



Sheetmetal Trades Worker ANZSCO 3222-11

Tasmania
November 2018

Current labour market rating: Shortage

The labour market has tightened over the past year and a shortage for sheetmetal trades workers in Tasmania is apparent in 2018. Surveyed employers attract few suitable applicants and fill less than half of all vacancies.

Key research findings

- The majority of surveyed employers sought qualified sheetmetal trades workers; however, only a fifth of all applicants were qualified. Nearly half of all surveyed employers received no suitable applicants.
 - The main reasons applicants were considered unsuitable are a lack of qualifications, experience, specific technical skills, failing a work trial or presenting a poor application.
- The majority of employers reported using multiple advertisements to source suitable applicants.
 - Two fifths of the employers surveyed reported filling vacancies via their networks rather than formal advertising.

Demand and supply

- Demand for sheetmetal trades workers is largely driven by activity in the construction and manufacturing industries.
 - The inflation adjusted value of total building and engineering construction work done in Tasmania increased by 3.8 per cent over the year to September 2018.
 - National Accounts data show that Tasmanian manufacturing activity (inflation adjusted gross value added) expanded in 2018 after five years of consecutive contractions.
 - Tasmanian industries employing sheetmetal trades workers are projected to increase over the next five years to May 2023, construction by 9.2 per cent and manufacturing by 0.7 per cent.

2018 Survey Results¹

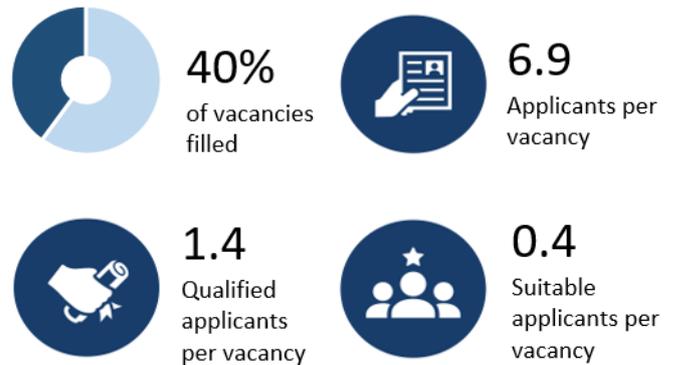
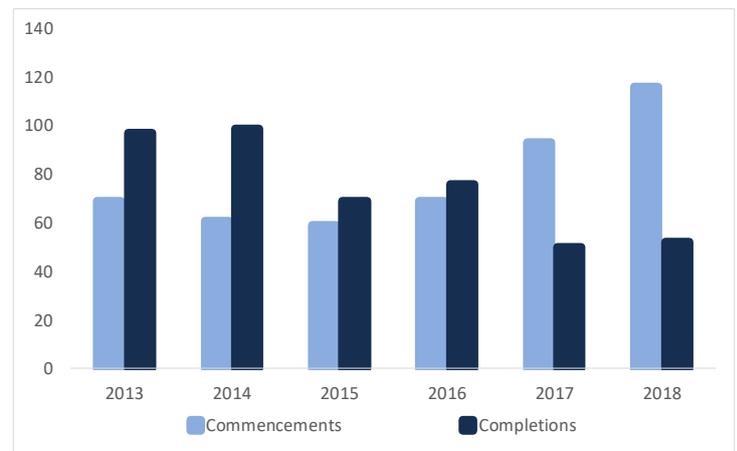


Figure 1: Apprentices and trainees commencements and completions, Engineering – Fabrication Trades, June 2013 to 2018, estimates



- Formal training is through the apprenticeship system via a Certificate III in a course such as Engineering - Fabrication Trades. In recent years fewer apprenticeships have been completed, although a steady increase in commencements suggests there may be additional supply in the future.
- According to the 2016 Census 130 people identified as sheetmetal trades workers in Tasmania, with most employed in the manufacturing (67.2 per cent) or construction industries (13.7 per cent).

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

Additional Data Sources: ABS, Australian National Accounts: State Accounts, 2017-18; ABS, 2016 Census of Housing and Population; ABS, Construction Work Done, Preliminary, Sept 2018; Department of Jobs and Small Business Employment Projections, Regional projections – five years to May 2023; National Centre for Vocational Education Research, National Apprentice and Trainee Collection, June 2018 Estimates.