

# Australian Apprenticeships Summary Statistics

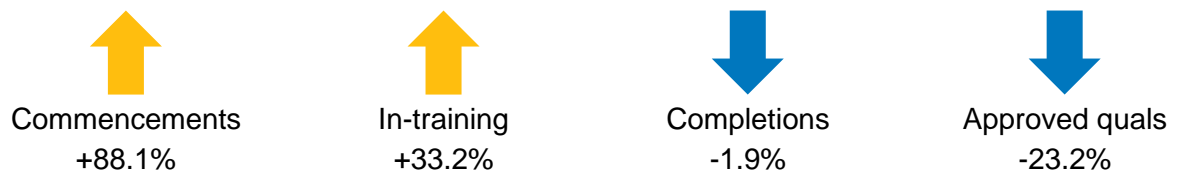
This report uses October 2020 to September 2021 data from NCVET's Apprentice and Trainee Collection. More information about the collection can be found in the [Notes and Definitions](#) at the end of this document.

There were several major trends in 2020 and early 2021 that have affected Australian Apprenticeship commencements. From March 2020 onward, COVID-19 significantly disrupted economic activity across Australia. While some states returned to a more normal state in the second half of the year, Victoria remained impacted due to the longer lockdown.

In October 2020, the Boosting Apprenticeship Commencements (BAC) wage subsidy started. More information about wage subsidies can be found in the [Notes](#). The effect of the subsidy is shown in the past year to September 2021, with a prolonged spike in commencements.

## Australia-wide highlights

In the 12 months to 30 September 2021, compared with the previous year:



## Qualification overview

As of 30 September 2021, there were 1,116 approved Australian Apprenticeship qualifications in Australia. This is a decrease of 23.2% from 30 September 2020.

There were 1535 new qualifications approved by the States and Territories in the year to September 2021. This was a significant increase from the previous year to September 2020 (453). Qualifications are also removed throughout the year. More information can be found in the [Notes](#).

Note: The reason for the number of approved Australian Apprenticeship qualifications decreasing so significantly is primarily due to the N.T. removing a lot of qualifications from their database in the September 2021 quarter.

Table 1: Qualification Classification by State, 30 September 2021

	NSW	VIC	QLD	WA	SA	TAS	ACT	NT
<b>Apprenticeship</b>	118	113	109	89	130	NA	105	65
<b>Traineeship</b>	554	401	324	403	503	NA	370	295
<b>Total</b>	672	514	433	492	633	384	475	324

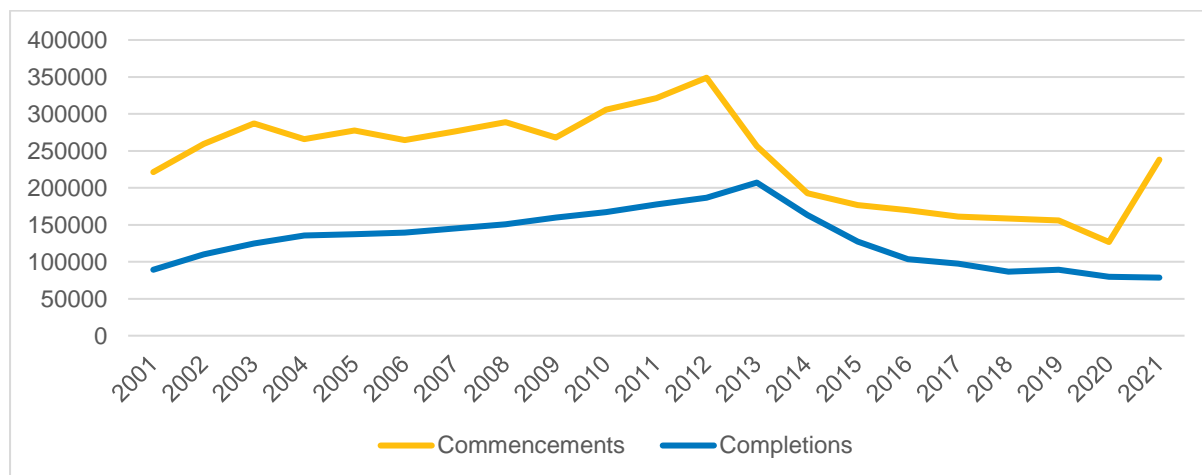
Note: Tasmania does not provide classification data

## Australian Apprenticeship statistics overview

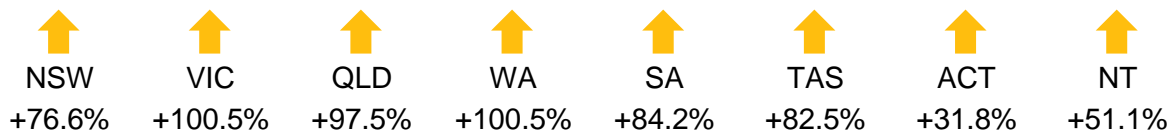
In the 12 months to 30 September 2021, compared with the previous year:

- Commencements increased by 88.1.% to 238,360
- Completions decreased by 1.9% to 78,560
- In-training numbers at 30 September increased by 33.2% to 352,020

Figure 1: Australian Apprenticeship commencements and completions, annual, 2001 to 2021

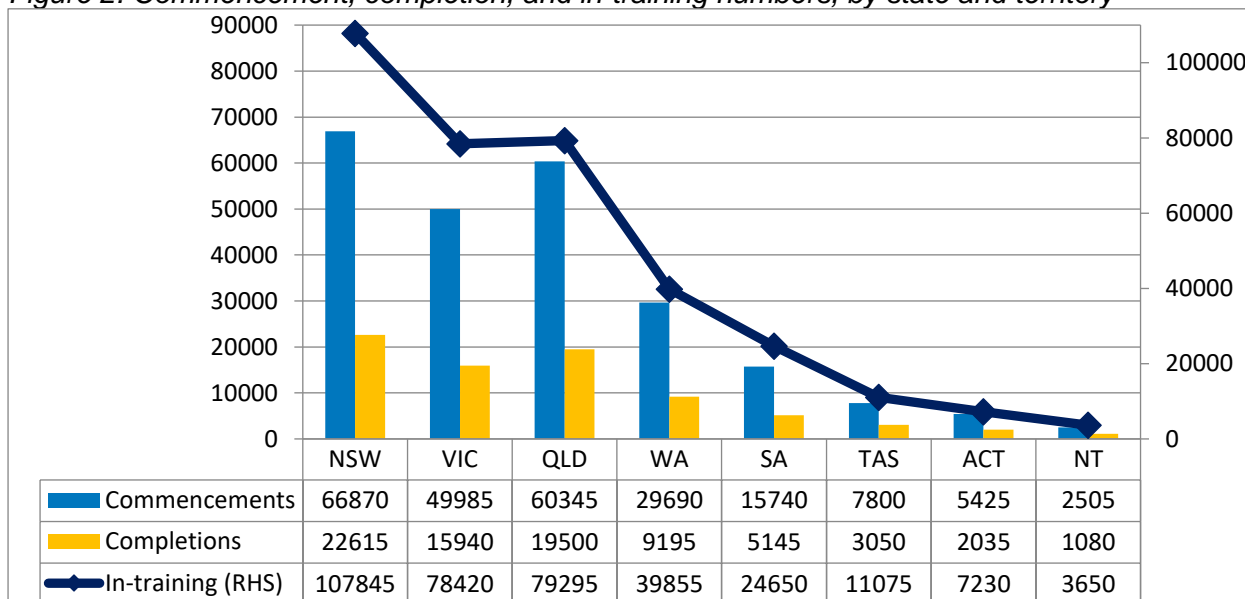


State and Territory commencements compared with the previous year, showed:



Note: For more information on trends within each State and Territory, please visit the relevant summaries later in this document.

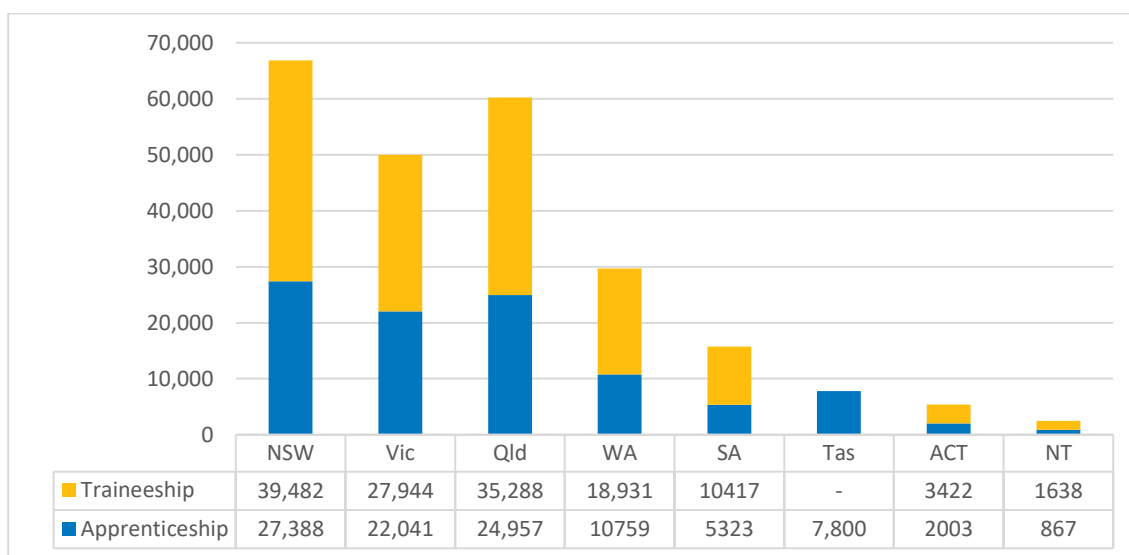
Figure 2: Commencement, completion, and in-training numbers, by state and territory



Note: Commencements and completions statistics are for 12 months. In training numbers are as at 30 September 2021.

Across Australia, commencements in qualifications classified as traineeships were higher than commencements in qualifications classified as apprenticeships. For information about the number of approved apprenticeship and traineeship qualifications, and their related commencements, visit each state and territory breakdown.

Figure 3: Annual apprenticeship and traineeship commencements, by state and territory



Note: This report uses year to September 2021 qualifications data when referencing apprenticeship and traineeship classifications. Tasmania shows all commencements against ‘apprenticeships’ as they do not classify qualifications. The commencements numbers in this graph exclude qualifications that were not able to be matched against a classification, therefore may not match those shown in overall commencement figures.

## Industry and occupation breakdowns

Table 2: Australian Apprenticeships Commencements in the Top 10 Training Packages in the 12 months ending September 2021 ('000)

	NSW	VIC	QLD	WA	SA	TAS	ACT	NT	AUS
<b>BSB</b> Business Services	9.9	6.9	11.8	4.1	3.1	1.6	0.6	0.3	38.3
<b>CPC</b> Construction	9.5	8.9	7.8	2.4	1.6	1.1	0.8	0.2	32.3
<b>CHC</b> Community Services	7.0	3.1	3.5	2.4	1.1	0.7	0.6	0.4	18.8
<b>SIT</b> Tourism, Hospitality	3.9	4.7	5.7	2.3	0.5	0.4	0.7	0.1	18.3
<b>UEE</b> Electrotechnology	4.8	3.9	3.9	2.0	1.0	0.3	0.5	0.2	16.6
<b>AUR</b> Auto RS&R	4.3	3.0	4.2	2.8	0.9	0.4	0.2	0.2	16.0
<b>SIR</b> Retail Services	4.1	2.4	2.5	1.8	1.7	0.8	0.2	0.2	13.6
<b>MEM</b> Metal & Engineering	2.4	1.4	3.2	2.2	0.6	0.3	0.0	0.1	10.3
<b>RII</b> Resources & Infra.	1.6	0.6	3.0	3.4	0.4	0.2	0.1	0.1	9.5
<b>AHC</b> Argi, Hort, Conserv.	2.4	2.5	2.4	0.6	0.8	0.2	0.1	0.2	9.3

Table 3: Australian Apprenticeships Commencements in the Top 10 Qualifications in the 12 months ending September 2021

	NSW	VIC	QLD	WA	SA	TAS	ACT	NT	AUS
* <b>CPC30211</b> C3 in Carpentry	4234	3486	3099	62	652	563	405	139	12643
* <b>UEE30811</b> C3 in Electrotechnology Electrician	3548	3402	2882	1218	812	227	356	144	12590
<b>SIT30616</b> C3 in Hospitality	1895	2648	3659	1373	2367	140	476	69	10498
<b>SIR30216</b> C3 in Retail	3017	1628	1763	1178	1508	619	128	108	9949
* <b>BSB30115</b> C3 in Business	939	1385	3888	845	737	238	67	81	8179
* <b>CPC32413</b> C3 in Plumbing	1718	2899	1164	564	392	115	236	63	7152
* <b>CHC30113</b> C3 in Early Childhood Education and Care	3458	843	1558	644	158	92	270	72	7095
<b>BSB30120</b> C3 in Business	1487	827	2013	400	603	84	24	48	5488
* <b>AUR30616</b> C3 in Light Vehicle Mechanical Technology	1209	1137	977	697	192	145	155	55	4568
<b>SHB30416</b> C3 in Hairdressing	1106	843	1273	546	325	107	144	33	4378

\*Note: CPC30211 Certificate III in Carpentry, UEE30811 Certificate III in Electrotechnology Electrician, BSB30115 Certificate III in Business, CPC32413 Certificate III in Plumbing, CHC30113 Certificate III in Early Childcare Education and Care and AUR30616 Certificate III in Light Vehicle Mechanical Technology are all superseded and are no longer approved in any states or territory.

Table 4: Australian Apprenticeships Commencements by occupation and state/territory, 12 months ending September 2021 ('000)

	NSW	VIC	QLD	WA	SA	TAS	ACT	NT	AUS
Technician & Trade Workers	29.1	26.3	26.8	12.4	6.6	3.2	2.1	1.0	107.4
Clerical and administrative workers	10.8	6.3	11.6	4.5	2.9	1.5	0.9	0.3	38.8
Community and personal service workers	10.6	8.1	8.7	4.7	1.8	1.2	1.2	0.6	36.8
Sales Workers	7.5	3.4	3.6	1.9	1.9	0.8	0.3	0.2	19.8
Labourers	3.5	2.8	3.7	2.3	1.1	0.5	0.1	0.2	14.3
Machinery operators and drivers	3.1	1.3	4.2	3.3	0.7	0.3	0.1	0.1	13.2
Managers	1.5	1.3	1.2	0.4	0.4	0.2	0.5	0.1	5.6
Professionals	0.7	0.4	0.6	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.0	2.4
Other	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Note: Technician & Trade Workers are classified as 'trades', and all other groups as classified as 'non-trades'.

Table 5: Australian Apprenticeships Commencements in the Top 10 Employer Industries (ANZSIC) in the 12 months ending September 2021 ('000)

	NSW	VIC	QLD	WA	SA	TAS	ACT	NT	AUS
Construction (E)	16.1	15.2	13.6	5.2	2.5	1.6	1.7	0.5	56.0
Accommodation (H)	7.5	6.3	8.4	3.0	1.8	0.9	0.8	0.2	28.8
Administrative and Support Services (N)	5.4	5.8	5.8	3.4	3.0	0.8	0.2	0.1	24.5
Health Care and Social Assistance (Q)	7.4	3.4	4.9	2.6	1.2	0.9	0.6	0.3	21.3
Other Services (S)	5.5	3.5	5.7	2.9	1.0	0.4	0.6	0.2	19.8
Manufacturing (C)	4.7	5.4	4.8	2.1	1.6	0.8	0.1	0.1	19.6
Retail Trade (G)	3.4	2.3	3.8	0.9	1.0	0.4	0.2	0.2	12.2
Education and Training (P)	1.9	1.7	1.6	0.8	0.6	0.1	0.3	0.2	7.2
Public Administration and Safety (O)	2.3	0.2	1.3	0.8	0.6	0.2	0.9	0.2	6.7
Mining (B)	0.4	0.0	1.1	4.4	0.3	0.1	0.0	0.1	6.5

## NSW summary: 12 months ending September 2021

As of 30 September 2021, there were 672 approved Australian Apprenticeship qualifications in New South Wales. This is a decrease of 11.7% from 30 September 2020.

Note: The number of approved Australian Apprenticeship qualifications decreased to 593 as of 30 March 2022.

Table 6: Qualification Classification by State

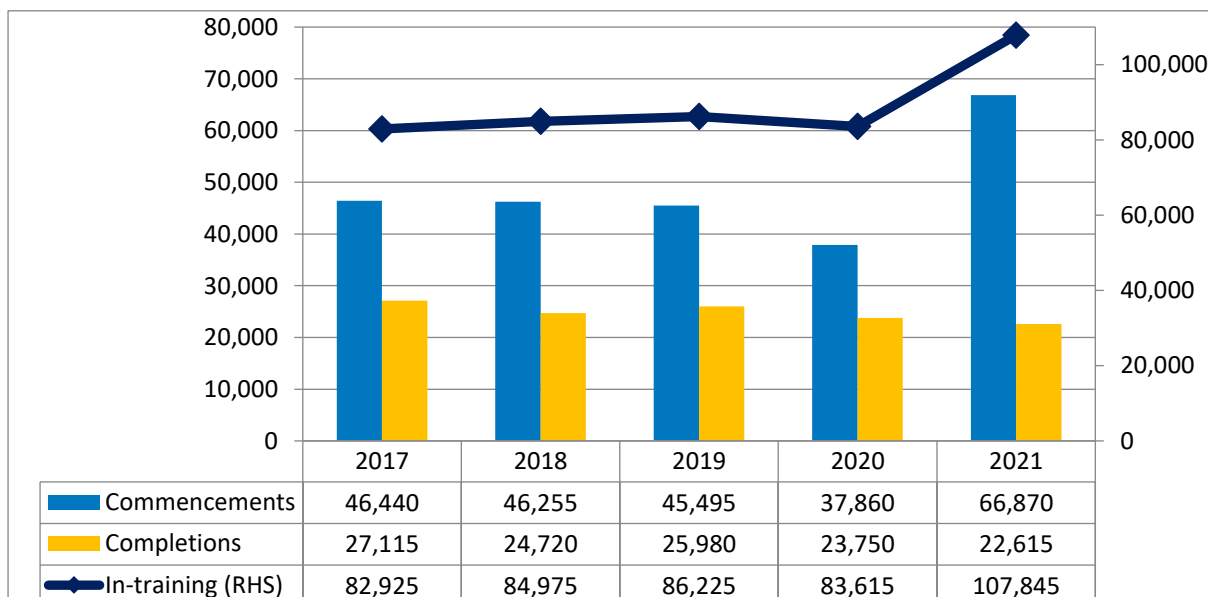
	Approved qualifications	Commencements
Apprenticeship	118	27,388
Traineeship	554	39,482
<b>Total</b>	<b>672</b>	<b>66,870</b>

Note: The commencements figures in this table exclude qualifications that were not able to be matched against a classification, therefore may not match those shown in overall commencement figures.

In the 12 months to 30 September 2021, compared with the previous year:

- Commencements increased by 76.6% to 66,870
- Completions decreased by 4.8% to 22,615
- There were 107,845 apprentices and trainees in training, an increase of 29.0% from the previous year

Figure 4: NSW commencement, completion & in-training numbers, year to September Qtr, 2017-2021



## VIC summary: 12 months ending September 2021

As of 30 September 2021, there were 514 approved Australian Apprenticeship qualifications in the Victoria. This is a decrease of 10.4% from 30 September 2020.

Note: The number of approved Australian Apprenticeship qualifications decreased to 511 as of 30 March 2022.

Table 7: Qualification Classification by State

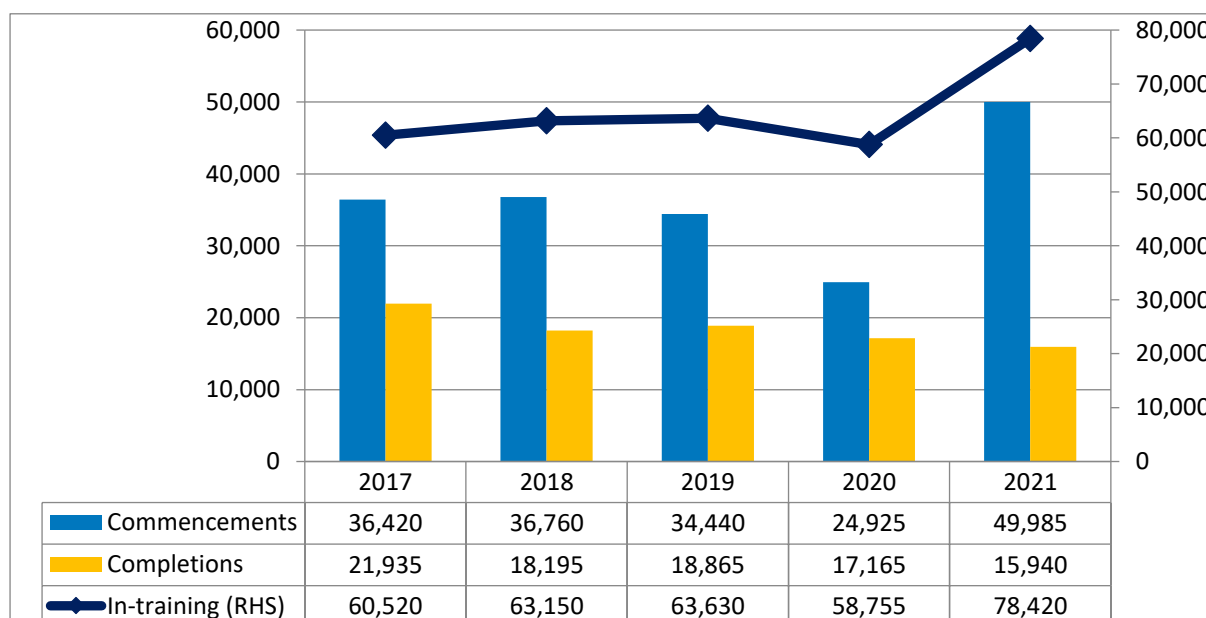
	Approved qualifications	Commencements
Apprenticeship	113	22,041
Traineeship	401	27,944
<b>Total</b>	<b>514</b>	<b>49,985</b>

Note: The commencements figures in this table exclude qualifications that were not able to be matched against a classification, therefore may not match those shown in overall commencement figures.

In the 12 months to 30 September 2021, compared with the previous year:

- Commencements increased by 100.5% to 49,985
- Completions decreased by 4.8% to 15,940
- There were 78,420 apprentices and trainees in training, an increase of 33.5% from the previous year

Figure 5: VIC commencement, completion & in-training numbers, year to September Qtr, 2017-2021



## QLD summary: 12 months ending September 2021

As of 30 September 2021, there were 433 approved Australian Apprenticeship qualifications in Queensland. This is a decrease of 7.7% from 30 September 2020.

Note: The number of approved Australian Apprenticeship qualifications decreased to 431 as of 30 March 2022.

Table 8: Qualification Classification by State

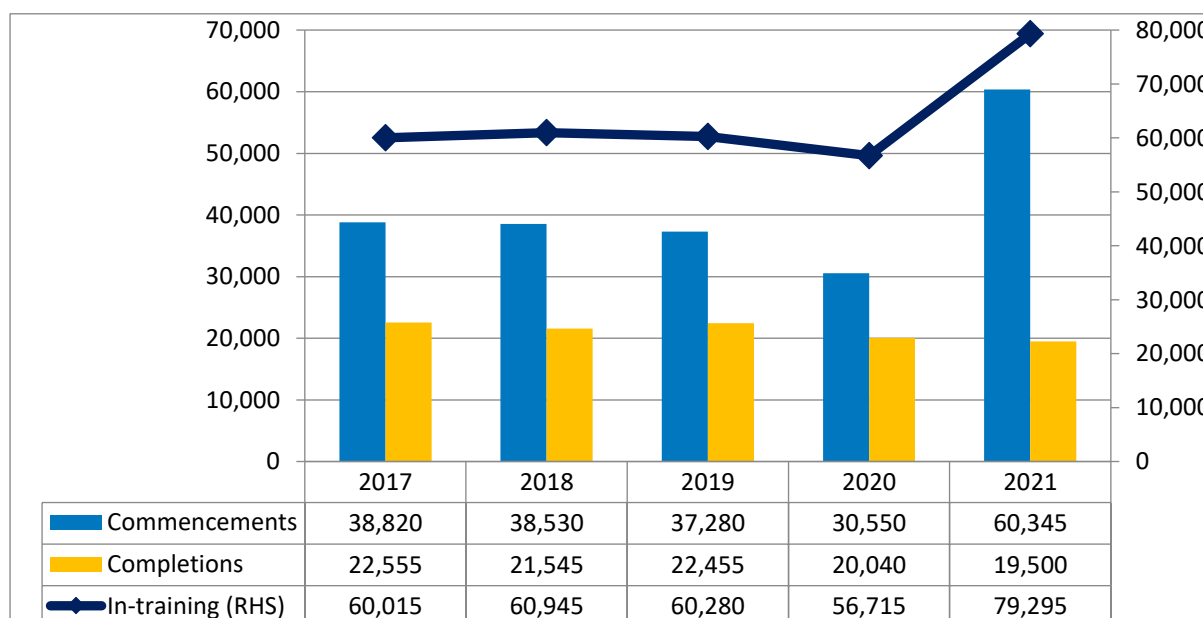
	Approved qualifications	Commencements
<b>Apprenticeship</b>	109	24,957
<b>Traineeship</b>	324	35,388
<b>Total</b>	<b>433</b>	<b>60,345</b>

Note: The commencements figures in this table exclude qualifications that were not able to be matched against a classification, therefore may not match those shown in overall commencement figures.

In the 12 months to 30 September 2021, compared with the previous year:

- Commencements increased by 97.5% to 60,345
- Completions decreased by 2.7% to 19,500
- There were 79,295 apprentices and trainees in training, an increase of 39.8% from the previous year

Figure 6: QLD commencement, completion & in-training numbers, year to September Qtr, 2017-2021





## WA summary: 12 months ending September 2021

As of 30 September 2021, there were 492 approved Australian Apprenticeship qualifications in Western Australia. This is a decrease of 6.6% from 30 September 2020.

Note: The number of approved Australian Apprenticeship qualifications decreased to 482 as of 30 March 2022.

Table 9: Qualification Classification by State

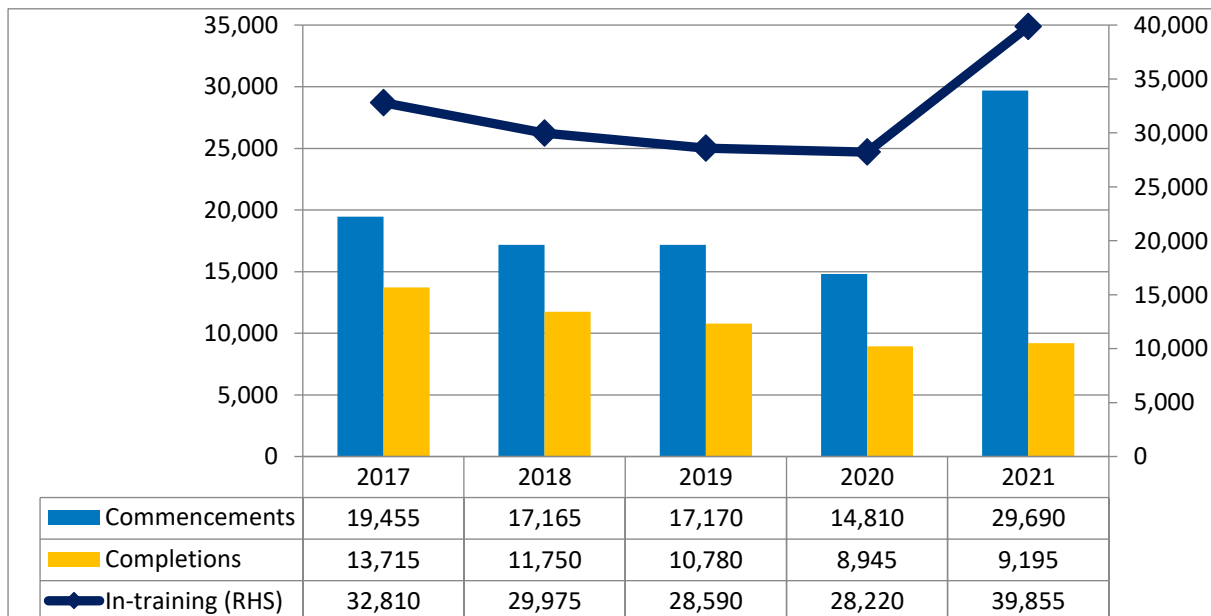
	Approved qualifications	Commencements
Apprenticeship	89	10,759
Traineeship	403	18,931
<b>Total</b>	<b>492</b>	<b>29,690</b>

Note: The commencements figures in this table exclude qualifications that were not able to be matched against a classification, therefore may not match those shown in overall commencement figures.

In the 12 months to 30 September 2021, compared with the previous year:

- Commencements increased by 100.5% to 29,690
- Completions increased by 2.8% to 9,195
- There were 39,855 apprentices and trainees in training, an increase of 41.2% from the previous year

Figure 7: WA commencement, completion & in-training numbers, year to September Qtr, 2017-2021



## SA summary: 12 months ending September 2021

As of 30 September 2021, there 633 approved Australian Apprenticeship qualifications in South Australia. This is a decrease of 12.1% from 30 September 2020.

Note: The number of approved Australian Apprenticeship qualifications decreased to 623 as of 30 March 2022.

Table 10: Qualification Classification by State

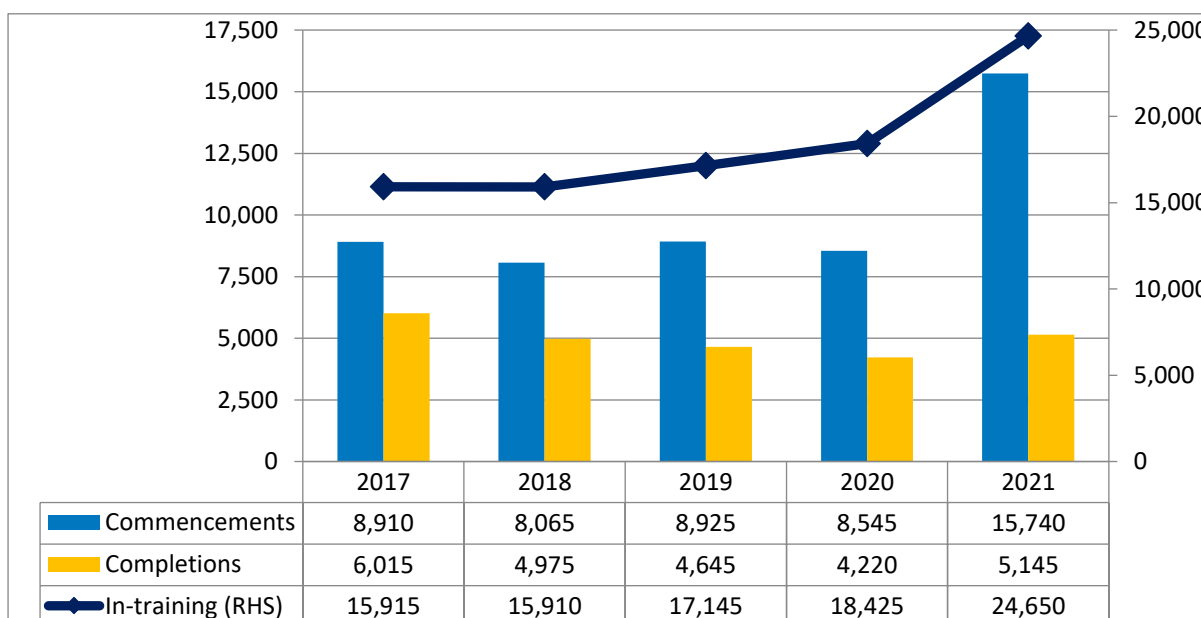
	Approved qualifications	Commencements
Apprenticeship	130	5323
Traineeship	503	10,417
<b>Total</b>	<b>633</b>	<b>15,740</b>

Note: The commencements figures in this table exclude qualifications that were not able to be matched against a classification, therefore may not match those shown in overall commencement figures.

In the 12 months to 30 September 2021, compared with the previous year:

- Commencements increased by 84.2% to 15,740
- Completions increased by 21.9% to 5,145
- There were 24,650 apprentices and trainees in training, an increase of 33.8% from the previous year

Figure 8: SA commencement, completion & in-training numbers, year to September Qtr, 2017-2021



## TAS summary: 12 months ending September 2021

As of 30 September 2021, there 384 approved Australian Apprenticeship qualifications in Tasmania. This is a increase of 2.4% from 30 September 2020.

Note: The number of approved Australian Apprenticeship qualifications increased to 386 as of 30 March 2022.

Table 11: Qualification Classification by State: Classification data is not provided by Tasmania

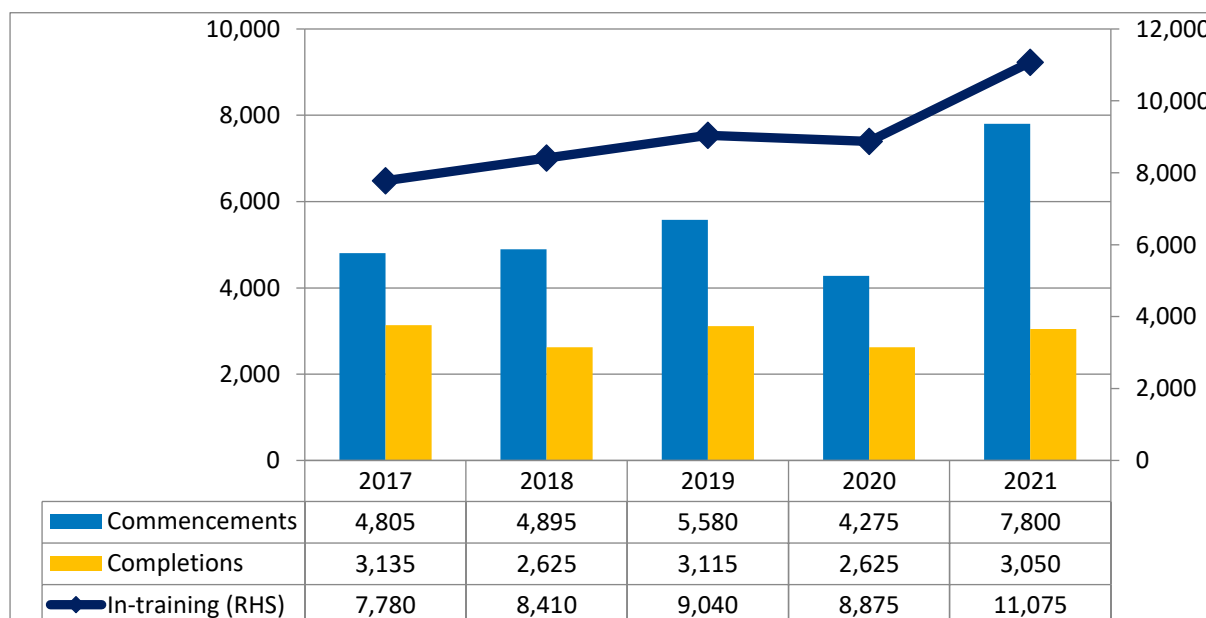
	Approved qualifications	Commencements
Apprenticeship	NA	NA
Traineeship	NA	NA
<b>Total</b>	<b>384</b>	<b>7800</b>

Note: Tasmania does not provide classifications data. Total figures refer to the number of qualifications approved as an Australian Apprenticeship, and total commencements figures.

In the 12 months to 30 September 2021, compared with the previous year:

- Commencements increased by 82.5% to 7,800
- Completions increased by 16.2% to 3,050
- There were 11,075 apprentices and trainees in training, an increase of 24.7% from the previous year

Figure9: TAS commencement, completion & in-training numbers, year to September Qtr, 2017-2021



## ACT summary: 12 months ending September 2021

As of 30 September 2021, there were 475 approved Australian Apprenticeship qualifications in the ACT. This is a decrease of 10.7% from 30 September 2020.

Note: The number of approved Australian Apprenticeship qualifications remained at 475 as of 30 March 2022.

Table 12: Qualification Classification by State

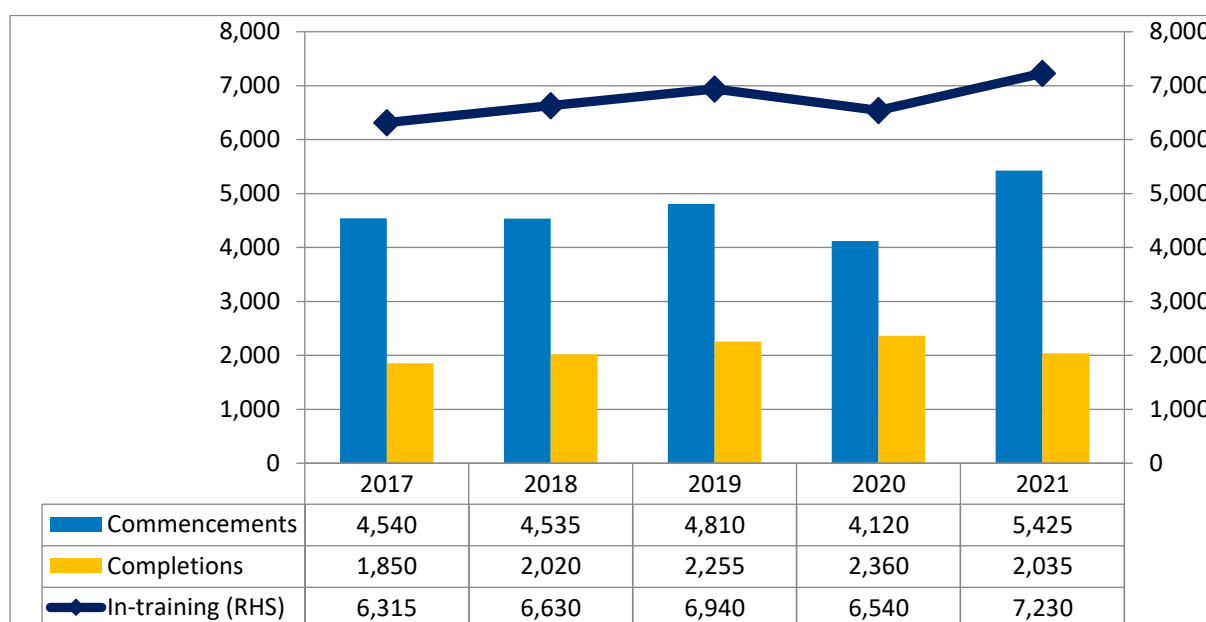
	Approved qualifications	Commencements
Apprenticeship	105	2003
Traineeship	370	3422
<b>Total</b>	<b>475</b>	<b>5425</b>

Note: The commencements figures in this table exclude qualifications that were not able to be matched against a classification, therefore may not match those shown in overall commencement figures.

In the 12 months to 30 September 2021, compared with the previous year:

- Commencements increased by 31.8% to 5,425
- Completions decreased by 13.8% to 2,035
- There were 7,230 apprentices and trainees in training, an increase of 10.5% from the previous year

Figure 10: ACT commencement, completion & in-training numbers, year to September Qtr, 2017-2021



## NT summary: 12 months ending September 2021

As of 30 September 2021, there were 324 approved Australian Apprenticeship qualifications in NT. This is a decrease of 70.2% from 30 September 2020.

Note: The number of approved Australian Apprenticeship qualifications increased to 336 as of 30 March 2022.

Table 13: Qualification Classification by State

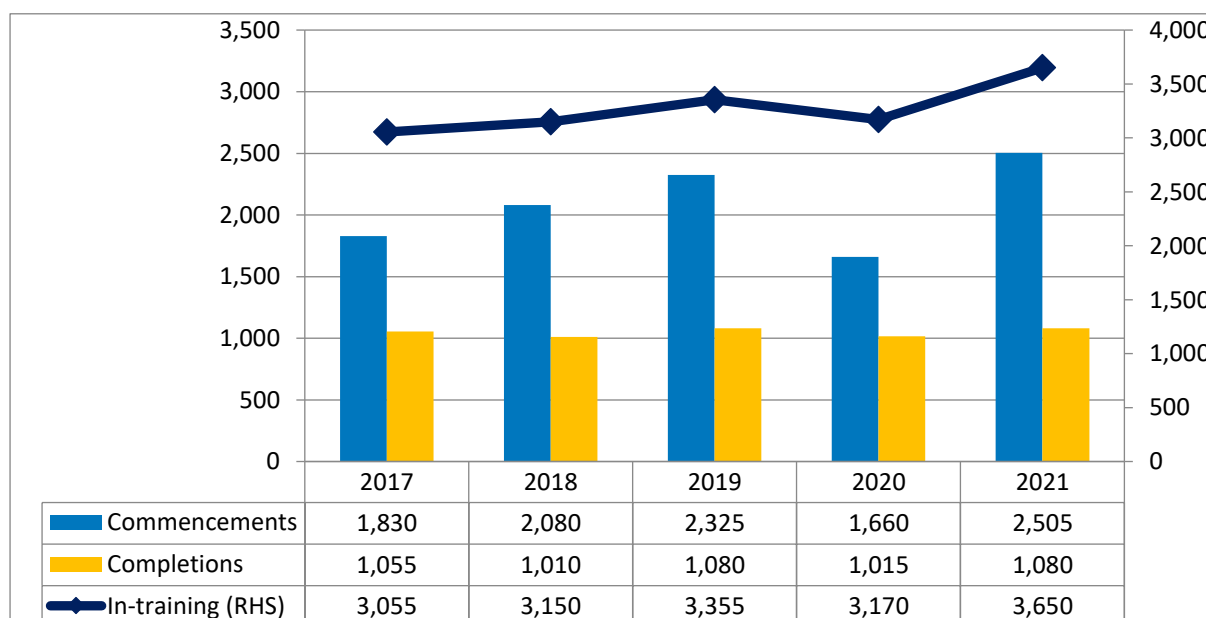
	Approved qualifications	Commencements
<b>Apprenticeship</b>	65	867
<b>Traineeship</b>	259	1638
<b>Total</b>	<b>324</b>	<b>2505</b>

Note: The commencements figures in this table exclude qualifications that were not able to be matched against a classification, therefore may not match those shown in overall commencement figures.

In the 12 months to 30 September 2021, compared with the previous year:

- Commencements increased by 51.1% to 2,505
- Completions increased by 6.6% to 1,080
- There were 3,650 apprentices and trainees in training, an increase of 15.1% from the previous year

Figure 11: NT commencement, completion & in-training numbers, year to September Qtr, 2017-2021



## Notes and definitions

### Data sources

Data for this report were sourced from:

- [State and Territory Training Authorities](#)
- [NCVER Apprentices and trainees 2021: September quarter - Australia](#)
- [NCVER Completion and attrition rates for apprentices and trainees 2020](#)

All commencement, completion and in-training numbers are rounded to the nearest 5.

### Notes

#### Boosting Apprenticeship Commencements

[Boosting Apprenticeship Commencements \(BAC\)](#) is an Australian government wage subsidy which supports businesses to take on new apprentices and trainees. Eligible businesses may receive up to 50% or \$7000 per quarter, for 12 months from commencement of the apprentice or trainee.

This initiative was a response to COVID-19 and the related decline of Australian Apprenticeship commencements. BAC was initially announced for 100,000 places but has subsequently been expanded until 30 June 2022. As anticipated, since the start of BAC there has been a large increase in commencements.

In October 2021, the Completing Apprenticeship Commencements (CAC) wage subsidy was also implemented. It is anticipated that CAC will affect completion rates for the December 2021 quarter onwards. The current data release is not impacted by CAC.

#### Qualification classifications and commencements totals

The states and territories maintain schedules of qualifications that are approved to be undertaken as an Australian Apprenticeship. Each state and territory, excluding Tasmania, classifies Australian Apprenticeships into two groupings: apprenticeships and traineeships.

AATIS collects data on which qualifications are approved as an Australian Apprenticeship, and on their classification as an apprenticeship or traineeship. There are several caveats around this data:

- Apprenticeship and traineeship qualification totals exclude qualifications with a status of deleted
- When a state includes both a superseded and current qualification, only the most recent qualification is used and the superseded qualification is excluded
- Where a qualification has streams with different classifications across streams, the most common classification is used for the full qualification
- States and territories frequently remove qualifications, particularly when replacing them with a newly approved qualification. The total approved qualifications accounts for the qualifications that are removed, and for those which are added

## Definitions

**Australian Apprenticeship:** Including both apprenticeships and traineeships; a contract of training approved by the relevant State or Territory Training Authority.

**Apprenticeship:** Qualifications classified by the relevant State or Territory Training Authority (STA) as an apprenticeship. [Further details can be found from each STA.](#)

**Traineeship:** Qualifications classified by the relevant State or Territory Training Authority (STA) as a traineeship. [Further details can be found from each STA.](#)

**Trade:** Occupations classified as group 3, Technical and Trade Workers, under ANZSCO. Each qualification has an ANZSCO code assigned from which this is taken. [Codes can be found on training.gov.au.](#)

**Non-trade:** Occupations classified in an ANZSCO group other than group 3. This includes: Community and personal service workers, Clerical and administrative workers, Sales Workers, Machinery operators and drivers, Labourers, Managers, Professionals, and Other. [Codes can be found on training.gov.au.](#)

**Superseded qualification:** Qualifications with a status of 'superseded' on [training.gov.au.](#)

**Deleted qualification:** Qualifications with a status of 'deleted' on [training.gov.au.](#)

The following definitions are taken from NCVET. For more information on their definitions, please see the ['Terms & definitions' information for the Apprentices and Trainees Collection.](#)

**Commencement:** "The number of apprenticeship/traineeship training contracts that started in a given period."

**In-training:** "The number of apprenticeship/traineeship training contracts where the apprentice/trainee is actively training under the terms of their contract, and who have not completed, cancelled or withdrawn from their training, or had their training contract expired without meeting all of the prescribed requirements of their program at a given point in time."

**Completion:** "The number of apprenticeship/traineeship training contracts where all of the prescribed requirements have been met in a given period."

**Contract completion rate:** "Refers to the proportion of apprentices and trainees who have commenced a contract in a given period and who have since completed the requirements of training for that contract."

**Individual completion rate:** "An estimate of the individual completion rate for apprentices and trainees, derived by adjusting the original contract completion rate by a recommencement factor."