

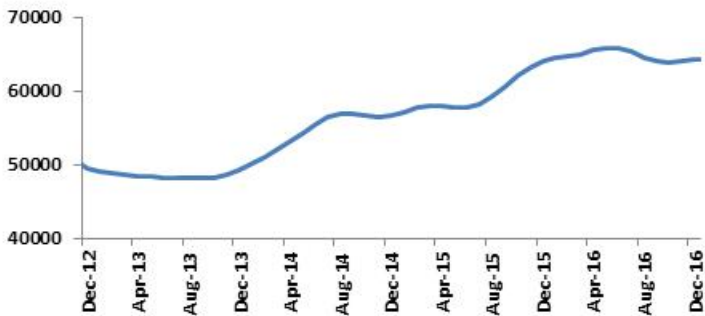


New South Wales Recruitment Conditions Monitor

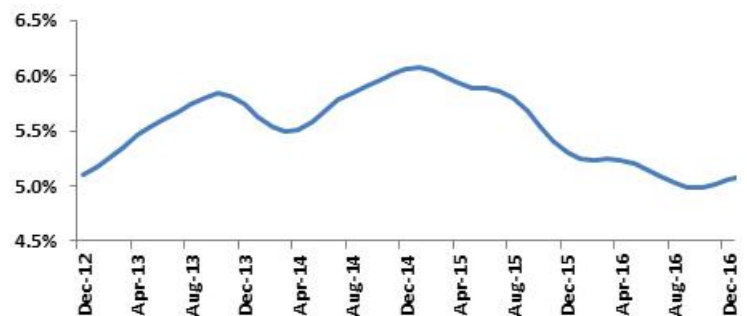
The Department of Employment monitors recruitment conditions using the *Survey of Employers' Recruitment Experiences*. Each year more than 3,000 employers from across New South Wales respond to the survey.

Employment growth in New South Wales was strong in 2016, growing by an average of 2.5 per cent over the year, well above the growth of 1.6 per cent for Australia. The number of vacancies advertised on the internet remained well above lows recorded in 2013, while the unemployment rate continued to decline to be among the lowest of all the States and Territories at 5.2 per cent in December 2016.

Monthly Internet Vacancies



Unemployment rate



Results from the *Survey of Employers' Recruitment Experiences* show that, in line with the increased demand for labour in 2016, recruitment conditions tightened in NSW. In 2016, a larger proportion of workplaces in NSW increased staff numbers compared to the rest of Australia, while a smaller proportion decreased staff. Recruitment exercises attracted smaller fields of applicants. Lower skilled jobs attracted an average of 12 applicants per advertised vacancy compared to 16 applicants for the rest of Australia.

Change in staff numbers, previous 12 months



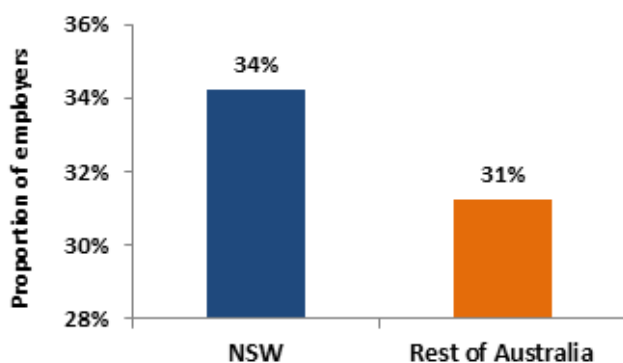
Average applicant numbers*



* Vacancies advertised on the internet or newspaper

With fewer applicants to choose from, employers in NSW were more likely to report recruitment difficulties than those in the rest of Australia. More than one third (34 per cent) of employers in NSW described their most recent recruitment exercise as 'difficult', while 8.6 per cent of recent vacancies remained unfilled.

Recruitment difficulty



Unfilled vacancies

