

Vehicle Painter ANZSCO 3243

Northern Territory
December 2018

Current labour market rating: Shortage

Vehicle Painters have been in shortage since 2011. Employers continue experience difficulties in finding qualified candidates for this occupation.

Key research findings

- The Department of Jobs and Small Business surveyed employers who had recently advertised for vehicle painters. This survey was supplemented through cold calling employers in this industry.
- There were few vacancies advertised during the survey period.
- Although employers attracted on average 4.3 applicants per vacancy, few applicants were qualified (17 per cent) resulting in few vacancies being filled (14 per cent).
- Most of the employers surveyed received applications from unqualified applicants.
- Employers noted the length of time and costs of recruitment with some employers indicating either their intent to recruit internationally or an interest in considering suitably qualified Visa applicants.
- Location was also a limiting factor in recruiting for this occupation.

Demand and supply

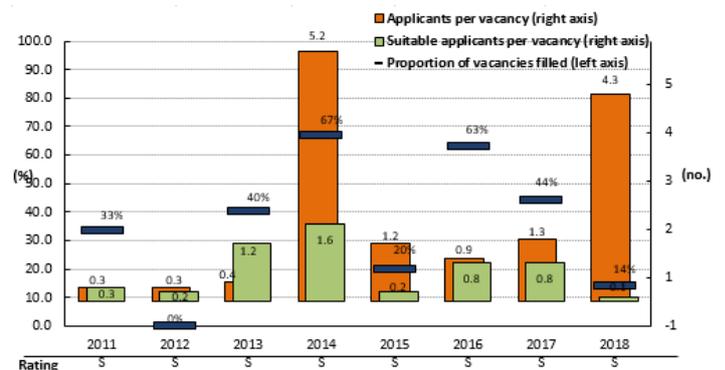
- The motor vehicle body, paint and repairs industry includes businesses that engage in repairing, panel beating or spray painting damaged vehicles.
- 69 per cent of vehicle painters are employed in the other services industry, with 57 per cent employed in the automotive body, paint and interior repairs sector.
- In 2017 there were an estimated 160,252 vehicles registered in the Northern Territory.
- Entry into this trade is commonly through the completion of an apprenticeship in Certificate III in Automotive Refinishing Technology.
- The number of apprentices commencing into the auto repair trades (excluding mechanics) has fluctuated over the last 10 years and although low numbers there has still been on average around 13 new apprenticeships each year for the last five years.
- Completion rates in the auto repairs trades have decreased over the 12 months from 2016-2017 with very few apprentices completing their apprenticeship in 2018.

- Internet vacancies for Vehicle Painters in the NT have not been recorded over the last five years. This highlights that employers in the industry don't tend to advertise vacancies online.

2018 Survey Results¹



Figure 1: Survey results, Vehicle Painter, 2011 to 2018



Source: Department of Jobs and Small Business Survey of Employers who have recently advertised.

Key to ratings: S = Shortage

¹ The methodology underpinning this research is outlined at [Skill Shortage Research Methodology | Department of Jobs and Small Business](#). Additional Data Sources: Motor Vehicle Census, Australia, 31 January 2018 Cat 9309.ONCVER, Apprentices and Trainees, June 2018, estimates, Occupation 324 Panelbeaters, Vehicle Body Builders, Trimmers and Painters (limited to Certificate III); ABS Labour Force data STATE Occupation - August 2018; Department of Jobs and Small Business, Internet Vacancy Index, November 2018, 12 month moving average