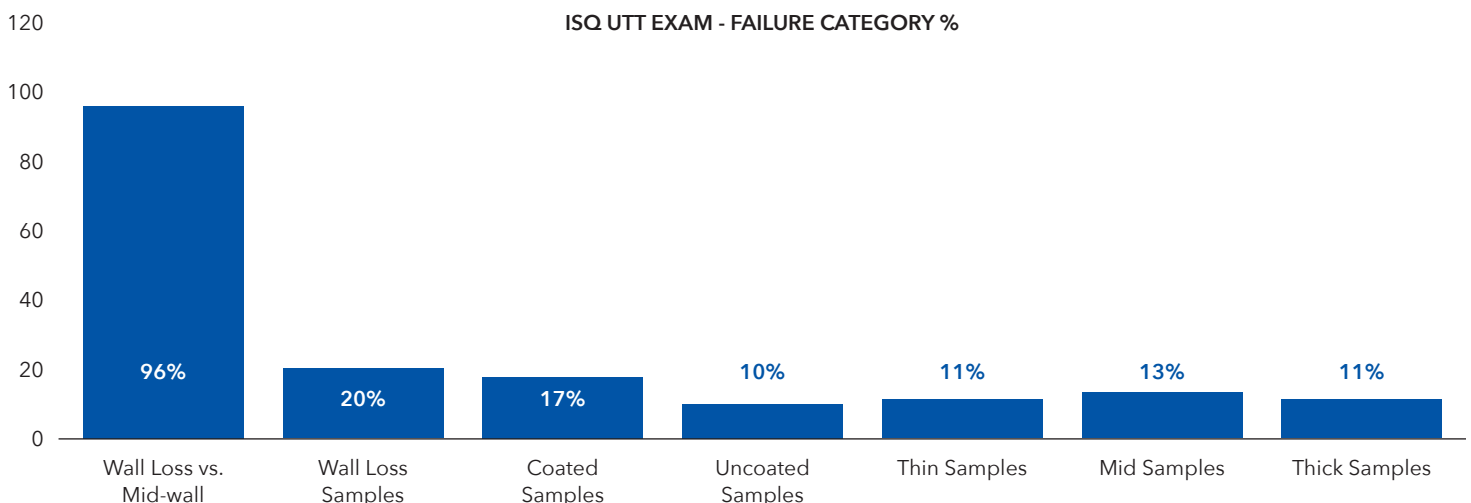
## 3.0 UT INSTRUMENT USAGE

- **365** - The total number of candidates taking the exam using a digital thickness meter.
- **338** - The total number of candidates taking the exam using a flaw detector.
- **36%** - The total number of candidates passing the exam using a digital thickness meter.
- **42%** - The total number of candidates passing the exam using a flaw detector.



## 4.0 FAILURE CATEGORIES

- **96%** - The total percentage of candidates who failed the examination based on the mischaracterization of Wall Loss vs. Mid Wall laminations.
- **20%** - The total percentage of incorrect answers by candidates reporting the Minimum Thickness of a Wall Loss sample. This may or may not have resulted in exam failure depending on the number of samples in an exam which were out of grading tolerance limits.
- **17%** - The total percentage of incorrect answers by candidates testing a coated sample. This may or may not have resulted in exam failure depending on the number of samples in an exam which were out of grading tolerance limits.
- **10%** - The total percentage of incorrect answers by candidates testing a non-coated sample. This may or may not have resulted in exam failure depending on the number of samples in an exam which were out of grading tolerance limits.
- **11%** - The total percentage of incorrect answers by candidates testing a thin (<.375") sample. This may or may not have resulted in exam failure depending on the number of samples in an exam which were out of grading tolerance limits.
- **13%** - The total percentage of incorrect answers by candidates testing a mid-thickness (.375"-.875") sample. This may or may not have resulted in exam failure depending on the number of samples in an exam which were out of grading tolerance limits.
- **11%** - The total percentage of incorrect answers by candidates testing a thick (>.875") sample. This may or may not have resulted in exam failure depending on the number of samples in an exam which were out of grading tolerance limits.



## 5.0 SUMMARY OF RESULTS

- 1st time pass % is low at 37%. Retake pass % is slightly higher at 42%.
- 4% more candidates took the exam with a digital thickness meter vs. a flaw detector and had a 6% lower pass rate.
- By far the biggest failure category is the mischaracterization of wall loss vs. mid wall laminations.
- Some candidates seem to struggle to find the minimum thickness of wall loss samples.
- Some candidates are struggling with coated samples.
- Most candidates seem to perform well on mid and thick samples with wall loss.

## 6.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- Low initial pass rates (37%) are indicative of lack of training and preparation. Slightly higher retake pass rates (42%) seem to indicate that some additional training is being administered prior to retake. ASNT suggests additional training prior to the examination (see below for specific training areas).
- Based on the pass % results for digital thickness meter vs. flaw detector, it can be determined that both are acceptable instruments for taking and passing the exam.
- A high percentage of candidates are failing the exam due to the mischaracterization of wall loss vs. mid wall lamination. ASNT sees this as an identified gap in training (signal analysis, familiarity with single and multiple laminations, isolated pitting, etc...), practice on representative samples, experience, and certification testing.
- A number of candidates have failed to detect the minimum thickness of wall loss samples. This suggests that scanning technique and unit standardization/calibration should be a focus of training, including signal analysis, equipment setup and adjustment during scanning (gain, screen range, use of echo to echo, etc).
- A number of candidates have struggled with samples that are coated. This suggests that testing of samples with a coating should be a focus of training and transducer selection.
- A common cause of technician mistakes during the exam is due to lack of familiarity with the UTT exam protocol, instructions, and procedure provided by ASNT Certification Services, LLC. Candidates should have read and be familiar with all necessary documents prior to attempting the exam.

ASNT Certification Services, LLC continues to monitor examination pass rates as well as individual sample performance for continual improvement to our exams.

## 7.0 FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs) .....

**1. Is personal protective equipment (PPE) required for the exam?**

Yes, see ISQ OG-UTT-5, Safety Instructions

**2. What am I allowed to bring into the exam room?**

See ISQ OG-UTT-5, Sections 5), 7) & 18). ISQ OG-UTT-7, Alert candidates that they shall not bring any personal electronic devices (computers, phones, tablets, etc.) into the testing room and that they must now be stored in the lockers/storage area assigned by the facility.

- Alert candidates that they shall not bring any personal belongings into the testing room including food, bags, notebooks, papers of any kind, etc. Have them store all belongings in the lockers/storage area assigned by the facility.
- Inform the candidate to get all necessary equipment out of their equipment cases and place the cases under their table or to the side of their table on the floor. They will not be able to access the cases during the exam without Proctor permission.

**3. How many samples are on the exam?**

See ISQ OG-UTT-4, Section 7.9

**4. How much time do I have to complete the exam?**

See ISQ OG-UTT-4, Section 8.3

**5. Does my equipment have to have a current calibration sticker?**

See UT-PTP7, Section 7.1.3

**6. What happens if I cannot standardize my equipment?**

See ISQ OG-UTT-7, exam section 2nd page.

**7. What happens if I run out of time?**

You will be graded on what you have completed in the required time frame.

**8. Can I share equipment with a co-worker?**

See ISQ OG-UTT-7, Inform candidates that it is permissible for them to share reference blocks and transducers during the examination provided they are not disruptive to the other candidates. The AEP shall be notified of such an activity by the candidates and will ensure there is no communication between the candidates regarding the exam.

**9. What happens if my equipment does not work or stops working?**

Discuss your options with the AEP and ASNT to determine the best course of action. Alternative options may be available.

**10. When will I get my exam results?**

ISQ UTT results are typically received via email the day of testing.

**11. Will I get a card or certificate?**

No. Results are only posted on the ASNT website registry. Certificate and Qualification Holders ([asntcertification.org](http://asntcertification.org))

## 7.0 FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs) .....

**12. What is a qualification?**

See QP-ISQ-2, Section 2.11 & ISQ OG-UTT-4, Section 4.8

**13. How much does the exam cost?**

Start Your Application Process Here ([asntcertification.org](http://asntcertification.org))

**14. What happens if I arrive late?**

Since examinations are on a set schedule, late arrivals typically are not tolerated, however if the candidate is late because of an justifiable situation, the AEP may allow the candidate to test. No additional exam time would be allowed for late arrivals.

**15. What happens if I do not show up for the exam?**

Candidates who do not show up are counted as a "no show", forfeit the exam cost and must reapply to take the exam. A "no show" does not count towards the retake requirements. You must cancel or reschedule at least 24 hours ahead of your scheduled exam in order to not forfeit the exam fees, minus any administrative fees.

**16. How and when can I retake a failed exam?**

See QP-ISQ-2, Section 5.5.

**17. Where can I find the exam procedure and report form?**

ASNT Industry Sector Qualification (ISQ) for Oil & Gas ([asntcertification.org](http://asntcertification.org))

**18. How is exam difficulty and fairness determined?**

See ISQ OG-UTT-4, Sections 7.1-7.5

**19. How do I appeal an outcome?**

See QP-ISQ-2, Section 9.0

**20. What if I have a complaint?**

See QP-ISQ-2, Section 9.0