# VICTORIAN TRAINING MARKET SHAPSHOT 2017

The Victorian Government implemented Skills First on 1 January 2017. Skills First ensures Victoria’s training and TAFE sector is better managed to provide high-quality training that leads learners to real jobs. This snapshot provides information on the first year of the reforms.

## National Comparison

The number of students at TAFE and Dual Sector Universities grew by 8.1 per cent in Victoria. This compares to a nation-wide decline of 5.8 per cent. Victoria is leading the nation in TAFE network growth in student numbers, recording the highest growth of any jurisdiction between 2016 and 2017.

## Learner Cohorts

Enrolments by students in key cohorts increased by 3.4 per cent between 2016 and 2017 at TAFE network providers. TAFE Network providers have increased delivery to students in key cohorts. The ACE sector continues to lead in providing training to learners who face barriers to education.

## Jobs and Skills

Share of AQF enrolments in Government priority areas increased from 46 per cent in 2016 to 50 per cent in 2017. Training is more focused on jobs and skills. The TAFE Network is increasing activity in Government priority areas including the NDIS, Family Violence and Infrastructure workforces as well as apprenticeships and High-Value Traineeships.

## TAFE Network

The TAFE network share of enrolments increased from 35 per cent in 2016 to 41 per cent in 2017. TAFEs are central to the training system. As a result of Skills First reforms to strengthen the position of TAFEs, market share has increased for TAFE Network providers.

## Quality Training

77 of students who left training in 2017 were satisfied with their training, up 2 percentage points compared to the 2015 cohort. The Skills First suite of reforms are designed to deliver high quality training. Reflecting this focus, student satisfaction has increased.

# NATIONAL COMPARISONS

While training activity in Victoria has declined overall, Victoria is leading the nation in TAFE Network growth. The number of students at TAFE and Dual Sector University providers grew by 8.1 per cent in Victoria between 2016 and 2017, the highest recorded rate of any jurisdiction.

This is a positive result and demonstrates the impact that Skills First is having in strengthening the position of TAFEs.

Around 314,600 students undertook government-funded VET training in Victoria in 2017, the second-highest number of any jurisdiction.

In 2017, 7.3 per cent of working age Victorians participated in government funded VET. This is comparable with the national participation rate.

Data from the Census shows that attainment of non-school qualifications is increasing in Victoria. The proportion of Victorians aged 15 or above with a Certificate level qualification grew from 15.3 per cent in 2006, to 16.4 per cent in 2011 and 16.9 per cent in 2016.

## Chart 1 Change in government-funded students at TAFE institutes, Dual Sector and other government providers (2016 to 2017)

Victoria had an 8.1 per cent increase in government-funded students at TAFE institutes, Dual Sector and other government providers between 2016 and 2017.

New South Wales had an 11.6 per cent decrease in government-funded students at TAFE institutes, Dual Sector and other government providers between 2016 and 2017.

Queensland had a 3.8 per cent decrease in government-funded students TAFE institutes, Dual Sector and other government providers between 2016 and 2017.

South Australia had a 15.8 per cent decrease in government-funded students at TAFE institutes, Dual Sector and other government providers between 2016 and 2017.

West Australia had a 3.7 per cent decrease in government-funded students at TAFE institutes, Dual Sector and other government providers between 2016 and 2017.

Tasmania had a 6 per cent decrease in government-funded students at TAFE institutes, Dual Sector and other government providers between 2016 and 2017.

Northern Territory had a 13.1 per cent decrease in government-funded students at TAFE institutes, Dual Sector and other government providers between 2016 and 2017.

Australian Capital Territory had a 4.6 per cent increase in government-funded students at TAFE institutes, Dual Sector and other government providers between 2016 and 2017.

Nationally, Australia had a 5.8 percent decrease in government-funded students at TAFE institutes, Dual Sector and other government providers between 2016 and 2017.

Source: NCVER VOCSTATS, government-funded students and courses, VET Students.

## Table 1 Students by state or territory and provider type, 2017

In 2017, Victoria had 112747 students at TAFE providers, 32162 students at Dual Sector Universities, 0 students at Other Government providers, 42389 students at ACE providers, 127327 students at Other providers, and a total of 314628 students.

In 2017, New South Wales had 261275 students at TAFE providers, 0 students at Dual Sector Universities, 2615 students at Other Government providers, 18607 students at ACE providers, 140626 students at Other providers, and a total of 423114 students.

In 2017, Queensland had 55424 students at TAFE providers, 4462 students at Dual Sector Universities, 0 students at Other Government providers, 4186 students at ACE providers, 148229 students at Other providers, and a total of 212312 students.

In 2017, South Australia had 38096 students at TAFE providers, 0 students at Dual Sector Universities, 0 students at Other Government providers, 2269 students at ACE providers, 22561 students at Other providers, and a total of 62930 students.

In 2017, Western Australia had 71852 students at TAFE providers, 344 students at Dual Sector Universities, 5337 students at Other Government providers, 724 students at ACE providers, 33257 students at Other providers, and a total of 111514 students.

In 2017, Tasmania had 14590 students at TAFE providers, 0 students at Dual Sector Universities, 0 students at Other Government providers, 0 students at ACE providers, 13082 students at Other providers, and a total of 27677 students.

In 2017, the Northern Territory had 1914 students at TAFE providers, 9884 students at Dual Sector Universities, 0 students at Other Government providers, 0 students at ACE providers, 9580 students at Other providers, and a total of 21390 students.

In 2017, the Australian Capital Territory had 11382 students at TAFE providers, 0 students at Dual Sector Universities, 0 students at Other Government providers, 0 students at ACE providers, 5488 students at Other providers, and a total of 16869 students.

Australia had 567289 students in TAFE providers, 46864 students at Dual Sector Universities, 7953 students at Other Government providers, 68174 students at ACE providers, 500160 students at Other providers, and a total of 1190430 students.

Source: NVCER VOCSTATS, Government-funded students and courses, VET Students.

## Table 2 Estimated participation rate of people aged 15-64 in VET, by state or territory

The participation rate of people aged 15-64 in government-funded VET in Victoria in 2015 was 9.4 per cent, in 2016 was 8 per cent, in 2017 was 7.3 per cent, and the change between 2016 and 2017 was -0.7 percentage points.

The participation rate of people aged 15-64 in government-funded VET in New South Wales in 2015 was 6.4 per cent, in 2016 was 8.8 per cent, in 2017 was 8.1 per cent, and the change between 2016 and 2017 was -0.7 percentage points.

The participation rate of people aged 15-64 in government-funded VET in Queensland in 2015 was 7 per cent, in 2016 was 6.7 per cent, in 2017 was 6.6 per cent, and the change between 2016 and 2017 was -0.2 percentage points.

The participation rate of people aged 15-64 in government-funded VET in South Australia in 2015 was 7.6 per cent, in 2016 was 6.3 per cent, in 2017 was 5.6 per cent, and the change between 2016 and 2017 was -0.7 percentage points.

The participation rate of people aged 15-64 in government-funded VET in Western Australia in 2015 was 7.4 per cent, in 2016 was 6.9 per cent, in 2017 was 6.4 per cent, and the change between 2016 and 2017 was -0.4 percentage points.

The participation rate of people aged 15-64 in government-funded VET in Tasmania in 2015 was 8.6 per cent, in 2016 was 8.7 per cent, in 2017 was 8.4 per cent, and the change between 2016 and 2017 was -0.3 percentage points.

The participation rate of people aged 15-64 in government-funded VET in the Northern Territory in 2015 was 12.1 per cent, in 2016 was 12.4 per cent, in 2017 was 11.9 per cent, and the change between 2016 and 2017 was -0.5 percentage points.

The participation rate of people aged 15-64 in government-funded VET in the Australian Capital Territory in 2015 was 6 per cent, in 2016 was 5.7 per cent, in 2017 was 6 per cent, and the change between 2016 and 2017 was -0.3 percentage points.

The participation rate of people aged 15-64 in government-funded VET in Australia in 2015 was 7.6 per cent, in 2016 was 7.8 per cent, in 2017 was 7.2 per cent, and the change between 2016 and 2017 was -0.5 percentage points.

Sources: Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS), Australian Demographic Statistics, June 2017, table 59, cat.no.3101.0. NCVER VOCSTATS Government-funded students and courses. PP = percentage point change, the mathematical difference between 2017 and 2016 estimates.

# HIGHER QUALITY VET SYSTEM

Training activity in Victoria has declined annually since the historically high peak in 2012. This reflects subsidy changes, previous policies designed to manage expenditure through eligibility, as well as the effects of the Government’s response to the 2015 Quality Review and the 2017 Skills First reforms.

These two recent reforms are explicitly designed to shift the focus of government support from high-volume toward high-quality training that leads to real jobs for students and provides the skills industry needs.

Market share is shifting towards TAFE Network and Community providers. The Skills First reforms recognise a distinct role for the TAFE Network in providing quality training that meets the needs of industry, students and communities.

In addition, from 1 January 2019, Free TAFE for Priority Courses is reducing the financial barrier for students wanting to train in courses that lead to jobs in demand from Victorian employers.

Student satisfaction with training has increased. Over three quarters of VET students (77 per cent) who left training in 2017 were satisfied with their training, up 2 percentage points compared to the 2015 cohort. Employer satisfaction with training has also improved slightly.

## Table 3 Numbers of students, enrolments, commencements and providers by provider type

In 2015, the number of students at TAFEs was 91204, in 2016 was 90226, in 2017 was 95808 and the percentage change between 2016 and 2017 was 6 per cent.

In 2015, the number of students at Dual Sector Universities was 27704, in 2016 was 28255, in 2017 was 30099 and the percentage change between 2016 and 2017 was 7 per cent.

In 2015, the number of students at ACE providers was 48344, in 2016 was 44681, in 2017 was 46624 and the percentage change between 2016 and 2017 was 4 per cent.

In 2015, the number of students at Private providers was 210579, in 2016 was 157928, in 2017 was 119739 and the percentage change between 2016 and 2017 was -24 per cent.

In 2015, the number of students at all providers was 377831, in 2016 was 321090, in 2017 was 292270 and the percentage change between 2016 and 2017 was -9 per cent.

In 2015, the number of enrolments at TAFEs was 108024, in 2016 was 104013, in 2017 was 109005 and the percentage change between 2016 and 2017 was 5 per cent.

In 2015, the number of enrolments at Dual Sector Universities was 31056, in 2016 was 30897, in 2017 was 32637 and the percentage change between 2016 and 2017 was 6 per cent.

In 2015, the number of enrolments at ACE providers was 70623, in 2016 was 64728, in 2017 was 70544 and the percentage change between 2016 and 2017 was 9 per cent.

In 2015, the number of enrolments at Private providers was 253666, in 2016 was 183768, in 2017 was 134217 and the percentage change between 2016 and 2017 was -27 per cent.

In 2015, the number of enrolments at all providers was 463369, in 2016 was 383406, in 2017 was 346403 and the percentage change between 2016 and 2017 was -1 per cent.

In 2015, the number of commencements at TAFEs was 69155, in 2016 was 67392, in 2017 was 67991 and the percentage change between 2016 and 2017 was 1 per cent.

In 2015, the number of commencements at Dual Sector Universities was 20148, in 2016 was 20398, in 2017 was 21522 and the percentage change between 2016 and 2017 was 6 per cent.

In 2015, the number of commencements at ACE providers was 64121, in 2016 was 58272, in 2017 was 64675 and the percentage change between 2016 and 2017 was 11 per cent.

In 2015, the number of commencements at Private providers was 158024, in 2016 was 101894, in 2017 was 67396 and the percentage change between 2016 and 2017 was -34 per cent

In 2015, the number of commencements at all providers was 311448, in 2016 was 247956, in 2017 was 221584 and the percentage change between 2016 and 2017 was -11 per cent

In 2015, the number of providers at TAFEs was 13, in 2016 was 12, in 2017 was 12 and the percentage change between 2016 and 2017 was 0 per cent.

In 2015, the number of providers at Dual Sector Universities was 4, in 2016 was 4, in 2017 was 4 and the percentage change between 2016 and 2017 was 0 per cent.

In 2015, the number of providers at ACE providers was 275, in 2016 was 266, in 2017 was 259 and the percentage change between 2016 and 2017 was -3 per cent.

In 2015, the number of providers at Private providers was 376, in 2016 was 354, in 2017 was 322 and the percentage change between 2016 and 2017 was -9 per cent.

In 2015, the number of providers at all providers was 668, in 2016 was 636, in 2017 was 597 and the percentage change between 2016 and 2017 was -6 per cent.

## Chart 2 Market share of enrolments by provider type

In 2016, 35 per cent of enrolments were at TAFE network providers, 17 per cent of enrolments were at ACE providers, and 48 per cent of enrolments were at Private providers.

In 2017, 41 per cent of enrolments were at TAFE network providers, 20 per cent of enrolments were at ACE providers, and 39 per cent of enrolments were at Private providers.

Source: DET training market data

## Chart 3 Market share of commencements by provider type

In 2016, 35 per cent of commencements were at TAFE network providers, 24 per cent were at ACE providers, and 41 per cent were at Private providers.

In 2017, 40 per cent of commencements were at TAFE network providers, 29 per cent were at ACE providers and 30 per cent were at Private providers.

Source: DET training market data

## Table 4 Student and employer satisfaction

The share of students who achieved their main reason for training in 2015 was 67.2 per cent, in 2016 was 72.7 per cent, and in 2017 was 73.2 per cent. The change between 2016 and 2017 was 0.5 percentage points.

The share of students who gained improved employment status after training in 2015 was 44.50per cent, in 2016 was 42.40 per cent, and in 2017 was 46.20 per cent. The change between 2016 and 2017 was 3.8 percentage points.

The share of students who are satisfied with their training in 2015 was 75 per cent, in 2016 was 76.5 per cent, and in 2017 was 77 per cent. The change between 2016 and 2017 was 0.5 percentage points.

The share of employers who are satisfied with their staff’s training in 2015 was 76.5 per cent, in 2016 was 76.8 per cent, and in 2017 was 77.6 per cent. The change between 2016 and 2017 was 0.8 percentage points.

Source: DET student and employer survey. Year represents the year students left training. PP = percentage point change, the mathematical difference between 2017 and 2016 results.

# TRAINING FOR REAL JOBS

The Skills First reforms focus on quality training that leads to jobs and supports industry strategies designed to strengthen apprenticeships and high value traineeships.

TAFE Network providers have increased their delivery in identified Government priority areas - training to support the NDIS, Family Violence and Infrastructure workforces as well as apprenticeship and High-Value Traineeships.

VET enrolments reflect industry employment patterns – with top employing industries also responsible for high shares of enrolments.

For example, the top industry for VET enrolments, Health Care and Social Assistance, also has the highest share of employment by VET-educated people.

The top five industry areas represented 48 per cent of industry-aligned enrolments in 2017, 49 per cent of which were delivered by TAFE Network providers.

Enrolments by apprentices have increased, further reflecting the focus on training that leads to jobs.

Traineeship enrolments significantly decreased at private providers, leading to an overall Victorian decrease.

However, TAFEs have increased traineeship enrolments considerably; and this is reflected in the TAFE market share increasing from 19 per cent to 27 per cent between 2016 and 2017.

The top five industries for apprenticeship enrolments accounted for 96 per cent of overall apprenticeship enrolments, with significant increases in the Construction industry reflecting the Government’s commitment to Victoria’s Infrastructure workforce.

## Table 5 Enrolments in government priority areas by provider type

The number of enrolments in the Government priority area of NDIS for TAFEs in 2015 was 8682, in 2016 was 8029, in 2017 was 8738. The change in enrolments in the Government priority area of NDIS for TAFE was 9 per cent between 2016 and 2017.

The number of enrolments in the Government priority area of NDIS for Dual Sector Universities in 2015 was 2311, in 2016 was 2509, in 2017 was 2933. The change in enrolments in the Government priority area of NDIS for Dual Sector Universities was 17 per cent between 2016 and 2017.

The number of enrolments in the Government priority area of NDIS for ACE providers in 2015 was 6118, in 2016 was 4520, in 2017 was 4063. The change in enrolments in the Government priority area of NDIS for ACE providers was -1 per cent between 2016 and 2017.

The number of enrolments in the Government priority area of NDIS for private providers in 2015 was 27303, in 2016 was 19583, in 2017 was 14092. The change in enrolments in the Government priority area of NDIS for Private providers was -28 per cent between 2016 and 2017.

The number of enrolments in the Government priority area of NDIS for all providers in 2015 was 44414, in 2016 was 34641, in 2017 was 29826. The change in enrolments in the Government priority area of NDIS for all providers was -14 per cent between 2016 and 2017.

The number of enrolments in the Government priority area of Family Violence for TAFE in 2015 was 14705, in 2016 was 13926, in 2017 was 15901. The change in enrolments in the Government priority area of Family Violence for TAFE was 14 per cent between 2016 and 2017.

The number of enrolments in the Government priority area of Family Violence for Dual Sector Universities in 2015 was 5038, in 2016 was 5262, in 2017 was 5785. The change in enrolments in the Government priority area of Family Violence for Dual Sector Universities was 1 per cent between 2016 and 2017.

The number of enrolments in the Government priority area of Family Violence for ACE providers in 2015 was 10087, in 2016 was 7994, in 2017 was 7459. The change in enrolments in the Government priority area of Family Violence for ACE was -7 per cent between 2016 and 2017.

The number of enrolments in the Government priority area of Family Violence for private providers in 2015 was 55283, in 2016 was 47381, in 2017 was 39690. The change in enrolments in the Government priority area of Family Violence for Private was -16 per cent between 2016 and 2017.

The number of enrolments in the Government priority area of Family Violence for all providers in 2015 was 85113, in 2016 was 74563, in 2017 was 68835. The change in enrolments in the Government priority area of Family Violence for all providers was -8 per cent between 2016 and 2017.

The number of enrolments in the Government priority area of Infrastructure for TAFE in 2015 was 23654, in 2016 was 22279, in 2017 was 22414. The change in enrolments in the Government priority area of Infrastructure for TAFE was 1 per cent between 2016 and 2017.

The number of enrolments in the Government priority area of Infrastructure for Dual Sector Universities in 2015 was 7571, in 2016 was 7848, in 2017 was 8384. The change in enrolments in the Government priority area of Infrastructure for Dual Sector Universities was 7 per cent between 2016 and 2017.

The number of enrolments in the Government priority area of Infrastructure for ACE providers in 2015 was 0, in 2016 was 0, in 2017 was 0. The change in enrolments in the Government priority area of Infrastructure for ACE was 0 per cent between 2016 and 2017.

The number of enrolments in the Government priority area of Infrastructure for private providers in 2015 was 23419, in 2016 was 23313, in 2017 was 18331 . The change in enrolments in the Government priority area of Infrastructure for Private providers was -21 per cent between 2016 and 2017.

The number of enrolments in the Government priority area of Infrastructure for all providers in 2015 was 54644, in 2016 was 53440, in 2017 was 49129. The change in enrolments in the Government priority area of Infrastructure for all providers was -8 per cent between 2016 and 2017.

The number of enrolments in the Government priority area of High-Value Traineeships for TAFE in 2015 was 1233, in 2016 was 1520, in 2017 was 2151. The change in enrolments in the Government priority area of High-Value Traineeships for TAFE was 42 per cent between 2016 and 2017.

The number of enrolments in the Government priority area of High-Value Traineeships for Dual Sector Universities in 2015 was 25, in 2016 was 25, in 2017 was 38. The change in enrolments in the Government priority area of High-Value Traineeships for Dual Sector Universities was 52 per cent between 2016 and 2017.

The number of enrolments in the Government priority area of High-Value Traineeships for ACE providers in 2015 was 691, in 2016 was 609, in 2017 was 575. The change in enrolments in the Government priority area of High-Value Traineeships for ACE was -6 per cent between 2016 and 2017.

The number of enrolments in the Government priority area of High-Value Traineeships for private providers in 2015 was 6933, in 2016 was 6452, in 2017 was 5619. The change in enrolments in the Government priority area of High-Value Traineeships for Private was -13 per cent between 2016 and 2017.

The number of enrolments in the Government priority area of High-Value Traineeships for all providers in 2015 was 8882, in 2016 was 8606, in 2017 was 8383. The change in enrolments in the Government priority area of High-Value Traineeships for all providers was -3 per cent between 2016 and 2017.

Source: DET Training market data. The priority areas are not mutually exclusive. NDIS, Family Violence and High-Value Traineeship courses are defined in the 2017 Funded Courses List, Infrastructure courses as in the Jobs and Training Needs Reports. Equivalent superseded courses are also included.

## Table 6 Apprentices and Trainees, enrolments by provider type

The number of apprenticeship enrolments at TAFEs in 2015 was 25183, in 2016 was 24032, and in 2017 was 26767. The change in the number of apprenticeship enrolments at TAFE was 11 per cent between 2016 and 2017.

The number of apprenticeship enrolments at Dual Sector Universities in 2015 was 6363, in 2016 was 6562, and in 2017 was 6955. The change in the number of apprenticeship enrolments at Dual Sector Universities was 6 per cent between 2016 and 2017.

The number of apprenticeship enrolments at ACE providers in 2015 was 80, in 2016 was 81, and in 2017 was 98. The change in the number of apprenticeship enrolments at ACE providers was 21 per cent between 2016 and 2017.

The number of apprenticeship enrolments at Private providers in 2015 was 11315, in 2016 was 12144, and in 2017 was 12382. The change in the number of apprenticeship enrolments at Private providers was 2 per cent between 2016 and 2017.

The number of apprenticeship enrolments at all providers in 2015 was 42941, in 2016 was 42819, and in 2017 was 46202. The change in the number of apprenticeship enrolments at all providers was 8 per cent between 2016 and 2017.

The number of traineeship enrolments at TAFEs in 2015 was 4258, in 2016 was 4312, and in 2017 was 5366. The change in the number of traineeship enrolments at TAFE was 24 per cent between 2016 and 2017.

The number of traineeship enrolments at Dual Sector Universities in 2015 was 522, in 2016 was 433, and in 2017 was 424. The change in the number of traineeship enrolments at Dual Sector Universities was -2 per cent between 2016 and 2017.

The number of traineeship enrolments at ACE providers in 2015 was 1336, in 2016 was 1242, and in 2017 was 1276. The change in the number of traineeship enrolments at ACE providers was 3 per cent between 2016 and 2017.

The number of traineeship enrolments at Private providers in 2015 was 19798, in 2016 was 16511, and in 2017 was 12843. The change in the number of traineeship enrolments at Private providers was -22 per cent between 2016 and 2017.

The number of traineeship enrolments at all providers in 2015 was 25914, in 2016 was 22498, and in 2017 was 19909. The change in the number of traineeship enrolments at all providers was -12 per cent between 2016 and 2017.

Source: DET training market data.

## Table 7 Top 5 industries for apprentice enrolments

The number of apprentice enrolments for Construction in 2015 was 23137, in 2016 was 24598, and in 2017 was 27222. The number of apprentice enrolments in Construction changed by 11 per cent between 2016 and 2017.

The number of apprentice enrolments for Other Services in 2015 was 7641, in 2016 was 7273, and in 2017 was 8011. The number of apprentice enrolments in Other Services changed by 1 per cent between 2016 and 2017.

The number of apprentice enrolments for Manufacturing in 2015 was 4554, in 2016 was 4215, and in 2017 was 4252. The number of apprentice enrolments in Manufacturing changed by 1 per cent between 2016 and 2017.

The number of apprentice enrolments for Accommodation and Food Services in 2015 was 3343, in 2016 was 3056, and in 2017 was 2918. The number of apprentice enrolments in Accommodation and Food Services changed by -5 per cent between 2016 and 2017.

The number of apprentice enrolments for Retail Trade in 2015 was 2025, in 2016 was 1752, and in 2017 was 1960. The number of apprentice enrolments in Retail Trade changed by 12 per cent between 2016 and 2017.

Source: DET training market data

## Table 8 Enrolments by broad industry area – Top 5

The number of enrolments related to the Health Care and Social Assistance industry in 2015 was 88327, in 2016 was 76788, in 2017 was 68016. For Health Care and Social Assistance, the 2017 share of industry relevant enrolments was 2.6 per cent and the 2016 VET employment share was 14 per cent.

The number of enrolments related to the Construction industry in 2015 was 60278, in 2016 was 57471, in 2017 was 52963. For Construction, the 2017 share of industry relevant enrolments was 2 per cent and the 2016 VET employment share was 1.5 per cent.

The number of enrolments related to the Other Services\* industry in 2015 was 21744, in 2016 was 19501, in 2017 was 17299. For Other Services\*, the 2017 share of industry relevant enrolments was 7 per cent and the 2016 VET employment share was 6 per cent.

The number of enrolments related to the Manufacturing industry in 2015 was 28348, in 2016 was 21273, and in 2017 was 16478. For Manufacturing, the 2017 share of industry relevant enrolments was 6 per cent and the 2016 VET employment share was 9 per cent.

The number of enrolments related to the Professional, Scientific and Technical Services industry in 2015 was 16629, in 2016 was 13723, and in 2017 was 12437. For Professional, Scientific and Technical Services, the 2017 share of industry relevant enrolments was 5 per cent and the 2016 VET employment share was 5 per cent.

Source: DET Training market data, ABS Census of Population and Housing. Training data includes Certificate II and above qualifications only, and excludes non-industry aligned qualifications. ABS Census data includes people with a highest prior qualification at the Certificate, Diploma or Advanced Diploma level. \*The Other Services industry includes a broad range of personal services; religious, civic, professional and other interest group services; selected repair and maintenance activities; and private households employing staff.

# EQUITABLE ACCESS

Skills First aims to ensure that all Victorians have access to high quality training, regardless of their age, background or postcode. For some cohorts such as unskilled unemployed people, participation in education and training can offer proportionally greater benefits.

At TAFE Network providers, enrolments increased for three of five key cohorts. For example, enrolments by people (aged 20 to 64) without a prior qualification at the Certificate III or above level increased by 5 per cent. The overall number of enrolments by students in at least one of the key cohorts increased by 3.4 per cent between 2016 and 2017 at TAFE Network providers.

However, across the VET market more broadly, enrolments by students in key cohorts declined, with only one of the cohorts (Indigenous people) increasing.

Enrolments in foundation training – training that is designed to assist learners facing barriers to participation and/or achievement – declined slightly, driven by a reduction in enrolments with private providers. However, foundation training at TAFE Network providers grew significantly.

The ACE sector continues to lead in providing training to learners who face barriers to education. In 2017, ACE providers were responsible for 39 per cent of foundation training enrolments, and foundation training grew 5 per cent at ACE providers between 2016 and 2017.

The market-wide decline in training was observed across age groups. At TAFE Network providers, enrolments by both men and women increased, with the increase being greater for women.

## Table 9 Key cohorts, 2017

The number of enrolments by people with a disability in 2017 was 41847, making up a total of 12 per cent of enrolments across all providers. This is a -8 percent change between 2016 and 2017. 30 per cent of enrolments by people with a disability were at a TAFE Network provider. Enrolments by people with a disability at TAFE Network providers changed by -2 per cent between 2016 and 2017.

The number of enrolments by Indigenous people in 2017 was 6127, making up a total of 2 per cent of enrolments across all providers. This is a 1 percent change between 2016 and 2017. 42 per cent of enrolments by Indigenous people were at TAFE Network provider. Enrolments by Indigenous people at TAFE Network providers changed by 7 per cent between 2016 and 2017.

The number of enrolments by people with no prior Certificate III (20-64) in 2017 was 179502, making up a total of 52per cent of enrolments across all providers. This is a -11 per cent change between 2016 and 2017. 37 per cent of enrolments by people with a disability were at a TAFE Network provider. Enrolments by people with no prior Certificate III (aged 20-64) at TAFE Network providers changed by 5 per cent between 2016 and 2017.

The number of enrolments by early school leavers (aged 15 to 19) in 2017 was 23,753, making up a total of 7per cent of enrolments across all providers. This is a -11per cent percent change between 2016 and 2017. 62 per cent of enrolments by early school leavers (aged 15 to 19) were at TAFE Network providers. Enrolments by early school leavers (aged 15 to 19) changed by -2 per cent between 2016 and 2017.

The number of enrolments by unemployed people in 2017 was 93,469, making up a total of 27per cent of enrolments across all providers. This is a -13 percent change between 2016 and 2017. 28 per cent of enrolments by unemployed people were at TAFE Network providers. Enrolments by unemployed people changed by 3 per cent between 2016 and 2017.

Source: DET training market data. The cohorts are not mutually exclusive.

## Table 10 Foundation enrolments by provider type

The number of foundation enrolments at TAFEs in 2015 was 10735, in 2016 was 9508, and in 2017 was 10768. The percentage change between 2016 and 2017 was 13 per cent.

The number of foundation enrolments at Dual Sector Universities in 2015 was 3008, in 2016 was 2609, and in 2017 was 3015. The percentage change between 2016 and 2017 was 16 per cent.

The number of foundation enrolments in ACE in 2015 was 12048, in 2016 was 11210, and in 2017 was 11733. The percentage change between 2016 and 2017 was 5 per cent.

The number of foundation enrolments in Private in 2015 was 16098, in 2016 was 7842, and in 2017 was 4882. The percentage change between 2016 and 2017 was -38 per cent.

The number of foundation enrolments in all providers in 2015 was 41889, in 2016 was 31169, and in 2017 was 30398. The percentage change between 2016 and 2017 was -2 per cent.

Source: DET Training market data.

## Table 11 Enrolments by gender and age group (working age people)

Enrolments by women aged 15-19 for 2015 were 36981, in 2016 were 29485, in 2017 were 26048 and the percentage change between 2016 and 2017 was -12 per cent. TAFE Network enrolments by women aged 15-19 for 2015 were 14925, in 2016 were 13592, in 2017 were 13289 and the percentage change between 2016 and 2017 was -2 per cent.

Enrolments by women aged 20-24 for 2015 were 38736, in 2016 were 32006, in 2017 were 29345 and the percentage change between 2016 and 2017 was -8 per cent. TAFE Network enrolments by women aged 20-24 for 2015 were 12859, in 2016 were 12971, in 2017 were 13572 and the percentage change between 2016 and 2017 was 5 per cent.

Enrolments by women aged 25-44 for 2015 were 82374, in 2016 were 71346, in 2017 were 69008 and the percentage change between 2016 and 2017 was -3 per cent. TAFE Network enrolments by women aged 25-44 for 2015 were 16800, in 2016 were 17814, in 2017 were 20497 and the percentage change between 2016 and 2017 was 15 per cent

Enrolments by women aged 45-64 for 2015 were 52999, in 2016 were 45004, in 2017 were 42604 and the percentage change between 2016 and 2017 was -5 per cent. TAFE Network enrolments by women aged 45-64 for 2015 were 7456, in 2016 were 8007, and in 2017 were 8787 and the percentage change between 2016 and 2017 was 10 per cent.

Total enrolments by working age women for 2015 were 211090, in 2016 were 177841, in 2017 were 167005 and the percentage change between 2016 and 2017 was -6 per cent. TAFE Network enrolments for working age women for 2015 were 52040, in 2016 were 52384, in 2017 were 56145 and the percentage change between 2016 and 2017 was 7 per cent.

Enrolments by men aged 15-19 for 2015 were 49398, in 2016 were 41651, in 2017 were 37105 and the percentage change between 2016 and 2017 was -11 per cent. TAFE Network enrolments by men aged 15-19 for 2015 were 26784, in 2016 were 24349, in 2017 were 23811 and the percentage change between 2016 and 2017 was -2 per cent.

Enrolments by men aged 20-24 for 2015 were 56634, in 2016 were 48322, in 2017 were 44459 and the percentage change between 2016 and 2017 was -8 per cent. TAFE Network enrolments by men aged 20-24 for 2015 were 27794, in 2016 were 26575, in 2017 were 27606 and the percentage change between 2016 and 2017 was 4 per cent.

Enrolments by men aged 25-44 for 2015 were 88620, in 2016 were 71056, in 2017 were 59733 and the percentage change between 2016 and 2017 was -16 per cent. TAFE Network enrolments by mend aged 25-44 for 26784 were 24351, in 24349 were 23773, in 23811 were 25699 and the percentage change between 2016 and 2017 was 8 per cent.

Enrolments by men aged 45-64 for 2015 were 41832, in 2016 were 32968, in 2017 were 27394 and the percentage change between 2016 and 2017 was -17 per cent. TAFE Network enrolments by men aged 45-64 for 2015 were 7414, in 2016 were 7024, and in 2017 were 7440 and the percentage change between 2016 and 2017 was 6 per cent.

Total enrolments by working age men for 2015 were 236484, in 2016 were 193997, in 2017 were 168691 and the percentage change between 2016 and 2017 was 13 per cent. TAFE Network enrolments by working age men for 2015 were 86343, in 2016 were 81721, in 2017 were 84556 and the percentage change between 2016 and 2017 was 3 per cent.

Total enrolments by people aged 15-19 for 2015 were 86425, in 2016 were 71179, in 2017 were 63217 and the percentage change between 2016 and 2017 was -11 per cent. Total TAFE Network enrolments by people aged 15-19 for 2015 were 41717, in 2016 were 37948, in 2017 were 37143 and the percentage change between 2016 and 2017 was -2 per cent.

Total enrolments by people aged 20-24 for 2015 were 95419, in 2016 were 80368, in 2017 were 73891 and the percentage change between 2016 and 2017 was -8 per cent. Total TAFE Network enrolments by people aged 20-24 for 2015 were 40661, in 2016 were 39557, in 2017 were 41230 and the percentage change between 2016 and 2017 was 4 per cent.

Total enrolments by people aged 25-44 for 2015 were 171581, in 2016 was 142888, in 2017 were 129118 and the percentage change between 2016 and 2017 was -10 per cent. Total TAFE Network enrolments by people aged 25-44 for 2015 were 41153, in 2016 were 41632, in 2017 were 46279 and the percentage change between 2016 and 2017 was 11 per cent.

Total enrolments by people aged 45-64 for 2015 were 95460, in 2016 was 78375, in 2017 were 70285 and the percentage change between 2016 and 2017 was 10 per cent. Total TAFE Network enrolments by people aged 45-64 for 2015 were 14873, in 2016 were 15045, in 2017 were 16245 and the percentage change between 2016 and 2017 was 8 per cent.

Total enrolments by people of working age for 2015 were 448885, in 2016 was 372810, in 2017 were 336511 and the percentage change between 2016 and 2017 was -10 per cent. Total TAFE Network enrolments by working age people for 2015 were 138404, in 2016 were 134182, in 2017 were 140897 and the percentage change between 2016 and 2017 was 5 per cent.

Source: DET Training market data. Note: Sums and totals do not match, as ‘all’ includes indeterminate/intersex/unspecified and unknown.

# TRAINING IN VICTORIA’S REGIONS

Skills First reforms implemented on 1 January 2017 involved a planned shift away from low-quality and low-value training, to higher quality and more targeted training aligned to workforce demands. This, combined with a ‘quality blitz’ leading to government funding contracts with fewer but higher quality training providers, has resulted in a smaller training and TAFE sector.

The decline in Government-funded VET activity has been more pronounced in regional Victoria than in metropolitan Melbourne. In both cases this has been driven by fewer enrolments with private providers, while TAFE Network providers performed more strongly.

To ensure the training needs of regional Victorians are being met, the Regional and Specialist Training Fund (RSTF) was implemented in 2017. The RSTF provides funding where there is a strong connection between industry, training and jobs outcomes, even in small cohorts, to provide regions and industries with access to a skilled workforce. Contracted training providers can apply to deliverer courses through the RSTF at a higher subsidised rate to cover the additional costs associated with running smaller classes and in locations that carry higher staffing and resource costs.

## Table 12 Regional breakdown, providers, students and enrolments, 2017

In Barwon South West, there were 5 TAFE providers, with 10125 students and 10948 enrolments in 2017, enrolments changed by -3 per cent between 2016 and 2017.

In Barwon South West, there were 0 Dual Sector Universities, with 0 students and 0 enrolments, enrolments changed by 0 per cent between 2016 and 2017.

In Barwon South West, there were 24 ACE providers, with 4392 students and 5695 enrolments, enrolments changed by -6 per cent between 2016 and 2017.

In Barwon South West, there were 98 Private providers, with 7128 students and 7913 enrolments, enrolments changed by -37 per cent between 2016 and 2017.

In Barwon South West, there were 127 total providers, with 21645 students and 24556 enrolments, enrolments changed by -18 per cent between 2016 and 2017.

In Grampians, there were 3 TAFE providers, with 386 students and 414 enrolments, enrolments changed by 49 per cent between 2016 and 2017.

In Grampians, there was 1 Dual Sector Universities, with 3169 students and 3472 enrolments, enrolments changed by 9 per cent between 2016 and 2017.

In Grampians, there were 28 ACE providers, with 2008 students and 2820 enrolments, enrolments changed by -3 per cent between 2016 and 2017.

In Grampians, there were 81 Private providers, with 4866 students and 5308 enrolments, enrolments changed by -18 per cent between 2016 and 2017.

In Grampians, there were 113 total providers, with 10429 students and 12014 enrolments, enrolments changed by -6 per cent between 2016 and 2017.

In Loddon Mallee, there were 7 TAFE providers, with 6321 students and 7115 enrolments, enrolments changed by 7 per cent between 2016 and 2017.

In Loddon Mallee, there were 0 Dual Sector Universities, with 0 students and 0 enrolments, enrolments changed by 0 per cent between 2016 and 2017.

In Loddon Mallee, there were 34 ACE providers, with 2808 students and 3987 enrolments, enrolments changed by -9 per cent between 2016 and 2017.

In Loddon Mallee, there were 94 Private providers, with 7832 students and 8463 enrolments, enrolments changed by -22 per cent between 2016 and 2017.

In Loddon Mallee, there were 135 total providers, with 16961 students and 19565 enrolments, enrolments changed by -10 per cent between 2016 and 2017.

In Hume, there were 6 TAFE providers, with 9167 students and 10228 enrolments, enrolments changed by -9 per cent between 2016 and 2017.

In Hume, there were 0 Dual Sector Universities, with 0 students and 0 enrolments, enrolments changed by 0 per cent between 2016 and 2017.

In Hume, there were 31 ACE providers, with 1888 students and 2791 enrolments, enrolments changed by 0.3 per cent between 2016 and 2017.

In Hume, there were 90 Private providers, with 4163 students and 4471 enrolments, enrolments changed by -25 per cent between 2016 and 2017.

In Hume, there were 127 total providers, with 15218 students and 17490 enrolments, enrolments changed by -12 per cent between 2016 and 2017.

In Gippsland, there were 7 TAFE providers, with 5068 students and 5587 enrolments, enrolments changed by -1 per cent between 2016 and 2017.

In Gippsland, there were 0 Dual Sector Universities, with 0 students and 0 enrolments, enrolments changed by 0 per cent between 2016 and 2017.

In Gippsland, there were 24 ACE providers, with 1910 students and 2987 enrolments, enrolments changed by 23 per cent between 2016 and 2017.

In Gippsland, there were 75 Private providers, with 2828 students and 3257 enrolments, enrolments changed by -25 per cent between 2016 and 2017.

In Gippsland, there were 106 total providers, with 9806 students and 11831 enrolments, enrolments changed by -5 per cent between 2016 and 2017.

In Regional Victoria, there were 9 TAFE providers, with 30963 students and 34195 enrolments, enrolments changed by -2 per cent between 2016 and 2017.

In Regional Victoria, there was 1 Dual Sector Universities, with 3169 students and 3472 enrolments, enrolments changed by 9 per cent between 2016 and 2017.

In Regional Victoria, there were 119 ACE providers, with 13005 students and 18279 enrolments, enrolments changed by -1 per cent between 2016 and 2017.

In Regional Victoria, there were 171 Private providers, with 26757 students and 29384 enrolments, enrolments changed by -27 per cent between 2016 and 2017.

In Regional Victoria, there were 300 total providers, with 73894 students and 85330 enrolments, enrolments changed by -12 per cent between 2016 and 2017.

In Metropolitan Melbourne, there were 11 TAFE providers, with 65041 students and 74979 enrolments, enrolments changed by 8 per cent between 2016 and 2017.

In Metropolitan Melbourne, there were 3 Dual Sector Universities, with 26599 students and 28820 enrolments, enrolments changed by 8 per cent between 2016 and 2017.

In Metropolitan Melbourne, there were 158 ACE providers, with 33666 students and 52276 enrolments, enrolments changed by 13 per cent between 2016 and 2017.

In Metropolitan Melbourne, there were 299 Private providers, with 93171 students and 104914 enrolments, enrolments changed by -27 per cent between 2016 and 2017.

In Metropolitan Melbourne, there were 471 total providers, with 218477 students and 260989 enrolments, enrolments changed by -9 per cent between 2016 and 2017.

Source: DET training market data. Excludes interstate, unknown, online etc. Providers may deliver training in more than one region, students may study in more than one region, and an enrolment may be delivered at multiple locations.

# NOTES ON THE DATA

## Data source

The main source of vocational training statistics in this report is DET’s training activity database referred to as Skills Victoria Training System (SVTS). This administrative data is reported to DET by Government‑funded training providers.

SVTS data included in this report may differ to 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 is not comparable to other publicly available data such as:

* Victorian data held by the National Centre for Vocational Education Research (NCVER) due to adjustments made by the NCVER to allow for cross‑jurisdiction comparisons. These adjustments transform data collected under various local rules by each State and Territory in Australia into a nationally consistent form by applying national counting rules, additional data cleaning and coding processes.
* Budget Paper No. 3 (Chapter 2 - Department performance statements) because of differences in counting rules and definitions.

The main measures used in this report are students, course enrolments and commencements. Course commencements show the number of new course enrolments in a given year, as courses often take more than one year to complete. 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.

The report also draws on Victorian employment data from the Australian Bureau of Statistics and VET data which allows for inter‑jurisdictional comparison from NCVER.

## Data scope

This report covers Government-funded training activity only. Training activity for the full year 2017 is compared with the same period in 2015 and 2016 to provide a picture of changes and trends over time.

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

The Training Market Report generally classifies providers as TAFE, Dual Sector, Adult and Community Education (ACE) or private. However, some data sources use a slightly different definition – Learn Local – rather than ACE. Only Learn Local organisations report activity through to the Adult, Community and Further Education Board, while ACE organisations are self-identified and are not required to do so. Some Learn Local organisations self‑identify as private RTOs and are therefore not be included in the ACE definition.

## Industry classifications

All industry titles and classifications included in this report are defined as per the Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classifications (ANZSIC). For more information, see: www.abs.gov.au/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.

## Foundation courses

Foundation courses are identified as set out in the *Guidelines about Determining Student Eligibility and Supporting Evidence* for the relevant reporting period.

## 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 enrolment will be counted in each region in which it was delivered. Consequently, for tables that present data by delivery region, totals may not match the sum of their components.

# SKILLS FIRST

Skills First is a set of reforms for the training and TAFE sector. These set a high benchmark for training quality, and support the courses that are most likely to lead to employment. Skills First is a commitment to a contestable, but more managed training and TAFE system, where providers who have satisfied the new rigorous standards receive government funding to provide high quality, industry relevant training to students.

*Skills First* is made up of:

* high-quality training that students and industry can trust, aligned to industry and workforce needs
* a real voice for industry in training
* funding for high‑needs learners who need additional support to engage with and succeed in education and training
* access to targeted, relevant training for students in regional areas.

## Figure 1 Elements of Skills First

At the core of Skills First is a quality, stable, trusted training market, supported by a stronger TAFE system, and made up of the following elements:

* Training to meet industry skills needs
* Access to the right training for jobs today and in the future
* Workforce training innovation fund
* Funding for disadvantaged learners
* Meeting unique skills needs of regions and specialist training
* Commitment to quality
* Supporting government priorities