



Labour Market Information

Learning Outcomes

The information in this resource will develop your knowledge and understanding of:

- 🌿 The importance of labour market information when exploring occupation, course or employment options.
- 🌿 The nature of labour market information.
- 🌿 High quality sources of labour market information to assist with career exploration.

Labour Market Information and Career Exploration

Choosing an occupation, a course or employment option should be based on your interests, skills, values and personal situation. However, it is also important to consider an occupation or a course or employment option that has good future prospects. This is why you need to explore labour market information for the occupation, course or employment options you are considering.

The labour market refers to:

- 🌿 Jobs and workers needed by industry, business and employers and the characteristics of these.
- 🌿 The availability of people for work and their skills and characteristics.
- 🌿 The cost of labour, including wages and benefits.

Labour market information describes the conditions of the labour market with data from the past and present as well as future projections.

Locating and interpreting labour market information can help you understand where the jobs are and where they might

be in the future when you finish school or when you graduate from your vocational education and training or higher education study.

There are several high quality resources with reliable Australian labour market information.

The *Australian Jobs* publication is an annual publication that contains national and state/territory information on:

- 🌿 Employment numbers and trends in the 19 Australian industry groups, 8 broad occupational groups and over 350 individual occupations.
- 🌿 Past and projected future growth or decline in numbers employed in different industry and occupation groups.
- 🌿 Employment outcomes for different types of education and training.
- 🌿 Information about what employers look for when recruiting and job hunting tips.

The Job Outlook website enables you to search for the labour market information for occupations of interest to you. Labour market information for occupations you search for





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includes state/territory and regional information on numbers employed, tasks involved, education and training required, expected future employment prospects, pay level, links to education and training courses and links to vacancies.

The Job Outlook 'Explore Australia' link allows you to search for labour market information about your state/territory, region within your state/territory and your electorate. The labour market information about where you live includes the employment, unemployment and participation rate in your region and the jobs that are growing and declining where you live. You can even find out the skills that employers specify in their job advertisements for the largest growing jobs where you live. This is very helpful information when applying for jobs!

Additional sources of local labour market information include:

- Local media reports about local economic developments and investment. This information may have implications for current or emerging job opportunities at the local level.
- Networking with local industry, business, employers and workers to source information about local employment opportunities.

The Labour Market Information Portal website has up-to-date comprehensive information at the national, state/territory and regional level, although you may not find it easy to use.

If you plan to study a course at a university or other higher education institution, you can use the Quality Indicators of Learning and Teaching website to compare the graduate employment outcomes for study areas of interest to you at up to 6 universities or higher education institutions. The My Skills

website provides labour market information for vocational education and training qualifications, including the percentage of graduates who achieved an improved employment status (e.g., found work, got a new job, gained a promotion, received a pay increase, or started or further developed a business).

With all this labour market information at your fingertips, it can be easy to become confused. Your school career practitioner will be able to help you to make sense of labour market information and guide you in reflecting on the implications for your career-related choices.





Additional Resources on This Topic

Australian Jobs¹

Job Outlook²

QILT³

What To Read Next

 **How to explore occupations**

1. <https://www.jobs.gov.au/australian-jobs-publication>
2. <https://joboutlook.gov.au/Default.aspx>
3. <https://www.qilt.edu.au/>