

# Sheetmetal Trades Worker ANZSCO 3222-11

Victoria  
December 2018

## Current labour market rating: Shortage

This is the seventh consecutive year that a shortage was identified for this occupation in Victoria.

## Key research findings

- Employers filled 29 per cent of vacancies from averages of 2.5 qualified applicants and 0.4 suitable applicants per vacancy.
- Forty per cent of employers received no suitable applicants.
- Metropolitan vacancies had a 42 per cent fill rate. All regional vacancies remained unfilled.
  - Regional employers received, on average, fewer applicants per vacancy than metropolitan employers (3.0 and 7.5 per cent respectively), and fewer qualified applicants per vacancy (0.8 and 3.3 per cent respectively). However, both metropolitan and regional employers received an average of 0.4 suitable applicants per vacancy.
- Eighty six per cent of qualified applicants were considered unsuitable.
  - The most common reasons for unsuitability of qualified applicants were due to lack of experience or technical skills in a similar role.
  - Some qualified applicants were unsuitable due to poor work history or diligence.
  - A number of employers reported that applicants did not respond to offers for interview.
- Almost all employers reported challenges recruiting suitable workers and many reported having to undertake multiple recruitment rounds to fill vacancies.

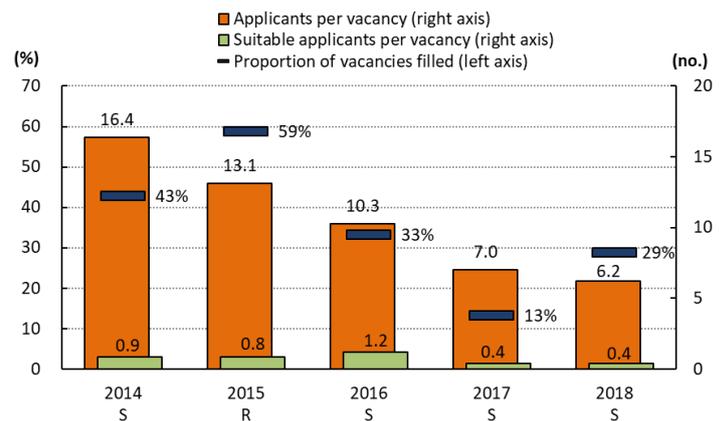
## Demand and supply

- Demand indicators for this occupation appear mixed while supply appears likely to continue to decrease.
- Demand for sheetmetal trades is driven primarily by activity in the manufacturing sector and to a lesser extent, the construction sector.
  - ABS Census data shows that the number of sheetmetal trades workers in Victoria increased by 21.2 per cent to 1,200 in the five years to 2016.

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



Figure 1: Survey results, Sheetmetal Trades Worker, 2014 to 2018



Key to ratings: S = Shortage; R = Regional Shortage.

- In the same period, the number of sheetmetal trade workers occupied in the manufacturing sector declined, with some shift to employment in the non-residential construction sector.
- Internet vacancies for sheetmetal trades workers increased by 13.2 per cent over the year to September 2018 and have increased by 11.1 per cent over 5 years.
- Entry into the trade is usually through the completion of a recognised apprenticeship, typically a Certificate III in Engineering – Fabrication Trade.
  - Over the year to June 2018, the number of commencements were 599, above the five-year annual average of 515. Completions over the same period were 318, below the five-year annual average of 366.

<sup>1</sup> The methodology underpinning this research is outlined at [Skill Shortage Research Methodology | Department of Jobs and Small Business](#). Additional Data Sources: IBISWorld Industry Report C2240, Sheet Metal Product Manufacturing in Australia January 2018; ABS Census 2011 and 2016 Industry and Occupation custom tables; Department of Jobs and Small Business, Internet Vacancy Index, September 2018; NCVET Apprentices and Trainees, June 2018 estimates (Certificate III).