

Senior Secondary Certificate Statistical Information 2018

Section 5: Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL)

Data source: 2018 data were extracted from the VCAA Assessment Processing System (APS) database at 4 January 2018 (Published)

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Section 5

Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning

There were 24,302 enrolments in VCAL certificates in 2018. Students were enrolled with 468 providers. About 60.9% of VCAL certificate enrolments were students enrolled in Government schools.

Table 5.1: Numbers of Schools Providing VCAL and VCAL Certificate Enrolments by Sector, 2018

Home Sector	Schools	VCAL Certificate Enrolments
Government	292	14,791
Catholic	86	3,800
Independent	51	2,096
Adult	38	3,603
Other Providers	1	12
Total	468	24,302

With respect to the level of certificates studied (see Table 5.2) 27.2% of VCAL students were enrolled in Foundation and 43.5% in Intermediate level certificates. Senior and Senior Extension enrolments comprised 29.2% of enrolments.

Table 5.2: VCAL Enrolments by Certificate, Gender and Level, 2018

Level	Title	Gender			All
		Female	Male	Gender X	
Foundation	VCAL (Foundation)	2,418	4,190	12	6,620
Intermediate	VCAL (Intermediate)	3,948	6,611	22	10,581
Senior	Senior Extension (Folio Enhancement)	66	20	1	87
Senior	VCAL (Senior)	2,863	4,143	8	7,014
All	Total	9,295	14,964	43	24,302

Gender

About three in five VCAL student enrolments in 2018 were male (61.6%).

Unit Completions

In 2018 there were a total of 106,692 VCAL unit completions (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 VET and VCE units are included in the participation and completion reports for those units and certificates.

VCAL Personal Development units (29.6%) and VCAL Work Related Skills units (27.2%) accounted for the majority of enrolments in VCAL units.

Overall 76.8% of VCAL units were satisfactorily completed. The overall completion rates for each major unit were as follows: Literacy Skills (75.8%); Numeracy Skills (73.6%); Personal Development Skills (78.3%) and Work Related Skills (77.7%).

Table 5.3: VCAL Unit Completions by Level, 2018

Description	Unit Enrolments	Unit Completions	
		Completed	% Completed
Advanced Numeracy Skills (S)	157	108	68.8
Advanced Study Skills (SE)	46	45	97.8
Folio Enhancement and Presentation (SE)	87	86	98.9
Literacy Skills (F) Oral Communication	4,684	2,814	60.1
Literacy Skills (F) Reading and Writing	4,799	2,611	54.4
Literacy Skills (I) Oral Communication	8,740	6,865	78.5
Literacy Skills (I) Reading and Writing	8,943	6,843	76.5
Literacy Skills (S) Oral Communication	6,469	5,646	87.3
Literacy Skills (S) Reading and Writing	6,773	5,849	86.4
Numeracy Skills (F)	4,954	2,868	57.9
Numeracy Skills (I)	6,965	5,288	75.9
Numeracy Skills (I) - Unit 1	628	459	73.1
Numeracy Skills (I) - Unit 2	397	289	72.8
Numeracy Skills (S)	4,780	4,111	86.0
Numeracy Skills (S) - Unit 1	453	357	78.8
Numeracy Skills (S) - Unit 2	323	244	75.5
Pathways Planning (SE)	87	86	98.9
Personal Development Skills Unit 1 (F)	5,167	3,481	67.4
Personal Development Skills Unit 1 (I)	9,540	7,719	80.9
Personal Development Skills Unit 1 (S)	6,862	5,997	87.4
Personal Development Skills Unit 2 (F)	4,545	2,696	59.3
Personal Development Skills Unit 2 (I)	9,003	7,102	78.9
Personal Development Skills Unit 2 (S)	6,024	5,202	86.4
Skills for Further Study (S)	707	574	81.2
Work Related Skills Unit 1 (F)	4,943	3,259	65.9
Work Related Skills Unit 1 (I)	8,433	6,721	79.7
Work Related Skills Unit 1 (S)	5,592	4,950	88.5
Work Related Skills Unit 2 (F)	4,466	2,632	58.9
Work Related Skills Unit 2 (I)	8,480	6,669	78.6
Work Related Skills Unit 2 (S)	5,880	5,121	87.1
Total	138,927	106,692	76.8

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

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

Certificate Completions

There were 13,280 VCAL certificate completions out of 17,862 enrolments which were eligible to complete in 2018. This is a completion rate of 74.3% (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 VET units of competence.

Table 5.4: VCAL Certificate Completions by Level, 2018

Level	Eligible Enrolments	Completed	% Completed
Foundation	3,128	1,740	55.6
Intermediate	8,208	5,943	72.4
Senior and Senior Extension	6,526	5,597	85.8
Total	17,862	13,280	74.3

Of those students who completed a VCAL certificate, 61.7% were male and 38.2% were female. This is a reflection of the enrolment pattern.

Table 5.5: Percentage of VCAL Certificate Completions by Gender, 2018

Level	% Gender
Female	
Foundation	36.0
Intermediate	36.7
Senior and Senior Extension	40.4
Total	38.2
Male	
Foundation	63.9
Intermediate	63.1
Senior and Senior Extension	59.5
Total	61.7
Gender X	
Foundation	0.2
Intermediate	0.1
Senior and Senior Extension	0.1
Total	0.1