

<b>Electrical Engineering Associate Professionals</b>		<b>Victoria</b>
ASCO Code: 3123	March 2007	
Labour market rating	Recruitment Difficulty	
<b>Comment:</b> <i>Recruitment difficulties restricted to vacancies requiring specific knowledge and experience.</i>		

### **Occupational demand**

Demand for electrical engineering associate professionals in Victoria is largely determined by the level of activity in the electricity generation and distribution industries. According to the Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics (ABARE), except for wood and crude oil and NGL, all Victorian primary fuels production increased in 2004-05. Victoria's energy consumption across all industries fell by an estimated 3.16 per cent in 2004-05, to 1407.4 petajoules. DEEWR Skilled Vacancies Index data suggest demand for electrical engineering associate professionals has declined since 2004.

### **Occupational supply**

Australian Bureau of Statistics Education and work figures suggest approximately one third of employed electrical engineering associates have Certificate III or IV qualifications. DEEWR estimates the percentage of persons in Victoria who have completed a traineeship relating to electrical engineering increased by almost 30 per cent from 2004-05 to 2005-06. Supply to the profession from net immigration has increased. Net immigration to Victoria during 2005-06 was approximately 32 electrical engineering associate professionals.

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

The Survey of Employers who Recently Advertised (SERA) found slightly more than 40 per cent of electrical engineering associate professional vacancies were filled. The average number of suitable applicants per vacancy was 1.7 and the average number of unsuitable applicants per vacancy was 11.4. Employers deemed candidates unsuitable if they did not have particular skills and experience. Many employers were seeking applicants with a minimum five years industry experience and most generally required applicants to have experience with AutoCAD computer software. According to employers, background in the same industry as the employer was also a necessity for some vacancies.

The majority of employers stated there is low turnover of existing employees, caused by employers working to retain quality employees and high employee job satisfaction. Nonetheless, the Victorian electrical engineering employment sector is affected by people being drawn to businesses located in the booming mining states

### **Labour market outlook**

The relatively balanced labour market for electrical engineering associate professionals in Victoria is expected to continue over the next six months, with recruitment difficulties persisting for vacancies requiring specific knowledge and experience.