Architect
ANZSCO 2321-11

Australian Capital Territory
February 2019

Current labour market rating: No Shortage

Shortages of architects are not apparent in the ACT. Employers generally receive multiple suitable applicants and fill their vacancies with relative ease.

Key research findings

- Few vacancies were identified during this research period. The survey was supplemented through the cold canvassing of employers.
  - Discussions with employers indicated that recruitment is commonly done through word of mouth or networking.
- Despite the number of applicants doubling over the year to February 2019, employers still considered a large proportion to be unsuitable.
- The main reason for unsuitability amongst applicants was a lack of experience within the field. Some employers received applicants who were architectural drafters; these applicants were not considered as they were not formally qualified or registered architects.
- While shortages of architects in the ACT are not evident, recruitment appears to be more difficult for intermediate and senior level vacancies.
  - While few graduate vacancies were identified during the research period, a small number of employers mentioned that it was common for them to receive unsolicited job applications from graduates or those in their final year of study.
  - On the other hand, the few employers recruiting for vacancies that required a candidate with five or more years of experience noted it was challenging.
- Analysis of advertised vacancies indicates that employers are broadly seeking candidates who have proven technical abilities with drafting and modelling software, general experience in the occupation as well as other key employability skills (see Figure 1).

Demand and supply

The demand for architects is predominantly driven by the level of building and construction activity. The value of building work done in the ACT has increased strongly since mid-2014 and is standing at record high levels.
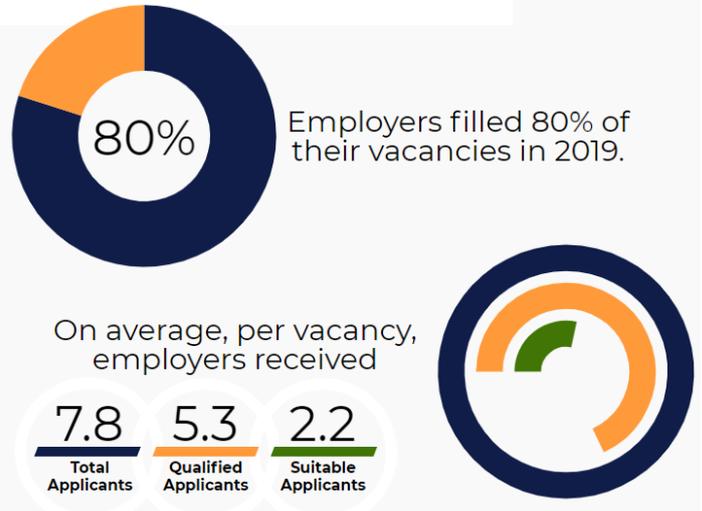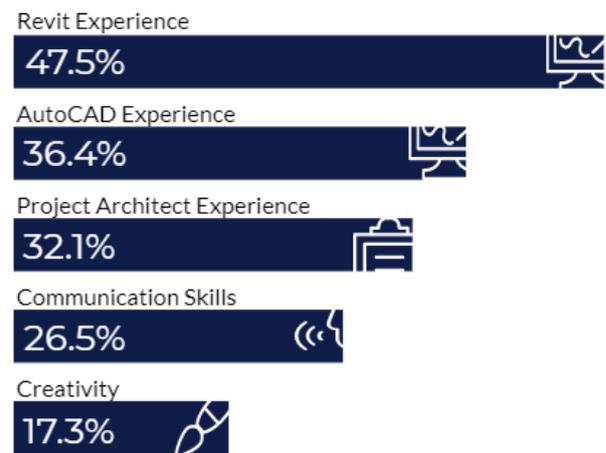
2019 Survey Results[1]

Employers filled 80% of their vacancies in 2019.

On average, per vacancy, employers received

7.8 Total Applicants	5.3 Qualified Applicants	2.2 Suitable Applicants

Figure 1: Top five required skills from ACT architect internet job advertisements 2015-2019 (% of vacancies)

Revit Experience **47.5%**
AutoCAD Experience **36.4%**
Project Architect Experience **32.1%**
Communication Skills **26.5%**
Creativity **17.3%**

Burning Glass Enterprise, custom data (skills demand), extracted April 2019.

- The architect workforce is highly skilled and the completion of a master's degree accredited by the Architects Accreditation Council of Australia is required for registration as an architect.
  - Around 20 students completed a Masters in Architecture in the ACT in 2017.
- This is a relatively small workforce with around 330 architects registered in the ACT between July 2017 and June 2018 (latest available data).

Department of Employment, Skills, Small and Family Business
If you have feedback on this report, please email us at skillshortages@employment.gov.au