

Standardised coal mine worker positions

This information sheet provides guidance on the classification of coal mine worker positions when the worker's employer is completing the approved health assessment form under the Coal Mine Workers' Health Scheme. It is not intended for use in dust monitoring reporting to the Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy (DNRME).

Why are positions being standardised?

A review of coal mine worker health records held by DNRME found more than 38,000 different position titles had been submitted by employers for coal mine workers.

Multiple terms are in use to describe the same position. For example, the employer of a longwall shearer operator may have recorded the coal worker's position as: Miner, Underground Miner, U/G Miner, Operator Underground Operator, Longwall Operator, Shearer Operator, etc.

In response, DNRME has developed a standard job dictionary for position titles relevant to coal mining to assist employers when classifying the positions of their workers.

Benefits of standardising the classification of coal mine worker positions

The use of standardised coal mine worker positions will improve the reliability and validity of health assessment data. This is important for future health surveillance analysis and research.

How to classify a position title

The Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations has been used to develop a list of coal mine worker positions. To assist with classification, these positions have been placed into 6 major categories:

- Managers
- Professionals
- Tradespersons and related workers
- Clerical and service workers
- Production and transport workers
- Labourers and related workers

Each major category has sub-categories and position titles within each sub-category. For the purposes of classifying a coal mine worker's position, the position title that best represents the main activities undertaken, education, training or skill level of the coal mine worker should be used.

A list of coal mine worker positions are provided on the following page.

Coal mine worker positions and health assessments

The relevant coal mine worker's position title is to be provided by employers when completing Section 1 of the approved health assessment form for each coal mine worker.

Further information

Visit: www.qld.gov.au
 Email: minesafetyandhealth@dnrm.qld.gov.au
 Call: 13 QGOV (13 74 68)

Coal mine worker position titles and categories

Major category	Sub-category	Position title (includes supervisors and apprentices/trainees/interns)
Managers	Generalist or specialist manager	General manager Finance manager Human resources manager Marketing manager Engineering manager Production manager Mining manager IT manager Community relations manager Health and safety manager Environment manager Project manager Accommodation manager Chef Other specialist manager not elsewhere specified (NEC ¹)
Professionals	Science, building, engineering professional	Chemist Geologist Environmental professional surveyor Civil engineer Electrical engineer Mechanical engineer Mining engineer Process engineer Metallurgist Other science, building, engineering professional NEC
	Business and information professional	Accountants Auditors Human resource professional Marketing professional Computing professional Business analyst Other business and information professional NEC

¹ NEC – not elsewhere classified

Major category	Sub-category	Position title (includes supervisors and apprentices/trainees/interns)
	Health professional	Medical practitioner Nurse Occupational therapist physiotherapist Paramedic Other health professional NEC
	Other professional	Health and safety professional Occupational hygienist Other professional NEC
Tradespersons and related workers	Mechanical engineering tradesperson	General mechanical engineering tradesperson Metal fitter Machinist Toolmaker Other mechanical engineering tradesperson NEC
	Fabrication engineering tradesperson	General fabrication engineering tradesperson Structural steel and welding tradesperson Boilermaker Sheetmetal tradesperson Other fabrication engineering tradesperson NEC
	Automotive tradesperson	Diesel fitter Motor mechanic Automotive electrician Panel beater Vehicle painter Other automotive tradesperson NEC
	Electrical and electronics tradesperson	Electrician Refrigeration and airconditioning mechanic Electrical distribution tradesperson Electronic instrument tradesperson Communications tradesperson Other electrical and electronics tradesperson NEC

Major category	Sub-category	Position title (includes supervisors and apprentices/trainees/interns)
	Construction tradesperson	Carpentry and joinery tradesperson Bricklayer Plasterers Wall and floor tiler Stonemason Painter Signwriter Plumber Other construction tradesperson NEC
	Other tradesperson and related workers	Gardener Glass tradesperson Locksmith Other tradesperson and related worker NEC
Clerical and service workers	Secretaries and personal assistants	Secretary Personal assistant
	Other clerical and service workers	Receptionist Accounting clerk Payroll clerk Production recording clerk Dispatcher Other clerical and service workers NEC
Production and transport workers	Mobile plant operator	Grader operator Bulldozer operator Backhoe operator Loader operator Excavator operator Forklift driver Other mobile plant operator NEC
	Stationary plant operator	Crane operator Drill operator Shovel operator Concrete batching plant operator Other stationary plant operator NEC

Major category	Sub-category	Position title (includes supervisors and apprentices/trainees/interns)
	Road and rail transport driver	Truck driver Bus driver Vehicle driver Delivery driver Train driver Other road and rail transport driver NEC
	Other production and transport workers	Miner Shot firer Blasting worker Dragline operator Continuous miner operator Longwall operator Control room operator – u/g mine Control room operator – coal handling, preparation plant Structural steel construction worker Construction rigger Scaffolder Storeperson Other production and transport worker NEC
Labourers and related workers	Cleaners	Cleaner
	Other labourers and related workers	Engineering process worker Mining support worker Driller's assistant Coal handling, preparation plant worker Survey hand Concreter Construction assistant Trades assistant Cook Hospitality worker Laundry worker Other labourer and related worker NEC