



Australian Government
Department of Education, Employment
and Workplace Relations



Employment Outlook for Other Services



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Introduction

The Other Services industry is a smaller medium-sized industry in the Australian economy, employing 450 700 people (or 4.2 per cent of the total workforce) as at February 2009.

The industry is divided into nine (albeit wide ranging) sectors: Automotive Repair and Maintenance, Personal Care Services, Machinery and Equipment Repair and Maintenance, Other Personal Services¹, Civic, Professional and Other Interest Groups, Religious Services, Other Repair and Maintenance, Funeral, Crematorium and Cemetery Services and Private Households and Service-Producing Activities (own use).

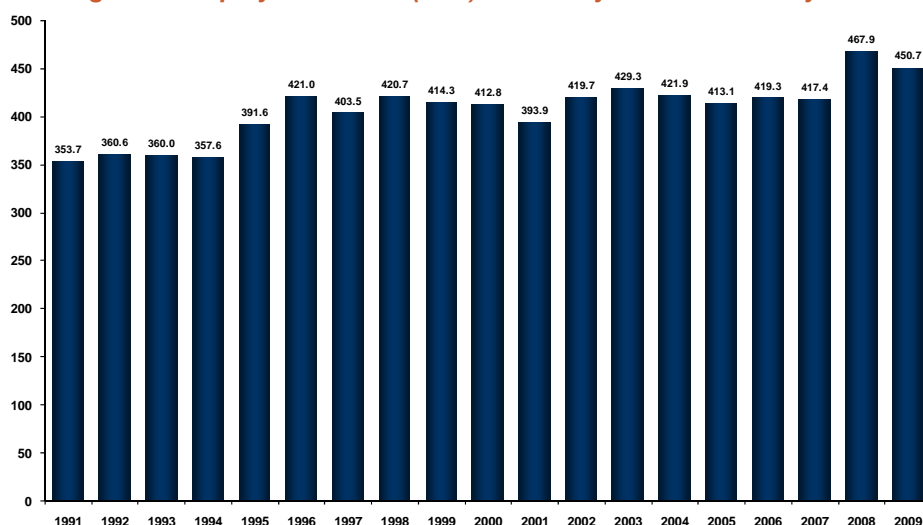
The discussion below focuses on employment characteristics, trends and prospects in the Other Services industry, and highlights sectors where job growth is strongest. The analysis of characteristics includes workforce ageing, employment share by gender, educational profile, weekly earnings, average hours worked, regional and occupational employment.

¹ Other Personal Services include Laundries and Dry Cleaners, Photographic Film Processing, Parking and Personal Services not elsewhere classified.

Employment Growth

In the five years to February 2009, employment in Other Services increased by 28 800 (or 6.8 per cent) to 450 700 (see Figure 1). This equates to an increase, on average, of 1.3 per cent per year (see Figure 2).

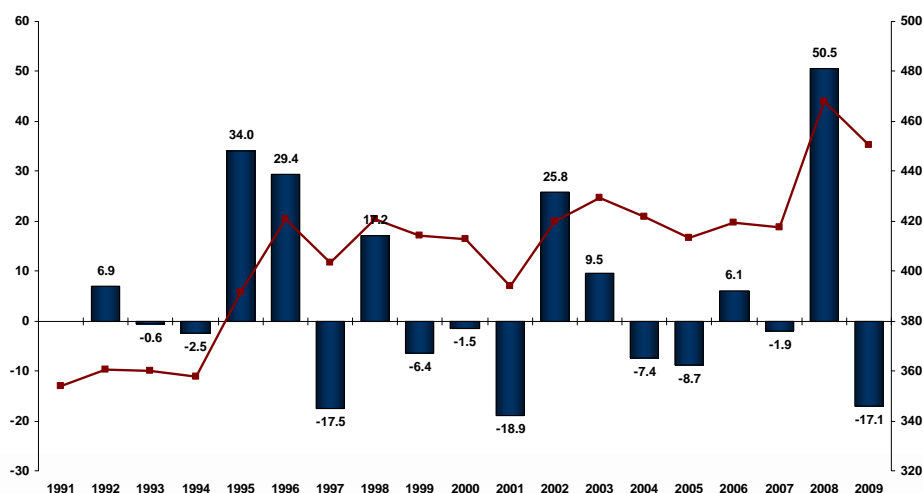
Figure 1: Employment Level ('000) - February 1991 to February 2009



Source: ABS Labour Force Survey (DEEWR trend data)

Employment growth in Other Services has been fairly volatile since February 1990 (see Figure 2). In the year to February 2001 employment decreased (down by 18 900) but this was immediately followed by an increase of 25 800 in the year to February 2002. The reverse variability occurred in the year to February 2008, with an increase in employment of 50 500 followed by a decline of 17 100 in the year to February 2009. Due to the breadth of the industry, employment levels within Other Services tend to be subject to flow on effects from private consumption (in areas such as hairdressing and laundry services).

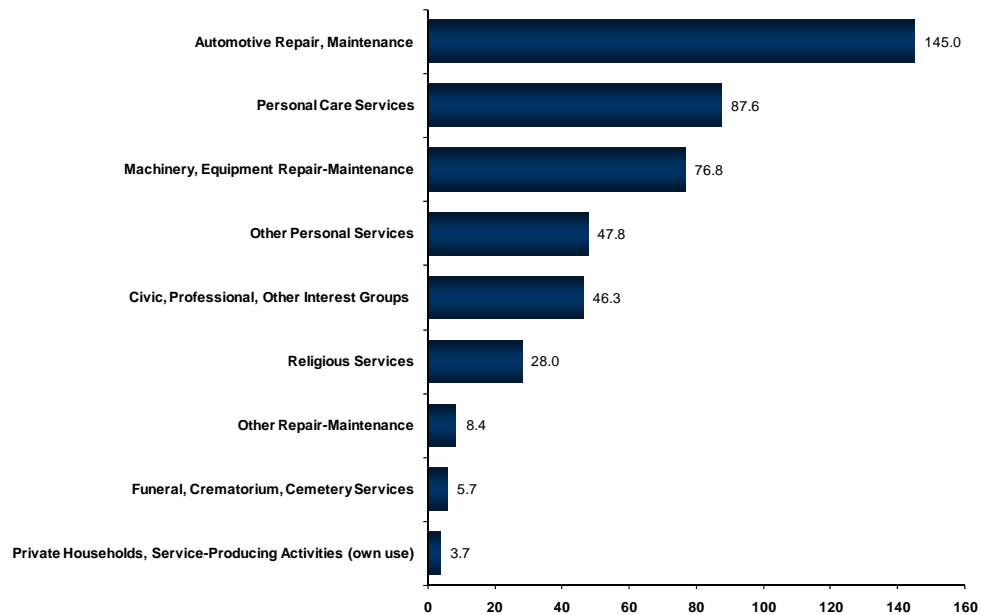
Figure 2: Employment Level (line RHS) and Annual Change ('000) - Year to February (cols LHS)



Source: ABS Labour Force Survey (DEEWR trend data)

When employment in the Other Services industry is broken down into specific sectors, the main contributors to employment can be identified. In February 2009, 32.3 per cent (145 000) of persons employed in Other Services were working in Automotive Repair and Maintenance (see Figure 3), followed by 19.5 per cent (87 600) in Personal Care Services and 17.1 per cent (76 800) in Machinery and Equipment Repair and Maintenance. Only a very small number of workers were employed in Private Households and Service-Producing Activities (3700 or 0.8 per cent), in Funeral, Crematorium and Cemetery Services (5700 or 1.3 per cent) and in Other Repair and Maintenance (8400 or 1.9 per cent).

Figure 3: Other Services Sectors - Employment Level ('000) - February 2009



Source: ABS Labour Force Survey (DEEWR trend data)

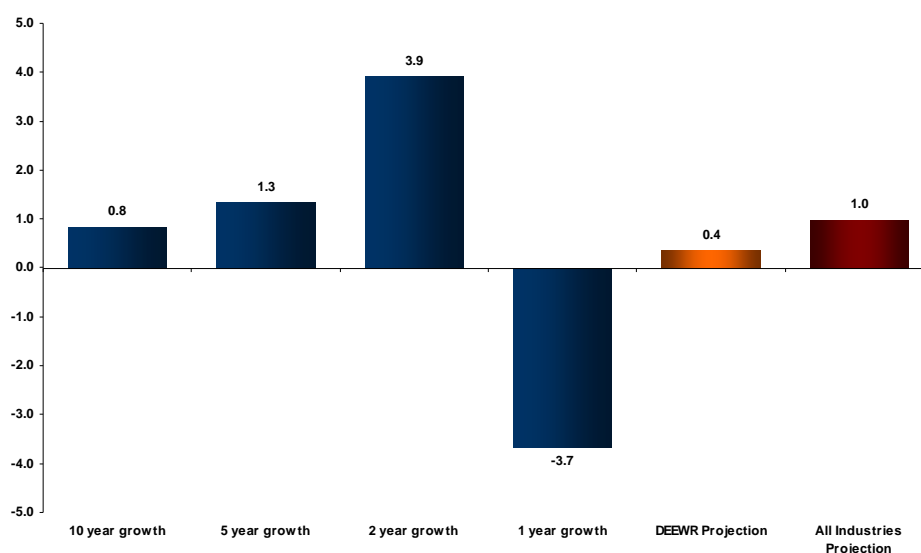
Employment Prospects

The Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR) prepares annual updates of employment projections for industries for the next five years. These are based in part on the Monash model developed by the Centre of Policy Studies at Monash University, but also take into account recent employment trends and prospective industry developments. It should be noted that a certain degree of risk is attached to these employment projections, especially for sectors within the broader Other Services industry.

In the five years to 2013-2014, employment in Other Services is expected to increase at an average rate of 0.4 per cent per annum (see Figure 4), which equates to a total increase of 8100.

- The projection over the five years to 2013-2014 for all industries is an average increase of 1.0 per cent per annum.

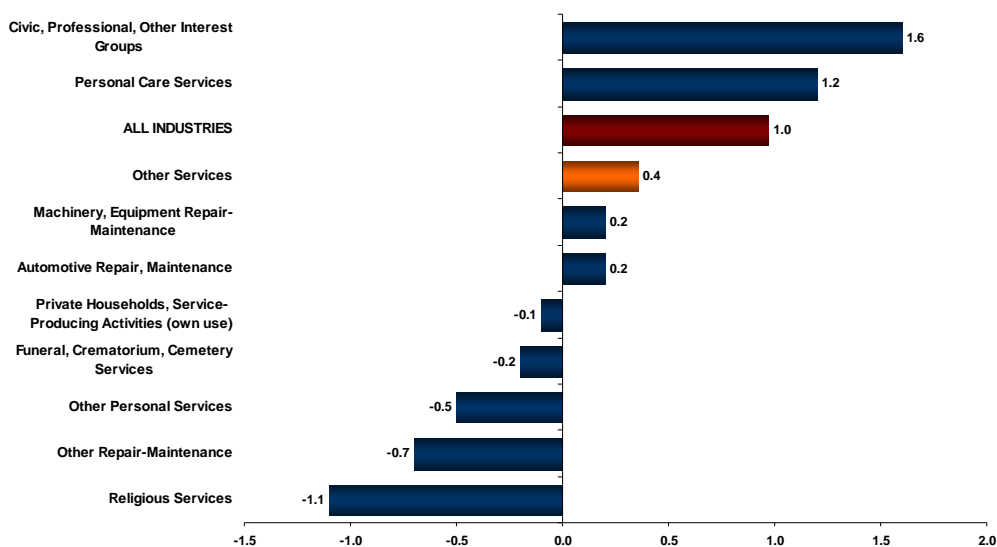
Figure 4: Recent and Projected Employment Growth (% pa) - to February 2009 (past) and 5 years to 2013-2014 (projected)



Source: ABS Labour Force Survey (DEEWR trend data); DEEWR projections

Employment is expected to increase in four of the nine sectors within Other Services (see Figure 5). Employment in Civic, Professional and Other Interest Groups is projected to grow by 1.6 per cent per annum over the five years to 2013-2014, followed by Personal Care Services (1.2 per cent), Machinery and Equipment Repair and Maintenance and Automotive Repair and Maintenance (both up by 0.2 per cent). The largest projected declines are in Religious Services (down by 1.1 per cent), Other Repair and Maintenance (0.7 per cent) and Other Personal Services (0.5 per cent).

Figure 5: Other Services Sectors - Projected Employment Growth (% pa) to 2013-2014

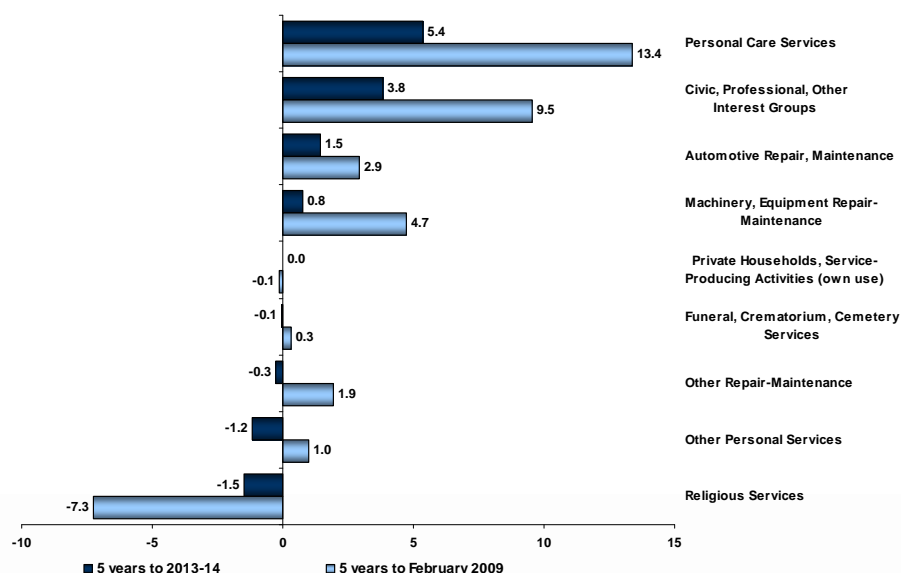


Source: DEEWR projections

In the five years to February 2009, Personal Care Services experienced the largest growth (up by 13 400, see Figure 6), followed by Civic, Professional and Other Interest Groups (9500) and Machinery and Equipment Repair and Maintenance (4700). Declines occurred in Religious Services (down by 7300).

Looking ahead, in the five years to 2013-2014, employment growth is expected in four sectors with the largest increase for Personal Care Services (up by 5400), followed by Civic, Professional and Other Interest Groups (3800) and Automotive Repair and Maintenance (1500).

Figure 6: Other Services Sectors – Recent and Future Employment Growth ('000) 5 years to February 2009 (past) and to 2013-14 (projected)

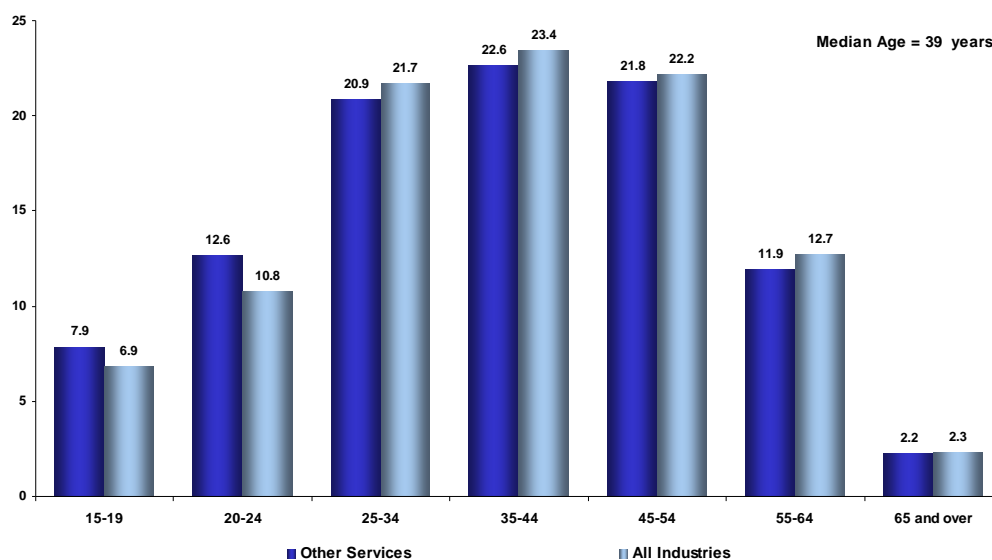


Source: ABS Labour Force Survey (DEEWR trend data); DEEWR projections

Workforce Ageing

The age profile of the Other Services industry is comparable to that for all industries (see Figure 7), with a low proportion of mature age workers. The largest share of employment in the Other Services industry is for workers aged 35 to 44 years (22.6 per cent), with a large number of workers also aged between 45 and 54 years (21.8 per cent).

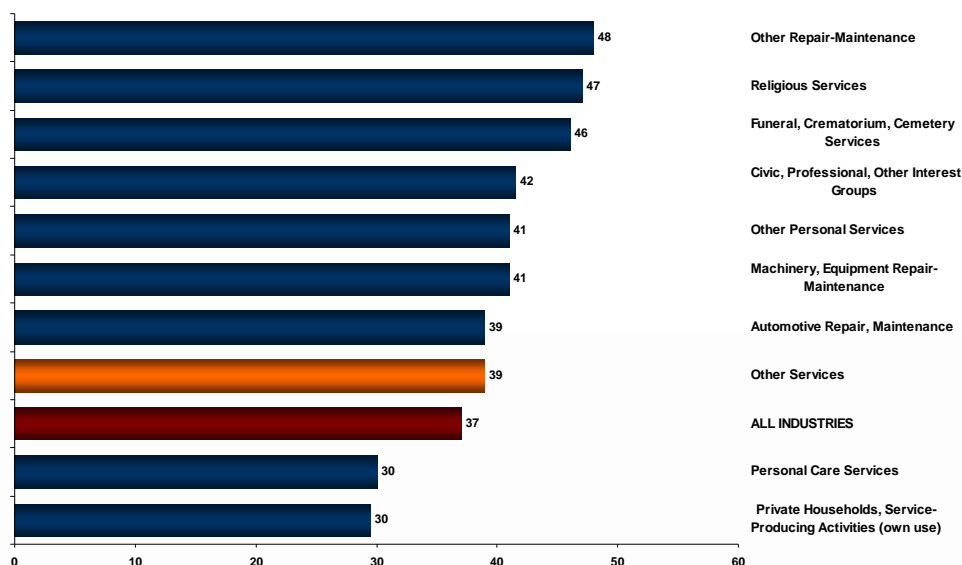
Figure 7: Employed Persons by Age compared with All Industries (% share of employment) - 2008



Source: ABS Labour Force Survey

When examining the median age of each sector (see Figure 8), Other Repair and Maintenance has the highest median age of 48 years, followed by Religious Services (47 years) and Funeral, Crematorium and Cemetery Services (46 years). Private Households and Service Producing Activities and Personal Care Services had the lowest median age (both at 30 years).

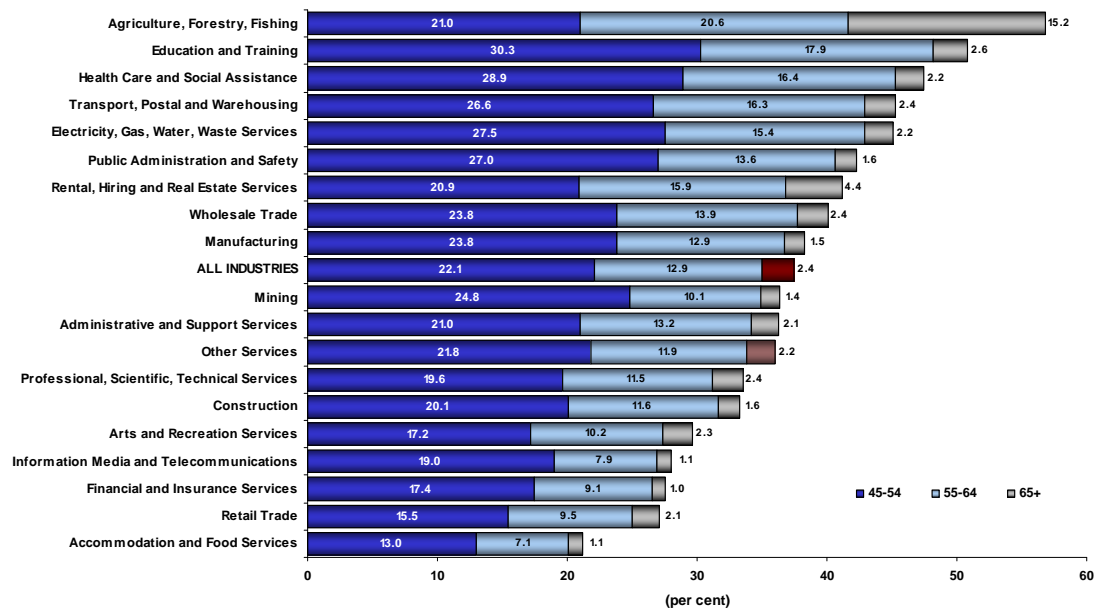
Figure 8: Other Services Sectors – Median Age (years) - 2008



Source: ABS Labour Force Survey. Data for Private Households Employing Staff are unavailable.

The Mature age share for other Services was below the average share for all industries. In 2008, 35.9 per cent of workers were over the age of 45 years compared to an average for all industries of 37.4 per cent (see Figure 9). A smaller proportion (2.2 per cent) of workers in Other Services are aged 65 years and over, compared to 2.4 per cent for all industries.

Figure 9: Other Services - Mature Age workers (45+ years) % share of employment – 2008

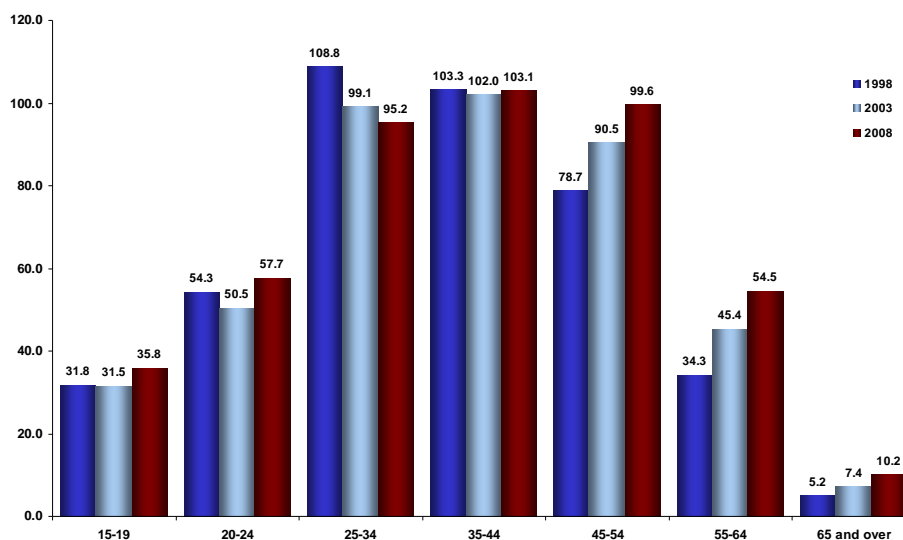


Source: ABS Labour Force Survey

Figure 10 shows employment by age group for three calendar years: 1998, 2003 and 2008. This provides a guide to changes in the employment mix by age group in the industry. As the Australian workforce experiences an increase in the median age of the population, it is important that there is a supply of prime age and mature age workers entering the workforce.

In the 10 years to 2008, the number of workers aged 45 to 54 years increased by 20 900 (or 26.6 per cent), whilst employment of workers aged 25 to 34 years decreased by 13 600 (or down by 12.5 per cent). A notable change has occurred for workers aged 65 years and over with an increase of 5000 workers (up by 96.2 per cent) over the past decade.

Figure 10: Employment by Age ('000) - 1998, 2003 and 2008

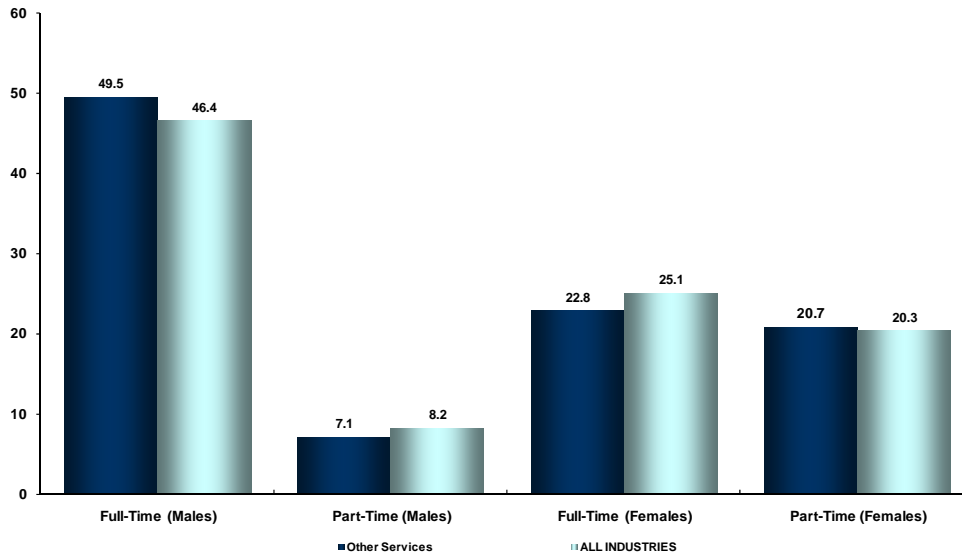


Source: ABS Labour Force Survey

Employment by Gender and Full-time/Part-time

The majority of workers in Other Services are male workers employed full-time (see Figure 11). In the year to February 2009, this category made up 49.5 per cent of workers in the industry, compared with 46.4 per cent of male full-time workers in all industries. Female full-time workers accounted for 22.8 per cent of the industry. This was lower than the female share of workers in all industries (25.1 per cent).

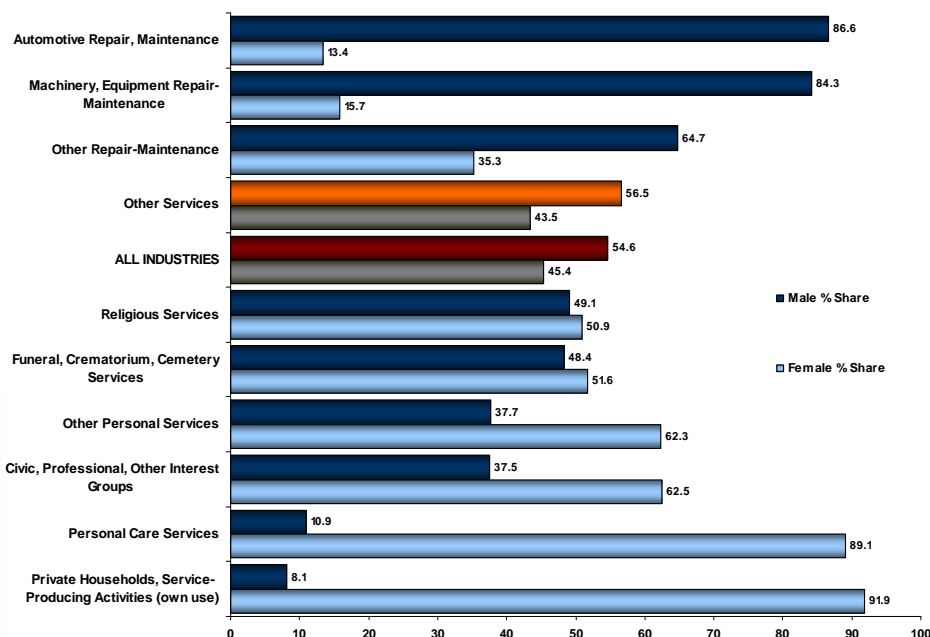
Figure 11: Employment by Gender and Full-Time/Part-time – Year to February 2009



Source: ABS Labour Force Survey

Male workers have the majority share in three out of the nine sectors in the Other Services industry (see Figure 12). Automotive Repair and Maintenance has the highest share of male workers (86.6 per cent), followed by Machinery and Equipment Repair and Maintenance (84.3 per cent). The sector in which the percentage share of female workers is the greatest is Private Households and Service-Producing Activities (91.9 per cent).

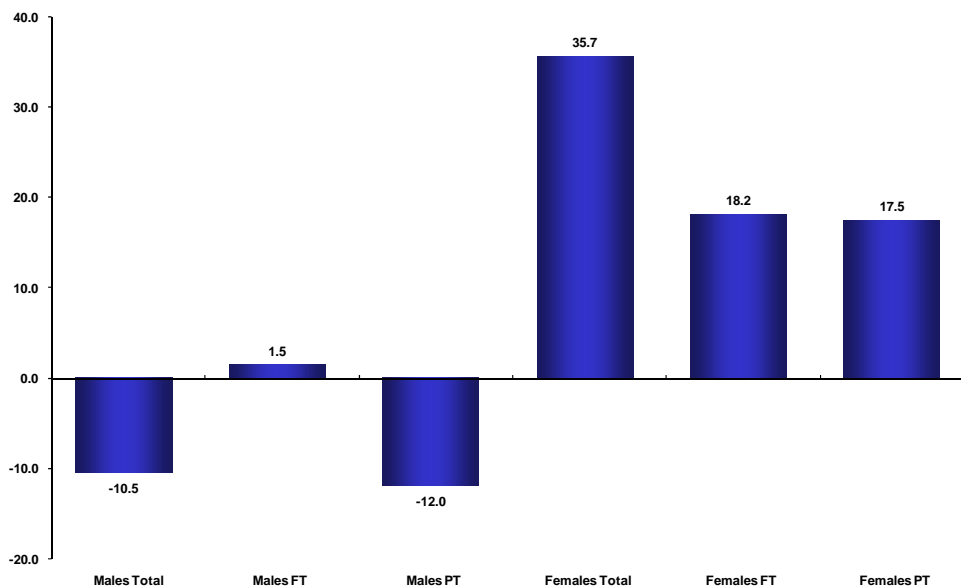
Figure 12: Other Services Sectors Employment by Gender (% share) - Year to February 2009



Source: ABS Labour Force Survey

In the five years to February 2009, employment for female workers has risen strongly (up by 35 700), with almost equal shares of this growth attributed to an increase of female full-time and part-time employment (up by 18 200 and 17 500 respectively). Employment levels for male workers have decreased, as a result of a decrease in male part-time employment (down by 12 000) which was partly offset by a gain in 1500 male full-time workers.

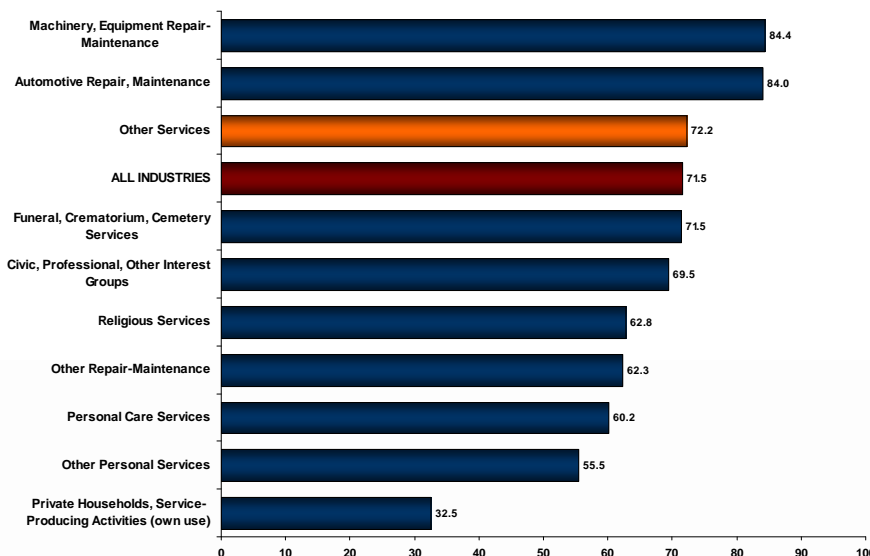
Figure 13: Employment Growth by Gender (five years) Full-Time – Part-Time Year to February 2009 ('000)



Source: ABS Labour Force Survey

Two of the Other Services industry sectors have a higher full-time employment share than all industries (71.5 per cent, see Figure 14). The highest full-time employment share can be found in Machinery and Equipment Repair and Maintenance (84.4 per cent), followed by Automotive Repair and Maintenance (84.0 per cent). The lowest share of full-time employment can be found in Private Households and Service-Producing Activities (32.5 per cent).

Figure 14: Per cent Share Working full-time - year to February 2009

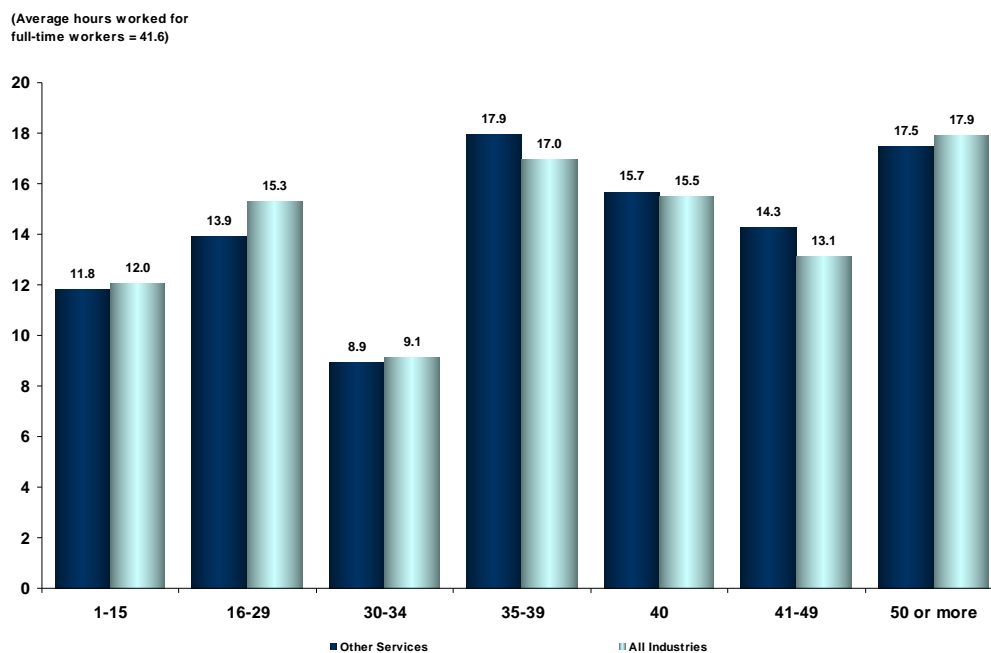


Source: ABS Labour Force Survey

Hours Worked

In the year to February 2009, the Other Services industry recorded a slightly higher than average full-time weekly hours (41.6 hours compared with 41.3 hours for all industries). Hours of Work in this industry was quite varied which is related to the mix of occupations within this industry. The highest share of workers in Other Services worked 35 to 39 hours per week (17.9 per cent), followed by those who worked 50 hours or more (17.5 per cent). The share of those working 30 hours or less was below the all industries average.

Figure 15: Hours of Work (% share) - Year to February 2009



Source: ABS Labour Force Survey

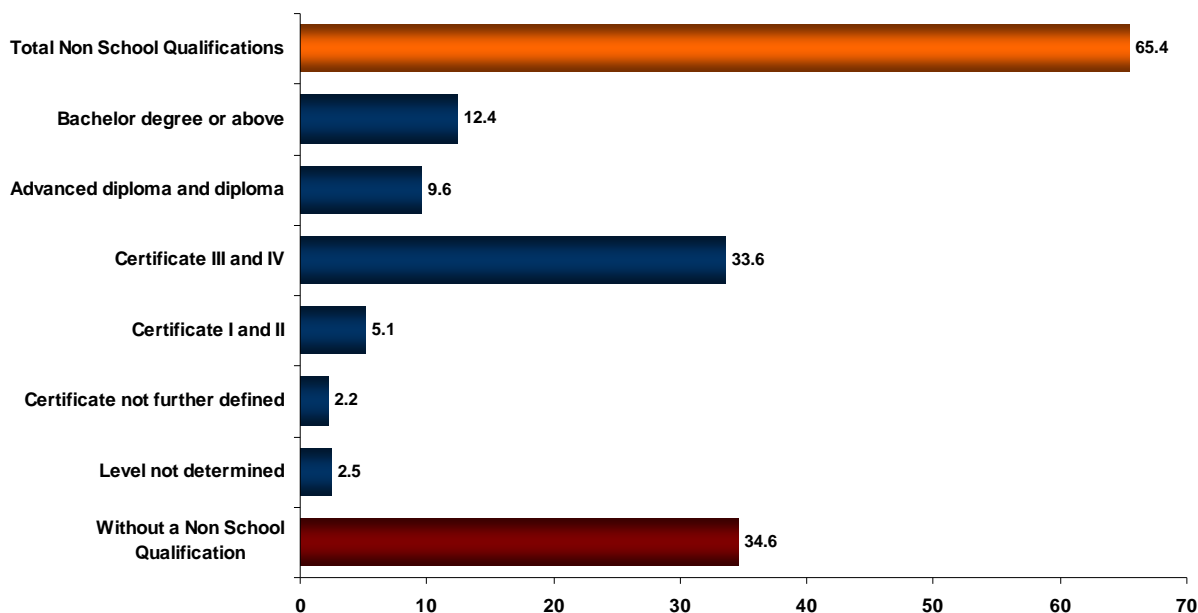
Employment Characteristics

Educational Profile

The majority of workers (65.4 per cent) within the Other Services industry have a non-school qualification. This compares with 60.2 per cent for all industries. The most prevalent non-school qualification in the industry is a Certificate III/IV (33.6 per cent) followed by 12.4 per cent who have a Bachelor degree or above.

While formal education is important in the industry, there is also a large share of workers with a low educational attainment. Other Services play a vital role in providing job opportunities for low skilled workers through new jobs and through job turnover. A significant proportion of workers have an educational attainment of year 12 or below (34.6 per cent). The Other Services industry provides a diverse range of occupations and employment opportunities at all educational/skill levels.

Figure 16: Educational Attainment (% share of employment) – May 2008

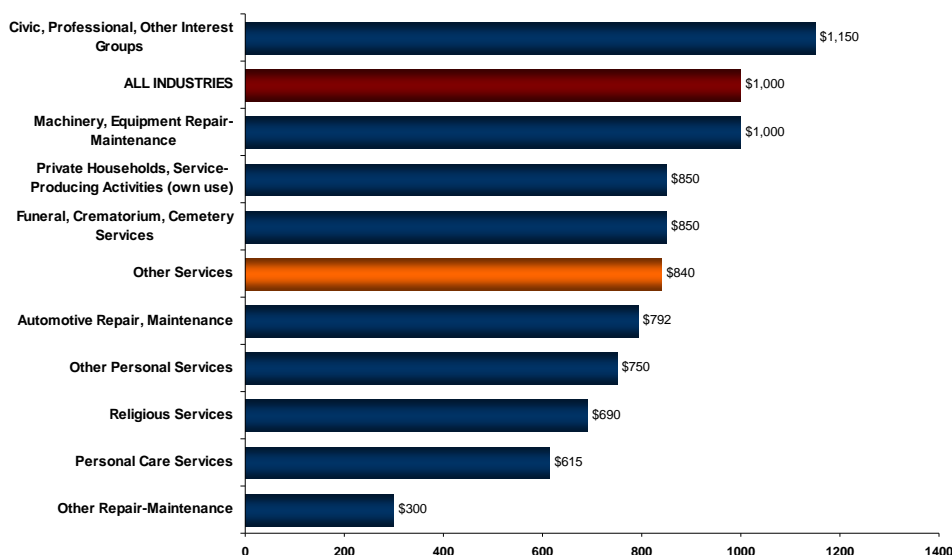


Source: ABS Education and Work, cat. no. 6227.0

Median Weekly Earnings

The median weekly full-time earnings for Other Services are slightly below the average All Industries earnings (\$840 compared with \$1000). The lowest earning sector in the industry is Other Repair and Maintenance (\$300), while Civic, Professional and Other Interest Groups is the highest earning sector (\$1150). The disparity in the earnings between the sectors could be associated with the varied share of qualification requirements across the sectors.

Figure 17: Other Services Sectors - Median weekly earnings (full-time and before tax) - August 2008

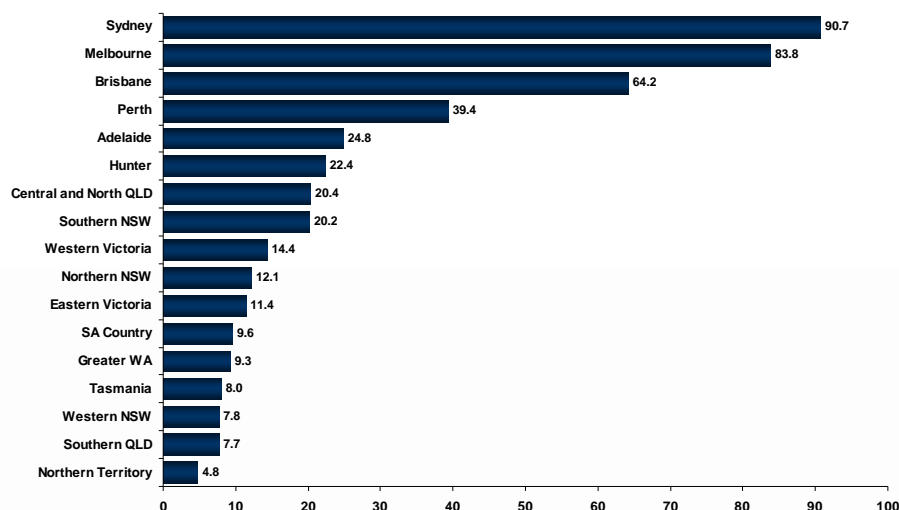


Source: ABS Employee Earnings, Benefits and Trade Union Membership, cat. no. 6310.0

Main Employing Regions

As demonstrated in Figure 18, the largest number of workers in Other Services are employed in Sydney (90 700), followed by Melbourne (83 800) and Brisbane (64 200). The Other Services industry is largely based in highly populated metropolitan areas, with few workers in smaller and more remote locations such as the Northern Territory (4800) and Southern Queensland (7700).

Figure 18: Main Employing Regions ('000) – year to February 2009

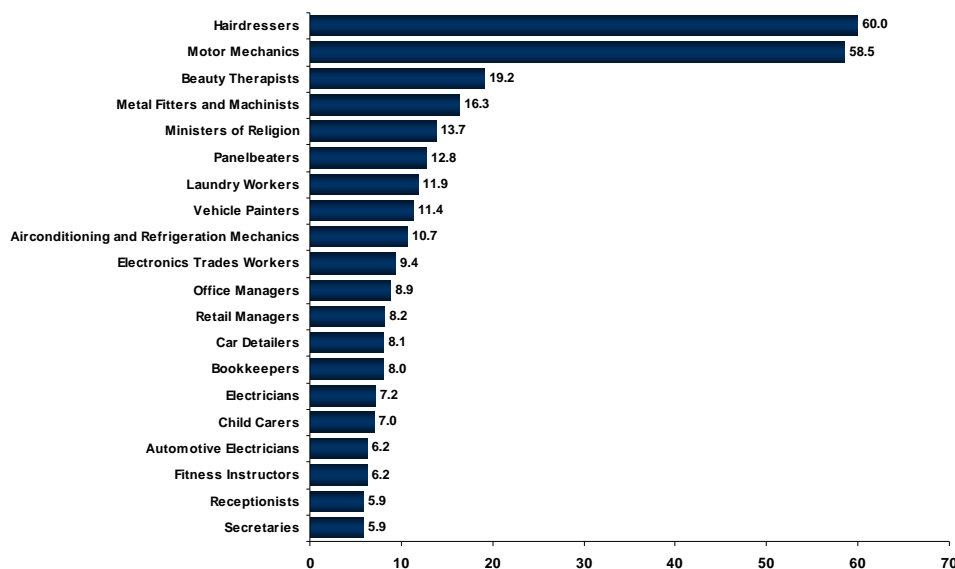


Source: ABS Labour Force Survey

Main Employing Occupations

It is useful for job seeking and career advice, to identify key occupations within an industry. Occupations are generally spread across a variety of industries and may not normally be associated with particular industries. In 2008, the largest employing occupations in the Other Services industry were Hairdressers (60 000), followed by Motor Mechanics (58 500) and Beauty Therapists (19 200) (see Figure 18).

Figure 19: Top 20 Employing Occupations ('000) - 2008



Source: ABS Labour Force Survey

Further information on occupations is available on the Job Outlook website (www.joboutlook.gov.au)

For further information on the Other Services industry (or other industries), visit the SkillsInfo website at skillsinfo.gov.au. SkillsInfo provides a range of skills related information for industries and regions. The website offers a broad range of information on employment, careers, education and training and skills issues – including workforce ageing, skills in demand, labour force data, ICT and employability skills, as well as quick links to skills information. Data are sourced mainly from the ABS Labour Force Survey.

SkillsInfo also brings together a large collection of links to external industry and skills related websites.

