

Section 5

VICTORIAN CERTIFICATE OF APPLIED LEARNING

There were 12,326 enrolments in VCAL certificates in 2006. They were enrolled with 401 providers. Nearly three quarters of all VCAL certificate enrolments (72.3%) were students enrolled in government schools.

TABLE 5.1 NUMBERS OF SCHOOLS PROVIDING VCAL AND VCAL CERTIFICATE ENROLMENTS BY SECTOR, 2006

	Schools	VCAL Certificate Enrolments
Government	280	8,907
Catholic	67	1,413
Independent	17	288
Adult	37	1,718
Total	401	12,326

With respect to the level of certificates studied (see Table 5.2) 32.7% of VCAL students were enrolled in foundation and 46.4% in intermediate level certificates. Senior and senior extension enrolments comprised 20.9% of enrolments.

TABLE 5.2 VCAL ENROLMENTS BY CERTIFICATE, GENDER AND LEVEL, 2006

Level	Title	Gender		
		Female	Male	All
Foundation	VCAL (Foundation)	1,645	2,389	4,034
	Foundation Total	1,645	2,389	4,034
Intermediate	Air Conditioning Service (Intermediate)		23	23
	Automotive (Intermediate)	1	9	10
	Building and Construction (Intermediate)		34	34
	Electrotechnology (Intermediate)		27	27
	Hair & Beauty (Intermediate)	12		12
	Hospitality (Intermediate)	8	7	15
	Printing (Intermediate)		3	3
	Sport and Leisure (Intermediate)	4	6	10
	VCAL (Intermediate)	1,908	3,454	5,362
	VCAL (Intermediate) 2005 continuing students only	52	78	130
	VCAL Vocational Pathways Project (Intermediate)	34	61	95
	Intermediate Total	2,019	3,702	5,721
Senior	Multimedia (Senior)		1	1
	Printing (Senior)		1	1
	Textile, Clothing and Fashion (Senior)	9	2	11
	VCAL (Senior)	963	1,354	2,317
	VCAL (Senior) 2005 continuing students only	9	18	27
	VCAL Vocational Pathways Project (Senior)	5	8	13
	Senior Total	986	1,384	2,370
	Senior Extension (Folio Enhancement)	132	69	201
	Senior and Senior Extension Total	1,118	1,453	2,571
ALL		4,782	7,544	12,326

Gender

About three in five VCAL student enrolments in 2006 were male (61.2%).

Unit Enrolments and Completions

In 2006 there were a total of 54,141 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 for VET and VCE studies towards their 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 (34.1%) and VCAL Work Related Skills units (33.8%) accounted for the majority of enrolments in VCAL units.

Overall 80.6% of VCAL units were satisfactorily completed. Males (81.0%) and females (79.7%) had very similar completion rates across all units, with males completing at a slightly higher rate overall. Literacy Skills units averaged 78.9% completion, and females completing at a lower rate (78.3%) than males (79.3%). Numeracy skills units were completed at a rate of 75.9% with lower completion rate for females (74.2%) than for males (76.9%). Personal Development units were completed at 81.5% overall, 80.4% for females and 82.2% for males. Work Related Skills units completion rate was 81.5% overall, again a lower rate for females (80.8%) than for males (81.9%).

TABLE 5.3 VCAL UNIT COMPLETIONS BY GENDER AND LEVEL, 2006

DESCRIPTION	Female			Male			All		
	S	Total	% S	S	Total	% S	S	Total	% S
Advanced Numeracy Skills Senior	55	63	87.3	126	142	88.7	181	205	88.3
Advanced Study Skills	110	127	86.6	56	66	84.8	166	193	86.0
Folio Enhancement and Presentation	117	125	93.6	63	65	96.9	180	190	94.7
Literacy Skills Oral communication (F)	279	414	67.4	551	780	70.6	830	1,194	69.5
Literacy Skills Reading and Writing (F)	361	528	68.4	615	912	67.4	976	1,440	67.8
Literacy Skills Oral Communication (I)	720	902	79.8	1,472	1,799	81.8	2,192	2,701	81.2
Literacy Skills Reading and Writing (I)	751	973	77.2	1,547	1,955	79.1	2,298	2,928	78.5
Literacy Skills Oral Communication (S)	560	651	86.0	755	868	87.0	1,315	1,519	86.6
Literacy Skills Reading and Writing (S)	614	725	84.7	858	1,002	85.6	1,472	1,727	85.2
Numeracy Skills (F)	359	522	68.8	657	928	70.8	1,016	1,450	70.1
Numeracy Skills (I)	607	829	73.2	1,220	1,579	77.3	1,827	2,408	75.9
Numeracy Skills (S)	415	510	81.4	629	752	83.6	1,044	1,262	82.7
Pathways Planning	115	126	91.3	61	66	92.4	176	192	91.7
Personal Development Skills Unit 1 (F)	833	1,073	77.6	1,383	1,780	77.7	2,216	2,853	77.7
Personal Development Skills Unit 1 (I)	1,522	1,825	83.4	2,887	3,394	85.1	4,409	5,219	84.5
Personal Development Skills Unit 1 (S)	807	915	88.2	1,093	1,259	86.8	1,900	2,174	87.4
Personal Development Skills Unit 2 (F)	536	786	68.2	954	1,307	73.0	1,490	2,093	71.2
Personal Development Skills Unit 2 (I)	1,145	1,445	79.2	2,249	2,700	83.3	3,394	4,145	81.9
Personal Development Skills Unit 2 (S)	681	823	82.7	951	1,138	83.6	1,632	1,961	83.2
Work Related Skills Unit 1 (F)	1,023	1,266	80.8	1,480	1,838	80.5	2,503	3,104	80.6
Work Related Skills Unit 1 (I)	1,246	1,474	84.5	2,462	2,866	85.9	3,708	4,340	85.4
Work Related Skills Unit 1 (S)	702	794	88.4	965	1,122	86.0	1,667	1,916	87.0
Work Related Skills Unit 2 (F)	744	1,020	72.9	1,103	1,481	74.5	1,847	2,501	73.9
Work Related Skills Unit 2 (I)	1,173	1,532	76.6	2,432	3,030	80.3	3,605	4,562	79.0
Work Related Skills Unit 2 (S)	647	768	84.2	920	1,096	83.9	1,567	1,864	84.1
Grand Total	16,122	20,216	79.7	27,489	33,925	81.0	43,611	54,141	80.6

Note: F Foundation, I Intermediate, S Senior

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

Certificate Completions

There were 6,236 VCAL certificate completions out of 9,077 enrolments (68.7%) which were eligible to complete in 2006. (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, met the requirements for satisfactory completion of the qualification. Note that not all student VCAL enrolments are eligible to complete. Students may also gain credit from VCE units and VETiS units of competence towards their VCAL.

Over 63% of those who completed a VCAL certificate were male. The completion rates for male and female students were of 68.8% and 68.6% respectively.

TABLE 5.4 VCAL CERTIFICATE COMPLETIONS BY GENDER AND LEVEL, 2006

Level	Eligible to Complete		
	Completed	All	% Completed
Female			
Foundation	429	744	57.7
Intermediate	1,042	1,578	66.0
Senior and Senior Extension	830	1,032	80.4
Total	2,301	3,354	68.6
Male			
Foundation	819	1,372	59.7
Intermediate	2,095	3,056	68.6
Senior and Senior Extension	1,021	1,295	78.8
Total	3,935	5,723	68.8
All			
Foundation	1,248	2,116	59.0
Intermediate	3,137	4,634	67.7
Senior and Senior Extension	1,851	2,327	79.5
Total	6,236	9,077	68.7