

Quality Assurance Manager		Victoria
ASCO Code: 2294-15	March 2007	
Labour market rating	No Shortage	
Comment:		

Occupational demand

Demand for quality assurance managers is broadly determined by business levels within the overall economy and economic activity. Victoria's economy grew by 2.9 per cent over the year to December 2006 and the Australian economy grew by 3.7 per cent. However, demand is also determined by the need for Victorian companies to increasingly compete in a global market. Australia uses the International Organisation for Standardization's (ISO) 9000 series of Quality System Standards. Quality assurance programs are primarily in manufacturing and processing industries, however many organisations including the public sector are increasingly concerned with continuously improving upon product delivery and the meeting of customer requirements and expectations.

Occupational supply

ABS Education and Work Figures suggest around one third of employed management consultants and quality assurance managers have bachelor degrees. It is difficult to estimate the supply of quality assurance managers as they hold varied degree qualifications. Quality assurance managers have diverse backgrounds and may have completed tertiary education in anything from business studies to engineering disciplines.

Employer and industry comments/current labour market

The Survey of Employers who Recently Advertised (SERA) found approximately 80 per cent of quality assurance manager vacancies were filled. For those positions that were not filled, employers were often trying to entice employees from other organisations, but were unsuccessful as these employees are highly sought after. The average number of suitable applicants per vacancy was 4.1 and the average number of unsuitable applicants per vacancy was 16.8. Employers considered many applicants to be unsuitable due to lack of appropriate qualifications and work experience. Employers were seeking applicants with a minimum of tertiary qualifications and experience within the employers industry – such as manufacturing. All employers were seeking specialised skills, such as awareness of Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points (HACCP) and Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP).

Labour market outlook

The relatively balanced labour market for quality assurance managers in Victoria is expected to continue over the next six months.