

<b>Automotive Electrician</b>		<b>Australia</b>
<b>ASCO Code:</b> 4212-11	July 2006	
<b>Labour market rating</b>	Shortage	
<b>Comment</b>		

### **Employer and industry comments/current labour market**

A survey of employers who had recently advertised for automotive electricians was carried out in early July 2006. Approximately two thirds of surveyed vacancies were for positions in metropolitan areas.

Slightly more than 30 per cent of surveyed vacancies were filled, and just more than 20 per cent of employers filled all of their vacancies. Shortages do not appear to be related to particular specialist skills or geographic locations. Difficulty attracting skilled automotive electricians was reported across all States and Territories.

Results of the survey suggest Victoria and Tasmania have the tightest labour markets with less than 15 per cent of vacancies filled and employers reporting relatively low numbers of suitable candidates.

Overall, around one in four applicants were considered by employers to be suitable for their advertised vacancies, a rate of 0.5 suitable applications for each surveyed vacancy. Approximately one in five employers reported they did not receive any response to their advertisements while a further 30 to 40 per cent indicated there were no suitable candidates amongst the applications received.

Some employers suggested they found it difficult to compete for auto electricians in face of higher wages offered by the mining industry particularly in Western Australia and Queensland.

Several employers mentioned they would take on additional apprentices to assist them to meet demand for automotive electrician services in the longer term, and others have increased overtime for staff, taken a more hands-on role themselves or turned away new business because of the lack of skilled workers.

### **Labour market outlook**

There does not appear to be evidence to suggest any significant change in the labour market for automotive electricians in the next six months and the shortage of automotive electricians is expected to persist.