

Apprentices and trainees 2018 - December quarter

AUSTRALIA



259 385 in training as at 31 December 2018 (down 1.0% from December 2017)



2.0% of workers were employed as an apprentice or trainee



9.5% of employed workers within the trade occupations were an apprentice or trainee

Commencements 12 months ending 31 December 2018

(% change from previous 12 months)



156 950 commencements (down 3.7% from December 2017)



72 720 trades (down 0.1% from December 2017)



84 225 non-trades (down 6.6% December from 2017)



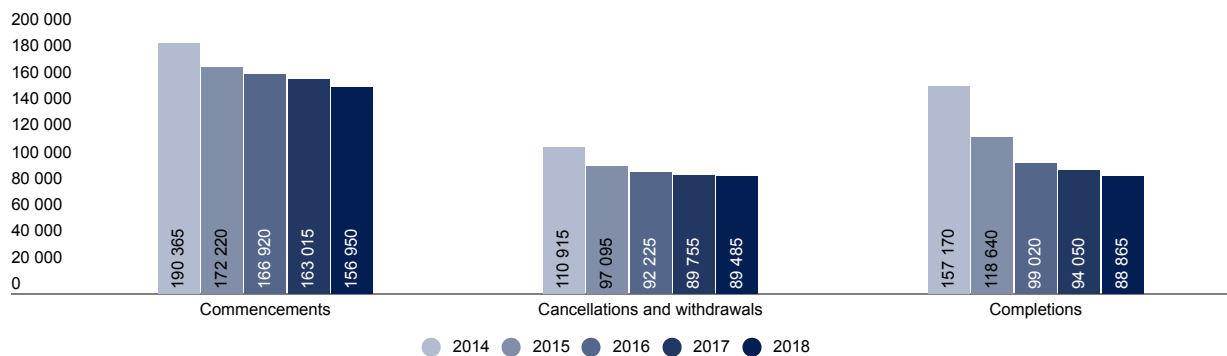
103 335 males (down 3.3% from December 2017)



53 615 females (down 4.5% from December 2017)

Australia in summary

12 months ending 31 December

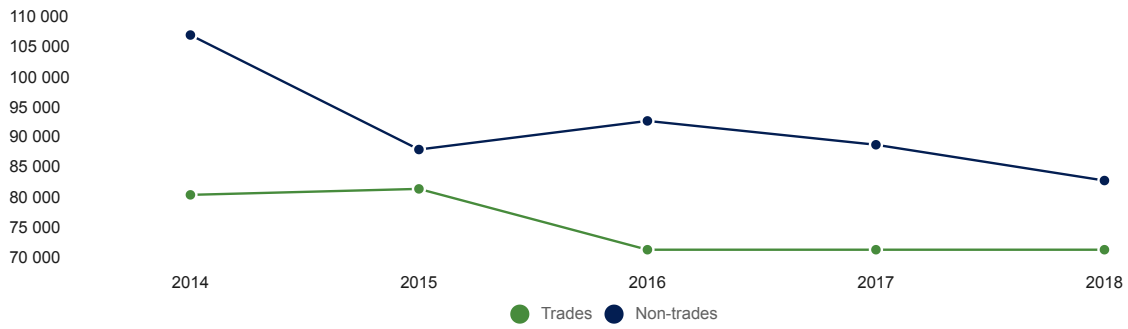


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	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2017 to 2018 (% change)	2014 to 2018 (% change)
Commencements	190 365	172 220	166 920	163 015	156 950	-3.7	-17.6
Cancellations and withdrawals	110 915	97 095	92 225	89 755	89 485	-0.3	-19.3
Completions	157 170	118 640	99 020	94 050	88 865	-5.5	-43.5
In training as at 31 December	310 225	273 980	265 145	262 135	259 385	-1.0	-16.4

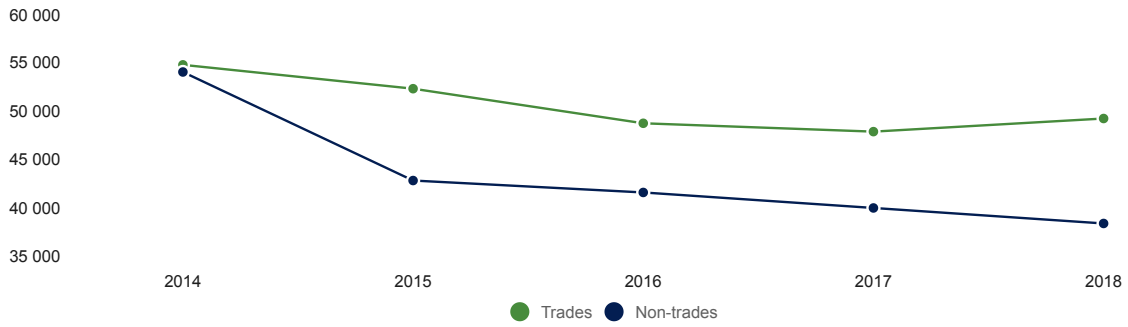
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Commencements



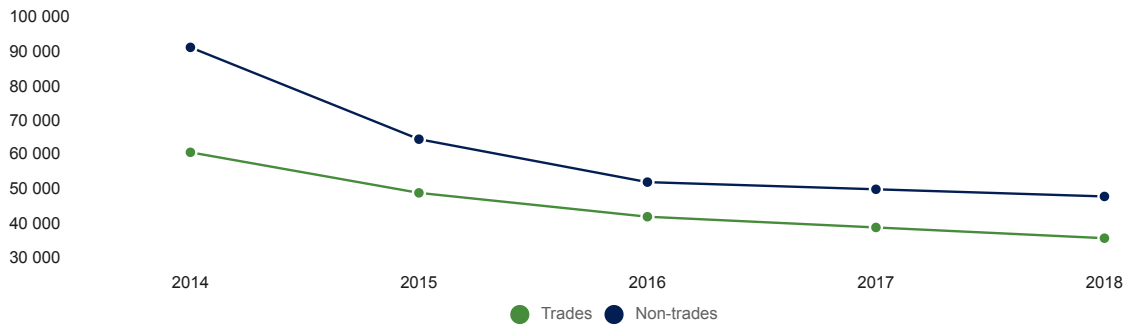
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Cancellations and withdrawals



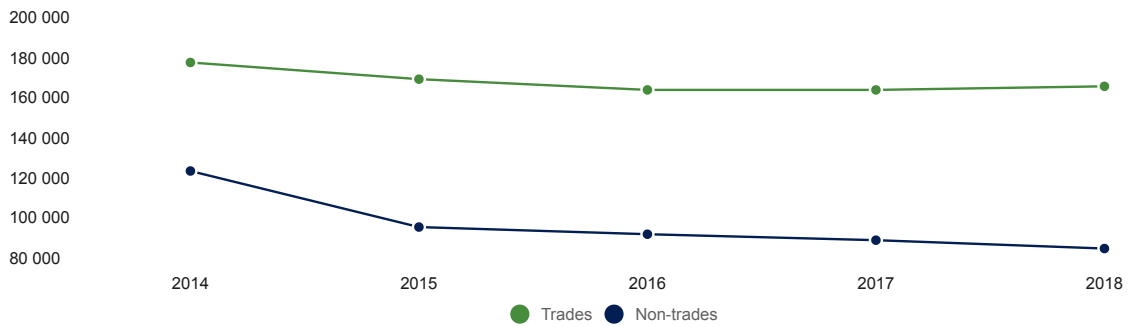
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Completions



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In training as at 31 December

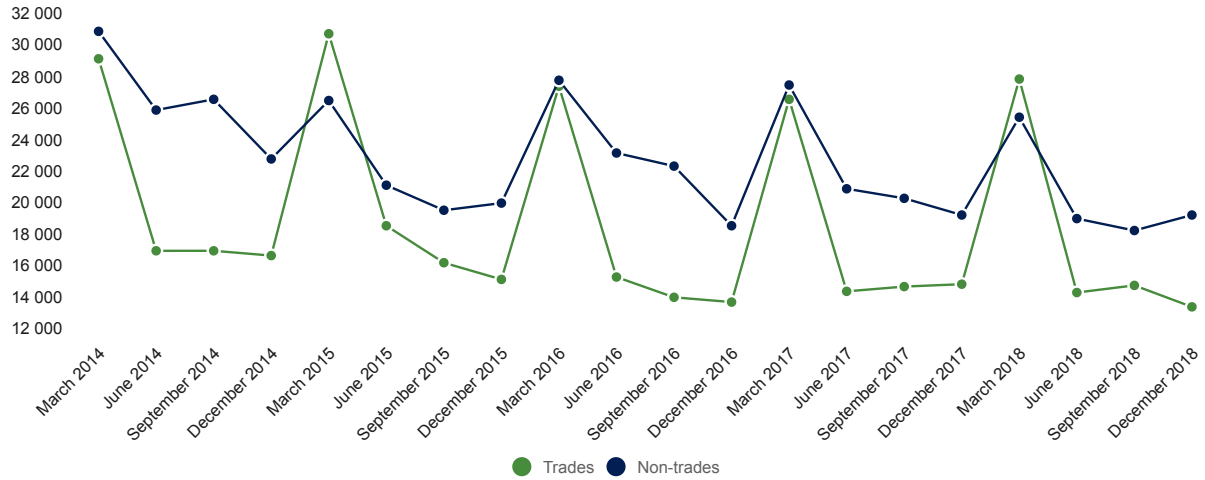


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Australian quarterly training activity

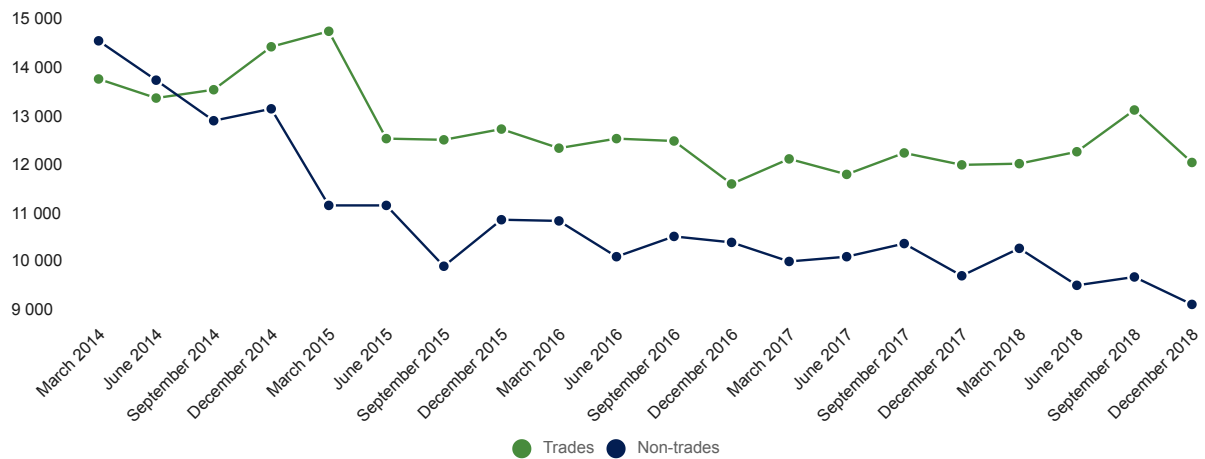
(Quarterly activity over the last five years)

Commencements



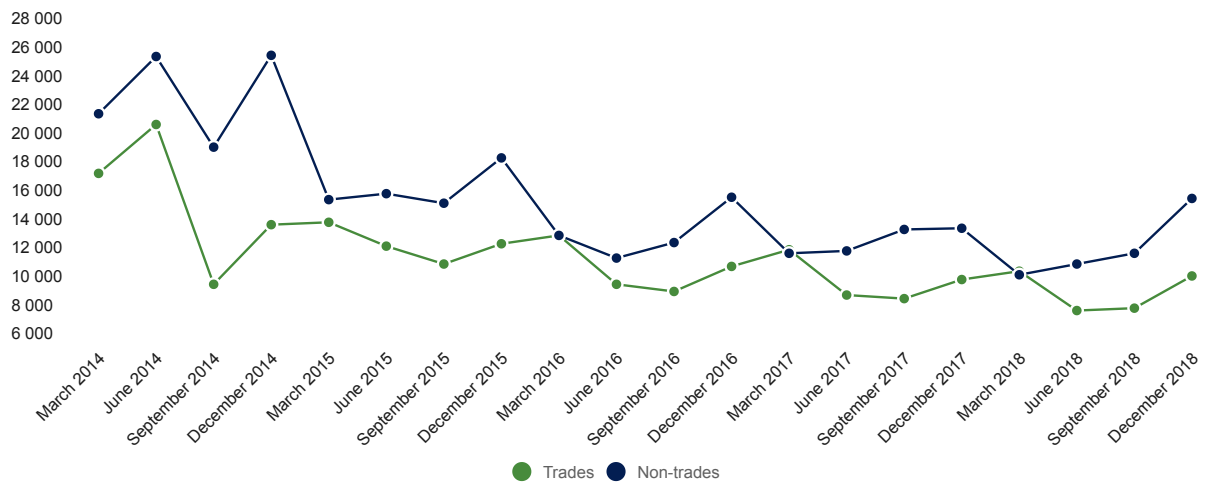
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Cancellations and withdrawals



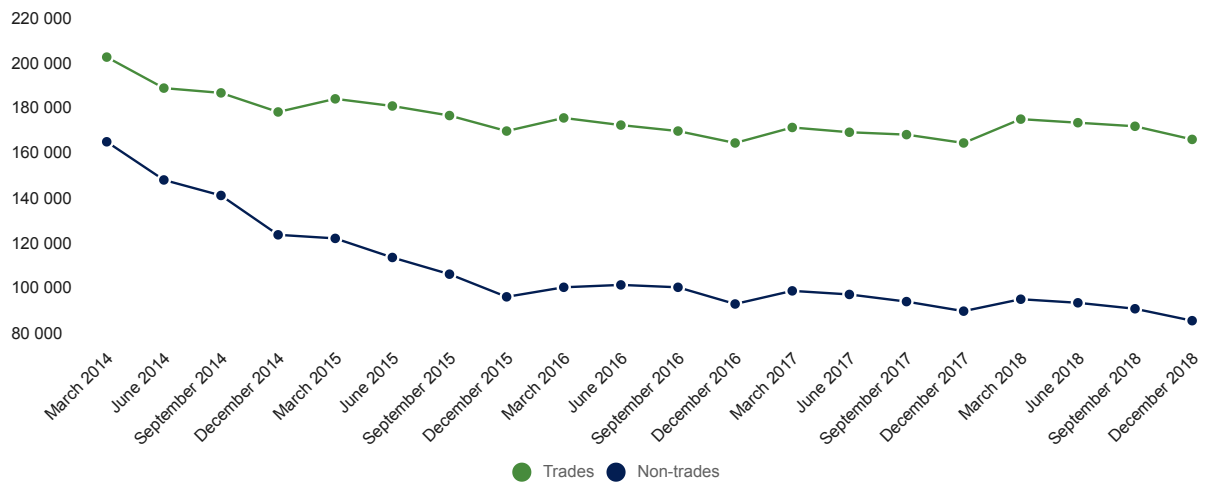
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Completions



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In training at the end of the quarter



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	Commencements	Cancellations and withdrawals	Completions	In training at the end of the quarter
March 2014	61 180	28 685	39 825	376 315
June 2014	43 945	27 490	47 230	344 865
September 2014	44 690	26 805	29 750	336 575
December 2014	40 555	27 940	40 360	310 225
March 2015	58 365	26 295	30 455	314 375
June 2015	40 810	24 050	29 125	302 370
September 2015	36 825	22 790	27 235	291 135
December 2015	36 220	23 965	31 825	273 980
March 2016	56 365	23 545	26 950	284 230
June 2016	39 620	22 975	21 940	282 210
September 2016	37 510	23 350	22 595	278 615
December 2016	33 430	22 360	27 535	265 145
March 2017	55 205	22 480	24 735	278 060
June 2017	36 475	22 265	21 820	274 490
September 2017	36 115	22 965	23 025	269 905
December 2017	35 225	22 050	24 465	262 135
March 2018	54 495	22 660	21 725	278 015
June 2018	34 480	22 135	19 715	275 265
September 2018	34 210	23 165	20 645	270 805
December 2018	33 760	21 525	26 780	259 385

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What's happened in Australia in the last year...

(Change in numbers from 12 months ending 31 December 2017)

Commencements

↑ INCREASE	↓ DECREASE
+1135 Electrotechnology and telecommunications trades workers (+8.9%)	-6210 Private sector employers (-4.4%)
+835 Government employers (+12.9%)	-5990 Non-trades (-6.6%)
+65 Diploma/advanced diploma (+1.7%)	-4485 Part-time (-10.1%)
+55 Professionals (+13.4%)	-4065 Certificate III (-3.1%)
	-4050 Sales workers (-27.2%)
	-3715 Newly commencing workers (-2.6%)
	-3565 Males (-3.3%)
	-2300 19 years and under (-3%)
	-830 Construction trades workers (-3.7%)

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Cancellations and withdrawals

↑ INCREASE	↓ DECREASE
+2110 Full-time (+3.1%)	-2385 Part-time (-11%)
+1305 Trades (+2.7%)	-1575 Non-trades (-3.9%)
+1285 Males (+2.1%)	-1555 Females (-5.6%)
+1050 Automotive and engineering trades workers (+12.2%)	-1490 Sales workers (-21.8%)
+995 Newly commencing workers (+1.2%)	-1270 Existing worker (-14.6%)
+855 19 years and under (+2.7%)	-1020 25 to 44 years (-4.3%)
+685 Machinery operators and drivers (+10.7%)	-1015 Private sector employers (-1.3%)
+680 Government employers (+45.8%)	-970 Certificate IV (-14.8%)
+670 Certificate III (+0.9%)	-945 Food trades workers (-14.9%)
+120 More than two years (+1.4%)	-390 Two years or less (-0.5%)

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Completions

↑ INCREASE	↓ DECREASE
+1890 Machinery operators and drivers (+30.1%)	-4925 Two years or less (-7.8%)
+855 Construction trades workers (+8.4%)	-4775 Private sector employers (-6%)
+265 Certificate I or II (+3.1%)	-3860 Certificate III (-5.2%)
	-3315 Sales workers (-30.2%)
	-3075 Trades (-7.4%)
	-2965 Newly commencing workers (-3.7%)
	-2915 Full-time (-4.2%)
	-2630 Males (-4.5%)
	-1725 20 to 24 years (-4.8%)
	-1560 Other technicians and trades workers (-28%)

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In training as at 31 December

↑ INCREASE	↓ DECREASE
+1730 Automotive and engineering trades workers (+4.3%)	-4380 Non-trades (-4.7%)
+1635 Trades (+1%)	-3085 Existing workers (-9.2%)
+835 20 to 24 years (+0.9%)	-2275 Part-time (-4.5%)
+400 Machinery operators and drivers (+2.1%)	-2180 Private sector employers (-0.9%)
+335 Newly commencing workers (+0.1%)	-1985 Females (-3.1%)
+310 Government employers (+3.2%)	-1890 Sales workers (-13.4%)
	-1550 Certificate IV (-9%)
	-1510 19 years and under (-1.8%)
	-1055 Food trades workers (-8.5%)

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Note: The counts contained in the table show the largest differences (increases and/or decreases) in numbers within each demographic category and have been rounded to the nearest five.

Australian demographic overview

12 months ending 31 December 2014 to 2018

Commencements

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2017 to 2018 (% change)	2014 to 2018 (% change)
AGE							
19 years and under	79 090	75 205	76 735	76 835	74 530	-3.0	-5.8
20 to 24 years	39 535	36 535	35 485	34 415	33 160	-3.6	-16.1
25 to 44 years	54 475	46 390	43 165	40 775	39 080	-4.2	-28.3
45 years and over	17 260	14 075	11 515	10 975	10 165	-7.4	-41.1
SEX							
Males	118 505	113 650	107 490	106 900	103 335	-3.3	-12.8
Females	71 860	58 570	59 430	56 120	53 615	-4.5	-25.4
FULL-TIME STATUS							
Full-time	136 455	126 640	119 170	118 670	117 085	-1.3	-14.2
Part-time	53 910	45 575	47 750	44 345	39 865	-10.1	-26.1
EMPLOYER TYPE							
Government employers	7 295	6 645	6 010	6 480	7 320	12.9	0.3
Private sector employers	166 855	150 945	145 980	141 365	135 155	-4.4	-19.0
Group training scheme employers	16 215	14 625	14 925	15 165	14 475	-4.5	-10.7
TRADES (Occupation, ANZSCO group)							
Engineering, ICT and science technicians	4 220	3 450	2 330	2 365	2 275	-3.8	-46.1
Automotive and engineering trades workers	16 700	15 745	15 665	17 065	18 070	5.9	8.2
Construction trades workers	20 015	24 220	22 040	22 440	21 610	-3.7	8.0
Electrotechnology and telecommunications trades workers	14 095	14 620	12 615	12 725	13 860	8.9	-1.7
Food trades workers	10 240	8 925	7 790	6 370	5 780	-9.2	-43.5
Skilled animal and horticultural workers	4 270	3 845	3 645	3 565	3 655	2.6	-14.3
Other technicians and trades workers	12 430	12 040	8 650	8 275	7 465	-9.8	-39.9
NON-TRADES (Occupation, ANZSCO group)							
Managers	3 755	3 100	3 935	2 120	1 700	-19.8	-54.7
Professionals	615	515	510	415	475	13.4	-23.2
Community and personal service workers	37 535	28 775	29 595	27 485	27 465	-0.1	-26.8
Clerical and administrative workers	22 885	17 935	18 380	17 560	17 360	-1.1	-24.1
Sales workers	19 015	16 245	17 505	14 865	10 815	-27.2	-43.1
Machinery operators and drivers	12 140	11 735	12 520	15 865	15 025	-5.3	23.7
Labourers	12 455	11 060	11 745	11 900	11 390	-4.3	-8.6
AQF QUALIFICATION LEVEL							
Certificate I or II	14 560	12 620	14 525	15 500	14 950	-3.5	2.7
Certificate III	144 290	137 150	133 380	131 115	127 050	-3.1	-11.9
Certificate IV	24 350	17 965	14 295	12 650	11 130	-12.0	-54.3
Diploma/advanced diploma	7 170	4 480	4 720	3 750	3 820	1.7	-46.8
EXISTING WORKER							
Existing workers	35 260	27 935	20 945	19 270	16 920	-12.2	-52.0
Newly commencing workers	155 105	144 280	145 975	143 745	140 030	-2.6	-9.7
TOTAL	190 365	172 220	166 920	163 015	156 950	-3.7	-17.6

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Cancellations and withdrawals

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2017 to 2018 (% change)	2014 to 2018 (% change)
AGE							
19 years and under	34 330	31 760	31 405	32 025	32 880	2.7	-4.2
20 to 24 years	31 805	29 830	28 545	28 495	28 875	1.3	-9.2
25 to 44 years	33 715	27 655	25 225	23 635	22 615	-4.3	-32.9
45 years and over	11 065	7 850	7 045	5 590	5 070	-9.2	-54.2
SEX							
Males	72 140	65 775	62 445	61 845	63 130	2.1	-12.5
Females	38 775	31 325	29 780	27 910	26 355	-5.6	-32.0
FULL-TIME STATUS							
Full-time	84 430	74 315	69 600	68 095	70 210	3.1	-16.8
Part-time	26 485	22 785	22 630	21 660	19 275	-11.0	-27.2
EMPLOYER TYPE							
Government employers	2 155	1 655	2 005	1 480	2 155	45.8	0.1
Private sector employers	100 180	87 280	81 920	80 290	79 275	-1.3	-20.9
Group training scheme employers	8 570	8 160	8 300	7 985	8 050	0.8	-6.1
TRADES (Occupation, ANZSCO group)							
Engineering, ICT and science technicians	2 220	1 665	1 275	855	830	-3.2	-62.7
Automotive and engineering trades workers	10 920	9 310	9 085	8 575	9 625	12.2	-11.9
Construction trades workers	13 345	15 745	15 575	17 065	17 960	5.2	34.6
Electrotechnology and telecommunications trades workers	8 060	7 835	7 305	7 610	8 440	10.9	4.7
Food trades workers	8 850	7 785	7 020	6 360	5 415	-14.9	-38.8
Skilled animal and horticultural workers	2 750	2 435	2 140	2 120	2 115	-0.3	-23.0
Other technicians and trades workers	9 710	8 505	7 270	6 290	5 800	-7.8	-40.3
NON-TRADES (Occupation, ANZSCO group)							
Managers	3 955	1 375	1 615	1 485	940	-36.6	-76.2
Professionals	345	220	250	170	185	9.3	-46.6
Community and personal service workers	16 280	14 120	14 090	13 325	12 620	-5.3	-22.5
Clerical and administrative workers	12 690	9 405	8 255	7 315	7 390	1.0	-41.8
Sales workers	9 135	7 760	7 465	6 840	5 350	-21.8	-41.5
Machinery operators and drivers	5 840	5 180	5 235	6 435	7 120	10.7	21.9
Labourers	6 820	5 755	5 650	5 310	5 705	7.4	-16.4
AQF QUALIFICATION LEVEL							
Certificate I or II	5 990	5 250	5 620	6 145	6 365	3.6	6.3
Certificate III	83 600	77 575	74 955	74 565	75 235	0.9	-10.0
Certificate IV	16 505	11 160	9 075	6 565	5 595	-14.8	-66.1
Diploma/advanced diploma	4 825	3 110	2 575	2 480	2 290	-7.6	-52.5
EXISTING WORKER							
Existing workers	23 410	15 320	11 870	8 690	7 425	-14.6	-68.3
Newly commencing workers	87 510	81 775	80 355	81 065	82 060	1.2	-6.2
DURATION UNTIL CANCELLED/WITHDRAWN							
Two years or less	99 410	86 470	83 450	81 320	80 930	-0.5	-18.6
More than two years	11 505	10 630	8 780	8 435	8 555	1.4	-25.6
TOTAL	110 915	97 095	92 225	89 755	89 485	-0.3	-19.3

 [Download data](#)

Completions

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2017 to 2018 (% change)	2014 to 2018 (% change)
AGE							
19 years and under	27 410	23 555	22 030	22 250	20 670	-7.1	-24.6
20 to 24 years	47 595	40 170	37 005	36 230	34 510	-4.8	-27.5
25 to 44 years	55 655	39 525	30 370	27 690	26 455	-4.5	-52.5
45 years and over	26 515	15 385	9 620	7 875	7 225	-8.2	-72.7
SEX							
Males	96 795	75 315	62 685	58 945	56 315	-4.5	-41.8
Females	60 380	43 325	36 335	35 105	32 550	-7.3	-46.1
FULL-TIME STATUS							
Full-time	121 280	90 065	73 905	69 065	66 150	-4.2	-45.5
Part-time	35 890	28 575	25 115	24 985	22 715	-9.1	-36.7
EMPLOYER TYPE							
Government employers	9 790	6 890	5 535	4 945	4 690	-5.2	-52.1
Private sector employers	135 970	101 845	84 500	80 065	75 290	-6.0	-44.6
Group training scheme employers	11 375	9 885	8 985	9 040	8 875	-1.9	-22.0
TRADES (Occupation, ANZSCO group)							
Engineering, ICT and science technicians	4 925	3 045	1 955	1 655	1 505	-9.1	-69.5
Automotive and engineering trades workers	13 815	12 865	11 800	10 460	9 315	-11.0	-32.6
Construction trades workers	12 440	9 970	9 625	10 140	10 995	8.4	-11.6
Electrotechnology and telecommunications trades workers	12 425	10 160	9 210	8 075	7 765	-3.8	-37.5
Food trades workers	5 145	4 460	3 690	3 435	3 220	-6.1	-37.4
Skilled animal and horticultural workers	3 265	2 260	1 920	2 050	1 500	-27.0	-54.1
Other technicians and trades workers	11 390	8 855	6 250	5 565	4 005	-28.0	-64.8
NON-TRADES (Occupation, ANZSCO group)							
Managers	6 820	2 355	2 020	1 825	1 310	-28.3	-80.8
Professionals	715	355	335	400	255	-36.0	-64.1
Community and personal service workers	24 595	20 345	17 895	17 580	16 470	-6.3	-33.0
Clerical and administrative workers	23 920	15 970	10 420	9 640	10 260	6.4	-57.1
Sales workers	15 030	11 735	10 870	10 980	7 665	-30.2	-49.0
Machinery operators and drivers	11 415	7 915	6 685	6 265	8 150	30.1	-28.6
Labourers	11 270	8 350	6 345	5 975	6 445	7.9	-42.8
AQF QUALIFICATION LEVEL							
Certificate I or II	8 850	8 190	8 445	8 640	8 910	3.1	0.7
Certificate III	112 575	89 325	76 880	74 750	70 890	-5.2	-37.0
Certificate IV	29 395	17 850	10 395	7 890	6 205	-21.4	-78.9
Diploma/advanced diploma	6 355	3 280	3 305	2 765	2 855	3.3	-55.0
EXISTING WORKER							
Existing workers	54 130	28 675	17 030	13 385	11 165	-16.6	-79.4
Newly commencing workers	103 040	89 965	81 990	80 665	77 700	-3.7	-24.6
ACTUAL DURATION OF TRAINING							
Two years or less	113 925	81 655	66 820	63 170	58 245	-7.8	-48.9
More than two years	43 245	36 985	32 200	30 880	30 620	-0.9	-29.2
TOTAL	157 170	118 640	99 020	94 050	88 865	-5.5	-43.5

 [Download data](#)

In training as at 31 December

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2017 to 2018 (% change)	2014 to 2018 (% change)
AGE							
19 years and under	88 155	83 245	83 510	83 950	82 440	-1.8	-6.5
20 to 24 years	96 075	91 200	91 235	91 080	91 915	0.9	-4.3
25 to 44 years	93 790	76 770	71 610	69 745	68 990	-1.1	-26.4
45 years and over	32 195	22 755	18 770	17 320	16 030	-7.4	-50.2
SEX							
Males	219 920	200 260	195 885	197 220	196 455	-0.4	-10.7
Females	90 305	73 720	69 265	64 915	62 930	-3.1	-30.3
FULL-TIME STATUS							
Full-time	247 320	219 560	211 650	211 850	211 380	-0.2	-14.5
Part-time	62 905	54 420	53 500	50 285	48 010	-4.5	-23.7
EMPLOYER TYPE							
Government employers	13 715	11 495	9 935	9 875	10 185	3.2	-25.7
Private sector employers	271 790	239 650	232 745	229 730	227 550	-0.9	-16.3
Group training scheme employers	24 685	22 820	22 450	22 515	21 645	-3.9	-12.3
TRADES (Occupation, ANZSCO group)							
Engineering, ICT and science technicians	6 195	4 490	3 335	3 050	2 880	-5.6	-53.5
Automotive and engineering trades workers	45 560	41 715	39 445	40 390	42 120	4.3	-7.6
Construction trades workers	43 655	47 660	51 465	54 765	55 395	1.2	26.9
Electrotechnology and telecommunications trades workers	37 335	36 605	35 560	35 715	36 465	2.1	-2.3
Food trades workers	16 145	14 970	14 130	12 485	11 430	-8.5	-29.2
Skilled animal and horticultural workers	7 765	7 030	6 770	6 275	6 540	4.2	-15.8
Other technicians and trades workers	25 615	21 190	17 660	15 760	15 245	-3.3	-40.5
NON-TRADES (Occupation, ANZSCO group)							
Managers	6 915	5 110	5 040	3 575	2 745	-23.2	-60.3
Professionals	1 005	860	810	610	615	0.3	-38.9
Community and personal service workers	38 965	33 305	31 950	29 315	29 025	-1.0	-25.5
Clerical and administrative workers	27 820	17 660	16 375	16 405	15 370	-6.3	-44.7
Sales workers	22 265	17 865	16 905	14 080	12 190	-13.4	-45.2
Machinery operators and drivers	16 730	14 825	15 440	18 720	19 120	2.1	14.3
Labourers	14 255	10 705	10 250	10 995	10 255	-6.7	-28.1
AQF QUALIFICATION LEVEL							
Certificate I or II	11 755	10 595	10 725	11 175	10 860	-2.8	-7.6
Certificate III	244 635	226 985	225 180	225 285	225 040	-0.1	-8.0
Certificate IV	41 720	26 645	20 015	17 310	15 760	-9.0	-62.2
Diploma/advanced diploma	12 115	9 755	9 225	8 360	7 725	-7.6	-36.2
EXISTING WORKER							
Existing workers	69 920	47 540	37 570	33 455	30 370	-9.2	-56.6
Newly commencing workers	240 305	226 440	227 575	228 680	229 015	0.1	-4.7
TOTAL	310 225	273 980	265 145	262 135	259 385	-1.0	-16.4

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Note that the percentages presented in this product are reported to one decimal place. All other numbers, after aggregation, have been rounded to the nearest five. Rounding can lead to instances where the numbers in the body of a given table might not add to the rounded totals.

Unknown data have not been reported in any tables, whereas the total includes all contracts, including those with unknown status. Hence, some figures in the tables may not sum to the total.

As the vocations approved to be under an apprenticeship or traineeship training contract are not consistent across all jurisdictions, NCVER has adopted a Trade/Non-trade categorisation for the purpose of the National Apprentices and Trainees Collection with 'Trades' classified as all occupations listed under ANZSCO major group '3-Tecnicians and trades workers' and 'Non-trades' classified as all other major occupations groups 1-2 and 4-8 (ANZSCO, First edition, Revision 2). ANZSCO has been back-cast by NCVER to 1994 for reporting purposes. For further information on the methodology, see <<https://www.ncver.edu.au/research-and-statistics/publications/all-publications/anzsco-imputation-in-the-national-apprentice-and-trainee-collection>>.

In September 2016, NCVER implemented a number of collection and system changes and as such some activity may differ to that reported in previous publications. These changes included implementation of release 7.0 of the AVETMIS Standard for apprentices and trainees, and migration of the historical data collections to a new database.

Due to the transition to a new IT system in the June quarter 2013, the data for the South Australian Department of State Development (DSD) may be subject to future revisions in subsequent quarters.

In April 2012, the Victorian Department of Education and Early Childhood Development announced through *Refocusing vocational training in Victoria* that it would refocus subsidy rates for VET courses to better target the areas of greatest public benefit and future jobs growth. New fee and funding rates were effective from 1 July 2012 for all new courses comments. Changes to these subsidy rates may influence employer decisions on whether to commence trainees in some VET courses.

From 1 July 2012 the Australian Government discontinued the \$1500 standard employer commencement incentive payment and increased the standard completion incentive by \$500 to \$3000 for existing worker apprentices and trainees in non-National Skills Needs List occupations. The observed changes to commencements and completion levels need to be seen in the context of this policy change. Further details on incentive changes may be found in the 2012-13 Budget <http://www.budget.gov.au/2012-13/content/bp2/html/bp2_expense-15.htm>.

For more detailed information refer to the 'Apprentices and trainees 2018 December quarter: data slicer' available at <<https://www.ncver.edu.au/research-and-statistics/collection/apprentices-and-trainees-collection>>. The data slicer is a MS Excel pivot table containing a set of buttons that enable users to quickly filter or slice data without the need to open drop-down lists. A slicer clearly labels the filters that may be applied and provides detail so that users can easily identify the slice of data presented. It presents information on client demographics, programs, occupations, training rates, state or territory and other variables to compare training activity over time.

This infographic is drawn from *Australian vocational education and training statistics: Apprentices and trainees 2018 — December quarter*, NCVER, Adelaide.

This infographic should be attributed as *Apprentices and trainees 2018: December quarter – Australia*, NCVER, Adelaide.

SOURCE: National Centre for Vocational Education Research (NCVER), National Apprentice and Trainee collection no. 99, March 2019 estimates, Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS), Labour force, Australian, detailed quarterly, November 2018 (as at February 2019), cat. no. 6291.0.55.003.

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