

# Transport, Logistics & Supply Chain Job Index

# REPORT

## KEY FINDINGS

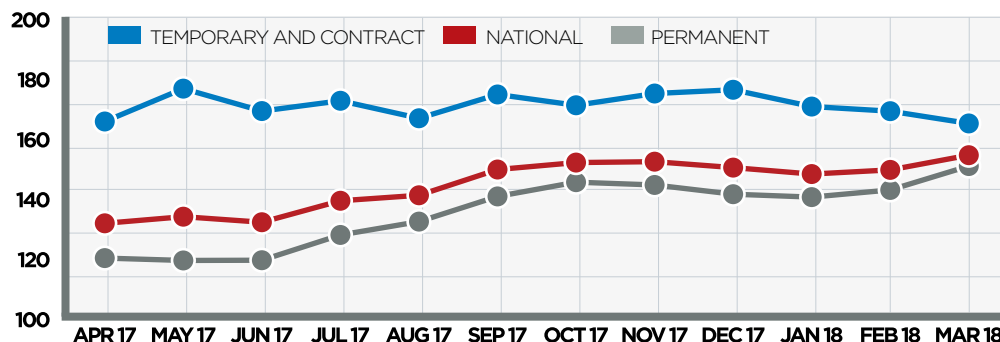
- ⚙️ The Labourforce / Impex TL&SC Job Index rose a further 3.3% in March, a new record high
- ⚙️ The permanent market is performing well, a very healthy 5.6% more job vacancies available in March
- ⚙️ The contingent market has been decidedly weak for the last year. The year has not started well, retreating 6.4%
- ⚙️ Queensland rose a massive 5.6% in March eliminating the fall at the start of the year. Year on year growth is an extraordinary 30.6%
- ⚙️ NSW/ACT achieved a similar level of expansion in March of 5.4%
- ⚙️ March was great for anyone looking for a job in road transport. Vacancies rose 7.8%
- ⚙️ Air, Sea and Rail transport has also enjoyed a brisk start to the year. Vacancies are up 17.8% in the first three months of the year
- ⚙️ Transport and Logistics employers were very active in March registering a massive 9.6% rise in advertised vacancies

## Index hits record high. Permanents performing well

March saw further improvement in job prospects in the Transport Logistics and Supply Chain sector. The Impex/Labourforce TL&SC Job Index rose 3.3% from 148.95 to 153.85. This sets a new record level of demand narrowly exceeding the prior record set last November. This turns the net rise for the quarter to 2.8% when we were previously reporting a fall. Likewise the annual rise of 8.4% is solid but hardly spectacular, falling slightly below the national average across all occupations and sectors. There are two forces at work here. The permanent market is performing well. There was a very healthy 5.6% more job

vacancies available in March than February. The annual rise of 12.6% is pretty much in line with the national average. The Index is on 150.23, establishing a new record high. This infers that permanent jobs are now just over 50% higher than November 2013 when we commenced the Index. In the other corner the contingent market (temporary plus contract plus casual job opportunities) has been decidedly weak for the last year dropping 2% in twelve months. The year has not started well retreating 6.4%. The Index is on 164.44 the lowest since February 2017.

CHART 1 NATIONAL INDEX AND JOB TYPE ANALYSIS



## Games gold for Queensland jobs

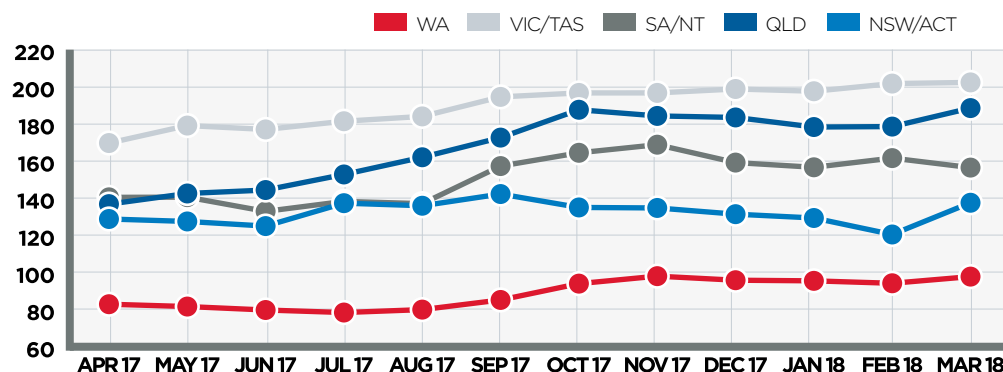
Queensland rose a massive 5.6% in March eliminating the fall at the start of the year. Year on year growth is an extraordinary 30.6%. The Queensland Job Index is at a new record level of 188.50. This is an exceptional performance and reflects a broadening economy from its mining and tourism base. It may well have also been assisted by the Commonwealth Games on the Gold Coast.

NSW/ACT achieved a similar level of expansion in March of 5.4%. This was much needed after

an uninspiring 2017. Despite this month's rise job opportunities are actually 2.7% lower than a year ago. It remains 3.3% below the record set last September. Easter may put a dent in April activity but, at current rates at least, prospects are good for further improvement as the year progresses.

March was a rare positive one for WA. Job vacancies did rise an encouraging 3.8% in March. The Index hit 97.76, still short of last November's recent record.

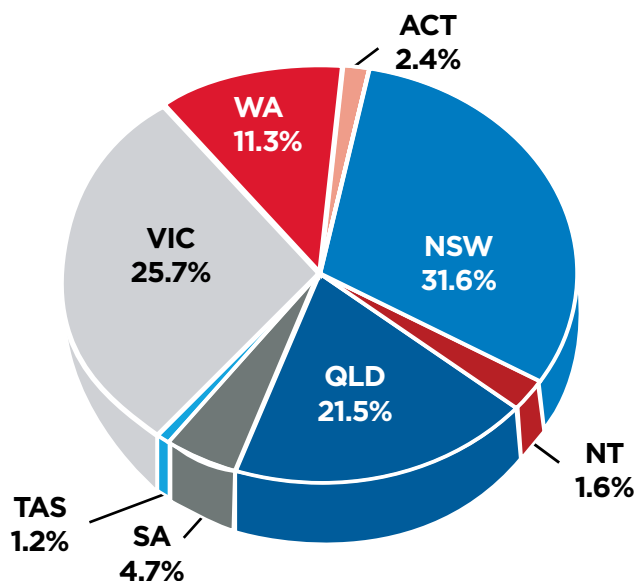
CHART 2 COMPARISON OF STATE JOB INDICES



APRIL 2018

**CHART 3**  
ANALYSIS OF JOB  
ADVERTISEMENTS BY  
STATE AND TERRITORY  
MARCH 2018

It's been very much contrasting fortunes between the mining and resource dominated states. When we started measuring in late 2013 WA held 17.7% and Queensland 17.5% share of national job opportunities. Queensland now holds a 21.5% share and WA has fallen to 11.3%.



## OCCUPATIONAL ANALYSIS

### Job vacancies rebound. Year off to a flying start

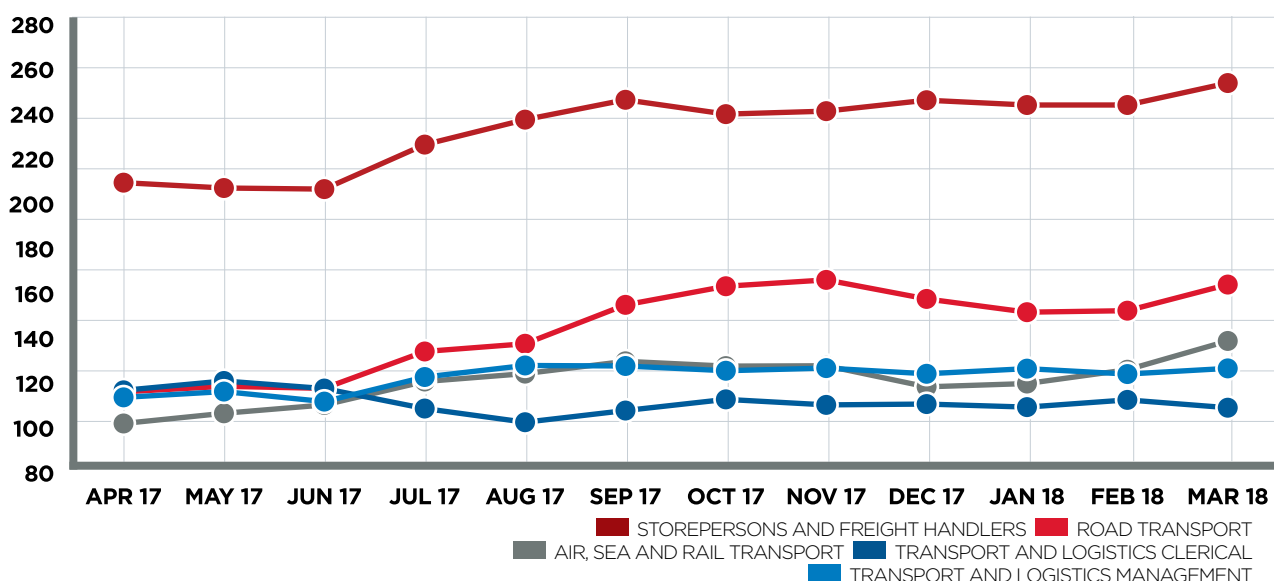
March was a great month for anyone looking for a job in road transport. Vacancies rose an impressive 7.8% in March. This has largely unwound the seasonal dip and otherwise slow start to the year. It's an unusually strong rebound this time of year. Any further will see it bypass the record high set last November.

Air, Sea and Rail transport has also enjoyed a brisk start to the year. Vacancies are up 17.8% in the first three months of the year recording three successive monthly rises. Demand is also up the highest of all TL&SC occupations

longer term rising 33.6% year on year. Inevitably demand is now at a new record high of 135.65.

Store Persons and Freight Handlers are also off to a flying start, rising 3.1% in the quarter. This is normally the quiet season when hiring slows after the summer break. Not so this year. The rise is unexpected but will be welcomed by job seekers with demand strengthening to a new record high. The Index has now exceeded 250 indicating 2.5 times more job openings than in November 2013!

**CHART 4** ANALYSIS OF JOB ADVERTISEMENTS BY SPECIALIST OCCUPATION



# INDUSTRY ANALYSIS

## Looming skills shortages driving jobs market

Transport and Logistics employers really went out into the jobs market in March registering a massive 9.6% rise in advertised vacancies. There is no single logical reason for this but a combination of a pickup post summer season, a generally buoyant employment market and some looming skills shortages have all contributed to this new record high in demand. The Index has reached 199.19 which basically implies that job advertising is now double what it was in late 2013!

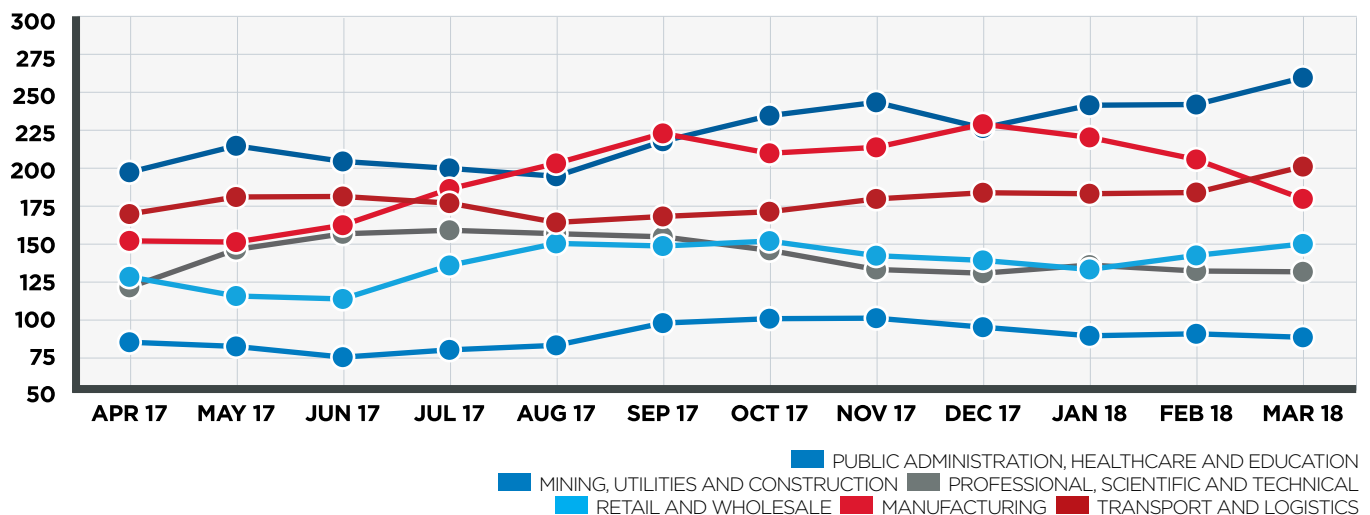
The Public Sector has also hit a new record level hitting 258.80, the first time it has exceeded the 250 mark. Given rise reported in Air, Sea and Rail transport roles it seems likely that some of this growth is in rail driver job opportunities. There are widely reported shortages of train drivers in Sydney and that's before a number of new lines are opened.

In stark contrast manufacturing continues to decline. March's fall of

13% is massive and follows falls in January and February. The cumulative fall wipes out most of the gain made in 2017 but year on year growth is still a net 16.5%. This is a shocking start for 2018 and does not auger well for the year ahead.

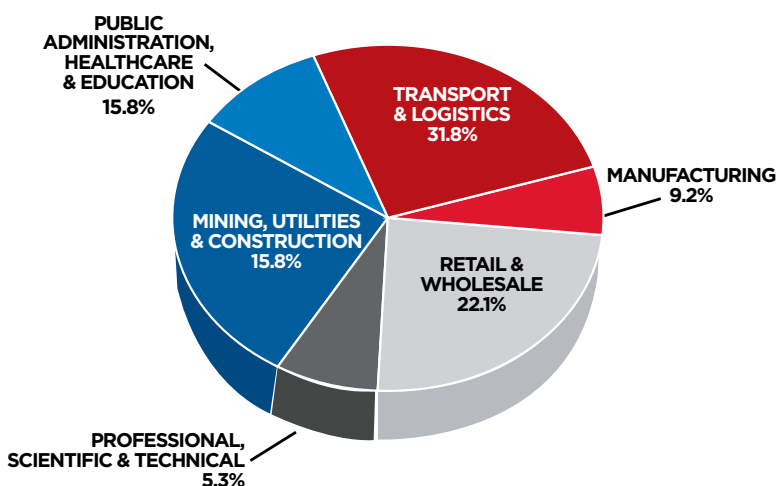
The graph provides a breakdown of the proportions of each major industrial sector.

**CHART 5 ANALYSIS OF JOB ADVERTISEMENTS BY INDUSTRY**



**CHART 6 THE PROPORTION OF JOB ADVERTISEMENTS BY INDUSTRY MARCH 2018**

Retail and wholesale command 22.1% of the national pie but this has been slipping. It has fallen from 24.2% in just twelve months. Likewise Mining, Utilities and Construction have fallen 1.8% in a year. The big winner – the Public Sector.



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For more information about Labourforce Impex Transport, Logistics & Supply Chain Job Index

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