



Australian Government



Jobs and Skills Australia

How Can We Build Australia's Fire Protection Capability

Trevor Gauld Deputy Commissioner

Fire Australia 2026

Acknowledgement of Country

Jobs and Skills Australia acknowledges the Traditional Owners and Custodians of Country throughout Australia and acknowledges their continuing connection to land, waters and community. We pay our respects to the people, the cultures and the Elders past and present.



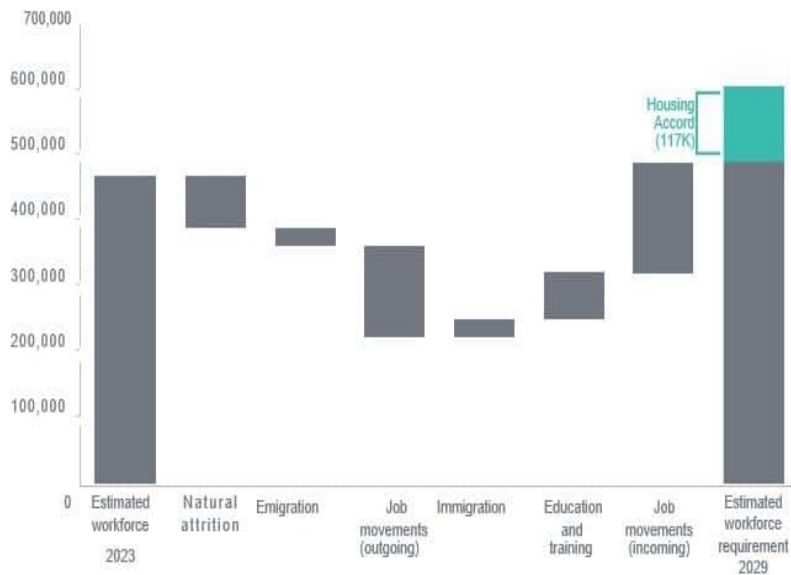
Construction & Energy Jobs

BuildSkills | The Labour Requirement

Residential construction labour flows, 2023-2029

Source: Oxford Economics (2024)

Notes: Required workforce 2029 reflects the 2029 baseline employment expectation and the increase required to support a level of construction activity consistent with achieving the National Housing Accord target.



Online job advertisements

870 (+21.2%)

Dec 2025 to Mar 2026

300 (+6.5%) from a year ago

Advertised vacancies filled

44 % for 2025 calendar year

Down 9.5 pts from a year ago

Recruitment rate

49% for 12 months to Mar 2026

- 1% point from a year ago

Recruitment difficulty

58% for 12 months to Mar 2026

+ 1% point from a year ago

Aggregate hours worked

10.87 million hours
(13.1%)

over the year to November 2024

Level of employment

286,700
(6.4%)

over the year to November 2024

VET National Data Asset

Snapshot Certificate II in Fire Protection Inspection and Testing

Course: CPP20521

National Data

Employment rate – 94%

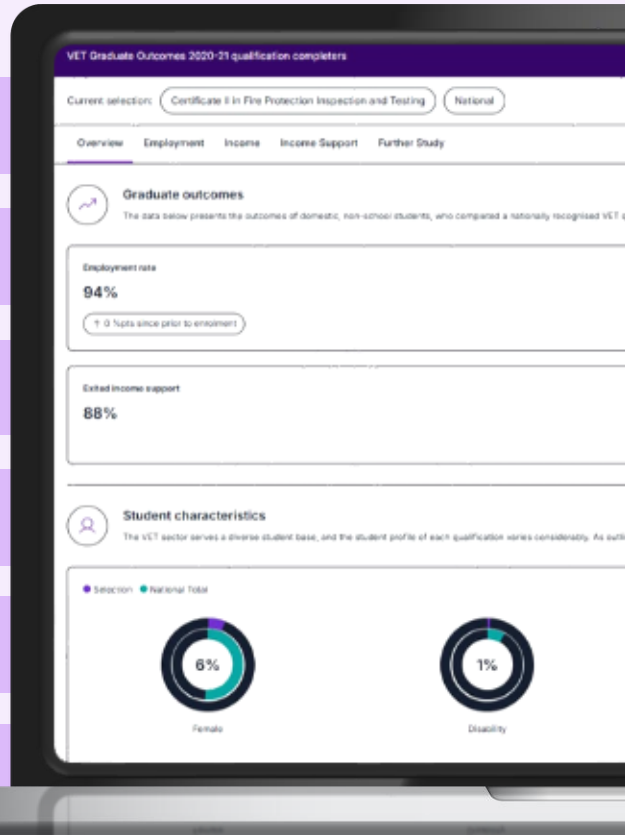
Exited income support – 88%

Median income - \$ 95,700

Further study –16% VET

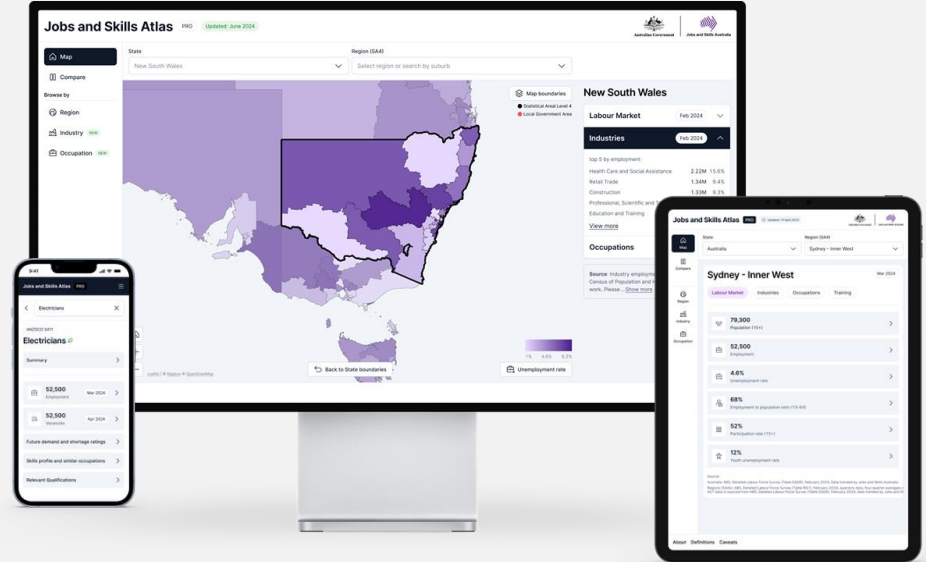


1. Regional shortages
2. 1,174 Enrolments
3. 1% Disability
4. 34% employed regional
5. 35 Median completion age
6. Attention to detail



Jobs and Skills Atlas

- Figures at your fingertips, a statistical snapshot of the labour market
- Detailed labour market data at regional, state and at national level
- Data by industries, occupations, training, skills shortages and cohorts
- Access through your desktop, mobile or tablet



OSCA – JSA

OSCA is designed for statistical, workforce planning, policy and migration related uses. Each JSA product is affected slightly differently, but all are strengthened by OSCA's improved occupational architecture

Occupation Shortage List (OSL)

- ✓ Clearer occupation definitions.
- ✓ Improved analytical credibility.
- × Comparison risks during transition



Core Skills Occupation List (CSOL)

- ✓ Clearer occupation to skills linkages.
- ✓ Improved view of transferable skills.
- × Classification alignment



Employment Projections

- ✓ Improved modelling of emerging roles.
- ✓ Better reflection of labour market changes.
- × Time series breaks.

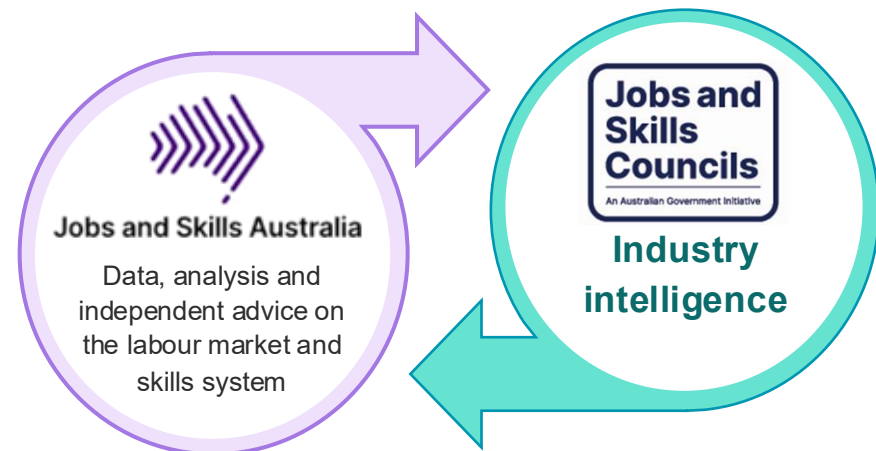
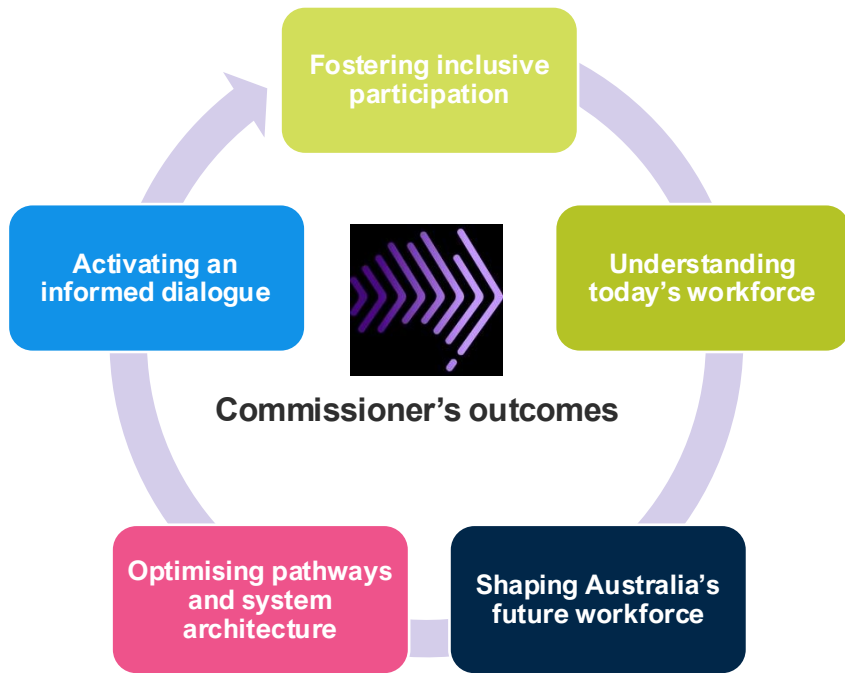


VET National Data Asset (VNDA)

- ✓ More precise occupation matching.
- ✓ Stronger labour market context.
- × Greater visibility of supply demand gaps.



Driving workforce solutions together



Jobs and Skills Councils



Powering Skills Organisation

Energy, Gas and Renewables



Build Skills Australia

Building, Construction, Property and Water



Skills Insight

Agribusiness



Service and Creative Skills Australia

Arts, Personal Services,
Retail, Tourism & Hospitality



Future Skills Organisation

Finance, Technology
and Business



Manufacturing Industry Skills Alliance

Manufacturing



Mining and Automotive Skills Alliance

Mining and Automotive



Industry Skills Australia

Transport and Logistics



Public Skills Australia

Public Safety
and Government



HumanAbility

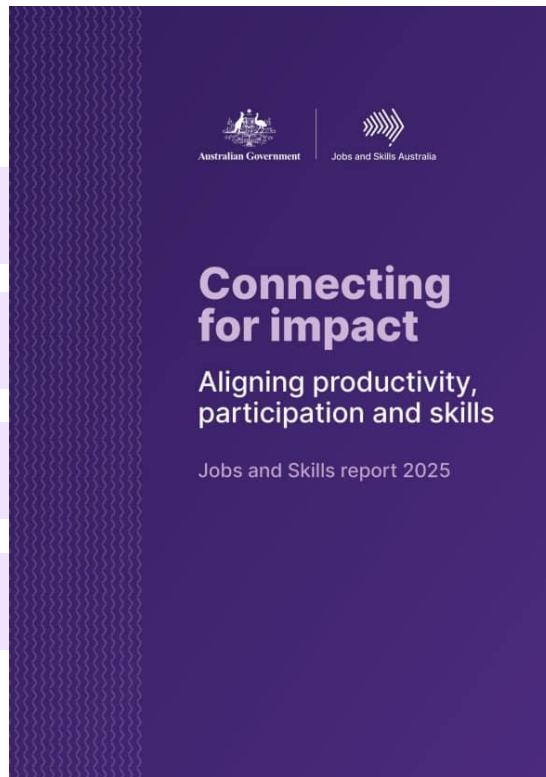
Aged and Disability,
Children's Education and Care,
Health, Human Services,
Sport and Recreation

*Working together through a partnership where **JSA** provides economy-wide workforce **data and analysis**, while **JSCs** use this to inform their industry-specific workforce planning.*

Connecting for impact

Aligning productivity, participation and skills

- ✓ A more productive economy
- ✓ Inclusive participation
- ✓ Our national skills system
- ✓ Activating an informed dialogue



Employment and disability in Australia

Our approach is built on research while we're preparing to establish an advisory panel...

Employers who have hired people with disability report access to a skilled and capable talent pool, positive workplace culture and a reputation for reliability.

Around 260,000 people with disability are not employed but are potentially job ready.

External barriers dominate employment challenges

Around 16% of the population have a disability



Challenges for young people?



9.5%

Youth unemployment rate in January 2026.



- Common reasons young people were not seeking work: health or disability, caring responsibilities or lacking necessary skills/education/experience.
- Intergenerational unemployment.



260,400

Or 12.4% of youth aged 18-24 were neither working or studying in 2021.

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Thank you

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