



Skill Shortage List

New South Wales

2017

This list shows occupations which were assessed in 2017 by the Department of Jobs and Small Business specifically for New South Wales, for which shortages or some recruitment difficulty is evident. Additional occupations were assessed for Australia as a whole (state-level information is not available). A listing of ratings from this research is available on page four.

These lists are summary in nature and should be viewed in the context of the more detailed analysis available in the occupational reports which are published on the Department's website.

Ratings of shortage reflect employers' recruitment experience for workers with around three years or more experience in the relevant occupation. Shortages may exist in occupations which have relatively high rates of unemployment. A rating of shortage does not mean that an individual will necessarily gain employment in that occupation.

The lack of a rating for an occupation does not necessarily imply 'no shortage' as the occupation may not have been assessed. Reports for occupations assessed for New South Wales are published at [state and territory skill shortage information](#). For the complete set of occupational reports, see [skill shortage information by occupation](#).

Labour markets can change quickly and vary by location. The assessments made here reflect the labour market at the date shown.

This list has no status for migration.

Details about the methodology used in this research are available at jobs.gov.au/skill-shortages.

Key to ratings

- S State-wide shortage
- M Shortage in metropolitan areas
- R Shortage in regional areas
- D Recruitment difficulty
- R-D Recruitment difficulty in regional areas
- M-D Recruitment difficulty in metropolitan areas

Definitions of ratings

Shortage

Skill shortages exist when employers are unable to fill or have considerable difficulty filling vacancies, or significant specialised skill needs within that occupation, at current levels of remuneration and conditions of employment, and in reasonably accessible locations. For occupations assessed at a national level, a rating of S represents a national shortage.

Recruitment difficulty

Recruitment difficulties occur when some employers have difficulty filling vacancies for an occupation. There may be an adequate supply of skilled workers but some employers are unable to attract and recruit sufficient suitable workers for reasons which include: the specific experience or specialist skill requirements of the vacancy; differences in hours of work required by the employer and those sought by applicants; or particular locational or transport issues.

Definition of occupation

Occupations are defined according to the Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations ([ANZSCO](#)) which is published by the Australian Bureau of Statistics to provide uniformity in the collection, analysis and dissemination of occupational statistics in Australia and New Zealand.

PROFESSIONALS

Occupation Group	ANZSCO	Occupation	NSW Rating	Quarter Assessed	Comment
Design, Engineering, Science and Transport Professionals	2321-11	Architect	S	April	The shortage extends across all sectors surveyed including residential, aged care and education construction.
Design, Engineering, Science and Transport Professionals	2322-12	Surveyor	S	April	Positions for registered surveyors and for senior surveyors with a number of years of experience were the hardest to fill.
Design, Engineering, Science and Transport Professionals	2332-11,12,14,15	Civil Engineering Professionals	M	April	
Design, Engineering, Science and Transport Professionals	2333-11	Electrical Engineer	D	April	The recruitment difficulty is for electrical engineers with experience in the Mining industry and with Level 3 ASP accreditation.
Education Professionals	2411-11	Early Childhood (Pre-primary School) Teacher	M-D	April	The recruitment difficulty is for long day care centre early childhood teachers in Sydney.
Health Professionals	2512-14	Sonographer	S	June	While the labour market for sonographers has eased over the past two years, employers across both the public and private sector still face considerable difficulty recruiting sonographers.
Health Professionals	2514-11	Optometrist	R	June	
Health Professionals	2515-11,13	Hospital and Retail Pharmacist	M	June	
Health Professionals	2525-11	Physiotherapist	D	June	The recruitment difficulty is for senior physiotherapists.

TECHNICIANS AND TRADES WORKERS

Occupation Group	ANZSCO	Occupation	NSW Rating	Quarter Assessed	Comment
Automotive and Engineering Trades Workers	3212-11,12,13	Motor Mechanics	S	December	
Automotive and Engineering Trades Workers	3222-11	Sheetmetal Trades Worker	M	December	

Occupation Group	ANZSCO	Occupation	NSW Rating	Quarter Assessed	Comment
Automotive and Engineering Trades Workers	3223	Structural Steel and Welding Trades Workers	S	December	Shortages are evident in Sydney with some employers filling their vacancies through labour hire companies or through word-of-mouth rather than by responses to advertisements.
Automotive and Engineering Trades Workers	3232-11, 12,13	Fitter	S	December	
Automotive and Engineering Trades Workers	3232-14	Metal Machinist (First Class)	S	December	
Automotive and Engineering Trades Workers	3241-11	Panelbeater	S	December	
Automotive and Engineering Trades Workers	3243-11	Vehicle Painter	S	December	
Construction Trades Workers	3312	Carpenters and Joiners	S	September	
Construction Trades Workers	3322-11	Painting Trades Worker	S	September	
Construction Trades Workers	3332-11	Fibrous Plasterer	S	September	
Construction Trades Workers	3341	Plumbers	S	September	Shortages were evident for general plumbers, roof plumbers, drainers and gas fitters across New South Wales.
Construction Trades Workers	3941-11	Cabinetmaker	S	September	
Electrotechnology and Telecommunications Trades Workers	3411-11	Electrician (General)	S	September	
Electrotechnology and Telecommunications Trades Workers	3421-11	Airconditioning and Refrigeration Mechanic	S	September	
Food Trades Workers	3511-11	Baker	S	December	
Food Trades Workers	3513-11	Chef	S	December	

COMMUNITY AND PERSONAL SERVICE WORKERS

Occupation Group	ANZSCO	Occupation	NSW Rating	Quarter Assessed	Comment
Health and Welfare Support Workers	4114-11	Enrolled Nurse	S	June	

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Department of Jobs and Small Business

List reflects research undertaken to 31 December 2017 (Published March 2018)

Occupations assessed at the national level

The following occupations were assessed in 2017 at the national level only. Separate ratings are not available for the New South Wales.

PROFESSIONALS

Occupation Group	ANZSCO	Occupation	National Rating	Quarter Assessed	Comment
Design, Engineering, Science and Transport Professionals	2347-11	Veterinarian	S	April	
Health Professionals	2527-11	Audiologist	S	June	
Legal, Social and Welfare Professionals	2713-11	Solicitor	D	April	The recruitment difficulty is for solicitors with five or more years of experience.

TECHNICIANS AND TRADES WORKERS

Occupation Group	ANZSCO	Occupation	National Rating	Quarter Assessed	Comment
Engineering, ICT and Science Technicians	3121-14	Construction Estimator	S	April	A shortage of experienced construction estimators is evident across most sectors of the industry. Employers in New South Wales and Victoria, and those seeking estimators with at least five years of experience, have the least success in filling vacancies.
Automotive and Engineering Trades Workers	3211-11	Automotive Electrician	S	December	
Automotive and Engineering Trades Workers	3231	Aircraft Maintenance Engineer (Avionics)/(Mechanical)	S	December	
Automotive and Engineering Trades Workers	3233-13	Locksmith	S	December	
Construction Trades Workers	3311-12	Stonemason	S	September	
Construction Trades Workers	3331-11	Glazier	S	September	
Construction Trades Workers	3333-11	Roof Tiler	S	September	
Construction Trades Workers	3334-11	Wall and Floor Tiler	S	September	

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Occupation Group	ANZSCO	Occupation	National Rating	Quarter Assessed	Comment
Electrotechnology and Telecommunications Trades Workers	3424	Telecommunications Trades Workers	S	December	
Food Trades Workers	3511-12	Pastrycook	S	December	
Food Trades Workers	3512	Butchers and Smallgoods Maker	S	December	
Skilled Animal and Horticultural Workers	3622-12	Arborist	S	September	
Hairdressers	3911-11	Hairdresser	S	September	Shortages are evident for trade qualified and experienced hairdressers. Employers generally consider those who hold fast-tracked hairdressing qualifications to be unsuitable.