

<b>Child Care Co-ordinator</b>	<b>Australian Capital Territory</b>
<b>ASCO Code:</b> 1295-11	January 2008
<b>Labour market rating</b>	Shortage
<b>Comment</b>	

### **Occupational demand**

The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) Labour Force Survey 2007 data suggest that this is a small occupation in the Australian Capital Territory (ACT) with around one per cent of child care co-ordinators in Australia employed in the Territory. ABS Census data show an increase of 15 per cent in the number of child care co-ordinators employed in the ACT from 2001 to 2006 to nearly 200. Most child care co-ordinators in Australia are employed in the health and community services industry. Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations Skilled Vacancies Index data show there has been a slight decrease in the number of advertised vacancies in the ACT for child care co-ordinators in the year to September 2007.

### **Occupational supply**

In the ACT a director must have either a Diploma in Community Services (Children's Services), complete an accredited tertiary course in early childcare or education, or hold a Graduate Certificate in Childcare Management. ABS Education and Work data show 23 per cent of child care coordinators hold a bachelor degree or post graduate qualification, and 44 per cent hold an advanced diploma or diploma. The Department of Immigration and Citizenship data show there has been a minimal net gain in the number of self identified child care co-ordinators entering the country between 2003-04 and 2006-07.

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

A survey of employers who had recently advertised found that around one fifth of vacancies were filled within six weeks of advertising. There was an average of 1.8 applicants per vacancy, of whom 0.2 (or 10 per cent) per vacancy were considered by employers to be suitable for their advertised positions. This is significantly lower than the fill rate of nearly three fifths recorded nationally in late 2007.

Surveyed employers were seeking a minimum of a diploma qualification, and in some cases, a degree in early childhood education. Some employers mentioned that both level four child care workers (those with a diploma in children's services) and preschool teachers (qualified by a degree in early childhood education) are difficult to recruit, and as these are the qualifications generally acceptable for positions as a director, the difficulty in filling positions was not unexpected by most contacts.

### **Labour market outlook**

There is no evidence to suggest the labour market rating for child care co-ordinators will change over the next six months.