

# Motor Mechanics

## ANZSCO 3212

November 2018  
Australian Capital Territory

### Current labour market rating: Shortage

Shortages of motor mechanics persist, with a substantial reduction in applicants and suitable applicants, and a lower proportion of filled vacancies, compared with 2017.

### Key research findings

- Motor mechanics have been in shortage in the ACT since 2013. Small applicant fields are currently a significant feature of this labour market (Figure 1).
  - Applicant numbers have generally trended downwards over the past few years and are now around half the levels in 2013.
- The proportion of vacancies filled declined by one third in 2018, with most employers having at least one unfilled vacancy.
  - Around half of the employers surveyed had suitable applicants.
- Many employers offered experienced workers higher remuneration in order to reduce attrition.
- Most employers stated few young people are attracted to motor mechanic apprenticeships, leading to a reduced supply of experienced mechanics to fill vacancies.

### Unsuitable Applicants

- Almost all employers required applicants to hold trade qualifications, and failing to hold the relevant qualification was the most common reason applicants were considered unsuitable.
- Around 40 per cent of the qualified applicants were unsuitable, mainly because they lacked experience or they failed to present for work.

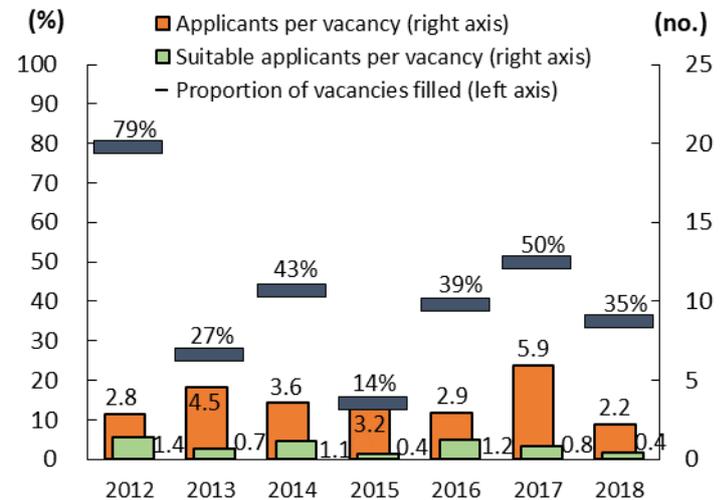
### Demand and supply trends

- Demand indicators for motor mechanics are mixed, while new supply to the occupation has fallen in recent years.
- Internet vacancies for motor mechanics have doubled since October 2013, to reach a series high.

### 2018 Survey Results<sup>1</sup>



Figure 1: Survey results, Motor Mechanics, 2012 to 2018



- The number of motor mechanics in the ACT has doubled from its most recent trough in February 2016 to stand at around 1200 in November 2018.
- Most motor mechanics work in the Other Automotive Repair and Maintenance industry. The number of businesses in this industry in the ACT decreased slightly by 3 per cent over the year to June 2017.
- There were fewer than 50 motor mechanic apprenticeships completed in the year to June 2018, around 20 per cent from the previous year. This may impact further on existing shortages.

<sup>1</sup> The methodology underpinning this research is outlined at [Skill Shortage Research Methodology | Department of Jobs and Small Business](#). Additional Data Sources: ABS, Census of Population and Housing, 2016; ABS, Labour Force, November 2018 (Department of Jobs and Small Business trend); ABS, Counts of Australian Businesses including Entries and Exits, February 2018; Department of Jobs and Small Business, Internet Vacancy Index, October 2018, 12 month moving average; NCVET, Apprentices and Trainees, June 2018, estimates.