

Motor Mechanics

ANZSCO 3212-11, 12, 13

New South Wales
December 2018

Current labour market rating: Shortage

There was a shortage of motor mechanics across New South Wales in 2018. This continues the shortage identified for these occupations over the previous two years (see Figure 1).

Key research findings

- Employers filled 30% of vacancies with an average of 3.0 applicants, 1.9 qualified applicants and 0.4 suitable applicants per vacancy.
- These results present a combined summary of general motor mechanic and diesel mechanic occupations. There were an insufficient number of motorcycle mechanic vacancies surveyed; as a result, that data is not included.
- Vacancies were surveyed mainly in the motor industry in motor dealerships and workshops for general motor mechanics. The majority of diesel mechanic vacancies surveyed were located in regional NSW, in truck and coach transportation, maintenance and service.
- Employers commonly sought:
 - Qualified applicants with experience in diagnostics, fault finding and repair.
 - Recent industry specific experience with light and or heavy vehicle makes or models.
- Employers recruiting for diesel mechanics found it difficult to source qualified applicants, with an average of 0.9 qualified applicants per vacancy. In comparison for general motor mechanic vacancies, there were 2.6 qualified applicants per vacancy. However, 84% of these applicants were unsuitable.
- Some regional employers, across both occupations of general motor mechanic and diesel mechanic, described being unable to compete with the mining industry in terms of remuneration levels.

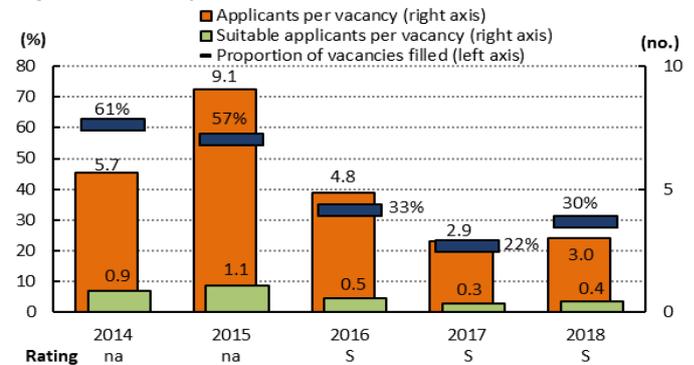
Demand and supply

- The internet vacancy index shows that internet vacancies for the broad occupational group of motor mechanics have been increasing steadily and in December 2018 was 24% higher than December 2016.

2018 Survey Results¹



Figure 1: Survey results, Motor Mechanics, 2014 to 2018



Key to ratings: S = Shortage; na = Not rated

- The number of temporary resident skilled visas averaged 272 over the three years to 2017-18, higher than the average granted over the three years ending 2014-15 of 167 per annum.
- Apprenticeship completions averaged 1621 in the three years to June 2018. This was higher than the average for the previous three years of 1545 completions.
 - Average commencements over the three years to June 2018 remained relatively unchanged at 2391 and was only 2% higher than the average for the three years to June 2015 of 2344.
- New motor vehicle sales dropped by 6.6% in the year to December 2018, which was a much steeper drop than the 0.1% in the previous 12 months.
- In 2018, the number of motor vehicles in NSW increased by 2%, compared to a rise of 2.5% in 2017. The strongest growth was for campervans (7.3%), light commercial vehicles (4.3%) and light rigid trucks (3.5%).

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

Additional Data Sources: Internet Vacancy Index, December 2018, 12 month moving average; Department of Home Affairs, Temporary Work (Skilled) Visas Granted ; NCVET, Apprentices and Trainees, June 2018, estimates; ABS, 9314.0 Sales of New Motor Vehicles, Australia, December 2018, original data; Federal Chamber of Automotive Industries, media releases, various issues; ABS, 9309.0 Motor Vehicle Census Australia, January 2018.