

<b>Surveying and Cartographic Associate</b>		<b>Australian Capital Territory (ACT)</b>
<b>ASCO Code:</b> 3121-15	October 2006	
<b>Labour market rating</b>	No Shortage	
<b>Comment</b>		

### **Occupational demand**

Demand for surveying and cartographic associates is partly dependent on the level of construction activity. The level of construction activity in the ACT has been high over the past few years, with particularly strong growth in the value of non-residential construction. The value of residential building construction has remained fairly steady over the past three years. However, this is a very small occupation in the ACT and Labour Force Survey employment figures are not available, however 2001 census data suggest employment in the ACT numbered around 50.

### **Occupational supply**

Nationally, most building, architectural and surveying associates have attained Certificate III or Certificate IV qualifications. Formal training in this occupation in the ACT is available through the Canberra Institute of Technology (CIT), which offers an Advanced Diploma of Spatial Information Services.

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

A survey of employers who had recently advertised for surveying and cartographic associates in the ACT was undertaken for this report. Few advertised vacancies were found, so a number of employers were cold canvassed.

The results of the survey were somewhat conflicting. A majority of employers contacted had, or believed they would have, difficulty finding qualified surveying and cartographic associates, yet the fill rate for vacancies surveyed was fairly high at around 85 per cent. Employers indicated they received an average of seven applicants and one suitable applicant per vacancy. Employers noted most applicants were unsuitable as they did not possess the experience sought. According to employers, applicants also typically lacked relevant qualifications. Approximately half the employers surveyed noted they had previously filled positions with applicants who did not have the exact level or type of experience required and subsequently trained these applicants to better suit the role.

Employers noted surveying and cartographic associates seem to prefer to work in locations other than the ACT for personal reasons and also in search of higher salaries. Some employers contacted did not recruit surveying and cartographic associates as such, but undertook the associated tasks themselves, or recruited staff who had relevant computer skills or retired surveyors to perform these roles.

### **Labour market outlook**

There is no evidence to suggest there will be significant change in the level of supply or demand for skills in this occupation over the next six months.