



# Civil Engineering Professionals

## ANZSCO 2332-11, 12, 14, 15

Tasmania  
February 2019

### Current labour market rating: Shortage

The labour market for civil engineering professionals has tightened over the past year and a shortage has become apparent.

#### Key research findings<sup>1</sup>

- Vacancies were located across Tasmania. The majority of vacancies were for civil engineers, followed by geotechnical, structural and transport engineers.
- All applicants were required to hold relevant tertiary qualifications. Employers indicated that they required applicants who possess strong knowledge of Australian engineering standards and codes.
- Employers indicated that it was difficult to fill vacancies for civil engineers, particularly for vacancies based in regional areas and for senior and specialist roles.
  - Applicants were found unsuitable if they could not demonstrate a sufficient level of project or team management experience.
  - Employers reported that graduate-level positions were easier to fill.
  - Nearly two thirds of metropolitan vacancies were filled compared with a third of regional vacancies.
- Most employers with unfilled vacancies attracted suitable applicants, however, these applicants did not accept their offer of employment. Employers felt that their competitiveness was impacted by more attractive rates of pay and better employment conditions being offered by large companies and projects.

#### Demand and supply

- A number of employers and recruitment agencies indicated that the high level of construction activity in parts of Tasmania has increased demand for civil engineers over the past year.
  - The real value of Tasmanian engineering construction activity increased by 4.4 per cent in the December 2018 quarter and was 23.7 per cent higher than the December 2017 quarter.

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

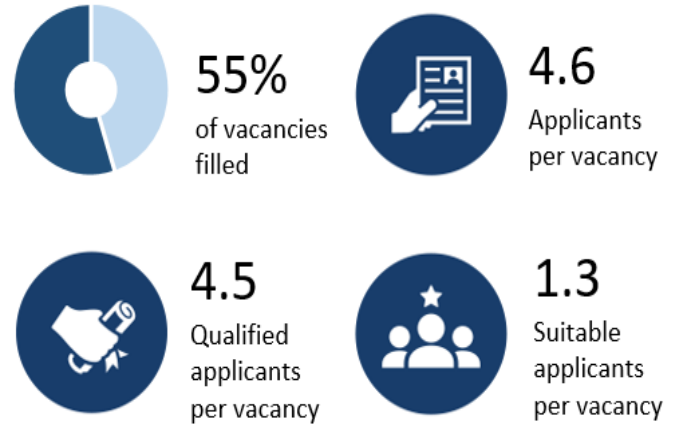
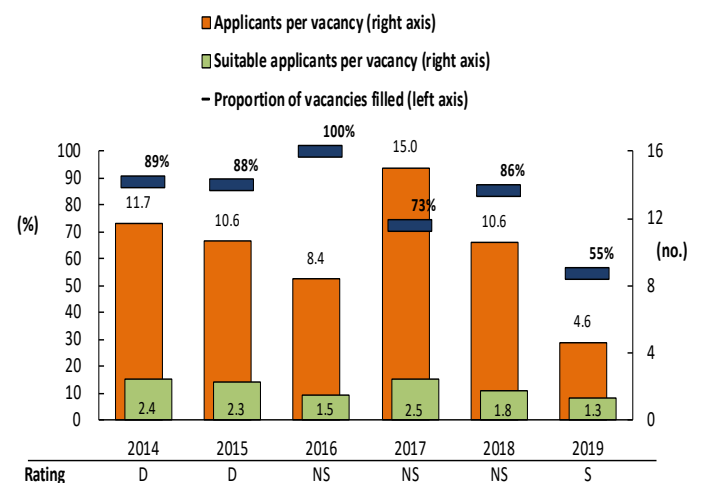


Figure 1: Survey results, Civil Engineering Professionals, 2014 to 2019



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

- Engineers Australia report that engineering vacancies in Tasmania grew by 5.4 per cent over 2018, with the majority of vacancies for civil engineering occupations.
- University of Tasmania data shows that there were 72 domestic engineering graduates in 2018, which has increased from the 50 graduates in 2017 and 46 in 2016.
- According to the 2016 Census, 440 people identified as civil engineering professionals in Tasmania.

<sup>1</sup> The survey results are primarily attributed to the occupation of civil engineers, as there were insufficient vacancies to provide a separate assessment for structural, geotechnical or transport engineers.

<sup>2</sup> The methodology underpinning this research is outlined at [Skill Shortage Research Methodology | Department of Employment, Skills, Small and Family Business](#).

Additional Data Sources: ABS 2016 Census of Housing and Population; ABS Engineering Construction 8762.0 December 2018; Department of Employment, Skills, Small and Family Business, Internet Vacancy Index, 12 month moving averages; Engineers Australia, Engineering Vacancies Report 2018 Trends, January 2019; University of Tasmania, unpublished data, 2018.