

Australian vocational education and training statistics

VET in Schools 2021

National Centre for Vocational Education Research



Highlights

In 2021, in Australia there were:

- 251 200 VET in Schools students, consisting of:
 - 20 500 school-based apprentices and trainees, representing 8.2% of all VET in Schools students
 - 230 700 students undertaking other VET in Schools programs, representing 91.8% of all VET in Schools students.

An estimated 28.2% of the Australian resident population who were at school and aged 15 to 19 years participated in VET in Schools in 2021.

In 2021, compared with 2020, the number of VET in Schools students in Australia increased by 4.2%. From 2017 to 2021, the number of VET in Schools students in Australia increased by 3.8%.

Description

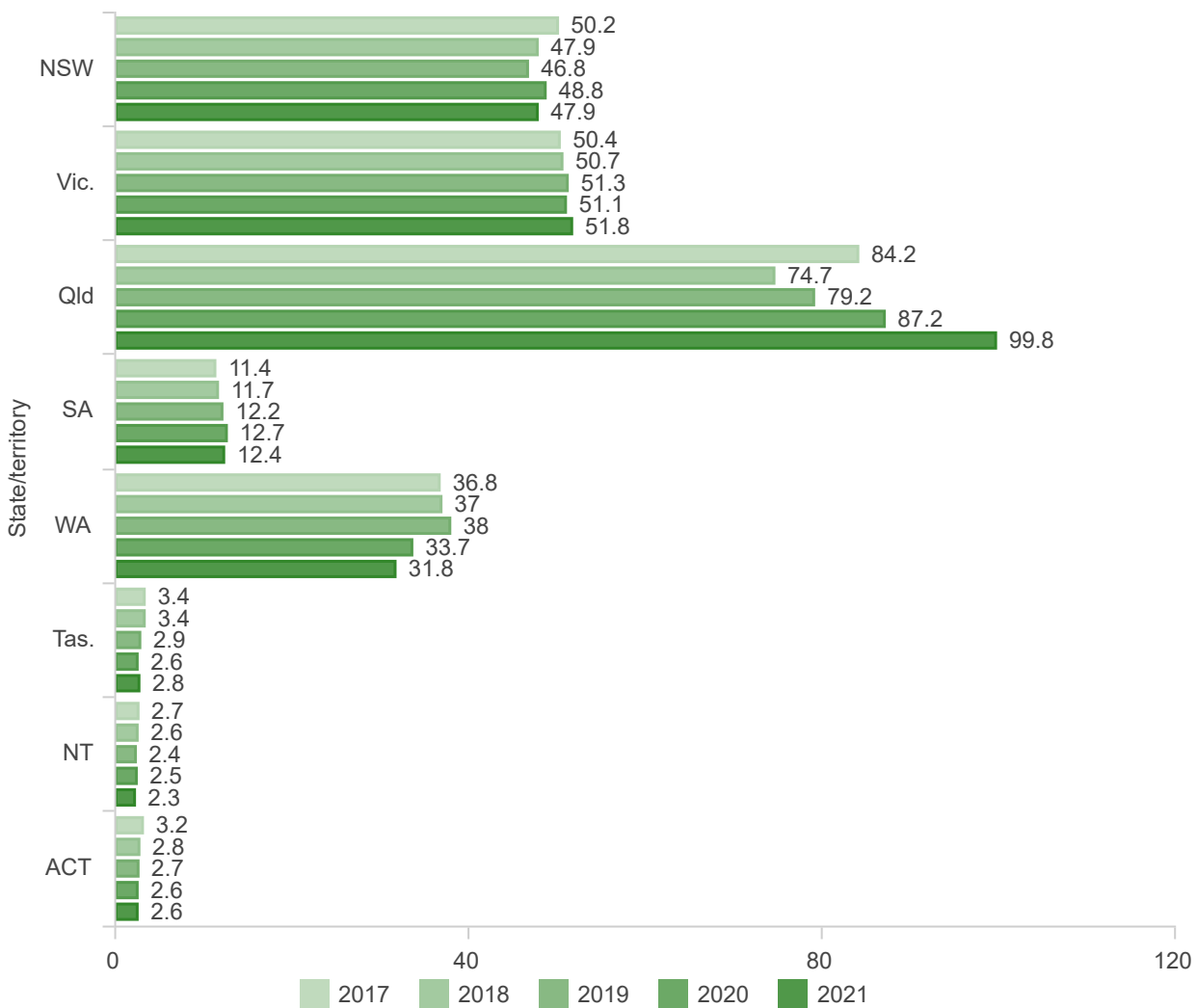
This publication presents information on VET in Schools, the vocational education and training (VET) undertaken by school students as part of their senior secondary certificate of education (SSCE). Students can undertake VET through a school-based apprenticeship or traineeship pathway, or other pathway (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.

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.

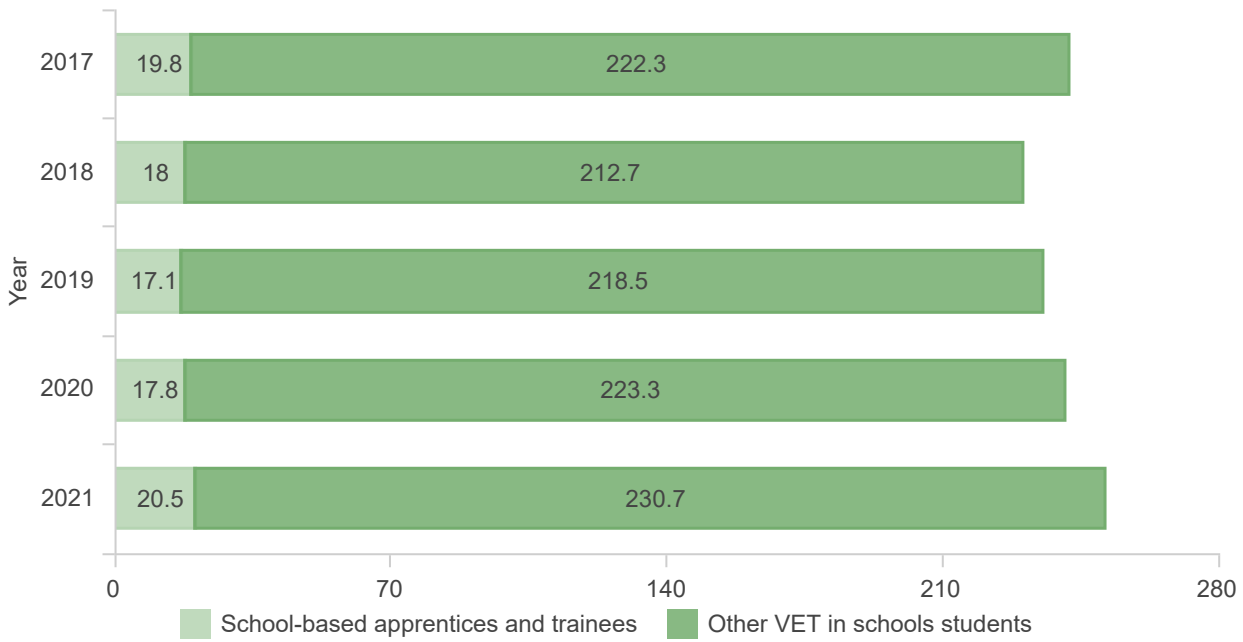
Summary

Figure 1 Number of VET in Schools students by state or territory, 2017 to 2021 ('000)



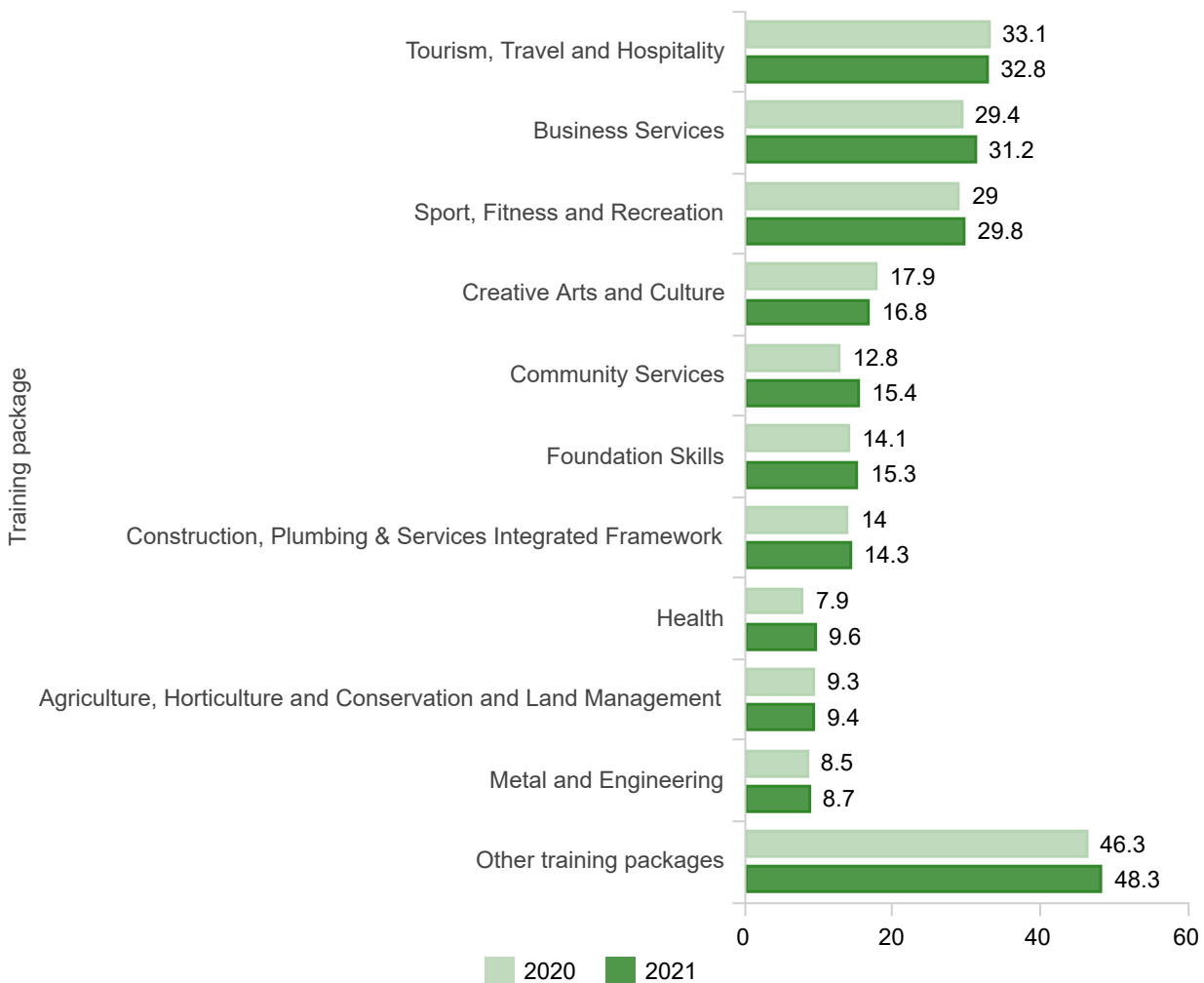
Note: Refer to the explanatory notes for more information on impact to 2018 and 2019 reporting.

Figure 2 Number of VET in Schools students by apprenticeship status, 2017 to 2021 ('000) - Australia



Note: This chart is updated based on state/territory selection. Refer to the explanatory notes for more information on impact to 2018 and 2019 reporting.

Figure 3 Top ten training packages by number of VET in Schools students, 2020 and 2021 ('000) - Australia



Note: This chart is updated based on state/territory selection. Students not enrolled in training packages are excluded. For a full list of training packages and non-training package information, refer to the DataBuilder.

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 cannot 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 is reported with multiple enrolments within a data submission as determined by their client identifier, the student is counted only once for the program with the highest level of education.

Participation rates are calculated based on ABS data for the number of school students, available here <https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/people/education/schools/latest-release>.

Western Australia reports a relatively high proportion of unknown demographic data due to limitations on the information that can be disclosed.

In 2018, all VET in Schools students in WA were reported as Other VET in Schools students when some should have been reported as school-based apprentices and trainees. This issue affects 2018 WA and Australia figures for school-based apprentices and trainees and other VET in Schools students. Caution must be used in the interpretation of these data and in comparisons with other years.

Figures for 2019 have been adjusted to remove a small number of Year 10 students in New South Wales incorrectly reported as undertaking VET as part of their senior secondary certificate of education.

The increase in VET in Schools students over the past several years in Queensland corresponds to the state's VET investment budget which invested heavily in skills, including Certificate I and II training for VET in Schools students. Much of the increase has been driven by an increase in Foundation Skills training.

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-2021> or the VET in Schools DataBuilder, available at <https://www.ncver.edu.au/research-and-statistics/data/databuilder>.



For details and exceptions visit the [NCVER Portal](#).

This document should be attributed as NCVER 2022, *VET in Schools 2021*, NCVER, Adelaide.

This work has been produced by NCVER on behalf of the Australian Government, and state and territory governments, with funding provided through the Australian Government Department of Employment and Workplace Relations.

The views and opinions expressed in this document are those of NCVER and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Australian Government or state and territory governments.

ISSN 2205-5290

TD/TNC 144.11

Published by NCVER, ABN 87 007 967 311