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Australian Government
Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations

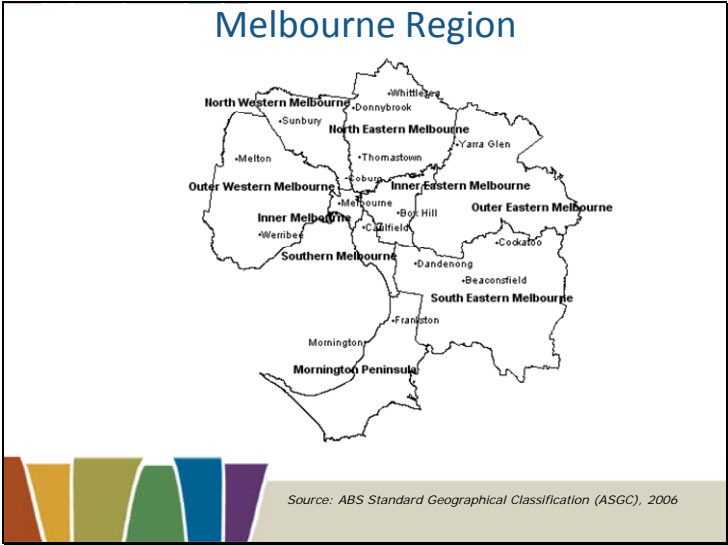
Labour Market Conditions and Survey of Employers' Recruitment Experiences

Melbourne

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Presented Monday August 9 2010.



This map shows the Labour Force Regions of Melbourne.

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Melbourne - Profile						
	Melbourne	North Western Melbourne	South Eastern Melbourne	Inner Melbourne	Victoria	Australia
Population 15+	3,312,400	259,000	364,000	302,700	4,484,000	17,910,400
Adult Population Aged 65+	15.6%	15.5%	12.7%	10.0%	16.9%	16.7%
Working Age Participation Rate	76.7%	74.2%	75.1%	80.8%	76.0%	76.2%
Mature Age (45-64) Participation Rate	75.3%	67.3%	74.6%	79.6%	74.5%	73.8%
Unemployment Rate	5.2%	9.1%	7.5%	3.5%	5.5%	5.3%
% WAP on Centrelink Benefits	15.3%	22.1%	18.8%	11.0%	16.9%	17.2%
% WAP OTMESC*	26.1%	30.9%	34.9%	26.6%	20.7%	16.9%

* Other than mainly English speaking countries

Source: ABS, Labour Force, Australia, June 2010, cat. no. 6202.0, three month average data; ABS, Census of Population and Housing, 2006, DEEWR Administrative Data – June 2010

Sources;

ABS, Labour Force, Australia, June 2010, cat. no. 6202.0, three month average data;

ABS, Census of Population and Housing, 2006,

DEEWR Administrative Data – June 2010

Centrelink

6.2% of WAP in North Western Melbourne in receipt of DSP compared to 4.4% for Melbourne and 5.2% for Australia.

OTMESC

Participation Rates

Melbourne 54.3%

North Western Melbourne 46.1%

Australia 56.0%

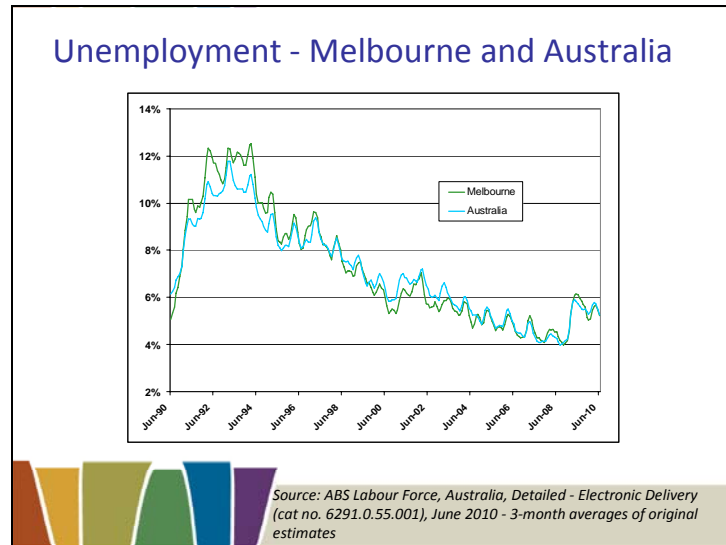
Unemployment Rates

Melbourne 8.4%

North Western Melbourne 9.8%

Australia 7.5%

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Source;

ABS Labour Force, Australia, Detailed - Electronic Delivery (cat no. 6291.0.55.001), June 2010 - 3-month averages of original estimates

Unemployment rates are higher than before the economic downturn but are nowhere near the levels reached in the early 90s.

Unemployment Rate by Region

	June 2010 Unemployment Rate	June 2009 Unemployment Rate	Change over 12 months (percentage points)
Melbourne	5.2%	6.1%	- 0.9
Inner Melbourne	3.5%	6.0%	- 2.5
Outer Eastern Melbourne	3.9%	5.8%	- 1.9
Southern Melbourne	4.4%	6.3%	- 1.9
Mornington Peninsula	4.4%	3.7%	0.7
Inner Eastern Melbourne	4.5%	5.1%	- 0.6
North Eastern Melbourne	4.6%	5.1%	- 0.5
Outer Western Melbourne	5.8%	7.9%	- 2.1
South Eastern Melbourne	7.5%	7.2%	0.3
North Western Melbourne	9.1%	6.7%	2.4



ABS Labour Force, Australia, Detailed - Electronic Delivery (cat no. 6291.0.55.001), June 2010 - 3-month averages of original estimates

Source;

ABS Labour Force, Australia, Detailed - Electronic Delivery (cat no. 6291.0.55.001), June 2010 - 3-month averages of original estimates

This chart shows that within Melbourne, unemployment rates vary considerably by labour force region.

Long-Term Unemployment

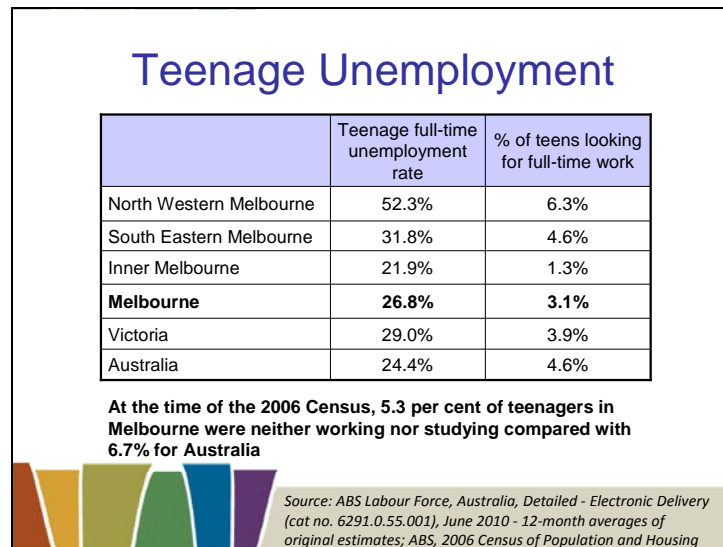
Region	Long-term unemployed (52 weeks and under 104 weeks)		Very long-term unemployed (104 weeks and over)		Average Weeks Unemployed
	June-10	June-09	June-10	June-09	
	Melbourne	10%	7%	6%	6%
North Western Melbourne	8%	5%	9%	7%	44
South Eastern Melbourne	10%	8%	6%	7%	28
Inner Melbourne	10%	4%	2%	5%	22
Victoria	11%	7%	7%	6%	37
Australia	10%	7%	7%	7%	34

ABS Labour Force, Australia, Detailed - Electronic Delivery (cat no. 6291.0.55.001), June 2010 - 12-month averages of original estimates

Source;

ABS Labour Force, Australia, Detailed - Electronic Delivery (cat no. 6291.0.55.001), June 2010 - 12-month averages of original estimates

The longer that people are unemployed the less likely they are to regain employment. One in ten (10 per cent) unemployed people in Melbourne were long term unemployed (between 52 weeks and 104 weeks).



Sources;

ABS, Labour Force, Australia, Detailed - Electronic Delivery (cat no. 6291.0.55.001), June 2010 - 12-month averages of original estimates

ABS, Census of Population and Housing, 2006

The teenage full-time unemployment rate in North Western Melbourne (52.3 per cent) is the highest of any labour force region in Australia.

At the time of the 2006 Census, 7.7 per cent of teenagers in North Western Melbourne were neither working nor studying compared 6.7% for Australia

Indigenous Population Aged 15-64

	Civilian population aged 15 to 64 years	Unemployment rate	Participation rate	Employment to population ratio
	'000	%	%	%
Victoria				
Indigenous	23.0	17.1	55.7	46.2
Non-Indigenous	3678.7	5.7	76.1	71.7
Total	3701.8	5.7	75.9	71.6
AUSTRALIA				
Indigenous	336.6	18.1	58.1	47.6
Non-Indigenous	14,452.1	5.5	76.7	72.5
Total	14,788.7	5.7	76.3	72.0

Source: Labour Force Characteristics of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians, Estimates from the Labour Force Survey, 2009

Source;

Labour Force Characteristics of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians, Estimates from the Labour Force Survey, 2009. These data are averages for calendar year 2009 taken from the monthly Labour Force Survey.

The unemployment rate is substantially higher for Indigenous persons compared with non-Indigenous persons in both Victoria and Australia.

Furthermore, the participation rate for those identifying as Indigenous is much lower compared to those who are non-Indigenous in both Victoria and Australia.

Disability and Labour Force Status

	Australia (15-74)		
	Schooling or employment restriction	All with reported disability	No reported disabilities
Employed People (%)	5.4%	28.7%	71.3%
Unemployment Rate (%)	13.0%	6.7%	5.5%
Participation Rate (%)	61.3%	68.2%	81.9%

Source: ABS, Survey of Education and Training, 2009

Source;
ABS, Survey of Education and Training, 2009

Persons with a disability that restricts their employment or schooling have poorer labour market outcomes compared with persons without a disability.

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Regions with High Levels of Disadvantage				
Indicator	Brimbank	Hume	Greater Dandenong	Melbourne
Unemployment Rate	8.9%	9.3%	10.8%	5.6%
% of families with children where no parent is working	29.9%	24.9%	32.0%	19.0%
% of population aged 15-64 who have not completed Year 10	19.6%	19.0%	21.3%	11.9%
% of population aged 15-64 on a Centrelink allowance	25.3%	27.1%	25.9%	15.3%
% of yr 9 Govt School Students below min standard for Reading	24%	23%	24%	4.0% (VIC)
-for numeracy	6%	8%	9%	2.0% (VIC)

Sources: Unemployment Rates - DEEWR Small Area Labour Markets, Smoothed Series, March 2010, Centrelink - DEEWR Administrative data, June 2010 and ABS Estimated Resident Population, June 2008 Other - ABS Census of Population and Housing, 2006, MySchool Website, NAPLAN Summary Report 2009

Sources:

Unemployment Rates - DEEWR Small Area Labour Markets, Smoothed Series;

March 2010, Centrelink - DEEWR Administrative data, June 2010;

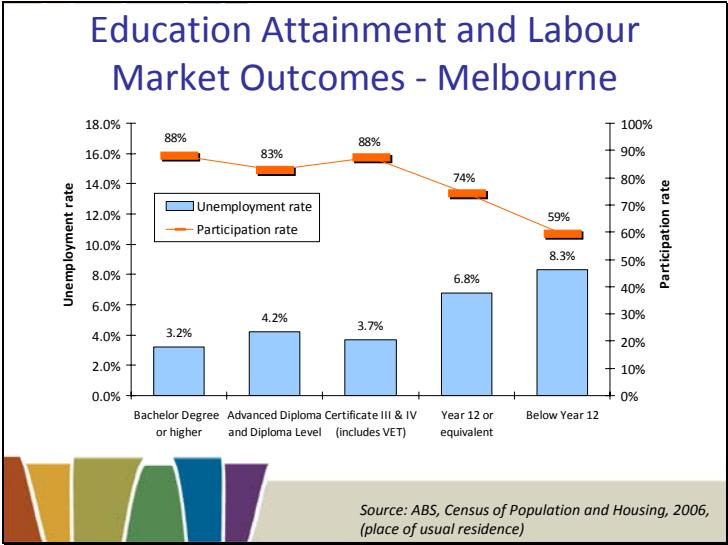
ABS, Estimated Resident Population, June 2008;

ABS, Census of Population and Housing, 2006;

MySchool Website; and

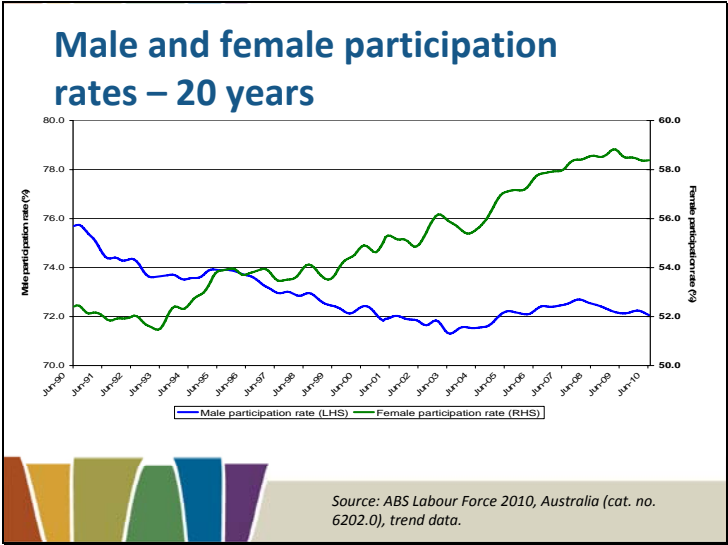
NAPLAN Summary Report 2009

This chart shows various socioeconomic indicators for selected disadvantaged regions within Melbourne.



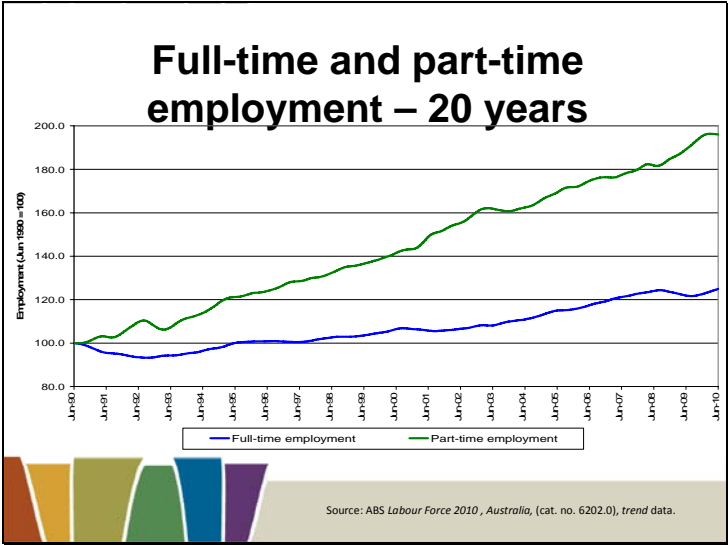
Source;
ABS, Census of Population and Housing, 2006 (Place of Usual Residence)

As can be seen in this chart, those people in the Melbourne Statistical Division with higher levels of education perform better in the labour market, with higher labour force participation rates and lower unemployment rates. This reflects the pattern seen across Australia and emphasises the importance of continuing education to help job seekers obtain employment and participate in the labour market.



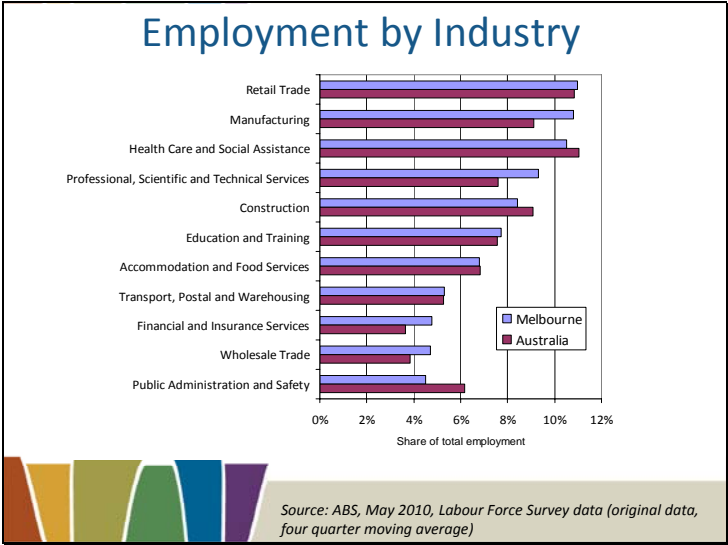
Source:
ABS, Labour Force 2010, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0), trend data.

This chart shows that over the last decade, the female labour force participation rate increased while the male labour force participation rate decreased.



Source;
ABS, Census of Population and Housing, 2006 (Place of Usual Residence)

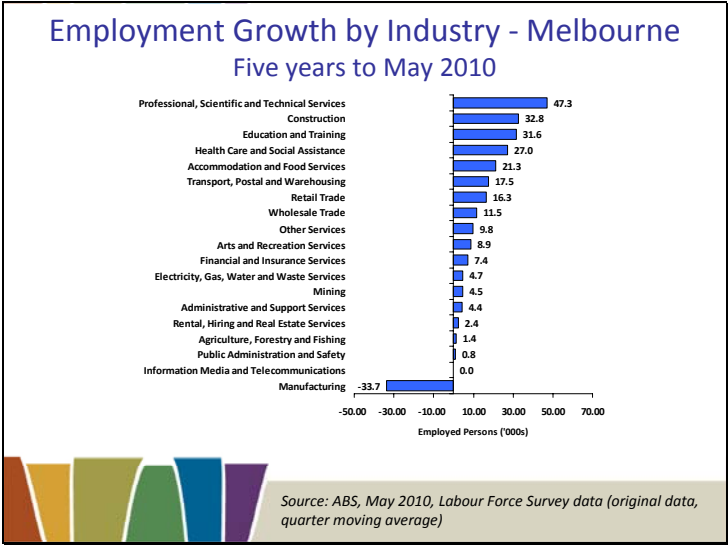
This chart shows that over the last decade, part-time employment increased at a higher rate than full-time employment.



Source;

ABS, Labour Force Region, cat.no. 6291.0.55.003, Quarterly Release, May 2010, 4 quarter averages of original data

This chart shows the distribution of employment by industry in Melbourne, compared with Australia.

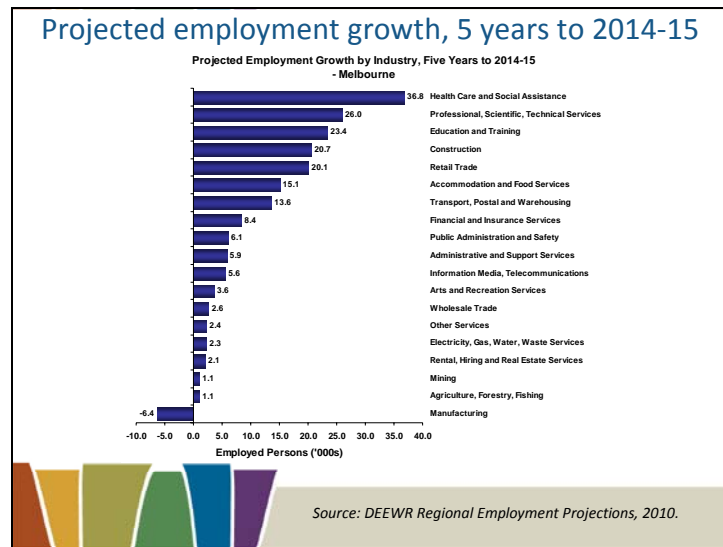


Source;

ABS, Labour Force Region, cat.no. 6291.0.55.003, Quarterly Release, May 2010, 4 quarter averages of original data

This chart shows the growth in employment by Industry for Melbourne over five years to May 2010. Employment growth was largest in Professional, Scientific and Technical Services while employment declined in Manufacturing.

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Source;

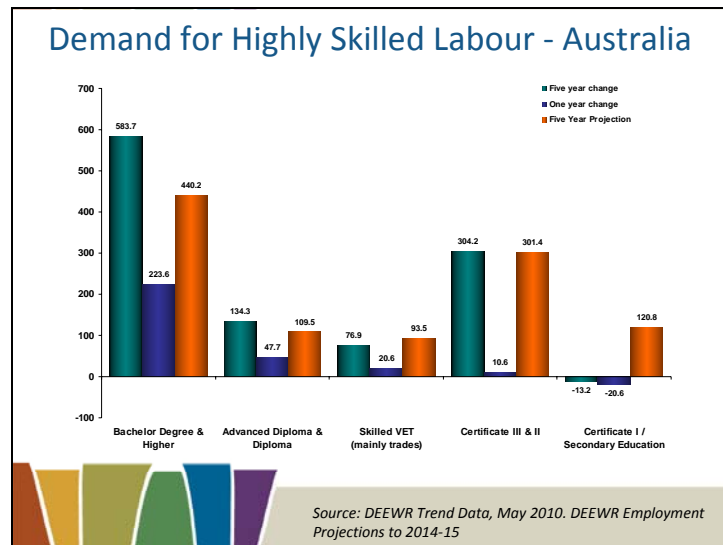
DEEWR Regional Employment Projections, 2010

This slide gives the projected employment growth by industry in Melbourne over the five years to 2014-15.

Employment growth is projected to be largest in Health Care and Social Assistance while employment is expected to decline in Manufacturing.

These projections were updated in February 2010 to take into account recent economic developments in Australia and abroad.

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Source:

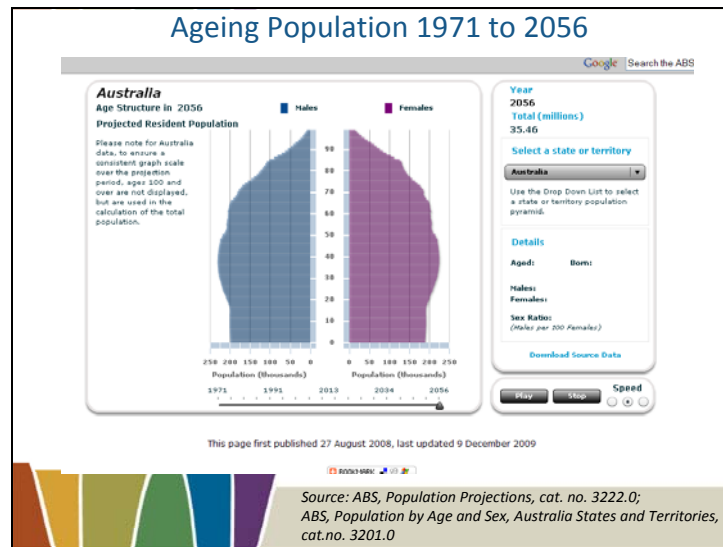
DEEWR, *Employment Projections to 2014-15*, May 2010

The level of educational attainment is strongly linked with labour market performance and the ability of a population to respond flexibly to an economic shock. Post school qualifications, for instance, allows people to gain employment in higher skilled occupations, such as Professional, Manager and Technician and Trades Worker occupations, which tend to be more stable, more in demand and higher paid.

The highest number of jobs in the last five years have been suitable for workers with a Bachelors Degree or higher. This trend is projected to continue for the next five years.

There is also strong employment growth projected over the next five years for jobs that require a Certificate II or III.

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Sources:

ABS, *Population Projections, Australia*, cat. no. 3222.0

ABS, *Population by age and sex, Australian States and Territories*, cat. no. 3201.0

This animation demonstrates how the age profile of the Australian population has changed since 1971 and is projected to change to 2056. As time progresses, there has been and will continue to be an increasing proportion of older Australians in the population.

The animation of the population pyramid has been removed and replaced with a description of the animation to ensure that the information is available to people with various information accessibility needs. The animation can be accessed on the ABS website: ABS Population Pyramid for Australia

<http://www.abs.gov.au/websitedbs/d3310114.nsf/home/population%20pyramid%20preview>

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Internet Vacancy Index (IVI)

Victoria	% change over the year to May 2010	Number of Vacancies
Managers	18.3	6 662
Professionals	5.4	13 709
Technicians and Trades Workers	26.0	5 992
Community and Personal Service Workers	0.3	2 950
Clerical and Administrative Workers	31.3	9 900
Sales Workers	6.8	5 580
Machinery Operators and Drivers	17.8	2 092
Labourers	-13.0	3 508
Total	12.2	50 394

Source: DEEWR, Internet Vacancies Index, June 2010

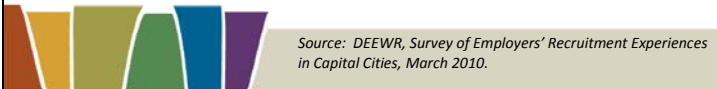
Source:

DEEWR, Internet Vacancy Index, June 2010

This slide shows that there are employment opportunities across all occupation categories. More than half (52 per cent) of all vacancies were for Managers, Professionals and Technicians and Trades Workers.

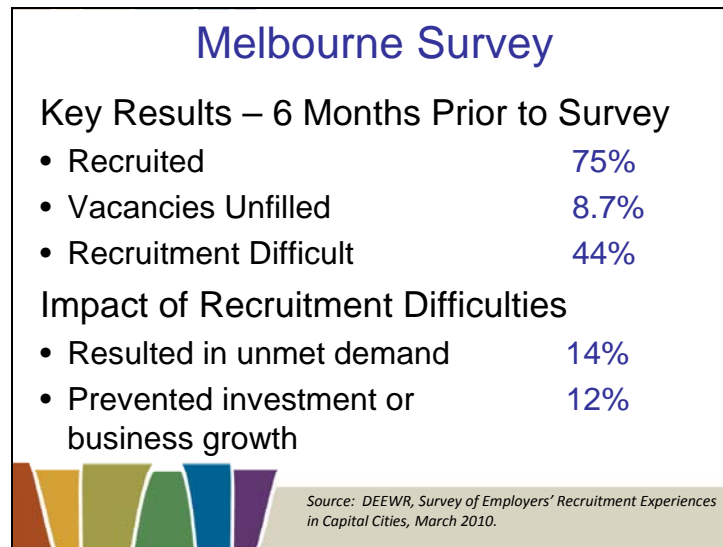
Employer Survey

- Responses from 2500 employers
- Covers six State capital cities
- Representative sample
- Response Rate: 71.1%



Source: DEEWR, Survey of Employers' Recruitment Experiences in Capital Cities, March 2010.

In March 2010, DEEWR conducted a Survey of Employers' Recruitment Experiences in the six State Capital Cities. Overall, 2500 employers completed the survey with the number of responses in each city enabling reliable estimates of recruitment difficulties to be made for each capital city. Of these, 474 employers were located in Melbourne.



Over the past 6 months;

- Employers who recruited;
75% in Melbourne compared with 80% in all State Capital cities
- Proportion of Vacancies Remaining Unfilled;
8.7% in Melbourne compared with 7.3% for all State Capital cities
- Proportion of employers who said that recruitment was difficult over the past six months;
44% in Melbourne compared with 43% for all State Capital cities
- These difficulties had very significant and real impacts on Melbourne businesses;
Preventing 14% of employers from meeting market demand for their goods and services.
Preventing 12% of employers from carrying out investment projects or growing their business.

Changes to Staff Numbers

Industry of business	Proportion of workplaces	
	Staff increase in past 6 months (%)	Staff decrease in past 6 months (%)
Manufacturing	34	8
Construction	39	17
Retail Trade	36	7
Accommodation and Food Services	35	6
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	34	2
Health Care and Social Assistance	25	2
All Industries - Melbourne	32	6
All Industries - Australia	26	19

Source: DEEWR, Survey of Employers' Recruitment Experiences in Capital Cities, March 2010.

Across all industries, 32% of employers in Melbourne increased staff numbers in the past six months while 6% reduced staff numbers.

Recruitment Difficulty by Industry

Industry	Employers Who:		Recruitment Difficulties Prevented Employer from:
	Found Recruitment 'Difficult'	Had Staff Retention Problems	meeting market demand, carrying out investment projects or growing business
Manufacturing	47%	10%	21%
Construction	56%	0%	28%
Retail	44%	24%	16%
Accommodation and Food Services	24%	18%	14%
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	42%	20%	20%
Health Care and Social Assistance	49%	9%	15%
All Industries - Melbourne	44%	17%	19%

Source: DEEWR, Survey of Employers' Recruitment Experiences in Capital Cities, March 2010.

This slide shows the proportion of recruiting employers who had recruitment and/or retention difficulty. Of employers surveyed in Melbourne who recruited, 44 per cent reported recruitment difficulty. High proportions of recruiting employers in the Construction (56 per cent) and Health Care and Social Assistance (49 per cent) industries reported recruitment difficulty.

It also shows the impacts of recruitment difficulty on business output and investment. Investment or output was restricted due to recruitment or retention difficulties in nearly one-fifth (19 per cent) of employers.

Employers Reporting Difficulty in their most recent vacancy

Occupation group of most recent vacancy (Selected Groups)	Had unfilled vacancies	Hired staff who lacked desired skills/capabilities	Had to extend recruitment/readvertise	Had any problem
Technicians and Trades Workers	26%	14%	15%	45%
Community and Personal Service Workers	9%	17%	21%	40%
Machinery Operators and Drivers	29%	25%	36%	79%
Sales Workers	18%	16%	17%	42%
Labourers	13%	14%	9%	27%
All Occupations – Melbourne	18%	14%	18%	42%

Source: DEEWR, Survey of Employers' Recruitment Experiences in Capital Cities, March 2010.


This table shows the proportion of employers who, in their most recent recruitment round:

- Could not fill all their vacancies;
- Filled vacancies with workers who lacked the skills or capabilities that they desired; and
- Had to extend the recruitment round or re-advertise because of difficulties finding suitable staff.

The final column shows employers who had any one of these problems.

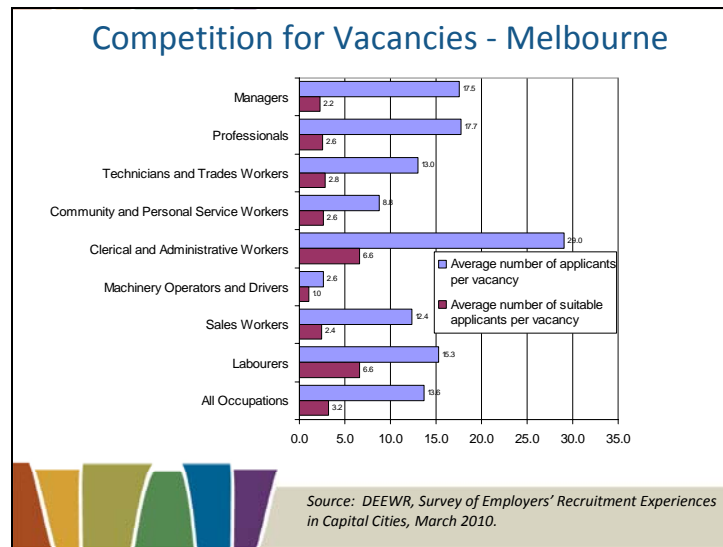
Occupations Difficult to Fill - Melbourne

Bachelor Degree or Higher VET Qualifications			
Registered Nurses	Hospital Pharmacists	Speech Pathologists	Welfare Workers
Engineers	Structural Steel and Welding Trades Workers	Motor Mechanic	Automotive Electricians
Bakers	Electricians	Refrigeration and A/C Mechanics	Metal Fitters and Machinists
Other Occupations			
Waiters/Café Workers	Bar Attendants	Kitchen hands	Truck Drivers
Hotel Service Managers	Factory Process Workers	Commercial Cleaners	Store Persons



Source: DEEWR, Survey of Employers' Recruitment Experiences in Capital Cities, March 2010, Skill Shortage List May 2010.

This slide shows some of the occupations that employers commonly told us were difficult to fill.



Employers in Melbourne reported an average of 8.5 applicants per vacancy. There were high average numbers of applicants per Clerical and Administrative Worker (29.0), Professional (17.7) and Manager (17.5) vacancy. Employers recruiting for Machinery Operators and Drivers reported an average of 2.6 applicants per vacancy.

Employers in Melbourne reported an average of 3.2 suitable applicants per vacancy. There were high average numbers of applicants per Clerical and Administrative Worker (6.6) and Labourer (6.6) vacancy. Employers recruiting for Machinery Operators and Drivers reported an average of 1.0 suitable applicants per vacancy.

Reasons Applicants Unsuitable

60% of employers received applications from job seekers who they did not regard as suitable.

Reasons for unsuitability included:

- Applicants having insufficient experience to perform job duties
- Applicants having insufficient technical skills or expertise to perform job duties
- Basic employability skills



Source: DEEWR, Survey of Employers' Recruitment Experiences, Combined Results for all Surveys conducted in 12 months to March 2010.

This chart is based on combined data for all regional surveys conducted by DEEWR in the 12 months to March 2010. It shows the main reasons applicants were considered unsuitable.



This chart is based on combined data for all surveys conducted in the 12 months to March 2010. It highlights the importance that employers placed on personality traits and the traits they sought in applicants.



Staff Numbers

Overall, employers in Melbourne were optimistic about the employment expectations for the next six months.

Greatest Concern:

Employers were asked to nominate whether interest rates, skill shortages or uncertain or declining demand for goods or services was of greatest concern to them in their business in the next six months. More employers were most concerned about low or uncertain levels of demand (41%) than were most concerned about skill shortages (27%) in the next six months.

Conclusion

- Overall, labour market conditions improving
- Still pockets of disadvantage
- Ongoing structural changes to labour market
- Some groups remain vulnerable
 - Teenagers; OTMESC; Indigenous; less educated, long term unemployed
- Considerable opportunities
 - Melbourne employers expect continued employment growth
 - Growth industries – Health Care and Social Assistance.
 - Broad range of occupations difficult to fill
- Employers having difficulty finding appropriate workers
 - Recruitment Difficulties having negative impact on businesses.
- How to take advantage of these opportunities
 - Work experience, training, apprenticeships, employability skills
 - Literacy and numeracy
- Continue to work with employers regarding their needs and expectations



Further Information

- For more information:
 - www.deewr.gov.au/lmip
 - www.deewr.gov.au/skillshortages
 - www.deewr.gov.au/regionalreports
 - www.joboutlook.gov.au
 - www.skillsinfo.gov.au

