

Education Indicators and Critical Issues: Australia 2014/2015 and 2022/2023

Education Sector	Participation/ enrolments (Million)			Enabling conditions		Critical sector issues
	2014/2015	2022/2023	% Change in enrolments	% teaching workforce casual/ fixed term	public /private mix	
Early childhood - children getting CCS - % 0-5s getting CCS	1.269m 40.8%	1.413m ¹ 49.9% ²	11.4%	24% ³	% of Centre Based Day Care place run for profit ¹ 2013 – 58.8% 2022 – 70.0%	Effective regulation for quality Fragmentation Low pay 'Skill shortages' ³
School education - students K – 12 - Retention Y10 – Y12	3.682m 84.0%	4.081m ⁴ 79.1% ⁴	10%	37% ⁵	Enrolments: - Government: 67% - Non-govt: 33% ⁴	Work intensification, growing workers comp claims, wage suppression, 'skill shortages' ⁶
Higher Education - total enrolments/[foreign] - total domestic students (%19 years old population)	1.410m/[.363] 1.047 39.8%	1.603m/[443] ⁷ 1.160 41.7%	13.7% [21.8%] 10.8%	41.6% ⁸	While most sector publicly owned government funding only accounts for 54.4% of expenditure. ⁷	Rise of casuals + fixed term work changing connection between research + teaching. Chronic deficient government funding widespread deficits across the sector. ⁹
Vocational education - students with public subsidy - % pop without post-school qualification - people taking higher order (non-degree) vocational qualification -% employees reporting employer provided training	1.035 40.0% 46,489 26.9%	1.138 ¹⁰ 36.3% ¹¹ 37,107 ¹¹ 23.0% ¹²	10%	53.5% ¹³ (TAFE: 61.3%)	While most of this sector publicly funded, most growth funding gone to private providers. VET teaching workforce proportion (FTE) 2019: - TAFE 37.4%, - For profit 32.4%, - Schools 11.8%, - Other 18.4%. ¹³	Important to recognise diversity of student pop: Apprentices + Trainees (30%), subsidised students due to disadvantage (40%), other classroom based, full qualification students (30%). Marketisation has resulted in ongoing quality issues + financial scandals. While business leaders call for more 'responsive education' employer contribution to skill formation is falling. ¹⁴
Australian population	23.816m	26.659m ¹⁵	11.9%			

Notes:

CCS – child care subsidy
ECEC – early childhood education and care

Sources

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- <https://www.education.gov.au/higher-education-statistics/resources/2023-staff-summary-time-series> and Norton 2023
- Croucher, G (2023) [*Three Decades of Change in Australia’s University Workforce*](#)
- NCVET VET stats, data only covers the years 2018 and 2022 as comparable data for earlier year unobtainable. VET Data = rogs-202405-partb-section5-vet-data-tables
- [Productivity Commission – monitoring of COAG VET target can be found here](#). Note that reporting on this KPI series has been suspended. The website states ‘The Report on Government Services (RoGS) and the Performance Reporting Dashboard are currently being reviewed by the Council on Federal Financial Relations (CFFR). The review will consider the objectives, scope, use and effectiveness of the RoGS and the Dashboard, and opportunities to streamline and improve these performance reporting arrangements. While this review is underway, updates to this Performance Reporting Dashboard will be paused.’
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