SACE and VET Pathways – 1st release

Purpose

The purpose of this document is to examine the population patterns for government school students who undertake and complete SACE and/or VET courses, including once they have left the school system.

Overview

Longitudinal enrolment records held by the department have been combined with VET enrolment data provided by the Department for Innovation and Skills (DIS) to determine VET pathway participation and completion for students who were enrolled in government schools for years 2018 to 2020.

Statistical matching

A statistical exercise was used to match government school student enrolment data to Department for Innovation and Skills VET enrolment and completion data.

This report does not cover SACE and VET pathways for:

- non-government school students
- fee-for-service VET from private registered training organisations, unless the provider submitted this information to the Department for Innovation and Skills.

A matching success rate of around 87% was achieved for South Australian government school student enrolment data to VET data.

The figures provide a system overview of SACE and VET pathways and are designed to examine population patterns only. All student and program counts have been rounded to the nearest hundred.

Key findings

SACE and VET completion

- For 2020, 65% of year 12 and 13 students completed SACE, when considering VET completion this percentage goes up to 74% (table 1a).
- The VET/SACE completion rate is expected to increase over time as some students continue to complete SACE or VET in the following years. The VET/SACE completion rate for 2018 students was 68% in 2018 and increased to 72% in 2020 (table 1a).

Post-school outcomes 2018 to 2020

- Around 7 out of 10 year 12/13 students from 2018 have either completed their SACE or a known VET qualification by 2020 (table 1a)
- Around 4 out of 5 year 12/13 students from 2018 have either completed their SACE or a known VET qualification, or were still enrolled either in school or a VET qualification in 2020 (table 1b, table 2).
- Almost 3 out of 10 year 11 school leavers in 2018 have either completed their SACE or a known VET qualification by 2020 (table 3)

- Around 4.5 out 10 year 11 school leavers in 2018 have either completed their SACE or a known VET qualification, or were still enrolled either in school or a VET qualification in 2020 (table 3).

Table 1a: Year-on-year SACE and/or VET completion for year 12 and 13 students

School year	Year 12 and 13 enrolments	SACE/VET completion - to same year		SACE/VET completion - to 2020	
2018	12 600	8 600	68%	9 100	72%
2019	12 100	8 800	72%	9 100	75%[1]
2020	11 900	8 900	74%[2]	8 900	74%[1,2]
Counts presented have been determined via statistical matching. Please refer to note on statistical matching.					

Table 1b: Year-on-year SACE and/or VET completion or enrolment for year 12 and 13 students

School year	Year 12 and 13 enrolments	SACE/VET completion or enrolment - to same year		SACE/VET completion - to 2020, or enrolment – in 2020	
2018	12 600	11 300	89%	10 100	79%
2019	12 100	11 000	91%	10 000	83%
2020	11 900	11 100	93%[2]	11 100	93%[2]
Counts presented have been determined via statistical matching. Please refer to note on statistical matching.					

Table 2: SACE and/or VET pathways for 2018 year 12 and 13 students up to two years post-school

	2018		To one year later		To two years later	
Year 12 and 13 cohort	12 600					
- SACE completion and no VET completion	5 700	45%	5 600	44%	5 400	43%
- SACE and VET completion	1 800	15%	2 300	18%	2 500	20%
- VET completion and no SACE completion	1 000	8%	1 100	9%	1 200	9%
- No known completions but SACE or VET enrolment	2 800	22%	1 300	11%	900	7%
- No known completions and no SACE or VET enrolment	1 300	11%	2 300	18%	2 600	21%
Counts presented have been determined via statistical matching. Please refer to note on statistical matching.						

Table 3: SACE and/or VET pathways for 2018 year 11 school leavers up to two years post-school

	2018		To one year later		To two years later	
Year 11 leavers cohort	2 200					
- SACE completion and no VET completion	100	3%	100	3%	100	3%
- SACE and VET completion	<100	2%	100	3%	100	3%
- VET completion and no SACE completion	400	16%	400	19%	500	21%
- No known completions but SACE or VET enrolment	1 300	61%	1 300	58%	400	18%
- No known completions and no SACE or VET enrolment	400	19%	400	18%	1 200	56%
Counts presented have been determined via statistical matching. Please refer to note on statistical matching.						

[1] Rates may increase as more students from these cohorts achieve SACE and VET post-2020.

[2] From 2020 the SACE board have provided additional data on completions for private school students who attended a government school for at least one subject. The 2020 SACE and VET completion rate cannot not be directly compared to previous years.

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Notes

1. The student populations used in this factsheet are calculated using different methodologies than those used to calculate data published on data.sa.gov.au and the SACE website. As such, student numbers may not reconcile with those released elsewhere.
2. Student year levels in this factsheet are the minimum administrative year level across the February and mid census for the reporting year.
3. Measures include all students irrespective of whether they are full-time or part-time.
4. Enrolments reported in this factsheet include all students irrespective of age.
5. Year 13 (year 12 plus) is for students who have already spent a year at year 12 and have chosen to undertake further study at year 12.
6. Students who achieved SACE in a previous year and returned (e.g. to improve their grade for tertiary admission requirements) are excluded from initial cohort counts.
7. VET enrolment and completion includes award programs, certificate I and higher, and non-award programs.
8. Students may complete both SACE and VET and have more than one VET certificate.
9. Previous year VET completion figures may increase when 2020 data is received.
10. International Baccalaureate completions currently comprise a small percentage. These counts have been added to the SACE totals.
11. Percentages may not sum to 100 due to rounding.
12. A senior student that is enrolled in a government school may not have any active SACE subject registrations.

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Section 1: SACE and VET Pathways – year-on-year

Years: 2018, 2019, 2020, shown for comparisons year-on-year
Year levels: 12, 13

How many year 12 and 13 students complete SACE and/or a VET program?

- 74% of the 2020 year 12/13 students completed SACE or a VET program by 2020 (table 1a).
- Tracking 2018 year 12/13 students show that another 4% of year 12/13 students will complete SACE/VET within the two years post school (table 1a).

How many year 12 and 13 students complete SACE and/or a VET program or are still on a SACE or VET pathway?

- In 2020, 93% of the year 12/13 students completed SACE or a VET program or had a SACE or VET enrolment in the same year (table 1b).

Table 1a: Year-on-year SACE and/or VET completion for year 12 and 13 students

School year	Year 12 and 13 enrolments	SACE/VET completion - to same year		SACE/VET completion - to 2020	
2018	12 600	8 600	68%	9 100	72%
2019	12 100	8 800	72%	9 100	75%[3]
2020	11 900	8 900	74%[4]	8 900	74%[3,4]
Counts presented have been determined via statistical matching. Please refer to note on statistical matching.					

Table 1b: Year-on-year SACE and/or VET completion or enrolment for year 12 and 13 students

School year	Year 12 and 13 enrolments	SACE/VET completion or enrolment - to same year		SACE/VET completion - to 2020, or enrolment – in 2020	
2018	12 600	11 300	89%	10 100	79%
2019	12 100	11 000	91%	10 000	83%
2020	11 900	11 100	93%[4]	11 100	93%[4]
Counts presented have been determined via statistical matching. Please refer to note on statistical matching.					

[3] Rates may increase as more students from these cohorts achieve SACE and VET post-2020.
[4] From 2020 the SACE board have provided additional data on completions for private school students who attended a government school for at least one subject. The 2020 SACE and VET completion rate cannot not be directly compared to previous years.

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Section 2: SACE and VET Pathways – post-school

Years: 2018 tracked to two years later
Year levels: 10, 11 and 12/13 cohorts, tracked separately

What SACE and VET outcomes have 2018 students achieved up to 2020?

- Year 10, 11 and 12/13 students will achieve different outcomes over the period 2018 to 2020 due to different starting points.
- SACE completion and no VET completion is the most common educational outcome for students (38-43%). The second most common outcome is SACE and VET completion (14-20%). Students with a VET completion and no SACE completion makes up a small proportion (7-10%) (tables 2a,2b,2c).
- A further group of students will not have a completion but will have an enrolment in SACE or a VET program (7-19%) (tables 2a,2b,2c).
- 18-24% of students will have no SACE or VET completion or enrolment (tables 2a,2b,2c).

Table 2a: SACE and VET pathways for 2018 year 12 and 13 students up to two years post-school

	2018		To one year later		To two years later	
Year 12 and 13 cohort	12 600					
- SACE completion and no VET completion	5 700	45%	5 600	44%	5 400	43%
- SACE and VET completion	1 800	15%	2 300	18%	2 500	20%
- VET completion and no SACE completion	1 000	8%	1 100	9%	1 200	9%
- No known completions but SACE or VET enrolment	2 800	22%	1 300	11%	900	7%
- No known completions and no SACE or VET enrolment	1 300	11%	2 300	18%	2 600	21%
Counts presented have been determined via statistical matching. Please refer to note on statistical matching.						

Table 2b: SACE and VET pathways for 2018 year 11 students up to two years post-school

	2018		To one year later		To two years later	
Year 11 cohort	14 800					
- SACE completion and no VET completion	100	1%	5 500	37%	5 600	38%
- SACE and VET completion	100	1%	2 200	15%	2 600	17%
- VET completion and no SACE completion	2 500	17%	1 500	10%	1 600	10%
- No known completions but SACE or VET enrolment	10 700	72%	3 100	21%	1 600	10%
- No known completions and no SACE or VET enrolment	1 500	10%	2 500	17%	3 600	24%
Counts presented have been determined via statistical matching. Please refer to note on statistical matching.						

Table 2c: SACE and VET pathways for 2018 year 10 students up to two years post-school

	2018		To one year later		To two years later	
Year 10 cohort	12 600					
- SACE completion and no VET completion	<100	0%	100	1%	5 400	43%
- SACE and VET completion	<100	0%	100	1%	1 800	14%
- VET completion and no SACE completion	400	3%	1 700	13%	800	7%
- No known completions but SACE or VET enrolment	10 600	84%	9 200	73%	2 300	19%
- No known completions and no SACE or VET enrolment	1 600	13%	1 600	13%	2 300	18%
Counts presented have been determined via statistical matching. Please refer to note on statistical matching.						

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Section 3: SACE and VET Pathways – post-school, school leavers

Years: 2018 tracked to two years later.
Year levels: 10 and 11 school leavers, tracked separately.

What SACE and VET outcomes have 2018 school leavers achieved up to 2020?

- VET completion and no SACE completion is the most common educational achievement for school leavers (6-21%) (tables 3a,3b).
- A further group of students will not have a completion but will have an enrolment in SACE or a VET program (16-18%) (tables 3a,3b).
- The proportion of school leavers with no SACE or VET completion or enrolment forms the majority (56-76%) (tables 3a,3b).
- A school leaver is defined as someone who was active in the reporting year but not active in the following year and the exit code was: exemption, illness, parenting/carer, employment/seeking employment, private training, suspension/exclusion, unknown, VET, transferred to government school (Exit codes are not validated).

Table 3a: SACE and VET pathways for 2018 year 11 school leavers up to two years post-school

	2018		To one year later		To two years later	
Year 11 leavers cohort	2 200					
- SACE completion and no VET completion	100	3%	100	3%	100	3%
- SACE and VET completion	<100	2%	100	3%	100	3%
- VET completion and no SACE completion	400	16%	400	19%	500	21%
- No known completions but SACE or VET enrolment	1 300	61%	1 300	58%	400	18%
- No known completions and no SACE or VET enrolment	400	19%	400	18%	1 200	56%
Counts presented have been determined via statistical matching. Please refer to note on statistical matching.						

Table 3b: SACE and VET pathways for 2018 year 10 school leavers up to two years post-school

	2018		To one year later		To two years later	
Year 10 leavers cohort	300					
- SACE completion and no VET completion	<100	0%	<100	0%	<100	0%
- SACE and VET completion	<100	0%	<100	0%	<100	1%
- VET completion and no SACE completion	<100	2%	<100	5%	<100	6%
- No known completions but SACE or VET enrolment	300	91%	100	22%	<100	16%
- No known completions and no SACE or VET enrolment	<100	7%	200	73%	200	76%
Counts presented have been determined via statistical matching. Please refer to note on statistical matching.						

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Section 4: VET enrolments - snapshot

Years: 2018, 2019, 2020
Year levels: 10, 11, 12 and 13

How many government school students by year level are in a VET program or an apprenticeship?

- In 2020, 10,100, or 1 in 4, senior school students (years 10,11,12,13) had at least one VET enrolment in the same year. Students with VET enrolments were highest for year 11 students (table 4a).

How many VET enrolments did government school students have by year level and by AQF level?

- In 2020, senior school students (years 10,11,12,13) had around 13,100 VET programs enrolments in the same year. The majority were certificate I and II (table 4b).

What is the most common VET program students enrol in (by 'broad field of education')?

- In 2020, Engineering and Technology had the most program enrolments for senior school students (years 10,11,12,13) (table 4c).

Table 4a: **VET student enrolments** by school year by year level (VET enrolments in the same year only)

		Count of students	Apprenticeship enrolments[5] - in same year		Count of students with VET enrolment (inc. apprenticeships) - in same year	
2018	Year 10	12 600	200	1%	1 800	15%
	Year 11	14 800	600	4%	4 800	33%
	Year 12/13	12 600	600	5%	3 900	31%
	Total	**40 100**	**1 400**	**3%**	**10 500**	**26%**
2019	Year 10	13 100	200	1%	2000	15%
	Year 11	14 900	500	3%	5000	33%
	Year 12/13	12 100	500	4%	3 800	31%
	Total	**40 200**	**1 300**	**3%**	**10 700**	**27%**
2020	Year 10	12 600	200	1%	1 800	14%
	Year 11	14 900	500	3%	4 600	31%
	Year 12/13	11 900	600	5%	3 600	31%
	Total	**39 400**	**1 300**	**3%**	**10 100**	**26%**

[5] Subsidised government funded apprenticeship activity only

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Table 4b: **VET program enrolments** by school year by year level by AQF level (VET enrolments in the same year only)

		Total - in same year	Cert I/II - in same year	Cert III plus - in same year	Non award - in same year
2018	Year 10	2 300	1 000	300	1 000
	Year 11	6 500	3 300	1 700	1 500
	Year 12/13	5 000	1 500	2 200	1300
	Total	**13 800**	**5 800**	**4 300**	**3 700**
2019	Year 10	2 300	1 000	300	1 100
	Year 11	6 800	3 300	1 800	1 700
	Year 12/13	4 900	1 300	2 300	1 300
	Total	**14 000**	**5 600**	**4 300**	**4 100**
2020	Year 10	2 100	800	300	900
	Year 11	6 300	3 000	1 800	1 600
	Year 12/13	4 700	1 200	2 400	1 100
	Total	**13 100**	**5 000**	**4 500**	**3 600**
Counts presented have been determined via statistical matching. Please refer to note on statistical matching.					

Table 4c: **Program enrolments** by broad field of education identifier for year 10 to 13 students in any VET in 2020 (VET enrolments in the same year only)

2020	**Enrolments – in same year**	
Rank	**Broad field of education (Broad field of education identifier)**	**Count**
1	Engineering and Technology (3)	2 000
2	Food, hospitality, and personal services (11)	1 800
3	Architecture and Building (4)	1 400
4	Society and Culture (9)	1 200
5	Management and Commerce (8)	1 100
6	Agriculture, environmental and related studies (5)	700
7	Mixed field programs (12)	500
8	Creative arts (10)	300
9	Health (6)	300
10	Information Technology (2)	200
11	Education (7)	100
12	Natural and physical sciences (1)	<100
Counts presented have been determined via statistical matching. Please refer to note on statistical matching.		

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Section 5: VET completions - cumulative

Years: 2018, 2019, 2020
Year levels: 10, 11, 12 and 13

How many government school students by year level complete a VET program or an apprenticeship?

- In 2020, 5,600, or 1 in 7 senior school students (years 10,11,12,13) had at least one VET completion (table 5a).

How many VET completions did government school students have by year level and by AQF level?

- In 2020, senior school students (years 10,11,12,13) had around 6,500 VET programs completions. The majority were certificate I and II (table 5b).

What is the most common VET program students complete (by 'broad field of education')?

- In 2020, Food, hospitality, and personal services had the most program completions (years 10,11,12,13) (table 5c).

Table 5a: **VET student completions** by school year by year level (cumulative)

		Count of students Error! Bookmark not defined.	Apprenticeship completions[6] - to same year		Count of students with VET completion (inc. apprenticeships) - to same year	
2018	Year 10	12 600	<100	0%	400	3%
	Year 11	14 800	300	2%	2 600	17%
	Year 12/13	12 600	400	3%	2 900	23%
	Total	**40 100**	**700**	**2%**	**5 900**	**15%**
2019	Year 10	13 100	<100	0%	400	3%
	Year 11	14 900	200	1%	2 400	16%
	Year 12/13	12 100	400	3%	3 100	26%
	Total	**40 200**	**600**	**2%**	**5 900**	**15%**
2020	Year 10	12 600	<100	0%	300	3%
	Year 11	14 900	200	1%	2 400	16%
	Year 12/13	11 900	300	3%	2 900	24%
	Total	**39 400**	**500**	**1%**	**5 600**	**14%**
Counts presented have been determined via statistical matching. Please refer to note on statistical matching.						

Table 5b: **VET program completions** by school year by year level by AQF level (cumulative)

		Total completions - to same year	Cert I/II - to same year	Cert III plus - to same year
2018	Year 10	400	400	100
	Year 11	2 900	2 100	800
	Year 12/13	3 400	1 900	1 400
	Total	**6 700**	**4 400**	**2 300**
2019	Year 10	400	400	<100
	Year 11	2 800	2 000	700
	Year 12/13	3 700	2 200	1 500
	Total	**6 900**	**4 600**	**2 300**
2020	Year 10	300	300	<100
	Year 11	2 700	2 100	600
	Year 12/13	3 500	2 100	1 400
	Total	**6 500**	**4 500**	**2 000**
Counts presented have been determined via statistical matching. Please refer to note on statistical matching.				

[6] Subsidised government funded apprenticeship activity only

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Table 5c: **Program completions** by broad field of education identifier for year 10 to 13 students in any VET up to 2020 (cumulative)

2020	Completions – to same year	
Rank	Broad field of education (Broad field of education identifier)	Count
1	Food, hospitality, and personal services (11)	1 200
2	Architecture and Building (4)	1 100
3	Engineering and Technology (3)	1 000
4	Management and Commerce (8)	800
5	Society and Culture (9)	800
6	Mixed field programs (12)	400
7	Creative arts (10)	400
8	Agriculture, environmental and related studies (5)	300
9	Health (6)	200
10	Information Technology (2)	100
11	Education (7)	<100
12	Natural and physical sciences (1)	<100
Counts presented have been determined via statistical matching. Please refer to note on statistical matching.		

Source for all tables and figures: Department for Education enrolment census 2009–2020, SACE Board enrolment data 2014–2020, Department for Innovation and Skills VET records 2017–2020.

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