

Electronic Engineering Associate Professionals		Victoria
ASCO Code: 3124	March 2007	
Labour market rating	No Shortage	
Comment:		

Occupational demand

Demand for electronic engineering associate professionals in Victoria is determined by the level of activity in the economy and the degree of application of telecommunications technology. Victoria's economy had relatively strong growth of 2.9 per cent over the year to December 2006, and the Australian economy grew by 3.7 per cent. The most significant telecommunications technology currently in Victoria is broadband. According to the OECD, the total number of broadband subscribers per 100 inhabitants in Australia by technology in June 2006 was 17.4, an increase of approximately 26 per cent compared to 2005. DEEWR Skilled Vacancies Index data suggests demand for electronic engineering associate professionals had been declining since 2000, but showed a slight increase in 2006.

Occupational supply

Australian Bureau of Statistics Education and Work figures suggest approximately 27 per cent of employed electronic engineering associates have advanced diploma and diploma qualifications. DEEWR estimates there have not been any graduates of the advanced diploma of electronics engineering between 2000 and 2004 within Victoria. However ABS figures also suggest 28 per cent of 20 to 34 year old electronic engineering associates have bachelor degrees. DEEWR estimates the number of persons who completed tertiary education in the field of electronic engineering in 2004 rose approximately 18 per cent compared to completions of 2003. Since 2000 completions have been an average of 76 per year. Supply to the profession from net immigration has decreased, down by almost 31 per cent from last year. Net immigration to Victoria during 2005-06 was approximately 18 electronic engineering associate professionals.

Employer and industry comments/current labour market

The Survey of Employers who Recently Advertised (SERA) found two thirds of electronic engineering associate professional vacancies were filled. The average number of suitable applicants per vacancy was four and the average number of unsuitable applicants per vacancy was 18. Employers considered applicants unsuitable for specific roles due to a lack of relevant skills. In addition, some employers sought training/background in testing and calibration. The large majority of employers did not perceive any other factors that made vacant positions difficult to fill.

Most employers suggested there was a low turnover in the occupation of electronic engineering associate professionals, as people stay with the business to develop themselves, which in turn can lead to career progression within the business.

Labour market outlook

The relatively balanced labour market for electronic engineering associate professionals in Victoria is expected to continue over the next six months.