



Motor Mechanics

ANZSCO 3212-11,12,13

South Australia
November 2018

Current labour market rating: Shortage

3212-11 Motor Mechanic (General) – Shortage

3212-12 Diesel Motor Mechanic – Shortage

3212-13 Motorcycle Mechanic – Cannot Rate

There are shortages of general motor mechanics and diesel mechanics in South Australia with employers filling less than a quarter of surveyed vacancies. There were few advertised vacancies for motorcycle mechanics and insufficient evidence to determine a rating; however, surveyed motorcycle mechanics employers were able to fill their vacancies.

Key research findings

- Around 22 per cent of all motor mechanic vacancies surveyed (including all specialisations) were filled with an average of 0.5 suitable applicants per vacancy.
 - General motor mechanic employers filled 17 per cent of vacancies with an average of 0.4 suitable applicants per vacancy.
 - Diesel mechanic employers filled 17 per cent of vacancies with an average of 0.4 suitable applicants per vacancy.
- Around 64 per cent of applicants were not qualified despite the employer specifying applicants must hold relevant trade qualifications in advertisements.
- While 36 per cent of applicants were qualified, 59 per cent of these were considered unsuitable because they lacked sufficient relevant experience or the required level of technical skills.
- Most employers reported they considered either recruiting or currently employing apprentices but they still need qualified and skilled motor mechanics to be able to continue the operation of their businesses.
- Many employers commented there is a lack of interest from young people to get into the trade because of the tasks involved and low remuneration compared to other jobs.

2018 Survey Results¹



22%
of vacancies
filled



3.7
Applicants per
vacancy



1.3
Qualified
applicants
per vacancy



0.5
Suitable
applicants per
vacancy

Demand and supply

- South Australian internet advertised vacancies increased in the year to October 2018.²
- Around three quarters of motor mechanics hold a certificate III or higher qualification, indicating formal training is a significant source of supply to the occupation.³
 - Commencements increased by 27 per cent in the 2017- 18 Financial Year, the highest commencement rate since 2013-14.
 - Completions decreased by 14 per cent in 2017-18, the lowest completion rate since 2013-14.
- The ABS Labour Force survey indicated almost 50 per cent of motor mechanics in South Australia were employed in the automotive repair and maintenance industry group.⁴
- Employment in this industry group also increased in the year to August 2018.⁵

¹ The methodology underpinning this research is outlined at [Skill Shortage Research Methodology](#) | Department of Jobs and Small Business.

² Department of Jobs and Small Business, Internet Vacancy Index, October 2018, 12 month moving average

³ Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS), Census of Population and Housing, 2016

⁴ Ibid

⁵ Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS), Labour Force Survey, State Industry, Department of Jobs and Small Business Trend, August 2018