



## South Australian Mining and METS Sector

Hiring Intentions Insights, Q4 20-21

### Introduction

RESA's Hiring Intentions report highlights real-time employment activity based on jobs for South Australian residents advertised in the Resources and Energy sectors. Although job ad data does not provide an accurate indicator of actual jobs, it does provide insights into demand, growth and shortages at the occupation and sector levels.

### Job Opportunity Trends

#### What is happening now?

RESA's Hiring Intentions data indicates **910 job advertisements** have been placed for the SA resources sector in Q4 2020-21. This is a **150% increase** when compared to the same period in FY2019-20 and a **24% increase** on previous quarter job advertisement activity.

This is the **highest level of job vacancy activity recorded** since 2013.

### Industry Activity

The mining sector continued operating successfully during Q4 20-21, adapting to shifts in COVID-19 travel restrictions and site safety requirements.

Prices were strong for South Australia's main mineral commodities during the quarter supporting mine production and exploration activity: copper peaked at a record high of US\$4.80/lb and iron ore also achieved a record high of US\$218/tonne (62% Fe). Gold traded in a range of \$US1730-1900 /ounce.

BHP and OZ Minerals production continued and Iluka signaled mineral sands mining continuing at the Jacintha-Ambrosia operation. SIMEC Mining's mining operations continued to supply the Whyalla steel works and iron ore export markets.

The record high level of job vacancy activity may be partly attributed to the recruitment activity linked to BHPs SMC21 Project, commencing in August. Downer EDI (Downer) alone have indicated they will be employing 350 at the peak of the works. BHP have also completed construction of a shut village at Olympic Dam equipped to accommodate 750 FIFO workers during the shut period.

Exploration activities continued with promising results reported by several groups, including CODA Minerals and Hillgrove Resources.

Successful capital raisings by companies, including Rex Minerals, Iron Road, CODA Minerals, Barton Gold and Renascor Resources, demonstrated continuing strong investor support for the mining sector. Notable capital raisings in June for prospective projects included: \$30m by Andromeda Metals for progressing the Great White Kaolin Project; \$15m by Barton Gold through an ASX float of its shares and \$2.3m by OAR Resources to support exploration of the Gibraltar Kaolin Halloysite Project

On the infrastructure front, construction started on the Eyre Peninsula Link power line project.



**910** Job Advertisements  
in **213** companies



**150% increase** in job  
ads from Q4 FY2019-20



**Trades and Operators**  
**52%** of vacancies

### Contact Us

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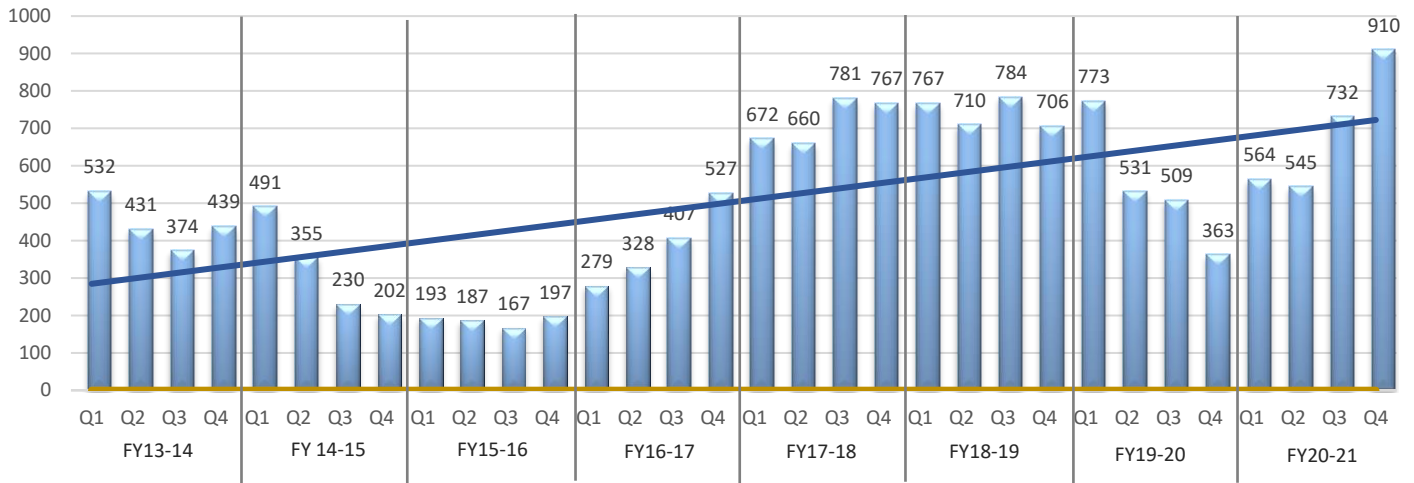
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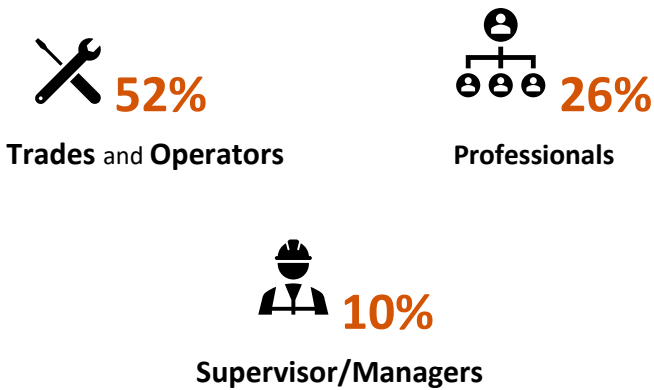
## Hiring Intentions Data – Q4 20-21

### Quarterly Job Advertisements

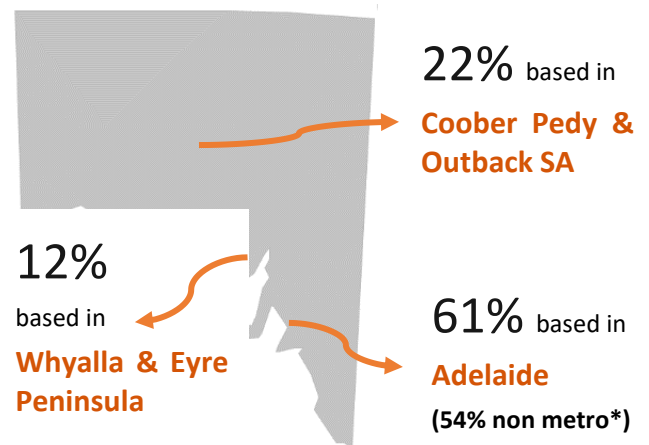


Q4 FY20-21 jobs advertised reflects the **highest** level of **vacancy activity** in the South Australian mining and energy sectors **since 2013**, when RESA records commenced.

### Top 3 Advertised Roles



### Regional Distribution



\*Job vacancies identified as **non-metro** includes occupations managed from a metropolitan location but usually undertaken in a non-metropolitan region. eg: drillers, dump truck operators.

### Regional Distribution

The distribution of vacancies across the state has remained consistent in Q4 FY20-21. Adelaide advertised jobs represented 61% of the total, however 54% were for occupations more likely to be undertaken in regional SA.

42 job opportunities advertised in South Australia (not included in total) were for positions requiring relocation interstate or overseas, slightly less than in Q3 - resulting in a ratio of 21:1 for SA based jobs to interstate/overseas. External (non SA based) demand is for heavy diesel & maintenance trades, operators, drilling operations, mining engineer and geoscience professionals – continuing the challenge for SA operations in retaining these high demand and highly skilled personnel.

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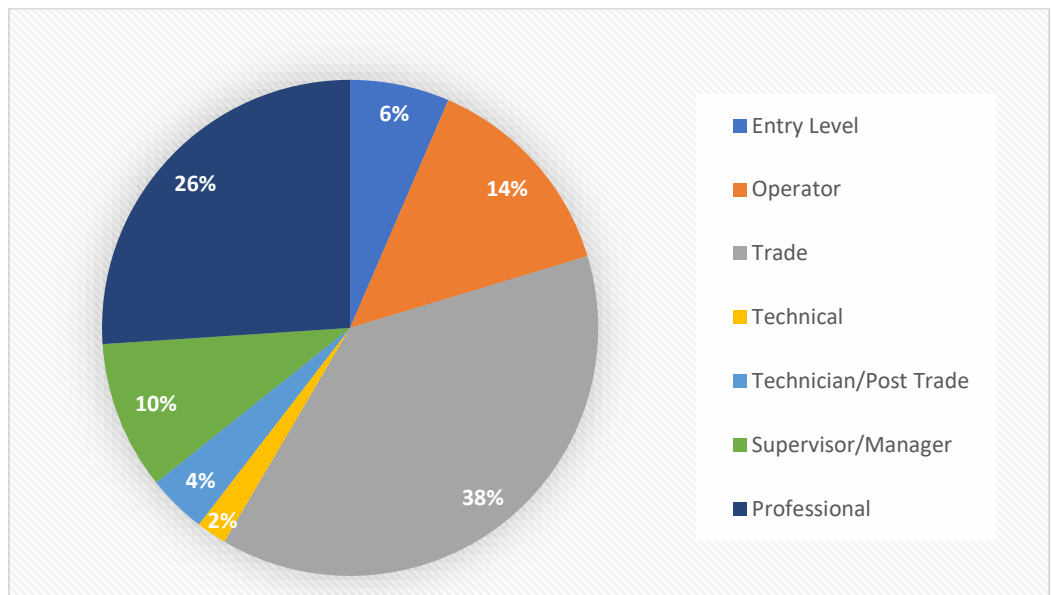
Hiring Intentions Data – Q4 20-21

## Occupational Demand

### Vacancy Distribution

The Q3 shift in the distribution of the level of jobs continued in Q4 with **Trade** job advertisements representing **38%** of total jobs. The **highest demand** (52%) continues to be for Trade and Operator occupations, with **heavy diesel fitters/mechanics, boilermaker/welders, drill fitters, auto electrical and mechanical fitter trades and plant operators, riggers, drillers and driller's assistants** in greatest demand.

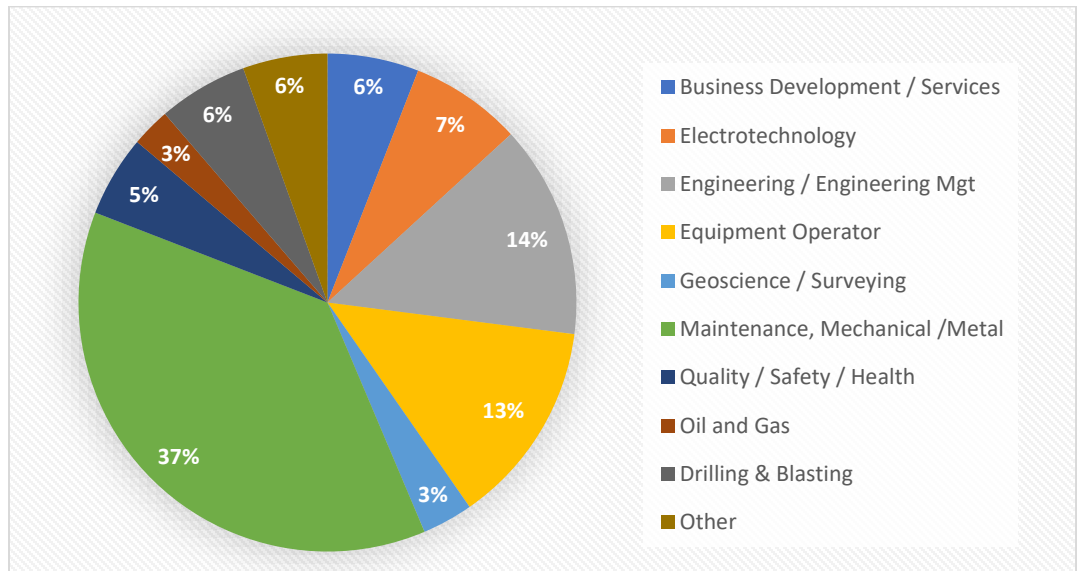
### Q4 FY20-21 Vacancy Distribution - Occupation Level



Q4 FY20-21 Vacancy Distribution Occupation Level represents % of total job advertisements that fall into the Occupation Level classification indicated based on the minimum entry requirements and characteristics of the occupation.

The distribution of vacancies across sectors remains consistent with continuing demand in **Mechanical/Maintenance** (37%), **Engineering** (14%), **Equipment Operations** (13%), **Electrotechnology** (7%) and **Drilling and Blasting** (6%) roles. **Other** occupations represented 6% of total vacancies, reflecting demand in **Transport and Logistics, Environment, Exploration/Field Services** and **Human Resources / Training** roles.

### Q4 FY20-21 Vacancy Distribution – Sector



The Q4 FY20-21 Vacancy Distribution – Sector represents % of jobs advertised that fall into the occupational sector categories identified. This is determined by the job role rather than the field of operation of the organisation.

*Disclaimer: This report is based on publicly available company, industry and vacancy information. All reasonable care has been taken in the preparation and compilation of the report. It is provided in good faith for general information only and does not purport to be professional advice. No warranty, express or implied, is given as to the completeness, correctness, accuracy, reliability or currency of this material.*