

Carpenters and Joiners

ANZSCO 3312

Australian Capital Territory

August 2018

Current labour market rating: Shortage

Building activity in the ACT has been strong in recent years, supporting the demand for carpenters and joiners. Apprenticeship completions for these occupations, however, have been subdued, limiting the supply to this labour market.

Key research findings

- This labour market has tightened significantly since 2013, with applicant numbers and the proportion of vacancies filled falling to record lows in 2018 (Figure 1).
- Surveyed employers sought qualified and skilled tradespeople displaying consistent quality of work, attention to detail and a strong work ethic.
- Employers cited a lack of qualified applicants in the local labour market as the main reason for their unfilled vacancies.
- Those employers who did attract qualified applicants often considered them to be unsuitable due to their poor skill level or because they lacked the specific skill set required for the vacancy (such as renovation work).

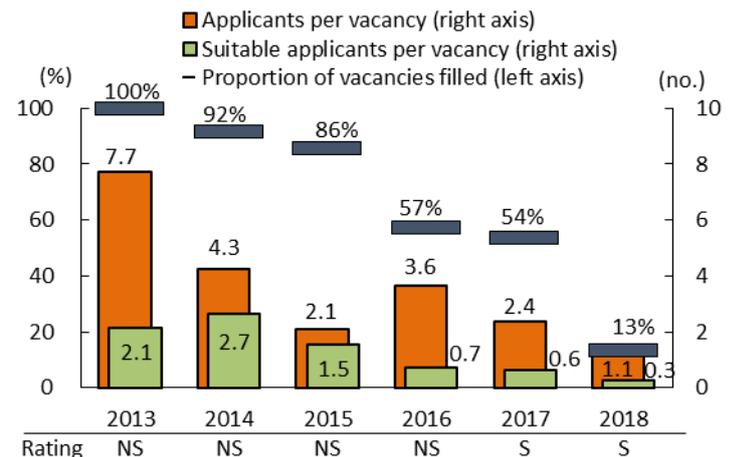
Demand and supply trends

- Building construction activity has strengthened in the ACT over the past three years (up by more than 20 per cent), supporting the demand for carpenters and joiners.
- The number of carpenters and joiners completing apprenticeships in the ACT has been relatively low in recent years (Figure 2), limiting the new supply to this labour market. Commencements, though, have risen strongly in recent years, which is likely to lead to increased supply over the next few years.
- There is a solid pipeline of building work in the ACT, which will support the demand for carpenters and joiners in the near term.
 - Building approvals have risen strongly over the past year to an historically high level.

2018 Survey Results¹

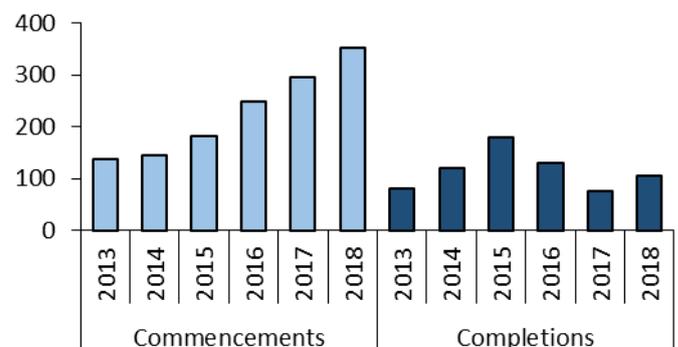


Figure 1: Survey results, Carpenters and Joiners, ACT, 2013 to 2018



Key to ratings: S = Shortage; NS = No shortage

Figure 2: Apprenticeship and traineeship commencements and completions, Carpenters and Joiners, ACT, 2013 to 2018 (year to March)



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

Research in 2018 did not identify any advertised vacancies for joiners and results do not include data for this occupation.

Additional Data Sources: ABS, Building Activity, Australia, June 2018, chain volume measures, trend; ABS, Building approvals, Australia, August 2018, trend; NCVER, Apprentices and Trainees, March 2018, estimates (limited to certificate III qualifications)