

Victorian Employer Skills and Training Survey 2017

Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing

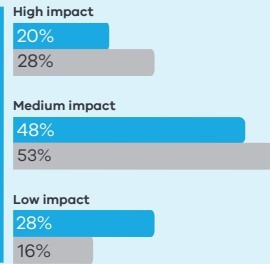
Over 12,100 employers responded to the training and skills component of the *Victorian Employer Satisfaction and Skills Survey* in 2017. Of these, 1,010 were from the Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing industry. Employers report that skills are important to productivity, but many are facing challenges filling jobs and finding the right applicants with the right skills. These challenges are faced both now, and are expected to continue into the future. However, a high proportion of employers that access training to improve the skills of their workforce report a positive impact on productivity and return on investment.

The statistics below reflect the experience of employers in the Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing industry compared to the overall Victorian average.

Skills are important to productivity

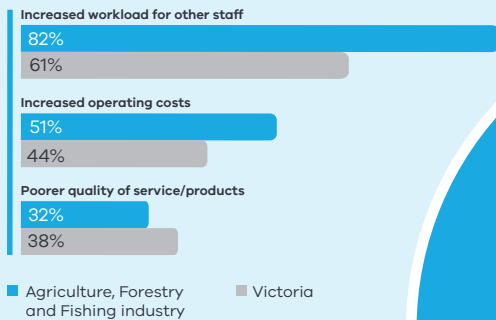


Businesses found that a lack of skills had a medium impact on workplace productivity.



Impact of insufficient workforce skills

A lack of skills can increase the workload for other staff, affect operating costs, and result in poorer quality of service/products.



Managing the skills of the workforce

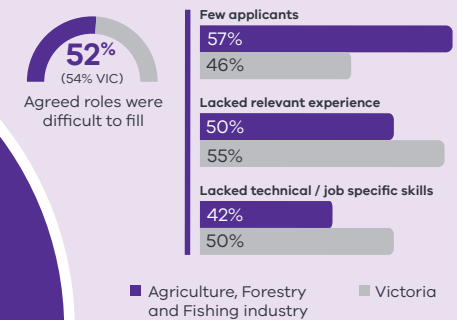
Employers reported that recruitment was challenging due to candidates not having the required skills or being job ready.

A sixth of employers saw the need to improve the skills of existing staff.

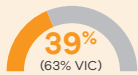


Recruitment challenges

Employers faced recruitment challenges primarily due to a lack of potential candidates and relevant experience.

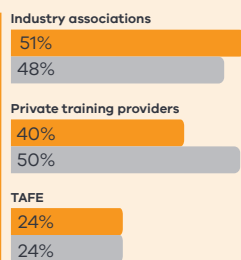


Employers' access to training



Employers supported staff training in 2016

Employers mainly used industry associations, private training providers and TAFEs to deliver their training in 2016.

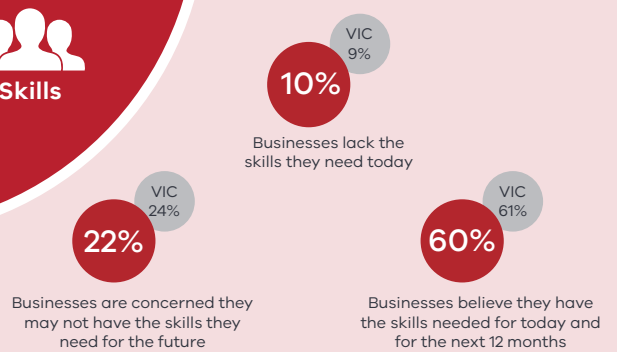


Training contribution and quality

Employers find that training has a positive contribution to productivity and business success.



Skills needed now and for the future



Main skills lacking today and in the next 12 months

Nearly three quarters of employers identified technical and job specific skills are lacking today or will be lacking in the next 12 months.

