



Early Childhood (Pre-primary School) Teacher ANZSCO 2411-11

Northern Territory March 2019

Current labour market rating: No Shortage

Employers report high numbers of suitable applicants, and experience few difficulties in filling their vacancies.

Key research findings

- The proportion of vacancies filled remains at similar levels as reported in 2018 (80 per cent in 2019, compared with 83 per cent in 2018).
- There was a significant increase in the number of applicants per vacancy, from 2.5 in 2018 to 15.2 in 2019.
- Similarly, there was an increase in the number of qualified applicants (from 1.2 to 4.2) and suitable applicants (1.0 to 3.4) over this period.
- The majority of vacancies for early childhood teachers were in the long day care sector, with only a small number of responses from the preschool sector.
- All employers surveyed were seeking degree qualified early childhood (pre-primary school) teachers and applicants with a strong understanding of the Early Years Learning Framework, National Quality Framework and National Quality Standards. A suitability card for working with children and first aid certification were also common requirements.
- Around 20 per cent of qualified applicants were unsuitable due to lack of experience in the occupation.

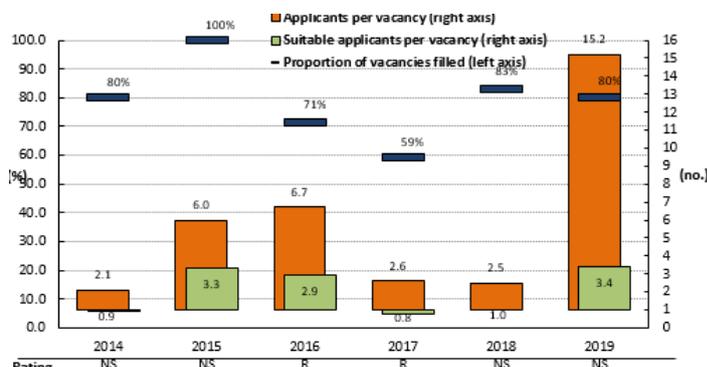
Demand and supply

- The number of children aged between zero and five years in the Northern Territory decreased by 3 per cent over the 12 months to the December quarter 2018, down from 22,498 to 21,812.
- There are 169 approved childcare services in the Northern Territory, with 10,770 children attending these services. There were 1550 Indigenous children using these services.
- The number of people employed in this occupation has grown by 60 per cent, increasing from 150 to 240 between the 2011 and 2016 census periods. Early childhood teachers are predominately employed in the education and training industry.
- Online vacancies for early childhood teachers have generally remained steady over the year to March 2019.

2019 Survey Results¹



Figure 1: Survey results, Early Childhood Teacher, 2014 to 2019



Key to ratings: R: Regional Shortage; NS = No shortage;

- Charles Darwin University and Bachelor Institute offer approved programs of study for entry into this occupation.
- The number of students commencing undergraduate courses in early childhood education grew strongly between 2008 and 2012 and has subsequently declined. However, commencement numbers from 2015 to 2017 were relatively steady.
- Early childhood education undergraduate completions increased over the five years to 2017.

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

Additional Data Sources: ABS Stat Data Beta sets, Quarterly Population Estimates (ERP) by State/Territory, Sex and Age December 2018; Department of Education, Child Care in Australia report, September quarter 2018, Approved childcare services includes Long Day Care, Family Day Care and In-Home Care, Occasional Care and Outside School Hours Care; ABS, Census of Population and Housing, 2011 and 2016; Department of Education, Higher Education Student Data Collection, 2017, customised tables, Domestic students; Department of Employment, Skills, Small and Family Business, Internet Vacancy Index, March 2019, 12-month moving average.