



# Surveyor

## ANZSCO 2322-12

Western Australia  
April 2019

### Current labour market rating: Shortage

Employers attracted an average of 3.0 suitable applicants per vacancy, but nonetheless experienced a challenging recruitment environment.

### Key research findings

- This occupation has been rated as in shortage, owing to the notable difficulties experienced by surveyed employers when seeking to fill vacancies for licensed surveyors, graduate surveyors and engineering surveyors.
- All employers surveyed for this research sought applicants with a qualification in this field. However, employers seeking engineering surveyors were generally open to applicants holding a degree or a diploma, provided they held the level of prior experience to perform in the role.
  - Employers deemed some applicants with a diploma to be suitable for roles for engineering surveyors. However, these applicants are not considered qualified for the purpose of this research.<sup>1</sup>

Around 30 per cent of applicants were degree qualified and employers identified an average of 3.0 suitable applicants per vacancy.

- Employers sought applicants for roles on residential land developments, construction projects, and undertaking engineering and mining survey work.
- Applicants were typically required to hold a minimum of three years of professional experience, and have expertise in products such as Trimble, Leica, CivilCAD MAGNET and AutoCAD.
- Separate to professional expertise and appropriate experience, employers required applicants to be self-motivated with enthusiasm for the field, able to work unsupervised and possess excellent communication skills.

### 2019 Survey Results<sup>2</sup>



50%  
of vacancies  
filled



8.7  
Applicants per  
vacancy



2.5  
Qualified  
applicants  
per vacancy



3.0  
Suitable  
applicants per  
vacancy

- Vacancies remained unfilled due to applicants declining the role (typically due to the location) or due to a lack of suitable applicants presenting for roles.
- The main reasons applicants were deemed unsuitable were the lack of an appropriate qualification and a lack of experience in this occupation.
  - Applicants who declined to relocate role where this was a requirement were rejected.

### Demand and supply

- While vacancies remain low relative to earlier periods of demand, they have risen 33 per cent over the past 12 months.
- Over the last five years, data show an average of 24 undergraduate and postgraduate degrees in Surveying were completed each year in Western Australia. Data for 2017 show undergraduate and postgraduate completions in this field are consistent with this trend
- Curtin University of Technology offers the only comprehensive degree program in surveying in Western Australia.

<sup>1</sup> This differentiation has resulted in a higher number of suitable applicants than qualified applicants for this occupation.

<sup>2</sup> The methodology underpinning this research is outlined at [Skill Shortage Research Methodology](#)

Additional Data Sources: Department of Employment, Skills, Small and Family Business, Internet Vacancy Index, March 2019; Department of Education, Higher Education Student Data Collection, 2017, customised tables.