



Bricklayer

ANZSCO 3311-11

Tasmania
August 2018

Current labour market rating: Shortage

Shortages for bricklayers have been persistent across Tasmania for the last four years to 2018. Employers are unable to attract sufficient suitable applicants and the majority of vacancies remain unfilled.

Key research findings¹

- A quarter of surveyed employers did not receive any applicants.
- All surveyed employers sought qualified and experienced bricklayers.
 - The main reason applicants were unsuitable was due to a lack of relevant qualifications.
- A small number of employers reported employing apprentices when unable to fill vacancies with qualified bricklayers.
- A small number of employers noted that they filled vacancies through networking rather than formal advertising.

Demand and supply

- Demand for bricklayers is influenced by the level of activity in the building and construction industry, which has remained high since the last survey in 2017.
 - The value of building work approved (chain volume measures) in Tasmania increased by 29.1 per cent for the year to June 2018, compared to a national decrease of 6.6 per cent over the same period.
 - Surveyed employers noted demand for bricklayers is currently strong due to a number of major commercial construction projects, particularly around southern Tasmania.
 - Demand for bricklayers is expected to continue increasing due to projections for construction industry employment in Tasmania to grow by 6.0 per cent over the four years to May 2022 compared with 5.6 per cent for all industries.

2018 Survey Results²



43%
of vacancies filled



1.0
Applicants per vacancy

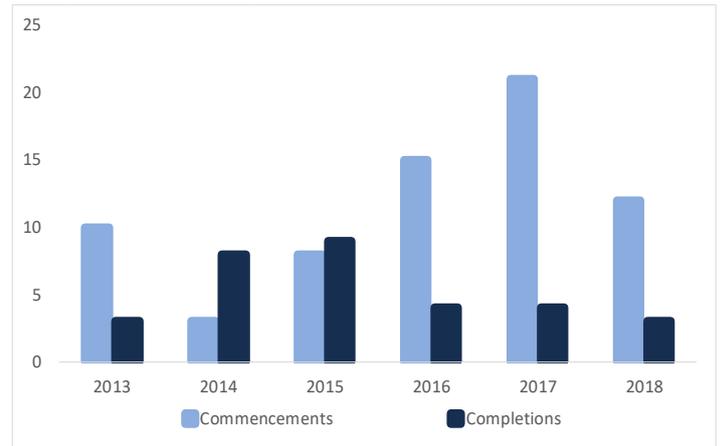


0.4
Qualified applicants per vacancy



0.4
Suitable applicants per vacancy

Figure 1: Apprentices and trainees commencements and completions, Bricklayer, March 2013 to 2018, estimates



- Formal training is through the apprenticeship system via a Certificate III in Bricklaying. In recent years, fewer apprenticeships have been completed, although an increase in commencements suggests there may be an increase in supply in the future.
- According to the 2016 Census data, 260 people identified as bricklayers in Tasmania, 62.8 per cent were owner managers, all were male with a median age of 45-49 years.
 - Most bricklayers hold a qualification, with 68.4 per cent holding either a certificate III or higher.

¹ The Department of Jobs and Small Business supplemented this research by cold canvassing organisations as there were limited vacancies found in the lead-up to this report, and, as such, the findings should be used cautiously.

² The methodology underpinning this research is outlined at [Skill Shortage Research Methodology | Department of Jobs and Small Business](#).

Additional Data Sources: ABS, Building Approvals, Aug 2018; ABS, 2016 Census of Housing and Population; Department of Jobs and Small Business Employment Projections, Regional projections – five years to May 2022; National Centre for Vocational Education Research, National Apprentice and Trainee Collection, March 2018 estimates.