

# Carpenters and Joiners

## ANZSCO 3312

Victoria  
July 2018

### Current labour market rating: Shortage

This is the fourth consecutive year that a shortage of carpenters and joiners has been identified in Victoria.

### Key research findings

- Employers filled 39 per cent of vacancies from averages of 5.1 applicants, 2.1 qualified applicants and 0.7 suitable applicant per vacancy.
- Regional employers filled 43 per cent of their vacancies from averages of 1.0 suitable applicants per vacancy, while Metropolitan employers filled 36 per cent of their vacancies from averages of 0.5 suitable applicants per vacancy.
- Employers sought workers with relevant trade qualifications and proven ability to undertake a range of carpentry activities within building and construction, residential and commercial industries.
  - More than half of employers sought to fill lead hand or other vacancies requiring specialised construction or woodwork ability. Employers indicated a preference of three to ten years industry experience for these roles.
- Less than half of all applicants held the necessary trade qualification and employers considered more than 60 per cent of them unsuitable.
- Many qualified applicants were considered unsuitable due to lack of experience in the required range of tasks.
  - Applicants who did not complete work trials or who lived outside the job site locality were also unsuitable.
- Almost all employers had to run multiple rounds of advertising for their vacancies and generally experienced challenging recruitment conditions.

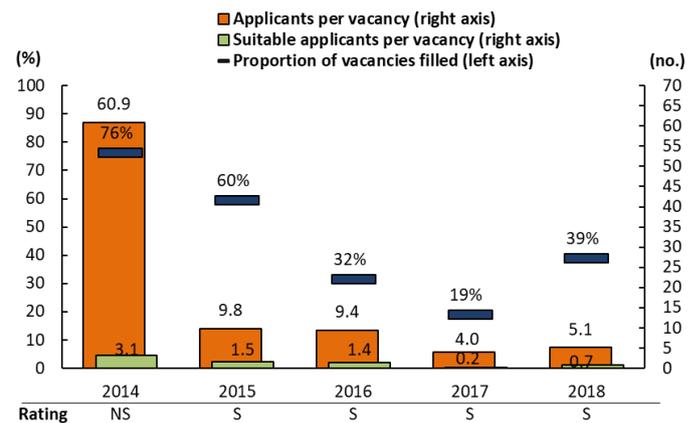
### Demand and supply

- Overall, the construction industry has mixed demand indicators against a decreasing supply trend of carpenters and joiners.
- Demand for carpenters and joiners is mainly driven by trends within the construction industry.
  - There were 4893 dwelling units approved in August 2018, below the monthly average of 6188 over the past year and below the average of 5513 approved per month since July 2013.

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



Figure 1: Survey results, Carpenters and joiners, 2014 to 2018



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

- There were housing finance commitments undertaken in July 2018 for the construction of 1972 dwellings. This is above the monthly averages of 1839 dwellings over the last year and 1636 dwellings over the last five years.
- Entry into the trade is usually through the completion of a recognised apprenticeship, typically a Certificate III in Carpentry and Joinery.
  - Over the four quarters to March 2018 the number of commencements were 3468, above the five-year annual average of 2954. Completions over the same period decreased to 1456, below the five-year annual average of 1672.

<sup>1</sup> The methodology underpinning this research is outlined at [Skill Shortage Research Methodology | Department of Jobs and Small Business](#). Additional Data Sources: Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS), Building Approvals, Australia, Table 31 Value of Building Approved - Victoria, August 2018; Department of Jobs and Small Business, Internet Vacancy Index, August 2018, 12 month moving average; NCVET, Apprentices and Trainees, March 2018, estimates (limited to certificate III).