

Panelbeater

ANZSCO 3241-11

Victoria
October 2018

Current labour market rating: Shortage

The survey found that a record low of 36 per cent of vacancies were filled, with 40 per cent of employers receiving no suitable applicants.

Key research findings

- Employers filled 36 per cent of vacancies from averages of 1.5 qualified applicants and 0.6 suitable applicants per vacancy.
- This is the fifth consecutive year a shortage has been evident for this occupation.
- There were no significant differences between metropolitan and regional results.
- All employers sought qualified applicants.
- Most employers valued the quality and range of experience than a set number of years in the industry.
- Forty one per cent of applicants were qualified and, of these, 56 per cent were considered unsuitable.
 - The main reason for their unsuitability was a lack of specific experience such as experience with prestige vehicles and trucks, followed by general experience.
 - Other reasons included poor communication skills.
- Twenty per cent of all vacancies attracted a suitable applicant who did not accept the employment offer due to an inability to agree on remuneration.
- Employers confirmed they often receive enquiries outside of formal recruitment periods from panelbeating applicants seeking wages above market rates and beyond a financially viable level for the business.

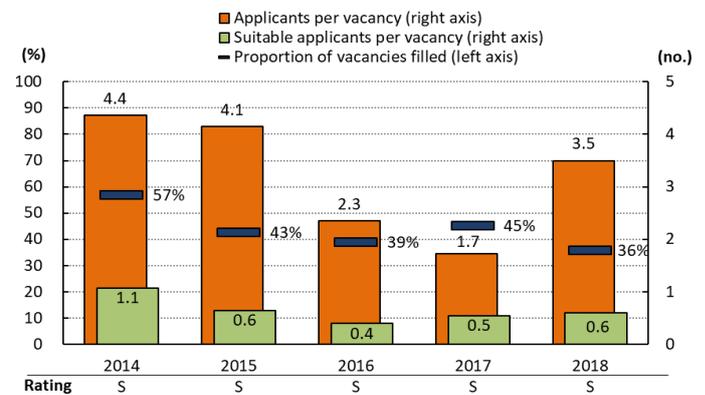
Demand and supply

- Demand indicators are mixed, but supply to this occupation has been steadily decreasing in recent years.
- The primary drivers of demand for panelbeaters are the number of registered vehicles, and related accidents.
 - Victorian motor vehicle registrations increased by 2.6 per cent in the year to 2018, slightly above the 5-year increase of 2.3 per cent.
 - Accidents within Victoria increased 0.6 per cent in the five years to 2016 (most recent data) but decreased by 1.3 per cent in the year to 2016.

2018 Survey Results¹



Figure 1: Survey results, Panelbeater, 2014 to 2018



Key to ratings: S = Shortage

- The total number of automotive body, paint and interior repair businesses operating in Victoria increased by 0.5 per cent in the year to June 2016 and 1.6 per cent in the year to June 2017.
- Internet vacancies for panelbeaters were consistently limited across the five years to November 2018 with an average of 47 vacancies per month.
- Entry into the trade is through the completion of an apprenticeship, typically a Certificate III in Panelbeating.
 - There were 334 commencements and 120 completions in the year to June 2018, below the five-year annual averages of 446 and 192 respectively.²

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

Additional Data Sources: ABS, Cat. No 8165.0 Counts of Australian Businesses, including Entries and Exits, Jun 2013 to Jun 2017; ABS, Cat. No 9309.0, Motor Vehicle Census, Australia, Table 1: January 2018; ABS, Cat. No 9309.0, Motor Vehicle Census, Australia, Table 3: January 2018; Department of Jobs and Small Business, Internet Vacancy Index, November 2018, 12 month moving average;

<https://www.data.vic.gov.au/data/dataset/crash-stats-data-extract> (No. of Crashes By Severity By Year as at 11 June 2017)

² This is aggregated at the ANZSCO three digit level 324 (Panelbeaters, Vehicle Body Builders, Trimmers and Painters). Further disaggregated data is not available.