



Are you looking for a job in Australia?

The Australian Labour Market Update provides information on the Australian labour market on a quarterly basis. It is intended to help people who may be interested in working in Australia on a temporary or permanent basis.

Further information on job prospects, earnings and related information is available at www.joboutlook.gov.au.

Unless otherwise stated, data are from the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) Labour Force Survey, May 2010.

EMPLOYMENT

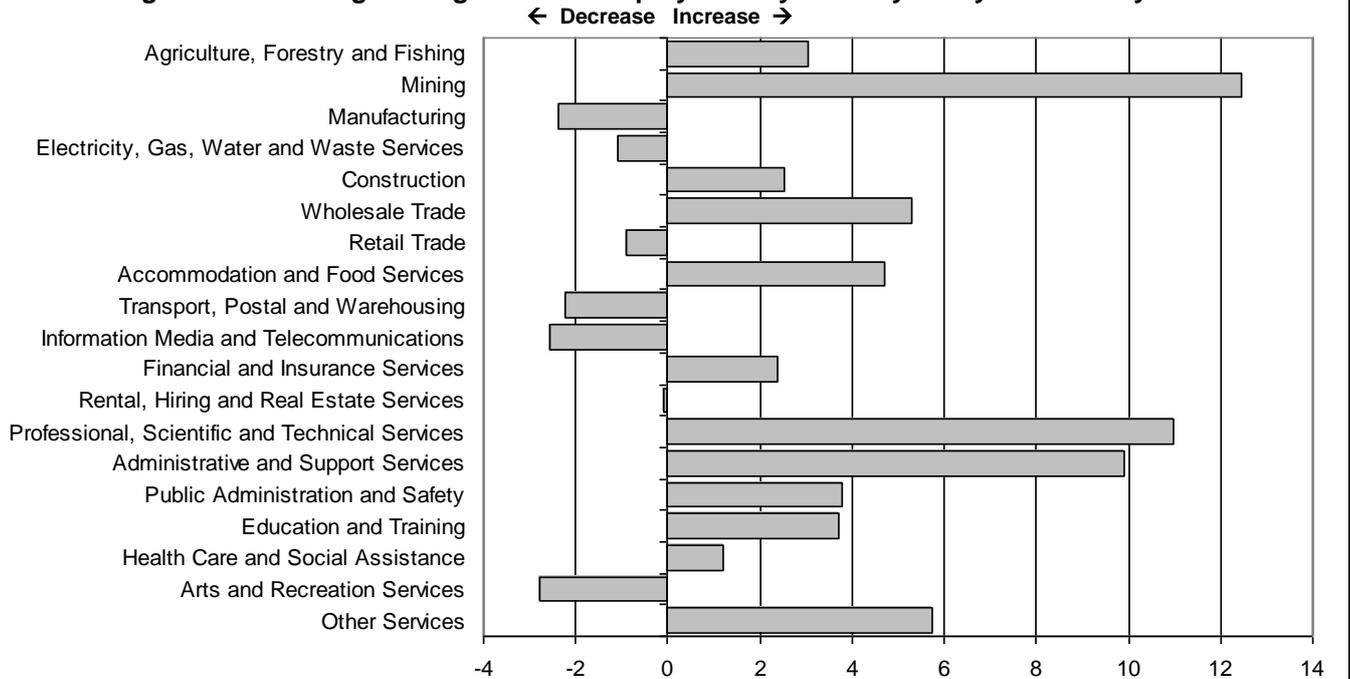
Over the year to May 2010, trend employment increased by 271 700 (or 2.5 per cent). The pace of trend employment growth has now been positive since June 2009, and is currently growing at an average rate of 18 400 jobs per month as at May 2010 although this has slowed somewhat over recent months, from its average rate of 35 000 jobs per month in November 2009.

The outlook is for a continued expansion in employment in the period ahead, with a very gradual downward trend in the unemployment rate, particularly given average hours worked remain well below the mid-2008 peak and noting the positive impact of solid employment growth on the unemployment rate is likely to be tempered by stronger labour force growth over the coming year.

Over the 12 months to May 2010, employment (in trend terms) increased in all States and Territories. In percentage terms, employment growth was strongest in Victoria (4.1%) and the Australian Capital Territory (3.8%).

Employment opportunities and growth varied across industries. Over the 12 months to May 2010, the largest increases in trend employment occurred in Professional, Scientific and Technical Services (up 84 400), Administrative and Support Services (up 34 300), Accommodation and Food Services (up 33 900) and Education and Training (up 29 600). The strongest rates of employment growth were in Mining (12.4%), Professional, Scientific and Technical Services (11.0%) and Administrative and Support Services (9.9%). Employment growth rates by industry are shown in Figure 1.

Figure 1: Percentage change in trend employment by industry – May 2009 to May 2010



Source: ABS, Labour Force, Australia, Detailed, Quarterly, May 2010, ABS Cat. No. 6291.0.55.003.

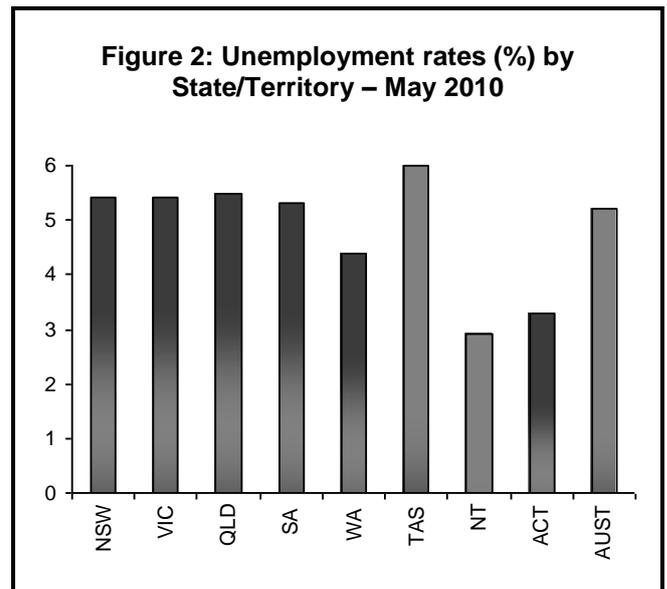
UNEMPLOYMENT

The trend rate of unemployment was 5.2% in May 2010, compared with 5.7% in May 2009.

In the past year, trend unemployment rates decreased across all States and Territories except for Tasmania (up 1.0%) and Queensland (up 0.2%) where they increased slightly.

In May 2010, the trend unemployment rate was highest in Tasmania (6.0%) and Queensland (5.5%) and lowest in the Northern Territory (2.9%). See Figure 2.

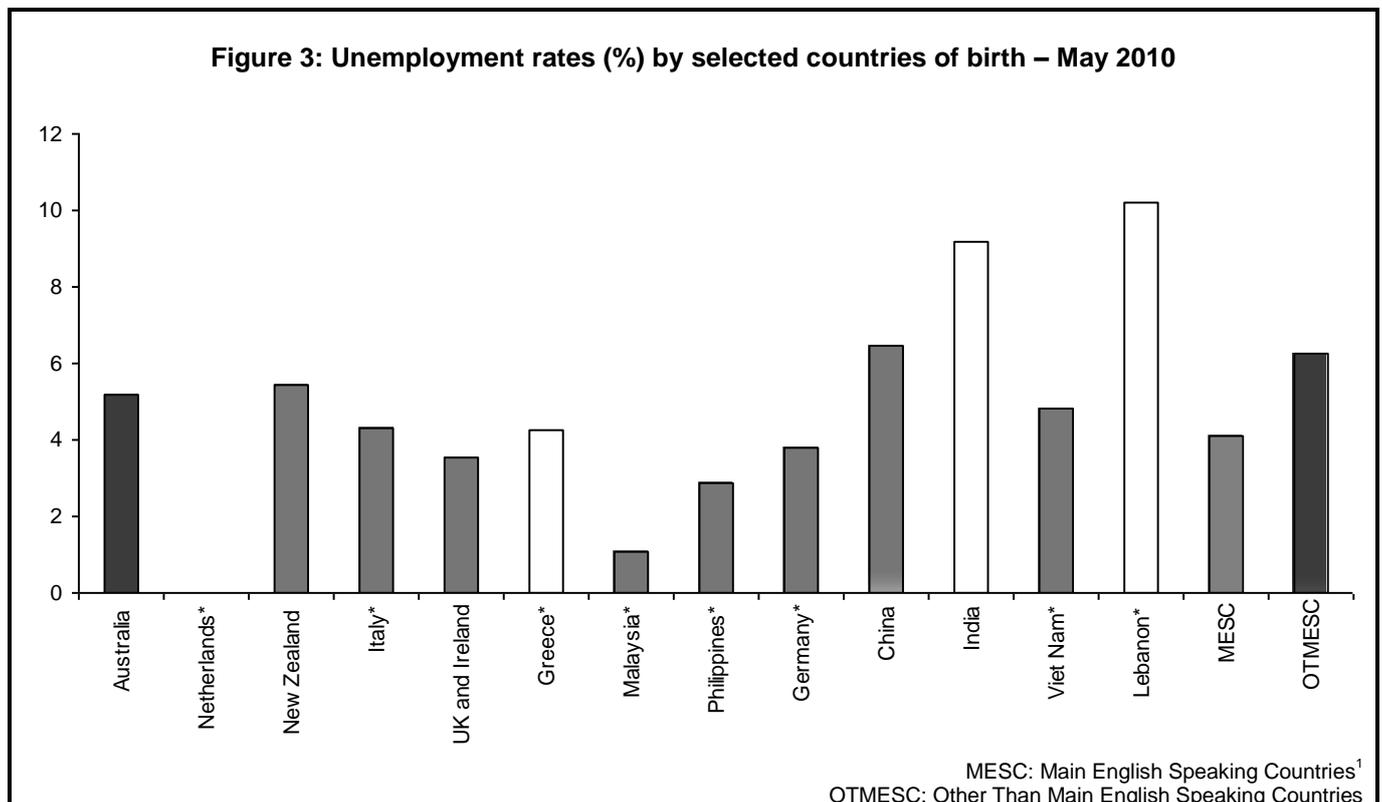
Generally, people in the more highly-skilled occupational groups are less likely to experience unemployment. For example, in May 2010 the unemployment rate for those who were formerly employed as Labourers was about four times that of former Professionals.



MIGRANT UNEMPLOYMENT

The unemployment rates for people who migrate to Australia vary appreciably. Several factors influence migrant unemployment rates including the period since arrival in Australia (data consistently show recently-arrived migrants have a higher unemployment rate than those who have lived in Australia for some years), skill level, age, English proficiency, and recent and relevant work experience.

Figure 3 below shows unemployment rates (original data) for people resident in Australia who were born in selected overseas countries. For example, people born in Malaysia and the Philippines have low unemployment rates (1.1% and 2.9% respectively), while unemployment rates for people born in Lebanon and India are relatively high (10.2% and 9.2% respectively).



* Estimate is subject to high sampling variability.

¹ MESC are the United Kingdom, Republic of Ireland, South Africa, Canada, the United States of America and New Zealand.

EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT BY OCCUPATION

While employment growth is not the only factor influencing job prospects, it is often easier to obtain a job in an occupation which is experiencing strong employment growth than one growing only slowly or declining. Over the 12 months to May 2010, the largest increases in employment (original data) occurred for Professionals (up 161 100), Managers (up 91 900), and Sales Workers (up 30 700). Employment growth rates, in declining skill order, are shown below.

The unemployment rate for occupational groups generally reflects skill levels. Highly skilled occupational groups experience lower rates of unemployment, while higher unemployment rates are generally associated with less-skilled occupations. The unemployment rates (for those who had worked for two weeks or more in the past two years) by occupational group are presented in descending skill order below.

Percentage Growth Rates in Employment in the 12 months to May 2010		Unemployment Rate at May 2010	
Managers	6.5%	Managers	1.6%
Professionals	7.3%	Professionals	1.8%
Technicians and Trades Workers	0.0%	Technicians and Trades Workers	3.1%
Community and Personal Service Workers	-1.2%	Community and Personal Service Workers	3.5%
Clerical and Administrative Workers	-2.2%	Clerical and Administrative Workers	3.0%
Sales Workers	3.0%	Sales Workers	4.9%
Machinery Operators and Drivers	3.8%	Machinery Operators and Drivers	5.2%
Labourers	1.5%	Labourers	7.7%

Additional information on Professional and Trade occupations is provided in the following section on skilled and internet vacancies.

SKILLED AND INTERNET VACANCIES²

The Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR) produces the *Skilled Vacancies Index (SVI)* for 18 skilled occupational groups for each State and the Northern Territory. These are aggregated into Professional, Associate Professional and Trade groups (see Figure 4 overleaf). The SVI shows where the best employment opportunities may be in the Australian labour market.

In May 2010, skilled vacancies were 24.4% higher than in May 2009. Over the 12 months to May 2009, the largest SVI increases were recorded in Western Australia (up 78.2%) and New South Wales (up 44.0%). The only decrease was recorded in Queensland (down 37.2%).

In the 12 months to May 2010 advertised vacancies decreased for Professional occupations (down 18.8%) and increased for Trade Occupations (up 53.8%). Within these broad groups, the majority of occupations recorded an increase in skilled vacancies. The most significant increases were for Metal Trades (up 117.8%), Construction Trades (up 113.4%), and Wood Trades (up 63.5%). The most notable decreases were for Health Professionals (down 42.4%), Hairdressers (down 30.8%) and Social Workers (down 30.1%).

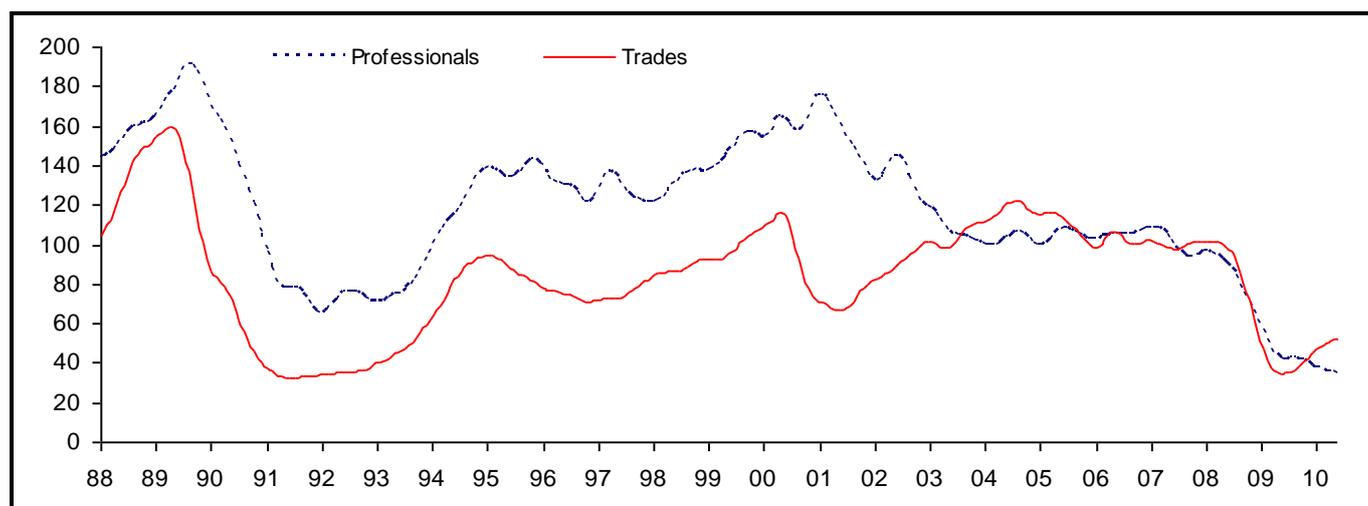
DEEWR also produces the *Internet Vacancies Index (IVI)* based on vacancies lodged on four recruitment websites for 48 occupational clusters across all skill levels and for the eight States and Territories (States).

In May 2010, internet vacancies were 10.5% higher than in May 2009. Over the 12 months, IVI increases were recorded in all States, except for Tasmania (down 3.5%) and Queensland (down 0.8%). The most significant IVI increases were in Western Australia (up 30.3%), New South Wales (up 13.2%) and Victoria (up 12.2%).

In the 12 months to May 2010, internet vacancies increased for 32 of the 48 occupational clusters. The most notable increases were for Office Managers, Administrators and Secretaries (up 53.1%), Automotive and Engineering Trades (up 39.6%), and Construction Trades (up 32.8%). The most notable decreases were for Farm, Forestry and Garden Workers (down 27.8%) and Cleaners and Laundry Workers (down 19.1%).

² Historical series of trend figures for SVI are revised monthly; the IVI is based on a three month moving average. SVI occupational groups are based on the Australian Standard Classification of Occupations (ASCO), Second Edition (ABS Cat. No. 1220.0) while IVI vacancies are coded to the Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations (ANZSCO), First Edition (ABS Cat. No. 1220.0).

Figure 4: Skilled Vacancies Index, January 1988 to May 2010



Source: Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations, SVI Seasonally Adjusted and Trended Data (July 2010), www.skillsinfo.gov.au/skills/LMI/VacancyReport.

FUTURE JOB PROSPECTS

Future job prospects depend on many factors, some of which are difficult to predict. Prospects differ between and within States and can change rapidly. Even in occupations with below average prospects, employment opportunities may arise. This information should therefore be used with caution.

The following future job prospect ratings are for the period to 2014-15 and are based on employment trends, projected growth, unemployment rates, SVI trends (where available), and other data. In the following table G stands for good prospects, A for average prospects and BA for below average prospects; L (not in the table) stands for limited prospects.³

Occupational Group	Prospects to 2014-15	Occupational Group	Prospects to 2014-15
Managers		Social Workers	G
Child Care Centre Managers	G	Technicians and Trades Workers	
Professionals		Bakers and Pastrycooks	A
Civil Engineering Professionals	G	Cabinetmakers	A
Computer Network Professionals	G	Civil Engineering Draftspersons and Technicians	G
Dental Practitioners	G	Clothing Trades Workers	BA
Generalist Medical Practitioners	G	Electrical Engineering Draftspersons and Technicians	G
Industrial, Mechanical and Production Engineers	A	Electricians	G
Medical Imaging Professionals	G	Mechanical Engineering Draftspersons and Technicians	BA
Midwives	G	Metal Casting, Forging and Finishing Trades Workers	A
Occupational Therapists	G	Panelbeaters	A
Pharmacists	G	Printers	A
Physiotherapists	G	Wood Machinists and Other Wood Trades Workers	A
Primary School Teachers	G	Community and Personal Service Workers	
Registered Nurses	G	Dental Hygienists, Technicians and Therapists	G
Secondary School Teachers	G	Enrolled and Mothercraft Nurses	G

The Australian Labour Market Update uses the latest available detailed and consistent data at time of production. However, the labour market can change quickly and should be re-assessed prior to making a decision to lodge a visa application. Queries relating to this publication should be emailed to migration@deewr.gov.au.

³ Job prospect ratings are based on the Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations (ANZSCO), First Edition (ABS Cat. No.1220.0).



CHILD CARE CENTRE MANAGER

In the Australian labour market, child care centre managers plan, organise, direct, control and coordinate the activities of child care centres and services including physical and human resources.

LABOUR MARKET PROFILE OF CHILD CARE CENTRE MANAGERS

Australian Bureau of Statistics data show employment of this small occupation of child care centre managers has varied in recent years. Slight employment growth is expected for the next five years with most child care centre managers employed in the Health Care and Social Assistance, and Education and Training industries. **Table A** provides a labour market profile for child care centre managers based on information from *Job Outlook Online* data (see www.joboutlook.gov.au).

Table A: Child Care Centre Manager – Key Labour Market Indicators

Key Indicator	Child Care Centre Managers	All Occupations
Occupation size	11 000	11 044 600 ⁴
Females	97%	46%
Males	3%	54%
Median age	40 years	39 years
Full-time share of employment	79.8%	70.5%
Average weekly hours (full-time)	39.0	41.3
Weekly earnings (full-time & before tax)	\$1 000	\$1 000
Vacancy level (internet)	Moderate	not available
Employment growth over 5 years (to May 2010)	69.4%	10.6%
Future employment growth (to 2014-15)	Slight Growth	not available
Job Prospects	Good	not available

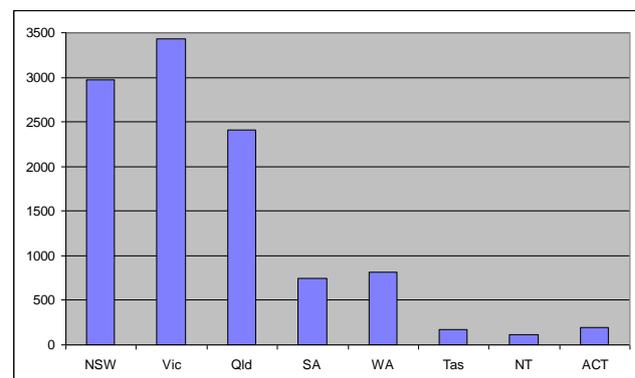
REGIONAL EMPLOYMENT

Child care centre managers are employed across all States and Territories.

For the three quarters to May 2010 (average), the majority of child care centre managers were employed in Victoria (3 430), New South Wales (2 970), Queensland (2 410) and Western Australia (812). See Figure 1.

Demand for child care centre managers is steady across all States and Territories of Australia. Metropolitan vacancies are generally more easily filled than those in regional Australia.

Figure 1: Number of Child Care Centre Managers Employed by State/Territory – to May 2010⁵



Source: ABS Labour Force Survey (original data)

⁴ ABS trended data (May 2010) from *Labour Force, Australia, May 2010* (ABS Cat. No. 6202.0).

⁵ Data for South Australia and Northern Territory only reflect the two most recent quarters.

SKILLS ASSESSMENT FOR OVERSEAS-QUALIFIED CHILD CARE CENTRE MANAGERS

One of the threshold criteria for permanent entry to Australia as a primary applicant in the General Skilled Migration (GSM) categories is the assessment of an applicant's skills (qualifications and work experience) by the relevant Australian assessing authority appointed for an occupation on the Skilled Occupation List⁶. Assessing authorities have been appointed by the Australian Government to undertake assessments of whether an applicant has skills appropriate to employment in their nominated profession, associate profession or trade occupation in Australia. These assessing authorities are not employment agencies and are not in a position to directly assist migrants or visa applicants to find jobs in Australia.

Trades Recognition Australia (TRA) is the appointed Australian assessing authority for overseas-qualified child care centre managers. Overseas-qualified child care centre managers are eligible to apply for a TRA Assessment if they have successfully completed:

- a two year accredited post secondary course in child care (diploma or advanced diploma) or a three year accredited tertiary course in early childhood care or education;
- three years supervisory experience that reflects the responsibilities, duties and tasks of a child care centre manager. This must be obtained in an environment of substantial size and reputation and subject to a regulatory framework, and gained after the accredited course referred to above is completed;
- 12 months paid full-time employment as a child care centre manager within the 24 months prior to lodging an application; and
- proficiency in English language literacy and numeracy with an International English Language Testing System (IELTS) score of at least six in all four components.

TRA will consider academic subjects and competencies against the Australian Diploma in Children's Services and relevant employment in the occupation. Applicants should note:

- this is the minimum qualification required and employers and State/Territory licensing requirements for child care providers may prescribe a higher qualification standard. Information on licensing is available at www.ncac.gov.au/links/state_licensing_index.asp;
- where there they meet the assessment criteria, TRA will issue an outcome statement which identifies them to the Department of Immigration and Citizenship (DIAC) as having a successful skills assessment;
- information on the TRA migration skills assessment process for child care centre managers is at www.deewr.gov.au/Skills/Programs/SkillsAssess/TRA/residenceVisa/Documents/AssessmentCriteria.pdf; and
- a new National Quality Standard for early childhood education and care services will come into effect from 1 January 2012 which sets out qualifications and other requirements for early childhood education and care services. Information on the National Quality Standard is available at www.deewr.gov.au/earlychildhood.

EMPLOYER-SPONSORED MIGRATION

An alternative to migrating to Australia through the GSM categories is to enter through employer-sponsorship. The Australian Government has in place several employer-sponsored migration arrangements, including the Temporary Business Long Stay Arrangement, Employer Nomination Scheme, Regional Sponsored Migration Scheme and Labour Agreements. Detailed information on these migration arrangements is on the DIAC website www.immi.gov.au.

SEEKING EMPLOYMENT IN AUSTRALIA

Overseas-trained and qualified child care centre managers should note acceptance of overseas qualifications for migration does not guarantee employment in the profession in Australia. Employment will depend on other factors such as the number of vacancies and suitability of applicants for employment in a particular job in Australia.

The Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations is not an employment agency and is not able to assist visa applicants or potential migrants to obtain employment in Australia. It is noted that Australian employers are increasingly using the internet to advertise vacancies and that websites of Australian professional, academic and industry bodies (which may recognise membership of affiliated overseas bodies) often include information on vacancies.

⁶ A new Skilled Occupation List (available at www.immi.gov.au/skilled/_pdf/sol-schedule3.pdf) came into effect on 1 July 2010.