

Senior Secondary Certificate Statistical Information 2017

Section 5: Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL)

Data source: 2017 data were extracted from the VCAA Assessment Processing System (APS) database at 4 January 2018 (Published)

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

Section 5

Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning

There were 24,020 enrolments in VCAL certificates in 2017. Students were enrolled with 460 providers. About 60.5% of VCAL certificate enrolments were students enrolled in Government schools.

Table 5.1: Numbers of Schools Providing VCAL and VCAL Certificate Enrolments by Sector, 2017

Home Sector	Schools	VCAL Certificate Enrolments
Government	292	14,526
Catholic	85	3,489
Independent	43	2,144
Adult	38	3,845
Other	2	16
Total	460	24,020

With respect to the level of certificates studied (see Table 5.2) 27.2% of VCAL students were enrolled in Foundation and 42.5% in Intermediate level certificates. Senior and Senior Extension enrolments comprised 30.3% of enrolments.

Table 5.2: VCAL Enrolments by Certificate, Gender and Level, 2017

Level	Title	Gender			All
		Female	Male	Gender X	
Foundation	VCAL (Foundation)	2,329	4,200	4	6,533
Intermediate	VCAL (Intermediate)	3,781	6,408	9	10,198
Senior	Senior Extension (Folio Enhancement)	67	20	0	87
Senior	VCAL (Senior)	2,995	4,199	8	7,202
ALL	Total	9,172	14,827	21	24,020

Gender

About three in five VCAL student enrolments in 2017 were male (61.7%).

Unit Completions

In 2017 there were a total of 105,403 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 (27.5%) accounted for the majority of enrolments in VCAL units.

Overall 76.9% of VCAL units were satisfactorily completed. The overall completion rates for each major unit were as follows: Literacy Skills (76.3%); Numeracy Skills (74.1%); Personal Development Skills (77.9%) and Work Related Skills (77.5%).

Table 5.3: VCAL Unit Completions by Level, 2017

Description	Unit Enrolments	Unit Completions	
		Completed	% Completed
Advanced Numeracy Skills (S)	212	146	68.9
Advanced Study Skills (SE)	53	52	98.1
Folio Enhancement and Presentation (SE)	84	82	97.6
Literacy Skills (F) Oral Communication	4,659	2,937	63.0
Literacy Skills (F) Reading and Writing	4,796	2,866	59.8
Literacy Skills (I) Oral Communication	8,397	6,531	77.8
Literacy Skills (I) Reading and Writing	8,588	6,431	74.9
Literacy Skills (S) Oral Communication	6,648	5,778	86.9
Literacy Skills (S) Reading and Writing	6,882	5,945	86.4
Numeracy Skills (F)	4,960	3,100	62.5
Numeracy Skills (I)	7,255	5,421	74.7
Numeracy Skills (S)	5,436	4,577	84.2
Pathway Planning (SE)	84	82	97.6
Personal Development Skills Unit 1 (F)	5,092	3,468	68.1
Personal Development Skills Unit 1 (I)	9,170	7,285	79.4
Personal Development Skills Unit 1 (S)	6,988	6,148	88.0
Personal Development Skills Unit 2 (F)	4,395	2,633	59.9
Personal Development Skills Unit 2 (I)	8,604	6,611	76.8
Personal Development Skills Unit 2 (S)	6,310	5,463	86.6
Skills for Further Study (S)	755	588	77.9
Work Related Skills Unit 1 (F)	5,243	3,559	67.9
Work Related Skills Unit 1 (I)	8,579	6,817	79.5
Work Related Skills Unit 1 (S)	5,723	4,951	86.5
Work Related Skills Unit 2 (F)	4,213	2,644	62.8
Work Related Skills Unit 2 (I)	8,109	6,240	77.0
Work Related Skills Unit 2 (S)	5,906	5,048	85.5
Total	137,141	105,403	76.9

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 13,255 VCAL certificate completions out of 18,548 enrolments which were eligible to complete in 2017. This is a completion rate of 71.5% (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, 2017

Level	Eligible Enrolments	Completed	% Completed
Foundation	3,446	1,938	56.2
Intermediate	8,268	5,597	67.7
Senior and Senior Extension	6,834	5,720	83.7
Total	18,548	13,255	71.5

Of those students who completed a VCAL certificate, 61.8% 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, 2017

Level	% Gender
Female	
Foundation	36.1
Intermediate	35.6
Senior and Senior Extension	41.4
<i>Total</i>	<i>38.2</i>
Male	
Foundation	63.9
Intermediate	64.3
Senior and Senior Extension	58.5
<i>Total</i>	<i>61.8</i>
Gender X	
Foundation	0.0
Intermediate	0.1
Senior and Senior Extension	0.1
<i>Total</i>	<i>0.1</i>