

## **AUSTRALIA**

**March 2009**

### **3222-11 Sheetmetal Trades Worker (review)**

**Previous national labour market rating and date of research (full report):** Shortage, November 2008

**Review rating:** No Shortage

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

A survey of employers who have recently advertised was undertaken in March 2009. Sheetmetal workers were last assessed in November 2008 and since then; employers have experienced an increase in the number of vacancies filled, increasing from 41 percent to 73 percent. Employers felt that they received more applicants as a result of the global financial crisis, with the number of suitable applicants per vacancy increasing from 0.5 to 4.2. It is interesting to note, however, that while the majority of employers had an increased interest and number of suitable applicants for their vacancy, other employers in similar metro areas reported having no interest in their advertisement. Some employers also noted that they would not continue to re-advertise positions due to an ongoing inability to fill the position through their advertisements.

While the number of vacancies filled has increased substantially, employers commented that there seems to be problems with suitable applicants only remaining in the job short term, or not turning up at all. Employers also noted that while they filled the advertised position, they would have preferred workers with more specific experience or skills to their business.

#### **Labour Market Outlook**

The current labour market reflects that there is no longer a shortage of sheetmetal trades workers. This is expected to continue over the next 6-12 months as employers are uncertain about the impact of the current economic climate on their business.