

Australian vocational education and training statistics

## VET in Schools 2024

National Centre for Vocational Education Research



### Description

This publication presents information on the vocational education and training (VET) undertaken by school students as part of their senior secondary certificate of education (SSCE).

Students can engage in VET through a school-based apprenticeship or traineeship, or through alternative pathways (referred to as 'other VET in Schools students').

## Highlights

In 2024, the number of students participating in vocational education and training (VET) in Schools increased by 5.8%, reaching a total of 266 765 students in Australia, compared with 2023. This represents an estimated 27.8% of the school population aged 15 to 19 years in Australia. Nationally, student numbers reached its highest level since the collection began in 2006.

Whilst Queensland continues to hold the highest proportion of VET in Schools students (39.4%), student numbers rose across all jurisdictions, with the exception of Tasmania and the Australian Capital Territory, where they experienced a slight decline.

In 2024, 21 515 or 8.1%, of VET in Schools students undertook a school-based apprenticeship. VET in Schools students undertaking training package qualifications were primarily enrolled in Sport, fitness and recreation (14.8%) and Business services (14.0%) training packages. Students undertaking training package qualifications as part of a school-based apprenticeship were predominantly enrolled in Business services (16.1%) and Community services (11.9%).

Student numbers varied by cohort.

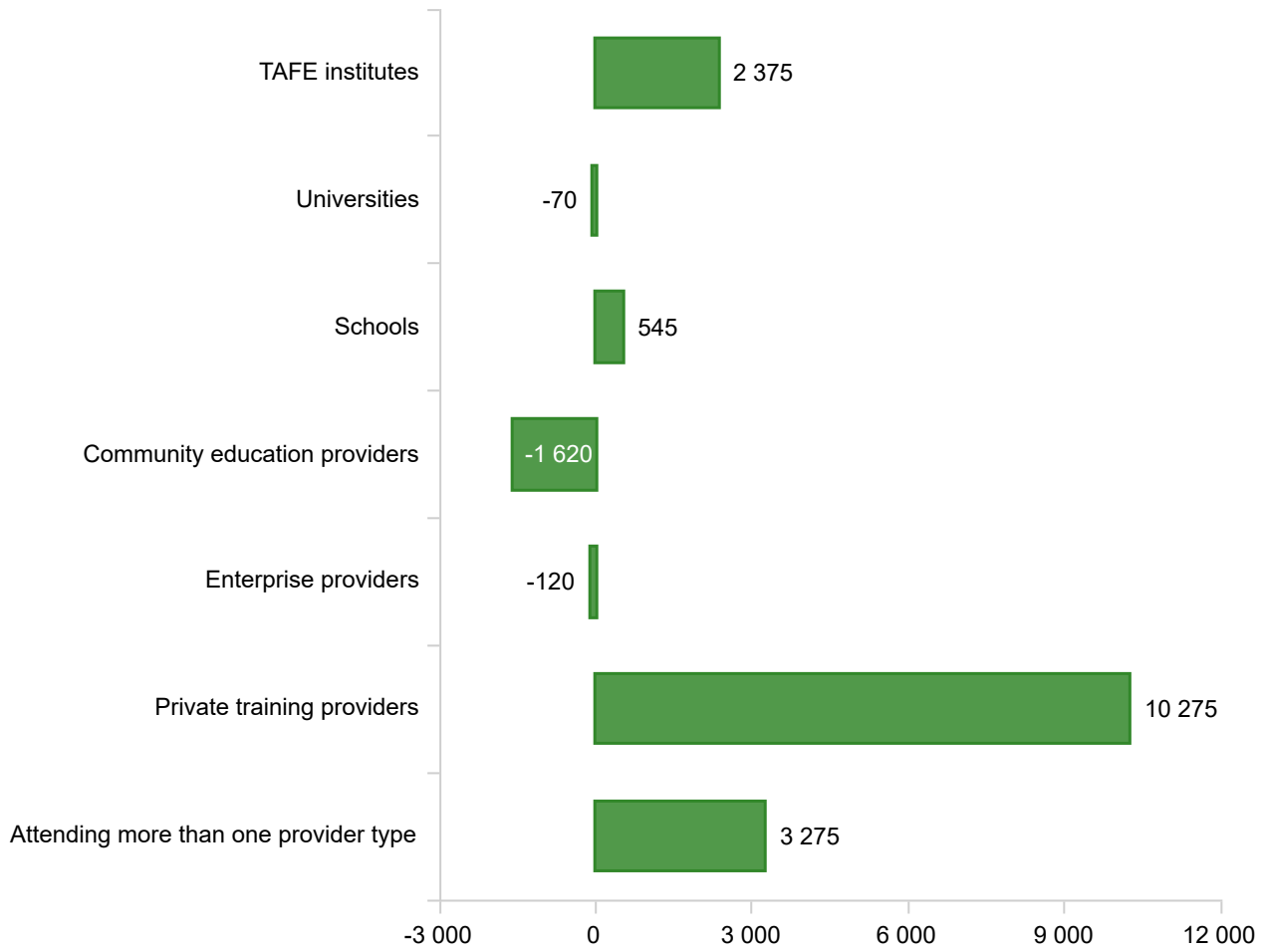
Table 1 VET in School students in Australia by selected cohorts, 2024

Cohort	Students	Proportion (%)	Change since 2019 (%)	Change since 2023 (%)
Females	125 205	46.9	37.7	5.1
Indigenous	16 075	6.0	30.1	17.9
With a disability	7 985	3.0	39.8	10.8
School-based apprentices and trainees	21 515	8.1	25.9	11.4
Regional and remote	79 010	29.6	12.2	5.7
Total	266 765	100.0	13.2	5.8

Note: Caution should be taken when using demographic data which can be reported with a 'not known' response. Some jurisdictions report a high proportion of, or all, students with a 'not known' value due to limitations on information disclosure.

In 2024, 109 495 (41.0%) VET in Schools students were enrolled with private training providers, a 10.4% increase from 2023.

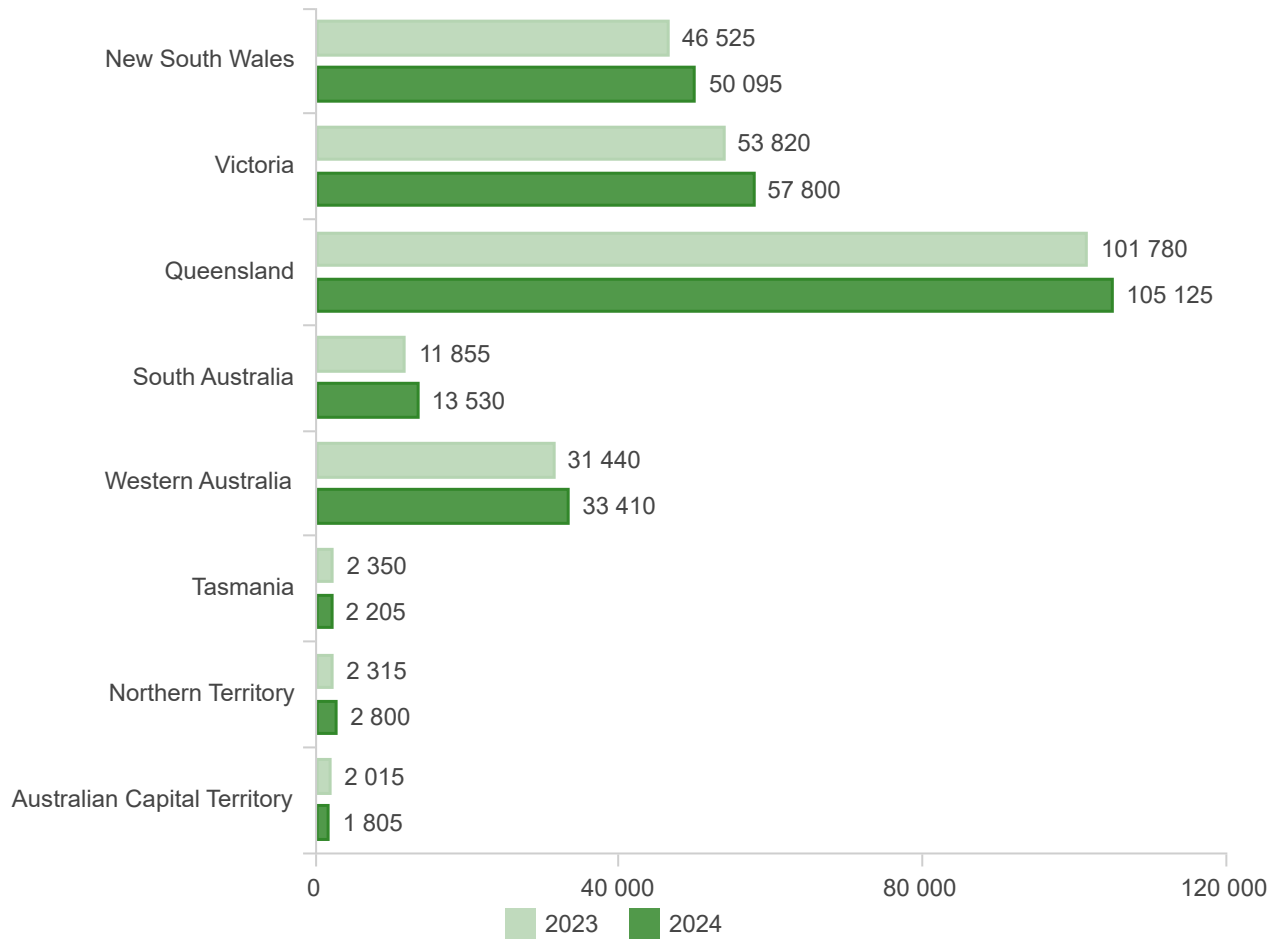
Figure 1 Absolute change in VET in Schools provider types, 2023 and 2024, Australia



## Students

In 2024, there were 266 765 VET in Schools students in Australia, an increase of 5.8% from 2023. Student numbers increased across most states and territories.

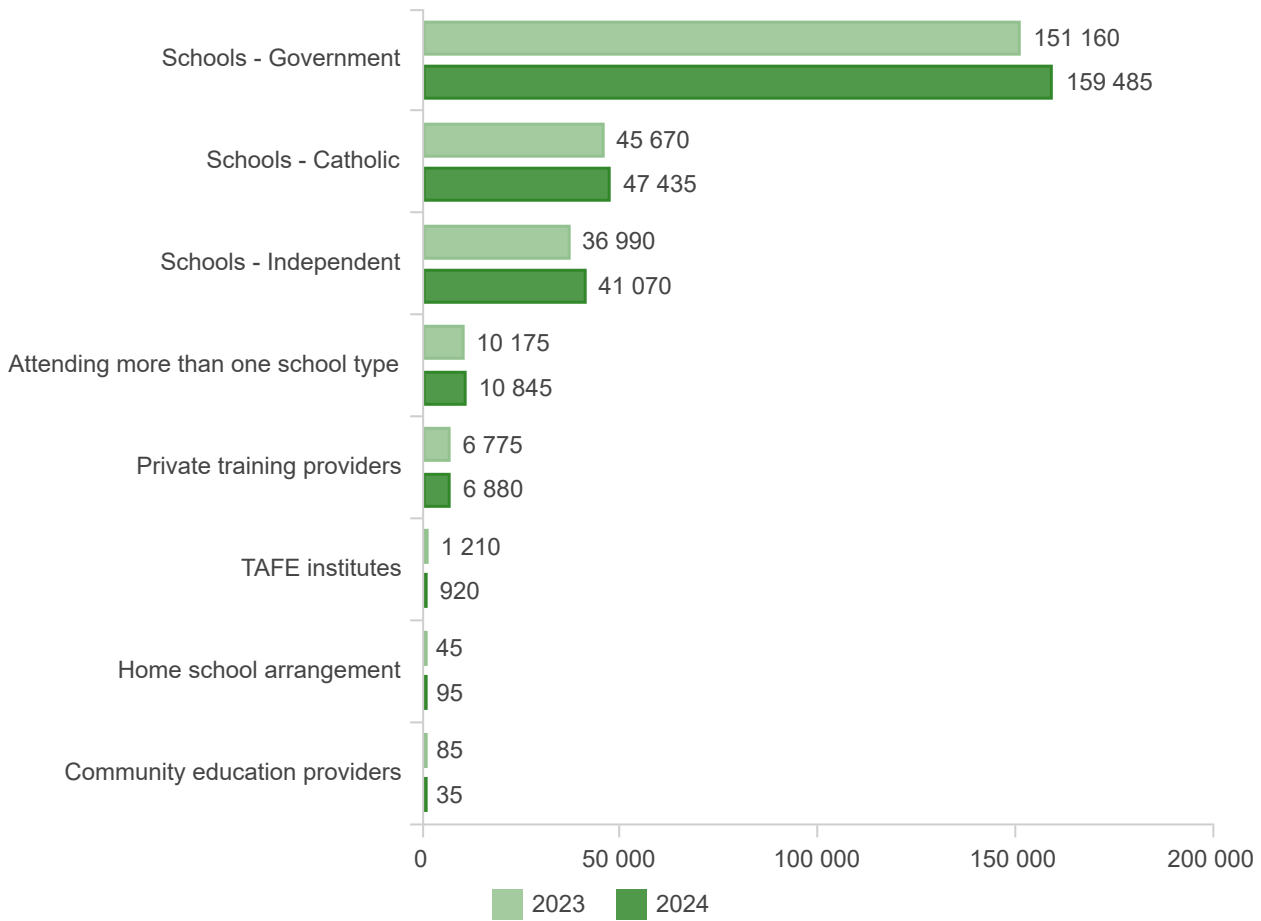
Figure 2 Number of VET in Schools students by state or territory 2023 and 2024



Note: This figure shows student data for all states and territories and does not update based on the state/territory selection.

In 2024, the majority of VET in Schools students were enrolled in government schools (159 485 or 59.8%), followed by catholic schools (47 435 or 17.8%). Government schools saw the largest growth, increasing by 5.5% (8 325 students) since 2023.

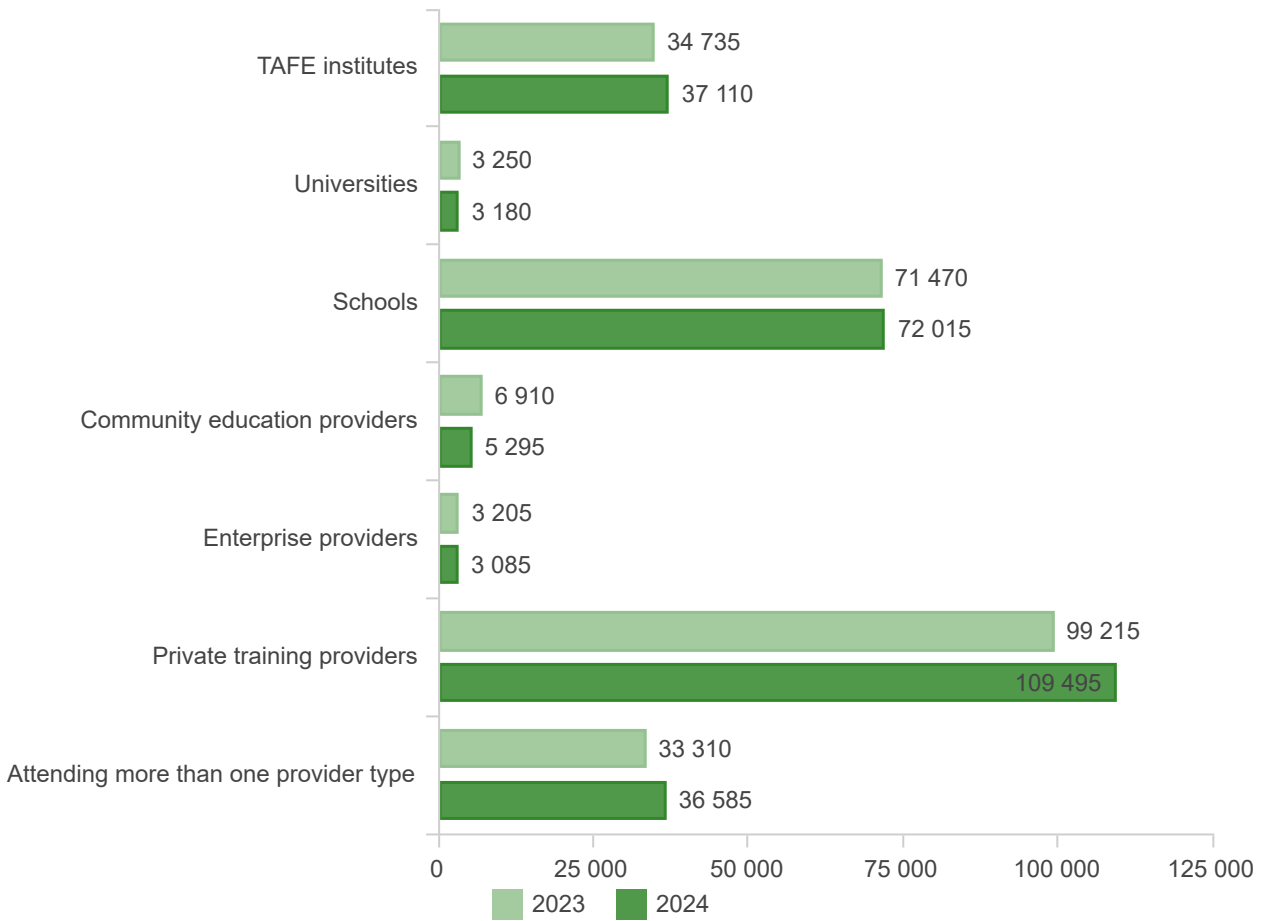
**Figure 3 VET in Schools students by school type, 2023 and 2024 - Australia**



Note: School type identifies the home school of the student and not where the training has taken place. It is based on the student's School type identifier across all of their reported enrolments. Students who were enrolled at more than one home school during the year are counted against the "Attending more than one school type" category.

In terms of the type of institution providing the training, private training providers accounted for the largest share of students in 2024 (109 495 students or 41.0%). Schools were the second largest provider (72 015 students or 27.0%).

Figure 4 VET in Schools students by VET provider type, 2023 and 2024 - Australia

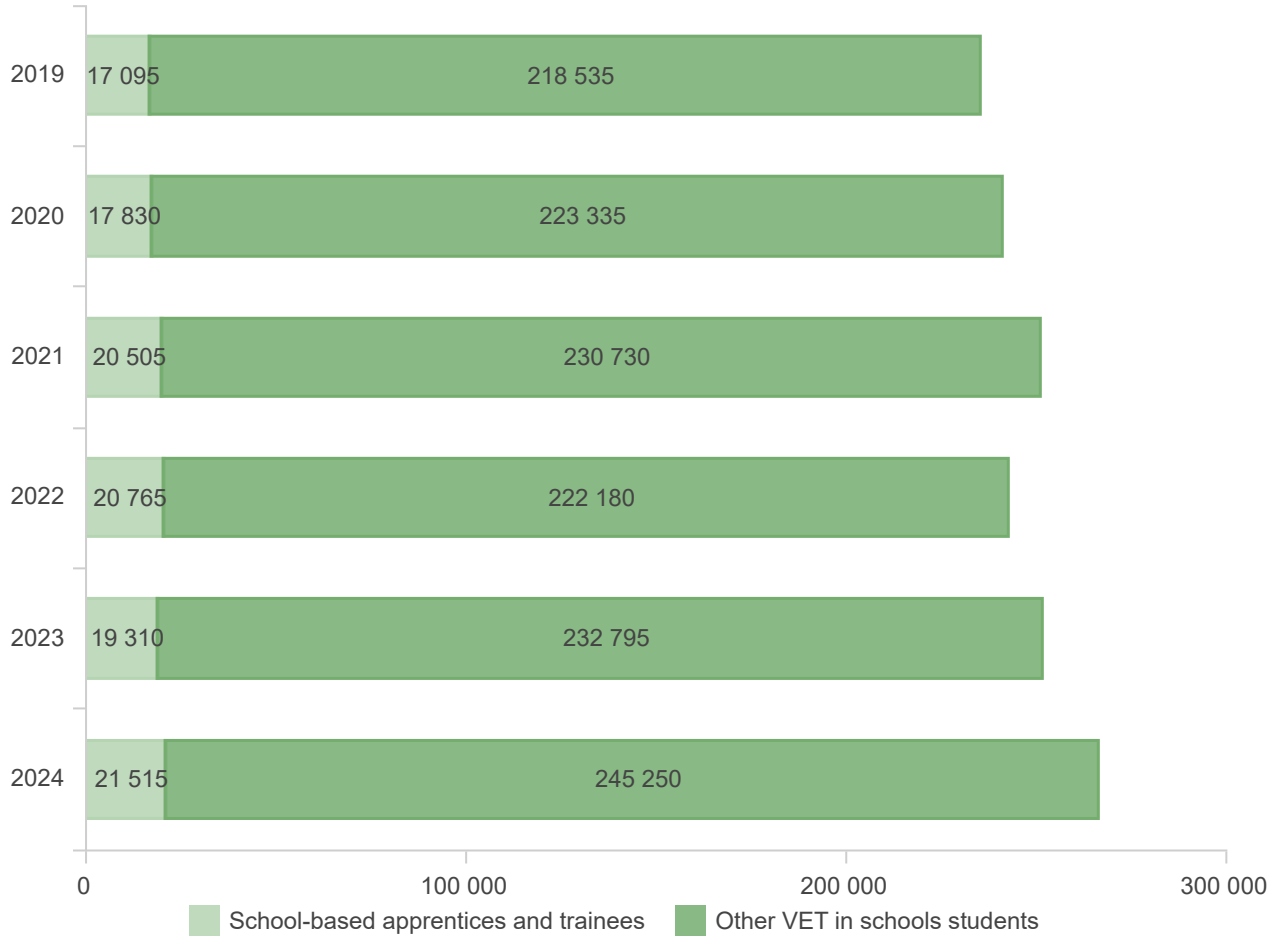


Note: Provider type refers to the type of institution or organisation providing the training.

In 2024, there were 21 515 school-based apprentices and trainees, representing 8.1% of all VET in Schools students, and an increase of 11.4% from 2023.

School-based apprentices and trainees predominantly undertook their training with private training providers and other VET in Schools students undertook their training with private training providers.

**Figure 5 VET in Schools students by apprentice/trainee status, 2019 to 2024 - Australia**



Note: Counts of school-based apprentices and trainees (SBAT) in VET in Schools 2024 may differ from those within Apprentices and trainees publications, as VET in Schools SBAT numbers are calculated from students enrolled in an apprenticeship or traineeship at any point during the calendar year. Whereas "in-training" numbers from the National Apprentice and Trainee Collection refer to contracts in training as at a particular reference date (e.g. 31 December 2024).

Students varied across different cohorts.

**Table 2 VET in School students in Australia by selected cohorts, 2024**

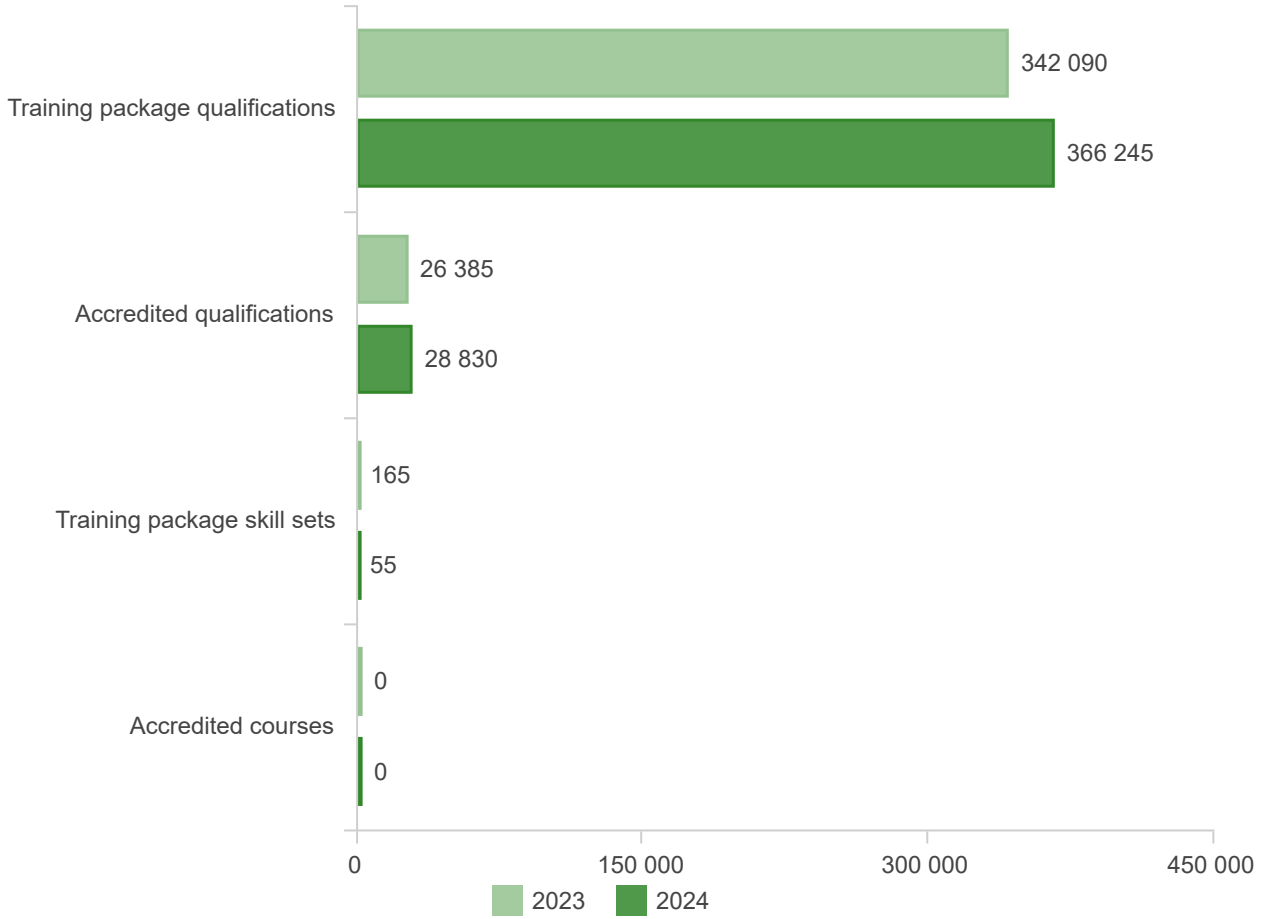
Cohort	Students	Proportion (%)	Change since 2019 (%)	Change since 2023 (%)
Females	125 205	46.9	37.7	5.1
Indigenous	16 075	6.0	30.1	17.9
With a disability	7 985	3.0	39.8	10.8
Regional and remote	79 010	29.6	12.2	5.7
Studied full-time	34 950	13.1	31.4	5.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>266 765</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>13.2</b>	<b>5.8</b>

Note: Caution should be taken when using demographic data which can be reported with a 'not known' response. Some jurisdictions report a high proportion of, or all, students with a 'not known' value due to limitations on information disclosure.

## Program enrolments

In 2024, there were 395 135 program enrolments, an increase of 7.2% from 2023.

Figure 6 VET in Schools program enrolments by type of training, 2023 and 2024 - Australia



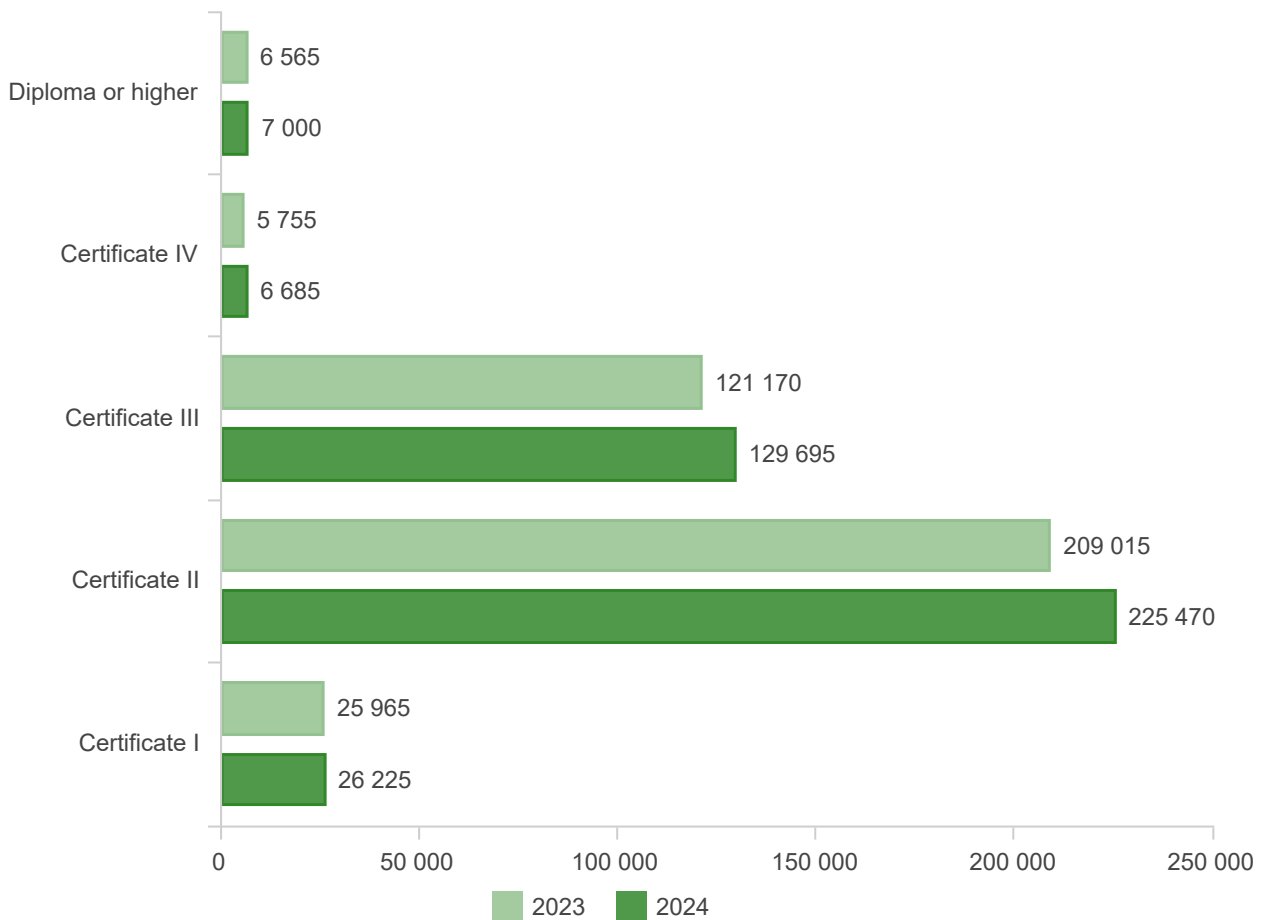
## Qualification enrolments

Qualification enrolments are comprised of training package qualifications and accredited qualifications.

In 2024, there were 395 075 qualification enrolments. The majority of these qualification enrolments were in Certificate II (225 470 or 57.1%), followed by Certificate III (129 695 or 32.8%).

Qualification enrolments for students undertaking a school-based apprenticeship were largely at the Certificate III level (18 835 or 85.1%), whereas qualification enrolments for other VET in Schools students were primarily at the Certificate II level (222 465 or 59.6%).

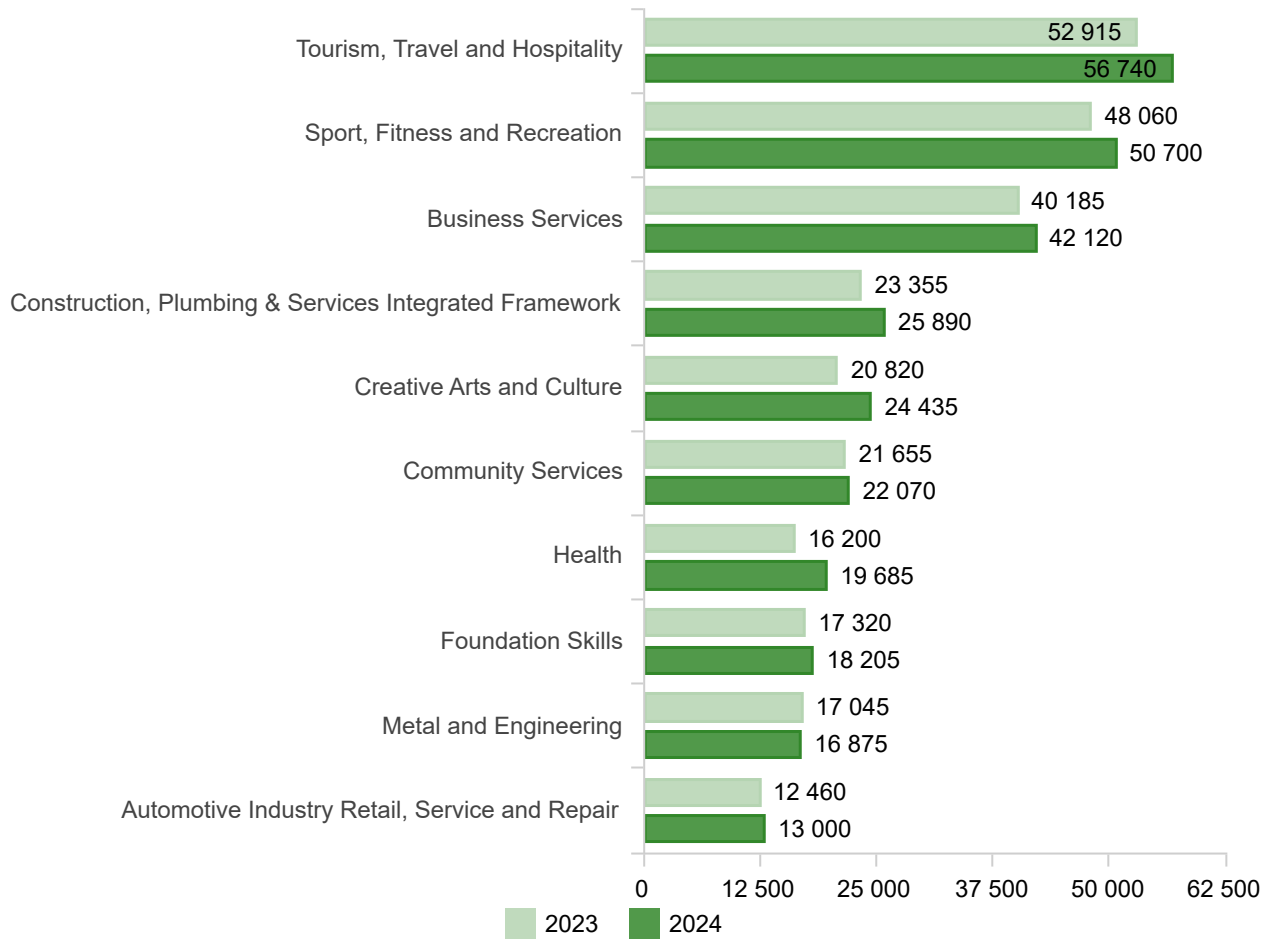
Figure 7 VET in Schools qualification enrolments by level of education, 2023 and 2024 - Australia



In 2024, there were 366 245 enrolments in training package qualifications, an increase of 7.1% from 2023. Overall, the most popular training package was Tourism, travel and hospitality (56 740 or 15.5%), followed by Sport, fitness and recreation (50 700 or 13.8%), and Business services (42 120 or 11.5%). The top three for those undertaking a school-based apprenticeship were Tourism, travel and hospitality (2 800 or 12.7%), Community services (2 735 or 12.4%), and Business services (2 690 or 12.2%).

The training package with the largest growth was Tourism, travel and hospitality, which increased by 3 825 or 7.2%.

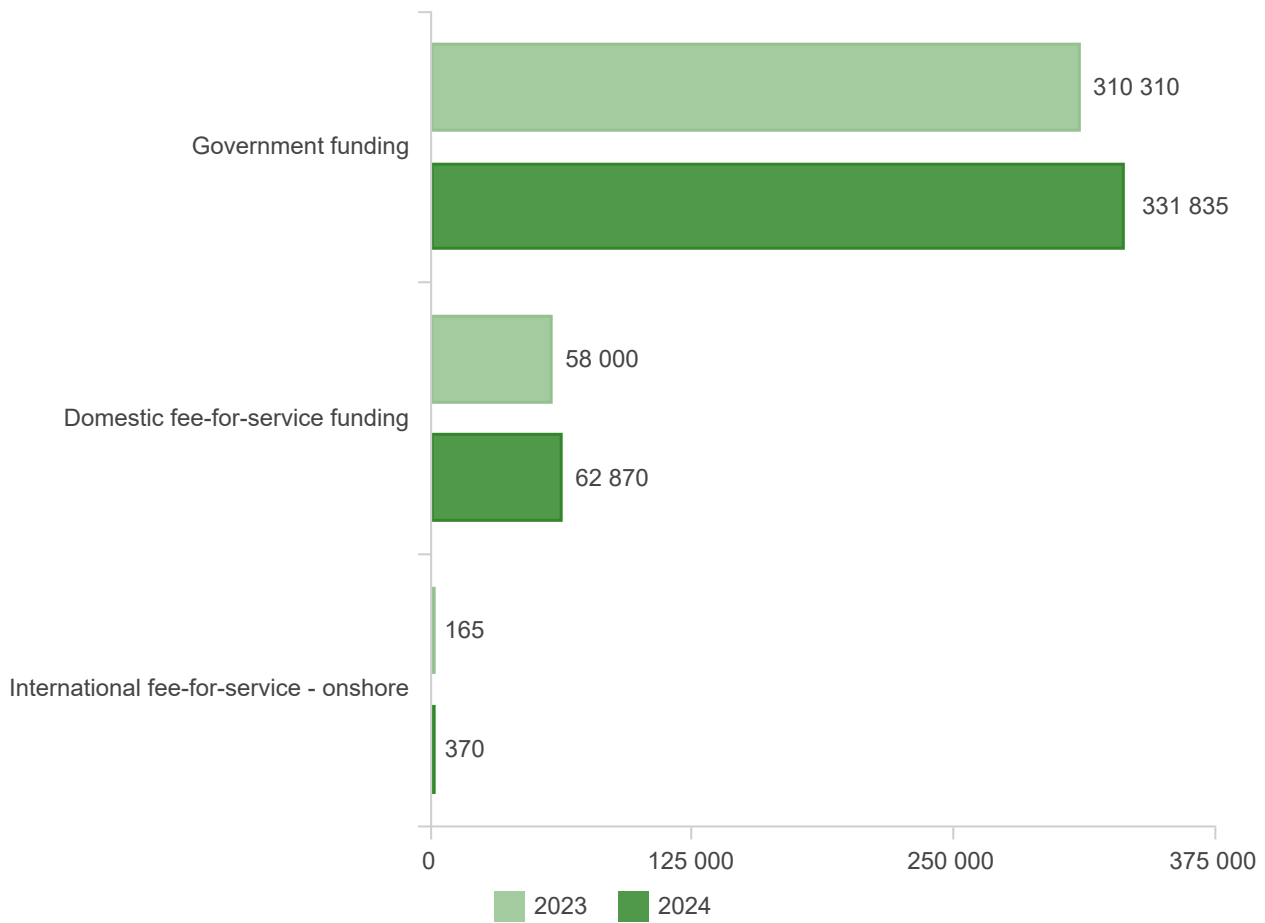
**Figure 8 Top ten training packages by number of VET in Schools qualification enrolments, 2023 and 2024 - Australia**



Notes: Only training package qualifications are included in this figure. For a full list of training packages and non-training package information, refer to the DataBuilder.

In 2024, qualification enrolments were primarily government-funded. The majority of school-based apprentices and trainees (98.9%) and other VET in Schools students (83.1%) received support through government funding.

Figure 9 VET in Schools qualification enrolments by program highest funding source, 2023 and 2024 - Australia

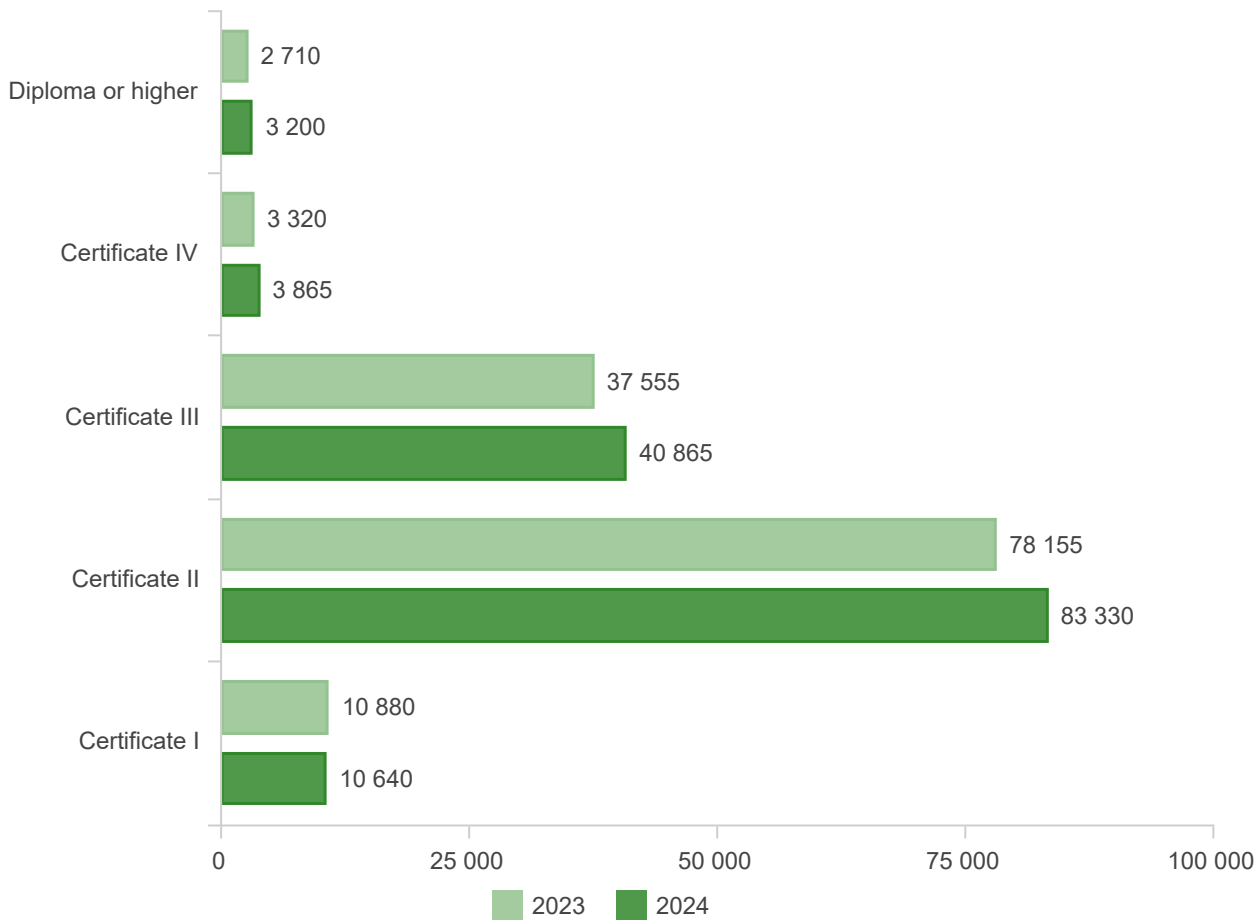


## Qualification completions

In 2024, there were 141 905 qualification completions.

The highest number of qualification completions was in Certificate II (83 330 or 58.7%), followed by Certificate III (40 865 or 28.8%).

Figure 10 VET in Schools qualification completions by level of education, 2023 and 2024 - Australia



Note: The number of completions will be revised with subsequent releases of VET in Schools.

The training packages with the highest number of qualification completions in 2024 was Business services (20 015 or 15.0%), followed by Sport, fitness and recreation (19 645 or 14.7%), and Tourism, travel and hospitality (16 315 or 12.2%).

## Additional information:

Data are presented by the state or territory of the senior secondary assessment authority.

The estimated participation rate is calculated using state of data submitter as a proxy for state of residence due to the high number of records with an unknown residential address.

Data for calculating the participation rate are sourced from the NCVET National VET in Schools Collection, and Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) 2024, Schools, Table 42b Number of Full-time and Part-time Students, 2006-2024.

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