

Welder (First Class) ANZSCO 3223-13

Queensland
November 2018

Current labour market rating: Not applicable

There were insufficient surveyed vacancies to determine a state rating. That said, of the vacancies surveyed, all were filled and most employers were able to choose between multiple suitable applicants.

Employer requirements

- A relatively small number of vacancies were identified during this research period. All surveyed vacancies were located in either metropolitan Brisbane or the Gold Coast.
- Employers were generally seeking qualified welders who had experience working in a role similar to the advertised position.
- Tasks included welding a variety of items, such as earthmoving, excavation, construction and mining equipment, as well as other industrial and transport equipment.
- Skills in a range of welding types were sought, including MIG, TIG, oxy cutting, as well as arc and stick.
- Employers most commonly sought applicants who could demonstrate a commitment to safety standards, an ability to read and understand drawings and who had a driver's licence.

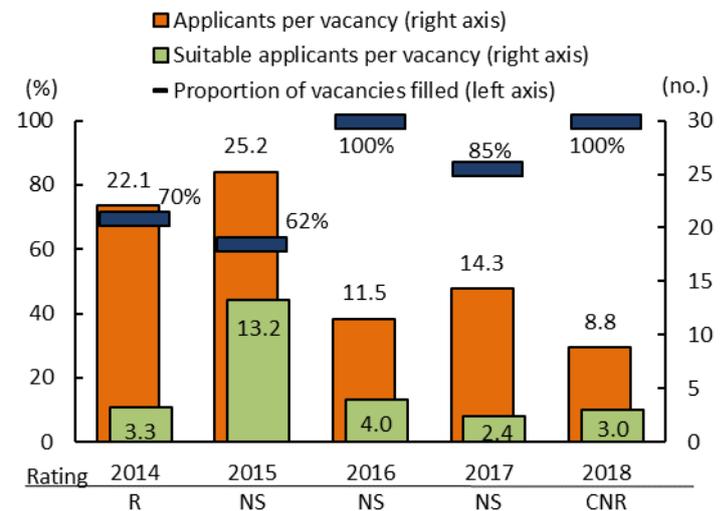
Key research findings

- All surveyed vacancies were filled. Employers received an average of 8.8 applicants, per vacancy, of whom 3.0 were considered suitable.
- Most employers surveyed were able to choose between multiple suitable applicants.

Applicant unsuitability

- Employers most commonly found applicants unsuitable for failing to weld to the employer's required standard.
- Lacking experience in a specific area or type of welding was also a common reason for unsuitability amongst applicants.

Figure 1: Survey results¹, Welder (First Class), 2014 to 2018



Key to ratings: R = Regional Shortage; NS = No shortage; CNR = Cannot Rate.

Demand and supply

- While conditions in the Queensland economy remain positive, employment in many metal manufacturing sub-sectors declined over the year to November 2018.
- Between late 2013 and mid-2015, the number of employed structural steel and welding trades workers (separate data for welders are not available) declined significantly, and no sustained growth has been evident since.
- Currently, there are 16,500 structural steel and welding trades workers employed in Queensland, the lowest recorded level since May 2006.
- The number of fabrication engineering trade apprentices and trainees commencing jumped sharply in the year to June 2018, to 915. Completions, though, continue to decline, falling to 500 over the same period.

¹ The methodology underpinning this research is outlined at [Skill Shortage Research Methodology | Department of Jobs and Small Business](#). Additional Data Sources: ABS Labour Force Survey (trended by Department of Jobs and Small Business), Nov 2018; NCVET, Apprentices and Trainees, June 2018.