

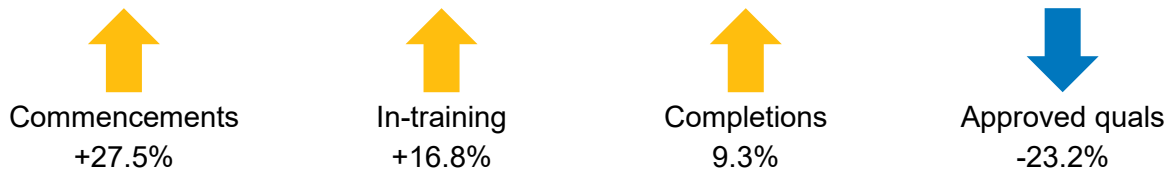
Australian Apprenticeships Summary Statistics

This report uses January 2021 to December 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. 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 December 2021, with a prolonged spike in commencements.

Australia-wide highlights

In the 12 months to 31 December 2021, compared with the previous year:



Qualification overview

As of 31 December 2021, there were 1,079 approved Australian Apprenticeship qualifications in Australia. This is a decrease of 27.9% from 31 December 2020.

There were 1572 new qualifications approved by the States and Territories in the year to December 2021. This was a significant increase from the previous year to December 2020 (509). 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, 31 December 2021

	NSW	VIC	QLD	WA	SA	TAS	ACT	NT
Apprenticeship	114	116	109	90	131	NA	104	66
Traineeship	518	396	323	394	499	NA	373	263
Total	632	512	432	484	630	383	477	329

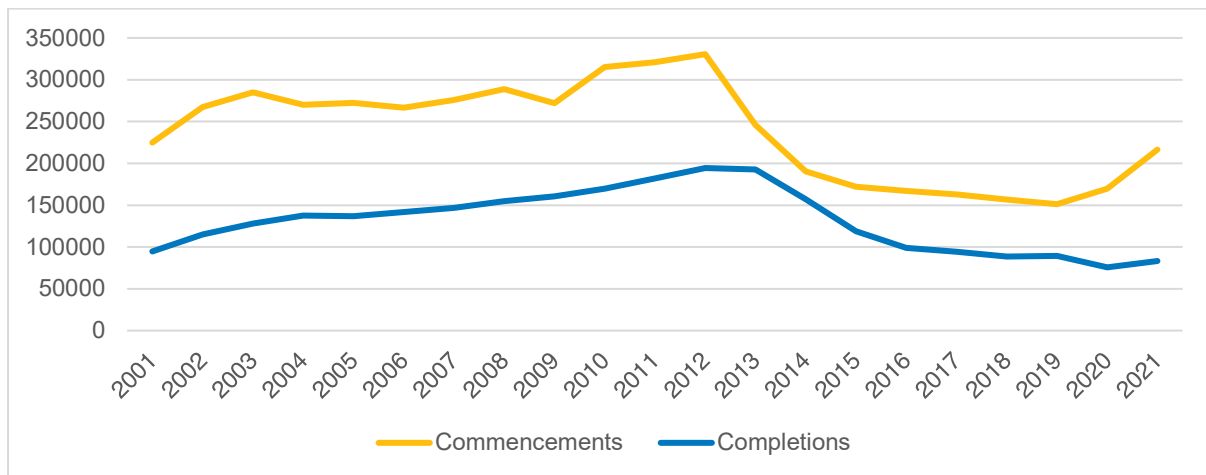
Note: Tasmania does not provide classification data

Australian Apprenticeship statistics overview

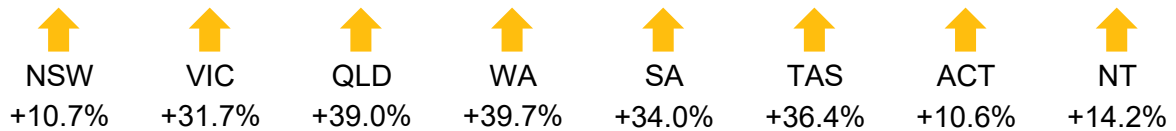
In the 12 months to 31 December 2021, compared with the previous year:

- Commencements increased by 27.5% to 216,445
- Completions increased by 9.3% to 83,0558
- In-training numbers at 31 December increased by 16.8% to 349,235

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

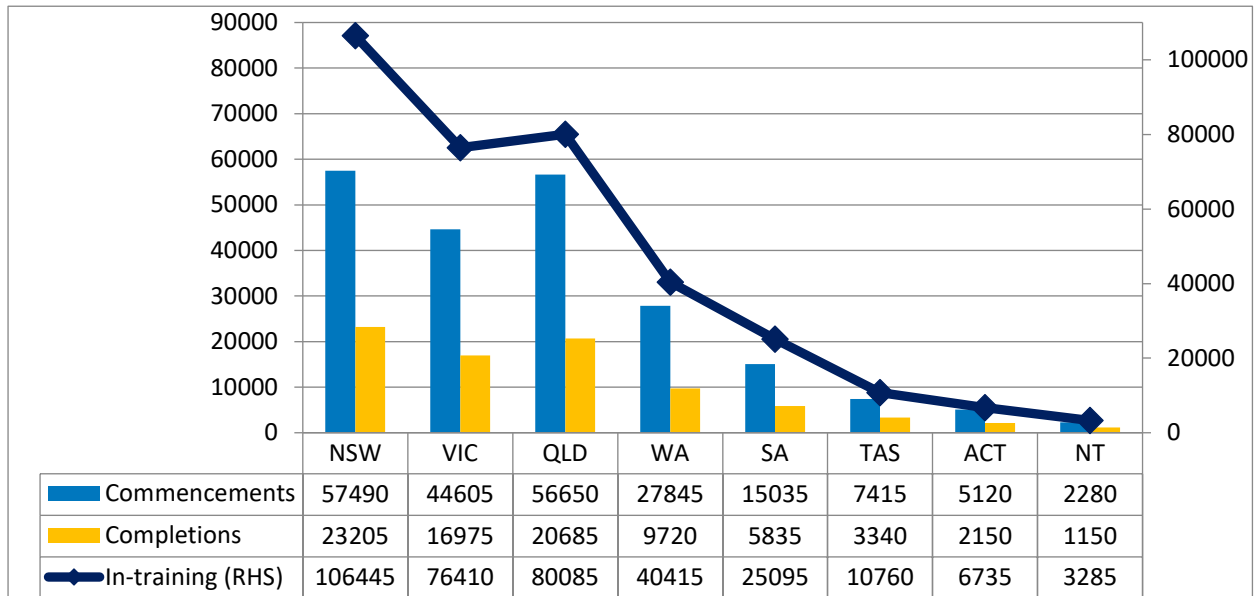


State and Territory commencements compared with the previous year, showed:



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

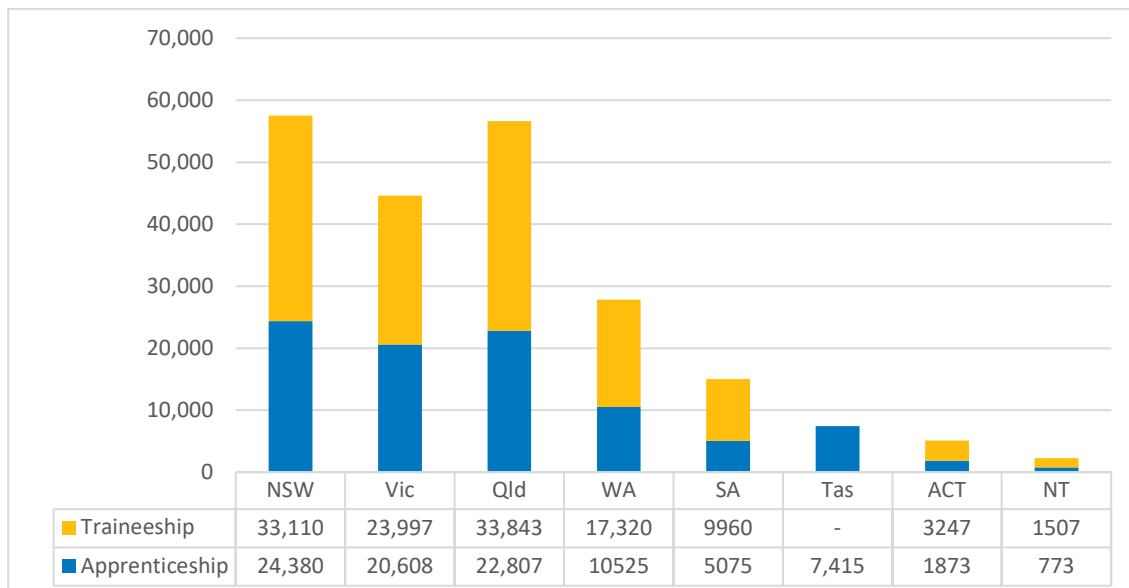
Figure 2: Commencement, completion, and in-training numbers, by state and territory



Note: Commencements and completions statistics are for 12 months. In training numbers are as at 31 December 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 December 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 December 2021 ('000)

	NSW	VIC	QLD	WA	SA	TAS	ACT	NT	AUS
BSB Business Services	7.8	5.3	11.1	3.3	3.0	1.4	0.5	0.3	32.7
CPC Construction	8.5	8.3	6.9	2.3	1.5	1.0	0.7	0.2	29.4
CHC Community Services	6.3	3.1	3.2	2.4	1.2	0.7	0.6	0.4	17.8
SIT Tourism, Hospitality	3.2	4.5	5.5	2.5	0.5	0.3	0.7	0.1	17.4
UEE Electrotechnology	4.4	3.8	3.6	1.9	1.0	0.2	0.5	0.2	15.7
AUR Auto RS&R	3.8	2.8	3.8	2.7	0.9	0.4	0.2	0.2	14.8
SIR Retail Services	3.6	1.6	2.1	1.6	1.6	0.7	0.2	0.2	11.7
MEM Metal & Engineering	2.2	1.3	3.1	2.1	0.6	0.3	0.0	0.1	9.9
RIL Resources & Infra.	1.5	0.6	2.8	3.1	0.6	0.2	0.1	0.1	8.9
TLI Transport & Logistics	2.8	1.9	2.2	1.2	0.5	0.2	0.1	0.1	8.9

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

	NSW	VIC	QLD	WA	SA	TAS	ACT	NT	AUS
* UEE30811 C3 in Electrotechnology Electrician	3277	3210	2637	944	772	212	333	121	11507
SIT30616 C3 in Hospitality	1344	2710	3605	1567	236	94	478	56	10090
* CPC30211 C3 in Carpentry	2945	2728	2491	52	425	519	377	109	9647
BSB30120 C3 in Business	1929	1314	3665	793	931	158	38	84	8913
SIR30216 C3 in Retail	2611	1100	1562	1078	1471	599	128	88	8638
* CHC30113 C3 in Early Childhood Education and Care	2923	827	1427	717	105	109	256	77	6441
* CPC32413 C3 in Plumbing	1283	2673	1050	517	128	106	228	54	6040
* BSB30115 C3 in Business	516	867	2510	644	500	173	48	59	5318
* TLI30319 C3 in Supply Chain Operations	1411	1151	1374	668	164	81	47	27	4624
SHB30416 C3 in Hairdressing	948	733	1152	509	301	91	135	32	3901

*Note: UEE30811 Certificate III in Electrotechnology Electrician, CPC30211 Certificate III in Carpentry, CHC30113 Certificate III in Early Childcare Education and Care, CPC32413 Certificate III in Plumbing, BSB30115 Certificate III in Business and TLI30319 Certificate III in Supply Chain Operations are all superseded and are no longer approved in any states or territory.

Also, some qualifications such as Certificate III in Light Vehicle Mechanical Technology which would traditionally be listed in the table above are not shown due to commencements being split across the current and superseded qualifications.

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

	NSW	VIC	QLD	WA	SA	TAS	ACT	NT	AUS
Technician & Trade Workers	25.9	24.4	25.4	11.6	6.2	3.0	2.0	0.9	99.3
Community and personal service workers	9.4	8.0	8.2	4.9	1.9	1.2	1.2	0.5	35.4
Clerical and administrative workers	9.1	5.8	11.0	3.8	2.8	1.3	0.8	0.3	34.9
Sales Workers	6.2	2.3	3.4	1.8	1.8	0.8	0.3	0.2	16.8
Labourers	2.8	2.2	3.4	2.2	0.8	0.6	0.1	0.2	12.2
Machinery operators and drivers	2.8	1.1	3.7	3.1	0.8	0.4	0.1	0.1	12.1
Managers	0.8	0.6	0.9	0.2	0.4	0.1	0.5	0.0	3.5
Professionals	0.6	0.3	0.6	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.0	2.2
Other	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1

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 December 2021 ('000)

	NSW	VIC	QLD	WA	SA	TAS	ACT	NT	AUS
Construction (E)	14.2	13.8	12.6	4.6	2.3	1.5	1.3	0.4	50.7
Accommodation (H)	6.1	5.6	7.9	3.1	1.6	0.7	0.8	0.1	25.8
Administrative and Support Services (N)	5.1	5.6	5.7	3.4	3.1	0.8	0.2	0.1	24.0
Health Care and Social Assistance (Q)	6.5	3.4	4.3	2.5	1.3	0.9	0.6	0.3	19.8
Other Services (S)	4.9	3.3	5.4	2.7	0.9	0.4	0.4	0.2	18.1
Manufacturing (C)	3.5	4.0	4.7	1.8	1.3	0.7	0.1	0.1	16.1
Retail Trade (G)	2.8	1.8	3.1	0.8	0.9	0.5	0.1	0.2	10.2
Public Administration and Safety (O)	2.2	0.3	1.2	0.9	0.7	0.3	0.9	0.1	6.6
Mining (B)	0.4	0.0	1.1	4.1	0.3	0.1	0.0	0.1	6.2
Education and Training (P)	1.6	1.3	1.3	0.7	0.5	0.1	0.3	0.2	6.1

Completion rate summary

Completion rates are released annually for cohorts who commenced 5 years previously. This data is sourced from NCVET’s ‘Completion and attrition rates for apprentices and trainees 2021’ report. For those who commenced in 2017:

- Contract completion rates fell 0.9 percentage points to 48.1%
- Individual completion rates fell 1.2 percentage points to 55.7%

Note: The effects of COVID-19 on completion rates would be small, as a majority apprentices and trainees completed prior to the start of the pandemic.

Figure 4: Contract and individual completion rates for those commencing in 2017, trade and non-trade (%)

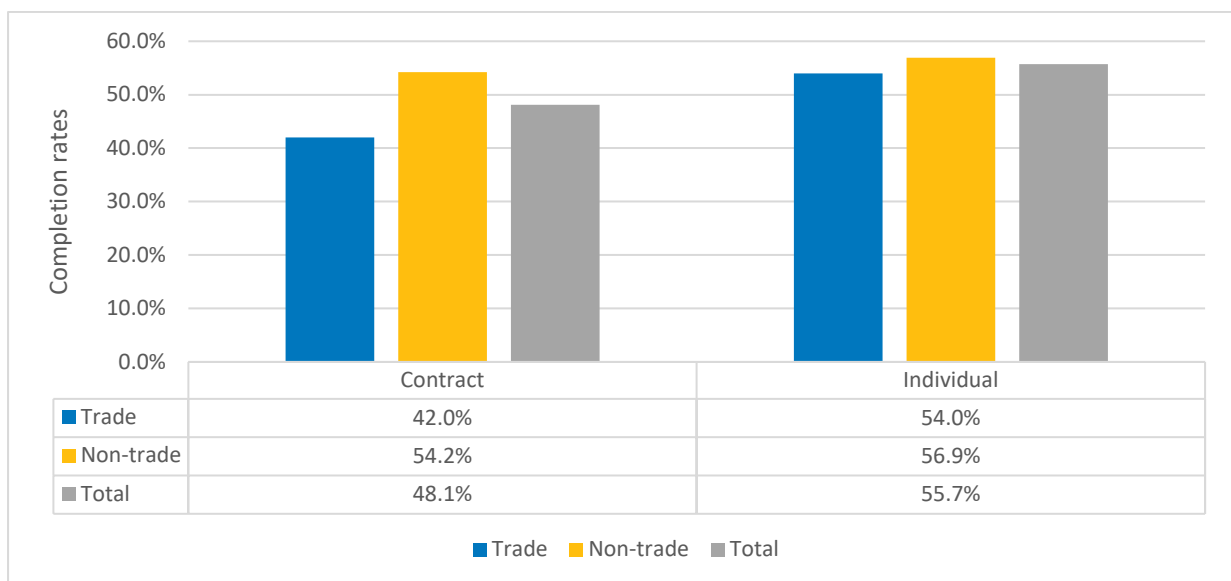
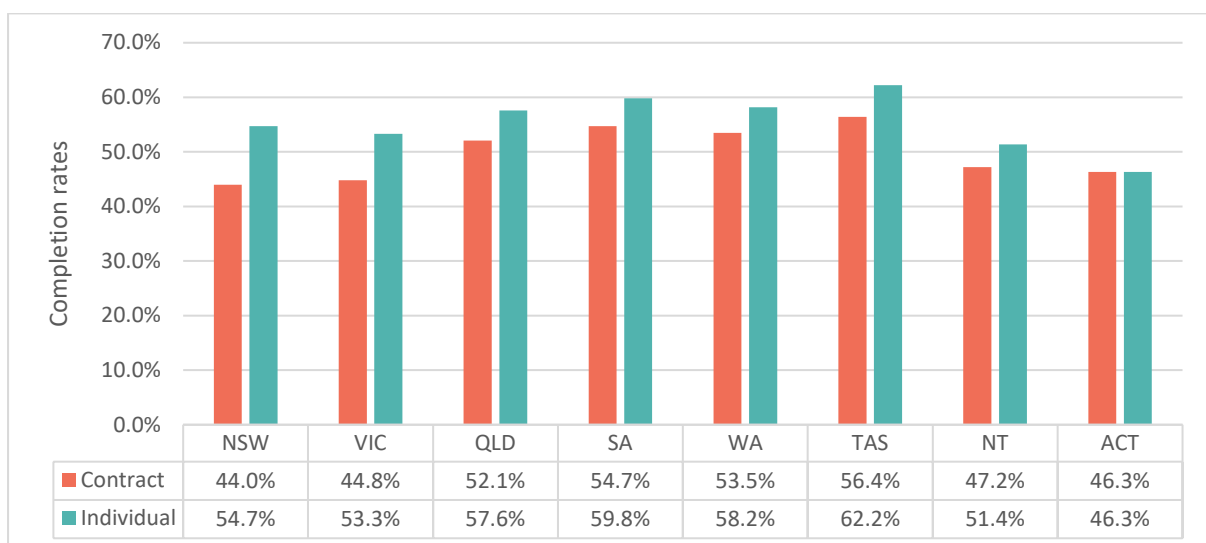


Figure 5: Contract and individual completion rates for those commencing in 2017, by state or territory (%)



State and territory completion rates show differences across Australia, with Tasmania having the highest contract and individual completion rates, while NSW has the lowest contract completion rates and ACT has the lowest individual completion rates.

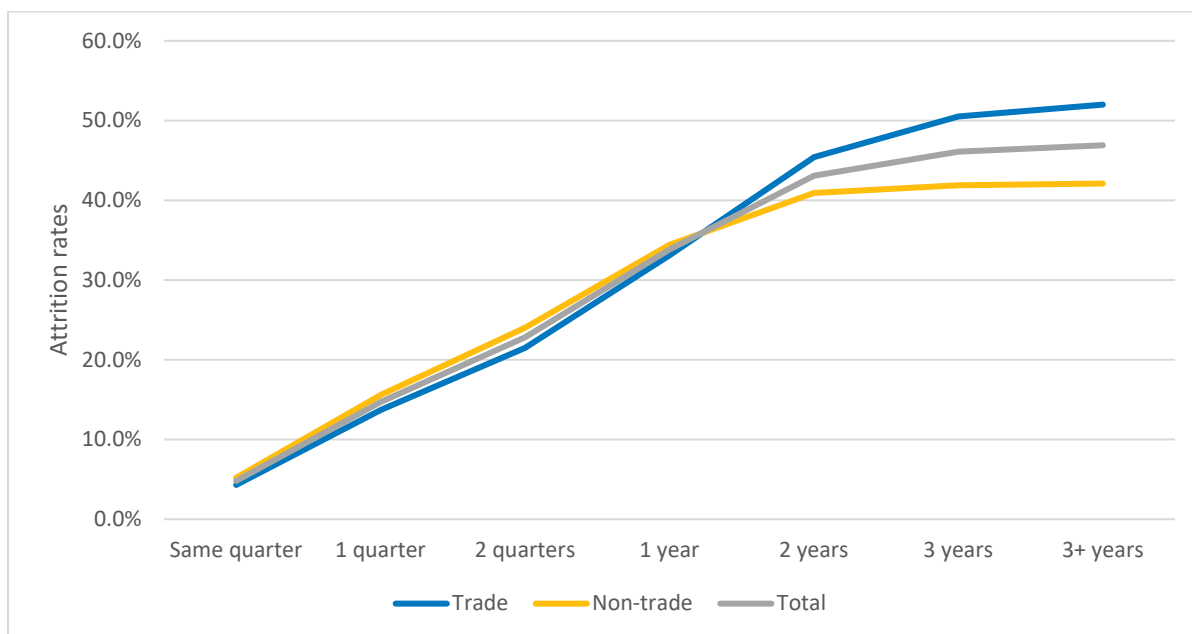
Contract completion rates range from 44.0% to 56.4%, while individual completion rates range from 46.3% to 62.2%.

Attrition rates

Attrition rates refer to the number of contracts that are cancelled or withdrawn and can be described as non-completions. Attrition rates dropped slightly (0.2 percentage points) between 2016 and 2017, at approximately a third of contracts within the first year.

It is important to note that attrition rates for the 2016 cohort, up to 3 years, are not affected by COVID-19. This would encompass the majority of non-trade and many trade Australian Apprentices.

Figure 6: Attrition rates over time for 2016 commencements (%)

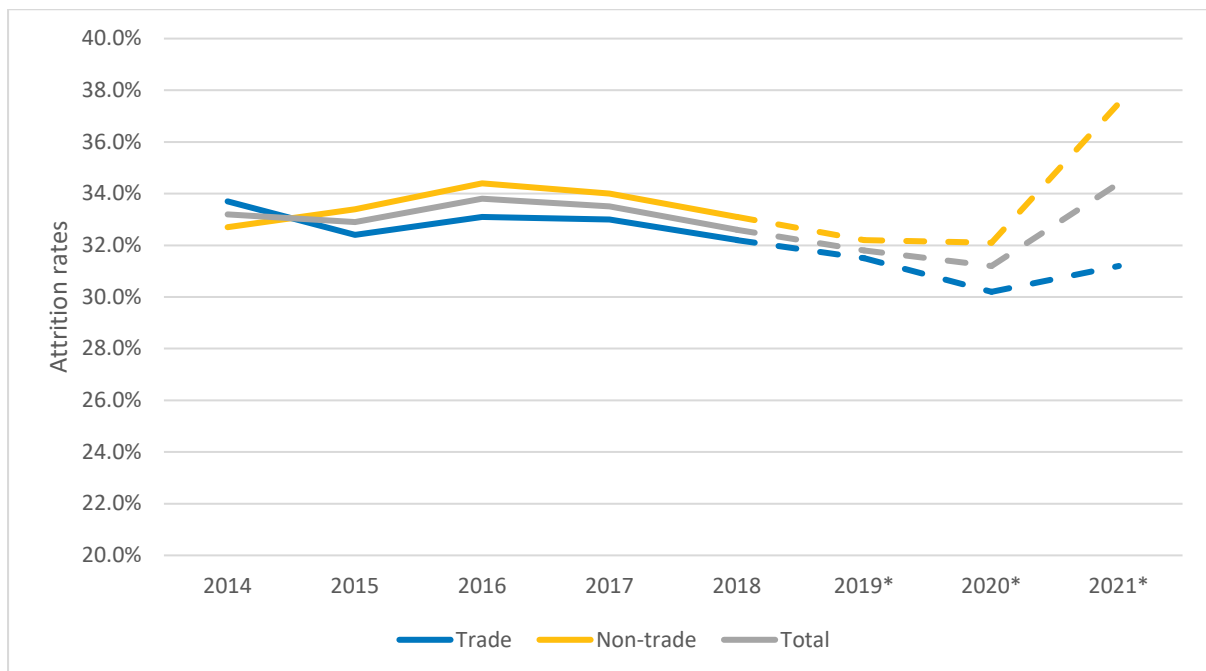


Contract completion and attrition rates vary across occupation groups, but trades typically have lower completion rates than non-trades.

Attrition rates for trades and non-trades closely match up to one year, but trades have a greater increase beyond this point. This is predominantly due to the higher duration of trades qualifications, with many non-trades apprentices and trainees completing within a year while trade apprentices and trainees continue with their training.

As well as observed attrition and completion rates, NCVET provides projections for cohorts who started in later years. The 12-month attrition rates over time indicate that attrition has been decreasing since 2016 but will increase for the 2021 cohort.

Figure 7: 12-month attrition rates from 2014 to 2018, and predicted attrition rates for 2019-2021 December quarter cohorts, trade vs non-trade (%)



*Note: 2019, 2020 and 2021 figures are projections based on the December quarter only.

The projected completion rates for 2019, 2020 and 2021 show the effects of Covid-19 and wage subsidies introduced to encourage Australian Apprenticeship sign ups.

The decline in attrition rates for the 2019 and 2020 cohorts may be due to a decrease in apprentices and trainees withdrawing from their Australian Apprenticeship during the economic uncertainty surrounding Covid-19 lockdowns.

Employers of Australian Apprentices were offered the Supporting Apprentices and Trainees Wage Subsidy if they maintained employment of apprentices and trainees during this period. The Boosting Apprenticeship Commencements (BAC) Wage Subsidy also encouraged employers to commence and keep on new apprentices and trainees in this period.

Projections indicate an increase in attrition for the 2021 cohort, despite this group also being eligible for the BAC Wage Subsidy for employers. This may be influenced by a highly competitive employment market with significant skills shortages across the economy.

Occupation group trends for 2017 cohort

In 2017, technician and trade workers (the ‘trade’ group) had higher commencement numbers compared with any of the ‘non-trade’ occupation groups. Technician and trade workers also had lower contract completion rates than all other groups, although as previously mentioned this would be influenced by the longer duration of most trade Australian Apprenticeships.

Table 6: 2017 commencement numbers and contract completion rates for key occupation groups

	Commence-ments	1-year attrition rates	Contract completion rates	Individual completion rates
Technician & trade workers	72846	33.0%	42.0%	54.0%
Community & personal service workers	27486	34.0%	55.6%	60.0%
Clerical & administrative workers	17560	33.0%	56.4%	57.6%
Sales workers	15864	33.4%	51.4%	54.2%
Machinery operators & drivers	14862	32.9%	56.0%	58.2%
Labourers	11870	38.7%	50.5%	52.3%
Managers	2119	28.7%	49.0%	50.1%
Professionals	418	22.7%	57.0%	60.2%

The lowest individual completion rates were for managers followed by labourers, while professionals and community and personal service workers had the highest individual completion rates. Notably, labourers had higher 1-year attrition rates compared with all other groups, but similar contract and individual completion rates.

NSW summary: 12 months ending December 2021

As of 31 December 2021, there were 632 approved Australian Apprenticeship qualifications in New South Wales. This is a decrease of 16.1% from 31 December 2020.

Note: The number of approved Australian Apprenticeship qualifications decreased to 583 as of 31 July 2022.

Table 7: Qualification Classification by State

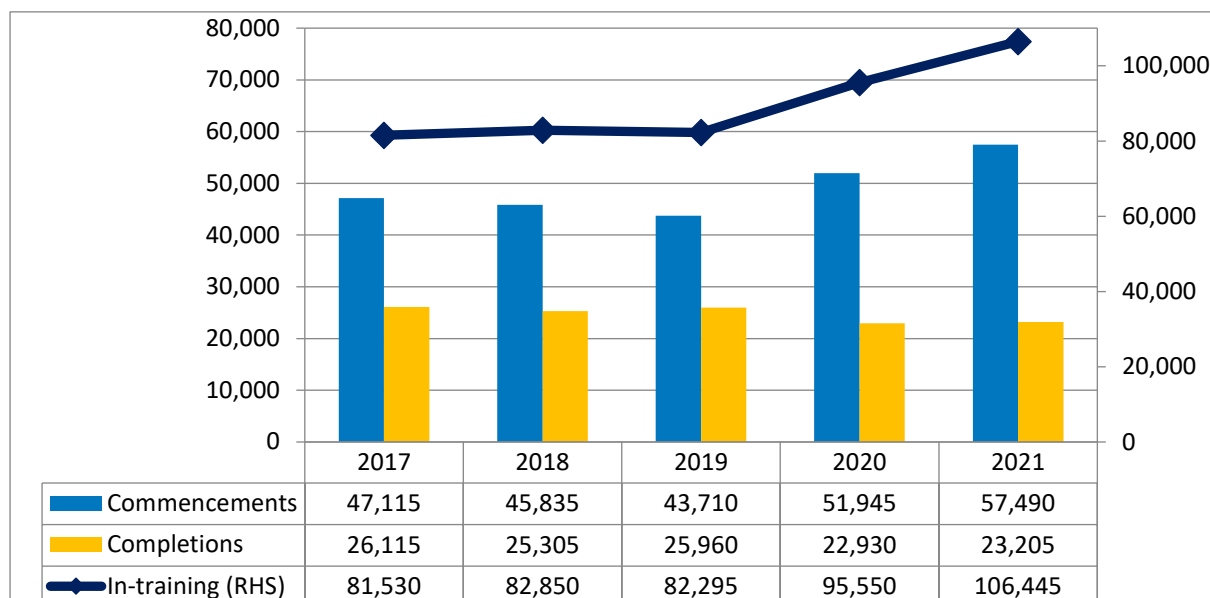
	Approved qualifications	Commencements
Apprenticeship	114	24,380
Traineeship	518	33,110
Total	632	57,490

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 31 December 2021, compared with the previous year:

- Commencements increased by 10.7% to 57,490
- Completions increased by 1.2% to 23,205
- There were 106,445 apprentices and trainees in training, an increase of 11.4% from the previous year

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



VIC summary: 12 months ending December 2021

As of 31 December 2021, there were 512 approved Australian Apprenticeship qualifications in the Victoria. This is a decrease of 6.2% from 31 December 2020.

Note: The number of approved Australian Apprenticeship qualifications decreased to 502 as of 31 July 2022.

Table 8: Qualification Classification by State

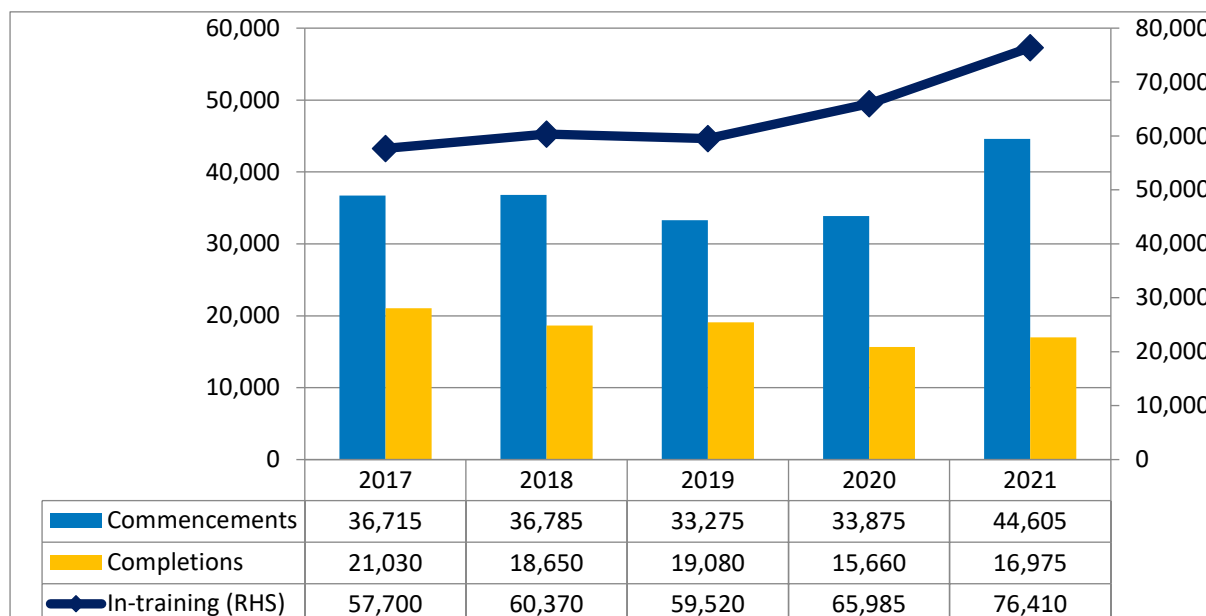
	Approved qualifications	Commencements
Apprenticeship	116	20,608
Traineeship	396	23,997
Total	512	44,605

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 31 December 2021, compared with the previous year:

- Commencements increased by 31.7% to 44,605
- Completions increased by 8.4% to 16,975
- There were 76,410 apprentices and trainees in training, an increase of 18.5% from the previous year

Figure 9: VIC commencement, completion & in-training numbers, year to December Qtr, 2017-2021



QLD summary: 12 months ending December 2021

As of 31 December 2021, there were 432 approved Australian Apprenticeship qualifications in Queensland. This is a decrease of 5.3% from 31 December 2020.

Note: The number of approved Australian Apprenticeship qualifications decreased to 427 as of 31 July 2022.

Table 9: Qualification Classification by State

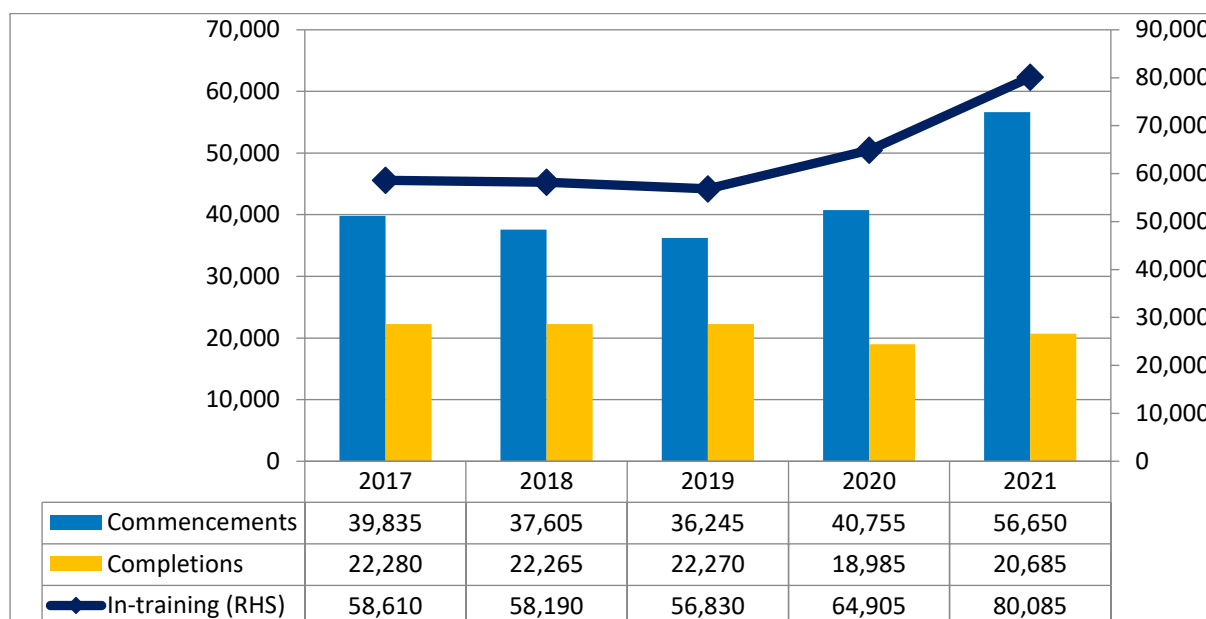
	Approved qualifications	Commencements
Apprenticeship	109	22,807
Traineeship	323	33,843
Total	432	56,650

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 31 December 2021, compared with the previous year:

- Commencements increased by 39.0% to 56,650
- Completions increased by 8.9% to 20,685
- There were 80,085 apprentices and trainees in training, an increase of 23.4% from the previous year

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



WA summary: 12 months ending December 2021

As of 31 December 2021, there were 484 approved Australian Apprenticeship qualifications in Western Australia. This is a decrease of 6.4% from 31 December 2020.

Note: The number of approved Australian Apprenticeship qualifications decreased to 474 as of 31 July 2022.

Table 10: Qualification Classification by State

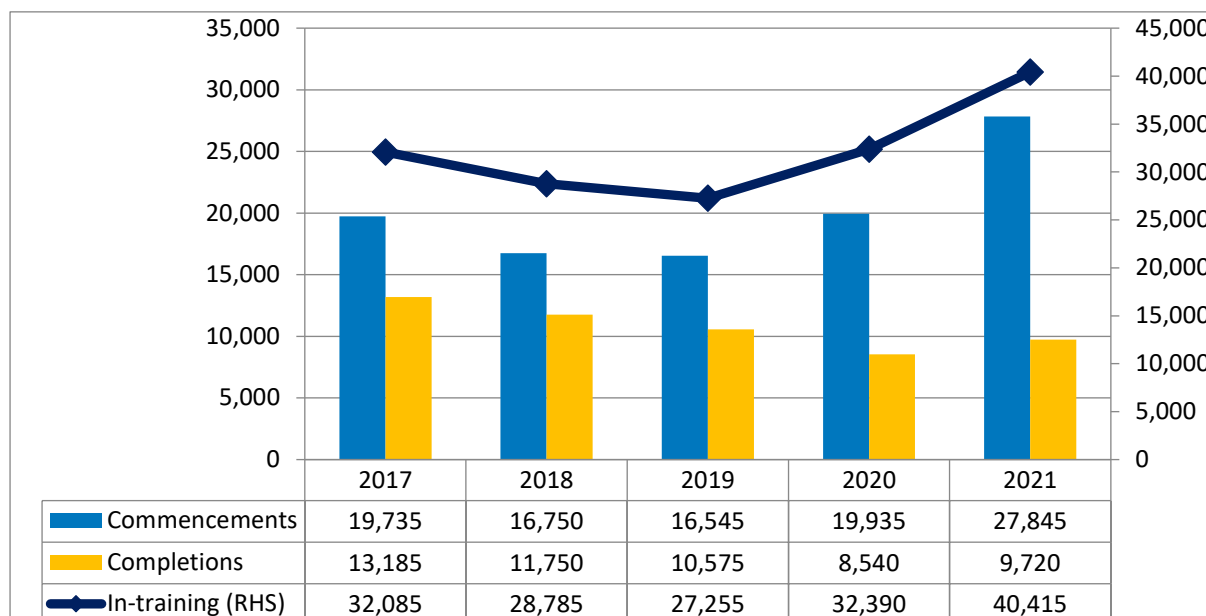
	Approved qualifications	Commencements
Apprenticeship	90	10,525
Traineeship	394	17,320
Total	484	27,845

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 31 December 2021, compared with the previous year:

- Commencements increased by 39.7% to 27,845
- Completions increased by 13.8% to 9,720
- There were 40,415 apprentices and trainees in training, an increase of 24.8% from the previous year

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



SA summary: 12 months ending December 2021

As of 31 December 2021, there were 630 approved Australian Apprenticeship qualifications in South Australia. This is a decrease of 10.1% from 31 December 2020.

Note: The number of approved Australian Apprenticeship qualifications decreased to 619 as of 31 July 2022.

Table 11: Qualification Classification by State

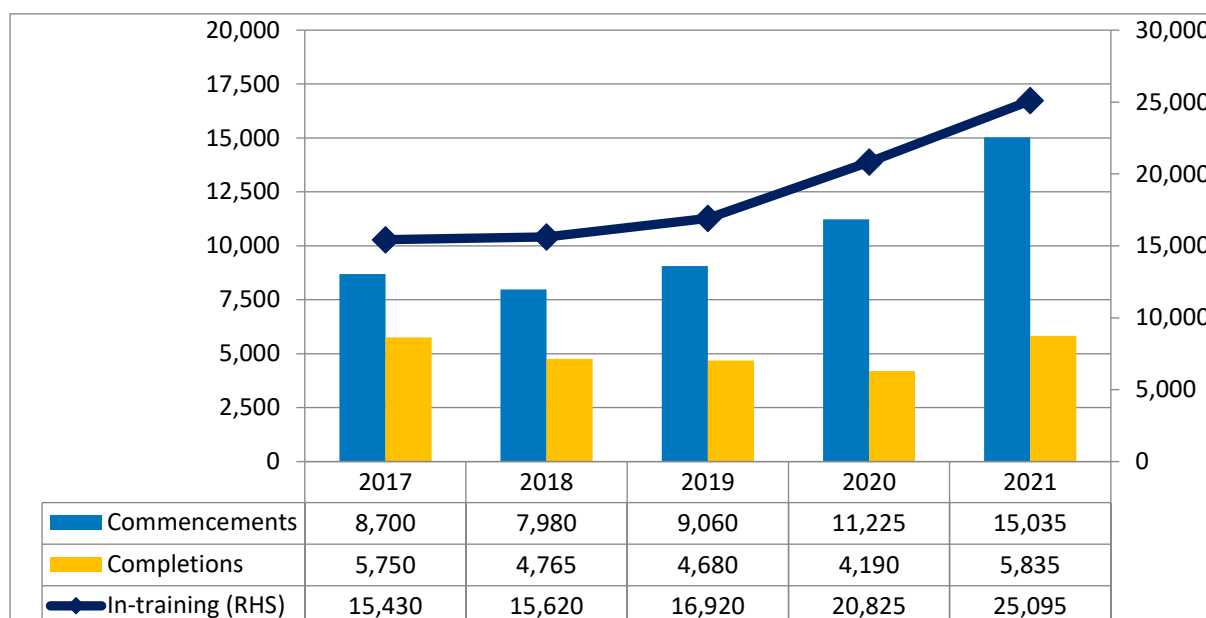
	Approved qualifications	Commencements
Apprenticeship	131	5075
Traineeship	499	9,960
Total	630	15,035

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 31 December 2021, compared with the previous year:

- Commencements increased by 34.0% to 15,035
- Completions increased by 39.2% to 5,835
- There were 25,095 apprentices and trainees in training, an increase of 20.5% from the previous year

Figure 12: SA commencement, completion & in-training numbers, year to December Qtr, 2017-2021



TAS summary: 12 months ending December 2021

As of 31 December 2021, there were 383 approved Australian Apprenticeship qualifications in Tasmania. This is an increase of 3.5% from 31 December 2020.

Note: The number of approved Australian Apprenticeship qualifications increased to 389 as of 31 July 2022.

Table 12: Qualification Classification by State: Classification data is not provided by Tasmania

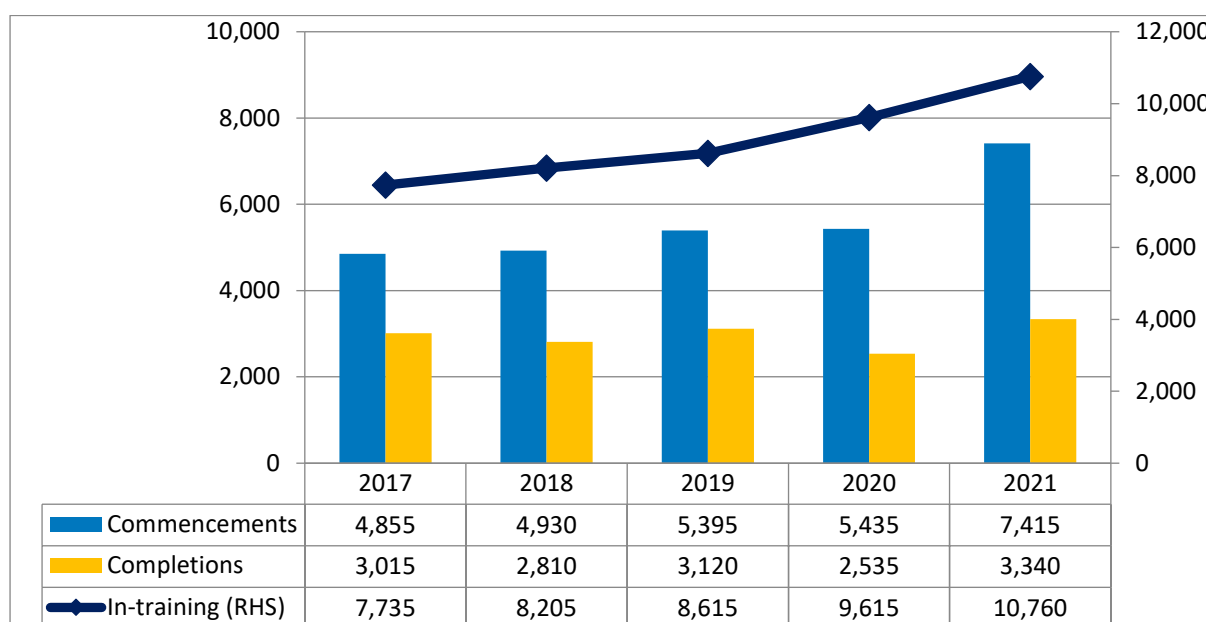
	Approved qualifications	Commencements
Apprenticeship	NA	NA
Traineeship	NA	NA
Total	383	7,415

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 December 2021, compared with the previous year:

- Commencements increased by 36.4% to 7,415
- Completions increased by 31.8% to 3,340
- There were 10,760 apprentices and trainees in training, an increase of 11.9% from the previous year

Figure 13: TAS commencement, completion & in-training numbers, year to December Qtr, 2017-2021



ACT summary: 12 months ending December 2021

As of 31 December 2021, there were 477 approved Australian Apprenticeship qualifications in the ACT. This is a decrease of 8.9% from 31 December 2020.

Note: The number of approved Australian Apprenticeship qualifications decreased to 472 as of 31 July 2022.

Table 13: Qualification Classification by State

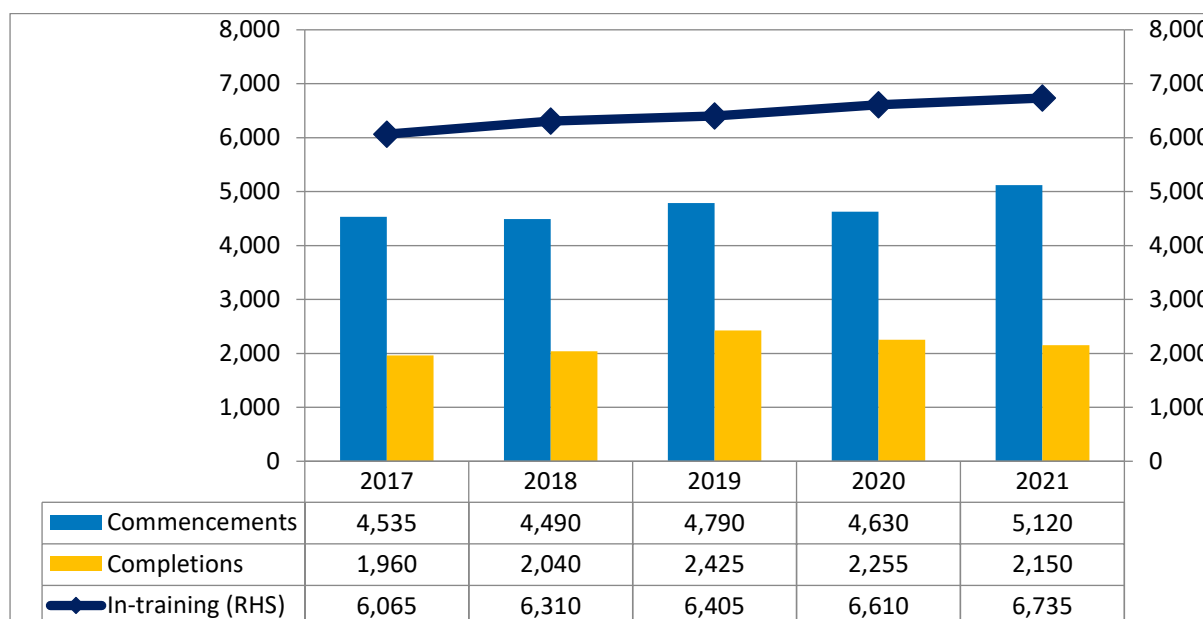
	Approved qualifications	Commencements
Apprenticeship	104	1,873
Traineeship	373	3,247
Total	477	5,120

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 31 December 2021, compared with the previous year:

- Commencements increased by 10.6% to 5,120
- Completions decreased by 4.7% to 2,150
- There were 6,735 apprentices and trainees in training, an increase of 1.9% from the previous year

Figure 14: ACT commencement, completion & in-training numbers, year to December Qtr, 2017-2021



NT summary: 12 months ending December 2021

As of 31 December 2021, there were 329 approved Australian Apprenticeship qualifications in NT. This is a decrease of 68.9% from 31 December 2020.

Note: The number of approved Australian Apprenticeship qualifications decreased to 297 as of 31 July 2022.

Table 14: Qualification Classification by State

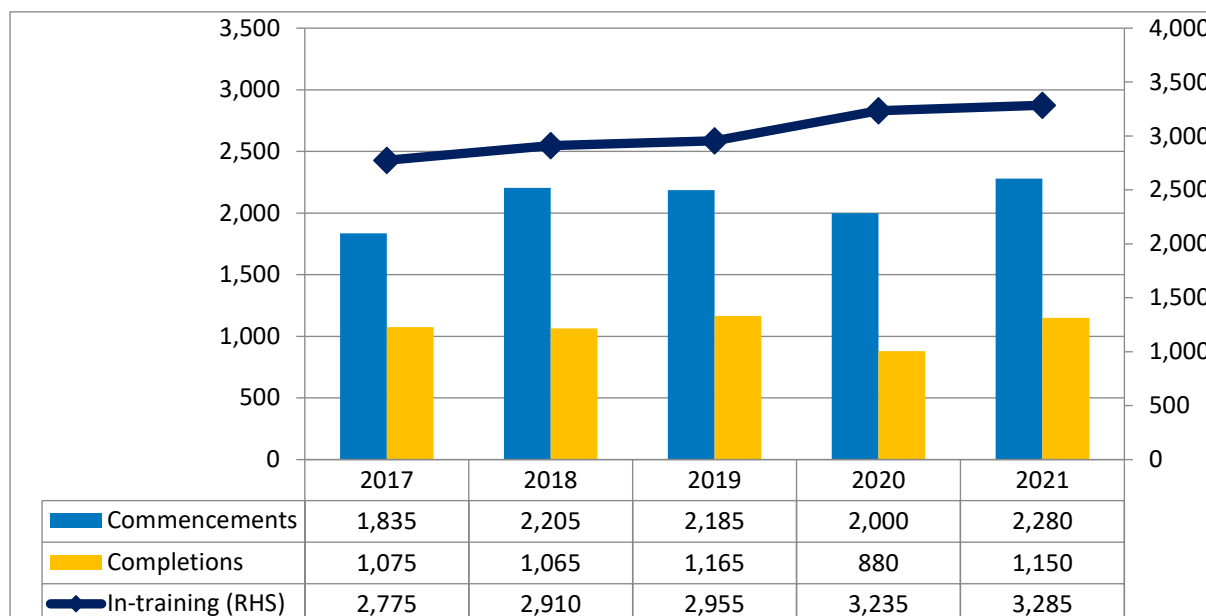
	Approved qualifications	Commencements
Apprenticeship	66	773
Traineeship	263	1,507
Total	329	2,280

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 31 December 2021, compared with the previous year:

- Commencements increased by 14.2% to 2,280
- Completions increased by 30.4% to 1,150
- There were 3,285 apprentices and trainees in training, an increase of 1.5% from the previous year

Figure 15: NT commencement, completion & in-training numbers, year to December 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: December 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."