



Civil Engineering Professionals

ANZSCO 2332-11, 12, 14, 15

New South Wales
April 2019

Current labour market rating: No Shortage

In 2019, there is no shortage of Civil Engineering Professionals in New South Wales, following both state wide and metropolitan shortages in previous years.

Key research findings

- Employers filled 78 per cent of vacancies with an average of 20 applicants per vacancy, 15.6 qualified applicants and 2.5 suitable applicants per vacancy.
- The majority of vacancies surveyed were in the following areas: consulting and local councils, and recruitment agencies across various industries including civil, structural, roads, residential, commercial, public sector developments, land/urban development, subdivisions, mining, water, wastewater, stormwater, sewerage, drainage, traffic and transport.
- All applicants required tertiary qualifications in a Civil Engineering field with the majority of employers seeking relevant local engineering industry experience and length of professional work experience, technical competency in the area of specialisation such as DRAINS, AutoCAD, Civil 3D, TUFLOW, HEC-RAS, SLOPE/W and Microsoft Office packages, strong communication, leadership abilities and proper working rights along with knowledge and understanding of Australian building standards and codes.
- Remuneration issues, inexperience and proximity to work were the main reasons for unfilled vacancies.

Demand and supply

- The value of building activity in NSW rose by 6.4 per cent over the year to March 2019 after rising by 4.7 per cent the previous year and over 10 per cent in the three years to March 2017. Engineering construction rose by 6.7 per cent in the year to March 2019 following an increase of 24.9 per cent in the previous year.
 - The total value of construction work increased by 6.5 per cent over the year to March 2019 compared with 11.4 per cent over the year to March 2018.

2019 Survey Results¹

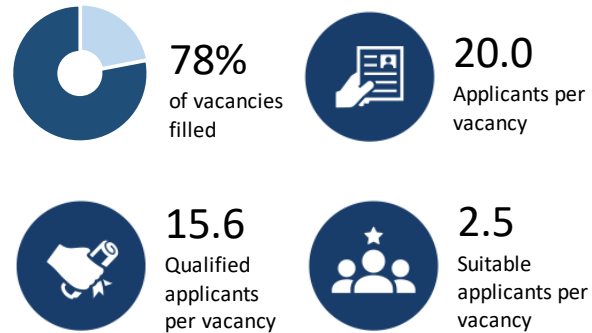
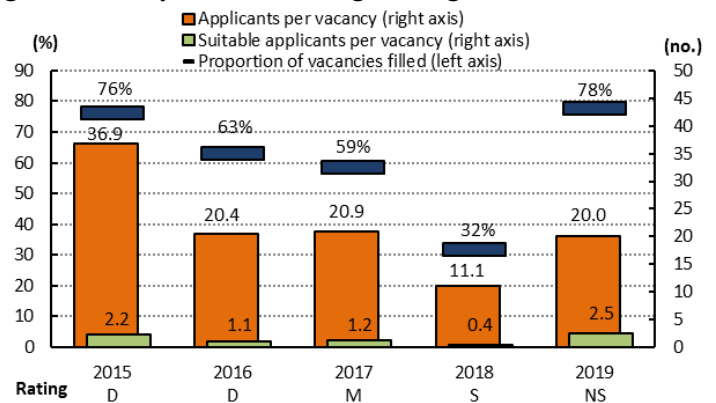


Figure 1: Survey results, Civil Engineering, 2015 to 2019



Key to ratings: D = Recruitment difficulty; M = Metropolitan shortage; S = Shortage; NS = No shortage

- The number of temporary resident skilled visas granted for civil engineering professionals in NSW in 2017-18 was 229. This is well above the average of 157 for the previous four years.
- Internet vacancies for civil engineers dropped by 9.0 per cent over the year to April 2019.
- The number of domestic students completing undergraduate degrees majoring in civil engineering averaged around 885 per annum over the three years to 2017. This was an increase of around 16 per cent compared with the average of the previous three years
 - Commencements averaged 607 in the three years to 2017, which was 20 per cent lower than the average for the previous three-year period.

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

Additional Data Sources: ABS, Construction Work Done, Preliminary, March 2019 (8755.0), Table 4 and Table 8, chain volume measures, original; Department of Home Affairs, Temporary Resident (Skilled) Visas Granted; Internet Vacancy Index, June 2019, 12 month moving average; Department of Education, Higher Education Student Data Collection, 2017, customised tables