

Chef

ANZSCO 3513-11

Queensland
September 2018

Current labour market rating: No shortage

Labour market conditions for chefs have eased considerably in Queensland, with the vast majority of employers surveyed filling their vacancies and attracting large numbers of suitable applicants.

Key research findings

- There was a marked improvement in the recruitment experiences of regional employers in 2018, with around 90 per cent of surveyed vacancies filled (compared with 30 per cent in 2017).
- On average, employers considered 5.3 applicants to be suitable, which is the highest proportion recorded over the last decade.
- All surveyed employers received suitable applicants for their vacancies. A small proportion of employers were unable to fill their vacancies as they could not agree on remuneration.
- The most common reason for unsuitability amongst applicants was a lack of qualifications (with around 70 per cent lacking this requirement).
- Other reasons included a lack of required experience (whether it be length of experience or cuisine specialisation) or a poor job application or career history (for example, applicants who had frequently changed employers were generally considered to be unreliable).

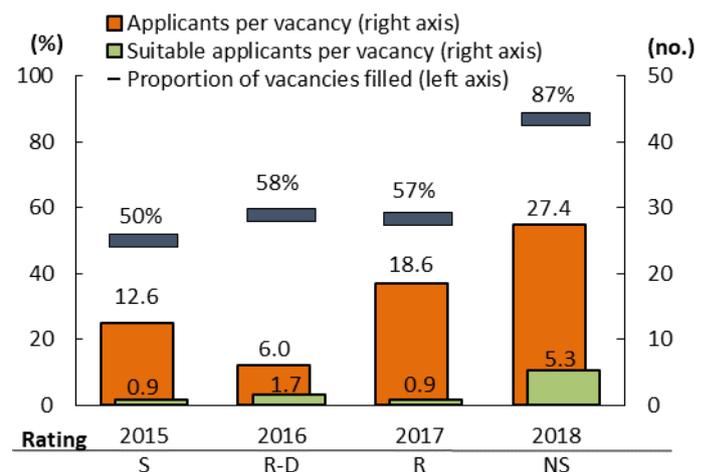
Demand and supply trends

- Turnover in the cafés, restaurants and catering services sector has steadily decreased since the decade peak recorded in March 2015. This may reduce the demand for chefs.
 - Over the year to September 2018, retail turnover decreased by 4.8 per cent.
- That said, demand for chefs in QLD remains steady as internet vacancies increased by around 10 per cent over the year to September 2018 and labour force survey data indicate an employment increase of 1.0 per cent over a similar period.

2018 Survey Results¹



Figure 1: Survey results, Chef, 2015 to 2018



Key to ratings: S = Shortage; R-D = Regional recruitment difficulty, R = Regional shortage, NS = No shortage.

- Entry into this occupation is usually through the completion of an apprenticeship at the Certificate III or IV level in Commercial Cookery or similar.
 - The number of commencements have steadily decreased since 2014-15, with around 960 commencements in 2017-18.
 - Completions have fluctuated over the same time period and currently sit at around 500 completions in 2017-18.

¹ The methodology underpinning this research is outlined at [Skill Shortage Research Methodology | Department of Jobs and Small Business](#). Additional Data Sources: ABS, Labour Force, Australia, December 2018, trend; ABS, Retail Trade, December 2018, trend; Department of Jobs and Small Business, Internet Vacancy Index, December 2018, 12 month moving average; NCVET, Apprentices and Trainees, June 2018, estimates (Certificate III and IV).