

Transport, Logistics & Supply Chain Job Index

REPORT

KEY FINDINGS

-  The Labourforce Impex Transport, Logistics and Supply Chain Job Index rose 2.8% in January
-  Permanent Opportunities rose 4.0% while demand for Temporary staff eased 0.4%
-  Victoria and Western Australia rose strongly
-  New South Wales remains flat but still dominates with 31.3% share of all vacancies
-  Demand for Stores People and Freight Handlers has already picked up after short lull before Christmas
-  Demand for Managerial talent is growing faster than clerical support, driven by demand for executives with strong export experience
-  Demand from Manufacturing employers eased in January after significant growth in the last six months
-  Transport and Logistics employers were active in January while retail and wholesalers were surprisingly active early in the year
-  Overall a very encouraging start for 2015

IMPEX EXPANDS SERVICES - ACQUIRES IMPEX NEW ZEALAND

Australian, privately owned Recruitment company, Labourforce Impex Personnel Pty Ltd has completed the 100% acquisition of New Zealand based Impex Personnel Ltd.

Labourforce Impex Personnel Pty Ltd (Aus) has three distinct service offerings;

-  **LABOURFORCE** provides clients with reliable, safe and affordable solutions for permanent, temporary and contract workforce in the Transport, Logistics and Supply Chain sectors.
-  **IMPEX PERSONNEL** are specialist provider of International Transport and Logistics staff across Australia. Impex Personnel has nine offices across Australia to serve the permanent staffing needs of clients and job seekers.
-  **LABOURHEALTH** is an Australia wide, on site safety management provider that specializes in Drug & Alcohol testing, pre-employment medicals, noise & hearing testing and ergonomic assessment.

Impex is New Zealand's leading transport and logistics recruitment agency with 20+ years experience servicing small, medium and large organisations. They place job seekers in freight forwarding, logistics, supply chain, transport, import, export, FMCG, warehousing and customs brokerage.



The most important thing about the new venture is we remain resolutely customer focused. We will continue to provide a premium product to our clients in the transport, logistics and supply chain sectors both in New Zealand and Australia.

There is opportunity to provide this service to other companies who demand a broader footprint. In time, we will follow our customers along their supply chains to service them in other ports in Asia and beyond.

AUSSIE DOLLAR FALLS

Disappointing trade numbers out of China and strong jobs growth in the US are weighing the Australian dollar down below US78c. A weaker Aussie is a boon for Australia's exporters and will in turn boost the country's flagging economic growth.

NATIONAL JOB INDEX

2015 off to strong start.

The Transport Logistics and Supply Chain employment market enjoyed a strong start to the year, with the Labourforce Impex Job Index rising 2.8% to 117.32. Whilst the rebound was not sufficient to catch up with all the decrease sustained in December it does signal an early return to the market for many employers. Over the past twelve months demand has risen 21.2% so December's decline

was definitely a short term aberration against the long term trend. There was however signs of a slowing over the entire last quarter so it will be interesting to see whether this is seasonal or a more sustained slow down. Temporary and Contract job advertisements fell 0.4% in January. The Index fell marginally from 128.85 to 128.36. The temporary market has grown substantially since we started

publishing the Index, exactly one third over the last year. Some of the recent slowdown is attributable to short term hires for the Christmas period.

By way of contrast demand for permanent staff rose 4.0%, bringing the Permanent Index back up from 109.45 to 113.86. Job seekers in our sector can be heartened by the strength of the market so early in the year.

SERVICING OUR CUSTOMER NEEDS

Labourforce group of companies is proud to provide a better level of service to our customers.

Impex Australia and Impex New Zealand are now part of the one family. We will continue to provide the highest level of customer service that the transport, logistics and supply chain sector demands.

Our expert teams will service all of your permanent, temporary and contract placements, and will back it up with LabourHealth to ensure you are keeping your worksite safe and drug and alcohol free.

Call today to find out more about our best practice processes and market leading rates.



Regan Brown
CEO
LABOURFORCE

CHART 1 NATIONAL INDEX AND JOB TYPE ANALYSIS



STATE ANALYSIS

Victoria and WA rise. NSW flat.

January's recovery in advertising volumes was most noticeable in Western Australia with a confident 4.5% rise reversing a substantial fall of 6.4% in December.

Victoria enjoyed the biggest increase 6.4% and taking the Index to 139.67.

Advertising volumes are up 39.0% in twelve months although the massive increases

in the second half of 2015 have definitely eased.

The NSW market seems very flat in comparison. The Index for NSW inched up to 101.22 again stagnant on a year on year basis and still the weakest performing state.

The graph below provides a breakdown of the proportions of each state and territory:

CHART 2 COMPARISON OF STATE JOB INDICES

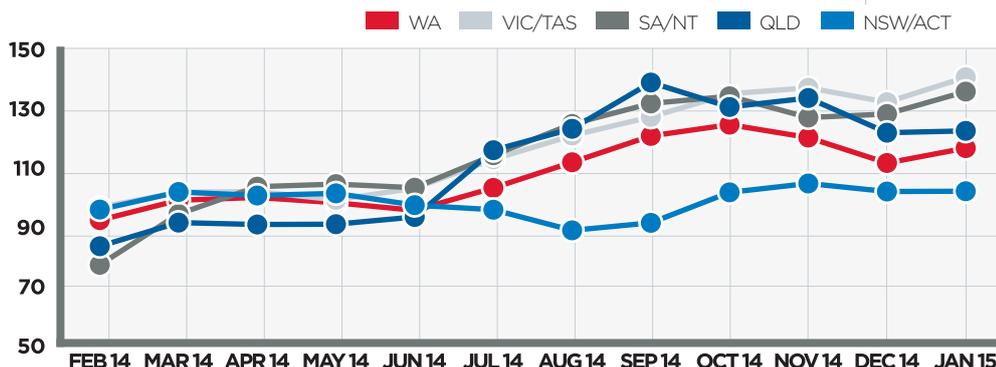
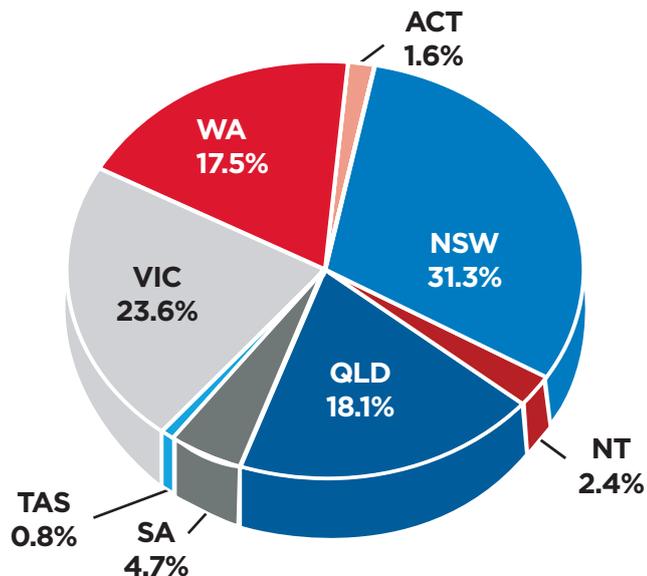


CHART 3
ANALYSIS OF JOB ADVERTISEMENTS BY STATE AND TERRITORY JANUARY 2015

The most significant change in the distribution of job advertisements by state and territory has been the shift away from NSW, down from 36.3% to 31.3%, to Victoria, up from 19.7% to 23.6%. The momentum us clearly with Victoria although NSW still has the greater market share.



OCCUPATIONAL ANALYSIS

Early demand boost bodes well for 2015.

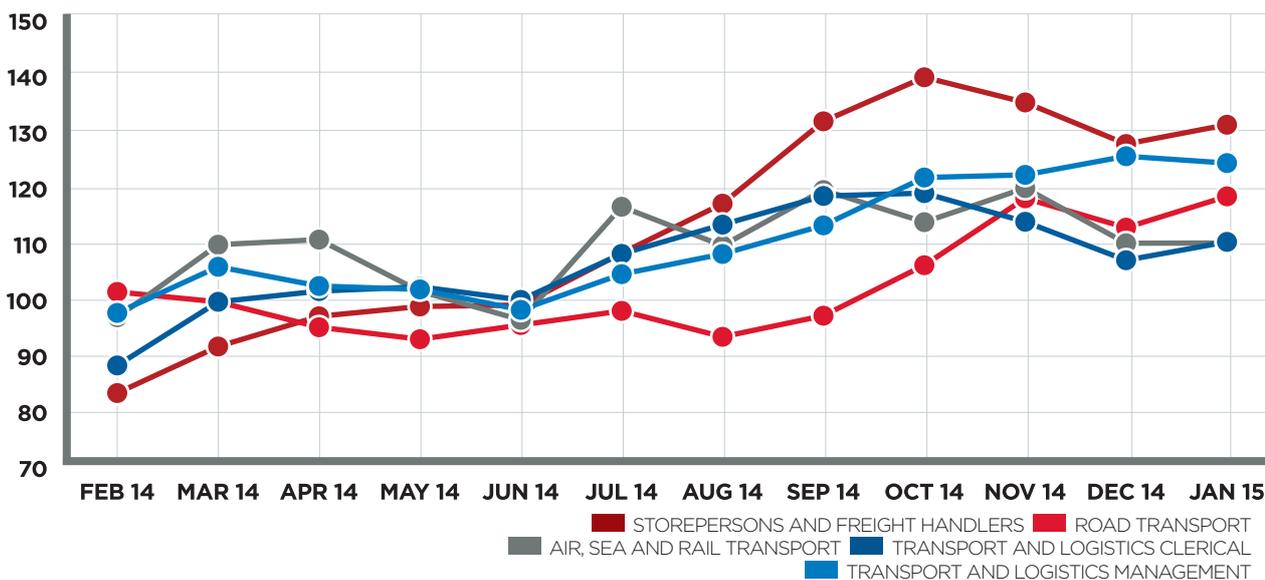
Demand for Store Persons and Freight Handlers rose 2.7% after two successive falls. After phenomenal growth in early 2014 it slipped 6.1% in the last quarter. The Index now sits at 130.18, the strongest performing occupational group. The recovery bodes well for the year ahead.

On a similar theme, demand for Road Transport staff that had fallen 4.5% in December, rose 5.0% to 117.37. The recovery in both these occupations bodes well for the year ahead.

Comparison between Transport, Logistics and Supply Chain Management and Clerical always makes for interesting analysis.

The Managerial Index is 123.32 and Clerical Index only 109.22 demonstrating that demand has been stronger at a more senior level. This can be attributed to a weakening dollar boosting demand for executives with export experience.

CHART 4 ANALYSIS OF JOB ADVERTISEMENTS BY SPECIALIST OCCUPATION



INDUSTRY ANALYSIS

Manufacturing slows. Transport and Logistics march on.

The resurgence of demand within the Manufacturing sector seen in late 2014 has shown its first sign of slowing. Demand rose a mere 0.3% in January compared to 26.4% over the last six months. January's lull could just be a pause prior to continued increase in demand for staff or, at 118.38 has manufacturing peaked? The surprise in January however was a pick up in demand from retail employers recovering much of the ground lost in the prior two months. That fall was to be expected as there are seasonal factors at play here. But

the rebound in demand in January was earlier than that seen in 2014. Transport and Logistics employers were also pretty active post Christmas with demand up a very encouraging 4.4%. The index for Transport and Logistics employers starts at 135.17, the best industrial category. Whilst seasonal factors always make it dangerous to read too much into December and January figures job seekers should take heart from our report and enter 2015 confident of strong demand for their skills.

CHART 5 ANALYSIS OF JOB ADVERTISEMENTS BY INDUSTRY

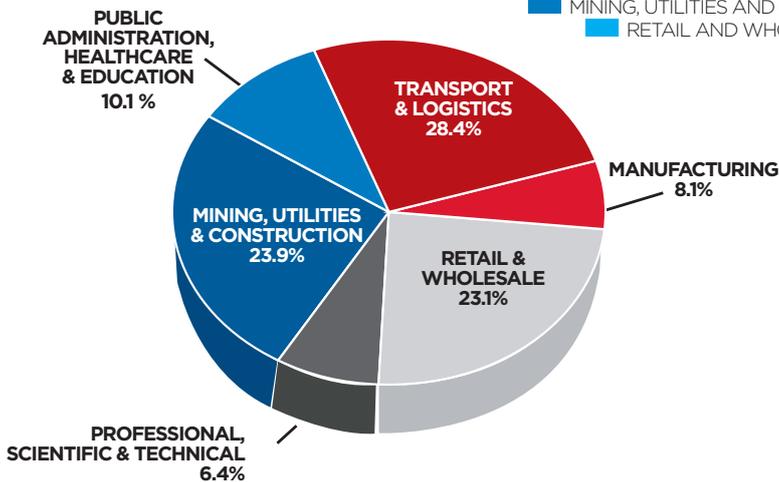
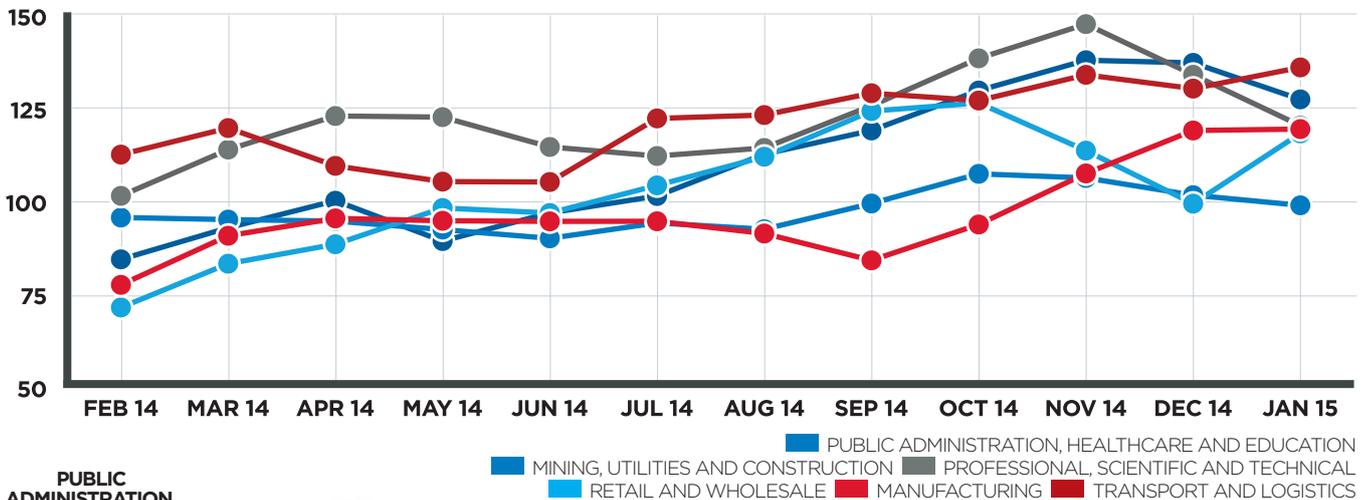


CHART 6 THE PROPORTION OF JOB ADVERTISEMENTS BY INDUSTRY JANUARY 2015

Transport and Logistics employers increased their dominance, now holding a 28.3% market share of all Transport, Logistics and Supply Change jobs. This has increased from 24.4% a year ago. This pick up has been at the expense of Mining, Utilities and Construction which has seen its share drop from 28.6% over the same period.

In October the Labourforce / Impex Transport, Logistics and Supply Chain Job Index was recalibrated to take account of the demise of Mycareer.com.au, a single but significant source of job advertisement data. This has involved a complete rerun of all historical data. This will produce more accurate and less volatile data. However as all indices have been restated comparison to prior reports is not possible.

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

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