



Mechanical Engineer

ANZSCO 2335-12

Victoria
March 2019

Current labour market rating: No shortage

Recruitment difficulties in this labour market have eased over the last year, with employers able to attract sufficient fields of applicants to fill vacancies across all sectors.

Key research findings

- Employers filled 73 per cent of vacancies from averages of 37.5 qualified applicants and 2.4 suitable applicants per vacancy.
- Vacancies were sourced from across the three broad sectors of production, building services, and energy.
- All employers required applicants to hold a relevant qualification for the advertised role and, of these applicants, 94 per cent were considered unsuitable.
 - The main reason qualified applicants were considered unsuitable by employers was a lack of relevant experience for the vacancy advertised.
 - Sixty per cent of employers stated the skill set and experience they sought were not easily transferrable from other specialisations and roles.
 - Sixty per cent of employers sought applicants with five or more years of experience, with the remainder requiring up to four years of experience.
 - A number of suitable applicants did not accept an offer of employment due to existing gainful employment.

Demand and supply

- Demand is driven by trends in the construction and manufacturing industry, and is currently mixed.
 - In the year to December 2018, the value of engineering construction work done increased by 13.3 per cent, above the five-year annual average increase of 9.8 per cent.
 - The value of the total non-residential work not yet commenced in Victoria decreased by 30.6 per cent in contrast a 30.1 per cent increase in the year to December 2017.

2019 Survey Results¹

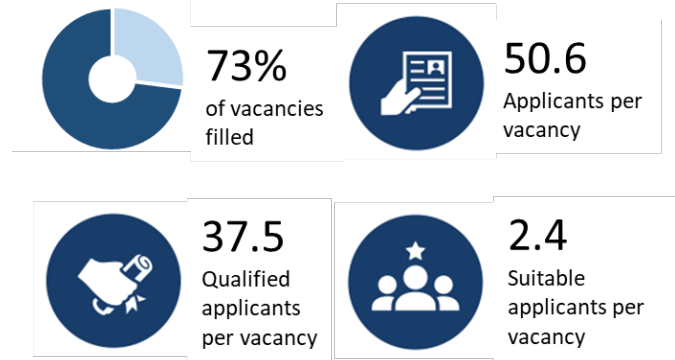
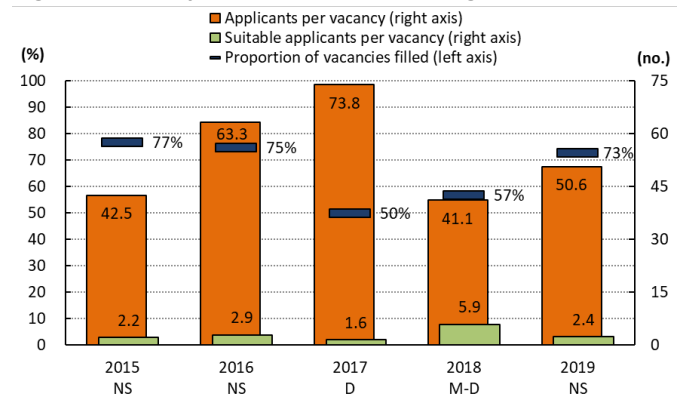


Figure 1: Survey results, Mechanical Engineer, 2015 to 2019



Key to ratings: NS = No shortage; D = Recruitment difficulty; M-D = Metropolitan recruitment difficulty

- The value of the total work not yet commenced decreased by 32.5 per cent in the year to December 2018 after increasing by 36.4 per cent in the previous year.
- Over the five years to March 2019, internet vacancies for industrial, mechanical and production engineers increased by 11.7 per cent, above the Victorian all occupations average (7.9 per cent) over the same period.
- Supply to the mechanical engineering occupations is through a Bachelor of Engineering (Mechanical).
 - There were 687 commencements in 2017, well below the average of 1009 commencements in each year from 2012 to 2017.
- There were 799 completions in 2017, slightly below the average number of completions of 807 in each year from 2012 to 2017.

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

Additional Data Sources: ABS, Engineering Construction Activity, Australia, December 2018, chain volume measures, trend; Department of Education and Training, Higher Education Student Data Collection, 2017, customised tables; Department of Jobs and Small Business, Internet Vacancy Index, March 2019, 12 month moving average.