



Carpenters and Joiners ANZSCO 3312

Western Australia
September 2018

Current labour market rating: No Shortage

Surveyed employers across the metropolitan and regional areas filled all their vacancies, having little difficulty attracting suitably qualified and experienced applicants.

Key research findings

- All surveyed employers filled their vacancies, with a majority of employers advising they experienced minimal problems sourcing suitable applicants.
- Employers in the metropolitan area attracted an average of 18.5 applicants and 3.3 suitable applicants per vacancy. Those with vacancies in regional areas attracted an average of 22.0 applicants and an average of 2.5 suitable applicants per vacancy.
- Employers required applicants to be fully qualified in the trade and hold prior experience relevant to the role. Additionally, applicants needed an ABN, their own tools, reliable transport and a police clearance.
 - A White Card, Working at Heights, bobcat and excavator licences were also frequently required.
- Employers in regional areas attracted more qualified applicants than metropolitan employers (85 per cent compared to 39 per cent) and found a higher proportion applicants unsuitable (88 per cent compared to 63 per cent).
 - Both metropolitan and regional employers most often deemed applicants unsuitable due to a lack of specialist experience, such as experience in mining (particularly underground mining), or on large construction projects.
 - Regional employers also required applicants to be able to work in challenging conditions and in extreme temperatures, as well as live in a regional area (most employers were not offering Fly in Fly out arrangements). Those who could not meet these requirements were deemed unsuitable.

Demand and supply

- Demand for Carpenters and Joiners is primarily driven by activity in construction.
 - The number of building approvals have trended down since 2014, and declined by 12 per cent over the year to August 2018. Total building commencements have also declined since late 2014, and fallen nine percent over the year to June 2018.

2018 Survey Results¹



100%
of vacancies filled



20.8
Applicants per vacancy

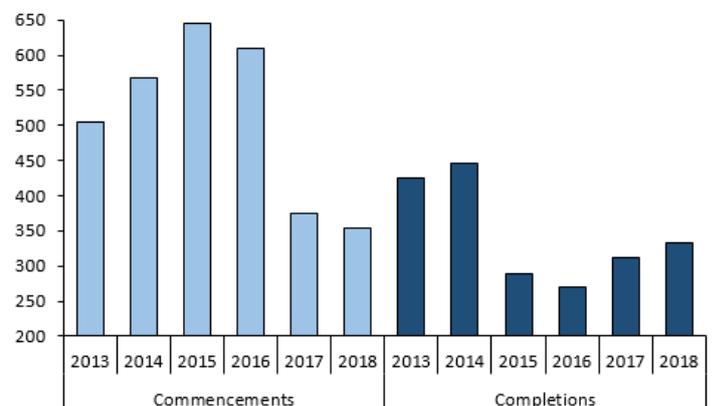


14.4
Qualified applicants per vacancy



2.8
Suitable applicants per vacancy

- Employers seeking Cabinetmakers advised that a considerable proportion of applicants to their vacancies were qualified Carpenters and Joiners. These applicants were not considered suitable.
- Vacancies for this occupation reached a series high in 2015 before falling into a steep decline over the following two years. Despite an upward trend in numbers since the start of the year, data at August 2018 show vacancies remain 37 per cent below the 2015 series high.
- The Housing Industry Quarterly report for December 2018 indicated Perth was the only jurisdiction where a surplus of trades was identified during the December 2018 quarter, continuing the run to 13 consecutive quarters in surplus.
- Entry into this trade is via an apprenticeship, through which a Certificate III in Carpentry and Joinery is obtained.



¹ The methodology underpinning this research is outlined at [Skill Shortage Research Methodology | Department of Jobs and Small Business](#). Additional Data Sources: ABS 8731, ABS 8352, Department of Jobs and Small Business, Internet Vacancy Index, August 2018, <https://hia.com.au/business-information/economic-information/economic-publications>; NCVET, Apprentices and Trainees, March 2018, estimates.