

# Vacancy Report

February 2010

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## Highlights

### Job vacancies mixed

The Skilled Vacancy Index (SVI) (trend) increased by 1.6% in **February 2010** to 44.4 (2007 = 100). Vacancies rose for two of the three occupational groups: Associate Professionals (up by 1.3%) and Trades (up by 4.0%). Professionals decreased by 4.0%. In annual terms, the SVI is 2.6% lower than in February 2009.

The Internet Vacancy Index (IVI) (three month moving average) decreased in **January 2010** (down by 3.5%) to 67.4 (March 2006 = 100). This fall can be largely attributed to seasonal factors (the IVI is not seasonally adjusted and advertised vacancies are generally lower in December and January). In January 2010, around 175 400 new vacancies were lodged on the four online recruitment sites (SEEK, MyCareer, CareerOne and Australian JobSearch) on which the IVI is based. In annual terms, the IVI is 22.1% lower than in January 2009.

Vacancies decreased for all of the eight occupational groups with the largest decreases for Machinery Operators and Drivers (down by 6.6%), Labourers (down by 6.5%), and Community and Personal Service Workers (down by 5.9%).

In January 2010, there were decreases in advertised vacancies for all of the eight States and Territories. The largest decreases in vacancies were recorded in the Northern Territory (down by 5.6%), Victoria (down by 5.1%), and Queensland (down by 4.7%).

### *Internet Vacancy Index— Occupational and Regional Summary Table*

	Index	% change		No of Vacancies
	Jan-10	Monthly	Annual	Jan-10
Managers	78.0	-0.9	-24.4	21,124
Professionals	71.9	-3.7	-33.2	45,690
Technicians and Trades Workers	76.5	-3.1	-18.2	22,414
Community and Personal Service Workers	82.8	-5.9	-8.0	11,968
Clerical and Administrative Workers	55.9	-0.7	-17.9	29,570
Sales Workers	67.2	-5.1	-13.6	19,214
Machinery Operators and Drivers	64.8	-6.6	-11.1	8767
Labourers	53.9	-6.5	-17.4	16,614
<b>States and Territories</b>				
New South Wales	60.6	-2.1	-18.1	58,794
Victoria	66.8	-5.1	-17.2	42,517
Queensland	63.7	-4.7	-32.6	34,738
South Australia	76.2	-3.8	-15.7	10,683
Western Australia	85.5	-1.7	-28.6	17,988
Tasmania	77.8	-1.7	-14.8	2587
Northern Territory	121.0	-5.6	-4.6	3075
Australian Capital Territory	121.1	-3.2	-20.2	4979
Australia	67.4	-3.5	-22.1	175,362

# Skilled Vacancy Index

Feb

2010

- The Skilled Vacancy Index (SVI) (trend) increased by 1.6% in February 2010 to 44.4 (2007 = 100). Vacancies rose for two of the three occupational groups: Associate Professionals (up by 1.3%) and Trades (up by 4.0%). On the other hand, Professionals decreased by 4.0% over the month. In annual terms, the SVI is 2.6% lower than in February 2009.
- Over the month to February 2010, rises were recorded in advertised vacancies for 12 of the 18 skilled occupations. The largest rises over the month were for Marketing and Advertising Professionals (up by 9.9%), followed by Metal Trades (up by 9.6%), and Electrical and Electronics Trades and Construction Trades (both up by 6.6%). The largest decreases were recorded for Health Professionals (down by 8.1%), Accountants and Auditors (down by 5.3%), and Food Trades (down by 3.4%).
- In February 2010, rises were recorded in the advertised skilled vacancies for most States and Territories. The largest increases were recorded for Western Australia (up by 5.3%), New South Wales (up by 4.1%), and South Australia (up by 2.4%). Queensland fell by 2.8%, Victoria fell by 2.0%, and the Northern Territory fell by 0.4%.
- Over the year to February 2010, increases in skilled vacancies were recorded for most States and Territories. The largest increases were recorded for the Northern Territory (up by 67.2%), Tasmania (up by 45.6%) and South Australia (up by 12.3%).

**Skilled Vacancy Index - Summary Table**

February 2010	Index February 2010	Per cent change		Number of Vacancies February 2010
		Monthly	Annual	
<b>PROFESSIONALS</b>	35.3	-4.0	-32.0	529
Science	55.1	4.5	7.8	38
Building and Engineering	38.4	-2.8	-3.6	106
Accountants and Auditors	24.6	-5.3	-36.5	46
Marketing and Advertising	50.5	9.9	-25.3	11
Organisation and Information	44.6	3.8	-14.6	34
Health	30.3	-8.1	-49.3	197
Social	45.5	-2.3	-16.2	99
<b>ASSOCIATE PROFESSIONALS</b>	50.7	1.3	7.0	102
Medical/Science Technical Officers	36.5	2.6	-50.9	8
Building/Engineering Associates	58.8	3.5	25.9	101
<b>TRADES</b>	49.3	4.0	18.6	1266
Metal	54.6	9.6	70.0	270
Automotive	65.7	5.5	35.1	204
Electrical and Electronics	39.0	6.6	8.3	120
Construction	57.0	6.6	29.8	373
Chefs	47.1	-3.3	-1.6	110
Food	38.5	-3.4	-26.1	86
Printing	21.4	2.1	7.4	13
Wood	39.7	0.0	23.6	41
Hairdressers	51.7	2.0	-0.5	74
<b>STATES AND NORTHERN TERRITORY</b>				
New South Wales	34.9	4.1	-1.8	281
Victoria	49.0	-2.0	-8.5	344
Queensland	24.5	-2.8	-38.5	240
South Australia	63.1	2.4	12.3	254
Western Australia	50.4	5.3	11.2	605
Tasmania	87.9	2.1	45.6	62
Northern Territory	125.4	-0.4	67.2	141
<b>Australia</b>	44.4	1.6	-2.6	1896

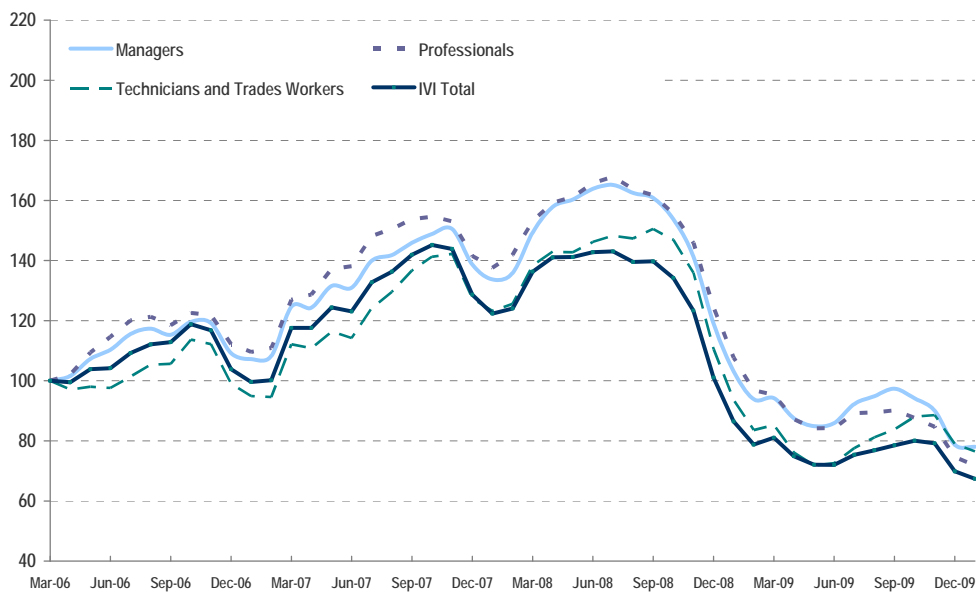
Historical data for the Skilled Vacancy Index (SVI) can be found at:

<http://www.skillsinfo.gov.au/skills/LMI/VacancyReport/>

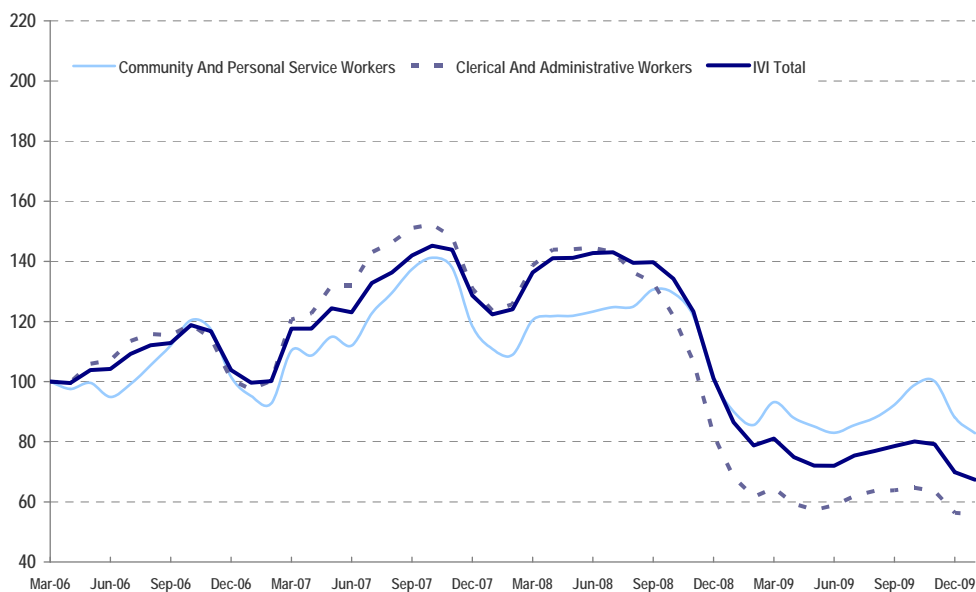
# IVI Occupational analysis

- The Internet Vacancy Index (IVI) (three month moving average) decreased by 3.5% in January 2010 to 67.4 (March 2006 = 100). In annual terms, the IVI is 22.1% lower than in January 2010.
- Vacancies decreased for all of the eight occupational groups: Machinery Operators and Drivers (down by 6.6%), Labourers (down by 6.5%), Community and Personal Service Workers (down by 5.9%), Sales Workers (down by 5.1%), Professionals (down by 3.7%), Technicians and Trades Workers (down by 3.1%), Managers (down by 0.9%), and Clerical and Administrative Workers (down by 0.7%).

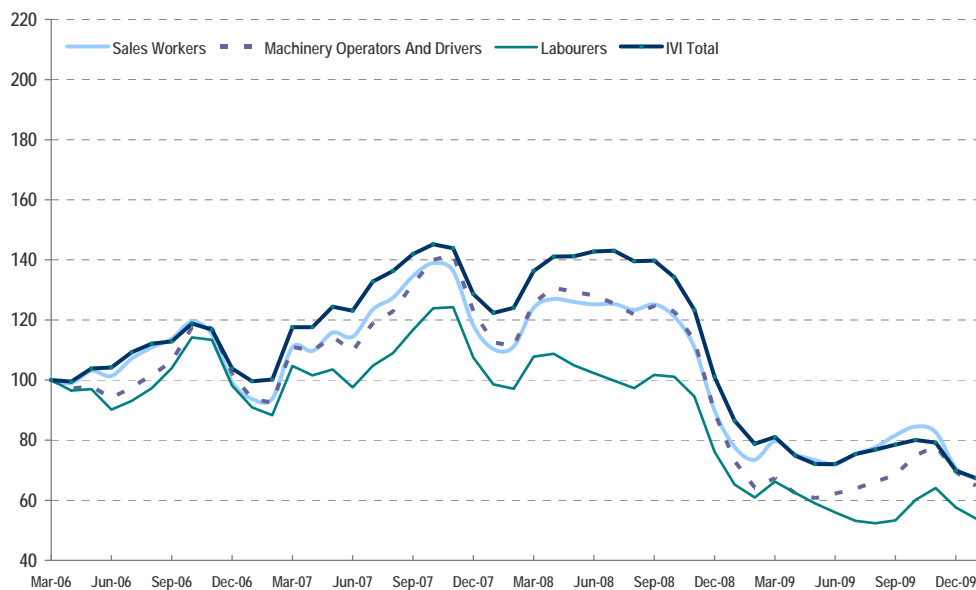
**IVI Total, Managers, Professionals and Technicians and Trades Workers  
March 2006 to January 2010 (March 2006=100)**



**IVI Total, Community & Personal Service and Clerical & Administrative  
March 2006 to January 2010 (March 2006 = 100)**

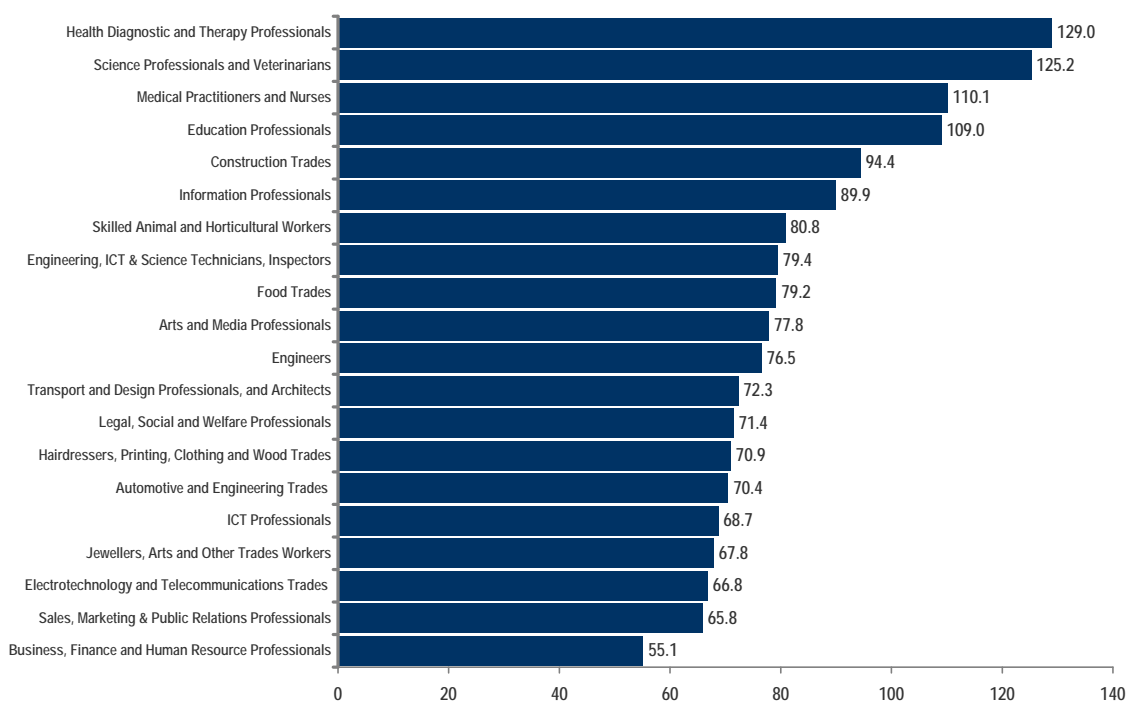


**IVI Total, Sales Workers, Machinery Operators & Drivers and Labourers  
March 2006 to January 2010 (March 2006 = 100)**



- Since the beginning of the series in March 2006, growth in vacancies has occurred in four of the 20 occupational groups in the Professionals and Technicians and Trades Workers categories. Growth has occurred for Health Diagnostic and Therapy Professionals (up by 29.0%), followed by Science Professionals and Veterinarians (up by 25.2%), Medical Practitioners and Nurses (up by 10.1%), and Education Professionals (up by 9.0%). The largest falls have been for Business, Finance and Human Resource Professionals (down by 44.9%), Sales, Marketing and Public Relations Professionals (down by 34.2%) and Electrotechnology and Telecommunications Trades (down by 33.2%).

**Professionals and Technicians & Trades Workers –Index - January 2010 (March 2006 = 100)**



## IVI— Occupational Summary Table

	% change			No. of Vacancies
	Jan-2010	Index	Monthly	
<b>MANAGERS</b>	<b>78.0</b>	<b>-0.9</b>	<b>-24.4</b>	<b>21,124</b>
Chief Executives and General Managers	108.0	-12.1	-0.2	645
Farmers and Farm Managers	72.3	-11.4	-15.0	98
Corporate Managers	68.3	0.3	-21.5	8672
Construction, Production and Distribution Managers	90.7	-0.9	-34.9	5792
Health, Education, ICT and Other Managers	66.5	-2.7	-12.5	1333
Hospitality, Retail and Service Managers	87.1	-0.5	-19.6	4584
<b>PROFESSIONALS</b>	<b>71.9</b>	<b>-3.7</b>	<b>-33.2</b>	<b>45,690</b>
Arts and Media Professionals	77.8	-4.9	-19.9	931
Business, Finance and Human Resource Professionals	55.1	-3.7	-27.8	10,910
Information Professionals	89.9	-2.6	-12.2	1494
Sales, Marketing & Public Relations Professionals	65.8	2.6	-21.1	2261
Transport and Design Professionals, and Architects	72.3	-5.8	-42.7	1686
Engineers	76.5	-7.3	-63.2	5200
Science Professionals and Veterinarians	125.2	-0.6	-42.7	1399
Education Professionals	109.0	-7.8	-2.4	1699
Health Diagnostic and Therapy Professionals	129.0	-2.4	-15.8	2185
Medical Practitioners and Nurses	110.1	-4.1	-9.6	3491
ICT Professionals	68.7	-2.0	-24.6	10,585
Legal, Social and Welfare Professionals	71.4	-5.0	-34.3	3848
<b>TECHNICIANS AND TRADES WORKERS</b>	<b>76.5</b>	<b>-3.1</b>	<b>-18.2</b>	<b>22,414</b>
Engineering, ICT & Science Technicians, Inspectors	79.4	-2.8	-37.3	5373
Automotive and Engineering Trades	70.4	2.9	-11.0	5208
Construction Trades	94.4	-6.0	14.3	2840
Electrotechnology and Telecommunications Trades	66.8	2.6	-29.0	1966
Food Trades	79.2	-6.9	-8.2	3985
Skilled Animal and Horticultural Workers	80.8	-3.7	-6.5	1005
Hairdressers, Printing, Clothing and Wood Trades	70.9	-12.1	-2.9	1573
Jewellers, Arts and Other Trades Workers	67.8	-4.4	-33.7	463
<b>COMMUNITY AND PERSONAL SERVICE WORKERS</b>	<b>82.8</b>	<b>-5.9</b>	<b>-8.0</b>	<b>11,968</b>
Health and Welfare Support Workers	107.8	-1.6	-2.0	884
Carers and Aides	89.0	-4.0	-7.9	4205
Hospitality Workers	75.0	-8.9	-9.2	4086
Protective, Defence, Emergency Service Workers	71.3	-8.6	-18.1	938
Sports, Travel and Personal Service Workers	86.8	-4.1	-1.9	1856
<b>CLERICAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE WORKERS</b>	<b>55.9</b>	<b>-0.7</b>	<b>-17.9</b>	<b>29,570</b>
Office Managers, Administrators and Secretaries	64.3	0.6	-15.0	5458
General-Inquiry Clerks, Call Centre, Receptionists	55.7	-0.2	-13.8	12,722
Numerical Clerks	46.2	-0.7	-27.3	6680
Clerical and Office Support Workers, Couriers	84.3	-6.9	-13.3	938
Other Clerical and Administrative Workers	63.3	-2.1	-17.6	3771
<b>SALES WORKERS</b>	<b>67.2</b>	<b>-5.1</b>	<b>-13.6</b>	<b>19,214</b>
Sales Representatives and Agents	63.2	-2.7	-28.6	5747
Sales Assistants and Salespersons	71.1	-6.0	-4.8	11,545
Sales Support Workers	58.8	-6.0	-6.5	1921
<b>MACHINERY OPERATORS AND DRIVERS</b>	<b>64.8</b>	<b>-6.6</b>	<b>-11.1</b>	<b>8767</b>
Machine and Stationary Plant Operators	76.1	-2.6	-4.9	2041
Mobile Plant Operators	77.3	-5.8	-15.4	1929
Drivers and Storepersons	57.5	-8.5	-11.8	4797
<b>LABOURERS</b>	<b>53.9</b>	<b>-6.5</b>	<b>-17.4</b>	<b>16,614</b>
Cleaners and Laundry Workers	67.3	-6.0	-16.4	3358
Construction and Mining Labourers	76.3	-6.7	15.6	1493
Factory Process Workers	54.1	-8.5	-19.4	2250
Farm, Forestry and Garden Workers	51.9	-0.9	-17.3	1474
Food Preparation Assistants	53.3	-9.1	-27.1	1396
Other Labourers	46.6	-6.5	-20.1	6644
<b>Total</b>	<b>67.4</b>	<b>-3.5</b>	<b>-22.1</b>	<b>175,362</b>

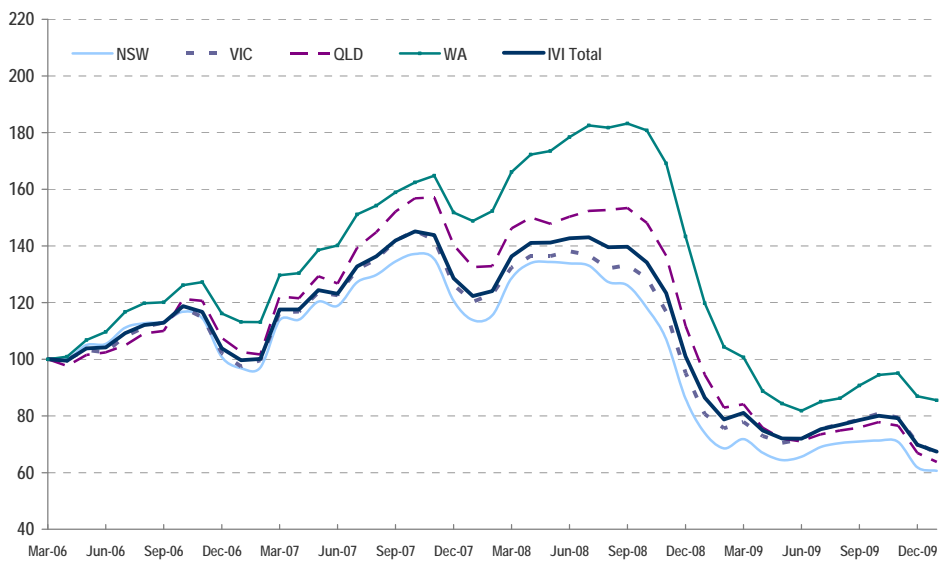
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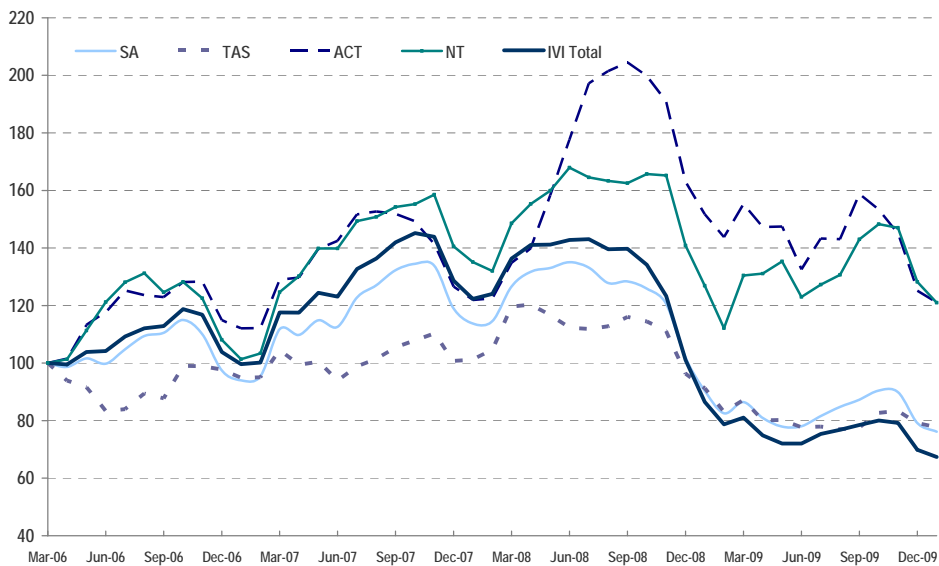
# IVI Regional analysis

- In January 2010, all States and Territories experienced a decrease in vacancies. The largest decreases in vacancies were recorded in the Northern Territory (down by 5.6%), Victoria (down by 5.1%), Queensland (down by 4.7%), and South Australia (down by 3.8%).
- Over the year to January 2010, large decreases in vacancies were recorded across the country: Queensland (down by 32.6%), Western Australia (down by 28.6%), the Australian Capital Territory (down by 20.2%), New South Wales (down by 18.1%), Victoria (down by 17.2%), South Australia (down by 15.7%), Tasmania (down by 14.8%), and the Northern Territory (down by 4.6%).

**IVI Total, NSW, QLD, VIC and WA**  
**March 2006 to January 2010 (March 2006 = 100)**



**IVI Total, SA, TAS, ACT and NT**  
**March 2006 to January 2010 (March 2006=100)**



*IVI State and Territory Occupational Summary Table - January 2010*

January 2010	Annual change		Number of Vacancies
	Per cent	Number	
<b>New South Wales</b>	<b>-18.1</b>	<b>-12,971</b>	<b>58,794</b>
Managers	-20.5	-2027	7850
Professionals	-27.7	-6,401	16,700
Technicians and Trades Workers	-6.4	-465	6810
Community and Personal Service Workers	-0.3	-10	3877
Clerical and Administrative Workers	-16.7	-2,015	10,062
Sales Workers	-16.9	-1,296	6361
Machinery Operators and Drivers	-8.6	-217	2311
Labourers	-10.1	-540	4823
<b>Victoria</b>	<b>-17.2</b>	<b>-8,851</b>	<b>42,517</b>
Managers	-19.4	-1,264	5,257
Professionals	-29.6	-4,570	10,873
Technicians and Trades Workers	-7.9	-452	5,243
Community and Personal Service Workers	-8.2	-250	2,802
Clerical and Administrative Workers	-13.4	-1,152	7,422
Sales Workers	-8.7	-485	5,069
Machinery Operators and Drivers	-5.7	-118	1,962
Labourers	-12.6	-561	3,889
<b>Queensland</b>	<b>-32.6</b>	<b>-16,790</b>	<b>34,738</b>
Managers	-33.3	-1,886	3,778
Professionals	-42.1	-6,265	8,609
Technicians and Trades Workers	-36.3	-2,772	4,872
Community and Personal Service Workers	-19.1	-591	2,501
Clerical and Administrative Workers	-26.4	-2,022	5,631
Sales Workers	-18.8	-893	3,855
Machinery Operators and Drivers	-24.2	-623	1,957
Labourers	-32.9	-1,737	3,536
<b>South Australia</b>	<b>-15.7</b>	<b>-1,984</b>	<b>10,683</b>
Managers	-21.5	-270	986
Professionals	-29.7	-858	2,028
Technicians and Trades Workers	-5.8	-95	1,561
Community and Personal Service Workers	-5.7	-56	922
Clerical and Administrative Workers	-21.2	-425	1,577
Sales Workers	-1.7	-21	1,202
Machinery Operators and Drivers	-8.9	-74	755
Labourers	-10.1	-185	1,653
<b>Western Australia</b>	<b>-28.6</b>	<b>-7,201</b>	<b>17,988</b>
Managers	-34.9	-1,084	2,022
Professionals	-45.5	-3,848	4,615
Technicians and Trades Workers	-30.2	-1,063	2,460
Community and Personal Service Workers	-7.3	-75	951
Clerical and Administrative Workers	-17.2	-648	3,109
Sales Workers	-12.2	-243	1,753
Machinery Operators and Drivers	-1.9	-26	1,311
Labourers	-10.9	-215	1,767
<b>Tasmania</b>	<b>-14.8</b>	<b>-450</b>	<b>2,587</b>
Managers	2.3	5	238
Professionals	-23.6	-133	430
Technicians and Trades Workers	0.5	2	414
Community and Personal Service Workers	-12.9	-42	285
Clerical and Administrative Workers	-7.7	-30	356
Sales Workers	-2.1	-7	308
Machinery Operators and Drivers	-28.0	-60	155
Labourers	-31.6	-185	401
<b>Northern Territory</b>	<b>-4.6</b>	<b>-150</b>	<b>3,075</b>
Managers	-17.9	-75	342
Professionals	-7.3	-56	716
Technicians and Trades Workers	-13.8	-69	431
Community and Personal Service Workers	14.7	40	314
Clerical and Administrative Workers	5.3	27	533
Sales Workers	1.5	4	263
Machinery Operators and Drivers	15.6	26	195
Labourers	-14.3	-47	280
<b>Australian Capital Territory</b>	<b>-20.2</b>	<b>-1,260</b>	<b>4,979</b>
Managers	-24.0	-206	652
Professionals	-26.5	-621	1,719
Technicians and Trades Workers	-11.9	-84	623
Community and Personal Service Workers	-14.8	-55	316
Clerical and Administrative Workers	-16.8	-178	879
Sales Workers	-17.0	-83	403
Machinery Operators and Drivers	-5.2	-7	121
Labourers	-9.1	-27	266
<b>Australia</b>	<b>-22.1</b>	<b>-49,657</b>	<b>175,362</b>

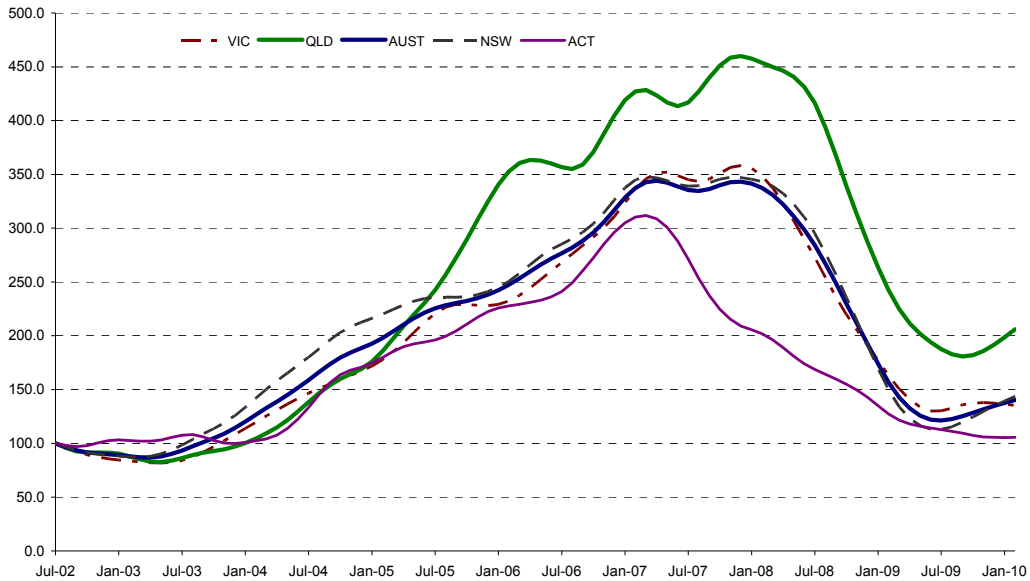
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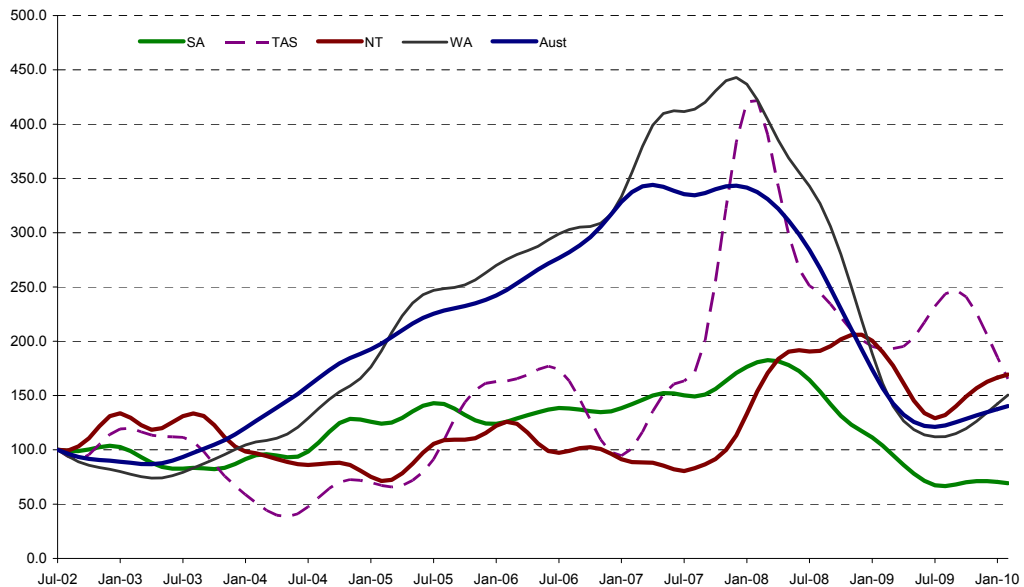
# ICT Vacancies

- The DEEWR ICT Vacancy Index (trend) increased by 2.0% in February 2010 to 140.3 (July 2002 = 100). Over the month, Tasmania experienced the largest decrease (down by 10.7%), followed by South Australia (1.5%) and Victoria (0.9%). In annual terms, the ICT Vacancy Index is 10.5% lower than in February 2009. It should be noted that vacancies may be advertised on more than one site.

**ICT Vacancy Index – July 2002 to February 2010  
NSW, VIC, QLD, ACT & Australia**



**ICT Vacancy Index – July 2002 to February 2010  
SA, NT, WA, TAS & Australia**



Feb

2010

# Explanatory Notes

- The monthly **Internet Vacancy Index (IVI)** is based on a count of online vacancies newly lodged on SEEK, My Career, Career One and Australian JobSearch during the month. The data are based on a three month moving average and then indexed (March 2006=100).
- IVI vacancies have been coded by DEEWR to occupations based on the Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations (ANZSCO) developed by the Australian Bureau of Statistics and Statistics New Zealand. In the Vacancy Report data are presented for 48 occupational clusters across all skill levels and 353 occupations.
- The monthly **Skilled Vacancy Index (SVI)** is based on a count of skilled vacancies in major metropolitan newspapers in each State and the Northern Territory, usually on the first Saturday of each month (on the second Saturday in January and when the first Saturday is part of a national long weekend). The data are trend data (2007=100). In view of the trending procedure, figures for the six months prior to the current month are subject to revision.
- There are 18 occupational groups for the SVI and, for the time being, these are based on the Australian Standard Classification of Occupations, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition. The SVI total includes some residual occupations not counted in the 18 occupational groups. The totals do not add as the series are separately seasonally adjusted and trended. The Tasmanian and Northern Territory counts are small and may be volatile and results should be used cautiously. The SVI does not include data for the Australian Capital Territory (ACT), as the historical series which began in 1981 did not include a count of vacancies advertised in The Canberra Times. The ACT count commenced in February 2001 and data can be made available upon request.
- The **ICT Vacancy Index** is based on a weekly count of ICT vacancies advertised on three sites: jobserve.com.au, seek.com.au and mycareer.com.au (IT Jobs). The data are trend data (July 2002 = 100). The series is different to and separate from the IVI, it will eventually be replaced by a similar series based on IVI. It includes vacancies lodged within 14 days prior to counting for two sites and vacancies which are seven days old or less for Jobserve. Some ICT vacancies are duplicated and a small number relate to overseas vacancies. Many ICT vacancies are advertised on more than one site and, consequently, the number of advertisements should not be viewed as a measure of the number of ICT jobs available. These sites are quite dynamic and operate in a sector with very high vacancy turnover. Consequently, the ICT Vacancy Index should be viewed as a broad indicator of trends in the demand for ICT skills.
- More detailed explanatory notes are available on the SkillsInfo website. <http://www.skillsinfo.gov.au/skillsissues/vacancyreport> For further information, please contact Nadine Groney on (02) 6121 6019 or email [nadine.groney@deewr.gov.au](mailto:nadine.groney@deewr.gov.au).

## Acknowledgements

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