

Australian vocational education and training statistics

VET in Schools 2019

National Centre for Vocational Education Research



Introduction

This publication presents information on VET in Schools, the vocational education and training (VET) undertaken by school students as part of their senior secondary certificate of education (SSCE). The VET in Schools arrangement offers two main options: students can undertake school-based apprenticeships and traineeships; or they can enrol in other VET subjects and courses as part of their school curriculum (the latter is referred to as ‘other VET in Schools students’).

Data are presented by the state or territory of the senior secondary assessment authority.

Highlights

In 2019, there were:

- 235 800 VET in Schools students
- 17 100 school-based apprentices and trainees, representing 7.3% of all VET in Schools students
- 218 700 students undertaking other VET in Schools programs, representing 92.7% of all VET in Schools students.

In 2019, compared with 2018, VET in Schools students increased by 2.2%.

From 2015 to 2019, VET in Schools students decreased by 8.3%.

About this publication

The information contained in this publication is, unless stated otherwise, derived from the National VET in Schools Collection, which is compiled under the Australian Vocational Education and Training Management Information Statistical Standard (AVETMISS), Release 8.0. The scope of VET in Schools reporting is all activity encompassed by the definition developed by the former Ministerial Council for Education, Early Childhood Development and Youth Affairs (MCEECDYA). This definition covers programs undertaken as part of a student’s senior secondary certificate of education that provide credit towards a nationally recognised VET qualification.

More information

For the latest data, further year-on-year and state and territory comparisons and terms and definitions please visit the National Centre for Vocational Education Research (NCVER) Portal <<https://www.ncver.edu.au/research-and-statistics/collections/vet-in-schools/vet-in-schools>>.

Tables

Table 1 Number of VET in Schools students by age group and state or territory, 2019 ('000)

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Australia
14 years and under	0.1	1.3	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.3	0.0	2.1
15 years	1.8	7.8	20.8	1.4	3.4	0.1	0.7	0.6	36.6
16 years	19.3	17.4	32.8	4.0	17.8	0.8	0.7	0.8	93.7
17 years	20.3	17.3	22.4	4.3	15.6	1.4	0.5	1.0	82.7
18 years	4.9	6.3	2.6	1.4	0.9	0.7	0.1	0.3	17.1
19 years	0.3	0.7	0.2	0.4	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.9
20 years and over	0.2	0.5	0.2	0.6	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.7
Not known	-	0.0	0.0	-	-	-	-	-	0.0
Total	46.9	51.3	79.2	12.2	38.0	2.9	2.4	2.7	235.8

A dash (-) represents a true zero figure, with no data reported in this category, whereas zero (0.0) is a rounded value.

Table 2 Summary of VET in Schools students by state/territory, 2015–19

	2015 ('000)	2016 ('000)	2017 ('000)	2018 ('000)	2019 ('000)	2018–19 % change
School-based apprentices and trainees						
New South Wales	2.2	2.2	2.5	2.4	1.5	-37.1
Victoria	3.6	3.3	3.0	3.0	3.7	22.7
Queensland	11.1	8.7	11.2	10.8	9.8	-9.0
South Australia	1.1	1.3	1.0	0.9	0.8	-11.9
Western Australia	1.2	0.7	1.3	-	0.4	-
Tasmania	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.4	-22.3
Northern Territory	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	23.5
Australian Capital Territory	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	16.5
Total school-based apprentices and trainees	20.0	17.1	19.8	18.0	17.1	-5.2
Other VET in Schools students						
New South Wales	51.9	50.3	47.7	45.5	45.4	-0.2
Victoria	47.9	47.7	47.4	47.7	47.6	-0.2
Queensland	83.2	72.6	73.0	63.9	69.4	8.7
South Australia	11.9	12.1	10.4	10.7	11.4	6.1
Western Australia	32.3	35.0	35.5	37.0	37.6	1.6
Tasmania	4.2	2.6	2.9	2.9	2.5	-11.6
Northern Territory	2.2	2.7	2.6	2.4	2.2	-7.0
Australian Capital Territory	3.6	3.1	3.0	2.6	2.5	-4.6
Total other VET in Schools students	237.1	226.2	222.3	212.7	218.7	2.8
Total VET in Schools students						
New South Wales	54.1	52.6	50.2	47.9	46.9	-2.1
Victoria	51.5	51.0	50.4	50.7	51.3	1.2
Queensland	94.2	81.3	84.2	74.7	79.2	6.1
South Australia	13.0	13.4	11.4	11.7	12.2	4.6
Western Australia	33.4	35.8	36.8	37.0	38.0	2.6
Tasmania	4.8	3.2	3.4	3.4	2.9	-13.3
Northern Territory	2.3	2.8	2.7	2.6	2.4	-4.8
Australian Capital Territory	3.6	3.3	3.2	2.8	2.7	-3.0
Total VET in Schools students	257.1	243.3	242.1	230.7	235.8	2.2

A dash (-) represents a true zero figure, with no data reported in this category.

Note: In 2018, all VET in Schools students in Western Australia were reported as Other VET in Schools students when some should have been reported as school-based apprentices and trainees. This issue affects 2018 figures for Total school-based apprentices and trainees and Total other VET in Schools students.

Explanatory notes

- VET in Schools data may not be comparable across states and territories due to differences in definitional and compilation practices used by states and territories to populate some fields.
- If a VET in Schools student enrolled with more than one training provider during a collection period, it is possible that they may have been counted more than once. While the unique student identifier (USI) provides a mechanism with which to better estimate student counts by identifying unique student records, this process could not be used to count VET in Schools students because many VET in Schools records are reported without a USI. Instead, where a VET in Schools student enrolled in multiple programs at different levels of education in a collection year and their records could be identified as belonging to the same person, the student was counted only once based on the program with the highest level of education.
- In 2018, all VET in Schools students in Western Australia were reported as Other VET in Schools students when some should have been reported as school-based apprentices and trainees. This issue affects 2018 figures for Total school-based apprentices and trainees and Total other VET in Schools students. Caution must be used in the interpretation of these data and in comparisons with other years.
- Numbers have been rounded after aggregation to the nearest hundred. Rounding can lead to situations where the numbers in the body of a given table might not add to the rounded totals.
- For further information, refer to the terms and definitions available from the publication download page <<https://www.ncver.edu.au/research-and-statistics/publications/all-publications/vet-in-schools-2019>> or the VET in Schools DataBuilder, available at <<https://www.ncver.edu.au/research-and-statistics/data/databuilder>>.

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