

... design commercial, industrial, institutional, residential and recreational buildings and landscapes.

Indicative Skill Level

Most occupations in this unit group have a level of skill commensurate with a Bachelor degree or higher 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

Architects and Landscape Architects meet the criteria for long lead time, as entry to this occupation requires a substantial training commitment.

- ▶ Employment as an Architect or Landscape Architect generally requires the completion of a university qualification of at least four years study (full-time equivalent), such as a Bachelor of Architectural Design.
- ▶ Of vocational education and training (VET) students, 56% took more than 1000 contact hours to complete their training (*NCVER Students and Courses, 2010*).

High use

Architects and Landscape Architects meet the criteria for high use, showing that the skills which people have acquired through education and training are being deployed for the uses intended.

- ▶ Based on advice from Universities Australia, university courses in architecture and landscape architecture have a strong degree of match with eventual employment in architectural occupations.
- ▶ Of new graduates employed as Architects or Landscape Architects, 94% had studied in a related field, such as building or architecture and urban environment.
- ▶ As professionals, Architects and Landscape Architects are expected to have a level of skill commensurate with a Bachelor degree or higher qualification. Of those employed as Architects or Landscape Architects, 91% were found to possess this level of skill (*ABS Survey of Education and Work, 2010*).¹

High risk

Architects and Landscape Architects 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.

- ▶ Architects and Landscape Architects are required to register with their state Board of Architects prior to employment in some states and territories.
- ▶ Architects and Landscape Architects are important to meet government policy priorities at both the Commonwealth and state level. These include the Solar Flagships Program, the Nation Building Program, and Building Australia Fund Projects.

¹ Analysis for the Skilled Occupations List (SOL) was conducted using the latest available data, including the 2010 ABS Survey of Education and Work (SEW). Percentages may therefore differ from those cited in the 'Occupation Trends' analysis (over the page), which uses alternative sources in some instances (e.g. the 2008 ABS Survey of Education and Work). Small sample sizes for some occupations may also result in fluctuations in the SEW data between 2008 and 2010. The specific data sources used for the Occupation Trends analysis can be found on the Skills Australia website: <http://www.skillsaustralia.gov.au/SOLsummarysheets.shtml>.

Occupation trends

ANZSCO: 2321

Architects and Landscape Architects

Employment level	19,600 A high proportion of workers (82.8%) are employed full-time.
6 digit employment (2006 Census)	232111 Architect 13,280 232112 Landscape Architect 2450
Employment growth	Over the five years to August 2010, employment decreased by 5.4% (compared with growth of 12.1% for all occupations). Employment is expected to rise by 24.0% over the next five years (compared with projected growth of 9.5% for all occupations).
Unemployment rate	Below average (around 1.8%) compared with all occupations.
Educational profile	Around 85.7% have a Bachelor degree or higher qualification.
Vacancies	The Internet Vacancy Index (IVI) rose by 49.2% over the 12 months to September 2010 to 128.0 (March 2006=100). Vacancies for all occupations increased by 19.4%.
Gender	Around 27.5% of workers are female (compared with 45.4% for all occupations).
Labour turnover	Around 6.3% of workers leave this occupation in a year compared with 13.1% for all occupations.
Age profile	The median age is 41.5 years and 45.1% are aged 45 years and over (compared with 38.5% for all occupations).
Earnings	Median full-time weekly earnings (before tax) are high (\$1435).
Graduate outcomes	Graduate Careers Australia data show 91% of Bachelor degree graduates in architecture seeking full-time work were working four months after graduation, 68% of whom were employed as Design and Architecture Professionals and 16% as Building and Engineering Technicians. However, most Bachelor degrees do not qualify students to be registered Architects without further study.
Skill shortages	National shortages of Architects were identified through DEEWR research in 2006, 2007 and 2008.

Labour market

232111 Architect: Shortages of Architects were evident from 2006 to 2008 but in early 2009 large numbers of qualified applicants were recorded for each advertised vacancy. Despite signs in late 2009 of a tighter labour market, 2010 DEEWR research shows continued easing in demand with an increase in both the proportion of vacancies filled (from 71% to 74%) and the average number of suitable applicants per vacancy (from 2.3 to 3.3).

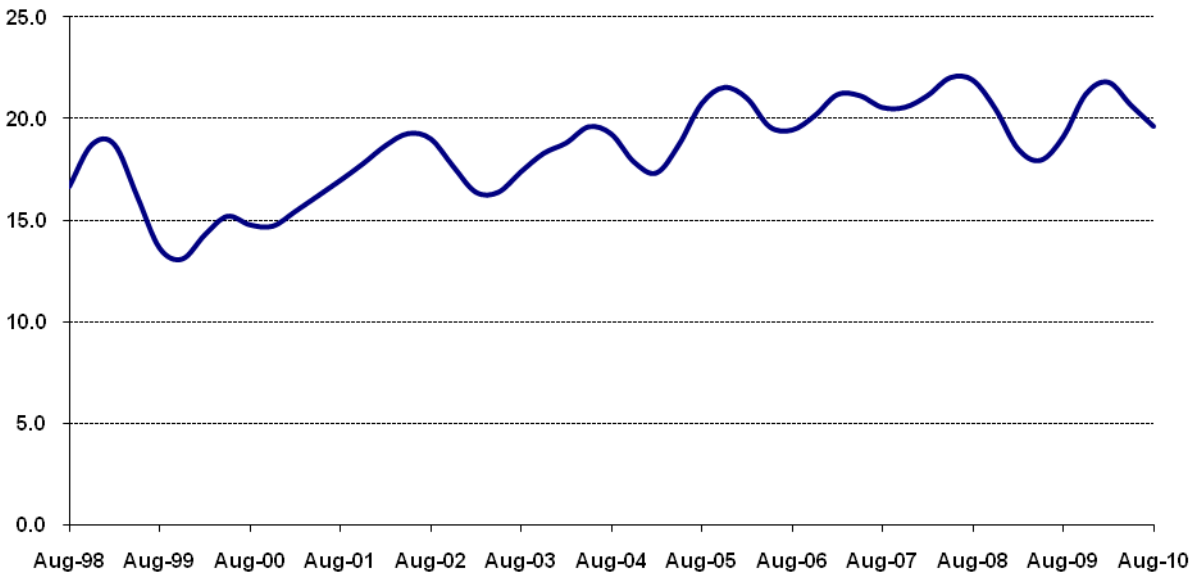
In 2010 employers reported a strong response to their vacancies particularly from graduates. Those employers seeking to fill senior positions experienced more difficulty, but most were successful. The Skilled Vacancy Index shows advertised vacancy numbers have risen since early 2010 suggesting there has been some recovery, but levels are well below those experienced when shortages were apparent.

232112 Landscape Architect: Shortages have not been recorded in this occupation. Research in late 2009 showed in excess of 90% of vacancies were filled and, on average, there were about three suitable applicants per vacancy.

Summary

Employment has declined over the past five years, however strong growth is expected over the next five years. Unemployment is low. The age profile is relatively old so demand will be for replacement of existing workers as well as from the creation of new positions. Shortages of Architects were widespread before the global recession, but vacancy levels remain low compared with this period and employers continue to find it relatively easy to recruit.

Architects and Landscape Architects
Employed Persons ('000s) Aug 1998 to Aug 2010



Internet Vacancy Index (IVI) - 3 Monthly Average - Nov 2006 - Sept 2010
Architects and Landscape Architects (March 2006 = 100)

