

AUSTRALIA

March 2009

3223-11 Metal Fabricator

(review)

Review rating: *No Shortage*

Employer and industry comments/current labour market

A survey of employers who have recently advertised was undertaken in March 2009. Nationally, 86% of vacancies were filled within four weeks of advertising, doubling since the research was last undertaken in November 2008.

A large number of employers commented that they received an increase in the number of applications when compared to the number they received 6-8 months ago. Employers felt that this seemed to be directly attributed to the global financial crisis, increasing the availability of metal fabricators. This increased availability resulted in 7.8 suitable applicants per vacancy compared to 0.7 in November 2008.

The majority of metal fabricators are employed in the manufacturing (76%) or construction (14%) industry. Due to the uncertain impact of the global financial crisis in these industry's, many employers are uncertain of future work contracts and were therefore unable to provide a picture of whether there will be ongoing demand in their business for further recruitment of metal fabricators.

Labour Market Outlook

The current labour market suggests that there is no longer a shortage of sheetmetal workers. This is expected to continue over the next 6-12 months as a result of uncertainty in the future demand for metal fabricators.