

Australian vocational education and training statistics

Government-funded students and courses – January to June 2025

National Centre for Vocational Education Research



Purpose

This publication provides a summary of data relating to Australia's government-funded vocational education and training (VET) system. Government funded VET is defined as all Commonwealth and state or territory government-funded training delivered by technical and further education (TAFE) institutes, other government providers (such as universities), private providers and community education providers.

Data for the *Government-funded students and courses* series are received in four cumulative submissions across the calendar year. This report covers the period of 1 January to 30 June 2025. Data will be revised following subsequent data submissions made to NCVER throughout the year.

Additional data are available in [DataBuilder](https://www.ncver.edu.au/research-and-statistics/data/databuilder#) <<https://www.ncver.edu.au/research-and-statistics/data/databuilder#>> , [VOCSTATS](https://www.ncver.edu.au/research-and-statistics/vocstats) <<https://www.ncver.edu.au/research-and-statistics/vocstats>> , and by request to NCVER <<https://www.ncver.edu.au/research-and-statistics/accessing-vet-data>> .

This publication does not present data on Fee-Free TAFE. Data for this program are available from the [Department of Employment and Workplace Relations](https://www.dewr.gov.au/skills-reform/resources/feefree-tafe-enrolment-data-overview) <<https://www.dewr.gov.au/skills-reform/resources/feefree-tafe-enrolment-data-overview>> .

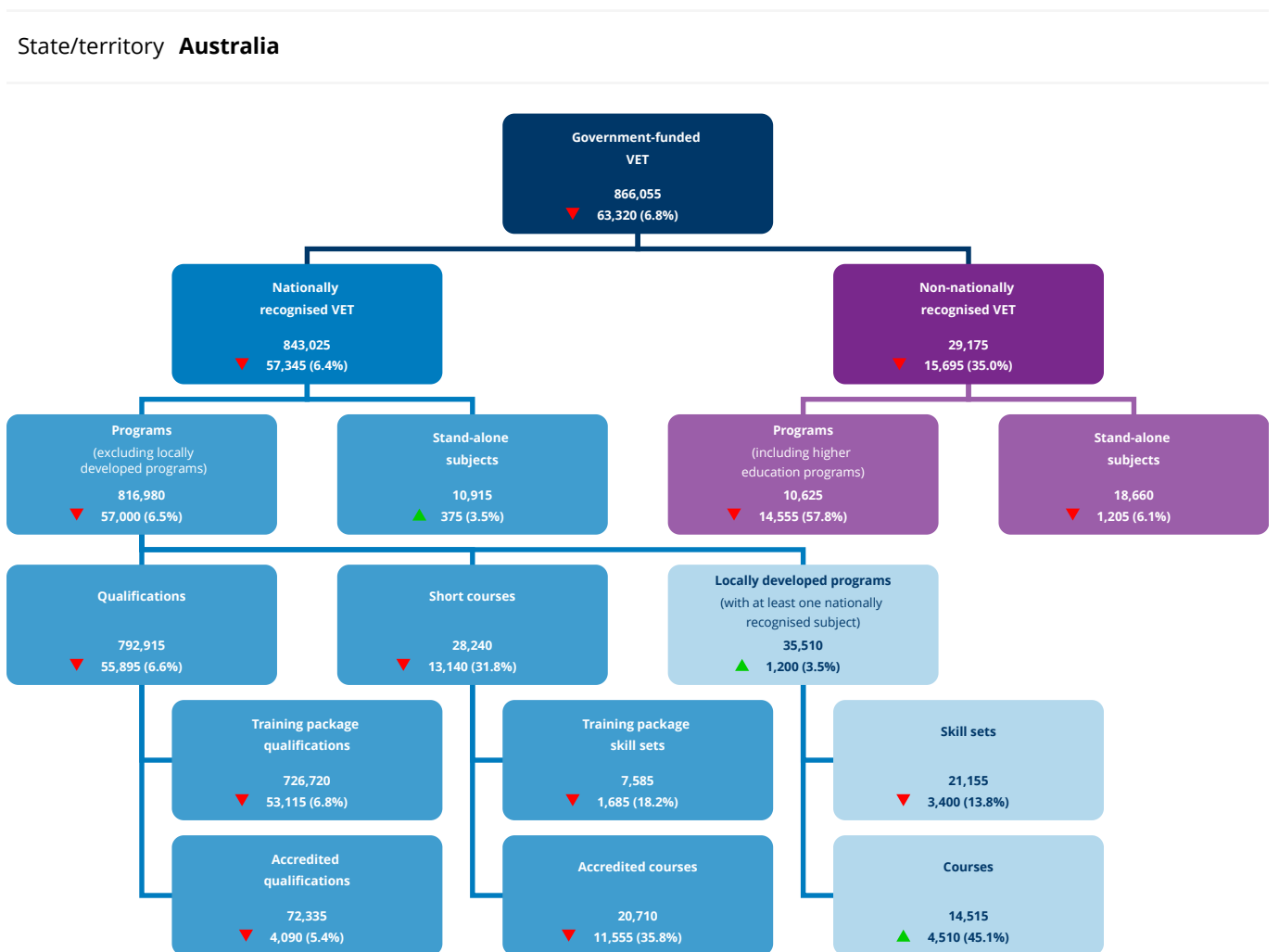
Report

Overview

There were 866,055 students undertaking government-funded training in Australia in the period January to June 2025. This represents a decrease of 63,320 (6.8%) from the same period in 2024. Student numbers in all states and territories decreased except South Australia, which increased by 2,125 (3.8%) to 57,645.

The type of training undertaken can be categorised by the hierarchy shown in Figure 1. Each state/territory funds a different mix of training types to meet their jurisdictional needs.

Figure 1: Government-funded students by type of training, January to June 2024 and 2025, Australia



Notes:

Figures may sum to more than reported totals, as students can enrol in multiple types of training. Locally developed programs that include at least one nationally recognised subject are classified under nationally recognised VET. This is because the inclusion of any nationally recognised subject means that part of the training and assessment aligns with national standards, even if the overall program is not nationally recognised. These programs are shown in light blue and are not included in the total count of nationally recognised programs in this chart.

Nationally recognised qualifications

Nationally recognised qualifications comprise the bulk of government-funded training, and include Training package qualifications and Accredited qualifications.

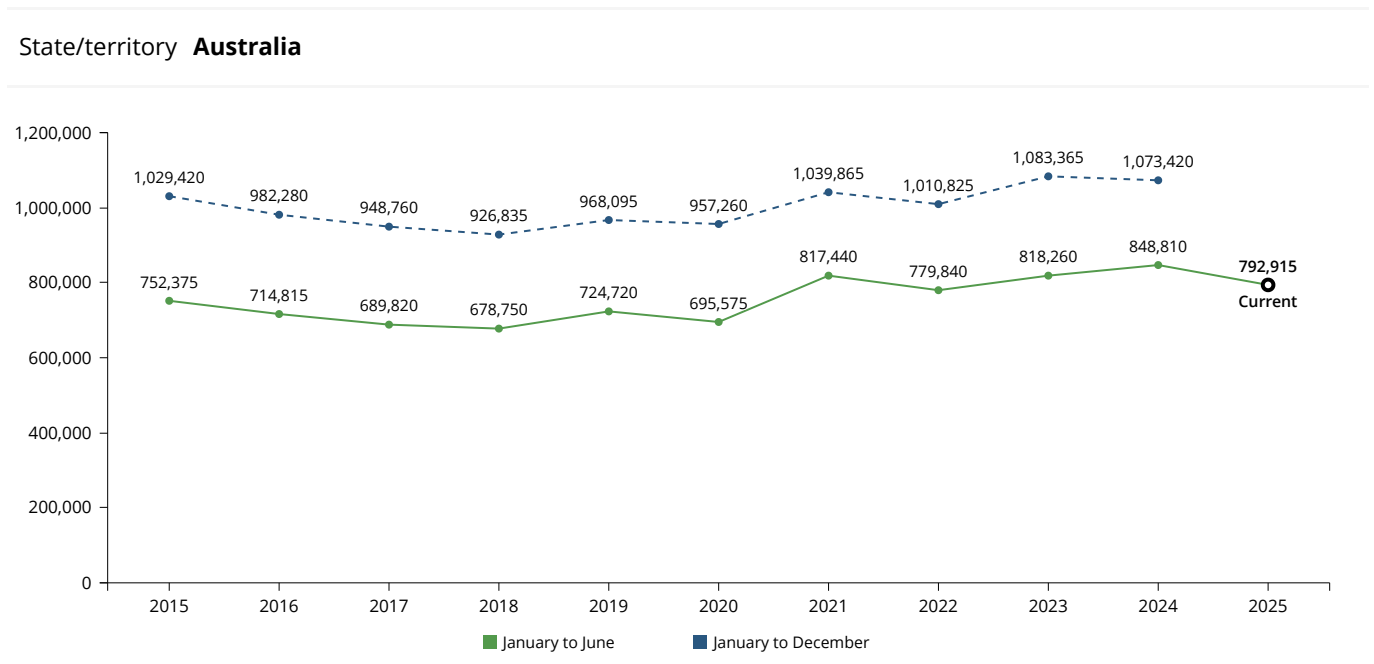
Student numbers

There were 792,915 students in nationally recognised qualifications in Australia in the period January to June 2025. This represents a decrease of 55,895 (6.6%) from the same period in 2024, but an increase of 68,195 (9.4%) from 2019. All states and territories decreased except South Australia, up 2,210 (4.4%) to 51,945, and Northern Territory, up 905 (11.0%) to 9,130.

The majority of the decline was seen at Certificate IV level (down 29,380 or 16.4%) and Certificate III level (down 21,520 or 4.8%).

Figure 2 presents a time-series of students enrolled in nationally-recognised qualifications, alongside the full annual cohort for comparison.

Figure 2: Students in nationally-recognised qualifications, January to June 2015 to 2025, Australia



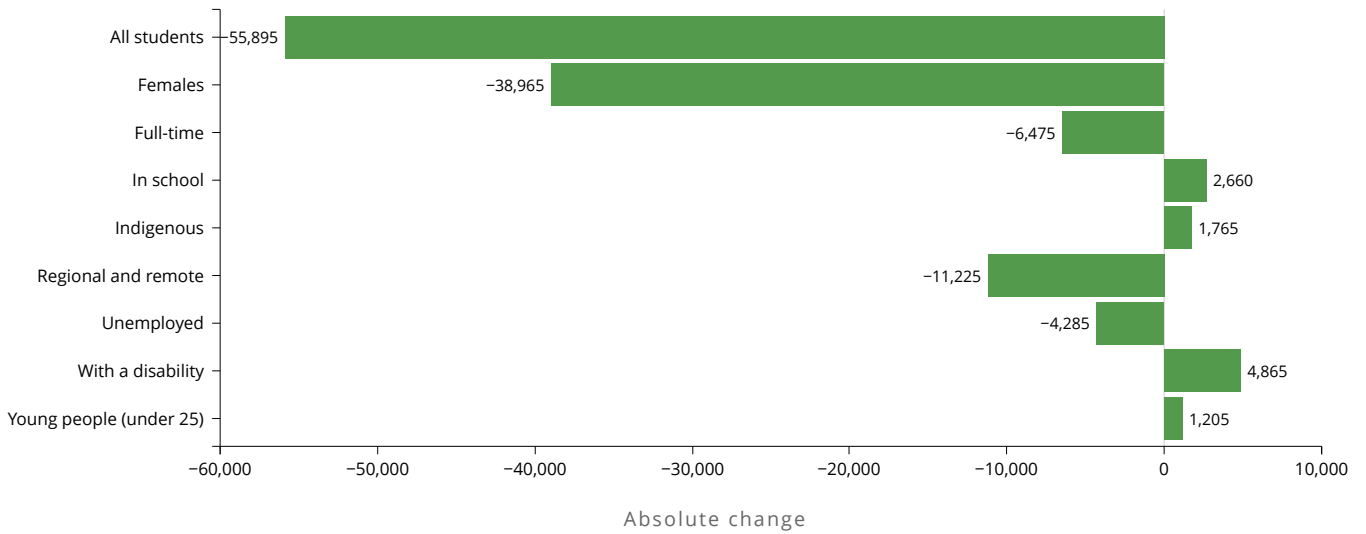
Student priority cohorts

In the January to June period, several priority cohorts decreased from 2024 to 2025, including females, full-time students, regional and remote students and those unemployed. All other priority cohorts increased. On the other hand, compared to the same period in 2019, all cohorts increased, with the exception of students who were unemployed.

Figure 3: Change in students in selected cohorts enrolled in nationally-recognised qualifications, January to June 2019 to 2025, Australia

State/territory **Australia**

Comparison period **January to June 2024**



Notes:

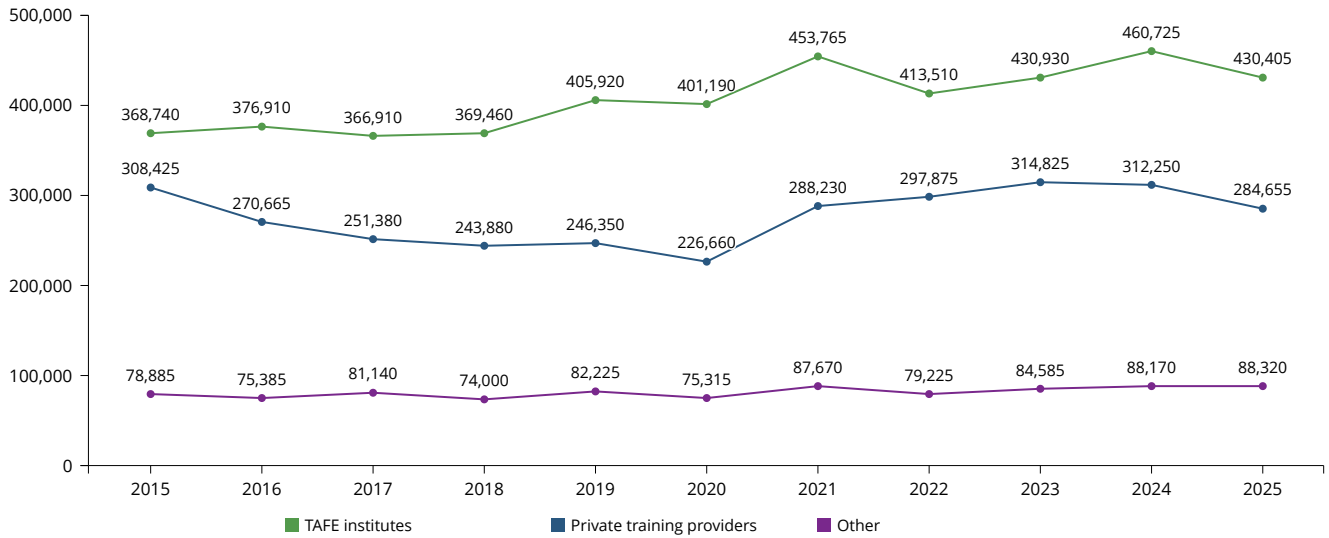
Figures for the Unemployed cohort should be interpreted in relation to unemployment rate at the time.

Students by provider type

Nationally, the majority of students undertake government-funded qualifications at TAFE institutes. Compared with the same period in 2024, students enrolled at TAFE institutes and private training providers decreased 6.6% and 8.8% respectively.

Figure 4: Students enrolled in nationally-recognised qualifications by provider type, January to June 2015 to 2025, Australia

State/territory **Australia**



Notes:

Provider type is the category assigned to each training provider in training.gov.au. Refer to the Explanatory Notes for further information.

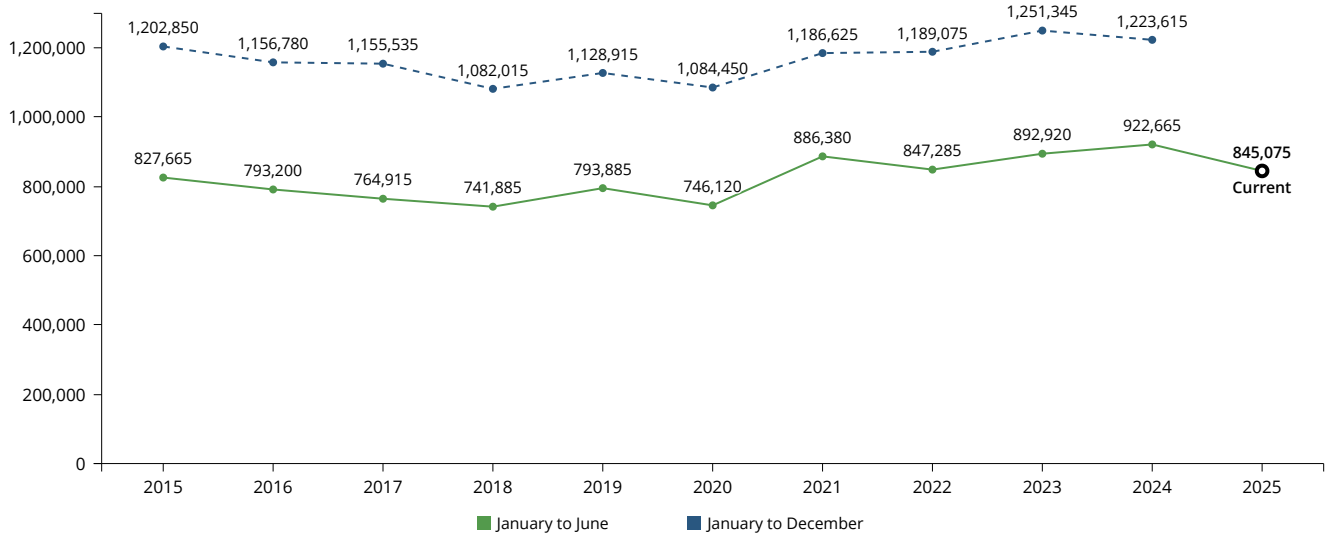
Other includes Universities, Schools, Community education providers and Enterprise providers.

Qualification enrolments

Students can enrol in one or more government-funded programs. In the January to June 2025 period, there were 845,075 enrolments in nationally recognised qualifications in Australia. This represents a decrease of 77,585 (8.4%) from the same period 2024. Qualification enrolments across all states and territories decreased, except in Northern Territory, up 830 (9.4%) to 9,650, and South Australia, up 2,060 (3.9%) to 55,015.

Figure 5: Enrolments in nationally-recognised qualifications, January to June 2015 to 2025, Australia

State/territory **Australia**



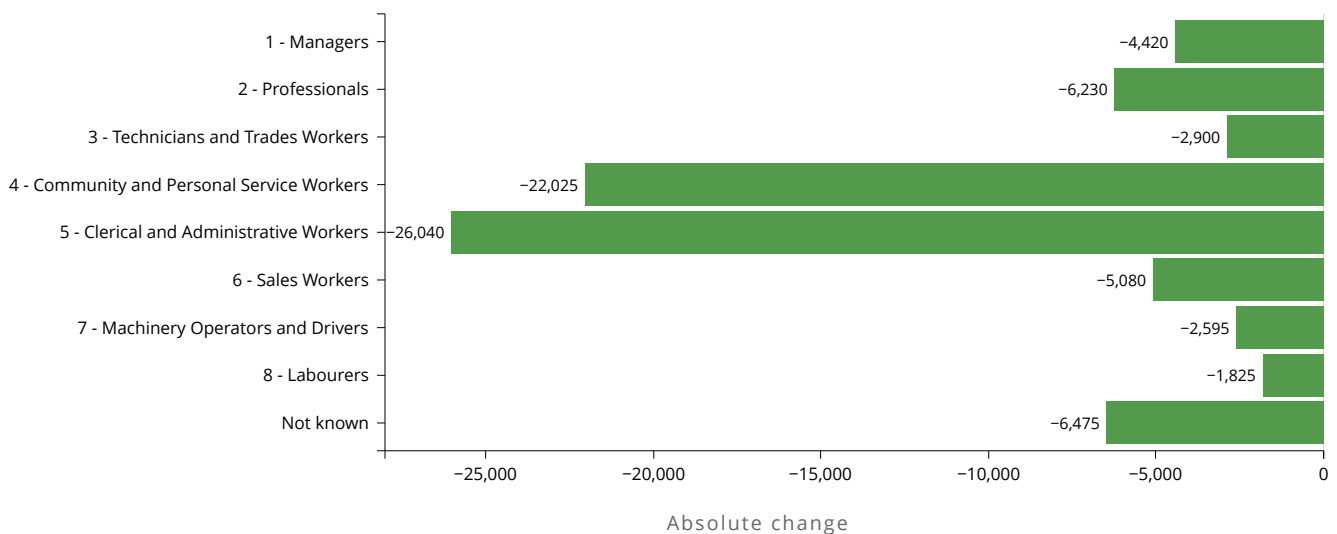
Qualification enrolments by intended occupation of training

Nationally, qualification enrolments in all occupational groups saw a decrease, with the largest decline seen in Clerical and administrative workers, down 26,040 (27.4%). This was largely driven by a decrease in New South Wales, where enrolments dropped 40.1%.

Figure 6: Change in enrolments in nationally-recognised qualifications by occupation, January to June 2019 to 2025, Australia

State/territory **Australia**

Comparison period **January to June 2024**

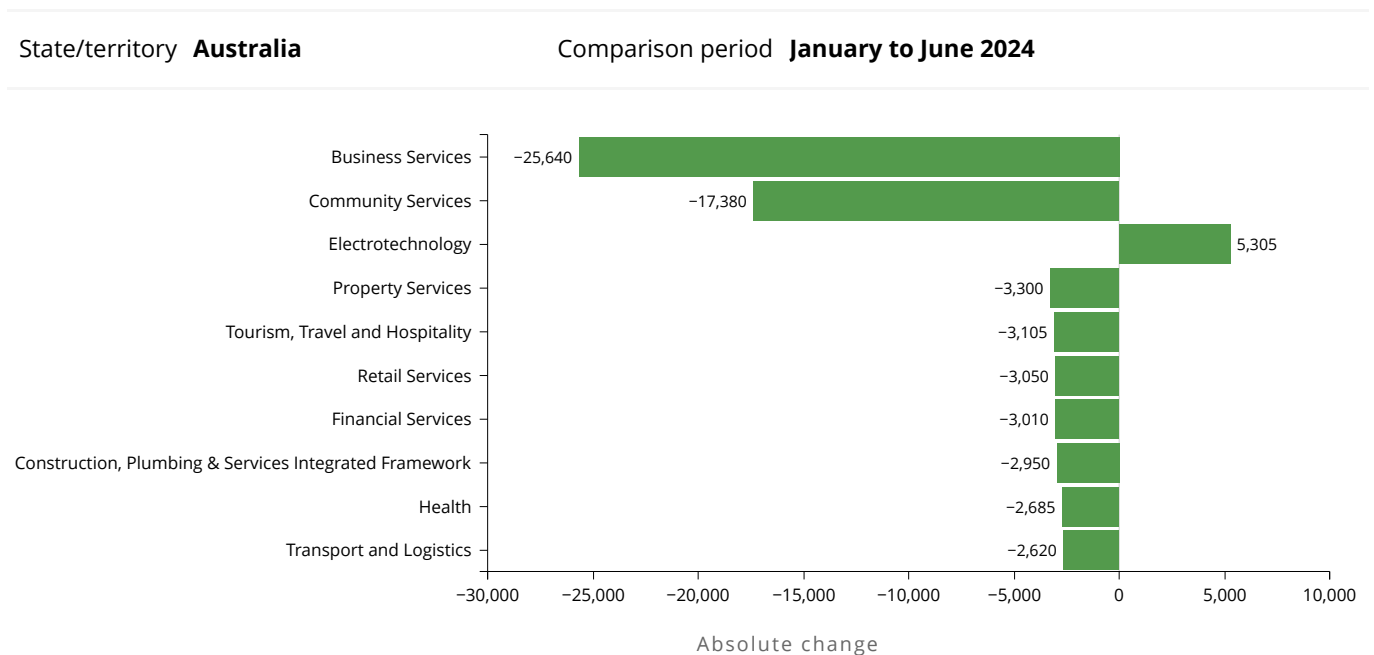


Qualification enrolments by training package

The training package with the highest number of enrolments was Community Services with 179,935, or 21.3% of all qualification enrolments, followed by Construction, Plumbing & Services Integrated Framework, with 87,930 (10.4%). Amongst the training packages with the largest enrolment changes, the only increase was seen in Electrotechnology, up 5,305 (9.5%) from the same period in 2024. The largest decrease was in Business Services, down 25,640 (31.7%). Compared with the same period in 2019, Community Services and Electrotechnology reported the largest growth.

Figure 7 presents the ten training packages with the largest absolute change nationally and for each state/territory.

Figure 7: Change in enrolments in nationally-recognised qualifications by training package, top 10 largest changes, January to June 2019 to 2025, Australia



Notes:

The top 10 training packages with the largest absolute changes are shown for each jurisdiction and comparison period.

The latest data on qualification completions is available in [Government-funded students and courses 2024](https://www.ncver.edu.au/research-and-statistics/collections/students-and-courses-collection/government-funded-students-and-courses) <<https://www.ncver.edu.au/research-and-statistics/collections/students-and-courses-collection/government-funded-students-and-courses>> .

Other government-funded training

Data on other forms of training, including non-nationally recognised training, are available in the [DataBuilder](https://www.ncver.edu.au/research-and-statistics/data/databuilder#) <<https://www.ncver.edu.au/research-and-statistics/data/databuilder#>> and [VOCSTATS](https://www.ncver.edu.au/research-and-statistics/vocstats) <<https://www.ncver.edu.au/research-and-statistics/vocstats>> .

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

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