Excavator Operator (Victoria)

Excavator Operator Salary (Australia)

The average pay for an Excavator Operator is AUS$29.82 per hour. Pay for this job does not change much by experience, with the most experienced earning only a bit more than the least. A skill in final trim is associated with high pay for this job.

**Experience Affects Excavator Operator Salaries**

- Experienced: ▲ 4%
- Late-Career: ▲ 3%
- Mid-Career: ▲ 2%
- National Average: AUS$59,000
- Entry-Level: ▼ 7%

**Skills That Affect Excavator Operator Salaries**

- final trim: ▲ 15%
- National Average: AUS$59,000
- Machine Operation: ▼ 6%
- truck driver: ▼ 13%

**Gender**

- Female: 2%
- Male: 98%

**Years of Experience**

- Less than 1 year: 1%
- 1-4 years: 23%
- 5-9 years: 30%
- 10-19 years: 28%
- 20 years or more: 17%

**Pay by Experience Level for Excavator Operator**

Median of all compensation (including tips, bonus, and overtime) by years of experience.
Construction Industry Worker (Australia)

A Construction Worker earns an average wage of AU$23.11 per hour. Most people with this job move on to other positions after 20 years in this career.

**Experience Affects Construction Worker Salaries**

- Experienced: ▲48%
- Mid-Career: ▲2%
- National Average: AU$48,000
- Entry-Level: ▼2%

**Job Satisfaction**

⭐⭐⭐⭐⭐

Highly satisfied

Rated 4 out of 5 based on 3 votes.

**Average Salary for Industry: Construction**

Gender

- Female: 14%
- Male: 86%

Years of Experience

- Less than 1 year: 7%
- 1-4 years: 51%
- 5-9 years: 27%
- 10-19 years: 13%
- 20 years or more: 1%

(Images and statistics provided by http://www.payscale.com/research/AU/Job)
Career Pathways

Common Career Paths for Construction Laborer

- Construction Manager
- Construction Foreman
- Carpenter
- Carpenter Supervisor
- Lead-Hand Carpenter
- Project Manager, Construction
- Project Supervisor, Construction
- Warehouse Manager
- Warehouse Supervisor
- General / Operations Manager
- Construction Project Manager
- Storeman
- Construction Laborer

Experience Affects Construction Laborer Salaries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Experience</th>
<th>Salary Impact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Experienced</td>
<td>▲16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Late-Career</td>
<td>▲16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid-Career</td>
<td>▲12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Average</td>
<td>AU$46,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Entry-Level</td>
<td>▼5%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Skills That Affect Construction Laborer Salaries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Skills</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Machine Operation</td>
<td>▲17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Average</td>
<td>AU$46,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cleaning</td>
<td>▼6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labourer</td>
<td>▼9%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Skills That Affect Construction Foreman Salaries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Skills</th>
<th>Salary Impact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Windows Operating System General Use</td>
<td>▲12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Microsoft Office</td>
<td>▲10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adobe Acrobat</td>
<td>▲10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blueprints</td>
<td>▲8%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Microsoft Excel</td>
<td>▲7%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contractor Management</td>
<td>▲6%</td>
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<tr>
<td>National Average</td>
<td>AU$45,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Project Management</td>
<td>▼2%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Microsoft Word</td>
<td>▼3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction Estimating</td>
<td>▼4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project</td>
<td>▼4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carpenter</td>
<td>▼6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carpentry</td>
<td>▼13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AutoCAD</td>
<td>▼18%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Building a Career in the Civil Construction Industry?

Over the next five years the construction industry is predicted to grow over 8%\(^1\) nationally, with the residential construction sector increasing over 12%\(^1\). However, the same cannot be said for the mining sector with a national regression of 14%\(^1\) across all industry sectors with the hardest hit being the Coal Mining predicted to drop 20%\(^1\) over the next five years and the non-metallic mineral mining and quarrying sectors down by 15.6%\(^1\).

What this means for you?

Well, it’s not all doom and gloom with the residential construction sector increasing it provides a bit of direction when planning and building your career in the civil construction industry, you now can focus your skill building and education towards the following:

- Concrete Construction
- Construction Labourer
- Civil Construction
- Trade – Bricklayer, Carpenter
- Excavator Operator
- Skid Steer Operator

Applying for that Position

Ensuring you have the right skills, qualifications and experience that a potential employer is looking for is key to gaining successful employment within the industry, thus just having a “ticket” is not going to be enough in most cases to secure employment.

Emphasise your experience and transferable skills such as time spent on training on a piece of equipment and or experience that is similar or relevant to the position you’re applying for, for example if you have experience with fitting and turning, mechanical, boiler making, welding or even general yard hand or labouring you will be able to demonstrate your ability to offer more than what is required for the position and in most cases this will be considered advantageous and could increase your opportunities to secure employment.

Ensure your resume is up to date and current with contact details and education, licences and previous positions is a must. Make sure it is relevant and as specific as possible for the position you are applying for, this can be done by creating an individual cover letter that addresses the position directly ensure you place the company name and position you are applying for in the cover letter additionally use this cover letter to emphasise your transferable skills, qualifications and experience this cover letter acts as your sales pitch as to why your best suited for this position or why they should offer it to you.

Make sure your resume is direct and to the point, by this you are providing a short narrative of your experience, skills and qualifications, an example of restraint is if you have 6 plant licences only list the ones that are relevant to the position you are applying for and include experience you have i.e Hours or years you have operating them.

Once you have started your new position within the construction industry, it is important to network and create working relationships you can draw on, most of the positions within the construction industry come from word – of – mouth and companies tend to hire in-house before looking out to employment agencies or advertising. Additionally, it is beneficial to retain logs of the hours operating various equipment and experiences you have to better market yourself for promotions or new positions.

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Civil Force Training is a division of Macquarie Commercial College Ltd (ABN 99 005 582 767)
RTO # 3923 Call 1300 09 49 79
(Images and statistics provided by http://www.payscale.com/research/AU/Job)