



# Surveyors

## ANZSCO 2322-12

# Australian Capital Territory

## April 2019

### Current labour market rating: No Rating

There were insufficient vacancies to determine a rating for the ACT. That said, of the vacancies surveyed, none were filled and there were few applicants.

### Employer requirements

- A small number of vacancies were identified during this research period. All surveyed vacancies were in the ACT.
- Generally, surveyed employers were seeking qualified graduate or experienced surveyors for cadastral or infrastructure surveying work who possessed the required technical skills relevant to the role.
- Tasks included recording and calculating data, set-outs for construction or infrastructure work, and liaising with team members and site personnel.
- Experience with a range of programs and technology was sought, such as Leica Total Stations, 12D Model/Field, AutoCAD, and GPS Machine Controls.
- In addition to technical skills, employers typically required someone with strong communication skills.
- The Department’s research was undertaken during the latter phases of the construction of the light rail network (stage 1).

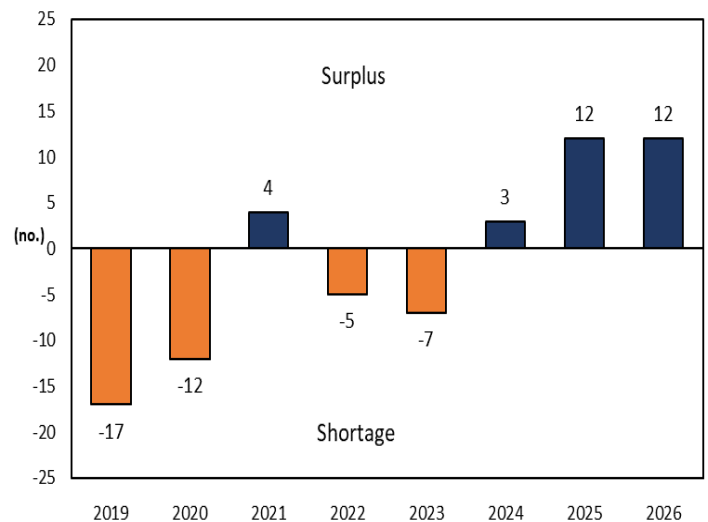
### Key research findings

- Of the small number of surveyed employers, none were able to fill their vacancies and applicant numbers were generally small.
- Employers reported that it can be hard to attract and retain surveyors in the ACT, and that the cost of relocating interstate candidates can be prohibitive.
- Similarly, in order to fill vacancies locally, employers indicated an increasing need to raise remuneration levels in order to attract or retain a surveyor who may have received multiple offers.

### Demand and supply<sup>1</sup>

- At the time of the 2016 Census, there were around 120 surveyors employed in the ACT. Over 50 per cent worked in the surveying or mapping sector of the Professional, Scientific and Technical Services industry.
- Modelling undertaken by BIS Oxford Economics for Consulting Surveyors National forecasted that surveyors would be in shortage in the ACT in 2019.
- Construction activity is a major driver of demand for surveyors in the ACT. Over the last two years, strong residential construction activity has boosted demand for surveyors, along with high levels of investment in building and engineering construction.
- According to ACT Budget Papers, high levels of residential construction activity are forecast to continue into 2019-20, with a significant pipeline of projects underway.
- The Consulting Surveyors National publication suggests that shortages of surveyors in the ACT will generally persist until 2023. This will transition to a period of slight surplus as construction activity subsides.

**Figure 1: Workforce gap (supply minus demand), Total surveyors, ACT, 2019-2026**



Data source: Consulting Surveyors National, 2018-2028 Determining the Future Demand, Supply and Skills Gap for Surveying and Geospatial Professionals (Report prepared by BIS Oxford Economics), 2019

<sup>1</sup> Data sources: ABS, Census of Population and Housing, 2016; Consulting Surveyors National, 2018-2028 Determining the Future Demand, Supply and Skills Gap for Surveying and Geospatial Professionals (Report prepared by BIS Oxford Economics for Consulting Surveyors National), 2019; ACT Government, Australian Capital Territory Budget 2019-20, Building for the future, Budget Paper 3: Budget Outlook, 2019; ABS, Construction Work Done, March 2019.