



Civil Engineering Professionals ANZSCO 2332–11, 12, 14, 15

Northern Territory
March 2019

Current labour market rating: Shortage

Employers continue to experience difficulties recruiting civil engineering professionals with the necessary skills and experience required.

Key research findings

- Surveyed employers filled 17 per cent of their advertised vacancies for civil engineering professionals, compared with 25 per cent in 2017. (This occupation was not assessed in 2018.) The majority of vacancies were in the metropolitan region.
- In contrast, the average number of applicants per vacancy increased to 28.7 from 23.3 reported in 2017.
- The number of suitable applicants decreased slightly from an average of 1.8 per vacancy in 2017, to 1.3 suitable applicants per vacancy in 2019.
- There were 10 qualified applicants per vacancy, down from 14 reported in 2017.
- While employers attracted a large number of qualified applicants, 87 per cent were considered unsuitable.
- Reasons for unsuitability included:
 - lack of practical work experience relevant to a particular industry or specialisation
 - poor communication skills
 - inability to relocate
 - lack of agreement on remuneration.

Demand and supply trends

- Demand for civil engineers is dependent on levels of activity in the construction and mining industries.
- Between the 2011 and 2016 Census, the number of employed civil engineers almost doubled in the NT as large projects commenced over this period.
- The value of engineering construction activity in the Northern Territory decreased by around three quarters over the year to the March quarter 2019.
- The number of advertised vacancies for civil engineering professionals decreased by over 10 per cent over the 12 months to March 2019.
- Training for this profession in the Northern Territory is through Charles Darwin University.

2019 Survey Results¹

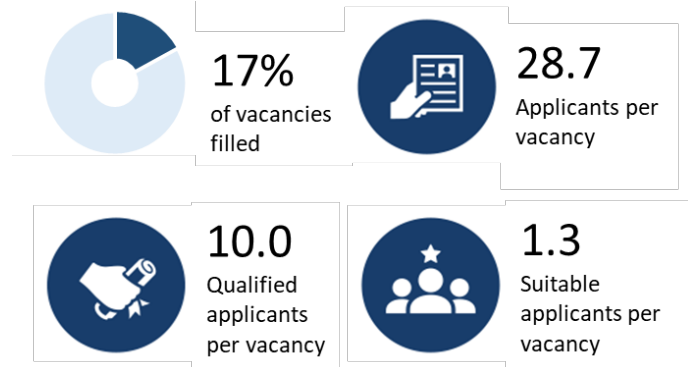
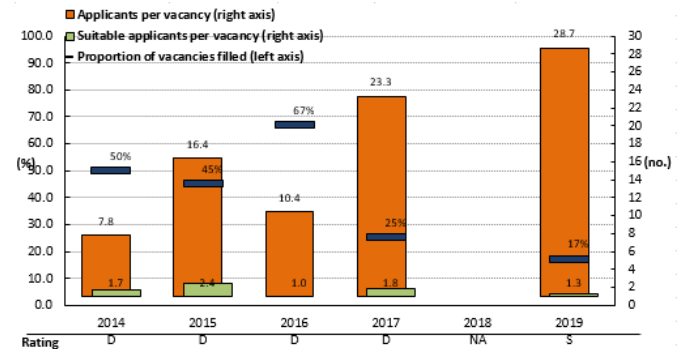


Figure 1: Survey results, civil engineering professionals, 2014 to 2019



Key to ratings: S = Shortage; D = Recruitment difficulty; NA = Not assessed

¹ The methodology underpinning this research is outlined at [Skill Shortage Research Methodology](#)

Additional data sources: ABS, Census of Population and Housing, 2011 and 2016; ABS, Cat 8762.0 Engineering Construction Activity, Australia, March 2019, Table 2 Value of Work Done, States and Territories, Chain Volume Measures, Trend data; Department of Employment, Skills, Small and Family Business, Internet Vacancy Index, May 2019, 12 month moving average