

**Senior Secondary Certificate Statistical Information 2016**

Section 1: Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE)

Data source: 2016 data were extracted from the VCAA Assessment Processing System (APS) database at 4 January 2017 (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 1

In Victoria there are two certificates of senior secondary education, they are the Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE) and the Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL). This section covers the VCE, and information about VCAL is in section 5 (Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning).

## Victorian Certificate of Education

VCE completion is calculated on the basis of satisfactory completion of units. Refer to the VCE and VCAL Administrative Handbook for the regulations, which may be found on the VCAA website at:

[http://www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/page/index.aspx](http://www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/Pages/index.aspx)

**Table 1.1: VCE Participation and Completion, 2016 1**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | **2016** |
| ***All students*** |  |
| Eligible to complete the VCE | 50,840 |
| Students satisfactorily completing VCE | 49,801 |
| Percentage | 98.0 |
| ***Females*** |  |
| Eligible to complete the VCE | 26,924 |
| Students satisfactorily completing VCE | 26,461 |
| Percentage | 98.3 |
| ***Males*** |  |
| Eligible to complete the VCE | 23,916 |
| Students satisfactorily completing VCE | 23,340 |
| Percentage | 97.6 |

1 These figures are derived from VCAA information in January and include overseas students. Students who have successfully achieved their VCE in previous years but undertook further studies in the current year are included.

The VCE (Baccalaureate) is an additional form of recognition for those students who choose to undertake the demands of studying both a higher level of mathematics and a language in their VCE program of study. Refer to the VCE and VCAL Administrative Handbook for the regulations, which may be found on the VCAA website at:

[http://www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/pages/index.aspx](http://www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/Pages/index.aspx)

**Table 1.2: VCE Baccalaureate Awarded, 2016 2**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | **2016** |
| Male | 1,579 |
| Female | 2,229 |
| **Total** | **3,808** |

2 The number students that were awarded VCE Baccalaureate are also included in Table 1.1: VCE Participation and Completion, 2016.

## Unit Enrolments and Completions

**2.1. VCE Units**

Table 2.1.1: VCE Unit Enrolments and Completions by Unit Level and Gender, 2016

(excluding credit gained through VET in Senior Secondary Schools)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Units Enrolled** | | | | **Units Successfully Completed** | | | | **% Satisfactorily Completed** | | | |
|  | **Unit 1** | **Unit 2** | **Unit 3** | **Unit 4** | **Unit 1** | **Unit 2** | **Unit 3** | **Unit 4** | **Unit 1** | **Unit 2** | **Unit 3** | **Unit 4** |
| **Female** | 179,012 | 174,177 | 145,989 | 142,614 | 171,024 | 167,390 | 143,699 | 141,343 | 95.5 | 96.1 | 98.4 | 99.1 |
| **Male** | 163,964 | 158,704 | 128,086 | 124,434 | 153,747 | 149,882 | 125,297 | 122,768 | 93.8 | 94.4 | 97.8 | 98.7 |
| **Total** | 342,976 | 332,881 | 274,075 | 267,048 | 324,771 | 317,272 | 268,996 | 264,111 | 94.7 | 95.3 | 98.1 | 98.9 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Female** | 52.2% | 52.3% | 53.3% | 53.4% | 52.7% | 52.8% | 53.4% | 53.5% |  |  |  |  |
| **Male** | 47.8% | 47.7% | 46.7% | 46.6% | 47.3% | 47.2% | 46.6% | 46.5% |  |  |  |  |

Note that the participation of those students who withdrew during the year without an outcome recorded against their unit enrolments were removed from the dataset. Section 2 (Satisfactory Completion of VCE Units) provides more detailed information of unit participation and completions by study and sequence.

**Table 2.1.2: VCE Units 1-4 Total Enrolments and Completions, 2016  
(excluding credit gained through VET in Senior Secondary Schools)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Units 1 - 4** | | | | | |
|  | **Enrolled** | | **Completed** | | **% Completed** | |
| **Female** | 641,792 | | 623,456 | | 97.1 | |
| **Male** | 575,188 | | 551,694 | | 95.9 | |
| **Total** | 1,216,980 | | 1,175,150 | | 96.6 | |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Female** | 52.7% | | 53.1% | |  |  |
| **Male** | 47.3% | | 46.9% | |  |  |

There were a total of 1,216,980 VCE unit enrolments in 2016 of which 96.6% were successfully completed. With the introduction of the Northern Hemisphere Timetable (NHT) there were 124 students from 7 home schools with 526 unit enrolments at the unit 1 and 2 levels in 2015/2016. The vast majority of NHT students were based in China.

The female completion rate was 97.1% while the male completion rate was 95.9%. Females comprised 52.7% of the total unit enrolments while males comprised 47.3%. Females comprised 53.1% of the total unit completions while males comprised 46.9%.

**2.2. VCE VET Units**

Students gain credit toward VCE VET units by successfully completing a prescribed number of hours of Units of Competence.

Table 2.2.1: Equivalent VCE VET Unit Credits Gained Through VET Units of Competence (UoC), 2016

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **VCE units achieved through credit UoC** | | | |
|  | **Unit 1** | **Unit 2** | **Unit 3** | **Unit 4** |
| **Female** | 16,077 | 10,758 | 11,004 | 9,021 |
| **Male** | 21,917 | 15,320 | 12,793 | 11,374 |
| **Total** | 37,994 | 26,078 | 23,797 | 20,395 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| **Female** | 42.3% | 41.3% | 46.2% | 44.2% |
| **Male** | 57.7% | 58.7% | 53.8% | 55.8% |

## Outcomes of VCE Graded Assessment 2016

Students undertaking Units 3 and 4 sequences will in most cases participate in Graded Assessment. Section 3 (Grade Distributions for Graded Assessments VCE) provides more detailed information on the outcomes for each study where Graded Assessment is available. All VCE studies have three Graded Assessments in each Unit 3-4 sequence, while the VCE VET programs with scored assessment have two Graded Assessments.

In summary, the most awarded grades in 2016 were B+ and B, each comprising (15.5%) of the distribution. The median grade was a B, with 57% of grades at a B or higher. Table 3.1 shows the number of grades awarded (N), and the percentage awarded per grade. The table includes data for both the VCE Unit 3-4 sequences and the VCE VET scored programs.

**Table 3.1: Aggregate Grade Distributions: All Graded Assessments, 2016**

**(VCE Units 3-4 Sequences and VCE VET Scored Programs)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Grade** | **UG** | **E** | **E+** | **D** | **D+** | **C** | **C+** | **B** | **B+** | **A** | **A+** | **ALL** |
| **N** | 2,656 | 6,758 | 17,726 | 36,938 | 63,271 | 92,260 | 115,216 | 120,543 | 120,377 | 111,713 | 91,517 | 778,975 |
| **%** | 0.3 | 0.9 | 2.3 | 4.7 | 8.1 | 11.8 | 14.8 | 15.5 | 15.5 | 14.3 | 11.7 | 100.0 |

**Figure1. Grade Distribution: All Graded Assessments, 2016**