

CAREER FACT SHEET

Printers

Snapshot

Printers set up and operate letterpress, lithographic, flexographic, gravure, newspaper, instant, digital and offset printing presses.

How many are employed in this occupation?	10,500
What are the average weekly earnings for full time workers?	\$1,732
How does unemployment compare with other occupations?	Above Average
What are the job prospects for this occupation?	Medium
What will be the likely future employment growth for the next five years?	Decline

Main employing industries

Manufacturing; Information Media and Telecommunications; Professional, Scientific and Technical Services; Transport, Postal and Warehousing

Tasks

This occupation may include associated occupations with varying tasks.

- setting, adjusting and monitoring substrate-feed mechanisms, delivery mechanisms, inking systems and other printing machine functions
- mixing ink and solvents to standard, and regulating paper and ink supply during print runs
- monitoring, evaluating and determining press operations manually and by computer to check print quality standards against proofs and detect malfunctions
- producing a variety of printed products using relief, lithographic, flexographic and gravure printing presses, and in-line finishing systems
- preparing plates, blankets and impression cylinders on small offset lithographic printing presses
- loading paper into feeding mechanisms
- monitoring machine operations and quality of printing
- undertaking maintenance, adjustment, repair and cleaning of machines
- producing and managing digital print images, and transferring and outputting images
- may set up and operate paper and bookbinding guillotines.

INDUSTRY OVERVIEW

Manufacturing

If you're a hands on sort of person who likes getting stuck into tasks involving the use of tools and machinery to create new items, or you like to work on projects that bring technical concept drawings to life, then a career in the Manufacturing industry could be right up your alley. Careers in Manufacturing are available in a variety of industries such as: aerospace, furnishing, laboratory operations, metal fitting, engineering and boating, process manufacturing, mineral products, plastics, rubber, recreational vehicles and textiles, clothing and footwear. Structural Steel and Welding Trades workers, and Metal Fitters and Machinists are the trades most in demand in Manufacturing at present. There are thousands of Manufacturing businesses in Australia, employing almost one million people. New developments in sustainable Manufacturing aim to produce goods in an environmentally friendly and sustainable way while at the same time maintaining, if not improving productivity. This makes it a very interesting time to join this sector.



Manufacturing

Possible job pathways

- Glaziers
- Graphic Pre-press Trades Workers
- Industrial Spraypainters
- Metal Fitters and Machinists
- Precision Metal Trades Workers
- Sheetmetal Trades Workers
- Structural Steel and Welding Trades Workers
- Wood Machinists and Other Wood Trades Workers
- Chemical, Gas, Petroleum & Power Plant Operators
- Electrical Engineering Draftspersons, Technicians
- Electricians
- Electronics Engineers
- Metal Casting, Forging & Finishing Trades
- Aircraft Maintenance Engineers
- Engineering Production Systems Workers
- Engineers (Chemical and Material)
- Industrial, Mechanical and Production Engineers
- Mechanical Engineering Draftspersons, Technicians
- Food and Drink Factory Workers
- Production Managers
- Printers
- Printing Assistants and Table Workers
- Signwriters
- Jewellers
- Product Assemblers

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