Big thanks for helping reveal scale and significance of VET

The extent and nature of vocational education and training has become clearer with the first release of total VET activity (TVA) data. Published in *Total VET students and course 2014*, the data show 3.9 million people undertook training in 2014. Or, put another way, nearly a quarter of all working aged Australians (15 to 64 years) did some form of vocational education and training in 2014!

Revealing this information was in no small part due to the thousands of training providers (4601 in total) who submitted data earlier this year, either to NCVER or via their state training authority. You have played an important part in this exciting transformation. Thank you.

Want to know more about TVA?

We invite you to join our free webinar, *TVA data: a more comprehensive picture*, on Thursday 26 November at 2pm ACDT to gain a better understanding of NCVER’s TVA data release that shows the size and breadth of Australia’s vocational education and training system. The full range of TVA products and services from NCVER’s Portal will be showcased, enabling you to access the level of data you need. The webinar will include time for Q&A. For more information or to register [click here](#).

AVETMISS reporting reminder

The collection window for reporting 2015 AVETMISS data will open on **4 January 2016** for reporting all nationally accredited training activity. Data for the period January–December 2015 is due to NCVER by **29 February 2016**.

If your RTO reports AVETMISS data via a State Training Authority, please check their due date for receiving data as it will be earlier than this.

For those who are reporting *fee-for-service data only* directly to NCVER, the process for reporting data is to:

- collate your 2015 training and student data using an AVETMISS compliant information management system prior to extracting your data into AVETMISS compliant National Data Collection files (NAT files)
- validate your NAT files via NCVER’s free, web-based AVETMISS validation software (AVS). You will need to correct and revalidate your data until it is error-free and submit your data directly to NCVER by **29 February 2016**.  

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**AVETMISS support**

Our client support team is available to help you between 8.45am and 5pm (ACDT). The team can be contacted in a number of ways:

submit: [contact form](#)  
email: support@ncver.edu.au  
phone: 08 8230 8400  
toll free: 1800 649 452

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

- [www.ncver.edu.au](http://www.ncver.edu.au)  
  twitter.com/ncver  
  linkedin.com/company/ncver
If you are having difficulties validating or submitting your data, please contact our Client Support team who will be happy to assist. Please ensure you allow sufficient time to meet your reporting deadline because the Client Support team are very busy during the submission period.

Please note: no reporting extensions will be available for reporting 2015 AVETMISS data. If you are unable to meet your reporting obligations please contact your VET Regulatory Body directly.

**Classification and validation updates – December 2015**

The AVETMISS classifications and validation rules will be updated on 1 December 2015. For more details, please refer to the ‘Updates to classifications and validation rules’ section once logged in to the AVETMISS Validation Software (AVS). A history of past AVS updates can be found [here](https://ncver.edu.au) on the NCVER Portal.

**AVS – change to validation process**

As of 1 December 2015, the AVETMISS validation software (AVS) will be updated to ensure you always validate against the latest validation and submission rules. This means that when you access a previous validation after AVS has undergone an update, you will be prompted to revalidate your data. You will not need to upload your NAT files again, unless it has been longer than 28 days since your last validation. For more information on the latest AVS updates, please view the [AVS update information document](https://ncver.edu.au).

**AVETMISS data element definitions 2.2 update**

NCVER are making some minor changes to the AVETMISS data element definitions: edition 2.2. For submitters to the National VET Provider Collection, the changes provide clarification on recording and reporting client name information, including *Client last name* undergoing a name change to *Client family name*. For more information on recording and reporting client name, please refer to our [fact sheet](https://ncver.edu.au).

Other changes to the data elements definition document only affect state training authorities submitting apprentice and trainee data to NCVER.

The updated AVETMISS data element definitions: edition 2.2 will be available from 11 December 2015 and can be accessed [here](https://ncver.edu.au) on the NCVER Portal. A supporting document listing all the changes can also be accessed from the same location.

**Thank you!**

We would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank all those who took the time to respond to our October 2015 AVETMISS survey. We got some great responses from over 200 individuals who took the time to respond to our request for feedback on the current VET Provider Standard. Preliminary analysis shows that the top five emerging themes relate to:

- better definitions of data elements
- AVETMISS not accurately reflecting what happens in the training world
- burden of providing data
- students being unwilling to provide data
- inconsistent use of fields across states and territories.
This information will be used to streamline data collection requirements while ensuring that the AVETMIS Standard meets legislative and national reporting requirements. Changes to the Standard will be advised in late 2016 and will come into effect from January 2018.

**Competency Completion Online System and Quality Indicators update**

Every RTO now reports AVETMISS data of its total VET delivery activity, except for certain not-for-profit RTOs that have limited exemptions on security or community service obligation grounds. As such, there is no longer a requirement for any RTO to report competency completion quality indicator data to the Competency Completion Online System (CCOS).

RTOs needing clarification about their data reporting regulatory obligations should contact their Regulatory Body.

**Unique Student Identifier (USI) update**

**USI transcript service**

The USI transcript service will be operational next year, which will contain your 2015 AVETMISS data, which will be submitted early in 2016. For more information, visit [www.usi.gov.au](http://www.usi.gov.au)

Please note that this service is limited to VET only, and will not include higher education qualifications. While graduate diploma and graduate certificates are available for accreditation and issuance in both higher education and VET, only those graduate diploma and graduate certificate courses that are accredited and issued in VET should be included in AVETMISS data submissions.

**AVETMISS warning!**

RTOs should note that the AVETMISS validation rules trigger a warning rather than error when AVETMISS data do not include a USI when they should. While a warning does not prevent an RTO from submitting VET activity data, RTOs are expected to provide USIs where they are missing. The AVETMISS validation rules do not in any way replace the obligations set out in the Student Identifiers Act 2014 and the Standards for Registered Training Organisations 2015 with regard to USI requirements.

**Season’s greetings from NCVER**

NCVER will be closed for the holidays from close of business 24 December 2015, reopening on 4 January 2016.

Should you wish to contact us during this time please fill out our [contact form](mailto:support@ncver.edu.au) or email us at [support@ncver.edu.au](mailto:support@ncver.edu.au). Our Client Support team will respond to all enquiries when they return on 4 January 2016 during our office hours which are 8.45am-5pm (Adelaide time).

The Client Support team would like to take this opportunity to wish you a safe and happy holiday season, and look forward to working with you in the New Year.