

Cabinetmaker

ANZSCO 3941-11

Victoria
August 2018

Current labour market rating: Shortage

This is the fifth consecutive year a shortage of cabinetmakers has been evident in Victoria.

Key research findings

- Employers filled 15 per cent of vacancies from averages of 4.2 applicants, 0.9 qualified applicants and 0.2 suitable applicant per vacancy.
 - There was a 20 per cent fill rate in metropolitan areas. Vacancies in regional areas remained unfilled.
- Survey results have continued trend down and the fill rates for 2018 and are the lowest in five years.
- The majority of unfilled vacancies is due to a lack of suitable applicants.
 - Some vacancies remained unfilled because remuneration levels could not be agreed.
 - Where there were no suitable qualified applicants, a small number of employers agreed to take on apprentices.
- Employers sought trade qualified and experienced cabinetmakers for a range of domestic renovations and installations, commercial fit outs, and furniture builds.
 - Employers wanted applicants with proven manufacturing, joinery and woodworking ability.
 - Employers required a minimum of two to six years of relevant experience providing customised or high-end renovation, as well as niche furniture builds.
- Twenty two per cent of all applicants held the necessary trade qualification and of these, employers considered 75 per cent unsuitable.
 - Applicants who did not demonstrate required skill levels for any particular vacancy were unsuitable.
- In seeking to fill vacancies, almost all employers indicated the need for multiple rounds of advertising due to challenging recruitment conditions.

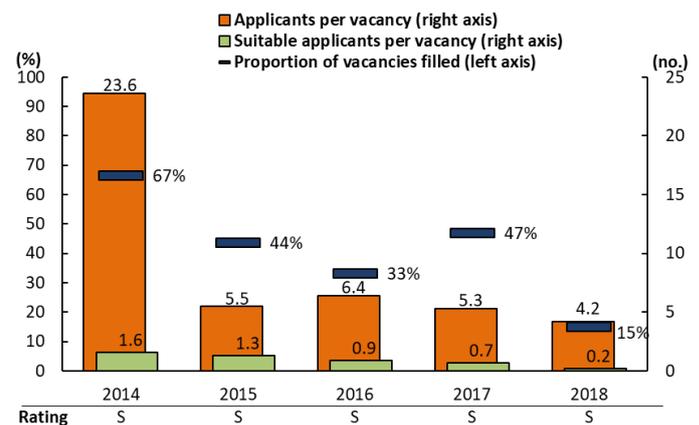
Demand and supply

- Demand for cabinetmakers 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 Results¹



Figure 1: Survey results, Cabinetmaker 2014 to 2018



Key to ratings: S = 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 Cabinetmaking.
 - Over the four quarters to March 2018 the number of commencements were 506, slightly below the five-year annual average of 552. Completions over the same period increased to 233, above the five-year annual average of 214.
- Indicators suggest that while demand for cabinetmakers is likely to continue to increase it is unlikely to be met by supply in the foreseeable future.

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), 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).