

# Media Release



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## **Anglicare Australia Launches Jobs Availability Snapshot: Employment services are broken and must be fixed**

Anglicare Central Queensland is calling for urgent reform of employment services following the release of Anglicare Australia's 2018 Jobs Availability Snapshot.

The findings from the Snapshot show that only 14 percent of all advertised jobs in May 2018 were low-skilled jobs at the entry-level. That same month 714,500 people were unemployed, including 110,735 job-seekers who are only qualified for these roles.

Executive Director of Anglicare Australia Kasy Chambers said that a new approach was needed to help people in need find work.

"The job market isn't working for everyone. It's failing those who need the most help to find work – those without qualifications or recent experience. Our research shows that at least four of these jobseekers are competing for each job at their level," Ms Chambers said.

"Low-skilled, entry-level jobs are slowly disappearing – and there aren't enough of them to meet demand in any part of the country.

In Queensland, for every one job advertised, there are 4.77 jobseekers hoping to fill the role.

Anglicare Central Queensland CEO, Suzie Christensen joined Anglicare Australia in calling for reform of the employment services system.

"By any measure the current system is failing. It's taking an average of five years to find work for those who need the most help," said Ms Christensen.

"What we need is a tailored approach for each person. That means working in partnership with people taking into account their situation, strengths and goals. It means helping people find the right training programs and jobs for them. And it means supporting them to stay in work – something our current system is failing to do.

"These changes are urgent. If we don't fix this broken system, we will be forcing to compete for jobs that simply aren't there."

The Jobs Availability Snapshot found that:

- Across Australia, there are at least four jobseekers competing for each low-skilled, entry-level job.
- Over 714,000 people are unemployed, and 110,735 don't have skills or recent work experience
- Over 1.13 million people are underemployed
- Of the 185,662 job vacancies advertised, less than 26,000 were low-skilled, entry-level jobs
- These jobs are drying up – they made up just 14 percent of vacancies this year

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