



Jobs and Skills Roadmap for Regional Australia

Phase 1 Report | Factsheet

Purpose of JSA Regional Roadmap

To provide an enduring, shared and overarching framework that empowers stakeholders to work collaboratively to elevate the equity, effectiveness and efficiency of the jobs and skills system across Regional Australia both now and into the future.



JSA's vision for the jobs and skills system in Regional Australia

The jobs and skills system in Regional Australia helps realise the aspirations of its people.

Vision Principle	Underpinning Vision Principle	Current ratin in Regional Contributing metric Australia
Addressing barriers	People with barriers in Regional Australia receive timely high-quality support to move towards participating in education, training and employment	School non-attendance Youth not in employment, education or training Prime age participation rate Unemployment rate Prop. on long-term income support
		Overall Vision Principle rating
Developing skills	Everyone in Regional Australia is supported to efficiently develop skills that enable them to meaningfully contribute to community, economy and culture.	Youth tertiary participation rate Completion rates for apprentices and trainees Proportion working in same field as most relevant qualification Proportion working in jobs below their qualification level
		Overall Vision Principle rating
Quality jobs	Everyone employed in Regional Australia can work in a quality job that is safe, fair, rewarding and satisfying.	High job satisfaction Underemployment rate Income inequality ratio Workers' compensation incidence rate Overall Vision Principle rating
Meeting demand	Regional Australia and its employers can access, attract and develop sufficient suitable labour, including as skills needs change.	Vacancy fill rate Essential service vacancy rate Persistent hiring pressure indicator Business creation rate Overall Vision Principle rating
Efficient matching	The labour market in Regional Australia efficiently matches labour demand with labour supply.	Beveridge Curve analysis Labour market matching efficiency Overall Vision Principle rating
Key	Deteriorating or Slow progress, significant gap or moderate ga	

Ten Design Principles for the jobs and skills System in Regional Australia

Consultation and alignment principles

- 1 Are local communities being supported to develop and deliver solutions including by empowering the people and communities most affected by an issue or opportunity?
- 2 Has the policy been developed and co-designed with stakeholders in Regional Australia (including by ensuring any steering committees have appropriate representation of stakeholders from Regional Australia) and genuinely refined in response to feedback?
- 3 Does the policy align with, and complement, existing initiatives in Regional Australia, including by leveraging existing areas of success and strength and fostering collaboration in the system?
- 4 Does the policy recognise the differing workforce and skills needs of Regional Australia, including the local needs of individual regions, and provide appropriate flexibility to adapt and respond accordingly?

Service design principles

- 5 Does the policy seek to initially pilot or trial new approaches or initiatives (including undertaking evaluations), and provide long-term funding (preferably for a minimum of four years) for known models of success?
- 6 Does the policy ensure continuity of access to quality services, and allow government to deliver services where appropriate (such as through TAFEs, local governments, Government-Business Enterprises and so forth)?
- 7 Does the policy consider using block-grant funding to support service delivery in situations where it is difficult to achieve viable cohorts of participants (rather than using activity or outcome-based funding)?

Funding principles

- **8** Does the policy provide higher levels of funding to Regional Australia including for remote areas in response to higher costs of delivery and thin markets?
- **9** Does the funding incorporate periodic (or annual) uplifts in funding in response to changes in the cost of delivery in Regional Australia?
- 10 Does the policy ensure any substantial changes to funding or service delivery in Regional Australia (including cessations or extensions) occur progressively over time and with sufficient notice for regions to adapt?

Next steps



Public consultation (close 2 October)



In-person roundtables across regional Australia



Publication of Phase 2 report (by early 2026)