

## Recovery in the Training Market

### THE GOVERNMENT-FUNDED TRAINING MARKET — AN OVERVIEW

The first half of 2021 saw a significant recovery of training delivery across key sectors and cohorts following the 2020 pandemic.

This was driven by increases in both new commencements and continuing enrolments, reflecting the successful implementation of many government initiatives to stem the impact of COVID-19.

New commencements were up 14 per cent and continuing enrolments rose 18 per cent, resulting in 16 per cent higher total enrolments in Government funded training YTD to June 2021 when compared with the same period last year.

Furthermore, total enrolments were even higher at the end of June 2021 (by 11 per cent) compared with June 2019 before the pandemic.

#### Free TAFE is improving access to training

The Free TAFE initiative focuses on reducing financial barriers for students, so they can train in courses that lead to jobs that are in demand.

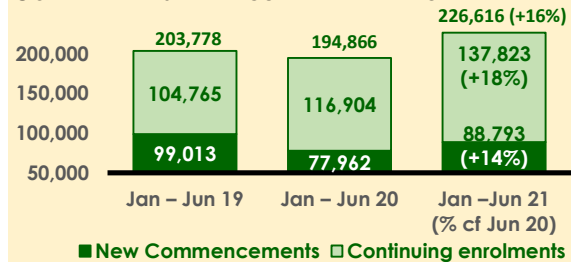
New Free TAFE waiver commencements were up 4 per cent and continuing enrolments rose 45 per cent, resulting in 25 per cent higher total enrolments for YTD to June 2021 when compared with the same period last year.

#### Training supports positive outcomes for all Victorians

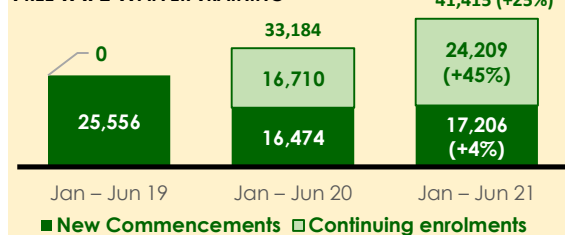
Government-funded training rose among all provider types and across key cohorts.

New commencements improved among key priority cohorts. They were 9 per cent higher among the unemployed, 15 per cent more for those without a Certificate III qualification, 11 per cent greater for women, up 9 per cent for women returning to work, rose 12 per cent for the Indigenous and Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) cohorts and 0.6 per cent higher for those with a disability for YTD to June 2021 when compared with the same period last year.

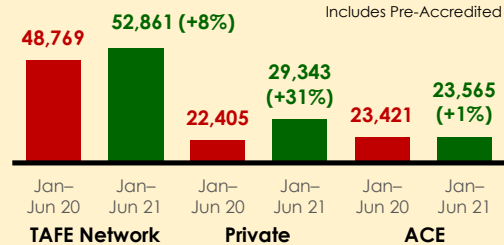
### GOVERNMENT FUNDED ACCREDITED TRAINING



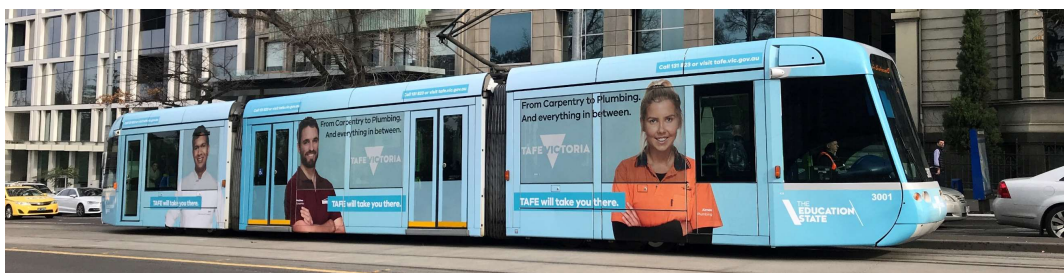
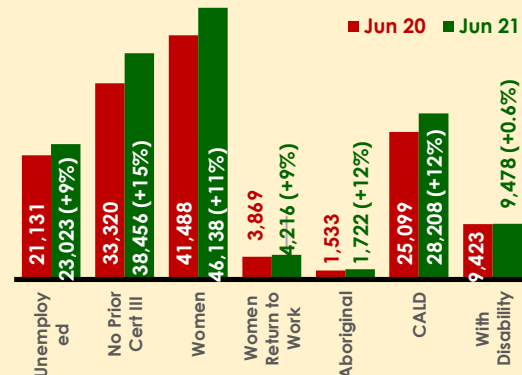
### FREE TAFE WAIVER TRAINING



### GOVERNMENT-FUNDED COMMENCEMENTS-PROVIDER TYPE



### GOVERNMENT-FUNDED COMMENCEMENTS KEY COHORTS



**DELIVERING HIGH-QUALITY TRAINING THAT IS STRONGLY ALIGNED TO JOB OPPORTUNITIES**

Skills First reforms also continue to align VET delivery with Government priority areas and focus skills development towards meeting the needs of the Victorian industry and economy.

New commencements were 36 per cent higher for apprenticeships, 76 per cent more for high-value traineeships (such as Diploma of Nursing), 7 per cent greater for those undertaking pre-accredited courses and training for the NDIS workforce, up 11 per cent for those training for the family-violence workforce, and rose 20 per cent for the infrastructure workforce in YTD June 2021 when compared with the same period last year.

New commencements were also higher in both the metropolitan as well as across all regional areas. They were particularly high in Loddon Mallee (up 23 per cent) and Barwon South West (up 20 per cent) when compared with the same period last year.

The four industries with the highest level of commencements are: Health Care and Social Assistance, Construction, Professional, Scientific and Technical Services, and Education and Training sectors.

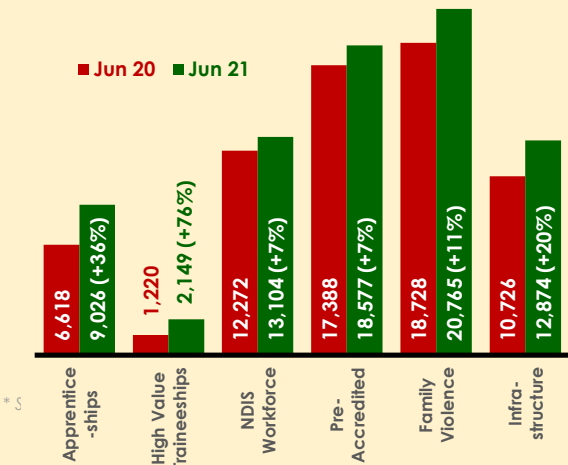
Commencements in courses aligned to these four industry sectors rose in the January to June 2021 period when compared with the same period last year. In all four industries, the TAFE Network continues to play a leading role in provision.

**Work is progressing to recover from the 2020 pandemic**

The TAFE and Training sector plays a critical role in supporting Victorians to re-skill, upskill and drive economic recovery in the post-COVID-19 economy.

The Skills for Economic Recovery package as well as other Government initiatives will make it easier for individuals with pre-existing qualifications to retrain. They will improve access to training for Victorians impacted by the pandemic, particularly the disadvantaged, vulnerable, women and young people.

**GOVERNMENT-FUNDED COMMENCEMENTS**



**GOVERNMENT-FUNDED COMMENCEMENTS BY REGIONS**

	Jan – Jun 20	Jan – Jun 21	Change 20-21
<b>Metropolitan</b>	60,428	68,615	14% ▲
<b>Regional</b>			
Barwon South West	5,708	6,856	20% ▲
Grampians	2,518	2,826	12% ▲
Loddon Mallee	3,503	4,312	23% ▲
Hume	3,844	3,950	2.8% ▲
Gippsland	2,312	2,653	15% ▲
<b>All Regional</b>	17,885	20,597	15% ▲
<b>Victoria (incl. other)</b>	77,962	88,767	14% ▲

\* Other includes where location is unknown or not stated.

**TOP 4 INDUSTRY AREAS FOR GOVERNMENT-FUNDED COMMENCEMENTS, JANUARY-JUNE 21**



## NOTES ON THE DATA

### Data source

The source of data in this report is DET's training activity Skills Victoria Training System (SVTS) database. This administrative data is reported to DET by government-funded training providers.

SVTS data included in this report may differ from previous publications as classifications are updated from time to time to improve data quality and consistency across years. In addition, changes to reporting and data standards may lead to minor revisions to data previously reported.

SVTS data presented in this report are not comparable to other publicly available data such as:

- National Centre for Vocational Education Research (NCVER) data — while NCVER data for Victoria is sourced from data submitted by the Victorian Department of Education and Training, due to statistical and counting rules there will be marginal differences between Departmental data and NCVER data. Additionally, NCVER data include training by all providers while SVTS data only cover providers that have a Victorian Training Contract.
- Budget Paper No. 3 (Chapter 2 – Department performance statements) — due to differences in counting rules, methodologies, and data definitions.

The measures used in this report are course commencements and course enrolments. Course commencements count the number of students who commence a course in a given year, as courses often take more than one year to complete. Total course enrolments include both new commencements and continuing enrolments. A student may be enrolled in more than one course at a training provider during a given reporting period.

### Free TAFE (Waiver) for Priority Course Initiative

This Report covers enrolments in the Free TAFE (Waiver) for Priority Courses Initiative.

Two new courses were added to the Free TAFE for Priority Courses List in January 2020 to support the government priority of further developing the early childhood education and development workforce

### Learn Local and Adult and Community Education (ACE)

This Report classifies providers as TAFE Network (which includes both TAFE Institutes and Dual Sector Universities), Adult and Community Education (ACE including Learn Local organisations) or Private. Only Learn Local organisations report training activity through to the Adult, Community and Further Education Board, while ACE RTOs are self-identified and are not required to do so. Some Learn Local organisations self-identify as Private RTOs and are classified as Private, and not included in the ACE category.

### Government priorities and industry classifications

Government priority areas are not mutually exclusive. Several courses service both the Family Violence and NDIS workforces, and some Apprenticeships courses support the Infrastructure development workforce.

Industry classifications included in this Report are defined as per the Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classifications (ANZSIC). Where a qualification is considered relevant across several industries, enrolments have been proportionally allocated across relevant ANZSIC industries using employment data as a guide.

### Regional analysis

Data on regional training is reported by the region in which the training was delivered (as distinct from the region where the student lives). Note a course can be delivered to a student across multiple regions. In these cases, the course commencement will be counted in each region in which it was delivered. Consequently, for data presented by delivery region, totals may not equal the sum of their components.

### Data scope

This report covers government-funded training activity only. Training activity for January to June 2021 is compared with the same period in 2020 and 2019 to provide a picture of changes and trends over time.