



# Economic outlook for specific Victorian industries

30 April 2010

Report by Access Economics Pty Limited for  
**Skills Victoria**

---

## Disclaimer

While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this document and any attachments, the uncertain nature of economic data, forecasting and analysis means that Access Economics Pty Limited is unable to make any warranties in relation to the information contained herein. Access Economics Pty Limited, its employees and agents disclaim liability for any loss or damage which may arise as a consequence of any person relying on the information contained in this document and any attachments.

## Access Economics Pty Limited

ABN 82 113 621 361

[www.AccessEconomics.com.au](http://www.AccessEconomics.com.au)

### CANBERRA

Level 1  
9 Sydney Avenue  
Barton ACT 2600

T: +61 2 6175 2000

F: +61 2 6175 2001

### MELBOURNE

Level 27  
150 Lonsdale Street  
Melbourne VIC 3000

T: +61 3 9659 8300

F: +61 3 9659 8301

### SYDNEY

Suite 1401, Level 14  
68 Pitt Street  
Sydney NSW 2000

T: +61 2 9376 2500

F: +61 3 9376 2501

## Contents

1	Introduction .....	8
2	Industry forecasts .....	9
3	Community Services and Health .....	13
	Appendix A: Industry concordance .....	20
	Appendix B: Industry consultation .....	25
	Appendix C: Australian Apprenticeships – National Skills Needs List, January 2010.....	26

## Charts

Chart 3.1 : Total employment in the community services and health industry – Victoria .....	16
Chart 3.2 : Index of job vacancies, health professionals – Victoria.....	17

## Tables

Table 2.1 : Total employment forecasts – Victoria .....	9
Table 2.2 : Employment forecasts by industry – Victoria .....	10
Table 2.3 : Employment forecasts by industry – metropolitan Victoria .....	11
Table 2.4 : Employment forecasts by industry – regional Victoria .....	12
Table A.1 : Concordance between ITAB industry structure and ABS ANZSIC classification.....	20

---

## Executive Summary

Skills Victoria commissioned Access Economics to provide an outlook for the Victorian labour market in 2010, and to incorporate into this report information gathered during consultations from the 16 Industry Training Advisory Bodies (ITABs) conducted in December 2009.

The past year has been a challenging one for most industries in Victoria, with the year starting amid the depths of the global financial crisis, but with that crisis generally easing through the year. At the start of 2010 some industries (or components of industries) continue to face low demand, while others are concerned about widespread skill shortages re-emerging.

What are the key issues which have affected ITABs over the past year and/or are seen as important over the coming years?

Through the report Access Economics attempts to split these into supply side issues (developments which affect the structure of the industry or how it produces goods and services) and demand side issues (developments which affect the quantum or type of goods and services demanded from the sector).

### Key supply side issues

Key supply side issues affecting a number of industries include the following:

- The ongoing effects of **globalisation** which in some cases mean ongoing industry consolidation and rationalisation. The automotive industry is an area where significant global restructuring and consolidation is occurring, which in some cases affects local operations. In business services there is a continued trend towards greater outsourcing of services.
- Continuing fallout from the global financial crisis, including **the strength of the \$A**, as the Australian economy performed far better through the crisis than most other developed economies. That means more intense pressure from imported products in some sectors. For example, Victorian forestry exports are now much less competitive, as are manufactured chemical products. However in the case of furnishing, the lower cost of imported components provided some significant opportunities for local businesses.
- A greater focus on **environment and sustainability issues**, with some sectors looking for greater opportunities to work with sustainable materials, along with greater consideration of environmental sustainability when designing new facilities. The movement towards lean manufacturing is also resulting in greater sustainability as companies look to reduce energy and water usage, and waste. For primary industries, increased variability of climatic conditions along with declining water security and quality are major issues which may fundamentally affect what the sector can produce.
- A range of **government policies** are influencing how industries perform and how training occurs. In transport and storage, proposed reforms to the graduated licensing system to meet the increased demand for drivers is seen as risking under-skilled drivers being licensed. For sport and recreation, additional training needs flow from duty of care obligations for the responsible service of alcohol, while further training needs also flow from encouraging a greater awareness of health and wellbeing in sport. The National

Broadband Network (NBN) rollout is likely to result in shortages of skilled telecommunications workers.

- Changes to the way businesses operate due to **technology**. A greater prevalence of online booking systems for retailers and the tourism sector mean skills and training are required in e-communications and web management skills. The culture and recreation sector has had to adapt to the introduction of digital television and radio, while companies in the metals and engineering sector have been investing significantly in production equipment upgrades and e-commerce to improve efficiency.
- The **ageing of Australia's population** remains a slow burner of an issue, but one which sees some sectors concerned about how they will obtain sufficient staff once baby boomers start to retire in greater numbers. The community services and health industry faces the additional consequence of increased demand for its services due to an ageing population.
- The availability of appropriate **infrastructure**, with the transport sector seeing frequent bottlenecks. Upgrades to the rail network and ports over time are likely to affect the mode of goods distribution.

### Key demand side issues

Key demand side issues affecting a number of industries include the following:

- The ongoing **fallout from the global financial crisis (GFC)** remains a key short term cyclical issue affecting the demand for goods and services. Underlying consumer and business demand was weak at the start of 2009 but has improved, while government support worked the other way through 2009. The culture and recreation sector suffered from reduced discretionary spending, though government stimulus spending boosted spending on sporting and recreation infrastructure and benefited the home entertainment and digital media industries. In forestry the global financial crisis threatened the viability of a number of forestry investment vehicles, but as the economy improves a notable pickup in housing activity may pose problems at the other end of the sector. Plans for new mining activity suffered as commodity prices tumbled, but a rebound in commodity prices suggests mining activity and new investment again have some powerful support.
- A greater emphasis on **sustainability** which has brought about greater demand for green products. In business services and manufacturing environmental sustainability is required in day-to-day operations to remain competitive. This is leading to demand for skills and training in sustainable development, corporate social responsibility, triple bottom line, and environmental social governance. Minimum energy ratings for new homes are likely to drive change in the types of skills required in the furnishing sector, along with greater demand for electricians with 'green skills'.
- **Changing demographics with an ageing population** is changing the types of goods and services being demanded in some sectors. More rapid overall population growth of late and the corresponding growth in demand for new housing are expected to flow through to increased demand for Victorian timber products.
- More broadly, **social trends** are also producing changes in demand for some goods and services. Factors affecting the food processing industry include the increased prominence of healthy eating. There has been growth in product labelling information

---

such as the Daily Intake Guide labelling in the past three years, lifting information requirements and increased need for accountability in the food product design and production process.

### Occupations in demand

Occupations in demand were generally specific to the coverage of the respective ITABs. However there was some commonality across areas, including:

- Mention was made by nearly all ITABs of the need for **emerging green occupations** which will be required in the future, including skills in measuring and reducing carbon pollution, skills to reduce waste (particularly in the manufacturing process), and skills to install energy saving devices.
- A rapidly growing and **ageing population** is seeing demand for certain occupations increase, from construction workers (to build the required housing) to aged care and health workers.

Some skills are still in critical shortage, despite a surge in training. Reasons for this include demand continuing to outstrip supply or people not entering the workforce in relevant occupations once they have completed training. The latter in some cases includes international students who go on to work in different areas after completing training and then gaining permanent residence.

The content and in some cases quality of training provided by registered training organisations (RTOs) was a common theme among consultations with ITABs. The ITABs reported that employers are often unwilling to undertake necessary training because there is a mismatch between the skills required and those provided within training courses. That is, the courses available do not contain all the elements required for their staff, or alternatively contains content that is not relevant. In some cases it was felt that the training did not include relevant updated technology and processes which are required in today's provision of services and products. Many ITABs are working with the RTOs to try to tailor courses specifically for individual employer's requirements, which is expected to result in increased uptake of training by many employers.

### Prospects for job growth

The advice from ITABs on skill needs is couched within this document in the context of Access Economics' labour market forecasts. There are two sets of employment forecasts. The first are forecasts by broad Australian and New Zealand Standard Industry Classification (ANZSIC) industry, and are presented at the regional and metropolitan level, as well as for total Victoria. The forecasts for specific ITABs have been created by taking ABS ANZSIC employment data at a detailed level and aggregating these categories to broadly match the ITAB coverage. A detailed list of which ANZSIC classifications map to each ITAB can be found in Appendix A. Note that the sum of the ITAB employment numbers do not equal total employment for Victoria, as some classifications are not included in any ITAB.

Access Economics' forecasts of industry output and employment growth over time include elements of 'structural change', where some industries gain importance in their share of the economy's output or employment over time while others decline. Structural change is a continuous process across any economy. Structural change can result from both market

influences (including technological advances and changes in consumer tastes/spending patterns and trade) and government-related influences (microeconomic reforms applying to different industries).

The key structural change for Australia as a whole over the past two decades has been the decline in the relative sizes of the manufacturing and agricultural sectors, and the considerable expansion in the share of output contributed by the services sector. Industries such as mining and construction have been more cyclical over time, responding to changes in global and domestic economic conditions respectively.

Those structural changes which are leading to the services sectors becoming a larger share of the economy will continue over time, as will productivity growth which tends to limit job gains in sectors such as farming, manufacturing and utilities.

Beyond those however there is a strong cyclical rebound underway in the Victorian labour market. The muted impact of the GFC in Australia saw the unemployment rate peak at a far lower level than had been feared, and the closing months of 2009 saw a significant number of new jobs created.

Access Economics' forecasts are for jobs growth in Victoria of 3.8% in 2010, followed by 3.3% growth in 2011 and 1.7% growth in 2012. The short term profile is notably stronger than allowed for in last year's Treasury mid-year update, which in large part reflects the very rapid pace of jobs growth towards the end of 2009, which notably exceeded expectations.

**Access Economics believes that the state has emerged from the crisis in good shape and recovery looks set to continue.** The greatest short term risk is to manufacturers who are still battling tough conditions, amid a return to a higher exchange rate and climbing interest rates. Strong population gains in Victoria will drive employment onward, as well as encouraging demand in the already healthier than average housing construction sector.

Beyond short term cyclical effects, the strongest prospects for jobs growth over the coming years remain in key community services sectors such as public administration and safety, education and training, and health care and social assistance.

Note that jobs growth is only one of the key elements which drives training demand. There is also training of new entrants who replace those who retire, as well as training associated with other job turnover as people switch between jobs.

Many occupations require an upgrading of skills over time for existing employees (including due to many of the broader economic and social factors identified in this document). Indeed, an upgrading of skills for current employees forms a key focus of the specific training recommendations provided by ITABs in this report.

**Access Economics**  
**30 April 2010**

---

# 1 Introduction

Skills Victoria commissioned Access Economics to provide an outlook for the Victorian labour market in 2010, and to incorporate into this report information gathered during consultations from the 16 Industry Training Advisory Bodies (ITABs) conducted in December 2009.

This report presents Access Economics' views of the economic and employment outlook in 16 Victorian industries, with forecasts by industry and metro/regional split (at the one digit ANZSIC level) given in the following chapter. The discussion of the outlook for each industry which then follows takes into account the individual advice offered by the sixteen ITABs, and in some cases reproduces advice gathered from the ITABs (for example, the lists of qualification shortages have been provided by the ITABs).

More specifically, this report contains:

- a synthesis of Access Economics analysis of each industry with the ITAB advice (ITAB advice is presented under the heading "Summary of ITAB advice and consultation", while Access Economics' general view on the industry is contained under the heading "Industry outlook");
- the labour market outlook for 2010 and beyond for each industry;
- occupations in demand for 2010 for each industry;
- a brief assessment of the soundness of the advice provided by the ITABs on the skills and training needs of their industries where necessary.

In general the advice presented by each ITAB is indeed sound. Each ITAB appears to have consulted widely with industry participants (if not at the time of consultation, in the months following) so as to obtain guidance on specific issues faced and the expected outlook for the future.

Access Economics has, in the main, restricted comments about the specific ITAB advice to comments regarding the economic conditions facing each industry.

The discussion for each industry which follows starts by noting:

- **Coverage:** The occupations covered by each industry.
- **Specific industry and business cycle drivers:** the factors of particular importance to the industry and overall economic factors to watch out for.
- **Recent relative sectoral performance rating:** with past rates of job growth rated as Low, Below Average, Average, Above Average, or High. These ratings are compared to all other ITABs. It should be noted that total ITAB employment does not equal total Victorian employment.
- **Forecast relative sectoral performance rating:** presents Access Economics' assessment of future rates of job growth as Low, Below Average, Average, Above Average or High over 2010 and 2011. Again, these ratings are compared to all other ITABs.

## 2 Industry forecasts

Access Economics' forecasts for employment growth in Victoria are presented in this chapter. Forecasts are shown for employment by industry at the 1 digit ANZSIC level, firstly for Victoria as a whole and then separately for metropolitan and regional Victoria. A table showing the concordance between the ITAB industries and the matching Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) industry classification is shown in Appendix A.

Table 2.1 presents employment forecasts for the state from Access Economics and the Victorian Department of Treasury and Finance. The Victorian 2009-10 Budget Update released on 26 November 2009 shows a relatively modest recovery in employment was expected at that time. Access Economics' latest forecasts for jobs growth are somewhat stronger over 2009-10 and 2010-11. In part this is due to Access Economics' forecasts being more recent, taking into account the very rapid pace of jobs growth towards the end of 2009, which notably exceeded expectations.

**Table 2.1: Total employment forecasts – Victoria**

	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Access Economics	2.3%	3.4%	2.1%	1.0%
Department of Treasury and Finance, Victoria	0.25%	1.25%	1.75%	1.75%

Source: Access Economics, Department of Treasury and Finance

Access Economics believes that the state has emerged from the crisis in good shape and recovery looks set to continue. The greatest short term risk is to manufacturers who are still battling tough conditions, amid a return to a higher exchange rate and climbing interest rates. Strong population gains in Victoria will drive employment onward, as well as encouraging demand in the already healthier than average housing construction sector.

The following tables show the employment level for each major industry in 2009, followed by expected employment growth over the next three years. The projections are shown for Victoria as a whole, and then split into metropolitan Victoria (Melbourne) and regional Victoria.

Overall, the manufacturing industry in Victoria employs the greatest number of people in total, including those working in the metals and engineering, TCF&L, food, beverage and tobacco, and wood pulp and paper sectors. The manufacturing industry is not expected to emerge from the downturn until 2011, due to a combination of factors such as reduced demand for output, commodity prices and exchange rates. Overall, we expect manufacturing employment to continue to decline over time (consistent with the historic trend) as technology helps deliver strong productivity gains.

On the other hand, financial and insurance services is expected to record a turnaround in fortunes in 2010 with the strongest rate of jobs growth expected, following job losses in 2008 and 2009. As one of the hardest hit industries through the global financial crisis, jobs are seen as returning in line with improving business confidence. Employment in the mining industry may improve in the short term on the back of promising oil and gas prospects as commodity prices

rebound. Beyond short term cyclical effects in 2010, the strongest prospects for jobs growth over the coming years remain in key community services sector such as public administration and safety, education and training, and health care and social assistance.

**Table 2.2: Employment forecasts by industry – Victoria**

Industry	2009 level	2010 % change	2011 % change	2012 % change
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	77,357	4.0	1.5	-2.2
Mining	10,230	11.8	1.2	-2.6
Manufacturing	272,312	-0.1	0.6	-1.2
Electricity, Gas, Water and Waste Services	27,797	-3.2	4.1	2.7
Construction	201,210	1.4	4.0	1.4
Wholesale Trade	103,115	2.3	1.8	0.7
Retail Trade	260,569	5.4	2.3	1.1
Accommodation and Food Services	157,200	3.7	4.0	2.8
Transport, Postal and Warehousing	127,075	-0.2	3.8	1.9
Information Media and Telecommunications	59,085	1.3	1.8	0.8
Financial and Insurance Services	91,989	13.6	2.7	1.7
Rental, Hiring and Real Estate Services	34,044	0.8	4.6	1.9
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	185,617	7.6	4.0	2.6
Administrative and Support Services	83,380	8.5	3.7	2.4
Public Administration and Safety	108,254	-1.2	4.8	3.1
Education and Training	186,424	5.3	4.5	3.1
Health Care and Social Assistance	264,788	6.4	4.7	3.3
Arts and Recreation Services	57,269	4.1	4.1	1.9
Other Services	93,792	1.0	3.1	1.8
Blue collar	731,212	2.6	3.0	0.5
White collar	1,670,302	4.3	3.4	2.1
Total	2,401,514	3.8	3.3	1.7

Source: Access Economics, ABS

Employment forecasts for metropolitan and regional Victoria are provided in Table 2.3 and Table 2.4. On average, regional Victoria represents a quarter of total employment.

Prospects for jobs growth remain stronger for Melbourne than they do for regional Victoria as a whole as migration and business consolidation favour the capital. Melbourne receives most of the benefit of expansion of business services, while ongoing infrastructure development and population growth is also stronger in the capital.

**Table 2.3: Employment forecasts by industry – metropolitan Victoria**

<b>Industry</b>	<b>2009 level</b>	<b>2010 % change</b>	<b>2011 % change</b>	<b>2012 % change</b>
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	11,991	5.8	1.7	-1.6
Mining	5,180	11.7	1.7	-2.5
Manufacturing	202,692	0.4	0.6	-1.0
Electricity, Gas, Water and Waste Services	16,523	-1.7	3.4	3.0
Construction	148,504	2.1	3.8	1.6
Wholesale Trade	85,806	3.0	1.6	0.8
Retail Trade	189,165	5.4	2.7	1.2
Accommodation and Food Services	116,316	3.5	4.5	2.9
Transport, Postal and Warehousing	98,698	-0.2	4.2	2.1
Information Media and Telecommunications	48,518	1.0	2.2	0.8
Financial and Insurance Services	81,454	13.6	2.8	1.7
Rental, Hiring and Real Estate Services	27,397	0.9	4.8	2.0
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	159,121	7.9	3.9	2.7
Administrative and Support Services	65,955	8.9	3.7	2.5
Public Administration and Safety	80,586	-0.9	4.9	3.3
Education and Training	139,697	5.0	4.9	3.1
Health Care and Social Assistance	189,761	6.1	5.3	3.4
Arts and Recreation Services	44,750	5.0	3.9	2.1
Other Services	69,657	0.2	4.0	1.9
Blue collar	482,290	3.3	3.1	0.9
White collar	1,299,492	4.3	3.6	2.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,781,782</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>1.9</b>

Source: Access Economics, ABS

**Table 2.4: Employment forecasts by industry – regional Victoria**

<b>Industry</b>	<b>2009 level</b>	<b>2010 % change</b>	<b>2011 % change</b>	<b>2012 % change</b>
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	65,366	3.6	1.5	-2.3
Mining	5,049	12.0	0.7	-2.7
Manufacturing	69,620	-1.5	0.4	-1.8
Electricity, Gas, Water and Waste Services	11,273	-5.4	5.2	2.3
Construction	52,705	-0.8	4.5	0.8
Wholesale Trade	17,308	-1.1	3.0	-0.1
Retail Trade	71,403	5.4	1.4	0.8
Accommodation and Food Services	40,883	4.2	2.7	2.4
Transport, Postal and Warehousing	28,376	0.1	2.4	1.5
Information Media and Telecommunications	10,566	2.4	0.0	0.4
Financial and Insurance Services	10,534	13.6	1.6	1.3
Rental, Hiring and Real Estate Services	6,647	0.5	3.8	1.4
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	26,495	5.8	4.3	2.1
Administrative and Support Services	17,425	6.7	3.8	1.8
Public Administration and Safety	27,667	-1.9	4.3	2.7
Education and Training	46,727	6.3	3.1	2.9
Health Care and Social Assistance	75,027	7.3	3.3	3.1
Arts and Recreation Services	12,519	1.1	5.1	1.1
Other Services	24,134	3.1	0.8	1.8
Blue collar	248,922	1.2	2.8	-0.2
White collar	370,810	4.4	2.3	1.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>619,731</b>	<b>3.1</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>1.0</b>

Source: Access Economics, ABS

### 3 Community Services and Health

**Specific industry and business cycle drivers:** Government spending (subsidies), ageing of the general population, the rate of retirement/shifts to different occupations among nurses (affects gross demand for new workers), extent and nature of government subsidies to child care and measures to promote workforce participation among mothers (affects child care demand).

**Coverage:** Children's Services, Community Health, Community Support, Health Sciences and Acute Care, Medical Practitioners, OH&S Professionals, Other Health Professionals, Psychologists, Residential and Home Care (VET), Nursing Professionals, Shared – CS&H.

**Recent relative sectoral performance rating:** Above average.

**Expected relative sectoral performance rating:** High.

#### Summary of ITAB advice and consultation

The advice from the Community Services and Health Industry Training Body (CS&HITB) highlighted the following change drivers for their industry:

- Government policy and regulation (supply side)
- Ageing population and workforce (supply and demand side)
- Increasing complex and chronic disease (demand side)

COAG has recently agreed to reforms and new national standards and regulations for early childhood education and **child care services**. Staff to child ratios will become the same for all childcare centres in Australia. The new ratios (of one staff member for every four children under 2 years, for every five between 2 and 3 years and for every eleven children over 3 years) will be implemented by 2012 for children aged under 2 years and 2016 for all other age groups. In Victoria, it is estimated that only 9% of centres would meet the required ratio for children aged 3-5. This agreement also has increased qualification requirements for staff, where nearly all centres would have to hire at least one university qualified teacher, and all employees would have to have a qualification in child care. These reforms will mean not only a higher number of childcare workers will be required, but that many of the current workforce will require training to meet the new requirements. It is hoped that these reforms will help to stem the turnover rate of around 30% in the industry.

COAG is also undergoing a series of **reforms for health care professionals**. July 1, 2010 sees the introduction of national registration for health professionals. There is still some uncertainty around whether the Diploma of Nursing will become the entry to practice qualification for Division 2 nurses. However, there are currently approximately 19,000 registered Division 2 nurses who may choose to upgrade their current Certificate IV qualification to a Diploma level. The transition arrangements have not been articulated and at this stage there is no mandatory requirement to upgrade qualifications for existing workers.

---

Additionally, the interest for Division II nurses to broaden their practice will continue to rise as well as utilising this pathway to achieve Division 1 registration.

The Victorian Government and the Departments of Health and Human Services have introduced legislation and numerous frameworks and strategies which influence the ways in which organisations plan and deliver care. These include:

- HACC Active Service Model
- Victorian Mental Health Reform Strategy 2009-2019
- Disability Act 2006
- Disability Services – Service Reorientation and Individualised Funding Approaches
- Victorian Alcohol Action Plan
- Amphetamine Type substances Strategy
- Towards a New Blueprint for Drug Treatment Services 2009 – 2013
- ‘Shaping the Future’; The Victorian mental health workforce strategy
- Child protection reform agenda
- *Children, Youth and Families Act 2005*
- Primary Care Partnership Strategy
- Integrated Chronic Disease Management Guidelines
- Demand Management Strategy
- Service Coordination Framework
- Improving Care for Older People; A Policy for Health Services
- Health Independence Program Guidelines
- Victoria’s Cancer Action Plan
- Strengthening Palliative Care
- Rural Directions – for a stronger healthier Victoria (2009)

One example of how policy documents influence how we deliver care is planned and delivered can be seen in *‘Shaping the Future: The Victorian mental health workforce strategy’*. It encourages Mental Health organisations to build on new ways of engaging with consumers, carers and the community, and promotes an approach to the planning and delivery of care that places greater emphasis on recovery with the aim of reducing the impact of mental illness on consumers and their carers thus improving quality of life.

In general all service models for both health and community services are placing a greater emphasis on building and supporting an individual’s functional independence as well as integrating services. Multidisciplinary teams will play a greater role in providing services to clients in community settings and will be required to deal with increasingly complex needs of consumers.

The **ageing population** is having a substantial impact on the industry, from both a supply and demand point of view. On the supply side, an ageing workforce is presenting challenges for employers, ranging from retaining industry knowledge and skills to training older people entering the sector. On the demand side, the increasing pressure on end of life care as the

population lives longer, associated innovations in treatment and rising consumer expectations will require a greater number of skilled aged and community care workers.

The increasing prevalence of chronic disease including the rising prevalence of diabetes, heart disease asthma and obesity are also increasing the demands on services. The growing emphasis on risk factor identification and management including screening tests (skin, bowel, prostate, breast, cervix, uterus) all require additional allocation of resources and the need for skills development.

Ambulance Paramedics are also seeing the effects of an ageing workforce and a resultant exodus of workers which will necessitate the development of strategies to address workforce shortfalls. Potential use of Paramedics, as well as Patient Transport Officers and Ambulance Attendants in the non emergency sector, to provide home based treatments as an alternative to transporting patients to Emergency Departments in major hospitals is being explored.

Reforms to the **funding of training** in Victoria have created some barriers to workforce development as well as limiting lateral career movements within and across the industry. Subsequently, there are now obstacles that mitigate against building the capacity of the workforce to meet increasingly complex service requirements. For example, a large proportion of the health workforce (approximately 50%) hold higher education qualifications, which now deems them ineligible to obtain government subsidised training places within the VET system. The need for clinicians to gain management skills and or assessment skills to support a growing workforce is impeded by the current skills reform policy.

Skills shortages are typically greatest in regional areas – a trend that has been emerging for some time. Industry is responding in part to this by utilising allied health assistants, to support some allied health professionals.

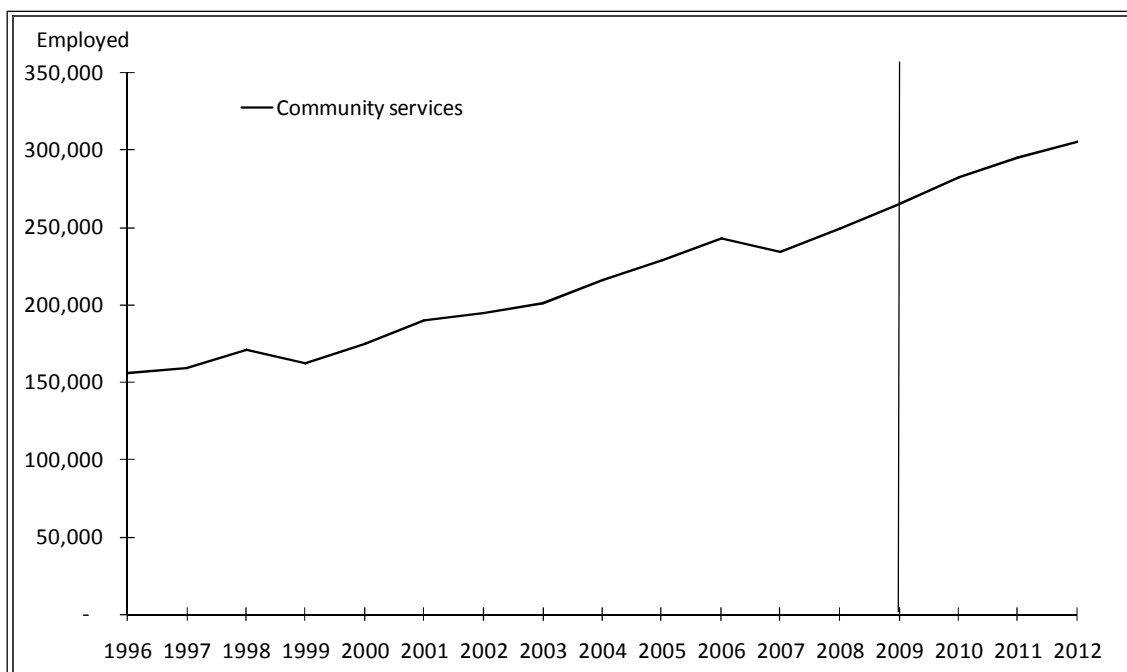
## Industry outlook

The **health and community services** sector provides an essential service, and is generally not affected by cycles in the broader economy. This sector's output has been steadily increasing over the past two decades, and it has been gradually increasing its share of the Victorian economy. Looking ahead, the prospects for the sector are strong, with a larger and relatively older population likely to increasingly underpin demand for health services into the future. The best growth prospects in the sector remain in aged care. Although recent upward revisions to expected future population growth have pegged back the pace at which Australia is ageing, that doesn't change the absolute number of people who will be see an increased demand for health services in general, and hospital and aged care services in particular, in their declining years.

It is the supply side of this sector which faces the most uncertainty. The Federal Government has regularly warned that it could take over the hospital system from the states and the consequences of this initiative are yet to be realised. While there remains disappointment with the outcomes from state hospital systems in most states, a Federal Government takeover is still far from certain.

Employment growth in Victoria’s community services and health industry<sup>1</sup> has been solid in recent years, supported by an expansion of the aged care and broader health sectors (see Chart 3.1). This trend is expected to continue into the future.

**Chart 3.1: Total employment in the community services and health industry – Victoria**



Source: Access Economics, ABS

## Occupations in demand

Most occupations within this industry are likely to remain in demand, including health and aged care workers, particularly nurses, allied health professionals and assistants as well as jobs across children’s services. There will continue to be a high degree of demand for nurses in both acute and primary care. However, as a result of changing models of care and greater demand for ‘care in the community’ there will be an emphasis on developing community care worker roles.

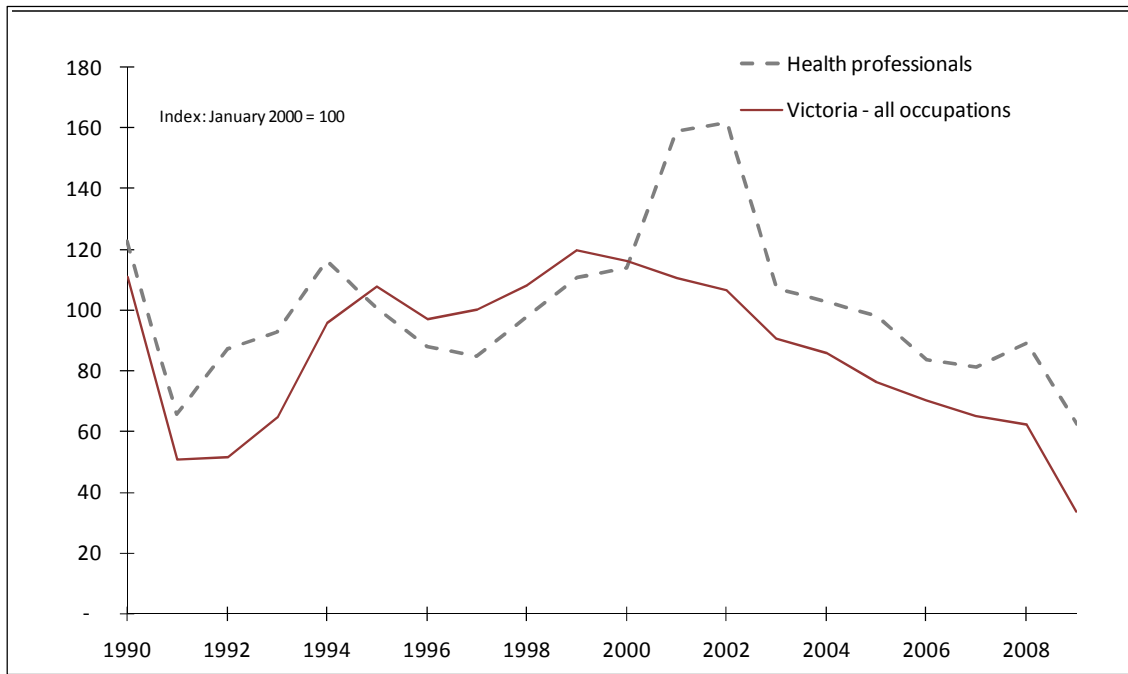
These occupations tend to be related to demographic factors such as population growth and birth rates, and less related to developments in the wider economy. There is generally a shortage of health care professionals around Australia (including Victoria). Chart 3.2 shows that job vacancies for health professionals lifted during 2008, although fell over the course of 2009. However, vacancies for health professionals remain higher than that for Victoria as a whole, and should begin to increase over the course of 2010.

Occupations associated with working with people with disabilities will increase as the rate of growth in the number of people with core activity limitations grows, while the demand for

<sup>1</sup> The community services and health industry for the purposes of employment forecasts comprises numerous ANZSIC categories, the largest of which is hospitals, followed by other social assistance services. For a full list, please see Appendix A.

childcare workers in response to new childcare reforms, particularly in rural regions, is likely to increase.

**Chart 3.2: Index of job vacancies, health professionals – Victoria**



Source: DEEWR skilled vacancy index, Access Economics

### Critical skills shortages

CS&HITB has identified the following critical skills shortages:

- Case Management
- Service Co-ordination
- Child protection
- Case workers
- Disability Support workers
- Aged care workers
- Division 2 Nursing
- Leadership , Management and Assessment
- Educators in Long Day Care, Occasional Care, Outside School Hours Care and Family Day Care
- Allied Health Assistant
- Emergency Response

---

## Qualifications required

CS&HITB has identified the following qualifications will be in demand due to high demand for the above occupations:

### Case Management:

- Vocational Graduate Certificate in Community Services Practice (Client assessment and case management)
- Diploma of Community Services (Case management)

### Service Co-ordination:

- Diploma of Community Services Coordination
- Advanced Diploma of Community Sector Management
- Vocational Graduate Diploma of Community Sector Management

### Child protection:

- Vocational Graduate Certificate in Community Services Practice (Statutory child protection)

### Case workers:

- Certificate IV in Alcohol and Other Drugs
- Certificate IV in Mental Health
- Diploma of Community Services (Alcohol and other drugs)
- Diploma of Community Services (Mental health)
- Diploma of Community Services (Alcohol, other drugs and mental health)

### Disability Support workers:

- Certificate IV, Diploma and Advanced Diploma of Disability

**Aged care workers:** Certificate III Aged care

### Nursing:

- Certificate IV in Nursing
- Diploma of Nursing for (a) new entrants, and (b) for existing workers
- Certificate III and IV in Home and Community Care

### Leadership , Management and Assessment:

- Certificate IV in Training and Assessment

**Educators in Long Day Care, Occasional Care, Outside School Hours Care and Family Day Care:**

- Certificate III in Children's Services
- Diploma of Children's Services (Early Childhood Education and Care)
- Diploma of Children's Services (Outside School Hours Care)

**Allied Health Assistant:**

- Certificate IV in Allied Health Assistance

**Emergency Response:**

- Certificate IV Health Care (Ambulance)
- Diploma of Paramedical science (Ambulance)
- Certificate III in Non-Emergency Client Transport

**Emerging green skills**

CS&HITB has not identified any emerging green skills as such.

That said, organisations are trying to reduce costs and increase sustainability in general, and the industry is considering how it can address this issue more broadly including the issues of economic, social as well as environmental sustainability.

As some 70-80% of organisations in this ITAB are government-funded to some degree, the costs associated with a carbon reduction policy and other sustainability measures may also have implications for future public funding.

## Appendix A: Industry concordance

Table A.1: Concordance between ITAB industry structure and ABS ANZSIC classification

ITAB Industry	ANZSIC Industry
Automotive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Motor Vehicle and Motor Vehicle Part Manufacturing</li> <li>Other Transport Equipment Manufacturing</li> <li>Motor Vehicle and Motor Vehicle Parts Wholesaling</li> <li>Motor Vehicle Retailing</li> <li>Motor Vehicle Parts and Tyre Retailing</li> <li>Automotive Repair and Maintenance</li> </ul>
Building and construction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Residential Building Construction</li> <li>Non-Residential Building Construction</li> <li>Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction</li> <li>Land Development and Site Preparation Services</li> <li>Building Structure Services</li> <li>Building Installation Services</li> <li>Building Completion Services</li> <li>Other Construction Services</li> </ul>
Business services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Waste Collection Services</li> <li>Waste Treatment, Disposal and Remediation Services</li> <li>Central Banking</li> <li>Depository Financial Intermediation</li> <li>Non-Depository Financing</li> <li>Financial Asset Investing</li> <li>Life Insurance</li> <li>Health and General Insurance</li> <li>Superannuation Funds</li> <li>Auxiliary Finance and Investment Services</li> <li>Auxiliary Insurance Services</li> <li>Motor Vehicle and Transport Equipment Rental and Hiring</li> <li>Farm Animal and Bloodstock Leasing</li> <li>Other Goods and Equipment Rental and Hiring</li> <li>Non-Financial Intangible Assets (Except Copyrights) Leasing</li> <li>Property Operators</li> </ul>

ITAB Industry	ANZSIC Industry
Community services & health	Real Estate Services Scientific Research Services Legal and Accounting Services Advertising Services Market Research and Statistical Services Management and Related Consulting Services Other Professional, Scientific and Technical Services Computer System Design and Related Services Employment Services Other Administrative Services Building Cleaning, Pest Control and Gardening Services Packaging Services
Cultural & recreation	Hospitals Medical Services Pathology and Diagnostic Imaging Services Allied Health Services Other Health Care Services Residential Care Services Child Care Services Other Social Assistance Services  Motion Picture and Video Activities Sound Recording and Music Publishing Radio Broadcasting Television Broadcasting Libraries and Archives Museum Operation Creative and Performing Arts Activities Sports and Physical Recreation Activities Amusement and Other Recreation Activities
Electro-technology & communication	Printing and Printing Support Services Reproduction of Recorded Media Electricity Generation Electricity Transmission

ITAB Industry	ANZSIC Industry
Food	Electricity Distribution On Selling Electricity and Electricity Market Operation Gas Supply Newspaper, Periodical, Book and Directory Publishing Software Publishing Internet Publishing and Broadcasting Telecommunications Services Internet Service Providers and Web Search Portals Data Processing, Web Hosting and Electronic Information Storage Services Other Information Services
Forestry	Food, Beverage and Tobacco Product Manufacturing  Forestry and Logging Forestry Support Services Log Sawmilling and Timber Dressing Other Wood Product Manufacturing Pulp, Paper and Paperboard Manufacturing Converted Paper Product Manufacturing
Furniture	Furniture Manufacturing
Manufacturing and engineering	Mining Other Manufacturing Petroleum, Coal, Chemical, Polymer and Rubber Product Manufacturing Non-Metallic Mineral Product Manufacturing Primary Metal and Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing Professional and Scientific Equipment Manufacturing Computer and Electronic Equipment Manufacturing Electrical Equipment Manufacturing Domestic Appliance Manufacturing Pump, Compressor, Heating and Ventilation Equipment Specialised Machinery and Equipment Manufacturing Other Machinery and Equipment Manufacturing Architectural, Engineering and Technical Services Machinery and Equipment Repair and Maintenance

<b>ITAB Industry</b>	<b>ANZSIC Industry</b>
Primary industry	Nursery and Floriculture Production Mushroom and Vegetable Growing Fruit and Tree Nut Growing Sheep, Beef Cattle and Grain Farming Other Crop Growing Dairy Cattle Farming Poultry Farming Deer Farming Other Livestock Farming Aquaculture Fishing Hunting and Trapping Agriculture and Fishing Support Services Parks and Gardens Operations Veterinary Services
Racing	Horse and Dog Racing Activities
Service Industries	Agricultural Product Wholesaling Mineral, Metal and Chemical Wholesaling Timber and Hardware Goods Wholesaling Specialised Industrial Machinery and Equipment Wholesaling Other Machinery and Equipment Wholesaling Grocery, Liquor and Tobacco Product Wholesaling Textile, Clothing and Footwear Wholesaling Pharmaceutical and Toiletry Goods Wholesaling Furniture, Floor Covering and Other Goods Wholesaling Commission-Based Wholesaling Motor Vehicle Parts and Tyre Retailing Fuel Retailing Supermarket and Grocery Stores Specialised Food Retailing Furniture, Floor Coverings, Houseware and Textile Goods Retailing Electrical and Electronic Goods Retailing Hardware, Building and Garden Supplies Retailing

ITAB Industry	ANZSIC Industry
Textile, clothing & footwear	Recreational Goods Retailing Clothing, Footwear and Personal Accessory Retailing Department Stores Pharmaceutical and Other Store-Based Retailing Non-Store Retailing Retail Commission-Based Buying and/or Selling Accommodation and Food Services Travel Agency and Tour Arrangement Services Gambling Activities Personal Care Services Funeral, Crematorium and Cemetery Services Other Personal Services
Transport, distribution & logistics	Textile Manufacturing Leather Tanning, Fur Dressing and Leather Product Manufacturing Textile Product Manufacturing Knitted Product Manufacturing Clothing and Footwear Manufacturing
Water	Transport, Postal and Warehousing  Water Supply, Sewerage and Drainage Services

## **Appendix B: Industry consultation**

This appendix has been provided in confidence to Skills Victoria.

## Appendix C: Australian Apprenticeships – National Skills Needs List, January 2010

This regularly updated list includes trades which are experiencing persistent skills shortage on a national level, based on DEEWR labour market research. The Federal Government offers incentives for employers to take on apprentices in these fields, as well as benefits for the apprentices themselves. These include the Support for Adult Australian Apprentices payment, Tools For Your Trade payment, Rural and Regional Skills Shortage incentive and the Securing Australian Apprenticeships initiative.

The trades included on the January 2010 list are shown in the table below, grouped by each ITAB.

ITAB	Trades needed
Automotive	Automotive electrician, Panel beater, Motor mechanic, Vehicle body maker, Vehicle painter, Vehicle trimmer
Building and construction	Bricklayer, Carpenter, Carpenter and joiner, Drainer, Fibrous plasterer, Gasfitter, General plumber, Mechanical services and air-conditioning plumber, Painter and decorator, Roof plumber, Roof slater and tiler, Solid plasterer, Stonemason, Wall and floor tiler
Business services	n/a
Community services and health	n/a
Culture and rec	n/a
Electro-tech and comms	Binder and finisher, Communications Linesperson, Electrical powerline tradesperson, Electrician (Special class), Electronic equipment tradesperson, General Communications Tradesperson, Printing Machinist, Screen printer
Food processing	Baker, Butcher (including smallgoods producers), Pastry cook
Forestry	Wood machinist (A-grade)
Furnishing	Binder and finisher, Fitter, Floor finisher, Furniture finisher, Furniture upholsterer, Landscape Gardener, Painter and decorator, Picture framer
Metals and engineering	Aircraft maintenance engineer (Avionics), Aircraft maintenance engineer (Mechanical), Boat builder and repairer, Electronic equipment tradesperson, Fitter, Flat glass tradesperson, Locksmith, Metal fabricator, Optical mechanic, Pressure welder, Refrigeration and air-conditioning mechanic, Sheetmetal worker (First class), Toolmaker, Welder (First class)
Primary	Tree surgeon
Racing	n/a
TCF	n/a
Water	n/a
Wholesale/retail/tourism/hosp	Cook, Hairdresser

Source: [www.australianapprenticeships.gov.au](http://www.australianapprenticeships.gov.au)