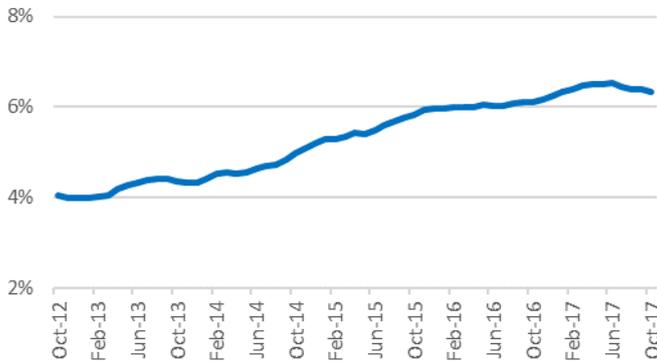




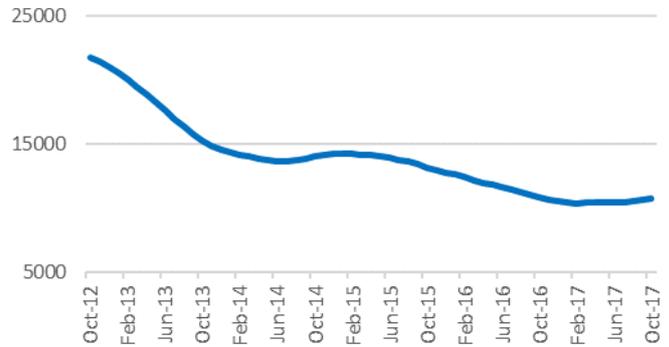
Perth Recruitment Conditions Monitor

Recruitment conditions in Perth appear to be improving following a five year period of rising unemployment, falling vacancy numbers and an employment growth rate which was less than half that of Australia (3.5 per cent compared with 7.2 per cent). In 2017, the number of internet vacancies increased by more than 3 per cent, while the unemployed rate has fallen to 6.3 per cent in October 2017 - latest data.

Unemployment rate

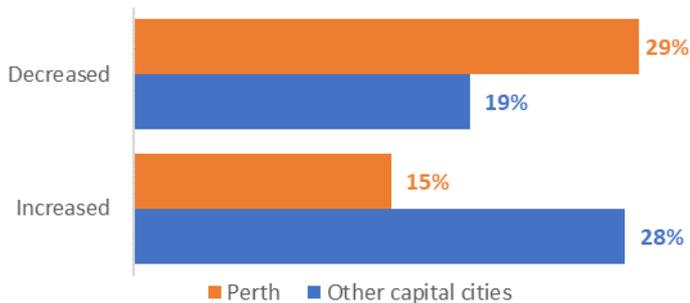


Monthly Internet Vacancies



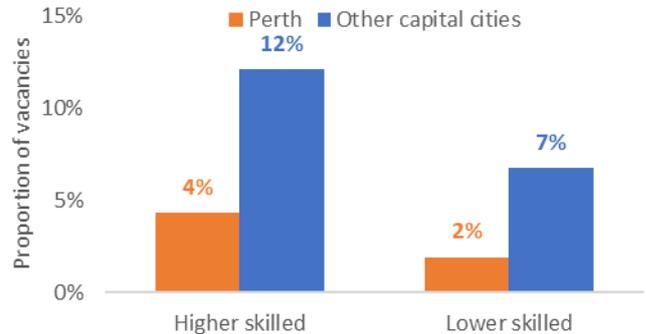
Despite the recent improvement in labour market conditions, results from the Department of Employment's *Survey of Employers' Recruitment Experiences* highlight the subdued recruitment conditions in Perth compared with other capital cities. Almost three in ten employers (29 per cent) in Perth reported a decrease in staff numbers over the year to June 2017, with only 19 per cent of employers in other capital cities decreasing staff. Similarly, a much smaller proportion of employers in Perth reported increasing staff numbers (15 per cent) compared to other capital cities (28 per cent). The softer labour market conditions in Perth have resulted in lower levels of recruitment difficulty for employers compared with other cities. In 2017, employers in Perth reported that 4 per cent of higher skilled vacancies and only 2 per cent of lower skilled vacancies remained unfilled. This compares with 12 per cent and 7 per cent respectively for the other capital cities.

Employers who increased/decreased staff*



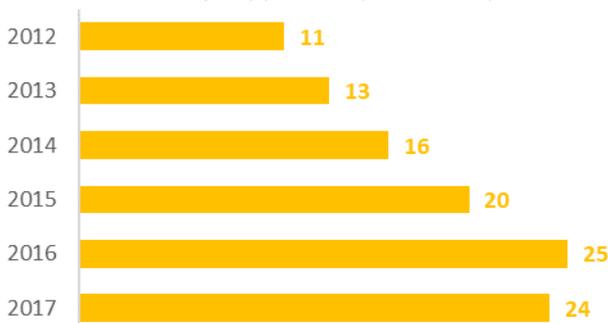
*Over previous 12 months.

Unfilled vacancies



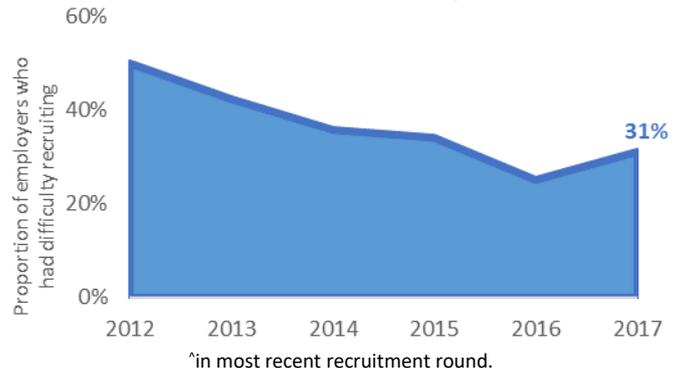
The survey results show that while recruitment conditions have deteriorated substantially over the past five years, there are signs that the jobs market could be beginning to recover. Competition for vacancies increased significantly from an average of 11 applicants per vacancy in 2012 to 25 in 2016, but fell slightly in 2017 to 24 applicants per vacancy. As the field of applicants per vacancy increased over the years, the proportion of employers in Perth reporting difficulty recruiting in their most recent recruitment round decreased from 50 to 25 per cent, before increasing to 31 per cent in 2017.

Average applicants per vacancy**



** Vacancies advertised on the internet or newspaper.

Recruitment difficulty^



The Department of Employment monitors recruitment conditions using the *Survey of Employers' Recruitment Experiences*. Around 800 employers from across Perth responded to the survey in 2017.