

Senior Secondary Statistical Information 2025

Section 7: Completion of Victorian Senior Secondary Certificates

Data source: 2025 data were extracted from the VCAA corporate database at 7 January 2026 (Published).

If you have any concerns or comments, please contact the Data Analysis and Reporting Unit by emailing: research.vcaa@education.vic.gov.au.

Section 7

Completion of Victorian Senior Secondary Certificates

This section shows the number and percentage of 19 years olds who have completed VCE/VCAL (at Intermediate or Senior certificate level).

The table below shows over the last 10 years, the number of young people by age 19 who completed the VCE/VCAL (Intermediate or Senior level) has risen from 56,611 in 2016 to 59,420 in 2025. The VCE/VCAL completion rate by age 19 in 2025 was 77%. This is 1.8 percentage points lower than that in 2016.

This table also shows that:

- By age 19 in 2025, there were 57,956 (55,298 plus 2,658) young people who completed the VCE.
- A decreasing number of young people completed only the VCAL certificate at an Intermediate and/or Senior level. In 2016 there were 7,912 young people aged 19 who completed a VCAL certificate at an Intermediate and/or Senior level. In 2025 this has decreased to 1,464 because VCAL ceased in 2023.

Table 1: Table 7.1.1: Contributions of VCE/VCAL^a towards the completion of a Senior Secondary Certificate^b by 19 year olds

Year ^d	19 Year olds cohort ^c								
	VCE/VCAL completion				Population	VCE/VCAL completion rate			
	VCE only	VCE & VCAL	VCAL only	Total		VCE only	VCE & VCAL	VCAL only	Total
2016	48,581	118	7,912	56,611	71,857	67.6	0.2	11.0	78.8
2017	48,544	84	7,761	56,389	71,916	67.5	0.1	10.8	78.4
2018	49,354	82	7,932	57,368	72,683	67.9	0.1	10.9	78.9
2019	50,137	70	7,751	57,958	73,341	68.4	0.1	10.6	79.0
2020	49,113	61	7,797	56,971	72,909	67.4	0.1	10.7	78.1
2021	48,166	44	8,427	56,637	72,430	66.5	0.1	11.6	78.2
2022	48,762	39	8,774	57,575	72,554	67.2	0.1	12.1	79.4
2023	48,992	128	8,597	57,717	72,554	67.5	0.2	11.8	79.6
2024	49,902	1,683	6,160	57,745	73,400	68.0	2.3	8.4	78.7
2025	55,298	2,658	1,464	59,420	77,183	71.6	3.4	1.9	77.0

^a The relatively large increase of 2,658 (VCE & VCAL) in 2025 was attributed to 17-year-olds who completed the VCE Vocational Major in 2023 (reform year), and who had previously completed the VCAL Intermediate/Senior. These students then turned 19 years old in 2025, which resulted in the figure of 2,658 reported for 2025.

^b Includes satisfactorily completion at an Intermediate and/or Senior level.

^c Population figures are sourced from ABS Cat:3101.0, Australian Demographic Statistics, June 2025. The Estimated Resident Population of 17 year olds two years earlier is used as the population for the aged 19 cohort. This is to mitigate the impact of migration of young people after leaving school. The adoption of this age group for the calculation of completion rate by age 19 is consistent with DET's approach. In the previous report, the population of 19 year olds was used as a denominator to calculate the completion rates.

^d The 2021 - 2025 estimated resident population figures are preliminary.