



Senior Secondary Certificate Statistical Information 2014

Section 5: Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL)

Data source: 2014 data were extracted from the VCAA Assessment Processing System (APS) database at 15 January 2014 (Published).

If you have any concerns or comments, please contact the Data Analysis, Measurement and Reporting Unit on (03) 9032-1784.

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Section 5

Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning

There were 23,262 enrolments in VCAL certificates in 2014. Students were enrolled with 442 providers. Nearly two thirds of all VCAL certificate enrolments (62%) were students enrolled in Government schools.

Table 5.1: VCAL Participation, Number of Providers and Certificate Enrolments by Sector, 2014

| | Schools | VCAL Certificate Enrolments |
|--------------|------------|-----------------------------|
| Government | 282 | 14,375 |
| Catholic | 83 | 3,077 |
| Independent | 34 | 662 |
| Adult | 40 | 5,095 |
| Other | 3 | 53 |
| Total | 442 | 23,262 |

With respect to the level of certificates studied (see Table 5.2) 25.3% of VCAL students were enrolled in Foundation and 43.6% in Intermediate level certificates. Senior and Senior Extension enrolments comprised 31% of enrolments.

Table 5.2: VCAL Enrolments by Certificate, Gender and Level, 2014

| Level | Title | Gender | | All |
|--------------|--------------------------------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|
| | | Female | Male | |
| Foundation | VCAL (Foundation) | 2,067 | 3,826 | 5,893 |
| | Foundation Total | 2,067 | 3,826 | 5,893 |
| Intermediate | VCAL (Intermediate) | 3,660 | 6,490 | 10,150 |
| | Intermediate Total | 3,660 | 6,490 | 10,150 |
| Senior | VCAL (Senior) | 2,800 | 4,336 | 7,136 |
| | Senior Extension (Folio Enhancement) | 59 | 24 | 83 |
| | Senior&SeniorExt. Total | 2,859 | 4,360 | 7,219 |
| ALL | Total | 8,586 | 14,676 | 23,262 |

Gender

About three in five VCAL student enrolments in 2014 were male (63.1%).

Unit Enrolments and Completions

In 2014 there were a total of 129,979 VCAL unit enrolments (See table 5.3).

VCAL units are not the full range of curriculum that contributed towards the attainment of a VCAL. Students enrolled in any VCAL certificate can also gain credit from VET and VCE studies towards their VCAL qualification. VCAL students enrolled in VETiS and VCE units are included in the participation and completion reports for those units and certificates.

VCAL Personal Development units (29.8%) and VCAL Work Related Skills units (28.1%) accounted for the majority of enrolments in VCAL units.

Overall 77.3% of VCAL units were satisfactorily completed. Males (77.5%) and females (77.1%) had similar completion rates across all units. The overall completion rates for each major unit were as follows: Literacy Skills (77%); Numeracy Skills (75.2%); Personal Development Skills (78.1%) and Work Related Skills (77.6%).

Table 5.3: VCAL Unit Completions by Gender and Level, 2014

| DESCRIPTION | Female | | | Male | | | All | | |
|-----------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|---------------|-------------|----------------|----------------|-------------|
| | S | Total | % S | S | Total | % S | S | Total | % S |
| Advanced Numeracy Skills (S) | 76 | 89 | 85.4 | 157 | 178 | 88.2 | 233 | 267 | 87.3 |
| Advanced Study Skills (SE) | 25 | 27 | 92.6 | 21 | 22 | 95.5 | 46 | 49 | 93.9 |
| Folio Enhancement and Presentation (SE) | 50 | 55 | 90.9 | 21 | 22 | 95.5 | 71 | 77 | 92.2 |
| Literacy Skills (F) Oral Communication | 886 | 1,382 | 64.1 | 1,661 | 2,599 | 63.9 | 2,547 | 3,981 | 64.0 |
| Literacy Skills (F) Reading and Writing | 823 | 1,392 | 59.1 | 1,520 | 2,669 | 57.0 | 2,343 | 4,061 | 57.7 |
| Literacy Skills (I) Oral Communication | 2,195 | 2,854 | 76.9 | 4,029 | 5,060 | 79.6 | 6,224 | 7,914 | 78.6 |
| Literacy Skills (I) Reading and Writing | 2,199 | 2,924 | 75.2 | 4,010 | 5,168 | 77.6 | 6,209 | 8,092 | 76.7 |
| Literacy Skills (S) Oral Communication | 2,062 | 2,396 | 86.1 | 3,287 | 3,803 | 86.4 | 5,349 | 6,199 | 86.3 |
| Literacy Skills (S) Reading and Writing | 2,179 | 2,508 | 86.9 | 3,498 | 4,045 | 86.5 | 5,677 | 6,553 | 86.6 |
| Numeracy Skills (F) | 889 | 1,473 | 60.4 | 1,621 | 2,622 | 61.8 | 2,510 | 4,095 | 61.3 |
| Numeracy Skills (I) | 2,086 | 2,783 | 75.0 | 3,902 | 4,945 | 78.9 | 5,988 | 7,728 | 77.5 |
| Numeracy Skills (S) | 1,550 | 1,856 | 83.5 | 2,279 | 2,760 | 82.6 | 3,829 | 4,616 | 83.0 |
| Pathways Planning (SE) | 48 | 55 | 87.3 | 20 | 23 | 87.0 | 68 | 78 | 87.2 |
| Personal Development Skills Unit 1 (F) | 1,118 | 1,652 | 67.7 | 2,062 | 3,034 | 68.0 | 3,180 | 4,686 | 67.9 |
| Personal Development Skills Unit 1 (I) | 2,593 | 3,273 | 79.2 | 4,872 | 6,003 | 81.2 | 7,465 | 9,276 | 80.5 |
| Personal Development Skills Unit 1 (S) | 2,136 | 2,452 | 87.1 | 3,155 | 3,651 | 86.4 | 5,291 | 6,103 | 86.7 |
| Personal Development Skills Unit 2 (F) | 810 | 1,382 | 58.6 | 1,524 | 2,588 | 58.9 | 2,334 | 3,970 | 58.8 |
| Personal Development Skills Unit 2 (I) | 2,385 | 3,075 | 77.6 | 4,339 | 5,485 | 79.1 | 6,724 | 8,560 | 78.6 |
| Personal Development Skills Unit 2 (S) | 2,055 | 2,380 | 86.3 | 3,186 | 3,717 | 85.7 | 5,241 | 6,097 | 86.0 |
| Skills for Further Study (SE) | 390 | 447 | 87.2 | 484 | 608 | 79.6 | 874 | 1,055 | 82.8 |
| Work Related Skills Unit 1 (F) | 1,105 | 1,658 | 66.6 | 2,020 | 3,057 | 66.1 | 3,125 | 4,715 | 66.3 |
| Work Related Skills Unit 1 (I) | 2,426 | 3,070 | 79.0 | 4,493 | 5,588 | 80.4 | 6,919 | 8,658 | 79.9 |
| Work Related Skills Unit 1 (S) | 1,829 | 2,107 | 86.8 | 2,707 | 3,109 | 87.1 | 4,536 | 5,216 | 87.0 |
| Work Related Skills Unit 2 (F) | 829 | 1,386 | 59.8 | 1,508 | 2,510 | 60.1 | 2,337 | 3,896 | 60.0 |
| Work Related Skills Unit 2 (I) | 2,251 | 2,946 | 76.4 | 4,294 | 5,429 | 79.1 | 6,545 | 8,375 | 78.1 |
| Work Related Skills Unit 2 (S) | 1,906 | 2,226 | 85.6 | 2,967 | 3,436 | 86.4 | 4,873 | 5,662 | 86.1 |
| Grand Total | 36,901 | 47,848 | 77.1 | 63,637 | 82,131 | 77.5 | 100,538 | 129,979 | 77.3 |

Note: F=Foundation, I=Intermediate, S=Senior, SE = Senior Extension

Where a student has formally withdrawn from the Unit, these have been excluded from the above table.

Certificate Completions

There were 13,111 VCAL certificate completions out of 17,492 enrolments which were eligible to complete in 2014. This is a completion rate of 75% (See Table 5.4). A student is eligible to complete a qualification if they have completed sufficient units or modules, or are enrolled in sufficient units or modules that, if completed satisfactorily, would meet the requirements for satisfactory completion of the qualification. Students may also gain credit towards their VCAL from VCE units and VETiS units of competence.

Of those students eligible to complete, the completion rates for male and female students were 74.4% and 76% respectively.

Table 5.4: VCAL Certificate Completions by Gender and Level, 2014

| Level | Completed | Eligible to Complete | % Completed |
|-----------------------------|---------------|----------------------|-------------|
| Female | | | |
| Foundation | 567 | 1,040 | 54.5 |
| Intermediate | 2,072 | 2,794 | 74.2 |
| Senior and Senior Extension | 2,160 | 2,484 | 87.0 |
| Total | 4,799 | 6,318 | 76.0 |
| Male | | | |
| Foundation | 1,057 | 1,926 | 54.9 |
| Intermediate | 3,856 | 5,275 | 73.1 |
| Senior and Senior Extension | 3,399 | 3,973 | 85.6 |
| Total | 8,312 | 11,174 | 74.4 |
| All | | | |
| Foundation | 1,624 | 2,966 | 54.8 |
| Intermediate | 5,928 | 8,069 | 73.5 |
| Senior and Senior Extension | 5,559 | 6,457 | 86.1 |
| Total | 13,111 | 17,492 | 75.0 |

Of those students who completed a VCAL certificate, 63.4% were male and 36.6% were female. This is a reflection of the enrolment pattern.

Table 5.5: Percentages of VCAL Certificate Completions by Gender, 2014

| Level | % Completed |
|-----------------------------|--------------|
| Female | |
| Foundation | 34.9% |
| Intermediate | 35.0% |
| Senior and Senior Extension | 38.9% |
| Total | 36.6% |
| Male | |
| Foundation | 65.1% |
| Intermediate | 65.0% |
| Senior and Senior Extension | 61.1% |
| Total | 63.4% |