Australian Government | Jobs and Skills Australia

VET Workforce Blueprint National Actions

Background and context

Jobs and Skills Australia (JSA) has been tasked with delivering the VET Workforce Blueprint National Actions project to support the VET Workforce Blueprint. Developed in collaboration with states and territories, the VET Workforce Blueprint outlines 8 opportunities and 14 actions to attract, retain, develop and support the VET workforce.

As part of this work, JSA, through the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations, is responsible for key actions under Opportunity 1 – Better Understanding of the Workforce, specifically:

- Action 1: Undertake comprehensive occupational mapping for the VET workforce to identify and inform broader actions to strengthen pathways into, and through, the VET workforce.
- Action 2: Develop a VET workforce data strategy to enable the collection of VET workforce data to support and enable informed policy and workforce strategies and inform ongoing research.
- Action 3: Establish an ongoing research program to develop a robust evidence base for key workforce issues.

Action 1: Occupational Mapping

The aim of the Occupational Mapping project is to map and profile selected occupations in the VET Workforce Taxonomy (developed by JSA for the VET Workforce Study) to improve knowledge and understanding of the roles, duties and characteristics of VET practitioners in a range of contexts and career pathways in, through and out of the VET sector.

JSA has commissioned the Australian Council for Educational Research to undertake Occupational Mapping. Products include a VET Workforce Map comprising 26 illustrations of practice across six workforce segments, including four illustrations developed specifically for First Nations contexts, and a User Guide outlining the methodology and application of the map.

JSA has also commissioned Nous Group to develop fictionalised career journey case studies, to demonstrate the diversity of workforce practices and pathways across the VET workforce.

Action 2: VET Workforce Data Strategy

JSA has been building on the existing insights identified in the VET Workforce Blueprint and the VET Workforce Study. A VET Workforce Data Dashboard is being developed by JSA. Phase 1 (Beta) brings together data from the Australian Bureau of Statistics, National Centre for Vocational Education Research (NCVER) and JSA's 2024 VET Workforce Study, to provide nationally consistent information on workforce size, composition and characteristics, including demographics, qualifications, earnings and employment conditions. The Beta dashboard is undergoing stakeholder review and enhancements.

Phase 2 of the Dashboard, expected to be delivered in mid-2027, will incorporate additional data sources including the outcomes from the Teacher, Trainer and Assessor (TTA) Survey and the VET National Data Asset project. This phase will enable deeper analysis of workforce mobility, employment patterns, earnings and career pathways.

TTA Survey

Aims to address longstanding evidence gaps relating to VET workforce characteristics, qualifications, employment arrangements, career pathways and workforce experiences. NCVER will administer the Survey, with fieldwork undertaken by the Social Research Centre. The TTA Survey is currently underway and will close on 27 November 2026, with results expected in early 2027.

Action 3: VET Workforce Research Program

JSA has provided advice to DEWR on the design of a multi-faceted research program that supports VET workforce research which is collaborative, evidence-based, impactful, accessible, and outcomes-focused. Emerging research priorities include:

- VET Workforce Insights Program
- First Nations VET Workforce Research
- Sector Capacity Building
- Teaching and Learning Innovation
- National Workforce Data Collection

VET Workforce Casualisation

JSA is undertaking research to examine rates, drivers and impacts of non-permanent employment in the VET educator workforce, drawing on new and existing quantitative and qualitative evidence. It explores how these working arrangements differ across different provider types and delivery contexts.

The project uses a mixed methods research approach using quantitative and qualitative methods. The insights from this research will help develop approaches to workforce planning and management that can ensure recruitment and retention of VET educators and therefore the resilience of Australia’s skills system.

Further information

Connect with us

Roadshow 2026