



# Apprentice and trainee outcomes 2021: explanatory notes

National Centre for Vocational  
Education Research

This document was produced as an added resource for further information on *Apprentice and trainee outcomes 2021*. The report is available on NCV ER's Portal: <<https://www.ncver.edu.au>>.

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# Explanatory notes

## Scope

- 1 *Apprentice and trainee outcomes 2021* provides a summary of the outcomes and satisfaction of apprentices and trainees who completed their contract of training between January and December 2020, with the data collected in mid-2021.
- 2 The 2021 figures are derived from apprentices' and trainees' responses to the National Student Outcomes Survey (SOS), which is an annual survey of VET students. Data for 2019, against which comparisons are made, are sourced from the 2019 Apprentice and Trainee Experience and Destinations (ATED) Survey.
- 3 Out of scope of this report is apprentices and trainees:
  - who did not complete their contract of training during 2020
  - from correctional facilities
  - under 18 years of age.
- 4 Apprentices and trainees aged 15 to 17 years who completed the 2021 survey were excluded from the publication to enable comparisons between 2019 and 2021. Data on apprentices and trainees aged 15 years and over are available via a filter option in the accompanying DataBuilder product.
- 5 Data reported in *Apprentice and trainee outcomes 2021* should not be compared with data for apprentices and trainees in *VET student outcomes 2021* as the data presented in these publications are weighted and scoped differently.

## Data limitations

- 6 Comparisons with 2019 should be treated with some caution for the following reasons:
  - The order of the questions and the wording of the questions in the 2021 SOS questionnaire sometimes differed to the 2019 ATED questionnaire.
  - Using the SOS to gather information from apprentices and trainees means that the survey responses are limited to apprentices and trainees who undertook off-the-job training in 2020. These survey responses are weighted to population benchmarks of completers in the National Apprentice and Trainee Collection (collection number 108, June 2021 estimates) to minimise bias and improve comparability with the 2019 ATED.

## Definitions and derivations

- 7 The percentage of apprentices and trainees satisfied with various aspects of their training is based on the proportion of respondents reporting that they are 'Very satisfied' or 'Satisfied' with the relevant questionnaire item. The percentage of apprentices and trainees who developed problem-solving skills, improved writing skills and improved numerical skills is based on the proportion of respondents reporting that they 'Strongly agree' or 'Agree' with the relevant questionnaire item.
- 8 State or territory is defined as the state or territory of apprentices' and trainees' residence for 2021 data and is defined as the state/territory where the training contract was registered for 2019 data.

- 9 'Trades' is classified as all occupations listed under ANZSCO major group '3-Technicians and trades workers' and 'Non-trades' is classified as all other major occupations groups 1-2 and 4-8 (ANZSCO, version 1.2 [2013]).

## Australian Bureau of Statistics data

- 10 Student remoteness is based on the Access/Remoteness Index of Australia (ARIA+), produced by the Hugo Centre for Population and Housing, the standard ABS-endorsed measure of remoteness. For more details of ARIA+ refer to <<https://www.adelaide.edu.au/hugo-centre/services/aria>>.
- 11 Occupation is defined by the Australian and New Zealand Classification of Occupations (ANZSCO), version 1.2 (2013). This is an Australian Bureau of Statistics classification that identifies occupations according to their primary purpose (ABS cat.No.1220.0). Matching between the occupation of the apprenticeship or traineeship and the occupation of employment after training occurs at the ANZSCO sub-major group level.