

Vacancy Report

January 2010

Skilled Vacancy Index **P.2**

IVI Occupational Analysis **P.3**

IVI Regional Analysis **P.6**

ICT Vacancies **P.8**

Explanatory Notes **P.9**

Highlights

Job vacancies mixed

The Skilled Vacancy Index (SVI) (trend) increased by 1.1% in **January 2010** to 43.1 (2007 = 100). Vacancies rose for two of the three occupational groups: Associate Professionals (up by 0.1%) and Trades (up by 3.9%). Professionals decreased by 5.7%. In annual terms, the SVI is 15.5% lower than in January 2009.

The Internet Vacancy Index (IVI) (three month moving average) decreased in **December 2009** (down by 12.1%) to 68.8 (March 2006 = 100). This fall can be largely attributed to seasonal factors (the IVI is not seasonally adjusted and advertised vacancies generally decline in December). In December 2009, around 183 700 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 31.3% lower than in December 2008.

Vacancies decreased for all of the eight occupational groups with the biggest decreases for Sales Workers (down by 14.7%), Managers (down by 12.8%), and Community and Personal Service Workers (down by 12.3%).

In December 2009, there were decreases in advertised vacancies for all of the eight States and Territories. The largest decreases in vacancies were recorded in the Australian Capital Territory (down by 13.9%), the Northern Territory (down by 13.2%), and Queensland (down by 12.9%).

Internet Vacancy Index— Occupational and Regional Summary Table

| | Index | | % change | | No of Vacancies Dec-09 |
|--|--------|---------|----------|--------|---------------------------|
| | Dec-09 | Monthly | Annual | Annual | |
| Managers | 78.2 | -12.8 | -34.2 | | 21,515 |
| Professionals | 74.0 | -12.0 | -40.4 | | 47,714 |
| Technicians and Trades Workers | 76.8 | -11.1 | -28.9 | | 23,468 |
| Community and Personal Service Workers | 85.2 | -12.3 | -12.8 | | 12,894 |
| Clerical and Administrative Workers | 55.9 | -11.5 | -31.9 | | 29,982 |
| Sales Workers | 69.5 | -14.7 | -21.7 | | 20,511 |
| Machinery Operators and Drivers | 67.8 | -11.3 | -23.1 | | 9,535 |
| Labourers | 56.4 | -10.5 | -25.3 | | 18,108 |
| States and Territories | | | | | |
| New South Wales | 61.1 | -12.8 | -28.6 | | 60,513 |
| Victoria | 68.4 | -11.7 | -26.5 | | 45,412 |
| Queensland | 66.3 | -12.9 | -40.6 | | 36,868 |
| South Australia | 78.1 | -12.3 | -23.1 | | 11,267 |
| Western Australia | 86.5 | -8.7 | -39.5 | | 18,492 |
| Tasmania | 77.6 | -5.5 | -18.5 | | 2,659 |
| Northern Territory | 128.1 | -13.2 | -8.9 | | 3,317 |
| Australian Capital Territory | 125.7 | -13.9 | -23.4 | | 5,199 |
| Australia | 68.8 | -12.1 | -31.3 | | 183,727 |

Skilled Vacancy Index

- The Skilled Vacancy Index (SVI) (trend) increased by 1.1% in January 2010 to 43.1 (2007 = 100). Vacancies rose for two of the three occupational groups: Associate Professionals (up by 0.1%) and Trades (up by 3.9%). On the other hand, Professionals decreased by 5.7% over the month. In annual terms, the SVI is 15.5% lower than in January 2009.
- Over the month to January 2010, rises were recorded in advertised vacancies for 10 of the 18 skilled occupations. The largest rises over the month were for Metal Trades (up by 14.2%), followed by Marketing and Advertising Professionals (up by 6.6%), and Medical and Science Technical Officers (up by 5.8%). The largest decreases were recorded for Organisation and Information Professionals (down by 9.0%), Health Professionals (down by 8.0%), and Building and Engineering Professionals (down by 6.0%).
- In January 2010, rises were recorded in the advertised skilled vacancies for most States and Territories. The largest increases were recorded for Tasmania (up by 6.3%), South Australia (up by 3.6%), and the Northern Territory (up by 3.4%). Victoria fell by 4.0% while Queensland fell by 3.7%.
- Over the year to January 2010, decreases in skilled vacancies were recorded for most States and Territories. The largest decreases were recorded for Queensland (down by 41.8%), Western Australia (down by 18.5%) and New South Wales and Victoria (both down by 18.3%).

Skilled Vacancy Index - Summary Table

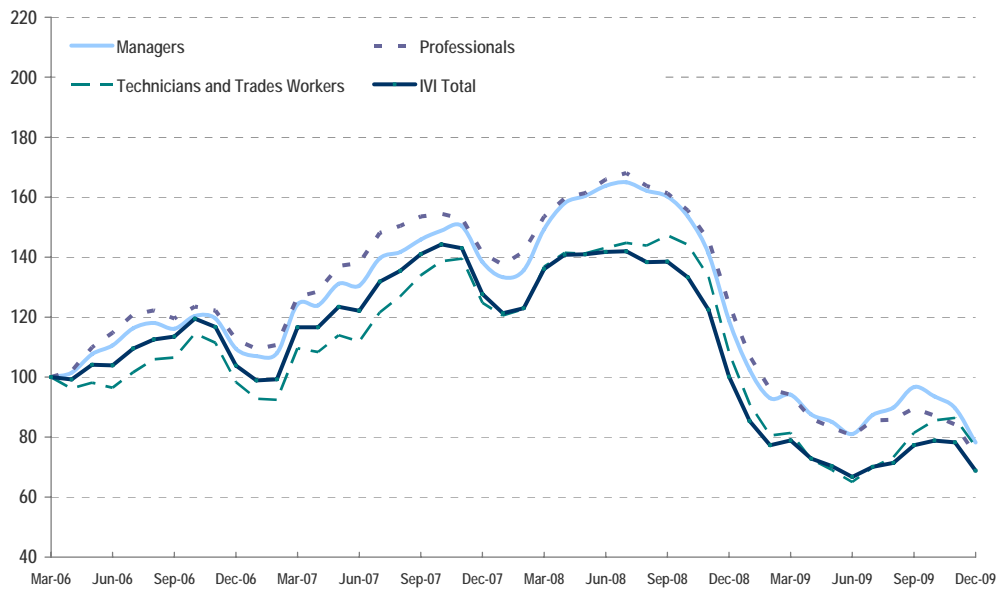
| January 2010 | Index January 2010 | Per cent change | | Number of Vacancies January 2010 |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|--------|--|
| | | Monthly | Annual | |
| PROFESSIONALS | 35.9 | -5.7 | -37.0 | 537 |
| Science | 49.6 | 1.6 | -14.2 | 34 |
| Building and Engineering | 36.6 | -6.0 | -20.8 | 101 |
| Accountants and Auditors | 26.7 | -4.1 | -38.4 | 50 |
| Marketing and Advertising | 37.4 | 6.6 | -43.1 | 8 |
| Organisation and Information | 29.8 | -9.0 | -52.5 | 23 |
| Health | 34.0 | -8.0 | -48.0 | 220 |
| Social | 45.3 | -4.0 | -17.8 | 99 |
| ASSOCIATE PROFESSIONALS | 48.8 | 0.1 | -6.6 | 98 |
| Medical/Science Technical Officers | 38.3 | 5.8 | -58.3 | 8 |
| Building/Engineering Associates | 54.2 | 1.3 | 7.7 | 93 |
| TRADES | 46.6 | 3.9 | -1.5 | 1197 |
| Metal | 50.5 | 14.2 | 28.1 | 250 |
| Automotive | 59.7 | 4.2 | 14.4 | 186 |
| Electrical and Electronics | 35.2 | 5.5 | -17.5 | 108 |
| Construction | 48.7 | 3.3 | -4.2 | 318 |
| Chefs | 50.2 | -0.1 | -5.5 | 117 |
| Food | 42.8 | 0.8 | -23.8 | 95 |
| Printing | 19.4 | -2.6 | -10.8 | 12 |
| Wood | 39.8 | -2.7 | 3.7 | 41 |
| Hairdressers | 47.3 | 0.7 | -12.8 | 68 |
| STATES AND NORTHERN TERRITORY | | | | |
| New South Wales | 32.3 | 2.1 | -18.3 | 260 |
| Victoria | 48.7 | -4.0 | -18.3 | 341 |
| Queensland | 25.2 | -3.7 | -41.8 | 247 |
| South Australia | 60.5 | 3.6 | -1.0 | 244 |
| Western Australia | 44.1 | 2.8 | -18.5 | 529 |
| Tasmania | 90.3 | 6.3 | 42.6 | 63 |
| Northern Territory | 131.7 | 3.4 | 68.6 | 148 |
| Australia | 43.1 | 1.1 | -15.5 | 1838 |

Historical data for the Skilled Vacancy Index (SVI) can be found at:
<http://www.skillsinfo.gov.au/skills/LMI/VacancyReport/>

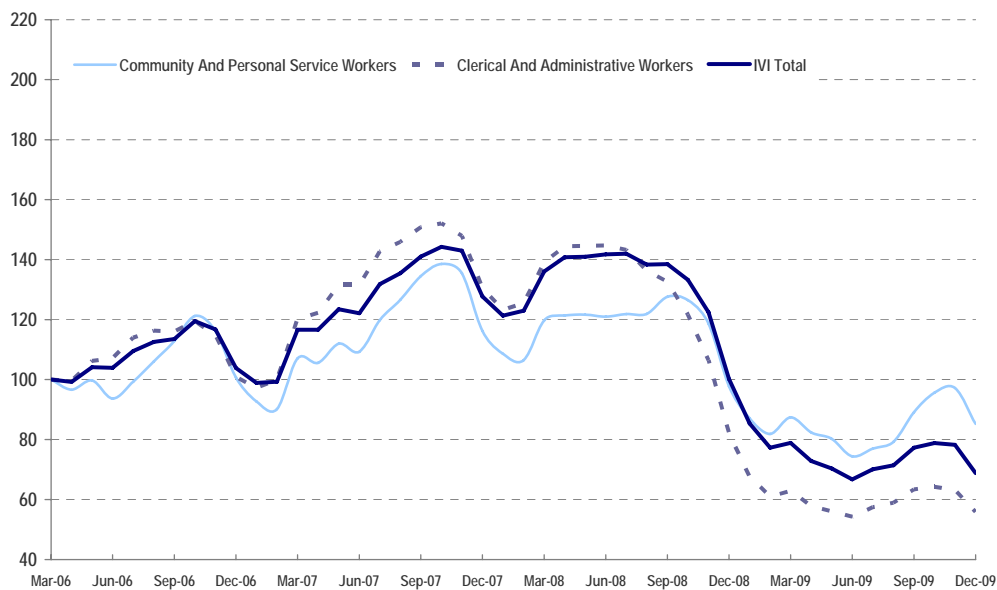
IVI Occupational analysis

- The Internet Vacancy Index (IVI) (three month moving average) decreased by 12.1% in December 2009 to 68.8 (March 2006 = 100). In annual terms, the IVI is 31.3% lower than in December 2008.
- Vacancies decreased for all of the eight occupational groups: Sales Workers (down by 14.7%), Managers (down by 12.8%), Community and Personal Service Workers (down by 12.3%), Professionals (down by 12.0%), Clerical and Administrative Workers (down by 11.5%), Machinery Operators and Drivers (down by 11.3%), Technicians and Trades Workers (down by 11.1%), and Labourers (down by 10.5%).

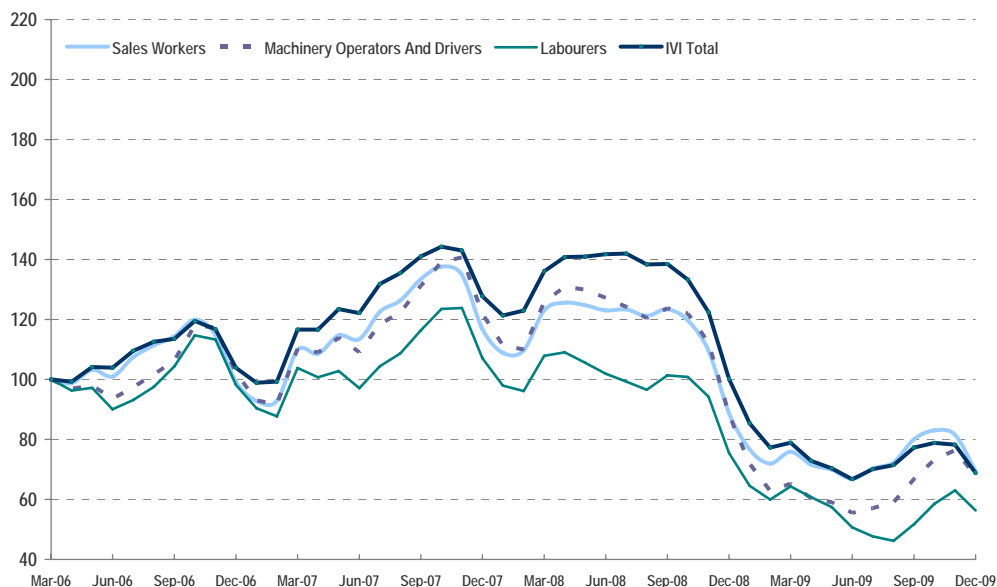
**IVI Total, Managers, Professionals and Technicians and Trades Workers
March 2006 to December 2009 (March 2006=100)**



**IVI Total, Community & Personal Service and Clerical & Administrative
March 2006 to December 2009 (March 2006 = 100)**

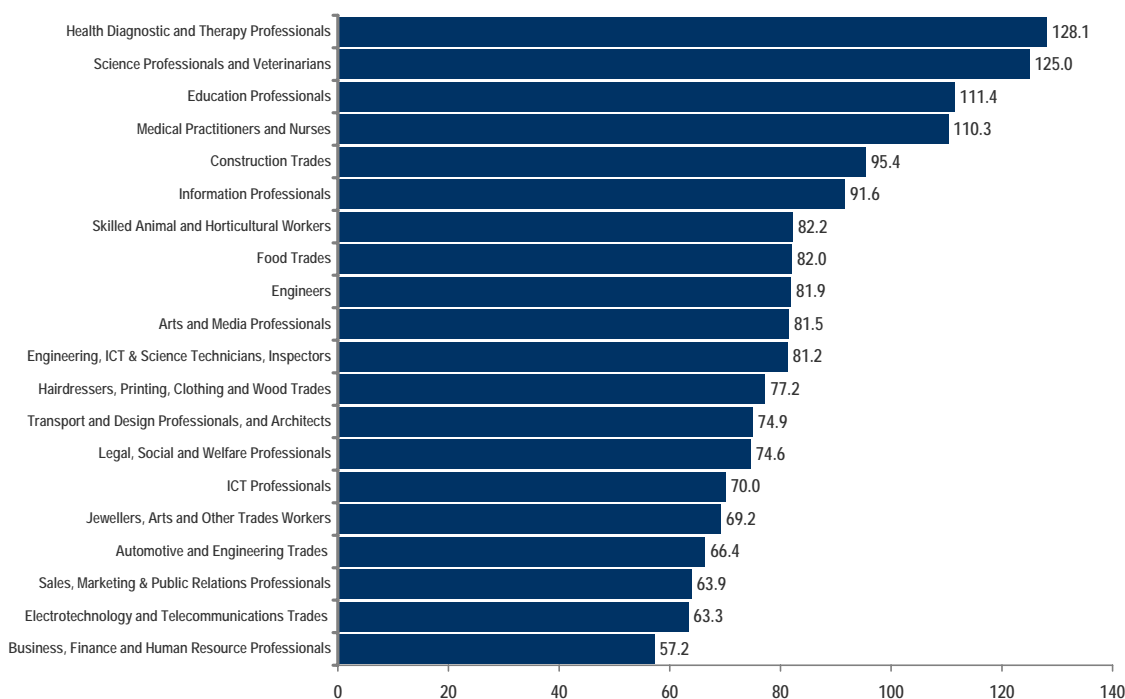


**IVI Total, Sales Workers, Machinery Operators & Drivers and Labourers
March 2006 to December 2009 (March 2006 = 100)**



- 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 28.1%), followed by Science Professionals and Veterinarians (up by 25.0%), Education Professionals (up by 11.4%), and Medical Practitioners and Nurses (up by 10.3%). The largest falls have been for Business, Finance and Human Resource Professionals (down by 42.8%), Electrotechnology and Telecommunications Trades (down by 36.7%) and Sales, Marketing and Public Relations Professionals (down by 36.1%).

**Professionals and Technicians & Trades Workers –Index - December 2009
(March 2006 = 100)**



IVI— Occupational Summary Table

| | % change | | | No. of Vacancies | |
|--|----------|-------------|--------------|------------------|----------------|
| | Dec-2009 | Index | Monthly | | Annual |
| MANAGERS | | 78.2 | -12.8 | -34.2 | 21,515 |
| Chief Executives and General Managers | | 121.8 | -10.0 | -2.6 | 742 |
| Farmers and Farm Managers | | 82.0 | -7.8 | -14.8 | 114 |
| Corporate Managers | | 67.8 | -11.8 | -32.5 | 8724 |
| Construction, Production and Distribution Managers | | 90.8 | -14.7 | -45.1 | 5896 |
| Health, Education, ICT and Other Managers | | 68.4 | -10.4 | -19.1 | 1389 |
| Hospitality, Retail and Service Managers | | 86.5 | -13.6 | -27.8 | 4650 |
| PROFESSIONALS | | 74.0 | -12.0 | -40.4 | 47,714 |
| Arts and Media Professionals | | 81.5 | -14.7 | -26.4 | 993 |
| Business, Finance and Human Resource Professionals | | 57.2 | -13.3 | -35.3 | 11,414 |
| Information Professionals | | 91.6 | -12.4 | -22.1 | 1545 |
| Sales, Marketing & Public Relations Professionals | | 63.9 | -10.9 | -34.7 | 2223 |
| Transport and Design Professionals, and Architects | | 74.9 | -13.3 | -54.1 | 1801 |
| Engineers | | 81.9 | -11.6 | -66.1 | 5597 |
| Science Professionals and Veterinarians | | 125.0 | -8.4 | -53.7 | 1415 |
| Education Professionals | | 111.4 | -8.7 | -6.4 | 1872 |
| Health Diagnostic and Therapy Professionals | | 128.1 | -12.5 | -19.3 | 2267 |
| Medical Practitioners and Nurses | | 110.3 | -12.2 | -12.3 | 3648 |
| ICT Professionals | | 70.0 | -10.6 | -33.6 | 10,853 |
| Legal, Social and Welfare Professionals | | 74.6 | -14.6 | -40.4 | 4084 |
| TECHNICIANS AND TRADES WORKERS | | 76.8 | -11.1 | -28.9 | 23,468 |
| Engineering, ICT & Science Technicians, Inspectors | | 81.2 | -11.6 | -48.3 | 5572 |
| Automotive and Engineering Trades | | 66.4 | -8.6 | -27.4 | 5129 |
| Construction Trades | | 95.4 | -11.7 | -3.1 | 3083 |
| Electrotechnology and Telecommunications Trades | | 63.3 | -8.1 | -37.8 | 1936 |
| Food Trades | | 82.0 | -11.7 | -10.6 | 4366 |
| Skilled Animal and Horticultural Workers | | 82.2 | -8.9 | -12.6 | 1057 |
| Hairdressers, Printing, Clothing and Wood Trades | | 77.2 | -16.6 | -7.3 | 1836 |
| Jewellers, Arts and Other Trades Workers | | 69.2 | -18.6 | -38.8 | 488 |
| COMMUNITY AND PERSONAL SERVICE WORKERS | | 85.2 | -12.3 | -12.8 | 12,894 |
| Health and Welfare Support Workers | | 113.8 | -10.6 | 1.7 | 911 |
| Carers and Aides | | 89.2 | -12.0 | -11.6 | 4426 |
| Hospitality Workers | | 79.4 | -14.2 | -15.1 | 4547 |
| Protective, Defence, Emergency Service Workers | | 75.4 | -6.8 | -22.1 | 1046 |
| Sports, Travel and Personal Service Workers | | 87.5 | -11.8 | -10.1 | 1964 |
| CLERICAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE WORKERS | | 55.9 | -11.5 | -31.9 | 29,982 |
| Office Managers, Administrators and Secretaries | | 63.5 | -8.8 | -34.4 | 5456 |
| General-Inquiry Clerks, Call Centre, Receptionists | | 55.3 | -13.0 | -27.1 | 12,867 |
| Numerical Clerks | | 46.4 | -10.9 | -40.3 | 6754 |
| Clerical and Office Support Workers, Couriers | | 88.8 | -9.7 | -25.1 | 1024 |
| Other Clerical and Administrative Workers | | 64.2 | -11.6 | -27.6 | 3881 |
| SALES WORKERS | | 69.5 | -14.7 | -21.7 | 20,511 |
| Sales Representatives and Agents | | 63.9 | -18.4 | -34.2 | 5960 |
| Sales Assistants and Salespersons | | 74.3 | -12.6 | -15.5 | 12,461 |
| Sales Support Workers | | 61.0 | -16.2 | -12.8 | 2089 |
| MACHINERY OPERATORS AND DRIVERS | | 67.8 | -11.3 | -23.1 | 9535 |
| Machine and Stationary Plant Operators | | 77.0 | -9.5 | -19.4 | 2127 |
| Mobile Plant Operators | | 80.3 | -9.4 | -28.2 | 2084 |
| Drivers and Storepersons | | 61.2 | -12.6 | -22.3 | 5324 |
| LABOURERS | | 56.4 | -10.5 | -25.3 | 18,108 |
| Cleaners and Laundry Workers | | 70.4 | -11.1 | -19.8 | 3641 |
| Construction and Mining Labourers | | 79.9 | -11.2 | 2.2 | 1630 |
| Factory Process Workers | | 58.2 | -14.5 | -28.7 | 2503 |
| Farm, Forestry and Garden Workers | | 52.0 | -6.4 | -23.2 | 1516 |
| Food Preparation Assistants | | 57.0 | -12.6 | -27.9 | 1567 |
| Other Labourers | | 48.5 | -8.9 | -30.7 | 7251 |
| Total | | 68.8 | -12.1 | -31.3 | 183,727 |

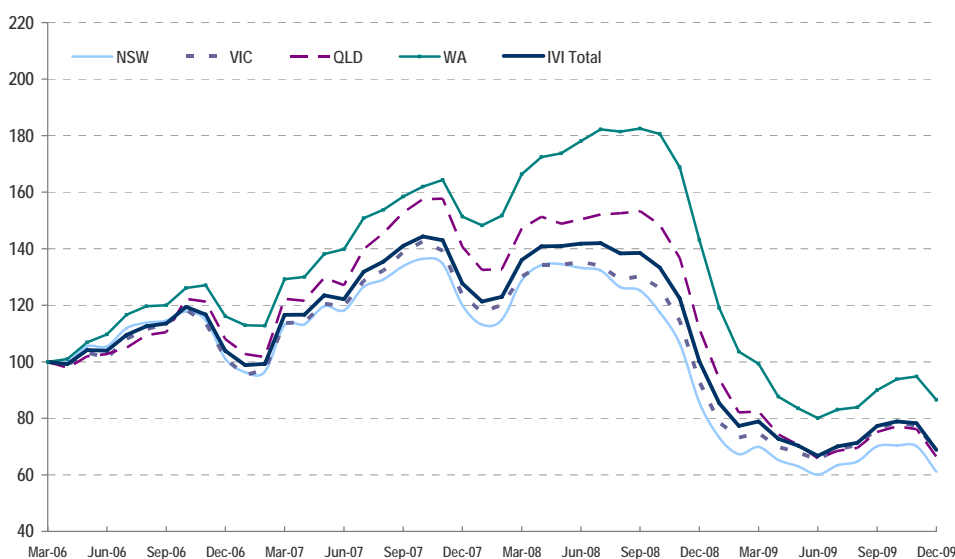
Jan

2010

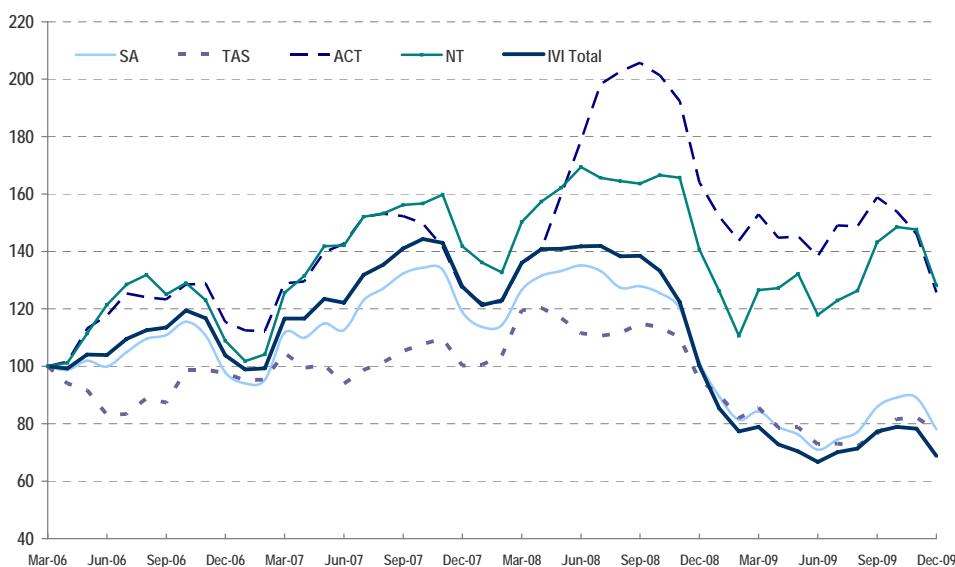
IVI Regional analysis

- In December 2009, all States and Territories experienced a decrease in vacancies. The largest decreases in vacancies were recorded in the Australian Capital Territory (down by 13.9%), the Northern Territory (down by 13.2%), Queensland (down by 12.9%) and New South Wales (down by 12.8%).
- Over the year to December 2009, large decreases in vacancies were recorded across the country: Queensland (down by 40.6%), Western Australia (down by 39.5%), New South Wales (down by 28.6%), Victoria (down by 26.5%), the Australian Capital Territory (down by 23.4%), South Australia (down by 23.1%), Tasmania (down by 18.5%), and the Northern Territory (down by 8.9%).

IVI Total, NSW, QLD, VIC and WA
March 2006 to December 2009 (March 2006 = 100)



IVI Total, SA, TAS, ACT and NT
March 2006 to December 2009 (March 2006=100)



IVI State and Territory Occupational Summary Table - December 2009

| December 2009 | Annual change | | Number of Vacancies |
|--|---------------|----------------|---------------------|
| | Per cent | Number | |
| New South Wales | -28.6 | -24,249 | 60,513 |
| Managers | -32.0 | -3727 | 7905 |
| Professionals | -36.6 | -9,951 | 17,272 |
| Technicians and Trades Workers | -19.6 | -1668 | 6852 |
| Community and Personal Service Workers | -8.5 | -369 | 3999 |
| Clerical and Administrative Workers | -31.5 | -4,620 | 10,045 |
| Sales Workers | -25.5 | -2293 | 6707 |
| Machinery Operators and Drivers | -16.6 | -499 | 2508 |
| Labourers | -17.7 | -1122 | 5226 |
| Victoria | -26.5 | -16,333 | 45,412 |
| Managers | -28.6 | -2191 | 5456 |
| Professionals | -35.8 | -6441 | 11525 |
| Technicians and Trades Workers | -20.7 | -1476 | 5642 |
| Community and Personal Service Workers | -14.3 | -524 | 3148 |
| Clerical and Administrative Workers | -26.9 | -2840 | 7703 |
| Sales Workers | -18.4 | -1232 | 5451 |
| Machinery Operators and Drivers | -17.4 | -457 | 2173 |
| Labourers | -21.4 | -1172 | 4313 |
| Queensland | -40.6 | -25,168 | 36,868 |
| Managers | -42.4 | -2821 | 3839 |
| Professionals | -48.5 | -8481 | 8999 |
| Technicians and Trades Workers | -43.4 | -4070 | 5314 |
| Community and Personal Service Workers | -21.9 | -771 | 2750 |
| Clerical and Administrative Workers | -39.6 | -3775 | 5754 |
| Sales Workers | -26.7 | -1500 | 4127 |
| Machinery Operators and Drivers | -36.0 | -1204 | 2144 |
| Labourers | -39.2 | -2545 | 3941 |
| South Australia | -23.1 | -3378 | 11,267 |
| Managers | -27.4 | -374 | 992 |
| Professionals | -35.6 | -1162 | 2102 |
| Technicians and Trades Workers | -15.9 | -313 | 1663 |
| Community and Personal Service Workers | -9.1 | -100 | 995 |
| Clerical and Administrative Workers | -30.6 | -706 | 1603 |
| Sales Workers | -5.8 | -81 | 1327 |
| Machinery Operators and Drivers | -22.3 | -238 | 826 |
| Labourers | -18.7 | -404 | 1758 |
| Western Australia | -39.5 | -12,084 | 18492 |
| Managers | -45.8 | -1723 | 2038 |
| Professionals | -52.9 | -5402 | 4818 |
| Technicians and Trades Workers | -42.7 | -1824 | 2448 |
| Community and Personal Service Workers | -8.9 | -99 | 1014 |
| Clerical and Administrative Workers | -35.6 | -1701 | 3077 |
| Sales Workers | -18.7 | -428 | 1856 |
| Machinery Operators and Drivers | -20.4 | -355 | 1387 |
| Labourers | -23.0 | -553 | 1854 |
| Tasmania | -18.5 | -602 | 2659 |
| Managers | -1.2 | -3 | 244 |
| Professionals | -22.3 | -132 | 461 |
| Technicians and Trades Workers | -8.4 | -38 | 408 |
| Community and Personal Service Workers | -6.7 | -22 | 301 |
| Clerical and Administrative Workers | -16.6 | -70 | 354 |
| Sales Workers | -10.6 | -38 | 322 |
| Machinery Operators and Drivers | -33.5 | -76 | 151 |
| Labourers | -34.8 | -223 | 417 |
| Northern Territory | -8.9 | -325 | 3317 |
| Managers | -10.8 | -47 | 389 |
| Professionals | -10.6 | -90 | 754 |
| Technicians and Trades Workers | -16.1 | -91 | 475 |
| Community and Personal Service Workers | 10.3 | 32 | 342 |
| Clerical and Administrative Workers | -2.0 | -11 | 548 |
| Sales Workers | -0.6 | -2 | 285 |
| Machinery Operators and Drivers | -10.1 | -24 | 214 |
| Labourers | -22.9 | -92 | 310 |
| Australian Capital Territory | -23.4 | -1584 | 5199 |
| Managers | -32.8 | -318 | 651 |
| Professionals | -27.9 | -692 | 1784 |
| Technicians and Trades Workers | -9.3 | -69 | 666 |
| Community and Personal Service Workers | -10.1 | -39 | 345 |
| Clerical and Administrative Workers | -25.3 | -304 | 897 |
| Sales Workers | -21.4 | -118 | 436 |
| Machinery Operators and Drivers | -5.1 | -7 | 130 |
| Labourers | -11.4 | -37 | 290 |
| Australia | -31.3 | -83,723 | 183,727 |

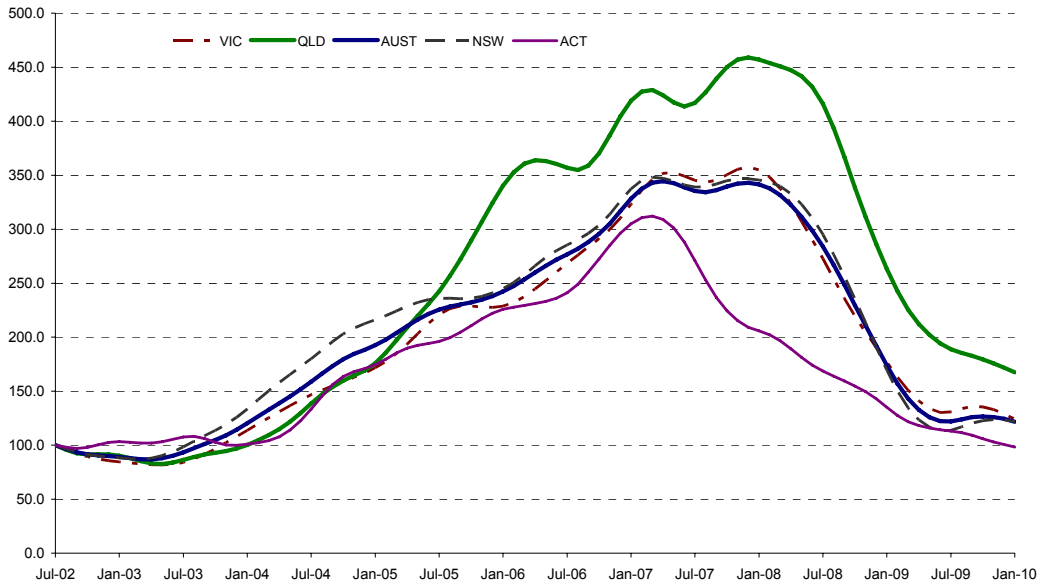
Jan

2010

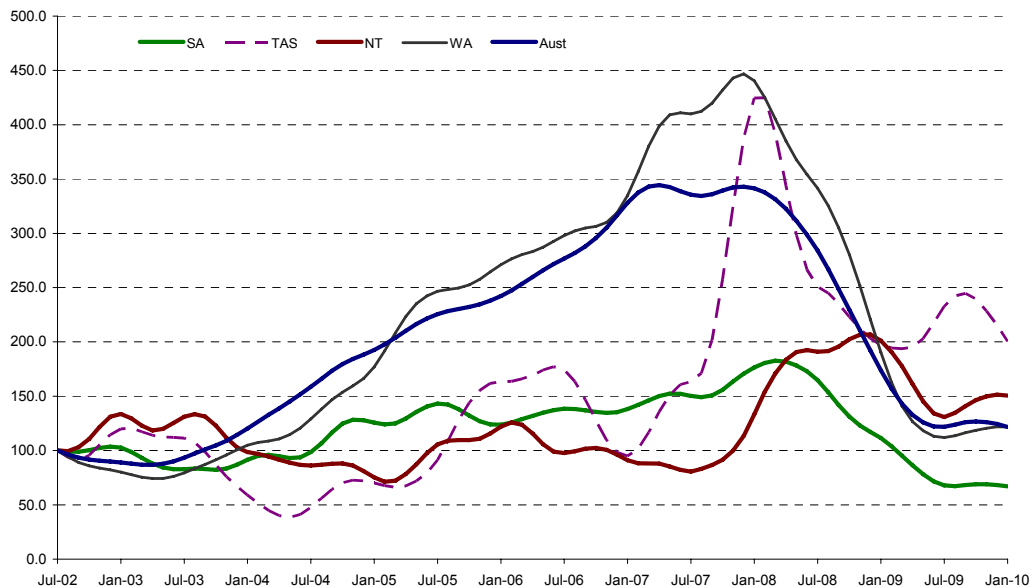
ICT Vacancies

- The DEEWR ICT Vacancy Index (trend) decreased by 2.2% in January 2010 to 121.7 (July 2002 = 100). Over the month, Tasmania experienced the largest decrease (down by 7.0%), followed by Victoria (3.9%) and Queensland (2.5%). In annual terms, the ICT Vacancy Index is 30.0% lower than in January 2009. It should be noted that vacancies may be advertised on more than one site.

**ICT Vacancy Index – July 2002 to December 2009
NSW, VIC, QLD, ACT & Australia**



**ICT Vacancy Index – July 2002 to December 2009
SA, NT, WA, TAS & Australia**



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, 2nd 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.

Acknowledgements

DEEWR thanks the following job boards for their contribution to the Vacancy Report:

