

... control and manage the operations of ships, boats and marine equipment.

**Note: Only the occupations Ship's Engineer, Ship's Master and Ship's Officer are included on the Skilled Occupations List (SOL).**

### Indicative Skill Level

Most occupations in this unit group have a level of skill commensurate with a Bachelor degree or higher qualification. At least five years of relevant experience may substitute for the formal qualification. In some instances relevant experience and/or on-the-job training may be required in addition to the formal qualification (ANZSCO Skill Level 1).

### Skilled Occupation Criteria

#### *Long-lead time*

Marine Transport Professionals meet the criteria for long lead time, as entry to this occupation requires a substantial training commitment.

- ▶ Employment as a Marine Transport Professional generally requires the completion of a university qualification of at least four years study (full-time equivalent), such as a Bachelor of Maritime and Logistics Management or a Bachelor of Engineering (Marine and Offshore Systems).

#### *High risk*

Marine Transport Professionals also meet the criteria for high risk/high disruption. This indicates that the occupation is important for the effective operation of an enterprise and/or the broader economy.

- ▶ Ship's Engineers, Ship's Masters and Ship's Officers meet the criteria for high risk, as these occupations require licensing.
- ▶ Marine Transport Professionals are important to meet government policy priorities at both the Commonwealth and state level. These include developing maritime innovation, ensuring competitive international gateways and encouraging measures to revitalise the sector.

**Three of the six occupations in the unit group Marine Transport Professionals have not been included on the Skilled Occupations List (SOL): Master Fisher, Ship's Surveyor and Marine Transport Professionals nec [not elsewhere classified].**

- ▶ Master Fishers do not meet any of the Skilled Occupation Criteria. It is not a professional occupation, and only 48% of workers hold a post-school qualification (*2006 Census*). In addition, fishing restrictions and the imposition of quotas will lead to a fall in the availability of licenses, limiting opportunities for Master Fishers over the medium term.
- ▶ Marine Transport Professionals nec has been removed because it is too generic a category, with a small number of workers (280 according to the *2006 Census*).
- ▶ Ship's Surveyor has been removed because it is a niche occupation (430 workers according to the *2006 Census*). The assessing authority, the Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA), also advises that qualified Ship's Surveyors generally come from engineering and seafaring backgrounds, and qualifications can be assessed under alternative occupations listed on the Skilled Occupations List (SOL).

## Occupation trends

### **ANZSCO: 2312**

### **Marine Transport Professionals**

<b>Employment level</b>	11,000 Almost all workers are employed full-time (92.5%).
<b>6 digit employment (2006 Census)</b>	231211 Master Fisher 720 231212 Ship's Engineer 1810 231213 Ship's Master 2980 231214 Ship's Officer 690 231215 Ship's Surveyor 430 231299 Marine Transport Professionals, nec 280
<b>Employment growth</b>	Over the five years to August 2010, employment increased by 87.8% (compared with growth of 12.1% for all occupations). Employment is expected to grow by 17.1% over the next five years (compared with projected growth of 9.5% for all occupations).
<b>Unemployment rate</b>	There is almost no unemployment for this occupation.
<b>Educational profile</b>	Around 41.6% have a Bachelor degree or higher qualification.
<b>Vacancies</b>	The Internet Vacancy Index (IVI) fell by 24.4% over the 12 months to September 2010 to 110.6 (March 2006=100). Vacancies for all occupations increased by 19.4%.
<b>Gender</b>	Around 5.2% of workers are female (compared with 45.4% for all occupations).
<b>Labour turnover</b>	Around 8.6% of workers leave this occupation in a year compared with 13.1% for all occupations.
<b>Age profile</b>	The median age is 42.2 years and 44.8% are aged 45 years and over (compared with 38.5% for all occupations).
<b>Earnings</b>	Median full-time weekly earnings (before tax) are high (\$1841).
<b>Graduate outcomes</b>	Not available
<b>Skill shortages</b>	Shortages of Ship's Engineers were identified in 2007.

### **Labour market**

231211 Master Fisher: Not assessed

231212,13 Ship's Engineer and Ship's Master: Research into the labour markets for Ship's Engineer and Ship's Master has been very difficult over the past few years with almost no advertised vacancies and difficulty making adequate numbers of contacts to assess these occupations. The vast majority of the small number of vacancies surveyed were filled in late 2009, although shortages of Ship's Engineers were identified in 2007-08. 2006 Census data suggests about 70% of Ship's Engineers and about 50% of Ship's Masters held a Diploma/Advanced Diploma or Certificate III/IV. Shortages of Ship's Masters have not been identified through DEEWR research.

231214 Ship's Officer: Not assessed

231215 Ship's Surveyor: Not assessed

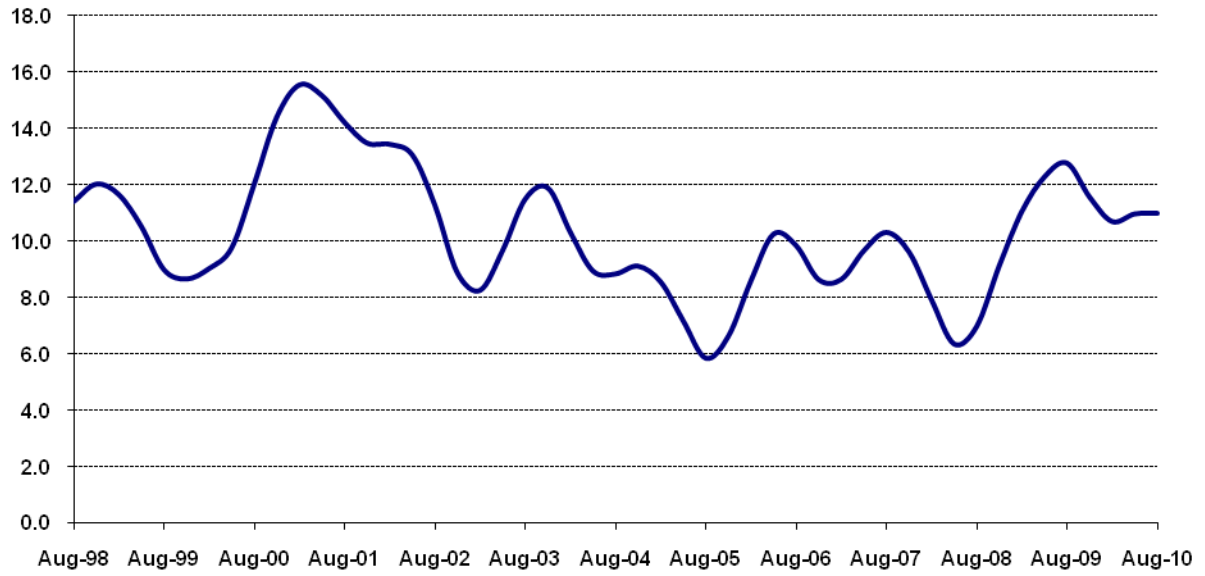
231299 Marine Transport Professionals, nec: Not assessed

**Summary**

The skill level varies across this occupational group. For the small occupation of Master Fisher the 2006 Census educational profile suggests a relatively low level of formal education is required, with data showing 48% do not hold qualifications higher than Year 12 and 35% hold Certificate III/IV. There has also been some buying back of fishing licences by state governments over the past decade which may have impacted on demand.

Employment growth for the Marine Transport Professionals group has been strong over the past five years and relatively strong, albeit more moderate, growth is projected to continue. The workforce has a relatively old age profile suggesting that in addition to demand for new jobs, there will be significant demand for replacement of existing workers over the next decade. There is little unemployment, although advertised vacancy levels remain low compared with those recorded prior to the onset of the global recession.

Marine Transport Professionals  
Employed Persons ('000s) Aug 1998 to Aug 2010



Internet Vacancy Index (IVI) - 3 Monthly Average - Nov 2006 - Sept 2010  
Marine Transport Professionals (March 2006 = 100)

