



Introduction. The 2024 WA Jobs, Education and Training (WAJET) Industry Survey required a 600 word profile on each occupation. Below is 312611 Safety Inspector. The text below is open source and free for use when LDSC is correctly acknowledged. The text is open to correction. The Logistics and Defence Council (LDSC) welcomes input 08 9388 8781 or <https://www.ldsc.asn.au/contact.html>

Based on your Rail industry consultations and the feedback provided please provide a 600 word summary for Occupation ANZSCO 312611 Safety Inspector

ANZSCO definition. The ANZSCO Occupation 312611 Safety Inspector inspects machines, equipment, working conditions and public places to ensure compliance with government and industry standards and regulations, in relation to occupational health and safety. Registration or licensing may be required. Skill Level is 2. Specialisations include:

- Boilers and Pressure Vessels Inspector
- Gas Examiner
- Lifts and Cranes Inspector
- Mines Inspector
- Occupational Health and Safety Inspector

Rail stakeholder feedback on ANZSCO code. The Rail sector uses the terms Rail Safety Manager, Rail Safety Regulator and Rail Safety Investigator. Safety management in Rail requires compliance with Rail Safety National Law (RSNL) regulated by the Office of the National Rail Safety Regulator (ONRSR). This legal framework naturally cascades down to regulations, rail network standards, rules and procedures. Rail safety positions are more specialised than a general WHS role. The Rail Safety Investigator conducts and reports on Rail accident investigations in compliance with Rail Safety National Law.

Rail operations experience. The Rail Safety Investigator requires technical competence and Rail operations experience to exercise discretion and judgement with appropriate Rail knowledge to report to the standards of safety and skill expected by Rail Safety National Law applicable to Rail operations.

Qualifications. There are no mandated rail qualifications for Rail Safety Manager, Rail Safety Regulator and Rail Safety Investigator. Rail Safety staff must have prerequisite Rail operations experience. By definition this means an internal training pathway in the Rail industry with relevant qualifications eg a former Train Driver may hold TLI42621 Certificate IV in Train Driving.

Industry career pathways. The historical role progression in WA rail to Rail Safety is from on-ground rail track teams to Train Driver or Signaller or Track Protection Officer or Track Inspector or Train Controller. These rail occupations develop technical competence and Rail network operations experience. The Rail Safety Manager will be competent in 'Above Rail' and 'Below Rail'. Above Rail is operation of rollingstock. Including locomotives and wagons. Below Rail is operation of track infrastructure such as signalling, structures, overheads and the construction and maintenance of track.

Acute workforce shortage. Every WA Rail company has acute workforce shortages. There is an acute shortage of 312611 Safety Inspector in WA used for the roles of Rail Safety Manager, Rail Safety Regulator and Rail Safety Investigator. The workforce supply is weak since Rail operations experience can only be achieved over time by traditional internal training or purchasing experienced staff from another rail company.

Demand factors are:

- Global demand for WA iron ore
- Global demand for WA wheat
- METRONET construction
- National Rail Action Plan 2020
- Naval Shipbuilding Plan 2017 including SSN-AUKUS
- WA world leading networks demanding technicians in Autonomous Trains, Electronic Signalling and integrated logistics
- Demand shift from METRONET construction to operations to maintenance

Supply factors are:

- Aging out of Rail workforce
- Aging out of Rail Trainers and Assessors
- Fragmented Rail workforce training pipeline
- Competition for Engineers and supporting technical workforce
- National Rail Skills Shortage
- Perception / Image of the Rail Industry
- Rail ANZSCO codes need review to current industry occupations
- Uncoordinated Migration plan
- Regional Housing and Remote Lifestyle

Workforce location. Rail safety staff are located in population centres on the rail network. Regions of demand of strategic importance to the Australian economy are:

- Pilbara: WA the largest exporter in the world of iron ore
- Wheatbelt - Great Southern: WA the largest exporter in Australia for wheat
- Perth Metropolitan Area for METRONET

Short term migration. In the short term all Rail occupations need to be in all migration lists until the WA training solution is delivering workforce.

John Fisher john@ldsc.asn.au 0448 743 970 20 Mar 2024

Industry Advisory Group. LDSC invites stakeholders to join our Rail Industry Advisory Group 08 9388 8781 or <https://www.ldsc.asn.au/contact.html>