

# Vehicle Painter

## ANZSCO 3243-11

New South Wales  
December 2018

### Current labour market rating: Shortage

There was a shortage of vehicle painters in New South Wales in 2018. Shortages have been identified in this occupation over the past three years (see Figure 1).

### Key research findings

- Employers filled 54% of vacancies with an average of 5.5 applicants, 1.3 qualified applicants and 0.7 suitable applicants per vacancy.
- The vacancies surveyed were mainly for workshop spray painters of automotive vehicles, with some mobile spray painter positions also included.
- Employers sought applicants with qualifications, technical skills to complete fine detailed work, and experience up to four years. Inexperience or lack of technical skills in specific paint systems and finishes was the main reasons for the unsuitability of qualified applicants.
- A number of employers found vacancies remained unfilled due to some applicants having high remuneration expectations.
- Some employers explained that the demanding working conditions and tasks associated with both vehicle preparation and spray painting made recruitment more difficult.

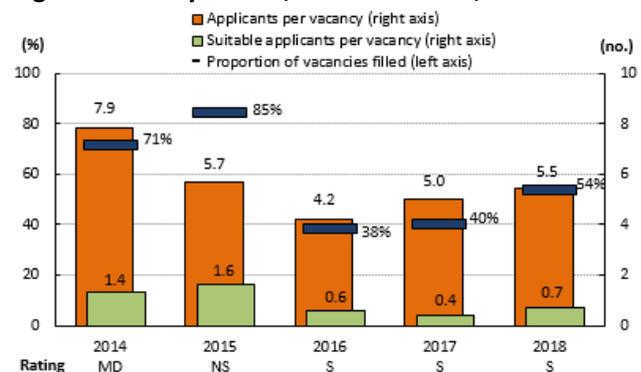
### Demand and supply

- Entry into this trade is usually through a completion of an apprenticeship of a Certificate III in Automotive Refinishing Technology. Over the year to June 2018, there were around 260 completions for the broad occupational group of panelbeaters, vehicle body builders, trimmers and painters. This was around 13% lower than the average for the previous five years of 299 completions.
  - Commencements over the year to June 2018 was 465, which was around 3% lower than the average of 481 for the previous five years.

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



Figure 1: Survey results, Vehicle Painter, 2014 to 2018



Key to ratings: MD = Metropolitan recruitment difficulty, NS = No shortage, S = Shortage

- Net immigration for vehicle painters was a minor source of supply over the five years to 2017-18.
- The number of business operating in NSW in the automotive body, paint and interior repair industry rose by 3.0% over the year to June 2018 and by 1.5% the previous year.
- In 2018, the number of motor vehicles in NSW increased by 2%, compared to a rise of 2.5% in 2017. The strongest growth was for campervans (7.3%), light commercial vehicles (4.3%) and light rigid trucks (3.5%).
- New motor vehicle sales dropped by 6.6% in the year to December 2018, which was a much steeper drop than the 0.1% in the previous 12 months.
- There has been a long-term decline in the number of serious motor vehicle crashes in NSW. The number of crashes involving casualties in 2017 (around 16,800) was 26% lower than in 2007.

<sup>1</sup> The methodology underpinning this research is outlined at [Skill Shortage Research Methodology | Department of Jobs and Small Business](#). Additional Data Sources: NCVER, Apprentices and Trainees, June 2018, estimates; Department of Home Affairs, Temporary Work (Skilled) Visas Granted; ABS, 8165.0 Counts of Australian Businesses, including Entries and Exits, June 2014 to June 2018; ABS, 9309.0 Motor Vehicle Census Australia, January 2018; ABS, 9314.0 Sales of New Motor Vehicles, Australia, December 2018, original data; Federal Chamber of Automotive Industries, media releases, various issues; NSW Centre for Road Safety, Annual statistical statements for road traffic casualty crashes in New South Wales, 2017.