

Painting Trades Worker

ANZSCO 3322-11

Victoria
August 2018

Current labour market rating: No shortage

This is the first time no shortage has been identified for Victorian painting trades workers in four years, noting that a metropolitan only shortage was identified last year.

Key research findings

- Employers filled 64 per cent of their vacancies from an average of 1.0 suitable applicants per vacancy.
 - This result is an improvement on the previous year's five-year low fill rate (see Figure 1).
- Metropolitan employers filled a similar proportion of vacancies as regional employers but received double the average number of suitable applicants per vacancy (1.2 and 0.6 respectively).
- Employers were surveyed across both residential and commercial sectors. The majority of these involved all aspects of painting work including brush, roller, spray painting, wallpaper and heritage restoration work.
- Sixty seven per cent of qualified candidates were regarded as unsuitable because they lacked the required experience and technical skills.
 - Other reasons included poor communication skills and inconsistent work history.
- Most employers sought experienced applicants.
 - Forty per cent of employers sought applicants with one to four years of painting experience.
 - Another 40 per cent sought applicants with five to ten years of experience.

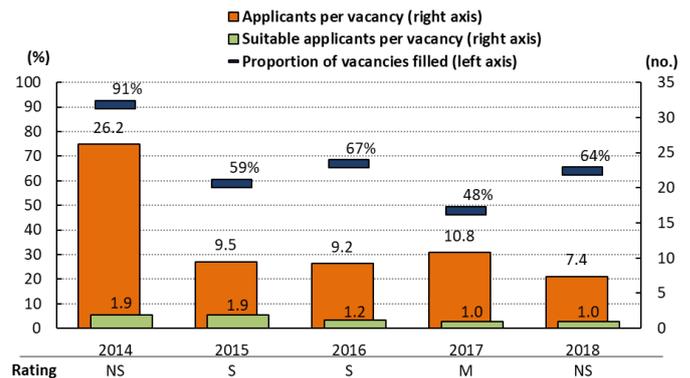
Demand and supply

- Demand for painting trades workers is 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.
- 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.
- An apprenticeship, including a completion of a Certificate III qualification, is the main pathway into this trade.

2018 Survey Results¹



Figure 1: Survey results, Painting Trades Worker, 2014 to 2018



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

- Over the four quarters to March 2018 the number of commencements were 225, slightly below the five-year annual average of 242. Completions decreased by 22 per cent over the same period, also below the five-year annual average of 127.
- Some employers noted difficulty in attracting apprentices and were concerned about the future supply of painting trades workers.
- Overall, the construction industry has mixed demand indicators against a decreasing supply trend of painting trades workers.

¹ 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), Census of Population and Housing, 2016; NCVER, Apprentices and Trainees, March 2018, estimates (limited to certificate III); ABS, Cat. No. 8731.0, Building Approvals, Australia, Table 23 Dwelling Units Approved in New Residential Buildings, Number and Value, - Original - Victoria, August 2018; ABS, Cat. No. 5609.0 Housing Finance, Australia, Table 10a, Housing Finance Commitments (Owner Occupation), by Purpose: State, Original, July 2018