



Painting Trades Workers ANZSCO 3322-11

Western Australia September 2018

Current labour market rating: No Shortage

A majority of surveyed employers filled their vacancies, attracting (on average) multiple suitable applicants.

Key research findings

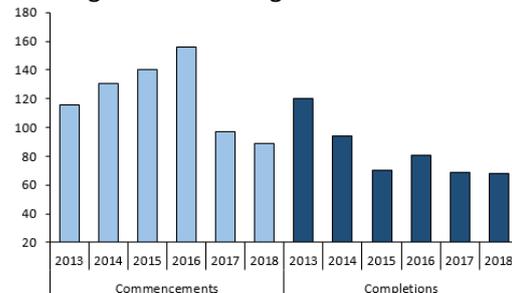
- Employers filled a majority of their vacancies, and on average attracted multiple suitable applicants.
- Many employers, (especially those in regional areas) reported lower levels of demand for painting services.
 - Employers advised that reduced demand for services has made it easier to source qualified and suitable applicants when they have been required.
- Surveyed employers sought applicants for roles on a range of projects, including maintenance work on commercial spaces, and residential renovation and restoration projects.
 - Employers who sought applicants skilled in wallpapering noted that experienced applicants were not plentiful, as most painters do not regularly perform this task.
- Employers consistently emphasised the need for applicants with the ability to produce a high standard of workmanship at speed, take direction from supervisors, demonstrate initiative and work effectively in a team environment.
 - It was also a standard requirement for applicants to have their own vehicle and tools, an ABN and hold an Elevated Work Platform licence and Working at Heights ticket.
- Seventy-two per cent of vacancies required a formal qualification, however less than half of all applicants were trade qualified.
- Employers cited a lack of a trade qualification and a lack of experience in the trade as the two main reasons they deemed applicants as unsuitable.
 - Applicants who were felt to live too great a distance from a vacancy, or who were not willing to relocate (a requirement specific for many regional vacancies) were also deemed unsuitable, as were those who failed a work trial due to poor attendance or under-performance.

2018 Survey Results¹



Demand and supply

- Demand for this trade 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 declined since late 2014, and fell nine percent over the year to June 2018.
- Online vacancies for painting trades workers hit a series high at August 2018, having risen 15 per cent over the year.
 - 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.
- Census data show there are around 4,600 painting trades workers in Western Australia. Of these, 67 per cent hold a relevant trade qualification, while 27 per cent hold no post school qualification.
- The supply of qualified tradespersons to this occupation is via an apprenticeship, through which a Certificate III in Painting and Decorating 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; Dept of Jobs and Small Business, Internet Vacancy Index December 2018; <https://hia.com.au/business-information/economic-information/economic-publications>; Census 2016; NCVER, Apprentices and Trainees, March 2018, estimates.