

Industry training councils provide a direct link between Western Australian industry and the State Training Board. This infographic summarises industry feedback to the training council in March to May 2020.

JOBS LOST/IDLED*

Aviation – pilots, flight crew, maintenance workers, customer service and support staff

Public transport drivers

Bus and coach operators (tourism and regional)



JOBS IN DEMAND*

Truck drivers

Delivery drivers

Couriers

Rail infrastructure workers

*Between March-May 2020 there were redundancies, suspensions, terminations or reduced hours.

*Between March-May 2020 there was increased demand for workers or increased hours for existing workers.

IMPACT OF COVID-19 MEASURES



TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS

- Qantas: the majority of international operations have been suspended. Domestic operations have been reduced by 60%, with around 20,000 staff stood down nationally.
- Virgin Australia: in voluntary administration, potentially affecting 15,000 workers nationally.
- Tiger Air: 220 pilots were made redundant nationally.



FREIGHT TRANSPORT

- Australia Post is reporting delivery delays due to the increased demand through online purchases, with fewer passenger planes delivering air cargo, causing bottlenecks.
- More cargo is being shipped via road and rail freight.
- Demand for truck drivers has increased, exacerbating existing shortages.



SOCIAL DISTANCING

- Public transport usage was down by up to 80%, leading to a Saturday roster and decreasing the demand for bus drivers. Normal services have since resumed.
- On-demand transport, including ridesharing platforms, have experienced a decline in passengers.
- More flights and pilots may be needed for transporting workers in the resource sector to accommodate social distancing inside aircrafts.
- Mental health concerns have been raised due to extended shifts and isolation rules for FIFO workers, mainly in the maritime sector.

INDUSTRY RESPONSE TO THE PANDEMIC



REDEPLOYING WORKERS

- Nationally, Qantas is working with Woolworths and the aged care sector to upskill and redeploy displaced customer service workers.
- A Driver Exchange Program has been launched in WA to create a pathway for companies to effectively exchange drivers based on their needs.
- A large logistics company has created 700 new jobs nationally to meet demand. Many are suitable for redeployees.



INFECTION CONTROL TRAINING

- Ports in WA are undertaking biosecurity training, some with the Australian Border Force.
- Some organisations have developed internal COVID-19 hygiene, safety and disinfection practices for their staff, especially where goods are being handled such as furniture removals.



COMPLIANCE

- Rail and road freight transport employers may create compliance officer roles and adapt OSH officer duties to meet the growing demand for regional and interstate travel compliance paperwork.

“The Hon Melissa Price [Minister for Defence Industry] ... has announced the award of a \$365 million managing contract to Lendlease Building Contractors for the first tranche of works at HMAS Stirling and the Australian Maritime Complex in Henderson.”

TRAINING AND LABOUR REQUIREMENTS



TRUCK DRIVERS

- Attraction and upskilling strategies are needed to attract suitable displaced workers from other sectors.
- There is a need for specialised cross-skilling opportunities for experienced truck drivers to move from one trucking sector to another.



RAIL INFRASTRUCTURE WORKERS

- Due to increased frequency in rail freight, there is need for more rail infrastructure workers for repair and maintenance.



POSTAL SERVICES

- Nationally, Australia Post is upskilling 2,000 motorbike posties for additional tasks to cope with an 80% increase in parcel volumes (e.g. upskilling to deliver parcels in addition to letters).