

... provide direct medical care to patients requiring general or local anaesthesia for surgical, diagnostic and other procedures such as prevention of pain and maintenance of body function. Anaesthetic Registrars training as Anaesthetists are included in this unit group.

Indicative Skill Level

Occupations in this unit group have a level of skill commensurate with a Bachelor degree or higher qualification, two years hospital-based training, and at least five years specialist study and training (ANZSCO Skill Level 1).

Skilled Occupation Criteria

Long-lead time

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

- ▶ Employment as an Anaesthetist generally requires the completion of a university qualification of at least four years study (full-time equivalent), two years hospital-based training, and at least 5 years specialist study and training.

High use

Anaesthetists 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 anaesthetics have a strong degree of match with eventual employment as an Anaesthetist.
- ▶ Of new graduates employed as Anaesthetists, 78% were found to have studied in a related field, such as medical studies or public health (*Australian Graduate Survey, 2009*).
- ▶ As professionals, Anaesthetists are expected to have a level of skill commensurate with a Bachelor degree or higher qualification. Of those employed as Anaesthetists, 100% were found to possess this level of skill (*ABS Survey of Education and Work, 2010*).¹

High risk

Anaesthetists 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.

- ▶ Anaesthetists are required to register with the Medical Board of their state or territory in order to gain professional recognition and be licensed to practise.
- ▶ Anaesthetists are important to meet government policy priorities at both the Commonwealth and state level. These include meeting the health demands of an ageing population, addressing the health needs of rural and regional Australia, meeting the recommendations of the National Health and Hospitals Reform Commission, the Clinical Training Funding Initiative, and the Clinical Supervision Support Program.

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: 2532

Anaesthetists

Employment level

5200 A high proportion of workers (89.9%) are employed full-time.

6 digit employment (2006 Census)

253211 Anaesthetist 2730

Employment growth

Over the five years to August 2010, employment increased by 42.6% (compared with growth of 12.1% for all occupations).

Employment is expected to rise by 7.7% over the next five years (compared with projected growth of 9.5% for all occupations).

There is almost no unemployment for this occupation.

Unemployment rate

Educational profile

Almost all workers have a Bachelor degree or higher qualification.

Vacancies

The Internet Vacancy Index (IVI) increased by 20.0% over the 12 months to September 2010 to 75.0 (March 2006=100). Vacancies for all occupations increased by 19.4%.

Gender

Around 18.8% of workers are female (compared with 45.4% for all occupations).

Labour turnover

Around 6.4% of workers leave this occupation in a year compared with 13.1% for all occupations.

Age profile

The median age is 50 years and 54.2% are aged 45 years and over (compared with 38.5% for all occupations).

Earnings

Median full-time weekly earnings (before tax) are high (\$4972).

Graduate outcomes

Graduate Careers Australia data show 94% of Bachelor degree graduates in medicine seeking full-time work were working four months after graduation, 95% of whom were employed as Health Professionals.

Skill shortages

Not assessed through DEEWR research

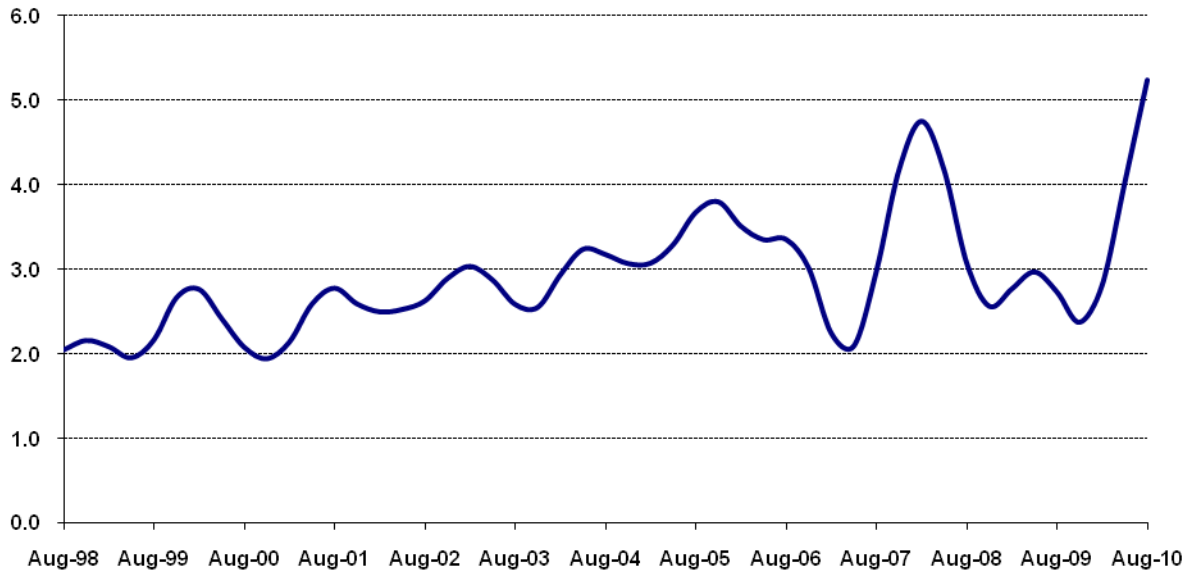
Labour market

Not assessed

Summary

The workforce is ageing and although employment growth is expected to be slight, there is likely to be strong ongoing demand.

Anaesthetists
Employed Persons ('000s) Aug 1998 to Aug 2010



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

