



# ANZSCO 3121-11 Architectural Draftsperson

South Australia  
April 2017

**Current labour market rating**

**Shortage**

Previous labour market rating (April 2016)

No Shortage

## Comments

*The survey results indicate employers consistently encountered difficulty recruiting suitably skilled and experienced Architectural Draftspersons.*

## Survey results

- The majority of employers contacted for the survey were building design businesses and architectural firms.
- A survey of employers who had recently advertised for architectural draftspersons found employers encountered difficulty recruiting.
  - Survey results showed 60 per cent of vacancies were filled within four to six weeks of advertising compared with 75 per cent in last year's survey and 83 percent in 2015.
  - Despite receiving on average 15.4 applicants per vacancy, only 2.0 applicants per vacancy were assessed by employers as suitable (i.e. holding the appropriate basic or additional qualifications and registration for the surveyed vacancies).
- Successive yearly reductions in the average number of suitable applicants per vacancy have been recorded in the survey: 5.0 in 2015, 3.4 in 2016 and 1.4 in 2017.
- Employers recruiting architectural draftspersons consistently indicated difficulties recruiting sufficiently experienced draftspersons with appropriate software skills.
- Some employers using new software versions or non-industry standard software were unable to attract any suitable applicants.
- Employer sentiment in the residential sector was pessimistic with diminished future expectations.
- Considering the reduction in low average number of qualified applicants, the consistent difficulty experienced by employers seeking relevant software experience and the percentage of employers successful in recruiting, the occupation of architectural draftspersons is considered in shortage.

## Unsuitable applicants

- The reasons employers cited for applicant unsuitability were varied.
- Lack of specific experience and technical skills were the most common reasons that applicants were considered unsuitable. Software proficiency was consistently mentioned by employers as important in recruitment. For example, experience with software packages AutoCAD®, Revit® or both was favoured in the majority of vacancies surveyed.
- Where employers used updated versions of software or non-industry standard software, applicants were considered unsuitable if unable to demonstrate proficiency with those software types.

- Specific industry experience or jurisdictional experience was consistently mentioned by employers as reasons for applicant unsuitability.

### **Demand and supply trends**

- Indicators suggest an increase in labour market demand for architectural drafters.
- Demand for architectural drafters is influenced by the level of expected building activity. The total value of SA building approvals<sup>1</sup> increased by 14 per cent in 2016 compared with the previous calendar year.
- Disaggregated data showed a strong 25 per cent increase in non-residential building approvals compared with a modest increase in the value of residential building approvals of 7 per cent.
- The number of architectural services businesses in South Australia decreased from 712 at the end of the 2015 financial year to 692 at the end of the 2016 financial year<sup>2</sup>.
- Following a slight decrease in 2015, internet vacancies for architectural, building and surveying technicians (includes architectural draftspersons) grew strongly in 2016 by more than a quarter.
- Indicators suggest a potential for supply increase to the occupation of architectural drafters.
- Occupational supply is dependent on a combination of on-the-job experience and formal training, usually Certificate IV or Diploma level qualifications.
- The number of Diploma and Certificate IV level students in training courses classified to the occupation of architectural draftsperson decreased in 2015 compared with 2014<sup>3</sup>. Despite the decrease, completion numbers in 2013, 2014 and 2015 were considerably higher than the previous five years 2007-2012.

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<sup>1</sup> ABS, Building Approvals, Australia, Cat. No. 8731.0

<sup>2</sup> ABS, Counts of Australian Businesses, including Entries and Exits, ABS Cat. No. 8165.0

<sup>3</sup> NCVET, Govt-funded Students and Courses, 2015